

**Notes from meeting held in the Bishop's office, Friday 25
May at 3.00 pm.**

Present: The Bishop, The Reverend Garth Hawkins and the Registrar.

Hawkins requested to be advised of what the accusations were and who had made them.

He was advised of the accusations made by Steve.

He referred to Steve as being unstable.

He admitted to physical contact with Steve as in 'male bonding' and described it as similar to 'shyacking in a club change room'.

He advised that Steve had reported him to the police some 18 months ago; that he had been interviewed by detectives and no charges had been laid. This agrees with Steve's information.

Hawkins advised that the accusations were being made by someone who, as an adult, had not maintained contact, but who had requested him (Hawkins) to baptise him and to officiate at his wedding.

When questioned Hawkins admitted that during the wedding speech he may have said "I have known Steve since before he had pubic hair" This, would have been said "to amuse the guests as is usual at such an occasion."

Hawkins insisted that the wedding was at St Paul's, East Devonport. Both the Bishop and I were of the understanding from Steve that the wedding was in Queensland. Steve made no mention of the baptism.

In response to a question Hawkins stated that there had been no contact since the wedding.

Hawkins denied any wrong doing. He stated that he had never seen Steve naked, nor seen him in the bathroom.

When asked on at least two occasions during the meeting if he denied the accusation he replied 'Yes'.

Hawkins voluntarily admitted his one time dependency on alcohol and provided a letter from Fremantle Hospital which indicated alcohol and psychiatric problems at one time. He advised that he was on medication which controlled effectively his epilepsy and alcohol dependency.

He accepted the necessity for the Bishop to question him.

He questioned the motive of Steve in raising this accusation again and wondered whether money may be a motive.

The Bishop advised Hawkins that he would have to consider what action, if any, to take including reporting the matter to police.

The Bishop closed the meeting with prayer after which Hawkins offered to hand in his Licence if such action would satisfy Steve.

The Bishop made it clear that such action was a decision for Hawkins and that he (the Bishop) was not requesting such action at this time.

The meeting concluded at approximately 3.45 pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Haas', written in a cursive style.

William Haas
Registrar
28 May, 2001