

Extracts:

Pages 147 + 150

"Kincora,
Britain's Shame"
By Chris
Moore

Proof that DUP
Leader Reverend
Ian Paisley was
well-acquainted
with Kincora
Child-Abuser,
William McGrath -
and the BBC
Management
suppressed evidence
supplied by
Reporter
Chris Moore

period that I made something of a breakthrough.

On Thursday, 25 February 1982, I obtained copies of the marriage certificates of both Worthington and Elizabeth McGrath from the official registration office in Belfast. They revealed that the officiating clergyman at the two weddings was one Ian Paisley, a fact that had not been volunteered by the DUP leader at his press conference. The first wedding, that of McGrath's son William Worthington and Dora Dorothy Haire, took place on 15 June 1971. On the certificate McGrath's home address is given as 4 Greenwood Avenue and his occupation is listed as 'clerk'. The second certificate is for the marriage of McGrath's daughter Elizabeth Jean Frances to Francis Millar on 22 January 1976. The McGraths' address is given as 188 Upper Newtownards Road and William McGrath's stated occupation is 'welfare officer'. I was struck by the thought that any minister involved in marrying the children of a man who was a member of his own church, a man who had been an active friend in politics going back many years, would surely know something about that man and his family, would surely have had some idea of what the man did for living.

in the reporters' room, the pages were taken immediately to the office of Stephen Claypole, Head of News and Current Affairs, where he and a BBC solicitor from London carefully read them. By late afternoon I had finished writing and a newsroom secretary had processed the script. Before the recording there was to be a viewing in the film editor's cutting room. There was considerable excitement in the newsroom about the story.

Film editor Ray Allen had spliced the selected clips on to one reel and we were ready for the screening in front of the BBC management. Present in the cutting room were Claypole; John Conway, his deputy; Cecil Taylor, Head of Programmes; Don Anderson, Head of Radio; the BBC's London solicitor; and me. I read the script and, on cue, Ray played in the clips of the interviews. At its conclusion there was a discussion about the appropriateness of running with the story. I was slightly alarmed at the tone of the conversation, although initially I suspected they were playing devil's advocate, looking at what might happen in the worst-case scenario. But the longer the discussion continued, the more alarmed I became. There were few people in the room speaking up in favour of showing the item, and, amazingly, the very people who had encouraged me to work all weekend on this 'special' report were now ambivalent, to say the least. The programme time was looming, and if we were going to drop the story the news producer had to be informed so other material could replace it. In the end someone, I cannot remember who, suggested we take a show of hands. This was incredible to me. Even more unbelievable was the outcome of the vote. Only two people in that room voted in favour of transmitting the report: myself and Don Anderson.