

FORM 37

FINDING INTO DEATH WITH INQUEST

Section 67 of the Coroners Act 2008

Court Reference: 3654/2010

Inquest into the Death of Ruth Gibbs

Delivered on: 15 March 2011
Delivered at Geelong
Hearing Dates: 15 March 2011
Findings of: Michael Coghlan
Place of death/Suspected death: Geelong Hospital, Geelong



FINDING INTO DEATH WITH INQUEST

Section 67 of the Coroners Act 2008

Court Reference: 3654/2010

In the Coroners Court of Victoria at Geelong

I Michael Coghlan, Coroner having investigated the death of:

Details of deceased:

Surname: Gibbs
First Name: Ruth
Address: Colanda Residential Services, Colac

AND having held an inquest in relation to this death on 15 March 2011
at Geelong

find that the identity of the deceased was Ruth Gibbs
and the death occurred on or about 20 September 2010
at Geelong Hospital, Geelong
from Pneumonia,

Contributing Factors: Down Syndrome, Chronic Renal Disease.

in the following circumstances:

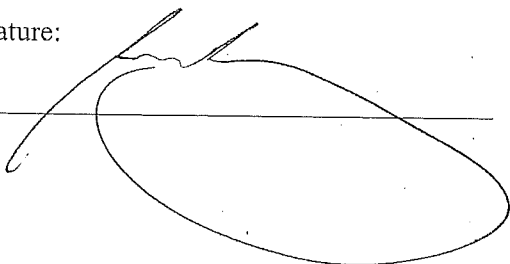
Ruth Gibbs, aged 57, died at the Geelong Hospital on 20 September 2010. Dr Shelley Robertson, Senior Pathologist at the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine, conducted an autopsy on 22 September 2010. She concluded that Ruth Gibbs "died from natural causes with evidence of widespread pneumonia".

Section 52(2) of the Coroner's Act 2008, states that a coroner must hold an Inquest into a death if the deceased was, immediately before death, a person placed in custody or care.

Ruth Gibbs suffered from a number of co-existing medical conditions and was admitted to care shortly after birth. She spent time at Kew Cottages before being admitted to Colanda at Colac.

Despite the fact that she died from natural causes, it has been necessary to conduct an Inquest hearing because she was, immediately before her death, a person held in care. Accordingly, it is not necessary for me to make any finding or comment in relation to the circumstances surrounding her death.

Signature:



Date: 15 March 2011