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II

BOROUGH OF ALDERSHOT



# Annual Report

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1972







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COMMITTEE CONCERNED WITH THE WORK OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT 1972

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

The Worshipful the Mayor (Clr. Mrs. V.L. Nevett)  
(ex officio Member of the Committee)

CHAIRMAN

Councillor W. S. James

ALDERMEN: Mrs. B.E.Balchin, B.W.Edgoose, B.Sc., J.P., G.A.North

COUNCILLORS: M.H.Clist, J.P., Mrs. R.Coe, J.Crompton, A.E.A.Gardiner,  
M.H.Garrod, D.W.Kirby, J.H.Parlane, Mrs.R.A.Potter,  
E.C.Rhodes, J.E.C.White, Col.A.Grieve, O.B.E.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

I.H.C.MORTON, M.B., ChB., D.P.H., D.Obst.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

CATHERINE M. BRADFORD, M.B., BS.Lond., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

Meat and Food Inspector

Shops Act Inspector

W. E. ROBERTS, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector

W. H. M. EDWARDS, M.A.P.H.I.

B. BERRY, M.A.P.H.I.

F. W. CULVER, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., Dip.Inst.H.M.

Chief Clerk

D.L.BENNETT

Clerical Assistants

Miss P.M. JORDAN

Mrs. J.E. CRISP

Rodent Operator

W. H. McGOWAN

Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
ALDERSHOT,  
Hants.

Tel.No. ALDERSHOT 22441 ex 21.



THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS  
OF THE BOROUGH OF ALDERSHOT

---

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for 1972, prepared as directed by the Department of Health and Social Security.

The health of the Borough was good. Influenza appeared during the winter but the new variety (A/England/72) did not seem unduly severe. It is disappointing to report a recurrence of measles in children. Enquiries revealed that most of them had never been immunised against it.

Coronary disease still heads the list of causes of death, but the last four years have shown a slight reduction in lung cancer compared with previously.

The estimated population was 34,540, which is 640 more than last year.

The new Health Centre was completed and most of the Town's doctors have taken accommodation there. Some also retain surgeries in outlying parts of the Town. The Centre also caters for dentists, both National Health and the School Service; for Child Guidance; and for County Council school clinics. It provides rooms for Health Visitors and District Nurses and facilities for the various workers to meet. The British Red Cross equipment loan service is there. There is also a small X-Ray Department and it is hoped to provide an office and clerical help for the doctors of the County Child Health Service.

The new hospital at Frimley has been delayed and the opening date is not yet certain.

It now seems certain that the reorganisation of the National Health Service will result in a Health District based on the catchment area of the new Frimley Hospital, which will be partly in Surrey and partly in Hampshire. There is no decision yet on which Health Authority will manage the District, nor on which of the existing small hospitals will be retained.

I am sorry to record the death of Mr. W.H.McGowan early in 1973 who had been our Rodent Operator since November 1953.

In conclusion, I must thank the Chairman, Councillor James and the Members of the Health and Housing Committee for their support and interest during the past year; also Mr. Roberts, the Chief Public Health Inspector, and my staff for their willingness and hard work throughout a busy year.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,  
I.H.C. MORTON,  
Medical Officer of Health.



A N N U A L   R E P O R T  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 1972  
V I T A L   S T A T I S T I C S

---

Estimated population for mid-year 1972 (including non-civilian) ..... 34,540

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Aldershot</u>	<u>Rate for England &amp; Wales</u>
Total (49 illegitimate).....	688	
Rate per 1,000 population .....	19.9	
Rate adjusted by comparability factor (0.84) .....	16.7	14.8
Illegitimate births as a percentage of total .....	7	9

STILL BIRTHS

Total (illegitimate nil) .....	5	
Rate per 1,000 all births .....	7	12

TOTAL ALL BIRTHS ..... 693

DEATHS - all ages

Total .....	328	
Rate per 1,000 population .....	9.5	
Rate adjusted by comparability factor (1.37) .....	13.0	12.1

INFANT DEATHS AND MORTALITY RATES

Total under 1 year (1 illegitimate) .....	11	
Rate per 1,000 live births .....	16	17
Total under four weeks (neonatal)(1 illegitimate)..	4	
Rate per 1,000 live births .....	6	12
Total under one week (early neonatal)(illegitimate nil) ....	3	
Rate per 1,000 live births .....	4	10
Perinatal (still births plus early neonatal) .....	8	
Rate per 1,000 all births .....	12	22

MATERNAL DEATHS (including abortion) ..... Nil

Number of domestic houses and flats at 31.3.72) .....	8,529
Number of Commercial Premises .....	1,216
Number of Licensed Premises (excluding Off Licences) .....	43
Other Premises .....	168
Total Rateable Value (31st March 1973) .....	£1,856,811
Acreeage: Civil - 1,431      S.Camp - 2,745      Total - 4,176	



CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSE OF DEATH ACCORDING TO DISEASE

CAUSE OF DEATH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
B.19. Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity etc.....	-	1	1
19. Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus .....	2	-	2
19. Malignant neoplasm, stomach .....	5	3	8
19. Malignant neoplasm, intestine .....	5	6	11
19. Malignant neoplasm, larynx .....	1	-	1
19. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus .....	10	1	11
19. Malignant neoplasm, breast .....	-	3	3
19. Malignant neoplasm, uterus .....	-	5	5
19. Malignant neoplasm, prostate .....	6	-	6
19. Leukaemia .....	1	2	3
19. Other malignant neoplasms .....	8	13	21
20. Benign and unspecified neoplasms .....	1	-	1
21. Diabetes mellitus .....	-	1	1
24. Meningitis .....	-	1	1
26. Chronic rheumatic heart disease .....	4	4	8
27. Hypertensive disease .....	3	1	4
28. Ischaemic heart disease .....	56	34	90
29. Other forms of heart disease .....	2	6	8
30. Cerebrovascular disease .....	18	23	41
31. Influenza .....	1	1	2
32. Pneumonia .....	8	13	21
33. Bronchitis and emphysema .....	12	2	14
34. Peptic ulcer .....	3	1	4
39. Hyperplasia of prostate .....	1	-	1
42. Congenital anomalies .....	4	3	7
43. Birth injury, difficult labour etc.....	-	1	1
45. Symptoms and ill defined conditions .....	1	2	3
46. Multiple sclerosis .....	1	-	1
46. Other diseases of nervous system .....	-	2	2
46. Other diseases of circulatory system .....	7	9	16
46. Other diseases of respiratory system .....	3	2	5
46. Other diseases of digestive system .....	-	2	2
46. Other diseases, genito-urinary system .....	5	1	6
46. Diseases of musculo-skeletal system .....	1	2	3
47. Motor vehicle accidents .....	4	-	4
48. All other accidents .....	1	1	2
49. Suicide and self-inflicted injuries .....	-	1	1
50. All other external causes .....	3	4	7
TOTAL	177	151	328



### Ischaemic Heart Disease

There were 90 deaths from coronary heart disease, a marked increase on last year. Smoking, obesity, lack of exercise and stress are all factors contributing to this disease.

### Deaths from Lung Cancer

	Males	Females	Total
1969	18	5	23
1970	6	2	8
1971	17	1	18
1972	10	1	11

There were 11 deaths from lung cancer which shows an improvement on last year, though one male died under the age of 45 years.

### Drug Addiction

There was one death from drug addiction, a male aged 24 years.

Seven people died as a result of the bomb explosion in the Parachute Brigade Officers Mess in February.

### INCIDENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Under the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1968, the infectious diseases notified during 1972 are shown compared with the three previous years.

	1969	1970	1971	1972	
Measles .....	63	118	7	16	(154)
Whooping Cough .....	-	6	1	-	
Scarlet Fever.....	-	-	2	1	
Malaria .....	-	-	5	5	
Dysentery .....	5	-	11	1	(2)
Meningococcal Infection .....	-	-	-	2	
Food Poisoning .....	-	2	4	1	(12)
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	12	9	12	14	
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	-	-	2	2	
Infective Jaundice .....	37	9	13	11	

The numbers in brackets are the numbers which came to our notice from all sources, i.e. notifications from general practitioners, results from pathological laboratories and reports from schools.



The increased incidence of measles is disappointing. On enquiry it was found that very few of the patients had been immunised against it. The reason is not clear, but official advice is that it should be done as part of the immunisation programme in infancy.

Contacts of typhoid fever from a world cruise were visited but no cases occurred in Aldershot.

Thirty-eight passengers on a flight between Sydney and London via Bahrein were notified as cholera cases but none occurred in Aldershot.

Dysentery was almost non-existent this year. Again there were sporadic cases of food poisoning, one involving six patients in a maternity unit.

Five cases of malaria occurred in returning troops.

Sporadic cases of infective hepatitis have occurred.

The head lice problem has been brought under control.

There has, however, been an increase in the number of cases of scabies but this is rapidly controlled by treatment.

#### Sexually Transmitted Diseases

One case of syphilis was reported. There were eighteen cases of gonorrhoea - 13 male and 5 female - one girl being under 18 years of age.

Of other infections there were 35 male and 29 female - 5 boys and 6 girls being under 18 years of age.

These figures are similar to last years and are a constant reminder of the penalties of promiscuous behaviour. The worst feature is the increase of patients under 18 years of age.

#### HEALTH EDUCATION

The Health Department has permanent space on the Council's public notice boards and this was used for posters on Smoking, Venereal Disease, Safety, Food Hygiene and others. A stock of leaflets is also kept and samples displayed from time to time on public counters.

Health Education is carried out in the schools by Health Visitors, School Medical Officers and the Health Education Officers of the Hampshire County Council.

## HOSPITAL SERVICES

### CIVIL

#### Aldershot General Hospital

General .....	33 beds
Maternity .....	24 beds
Children .....	6 beds

Casualty Department closed 1.2.72.

Outpatients Department includes Surgical (including plastic and oral surgery), Medical, Gynaecological, Ante-natal, E.N.T., Paediatric, Ophthalmic, Special Treatment (V.D.), Psychiatric and Pathological facilities. Last year this Department dealt with over 22,000 patients.

#### Northfield Hospital (admits military personnel)

Acute Medical Ward .....	14 beds (6 male and 8 female)
Infectious Diseases .....	12 beds
Geriatric Ward .....	28 beds

Chest Clinic - covering adjoining areas of Hampshire and Surrey.

### MILITARY (admits civilian personnel)

Cambridge Military Hospital .....	350 beds
	(crisis expansion 450)
Louise Margaret Maternity Hospital .....	66 beds



## TUBERCULOSIS

The table immediately below gives details of the numbers of cases of tuberculosis notified to the department during the year and the figures for the preceding four years for comparative purposes.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
1968 .....	7	1	-	1
1969 .....	7	5	-	-
1970 .....	4	5	-	-
1971 .....	11	1	1	1
1972 .....	12	2	-	2

There is a slight increase in the number of notifications for tuberculosis over preceding years.

The Mobile Mass Radiography Unit of the South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board continues to make weekly visits to the Town on Monday mornings from 11 a.m. to 12.15 p.m. It is located in the Station Approach where it is easily accessible to the public.

The following table gives full details of the Unit in Aldershot during the year under review:-

	Number Examined TOTAL	Significant Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Primary Lung Cancer	
		Males	Females	Males	Females
Referred by General Practitioner	915	1	-	3	1
General Public (includes arrangements made for personnel to visit from factories etc.	1,346	-	1	1	-

B.C.G. All 13 year old children in the area were offered B.C.G. - vaccination giving protection against tuberculosis.

94.3% consents were received and 446 children were vaccinated.

There were 18 positive heaf tests, these children not requiring vaccination.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION PROCEDURES  
DURING THE YEAR ENDING  
31st DECEMBER 1972

The following tables give details of the numbers immunised and vaccinated during the year 1972.

Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus Immunisation  
Poliomyelitis Vaccination, Measles and German Measles Immunisation

Completed Primary Courses

TYPE OF VACCINE	1972	Y E A R O F B I R T H				Under 16	TOTAL
		1971	1970	1969	1968/65		
Triple Antigen	16	488	164	13	13	-	694
Diph/Tetanus	-	5	-	1	2	3	11
Diphtheria alone	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio (oral)	16	492	165	16	18	-	707
Measles	2	270	227	70	63	-	632
German Measles	-	-	-	-	-	365	365

Reinforcing Doses

TYPE OF VACCINE	1972	Y E A R O F B I R T H				Under 16	TOTAL
		1971	1970	1969	1968/65		
Triple Antigen	1	14	29	21	114	75	254
Diph/Tetanus	-	-	9	5	426	39	479
Diphtheria alone	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Polio (oral)	1	10	31	20	528	124	714

Diphtheria/tetanus and poliomyelitis vaccine given at immunisation sessions in primary schools and tetanus and poliomyelitis vaccine given to those children in their last year at school have helped to maintain the high level of booster doses given in the area. Rubella vaccine is given to all girls in secondary schools between 11 and 14 years of age (subject to the parents consent).



### SMALLPOX VACCINATION

The following statistics set out the number of primary and re-vaccinations against smallpox carried out during the year.

	M O N T H S				Y E A R S			TOTAL
	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	1 year	2-4	5-15	
Primary Vaccinations	-	-	-	3	59	58	17	137
Re-Vaccinations	-	-	-	-	-	8	93	101

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

One case required action by this Department under the National Assistance Act 1948 section 47.

### MORTUARY

The following figures show the total number of subjects admitted to the Mortuary during the year.

Total number of subjects admitted to the Mortuary .....	212
Cases admitted from the Borough of Aldershot .....	51
Cases admitted from outside the Borough .....	159
Number of Post Mortems held .....	210
Cases admitted no Post Mortems held .....	2

### SOCIAL SERVICES

#### Home Help Service

A total of 214 cases were helped during the year of which 163 were new.  
44 Home Helps were employed.

## COMMITTEE ON DRUG ABUSE

Three meetings were held. The suggestion made at the formation of the Committee, namely to work towards the establishment of a hostel for ex-drug users, was reviewed in the light of current opinion in the Social Services. Thinking is now towards family size units for group living and approaches were made to local Housing Departments; but the normal pressure on housing lists precludes any such development at present.

Other discussion was mainly on methods of putting over preventive education. The films "One Way Ticket" and "Better Dead" were reviewed. A proposal was made to hold a Competition in schools to design a warning poster but was not supported when opinions were sought from the local schools.

The journal "Drugs and Society" was circulated on request to members and anti-drug pamphlets were made available.

Through the co-operation of a Consultant Psychiatrist, an arrangement was made for drug-users seeking help to be given special appointments for early consultation.

It is not possible to assess the effect of any action, as very little information ever comes back to the Committee.



## TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

As the new Health Centre is open and fully operational, all Treatment Centres and Clinics as shown are held there, with the exception of those set out below. The telephone number of the Centre is Aldershot 24577 and it is necessary to ring for an appointment before attending any of the sessions.

### Clinics held at the Health Centre

Child Guidance  
Speech Therapy  
Family Planning  
Cervical Cytology  
Chiropody Service  
Ante-Natal  
Child Health  
Immunisation  
School Health  
Dental  
Audiology  
Audiometric  
Hearing Test  
Eye Clinic

### Clinics not held at the Health Centre

Chest Clinic  
Northfield Hospital

Examination of suspected  
cases of tuberculosis.

Clinic:

Mondays 9.15 a.m.

Tuesdays 2 p.m.

Thursdays 9.15 a.m.

New Patients:

Mondays 11 a.m.

Emergencies:

Thursdays 11.30 a.m.

B.C.G.

By Appointment Only

Special Clinic  
Aldershot General  
Hospital

Treatment of venereal  
diseases.

Males:

Mondays 12-12.45 p.m.

Wednesdays 4-5.45 p.m.

Females:

Mondays 11-12 noon

Wednesdays 2-4 p.m.

Ophthalmic Clinic  
Aldershot General  
Hospital

Examination of ophthalmic  
cases and prescription of  
spectacles.

By Appointment Only.



## SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

### (1) Water Supply

The following information, which was kindly supplied by the Chief Engineer, Mid Southern Water Company, Frimley Green, Nr. Camberley, is set out in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 1/73.

- (a) (i) The sources supplying the Borough are all underground in the chalk and lower greensand formations. All are subject to treatment and regular examination has shown that the processes are continually effective in producing a water suitable for public supply purposes.
- (ii) There have been no restrictions regarding quantity.
- (b) Immediate investigation and implementation of remedial measures, if necessary, would be carried out if sampling revealed contamination of a treated water. New mains as laid are chlorinated and sampled prior to use for supply purposes, and reservoirs together with domestic taps are examined regularly. These have shown that the quality of water in distribution attains the criteria now recommended.
- (c) (i) The number of supplies at 31.12.72. was 9,127.
- (ii) The figure for standpipes would be nil.
- (d) The fluoride content is low, the range being 0.1 - 0.2 mg/lF.
- (e) The number of bacteriological examinations applicable to the Borough (although not solely) are as follows:-

	<u>Number Tested</u>	<u>% Highly Satisfactory</u>
Raw water before treatment	247	
Treated waters at Head Works	<u>104</u>	100.0
	<u>351</u>	

The waters are virtually constant in composition but chemical analyses are carried out regularly, no changes of note have been observed.

- (f) The waters are not liable to have plumbo solvent action. It is understood that the then Mid Southern Utility Company discouraged the use of lead plumbing from about 1912, and analyses of samples from consumers taps for lead content are carried out at infrequent intervals only.

No such analyses for lead from samples taken within the Borough were carried out in 1972.



(2) Swimming Baths and Pools

Weekly samples are taken from the Indoor Pool throughout the year and from the Outdoor Pool during the summer. The chlorination and filtration plants are working satisfactorily.

(3) Hardness of Water

Regular analyses have been carried out in order to chart the total hardness of water in the Borough. The following results have been obtained.

	<u>Parts per million</u>	
	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
January .....	- ...	302
February .....	- ...	-
March .....	252 ...	162
April .....	92 ...	-
May .....	254 ..	280 and 162
June .....	- ..	bottle broke
July .....	162 ...	246
August .....	- ...	-
September .....	bottle broke	-
October .....	160 ...	-
November .....	270 ...	240
December .....	290 ...	292

The Director of Technical Services has kindly supplied the following reports on:-

Sewage Disposal Works

Reconstruction Scheme - Phases III and IV (part)

Work on the above contract has recently been completed and the four new 90 ft.dia. filters, the six new 110 ft.dia. filters and the two new 75 ft.dia. humus tanks have now been brought into full operation.

Sewerage

The laying of the Boxalls Lane Relief Surface Water Sewer has now been completed with the exception of certain ancillary works.

Housing (all types) completed during 1972

	Council		Private Enterprise	
	Houses	Flats	Houses	Flats
January .....	30	-	7	-
February .....	22	-	8	-
March .....	50	17	4	-
April .....	26	19	-	-
May .....	19	5	-	-
June .....	28	18	2	-
July .....	8	-	-	-
August .....	-	18	12	-
September .....	-	-	1	-
October .....	-	-	7	-
November .....	-	-	6	-
December .....	-	-	7	5
TOTALS	183	77	54	5



# ANALYSIS OF APPLICATIONS FOR HOUSING ACCOMMODATION

CIVILIAN CASES	Single	Engaged Couples	Childless Couples	C H I L D R E N										Aged Couples	Widows	TOTAL
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
1 In Rooms in Borough Working in Borough	51	15	112	72	22	1	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	8	67	355
2 In Rooms in Borough Working outside Borough	11	7	68	37	9	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	135
3 In Rooms outside Borough Working in Borough	9	4	31	13	10	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	71
4 In Rooms outside Borough Working outside Borough	-	1	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
5 Tenant in Borough Working in Borough	6	-	26	9	8	4	3	-	1	1	-	-	-	9	14	81
6 Tenant in Borough Working outside Borough	1	-	9	4	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	20
7 Tenant outside Borough Working in Borough	1	-	9	2	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
8 Tenant outside Borough Working outside Borough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9 Living in Military Quarters	-	-	8	8	8	8	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	38
10 Husband and wife living apart due to housing position	-	-	-	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
11 Royal Navy	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
12 Caravans	1	-	10	9	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	27
DI Driving Instructors	-	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
P Police	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	80	28	280	159	72	24	12	3	5	1	-	-	-	18	83	765
SERVICE CASES	1	-	22	57	116	73	41	15	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	333

The above details regarding the housing position in the Borough, being of considerable health significance, are supplied through the kind co-operation of the Housing Department.



SUMMARY OF HOUSING APPLICATIONS

	YEAR	Single	Engaged Couples	Childless Couples	C H I L D R E N										Aged Couples	Widows	TOTAL
					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
CIVILIAN	Prior 1966	1	-	9	1	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	6	23
	1967	9	-	8	1	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	26
	1968	13	-	10	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	27
	1969	1	-	28	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	5	42
	1970	7	2	26	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	39
	1971	14	1	37	42	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	23	129
	1972	35	25	162	112	58	20	10	2	4	1	-	-	-	5	45	479
TOTAL		80	28	280	159	72	24	12	3	5	1	-	-	-	18	83	765
DEFERRED CASES TOTAL		8	-	29	63	61	26	6	2	2	1	-	-	-	4	22	223
SERVICE CASES	Prior 1966	-	-	9	22	55	40	18	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	153
	1967	-	-	2	6	20	16	7	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	56
	1968	-	-	1	5	3	1	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
	1969	-	-	1	4	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
	1970	-	-	1	5	4	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
	1971	-	-	1	5	7	7	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
	1972	1	-	6	10	21	9	10	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60
TOTAL		1	-	21	57	117	73	41	15	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	333



REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS  
OF THE BOROUGH OF ALDERSHOT

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Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the privilege to submit to you my Annual Report for 1972, my 27th as your Chief Public Health Inspector.

It has been a year of steady progress, a year where the emphasis has been on Local Government Reorganisation, where events move toward the appointed day and the birth of the New Rushmoor District.

The changing attitude to environmental problems will surely bring about an upheaval in the traditional role of the Public Health Inspector. The Environmental Health Officer will in future lose "general direction" of the Medical Officer of Health. A report of a Working Group chaired by M.A. Bains, Esq., "The New Local Authorities Management and Structure", was published in August 1972 and sought to provide guidelines for the setting up of the new Authorities, and is the accepted textbook on reorganisation. Functions and possible management structures are laid bare and "in depth" appraisal provides possibilities for formulating foundations for the New Districts.

To meet the demands of this new situation and in order that the Public Health Inspector may deal more competently and knowledgeably with some of the functions which he already controls or may control, the standard of training and examination may have to be improved with more treatment to detail as in food technology, bacteriology, noise control, and the chemistry of industrial processes, etc. This knowledge would be coincidental to the improved educational demands required of students scheduled to come into force on the 1st September 1974.

Improvement Grant completions have almost doubled during the last year and this is most gratifying in view of the time consuming and detailed work involved. It would seem, however, that Improvement Grants were used in a few instances to boost profits. Consideration may in the future have to be given to the introduction of the clause that allowed for the repayment of the appropriate portion of the grant, should the house be sold within three years, or perhaps the applicant should be made to produce evidence that he is to occupy or let the house on a permanent basis.

The Housing Act 1972 was welcomed and its provisions give more freedom for manoeuvre for Landlord and Tenant in reaching agreement with regard to updating older property and the subsequent adjustment of rents.

Work in connection with the Alexandra General Improvement Area is progressing well although certain categories are slightly behind schedule due,



in the main, to difficulties associated with allocation of labour and the reaching of agreement of all parties on certain matters in connection with access road planning.

Meat inspection was maintained at one hundred per cent at the Military Abattoir and the Poultry Packing Factory was subjected to frequent visits. It would appear that the responsibility for meat inspection together with the inspection of poultry will subsequently be controlled by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food team of Veterinary Surgeons now that Britain has joined the European Community. It is hoped that the change of responsibility will uphold and give prime consideration to the health aspect of the industry. The full-scale poultry meat inspection system demanded by the directive adopted by the European Economic Commission will involve the services of a considerable number of staff, both veterinarians and inspectors, working in approved slaughtering premises constructed to specific standards with adequate amenities and that specific standards of hygiene shall be maintained at all times.

Your inspectors have diligently carried out their duties over all subjects within the department, especially within the sphere of House Improvements. Complaints have been minimal due to their vigilance and surveillance with regard to all aspects of Food Hygiene, and in the fields of pollution, noise abatement, etc.

It is with regret I record that Mr. "Harry" McGowan, Rodent Operator, died early February 1973 after a short illness. He had been with the department for 19 years, and was well known in the district carrying out his duties in a quiet and efficient manner.

In conclusion, I wish to express my appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee for their interest, help and support in the work of the department; to Dr. I.H.C. Morton for his general guidance and advice; to my Inspectors and to all members of the staff of the department for their loyal service and assistance willingly given throughout the year.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,  
W.E. ROBERTS  
Chief Public Health Inspector



## H O U S I N G

### GENERAL

Local Authorities are empowered under the Housing Acts and the Public Health Acts to secure the carrying out of repairs necessary to bring unfit houses up to the required standard of fitness for healthy living. The work is usually completed after informal notice and only in a few instances has it been necessary to resort to formal action. There have been only four occasions this year where Statutory Notices were issued. The prompt carrying out of repair work is not always possible due to the difficulty experienced by Owners and Agents in obtaining the necessary labour.

### HOUSING ACT 1969 AND THE HOUSING FINANCE ACT 1972

#### (1) IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSES

National policy provides for the improvement of houses which, although built many years ago, are structurally sound but lack the amenities now considered essential for healthy living. The standard of fitness should attain that of the recognised 12 point standard as hereunder and all improvements are geared to this end.

- (1) In good repair and free from damp;
- (2) each room properly lighted and ventilated;
- (3) an adequate water supply;
- (4) an adequate hot water supply;
- (5) a W.C. inside or readily accessible;
- (6) a fixed bath in a bathroom;
- (7) a sink and waste;
- (8) proper drainage;
- (9) each room with either gas or electric points;
- (10) adequate heating;
- (11) satisfactory facilities to store, prepare and cook food;
- (12) a proper fuel store if required.



## (2) IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Every house with its own bathroom, domestic hot water supply and inside toilet should be the minimum ultimate aim. To this end discussion with owners, prospective purchasers, builders and architects with a view to persuading them to take up grants for the improvement of properties has gone on apace and every effort has been made to encourage them to avail themselves of the provisions of the Improvement Grant scheme. Of the many inspections carried out a total of 122 owners signified their firm intention of availing themselves of grant aid toward the cost of improving their properties. Improvements completed with grant aid during the year numbered 91.

## (3) QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATES

The 1969 Housing Act encouraged Landlords to effectively improve and to repair older houses to the standard laid down and by so doing enabled them to apply to change the tenancy if applicable from that of "controlled" to a "regulated" one. To attain the required standard the dwelling must satisfy all of the following qualifying conditions :-

- (a) It must have all the standard amenities for the exclusive use of its occupants.
- (b) It must be in good repair having regard to its age, character and locality. (This does not take into account internal decorative repair).
- (c) It must be fit for human habitation.

The issue of a Qualification Certificate certifies that a dwelling satisfies the conditions laid down.

The Housing Finance Act 1972 clears some anomalies which have given rise to difficulties over the past three years.

Where a controlled dwelling lacks one or more of the standard amenities the Landlord will no longer be obliged to obtain certificates of provisional approval and fair rent before starting the improvement work - neither will he have to obtain the tenants consent after a certificate of fair rent has been issued.

In the past this has proved a lengthy and time consuming process. Rent Officers have been under pressure and often by the time a Certificate of fair rent and the tenants consent has been obtained, estimates submitted with grant applications were out of date and further applications have had to be made in line with higher estimates.

A Landlord may still apply for a provisional Qualification Certificate, either before or after the work has been carried out. He can also apply, if he wishes, for a Certificate of fair rent which may be advisable if the tenant declines to consent until he knows exactly what his future rent will be.



Where the tenants consent is not forthcoming a County Court will no longer be able to take account of his means.

If he cannot meet the increased rent, he will be able to claim a rent allowance from the local Council. The Council will supply on request a leaflet giving particulars of how these allowances are calculated and how to apply.

Only 14 applications for Qualification Certificates were received during 1972, a drastic reduction on the previous year. 38 full Certificates and 19 provisional Certificates were issued; two applications were refused. There are still 65 applications in hand awaiting completion of necessary works.

#### GENERAL IMPROVEMENT AREA

The first year programme is well under way although difficulties over reaching agreement with some owners and tenants regarding the provision of rear access roads is taking time to resolve. Of the £24,000 allocated for environmental improvement some £6,000 is expected to be spent this year. Alison Road at its junction with Alexandra Road was closed making a cul-de-sac and this, at the express wish of the residents, was renamed "Alison Way". Gardens are being laid out, demolition of some selected houses was scheduled and rebuilding planned for the future.

Applications for Improvement Grants within the area and underway numbered 49 and of these 32 were completed.

#### SLUM CLEARANCE

Three areas viz. Holly Road 2-36 (even numbers only), Victoria Road 6-12 (even numbers only), Western Road 15-21 (odd numbers only), were submitted as Clearance Areas and all have subsequently been confirmed by the Minister.

The re-housing of the occupants is dependant on the building of new Council houses but a few families are being rehoused as and when Council owned houses become vacant.

#### HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

A "one direction" indication on the local search has been made when a house considered suitable and likely to be used for this type of occupation changes hands. An undertaking from the intending purchaser is requested thus assuring it will not be let in multiple occupation.

Owners of a number of the larger and older type houses have, under the provision of the Housing Acts, been given financial assistance in the form of grants for the proper conversion into flats with all necessary amenities.

Houses "occupied by persons who do not form a single household" vary considerably, and there have been no problems during the year.



### LOCAL LAND CHARGES ETC.

Requests for official search of the Land Charges Register in respect of 1,029 properties were received and the necessary information supplied. The number received showed an increase of 153 over the previous year and it would appear to reflect the urgency of vendors in wanting to dispose of their properties while prices remain at a high level.

### POLLUTION - DEPOSIT OF POISONOUS WASTE ACT 1972

The above Act received Royal Assent on 30th March 1972 and its aim was to cure the indiscriminate disposal of waste where it could be regarded as creating an environmental hazard to people or animals in presenting a material risk to their health or threaten to pollute surface or underground water. Notice will now have to be given to the Local Authority and the River Authority of the removal of the waste from any premises for disposal and of the depositing of waste in their area. This will apply to all wastes other than those which may be exempted by the Secretary of State.

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION - CLEAN AIR ACT 1968

Smoke emission levels in the United Kingdom have fallen by 65% in the last ten years in spite of a 9% increase in population and a 20% increase in annual gross energy consumption, as per statistics included in Vol.1., National Survey of Air Pollution 1961-71, just published. It is gratifying to learn of the continual improvement in this direction. There have been no complaints due to this form of pollution although notification of nuisance caused by garden bonfires was received on two occasions.

Considerable concern was registered by residents of estates on the periphery of the Town over the nuisance caused by the burning of stubble in fields just over the boundary that continued to smoulder for many weeks and was probably in part due to the prolonged drought. One field was ploughed but the smouldering continued underground and although the fire services were alive to the nuisance they could only await the eventual "burning out".

### NOISE NUISANCE

Excessive noise and its effects healthwise is a particular hazard of modern living. Noise experienced within the working environment can also impose considerable strain on the nervous system leading to loss of working efficiency and its attendant problems. Public Health Inspectors are forever on the lookout for a solution to noise problems and to this end every complaint is carefully followed up.

Aircraft noise continues and with the introduction of larger aircraft there is little possibility of a reduction in level.

Several firms in the district, particularly those operating around the clock, engaged in transport and distribution of goods have been the subject of complaints regarding noise at night. Visits have been made and those firms committing the nuisance have gone to great lengths to put matters right.



Stock car racing held in an adjoining Authority's area has been the subject of many complaints and efforts are at present under way in conjunction with adjoining Authorities to bring the matter under control.

#### DRAINAGE

Before proceeding with the demolition of unfit houses and other properties in development areas, all drainage systems are traced and properly sealed off from the Public Sewer.

Notified complaints numbered 361 and the investigation, tracing and freeing of obstructed drains in many cases caused a considerable amount of work.

#### RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS

There are no premises within the Borough Licensed under this Act.

#### ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1965

One Cattery was Licensed during the year. The premises were inspected and boarding arrangements were found to be satisfactory and in keeping with the regulations laid down.

#### PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

Three premises within the Borough are Licensed under the Act, the owners dealing in the sale of small pet animals, cage birds, fish and tortoises.

Frequent inspections of the premises are carried out, ensuring that they are maintained in a satisfactory condition and that adequate consideration is given to animals, birds, etc., whilst in the care of the shop owners.

#### SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT 1964

The number of premises registered by the Local Authority is four.

#### CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT 1960, SECTION 3

One Licence was granted to station a caravan on a site attached to an Engineering Firm where all necessary facilities are readily available. Caravans and temporary sites occupied by travellers in connection with pleasure fairs and circuses visiting the Borough are subjected to inspection upon occasion. There are no permanent Caravan Sites situated within the Borough.

#### COMMON LODGING HOUSE

There is no Common Lodging House situated within the Borough.



## RODENT AND PEST CONTROL

One Rodent Operator is employed by the Council and continues to deal with a wide variety of complaints in a prompt and efficient manner.

Regular inspection and treatment is accorded all premises where rats and mice are likely to become established and breed with special emphasis on the Council Tip, Sewage Works, building sites etc.

Sewers were test baited as required by the Ministry. Baits used are packed in polythene bags as a precaution against spoilage by damp and to prevent the growth of mould. The effective action of the bait is therefore prolonged.

There were no signs of "Warfarin resistant" rats within the Area and this product still proved to be effective in their control.

Mice were kept under control with the use of Alpha Chlorolose.

Visits in connection with the destruction of wasps nests were not quite so numerous as in the proceeding year but nevertheless were on occasions quite troublesome.

There has been a marked improvement with regard to the nuisance created by pigeons. Trapping has been most effective during the year and a considerable reduction in the number at large in the Borough has been achieved. Humane traps specially constructed in the Department have proved most successful and continue to be used discreetly in view of the affection shown toward this pest by members of the general public.

The North Hants Pest Control Committee comprise members drawn from the eight Local Authorities in North East Hampshire, from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and from the Aldershot Military District. The Borough Council is represented by the Chairman of the Health Committee and the Chief Public Health Inspector. It is usual for the Committee to meet on three occasions during the year in different districts. Valuable information is provided for Inspectors and elected members to use, if necessary, in their Constituent Authorities.

A free service with regard to the identification of insects submitted from members of the public is provided by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Coley Park, Reading, and the Entomology Section of the British Museum.

From the reports received valuable advice can be given to householders, traders etc. on the specimens submitted and the treatment necessary to get rid of them.



The work carried out and the materials used during the year are summarised below :-

Number of properties inspected	2003
Number of properties found to be infested	275
Number of dwelling houses treated	226
Number of business and agriculture premises treated	49
Total number of visits, inspections, prebaiting and baiting	2588

#### TOTAL QUANTITY OF POISONS, BAITs AND MATERIALS USED DURING 1972

2,000 Polythene Bags 4" x 6"	2 x 12 fluid oz. Cromesol Disinfectant
2,000 Polythene Bags 6" x 8"	56 lbs. Whole Groats
300 Polythene Bags 12" x 15"	7 lbs. Sunflower Seeds
500 Polythene Bags 12" x 18"	14 lbs. Plain Canary Seed
1 gall. Lakil	56 lbs. Pinhead Oat Meal
2 cwts. Gammexane Powder C.100	84 lbs. Wheat
4 lbs. Alpha Chloralose	112 lbs. Cut Wheat
4 x 4 galls. Zaldecide	30 lbs. Castor Sugar
5 galls. Linseed Oil (Raw)	30 lbs. Plain Flour
1 x 56 lbs. Lindane 1% Dust D511	1 lb. Lard
2 doz. Insecticide Fumers No.1	35 lbs. Bread (Stale)

#### DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES

Disinfestation is carried out in all cases where a verminous infestation is reported. It is pleasing to note that visits in this connection have diminished over the past few years.

Furniture and effects belonging to prospective Council Tenants are inspected prior to their taking up residence and where indicated treatment is carried out forthwith.

#### BURIAL OF THE DEAD, NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948, SECTION 50

Where a person dies or is found dead in the District (other than in Hospital) without any relatives or financial means and where no funeral arrangements can be made by any other person, the Local Authority is responsible for the disposal of the body.

There was one such case falling within this category during the year.



### SHOPS ACT 1950

Seven Exemption Orders are in force allowing traders to open six days a week. A number of shopkeepers have expressed their desire to open six days per week but under the existing Legislation, fifty percent of the traders of a particular class are required to express a willingness to open, only then can an Exemption Order be made.

Certain aspects of Sunday trading have brought warnings to a number of shopkeepers for the Law as it stands is outdated and new Legislation is considered long overdue.

### SHOPS (EARLY CLOSING DAY) ACT 1956

With the majority of Shop Assistants enjoying a five day week, many of the larger concerns have to stagger the hours worked by their staff. A departure from the traditional Wednesday half day has become necessary in some cases and in order to meet staffing needs.

### OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

The provisions of this Act protect the office and shopworker and it is necessary for all owners to register details of their business, office staff, etc. Your Inspectors ensure that this part of the Act is complied with and every assistance is given with a view to fostering satisfactory co-operation and good relations between owners and occupiers in the event of any complaint. Where new development and alterations to existing premises are to be carried out recommendations to the Planning Department are made in appropriate cases.

It is particularly noticeable that where contraventions of the Act occur, employees are reluctant to complain to the Local Authority. Complaints when notified have been speedily remedied and it has not been necessary to initiate legal proceedings during the year.



## REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

CLASS OF PREMISES	NO OF PREMISES REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR	NO OF REGISTERED PREMISES AT END OF YEAR	NO OF REGISTERED PREMISES RECEIVING A GENERAL INSPECTION DURING THE YEAR
OFFICES.	4	97	28
RETAIL SHOPS.	7	249	32
WHOLESALE SHOPS AND WAREHOUSES.	1	24	2
CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. CANTEENS.	1	24	12
FUEL STORAGE DEPOTS.	-	3	-
TOTALS	13	397	74

TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES UNDER THE ACT = 165

## ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

SECTION	NUMBER OF CONTRAVENTIONS FOUND	
4	Cleanliness	10
6	Temperature	1
7	Ventilation	4
9	Sanitary Conveniences	5
10	Washing Facilities	1
16	Floors, Passages & Stairs	11
-	Other Matters	7
	TOTAL	39



ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES

CLASS OF WORKPLACE	NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED
Offices.	1676
Retail Shops.	1975
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses.	904
Catering Establishments open to the public. Canteens.	200
Fuel storage depots.	13
TOTAL	4768
TOTAL MALES	2123
TOTAL FEMALES	2645

ACCIDENTS

Nine accidents were reported and investigated. None involved Statutory Action.

Personal carelessness is usually the attributable factor where reported accidents are concerned and with reasonable care a number could be avoided. Management, through adequate training and supervision and by virtue of instruction and propaganda, can instil an attitude of accident awareness in the employee that could result in a reduction of casualties.

ANALYSIS OF REPORTED ACCIDENTS

CAUSE	OFFICES	RETAIL SHOPS	WHOLESALE WAREHOUSES
Machinery	-	1	1
Falls of Persons	-	3	-
Handling Goods	-	2	-
Struck by Falling Object	-	2	-



## FACTORIES

Both Factory and Local Authority Inspectors have made periodic visits and it has occurred on occasions that duplication of visits have been made. Ideally a single Act incorporating Safety, Health and Welfare requirements of both the Factories Act 1961 and the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 is required and its implementation is considered long overdue.

## INSPECTIONS

PREMISES	NO. ON REGISTER	INSPECTIONS	WRITTEN NOTICES	OCCUPIERS PROSECUTED
Factories (Non Mechanical)	7	3	-	-
Factories (Mechanical) Other Premises	174	61	7	-
TOTAL	181	64	7	-

## NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND AND NUISANCES REPORTED

PARTICULARS	FOUND	REMEDIED	REFERRED TO H.M. INSPECTOR	REFERRED BY H.M. INSPECTOR	PROSECUTIONS
Want of Cleanliness	4	5 (1 from 1971)	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences unsuitable or defective	1	3 (2 from 1971)	-	-	-
Noise	2	2	-	-	-
Pollution (oil in Ditch)	1	1	-	-	-



## OUTWORKERS - FACTORIES ACT 1961

Inspection visits to Outworkers premises were made and in all cases conditions were found to be satisfactory.

There are nine registered Outworkers operating within the District.

### REGISTERED FACTORIES

The following is a list of trades carried out at the Registered Factories :-

Bakers	Glass cutter	Paper bailing
Battery manufacturers	Glass fibre manufacturer	Photographers
Book repairers	Hatter	Plumbers
Briar pipe makers	Joinery and timber products	Polo stick manufacturers
Cardboard cartons	Knitwear	Poultry packing
Chemical engraving	Launderette	Printing
Coffin makers	Laundries	Radio & T.V. repairers
Concrete products	Light engineering	Saddlers
Cycle repairers	Manufacturing chemist	Sausage makers
Dairy	Marine store	Sculptor (monumental)
Denture manufacturer	Medal makers	Sewing machine repairers
Dressmakers	Metal fabrication	Sign makers
Education and Office	Mineral water manufacturers	Tailors
Equipment	Motor repairs	Typewriter repairs
Electric blanketmakers	Musical instrument makers	Tyre fitting and wheel
Electrical Engineering	Opticians	balancing
French Polisher	Paint spraying	Upholsterers

### DRY CLEANING

Coin operated Dry Cleaning Plants, usually located in most Launderettes, are very much in evidence today and it cannot be stressed too strongly the need for members of the public using these machines to thoroughly air the articles immediately after dry cleaning.

The various solvents in use present a distinct health hazard if inhaled and all premises in the district operating dry cleaning plants have suitable notices displayed drawing attention to the need for care in handling articles immediately after processing.

## I N S P E C T I O N   A N D   S U P E R V I S I O N   O F   F O O D

### INSPECTION OF MEAT

The Military Abattoir is the only slaughterhouse situated within the Borough and provides for the practical and theoretical training of Military Personnel as well as for the training of Ministry Meat Graders.



Modern slaughterhouse facilities continue to improve and new equipment reduces contamination risk to the consumer from disease.

Your Health Inspectors maintained one hundred percent inspection of all carcasses slaughtered for human consumption during 1972. They are responsible for the rejection of part or all of a carcass or organs and it is due to their expertise that detection of any abnormalities or disease is complete before the carcass is finally passed fit for human consumption.

Local Butchers receive their meat supplies from wholesalers situated outside the District. Inspection of vehicles used for the transport of meat is regularly maintained and particular attention is directed in enforcing the wearing of suitable protective clothing whilst handling meat supplies.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

CATEGORY	CATTLE EXCLUDING COWS	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP AND LAMBS	PIGS
Number slaughtered	1140	124	-	1359	1025
Number inspected	1140	124	-	1359	1025
<u>All diseases except T.B. and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	-	-	-
Parts condemned	178	104	-	117	245
Percentage	62.98%	84.68%	-	8.61%	23.90%
<u>Cysticercosis only</u>					
Carcasses	1	-	-	-	-
Carcasses treated by refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-
<u>T.B. only</u>					
Whole carcasses	-	-	-	-	-
Parts	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage	-	-	-	-	-



THE WEIGHT OF CONDEMNED MEAT AND OFFAL AT THE MILITARY ABATTOIR AMOUNTED TO :-

	Tons.	Cwts.	lbs.
MEAT	-	8	57
OFFAL	4	13	39
<hr/>			
TOTAL	5	1	96

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

During inspection at the abattoir the organs taken from one animal were found to be affected with Cysticercus Bovis and were condemned. The carcass was subjected to the usual period of refrigeration as recommended.

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED MEAT AND OTHER FOOD

Certificates of condemnation are issued for all meat and other foods considered unsuitable for human consumption. The meat and other foods condemned are destroyed or disposed of under supervision, or if suitable used for non-edible purposes.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT 1958

Three Licences were issued to Slaughtermen during the year 1972.

In addition to their responsibility for meat inspection, Health Inspectors ensure that standards of hygiene demanded of the Act are maintained at all times and that the handling of animals for slaughter is carried out in a humane manner.

FOOD INSPECTION

Your Inspectors are responsible that the wholesomeness of the public food supply is maintained at the level demanded and careful inspection throughout all stages of production is carried out with this in mind.

FOOD HYGIENE (FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1970)

Improved packaging and presentation by way of refrigerated display has contributed in no small measure to the higher standard in food hygiene encountered today. Strict stock control and rotation is essential to maintain food in the optimum condition and to this end your Inspectors constantly remind management of their obligation in training staff in the efficient handling of foodstuffs and of the varied posters, literature, etc. freely available to assist them in discharging their responsibilities in this direction.



## FOOD CONDEMNED (OTHER PREMISES)

### Meat and Meat Products

200 lbs. Beef  
96 lbs. Pork  
38 lbs. Lamb  
6 lbs. "Hot Dog" Sausages

### Meat (Canned)

546 lbs. Miscellaneous Products

### Frozen Foods

336 lbs. Ice Cream

### Frozen Foods

1355 Pkts. = 233 lbs.  
53 Chickens = 178 lbs.

### Groceries, Fruit, etc.

159 lbs. Lettuce  
390 lbs. Plums  
30 lbs. White grapes  
1768 lbs. Bananas  
160 lbs. Peaches  
29 lbs. Pearl Barley  
124 lbs. Canned Vegetables  
452 lbs. Misc. Canned Goods

25 lbs. Canned Milk

50 lbs. Canned Fish

TOTAL WEIGHT OF OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED = 2tons, 3cwts, 4lbs.

TOTAL WEIGHT OF ALL FOOD, INCLUDING DISEASED MEAT, CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR =  
7tons, 4cwts, 100lbs.

## POULTRY INSPECTION

The responsibility for poultry inspection is in the process of being transferred from the Department of Health and Social Security to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, by entry into the Common Market. In short, poultry inspection along with meat inspection will be controlled by the Ministry team of Veterinary Surgeons in line with the Common Market view on meat and poultry inspection.

A directive adopted by the Council of the European Community and binding on all member states sets out the conditions to be observed in the processing of and the trade in fresh poultry meat. Slaughter of poultry shall be carried out at approved slaughtering premises which reach specific standards of construction with adequate amenities, and that specific standards of hygiene shall be maintained at all times. In addition, all birds are to be eviscerated at the place of slaughter and are subject to anti-mortem and post-mortem inspection under the general supervision of a veterinary surgeon. The only exception permitted to these requirements applies to the producer who sells direct to the final consumer.

One of the largest poultry processing factories in the country operates within the Borough and the present system of poultry inspection is as used



throughout the country i.e. so called "spotters" employed by the producer under the supervision of a Public Health Inspector. The full scale inspection system demanded will involve the services of veterinary surgeons and other inspection staff. It is hoped that the extra costs involved justify the end result. However well inspection is organised the hazard of Salmonella is with us. Bacterial contamination can be reduced by high standards of hygiene in the processing plant. Salmonellosis in the human consumer can be prevented by hygienic handling and adequate cooking of the end product. The real answer is one of eradication of Salmonella i.e. from breeding flocks, hatcheries and broiler plants.

Total number of birds processed during the year :-

TYPE	PROCESSED	REJECTED AS UNFIT	DEAD ON ARRIVAL
Broilers	7480707	9367	28994
11 wk. old cocks	630203	2659	3000
Cockerels	12058	16	48
Super Heavies	43851	432	304
TOTALS	8166819	12474	32346
PERCENTAGES	-	.15%	.39%

GRAND TOTAL = 8,211,639 BIRDS

AVERAGE WEEKLY THROUGHPUT TOTAL = 157,916

TOTAL WEIGHT OF POULTRY REJECTED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION =

(BASED ON AVERAGE WEIGHTS) INCLUDING DEAD ON ARRIVAL = 75tons, 3cwts, 15lbs.

#### BAKEHOUSES

There are five bake houses situated within the Borough, alas, none of modern construction.

The bulk of the bread and confectionery retailed locally is made by nationally known firms with bakeries outside the district and delivered daily from their depots to local retailers.

#### LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS 1963

There are no premises in the District coming within the provisions of these Regulations.



## COMPLAINTS OF FOREIGN BODIES AND SUBSTANCES IN FOOD

There have been 39 complaints regarding foreign matter or mould in foodstuffs investigated during the year and of these three were the subject of legal proceedings and are listed below.

Milk	-	Glass in bottle	-	Fined £30	Costs £10
Pork Sausages	-	Containing cardboard	-	Fined £25	Costs £10
Sliced Loaf	-	Eaten by mice	-	Fined £10	Costs £10

All complaints where extraneous matter is found in foodstuffs or where condition at time of sale is not of the standard demanded, a thorough investigation follows. All relevant details of the complaint are checked and verified, including the retailers premises, the housewife's storage facilities and methods of keeping. Manufacturing dates, processes, etc. all come within the investigation and in certain cases origin of raw materials used are traced. Identity of foreign objects is established with the assistance of our Public Analyst and an assessment of the means of entry, or reason for the foreign matter being in the foodstuff is arrived at when all relevant facts are known.

Careful examination and consideration of all details decide the action necessary, whether a warning letter is sufficient or the matter is of sufficient concern to warrant legal proceedings.

## ICE CREAM

The total number of premises within the District registered for the sale of ice cream is 124.

There were 63 samples taken for bacteriological examination throughout the year and all proved satisfactory.

GRADE	I	II	III	IV
Soft Ice Cream	33	3	7	1
Other Ice Cream	7	8	2	2

## MILK SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION

Supervision and control of milk production is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Milk distribution in the District, under the various designations, is in the main processed and bottled at one dairy in the Borough and two large central



dairies sited outside the boundary. It is subjected to control and sampling in the Areas of production and in addition routine sampling is carried out at the local distribution depots and at consumer level in the District.

#### MILK REGISTRATION AND LICENSING - MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1963

The number of registrations in force and those Licensed at the end of the year are as follows :-

43 Dealers (Pre-packed) Licences

1 Dealer (Pasteuriser's) Licence

#### MILK SAMPLING

Routine sampling of milk was continued throughout 1972. Samples taken are conveyed in an insulated container to the Public Health Laboratory, St. Luke's Hospital, Guildford, where they are subjected to bacteriological examination, without charge.

Of the 234 samples submitted for examination during the year none were found to be unsatisfactory.

#### ADULTERATION OF FOOD

117 informal samples were obtained under the Food and Drugs Act 1955 for the year ending 31st March 1973, and forwarded to our Public Analyst for examination. A summary of the samples submitted follows :-

COMMODITY	NO OF SAMPLES TAKEN	NUMBER UNSATISFACTORY	
		ANALYSIS	LABELLING
Milk	3	-	-
Cream	2	-	-
Drugs	37	2	-
Ice Cream	1	-	-
Sausages	7	-	2
Meat Products	17	1	-
Tinned Meat Products	3	-	-
Miscellaneous Foods	47	3	-



The Public Analyst commented on the following submitted samples.

1. Beef sausages containing added preservative without declaration, contrary to the Preservatives in Food Regulations, 1962.
2. Pork sausages containing added preservative without declaration, contrary to the Preservatives in Food Regulations, 1962.
3. Peanuts - shelled - oil in the sample contained an excess of free fatty acids - sample looked old - and not of the quality expected.
4. Sonf Spice 4oz. - sample contained foreign matter.
5. Irish Beef Stew - sample deficient in meat to the extent of 8 per cent. Any canned meat product other than those exempt by virtue of Paragraphs 8 (b) and (c) of Regulation 6 of the Canned Meat Product Regulations must contain at least 35% of meat.
6. Zinc and Coal Tar Paste B.P.C. sample contained an excess of zinc oxide. Zinc and Coal Tar paste of the B.P.C. must contain between 5.64% and 6.42% of zinc oxide. The sample contained 6.65% i.e. an excess of 3.5% over the maximum allowed.
7. Simple Linctus B.P.C. sample contained an excess of dissolved solids. Simple Linctus of the B.P.C. must have a weight per ml. at 20°C of 1.19g. to 1.23g. The sample contained 1.31g. per ml. i.e. an excess of 6.5% over the maximum. The citric acid content at 2.35% was within the prescribed limit.
8. California Revival Cereal. The label on the container bore claim that the article consisted of a high protein low calorie whole food and that it gave the maximum amount of food value in the minimum amount of space and calories. The Labelling of Food Regulations 1970 requires that a food is a source of protein shall only be made if at least 12 per cent of the calorie content is provided by protein. As judged by this requirement, the article is 18 per cent deficient in protein.

#### PESTICIDE RESIDUES IN FOODSTUFFS

This Authority is a partaking member of the Scheme of Sampling with regard to the joint survey of Pesticide Residues in Foodstuffs and the required samples submitted did not contain residues above the recommended limits.



## FOOD PREMISES

The following table classifies food premises subject to Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970.

TYPE OF PREMISES	NUMBER	NO. FITTED TO COMPLY WITH REG.16 (W.H. BASIN WITH H & C	NO. FITTED TO COMPLY WITH REG. 19 (SINKS)
Butchers	22	22	22
Bakehouses	5	5	5
Bread/Confectioners	10	10	10
Food Markets	12	12	12
Confectioners	38	38	38
Cafes & Restaurants	37	37	37
Grocers	45	45	45
Green Grocers/Fruiterers	15	15	15
Fishmongers	5	5	5
Fish Fryers/Take Aways	14	14	14
Public Houses, Hotels and other licensed premises	58	58	58
Factory and School Canteens	19	19	19
Milk Pasteurising	1	1	1
Ice Cream Manufacturing	6	6	6

The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966 have been enforced throughout the year.



## INSPECTION OF THE AREA

### (A) NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

Interviews with House Owner/Occupiers .....	448
Houses inspected under Public Health Acts .....	524
Houses inspected - Improvement Grants .....	1555
Houses inspected - Housing Acts .....	614
Houses inspected - Qualification Certificates .....	172
Houses inspected - Clearance Areas .....	102
Visits in connection with General Improvement Areas .....	86
District Inspections .....	685
Drainage and Drain Testing .....	253
Water supply and sampling .....	7
National Assistance Act .....	20
Swimming Pool Sampling .....	116
Caravans .....	3
Infectious Diseases .....	21
Vacant Lands and Dumps .....	117
Water Courses and Ditches .....	52
Pet Shops and Keepers of Animals .....	39
Council Houses prior to Vacation and prospective tenants for Council Houses .....	480
Houses in Multiple Occupation .....	54
Verminous Premises and other Vermin .....	111
Chicken Factory .....	97
Public Conveniences .....	3
Cinemas .....	4
Schools .....	4
Smoke Nuisance and Clean Air Act .....	19
Noise Abatement .....	10
Mortgage investigations (overcrowding) .....	34
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 .....	165
Slaughter House .....	128
Butchers .....	64
Fishmongers and Poulterers .....	29
Greengrocers and Fruiterers .....	48
Grocers .....	93
Fried Fish Shops .....	22
Dairies .....	2
Ice Cream Premises .....	126
Restaurants .....	203
Food Stalls .....	61
Bakehouses .....	15
Other Food Premises .....	44
Vehicles and Stalls .....	22
Food and Drugs Sampling .....	124
Milk Sampling .....	216
Complaints received and investigated during the year .....	400
Inspection of unsound food .....	59
Factories .....	64



(B) NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED ..... 50

(C) HOUSES IMPROVED

Roofs repaired .....	14
Eavesgutters repaired and renewed .....	2
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed .....	3
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired or renewed .....	3
Floors repaired or renewed .....	4
Windows repaired and made to open .....	2
Doors repaired or renewed .....	1
Water heaters provided or repaired .....	1
Accumulations of rubbish removed .....	32
Ventilation provided .....	2
Sinks renewed .....	1
Water pipes repaired .....	1
Draught repairs .....	16
Woodworm eradication .....	3
Defective conditions (general) .....	8
Redecoration .....	3
Electrical Wiring Repairs .....	2
Dry Rot - Eradication .....	1











