

LOU DANIELS

18 December 2002

The Right Reverend John Harrower
 Bishop of Tasmania
 PO Box 748
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CONFIDENTIAL

Dear John

Yesterday evening I had a telephone conversation with a Geoff Clifford in Tasmania which I believe you need to be informed about. Geoff was a colleague of mine and served as a CEBS leader in Tasmania in the 1980s. REDACTED

REDACTED

Geoff reported to me that recently Stephen Fisher rang him. Fisher alleges that at one stage Clifford told Garth Hawkins to stop certain behaviours because they were not appropriate. If I remember my conversation with Geoff Clifford correctly last night, Geoff says he cannot recall such a conversation with Hawkins. Geoff has also had contact from Garney Pearce, the ABC reporter in Tasmania as a result of recent media attention to this matter.

Following his conversation with Stephen Fisher, Geoff contacted the police and told them what he knows about both Garth Hawkins and Lou Daniels.

Geoff informed me that some time ago, and again I cannot be certain about the dates, Garth Hawkins rang him. Hawkins appeared to be under the influence of alcohol and in the course of that conversation said words effectively acknowledging that Hawkins had done the wrong thing. I checked with Geoff whether he had reported that conversation to the police. Geoff informed me last night that he had not but that he would tell the police about that.

Clifford also informed me that a boy by the name of REDACTED, when he was about 14 years old, told Clifford that Daniels had asked him to get into bed with him. Clifford told REDACTED not to and to tell Daniels that he was not interested. Clifford also informed me that he had told the police about this conversation. REDACTED would now be an adult. He is the adopted son, I understand, of REDACTED REDACTED who I believe lives at Risdon Vale. If REDACTED was a victim of abuse of any sort, he may need some care.

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In my conversation with Geoff last night I suggested that he report all he knows to the police and also to you as Bishop of Tasmania. Geoff indicated his intention to do that. In the course of our conversation he also informed me that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] If I remember correctly, Geoff said that once his daughter has settled down in the next few weeks, he intends to be in touch with you to make an appointment to speak with you about these things.

I am sorry to be writing to you about these matters yet again but I believe it is important that you have all the available information so that you are in a position to offer care to those who may have been harmed and to take other appropriate action.

With best wishes for a happy and holy Christmas

Yours sincerely

HPB

The Most Reverend Dr Phillip Aspinall
Archbishop of Brisbane