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Contributors

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I

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

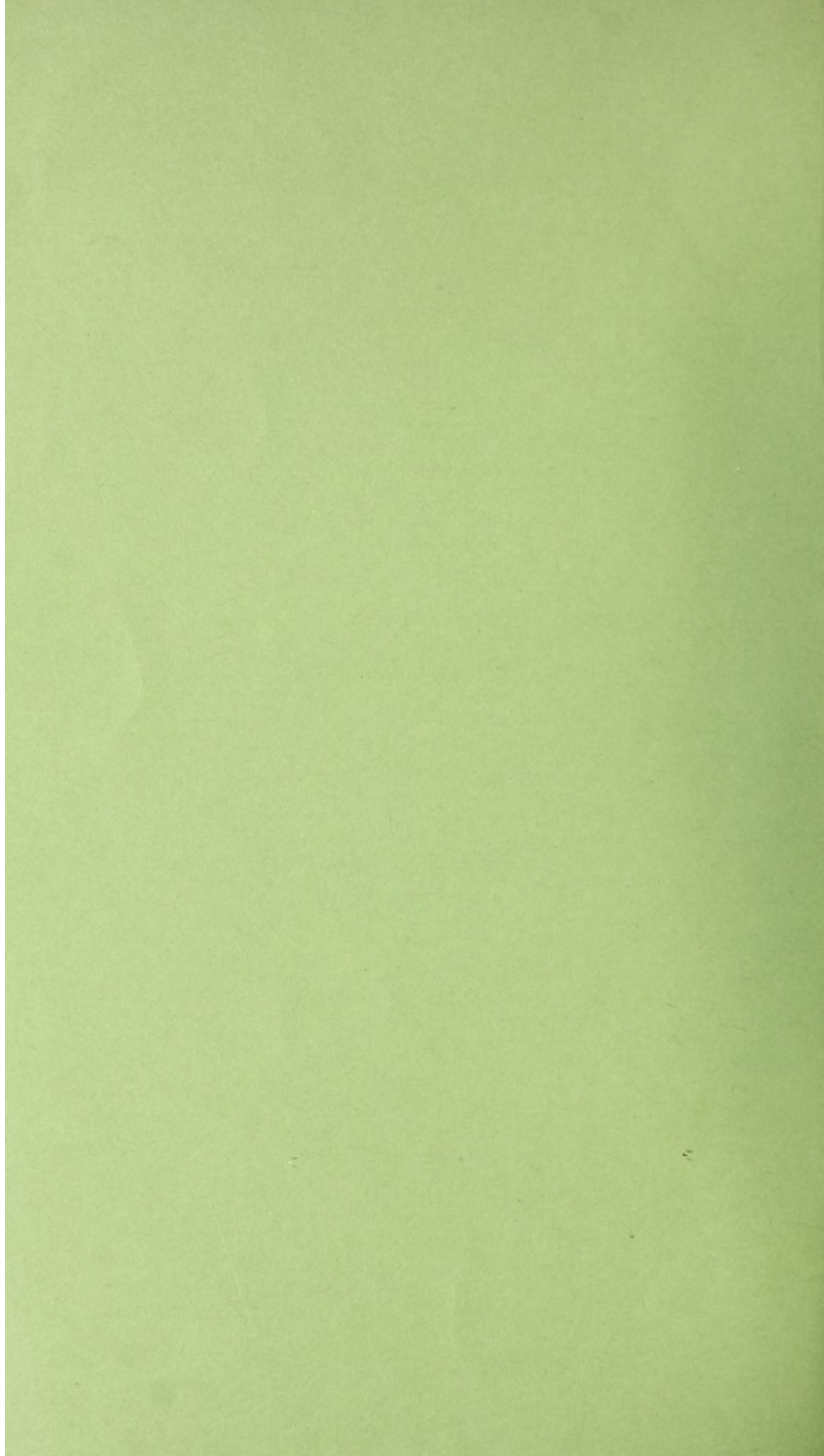
and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

BASINGSTOKE RURAL DISTRICT

for the year 1972



STATISTICS OF THE AREA

BASINGSTOKE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,
"Eastlands",
London Road,
Basingstoke.

December, 1973.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year ending 1972 as directed by the Public Health Officers Regulations.

Vital Statistics - The birth rate in the Rural District continues to fall as is illustrated in the figures on page two. The pattern is similar to that seen in the Borough and nationally. With the actual number of births decreasing and the number of deaths increasing the rise in population in the District this year was only 600, approximately 30% less than the previous years figure.

Social and Sanitary Circumstances - The main points of this section of my report are covered in the section prepared by the Chief Public Health Inspector, to whom it is my pleasant duty once again to record my thanks for his contribution.

With the reorganisation of the National Health Service Bill now having received the Royal Assent, the office of Medical Officer of Health comes to an end - some 125 years after the first one was appointed. During their tenures of office their presence has made its mark on the social and environmental conditions, both locally and nationally. The present holder of this appointment, together with that of the Chief Public Health Inspector who, with his deputy, will be retiring from Local Government service next March, have had their tasks made much easier due to the efforts of their predecessors.

In closing, I should like to pay my personal tribute to both these gentlemen, for their continuing assistance to me over the past ten years, together with the staff of the Public Health and other Departments. My gratitude to the members of the Council both past and present with whom I have had contact, is also recorded.

Yours faithfully


T.E. ROBERTS
Medical Officer of Health

CAUSE OF INFANT DEATHS

	1 - 12 months	1 - 4 years	Under 1 year
Respiratory Failures	1	1	1
Congenital Abnormalities	1	1	2

WILL BIRTHS

	Male	Female	Total	1971	1970
Legitimate	1	2	3	4	5
Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0



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STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area	74,390 acres
Population - Registrar General's Estimate Mid 1972	24,180
Number of inhabited houses	6,975
Rateable Value (as at 31st March, 1973) <i>April</i>	£2,229,789
Product of penny rate (as at 31st March, 1973)	£23,400

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>
Live births	328	365	362
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	13.6	15.5	16.0
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births ...	7.0	6.0	5.5
Stillbirths	3	4	1
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	9.0	11.0	3.0
Total live and stillbirths	331	369	363
Infant deaths	6	6	11
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births			
Total	18.0	16.0	30.0
Legitimate	16.0	18.0	32.0
Neonatal (first 4 weeks) rate per 1,000 live births	15.0	14.0	28.0
Early neonatal rate (deaths under 1 weeks per 1,000 live births)	9.0	14.0	25.0
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week)	18.0	24.0	28.0
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Comparability factors	1.09	1.10	1.10

<u>BIRTHS</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>
Live Births	Legitimate	159	145	304	342	342
	Illegitimate	11	13	24	23	20
Birth rate per 1,000 population (corrected)				14.8	17.1	17.6
Average for England and Wales				14.8	16.0	16.0

<u>DEATHS</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>
Deaths from all causes		168	182	350	315	356
Death rate per 1,000 population				14.5	13.4	15.7
Death rate per 1,000 (corrected)				9.4	7.4	8.6
Average for England and Wales				12.1	11.6	11.7

CAUSE OF INFANT DEATHS

	<u>1 - 12</u> <u>months</u>	<u>1 - 4</u> <u>weeks</u>	<u>Under</u> <u>1 week</u>
Respiratory Failure	1	1	1
Congenital Abnormalities	-	1	2

STILL BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>
Legitimate	1	2	3	4	1
Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

<u>Code No.</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
B5	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	2	0	2
B19(3)	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.....	3	1	4
B19(4)	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine.....	5	2	7
B19(5)	Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx.....	1	1	2
B19(6)	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.....	10	5	15
B19(7)	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.....	-	8	8
B19(8)	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	3	3
B19(9)	Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	2	-	2
B19(10)	Leukaemia	1	-	1
B19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasm	17	9	26
B21	Diabetes Mellitus.....	-	2	2
B22	Avitaminoses.....	1	-	1
B23	Anaemias	-	2	2
B46(1)	Other Endocrine Etc. Diseases.....	1	-	1
B46(5)	Other Diseases of Nervous System	2	-	2
B46(3)	Mental Disorders	-	2	2
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	1	2
B27	Hypertensive Disease	2	2	4
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	39	50	89
B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease.....	4	4	8
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease.....	18	28	46
B31	Influenza	-	1	1
B37	Cirrhosis of Liver.....	1	1	2
B39	Hyperplasia of Prostate.....	1	-	1
B46(6)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	7	9	16
B32	Pneumonia	26	30	56
B33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	8	1	9
B33(2)	Asthma	2	-	2
B46(7)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	3	3
B34	Peptic Ulcer	1	1	2
B38	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	2
B46(9)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	2	3
B46(10)	Diseases of Skin, subcutaneous tissue	-	1	1
B46(11)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	1	1	2
B42	Congenital Anomalies	2	1	3
B43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc	2	-	2
B44	Other causes of Perinatal Mortality	1	-	1
B46(8)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	2	3
BE47	Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-	1
BE48	All Other Accidents	3	7	10
BE49	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	1	-	1
BE50	All Other External Causes	-	1	1

EPIDEMIOLOGY

HOME HELP SERVICE

Notification of Diseases

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

	<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
Measles	8	44	36	37
Scarlet Fever	2	3	1	1
Whooping Cough	-	3	3	1
Dysentery	-	-	4	1
Tuberculosis - Pulmonary	-	2	3	2
Salmonella Typhimurium	-	2	1	-
Infective Hepatitis	1	4	1	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	1	-
	<u>11</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>42</u>

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

(a) SMALLPOX

	<u>Primary</u>			<u>Re-Vaccination</u>		
	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
	96	32	21	28	45	1

(b) DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS

	<u>Primary</u>			<u>Booster</u>		
	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
	144	149	440	610	558	577

(c) MEASLES

	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
	174	16	415

(d) POLIOMYELITIS

	<u>Primary</u>			<u>Booster</u>		
	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
	228	71	463	332	209	394

(e) RUBELLA

<u>1972</u>
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HOME HELP SERVICE

Applications									Home Helps on		
Total Received & Investigated			Assisted			Advance Bookings			Register 30/12/72		
1972	1971	1970	1972	1971	1970	1972	1971	1970	1972	1971	1970
89	92	76	30	54	43	1	5	5	27	28	26

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE - Health Visiting

The Health Visitor is informed of all births to mothers normally resident in the Rural District whether they occur inside or outside the rural boundary. They assist the mother and offer advice on all matters regarding immunisation and feeding. As the attachment of Health Visitors and other nursing services to general practitioners continues, they are all able to work in unison, thereby bringing the greatest benefit to all concerned.

<u>No. of Children attending born in</u>			<u>Total No. of Children</u>	<u>Total Attendances</u>
<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>		
193	217	236	760	3,864

OLD PEOPLES' WELFARE - (Voluntary and Statutory)

Both the statutory and voluntary welfare services work individually and co-operate when necessary to bring the greatest benefit to the elderly people of the District. This service is administered centrally by the Hampshire Council of Social Services from Winchester.

During the year no action under section 47 of the National Assistance Act was undertaken.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

HOUSING

Number of dwellings completed since 1945 is as follows:-

	<u>Total</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>
Private	2,152	69	146	178
Council	929	-	33	51

FOOD SUPPLIES

A close liaison with catering staff at local hospitals was maintained.

Veterinary Officers employed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries reported several cases of salmonella in dairy herds. Routine checks failed to reveal any infection of contacts and in all cases milk from such herds was pasteurised.

MAIN DRAINAGE

During the year the provision of sewers at Cliddesden and Pamber Heath were completed. Schemes at Bramley and Church Oakley and extensions to existing sewage disposal works were in progress.

Other areas were surveyed. All proposed village main drainage schemes continue to receive my full support.

WATER

The Mid Southern and Thames Valley Water Companies provide main supplies in most parishes. The remainder are served by private estates. All sources are sampled regularly and satisfactory standards are maintained.

In addition, the Water Companies themselves have regularly examined their supplies, bacteriologically and chemically, with the following results:-

	<u>Number Tested</u>	<u>% Highly Satisfactory</u>
Raw waters before treatment	155	100%
Treated waters at Head Works	208	
	<u>363</u>	

VARIETY COMPOSITION OF THE AREA

1951

Number of dwellings completed since 19-1-1951 is indicated

Year	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Private	52	52	52	52	52
Public	52	52	52	52	52

FOOD SUPPLIES

A close liaison with existing stock of the area is maintained and the
 Veterinary Officer is consulted in connection with the supply of
 essential supplies. The area is supplied with essential supplies
 such as bread, milk, etc.

HAIR GRATING

During the year the provision of essential supplies and other
 services were completed. The area is supplied with essential
 supplies such as bread, milk, etc. Other areas are supplied with
 essential supplies such as bread, milk, etc.

WATER

The Mid-Staffordshire Waterworks Company is responsible for the
 supply of water to the area. The water is supplied from the
 sources and is of good quality. In addition, the area is supplied
 with essential supplies such as bread, milk, etc.

General Remarks

The area is well served by essential supplies and other
 services. The water is of good quality and is supplied from
 the sources. In addition, the area is supplied with essential
 supplies such as bread, milk, etc.

FOOD PREMISES

Inspections regarding food and food premises were as follows:-

	<u>No. in District</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
General Provision Shops	40	27
Butchers' Shops	6	9
Inns and Off Licences	40	35
Restaurants, Cafes, etc		36
Takshouses		2
Registered Ice Cream Premises		47
Registered Sausage Makers		4
Hospitals and Old Peoples Homes		24
Premises licensed for sale of Milk	25	24
Schools	16	19
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,		2

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1972

I have pleasure in presenting my twenty-fifth and final annual report concerning work carried out by your Public Health Department.

Having elected to retire early under the provisions of the Retirement of Chief Officers Regulations 1973, I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks and appreciation to members of the Council and its staff for every consideration shown to me since my appointment commenced in 1947.

It is an aspect of food hygiene to many people who are entering the field of commercial food preparation for the first time. Sometimes one is led to speculate whether sufficient emphasis is given to food hygiene in the training curriculum of prospective managers of food and licensed premises.

The arrangements whereby inspections of hospital kitchens are made by your staff continued to operate satisfactorily. In particular, all aspects of food hygiene in connection with the new Saringstoke Hospital now in course of construction, were discussed and agreed. In a complex of this size this proved to be a time consuming process but it was considered essential that this should be given during the planning and construction stages, although it entailed some neglect of other matters of less importance.

P. C. BOX
 Chief Public Health Inspector

48 samples of pasteurized milk were taken and all were found to be satisfactory.

ICE CREAM SAMPLING

There are no ice cream manufacturers in the district.

14 samples were taken from registered premises selling prepared ice cream and from travelling vendors. All were satisfactory.

FOOD PREMISES

Inspections regarding food and food premises were as follows:-

	<u>No. in District</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
General Provision Shops	40	27
Butchers' Shops	6	9
Inns and Off Licences	40	35
Restaurants, Cafes, etc	23	34
Bakehouses	2	2
Registered Ice Cream Premises	64	47
Registered Sausage Manufacturers ...	4	4
Hospitals and Old Peoples Homes ...	7	24
Premises licensed for sale of Milk .	20	24
Schools	16	19
Clubs	9	2
Miscellaneous	11	9
	<u>242</u>	<u>236</u>

Regrettably, it was found necessary to confine routine visits to those premises where food is prepared, particularly to the increasing number of inns now providing meals. These range from lunchtime snacks including soup and hot pies to the meals in a basket now becoming so popular. It was again found necessary to give advice on aspects of food hygiene to many people who are entering the field of commercial food preparation for the first time. Sometimes one is led to speculate whether sufficient emphasis is given to food hygiene in the training curriculum of prospective managers of food and licensed premises.

The arrangements whereby inspections of hospital kitchens are made by your staff continued to operate satisfactorily. In particular, all aspects of food hygiene in connection with the new Basingstoke Hospital now in course of construction, were discussed and agreed. In a complex of this size this proved to be a time consuming process but it was considered essential that this should be given during the planning and construction stages, although it entailed some neglect of other matters of less importance.

MILK SAMPLING

48 samples of pasteurised milk were taken and all were found to be satisfactory.

ICE CREAM SAMPLING

There are no ice cream manufacturers in the district.

14 samples were taken from registered premises selling prepacked ice cream and from travelling vendors. All were satisfactory.

HOUSING ACTS

Housing Re-Survey

The re-survey of older lower rated houses continued and by the end of the year 1335 dwellings in 26 villages had been inspected. Details are as follows:-

No. of houses re-surveyed	1335
Houses reasonably fit and with all amenities	986
Houses lacking amenities but capable of improvement	285
Houses found to be unfit	64

The total of 64 houses found to be unfit has been reduced to 37 since the survey commenced. Of these three are subject to Demolition Orders, two to Closing Orders and nine to formal undertakings from owners that they will not be reoccupied until rendered fit for that purpose.

Improvement and Standard Grants

During the year a further 66 improvement grants were approved and one application was refused. Nine standard grants were approved. These grants total £50,991 and 49 of the applications refer to owner occupied dwellings.

Slum Clearance

During the year

- 6 unfit houses were demolished;
- 3 houses awaited demolition;
- 2 houses became subject to owners' formal undertakings; and
- 5 houses subject to formal action under the Housing Acts were rendered fit for re-habitation.

Housing Act, 1969 - Qualification Certificates

22 applications for Qualification Certificates were received. 16 were granted, three were refused and there remained three pending at the end of the year.

Refuse Collection

Weekly paper sack refuse collections from the rear of private households continued throughout the year and very few complaints were received from ratepayers. These collections were made with standard Bedford open lorries which prove much less costly to run and maintain than conventional refuse vehicles.

The growing popularity of non-solid fuels for central heating and the extended packaging of goods has increased the volume of refuse to be collected appreciably and reflects itself in the number of paper sacks needed by each household.

In addition, largely due to housing development, the weight of refuse collected also increased by over 4% during the year.

Fewer changes in staff took place than in former years and recruitment presented no difficulties.

By the end of the year the works study incentive bonus scheme introduced 18 months earlier was approaching the stage when it was acceptable, both to the Council and the employees' union.

Refuse Disposal

All types of domestic refuse were disposed of by incineration at the Borough Council's destructor at Wildmoor.

Marnel Dell tip is now filled excepting for a small area reserved for use in the event of a breakdown at the incinerating plant, or other emergency. The lease of this land continues until 1981, by which date it must be covered with one foot of topsoil and reinstated for agricultural use.

Cesspool Emptying Service

Although owners in sewered areas steadily continue to connect properties to main drainage, unfortunately it is not reducing calls made upon this service. In 1972 more work was undertaken than in any previous year and for several months an additional vehicle could have been fully employed. Weekend overtime work was not eliminated even during prolonged dry spells.

A works study incentive bonus scheme introduced during the year presented no major problems.

Most of the effluent was discharged into adjoining local authorities' sewers and disposal on arable land was reduced to a minimum. Present charges for this work are:-

1st and 2nd loads	£2.00p each
3rd, 4th and 5th loads	£1.55p each
6th/11th loads	75p each
12th and subsequent loads	25p each

Lay-Bys

The Council continues a regular clearance of litter from lay-bys and most of the cost is recovered from the County Council. Frequent vandalism to the equipment provided, continues.

Coronation Road Depot

This depot continues to meet the Council's requirements. The fitter efficiently carries out all work on vehicles excepting major repairs to bodywork and those requiring heavy lifting equipment.

All vehicles sent to testing stations have so far met the stringent Plating and Testing requirements of the Road Traffic Acts.

PEST CONTROL

Again, no evidence of warfarin resistance in rats or mice in the district was found. A number of alleged cases were brought to the attention of the department, but in all instances successful treatments were ultimately achieved using warfarin. The so called resistance was due to several factors including inexperience in the use of warfarin, resulting in insufficient quantities being consumed by the rats.

There was an increase in the number of complaints particularly from those areas where new development is taking place. This, coupled with an increase in the number of rats found and in the number of complaints concerning other pests during the summer, put a severe strain on the one man dealing with all infestations.

CARAVANS AND CARAVAN SITES

Since the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act became law in 1960 there has been very little change in planning policy regarding caravans in the County. Applications for individual sites continue to be resisted, while suitable land for the development of large sites is unavailable. Existing sites tend to become more and more congested with the increasing size of caravans and barely comply with site licence requirements regarding spacing between caravans. With the demand for caravan standings continuing unabated and with the improved construction and appearance of caravans today, a review of policy concerning sites for individual caravans appears overdue. A more sympathetic approach would go a long way towards meeting the criticism so often made that it is impossible to obtain a caravan standing without buying a caravan from the site operator.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Three new registrations were made during the year. All registered premises were inspected and only minor contraventions found. There was little increase in the number of full-time employees. The number of accidents reported was again low and all were of a minor nature.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Last year I made reference to the objectionable practice of stubble burning and this annual pollution of the countryside atmosphere appears to intensify.

The code of practice issued by the National Farmers Union lays stress upon safety precautions. Health and nuisance factors remain secondary considerations. It continues primarily as an expedience to the farmer but this is poor consolation to the family returning home to find that laundry, or a newly re-decorated property has been besmirched by a cloud of filth and smuts, during their absence.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

Possibly because the public are becoming accustomed to a noisier environment only a few minor complaints were received. Certainly, in the home, washing machines, dish washing machines, refrigeration, more sophisticated types of central heating, food mixers and floor cleaners of various sorts all now play their part in producing a level of noise approaching that found in industrial buildings. Similarly, in offices, the extensive use of mechanical and electronic aids is producing a much higher level of noise.

MAIN DRAINAGE SCHEMES

1972 proved a most progressive year with regard to the provision of main drainage and by the end of the year the position was as follows:-

Monk Sherborne, Cliddesden, Pamber Heath and part of Bramley	Schemes were completed and most owners took advantage of these facilities.
Church Oakley and remainder of Bramley	Sewer laying was still in progress.
Mortimer West End (56 properties)	Tenders were being obtained.
Newnham (164 properties), North West area Phase 1 (265 properties)	The Department of the Environment's approval to schemes submitted by Council, was awaited.
North West area Phase 2 (223 properties)	The Council had approved this scheme and the Department of the Environment's approval was about to be sought.
Mapledurwell and Up Nately, Dummer and Church End, Sherfield	The Council instructed schemes to be prepared for consideration in 1973/4.

WATER SUPPLIES

All piped supplies were sampled at regular intervals. In my last report I referred to a privately owned source of supply in the Candover Valley which was providing water of an inconsistent quality. This bore hole has now been lowered and all subsequent samples have been satisfactory.

In conjunction with the Kingsclere & Whitchurch R.D.C. the Council approved a small extension of water mains at White Lane, Hannington, and when completed it will serve four properties in this area which are at present depending upon rain water supplies.

Swimming Pools

One privately owned pool remained open to the public and together with swimming pools serving schools, was sampled regularly and a satisfactory standard was maintained.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT AND REMOVAL OF VEHICLES REGULATIONS

The Council continues to provide litter receptacles at the request of Parish Councils.

Publicity given to the service offered by the Council to collect bulky household articles free of charge has proved effective and large quantities are collected each week.

Since the Borough Council made free tipping facilities available to the public at their depot, there has been some improvement in the amount of litter deposited in country lanes and hedgerows adjoining the town.

During the year 15 abandoned vehicles were removed from the highway.



