

New South Wales Police

H 21729827
BAIL CAN**FACTS SHEET****Offender** : FLETCHER, James Patrick**Address** : 81 CREBERT ST
: MAYFIELD, NSW, 2304**Nationality** : Unknown**D.O.B** : 20/11/1941**Occupation** : Clergy**CNI No.** : 657816910Seq. No. Offences1. Indecent assault on male
Act Crimes Act 1900
Section 81**Law Part** : 381ARRESTING OFFICER**Name** : SGT PETER FOX
Station : LOWER HUNTERINFORMANT**Name** : SGT PETER FOX
Station : LOWER HUNTERACCEPTING OFFICER**Name** : SENCON ROLAND WHITBY
Station : Lower Hunter
Date : 16/09/2004COURT**Court Name** : Maitland Local Court
Court Date : 27/09/2004WITNESSES**Police Witnesses** : 2
Civilian Witnesses : 5BAIL**Bail Type** : Bail ConditionalANTECEDENT

The accused is a male person being a 'suspended' priest within the Catholic Church. He is currently residing with his mother at mayfield & is already on bail for more serious child sexual assault offences & has been complying with all conditions of that bail. He is awaiting trial at East maitland District Court on the 22nd of

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BAIL CANFACTS SHEET Cont'd
Defendant : FLETCHER, James PatrickANTECEDENTS Cont'd.

November 2004.

FULL FACTS

During the mid 1970's the alleged victim was a teenager residing in the Maitland area. He & a number of similar aged young males befriended the local parish Catholic Priest Father James FLETCHER. The alleged victim indicates that as they became familiar with FLETCHER the priest would use language and tell offensive jokes in their presence. As time progressed he encouraged many of the boys to participate in a naked foot race, watch pornographic videos with himself & he would also grab their genitals on the exterior of the clothing. As this behaviour became familiar to the alleged victim he met FLETCHER in his room at the Maitland Bishop's House on a day between Christmas 1977 & the end of March 1978 when FLETCHER grabbed the alleged victim's penis & testicles on the outside of his clothing fondling him. The alleged victim, then aged 17 years, objected to this before FLETCHER stopped. The Alleged victim states that he continued his friendship with the priest over the years but was never subjected to another indecent assault. Following a recent request by FLETCHER for a reference from the alleged victim for his upcoming trial the victim spoke to friends before seeing police & making the alleged allegation. Police have obtained a statement from one person in relation to the allegation & a number of further statements are hoped to be obtained in the next few weeks. Police are requesting that the alleged victim & other potential witnesses not be contacted by the accused. The accused is currently awaiting trial on the 22nd of November 2004 at East Maitland District Court on more serious allegations of sexually assault another young boy in the late 1980's early 1990's.

Facts Created by : SGT PETER FOX

Date : 16/09/2004