



NSW POLICE FORCE

P458A

Version 4.2 (07/09)

STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

In the matter of:	Brother ROMUALD
Place:	City Central Police Station
Date:	21 May 2013

Name:	CHE
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STATES:

1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence that I would be prepared, if necessary, to give in court as a witness. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I will be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything that I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.
2. I am 61 years of age.
3. I am one of three (3) children born to REDACTED (both deceased). My oldest sister is REDACTED and younger brother REDACTED
4. As a child growing up my family lived in Maroubra. We lived in a house in REDACTE Maroubra until I left school. And after I left school my family moved into a home unit in REDACTED Maroubra.
5. As a child I attended Marist Brothers School in Pagewood. This school was also called St Gabriel's as well. I think the actual name of the school was St Gabriel's to start with and the name of the school later changed to Marist Brothers High School. The school is now known as Marist College Pagewood.
6. I started at Marist Brothers in year 4 in 1961 and continued until I finished year 12 in 1969. I was seventeen (17) years old when I left school.
7. When I was in year 8 or second form, my school class teacher was Brother (Br) ROMUALD. He was also my year 8 science teacher, school sports master and school cadet officer.

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8. I have attached my school reports from 1965 which was when I was in second form or year 8. Br ROMUALD has signed these reports as being my teacher. I have attached three (3) School reports from Marist Brothers High, St Gabriel's Pagewood from May, August & December 1965 as an annexure.
9. Br ROMUALD was very well connected within the school and well respected by the parents. I remember my mother talking about him regularly and she use to talk about how the other parents use to talk highly of Br ROMUALD.
10. My mother worked in the school tuck shop and was well connected within the school and would often talk to other parents within the school.
11. Br ROMUALD was as tall and solid man. He appeared fit and looked after himself. He had dark hair and olive complexion. I remember him having a tooth missing at the back of his mouth on one side.
12. Br ROMUALD was a cruel man. He would cane people regularly for no apparent reason. He had a shorten cane he use to have his sleeve. He would pull that cane out and hit you with it.
13. There was a time when we were in science class when Br ROMUALD brought in live rats to dissect. Some how Br ROMUALD knocked out the rats and got us to pin the rats down and cut open the chest and pour warm salt water into the rats heart to see how long we would get it to beat.
14. Whilst Br ROMUALD was my class teacher I never had any real problems with him apart from Br ROMUALD caning boys for no apparent reason.
15. He ended getting a reputation within the school with the boys as being a homosexual. The boys at the time use to call Br ROMUALD 'Harry'. This was for "Harry the homo".
16. Over a period of time I started to see behaviour of Br ROMUALD which I now consider as being strange and odd.
17. He would often patrol the toilets at school and there was this one time when we were at the pool doing swimming, Botany Aquatic Centre. Br ROMUALD made all the boys take off all their

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clothes and leave there towel on one side the room and made us all walk past him naked to get to the shower.

18. After out shower Br ROMUALD then made the boys run past him to get back to their towel and clothes. As you ran past Br ROMUALD would then use his cane and smack the boys on the bottom as you ran past naked and wet.
19. This incident I can only remember occurring once. It occurred at the Botany Aquatic Centre and the school only used that centre once for a sport s day. This incident occurred when I was in year ten (10) and fifteen years old.
20. The only incident of significance I remember involving Br ROMUALD was when I was Army Cadets in year 10 in 1967.
21. Br ROMAULD was the cadet officer and I just started out in Cadets this year.
22. During the year there was a Cadet camp held at the Singleton Army base. This camp was an annual camp all the children went to.
23. I can not recall the exact time of the year when this camp was held but I believe it was around September, towards the end of winter start of spring.
24. I remember there was a particular incident during this camp when Br ROMUALD made all the boys undress and get naked. He then got all the boys to put on a 'great coat'.
25. The great coat was an army coat used during the Second World War. *As for the field showers.*
 woollen trench coat which came down to around your knees.
26. Br ROMAULD made all the boys put on the great coats with nothing on
 remember I had started puberty at the time.
27. The area he made us do this was outside in an open grassed area. I L.
 where is was apart from it being outside and it was during the day.
28. Br ROMUALD made all the boys line up in a line and stand in front of him. He sat on a chair facing the boys.

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REDACTED

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29. One by one he made the boys stand in front of him and open their great coat and expose their genitals. He then inspected every single boy's genitals by grabbing, holding it and moving it around.
30. I approached Br ROMAULD. He made me open my coat and expose my genitals. I put out his hand and grabbed testicles and penis. He started to move and looked in at my genitals. He closely examined by penis and testicles.
31. I can not recall him every saying anything to me whilst he was doing this. He did this to every single boy who was there. He did it to about forty (40) boys that day. The boys at the time called it the small arms parade.
32. This camp went for about a week and he held his genital inspection on the first day of the camp.
33. At the end of the camp everyone went home and nothing more was ever said of Br ROMUALD and his 'inspection'.
34. I never spoke to my family about it. Both my parents were strict Catholic's and I don't believe my father would have believed me if I had.
35. The only person who I told about it was a friend who went to the local state school up the road which was South Sydney Boys High. My friends name was REDACTED He was also on the same cadet camp with his school.
36. I told REDACTED about what Br ROMUALD made us do. REDACTED just laughed and that what happened to me didn't happen at his school. I spoke to REDACTED about this straight after the camp.
37. REDACTED lived in REDACTED Maroubra and I lived in the next street across REDACTED We had known each other for years. We met whilst at Randwick Daceyville Police Boys Club which was in Kingsford. I have not seen REDACTED in many years now. Not since 1974. He may live in Bathurst.
38. Apart from REDACTED I have never spoken to anyone else about this apart from my current wife, REDACTED
39. On Tuesday 21st May 2013 I attended City Central Police Station and provided Detective ABBOTT my statement in relation to this matter.

Witness: REDACTED

*MATHAN RUBIN
 DETECTIVE JESSE COMPTON
 TUES 21st MAY 2013*

Signature: CHE