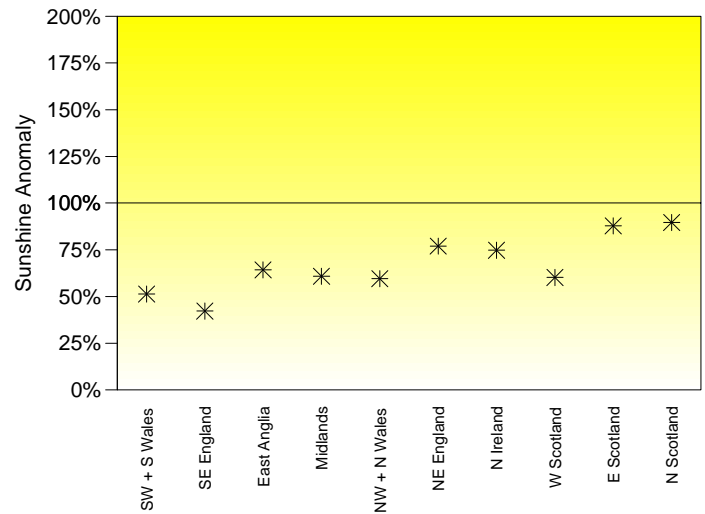
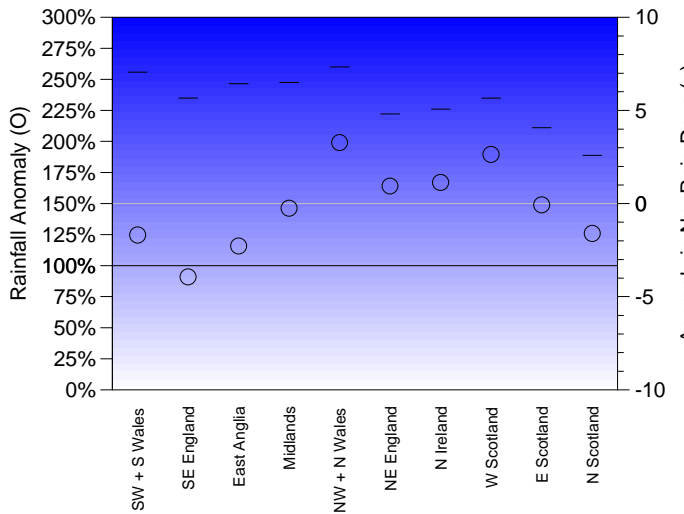


Extremes for November 2015	
Hottest:	22.4°C Trawscoed SAWS, Dyfed, 1st
Coldest:	-6.0°C Topcliffe Met Office, North Yorkshire, 22nd
Most Rain:	94.8mm Capel Curig SAWS, Gwynedd, 9th
Most Sun:	9.2hrs Jersey Airport, Channel Islands, 1st
Windiest:	93mph Capel Curig SAWS, Gwynedd, 29th
Warmest:	12.8°C Jersey St Helier, Channel Islands
Coolest:	5.0°C Braemar No 2, Grampian
Wettest:	470.0mm Cluanie Inn No 3, Ross & Cromarty
Driest:	46.0mm Cambridge, Niab, Cambridgeshire
Sunniest:	66.4hrs Dyce, Grampian
Dullest:	17.1hrs Loch Glascarnoch, Highland



November, with its rapidly shortening days, and frequent murk can be a miserable month of weather. An abundance of mobile westerly systems typically makes November the wettest month of the year (just beating October and December) and especially for Eastern Britain. Dry November's are exceedingly rare. Warm weather supposedly recurs around the 11th whilst settled but often foggy conditions are characteristic 15th - 21st a period known as "St Martin's Little Summer". The first snow of the winter is increasingly likely towards month end over high ground in Scotland and Northern England, but significant falls at low levels are rare.

November started foggy but very mild. Trawscoed (Ceredigion) recorded a UK record 22.4°C (72.3°F) on the 1st and was just 0.1°C cooler the following day. Despite the warmth, many places saw persistent fog - and this caused major disruption at airports and was responsible for a spate of road accidents. It stayed mild over the following days as the air stream remained from the south west and temperatures reached 17°C (62°F) widely across England and Wales on the 7th. The 8th was windy with gusts of 60-70mph in Northern Scotland and the 9th was very wet in North Wales (e.g. 96.8mm of rain at Capel Curig) Further heavy rain on the 10th caused the River Conwy burst its banks at Llanrwst in the Conwy Valley. On the 12th-13th Storm 'Abigail' (the first named storm of the season) brought heavy rain and severe gales to the extreme north and west of Scotland. South Uist recorded a gust of 84mph and across the Highlands and Western Isles, 20,000 homes were left without power and many schools were closed. 4 days later on the 16th-17th, Storm 'Barney' swept across central UK. A gust of 85mph was recorded at Aberdaron (Gwynedd) and fallen trees caused delays to road and rail travel across North Wales and the Midlands. All this time it continued to be very mild - exceptionally so in the south. Just briefly and starting on the 20th did the wind change to a colder more northerly flow - leading to some snow flurries as far south as Sussex and Cornwall early on the 21st and drifts blocking roads in the Scottish highlands. The 22nd brought the first air frost of the autumn for much of England. Benson (Oxfordshire) recorded -5.6°C (21.9°F) just before dawn, and the following night was equally as cold. Milder conditions returned on the 24th - but the next few days were frequently wet and windy, culminating in Storm 'Clodagh' which crossed northern Britain on the 28th-29th. Severe gales caused widespread transport disruption with fallen trees blocking roads and railways across the north. High Bradford (South Yorkshire) recorded a wind gust of 97mph. Cold air pushed snowfall south across Scotland on the 30th leaving Aviemore with a snow depth of 9cm - much to the delight of local skiers.

November was exceptionally mild - and for the UK as a whole, the third warmest in over 100 years (beaten only by 1994 and 2011). It was a wet month nationwide - but especially in north western Britain and Northern Ireland which received double their normal rainfall. It was the dullest November in 85 years - and some places in south and west England received just 40% of their usual sunshine.

Europe also basked in remarkable warmth during early November. On the 2nd, Finland logged it's warmest ever November day with 13.3°C (56°F) at Jomala. On the 8th, Santander in northern Spain reached 30°C (86°F) while a November record of 24.1°C (75.4 °F) was recorded in Chablis (Burgundy, France). In marked contrast, Iceland shivered in an unusually severe early cold spell. There was widespread heavy snow on the 19th and temperatures fell below 20°C (-4°F) at Sandbúðir in south-east Iceland the following day. Storm 'Gorm' brought hurricane-strength winds to Denmark on the 29th with a gust of 103mph at Sjælland Odde.

In the USA, Death Valley suffered violent storms and devastating flash flooding during the first week of November. The third of three consecutive storms dropped 75mm of rain in five hours, triggering a 1 in 1,000-year flood event that battered historic structures, chewed through roadways and transformed the rugged landscape with layers of mud and rocks. Elsewhere in the USA, more than 1 million homes lost power on the 10th as a destructive storm swept the Pacific Northwest and Washington State recorded winds of up to 119mph. On the 21st - 22nd, Chicago sustained its second heaviest November snowfall since 1884 with depths of 48cm across the city.

On the 25th-26th, storm deluges in Qatar on the Arabian peninsula left cars floating in the streets, water gushing through ceilings and people sailing to work in boats! On the 10th and 11th, South Africa's biggest city, Johannesburg, and its capital, Pretoria, both experienced record high temperatures. Pretoria reached 40.3°C (105°F) on the 11th. Violent thunderstorms hit Queensland, Australia on the 29th causing 17,000 homes to lose power, property damage and disruption to transport. Golf ball sized hailstones flattened crops and broke solar panels around the town of Stanthorpe - and violent winds uprooted trees at nearby Charlton.