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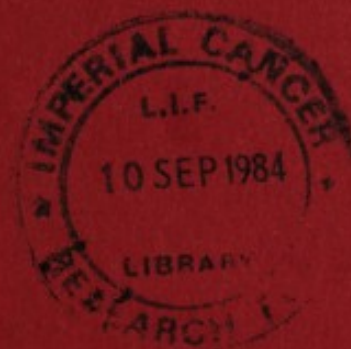


1984

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PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA

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# **DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF HEALTH SERVICES**

## **REPORT FOR 1982-83**

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*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command*

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By Authority:

A. B. CAUDELL, Government Printer, Tasmania



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1984

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PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA

# DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF HEALTH SERVICES

REPORT FOR 1982-83

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## ANNUAL REPORT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES 1982-83

### I. INTRODUCTION

Last year the Annual Report featured the School Dental Service, and this report continues the theme of featuring a Division: this year, the Division of Public Health.

Public Health is undergoing change in Tasmania, and the retirement of Dr Dairmid Ross merits more than passing mention. Dr Ross has an outstanding record of service to Tasmania in the Public Health field. His wide knowledge and experience, not only in Public Health, has had a substantial influence, in Tasmania, and nationally. He was highly respected interstate and his retirement will leave a gap in Public Health which will be difficult to fill.

The change is even greater than the loss of a single expert. With the retirement of Dr Catherine Mair, Acting Director of Public Health, it is the end of an era of Scottish dominance in Public Health! But we have, in recent years, been fortunate to recruit three young doctors, Martin Bicevskis, Niki Ellis and Elizabeth Ryman — so we are moving into a new era.

The Department as a whole has continued to work with unflinching effort and great loyalty, despite the large number of vacant and acting positions. It is hoped that the present Public Service inquiry into the Administration of the Department will result in the rapid alleviation of this situation.

Another decision which should have a significant impact on the Department is the creation of a new position of Director of Administration, which is expected to be filled in the new financial year.

I consider the Department of Health Services is very fortunate in that the remaining staff are of such calibre, and I wish to very sincerely thank them for their continued loyalty and unflinching support through another difficult year.



## II. DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

### INTRODUCTION

The major event of the year in the Division of Public Health was the retirement of Dr A. D. Ross. He went on leave on 6 December 1982 prior to retiring on 1 February 1983.

Dr Ross came to Tasmania as Senior Medical Officer under Dr H. L. Murray in 1960 and followed him as Director in 1966. He had a wide experience of public health and contributed to the advancement of public health generally in Tasmania. While there were amendments to much of the legislation with which the Division is concerned, the major item of new legislation was the Radiation Control Act 1977, which encompassed all forms of radiation.

The Division during the year has been looking critically at itself and the services it provides because of the introduction of Program Budgetting and the setting up of an Administrative Review of the Department of Health Services.

There has been considerable interest in infectious disease during the year. The public alarm following reports from the U.S.A. of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome led to its being made a notifiable disease. Practitioners have been concerned at the number of cases of diarrhoea occurring and has led to many more reports for bacteriological examination.

A need to review the diseases which are notifiable was seen and the Minister approved the setting up of a Working Party to look at this.

### CHILD HEALTH SERVICES

While there were no cuts in the establishment in the Child Health Services, the administrative arrangements implemented by the Government in regard to appointments meant that there were delays in finalisation. As a result particularly in the Child Health Section the total amount of work done has fallen. This was also influenced by the reduction in funds for travelling.

The appointment of a young full-time medical officer will bring new ideas and renewed enthusiasm to the Services.

The Assessment Centre Service continues to demonstrate the need for Early Intervention Programs. These are seen to be in the educational area and that Department has begun to provide staff for that purpose.

The Mothercraft Home, having settled into its new premises, is providing a much more extensive service to mothers.

### VITAL STATISTICS

#### 1. BIRTHS

The birth rate in 1982 was 16.3 (16.8 in 1981) with births totalling 7 022 (7 188). The illegitimate rate in 1981 was 14.8 (14.1).

#### 2. INFANT MORTALITY

The infant mortality rate in 1982 was 7.8 (12.0), deaths totalling 55 (86).

#### 3. PERINATAL DEATHS

The perinatal death rate in 1982 was 10.8 (15), deaths totalling 74 (110).

### STAFF

As at 30 June 1983 there were two vacancies — Queenstown and Rosebery. In the twelve months fourteen sisters resigned and twelve appointments were made.



## CENTRES AND FLATS

Clinic sessions are being held in 109 Centres throughout the State. Two new Centres — one at Swansea, and a second at Highfield, Devonport — were opened during the year. The Sandhill Centre was closed on 11 August 1982.

## OWNERSHIP OF BUILDINGS

State	76
Child Health Association	6
Other	27
	109

As at 30 June 1983, none of the Centre flats were occupied by a Child Health Sister. All flats are let by the Lands Department.

## ANNUAL RETURNS

These show that 5 272 babies, 75 per cent of total births, were visited at home by Child Health and District Nursing Centre Sisters. 6 334 or 90 per cent of babies born attended Child Health or District Nursing Centres. In all 56 920 home visits were made and attendances totalled 180 235.

## PRE-SCHOOL MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

Age	Number Prepared by Sister	Per cent Related Births	Number Examined by Doctor	Per cent Related Births	Per cent Birth Defects
6-8 years	6 071	86.4	5 431	77.3	24.2
1 year	5 703	79.3	4 716	65.6	19.4
3 years	4 651	68.8	3 841	56.8	29.9

Medical officers carried out pre-school medical examinations and general consultations in the Child Health Centres and Day Care Centres. They saw 2 927 children.

The Child Health Service has experienced another year of staff shortages and non-availability of suitably trained child health sisters to fill vacancies, particularly those vacancies occurring in the areas away from Hobart and Launceston. Sisters have endeavoured to keep clinics functioning as normally as possible in all areas, and clinic closures at a minimum. The West Coast area has been most affected.

The annual figures indicate an over-all decrease in the Centres and outdoors work performed by the Child Health Service.

## NEONATAL SCREENING

The Department of Chemical Pathology, Adelaide Children's Hospital carried out 7 003 tests for phenylketonuria, galactosaemia and neonatal hypothyroidism. One case of neonatal hypothyroidism was detected.

## SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

During the school year 1982 26 652 children were examined by school medical officers, a decrease of 4 116 on the previous year. 4 229 (15.86 per cent) children required notification of one or more defect. A parent was present when 9 931 (37.26 per cent) were examined. Two years ago only 30.29 per cent of children were examined in the presence of the parent.

School sisters carried out 84 905 routine screening examinations. In addition they carried out extended examinations on 11 516 in the entrant and preparatory groups and 2 774 on grade V children. Total contacts with children were 163 360.



## HYGIENE AND INFESTATION

Head lice continue to cause considerable work and anxiety. Although head lice can transmit no diseases the public express their attitude very firmly that head lice are socially unacceptable and therefore time and effort has to be spent on this problem.

During the financial year there were 1 614 cases in 150 schools. This represents 2 per cent of the total school enrolment of 86 247.

As has been noted in the past there was a marked increase in the February to May term and two extra part-time sisters were employed up to 30 June to bring the situation under control. The Department does not now pay for the pediculocide. The Education Department provides the medication for Government schools and private schools also provide their own medication. In each case school health sisters continue to manage the treatment.

## SCABIES

The incidence is low, with seventy-one cases in thirty schools.

## OBESITY

This continues to cause concern as does the unsatisfactory diet of many children. There is over consumption of fat, refined sugar and salt with a low consumption of high fibre foods, fresh fruits and vegetables. Overall 8 per cent of children were considered obese. At the Special Clinic conducted at Albueria Street twenty-five new cases of obesity were referred. This Clinic also sees children suffering from enuresis. There were thirty-two new referrals.

## NUTRITION SERVICE

### NUTRITION STUDIES BY SCHOOL SISTERS

1. *Longitudinal Growth Study starting 1967-68* This study is finishing on 31 August 1983 and the heights and weights of matured and not matured girls of the ages 12, 13, 14 and 15 years will be compared.

This will supply the data to extend the Tasmanian height and weight percentile chart for girls of the ages of 12, 13, 14 and 15 years. The ten year-old percentiles were published in the Medical Journal of Australia 1980, 2:424-426.

2. *Five Dietary Surveys* were conducted in Hobart schools in areas of high unemployment (over 40 per cent), low incomes and high proportions of households in rented accommodation. Results showed that particularly in these areas, a well-run school canteen greatly improves the total day's food intake of the pupils.

Recommendations were made to use extra funds if supplied to subsidise milk drinks, cheese portions, fruit juices, fruits and raw vegetable items.

Learning about and eating adequate breakfasts could be another way to improve the food intakes, increasing the children's ability to make good use of what teachers have to impart.

As a result of the survey, one school has started a Breakfast Service. The school provides milk drinks, soup, hot rolls, toast with peanut butter and cereals.

It was considered by staff in the schools where a survey was done that it gave better insight into children's eating behaviour and nutritional inadequacies. This makes it easier to decide on how special funds might be allocated.

3. The *Nomograms* for 5 and 6 year and 10 and 11 year-olds are being used this year so that Sisters can decide whether they are a quick tool to decide whether a child is over or under weight or normal taking weight and height into consideration. If Sisters find the nomograms helpful they will be slotted into their working routine and equipment provided.



4. *School Canteens.* School Sisters evaluated School Canteens in all High Schools. Dental Therapists will survey all Primary and District High School Canteens. After evaluation the information will be written up for publication. We would hope to particularly concentrate on School Canteen improvement in Category V canteens where the Principal does the decision making.

A questionnaire was sent to all Parents and Friends' Associations to elicit information on the benefit or otherwise of the activities of the Interdepartmental School Canteen Committee, particularly in respect of the practical guidance which was supplied by School Canteen expert managers who are on the Committee.

## NUTRITION STUDIES BY CHILD HEALTH SISTERS

An Infant Feeding Survey is planned for 1984. The program and questionnaire were prepared and senior Sisters did a pilot survey.

The Tasmanian Program will be used by the Western Australian Child Health Service in 1984 also. The sample taking and months in which the babies studied were born will be different. Therefore, State results will not be strictly comparable. Study is to run in Tasmania until early 1988.

## EXTRAS

The State Emergency Services started a new courses — 'Civil Defence Public Awareness Course'. A nutrition component was requested; this was prepared and lectures given.

## AUSTRALIAN NUTRITION FOUNDATION — TASMANIAN DIVISION

A Steering Committee was formed which met on a monthly basis to organise activities. The first main activity was a Telephone Nutrition News Service. Three minute telephone tapes are prepared for each fortnight together with a nutrition article on the same subject which is published in the Mercury as one package. The initial response was good, over 200 calls per week.

For further program achievements and performance criteria see the 1983 Program Statement, No. 40.

## PUBLICATIONS

The Australian Paediatric Journal accepted for publication the study conducted by the Child Health Staff, 'Breast feeding and oral contraceptives: Tasmanian Survey'.

Another article 'A comparative study over a twelve year period of the weights of Tasmanian children up to three years of age' was also accepted for publication.

## ASSESSMENT CENTRES

*Hobart* — Team members moved out of the Albuera Street Centre and held some sessions in the suburbs. While the sessions had to be held under crowded conditions it met the needs of those parents who find it difficult to attend Albuera Street. The problem of finding adequate early intervention programs remains. Changes in staff have led to more part-time appointments.

Medical officers saw 348 new cases, psychologist 198, speech pathologists 95, occupational therapists 181 and social workers 237.

*Launceston* — A Medical officer was attached to the Centre for most of the year. 162 new cases were seen.

*Burnie* — There were no changes in staff. Seventy-seven new cases were seen.

## MOTHERCRAFT HOME

The first full year in the new location at Gore Street has been completed.



The attached details of admissions and discharges shows the marked increase in use by mothers.

	1.7.82 to 30.6.83	1.7.81 to 30.6.82	1.7.80 to 30.6.81
Admissions	383	400	286
Discharges	394	369	279
Transfers to R.H.H.	....	4	8
Transfers from R.H.H.	6	2	23
Transfers from R.D.H.	1	1	....
		+ mother	
Adoptions and fostering	8	11	15
Mothers admitted	120	85	48
Admissions from —			
Community Welfare Department	55	....	....
Child Health Service	51	....	....

A much appreciated children's playground in the grounds of the Gore Street complex was built and equipped by the Apex Club of Glenorchy.

## HEALTH EDUCATION

### STAFFING

- 1 × Health Educator;
- 1 × Public Relations Officer (filled 6 June 1983);
- 1 × Resource and Materials Officer;
- 1 × Office Assistant.

The Health Educator and Office Assistant continue to be funded from National Drug Education funds. The Public Relations Officer and Resource and Materials Officer are funded from State sources, and due to restrictions on filling vacancies funded by the State, some sixteen months elapsed before the Public Relations Officer was appointed. The absence of a Public Relations Officer severely affected the efficacy of the Health Education Section.

### FIRE

The premises at 10 Ellerslie Road, Hobart were engulfed in a serious fire on the morning of 1 August 1982. Considerable damage was caused by fire and water. Stocks of publications, much furniture and equipment were totally consumed, whilst others required extensive repair. To date, the replacement and repair of all damaged goods has not been fully effected.

### RELOCATION OF OFFICE

Temporary premises have been allocated next door to the Department of Health Services, 34 Davey Street, Hobart in the old Mines Department building. The entrance to the new premises is through 34 Davey Street.

### LIBRARY

The National Drug Education Program has funded the Departmental Librarian for two and a half days per week. This reflects the demand placed on the N.D.E.P. for reference materials by schools, the public, and officers of the Public Service.

### FILMS

Films produced by the Tasmanian Film Corporation for the Department include —

- 'Sexually Transmitted Diseases', a frank treatment of the circumstances relating to sexually transmitted diseases and their treatment.



'*Burnt Alive*', which deals with the use of sun screens and the signs of skin cancer. This film was supported by I.C.I. Australia Ltd and Roche Products Pty Ltd.

'*Just Like Machines*', highlights the dangers of using pesticides and recommends safe handling.

'*Good For You*', indicates the need to be selective in using services offered to the public in the broad field of health care.

'*Breast Self Examination*', made with the Tasmanian Cancer Committee to demonstrate the technique for breast self examination and its importance.

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The international Health Education Union held its eleventh international conference at Hobart on 15-20 August 1982. Approximately 350 delegates attended from all parts of the world. A prominent visitor was Dr H. Mahler, Director General of the World Health Organisation.

## NATIONAL DRUG EDUCATION PROGRAM

The NDEP continued its funding of the Health (Drugs) Education Project at the Curriculum Centre, Education Department.

A segment of the inaugural Education Program for Unemployed Youth held at Risdon Prison was conducted over several weeks. Topics covered included drug, alcohol, and tobacco use and misuse.

Work commenced on the production of a guide to prescription writing for doctors.

## ANTI-SMOKING EDUCATION

The Department scored an Australian first by sponsoring the Hobart Basketball Club Inc. as the first non-smoking sports team for the 1983 season of the National Basketball League. The Hobart 'Tassie' Devils, as the team is known, received national publicity on all media outlets. As part of the sponsorship the players promoted anti-smoking at schools and shopping centres, and featured in anti-smoking posters. Players from other clubs in the National Basketball League backed the anti-smoking campaign, with special support coming from Cal Bruton and James Crawford of Geelong. Children and family groups appeared to identify with the anti-smoking message.

Mr David Simpson, Director, Action on Smoking and Health, London, England visited the Department to advise on anti-smoking initiatives overseas.

## GENERAL COMMENTS

The year was spent trying to overcome the effects of the fire, whilst trying to develop and put into effect new initiatives. By the end of the year with a full complement of staff, the outlook appeared to be once more forward. For the size and budget involved the health Education Section has continued to gain the respect of its interstate and overseas counterparts.

## PESTICIDES SECTION

There were 248 applications for registration or re-registration of pesticides received during the year resulting in an income of \$10 450. As this was the first year of the triennium a large number of applications which were in fact received last year were processed this year.

In total 191 new products were registered. Of these fifty-four required label alteration before registration and eight products were refused registration on the grounds of unacceptable hazard. 637 products were re-registered of which twenty-three required label alterations and two were refused re-registration. A further thirty-five label changes to products already registered were requested by the companies.

The Deputy Registrar was able to make a number of routine searches for unregistered pesticides in the Hobart area and an extensive trip to the North and North-West during which he uncovered a number of irregularities at the retail level and established a valuable personal rapport with retailers.



Only three permits for the sale and use of DDT were issued during the year. On the other hand permits were issued for trial work to cover 124 chemical-trial site situations and ten permits were issued for non-label use of registered pesticides. These latter were usually to cover the period preceding the inclusion of the new use on the approved label.

Due to the continued dry weather conditions the demand for Lindane-Superphosphate continued to be high. Permits were issued for the sale and use of 833.5 tonnes of the mixture which was applied to twenty-seven properties.

During the year close liaison was maintained with the registration authorities in the other States and with the executive of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Association. The Registrar continued as the State's representative on the Technical Committee on Agricultural Chemicals which is the committee which co-ordinates pesticide registration and registration policy nationally.

### OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

The work and effect of the Occupational Health Service was increased over that of last year in spite of the fact that one Medical Officer was absent from the State for five months while attending the M.P.H. course at the Commonwealth Institute of Health, Sydney and the Occupational Health Sister was absent on maternity leave for six months and then had to resign. The Scientific Officer also resigned in the early months of 1983 and has not so far been replaced. We were fortunate in being able to employ and Occupational Health Sister on a temporary basis in Launceston for the latter six months of the year.

As a result of the experience gained last year it was decided to change the thrust of Occupational Health activities away from routine activities to those of an educational and training nature so that those people involved in industry would be better able to appreciate the risks to which they are exposed and to cope with them in a reasonable fashion. To this end the build-up of our information resource facilities was continued and the staff concentrated either on direct educational activities or on long term projects which were designed to alter specific working methods or the prevention or diagnosis of occupational hazards.

To this end 257 formal inquiries for information were dealt with and adequate and often detailed information was supplied to the organisation or individual who made the inquiry. Participation was continued in safety training courses for tanker crews at the Australian Maritime College. Assistance was given on eight occasions. A total of thirty-eight hours teaching was devoted to the Trade Union Training Authority. Two seminars were organised for Department of Labour and Industry Inspectors and otherwise twenty hours of lectures were given to miscellaneous groups varying from hospital staff and medical students to prison inmates.

Probably the most significant project accomplished during the year was the development of a Tasmanian designed and produced office chair which embodied all the latest ergonomic features. This was coupled with an extensive survey of ergonomic problems in office situations which is still under way in the Tasmanian Public Service and private industry.

The groundwork has also been laid for a survey of the exposure of lead workers and of specialised workers to specific chemicals. It is hoped to undertake these surveys next year.

On a more routine basis sixty-two workplace inspections were done for various reasons and a total of fourteen days were spent on asbestos air sampling.

A course conducted by mainland consultants to train suitable people in private industry to carry out screening hearing tests on employees was arranged and was such a success that further courses are planned for next year.

The Occupational Health Sister also made contact with all nursing staff employed in Occupational Health in the State and has arranged for the transfer of information and co-ordination of working methods and standards.

Our thanks are due to the officers of the Departments of Labour and Industry and Mines with whom we worked as without their assistance our task would have been impossible. Our thanks must also go to those officials of private industry, the Union movement, T.U.T.A. and other organisations who were of such great assistance.



## NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Fourteen new cases of tuberculosis were notified under the Tuberculosis Act to the Tuberculosis Division. A further 111 notifiable diseases were notified under the Public Health Act.

There has been an increase in the number of cases of salmonella and shigella. Practitioners appear to have been attempting to define the cause of diarrhoeas seen in practice and have been requesting bacteriological examinations. The two cases of ornithosis stemmed from the importation of infected birds for Christmas 1982.

## VENEREAL DISEASES

The number of cases of gonorrhoea notified has fallen and there were no cases of syphilis.

## HEPATITIS B VACCINE

This vaccine became available during the year. A statement from the National Health and Medical Research Council indicated the groups to whom the vaccine should be offered.

## PUBLIC HEALTH (NOTIFIABLE DISEASES) AMENDMENT REGULATIONS 1983

This amendment made Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) a notifiable disease. It also replaced the terms Hepatitis (infective) and Hepatitis, serum (homologous) with the modern terms Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B respectively. No cases of AIDS have been reported.

## WORKING PARTY

The Minister for Health approved the setting up of a Working Party to review the list of notifiable diseases and to consider control of infectious diseases generally.

## HEALTH INSPECTION SECTION

### STAFF

Chief Health Inspector;  
Senior Health Inspector;  
Regional Health Inspector — Burnie;  
Regional Health Inspector — Launceston (2);  
Health Inspector — 3;  
Clerk — 1.

One Health Inspector, Mr G. Bissett, resigned on 18 May 1983 and a decision was taken that he not be replaced. The decision will be reviewed following the implementation of the delegation provisions of the Public Health Act. These provisions are currently being amended by the Public Health Bill 1983.

## NEW LEGISLATION

A Public Health Bill was prepared for presentation to Parliament. It provided for the extension of the delegation powers to include municipal health inspectors and also an indemnity section to protect health inspectors generally from personal liability.

Drafting work was carried out on two sets of regulations —

1. Public Health (Food and Drugs Standards) Regulations to provide for the rescinding of the Regulation relating to the date marking of bread and for an optional 'use by' day for butchers' smallgoods; and



## 2. Public Health (Food Hygiene) Regulations in an attempt to resolve the impasse over the sale of kangaroo/wallaby meat in butchers' shops.

Neither regulation was made before 30 June 1983.

### SEPTIC TANKS

A total of 1 215 septic tank applications were processed during the past year.

On a regional basis the breakdown of these applications is as follows:—

	Approved	Rejected
North-West Region	220	4
Northern Region	363	8
Southern Region	584	36

### SUBDIVISIONS

The following table shows the number of land subdivision proposals examined for suitability for the disposal of septic tank effluent and household sullage:—

North-West Region	124
Northern Region	73
Southern Region	264

### TOWN SEWERAGE SCHEMES

Planning is still proceeding for sewerage schemes at Cambridge, Orford, Bothwell, Fingal and St Marys. While commencement dates have not been announced we are hopeful that all projects will proceed.

The Glamorgan Council has had plans prepared to convert both the Swansea and Bicheno Sullage Schemes to full sewerage and to extend those schemes to cover additional areas of the towns.

It is possible that a scheme will eventuate at Exeter due to the commencement of a District High School and the Westbury Council is undertaking some preliminary planning work with a view to providing a scheme for Carrick.

### PLACES OF ASSEMBLY

In accordance with our statutory responsibility under the Public Health Act, plans and specifications of all new places of assembly and alterations and additions to places of assembly were examined.

### FOOD PREMISES

Plans and specifications of new food premises and alterations and additions to food premises were examined in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health Act.

Selected licensed establishments throughout the State were inspected and officers of the Division co-operated with Licensing Inspectors in special cases as and when required. Formal complaints were made to the Licensing Board about the condition of certain licensed establishments.

### FOOD SURVEYS

Sampling of a wide range of locally produced and imported foods was undertaken on a quarterly basis to determine the existence or otherwise of pesticide residues and other noxious substances.

Involvement with the Commonwealth Department of Health continued with the collection of samples of perishable foods for microbiological examination. Results of the analysis of these samples are presently being evaluated.

## HEALTH AUDITS

A health audit was conducted in the Municipality of Penguin between 22 February and 30 April 1983. The audit was prompted by the decision of the Council to appoint a part-time Health Inspector. The audit disclosed that there were significant areas of neglect of public health work in the field of food, food premises and places of public entertainment.

## RECALL OF DEFECTIVE FOODS

The Section continued to be engaged with the recall and seizure of suspect and contaminated food. It co-operated with the Commonwealth Department of Health in a number of cases including canned mushrooms from Taiwan, tragacanth gum from Germany and canned salmon from North America.

## HOSPITAL AUXILIARIES

As has been their custom and tradition, throughout the course of the year the Hospital Auxiliaries have continued to make valuable contributions to the hospital services. We are most grateful for their services and wish to convey to all members our sincere thanks for their efforts.

## LEGISLATION

The following legislation was enacted in relation to this Department during the period 1982 to 1983—

Queen Victoria Hospital Amendment Act No. 15 of 1982: Amended the Queen Victoria Hospital Act 1952 for the purpose of making further provision with respect to the expenditure of money belonging to the Board of Management of the Queen Victoria Hospital and for certain other purposes.

Podiatric Registration Amendment Act No. 18 of 1982: Amended the Podiatric Registration Act 1974 for the purpose of making further provision with respect to the constitution of the Podiatric Registration Board and to validate the appointment of certain members of the Board.

Medical Amendment Act No. 40 of 1982: Amended the Medical Act 1959 for the purpose of enabling registered chiropractors to carry out certain medical procedures without having to be registered under that Act.

Physiotherapy Registration Amendment Act No. 41 of 1982: Amended the Physiotherapy Registration Act 1951 for the purpose of enabling registered chiropractors to carry out physiotherapeutic treatment without having to be registered under the Act.



### III. ADMINISTRATION

#### FINANCE

##### DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE

Expenditure from the Appropriation Act for the financial year 1982-83 was \$120 772 777 an increase of \$1 592 667 from 1981-82. Details will be found in the Appendices.

##### DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE

The revenue receipts for the financial year 1982-83 amounted to \$53 106 948 being an increase of \$3 337 203 over receipts for the year 1981-82. The major reasons for the increase in receipts were increased advances and reimbursements relating to various Commonwealth/State cost sharing arrangements. Details will be found in the Appendices.

#### BUILDING PROGRAM

Major works in progress as at 30 June 1983, included —

- Nubeena District Nursing Centre — Conversion to a Nursing Home;
- St John's Park Hospital — Carruthers Wing — Major renovations and alterations;
- North-Western General Hospital — Alterations and extensions to Surgical Ward B;
- Mersey General Hospital — Theatre upgrading;
- Smithton District Hospital — Re-roofing.

Major works completed or substantially completed in 1982-83 included —

- Launceston New General Hospital;
- Launceston General Hospital — Fire precautions;
- Royal Hobart Hospital — Out-patients Department — Casualty alterations;
- Royal Hobart Hospital — Out-patients Department — Stages I and II.

#### HOSPITAL AUXILIARIES

As has been their custom and tradition, throughout the course of the year the Hospital Auxiliaries have continued to make valuable contributions to the hospital services. We are most grateful for their services and wish to convey to all members our sincere thanks for their efforts.

#### LEGISLATION

The following legislation was enacted in relation to this Department during the period 1.7.82 to 30.6.83:—

*Queen Victoria Hospital Amendment Act No. 17 of 1982:* Amended the Queen Victoria Hospital Act 1952 for the purpose of making further provision with respect to the expenditure of money belonging to the Board of Management of the Queen Victoria Hospital and for certain other purposes.

*Podiatrists' Registration Amendment Act No. 18 of 1982:* Amended the Podiatrists' Registration Act 1974 for the purpose of making further provision with respect to the constitution of the Podiatrists Registration Board and to validate the appointment of certain members of the Board.

*Medical Amendment Act No. 40 of 1982:* Amended the Medical Act 1959 for the purpose of enabling registered chiropractors to carry out certain medical procedures without having to be registered under that Act.

*Physiotherapists' Registration Amendment Act No. 41 of 1982:* Amended the Physiotherapists' Registration Act 1951 for the purpose of enabling registered chiropractors to carry out physiotherapeutic treatment without having to be registered under the Act.



*Chiropractors' Registration Act No. 42 of 1982:* An Act to provide for the regulation of the practice of chiropractic, for the registration of chiropractors and for incidental matters.

*Dental Act No. 43 of 1982:* An Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to dentists and dental mechanics, to provide for the registration of dental auxiliaries, and to amend certain enactments.

*Hospitals Amendment Act No. 96 of 1982:* Amended the Hospital Act 1918 for the purpose of placing boards of public hospitals under the control of the Minister for the time being administering that Act and for related purposes.

## **NURSES' REGISTRATION BOARD**

### **APPOINTMENTS**

In September 1982, Mr N. Crocombe, Mr W. Price, Mr J. Franklin and Miss L. Clippingdale were reappointed to the Board. In March 1983, Dr D. Walters and Mrs F. Williams, Mrs A. Birchall and Mrs B. Loring were reappointed.

### **MEETINGS**

Eleven Board meetings. Standing Committees of Principal Nurse Educators and Midwives were held monthly and twice in the year respectively.

### **Committees**

Were appointed to review the provision of courses to prepare nurses to care to aged and handicapped persons.

Standing Committees to be established for Child Health and Mothercraft Nursing, Geriatric Nursing and Psychiatric Nursing.

The Minister established a Working Party to review the Nurses' Registration Act, which commenced during the year.

### **AUSTRALIAN NURSING ASSESSMENT COUNCIL**

The Board participated in this Council and subscribed to its funding for the purpose of assessing the eligibility of nurses educated in countries other than Australian for registration in Australia.

### **LEGISLATION**

Enrolment of Mothercraft Nurses.

The Board requested amendments of the Act and regulations to give it authority to enrol Mothercraft Nurses, and approved draft Amendments of the regulations to control the practice of Midwives and Midwifery nurses for submission to Cabinet.

### **CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**

The Board has continued to request this appointment to update and maintain the curricula for hospital based nursing courses.

### **COURSES AT TASMANIAN COLLEGE OF ADVANCED EDUCATION**

Board Members, the Registrar and Inspecting Nurse Educator have been included in the membership of the College Committees preparing the accreditation documents, and the Board has revised the draft document.



## EXAMINATIONS

Were conducted in schools of nursing twice in the year for each category of nursing and item and question banks maintained.

## DETAILS OF REGISTRATIONS FOR 1982-83

### New Registrations —

New Registrations	Male	Female	Total
General	24	339	363
Midwifery	1	40	41
Psychiatric	19	14	33
Geriatric	1	2	3
Child Health	1	4	5
Mental Deficiency	2	4	6
Auxiliary (2) General	4	77	81
Auxiliary (2) Psychiatric	6	6	12
	58	486	544

### Registration of Addition Certificates were made in the following categories:—

General Nursing	12
Midwifery	111
Psychiatric	9
Geriatric	12
Child Health	21
Auxiliary General	6

### Number of Nurses Registered at 30 June 1983 —

	Male	Female
Registered Nurses	4 997	328
Auxiliary Nurses	1 263	74
TOTAL	6 260	402
		5 858

The number of Nurses with post-graduate qualifications in Administration, Education or Clinical specialities = 124.

### Number of Nurses with one certificate —

General	2 595
Psychiatric	195
Geriatric	48
Mental Deficiency	11
Midwifery	2
	2 851
With two certificates	1 784
three certificates	348
four certificates	11
five certificates	5



### Auxiliary Nurse Registrations —

New Registrations	Male	Female	Total
Auxiliary 2 year	39	592	631
Auxiliary 3 year	35	597	632
	74	1 189	1 263

### DENTAL MECHANICS' REGISTRATION BOARD

The Twentieth Annual Report of the Dental Mechanics' Registration Board has been presented for tabling in both House of Parliament.

### TASMANIAN AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Tasmanian Ambulance Service was established under the Ambulance Service Act 1982, and saw the appointment of a Director of Ambulance Services located within the Department of Health Services, with the responsibility of administering ambulance services in Tasmania. More detailed information is provided in the Annual Report prepared by the Tasmanian Ambulance Service.

### ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE

Close liaison with the Royal Flying Doctor Service is maintained. The Director-General of Health Services and the Director of Hospital and Medical Services are each members of the Executive Committee.

### INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

A Working Party was established by the Government to look into the implementation of a shorter working week for day workers working a 40-hour week in the health area. The Working Party has completed its report and further action is awaited. Boiler Attendants working in public hospitals were granted a 38-hour week under the terms of the Engine Drivers' and Firemens' (General) Federal Award.

The Industrial Section has co-ordinated a proposal to develop a National Health Industry Training Committee under the auspices of the National Training Council. A report is currently being prepared by the Department in conjunction with hospitals for lodgement with the National Training Council.

Negotiations have commenced with the Australian Medical Association for registered industrial agreements to replace the current Visiting Medical Officers' Agreement between the Minister for Health and the Australian Medical Association.

A drawn-out dispute with the Hospital Employees' Federation concerning the clinical experience facet of the College based nursing students course, remained unresolved.

The wage freeze legislation in the public hospital area reduced wage claims in the last half of the financial year, resulting in service organisations concentrating on a wide variety of minor industrial matters affecting hospital employees.



## IV. HOSPITAL, MEDICAL AND NURSING

Activity indicators for public hospitals show an increase in 1982-83 for the daily average occupied beds (+0.43), percentage occupancy (+1.21) and patients treated (+1.25). General medical and surgical bed days indicated a decrease (-0.12).

The average length of stay of patients in hospital decreased from 7.60 to 7.49 for general medical and surgical patients and from 6.47 to 6.33 for maternity patients.

In terms of cost, the cost per daily occupied bed including nursing home type patients rose from \$148.11 to \$162.30 and cost per daily occupied bed not including nursing home type patients rose from \$213.82 to \$232.12.

Salaries and wages were again the largest single cost item representing 70.59 per cent of the total followed by medical and surgical items, drugs etc., accounting for 6.44 per cent.

The new Webster Nursing Home Wing of the Campbell Town District Hospital commenced operations on 1 July 1982.

### GENERAL STATISTICS

#### NUMBER OF PATIENTS

The total number of in-patients treated in public hospitals for the year was 56 637, an increase of 699 or +1.25 per cent on the previous year. The general hospitals continued their trend of increase, whilst the maternity hospital reflected a decrease. The district hospitals also recorded an increase.

#### BED DAYS

The total number of in-patient bed days was 497 724, an increase of 2 127 or 0.43 per cent over the previous year.

#### BIRTHS

The number of births for the year was 5 829, a decrease of twenty over the previous year. The general hospitals recorded an increase of 119, the maternity hospitals a decrease of thirty-three and the district hospitals a decrease of 106.

#### RECEIPTS

Hospital revenue for the year was \$146 858 335, an increase of \$17 375 088 over the previous financial year. Of total revenue, \$98 170 052 or 66.85 per cent was made up of the State Grant to Hospitals. Direct receipts from hospitals attributed to 33.15 per cent of total revenue.

#### PAYMENTS

Total payments were \$147 824 739, an increase of \$17 213 615 or 13.18 per cent over the previous year. Salaries and wages accounted for \$105 093 893 or 71.09 per cent of total expenditure.

#### PATIENT COSTS

Average costs per patient and bed day rose during the year. The cost per in-patient decreased from \$2 164.81 to \$2 067.36 and per daily occupied bed rose from \$148.11 to \$162.30. The cost of an out-patient attendance rose from \$30.64 to \$35.20.

### ST JOHN'S PARK HOSPITAL

#### ST JOHN'S PARK ADVISORY BOARD

The Advisory Board held monthly meetings throughout the year and members continue to show considerable interest and a sympathetic outlook towards the needs and problems of the aged.



## **ST JOHN'S PARK HOSPITAL TRAINING SCHOOL**

Thirty-five students successfully completed the two year Auxiliary Training Course and nine General Trained Nurses passed the six-month Post Basic Course run by this Hospital.

## **HOME CARE SERVICES**

The demands on this service continue to increase with nine full-time and five part-time Nurses and sixty-four part-time Housekeepers employed in this area.

The Domiciliary Nursing Service operates on a zoning system in conjunction with other similar organisations in the South of the State and periodic reviews of the system help to create a more efficient service.

During the year the Nursing Service assisted a total of 919 patients through 32 291 home visits, the average number of patients per month being 335.8. The Home Help Service assisted a total of 841 patients through 21 640 visits, and the average number of patients per month were 614.5. The number of Home Helpers employed as at 30 June 1983, was sixty-four.

It should be noted that the number of Home Nursing patients does not include assessments made for Day Hospital and Home Help. From recent statistics available, it is evident that the service provided by this Hospital continues to compare more than favourably with other services in the State.

## **DAY HOSPITAL**

The Day Hospital fulfils a useful service in the rehabilitation and treatment of the elderly and his helping to maintain them in their own homes. An average of 170 out-patients attended the Day Hospital each month, with the total number of visits averaging 870 per month.

## **ST JOHN'S PARK KIOSK AUXILIARY**

The ladies of this Auxiliary continue to be very active in providing a most worthwhile service for our patients. Their regular visits to Hospital Wards with the trolley service is greatly appreciated. Throughout the year the Auxiliary continued to make generous donations of essential equipment to the Hospital and gifts to patients, totalling approximately \$3 500 in all.

## **SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AND ENTERTAINMENT**

Throughout the year, various outside organisations and individuals provided concert entertainment, lunches, afternoon teas, suppers and outings for the patients, both at New Town and Carlton. These visits and functions were most appreciated by the residents.

## **RELIGION**

The spiritual needs of the patients were provided for by Ministers from the various denominations, who continue to show considerable interest in the welfare of our residents.

## **LIBRARY**

The Red Cross Library continues to provide an efficient service for both ambulant and bed cases. The large print books are most popular and regular additions to the book shelves help provide a much needed amenity for our patients. This service is most appreciated by all who utilise it.

## **WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM**

The Hospital continues to participate in the Work Experience Program for secondary school students. This program, which is arranged by the Education Department, is proving most beneficial to students and the Hospital was able to offer work experience placements for fifty-seven students during the year, throughout the various sections of the Hospital.



Additional work experience placements were provided for sixteen students undertaking the Childhood and Community Studies Course at the Hobart Technical College.

The Hospital also accepted visitations from fifteen cadets from the Rokeby Police Academy, as part of their Community Involvement Program.

## COMMUNITY HEALTH

### GENERAL

Since the end of the Federal Government's official Community Health Program in 1981-82, Tasmania has continued with a formal Community Health Program with its own identifiable Parliamentary appropriation. At a time of severe restrictions and cutbacks, Community Health Services have not suffered any reduction.

No capital works have been undertaken.

As part of the Government's policy in this area, the charge of \$2.00 per nursing home visit, which was levied to non-pensioner cases since January 1982, has been removed.

### HOME NURSING

Restrictions in hospital funding, coupled with the steady increase in the number of elderly people in our community, continues to increase the demand on home nursing services. It has been possible to reallocate some Community Health funds in this direction providing a very modest amount of growth to meet the increased workloads.

Home help services are also very much in demand and are generating more concern as the present resources fail to meet the perceived needs.

#### HOME NURSING

Number of visits —	
Rural	120 133
Urban	331 441
	451 574
Total Expenditure	\$1 757 919
Average cost per visit	\$3.89 approx.

#### HOME HELP

Number of visits —	
Rural	34 117
Urban	86 908
	121 025
Total Expenditure	\$1 279 455
Average cost per visit	\$10.57 approx.

### AUXILIARIES

The four Community Health Auxiliaries at Kings Meadows Community Health Centre, Royal Hobart Hospital Division of Community Health, the Launceston District Nursing Service and the Evandale Medical Centre are now well established and provide a most appreciated degree of support. Their valuable work in providing bridges between the various services and the communities in which they work, is much appreciated.



## PLANNING, EVALUATION AND RESEARCH UNIT

The operation of the Unit continues to be hampered by staff shortages and uncertainty of employment of staff members. Staff now consist of a temporary assistant research officer employed for 15 hours per week.

Projects undertaken by the Unit during 1982-83 included —

1. Bed Utilisation Review at the Royal Hobart Hospital.
2. The Cost of Aged Person — prepared by the Department of Industrial Development.
3. Smoking and Obesity — commencement of survey of methods of self treatment.

## DISTRICT MEDICAL SERVICE

The turnover in District Medical Officers has been very small. This a great improvement on previous years when as many as seven or eight medical officers have had to be replaced. The new system of attracting medical officers under a minimum income scheme would seem to have been instrumental in achieving this degree of stability.

## GERIATRIC SERVICES

There has been a small but steady growth in beds in the nursing home sector and the Department now inspects the following bed totals:—

Hospital beds	545
Nursing home beds	1 594
Hostel beds	798
Unit accommodation	1 109

In 1982-83 Departmental officers have made a determined effort to improve the standard of drug storage and dispensing within private medical establishments. New stationery and measures to protect the nursing staff have been introduced with apparent success.

Despite several Federal Government reports on the subject of assessment of prospective entrants to nursing beds, which this Department supports, there has been unsatisfactory progress in that direction.

## STAFF EDUCATION

### IN-SERVICE EDUCATION

Following the scheme established in the previous year, the Regional Co-ordinators are now responsible for the local in-service education programs for their areas (except North-Eastern Tasmania) as follows:—

#### North Western —

1. Two combined regional sessions were held at Burnie for both Home Helps and Nursing Sisters.
2. Local sessions —

Smithton	2
Queenstown	1
Ulverstone	2
Mersey	2
Burnie	2

#### Southern —

1. Lunch time sessions were conducted on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.
2. Two one day sessions for working sisters.



*North-Eastern Region —*

1. Two one-day sessions for sisters held at Campbell Town and St Marys District Hospitals.
2. Two half-day sessions for home help ladies held at St Marys District Hospital.

**CONFERENCE**

The twelfth annual conference was held at Cosgrove Park, Launceston, and was attended by eighty-seven community health staff. The Minister for Health, the Honourable John Cleary, M.H.A., officially opened the conference.

**FOUNDATION COURSE IN COMMUNITY HEALTH**

Two repeats of Stage One of this Course were held during this year.

November 1982	.....	attended by 20
Feb.-March 1983	.....	attended by 26

The first trial of Stage Two was held at the Mersey General Hospital from 23-27 May 1983, inclusive. Eighteen people attended the course. The two guest lecturers were Ms Robinson and Mrs J. Winstanley, who are from the Social Biology Resource Centre, Melbourne. All participants expressed their thanks to the Department for providing the funds to attend the course and the benefit each obtained from it.

**EDUCATIONAL (AUDIO) TAPES**

The demand for duplicated tapes has tapered off, and about 1 000 duplicated tapes were circulated to teaching hospitals, district medical officers, sisters, etc.

**FILMS**

There is an increased demand for the use of Departmental films, mainly on ante- and post-natal topics. It is hoped that funds will be available this financial year for the purchase of two more films or video tapes on this topic. The Department subscribes to both the State and National Film Libraries and organises the loans of films for both voluntary organisations and community health staff.

## V. SCHOOL DENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

### FIELD SERVICE

On 30 June 1983, the field service had 62.5 full-time Dental Therapist Equivalents and fifteen District Dental Officers.

Children treated (including children treated at School Dental Therapy) —

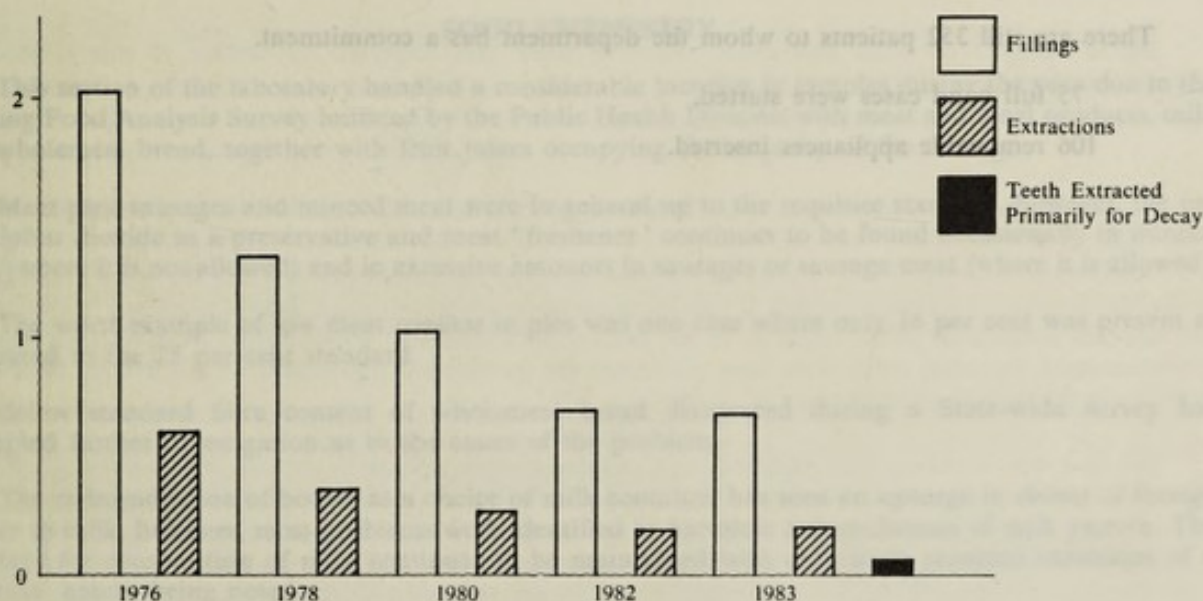
School	School Population	Number Treated
Kindergarten and Primary	54 962	44 967
High and District High	35 684	17 916
Under School Age	.....	1 578
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>90 646</b>	<b>64 461</b>

The number of high school children treated increased by 3.6 per cent during the year. If this increase continues, either the policy concerning treated for secondary school children or the establishment level of seventy Dental Therapists will have to be reviewed.

The field service was understaffed this year and unsuccessful attempts, Australia-wide, to recruit satisfactory graduates highlights the need for Tasmania to train its own Therapist staff.

17 282 patients were referred to Dental Officers by therapists and in addition, 4 493 patients were examined by dentists in the specific group examination program.

### TREATMENT REQUIREMENTS PER COURSE OF TREATMENT PROVIDED



The mean permanent caries increment for Tasmanian children, under 16 years of age, treated by School Dental Therapists in 1982 was 0.96 tooth surfaces.

### W.H.O.

At the World Health Assembly in May 1981, the W.H.O. adopted as its first global indicator of oral health statics, the following goal:— 'an average of not more than three decayed, missing, filled permanent teeth at the age of twelve by the year 2000. In 1982, Tasmanian twelve-year-old children had, on average, 2.92 permanent teeth, decayed, missing or filled, indicating attainment of this primary oral health goal.'



## SCHOOL OF DENTAL THERAPY

Students numbers on 1 July 1982 were three senior and seventeen junior.

The senior year consisted only of Commonwealth Students, where as the junior year was made up of eight Tasmanian, five Commonwealth and four Overseas students.

The teaching staff of the school were required to do extra clinical work during 1982 to maintain the dental health of the patient group, since only three senior students were operating in the clinic.

Dr D. Innes of Hobart acted as External Examiner in the final examinations in November 1982. All three A.C.T. Health Commission students were successful.

The School provided oral care instruction for various groups throughout the year. These included Child Health Sisters, Child Care Students and Mothercraft Home Trainees. Dental Therapy students were also involved in giving instruction to the usual pre-school infant and kindergarten groups.

Dr (Dent.) John Bellamy retired after fifteen years as Vice-President of the School.

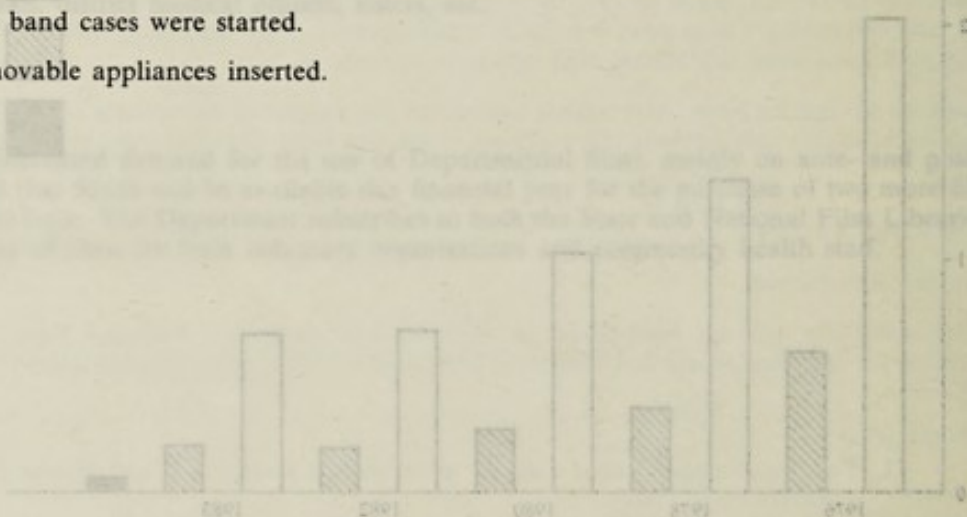
## ORTHODONTICS

On 28 September 1982, Cabinet decided that orthodontic treatment, provided by the School Dental Service, at the specialist level was no longer practical. Once those children already under treatment, and to whom the Department has a commitment, are completed, the orthodontist based in Hobart will provide a consultant service for the District Dental Officers throughout the State.

There are still 352 patients to whom the department has a commitment.

75 full band cases were started.

106 removable appliances inserted.



## W.H.O.

At the World Health Assembly in May 1981, the W.H.O. adopted as its first global indicator of oral health status the following goal: 'an average of not more than three decayed, missing, filled permanent teeth at the age of twelve by the year 2000'. In 1982, Tasmanian twelve-year-old children had, on average, 2.92 permanent teeth, decayed, missing or filled, indicating attainment of this primary oral health goal.



## **VI. TECHNICAL DIVISION (GOVERNMENT ANALYST'S LABORATORY)**

During the past year the Government Analyst laboratory handled more than 7 000 samples which were submitted by twenty-five State Government agencies as well as Local Authorities, the Commonwealth, hospitals, the University of Tasmania and the general public.

There was an overall decrease in the number from the previous year of approximately 300, with the areas most affected being water (various categories), pesticide residues and blood alcohols, but the complexity of analyses continues to increase more than off-setting any decline in actual numbers.

Increases were noted, in particular, in dangerous drugs, food and arson samples of approximately 100 in each category.

Details of the samples submitted and their sources and shown in Tables appended at the back of this report.

### **CONSULTATIVE AND ADVISORY SERVICES**

This activity continues to take up a considerable proportion of staff time with advice being given to other Departments and the general public on a wide diversity of problems.

The use by the public of the Consumer Affairs Council for complaints regarding purchase of inferior goods, problems in the dry cleaning of garments, installation of home insulation, etc., has in turn generated an amount of work in the consultative area as the laboratory is looked upon as the final arbiter in many cases.

### **FOOD CHEMISTRY**

This section of the laboratory handled a considerable increase in samples during the year due to the ongoing Food Analysis Survey initiated by the Public Health Division with meat and meat products, milk and wholemeal bread, together with fruit juices occupying the majority of the time.

Meat pies, sausages and minced meat were in general up to the requisite standard, however, the use of sulphur dioxide as a preservative and meat 'freshener' continues to be found occasionally in minced meat (where it is not allowed) and in excessive amounts in sausages or sausage meat (where it is allowed).

The worst example of low meat content in pies was one case where only 16 per cent was present as compared to the 25 per cent standard.

Below standard fibre content of wholemeal bread discovered during a State-wide survey has prompted further investigation as to the cause of the problem.

The re-introduction of bottles as a choice of milk container has seen an upsurge in claims of foreign matter in milk, however, most problems were identified as harmless accumulations of milk protein. The standard for composition of milk continues to be maintained with only some seasonal variations of a marginal nature being noted.

As is the case each year, a number of general foods were presented by local authority inspectors for confirmation of the presence of foreign matter. The usual insect fragments, mould, rodent excreta, etc., were noted, however, the amount of such problems remains minimal reflecting a general high standard of our food supply.

A pleasing feature of a survey into the standard of fruit juices available to the public showed the growing number of pure juices without colouring or preservatives coming on to the market. It appears that competition in this area has produced results beneficial to the discerning purchaser.

More laboratory space is urgently needed in the Food Chemistry Section to enable further staff to be employed if the number of samples continue at the present increasing rate.



## PESTICIDE RESIDUE

The National Parks and Wildlife Service continues to monitor the residue levels in native birds, animals and sea life and to this end, more than 200 samples were analysed by us for a wide range of pesticides and related substances as well as trace elements. Varying amounts of the common pesticides were detected in many cases.

With dog poisoning being popular during the year a number of suspected deaths by pesticides were examined. Almost half of the deaths were found to be caused by the highly toxic organophosphate compounds whilst three dogs had died from eating 'Baysol' slug killer.

The Pesticide Residue Section is also used for assisting in the detection of benzodiazepine derivatives (Valium, etc.) in human toxicology cases as it has a Gas Chromatograph with an electron capture detector.

## AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY

There was a sudden drop in the number of soils submitted by farmers through the Extension Division when the Government introduced charges for advice by the Department of Agriculture but these were more than made up for by the comprehensive study required on samples from the University (Applied Research), the Forestry Department, Hydro-Electric Commission and the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

The specialised equipment of the section is being used on a regular basis to monitor trace elements in body fluids from hospital patients, for example, gold in those being given gold therapy for rheumatoid arthritis and aluminium in those on dialysis treatment (aluminium being very toxic under these conditions).

Blood samples for lead and other elements were also analysed on behalf of the Division of Occupational and Environmental Health.

## FORENSIC CHEMISTRY, CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION AND TOXICOLOGY

A dramatic increase (about 120 more than last year) in the number of exhibits for arson investigation probably does not necessarily reflect a violent upsurge in arson but may show the greater awareness of the relevant authorities of the capacity of the laboratory to assist in the detection of accelerant residues. Unfortunately, financial restrictions have prevented the purchase of equipment vitally needed to be more positive in the actual identification of residues.

Hit and run, breaking and entering, and stealing cases continue to provide a considerable amount of work for the section with the comparison of paint flakes, glass fragments, etc., being required.

Dangerous drugs again featured as a large proportion of the work with another considerable increase over last year. Of the 680 exhibits examined, about 80 per cent were Cannabis plant material or products or paraphernalia associated with the smoking of it.

For the first time in many years, illicit cocaine was submitted, hopefully an isolated introduction to the State.

Heroin continues to be almost absent from Tasmania but methylamphetamine was detected in a number of seizures.

In the cases of human toxicology, most deaths were due to overdoses of prescribed preparations. One exception being a death from the over-the-counter product Medi-Slim containing caffeine and ephedrine. Chloral hydrate (restricted preparation since 1977) had a slight resurgence this year.



## BLOOD ALCOHOL

Nearly forty cases of 'mechanical' death (shooting, hanging, drowning) were examined for drugs and poisons, including alcohol. One sample contained a significant amount of an anti-depressant drug while alcohol played a significant role in 50 per cent of the cases. In one suicide by gunshot wounds, a blood alcohol level of .365 was detected.

It was pleasing to note the dramatic drop in road and related deaths, down from ninety-six last year to sixty-five in the period under review. In about 30 per cent of the cases alcohol appeared to be a significant factor whilst one case involved another drug.

More than 300 samples of blood taken under the Road Safety Act were received from the Police. Although there was a change in legislation reducing the legal limit from 0.08 to 0.05 for blood alcohol level about halfway through the year, there was no significant difference in the readings obtained.

Of the bloods examined, twenty-eight were zero for alcohol and twelve were less than 0.08. One hundred and nine samples were between 0.08 and 0.15, whilst there were ninety-three between 0.15 and 0.20. There were fifty-seven between 0.20 and 0.30 and four greater than 0.30.

From the zero and less than 0.08 group there were seven cases which involved prescribed drugs which had caused a problem with driving ability. Urine analysis was undertaken in these cases.

It was possible to compare breathalyzer results with blood analyses in 174 of the samples received. In 125 cases blood levels were greater than the subject had received from the breathalyzer, thirty-one were the same while only eighteen samples gave lower blood analysis results and in none of these cases was the difference sufficient to avoid prosecution.

## WATER CHEMISTRY

Almost 700 samples from widely varying fields were examined by the section during the year.

All fluoridated supplies were monitored as a check on the fluoride level of the water supplied under the control of the Rivers and Water Supply Commission and Local Authorities. Deviations of results from those obtained at the plant were again minimal.

Trade wastes from industrial undertakings throughout the State are subject to constant scrutiny and samples were received from the firms concerned, the Department of the Environment or local councils.

The Hydro-Electric Commission and the Forestry Department were responsible for more than 400 samples of river water requiring complete analysis to check on purity in the areas of their interest throughout the State.

Of particular interest during the year was the ongoing study of soluble substances responsible for the breakdown of bricks and sandstone in a number of historic sites including Port Arthur. The results obtained were used to recommend procedures for restoration in several cases.

Corrosion problems in several Government buildings, particularly in the heating systems, were given attention and routine testing procedures have been worked out to establish a preventative maintenance program.

Following a very costly breakdown in the chillers of the air-conditioning system in one of the State's major hospitals, steps have been taken to purchase more sensitive equipment for the monitoring of contaminants in the system. When available the equipment will also be of considerable use for other sections of the laboratory.

A number of sea water samples were examined for trace metals on behalf of the University and the Department of the Environment.

The section continues to assist the public in obtaining satisfactory water supplies in many country areas where reticulated systems are not available. During the recent drought many new bores were sunk, some with good results but unfortunately, many encountered water too saline for use.



There were several complaints from country residents or people relying on tank water regarding unpleasant tarry flavours in their supplies. These were traced to the products from slow combustion wood heaters which, when closed down, tend to distill products off the wood before it is burned. These products finish up as a 'tar' which is washed into the water supply by rain.

### MISCELLANEOUS

A new endeavour has been the training of a staff member in the counting of asbestos fibres from samples taken by the Department of Occupational Health.

The dangers arising from the inhalation of fragments of asbestos are becoming more understood and it is hoped that the results from the laboratory testing will enable precautions to be instituted in problem areas.

More than 200 biochemical specimens from persons exposed to a dangerous working environment or under specialised medical treatment were examined and are reported in the various prior sections.

### WATER CHEMISTRY

Almost 700 samples from widely varying fields were examined by the section during the year. All fluoridated supplies were monitored as a check on the fluoride level of the water supplied under the control of the Rivers and Water Supply Commission and Local Authorities. Deviations of results from those obtained at the plant were again minimal.

Trade wastes from industrial establishments throughout the State are subject to consistency and samples were received from the firms concerned. The Department of the Environment or local councils. The Hydro-Electric Commission and the Forestry Department were responsible for more than 400 samples of river water requiring complete analysis to check on purity in the areas of their interest throughout the State.

Of particular interest during the year was the ongoing study of soluble substances responsible for the breakdown of bricks and sandstone in a number of historic sites including Fort Arthur. The results obtained were used to recommend procedures for restoration in several cases.

Corrosion problems in several Government buildings, particularly in the heating systems were given attention and routine testing procedures have been worked out to establish a preventive maintenance program to detect early corrosion and to avoid damage to the buildings.

Following a very costly breakdown in the chiller of the air-conditioning system in one of the State's major hospitals, it has been taken to purchase more sensitive equipment for the monitoring of contaminants in the system. When available the equipment will also be of considerable use for other sections of the laboratory.

A number of sea water samples were examined for trace metals on behalf of the University and the Department of the Environment.

The section continues to have the problem of obtaining sufficient water supplies in many country areas where reticulated systems are not available. During the recent drought many boreholes were found to be dry and some with good results but contaminated with iron and manganese.



## VII. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

### LIST OF SENIOR OFFICERS

#### *Director-General of Health Services:*

G. MACKAY-SMITH, M.B., B.S. (Qld), B.H.A., F.R.A.C.M.A., A.H.A., F.A.I.M., J.P.

#### **Administration**

##### *Chief Administrative Officer:*

L. J. BAILLIE, B.Com. (Tas.), A.A.S.A., J.P. (to 22 September 1982)

R. T. HAWKES, A.A.S.A., A.C.I.S., (acting from 23 September 1982)

##### *Acting Senior Executive Officer (Medical):*

D. T. BJORKLUND, Dip.Pub.Admin.

##### *Chief Accountant:*

R. T. HAWKES, A.A.S.A., A.C.I.S., (to 22 September 1982)

E. J. KREMZER, B.Ec. (Tas.), A.A.S.A., A.C.I.S., (to September 1982)

##### *Accountants:*

E. J. KREMZER, B.Ec. (Tas.), A.A.S.A., A.C.I.S., (to September 1982)

M. W. GALLAGHER, B.Bus., A.A.S.A.

##### *Acting Executive Officer (Property Section):*

J. A. ATKINSON

#### **Hospital, Medical and Nursing Services**

##### *Director of Hospital and Medical Services:*

J. M. SPARROW, M.B., B.S. (Melb.), B.H.A., A.H.A., F.R.A.C.M.A., J.P.

##### *Senior Executive Officer (Hospitals):*

R. J. SMART, A.A.S.A.

##### *Executive Officer (Hospitals):*

R. M. SHAW, B.Ec.

##### *Executive Officer (Rosters):*

J. M. COX, R.N. (Gen., Mid., Ch.Health)

##### *Registrar of Nurses:*

M. R. ALLWRIGHT, Dip.N.Admin. (Lond.), F.C.N.A., J.P.

##### *Chief Inspecting Pharmacist:*

F. D. POTTS, Ph.C., A.U.A.

##### *Pharmacist:*

J. J. GALLOWAY, Ph.C.

##### *Executive Officer (Industrial):*

D. F. IRELAND, B.A.

##### *Executive Officer (Industrial):*

B. CORREY

##### *Senior Medical Officer (Community Health and Geriatrics):*

J. T. CURRAN, M.B., Ch.B. (Glas.), M.Sc., M.D., D.R.C.O.G.

##### *Acting Executive Officer (Community Health and Geriatrics):*

R. G. MANSON, C.B.S. (Accounting)

#### **St John's Park Hospital**

##### *General Superintendent:*

VACANT

##### *Administrator:*

R. T. LANGDALE (to 30 July 1982)

K. R. JONES, C.B.S., (from 20 January 1983)



**Cancer Registry***Medical Director:*

L. A. F. YOUNG, M.B., B.S. (Melb.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.)

**Division of Public Health***Director of Public Health:*

A. D. ROSS, M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.), D.P.H. (Edin.), D.T.M.&H. (Eng.), F.R.A.C.M.A., (to 5 December 1982)

CATHERINE MAIR, L.R.C.P. (Edin.), L.R.C.S. (Edin.), L.R.F.A.&S. (Glas.), D.P.H. (Edin.), M.F.C.M., (acting from 6 December 1982)

*Senior Medical Officer — Child Health Services:*

CATHERINE MAIR, L.R.C.P. (Edin.), L.R.C.S. (Edin.), L.R.F.A.&S. (Glas.), D.P.H. (Edin.), M.F.C.M., (to 5 December 1982)

*Industrial Medical Officer — Occupational and Environmental Health:*

E. J. MCARDLE, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. (N.U.I.), D.P.H. (N.U.I.), L.M. (Coombe), D.I.H. (Apoth.), D.I.H. (Eng.), M.F.C.M., F.A.C.M.A.

*Assistant Senior Medical Officer — Child Health Services:*

P. A. NAYLOR, M.B., Ch.B. (St Andrews), D.P.H. (Bristol)

*Regional Medical Officers of Health:**North-West Coast—*

G. D. NEWMAN, M.B., Ch.B. (Liverpool), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.C.H. (Lond.) (from 23 August 1982)

*Chief Health Inspector:*

R. H. FREEMAN, R.S.H., M.A.I.H.S.

*Executive Officer:*

W. RICHARDS.

**Mothercraft Home***Matron:*

M. K. SOUNDY, R.N. (Gen., Mid., Ch. Health)

**School Dental Service****DISTRICT DENTAL SERVICE***Director of Dental Services:*

A. D. ESLAKE, B.D.S. (Syd.)

**SCHOOL OF DENTAL THERAPY***Principal:*

B. A. J. RIEDEL, B.D.S. (Syd.)

*Deputy Principal:*

VACANT

*Matron (Dental Therapist):*

Mrs P. MERHULIK

**ORTHODONTIC SERVICE:***Senior Orthodontist:*

R. L. WEST, B.D.Sc. (Melb.), L.D.S.

**GENERAL ADMINISTRATION:***Executive Officer:*

M. J. TINDALL.

**Government Analyst's Laboratory***Government Analyst and Chemist:*

M. H. R. SHIPP, B.Sc., A.R.A.C.I.

*Deputy Government Analyst and Chemist:*

J. W. WISHART, B.Sc., A.R.A.C.I.



## VIII. APPENDICES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1983

## SCHOOL MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS JANUARY-DECEMBER 1982

## 1. DETAILS OF DOCTOR'S EXAMINATIONS

## A. NUMBER OF EXAMINATIONS—

	Number	Per cent of Total
Total number examined	26 652	
Number with notification of defect(s)	4 229	15.86
Number without defects	22 423	
Number of physical defects notified	5 125	19.20
Number of dental defects notified	126	
Number examined with parent present	9 931	37.26
Regional Distribution:		
South	13 041	
North and North-East	6 769	
North-West and West	6 842	
	26 652	

## B. CLASSIFICATION OF NOTIFIED DEFECTS —

	Number	Per cent of Total Defects Notified
Eye Conditions—		
Defective vision	618	
Squint	173	
Other	134	
	925	18.04
Orthopaedic Conditions—		
Posture	430	
Limbs	330	
Other	28	
	788	15.37
Nutritional Disorders—		
Overweight	369	
Underweight	74	
Anaemia	2	
	445	8.68
Ear Conditions—		
Deafness	435	
Other	319	
	754	14.70
Nose, Throat and Cervical Glands	423	8.25
Skin and hair	505	9.85
Abdomen (viscera, hernia and genitalia)	385	7.50
Heart and lungs	164	3.20
Asthma	15	0.20
Behaviour	192	3.70
Speech	118	2.30
Nervous system	47	0.90
Thyroid	33	0.60
Other	331	6.40
	5 125	



### C. COMPARISON OF NOTIFICATION RATE AND ATTENDANCE OF MOTHERS IN VARIOUS CATEGORIES OF EXAMINATIONS

#### Categories

##### 1. Entry

- (a) 'New' entrants — first examination of children just entering school — born 1976 and later.  
 (b) 'Old' entrants — first examination of children born 1975 and earlier. Transfers from interstate or overseas, or local children entering school late or absent at time of previous inspection.

##### 2. Routine

- (a) 1971 age group.  
 (b) 1967 age group.  
 (c) Miscellaneous — children from other age groups fully examined for various reasons, usually because absent the previous year.

##### 3. Review of previously diagnosed defects.

4. *Special* — Referred by class or physical education teacher, guidance officer, speech therapist, school sister or parent.

Category	Number Examined	Number with Defect	Percentage with Defect	Number Seen with Parent	Per cent Seen with Parent
1. Entry					
(a) New	6 599	865	13.10	5 678	86.04
(b) Old	1 380	208	15.07	655	47.46
2. Routine					
(a) 1971 Age Group	6 286	844	13.42	1 926	30.63
(b) 1967 Age Group	4 553	559	12.27	31	0.68
(c) Miscellaneous	1 589	226	14.22	487	30.64
3. Review	4 864	990	20.35	731	15.02
4. Special	1 381	537	38.88	423	30.62

### D. STATISTICS FROM DOCTORS' REPORTS (1982 EXAMINATIONS)

#### 1. Obesity

	Total Examined	Number Obese	Per cent Obese
New Entrants: M	3 404	104	3.05
F	3 195	165	5.16
Total	6 599	269	4.07
Old Entrants: M	676	19	2.80
F	704	62	8.80
Total	1 380	81	5.86
1971 Age Group: M	3 138	220	7.00
F	3 148	371	11.78
Total	6 286	591	9.40
1967 Age Group: M	2 328	89	3.82
F	2 225	326	14.65
Total	4 553	415	9.11



## 2. Heart Murmurs

	Total Fully Examined	Number with Murmur	Per cent with Murmur
<i>(a) Incidence</i>			
New Entrants	6 599	200	3.03
1971 Age Group	6 286	76	1.20
1967 Age Group	4 553	44	0.96
Total	17 438	320	1.83
<i>(b) Type of Murmur</i>			
	Congenital	Rheumatic	Functional
New Entrants	38	3	159
1971 Age Group	17	1	58
1967 Age Group	23	3	18
Total	78	7	235

(73.43 per cent functional)

## 3. Goitre — Incidence of Visibly Enlarged Thyroid

	Total Recorded	Number with Visible Goitre	Per cent with Visible Goitre
New Entrants: M	3 224	1	0.031
F	3 091	2	0.06
1971 Age Group: M	2 963	4	0.13
F	3 048	13	0.42
1967 Age Group: M	2 260	1	0.04
F	2 154	26	1.20

## Details of Sisters' Work — January-December 1982

<i>Contacts with Children —</i>	
Routine	84 905
Prep.	11 516
Hygiene	50 904
10-11 age group	2 774
Follow-up	5 626
Special referral	6 393
Counselling sessions	1 242
	163 360
<i>Contacts with Parents</i>	10 411
<i>Consultations with Professionals —</i>	
General Practitioners, Guidance Officers, Speech Pathology etc.	3 601



## SISTER'S REPORTS 1982

Referred to Medical Officers

(H.T., O.B.S., NOT.)

Defect	Age Group 1971	Age Group 1967	Age Group Other
Visual Defect	50	21	50
Squint	14		6
Other	26		14
Ears —			
Deafness	33	3	28
Other	39	1	34
Skin and Hair	120	37	71
Orthopaedic —			
Posture	143	44	51
Limbs	61	11	31
Other	22	9	7
Heart Murmur	2		
Lungs	3		1
Asthma	34	1	21
Nose and Throat	109	17	64
Hernia	2		2
Gentilalia	2	1	1
Overweight	103	28	67
Underweight	62	6	53
C.N.S.	7	1	2
Thyroid	3	1	2
Behaviour	30	1	19
Speech	3		5
All Other	20	4	10
Total	888	186	539

Total Number of Children Examined 2 033



**PER CENT OBESITY (SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTION) IN CONSECUTIVE YEARS SINCE 1967**

Year of Examination	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80*	81	82
<b>Entrant —</b>																
Boys	0.95	0.85	1.19	1.26	1.72	1.32	1.57	1.25	1.67	2.55	2.95	2.23	2.76	....	3.12	3.05
Girls	2.10	2.12	2.48	2.32	2.73	2.98	3.19	3.88	4.11	5.00	4.74	5.33	4.82	....	5.99	5.16
Total	1.51	1.48	1.83	1.78	2.22	2.14	2.37	2.51	2.87	3.75	3.85	3.76	3.77	....	4.53	4.07
<b>10's —</b>																
Boys	3.21	2.23	3.70	4.50	3.78	4.00	4.47	4.74	7.35	7.42	7.62	7.92	7.47	....	6.39	7.00
Girls	5.72	7.12	6.74	7.80	7.34	7.99	9.47	9.53	11.85	11.80	12.70	10.63	12.05	....	9.52	11.78
Total	4.46	4.66	5.16	6.11	5.54	5.94	6.92	7.12	9.59	9.60	10.16	9.24	9.75	....	7.93	9.40
<b>14's —</b>																
Boys	2.10	1.65	1.97	1.69	1.48	1.35	2.07	2.35	3.84	4.41	4.12	4.68	6.31	....	5.62	3.82
Girls	8.21	14.20	10.43	10.49	10.34	10.22	10.34	11.60	14.07	14.94	15.35	15.33	13.23	....	13.08	14.65
Total	5.28	7.81	6.48	6.15	5.99	5.52	6.08	6.81	9.10	9.52	10.01	9.94	9.75	....	9.47	9.11

\* Due to an oversight the data for 1980 was not recorded.

## NUMBER AND PREVALENCE OF DEFECTS PER 1000 CHILDREN EXAMINED IN 1982

Defect	76-79	Prev.	75 & Earlier	Prev.	A/G 71	Prev.	A/G 67	Prev.	A/G Other	Review	Prev.	Special	Prev.	Sister Notifi- cations
Visual Defect	402	60.9	117	84.8	485	77	441	96.9	136	559	115.0	208	150.6	1 311
Squint	372	56.4	32	23.2	119	18.9	57	12.5	29	189	38.8	53	38.4	48
Other	201	30.5	33	23.9	129	20.5	60	13.0	38	150	30.8	85	61.5	56
Ears Deaf	466	70.6	56	40.6	228	36.3	116	25.5	75	332	68.2	136	98.5	480
Other	624	94.6	89	64.5	176	28.0	97	21.3	62	255	52.4	122	88.3	74
Skin and Hair	585	92.7	114	82.6	608	96.8	486	106.7	173	368	75.6	186	134.7	131
Orthopaedic Posture	249	37.7	95	68.8	555	88.3	395	86.8	147	693	142.5	92	66.6	25
Limbs	594	90.0	75	54.3	434	69.0	290	63.7	127	405	83.3	93	67.3	30
Other	45	6.8	11	7.9	57	9.0	80	17.6	20	62	12.7	21	15.2	....
Heart Murmur	226	34.2	30	21.7	103	16.4	55	12.0	28	281	57.8	18	13.0	....
Lungs	238	36.0	30	21.7	101	16.0	38	8.3	36	97	19.9	22	15.9	2
Asthma	189	28.6	30	21.7	153	24.0	79	17.4	39	73	15.0	7	5.0	1
Nose and Throat	1 489	225.6	184	133.3	600	95.5	233	51.2	155	674	138.6	145	105.0	31
Hernia	86	13.0	24	17.4	26	4.0	15	3.3	4	46	9.4	6	4.3	....
Genitalia	264	40.0	23	16.7	142	22.6	172	37.8	31	202	41.5	23	16.6	5
Overweight	271	41.0	81	58.6	591	94.0	415	91.0	134	546	112.0	92	66.6	29
Underweight	223	33.8	47	34.0	178	28.0	42	9.2	32	293	60.0	41	29.7	1
C.N.S.	106	16.0	17	12.3	68	10.8	37	8.0	19	137	28.2	88	63.7	2
Thyroid	51	7.7	20	14.5	138	22.0	145	31.8	56	229	48.9	13	9.4	3
Behaviour	556	84.2	89	64.5	408	64.9	191	42.0	65	352	72.4	174	126.0	34
Speech	438	66.4	21	15.2	54	8.6	22	4.8	12	251	51.6	81	58.6	10
All other	788	119.4	62	44.9	488	77.6	216	47.4	153	650	133.6	211	152.8	40
Total	8 463	.....	1 280	.....	5 841	.....	3 682	.....	1 571	6 844	.....	1 917	.....	2 313
No. Examined	6 599	.....	1 380	.....	6 286	.....	4 553	.....	1 589	4 864	.....	1 381	.....	.....
No. with parent	5 678	86.0	655	47.5	1 926	30.6	31	0.77	487	731	15.0	423	30.6	.....



## STUDENT NURSE STATISTICS 30.6.82-1.7.83

Training Category	No. of T/S	In Training	Com- menced	Resigned	Cand.	Pass	Fail	No. of Exams	Completed
General	5	525	191	30	203	189	14	2	185
Midwifery	4	92	95	3	91	91	.....	2	91
Child Health	1	8	18	.....	18	18	.....	2	18
Psychiatric	1	60	18	4	21	19	2	2	19
Auxiliary	4	150	70	6	94	89	5	2	89
Aux. Psychiatric	1	22	.....	.....	13	12	1	2	12
Geriatric	1	.....	.....	.....	9	9	.....	1	9
Mental Deficiency	1	6	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Total	.....	863	392	45	449	427	22	14	423

Post basic Psychiatric included in Psychiatric.

Approved post basic courses in Intensive Care Nursing — Royal Hobart Hospital.

## CASES OF VENEREAL DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1983

Age	Under 1 Year																Age not Stated				Totals	Grand Totals					
	1-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-65																
Sex	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	
Gonorrhoea	..	..	1	1	16	20	27	19	11	..	1	4	..	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	1	4	7	62	54	116
Syphilis	....	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1		
Total	..	..	1	1	16	20	27	19	11	..	1	5	..	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	1	4	7	62	55	117

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES REPORTED DURING YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1983

Municipality	Salmonella	Shigella	Hepatitis	Hydatids	Leprosy	Ornithosis	Leptospirosis	Total
Bridgewater	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Brighton	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Burnie	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	4
Clarence	18	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	21
Circular Head	3	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Devonport	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Fingal	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Glenorchy	7	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
Hobart	13	1	6	.....	.....	1	.....	21
Huonville	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Kingborough	2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Launceston	5	.....	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Lilydale	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1
New Norfolk	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	2
Penguin	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	2
Queenstown	2	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Scottsdale	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Smithton	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Sorell	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Ulverstone	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Wynyard	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Total	71	10	25	1	1	2	1	111

## DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE — CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND

The expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund Appropriation Act for the year 1982-83 was \$120 772 777, an increase of \$1 592 667 over 1981-82. Comparative figures are —

	1981-82	1982-83
	\$	\$
Administration — Head Office	1 046 596	1 131 677
Hospital and Medical services —		
Administration	562 547	539 165
Grants to Hospitals	91 210 006	90 187 379
Medical Services, Country	511 853	499 073
Community Health Services	2 440 659	2 991 914
Interim Ambulance Authority — Government contribution	2 963 040	3 960 000
Public Health Division —		
Administration and Inspectors	798 814	695 732
Fluoridation — Public Water Supplies	237 638	256 491
School Medical Service	772 002	810 143
Child Health Service	1 014 304	1 079 326
Occupational Health	151 309	150 283
Health Promotion and Publicity	66 004	61 393
Congenital Hypothyroid Screening	10 309	24 259
Handicap Assessment Centre	254 153	224 448
Grants —		
Red Cross Blood Transfusion	459 826	504 999
Medical Unions	80 500	74 850
Senior Citizens Centres	207 165	230 000
Miscellaneous	190 760	208 109
Other —		
Pharmaceutical Section	166 364	182 293
Dental Health Service	3 279 080	3 277 453
Government Analyst and Chemist	515 905	532 847
Nurses' Registration Board	93 910	111 241
Operating State Nursing Homes	1 160	100 000
Victorian and Tasmanian Cancer Institute	997 126	1 098 000
Planning, Evaluation and Research Unit	17 687	9 898
Alcohol and Drug Dependency Board	58 684	60 134
X-Ray Unit and Cancer Registry	129 272	139 525
Costs of Management Consultant Services	90 380	29 600
Pensions payable to former employees of Public Hospitals	846 367	1 310 517
Cost of Inquiry into the needs of the Handicapped		
St John's Park Hospital, New Town	10 006 690	10 290 028
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>\$119 180 110</b>	<b>\$120 772 777</b>



## DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE

The Revenue receipts for the financial year 1982-83 amounted to \$53 106 948 being an increase of \$3 337 203 over the year 1981-82.

	1981-82	1982-83
	\$	\$
Commonwealth Reimbursements —		
Community Health Service	83 952	.....
Health Program Grants	121 518	30 599
Home Care Service	701 378	812 829
Medibank Hospital Agreement	41 961 000	44 753 000
Paramedical Services	27 124	27 645
Planning, Evaluation and Research Unit	20 000	- 12 883
Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service	168 791	182 222
Rehabilitation Centre	915 461	1 189 454
School Dental Scheme	3 000	38 420
Senior Citizens' Scheme	209 863	262 012
Pharmaceutical Benefits	139 013	143 945
Human Quarantine Arrangement	.....	5 062
Departmental Revenue —		
Government Analyst Fees	8 926	9 672
Nurses' Registration Board Fees	75 627	83 259
Other Revenue	128 132	40 524
District Medical Services Fees	.....	218 048
St John's Park Hospital —		
Commonwealth Nursing Home Benefits	3 583 855	3 522 992
Hospital Fees	1 486 905	1 621 703
Miscellaneous	92 735	112 249
Other —		
General Refunds	21 876	23 341
Property Sales	20 589	42 855
	<u>\$49 769 745</u>	<u>\$53 106 948</u>

## DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE — LOAN FUND

The capital expenditure by the Department for the year 1982-83 was \$5 082 213, a decrease of \$3 214 462 over the year 1981-82.

Comparative figures are —

	1981-82 \$	1982-83 \$
Geriatric Hospital —		
St John's Park, New Town	56 150	360 190
General Hospitals —		
Royal Hobart	1 862 824	1 267 899
Launceston General	4 011 530	615 795
Mersey General	2 420	238 644
North-Western General	11 989	151 771
Maternity Hospitals — Queen Victoria Maternity	3 502	16 693
District Hospitals —		
Beaconsfield District		
Campbell Town District	4 957	
Flinders District		25 317
Huon District		
King Island District		
Longford (Toosey Memorial)		
New Norfolk District		6 866
North-Eastern Soldiers' Memorial (Scottsdale)		
Ouse District	2 360	2 174
Rosebery District		
Smithton District	5 398	72 044
St Helens Public Hospital		14 500
St Marys District		1 370
Ulverstone District		
West Coast District	18 415	
Mothercraft Home	28 072	35 377
Furniture, Equipment and Misc. Works	1 603 312	2 018 310
Other Expenditure —		
Family Planning Assoc.		14 460
Dental Health Service		12 172
District Medical Service	72	
State Nursing Homes	128 710	4 140
Furniture and Equipment (other)	214 606	52 158
Purchase of Properties and Miscellaneous Expenditure		172 333
	<u>\$8 296 675</u>	<u>\$5 082 213</u>



## GENERAL STATISTICS OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1983

GENERAL STATISTICS OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS FOR THE YEAR 1980																														
Hospital	Average Daily Number	Per cent Occupancy	IN-PATIENTS												IN-PATIENTS												OUT-PATIENTS			
			Beds Available				Number Treated				Bed Days				Daily Average of Occupied Beds				Average Length of Stay-Days				Births (Total Deliveries)	Hospital Attendances	Occasions of Service	Home Nursing	Visiting Services			
			General	Maternity	Cots	Total	General	Maternity	Nursing Home Type Patients	Total In-Patients	General	Maternity	Nursing Home Type Patients	Total Bed Days	General	Maternity	Nursing Home Type Patients	Total Daily Average	General	Maternity	Nursing Home Type Patients	Average All Patients								
<b>GENERAL HOSPITALS</b>																														
Royal Hobart Hospital—																														
City	345.86	71.41	483	—	—	483	16 126	—	30	16 156	124 250	—	1 988	126 238	340.41	—	54.3	345.86	7.71	—	66.27	7.81	—	—	154 499	106 574	26 216			
Queens Alexandra	30.53	74.31	—	68	—	68	—	2 862	—	2 862	—	18 444	—	18 444	—	50.53	—	—	30.53	—	6.44	—	6.44	2 081	—	18 129	—			
Non-Natal	10.59	75.63	—	—	14	14	421	—	—	421	3 865	—	—	3 865	10.59	—	—	—	10.59	9.18	—	—	—	—	—	9 18	—			
District Nursing Centres	3.13	24.05	13	—	—	13	143	—	—	143	1 141	—	—	1 141	3.13	—	—	—	3.13	7.98	—	—	—	—	—	17 625	25 241	7 114		
Royal Hobart Hospital Total	410.11	70.95	496	68	14	578	16 690	2 862	30	19 582	129 256	18 444	1 988	149 688	354.13	50.53	5.43	410.11	7.69	6.44	66.27	7.64	2 081	N.A.	190 213	131 815	33 330			
Launceston General Hospital—																														
City	267.16	70.49	353	—	26	379	8 964	—	179	9 103	74 051	—	23 514	97 515	202.74	—	64.42	267.16	8.25	—	169.17	10.71	—	—	91 704	119 961	18 947			
Evandale	25.50	84.99	30	—	—	30	7	—	25	32	1 543	—	7 763	9 306	4.23	—	21.27	25.50	—	—	—	290.81	—	—	2 073	24 436	11 366			
District Nursing Centres	31.56	63.12	50	—	—	50	734	—	38	752	7 221	—	4 298	11 519	19.78	—	11.78	31.56	9.84	—	236.78	15.32	—	—	—	—	—			
Launceston General Hospital Total	324.22	70.64	433	—	26	459	9 705	—	182	9 887	82 765	—	35 575	118 340	226.75	—	97.47	342.22	8.53	—	195.47	11.97	—	N.A.	93 777	144 397	30 113			
Mersey General Hospital—																														
Lancashire	72.32	50.94	119	—	23	142	3 913	—	12	3 925	25 935	—	465	26 400	71.05	—	1.27	72.32	6.43	—	38.75	6.73	—	6 418	9 515	13 834	16 332			
Devonport	27.97	62.16	18	27	—	45	948	1 005	—	1 953	4 151	6 038	—	10 209	11.37	16.40	—	27.97	4.38	6.03	—	5.23	7.49	15 792	39 393	—				
Mersey General Hospital Total	100.29	53.64	137	27	23	187	4 861	1 005	12	5 878	30 086	6 038	465	36 609	82.42	16.40	1.27	100.29	6.19	6.03	38.75	6.23	7.49	22 210	49 908	13 834	16 332			
North-Western General Hospital—																														
Burnie	95.86	67.51	89	20	25	142	5 101	1 041	1	6 143	28 650	6 346	14	34 990	78.44	17.39	—	95.86	5.61	6.10	14.00	5.70	807	30 030	61 228	28 034	21 635			
Sydney Division	53.84	64.86	83	—	—	83	1 553	—	14	1 567	18 486	—	1 365	19 651	50.65	—	3.23	53.84	11.90	—	83.21	12.54	—	1 204	5 822	—	—			
Savage River	2.00	18.16	11	—	—	11	280	—	—	280	729	—	—	729	2.00	—	—	2.00	2.60	—	—	7.40	—	844	1 247	—	—			
North-Western General Hospital Total	151.70	64.28	183	20	25	236	6 934	1 041	15	7 990	47 845	6 346	1 179	55 370	131.09	17.39	3.23	151.70	6.90	6.10	15.60	6.93	807	32 078	68 297	28 034	21 635			
Total General	986.32	67.56	1 249	123	88	1 460	38 190	4 908	239	43 337	289 952	30 848	39 207	360 007	794.39	84.52	107.42	986.32	7.59	6.29	164.05	8.31	3 637	54 288	401 195	318 080	101 430			
<b>MATERNITY HOSPITALS</b>																														
Queen Victoria	66.67	60.06	29	62	20	111	2 067	2 106	—	4 173	9 498	14 637	—	24 335	26.02	40.45	—	66.67	4.60	7.05	—	5.83	1 709	730	2 884	—	—			
<b>DISTRICT HOSPITALS</b>																														
Huon—	22.14	56.78	32	7	—	39	287	94	16	397	3 166	379	4 538	8 083	8.67	1.04	12.43	22.15	11.03	4.03	283.63	20.56	61	1 625	1 625	3 360	840			
Franklin	6.08	67.55	9	—	—	9	88	—	11	99	790	—	1 429	2 219	2.16	—	3.92	6.08	8.98	—	129.91	22.41	—	1 133	1 133	—	—			
Huon Total	28.23	58.80	41	7	—	48	375	94	27	496	3 956	379	5 967	10 302	10.83	1.04	16.35	28.23	10.55	4.03	221.00	20.77	61	2 758	2 758	3 360	840			
Beaconsfield	23.10	67.93	31	3	—	34	354	41	21	416	2 175	186	6 069	8 430	5.96	0.51	16.63	23.10	6.14	4.54	209.00	20.26	28	827	1 072	7 889	2 120			
Campbell Town	14.12	78.46	15	—	3	18	455	—	14	469	3 395	—	1 780	5 155	9.30	—	4.82	14.12	7.46	—	125.71	10.99	—	579	2 002	5 512	2 030			
King Island	13.15	54.79	19	2	3	24	303	11	11	325	1 699	47	1 053	4 799	4.66	0.13	8.36	13.15	5.61	4.27	277.54	14.77	6	1 975	2 213	3 867	705			
New Norfolk	25.48	60.66	33	6	3	42	422	78	26	526	3 865	561	5 069	9 299	10.59	1.00	13.89	25.48	9.16	4.68	194.96	17.68	58	4 337	5 619	2 325	1 353			
North-Eastern Soldiers' Memorial Hospital	20.10	79.80	44	5	—	49	980	90	99	1 089	6 555	498	7 239	14 272	17.96	1.36	19.78	39.10	6.69	5.53	72.92	12.21	58	2 925	9 561	11 465	2 635			
Ouse	9.19	91.95	8	1	1	10	225	68	71	362	997	283	2 074	3 356	2.75	0.78	5.68	9.19	4.47	4.19	29.21	9.27	36	648	648	—	131			
Rosberry	4.21	28.00	10	2	3	15	462	30	—	512	1 435	100	1 535	3 493	0.27	—	4.21	2.90	3.53	—	3.00	17	1 967	2 739	—	452				
Seaham	25.26	61.46	26	7	7	40	833	150	14	1 017	4 714	687	3 020	9 221	12.92	1.88	10.47	25.26	5.53	4.58	272.86	19.07	71	1 381	1 301	3 429	2 147			
St Helens	5.53	61.40	8	—	—	9	292	22	4	318	1 675	79	363	2 087	4.59	0.22	9.72	5.53	5.74	3.59	65.75	6.34	7	1 733	1 732	3 387	1 200			
St Marys	14.16	74.54	19	—	—	19	241	5	13	259	3 310	16	3 603	5 369	3.70	0.04	10.42	14.16	5.60	3.20	292.54	19.96	2	1 732	1 732	3 387	1 200			
Tonney	21.49	65.14	25	—	—	25	468	—	23	491	4 001	—	3 846	7 847	10.96	—	10.54	21.49	5.55	—	167.22	15.98	—	1 294	3 219	3 862	1 800			
Uxbridge	34.32	71.50	40	8	—	48	890	118	13	971	10 434	958	1 135	12 527	28.59	2.43	3.11	34.32	11.04	6.06	87.51	12.90	109	6 635	6 635	4 876	6 303			
West Coast	27.88	64.83	36	3	4	43	884	83	30	997	6 092	336	3 747	10 175	16.69	0.92	10.27	27.88	6.99	4.05	124.90	15.21	30	7 284	10 137	5 836	6 360			
Total District	285.22	66.02	355	43	32	432	7 132	830	366	8 328	52 343	3 936	47 825	104 104	143.41	10.78	131.03	285.22	7.34	4.74	130.07	12.50	483	36 075	51 299	60 390	29 372			
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>																														
Franklin	13.95	55.81	25	—	—	25	418	—	—	418	5 093	—	—	5 093	13.95	—	—	13.95	12.18	—	—	12.18	—	—	—	—	—			
Motherscraft	11.47	63.70	18	—	—	18	381	—	—	381	4 155	—	—	4 155	11.47	—	—	11.47	10.98	—	—	10.98	—	—	—	—	—			
Total Miscellaneous	25.42	59.11	43	—	—	43	799	—	—	799	9 278	—	—	9 278	25.42	—	—	25.42	11.61	—	—	11.61	—	—	—	—	—			
Grand Total	1 363.63	66.65	1 676	230	140	2 046	48 188	7 844	605	56 637	361 071	49 621	87 032	497 724	989.24	135.95	238.44	1 363.63	7.49	6.33	143.66	8.79	5 829	91 093	455 378	378 470	130 802			
<b>YEARLY COMPARISONS</b>																														
1978-79	1 466.92	65.55	1 798	284	156	2 238	48 816	8 070	—	56 886	478 112	57 243	—	535 435	1 310.09	156.83	—	1 466.92	9.79	7.09	—	9.41	4 095	—	—	195 911	84 479			
1979-80	1 516.96	67.88	1 800	280	154	2 234	50 416	7 690	—	58 106	505 548	53 439	—	554 987	1 370.35	146.01	—	1 516.96	9.95	6.95	—	9.55	5 768	—	—	337 455	79 077			
1980-81	1 439.55	63.84	1 758	206	149	2 223	49 673	7 668	523	55 938	361 506	50 855	83 206	495 597	990.43	139.41	227.96	1 357.80	7.40	6.47	139.09	8.86	5 489	179 700	437 879	440 447	130 148			
1981-82	1 357.80	65.45	1 576	239	137	2 042	47 558	7 8444																						





\* Data not available for M, H, H., L, G, H.





1975-76 TO 1982-83

COMPONENTS OF OPERATING EXPENDITURE AND INCOME EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE

Year	MAINTENANCE PAYMENTS — MEDIBANK														NON-MEDIBANK			Other	Total Payments
	Salaries and Wages	Food Supplies	Medical and Surgical	Fuel, Light and Power	Domestic Charges	Renovations to Buildings	Additional Works and Services	Replacement and Additional Equipment	Repairs and Maintenance	Administrative Expenses	Other Expenses	Sub-Total Hospital Payments	D.H.S. Loan Fund Payments	Total Medibank Payments	Visiting Services				
															Home Nursing	Community Health	Home Care and Para-medical		
1975-76	77.93	3.53	5.70	2.29	1.73	0.22	—	0.74	1.64	3.09	0.34	97.21	0.64	97.85	0.74	0.52	0.56	0.33	100.00
1976-77	76.64	3.34	5.59	2.08	2.20	0.37	0.16	0.87	1.31	3.18	0.60	96.34	1.29	97.62	0.77	0.94	0.56	0.11	100.00
1977-78	76.24	3.08	5.97	1.95	2.40	0.27	0.07	1.01	1.13	3.60	0.26	96.02	0.87	96.88	0.84	1.52	0.69	0.11	100.00
1978-79	75.85	3.20	5.77	2.13	2.46	0.22	0.06	1.16	1.31	3.51	0.44	96.10	0.29	96.39	0.88	1.66	0.85	0.23	100.00
1979-80	75.11	3.19	6.10	2.26	2.36	0.15	0.08	0.95	1.22	3.33	0.38	95.13	0.99	96.12	0.89	1.62	0.97	0.40	100.00
1980-81	75.32	3.18	6.41	2.55	2.25	0.05	0.03	0.60	1.11	3.41	0.64	95.55	0.63	96.18	0.92	1.53	1.00	0.37	100.00
1981-82	74.32	3.00	5.88	2.91	2.31	0.05	0.04	0.60	1.25	3.63	1.18	95.17	0.53	95.70	1.04	1.85	0.92	0.49	100.00
1982-83	70.59	1.96	6.44	2.87	2.23	0.05	0.11	0.60	1.48	4.03	1.96	92.32	0.85	93.17	0.86	1.78	0.78	3.41	100.00

Year												MAINTENANCE RECEIPTS							Other Receipts	State Grant	Total Receipts	
												Medibank Receipts					Visiting Services					
												In-Patient Fees	Out-Patient Fees	Meals and Accommodation	Other Hospital Revenue	Medibank Sub-Total	Home Nursing	Community Health Program				Home Care and Para-medical
1976-77	10.07	0.38	1.09	3.24	14.78	0.26	0.84	0.00	2.97	81.15	100.00											
1977-78	15.25	0.46	1.13	3.20	20.04	0.29	1.40	0.00	0.16	78.11	100.00											
1978-79	14.29	0.42	1.03	3.89	19.63	0.26	0.06	0.00	0.21	79.84	100.00											
1979-80	13.12	0.77	0.96	4.08	18.93	0.36	0.08	0.00	0.31	80.32	100.00											
1980-81	13.06	0.63	0.75	4.84	19.28	0.39	0.13	0.00	1.00	79.20	100.00											
1981-82	17.71	1.89	0.69	5.32	25.59	0.51	0.07	0.01	0.47	73.33	100.00											
1982-83	18.82	3.29	0.64	4.01	26.76	0.37	0.08	0.02	3.38	69.39	100.00											





## STATISTICS OF DISTRICT NURSING CENTRES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1983

Hospital Number	Hospital/Statistic	In-Patients						Out-Patients				Hospital Number
		Daily Average of Occupied Beds	Per cent Occupancy	Total Beds Available	Total Number Treated	Total Bed Days	Average Length of Stay	Patients Attending Hospital		Visiting Services		
								Number of Registered Persons	Total Attendances	Home Nursing	Home Help	
1	Alonnah			1				N.A.	2 302	1 348	661	1
2	Avoca							363	1 223	828	240	2
3	Cygnat	0.03	3.01	1	11	11	1.00	N.A.	5 060	2 844	924	3
4	Deloraine	15.90	79.48	20	228	5 802	25.45			3 820	1 013	4
5	Dover	6.08	67.55	9	99	2 219	22.41					5
6	George Town	11.34	75.60	15	445	4 139	9.30			3 230	2 176	6
	Gladstone		7					305	545	1 469	158	7
8	Lilydale							N.A.	311	4 007	60	8
9	Mole Creek							N.A.	840	177		9
10	Oatlands	3.10	77.40	4	132	1 130	8.56	N.A.	1 368	1 051	9	10
11	Ringarooma							352	645	2 650	369	11
12	Rossarden-Storeys Creek							115	395	273		12
13	Savage River	2.00	18.18	11	280	729	2.60	844	1 247			13
14	Sirahan							1 089	1 322	2 416	703	14
15	Tasman			5				N.A.	5 894	1 757	612	15
16	Triabunna			1				N.A.	3 001	3 094	647	16
	Total	38.45	57.37	67	1 195	14 030	11.74	N.A.	24 153	28 964	7 572	
	Year —											
	1978-79	34.46	60.47	57	1 155	12 580	10.89	12 075	32 043	26 083	9 362	
	1979-80	38.82	57.26	68	1 373	14 212	10.35	13 759	31 142	31 580	5 484	
	1980-81	40.31	58.42	69	1 447	14 714	10.16	9 450	30 202	32 821	6 912	
	1981-82	39.72	55.95	71	1 454	14 499	9.97	11 839	29 101	32 780	9 894	
	1982-83	38.45	57.37	67	1 195	14 030	11.74	N.A.	24 153	28 964	7 572	





# GENERAL STATISTICS FOR CARE OF AGED AND INVALIDS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1983

Approved Nursing Home Beds								
	Other Accommodation	Beds Available	Bed Days		Total	Daily Average	Per Cent Occupancy	
			Ordinary	With Extensive Care Benefit				
Cosgrove Park	136	144	25 659	23 315	48 974	134.18	93.18	
St John's Park	20	541	77 224	69 370	146 594	401.63	74.24	
Spencer Nursing Home		66	5 729	17 556	23 285	63.80	96.67	
Mersey Nursing Home		67	1 997	21 822	23 819	65.26	97.40	
Webster Nursing Home		8	1 930	766	2 696	7.39	92.33	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>826</b>	<b>112 539</b>	<b>132 829</b>	<b>245 368</b>	<b>672.24</b>	<b>81.39</b>	

## PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY MICROBIOLOGY DEPARTMENT, ROYAL HOBART HOSPITAL

Figures for the Financial Year July 1982 to June 1983

	Potable Waters	Pool Waters	Other Waters	Food/Misc.	Monthly Totals
July 1982	226	61	69	42	398
August	217	76	120	35	448
September	235	82	113	39	469
October	169	94	125	31	419
November	222	124	91	37	474
December	164	90	116	19	389
January 1983	184	57	98	18	357
February	203	72	128	26	429
March	205	112	172	25	514
April	177	28	105	10	320
May	229	52	171	40	492
June	215	61	125	33	434
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2 446</b>	<b>909</b>	<b>1 433</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>5 143</b>

## ST JOHN'S PARK HOSPITAL — FINANCE

	1981-82	1982-83
	\$	\$
Revenue —		
Commonwealth Hospital Benefits	3 583 855	3 522 992
State Aid (nett cost)	4 843 195	5 035 084
Hospital Fees	1 486 906	1 621 703
Laundry Services	3 174	3 926
Sundries	89 560	108 323
	<u>\$10 006 690</u>	<u>\$10 292 028</u>
Expenditure —		
Salaries	8 531 020	8 748 235
Light and Fuel	334 121	384 507
Provisions	563 350	590 000
Drugs, Medicines, etc.	100 000	100 000
Equipment, Stores, Uniforms and Maintenance	299 998	320 000
Sundries	178 201	149 286
	<u>\$10 006 690</u>	<u>\$10 292 028</u>
Gross daily cost per patient	62.56	68.69
Nett daily cost per patient	30.28	33.61
Gross weekly cost per patient	437.92	480.83
Nett weekly cost per patient	211.96	235.27
Qualified beds	156 366	146 594
Non-qualified beds	3 580	3 231
	<u>159 946</u>	<u>149 825</u>

## NUMBER OF BEDS AVAILABLE

Nursing	412
Welfare	149
	<u>561*</u>

\* Including 541 approved by Australian Department of Health as Nursing Home Beds.

## PATIENTS

Year	No. of Residents at Commencement of Year	Admitted	Discharged	Deaths	Difference In Pass Days	Remaining at End of Year	Average Daily No.
1981-82	460	207	167	69	Nil	431	438.21
1982-83	431	223	175	73	+2	404	410.80



## Analytical tests conducted 1 July 1982 to 30 June 1983

Soils	966
Water	688
Dangerous drugs	679
Foods	673
Pesticide residues	546
Sewage	453
Water (pollution)	409
Water (fluoride)	369
Arson	365
Blood alcohol (breathalyzer)	306
Biochemical specimens	236
Plant material	223
Toxicology (human)	220
Trade waste	195
Blood alcohol (ordinary)	171
Crime exhibits	167
Animal poisons	86
Corrosion products	57
Industrial hygiene	36
Building materials	34
Feeding stuffs	31
Textiles and clothing	30
Drugs and medicines	23
Oils (fuel and lubricating)	20
Seepage	20
Industrial Chemicals	16
Miscellaneous	150
	7 169

## Sources of Samples

Government Departments and Instrumentalities —	
Police	1 467
Forestry	654
National Parks and Wildlife	409
Coroner	365
Health	347
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