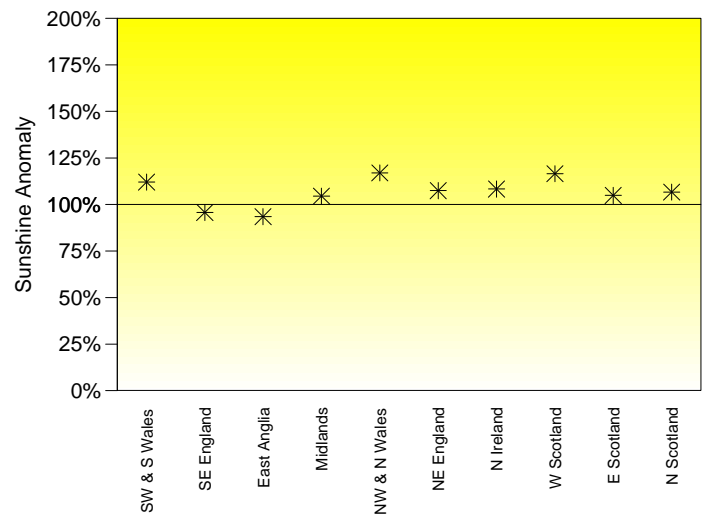
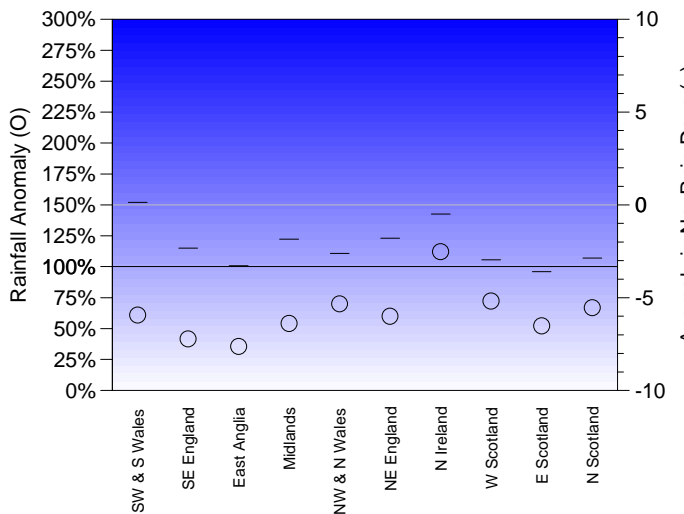


Extremes for June 2013	
Hottest:	27.7°C Leigh-on-Sea 2, Essex, 30th
Coldest:	-1.1°C Tulloch Bridge SAWS, Highland, 1st
Most Rain:	38.4mm Ballypatrick Forest SAWS, County Antrim, 15th
Most Sun:	17.0hrs Tiree, Strathclyde, 6th
Windiest:	68mph Capel Curig SAWS, Gwynedd, 23rd
Warmest:	15.8°C St James Park, Greater London
Coolest:	10.2°C Fair Isle, Shetland
Wettest:	134.9mm Capel Curig SAWS, Gwynedd
Driest:	11.2mm Faversham, Kent
Sunniest:	277.4hrs Monifieth, Tayside
Dullest:	100.4hrs Kirkwall, Orkney



June brings the promise of long, light evenings as the solstice approaches, and hopes of barbecues and cricket on the green. It often disappoints however - and wet weather is commonplace especially during the final fortnight as Atlantic westerlies reassert. Rain frequently interrupts the early rounds at Wimbledon and a mud bath at Glastonbury has become a tradition of recent years.

Following the grey weather of late May, a rise in pressure brought an improvement and June started settled as an anticyclone extended north-east. Many places basked in sunshine and warmth although eastern coasts were plagued by low cloud which often extended westwards overnight and depressed temperatures. Thundery downpours in west Cornwall on the night of 7th/8th led to some local flash flooding before more generally unsettled conditions spread from the south-west around the 11th. Most places saw rain at times with blustery winds, especially on the 13th when thunderstorms with large hail and squalls affected eastern and north-east England. The 15th was also a disturbed day with heavy showers across England and Wales. From the 17th-20th, the UK was on the periphery of some exceptionally warm and thundery weather centred over the Continent. Most places were humid with maxima widely exceeding 24°C (75°F) on the 19th - and thunder in the south and east on the 20th. The midsummer solstice on the 21st saw fresher conditions extend from the west - only to be followed by a deep depression settling over Scotland the following day. This gave unusually strong winds on the 22nd and 23rd, heavy showers and a generally autumnal feel. Pressure subsequently rose, leading to a quieter final week - although western coasts remained damp, drizzly and misty under warm sector conditions. Brighter, milder weather was often to be found inland - and the month ended with a taste of summer as temperatures climbed to 27.2°C (81°F) at Heathrow (Greater London).

Mean temperatures across the UK were just a little below the 1981-2010 average, but that still made it rather warmer than either of the previous two Junes. Away from Northern Ireland, it was a generally dry month with the south-east and East Anglia receiving only one third of their normal rainfall. Sunshine was a little above average for much of the UK.

Central Europe was hit first by devastating floods and then by intense heat during June. Tens of thousands of people were evacuated due to flooding in Germany and the Czech Republic between the 3rd and 5th. Near Deggendorf, two levees broke along the Danube and Isar rivers and their raging waters engulfed nearby homes. In the eastern German city of Halle, 30,000 residents were inundated as the Saale River reached its highest level in 400 years. More than 19,000 people were evacuated as torrential rainfall caused rivers to swell and burst their banks in the Czech Republic. A blistering early summer heatwave then sent temperatures soaring 17th-19th. Mulhouse in France, and Hohenems, Austria, reached 36°C (97°F) on the 17th and Sion, Switzerland, 36°C (97°F) the following day. On the 19th, visitors climbing Paris' Eiffel Tower had a spectacular but terrifying experience when a violent thunderstorm broke overhead. For a wide area surrounding the Alps, the 19th was the third successive day where temperatures topped 30°C (86°F). Frankfurt in Germany and Salzburg (Austria), recorded over 35°C (95°F) - and Ajaccio in Corsica 38.5°C (101°F). A supercell thunderstorm on the 20th closed Geneva Airport before moving northeast along the Jura ridge and hitting Bienne - where violent winds injured 39 people.

Severe thunderstorms across the central and eastern United States spawned two derecho windstorms 12th-13th. The initial derecho formed on the afternoon of the 12th and tracked across a large section of the Midwestern States, the central Appalachians, and the Mid-Atlantic states. A second, more widespread and intense event occurred on the 13th across the Southeastern States, and caused major wind damage across North Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland. There were at least three deaths and extensive property damage from Iowa to the Carolinas as 24 tornadoes touched down in Iowa, Illinois, Ohio, Georgia, and Maryland. Excessive heat scorched the western states later in June. Las Vegas equalled its all time temperature record of 49.4°C (117°F) and Global 'hot pole' Death Valley reached 54 °C (129 °F) on the 30th. Even in Alaska, remarkable heat occurred with Fairbanks reaching 31°C (88°F) on the 16th - just 1°F shy of its all time record. Talkeetna, Alaska, climbed to a scorching 36°C (96°F) on the 17th shattering the previous highest ever reading of 33°C (91°F) set in 1953.

Early monsoon rains in India were the heaviest in 80 years and swollen rivers swept away entire villages. From the 15th to 24th, over 250mm rain caused flooding and landslides in the northern Indian state of Uttarakhand. Some 75,000 pilgrims on their way to shrines in the region were left stranded, more than 800 people were killed, and 97,000 evacuated. A severe winter storm powered by a cold Antarctic outbreak lashed New Zealand on 19th-20th. Travel was disrupted on the south island as snow blocked passes and gusts of >80mph halted airport operations at Wellington. On the 27th, Australia's southeast coast was buffeted causing closure of the Blue Mountains National Park and soaking Sydney's international airport with 127mm of rain.