

Cold almost everywhere; some snow in the east later

A large anticyclone centred near the Shetlands on the 1st drifted eastwards over the next few days as low pressure edged towards south-west England, but by the 5th high pressure had returned to Scandinavia. Fronts made only limited progress eastwards into northern Scotland, but on the 7th they moved into much of western Britain. A deep depression near Iceland now became the dominant feature, and its associated fronts crossed most of the British Isles on the 9th, finally clearing East Anglia on the 10th, leaving a broad west to south-westerly flow over all parts. During the 13th a deep, vigorous depression moved rapidly eastwards across Wales and England, reaching the southern North Sea early on the 14th. A ridge of high pressure followed: on the 15th it intensified over south-east England, and on the 16th it transferred to Denmark and merged with the growing large anticyclone over western Russia. A small depression moved south-westwards over Poland and northern Germany on the 19th, allowing a strong easterly flow to extend into the British Isles. On the 21st and 22nd, low pressure over France moved slowly into the southern North Sea, gradually displacing the easterly flow. Atlantic fronts moved north-eastwards across all parts of the United Kingdom on the 24th and 25th, but by the 26th high pressure had once more become established over the North Sea. This high transferred to Scandinavia and western Russia during the 27th and 28th. Active fronts crossed Northern Ireland and much of western Britain on the 29th, clearing eastern England on the 30th.

Weather

After a dry day on the 1st, outbreaks of locally heavy rain spread into south-west England and Wales on the 2nd, and into northern England and southern Scotland on the 3rd before dying out. There were outbreaks of rain or showers in northern England and north-west Scotland on the 5th and 6th, becoming more widespread on the 7th though heavier rain was confined to parts of Scotland, East Anglia and Wales, and during the 8th this rain died out. Renewed rainfall, heavy at times, spread into Northern Ireland and Scotland early on the 9th, reached southern Britain by afternoon, and cleared away early on the 10th to be followed by scattered showers in the west. A few isolated showers occurred in Wales, south-west England and western Scotland on the 11th, and more widely in Scotland on the 12th, when persistent and heavy rain spread into northern England, Wales, parts of the Midlands and the south-west by midnight. This rain persisted over much of England and Wales the next day, and later moved northwards into southern Scotland, before becoming confined to south-east England and East Anglia later on the 14th. Rain spread into western Scotland and Northern Ireland later on the 15th though on the 16th it soon died out. From the 17th to the 19th it was dry everywhere, but showers of rain, sleet or

snow developed over much of the eastern half of Britain on the 20th; by evening many of these had turned to snow giving significant accumulations in places in eastern and south-eastern England and East Anglia by the morning of the 21st. Further snow affected eastern parts of Scotland and England during the 22nd and at first on the 23rd. Rain spread into south-west England and south Wales on the 23rd, preceded by sleet or snow in places. On the 24th the rain made further progress into Wales, the Midlands and northern England, with some snow on higher ground, and spread patchily into Northern Ireland and Scotland the next day. Rain or drizzle on the 26th was restricted to a few outbreaks in Wales and central England, and died out altogether on the 27th. A little rain spread into Northern Ireland and extreme western parts of Britain late on the 28th, and on the 29th this moved eastwards across all of Britain with sleet or snow in some central and eastern parts of England for a time. The rain cleared all of eastern Britain by midday on the 30th, leaving scattered showers in western parts, but outbreaks of rain or drizzle returned to East Anglia and south-east England before midnight.

Wind

The windiest day of the month generally in England and Wales was the 14th, with gales reported in places around the coasts, but in Scotland and Northern Ireland the 29th tended to be the windiest day. The highest gust reported during the month was 76 knots at Cairngorm, Grampian on the 29th; apart from that the highest gust reported on the 29th was 74 knots at Fair Isle, Shetland, whilst the highest gust reported on the 14th was 68 knots at Spurn Point, Humberside.

Temperature

November 1993 was a cold month over much of the United Kingdom, with monthly mean temperatures below average everywhere except in the far north of Scotland. Values ranged from 0.7 °C above normal at Baltasound, Shetland to 2.6 °C below normal at Glenlee, Dumfries and Galloway, and to 2.8 °C below normal at St Helier, Jersey. The highest temperature reported during the month was 17.9 °C at Southampton Mayflower Park, Hampshire on the 4th, while the lowest was -14.8 °C at Grantown-on-Spey, Highland, and at Braemar, Grampian, both on the 24th.

Rainfall

Whilst much of northern Scotland was extremely dry, parts of East Anglia, the Midlands and south-west England were wetter than average. Monthly totals ranged from only 18% of normal at Fortrose, Highland to 160% of normal at Driby, Lincolnshire. The highest reported daily rainfall was 62 mm at Nantmor, Gwynedd on the 9th.

Snow

The outbreak of cold air which reached the United Kingdom on the 20th began a period of snowy weather in many eastern parts rare for November. Snow showers in the east overnight resulted in significant accumulations by the morning of the 21st, with 1 to 2 cm reported widely in Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, East Anglia and Kent, and up to 7 cm at Charing, Kent. There were further snow showers in eastern Scotland and eastern England over the next two days, Inchmarlo, Grampian reporting 19 cm of lying snow on the morning of the 23rd. On the 23rd and 24th rain was preceded by snow in places as far west as south Wales giving up to 2 cm on some Welsh hills by the morning of the 24th. There were further light falls of snow over some northern hills on the 25th. On the 29th rain turned to snow over an extensive area of east and north-east England, and south-east Scotland, with accumulations of up to 2 cm over parts of the Pennines, the North York Moors and the Southern Uplands.

Sunshine

Over much of western, southern and south-east England and over Wales sunshine was close to average, but it was sunny in northern Scotland and dull in the Midlands and in eastern and north-eastern England. Monthly totals ranged from 246% of average at Duartmore Bridge, Highland to only 46% of average at Harrogate, North Yorkshire. The highest daily total of the month was 8.3 hours at Eastbourne, East Sussex on the 11th, and also at Southsea, Hampshire on the 12th; the highest monthly total was 98.7 hours at Folkestone, Kent.

Fog

Fog around the coasts of south-west England on the 3rd became widespread over England and Wales overnight. Much of this cleared during the 4th only to reform by the 5th but largely disperse on the 6th. Fog formed widely in southern and south-eastern England and East Anglia on the 9th, and again more patchily on the 16th. On the 19th freezing fog was persistent in parts of the Midlands and the north-east. Freezing fog formed over several parts of England late on the 22nd and by the 23rd was widespread over much of Britain; it persisted all day in central southern England, the Midlands and the north-west but slowly cleared on the 24th. Morning fog in northern, south-east and southern England on the 25th slowly cleared in most parts before reforming by the 26th, then did not clear until the 27th in many places. Fog returned to parts of central and northern England early on the 30th, cleared during the day but reformed extensively by midnight in western and northern England and in parts of Wales.

Miscellaneous phenomena

None reported.