

# November 2013

The averaging period used for the following assessment was 1981-2010.

## UK overview

The month opened with some generally unsettled and wet weather. The westerly weather type meant there were relatively few dry days, but also few frosts. From mid-month there was a shift to more settled, but colder weather with plenty of sunshine as high pressure systems dominated. The country experienced the first widespread frosts and some early-season snowfalls in the north.

The UK mean temperature was 5.5 °C, which is 0.7 °C below the 1981-2010 average. The UK received 75% of long-term average rainfall making this the driest November since 2004; parts of eastern Scotland, Northern Ireland, northern England and Anglesey receiving less than half the average rainfall. Most of the country enjoyed a relatively sunny month, particularly parts of northern England and eastern Scotland. For Scotland overall, this was one of the sunniest Novembers in a series from 1929.

A maximum temperature of 16.5 °C was recorded at Exeter Airport (Devon) on the 6th and Westonzoyland (Somerset) on the 11th. A minimum temperature of -8.1 °C was recorded at Braemar (Aberdeenshire) on the 25th. In the 24 hours ending at 0900 GMT on the 18th, 66.8 mm of rain fell at Black Sail, Ennerdale (Cumbria). A wind gust of 89 mph was recorded at Mumbles Head (West Glamorgan) on the 2nd. A snow depth of 10 cm was recorded at Inverailort (Highland) on the 19th.

## Weather impacts

On 2nd November there were strong winds across parts of south and west Wales with gusts of 70 to 80 mph, and a peak recorded gust at Mumbles Head (West Glamorgan) of 89 mph. These caused tree damage, and thousands of homes and businesses lost power.

The first widespread frosts occurred in the second half of the month, with some snow across higher ground in Scotland and northern parts of England and Wales.

## England diary of highlights

The month began rather unsettled and wet. High pressure became established from mid-month bringing drier weather, but with some frosty nights. There was rain, particularly in the north, around the 20th before a return to high pressure with settled conditions and some frosty mornings and chilly days.

The mean temperature for England was 6.1 °C, which is 0.7 °C below the 1981-2010 average. Most areas were close to or drier than average, with the exception of Kent which was slightly wetter than average. England overall had 76% of the long-term average rainfall. Sunshine totals were mostly above average, especially in the north-east, and England overall had 124% of average.

### 1st to 3rd:

An area of rain spread from the south on the morning of the 1st, reaching the Midlands by the afternoon, with some heavy showers in the east. After a bright start on the 2nd, rain and strong winds spread from the west during the morning, clearing east by the end of the afternoon, with Bainbridge (Cumbria) recording 32 mm and a gust of 76 mph measured at Needles Old Battery (Isle of Wight). The 3rd started with showers in western

areas, but rain reached the south-west in the late afternoon and spread north-east during the evening with Okehampton (Devon) recording 41 mm.

#### **4th to 14th:**

After a frosty start for northern areas on the 4th, the day was mainly dry and bright. After another frost for some northern areas on the 5th, rain spread from the west into central areas in the afternoon. A band of rain spread slowly from the south on the 6th to reach northern areas by dusk, but it was mild with temperatures reaching 16 °C in parts of Devon, Somerset and Hampshire. The 7th was generally dry and bright. A band of heavy showers spread from the south-west on the 8th and reached central and southern areas by the afternoon. There were showers or rain for southern areas on the 9th with the north brighter. After a frosty start for the north all areas were dry and bright on the 10th but rain reached the far south-west in the early evening. After a damp morning for many areas on the 11th, the afternoon was brighter with scattered showers. An area of patchy rain cleared the south-east on the morning of the 12th to leave a mainly dry and bright afternoon. It was mainly dry and sunny for most of the 13th although heavy showers reached western areas during the evening. It felt cooler on the 14th in a strong north-west wind, and the west had scattered showers.

#### **15th to 21st:**

A ridge of high pressure edged in from the west, giving a drier spell with some sun, particularly in the south and east on the 15th and 16th. It was mainly dry and bright on the 17th but rain edged into the north-west in late afternoon. A band of rain from Yorkshire to Cornwall straddled the country for much of the 18th but either side of that it was bright with light, scattered showers. After a frosty start for many on the 19th, it was generally dry, bright but cool in a north-west wind. The 20th was unsettled with rain in the north, after a cold start in the south with Benson (Bedfordshire) falling to -6.5 °C. The rain lingered in the north-east, and reached southern areas during the afternoon; Chillingham Barns (Northumberland) recorded 55 mm. There were light, scattered showers on the 21st, mainly for eastern areas.

#### **22nd to 30th:**

High pressure settled things down from the 22nd till the 27th with frosty mornings, mainly dry but chilly days, and temperatures falling to -6 °C in parts of Cumbria and North Yorkshire on the 23rd. A band of mainly light and patchy rain spread from the north on the 28th. The 29th was cooler with a north-west wind and scattered showers. The 30th was mainly dry but cool with a northerly wind.

## **Wales diary of highlights**

**The first half of the month saw unsettled conditions and rain, with some very strong winds in the south on the 2nd. Mid-month turned somewhat drier but rather overcast before further bands of rain and showers from the 18th to 21st. The end of the month saw more in the way of sunshine and only isolated showers.**

Temperatures for the month were below average, with the mean temperature for Wales 0.6 °C below the 1981-2010 average. It was a dry month, particularly for Anglesey where there was only 42% of normal rainfall (the driest November on the island since 1983). Overall Wales received 70% of the long-term average rainfall. Sunshine totals were mostly above average, with 112% of average overall.

#### **1st to 14th:**

The 1st was dull with rain becoming patchier later in the day. A band of rain on the morning of the 2nd quickly gave way to sunshine and showers by the afternoon, with 32.8 mm recorded at Capel Curig (Gwynedd). Some very strong winds on the 2nd caused damage to trees and power outages, with a gust of 89 mph at Mumbles Head (West Glamorgan). The 3rd began with sunshine and showers before a band of rain moved in from the south-west later in the afternoon, not quite reaching the north coast. The 4th was a day of sunshine and showers. It was cloudy on the 5th with a band of rain passing through by mid-morning, followed by showers

and a strong westerly breeze. The 6th was dull with light to moderate rain for most of the day, only clearing by late evening. Some sunshine on the 7th, but also afternoon showers, some of which were heavy. Rain on the 8th cleared during the afternoon. The 9th saw broken cloud and some sunshine, but there was rain later in the south-west. The 10th was mainly sunny but rain moved in from the south-west in the evening. Milder on the 11th with early rain ceasing by mid-morning. Patchy rain in the early hours of 12th cleared to a dry and sunny day. Cloud increased through the morning of the 13th with bands of rain from the west by late afternoon. The 14th had showers and some sunshine combined with a fresh to strong north-westerly wind.

#### **15th to 17th:**

It was dry but rather dull on the 15th and 16th. Cloud persisted on the 17th but with glimpses of sun around the coast.

#### **18th to 21st:**

A band of rain crossed from west to east during the morning and early afternoon on the 18th, with showers following. Sunshine and showers on the 19th. The 20th had rain in the morning, becoming showery by the afternoon with a little sunshine. Isolated showers in the morning on the 21st, becoming drier with some sunshine.

#### **22nd to 30th:**

The 22nd and 23rd were dry with sunshine, but colder overnight. Dry again on the 24th, but cloudier. The 25th was mainly dry, with some afternoon sunshine except for the far north-west. The 26th was generally dry but overcast, and it remained dull but mainly dry on the 27th and 28th. The 29th was also cloudy with a few isolated showers. The month ended with a sunny and dry day on the 30th.

## **Scotland diary of highlights**

**The month opened with some blustery autumnal winds and showers. The rest of the month was a mix of unsettled weather interspersed with some drier periods, with some of the rain turning to snow at times on higher ground from mid-month. However, eastern parts were often dry and sunny.**

The overall mean temperature was 0.8 °C below the 1981-2010 average. Rainfall was below average in the south and east, but the far north and Northern Isles were wetter than average. Scotland overall had 78% of the long-term average rainfall. Sunshine totals were above average in most locations, especially in the east. Scotland overall had 130% of the long-term average, making this one of the sunniest Novembers in Scotland in a series since 1929.

#### **1st to 9th:**

It was windy on the 1st, with blustery showers in the north-west. Dry at first on the 2nd, but rain spread across the country through the day. It was dry and bright in the east on the 3rd, with blustery showers in the west. Mainly dry and bright in the south on the 4th with showers further north. After a cold but dry start on the 5th, rain pushed across the country from the west. It was mainly dry in the east on the 6th but showery in the west. Wet and windy on the 7th, with bands of rain moving across the country. It was breezy on the 8th with blustery showers mainly in the west; further blustery showers on the 9th, but drier in the east.

#### **10th to 11th:**

It was generally dry on the 10th as a ridge of high pressure built across the country. Overnight rain quickly cleared on the morning of the 11th and the rest of the day was mainly dry.

#### **12th to 16th:**

Blustery showers on the 12th, most frequent in the west. Scattered showers on the 13th with rain, heavy at times, spreading across the country in the afternoon; 42.6 mm was recorded at Cluanie Inn (Ross-shire). Blustery showers for most on the 14th, but these became lighter in the afternoon. It was mostly dry and cloudy on the 15th with only a few scattered showers. Windy on the 16th with blustery showers or longer spells of rain in the north and west, and a gust of 58 mph recorded at Loch Glascarnoch (Ross & Cromarty).

#### **17th to 21st:**

Showers or longer spells of rain took hold in the west and south on the 17th and it was also much colder. Cold again on the 18th with frequent showers, heavy at times, in the north and west, but dry and bright in the east. A cold frosty start on the 19th with some wintry showers in the north at first, but heavy rain, turning to snow at times on higher ground, spread across the country from dusk and into the night with 38.0 mm recorded at Cluanie Inn. Rain and strong to gale-force winds for most areas on the 20th, with a gust of 63 mph measured at Machrihanish (Argyll). Rain in the south and scattered showers in the north on the 21st.

#### **22nd to 25th:**

Cold but dry in the south on the 22nd as high pressure built, but some scattered showers in the north. Mainly dry again on the 23rd with a few scattered showers further north. Dry again on the 24th but with some fog patches in the central belt until the afternoon. Frosty on the 25th with an overnight min of -8.1 °C recorded at Braemar (Aberdeenshire), leading into a dry and cold day.

#### **26th to 30th:**

A milder day on the 26th, with rain in the north slowly pushing south. Mainly dry on the 27th with some patchy rain or drizzle at times. Mainly dry again on the 28th but with some patchy rain in the north. It was breezy on the 29th with frequent showers for most areas. The 30th was drier but with a brisk west wind.

## **Northern Ireland diary of highlights**

**A mix of autumnal weather, with unsettled conditions dominating the first half of the month, before turning colder with some precipitation falling as snow over high ground later in the month. The final week saw high pressure well established with mild and overcast conditions.**

Temperatures for the month were below average, with the mean temperature 0.7 °C below the 1981-2010 average. It was a dry month, especially in the south-east of the province. Overall Northern Ireland received 59% of the long-term average rainfall. Sunshine amounts for the province were slightly above normal with 126% of the long-term average.

#### **1st to 11th:**

The 1st was bright with some scattered showers. Rain then showers, heavy at times, spread from the west on the 2nd and winds turned north-westerly and strengthened. Showers overnight into the 3rd, followed by a dry, sunny day with light winds. Frost overnight, then showers in the north at first on the 4th gave way to another fine, mainly dry day. Some rain in the south at first on the 5th was followed by scattered, heavy showers. Mainly dry at first away from the north on the 6th but rain covered all areas by the afternoon. The 7th saw strong south-westerly winds with scattered blustery showers and periods of rain. The 8th started largely dry and bright, but with some heavy showers later. Showers died out during the 9th and skies cleared, bringing a frost to inland areas. Dry and sunny on the 10th, but clouding over from the west; strengthening south-westerly winds brought rain into the west before midnight which quickly extended east. The rain cleared away by morning on the 11th to leave a largely dry day.

#### **12th to 17th:**

Well-scattered showers on the 12th died out as pressure began to build. Strong south-westerly winds on the 13th brought rain, some heavy for a time, during the afternoon. Winds continued strong but from a north-westerly direction on the 14th, with a few scattered showers. The 15th and 16th were mainly dry and overcast with light winds but there was some rain in the north later on the 16th. The 17th continued dull, and light rain affected many central areas for much of the day.

#### **18th to 20th:**

It became much colder with night frosts, and after morning rain on the 18th cleared, there were scattered showers, some heavy. Heavy showers continued on the 19th, with snow on higher ground. Rain early on the 20th was followed by further showers.

#### **21st to 30th:**

The 21st and 22nd were largely dry and sunny away from the north. There was more cloud but it remained mainly dry on the 23rd, and again on the 24th after a foggy start in places. High pressure became firmly established, bringing milder but overcast conditions from the 25th to the 28th with just a few showers, mainly in the north later on the 28th. There was rain for most early on the 29th, clearing to leave a run of brisk north-westerly winds. Apart from some light showery rain in the north on the 30th, it was mainly dry with some sunshine in the west.

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