
From: IDDLES, Edwina
Sent: 17 July 2014 10:53
To: DUGGAN, Glenn
Subject: FW: The disputed deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital

Categories: File in CMITS System

From: Code A
Sent: 12 July 2014 21:35
To: DINENAGE, Caroline
Subject: The disputed deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital

Caroline

Firstly, I wish to thank you for your support for a proper enquiry into the long – disputed deaths that occurred in the Gosport War Memorial hospital.

As you say, this should hopefully give some relief to the families concerned – but we should not forget those nurses and doctors at the GWM hospital who still carry out sterling work with the elderly and infirm therein, but have operated under a background of suspicion since.

I speak as a constituent with a personal interest. Mrs Elsie Devine, one of the dead, was my dear, great – aunt, (my grandfather's sister). My paternal grandmother, Lena Lyness, when on Dryad Ward, before her death, also said to me that she was being 'poisoned' by the doctors and nurses, and was afraid to even drink the water. At that time, I, among other family members, put this down to the mere delirium of a dying, drugged, 96-year-old woman, but the Dr Barton case has cast some doubt, with hindsight.

Dr Barton has been singled out , almost as a potential criminal by the media, but I sense that there is much more to this so-called scandal than her alleged misconduct. If one reads between the lines, one senses a care system that cast off, into her care, unwanted elderly patients from QA, and other local establishments – possibly to free up beds and resources in the wake of Haslar Hospital being closed (allegedly prematurely!). If this point is true, other medical professionals at senior levels could be implicated in a further investigation, suggesting that such an enquiry should expect a long, hard road to get to the the truth.

Following the Honourable Mr Norman Lamb's comments in Parliament, this investigation should not merely be a matter of assuaging the distress of relatives, and answering their questions etc. Only a brutally frank and thorough enquiry would get anywhere near to the bottom what is the truth, and what is mere rumour and speculation. Let us hope that this chance will not be wasted.

Jim Lyness

Code A