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Contributors

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ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the
BASINGSTOKE RURAL DISTRICT
FOR THE YEAR 1953.





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BASINGSTOKE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Department,
Eastlands,
London Road,
Basingstoke.

June 1954.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Medical Officer of Health's Report for the year ending 31st December 1953.

The state of health of the district has been considered satisfactory. Measles and whooping cough continue to be the main notifiable diseases in the district. There were no cases of diphtheria and poliomyelitis notified. As regards other illness, there was a considerable epidemic of influenza in the district in February and March and in the Autumn months a greater prevalence of gastro enteritis in children and adults than is usual.

Vital statistics for 1953 show satisfactory figures - there were no maternal deaths.

Among the administrative changes of interest during the year were the decision to limit the Medical Officer of Health's district area to Basingstoke Borough and Rural areas, and the re-constitution of the District Health Sub-Committee with added responsibilities.

The limitation of the district area allows the Medical Officer more time to attend clinics and school inspections in these areas and thereby affords a better opportunity of developing a more intimate study of the health and social conditions of the community. Both the changes are also designed to create a greater local interest and a more efficient local advisory body on the health services administered by the County Council.

My thanks to Mr. P.C. Box and the staff for their invaluable assistance to me since I took up my appointment and for their co-operation in compiling this report.

Yours faithfully,

P.L. KARNEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

/A/

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area	74,790 acres.
Population - estimated mid year ..	17,400
Number of inhabited houses.....	4,350
Sum represented by a penny rate ..	£398.7s.6d.
Rateable value	£96,742.

The district comprises 34 parishes and is mainly agricultural and residential. The Military Camp at Bramley and an engineering works in the Old Basing parish also provide additional employment.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Live Births	Legitimate	287	154	133
	Illegitimate	10	6	4
		<u>297</u>	<u>160</u>	<u>137</u>

Live birth rate per thousand total population17.0
 Average for England and Wales15.5
 Comparability factor 1.24

		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Still Births	Legitimate	2	2	-
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
		<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>

Average for England and Wales per thousand births.22.4

DEATHS.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Deaths from all causes	300	143	157
Death rate per thousand total population		17.2	
Average for England and Wales		11.4	
Comparability factor		0.87	

Maternal Mortality.

From Puerperal Sepsis nil.
 From all other causes nil.

Neo Natal Mortality.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
(Number of deaths under four weeks of age)	4	3	1

Infantile Mortality.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
(Number of deaths under one year of age) Legitimate	7	6	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>

Infant mortality rate per thousand live births
 Average for England and Wales 26.8

Analysis of causes of death.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	6	4	2
Other	1	0	1
Syphilitic disease	3	1	2
Meningococcal infections	1	1	0
Malignant neoplasms - stomach	5	4	1
" " lung & bronchus	6	5	1
" " breast	1	0	1
" " uterus	1	0	1
" " others	25	15	10
Leukaemia	2	0	2
Diabetes	1	1	0
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	47	14	33
Coronary disease - angina	23	14	9
Hypertension with heart disease	7	5	2
Other heart disease	67	26	41
Other circulatory disease	12	2	10
Influenza	8	2	6
Pneumonia	21	12	9
Bronchitis	11	6	5
Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	0	1
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	1	1	0
Nephritis and nephrosis	6	4	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	2	0
Congenital malformations	2	2	0
Other defined & ill-defined diseases.	29	14	15
Motor vehicle accidents	3	3	0
All other accidents	5	3	2
Suicide	3	2	1

/B/ PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases.

Scarlet Fever	6
Pneumonia	7
Erysipelas	2
Measles	172
Whooping Cough	90
Dysentery	1
Tuberculosis- Respiratory	15
Other Forms	4

The following table indicates the incidence of notifiable diseases during the year by months:-

	<u>Pneumonia</u>	<u>Measles</u>	<u>Whooping Cough</u>	<u>Scarlet Fever</u>
January	1	42	-	-
February	4	45	-	-
March	-	27	-	-
April	2	6	-	-
May	-	16	-	1
June	-	13	2	1
July	-	21	18	-
August	-	2	21	-
September	-	-	22	-
October	-	-	10	2
November	-	-	6	2
December	-	-	11	-

Tuberculosis.

The following information was received from the Director of Mass Radiography Unit of a visit made to the area. The Borough and Rural Districts were included in the survey and a special visit was made to the Bramley C.A.D. Camp and included in the civil population.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number examined	4,863	3,276	2,387
Number considered active T.B....	8	7	1

Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the year 161 Primary courses and 136 Secondary or booster courses were carried out.

Immunisation in relation to child population - number of children at 31st December who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date:-

<u>Last complete course of injection (whether primary or booster)</u>	<u>Under one yr.</u>	<u>1 - 4</u>	<u>5 - 9</u>	<u>10 - 14</u>	<u>Total under 15</u>
1949 - 1953	25	574	810	139	1,548
1949 or earlier	-	-	497	835	1,332

Vaccination.

The figure below gives a statement of vaccinations from the County Medical Officer of Health, 25th August 1953. Babies under 12 months expressed as a percentage of babies born in 1952.

Basingstoke Rural District Council - 41.4

/C/

PROVISION OF GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Child Welfare.

Centres for children under the age of five years are available as follows:-

<u>Centre.</u>	<u>Address.</u>	<u>Day and Time of Clinic.</u>
Old Basing.	British Legion Hall.	4th Tuesday. 2 p.m.
Farleigh Wallop.	Club Room.	1st Thursday. 2 p.m.
North Waltham.	Rectory Club Room.	3rd Wednesday. 2 p.m.
Oakley.	Village Hall. 2nd &	4th Wednesdays. 2 p.m.
Preston Candover.	South Hall.	1st Monday. 2 p.m.
Sherfield.	Baptist Chapel.	2nd Thursday. 2 p.m.
Silchester.	Church Room.	2nd Monday. 3 p.m.
Stratfieldsaye.	Club Room.	2nd Tuesday. 2 p.m.
Upton Grey.	Village Hall.	3rd Friday. 2 p.m.
Mortimer West End.	Village Hall.	3rd Tuesday. 2 p.m.
Sherborne St. John.	Cleeves.	3rd Tuesday. 2 p.m.
Bramley.	M.I. Room, Bramley Camp.	3rd Wednesday. 2 p.m.

Home Visiting.

In addition, information of all notified births is passed to the Health Visitor of the area, who visits, advises as to the care of the child and continues to do so at intervals.

Midwifery and Home Nursing.

These services are administered as follows:-

<u>Nursing District.</u>	<u>Parishes served.</u>
<u>BRAMLEY.</u> Miss Pettman & Miss Prior.	Sherborne St. John: Monk Sherborne: Stratfieldsaye: Stratfield Turgis: Sherfield on Loddon: Ramsdell: Hartley Wespall:
<u>OAKLEY.</u> Miss Witts.	Steventon: North Waltham: Deane: Wootton St. Lawrence: Dummer:
<u>PRESTON CANDOVER.</u> Miss Smith.	Farleigh Wallop: Cliddesden: Bradley: Nutley: Ellisfield: Popham: Woodmancote: The Candovers:
<u>SILCHESTER.</u> Miss Oddie.	Mortimer West End: Pamber.
<u>UPTON GREY.</u>	Tunworth: Weston Corbett: Weston Patrick: Herriard: Hackwood Park: Mapledurwell: Winslade.

Old Basing is included in the Basingstoke Nursing District, and Newnham is included in the Odiham Nursing District.

Birth Control.

The Family Planning Association have established a clinic at the Health Centre at Bramblys Grange, Basingstoke. Clinics are held on the 1st and 3rd Fridays in each month from 2 - 4 p.m.

Home Help Service.

The County Council have established a domestic help service to give help to households where owing to sickness, pregnancy or lying-in, old age or other reasons, such help is necessary and cannot be obtained otherwise. The service is locally supervised by a Home Help Organiser, and the helpers are experienced women carefully chosen for their suitability for the work.

Applications for a Home Help, accompanied by a medical certificate, should be made to the Home Help Organiser, Market Chambers, Church Street, Basingstoke. The charges depend on the hours worked and the income of the family.

Ambulance Facilities.

Ambulances are stationed at the Basingstoke Sub-station attached to the Shrubbery Maternity Hospital. Applications for the use of ambulances are made to the Aldershot Ambulance Station, Telephone - Aldershot 2244.

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological examination of clinical matter (sputum, swabs, etc.,) and of water, milk, and foodstuffs, are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Hants County Hospital, Winchester.

School Health Services.

The following clinics are held at Bramblys Grange Health Centre, Basingstoke:-

<u>Clinic.</u>	<u>Day and Time of Clinic.</u>	
Minor Ailments.	Every Friday.	9 - 12 a.m.
Verminour Cleansing.	" "	by appointment.
Ear, Nose and Throat.	" "	9 - 12 a.m.
Ophthalmic and Orthoptic.	Mons: Weds: & Thurs:	by appointment.
Child Guidance.	Every Tuesday.	9 - 12 a.m.
Speech Therapy.	Weds. & Thurs.	all day.
Dental.	By appointment.	

Tuberculosis.

Clinics are held at Bramblys Grange Health Centre, on Thursdays and Fridays.

Venereal Diseases.

There are no facilities in this district, but clinics are held at Reading, Winchester and Aldershot.

Old People.

The County Council provides nursing assistance and the services of Home Help as necessary for old people.

If admission to an Old Peoples' Home becomes necessary, application is made to the Area Welfare Officer - Mr. P.H. Dean, Bramblys Grange Health Centre, Basingstoke.

/D/ SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

Piped water supply is provided by the Mid Wessex Water Company (Statutory water supply undertakers for the Rural District) and by three non-statutory undertakings (The Manydown Estate, the Portsmouth Estate, and the Stratfieldsaye Estate). With the exception of the parishes of Steventon, Ellisfield, Popham, and Woodmancote, a piped supply is available in every parish. Piped supply to Steventon is in progress and to Ellisfield and Popham planned. In the Stratfieldsaye area, where the supply from the river continued unsatisfactory, an extension of the main was completed and progress made towards securing the installation of piped supplies into the cottages.

During the year, 94 samples of water were analysed. Where samples proved wells to be contaminated, notices were served requiring owners to connect to main supplies. Samples are also regularly taken for analysis by the Water Undertakers themselves.

	<u>Chemical</u>		<u>Bacteriological</u>	
	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Private	--	--	27	28
Public	18	--	16	5

Housing.

New houses completed since 1945:-

	<u>Total</u>	<u>1953</u>
Private	201	42
Council	372	73

Number of houses repaired in consequence of informal action - (1953) - 83. Owners carried out improvements with the assistance of grants under the Housing Acts 1949/52 at 15 cottages, and at the end of the year work was in progress at a further 27.

During the year 5 unfit houses were demolished by their owners and 9 formal undertakings that such properties would not be re-let in their present conditions.

There are 45 licensed caravans, and a further 20 permitted on three licensed sites in the district.

Refuse and Salvage.

Refuse collections are carried out fortnightly throughout the district and refuse is taken to a controlled tip at Sherborne St. John.

The Council have a Dennis Cesspool Emptying vehicle which continues to meet a real need in the district.

FOOD INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION.

Bakehouses - Periodic inspections of the 4 bakehouses are made.

Unsound Food - 729 lbs. of food were surrendered and condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Ice Cream - 26 samples were taken and 2 did not reach the required standard.

Milk - 36 samples of heat treated and raw milk were tested - 7 were found unsatisfactory. Only one milk supply persistently failed to satisfy the tests and this retailer is no longer in business.

JUNE 1954.



