

Fartown Cricket Project: The Weather

Fartown cricket ground was all in the past, now the pitch is a rugby ground and the clubhouse is now private. As weather plays a big part in the game, All Saints decided to take the project even further including the weather of that time as well.





















As we don't know what the exact weather was like at that time, we know brief things about it. We wanted to make a comparison between the different ways that weather is forecasted for cricket matches, by comparing the different types of weather from now and then.

We decided to focus on March to May, as these are the months we had available to work on the cricket project.

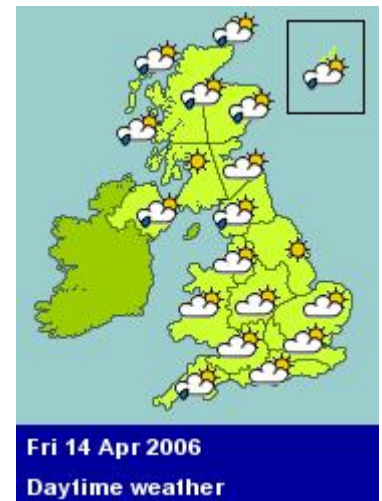
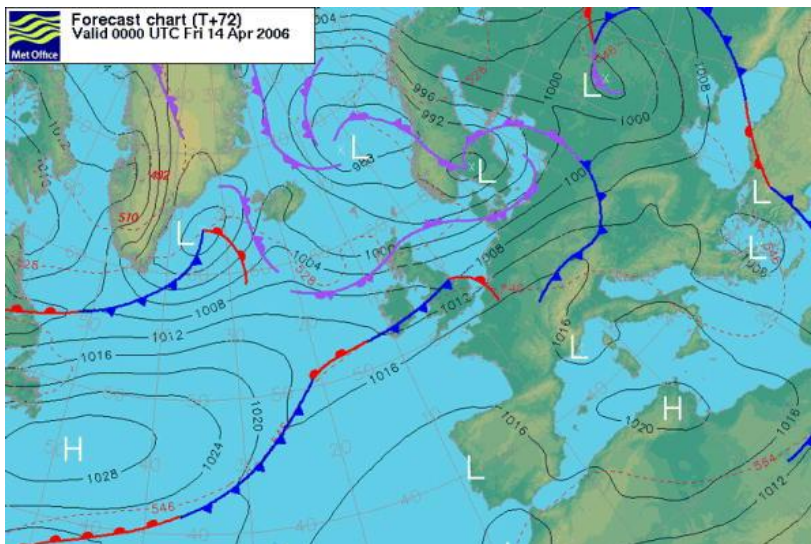
To record the weather from this year, we collected rain in a rain gauge, which we placed on the school roof! Everyday, at the same time, we measured the amount of water collected in the last 24 hours. To make the results easier to analyse, we also collected UV Index charts and synoptic weather forecast charts from the Met. Office website. Below is a summary of the rain we collected:

Rain chart

<u>DAY (8th April-24th April)</u>	<u>MI</u>		
		Fri-mon	0
		Mon-tue	0
W/end-mon	55	Tue-wed	0
Mon-tue	23	Wed-thurs	0
Tue-wed	12	Thurs-fri	0
Wed-thurs	0		
Thurs-fri	62	Fri-tues	30-fellover
		Tue-wed	0
Fri-mon	64	Wed-thurs	0
Mon-tue	43	Thurs-fri	0
Tue-wed	43		
Wed-thurs	48		
Thurs-fri	40		

Monday 17 April		Tuesday 18 April		Wednesday 19 April		Thursday 20 April		Friday 21 April	
Day	Night	Day	Night	Day	Night	Day	Night	Day	Night
									
									
Max temp 11°C	Min temp 2°C	Max temp 12°C	Min temp 6°C	Max temp 12°C	Min temp 3°C	Max temp 12°C	Min temp 4°C	Max temp 13°C	Min temp 5°C

Example of Analysis Charts and UV Index



Summary of Weather

1953

March. Most of March was very dry and sunny; some places in the north east of England had no rain at all between 20th February and the 26th March. This was one of the driest spells since 1893. The start of the month was fairly foggy for the first week or so in parts of England and Wales. The pressure reached highs of 1045bars in central England on the 10th of March.

April. On the east coast of England in April 1953 there was some serious flooding which caused the death of 307 people in England and almost 100000 hectares of land was flooded. The storm was caused mostly by air blowing toward the sea, however, low air pressure was then added to this and a storm became.

May. The first half of the month was very nice, warm, sunny weather dominated. After a colder spell, the south west winds in mid month changed this though when the weather became very hot!!! May of 1953 saw the last time that 30C was exceeded during any may before 2005 although there was some thunderstorms.

1974

March. March was mostly dry and cloudy and there was even snow in the North on the 1st March and snow in the South on the 9th-12th. There was sunny spell at the end of the month with temperatures as high as 20C. The average temperature for the whole month was 5.8C.

April. Overall, April was the driest April of the century, for Scotland, as a huge anticyclone settled over the country. It was very warm early in the month with temperatures as high as 22C in the North and West.

May. It was cold at the beginning of the month in Stratford with temperatures as low as -5C. At the end of the month there was hardly any wind around the coastal areas.

Summary of Broadcasts

1875

This day was filled with wind and rain. There had been torrential downpours during the week before and so had made the pitch very soggy and terrible for a cricket match. The forecast was filmed, even though it was only drizzling at the time, with an umbrella to make people think that it was raining a lot more than it actually was.

1953

The day of the 1953 broadcast was supposed to have been full of cool winds from the week before but the day that was holding the match was a glorious day filled with sunshine. The temperatures reached about 27C on this day and so was just about perfect weather for a cricket match.

1974

The 1974 broadcast were mostly saying that that day at Fartown was beautifully calm and there was no wind, there were top temperatures of about 15C. The costume that was worn for 1974 was made up mostly of a very bright skirt, a black top and some bright make-up and hair-wear! This was all to give the illusion that the broadcast was actually being filmed in 1974!

Summary of the Weather for the weekend of the cricket on BBC

The weekend of the 19th may 2006 was the weekend when we visited London for the cricket project. The weather seemed to be fairly wet and drizzly in the morning in west Yorkshire but as the day wore on, the further south we got, the sunnier and brighter it became! On the weather that we actually forecasted, Friday night to Saturday morning showed torrential rain over Southern and Western parts of Yorkshire and in London, all that shows was some thick cloud. Most of Saturday was taken up by rain with the odd bit of sunshine in some places.

Our Day in London!

The weather reports of Fartown cricket ground, past and present, needed to come to a conclusion.

To help us get to a conclusion the group of girls who were analysing the weather had a once in a lifetime opportunity to present the weather forecast in the BBC Studio LONDON!

The day started off in Yorkshire, wet and windy as usual but as the day wore on and we got closer and closer to London the weather seemed to get as good as our moods!

Miss Badham, as we all know, as a geography teacher was the one to accompany us on our once in a lifetime journey to London and the BBC studios!

We arrived in London at the Kings Cross-station at about 12 30 on the 19th may 2006. As the station buzzed with people, Miss Badham, Kate McBride, Jasmine Baker and Laura Mannion made their way through the busy crowds of people and finally, after catching a tube or two, made their way to Oxford Street in the heart of London.

As there were a few hours to spare before they were due to arrive at the BBC they decided to visit 'Topshop', a Topshop that seemed to be the biggest in the world!!! With four floors, all the girls left the store with something; whether it was a keyring or even a gold, diamond studded, dog collar! After all that excitement, they decided to get some food at 'Prêt-a-Manger' and so, after gorging their faces with 'healthy' food they were on their way to the BBC studios.

They reached the BBC Studios' headquarters at 3pm. Richard, an old friend of Miss Badham's, who was the man who brought the whole trip together, showed them upstairs to the weather studios. Nana, DP of the Weather, gave them a quick tour and they met Kirsty McCabe who had just finished doing a weather report on live television herself! Nana gave them a tour and showed them how all things worked and they met the team who put the weather broadcast together. John Hammond, The BBC Broadcast Meteorologist, even showed them how he put the background together and he even put snow over Huddersfield for them! Jasmine helped him with his job as he found out who was in the studio.

Next was the toughest bit of the day. After a short break they were covered in make-up and in the smartest suit jackets they could find and were sent to the weather-broadcast studio and told to present the weather! It was extremely hard as the girls had to make it up by what you saw on the screen - there was no autocue! Luckily, all of them managed to make 3 broadcasts each, thank goodness! It was a very nerve-wracking time for all three of the All Saints' girls but I think they just managed it and will always remember it!!!



What was difficult?

The most difficult part definitely the actual

of the project was filming of the weather.

There was a lot of pressure on us and it was very nerve-wracking to be put on the spot so suddenly! Finding some of the past weather results was also very hard for the whole of the group, this was because some of the records were not down in full and, in some cases, there was absolutely no results for a particular time in history!

What could we do better?

If we could do the project again I think that we could get more accurate results of the past weather so that the broadcasts were better explained and easier to understand. I also think that we could have been better prepared for the actual broadcast in the BBC because it was very sudden and there was a lot of 'umm's and errr's 'during the procedure!!!

We also wanted to do more comparisons of different matches with different costumes but there was not a sufficient amount of information on the Internet for us to work with.

Conclusion

Weather plays a big part in a cricket game. Weather doesn't just affect the players; it affects the cricket ground as well. The ground must be dry because if the ground is too wet, the ball will not bounce and it would be harder for the players to catch it or even hit it.

A cricket game can last up to 8hrs or more so the weather has to be good for them to play. If it starts raining at the beginning of the game then the game has to be called off because the ground will get too wet during the game.

In June 1875, the weather that week was appalling!!! The game had to be called off because of the rain and the state the ground was in.

In 1953, the weather was extremely different around May. The week leading up to the game was cold, but on the day of the game it was beautiful weather unlike 1875.

In May 1974, the weather was very nice and the warmest out of the 3, it was 'perfect cricket weather'.

In May 2006, the weather was nice and warm which would have been ok for the cricket match but you would still need your jackets!

Overall I think that May 1974 was the best cricket match weather that we evaluated.