

HERITAGE REVIEW

WEATHERWATCH

WITH MARK CHING



OUTLOOK: An Indian summer looks possible as we head into the coming week with southerly winds bringing warm air up to us from Spain and north Africa



WHAT A GREY DAY! High pressure could result in a foggy winter.

LAST week, I mentioned at the end of the column that I thought the most likely outcome for the coming winter was for another colder than average season – and blow me, now they're all at it. Newspaper headlines this week have been quoting various independent forecasters warning of a cold November and a chilly start to winter.

One even went so far as to warn of possible snow in October and of harsh winter conditions through December and January as well.

Nice as it would be to think that they all read last week's column before deciding to rush to publication, I'm afraid I can't take credit for that.

What is interesting is that, even at this early stage, so many of the independent forecasters are going for a cold start to the season at the very least.

The forecaster suggesting that harsh conditions could extend through December and January has been making the headlines because he made a pretty good hand of his forecast for last winter and another good call for the summer that has just finished.

The forecasters who have been quoted in the national press don't all use the same methods to put their outlooks together.

Some use strictly meteorological criteria, such as the various atmospheric and oceanic circulations.

Some others also include things such as sunspot activity and volcanic activity in their calculations.

The Met Office, of course, no longer publish their seasonal outlook, although they do inform the Government and relevant bodies of their forecast, and did, indeed, warn the government as early as October last year of the likelihood of the bitterly cold and snowy weather which then hit us in late November and throughout December 2010.

However, although the Met Office don't publish their seasonal outlook anymore, a search on their website shows a number of maps showing what they think the probable outcomes are for features such as temperature, rainfall and pressure during the winter months of December, January and February.

Currently, these maps show that they think the temperature over southern England this winter has a 40 to 60 per cent chance of being colder than average and only a zero to 20

If high pressure dominates this winter it's position is crucial

this could open the gates yet again to some bitterly cold and snowy weather. If the upcoming winter does, indeed, turn out to be colder than average then don't forget you read it here first in your good old *Daily Echo*.



KIDS' CLUB

WIN! Family tickets to Chessington!

See page 30

Proudly Sponsored by ...

Prospect Auction Rooms

www.prospectauctionrooms.co.uk

enquiries@prospectauctionrooms.co.uk

Antique and General Auctioneers. Unit 1, Shelf House, Prospect Road, New Alresford, SO24 9QF. Tel: 01962 735655 / 735575. We hold regular fortnightly auctions of antique and decorative furnishings which includes furniture, jewellery, silver, ceramics, collectables, garden effects, etc. Free Valuations. Low buyers and sellers commissions. Auction Sale: Saturday 1st October at 1pm. Viewing Thursday 29th September 5.30-7.30pm. Friday 30th September 9am-7.30pm & Saturday before sale from 9am. Catalogues online Thursday eve prior to sale

Legends of the sea captured on canvas

His paintings are highly sought after around the globe for their visual appeal and detail. **KEITH HAMILTON** meets Robert Lloyd, one of the south's greatest living artists

HE HAS captured some of the most significant moments in Southampton's history – and now internationally acclaimed artist, Robert Lloyd, is about to unveil his latest exhibition.

Works by this highly sought-after marine artist are always eagerly awaited, and this new collection is no exception.

It was Robert's exceptional talent which created the spectacular painting Coming Home, which captured Queen Elizabeth 2 as she made her way up Southampton Water for the last time in 2008.

The painting was commissioned by Cunard as a gift to Southampton in recognition of QE2's long and close association with her home port for almost 40 years.



CRUISE ROYALTY: The 'three Queens' captured in Southampton Water.

Robert, who used to live in Cowes on the Isle of Wight, produces some of the most visually stunning and technically accurate paintings of modern times.

Anyone looking at one of Robert's paintings can be sure that if a certain number of lifeboats can be seen, or a ship's railing lines a particular deck, then they will be there in real life.

Robert's paintings are appreciated not only by people who enjoy his marvellous marine scenes, but also by shipping enthusiasts for their precise and correct detail.

Now based just across the county border in Wiltshire, Robert said: "As far as individual paintings go, Coming Home is probably the most satisfying painting I have undertaken. "She is shown at a very impressive angle, looking sleek and handsome, and it was quite a large painting, about 7ft by 4ft. It was also a great honour to have the Queen unveil the work during her

final visit to the liner, a ship which she had named in 1967."

Robert is especially proud of his connection with Cunard, which dates back to the time he was commissioned to produce another painting of QE2 for Commodore Ronald Warwick, the master of the liner at the time. "In those days I was living in Cowes and regularly travelled to Southampton as I was completing a series of paintings for Red Funnel," said Robert, who enjoyed drawing, and had a fascination for ships and the sea, from an early age.

"Since that introduction by Commodore Warwick, I think I must have completed about a dozen paintings for Cunard. The first, which was presented to Baroness Thatcher to mark the QE2's part in the Falkland War, is now, I believe, hanging on the drawing room wall at her home.

"I have also completed paintings of Queen Mary 2 when she was named in Southampton as well as other works for various occasions."

The Southampton-based Cunard vessels Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth have also been subjects for



STEADY AS SHE GOES: Hanging the large canvas, left. Right – artist Robert Lloyd discusses his painting with The Queen.

It was a great honour to have the Queen unveil the work during her final visit to the liner



Robert's creativity. "There have also been conventional paintings which feature historic Cunard liners, such as the original Queen Elizabeth," said Robert, who is presenting his exhibition at the International Maritime Organization on London's Albert Embankment.

"Another two, extremely large paintings, each measuring 16ft by 5ft, depict QE2, QM2, and Queen Victoria when they met in Southampton during 2008, and the new Queen Elizabeth entering Sydney Harbour."

Perhaps the biggest selection of Robert's work for Cunard can be seen on board Queen Victoria, which entered service in Southampton in December 2007.

The most prominent are two murals in the Chart Room bar depicting Cunard's initial steam-powered ship Britannia, and another showing the ship Servia, the first passenger liner with electric lighting, while a painting of Queen Victoria is on display in the vessel's lobby. "The view of Queen Victoria was

chosen to emulate the classic canvases of the late 1800s and the early 1900s, where the ship has an exaggerated, larger-than-life look, to emphasise a feeling of size and power – not, it has to be said, one of my favourite paintings," said Robert. "There are also a number of reproductions around the ship, in the Commodore Club's porthole features, and on various stairwells, all depicting Cunard ships, both historic and contemporary."

Initially, Robert had considered a career at sea, but his obvious artistic talents were such he opted instead to study at art college before joining an advertising agency.

"During that time, one of the agency's customers was P&O Ferries and I was asked to create a painting of one of their new vessels, Pride of Portsmouth," said Robert. On completion, they commissioned two more and made a number of introductions to other shipping lines who all seemed keen in having me produce paintings. "I eventually gave up working in advertising and started to paint full-time."

HERITAGE REVIEW

WEEKEND TO REMEMBER

News, sport and entertainment which have shaped lives on these days in history

TODAY

1776 The oldest of the classic horse races, the St Leger, was first run at Doncaster.

1842 Branwell Bronte, brother of the Bronte sisters, died. He was the inspiration for the violent drunk, Hindley Earnshaw, in Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights* (1847).

1853 The *Northern Daily Times* became the first provincial daily newspaper in England.

1896 American writer F Scott Fitzgerald, pictured, was born. He became an alcoholic in his early 20s and died aged 44 after having two heart attacks. He wrote the definitive 1920s novel *The Great Gatsby* in 1925.

1930 The first performance of *Private Lives* by Noel Coward took place at the New Phoenix Theatre, London.

1953 *The Robe*, the first film made in CinemaScope, was premiered in Hollywood.

1960 The first nuclear-powered submarine, the USS *Enterprise*, was launched in Newport, Virginia.

1975 Everest was climbed by the south-west face for the first time by Douglass and Doug Scott.

1896 American writer F Scott Fitzgerald, pictured, was born. He became an alcoholic in his early 20s and died aged 44 after having two heart attacks. He wrote the definitive 1920s novel *The Great Gatsby* in 1925.

1930 The first performance of *Private Lives* by Noel Coward took place at the New Phoenix Theatre, London.

1953 *The Robe*, the first film made in CinemaScope, was premiered in Hollywood.

1960 The first nuclear-powered submarine, the USS *Enterprise*, was launched in Newport, Virginia.

1975 Everest was climbed by the south-west face for the first time by Douglass and Doug Scott.

1896 American writer F Scott Fitzgerald, pictured, was born. He became an alcoholic in his early 20s and died aged 44 after having two heart attacks. He wrote the definitive 1920s novel *The Great Gatsby* in 1925.

1930 The first performance of *Private Lives* by Noel Coward took place at the New Phoenix Theatre, London.

TODAY

1776 The oldest of the classic horse races, the St Leger, was first run at Doncaster.

1842 Branwell Bronte, brother of the Bronte sisters, died. He was the inspiration for the violent drunk, Hindley Earnshaw, in Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights* (1847).

1853 The *Northern Daily Times* became the first provincial daily newspaper in England.

1896 American writer F Scott Fitzgerald, pictured, was born. He became an alcoholic in his early 20s and died aged 44 after having two heart attacks. He wrote the definitive 1920s novel *The Great Gatsby* in 1925.

1930 The first performance of *Private Lives* by Noel Coward took place at the New Phoenix Theatre, London.

1953 *The Robe*, the first film made in CinemaScope, was premiered in Hollywood.

1960 The first nuclear-powered submarine, the USS *Enterprise*, was launched in Newport, Virginia.

1975 Everest was climbed by the south-west face for the first time by Douglass and Doug Scott.

1896 American writer F Scott Fitzgerald, pictured, was born. He became an alcoholic in his early 20s and died aged 44 after having two heart attacks. He wrote the definitive 1920s novel *The Great Gatsby* in 1925.

1930 The first performance of *Private Lives* by Noel Coward took place at the New Phoenix Theatre, London.

1953 *The Robe*, the first film made in CinemaScope, was premiered in Hollywood.

1960 The first nuclear-powered submarine, the USS *Enterprise*, was launched in Newport, Virginia.

1975 Everest was climbed by the south-west face for the first time by Douglass and Doug Scott.

1896 American writer F Scott Fitzgerald, pictured, was born. He became an alcoholic in his early 20s and died aged 44 after having two heart attacks. He wrote the definitive 1920s novel *The Great Gatsby* in 1925.

1930 The first performance of *Private Lives* by Noel Coward took place at the New Phoenix Theatre, London.



BIRTHDAYS

Brian Glanville, football writer and novelist, 80; Gerry Marsden, singer (*The Pacemakers*), 69; Helen Lederer, actress and writer, 57; Ally McCoist, broadcaster and former footballer, 49.

TOMORROW

1066 Harold of England defeated the Norwegians under Harold Hardrada at the Battle of Stamford Bridge, Yorkshire, unaware that William of Normandy was preparing to invade the south coast.

1660 Samuel Pepys drank his first cuppa, after reading that tea made the body active and lusty.

1818 The first blood transfusion using human blood, as opposed to earlier attempts with animal blood, took place at Guy's Hospital in London.

1885 It snowed in London, the earliest recorded winter fall despite reports that on 12 June 1791 there had been snow sighted over the capital. That was recorded as late summer, not winter, snow.

1897 Britain's first motor bus service started in Bradford.

1933 More than 25,000 queued to see the Shroud of Turin when it went on show to the public for the first time in 400 years at Turin Cathedral.

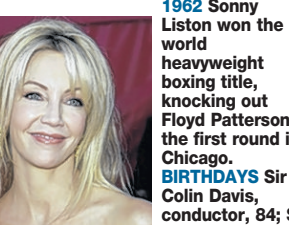
1962 Sonny Liston won the world heavyweight boxing title, knocking out Floyd Patterson in the first round in Chicago.

BIRTHDAYS Sir Colin Davis, conductor, 84; Sir Leon Brittan, politician, 72; Michael Douglas, actor, 67 and his wife Catherine Zeta Jones, actress, 42; Felicity Kendal, actress, 65; Mark Hamill, actor, 60; Michael Madsen, actor, 54; Heather Locklear, pictured, actress, 50; Ronnie Whelan, former footballer manager, 50.

1066 Harold of England defeated the Norwegians under Harold Hardrada at the Battle of Stamford Bridge, Yorkshire, unaware that William of Normandy was preparing to invade the south coast.

1660 Samuel Pepys drank his first cuppa, after reading that tea made the body active and lusty.

1818 The first blood transfusion using human blood, as opposed to earlier attempts with animal blood, took place at Guy's Hospital in London.



1962 Sonny Liston won the world heavyweight boxing title, knocking out Floyd Patterson in the first round in Chicago.

LOOKING BACK...

from the *Daily Echo* archives

100 YEARS AGO

A meeting of dairymen and other milk trade professionals was held in Totton, where it was decided that an association should be formed. Mr Browning of Marchwood was chosen as president.

50 YEARS AGO

A Jackaroo biplane on a cross-country flight from Christchurch to Thrupton was forced to land near Basingstoke in poor weather conditions. Mr Gilbert Moule, of the Bull Inn, Somerset, made a neat landing in a field.

75 YEARS AGO

Southampton "down-and-outs" were disturbed around midnight when the town's police carried out a search of all lodging houses and open spaces. Police were looking for a man in connection with a murder in Rotherham.

25 YEARS AGO

Southampton International Boat Show announced a record attendance of 108,000 visitors and estimated sales of £15m. The number of registered overseas visitors doubled to 2,000.



DETAILED: QM2's promenade deck.