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PETERBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT  
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1960.



To which is added  
The Annual Report of the  
SURVEYOR AND CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Public Health Officers of the Authority :

Medical Officer of Health.

Dr. D. McKnight, M.B., B.S.,  
D.C.H., D.P.H.,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Mr. M.R. Gibbs, A.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FOR THE YEAR 1900

AND OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

OF THE COMPANY

FOR THE YEAR 1900

AND OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

OF THE COMPANY

Council Offices,  
Broad Street,  
Stamford,  
Lincs.  
Tel. No. Stamford 2086.

January, 1962.

To the Chairman and Councillors of the  
Peterborough Rural District Council,

Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1960.

The health of the district remained good. The birth rate and infant mortality rate are similar to those of the country as a whole. Of the 3 infant deaths, 2 occurred in the first week of life. It is pleasing to note that there were no maternal deaths.

The death rate at 8.3 per 1,000 compares favourable with that of England and Wales generally (11.5).

Very few cases of infectious disease were notified, and there were no deaths from these causes. Two new cases of tuberculosis were discovered. There were fortunately no cases of poliomyelitis.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

DIANA McKNIGHT

Medical Officer of Health.

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# Statistics and Social conditions of the Area.

Area	28,186 acres
Estimated Population	8,020
Number of inhabited houses from rate book	2,648
Rateable Value	£68,920
Sum Represented by Penny Rate	£278. 4. 0d.

## Extract from Vital Statistics for the Year

<u>Live Births</u>	M	F	Total
Legitimate	76	60	136
Illegitimate	3	2	5
Total	79	62	141

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	3.5%
Live birth rate per 1000 population	17.5
Still births	4
Total live and still births	145
Still birth rate per 1000 live and still births	27.5

<u>Infant Deaths</u>	M	F	Total
Legitimate	2	-	2
Illogitimate	-	1	1
Total	2	1	3

Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live births	21.2
" " " " " " " (legitimate)	14.7
" " " " " " " (illegitimate)	200
Early neonatal mortality rate	14.1
Neonatal " "	14.1
Perinatal " "	41.3
Maternal Deaths	0
Maternal Mortality Rate	0.0
Death Rate per 1000 population	8.3

# INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES.

## INJURIES AND CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Tuberculosis respiratory . . . . .	-	-
Tuberculosis (other forms) . . . . .	-	-
Syphilitic Disease . . . . .	1	-
Diphtheria . . . . .	-	-
Whooping Cough . . . . .	-	-
Meningococcal Infections . . . . .	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis . . . . .	-	-
Measles . . . . .	-	-
Other Infective & Parasitic diseases . . . . .	-	-
Malignant neoplasm of stomach . . . . .	2	1
Malignant neoplasm of lung, bronchus . . . . .	2	1
Malignant neoplasm of breast . . . . .	-	2
Malignant neoplasm of uterus . . . . .	-	-
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasm . . . . .	1	4
Leukaemia & Aleukaemia . . . . .	-	-
Diabetes . . . . .	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system . . . . .	3	8
Coronary diseases . . . . .	-	4
Hypertension with heart disease . . . . .	-	-
Other heart diseases . . . . .	5	6
Other circulatory diseases . . . . .	3	2
Influenza . . . . .	-	-
Pneumonia . . . . .	6	1
Bronchitis . . . . .	-	-
Other Diseases Respiratory system . . . . .	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum . . . . .	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea . . . . .	-	-
Nephritis & Nephrosis . . . . .	-	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate . . . . .	1	-
Pregnancy, Childbirth & Abortion . . . . .	-	-
Congenital malformation . . . . .	-	-
Other defined and ill defined diseases . . . . .	3	4
Motor Vehicle accidents . . . . .	2	1
All other accidents . . . . .	-	-
Suicide . . . . .	-	1
Homicide & operations of war . . . . .	-	-
	<u>29</u>	<u>38</u>

NET DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	4-5 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-11 months	Total under 1 year
Premature Birth and Malformation etc.	2					2		2
Pneumonia and Bronchitis Enteritis and Diarrhoea								
Peritonitis								
Other Causes							1	1
Total =	2					2	1	3

ANALYSIS OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS THEREFROM

	Total cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Salmonella Typhimurium	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Measles	6	-	-
Whooping Cough	3	-	-
Total =	9	-	-



AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	Not known	Under 1 year	2 years	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	Total
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salmonella Typhimurium	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	1	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Whooping Cough	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	1	1	1	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9

TUBERCULOSIS

	Death during 1960				New cases during 1960			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1 years								
1-5 "								
5-15 "						1		
15-25 "			Nil					
25-35 "						1		
35-45 "								
45-55 "								
55-65 "								
Over 65"								
<b>TOTAL</b>						2		

New cases notified during 1955 = 5  
 New cases notified during 1956 = 2  
 New cases notified during 1957 = 1  
 New cases notified during 1958 = 1  
 New cases notified during 1959 = 2  
 New cases notified during 1960 = 2

Carcases and Offall inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle (exclud- ing Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
NUMBER KILLED (if known)	158	-	1	425	173	-
Number inspected	158	-	1	425	173	-
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis &amp; cysticerci</u> whole carcasses condemned	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	14	NIL	NIL	NIL	12	NIL
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	8.8%	NIL	NIL	NIL	6.9%	NIL
<u>Tuberculosis only</u> whose carcasses condemned	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4	NIL	NIL	NIL	6	NIL
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	2.5%	NIL	NIL	NIL	3.4%	NIL
<u>Cysticercus only</u> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Carcases submitted to treatment by refriger- ation	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Generalised & totally condemned	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL



FACTORY ACT.

1. Inspection for purposes of provision as to health  
(including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

	Number on Register	Inspec- tions	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	10	-	-
(11) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	22	25	-	-
(111) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	-	-	-	-
Total	30	35	-	-

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".

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	<u>Referred</u> To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	NIL		
Overcrowding	-	-			
Unreasonable temperature	-	-			
Inadequate ventilation	-	-			
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-			
Sanitary Conveniences:-					
(a) insufficient	-	-			
(b) unsuitable or defective	-	-			
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-			
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-			
Total	1	1	NIL		

Annual Report - Details concerning Food & Food Premises

Number of Food Premises in the Area by type of business.

General Stores	32
Butchers	3
Fish Shops	2
Confectioners	1
Canteens	8

Number of Food Premises by type under Section 16 of Food  
& Drugs Act 1955.

Fish Frying	2
Ice Cream	30
Preserved Meats	5

Number of Dairies registered under the Milk & Dairies Regulations  
1949 - 1954. 1.

Number of inspections of registered food premises 52.

The majority of food shops in the district are small all purpose general stores with living accommodation attached. A good standard of hygiene and cleanliness is maintained at the majority of these.

The Method of Disposal of Condemned Food.

Condemned meat from the three slaughter-houses, which is negligible these days, is disposed of to a firm dealing in waste products.

It was not found necessary to carry out any special examination of a stock or consignment of food.

All ice-cream sold from premises in the district is prepacked and kept in standard type refrigerators.



Details of water supplies to houses in the respective  
Villages as estimated by the Surveyor & Public Health Inspector.

PARISH	Total No. of Houses	(a) Supplied direct to house	Population represented thereby	(b) To Stand- Pipes	Population represented thereby	From Wells
AILSWORTH	99	48	145	45	168	2
BOROUGH FEN	89	47	168	35	122	7
CASTOR	226	166	543	51	181	6
DEEPING GATE	98	67	218	31	109	-
ETTON	56	32	103	19	66	7
EYE	730	617	2099	109	393	4
GLINTON	315	272	799	37	132	6
HELPSTON	245	166	547	73	256	6
MARHOLM	69	41	144	28	98	-
MAXEY	132	97	317	26	93	1
NEWBOROUGH	267	203	682	61	215	3
NORTHBOROUGH	208	172	531	31	105	5
PEAKIRK	91	51	174	38	136	1
SUTTON	27	10	35	14	59	3
UPTON	28	18	58	10	36	-



PETERBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector, Surveyor  
and Water Engineer  
For the Year 1960.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my third Annual Report.

Good progress has been made with regard to the provision of main drainage. The scheme for Deeping Gate was completed just before the end of the year and the sewers in Etton are expected to be "live" early in 1961. The bulk of the sewers in Peakirk have been laid and are awaiting the completion of the pumping station opposite the Wildfowl Gardens. Progress in Helpston has been slow due to rock, but this village should be sewered during the summer of 1961.

92% of the properties in Glington are connected to the sewers and there are only 17 houses remaining to have bucket closets converted to W.C.'s. This good progress has been accelerated by the availability of the Standard Improvement Grant for the provision of modern amenities.

Progress on sewer connections and pail closet conversions at Castor and Ailsworth continued to be good so that there now remain only 27 properties to be connected and 33 to have pail closets converted.

The number of applications for Improvement Grants, more particularly the Standard type, again showed an increase and it is pleasing to report that the standard of housing in the district has been improved considerably as a result.

With the development of private estates at Ailsworth, Glington, Helpston and Northborough, there was a large increase in the number of private houses erected and approved. This is largely the result of the provision of main drainage and partly due to the fact that there is only limited building land available in the City and the increasing desire to live in the country.

The Council continued with small building schemes and made preliminary investigations into the building of an old people's home with communal facilities in the Parish of Eye.

Work on improving the pre-war Council houses was continued. All houses at Ailsworth, Castor and Glington now have modern amenities and paving slab paths are being provided over a period of years. Contracts were let for the modernisation of the houses at Etton and Peakirk. A good deal of maintenance work on the older type of house, such as replacement of obsolete sinks and grates, electrical work and the treatment of damp walls, was carried out.

The Council declared two Clearance Areas, both in the Parish of Eye, affecting seven houses and a number of individual unfit properties were dealt with by way of Closing and Demolition Orders.

Public Health work, such as routine inspections of shops, factories and food premises was again curtailed owing to pressure of other work, but the licensed premises were kept under review and several improvements have been made.

Applications were obtained from the occupiers of all caravan sites in the district under the new Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1959. These were passed to the County Planning Committee for their consideration, with the exception of one site at Eye, for which a site licence was issued.

The demand for the cesspool emptying service decreased slightly during the year, due to the provision of main drainage at Glington.



Public Health Work.  
Infectious Diseases.

I was not called on to carry out any enquiries or disinfection work in this connection.

National Assistance Act 1948 (Section 50).

There were no cases dealt with during the year.

Public Health Act - Complaints.

27 complaints were received during the year and these were dealt with by informal action.

Milk and Dairies Regulations.

There is only one registered dairy in the district and this is used only for the storage of bottled milk. All milk sold in the area is bought in bottles from premises outside the district.

The following licences were issued during the year :

2	supplementary licences to retail sterilised milk.
3	" " " " tuberculin tested milk.
3	" " " " pasteurised milk.
2	dealers licences to retail sterilised milk.
1	" " " " pasteurised milk.

Under a new Act, responsibility for the issuing of licences has now passed to the County Council.

Slaughterhouses.

The three slaughter-houses attached to butchers' shops have been kept in a reasonable condition having regard to their age and structural condition. All occupiers have intimated that they are not prepared to bring their premises up to the standard required by the new regulations and if the Council's slaughter-house report is accepted by the Minister, the slaughter-houses will cease to be used as from July 1962.

Meat Inspection.

A total of 201 visits was paid to butchers' shops and slaughter-houses during the year and the following carcasses and offal examined :-

Beasts 158. Sheep 425. Pigs 173. Calves 1.

The following offal was condemned :-

5	beasts' livers - abscesses.
8	" " - distomatosis.
1	" lungs - pneumonia.
2	" " - T.B.
2	" heads & tongues - T.B.
3	pigs heads - T.B.
3	" mesenteries - T.B.
4	" hearts - pericarditis.
2	" lungs - pneumonia.
1	" liver - pleurisy.
1	" ribs - pleurisy.

100% meat inspection was again maintained and the incidence of diseases of all types continues to show a decline.

Food Premises.

Number of premises on register	41
Inspections made	52
Contraventions found	1
Complied with	Nil

### Shops Act.

There are 52 shops on the register. 48 inspections were made and no contraventions of the Act were found.

### Factories Act.

The number of factories on the register is	30
Number of inspections made	35
Informal notices served	Nil
Prosecutions	Nil

### Unsound Food.

I was not asked to deal with any unsound food, other than meat, during the year.

### Rodent Control.

Inspections made (estimated numbers).

At private dwellings	336
At business premises	42
At agricultural premises	24
At Council property	11

Treatments carried out :-

At business premises	7
At private houses	7
At refuse tips	3

Only a few complaints were received and most tenants and owners find it cheaper to carry out their own disinfection treatments.

### Housing.

#### Private Building.

A total of 76 dwellings was completed by private enterprise during the year, an increase of 35 on the figure for 1959. They were distributed in the following Parishes :-

Ailsworth 20. Castor 2. Eye 8. Glington 5. Helpston 2.  
Marholm 4. Maxey 9. Newborough 7. Northborough 17. Peakirk 1.

The total number of private properties built since 1946 now stands at 387.

There are now 69 properties in the course of erection and these are distributed as follows :-

Ailsworth 13. Deeping Gate 2. Etton 2. Eye 5. Glington 7.  
Helpston 16. Marholm 2. Maxey 3. Newborough 1. Northborough 17.  
Peakirk 1.

#### Improvement Grants.

##### (a) Discretionary Grants.

A total of 16 applications for improving 17 properties was approved during the year, a decrease of 6 on 1959. The total amount approved for Grant was £5,321 (an average of £332 per dwelling).

8 grants were for tenanted properties and 8 for owner/occupiers.

At the end of the year work was completed at 4 properties and in progress at 9 others. 1 application was refused.



(b) Standard Grants.

A total of 37 applications was received and 36 were approved for the following amenities to be provided :-

Baths 25. Washbasins 25. W.C.'s 35. Hot-water supplies 29.  
Larders 19.

17 applications were for tenanted properties and 20 for owner/occupiers.

Work was complete at 20 properties and in progress at 9 others.

The houses concerned were distributed in the following Parishes :-

Ailsworth 1. Castor 5. Deeping Gate 1. Eye 2. Glington 16.  
Helpston 5. Maxey 1. Peakirk 1. Sutton 5.

Council Houses.

(a) Building.

14 houses were built during the year. 8 were at Eyebury Road, Eye; 4 at Willow Drove, Borough Fen and 2 at Thorolds Way, Castor.

38 dwellings were under construction at the end of the year. Eye 22 houses (including 16 with garages and 2 two-bedroom type in The Crescent); 4 houses at Deeping Gate; 6 houses and 4 bungalows at Werrington Bridge Road, Newborough, and 2 bungalows at Peakirk.

Land was purchased at Hodney Road, Eye, with a view to the erection of a grouped home scheme for old people and negotiations were in progress for land at Stocks Hill, Castor and a small site at Peakirk where it is proposed to rebuild following demolition of three sub-standard properties.

(b) Improvements.

W.C.'s and washbasins were installed in all pre-war houses at Ailsworth, Castor and Glington. The work of installing washbasins in 59 pre-war houses at Eye was substantially completed at the end of the year.

Paving slab paths were laid to pre-war houses at Ailsworth, Borough Fen, Castor and Newborough.

A contract was let to provide washbasins and W.C.'s in the pre-war houses at Etton and Peakirk and plans and specifications were prepared for similar work to the houses in Helpston.

(c) Maintenance.

There was no external painting carried out during the year.

The work of replacing obsolete shallow sinks by deep sinks and the bringing up to standard of electric wiring, was continued.

Slum Clearance.

Two clearance areas affecting 7 properties, all in the Parish of Eye, were declared and confirmed by the Minister.

Slum Clearance.

Closing orders made	4
Demolition Orders made	4
Houses demolished	3
Undertakings given	2
To be re-conditioned	1

2 further houses were represented for Closing Orders at the end of the year.

### Plans under Building Byelaws.

209 plans were submitted under Building Byelaws compared with 181 in 1959.

A large number of these were for new dwellings, particularly in the Parishes of Glington, Helpston and Northborough and this reflects the rapid growth of the district.

### Public Cleansing.

#### (a) Cesspool Emptying.

The scheme again ran smoothly, apart from a few occasions when the vehicle was off the road for repairs, but considering it is ten years old, it still gives good service.

The number of tanks emptied during the year was 617. Of these, 260 were at Council houses, 5 in adjoining districts and 352 at private houses in this district, distributed as follows :-

Ailsworth	3
Castor	18
Deeping Gate	18
Etton	6
Eye	33
Glington	79
Helpston	32
Marholm	19
Maxey	20
Newborough	28
Northborough	79
Peakirk	10
Sutton	4
Upton	2

The tanker has also been used for flushing sewers and drains and the emptying of sumps at sewerage pumping stations.

#### (b) Night Soil Collection.

The Council ceased collecting night soil in Ailsworth and Castor on March 31st. The work is being carried on privately to cater for the few properties still with pail closets.

The Council gave notice of termination of the service at Glington as from March 31st, 1960 and this will be followed shortly by similar notice for Etton, Helpston and Peakirk.

Few complaints were received during the year.

#### (c) Refuse Collection.

The collection of house refuse is carried out fortnightly by contract. Few complaints were received, but several householders objected to the fact that paper and cardboard are not collected under the terms of the contract.

### Drainage and Sewerage Disposal.

The scheme for Deeping Gate was completed at the end of the year and a few houses were connected up.

90% of properties in Glington are now connected to the sewers and there remain only 17 to have pail closets converted to W.C.'s.

There remain only 27 properties at Ailsworth and Castor to be connected to the sewer and 33 (excluding those scheduled for slum clearance) to have pail closets converted to W.C.'s.



The laying of sewers in Etton was completed and work was substantially complete at Peakirk. Progress in Helpston was slow because of rock, but it is anticipated that these three villages will have main drainage working by the Summer of 1961.

The scheme for the Parishes of Marholm, Maxey, and Northborough was ready to submit to the Ministry, but was delayed pending consultations with the Planning Authority as to the future growth of the villages.

#### Water Supply.

The total quantity of water purchased in bulk from the City of Peterborough was 94,951,000 gallons, a decrease of a little over 2 million gallons on that purchased the previous year. It must be remembered, however, that the figure for that year was abnormal due to the very dry summer and the large number of burst mains.

38 new connections were made to the mains (excluding those made by estate developers), as follows :-

To new houses	33
To shops	1
To fields (by meter)	2
To nurseries "	1
To Wildfowl Gardens (by meter)	1

#### Petroleum Act.

47 licences were issued during the year to store petroleum spirit for private use and sale and the total fees collected amounted to £33. 10. 0d.

Once again I must place on record my thanks to the staff and workmen for their continued support and loyalty.

I am,  
Sir and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

M.R. GIBBS.

Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.