

REDACTED

LEGAL MATTER – NOTE FOR FILE27 MAY 2003

At approximately 11.20am today I received a telephone call from John Williams (JW).

JW was seeking to find out if there had been any progress re his claim against the school as contained in his solicitor's letter dated 14 April. He was fairly agitated and described the adverse impact the waiting was having upon him. He proceeded to reiterate his recollection of the alleged experiences at the School and those since attending the School. Early on in the piece he claimed that he had identified a journalist at the SMH who would be willing to take this matter up on his behalf should that be necessary. But that "she would not be used yet". That comment was explicit as if to draw a reaction from me or to make sure that the School knew he was happy to put the School under the media spotlight. He started out by saying that unless he had an answer by the end of the week then he would go to the press.

He commented that TFH and I had been OK over the matter and that he recognized that it was a different school and the TFH had made good changes.

I explained that the necessary enquiries were ongoing and that the School had to act responsibly when such serious allegations had been made. Further that to assist in progressing the matter the School Council which was the only authority to authorize any action in the matter would be requested to delegate authority to a small sub group in the near future.

I also mentioned that as Dr Hawkes was currently on sabbatical leave the School felt it might be appropriate to await his return in mid June before responding. Surprisingly JW claimed to know when Dr Hawkes was returning from overseas and that he was going to Pretty Beach for a period before returning to the School. I didn't know this and offered no comment.

He referred to a **REDACTED** in addition to T Cuff and **REDACTED** as being people who knew of ^{CLI} propensity.

The phone call lasted for some 20 minutes and JW principally reiterated comments previously made and referred to the various boys who held monitors' posts in the school in 1965.

JW was amenable to my suggestion that I would be in touch with his solicitors as soon as a view had been formed by the school and that he should give me his telephone numbers in the event that the School needed to contact him for additional information. He was agitated throughout the conversation, he did 98% of the talking, but accepted that he would have to wait a little while longer.

Kevin Lee