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I



ROSS-ON-WYE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1972



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To the Chairman and Members of the Council

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I beg to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1972.

In the Report will be found comment on vital statistics and environmental health of the District. In the Introduction it is proposed to discuss the most important psychological disease affecting the developed nations.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN SLEIGH

Medical Officer of Health

Smoking

If smoking is a drug addiction, then it is a psychological disease. The word "drug" is used in three different ways. First it is used to describe therapeutic substances such as cardiac reactants and anticoagulants, then it is used to describe drugs of addiction, such as heroin, and finally it is used to describe substances which the society in question does not approve of, such as cannabis. If smoking fits into any of these categories, it is into the second, that of drugs of addiction. The word "addiction" is used in two different ways, psychological addiction and physical addiction. Psychological addiction means the desire to take the drug regularly for the pleasant effects which taking it brings, physical addiction means the need to take the drug continually for the very unpleasant effects which giving it up produces. While some smokers have only a psychological addiction, there can be no doubt that most have a physical addiction, and there can be no other explanation for persisting in something which causes so much disease and death. By contrast drinking is usually not a physical addiction, and in many cases not even a psychological addiction, and the amount of disease and death caused by drinking is very much less, and cannabis is never a physical addiction and in the majority of cases not even a psychological addiction, and there is no evidence of it causing any disease or deaths at all.

The possibility of smoking being the main cause of lung cancer was first raised because of the great increase in the disease, which was not accompanied by any comparable increase in other forms of cancer. In 1922 there were 612 deaths from lung cancer in England and Wales, in 1931 2,286, and in 1940 5,227, and between 1950 and 1972 deaths increased from 12,241 to 31,649 that is by 158.6%, and the death rate from 0.28 to 0.65, while deaths from other forms of cancer increased from 73,029 to 87,301 that is by 19.5%, and the death rate from 1.67 to 1.78. It was only from 1966 that the death rate from other forms of cancer increased at all, having remained absolutely steady between 1.65 and 1.68 from 1950 to 1965, this increase, which is itself significant, though very much smaller than that from lung cancer, including an increase in deaths from breast cancer from 7,927 to 11,149, or of 40.6%, probably associated with the continuing decline in breast feeding, and an increase in deaths from leukaemia from 1,832 to 3,125, or of 70.6%, probably associated with increased radioactivity in the environment from fallout from testing thermonuclear weapons.

The original report by Doll and Bradford Hill on the connection between smoking and lung cancer appeared in 1950 and even then the moral was perfectly clear for any one who took the trouble to read the Report. Among a group of 709 men and women with lung cancer a much smaller percentage were non-smokers and a much larger percentage heavy smokers than among a similar group without lung cancer. The risk of lung cancer was 25 times as great for men and 13 times as great for women who smoked 25 or more cigarettes a day as for non-smokers. Since then more than thirty investigations in ten countries have shown that when previous smoking habits of patients with lung cancer are analysed there are many more heavy smokers and many fewer light smokers and non-smokers than among matched controls. These investigations have consistently demonstrated a direct association between the number of cigarettes smoked and the incidence of lung cancer. In another type of investigation the smoking habits of large numbers of people are recorded during life and when they die the causes of death are ascertained. Eight investigations of this type are in close agreement in showing a steady rise in lung cancer with increasing number of cigarettes smoked. These investigations are being carried out on a very large scale, the four largest involving 1,003,000 American men and women aged 35 - 84 since 1959, 294,000 American ex-servicemen and women since 1957, 92,000 Canadian ex-servicemen and women since 1955, and 41,000 British doctors since 1951.

The same type of investigation has been carried out into the connection between smoking and chronic bronchitis. Surveys in many countries have shown a close relationship in both men and women between the number of cigarettes smoked and the frequency of chronic bronchitis. Several recent reports have shown that death rates from chronic bronchitis rise with increasing number of cigarettes smoked. In the survey of British doctors deaths from chronic bronchitis among those who had smoked 25 or more cigarettes a day were over twenty times more common than in non-smokers and the findings in the American and Canadian ex-servicemen's studies were similar. It may be argued that chronic bronchitis is not increasing (28,631 persons died in England and Wales in 1972) but what is happening is that the improvement in mortality which would be expected from the removal of other environmental causes is being balanced by the worsening in mortality due to smoking. This is confirmed by the sex ratio of deaths which was 1.2 for men as compared with women in 1916-20 and rose steadily to 5.1 in 1956-60. This sex ratio is remarkably similar to that for lung cancer which rose from 1.7 to 7.6 over the same period, and the two show the effect of the earlier increase in smoking in men. Both have now fallen slightly to 5.0 for bronchitis and 7.2 for lung cancer, showing the effect of the later increase in smoking in women.

All the four major prospective investigations have also shown that the risk of dying of coronary heart disease is greater among smokers than among non-smokers. The risk among smokers is two or three times as high at younger ages, and about one and a half times as high at older ages. These increases are not so high proportionately as those for lung cancer or chronic bronchitis but since the disease is so common the number of deaths involved is very large. In the four investigations between one third and one half of the excess deaths from all causes in smokers were due to coronary heart disease.

How many deaths are due to smoking and what is the consequent reduction in life expectation? The great majority of lung cancer deaths are due to smoking. Lung cancer does occur in non-smokers but it is very uncommon and is of a different form microscopically from the two forms found in smokers. It is also a reasonable assumption to regard the excess of male over female deaths in chronic bronchitis and in coronary heart disease as due to smoking. In 1972 there were 31,649 deaths from lung cancer in England and Wales, 21,588 deaths from chronic bronchitis in men and 7043 in women, a male excess of 14,545 deaths, and 87,478 deaths from coronary heart disease in men and 64,207 in women, a male excess of 23,271 deaths. The lung cancer deaths and the male excess in chronic bronchitis and in coronary heart disease, add up to 69,465 deaths out of 591,907 deaths from all causes, and they can almost all be debited to that half of the population which smoke more than 10 cigarettes a day, so one half of the population has 261,221 deaths and the other 330,686. This represents an enormous reduction in life expectation. From the survey of 441,000 American men aged 35 - 84 in 1959 it has been calculated that the smoker of 10 - 19 cigarettes a day has a reduced expectation below the non-smoker of 5.5 years, and American mortality, always lower than British, is improving, thanks to the much more active antismoking measures of the American Department of Health. It is likely therefore that reduced expectation in Britain will be very much greater.

The medical profession was quick to appreciate the significance of these figures and between 1951 and 1965 about half of the British doctors who previously smoked cigarettes stopped smoking them. As a result the death rate of male British doctors aged 35 - 64 fell by 10% in causes related to smoking, by 17% in causes not related to smoking, and by 12% in all causes, while that of the total male population rose by 7% in causes related to smoking and fell by 17% in causes not related to smoking and by 3% in all causes. Since the publication of the first Report on Smoking and Lung Cancer of the Royal College of Physicians there has been a decrease in the percentage of men smoking in the Registrar General's Social Classes I II and III, who might be expected to take notice of the Report, but not in Social Classes IV and V, and there has been an increase in the amount smoked by smokers.

Meanwhile the politicians remain inactive. £1,000,000 is spent annually on the campaign against the 7,000 annual road deaths, £100,000 on that against the 70,000 annual smoking deaths, or 100 times less per death. A former Minister of Health in a Conservative Government wrote "Smokers contribute £1,000 million annually to the Exchequer, and no one knows better than the Government that they simply cannot afford to lose so much". A Labour Minister wrote "The introduction of a meaningful differential tax on cigarettes would be bound to have a seriously detrimental effect on the total revenue obtainable from tobacco. The object of such a tax would be to reduce cigarette smoking, and thus the capacity of the tobacco duty to produce revenue would be eroded".

Obviously prohibition is impracticable. Smoking is much more addictive than drinking and the resultant increase in crime would make Prohibition in America look like a children's picnic. But at least the politicians could prohibit all advertising. We may permit a dangerous drug addiction but we need not encourage it.

JOHN SLEIGH

Ross-on-Wye

The first mention of Ross is in 1016 when it was presented to the Bishopric of Hereford by Edmund Ironside. It remained the property of the See until the reign of Elizabeth I when it reverted to the Crown.

In 1086 at the time of the Domesday Survey Ross had an estimated population of about 130 persons and is known to have had at least one mill. The neighbouring woodlands were under Royal control.

A Market Charter granted in the reign of Stephen was confirmed by Henry III who also gave permission for four fairs to be held during the year. These charters established Ross as the local marketing centre and since this time the town has acted as a focal point for the collection and distribution of produce.

The town has developed on a dry Sandstone spur between the marshy valleys of the River Wye and the Rudhall Brook and opposite a suitable bridging point of the River Wye. Because it commands the gap between the Silurian inlier of the Woolhope Dome and the Carboniferous Plateau of the Forest of Dean, Ross has long been important as a route centre. The construction of Wilton Bridge in 1597, to replace an earlier wooden structure, perpetuated the convergence of routes on the right bank of the river. The Market House built in 1660 at the commercial centre of the town, is situated at the meeting point of routes from the four divergent regions served by Ross.

Closely associated with this importance as a local route and market centre has been the development of inns and posting facilities. In the latter part of the 18th century the Wye Tour (the journey by river southwards through the Symonds Yat gorge to Monmouth and Chepstow) became fashionable. This may be cited as the initial development of the town's tourist industry.

In the same century the canalisation of the River Wye and the resultant transportation of merchandise by barges is preserved in the name "The Docks" and in the extension of settlement down to the river's edge. The opening of the single track Hereford to Gloucester railway not only killed the canal trade but further changed the pattern of development. This railway period saw building in the quadrant between Gloucester Road and Broad Street and especially along Centilupe Road and Station Street. At this time the population was said to be 4350 persons (1861).

Since this time the population has increased by over two thousand persons and the town has expanded along the main radial roads; the expansion has been assisted by the provision of piped water and independence from river and well water. In addition to its agricultural and local marketing functions, a veneer of manufacturing industry has been incorporated into the town, and this together with the tourist industry has resulted in urban growth in contrast to the neighbouring agricultural communities.

Today Ross acts as a market centre, as a tourist resort, and as a centre for employment. Associated with these three major functions are the activities of the town as a route, shopping, banking, commercial, residential, and administrative centre.

Section A

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Ross U.D.

General Statistics

	Ross UD 1971	Ross UD 1972	E & W 1972
Area in acres	1,004	1,004	
Registrar General's estimate of home population, mid-year	6,370	6,340	49,029,000
Number of inhabited houses (end of year) according to Rate Books	2,206	2,215	
Rateable Value	£263,365	£268,651	
Live Births			
Number	95	80	725,440
Rate per 1000 population	14.9	12.6	14.8
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	7.4	5.0	8.6
Stillbirths			
Number	1	2	8,799
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	10.4	24.4	12.0
Total live and still births	96	82	734,239
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year)	4	1	12,494
Infant mortality rates			
Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births	42.1	12.5	17.2
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 total legitimate live births	34.1	13.2	16.9
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 total illegitimate live births	142.9	0.0	21.1
Neonatal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births)	0.0	12.5	11.5
Early neonatal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)	0.0	12.5	9.8
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and stillbirths)	10.4	36.6	21.7
Maternal mortality (including abortion)			
Number of deaths	0	0	111
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	0.00	0.00	0.15
Deaths			
Number	87	107	591,907
Rate per 1000 population	13.7	16.9	12.1

South Herefordshire

General Statistics

	<u>Sth Hfds</u> 1971	<u>Sth Hfds</u> 1972	<u>E & W</u> 1972
Area in acres	208,264	208,264	
Registrar General's estimate of home population, mid-year	36,290	36,320	49,029,000
Number of inhabited houses (end of year) according to Rate Books	12,853	12,935	
Rateable Value	£1,066,102	£1,078,161	
Live births			
Number	509	507	725,440
Rate per 1,000 population	14.0	14.0	14.8
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	6.5	6.7	8.6
Stillbirths			
Number	4	10	8,799
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	7.8	19.3	12.0
Total live and still births	513	517	734,239
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year)	10	10	12,494
Infant mortality rates			
Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births	19.6	19.7	17.2
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 total legitimate live births	18.9	19.0	16.9
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 total illegitimate live births	30.3	29.4	21.1
Neonatal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births)	11.8	15.8	11.5
Early neonatal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)	9.8	13.8	9.8
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and still births)	17.5	32.9	21.7
Maternal mortality (including abortion)			
Number of deaths	0	0	111
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	0.00	0.00	0.15
Deaths			
Number	458	533	591,907
Rate per 1000 population	12.6	14.7	12.1

Ross U.D.Population Changes

Year	Population	Decrease	Increase	Births	Deaths	Natural Increase	Emigration	Immigration
1949	5290							
1950	5280	10		83	81	2	12	
1951	5345		65	104	79	25		40
1952	5271	74		86	66	20	94	
1953	5285		14	106	102	4		10
1954	5310		25	93	98	- 5		30
1955	5320		10	75	95	- 20		30
1956	5300	20		84	100	- 16	4	
1957	5270	30		85	98	- 13	17	
1958	5290		20	86	86			20
1959	5330		40	90	94	- 4		44
1960	5390		60	108	72	36		24
1961	5570		180	107	94	13		167
1962	5700		130	112	71	41		89
1963	5780		80	101	96	5		75
1964	5970		190	102	74	28		162
1965	6110		140	109	73	36		104
1966	6270		160	117	94	23		137
1967	6390		120	95	84	11		109
1968	6520		130	96	77	19		111
1969	6570		50	106	89	17		33
1970	6570			84	79	5	5	
1971	6370	200		95	87	8	208	
1972	6340	30		80	107	- 27	3	

This table may be summarised as follows:

	<u>Population Increase</u>		<u>Births</u>		<u>Deaths</u>		<u>Natural Increase</u>		<u>Immigration</u>	
	Tot- al No.	Aver- age Annual No.	Tot- al No.	Aver- age Annual No.	Tot- al No.	Aver- age Annual No.	Tot- al No.	Aver- age Annual No.	Tot- al No.	Aver- age Annual No.
1950-59	40	4.0	892	89.2	899	89.9	- 7	- 0.7	47	4.7
1960-69	1240	124.0	1053	105.3	824	82.4	229	22.9	1011	101.1
1950-69	1280	64.0	1945	97.3	1723	86.2	222	11.1	1058	52.9
1970		0		84		79		5		- 5
1971		-200		95		87		8		-208
1972		- 30		80		107		-27		- 3

The following comments may be made on this Summary table:

During the period 1950-59 the population of Ross increased by 40, from 5,290 to 5,330, as a result of an excess of 7 deaths over births and a net immigration of 47. In contradistinction to this, during the period 1960-69 the population of Ross increased by 1,240 from 5,330 to 6,570, as a result of an excess of 229 of births over deaths and a net immigration of 1,011. The position is even more remarkable if the periods 1950-57 and 1958-69 are taken. During the period 1950-57 the population of Ross declined by 20, from 5,290 to 5,270, as a result of an excess of three deaths over births and a net emigration of 17. In contradistinction to this, during the period 1958-69 the population of Ross increased by 1,300 from 5,270 to 6,570 as a result of an excess of 225 of births over deaths and a net immigration of 1075. This extraordinary turnabout was the result of the opening of the Sewage Disposal Works in December 1956, which enabled the virtual embargo on new house building in Ross, imposed by the Local Planning Authority as a result of pollution of the River Wye, to be lifted. These works are now overloaded and work to double their capacity began in 1971, which work it is hoped will be completed in 1973.

South Herefordshire

Population Changes

Year	Popula- tion	Decrease	Increase	Births	Deaths	Natural Increase	Emigra- tion	Immigra- tion
1949	38379							
1950	38281	98		639	472	167	265	
1951	38020	261		678	502	176	437	
1952	37750	270		654	444	210	480	
1953	37817		67	637	461	176	109	
1954	38010		193	575	444	131		62
1955	37950	60		581	482	99	159	
1956	37830	120		601	458	143	263	
1957	37740	90		570	458	112	202	
1958	37760		20	586	456	130	110	
1959	37750	10		564	436	128	138	
1960	37810		60	609	464	145	85	
1961	36300	1510		575	483	92	1602	
1962	36580		280	608	439	169		111
1963	36610		30	615	460	155	125	
1964	37010		400	615	438	177		223
1965	37280		270	587	416	171		99
1966	37420		140	584	436	148	8	
1967	37640		220	572	394	178		42
1968	37620	20		532	441	91	111	
1969	37560	60		556	469	87	147	
1970	37380	180		483	442	41	221	
1971	36290	1090		509	458	51	1141	
1972	36320		30	507	533	- 26		56

This table may be summarised as follows:-

	<u>Population</u> <u>Decrease</u>		<u>Births</u>		<u>Deaths</u>		<u>Natural</u> <u>Increase</u>		<u>Emigration</u>	
	Tot- al No.	Aver- age Annual No.	Tot- al No.	Aver- age Annual No.	Tot- al No.	Aver- age Annual No.	Tot- al No.	Aver- age Annual No.	Tot- al No.	Aver- age Annual No.
1950-59	629	62.9	6085	608.5	4613	461.3	1472	147.2	2101	210.1
1960-69	190	19.0	5853	585.3	4440	444.0	1413	141.3	1603	160.3
1950-69	819	41.0	11938	596.9	9053	452.7	2885	144.3	3704	185.2
1970		180		483		442		41		221
1971		1090		509		458		51		1141
1972		- 30		507		533		- 26		- 56

The following comments may be made on this Summary table.

During the period 1950-59 the population of South Herefordshire decreased by 629, from 38,379 to 37,750, as a result of an excess of 1,472 of births over deaths and a net emigration of 2,101. During the period 1960-69 the population of South Herefordshire decreased by 190, from 37,750 to 37,560, as a result of an excess of 1,413 of births over deaths and a net emigration of 1,603. During the period 1950-69 the population of South Herefordshire decreased by 819, from 38,379 to 37,560, as a result of an excess of 2,885 of births over deaths and a net emigration of 3,704. If the figures for Ross, which has a net immigration, probably from outside, are subtracted, the position is even worse. During the period 1950-59 the population of South Herefordshire excluding Ross decreased by 669, from 33,089 to 32,420, as a result of an excess of 1,479 of births over deaths and a net emigration of 2,148. During the period 1960-69 the population of South Herefordshire, excluding Ross, decreased by 1,430 from 32,420 to 30,990, as a result of an excess of 1,184 of births over deaths and a net emigration of 2,614. During the period 1950-69 the population of South Herefordshire, excluding Ross, decreased by 2,099, from 33,089 to 30,990, as a result of an excess of 2,663 of births over deaths and a net emigration of 4,762.

Ross U.D.Births, Stillbirths and Infant DeathsLive Births

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	49	27	76
Illegitimate	3	1	4
Total	52	28	80

Stillbirths

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate		2	2
Illegitimate			
Total		2	2

Deaths of Infants under one year of age

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1		1
Illegitimate			
Total	1		1

Deaths of Infants under four weeks of age

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1		1
Illegitimate			
Total	1		1

Deaths of Infants under one week of age

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1		1
Illegitimate			
Total	1		1

South HerefordshireBirths, Stillbirths and Infant DeathsLive Births

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	243	230	473
Illegitimate	19	15	34
Total	262	245	507

Stillbirths

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	7	8
Illegitimate		2	2
Total	1	9	10

Deaths of Infants under one year of age

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	7	2	9
Illegitimate		1	1
Total	7	3	10

Deaths of Infants under four weeks of age

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	5	2	7
Illegitimate		1	1
Total	5	3	8

Deaths of Infants under one week of age

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	5	1	6
Illegitimate		1	1
Total	5	2	7

Ross U.D.

Deaths

Cause of Death	Total All Ages	Under 4 Weeks		4 Weeks and under 1 Year		1-4 Weeks		5-14 Years		15-24 Years		25-34 Years		35-44 Years		45-54 Years		55-64 Years		65-74 Years		75 and over	
		M F		M F		M F		M F		M F		M F		M F		M F		M F		M F		M F	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Malignant neoplasm oesophagus	2	1																1		1	1		
Malignant neoplasm stomach	1	1																					
Malignant neoplasm intestine	3	2																1		1	1		
Malignant neoplasm lung, bronchus	4																	1					
Malignant neoplasm breast	6											1						2					
Malignant neoplasm prostate	1																						
Other malignant neoplasms	2	3												1									
Avitaminoses etc.	1																						
Mental disorders	1																						
Other diseases of nervous system	1																						
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	2																						
Ischaemic heart disease	16	4												1				2		1	5	2	
Other forms of heart disease	6	7																1		4	7		
Cerebrovascular disease	4	8																1		2	5		
Other diseases of circulatory system	1	5																1		2	1	2	
Influenza	1																						
Pneumonia	3	2																1		2	2		
Bronchitis and emphysema	5													2			1		2				

[illegible]

South Herefordshire

Deaths

Cause of Death	Total All Ages M F	Under 4 Weeks M F	4 Weeks and under 1 Year M F	A g e i n Y e a r s												75 and over M F		
				1- 5- 15- 25- 35- 45- 55- 65-														
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	2																	
Late effects of respira- tory tuberculosis	1																	
Other tuberculosis	1																	
Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity, etc.	3																	
Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	7																	
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	10																	
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	14																	
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	14																	
Malignant neoplasm, breast	3																	
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	5																	
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	2																	
Leukaemia	16																	
Other malignant neoplasms	11																	
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	1																	
Diabetes mellitus	1																	
Avitaminoses	1																	
Other endocrine etc. diseases	1																	
Anaemias	2																	
Mental disorders	1																	
Other diseases of nervous system	2																	

Ross U.D.

Vital Statistics

	<u>Births</u>			<u>Stillbirths</u>			<u>Infant Deaths</u>			<u>Maternal Deaths</u>			<u>Deaths</u>		
	Ross	UD	E&W	Ross	UD	E&W	Ross	UD	E&W	Ross	UD	E&W	Ross	UD	E&W
	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate
1950	83	15.7	15.9	3	34.9	22.6	2	24.1	29.6	0	0.00	0.86	81	15.3	11.6
1951	104	19.5	15.5	7	63.1	23.0	1	9.6	29.7	0	0.00	0.75	79	14.8	12.5
1952	86	16.3	15.3	3	33.7	22.7	2	23.3	27.6	0	0.00	0.67	66	12.5	11.3
1953	106	20.1	15.5	4	36.4	22.4	2	18.9	26.8	1	9.09	0.71	102	19.3	11.4
1954	93	17.5	15.2	3	31.3	23.5	7	75.3	25.4	0	0.00	0.65	98	18.5	11.3
1955	75	14.1	15.0	3	38.5	23.2	3	40.0	24.9	0	0.00	0.60	95	17.9	11.7
1956	84	15.8	15.7	2	23.3	22.9	1	11.9	23.7	0	0.00	0.52	100	18.9	11.7
1957	85	16.1	16.1	2	23.0	22.5	0	0.0	23.1	0	0.00	0.45	98	18.6	11.5
1958	86	16.3	16.4	2	22.7	21.5	1	11.6	22.5	0	0.00	0.43	86	16.3	11.7
1959	90	16.9	16.5	3	32.3	20.8	1	11.1	22.2	0	0.00	0.38	94	17.6	11.6
1960	108	20.0	17.2	3	27.0	19.8	1	9.3	21.8	0	0.00	0.39	72	13.4	11.5
1961	107	19.2	17.6	1	9.3	19.0	1	9.3	21.4	0	0.00	0.34	94	16.9	11.9
1962	112	19.6	18.0	2	17.5	18.1	6	53.6	21.7	0	0.00	0.35	71	12.5	11.9
1963	101	17.5	18.2	3	28.8	17.2	4	39.6	21.1	0	0.00	0.28	96	16.6	12.2
1964	102	17.1	18.5	1	9.7	16.3	2	19.6	19.9	0	0.00	0.26	74	12.4	11.3
1965	109	17.8	18.1	0	0.0	15.8	1	9.2	19.0	0	0.00	0.25	73	11.9	11.5
1966	117	18.7	17.7	1	8.5	15.3	0	0.0	19.0	0	0.00	0.26	94	15.0	11.7
1967	95	14.9	17.2	3	30.6	14.8	1	10.5	18.3	0	0.00	0.21	84	13.1	11.2
1968	96	14.7	16.9	1	10.3	14.3	2	20.8	18.3	0	0.00	0.24	77	11.8	11.9
1969	106	16.1	16.3	2	18.5	13.2	4	37.7	18.1	0	0.00	0.19	89	13.5	11.9
1970	84	12.8	16.0	0	0.0	13.0	1	11.9	18.2	0	0.00	0.18	79	12.0	11.7
1971	95	14.9	16.0	1	10.4	12.5	4	42.1	17.5	0	0.00	0.17	87	13.7	11.6
1972	80	12.6	14.8	2	24.4	12.0	1	12.5	17.2	0	0.00	0.15	107	16.9	12.1

This table may be summarised as follows:-

	<u>Births</u>			<u>Stillbirths</u>			<u>Infant Deaths</u>			<u>Maternal Deaths</u>			<u>Deaths</u>		
	Ross	UD	E&W	Ross	UD	E&W	Ross	UD	E&W	Ross	UD	E&W	Ross	UD	E&W
	Tot- al	Av Ann	Av Rate	Tot- al	Av Ann	Av Rate	Tot- al	Av Ann	Av Rate	Tot- al	Av Ann	Av Rate	Tot- al	Av Ann	Av Rate
1950-59	892	16.8	15.7	32	33.9	22.5	20	22.6	25.6	1	0.91	0.60	899	17.0	11.6
1960-69	1053	17.6	17.6	17	16.0	16.4	22	21.0	19.9	0	0.00	0.28	824	13.7	11.7
1950-69	1945	17.2	16.6	49	25.0	19.4	42	21.8	22.7	1	0.45	0.44	1723	15.3	11.7
1970	84	12.8	16.0	0	0.0	13.0	1	11.9	18.2	0	0.00	0.18	79	12.0	11.7
1971	95	14.9	16.0	1	10.4	12.5	4	42.1	17.5	0	0.00	0.17	87	13.7	11.6
1972	80	12.6	14.8	2	24.4	12.0	1	12.5	17.2	0	0.00	0.15	107	16.9	12.1

The following comments may be made

Taking the period 1950-69 as a whole, the average birth rate was higher than that for England and Wales. This is in spite of the low proportion of women of child bearing age, the area comparability factor for births for 1972 being 1.06. The average still birth rate was higher than that for England and Wales. The average infant mortality rate was lower than that for England and Wales. The number of pregnancies is too small to provide a maternal death rate of any significance, but the one death which occurred in 1950-69 produced an average rate corresponding to 102.3% of that for England and Wales. The average death rate was higher than that for England and Wales. This is due to the high proportion of elderly people, the area comparability factor for deaths for 1972 being 0.75.

It should be noted that only twice in the period 1950-72 has the death rate for England and Wales been higher than in 1972 and one of these years was 1963, the year of the Great Freeze. This illustrates how little improved health is connected with improved treatment services, it being connected rather with improved environmental and health education services. Improved treatment services are no substitute for a healthy environment for mind and body, nor for adherence to the simple rules of natural diet, moderation in eating and drinking, avoidance of tobacco, and regular exercise.

South Herefordshire

Vital Statistics

	<u>Births</u>			<u>Stillbirths</u>			<u>Infant Deaths</u>			<u>Maternal Deaths</u>			<u>Deaths</u>		
	Sth	Hfds	E&W	Sth	Hfds	E&W	Sth	Hfds	E&W	Sth	Hfds	E&W	Sth	Hfds	E&W
	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate
1950	639	16.7	15.9	18	27.4	22.6	13	20.3	29.6	0	0.00	0.86	472	12.3	11.6
1951	678	17.8	15.5	17	24.5	23.0	26	38.3	29.7	1	1.44	0.75	502	13.2	12.5
1952	654	17.3	15.3	18	26.8	22.7	13	19.9	27.6	0	0.00	0.67	444	11.8	11.3
1953	637	16.8	15.5	10	15.5	22.4	7	11.0	26.8	1	1.55	0.71	461	12.2	11.4
1954	575	15.1	15.2	15	25.4	23.5	22	38.3	25.4	0	0.00	0.65	444	11.7	11.3
1955	581	15.3	15.0	18	30.1	23.2	13	22.4	24.9	0	0.00	0.60	482	12.7	11.7
1956	601	15.9	15.7	19	30.6	22.9	15	25.0	23.7	0	0.00	0.52	458	12.1	11.7
1957	570	15.1	16.1	17	29.0	22.5	12	21.1	23.1	0	0.00	0.45	458	12.1	11.5
1958	586	15.5	16.4	13	21.7	21.5	14	23.9	22.5	0	0.00	0.43	456	12.1	11.7
1959	564	14.9	16.5	13	22.5	20.8	15	26.6	22.2	0	0.00	0.38	436	11.5	11.6
1960	609	16.1	17.2	16	25.6	19.8	6	9.9	21.8	0	0.00	0.39	464	12.3	11.5
1961	575	15.8	17.6	15	25.4	19.0	12	20.9	21.4	0	0.00	0.34	483	13.3	11.9
1962	608	16.6	18.0	9	14.6	18.1	16	26.3	21.7	0	0.00	0.35	439	12.0	11.9
1963	615	16.8	18.2	12	19.1	17.2	28	45.5	21.1	0	0.00	0.28	460	12.6	12.2
1964	615	16.6	18.5	9	14.4	16.3	17	27.6	19.9	0	0.00	0.26	438	11.8	11.3
1965	587	15.7	18.1	7	11.8	15.8	15	25.6	19.0	0	0.00	0.25	416	11.2	11.5
1966	584	15.6	17.7	8	13.5	15.3	9	15.4	19.0	0	0.00	0.26	436	11.7	11.7
1967	572	15.2	17.2	13	22.2	14.8	5	8.7	18.3	0	0.00	0.21	394	10.5	11.2
1968	532	14.1	16.9	12	22.1	14.3	6	11.3	18.3	0	0.00	0.24	441	11.7	11.9
1969	556	14.8	16.3	8	14.2	13.2	9	16.2	18.1	0	0.00	0.19	469	12.5	11.9
1970	483	12.9	16.0	7	14.3	13.0	4	8.3	18.2	1	2.04	0.18	442	11.8	11.7
1971	509	14.0	16.0	4	7.8	12.5	10	19.6	17.5	0	0.00	0.17	458	12.6	11.6
1972	507	14.0		10	19.3		10	19.7		0	0.00		533	14.7	

This table may be summarised as follows:

	<u>Births</u>			<u>Stillbirths</u>			<u>Infant Deaths</u>			<u>Maternal Deaths</u>			<u>Deaths</u>		
	Sth	Hfds	E&W	Sth	Hfds	E&W	Sth	Hfds	E&W	Sth	Hfds	E&W	Sth	Hfds	E&W
	Tot-	Av	Av	Tot-	Av	Av	Tot-	Av	Av	Tot-	Av	Av	Tot-	Av	Av
	al	Ann	Ann	al	Ann	Ann	al	Ann	Ann	al	Ann	Ann	al	Ann	Ann
	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate
1950-59	6085	16.0	15.7	158	25.4	22.5	150	24.7	25.6	2	0.30	0.60	4613	12.2	11.6
1960-69	5853	15.7	17.6	109	18.3	16.4	123	20.7	19.9	0	0.00	0.28	4440	12.0	11.7
50-69	11938	15.9	16.6	267	21.8	19.4	273	22.7	22.7	2	0.15	0.44	9053	12.1	11.7
1970	483	12.9	16.0	7	14.3	13.0	4	8.3	18.2	1	2.04	0.18	442	11.8	11.7
1971	509	14.0	16.0	4	7.8	12.5	10	19.6	17.5	0	0.00	0.17	458	12.6	11.6
1972	507	14.0		10	19.3		10	19.7		0	0.00		533	14.7	

The following comments may be made

Taking the period 1950-69 as a whole, the average birth rate was lower than that for England and Wales. This is due to the low proportion of women of child bearing age, the area comparability factor for births for 1972 for all the districts being above unity. The average stillbirth rate was higher than that for England and Wales. The average infant mortality rate was the same as that for England and Wales. The number of pregnancies is too small to produce a maternal death rate of any significance, but the two deaths which occurred in 1950-69 produced an average rate corresponding to 34.1% of that for England and Wales. The average death rate was higher than that for England and Wales. This is due to the high proportion of elderly people, the area comparability factor for deaths for 1972 for all the four districts being below unity.

It should be noted that only twice in the period 1950-72 has the death rate for England and Wales been higher than in 1972, and one of these years was 1963, the year of the Great Freeze. This illustrates how little improved health is connected with improved treatment services, it being connected rather with improved environmental and health education services. Improved treatment services are no substitute for a healthy environment for mind and body, nor for adherence to the simple rules of natural diet, moderation in eating and drinking, avoidance of tobacco and regular exercise.

Causes of Death

	<u>Lung Cancer</u>			<u>Other Cancer</u>			<u>Cerebro Vascular Disease</u>			<u>Cardio Vascular Disease</u>			<u>Other Cardiac Disease</u>		
	Ross UD	E&W		Ross UD	E&W		Ross UD	E&W		Ross UD	E&W		Ross UD	E&W	
	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate
1950	0	0.00	0.28	11	2.08	1.67	11	2.08	1.48	7	1.33	1.25	17	3.22	2.21
1951	0	0.00	0.30	11	2.06	1.66	8	1.50	1.56	7	1.31	1.33	15	2.81	2.34
1952	0	0.00	0.32	5	0.95	1.67	8	1.52	1.58	4	0.76	1.40	21	3.98	2.00
1953	2	0.38	0.34	10	1.89	1.65	8	1.51	1.54	12	2.27	1.42	35	6.62	1.93
1954	1	0.19	0.37	10	1.88	1.67	5	0.94	1.63	16	3.01	1.53	32	6.03	1.87
1955	3	0.56	0.39	14	2.63	1.67	10	1.88	1.67	9	1.69	1.61	17	3.20	1.88
1956	1	0.19	0.41	11	2.08	1.67	15	2.83	1.67	10	1.89	1.70	32	6.04	1.82
1957	2	0.38	0.42	12	2.28	1.67	11	2.09	1.64	15	2.85	1.72	24	4.55	1.70
1958	2	0.38	0.44	11	2.08	1.68	11	2.08	1.69	9	1.70	1.86	19	3.59	1.72
1959	2	0.38	0.46	9	1.69	1.68	15	2.81	1.66	12	2.25	1.87	22	4.13	1.58
1960	2	0.37	0.48	7	1.30	1.68	14	2.60	1.67	8	1.48	2.01	12	2.23	1.55
1961	4	0.72	0.49	11	1.97	1.67	18	3.23	1.67	8	1.44	2.07	16	2.87	1.57
1962	2	0.35	0.51	12	2.11	1.67	8	1.40	1.68	7	1.23	2.19	11	1.93	1.50
1963	2	0.35	0.52	9	1.56	1.66	10	1.73	1.71	12	2.08	2.29	24	4.15	1.47
1964	1	0.17	0.54	13	2.18	1.67	9	1.51	1.56	12	2.01	2.24	14	2.35	1.25
1965	7	1.14	0.55	13	2.13	1.67	13	2.13	1.64	7	1.14	2.38	14	2.29	1.23
1966	5	0.80	0.56	13	2.07	1.69	18	2.87	1.64	15	2.39	2.39	16	2.55	1.23
1967	2	0.31	0.58	13	2.03	1.70	17	2.66	1.59	17	2.66	2.67	12	1.88	0.82
1968	1	0.15	0.59	14	2.15	1.72	15	2.30	1.65	12	1.84	2.85	8	1.23	0.82
1969	4	0.61	0.61	10	1.52	1.74	13	1.98	1.63	19	2.89	2.86	14	2.13	0.78
1970	0	0.00	0.62	6	0.91	1.74	15	2.28	1.62	10	1.52	2.84	17	2.59	0.75
1971	2	0.31	0.63	9	1.41	1.76	16	2.51	1.64	13	2.04	2.93	14	2.20	0.73
1972	4	0.63	0.65	22	3.47	1.78	12	1.89	1.67	20	3.15	3.09	15	2.37	0.74

This table may be summarised as follows:

<u>Lung Cancer</u>			<u>Other Cancer</u>			<u>Cerebro Vascular Disease</u>			<u>Cardio Vascular Disease</u>			<u>Other Cardiac Disease</u>			
Ross	UD	E&W	Ross	UD	E&W	Ross	UD	E&W	Ross	UD	E&W	Ross	UD	E&W	
Tot-	Av	Av	Tot-	Av	Av	Tot-	Av	Av	Tot-	Av	Av	Tot-	Av	Av	
al	Ann	Ann	al	Ann	Ann	al	Ann	Ann	al	Ann	Ann	al	Ann	Ann	
No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	
1950-59	13	0.25	0.37	104	1.96	1.67	102	1.92	1.61	101	1.91	1.57	234	4.42	1.91
1960-69	30	0.50	0.54	115	1.90	1.69	135	2.24	1.64	117	1.92	2.40	141	2.36	1.22
1950-69	43	0.37	0.46	219	1.93	1.68	237	2.08	1.63	218	1.91	1.98	375	3.39	1.56
1970	0	0.00	0.62	6	0.91	1.74	15	2.28	1.62	10	1.52	2.84	17	2.59	0.75
1971	2	0.31	0.63	9	1.41	1.76	16	2.51	1.64	13	2.04	2.93	14	2.20	0.73
1972	4	0.63	0.65	22	3.47	1.78	12	1.89	1.67	20	3.15	3.09	15	2.37	0.74

The following comments may be made.

Death rates from the four main causes of death, responsible for 65.7% of all deaths in England and Wales in 1972, are shown, with death rates from cancer subdivided into those from lung cancer and those from other cancer. Although death rates from lung cancer were lower than those for England and Wales, due to different smoking habits in rural areas, they showed the same dramatic rise due to increased smoking, in contrast to death rates from other cancer, in which the rise was much less. Death rates from other cancer were higher than those for England and Wales. Death rates from cerebrovascular disease were higher than those for England and Wales. Death rates from cardiovascular disease were lower than those for England and Wales. Death rates from other cardiac disease were higher than those for England and Wales. These two rates must however be taken together, as the shift from one to the other is partly, if not entirely, due to a change in the fashion of diagnosis.

It should be noted that between 1950 and 1972 the death rate for England and Wales from lung cancer increased from 0.28 to 0.65, that is by 132.1%, from other cancer from 1.67 to 1.78, that is by 6.6%, from cerebrovascular disease from 1.48 to 1.67, that is by 12.8%, and from all cardiac disease from 3.46 to 3.83, that is by 10.7%. As already stated, improved health is not connected with improved treatment services but with improved environmental and health education services, a healthy environment for mind and body, natural diet, moderation in eating and drinking, avoidance of tobacco, and regular exercise.

South Herefordshire

Causes of Death

<u>Lung Cancer</u>				<u>Other Cancer</u>				<u>Cerebro Vascular Disease</u>				<u>Cardio Vascular Disease</u>				<u>Other Cardiac Disease</u>			
Sth Hfds E&W				Sth Hfds E&W				Sth Hfds E&W				Sth Hfds E&W				Sth Hfds E&W			
No.	Rate	Rate		No.	Rate	Rate		No.	Rate	Rate		No.	Rate	Rate		No.	Rate	Rate	
1950	5	0.13	0.28	70	1.83	1.67		73	1.91	1.48		39	1.02	1.25		104	2.72	2.21	
1951	7	0.18	0.30	65	1.71	1.66		62	1.63	1.56		51	1.34	1.33		84	2.21	2.34	
1952	5	0.13	0.32	57	1.51	1.67		55	1.46	1.58		38	1.01	1.40		100	2.65	2.00	
1953	9	0.24	0.34	65	1.72	1.65		56	1.48	1.54		53	1.40	1.42		106	2.80	1.93	
1954	6	0.16	0.37	55	1.45	1.67		65	1.71	1.63		48	1.26	1.53		87	2.29	1.87	
1955	12	0.32	0.39	71	1.87	1.67		74	1.95	1.67		52	1.37	1.61		76	2.00	1.88	
1956	9	0.24	0.41	65	1.72	1.67		68	1.80	1.67		35	0.93	1.70		89	2.35	1.82	
1957	8	0.21	0.42	72	1.91	1.67		56	1.48	1.64		49	1.30	1.72		92	2.44	1.70	
1958	12	0.32	0.44	49	1.30	1.68		71	1.88	1.69		63	1.67	1.86		71	1.88	1.72	
1959	10	0.26	0.46	67	1.77	1.68		65	1.72	1.66		49	1.30	1.87		67	1.77	1.58	
1960	14	0.37	0.48	75	1.98	1.68		75	1.98	1.67		60	1.59	2.01		65	1.72	1.55	
1961	17	0.47	0.49	72	1.98	1.67		68	1.87	1.67		57	1.57	2.07		78	2.15	1.57	
1962	17	0.46	0.51	56	1.53	1.67		62	1.69	1.68		62	1.69	2.19		60	1.64	1.50	
1963	11	0.30	0.52	68	1.86	1.66		69	1.88	1.71		61	1.67	2.29		65	1.78	1.47	
1964	12	0.32	0.54	56	1.51	1.67		65	1.76	1.56		79	2.13	2.24		55	1.49	1.25	
1965	17	0.46	0.55	64	1.72	1.67		64	1.72	1.64		78	2.09	2.38		49	1.31	1.23	
1966	14	0.37	0.56	66	1.76	1.69		74	1.98	1.64		82	2.19	2.39		65	1.74	1.23	
1967	18	0.48	0.58	62	1.65	1.70		68	1.81	1.59		90	2.39	2.67		44	1.17	0.82	
1968	17	0.45	0.59	79	2.10	1.72		70	1.86	1.65		76	2.02	2.85		42	1.12	0.82	
1969	19	0.51	0.61	70	1.86	1.74		72	1.92	1.63		112	2.98	2.86		48	1.28	0.78	
1970	22	0.59	0.62	63	1.69	1.74		69	1.85	1.62		86	2.30	2.84		55	1.47	0.75	
1971	17	0.47	0.63	58	1.60	1.76		81	2.23	1.64		89	2.45	2.93		46	1.27	0.73	
1972	16	0.44	0.65	87	2.40	1.78		68	1.87	1.67		139	3.83	3.09		42	1.16	0.74	

This table may be summarised as follows:

<u>Lung Cancer</u>			<u>Other Cancer</u>			<u>Cerebro Vascular Disease</u>			<u>Cardio Vascular Disease</u>			<u>Other Cardiac Disease</u>			
Sth	Hfds	EW	Sth	Hfds	EW	Sth	Hfds	EW	Sth	Hfds	EW	Sth	Hfds	EW	
Tot-	Av	Av	Tot-	Av	Av	Tot-	Av	Av	Tot-	Av	Av	Tot-	Av	Av	
al	Ann	Ann	al	Ann	Ann	al	Ann	Ann	al	Ann	Ann	al	Ann	Ann	
No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	
50-59	83	0.22	0.37	636	1.68	1.67	645	1.70	1.61	477	1.26	1.57	876	2.31	1.91
60-69	156	0.42	0.54	668	1.80	1.69	687	1.85	1.64	757	2.03	2.40	571	1.54	1.22
50-69	239	0.32	0.46	1304	1.74	1.68	1332	1.77	1.63	1234	1.65	1.98	1447	1.93	1.56
1970	22	0.59	0.62	63	1.69	1.74	69	1.85	1.62	86	2.30	2.84	55	1.47	0.75
1971	17	0.47	0.63	58	1.60	1.76	81	2.23	1.64	89	2.45	2.93	46	1.27	0.73
1972	16	0.44	0.65	87	2.40	1.78	68	1.87	1.67	139	3.83	3.09	42	1.16	0.74

The following comments may be made.

Death rates from the four main causes of death, responsible for 65.7% of all deaths in England and Wales in 1972, are shown, with death rates from cancer subdivided into those from lung cancer and those from other cancer. Although death rates from lung cancer were lower than those for England and Wales, due to different smoking habits in rural areas, they showed the same dramatic rise due to increased smoking, in contrast to death rates from other cancer, in which the rise was much less. Death rates from other cancer were higher than those for England and Wales. Death rates from cerebrovascular disease were higher than those for England and Wales. Death rates from cardiovascular disease were lower than those for England and Wales. Death rates from other cardiac disease were higher than those for England and Wales. These two rates must however be taken together, as the shift from one to the other is partly if not entirely due to a change in the pattern of diagnosis.

It should be noted that between 1950 and 1972 the death rate for England and Wales from lung cancer increased from 0.28 to 0.65, that is by 132.1%, from other cancer from 1.67 to 1.78, that is by 6.6%, from cerebrovascular disease from 1.48 to 1.67, that is by 12.8%, and from all cardiac disease from 3.46 to 3.83, that is by 10.7%. As already stated, improved health is not connected with improved treatment services, but with improved environmental and health education services, a healthy environment for mind and body, natural diet, moderation in eating and drinking, avoidance of tobacco, and regular exercise.

Section BGeneral Provision of Health Services for the AreaNational Health Service Act 1946Part IIHospital and Specialist ServicesSection 3 Hospital and Specialist Services

These services are the responsibility of the Herefordshire Hospital Management Committee, Eign Street, Hereford. Telephone Hereford 2012

Part IIILocal Health Authority Services

- Section 21 Health Centres
- Section 22 Care of Mothers and Young Children
- Section 23 Midwifery
- Section 24 Health Visiting
- Section 25 Home Nursing
- Section 26 Vaccination and Immunisation
- Section 27 Ambulance Services
- Section 28 Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care

These services are the responsibility of the Herefordshire County Health Department, Bridge Street, Hereford. Telephone Hereford 4281

Part IVGeneral Medical and Dental, Pharmaceutical, and
Supplementary Ophthalmic Services

- Section 33 General Medical Services
- Section 38 Pharmaceutical Services
- Section 40 General Dental Services
- Section 41 Supplementary Ophthalmic Services

These services are the responsibility of the Herefordshire Executive Council, St. James Road, Hereford. Telephone Hereford 5606

Laboratory ServicesPublic Health Laboratory Services

These services are the responsibility of the Public Health Laboratory, County Hospital, Hereford. Telephone Hereford 4696

Specimens from South Herefordshire were reported during the year as follows:-

Water	587
Milk	70
Faeces	59
Ice Cream	27
	743

Section C

Infectious and Other Notifiable Diseases

Ross U.D.

Infectious Diseases

	Measles (excluding rubella)		Dysentery	
	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-
2-	-	-	-	1
3-	-	-	-	-
4-	-	-	-	-
5-	1	-	-	-
10-	-	-	-	-
15-	-	-	-	-
25 and over	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-
Total	1	-	-	1

	Tuberculosis Respiratory		Tuberculosis Other	
	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-
2-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	-	-	-
10-	-	-	-	-
15-	-	-	-	-
20-	-	-	-	-
25-	-	2	-	-
35-	-	-	-	-
45-	-	-	-	-
55-	-	-	1	-
65-	2	-	-	-
75 and over	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-
Total	2	2	1	-

Infectious and Other Notifiable DiseasesSouth Herefordshire
Infectious Diseases

	Measles (excluding rubella)		Scarlet Fever		Dysentery	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	2	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	2	-	-	-	1
2-	-	-	-	-	-	1
3-	1	-	-	-	1	-
4-	2	1	-	1	1	-
5-	10	6	-	2	-	-
10	2	-	-	-	1	1
15-	-	1	-	-	-	1
25 and over	-	-	-	-	3	1
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	17	10	-	3	6	5

	Whooping Cough			Infective Jaundice		Tuberculosis			
	M	F		M	F	Respiratory		Other	
Under 3 months	-	-	Under 1 year	-	-	M	F	M	F
3-	-	-	1-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6-	-	-	2-	2	-	-	-	-	-
9-	-	-	5-	6	5	-	-	-	-
1- year	-	-	10-	2	5	-	-	-	-
2-	-	-	15-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	2	-	20-	-	1	-	-	-	-
10-	-	-	25-	1	3	-	2	-	-
15-	-	-	35-	1	-	-	-	-	-
20-	-	-	45-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	-	-	55-	-	-	-	-	1	-
35-	-	-	65-	-	-	3	-	-	-
45-	-	-	75 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-	-	-	Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
65-	-	-							
75 and over	-	-	Total	12	14	3	2	1	-
Age unknown	-	-							
Total	2	-	Cases of fatal tuberculosis not notified before death = 1 male						

Food Poisoning

	M	F
Under 5 years	-	-
5-	-	1
15-	1	2
45-	-	-
65 and over	-	-
Age unknown	-	-
Total	1	3

Ross U.D.Tuberculosis

	<u>Notifications</u>						<u>Deaths</u>					
	<u>Pulmonary</u>			<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>			<u>Pulmonary</u>			<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		
	Male	Fe-	Total	Male	Fe-	Total	Male	Fe-	Total	Male	Fe-	Total
	male			male			male			male		
1950	7	1	8	1		1	1		1			1
1951	4	5	9	1		1	2		2			2
1952		3	3		2	2	2		2	1		3
1953		1	1		1	1	1		1			1
1954	1	3	4	2		2		1	1			1
1955		2	2									
1956	2		2	1		1	2		2			2
1957	5		5									
1958	2	3	5		1	1		1	1			1
1959	1		1									
1960		1	1									
1961	2		2		1	1	1	1	2			2
1962	1		1									
1963	3	1	4				2		2			2
1964	1		1									
1965	2	2	4									
1966	1		1		1	1						
1967	2	1	3									
1968	2		2				1		1			1
1969												
1970		1	1									
1971												
1972	2	2	4	1		1						

This table may be summarised as follows:-

Average Annual Numbers

	<u>Notifications</u>						<u>Deaths</u>					
	<u>Pulmonary</u>			<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>			<u>Pulmonary</u>			<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		
	Male	Fe-	Total	Male	Fe-	Total	Male	Fe-	Total	Male	Fe-	Total
	male			male			male			male		
50-59	2.2	1.8	4.0	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.8	0.2	1.0	0.1		0.1
60-69	1.4	0.5	1.9		0.2	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.5			0.5
50-59	1.8	1.2	3.0	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.8	0.1		0.8
1970		1	1									
1971												
1972	2	2	4	1		1						

The following comments may be made.

All numbers were lower in 1960-69 than in 1950-59 except Female Non-Pulmonary Deaths.

All numbers for Males were higher than the corresponding numbers for Females except Male Non-Pulmonary Notifications in 1960-69 and Male Non-Pulmonary Deaths in 1960-69.

Although there were fewer Female Pulmonary Notifications than Male Pulmonary Notifications in 1950-59 the proportionate fall in Pulmonary Notifications in 1960-69 as compared with 1950-59 was still greater in Females than in Males.

So far as any conclusions may be drawn from such small numbers the following conclusions may be drawn.

Tuberculosis is on the decline.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis but not Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis is essentially and increasingly a disease of Males. It is also essentially a disease of middle-aged Males. Medical opinion is that this is due to the breakdown of a childhood infection caused by smoking.

South HerefordshireTuberculosis

	<u>Notifications</u>						<u>Total</u>	<u>Deaths</u>						<u>Total</u>
	<u>Pulmonary</u>			<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>				<u>Pulmonary</u>			<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>			
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fe-</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fe-</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Fe-</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fe-</u>	<u>Total</u>	
	<u>male</u>			<u>male</u>				<u>male</u>			<u>male</u>			
1950	23	6	29	7	2	9	38	9	3	12	1		1	13
1951	26	20	46	4	5	9	55	4	3	7		2	2	9
1952	11	17	28	5	3	8	36	8		8	1		1	9
1953	12	8	20		1	1	21	8	3	11				11
1954	13	13	26	3	4	7	33	3	1	4				4
1955	10	8	18	1	2	3	21	1	2	3				3
1956	16	6	22	2	3	5	27	4	1	5		1	1	6
1957	17	5	22	3		3	25	3		3				3
1958	9	9	18	2	2	4	22	3	3	6	1		1	7
1959	8	3	11				11	3	1	4				4
1960	2	3	5		3	3	8							
1961	7	4	11		3	3	14	2	1	3				3
1962	2	5	7	1		1	8	2	1	3				3
1963	5	2	7				7	2		2				2
1964	5		5	2	1	3	8	4		4				4
1965	7	3	10		2	2	12	2		2	1	1	2	4
1966	2	2	4		1	1	5							
1967	5	4	9	1	1	2	11	1	1	2				2
1968	6		6	1		1	7	2		2				2
1969	3	2	5				5		1	1				1
1970	1	1	2				2		2	2				2
1971	2		2				2							
1972	3	2	5	1		1	6	3		3		1	1	4

This table may be summarised as follows:

Average Annual Numbers

	<u>Notifications</u>							<u>Total</u>	<u>Deaths</u>							<u>Total</u>
	<u>Pulmonary</u>			<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>					<u>Pulmonary</u>			<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>				
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fe-</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fe-</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Fe-</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fe-</u>	<u>Total</u>			
	<u>male</u>			<u>male</u>			<u>male</u>				<u>male</u>					
50-59	14.5	9.5	24.0	2.7	2.2	4.9	28.9	4.6	1.7	6.3	0.3	0.3	0.6	6.9		
60-69	4.4	2.5	6.9	0.5	1.1	1.6	8.5	1.5	0.4	1.9	0.1	0.1	0.2	2.1		
50-69	9.5	6.0	15.5	1.6	1.7	3.3	18.7	3.1	1.1	4.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	4.5		
1970	1	1	2				2		2	2				2		
1971	2		2				2									
1972	3	2	5	1		1	6	3		3		1	1	4		

The following comments may be made on the Summary table.

All numbers were lower in 1960-69 than in 1950-59.

All numbers for Males were higher than the corresponding numbers for Females except Male Non-Pulmonary notifications in 1960-69 and Male Non-Pulmonary deaths in 1950-59 and 1960-69.

Although there were fewer Female Pulmonary notifications than Male Pulmonary notifications and fewer Female Pulmonary deaths than Male Pulmonary deaths in 1950-59 the proportionate fall in Pulmonary notifications and Pulmonary deaths in 1960-69 as compared with 1950-59 was still greater in Females than in Males.

So far as any conclusion may be drawn from such small numbers the following conclusions may be drawn.

Tuberculosis is on the decline.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis but not Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis is essentially and increasingly a disease of Males. It is also essentially a disease of middle-aged Males. Medical opinion is that this is due to the breakdown of a childhood infection caused by smoking.

Section D. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supply

The water supply of the area has been satisfactory in quality and quantity with the exception of the supply to the northern part of the town which is made from the Castlebrook boreholes. In order to maintain the supply it was again necessary to undertake emergency pumping from the Castle Brook, the water being passed through carbon filters and fed into the aeration tank to be mixed with water obtained from the boreholes. This emergency pumping was still required at the end of the year. Some deterioration in colour occurred following the institution of the emergency pumping arrangements. The chlorine dose was increased but some unsatisfactory bacteriological results were obtained, and flushing out was undertaken to improve these conditions.

Where unsatisfactory bacteriological results have been obtained on the samples taken in the town, these have been investigated and action taken on the findings. This has usually entailed a visit to the property to check the conditions, a check on the chlorination at the source and flushing out of dead end mains followed by resampling.

All 2111 dwelling houses and all 6340 population are supplied from public water mains direct to the houses.

The fluoride content of the water supply is less than 0.1 part per million.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The Sewage Disposal Works is badly overloaded and is taking over six times dry weather flow for most of the 24 hours of every day.

Work on its extension commenced in the spring of 1971 and it is hoped that it will be completed in the summer of 1973.

Rivers and Streams

All streams in the area for which the Council has responsibility have been cleaned at least once during the year and no complaints of contamination have been received.

Closet Accommodation

There are no houses in the area on the conservancy system.

Public Cleansing

There have been no changes during the year in the arrangements for refuse collection and disposal.

The raising of the level of Field 274 by the use of strictly controlled tipping continued.

During part of the summer the tip was closed and refuse was taken to the tip at Deep Dean.

Public Health Inspection of the Area

The tabular statement furnished by the Public Health Inspector under Article 25(20) of the Public Health Officers' Regulations 1959.

Animal Boarding Establishments	4	Insects	2
Bakehouses	6	Licensed Premises	4
Building Work	87	Markets	58
Camping Sites	6	Milk Retailers	18
Caravan Sites	23	Milk Sampling	28
Dairies	2	Mobile Shops	17
Drainage	37	Nuisances	22
Factories with mechanical power	13	Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	35
Factories without mechanical power	2	Petroleum Stores	4
Food Premises	93	Pigeons	7
Hotel and Restaurant Kitchens	14	Rodent Control	161
Housing Consolidated Regulations	5	Schools	6
Housing Other	23	School Kitchens	11
Ice Cream Registered Premises	30	Smoke Observations	4
Improvement Grants	117	Swimming Pools	73
Infectious Disease	7	Unsound Food	30
		Water Supply	255
		Total	1204

Shops and Offices

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

Table A

Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of premises newly registered during the year	Total No. of regd. premises at end of year	No. of regd. premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Offices	-	36	2
Retail Shops	4	76	8
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	4	20	7
Fuel Storage Depots	2	2	-
Total	10	134	17

Table B

Number of visits of all kinds (including general inspections) of registered premises	...	35
--	-----	----

Table C

Analysis by workplace of persons employed in
registered premises at end of year

<u>Class of Workplace</u>	<u>Number of persons employed</u>
(1)	(2)
Offices	276
Retail Shops	355
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	-
Catering Establishments open to the public	108
Canteens	-
Fuel Storage Depots	17
Total	756
Total Males	320
Total Females	436

Camping Sites

Two sites in the area were used for camping purposes during the year.

No licences were issued by the Local Authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act 1936.

The estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at any one time during the summer season was 100.

Caravan Sites

No new licences were issued by the Local Authority under Section 3 of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960.

Nuisance from Noise

As the extent of the work being carried on at the Ross Rifle Range by the War Department, details of which work had never been given to the public, became visible at a distance, concern began to be expressed by ratepayers living in the bowl containing the Range, who had suffered very severely from nuisance from noise from the Range before it was closed, about the likely increase in nuisance from noise from the Range when it was reopened.

The War Department at first stated that the use of the Range in the year before it was closed had been exceptional, and gave assurances that it would not be used so much when it was reopened, but later their position altered without notice, and the assurance became one that it would not be used more than in 1970, the year of the very heavy usage before it was closed. What gives even more cause for concern is that this assurance was always given in terms of days of use, and never in terms of number of rounds fired. The number of days of use stated, 185, is itself very heavy, being the equivalent of use every day during four summer months and every Saturday and Sunday during the remaining eight, and this refusal to give an assurance in terms of rounds fired is particularly disturbing in view of the rumours, finally confirmed by the War Department, that the operation of the targets is to be made automatic, which will enable a vastly greater number of persons to use the Range in a given time, in view of the bringing in of persons to use the Range from vastly greater distances than in the past, and in view of closing down of many other Ranges, which is bound to put greater pressure on those Ranges remaining.

Continual vigilance will be required to ensure that the War Department's assurance that the Range will not be used more than in 1970 means that more rounds will not be fired than in 1970, which is what any sensible person would take it to mean, as there is a very real danger, particularly in view of the increase in the use of automatic weapons, of the Range becoming, for those living in the bowl containing the Range, a very severe noise nuisance. This bowl contains Ross's two main private housing developments comprising about a quarter of its houses and a quarter of its population, or about 400-500 houses, and 1500 - 1600 persons, and its largest hotel.

Smoke Abatement

No complaint of smoke nuisance was received during the year. Observations continued with regard to previous complaints of smoke nuisance from two factories. No nuisance occurred.

Public Swimming Baths

There are no public swimming baths in the District, but one is now under construction.

There are swimming baths at the Grammar School, the Secondary Modern School, and the Primary School, and also at the Woodville Rubber Co. The water in all four baths is chlorinated and filtered and all four are hydraulically cleaned.

73 samples were taken from the four baths during the year, all of which were sterile.

Two sites in the area were used for camping purposes during the year. No licences were issued by the local authority under Section 259 of the Public Health Act 1936.

Public Houses

As the extent of the work being carried on at the Ross Rifle Range by the War Department, details of which work had never been given to the public, became visible at a distance, concern began to be expressed by residents living in the bowl containing the Range, who had suffered very severely from nuisance from noise from the Range before it was closed, about the likely increase in nuisance from noise from the Range when it was reopened.

The War Department at first stated that the use of the Range in the year before it was closed had been exceptional, and gave assurance that it would not be used so much when it was reopened, but later their position altered without notice, and the assurance became one that it would not be used more than in 1970, the year of the very heavy usage before it was closed. What gives even more cause for concern is that this assurance was always given in terms of days of use, and never in terms of number of rounds fired. The number of days of use stated, 185, is itself very heavy, being the equivalent of one every day during four winter months and every Saturday and Sunday during the remaining eight, and this refusal to give an assurance in terms of rounds fired is particularly disturbing in view of the remarks, finally confirmed by the War Department, that the operation of the target is to be made automatic, which will enable a vastly greater number of persons to use the Range in a given time, in view of the bringing in of persons to use the Range from vastly greater distances than in the past, and in view of closing down of many other Ranges, which is bound to put greater pressure on those Ranges remaining.

Continual vigilance will be required to ensure that the War Department's assurance that the Range will not be used more than in 1970 means that more rounds will not be fired than in 1970, which is what any sensible person would take it to mean, as there is a very real danger, particularly in view of the increase in the use of automatic weapons, of the Range becoming, for those living in the bowl containing the Range, a very severe noise nuisance. This bowl contains Ross's two main private housing developments comprising about a quarter of the houses and a quarter of the population, or about 400-500 houses, and 1500 - 1600 persons, and the largest hotel.

Section E. Housing

New Houses

Number of houses completed during the year

- | | | | |
|-----|------------------------|-----|-----|
| (a) | by private enterprise | ... | 3 |
| (b) | by the local authority | ... | Nil |

Number of houses in course of erection at the end of the year

- | | | | |
|-----|------------------------|-----|----|
| (a) | by private enterprise | ... | 5 |
| (b) | by the local authority | ... | 17 |

Housing Act 1957 Part IV Abatement of Overcrowding

- | | | | |
|-----|---|------|-----|
| (a) | Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | ... | Nil |
| (b) | Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year. | ... | Nil |
| (c) | The number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year. | ... | Nil |
| (d) | Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding. | | Nil |

The number of inspections of registered food premises
Inspection have been made of all premises where food is stored and sold and the other registered food premises have also been inspected.
All were satisfactory.

Any new educational activity (e.g. transmission of clean food habits or of bacteriophage food hygiene) and the progress of established educational activity.
In the school containing the school of cooking.

Lectures on the work of the Public Health Department and on food hygiene in particular were again given to Senior pupils at the Secondary Modern School.

The method of disposal of condemned food
Condemned canned and preserved foods are collected by the refuse Department and disposed of, after treatment by disinfectants or by deep burial on the Council's refuse tip.

Section F Inspection and Supervision of Food

The number of food premises in the area, by type of business

Bakers	4
Butchers	6
Catering Establishments	25
Dairies and Milk Retailers	24
Fishmongers	2
Fried Fish Shops	3
Greengrocers	9
Grocers	16
Total	89

The number of food premises by type registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 or under Local Acts and the number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959

Bakers	4
Fish Fryers	3
Ice Cream Purveyors	27
Meat Preserving Manufacturers	2
Meat Products Manufacturers	1
Total	37
Dairies	2
Milk Retailers	22

The number of inspections of registered food premises

Inspections have been made of all premises where Ice Cream is stored and sold and the other registered food premises have also been inspected. All were satisfactory.

Any new educational activity (e.g. inauguration of clean food guilds or of lectures on food hygiene) and the progress of established educational activity

Lectures on the work of the Public Health Department and on Food Hygiene in particular were again given to Senior pupils at the Secondary Modern School.

The method of disposal of condemned food

Condemned canned and prepacked foods are collected by the Refuse Department and disposed of, after treatment by disinfectants or dyes, by deep burial on the Council's refuse tip.

Special examination of a stock or of a consignment of food

On six occasions deep freeze refrigerators failed and the following numbers of articles (or weight) of frozen food were accepted for surrender 107, 207, 240, 76, and 189, a total of 819 articles, and 8 lbs. 11 oz of meat. There were approximately 1700 articles of food at risk.

- 214 lbs of beef were condemned owing to bone taint.
- 23 chickens were condemned, a total of 172 lbs.
- 72 lbs. of fish were condemned owing to decomposition and 42 lbs. owing to chemical taint.
- 15 lbs. of canned meat and 10 lbs of canned apples were condemned owing to the cans being blown.
- 27 miscellaneous articles of food were condemned owing to mould.

Reference to the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Regulations 1959-63

There are no premises which are required to be registered under these Regulations.

Details of Food Premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970, grouped in categories of trade carried on in them, and including the following information for each category separately

- (a) the number of premises
- (b) the number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 18
- (c) the number of premises to which Regulation 21 applies
- (d) the number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 21

Bakers	...	4
Butchers	...	6
Catering Establishments	...	25
Dairies		2
Fishmongers		2
Fried Fish Shops		3
Greengrocers		9
Grocers		16
Total		67

All 67 premises are fitted to comply with Regulation 18.
Regulation 21 applies to all except three of the greengrocers and all 64 premises to which the Regulation applies are fitted to comply with it.

Meat

A tabular statement for the inclusion of information about the post mortem inspection of animals in the form provided.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

There is no slaughterhouse in the District.

Factories Act 1961Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act 1961Part I of the Act

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	49	13	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	17	22	-	-
Total	69	37	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
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	-	-	-	-	-

COUNTY OBSERVATORY,

ROSS-ON-WYE

Established 1859

WEATHER STATION OF THE METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

and

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE METEOROLOGICAL OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR 1972

Dullest Year on Record

There were several unusual features in the meteorology of 1972. First and foremost, the lack of sunshine was such as to establish a new low sunshine record, exceeding the previous lowest annual record made in 1958.

The summer was dry and cool - especially June which was the coldest on record. Rainfall was low especially in July and August which were the driest of the year. The total rainfall for June to October (inclusive) was only 6.94 inches.

Bright sunshine was deficient in every month except March, August and November, the last named month being markedly bright for second successive year. The wettest month was December, but rainfall was well above average in January and February.

Three "absolute droughts" occurred in late summer and early autumn viz., 27 days, August 11th to September 6th - 25 days, September 14th to October 8th and 15 days, October 11th to 25th.

Mean temperature for the year was slightly below average. July was the warmest month and January the coldest; June was the month with greatest temperature deficiency and December had the largest excess warmth. No reading as high 80 deg. F. was recorded. For the first time since records began 96 years ago temperature failed to reach 70 deg. F. in June!!

Sunniest month was August, whilst February and December were the dullest months. But May and June had exceptionally large deficits.

JANUARY - For sixth successive year temperature exceeded normal. A little snow fell on last three days, of which the 31st was the coldest day of the year with maximum temperature only 29 deg. F. This followed the lowest minimum temperature of the year viz., 14 deg. F. in shade and 9 deg. F. on ground. Rain was well above average. Strong winds occurred in the closing week. A gust of 55 m.p.h. was recorded on the 26th.

FEBRUARY - had its heaviest rainfall since 1958. There was air frost on three nights only, the month being slightly milder than average. The sunshine total was the lowest of the year - 14 days being sunless, the highest number since 1947.

MARCH - This was a mild sunny month. On six days temperature reached or exceeded 60 deg. F. Only three nights had air frost. Rainfall exceeded average which together with the January and February totals made the first quarter of 1972 the wettest for 21 years (10 inches being registered).

APRIL - was the mildest since 1963. Rainfall was low - none being measured in the 14 day period 14th to 27th - just one day short of an "absolute drought" Sunshine was deficient by 65 hours!

MAY - was chiefly remarkable for its lack of sunshine, which made it the dullest May for 40 years. Temperature was well below normal. There was no air frost, but three nights had ground frost. On the warmest day temperature reached only 62.5 deg.F., the lowest reading for May's warmest day since records began 96 years ago.

JUNE This was the worst month of the year, and the coldest June on record. Its highest temperature was only 67 deg.F. Coming after a dismal cold May it was not surprising that crop growth languished for want of warmth and sunshine. The latter element was deficient by 69 hours!! Only one previous June had less sunshine, viz. in 1955 (127 hours).

Rainfall was below average.

JULY This month opened with cool cloudy weather. But after the 12th warm weather prevailed, temperature reaching 70 deg.F. for first time on 13th and exceeding that level on most days until the 29th. Rainfall and sunshine were both below average - as was temperature.

AUGUST - was driest month of the year - and the summer of 1972 was driest for 23 years. It was the only summer month with more than average sunshine. The only thunderstorm in the summer occurred on 1st. On two days 13 hours sunshine was recorded - the brightest August days since 1966.

SEPTEMBER This was a disappointing month with temperature well below average. There was no reading as high as 70 deg.F and it was the coolest September for 20 years. On the 9th the temperature rose no higher than 52 deg. F. The same day was the wettest of the year with rainfall 1.69 inch. But the month's total fall was below average. Sunshine again deficient.

OCTOBER - was mild for the eighth year in succession, but both rainfall and sunshine were below average. There were eleven sunless days - the highest number since 1915.

NOVEMBER was exceptionally sunny, having the greatest excess sunshine of any month. Rainfall was up to average, and temperature above average. The 6th was the warmest November day since 1946, temperature reaching 64 deg. F.

DECEMBER was outstanding as a mild rainy month - the wettest of the year, and the month with the greatest excess warmth. A thunderstorm (heavy for the season) occurred on the 10th. Only two nights experienced air frost.

Subjoined are the usual Tables of Statistics.

F.J. PARSONS, M.B.E., M.A.(Oxon), F.R.Met.Soc.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICER

TABLE I

SHADE TEMPERATURE (deg. Fahr) in Stevenson Screen
4 feet above grass

Month	Mean 1972	Normal 70 years *	Deviation from Normal	E x t r e m e s			
				Highest	Date	Lowest	Date
Jan.	39.7	39.4	+ 0.3	52.0	10,11,26	14.2	31
Feb.	41.2	40.1	+ 1.1	50.1	5	29.7	7
March	44.8	42.9	+ 1.9	65.3	19	27.0	2
April	48.0	47.5	+ 0.5	61.0	1st	33.5	9
May	51.3	53.3	- 2.0	63.2	20	36.4	17
June	53.5	58.6	- 5.1	67.2	26	37.7	2
July	60.8	61.8	- 1.0	77.9	17	44.0	6
Aug.	60.3	60.9	- 0.6	76.4	14	37.5	11
Sept.	53.1	56.7	- 3.6	69.4	2	33.4	27
Oct.	50.9	49.7	+ 1.2	65.1	5	29.5	4
Nov.	44.5	43.9	+ 0.6	63.7	6	25.2	25
Dec.	43.3	40.4	+ 2.9	57.7	14	27.3	19
Year	49.3	49.6	- 0.3	77.9	July 17	14.2	Jan. 31

* 1881 to 1960

All temperatures have been converted from CENTIGRADE

Warmest nights:- July 20/21, 21/22, August 4/5, all with
minimum 60 deg. F.

TABLE II

EARTH TEMPERATURE (deg. FAHR)

Month	At One Foot		At 3 feet 3 ins		No. of Nights with Ground Frost (below 32 deg.)	Lowest Temper- ature	Date
	Mean 1972	Deviation from Normal ϕ	Mean	Deviation from Normal ϕ			
Jan.	41.2	+ 1.4	44.8		11	9.0	31
Feb.	40.4	+ 0.7	42.8		10	21.1	10
March	44.5	+ 2.1	44.8		16	20.7	2
April	48.8	+ 1.1	48.4		8	24.5	9
May	52.3	- 1.8	51.1		3	27.9	17
June	56.3	- 3.8	54.5		0	32.4	12
July	61.2	- 1.9	58.1		0	35.6	6
Aug.	61.7	- 0.7	60.2		0	32.9	19
Sept.	56.5	- 2.2	57.6		3	27.8	27
Oct.	52.6	+ 0.3	53.6		8	21.4	21
Nov.	46.3	+ 0.7	49.1		14	18.3	18
Dec.	43.5	+ 1.9	45.9		11	22.1	19
Year	50.0	+ 0.6	50.9		84	9.0	Jan. 31

ϕ 40 years 1921 to 1960.

No normals available for 3 ft. 3 ins.
depth (one metre) as it was changed from
4 feet on January 1st 1971.

TABLE III

RAINFALL (24 hrs. to 9 a.m. (G.M.T.) daily)
as measured in standard gauge (5 inches diameter)

Rim: 12 inches above grass
Height above sea level: 223 feet

Month	Total Depth in Inches			Highest Daily Fall	Date	No. of Rain- days ϕ	Duration of Rainfall (Hours and 10ths)
	1972	Average π	Deviation from Average				
Jan.	3.61	2.73	+ 0.88	0.73	12	20	83.9
Feb.	3.73	2.06	+ 1.67	0.89	15	19	80.1
March	2.65	1.97	+ 0.68	0.56	6	18	50.2
April	1.43	1.88	- 0.45	0.25	28	11	33.4
May	2.51	2.16	+ 0.35	0.51	3	22	55.9
June	1.49	1.95	- 0.46	0.39	4	14	32.4
July	0.90	2.31	- 1.41	0.35	21	10	17.1
Aug.	0.89	2.50	- 1.61	0.21	7	9	16.8
Sept.	1.89	2.42	- 0.53	1.69	9	3	22.0
Oct.	1.77	2.98	- 1.21	0.87	9	8	38.1
Nov.	2.81	2.82	- 0.01	1.14	19	13	41.0
Dec.	4.76	2.80	+ 1.96	0.83	1st	18	86.3
Year	28.44	28.58	- 0.14	1.69	Sept.9	165	547.2

π 100 year average 1861 - 1960

ϕ A "rain-day" is one with at least .005 inch (0.2 millimetre)

TABLE IV

BRIGHT SUNSHINE (in Hours and 10ths) as registered by a
Campbell Stokes Recorder 35 feet above ground

Month	Duration		Deviation from Average	Highest Daily Record	Date	No. of sunless days	Solar Radiation Max. Temp. (deg.Fahr.)	Date
	1972	Average π						
Jan.	45.9	53.1	- 7.2	7.7	21	17	97	10
Feb.	39.8	68.9	- 29.1	7.2	14	14	107	14: 29
March	134.5	114.1	+ 20.4	10.9	24	2	119	19: 28
April	140.9	153.0	- 12.1	12.8	25	1	130	9: 15
May	121.8	186.9	- 65.1	12.0	1st	2	131	22
June	130.1	199.2	- 69.1	13.1	19	1	137	23
July	169.0	181.3	- 12.3	14.4	15	2	139	5: 22
Aug.	180.0	169.9	+ 10.1	13.1	23	1	139	22:23
Sept.	90.5	129.9	- 39.4	8.8	1st	4	136	11
Oct.	63.8	97.6	- 33.8	8.0	5	10	120	15
Nov.	89.9	58.3	+ 31.6	7.1	23	8	111	6
Dec.	39.9	49.8	- 9.9	6.2	15	13	97	14
Year	1246.1	1462.0	-145.9	14.4	July15	75	139	July5:22 Aug.22:23

π Average 45 years 1960 - 1916

ϕ From Black Bulb thermometer (in vacuo) on Tower.

TABLE V

BAROMETRIC PRESSURE (in Inches of Mercury)
corrected for Sea-level and Temperature 32 deg. Fahr.

Height of cistern above Sea-level 225 feet

Month	Mean	Deviation from Normal	E X T R E M E S			
			Highest	Date	Lowest	Date
Jan.	29.842	- 0.152	30.321	29	29.092	26
Feb.	29.726	- 0.270	30.272	23	28.913	12
March	29.860	- 0.143	30.452	12	28.853	6
April	29.888	- 0.058	30.420	23	29.016	11
May	29.876	- 0.112	30.234	15	29.406	27
June	29.901	- 0.131	30.217	14	29.577	4
July	30.086	+ 0.110	30.422	13	29.613	31
Aug.	30.107	+ 0.127	30.417	19	29.368	8
Sept.	30.203	+ 0.191	30.513	2	29.539	9
Oct.	30.095	+ 0.127	30.563	18	29.279	27
Nov.	29.959	+ 0.044	30.651	25	28.839	20
Dec.	29.962	+ 0.003	30.608	19	29.188	2
Year	29.968	- 0.012	30.651	Nov. 25	28.839	Nov. 27

All values have been converted from Millibars

TABLE VI

PREVAILING WIND and RELATIVE HUMIDITY (100% = saturation)

Month	Prevailing Direction	Percentage of all observations	Relative Humidity		
			Mean Percentage	Minimum	Date
Jan.	South	20	87	61	19
Feb.	North-East	22	88	54	14
March	North-East	17	78	32	22
April	South-West	24	73	42	27
May	South-West	27	73	40	1st & 18
June	South-West	43	74	42	3
July	South-West	25	79	42	15
Aug.	North and North-East	18 each	72	35	31
Sept.	North-East	27	75	48	1st
Oct.	North-East	32	81	38	5
Nov.	South-West	50	82	51	23
Dec.	South-West	30	89	66	4
Year	South-West	27	79	32	March 22

From observations made six times daily at three-hourly intervals from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. (G.M.T.)

TABLE V

HEIGHTS OF CLIMAX ABOVE SEA-LEVEL (IN FEET)

(Values are not corrected for sea-level and temperature in feet.)

HEIGHTS OF CLIMAX ABOVE SEA-LEVEL (IN FEET)

Month	Mean	Deviation	Height	Month	Mean	Deviation
Jan.	29.802	- 0.182	29.321	Nov.	29.812	+ 0.002
Feb.	29.756	- 0.170	29.322	Dec.	29.812	+ 0.002
Mar.	29.808	- 0.163	29.322			
Apr.	29.808	- 0.078	29.420			
May	29.878	- 0.112	29.524			
June	29.907	- 0.131	29.527			
July	29.982	+ 0.140	29.528			
Aug.	29.107	+ 0.127	29.417			
Sept.	29.202	+ 0.191	29.212			
Oct.	29.097	+ 0.127	29.202			
Nov.	29.702	+ 0.002	29.321			
Dec.	29.802	+ 0.002	29.408			
Year	29.802	- 0.012	29.481			

All values have been converted from millibars

TABLE VI

RELATIVE HUMIDITY (100 = saturation)

Month	Mean	Deviation	Percentage	Month	Mean	Deviation
Jan.	61	87	20	Nov.	61	87
Feb.	64	88	22	Dec.	64	88
Mar.	62	78	17			
Apr.	45	72	26			
May	40	72	27			
June	42	72	42			
July	42	72	22			
Aug.	32	72	10 north			
Sept.	48	72	22			
Oct.	58	72	12			
Nov.	61	87	20			
Dec.	64	88	22			
Year	57	72	27			

From observations made six times daily at three-hourly intervals from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. (G.M.T.)



