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Dear Alexander:

Introduction: I am Rolf Harris's brother – 6 years older than Rolf, and one who has suffered through the last 5 years though not nearly as much as him.

For over 25 years, I was his international manager. I chafed over not being able to get to the UK to help in the early days of the hysterical YewTree allegations, though I closely followed the sad progress in the media.

Rolf's agent Jan Kennedy, MD of Billy Marsh Associates, appointed Kingsley Napley to represent Rolf. After Rolf was charged, and on the recommendation of John Harding the solicitor, Sonia Woodley QC was appointed as lead counsel with Simon Ray as her junior to present the defence case in court.

We were told that Sonia was a highly experienced older barrister who would treat the "victims" respectfully and thus earn the respect of the jurors. We didn't know that Sonia was about to retire and was too old and unwell to deal with the rigours of an extremely stressful two month court case. After court one day, she suffered a suspected heart attack on the underground and became too ill to present the vital defence closing statement.

I played no role in the first trial other than trying to provide information on the allegations made by the Australian "bad character" complainants. I appeared on video link as a defence witness in relation to Suzi D. the television makeup artist who claimed Rolf had put his hand up her shorts continuously for over 8 hours. My daughter Jenny attended the first trial and was able to watch as the saga played out to a packed courtroom with press from the UK, Australia and New Zealand.

After the debacle of the first trial, Rolf's agent sold her business and declined to be involved further in Rolf's legal problems. Rolf's daughter Bindi lacked the confidence and inclination to act on his behalf. As I was unable to fly to London to interview potential new legal people, this responsibility was delegated to my daughter Jenny, Bindi's cousin.

Why I am writing now is to thank you sincerely for it has been your input – first via your Libertarian writings about the first trial - which were the only really positive comments in a tsunami of shocking and destructive stories smearing Rolf's reputation. Second, for your thoughtful recommendations in letters first to Bindi, then to Rolf in prison.

What I want you to know is that your letter to Rolf in 2014 was to provide us with intelligence and suggestions that – over the intervening years – helped us make the moves that finally began to put some wins on the board.

Rolf had passed your letter on to Jan Kennedy. She in turn forwarded a copy of the letter on to Jenny.

We were floundering then, angry and disappointed with the disastrous performance of the Kingsley Napley legal team. It was months before we could think straight, having to deal with Rolf in prison, and spending a lot of time arranging for help and care for Rolf's ailing wife and the general running of their home. We also needed to engage lawyers to deal with the civil compensation claims that were being lodged. Despite the complainants claiming that all they wanted was "closure" all they really wanted was cash.

On 20 October 2014, Justice Wilkie refused Rolf's right to appeal the first trial. There was a lot of coverage in the post trial press about compensation for victims, and representatives of the Slater & Gordon legal firm made statements that they had been approached by at least twenty new complainants. As the months dragged on we decided that if nothing else, we would look at doing some research into the Wendy Rosher Leigh Park matter to see if we could find enough new evidence to warrant an appeal.

In January, 2015 we were advised that the police wanted to interview Rolf under caution about twenty new allegations. Their interviews took place over two days in February, 2015 with Rolf continuing to be represented by John Harding at Kingsley Napley. In discussions with Jan Kennedy and the family it became clear that we did not have the confidence to go to another trial with the Kingsley Napley team. It was unbelievable but true that the jury had returned unanimously guilty verdicts on all twelve charges. Apparently not a single juror had had a shred of doubt about any of the allegations. Kingsley Napley had sent a letter to the Crown Prosecutor in March 2015 arguing that a further trial would not be in the public interest.

In your note to Rolf you had recommended that contact should be made with private investigator William Merritt. This seemed to be an avenue worth pursuing and Jenny met with William in London in April 2015 to discuss engaging him to investigate the Wendy Rosher count which we believed was a classic police "stitch up". Wendy Rosher was seeking civil compensation so undertaking further investigations might help to mitigate the quantum of her claim. After the jury in Trial One had returned a guilty verdict on Wendy Rosher and the judge in his summing up stated that **he had no doubt that Rolf had assaulted her at the Leigh Park Community Centre**. We all thought this allegation was completely out of character and refused to accept that Rolf had any sexual interest in children.

On the recommendation of William Merritt, Jenny was introduced to Stephen Vullo and met him in his chambers at 2 Bedford Row. Stephen had been made silk in early 2014. Vullo in turn introduced us to Dan Berke who had been the instructing solicitor in the Dave Lee Travis trial, the first of the Yewtree criminal trials held at Southwark Crown Court in February, 2014.

So although it took time, your suggestions were invaluable.

We ditched Kingsley Napley and appointed Stephen Vullo as QC.

It was not until February, 2016 that Rolf was again interviewed by the police in relation to a further five new allegations. At the conclusion of that interview Rolf was charged with eight counts of indecent assault against seven women. At this stage, investigations into the four "complainants" in Trial One had to be put on hold so that we could concentrate on

investigating seven new allegations. While CPS dithered we were reluctantly settling civil compensation claims to avoid more litigation in the civil courts.

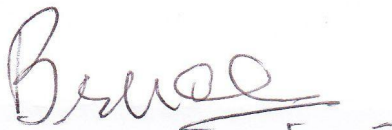
Trial One was notable for very little defence investigation. At that stage we had still believed that a person was innocent until proven guilty. We naively believed it was the role of the Metropolitan Police to properly investigate allegations. Sadly this is not the case. After William Merritt's investigations into all seven women complainants, we were in a much stronger position to fight back.

As you may know, on 8 February 2017, Stephen Vullo QC "won" acquittals on five counts and the jury was discharged from returning verdicts on the remaining four counts. On 15 February 2017 the prosecution gave notice that they would seek a re-trial of three remaining counts with an extra count to be added. The re-trial of the 4 charges against three women was concluded with four acquittal results as the jury could not agree on verdicts. One complainant opted not to participate in the re-trial and a not guilty verdict was also recorded against that indictment. At this point, the Crown Prosecutor gave up, although there was always an option for a further re-trial. Interestingly the Crown had used the 12 unanimous guilty verdicts from trial One to demonstrate Rolf's propensity to indecently assault women and young girls. Vullo QC argued convincingly that the verdicts in at least the Rosher and Tonya Lee counts may have been unsafe. Prosecution counsel opted to omit the propensity arguments from jury consideration in the re-trial. During the re-trial Rolf was released from custody on 19 May, 2017 having served half of his sentence.

A renewed application for leave to appeal against convictions sustained in Trial One was lodged with the Court of Appeal on 17 February, 2017. In November, 2017 the three Court of Criminal Appeal judges overturned the original guilty verdict handed down by the jury on the Leigh Park under-age Wendy Wild/Rosher charge. They refused to permit a re-trial of the other counts.

Jenny and I are considering a J'Accuse-type book on the whole sorry affair. So apart from wanting to let you know how much your suggestions have been appreciated, then acted upon, Jenny and I would like to incorporate that appreciation in our drafts, and to include segments of your letter to Rolf, and to quote a part of your Libertarian article relating to Bad Character Witnesses. Please let us know your response to this lengthy letter!

With regards, thanks and best wishes for Christmas 2017 and a better New Year from Jenny and me,



Bruce Harris & Jenny Harris

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