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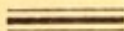
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**LEEK RURAL DISTRICT  
COUNCIL**



**Annual Report**

**for the Year ending  
31st December, 1953**



*By*

**H. KELSO WATSON**

*Medical Officer of Health*



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# LEEK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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## ANNUAL REPORT

For the  
YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1953

By  
H. KELSO WATSON,  
Medical Officer of Health

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### HEALTH COMMITTEE.

**Chairman:** Councillor R. G. Grindon.

**Vice-chairman:** Councillor Major T. Harvey.

**Members:** Councillors Rev. W. T. D. Attoe, G. Baker, J. Bennison, W. V. Bradbury, A. Buckley, T. W. Buxton, Robert W. Critchlow, W. E. Dawson, J. L. Findlow, F. H. Gordon, J. Harrison, H. Mear, L. Morrall, A. Mycock, T. Riley, Mrs. G. Sigley, P. Smith, G. V. Stanway, J. G. Stubbs and E. Titterton.

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### PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

**Medical Officer of Health.**

H. KELSO WATSON, M.B., Ch.B.

**Sanitary Inspector.**

D. K. PEDLEY, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,  
Certified Food Inspector.

**Additional Sanitary Inspector.**

K. C. BEETHAM



# REPORT

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area ... ..	72,623 acres
Number of inhabited houses ... ..	4,845
Rateable Value ... ..	63,720
Sum represented by penny rate ... ..	£248/11/9
Population ... ..	16,810
Number of persons per acre ... ..	.23

## INDUSTRIES

The main occupations of the inhabitants are farming and mining, but a substantial number of persons are employed in the silk mills in Leek, and in the quarries on the Derbyshire border.

## VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	135	109	244
Illegitimate	1	4	5
	<hr/> 136	<hr/> 113	<hr/> 249

Birth rate per 1,000 of the population—14.8

Stillbirths	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	5	6	11
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 6	<hr/> 11

Rate per 1,000 of the population—.65

Deaths (all ages)	M	F	TOTAL
	81	70	151

Death rate per 1,000 of the population—8.9

Deaths of Infants (Under 1 year)	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	4	3	7
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 7

Death rate per 1,000 live births—28.1

## TUBERCULOSIS

The table below shows the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year, and figures for the six preceding years are given for comparison purposes.

	Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Total (Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
<b>1953</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>254</b>
1952	106	80	186	27	30	57	133	110	243
1951	102	77	179	27	29	56	129	106	235
1950	99	74	173	31	30	61	130	104	234
1949	96	71	167	31	30	61	127	101	228
1948	78	66	144	31	29	60	109	95	204
1947	69	68	137	29	28	57	98	96	194

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The figures below show the Incidence of Infectious Diseases in 1953 in comparison to those of the three preceding years:

	1953	1952	1951	1950
Measles .....	54	254	102	166
Whooping Cough .....	35	39	30	10
Diphtheria .....	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia .....	4	8	12	8
Scarlet Fever .....	18	15	14	33
Erysipelas .....	2	—	1	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—
Dysentery .....	—	—	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	—	1	1	2
Paratyphoid Fever .....	—	—	—	—
Pneum. Meningitis .....	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	—	1	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	—	—	1	—
Food Poisoning .....	1	3	—	—
<b>Total Cases .....</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>221</b>

## Incidence of Infectious Diseases

Parishes	Measles	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Scarlet Fever	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning
Alstonefield				1		
Bagnall	3	7	1	2		
Bradnop	3					
Butterton	1					
Endon and Stanley	14	1				
Fawfieldhead						
Grindon	1					
Heathylee				3		
Heaton	2			2		
Hollinsclough						
Horton	2					
Ilam	1	1	1		1	
Leekfrith	12	1	1	1		
Longnor		1				
Longsdon	1			1		
Norton-in-the-Moors	9	6	1	5	1	
Onecote						
Quarnford				2		
Rushton	1			1		
Sheen						
Tittesworth	4	17				1
Warslow and Elkstones						
Wetton		1				
<b>Total</b> ... ..	54	35	4	18	2	1

## Months of Occurrence

January	8	1		3		
February	1		1	1		
March				1		
April	1	2		2		
May	4					
June	8	1		1		
July	17	7				
August	3	6			1	
September		1		3		
October	1		1	3		
November	1	7	1		1	
December	10	10	1	4		1
<b>Total</b> ... ..	54	35	4	18	2	1

## Age Incidence of Infectious Diseases

AGE GROUP	Measles		Whooping Cough		Pneumonia		Scarlet Fever		Erysipelas		Food Poisoning	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 Year	1											1
1—5 Years	17	16	18	11	1		4	4				
6—10 Years	5	10	2	2			3	7				
11—15 Years	4	1										
16—20 Years						1			1			
21—30 Years									1			
31—50 Years					1							
51—70 Years						1						
Over 70 Years												
TOTAL	27	27	20	15	2	2	7	11	2	—	—	1
TOTAL — Male and Female	54		35		4		18		2		1	



## Causes of Death in Leek Rural District 1953

Causes of Death	Males	Females
Tuberculosis, Respiratory ... ..	—	—
Tuberculosis, Other ... ..	—	—
Syphilitic disease ... ..	—	1
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—
Meningococcal infection ... ..	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—
Measles ... ..	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	2	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	2	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ... ..	—	1
Other malignant lymphatic neoplasms ...	8	6
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	—	2
Diabetes ... ..	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	14	15
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	11	5
Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	1	2
Other heart disease ... ..	19	9
Other circulatory disease ... ..	2	3
Influenza ... ..	—	1
Pneumonia ... ..	—	3
Bronchitis ... ..	4	1
Other disease of respiratory system ...	2	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	—	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	—	4
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	3	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	—
Congenital malformations ... ..	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	7	6
Motor Vehicle accidents ... ..	2	—
All other accidents ... ..	2	1
Suicide ... ..	—	—
Homicide and operations of war ... ..	—	—
Total—all causes ... ..	81	70

Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain infectious diseases in the year 1953. Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

	Leek R.D.C.	England and Wales	160 C. Bs and Great Towns including London	160 smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25000 - 50000 1951 Census	London Adm. County
Rates per 1,000 Home Population:—					
<b>Births</b>	14.8	15.5	17.0	15.7	17.5
Live Births ... ..	.65	{ 0.35	0.43	0.34	0.38
Still Births ... ..	42.3	{ 22.4(a)	24.8(a)	21.4(a)	21.0(a)
<b>Deaths</b>					
All Causes ... ..	8.9	11.4	12.2	11.3	12.5
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	0.00	0.00	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria ... ..	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Tuberculosis ... ..	—	0.20	0.24	0.19	0.24
Influenza ... ..	.06	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.15
Smallpox ... ..	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Acute Poliomyelitis including Polioencephalitis ... ..	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Pneumonia ... ..	.18	0.55	0.59	0.52	0.64
Rates per 1,000 Live Births:—					
<b>Deaths</b>					
All causes under 1 year of age ... ..	28.1	26.8(b)	30.8	24.3	24.8
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age ...	—	1.1	1.3	0.9	1.1
Rates per 1,000 Home Population:—					
<b>Notifications—(corrected)</b>					
Typhoid Fever ... ..	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Meningococcal infection ...	—	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1.1	1.39	1.50	1.44	1.02
Whooping Cough ... ..	2.1	3.58	3.72	3.38	3.30
Diphtheria ... ..	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Erysipelas ... ..	.12	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.12
Smallpox ... ..	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Measles ... ..	3.2	12.36	11.27	12.32	8.09
Pneumonia ... ..	.24	0.84	0.92	0.76	0.73
Acute poliomyelitis (in- cluding polioencephalitis)					
Paralytic ... ..	—	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.07
Non-paralytic ... ..	—	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03
Food poisoning ... ..	.06	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.38
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	18.23(a)	24.33(a)	12.46(a)	28.61(a)

(a) Per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

(b) Per 1,000 related live births



# Sanitary inspection of the Area—

## Summary of Visits

### HOUSING :

(A)	Building Licensing	...	...	...	...	14
(B)	Inspection for Defects	...	...	...	...	703
(C)	Council Houses	...	...	...	...	130
(D)	Council House Applicants	...	...	...	...	48
(E)	Repairs—Follow-up Visits	...	...	...	...	147
(F)	Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	67
(G)	Blackshaw Moor Camp	...	...	...	...	223
(H)	Housing and Building Inspections	...	...	...	...	225
						<hr/>
						1557
	Inspection of Premises for Nuisance	...	...	...	...	102
	Visits re Food Supply	...	...	...	...	30
	Visits re Milk Supply	...	...	...	...	15
	Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	25
	Knackers Yard	...	...	...	...	14
	New Drains Laid	...	...	...	...	57
	Drainage Inspections	...	...	...	...	156
	Conversions	...	...	...	...	22
	Sewage Works	...	...	...	...	75
	Conveniences	...	...	...	...	25
	Water Supplies—General	...	...	...	...	86
	Samples of Water Taken	...	...	...	...	52
	Eastern Area Water Scheme	...	...	...	...	28
	Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	76
	Nightsoil Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	78
	Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	19
	Fumigations	...	...	...	...	18
	Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	...	5
	Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	35
	Petroleum Stores	...	...	...	...	26
	Factories	...	...	...	...	28
	Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	...	36
						<hr/>
	Total	...	...	...	...	2565

### NOTICES SERVED

	Informal Notices	...	...	...	148
	Statutory Notices	...	...	...	4
(a)	Number of Nuisances Remedied				52
(b)	Number of defective dwellings rendered fit following service of Statutory and informal notices				43

## Water Supplies, Sewerage and Public Cleansing

Parish	Number of Houses	(a)	(b)	(c)
		Number of Houses with Piped water Supply	Number of Houses on Sewerage System	Number of Houses from which Nightsoil is removed
Alstonefield	121			67
Bagnall	290	200‡		57
Bradnop	89			19
Butterton	74	2		45
Endon and Stanley	569	499‡	305	93
Fawfieldhead	113			23
Grindon	75	15 ( + 3-std pipes ) x		18
Heathylee	81			6
Heaton	103			22
Hollinsclough	58			5
Horton	284	52§		36
Ilam	29			16
Leekfrith	136			23
Longnor	132	22*		122
Longsdon	211	106‡ + 9§		20
Norton-in-the-Moors	1810	1585‡	1105	647
Onecote	77			16
Quarnford	83			21
Rushton	190			49
Sheen	89			30
Tittesworth	40			15
Warslow and Elkstones	118			43
Wetton	73			48
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>4845</b>	<b>2490</b>	<b>1410</b>	<b>1441</b>

(a) § Council's supply from Leek U.D.C.

‡ Supplied by the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board

\* Supply gravitating from springs at Hollinsclough.

x Supply gravitating from small reservoir.

(b) Three sewage disposal Works—one serving the Parish of Endon and Stanley, and two in the Parish of Norton-in-the-Moors.

(c) Scheme undertaken by direct labour.



## Water Supplies

The water in the area has been generally satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

The following table gives a summary of the samples of water taken during the year. The percentage of unfit samples appears to be unduly high, but they cannot be assumed to be a true representation of the area as the majority of the samples were taken upon receipt of complaints by consumers who were suspicious of the appearance or palatability of their drinking water, or where the water was suggested as a proposed private supply.

	NUMBER OF SAMPLES TAKEN		RESULTS	
	For Bacteriological Examination	For Chemical Analysis	Fit	Unfit
Wells ... ..	8	7	2	6
Boreholes ... ..	3	4	2	2
Springs ... ..	13	12	1	12
Stream ... ..	3	2	—	3
Total ... ..	27	25	5	23

In no case did the chemical analyses reveal plumbo-solvent action of the water sampled.

Upon receipt of the results of water samples from the Laboratories copies of the reports are transmitted to the consumer and/or persons requesting the analysis, and advice given as to the treatment where an unsatisfactory report is received.

Particulars as to houses served by public water mains and stand-pipes are embodied in the table on the previous page.

### HORTON, LONGSDON AND RUDYARD WATER SCHEME

The scheme for the provision of a piped water supply for the parishes of Horton and Longsdon and part in the parish of Endon and Stanley which was commenced in December 1951 was completed during the year and by 31st December some 63 properties had been connected.

## **DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE**

No extensions to the sewage disposal works or sewers were carried out during the year.

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## **HOUSING.**

### **New Houses Erected During the Year.**

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(a)	By Local Authority—	Baddeley Green site	...	...	...	4
		Brown Edge site	...	...	...	30
(b)	By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	...	46
						—
						80

---

### **Control of Civil Building—Building Licences**

---

Number of Houses for which Private Building Licences	
have been granted by the Local Authority	...
	79
No. of Licences issued for Repairs, Adaptations, etc., to	
Property	...
	7

## Inspection of Dwelling Houses During the Year

---

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	672
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	703
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-heading (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	631
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	655
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	15
(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	555

### REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its Officers ... ..	43
--	----

### ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR

(a)	Proceedings under the Housing Act, 1936 ...	Nil
(b)	Proceedings under the Public Health Act, 1936	Nil
(c)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which an undertaking not to use a dwelling for human habitation was accepted (Housing Act, 1936) ... ..	Nil



# **FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948**

## **PART I OF THE ACT**

### **1.—INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities . . . . .	21	25		
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority . . . . .	12	12		
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ‡ (excluding out - workers' premises) . . . . .				
<b>TOTAL . . . .</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

### **2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND**

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) . . . .					
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) . . . . .					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) ..					
(a) insufficient . . . . .					
(b) Unsuitable or defective..					
(c) Not separate for sexes..					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) . . . . .					
TOTAL . . . .	—	—	—	—	—

‡ i.e. Electrical Stations [Section 103 (1)], Institutions (Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering construction (sections 107 and 108).

## **PART VIII OF THE ACT**

### **OUTWORK**

**(Sections 110 and 111)**

There were eleven outworkers notified during the year for the making of wearing apparel.



## PETROLEUM ACTS

Forty licences were issued for the storage of Petroleum spirit.

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## FOOD INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION

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### FOOD SHOPS AND PREPARING PREMISES

By-laws as to handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air are in operation in the Council's area. No contraventions of the by-laws have yet been brought to light.

There are 8 premises in the Area registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the manufacture of prepared meats.

Forty-one shops are registered under the Act for the sale of Ice Cream.

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### Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

One case of suspected food poisoning was notified during the year.

---

### MEAT—Carcases Inspected and Condemned—Nil.

There is no Regional - Controlled abattoir nor private slaughter houses licensed in the area.

## Meat and Other Foods

---

Number of Slaughterhouses Licensed	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of Knacker's Yards Licensed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of men holding licence to slaughter	...	...	...	...	...	53

## Weight of Foods Condemned

---

(a) Tinned Foods (Tinned Ham)	...	...	...	...	6lb.	4oz.
(b) Miscellaneous Foods	...	...	...	...	—	—
					6lb.	4oz.

---

## MILK SUPPLY.

---

### THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS AND THE SPECIAL DESIGNATION REGULATIONS.

(1)	(a) No. of Distributors	...	...	...	...	19
	(b) No. of Dairies (other than Dairy Farms)	...	...	...	...	5
(2)	No. of licences issued to sell—					
	(a) Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	7
	(b) Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	...	14
	(c) Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	9

H. KELSO WATSON

Medical Officer of Health.

D. K. PEDLEY

Sanitary Inspector.

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