

Storms Atiyah (December 2019) and Brendan (January 2020)

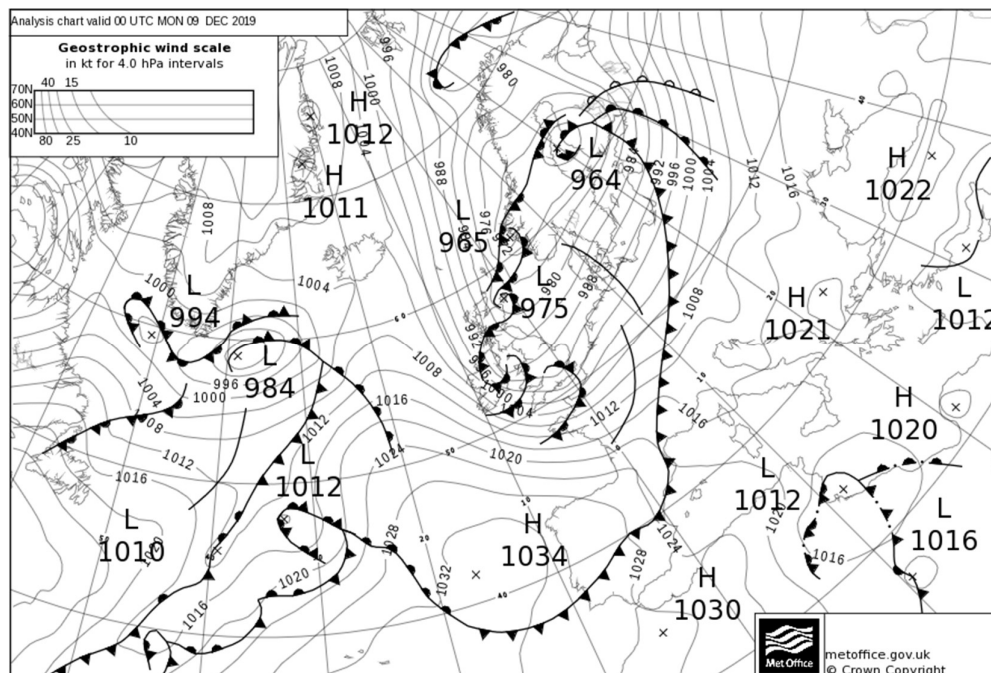
Storm Atiyah was the first named storm of the 2019/2010 season. The storm was named by Met Eireann, with the worst impacts across Ireland, but the storm also brought some very strong winds to Wales and south-west England overnight 8 to 9 December. Storm Brendan was a deep Atlantic low pressure system bringing strong winds and heavy rain across the UK on 13 January 2020. This was followed by further heavy rain across England and Wales on 14th.

Impacts

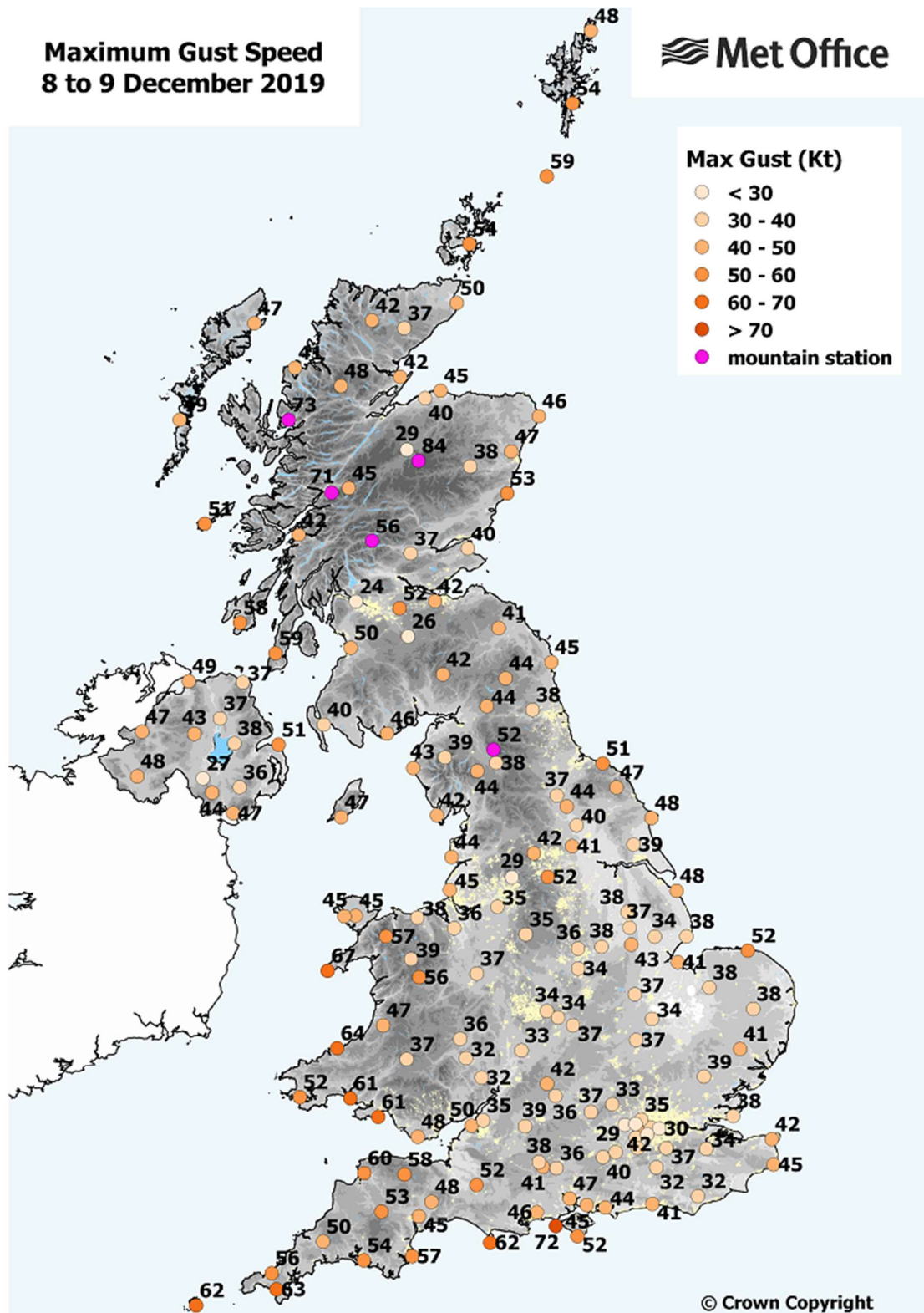
Strong winds from storm Atiyah caused some fallen trees, leading to power outages and transport disruption on Monday 9th. Large waves overtopped sea walls around coastal parts of Wales and the south-west and ferry services were cancelled. There were also some reports of structural damage in Cornwall. Storm Brendan brought further transport problems. Ferry services in western Scotland were cancelled or disrupted and there were further fallen trees, rail disruption and reports of structural damage. Large waves battered exposed coastlines in Wales, Northern Ireland and Western Scotland. Schools in the western Isles were closed.

Storm Atiyah – 8-9 December 2019

The analysis chart at 00 UTC 9 December 2019 shows tightening isobars across the south-west of the UK associated with storm Atiyah.

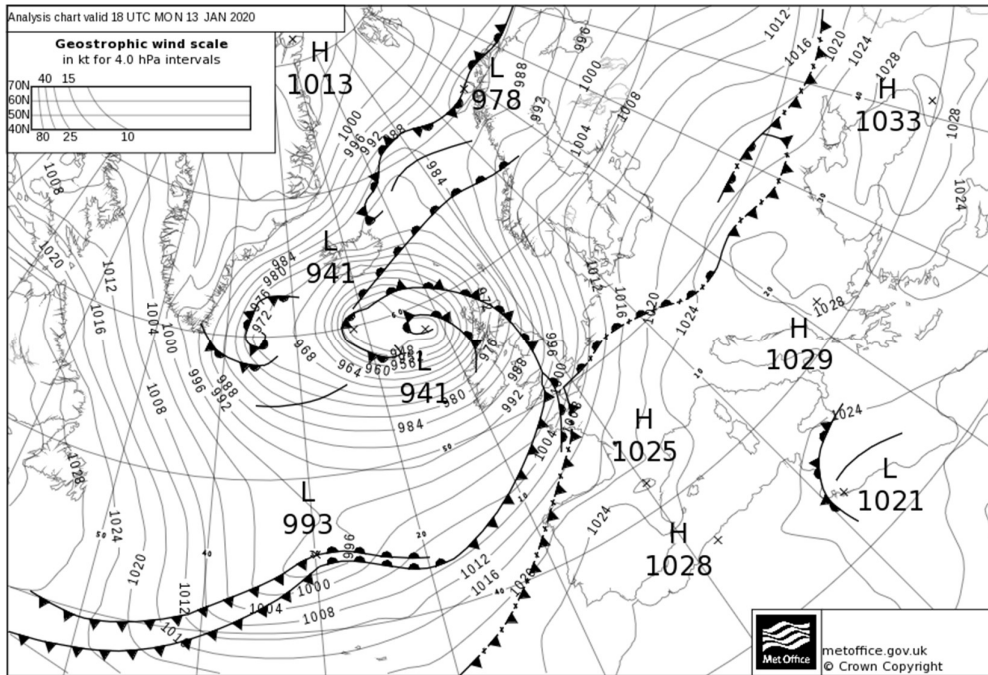


The map below shows maximum gust speeds from storm Atiyah. The storm brought some very strong winds across parts of Wales, south-west England and the south coast. Winds gusted at over 50 Kt (58 mph) across inland parts of the south-west, with gusts of 60 Kt (69 mph) or higher around exposed coastlines. Needles Old Battery (Isle of Wight) recorded 72 Kt (83 mph).

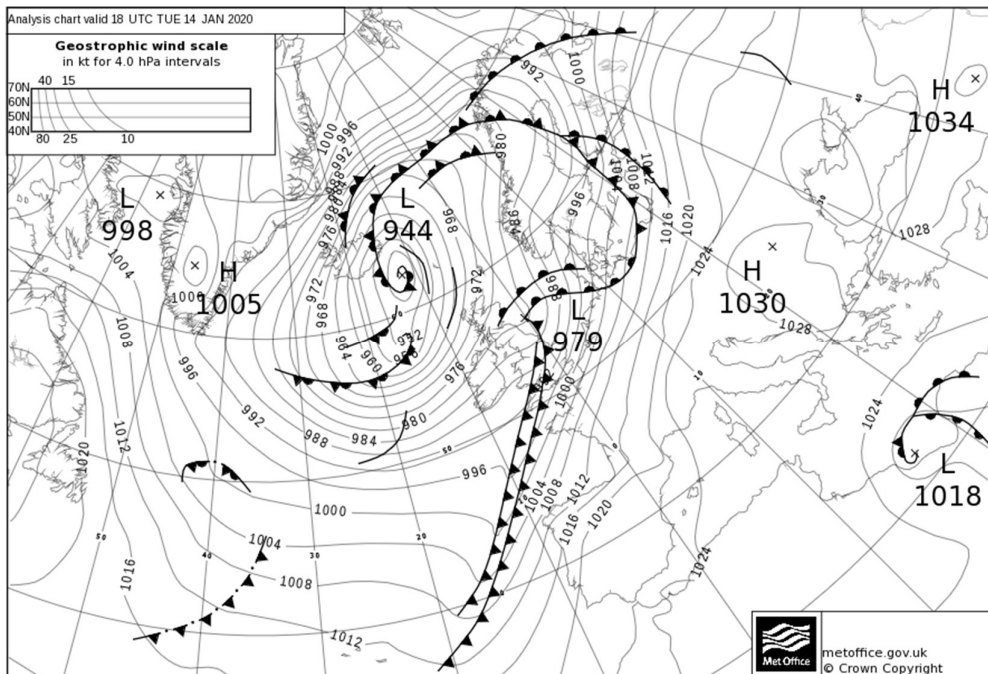


Storm Brendan – 13 January 2020

The analysis chart at 1800 UTC 13 January 2020 shows storm Brendan – a deep Atlantic winter storm system – bringing strong winds particularly to north-western parts of the UK, with the next rapidly deepening area of low pressure to the south-west.

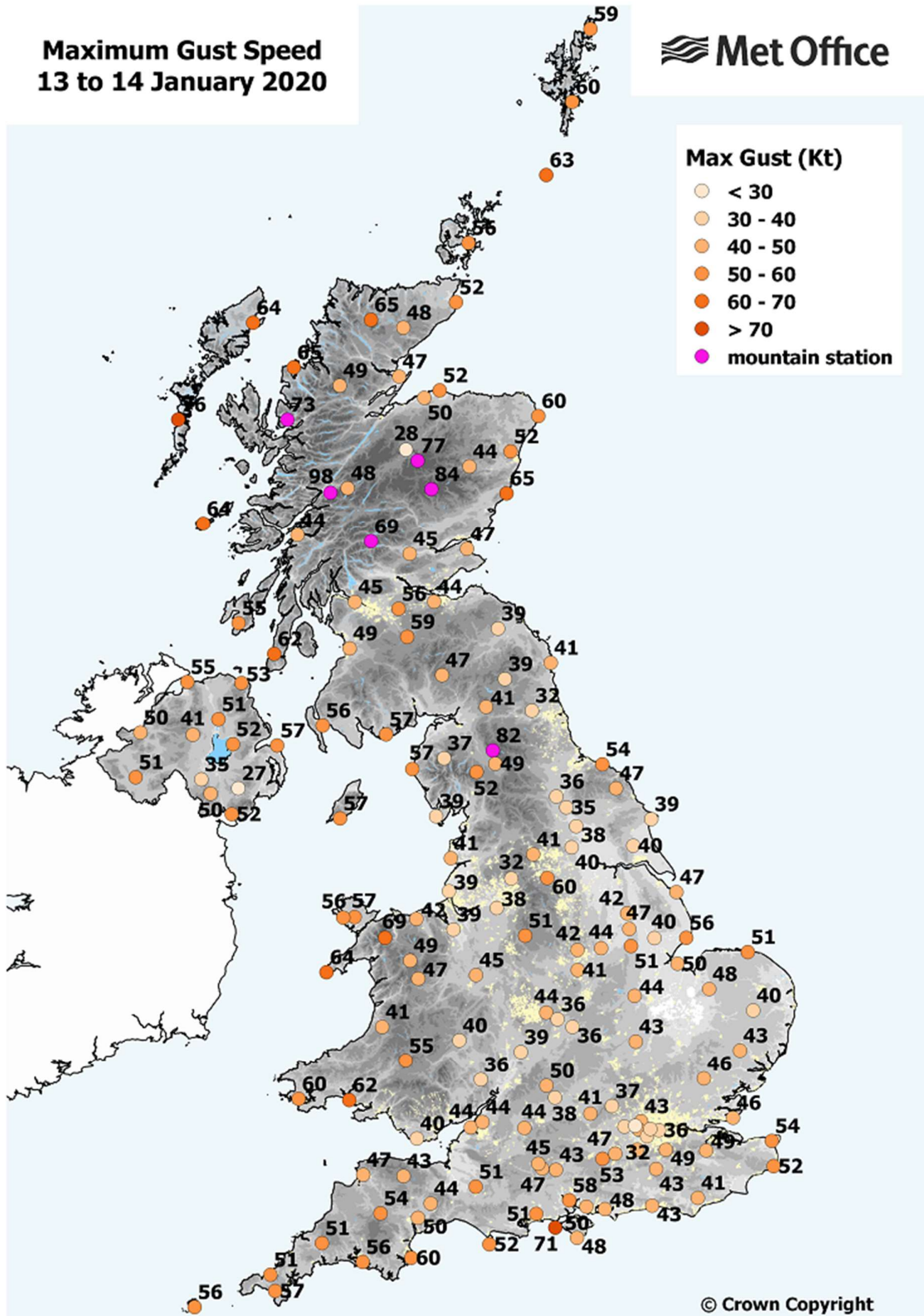


The analysis chart 24 hours later at 1800 UTC 14 January 2020 shows the second set of fronts bringing further wet and windy weather across England and Wales.

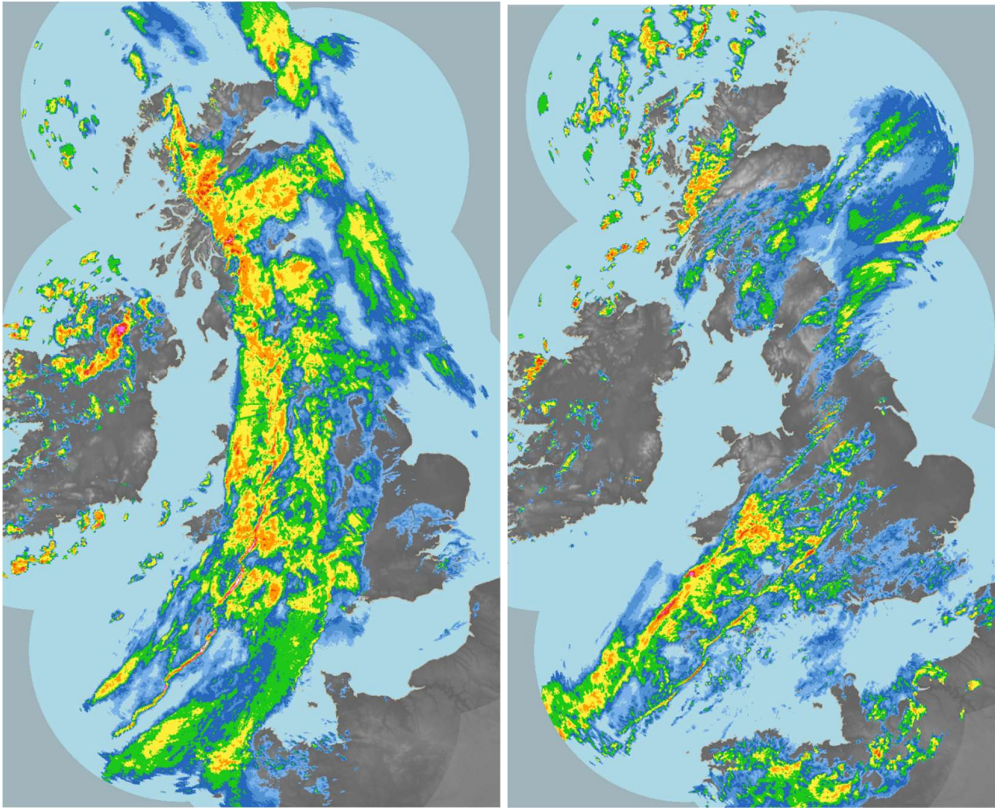


The map below shows maximum gust speeds from storm Brendan. Winds gusted at over 50 Kt (58 mph) across much of Wales, south-west England and Northern Ireland, reaching 60 Kt (69 mph) or more across exposed locations in west Wales, western and northern Scotland. The highest gusts were 76 Kt (87 mph) at South Uist, Western Isles, 71 Kt (82 mph) at Needles Old Battery, Isle of Wight and 69 Kt (79 mph) at Capel Curig, Conwy. Winds gusted at over 100 mph

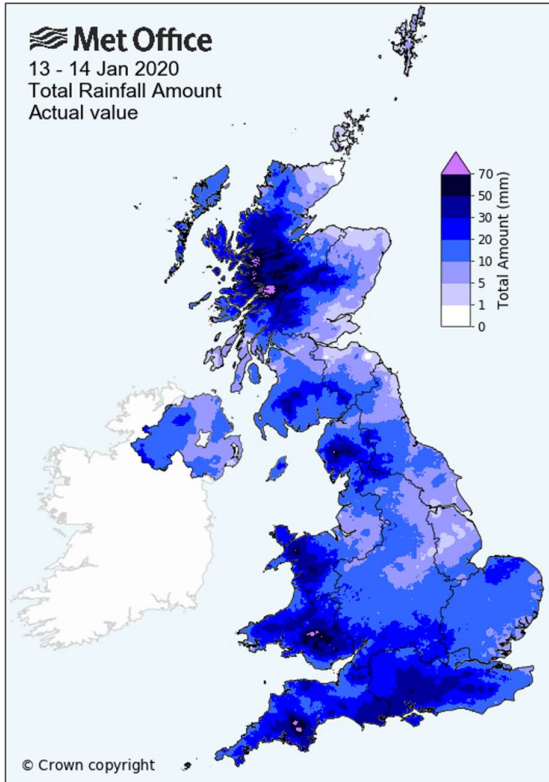
across Scotland's mountain summits including 98 Kt (113 mph) at Aonach Mor (1130 masl), Ben Nevis range).



The rain-radar image at 1630 UTC 13 January 2020 (a) shows heavy rainfall across the UK from storm Brendan, with intense rainfall associated with embedded convection within the frontal system. The rain radar image 24 hours later at 1630 UTC 14 January 2020 (b) shows further heavy rainfall across England and Wales, again embedded with intense convection.



The map below shows 2-day rainfall totals for 13 and 14 January 2020, with 20 to 30mm of rain falling widely across southern and western England and Wales, and 30 to 50mm or more falling across upland parts of western England, Wales and western Scotland.



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Last updated 21/01/2020