



Tree of the month up to 12th is Willow - see previous month data - thereafter the Hawthorn, above.

Welcome to the May Preamble of the website.

An interesting article appeared in The Independent newspaper on 25th March concerning the 'warming' of the Gulf Stream, and the possible effects on UK climate in the future

If proof were needed of the lateness, compared with earlier years, and, indeed later than normal, caused by the cold winter; 25th March is Cardamine flowering day - this small plant grows adjacent to water sources and is also known as the Cuckoo Pint or Lady's Smock. This year not having seen any prior to the 25th I spent four hours touring the extensive water courses, brooks and streams here, plus the river Eden here and did not find a single plant, let alone a flowering plant. Which puts spring about three to four weeks behind long term normal average.

Gardeners too tell me that early flower tulips are stunted and also well behind as are also many other plants. It would therefore appear that the warnings of a long hard

cold winter were indeed well on target - but then - nature is never wrong. Hopefully the rest of the predictions into the summer of 2015 are equally as accurate. They also complain of severe lack of water.

**Then having written the above, 'Sods Law,' operated:**

*However, two weeks on, the cardamine is now flowering; the early garlic mustard, wild garlic, stitchworts, honesty, comfrey, all the nettles are flowering well, to name but a few. Wild strawberry is here with fruit. Cowslips are flowering - a good sign of no more severe frosts to come. For those interested, the Ash is a good three weeks ahead of the Oak this year. The Blackthorn is flowering later this year; apple, plum & pear trees are now beginning to throw early blossoms; and it will be a bumper year again for cherries too.*

The redwings, fieldfares, arctic starlings and brambling have departed north.

The first swallows arrived here two weeks early followed by the house martins and cuckoo - all early. Whitethroats and fly catchers too are here. For the summer weather detectives - see what the early arrival of the cuckoo tells us! All good news. Birds are now building nests too, summer is not too far away!

*For those that are slowly learning the methodology I use; tips for the month of March this year really accurate, the saws (on the datasheet) all came home practically 100%. I have a list of 15 such perfect results from March, some of these also used the October 2014 data and others go forward four months into 2015. I know I keep on about the reliability of the Christmas day saws, in particular concerning fruit & grain harvests and the Easter weather prospects. Once again, despite national newspapers predicting a 'Heat wave Easter,' the reliability of these saws disproves any such optimism. But what is more important is that the March saws once again have re-inforced the Christmas day saws in full. March was dryer and colder than average (at least here) and this too backs up the saws - but was perfectly predictable, as was a cold damp Easter. Whilst there are times, when collated, the methodology looks contrary to what one might expect, the secret is stay with the methodology - and not to veer from it. Sometimes it goes pear shaped - but rarely - and when it does it is bad interpretation of the data that nature provides.*

*So with Easter over, result time: Methodology won. The Moon report 100%, with snow in north - always on the cards after the WNW wind on 21st March*

*(Quarter Day) - and still giving the north colder weather than here in the south.*

*So the Christmas saws again 100% for Easter. The New Year saw about one hay harvest also beginning to look accurate too. Which means another bumper pea harvest too.*

The unseasonably hot weather, I did not foresee - but nor did anyone else.

*However the drought/water shortage I warned of last month now looks a reality, if not now - and we truly now need rain badly - but for later in the year, and certain national newspapers and Met Office forecasters are now making noises about droughts!*

The warmer than average weather, alas, did not extend to parts of the north, but I did warn earlier that the effect of the cold wind on 21st March (Quarter day) would have an effect on the north, and this has manifest itself since that date, and I see warnings (21st April) of cold polar weather for the following week, and maybe described above - and there is a pertinent saw for 1st April concerning frost too, so nothing really out of the ordinary, the WNW wind indeed having its effect.

*I also see forecasts for a BBQ summer, 'the hottest summer for years,' three months of scorching hot weather,' to name a few of the headlines. I will remain with the advance predictions already on the website, and trust the methodology; it has been very good since before Christmas 2014, so, if ain't broke, then leave well alone; what has served marvellously so far this year I am sure will continue.*

*I fear however that Glastonbury and Wimbledon tennis will be wet this year. Plus la change.*

Thank you to all those that send comments to me - I reply to all of them; I hope that slowly the sceptics too are beginning to be won over; I use tried. tested, verifiable, proven and reliable methodology, and without the moon I can do nothing, and slowly this data of and from the moon, is slowly being noted by others.

For the shepherds I suggested the weather after Easter would be more favourable and this proved to be true too.

Though mainly a SE website, I try to expand, slowly, to offer advice to the north, not easy for your climate is different, but I am slowly succeeding, and at the same time learning about this fascinating subject.

Thank you Radio York - Paul Hudson weather show and now the Mark Forrest Show (BBC nationally networked too), plus Radio Lincoln. For an amateur not bad. For those in the National Press and local newspapers too, thank you for your confidence in the methodology - it is not hocus-pocus is it!!! It actually works too.

MAY 2015

NEW MOON = 18th @ 0513hrs = Rain  
1st QUARTER MOON = 25th @ 1819hrs = Fair  
FULL MOON 4th @ 0442hrs = Rainy  
LAST QUARTER MOON 11th @ 1136hrs = Rain showers.

DoP = 25th St Urban

Highest spring tides 17th to 20th.

- |      |   |   |
|------|---|---|
| 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<br>St Philip & St James  | Crowfoot blossom time.<br>If it rains, and/or a fertile year may be expected, and/or foretells a wet harvest.   |
| 10th | Chestnut Sunday   |   |
| 11th | St Mamertus   | Ice-Saint - beware of frost - unseasonably cold and/or wet weather  |
| 12th | St Pancras  | .....as above.....Ice Maidens = night frost}  |
| 13th | St Servatius  | .....as above.....}   |
| 14th | St Boniface<br>Ascension Day  | .....as above.....}<br>As the weather today so may be the entire autumn   |
| 15th | Perigee 0124hrs   |   |
| 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.<br>Pentecost | Pentecost/Whitsun If sun shines Easter Day (5th April) so it will at Whitsun. Strawberries at Whitsuntide = good wine.<br>If it happens to rain on Whitsunday, thunder and lightning would follow (Thunder yes, but much rain is doubtful). Rain at Whitsunday is said to make the wheat mildew. Whitsun wet = Christmas fat. Whitsun rain is a blessing on the wine. |
| 25th | Whit Monday   | The weather today reflects that of Maundy Thursday (2nd April)  |
| 25th | St Urban  | DoP. Day of Prediction up to 15th June (St Vitus). Summer starts.   |
| 26th | Apogee 23.14hrs   |   |
| 31st | Trinity Sunday  |   |

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 tress 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]*

*Franklins 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 dew 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.*

<i>1<sup>st</sup></i>	<i>15.7C</i>	<i>16.9C</i>
<i>31<sup>st</sup></i>	<i>18.8C</i>	<i>19.9C</i>

2015

01/05/2015

Date	Day	Moon	Weather	DoP	Saint/Holy day	Other day	Apogee Perigee	Equinox Eclipse	Met Office	Buchan	Super-moon
1	Fr					May day					
2	Sa										
3	Su					Holy Cross	St Philip/St James				
4	Mon	Full 04.42	Rain			May Bank holiday					
5	Tu										
6	Wed										
7	Th										
8	Fr										
9	Sa										
10	Su					Chestnut Sunday	St Mamertus	Ice Maidens		Cold period 9th - 14th	
11	Mon	Last Q 11.36	Rain showers				St Pancras	}		}	
12	Tu						St Servatius	}		}	
13	Wed						St Boniface	}		}	
14	Th				Ascension Day					}	
15	Fr						Perigee01.24				
16	Sa										
17	Su							highest spring tides			
18	Mo	New 05.13	Rain					17th - 20th			
19	Tu					St Dunstan	Cold Sophie				
20	Wed										
21	Th										
22	Fr					Dandelion day					
23	Sa										
24	Su				Pentecost						
25	Mon	First Q 18.19	Fair	YES	St Urban	Bank holiday					
26	Tu						Apogee23.14				
27	Wed										
28	Th										
29	Fr										
30	Sa										
31	Sun				Trinity Sunday						

DATE	Chandler & Gregory Barry & Perry	Brooks	Lamb	Buchan	Met Office	Season
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31/05/2015

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

9th - 14th  
cold  
period

21st - 31st Anti-cyclonic period of  
fine weather

30/3 - 17/6  
spring

30/3 - 17/6  
spring