

## **Note of telephone conversation with Mr and Mrs Moss – 21<sup>st</sup> October 2016**

Mr Moss was the gardener and chauffeur at Bishopscourt, appointed in 1989. Mrs Moss had some domestic duties though she told me that she had previously worked in some sort of psychiatric setting with adolescents – she may have been a psychiatric nurse. They lived in a flat attached to the main house.

They had originally worked with Bishop John Yates and had been very happy at that time, describing the bishop as having very simple tastes. Yates left in 1991 and there was quite a long gap until Ball arrived. The lifestyle at the residence changed immediately as Ball brought or purchased expensive furniture and new Turkish carpets, though he himself lived in a sparsely furnished room containing 3 mattresses. He always had expensive alcohol in the house. Whereas Bishop Yates had always found time for the various tramps and needy people that used to come to the residence Ball ignored them.

They described Ball as “creepy” and said that he did not treat them politely or respectfully. They remember Michael Ball coming to stay and the brothers going out wearing identical clothes and carrying identical bags.

Ball had many visitors, mostly young men, and they particularly remembered a teacher from Llandovery College, an independent school, who they described as very effeminate. There were always young people coming and going but Neil Todd spent a lot of time there. They said that Neil was a troubled young man but that he was used as a slave by Ball, not allowed into the community and made to serve as a waiter when Ball was entertaining.

They became so concerned that they arranged to come and see Yates in London. They explained why they were concerned and he said “What do you want me to do about it?” He advised them to see how things developed.

Dissatisfied, they went to see Bishop Jeremy (Walsh of Tewkesbury) and told him. They said he was flabbergasted and wondered if this was why Reverend Eldridge, Ball’s chaplain, was unwell. However he did not seem inclined to take any action so they went to see the Dean, Alan Jennings, but in fact saw his wife and shared their concerns with her. They heard nothing further.

The sequence of events was unclear but at some point they became so concerned that they took Neil Todd away with them – I think it was during an earlier break (they are caravanners) that he was seriously mistreated. Then they did not see him again but heard news of his overdoses.

They told me that there were things that they could not bring themselves to talk about on the phone and I agreed to meet them.

**Kevin Harrington**  
**21<sup>st</sup> October 2016**