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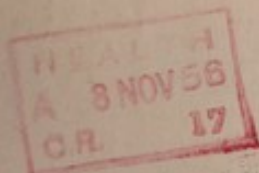
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HARTISMERE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR 1955.



OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health.

K.M. HARDING, M.D., D.P.H., A.K.C.

Senior Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer.

H. SPINDLER, Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.

Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector.

G.H. GRAYSTON, Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.

Additional Public Health Inspector.

H. FELL, Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.

Assistant Housing Officer and Additional Public Health Inspector.

N.J. WHITE, Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.

COMMITTEES CONCERNED WITH MATTERS OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------|---|
| Water Committee | - - - | Council's water undertakings. |
| Housing Committee | - - - | Improvement of housing amenities under Housing Act, 1949. Provision of housing accommodation by the Council and also by private enterprise. |
| Public Health Committee | - | Sewerage, refuse collection, rodent control, and all other public health functions. |

To the Chairman and Members of the Hartismere Rural
District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report
of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1955.

The estimated population is stationary. The
Standardised Birth Rate has decreased, but it is still
at a higher level than the rate for England and Wales.
The Infant Mortality Rate is slightly lower than the
rate for the country as a whole.

There were 187 deaths in 1955, compared with 185
in 1954. The Standardised Death Rate (8.78) compares
very favourably with the Death Rate for England and
Wales. There was no significant change this year in
the numbers of deaths caused by the various diseases.

An epidemic of measles occurred in the Spring,
but no other notifiable infectious diseases reached
epidemic proportions.

Nine new cases of Tuberculosis occurred during
the year. Eight of these were cases of lung Tuberculosis
and one was a case of non-pulmonary Tuberculosis. Three
people died of Tuberculosis.

I should like to record my thanks to the Chairman
and Members of the Public Health Committee for their
encouragement and support. I have also to thank the
staff of the Public Health Department and of the Council
for their help at all times.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

K.M. HARDING

Medical Officer of Health

7th November, 1956.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area	96,486 acres.
Population	17,040
No. of inhabited houses	5,976
Rateable Value	£47,357.
Product of Penny Rate	£194. 13s. 9d.

2. VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate births	111	124	235
Illegitimate	6	1	7
Total births	<u>117</u>	<u>125</u>	<u>242</u>

Birth Rate.

Crude birth rate per 1,000 population	14.2
Comparability factor	1.17
Standardised birth rate	16.61
Birth rate England and Wales	15.0

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	5	4	9
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>9</u>

Still Birth Rate.

Still birth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	35.9
Still birth rate England and Wales	23.1

Infant Mortality (Deaths of children under 1 year)

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	4	2	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>

Infant Mortality Rate.

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	24.8
Infant Mortality Rate England and Wales	24.9

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	4	2	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
All causes	106	81	187
Crude death rate per 1,000 population		10.97	
Comparability factor		0.80	
Standardised death rate		8.78	
Death rate England and Wales		11.7	

The Registrar General has continued to supply a comparability factor, 0.80 by which the Crude Death Rate must be adjusted for comparison with other areas of the Country. As this factor is less than unity the Standardised, or corrected Death Rate is less than the Crude Death Rate. This indicates that Hartismere has a greater "weighting" of elderly persons than the average for the rest of the Country.

<u>Causes of Death.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>1955.</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>1954.</u>
Tuberculosis - respiratory	2	1	3	1
Syphilitic disease	1	-	1	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	2	2	-
Malignant neoplasm - stomach	3	5	8	5
Malignant neoplasm - lung, bronchus	4	1	5	4
Malignant neoplasm - breast	-	-	-	3
Malignant neoplasm - uterus	-	-	-	2
Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	10	21	20
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-	-
Diabetes	1	-	1	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	17	14	31	22
Coronary disease - angina	19	10	29	22
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2	4
Other heart disease	11	14	25	40
Other circulatory disease	5	-	5	12
Influenza	1	1	2	-
Pneumonia	3	3	6	5
Brönchitis	6	1	7	12
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	1	3	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2	3
Congenital malformations	1	2	3	2
Other defined and ill defined diseases	9	14	23	15
Motor vehicle accidents	3	-	3	1
All other accidents	-	-	-	4
Suicide	3	-	3	4
Total	<u>106</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>187</u>	<u>184</u>

Cancer.

There were 34 deaths from Cancer in 1955 compared with 34 in 1954.

Cancer Death Rate.

Hartismere	1.995 per 1,000 population
East Suffolk	1.97 per 1,000 population.

Vital Statistics - Summary for past 5 years.

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	England & Wales 1955
Population	17,190	17,180	17,080	17,030	17,040	
Live Births	284	233	236	270	242	
Crude birth rate per 1,000 population	16.5	13.56	13.8	15.85	14.2	
Standardised birth rate	20.13	16.5	16.8	18.54	16.61	15.0
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	8	6	7	4	6	
Infant Mortality Rate	28.2	25.7	29.7	14.85	24.8	24.9
Deaths	258	227	175	184	187	
Crude Death Rate	14.4	13.2	10.2	10.39	10.97	
Standardised Death Rate	11.52	10.56	8.16	8.3	8.78	11.7

Summary of Principal Causes of Death for past 5 Years.

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Diseases of Cardiac and Circulatory System (including Cerebral Haemorrhage)	141	127	101	100	92
Cancer	31	39	31	34	34
Diseases of Respiratory System (excluding Tuberculosis)	21	15	7	18	16
Tuberculosis - all forms	6	6	1	1	1
Suicide and Violent Causes	8	7	9	9	6

Monthly Notification of Notifiable Disease (excluding Tuberculosis).

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever	3	1	4	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-		11
Whooping Cough	3	1	1	1	-	-	1	1	3	6	7	3	27
Measles	2	6	36	2	22	15	1	3	-	-	2	-	89
Poliomyelitis - non paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Acute Pneumonia	4	2	1	1	-	-	1	3	2	1	1	1	17
Total	12	10	42	4	23	17	4	7	8	7	10	4	148

Notifiable Diseases - Age Distribution.

	0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65-	Total
Scarlet Fever	-	1	-	7	3	-	-	-	-	11
Whooping Cough	1	3	8	13	2	-	-	-	-	27
Measles	2	16	17	49	3	-	1	-	1	89
Poliomyelitis - non paralytic	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Puerperal Tyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Acute Pneumonia	-	1	1	6	1	3	4	-	1	17
Total	3	21	26	77	9	3	7	-	2	148

Notifiable Diseases - Summary for past 5 years.

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Scarlet Fever	21	4	5	18	11
Whooping Cough	146	40	45	92	27
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	96	172	56	69	89
Acute Pneumonia	8	14	1	11	17
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	1	2	1	-	2
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	1	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	4	1	1	2
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	1	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	8	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	1	2	-	-
Malaria	-	-	1	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	6	1	1	-	-

4. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION. (figures kindly supplied by
the County Medical Officer)

No. of children receiving primary immunisation - 209
No. of children receiving Booster injections - 104

5. TUBERCULOSIS

	<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>		<u>Total.</u>
	<u>Pulm.</u>	<u>Non-Pulm.</u>	<u>Pulm.</u>	<u>Non-Pulm.</u>	
Cases on register at 1.1.55.	36	14	26	13	89
Primary Notifications	6	-	2	1	9
Transfers in	4	-	1	-	5
Total	46	14	29	14	103
<u>Cases taken off Register in 1955</u>					
Deaths	3	-	1	-	4
Recovered	2	2	1	1	6
Removed from District	2	-	2	-	4
Re-diagnosed Non T.B.	-	1	-	-	1
Total removed	7	3	4	1	15
No. of cases remaining on register at 31.12.55.	39	11	25	13	88

Notification Rates.

Pulmonary (Hartismere) 0.47 per 1,000 population.
Pulmonary (East Suffolk) 0.39 per 1,000 population.
Non-Pulmonary (Hartismere) 0.35 per 1,000 population.
Non-Pulmonary (East Suffolk) 0.13 per 1,000 population.

Tuberculosis - Statistical Summary for Past 5 Years.

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Number added to Register by Primary Notification.					
(a) Pulmonary	10	17	10	8	8
(b) Non-Pulmonary	2	3	4	6	1
Total No. added to Register	14	20	16	18	14

6. WATER SUPPLY.

(a) Construction Works.

During the year mains were laid in Fressingfield, Oakley, Hoxne, Thrandeston, Bedingfield, Kenton, Thornham, Mellis, Wortham, Redgrave and Rishengles.

(b) Water Examinations.

Well Water - 1 sample was taken and this was satisfactory.

Mains - 16 routine samples were submitted for examination all these were satisfactory.

(c) Well Water Cyanosis.

During the year 14 samples were taken - 8 of these were found to be safe and 6 unsafe (this figure includes four which were termed as doubtful). The families concerned in the unsafe cases were warned and advised about obtaining an alternative supply.

7. SEWERAGE.

Fressingfield and Weybread - Work on this scheme was almost completed.

Palgrave - A tender for the laying of sewers in the village was obtained and accepted by the Council, with a starting date early in 1956.

Cotton - A scheme for 8 Council houses was commenced and completed and a scheme for a further 8 houses was commenced.

Redlingfield - A scheme for 9 Council houses was commenced and completed.

Mendham (Withersdale Street), Wetheringsett, Burgate - Drainage schemes for these Council houses were prepared.

8. HOUSING.

New Housing

During the year 63 Council houses were built.

9. MILK DEALERS LICENCES.

Pasteurised Milk - 15 licences were issued.

Tuberculin Tested Milk - 14 licences were issued.

Sterilised Milk - 1 licence was issued.

10. MILK SAMPLING:

No. of samples taken by East Suffolk County Council - 72.
No. containing Tuberculosis organisms - 6.
No. containing Brucella organisms - 1.

11. FOOD INSPECTION.

During the year the 3 licensed slaughterhouses continued operations on a small scale. 140 cattle, 1 calf and 93 pigs were killed and 100% inspection of carcasses was carried out. Only one whole carcass (the calf) was condemned and in only 7 other cases were parts of carcasses condemned. As indicated by these figures the quality of the meat handled was very high.

12 lbs of canned meats were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

12. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - Section 47.

Two elderly men who were living alone and who were in need of care and attention were removed to hospital under the provisions of this Act.

13. FACTORIES ACT 1937 and 1948.

Number of factories with mechanical power - 46.
Number of factories without mechanical power - 5.
Other premises - building sites etc. - 47.
Number of inspections made - 43.
Number of defects found - 4.
Number of defects remedied - 4.