

# Your say

REDACTED

REDACTED

photos and video, smiling, happy, hugging Jean.

**CHRISTINE STEWART** (nee Witchard), Marsden, Qld.

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## MIXED VIEWS ON HOME

### Blame game

THE video spoken about in the story about the North Coast Children's Home (NS 17/6) would have been purchased 20 years ago. It would have been taken at our last reunion that the head of the home, Jean O'Neill, was able to attend as she died three weeks later. The reunion was the last time most of us saw her. It was a Mother's Day thank you — some thank you, Jean.

The video would have been wanted and purchased as a loving keepsake and a lifetime memory of our family — we all wanted one for that reason but now it is used for a totally different reason.

As a family when we got together we spoke about all aspects of our lives, not just the hugs and kisses.

Why did these people who have these changed memories about the North Coast Children's Home and Jean O'Neill not comment on this video, on how they really felt? And why did they even bother to attend the reunions or to phone Jean and send her Mother's Day cards and/or flowers? You would turn your back on a place like they remember — but no, they are in the reunion

### Debt is ours

TOMMY Campion, you've wronged our family without a doubt with your allegations about the North Coast Children's Home.

I can remember sharing good times, laughs, jokes, many Christmas parties and reunions.

At age 60, one does have to wonder about your motives.

My personal memories have only been with gratitude for the Anglican Church and their many thankless workers.

Have he and the others who damn it ever considered that we owe them?

We were not only clothed, fed, educated, found employment — too much to mention — but they also employed a very special person in Jean O'Neill (known to me as mum) who only ever took love and pride in her kids, treating us all as individuals with different needs.

We lived as a big family, not by blood but circumstances that we all shared; most not happy ones.

So if there has to be blame laid maybe this should start with one's individual parents. Not Jean or the Anglican Church.

I also will be there supporting my only mother.

**BRONWYN COUGHRAN** (nee Witchard), The Pocket.