

**From:** James FitzPatrick <REDACTED>  
**Sent:** Monday, 18 May 2015 2:14 PM  
**To:** Anne Saab  
**Subject:** Re: CS28: Ballarat public hearing [DLM=Sensitive:Legal]

Dear Anne Saab,

Consequent on our telephone conversation at 1.50pm today I would like to offer some clarification as regards two matters raised in the document you e-mailed to me.

1. As regards the matter of the communication to me from the college - the Brother asked me if there was a Fr. Ridsdale working at the Catholic Enquiry Centre. I told him there was. He told me that Fr. Ridsdale was visiting some boys at the college. He just seemed to let me know about this. He did not make any direct implication. Subsequently I asked Fr. Ridsdale about the matter. He replied that he was just visiting boys boarding there who were sons of some of his former parishioners. I further queried why boys from parish in Victoria were boarders at a school in N.S.W. Fr. Ridsdale said "I suppose it was their parent's choice." That was the end of the matter, but it did leave me somewhat uneasy. I rang Bishop Mulkearns to let him know. he said that he would communicate with Fr. Ridsdale about the matter. I heard no more about it.

2. As regards the matter of a boy staying overnight with Fr. Ridsdale at the C.E.C. - Fr. Ridsdale had told me that he was attending a regular prayer meeting with a number of families in Sydney in a prayer group. I did not ever attend these. The residence at the C.E.C. had two floors, and I lived on the bottom floor, and Fr. Ridsdale had his room on the top floor (there were three bedrooms on that floor). One morning as I came to breakfast I heard people talking on the second floor. When Fr. Ridsdale arrived down for breakfast I asked him to whom he was talking to upstairs. He told me that after the prayer meeting the previous night he had offered to take one of the boys to his home. He further said the his car had problems and it was very late so he brought the boy to the C.E.C to spend the night. He immediately told me that he had put the boy to sleep in one of the spare bedrooms on the top floor, and that the boy did not spend the night with him. Despite this assurance I was troubled by the affair and I rang Bishop Mulkearns straight away, and asked him to recall Fr. Ridsdale as I wished him not to be involved with the C.E.C. again. Fr. Ridsdale asked me to keep him on, but I refused to do this. He left the C.E.C. a short time later, and I presume was settled by the bishop. I have never had any contact with Fr. Ridsdale since that.

I hope that this information may help to clarify some matters raised in the document you sent me. - Fr. James FitzPatrick, O.M.I.

On Monday, 18 May 2015, 13:05, Anne Saab <Anne.Saab@childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au> wrote:

**Sensitive: Legal**

Dear Rev Fitzpatrick

Further to my email below, please find **attached** a further document that may be tendered at the public hearing.

Please note that this document is also the subject of the Direction Not to Publish O-PU-CTH-28-1 previously provided to you.

Regards

**Anne Saab**  
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Follow the Royal Commission on:

**From:** Anne Saab  
**Sent:** Thursday, 14 May 2015 5:10 PM  
**To:** REDACTED  
**Cc:** Tony Giugni; Louise Amundsen; Office of the Solicitor; Registry  
**Subject:** CS28: Ballarat public hearing [DLM=Sensitive:Legal]

Sensitive: Legal

Dear Rev James Fitzpatrick

We refer to your earlier telephone conversation with Tony Giugni.

Please find **attached** correspondence in relation to the above matter. Also attached are the documents referred to in the cover letter.

Please do not hesitate to contact Tony Giugni or myself if you have any queries.

Regards

**Anne Saab**  
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