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APRIL

PREAMBLE



TREE OF THE MONTH 18/3 TO 14/4 ALDER

An apology to start, the website – due to massive demand, crashed on the 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> February, that is beyond my control but it was up and running again with a couple of hours

Welcome to the April 2018 website entry, a truly busy period here too. I sit here approaching the weekend of the 17/18th with weather warnings of really cold temperatures and snowstorms. Those who follow the website will have known that for months now. Again

those, outside the 'London bubble' can see that winter is still with us and has March still to run - and with the possibility of more snow this month too. The 16<sup>th</sup> - if cold enough will give a repeat of the 17<sup>th</sup> March.

The snow arrived here on cue at 8.20am the 17th - once again the methodology spot on. Very rarely do I go out on an 'extended limb,' by this I mean that in January 2017, I predicted a long hard cold winter 2017/8 and a bitterly cold February; this I stated on ITV This Morning Show, again repeated, June 2017, August 2017 and January 2018. The prediction being long hard cold winter, with a lot of snow and bitterly cold; the methodology here highlighted this - plus too all the subsequent winter storms and flooding.

The usual inane comments arose for the usual 'know-alls,' but also from established weather professionals, mainly along the lines of 'impossible to predict so far ahead,' 'fanciful words with no basis,' 'the Edenbridge weather prat shooting his mouth off again.' I am inured to it all now. I let the 1000 year old technology speak for itself.

True January was warmer, but if you get March in January then you get January in March - and we have just had the coldest ever recorded March day. The dry powdery snow that lays and drifts, and snowed more or less for three days, caused chaos too, therefore the prediction for winter 2017/8 was pretty good. What other weather institution suggested a long hard winter? The silence is deafening.

I trust the methodology implicitly, it is tried tested and works. To go onto ITV This Morning Show on the 5th, when most of the 'experts' were saying spring is on the way with 15C and sunshine on the way - and to say that on the 17th the probability of snow, as earlier, returning, was brave, upset many, drew the usual 'rubbish' plaudits, but hey, it came true. 1000 year old technology our forefathers used, once again so accurate.

What really upsets me, and I do not get too upset, so OK I am a bit 'tetchy at times (and will not tolerate fools at all.) I have developed a methodology which now, by common consent works very well - months ahead too - yet not one professional weather person, organisation or their ilk has approached me and asked to share the methodology.

The renowned Reading team that late last year published a paper, indicating that some water out in the Atlantic could tell us summer weather here - maybe - they too never had the courtesy to rely to my suggestion. Why not? I can walk into a field look at a plant or tree and tell you exactly the next 90 days weather - for free. Those that have been on walks with me have seen this in action. [In the discourteous group too is the Editor of the Yorkshire Post, who also does not have the decency to reply to a mail I sent him.]

Are these experts so clever they do not need help? OR do they not want a 'no-body' with no scientific knowledge or qualifications whom uses 'mumbo-jumbo' as a basis for 'dubious-unproven' weather predictions to offer them advice - is too demeaning? If such brains and knowledge could be correctly garnered then their forecasting would and could improve 30% - so why no approaches?

When was the last time you heard any presenter tell you that a particular day is a 'Wind Quarter Day - and what is its significance???? Never, I have no doubt very much that too - to them, then such a day is mumbo-jumbo. To those of you that use it, it is 100% reliable for the

next 90 days as the predominant wind direction, and, as such gives you a superb pointer to the weather to come

There is a £97 million computer with all the brains and expertise available (at vast public expense too) yet has just been exemplified, the advice that comes from this source is still very broad brush - in this day and age, it is just not good enough.

When a company very close to Cheltenham Races organisation comes to you and asks what the weather is going to be, honoured though it may be to be asked, that is not what I do; we have a specific organisation that should be doing this. But I gave my prediction - true of course.

In the Sunday Times (pp4) 3rd March, a senior Met Office scientist claimed they told the Cabinet Office 4 weeks previously that 'The Beast from the East' was on its way; So why no weather warnings until 3pm 3rd March about snow to fall in less than 12 hours???

Why should my voice be heard across the Independent Radio UK network saying this hours before such official warnings were given?

Come on chaps, get the act together - or give up and get someone in (not me please) who can do the job better.

To paraphrase a well worn but universally understood expression 'The man on the Clapham omnibus is being consistently failed by an under-performing Met Office.' End of rant, but surely many others have the same complaint, maybe I speak too for many of you. It needed saying.

Thank you to all those who bought the book after the TV show - we sold out 100%, completely unexpected and over-whelming. The book has had a reprint and now back in stock again, either from the commercial sellers or via the website from me here. That show gave a lot of pleasure, for several reasons, to a lot of people. TV is there to entertain and educate. I try to do both, I think I succeed. What you see is what you get with me - warts and all - not too much of that on TV - it all gets 'sanitised.' I am definitely back in June, and as you saw, now accepted as a bit of 'maverick but so entertaining too - who gets forecasts 100%.

I get lots of requests for WALKS. Thank you. Previously I have tried to give walks to groups - never again. A group of 30 books a walk, I arrange with local pub to use their car-park and provide eats after the walk, lot of arranging too. Day of the walk, expecting 30 people to attend the walk -, just 5 arrive. Waste of time effort and space, therefore no more groups. The selfish spoil it for those that hope to follow.

However I do family walks or up to 6 maximum. The walks are circular, the shorter being about 4 miles and takes just over the hour - an amble really; The larger one 2+ hours and six miles. Terrain is over fields (2 x 5 bar climbable gates) and 3 stiles, fields, woodland, river bank on the larger one, but all of interest, lots of birds, foxes, badgers, deer if lucky too. We will see no one else on the walk either, so peaceful and bracing. A word of caution, the walks are across open countryside and walking across countryside is a different proposition to walking on metalled pavements and roads. We are so far away from roads and access that if you become ill, the only medical assistance comes via the air ambulance!! You need to be able to complete the walk - it is an amble not a route march. June is favoured month.

TALKS: I do to many groups of every spectrum, each talk is about an hour and a bit with questions afterwards and I give an outline of what I do (the rest is here and in the book) I tailor the talk to the audience. The fee is £50 + travelling. A radius of 100 miles from Edenbridge is doable - just. For sure everyone will learn something they see every day and did not realise the meaning. It is interesting, but also - it works.

For those in the SE, I have arranged to do 3 talks in July with Cooling's the nursery people in Knockholt Kent (TN14 7NN) details from their website.

*Gardeners.- Bedding plants.- A warning. Spring is at least 4 weeks late this year, therefore cold and very wet. I suggest that maybe you delay planting out until after 23<sup>rd</sup> May. The Ice- maidens (11th - 14th May) that bring severe sharp overnight frosts could wreck you best plans and Cold Sophie (20th May) is also very vicious too. Be safe and delay.*

#### MOON LORE WEATHER:

For those readers who, in December 2017, accepted the advice to do their own weather; at that time you used the WINTER chart and NO BST.

The time has come to adjust that moon time and from WINTER TO SUMMER.

I use 22nd April as the devising point between WINTER and SUMMER. Therefore, to be on the safe side, with respect, I suggest you revisit the Time and Date website and print/write down all the moon phases from 22nd onwards. REMEMBER to use the SUMMER CHART and to ADD one hour (BST) to the times shown on the Time and date data. You can then, if necessary, adjust your 'weather' to the summer chart readings. This will hold until 28th October when we revert to the WINTER Readings.

It might take a few minutes, but using these MOON LORE charts produced the long hard cold winter and this latest snow on the 17th March. That surely is sufficient evidence to show that these 1000 year old charts work consistently well. The book shows the two charts on pp74/75 and on the website - top line - explanations, click and chose definitions - trawl down (a lot there too) about 4 pages and you will find the MOON LORE WEATHER - these website charts have been amended to include the update of the 23rd January. Books despatched since then too have had the amendment enclosed as a typed sheet. Good luck to you all.

The SUMMER 2017 advance prediction will be published in April - I need some nature data first, alas, it is still cold for nature to give me the vital data I need.

However, as a foretaste, a damp warm late summer, not a BBQ summer, no real hotspots either, just the good few days here and then, as mentioned elsewhere 'spits and farts summer.'

For those on the east coast, as in June, July and August, that gave a few hot days in each of those months (and the best summer weather in the UK too) we hope for more such heat to arrive from NE France again.

For those wishing to holiday in the UK (in school holiday time too) 6th -14th July reasonable; 26th July - 4th August maybe the best period of the summer. Finally 17th - 28th August looks fair - it is also grain harvest time (later this year due to cold spring).

I am told that one of my recommended books " Weather lore by Richard Inwards, is available from the internet archive as a free download for those who are impatient to get their hands or, who have problems getting their hands on a print copy. The direct download link is;

<https://ia902205.us.archive.org/3/items/weatherlorecolle00inwa/weatherlorecolle00inwa.pdf>

A word of caution. I am human, I am not perfect, if you go to the SW, it is surrounded by water and is the first place to get rain from the Atlantic so it is wet, very wet at times. The east coast is dryer by far. So because you take a holiday in SW and get wet, whilst we in the E and SE have dryer weather, please do not write and complain. The UK has weather, sometimes 4 seasons in a day; it is fickle weather, you take your chance in the summer. In winter for me as a predictor relatively east; in summer, far too many variables. Even Barcelona had snow in March - and they are sunny and warm!!

A massive thank you to all those who have purchased the book, it sold out everywhere, I do however a supply here via the website. Thank you too ITV This Morning for the show itself and the Facebook page too

I do not do Facebook, Twitter or other Social media. I did do Facebook, however the trolls and

kindred idiots decided I was fair game, and. As a result I closed down Facebook. For the same reason, I do not tolerate fools and idiots, Twitter and other Social media is out of the question too. The few spoil it for the majority. I do however have local contacts here among Facebook users and they will and do pass messages on.

*FINALLY: 21<sup>st</sup> March = Wind day. The wind here was WNW, and cold with it too. There may be local variations, but where it was today will be the predominant direction until 24<sup>th</sup> June – the next such day. The prediction therefore a long cold spring holds good.*

If there was going to be snow, blizzards -10C at Easter – and a white-out too - as newspapers and radio and TV have been saying the last few days, do you not think that the methodology here would have high-lighted it?? You can see the weather already on the site. The thought of Fake News or Spoilers comes to mind – what a world we live in!!

## APRIL 2018

NEW MOON = 16th @ 0359hrs = Snowy & stormy.  
1st QUARTER MOON = 22nd @ 2346hrs = Fair & frosty  
FULL MOON 30th @ 0259hrs = Cold & rain showers  
LAST QUARTER MOON 8th @ 0921hrs = Cold rain.

LYRIDS METEOR SHOWER 22nd -23rd.

Highest spring tides 1st to the 4th AND 15th to the 20th

Apogee 8th @ 0633hrs: Perigee 20<sup>th</sup> @ 1546hrs

BUCHAN COLD PERIOD 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>.

MET OFFICE STORMY PERIOD 23rd to the 26th.

- 1st Easter Day If sunshine today, so at Whitsun (24th May). Rainy Easter = cheesy year (wet). Greenfly at Easter - June will blister.
- 1st All Fools Day Should it rain on All Fools Day, it brings good crops of corn and hay.
- 2nd Hop Monday Hop pole erection day.
- 6th Latter Lady Day - the cold comes on the water.
- 8th Low Sunday This Sunday settles the weather for the whole summer  
Apogee @ 0633hrs
- 11th - 14th Blackthorn Winter
- 14th Cuckoo Day The cuckoos song is first heard about this time.
- 15th St Basilissa Swallows arrive.  
Pastor Sunday If it rains this day it will rain every Sunday until Pentecost (20th May).
- 16th St Padarn Celtic Goddess - traditionally the day to start weeding growing crops.
- 20th Perigee @ 1546hrs
- 23rd St George Comes the cuckoo and the nightingale. When St George growls (thunder) in the sky, wind and storms are drawing nigh.  
Harebell flowering day.  
Mallard Day From a festival at All Souls College, Oxford.
- 23rd to 26th A cold stormy period bringing heavy showers.

25th St Mark As long before this day frogs are heard a-croaking, so long will they keep quiet afterwards. The cuckoo heralds the arrival of migratory birds from the south, indicating the return of summer.

The full moon this month is known as the Pink Moon.

The tree of the month up to the 14th is the Alder, thereafter the Willow.

### General Notes and Comments

The month of season changes, young leaves and blossoms unfold. April and May are the keys to the whole year.

The first really cheerful month of the year.

Rarely a very wet month, can be completely dry.

Annual humidity is at its lowest and can produce dust storms.

Hottest ever April in 2007/2011

As a general rule, April weather is a mixture of all sorts.

April weather, rain and sunshine together.

We must suffer a cold wet April if we want a good summer.

Cold weather in April is supposed to be good for bumper harvest. A cold April - barn will fill.

A dry March and a rainy April makes a beautiful May.

Most old sayings say it is best to have a wet April.

When April blows his horn, 'tis good for hay and corn.

[the reference to 'horn' means thunder, it also means a good summer]

April cold and wet fills the barns best yet.

April wet, good wheat.

After a cold April the barns fill best.

April cold and wet fills barns and barrels.

April rain makes large sheaves.

April showers bring May flowers.

East wind in spring a brilliant summer will bring.

When doves start to coo the last frosts have gone.

After a wet April a dry June. After a moist April a clear June.

Spring has come when a virgin can cover six daisies with her foot.

When winter meets summer it foretells a hot dry summer [sometimes a prolonged winter seems to turn into summer overnight].

The weather in the second half of April foretells the summer. [wise words commanding respect]

Cloudy April - dewy May. Thunderstorms in April - floods in May.

Showery April - Flowery May.

Dry Spring - wet Autumn. Thunder in spring and cold it will bring.

Blackthorn Winter - 11th -14th April.

Just as the Blackthorn is coming into blossom expect some fine weather. However if the flower arrives before the leaf then expect a cold snap.

AND

If he blooms before the leaves appear, be sure there will be a bitter spell - perhaps even with snow. [this is a most accurate saying]

23rd St Georges Day - If it rains today St George eats all the cherries.

Much February snow - April summer doth show. [check records]

Early Cuckoo - dry summer (arrival in or before early April). The later he arrives the worse the summer.

When March has April weather, April will have March weather.

E/NE winds reach their greatest frequency during April and May.

After a warm April and a warm October, a warm year to come.

A dry Lent spells a fertile year.

April, more than March, can have both summer and winter embrace it. April can also be more snowy than December. Classic April snowstorms of 1966 & 1981. Whilst in 1949 the mercury topped 80F(27C).

April has the face of a monk and the claws of a cat.

Thunderstorms in April is the end of hoar-frost.

If the first three days be foggy, there will be a flood in June. (rain in June will make the lanes boggy)

April may be famous for its showers, but it is rarely a very wet month. Quite the contrary - April is one of the driest months of the year in all parts of the UK.

Greenfly at Easter, June will blister.

Rainy Easter - a cheesy year (much rain = plenty of grass)

Northerly winds over northern Europe reach their highest frequency around 15th June. But are rare after 20th June. Meanwhile SW winds blow comparatively infrequently from late March until 10th June, but are very much more common during the rest of June.

From the same research, taking England & Wales as a whole, the driest months of the year are:- March, April & May, and occasionally February and June. These months are also the months when long drags of unsettled westerly winds are unlikely to occur. Monthly rainfall is between 2.3/2.6 ins (58/66mms) for each month from February to June. From July onwards 3.2/3.8ins (81/96mms).

23rd/26th - A cold stormy period brings heavy showers.  
There is also a similar period mid-month.

Tidal energies are ruled by moon particularly this month, possibly the reason for the severely changeable weather at this time.

Late Easter = long cold spring. The weather at Easter fortells the harvest.

#### THE FULL MOON THIS MONTH IS KNOWN AS THE PINK MOON

The tree of the month up to the 14th is the Alder. Thereafter is the Willow.

#### MONTHLY AVERAGES FOR EDENBRIDGE (USING 1981-2010 FIGURES)

Mean Max: 15.5C      Mean Min: 3.3C      Mean Avg: 9.4C  
Rainfall: 60.5mm      Sunshine: 191.9hrs (day = 6.4hrs)

Whilst I appreciate the above are local figures, it will be an indication of what the averages are, and, of course there will be local variations. Such variations can be found by trawling the various weather websites, or by using the superb data found in the Climatologists Observers Link website.

The following figures are for the average temperature at 12 noon and again at 4pm, taken at the beginning and again at the end of the month.

1 <sup>st</sup>	12.2C	13.3C
30th	14.4C	15.5C

DATE	Chandler & Gregory Barry & Perry	Brooks	Lamb	Buchan	Met Office	Season
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April 01  
 April 02  
 April 03  
 April 04  
 April 05  
 April 06  
 April 07  
 April 08  
 April 09  
 April 10  
 April 11  
 April 12  
 April 13  
 April 14  
 April 15  
 April 16  
 April 17  
 April 18  
 April 19  
 April 20  
 April 21  
 April 22  
 April 23  
 April 24  
 April 25  
 April 26  
 April 27  
 April 28  
 April 29  
 April 30

28/3 to 1st Cold stormy  
 period

30/3 - 17/6  
 spring

10th - 15th Stormy  
  
 peak day

12th - 19th cold stormy  
 period

11th - 14th  
 cold  
 period

peak day  
 peak day  
 peak day

29th to 16th May Northerly  
 weather with some  
 anti-cyclonic periods

30/3 - 17/6  
 spring

