

**The Most Revd Ian George AO
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COPY

29 May 2003

Mr Mal Hyde
Commissioner of Police
30 Flinders Street
Adelaide SA 5000

Dear Commissioner

There has recently been much publicity about the involvement of the late Robert Brandenburg in paedophile activity within the Diocese of Adelaide arising from his leadership of a diocesan youth group known as the Church of England Boy's Society.

The Diocese has established a Sex Abuse Helpline outsourced to Yarrow Place which has received to date some 65 calls, many of which relate to Mr Brandenburg's activities. As a result of the calls the counsellors involved have indicated there is a probability that a "paedophile ring" has been operating in the Boy's Society for a number of years.

I write to seek your assistance in investigating this matter as it is beyond our competence and capability to do so.

I also wish to advise you that the Diocese is proposing to establish an independent inquiry to examine sexual abuse within the Church. We will keep you informed of the terms of reference and other details of that inquiry once they are determined to ensure that the inquiry's work does not compromise any police action.

I want to assure you of our intention to fully co-operate with the police should you be agreeable to our request to investigate.

Yours sincerely

Archbishop of Adelaide

9. REDACTED

- REDACTED – call from a mother whose younger son was at a camp in Melbourne in 1970 with Brandenburg – parents brought back son from camp as older brother told them Brandenburg was a paedophile. REDACTED, the father and Brandenburg subsequently met. Last Sunday the mother spoke to REDACTED asking him what she should do about the abuse. REDACTED told her not to pursue this.
- A list of perpetrators, and a list of church personnel to whom disclosures were made has been prepared
- So far 70-75 calls about
 - Brandenburg
 - REDACTED
 - J Percival Simons
 - REDACTED (CEBS list)
 - REDACTED (St Columba, Hawthorn)

REDACTED (Mitcham); REDACTED (Edwardstown), REDACTED (1960s in CEBS), Alan Hudson (Ingle Farm – now deceased), REDACTED (details to be provided), REDACTED (Col Light Gardens CEBS), REDACTED, John Morley (Dec'd), REDACTED (Qld?), REDACTED (Hawthorn CEBS)

There appears to have been collusion by some of the above in South Australian CEBS groups and possibly with interstate activities.

Probably about 10 callers have reported abuse to various people – such as parish clergy.

Callers are asking for apology, acknowledgement and better procedures for dealing with complaints and proper follow-up.

PNC
28 May 2003