

SEPTEMBER 2015 PREAMBLE



Tree of the month up to 2nd is Hazel (see previous month) thereafter Ivy (above).

Welcome to the September 2015 website – autumn is with us, the official Met Office autumn period is September to November.

*A half-apology to start the month from late July/start of August; this was a full moon/perigee/highest spring tides period that whilst I did note it on the spread-sheet for August I did not highlight it in red, as I normally do, when such parameters are more than likely to cause disruption/damage and concern to all concerned, but the observant will have noted the warning.*

*Of interest too, across the world the preponderance for such parameters causing catastrophe conditions again was shown by the severe flooding conditions in India, Pakistan and Burma regions.*

An interesting end to the month for sure; Perigee 28<sup>th</sup>, highest spring tides 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, full moon 28<sup>th</sup> (rain showers), lunar eclipse 28<sup>th</sup>.  
29<sup>th</sup> Quarter day/Michaelmass/day of prediction to 11<sup>th</sup> November, where the wind blows this day is the predominant wind direction up to the next such day 21<sup>st</sup> December.

So, first the 28<sup>th</sup>, a combination of all the above gives ample warning of the possibility of some serious tidal conditions in such areas affected, fortunately no

winds or storms attached! But please heed the warning – the first of three consecutive months of such conditions.

*For the interested ones: Winter 2015/16 – I think it is going to be hard and long, with persistent frosts from January through to the second week of April, which indicates an easterly wind on 21<sup>st</sup> December (Quarter day) and another on 21<sup>st</sup> March (Quarter Day). Not a lot of snow or precipitation but a lot of frost, which of course also indicates quite benign wind conditions; on the plus side, a dry but cold Easter 2016.*

*My data for January clearly shows the above, however, just to reinforce this take a walk out into the countryside and look at the trees; Oak full of acorns (none last year and mild winter), ash seeds in abundance as are hornbeam seeds, plus elder berries, hawthorn, lime, sorbus, horse chestnut, chestnut, hazel nuts, almonds, mulberries, walnuts plus all the normal cultivated fruit trees, apples, pear plum, greengage etc, berries too, brambles, strawberries etc. Look at the seeds, Giant hogweed – managed some adverse publicity about the rash from some of the varieties earlier in the year, but just look at the abundance of seeds from it this year, same with teasel, spindle, burdock and thistle this year. The sloes and bullace, even medlar fruits are present too, weighing their branches down with so many fruits; grasses too in abundance, all the above providing food for the winter for birds, animals and human, Ivy and crab apples too in abundance. Nature could not give a better warning for such a long hard winter ahead. Nature's larder is nearly full to overflowing. Every single one of the above gives its own warning and indicators of the winter to come – ignore at your peril.*

*Our summer birds are nearly gone, songbirds, swifts, swallows, martins, flycatchers all gone and a short gap before the arrival of the winter geese and ducks, the fieldfare, redwings, arctic starlings, brambling etc. The entire above are free to observe, it only needs a walk through fields and along hedgerows too, and good exercise at the same time!*

*BBC Radio York, The Paul Hudson Weather Show on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September will include a contribution from yours truly looking back on the summer and forward to the autumn and winter predictions.*

[Interesting weather article in Telegraph 15<sup>th</sup> August with photographs of 'ice-caverns,' the result of melting ice water in the Cairngorms after a cold summer with last winter's ice and snow still present!](#)

*Thank you too to those readers who have raised the interesting fact of early flowering autumn plants this year; heather, gorse, michaelmass daisies and surprise too of mustard garlic growing and flower in August. All signs of nature preparing for long cold hard winter for sure. We will see in due course!*

*Winter is coming already, notice in your back garden near to the back door, the robin staking out his territory for the coming winter as early as the third week in August this year – sure sign of a hard winter. Second sign is the thickness of the new season English onion skins – another sure sign of a hard winter to come, and thirdly the growth of new young dead-nettles on the edges of highways and by-ways. Acorns too in abundance.*

*And finally, I read that the BBC are about to 'ditch the Met Office' as the weather supplier, thereby it is reported, saving the licence payer about £32.5 million. Some interesting comments have emerged over this decision, with, doubtless more to come. On BBC Radio 4 in August Quentin Letts in his 'What's the point of?' series focussed on the Met Office, and it was an interesting programme too. About the same time a BBC4 TV programme asked the question 'What is wrong with British weather;' again an interesting programme. I watched the latter and listened to the former and formed my own opinions – best left unsaid!*

*However Quentin Letts in The Mail on 24<sup>th</sup> August was excoriating about the Met Office and their modern day practices and TV presentations and it came as no surprise to him that such a decision was reached.*

*I was asked on BBC Radio programme (not too long ago) what I thought of the £97 million computer system recently ordered by the Met Office. My reply was that maybe Met Office should be subject to some financial culling similar to what is proposed by the Government to the BBC. If an organisation (however good and expert as a world leader it is claimed to be) public financed and funded by we the tax payers cannot do better than a five day forecast, then maybe it is better that another such provider with a more commercial attitude should be allowed to replace it – even though some of the 1500 jobs at Exeter may be lost. If it had to fund itself then surely it would become better – if only to survive in the real world!*

*If Ordnance Survey, another 'National Institution,' survived privatisation and now prospers then why not Met Office?*

## SEPTEMBER 2015

NEW MOON = 13th @ 0742hrs = Wind & rain  
1st QUARTER MOON = 21st @ 09.59hrs = Changeable  
FULL MOON 28th @ 03.51hrs = Cold rain showers + Supermoon  
LAST QUARTER MOON 5th @ 10.54hrs = Rain showers.

DoP = 29th St Michael (Michaelmass)

Partial solar eclipse 13th.

Lunar eclipse 28th @ 03.52hrs. Proxigean.

Equinox 23rd @0920hrs.

Highest spring tides 28th to 30th.

1st St Giles Fair on the first - fair for the month. First three days of the month rule the weather for October, November and December.

5th Maybe this day is a better unofficial indicator than 24th August of dryer weather.

8th Feast of the Nativity As today so for the next 4 weeks.

14th Holy Cross Day Passion flower blooms about this time. Apogee 12.29hrs.

15th Said to be fine day 6/7 years.

19th A storm from the south indicates a mild winter may be expected.

20th - 22nd Barley set winds, 2/3 days of strong winds.

21st St Mathew Brings the cold rain and dew, also 'shuts up the bees.'

23rd Autumnal equinox = expect gales. September blow soft until fruits in loft. If bright and clear this day, brings good wine in the next year. The day darkness overtakes light. If weather warm today, the season should be fine.

28th Perigee 02.47hrs

29th St Michael (Michaelmass). DoP. Quarter day. If it coincides with full moon will be a reliable guide for the next 45 days. An important quarter day for winds, invariably giving the wind direction for the next three months (to 21st December). Michaelmass daisy flowers. So many days the old moon is - so many floods after.

MET OFFICE NOTES: 1st to 17th Quiet period. BUCHAN NOTES : none.

The full moon this month is called the harvest moon.

Tree of the month 2nd to 29th is the vine, thereafter the Ivy.

### General Notes and Comments

*The month of the patroness of Fruit trees and fruit - the Goddess Pomona. The 'wood month' when wood was gathered to lay-in for winter. The month of 'shedding' of leaves, and fruit etc.*

*The month of weather extremes.*

*St Michaels Day -Quarter Day - Day of Prediction. If it coincides with full moon will be reliable guide for the next 45 days.*

*[A fairly dependable indication as to the wind direction. Beware however for this occurs around the period of Equinoxes gales and may give a false reading locally. If gales coincide with the Quarter Day wait for 2 days for the wind to settle after the gales have subsided and then get direction.]*

*September is however a most unpredictable month and one should not be quick to jump to conclusions, as above.*

*If St Michael brings many acorns, Christmas will cover the fields in snow.*

*Foxgloves and Hollyhocks shed their leaves at the end of summer.*

*As in September, so next March - and is often correct.*

*Normally less rain than August. Average 80mm/3.5ins.*

*If birds migrate early, indicates an early winter. If swallows fly off with summer, geese arrive with winter.*

*If you crack open an Oak-apple on Michaelmass Day it reveals one of seven conditions. Each pattern predicts a different weather pattern for the year.*

*These prophecies are accurate 9/10 years:- 1. If spiders - there follows a naughty year. 2. If flies - A meetly good year. 3. If empty - a great dearth follows. 4. If lean - a hot dry summer. 5. If moist - a moist summer. 6. If kernel fair and clear - summer shall be fair and corn good too. 7. If many and ripen early - an early winter, and very much snow shall be before Christmas and that it shall be cold.*

*Strong winds start this month and reach their peak on the 21st - about the time of the Equinox. These are called barleyset winds (barley harvest time).*

*There are generally three consecutive windy days about the middle of the month. Windy barley harvest winds. Barleyset winds.*

*15th - Said to be fine 6/7 years. In fact, for any annual fixture dependant upon fine weather it would be difficult to choose a better date than the 15th.*

*20th, 21st & 22nd - These three days rule the weather for October, November and December.*

*St Mathew (21st) brings the cold rain and dew, he also 'shut-up' the bees.*

*When a cold spell occurs in September and passes off without a frost, a frost will not occur until the same time in October.*

*Thunder in September indicates a good crop of fruit and grain for next year.*

*When September has been rainy, the following May is generally dry, and when May is dry, September is apt to be wet. [check previous readings] The above is not really reliable - however - if May is well above the average for rain then the same can be said for September being above average for rain too.*

**AND**

*If May is drier than average then September is likely to be drier than average too.  
All these from local personal figures.*

*If acorns abound in September, snow will be deep in December. [true]*

*If the storms in September clear off warm, all the storms the following winter will be warm.*

*A fine Michaelmass sets all in tune. (fine weather until Martinmass (11th November)).*

*On Michaelmass the devil puts his foot on blackberries.*

*If it does not rain on St Michael and Gallus (16th October), the following spring will be dry and propitious. (good omen).*

*When summer meets winter it is a good augury for the coming spring.*

*September dries up the ditches or breaks down bridges.*

*If bunches of nuts do hang on branches after leaf-fall, it betokened a frosty winter with much snow. (true)*

*During the second half of September, if a hard winter is due, the Robin will develop territory close to the house.*

*London September average rainfall 49mms (1.3ins).*

*Both droughts and floods are more likely to occur in September than August.*

*Gallas is 16/10.*

*A heavy apple crop points to a fine August and September.*

*The month to celebrate the fruit of the wine.*

**THE FULL MOON THIS MONTH IS CALLED HARVEST MOON**

*Tree of the month from 2nd to 29th is Vine. Thereafter the Ivy.*

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

*Mean Max: 20.8C      Mean Min: 9.2C      Mean Avg: 15C  
Rainfall: 64.6mm      Sunshine: 185.8hrs*

*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.*

<i>1<sup>st</sup></i>	<i>20.37C</i>	<i>20.76C</i>
<i>31<sup>st</sup></i>	<i>16.02C</i>	<i>16.71C</i>

2015

Septembr

Date	Day	Moon	Weather	DoP	Saint/Holy day	Other day	Apogee Perigee	Equinox Eclipse	Met Office	Buchan	Super moon
1	Tu					St Giles			Quiet		
2	Wed								1st to 17th		
3	Th								}		
4	Fr								}		
5	Sa	Last Q 10.54	Rain showers						}		
6	Su								}		
7	Mo								}		
8	Tu					Feast of nativity			}		
9	Wed								}		
10	Th								}		
11	Fr								}		
12	Sa								}		
13	Su	New 07.42	Wind & rain					partial solar	}		
14	Mon					Holy Cross	Apogee12.29		}		
15	Tu								}		
16	Wed								}		
17	Th								}		
18	Fr								}		
19	Sa								}		
20	Sun								}		
21	Mon	First Q 09.59	Changeable			St Mathew			}		
22	Tu								}		
23	Wed							equinox 0920	}		
24	Th								}		
25	Fr								}		
26	Sa								}		
27	Su								}		
28	Mon	Full 03.51	Cold rain			PROXIGEAN	Perigee02.47	lunar eclipse	highest		yes 03 52hrs
29	Tu		showers	YES	Quarter Day	TIDES	Michaelmass		spring tides		
30	Wed								28th - 30th		

DATE	Chandler & Gregory Barry & Perry	Brooks	Lamb	Buchan	Met Office	Season
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01/09/2015		1st - 17th Anti-cyclonic			1st - 17th quiet period	18/6 - 9/9 high summer
02/09/2015						
03/09/2015						
04/09/2015						
05/09/2015			5th - 30th 'old wives summer'			
06/09/2015	6th - 19th dry, especially east & central England		peak days 7th - 10th			
07/09/2015			peak day			
08/09/2015			peak day			
09/09/2015		peak day	peak day			
10/09/2015						10/9 - 19/11 autumn
11/09/2015						
12/09/2015						
13/09/2015						
14/09/2015						
15/09/2015						
16/09/2015			peak days 16th - 21st			
17/09/2015		17th-24th stormy	peak day			
18/09/2015			peak day			
19/09/2015			peak day			
20/09/2015		peak day	peak day			
21/09/2015			peak day			
22/09/2015						
23/09/2015						
24/09/2015			gales liable around this date, cyclonic quite common			
25/09/2015						
26/09/2015						
27/09/2015						
28/09/2015						
29/09/2015						10/9 - 19/11 autumn
30/09/2015			peak day			autumn