# [Report 1970] / Medical Officer of Health, Barnack R.D.C.

### **Contributors**

Barnack (Cambridgeshire). Rural District Council.

# **Publication/Creation**

1970

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### BARNACK

# RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

UPON THE

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

DURING THE YEAR

1970

### Members of the Council as at 31.12.70

Chairman The Most Hon. The Marquess of Exeter K.C.M.G. Mr. J.C.S. Spry-Leverton Vice Chairman

Mr. P.N. Agnew
Mr. G.F. Beard
Mr. D.Y. Dunlop
Mr. P.R. Edmunds
Mrs. N.B. Faulkner
Mr. A.S. Hargreaves
Mr. E.W. Jackson
Mr. E.J. James
Mrs. J.A. Powell

#### STAFF:

P.V.Cant, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

D.Ward Griffiths, F.F.S., F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

To the Barnack Rural District Council.

My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the District for the year ending 31st December, 1970.

The mid-year population was estimated by the Registrar General to have been 7,480, an increase of 490 over the previous year.

There were 131 live births during the year, the crude birth rate was 17.5 per 1,000 of the population and the adjusted rate was 28.7 per 1,000. This is a high rate as compared with 16.0 the rate for England and Wales, and is due to the fact that there are many young married people living in the area.

There was only 1 illegitimate birth making the percentage of illegitimate births less than 1%. Nationally 8% of births were illegitimate.

There were 4 infant deaths during the year. They all occurred within the first week of life. There were 2 still-births.

Thirty Three deaths occurred during the year 22 males and 11 females.

The crude death rate was only 4.4 per 1,000 of the population and when adjusted to allow for our young population it became 9.8 per 1,000 as compared with a rate of 11.7 for England and Wales. There were no deaths from Tuberculosis, and no new cases of this disease were notified.

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Little infectious disease was notified to me during the year, only 16 cases of Measles and 4 of Whooping Cough.

The latter half of the year 1970 was noteworthy in that the County, through the School Medical Service, launched a campaign to immunise all girls against German Measles, in their 14th year. This is to prevent them from catching this desease later on in life during pregnancy; since if this occurs there is a possibility of it causing the baby to have congenital abnormalities. I advise all parents to have their daughters immunised under this scheme. It only necessitates one practically painless injection, and may save the girls a lot of worry in the future.

I am most grateful to the Members of the Council and their Officers and Staff for all the help which they have given me during the year.

The following table gives the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than tuberculosis) in the area during 1970.

DISEASE	TOTAL	Under 1 year	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 -10	10 -15	15 -20	20 -35	35 -45	45 -65	65 and upwards	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
SMALLPOX	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SCARLET FEVER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DIPHTHERIA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MEASLES	16	-		1	5	4	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WHOOPING COUGH	4	1	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
JAUNDICE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DYSENTERY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
POLIOMYELITIS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FOOD POISONING	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PARA-TYPHOID	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ACUTE MENINGITIS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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# STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area	15,256Acres
Estimated Population	
Density of Persons per acre	
Number of inhabited houses as at 1.4.70	
Rateable Value, March 31st 1970 £196,846	
Value of Penny Rate 69/70 £840	

# VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births					• • • •		 131
Rate per 1,000 p	opulation						 17.5
Illegitimate liv	e births per	cent o	f tota	l live	birth	ıs	 1
Still-births							 2
Still-birth Rate	per 1,000 li	ve and	still	-birth	ıs		 15
Total live and s	till-births						 133
Infant deaths un	der one year						 4
Infant Mortality	Rates						
Infant deat	hs per 1,000	live t	irths				 31
Perinatal M	ortality Rate	, per	1,000	total	births		 45
Maternal Mortali	ty (including	abort	ion)				
Number of d	leaths						 Nil
Rate per 1,	000 live and	still-	births				 Nil
Number of deaths	(all ages)						 33
Death Rate per 1	,000 populati	on					 4.4
Deaths from Cano	er (total)						 9
Cancer of lung of	r bronchus						 4
Ischaemic heart	disease						 7
Other heart dise	ase						 2

# TUBERCULOS IS

There were no new cases or deaths from Tuberculosis during 1970, therefore I have not printed the tables this year.

# Table showing Infant Deaths and the Mortality Rate

# Over Six Years

The females and the features are	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Actual Number of Deaths	1	3	2	2	2	4
Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births	12.2	34.1	19	13	15	31

# ADLA THE TO SUCTED CONCENTRATE OF THE ADLA

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# The following table shows the classification of deaths from all causes, Registrar General's figures

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	-	4
Leukaemia	-	1	1
Other malignant neoplasms	1	1	2
Diabetes Mellitus	-	1	1
Other diseases of nervous system	-	1	1
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	-	2	2
Ischaemic heart disease	6	1	7
Other forms of heart disease	2	-	2
Cerebrovascular disease	-	1	1
Other diseases of circulatory system	1	-	1
Pneumonia	-	1	1
Other diseases of digestive system	1	-	_ 1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
Other causes of perinatal mortality	3	1	4
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	1	-	1
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
Totals	22	11	33

# Comparison of Rates with those of England and Wales

	Per 1,	000 Popula	nun	Per 1,000 Per 1,000 Live Births Total Births			
	Live Birth Rate	Adjusted Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Adjusted Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate	Still Births Rate	
Barnack R.D.	17.5	28.7	4.4	9.8	31	15	
England and Wales	16	16	11.7	11.7	18	13	

Comparability Factor Births 1.64 Comparability Factor Deaths 2.23

The comparability factors are figures by which the crude birth and death rates need to be multiplied so as to find the adjusted rates. The adjusted rates are then comparable with the rates for England and Wales or the adjusted rates of any other place in the Country. The Registrar General calculates the factors from information available to him concerning amongst other things the age and sex structure of the population.

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### HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES IN THE AREA

### Nursing in the Home.

Under the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council Scheme the services of a District Nurse are available in all villages in the District.

### Home Helps

Domestic Home Helps are available under the County Council Scheme. Applications should be made to:-

The Social Services Department, County Offices, Bridge Street, Peterborough. PE1 1HF

# General Hospitals

Patients are admitted to the Peterborough District Hospital, administered by the Peterborough and Stamford Hospital Management Committee of the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board.

### Isolation Hospitals

Infectious cases are admitted to the Peterborough Isolation Hospital under the management of the above hospital management committee.

## Treatment Centres and Clinics

Provided by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council

### Child Welfare Clinics

These are held at the following premises:-

Reading Room, Bainton.

Second Monday

Village Hall, Barnack.

Third Thursday

Parish Hall, Wittering.

First and Third Wednesday

## Immunisation

Measles, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough, and German Measles immunisation is provided by the General Practitioner service under the County Council Scheme.

Girls also can receive immunisation against German Measles during their 13th year in School through the School Medical Service.

<u>Tuberculosis</u> immunisation (B.C.G.) is offered to all children in School during their 12th year through the School Medical Service.

# Services provided by the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board

Tuberculosis cases are seen either at the Chest Clinic at Stamford Hospital, or the Chest Clinic at Peterborough District Hospital

# Venereal Disease Clinics - Peterborough District Hospital

Males Monday 4.30p.m. Wednesday 5.30- 7.0.p.m. Females Tuesday 10.0.a.m. to 12.30.p.m. Thursday 4.30.p.m. to 6.30.p.m.

Patients may attend these Clinics without an appointment, and do not require a note from their family doctor. Treatment is confidential.

# ASSES MAY BE SHOULDED, JAMPSON ORA BELLERING

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# Health and Social Services in the Area continued

Family Planning Clinics - Town Hall, Peterborough.

1st and 3rd Wednesdays 10.0.a.m. - 11.30.a.m.
2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Wednesdays 6.30.p.m. - 8.30p.m.
Pridays 2.0.p.m. - 4.0.p.m.

To make an appointment Telephone Peterborough 4961 on Weekdays after 6.0.p.m. ONLY.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

Philip V. Cant.

Medical Officer of Health.

Child Health Centre, Whittlesey Road, Stanground, Peterborough. PE2 8RB

Phone: Peterborough 68010.

### BARNACK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

### ANNUAL REPORT

### OF THE

## SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my 20th Annual Report, this for the year 1970.

# STATEMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

Water Supplies	20
Refuse Collection and Disposal	70
Drainage and Sewage Disposal	251
Factories and Workshops	14
Housing (other than Council Houses)	51
Council House Maintenance	370
Building	492
Infectious Diseases	mod cie
Food Preparation(including School Kitcher	ns) 20
Rodent Control	91
Miscellaneous	152

1,531

# BUILDING CONTROL AND PLANNING REGULATIONS

100 plans were deposited and approved under the Public Health Acts, Building and Planning Regulations. This number included 22 abbreviated applications for sewer connections in Thornhaugh and Wansford.

Conversions, adaptations and improvements	27
New Private Dwellings.	14
Sanitary Conveniences, Drainage etc.	27
Private Garages and Car Ports.	7
Agricultural Buildings.	5
Factory Alterations etc.	2
Other Commercial	3
Works by Public Undertakings.	7
Planning and Advertisement Applications.	
Outline Planning Applications only.	8

The following applications were refused under the Planning Code:-

3 Building Plots (Thornhaugh, Barnack, Wansford). Detailed Plans for 2 Bungalows at Ashton.

#### IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

- 5 Applications for Discretionary Improvement Grant were approved for 9 units to the value of £8,320.
- 3 Applications for Standard Grants to 3 dwellings were approved to the value of £480.

# RAG FLOCK ACT

No such premises in the District.

# ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

There are 2 such establishments registered in the District and both comply with the provisions of the Act.

# PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Rate-payers in the District are beginning to realise that a free service of disinfestation is available for any domestic premises affected. Industrial and trade premises can also be inspected and treated, either by Council labour on a rechargeable basis or by specialist firms.

Free treatment of domestic premises was given on 38 occasions, involving 91 visits, such treatment being carried out in some cases on the day following the date of complaint. Once again very little work of inspection and treatment was given to farm premises and local farmers are advised to employ specialist firms for this work.

Once again a systematic inspection and disinfestation of mahholes of public sewers was carried out, together with disinfestation as necessary of the various Sewage Treatment Works.

### SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND KNACKERS YARDS

No such premises in the District.

# POULTRY PROCESSING PREMISES

There is one establishment in the District. 3,300 Turkeys were processed in October, November, and part of December, approximately 100-150 birds being slaughtered each day under humane and hygienic conditions for 3-4 days each week.

Sick birds (approx. 3%) were culled out, and after slaughter disposed of by incineration.

### FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS AND REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES

There was an increase of two registrations during the year making a total of 17. All ice-cream retailed in the district was sold in pre-packed containers.

# OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT

16 premises were registered under the Act and 18 inspections were made.

#### SHOPS ACTS

The number of shops registered was 15, the standard of hygiene being generally satisfactory.

### FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

The number of factories registered was 24, the majority being one-man businesses and building operations in respect of which Section 7 of the Act is enforced by the Council.

Periodic inspections were made and a case of unsuitable sanitary accommodation referred by the Factory'Inspector was being dealt with at the end of the year.

#### SMOKE CONTROL

Complaints were made during the early part of the year regarding emmission of dark smoke and sooty particles from a factory chimney. The management was notifed and remedial action taken.

# INFECTIOUS DISEASES

No terminal disinfections were necessary during the year.

### DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

(a) <u>Pilsgate</u>, <u>Barnack</u>, <u>Bainton and Ufford</u>. These Parishes discharge after pumping, to a Sewage Treatment Works at Tallington Road, Bainton, with the final effluent discharging to the River Welland in Summer months, and to the nearby stream in Winter months when the flow of water therein gives sufficient dilution.

During the year the Council carried out improvements to the dyke drainage in Ashton. This will tend to improve the general drainage of this area and will alleviate the troubles caused after heavy or continuous rain by the inundation of carriagoways and the infiltration of surface water into the sewerage system. A cut in electricity during the early part of the year could have seriously affected the sewerage system, but the Electricity Board on this occasion was able to supply a generator.

During the year it became obvious that the Sewage Treatment Works were overloaded and a full report on this matter was considered by Council at its July Meeting. The matter was referred to the Council's Consulting Engineers and at the end of the year they were considering the matter.

(b) St. Martin's Without and Wothorpe. The drainage from these two Parishes is pumped into the Stamford Borough's Sewerage System. A new compressor was provided at the Wothorpe Pump House.

During the year an enquiry was made regarding the possibility of the drainage from a new School in Wothorpe being connected to the drainage system. After investigation, it was decided that the present ejectors would have to be increased in pumping capacity. This with ancilliary work costing a total of £1600 would have to be put in hand before the connection of the new school to the sewerage system.

British Rail notified the Council that the disused railway bridge over the River Welland would be demolished and asked that other arrangements should be made for that part of the pumping main which was attached to the Bridge, prior to discharge to Stamford Borough Sewage Treatment Works. At the end of the year negotiations were taking place between the parties concerned.

(c) <u>Wittering.</u> These Sewage Treatment Works incorporating novel features such as upward flow clarifiers, sludge straw composting, and the disposal of final activated sludge over adjoining land through a rain gun irrigation system, again worked well during the year. The Chief Chemist of the equipment manufacturers visited the site at the early part of the year, and was very impressed with the amazingly good effluents being produced.

The Comminutor and Mono Pump were repaired during the year, together with an electric motor in the Pump House.

The efficiency of this scheme depends to a large extent on a plentiful supply of straw being available at all times. This was again provided by a local farmer, the Council paying for the cost of baling.

(d) Wansford and Thorhhaugh. This new scheme was fully commissioned during the year. It includes 2 ejector stations, 2 lengths of pumping mains, gravity sewers, the final effluent being pumped to an "Oxigest" unit with tertiary grass plot treatment on a plot near the Peterborough Road. Further tree planting of the site was carried out during the year.

People are unaware that this prominent site encloses a sewage treatment works, wither because of landscaping, or because they speed by in their vehicles, or because the site is generally free of malodour which unfortunately is usually associated with sewage treatment processes.

A novel feature of this scheme is the use of P.V.C. gravity sewers laid in 30° lengths.

At the end of the year a total of 97 properties had been connected to this scheme. Several 'teething troubles' had been experienced after commissioning, especially with the magnetic clutches of the electric motors in the Pump House.

Towards the end of the year septicity was occurring in certain lengths of sewers, presumably due to the insufficient flow in the gravity sewer from Thornhaugh. At the end of the year a flushing tank was planned for the Thornhaugh district, periodically to flush the sewers until such time as a greater number of properties were connected.

- (e) <u>Southorpe</u>. This is a small and straggling hamlet where the installation of main drainage could be very expensive and uneconomical. As this area at the moment is not favoured by the County Planning Authority for any development other than selective infilling it is extremely unlikely that a sewerage scheme will be planned in the foreseeable future.
- (f) Samples. 9 samples of sewage effluent were taken during the year with the following results:-

	Entirely Satisfactory	Partially Unsatisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
Wittering.	2	untter.	salt Sultapronou stak	2
Bainton.	1	1	2	4
Wansford.	2	1	County Stantaged House	3

During the year the Ministry of Housing and Local Government issued a Circular (44/70) which emphasised the need for further progress to be made in improving the water supply, sewerage and sewage treatment, and the clarity of rivers, any schemes using rivers as sources of water supply being given priority. The Circular indicated that in future a more stringent standard of sewage effluents may be demanded by the River Authority.

This was subsequently confirmed by the Welland and Nene River Board, who stated that if river water clarity was to be maintained at its present standard, effluent standards would have to be more stringent in order to offset the increased polluting load. It was envisaged that by 1975 the River Authority is likely to require 100% better samples standard than that existing at present.

### GENERAL

From a safety point of view 3 life buoys were purchased, and positioned in each sewage treatment works. Despite warning notices being fixed in prominent positions children were still gaining access, especially at Wittering and Bainton, in to areas which can only be described as potentially dangerous. Once again the co-operation of the Police was sought in the hope that they may discourage these offenders, especially during weekends and school holidays.

In the early part of December, due to electricity cuts caused by the electricity workmen's strike various pumps in the district did not always cut back in when the power had been restored. The position could have been very much worse if it had not been for the co-operation of the Board in notifying local Authorities of the days in the week and approximate times when the various pump houses in the district would be interrupted.

### REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Once again I have to report that the weekly scheme of refuse collection inaugurated in 1960 worked well, despite breakdowns, holidays and turnover collabour. One 18-24 cu.yd. refuse rehicle and two men are still able to manage this service in spite of increasing numbers of properties in the area. This is possible due mainly to the fact that from time to time a simple bonus system is agreed, which it is possible to do in such a repetitive job.

The refuse is disposed by controlled tipping on a tip on the Kings-Cliffe Road, Wansford, operated by the Stamford Borough Council, on repayment of £65 per annum. Under the Civic Amenities Act, 1967 Local Authorities may remove bulky household refuse free of charge. Such refuse cannot be taken during normal collections, but arrangements can be made for this service on Saturday mornings, necessitating overtime by the workmen.

I am advising applicants that this tip is the disposal point for any refuse, including derelict cars, provided that prior permission is obtained.

Various repairs were carried out to the vehicle during the year including new pressure pipes, new starter motor, new steering box, new injectors, welding of new floor plates and external painting of the body and cab.

### WATER SAMPLES

Only a few isolated properties are still not served by water mains. There are no stand pipes within the district.

Samples from the public supplies in the area were taken at regular intervals by the South Lincs. Water Board. A total of 8 samples, (4 from each) were taken from 2 isolated properties which proved to be bacteriologically satisfactory. In addition a sample was taken from wach property for chemical analysis.

# COUNCIL HOUSE MAINTENANCE

Minor repairs are carried out by Council Workmen and other repairs by local Building Contractors.

All Pre-War Council houses in the area have been improved to a modern standard. The painting of 50 houses was approved during the year. The communal T.V. system was improved at Wittering. A further block of 6 garages was erected at Orchard Road, Barnack.

As a result of Ministry approval it was decided to replace all the combination ranges in the Council houses with a new tiled surround and back boiler, and at the end of the year 35 Council houses had been completed.

The provision of garden sheds on the payment of extra rental ggain proved to be a popular service.

Towards the end of the year a questionnaire was received from the Ministry regarding the incidence of condensation in local authority dwellings. The sample drawn by the Ministry included one of the schemes erected by the Council, and I was able to inform the Ministry that no condensation had occured in these bungalows, provided with electrical sub-floor warming.

At the end of the year the Council decided that a quaint cottage in Barnack should be preserved and draft plans had been prepared and sent to the Ministry for their observations.

Numerous trees on different sites were planted in the area.

# HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Approximately 25 houses were repaired during the year, as a result of informal action. The number of totally unfit properties in the district is virtually nil, and the Ministry's definition of housing need cannot apply to this area.

A sub-standard cottage at Wittering purchased previously by the Council was demolished during the year and the site cleared for development purposes.

### NEW COUNCIL HOUSE BUILDING

There was no building programme in operation in the year under review.

### WORKMEN

The small labour force was taxed to the limit at the beginning of the year due to illness (flu epidemic).

### INTERNATIONAL CARAVAN RALLY

This event was staged in Burghley Park when 2,665 caravans attended the Rally. This event caused considerable extra work, catering firms being advised that a very high degree of hygiene would be expected and by the subsequent inspections made during the period of the Rally.

Refuse was collected for which an account of £199.10.0. was submitted. Overtime was worked by the Council Refuse Collectors who were turned out resplendant in white overalls, crimson berets, and collar and tie, and this created, as previously in 1964, an excellent impression. At the end of the Rally the Caravan Club wrote to me expressing their appreciation of the efficient services carried out.

### BURGHLEY HORSE TRIALS

This Annual Event was again held in Burghley Park in September. This caused a period of intensive work in inspecting and checking on various food establishments, food handlers etc.

# CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

There are no approved sites in the area except for the odd caravan which has been approved, generally as a temporary measure in connection with the building of a new property, or for housing the odd agricultural worker.

### NEW VEHICLES

2 new vans costing £938 and a new trailer costing £123 were pruchased during the year.

D. Ward Griffiths.

(F.F.S.,F.R.S.H.,M.A.P.H.I.)

Surveyor and Public Health

Inspector.

July, 1971.