

Roger & Cheryl Herft

usual keep - Barbara - Dean keep in separate file in case.

From: "Tracy McKelligott" <REDACTED>
To: "Peter Mitchell" <REDACTED>; "Roger & Cheryl Herft" <REDACTED>; "Keith Allen" <REDACTED>; <REDACTED> *S11*
Sent: Friday, 14 September 2001 5:10 PM
Subject: Reverend Parker
 Peter,

As promised transcript from the NBN story last night. Will have copy to you by Monday otherwise, call me and I can get my master out to you over the weekend.

Intro to Story

Judge Coolahan was concerned that the case went as far as it did before the prosecution decided to drop the charges against Father George Parker.

Story - Helen Kapalos

Father George Parker was brought before a Judge and Jury this week to answer allegations of sexual assault made by two Newcastle men dating back to his days as a Priest in Gateshead in the 1970's.

But three days into the trial the DPP withdrew the charges of indecent assault because they could not confirm circumstances of the case.

And it was a moved by the DPP which today raised the ire of district Court Judge Ralph Coolahan. Quote as on screen. "What concerns me is that the Director had before him, allegations which were totally unsubstantiated which at one stage were 26 yrs old then at another stage 25 years old. It appears absolutely no investigations were made by the DPP to substantiate those claims"

Helen Kapalos

But the DPP defended their handling of the case claiming when they first approached the Dean's office to confirm dates and records they were told they were unable to assist them. Father Parker was discharged by Judge Cooliahn and will shortly return to his Ballarat congregation in Victoria.

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