

Bradley, Andrew

From: Horsley, David [Code A]
Sent: 13 May 2008 14:42
To: Bradley, Andrew
Cc: Taylor, Glenn; Coroners Office
Subject: FW: Inquests into 10 deaths of patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Horsley, David
> Sent: 13 May 2008 14:37
> To: 'elizabeth.harding@ [Code A]
> Subject: Inquests into 10 deaths of patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital

> Dear Liz,

> As mentioned to you on the phone, please could you organise a press
> release to go out to local and national media to announce that I have
> on 14 May 2008 opened Inquests into the deaths of 10 patients at
> Gosport War Memorial Hospital -

- > Leslie Pittock died 24.1.96
- > Elsie Lavender died 6.3.96
- > Ruby Lake died 21.8.98
- > Robert Wilson died 18.10.96
- > Enid Spurgeon died 13.4.99
- > Elsie Devine died 21.11.99
- > Helena Service died 5.6.97
- > Arthur Cunningham died 26.9.98
- > Sheila Gregory died 22.11.99
- > Geoffrey Packman died 3.9.99

> These deaths were the subject of a Police criminal investigation entitled Operation
Rochester.
> It is envisaged that the 10 Inquests will be held concurrently.
> They are all complex matters and it is envisaged that the Inquest hearings will not
take place before Autumn 2008.
> The joint hearings are likely to take a number of weeks to conclude.
> At present, it is likely that the venue for the hearings will be in the Coroner's
Court in Portsmouth.

> To ensure that the Inquests are given the detailed care and attention they merit
without undue interruption to the ongoing heavy workload of the Portsmouth and South
East Hampshire Coroner and his staff, it is intended that they will be conducted by Mr
A M Bradley, HM Coroner for North Hampshire, acting as a special Assistant Deputy
Coroner for the Portsmouth and South East Hampshire Coroner solely in relation to
them.

> I will be opening the Inquests in the morning (i.e. 14 May) and should like the
press release to go out after I have done so, please. Please may I have a draft to
look at prior to mid morning tomorrow ?

> Thanks very much for your assistance.
> Best wishes,
> David Horsley.

> David C. Horsley
> H.M. Coroner
> Portsmouth & South East Hampshire

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