

Anglican Church Diocese of Sydney



THE MOST REVEREND R H GOODHEW
ARCHBISHOP OF SYDNEY

20 July 1999

FILE NOTE: Issue raised by the Rt Rev. Bruce Clark concerning a clergyman in the Diocese of Newcastle

I received today a phone call from Bishop Bruce Clark, Bishop of the Riverina.

One of his clergyman, the Rev. Tony Drayton who, I believe, is an Assistant in the Parish of Griffith, spoke to him of a conversation he had with Mr David Andrews, who has assisted in the Parish of Engadine. Mr Andrews apparently grew up in Griffith and, while revisiting the town, had a conversation with the Rev. Tony Drayton in which he named the particular clergyman and said that there had been a number of families in Griffith, members of whom had been sexually harassed by that clergyman.

Bishop Clark indicated that he had phoned Mr Andrews to let him know that the Diocese had provisions under which cases like those he had alleged could be dealt with. The Bishop was anxious to let people know that this was possible. He also informed me that counselling could be made available to people who needed it.

I believe that Mr Andrews indicated that the families in Griffith did not want to take the matters any further. I recommended to Bishop Clark that he contact Bishop Herft of Newcastle to let him know of his interaction with Mr Andrews and also the latter's remarks to the Rev. Tony Drayton.

Beyond this there does not appear to be anything else that can be done at this time. There is correspondence from the Rector of Engadine on file that deals with allegations about this particular clergyman.

(The Most Rev) R H Goodhew