

30 November, 1993

The Reverend John Elliot
Rector - Anglican Parish of Dalby
PO Box 37
DALBY QLD 4405

Dear John

Private & Strictly Confidential

Having given your situation long and prayerful thought, I have now reached the conclusion that no good purpose can be served in my requiring you to relinquish your pastoral responsibility as Rector of Dalby .

The matter which has exercised my mind most strongly is the fact that your departure at this stage could cause unintended consequences that would make things worse for you and the Church.

The major difficulty is that in not taking disciplinary action I and the Church could subsequently be charged with culpability while at the same time an act of removing you would place you in an impossible situation at your age and stage in life.

I therefore propose the following -

Firstly that you give a clear and written undertaking to me that you will not establish or have any close association with CEBS groups or similar kinds of groups for boys. Secondly that when in the presence of young boys you always have someone else with you. And thirdly that you take the option of retiring at age 65.

This action differs from the advice given to me by Dr Slaughter who is of the view that your problem is something which keeps recurring and is likely to happen again. I would like to see you as soon as possible when next you come down to Brisbane, and we can talk further about any other action that needs to be taken to protect matters in future.

I am conscious that you have felt the strain of a long wait, but this is part of the process as I try to weigh up what is the right action in a complex set of circumstances. I will need to take some action to notify the REDA family of my decision, and at this stage I cannot tell what their reaction will be. Please make an appointment with me as soon as possible.

Yours in Christ