

JAN O'GRADY
Interview 13 January, 1997 at Drummoyne

Jan phoned me on the morning of the 13th. I had never met her before nor had I spoken with her. She asked for some time with me and I was able to see her after lunch that same day.

Jan was Deputy Principal at St Carthages when Greg Sutton was removed. She has had some other tragedies in her life including the suicide of her son the year after he left school. She said that the Marist Brothers provided financial help for her as she underwent counselling at that time. She said that she was and remains grateful for that.

It would seem that the then Principal, Julia, may have withheld information from Alman and Alexis at that time. However, this is only hear-say. Jan was at pains to point out that she had had her suspicions for quite some time. She said that she found it difficult to get Julia to take action sooner than she did.

She believes that the matter is still far from settled in many of the families in the Lismore District. I confirmed with her that arrangements had been made at that time for Centacare to handle everything that needed to be done at that time.

Jan is still teaching although no longer in administration. She has moved from Lismore to Kingscliff. At the end of the interview I was still none the wiser as to why she had wanted to see me in the first place.