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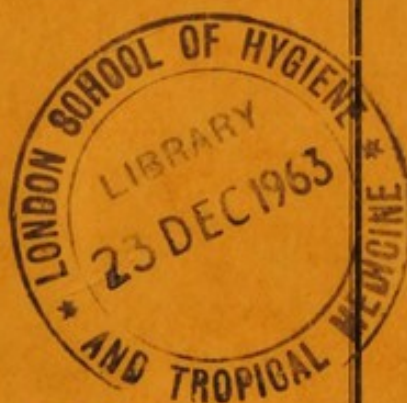


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26 OCT 1962

**BOROUGH OF BASINGSTOKE**



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
of the  
**MEDICAL OFFICER**  
**OF HEALTH**  
for the year  
**1961**






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# BOROUGH OF BASINGSTOKE

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## HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1961

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR R. C. FOULSER,  
J.P.)

ALDERMAN J. G. WELLING (*Chairman*)

COUNCILLOR E. KNIGHT (*Vice-Chairman*)

COUNCILLOR J. F. BALDING

COUNCILLOR R. G. EHLEN

COUNCILLOR MRS. J. M. GIFFORD

COUNCILLOR H. JACKSON

COUNCILLOR MISS N. K. LAWFORD

COUNCILLOR H. REDSTALL

COUNCILLOR J. ROBERTS

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## BASINGSTOKE BOROUGH DISTRICT HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

Members of the Basingstoke Borough Health Committee and

C. H. GIBBONS, Esq., C.C.

P. W. MEDD, Esq., O.B.E., C.C.

MISS S. KINGDON

MRS. E. A. LEE

MRS. E. RICHARDSON

MRS. A. M. WANT

M. J. WILLIAMS, Esq., M.B., B.S.

# **PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF**

(As at 31st December, 1961)

## **Medical Officer of Health**

T. E. ROBERTS, M.B.(LOND), M.R.C.S., D.(OBST)R.C.O.G., D.P.H. (also Medical Officer of Health to Basingstoke Rural District Council and Assistant County Medical Officer, Hampshire County Council)

## **Senior Public Health Inspector**

C. H. DAVID, M.A.P.H.I.

(also Petroleum and Shops Act Inspector)

## **Additional Public Health Inspector**

T. J. TAYLOR, M.A.P.H.I.

## **Pupil Public Health Inspector**

B. F. MERRICK

## **Clerical Staff**

P. E. K. HUNT (*Senior Clerk*)

MRS. K. KEMPSON

MISS E. A. TATLOW

## **Rodent Operative**

R. RUMBLE



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
MARKET CHAMBERS,  
CHURCH STREET,  
BASINGSTOKE.

TEL. NO. BASINGSTOKE 600

September, 1962.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Basingstoke.*

YOUR WORSHIP, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the health of the Borough of Basingstoke for the year 1961.

Despite the fact that sickness benefit claims had increased over the past year and the last week of the year saw a seasonal epidemic of a flu type infection, the general health remained good. High notifications of measles showed once again that 1961 was a typical 'measles year'.

### Vital Statistics

The growth of the town has, during the past year, continued much along the lines of the preceding years. The Registrar General's Mid-1961 estimate of the population was 26,010, an increase of over 1,500 over the previous year. As births exceeded deaths by only 370, the figures point to an immigration of people into the town.

1961 was also the 'census year' and reflection on the statistics over the past decade shows that the population has increased over 50% during this same period. When one realizes that future development envisages an increase of nearly 150% of our present population before the next census year is with us in 1971, this period should prove to be full of interest.

Looking at our corrected death rate figures for the Borough, one might be surprised to see that it is above the national average and one wonders why this should be, in a town which is growing and therefore has a greater number of younger people. In order to arrive at an estimate the Registrar General presents each area with two sets of figures, one for Births and the other for Deaths, known as Comparability Factors, which finally decide what our corrected Birth and Death rates will be. To apply the Birth rate of a growing town, which is always high, to the national estimate, the comparability factor awarded is less than unity, and similarly, where the Death rate is very low due to a young population, then the comparability factor is usually above unity.

### Social Circumstances

Looking back over the past year, the event which will influence a great number of the people here was the signing of the agreement by the Borough Council with the Hampshire and London County Councils, which will raise the population of the town from 26,000



to 80,000 within, it is hoped, 15 to 20 years. During my short time here, I have read much of what it is hoped will be done to help the integration of the two populations as quickly and as smoothly as possible and I am left in no doubt that we at this end will do all in our power to achieve this. All the social and other amenities which are now a part of our daily life will be made available to the newcomers so as to give us a healthy and stable society.

Such a society is one that enjoys both good physical and mental health and the structure of such units, based as it is on family life, leans on the mother of the household as its sheet anchor.

To many of the people coming to Basingstoke it may mean their very first home, accompanied by the joys of building it up and the frustrations in raising the money to do so. Many of the young wives will surely be tempted to run headlong into Hire Purchase Agreements to such an extent that repayments may be difficult to keep up. When this has happened in the past, we have read of how the family has suffered in more ways than one, bringing with it, on far too many occasions, the disruption of what was once a harmonious unit of our society.

I make no apology for repeating what has been said on numerous occasions in the past that the law relating to Hire Purchase Agreements needs to be overhauled and clear instruction on how these lengthily written, and often microscopically printed agreements work, should be given at Further Education Colleges or better still, might replace some of the sub-standard programmes which appear on Television.

Although the town will be predominantly filled with the younger age groups we should not forget the problems of the over 65's. I use the term over 65's because although fully mindful of the fact that a limit before retirement must be fixed, I find it hard to digest the fact that a person who is 64 years 11 months 3 weeks and 6 days is not old, whereas 24 hours later he is now classified as old. The use of the word 'elderly' adds far more dignity to a certain era of our life than the word 'old'.

The year saw the Borough Council's building of suitable and well-planned accommodation for these people, well in hand, and the opening in the early New Year will be reward enough for their far-sighted and practical approach to what is not only a local but a national problem.

However, the same high standards of planning are not universal in our town. Many houses are being constructed in which certain rooms fall below the minimum Housing Act Standard for overcrowding purposes. Although perhaps not intended to be used for sleeping accommodation, a natural increase in family size necessitates the use of such a room as a bedroom, thereby creating an unhealthy environment for the unfortunate occupier. Houses with such small



capacity rooms should never be planned in the first instance. It is illogical to have to tell any occupants that although they have a room in a house and it is usually situated as a bedroom, it is non-existent as regards sleeping purposes and cannot be used as such, but only as a box or store room.

My thanks are due to all the General Practitioners in the town for their help and endless co-operation during the past year — to the members of the Health Committee for their enthusiasm and efficiency towards their work and to all the Staff of my Department not only for compiling this Report, but also for their work throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

T. E. ROBERTS,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

### STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres . . . . .	5,180
Population—Registrar General's Estimate, Mid-1961 . . . . .	26,010
Number of inhabited houses, etc. (according to Rate Books as at 1st April, 1962) . . . . .	8,209
Rateable Value (as at 1st April, 1962) . . . . .	£425,255
Product of a Penny Rate (Estimated 1962/63) . . . . .	£1,780

### VITAL STATISTICS

	1961	1960	1959	1958
Live Births . . . . .	585	541	463	427
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	22.49	22.0	20.02	19.58
Still Births — Legitimate . . . . .	5	9	11	7
Illegitimate . . . . .	1	0	0	2
Total . . . . .	6	9	11	9
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Birth . . . . .	10.1	18.1	23.2	20.6
Total Live and Still Birth . . . . .	591	550	474	436
Infant Deaths . . . . .	10	9	7	11
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000				
Live Births—Legitimate . . . . .	17.0	17.4	15.1	24.1
Illegitimate . . . . .	Nil	Nil	Nil	76.9
Total . . . . .	17.0	16.6	15.1	25.7

Neonatal (First Four Weeks) Mortality				
Rate per 1,000 Live Birth . . . . .	11.9	7.3	8.6	18.7
Early neonatal (Deaths under 1 week)				
Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births . . . . .	11.9	7.3	8.6	—
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still Births and Deaths under 1 week combined)				
per 1,000 Live and Still Births . . . . .	21.9	23.6	31.4	—
Illegitimate Live Births % of Total				
Live Births . . . . .	4.6	4.6	3.9	3.0
Maternal Deaths (including Abortion)				
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births . . . . .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Comparability Factors—Births . . . . .				
Deaths . . . . .	0.89	0.92	0.92	0.93
	1.25	1.18	1.18	1.14

## Births

	M	F	Total	1960	1959	1958
Live Births—Legitimate . . . . .	282	276	558	516	445	414
Illegitimate . . . . .	12	15	27	25	18	13
Birth Rate per 1,000 total population (corrected)						
			20.01	20.2	18.4	18.1
Average for England and Wales . . . . .			17.4	17.1	16.5	16.4

## Deaths

	M	F	Total	1960	1959	1958
From all causes . . . . .	114	101	215	241	209	202
Death Rate per 1,000 population (corrected)						
			15.1	10.00	10.46	10.23
Average for England and Wales . . . . .			12.00	11.5	11.6	11.7



# ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

<i>Code No.</i>	<i>Disease</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	1960	1959	1958
1	Tuberculosis—respiratory . . .	1	—	1	2	1	1
8	Measles . . . . .	1	—	1	—	—	—
9	Other Infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—	1	—	—
10	Malignant neoplasm—stomach . .	3	3	6	4	9	3
11	"    "    lung, bronchus	10	1	11	15	7	7
12	"    "    breast . . .	—	5	5	5	5	4
13	"    "    uterus . . .	—	—	—	4	2	2
14	"    "    others and lymphatic	12	15	27	22	21	20
15	Leukaemia . . . . .	—	—	—	1	2	1
16	Diabetes . . . . .	2	—	2	3	1	—
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	14	9	23	33	29	24
18	Coronary disease—angina . . .	27	20	47	41	33	37
19	Hypertension with heart disease .	5	—	5	9	7	10
20	Other heart disease . . . . .	9	15	24	30	26	28
21	Other circulatory disease . . .	5	8	13	12	9	9
22	Influenza . . . . .	—	—	—	1	4	1
23	Pneumonia . . . . .	7	6	13	8	16	6
24	Bronchitis . . . . .	4	2	6	10	5	6
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	2	3	4	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .	—	1	1	3	3	1
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .	—	—	—	—	1	1
28	Nephritis and nephrosis . . . .	1	—	1	1	1	2
29	Hyperplasia of prostate . . . .	1	—	1	3	3	—
31	Congenital malformations . . . .	—	1	1	2	2	2
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	9	17	17	14	23
33	Motor vehicle accidents . . . .	1	2	3	4	—	3
34	All other accidents . . . . .	1	3	4	5	1	4
35	Suicide . . . . .	1	—	1	2	2	1
36	Homicide . . . . .	—	—	—	—	1	1

## AGE DISTRIBUTION

<i>Group</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under 1 year	5	5	10
1—14	2	1	3
15—24	—	1	1
25—64	27	22	49
65—74	37	16	53
75—90	40	51	91
90+	3	5	8
Totals	114	101	215

# MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS — Deaths associated with :

Classification	No. of deaths			Average Age at Death		Age Range
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	
Lung and Bronchus . . . . .	10	1	11	69	72	58 — 90
Stomach . . . . .	3	3	6	72	67	57 — 76
Breast . . . . .	—	5	5	—	59	55 — 86
Others . . . . .	12	15	27	65	67	14 — 87

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN INFANTS

Cause	24 hours	Within 1 week	1—4 weeks	1 Month — 1 year
Congenital Malformation	1	—	—	—
Prematurity . . . . .	2	2	—	—
Pneumonia . . . . .	—	—	—	2
Inhalation of vomitus . . . . .	1	—	—	—
Atelectasis . . . . .	2	—	—	—

The number of Lung Cancer deaths is down somewhat on last year, but the small number of figures involved does not lend itself to any comment at this stage.

Once again diseases of the heart and circulation are the biggest single cause of death, accounting this year for 52% of the total of deaths.

## DEATHS IN AGE AND SEX GROUPS expressed as a percentage of all deaths :

Group	1961			1960		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Under 1 year	2.3	2.3	4.6	2.4	1.2	3.6
1—14	0.9	0.5	1.4	—	—	—
15—24	—	0.5	0.5	0.8	—	0.8
25—64	12.5	10.3	22.8	17.5	11.2	28.7
65—74	17.3	7.4	24.7	17.5	9.2	26.7
75—90	18.2	24.2	42.4	18.3	16.2	34.5
90+	1.3	2.3	3.6	0.8	4.9	5.7

Average age of Death . . . . . 67.62

Average age of Male Deaths . . . . . 65.5

Average age of Female Deaths . . . . . 69.75



## EPIDEMIOLOGY

### (1) General Health

(a) Record of new claims to sickness benefit received at Basingstoke National Insurance Office:

Month	1961	1960	1959	1958
January . . .	923	676	700	681
February . . .	1023	672	1218	579
March . . .	717	656*	969*	538
April . . .	461	495	490	480*
May . . .	434*	464	289	361
June . . .	572	313	371*	398
July . . .	417	472	382	364*
August . . .	352*	380*	323	296
September . . .	419	432	432*	372*
October . . .	474*	493	451	459
November . . .	446	585*	534	529
December . . .	632	466	503*	468*

\* Five-week periods reduced to four weeks for comparison.

(b) Attendance at Schools in the Borough expressed as percentages:

Term	1961	1960	1959	1958
Spring . . .	90.3	88.1	86.8	89.6
Summer . . .	92.4	92.4	92.8	93.1
Autumn . . .	93.0	92.5	91.2	92.0

There was an increase in new sickness claims over the year, these occurring in the early part of the year and in the month of June. Towards the very end of the year the 'seasonal' ailments increased to the extent of a mild epidemic, but postal deliveries at this time meant that many claims were not presented at the Insurance Office until early in 1962.

Attendances at School continued to be good throughout the year despite the insistence of Measles, Chickenpox and German Measles during the Spring Term.



## (2) Infectious Diseases

(a) Notifications received during the year were:

Measles . . . . .	562
Tuberculosis — Respiratory . . . . .	6
Tuberculosis — Non-Respiratory . . . . .	2
Food Poisoning . . . . .	3
Whooping Cough . . . . .	2
Scarlet Fever . . . . .	2
Total . . . . .	<hr/> 577 <hr/>

The high notification of measles showed us again that 1961 was a 'measles year' and the table below illustrates the well-known fact that it visits us biennially:

Year	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
Totals	3	299	27	172	24	882	18

(b) **Tuberculosis:** The following table indicates the incidence of new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year:

Age	M.	F.	Total	1960	1959	1958	1957
Under 5 .	—	—	—	8	21	7	14
5-20 .	—	—	—				
21-40 .	1	1	2				
41-60 .	2	—	2				
61 + .	1	1	2				

The Mass X-Ray now have a regular monthly session on the first Tuesday of each month at Basingstoke Hospital:

## (3) Vaccinations and Inoculations

(a) **B.C.G.:** During the year children of certain age groups in Secondary Schools were tested, and B.C.G. was administered to 1,000 children.

(b) **Smallpox:** The very satisfactory high percentage of children under one year vaccinated during 1961 is shown by the figures mentioned below:

Authority	1961	1960	1959
Basingstoke Borough .	81	73.9	73.0
Hampshire County .	56	61.5	65.6
England and Wales .	40	41.3	45.0

(c) **Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus:** The combined effort of all the Doctors and Nursing Staff continues to produce a very high level of immunity against these diseases. All children (with a few exceptions) receive a Primary Course of Triple Antigen during their first year of life and quite a high percentage receive a reinforcing dose on their second birthday.

It is hoped to start visiting all Junior Schools in the Spring Term of each year so that all children whose fifth or tenth birthdays fall in that year may receive further 'booster doses'.

Type of Injection	1961	1960
Completed Primary Courses . . . . .	561	524
Boosting Doses . . . . .	366	389
Completed Courses with Triple Antigen . . . . .	508	497

(d) **Poliomyelitis:** During the early summer the Ministry of Health advised that school children who had already been given 3 doses of Salk Vaccine should be given a 4th dose. The absence of a Medical Officer of Health for nearly four months in the middle of the year, and a shortage of vaccine towards the end of the year, did not give as high a figure as we would have liked. The shortage of vaccine was so acute in the last few months that all 3rd and 4th injections which were due, had to be postponed. We were, however, fortunate that before this occurred we were able to visit the greater majority of Schools and offer the 4th injection to certain specified children.

The promise of an Oral Vaccine will considerably lessen the work of administration in the Department, as it will no longer be necessary to have a gap of 7-12 months between the second and third doses, and neither, it is hoped, will a fourth dose be necessary.

	1961	1960
Completed 2 doses . . . . .	1441	1868
Completed 3 doses . . . . .	1829	2355
Completed 4 doses . . . . .	968	—



## SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

### General Health Services

The District Health Sub-Committee continues to provide a most useful opportunity for discussion of matters which, though the responsibility of the County Council, nevertheless arouse considerable interest locally. Furthermore, intimate knowledge of local conditions is frequently of help in advising the higher authority. The welfare of infants, old people and the mentally and physically handicapped, are cases in point.

I wish to pay tribute to the many voluntary workers who help out at infant welfare and other clinics. Their services are invaluable.

National Dried Milk, Orange Juice and Cod Liver Oil continue to be distributed largely by the W.V.S., at their Centre at 46 Church Street, and at Bramblys Grange Welfare Clinic.

### Maternity, Child Welfare and Health Visiting

The growth of the population in the town has, as expected, increased the attendances at the Clinics. The development at South Ham has increased at such a pace that extra sessions may have to be arranged quite shortly.

The table below shows the Clinics which operate within the Borough Boundary:

<i>Clinic</i>	<i>Monday</i>		<i>Tuesday</i>		<i>Wednesday</i>		<i>Friday</i>	
	<i>A.M.</i>	<i>P.M.</i>	<i>A.M.</i>	<i>P.M.</i>	<i>A.M.</i>	<i>P.M.</i>	<i>A.M.</i>	<i>P.M.</i>
Bramblys Grange			X*				X*	X*
South Ham . .		X*				X		
Kempshott . .			X*					
Elmwood Way .		X* 2.4.						

\* signifies Doctor in attendance.

2.4 — 2nd and 4th Mondays Only.



The table below now shows a breakdown of all the individual Clinics and how much their work has increased over the past two years:

<i>Clinic</i>	1961			1960		
	<i>No. of Clinics held</i>	<i>Number who attended before 1st Birthday</i>	<i>Total Number Attended</i>	<i>No of Clinics held</i>	<i>Number who attended before 1st Birthday</i>	<i>Total Number Attended</i>
Bramblys Grange	151	355	5346	153	282	4006
South Ham .	48	92	2101	48	79	1592
Kempshott .	51	87	2221	50	94	2265
Elmwood Way	23	53	793	22	59	740
Totals .	273	587	10,461	273	514	8603

Examination of the table shows that the average attendance at each of the first two mentioned Clinics has increased by approximately one-third over the last year, and this accounts for the greater proportion of the rise in numbers.

However, as the town expansion proceeds, not only will some of these Clinics have to increase their sessions, but thought will have to be given to the holding of new Clinics in other parts of the Borough.

The Health Visitors are informed of all birth notifications of Borough Children, whether they occur within or without the Boundary. They visit the home and offer help and advice. The growing population has already thrown a strain on this understaffed department of the Health Services and new Health Visitors will have to be found if their good work is to continue in the future.

## District Nursing

The following table shows the number of cases attended and visits paid by the General Nurses and Midwives during 1961, and is compared with the previous three years. Although the number of births has risen by 44 in this year, the number of home confinements has dropped by nearly the same number.

The number of general nursing cases has increased by nearly 25%, but the number of visits per case, as in the Maternity Cases, has also dropped a little. This is no doubt due to the fact that recruitment into the District Nursing Service is very slow.

Year	Midwifery		General Nursing	
	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits
1961	171	3107	354	6378
1960	210	4445	285	6804
1959	115	2090	358	7504
1958	82	1517	421	7963

### Home Help Service

Total number of applications received and investigated during 1961: 142 (of this number 31 did not require assistance for various reasons and 11 were advanced bookings at the end of the year).

Applications were referred by:

General Practitioner . . . . .	88	Health Visitor . . . . .	4
Almoner . . . . .	15	National Assistance Board . . . . .	5
District Nurse / Midwife . . . . .	16	Area Welfare Officer . . . . .	4
Other Sources . . . . .		10	

Total Number of cases helped: 196 (195\*)

Type of Case		1961	1960	1959	1958
Short Term	Maternity . . . . .	38	37	23	25
	General Sickness . . . . .	13	19	20	22
	Post Hospital . . . . .	16	12	14	11
	Child Care . . . . .	2	2	3	1
	Special . . . . .	—	2	1	2
Long Term	Chronic Sickness . . . . .	18	16	15	12
	Aged Sickness . . . . .	106	39	30	26
	Aged Infirm . . . . .		65	61	61
	Tuberculosis . . . . .	1	3	3	3
	Special . . . . .	2	—	—	—

Number of cases completed during the year: 89 (106\*)

Total number of Home Helpers on Register at 31st December: 41 (45\*)

Income—Number of cases paying:

Full Cost . . . . .	65 (59*)
According to Scale . . . . .	26 (24*)
Minimum Charge . . . . .	105 (112*)

\* The figures in brackets refer to 1960.



## Day Nurseries

There are four (three\*) registered Day Nurseries in the Borough, taking a total of 61 (51\*) children, age two to five. Industrialisation of a community brings with it the demand for female labour and the war time precedent of the married women going out to work is here to stay. Bearing this in mind, and the fact that it will be the younger married age group that will be coming into Basingstoke, applications for such registrations are bound to increase. Indeed, towards the end of the year a number of new applications for registration were under consideration.

Provided parents do not use such Nurseries in order to shed some of their parental responsibility, they have a part to play in our community, especially when there is sickness in the home, or when the mother has to go out to work for economic reasons.

\* The words and figures in brackets refer to 1960.

## Old People's Welfare

I am grateful to the County Welfare Officer for the following Annual Statistics for the Borough:

### Visits Applications and Admissions to Welfare (Part III) Accommodation:

Year	Visits	Applications	Admissions
1961	113	21	14
1960	56	19	15
1959	40	9	10

Welfare accommodation has this year, as in the past, played a very important part in providing short-stay holiday accommodation. This service enables those persons who do not wish to shed their responsibilities towards their own elderly people on to the State, to be able to have a holiday on their own, happy in the knowledge that their aged relatives are being adequately cared for during their temporary absence.

During the year five visits were paid to aged sick persons who were then referred to the Bed Service for Chronic Sick Beds.



The Chiropody Clinics which are held at Bramblys Grange Health Clinic continue to provide a most valuable service to Old People.

Year	No. of Clinics	Attendances
1961	17	154
1960	17	159
1959	16	154

During the year the Borough Council proceeded with the building of Old People's Bungalows and Flats which are conveniently grouped around a central building which will house a resident Warden and provide a spacious sittingroom for the occupants.

The Council and the Borough Architect's Department are to be congratulated on implementing this design in old people's accommodation, which will foster a sense of communal spirit, and help to alleviate any feelings of loneliness, while at the same time, providing individual separate dwellings, thereby ensuing that each person still maintains his, or her, own individuality and privacy.

### **Occupation Centre, Goat Lane**

Despite working under conditions which are far from ideal, this Centre continues to do most excellent work. Our thanks and admiration are extended to all the Staff there. A word of praise also goes to the mothers of these children who exhibit exemplary patience and cheerfulness. It is hoped that the promise of a new Training Centre, planned by the County Council, will not be delayed too long.

### **Family Planning Clinic**

This Clinic continues to serve the needs of the area, and during the year 230 New Patients were seen at either Bramblys Grange (1st and 3rd Fridays — 1.30 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.) or at Hackwood Road Hospital (2nd and 4th Fridays — 5 p.m. - 6 p.m.).

In all, over 1,500 visits were paid by people who were introduced either by their doctor, friend, welfare worker or nurse. Publicity in the local press accounted for nearly 15% of the new patients.

The Clinic works in close liaison with the local branch of the Marriage Guidance Council, and husbands are encouraged to attend with their wives when this is desirable.

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Rainfall

The exceptionally heavy rainfall of the last three months of 1960 continued into January, 1961, when there was 4.31". For the remainder of the year, however, the rainfall followed an average pattern, with the exception of March, when 0.03" only was recorded. The monthly figures, followed by those of the five previous years for the purpose of comparison, are as follows:

January . . . .	4.31 in.	July . . . .	1.72 in.
February . . . .	2.35 „	August . . . .	2.09 „
March . . . .	0.03 „	September . . . .	3.36 „
April . . . .	3.30 „	October . . . .	3.73 „
May . . . .	0.82 „	November . . . .	2.34 „
June . . . .	1.17 „	December . . . .	3.44 „

**Total for 1961 — 28.66 in.**

1960 . . .	40.16 in.
1959 . . .	27.63 „
1958 . . .	29.42 „
1957 . . .	26.08 „
1956 . . .	25.37 „

### Water Supply

The Borough is supplied from wells and boreholes in the chalk at West Ham. All water is chlorinated at the head works before distribution and frequent and regular samples of raw and treated waters are subjected to chemical and bacteriological examination in the Company's own laboratory and also from time to time by an independent authority. All samples of treated water therefrom were satisfactory for the purposes of public supply.



The quantity supplied was adequate for all purposes and no restrictions of any kind on the use of water were imposed. The distribution system was extended by 6,705 yards of new service mains (excluding trunk mains) by the Company in 1961 to meet housing development within the Borough.

During the year a start was made with the reconstruction and development of the West Ham Works.

I am indebted to the Borough Surveyor for the following information:

### **Sewerage and Sewage Disposal**

The sewage pumping and disposal problems created by the abnormal winter rainfall continued into March, when the subsoil water level began to recede and the severe infiltration of subsoil water into sewers began to decrease. During January, February and the early part of March it was necessary to continue running both pumping engines at Basing Road Pumping Station for 24 hours a day. By constant supervision and vigilance it was possible to get through the winter without a major overflow of sewage and the consequences that this would have entailed.

During the year the Council continued to extend the sewers on the South Ham Housing Estate to deal with housing development.

Following the introduction in 1960 of the larger town expansion scheme to an ultimate population of 80,000, and the abandonment of the proposal to construct a sewage treatment works for 40,000 persons on the site of the Corporation Sewage Farm, a preliminary design was prepared for the construction of the sewage treatment works to the north east of the town at Basing Lodge Farm. Following the acceptance of this scheme in principle, a contract was entered into for the construction of the first length of the large diameter trunk sewer to the site. The length of sewer concerned runs between the existing Basing Road Pumping Station and a point in Basing Road to the east of Basing Road Hospital. The purpose of laying this sewer in advance of the remainder is to establish a temporary pumping station at Cowdery Down with a rising main to the Corporation Farm to provide standby and additional pumping for the Basing Road Pumping Station, which at times has to work to its full capacity. The construction of balancing tanks and other works were being carried out at the farm in order to improve the quality of the effluent to be discharged to the land and thereby increase the capacity of the farm. This contract was nearing completion at the end of 1961.

## Public Cleansing

The weekly collection of house and trade refuse was maintained and materials were salvaged as far as sales warranted. A major part of the refuse was burnt at the destructor to raise steam for sewage pumping. The remainder of the refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping, partly in a small dell in Chineham Lane and the remainder in the Rural District's tip at Marnel Dell, by agreement with the Rural District Council.

Public highways and footpaths were cleansed by mechanical and hand sweeping, and the staff engaged on this service was increased.

Cesspool emptying was continued as a rechargable service at a flat rate, which does not represent the full cost to the Council.

## HOUSING

### New Houses

I am indebted to the Borough Architect for the following information:

During the year 1961 the following new dwelling-houses were completed:

		1961	1960	1959
Council Built	Traditional Type Houses	103	33	27
	Traditional Type Flats	43	20	50
	Traditional Type Bungalows	16	9	6
		<hr/> 162	<hr/> 62	<hr/> 83

Privately Built	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	226	291	444
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Housing Associations	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	Nil	Nil
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At the 31st December, 1961, the following dwellings were under construction:

		1961	1960
Borough Council	.	565	191
Private Enterprise	.	103	91
Housing Associations	.	Nil	Nil



# ANNUAL REPORT

## OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

### (A) INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### 1. Milk

There remains one H.T.S.T. Pasteurising Establishment in the Borough which is licensed and supervised by the Borough Council, on behalf of the County Council. In addition, 15 retail distributors of milk are licensed on behalf of the County Council in accordance with the provisions of the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960.

Four retail premises are registered for the distribution of fresh cream.

The following table shows the designations, numbers and results of milk samples taken during the year:

<i>Types of Milk</i>		<i>Pasteurised</i>	<i>Pasteurised (T.T.)</i>	<i>T.T.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number of Samples . . .		20	1	20	41
Phosphatase Test	Satis. . .	20	1	—	21
	Unsatis. . .	—	—	—	—
Methylene Blue Test	Satis. . .	15	1	10	26
	Unsatis. . .	—	—	—	—
Test for Myco. T.B.	Satis. . .	—	—	20	20
	Unsatis. . .	—	—	—	—
Test for Brucella Abortus	Satis. . .	—	—	7	7
	Unsatis. . .	—	—	—	—

It is pleasing to record that no samples were reported as unsatisfactory and that seven samples examined for Brucella Abortus were found to be negative.

#### 2. Ice Cream

During the year 9 samples of Ice Cream were submitted for analysis, with the following results:

Grade 1 . . . . .	9	Grade 2 . . . . .	Nil
Grade 3 . . . . .	Nil	Grade 4 . . . . .	Nil

There is now only one manufacturer of ice cream in the Borough, the bulk of this commodity now being supplied by the large ice cream manufacturing concerns. The ice cream is sold principally in prepacked containers which considerably minimises the risk of contamination. This is supported by the fact that no samples were found below Grade 1 standard.

### 3. Meat and Other Foods

#### CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	<i>Cattle, excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number killed (if known) . . .	593	6	469	1,840	1,900	—	4,808
Number inspected .	593	6	469	1,840	1,900	—	4,808
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i>							
Whole carcasses condemned . .	—	1	8	4	1	—	14
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .	66	—	—	10	106	—	182
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci .	11.13	16.67	1.70	.76	5.63	—	4.08
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>							
Whole carcasses condemned . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .	—	—	—	—	86	—	86
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	4.53	—	1.79
<i>Cysticercosis</i>							
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration . . .	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
Generalised and totally condemned . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—



324 visits were made to the one slaughterhouse in the Borough during the year and a total of 4,808 carcasses were inspected; this represents a 100% inspection of all animals slaughtered.

Again it is gratifying to report that of the 599 bovine animals slaughtered and inspected no evidence of tuberculosis was found. With the coming into force of the Hygiene and Prevention of Cruelty Regulations on July 1, 1962, this will be the last complete year to report on the visits and inspections to the slaughterhouse. So far, despite the future expansion of the Borough, no representations have been made as to the possibilities of another slaughterhouse being constructed.

### **Summary — Food Unfit for Human Consumption**

Weight of Meat and Offal condemned — 1 ton 14 cwt. 2 qtrs. 9lbs.

Weight of 'Other Foods' (including canned and packeted foods) condemned — 15 cwt. 1 qtr. 13 lbs.

### **Food Complaints**

During the year a total of 31 complaints were received from members of the public concerning purchases of food. After interviewing the suppliers of the foodstuffs, it is often found necessary to have further examination made by either the Public Analyst for the area, or, as sometimes happens, the service of an Entomologist is sought. This enables the Health Committee to have all the available facts before them when deciding what action to take.

### **Legal Proceedings — Food and Drugs Act, 1955**

A dairy firm was fined £5 for selling a bottle of milk containing glass.

Two bakery firms were each fined £5 for selling a loaf of bread containing a foreign substance.

A butchery firm was fined £25 plus 1 guinea costs for selling a chicken unfit for human consumption.

A bakery firm was fined £25 for selling a cake containing a fly.

Total fines and costs — £66.1.0.

## Food Sampling

During the year a total of 13 samples of various foods were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Winchester for bacteriological examination. Following my remarks in the Annual Report for last year concerning the incidence of *Salmonella* organisms being found in imported dessicated coconut, it is satisfying to report that the exporting country has now invoked regulations to improve the handling of this commodity.

## Food and Drugs Act, 1955

I am grateful to Mr. J. S. Preston, Chief Sampling Officer for the Hampshire County Council, for the following information relating to Food and Drug Sampling during the year 1960/61:

'1. 230 samples were procured under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, within the Borough of Basingstoke.

### 2. MILK SAMPLES

The milk samples numbered 178 — 33 of these being Channel Islands. All the samples were free from added water but 22, from 8 producers, were unsatisfactory due to deficiencies of fat. These, however, were from separate churns included in larger consignments, the average fat content of which was in each case of the required standard. The milk was being supplied to local dairies, for pasteurisation and bottling and, in the circumstances, no offences were involved under the Act but, where necessary, the producers were advised regarding the more even distribution of the fat.

### 3. MISCELLANEOUS

Of the 52 samples of articles other than milk, two only were the subject of adverse reports, these consisting of porkburgers and pork sausage meat, respectively.

The porkburgers — a pre-packed article — were satisfactory as regards meat content but the ingredients were not marked on the wrapper, as required under the Labelling of Food Order. This matter was taken up with the manufacturers.

The unsatisfactory sample of pork sausage meat was from a local manufacturer and was reported as deficient of meat, the amount found being 60 per cent. Although there is no official standard for such products, pork sausages and pork sausage meat normally contain at least 65 per cent of meat, and this has been accepted by some Courts as an appropriate minimum. Owing to the relatively small deficiencies involved, the producer was warned.



#### 4. GENERAL

As has been pointed out in the reports for previous years, attention was also given to the provisions of the Pharmacy and Medicines Act, so far as it relates to the descriptions of drugs and the various other particulars which are required to be given in certain cases. It will be appreciated that milk and other articles of food sold within the Borough originate elsewhere, and that these were also subject to additional checks in adjacent areas.'

#### Food Premises

A total of 239 visits were made during the year to various food premises. Generally the standard of hygiene of premises was found to be satisfactory. Five infringements of the Food Hygiene Regulations were found, but these were of a minor character and soon remedied.

#### SUMMARY

Total number of visits to food premises . . . . .	239
Number of premises where infringements were found . . . . .	5
Number of preliminary notices served for structural defects . . . . .	Nil
Number of verbal notices . . . . .	5
Number of defects and other infringements remedied . . . . .	5

#### (B) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

##### 4. Notices

The Health Committee authorised the serving of three Statutory Notices during the year, in accordance with the powers contained in the Public Health Act, 1936.

84 Informal Notices (written and verbal) were served during the year.

#### Legal Proceedings

A property owner was prosecuted for failing to comply with statutory notices requiring him to carry out repairs to a dwelling house. The case was withdrawn following compliance with the notices.

## 5. Complaints

521 Complaints were received and dealt with.

## 6. Housing Acts 1957/1961

### (a) Unfit Houses

#### (i) Slum Clearance

Continuation of Slum Clearance proceeded satisfactorily during the year, 23 houses being dealt with as follows:

Clearance Areas . . . . . 14

Individual Demolition Orders . . . . . 7

Closing Orders . . . . . 2

(ii) (a) Houses Demolished — In Clearance Areas . . . 6

Not in Clearance Areas . . . 11

(b) Unfit Houses Closed . . . . . 5

(c) Parts of Buildings Closed under Section 18

Housing Act, 1957 . . . . . Nil

(d) Unfit Houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied:

(i) By informal action . . . . . 26

(ii) By formal Notice . . . . . 7

(iii) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957 . . . Nil

(e) Unfit Houses in temporary use under

Section 17 (2) Housing Act, 1957 . . . . . 1

(f) Purchase of houses by agreement . . . . . Nil

### (b) Improvement Grants

During the year Improvement Grants for a further 43 properties were approved by the Council. This compares with 56 in 1960 and 66 in 1959.

Jointly with the Surveyor's Department, inspections of properties are made in connection with both the Discretionary and Standard Grant Schemes. With few exceptions all improvements were to owner/occupied houses.



## 7. Rent Act, 1957

Number of applications for Certificates of Disrepair . . . . .	5
Number of decisions to issue Certificates . . . . .	5
Number of Undertakings given by Landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule . . . . .	1
Number of Certificates issued . . . . .	2
Number of applications by Landlords for cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair . . . . .	1
Number of Certificates cancelled by Local Authority . . . . .	1

## 8. Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

There is a total of 16 sites licensed under the Act upon which 249 caravans are sited. There are no sites with permanent planning permission. Four sites however have been granted licences for a 10-year period. One site has a 2-year planning permission and licence, and a further seven sites are re-licensed annually. Of the remaining four sites, two are required to 'run-down' over 5 years, one over 3 years and one over 1 year.

In view of the various time limits imposed, the Health Committee have been careful to apply only those licensing conditions applicable to each particular site, bearing in mind the length of time for which the site is licensed.

No doubt the caravan site now under construction for the Borough Council will assist occupiers of caravans at present on sites due to close in the near future.

## 9. Rodent Control

234 Complaints were received during the year and in this connection, 1,287 visits were made. This figure included visits to dwelling-houses, refuse tip, slaughterhouse and sewage farm, schools, agricultural, industrial and business premises.



In all, a total of 2,520 poisoned baits were laid, with 55 complete takes and 685 partial takes; therefore it can be assumed that a considerable number of rats and mice were destroyed.

Treatment to private dwellings was a free service as in previous years, and business premises requiring treatment were charged at full cost.

Treatment of sewer manholes by baiting continued to show satisfactory results. Following the 10% test of manholes, only 5 showed evidence of 'takes'. A maintenance treatment was carried out, 38 manholes being chosen for treatment, but no baits were found to be taken. Due to this success of rat control in the sewers, the second maintenance treatment during the year was cancelled.

It is apparent that the use of modern baiting techniques and materials has justified this satisfactory result.

The Council are members of the North Hants Rodent Control Committee, together with representatives from Aldershot Borough, Alton, Farnborough and Fleet Urban District Councils and the Rural District Councils of Alton, Basingstoke and Hartley Wintney, also Officers from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Meetings are held Quarterly in the districts of the constituent authorities, which are attended by Members and Officers of the authorities concerned.

## **10. Clean Air Act, 1956**

A total of 60 inspections and observations were made in connection with air pollution.

Previously, plans and specifications of boiler installations submitted under Section 3 of the Act were referred to the National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service for their advice and recommendations. This work is now undertaken by the Officers of the Department. A total of 7 applications were submitted during the year for the Borough Council's approval. Suggestions were made for some modification of boiler plant in some instances, and these were readily agreed to by the persons concerned.

The Health Committee were successful in their representations that siting of future industrial areas in connection with town expansion should be in such areas of the Borough as to minimise concentrations of irritant flue gases, especially in the low lying parts of the town.

## **11. Noise Act, 1960**

One complaint was received during the year caused by the transferring of metal trays from vans, and starting of vehicles, at a Bakery Depot, in the early hours of the morning. The complaint was successfully dealt with informally.



## 12. Factories Acts, 1937 to 1959

### Part I

#### 1. INSPECTIONS :

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities . . . . .	14	6	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority . . . . .	100			
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' premises) . . . . .	36			
Total . . . . .	150	6	—	—

#### 2. DEFECTS :

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences :					
(a) Insufficient . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective . . . . .	2	2	—	—	—
Other offences . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Total . . . . .	2	2	—	—	—

### Part VIII

Outwork — Wearing apparel (Making, etc.) . . . . . 35

## 13. Drainage

Smoke tests . . . . . 7  
 Coloured water tests . . . . . 2  
 Systems exposed . . . . . 1

#### 14. Infected Rooms and Articles

Rooms disinfected . . . . .	5
Miscellaneous articles disinfected . . . . .	7

#### 15. Infestation

- (a) Rooms disinfested . . . . . 47  
Bedding disinfested . . . . . 6 lots  
Miscellaneous disinfections . . . . . 9
- (b) During the year a total of 59 complaints of wasps' nests were dealt with. The Council has approved that no charge should be made for this service.
- (c) The Department continued to give advice regarding the identification and treatment of various types of insect infestation (as distinct from vermin) and this service has been much appreciated by the general public.

#### 16. Table I

##### *Classified Statement of Premises Inspected:*

Inspections under the Housing Act . . . . .	132
Inspections under the Public Health Act . . . . .	131
Rent Act . . . . .	26
Works in progress . . . . .	20
Re-inspections . . . . .	281
Visits to slaughterhouse . . . . .	324
Food premises . . . . .	187
Food poisoning . . . . .	6
In connection with Infectious Diseases . . . . .	101
Shops Act . . . . .	17
Pet Animals Act . . . . .	1
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act . . . . .	64
Petroleum Act . . . . .	188
Factories Act . . . . .	6
Houses Let in Lodgings . . . . .	2
Overcrowding . . . . .	16
Dairies and milk shops . . . . .	38
Knackers yard . . . . .	2
Schools . . . . .	1
Common lodging house . . . . .	2
Offensive Trades . . . . .	4
Stables and Piggeries . . . . .	28
Verminous Premises . . . . .	5
Drain Tests . . . . .	8
Tents, vans and sheds . . . . .	393
Ice cream premises . . . . .	14
Watercourses and Water Sampling . . . . .	12
Clean Air Act . . . . .	60
Miscellaneous visits . . . . .	580
Interviews . . . . .	808

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Total 3,447

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## 17. Table II

### *Defective Conditions Recorded:*

#### *Water Closets –*

Defective flushing cisterns . . . . .	2
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#### *Drains –*

Choked drains . . . . .	35
Defective drains . . . . .	2
Gullies cleansed . . . . .	1
Inspection Chambers repaired . . . . .	1

#### *Dustbins –*

Defective . . . . .	4
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#### *Dampness –*

Defective roofs . . . . .	16
Defective gutters and rain-water pipes . . . . .	7

#### *Food Hygiene Regulations –*

Food rooms repaired . . . . .	1
Miscellaneous infringements . . . . .	4

#### *General –*

Defective, etc., walls and ceilings . . . . .	63
Defective doors . . . . .	8
Defective floors . . . . .	10
Defective stoves and fireplaces . . . . .	3
Defective and smoky chimneys . . . . .	6
Defective windows . . . . .	15
Accumulations . . . . .	2
Yards repaired and cleansed . . . . .	1
Smoke nuisances . . . . .	1
Miscellaneous . . . . .	14

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I should like to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued interest and support during the year; also for the co-operation of the Corporation Officers and for the loyalty and assistance from the Health Department Staff.

C. H. DAVID

*Senior Public Health Inspector.*