

Cunningham letter of SW.



SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE

CASE OF ARTHUR CUNNINGHAM

Background/Family Observations

Arthur CUNNINGHAM was born on Code A He was disabled during the war suffering a spinal injury hence he used a stick or a crutch. He married in the early 1980's although his wife died in 1989 leaving him with a stepson.

After his wife died he lived alone, though he was diagnosed with Parkinson's Syndrome and had a Home Help.

During the later years of his life he stayed in various rest homes, the last one being Thalasa Nursing Home. Mr CUNNINGHAM could be blunt and difficult and held a firm master/worker belief.

Mr CUNNINGHAM was suddenly admitted to the Gosport War Memorial Hospital without the knowledge of his stepson in September 1998 at Code A. When visited on 21st September 1998 he was perfectly normal and cheerful. On speaking to

Code A

Code A

Mr CUNNINGHAM's stepson subsequently complained to the Inspector of Nursing Homes and Portsmouth Health Care Trust but considers the replies were a purely administrative exercise. He has no doubt that Mr CUNNINGHAM was 'the subject of a well-oiled disposal machine being administered by a culture of able individuals'.

Medical history of Arthur CUNNINGHAM.

Events at Mulberry Ward, 21st July 1998 until the 28th August 1998

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Interview of Dr Jane Barton.

Dr Jane Barton has been a GP at the [Code A] since 1980, having qualified as a registered medical practitioner in 1972. In addition to her GP duties she took up the post of the sole Clinical Assistant in elderly medicine at the Gosport War Memorial hospital in 1988. She resigned from that post in April 2000.

On Thursday 21st April 2005 Dr Barton in company with her solicitor Mr Barker, voluntarily attended Hampshire Police Support Headquarters at Netley where she was interviewed on tape and under caution in respect of her treatment of Arthur Cunningham at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital. The interviewing officers were [Code A]s and [Code A]e.

The interview commenced at 0902hrs and lasted for 30 minutes. During this interview Dr Barton read a prepared statement, later produced as JB/PS/5. This statement dealt with the specific issues surrounding the care and treatment of Arthur Cunningham.

The expert response to the statement of Dr Barton is awaited.