

**Transcript of an article which appeared on page 5 of the  
Staffordshire Advertiser on 16 January 1897**

**DROWNED IN THE CANAL**

An inquest was held on Saturday by Mr W. Morgan, coroner, touching the death of Elizabeth Dale, aged 50, whose body was found in the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal, near the Trumpet Inn, Radford, on the morning of the 8th inst.

From the evidence it appeared that the deceased was the wife of William Dale, gardener, living at St Thomas's lock-house. She left home on the afternoon of the 7th inst. in her usual good health to go to Stafford, and did not return.

The deceased lived on friendly terms with her husband, who lodged at Stafford during the winter months.

She was in the habit of attending the landlady of the Trumpet Inn, who was unwell.

Mr. Hulme, the landlord, stated that the deceased called at his house on Thursday. She had a glass of whisky and started to leave at closing time. The night was dark and it was raining, but the deceased said she could see her way, having been many times.

It is supposed that the deceased accidentally fell into the canal, her dead body being found below the next bridge from Radford the next morning. There was no suspicion of foul play, and a verdict of accidental death was returned.

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**Transcribed:** David Jones 2013.

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