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ADVANCE PREDICTIONS AUTUMN 2018 SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER.

Welcome to the autumn 2018 advance weather predictions. I sincerely hope that this season will not be as unexpected and unpredictable as the June into July predictions, which were by any comparison or comment, extraordinary, and also not predicted as so long or so hot by any weather bureaux.

Weather predicting is not an exact science, and, linked with human frailty, is likely at time to go awry – and that is what June and early July did. For my part, I noted all the salient advance warnings, wrote them down and then completely misinterpreted them – it is by such mistakes that we learn. For the human frailty and error I apologise, I am human. But the hard lesson has been learnt. It takes years to build a reputation and very little time to lose it.

The full reasons how and why I came to wrongly predict (human error) the June weather is fully described in the preamble to the August 2018 website entry.

So, the summer weather must have and will have a massive bearing on the autumn; nature has made no provision at all for very cold autumn at all, it is also a time to replenish and recover from the rigours of heat and drought, therefore a benign autumn must be the result. Similarly looking ahead neither has nature made any provision for a long hard cold winter either.

For the weather prophets that predict an even harder winter than last year, I wish them well; however, nature makes the rules and nature has made no provision whatsoever for anything like a long hard winter; Although this is just the autumn prediction I can tell you now that the winter is equally as benign, with precious little snow for most of us, maybe some frosts, especially in February [the simple reason for this being that the hottest days in June give the coldest days in the following February – June 2018 has been exceptionally hot] – therefore February will have some very cold nights – but also dry sunny days.

This autumn go out and see just what nature has stored up for the winter, it has first to compensate for the lack of insects this summer; it does this with thistle, teasel and burdock plants and seeds. Acorns, hawthorn, elder blackthorn (sloes), whitethorn (sorbus) and late blackberries this year all are in abundance; plus too wild fruits such as medlar, bullace, late plums apples and pears. There is additionally too an extra, early, crop of holly, yew and variegated laurel fruits too as part compensation for the loss of essential foods in the summer.

Not so many, if any, very tall hemlock plants and that genre of plants, most dried or burnt off during the heat – this will indicate a dry autumn and winter, since the teasel and burdock plus an exceptional crop of spindle berries will provide the necessary foods.

A very late blackberry crop this year too, well into September, and in some places into October, but precious few crap apples about; therefore no real provision at all for a long hard winter. You have to look and see to note these things, once you have acquired this

skill the interpretation becomes easier (says he who completely mis-interpreted the June signs!!!!), but nature gives the answers 90 days ahead.

A quick summary of the autumn is dry, quite pleasant weather, no real major storms, frost at the end of October, but generally quite benign.

In more detail the months follow:

SEPTEMBER 2018

NEW MOON = 9th @ 1901hrs = Fair

1st QUARTER MOON = 17th @ 0014hrs = Fair

FULL MOON 25th @ 0352hrs = Cold & rain showers

LAST QUARTER MOON 3rd @ 0337hrs = Cold & Rain.

DoP = 29th St Michael (Michaelmass) + Quarter Day

Autumnal Equinox 23rd @ 0254hrs.

Highest spring tides 9th to 13th (**MASSIVE ON 11th**) .

APOGEE 20th @ 0155hrs: PERIGEE 8th @ 02231hrs.

MET OFFICE NOTES: 1st to 17th Quiet period. BUCHAN NOTES : none.

The September weather holds the clue, starting with some rain, then a period of calm – really late harvest time, gathering in of late fruits etc – with good weather with it to assist. One can always expect equinox storms for the back end of the month too; therefore the pattern is set for a pleasant month.

Most important day of the month is the 29th – Michaelmass – also the quarter day for the wind – where the wind blows this day will be the predominant direction until the next such quarter day on 21st December. I do not expect this wind to be a cold wind this time, nor a particular boisterous one either since there are no real storms highlighted –per se – in the methodology. There is a hope that the SW winds (from June 24th) will continue for the western side of the UK, and that for the eastern side E/SE winds will predominate – both such winds giving warm(ish) settled conditions.

There is very high tide 9th to the 13th coupled with a perigee and new moon, but with a fair moon weather situation I think no major problems. The autumn equinox is on the 23rd.

To summarise: A reasonable calm dry pleasant month with no major problems highlighted.

OCTOBER 2018

NEW MOON = 9th @ 0446hrs = Rain.

1st QUARTER MOON = 16th @ 1901hrs = Fair.

FULL MOON 24th @ 1745hrs = Fair & frosty.

LAST QUARTER MOON 2nd @ 1045hrs = Frequent showers +

31st @ 1640hrs = fair

8th October = Draconids Meteor Shower

21st + 22nd = Orionids meteor Shower

DoP = None this month.

Highest spring tides 5th to 10th.

APOGEE 17th @ 2018hrs, PERIGEE 5th @ 2331hrs AND 31st @ 2006hrs.

MET OFFICE NOTES: 16th to 19th Quiet period. 24th to 13th November a stormy period.

BUCHAN NOTES: none

BST ENDS 28th October 2018 @ 0100hrs.

The fair and benign autumn continues, with no storms, a dry sunny period around St Luke (18th) therefore a near perfect true Indian summer and followed by more fine daytime weather, albeit with night frosts, to end the month. So nature repairs and compensates for the earlier problems and havoc caused in June and July.

Expect 5 to 7 days of dry warm(ish) settled weather around the 18th (half term holidays) followed by colder nights thereafter, but we are coming to the end of autumn and the end of BST (28th), and we cannot complain.

All the comments that have gone before apply equally to October. No snow (other than those places in the extreme north that have early falls), but frost towards the end of the month.

To summarise October: benign, dry pleasant frost towards the end of the month, precious little rainfall maybe a problem being stored up for later.

NOVEMBER 2018

NEW MOON = 7th @ 1601hrs = Fair.

1st QUARTER MOON =15th @ 1454hrs = Fair & mild.

FULL MOON 23rd @ 0539hrs = Rain

LAST QUARTER MOON 30th @ 0021hrs = Frost

5th +6th November = Taurids Meteor Shower

17th + 18th = Leonids Meteor Shower

DoP = 11th St Martin

Highest spring tides 8th to the 10th AND 23rd to 26th

APOGEE 14th @ 1548hrs: PERIGEE 26th @ 1211hrs.

Yet another month of calm benign weather, and for November very good weather too, by any standard, with the middle of the month dry sunny and fair, but of course such weather will bring autumnal fogs to start each day with no real rain of any consequence, no storms and a cold nights end to the month; therefore a predominantly dry month.

The period around the 11th (St Martin) giving us St Martin's little summer – 2 to 3 days of dry fine sunny settled weather (it is November so do not expect much heat and warmth), bear in mind too that although St Martin's is not one of the four accepted 'wind days,' it is a very accurate predictor of winds through to 21st March; therefore where the wind blows on this day will be the predominant wind direction until 21st March.

There is one matter highlighted by the methodology around the 23rd November; there is a full moon on the 23rd, it is a rain moon too, therefore wet, there are the highest spring tides 23rd to the 26th; it is a Met Office Stormy period from 24th well into December and finally a perigee on the 26th. So, nearly all the elements there for a November storm that could well cause problems for coastal and low lying regions affected by higher tides, not only for those in the SW peninsula with Atlantic seas, but also for those on the east coast too. The warning signs therefore are writ loud and clear, I can only highlight them.

To summarise November: Quite dry, sunny in the day, but with some heavy early morning fogs in places, precious little rain and colder end to the month.

Advance data: Christmas Day 2018; Dry, some sunshine, fair and pleasant day. BUT

A big BUT too, it comes with a highlighted warning: Full moon on the 22nd; Perigee on the 24th, highest spring tides 26th to the 29th and Met Office Stormy period 25th to the 31st. Boxing Day (26th) is renowned for stormy conditions, therefore I expect whist Christmas Day to be pleasant, some rapid deterioration in the weather may well occur on Boxing day with possibly problems, again, for coastal and low lying areas due to the highest tides.

As for the winter 2018/9, cold yes, especially February, as bad as 2018, definitely not; as winters go not at all troublesome, the benign autumn continues into winter. For most of us, precious little snow, if any. The full winter forecast/prediction will be published late October.

Enjoy the autumn and enjoy the countryside, it is free wondrous to behold .