

[Report 1953] / Medical Officer of Health, Llandrindod Wells U.D.C.

Contributors

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LLANDRINDOD WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Town Hall,

Llandrindod Wells.

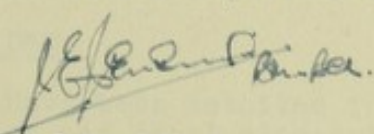
25th October, 1954.

To the Chairman and Members.

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration the report on the Sanitary Conditions and Vital Statistics of the Urban District for the year 1953.

This report is prepared in accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Health Circular 1/54 (Wales) and presents briefly the scope of the activities of the Health Department.

Yours faithfully,



Medical Officer of Health.



MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

John Hall,

Chairman, Committee
1952-1953

To the Chairman and Members:

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration the report on the Faculty Development and Vitalization of the Upper District for the year 1952.

This report is prepared in accordance with the instructions issued by the Institute of Health Officer (IHO) and presented briefly the scope of the activities of the Health Department.

Yours faithfully,

Robert W. Lee, Director of Health



LLANDRINDOD WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE

YEAR 1953.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area of District	...	1509 acres
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population Mid. 1953	...	3275 persons
No. of Inhabited Houses at the end of the year (including flats)	...	1052
Rateable Value - 31st December, 1953	...	£25,560
Product of Penny Rate	...	£100. 17. 11

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The natural conditions of the town have been detailed in previous reports and its healthy situation and ideal climatological conditions and purity of air is still unmarred by the smoke laden, grimy and foggy atmospheres of the country's cities.

The Climatological conditions of 1953 were as follows together with a comparison of 1951 and 1952.

	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1952.</u>	<u>1953.</u>
Total Rainfall	43.77"	38.13"	32.48"
Highest Maximum Temperature...	79 F.	80 F.	85 F.
Average Maximum Temperature...	54 F.	54 F.	56 F.
Lowest Minimum Temperature ...	17 F.	14 F.	15 F.
Average Minimum Temperature...	40 F.	38.75 F.	41 F.
Sunshine Hours	1304.9 hrs.	1325 hrs.	1471 hrs.

The years weather was on the whole good, and unusually dry.

Rainfall was less than average. January was notably dry but cold. Snow fell during the winter, not extremely heavy, and did not persist. Snow was recorded on nine occasions. Sunshine was above average.

No serious illnesses could be traceable to the weather of the year.

OCCUPATIONS.

I have previously reported on the gradual change of the occupations of the town and the trend to occupations other than those of a Health and Holidays Resort continue to a slower degree, difficulties of staffing hotels, higher rates of wages, cost of maintenance and upkeep of hotels is proving to be a deterrent to the re-opening of those hotels and boarding houses closed due to death or movement of proprietors.

The holiday season of 1953 was an improvement on the previous years, the visitors staying in the town and those visiting for a day only being noticeably more in number, the trend of the holidaying public to taking holidays on coach tours has greatly benefitted many of the large hotels which had a resulting longer season.

Housing conditions did not in any way deteriorate and it was found that the owner occupiers and owners of houses and flat dwellings maintained their properties reasonably habitable.

TABLE 1.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT DURING 1953.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Live Births (Legitimate)	31	10	21
(Illegitimate)	1	1	-
Still Births	4	2	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	36	13	23

Birth Rate per 1000 of the Estimated Population:-

Live Births...	9.77
Still Births..	1.22

DEATHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
No. of deaths	52	25	27

The death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population is 15.9.

Death rate	1952	-	16.4
	1951	-	12.50
	1950	-	10.31
	1949	-	13.38
	1948	-	11.5
	1947	-	12.6

Deaths from Puerperal causes.....	Nil
Death rate from Puerperal causes.....	Nil
Death rate of infants under one year of age:-	
Infant deaths under one year.....	2
All infants per 1000 live births.....	62.5
Legitimate infants per 1000, legitimate births.....	64.5
Illegitimate infants per 1000, illegitimate live births...	Nil
Death from child birth.....	Nil
Death from malignant diseases.....	7
Deaths from measles.....	Nil
Death from Whooping Cough (all ages).....	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age).....	Nil

TABLE 2.

STATISTICS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

Causes of Death	M.	F.
All causes	25	27
1. Tuberculosis Respiratory	Nil	Nil
2. Tuberculosis other	Nil	Nil
3. Syphilitic disease	Nil	Nil
4. Diphtheria	Nil	Nil
5. Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil
6. Acute Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil
7. Measles	Nil	Nil
8. Other infective and parasitic diseases	Nil	Nil
9. (i) Malignant Meoplasm - Stomach	Nil	Nil
(ii) " " - Lung bronchus	Nil	1
(iii) " " - breast	Nil	2
(iv) " " - uterus	Nil	Nil
(v) Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	1
(vi) Leukaemia & Aleukaemia	Nil	Nil
10. Vascular Lesions of nervous system	8	3
11. Diabetes	Nil	Nil
12. Coronary disease, angina	2	2
13. Hypertensia with heart disease	Nil	Nil
14. Other heart disease	5	12
15. Other circulatory disease	Nil	1
16. Influenza	Nil	Nil
17. Pneumonia	Nil	1
18. Bronchitis	1	1
19. Other diseases of respiratory system	Nil	Nil
20. Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	Nil	Nil
21. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	Nil	Nil
22. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1
23. Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	Nil
24. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	Nil	Nil
25. Congenital malformations	Nil	Nil
26. Other defined and illdefined diseases	2	2
27. Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	Nil
28. All other accidents	1	Nil
29. Suicide	Nil	Nil
30. Homicide and operations of War	Nil	Nil

SECTION B.GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.1. Public Officers:-

Medical Officer of Health (Part time)
J. Emrys Jenkins, M.A., B.M., B.Ch.

Sanitary Inspector (Part time)
R.J. Morris, A.R.I.C.S., M.R.S.I., Cert. S.I.

2. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

- (a) The examination and analysis of water, sewage effluents and stream contamination are carried out by the Public Analyst of the County Laboratories, Carmarthen. Analyst - H.J. Evans.
- (b) The examination of milk and ice-cream samples are carried out at the Public Health Laboratories, Shrewsbury Infirmary.

3. HEALTH SERVICES. The following services are carried out by the Radnorshire County Council under the National Health Service Act, 1946.

- (i) Maternity and Child Welfare
- (ii) Clinics
- (iii) Dental care for expectant mothers and nursing mothers and young children together with School Dental Services.
- (iv) Midwives Service, delegated to the Radnorshire County Nursing Association.
- (v) Health Visiting delegated to the Radnorshire County Nursing Association.
- (vi) Home Nursing delegated to the Radnorshire County Nursing Association.
- (vii) Vaccination and immunisation of children under five and of school age is carried out by Registered Medical Practitioners of the parents choice or by the County Medical Officer.

The vaccination of adults is carried out by Registered Medical Practitioners.

- (viii) Ambulance Service
- (ix) Prevention of Illness, Care and after care of persons suffering from tuberculosis, mental illness or defectiveness and other types of illness is organised under the aegis of the County Health Committee.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply. No difficulties on water supplies occurred throughout the year.

The main source of the supply administered by the Council, the source of which is the River Ithon, was efficiently maintained and the purification by mechanical filtration and chlorination was satisfactory as shown by the tabulation of Analysts report tabulated in Table 3.

Chlorination is maintained to give a free chlorine content of between 0.08 and 0.15 p.p.m. after 30 minutes contact.

The ph value of the water is maintained at neutral by the injection of soda ash.

The two service reservoirs have been maintained in good condition.

Fourteen house service pipes were renewed, this being made necessary by blockage due to corrosion in every case. This renewal proved satisfactory.

Statistics in respect of the water supply are detailed below:-

Estimated Population supplied from public water mains.....	3256
Estimated Population not supplied from public water mains...	23 persons
Number of dwelling houses or flats supplied direct into premises.....	1023 dwellings
Number of dwelling houses and farms supplied by means of stand pipes.....	19 dwellings.
Estimated population supplied.....	57 persons
Number of premises (farms) with own piped supplies.....	4
Number of premises (farms) with no piped supply.....	3
Premises supplied from mains and outside Urban District.....	13
Estimated population supplied " " " "	153 persons.

TABLE 3.

Bacteriological Analysis for the year 1953 carried out by
H.J. Evans, Public Analyst, Bank Lane, Carmarthen.

Water taken from domestic taps:-

Date of Sample	No. of Organisms 48 hours at 22°C.	Coli present in C.Cs. 100, 50, 25, 20, 10, 5, 1.	Remarks.
23.1.53	55	Nil	Highly satisfactory
14.2.53	47	Nil	ditto
1.4.53	38	Nil	ditto
9.5.53	9	Nil	ditto
7.8.53	198	6	No serious pollution.
20.8.53	18	Nil	Effective Sterilisation
10.10.53	12	Nil	Highly Satisfactory
20.11.53	58	Nil	Highly Satisfactory

Public Health Laboratory Service.

16.11.53		6	Unsatisfactory for chlorinated supply.
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Gorse Spring Supply. Taken at "Winforton", Cefnlllys Lane

27. 7. 53	260	18+	Unsatisfactory
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Chemical Analysis carried out during the year.

Sample No. 1 From River Ithon
Sample No. 2 From Pumping Main before Chlorination
Sample No. 3 From House Tap

	Parts per 100,000		
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3
Free Ammonia	0.013	0.005	0.003
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.008	0.003	Trace
Chlorides, as Cl ₂	1.30	1.30	1.30
Calculated as Common Salt	2.14	2.14	2.14
Total Solids	11.8	12.00	12.00
Nitrates	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrates	Trace	Nil	Nil
Oxygen consumed at 27°C.			
In 4 hours	0.142	0.077	0.064
In 15 mins.	0.076	0.035	0.015

Additional Features:-

Lime at Cao	2.19	2.19	2.18
Total Alkalinity as CaCo ₃	7.0	7.0	7.0
" Hardness	8.0	8.0	8.0
ph Value	7.3	7.3	7.3
Ph S	7.3	7.3	7.3
Saturation Index	+ 0	+ 0	+ 0
Colour (Hazen Units)	15	0	0

Bacteriological Examinations.

No. of Organisms per c.c. developed on Agar during 48 hours @ 37°C.	50	35	2
No. of organisms per c.c. developed on Agar during 48 hours @ 22°C	520	345	18
Coliform organisms per 100 c.cs.	18+	18+	Nil
Faecal coli per 100 c.c.	18+	18+	Nil

TABLE 4.

Water Consumption. (All consumers, and trades).

6d

Year	Water Pumped to Service Reservoirs	Estimated Population served	Estimated Consumption per head per day	Trade Consumption metered supplies
1948	64,100,000	3500	50.1	12,500,000
1949	67,490,000	3438	51	9,250,000
1950	62,010,000	3586	44.6	10,250,000
1951	67,690,000	3250(Census)	48.7	10,250,000
1952	66,710,000	3286	38.9	11,750,000
1953	68,000,000	3275	56.8	12,500,000

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Drainage. The drainage of the town is on the partial separate system, a large volume of the road waters and a certain volume of roof and yard waters being drained separately into suitably placed water courses.

No flooding of premises occurred. No defects of any extent took place and minor blockages in subsidiary branch sewers were the only troubles arising.

The sewer system proved adequate and no proposals were under consideration for the construction of relief or other sewers.

Sewerage Disposal. The three sewerage disposal works dealt with the purification of sewage to give effluents of moderate condition.

Extensions of earth banked humus settlement tank at main works was carried out. An analysis of effluent from this works is given below.

TABLE 5

Sewerage Effluent Sample taken at Rhydllyndu Disposal Works 11.8.53.

Appearance	- Slightly turbid
Odour	- Strongly faecal
	Parts per 100,000
Free Ammonia	0.65
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.15
Oxygen consumed at 27°C during 2 hours	0.66
Nitrates	Nil
Nitrites	0.0012
Chlorides as Chlorine	7.10
Total solids in solution	42.1
Solids in suspension	Trace
Dissolved Oxygen absorbed during 5 days at 18°C (B.O.D.)	7.9

REMARKS. In the eighth report of the Royal Commission on Sewage Disposal "it is recommended that an effluent, in order to comply with the general standard, should not be permitted to contain more than three parts per 100,000 of suspended matter, nor with the suspended matters included should the effluent take more than 2 parts per 100,000 of dissolved oxygen in 5 days when it is maintained at a temperature of 18°C"

This effluent did not therefore comply with the above standard.

Rivers and Streams. No action taken in regard to pollution. Examinations were carried out of water courses passing through the town and of known outlets of septic tanks connected to houses outside the Urban District. No pollution of any extent was found.

PUBLIC CLEANSING. Collection of household and trade refuse proceeded as in other years by the Council's own staff and vehicles. The method of collection remained the same.

Disposal of refuse was continued throughout the year, no tipping being carried out.

The collection of waste paper was maintained, the tonnage of paper sold being 30 tons.

Scrap iron disposed of was 25 tons.

FOOD.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk.

Residential designated pasteurised Retailer	-	1
Residential Designated Traders	-	1
Residential Registered Ungraded Trader	-	1
Residential Registered Dairymen designated Retailers	-	3
Non Residential Dairymen Ungraded Retailers	-	1
" " " Designated Retailers	-	4
Visits to Cowsheds during year	-	Nil
Visits to Dairies during year	-	3
Action taken by the Council in respect of unclean milk		
	-	Nil

Samples were forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory, Shrewsbury, the results being as follows:-

Samples for Tuberculosis - Samples taken - Nil

Results - Nil

Samples for Methylene Blue Test. Samples taken - 46

Results - Samples satisfying test - 38. Not satisfying - 8

Registered Ice cream Manufacturers (Heat Treatment) - Nil

Registered Ice cream Manufacturers (Cold Mix) - One

Registered Retailers of ice cream - 13

Ice cream sampling. Number of samples - 6

Results of Samples. Grade 1 - 4; Grade 2 - 1; Grade 3 - 1.

Inspections carried out of Ice cream Retailers Premises - 18

TABLE 6.

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES AND TYPES.

Manufacturers other than Bakehouses	Nil
Bakehouses	5
Confectioners.....	4
Fish and Chip Fryers.....	3
Retail Green Grocers.....	7
Grocers.....	10
Hotels.....	10
Milk Shops.....	Nil
Meat Retailers.....	7
Licensed Premises.....	6
Pork Butchers.....	Nil
Restaurants.....	8
Sausage and cold meat Producers.....	5

Number Registered under Section 14 of Food and Drugs Act.

Ice Cream.....14
Cooked Meats... 2

Number of Dairies Registered under Milk and Dairies

Regulations..... 2

Number of Inspections of Registered Food Premises - 18
Number of Inspections of Food Preparation Premises - 28
" " " " Bakehouses - 15
Complaints received in respect of foods - 1
(Mouse droppings in bread)

New Byelaws in respect of Food were made in 1951 and inspections have primarily been to see that the requirements of these bye-laws are carried out.

Condemned Foods are destroyed by incineration.

No special examination of stock or a consignment of food was carried out.

Foods Surrendered or Condemned and Destroyed.

Canned Foods including milk,meats etc. - 138
Fish - - - 3 stone
Frozen Meat - - - 2 carcass lamb
Bacon - - - 1 side

Adulteration of Foods. The administration of the Acts dealing with the adulteration of food is carried out by the officers of the Radnorshire County Council and no particulars are available to my Council.

Food poisoning Outbreaks. No cases of food poisoning occurred during the year.

Meat Inspection. The centralised slaughtering of cattle, sheep and pigs was continued by the Ministry of Food.

TABLE 7.

ANIMALS KILLED, INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	143		9	2609	266
Number inspected	143		9	2609	266
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</u> Whole Carcasses Condemned	2		2	19	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	37½		1	525	12
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	28%		33.3%	20.8%	5.6%
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u> Whole Carcasses condemned	5				
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	4				11
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	6.3%				4.1%

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

infectious

○ Cases of notifiable/disease occurred during the twelve months. No cases were transferred to Isolation Hospitals and the cases arising were isolated at home.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1953.

Diseases	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Total Deaths
Small Pox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyreia	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Other Diseases notifiable	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	22	-	-
Chicken Pox	72	-	-
	94	Nil	Nil

Inspections carried out in respect of infectious diseases - 4
 Rooms fumigated for Infectious diseases or otherwise - 2

Cancer. No action taken.

Blindness. No action taken.

Tuberculosis. The requirements of the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930, have been carried out.

No action has been taken under the special powers given to local authorities under these Regulations.

No applications were made under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis of the respiratory tract.

TUBERCULOSIS. NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1953.

Age Groups	New Cases.			Deaths.		
	Respiratory. M.	Non-Respiratory. F. M.	Non-Respiratory. F.	Respiratory. M.	Non-respiratory F. M.	Non-respiratory F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	1	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and up	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	1	-	-	-	-

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation, Vaccination.

The number of children immunised against diphtheria and whooping cough and number vaccinated during the year was as follows:-

Age Group	Diphtheria No.	Whooping Cough No.	Vaccination No.
Under 1 year	27	27	4
Age 1 year	4	7	-
Age 2 years	3	4	-
Age 3 years	-	1	-
Age 4 years	-	-	-
Age 5 to 9 years	3	-	-
Age 10 to 14 years	-	-	-
	37	39	4

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:-

(a) Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects (Under Public Health and Housing Acts)	38
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	43
2. (a) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation	Nil
(b) Number of dwelling houses rendered fit as a result of informal action	4
(c) Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	Nil
(d) Number of Statutory Notices issued requiring remedy of housing defects	Nil
(e) Number of dwelling houses rendered fit as a result of Statutory Notices	Nil
(f) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which complaints made to Justices	Nil
(g) Result of complaint to Justices	Nil
(h) Statutory Notices outstanding at end of 1952	Nil
(i) Statutory Notices outstanding at end of 1953	Nil

No additional cases of overcrowding were found during the year.

Properties held under requisition for housing of inadequately housed at end of year - 1

Number of new houses erected during the year:-

(a) By Council with State Grant	- Nil
(b) By private persons	- 3

Number of new houses under construction at end of year:-

(a) By Council with State Grant	- 6
(b) By private persons	- 1

Number of new dwellings provided during year by conversion of properties into flats:-

(a) By Council	- Nil
(b) By private persons	- Nil

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Summary of the work of the Sanitary Inspector's Department.

Total number of Inspections and Visits made - 368

Nuisances.

No of visits re. nuisances	40
Visits re. works in progress	12
Notices issued	
(a) Informal letters	19
(b) Informal notices	Nil
(c) Statutory Notices	Nil
Notices and letters complied with	19
Outstanding	Nil
Legal proceedings	Nil

Housing.

Inspections as per report	43
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Food Preparing Places.

No. of Inspections	61
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Slaughterhouses.

No. of visits (approx)	200
No. of Condemnations	621

Foods.

No. of seizures of unsound food	Nil
No. of condemnations	144

Dairymen.

No. of Registered	3
No. of Inspections	3
No. of Retailers	11
No. of milk samples for T.B.	Nil
No. of " " found to produce T.B.	Nil
No. of enquiries under P.H.A. Regulations re. Contacts	Nil
No. of milk samples for blue test	46
No. of " " not conforming with blue test	38

Dairies.

No. of Registered Traders	3
No. of Inspections	3

Moveable Dwellings.

No. Registered	Nil
----------------	-----

Bakehouses.

No. in use	5
No. of inspections	15

Lodging Houses.

No. Registered	Nil
----------------	-----

Water Supply.

No. of samples taken	13
No. found polluted	2
Houses and flats connected to supply	1046
New houses connected	Nil
New connections to houses	15

Infectious Diseases.

No. of enquiries	Nil
No. taken to hospital	Nil
No. of houses disinfected	2
No. of houses disinfected re. fleas, lice, etc.	1

House Drainage.

No. laid or relaid	5
No. cleansed	38

Water Closets, etc.

No. improved or repaired	2
No. of bucket closets in district	6
No. of cesspools in district	2
No. of earth closets in district	2

Camping Sites.

1. Number of sites in area for camping purposes under canvas during 1953	1
2. Number of Caravan Camping sites.....	3
3. Number of Camping sites requiring to be licensed in accordance with Public Health Act.....	Nil
4. Number of Caravan Camping Sites licensed under Public Health Act.....	Nil
5. Estimated maximum number of Campers in the area at one time during 1953.....	20

- - - - -

Smoke Abatement. No action required.

Swimming Baths and Pools. There is one privately owned Swimming Pool in the town not open for public use during the summer and used very little.

Visits of inspection made - 1
Tests for chlorination - Nil

It was found that the purification and filtration plant was efficiently worked and purification was satisfactory with possible over chlorination.

Rodent Control Work.

Premises.

Number of inspections made - 422
Premises found infested - 46
Treatments carried out by Council - 32
Treatments carried out by occupier - 17
Dead rats picked up - 64

Sewer Treatments. Maintenance treatment of sewers was carried out in 1953.

11 manholes were baited.
Nil manholes showed presence of rats.
Nil manholes showed poison bait takes.
