

Coastal Storm Database - Event Summary

Date: **7-9 Aug 1963**

Wind Direction: **S**

Event Type: **Wind/Wave**

Gisborne Duration (Hours): **-**

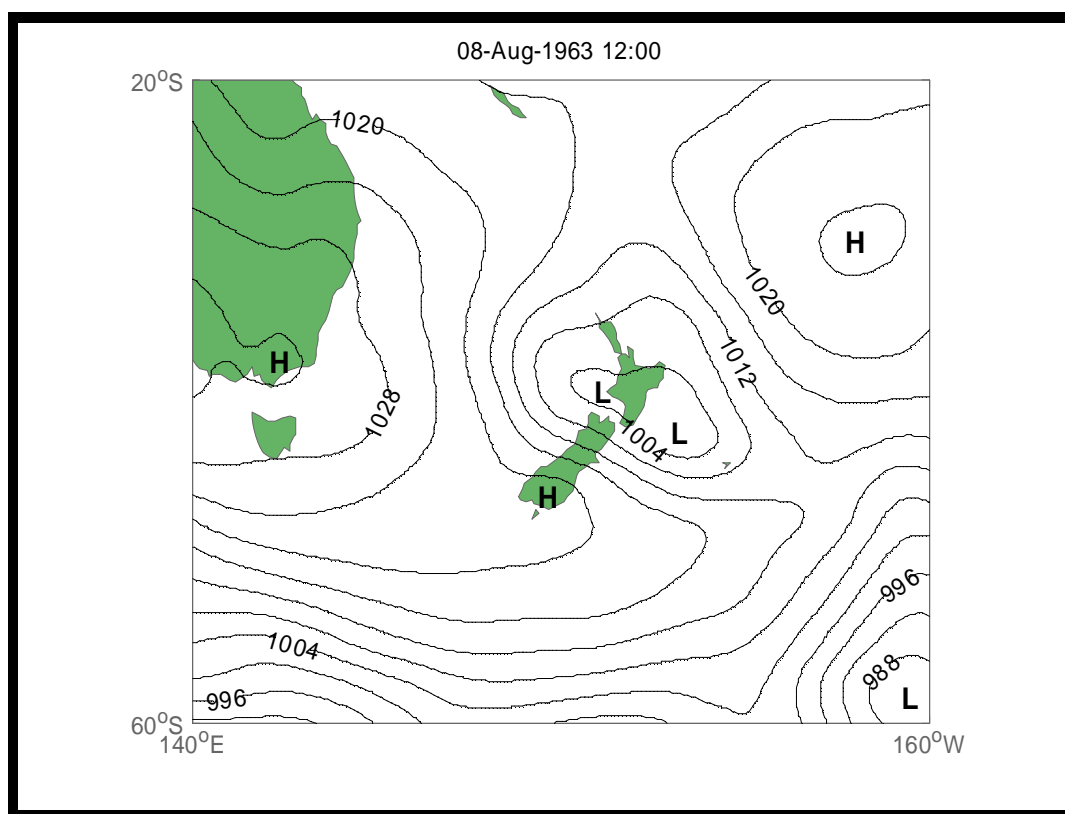
Location: **Wellington**

Wellington Duration (Hours): **43**

Origin: **Tasman Sea**

Pressure Gradient: **E to SE**

Type: **East Coast Low**



Synoptic Conditions

A secondary cyclone developed west of Auckland from a southern ocean trough and on the 7th was embedded between two anticyclones. This cyclone had a strong easterly flow on the southern side that swept through Cook Strait and over the South Island and was enhanced by a ridge of high pressure over the lower South Island. The flow later veered to the SE as the cyclone moved eastward and was situated east of Cook Strait.

Storm Type Sequence: Tasman sea low - east coast low

Sea Conditions

High Seas around Wellington

Impact Area

Wellington

Impacts and Damages

- 2-inch thick teak door was ripped off hinges of liner 'Gothic' by giant wave; large waves smashing over liner
- Slips on railway lines on Johnsonville route
- Petone and Porirua railway stations were flooded
- Rongotai College closed by surface flooding
- Heavy rain and mist closed Wellington airport
- Heavy street flooding in Lower Hutt and Petone

Data Source

- 1 Door Shattered By Freak Wave: Evening Post, 13/08/1963, p17
 - 2 Nearly a Month's Rain Fell Within 24Hour Period: Evening Post, 8/08/1963, p16
 - 3 Two Railway Subways were Flooded: Evening Post, 8/08/1963, p16
 - 4 Tiny Creek in Happy Valley Becomes Raging Torrent: Evening Post, 7/08/1963, p18
 - 5 Streets Awash in Lower Hutt: Evening Post, 7/08/1963, p18
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