



## **SIGNIFICANT WEATHER – August 2006**

### **SUMMARY**

Strong winds were reported in New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia. Two tornadoes were reported this month one in New South Wales and the other in Western Australia which caused extensive damage and injured two people.

Tasmania recorded a new state record for highest maximum temperature at the end of the month with Campania reaching 25.0°C and Scamander 24.9°C.

### **THUNDERSTORMS/TORNADOES**

#### **New South Wales**

On the 4th at La Perouse a waterspout and a tornado caused damage to buildings and brought down power lines in southeast Sydney.

Thunderstorms affected the Sydney area during the afternoon of the 15th producing large amounts of small hail particularly over the inner west. Hail was seen covering the ground to a depth of 4-5cm.

On the 30th at Maclean (Northern Rivers) heavy rain caused minor flooding. Maclean recorded 159mm of rain in 24 hours, the wettest August day in 115 years of record.

#### **Western Australia**

On the 7th a tornado struck Australind just north of Bunbury damaging 40 houses, nine of which had major roof damage. A woman was injured when the ceiling of her home collapsed and a man received minor injuries from flying

debris. Debris from one house was found more than a kilometre away. At least two cars were moved by the wind, either tipped on their side or damaged when pushed onto structures. Tree damage was extensive and severe. The damage was consistent with a tornado reaching speeds of around 250 km/h. Significant damage was confined to the tornado path around 200 metres wide and 2 kilometres long with only minor damage reported in other areas. About 600 homes lost power during the event.

### **WIND**

#### **New South Wales**

Wind gusts greater than 90 km/h were recorded on:

7th Cape Byron 91 km/h  
9th Mount Boyce 94 km/h  
Thredbo 111 km/h  
Green Cape 102 km/h  
16th Thredbo 128 km/h  
17th Thredbo 120 km/h  
27th Thredbo 94 km/h

#### **Victoria**

On the 9th strong north to northwesterly winds ahead of a strong cold front produced wind gusts to 113km/h at Lookout Hill, 94km/h at Gabo Island, 93km/h at Mt Buller, 126km/h at Wilsons Promontory, and 96km/h at Mt Hotham.

On the 16th strong north to northwesterly winds ahead of a strong cold front produced wind gusts to 98km/h at Dunns Hill, 118km/h at the Grampians and at Mt Hotham, 109km/h at Colac, 94km/h at Fawkner Beacon,

109km/h at Mt Buller, and 107km/h at Lookout Hill.

On the 17th continuing strong north to northwesterly winds produced wind gusts to 104km/h at Mt Buller, 115km/h at Mt Moornapa, 105km/h at Gelantipy and Mt Hotham.

### Tasmania

Wind gusts greater than 100 km/h were recorded on:

- 9th Mount Wellington 115 km/h  
Cape Grim 113 km/h  
Hogan Island 109 km/h  
Tasman Island 109 km/h  
Scotts Peak Dam 109 km/h  
Mount Read 106 km/h
- 10th Mount Wellington 107 km/h
- 16th Mount Wellington 120 km/h  
Maatsuyker Island 109 km/h  
Mount Read 107 km/h  
Tasman Island 100 km/h
- 17th Maatsuyker Island 124 km/h  
Scotts Peak Dam 122 km/h  
Mount Wellington 120 km/h  
Cape Grim 106 km/h  
Tasman Island 106 km/h  
Mount Read 102 km/h  
Hartz Mountain 100 km/h
- 18th Mount Wellington 150 km/h  
Maatsuyker Island 135 km/h  
Scotts Peak Dam 119 km/h  
Hartz Mountain 107 km/h  
Cape Bruny 100 km/h  
Mount Read 100 km/h
- 19th Mount Wellington 124 km/h  
Maatsuyker Island 119 km/h
- 21st Mount Read 100 km/h
- 23rd Maatsuyker Island 100 km/h  
Mount Wellington 100 km/h
- 27th Mount Wellington 109 km/h  
Maatsuyker Island 107 km/h
- 28th Hartz Mountain 104 km/h  
Mount Wellington 102 km/h
- 29th Mount Wellington 106 km/h
- 31st Mount Wellington 120 km/h  
Droughty Hill 104 km/h  
Maatsuyker Island 100 km/h

### South Australia

A deep low well south of the Bight resulted in strong to gale force and gusty north to northwest winds over much of the Agricultural

areas of the state on the 16th. Gale force winds, around 65 km/h with gusts up to 95 km/h were recorded at several locations including Minlaton, Port Augusta, Snowtown and Hindmarsh Island. Only minor damage resulted.

### Western Australia

On the 15th a strong cold front moved across the Lower Southwest. Despite strong winds occurring over a large area, no significant damage was reported. Some maximum wind gusts were as follows: Busselton Jetty 91 km/h, Rottneest Island 94 km/h and Cape Leeuwin 93 km/h.

During the passage of a moderate cold front, Cape Leeuwin recorded a wind gust of 130 km/h on the 26th. No damage was reported.

## BUSHFIRES

### Queensland

There were a number of bushfires around the south east corner and near Rockhampton. Some road closures occurred on the 24th west of Brisbane due to significant amounts of smoke.

## TEMPERATURE

### Tasmania

A state maximum temperature record was broken on the 31st with Campania reaching 25.0°C and Scamander 24.9°C. The previous August high was in Hobart on the 26th of August in 1977 with 24.5°C. Campania and Scamander have less than 30 years of record and are not included in the table.

#### *Highest Mean Maximum Temperature for August*

<i>Station</i>	<i>Actual °C</i>	<i>Previous Highest °C</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Years of Record</i>
<b>Tasmania</b>				
<i>Eddystone Point</i>	15.0	14.9	2002	49
<b>Western Australia</b>				
<i>Bidyadanga</i>	33.1	32.7	1998	45
<i>Port Hedland A/P</i>	31.5	31.1	1995	58
<i>Learmonth A/P</i>	28.5	27.6	1995	31
<i>Onslow A/P</i>	29.8	29.1	2001	41
<i>Wittenoom</i>	29.8	29.6	1977	53

Gascoyne Junction	28.9	27.7	1994	41
Geraldton A/P	22.3	22.2	1948	62
Wongan Hills	20.7	19.6	1994	38
Eneabba	22.8	22.2	1994	31
Perth A/P	20.6	20.2	1959	62
Pearce RAAF	20.1	20.0	1994	45
Karnet	18.0	17.7	1994	34
Albany	19.2	18.3	1914	88
Cape Naturaliste	19.0	17.9	1998	102
Manjimup	17.3	16.8	1959	65
Albany A/P	18.7	17.7	1983	41
Esperance	21.6	20.5	1983	37
Benuecbbin	21.1	20.2	1994	54
Cunderdin	20.3	19.4	1983	56
Merredin	21.1	18.9	1982	40
Beverley	19.9	19.1	1978	36
Brookton	18.6	18.5	1978	38
Corrigin	19.0	18.2	1948	58
Hyden	21.1	18.8	1982	33
Lake Grace Comp.	19.0	18.1	1959	50
Narembeen	21.0	19.3	1983	35
Narrogin	17.9	16.8	1998	38
Ongerup	18.3	17.0	1982	38
Pingelly	18.6	17.1	1998	35
Ravensthorpe	19.9	19.2	1983	43
Wagin	18.2	17.2	1982	32
Balladonia	25.4	23.1	1982	77
Eyre	24.5	21.8	2002	46
Kalbarlie-Boulder	23.9	21.8	1982	65
Leonora	25.9	24.1	1959	55
Salmon Gums	22.0	20.1	1941	57
Southern Cross	22.3	21.8	1914	108
Yeelirrie	26.2	24.0	1995	32
Warburton AF	26.4	25.8	1944	31
Wiluna	27.0	25.3	1982	102
<b>Northern Territory</b>				
Kulgera	24.4	24.1	1982	24

#### Lowest Mean Maximum Temperature for August

Station	Actual °C	Previous Lowest °C	Year	Years of Record
<b>Queensland</b>				
Croydon Township	29.1	29.3	1939	81
<b>Northern Territory</b>				
Katherine Aviation Museum	30.9	31.0	1994	21

#### Highest Mean Minimum Temperature for August

Station	Actual °C	Previous Highest °C	Year	Years of Record
<b>Queensland</b>				
Double Island Point Light House	16.2	16.1	1998	65
<b>Western Australia</b>				
Badgingarra	8.9	8.8	1983	35
Albany	10.0	9.9	1884	88
Cape Leeuwin	13.1	12.8	1959	109
Cape Naturaliste	12.0	11.8	1936	102

#### Lowest Mean Minimum Temperature for August

Station	Actual °C	Previous Lowest °C	Year	Years of Record
<b>New South Wales</b>				
Wagga Wagga	1.0	1.1	1994	64

#### Highest Daily Maximum Temperature for August

Station	Actual °C	Date	Previous Highest °C	Year	Years of Record
<b>Queensland</b>					
Gympie	31.8	25	31.4	1991	41
<b>New South Wales</b>					
Thredbo Village	16.6	31	15.5	2005	36
<b>Tasmania</b>					
Bushy Park (Bushy Park Estates)	23.7	31	23.3	2005	71
Hobart Airport	23.7	31	23.6	1977	48
<b>Western Australia</b>					
Albany	27.3	29	27.2	1949	61
Albany A/P	26.2	29	25.2	1994	41
Balladonia	33.6	30	32.6	1994	40
Bencubbin	31.0	29	29.8	1995	47
Brookton	26.7	29	26.6	1998	38
Carnamah	31.4	29	29	1995	45
Corrigin	29.0	29	26.8	1994	49
Cunderdin	30.3	29	28.0	1994	56
Dalwallinu Comp	30.6	29	28.3	1995	51
Eneabba	30.5	29	29.9	1995	31
Esperance	32.1	30	30.0	1994	37
Hyden	31.2	29	28.2	1994	34
Kalbarri	31.5	28	30.4	1981	31
Kalbarlie-Boulder	32.0	30	30.0	1995	65
Kellerberrin	31.0	29	28.3	1994	47
Lake Grace Comp.	28.7	29	26.3	1994	42
Leonora	33.0	30	31.8	1995	49
Merredin	30.8	29	28.2	1994	40
Narembeen	30.7	29	28.1	1994	35
Narrogin	26.3	29	25.2	1994	38
Norseman	32.5	30	30.4	1994	49
Northam	28.3	29	28.0	1994	38
Ongerup	27.1	29	26.0	1994	38
Pingelly	26.1	29	25.6	1998	35
Ravensthorpe	29.5	29	28.3	1972	43
Salmon Gums RS	32.0	30	28.9	1972	35
Southern Cross	30.7	30	30.6	1995	49
Wagin	26.2	29	26.0	1994	32
Wongan Hills	30.2	29	28.0	1998	38
Wongan Hills RS	29.6	29	28.0	1976	37

#### Highest Daily Minimum Temperature for August

Station	Actual °C	Date	Previous Lowest °C	Year	Years of Record
<b>Western Australia</b>					
Geraldton A/P	17.6	31	17.4	1994	62
Wongan Hills	15.7	31	14.6	1999	38
Wongan Hills RS	15.0	31	14.3	1976	38
Eneabba	16.4	31	15.9	1994	31
Perth A/P	16.7	07	16.4	1964	62

<i>Badgingarra RS</i>	16.0	07	15.0	1999	35
<i>Albany A/P</i>	15.2	07	13.9	1998	41
<i>Esperance</i>	17.5	31	16.8	1983	37
<i>Bencubbin</i>	15.3	31	14.5	1994	45
<i>Kellerberrin</i>	16.5	07	14.3	1964	47
<i>Merredin</i>	16.6	07	14.3	1977	40
<i>Beverley</i>	15.2	31	13.5	1999	36
<i>Corrigin</i>	15.8	07	13.5	1977	49
<i>Hyden</i>	16.5	31	14.0	1983	32
<i>Lake Grace Comp.</i>	15.5	07	13.1	1983	42
<i>Narembeen</i>	16.8	07	14.1	1983	35
<i>Narrogin</i>	14.3	31	12.9	1982	38
<i>Ongerup</i>	15.4	07	13.2	2002	38
<i>Pingelly</i>	15.2	07	13.4	1998	35
<i>Ravensthorpe</i>	17.0	07	14.7	1998	43
<i>Wagin</i>	14.7	07	13.6	1999	32

#### Lowest Daily Minimum Temperature for August

Station	Actual °C	Date	Previous Lowest °C	Year	Years of Record
<b>New South Wales</b>					
<i>Cooma Visitors Centre</i>	-10.5	08	-10.2	1994	33
<b>Tasmania</b>					
<i>Bushy Park (Bushy Park Estates)</i>	-5.5	07	-5.0	1987	71
<b>South Australia</b>					
<i>Kadina</i>	-1.3	10	-0.6	1999	50

## RAINFALL

#### Highest Monthly Rainfall on Record for August

Station	Actual mm	Previous Highest mm	Year	Years of Record
<b>New South Wales</b>				
<i>Cangai</i>	212.0	142.5	1906	101
<i>Copmanhurst</i>	179.4	171.0	1969	49
<i>Iluka</i>	225.5	193.6	1987	36
<i>Meerschaum Vale</i>	206.2	172.0	1987	38
<b>Western Australia</b>				
<i>Ferguson</i>	222.4	210.6	1972	34
<i>The Wold</i>	218.8	209.5	1983	32

#### Lowest Monthly Rainfall on Record for August

Station	Actual mm	Previous Lowest mm	Year	Years of Record
<b>New South Wales</b>				
<i>Canberra</i>	12.5	13.4	1982	38
<i>Parliament House</i>				
<i>Blowering Dam</i>	10.4	20.4	1982	50
<i>Young (Kooringa)</i>	7.8	10.9	1949	73
<i>Murringo (Yallambee)</i>	8.4	12.0	1982	38
<i>Marrar (Brigadoon)</i>	7.8	8.0	1982	38
<i>Griffith Airport</i>	2.2	3.0	1982	48
<i>Weethalle (Mountain View)</i>	6.0	6.2	1959	76

#### Tasmania

<i>Swansea (Kelvedon)</i>	2.0	4.5	1914	126
<i>Hobart (Ellerslie Rd)</i>	5.8	7.6	1892	125
<i>Fingal (Legge St)</i>	7.4	12.5	1940	124
<i>Hobart (Waterworks Res)</i>	15.0	17.9	1949	107
<i>Pioneer (Main Rd)</i>	17.0	22.3	1914	99
<i>St Patricks River (Targa Farm)</i>	31.2	37.4	1914	99
<i>Moorina (Frome Dam)</i>	21.6	24.4	1982	98
<i>Wilmot (Back Rd)</i>	25.5	32.7	1941	98
<i>Buckland (Brockley)</i>	5.2	5.4	1982	97
<i>Eddystone Point</i>	4.4	9.4	1914	97
<i>Gladstone (Old PO)</i>	15.2	15.2	1914	85
<i>Bagdad PO</i>	5.4	6.7	1982	82
<i>Deddington (Marathon)</i>	23.0	24.5	1938	78
<i>Hillwood (Strawberry Farm)</i>	19.6	26.4	1940	75
<i>Glenorchy (Res)</i>	16.4	16.5	1957	56
<i>Grove (Comparison)</i>	20.4	23.8	1982	55
<i>Orford (Aubin Crt)</i>	5.6	5.6	1982	54
<i>Lorinna</i>	54.6	61.7	1944	51
<i>Bridgewater (Treatment Plant)</i>	4.8	9.2	1998	50
<i>Sth Mt Cameron (Gladstone)</i>	13.8	20.8	1982	47
<i>Waterhouse (Barooga)</i>	14.0	17.2	1994	46
<i>Coles Bay (Freycinet)</i>	6.2	9.4	1982	44
<i>German Town</i>	3.6	8.7	1940	44
<i>Pyengana (Forest Lodge Road)</i>	28.8	40.4	1982	44
<i>Gray (Craigie-Lea)</i>	3.0	5.0	1996	42
<i>Taroona (Taroona Crescent)</i>	9.0	9.6	1982	42
<i>Tomahawk (Carisbrooke)</i>	12.0	16.0	1982	41
<i>Margate (Sunnyside)</i>	17.8	23.4	1982	39
<i>RushyLagoon (Cape Portland Rd)</i>	6.1	26.8	1982	36
<i>Scottsdale West (Minstone Road)</i>	33.0	40.2	1982	36
<i>Wynyard Airport</i>	35.7	38.6	1957	35
<i>Burns Creek (Janefield)</i>	16.2	27.9	1982	31
<b>Western Australia</b>				
<i>Esperance</i>	27.0	38.8	1983	37
<i>Eyre</i>	2.4	4.3	1912	76
<i>Little Chorkerup</i>	49.9	55.6	1993	30
<i>Windrush</i>	42.6	45.7	1983	45

### **Highest Daily Rainfall on Record for August**

<i>Station</i>	<i>Actual Date</i>	<i>Previous</i>	<i>Years of</i>	
	<i>mm</i>	<i>Highest</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Record</i>
		<i>mm</i>		
<b><i>New South Wales</i></b>				
<i>Cangai</i>	144.2 30	61.2	1906	101
<i>Harwood Island</i>	122.8 30	114.3	1957	91
<i>Maclean</i>	159.4 30	157.0	1968	117
<i>Grafton Research Stn</i>	96.6 30	40.6	1925	89
<i>Grafton Olympic</i>				
<i>Pool</i>	84.2 30	81.8	1968	40
<i>Iluka</i>	122.0 30	66.6	1987	36
<i>Meesrchaum Vale</i>	117.0 30	59.0	1999	38
<i>Halfway Creek</i>	66.5 30	44.2	1987	38
<i>Orama</i>	96.0 30	54.0	1987	35
<i>Girralong</i>	89.0 30	67.4	1998	33

*Note: Some statistical records mentioned in this report are based on data that have yet to be fully validated*