

CLIMATE CHANGE FACTS

Changes in our climate are real and are under way.

The average global temperature over land in 2002 was around 1 °C warmer than at the end of the 19th century.

Warming in the 20th century was greater than at any time during the past 400 to 600 years.

All ten of the hottest years on record have occurred since 1990. The warmest year since global records began in 1860 was 1998; the second warmest was 2005, the third warmest 2002, the fourth warmest 2003 and the fifth warmest 2004.

The record for the hottest day ever in Britain was broken on Sunday 10 August 2003 as temperatures soared to 38.5 °C in Brogdale, near Faversham in Kent.

Mountain glaciers the world over are receding.

The Arctic ice pack has lost about 40 per cent of its thickness over the past four decades.

Global sea level has risen about three times faster over the past 100 years compared with the previous 3000 years.

A growing number of studies show plants and animals changing their range and behaviour in response to shifts in climate.