

# Monthly Weather Report

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## OF THE METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

Summary of observations compiled from returns of official stations and voluntary observers

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### September 1967 — *Unsettled; generally cool but mild during last week*

Weather was mainly cyclonic in character, except from the 7th until the 16th, when a ridge of high pressure extended from the Azores across the British Isles to southern Scandinavia.

A succession of fronts and depressions moving eastwards across the country brought generally unsettled and rather cool weather during the first five days of the month. Rain on the 1st, which continued in most districts until the early hours of the following morning, was associated with a vigorous depression skirting the coast of Scotland. Showers followed the rain later in the day, but early on the 3rd another deep depression from the Atlantic brought further rain, heavy at times, with strong to gale force winds. The stormy weather gave place temporarily to showers and sunny periods spreading from the west, but an intense depression moving eastwards across southern Scotland brought a return of the stormy weather on the 5th with periods of heavy rain and severe gales. Gusts exceeding 70 kt were recorded in both western and southern coastal districts. These first five days were particularly wet in the north-west; Tiree, for example, recorded 75 mm of rain during this time.

As the intense depression moved away up the Norwegian Sea, pressure rose considerably over the British Isles on the 6th and 7th, and weather became showery with good sunny periods in all districts. The showers, however, slowly became less frequent, and by the 8th had died out completely as a ridge of high pressure spread from the Azores across the British Isles to southern Scandinavia. The 8th and 9th were dry and sunny in most places after the clearance of overnight fog.

The ridge of high pressure over the British Isles moved southwards late on the 9th ahead of a slow-moving trough of low pressure which brought rain to parts of Scotland. The rain became more widespread and locally heavy on the 11th as the trough deepened and developed later into a separate depression over western districts. This developing depression gave 60 mm of rain at Aberporth in 36 hours. The next day the depression moved away southwards into France and weather became fine and sunny again.

The fine sunny weather behind the depression continued over most of the country on the 13th and 14th, both days having more than 10 hours of sunshine in many western districts. North-easterly winds, however, associated with a depression over France, brought dull weather with outbreaks of thundery rain to south-east England. The 15th and 16th were cloudy due to a slow-moving trough approaching western Ireland, but weather remained mainly dry until the 17th when the trough brought occasional rain to many areas as it moved eastwards across the country. Good clearances in the cloud the previous evening led to a sharp fall in temperature and to widespread fog in the Midlands on the night of the 16th/17th. Another trough, associated with a depression approaching western Scotland, brought rain to all districts on the night of the 18th/19th.

Early on the 20th the low pressure to the west of Scotland was transferred to the northern North Sea, and the north-westerly winds on the western flank of the depression brought cooler, brighter weather to all districts on the 20th and 21st. The 22nd was also a mainly sunny day, but thereafter a deep depression, which became almost stationary to the west of Ireland, maintained rather cloudy weather for the rest of the month. Southerly winds associated with this depression brought progressively rising temperatures to most areas, but most days were wet during this last week. Rain was particularly widespread on the 24th and 25th as wave depressions moved north-east across the country, and also on the 29th as a trough of low pressure moved from the west of Scotland to the North Sea. The last day of the month, however, was brighter with scattered showers.

**Pressure and Wind** — Mean pressure was everywhere below the 1931-60 average, the deficit at 0900 GMT ranging from -2.5 mb at Lerwick to -5.3 mb at Prestwick and Ballykelly. Surface winds were mainly westerly until the 20th except for north-westerlies on the 7th and a period of light, variable winds from the 8th until the 16th. North-westerly winds on the 21st and 22nd were followed by southerlies which continued in most districts until the end of the month. Winds reached

gale force in southern England on the 3rd and 4th and gales extended to most of the country on the 5th. In England and Wales and also in Scotland gales were reported on 6 days. Gusts of 70 and 73 kt were recorded at Portland Bill and Valley respectively on the 5th.

**Temperature** — Mean temperature was mainly below the average until the 23rd except for 4 or 5 milder days around the middle of the month in northern districts. A return to warmer weather during the last week was insufficient to bring the mean temperature up to the normal for the month.

Extremes included: (England and Wales) 24.4°C at Southend on the 28th -0.6°C at Santon Downham on the 8th and at Moor House on the 14th; (Scotland) 21.7°C at Grantown-on-Spey on the 10th -2.5°C at Crawfordjohn on the 8th; (Northern Ireland) 20.2°C at Strabane Convent on the 14th, 1.5°C at Moneydig on the 23rd.

**Rainfall** — In Scotland rainfall was below the 1916-50 average in parts of the north-east and in the Central Lowlands, but above the average elsewhere. In England and Wales rainfall was below the average in East Anglia and Lincolnshire, in parts of adjacent counties and also in coastal areas of Northumberland and Durham; elsewhere it was above the average, and as much as twice the average around Bath and Torquay.

Thunder was heard on 16 days in England and Wales. Thunderstorms were widespread in south-east England on the 18th and in central and western districts of England and Wales, and also in Scotland on the 26th.

**Sunshine** — In Scotland sunshine was below the 1931-60 average except in the counties of Ayr, Lanark and Dumfries. The dullest parts were in the extreme north-east and in the Northern Isles where Lerwick had its dullest September since records began there in 1923. In England and Wales sunshine was below the average in the east but above average in some western districts. Percentages ranged from 124 at Hartland Point to 68 at Raunds.

**Fog** — Fog at 0900 GMT was reported from one place or another on 3 days in Scotland and on 25 days in England and Wales. On the night of the 22nd/23rd patches developed in parts of northern England and southern Scotland and persisted in places for much of the following morning. Fog also developed fairly widely during the early hours of the 17th in the Midlands, in parts of eastern and southern England and in eastern Scotland; this, too, was slow to clear.

**Miscellaneous Phenomena** — The aurora was seen in Scotland on 5 nights.

TABLE I—DISTRICT VALUES, SEPTEMBER, 1967

DISTRICTS	AIR TEMPERATURE °C					EARTH TEMP. °C		RAIN DAYS	RAIN-FALL	SUNSHINE
	*Highest Max.	*Lowest Min.	Max.	Min.	Mean	Mean 30 cm.	Mean 122 cm.			
			Difference from Average						% of Average	
0 SCOTLAND, N.	19.4	2.8	+0.2	+0.5	+0.3	+0.4	-0.1	-3	118	67
1 SCOTLAND, E.	21.1	3.9	-0.2	+0.5	+0.1	+0.4	-0.1	+2	88	89
2 ENGLAND, N.E.	21.7	3.3	-0.5	+0.2	-0.2	+0.3	+0.3	+3	94	85
3 ENGLAND, E.	22.8	3.9	-0.6	+0.4	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	+4	94	83
4 MIDLANDS	22.2	2.8	-0.8	+0.4	-0.2	+0.1	+0.1	+4	106	83
5 ENGLAND, S.E.	22.2	2.2	-0.6	+0.6	0.0	-0.3	-0.3	+5	149	82
6 SCOTLAND, W.	19.3	0.9	+0.1	+0.2	+0.1	+0.5	0.0	0	124	93
7 ENGLAND, N.W. and N. Wales	21.1	2.2	-0.4	+0.1	-0.2	+0.4	+0.2	+4	140	101
8 ENGLAND, S.W. and S. Wales	20.0	1.1	-0.7	+0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	+6	177	96
N. IRELAND	20.0	1.5	-0.1	-0.3	-0.2	-	-	+2	145	105
SCOTLAND	21.1	0.9	0.0	+0.4	+0.2	-	-	0	110	83
ENG. and WALES	22.8	1.1	-0.6	+0.3	-0.2	-	-	+4	129	88

\*Highest Max. and Lowest Min. of the District Value Stations.