



SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE NEWS RELEASE

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PAGE: 1 of 2

PAEDOPHILE TASK FORCE ARRESTS

Detective Superintendent Grant Stevens, Officer in Charge of SAPOL's Paedophile Task Force has confirmed that nine men have been arrested or reported for child sexual abuse in the past few days.

"The Paedophile Task Force, established by Commissioner Hyde in May 2003 to investigate allegations of child sexual abuse within the Anglican Church, has conducted investigations into a number of historical offences."

"As a result of those investigations, the Paedophile Task Force has arrested or reported nine men, on the following charges which reflect the legislation as it stood at the time of the alleged offences being committed."

- A 58 year old Mount Gambier man was reported for indecent assault offences allegedly committed between 1973 and 2000 on four victims aged 15 years.
- A 45 year old former Church of England Boys Society leader was reported for five counts of gross indecency allegedly committed between 1986 and 1988 against two victims, aged 13 and 15 years.
- A 65 year old former Salvation Army Minister, currently residing in Victoria was reported for alleged indecent assault against a 12 year old victim in 1966/67.
- A 71 year old western suburbs man and former Salvation Army carer was arrested on two counts of indecent assault and eight counts of buggery, allegedly committed between 1961 and 1964 against two victims aged six and nine years who were in the care of a Salvation Army Boys Home at the time. He has been bailed to appear in the Adelaide Magistrates Court on 13 August 2004.
- A 54 year old former foster carer with the Anglican Church was reported for the alleged indecent assault of a victim aged 11 years, during 1980/81 while the child was a ward of the State.
- A 59 year old former Anglican minister, currently residing in QLD is being extradited on four counts of indecent assault and one count of buggery allegedly committed between 1970 and 1975, against one victim who was aged 12 yrs at the time. He will appear in the Adelaide Magistrate's Court on 21 June 2004.
- A 69 year old western suburbs man, a former leader for the Church of England Boys Society was arrested for 14 counts of indecent assault allegedly committed between 1970 and 1982 against six victims aged between 12 and 16 years. He was bailed to appear in the Adelaide Magistrates Court on 16 August 2004.

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30 Flinders Street, Adelaide 5000. Telephone: 8204 2904 Fax: 8410 3144.**

- A 78 year old southern suburbs man, a Junior Coach with Surf Lifesaving Association of SA has been arrested for eight counts of rape and seven counts of indecent assault allegedly committed between 1952 and 1980 against two victims aged eight and nine years. He has been bailed to appear in the Christies Beach Magistrates Court on 20 July 2004.

Those persons reported will be summonsed to attend Court at a later date.

Additionally, Adelaide Child and Family Investigation Unit reported a 67 year old Adelaide man for three counts of indecent assault committed between 1964 – 1970 against three victims under 15 years of age. Allegations regarding this person were reported to police as a result of the Historical Sex Offences Phone in conducted in October last year.

Superintendent Stevens says the arrest and reports are the result of months of investigations under challenging circumstances.

“There has been a considerable passage of time since many of the offences. However, this has not deterred SAPOL investigators, who have worked hard to bring about a resolution for victims. Police hope that other victims will be encouraged by these outcomes and come forward and report their matters.

“All offenders should be on notice now that no matter how long ago they committed an offence against a child, we are likely to catch up with them.”

A number of other investigations are ongoing and details will be released in due course.