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HARTISMERE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR 1972.





OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

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

Chief Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer.

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

Additional Public Health Inspector

T. R. GIBBONS, M.A.P.H.I.

COMMITTEES CONCERNED WITH MATTERS OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Public Health & Sewerage Committee.....	Sewerage, Refuse Collection, Septic Tank Emptying Service, Rodent Control, Caravans and all other Public Health Functions.
Housing Committee.....	Provision and Improvement of housing accommodation. (Council property.)
Building Plans Committee.....	Improvement Grants. 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 1972.

Vital Statistics:

There was a reduction in the number of births and a consequent fall in the local adjusted birth rate to 15.5 (National figure 14.8).

No stillbirths occurred during the year.

There were fewer deaths in young children under the age of 1 year and the Infant Mortality Rate dropped from 23.00 to 14.00 (national figure 17.00).

There was a reduction in the total number of deaths and the local adjusted death rate dropped to 10.9 (National rate 12.1).

There were no significant changes in the table of causes of death.

51.2% of all deaths occurred in persons aged 75 years or over.

Infectious Diseases:

There were no serious outbreaks of notifiable infectious diseases.

Housing:

A comprehensive survey of houses in the district was carried out at the request of the Department of Environment and a copy of this is included in the report.

It will also be seen that there were increases in the number of new private and new Council houses built during 1972.

Poultry Packing Stations:

2,894,174 birds were processed in the 4 Poultry Processing Premises during the year. Only 1.01% birds were condemned as being unfit for human consumption.

In conclusion I should like to express my appreciation of the co-operation and assistance of Mr. Spindler and the staff of the Public Health Department during the year under review.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

K. M. HARDING

Medical Officer of Health.

3rd August, 1973.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	96,486 acres
Population	15,850
No. of inhabited houses	6,308
Rateable Value	£364,742.00
Product of a new penny rate	£3,365.00

2. VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	104	98	202
Illegitimate	4	8	12
	<u>108</u>	<u>106</u>	<u>214</u>

Birth Rate

Crude birth rate per 1,000 population	13.5	
Area Comparability factor	1.15	
Local adjusted birth rate	15.5	
Birth Rate England and Wales	14.8	
Ratio of local adjusted birthrate to national rate	1.05	1.00
Illegitimate live births as % of all live births	6%	

<u>Still Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Still Birth Rate

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live & still births	-
Still Birth Rate England & Wales	12.0

Infant Mortality (Deaths of children under 1 year)

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>

Infant Mortality Rate

Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births under 1 year	14.00
Infant Mortality rate England & Wales	17.00

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

Deaths

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
All causes	108	99	207

Crude death rate per 1,000 population	13.1
Area comparability factor	.83
Local adjusted death rate	10.9
Death rate England & Wales per 1,000 population	12.1
Ratio of local adjusted death rate to national rate	.90: 1.00.

<u>Causes of death</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>1972</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>1971</u>
Malignant Neoplasm - Buccal Cavity	1	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Oesophagus	2	1	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	2	1	3	4
Malignant Neoplasm - Intestine	4	4	8	6
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung Bronchus	8	4	12	11
Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	-	4	4	6
Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	-	2	2	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Prostate	2	-	2	1
Leukaemia	-	1	1	3
Other Malignant Neoplasms	8	4	12	6
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	-	-	-	1
Diabetes Mellitus	1	3	4	1
Other Endocrine etc., diseases	-	-	-	2
Anaemias	-	2	2	-
Other Diseases of Nervous System	1	-	1	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	-	1	1
Hypertensive Disease	3	2	5	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease	40	16	56	48
Other Forms of Heart Disease	3	6	9	10
Cerebrovascular Disease	6	19	25	35
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	1	4	5	9
Influenza	-	1	1	-
Pneumonia	13	13	26	24
Bronchitis and Emphysema	5	-	5	6
Asthma	-	1	1	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	1	1	1
Peptic Ulcer	1	2	3	2
Appendicitis	1	-	1	-
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	-	-	-	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	-	-	-	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	2	3	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	-	1	1	3
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	2	2	3
Congenital Anomalies	-	-	-	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	1	1	2	4
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	-	-	-	2
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2	4
All other Accidents	-	1	1	1
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	-	-	-	1
All other external causes	-	-	-	1
Other Diseases of Blood etc.	1	-	1	-
	108	99	207	212

Vital statistics - Summary for past 5 years.

England & Wales - 1972.

	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	
Population	16,260	16,260	16,230	15,860	15,850	
Live Births	243	230	235	220	214	
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population	14.9	14.1	14.1	13.9	13.5	
Locally adjusted Birth Rate	16.99	16.1	16.5	15.8	15.5	14.8
Deaths of infants under 1 year	5	5	3	5	3	
Infant Mortality Rate	21.0	22.0	13.0	23.0	14.0	17.0
Deaths	187	188	194	212	207	
Crude Death Rate	11.5	11.6	12.0	13.4	13.1	
Locally adjusted Death Rate	9.54	9.6	10.2	11.4	10.9	12.1

Monthly Notification of Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)

	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Apr.</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	2	6
Measles	1	-	-	-	1	-	3	5	1	2	-	-	13
Infective Hepatitis	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total	1	1	-	-	1	-	3	5	3	3	1	2	20

Notifiable Diseases - Age Distribution

	0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65-	Total
Scarlet Fever	-	-	2	3	-	1	-	-	-	6
Measles		1	3	9	-	-	-	-	-	13
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Total	-	1	5	12	-	1	-	1	-	20

Notifiable Diseases - Summary for past 5 years.

	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972.</u>
Scarlet Fever	6	-	5	1	6
Whooping Cough	2	-	-	30	-
Measles	82	72	71	103	13
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	2	-
Infective Hepatitis	1	5	4	-	1
Salmonella	-	1	1	2	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	1	-	-

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

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Booster</u>
Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis	148	35
Diphtheria/Tetanus	5	118
Tetanus	13	95
Salk Poliomyelitis	-	-
Sabin Poliomyelitis	153	196
Measles	137	-
Rubella	10	-

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 1.1.72.	10	-	8	2	20
Primary Notifications	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-
	10	-	8	2	20
<u>Cases taken off</u>					
<u>Register in 1971</u>					
Deaths	-	-	-	-	-
Recovered	1	-	-	1	2
Removed from District	-	-	-	-	-
Re-diagnosed non-T.B.	-	-	-	-	-
Total removed	1	-	-	1	2
No. of cases remaining on Register at 31.12.71.	9	-	8	1	18

Tuberculosis - Statistical Summary for Past 5 Years.

	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
Number added to Register by Primary Notifications --					
(a) Pulmonary	3	2	1	1	-
(b) Non-Pulmonary	1	-	-	-	-
Total number added to Register	4	2	1	1	-

6. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The sewers and sewage disposal works for the villages of Brome and Oakley were completed during the year.

Sewerage schemes for Bedfield and Worlingworth and Wetheringsett-cum-Brockford were commenced.

Tenders were approved for the sewerage schemes to Mendham and Withersdale Street.

7. HOUSING

Survey of Condition of existing housing

As requested in Circular 50/72 from the Department of the Environment, a complete survey was carried out during the summer of every house in the area.

The results of this survey are set out below.

	<u>No. of Dwellings.</u>	
	<u>Owned by</u>	<u>Other</u>
	<u>Local</u> <u>Authority</u>	<u>Ownership</u>
<u>Estimates of condition of housing stock in mid 1972.</u>		
<u>Unfit Dwellings</u>		
1. In areas already declared under Part III Housing Act 1957	Nil	Nil
2. In other areas to be declared under Part III Housing Act 1957	Nil	Nil
3. Not in Part II areas	Nil	169
4. Total of unfit dwellings (Items 1 plus 2 plus 3)	Nil	169*
<u>Dwellings not unfit</u>		
5. Up to 12-point standard	1,030	3,859
6. Capable of improvement to 12-point standard	26	1,083
7. Not capable of improvement to 12-point standard	Nil	Nil
Total dwellings in the area (Total of 4, 5 and 6 above.)	1,056	5,111

*Seventy of these have already been the subject of statutory action or are included in our present slum clearance programme.

More than 50% of the above are "owner-occupied."

The rate of inspections and consequent representation is unlikely to be increased because of staff shortages in the Department and the majority of those represented will, on vacation, be the subject of offers of works. The central areas of those villages which are sewered will probably be the first areas to be canvassed.

7. HOUSING (Cont.)

Summary of Housing Activities:-

Number of houses inspected.....	25
Number of houses found unsatisfactory.....	13
Number rendered fit by:	
(a) informal action.....	2
(b) action under Public Health Act.....	Nil
(c) action under Housing Act.....	Nil
Number of houses on which Demolition Orders were made.	9
Number of houses on which Closing Orders were made....	1
Number of houses on which Informal Undertakings were accepted.....	1
<u>Houses erected</u>	
Private.....	81
Council.....	39
<u>Number of Improvement Grants paid</u>	
Improvement.....	46
Standard.....	48

8. FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

71 inspections of food premises were made during the year, only a few minor contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations were brought to the attention of the proprietors.

Eight premises were added to those registered under Section 16 of the Act bringing the total to 38.

9. POULTRY PACKING STATIONS

Number of Poultry Processing Premises within the district	-	4
Total number of birds processed during the year	-	2,894,174.
Percentage of birds condemned as unfit for human consumption	-	1.01

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

	<u>Chickens</u>	<u>Hens</u>	<u>Capons</u>	<u>Turkeys</u>	<u>Geese</u>	<u>Ducks</u>	<u>Total</u>
Killed	1,368,664	674,974	83,000	67,326	20,210	680,000	2,894,174
Rejected	13,930	13,722	1,369	124	25	140	29,310

10. WATER SUPPLY

Water Examination

Wells and Private Bore Supplies

25 Samples were taken, of these 17 were found to be unsatisfactory involving 7 supplies.

Mains Supply

26 Routine samples were taken in different parishes.
All reports showed the finding 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..... 4

These were investigated and as a result samples were taken and submitted for reports on Nitrate Content and were found to be satisfactory.

11. 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.

12. MILK SAMPLING

Statutory - Special Designation - .. 23 samples taken.
Chemical Analysis..... 4 samples taken.
Biological 12 samples taken.
Antibiotics & Brucella
Abortis..... 12 samples taken.

In all cases the results were satisfactory.

13. FOOD INSPECTION

124 cattle were killed in the one licensed slaughter house during the year and 100% inspection of carcasses was carried out.

No carcasses were condemned which again shows the first class quality of meat handled.

The following foodstuffs were condemned during the year:-

120 lbs Bovine liver - Abscess.

14. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - Section 47.

No action was taken under this Act.

15. FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

No. of factories..... 54
 No. of inspections made..... 39
 No. of defects found..... -

16. CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967

Action was taken as follows:-

Number of vehicles abandoned..... 14
 Number removed by owner after
 service of notice..... 5
 Number removed by this Authority
 after expiry of 7-day notice..... 9

A large number of vehicles were brought to the depot by owners for disposal.

17. RODENT CONTROL

	<u>Type of Property</u>	
	<u>Non-Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
1. No. of properties in the district	4,954	1,336
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	314	47
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	290	47
(ii) Mice	24	-
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	392	147
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	341	147
(ii) Mice	51	-