

## Storm Otto, 17 February 2023

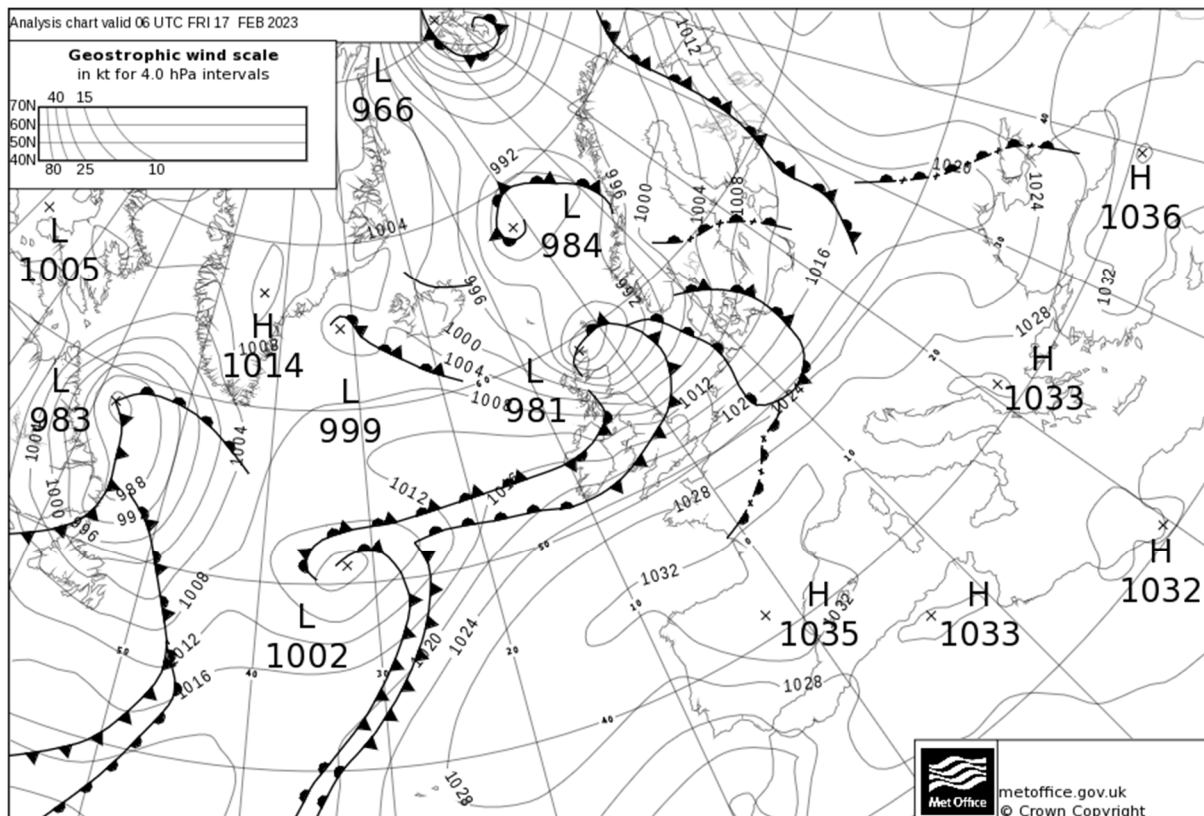
Storm Otto on 17 February 2023 was the first named storm of the 2022/2023 storm season. The storm was named by the Danish Meteorological Institute and brought gusts of over 60Kt to parts of northern and eastern Scotland and north-east England. The storm tracked rapidly eastwards across northern Scotland before moving across the North Sea toward Norway. This was a fairly typical Atlantic winter storm for the UK.

### Impacts

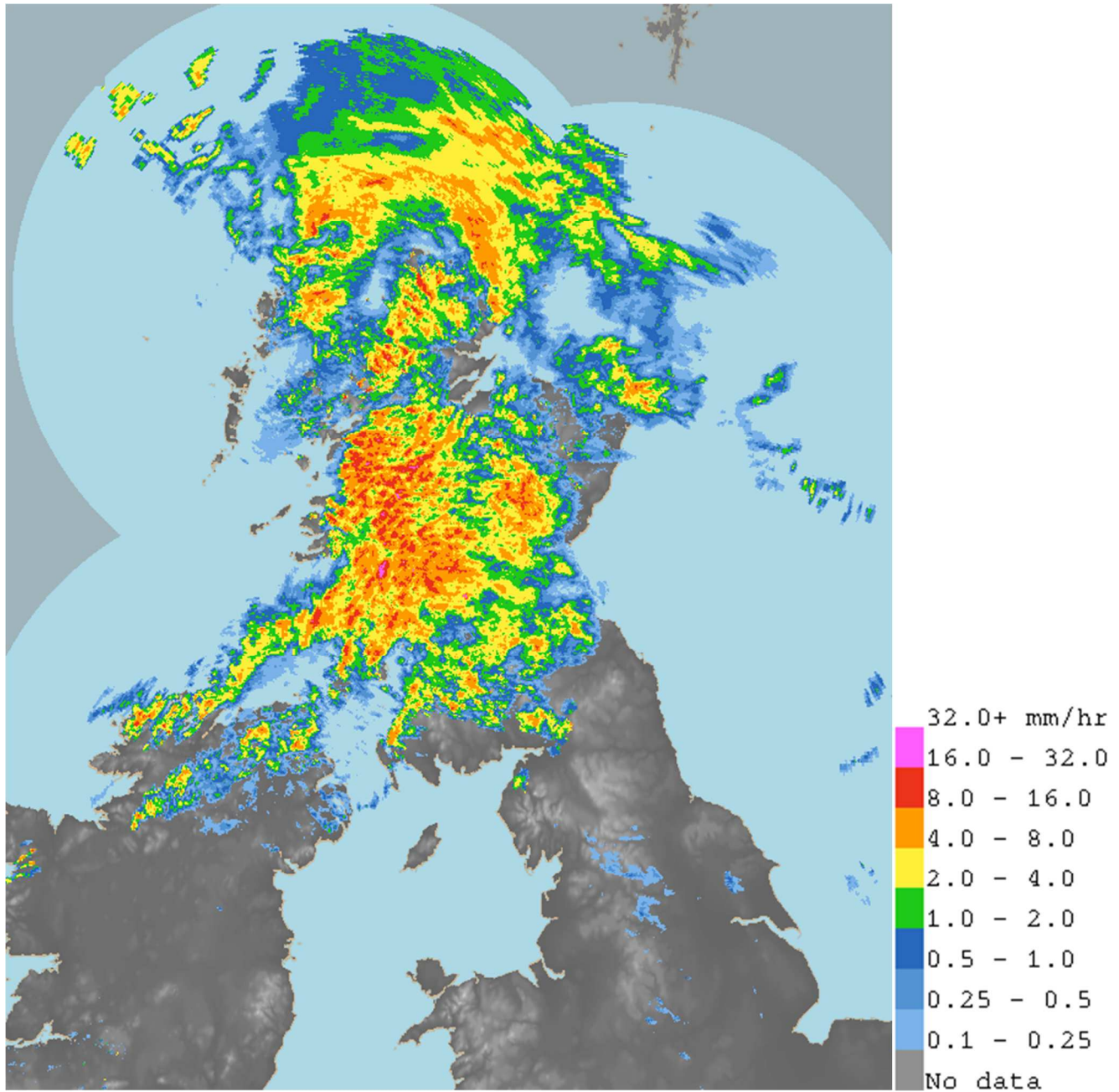
Thousands of homes across northern Scotland experienced power cuts overnight 16th to 17th. The storm caused transport disruption, with trains, buses and ferry services delayed or cancelled, and fallen trees blocked many routes in Aberdeenshire. There was some damage to buildings and vehicles and over 100 schools were closed in Aberdeenshire. These impacts were fairly typical for a named winter storm. Storm Otto then continued east where it caused further weather impacts to southern Norway and Sweden, and northern Denmark.

### Weather data

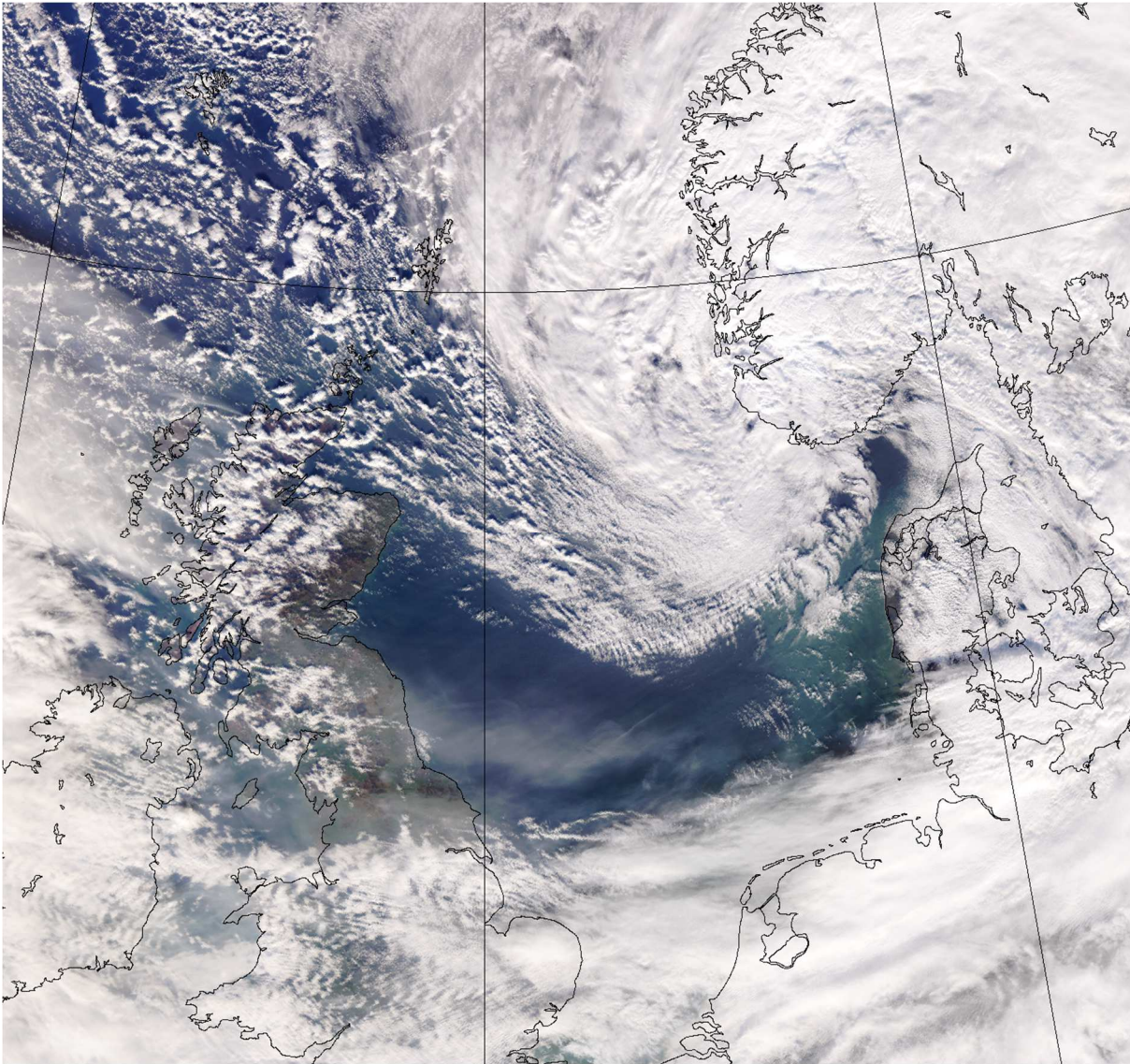
The analysis chart at 0600UTC 17 February 2023 shows the centre of storm Otto over the Northern Isles driving very strong north-westerly winds across Scotland and north-east England.



The rain-radar image at 0000UTC 17 February 2023 shows heavy rain across western Scotland as storm Otto approaches.



The satellite image at 1127UTC 17 February 2023 shows the storm centre to the west of Norway, having tracked rapidly eastwards across the North Sea.

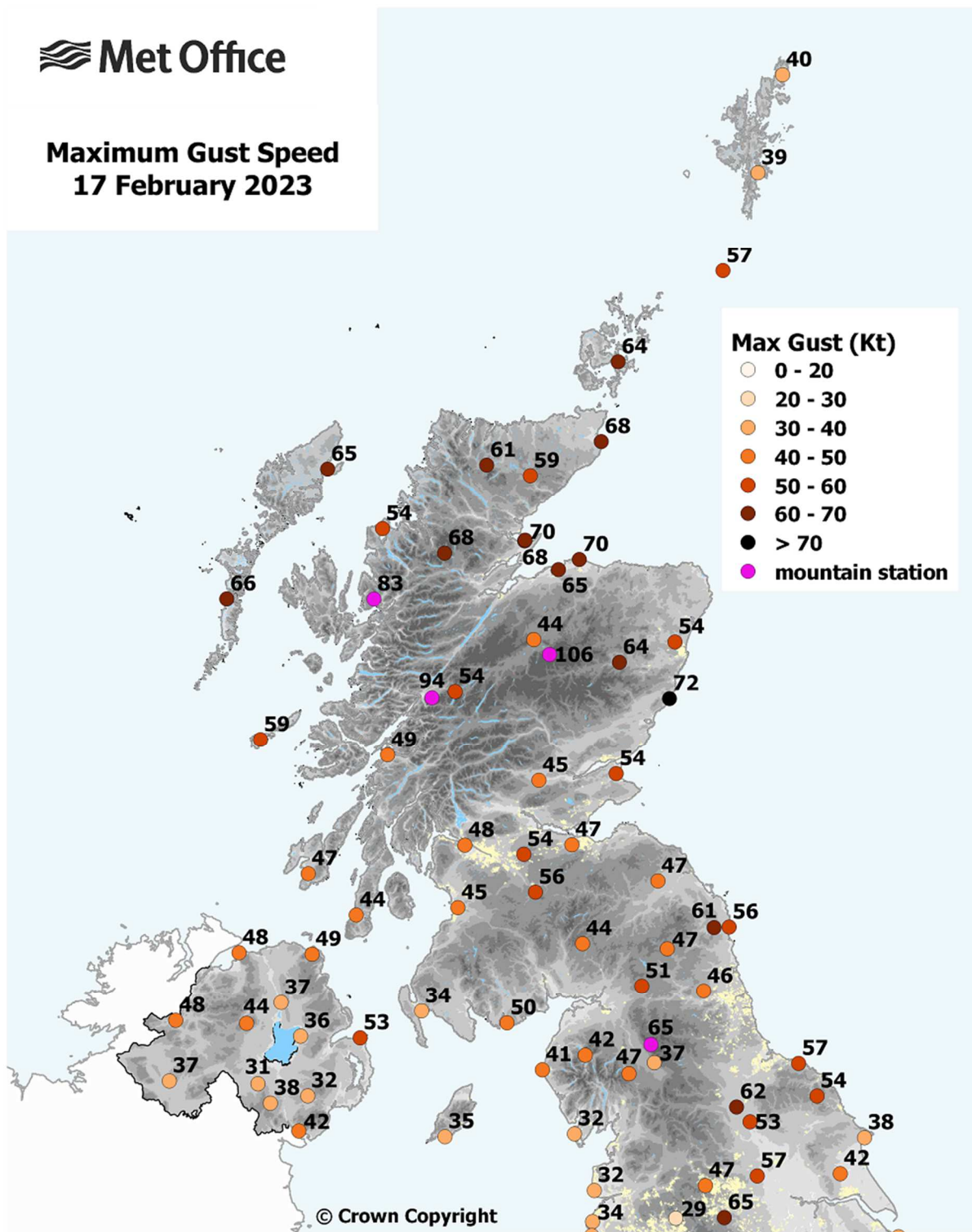




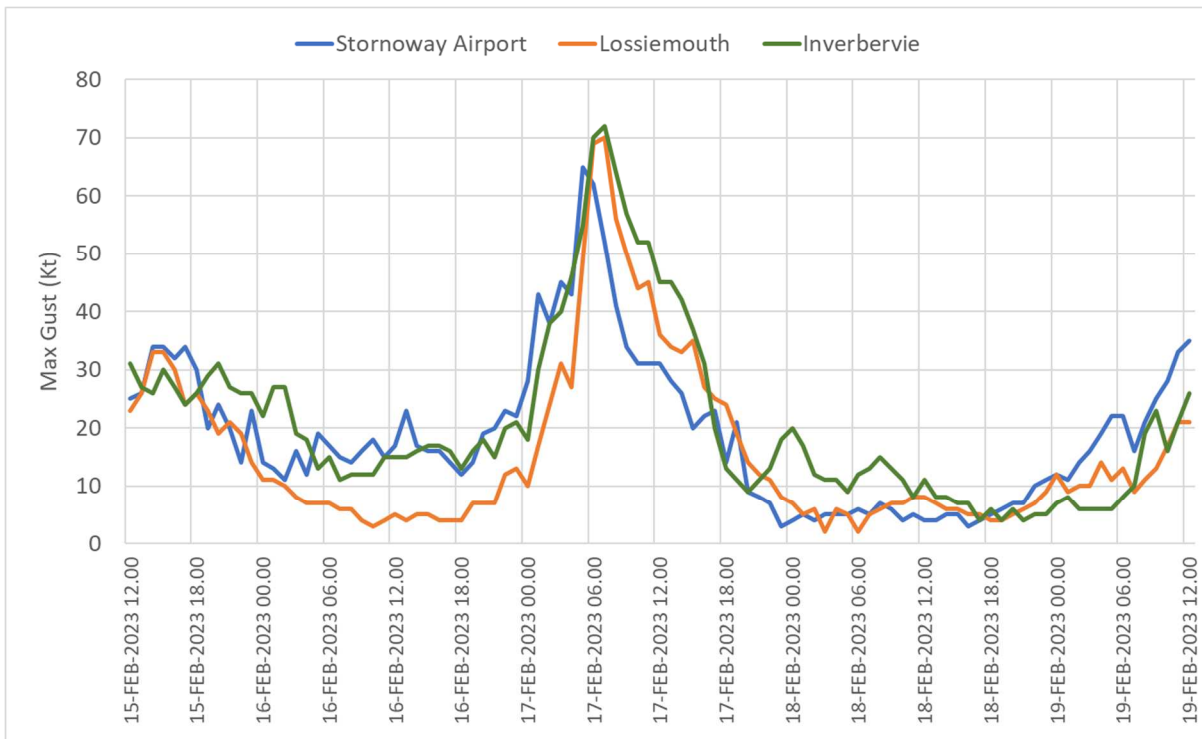
The map below shows maximum gust speeds from storm Otto on 17 February 2023. The strongest winds were across the Western Isles, northern and eastern Scotland and north-east England, with gusts of 60 to 70Kt (69 to 81mph). The highest gusts were 72Kt (83mph) at Inverbervie, Kincardineshire, 70Kt (81mph) at Tain Range (Ross & Cromarty) and 70Kt (81mph) at Lossiemouth (Moray). Further south in England, Emley Moor (West Yorkshire) recorded a gust of 65Kt (75mph) and Brizlee Wood (Northumberland) a gust of 61Kt (70mph). Winds were particularly high across Scotland's mountain summits with 106Kt (122mph) recorded at Cairngorm Summit, 1237 metres above mean sea level (masl). Inverbervie recorded its highest February gust on record, in data from 1992.



### Maximum Gust Speed 17 February 2023



The chart below shows hourly maximum gust speeds at Stornoway Airport (Western Isles), Lossiemouth (Moray) and Inverbervie (Kincardineshire) from 15 to 19 February 2023. Overall, wind gusts from this event were not exceptional and this was a fairly typical Atlantic winter storm for the UK.



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