

## JUNE 1997.

The month began with a declining high over the North Sea and a building high near Fair Isle giving a brisk easterly flow across the south of the UK. The 1<sup>st</sup> was a day of unbroken sunshine (15.5 hours) and very low humidities (d.p. -2.5C at 1800 UTC) with a maximum temperature of 19C. The high pressure persisted to the north of the country until the 3<sup>rd</sup> giving prolonged sunshine, cloudless skies and a gradual rise in maximum temperatures. By the 4<sup>th</sup> a strong ridge still straddled the Midlands with a low centre developing over NW France resulting in an easterly airflow producing early low cloud which gradually burned off. This allowed afternoon temperatures to reach 21C.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> the high pressure was centred over the Baltic with a low off SW Ireland. This drew thundery activity northwards across western Britain during the afternoon in a southerly airstream, most of which missed the central and eastern Midlands allowing temperatures to peak at a rather humid 24C.

The 6<sup>th</sup> saw a continued southerly flow across the area with low pressure centres in the SW Approaches and near N. Ireland. It was a cloudy but relatively warm day with rain late afternoon and early evening as a weak warm front moved north east across the region. From the 7<sup>th</sup> a showery airstream covered the UK, becoming more unstable with time. This allowed a thundery trough to develop which moved across the Midlands in the early afternoon of the 8<sup>th</sup> though the storms were neither severe nor accompanied by heavy rain, just 1.8 mm falling.

This low filled on the 8<sup>th</sup> as a new area of high pressure formed over NW France and moved into Germany. This introduced a mainly southerly airstream on the 9<sup>th</sup> which was relatively dry allowing 9.1 hours of sunshine. The centre of the high was over Denmark on the 10<sup>th</sup> and a thundery low approached from the south giving a hot and humid day with a maximum temperature of 23C. Late evening and overnight on the 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> a spell of heavy rain occurred with rates as high as 80mm per hour at 2017 U.T.C. on the 10<sup>th</sup>. The 11<sup>th</sup> was a humid day with extensive early fog which cleared to give brief afternoon sun in the slack easterly flow. A thundery trough crossed the Midlands between 2000 and 2140 U.T.C. with continuous and often heavy rain giving a total fall of 23mm.

No fewer than three low centres surrounded the UK on the 12<sup>th</sup> which saw a return to SW winds, the resulting weather being warm with hazy sunshine. By the morning of the 13<sup>th</sup> a depression off NW. Scotland had moved into the North Sea and filled as an occluded front crossed south eastwards over the area giving a period of light rain with sunny spells.

As this filling depression moved eastwards a mainly NW airflow was introduced across the Midlands which brought cooler, though clearer, air and weak early sun. By the early afternoon of the 14<sup>th</sup> a fairly active frontal system gave an extended spell of rain which lasted until 0500 on the 15<sup>th</sup> producing a fall of 18mm of much needed rain. The following two days were then dry with sunny spells and maximum temperatures near 20C.

A new high pressure centre developed off Rockall on the 17<sup>th</sup> with an Atlantic depression approaching the south west of England. This gave a sunny and rather warm day which was short lived. A frontal system approached the Midlands on the 18<sup>th</sup> from a depression to the NW of Scotland and this gave a spell of light rain during the early morning of the 19<sup>th</sup>.

The country was now dominated by low pressure with the main centre to the NW of Scotland, its associated fronts sweeping SW to NE across the area bringing showers or longer periods of rain. It remained cool with brief sunny spells, maximum temperatures creeping no higher than 14.7C. The 20<sup>th</sup> continued under the influence of this low which continued to deepen, associated fronts sweeping round its centre bringing showers and longer periods of rain for yet another day producing a 24 hour total of 11.7mm. and a maximum temperature of only 14.8C.

By the 21<sup>st</sup> the central pressure of this depression had reached a new record low in the area for June at 988mb. The resultant weather was dull, wet and cold, the maximum daytime temperature just managing to reach 11.4C. The low pressure was centred over Denmark on