

From: Joanne McCarthy <jmccarthy@theherald.com.au>
To: "mcleisha@police.nsw.gov.au" <mcleisha@police.nsw.gov.au>

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2010 12:04PM
Subject: FW: from Joanne McCarthy, Newcastle Herald

Redacted at Commissioner's direction

From: Joanne McCarthy
Sent: Tuesday, 13 April 2010 3:14 PM
To: 'Fr Brian Lucas'
Subject: RE: from Joanne McCarthy, Newcastle Herald

Thank you.

From: Fr Brian Lucas [mailto:gensec@catholic.org.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 13 April 2010 3:12 PM
To: Joanne McCarthy
Subject: RE: from Joanne McCarthy, Newcastle Herald

Dear Joanne,

I said that I had no recollection. I still do not have any recollection. I may have spoken with him but I do not recall what he said or what I said to Bishop Clarke.

Fr Brian Lucas

General Secretary

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

G.P.O. BOX 368

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From: Joanne McCarthy [mailto:jmccarthy@theherald.com.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 13 April 2010 1:42 PM
To: Fr Brian Lucas
Subject: RE: from Joanne McCarthy, Newcastle Herald

Dear Fr Lucas,

I have a document written by the late Bishop Leo Clarke to McAlinden on October 19, 1995, informing McAlinden the diocese had begun an impediment to the exercise of orders case, which says the decision was made "In the light of your admission to Fr Brian Lucas and other evidence".

Is there another Fr Brian Lucas?

I also have a letter from McAlinden to Clarke dated October 26, 1995, in which he says "Incidentally, the word 'confidential' has a very hollow ring as far as Maitland is concerned: Brian Lucas convinced me, against my better judgement, to accept that the information I gave him would be held in strict confidence by the bishop".

If there is another Fr Brian Lucas I need to put these questions to him.

I would appreciate your assistance.

Thank you, Joanne McCarthy.

From: Fr Brian Lucas [mailto:gensec@catholic.org.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 13 April 2010 12:45 PM
To: Joanne McCarthy
Subject: RE: from Joanne McCarthy, Newcastle Herald

Dear Joanne,

After some 15 or more years I do not trust my recollection sufficiently to make any public statement. I do not have any recollection of meeting Fr McAlinden.

Fr Brian Lucas

General Secretary

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

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From: Joanne McCarthy [mailto:jmccarthy@theherald.com.au]
Sent: Monday, 12 April 2010 6:57 PM
To: Fr Brian Lucas
Subject: from Joanne McCarthy, Newcastle Herald

Dear Rev Brian Lucas,

My name is Joanne McCarthy, I am a journalist with the Newcastle Herald, and I am writing about the late priest Denis McAinden.

I have written stories about McAinden before in which his sexual offending was acknowledged by Catholic Church representatives.

I am preparing further stories on the church's handling of his case, including an attempt to laicize him in 1995.

Can you confirm you had contact with McAinden?

Can you confirm information was conveyed by you to the then Maitland Newcastle Bishop Leo Clarke after a conversation or session with McAinden?

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I have already sent questions to Malland Newcastle Bishop Michael Malone and **REDACTED**
I am required to ask for specific responses from you because your name will be included as
having an involvement with the McAlinden matter.

Thank you. Joanne McCarthy.

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