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Contributors

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1964
A N N U A L R E P O R T
of the
Medical Officer of Health
of the
East Dereham Urban District Council
of
EAST DEREHAM
Norfolk



STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

A.B. Guild, M.B.,Ch.B.,D.P.H.,D.I.H. (retired September, 1964)

ACTING MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

A.A.G. Carson, M.B.,Ch.B.,D.P.H.

1.10.64 - 31.12.64.


(Medical Officer of Health for the Rural Districts of Walsingham and Docking and the Urban Districts of Hunstanton and Wells-next-the-Sea.)

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

C. McD. O'Donnell, M.B.E., M.A.P.H.I.

WATERWORKS SUPERINTENDENT

R.R. Tye



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EAST DEREHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1964

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1964.

General Statistics

Area (in acres)	5313
Population (mid 1964)	7490
Rateable Value 1st April 1964	£249,462
Estimated product of Penny Rate	£1009

The estimated mid year population was 7490 an increase of 70 over the population of 1963.

There were 118 live births, of which 6 were illegitimate and there were 89 deaths from all causes, giving a natural increase (births - deaths) of 29. Hence 41 new residents (70 - 29) took up their abode in the town in 1964.

The adjusted birth rate of 17.01 is a little below the rate for England and Wales of 18.4 but the death rate, adjusted, is also below the national rate, being 10.9 compared with 11.3 for England and Wales. As will be seen from the table the birth rate has increased and the death rate decreased compared with 1963.

The illegitimate live births, 5.08% of total births, is a small decrease on 1963 when it was 5.4%.

For the second year there were no still births.

There were two infant deaths (under 1 year) one of 11 months of age, due to pneumonia, and one of 6 hours due to prematurity. This gives an infant death rate of 16.9, the rate for England and Wales is 20.0.

<u>Vital Statistics</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
Live Births	118	111	
Live Birth Rate per 1000 population (adjusted)	17.01	16.16	18.4
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	5.08	5.4	
Still Births	-	-	
Total Live and Still Births	118		
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	2	1	
Infant Mortality Rates.			
Total Infant Deaths per 100 Live Births	16.9	9.0	20.0
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1000 Legitimate Live Births	17.8		
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1000 Illegitimate Live Births	-	-	
Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 100 total live births)	8.47		13.8
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)	8.47		
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births + deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)	8.47		28.2
Maternal Mortality	-	-	
Deaths All Ages	89	101	
Death Rate Adjusted	10.09	11.5	11.3

Causes of Death

The following table shows the causes of death as supplied by the Registrar General for 1964.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Syphilitic Disease	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	2	1	3
Malignant Neoplasm Lung, Bronchus	4	-	4
Malignant Neoplasm Breast	-	2	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	7	6	13
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	6	6	12
Coronary Disease, Angina	9	8	17
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	1	1
Other Heart Diseases	2	8	10
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	2	4
Pneumonia	3	1	4
Bronchitis	3	1	4
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
Other Ill Defined and Defined Diseases	3	4	7
Accidents	1	3	4
	<hr/>		
	45	44	89
	<hr/>		

Of these 89 deaths overleaf, 44 (14 male and 30 female) occurred over the age of 75 years and 27 (20 males and 7 females) occurred in the 65 - 75 years age group. In other words only 18 people died under the age of 65 years.

Malignant Disease

There were 23 deaths due to cancer, that of the lung causing 4 deaths - one male 43 years, the others being over 65 years of age.

Coronary Disease

This was the commonest disease affecting any one organ causing 17 deaths, one in the 45 - 54 years age group, one in the 55 - 64 years age group, 4 in the 65 - 74 years age group and 11 over 75 years.

<u>Infectious Diseases</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>
Scarlet Fever	4	7	5	2
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-
Measels	44	126	1	115
Whooping Cough	16	3	3	32
Pneumonia	-	-	1	5
Dysentery	-	13	-	2
Food Poisoning	3	-	1	1
Infectious Hepatitis	-	2	2	5
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-
Acute Encephalitis	-	-	-	-
Meningitis	1	-	-	-
	<hr/>			
	69	151	13	162
	<hr/>			

	<u>Age Group in Years</u>												
	0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	25	35	45	55	65+
<u>Infectious Diseases</u>													
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	5	4	3	6	23	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	4	2	1	2	1	4	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	†
Meningitis	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Cerebro Spinal Meningitis

This case was reported in December 1963 and was mentioned in the Annual Report 1963, but it was notified in January 1964 and hence included in the 1964 report.

Measles

The figures again emphasise the biennial character of this infection, the maximum incidence in 1964 being in the 5 - 9 year age group.

Food Poisoning

There were three single unconnected cases of food poisoning. In two cases the source of infection was not traced. The third case was a girl living in Dereham and attending the Adult Training Centre in Norwich where several cases of food poisoning occurred on one day. The source of infection was traced to food prepared in one kitchen and distributed to several schools, one of which was the Training Centre.

TUBERCULOSIS

	<u>M</u>	<u>1964</u> <u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>1963</u> <u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pulmonary	14	10	24	15	10	25
Non Pulmonary	1	4	5	1	3	4
			—			—
Grand Total			29			29
			==			==

There were three new cases - one pulmonary, two non pulmonary and one inward transfer. Two cases recovered, one patient died and there was one removal from the district leaving the number on the register 29 as in 1963.

B.C.G. Vaccination

Norfolk County Council offer this service to all school children in the 13 year old age group. By this means these young people are given some protection against tuberculosis to safeguard them when they leave school and enter employment.

During 1964 the work done in this field was as follows:-

1. Number of children eligible	214
2. Number of acceptances	183
3. Number of children Heaf tested	183
4. Number of tests read	181
5. Number of positive tests	33
6. Tuberculin index	18.2
7. Number vaccinated	147

The tuberculin index rose from 13.9 to 18.2. Since this figure is the percentage positive readings of total readings the figure is variable.

Immunisation Schemes

The schedule of immunisations has remained unchanged. The following tables show the work done by the general practitioners and the Assistant Medical Officer during 1964.

Agent		<u>YEAR OF BIRTH</u>							1948 or Earlier	Total
		1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1955/59	1950/54		
Whooping Cough	Primary	50	57	4	3	1	-	-	-	115
Diphtheria and Tetanus	Reinforcing	-	-	4	7	4	1	-	-	16
Total		50	57	8	10	5	1	-	-	131
Diphtheria and Tetanus	Primary	-	2	-	1	-	6	3	-	12
	Reinforcing	-	-	-	-	1	81	-	-	82
Total		-	2	-	1	1	87	3	-	94
Diphtheria	Primary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Reinforcing	-	-	-	-	-	22	118	6	146
Total		-	-	-	-	-	22	118	6	146
Tetanus	Primary	-	1	-	-	-	8	7	25	41
	Reinforcing	-	-	-	1	1	4	3	3	12
		-	1	-	1	1	12	10	28	53

		<u>YEAR OF BIRTH</u>							Total
		1964	1963	1962	1961	1943/60	1933/42	Others	
<u>Poliomyelitis</u>									
Primary									
2 Salk		-	4	8	-	2	-	-	14
3 Oral		50	214	37	17	42	5	5	370
		50	218	45	17	44	5	5	384

Persons receiving reinforcing doses of poliomyelitis vaccine

Third Salk 18

Oral after 2 Salk doses	2	
Oral after 3 Salk doses	212	
Oral after 2 Salk and 1		295 doses of Oral Vaccine given
Oral dose	13	
Oral after 3 Oral doses	68	

These records of poliomyelitis vaccination are for the whole of Area 3 of Norfolk County of which Area, Dereham forms part.

Smallpox Vaccination

Age at date of vaccination.	0-3 Mths	3-6 Mths	6-9 Mths	9-12 Mths	1 Yrs	2-4 Yrs	5-14 Yrs	15+ Yrs	TOTAL
Primary	31	7	4	9	27	4	3	-	85
Revaccination	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	4
	31	7	4	9	27	4	6	1	89

The maintenance of a high level of immunity in a population is an essential factor in the control of communicable disease. Though the number of primary vaccinations in the first two years of life has risen from 46 (1963) to 78 it is hoped that more parents will safeguard their children against this disease especially in these days of air travel, when people can enter this country within three days of leaving an area where smallpox is endemic.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT 1946

Local Health Services under Part III

Domestic Help Service

This service continues to operate satisfactorily and 35 cases were assisted in Dereham in 1964.

Mental Health Administration

Mr. Boothman remained in charge and had the part time services of an Assistant.

Thirty patients were admitted to St. Andrews Mental Hospital under the provisions of the Mental Health Act 1959; - twenty two patients were admitted informally and eight were admitted under compulsory powers. This is nine less than in 1963.

There are 17 persons registered as subnormal. Of these 11 are classified as severely subnormal. Two people are working and are self supporting. Seven, under the age of 18, attend the Junior Training Centre at Sprowston, two attend the Norwich Adult Training Centre and two others attend a weekly social club held at the Local Health Office. A girl of 17 years was placed under the Guardianship of her mother to provide more adequate control.

Old People's Welfare

The Old Peoples Clubs, one in Dereham and one at Toftwood, continue to function and form an important part of the members social activities. The one in Dereham meets on Wednesday and Thursday of each week in its own purpose-built premises. It has a membership of over 100. The Toftwood Club meets weekly at the Village Hall and has a membership of about 30. Some members from each club availed themselves of the special holiday for Old People at Caister Camp which is organised by the Norfolk Old Peoples Welfare Committee. This scheme provides holidays for an age and income group which otherwise would find great difficulty in attaining an annual holiday.

The two voluntary Meals-on-Wheels services established in 1963 continue to serve 24 meals once weekly to aged persons in their own homes.

Ten aged persons were admitted to Part III Accommodation (County Homes/Hostels) and one admission was by compulsory measures under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1948.

HOUSING

Westfield Lane Development

The final stage of the Westfield Lane development has been completed by the erection of 14 - 3 bedroom, four person houses; and 10 - 3 bedroom, five person houses, making a total of 40 dwellings on this estate.

Moorgate Estate

Work commenced on Stage I of the Roadworks and Sewers for the new development of the Moorgate Estate.

Council House Improvements

Work on the improvement of pre-war Council Houses has proceeded, 22 Vores Terrace houses, Crown Road having been completed, plans and specifications for the last 24 houses to be improved, Nos.1 - 12 Moorgate Cottages and Nos.1 - 23 Northgate have been prepared.

Garages

12 Pre-cast Concrete Garages have been erected at Sandy Lane.

Improvement Grants

The number of grants approved in 1964 was as follows:-

Standard Grants	19
Discretionary Grants	2

Work was completed on 15 private houses for which Standard Grants had been approved, the following units have been installed:-

Baths	12
Wash basins	11
Hot water installation	15
W.C's	6
Larders	5

Amount paid in respect of Standard Grants = £1415.

Private Development

Completed Private Dwellings are as follows:-

1 Bedroom	3
2 Bedroom	58
3 Bedroom	69
4 Bedroom	1

WATER SUPPLY

The average daily consumption was 291,140 gallons compared with 285,803 in the previous year. The total yearly consumption was 106,267,800 gallons, an increase of 1,663,900 gallons or 1.5% over the preceeding year.

The highest daily consumption was 347,700 gallons on 24th July, 1964. Restrictions on the use of hosepipes and car washing was enforced throughout the year.

Total yearly consumption	106,267,800
Increase over preceeding year	1,663,900
1954/55 total yearly consumption	56,135,400
1964/65 " " "	106,267,800
Percentage of increase over 10 years	47%
Total yearly domestic used	83,638,800
" " industrial used	22,629,000
Total number of metered supplies	170
Average daily consumption	291,140
Average gallons per head, less industrial	31
Average gallons used daily by industry	62,000
Estimated population served	7,400
Number of houses with town water	2,577
Average number of persons per house	3.2
Yearly bulk supply to R.D.C.	518,000

New Connections and Supplies

143 new connections and supplies have been added to the distribution system during the year.

Mains and Extensions

2458 yards of 9" trunk main have been installed in the Toftwood area. This will eventually be linked up with the Bradenham source. This new extension has already improved pressure in the district and the Booster Plant installed in Yaxham Road is no longer required.

650 yards of 3" main have been installed at Dumpling Green. A scheme is already in hand to extend a 4" main to Etling Green.

Headworks

In January 1964 work commenced on the erection of the new high level Water Tower with a capacity of 400,000 gallons, to be operational early in 1965. The joint scheme between two neighbouring authorities for a bulk supply from the Bradenham source was nearing completion.

Number of Samples taken

Bacteriological	16
Chemical	1

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

An unsatisfactory shallow well in Northall Green has been replaced by a deep bore which is giving a bacteriologically pure water supply.

Sewage Disposal

An electrically operated continuous raking machine has been installed to keep the Detritus Chamber screen clear and allow a steady rate of flow through the upward flow tanks, filters, etc.

The new extensions, though completed some months ago, have so far failed to produce a Royal Commission standard effluent. This is thought to be due to inadequate settlement in the past allowing so much suspended matter on to the filters they become clogged with sludge. There is evidence too that the works are becoming overloaded due to rapid town development.

Night soil is collected weekly from the rural part of the district and a small number of non-sewerable properties in the town area.

Public Cleansing

House refuse is collected weekly in the built up area of the town and fortnightly on the outskirts. A very high standard is maintained by the collectors and it is gratifying to note that residents often record their appreciation of the service.

A pilot paper sack refuse collection scheme tried by the Council during the year was a practical success but a financial failure. The advantage from a Public Health viewpoint, economies in labour and vehicle cost are real but of little account when faced with the cost of sacks which is approximately £1 per property per annum. Until the price of sacks is reduced to half, this excellent method of dustless refuse collection must remain a luxury to small authorities.

Streets are regularly scavenged.

Smoke Nuisances

Complaints of smoke came mainly from open fires in gardens which were quickly stopped when requested by the Public Health Department.

Camping and Caravan Sites

Five individual caravans have been licensed to stand in private gardens and there is one site for six caravans.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

The following table summarises inspections during the year:-

<u>Description</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Informal Notices</u>	<u>Statutory Notices</u>
Drainage	231	-	-
Factories, workshops and Bakehouses	10	-	-
Butchers Shops	73	-	-
Food Shops	570	-	-
Dairies	2	-	-
Restaurants and Hotels	95	-	-
Verminous and Filthy Premises	12	-	-
Housing	188	-	-
Nuisances	111	-	-
Infectious Diseases	-	-	-
Rats and Mice	65	-	-
Refuse Collection	10	-	-
Nightsoil	1	-	-
Water Supply	2	-	-
Offices and Shops	62	-	-
Clean Air Act	10	-	-
Caravans	3	-	-
Animal Boarding Establishments	1	-	-

Disinfestation and disinfection

One Council dwelling was fumigated as a precautionary measure and another dwelling was cleared of filth.

Milk Supply

There is no change in the number of Milk distributors in the area. No complaints were received and generally speaking a high standard was observed by the dairies and distributors.

Ice Cream

Due to the consistently high quality of ice cream sampled last year it was thought to be unnecessary to take routine samples, but where the food hygiene conditions of a particular shop are in doubt samples are taken.

Food Inspections and Condemnation

Food premises are kept clean and are well maintained. A few shops have been redesigned to give improved lighting and service facilities, all of which help towards better food hygiene.

Modern washing facilities at the new toilets in the Market centre have assisted the enforcement of better personal hygiene among food handlers on Market Stalls.

The following foods were condemned:-

- 64½lbs. minced pork
- 10 lbs. corned beef
- 5 lbs. tinned tomatoes
- 10 lbs. tinned gherkins
- 7½lbs. cooking fat
- 12 lbs. margarine
- 2½lbs. lard
- 9 lbs. pork sausages
- 2 lbs. beef sausages
- 2 lbs. beef chipolates
- 18 lbs. pork pies
- 1 lb. pork chipolatas
- 6 lbs. tinned ox tongue
- 4 lbs. pressed ham.
- 5 lbs. skinless sausages

Meat Inspection

There are no slaughter houses in the town. Meat is inspected periodically in shops.

Agriculture Act 1956

Gang Labour as such was not operating in the district during the year.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act

Out of a possible 206 premises which could be registered in the town only 80 registered.

FACTORIES ACTS 1961

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	10	24	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	32	36	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding workers premises)	-	-	-	-
	42	60	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	No. of cases in which Prosecutions Instituted
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not excluding offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
	2	2	-	2	-

There is one out-worker in the district, making wearing apparel.
(S.133(1)(c)).

I would like to thank all members of the staff of the District Council and the Health Office for their help in producing this report.

I have the honour to be
Your obedient Servant,

Lydia McMurdo, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS OF WATER

14th August 1965.

Cert No.Q.1215
Lab. No.8227/W

Sample received 5th August 1964 from East Dereham U.D.C.

Marked Public Supply O/N1294 J.

Appearance when received Clear

Nature of Deposit Nil

Colour Nil

Odour Faintly chlorinous

Reaction Faintly alkaline pH 7.7

Taste Satisfactory

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN PARTS PER MILLION

<u>Ammoniacal nitrogen</u>	neg trace	<u>Hardness as CaCO₃:</u>	
<u>Albuminoid nitrogen</u>	nil	<u>Total</u>	260
<u>Nitrate nitrogen</u>	nil	<u>Carbonate (temporary)</u>	235
<u>Chlorine as chlorides</u>	28	<u>Non-carbonate (permanent)</u>	25
<u>Oxygen absorbed</u> (4 hr., 27°C.)	0.02	<u>Alkalinity as CaCO₃</u>	235
<u>Fluorine</u>	0.85	<u>Free carbon dioxide</u>	15
		<u>Total solids (180°C)</u>	345
		<u>Iron (total)</u>	0.12
		<u>Metals in solution</u>	nil

OPINION

The organic quality of this water is very good and there is no chemical evidence of pollution. The total hardness is about 18°Clark, almost all of which is temporary. The reaction of the water is well on the alkaline side of neutrality and this water would not be expected to have any solvent action on metals.

The fluorine content is above average for East Anglian waters and is a little higher than we found in the sample submitted in May 1963 (our Certificate No.P.817).

In our opinion this water is suitable for use as a public supply.

for Lincolne Sutton and Wood Ltd.,
(signed) Eric C. Wood.



