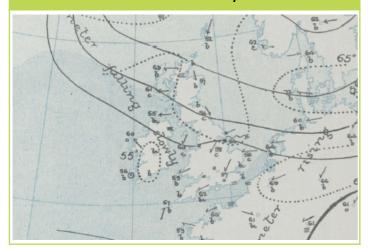
Wednesday 31 May 1911

(Derby Day Thunderstorm)

Weather chart for 0700 UTC on 31 May 1911



General summary

Severe thunderstorms affected the London area causing flash floods and severe disruption to public transport. One particular thunderstorm interrupted the Derby Day event on Epsom Downs resulting in 17 people being killed along with 4 horses. The thunderstorms across South East England slowly died away during the evening and here it turned rather misty.

Winds generally were light and from the southeast.

Temperatures were above the late May average generally and very warm, locally hot, across parts of South East England.

Significant weather event

- 17 people killed along with 4 horses
- 159 flashes of sheet or fork lightning in a 15 minute period around 17.30 recorded at Epsom
- \bullet Hail 1 % to 2 inches in diameter fell at Sutton
- Landslides closed both the Great Western Railway at Park Royal and the London and South Eastern Railway at Merstham
- Hail lay 15 cm deep at Bletchington
- 62 mm of rain fell in just 50 minutes at Banstead



Rainfall of May 31st 1911, taken from an article in the Met Office publication of British Rainfall 1911.

Daily weather extremes

Highest Maximum Temperature

27.8 °C at Greenwich, Royal Observatory and South Kensington (both London)

Lowest Minimum Temperature

6.1 °C at Wick (Caithness) and Nairn (Nairnshire)

Most Rainfall

91.2 mm at Banstead, The Hall (Surrey)

Most Sunshine

13.8 hours at Jersey, St Aubin (Channel Islands)

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