

Coroners Officer:



INQUEST INTO THE DEATH OF  
**Sheila Rosemary**  
**GREGORY**

Case Number: 1010/08

Opened: 14<sup>th</sup> May 2008

Inquest Date: 18/03/2009.

**CORONER'S OFFICERS' INQUEST CHECKLIST**

<b>Case Name:</b>	Sheila Rosemary GREGORY
<b>Case Ref:</b>	1010/08

**DOCUMENTS REQUESTED:**

DOCUMENT	REQUESTED FROM	DATE	RECEIVED
Post Mortem	N/A	-	-
Toxicology	N/A	-	-
Other Medical			
Police Report	Det Chief Supt Williams		
Other Reports & Statements			
CO1 / Opening	To Caroline	14/5/08	

**FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

**FAMILY DETAILS**

Ms P GREGORY (Granddaughter)

<b>Code A</b>
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Ms T JACKSON (Granddaughter)

Code A
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# Code A

Name and Surname of deceased

Sheila Rosemary GREGORY

To be completed by Registrar

District &amp; SD No.

Register No.

Entry No.

**PART V ACCIDENT OR MISADVENTURE (including deaths from neglect or from anaesthetics)**

## 1. Place where accident occurred

- |                                 |                          |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0. Home                         | 5. Street or highway     |
| 1. Farm                         | 6. Public building       |
| 2. Mine or quarry               | 7. Resident institution  |
| 3. Industrial place or premises | 8. Other specified place |
| 4. Place of recreation or sport | 9. Place not known       |

## 2. To be completed for all persons aged 16 and over

When injury was received deceased was

1. On way to, or from work
2. At work
3. Elsewhere

## 3. Details of how accident happened :

## 4. If motor vehicle incident, deceased was

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 0. Driver of motor vehicle other than motor cycle    | 5. Rider of animal; occupant of animal-drawn vehicle |
| 1. Passenger in motor vehicle other than motor cycle | 6. Pedal cyclist                                     |
| 2. Motor cyclist                                     | 7. Pedestrian  |
| 3. Passenger on motor cycle                          | 8. Other specified person                            |
| 4. Occupant of tram car                              | 9. Not known   |

## 5. Interval between injury and death

1. Less than one year
2. One year or more

Narrative VerdictSheila Rosemary GREGORY

The deceased was an inpatient at Gosport War Memorial Hospital and was receiving Opioid Medication at the time of death. The administration of medication did not contribute more than minimally or negligibly to the death of the deceased.

**Code A**

# Code A

Name and Surname of deceased  
**Sheila Rosemary GREGORY**

To be completed by Registrar	
District & SD No.	
Register No.	
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**PART V ACCIDENT OR MISADVENTURE (including deaths from neglect or from anaesthetics)**

1. Place where accident occurred

0. Home	5. Street or highway	
1. Farm	6. Public building	
2. Mine or quarry	7. Resident institution	
3. Industrial place or premises	8. Other specified place	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Place of recreation or sport	9. Place not known	

2. To be completed for all persons aged 16 and over  
When injury was received deceased was

1. On way to, or from work	
2. At work	
3. Elsewhere	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Details of how accident happened :

4. If motor vehicle incident, deceased was

0. Driver of motor vehicle other than motor cycle	5. Rider of animal; occupant of animal-drawn vehicle	
1. Passenger in motor vehicle other than motor cycle	6. Pedal cyclist	
2. Motor cyclist	7. Pedestrian	
3. Passenger on motor cycle	8. Other specified person	
4. Occupant of tram car	9. Not known	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. Interval between injury and death

1. Less than one year	2. One year or more	<input type="checkbox"/>
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## The National Programme on Substance Abuse Deaths (np-SAD)

### NOTIFICATION OF DRUG RELATED DEATHS

#### Section I Demographic Information

Deceased forename(s): Sheila Rosemary Gender:  Male  Female

Family Name: GREGORY Other names known by: None

Date of birth : Code A Place of birth : Swallowcliffe, Wiltshire

Usual Address : Code A

Postcode : \_\_\_\_\_

#### *Ethnicity : (tick one only)*

- White       Pakistani       Black African       Other, specify : \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chinese       Bangladeshi       Black Caribbean  
 Not Known       Indian       Black other, specify: \_\_\_\_\_

#### *Occupational Status : (tick one only)*

- Employed (Manual)       Unemployed       Retired       Not known  
 Employed (Non-Manual)       Childcare/Houseperson       Student/Pupil  
 Self employed       Invalidity/Sickness       Other, specify : \_\_\_\_\_

#### *Living Arrangements : (tick one only)*

- Alone       Self & children       No fixed abode  
 With partner       With parents       Not Known  
 With partner & children       With friends       Other, specify : \_\_\_\_\_

#### Section II Background Information

##### Police Officer's report:

##### Recent history of drug use and other relevant information:

Was the deceased on prescribed psychoactive medication ?       Yes       No       Not known

If yes, please list drugs:

- |                        |          |
|------------------------|----------|
| 1. <u>See attached</u> | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____               | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____               | 6. _____ |

Was the deceased a drug addict or known drug abuser?       Yes       No       Not known

## The National Programme on Substance Abuse Deaths (np-SAD)

### Section III Details of Death

Date of death : 22 \ 11 \ 1999

Place of death : (tick one only)

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Home                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Residential premises (e.g. hotel) | <input type="checkbox"/> In custody                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Place of work              | <input type="checkbox"/> Street or highway                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Place of recreation/sport |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Treatment centre           | <input type="checkbox"/> Educational institution           | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other place, specify _____ |  |  |

Cause(s) of death (as given on the death certificate)

1(a) **Pulmonary Embolus**

(b)

(c)

2 **Fractured Neck of Femur**

### Toxicology

Please list drugs and alcohol present at post mortem (in order of importance, if known)

	Drug/alcohol	Level				Drug/alcohol	Level		
		B	T	U			B	T	U
1.					4.				
2.					5.				
3.					6.				

B = Blood; T = Tissues; U = Urine

### Section IV Coroner's Verdict

Narrative Verdict

### Section V Coroner's Details

Coroner's name: <u>David Clark Horsley</u>	Date inquest completed: <u>18/03/2009</u>
Jurisdiction: <u>Portsmouth &amp; South East Hampshire</u>	Office: <u>Room T20</u>
Signature: _____	Date: <u>4th March 2010</u>

Please send completed form to:

*National Programme on Substance Abuse Deaths (np-SAD)*  
*International Centre for Drug Policy*  
*St George's University of London*  
**FREEPOST LON 10141, London SW17 0BR**

For general enquiries: Tel 020 8725 2623 or Fax 020 8266 6494

Sheila GREGORY

placement.

On 15<sup>th</sup> November she is noted to be quite unwell, the diagnosis was not entirely clear and Dr BLACK wondered whether something was actually starting on 1<sup>st</sup> November when there was an episode of vomiting. The patient was examined and that examination is recorded in the notes. However, by 18<sup>th</sup> November, she had very rapidly deteriorated and Dr Barton made a record in the notes that because of her deterioration in general condition, oral opiates should be started in a small dose. Based on the nursing assessment of her distress and breathlessness, this was an appropriate response to someone who has an extremely poor prognosis, multiple chronic illnesses and making no significant progress after 3 months in hospital. A symptomatic response to this lady's problems was a reasonable clinical decision.

She received 5 mgs 6 hourly of Oramorphine on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> December, which Dr BLACK believed to be an appropriate dosage and therapeutic regime. No improvement was made and she started on a Diamorphine pump at 20 mgs on 20<sup>th</sup> November. It would appear that the decision to start this was a nursing one, as no specific medical note was made on that day, however Dr BLACK believed this to have been a reasonable decision for a patient who was dying.

Diamorphine was specifically prescribed for pain and is commonly used for pain /cardiac disease. However, it is also widely used for the distress and agitation that may be associated with terminal illness. Diamorphine can be mixed with Cyclizine (to prevent vomiting) in the same syringe driver. Diamorphine subcutaneously after Oramorphine is usually given a maximum ratio of 1 to 2 (for example up to 10 mgs of Diamorphine for 20 mgs of Oramorphine). On this occasion Sheila Gregory had been receiving 20 mgs of Oramorphine a day on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> where an absolute minimum dose of Diamorphine would have been 10 mgs in the syringe driver over the first 24 hours. However the increased to 20 mgs over 24 hours after 2 days of 20 mgs of Oramorphine would be within the range of acceptable clinical practice.

Seen on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, she was very ill with a rapid pulse, a rapid respiratory rate with a clear sounding chest. This suggests to Dr BLACK that the agonal event may well have been a pulmonary embolus. However, this would not be surprising after a long period of poor mobilisation, following a fractured neck of femur.

A remaining concern regarding the clinical management was the anticipatory prescribing of strong opioid analgesia on both the first and second drug charts written between 3<sup>rd</sup> September and 17<sup>th</sup> November. Except where this would be useful as part on normal clinical management (for example after a heart attack), there appears to be no clinical justification for this prescribing pattern. However, although this may represent poor clinical practice, no harm came to Mrs Gregory as a result of it.

Sheila GREGORY

placement.

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# Code A

**Sheila Rosemary GREGORY**

The Deceased was an Inpatient at Gosport War Memorial Hospital and was receiving opioid medication by syringe driver at the time of death

1. Did the administration of any medication contribute more than minimally or negligibly to the death of the deceased ?

~~Yes~~/No

If Yes :

2. Was that medication given for therapeutic purposes ?

Yes/No

If Yes :

3. Was that medication appropriate for the condition or symptoms from which the deceased was suffering ?

Yes/No

# Code A

**Sheila Rosemary GREGORY**

The Deceased was an Inpatient at Gosport War Memorial Hospital and was receiving opioid medication by syringe driver at the time of death

1. Did the administration of any medication contribute more than minimally or negligibly to the death of the deceased ?

~~Yes/No~~

If Yes :

2. Was that medication given for therapeutic purposes ?

Yes/No

If Yes :

3. Was that medication appropriate for the condition or symptoms from which the deceased was suffering ?

Yes/No



# Code A

## Gosport WMH

### Narrative Verdicts

In all cases

The deceased was an inpatient at Gosport War Memorial Hospital and was receiving Opioid Medication at the time of death.

PITTOCK The administration of medication did not contribute more than minimally or negligibly to the death of the deceased.

LAVENDER The administration of medication did contribute more than minimally or negligibly to the death. The medication was given for therapeutic purposes. That medication was appropriate for the condition of symptoms from which the deceased was suffering.

SERVICE The administration of medication did not contribute more than minimally or negligibly to the death of the deceased.

LAKE Ditto – As SERVICE above.

CUNNINGHAM The administration of medication did contribute more than minimally or negligibly to the death. The medication was given for therapeutic purposes. That medication was appropriate for the condition or symptoms from which the deceased was suffering.

PACKMAN The administration of medication did contribute more than minimally or negligibly to the death of the deceased. The medication was given for therapeutic purposes the medication was not appropriate for the conditions or symptoms from which the deceased was suffering.

WILSON Ditto – As PACKMAN above.

DEVINE Ditto – As PACKMAN above.

SPURGIN The administration of medication did not contribute more than minimally or negligibly to the death of the deceased.

GREGORY Ditto – As SPURGIN above

# Code A

**INQUEST CHECKLIST**Name: **Sheila Rosemary GREGORY**Ref: **1010/08**

Date Reported: 13.05.2008

DATE OPENED: 14.05.2008

By: RMB

**INQUEST by RMB**

Time allocated: 6 weeks

**Wednesday, 18 March 2009 at 10.00am in the Coroner's Court in the  
Portsmouth Combined Courts Building, Winston Churchill Avenue, Portsmouth, PO1 2EB**

Jury: Yes

Listing Office notified

Room Booked

F99/INQ PREPARED

**PRESS DETAILS:**

HCC MEDIA UPDATED

Born:  Lived at: Gosport

Died on: 22.11.1999

Died at: Gosport War Memorial Hospital

Type of Inquest: Medical

**ADJOURNED TO:**

Date: .....day, ..... Time: ..... to ..... By: .....

At: .....

**AFTER INQUEST****VERDICT**  
..... Database Death Entry  Register  Drugs Form  Other Form ..... Tape Recorded In File for .....

Other Inquests on Tape .....

## Coroners Initial Sudden Death Report

CO/1

Date Reported: 13/05/2008 Ref: Number 1010/08 Type of Case: Inquest

Name: Sheila Rosemary GREGORY

Address: Code A

Date of Birth: Code A

Age: 91 Years.

Date of Death: 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1999

Place of Death: Gosport War Memorial Ward:

Mortuary:

Removed By:

Funeral Directors:

General Practitioner: Hospital Consultant:

Reported By: Family

Reason for Referral: Family concerns Y/N

Brief History: Died in Gosport War Memorial. This has been subject of a lengthy police investigation.

Initials:

Date: 13/05/2008

## CAUSE OF DEATH:

- 1a)  
1b)  
1c)  
2)

Pathologist:

## INQUEST CASES:

Date Opened 14/5/08 Time: 09.00 am Inquest Date: ..... Time: .....

Adjournments: .....

Signed By: David Clark Horsley  
Coroner, Portsmouth South East Hampshire

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> May 2008

**Opening & Adjournment of an Inquest**

**Full Name of Deceased:** Sheila Rosemary GREGORY  
**Sex:** Female **Age:** 91 years  
**Date of Death:** 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1999  
**Place of Death:** Gosport War Memorial  
**Reported by:** Family  
**from:**  
**on:**  
**Pathologist:** N/A

.....

**Address:**

**Code A**

**Date of Birth:**  
**Place of Birth:** Waterloo, Swallowcliffe, Wiltshire  
**Deceased's Occupation:** In service  
**Marital Status:** Married  
**Maiden Name:**  
**Name of Surviving Husband:** Not Known  
**Date of Birth:**  
**Occupation:**

**CHILDREN UNDER 16 YEARS**

**Fathers Name:** N/A  
**Occupation:**  
**Mothers Name:** N/A  
**Occupation:**

***Circumstances of Death:***

.....

**Deceased Identified by:** Unknown

Evidence given by: Lisa-Jane JOHN Coroners Officer.

*Inquest into the above named deceased opened and adjourned to enable further enquiries to be made, upon the order of:*

**HM Coroner, Portsmouth & South East Hampshire**

**Dated:** 14<sup>th</sup> May 2008

Ms P Gregory

**Code A**

15 May 2008

Dear Ms Gregory

**Sheila Rosemary Gregory Deceased:**

Please note that on 14 May 2008 I opened an Inquest into the death of Mrs Gregory.

I will continue to keep you informed of key stages of the Inquest process.

If you require a Coroner's Interim Death Certificate on Mrs Gregory for any purpose, please contact me.

Yours sincerely

David C Horsley  
Tel: 023 9268 8326

Email: **Code A**

Ms T Jackson

**Code A**

15 May 2008

Dear Ms Jackson

**Sheila Rosemary Gregory Deceased:**

Please note that on 14 May 2008 I opened an Inquest into the death of Mrs Gregory.

I will continue to keep you informed of key stages of the Inquest process.

If you require a Coroner's Interim Death Certificate on Mrs Gregory for any purpose, please contact me.

Yours sincerely

David C Horsley  
Tel: 023 9268 8326

Email: **Code A**



Ms P. Gregory phoned on 15/05/08 wanting to complain because she had seen the news on the TV last night and had no knowledge that the inquests were taking place. She was upset about this.

I made some enquiries and it transpired that her address was an old one and therefore the letter sent out never reached her. Her sister did get the letter and sent back the proforma but never told her about the letter.

I fully updated Ms. P Gregory including the fact that a new letter was being sent out shortly.

Her new address is Code A

Code A

1135hrs. 15/05/08.

**SHEILA ROSEMARY GREGORY DECEASED**

1. Full Name (if different from above):

10/10/08

2. Maiden Name (if appropriate): PALMER.

3. Last Permanent Address:

Code A

4. Date of Birth:

Code A

RECEIVED

29 APR 2008

5. Place of Birth:

Waterloo, Swallowcliffe Wiltshire.

6. Last Occupation Before Retirement (if known):

In Service, (Before marriage)

7. Marital Status:

Married.

8. Name of Surviving Spouse (if applicable):

**Opening & Adjournment of an Inquest**

**Full Name of Deceased:** Sheila Rosemary GREGORY  
**Sex:** Female **Age:** 91 years  
**Date of Death:** 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1999  
**Place of Death:** Gosport War Memorial  
**Reported by:** Family  
     **from:**  
     **on:**  
**Pathologist:** N/A

**Address:** **Code A**  
**Date of Birth:**  
**Place of Birth:** Waterloo, Swallowcliffe, Wiltshire  
**Deceased's Occupation:** In service  
**Marital Status:** Married  
**Maiden Name:**  
**Name of Surviving Husband:** Not Known  
     **Date of Birth:**  
     **Occupation:**

**CHILDREN UNDER 16 YEARS**

**Fathers Name:** N/A  
     **Occupation:**  
**Mothers Name:** N/A  
     **Occupation:**

**Circumstances of Death:**

**Deceased Identified by:** Unknown

Evidence given by: Lisa-Jane JOHN Coroners Officer.

*Inquest into the above named deceased opened and adjourned to enable further enquiries to be made, upon the order of:*

**Code A**

**HM Coroner, Portsmouth & South East Hampshire**

**Dated:** 14<sup>th</sup> May 2008

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CO/1

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*Name:* Sheila Rosemary GREGORY

*Address:* **Code A**

*Date of Birth:*

*Age:* 91 Years.

*Date of Death:* 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1999

*Place of Death:* Gosport War Memorial Ward:

*Mortuary:*

*Removed By:*

*Funeral Directors:*

*General Practitioner:* Hospital Consultant:

*Reported By:* Family

*Reason for Referral:* Family concerns Y/N

**Brief History:** Died in Gosport War Memorial. This has been subject of a lengthy police investigation.

**Initials:** **Date:** 13/05/2008

**CAUSE OF DEATH:**

- 1a)  
1b)  
1c)  
  
2)

**Pathologist:**

**INQUEST CASES:**

Date Opened 14/5/08 Time: am Inquest Date: ..... Time: .....

Adjournments: .....

Signed By: David Clark Horsley  
Coroner, Portsmouth South East Hampshire

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> May 2008