

November 2024

With an extensive belt of high pressure covering much of the UK, Central and Southern Europe, the last month of autumn started settled and mild, but cloudy as a thick layer of low cloud trapped beneath this feature allowed us just over half an hour of sunshine on the 1st. This anticyclonic gloom continued right the way through the first week of the month, with mostly light east or southeasterly winds, overcast skies and with mist and fog at times. Fog was more prevalent during the daylight hours of the 4th, 5th and 7th leading to delays and cancellations at the islands' airports. Temperatures continued on the mild side but that thick blanket of cloud effectively insulated the islands with only small differences in daily maximum and nightly minimum figures, typically 11/13°C by day, dropping to just 10/11°C overnight.

Gradually though, that high slipped away eastward to be centred over the Black Sea by the 6th, but it maintained enough influence locally to keep any Atlantic frontal systems well out to the west, although that low cloud layer was deep enough at times to produce the odd spot of rain or drizzle. By the 8th the high had further transferred northward over Russia to allow weak fronts to nudge in from the west with some splashes of rain and drizzle through the early hours of the 10th. Although weak, the clearance of those fronts broke the low cloud up, allowing the first glimpses of any sunshine since the start of the month. That sunshine encouraged air temperatures up to 15.2°C and was a welcome relief from the gloom of the last 8 days.

A replacement high building over Northern Ireland promised a continuation of this broadly settled regime of weather, but a weak cold front dropped down over the UK during the morning of the 11th with periods of rain and drizzle which cleared smartly by noon with clearing skies by early evening. A cooler northerly flow now covered the islands as overnight temperatures dipped into single digits. A shallow area of low pressure over the Low Countries edged back westward towards us during the 12th however, tightening the gradient locally as we saw our winds veering more northeasterly and freshen, together with a scattering of light showers peppering our shores from late afternoon and into the evening. That band of showers was reluctant to clear overnight but by mid morning on the 13th they had cleared away to the southwest with the winds easing down through the day. Mostly clear skies yielded some 7.7 hours of sunshine, the best so far this month.

That high remained out to the west of Ireland with a gentle northeasterly down the Channel, but another weak front on the 14th brought patchy rain and drizzle later that evening but this cleared southward overnight to leave us with another cloudy, but dry day with excellent visibility.

At the halfway point of the month we had recorded just 2.3mm of rain (average 55.9 mm) and 19.1 hours of sunshine (average 43.8 hours) but a glance at the forecast chart suggested a change to a much more unsettled run in the days ahead.



Stunning sunset off Lihou headland on the 17th with *Cumulus*, *Stratocumulus* and *Cirrus* cleverly reflecting off a car bonnet. Photo credit Wayne Branquet.

Indeed an active cold front dropping south over the UK late on the 16th duly arrived at our shores in the early hours of the 17th producing a couple of hours of rainfall, some of it briefly heavy. Further fronts arrived overnight into the 18th leading to a miserable day across the islands with near uninterrupted rain and drizzle through daylight hours, overnight and into the 19th, together with strong westerly winds. The fronts responsible slid eastward along the Channel as the associated low edged slowly across southern Britain, and so it wasn't until early afternoon on the 19th that the clearing cold front finally dropped south of us allowing skies to clear shortly after sunset.

The clearance of that front allowed a much cooler northwesterly airflow to develop across the Channel, together with a scattering of showers overnight as air temperatures dropped to just 4.1°C by dawn on the 20th. After an initial clear start to the day, further showers bubbled up, some with hail, but visibility outside those showers was outstanding although daytime temperatures topped out at a rather disappointing 8.0°C by close of play on the 20th. Those temperatures continued to drop through the evening but a developing low pressure system out to the west swept in overnight, looking to pass just to the south of the islands.

Rain began to fall just before 0300hrs on the 21st and as air temperatures continued to fall, the precipitation quickly turned to sleet on strengthening southeasterly winds. Around 0930hrs we briefly recorded a gale (mean wind speed 34kts) with just +2.1°C on the mercury. Periods of heavier rain, again mixed with snow, continued throughout the morning with poor visibility at times and it wasn't until early afternoon that temperatures began to recover as our winds backed into the northeast, falling light to moderate by dusk. A rash of showers was then drawn down over the islands as that low responsible cleared away southeast into Central France, with a transient ridge nudging up from the southwest. Further showers, some with hail and lightning, plagued the islands through the course of the 22nd, gradually becoming more isolated by evening.

The next Atlantic low, Storm 'Bert', was already waiting in the wings however, with strengthening southerly winds and rain arriving shortly after daybreak on the 23rd. Drizzle, mist and some hill fog patches through the day finally cleared shortly before midnight but very mild air drawn up from the south saw air temperatures peak at a remarkable 17.8°C around mid morning on the 24th, that's the 2nd highest November temperature recorded at the airport after 18.0°C was noted on the 1st November 2015.

The associated cold fronts arrived at our shores later that afternoon with another half an inch of rainfall before clearing overnight to a few isolated showers by dawn on the 25th. Further north, many parts of the UK were suffering severe flooding and high winds from this storm with as much as 150mm of rainfall falling in just 24 hours in some areas. 'Bert' now centred just off the north coast of Scotland, continued to drive strong winds and heavy rain across the UK as it only slowly edged eastward and filled. Locally we enjoyed a better day in the islands with a mix of sun and cloud with just the odd light shower.

Early heavy showers on the 26th cleared up Channel by dawn to leave us with a bright day as we enjoyed a brief ridge of high pressure over the islands but with the overall weather pattern still looking very unsettled, it wasn't long before the next band of rain swept in from the west on strengthening southeasterly winds. The first spots of rain arrived late afternoon, becoming persistent and heavy through the evening before turning more to drizzle overnight. Air temperatures actually climbed from 11°C that afternoon to 13.8°C by 0200 hours on the 27th as milder, Tropical air was pulled up from the southwest. The clearing cold front associated with this particular system dropped south through the Bailiwick around mid morning on the 27th, as our winds veered sharply into the northwest accompanied by a drop in temperature to just 8°C by mid afternoon. Despite this clearance we saw only a glimpse of sunshine to add to our meagre total for the month so far.

With another short-lived ridge of high pressure now easing across the UK, our winds continued to veer, to be just south of east by dawn on the 28th. Although dry and with excellent visibility, it was yet another cloudy day across the islands, again with just a couple of hours of sunshine recorded. Overnight into the 29th saw that ridge transfer eastward to be over Poland by dawn, allowing a weak front to push in from the west, draping a blanket of low cloud over the Channel with drizzle, mist and hill fog greeting the new day. Strengthening southeasterly winds and temperatures only just into double figures only added to the gloomy start but by mid morning that visibility had improved and the drizzle had cleared to leave us with another cloudy but mostly dry day. As the

last day of the month arrived, it was more of the same, with generally cloudy skies after a misty, foggy start and moderate to fresh southeasterly winds.

After a dull, dry first 10 days of the month it became very unsettled and although rainfall totals ended up just about average, sunshine figures never recovered leading to the dullest November for 30 years. We also noted the highest number of sunless days, equal with 1992, since 1958. The first 9 days of the month saw just 36 minutes of sunshine and we saw fog on 9 days of the month, that's the most recorded since 1992. 17.8°C on the 24th was the highest for November since 2015 and the 2nd highest recorded at the airport for this month.

Autumn saw marginally more rainfall than the long term average but sunshine totals ended up well below average and the mean temperature across the 3 months was just 0.2°C above average.

Autumn	2024	30 Yr Avg	Anomaly/%
Rain (mm)	266.2	259.8	102.5
Sun (hrs)	311.9	380.8	81.9
Mean Max (°C)	15.3	15.2	+0.1
Mean Min (°C)	11.3	10.9	+0.4
Mean (°C)	13.3	13.1	+0.2

NOVEMBER 2024

DAY	DATE	TEMPERATURE deg C							WIND				RAIN mm	SUN hrs	WEATHER		
		BAROMETER hPa	AIR			GRASS	SOIL		DIR'N	SPEED(knots)							
		at 9a.m.	MAX	MIN	MEAN	MIN	30cm	100cm	9a.m.	9a.m.	MEAN	MAX					
Fri	1	1025.4	14.2	11.4	12.8	12.1	14.0	14.5	360	03	3.4	10	NIL	0.6	Overcast w ith fog, mist & light drizzle am, briefly fair late pm		
Sat	2	1028.5	13.2	11.4	12.3	11.4	14.0	14.5	080	06	8.5	19	NIL	NIL	Cloudy		
Sun	3	1026.5	11.5	9.9	10.7	10.5	13.6	14.5	120	09	8.0	16	TR	NIL	Overcast		
Mon	4	1024.3	11.3	10.2	10.8	10.2	13.5	14.5	120	04	5.8	12	TR	NIL	Overcast w ith xtnsv fog & drz		
Tue	5	1022.2	12.5	11.1	11.8	11.3	13.4	14.4	130	08	5.2	12	TR	NIL	Overcast w ith xtnsv mist & fog w ith patchy drz pm		
Wed	6	1030.0	14.3	11.4	12.9	12.6	13.7	14.3	090	03	4.6	13	NIL	NIL	Overcast w ith early rain & mist. Fog late eve		
Thu	7	1028.5	11.4	9.6	10.5	10.3	13.7	14.3	110	12	12.1	21	TR	NIL	Overcast w ith fog lifting by noon. Mist & fog ptches pm, clrng eve		
Fri	8	1023.3	12.3	10.0	11.2	10.7	13.4	14.3	130	09	7.6	17	TR	NIL	Cldy, w ith a few spots of rain early am, patchy light drz pm & eve		
Sat	9	1023.3	12.8	10.5	11.7	10.7	13.4	14.2	070	04	4.4	10	TR	NIL	Cldy w ith occn light drz am		
Sun	10	1028.2	15.2	10.8	13.0	8.7	13.3	14.2	130	05	4.3	12	TR	4.5	Cldy w ith early rain & drz bec fair, occn fine pm. Cldy eve		
Mon	11	1035.4	13.9	9.7	11.8	9.2	13.5	14.1	330	06	6.5	15	1.0	1.2	Cldy w ith drz, occn hvy, clrng by noon. Fair then fine pm		
Tue	12	1035.1	12.0	9.1	10.6	5.9	12.6	14.1	020	12	11.3	26	1.0	4.3	Cldy, occn fair am. Shw rs turning to rain & drz late pm		
Wed	13	1034.6	13.1	10.2	11.7	7.6	12.4	14.0	070	14	10.0	26	NIL	7.7	Fair to cldy am w ith early shw rs. Fair pm, cldy eve		
Thu	14	1031.7	13.2	9.1	11.2	4.9	12.5	14.0	360	04	5.4	14	0.3	0.8	Cldy w ith patchy rain & drz late am & eve		
Fri	15	1028.1	12.1	9.6	10.9	7.4	12.3	13.8	090	05	4.2	12	TR	NIL	Cloudy		
Sat	16	1022.5	11.8	9.8	10.8	7.5	12.3	13.7	180	02	5.6	18	3.8	NIL	Cldy w ith light rain early am & early pm		
Sun	17	1019.8	12.3	10.1	11.2	8.1	12.1	13.6	310	10	11.3	25	4.1	2.7	Cldy. Early hvy rain & drz clrng to occn fair. Shw rs late pm		
Mon	18	1013.8	12.5	10.8	11.7	8.1	12.1	13.5	270	16	18.7	40	23.2	NIL	Cldy w ith rain & drz am, rain pm, shw rs eve		
Tue	19	1000.9	13.1	6.0	9.6	10.8	12.3	13.5	280	24	18.8	38	4.5	NIL	Cldy w ith rain occn hvy, clrng mid pm. Sct shw rs eve		
Wed	20	1012.8	8.0	3.6	5.8	0.4	10.9	13.4	320	07	6.7	28	16.9	5.0	Cldy w ith sct rain/hail shw rs late am.Occn fair pm. Xlnt viz		
Thu	21	991.7	7.7	0.9	4.3	1.4	9.7	13.3	100	28	15.8	50	14.2	0.4	Cldy. Sleet, hvy rain, mist & fog clrng to fair w ith shw rs pm. Gale 0932-0935		
Fri	22	1012.0	9.1	2.2	5.7	0.5	8.7	13.0	290	12	10.8	38	0.2	3.8	Cldy occn fair. Frqnt rain/hail shw rs am bec sct pm. Lghtng @ 0514		
Sat	23	1005.6	14.9	7.6	11.3	3.2	9.3	12.6	190	24	21.9	38	2.9	NIL	Cldy w ith occn rain am. Rain, drz, mist & fog ptches pm. Rain eve		
Sun	24	998.0	17.8	11.4	14.6	12.9	10.2	12.5	200	22	19.7	37	12.3	NIL	Cldy w ith rain from late pm, occn hvy		
Mon	25	1003.3	12.7	9.5	11.1	8.3	11.2	12.3	280	14	13.4	29	7.6	4.7	Cldy w ith early rain clrng to isol shw rs occn hvy. Fair pm		
Tue	26	1017.1	12.0	7.6	9.8	6.2	10.6	12.3	240	10	11.7	32	9.5	2.8	Cldy occn fair. Early hvy shw rs clrng by daw n. Rain late pm, occn hvy eve		
Wed	27	1010.2	13.9	7.8	10.9	9.3	11.3	12.3	250	20	11.2	31	0.3	0.1	Cldy. Rain & drz clrng to shw rs by noon. Cldy pm w ith xlnt viz		
Thu	28	1026.0	10.4	7.6	9.0	6.6	10.7	12.3	110	13	13.8	28	TR	2.5	Cldy w ith xlnt viz am		
Fri	29	1023.6	11.8	9.4	10.6	8.7	10.8	12.3	150	20	15.9	28	TR	0.1	Cldy w ith rain, drz, mist & fog clrng by daw n. Ptchy rain mid pm		
Sat	30	1025.6	14.5	11.2	12.9	10.1	11.0	12.2	200	10	11.2	25	6.1	0.2	Cldy w ith mist & hill fog ptchs @ noon and again mid eve		
MEAN 30 YEAR AVG 1991-2020	1020.3 1014.1	12.5 12.1	9.0 8.4	10.7 10.3	8.2 5.7	12.1 10.7	13.6 12.3	E SW	11.2 12.5	10.3 12.7	TOTAL /////	107.9 106.7	41.4 76.8	23rd - Storm 'Bert'			
EXTREMES ARE IN BOLD TYPE	NUMBER OF DAYS WITH	RAIN ≥0.2mm 16	WET ≥1.0mm 13	SNOW/ SLEET 1	HAIL 3	THNDER 0	LGHTNG 2	AIR FROST 0	GROUND FROST 0	FOG 9	FOG 9a.m. 3	GALE 1	NO SUN 14	TOTALS FOR YEAR TO DATE			
RECORDS FROM JANUARY 1947														RAINFALL	824.6 mm	SUNSHINE	1765.8 hrs
WETTEST DAY	39.4mm	DRIEST MONTH	16.1mm	LOWEST MIN	-0.8°C	WARMEST MNTH	12.2°C	SUNNIEST MNTH	123.6hrs	RAIN DAYS	163	SUNLESS I	51				
DAY/YEAR	15th/1975	YEAR	1978	DAY/YEAR	28th/2010	YEAR	2015	YEAR	2006	WET DAYS	127						
WETTEST MNTH	234.7mm	HIGHEST MAX	18.0°C	LOWEST GRASS	-5.6°C	COLDEST MNTH	7.7°C	DULLEST MNTH	35.9hrs								
YEAR	2009	DAY/YEAR	1st 2015	DAY/YEAR	29th/1987	YEAR	1993	YEAR	1994								