

DK

**/RM SUMMARY NOTES 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2010**

I spoke with RM regarding his recollections of his experience at SAC and regarding students there especially DK

As earlier indicated his recollection of students Smith and Jones was that matters there were not genital. They were definitely inappropriate he accepts. He has no specific recollection of any abuse regarding DK but says that following Encompass his appreciation of such matters has changed. It is possible that what he regarded as not offensive could have been offensive to young people then. He does not recall anything genital however he wanted his sincere concerns to be passed on to DK and apologised for any hurt that may have occurred.

He said when the first complaints were made he thinks from Smith that he spoke with Brother Claudius who came up from Ayr to meet him and after that discussion Claudius indicated that he should speak with the Provincial although he did not regard it as a serious matter. RM indicated that it was not genital contact. RM then flew down to Brisbane to talk the matter over with the Provincial Brother Kieran. After some discussion and reflection Kieran indicated that in related matters such as this that people were often taken out of the dormitory or out of teaching. However, having discussed the matter with Brother Gerald and since there was no indication of anything genital in the matter, more inappropriate conduct and inexperience, that he would not be taken out of the dormitory at this stage.

On a separate issue Kieran raised the question of RM making his final vows which he was due to do that Christmas. Kieran indicated that he was not prepared to recommend that to the Provincial Council and that he should take an extra year of temporary vows to give him time to consider his vocation and the future. After due consideration of all matters and a year's therapeutic contact with Brother Eugene Dwyer, he applied for final vows and was accepted.

The indication of the conversation was that Brother Kieran had discussed the matter with Brother Gerald and that given the information that they had that there was not any danger in RM staying in the dorm until the end of the year.

Regarding the DK matter it is not clear whether it was the end of 1980 or the beginning of 1981 that the incident that DK refers to occurred. Certainly it seems that the drop in his marks was evident in 1981 or the year that he was in year 12. 1981 was the last year that RM was at Cairns. DK would have been in the year 12 dorm and RM was looking after the year 8 dorm at that stage.

The concerns of DK are mainly regarding the due diligence and care of Brothers Gerald, Peter Rodney and Andrew Moraghan at not being concerned about the sudden drop in his marks in year 12 and the cause for that. DK actually had a lot of appreciation of the care and concern he had received from RM and also felt that the Marists had not shown due care for RM himself and for his formation. It is to be noted that DK had the highest regard for Peter Rodney and was one of his top students. His assignments give support of his liking for and his ability in history which Peter Rodney taught. DK felt that the 3 Brothers named must have been aware of the inappropriate activity of RM. Having spoken to RM about these matters he was quite adamant that to the best of his knowledge no one would have been aware of his activities other than the students he may have approached. Again the issue came up of just what constituted 'serious matter' considering the rather tragic history of abuse which RM had suffered as a young boy around the ages of 12 to 15 from a cousin who was 8 years older.

Alexi