

Mrs G MacKenzie

**Code A**

4 February 2009

Dear Mrs MacKenzie

Further to my previous correspondence, I enclose a copy of a letter dated 28 January 2009 that I have received from the Ministry of Justice.

As you will see, I have been given permission to open an Inquest into your mother's death.

I will write to you further once I have formally opened the Inquest.

Yours sincerely

David C Horsley

Tel: **Code A**

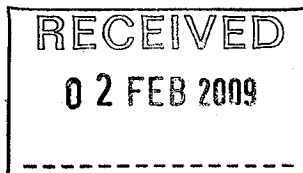
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Enc

cc Mr A Bradley



Ministry of  
**JUSTICE**



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David C Horsley LL.B  
HM Coroner for Portsmouth and South East Hampshire  
HM Coroner's Office  
The Guildhall  
Guildhall Square  
Portsmouth  
PO1 2AJ

28 January 2009

Dear Mr Horsley

**Operation Rochester: death at Gosport War Memorial Hospital – Mrs Gladys Richards**

I am sorry for the delay in considering your report to the Secretary of State on the above case, dated 17 November 2008.

The Secretary of State has now considered your report, and he has agreed to the issue of a direction for an inquest to be held in respect of the death of Mrs Richards.

Please see enclosed the direction under Section 15, together with a copy for your records.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

NICK MATTHEWS  
Current Coroner Policy Team



To: David Horsley  
Her Majesty's Coroner for Portsmouth and South East Hampshire

WHEREAS You, Her Majesty's Coroner for Portsmouth and South East Hampshire, in pursuance of section 15(1) of the Coroners Act 1988, have reported to the Secretary of State that you have reason to believe that the death of

Gladys RICHARDS

has occurred in or near your district, in such circumstances that an inquest ought to be held, and that the body has been destroyed by fire;

NOW, therefore, in pursuance of the powers conferred by Section 15(2) of the Coroners Act 1988, the Secretary of State hereby directs you, the said Coroner, to hold an inquest into the said death.

**Code A**

**NICK MATTHEWS**  
Coroners and Burials Division

Ministry of Justice  
28 January 2009

