

**[Report 1944] / Medical Officer of Health, Drifffield U.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Drifffield (Humberside, England). Urban District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1944

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THE URBAN DISTRICT OF DRAFFIELD  
ANNUAL REPORT of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
for the year 1944

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1944:-

1. General Statistics: Area (acres) 2420. Average number of persons per inhabited building 3.24. Total number of separate occupiers 1881. Rateable Value £29,197. Sum represented by a penny rate £ 111.14.1½d.

2. Extracts from vital statistics:-The Registrar General estimates the resident population at 6,083.

Births:- During the year there were 101 births, registered (53 males and 48 females) compared with 137 (70 males and 67 females) last year. Legitimate 88 (49 males and 39 females) illegitimate 13 (4 males and 9 females) The birthrate was 16.83 per 1,000. Last year it was 20.91. For England and Wales the birthrate was 17.6 per 1,000 total population. Stillbirths in the District 3 (3 legitimate females)

Deaths:- During the year there was 81 deaths (37 males and 44 females) The deathrate was 15.16 per 1,000. Last year the deathrate was 15.72 per 1,000 The number of deaths of infants under 1 year was 6 (4 males and 2 females), the deathrate of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births was 59.45 For England and Wales it was 46 per 1,000

The causes of death were:-

	Total	Males	Females
Whooping Cough	3	1	2
Tuberculosis of resp. system	3	1	2
Tuberculosis other forms	-	-	-
Syphilitic Diseases	1	1	-
Cancer, all forms	7	2	5
Diabetes	1	1	-
Inter-cranial vascular lesions	12	4	8
Heart Disease	27	16	11
Other Diseases of circ. system	3	3	-
Bronchitis	2	1	1
Pneumonia	1	-	1
Appendicitis	2	1	1
Other digestive diseases	4	2	2
Nephritis	1	1	-
Premature birth	1	1	-
Congenital Malformation			
Birth Injuries etc.	1	1	-
Accident	2	1	1
Other causes	9	-	9
Deaths of infants under 1 year (legitimate)			
	2	1	1
-do- -do- (illegitimate)	4	3	1

3. Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year, 1943

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	<u>Total cases notified</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>
Whooping Cough	72	1	2
Scarlet Fever	7	7	-
Diphtheria	5	5	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-
Measles	4	-	-
Pneumonia	10	-	-
Dysentery	2	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	-
Other diseases generally notifiable	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and mortality during 1944

<u>Age peric</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
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10-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	
	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-

The efficiency of notification of Tuberculosis in the area is well maintained.

4. An Association is in operation in the town known as the Driffield Nursing Association by whom a full-time nurse is employed whose services are available to subscribers. Very good work is being done by the nurse.

In addition one C.M.B. nurse is working in the District.

Maternity and Child Welfare:- There is a Home in Driffield with 12 beds for lying-in cases. There is also a Maternity Ward in the Driffield Public Assistance Institution.

Diphtheria - Immunisation.

The number of children undergoing immunisation against Diphtheria remains at a considerably high level and it is estimated that of the children in the town of school age and under, about 850 have received treatment.

Tuberculosis Clinics: Clinic belonging to County Council available once a week in Beverley.

Mental Diseases Clinic: Weekly at East Riding Mental Hospital, Beverley

Orthopaedic cases: Clinic monthly at Maternity Home, Driffield

Veneral Diseases treated in Hull Royal Infirmary and York County Hospital free of charge.

Bacteriological Examinations carried out at the Scarborough North Riding Laboratory and the Laboratory at the Driffield Base Hospital.

Total Deaths	Deaths admitted to Hospital	Total cases notified	
2	1	2	Group B cases
1	1	1	Group C cases
1	1	1	Group D cases
1	1	1	Group E cases
1	1	1	Group F cases
1	1	1	Group G cases
1	1	1	Group H cases
1	1	1	Group I cases
1	1	1	Group J cases
1	1	1	Group K cases
1	1	1	Group L cases
1	1	1	Group M cases
1	1	1	Group N cases
1	1	1	Group O cases
1	1	1	Group P cases
1	1	1	Group Q cases
1	1	1	Group R cases
1	1	1	Group S cases
1	1	1	Group T cases
1	1	1	Group U cases
1	1	1	Group V cases
1	1	1	Group W cases
1	1	1	Group X cases
1	1	1	Group Y cases
1	1	1	Group Z cases

THE RESULTS

Summary of results during 1944

Non-Hospital	Hospital	Total	Group
1	1	2	A
1	1	2	B
1	1	2	C
1	1	2	D
1	1	2	E
1	1	2	F
1	1	2	G
1	1	2	H
1	1	2	I
1	1	2	J
1	1	2	K
1	1	2	L
1	1	2	M
1	1	2	N
1	1	2	O
1	1	2	P
1	1	2	Q
1	1	2	R
1	1	2	S
1	1	2	T
1	1	2	U
1	1	2	V
1	1	2	W
1	1	2	X
1	1	2	Y
1	1	2	Z

The following table shows the results of the notification of tuberculosis in the district during 1944. The total number of cases notified is 2, of which 1 was admitted to hospital and 1 was treated as an out-patient. The results are as follows:

An association is in operation in the district, the purpose of which is to provide a service for the notification of tuberculosis. The service is available to all patients and is free of charge. The service is provided by the nurses.

In addition, the G.P.S. (General Practitioner Society) is also providing a service for the notification of tuberculosis. This service is also free of charge and is available to all patients.

The results of the notification of tuberculosis in the district during 1944 are as follows:

Total cases notified: 2  
 Cases admitted to hospital: 1  
 Cases treated as out-patients: 1

The results show that the notification of tuberculosis in the district during 1944 was successful. The total number of cases notified is 2, which is a significant increase over the previous year. This is due to the efforts of the G.P.S. and the nurses, who have provided a service for the notification of tuberculosis which is free of charge and available to all patients.

Hospitals: The Sanatorium at Raywell belonging to the County Council is open to the district and East Riding generally. There is an Isolation Hospital for infectious diseases at Driffield open to the East Riding.

Small-pox: The County Council has a Smallpox Hospital at Shipton for the whole district. There is a Motor Ambulance kept in Driffield for cases of infectious diseases.

Ambulances: Whilst no ambulance service is provided by the local authority, a whole-time C.D. ambulance has been made available for accident cases and there is also a privately owned ambulance in the town.

Schools: The sanitary condition and water supply (which is from the mains of the Driffield Water Company) of the Public Elementary Schools is good.

#### 5. Drainage and Sewerage

There has been no extension of the sewers during the year. The sewage disposal works have been maintained as efficiently as possible but considerable improvements to the plant are desired. The Council are at present considering plans to bring the Area up to date, so as to make it more efficient.

#### Rivers and Streams

Considerable pollution of the stream running through the centre of the town was found to be taking place. This pollution proved to be from the Cattle Market, and informal action was taken with the result that all swillings are now discharged into the sewer. One other property in Albion Street has also been disconnected from the stream and the drains connected to the sewer.

#### Closet Accommodation

The Council have announced their intention of making a grant towards the cost of converting earthclosets into waterclosets. This step will have far-reaching effects in removing the most insanitary feature of the town. The announcement was only made in September and at the end of the year applications for the conversion of 59 earthclosets had been received.

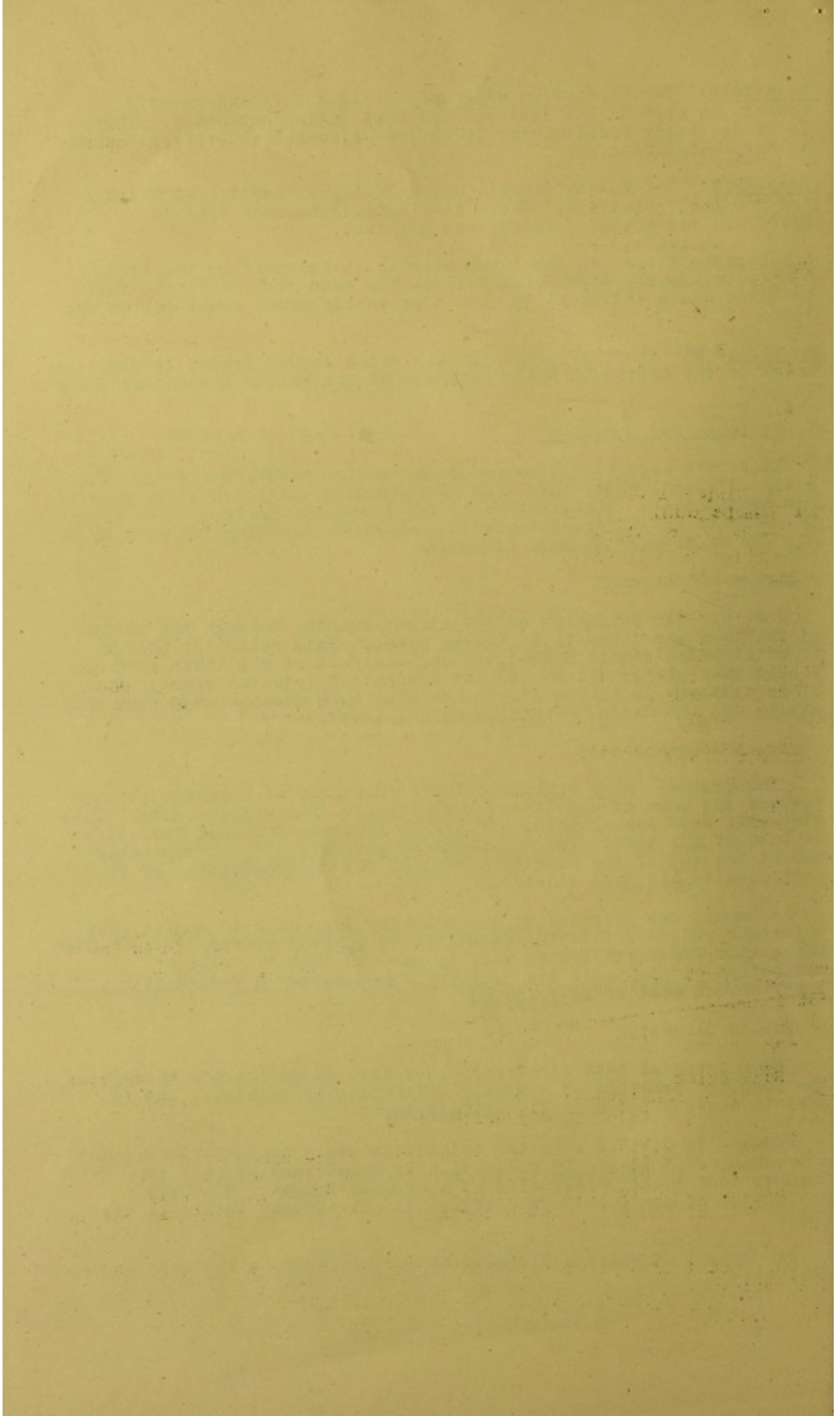
A report was prepared by the Sanitary Inspector in August, 1944 which was placed before the Committee in September, 1944. This report shows that 976 earthclosets were in use, and that the cost of collection of nightsoil was 3.95 pence per closet per week with a total annual cost of £837.12s.8d.

#### Public Cleansing

Scavenging of both nightsoil and refuse is undertaken throughout the town, and consists of a weekly collection of nightsoil, and in certain cases a twice weekly collection.

Refuse is divided into two categories viz:- non-salvageable and salvageable. A bi-weekly collection is maintained of each type which amounts to a weekly collection of Household Refuse. A weekly collection of non-salvageable refuse is carried out in Middle Street only.

The amount of salvage disposed of during the year was made up as follows:-



19 tons 11 cwts. flattened tins  
 1 ton black ferrous scrap  
 29 tons 17 cwts. 3 qrs. mixed waste paper  
 2 tons 2 cwts. jars and bottles  
 1 ton 14 cwts. 1 qr. non-ferrous metals  
 2 tons 7 cwts. 2 qrs. mixed rags  
 1 ton 9 cwts. 2 qrs. household bones

Total 58 tons 2 cwts.

The total value of this salvage amounted to £302.3s.6d

Food Inspection is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector who is the authorised officer for the purpose.

6. Water Supply

The principle supply to the town is by means of the Driffield Water Company. In addition there are about 150 private pumps in the district, the majority of which are connected to bores sunk into the chalk to a depth of approximately 45 feet.

Samples of water (both chlorinated and unchlorinated) from the Company's supply are sent for analysis every month and these show the water to be of excellent purity.

Consequent on the establishment of military training camps on the Wolds, with attendant risk of pollution of the town's water supply, chlorination of the piped supply was "stepped" up and a regular system of analysis of water from private pumps was instituted.

Samples were submitted for bacteriological examination to the North Riding Laboratories at Scarborough as follows:-

Total number of samples submitted	...	...	...	...	64.
Number of repeat samples	...	...	...	...	7.
Number of pumps tested	...	...	...	...	57.

Result of analyses

Number of pumps found to be unfit for domestic use 12 serving 52 houses.  
 Number of pumps slightly polluted but safe - 11 serving 25 houses  
 Number of pumps supplying good water - 34 serving 125 houses.

Informal action was taken in respect of the 12 Unfit Samples and in 8 cases a service has been laid on from the Water Company's mains. Applications in respect of the other 4 cases, have been made to the Water Company for a supply, but the difficulty of obtaining the necessary labour and materials has prevented this being done during the year.

Of the 11 slightly polluted samples, 6 were dealt with by submitting repeat samples which did not show any deterioration in the purity of the water, 2 were taken off and supplies laid on from the Water Company's mains, and the other three will be dealt with in 1945.

7. Housing

The War has prevented any new houses being erected and the condition of the old houses is deteriorating due to lack of labour and materials to maintain them in a proper manner. A survey of the town should be made to ascertain those houses not fit for occupation or capable at a reasonable expense of being made fit and



1. The first part of the report is devoted to a description of the general situation in the country at the beginning of the year. It is found that the country is in a state of general depression, and that the people are suffering from want and distress.

2. The second part of the report is devoted to a description of the state of the different branches of industry and commerce. It is found that the different branches of industry and commerce are all in a state of depression, and that the people are suffering from want and distress.

3. The third part of the report is devoted to a description of the state of the different branches of agriculture. It is found that the different branches of agriculture are all in a state of depression, and that the people are suffering from want and distress.

4. The fourth part of the report is devoted to a description of the state of the different branches of education. It is found that the different branches of education are all in a state of depression, and that the people are suffering from want and distress.

5. The fifth part of the report is devoted to a description of the state of the different branches of public works. It is found that the different branches of public works are all in a state of depression, and that the people are suffering from want and distress.

6. The sixth part of the report is devoted to a description of the state of the different branches of public health. It is found that the different branches of public health are all in a state of depression, and that the people are suffering from want and distress.

7. The seventh part of the report is devoted to a description of the state of the different branches of public safety. It is found that the different branches of public safety are all in a state of depression, and that the people are suffering from want and distress.

8. The eighth part of the report is devoted to a description of the state of the different branches of public order. It is found that the different branches of public order are all in a state of depression, and that the people are suffering from want and distress.

9. The ninth part of the report is devoted to a description of the state of the different branches of public morality. It is found that the different branches of public morality are all in a state of depression, and that the people are suffering from want and distress.

those requiring repairs to bring them up to a desired standard.

There is a great deal of overcrowding in the town, the new houses are needed as soon as possible, to provide the improved housing conditions necessary.

Since the outbreak of war routine housing inspection has of necessity been greatly curtailed, but informal action has been taken when complaints have been received.

Dwelling Houses inspected	36.
Number of subsequent visits	59.
Informal notices served	11.
" " complied with	11.

8. Milk Supply

Number of Dairies and cowsheds on Register	22.
Number of cows	235.
Inspections made.	32.
Defects found	3.
Defects remedied.	3.
Number of milk samples sent for examination (Methylene Blue and Biological)	1.

This sample was unsatisfactory it did not satisfy the Methylene Blue Test and showed coliform bacillus present in 2 tubes.

9. Statutory notices served	-
Earthclosets converted to Waterclosets	4
New houses built	-

10. Disinfection and Disinfestation

Houses disinfected after infectious disease	17.
Schools disinfected	-
Houses disinfested - Eradication of bugs etc.	4.

11. Nuisances

Total number of nuisances found	14.
" " " remedied	14.
Number of informal notices served for provision of sanitary pans and dustbins	85.

12. Water Supplies

Houses newly supplied from Water Mains	27.
Other premises	2.
New wells made	-
New bore holes made	-
Bores closed owing to water being unsafe	8.
Samples of water sent for bacteriological examination	64.

13. Factories and Workshops

Inspection of Factories	17.
" " Workshops	26.
Defects found, defective sanitary accommodation	4.
Defects remedied.	-

14. Swimming Baths and Pools

There is one privately owned open air swimming pool in the

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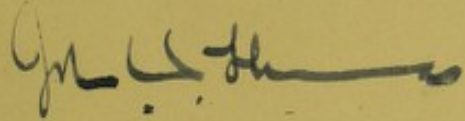
town and this has been maintained at a high degree of  
cleanliness.

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I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

(John W. Thomas)



Medical Officer of Health

December, 1945

Yours obedient servant,  
Wm. W. Wood

(Wm. W. Wood)

Wm. W. Wood