



# *Coroner's Inquest Report*

## *Minety*

### **Abraham Hughes**

That a hedge cutter's obstinacy was a contributory factor to his death after an accident was stated at an inquest held at Malmesbury on Abraham Hughes (71), of Minety, Wilts.

The Hon John Lawrence stated that he went to see how Hughes was getting on with some hedge cutting on his farm. Hughes was cutting out undergrowth and burning it as he went. He advised Hughes to leave the burning operation till afterwards, as his method was dangerous. Hughes replied he had always done it that way, and went on with the work. A few minutes later he heard a shout, and on hurrying back to the hedge, he found Hughes struggling to get out of his jacket, which was ablaze.

Mr Lawrence added that after dressing the burns, he had some difficulty in getting Hughes to accompany him to Malmesbury for medical treatment.

Dr B L Hodge said that Hughes was treated at Malmesbury Hospital. He was very difficult, walking about the ward and removing the bandages. He insisted on going home, where he died shortly afterwards from heart failure due to burns and accelerated by the man's own behaviour.

A verdict in accordance with the medical evidence was returned.

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