

**FORM 37**

Rule 60(1)

**FINDING INTO DEATH WITH INQUEST**

*Section 67 of the Coroners Act 2008*

**Court reference:** 78/11

**Inquest into the Death of HUGH PETER BOURKE**

Delivered On:	7 September 2011
Delivered At:	Melbourne
Hearing Dates:	7 September 2011
Findings of:	Coroner Dr Jane Hendtlass
Representation:	L/S/C Amanda Maybury
Place of death/ Suspected death:	Northern Hospital, 185 Cooper Street, Epping, Victoria 3076

**FORM 37**

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**FINDING INTO DEATH WITH INQUEST**

*Section 67 of the Coroners Act 2008*

**Court reference:** 78/11

In the Coroners Court of Victoria at Melbourne

I, JANE HENDTLASS, Coroner

having investigated the death of:

**Details of deceased:**

Surname: BOURKE  
First name: HUGH  
Address: 30 Bicknell Court, Jacana, Victoria 3047

AND having held an inquest in relation to this death on 7 September 2011  
at Melbourne

find that the identity of the deceased was HUGH PETER BOURKE  
and death occurred on 6th January, 2011

at Northern Hospital, 185 Cooper Street, Epping, Victoria 3076

from

1a. HYPOXIC BRAIN INJURY  
1b. ISCHAEMIC HEART DISEASE

In the following circumstances:

1. Hugh Peter Bourke was 68 years old when he died. He lived in community residential accommodation at 30 Bicknell Court in Jacana. Mr Bourke's medical history included myocardial infarction, intellectual impairment, atrial fibrillation, supraventricular tachycardia, anxiety and cholangitis associated with a chronic cough. His general practitioner was Dr Bao Nguyen.
2. On 1 December 2010, Mr Bourke underwent an open cholecystectomy at Northern Hospital and was diagnosed with a cholecysto-duodenal fistula. His medication was adjusted and his cough continued.

3. On 20 December 2010, Dr Nguyen noted continuing cough and prescribed antibiotics but, on 22 December, he referred Mr Bourke for further investigation. On 31 December, Mr Bourke underwent endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography and stent placement. On 4 January 2011, he was discharged home on antibiotics.

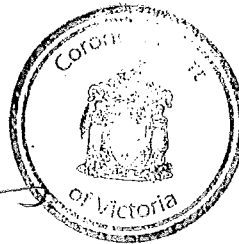
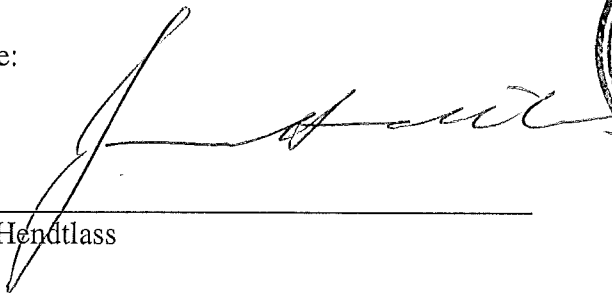
4. At 8.40am on 6 January 2011, Mr Bourke suffered a cardiac arrest at home while he was sitting at the breakfast table after taking his morning medication. He was resuscitated and transferred to the Intensive Care Unit at Northern Hospital in Epping. However, his prognosis was poor and active treatment was withdrawn.

5. At 2.55pm on 6 January 2011, Hugh Bourke died.

6. The forensic pathologist who inspected the body and CT scans, formed the opinion that a reasonable cause of death in the circumstances would be hypoxic brain injury and ischaemic heart disease.

7. Accordingly, I find that Hugh Bourke died from hypoxic brain injury and ischaemic heart disease.

Signature:



Dr Jane Hendtlass  
Coroner

7 September 2011