



NSW POLICE SERVICE

P777

STATEMENT OF A POLICE/WITNESS

In the matter of:	James Patrick FLETCHER
Place:	Maitland Police Station
Date:	29 May, 2003

Name:	Peter Raymond FOX	Tel. No:	49 340200
Rank:	Detective Sergeant		
Station/Unit:	Maitland Police station		

STATES:

1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence which I would be prepared, if necessary, to give in court as a witness. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.
2. I am 44 years of age.
3. On the 3rd of June 2002 I spoke to AH. I then commenced a number of inquiries & on the 20th of June 2002 in company with Detective Senior Constable Anna JOY I had a meeting with Bishop Michael MALONE & Father James SAUNDERS at the Maitland-Newcastle Catholic Diocese Office & we had a conversation.
4. Following numerous conversations & obtaining of a statement from AH he told me of a number of location. On the 29th of March 2003 I went with AH & Counsellor Tania DAVIS to a number of those locations.

Witness:

D. Brown

Signature:

Peter Raymond FOX

Page 2
 Statement of Peter Raymond FOX
 In the matter of James Patrick FLETCHER

5. On Tuesday the 6th of May 2003 I went to Walka Water Works where I took a total of 6 digital photographs. I later caused those photographs to be printed.

I PRODUCE THOSE 6 PHOTOGRAPHS

6. The same day I drove to Paterson Park at the southern end of the Paterson Township. I there took a total of 9 digital photographs. I later caused those photographs to be printed.

I PRODUCE THOSE 9 PHOTOGRAPHS.

7. The same day I drove to an area on the Williams River at Glen Oak where I took a total of 5 digital photographs. I later caused those photographs to be printed.

I PRODUCE THOSE 5 PHOTOGRAPHS.

8. I then drove to St Peter's High School in Maitland & took a total of 8 digital photographs of in the areas of High Street & Free Church Streets. I later caused those photographs to be printed.

I PRODUCE THOSE 8 PHOTOGRAPHS.

9. On Friday the 9th of May 2003 I drove to St Pius High School at Adamstown & there took a total of 8 digital photographs in the vicinity of Fletcher Street. I later caused those photographs to be printed.

I PRODUCE THOSE 8 PHOTOGRAPHS.

10. I then drove to Dixon & Jeffrey Streets, Adamstown where I took a total of 5 digital photographs. I later caused those photographs to be printed.

I PRODUCE THOSE 5 PHOTOGRAPHS.

11. On Thursday the 14th of June 2003 in company with Plain Clothes Senior Constable BROWN I saw Father James Patrick FLETCHER at the Maitland Police Station. At the time he was in company with solicitor Eric CRANEY & Father James SAUNDERS. I escorted them all to an interview room & said to the accused, "I am Detective Sergeant Peter FOX & this is Detective Don BROWN. As you know we are investigating allegations made by AH that you sexually assaulted him as a child. I want you to understand that you are under arrest for those matters. You are not obliged to say anything unless you wish, as anything you say or do will be recorded & may be given in evidence.

Witness:

D. Brown

Signature:

Peter Raymond FOX

Peter Raymond FOX

Page 3
Statement of Peter Raymond FOX
In the matter of James Patrick FLETCHER

Do you understand that?" He said, "Yes. I am under arrest then am I?" I said, "Yes." I said, "I would prefer that you do not say anything in response to the allegations at this time as I am required to place you into the custody system before we go any further." I then spoke to all persons & explained the custody system requirements & took them to the charge room where that process was completed. Whilst in custody the accused had his right whilst in custody fully explained to him.

12. I later removed the accused from the custody room & with Father SAUNDERS & Mr CRANEY he was returned to the interview room. There a number of tapes were prepared & the accused was interviewed. During that interview both Detective BROWN & I asked the accused a number of questions & those questions together with his answer were electronically recorded on a total of three sets of audio & video tapes. Mr CRANEY remained throughout the entire interview however Father James SAUNDERS was asked to leave towards the end of that interview. At the completion of interview Detective BROWN left & had Sergeant SALMOND attend to adopt the interview.

13. At the completion of the interview the tapes were removed & the accused, Sergeant SALMON & myself signed three seals, which were then placed on the court copy of each audiotape. I then handed to the accused a copy of each of the audiotapes & he signed a form of receipt.

I PRODUCE THE 3 SETS OF AUDIO & VIDEO CASSETTE TAPES

14. During the course of the interview I showed to the accused a total of 6 black & white printed photographs being a cross sections of the location previously mentioned. Those photographs were labelled 1 to 6.

I PRODUCE THOSE 6 PHOTOGRAPHS

15. I then made some inquiries regarding a forensic procedure & spoke at length to chief Inspector BAKER & solicitor Eric CRANEY. The accused was then charged with the matters before the court.

16. I later caused the copy audiotapes to be sent to the ERISP transcription unit & later received a transcription of those tapes.

I PRODUCE THAT TRANSCRIPTION

Witness:

D. Brown
D. BROWN
D/SK
30/5/03.

Signature:

Peter Raymond FOX
D/SK
30/5/03