

15 October 1999

The Reverend John Elliott  
Anglican Parish of Chinchilla  
PO Box 202  
CHINCHILLA QLD 4413

Dear John

I had hoped to see you personally before you went out to Chinchilla and after your happy and fulfilling time at Bundaberg. Thank you for the work you did, I am sure it was valued by all.

I have to raise again the issue of the complaint that was raised against you some time ago by the two brothers. Nothing further has occurred from that quarter, except that the diocesan insurance company is now demanding that confidential information be provided to them of potential complaints against clergy with regard to possible insurance ramifications. There is some unease that you are in a profile situation in doing longish term locums in major centres and about your name being included as part of the regular staff of parishes, as is the case in Redcliffe.

In normal circumstances I would deem it unwise to put you at risk of further exposure and complaint but I also appreciate the difficult state of your family finances and of your need to continue doing work. I think the proper course of action would therefore be for you to consult with me before accepting any offers of locum tenencies of any length. I also think it unwise that you should be appointed to the regular staff of Redcliffe if that is what Graheme has in mind.

This letter does not require a response from me, nor do I wish to raise any further anxieties for you. Events of the past months have simply served to highlight the delicate and invidious situation the church is in and the potential for legal action on the part of aggrieved individuals, some of whom may feel it is now open season to do so. The key word here for you is constant vigilance and great discipline in all your actions, that they may be seen to be beyond reproach at all times.

With every good wish to Yvonne.

Yours in Christ

The Most Reverend Peter Hollingworth  
ARCHBISHOP OF BRISBANE