

**FILE NOTE**

**RE: HUTCHINS – [AOB] LETTER**  
**DATE: 28TH SEPTEMBER, 2006**

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Telephone attendance on Bill Toppin re Mr [AOB]. I explain that I have some difficulties with your amendments to my draft letter in that they appear to be quite conversational in tone. You say that that was your intention and that you wanted to make Mr [AOB] "feel good". I say I doubt that any letter is going to make Mr [AOB] feel good. You say you at least want to mention that you are passing it on to the school historian. I say that it seems to me that Mr [AOB] isn't really interested in the school history at all. He has another issue on his mind. I say that the letter makes reference to what appears to be concerted paedophile activity at the school in the 1960s. That being the case, a conversational tone in the response is probably not warranted. We discuss the issue for 15 minutes and you ultimately agree that a more serious tone is warranted and the letter as drafted by me is fine. I say that I will make some minor amendments and send it through to me. You refer me to a google search using the works [AOA] and Toppin which will disclose various letters between you and a Mr [AOA] in relation to the Principal Lawrence in the 1960s. You say that [AOA] has provided quite detailed allegations on the record of what occurred. You say there is other less formal information about Lawrence as well.

I say it is important to assume that any letter you write is going to find itself in the public domain at some point. I say that being the case it is very important that you communicate that you recognise the importance of your duty to students at the school and the school community generally. I say that it is very important that you not give the impression that you are <sup>not</sup> taking the matter lightly and that the school takes issues like this extremely seriously. You say you are happy with that.

GJC