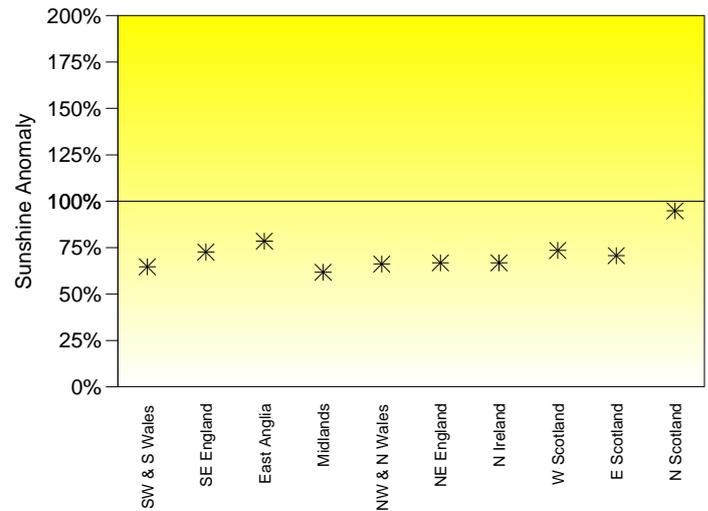
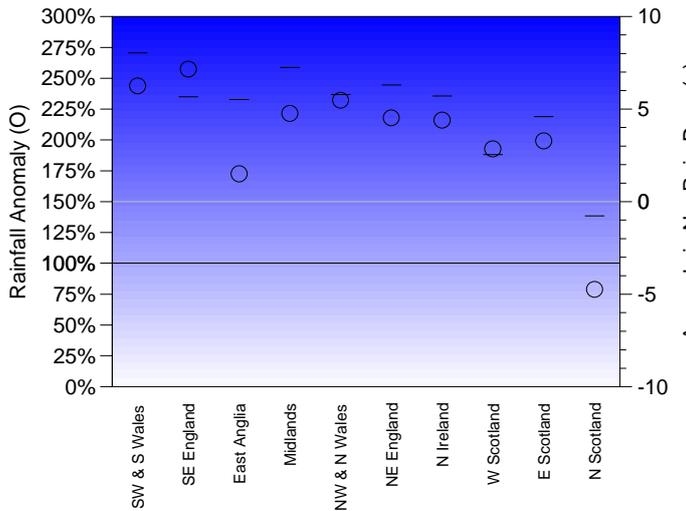


Extremes for June 2012	
Hottest:	28.9°C Leigh-on-Sea 2, Essex, 28th
Coldest:	-3.5°C Loch Glascarnoch, Highland, 5th
Most Rain:	99.4mm Blencathra, Cumbria, 22nd
Most Sun:	16.4hrs Kirkwall, Orkney, 20th
Windiest:	67mph Mumbles Head, West Glamorgan, 7th
Warmest:	15.7°C Carrefour-au-Clercq, Channel Islands
Coolest:	9.4°C Lerwick, Shetland
Wettest:	350.9mm Capel Curig SAWS, Gwynedd
Driest:	41.7mm Fair Isle, Shetland
Sunniest:	294.1hrs Radstock, Somerset
Dullest:	57.1hrs Eskdalemuir, Dumfries and Galloway



Long light evenings, barbecues, uninterrupted play at Wimbledon and the thwack of bat on ball in summer sunshine - these are a few of the images that June may conjure up. The reality is often markedly different however, and this year was one of the coolest, dullest and wettest Junes ever...

The month was unsettled almost from the start and bad weather marred some of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. The Thames pageant on the 3rd took place in cold, damp and dismal conditions with temperatures not far above 10°C (50°F). The 4th was drier but still very cool and more fronts followed over the next few days bringing further rain. An unusually deep depression for the time of year moved north-east across the UK on the 7th and 8th brought widespread rain and wind. Gales over southern England and south Wales led to dozens of uprooted trees and some 300 homes in south-west England losing power. The occlusion wrapped around the low gave persistent and heavy rainfall across mid-Wales on the 8th and 9th culminating in serious flooding in the Aberystwyth area. More than 1000 people were evacuated and 150 had to be rescued - mainly from half submerged caravan parks. Trawsgoed, Ceredigion, notched up a colossal 102mm rain in the 48 hours to 0900 on the 9th. After a brief respite on the 10th, the 11th and 12th were both very wet over England and Wales - though Scotland and Northern Ireland escaped largely unscathed. Chichester and Bognor Regis were just two areas affected by flooding. Another unseasonably deep depression brought more storms on the 14th and 15th and there was disruption to some ferry routes. The 17th - 20th was quieter - and though there were still some heavy and thundery showers - it became warmer with 23.3°C (73°F) achieved at Northolt, Greater London on the 20th. The respite was short lived however and low pressure soon took control again. Widespread rain on the 21st and 22nd was particularly heavy across northern England and Keswick, Cumbria recorded 88.6mm on the 22nd. Train services on the West Coast mainline were suspended and across Cumbria, Lancashire and West Yorkshire around 500 properties were affected by flooding - either from surface water or rivers bursting their banks. On the afternoon of the 25th warm, humid air invaded, and after a couple of rather cloudy, damp and muggy days, the stage was set for a grand finale. On the 28th lines of intense thunderstorms tracked north-east across the Midlands and northern England. There was lightning, torrential rain and large hail - which left numerous greenhouses and vehicles damaged especially across Leicestershire. In north-east England some 23,000 properties were left without power as substations flooded and a landslide near Berwick closed the East Coast mainline. The south-east missed all the activity and it was very warm with 28.6°C (84°F) at Gravesend, Kent. The final two days were somewhat fresher but still showery.

It was the wettest June across the UK in over 100 years (even beating 2007) and provisionally the second dullest in a series from 1929. Only the far north-west of Scotland was drier than normal - being away from the main depression track.

Other European countries were also affected by inclement June weather. In Ireland, Cork airport recorded 228mm for the month - making it the wettest June since records began there in 1962. On the 3rd, Stockholm registered its coldest June weekend in 84 years, with temperatures hitting a maximum of just 6°C (43°F) on the 2nd as blustery winds and heavy rain swept the Swedish capital. On the 30th, violent electrical storms injured 51 people at the Roitzschjora music festival in Lower Saxony (Germany). Three casualties had to be resuscitated on the spot after being hurled into the air. Golf ball sized hail fell in Hilpertsweiler, Bayern, (Germany).

Across the Atlantic, severe thunderstorms also slammed Denver and Colorado Springs late on the 7th. A total of seven tornadoes were reported along the Front Range of the Colorado Rockies and one touched down north of Denver International Airport. Golf ball sized hail damaged vehicles, ripped gutters from homes and piled up several inches deep. Several massive thunderstorms cut a swathe through North Texas late on the 13th. Baseball-sized hailstones smashed everything from car windshields to the marquee of a landmark East Dallas movie theatre. The storms caused hundreds of millions of dollars of damage, about 6,000 homes and businesses lost power in Dallas alone and more than 40 flights were diverted away from the international airport.

A rare snowstorm crippled travel in and around the city of Christchurch, New Zealand on the 5th, leaving 3,000 people without power. On the 6th, the temperature did not rise above 0°C all day making it the coldest day in the city since records began 149 years ago! Also in the Antipodes, a round of severe thunderstorms on the 7th spawned tornadoes that led to widespread damage in and around Perth, Western Australia. A second wave of storms struck on the 12th, and wind gusts in excess of 90mph left more than 100,000 people without power.

Extreme rainfall across Taiwan 11th - 13th led to many school and business closures. Transportation was hit hard by flooding with dozens of flights cancelled and over 30,000 rail users were affected as tracks between Taoyuan and Yingge collapsed. At Kaohsiung City the 24 hour rainfall was an almost unbelievable 582 mm!!