

IN THE PORTSMOUTH CORONER'S COURT

IN THE MATTER OF THE GOSPORT WAR MEMORIAL INQUESTS

SUBMISSIONS ON THE PRE-INQUEST REVIEW

Introduction

1. These submissions are intended to assist HM Coroner at the Pre-Inquest Review to be held at 10am on 14 August 2008.
2. They are submitted on behalf of those relatives represented by Blake Laphorn Tarlo Lyons (referred to as "the Blake Laphorn group" for convenience). The Blake Laphorn group consists of relatives of the following deceased:
 - a. Elsie Devine;
 - b. Sheila Gregory;
 - c. Robert Wilson;
 - d. Arthur (Brian) Cunningham;
 - e. Leslie Pittock.
3. In particular, the submissions seek to address:
 - a. Whether it would be appropriate for the matter to proceed as one inquest;
 - b. Whether it would be appropriate for HM Coroner to sit with a jury;
 - c. Whether the inquest should take place before or after any GMC hearing;
 - d. Representation at the inquest;
 - e. Documentation and witnesses;
 - f. Venue;
 - g. Time estimate.

Summary of submissions

4. The Blake Laphorn group submits as follows:
 - a. There should be a single inquest covering the deaths;
 - b. The Coroner should sit with a jury;
 - c. The inquest should take place after any GMC/NMC hearing;