

Oct 87

# October a cold and wet month

October was colder than normal, the minimum air temperature of  $-2^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $28^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) recorded on the 16th and 17th being the coldest October night since 1964.

Temperatures in general were well below expectation, ranging from  $17^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $63^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) on the 1st to  $-2^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $28^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) on the 16th and 17th, when the grass fell to  $-4.7^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $24^{\circ}\text{F}$ ). Four air and six ground frosts were recorded.

Rainfall was above average at 86mm (3.39in), the wettest day being the 19th when 21mm (0.82in) fell in a little over seven hours.

Rain was recorded on 19 days, 17 being 'wet' and 7 'very wet', rain duration being 56 hours.

The heaviest rate was on October 20 when rain was falling at 33mm (1.31in) per hour over a short period.

## SUNSHINE

Air pressures were markedly below normal, resulting from Atlantic depressions tracking across the area. As a consequence wind speeds have been up on recent months.

Wind run was 5,718 miles, or 184 miles per day at 8 mph, and was predominantly SW. Gusts in excess of 46 mph were recorded during the gales of October 9.

Sunshine was about average at 97 hours, the sunniest day, October 11 producing 8.8 hours of bright sunshine. Only two days had no sun at all in a month which was wetter and colder than is customary.