

## November 2003

The averaging period used for the following assessment was 1961-1990.

### UK overview

A mild month across all parts of the UK, with most areas also seeing above average sunshine. Over double the average rainfall over the SE of the UK, but some areas again receiving less than average rainfall.

Charlwood and Wisley (both Surrey) recorded over 3 inches of rainfall in just a 48 hour period between 21st and 23rd, which was over their normal average for the whole month.

### England and Wales diary of highlights

**Mostly very changeable and mild. Very wet during the fourth week especially in south-east England. Some overnight frost and fog later.**

**1st to 3rd** Depressions passing to the north brought frequent rain and showers, some thundery. Mostly mild.

**4th to 8th** High pressure built up over the region then transferred to Scandinavia, maintaining its influence. Winds were southerly becoming east or south-easterly later. It was dry and mild or very mild, with good sunny periods after early mist and fog patches cleared. Wisley in Surrey reached 19.2 °C on the 6th.

**9th to 12th** Changeable as Atlantic fronts crossed the region. Temperatures were generally not far from normal. There was rain at times, a light covering of snow was observed in the south-east on the 9th. Central and eastern areas of England had extensive areas of mist and fog early on the 11th. There was some heavy rain at times especially in western areas later on the 11th and early on the 12th, with thunder being heard in south Wales.

**13th to 15th** A deep depression moved north-east from off southern Ireland to the North Sea on the 14th. Bands of heavy rain and showers were carried on the gale force south-westerly winds, Mumbles in south Wales had a gust of 73 knots. The 15th was quieter with occasional showers in western areas and the best of the sunshine was in the south-east.

**16th to 20th** Changeable and mainly mild in a west-south-westerly airstream between low pressure to the north and high pressure to the south. There was hill and coastal fog especially in the west. Some rain and showers, heavy at times, broke out on the 17th, 19th and 20th, mainly in the west. A cold front became slow moving over south-east England later on 20th.

**21st to 23rd** A low centred over Biscay sent associated weather fronts across south-east England bringing copious amounts of rain to the area, particularly Kent, Surrey and Sussex. Some places had over 76 mm of rain with local flooding. Away from the south-east overnight frost was common, the temperature at Redesdale in Northumberland fell to -6.2 °C on the 23rd.

**24th to 30th** Mostly unsettled and wet after a quiet frosty start on the 24th. Vigorous Atlantic depressions to the north brought heavy rain and showers to all areas during the 25th and 26th, some showers turned thundery in the south-west later. The 27th and 28th, after the clearance of some thundery rain near the south coast, provided a mainly dry sunny interlude, with overnight frost and fog patches. More mild wet and windy weather spread in from the North Atlantic during the 29th, the rain was heavy at times and turned showery

later. Although eastern counties had a sunny start on the 30th, a secondary depression in the south-west approaches drifted east and deepened bringing fresh outbreaks of rain and showers to most places.

## Scotland diary of highlights

### Mild and unsettled.

A feature of the year has been the number of spells of fine and warm weather associated with south-south-easterly winds circulating around an anticyclone over southern Scandinavia. November experienced another of these spells and it lasted from the 4th to the 11th. The remainder of the month was unsettled with westerly winds, but there was no widespread or heavy rain until the end of the month.

During the first three days a low moved north-east between Scotland and Iceland with its front giving overnight rain on 1st/2nd and showery weather prevailing for the rest of the time. There was 33 mm and 24 mm of rain respectively at Dundrennan on the 1st and Waterstein on the 22nd.

An anticyclone that became slow moving near the Baltic dominated the weather over Scotland from the 4th to the 11th. There was rain in the north-west at first, with 27 mm at Broadford on the 4th and gusts reached 68 m.p.h. at South Uist the next day. However, the 6th and 7th were exceptionally warm and sunny days with the temperature rising to 20 °C at Aultbea on the 7th. This was just short of the highest temperature recorded in Scotland in November (20.6 °C at Edinburgh in 1946). The 8th, 9th and 11th were cloudy in most places, although there was more sunshine on the 10th.

A long spell of unsettled weather began on the 12th and lasted throughout the remainder of the month. Low pressure was often centered to the south or east of Iceland but covered Scotland at times.

After a couple of days of showery south-westerly winds, a depression moved across Scotland on the 14th with a band of rain moving north to be followed by a sunny day in the south on the 16th.

From the 17th to the 20th depressions were strung out between Iceland and Norway while over Scotland a band of rain was followed by showers. On the 18th there was a gust of 79 m.p.h. at Sella Ness and the temperature reached 17 °C at Aberdeen.

The weather quietened down between the 21st and 23rd as low pressure covered Scotland and winds fell light. There were showers in places but clear skies allowed night frost to develop, with the temperature falling to -8 °C at Altnaharra.

The familiar mixture of bands of rain separated by periods of broken cloud and showers returned between the 24th and 27th. Very wet weather affected the south on the 28th and most of the country on the 29th as a depression moved north-east across the north of England. The two day rainfall total at Eskdalemuir approached 70 mm.

## Northern Ireland diary of highlights

### Mild, very sunny and above average rainfall.

Not available.

Last updated: 27 February 2013