

## THE SUMMER OF 1995.

THE ONSET OF AUTUMN SEES THE END OF AN ASTONISHING SPELL OF SUMMER WEATHER, SEVERAL LONG-STANDING RECORDS HAVING BEEN BROKEN IN THE AREAS OF HIGH TEMPERATURE, LOW RAINFALL AND SUNSHINE.

THE SUMMER OF 1995 WAS THE HOTTEST ON RECORD WITH A MEAN DAILY TEMPERATURE OF 17.4C/63F (17.3C IN 1976). THE MEAN MAXIMUM IN 1976 WAS HIGHER AT 23.5C/74.3F (23.3C IN 1995), THOUGH THIS YEAR PRODUCED 38 HOT DAYS (MAX TEMP ABOVE 25C) AS OPPOSED TO THE 35 IN 1976. HOWEVER, 1976 HAD ONE MORE VERY HOT DAY (MAX TEMP ABOVE 30C) WITH A TOTAL OF 11. FROM JULY 24TH TO AUGUST 6TH INCLUSIVE, EVERY DAY WAS HOT, 14 IN ALL, THE LONGEST SPELL OF CONTINUOUS HOT WEATHER ON RECORD.

DROUGHT CONDITIONS EXISTED AT THE END OF AUGUST, SUMMER RAINFALL TOTALS BEING A QUARTER OF EXPECTATION AT /53MM/2.09INS. NO RAIN AT ALL FELL FROM JULY 18TH TO AUGUST 21ST INCLUSIVE, A TOTAL OF 35 DRY DAYS, BEATING THE PREVIOUS RECORD OF 34 DAYS SET IN 1976. AUGUST WAS THE DRIEST EVER RECORDED HERE, WITH ONLY 8.7MM/0.34IN OF RAIN FROM A NORMAL TOTAL OF 73MM/2.87INS. OF THE SUMMER MONTHS ONLY 20 DAYS PRODUCED ANY RAIN, THE HEAVIEST FALL BEING OF 11.7MM/0.46IN ON 10TH JULY.

SUNSHINE WAS ALSO AT RECORD LEVELS, THE SUMMER TOTAL OF 744 HOURS BEATING THE PREVIOUS BEST (1976) BY OVER 6 HOURS. AUGUST, WITH ITS TOTAL OF 287.5 HOURS ONLY JUST FAILED BY 2 HOURS TO BECOME THE SUNNIEST MONTH EVER RECORDED HERE. ONLY ONE SUMMER DAY WAS SUNLESS, AUGUST 29TH, WITH 45 DAYS PROVIDING OVER 9 HOURS EACH, AND 28 DAYS OVER 12 HOURS EACH. THE PERIOD 29TH JULY TO AUGUST 6TH SAW 9 CONSECUTIVE DAYS WITH OVER 9 HOURS AVERAGING 12.5 HOURS DAILY.