

November 2018

The averaging period used for the following assessment was 1981-2010.

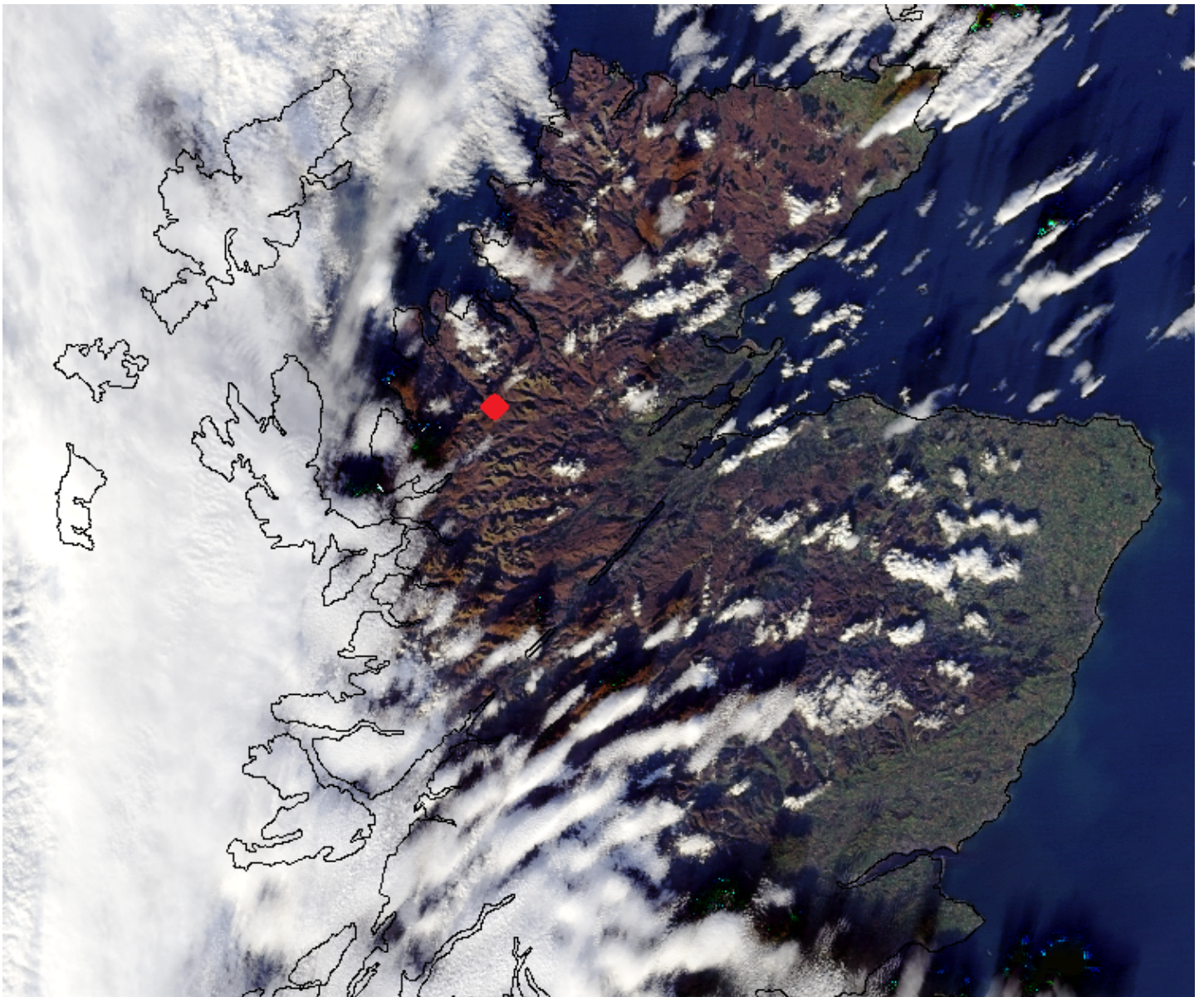
November began with relatively cold quiet weather, but from the 3rd to 14th it was mild with a predominance of southerly winds, and it was also wet in most parts of the country, but relatively dry and fine in East Anglia and the south-east. A large high over Scandinavia brought a settled spell to most of the country from the 15th to 18th, with variable amounts of cloud. It was cold with easterly winds from the 19th to 26th, with frequent rain or showers for the east and south-west, but with any snow mostly confined to high ground, while there were numerous dry sunny days in north-west Scotland. It turned very mild, wet and windy in all parts of the country from the 27th onwards.

The provisional UK mean temperature was 7.3 °C, which is 1.1 °C above the 1981-2010 long-term average.

For many parts of the country, the positive temperature anomaly was a little larger by night than by day. Rainfall anomalies varied widely, with well above average rainfall in south Devon, parts of southern and eastern Scotland and the south of Northern Ireland, but well below average rainfall in north-west Scotland. For the UK as a whole rainfall was 101% of average. Sunshine was 110% of average, and there was a band of below average sunshine extending from Devon to Northumberland and through eastern Scotland, but it was a very sunny month in north-west Scotland and in East Anglia.

The UK monthly extremes were as follows: A maximum temperature of 18.3 °C was recorded at Otterbourne (Hampshire) on the 5th. A minimum temperature of -6.7 °C was recorded at South Newington (Oxfordshire) on the 22nd. In the 24 hours ending at 0900 GMT on the 29th, 56.0 mm of rain fell at Keswick (Cumbria). A wind gust of 78 knots (90 mph) was recorded at Capel Curig (Gwynedd) on the 28th.

The satellite image below shows scattered cloud across north-west Scotland on 15 November 2018. In a southerly airflow, Kinlochewe (marked as a red dot) recorded a daily maximum temperature of 17.6 °C, unseasonably mild for the time of year. Image copyright Met Office / NOAA / NASA



Weather impacts

On the 3rd, the railway between Kyle of Lochalsh and Strathcarron was closed due to flooding, and some firework displays in Scotland were cancelled due to strong winds. In Northern Ireland on the 7th, flooding affected road and rail services and a number of houses were flooded in Belfast. Flooding also affected south-west England, disrupting transport and causing the closure of a number of seafronts across Devon, and part of the main rail link to London was also closed at Dawlish. Parts of Wales saw flooding on the 8th.

On the 9th, there were some delays to flights in Northern Ireland. In Wales, the fire service had to rescue a small number of residents from properties in Milford Haven, and the rail line west of Haverfordwest was closed due to flooding, with numerous roads also blocked. Across south-west England, major disruption affected roads, railways, flights and ferries due to strong winds and torrential rain: the Tamar Bridge was closed, train services through Dawlish were delayed or cancelled, trees and other debris blocked a number of roads, and Western Power Distribution had to restore power to over 19,000 customers.

After a quiet period during the middle of the month, unsettled conditions returned towards the end, bringing various impacts. On the 27th, in Northern Ireland the Rathlin ferry was cancelled due to strong winds, and the

Antrim coastal road was closed due to debris that had been washed onto the road by large overtopping waves. In Wales, surface water flooding was seen in Pembrokeshire. In Scotland, coastal flooding caused some road closures on the 28th. In Northern Ireland, rail services between Larne and Whitehead were cancelled, while bus services across Belfast were also disrupted due to flooding and blocked roads. A number of trees blocked roads across the east of the Province, with some instances of flooding on coastal roads. In Wales also, some trees blocked roads, localised surface water issues arose, and speed restrictions were placed on the Britannia Bridge and Cleddau Bridge. On the 29th, fallen trees and power cuts affected a number of properties in Wales. A few roads were blocked by fallen trees or flooding and some properties were without power across north-west England. Strong winds across the east of England caused some delays to road, rail and air services with flights at London City affected. In the south-west a small number of roads were blocked by fallen trees.

England diary of highlights

November began quite cold but otherwise the first half was changeable and mild with mainly southerly winds. It turned more settled from the 15th to 18th due to a large Scandinavian high, then easterly winds prevailed from the 19th to 26th, bringing cold weather with frequent showers in the east and in the south-west, but snow was mostly confined to high ground. Mild, wet and windy weather returned to all parts from the 27th onwards.

The mean temperature for November was provisionally 1.1 °C above the 1981-2010 long-term average, and the positive anomaly was generally a little higher by night than by day. Rainfall was 101% of average, and it was a dry month in a band from Lancashire across the Midlands to Norfolk but it was notably wet in much of Devon. Sunshine was below average in a band extending from Devon up to Northumberland, but it was a sunny month in the far north-west and especially East Anglia. England as a whole had 106% of average sunshine.

1st to 9th

This period was rather unsettled with mainly southerly winds, starting off quite cold but turning mild by the 3rd. Persistent rain slowly cleared away from eastern parts on the 1st, with brighter weather elsewhere but some scattered showers in the west. A ridge of high pressure brought a dry sunny day but for a few light showers in the north-west on the 2nd, with 9.1 hours of sunshine at East Malling (Kent), but cloudier weather spread into northern areas from mid-afternoon. Slow-moving fronts brought cloud and rain to the north and west on the 3rd with some large rainfall totals over the high ground of Cumbria, and the rain spread into central parts on the 4th but became light and patchy, except for some heavier rain over the south-west late in the afternoon. Central and eastern parts stayed mostly dry. Southerly winds brought a cloudy and very mild day on the 5th, Otterbourne (Hampshire) seeing a high of 18.3 °C, with a little rain in the south-west and in East Anglia. Rain spread into western parts on the 6th, clearing eastwards on the 7th followed by sunshine and showers, the showers thundery in parts of the south. The 8th was wet in western areas with frequent lightning over the Isles of Scilly, but dry and sunny in East Anglia and the south-east. The 9th was mostly dry, bright and mild in the east, but rain in the south-west spread north-eastwards.

10th to 18th

The period 10th-13th had a mix of sunshine and showers with southerly winds gradually veering westerly. Showers in the south-west spread to most areas on the 10th, and an area of more persistent rain spread north-eastwards across northern areas on the 11th, followed by brighter weather but with scattered thundery showers in the far south. Showers developed more widely again on the 12th, with occasional thunder in places. There were fewer showers on the 13th, especially away from the north. Southerly winds persisted from the 14th to 18th with a large Scandinavian anticyclone increasingly keeping frontal systems away to the west. The 14th was cloudy in the north with some light rain for the north-west, but dry with some bright or sunny spells for the Midlands and south. The 15th and 16th were mild, generally dull in the south but brighter in the north, with a minimum of 12.8 °C at Teignmouth (Devon) overnight 15th/16th. The 17th and 18th

became less mild as the wind started to back easterly in eastern areas, and most places were sunny and dry, but persistent cloud affected some north-eastern parts on the 18th.

19th to 26th

Easterly winds brought mainly cloudy and showery weather on the 19th and 20th, the majority of the showers in the east. More general rain and sleet spread from the south-east late on the 20th, with snow locally penetrating to low levels in the south-east although mostly restricted to high ground. The 21st was a cold day with a maximum of only 2.6 °C at Malham Tarn (North Yorkshire), and there were frequent showers for the north and the south-west which were wintry on high ground. The 22nd started frosty for many, with a minimum of -6.7 °C at South Newington (Oxfordshire), and turned dull with some rain in the north-east though most other parts were brighter, with some showers in the south-west, and the 23rd was similar, with some heavy and locally thundery showers in the south-west late in the day. Easterly winds continued on the 24th to 26th bringing mostly cloudy weather with scattered showers to eastern counties. The 24th was quite wet in the far south, but other areas were dry with variable amounts of cloud.

27th to 30th

It turned much milder and also wet and windy. A band of persistent rain in the south-west early on the 27th spread eastwards across the country. Bands of rain spread from the west on the 28th and 29th with 56.0 mm of rain at Keswick (Cumbria) on the 28th, and it turned stormy with gusts in the north and along the south coast exceeding 60 mph on the 28th, and exceeding 80 mph locally on the 29th with a gust to 82 mph at Needles (Isle of Wight). The persistent rain cleared east on the 29th followed by sunshine and showers, and the 30th was bright and showery, but many eastern and south-eastern parts stayed dry.

Wales diary of highlights

The month began cold and sunny, but from the 3rd to 14th it was mild and changeable and also windy at times. There was a settled interlude on the 15th-18th, followed by a week of rather cold easterly winds. From the 27th onwards it was mild, wet and very windy.

The mean temperature for November was provisionally 0.7 °C above the long-term average, and the positive anomaly was slightly larger by night than by day in most places. Wales as a whole had 105% of average rainfall and 108% of average sunshine. It was a dry month in the north but wetter than average around Pembrokeshire, and sunshine was above average in the north-west and south-west but near or below average further east.

1st to 9th

It started off bright and quite cold, with sunshine and just isolated showers on the 1st and further sunshine on the 2nd, though turning cloudier from the north-west later. The intervening night was frosty with a minimum of -6.2 °C at St Harmon (Powys). It then turned milder, and rain spread into western and central parts after dark on the 3rd with some heavy rain for the south-west. Mumbles (West Glamorgan) did not fall below 12.4 °C overnight 3rd/4th, and the 4th was another cloudy day with some rain, again especially after dark. Fronts were held further west on the 5th resulting in a dry and mild and rather cloudy day. The next frontal system pushed eastwards on the 6th giving 54.4 mm of rain at Scolton Country Park (Dyfed). The 7th was a generally cloudy day with bands of heavy showers and longer spells of rain, and further rain into the far south-west late in the day. The 8th was wet too, especially in western counties. The 9th started dry and mainly cloudy, before more rain and wind spread from the west late in the day.

10th to 18th

A south-westerly regime brought a mix of sunshine and showers between the 10th and 12th, with thunder locally, and there was more general rain early on the 11th but this cleared all parts by midday. The 13th had

fewer showers. A large Scandinavian anticyclone then settled the weather down somewhat, keeping frontal systems away to the west. There was occasional rain early on the 14th and it was mostly cloudy, but became brighter in the south. The 15th and 16th were mild and cloudy in the south, but sunnier in the north, especially on the 15th when the temperature reached 17.3 °C at Trawsgoed (Dyfed). It turned less mild on the 17th and 18th, with some fog patches overnight but it was sunny and dry by day, with 7.9 hours of sunshine at Valley (Anglesey) and Aberporth (Dyfed) on the 17th.

19th to 26th

Easterly winds brought scattered showers into eastern areas on the 19th and 20th and persistent rain spread from the south-east on the afternoon of the 20th, following a sunny start in the south-west. It was cold and mostly dry on the 21st and 22nd, with sunshine in the south-west on the 21st but cloudier elsewhere, and sunny in most parts on the 22nd. The intervening night was frosty away from coastal fringes, and Lake Vyrnwy (Powys) reached only 2.2 °C on the 22nd. It was less cold from the 23rd to 26th, but still colder than average for the time of year. Showers spread northwards on the 23rd, and the south saw further showery rain on the 24th. The 25th was dry with some sunshine, but the 26th was cloudier, with isolated showers spreading from the east into northern counties.

27th to 30th

The weather turned mild, wet and very windy. Rain, locally heavy, spread through all parts on the 27th, and the 28th brought further rain accompanied by strong winds, with gusts to 90 mph at Capel Curig (Gwynedd) and exceeding 70 mph in some other places. Gusts were widely above 60 mph on the 29th, with widespread rain clearing eastwards in the morning, followed by sunshine and blustery showers. The 30th was another day of sunshine and showers, but the showers were more scattered.

Scotland diary of highlights

After a cold bright start, the first half of November was predominantly mild and wet with southerly winds, although sheltered northern parts often saw relatively little rain. It turned more settled from the 15th to 18th, then a week of easterly winds brought frequent showers to eastern parts, but dry sunny weather to the north-west. It turned mild, wet and windy from the 27th onwards.

The mean temperature for November was provisionally 1.3 °C above the 1981-2010 long-term average. Rainfall was 97% of average and sunshine was 121% of average. Some eastern counties had a cloudy and wet month, and it was also wetter than average in the south-west, but the north-west was dry and exceptionally sunny.

1st to 9th

It started off rather cold with light winds, but turned mild from the 2nd onwards, becoming wet and windy with frequent southerly winds. The 1st started frosty in central and northern parts, with rain clearing the east by midday but showers in the west, and many places were sunny with 7.7 hours at Dundrennan (Kirkcudbrightshire). The 2nd was mostly dry and bright but rain spread into the west from mid-afternoon, with 49.8 mm at Achnagart (Ross and Cromarty). The 3rd was cloudy and wet for most, especially in the west and south-west, but it was dry and very mild in the north-east with a high of 17.9 °C at Lossiemouth (Morayshire). The 4th was a brighter day, with some showers for the north-west and the south, but rain spread northwards on the 5th which remained mild and generally cloudy. The 6th to 8th were cloudy with southerly winds steering belts of rain from south-west to north-east, although the 6th stayed dry in many northern and eastern counties and the 8th started bright and dry in the north and east. The 9th became very wet in western areas, and the rain spread north-eastwards accompanied by strong winds, with gusts to 76 mph at South Uist (Western Isles).

10th to 18th

The 10th and 12th were days of sunshine and showers, the showers heavy and locally thundery in places, while the 11th had a belt of more persistent rain spreading north-eastwards through the day. The north-east stayed mainly dry on the 11th and 12th. The 13th had fewer showers, mainly in the north and west, and many places were sunny. The 14th was a wet day, though turning drier and brighter from the south in the afternoon, after which high pressure near Scandinavia held weather systems out to the west, giving more settled weather. The temperature fell no lower than 12.2 °C at Dunstaffnage and Machrihanish (both Argyll) overnight 14th/15th. Rain cleared western and northern parts on the 15th, and then the 15th and 16th were mild and dry, sunny in the north and east but cloudier further south. Low cloud spread onto some eastern coasts late on the 16th, and this spread more widely to central and eastern areas on the 17th, becoming more confined to the coast again on the 18th. Otherwise the 17th and 18th were sunny and dry.

19th to 26th

The night of the 18th/19th was frosty in some inland areas with a minimum of -6.4 °C at Aviemore (Inverness-shire), followed by a sunny day in the north and west, but an easterly wind brought showers into eastern and central counties. The temperature again fell to -6.4 °C at Aviemore early on the 20th, which became dry and sunny again in the west but with showers and longer spells of rain for central and eastern areas. Showers and longer spells of rain occurred widely on the 21st also, with sleet and snow on higher ground, but the far north-west stayed mainly dry and bright. Persistent rain affected the eastern half of the country on the 22nd, but it was dry and sunny in the west, and it remained chilly. The rain continued to affect eastern and central areas on the 23rd but turned more showery, while it was dry and sunny in the far south-west. Between the 24th and 26th the easterly regime continued, bringing scattered showers to eastern areas, but the 26th had fewer showers and more sunshine generally. It remained cold, with a maximum of only 2.5 °C at Braemar (Aberdeenshire) on the 26th.

27th to 30th

The weather quickly turned milder, wet and very windy. Showers continued to affect eastern coastal areas on the 27th but rain spread from the south-west in the afternoon. The 28th was cloudy with mainly light patchy rain, but more organised rain spread from the south-west to all parts by dark, with gusts exceeding 60 mph in places. The rain cleared north-eastwards by dusk on the 29th, followed by clearer weather with showers, the showers mostly in the west. The 30th was a day of sunshine and heavy blustery showers, with longer spells of rain at times, but it stayed mostly dry and sunny in the north-east.

Northern Ireland diary of highlights

November started quite cold and sunny, but otherwise the first half was generally mild and wet with frequent southerly winds. It turned drier and colder from the 16th to 26th, though easterly winds brought some rain or showers at times. Mild, wet and very windy weather set in from the 27th.

The month's mean temperature was provisionally 0.7 °C above the 1981-2010 long-term average. Rainfall was well above average in the south-east and near average in the north and west, while sunshine was near average in the south and above average in the north. Overall Northern Ireland had 130% of average rainfall and 115% of average sunshine.

1st to 9th

The month began relatively cold and quiet, with sunshine and scattered showers on the 1st, and then a cold frosty night. Katesbridge (County Down) recorded 7.6 hours of sunshine on the 1st, followed by a minimum of -6.2 °C overnight. Cloud and rain spread from the west on the 2nd, introducing a much milder, wetter weather type. The 3rd was cloudy with bands of rain or showers spreading from west to east, but mild, with Belfast Newforge reaching 15.7 °C. The rain cleared by the 4th leaving a dry bright day, but further rain spread from the south on the 5th, becoming light and patchy in the afternoon. The 6th was mild and breezy with intermittent rain, but more persistent rain spread from the west in the afternoon, with 37.0 mm at Murlough

(County Down). Rain spread northwards on the 7th, becoming more showery during the afternoon. The 8th started off dry and sunny especially in the north, but clouded over with rain edging into the east. After a dry cloudy start, the 9th turned increasingly wet and windy.

10th to 18th

The 10th was mainly dry and bright, but with a few afternoon showers in the far south-east. A band of rain cleared north-eastwards early on the 11th followed by sunshine and scattered showers, and the 12th was mostly cloudy with isolated showers, which turned more frequent in the far west. It was mainly dry and sunny on the 13th but cloud increased from the south-west later. A warm southerly flow and frontal systems gave a wet morning for most on the 14th, followed by a dry cloudy afternoon, and some rain early and late on the 15th, especially for the west. Magilligan (County Londonderry) fell no lower than 12.9 °C on the night of the 14th/15th. The 16th and 17th were mild, dry and mainly cloudy, though the 16th saw some brightness in the far north. Drier, colder continental air spread in on the 18th giving a sunny and dry day.

19th to 26th

A colder easterly type set in on the 19th and 20th, and after a dry sunny start to the 19th, cloud and isolated showers quickly spread from the east. The 20th had some sunshine, with showers developing during the afternoon. Showers and longer spells of rain affected all parts on the 21st, and it was cold with a maximum of only 4.8 °C at Lough Fea (County Londonderry). The rain cleared by the 22nd, which was a cold, dry and mostly sunny day. Persistent easterly winds brought isolated showers from the 23rd to 26th, these mainly in the east and south. There were some sunny spells also in the east and south on the 23rd, and after a mainly cloudy day on the 24th, there were some sunny spells away from the south on the 25th and 26th.

27th to 30th

The weather quickly turned mild, wet and very windy. Rain affected all parts on the 27th, clearing north-eastwards during the afternoon followed by brighter, windy weather with scattered showers, and there was a gust to 64 mph at Orlock Head (County Down). The 28th was wet and windy again, especially from noon onwards, with widespread gusts over 50 mph. Persistent rain cleared eastwards during the morning of the 29th followed by sunshine and blustery showers, and this mix of sunshine and blustery showers continued on the 30th.

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