

# MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT

# NOVEMBER 1990

COMPILED FROM RETURNS OF OFFICIAL AND VOLUNTARY OBSERVERS

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## Generally dry; sunny in southern and western areas, rather dull in east

Low pressure was moving away north-eastwards over Scandinavia on the 1st while a ridge of high pressure to the west of the British Isles extended its influence gradually eastwards. An anticyclone to the north-west of Scotland on the 3rd drifted slowly eastwards, intensifying until the 6th, and then declining as a complex Atlantic low-pressure area approached the far south-west of England. During the 9th and 10th a series of fronts and frontal troughs crossed all areas, finally clearing eastern parts early on the 11th, leaving most of Great Britain under the influence of a weak transient ridge of high pressure. By midday on the 11th, however, a further series of fronts was approaching the south-west and over the next three days they moved slowly north-eastwards. Further fronts moved eastwards on the 14th, but by late on the 15th a slow-moving front trailed across central areas of England and Wales; the front slipped slowly southwards, finally clearing southern areas early on the 18th. By midday on the 19th another trailing front crossed south-west England and South Wales before clearing southern parts by midday on the 20th. Early on the 21st a shallow depression was centred over northern England. A transient ridge of high pressure gave way to the next frontal system advancing from the west on the 23rd. A deep depression was centred near Bristol on the 24th, with troughs moving round the centre. During the next two days pressure was low in most areas, as the centre drifted slowly southwards across France. Late on the 26th a front edged northwards and became slow moving over Sussex and Kent before returning southwards on the 27th as high pressure over Scotland extended southwards to all parts by the end of the month.

### Weather

November was a generally dry month, sunny in southern and western areas although rather dull in the east. After a quiet beginning to the month the weather was unsettled between the 9th and 27th, with some rain, hail, thunder and even snow in places. Thunder was reported along the south coast on the 1st, in the Glasgow and Leeds areas on the 14th, over East Sussex on the 22nd, East Anglia on the 23rd, eastern Scotland, west Cornwall, and Kent on the 24th and Fife, the Thames Valley, eastern Kent and the Isle of Wight on the 25th, and was accompanied by hail over south-west England, South Wales and the Isle of Wight on the 21st and Cumbria and Lancashire on the 23rd. Hail was reported over North Wales on the 18th, the Isle of Man and Salisbury Plain on the 20th, Devon and Cornwall on the 23rd and northern and eastern Scotland and west Cornwall on the 25th.

### Wind

The month was quiet apart from three days from the 16th to 18th when winds reached gale force in places. Gusts reached 60 kn at Kirkwall, Orkney on the 16th, 62 kn at Greenock Port and 60 kn at Machrihanish, both Strathclyde Region on the 18th. Wind directions were mainly northerly or westerly.

### Temperature

Mean monthly temperatures were generally about average and ranged from 0.7 °C below

normal at Aspatria, Cumbria to 1.0 °C above normal at Gatwick, West Sussex. After a chilly start to the month and a drop in temperature to -5 °C at Aviemore on the 8th, very mild, moist air spread to much of the United Kingdom on the 11th and 12th, with temperatures reaching 18 °C at a number of locations in England and Wales and Northern Ireland. The mild spell ended on the 18th, and temperatures fell below -6 °C at a number of places throughout the United Kingdom. The highest temperature of the month was 18.2 °C at Tivington, Somerset on the 12th, and the lowest was -7.2 °C at Braemar, Grampian Region on the 22nd.

### Rainfall

Apart from a few places in the east, mainly near the coasts, rainfall amounts were generally below normal and ranged from 30% of normal at Carlisle, Cumbria to more than 180% at Lowestoft, Suffolk.

The 23rd was a very wet day with heavy rain in the west, and falls of between 25 mm and 50 mm of rain during the day; the heaviest falls were recorded in Northern Ireland, with 154 mm at Trassey Slievenaman and 125 mm at Bryansford, both Co. Down. Late on the 26th further rain, gave between 20 mm and 25 mm in parts of the south-east. Among other heavy falls were 58 mm at Gogerddan, Dyfed on the 20th and 61 mm at Ballykine Rockvale and 55 mm at Murlough, both in Co. Down and 50 mm at Whitechurch, Dyfed on the 23rd.

### Snow

On the 18th sleet fell on the Cairngorms and Southern Uplands in Scotland and over Shropshire in England, with snow lying on the higher parts of the Pennines. On the 20th, 3 cm of level snow lay on the northern Pennines. Early on the 21st further sleet came to many places as far south as South Wales, the Cotswolds and East Anglia, and up to 4 cm of snow lay on the northern Pennines. On the 23rd mid Wales and the Brecon Beacons had

between 2 cm and 10 cm of lying snow. On the 24th and 25th snow fell on high ground as far south as Bristol and lay on the Brecon Beacons.

### Sunshine

Sunshine amounts were generally above average in western and southern areas, but below average in central and eastern areas, ranging from 160% in west Cornwall to 71% around Blackpool and Manchester.

At Paisley the sunshine total for the month was equal highest with that of 1947 in a record back to 1885, although at nearby Glasgow Airport the total was 5 hours short of the amount recorded in November 1947. Most sunshine in one day was 9.5 hours at Swansea, West Glamorgan on the 3rd and the highest monthly sunshine total was 121 hours at Penzance, Cornwall.

### Fog

Patchy fog developed overnight, mainly in central and eastern areas of England and Wales between the 5th and 11th and over north-eastern Scotland on the 12th. Fog persisted all day around Inverness on the 9th, was thick in places on the 10th, widespread over England and Wales on the 16th and persisted throughout the day in parts of the Midlands and eastern Wales on the 22nd. Much of England and Wales was again foggy on the 23rd, with fog lingering until early afternoon in eastern Wales and many central and western parts of England. A few patches formed mainly in Scotland on the 25th and 28th and in central areas of England and Wales on the 29th. Dense fog persisted all day in places in Northern Ireland on the 28th. Fog occurred in coastal areas, particularly around South Wales and south-west England on the 12th, 15th and 16th. Hill fog was extensive on the 10th and 12th, but confined to South Wales and south-west England on the 16th.

### Miscellaneous Phenomena

None reported.

**Table 1 District values**

District	Air temperature °C					Mean 30 cm soil temp °C	Rain-days	Rainfall	Sunshine
	Highest Max*	Lowest Min*	Max.	Min.	Mean				
	Difference from average					% of average			
0 Scotland N	14.1	-6.0	-0.2	+0.4	+0.1	-0.1	-3	75	98
1 Scotland E	15.6	-7.2	-0.2	+0.7	+0.2	+0.5	-2	69	87
2 England E & NE	16.0	-4.0	+0.2	+1.1	+0.7	+1.0	+1	68	85
3 East Anglia	16.5	-3.0	+0.2	+0.8	+0.5	+1.0	+4	92	86
4 Midland Counties	16.4	-4.0	+0.2	+0.7	+0.4	+1.0	-1	63	88
5 England SE & Central S	16.2	-1.5	+0.2	+0.8	+0.5	+0.8	-1	60	118
6 Scotland W	13.9	-5.9	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	+0.1	-5	51	141
7 England NW & Wales N	16.0	-3.5	0.0	+0.7	+0.1	+0.9	-4	69	101
8 England SW & Wales S	16.4	-3.0	+0.1	+0.5	+0.1	+0.2	-2	73	135
N Ireland	15.9	-5.8	+0.1	+0.2	+0.1	+0.2	-2	82	128
Scotland	15.6	-7.2	-0.2	+0.3	0.0	+0.2	-3	66	109
England & Wales	16.5	-4.0	+0.1	+0.8	+0.4	+0.8	-1	70	102

\* Highest maximum and lowest minimum of District Value Stations