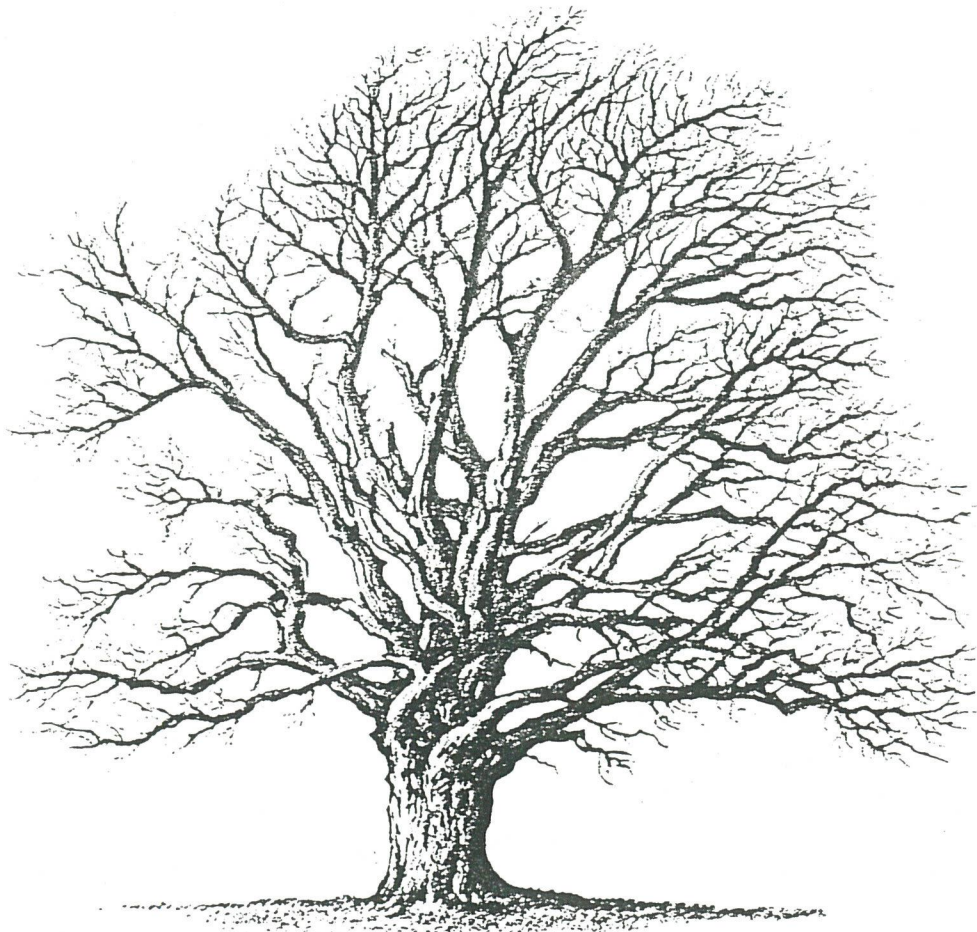


**LONG EATON
NATURAL HISTORY
SOCIETY
BULLETIN**

No. 50

WINTER 2005



Oak (English)

CHAIRMAN'S FORWARD

Welcome to the 50th edition of LENS Bulletin. It was back in 1982 that the first edition was produced by Elaine Prior at the time when the late George Smith was our chairman.

In addition to society news, valuable records of sightings were included and it is due to those records that it was possible for me to compile our publication 'Natural History of Long Eaton & District'. Our thanks are extended to all the members who contributed. An index for Bulletins 1-40 which covered the period 1982 to 1999 appeared in Bulletin No.40 and an extension of this index is included with this edition.

Members will be pleased to know that we now have a web site which can be found at -

[www.geocities.com/lensnatural history](http://www.geocities.com/lensnatural%20history)

Looking back we find that we have a falling membership being approximately half that of the early 80s. Perhaps more disturbing is the lack of young people taking an active interest in natural history.

As you are aware it is becoming more costly to run our society, increasing speaker fees, room rent, public liability insurance are but a few examples. The committee are constantly working to keep things in proportion by seeking new sources of income. At the recent committee meeting it was revealed that our expenditure is exceeding our income by more than £100 per year, and clearly this is a trend which must be reversed. Reluctantly it was decided that we will have to make a charge for summer outings (previously free) at the same rate as our indoor meetings. We hope that you will continue to support these events and that we will see as many of you as possible. We will be applying to Erewash Borough Council for a grant again and perhaps also to the Lottery. It is also desirable that our society be better known and it is with this in mind that we will again be putting on an exhibition at the Environmental Fun Day at Long Eaton Upper School on Tuesday, 25th January 2005. Some of our members will be joining with Groundwork Erewash Valley and Friends of Forbes Hole to construct bird boxes for Forbes Hole Local Nature Reserve.

You may be assured that the committee will continue to work hard on your behalf and thank you all for your continued support.

Alan Heath

LONG EATON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

2.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2004

	2003	2003
Income		
Meeting Fees	270.00	308.00
Annual Subscriptions	180.00	170.00
Coffee & Sundry Sales	26.90	19.07
Raffle	21.50	15.70
National Lottery Funding	153.62	440.00
Bank Interest	<u>1.28</u>	<u>1.18</u>
	<u>653.30</u>	<u>953.95</u>
Expenditure		
Payments to Speakers (Lottery Funded £21.62)	238.00	308.00
Stationery and Photocopying & Books	63.65	42.00
Insurance	164.06	131.25
Room Rent (Lottery Funded £132)	132.00	242.00
Affiliation Fees	57.00	76.00
Floral Gift	22.44	-
Coffee Supplies	<u>6.99</u>	<u>6.24</u>
Total Expenditure	684.14	805.49
Excess of (Expenditure) over Income	(30.84)	148.46
	<u>£653.30</u>	<u>£953.95</u>

LONG EATON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 JULY 2004

	2004	2003
Accumulated Fund		
As at 1 August 2003	1,330.73	1,182.27
Less Excess of Expenditure over Income	(30.84)	148.46
Earmarked Lottery Funding	<u>-</u>	<u>153.62</u>
	<u>£1,299.89</u>	<u>£1,484.35</u>
Represented By:		
Royal Bank of Scotland		
Branch Current Account	597.24	688.49
Deposit Account	635.03	633.75
Cash in Hand	67.62	30.11
Pre-paid Rent	<u>-</u>	<u>132.00</u>
	<u>£1,299.89</u>	<u>£1,484.35</u>

A. Brocklehurst

Mrs A Brocklehurst
Treasurer

R Wasley
Honorary Auditor

MY GARDEN FRIEND

I saw a Robin Red Breast, puffing out his chest,
 Hopping round my garden, bobbing right and left,
 Pecking at the bread crumbs I'd scattered on the grass,
 Winking at me cheekily, as bold as polished brass.
 He visits at this time of year and sits upon my spade,
 Peering o'er my shoulder where frozen flowers once played.
 It's nice to see my cheerful friend at this time of year,
 He fills my heart with gladness, he fills the air with cheer.
 Come again next year dear friend and perch upon my spade,
 And whistle happily in my ear before the flowers fade.

LICHENS found at TRENT COLLEGE, Long Eaton - David Pinney

From the meeting organised by the Institute of Biology
 in conjunction with the British Lichen Society on the
 16th May 1991

Lecanora conizaeoides	Lepraria incana
Xanthoria parietina	Cladonia chlorophaea
Physcia caesia	Trapelia coarctata
Caloplaca citrina	
Candelariella vitellina	
Lecanora muralis	
Huillia tuberculosa	

CASUAL BIRD SIGHTINGS -

5th November 2004	KINGFISHER - Canal near Sawley Marina - Fay Blackburn
8th November 2004	SHORT-EARED OWL (2) and a JACKSNIFE Trent Meadows - B. Warhurst

GARDEN BIRDS

	J	F	M	A	My	J	Jy	A	S	O	N	D
blue tit	2	3	2	2	2	6	3	6	2	4	4	2
robin	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	1
blackbird	4	5	6	4	4	6	4	5	3	3	5	2
house sparrow	6	6	8	8	8	10	12	12	14	8	7	7
starling	20+	25+	10	7	14	20+	7	30+	2	100+	50+	40+
dunnock	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	1	1
chaffinch	7	5	9	3	3	3	2	3	5	3	4	2
great tit	1	1	1	2	1	4	1	2	1	1	2	1
greenfinch	12	9	8	5	3	3	3	9	14	14	12	5
collared dove	7	5	13	6	7	6	8	8	7	8	10	5
coal tit	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	1
longtailed tit	3	2	2	2	1							
goldfinch	2	5	4	2	3	1	2	4	3	2	1	3
crow		2	1	2	1	1	1		2	2	3	1
magpie					1	3	1		3	1		
mistle thrush		1		1	1	1				2		
song thrush	1	3	1	1			1				1	
sparrow hawk												
wood pigeon	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	1	2	2	2	2
wren	1	1	1	1	1			1		1	1	
bullfinch	1	1	1		2	2	2					

YEAR 2004

NAME GWEN BATES

ADDRESS 4, HARDY CLOSE,
LONG EATON

The figures are the highest number of each species seen at one time during each month.

Barker's Pond/Our Garden (17-1-04 to 8-11-04)

Fay & John Blackburn

The grey wagtail continued its routine winter visits to the garden with daily sightings recorded from 17th January 2004 until 15th March. It was not observed again until 26th October when it was glimpsed briefly at the side of the pond. From 13th November it has resumed its regular visits to the garden.

Goosanders were an almost daily winter spectacle on the pond between 17th January and 14th February. Numbers varied from a solitary visitor to a maximum of five on 6th February when four males and one female were present.

Tufted duck numbers increased from 17th January with daily sightings from 17th January until 24th February, the largest flock observed on 5th February consisting of 14 males and four females again demonstrating a significant imbalance of the sexes as we noted last year also in the case of the mallards and goosanders. The first current winter tufted duck visitor was a solitary female on 21st October.

A kingfisher made a welcome reappearance to the pond on 17th January. Although local fishermen have reported sightings throughout the year our next observation was not made until 12th October following which one has been seen on a number of occasions. On 28th October it was perched on the roof of the summer house.

A male pochard was a notable visitor to the pond on 6th February mingling contentedly and feeding daily with the tufted duck. It remained until 2nd March, a week after the final departure of its unfamiliar companions.

Mallard numbers fluctuated considerably throughout the year with twenty-three recorded on 21st February and in excess of thirty on 9th November. The resident two pairs of coot and single pair of moorhen both successfully reared young during the year.

The long association of swans with Barker's Pond ended temporarily in the early summer. The pair attempted to nest on various locations around the pond and produced eggs on two or three occasions which mysteriously disappeared while the nests were subsequently violated. The incidents were reported to both the RSPCA and the county's police wildlife liaison officer. The culprits were suspected to be members of the local fishing club, several of whom have made no secret of their dislike of the swans' presence. Clearly distressed by the constant harassment, the swans finally departed but remarkably two adult and three young swans appeared on 23rd October. Throughout the following days the combination varied between three adult and two young birds but the dominant bonded pair successfully drove away the competing individuals and appear to have settled into their new surroundings. Hopefully next year they will attempt to nest, in which case we shall be closely monitoring the situation to try and thwart any recurrence of this year's criminal activities.

A noisy pair of Canada geese landed on the pond on 5th April but their stay was short lived as they were soon put to flight by the resident swans.

A lesser blackback gull accompanied a small flock of visiting black-headed gulls on 6th March.

A male reed bunting was an unusual visitor to the pond on 4th March, observed in scrub at the water's edge.

During January and February small flocks of long-tailed tits appeared in the garden on an almost daily basis. By 22nd February numbers had declined to a single pair that nested

in a small conifer beside the pond adjacent to the garden where they successfully hatched young. Unfortunately, the nest was ravaged by one of the local squirrels leaving only a deposit of feathers to mark its transgression. However, the tits must have achieved success elsewhere since eight young birds visited the garden on 30th May. Presumably this prompted a visit on the same day by the sparrow hawk which had previously been noted on both 8th and 25th February.

We have enjoyed more frequent sightings of mistle thrush this year. A pair of adults accompanied a young bird on 24th and 27th June and a pair of young were present on 28th June. A song thrush arrived on 29th February and a pair were observed in the garden on 21st May.

Other notable visitors included a female bullfinch on 24th March followed by a pair on 31st May and 1st June feeding on wild bird seed that we had scattered on one of the lawns.

The greater spotted woodpecker was present on at least six occasions during the year, most notably on 20th March as we watched it frenziedly packing peanuts into the bark of our redmay tree only nine feet away from the sitting room window.

A male blackcap visited the garden on 6th February and again on 17th March, a chiffchaff was heard on 18th April and a goldcrest was sighted on 8th November.

Goldfinches and greenfinches appeared frequently throughout the year, eight of the latter being observed on 24th January.

Regular garden visitors throughout the year have included coal tit, blue tit (a pair successfully bred in the bird box), great tit, sparrow, dunnock, robin, blackbird, chaffinch, wren, starling, crow, magpie, collared dove and wood pigeon.

Out and About

Attenborough: 11 - 2 - 04

A rewarding walk that found considerable flocks of pochard, wigeon, shoveller and teal present on the various lagoons throughout the reserve, together with ten gadwall, two pairs of goldeneye and two common gulls. Greylag were much in evidence with 22 noted on the river and a further ten on one of the lagoons. 56 lapwing were foraging on the mudflats by the lagoon adjacent to the gravel processing plant which also hosted ten goosanders.

Trent Lock: 26 - 10 - 04

A spectacular flock of 20+ goldfinch was observed flitting through trees alongside the river close to the Navigation Inn.

Attenborough: 29 - 10 - 04

An impressive flock of 50+ pochard was noted on the lagoon between the main car park and the railway. A pair of marsh tits (or were they willow tits ? Difficult to determine!) were spotted elsewhere in the reserve.

Sawley: 5 - 11 - 04

An enjoyable walk alongside the canal and river from the Tamworth Road bridge towards the confluence of the Trent and Derwent produced a first winter sighting of four fieldfare and a spectacular glimpse of a pair of kingfishers skimming low over the water close to the weir. Also noted on the Derby Angling Club's water were tufted duck, great crested grebe, heron, swan, coot, mallard, black-headed gull and cormorant. Seen nearby were dunnock, robin, blackbird, long-tailed tit, great tit, kestrel, crow, magpie and wood pigeon.

STONEY CLOUDS L.N.R., Sandiacre, Derbyshire

FUNGAL FORAY - 13th October 2004 - Led by Beverley Rhodes

HABITS : Scrub, semi-improved grassland, Church yard,
mixed plantation, hedgerow.

Mmanita muscovia (Fly Agaric)
Macrolepiota procea (Parasol)
Macrolepiota rhacodes (Shaggy Parasol)
Clitocybe nebularis (Clouded Agaric)
Clitocybe infundibuliformis (Common Funnelcap)
Clitocybe clavipes (Clubfoot)
Clitocybe alexandrii (?)
Laccaria laccata
Cantharellula cyathiformis (Goblet)
Collybia dryophila
Collybia butyracea
Collybia
Hygrocybe pratensis (Meadow Waxcap)
Hygrocybe strangulata
Hygrocybe ceracea
Hygrocybe nivea (Snowy Waxcap)
Hygrocybe psitticina (Parrot Wax Cap) - (in cemetery)
Mycena pura
Mycena galericulata
Mycena alcalina
Mycena floccipes
Mycena cortiana
Mycena flavo-alba
Lactarius quietus (Oak Milkcap)
Lepista nuda (Wood Blewit)
Nolanea icterina (?)
Entoloma saundersii
Entoloma sp. ? *nitidum*
Paxillus involutus (Brown Rollrim)
Pholiota adiposa
Inocybe flocculosa
Inocybe asterospora
Bolbitus vitellinus
Conocybe subovalis
Hypholoma fasciculare
Stropharia aeruginosa (Verdigris agaric)
Coprinus atrementarius
Boletus chrysenteron
Ganoderma applanatum
Coriolis versicolor

- Stereum hirsutum
 Calvatia excipuliformis
 Lycoperdon pyriforme
 Vascellum pratense
 Bovista plumbea
 Psilocybe semi-lanceata
 Psathyrella orbitarum
 Scleroderma citrinum (Common Earthball)
 Scleroderma verrucosum
 Auricularia auricularia-judae (Jew's Ear)
 Auricularia mesenterica (Tripe Fungus)
 Xylaria hypoxylon (Candlesnuff)
 Daldinea concentrica (Crampball)
 Peziza badia (on the road to the reserve)
 * Geastrum nanum (new name Geastrum schmidelii) (Earthstar)
 * New county record

55 species : 35 visitors

REFERENCES : Collins Field Guide Mushroom & Toadstools
 Mushrooms and other Fungi - Roger Phillips

GARDEN BUTTERFLIES - Alan Heath, 6 Harlaxton Drive
 LONG EATON

2004

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Brimstone								/				
Common Blue							/					
Orange Tip				/								
Red Admiral									/	/		
Small Tortoiseshell			/				/					
Small White							/	/				
Speckled Wood				/		/		/	/	/		
Small Skipper						/						
Painted Lady									/			

A marked reduction of numbers and species this year.

POND LIFE at FORBES HOLE -

Alan Heath - 2004

During the year, 5 samples each were obtained from each pond and the following lists were obtained -

MAIN POND -

- Ascellus
- Ceratium *
- Ceriodaphnia
- Chaoborus larva
- Chydorus
- Cloeon nymph
- Closterium attenuatum
- Closterium concavum
- Coleps
- Corixa
- Cyclops
- Cymbella ehrenbergii
- Cypris
- Daphnia hyalina
- Diaptomus
- Diatoma
- Euglena
- Eurycercus
- Fragellaria
- Giant Sulphur Bacteria
(Acromatium oxaliferum)
- Hydra oligactis
- Hydracarina
- Limnaea pereger
- Loxophyllum
- Myriophyllum
- Nematodes
- Mitschlia sigmoidea
- Oscillatoria
- Pediastrum
- Peridinium
- Phacus
- Pinnularia
- Pleurosigma
- Rotifer sp.
- Scapheloberus
- Scenedesmus
- Simocapalus
- Spirogyra
- Spirostomum
- Synedra
- Vorticella
- Hyphydrus ovatus
- Penium
- Cymbella gastroides
- Bursaria
- Keratella quadrata
- Coenagrion nymph
- Sida crystalina
- Actinospherium
- Anabaena

SMALL POND -

- Arcella
- Ascellus
- Caddis larva
- Ceriodaphnia
- Chironomus larva
- Chydorus
- Cloeon nymph
- Closterium concavum
- Coleps
- Cyclops
- Cymbella ehrenbergii
- Cypris
- Daphnia hyalina
- Daphnia obtusa
- Diaptomus
- Fragellaria
- Hydra oligactis
- Hydracarina
- Limnaea pereger
- Nematodes
- Nitzschia sigmoidea
- Oscillatoria
- Penium
- Phacus
- Pinnularia
- Planorbis sp.
- Rotifer sp.
- Simocephalus
- Spirogyra
- Surirella constricta
- Synedra
- Water Moss (Fontinalis antipyretica)

MAIN POND SMALL POND

pH	7.4 - 7.6	7.4 - 8.4
Dissolved		
Oxygen ppm	1.0 - 7.6	1.8 - 7.7

* Ceratium last recorded in 1961

NUMBER OF SPECIES -

MAIN POND	50
SMALL POND	32

MOTH TRAPS & TRAPPING

Probably the most commonly found commercial trap is known as the "Robinson trap" and this consists of a large circular container with a clear skirt which fits over the top with an aluminium fitment which sits in the centre and holds the lamp. The inside of the trap can be filled with egg cartons to provide cover for the moths. There is another type of commercially available trap available, the Skinner trap, and this is far more portable (and cheaper) and it is perfectly possible to make your own. The Robinson is great, but it is bulky and tends to be relegated to use in the garden where it can be left to its own devices whilst you wash the pots, do the ironing or watch the telly or go to bed. The Skinner trap folds flat and can be quickly assembled on site, set over a white sheet.

I have a commercial Robinson trap, but when doing a public "moth watch" I use something completely different and far more transportable. This consists of a piece of old plastic water pipe (out of a skip) which has a quarter inch hole drilled in it at an angle. The electric flex is threaded through this hole and out of the top of the tube where the bulbholder is attached. The cable is then pulled carefully back down the tube so that the bulbholder sits in a bed of five-minute epoxy at the top of the tube. A waterproof lawn mower type cable connector is then fastened on the end of the cable and this connects to its female counterpart attached to the cable from a commercially purchased choke unit. The tube is slid into the base of an old office chair (skip again) which gives it stability or a metal spike can be epoxied into the tube to enable it to be pushed into soft ground. The whole lot is then stood on an old white bedsheet and a few egg cartons scattered around the base of the stand. As a lot of the sites where I seem to end up doing public watches have anything but ideal surfaces I find the cast metal chair base is a real winner. A friend uses the leg from a broken tubular metal tripod in a similar way and this has the advantage that the height of the lamp can be adjusted.

The beauty of this device is low cost – one MV bulb, one bulb holder, a couple of metres of cable, a waterproof cable connector and a choke, and the ease of transportation. Apart from the chair base it all fits into a large canvas carryall (including my flask and Mars bar). It is so good for public displays because the moths are not inside a trap, they settle on the sheet or egg cartons and can be more easily seen by the public. They are also easier to pot up and pass round for people to get a closer look. I also use this set-up on survey trips as not all moths fly into a trap and I am on site anyway so can catch/net anything on the periphery of the light.

The biggest problem with trapping away from an electricity supply is the cost of a portable generator but second hand examples can often be found at boat chandlers as the canal boat and pleasure craft fraternity use them more than most people. The other possibility is a caravan supplier; as many caravan sites now have "electricity & water on tap" generator owners may be getting rid of their gennys.

Another type of trap is the 12v "actinic" trap. This is powered off a car battery and is therefore very portable. It does have a downside in that it will attract far fewer species than a Mercury Vapour lamp. A standard 4 or 5 foot fluorescent fitment can be used in the garden to quite good effect and a friend has made a trap using a four foot tube and some sheets of clear plastic roofing material. Nicknamed "the cloche" it has proved quite effective and cost virtually nothing as virtually all the components came from a skip.

The identification of most species of macro moth is relatively easy using the relatively recently published field guide by Paul Waring and Richard Lewington - "Field Guide to the Moths of Great Britain & Ireland". The other well-used identification guide - "A colour guide to the moths of Britain & Ireland" by Bernard Skinner is also an excellent publication. Micro moths present more of a problem as there is no one book that covers all the families and most of the books that do exist are far too large and heavy to be used in the field, especially as you have to carry several of them.

You will also find a butterfly net with a white net bag useful and a variety of clear plastic tubes and pots in which you can store moths for later identification.

Suppliers of lamps, chokes, complete traps and other bits and pieces are: -

Anglian Lepidoptera Supplies - Traps, lamps etc
PO Box 232, Northwich Delivery Office, CW8 3FG
Tel: 01263 862068
www.angleps.btinternet.co.uk

Biota - traps, lamps, accessories
Ascot Court, 71-73 Middlewich Road, Northwich, Cheshire, CW9 7BP
Tel: 01606 333296
www.biota.co.uk

Watkins & Doncaster - Just about everything you could need (but expensive)
P O Box 5, Cranbrook, Kent, TN18 5EZ
Tel. 01580 753133

Tony Rouse - Does a good "Skinner-type" trap in lightweight aluminium at a very reasonable £99.50.
Korup, Densole Lane, Densole, Folkestone, Kent, CT18 7BL

Lydie Rigout - Nets, pooters, tubes, pots etc.
1 Hillside Avenue, Canterbury, Kent, CT2 8ET

Marris House Nets - butterfly nets, actinic traps, etc
54 Richmond Park Avenue, Queen's Park, Bournemouth, BH8 9DR
Tel. 01202 515238

Societies

The local society is the Derbyshire & Nottinghamshire Entomological Society.
Secretary - David Budworth, 121 Wood Lane, Newhall, Swadlincote, Derbyshire, DE11 0LX - Subs are only £12 per annum.

Nationally there is - the Amateur Entomologists' Society. AES, P O Box 8774, London, SW7 5ZG
www.amentsoc.org

British Entomological & Natural History Society.
C/O The Pelham-Clinton Building, Dinton Pastures Country Park, Davis Street, Hurst, Reading, Berkshire, RG10 0TH
www.benhs.org.uk

WEATHER SUMMARY - 2004

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
TEMPERATURE Max.	54	59	67	74	77½	87	83	88	81	62	57	54
Min.	27	27	23	34	42	41	47	49	44	35	29	24
Day	31.9	16.4	15.2	31.2	21.1	27.6	41.5	109.5	19.9	75.9	25.2	9.0
Night	39.8	16.4	12.3	30.9	13.7	19.5	20.7	57.4	16.6	27.6	5.2	10.0
RAIN mm	71.7	32.8	27.5	62.1	34.8	47.1	62.2	166.9	36.5	103.5	30.4	19.7
DAYS DRY	11	15	17	13	21	14	14	14	17	10	22	19
NIGHTS DRY	21	17	21	22	27	26	18	23	19	20	23	24
DRY DAYS + NIGHTS	32	32	38	35	48	40	32	37	36	30	45	43
DAYS WITH RAIN	20	14	14	17	10	16	17	17	13	21	8	12
NIGHTS WITH RAIN	10	12	10	8	4	4	13	8	11	11	7	7
RAIN - Inches	2.82	1.29	1.08	2.44	1.37	1.85	2.45	6.57	1.44	4.08	1.20	0.78
WETTEST DAY	31	4	13	29	4	23	8	10	11	23	18	28
THUNDERSTORMS	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	4	-	1	-	-
BAROMETER Max.	30.30	30.60	30.70	30.30	30.45	30.50	30.25	30.10	30.60	30.25	30.65	30.45
Min.	29.05	29.55	29.40	28.85	28.75	29.10	29.65	29.30	29.30	29.10	29.80	29.20
FOG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FOG ALL DAY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DAYS WITH NEW SNOW ON GROUND	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
SNOW - Total in inches	1/8	3/8	T	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1/4	-
DAYS WITH TEMPERATURES OF 80F OR MORE	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	6	1	-	-	-
DAYS WITH TEMPERATURES OF 70F OR MORE	-	-	-	3	9	14	20	21	10	-	-	-
DAYS WITH TEMPERATURES OF 32F OR LESS	6	10	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5

MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY - 2004

- January - A wet month and a cover of snow on 28th. Dominance of West wind. Last week cold
- February - A mixed month. Mild for the time of year at the beginning, cold at the end of the month with some snow. Very windy at the end of the first week, especially on the 8th.
- March - Cover of snow on the 12th. Coldest day of the year on the 1st. Strong wind on 14th, 19th and gale on 20th with some local damage. Weak nacreous clouds seen early evening of 16th
- April - A wet month though fairly dry in second week. Thunderstorm on 16th. Three warm days on 24th, 25th and 26th.
- May - Fairly dry month after the first week. Some warm days in second half of the month.
- June - Fairly dry first half of month but wetter in second half, especially on 23rd. Five days with temperatures of 80°F or more and 12 days with temperatures of 70°F or more.
- July - Quite a lot of rain. Thunderstorm on 22nd. Two days with temperatures of 80°F or more and 18 with 70°F or more.
- August - The wettest August since my records began. The second week was especially wet with 102.4mm (4.13 in) and local flooding. Warmest day of the year on the 7th (88°F). There were 21 days with temperatures of 70°F or more of which 6 were 80°F or more.
- September - Fair amount of rain from second week. Windy in second week too. Some warm days in first week.
- October - A wet month, especially the second half. Very windy on the 3rd and 21st.
- November - Apart from the 18th it was a fairly dry month, the second week being the driest.
- December - First part of the month mainly dry. Driest month of the year. Rather cold in the last week

INDEX

Continuation of the Index published in No.40
which covered the period 1982-1999.
This Index covers No.41-50

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