

**Met. O. Climate Station  
DCNN 4839  
HALESOWEN**

ANOTHER DISMAL EASTER BANK HOLIDAY BITES THE DUST. YET JUST HOW BAD HAS IT BEEN ? IN RECORDS DATING BACK 39 YEARS FOR HALESOWEN, EASTER MONDAY HAS NOT FARED AT ALL WELL ON DATES RANGING FROM MARCH 27TH TO APRIL 23RD.

ONLY ONCE, IN 1984 HAS IT BEEN REALLY WARM REACHING 70F. IN FACT THE TEMPERATURE HAS STRUGGLED UP TO 60F ON ONLY 7 HOLIDAY MONDAYS AND HAS BEEN BELOW FREEZING ON 7 OCCASIONS, THE WORST TO -1.8C (29F) ON 31/3/1975. IN FACT, THE AVERAGE DAILY TEMPERATURE HAS ONLY MANAGED 10C (50F) ON 5 OUT OF THE 39 YEARS ON RECORD.

RAIN HAS FALLEN ON 16 OF THE EASTER MONDAYS SINCE 1956, THE WETTEST BEING IN 1973 WHEN WE HAD 7 HOURS OF WET WEATHER.

HOWEVER, ONLY 3 EASTER MONDAYS HAVE BEEN TOTALLY SUNLESS, ON 30 MARCH 1964, 11 APRIL 1966 AND 23 APRIL 1973. THE BEST EASTER MONDAY WAS 23 APRIL 1984 WHEN WE SAW ALMOST 13 HOURS BRIGHT SUNSHINE AND A TEMPERATURE OF 70 F.

SNOW HAS BEEN NOTED ON 3 OCCASIONS, 30 MARCH 1964, 4 APRIL 1983 AND 4 APRIL 1994. HOWEVER, IT HAS ONLY COVERED THE GROUND AT 9 AM ONCE BEFORE THIS EASTER MONDAY, IN 1983 WHEN IT WAS AN INCH DEEP.

PERHAPS IT IS TIME THAT EASTER WAS GIVEN A PERMANENT, AND LATER, DATE.

*CG Roberts*