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HARTISMERE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

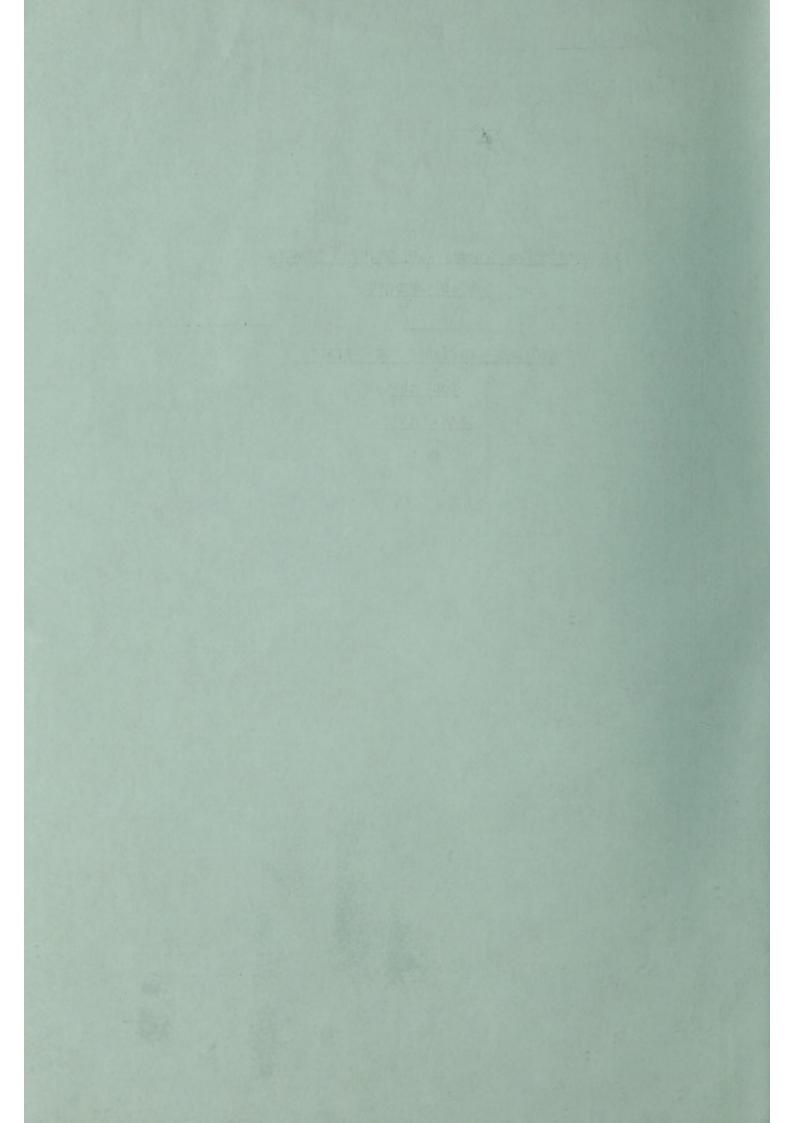
of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR 1970.





OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

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

Chief Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer

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

Additional Public Health Inspector

K. RICHARDSON, M.A.P.H.I.

COMMITTEES CONCERNED WITH MATTERS OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Public Health & Sewerage Committee......Sewerage, Refuse Collection,

Rodent Control, Caravans and all other Public Health

Functions.

Housing Committee......Provision and Improvement

of housing accommodation. (Council property.)

Building Regulations. (Private property.)

To the Chairman and Members of Hartismere Rural District Council

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1970.

There is little change in the statistical tables and no special matters therein to which your attention should be drawn. No significant changes have occurred since 1969 in the causes of death.

Infectious diseases: Measles was again prevalent. No other notifiable diseases reached epidemic proportions.

Tetanus immunisation: In recent years your Public Health Committee has brought to the notice of the Public the advantages of immunisation against Tetanus. Although not a major cause of death Tetanus continues to kill a number of people each year. It has been difficult to discover the exact number of cases of Tentanus occurring in the country as a whole, but it is estimated to be between 100 and 200 each year. In the three year period 1966-68 there were 399 cases and 49 people died as a result of contracting Tetanus. From reading descriptions of recent cases of Tetanus one soon realises that it often follows a quite trivial injury. A little boy of 6 fell and grazed his knee whilst playing in the street, a man cut himself whilst pruning a tree, a housewife grazed her leg on a bucket in the yard, a boy cut his toe on a piece of glass, two gardeners fell and grazed their legs ... all of these people contracted Tetanus. They all needed prolonged hospital treatment, some had to be put into respirators because their breathing muscles had become paralysed, some were left permanently disabled with difficulty in moving some part of the body such as arms or legs.

Tetanus can be picked up in any part of the country, but in a rural community such as Hartismere we are especially at risk because the soil is known to be heavily contaminated with Tetanus spores.

Tetanus immunisation is simple and painless. Two injections spaced over 6 weeks provide protection for a year. At the end of this time a further injection provides protection for a further period of 5 years. These immunisations are available from family doctors.

Matters of Housing and Food Inspection form a considerable proportion of the work of the Public Health department. Caravan sites have to be visited. nuisances and pollutions investigated, and inquiries made into cases of Food poisoning and various infectious diseases. The Refuse Collection Service also has to be supervised and additional work with regard to the disposal of dumped derelict motor cars undertaken.

In this connection it is my duty to bring once again to your notice my opinion that the present staff of Public Health Inspectors is inadequate to deal with all the statutory and other duties for which the Public Health Department is responsible. Corners have inevitably to be cut and the Public provided with an inadequate service. The size of the population of Hartismere is not as yet unduly large, but the area covered and the number of parishes is. Much of the officers' time is taken up in travelling from one job to the next. In a small compact area we could no doubt manage with the present establishment, but it is an impossible task to run the Department efficiently with the present number of staff.

Yours faithfully,

K. M. HARDING.

Medical Officer of Health.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS

Area 96,486 acres
Population 16,230
No. of inhabited houses 6,148
Rateable Value £346,815.
Product of a Penny Rate. £1,400.

2. VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	112	108	220
Illegitimate	6	9	15
Total	118	117	235

Birth Rate

Crude birth rate per 1,000 population	14.1
Area Comparability factor	1.14
Local adjusted birth rate	16.5
Birth Rate England and Wales	16.0
Ratio of local adjusted birthrate to national rate	1.03: 1.00
Illegitimate live hirths as % of all live hirths	6%

Still Births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	2	4	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	2	4	_6

Still Birth Rate

Still Birth	Rate	per 1,000 live & still births	25.00
Still Birth	Rate	England & Wales.	13.00

Infant Mortality (Deaths of children under 1 year.)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate		-	-
Total	2	1	3

Infant Mortality Rate

Infant Mortality	rate per 1,	,000 lives births	13.00
Infant Mortality	rate Englan	nd & Wales.	18.00

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	1	1	2

Deaths

	Males	Females	Total
All causes	108	87	195
Crude death rate per 1,000 population Area comparability factor Local adjusted death rate Death rate England & Wales	1		12.00 .85 10.2 11.7
Ratio of local adjusted death rate to national rate			.87: 1.00

Causes	of	death

Value of the total	Males	Females	Total 1970	Total 1969
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	1		2	10 m
Malignant neoplasm - stomach	1	2	6	1
" - Lung & bronchus	6	2	8	12
" - breast	_	1	1	1
" - Oesophagus	1	_	1	2
" - Intestine	2	3	5	5
" - Prostate	2	-	2	í
Other Malignant Neoplasms	5	3	8	9
Multiple Sclerosis	í		1	
Other endocrine etc. diseases	_	1	1	1
Other diseases of nervous system	_	111112	10-2100	5
Hypertensive disease	2	2	4	4
Ischaemic heart disease	31	23	54	46
Other forms of heart disease	2	4	6	14
Cérebro vascular disease	14	9	23	24
Other diseases of circulatory system	3	7	10	9
Influenza	1	4	5	3
Pneumonia	13	7	20	16
Bronchitis and emphysema	5	2	7	9
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	2	2
Peptic ulcer	1	1	2	3
Other diseases of digestive system	2 20	1.	1	3
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	-	-	7 6 P 10 10	1
Congenital anomalies	1	1	2	3
Birth injury, difficult labour	1	1	2	1
Other Causes of perinatal mortality	-	-		1
Chronic Rheumatic heart disease	-	1	1	2
Intestinal Obstruction & hernia	-	1	1	1
Nephritis & Nephrosis	-	1	1	1
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2	4
All other accidents	3		3	2
Other diseases genito-urinary system	-	1	1	1
Suicide & Self-inflicted injuries	-	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasms - Buccal Cavity	1	1	2	-
" - Larynx	-	1	1	-
Benign and Unspecified neoplasm	1	-	1	-
Diabetes Mellitus	1	2	3	-
Hyperplasm of Prostate	3	-	3	-
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	-	2	2	-
All other external causes	1	1	2	
	_			_
	108	87	195	188

Vital statistics - Summary for past 5 years.

England & Wales - 1970.

L				-			
	Population	16,100	16,160	16,260	16,260	16,230	
75 3 77 7	Live Births	198	238	243	230	235	
	Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population	12.30	14.7	14.9	14.1	14.1	
	Locally adjusted Birth Rate.	14.02	16.76	16.99	16.1	16.5	16.0
	Deaths of infants under 1 year	9	9	5	5	3	
,	Infant Mortality Rate	30.30	25.21	21.0	22.0	13.0	18.0
	Deaths	192	182	187	188	194	
	Crude Death Rate	11.93	11.3	11.5	11.6	12,00	
	Locally adjusted Death Rate	10.26	9.72	9.54	9.6	10.2	7.11
1				-		-	

Monthly Notification of Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)

Jan. Feb. Mar. Apr. May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.

Total

Total	Infective Hepatitis	Salmonella	Measles	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Opthalmia Neonotorum	
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
6	1	1	5	-	-	1	
13	1	1	11		2		
23	1	1	τ	1	1	1	
5	3	1	-	-	1	1	
22	1	1	21	1	1	,	
21	-	-	21	-	-	1	
10	1	-	10	1	-	1	
2	1	-	2	-	-	1	
1	-	-	-	-	-		
1	1	1	-	1	ı	1	
1	1		1	1	1		
82	4	1	71	1	5	1	

Notifiable Diseases - Age Distribution

Total

-59

45-

25-

15-

10-

7

4

4

0

	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Salonella	Infective Hepatitis	Total
	1	-		3	-	1	т
-	•	•	-	9	-	-	9
		2	-	10	1	•	13
	-	3	-	147		1	50
	-	-		2		1	2
	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
	-	1	-	2	1	6	5
	-	1.	1	1	1	1	1
	1	1	1	1	1	1	-
	1	5	_	77	1	4	82
	The second second				Marine .		

Notifiable Diseases - Summary for past 5 years.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Salmonella	Infective Hepatitis	Food Poisoning	Typhoid	Paratyphoid	Smallpox	Encephalitis	Poliomyelitis	Measles	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	
-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	161	-	5	6	1966
-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	177	-	14	-	1967
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	82	-	2	6	1968
-	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	72	-	-	1	1969
1	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	71	-	-	5	1970

4. VACCINATIONS AND IMMUNISATIONS (figures kindly supplied by the County Medical Officer.)

(a) Vaccinations against Smallpox

(b) Immunisations

	Primary	Booster
Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis/Polio	-	-
Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis	169	63
Diphtheria/Pertussis	-	-
Diphtheria/Tetanus	1	141
Diphtheria	=	-
Pertussis	-	-
Tetanus	51	72
Salk Poliomyelitis	2	2
Sabin Poliomyelitis	176	183
Measles	-	-
Rubella	44	-

5. TUBERCULOSIS

	Mal Pulm.	Non.Pulm.		ales on-Pulm.	Total
Cases on Register at					
1.1.70	14	5	11	9	39
Primary Notifications	1	-	-	-	1
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-
	15	5	11	9	40
Cases taken off Register in 1970					
Deaths	4	5	4	7	20
Recovered			-	_	_
Removed from District	-	_	-	-	-
Re-diagnosed non T.B.	-	-	-	-	-
Total removed	4	5	4	7	20
No. of cases remaining on Register at 31.12.70.	11	-	7	2	20

Tuberculosis - Statistical Summary for Past 5 years.

1966

1967

1968 1969

1970.

	Total number added to Register	Number added to Register by Primary Notifications - (a) Pulmonary (b) Non-Pulmonary	
-	1	1 1	
	2	1	
	4	1 3	
	. 2	1 10	
	1	I P	

6. REFUSE COLLECTION AND TREATMENT

A weekly refuse collection service is operational in the larger villages of a more concentrated development. In the smaller more scattered villages a fortnightly collection service is available.

The service is carried out by four vehicles, two of the compression loading type having a crew of four men each and two of the 'fore-and-aft' tipping type with a crew of two men each.

One vehicle is engaged for one day per week in the Borough of Eye.

All refuse is now processed at the Pulverisation Plant on the Council's Depot site at Brome.

Besides an intake of 24,324 cu. yds. of crude refuse collected within Hartismere, refuse is also accepted from four other authorities as follows:- (the figures given are for the financial year ending March 1971)

The total processed for this year being 53,015 cu. yds.

In addition to the domestic refuse accepted, trade waste is disposed of and an appropriate rate charged.

Bulky domestic refuse and derelict car bodies will always be accepted at the depot.

Phase III of the Brome site was authorised by the Department of the Environment on 16th November 1970 and should be operational in the autumn of 1971. This phase includes a sewage sludge concentration and press plant and facilities for mixing concentrated sludge with pulverised refuse.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The sewage disposal works serving Finningham, Cotton and Wickham Skeith was completed in 1970.

The works for Thorndon and Occold was started.

8. HOUSING

Summary of Housing Activities:-

Number of houses inspected	19
Number of houses found	
unsatisfactory	19
Number rendered fit by:	
(a) informal action	Nil
(b) action under Public Health Act	Nil
(c) action under Housing Act	8
Number of Demolition Orders made	10
Number of Closing Orders made	7
Number of Informal Undertakings made	2
Houses erected	
Private58	
Council 8	
Number of Improvement Grants made - Discretionary	41
Standard	71

9. FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

82 inspections of food premises were made during the year.

Ice Cream premises registered under the Act......14.

10. POULTRY PACKING STATIONS

Number of Poultry Processing Premises within the district - 4.

Total number of birds processed during the year - 2,806,816

Per centage of birds condemned as unfit for human consumption - .9%.

Details of Poultry Killed and Rejected by Processors in the District.

	Chickens	<u>Hens</u>	Broilers & Capons	Turkeys	Geese	Ducks	<u>Total</u>
Killed	1,156,148	1,084,359	10,066	28,054	28,136	500,052	2,806,816
Reject- ed	15,884	9,403	181	210	15	150	25,843

11. WATER SUPPLY

Water Examination

Well Water - Shallow Wells 2: Bore Wells 1: Samples taken from these were all found to be satisfactory.

Mains Supply - Routine samples were taken in different parishes.

All reports showed the findings to be excellent.

Well Water Cyanosis

During the year the County Medical Officer notified cases of women due to be confined:-

- (a) No. of notifications received..... 4
- (b) No. not receiving mains water..... 1

This was investigated and as a result a sample was taken and submitted for a report on Nitrate Content and found to be satisfactory.

12. MILK DEALERS LICENCES

There are now eight licences issued by the County Council under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963, enabling persons to sell pre-packed milk from an approved source in this district.

MILK SAMPLING

Statutory-19 samples taken.Chemical Analysis-3 Samples taken.Biologicals-16 samples taken.Antibiotics-18 samples taken.

In all cases the results were satisfactory.

14. FOOD INSPECTION

133 cattle were killed in the one licensed slaughter house during the year and 100% inspection of carcases was carried out. No carcases were condemned which again shows the first class quality of meat handled.

The following foodstuffs were condemned during the year:-

12 lbs. Bovine liver - Abscess.

48 lbs. Bovine liver - liver fluke.

15. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - Section 47.

No action was taken under this Act.

16. FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

No.	of	factories 5	3
No.	of	inspections made 4	0
		defects found	

17. CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967

Action was taken under this Act to remove from the district 22 abandoned vehicles.

No. of Vehicles Abandoned				red	No. of Vehicles reclaimed by Owner.	
Wreck Runner	Wreck 7	Runner	Wreck:	Runner -	Wreck	Runner -

18. RODENT CONTROL

Type of Property

		Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1.	No. of properties in the district	5281	1341
2.	(a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification (b) Number infested by (i) Rats (ii) Mice	285 249 36	39 39 -
3.	 (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification. (b) Number infested by (i) Rats (ii) Mice 	376 361 15	136 136

