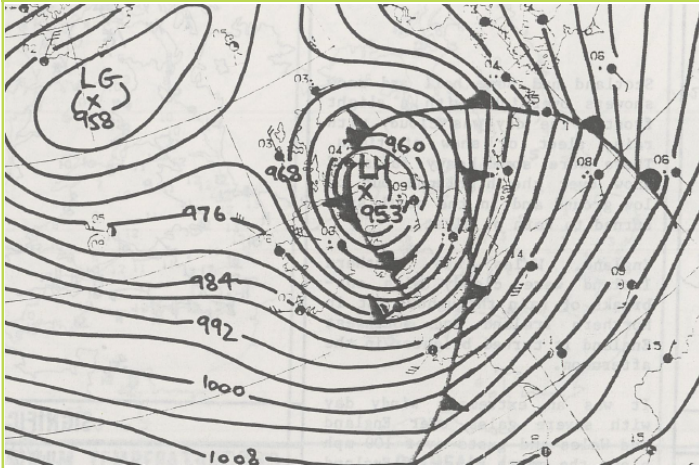


Weather chart for 1200 UTC on 25 January 1990



General summary

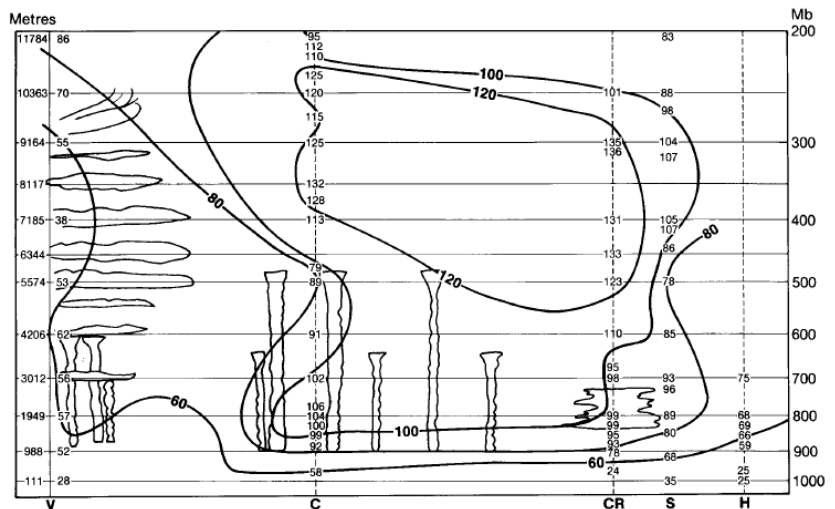
Scotland had a cloudy day with rain, sleet or snow at times. There were some heavy falls of snow over the highlands but on low ground and in the south snow turned to rain or sleet. England, Wales and Northern Ireland were cloudy with outbreaks of rain throughout but in Northern Ireland and South West England it turned brighter in the afternoon. It was an extremely windy day with severe gales over England and Wales and gusts over 100 mph along the south coast of England and up to 85 mph in many central and southern parts of England and Wales. Winds eased in the evening but severe gales affected northern England and eastern Scotland for a time. It was very mild at first over England and Wales but became much cooler by late afternoon. Scotland and Northern Ireland were mostly rather cold.

Significant weather event

The highest recorded wind gust was 93 knots between 1400 UTC and 1500 UTC at Aberporth with an associated mean speed of 65 knots. There were several gusts to 90 knots over a wide area of southern England. The trail of destruction from the Isles of Scilly to Denmark left 100 people dead, 47 of them in the British Isles alone. The estimated cost of insurance claims came to £2bn. The centre of the storm crossed the birthplace of Robbie Burns near Ayr on his birthday and became known as the "Burns Day Storm".

Highest gust speeds:

Aberporth 93 knots (107 mph)
 Gwennap Head 93 knots (107 mph)
 Culdrose 89 knots (103 mph)
 Herstmonceux 85 knots (98 mph)



Vertical cross-section at 1200 UTC on 25 January 1990 of the wind speed (knots) approximately along a line between Valentia (V), Camborne (C), Crawley (CR), Shoeburyness (S) and Hemsby (H).

Daily weather extremes

Highest Maximum Temperature

12.8 °C at Honington (Suffolk)

Lowest Minimum Temperature

-4.9 °C at Dingwall (Highland)

Most Rainfall

31.2 mm at Sloy (Argyll and Bute)

Most Sunshine

2.3 hours at Teignmouth (Devon) and Lizard (Cornwall)