

October 2007

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

UK overview

Mean temperatures ranging from close to average across East Anglia and SE England to over 1 °C above average across Northern Ireland and Scotland. Rainfall generally well below average across the UK, although slightly above average rainfall over a narrow band from Oxfordshire to The Wash. Sunshine levels generally above average across the UK, although close to or below average across the Northern and Western Isles, East Anglia and SE England.

Normanby Hall (Lincolnshire) recorded a maximum temperature of 20.9 °C on 12th. Aboyne (Aberdeenshire) recorded a minimum temperature of -4.9 °C on 25th. Brize Norton (Oxfordshire) recorded 64.8 mm of rainfall on the 16th.

England diary of highlights

It was a very quiet October across England with high pressure close by for much of the month. However, there were brief incursions of more unsettled weather that brought some locally heavy rain.

1st to 3rd: Pressure was fairly high, but outbreaks of rain across some southern areas extended north-eastwards, the rain being quite widespread on the 3rd.

4th to 8th: High pressure built over the country to bring plenty of dry weather. However, despite some sunshine in places, skies were often cloudy. There was some patchy overnight fog in places.

9th to 10th: A cold front brought some rain south-eastwards, and some of this was rather heavy in places for a time. This cleared away to the southeast on the 10th.

11th to 14th: High pressure reasserted itself. After a sunny day on the 11th and 12th, the weather became generally cloudy, but remained quiet.

15th to 17th: Rain spread south-eastwards, then became heavy across some southern areas. Up to 60 mm was reported across parts of Oxfordshire on the 16th and 17th. It was mild in the rain, but cooler in the drier weather further north.

18th to 26th: High pressure again reasserted itself. After a couple of sunny days, but with overnight frost, the skies turned cloudy again. It was very quiet with just light winds, though a brisk south-easterly wind developed across the south on the 23rd. The 25th was a rather dull and damp day across the south.

27th to 28th: The high pressure gave way to allow rain to edge south-eastwards, and some of this rain was heavy with 40 to 50 mm for the Cumbrian Fells especially. The rain became lighter and more patchy as it cleared south-eastwards on the 28th. It was very mild in the rain with temperatures of 15-17 °C.

29th to 31st: After a chilly, showery day on the 29th, the weather became mostly dry again by the 30th, though with increasingly cloudy skies. It also became milder again with temperatures 14-16 °C on the 31st.

Wales diary of highlights

It was a very quiet October with high pressure over or near Wales for much of the month. However, there were a few brief incursions of more unsettled weather that brought locally heavy rain.

1st to 3rd: Pressure was fairly high, but with outbreaks of rain across some southern and eastern areas, the rain being quite widespread on the 3rd.

4th to 8th: High pressure built further to bring plenty of dry weather. However, despite some sunshine in places, skies were often cloudy. There was also patchy overnight fog.

9th to 10th: A cold front brought rain south-eastwards, and some of this was heavy in places for a while but it all cleared away to the south-east during the 10th.

11th to 14th: The high pressure reasserted itself once again. After quite sunny days on the 11th and 12th, it became generally cloudy, but remained dry and quiet.

15th to 17th: Rain spread south-eastwards, then became heavy across parts of the south and it was mild in the rain, but cooler in the drier conditions in the north.

18th to 26th: High pressure was back again and, again, after a couple of sunny days, along with overnight frost inland, skies turned cloudier again. It was very quiet with just light winds, though a brisk south-easterly wind developed in the south on the 23rd. The 25th was a rather dull and damp day in the south.

27th to 28th: The high pressure gave way, allowing rain to spread south-eastwards, and some of this was heavy with 30 to 40 mm over some high ground in North Wales. The rain became lighter and patchier as it cleared south-eastwards on the 28th. It was very mild in the rain, with temperatures of 14-16 °C.

29th to 31st: After a chilly, showery day on the 29th, it became mostly dry again by the 30th, though with increasingly cloudy skies. It also became milder again with maximum temperatures generally of 14-16 °C on the last day of the month.

Scotland diary of highlights

Drier than normal with above average temperatures. Sunshine generally well above average, but close to or below average across the Western and Northern Isles.

A few showers on the 1st across the north-west, otherwise dry with almost unbroken sunshine. Temperatures reached 19 °C at Glasgow, Edinburgh and Fyvie Castle (Aberdeenshire) but only around 12 °C in Shetland. Plenty of sunshine again on the 2nd, although cloudier in the west. A chilly start with a minimum temperature of -0.4 °C at Aboyne (Aberdeenshire), but Glenlivet (Moray) reaching a maximum of 19 °C. Rather cloudy on the 3rd, with rain gradually pushing north and east, occasionally heavy. This rain cleared on the 4th with bright, sunny or clear spells following. The temperatures ranged from 11 °C in Lerwick, where it remained dull and misty for most of the day, to 17 °C in Leuchars (Fife) and Strathallan (Perthshire). Patchy fog cleared, mainly from the south and east, to leave bright or sunny spells on the 5th. The temperature ranged from 12 °C in Fair Isle to 19 °C in Aboyne.

On the 6th, light rain edged down across northern Scotland but the south and east stayed dry. Temperature reached 19 °C in Aberdeen. The 7th was mainly dry with some sunshine but with cooler temperatures. The 8th was dry and rather cloudy across much of Scotland but sunny spells developed in the north. Rain crossed southern and central areas overnight and on the 9th, with Islay recording 26 mm. The far north escaped most of the rain, and the west brightened up allowing Glasgow to reach 17 °C. Mainly dry on the 10th with some sunshine in the south and east. Rain affected the northwest in the evening.

Sunny spells on the 11th away from the west coast, with Aberdeen reaching 20 °C. Rain affected the west and south at times, with gales in Shetland. On the 12th, overnight rain cleared from the north. Otherwise mainly

dry but rather cloudy although sunshine in the north-east saw temperatures of 19 °C at Aboyne. On the 13th, fog patches at first over north-east Scotland. Rain reached the Western Isles during the day, then Highland and Orkney in the evening. Elsewhere, mostly dry and bright. Aboyne recording a minimum temperature of 1 °C and maximum temperature of 17 °C. Rain in the Highlands moved south-east to central and western Scotland during the 14th. Then a few showers in the Highlands and Islands. Temperature reached 17 °C at Lossiemouth (Moray).

On the 15th, rain pushed eastwards during the morning followed by clearer, showery weather. The 16th and 17th saw showers across the north and west of Scotland but drier, brighter elsewhere. The showers becoming confined to the north-east by the end of the 17th. Temperatures reached a high of 13 °C but only 8 °C in Shetland on the 17th. Mainly dry and bright on the 18th after a cold start, with a temperature of -3 °C at Eskdalemuir (Dumfries & Galloway). The 19th and 20th were also mainly dry with some sunshine, especially in the east.

Mainly cloudy on the 21st and 22nd with rain at times in the west but mainly dry and bright in south and east. The 23rd and 24th were bright and sunny for most, but patchy frost and fog at first with mist lingering for much of the day from Tayside across to Stirlingshire. The mainly sunny conditions continued in the north-east on the 25th, elsewhere becoming cloudy. On the 26th a band of rain spread south-east across the country. South Uist was wettest with 20 mm but very little reached the east coast. Severe gales affected the Hebrides with gusts to around 60 m.p.h. at Stornoway.

On the 27th, another band of rain spread east to most parts. Heavy rain affected the west and north-west, the heavier rain also spreading east to central and eastern parts during the evening and overnight. A total of 41 mm was recorded for the day at Tyndrum. Temperature reached 17 °C at Aboyne during the evening. During the 28th, heavy rain overnight cleared from the south-east, then sunny spells and heavy blustery showers following south-eastwards. A total of 22 mm of rain fell in four hours at Rosehearty (Aberdeenshire).

Another bright and showery day on the 29th, with snow over the mountains, but the east often sunny. The 30th was mostly cloudy with occasional rain, although a chilly start in the east, with a temperature of -2 °C at Aboyne. Much milder on the 31st with Aberdeen reaching 17 °C. Rain mainly affected the north and west.

Northern Ireland diary of highlights

Much drier than normal with above average sunshine and temperatures.

The 1st was a dry day with the cloud breaking to give some sunshine and temperatures reaching 16 °C. A mostly cloudy day on the 2nd, with patchy light rain. A band of heavy rain pushed eastwards on the 3rd, with brighter weather following later in the day. Around 25 mm was recorded at Lough Fea (Londonderry). Dry and bright on the 4th and the temperature typically reached 17 °C. Similar weather on the 5th and the temperature reached 18 °C at Castlederg (Tyrone).

A cloudy start to 6th with a little rain in south, otherwise dry with sunny periods developing, best in the south. Temperature reached 20 °C at Glenanne (Armagh). The 7th was dry, rather cloudy and cooler, with temperatures reaching around 14 °C. The 8th was dry and bright during the morning then cloudy with rain edging in from west later in afternoon and during evening. Temperature reached 17 °C at Ballykelly (Londonderry). Rain cleared overnight and the 9th started bright but an area of showery rain spread south-east, followed by sunshine and more isolated showers. Temperatures reached 17 °C in most areas. Some mist and fog around at first on the 10th, then dry and sunny. Temperature reached 18 °C at Castlederg. Patchy rain spread in from west late evening.

A fairly cloudy day with some patchy rain on the 11th although there were a few bright intervals. Temperatures peaked at 18 °C at Ballykelly. Another cloudy day on the 12th, with some mist and drizzle in places at first. It brightened up, with temperatures reaching 17 °C at Ballykelly. Mist and low cloud locally during the evening. On the 13th, some patchy mist and drizzle at first, otherwise mostly dry and bright, with some sunshine

breaking through at times. Temperature reached 18 °C at St. Angelo (Fermanagh). Mostly cloudy on the 14th with some patchy light or moderate rain, mainly in the north and west. Temperature reached 17 °C at Ballykelly. On the 15th, rain in west pushed east across all parts by mid-morning before giving way to sunny spells and scattered showers in the afternoon. The showers then became isolated during the evening. Temperatures reached typically 15 or 16 Celsius.

The 16th had a mix of sunny spells and scattered showers with the top temperature around 15 °C. On the 17th, a few showers developed across the north and east, otherwise it was a dry day with sunny spells and light winds. The highest temperature was around 13 °C. Early frost and patchy fog lifting during the morning of the 18th to leave good sunny spells, although the cloud did thicken up during the evening bringing a few spots of rain into the northwest. Lowest temperature was -3 °C at Katesbridge (Down) and the highest temperature was 15 °C at Castlederg. The 19th brought dry if rather cloudy weather but temperatures were still above average, reaching 15 °C.

The 20th to the 22nd was a rather cloudy period and although mainly dry there was a little rain on the 21st and later on the 22nd, with temperatures reaching 15 °C at Ballykelly and Castlederg on the 22nd. The 23rd to the 25th were dry, bright and fairly sunny. Temperatures reached 16 °C on the 23rd.

A cloudier day on the 26th with rain spreading in from the Atlantic. Lough Fea recorded 6 mm but most places saw no more than 1 mm, and the west brightened up later. Another cloudy day on the 27th, with outbreaks of rain, which become heavy and persistent during the evening. 24 mm of rain was recorded at Castlederg, mainly during the evening. Temperature reached 17 °C at Ballykelly. On the 28th, moderate to heavy rain overnight cleared east before dawn. Then a day of sunshine and heavy and blustery showers, another bright and showery day following on the 29th. The 30th and 31st were mainly dry and mostly cloudy with fresh south-west winds and mild with temperatures of 14 or 15 Celsius.

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