

Notes from meeting held in the Bishop's Office
Wednesday 16 May, 2001.

Present: The Bishop, the Reverend Canon Eric Cave, Steve, the Registrar.

Steve told his story of his association with the Reverend Garth Hawkins a now retired priest holding a Permission to Officiate Licence in this Diocese.

Steve's story basically agreed with the confidential memorandum we had received from Canon Cave.

Steve alleged that he

- was sexually assaulted at the age of 13 at East Devonport.
- saw a psychiatrist at 14 years, but didn't tell of Hawkins
- saw a psychologist in Brisbane at 21 years, but didn't tell of Hawkins. He was placed on medication.
- was an under achiever
- has poor relationships, especially with women
- is still on medication
- went to the police in 1998-99
- last saw Hawkins in 1996
- told a psychologist of Hawkins three years ago.

Steve advised that following his report to the police Hawkins was interviewed. The police were not prepared to proceed with charges because of lack of evidence. They were not prepared to interview others named by Steve because of the consequences it may have on those people's lives.

He did, however, voluntarily give explicit details of some incidents. This was contrary to his having told Canon Cave that he didn't want to have to do this.

Steve advised that his legal advice was that he would be able to sue the Church if he went to court.

He advised that if the diocese

- paid for his university fees
- paid for his psychologist counselling

he would not pursue legal proceedings. He also requested an assurance that the diocese would assist any others who come forward who had been involved in this way with Hawkins. His reason for this was that he felt guilty about introducing others to Hawkins.

Bishop Harrower made it very clear that he would in no way prevent Steve from going to the police again or the law courts if he (Steve) considered that to be the right way to proceed.

Asked about his reaction if the diocese reported our knowledge to the police Steve indicated that he didn't think there was any point in doing it.

Steve was advised that

- the Bishop would meet with Hawkins
- there were certain procedures the diocese must follow
- it may be up to one month before we contact him again.
- he would be advised of any decision as soon as possible.
- he would be kept informed through Canon Cave.

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

William Haas
Registrar
16 May, 2001