

7 July 2005

BYH

REDACTED

EAST DEVONPORT 7310

Dear BYH

I am writing to tell you that I appreciate your effort, determination, perseverance and courage in lodging a complaint with the Church and working through the process of the Pastoral Support and Assistance Scheme.

I apologise for all the pain, suffering and betrayal of trust you experienced as a result of sexual abuse within the church. I am deeply sorry for what took place. Abuse should never happen.

The pain and health problems you experienced because of the abuse and it's ongoing impact have been very significant.

I will always be indebted to you for being prepared to tell me of these traumatic events and their impact on your life. As you know this has significantly affected my understanding of abuse.

My hope is that the courage you and your family have shown will now allow for better health and healing, and a fullness in your lives.

Yours sincerely

John Harrower
Bishop of Tasmania