



The Long Range Forecasters

2013 February 3-30d ahead Forecast Britain & Ireland

Produced under Solar Lunar Action Technique SLAT 8C– Summary - Detailed weather periods - Maps – Graphs
Including Solar-based likely corrections to apply to Short-range Standard Meteorology Forecasts

Weather Action are the only long range forecasters with independently proven published skill. See www.weatheraction.com

For Short Range localised forecasts - Weathernet personal premium rate service on 09061100445

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2013 FEBRUARY 30d (8 weather periods) Brit & Ire SLAT 8C forecast issued 27/30 January 2012;
including a few changes and extra detail to 45d issued 15th January

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FEBRUARY 2013 to Mar3

Headline summary & essential development.

A month of wild contrasts & extremes: Two snowy spells with blizzards and biting winds, Thaw floods & damaging gales, Ending in a burst of great Spring weather.

February 2013 Key basic weather developments:
Full details in 8 weather periods pages 2-6

- Major blizzards early February associated with a sudden lower polar stratospheric warning (same as Jan forecast extension).
- Widespread thaw floods in a burst of Spring from ~8th to 12th
- Return of bitter winter weather ~13th to 21st with snow / blizzards in North/NE. Milder with gale damage in South/West.
- A burst of great Spring weather final week; South/East warm.

Weather warnings and corrections to short range standard meteorology

Standard short range meteorology TV forecasts will underestimate rain, snow, thunder, tornado risk and wind levels in WeatherAction **R5** and **R4 'Red' periods**. In or around those periods the standard Met forecasts from 12/24hrs ahead of precipitation amounts need to be typically ~doubled (or ~more for R5). These factors and modifications needed to improve on TV forecasts are independent of the details of pressure patterns, verified or not, up to these times. Forecast users are welcome to WARN others 24 hours ahead.

WeatherAction snow & blizzard blast 17-21 Jan superbly confirmed

WeatherAction's Long Range forecast for major disruptive snow and blizzard blasts 17-21 Jan (first made in detail mid Dec – map below) was well confirmed, yet standard models struggled a few days ahead.

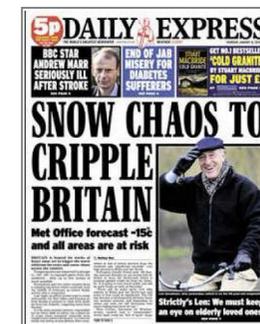
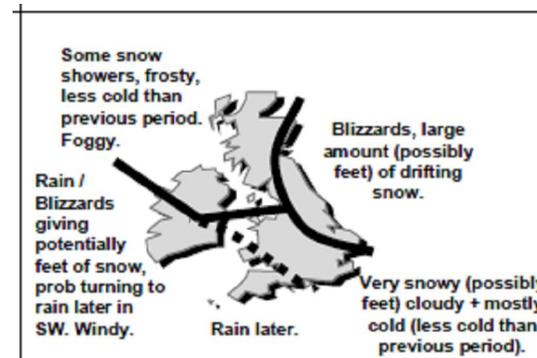
Piers Corbyn said:

“Forecast users were very impressed with confirmation of our:

- Forecast timing.
- Wide scale disruption,
- Thundersnow,
- WeatherAction's

warning that during the ~ period standard projections of snow amounts from 12/24hrs ahead would generally need to be doubled or trebled.

WeatherAction stratosphere forecast breakthrough - Lower stratosphere predicted Warmings associated with cold blasts confirmed – see page 2



Time periods normally accurate to +/- one day. At least 6 of the 8 should be basically correct this month.

Key SLAP (Solar Lunar Action Periods) Solar factors statement and improvements to be made to short-range forecasts when they come on TV are the most confident. Details are generally less certain.

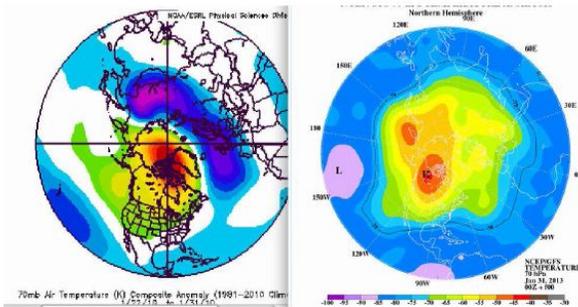
For warning notes and explanation see page 6

Sudden (polar) Lower Stratospheric Warmings confirmed in major advance

The phenomena that Sudden Warmings of the Polar Stratosphere (usually meaning upper stratosphere and termed SSWs – Sudden Stratospheric Warmings) in NH winter often precede increased waviness in the jet stream and consequent outbursts of very cold air well South of normal has been known since the '70s.

However reliable prediction of these phenomena was unknown until Piers Corbyn made the statement that there would be two major cold blasts this January, each associated with specific 'SSWs' he said, meaning in this case sudden warmings in the LOWER (eg 70mb level) stratosphere – and they both happened. After the confusion with the UPPER stratosphere phenomena which had warmed much earlier and cooled was cleared up Joe Bastardi the famous USA Meteorologist and master Met Model Monitor kindly tweeted:

@Piers_Corbyn has no peer in the stratosphere. Warming BELOW 10/30 mb tool just as big a key. Shades of 2010
pic.twitter.com/piHCSNzM



Piers said "This is really cool. Our two predicted cold snowy bursts ~17-21st and ~31Jan-3Feb (R5 period) – now clearly coming in USA & Europe and in our Long Range forecasts. – were both preceded by a few days by sudden warming peaks of the ~70mb polar stratosphere See bit.ly/XgdMKd, which broke records for the dates. We have another one further into Feb."

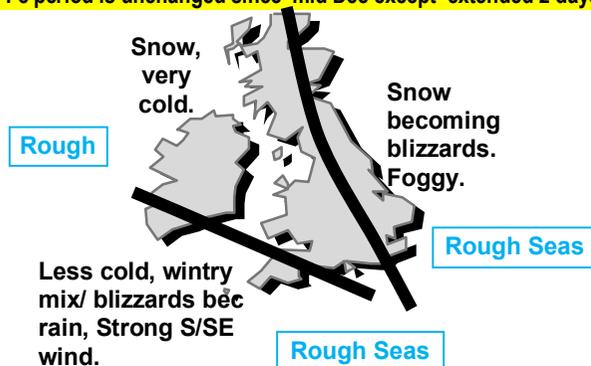
1-5 Feb 2013

B = 75%



Aurora display likely as R5 31st Jan – 3 Feb. Red weather period activates in partly clear skies. Great blizzards in East & Centre / South 1-4 Feb. Heavy snow / wet snow / rain likely later in far SW and South Ireland. Mostly cold / very cold in centre / East. Similar to Jan 2013 30day extension (which was similar to mid Dec 45 day forecast).

This Fc period is unchanged since mid Dec except extended 2 days



Winds: Gales in South & West. Probably E'ly / confused, becoming NE / N'ly.

Temps: Very cold in East, milder in SW.

Sky: Overcast.

Solar Factors: R5 31st Jan to 3rd Feb. R3 Feb 4th.

Likely possible weather map scenario:

Strong Greenland High extension to Scotland. Increasingly active Lows in Biscay and North Sea/ Scandinavia. High pressure Centre to N/ NW of Ireland. Cyclonic attack to South of Britain by Low which crosses England and passes into North Sea. NOTE: The timing of the transition to next period is uncertain.

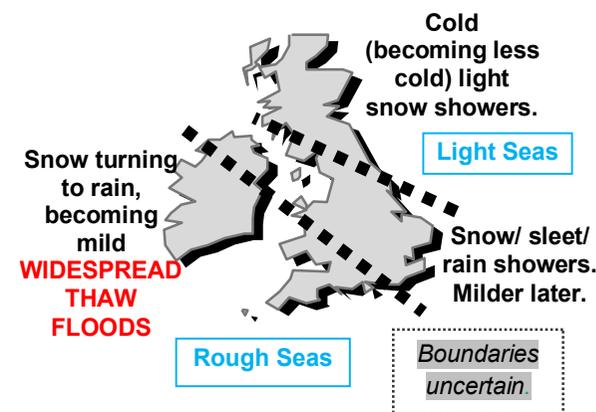
6-7 Feb 2013

C = 65%



Less snow – TRANSITION PERIOD. Becoming increasingly mild from the South West (precise timing unclear). SOME THAW FLOODS IN SOUTH/ WEST and probably slow thaw in Midlands while N/E stays cold.

V similar to issue mid Jan but thaw slower.



Winds: SW'ly cyclonic in South West. E'ly in North.

Temps: Becoming mild in South West. Cold in Scotland/NE.

Sky: Cloudy in most parts, becoming brighter in Ireland.

Solar Factors: R3 6-7th.

Likely possible weather map scenario:

Greenland High shrinks and High pressure to North of Britain & Ireland retreats further as new quite active cyclonic system approaches SW of Britain, Ireland and tracks NE from SW Britain. Strengthening High pressure East Europe. Jet Stream South of normal.

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For warning notes and explanation see page 6

8-10 Feb 2013 B = 75% ●	11-12 Feb 2013 B = 75% ●	13-17 Feb 2013 AB =80% ●
<p>Mild/ Very mild. Major THAW FLOODS in Scotland and continuing thaw with floods declining in Central/ South parts. Bright periods generally quiet. Rain in SW England and South Ireland.</p>	<p>Bright periods, scattered showers. Generally quite mild, very mild in SE where it is sunny at times.</p>	<p>North/ South spit. Becoming very cold in Scotland with snow/ blizzards in central lowlands & South Scotland. Mild, wet and windy with gales/ severe gales in South England.</p>
<p>Winds: SW'ly/ S'ly in most of Britain, SW'ly in Ireland.</p>	<p>Winds: SW'ly light, W'ly moderate in N Ireland.</p>	<p>Winds: Cyclonic in South & Ireland. E'ly in Scotland. Severe gales espec in West/South.</p>
<p>Temps: Mild becoming very mild especially in South/ West.</p>	<p>Temps: Mild, very mild in SE.</p>	<p>Temps: Cold/ very cold in Scotland; mild in South & South West.</p>
<p>Sky: Bright periods.</p>	<p>Sky: Bright/ sunny in South; cloudy Scotland & NI.</p>	<p>Sky: Mostly cloudy; clearer in Scotland.</p>
<p>Solar Factors: NSF/Q then R3 8-10th.</p>	<p>Solar Factors: NSF/Q.</p>	<p>Solar Factors: R5 13-16th Feb.</p>
<p>Likely possible weather map scenario: Cyclonic/ cyclonic South domination of Britain & Ireland. Large area of slack Low pressure centred Ire/ West of Ire. High pressure East Europe & East/ North Scandinavia. Greenland High retreats to Greenland.</p>	<p>Likely possible weather map scenario: Largely cyclonic over Britain & Ireland with shallow Low pressure centred probably just West of Scotland. Azores High spreading High pressure Scandinavia with centre (very High pressure) central Russia.</p>	<p>Likely possible weather map scenario: Sudden lower stratosphere warming EFFECT 13/14 Feb, rapid increase in area of Greenland High (central pressure 1045 Mb) which extends to South of Iceland and towards Scotland. Active Low pressure over Britain & Ireland gives E'ly wind in Scotland and cyclonic situation in England & SW of England. (Briefly) Polar-type Lows in Norway Sea/N of North Sea.</p>

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18-21 Feb 2013 AB = 80% ●	22-25 Feb 2013 A = 85% ●	26-28 Feb 2013 (+ to 3 Mar) AB = 80% ●
<p>Mild in South and cold North turns generally cold or very cold with widespread snow showers. Cloudy.</p>	<p>Cold start then becoming very mild – warm in S/E with a BURST OF SPRING. Showers in Ireland, dry in S/E.</p>	<p>A BURST OF SPRING! Becoming warm & sunny in South/ East; very mild with more cloud and some rain in Ireland & strong South wind.</p>
<p>Winds: Cyclonic becoming cyclonic N'y or NE'y in most parts later.</p>	<p>Winds: S/SSW'y in West; light SW'y in East.</p>	<p>Winds: S'y strong in Eire.</p>
<p>Temps: Mild in South, cold in Scotland turning generally cold.</p>	<p>Temps: Becoming very mild (warm in S/E).</p>	<p>Temps: Becoming very mild/ warm in East.</p>
<p>Sky: Cloudy / overcast. Foggy</p>	<p>Sky: Variable in West, bright in East & South East.</p>	<p>Sky: Sunny periods in East; variable sky with sunny breaks.</p>
<p>Solar Factors: R2 18-21st.</p>	<p>Solar Factors: NSF R3 22/23rd.</p>	<p>Solar Factors: R3 26th, R5 27th – 2nd Mar, R3 3rd Mar.</p>
<p>Likely possible weather map scenario: Greenland High retreats somewhat as active Polar-type Lows develop in N'y airstream in Norway Sea. Low develops West of Scotland & moves East bringing returning Polar maritime air to Ireland & Britain, followed by an Arctic blast on tail o Low. High pressure continent & central Scandinavia.</p>	<p>Likely possible weather map scenario: Greenland High retreats and Low pressures start to track on Jet Stream Normal route through Iceland giving S/SW'y Low over Britain & Ireland. High pressure Scandinavia & West Europe, Low(er) pressure East Europe. (Scandinavia very cold).</p>	<p>Likely possible weather map scenario: Some lower stratosphere warming likely preceding ~28Feb but cold is elsewhere and there is probable increase in Scandinavian High rather than Greenland High which weakens. Low pressures to West of Britain (& Ireland, largely) are blocked by High pressure centred in Scandinavia & Central Europe.</p>
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Easy Look Forecast Graph

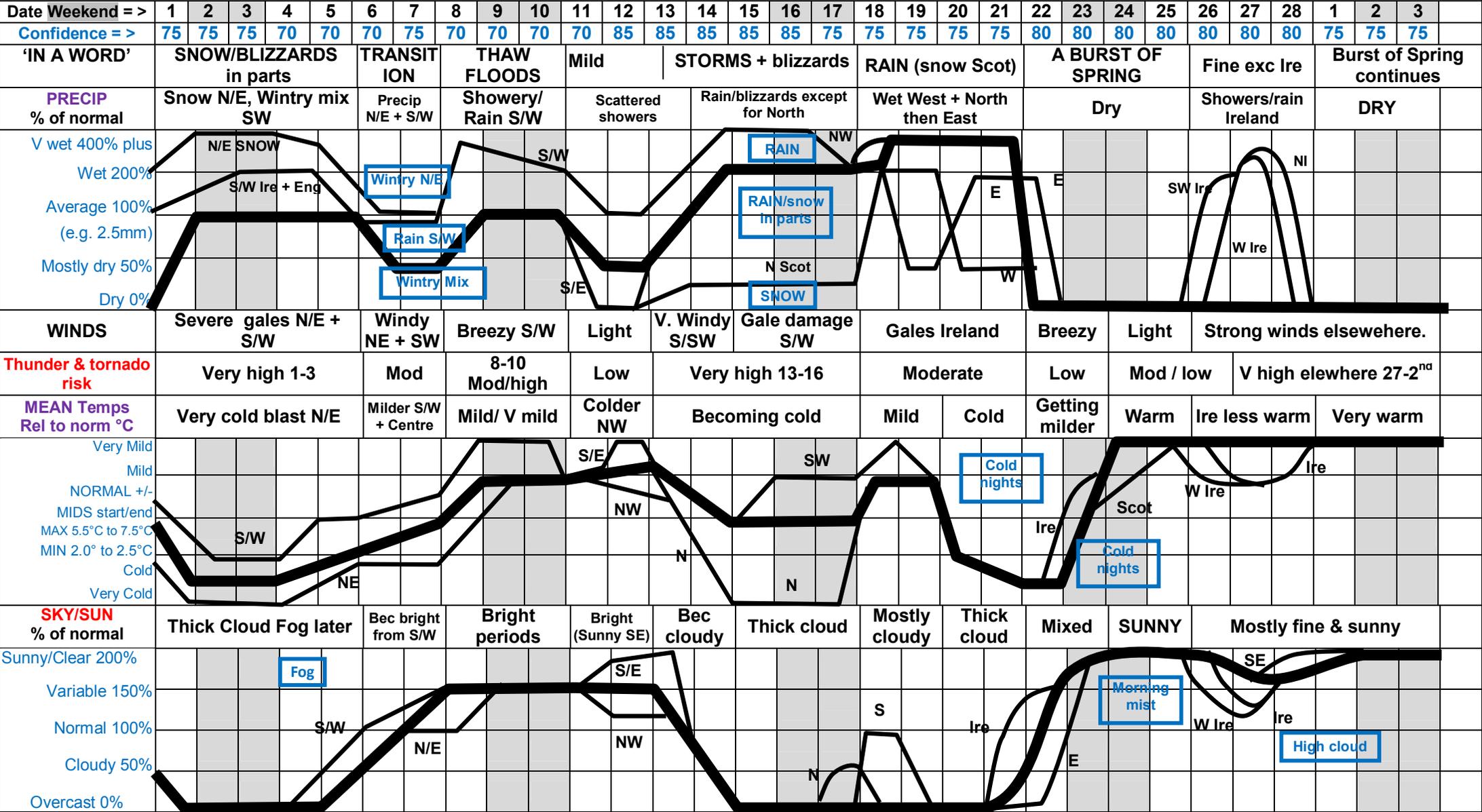
FEBRUARY 2013: 30d ahead update. SLAT8C. Normally accurate to 1 day.

Showing likely rain, temperature & 'brightness' levels around the dates shown, NOT PRECISE DAILY PREDICTIONS.

Weekends & holidays shaded. 1961-90 norms standard.

Region Rest of Britain & Ireland For confidence of each weather period forecast refer to Date row. For possible Alternative Scenarios see notes on maps.

For Solar Factor improvements to Standard Met Short range forecasts when they become available a few days ahead of weather refer to map-tables.



This month of wild contrasts will give you weekends of all seasons: 2-3 Widespread snow / blizzards + a piercing cold wind; 9-10 Mild and showery; 16-17 A return of winter weather with snow to the North half of Britain + Ire; 22-23 Mostly dry warm + sunny, less so in Ireland; 2 + 3 March burst of Spring.

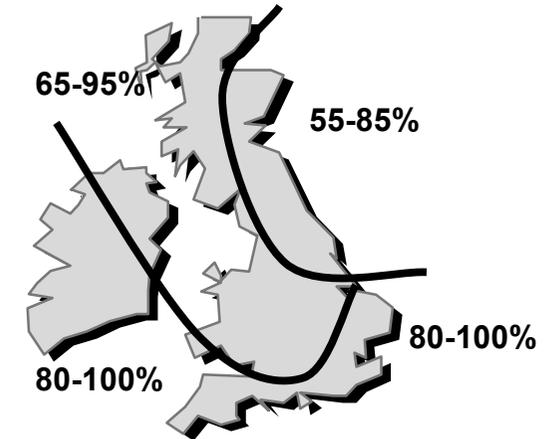
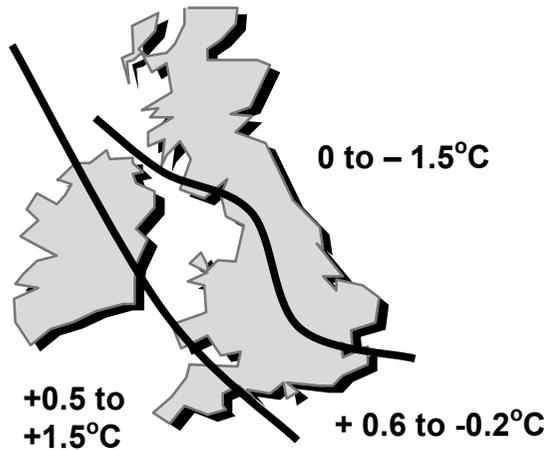
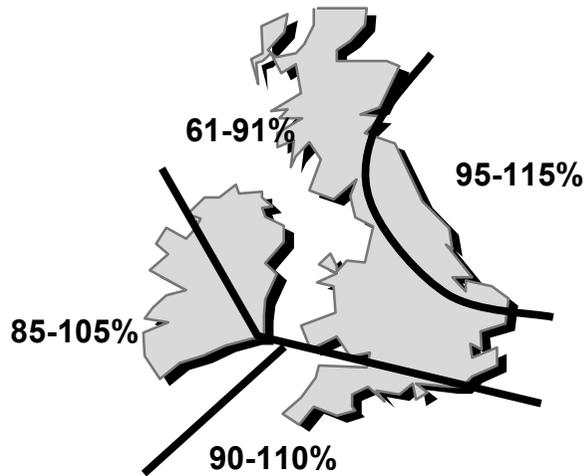
FEBRUARY 2013 SLAT8C Britain & Ireland Forecast deviations from normal.

(1961-1990 averages)

PRECIPITATION % of normal

MEAN TEMPERATURE deviation from local normal

SUNSHINE/SKY % of normal



Overall below normal. Close to or above normal in E /NE and West Ireland and SW England.

Overall Britain and Ireland probably close to normal with East and North Britain below normal. SW England and most of Eire above normal.

Large variations but overall probably below normal with Eire and South and SouthEast England closer to normal.

FEBRUARY 2013 Notes & Additional Information

Confidence order: RST SLAT 8C More confident of precipitation than temperature.

Main uncertainty: North South split around mid month.

Weather Warning Notes: The snow and ice hits will be ferocious.

Key SLAP (Solar Lunar Action Periods) Solar factors statement and improvements to be made to short-range forecasts when they come on TV are the most confident of forecast statements. Details are generally less certain. In periods of Extra Activity (EA) [formerly ET (Extra Top) Red, Top Red, etc Now R1-R5 (top)] weather fronts are (much) more active than Standard Met Forecasts (Smfs) as on TV a few days ahead of events - making more rain, cloud, thunder, wind, & tornado risk. R5 (Red 5) = most extreme / dangerous events.

Q = Quieter. NSF = No Specific Solar Factors. JSS = Jet Stream South tendency. JSN= Jet Stream Normal. Confidence levels A (85%), AB (80%), B (75%), BC (70%); C (65%)

Confidence levels

Important information on Confidence and Timing of weather events and weather periods.

'A' - about 85% chance of being essentially right, 15% of being unhelpful.

'B' - about 75% chance of being essentially right, 25% of being unhelpful.

'C' - about 65% chance of being essentially right, 35% of being unhelpful

The Headline summary (page 1) is the most confident summary statement about the month. **The Key weather type development** (page 1) gives main pressure developments through the month. **The detailed most likely weather periods**, typically of around 4 days, are the Solar Lunar Action technique highest resolution long range forecast detail. **They are not to be taken as exact predictions & include confidence levels.**

The weather period timings in period details (p 2-4) are *most likely* core time periods for the weather events or weather types specified. If the events / types occur the core time periods should include the specified events / types on at least 85% of occasions; with a probability of 15% or less that they occur in the wings of an extended time period which is one or two days longer than the given core on each side* . **The time window does not mean that all that period will have certain (e.g.) extreme events** but that they are expected to occur at some time during that period. The most probable sub-parts of periods for events may also be stated. [*Or poss longer in: (i) long weather periods, (ii) longest range forecasts where 1% uncertainty in 300 days ahead is 3 days or (iii) where consecutive weather periods are similar.]