

Under fire for pay deal

SOLDIERS are facing a real cut in their wages and conditions but the Abbott Government has still found the cash to spend thousands of dollars on stress cubes and promotional coasters for veterans.

Time is running out for the Government to seek a formal review of the Defence Remuneration Tribunal pay deal.

Defence did win an agreement that unlike other government departments it would not be asked to offset the \$630 million increase in the wages bills by offering matching spending cuts.

Still room for mum's ex

DEMI Moore's daughter Rumer Willis says she has "reached out" to her mum's ex Ashton Kutcher after he became a father last month.

Willis said she had seen pictures of Kutcher's daughter, Wyatt Isabelle, with Mila Kunis. The 26-year-old actor told Access Hollywood Live: "I reached out to him when he had the baby, which is so awesome. I saw photos of her. She's very cute."

Demi Moore was married to Kutcher for eight years until they split in 2013.

Willis is set to star in the rom-com *Always Woodstock*.

Cost hinders TV return

JEFF Probst wants his long-running US reality TV show *Survivor* to return to Australia, but it might be too expensive.

"That was a great place for us," Probst, *Survivor*'s host and executive producer, said.

Survivor: The Australian Outback was the franchise's highly-successful second season. Shot in 2000 in northern Queensland, its premiere episode had a record 45.37 million Americans tuning in.

At the time, the Australian dollar was at historic lows. "(With) the falling (US) dollar, we can't afford the places that we used to be able to afford," Probst said.

Beaten and abused,

They are the lost boys of Eden Park, young men who were subject to years of horrific abuse by the very people who were supposed to be caring for them. Now they're suffering new indignities as they chase decent compensation.

ANDREW DOWDELL reports.

THEY were systematically abused and robbed of their trust in humanity. Now victims of the notorious Eden Park boys home say they were short changed by civil payouts from the Salvation Army.

The depravity and violence inflicted upon former residents of the home led to a class action, launched in 2007, in which 60 former Eden Park boys were eventually given civil payouts.

However, many victims as well as the lawyer who handled the cases now say the Salvation Army should have paid more compensation.

Matt de Gregorio from Duncan Basheer Hannon said early settlements were capped at \$50,000 and he has asked the Salvation Army to consider increasing those amounts already paid.

"Their response has been that they want to await the results of the Royal Commission on the 31st of December, 2017, before they will consider that," he said.

Mr de Gregorio described the treatment of hundreds of boys at Eden Park as nothing short of "torture".

"The sort of violence where people are being hit with two-and-a-half foot long belts, leaving welts on them when they describe being attacked in a frenzy by an adult, or being punched in the face by their caregivers," he said.

Former carer William John Keith Ellis remains in prison, serving a 16-year prison term for the brutal rapes of four boys between 1960 and 1971.

Another former worker, John Richard Kerslake, committed suicide last month while awaiting a verdict on whether

he was guilty of molesting five boys in the 1970s.

"The sexual stuff was shocking in terms of its brazenness," Mr de Gregorio said.

"Ellis, in particular, seemed to sexually assault children in circumstances where he could easily have been detected by another adult, but obviously felt comfortable enough that he could go on and do that."

Mr de Gregorio said boys could be severely punished for the most minor infractions.

"Talking back to a staff member, refusing to eat your breakfast - people described refusing to eat a particular food they didn't like and being

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MATT DE GREGORIO

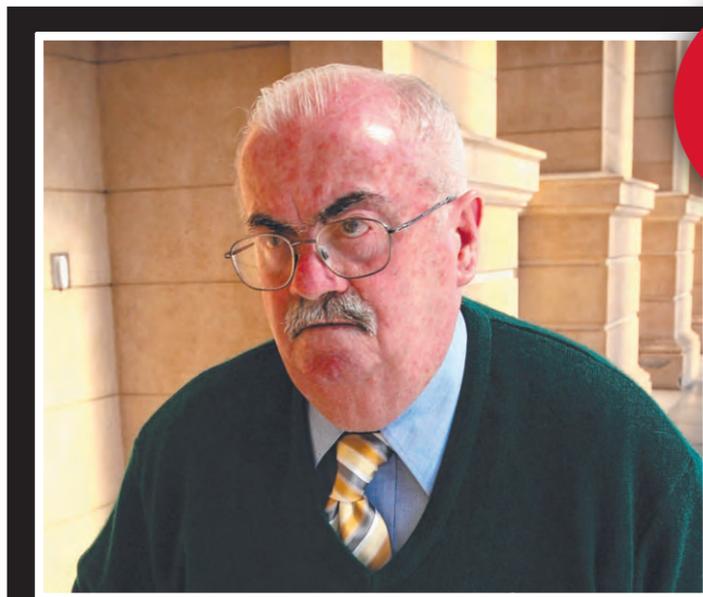
forced to sit at the table and eat it until they vomited. And when they vomited they'd be forced to eat it out of the bowl and wouldn't be allowed to leave the table until they had."

It was not just the carers who inflicted sexual abuse. Older boys frequently re-enacted the rapes they had endured using the younger boys.

Graham Rundle recalls being raped for the first time by an older Aboriginal boy at the age of seven. It was the first of hundreds of violent sexual assaults he endured.

SEVERAL weeks earlier, he had been dropped at Eden Park by his father for a "three-week holiday" that turned out to be an eight-year trip through hell.

Mr Rundle said Salvation



SALVOS SHAME



HOUSE OF HORRORS: Graham Rundle (main picture) at his home near Cessnock, New South Wales. Mr Rundle suffered unspeakable abuse at Eden Park Boy's Home. William John Keith Ellis (top) remains in prison, serving a 16-year term for the brutal rapes of four boys between 1960 and 1971 at Eden Park (above).

Army senior officers ignored reports of the brutal rapes.

"A nurse in 1965 went to the Brigadier and complained that when she was washing the sheets they were covered in blood, and the Brigadier just told her 'it was just the big boys mucking up' and that was the end of it," he said.

Mr Rundle spent more than a decade fighting for justice in both the civil and criminal courts, and saw his tormentor

Ellis jailed in 2009. "I thought if I don't then nobody will do this," he said.

"I didn't think it would still be going 10 years down the track, but I won.

"I got (Ellis) in jail and to me it was worth every bit." Now 62, Mr Rundle did not reveal his history of abuse to anyone else until 2000.

He ended up writing a book titled *44* - the number he was assigned as was known by dur-

ing his childhood at the home. He said that the decade of court hearings took its toll and he understands why many victims settled for less than they should have.

"You think it's hard enough to go forward to be believed, but then it's even harder to get into court ... and for the average person that has been through this, they can't do it, they don't have the strength," he said.

"I had to sell everything. I



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