

Philip Lindsay WEAVER

Was in BENSON-POPE'S 4th Form Social Studies class in 1982. Is unsure what time of year or day the incident occurred in. Does not describe himself as a troublemaker but was a talker. Recalls he was talking in class and it was not too long after the start of class. BENSON-POPE hit him on the head with his "bonker". Then BENSON-POPE pushed the tennis ball taken from his "bonker" into his mouth. WEAVER took the ball out because it was uncomfortable. BENSON-POPE pushed the ball back into his mouth - which required his mouth to be wide open and quite painful to the jaw - and taped his hands to the corner of the desk using duck tape. WEAVER had to breathe through his mouth which was uncomfortable. He stated that he couldn't get the ball out as it was hard enough with his hands.

At the end of the period BENSON-POPE un-taped him and WEAVER removed the tennis ball himself.

States he would have tried to free his hands if he could have, but the tape was quite strong.

He couldn't protest or say anything with the ball in his mouth.

Was not aware of the [REDACTED] incident at Tautuku camp.

Aaron Dale TASKER

Was in BENSON-POPE'S 4th Form social studies class with WEAVER, whom he sat beside. Recalls the "bonker" which was used to hit pupils on the head if they were doing something wrong.

At some stage during this particular class WEAVER must have kept talking and BENSON-POPE came and stuck the tennis ball from his bonker in his mouth.

Doesn't recall anything being said. WEAVER took the tennis ball out of his mouth, BENSON-POPE came over and put it back in. He then taped WEAVER'S hands to the corner of the desk so that he couldn't take the tennis ball out of the mouth.

WEAVER remained like that until the end of the period. TASKER is unsure who untaped him or how long WEAVER was left in the taped position for.

Attended school camps with BENSON-POPE and remembers a group of pupils talking at night - including himself - being made to stand outside in their underpants at a scout camp due to talking. Recalls being freezing and not allowed to come inside.

[REDACTED]
Was in BENSON-POPE'S 4th Form social studies class with Phil WEAVER.

Describes WEAVER as a talker, not a bully or a bad guy.

Has no recollection of the "bonker" or the WEAVER incident and was surprised at the suggestion that it happened.

Vague memory of going to 4th Form Tautuku camp. Is not aware of the

[REDACTED] incident or any others, vaguely recalls something relating to students standing outside at night time but has no detail of this.

[REDACTED]
Remembers being in 4G and having BENSON-POPE as a teacher for social studies or similar.

Doesn't recall the WEAVER incident or any talk of it around the school. Thinks something like that would stick in his mind. Can't be 100% sure that he was in the class talked about.

States WEAVER was talkative in class.

Went to one school camp but recalls no incidents from down there.

[REDACTED]

Was in the Form 4G class with WEAVER, and had BENSON-POPE for social studies. Describes WEAVER as "no angel" but not a troublemaker, just liked a joke. Remembers the WEAVER incident as BENSON-POPE taking the ball of his "bonker" and putting it in WEAVER's mouth. Is not sure why this was done but assumes WEAVER was misbehaving. Is unsure how WEAVER removed the ball the first time but recalls BENSON-POPE replacing the ball back into his mouth and taping WEAVER'S hands to the desk with masking tape or similar. States WEAVER was left in this position for awhile i.e. more than 1-2 minutes but [REDACTED] can't be sure how long or how his hands were eventually freed. Went to 4th Form Tautuku camp but recalls no incidents.

[REDACTED]

Recalls having BENSON-POPE for a class in 4th Form, probably social studies. WEAVER was definitely in the class and [REDACTED] describes him as a pretty well behaved. Does not recall the WEAVER incident. Recalls BENSON-POPE's use of the "bonker" on pupil's heads. Went on some school camps but can provide no detail on these.

[REDACTED]

Was friends with WEAVER, [REDACTED] TASKER. Remembers being in the same 4th form social studies class as WEAVER and TASKER which had BENSON-POPE for social studies. Describes WEAVER as being disruptive in class, never recalls him as a bully. Describes [REDACTED] as the average studious kid. Recalls BENSON-POPE ping-pong balls at nattering pupils and banging the "bonker" on people's desks. Cannot recall the WEAVER incident, thinks there is a slight possibility that it happened and he doesn't recall. Attended the 4th Form Tautuku camp but was not aware of the [REDACTED] incident. Was disciplined by BENSON-POPE one night for having a knife on camp. Feels standing outside for 5 minutes in underpants and bare feet was justified.

[REDACTED]

Friends with both WEAVER and TASKER. Confirms BENSON-POPE was his 4th Form social studies teacher. Remembers him hitting the desk and poking pupils with the Bonker. Vaguely remembers the WEAVER incident and states it was talked about for a bit afterwards. Remembers BENSON-POPE putting a tennis ball in WEAVER'S mouth and taping his hands to the desk. Can't remember why this was done, for how long or whether the tennis ball was removed by WEAVER before being reinserted and hands taped. Recalls it being a bit of a joke at the time. Went to a school camp but can't remember anything happening there.

[REDACTED]

Recalls having BENSON-POPE for social studies in either the 3rd or 4th Form. Phil WEAVER was in this class and describes him as a noisy student but not a troublemaker. Remembers the WEAVER incident - only that at one stage in this class WEAVER had a tennis ball stuck in his mouth by BENSON-POPE. Does not recall his hands being taped or what lead up to the incident. Recalls BENSON-POPE as a good teacher, approachable, and had control of his class.

