

police investigation



Back issues of the Leader covering the case.

How it all unfolded . . .

ALLEGATIONS of sexual abuse at the Mornington Child Care Centre and Nursery School rocked the town in 1991-92.

Here is a sequence of the events of the scandal as it unfolded.

■ Allegations of child sexual abuse involving the Mornington Child Care Centre and Nursery School, run by Norman and Alison Shulver, are reported to police by several parents.

A number of parents remove their children from the centre.

Norman Shulver calls a meeting at the centre with the parents.

■ Parents who believe their children have been abused meet police at a hall in Barkly St, Mornington, where police offer support and updates on the investigation.

At a public meeting at the Mornington Information Centre, parents call for the childcare centre to be closed until the investigation is completed and set up a support group.

Police reveal the childcare centre was involved in allegations of child abuse in 1988.

Mr Shulver "resigns" as parents step up their fight to have the centre closed.

Police charge a 45-year-old woman with having tried to drive her vehicle into Alison Shulver at the front of the childcare centre.

■ The centre changes its name to the Peninsula Child Care Centre. Mr Shulver says neither he nor his wife work there.

The Leader reports the newly-named centre is not registered with the Office of Pre-School and Child Care (Community Services Victoria).

An Office of Pre-School and Child Care inquiry starts to determine whether the Shulvers are suitable proprietors of the centre.

■ The State Government shuts down the centre after the inquiry finds the Shulvers

"permitted the abuse to occur or were involved in that abuse".

Police are instructed not to comment on the inquiry's findings.

Monash Medical Centre sexual assault clinic and Mornington Council set up support services.

■ The Shulvers appeal against the deregistration of the centre to the Supreme Court.

■ The Supreme Court dismisses the appeal.

Mr Shulver challenges police to charge him.

■ Parents deliver a brochure in Mornington and Mt Martha, offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of those responsible for alleged child abuse.

The Shulvers move interstate.

■ April 1994: The Crimes Compensation Tribunal awards damages of up to \$20,000 to more than 30 applicants for pain and suffering after toddlers were allegedly abused at the Mornington centre.

■ May 1995: Norman Shulver tells the Sunday Herald Sun that he has run out of money and opportunities for legal challenges.

■ June 2002: Chief Commissioner Christine Nixon refers complaints about the mishandling of the case by police to the Victorian Ombudsman.

■ May 2003: An Ethical Standards Department officer is stood down from the Ombudsman's investigation for "incompetence" after he failed to pass on information from two key witnesses.

■ April 2004: Psychologist Dr Reina Michaelson alleges the Ombudsman's investigation is marred by corruption and calls for an urgent royal commission into organised pedophilia in Victoria.



Dr Reina Michaelson.

Picture: RENAE DROOP. N45ML802

Doctor's years of dedication

DR REINA Michaelson, who sparked the Ombudsman's current investigation, is a high achiever in the world of child psychology.

The 33-year-old completed her PhD in psychology at Victoria University in 2001.

Her thesis, which was awarded the vice-chancellor's medal for excellence in research, focused on ways to prevent child sexual abuse.

Dr Michaelson is the executive director of the Child Sexual Abuse

Prevention Program Inc, a non-profit organisation that runs awareness seminars for children aged 5-18 in Victorian schools.

The program, which also provides seminars for teachers and information nights for parents, has been implemented internationally in developing countries such as Malaysia and Vietnam.

The Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Program Inc won the Australian Institute of Criminology's Violence Prevention Award in 1998.

It also won the 2001 National Child Abuse Prevention Award for Innovation from the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services.

Dr Michaelson was Young Australian of the Year (for community service) in 2001. She is also a member of Trauma and Abuse Care Group International (TACGI), an organisation assisting survivors of severe trauma and abuse.

■ The Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Program Inc can be contacted on 0409 188 572.

CHEER UP with Winter Special Packs

*Pick up only Mon-Thurs only

1 Pack for 2
2 Flake
Min Chips \$3
2 Potato Cakes
2 Calamari Rings
\$11 save \$5
pick up only

2 Family Pack
4 Boneless Fish of the Day (fresh)
\$4 Chips
4 Dim Sims
4 Calamari Rings
4 Potato Cakes
\$20 only
save \$7.20
pick up only

Pizza Special
1 Large Pizza
1 Min Garlic Pizza
Conditions Apply. Mon-Thurs only
\$10 save \$9

Foreshore Take Away
Fish & Chips & Pizza
1467 Pt Nepean Rd, Rosebud 5986 8246
(near Boneo Rd)

Woodleigh School Woodleigh School

Junior Campus

Choose wisely.....
Choose Woodleigh

Limited vacancies available for girls in Year 3, 2005

Enrolment Information Sessions
Junior Campus
(Held in Minimbah Library)
Wednesday 12 May, 11am
Wednesday 9 June, 11am

Senior Campus
(Held in the Jago Centre)
Tuesday 11 May, 8pm
Tuesday 8 June, 8pm

For further information, or to arrange a tour of the school, please contact the Director of Enrolments, Mr Bruce McCallum, on 5971 1108.

Enrolment at the Junior Campus ensures a guaranteed place at our Senior Campus, currently with waiting lists until 2008.

Temperature's dropped, so have our prices.

Cleanskin Wine Deals

Coonawarra Reserve Range 2001 Cabernet Merlot Cabernet Shiraz Mixed or straight per doz	Margaret River Meltdown Cabernet/Merlot 2000 Shiraz 2002 Semillon Sauvignon Blanc 2002 Chardonnay 2003
\$204	\$999
\$165	No further discount

NEW Fruit of the Vine Tawney Port blended from Solera Vintage 1957 Nth East Victoria. **\$15.99 ea**

FREE Victorian Cabernet 1999 or South East Australian Sem/Chard 2002 with every mixed or straight dozen.

of the VINE
Wine Merchants
Offer ends Sunday May 16th

12 Blake St, Mornington PH: 5975 4955