

JUNE 2016 PREAMBLE



Tree of the month up to 9<sup>th</sup> is the hawthorn (previous month) thereafter is the oak (above).

Welcome to the June 2016 website entry, the first month of summer 2016, but I fear not a flaming June this year, and as such, then not a particularly brilliant summer, but hey, we live in the UK, no regular tornadoes, no earthquakes, no droughts and some ill defined seasons, so what is the problem!

I will go back a bit to April, I prepare these entries before the end of the previous month therefore, at the moment, I can only add during the following month, but this will change. I warned in April of some severe frosts over the blackthorn period and again into May with emphasis on fruit growers. I warned too vine growers – with good cause as it happens. On the night of 22<sup>nd</sup> April there was an acute/hard frost in the Champagne region of France, with a temperature of -2.9C recorded in the Le Ricey region – [ for the interested – speaking with another hat on, if you have never tasted a Rose des Riceys champagne, then you have not

tasted the very best rose (bar none!!), if you can find it in the UK, then lucky you, but if in the Champagne region take a trip south east to Riceys, well worth the effort], therefore for sure some damage to these vines – already the warnings are proving correct.

Further to the above on the night of the 27<sup>th</sup> April, a severe night frost -3C to -5C caused severe damage to the French vineyards from Chablis, to Champagne to Burgundy, The Maconnaise and Beaujolais in places killing 100% of the crop, and in The Maconnaise this followed a severe hailstorm earlier the same week!

*These cold easterly winds from May will certainly persist (as in 2014 and 2015) well into June, and will then change to warmer south westerly winds around the 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, therefore confirming the non-flaming June comments.*

A poor pea and rye harvest too this year, after two excellent years, already I hear comments from farmers on the shortage of stock situation concerning hay in the barns, therefore take very opportunity to make hay when you can, I doubt the second cut in September will amount to much.

An old saying this year comes true, oak before ash we're in for a splash – oak out well before ash this year, and as such confirms the 'cheesy year,' prediction.

*Another tried, tested and proven saying proved correct over the winter in that the abundance of white dead nettles (where the tortoiseshell butterfly lays its eggs) has indeed produced a magnificent show of these butterflies in April and May; and a wonderful selection of other butterflies too including, peacock, purple emperor, red admiral, large and small whites, orange tips, speckled wood and nearly the complete range of blues.*

Some plants, notably Lily of the valley are some three weeks late this year, but Chestnut Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May, again proved dry hot sunny calm with the added bonus the beautiful spectacle of the Horse Chestnut flowers (Candles) all showing as if lights on a Christmas tree.

*Met Office Cock-up on 5<sup>th</sup> May (I thought it a belated April fool!) when they sent out an amber alert weather warning for snow in parts of the London & Home Counties from 1900hrs to 2200hrs! - Which was later deleted? It was the hottest day of the year so far with 21C in London. Met Office said 'It was just a mistake that slipped through the testing stage.' Really.*

For a change, some additional features concerning elements of the methodology that may interest some readers, which will a feature for a few months, and I start with Days of Prediction, which date from the Druids then later to the Roman occupation 55BC – 412AD, and then were given Saints Days by later Christian priests. The predictions for these days are about 85% correct, and, as such, if used sensibly, can be reliable pointers to until the next such Day. Originally the Days went to 21<sup>st</sup> December (St Thomas') but whilst there 365 days in a year, there are only 354 days in the Lunar year, the difference of 12 days was added to the 21<sup>st</sup> December after the solstice, and called Holy Days (hence the carol – the twelve days of Christmas).

Concerning saws/sayings, those from October to January give long term weather forecasts; those from February to May tell the summer; June to September give the harvest weather.

Next month I will give some moon indicators to future weather.

The lack of rainfall at the end of February into the start of March is a fairly good precursor to a dry period sometime in the year – and this year it was dry. Here in Edenbridge no measurable rainfall from 15<sup>th</sup> April -----10<sup>th</sup> May and shortage of rain means shortage of grass and problems for livestock farmers ( and problems for the

June hay harvest – as predicted), fortunately rain appeared on the 10<sup>th</sup> to alleviate the dry situation.

*Highest tides: I include the dates of the highest tides since with the rising sea levels the preponderance of even higher tides increases, therefore the information I provide is informative and a warning for those living in such tidal effected locations; even on the hottest day of the year so far, the river Thames rose at the usual locations, Putney, Ham etc and damaged several motor cars. On the upside I see and hear some enlightened weather presenters now giving such information on radio and TV, as long as the information is disseminated then all the better.*

*'Scorching summer and 33C heat' to paraphrase some national newspapers headlines around 17<sup>th</sup> May. To show how misleading this headline is, the original Met Office blog gave 25% or 1 in 4, chance of the temperatures up to the end of July being warmer than average (not even worth your stake money then!) and in this period, maybe, just maybe 33C might be reached; Which on the face of it, makes my predictions here look rather stupid! However there is a vital difference, I use tried, tested, proven and reliable methodology, the journalists who managed such headlines were at best misleading and at worst mendacious. But it sells newspapers and gives me a chance to explain the difference on what I say and what 'the scribblers' say in some of the more respectable national newspapers in the days following, as some of you may have seen. So thank you to the established journalists who came to me and asked for my opinions and facts, again they came to me. As a side note to this, some newspapers asked me to indicate how nature works six months ahead and forewarns; May is month 5, look at the trees, oak, ash, lime, sorbus, sycamore to name a few, and see how much fruit they are carrying already, then fast forward six months to November (month 11), and instantly you will see the direct correlation between the fruiting now and the hard weather to come in November – especially the oak. It is easy now to see how*

*good nature is at this but also how the early predictions on this site slowly but surely come together little by little to form a perfect result.*

For the regular listeners to BBC Radio Leeds and the syndicated regions, I will be giving my predictions on the Paul Hudson Weather Show on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2016. The Great Yorkshire Show, July 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> should be an ice cream and sunshine day for the ladies and children and beer day in the sun for the men too. So, what is a 'soft southerner with a London accent – whose predominant weather region is the SE doing giving such advice to the esteemed people of Yorkshire I hear some ask?

Simple answer, I have been doing this now for three years on a regular basis with a truly massive audience; if the honest down to earth Yorkshire team keep inviting me back to tell them their weather then they must trust what I say, so thank you to all of you.

## JUNE 2016

NEW MOON = 5th @ 2031hrs = Rainy  
1st QUARTER MOON = 12th @ 0910hrs = Frequent showers  
FULL MOON 20th @ 1204hrs = Very rainy.  
LAST QUARTER MOON 27th @ 1920hrs = Rainy

DoP = 15th St Vitus AND 24th St John.

Highest Spring tides = 4th to 8th

APOGEE 15th @ 1201hrs: PERIGEE 3rd @ 1056hrs

BUCHAN COLD PERIOD 26th to 4th JULY

- 3rd Perigee @1056hrs
- 8th St Medard Rain today and it tells of a wet harvest. If rain today, rain 40 days after(18/7)
- 11th St Barnabas Nearly always a clear fine day, a noteworthy day too. Rain today good for grapes. Ragged Robin flowering time.
- 15th St Vitus DoP. See rain note below. Apogee @ 1201hrs
- 19th St Protais If the saint brings rain 40 days it will remain. Father's day.
- 20th Summer Solstice 2234hrs.
- 24th St John DoP. Midsummer. Longest Day. Quarter Day. Rain today and expect a wet harvest and damage to nuts. Scarlet Lynchis flowering day. Midsummer rain spoils hay and grain.
- 27th If rain today then rain for 7 weeks.
- 29th St Peter & St Paul Rain will rot the roots of rye. The optimal day for harvesting herbs.

MET OFFICE NOTES: = none. BUCHAN NOTES: 29th June to 4th July cold period.

Full moon is called a full sun moon.

Tree of the month to the 9th is the Hawthorn, thereafter it is the Oak.

General Notes and comments.

*The month needs to be 'flaming' for a good harvest.  
If June with bright sun is blessed, for harvest we will thank the Goddess.*

*SW winds are generally infrequent before 10th June, after that they are quite frequent.*

*The month of the return of the 'westerly winds.'*

*The month of June is blithe and gay, driving winter's ills away.*

*Calm weather in June sets the corn in tune.  
It can be a very hot month (1976 & 1996, 2003, 2006 & 2012) and very wet (1997 & 2007).  
It can also be very wet as in 2007*

*When it is hottest in June it will be coldest in the following February.  
When the wind shifts to the west in early June expect wet weather until the end of August.  
In June, the Cuckoo changes his tune from 'cuckoo' to 'cuck-cuckoo', sometimes when you  
hear two preliminary 'cucks' - when this occurs a particularly fine spell is due.*

*Wimbledon tennis, last week in June and first week in July.*

*Barnabas (11th) bright, all day and all night.  
[quite reliable and really noteworthy day - always a fine clear day]  
Rain today good for grapes.*

*St Barnabas - mow your first grass.  
[this applies to field grass and in the south a few days earlier]  
When Barnabas smiles bright both day and night - poor Ragged Robin (wild flower) bloom in  
the hay. (a great time for weed growth)*

*If St Vitus Day (15th) be rainy weather, 'twill rain for thirty to forty days together.  
[maybe thirty days is a better ruling- and it becomes quite a reliable rule]*

*As the wind on St Johns Day (24th) so 'twill be for the next three months.  
[until the next Quarter Day - 29th September]*

*Midsummer Day (24th) rain spoils hay and grain.  
[a very important day as well as the longest]*

*Midsummer day rain spoils hay & grain.*

*You may shear your sheep when the Elder blossoms peep.  
A dripping June keeps all in tune.*

*Calm weather in June, sets the corn in tune.*

*Sunny June, early harvest.*

*No dew indicates rain.*

*A leaky June brings the harvest soon.  
A swarm of bees in June is worth a silver spoon.*

*Before St Johns Day we pray for rain - afterwards we get it anyway.*

*If the Cuckoo sings after St Johns Day, the harvest will be late.  
[always dependable]*

*If Midsummer Day be ever so little rain, the Hazel and the Walnut will be scarce, and corn smitten in many places. But apples, pears and plums will not be hurt.  
Filberts (nuts) will also be spoilt.*

*Cut thistles before St John or you'll have two in place of one.*

*You'll never get warm settled weather until the cowslips have finished.*

*June damp and warm does the farmer no harm.*

*THE NEXT THREE ARE INFALLIBLE.  
Good summer brings hard winter.*

*If a hard winter is followed by a poor summer, the following winter will be harder still.  
If the Cuckoo delays changing his tune until mid-June, St Swithuns Day (15th July) will be wet.*

*June is a wet month with usually more wet days than any other month.  
Wet June - dry September.*

*As it rains in March - so in June. [check previous readings]*

*In Hay season when there is no dew, it indicates rain.*

*If north wind blows in June, good rye harvest.*

*Rain at Whitsuntide is said to make wheat mildew.*

*Whitsuntide rain is a blessing for wine.*

*Whitsuntide wet, Christmas fat.*

*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.*

*If it rains on the 27<sup>th</sup>, it will rain for 7 weeks.*

*A cold and wet June spoils the rest of the year.*

*If it rains on the 29<sup>th</sup> (St Peter's Day) the bakers will have to carry double flour and single water; if dry they will carry single flour and double water.*

*Rain on St Peter (29<sup>th</sup>) will the roots of rye.*

*A north wind in June blows in a good rye harvest (hay harvest).*

*When the bramble blossoms early in June, an early harvest can be expected.*

**NO MET OFFICE NOTES.**

**THE FULL MOON THIS MONTH IS CALLED A STRONG SUN MOON.**

*Tree of the month up to 9th is Hawthorn. Thereafter is the Oak.*

**MONTHLY AVERAGES FOR EDENBRIDGE (USING 1981-2010 FIGURES)**

Mean Max: 22.2C      Mean Min: 10C      Mean Avg: 16.1C  
Rainfall: 52.5mm      Sunshine: 220.7hrs (day = 7.36hrs)

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.

1 <sup>st</sup>	18.1C	18.4C
30th	20.1C	21.7C



DATE	Chandler & Gregory Barry & Perry	Brooks	Lamb	Buchan	Met Office	Season
01/06/2016		1st - 21st Summer monsoon	1st - 4th First European period, cool & summer stormy monsoon			30/3 - 17/6 spring
02/06/2016						
03/06/2016						
04/06/2016				3rd - 5th Thunder common.		
05/06/2016				5th - 11th June anti-cyclones		
06/06/2016						
07/06/2016				peak day		
08/06/2016						
09/06/2016						
10/06/2016						
11/06/2016						
12/06/2016				12th - 14th second European summer period		
13/06/2016				cool & stormy monsoon		
14/06/2016						
15/06/2016						
16/06/2016						
17/06/2016						
18/06/2016	18th - 22nd Generally dry sunny southern England		18th - 22nd Third European summer period			18/6 - 9/9 high summer
19/06/2016			cool and stormy monsoon in central europe			
20/06/2016			Return of westerlies to UK			
21/06/2016			22nd - 5th July continued return of westerlies to uk			
22/06/2016						
23/06/2016						
24/06/2016						
25/06/2016						
26/06/2016						
27/06/2016						
28/06/2016						
29/06/2016				29th- 4th/7 cold period		18/6 - 9/9 high summer
30/06/2016						