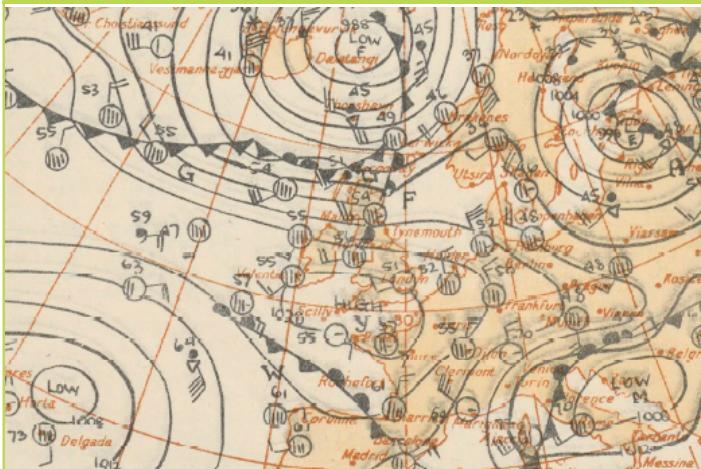


# Wednesday 8 October 1952

## (Harrow and Wealdstone Train Crash)

Weather chart for 1200 UTC on 8 October 1952

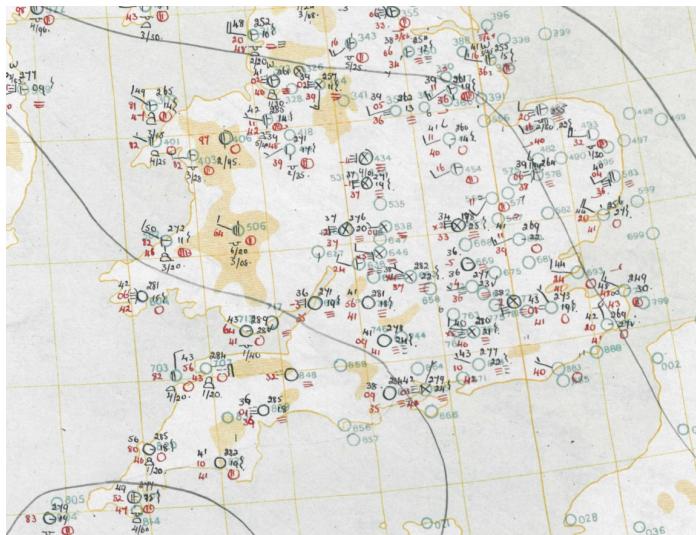


### General summary

For many the morning dawned rather grey but any fog quickly cleared with bright or sunny spells developing, the best of which were across southern and south-western districts. It was always more cloudy across Scotland and Northern Ireland and although generally dry for many, thicker cloud and outbreaks of rain developed across the Western Isles during the morning. Cloud and outbreaks of rain affected much of western Scotland during the rest of the day but elsewhere, apart from a few showers across North East Scotland it was generally dry across the United Kingdom with sunny spells, more particularly across southern areas. Winds were light across southern parts but a light to moderate, later fresh, west or south-westerly wind affected northern areas. Temperatures were close or slightly below average.

### Significant weather event

Dense fog affected parts of southern England, most notably across parts of northwest London during the morning rush hour. The fog was probably a major contributing factor to the train crash at Harrow and Wealdstone station in north London when the overnight sleeper service from Perth, Scotland to London Euston passed a home signal at danger and ploughed into the back of the local Tring to Euston service standing at Harrow and Wealdstone station. A few minutes later the Euston to Liverpool/Manchester express ploughed into the wreckage. In total 112 people were killed and over 350 injured. A report after the crash concluded that the weather conditions at the time were a major contributing factor to the accident.



British Isles chart for 0800 on 8 October 1952 showing fog (signified by three horizontal lines) and low visibility across Central and Southern England.

### Daily weather extremes

#### Highest Maximum Temperature

16.7 °C at St Mary's (Isles of Scilly)

#### Lowest Minimum Temperature

-3.9 °C at Eskdalemuir (Dumfriesshire)

#### Most Rainfall

17.8 mm at Stornoway Airport (Western Isles)

#### Most Sunshine

10.3 hours at Chivenor (Devon)