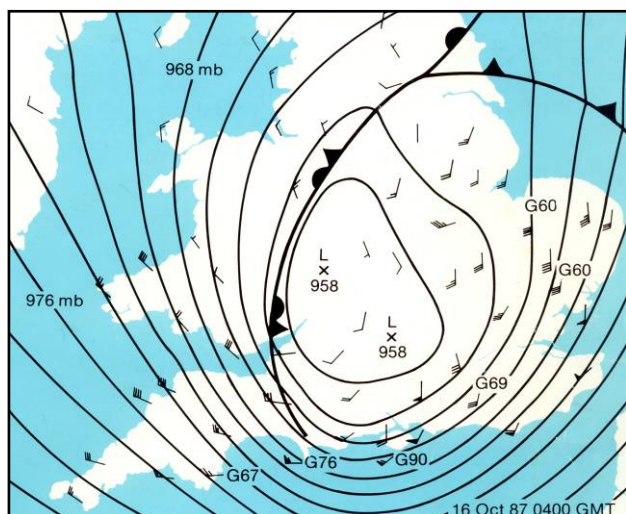


# Friday 16 October 1987 (October '87 Storm)



Weather chart for 0400 UTC on 16 October 1987

## Daily weather extremes

**Highest Maximum Temperature:**  
15.5 °C at St. Helier (Jersey)

**Lowest Maximum Temperature:**  
8.2 °C at Eskdalemuir (Dumfries and Galloway)

**Lowest Minimum Temperature:**  
0.4 °C at Tummel Bridge (Tayside)

**Lowest Grass Minimum Temperature:**  
-1.2 °C at Killin (Stirling)

**Most Rainfall:**  
69.5 mm at Trawsfynydd (Gwynedd)

**Most Sunshine:**  
8.1 hours at Newquay (Cornwall)

## General summary

An intense, and almost certainly exceptional, depression crossed the coast of South Devon soon after midnight, moving quickly, and deepening rapidly, with a track across the Midlands and out towards the Humber Estuary. Some very severe conditions due to storm force winds were generated around the southern and eastern flank of the low, with gust well in excess of 70 knots, reaching a peak in the period 0300 GMT to 0700 GMT, with gusts to 90 knots reported along the south coast. The very stormy conditions were accompanied by some heavy rain, this rain pushing into Scotland and parts of Northern Ireland after dawn.

Clearer weather, on westerly winds, swept across southern Britain, pushing the worst of the stormy winds away into the North Sea. During the afternoon the country settled down to a blustery westerly with some heavy and thundery showers developing in clusters, running especially into western and southern coastal regions and parts of southeast England. Across Scotland and northern England the skies remained cloudy, with outbreaks of mostly light rain, but troughs enhanced the showers in the northwest later in the evening with heavy rain. It was a rather cold day in most places, although the temperatures were near normal in the southeast.

## Significant weather events

- The central pressure of L<sub>M</sub> at Exeter at 0200 GMT was 957 mb, the deepest depression to be centred over England or Wales in October in at least 150 years.
- Maximum observed pressure change in one hour: 12.2 mb at 0500 GMT at Hurn.
- Highest recorded gust: 100 knots (115 mph) at Shoreham-on-Sea.
- Highest Hourly Mean Wind Speed: 75 knots (86.5 mph) at Royal Sovereign Lighthouse.
- 18 people died as a direct result of this storm.
- The last storm of similar magnitude in England occurred in 1703.

## Maximum gust speeds

Shoreham-by-Sea (West Sussex): **100 knots (115 mph)**  
 Langdon Bay (Kent): **94 knots (108 mph)**  
 Thorney Island (West Sussex): **90 knots (104 mph)**  
 Herstmonceux (East Sussex): **90 knots (104 mph)**  
 Shoeburyness (Essex): **87 knots (100 mph)**  
 Gatwick (East Sussex): **86 knots (99 mph)**

## Daily weather statistics

	London	Edinburgh	Cardiff	Belfast
Maximum Temperature/°C:	14.8	10.1	13.6	11.6
Minimum Temperature/°C:	8.9	6.4	6.8	3.4
Rainfall Amount/mm:	5.6	5.7	0.9	0.0
Sunshine Amount/hours:	4.9	0.0	6.5	4.3