

## Hot spell - August 2003

### Maximum temperatures

The UK record of 37.1 °C at Cheltenham on 3 August 1990 was beaten by a number of stations on 10 August 2003, with Brogdale, near Faversham (Kent) reporting the highest at 38.5 °C.

### Table of highest maximum temperatures - 5 August 2003

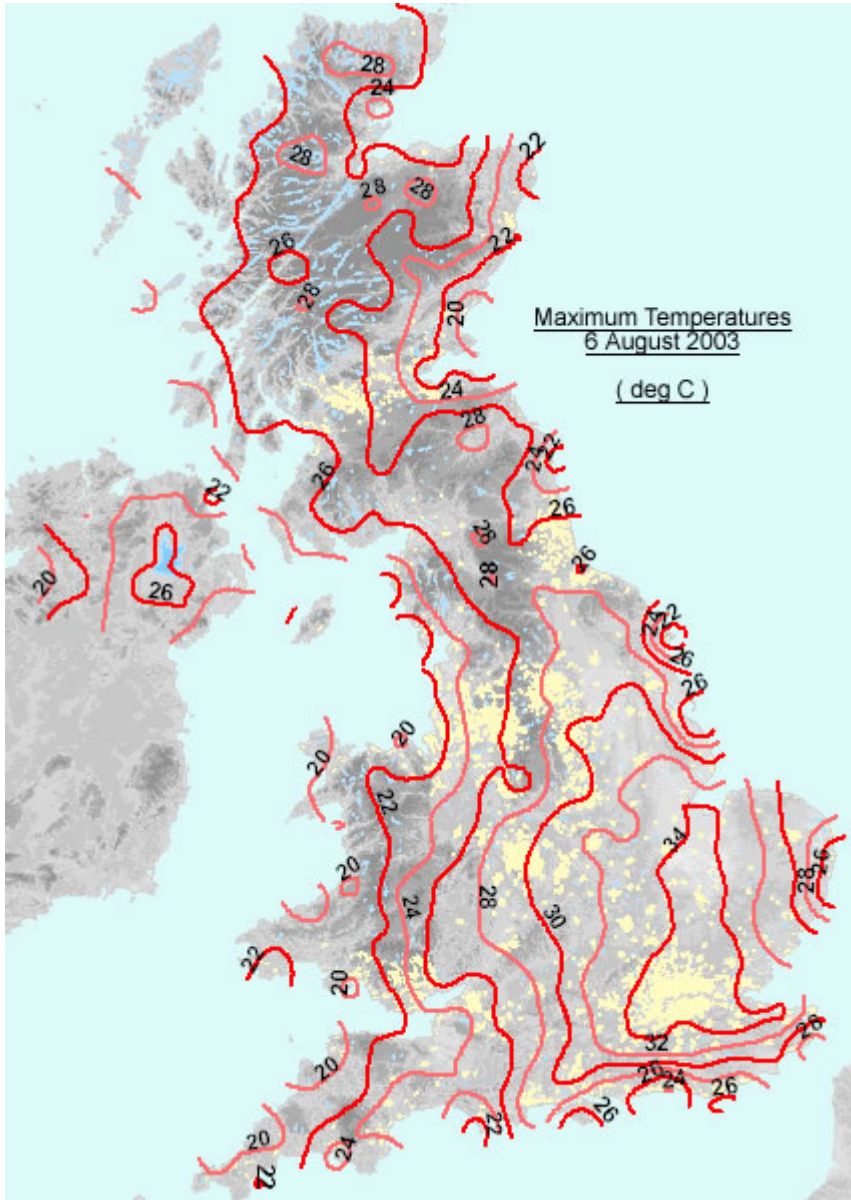
#### Maximum temperatures - 5 August 2003

Station name	Maximum temperature (°C)	Extra information
Jersey Airport	34.8	New station record beating the previous high of 34.5 °C on 3 August 1990, using digital data records back to 1957.
Jersey St Helier	34.2	Station record was broken on 9 August 2003, <a href="#">see table below</a> .
Wisley (Surrey)	33.9	Station record was broken on 10 August 2003, <a href="#">see table below</a> .
Guernsey Airport	33.7	New station record beating the previous high of 32.8 °C on 3 August 1990, using digitised data records back to 1960. <b>This value was then exceeded on 9 August 2003, when 34.3 °C was recorded.</b>
Valley (Anglesey)	33.0	New station record beating the previous high of 32.8 °C on 29 July 1948, using digitised data records back to 1931.

Guernsey Airport had a night-time minimum temperature of 23.7 °C on 4/5 August 2003, its highest on record. Previous highest night-time (12-hour) minimum was 22.9 °C on 2/3 August 1990 (using digitised data records back to 1960).

St. Mawgan (Cornwall), had a night-time minimum temperature of 23.1 °C on 4/5 August 2003, its highest on record. Previous highest night-time (12-hour) minimum was 20.4 °C on 28/29 July 1976 (using digitised data records back to 1957).

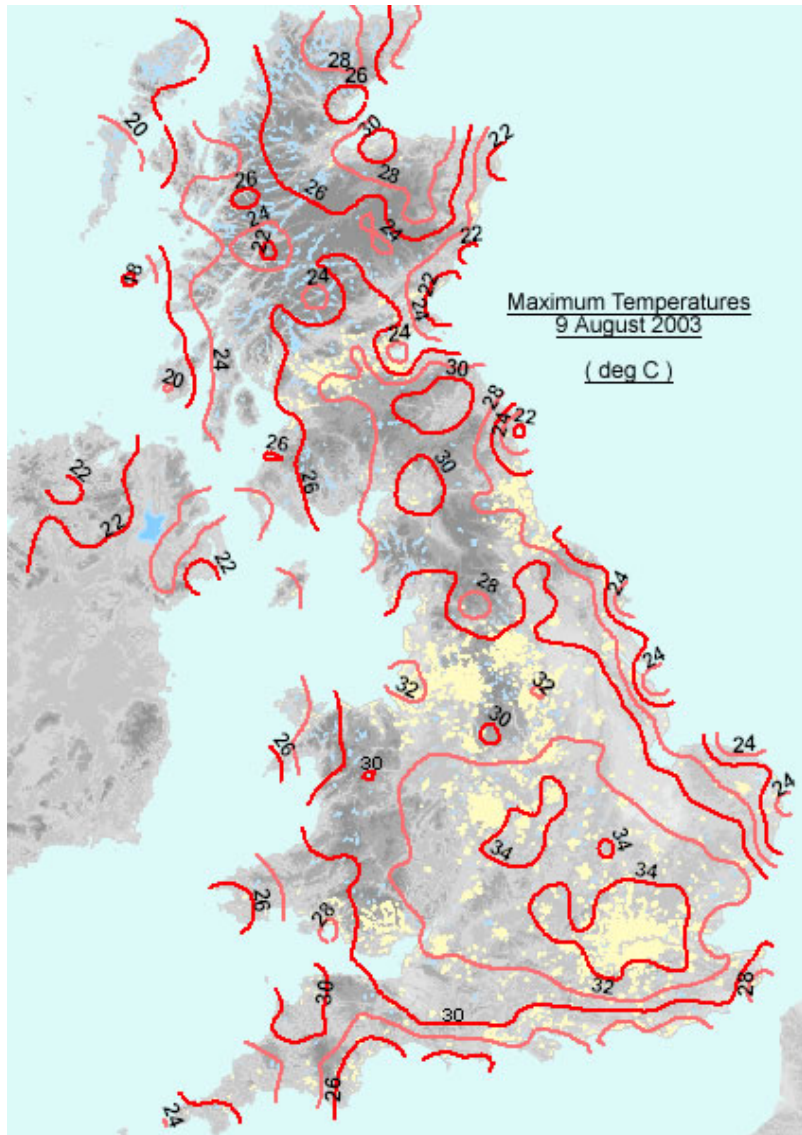
## Map of highest maximum temperatures - 6 August 2003



## Table of highest maximum temperatures - 6 August 2003

Station name	Maximum temperature (°C)	Extra information
Gravesend-Broadness (Kent)	36.4	Station record was broken on 10 August 2003, <a href="#">see table below</a> .
Greenwich Observatory (London)	36.3	Station record was broken on 10 August 2003, <a href="#">see table below</a> .
Wisley (Surrey)	36.1	Station record was broken on 10 August 2003, <a href="#">see table below</a> .
Kew Royal Botanic Gardens (London)	36.1	Station record was broken on 10 August 2003, <a href="#">see table below</a> .
Cambridge Guildhall (Cambridgeshire)	36.0	Station record was broken on 10 August 2003, <a href="#">see table below</a> .

## Map of highest maximum temperatures - 9 August 2003



## Table of highest maximum temperatures - 9 August 2003

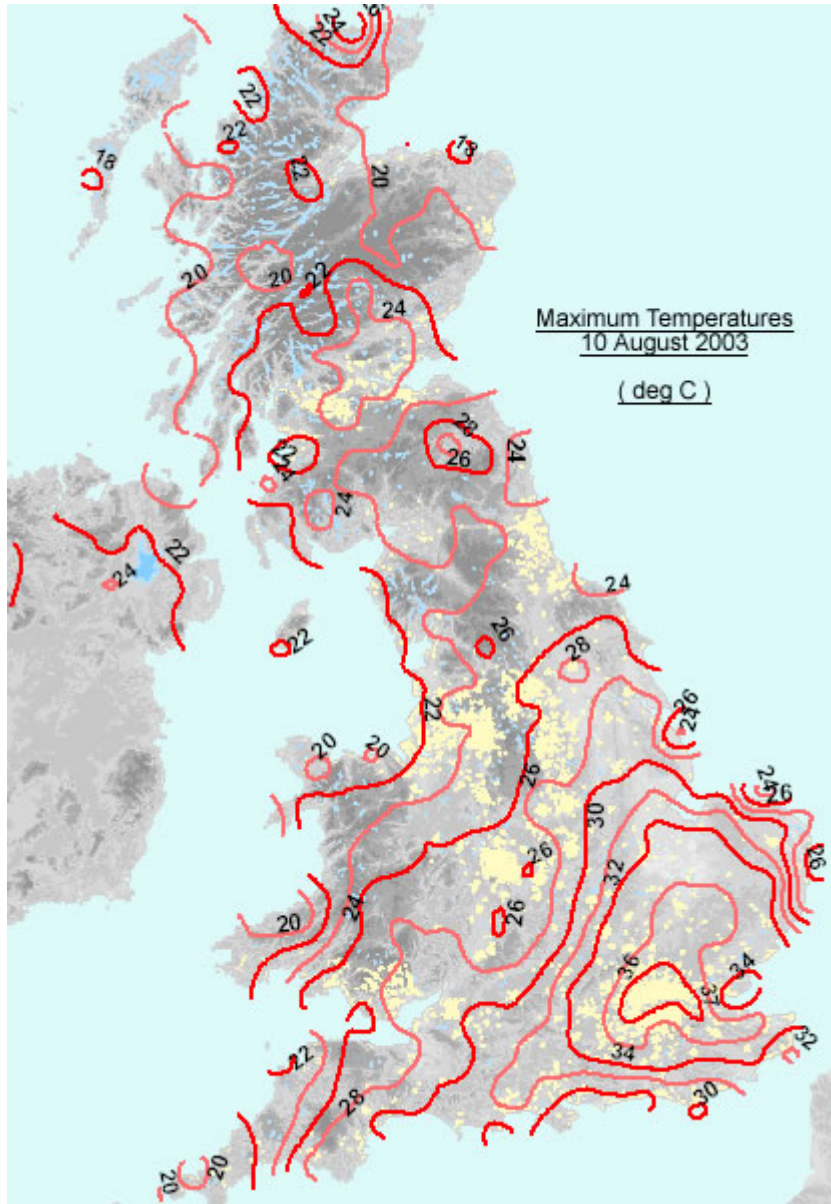
Maximum temperatures - 9 August 2003

Station name	Maximum temperature (°C)	Extra information
Enfield (London)	36.4	Station record was broken on 10 August 2003, <a href="#">see table below</a> .
Kew Royal Botanic Gardens (London)	36.0	Station record was broken on 10 August 2003, <a href="#">see table below</a> .
Jersey St Helier	36.0	New station record beating the previous high of 35.4 °C on 3 August 1990, using digitised data records back to 1970. Also the highest known value for any of the Channel Island stations, beating previous highest of 35.6 °C set on Jersey in 1932.
Greenwich Observatory (London)	36.0	Station record was broken on 10 August 2003, <a href="#">see table below</a>
Met Office	36.0	Station record was broken on 10 August 2003, <a href="#">see table below</a> .

London

Greycrook (Scottish Borders) reported a maximum temperature of 32.9 °C on 9 August 2003, beating the previous Scottish record of 32.8 °C at Dumfries (Dumfries and Galloway) on 2 July 1908 and on several occasions at other places in the 19th century.

## Map of highest maximum temperatures - 10 August 2003



## Table of highest maximum temperatures - 10 August 2003

Maximum temperatures - 10 August 2003

Station name	Maximum temperature (°C)	Extra information
Brogdale near Faversham (Kent)	38.5	New UK maximum temperature record.
Kew Royal Botanic Gardens (London)	38.1	New station record beating the previous high of 36.2 °C on 3 August 1990, digital data records back to 1981.
Gravesend-Broadness (Kent)	38.1	New station record, but data records only back to 1995.

Heathrow (London)	37.9	New station record beating the previous high of 36.5 °C on 3 August 1990, digitised data records back to 1949.
Wisley (Surrey)	37.8	New station record beating the previous high of 35.4 °C on 3 August 1990, digital data records back to 1959.
Enfield (London)	37.8	New station record beating the previous high of 35.7 °C on 3 August 1990, digitised data records back to 1960s (data records only patchy).
Northolt (London)	37.7	New station record beating the previous high of 36.3 °C on 3 August 1990, digitised data records back to 1984.
Met Office London	37.6	New station record beating the previous high of 35.0 °C on 3 August 1990, digitised data records back to 1974.
St. James's Park (London)	37.6	New station record beating the previous high of 35.3 °C on 3 August 1990, digitised data records back to 1959.
Cambridge Guildhall (Cambridgeshire)	37.5	New station record, but data records only back to 1997.
Greenwich Observatory (London)	37.5	New station record beating the previous high of 34.7 °C on 3 August 1990, digitised data records back to 1959.
East Malling (Kent)	37.4	New station record beating the previous high of 34.6 °C on 3/8/1990, digitised data records back to 1959.
Cavendish (Suffolk)	37.3	New station record beating the previous high of 35.2 °C on 3 August 1990, digitised data records back to 1977.
Northwood (London)	37.0	New station record beating the previous high of 34.6 °C on 3 August 1990, digitised data records back to 1959.

Met Office London had a night-time minimum temperature of 23.7 °C on 9/10 August 2003, its highest night-time (12-hour) minimum was 24.0 °C on 3/4 August 1990 (using digitised data records back to 1974).

## Highest temperatures during 2003

Brogdale near Faversham (Kent) recorded England's highest temperature with 38.5 °C on 10 August 2003 **(beats the previous highest value anywhere in UK)**.

Valley recorded the Welsh highest temperature, with 33.0 °C on 5 August 2003, which beat its previous highest of 32.8 °C on 29 July 1948 (data records back to 1931).

Greycrook (Scottish borders) recorded Scotland's highest temperature with 32.9 °C on 9 August 2003 **(beats the old Scottish record below)**.

Castledearg (Co. Fermanagh) recorded Northern Ireland's highest temperature with 29.3 °C on 8 August 2003.

## Maximum temperature extremes

Previous highest England recorded temperature, 37.1 °C at Cheltenham (Gloucestershire) on 3 August 1990 (the highest official temperature recorded anywhere in the UK).

Highest Wales recorded temperature, 35.2 °C at Hawarden Bridge (Clwyd) on 2 August 1990.

Previous highest Scotland recorded temperature, 32.8 °C at Dumfries (Dumfries and Galloway) on 2 July 1908 and on several occasions at other places in the 19th century.

Highest Northern Ireland recorded temperature, 30.8 °C at Knockarevan (near Belleek, Co. Fermanagh) on 30 June 1976, and at Shaw's Bridge, Belfast (Co. Antrim) on 12 July 1983.

## Hot spells, with consecutive maximum temperatures over 30 °C



During the long hot summer of 1976, temperatures exceeded 32 °C (90 °F), somewhere in the UK, on 15 consecutive days starting on 23 June. In 2003, 32 °C was exceeded on three consecutive days between 4 and 6 August and then on five consecutive days between 8 and 12 August, somewhere in the UK (temperatures failed to reach 32 °C at any of the real-time stations on 7 August).

During the summer of 1976, Heathrow had 16 consecutive days over 30 °C from 23 June to 8 July (its highest number of consecutive days above 30 °C). In 2003, Heathrow managed three consecutive days above 30 °C between 4 and 6 August 2003, and five consecutive days between 8 and 12 August 2003.

During the summer of 1976, Enfield had six consecutive days over 30 °C from 23 to 28 June, and seven consecutive days between 2 and 8 July. In 2003, Enfield had ten consecutive maximum temperatures over 30 °C from 3 to 12 August 2003 (their highest number of consecutive days above 30 °C, using patchy digitised records back to 1960s).

During the summer of 1976, Wisley had six consecutive days over 30 °C from 23 to 28 June, and eight consecutive days between 1 and 8 July. In 2003, Wisley had ten consecutive maximum temperatures over 30 °C from 3 to 12 August 2003 (their highest number of consecutive days above 30 °C, using digitised records back to 1959).

During the summer of 1976, St. James's Park had six consecutive days over 30 °C from 23 June to 28 June, and seven consecutive days between 2 and 8 July. In 2003, St. James's Park had nine consecutive maximum temperatures over 30 °C from 4 to 12 August 2003 (their highest number of consecutive days above 30 °C, using digitised records back to 1959).

During the summer of 1976, East Malling had six consecutive days over 30 °C from 23 June to 28 June. In 2003, East Malling had nine consecutive maximum temperatures over 30 °C from 4 to 12 August 2003 (their highest number of consecutive days above 30 °C, using digitised records back to 1959).

Last updated: 6 November 2012