

Code A

IN THE MATTER OF GOSPORT WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL**STATEMENT OF LESLEY RICHARDS****PART ONE**

NAME: Ms Lesley Richards

DATE OF BIRTH: Code A

RELATIONSHIP TO DECEASED: Daughter

NAME OF DECEASED: Mrs. Gladys Richards

LAST ADDRESS OF DECEASED: Code A

DATE OF BIRTH OF DECEASED: Code A

DATE OF DEATH: Code A

A: Formal Details

- I am Lesley Frances Richards of Code A and my date of birth is Code A. I am the daughter of Mrs Gladys Richards and I make this statement regarding the events surrounding my mother's death in the Gosport War Memorial Hospital.

B: Admittance to Gosport

- My mother was admitted to Gosport War Memorial Hospital on 11/8/98 by way of transfer from the Hasler Hospital. She was admitted for rehabilitation following an operation at the Hasler to treat a broken hip. She had been recovering well.
- My mother was admitted to the Daedalus ward.

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C: Immediate action after death

4. My mother's death was not referred to a Coroner, nor was there a post mortem.
5. I did express my concern about the cause of death on my mother's death certificate, but I did not take this further as I could not contemplate my mother being subjected to a post mortem.

D: Chronology of Complaints

6. I was immediately concerned about the treatment my mother was receiving at the Gosport Hospital. I attended the hospital the day after she was admitted and my mother was unconscious. I knew that she had been given something and I asked what it was, I was told oramorph, which is oral morphine. I made it very clear to the staff on duty that I was not happy about this. **[Do you remember any of the names of the staff who were there at the time?]**
7. I then complained in writing to the Health Authority, in a letter dated 17/8/98, whilst my mother was still alive. This letter was acknowledged in a letter dated 25/8/98. Before I received this letter I was visited on the ward, whilst my mother was still alive, by Lesley Humphries, the quality manager. I did not speak to her at this time.
8. I received a full response to my complaint from Max Millet, the Chief Executive, in a letter dated 22/9/98. I was not happy with the contents

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of this letter and I therefore requested a meeting. I cannot remember the exact date of this meeting, but I attended with my sister Gillian McKenzie.

9. Following this meeting we contacted the police in person, as we were not satisfied with Mr Millet's explanation. Gillian and I attended the Gosport police station together and were seen by DC Madison. He told us not to contact the Health Authority any more, as they would now deal with it. No statement was taken at that time.

10. I did give a witness statement to the police in 1999, when Ray Birt was dealing with the investigation.

11. I have not made any complaint to the GMC or to the police relating to their initial investigation. My sister has done regarding my mother's death.

E: Main Concerns

12. I want someone to be answerable for what has happened. My mother did not have a natural death, which she was entitled to. It is horrendous what has been going on. Someone should stand up and say that they were wrong.
13. The CHI report was good, but there was a lot missing from it and there should be more investigation into what went wrong.

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F: Further Potential Witnesses

14. My sister, Gillian McKenzie, is a witness to the above events.

I believe that the facts in this statement are true.

Signed

Ms Lesley Richards

Dated