

Coastal Storm Database - Event Summary

Date: 8-10 May 1933	Wind Direction:
Event Type: Wave	Gisborne Duration (Hours): -
Location: Wellington	Wellington Duration (Hours): -
Origin: Tasman Sea	Pressure Gradient: S to SW
Type: East Coast Low	

Synoptic Conditions

An intense cyclone was off the east coast of the North Island and also low to the southeast of the South Island. This cyclone caused a low pressure reading at 9am of 979 hPa at the Chatham Islands on the 10th. At the same time an anticyclone was covering Australia and western Tasman sea. A SW airstream developed between these and swept over NZ

Sea Conditions

Huge seas on the east coast

Impact Area

East Coast
Wellington
Canterbury

Impacts and Damages

- Huge seas on east coast between Wellington and Lyttelton
- Ferry 'Maori' delayed by 8 hours getting to Lyttelton from Wellington
- Force of gale very severe at Akaroa; said to be worst since 1918
- Terrific southerly gale at Christchurch; winds estimated at 129 km/hr gusts

Data Source

- 1 Fury of Gale - Blow at Canterbury - Coastal Area Swept - Interruption to Power: Gisborne Herald, 16/05/1933, p4
- 2 Big Southerly - An Eighty-Mile Gale - Damage at Christchurch - Accident to Ferry Train: Evening Post, 10/05/1933, p11
- 3 Gale in Canterbury - Some Exciting Incidents - Train Traffic Held Up: Gisborne Herald, 10/05/1933, p6