

**[Report 1968] / Medical Officer of Health, Aldeburgh Borough.**

**Contributors**

Aldeburgh (England). Borough Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1968.

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# Borough of Aldeburgh

ALDEBURGH



PHONE ALDEBURGH. 2971/2

1. ~~Mr Muston~~ B.415
2. ~~Mr Morley Parry~~ A.421
3. ~~Mr Perry~~ A.405

*Borough Offices,*

*Aldeburgh,*

*East Suffolk.*

## ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1968

C. H. IMRIE

Medical Officer of Health.

Borough of Alburgh



PHONE ALBURGH 2312

Mayor  
Alburgh  
Borough Office

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1932

C. H. JAMES

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Aldeburgh

Mr. Mayor,  
Aldermen, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report for the year 1968, prepared in accordance with the instructions of the Council. This report is the twenty second for which I have been responsible. While the health and hygiene of the town have improved greatly over the years, there still remains much to be done, particularly with regard to sewage disposal which had always been a source of anxiety; this problem however now appears to be well on the way towards solution.

The recent publication of the Maud Report on Local Government perhaps merits some reference. As I see it the recommendations as they stand will, as far as Public Health is concerned, have two undesirable results. It will remove decision making from those who have personal knowledge of local problems and transfer it to some distant authority which cannot be familiar with local conditions. It will also remove from the public the opportunity of consulting personally those whose decisions will effect them. On the other hand however Local Government organisation has become so involved and cumbersome over the years that some form of reorganisation is essential. My personal feeling is that the Maud proposals form a basis for discussion and that the final solution may well be very different in many respects from the original report.

I would like to express my appreciation of the courtesy and consideration I have received from the Council during the year, and of the help and co-operation I have received from the Offices of the Council, especially Mr. Thompson, The Borough Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

I am,  
Your obedient Servant.

C. H. IMRIE

Medical Officer of Health.

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councilors of the Borough of Aldeburgh

Mr. Mayor,  
Aldermen, Ladies and Gentlemen,

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I am,  
Your obedient servant.

C. H. IMMER

Medical Officer of Health.

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GENERAL STATISTICS 1968

Area of Borough ..... 2,679 acres  
 Rateable Value ..... £125,349  
 Product of Id. .... 1499

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

|  | 1968 | 1967 | 1966        | 1965        | 1964         |
|--|------|------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| <u>Medical Officer of Health</u>   |      |      |             |             |              |
| C. H. Imrie, T.D., MB., ChB., D.P.H.,<br>Late Hon. Surgeon to H.M. The Queen |      |      |             |             |              |
| Birth Rate per 1,000 population  |      |      |             | 13.4<br>(1) | 13.7<br>(36) |
| Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live births                                       |      |      | 22<br>(1)   | -           | -            |
| <u>Public Health Inspector</u>   |      |      |             |             |              |
| J. A. Thompson, M. Inst. H.E., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.                          |      |      |             |             |              |
| Death Rate per 1,000 population  |      | 17.1 | 21.8        | 16.07       | 13.5         |
| Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 live births                                   |      |      | 28.5<br>(1) | 26.3<br>(1) | 27.7<br>(1)  |

Figures in brackets are the actual number of births and deaths.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health

G. H. James, T.D., M.B., ChB., D.P.H.,  
Late Hon. Surgeon to H.M. The Queen

Public Health Inspector

J. A. Thompson, M. Inst. H.E., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

GENERAL STATISTICS 1968

Area of Borough ..... 2,679 acres  
 Rateable Value ..... £125,349  
 Product of ld. Rate ..... £499

|   | 1968         | 1967         | 1966         | 1965          | 1964         |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Population                                    | 3180         | 3100         | 3070         | 3060          | 2970         |
| Birth Rate per<br>1,000 population            | 10.7<br>(34) | 12.6<br>(39) | 11.4<br>(35) | 13.4<br>(41)  | 13.2<br>(36) |
| Still Birth Rate<br>per 1,000 population      | -            | -            | 32<br>(1)    | -             | -            |
| Death Rate per<br>1,000 population            | 15.4<br>(49) | 17.1<br>(53) | 21.8<br>(67) | 15.03<br>(46) | 19.8<br>(59) |
| Infantile Death Rate<br>per 1,000 live births | -            | -            | 28.5<br>(1)  | 24.3<br>(1)   | 27.7<br>(1)  |

Figures in brackets are the actual number of births and deaths.

Births and Deaths

| Births       | Male | Female | Total |
|--------------|------|--------|-------|
| Legitimate   | 16   | 16     | 32    |
| Illegitimate | 1    | 1      | 2     |

Still Births

|   |    |    |       |
|---|----|----|-------|
| Legitimate  | -  | -  | -     |
| Illegitimate                                      | -  | -  | -     |
| <u>All Deaths</u>                                 | 22 | 27 | 49    |
| <u>Infantile Deaths</u>                           | -  | -  | -     |
| <u>Deaths associated with childbirth</u>          | -  | -  | -     |
| <u>Comparability</u>                              |    |    |       |
| Birth Rate - Aldeburgh per 1,000 population ..... |    |    | 13.15 |
| England and Wales per 1,000 population ...        |    |    | 15.80 |
| Death Rate - Aldeburgh per 1,000 population ..... |    |    | 8.16  |
| England and Wales per 1,000 population ....       |    |    | 11.70 |

The figures for births and death are very much in line with those of previous years, and are both rather below the national average. This however might well be expected in a population containing a high ratio of retired people.

The causes of death are again showing a similar pattern to previous years, with vascular and heart diseases being the most prevalent cause. The figures for cancer do not show any significant changes. Taken altogether the vital statistics can be regarded as satisfactory.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

CAUSES OF DEATH

| Cause of Death                                | Male | Female | Total |
|---|------|--------|-------|
| B19(1) Malignant neoplasm - stomach           | -    | 1      | 1     |
| B19(6) Other malignant neoplasm, etc.,        | 3    | 2      | 5     |
| B46(4) Other diseases of nervous system etc., | 1    | -      | 1     |
| B26 Chronic rheumatic heart disease           | -    | 2      | 2     |
| B27 Hypertensive disease                      | 1    | -      | 1     |
| B28 Ischaemic Heart disease                   | 6    | 4      | 10    |
| B30 Cerebrovascular disease                   | 5    | 8      | 13    |
| B46(5) Other diseases of circulatory system   | 1    | 3      | 4     |
| B32 Pneumonia                                 | 2    | 1      | 3     |
| B33(2) Asthma                                 | 1    | -      | 1     |
| B43 Peptic Ulcer                              | 1    | -      | 1     |
| B46(7) Other diseases of digestive system     | -    | 1      | 1     |
| B46(10) Diseases of musculo-skeletal system   | -    | 2      | 2     |
| BE47 Motor vehicle accident                   | 1    | -      | 1     |
| BE48 All other accidents                      | -    | 1      | 1     |
|   | 11   | 18     | 29    |

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

During 1968 the number of notifications received was 67. The majority of these (57) were relating to measles which was prevalent in the early summer. It will be observed from the table appended that practically all the cases of measles were under the age of 10 years and the majority fell in the age group of 5 to 9. This was closely followed by the under 5 preschool group. The females rather outnumbered the males in this instance.

|         | 0 - 4 yrs | 5 - 9 yrs | 10 - 15 yrs | Over 15 | Total |
|---------|-----------|-----------|-------------|---------|-------|
| Males   | 12        | 12        | -           | -       | 24    |
| Females | 11        | 19        | -           | 3       | 33    |
| Total   | 23        | 31        | -           | 3       | 57    |

Two small outbreaks, one of some dysentery and the other of food poisoning occurred in the summer. These were both family affairs and occurred in visitors. As far as could be ascertained in both cases the infection was brought in by the families concerned when they arrived and was confirmed to them.

A sporadic case of infectious jaundice was reported and as often happens with this infection no connection with another case was established.

There were no new notifications of Tuberculosis during the year so that the total still remains at two, both being females.

IMMUNISATION

The following details of immunisations carried out in the Borough were supplied by the County Medical Officer. These figures indicate an active interest in these preventive measures among the population.

|                                   | <u>Primary Courses</u> | <u>Booster Dose or Revaccination</u> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis      | 29                     | 24                                   |
| Diphtheria/Tetanus                | -                      | 26                                   |
| Tetanus                           | 8                      | 33                                   |
| Salk Poliomyelitis vaccine        | 1                      | 2                                    |
| Sablin Poliomyelitis Oral vaccine | 37                     | 32                                   |
| Smallpox vaccination              | 25                     | 1                                    |
| Measles                           | 54                     |                                      |

The rapidly increasing mobility of the population of the world raises considerable problems for those concerned with the control of infectious disease. Diseases which in the past were confined to one area of the globe are now liable to be carried practically anywhere and the old methods of control are not completely adequate.

For this reason it is wise, if one proposes to travel abroad, to be immunised against the more serious infections as far as possible especially if one is to pass through endemic areas.

## HOUSING

The following statistics relate to the year 1968:-

|  |      |
|--|------|
| No. of Council Houses completed during the year .....            | Nil  |
| No. of Council Houses occupied at 31/3/68 .....                  | 185  |
| No. of private houses completed during the year .....            | 7    |
| Total number of units of accommodation with<br>the Borough ..... | 1368 |
| No. of houses inspected in 1968 .....                            | 8    |
| No. of unsatisfactory houses .....                               | 5    |
| No. rendered fit by informal action .....                        | 5    |
| Abatement notices served .....                                   | Nil  |
| No. of demolition orders secured .....                           | Nil  |
| No. of dwellings demolished .....                                | 2    |
| No. of Improvement Grants - Discretionary .....                  | 5    |
| No. of Improvement Grants - Standard .....                       | 2    |

Although the council did not complete any additional houses in 1968 a small number of private houses were added to make a total of 1368 units of accommodation in the Borough. The average number of persons per house 2.3 which does not indicate any degree of crowding.

During the year inspections was carried on and when defects were found remedial action was obtained in all cases.

The caravan sites, which are licensed to stand 295 carvans during the summer season was maintained in a satisfactory condition.

## WATER SUPPLY

During 1968 the water supply to the town maintained an adequate standard. A mid year sample submitted to the Public Analyst was reported to be fit for drinking purposes. The Public Analyst however remarked on the high level of Salinity in the sample. This has been found from time to time and is of course due to the near promity of the sea. Salinity of this degree is in no way harmful and might well not detected by taste by those accustomed to the water.

## CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER

|                         |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Sample taken from ..... | Aldeburgh Waterworks       |
| Date received .....     | 29th July 1968             |
| Appearance .....        | Clear, trace brown deposit |
| Nature of deposit ..... | Nil                        |
| Colour .....            | Nil                        |
| Taste .....             | Satisfactory               |
| Reaction .....          | Faintly alkaline - pH.7.4  |

### RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN PARTS PER MILLION

|                                       |      |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| Ammoniacal nitrogen .....             | 0.02 |
| Albuminoid nitrogen .....             | 0.02 |
| Nitrate nitrogen .....                | 9    |
| Nitrite nitrogen .....                | nil  |
| Chloride as Cl. ....                  | 386  |
| Permanganate Value .....              | 0.29 |
| Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub>         |      |
| Total .....                           | 390  |
| Carbonate (temporary) .....           | 210  |
| Non-carbonate (permanent) .....       | 180  |
| Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub> ..... | 210  |
| Free carbon dioxide .....             | 14   |
| Total solids (at 180°C) .....         | 790  |
| Iron (total) .....                    | 0.04 |
| Metals in solution .....              | nil  |

### OPINION

This water is of very good organic quality, with no chemical evidence of pollution. The salinity is much higher than in figures previously recorded and corresponds to a salt (sodium chloride) content of 640 parts per million. Although this proportion of salt content has no adverse effect on health, many persons unaccustomed to such a drinking water would complain of the taste.

The remainder of the analysis is similar to that of previous samples, except that the total dissolved solids content is higher than usual because of the increased salt content. In our opinion, this water is fit for drinking purposes.

for Lincolne Sutton & Wood Limited

(sgd) E. C. Wood

REFUSE DISPOSAL

There has been little material change in the methods of collection and the disposal of refuse and the pulveriser has given good service.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

During the year the sewage scheme was pushed ahead and its completion can now be anticipated within the not too distant future. This will remove a source of worry which has been felt for a long time.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

No action was necessary under Section 47 of the above act which deals with the removal to hospital of aged or disabled persons who are not receiving the necessary care and attention.

PREVENTION OF  
DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT.

Premises where treatment were carried out:-

- Dwellinghouses - 43
- Other Premises - 10

FOOD PREMISES

Number of Food Premises by type of business

|                              |    |                        |    |
|------------------------------|----|------------------------|----|
| Grocers ... ..               | 12 | Ice Cream ... ..       | 13 |
| Dairies ... ..               | 2  | Butchers ... ..        | 3  |
| Licensed Premises ...        | 17 | Fried and Wet Fish ... | 2  |
| Bakers ... ..                | 3  | Greengrocers ... ..    | 5  |
| Sweets other than<br>grocers | 4  | Cafes ... ..           | 3  |

Number of Food Premises Registered under Section 16 of the  
FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

|  |    |                       |   |
|--|----|-----------------------|---|
| Ice Cream Dealers                              | 13 | Sausage manufacturers | 3 |
| No. of inspectors of Registered Premises ..... | 58 |                       |   |
| No. found unsatisfactory .....                 | 4  |                       |   |
| No. rendered satisfactory .....                | 2  |                       |   |

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959  
Prescribed Particulars on the Administration  
of The Factories Act 1961

| Premises<br>(1)   | Number<br>on<br>Register<br>(2) | Number of          |                           |                                |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
|   |                                 | Inspections<br>(3) | Written<br>Notices<br>(4) | Occupiers<br>Prosecuted<br>(5) |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities                  | 3                               | 6                  | -                         | -                              |
| ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority                   | 12                              | -                  | -                         | -                              |
| ii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) | 19                              | 8                  | -                         | -                              |
| Totals  | 34                              | 14                 | -                         | -                              |

| Particulars<br>(1)   | Number of cases in which defects were found |                 |                          |                          | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted<br>(6) |
|--|---|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
|  | Found<br>(2)                                | Remedied<br>(3) | To H.M. Inspector<br>(4) | By H.M. Inspector<br>(5) |  |
| Effective drainage of floors (S.6)   | -   | -               | -                        | -                        | -  |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)  |   |                 |                          |                          |  |
| (a) Insufficient   | 1   | 1               | -                        | -                        | -  |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective  | -   | -               | -                        | -                        | -  |
| (c) Not separate for sexes   | -   | -               | -                        | -                        | -  |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-Work) | -   | -               | -                        | -                        | -  |
| Totals   | 1   | 1               | -                        | -                        | -  |

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959  
Prescribed Particulars on the Administration  
of The Factories Act 1951

| Number of<br>Cases<br>Prosecuted<br>(2) | Number of<br>Writen<br>Notices<br>(1) | Inspections<br>(3) | Number<br>on<br>Register<br>(2) | Premises<br>(1) |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
|   |                                       |                    |                                 |                 |
| -                                       | -                                     | 8                  | 3                               |                 |
| -                                       | -                                     | -                  | 12                              |                 |
| -                                       | -                                     | -                  | 19                              |                 |
| -                                       | -                                     | 14                 | 34                              | Totals          |

| Number of<br>Cases in<br>which<br>prosecutions<br>were<br>initiated<br>(2) | Number of cases in which defects<br>were found |                             |                  | Number of<br>Cases<br>(2) | Particulars<br>(1)   |
|--|--|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|--|
|  | By H.M.<br>Inspector<br>(3)                    | To H.M.<br>Inspector<br>(4) | Initiated<br>(3) |                           |  |
| -  | -  | -                           | 1                | 1                         | (a) Insufficient<br>(b) Unavailable or<br>defective<br>(c) Not separate for<br>sexes<br>or offences against<br>Act (not including<br>Fences relating to<br>floors) |
| -  | -  | -                           | -                | -                         |  |
| -  | -  | -                           | -                | -                         |  |
| -  | -  | -                           | -                | -                         |  |
| -  | -  | -                           | -                | -                         |  |
| -  | -  | -                           | 1                | 1                         | Totals   |



