

**INQUEST OPENS INTO THE DEATH OF JULIE WALSH IN HMP STYAL  
PRESS RELEASE 8 APRIL 2005**

HM Coroner Mr N L Rheinberg

Sitting at:

Macclesfield Town Hall

Mill St

Macclesfield

SK10 1DX

9.30 am Monday 11 April

The inquest into the death of 39-year-old Julie Walsh will open on Monday 11 April at Macclesfield Town Hall. Julie was a remand prisoner at HMP Styal who died on 12 August 2003. She was one of six women who died at Styal between August 2002 and August 2003. This is the last of the six inquests to be heard.

This inquest will once again hear concerns about the treatment of vulnerable women in Styal prison in particular of women with drug problems.

INQUEST will be monitoring the hearing and will be commenting at its conclusion.

Note to editors

Inquests into previous deaths at HMP Styal highlighted serious issues of concern regarding the treatment and care of women withdrawing from drugs, the regime and the conditions in which they were held.

INQUEST is the only non-governmental organisation in England and Wales that works directly with the families of those who die in custody. It provides an independent free legal and advice service to bereaved people on inquest procedures and their rights in the coroner's courts.

**Deaths of Women in HMP Styal August 2002 - August 2003**

Name	Classification	Ethnicity	Age	Status	Cause	Date Of Death
Julie Bernadette Walsh	Self-Inflicted	UK White	39	Remanded	Overdose	12/08/2003
Hayley Williams	Self-Inflicted	UK White	41	Convicted	Hanging	04/06/2003
Jolene Willis	Self-Inflicted	UK White	25	Convicted	Hanging	20/04/2003
Sarah Campbell	Self-Inflicted	UK White	18	Convicted	Overdose	18/01/2003
Anna Baker	Self-Inflicted	UK Black	29	Remanded	Hanging	26/11/2002
Nissa Ann Smith	Self-Inflicted	UK White	20	Remanded	Hanging	10/08/2002

Source: INQUEST Casework and monitoring

Further Information	<a href="http://www.inquest.org.uk">www.inquest.org.uk</a>
Deborah Coles, co-director	office 020 7263 1111
Gilly Mundy senior caseworker	office 020 7263 1111
communications officer	office 020 7263 1111