Ballot's Law

Using Ballot's Law we can find the location of high and low pressure areas.

Buys Ballot, a Dutch scientist, discovered in 1857 that there was a relationship between the direction of the wind and the locations of the high pressure and low pressure areas that were causing it.

In the Northern Hemisphere, if you stand with your back to the wind, the high pressure area will be on your right and the low pressure on your left. In the Southern Hemisphere, it is exactly the opposite.

A change in wind often brings a change in weather. In the Northern Hemisphere a south or west wind brings warm or mild, wet weather. A north or east wind brings colder, drier weather, especially in the winter. All winds are named after the direction from which they are blowing.