FORM 37

Rule 60(1)

FINDING INTO DEATH WITH INQUEST

Section 67 of the Coroners Act 2008

Court reference: 404/08

In the Coroners Court of Victoria at Melbourne

I, JANE HENDTLASS, Coroner

having investigated the death of:

Details of deceased:

Surname:

UNKNOWN

First name:

BABY

Address:

Unknown

AND having held an inquest in relation to this death on 15th January 2010 at Melbourne find that the identity of the deceased was BABY UNKNOWN and death occurred on or about 27th January, 2008

at Meredith Park Camping Ground, Meredith Park Rd, Beeac, Victoria 3251

from UNASCERTAINED CAUSE

in the following circumstances:

- 1. At 8.30am on 27 January 2008, campers found the body of a male baby in a toilet in the middle cubicle of the female toilet block at the Meredith Park campsite in Irrewarra near Colac.
- 2. A placenta was found about 50 metres away, near the boat ramp entrance. This placenta has been identified as that of the baby. However, no known witnesses saw the baby's mother enter or leave the campsite.
- 3. Subsequent investigations have established that the baby was born alive at full term sometime between 1.00am and 8.30am on 27 January 2008.
- 4. Despite extensive investigations, there has not been any information provided to assist me in establishing the identity of the baby's mother and how the death occurred.

- 5. Further, the forensic pathologist who performed the autopsy and was assisted by expert entomology, radiology and histopathology investigations was unable to ascertain the cause of death. Toxicological analysis detected caffeine and paracetamol.
- 6. Accordingly, I remain unable to determine the identity of the baby who was born and died on 27 January 2008, the cause of the baby's death or how the death occurred.

Hurles

Signature:

Dr Jane Hendtlass

Coroner

Date: 15th January 2010