

John Witham

From: "Peter Stuart" <REDACTED >
To: "Tracey Quigley" <REDACTED >
Cc: <boardofinquiry@bigpond.com>
Sent: Friday, 19 March 2004 2:35 PM
Subject: My meeting with the Board

Dear John:

Following my attendance at the Board, could you please forward to me a copy of the transcripts of my interview.

Further, during the interview I was asked some questions about how matters came to the attention of the Diocese of Tasmania –

I advise that I have contacted the Diocese of Tasmania who confirmed my recollections in this way –

The Mercury of 2 July 1998 carried a story with an interview with solicitor Mr Brian Hilliard reporting that a writ had been issued on behalf of Brett Skipper against the Anglican Church, Lou Daniels and Robert Brandenburg.

A letter of that day went from Bishop Newell to Archbishop Ian George with a copy of that press report. There is no other record of the Diocese of Adelaide being advised of any progress. ."

I have since ascertained that Bishop Stuart Smith became Administrator of the Diocese on 3rd July when Archbishop Ian George left for the Lambeth Conference in England.

Bishop Phillip Aspinall was consecrated as bishop on 29 June 1998. He and his family were settling into Adelaide during that period. Shortly after moving to Adelaide, Bishop Aspinall also left to attend the Lambeth Conference in England.

Using the newstext.com.au service provide by News Limited I have confirmed that the article was contained on page 5 of the Hobart Mercury on Thursday 2 July 1998. The article clearly identifies "layman Robert Brandenburg, of South Australia." Using the same service, I was unable to find any publication of these details in the Advertiser.

Given that Bishop Phillip had left the Diocese for a significant change in role and the Diocese of Adelaide had been formally informed of the newspaper article, I cannot recall anyone advising they had made separate contact with him.

I confirm my advice to you that

a. Only the Bishop of Tasmania and the Acting Registrar of the Diocese of Tasmania had access to material provided by the Tasmanian report authors identifying the alleged perpetrators of sexual abuse referred to as P1 – P18 in the Tasmania Report. None of the other archdeacons, including Dr. Aspinall, or the Vicar-General were advised at any stage of the names on the list.

b. Mr Robert Brandenburg was not identified as any of P1 – P18. The first the Diocese became aware of his name was on 2 July 1998.

I will be forwarding this information to Anne Hywood (Diocesan Executive Officer). I will also be forwarding the information to Archbishop Aspinall.

24/03/2004

Archdeacon Peter Stuart
Executive Officer - Ministry Development Council
Acting Principal - St. Barnabas Theological College
34 Lipsett Tce Brooklyn Park 5032
T: 08 8416 8440 F: 08 8416 8450
<http://www.ministry-development.org>

Notice: The information contained in this e-mail message and any attached files may be confidential information, and may also be the subject of legal professional privilege. If you are not the intended recipient any use, disclosure or copying of this e-mail is unauthorised. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately by reply e-mail and delete all copies of this transmission together with any attachments.

board@stbarnabas.org.au

24/03/2004