

Inquest Opens into the Death of Lee Piper 5th September 2000

Wednesday 6th September 10am
North Wales Coroner
Sitting at Prestatyn Law Courts, Victoria Rd, Prestatyn, North Wales.

The inquest into the death of 21 year old Lee Piper begins on Wednesday 6th September at 10am and will be sitting at Prestatyn Law Courts.

Mr Piper died while being followed by a marked police car between Abergele and Rhuddlan, North Wales. It is alleged that Mr Piper did not stop following police attempts to carry out a routine check. The police pursued him for approximately four miles until it is claimed his car crashed at a roundabout in Rhuddlan.

The inquest will be the first opportunity since his death on the 13th October last year for his family to find out the full circumstances about his death and whether it was preventable. They have major concerns about the version of events that they have been given by the police as to how their son died.

INQUEST has serious concerns regarding the increasing number of people who die following incidents involving police vehicles and whether or not guidelines on police pursuit are being adhered to. The Police Complaints Authority has also expressed similar concerns.

Unlimited public funds will be available for lawyers to represent the North Wales Police. In contrast the family will be represented at the inquest by barrister Georgina Firth from INQUEST's Lawyers Group without the benefit of any resources or legal aid which is not available for inquests.