

## **A Natural Event.**

During the summer of 2018 over 80 days of marvellous warm sunshine have bathed large parts of England since May, including our own parish of Ansty. Fifteen days recorded a temperature of 30 C (86 F) or above. Rainfall was woefully low in June and well below average in July. The first seven days of August were just as sunny, dry and hot. The 8<sup>th</sup> August saw a noticeable drop in temperatures and at last some more consistent rain began to fall. The pictures below were taken around and about our delightful parish countryside during early August. By now the countryside was parched; trees and vegetation were suffering visibly: vast areas of the countryside were turning a beigey/straw colour. Farmers were very worried about the effects that the prolonged heat and drought were having on crops, pasture and the welfare of their livestock, whilst most of the rest of us enjoyed the sun but perhaps not the stifling heat...or having to water the garden!

This summer will probably rank in the top 5 of record breaking summers since meteorological records began.

Nearing the end of  
a long hot summer







Park Gate  
Track to Old Wardour  
Castle





New Barn





Early Harvest below  
New Barn





Shave Lane





Stunted barley crop  
lower Shave Lane





Footpath to Ansty  
across Ansty Down





A hint of autumn?





A parched landscape,  
Horwood





Cracked earth; straw  
coloured grass; sheep  
being fed hay!







A misty 12 Acre Copse heralding a very hot day and a dry meadow with very little grass





12 Acre Copse on a  
warm misty morning