

[Report 1965] / Medical Officer of Health, Torquay Riparian Authority.

Contributors

Torquay (England). Riparian Authority.

Publication/Creation

1965

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/kzaq9na3>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

LIBRARY COPY.



BOROUGH OF TORQUAY

Torquay Riparian Authority
REPORT 1965



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b3019166x>

BOROUGH OF TORQUAY

PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION, 1965

The following Report is the record of Port Health Administration for the year 1965, detailed in form and sequence in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health contained in Form Port 20 and Circular 16/55.

Following the Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952, the form and scope of the report were revised, and the full details are required every five years: this is necessary for the year under review. The intermediate years are covered by a shorter report in which certain sections (marked with an asterisk) need not be reported unless there is any change.

* SECTION 1 - STAFF

TABLE A

<i>Name of Officer</i>	<i>Nature of Appointment</i>	<i>Date of Appointment</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>	<i>Any Other Appointments held</i>
D. K. MACTAGGART	Port Medical Officer of Health	1957	M.A., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. (LOND.)	Medical Officer of Health and Assistant County Medical Officer
D. PARTRIDGE	Chief Port Health Inspector	January, 1958	C.S.I.J.B., CERT. INSP. MEAT AND FOOD R.S.H. CERT. INSP. SMOKE R.S.H.	Chief Public Health Inspector
F. HOLLOWAY	Assistant Port Health Inspector	October, 1958	C.S.I.J.B., CERT. INSP. MEAT AND FOOD R.S.H.	District Public Health Inspector

CLERK: S. E. R. AUTHERS, (Chief Clerk).

(The work in connection with Port Health Administration is carried out by the above members of the Public Health staff, in the course of the general Public Health Administration of the Borough.)

Address and Telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health:

St. Marychurch Town Hall, Torquay: Torquay 38204 (Office)
Paignton 43154 (Home)

SECTION II – AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR

TABLE B

<i>Ships from</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Tonnage</i>	<i>Number Inspected</i>		<i>Number of ships reported as having or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board</i>
			<i>By the Medical Officer of Health</i>	<i>By the Public Health Inspector</i>	
Foreign Ports	2	149	–	2	–
Coastwise	81	34,045	2	4	–
TOTAL	83	34,194	2	6	–

In addition, local fishing and sailing vessels made 607 visits (total tonnage, 575) to the harbour and frequent inspections of these have been made. 360 tons of fish were examined during the year.

SECTION III – CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR

TABLE C

PASSENGER TRAFFIC ...	{	Number of Passengers INWARDS	362
		Number of Passengers OUTWARDS	413
CARGO TRAFFIC ...	{	Principal IMPORTS	Nil
		Principal EXPORTS	

PRINCIPAL PORTS *from which ships arrived in 1965*

La Coruna, Hamburg, Zeebrugge, Carteret, Caen, St. Malo, Roscoff, Cherbourg, Deauville, Jersey, Guernsey, Boulogne, Alderney and general coastwise.

SECTION IV – INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

There is no inland barge traffic in the area.

* SECTION V – WATER SUPPLY

(1) *Source of supply for (a) the District, and (b) Shipping.*

(a) The water supply of the District is from an extensive upland surface gathering ground on Dartmoor of 4,814 acres; there are four storage reservoirs with a capacity of 848 million gallons, which is equivalent to approximately six months' supply. During 1965 the supply was mainly from the Fernworthy and Tottiford sources but the South West Devon Water Board augmented this, as required by the demand, from the Swincombe-Holne source.

After storage the water is coagulated, filtered, lime is added to raise the pH value, and the supply is chlorinated. There are six service reservoirs in the town, from which every house is supplied.

(b) The port is supplied from the main town supply by hydrants to which standpipes and hoses are fixed.

(2) *Reports of Tests for Contamination.*

Samples are taken every week from the service reservoirs in the town, and additional samples are taken from taps in various places, and from the standpipes at the harbour.

Analysis of drinking water taken from Dock area:

During the year 9 samples of drinking water were taken from the harbour area and were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Exeter, for bacteriological examination; on analysis, the samples were found as follows:

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

Number of samples taken	Number of presumptive coliform organisms per 100 ml.				Faecal Coli present	Number of samples unsatisfactory	Number of samples satisfactory
	Less than 1	1-2	3-10	More than 10			
9	8	1	–	–	–	1	8

(3) *Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes*

These are flushed prior to use and inspected regularly by the Public Health Inspector.

(4) *Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by the Authority.*

There are no water boats.

SECTION VI

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1963

(1) *List of Infected Areas. (Regulation 6).*

Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the form of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied, and the procedure in supplying it to those persons.

The list of infected ports and areas supplied by the World Health Organisation Geneva, in the form of a weekly epidemiological record is noted at the Public Health Department and is then taken by the District Public Health Inspector to the Customs Officer who retains it for the week; when each new list is taken, the list for the previous week is returned to the Health Department.

(2) *Radio Messages.*(a) *Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the District. (Regulation 13.)*

Arrangements are made with the Post Office for the transmission of wireless messages, if required.

(b) *Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships, and for acting thereon. (Regulation 14 (1) (a) and (2).)*

These messages are received through the Post Office, and would in the first instance be to the Local Shipping Agents, thence to the Customs Officer and subsequently to the Medical Officer of Health.

(3) *Notification otherwise than by radio. (Regulation 14 (1) (b).)*

Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.

Messages are received or sent by the Customs Officer communicating with the Coast Guard Station at Berry Head for signals either of flags or flash lamps in morse; Berry Head commands the whole bay for shipping.

Detailed notices on the Maritime Declaration of Health instruct Masters of vessels to fly the International signals as given in the Regulations. Any notifications to the Customs Officer are communicated at once to the Medical Officer of Health.

(4) *Mooring Stations. (Regulations 22 to 30) – Situation of Stations and any other standing directions issued under these Regulations.*

The quarantine mooring buoy which was situated 1,000 yards South-West out to sea from the end of Haldon Pier, painted yellow and black, and lighted at night, was washed away in a storm, and it was decided that this should not be replaced, but a Quarantine Anchorage established in its place.

This anchorage has been established in a position Latitude 50 Degs. 27' 00" North and Longitude 03 Degs. 31' 30" West in 5½ fms. water at M.L.W.O.S., extending in a North South-East and West direction (TRUE), each way 750 feet forming the diagonals of a square having sides each 1,000 feet.

This position is some 3 cables, 162 Degs. (TRUE) from the original Quarantine Buoy position, and 4 cables from Torquay Harbour in what is marked as TORQUAY ROADS on Admiralty Chart No. 26.

This anchorage is easily verified by Mariners by cross bearings on some seven prominent landmarks all of which are within $3\frac{1}{2}$ nautical miles and include four which are lighted.

(5) *Arrangements for:*

(a) *Hospital accommodation for infectious cases (other than Smallpox – see Section VII).*

Cases of infectious disease, other than Smallpox, are admitted to the Torbay Hospital Annexe, which is the Isolation Hospital for the Torquay District Management Committee area.

(b) *Surveillance and follow-up of contacts.*

Surveillance and following-up of contacts are undertaken by the Medical Officer of Health and Public Health Inspectors

(c) *Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.*

There is a Cleansing Station for persons at St. Marychurch Town Hall. Disinfection of any Quarters aboard ship is dealt with by the Public Health Inspectors. The disinfection of clothing and other articles takes place at the Isolation Hospital where there is a Thresh Disinfector, together with facilities for articles which cannot be put through steam under pressure.

SECTION VII – SMALLPOX

(1) *Name of Isolation Hospital to which Smallpox cases are sent from the District.*

During 1964, the recommendation of the Regional Hospital Board that Upton Pyne Smallpox Hospital should be closed, was approved by the Ministry of Health.

In future, the first-line reception hospital for cases from the counties of Devon and Cornwall will be the Smallpox Hospital, Liskeard, Cornwall (Telephone Liskeard 2385). This hospital is staffed from the Scott Isolation Hospital, Plymouth (Telephone Plymouth 51437). Resident Physician: Dr. D. F. Johnstone.

Should additional accommodation be required, Lee Mill Smallpox Hospital, near Plympton, is designated as a second-line hospital.

(2) *Arrangements for transport of such cases to that hospital by ambulance, giving the name of the Authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.*

The ambulance is arranged by a telephone message to the Plymouth City Ambulance Service (Telephone Plymouth 64101). All members of the crew are fully vaccinated.

(3) *Name of Smallpox Consultants available:*

DR. J. MACRAE, Ham Green Isolation Hospital, Ham Green, Bristol.

Telephone: Bristol 31165; Home Telephone: Nailsea 81.

DR. W. H. ST. JOHN-BROOKE, West Cornwall Hospital, Penzance Cornwall.

Telephone: Penzance 2382; Home Telephone: Cockwells 356

(4) *Facilities for Laboratory diagnosis of Smallpox.*

Specimens for Laboratory diagnosis are sent to the Central Public Health Laboratory (Virus Reference), Colindale Avenue, The Hyde, N.W.9.

* SECTION VIII – VENEREAL DISEASE

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements, including in-patient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen.

Facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among seamen are available at the Torbay Hospital, Torquay, either daily at 9 a.m., or at the specified clinics for men on Mondays between 5 p.m. and 6.30 p.m.

In-patient treatment is given at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, Exeter.

Leaflets giving details of these facilities are available at the Harbour.

SECTION IX – CASES OF NOTIFIABLE
AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS

TABLE D

Category	Disease	Number of cases during the year		Number of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports	—	—	—	—
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	—	—	—	—
Cases landed from other ports	—	—	—	—

A short account should be given of the measures taken on the arrival by ship of (a) any case of smallpox, cholera, plague, yellow fever, typhus, or relapsing fever included in Table D; (b) any suspected case of any such disease.

NIL

SECTION X – OBSERVATIONS OF THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS

NIL

SECTION XI – MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE

NIL

SECTION XII – MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

(1) *Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.*

Enquiries are made by the Public Health Inspector from all Masters of vessels using the Port concerning the presence of rats and, if present, of signs of unusual mortality among the rats. Owing to the small size of the vessels, and of the nature of the cargo carried, it is uncommon to find any evidence of rat infestation.

Systematic inspections are made of the ships and quays with special reference to the presence of rat runs, excreta, damage to foodstuffs, etc.

(2) *Arrangements for the Bacteriological or Pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.*

The examinations, if required, at any time will be made through the Public Health Laboratory Service at Exeter.

None has so far been required.

(3) *Arrangements in the District for deratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor.*

Any ship requiring deratting is referred to Plymouth for the necessary measures, and the next port of call of the vessel is notified.

(4) *Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.*

This has not been required owing to the limited nature of shipping entering the port.

TABLE E

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

NIL

TABLE F

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

This table does not apply as Torquay is not an approved port under Article 52 of the International Sanitary Regulations.

SECTION XIII INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES

TABLE G
INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES

Nature and Number of Inspections		Notices Served		Result of Serving Notices
		Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
General ...	8	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	8	—	—	—

* SECTION XIV – PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELLFISH) REGULATIONS, 1934 AND 1948

Information respecting any Shellfish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Authority stating whether they are, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, liable to pollution. A report of any action taken, which should state whether any prohibited area has been prescribed, should be included.

There are no Shellfish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Authority.

* SECTION XV – MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

(Applicable only to ports approved for the landing of aliens)

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF ALIENS UNDER THE ALIENS ORDER, 1953

Instructions to Medical Inspectors, 1955

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

During 1965 a passenger service commenced once weekly between St. Malo and Torquay. The vessel, the S.S. *Lisieux*, 2,943 tons, left St. Malo each Tuesday, commencing the 13th July, and arrived at Torquay on the Wednesday morning. It left again at 9 a.m. for a day trip to Guernsey returning to Torquay at 10 p.m. and then leaving again at midnight for St. Malo. This continued for eleven weeks during the summer season. The numbers of long-stay immigrants and day trippers are given in the following table.

(1) *List of Medical Inspectors of Aliens holding Warrants of Appointment.*

Dr. D. K. MacTaggart.

(2) *List of other staff engaged on this work.*

Nil.

(3) *Organisation of Work.*

Arrangements were made for the vessel to dock at the Haldon Pier and Customs, Immigration and Medical Examination of Aliens was arranged in the adjoining Marine Spa, as a temporary measure.

(4) *Nature and Amount of Alien Traffic.*

Date	Vessel	Number of Passengers Arriving			Guernsey		Number of Passengers Departing			
		Total	British	Alien Long Stay	Day Trippers	Depart	Return	St. Malo British	Aliens	Plus Returning Day Trippers
14.7.65	Lisieux	39	8	20	11	547	547	-	11	(- + 11)
21.7.65	2,943 tons do.	22	6	10	6	1,028	1,028	-	9	(3 + 6)
28.7.65	do.	27	2	13	12	1,003	995	18	17	(5 + 12)
4.8.65	do.	84	9	62	13	968	968	8	17	(4 + 13)
11.8.65	do.	62	6	35	21	1,148	1,148	3	30	(9 + 21)
18.8.65	do.	71	9	29	33	1,159	1,159	10	40	(7 + 33)
25.8.65	do.	72	13	32	27	984	984	12	72	(45 + 27)
1.9.65	do.	63	22	20	21	765	765	8	38	(17 + 21)
8.9.65	do.	31	12	15	4	767	767	9	16	(12 + 4)
15.9.65	do.	30	10	18	2	567	567	18	24	(22 + 2)
22.9.65	do.	21	7	4	10	-	-	2	51	(41 + 10)
		522	104	258	160	8,936	8,928	88	325	(165 + 160)

(5) *Accommodation for Medical Inspection and Examination.*

Temporary arrangements were made for this to be carried out in one of the Treatment Rooms of the Marine Spa. In view of the possible increase in traffic during 1966, plans have been made for a more permanent Immigration Office and Medical Examination Room on the quay adjoining Haldon Pier.

*** SECTION XVI - MISCELLANEOUS**

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease.

In the case of infectious disease other than smallpox, plague or typhus fever, the bodies would be removed with the usual precautions to the Borough Mortuary at St. Marychurch Town Hall, pending interment or cremation in the normal way.

For the more serious diseases, the arrangements for coffining, etc., would be carried out by the staff of the Public Health Department, who are vaccinated annually, and have protective clothing for insect-borne diseases.

SECTION VII - MISCELLANEOUS

Underhill (Plymouth) Ltd.,
Regent Street,
Plymouth



