

[Report 1963] / Medical Officer of Health, Lothingland R.D.C.

Contributors

Lothingland (Suffolk, England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1963

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LOTHINGLAND RURAL DISTRICT

COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND THE
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR

1963

COUNCIL OFFICES,
RECTORY ROAD,
LOWESTOFT,
SUFFOLK.



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

A.C. GEE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR,
PUBLIC CLEANSING OFFICER
and PETROLEUM OFFICER

R. GROAT, M.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR

G.J.L. HORNE, M.A.P.H.I., A.I.P.H.E.

Council Offices,
Rectory Road,
Lowestoft.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of the Lothingland Rural District for the year 1963.

There are no major changes in the vital statistics extracted from information supplied by the Registrar-General, other than to note that the mid-year estimated population has increased by 510 to 17,110. In general, the corrected birth and death rates compare favourably with those for England and Wales.

Notified infectious diseases were appreciably lower than in 1962 (184 against 247) due to a fall in the number of cases of measles from 227 to 154. There was a sporadic outbreak of food poisoning - not notified - at one of the local holiday camps affecting some of the staff, but fortunately this was discovered in the early stages. Prompt action by the public health staff and co-operation from the camp quickly contained the outbreak which subsided without complications.

Figures relating to the local health authority services administered from the Area Health Office are substantially as previously, with a steady but by no means sufficient demand for the various immunisations. Particularly in respect of diphtheria and smallpox, the numbers of young children inoculated remain low and it is clear that more propaganda must be used in endeavour to raise the numbers protected against these diseases. The home help service has continued at much the same level, with almost all the hours worked being for the aged and sick.

The report on the sanitary work is prepared by Mr. Groat, for whose help I have been grateful throughout the year. This report gives detailed information on many aspects of the Health Department's duties carried out under his supervision. In this, he has drawn attention under the paragraph on moveable dwellings to the increase in caravan and travelling holidaymakers in the area, with the consequent use of laybys for overnight or longer stops, which in turn gives rise to concern about the use - or misuse - of such stopping places.

I record my thanks to you, Mr. Chairman, and to the Members of the Council for the support given to me and for the interest shown in the various health services.

I am, your obedient servant,

ARTHUR C. GEE

August, 1964.

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area: 44,675 acres (Census, 1961)

Population, 1963: 17,110 (as estimated by the Registrar-General)

Population, Census 1961: 16,034

Number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1963: 6,221.

Rateable value as at 31st December, 1963: £441,101

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

	LOTHINGLAND					England and Wales rates
	Total	Male	Female	Crude rate	Ad- justed rate	
<u>Live Births</u>						
legitimate	253	139	114	-	-	-
illegitimate	15	7	8	-	-	-
total	268	146	122	-	-	-
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	-	-	-	15.7	16.6	18.2
<u>Stillbirths</u>						
legitimate	6	4	2	-	-	-
illegitimate	1	1	-	-	-	-
total	7	5	2	-	-	-
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	-	-	-	25.4	26.9	17.2
<u>Deaths of Infants</u>						
<u>under 1 year of age</u>						
legitimate	4	1	3	14.9	13.4	21.1
illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>under 4 weeks of age</u>						
legitimate	4	1	3	14.9	13.4	14.2
illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>under 1 week of age</u>						
legitimate	4	1	3	14.5	13.0	29.3
illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths from all causes	204	111	93	-	-	-
Death rate per 1,000 population	-	-	-	11.9	10.7	12.2

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	3	-
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	7	7	-
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1	-	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	25	12	13
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	-
Diabetes	3	2	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	32	17	15
Coronary disease, angina	47	25	22
Hypertension with heart disease	3	2	1
Other heart disease	31	12	19
Other circulatory disease	5	4	1
Pneumonia	15	9	6
Bronchitis	9	5	4
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	-
Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	2	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	12	6	6
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	2	1	1
Suicide	3	2	1
	<u>204</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>93</u>

All except 8 of the total number of deaths were in the age groups 45+, and 113 of these occurred in the age group 75+.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Measles	-	154
Whooping Cough	-	1
Scarlet Fever	-	12
Pneumonia	-	11
Tuberculosis	-	4
Poliomyelitis	-	1
Erysipelas	-	1

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Age Group born in:-

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1954-58</u>	<u>1949-53</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Primary</u>	80	106	3	1	-	-	-	190
<u>Booster</u>	-	9	4	2	1	191	5	212

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

	<u>0-3</u> <u>mths.</u>	<u>3-6</u> <u>mths.</u>	<u>6-9</u> <u>mths.</u>	<u>9-12</u> <u>mths.</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2-4</u>	<u>5-15</u>	<u>15 &</u> <u>over</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Primary</u> <u>vaccination</u>	16	10	13	3	6	3	2	6	59
<u>Re-</u> <u>vaccination</u>	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	22	29

TETANUS IMMUNISATION

Primary

1 - 15

15 & over

47

11

Boosters

All Ages - 10

HOME HELP SERVICE

	<u>No. of cases</u> <u>dealt with</u>	<u>Hours</u> <u>Worked</u>
Maternity	8	387
Chronic sick, aged and infirm	71	15,792
Number of Home Helps working at 31st December, 1963		24

TUBERCULOSIS

	<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Pul.</u>	<u>Non-Pul.</u>	<u>Pul.</u>	<u>Non-Pul.</u>	
Number of cases on the Register at 1.1.63	50	9	28	10	97
Number of cases added during the year	6	-	5	-	11
Number of cases removed during the year	-	-	1	1	2
Number of cases on the Register at 31.12.63	56	9	32	9	106

Cases Added to the Register

Cases Removed from the Register

New notifications	4	Recovered	Nil
Inward Transfers	7	Died	2
		Removed to other areas	Nil
	<u>11</u>		<u>2</u>

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1963

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present this Report upon the work of the Department during the year 1963.

HOUSING

Inspections were made of 165 houses and the following is the result of recommendations made and action taken in respect of this property:

Number of houses demolished and unfit houses closed:	10
Number of families re-housed:	7
Number of houses rendered fit as a result of informal action:	29
Number of houses rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
Public Health Act 1936	-
Housing Act 1957	2
Applications for Certificates of Disrepair under the Rent Act 1957	-

The following information has been provided by the Engineer and Surveyor:

Provision of New Housing Accommodation

Houses erected by private enterprise:	177
Houses erected by the Local Authority:	-

Improvements to Houses

Number of dwellings in respect of which improvements were carried out with grants:

Discretionary Grants:	45
Standard Grants:	29

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Number of licensed sites:	56
Number of caravans used for holiday accommodation:	2327
Number of caravans used as permanent dwellings:	56
Number of visits to caravan and camping sites:	183

Very few sites are available for touring caravans during the holiday season and laybys on the main A.12 trunk road, particularly near Gt. Yarmouth, were used regularly as camping sites not only by caravans but by families sleeping in cars.

FOOD PREMISES

Total number of premises:	145
Number of visits to food premises:	215

Registered Premises

Ice Cream Manufacturers	1
Ice Cream Retailers	74
Sausage and preserved food manufacturers	9

WATER SUPPLIES

Samples of water from domestic supplies were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Norwich, and the reports were as follows:

	<u>Mains Supply</u>	<u>Private Wells</u>
Satisfactory	14	5
Unsatisfactory	1	5

It was only necessary to take 8 samples of water from private wells for examination for nitrate content and reports were given on the suitability of these waters for infant feeding.

39 tests were made of water from swimming pools at holiday and caravan camps and advice was given on the operation of the equipment as there was a general tendency for the chlorine content of the waters to be low.

The following is a list of the dwellings in the district supplied with water from the mains:

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Direct connection to dwelling house</u>	<u>Standpipe</u>
Barnby	61	13
Belton	150	-
Benacre	12	13
Blundeston	179	-
Bradwell	980	12
Burgh Castle	111	5
Carlton Colville	504	-
Corton	175	-
Covehithe	-	13
Flixton	11	-
Fritton	40	-
Frostenden	42	29
Gisleham	70	11
Henham	4	2
Henstead	80	13
Herringfleet	26	-
Hopton-on-Sea	240	-
Kessingland	633	22
Lound	89	-
Mutford	80	4
Oulton	58	-
Reydon	551	-
Rushmere	11	-
St. Olaves	38	-
Somerleyton	111	-
South Cove	2	10
Wangford	131	15
Wrentham	200	59
Uggeshall	20	11
	<u>4609</u>	<u>232</u>

RODENT CONTROL

The following is a record of inspections made for infestations and of treatments carried out by the two men employed on this service:

	<u>Dwelling-houses</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Other Premises</u>
Inspections	1702	103	169
Treatments	768	72	53

There was a further increase in the number of requests for this service and the work was carried out in a very satisfactory manner.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The following carcasses and offals were inspected:

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
No. of animals killed and inspected	1563	52	8	615	3265

Diseases other than T.B. and Cystercosis

No. of whole carcasses condemned	1	-	-	-	5
No. of carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	295	24	-	2	299

T.B. only

No. of whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
No. of carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	-	75

Cystercosis

No. of carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-
No. of carcasses submitted for treatment by refrigeration	-	-

The total weight of meat and offal condemned amounted to 3 tons 10 cwts. 65 lbs. This diseased and unsound meat was collected by the Suffolk Fat & Bone Company and processed immediately on arrival at the factory at Culton.

Number of licensed slaughterhouses	3
Number of visits to slaughterhouses	582
Number of knacker yards	1
Number of licensed slaughtermen	14

FACTORIES ACT 1937

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:

<u>Premises</u>	<u>Number on Register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	7	7
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	34	54

No defects were found.

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS 1928 and 1936

69 licences were issued for storage of petroleum spirit and a number of tests were carried out of new and existing installations, all of which were found to be satisfactory.

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICES

Refuse Collection

The following vehicles were used:

		<u>Capacity</u>	<u>Mileage</u>	<u>Diesel Fuel used</u>
UBJ 590	1956	18 cub. yd.	8,386	806
YBJ 296	1958	25 cub. yd.	9,806	997
401 LBJ	1962	25 cub. yd.	12,308	1,141

There is now a weekly collection of refuse in 13 parishes, the remainder of the district receives a fortnightly collection. The volume of refuse again increased and the number of loads collected each week has doubled in the last five years. All refuse was disposed of by arrangement on the tips of Lowestoft and Southwold Borough Councils until the latter part of the year when a controlled tip was started at Camps Heath, Culton.

Cesspool Emptying

The following vehicles were used:

		<u>Capacity</u>	<u>Mileage</u>	<u>Diesel Fuel Used</u>
OBJ 322	1953	1,000 galls.	14,430	1,179
335 CRT	1959	1,100 galls.	16,112	1,409

There was no change in this work during the year but difficulties were experienced in disposing of the effluent from the cesspools and septic tanks.

The cost of providing the refuse collection and cesspool emptying services, including the contribution to the vehicle replacement fund amounted to £15,307.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

RALPH GROAT

Public Health Inspector.



