

Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry

Witness Statement of

AFP

Support person present: No.

1. My name is AFP My date of birth is 1950. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.

Background

2. I was previously resident in Smyllum, Lanark between 1957 and 1964. I have recently seen a lot of media coverage about Smyllum and the type of place it was. I have also been following the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry online. I have read what these people have said about Smyllum and the care they received. The truth is being crucified along with the Daughters of Charity and the staff who worked at the home when I was there.
3. I believe that television, newspapers and online media are sensationalising the testimonies of former Smyllum residents. The truth does not sell newspapers. I believe that the statements from former children of Smyllum home when I was there shows a gross distortion of the truth. Most of what they have said in their testimonies was not true. The Daughters of Charity and the staff dedicated themselves to the wellbeing of the children in their care. I now want to provide testimony as to the truth.

Life before care

4. Before I went into Smyllum I stayed at which was in the Parkhead area of Glasgow. It was a two bedroomed flat in a tenement building. I lived there

with my mother, father, brothers and sisters. My sister [REDACTED] was the oldest then [REDACTED]. My father took a good drink and caused a lot of upset in the family.

5. I only remember going to school once before Smyllum. It was St Michael's primary school and on that occasion I was dragged there.
6. My mother eventually had a mental breakdown. She had a lot to cope with. [REDACTED] was mentally handicapped. Some of us were then put into care. [REDACTED] were put into [REDACTED]. Myself and [REDACTED] went to Smyllum. [REDACTED] went to [REDACTED].
7. I remember a limousine drawing up outside my house. There was a chauffeur. A well-dressed woman came to the house. Me and [REDACTED] were put into the back of the car. There were already three other boys in the car. I can't remember speaking to them or being told their names.
8. The woman never told me who she was or where we were going. Within an hour we were at Smyllum. From what I now know I believe that this was the [REDACTED] 1957.

Smyllum Orphanage, Lanark

9. When I arrived at Smyllum I was confused, although I wasn't afraid. Nobody explained to me why I was there.
10. I think it was one of the sisters who spoke to us. I don't remember any names. We were taken upstairs and handed clothes. We were given three sets of clothes. One for school, one for running around in and a set for Sunday. I don't know what happened to my own clothes. The clothes all had a number and the dormitory initial. I think that this was so they wouldn't get lost at the laundry.

11. I was then taken out into the yard. I was quite bewildered when I saw all the boys dressed the same. I settled in quite quickly after this and got into the routine of things.
12. Not long after I arrived one of the boys asked my name. I just said "AFP" after the TV programme [REDACTED]. The nickname stuck with me all the time I was at Smyllum.

Dormitories

13. The first dormitory I was in was called St Anthony's. There were about thirty boys aged between seven and fifteen. The dormitory names were later changed and had specific age groups for each one.
14. Everyone had a small locker next to their bed for personal possessions, comics and things. My number in St Anthony's was [REDACTED]. Your bed didn't have a number. You just knew it was your bed.
15. There was a sister and an assistant for each dormitory. They had a room each at the end of the dormitory. Their rooms had a small window that they could look out and see the dormitory. It was all women that looked after the dormitories. I can't remember the name of the sister or assistant looked after us in St Anthony's.
16. I was in St Anthony's less than a year. This was when it changed so that there were certain age groups in each dormitory. I moved to Sacred Heart, which was for aged seven to ten. Ten to twelve years old went to St Anthony's. Aged twelve to fifteen were in St Vincent's. My number for Sacred Heart was [REDACTED] when I went to St Vincent's.
17. At Sacred Heart it was Sister Mary and her assistant AHU who looked after the dormitory. At St Anthony's it was Sister AGI with her assistant Miss [REDACTED]. The last dormitory I was in, St Vincent's, was supervised by Sister EAD and the assistant was Miss IAQ.

18. [REDACTED] was initially in St Anthony's with me. When I moved [REDACTED] went to a different dormitory as he was older.
19. When I arrived I think the mother superior was Sister [REDACTED] EAL and very soon after this it was Sister [REDACTED] BAF

Staff

20. Miss [REDACTED] IAQ was Irish and had a loud voice. Her bark was worse than her bite. Miss [REDACTED] AEV did a lot of the knitting and darning socks. She was small and had a hunched back. The other staff member [REDACTED] AHU was quite young maybe in her twenties.

Routine

Mornings

21. When I first arrived the sister or her assistant got us up about seven. They would clap their hands to wake us. They weren't always together. Sometimes it would just be the sister or her assistant if the sister was at prayers.
22. We would do our prayers at the side of our bed. I think we would then go to the toilet. After this you had to make your beds a certain way. If it wasn't done properly then the sister would strip it back and make you do it again. It was just to make sure they were done right. This didn't happen very often though. It was almost like a competition amongst the boys. At first, because I have a disabled left arm, some of the other boys would help me.

Bed wetting

23. There were two or three boys who were regular bed wetter's. They were at the bottom right hand side of the dormitory. This was next to the toilets. You would smell it first and know. The bed wetter's would have red mac's on their beds underneath the sheets. It is important for me to say that if you wanted to go to the toilet through the night you could go. I have seen it mentioned in the Inquiry transcripts that you weren't allowed to do this but that was definitely not the case.
24. The only time I was aware of any punishment for bed wetting was when I was in the Sacred Heart dormitory. The assistant AHU, not the sister, would walk around the dormitory checking the beds. One of the older boys would be with her. If someone had wet the bed then she would make them put the wet sheets over their heads.

Food

25. About eight o'clock we all went for breakfast. It was all boys in the dining room. You sat at a table of four. It was the same table all the time. You would get your own plates and the food would be served to you. There was a variety of food for breakfast. One day it would be cereal, then porridge, bacon or sausages. There was always a big loaf of bread on the table with butter, jam and tea.
26. The only thing I didn't like was the porridge. There was sugar in it and it had lumps. The sisters would watch to make sure that you ate your food. There was no punishments if you never ate your meal. You might get kept from going out to play until you finished it.
27. We would sometimes pass the food underneath the table if you didn't like it and swap with one of the other boys if they had something you liked. I was never aware of anyone not eating the food.
28. Lunch was around one o'clock. This was two courses. It could be something like mince, potatoes and a pudding. On a Friday we would have fish. Again there was a variety. The food was good and sufficient. Everyone was encouraged to eat the food.

29. Supper time was at six. There would be a loaf on the table with butter and jam. Supper would be spaghetti, macaroni or something like that. On a Friday you might get a salad. Because we were Catholics you didn't eat meat on a Friday. I would say the meals were always different. You never got the same thing all the time.

30. In the dining room it would be the sister or their assistant who was in charge of your dormitory that would supervise you.

School

31. In the morning you went to school around ten to nine. The primary school was in the grounds. It was about a hundred yards from the dormitory. School started at nine. We got to play out in the yard until the bell went. The girls were there as well but they were separated from the boys. A teacher would make sure there wasn't any mixing between the boys and the girls.

32. In the classroom the girls were on one side and the boys on the other side of the room. All the rooms were partitioned off. The teacher I had was Sister **AFR** who was a very good teacher. I did very well at primary school. I was always first or second in the class. If you had done well you would get a prize at the end of June.

33. If you misbehaved in the class you would get the strap. It would be once or twice with the strap. Only very occasionally did anyone get six of the strap.

34. Sister **EAA** was the head teacher and I think there were about four teachers from outside Smyllum. They would all have a strap.

35. I did get the strap when I was at the school. This would be if I had misbehaved. I wouldn't say this was anymore or any less than when I started to go to school out with Smyllum.

36. After primary school I went to St Mary's secondary school. I could walk there it was only about a hundred yards from Smyllum. At St Mary's I wore a black jacket and

grey trousers, which had been given to me at Smyllum. This was the same uniform as everyone else at the school wore. I didn't stand out as being from Smyllum. I wasn't treated any differently.

37. I can't remember if I ever got a report card from St Mary's. I didn't do as well at secondary. I was exceptional at sports and that's where my mind went. I would say that the sisters probably did take an interest in how I was doing but I didn't hear about it. You were given homework at secondary but it was left to yourself to do it. You weren't encouraged to do it by the staff at Smyllum.

Leisure time

38. After school you would play in the yard for about an hour and a half. There was a big spider merry go round. We also played football or marbles. The sisters or their assistants would supervise you. They would sit on the bench knitting. If there was a fight they would split it up and sort things out with the boys. They would be told to shake hands.
39. If the weather was bad we would go the assembly hall. There were a lot of games there to play with. You could play with Meccano, board games or read books. You were encouraged to read.
40. There was also a big room that had a TV and a full size snooker table. It was mainly older boys that went in there. If you were younger you could still go in if you wanted to.
41. BAC used to take us for football, badminton and drama. This was in his own time as he worked five and a half days a week.
42. I was given three shillings pocket money per week. You saved one shilling for the trip to camp. The other two shillings was yours to spend.

43. When you were twelve you were allowed to go into the town on your own. You could go to the pictures if you wanted to.
44. I played for the football team. We played a team in Larkhall for a cup once, which we won. We were given a silver medal but I didn't get mine at the time. I actually went back to visit the home in 1967. Sister **EAC** had the medal, which she gave to me.
45. I also played in the band at the home. **BAC** looked after the band. **BAC** started the band in 1960. He came into the assembly hall where a lot of the boys were gathered. I didn't think I would get in the band because of my disabled arm. When **BAC** picked me I felt great. I played the tenor horn. The only boys who weren't picked were the ones who had front teeth missing as they couldn't play the instruments.
46. I was in the band for nearly four years. We practiced four nights a week for two and a half hours. **BAC** was never physical with me or any of the other boys. He had a commanding voice but I never heard any of the boys say he had been physical with them. If one of the boys couldn't get the note right **BAC** would lightly tap them on the head with his baton. This was to get the speed of the music. This would only happen very rarely. This never happened to me. It just depended on the boys. Some were better at picking up the music than others. There was no malice whatsoever. We all loved **BAC**
47. We would go and play with the band at the village halls and similar places. I can remember the names of all the boys I played in the band with. I have a photograph from 1963. Most if not all the boys were in my dorm at this time. **BAC** is standing at the back. The rest of the boys were **[REDACTED]**

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] **AFO** **[REDACTED]** **EAJ** **[REDACTED]**
[REDACTED]

Chores

48. Doing the chores at Smyllum was a dawdle. We had so much boy power. They were done very quickly and easily. As you got older you were assigned jobs to do. At first this was mainly to keep the rooms tidy. From the age of ten I would clean the basins out once a week. I also polished the entrance to the coat room and church once a week. Most of the jobs were done on a Saturday. I never considered doing small jobs as a burden.

Bedtime

49. Before you went to bed you would wash and brush your teeth. The staff would make sure you did this properly.
50. When I first went into Smyllum I would go to bed about eight, with lights out at eight thirty. You could read in bed if you wanted to. In the older boys dormitories bedtime was later. It was bed at eight thirty then lights out at nine. In St Vincent's it was bed at nine thirty then lights out at ten. When I was in the band the practice didn't finish until nine thirty so this could affect when you went to bed.
51. When I went to St Vincent's dormitory we were allowed to listen to the radio at bedtime.
52. At lights out the sister or assistant would come around and check on us. There was a dimmer light that was left on near to the toilets.

Hygiene

53. Bath nights were a Monday, Wednesday and Saturday morning. It was definitely three times a week. There was a big wash area. It had ten showers and three baths. It was the showers we used unless you had something wrong with you. When we went into the shower we had our trunks on.

54. After you had washed you would line up. The sister or assistant would check to make sure you were clean. On the odd occasion someone might get sent back to the shower to wash again.
55. The sister would tell you when to have a shower. I only had a bath once at Smyllum. This was when I had spots all over my body. There was always plenty of hot water. There were big boilers all around Smyllum. The heating was also always on.

Religion

56. The only day I went to church was a Sunday for mass. This was unless it was a holiday of obligation, when there was a special service.
57. I made my first communion at Smyllum. The communion took place in the church in 1958. The same year I went to St Mary's in Lanark for my confirmation.
58. The day of my communion was different. You got lots of really good food. I had to wear my Sunday clothes. It was a great day.

Holidays/trips

59. Once a year, in the summertime, we would go a day trip to either Troon, Port Seton, Portobello or Girvan. There was a big row of buses that took us to these places. These trips would be for the children aged over seven. It didn't matter if you had been bad you were allowed to go on the trip. The younger ones, under seven, wouldn't go on these trips.
60. The trips would be supervised by the sisters and staff. You would be allowed to go to the carnivals at the places you went to.
61. We would go on holiday every year for two weeks. This was to Aberfoyle, Meigle or West Linton. We stayed in wooden huts. Again it would be a lot of buses that would take us to wherever we were going.

62. We all had our own rucksack. We would be given a list of things to pack in the rucksack for the holiday.
63. There was plenty to do. You would play football or go for long walks. There was also designated swimming areas in the local rivers. If the weather was bad we would play board games or cards.
64. It was the same sisters and staff who went with you, unless one of them had left. The sister in charge of your dormitory would still look after you. [REDACTED] BAC [REDACTED] also went with us.
65. [REDACTED] BAC [REDACTED] would help out with the games. If there was a field [REDACTED] BAC [REDACTED] would take a golf club and balls. He would let the boys tee off and whoever brought the ball back would have the next shot. [REDACTED] BAC [REDACTED] would supervise it. You had to be aged twelve to fifteen to have a go. [REDACTED] BAC [REDACTED] would say to the boys to always look around them and be careful.
66. I remember, in 1961, when we were at Aberfoyle one of the boys, Francis McColl, was hit on the head with a golf club. Francis was known as "Cokey lugs" because he was a bit hard of hearing. He was also a bit slow. I was in the huts when the boys ran in and said Francis had been hit by the golf club. I was told it was a boy called [REDACTED] from Dundee that had hit him. Apparently he had said to Francis to watch as he was going to hit the ball. Francis didn't hear him and was hit by the club. One of my friends [REDACTED] AFO [REDACTED] saw the whole thing.
67. This happened the day we were due to go home. Francis was sitting in front of me on the bus back to Smyllum. He had a big bandage around his head and was eating an ice cream. Francis was two years older than me and in a different dormitory. About a week later we were told that Francis had died. There was a special mass where we held prayers for him.

Birthdays and Christmas

68. Your birthday was always acknowledged by the other boys. It wasn't celebrated by the staff. There were too many children there to do that. You had what was called "Aunties". These were people who were asked by the sisters to send you letters. You would be encouraged to reply. I suppose it was like having a pen pal.
69. On your birthday they would send you a card and maybe a present. I had three aunties. Two stayed in the London area. They weren't my real aunties. One was called [REDACTED] but I can't remember the name of the other one. The third auntie was my real one. This was my auntie from Clydebank.
70. [REDACTED] visited Smyllum once to see me but I was away at the camp. She left me a big bar of chocolate and a birthday card.
71. The older boys were taken out at Christmas by bus to either Wishaw or Glasgow. You would go shopping in Wishaw or go and see the sights in Glasgow.
72. At Christmas [REDACTED] BAC would dress up as Santa. One of the sisters would bring him in and we all knew it was [REDACTED] BAC It didn't matter as it was great and he would hand out your presents.
73. Because I had aunties I would maybe have three or four presents. Sister [REDACTED] AGI would ask me to give a present to one of the other boys who didn't have any. I didn't mind this. The present would go to someone the same age as me but I might not know who they were. The rest of the presents I was able to keep. I kept these in my locker. You never had to put these in with other toys for everyone to share. They were your own toys. You played with them then put them back in your locker.
74. There were no presents from the home. It was only what had been sent in for you.
75. On Christmas day I would get up about six as I was in the choir. I would sing in the mass. Sister [REDACTED] EAA would play the organ. This was something that I really enjoyed.

76. The Christmas dinner would be chicken, roast potatoes and all the trimmings.

Easter

77. Easter was also celebrated with a special meal. You weren't given any chocolate eggs by the home. My aunties used to send me chocolate eggs. I would give some of the other boys a bit chocolate if they had none.

Siblings

78. My brother [REDACTED] left about a year or two after we arrived. I think he was about thirteen. I think I heard from one of the sisters that he had left. Because I was a lot younger it didn't come into my head to think about [REDACTED]

Visits/Inspections

79. I had a visit once a year, if that. My older sister, [REDACTED] turned up in 1958, she wasn't well then. The same year my father visited, he was drunk. In 1960 I got a visit from my grandparents. I was that excited I done the toilet in my pants. None of the staff knew. I just washed my pants myself. No one else visited.
80. If you had a visit someone would come and tell the sister or staff. Your visitors were called "friends". You would be taken to the parlour room. You were only told on the day of the visit. You didn't get any advance warning.
81. The visiting day was normally a Sunday, in the afternoon. The visits weren't supervised. You were left alone. The visit would normally last about an hour or two. It would just be when your visitor decided to leave that the visit would finish.
82. The only visit I remember from the social work or similar was nearer the time when I left. I was asked if I wanted to go to foster care in Aberdeen. I said no.

83. I can't remember any inspections that took place at Smyllum.

Medical care

84. Sister **FAM** was in charge of minor ailments. She would treat you in her surgery. I had a runny ear once and Sister **FAM** gave me cream.

85. In 1958 I had to have my tonsils removed. I went to Lochart Hospital which was about half a mile away from Smyllum. I was only in for a day. When I went back to Smyllum I stayed in bed for about a week. I was in a lot of pain after this for about two weeks.

86. A doctor would come in once a year. We would be lined up and he would check us. The doctor also gave us our jabs when we needed them.

87. There was an isolation place in the grounds. This was set apart from the rest of the buildings. This was for contagious diseases. I can't remember anyone going there. There wasn't a specific sister in charge of this place. I think it was just there if it was needed.

88. I don't remember a dentist being there or coming in to carry out regular checks. We were encouraged to look after our teeth and brush them regularly.

Abuse

Response to allegations

89. Whilst I was at Smyllum I never heard of or saw any abuse by the sisters or staff against any of the boys. When I first heard about the allegations I was very angry as I seen these as lies. The Daughters of Charity and their staff chastised the children fairly when required.

90. When corporal punishment was given it was done sparingly and only when a child misbehaved. I hardly ever saw corporal punishment being meted out to the children.
91. As I have said I never saw [REDACTED] BAC [REDACTED] being physical with any of the boys. You very rarely seen [REDACTED] BAC [REDACTED] through the day. He was always working. In the evenings [REDACTED] BAC [REDACTED] would help out. Apart from the band [REDACTED] BAC [REDACTED] taught about a dozen of the boys how to play the mouth organ.
92. If you did something wrong you would get the strap. This might be for fighting or for not doing as you were told. The sisters carried the strap with them. I think it was up their sleeve. It would be dealt with there and then. It was generally a verbal warning you would get more than a physical punishment.
93. I have heard on the media about a female saying she was there when Francis McColl was hit by the golf club. This is a lie as it was only boys allowed to play with the golf clubs, supervised by [REDACTED] BAC [REDACTED]
94. All the things I have heard reported about Smyllum I would say are lies. There may be a very small grain of truth but not what has been said about people being locked up and belted.
95. I wasn't aware of anything happening when I was there. There were about fifty female staff, if there had been any abuse they would have seen it and stopped it.
96. I know that there was a boy, Sammy Carr, who died in June 1964 after I left. Sister [REDACTED] AGI [REDACTED] told me later that it was a tragedy as the boy had been really ill. Sammy was one of [REDACTED] BAC [REDACTED] favourites because of his illness.
97. My friend [REDACTED] AFO [REDACTED] says he remembers Sammy. He said that Sammy got to play with the big boys when he wasn't well so that they could look after him. [REDACTED] AFO [REDACTED] told me that they all went to his funeral. [REDACTED] AFO [REDACTED] also said that what they were saying in the papers about Sammy was lies. He hadn't been kicked in the head or brutalised.

Response to specific testimonies

98. I have seen the testimonies of two former boys who went to Smyllum. One of them used the name "Chief". I know this person as [REDACTED] EAJ [REDACTED] EAJ was in the band with me and I knew him very well. What he said about [REDACTED] BAC was correct. The rest of what he said was mostly untrue. [REDACTED] EAJ said that he was constantly beaten by the sisters and the staff. This didn't happen. He never ever mentioned anything to me about being hit. I have provided a detailed document to the Inquiry staff in response to what [REDACTED] EAJ said in his testimony.
99. The other person I know from their testimony is [REDACTED] ABL [REDACTED]. He was referred to as "Michael" in his testimony. Again I knew [REDACTED] ABL from the band. He joined the band in 1961. He was certainly not forced to join the band, no one was. I would say that what [REDACTED] ABL has provided about his time in Smyllum is absolute nonsense. He seems to constantly contradict himself in his evidence. In relation to what [REDACTED] ABL has said I have also provided a detailed document to Inquiry staff in response to his testimony.

Leaving Smyllum

100. Before I left Smyllum I went home for two weeks at Christmas. I think this was to prepare me for leaving although I wasn't told this at the time. Apart from my sister [REDACTED] I didn't recognise any of my other brothers and sisters. It was so long since the last time I had seen them. I found it very traumatic going home after having been in a "wee" home in the country.
101. I think it was either the day of my birthday or the day before when I was told I was leaving Smyllum. This was [REDACTED] 1964. One of the boys came to the dining room and told me that Sister [REDACTED] EAD wanted to see me at the TV room. Another boy, [REDACTED] was there as well. Sister [REDACTED] EAD gave me a pile of clothes and told me to change into these as I was leaving that day. This came as a bit of a shock as I hadn't expected it. I was given all my possessions from my locker. Within an hour I

was back at my grandfather's house. I think I was taken by limousine. [REDACTED] was in the car as well.

102. It was very difficult going back to my grandparents as I didn't really recognise them. I think they had taken me in as the home was trying to get me put out to foster parents.
103. I was very sheltered in Smyllum. It took me about a year to adjust to being away from there.

Life after Smyllum

104. The family home was still in the Parkhead area of Glasgow. [REDACTED] was looking after the family. She was about 26 by that time. I never saw [REDACTED] when I went home. He was back in care. I think you would maybe call it a mental institution. I did speak to [REDACTED] at some point about Smyllum after I had left. He never said anything bad about it. [REDACTED] liked BAC and played for the football team. He was a great player.
105. After Smyllum I went to St Gregory's secondary school, Carntyne. I only managed three O levels and one higher. I was disappointed as I knew I could have done better.
106. When I left school I worked with British Rail for about a seven years. My brother then opened up a fruit shop. I went and worked there and learnt a lot. I ran my own fruit shops after this for about 26 years.
107. When I had a fruit shop in [REDACTED] I met my wife, [REDACTED]. She had a daughter [REDACTED]. I started going out with [REDACTED] but I got a bit frightened. I wasn't used to this. After a few weeks we started going back out and we have now been married for 25 years.

Impact

108. I would say that Smyllum has impacted in a very positive way on my life. If I had the choice between a good family life and Smyllum I would have picked the family life. In saying that Smyllum was the next best thing.
109. Smyllum was the happiest time of my life. I don't know what would have happened to me if I hadn't went there.
110. I have never felt the need to seek counselling for the time I was in care or the impact it had on me being away from my family.
111. [REDACTED] BAC was the single biggest influence on my life. He did a lot for me, the other boys and the home.

Records

112. I have never tried to get my records from Smyllum. I have never really thought about it.

Other information

113. I went back to Smyllum in 1967 to visit. I felt that I had let them down a bit with my education. I wanted to go back with good news and tell them I had done well. The first thing I did was to go and see [REDACTED] BAC. He recognised me right away.
114. I also met Sister [REDACTED] EAA [REDACTED] EAC and Miss [REDACTED] AEV. I saw some of the other sisters as well but can't remember who they were.

115. I noticed that the boys and girls were now mixing. They looked softer than when I was there. We had been quite competitive between the dormitories. I would say though that the boys and girls looked happy.
116. The boys section at the home had been knocked down and this upset me.
117. I continued to visit Smyllum and [BAC] in particular two or three times a year up until 1983 when [BAC] died.
118. I feel sad that the allegations have come out against Smyllum. I think it is all about money. These people have seen an opportunity to get money. I would call them "losers". They are not interested in the people they are hurting.
119. I think the Inquiry is crying out for people like me to come forward and give testimony to the truth. I wish more people would do the same.
120. About 25 years ago I invited Sister [EAD] and [AGI] to my house. The sisters said they couldn't give independent love to the children as this would lead to the boys and girls getting picked on. They wanted to touch you and hold you but they couldn't as it would cause problems.
121. Sister [EAD] asked me, "How did we do?". I said you done well for about 90%. The thing that could have been done better was preparing you for leaving. I felt when I left Smyllum I wasn't prepared for life outside the home. I found it very difficult to adjust. I would say that this was the only failing of Smyllum.
122. After making contact with the Inquiry I typed a number of documents to assist me with providing my evidence. Inquiry staff have fully explained to me the statement process and the reasons for the structure of my statement. I would however hope that these documents can be included with my statement as I feel these provide a comprehensive account of my time in Smyllum. These documents also provide detailed information in response to testimony provided at hearings by other people who were at Smyllum.

123. Smyllum was a wonderful home to me.

124. I have no objection to my witness statement being published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry. I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed...  AFP

Dated... *5th JANUARY 2018*