

AUGUST 2024

PREAMBLE



Camomile: August 1<sup>st</sup>



Cob/ Filbert Nut Harvest: August 18<sup>th</sup>



Sunflower: August 24<sup>th</sup>

Flower of the month: Gladiolus

Tree of the month: Up to 4<sup>th</sup> is the Holly, thereafter Hazel

Full Moon this Month: Sturgeon/ Corn Moon

*"In August, the smallest breeze gives us a hint of  
the coming Autumn, while the sun still gently  
kisses our skin with its warmth."*

*Unknown*

## August 2024

A warm welcome to August's website entry, and I hope you have all had a lovely summer. I am sure many of you, like me are knee deep in summer adventures with the family. I love August, it is absolute carnage, which never fails to make me realise how fast the year is flying by! My mind keeps drifting ahead to the Autumn, but one thing at a time - let's enjoy the rest of summer first!

I have my first holiday abroad in a decade planned for the end of August. As such I wanted to give you advance notice that the September website entry will either be up very early this month, or slightly later than usual depending on how well I manage to organise myself over the coming weeks. This is why I included the September data in the Summer Advance Forecast. I have also published the September data in the usual way in our Autumn Advance Forecast which will be published in tandem with this entry. So indeed, you are covered either way.

Please note that I will be away for the last ten days of August and will be unable to respond to e-mails during this period. Therefore, David has kindly agreed to take charge of e-mails for those ten days, but please ensure you e-mail him directly as my e-mails will not be monitored during this period. Anyone that does e-mail me during this period will of course get a response just as soon as I return from leave.

Based on all your lovely feedback I am delighted to announce that we have decided to continue with our YouTube series 'Country Signs' and will be filming episode 2 on September 30<sup>th</sup>. The video will be released as soon as feasibly possible after this date. Thank you so much for your kindness and feedback, it has meant a lot to us, and we are looking forward to filming again. For those of you who have been unable to check it out yet you can find this series via the following link: <https://youtube.com/@indigenousukweather>

I am very lucky that I walk with David once per month and speak with him almost daily. Therefore, these videos are for you, the fans. As such your feedback is vital to ensuring we deliver what you want. Our inboxes remain open to your very useful comments and of course you can also use the comments feature on you tube.

For those that haven't yet noticed I have added a recipes tab to the website, which will include some of my favourite recipes that involve very basic homegrown or foraged ingredients. I hope that you will enjoy these recipes, and over time hope to share my whole collection with you. If you have any favourites of your own do feel free to share them with us – we will happily try them out and put them up on the website.

I also just wanted to mention we have a very lovely private Facebook group for anyone who is interested. It is a group of likeminded weatherlore enthusiasts and is a truly lovely community of people. If you would like to join us, please send an e-mail to: [indigenousukweather@outlook.com](mailto:indigenousukweather@outlook.com) and I will organise with you accordingly.

David has very kindly put together an article for us to enjoy, and I have included a few new book recommendations which I will add to the website library soon. Again, if you have any book recommendations you would like to see added to the website please reach out to Dave or me. We will happily give a new book recommendation a try and publish accordingly.

Have a beautiful August, whatever the weather.

*Lesley*

## WATER JUSTICE – OF A SORT.

After the June website entry as to who regulates who in the water industry, and a private person is not allowed to make any claim, a new ruling.

Maybe some light at the end of the tunnel for Water Utilities customers, who up to now have not been able to claim against these utilities. The Supreme Court on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2024 made the historic judgement which is highlighted below.

### dumping raw sewage

A landmark decision means United Utilities could face damages for polluting the Manchester Ship Canal

Water companies that dump raw sewage into Britain's waterways can now be sued for damages and held accountable, following a landmark Supreme Court ruling. Judges found that a private company that own canals, rivers or lakes can take legal action against any business that pollutes its water with untreated sewage.

Manchester Canal Company has been in a legal battle since 2018 with United Utilities about the latter's ability to pump raw sewage into the canal without the permission of the owner.

The 36-mile Victorian waterway connects Manchester to the Mersey Estuary and the ruling is seen as a test case that opens a legal avenue to seek damages from sewage companies. United Utilities provides water and sewage facilities to seven million customers in the north-west of England and is one of 10 such private companies in England and Wales. The companies were put in charge of sewage in a 1989 privatisation by Margaret Thatcher's government and protected from legal action by the Water Industry Act 1991.

### ‘Allowed to pollute’

In 2021, the High Court held that the act meant the company was allowed to “pollute the canal without the consent of the Canal Company and free of charge” unless the discharges were proved to be deliberate or negligent.

But the Supreme Court ruled on Tuesday that the law only allows the water company to pump treated waste and excess surface water – and does not cover raw sewage. “The 1991 Act does not authorise sewerage undertakers to cause a nuisance or to trespass by discharging untreated effluent into watercourses,” the judges wrote in their ruling. “[The Act] gave sewerage undertakers authority to discharge treated effluent from existing sewers and outfalls into watercourses. “Nothing in the relevant sections... authorises a sewerage undertaker to use a sewer, drain or outfall to convey foul water into a watercourse. The sewerage undertakers therefore do not have statutory authority to discharge untreated sewage into watercourses.”

The ruling added “the discharge of untreated effluent into watercourses” is not an “inevitable consequence” of the water company’s responsibilities.

“The discharge of polluting effluent could be avoided by means of investment in improved infrastructure and better treatment processes,” the judges continued.

## Fundamental right to sue

In the joint ruling, Lord Reed and Lord Hodges said the owners of waterways had “fundamental common law rights” to sue for damages, whether sewage discharges were deliberate or negligent or not.

The two Supreme Court judges said: “This appeal raises the question whether the owners of watercourses...or bodies of water can bring actions in nuisance or trespass in the event that the water is polluted by discharges of foul water from the infrastructure of statutory sewerage undertakers, in the absence of negligence or deliberate misconduct. “We would allow the canal company’s appeal,” they concluded. Lord Lloyd-Jones, Lord Burrows, Lord Stephens, Lady Rose and Lord Richards agreed with the unanimous ruling.

A spokesman for Peel Ports Group and the Manchester Ship Canal Company said: “We are pleased with the Supreme Court’s decision, which concludes that a watercourse owner does have the right to bring legal action against a water company that discharges pollution into its watercourse.”

[Daily Telegraph 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024]

## **Introducing The Weather Lore Library:**

### **A Virtual Book Club for Weather Enthusiasts**

I have had several people approach me about running a weatherlore book club for fans. In theory I think it's a great idea and would be happy to organise this in the New Year (my plate is full until then). I have given it some thought however, and would suggest something like the below:

#### **How it would work:**

The Weather Lore Library group (or whatever we call it), would convene every other month in a virtual setting (teams or Skype), providing a flexible and convenient way for members to participate from anywhere in the world. Our meetings would feature engaging discussions about the selected book, allowing members to share insights, ask questions, and delve deeper into the themes and topics presented.

#### **Choosing our books:**

At each meeting, we would collectively decide on the next book to read. This inclusive approach ensures that all members have a say in what we explore, fostering a diverse range of perspectives and interests. Our reading list will encompass a variety of genres and styles, including nonfiction explorations of meteorological phenomena, historical accounts of weather's impacts, and books that weave weatherlore into their narrative.

#### **Community:**

The Weather Lore Library would be a community united by shared interest in weather and weatherlore. Our virtual meetings would provide a space for members to connect, exchange ideas, and build friendships.

#### **Getting Started:**

If you think this sounds like a good idea, please send me an e-mail at [indigenoukweather@outlook.com](mailto:indigenoukweather@outlook.com) and I will pop you on the list. Membership is open to all, and of course doesn't cost anything (although you will be responsible for purchasing the books we will be reading).

It will be New Year before I am able to start this, but think it is a brilliant idea and am very grateful to those of you who took the time to reach out and suggest this. I will be in touch with all those who have expressed an interest nearer the time. 😊

## Book Recommendations



Until 'The Weather Lore Library' book club is launched, the three books above are suggested as excellent large pocket-sized reference books when exploring lanes, hedges, fields etc. These books are sumptuously illustrated and by cross referencing one with the other it is possible to positively identify plants and learn some of their characteristics.

The above books will be added to the Library page of the website in due course.

Enjoy!

## Something fun for the little ones (and the adults)?

Courtesy of the Wildlife Trusts:





Magic Sightings waiting to happen in August are:

- Adders
- Basking Sharks
- Bats
- Butterflies
- Crickets
- Common Lizards
- Deer Fawn
- Dolphins & Porpoises
- Dragonflies & Damselflies
- Fox Cubs
- Froglets
- Grasshoppers
- Glow Worms
- Grass Snakes
- Hedgehogs
- Newtlets
- Oyster Catchers
- Sand Lizards
- Slow Worms
- Stoats
- Squirrels
- Toadlets
- Wasp Spiders
- Weasels

August Foraging:

- Bilberries
- Blackberries
- Cherry Plums
- Common Mallow
- Wild Angelica
- Wild Raspberries
- Wild Strawberries

Apple & Blackberry Crumble:

120g Plain Flour, 60g Caster Sugar,  
30g Demerara Sugar, 30g Porridge  
Oats, 90g Butter, 300g Apples, 150g  
Blackberries, ¼ tsp cinnamon.

Lots of yummy custard!

Full recipe at

[www.indigenouslyukweather.com](http://www.indigenouslyukweather.com)

IF YOU ARE UNSURE OF  
IDENTITY DO NOT EAT. WE  
HAVE A SURPRISING  
NUMBER OF POISONOUS  
SPECIES IN THE UK.



### The Skies

- 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>: Perseids Meteor Shower
- 14<sup>th</sup>: We may be able to see Jupiter and Mars between 01:00am – 04:00am
- 19<sup>th</sup>: Blue Moon
- 27<sup>th</sup>: We may be able to see Jupiter and Mars between 01:00am – 04:00am



New Moon:  
4<sup>th</sup> August @ 12.13



Full Moon:  
19<sup>th</sup> August @ 19.25



1Q Moon:  
12<sup>th</sup> August @ 16.18



3Q Moon:  
26<sup>th</sup> August @ 10.25

APOGEE @ 02:31 ON 9<sup>TH</sup>  
PERIGEE @ 06:02 ON 21<sup>ST</sup>

Now for the collated expert notes on August:

The expert collated notes for the month of August read as follows: "The unsettled weather of late July normally continues into the first few days of August, so that the first few days of August tend to be appreciably cooler than mid-July. After this the weather becomes more settled and warmer during most years, and the period 8th -14th August is one of high average sunshine, particularly in the southeast of England. Averages over long periods show that the highest temperatures in Britain occur on 12th-14th August [Ed note – this is also a Buchan warm period]. After that the temperatures generally begin to fall, and the latter half of the month is often rather cool despite a three-day warmer period that may occur in the third or fourth weeks. The most thundery part of the month is the 19th – 25th. At first thunderstorms tend to break out in the southern districts and then move northwards to affect northern England and southern Scotland around 23 -25th August. In some years there is a further thundery period around 28th -29th August, but the last two days of the month are generally quite settled and quite often very warm. [Ed note – this very warm end to the month has been a feature in recent years]" This August, with good fortune, will be real summer from mid-July until about the 8th, therefore make the best of it, since, as can be seen from the attached weather sheet, it is downhill. with the rest of the month predominantly wet. There could be a dry warmer spell around the 13th to the 15th, if this occurs then it may well trigger thunderstorms, such is the UK summer period.

MY NOTES:

July Review:

The forecast was for mostly fine, warm, sunny, and dry weather up until around July 21<sup>st</sup>. It must be said the dates did not turn out quite as expected. July 5<sup>th</sup> (the first Friday of the month) we always expect rain. However, this year July 5<sup>th</sup> started off a spell of wet weather which lasted for four days. We also experienced rain on July 15<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>. After speaking with fellow weatherlore enthusiasts across the Country there were also massive variations across the regions (and even between what Dave and I were experiencing between Kent and Dorset). I also forecasted that temperatures would cool down towards the end of July which of course has been the total opposite of what has happened (the end of July has been the hottest part of the month). I am pleased that we correctly forecasted that temperatures would not be hotter than 32c/33c during July, which indeed proved to be accurate.

Whilst looking at the month of July as a whole (and the end of June as correctly forecasted) it was indeed the best part of summer, just not quite within the dates we were expecting. That said we forecast 3 - 6 months in advance, and the end of June and July was correctly forecasted as the best that summer 2024 will have to offer. For daily weather forecasts the Met Office will do a far superior job, and it is important for readers to understand that we are surprisingly accurate at forecasting the general trends of weather months in advance, but inevitably sometimes these date discrepancies will come up (as in weather due will run a week or two behind or ahead of schedule at times). This is to be expected.

Of course, I am also still learning the methodology and learning about publishing. It is quite the learning curve! I will always do whatever I can to improve and as such I do feel some of the more direct nuances need careful reflection, with not quite such a dogmatic approach. Rome was not built in a day and over time I will get better, so please leave me a little room for tolerance. David did this for 11+ years, and got better as he progressed. I am still into my first seven months, and as such am still learning by the day.

Having watched David's site for six years, and being the super fan that I was, I thought I knew it all. Alas, the realisation has now dawned, that this is far from as easy as it appears, there are several new disciplines to be learnt, all vital for understanding our UK weather, I ask please therefore for some latitude.

For those that are interested, St Swithun (July 15th) was grey, wet, and miserable here in Dorset. It did not rain for the following forty days though. After David's extensive fifty years of research, he has found that this saw isn't reliable.

### August Forecast:

The first two weeks of August are likely to be wet. From 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> August, we have a dangerous combination of the Full Moon/ Blue Moon, Highest Spring Tides and Perigee. A natural disaster of some kind is likely to take place somewhere in the world around this time. We will have a fairer interlude of weather around August 19<sup>th</sup> and the month will likely end with a mix of rain showers and sunshine. During August it is generally fair to expect 3 days of sunshine and a thunderstorm.

### AUGUST 2024

New Moon = 4<sup>th</sup> @ 12.13 = Very Rainy

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Moon = 12<sup>th</sup> @ 16.18 = Rain

Full Moon = 19<sup>th</sup> @ 19.25 = Fair

Last Quarter Moon = 26<sup>th</sup> @ 10.25 = Frequent Showers

12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> August: Perseids Meteor Shower

DoP: 6<sup>th</sup> Transfiguration Day (Not reliable) & 24<sup>th</sup> – St Bartholomew

Highest Spring Tides: 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>

PERIGEE – 21<sup>st</sup> @ 06.02      APOGEE – 9<sup>th</sup> @ 02.31

Met Office Notes: None

#### Buchan Notes:

6<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>: Cool Period

12<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>: Warm Period (can be very hot)

FULL MOON THIS MONTH IS CALLED STURGEON MOON/ CORN MOON.

### Monthly Notes & Comments

1 <sup>st</sup>	Lammas (Loafmass)	after Lammas the crop ripens as much by night as by day. First grain harvest of the year. Camomile flowering day.
6 <sup>th</sup>	Transfiguration Day	As the weather this day of Transfiguration, so it will be for the rest of the year. This over-ambitious at best, unreliable, but of sequence, and as far as I am concerned cannot seriously be considered as a DoP.
9 <sup>th</sup>	Apogee	Apogee @ 02:31
10 <sup>th</sup>	St Lawrence	If sunshine and fine, good autumn and much wine. Virgins bower flowering day.
12 <sup>th</sup>	St Clare	
15 <sup>th</sup>	Assumption Day	If sunshine, much and good wine.
20 <sup>th</sup>	St Filbert	Harvest day for cob nuts
21 <sup>st</sup>	Perigee	Perigee @ 06:02
24 <sup>th</sup>	St Bartholomew	DoP. 1st day of Autumn. Maybe, on experience, 5th September is a better day of prediction. Sunflower Flowering day.
28 <sup>th</sup>	End of Dog Days	

### General notes and comments.

Eighth month of the year and is named in celebration of Augustus Caesar in memory of the many events in his life in that month.

The harvest month.

Statistically, August, in this area, is the wettest month of the year.

If two full moons then sure to be wet.

A cold August after a warm July is said to signify the approach of a hard dry winter.

When a hot dry August follows a hot dry July it portends an early and cold winter.

Can also be a 'Disaster' month. Lynmouth Flooding 1952 (15-16th). Fastnet

Yacht Race Storm (1979). Folkestone Flooding 1996 (12th). East Devon

Floods 1997 (8th).

Boscastle Flooding (2004) 17th

Quite cold and sunless 2007

Dog-Days - the moist sultry days in a period of 20 days before and 20 days after the rising of the Dog-Star Sirius. If we are to have a summer at all, this is the most likely time.

Roughly from mid-July to the end of August, or, corn harvest time. Sirius is the brightest star in the heavens, and is one of those in the southern constellation Canis Major.

As the Dog-days commence so they end. Bright and clear indicate a happy year, but accompanied by rain, for better times our hopes are vain.

Observe on what day the first heavy fog occurs, and expect a hard frost on the same day in October.

A fog in August also indicates a severe winter and plenty of snow. [very reliable and proven]

As August. so next February.

So many August fogs, so many winter mists.

In the first week of August is unusually warm, the winter will be white and long.  
[reliable and proven]

All the tears that St Swithun (15th July) can cry St Bartelmys (24th) mantle WILL dry up.  
[be warned however that this can be out by as much as +/- 3 days]

If St Swithuns is dry:- If Bartholomews be fine and clear, then hope for a prosperous Autumn that year. [after this day expect dull or fine weather, but not, as a rule, much rain]

August fills the barn and September the loft.

Dry August and warm does the farmer no harm.

A wet rainy August makes hard bread crust.

St Bartholomew's Day - a most important day. Brings cold dew (campers beware).

The day to start collecting honey, and the day delicate flowers should be brought indoors. If the weather is settled this day, a fine Autumn is promised.

If however it rains this day, then it will rain for 40 days thereafter (to 3rd October). If misty and a morning hoar frost, the cold weather will come soon with a hard winter too.

There is however a distinct possibility that 5th September will be a better Day of Prediction than 24th August, and, by experience is a better predictor.

A warm dry August surely means a snowy winter.

August thunder promises fat grapes and fine vintages.

[fairly shaky for hail will damage the grapes]

Late August, when 3 kestrels fly -'twill be dry. [reliable]

Too much August sun disappoints the maid, the priest and the host, for it scorches up the vegetables.

A warm Autumn is usually followed by a long winter.

A poor forecast for wheat indicates wet weather in July and August.

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

When the dew is heavy in August, the weather generally remains fair.

Thunderstorms in the beginning of August will generally be followed by others all the month.

Thunderstorms after the 24th are generally violent.

FULL MOON FOR THIS MONTH IS CALLED STURGEON/CORN MOON also  
known as fruit moon or green corn moon.

Tree of the month up-to 4th is Holly. Thereafter is Hazel.



AUGUST 2024

TOM	Moon	Weather	DoP	St/ Holy Day	Other Day	Quarter Day	Apogee/ Perigee	Set Off (stormy/ quiet)	Buchan (warm/ cold)	Super Moon	Highest Tides	Notes
1	T			Lammas								Camomile flowering day
2	F											
3	S											
4	S	New Moon @ 12.13	Very rainy									
5	M											
6	T			Transfiguration Day					Cool period			
7	W								Cool period			
8	T								Cool period			
9	F						Apogee - 02:31		Cool period			
10	S			St Lawrence					Cool period			Virgins Bower flowering day
12	M	1Q @ 16.18	Rain	St Clare					Warm period (can be very hot)			Perseids Meteor Shower
13	T								Warm period (can be very hot)			Perseids Meteor Shower
14	W								Warm period (can be very hot)			
15	T			Assumption Day					Warm period (can be very hot)			
16	F											
17	S											
18	S											
19	M	Full Moon @ 19.25	Fair							Blue Moon		Blue Moon/ problem weather could occur
20	T			St Filberts Day							Highest	Blue Moon/ problem weather could occur
21	W						Perigee - 06:02				Tides	Blue Moon/ problem weather could occur
22	T										20th	
23	F										to	
24	S			St Bartholomew							24th	Sun flower flowering day
25	S											
26	M	3Q @ 10.25	Frequent showers									
27	T											
28	W				End of dog days							
29	T											
30	F											
31	S											