

**[Report 1919] / Medical Officer of Health, Bungay U.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Bungay (England). Urban District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1919

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## ANNUAL REPORT

THE DEATHS registered in of the year: Males 26, Females 23  
Total 49. THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH five years at least.  
None of the deaths occurred in the district, whilst the  
Sanitary condition of the Urban District of Bungay being 125  
years of age. for the year 1916.

INFANT MORTALITY. 3 deaths ----- in Infants under one year  
To the Chairman & Members of the Urban District Council of Bungay. I inform you, or  
premature birth. Two of the female children were illegitimate.  
GENTLEMEN,

I herewith present to you my report for the year 1916.  
The Town of Bungay stands upon an accumulation of river gravels,  
which juts out into the marsh lands of the river Waveney, in the  
shape of a peninsula. The Town occupied the neck and shoulders  
of the peninsula, with Cytney Common spreading away to the North  
to where the Waveney circles up to the foot of the Bath Hills,  
which here form its Northern Bank. The Valley which spreads out  
to the East and West is frequently flooded after heavy rains.  
The Town is ancient and the ground upon which it stands has been  
occupied for centuries by a fairly dense population. The  
Champer Press Printing Works gives employment to a large number  
of hands, otherwise the trade and industries of the Town are  
mainly connected with, and supported by agriculture.

The population of Bungay for the year 1916 is estimated at 3180  
persons. This is the largest list ever recorded. This was due to an

THE BIRTHS registered in 1916 were :- Males 36, Females 35.  
Total 71. Two more than last year, but the highest birth rate  
recorded since 1916. However, that number was not a satisfactory  
Six of the births recorded were of illegitimate children, two  
being Males and four females. The epidemic of measles was due  
partly to ignorance and partly to carelessness on the part of  
many parents, allowing their children to play with others in the

BRITISH MUSE

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THE DEATHS registered in 1919 were: Males 25, Females 28

Total 53. The Lowest figure for the last five years at least.

None of the deaths occurred outside the district, whilst, of the remainder 20 were over 70 years of age, one person being 102 years of age.

INFANT MORTALITY. 5 deaths occurred in Infants under one year of age, 2 being males and 3 females. The cause in three out of the five deaths being due to congenital malformation, or premature birth. Two of the female children were illegitimate. It is satisfactory to note that none of the deaths was due to any of the Lymotic Diseases.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES. The following cases were notified during the year :-

Measles	189
Scarlet Fever	21
Varicella or Chicken Pox	8
Diphtheria	7
Erysipelas	4
Pneumonia	4 (including 1 Influenza & Pneumonia)
Small Pox	3
Puerperal Fever	1
Total	<u>237</u>

Only one case of Influenza was notified during the year.

The above is the largest list ever recorded. This was due to an epidemic of measles, which swelled the list considerably &, to a much smaller extent, to a minor epidemic of scarlet fever. It must not be forgotten, however, that measles was not a notifiable disease prior to the latter part of 1915 & that pneumonia was only added to the list last year. The epidemic of measles was due partly to ignorance and partly to carelessness on the part of many parents, allowing their children to play with others in the

THE DEATHS registered in 1912 were: Males 25, Females 28. Total 53. The lowest figure for the last five years at least. None of the deaths occurred outside the district, whilst, of the remainder 20 were over 70 years of age, one person being 102 years of age.

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NOTIFIABLE DISEASES. The following cases were notified during the year:-

Males	182
Scarlet Fever	21
Varicella or Chicken Pox	8
Diphtheria	7
Erysipelas	4
Pneumonia	4 (including 1 Infant & 3 pneumonia)
Small Pox	3
Enteric Fever	1
Total	230

Only one case of Influenza was notified during the year. The above is the latest list ever recorded. This was due to an epidemic of measles, which swelled the list considerably, to such an extent, to a minor epidemic of scarlet fever. It must not be forgotten, however, that measles was not a notifiable disease prior to the latter part of 1912 & that pneumonia was added to the list last year. The epidemic of measles was due partly to ignorance and partly to carelessness on the part of many parents, allowing their children to play with others in the



streets and elsewhere, and even to go to school whilst actually suffering from the disease. It appears impossible to stop that state of affairs, no matter what instructions Doctors may give, as many parents persist in considering measles a trivial complaint, or as they put it - "only measles".

SMALL POX Though three were notified there were actually only two cases in Bungay. The first case was brought into the district by a woman, who contracted it whilst cleaning the house of a person in another district who was suffering from small pox, though at the time it was not known that the person whose house she was cleaning was suffering from the disease. The second case was a very mild one, being considerably modified owing to the man having been re-vaccinated a few months previously. The third case was notified on suspicion, but turned out not to be Small Pox. Every case was at once removed to the Isolation Hospital at Ipswich and the inmates of each house were rigorously isolated and not allowed outside until the period of quarantine had expired, when the house, bedding, clothing etc was disinfected, and what could not be properly disinfected, e.g. mattresses, were burned. Notices were posted in the district advising all those people who had not been vaccinated, or re-vaccinated within the previous three years to be vaccinated and those to whom it applied responded freely.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Four cases were notified during the year and there was one death from the disease.

Cancer. There were five deaths from this disease during the year.

The Water Supply of the Town is dependent on our public wells, as well as numerous private ones. The nature of the water in the Town is, on the whole, bad, and should not be used for drinking purposes without previous boiling. A scheme for a Public Water Supply should be adopted & put in hand as speedily

through and elsewhere and even to go to school while actually  
suffering from the disease. It appears likely to stop the  
spread of influenza, no matter what instructions doctors may give  
as many parents persist in considering measles a trivial  
complaint, or as they put it "only measles".

Small Pox Though three were notified there were actually only  
two cases in Ennagay. The first case was brought into the  
district by a woman, who contracted it while visiting the son  
of a partner in another district who was suffering from small pox.  
Though at the time it was not known that the person whose house  
she was visiting was suffering from the disease. The second  
was a very mild case, being one apparently contracted from the  
first. When re-vaccinated a few months previously. The  
third case was notified on suspicion, but proved to be a  
small pox. Every case was at once removed to the isolation  
hospital at Ipoh and the inmates of each house were notified  
and not allowed outside until the period of quarantine  
had expired, when the house, bedding, clothing etc was disinfected  
and sent out not to be properly disinfected, e.g. mattresses,  
were burned. Houses were posted in the district advising all  
those people who had not been vaccinated, or re-vaccinated within  
the previous three years to be vaccinated and those to whom it  
applied responded freely.

Polio-myelitis Four cases were notified during the  
year and there was one death from the disease.  
General. There were five deaths from this disease during  
the year.  
The water supply of the district is supplied by a public supply  
works at the water supply works. The nature of the water is  
very good and the water is very pure and is not  
contaminated by any of the diseases mentioned above. The  
Public Water Supply Board has adopted a plan to supply



as possible.

The Drains are kept in good working order and may be regarded as fairly satisfactory under the present system of dealing with the night soil. There are 45 to 50 houses in the town with their own water-closets. The earth closets are provided with tubes by the Sanitary Authority, which empties them weekly and cleanses them with disinfectant. A similar periodical removal of house refuse by the Sanitary Authority is desirable. As soon as the Council can see their way to adopting one, a scheme for main drainage should be considered.

Housing Accommodation. There is a great dearth of houses and a great necessity for new houses for the working class and until the Council build houses no actual progress can be made. Two sites have been obtained by the Council, one on the Eccles Road and one on the Flixton Road, and loans for the purchase of them have been sanctioned by the Ministry of Health.

Cowsheds & dairies have been periodically inspected. There are 15 registered cowkeepers in the town and on an average about 140 cows kept. The great majority were found to be clean and well kept, but many of the sheds are old and dilapidated and the dairies small & inconvenient.

The appended report by the Sanitary Inspector gives further information

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

J. H. Eusteed L. R. C. P., L. R. C. S.,  
L. S. A (London)

Medical Officer of Health.



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The drains are kept in good working order and are regarded as being satisfactory under the present system of dealing with the

night soil. There are 45 to 50 houses in the town with their

own water-closets. The earth closets are provided with tubs by

the Sanitary Authority, which empties them weekly and cleanses

them with disinfectant. A smaller periodical removal of houses

refuse by the Sanitary Authority is desirable.

It seems as the Council can see their way to adopting one, a

scheme for main drainage should be considered.

Health Accommodation. There is a great dearth of houses and a

great necessity for new houses for the working class and small

the Council build houses no actual progress can be made. Two

sites have been obtained by the Council, one on the Backs Road

and one on the Elston Road, and plans for the purchase of them

have been sanctioned by the Ministry of Health.

Garbage & Refuse have been periodically inspected. There are

15 registered scavengers in the town and on an average about 140

cows kept. The great majority were found to be clean and well

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refuse small & inconvenient.

The appended report by the Sanitary Inspector gives further

information.

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Yours faithfully,

J. R. Burdett F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S.  
(London)

Medical Officer of Health.

Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the  
year ending 31st December 1919

In his report.

BUNGAY URBAN DISTRICT

Gentlemen,

I beg to report for the year ending 31st Dec.  
1919 the following sanitary work during that period having  
been performed :-

of the various complaints made to me during the year some  
were of minor account and others anonymous, but all of which  
have had my attention, and the nuisances complained of abated  
without it being necessary to issue notices in the usual way.  
Various premises, schools slaughter houses, bakehouses and  
workshops etc. have been inspected at different periods, as  
also have 15 cowsheds and dairies these were found with but  
few exceptions to be kept in a satisfactory condition.

There has been 4 registrations under the Dairies,  
cowsheds and milkshops orders during the year

The number of house disinfected after Infectious  
diseases, under the direction of the Medical Officer of  
Health is 31 and total rooms disinfected 42 necessitating 38  
visits, and in cases where small pox occurred bedding and  
other articles were destroyed by burning.

Notice was served and complied with in the  
conversion of two privy pits into pail system closets.

Two other privy pits were done away with and the  
pail system adopted.

The removal of the night soil has been carried  
out satisfactorily with but few complaints, some against the  
workmen and others against the householders. The number of  
receptacles removed, washed and disinfected being 47064. Two  
new privies have been built.

The open sewers have all been cleansed and



Report of the Board of Inspectors for the  
year ending 31st December 1919

**BURTON HUMAN DISTRICT**

Gentlemen,

I beg to report for the year ending 31st Dec.

1919 the following summary work during that period having  
been performed:-

At the various complaints made to me during the year some  
were of minor account and others serious, but all of which  
have had my attention, and the numerous complaints of others  
without it being necessary to issue notices in the usual way.  
Various private schools, almshouses, workhouses and  
other etc. have been inspected at different periods, as  
also have the churches and district houses were found with the  
few exceptions to be kept in a satisfactory condition.  
There have been a great number under the District.

arranged and all shops closed during the year.

The number of houses inspected after the outbreak  
of disease, under the direction of the Medical Officer of  
Health is 21 and total cases 10,000. In the year 1919  
visits, and in houses where small pox occurred during and  
other epidemics were destroyed by burning.

Notice was served and complied with in the  
operation of the public into public system districts.

The other public bills were done away with and the

all system adopted.

The removal of the 11th and 12th is a new service  
one satisfactorily also but few complaints, some arising from  
others and to be against the householders. The number of  
notified cases, stated and distributed being 47000. The  
and public have been built.

The open sewers have all been cleaned and

good improvement made to the one by the "Wolds" by  
bottomfying same and drains have been cleared of blockages  
in six cases.

Two houses have been completed during the year  
but no new houses have been erected.

Under the destruction of rats orders 1644, rat  
tails have been brought in during the year and paid for  
amounting to £13. 14 3.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. EARL  
Inspector



Good improvement made in the case of the "Wolfs" by  
destroying same and grain have been cleared of blight  
in all cases.

The houses have been repaired during the year  
and no new houses have been erected.  
Under the direction of the various local  
bodies have been done in during the year and paid for  
amounting to £11. 10. 0.

I am, Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,  
H. EARL  
Inspector