

Tuesday wettest day of week in Manchester, suggests new analysis

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(PhysOrg.com) -- Tuesday is the wettest day of the week, suggests new analysis of rainfall data for Manchester.

The work, which was carried out for Manchester Science Festival 2009, also suggests that it's now raining more at weekends than in the past.

Preliminary research into 110 years worth of data for Manchester - a city known for its soggy climate - by a University of Manchester researcher also suggests:

^{*} Rainfall in Manchester has increased by more than 10 per cent over the last 110 years

^{*} Saturdays are getting wetter in Manchester



* The largest increase in rainfall in Manchester has occurred over the last 30 years

Analysis has revealed that over the last 110 years, Tuesdays were the wettest days, followed closely by Sundays.

Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays were the driest days.

However, before the increase in rainfall over the last 30 years, Sundays were the wettest days.

Atmospheric scientist Dr Andy Russell of The University of Manchester sifted through years' worth of data collected in the Whalley Range area of South Manchester.

Dr Russell said: "These preliminary results are extremely interesting, although we need to do further work to assess how widespread this pattern is and the reasons behind it.

"To do this, more weather stations in the North West will be analysed and data from an interactive experiment we are running during Manchester Science Festival will be used."

Dr Russell is encouraging children and adults in the Greater Manchester area to make their own rain gauges and help him investigate and verify his findings.

"As a scientist I want to test the old theory that it rains more at the weekend, not only because rainy weekends ruin your social life, but to see whether cars, factories and industry, which are much more active during the week, affect our <u>weather patterns</u>.

He added: "Good data collected during the Manchester Science Festival



will shape the direction of the research and could unlock the answers."

Instructions on how to make rain gauges and take part in the data gathering during Manchester Science Festival 2009 can be found at manchesterrain.com.

A more detailed summary of the analysis and data can be seen at www.manchesterrain.com/summary.html

Provided by University of Manchester (<u>news</u>: <u>web</u>)

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