

## 8. Record breaking Extreme Weather Events.

*In tackling Climate Change over past 30 years, politicians and world leaders have failed to understand the problem and put in place measures to control global warming. After all the warnings through the '50s, '60s, '70s and '80s, global average temperatures have risen by **over 1°C** since 1880. Two thirds of this has occurred since 1975. Breaking of climate records has become the norm and now these are so frequent they fail to engender any great cause for alarm.*

### UK climate records

1. The UK has just passed through its hottest **decade** on record
2. The **hottest** ten years in the UK are all since 2002
3. February 26<sup>th</sup> 2019 – **Hottest** February day on record in Kew Gardens, London was 21.2°C
4. July 25<sup>th</sup> 2019 - **Hottest** day on record in the Botanical Gardens, Cambridge was 38.7°C
5. December 29<sup>th</sup> 2019 - **Hottest** December day in Acfary, Scottish Highlands was 18.7°C
6. February 2020 - **Wettest** February on record since 2009
7. Spring 2020 – **Sunniest** spring on record
8. May 2020 – England's **driest** May on record

### Global Records

9. The 5 **warmest** years on record have all occurred since 2015, while 9 of the 10 warmest have occurred since 2005
10. From 1900 to 1980 a new temperature **record** was set on average every 13.5 years; since 1981, it has become every 3 years
11. The global annual temperature has **increased** at an average rate of 0.07°C per decade since 1880 and over twice that rate (+0.18°C ) since 1981
12. December 18<sup>th</sup> 2019 - **Australia** recorded its hottest day at 40.3°C
13. February 6<sup>th</sup> 2020 - **Antarctica** recorded its hottest temperature at 18.3°C
14. To March 2020 - Australian bush **fires** destroyed an area equivalent to half the UK.
15. May 2020 - the global land **temperature** for May 2020 tied with 2016 as the highest on record
16. The 10 warmest Mays have all occurred since 1998; however, the 2014–2020 Mays are the seven **warmest**
17. May 2020 - 44th consecutive May and the **425th** consecutive month with temperatures, at least nominally, above the 20th century average
18. June 20th 2020 - **Verkhoyansk** in the Arctic recorded the highest Arctic temperature at 38°C
19. July 25<sup>th</sup> 2020 - **Svalbard** in Arctic Norway recorded its highest temperature at 21.7°C
20. July 31<sup>st</sup> 2020 - **lowest** Arctic sea ice extent, at 6.11 million square kms, for any July since records began in 1979 and 2.27million square kms or 27% less than the 1981-2010 median coverage
21. The Arctic Sea Ice September seasonal **minimum** in 2012, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2019 are the five lowest seasonal ice extents on record

*“What's the use of having developed a science well enough to make predictions if, in the end, all we're willing to do is stand around and wait for them to come true?”*

*Frank Sherwood Rowland*

## References:

“Over 1°C” [https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/world-of-change/global-temperatures#:~:text=According%20to%20an%20ongoing%20temperature,2%C2%B0%20Fahrenheit\)%20since%201880.](https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/world-of-change/global-temperatures#:~:text=According%20to%20an%20ongoing%20temperature,2%C2%B0%20Fahrenheit)%20since%201880.)

1. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-51111176>
2. <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/about-us/press-office/news/weather-and-climate/2019/state-of-the-uk-climate-2018>
3. <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/about-us/press-office/news/weather-and-climate/2019/state-of-the-uk-climate-2018>
4. <https://www.newscientist.com/article/2211744-met-office-confirms-highest-temperature-ever-recorded-in-the-uk/>
5. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-50961612>
6. <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/about-us/press-office/news/weather-and-climate/2020/2020-winter-february-stats>
7. <https://blog.metoffice.gov.uk/2020/05/29/spring-2020-the-sunniest-on-record-in-the-uk/>
8. <https://blog.metoffice.gov.uk/2020/05/29/spring-2020-the-sunniest-on-record-in-the-uk/>
9. <https://www.climate.gov/news-features/understanding-climate/climate-change-global-temperature>
10. <https://www.climate.gov/news-features/understanding-climate/climate-change-global-temperature>
11. <https://www.climate.gov/news-features/understanding-climate/climate-change-global-temperature>
12. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-australia-50817963>
13. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-51420681>
14. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2019%E2%80%9320 Australian\\_bushfire\\_season](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2019%E2%80%9320 Australian_bushfire_season)
15. <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc/global/202005>
16. <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc/global/202005>
17. <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc/global/202005>
18. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-53140069>
19. <https://www.lifeinnorway.net/hottest-ever-day-recorded-in-arctic-svalbard/>
20. <https://nsidc.org/arcticseaicenews/charctic-interactive-sea-ice-graph/>
21. <https://nsidc.org/arcticseaicenews/charctic-interactive-sea-ice-graph/>