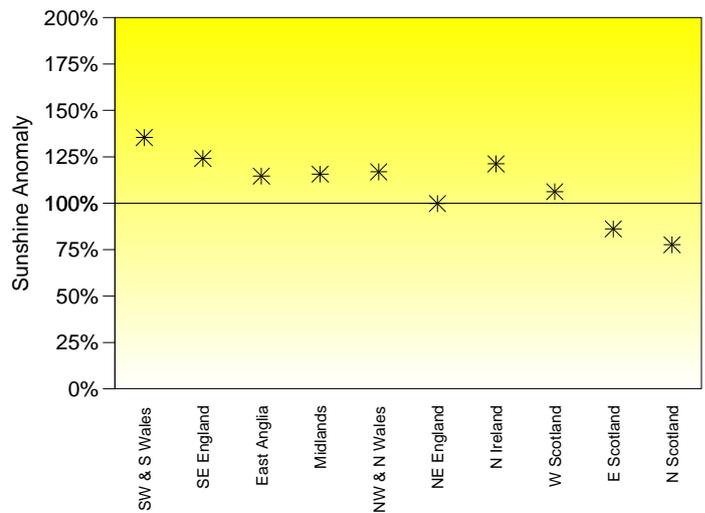
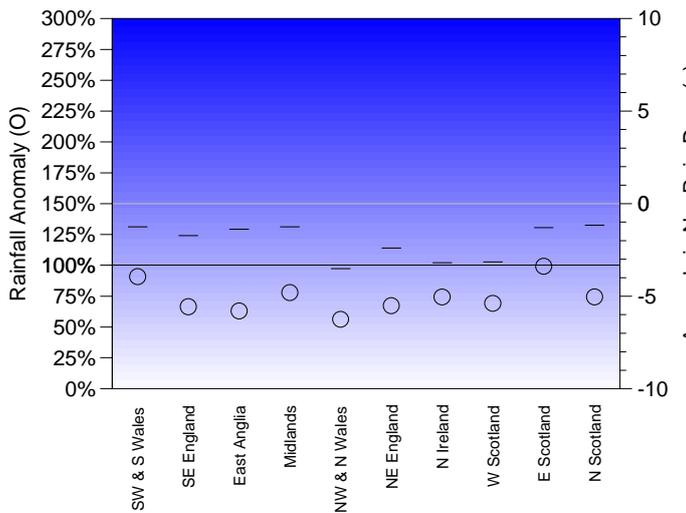


Extremes for June 2014		
Hottest:	26.5°C	Strathallan Airfield SAWS, Tayside, 18th
Coldest:	0.9°C	Altnaharra SAWS, Highland, 26th
Most Rain:	35.8mm	Astwood Bank, Hereford and Worcester, 4th
Most Sun:	16.4hrs	Stornoway, Western Isles, 26th
Windiest:	53mph	Sule Skerry MAWS, Orkney, 10th
Warmest:	17.4°C	St James Park, Greater London
Coolest:	11.1°C	Fair Isle, Shetland
Wettest:	100.8mm	Cardinham (Bodmin) SAWS, Cornwall
Driest:	7.0mm	Frittenden, Kent
Sunniest:	267.9hrs	Bude, Cornwall
Dullest:	67.6hrs	Lerwick, Shetland



June is the month of the summer solstice, as well as events such as Glastonbury and Wimbledon. Despite the sun being at its zenith, the hottest day of the year occurs during June only around 1 year in 4. June weather is notoriously capricious - especially during the latter half. Heat waves can occur - yet snow is far from unknown.

In contrast to the cool and soggy weather of late May, most places were dry and warm on the opening day but fronts encroached from the 2nd leading immediately to a cooler and more changeable spell. Rainfall was persistent in the north-east on the 4th/5th and Nunraw Abbey (East Lothian) recorded 56mm (a months normal rainfall!) in just 24 hours. Thunderstorms spread northwards to affect many areas on the 7th before pressure began to build. By the 11th it was fine and warm nationwide and an anticyclone, centred just to the north-west of the UK, remained dominant for the following fortnight. Eastern parts were prone to cloud and weak fronts blown in on north-easterly winds but most places enjoyed a good deal of warm sunshine and a welcome taste of summer. There were occasional interruptions, such as the night of 13th/14th when thunderstorms erupted in central and Southern England leaving many hundreds of homes in the Thames Valley without power. Scotland became very warm and Cupar (Fife) recorded 27°C (81°F) on the 18th. Heavy showers broke out on the 23rd and 24th in northern eastern England and 30mm of rain fell within a single hour at Skegness (East Yorks) causing localised flooding. A general break-down began on the 26th, with the final four days seeing heavy and thundery showers. A waterspout was seen off Hove (East Sussex) on the 29th, and a mixed bag of weather greeted the Glastonbury Festival. Lightning interrupted the shows on the evening of the 27th and heavy showers brought the usual mud (about which Dolly Parton invented a rap-song!) but the sun came out to grace the final day of festivities.

For the month as a whole, temperatures were a degree or more above average nationwide. Rainfall was below normal everywhere except for eastern Scotland. In terms of sunshine, the south and west fared much better than the north and east. Much of England and Wales enjoyed 25% or more sunshine hours than usual whilst northern and eastern Scotland was dull to a similar degree. Lerwick (Shetland) had its lowest June sunshine total in at least 82-years!

Outside of the UK, contrasting weather extremes affected the far north. Kangerlussuaq in Greenland recorded 23.3°C (74°F) on the 15th, the highest June temperature ever recorded in Greenland, whilst Kilpisjärvi in Finland reported a minimum temperature of -6.2°C (21°F) on the 17th, close to the Finnish cold record for June of -7°C (19°F) set in 1962. In Norway, Oslo was drenched on by 73mm of rain on the 26th - a record amount for any day there since at least 1937. Torrential rains and floods hit Bulgaria on the 19th, killing at least 10 people, cutting off electricity, blocking roads and sparking evacuations. Germany experienced a heat wave. Berlin reached 34.1°C (93°F), on the 8th, and the following day Rheinau peaked at 37.7 °C (100°F) - the highest temperature ever measured in Germany for this early in the year. France was nearly as warm and Strasbourg hit 37°C (99°F) on the 8th before severe thunderstorms developed and spread into Belgium, the Netherlands and northwest Germany on the 9th-10th. These storms packed damaging winds, hail and blinding downpours. Squalls felled trees and baseball (75mm) sized hail fell near Brussels - as well as across the French countryside. Almost 1,000 hectares of vines were pulverised by hail in the Bordeaux vineyards in two nights of storms - including 680 hectares in the village of Blaignan alone.

In the USA savage storms blasted the Great Plains on the 3rd and 4th leaving a trail of damage. 135mm of rain fell within 24 hours in Omaha, Nebraska, accompanied by baseball-sized hail and 100mph winds. More storms followed on the 16th-17th. A tornado caused catastrophic damage to the town of Pilger, Nebraska, on the 16th, and a massive rain-wrapped tornado swept through Coleridge 24 hours later - resulting in two fatalities. June was an exceptionally wet month in the American Midwest, where Sioux City, Iowa recorded a total of 422 mm, obliterating the old monthly rainfall record of 223 mm set in 1967.

In Asia, a dust storm demolished numerous trees and power lines on the 2nd and left at least four people dead in Tehran, Iran. Temperatures plunged from 33°C (91°F) to 19°C (66°F) in just an hour. Japan was unusually hot, especially in the north and Sapporo (Hokkaido) recorded 33.7°C (93°F) on the 4th smashing the old June record of 31.9 °C set in 1877. The same day, Asahikawa hit 35.9°C (97°F). This was still cool when compared to India, where temperatures soared to 47.8°C (118°F) in Delhi on the 8th - making it the hottest day in 62 years. In southern China, at least eight people were killed and over 3,000 homes damaged by heavy monsoon rains. The deluge struck 33 counties in Guizhou province, affecting one million people - more than 337,000 of whom had to be evacuated. Luzhai County in Guangxi Zhuang Region reported 345 mm of rain on the 4th-5th. The flooding and landslides claimed at least 26 lives.