

WEATHER WITHOUT TECHNOLOGY
MAY 2014

PREAMBLE.

So, our learned meteorologists, scientists and other experts have concluded that global warming is with us, we are to expect, hotter weather, colder weather, violent extremes of weather, flooding, rising tide levels, problems in some areas with food production, changes in food production, water shortages, food shortages and much else. We humans are responsible for these problems to a large degree. I hear and read all this, sadly I see nothing substantial about the pollution and problems in respect of 'human disregard,' for these problems, why does no-one mention the pollution caused by the thousands of jet aircraft flying during the hours of darkness (when so much pollution occurs) - or does this impinge on too many other activities? Just a thought!

Following on from the above, I go back to August 2013 when I mentioned the 'Dalton Minimal' matters in the preamble. Therefore with certain meteorologists/scientists telling us that here in the UK summers will get hotter, winters wetter, violent storms in the years to come, I will just add my six-penneth to this latest statement above. I see nothing about the fact that this coming summer (since so far, the year has been very similar to 1990 as last year was similar to 1989), is likely to be the last 'warm summer,' we are likely to experience for a few years here in the UK; yes controversial, but based on real science, not theories, with real figures and facts to back this up. A search of any internet search engine will show the evidence for such a statement, it makes interesting reading, maybe unpalatable and against the 'global warming' scenario, but it is a democracy; never were the words of an American President more appropriate in this debate, concerning vested interests.

How good are the saws/sayings - are they reasonably accurate? The saws/sayings I display are the condensed, verified, proved and proven from an original some 30,000 such sayings, and as such I have a library of about 5000 maximum, which I use when appropriate, for not all sayings are appropriate for certain conditions. It is not foolproof, but it is for the greater part reliable, and as such has many uses. Look at the sayings for Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday, compare the weather and you can yourself see just how accurate those two sayings have been this year. Compare the blackthorn winter (11-14th April) sayings with the actual weather (though this year not as noticeably colder) - this too is backed up by Buchan and the singularities notes. The saws commencing Shrove Tuesday this year have been very accurate indeed and there is no reason to doubt their usefulness. The January 1st saw about the single hay harvest has gathered even more credence this month. The arrival times of birds has been excellent this year, and the flowers blooming dates are good too, so after the floods, nature is making a wonderful recovery. The house martins and cuckoo have arrived therefore summer is not too far behind.

If you bother to note the Moveable Feasts saws (last entry on the forecasts column) you will be able to see with a lot of confidence and accuracy just how the future such days will turn out to be; if these saws were proven reliable in the distant past, then why should I not use them in my methodology. For the greater part all are accurate, and to have some reasonable degree of what weather is to come must be advantageous to everyone.

Hopefully May will be frost free, which will please the fruit farmers, and if we do have some very light snowfalls in May (not unheard of - again see the Christmas saw) then this will give sufficient top cover to the fruit blossoms to protect them from the frosts around 11th-14th May (The Ice maidens).

Bridal and other such celebrations during the spring (up to June 24th), beware, as in the last two years, of the cold, but dry, cold E/SE wind, which will if out of the sun will feel cold (it was an E/SE wind on 21st March - which stays until the return of the westerly's in late June.

As predicted, in the SE, months ago, Easter was wet and cold, another saw proven.

The recent re-opening of the Dawlish railway link washed away by storms in February, drew much comment; the comment that caught my attention came from Carolyn Custerson of Visit Devon, who in her speech on the opening day stated, among other words "I would urge anyone looking to book a break to support Devon this year, especially in the light of the fantastic weather predicted for us." Interesting comment indeed. Sadly the lady declined to reply to me and divulge her informant.

Following the above there was a real eye-catching headline banner in the Daily Star that promised us 6 weeks of glorious weather! So I wrote to that august publication addressing it to the female author and her superior for the source of such wisdom please! Needless to say nothing from the author, but an interesting repost from Mr Robert Ross of that publication who told me 'to leave weather to the experts,' and 'to please stop writing such drivel.' There was again no reply as to the source, quite obviously a case of 'do not let the reply to the question get in the way of your response.' In my defence I told everyone who listened, months ago, that Easter would be wet and cold, but such 'drivel' you take at your own risk. Lent has followed the saws superbly too. There is good reason to note that all the 'moveable feast saws' notes, will be equally as rewarding too. Some drivel too! at least I can confirm my sources openly and without fear.

A final word on the absence of even a snowflake this year here in the SE; maybe nature was as at fault as all that since the highlands of Scotland have had a magnificent snow season, and indeed the snow at Easter was the best for years - so the Easter snow prediction, for that area, held up.

Must do Better! Room for improvement! - see below:

I hear the shuffling of feet and receive some pointed comments too, about the re-designed website that was promised in December 2013. Well things have not run as well as hoped and as such, no new website yet - but it is being worked on and will, I can assure you all, that it will be different (drivel free) and will be of interest to you all. Patience a little longer please. Thank you.

MAY 2014

NEW MOON = 28th @ 1943hrs = Fair
1st QUARTER MOON = 7th @ 0416hrs = Rain
FULL MOON 14th @ 2018 = Rainy
LAST QUARTER MOON 21st @ 1400hrs = Changeable.

DoP = 25th St Urban

Highest spring tides 15th to 18th.

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|------|--|--|
| 1st | May Day | Hoar frost today indicates good harvest. Plants in full growth. The later the Blackthorn blooms after 1st May, the better the rye. |
| 3rd | Holy Cross Day
St Philip & St James | Crowfoot blossom time.
If it rains, and/or a fertile year may be expected, and/or foretells a wet harvest. |
| 4th | Pastor Sunday
June). | If it rains this day it will rain every Sunday until Pentecost (9th |
| 7th | Apogee 1023hrs. | |
| 11th | Chestnut Sunday | |
| 11th | St Mamertus | Ice-Saint - beware of frost - unseasonally cold and/or wet weather} |
| 12th | St Pancras |as above.....Ice Maidens = night frost} |
| 13th | St Servatius |as above.....} |
| 14th | St Boniface |as above.....} |
| 18th | Perigee 1159hrs | |
| 19th | St Dunstan (cold Sophie). | Ice Saint with characteristics as above for ice-maidens. |
| 22nd | Dandelion picking day in East Anglia | for dandelion wine. |
| 24th | Celtic celebration day | for bringing prosperity and good harvest. |
| 25th | St Urban | DoP. Day of Prediction up to 15th June (St Vitus). Summer starts. |
| 29th | Ascension Day | As the weather today so may be the entire autumn |

MET OFFICE NOTES: = none. BUCHAN NOTES : 9th to 14th cold period.

Full moon this month is known as Flower Moon.

Willow tree up to 12th, thereafter Hawthorn.

General notes and comments.

If you are looking for a good summer, the best May weather you need should be cold and rainy.
May can be/likely to be cold, but nothing strange in this.
He who dofts his coat on a winter's day will gladly put it on in May.
A cold May gives full barns and empty churchyards.

Goddess of Spring. Sacred Hawthorn tree blossoms this month.
Severe gales are very much the exception to the rule, though boisterous breezes are fairly common.
E/NE winds reach their greatest frequency during April and May.
SE England, London in particular, suffers from more short intense storms than any other part of the country.
April and May are the best time to visit Scotland.
The later the Blackthorn in bloom after the 1st May, the better the rye and harvest.
He who shears his sheep before St Mamertus Day (11th) loves his wool more than his sheep.

If rough winds do shake the darling buds of May, and summer's lease hath all too short a stay.

A cold wet May is good for corn and hay, a dry May foretells a wholesome summer.
Flowers in May good cocks of hay. Water in May - bread all year.

Rain in May makes plenty of hay.
A cold May and windy, a full barn will find ye.

St Urban (25th) gives the summer.
[this does give an indication, a fair indication - it can however be ambiguous or a little optimistic]

Ne're cast a clout till May be out, button to chin till June be in,
if you change in June you change too soon.
Change in July? You'll catch a cold bye and bye.
Change in August if you must.
Be sure to remember change back in September.

Mist in May, heat in June, puts the harvest right in tune/makes the harvest come right soon.

A leaky May and dry June makes harvest come right soon.

A May flood never did anyone any good.

Who sows his oats in May has little to repay.

A swarm of bees in May is worth a load of hay.

When bees leave their hive then it's good to be alive, when they all go home again then it's surely going to rain.

When the Mulberry trees begins to shoot, the last frost has gone.
[Impeccable reference]

Spring will not settle properly until the cowslips have died down.

When September has been rainy, the following May is generally dry; and when May is dry, September is apt to be wet. [check previous readings in each case]
[the above however is not really reliable - however - If May is well above the average for rain then the same can be said for September being above average for rain too.

AND

If May is drier than average then September is likely to be drier than average too.

ALL THE ABOVE FROM LOCAL READINGS.

Fogs in March - frosts in May.
[this is quite accurate. In London there on average, four foggy mornings in March and an average of four nights of ground frost in May. Check local readings]

Franklin's Frost strikes Devon 19th, 20th & 21st May.

To conclude. May is a most uncertain month. A month of variable temperatures and rainfall.
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).

The hay crop is harvested at the end of May & June, so any reference to a good hay crop implies good weather then.

A hot May makes a fat churchyard.
A May wet was never kind yet, a May flood never did good.

Mud in May, grain in August.

Cool & evening due in May, brings wine and much hay.

The more thunder in May, the less in August and September.

FULL MOON THIS MONTH KNOWN AS FLOWER MOON.

Willow tree up-to 12th. Thereafter Hawthorn from 13th.

MONTHLY AVERAGES FOR EDENBRIDGE (USING 1981-2010 FIGURES)

Mean Max: 19.3C Mean Min: 7.1C Mean Avg: 13.2C
Rainfall: 58.9mm Sunshine: 197.8hrs (Day = 6.38hrs)

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 st	15.7C	16.9C
31 st	18.8C	19.9C

DATE	Chandler & Gregory Barry & Perry	Brooks	Lamb	Buchan	Met Office	Season	
01/05/2014			29th to 16th May. Northerly weather with some anti-cyclonic periods			30/3 - 17/6 spring	
02/05/2014							
03/05/2014							
04/05/2014							
05/05/2014							
06/05/2014							
07/05/2014							
08/05/2014							
09/05/2014					9th - 14th cold period		
10/05/2014							
11/05/2014							
12/05/2014							
13/05/2014							
14/05/2014							
15/05/2014							
16/05/2014							
17/05/2014							
18/05/2014							
19/05/2014							
20/05/2014							
21/05/2014			21st - 31st. Anti-cyclonic period of fine weather			30/3 - 17/6 spring	
22/05/2014							
23/05/2014							
24/05/2014							
25/05/2014							
26/05/2014							
27/05/2014							
28/05/2014							
29/05/2014							
30/05/2014							
31/05/2014							