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Dramatic turn in September weather

After three weeks of glorious summer-like weather during which temperatures regularly topped the 21C (70F) mark, peaking at 26.4C (80F) on the 17th and 18th, a dramatic change occurred on Sunday, September 19.

Temperatures dropped appreciably and a very heavy rainfall began, 26mm (1.01 ins) falling in six and a half hours on September 20.

The next 10 days saw the bulk of the month's 73mm (2.85 ins) falling, no day being rain-free until the 29th.

Some of the rain was very heavy, especially in local thunderstorms, and gusts of gale force wind on the 20th and 27th caused some damage to trees.

Cold, clear and still air during the small hours of September 22 and 30 led to local ground frost, the temperature falling to minus 1.7C (29F) on the latter date.

Sunshine has been 10 per cent above normal, 12.4 hours occurring on the 2nd.

Rainfall and temperatures have been about average with some pleasantly warm and sunny days in the early part of the month.