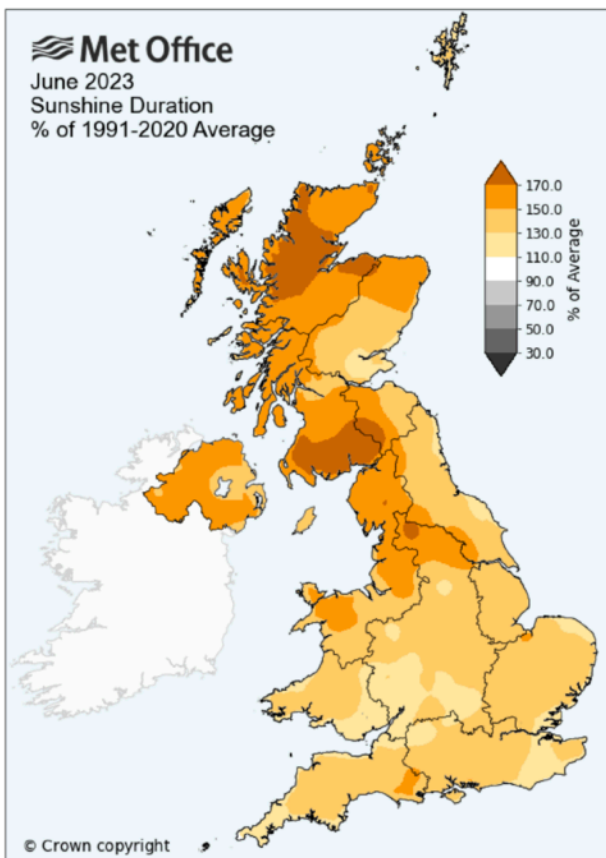
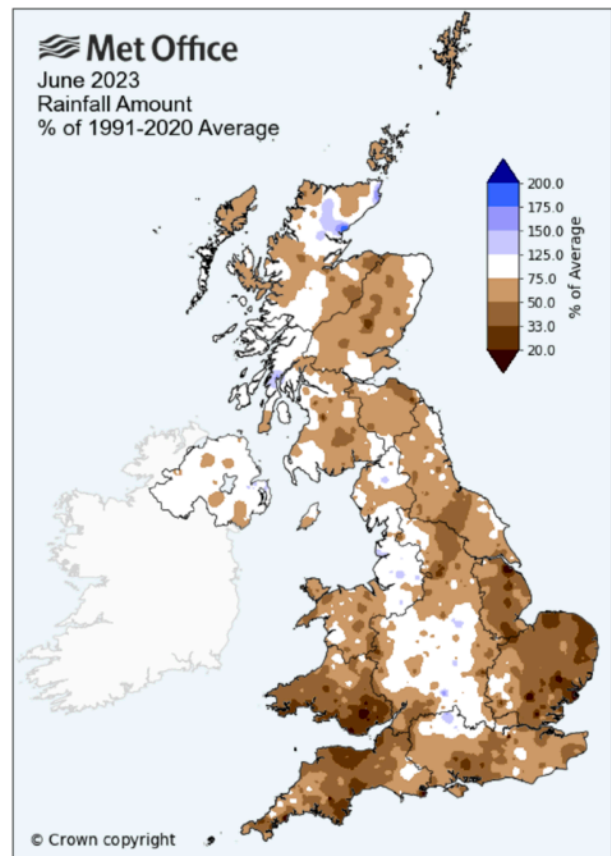


Weather for the Summer Quarter 2023

June began much as had May ended, warm and dry. We reached 30°C on the 11th and altogether we had 22 days consecutive in the month when the maximum temperature was above 22 °C (from the 9th to the end of the month). However, whilst the warmth continued into the second half of month, the dryness did not and we had significant rain on the 18th, 20th and 29th - 15.6mm altogether. Not really enough, but most welcome after the dry May and the dry early weeks of June.

The chart to the left shows the rainfall for June 2023 compared with the 10 years from 1991 until 2020. The lack of rain in many parts of the country is very obvious. Only in a very small area of Scotland was the rain above average. In Wickham Market we had just 15.6 mm against a 10-year average of 47.6 mm

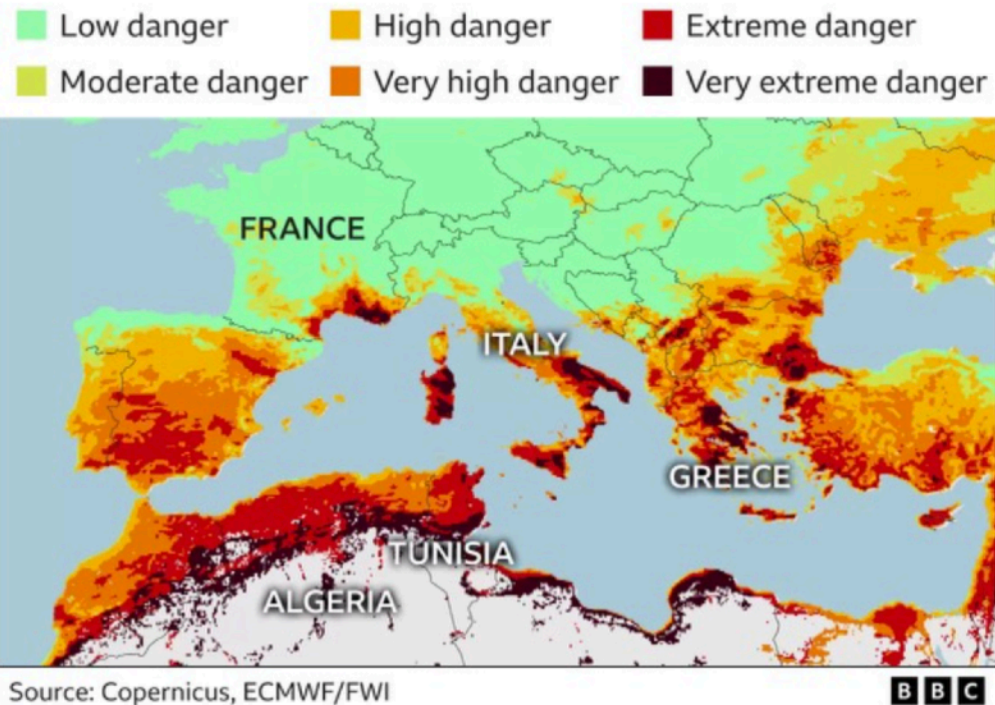


The second chart shows a similar plot for sunshine hours. All of the country had more sunshine than would have been expected, and parts of Scotland markedly so.

However, July was different! Both cooler and wetter. It often felt more like late September/early October than the middle of summer. The jet streak became locked sending us a succession of depressions and their accompanying rain. For example on the night of 22nd/23rd, July we had 12 hours of continuous rain, 10.7 mm altogether. Then again 12 hours continuous rain on 26th/27th giving us a further 16.7 mm. It was turning out to be a very wet month, the eventual total was 89.1 mm compared to a 10-year average of 44.0 mm. Good for our lawns and hopefully for the ground water in general!

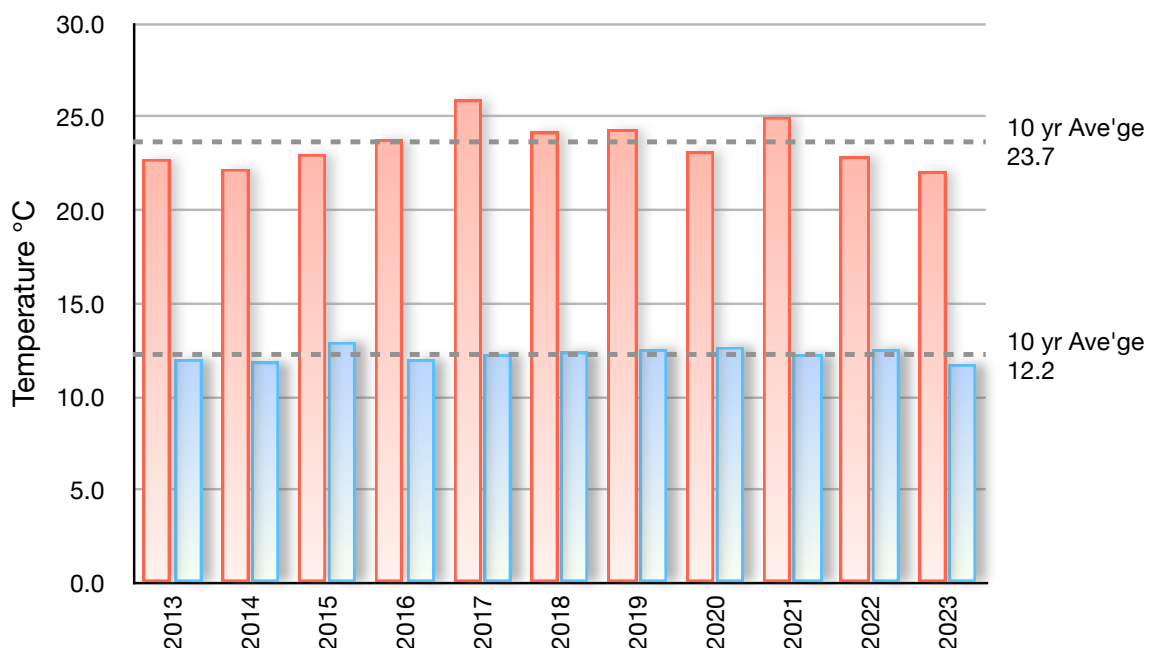
Meanwhile south of the jet stream in the Mediterranean there were dangerously high temperatures leading to serious and widespread bush fires with emergency evacuations and even some deaths on the Greek Islands. As an example of just how bad things got the map below (from the BBC News site) shows the forecast Fire Risks forecast for 26th July.

Fire danger forecast for 26 July

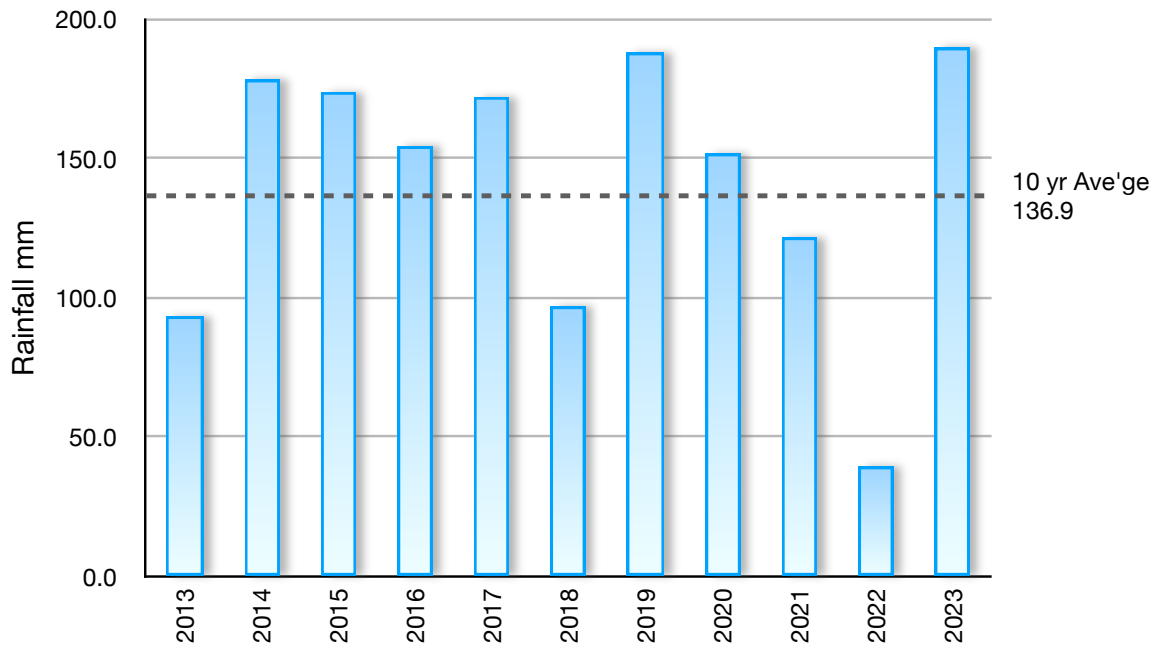


Any fears that August might simply be more of the same were calmed by a cool and rather wet start to the month. Typical school holidays, you might say. Temperatures did climb above 25 °C on 5 days in August, but there was no return to the hot days of July. In fact average temperatures were a little down compared with the 10-year average.

Average Maximum and Minimum Temperatures

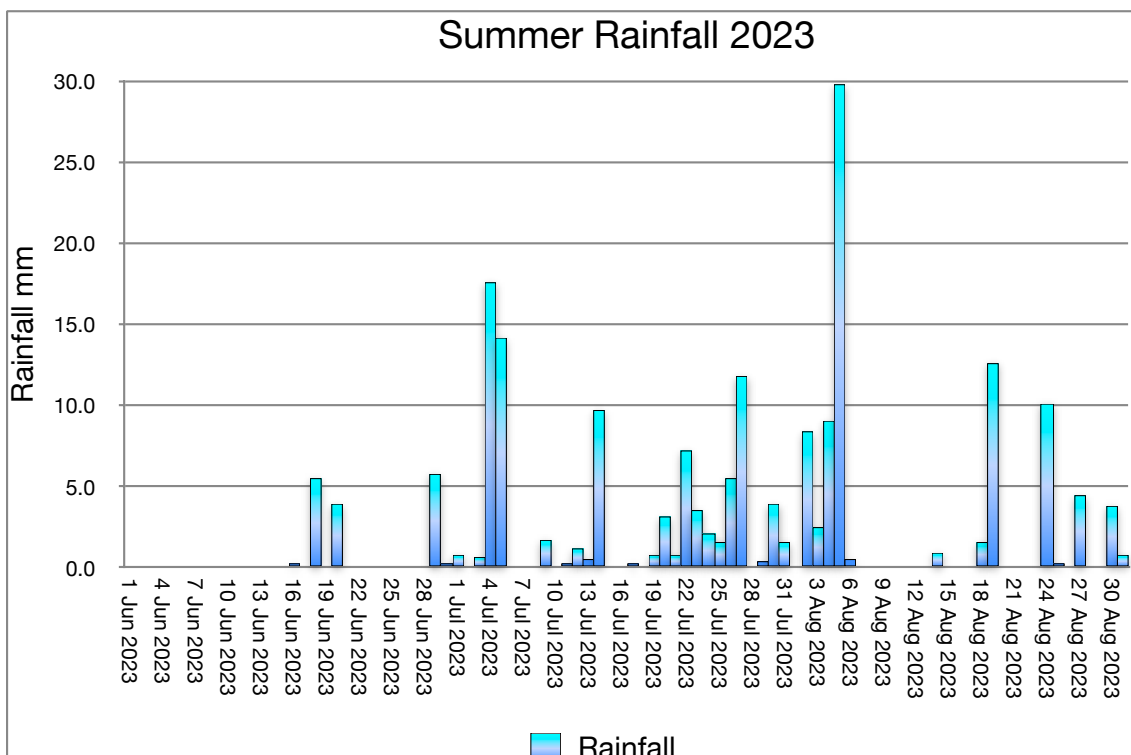


Summer (June, July and August) Rainfall 2022



Overall the summer quarter was significantly wetter than the 10-year average - in marked contrast to the dryness of 2022. It was also noticeably cooler, perhaps all the rain clouds had something to do with that!

In terms of sunshine (as recorded at Wattisham) June was particularly sunny, 34.5% above the 10-year average, but balanced by a very poor July, 22.1% below. Over the summer months taken together we had 622 hours of sunshine against a 10-year average of 592.



Summer Temperatures 2023

