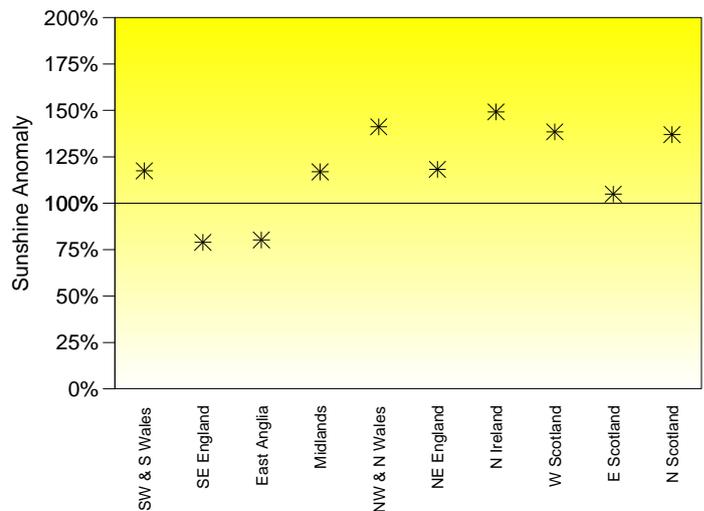
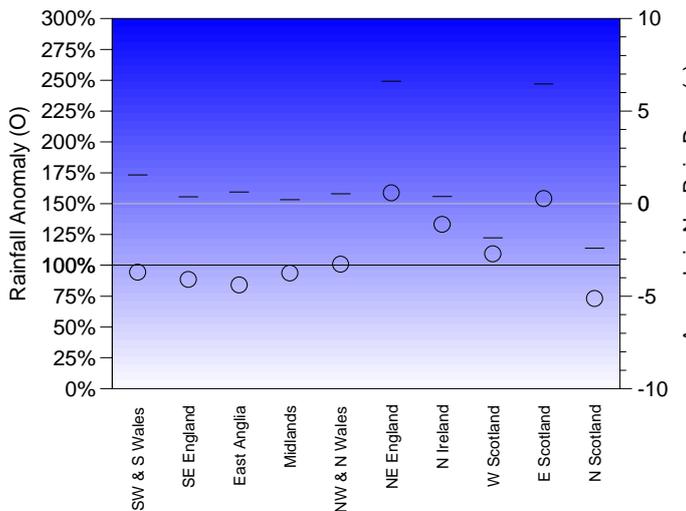


Extremes for November 2010		
Hottest:	19.0°C	St James Park, Greater London, 4th
Coldest:	-18.0°C	Llysdinam, Powys, 28th
Most Rain:	63.9mm	Capel Curig SAWS, Gwynedd, 4th
Most Sun:	8.7hrs	Portchester, Hampshire, 10th
Windiest:	89mph	Capel Curig SAWS, Gwynedd, 11th
Warmest:	9.5°C	Scilly St. Mary's SAWS, Cornwall
Coolest:	2.0°C	Tulloch Bridge SAWS, Highland
Wettest:	245.6mm	Tyndrum No 3, Perthshire
Driest:	10.2mm	Rochdale, Greater Manchester
Sunniest:	95.4hrs	Copley, Durham
Dullest:	18.7hrs	Swaffham, Norfolk



There are often two faces to November weather - stormy with damaging gales, or dank, cold and misty with persistent fog as the rapidly declining sun continues to lose its strength. This year, the UK experienced just about everything that November can throw at us - rain, gales, fog, sunshine, anticyclonic gloom and finally, snow and frost at the month's end.

The month began with a run of very mild south-westerlies. Western and northern coasts and hills were very wet but the south and east remained mainly dry and exceptionally mild both by day and night; St James' Park, London, reached 19°C (66°F) on the 4th. It turned rather colder but brighter over the weekend of the 6th/7th, but the 8th was a wet day for many with a raw south-easterly wind and snow over northern hills. The 10th was sunny but the following day was stormy for many as a deep depression moved east across northern Scotland. High winds and heavy rain led to considerable disruption to road, rail and ferry routes in south and west Scotland, Wales and northern England and there were power cuts in Northern Ireland. By the 15th, conditions were quieter but overnight fog proved slow to clear during the day. Freshening south-east winds on the 17th lifted the fog but an occlusion brought a band of rain north-eastwards. Cornwall experienced severe flooding with many homes and businesses inundated in the St Austell and Bodmin areas, including the Eden project. A chilly north-east breeze developed by the 21st giving gloomy weather and by then, a formidable anticyclone was forming over Greenland. As often occurs in these situations, very cold air began to feed southwards across the UK, and the final week was bitter with heavy snowfalls in the north-east causing chaos on the roads. There were some exceptionally cold nights, with some stations in the west reporting their coldest November night on record on the 27th/28th. Llysdinam, Powys recorded a minimum of -18°C (-0.4°F) and Loch Fea, Northern Ireland -9.5°C (15°F), setting new November records for Wales and Northern Ireland respectively. As the month drew to its close snowfall spread to other parts of eastern and southern England. Lincolnshire, Kent and Surrey were particularly badly affected. Transport disruption was extensive; 400 lorries were trapped on the M25 in Surrey overnight on the 30th and Gatwick and Edinburgh airports were forced to close.

The cold snap offset the mild start to the month, and mean temperatures were typically 1.5-2°C below normal, making it the coldest November across the UK since 1993. Rainfall was close to average generally, though well above near the coasts of north-east England, and well below in north-west Scotland and the Northern Isles. It was a dull month in East Anglia and south-east England but Northern Ireland and western Scotland enjoyed one of their sunniest Novembers on record.

On November 13th, a storm brought flooding to northern France and Belgium with the worst flooding in fifty years southwest of Brussels. In Halle, several villages were evacuated as the Brussels-Charleroi canal flooded. Maastricht recorded 70mm with a 3 day total of 96mm. The cold wave of late November swept all of northwest Europe towards month end. In Ireland on the 28th, both Dublin and Casement Airports recorded minima of 9.1°C - record low temperatures for November. In France, temperatures at Orleans in the Loire valley plunged to -15.3°C (4°F) on 30th - surpassing the previous November record (set in 1956) by 6°C! Norway experienced its coldest November since 1919. On the 24th, -36.6°C (-35°F) was measured in Nikkaluokta while Kvikkjokk recorded -34.4°C (-31°F) - the lowest November temperature there since records began in 1888. A severe snowstorm affected central and south Sweden towards month end and on the 30th the capital, Stockholm shivered in -11.3°C (12°F) - the lowest November temperature since 1965. In the western Mediterranean, Gibraltar was deluged with 149mm of rain on the 27th, while 248mm fell in 48 hours at Chefchaouen, Morocco on 28-29th.

In southern California temperatures hit 37.8°C (100°F) at San Diego Airport on the 4th, the hottest November temperature ever. On the 13th, a rare early season winter storm swept across the U.S. states of Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, depositing 20-30cm of snow, just three days after the region experienced record breaking warm temperatures! Temperatures dived to -23°C (-10°F) in Cut Bank, Montana and nearly 115,000 people were left without power. In Chicago, on the afternoon of the 23rd an active cold front triggered a line of fierce thunderstorms. A tornado spanning 800m swept through the nearby town of Caledonia, while hail up to 5cm in diameter fell in west and northwest Illinois damaging grain silos, barns and other buildings. In central and southern America, heavy rainfall in Costa Rica led to flooding and landslides on the 3rd that resulted in at least 25 fatalities and caused 2,500 people in the capital, San José, to evacuate for fear of a dam burst. Cyclone Jal brought record breaking rainfall to India and Sri Lanka 7th-11th. Winds reached 80mph and satellite estimates indicated over 600 mm of rainfall across southern India. On 10th-11th in Sri Lanka residents of the capital Colombo were left marooned by flooding following 445mm of rain - the most to fall in a single day since 1992.