

# **SANITARY CONDITIONS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN BASINGSTOKE PARISHES, 1866**

***HRO, PL3/5/12 Minute Book for Basingstoke Union Apr 1865 to Jul 1869***

Minutes of 12 September 1866

## District No. 3

### Report from Mr Charles Webb

The District at present is very healthy, there is no epidemic of typhus, typhoid or scarlet fever, smallpox, measles or any other infectious diseases.

### Population of District 2,265

Winslade parish. The houses are clean, well ventilated and not overcrowded, the water supply is good. At Rounds Town there is a privy used by three houses (17 persons) in a very offensive state, the night soil is deposited in an open ditch behind the privy, this requires to be cleaned out and then covered.

Population 183, mortality during 5 years ending March 1866. Light analysis of mortality, 1 death from diphtheria, 5 from senile decay, ages 61, 71, 65, 61, 77.

Farleigh parish. The houses are clean, well ventilated and not overcrowded, water supply good.

Population 110, mortality for 5 years four, 1 death from consumption, 2 from [...ing].

Weston parish. The houses are clean, well ventilated and not overcrowded. Water supply good. Well at Barnes and Strouds out of repair, cover broken.

Population 178. Mortality during 5 years end March 1866 seven, analysis 2 deaths from senile decay ages 80, 74.

Tunworth parish. Water supply good. The houses are clean, well ventilated and not overcrowded. The privies at Kings Piper and Smiths very offensive, night soil deposited in an open ditch. Privy at Porters and Hutchins full and offensive.

Population 118. Mortality during five years ending March 1866, nine. Analysis of mortality, 2 deaths from senile decay ages 79, 93, 1 from diphtheria.

Andwell parish. The houses are clean, not overcrowded. Water supply good. Population 26, mortality for five years, 3 deaths from scarlatina.

Up Nateley parish. The houses are clean, well ventilated and not overcrowded. Water supply good. Population 99. Mortality during 5 years, twenty one. 5 deaths from senile decay, 4 deaths from consumption, 3 deaths from fever, 1 from diphtheria.

Mappledurwell parish. The houses are clean, well ventilated and not overcrowded. Water supply good. The well at Purdays is out of repair, cover and curb broken. The privy is in a most disgraceful state close to the sleeping apartment. There is a large quantity of filthy night soil, with a few old boards placed over it, this is very detrimental to health. Population 223. Mortality during 5 years

ending March 1866, twenty. 3 deaths from senile decay, 2 from consumption, 3 from scarlatina, 1 from diphtheria.

Herriard parish. The houses are clean, well ventilated and not overcrowded. The water supply is very deficient, and of the very worst kind, it is principally derived from open tanks or ponds at a considerable distance from the cottages of the poor; there is one public well at [?] for the supply of pure drinking water. One tank full of vegetable matter and containing about two feet of water supplies the houses (69 persons); there is another tank at Blundens and it is avoided by the poor, as the water is not fit for drinking purposes, the principal supply appears to be derived from ponds, this in Summer is cut off, or so foul that it is not fit for use. A good supply of pure drinking water is as essential as good air or wholesome food.

During the epidemic of Cholera in 1854, Dr Blundell Thomson (Officer of Health) calculated that 2,500 persons were destroyed by the water obtained from the Southwark Company, this water was unfit for drinking purposes.

The parish of Herriard is frequently the centre of epidemics of fever, small pox, scarlet fever, measles and typhoid fever.

From 1856 to 1861 there were attended in Herriard parish 25 cases of typhus fever, 14 cases of scarlet fever and 72 cases of measles.

In the other parishes of No.3 District there were treated at the same time, 29 cases of typhus fever, 14 cases of scarlet fever and 28 cases of measles.

In Herriard parish the children are frequently infected with worms, this is produced by the bad state of the water used for drinking purposes. Population 439. Mortality for five years, thirty five.

Illesfield parish. The houses are clean, well ventilated and not overcrowded. Water supply good. There are four wells in this parish but some distance apart. Population 225. Mortality for 5 years, twenty two. Analysis of mortality, 8 from senile decay ages 70, 81, 79, 92, 79, 73, 83, 87. Illesfield is a very healthy parish.

Cliddesden parish. The houses are clean, well ventilated and not overcrowded. Water supply good. There are eight houses without privies. Population 320. Mortality during the five years ending March 1866, fifteen. Analysis of mortality 2 from senile decay ages 86, 71, 1 from cancer 89, 1 from fever.

Upton Grey parish The houses are clean, well ventilated and not overcrowded. Water supply good. The privies at the Barracks are out of repair, there are no doors and the seats are broken. The privy is in a woodhouse at Kinges, Whitehall. The well at White and Basseys is out of repair. Population 371, mortality during the 5 years ending March 1866, thirty five, analysis four from consumption, 3 senile decay ages 84, 86, 76, 2 diphtheria, 1 cancer.