

## Résumé of letters etc in file we have for Bishop Peter Ball

*(I have tried to put the correspondence in date order in this chronology. Because of the way they were photocopied, it is not always obvious by just reading through in the order they are filed)*

Newspaper cutting from the time of his resignation. He was aged 61.

08/03/1993: Resigned and retired ( came to live in Cornwall)

15/03/1993: Circular letter to all Bishops informing of situation

04/09/1993: +P.B.(Bishop Peter Ball) – ABC( Archbishop George Carey) with suggestions as to how he could be employed in he future

06/09/1993: +M.B. (Bishop Michael Ball, Bishop of Truro) - +G. (Bishop Graham, Bishop of St German and later Bishop of Norwich) thanks for his help and suggesting that the Rural Deans should discuss future employment for +P.

07/09/1993: +M.B. – ABC and wife thanking them for having +P for a week with them and hoping that he could “resume” in the New Year.

13/09/1993: ABC - +M.B. suggesting that +PB could celebrate privately to +B.M. or weekly to the Sisters (Nuns), again privately

13/09/1993: ABC to +P.B. Private letter allowing him to celebrate privately to the Nuns but that was to be private with no publicity. This was to protect +P.B. from press intrusion. He would be welcome at any time at Lambeth.

13/09/1992: Copy of above letter sent to +G also asking him to try to slow down +P.B.

28/09/1993 ABC - +M.B. in effect telling him to stop pestering on behalf of his brother.

28/09/1993: +P.B. – ABC thanking for help and support

06/06/1994: +M.B. – ABC asking for a private word.

02/06/1994: +M.B. - +G. expressing his anger about the lack of care

14/06/1994: +P.B. – ABC setting out his concern in seven points which included complains about money, employment and lack of pastoral care.

17/06/1994: +ABC - +M.B. setting out reasons for a gradual return and steps which need to be taken.

18/06/1994: Notes made by ABC with regard to his reaction to +P.B.’s letter of 14<sup>th</sup>. he was not happy regarding it as manipulative.

20/06/1994: +M.B. – ABC reply to ABC’s letter of 17<sup>th</sup>.

30/06/1994: ABC acknowledges letter of 20/06/1994

Undated notes by +G re thoughts re 17/06/1994

Undated memo from Colin Fletcher – ABC regarding memo 18/06 and letter of 14/06 This memo refers to correspondence held by ABC but was not originally on this file ( was it included in this file by mistake when the photocopied pages were returned to us?) It asks very relevant questions and could almost be a template for similar situations.

22/06/1994: Archdeacon of Bodmin re need for reconsideration of ABC’s points and suggesting a meeting of senior staff to do so.

22/06/1994: +BG – ABC re arranging this meeting and that +MB should not be present.

23/06/1994: +BM - +BG suggesting churches which might be suitable to initiate +PB reinstatement and also agreeing to the meeting. “....already does a fair ministry to individual clergy and laity..”

*At this point all the concerns appear to be about adverse publicity affecting +PB and the Church. There appears to be no concern that he may be guilty or concern for the victim*



12/07/1994: +BG – ABC outlining the views of Truro senior staff/clergy. Overall sympathetic to return but ABC should make the decision and that the return would be better away from Truro Diocese

25/07/1994: Draft of proposed letter to +PB from ABC

26/07/1994: ABC to +PB Setting out what he will be given permission to undertake. From 1<sup>st</sup> October he may minister at small scale conferences, retreats or clergy groups. He must do nothing more and nothing in Truro Diocese until after the new year.

This will be reviewed at Easter with the possibility of further changes the following Autumn

29 & 30/07 /1994 draft and letter +MB – ABC asking for clarification with regard to schools and expressing concern that what happens in the future depends on press reaction

01/08/1994: +MB - +G thanking for his help

25/08/1994: +G – ABC re letter 30<sup>th</sup>.

30/12/1994: Request to Revd. Dr. Hewlett re +PB to consider allowing +PB limited permission as a PTO in his parish.

10/01/1995: cautious reply

24/01/1995: Revd. Dr. H. asking for further clarification

24/01/9195: +G giving advice to Revd. Dr, H.

27/01/1995: 24/01/1995 All saints PCC agree to request from ABC to allow +P to preach

27/01/1995: Revd. F. Sergeant - +MB re preaching

02/02/1995: Draft press release plus answers to possible questions

03/02/1995: ABC gives permission for +PB to preach at All Saints for Feb 5<sup>th</sup> only

05/02/1995: Draft press release

08/02/1995: +G – ABC suggesting that +PB be allowed to exercise ministry at All Saints.

13/02/1995: in absence of ABC, Revd F.S. - +G reply to letter 8<sup>th</sup>.

24/02/1995: Minute from Feock PCC agreeing to ABC request that +PB could preach in their parish

28/02/1995: ABC to +PB giving him permission to visit USA having first checked this was acceptable there

01/03/1995: ABC gives +PB permission to exercise his office as a priest at All Saints Falmouth and Feock, taking Divine Service and administering the sacrament for six months if +MB agrees

10/03/1995: Covering letter ABC - +PB

10/03/1995: J.D. to Revd. Dr. H. re how to deal with any press enquiries

06/07/1995: asking ABC if +PB may have permission to confirm some candidates at RAF St Mawgan

20/01 1987 Revd. F. S. to +G

05/02/1997: Statement circulated to Diocesan Bishops saying that +PB is to be regarded as any other retired bishops but if he is invited to undertake public Episcopal acts, Lambert should be informed

06/02/1987 : re an explanation of a positive statement in the House of Lords

18/06/1995 Email re an appearance at Morval when he came as +MB but said he was +PB at the end of the day

22/06/1997: Confirmed candidates at Menheniot



## Subsequent Events and Information

1998-99: Attended events at Helland. Vacancy at Michaelstow, +PB frequently took services

13/11/2012: information that +PB had been arrested

13/11/2013: +T – David Watson re press release if necessary and reserve statement

17/09/2012: Andrew Nunn \_ all Bishops asking for information for police investigation and queries

13/11/2015: +Paul to all Bishops with advice as to how to deal with investigation and queries

17/12/2015: Copies of press reports alleging Church cover-up

31/12/2015: More press reports alleging cover-up

## Information arising from investigation

- A lady recalled that she remembered +PB celebrating at Epiphany House in 1990 and prior to 1997
- 1991 he was photographed with +MB at a confirmation at Germoe church. The photographs are available if needed
- In or before 1998 both bishops supported several events in Helland Parish sometimes together and sometimes separately. The priest always arranged this through Lis Escop and knew which Bishop would be attending. He always asked for +MB but +PB came when +MB couldn't. Over this time St Tudy and Michaelstow were in vacancy. +PB practically took over the Eucharistic Ministry at Michaelstow
- The mother of a chorister at the cathedral remembered that while her son was a chorister between 91-96 +PB took at least 2 services but they were told and the cathedral staff seemed to know but it was not announced and the congregation may not have known.
- 97 or 98 at lunch with a priest +PB referred to his retirement as “a put up job” and denied any wrongdoing.
- Date unknown: A serving Priest who remembers that when she had her final interview to become a Reader it was conducted by +PB who introduced himself as +MB. The interview was at Lis Escop. +MB knew this lady well because he had been instrumental in helping with her domestic/marital problems. It appeared obvious to her that it was not +MB because he asked questions about her family which +MB would have known. The interviewer hid his lack of knowledge by seeming very confused about everything.
- Date unknown: Soon after +PB came to live in Cornwall information was given to the then Youth Officer of the Diocese by the wife of a Priest that +PB was helping at a scout group. This information was passed to the bishop's advisor for child protection who is believed to have told +MB who stopped his brother from doing this.

## **E-mail from Morval**

- On 18<sup>th</sup> June 1995 , we held a Midsummer Medieval Festival, and invited Bishop Michael to give a blessing and officially open the event. He duly came, or so we thought, was charming and gregarious, and led a brief service of dedication in our church. Right at the end, he said ‘You all think I’m the Bishop of Truro, but I’m actually his brother.’ He went on to explain that, as Michael was very shy and he, Peter, was outgoing, he was happy to take on engagements of this kind.



Nothing untoward happened, nor were we aware of any risk, so we all thought this was funny. Looking back, I wonder how many events might have been recorded as involving Bishop Michael when in fact Peter took his place.