



Office of the Archbishop

St. Patrick's Cathedral,
Melbourne, Vic., 3002
Telephone: 667 0377

MEMORANDUM

Re: Father Ron Pickering and his financial status

On 29th June, 1993, Dr Philip Tiernan rang to say that he had received, in effect, a begging letter from Fr Pickering to whom he had been his physician for many years. Dr Tiernan said he would, of course, react positively to Father's appeal. He does consider Father to be unstable in his mind; he knows the circumstances under which he fled to England.

Dr Tiernan then asked: is Fr Pickering a Church pensioner? He knew of Fr's application to be made Pastor Emeritus and of the Archbishop's reply on this score. He knew too that Fr is trying to realise his assets in Australia; that he has received a bridging loan of some magnitude from a lady whom he knows. He still thought that the Archdiocese has some obligation to see to Fr's financial situation, even despite the manner of his departure from the diocese.

Dr Tiernan repeated that Fr is of unsound mind, and that he had tried to divert him from this hairbrained idea of fleeing to England, just as he had tried (rarely with success) to do something similar on numerous occasions.

He does not, however, believe it to be fair that Fr is presently living on charity.

1st July, 1993

B.J. Fleming