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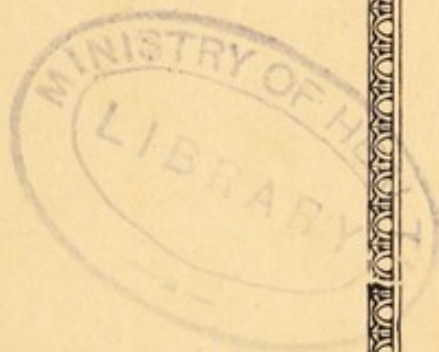
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SANDOWN-SHANKLIN

(ISLE OF WIGHT)

URBAN DISTRICT



Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Sanitary Inspector

1952.

Sandown-Shanklin Urban District Council

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

DONALD WARREN BROWNE, M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector

ROGER B. GIRLING, M.R.SanI., M.S.I.A.
(Resigned 31/10/52). Cert. San. I.B.
(1, 2, 3 and 4)*

Additional Sanitary Inspector

KENNETH J. HADLER, A.R.SanI., M.S.I.A.
(1, 2, 5 and 6)*

- * 1. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute;
2. Meat and Food Inspection Certificate of the Royal Sanitary
Institute;
3. Smoke Inspectors Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute;
4. National Certificate of the Institute of Builders;
5. Diploma of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene.
6. Sanitary Science Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

ANNUAL REPORT

1952

To the Chairman and Councillors,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report on the health and sanitary circumstances for the year 1952.

VITAL STATISTICS (See Pages 3, 4, 5 and 6)

The estimated population was 12,070, a decrease of 420 from the previous year. The Comparative Birth Rate recovered slightly from the set back in 1951, reaching 12.1, as compared with 15.3 for England and Wales.

The Comparative Death Rate showed little change, but the causes of death in certain diseases increased noticeably, as can be seen from the table which is now included in the Report. Attention is drawn to the figures for coronary heart disease and for cancer of the lung, both of which show marked increases over 1951, not only in this district, but in England and Wales as a whole. The former, coronary disease, is probably the penalty exacted by Nature for our mode of life today, whereby the body is given little respite from physical or nervous tension from middle age onwards. The latter, cancer of the lung, is now causing more deaths in males than does any other form of cancer, but evidence is accumulating that this might be, in many cases, an avoidable disease.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The total number of infectious diseases fell from 411 in 1951 to only 53 in 1952. This reduction was due almost entirely to the low incidence of measles.

Tuberculosis figures show little change in incidence, but the number of deaths from this disease continues to decline each year. Nevertheless, any deaths from a preventable disease, such as this is, are tragedies which stand as a reproach to our social and sanitary circumstances.

ACCIDENTS IN THE HOME

Deaths from accidents during recent years have, fortunately, been low. Last year there were no road deaths amongst the residents, and only one from other mishaps. For each death, however, there must be many accidents causing injury, and sometimes

near-death, of which we have no official record. The Government is deeply concerned at the economic and social cost to the nation and serious efforts are at last to be made to reduce the annual toll.

More fatal accidents occur in the house than on the roads, and it should be possible to reduce home accidents by education of the public. The chief causes are burns, scalds, falls, accidental poisoning and electrocution. The most vulnerable age-groups are children and old persons.

On visiting many households one can only wonder that there are not more fatal accidents. The hazards are many, but nearly all are preventable; these are loose hall-mats, badly lighted stairs, treacherously concealed steps between rooms, unguarded open fires and electric and gas fires, bottles of petrol on mantelpieces over fires, badly ventilated geysers, worn and frayed electric leads to irons and vacuum cleaners, electric hand switches on bathroom walls, unlabelled or insufficiently labelled bottles containing poisons, dangerous pills (often chocolate coated) lying within reach of children — these, and many more, are daily threats to the lives of the occupants. Year after year, in different parts of the country, young women are killed by using electric hairdryers in bathrooms, housewives die from touching live electric leads, children touch bars of electric fires, party dresses burst into flames from contact with unguarded fires, old persons fracture their thighs from slipping on polished floors or from falling downstairs which have a hand rail on one side only.

If each householder would survey his house and his electrical equipment at intervals, bearing these points in mind, much suffering and many tragedies would be avoided.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

DONALD WARREN BROWNE,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS

(1) GENERAL

Area of Urban District (in acres)	3,509
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1952) according to rate book	4,475
Rateable Value	£138,115
Sum represented by 1d. rate	£555
Total Hours of Sunshine during 1952	1911.4
Jan. 108.9 Feb. 101 Mar. 100 April 193.9	
May 232.8 June 275 July 241.6 Aug. 229.1	
Sept. 170.6 Oct. 119.4 Nov. 72.3 Dec. 66.8	

(2) VITAL

Population (Registrar General's Estimate)	12,070
--	--------

Births

	M	F	
No. of live legitimate births	68	65	133
No. of live illegitimate births	5	2	7
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population			11.6
Comparative factor (births)			1.04
Comparative Birth Rate			12.1
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 England and Wales			15.3
No. of legitimate stillbirths	2	3	5
No. of illegitimate stillbirths	1	—	1
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths			41.1

Deaths

	M	F	
Total No. of deaths	89	115	204
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population			16.9
Comparative factor (deaths)			0.70
Comparative Death Rate			11.8
Death Rate England and Wales			11.3
Deaths from puerperal causes			1
	M	F	
No. of deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year of age	3	1	4
No. deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year of age	—	—	—
Death Rate of all infants per 1,000 live births			28.6
Death Rate legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			30.1
Death Rate illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			Nil
Deaths from Measles (All ages)			Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (All ages)			Nil
Deaths from Cancer (All ages)			32

CAUSES OF DEATH

Cause	Male	Female
Tuberculosis, respiratory	2 (5)	0 (1)
Tuberculosis, other	1 (0)	0 (0)
Syphilitic disease	1 (0)	0 (0)
Diphtheria	0 (0)	0 (0)
Whooping Cough	0 (0)	0 (0)
Meningococcal infections	0 (0)	0 (0)
Acute Poliomyelitis	0 (0)	0 (0)
Measles	0 (0)	0 (0)
Other infective and parasitic disease ...	0 (0)	1 (1)
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1 (1)	4 (0)
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus ...	6 (3)	0 (1)
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0 (0)	5 (4)
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0 (0)	1 (0)
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4 (5)	11 (7)
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	0 (0)	0 (0)
Diabetes	0 (0)	1 (0)
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	5 (9)	26 (16)
Coronary disease, angina	21 (15)	13 (8)
Hypertension with heart disease	3 (5)	2 (6)
Other heart disease	19 (18)	30 (32)
Other circulatory disease	2 (4)	2 (1)
Influenza	0 (1)	0 (4)
Pneumonia	2 (2)	4 (3)
Bronchitis	1 (5)	0 (4)
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1 (0)	0 (1)
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2 (0)	0 (0)
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1 (0)	0 (1)
Nephritis and nephrosis	0 (1)	1 (0)
Hyperplasia of prostate	5 (5)	0 (0)
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0 (0)	1 (1)
Congenital malformations	1 (0)	0 (0)
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	9 (10)	12 (14)
Motor vehicle accidents	0 (0)	0 (0)
All other accidents	0 (1)	1 (3)
Suicide	2 (1)	0 (0)
Homicide and operations of war	0 (0)	0 (0)
All Causes	89 (91)	115 (108)

N.B.—Figures for 1951 are entered in brackets.

**PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES**

Disease					Total	Admitted	Total
					Cases	to		Deaths
					Notified	Hospital	
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	6	2	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	...	...	...	...	1	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	1	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	29	8	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	12	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	...	...	...	...	2	1	—
Poliomyelitis (Non Paralytic)	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total					53	12	1

AGE AT DATE OF NOTIFICATION.

Age	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Measles	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Meningococcal Infection	Whooping Cough	Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	Dysentery	Paratyphoid Fever
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 " " 3	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
3 " " 4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
4 " " 5	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
5 " " 10	3	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10 " " 15	—	—	—	—	—	17	—	—	6	2	1	—	—
15 " " 20	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 " " 35	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 " " 45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 " " 65	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	6	—	1	1	1	29	—	—	12	2	1	—	—

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS — NONE NOTIFIED.

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS

Estimated percentage of child population considered to have been immunised at 31.12.52.

Under 5 years of age — 52.2.

Age 5 to 15 years — 75.7.

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES

DEATHS

Age Periods	NEW CASES					DEATHS				
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Total	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Total
	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	
Under 1 ...	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	1
1 — 5 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 — 15 ...	1	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
15 — 20 ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
20 — 25 ...	1	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
25 — 35 ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
35 — 45 ...	2	2	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
45 — 55 ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
55 — 65 ...	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	1
65 — 75 ...	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	2
75 — & over ...	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
Total	10	7	3	—	20*	3	—	1	1	5†

* This total includes 7 transfers from the mainland.

† This total includes two cases who died from another disease.

Non-notifiable infectious diseases (Schools return) :—

Chicken pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	124
Mumps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
German Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
								Total	131

FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK AND DAIRIES) ACTS, 1944

Number of samples taken during 1952	...	...	12
Number of samples found to be T.B. positive	...	...	Nil
Number of samples in which Brucella Abortus was isolated	...	...	Nil

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

1.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply of Shanklin is derived from the Chillerton wells and the catchment areas at Wroxall, Oxlease and Greatwoods.

Part of the Rural District derives its supply from Shanklin sources.

The water supply to Luccombe village is obtained from the Saint Boniface Down, and is pumped to the area by means of a hydraulic ram which raises the water to a storage reservoir, from which it flows by gravitation to the village.

Sandown draws its supply from the River Yar, and from Dyer's springs at Newchurch.

During the year 241 samples of water have been taken, which is an increase of 174 over the previous year.

Of these samples, 179 were satisfactory, and 62 were not satisfactory, 41 of which contained faecal coli.

Due to samples being taken both before and after chlorination to ascertain the efficiency of the treatment, the results show that a relatively high number were unsatisfactory, but in nearly every case the water, following chlorination has been perfectly fit for drinking purposes.

Early in the year, arrangements were made with the Isle of Wight Water Board to drain and cleanse the Reservoirs at Oxlease and Greatwoods.

Samples were taken from water in the sink at the high level entrance of the Shanklin Chine. This sink collected water which soaked from the cliff, and visitors to the Chine were offered a mug, and were able to drink this water.

The sink was so placed that it could easily be contaminated by dogs, and it was felt that the general siting and mode of obtaining the water was far from satisfactory. Samples of water taken showed that it was polluted with faecal contamination.

As a result, the local agent for the Shanklin Estate was interviewed, and agreement was reached that this supply of water should no longer be available to the public.

Towards the end of the year, samples of water taken from the Luccombe supplies proved unsatisfactory, and therefore the Water Engineer made arrangements for a "Chloros" plant to be installed to sterilise the water.

As an additional safeguard, the Medical Officer of Health gave instructions that a letter should be sent to all occupiers of houses in the Luccombe area, advising them that all water which is intended for drinking purposes should be boiled.

Four samples of water were taken from the "Blue Lagoon" Swimming Pool at Sandown, and in each case the result showed that the water was sterile.

2.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1952 for the Urban District of Sandown-Shanklin in the County of the Isle of Wight.

PART I OF THE ACT

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

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	6	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	53	67	3*	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Excluding out-workers premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	59	69	3	—

2 Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	1	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	3	—	1	—

3. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

(a) General Sanitation

Nature of Visit or Inspection :

Water Supply	284
Drainage	343
Stables and Piggeries	13
Tents, Vans and Sheds	30
Factories	69
Workplaces	3
Bakehouses	24
Public Conveniences	1
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	2
Licensed Premises	12
Refuse Collection	5
Refuse Disposal	91
Rats and Mice	26
Schools	3
Shops	428
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	764
Petroleum Installations	48
Pet Shops (Pet Animals Act, 1951)	5
Upholsterers (Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951)	1

(b) Housing

Houses inspected under the Public Health Acts ...	246
Houses re-inspected under the Public Health Acts	505
Houses inspected under the Housing Acts ...	15
Houses re-inspected under the Housing Acts ...	19
Houses inspected for Overcrowding	2
Filthy or Verminous Premises inspected ...	94
Premises where disinfestation has been carried out	164
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	45

(c) Infectious Diseases

Inquiries into cases of Infectious Disease ...	4
Visits concerning Disinfection	5
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	26
Library Books Disinfected	6

(d) **Meat and Food Inspection**

Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	82
Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dairies and Milk Distributors	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Fishmongers and Poulterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	235
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	143
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Ice-Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	350
Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	...	113
Street Vendors and Hawkers Carts	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous Food Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Total Number of Visits and Inspections							4,313

Number of Informal Notices served	53
Number of Statutory Notices served	13
Total Number of Notices served	66

During the year the following amounts of foodstuffs were found to be unsound and voluntarily surrendered.

Tinned Fruits, Vegetables, etc.	2613 lbs.
Meat	2214 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
Fish	594 "
Prunes	175 "
Cheese	49 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
Chickens	32 "
Dripping	30 "
Dried Apricots	26 "
Fishcakes	18 "
Desiccated Coconut	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Sugar	8 "
Total	5773 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Eggs	296 $\frac{1}{4}$ doz

ICE CREAM

In the district there are 166 premises registered for the Manufacture, Storage or Sale of Ice-Cream.

During the year, 163 samples of Ice Cream and 8 Ice-Lollies were taken for bacteriological analysis and submitted to the Pathologist at Ryde County Hospital.

In addition, three samples were taken for chemical analysis.

The results of the bacteriological analysis upon the Ice-Cream samples were as follows :

Grade I	108 samples	.....	66%
Grade II	29 samples	.....	18%
Grade III	16 samples	.....	10%
Grade IV	10 samples	.....	6%
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	163	Total	100%
	<hr/>		<hr/>

These results show an improvement on last years figures as there are 14% more samples which are placed in the Provisional Grade of I, whilst there is a decrease of approximately 1% which are provisionally graded as IV.

In each of the 8 samples of Ice-Lollies which were taken, the bacteriological analysis was satisfactory, and they were placed in Grade I.

The three samples of Ice-Cream which were chemically analysed were satisfactory.

**FOOD AND DRUG SAMPLES TAKEN DURING 1952
IN THE SANDOWN-SHANKLIN URBAN DISTRICT**

Type of Food or Drug	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Remarks
Milk	20	1	Contained 10% added water. Retailer fined £5 and £1 6s. costs. Four samples were certified to be genuine but of inferior quality. One sample from a cafe contained 6.5% fat. This was found to be due to the churn standing overnight and being used without plunging. Retailer promised to plunge in future.
Ice Cream	6	1	Informal. 12% deficient in fat. Mix apparently discontinued.
Dessicated soup	1	—	—
Bicarbonate of soda	1	—	—
Baking powder	1	—	—
Malted Milk	1	—	—
Self-raising Flour	1	—	—
Beans in Tomato Sauce	1	—	—
Cake Mixture	1	1	Arrowroot listed on label. None present. Manufacturer undertook to amend label.
Farmhouse Flour Mixture	1	—	—
Liquid Apples	1	—	—
Double-strength chest and lung mixture	1	—	—
Solid Soft Drinks	2	2	Labels did not comply with Labelling of Food Order or Prepacked Food (Weights and Measures : Marking) Order. Manufacturers fined £40 and £10 costs.

Oil of Peppermint Tablets	1	—	—
Menthol and Eucalyptol Pastilles	1	—	—
Herbal Pieces	2	2	Ingredients incorrectly stated on label. Manu- facturer undertook to correct.
Welsh Rarebit	1	1	Label incorrect in that mustard is described as "seasoning." Composi- tion satisfactory. Corre- spondence with manu- facturers proceeding.

I am indebted to the Weights and Measures Inspector of the County Council (which is the Food and Drugs Authority for the Island) who has kindly supplied the above particulars of samples taken in the Sandown-Shanklin area during 1952.

As a point of interest, the Inspector has pointed out that many of the pre-packed foods sold in the Sandown-Shanklin area are sampled in other parts of the Island, so that the actual sampling coverage on our area is greater than would appear from the figures.

