MMBD Clinic Exercises:

In the England and Wales data slide (on the next slide) you will find time series of six diseases in England and Wales taken from Infectious Diseases of Humans by Anderson and May. Before you come to the course, try the following exercises.

1. The time series are all quite different. Describe, IN YOUR OWN WORDS, the interesting features of each.

2. Try to think of an explanation for the patterns in each case.

3. Only AFTER you have tried to think of our own explanation you may, if you wish, see if you may search the web and see if can find out anything about any of these diseases which helps to explain the patterns in the time trends.
Disease incidence in England and Wales, 1930 to 1980

Number of cases (k)

Diphtheria

Typhoid paratyphoid

Measles

Polio

Scarlet fever

Whooping cough

Diseases in England and Wales, 1930 to 1980