

The new month, and season, began with low pressure the dominant synoptic feature situated to the north west of the country. This drew in a moist and warm south west to west air stream which contained a lot of cloud. Sunshine was rather limited though the day was sultry and by late afternoon an occluded front carried a line of thunderstorms across the region from south west to north east, hitting this area around 1525 UTC. Rainfall was neither heavy nor prolonged and the system had passed by a little after 15.45 UTC.

Dawn on the 2nd saw one low pressure system moving away westwards with another developing in north western France which moved towards the UK. The net effect was to introduce yet more humid air into the area leading to highs of 20.7C though sunshine was hazy and limited. Very heavy rain occurred in parts of Worcester around 17.00 to 18.30 UTC when over 30mm of rain fell at Commeadow, yet just 6 miles away 4mm was recorded and here in Halesowen nil ! Thunder was heard towards Stourbridge around 16.45 UTC.

By the 3rd the low was over Dover and moving into the North Sea. The north westerly air flow over the Midlands was humid with hill fog widespread. This burned off fairly readily giving a morning of hazy sunshine. Long sunny periods developed in the afternoon which was quite muggy, maximum temperatures climbing to 21.1C with 6.2 hours of sunshine.. The night of 3rd/4th was almost cloudless which led to a very heavy dew and light variable winds. After a sunny morning cirrus cloud developed widely and thickened during the afternoon as a frontal system approached the Midlands from the north west. It remained dry until 21.48 UTC when intermittent, light rain reached the area.

This became continuous from 01.00 UTC on the 4th as the front edged slowly eastwards producing a fall of 7.6mm by 09.00 UTC. The rest of the day was very humid with spells of hazy sunshine and only light south westerly winds though further rain began at 2148 UTC and continued, on and off, until 0830 UTC on the 5th as a slow moving frontal system cleared the Midlands to the south east. Low pressure was still established to the north west of the country and the remains of hurricane Danielle were approaching Ireland from the Atlantic. This was to bring unsettled, though very warm weather to the country for the next few days.

Both the 6th and the 7th saw showery troughs crossing the region as frontal systems were driven south eastwards. Rain fell on both days, some frontal and other convective, in a rather blustery south to south west air stream. By the 8th the centre of the depression was moving northwards off Scotland and the strongest winds remained along the western seaboard of the UK. Temperatures peaked at 20.4C on the 6th, 21.5C on the 7th and 20C on the 8th. By dawn on the 9th a very complex and large area of low pressure dominated the UK and north eastern Atlantic with double centres, one to the south west of Ireland and the other the north east of Scotland, the entire system moving slowly north eastwards.

The resultant weather was of blustery showers, some quite intense, and embedded thunderstorms, thunder being heard from here at 1020 UTC. The south westerly wind gusted to gale force in the late morning reaching 35 knots at times. Between the showers were quite good sunny periods amounting to 6.3 hours in total for the day. The unsettled, showery and blustery weather continued into the 10th which was a rather cool day, temperatures being pegged back to a maximum of 17.3C. Low pressures still dominated the scene over, and near to, the UK though this large and complex area gradually slipped north eastwards.

The 11th saw still further spells of showery rain and sunny spells as a frontal system moved steadily south eastwards, passing over here at 2300 UTC. The rather cool northerly airstream introduced to the Midlands held temperatures down to a maximum of 15.9C with a further 4.9 hours of sunshine. By 0900 UTC on the 12th rain had fallen every day since the 6th and now totalled 32.1mm for the six days, a figure which seemed would be added to on the 12th as a further area of low pressure approached from the Atlantic and a vigorous front moved rapidly south eastwards during the early part of the day. Under the brisk NW wind frequent squally showers occurred with thunder and hail at 1132 and 1137 UTC. Temperatures were held down to a maximum no higher than 12.4C though 5.5 hours of sunshine was recorded. An occluded front cleared the station at 2330 UTC bringing a brisk fall in temperature and clearing skies.

The 13th began with clearing skies and excellent visibility in the north westerly air stream. One low was filling to the west of the UK whilst another in the southern North Sea was moving slowly north eastwards. This produced the sunniest day of the month to date with 9.3 hours of sunshine recorded though the maximum temperature was pegged to 14.1C and a few isolated and light showers occurred late afternoon. Frontal systems from the Atlantic were now approaching the western seaboard of the country as a further low made headway eastwards, the low in the North Sea gradually losing its identity as it filled and moved away bringing a fairly cold start to the 14th. The ensuing day was one of brief sunny spells and occasional light showers with afternoon temperatures peaking at 15.5C under the brisk north westerly air stream.

The low in the southern North sea began to drift eastwards pulling a cold front from Scotland southwards. After a dull and damp start the skies cleared a little to give brief sunshine totalling 3.4 hours for the day. With the passage of the front at 2010 UTC the wind veered north westerly before backing south westerly again. By dawn on the 16th a further low centred to the west of Scotland began to move rather quickly towards Denmark introducing a very brisk, cool north westerly air stream. The result was a sunny, if cool day with a maximum temperature of 15.7C and 9.6 hours of sunshine. As the low centre meandered slowly eastwards on the 17th the cool north westerly air stream was maintained though temperatures rose slightly as the wind eased reaching 18.2C during the afternoon.