

Mrs G MacKenzie

Code A

12 February 2009

Dear Mrs MacKenzie

Re: Mrs Gladys Richards, deceased

I refer to your telephone calls to this office. The Coroner is at present fully occupied with a heavy schedule of Inquests in his Court and has therefore asked me to notify you of the position with regard to the Inquest into the death of your mother.

The Inquest into your mother's death will be opened shortly, and you will be notified when this takes place. The Inquest opening will not take place in open Court.

The circumstances and issues surrounding your mother's death are different from the other deaths in Gosport War Memorial Hospital which are the subject of the Inquests due to take place on 18 March 2009. It will therefore be held separately.

When the Inquest into the death of your mother does take place, the Coroner will conduct it alone, without a Jury.

When an Inquest is opened into a death, the Coroner cannot enter into any discussion about the evidence with any interested party, as this might prejudice his independence and impartiality. However, he will consider and reply to any information or question that is put to him in writing.

Yours sincerely

Valerie Maddison
Coroner's Administrative Officer

Tel: **Code A**

Email:

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