

1 Tuesday, 29 May 2018

2 (10.00 am)

3 LADY SMITH: Good morning. We return to more evidence about
4 an institution run by the Sisters of Nazareth and
5 I think we have moved to another institution today, but
6 Mr MacAulay will explain about that. An oral witness to
7 start us; is that right?

8 MR MacAULAY: Yes. The first witness is an applicant. He
9 wants to remain anonymous and to use the name Stephen in
10 giving evidence.

11 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

12 "STEPHEN" (sworn)

13 LADY SMITH: Please sit down and make yourself comfortable.
14 That looks like you might be quite an expert at using
15 a microphone, Stephen. I think you're in the right
16 position for it. It's very important that the
17 microphone does pick up everything you say, not just so
18 that everybody at the back can hear you, but so the
19 stenographers can pick up your evidence through the
20 system.

21 Questions from Mr MacAULAY

22 MR MacAULAY: Good morning, Stephen.

23 A. Good morning.

24 Q. The first thing I want to take from you is the year of
25 your birth, not your date of birth: am I right in

1 thinking you were born in 1959?

2 A. That's correct.

3 Q. In the red folder in front of you, you'll find your
4 statement. That's the statement you've already given to
5 the inquiry. The reference for the stenographers is
6 WIT.001.001.4210. Could I ask you to go to the last
7 page? That's page 4228.

8 Can you confirm to me that you have signed the
9 statement?

10 A. Yes, I can.

11 Q. Do you say in the last paragraph of the statement:

12 "I have no objection to my witness statement being
13 published as part of the evidence to the inquiry"?

14 Is that right?

15 A. That's correct.

16 Q. Do you also go on to say:

17 "I believe the facts stated in this witness
18 statement are true"?

19 Is that right?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. I think I'm right in saying, Stephen, that in the course
22 of your childhood you were in a number of different care
23 institutions; is that right?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. But one of the places that you went to was

1 Nazareth House in Kilmarnock?

2 A. That's correct.

3 Q. Before that, I think you went to a place called Ardeer
4 Children's Home; is that right?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Was that the first place you went to that you can
7 remember?

8 A. That's the first memory I have, yes.

9 Q. From there did you go on to Nazareth House Kilmarnock?

10 A. I believe it would have been, yes.

11 Q. Was that because an unhappy family environment developed
12 and you had to be taken into care?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. I understand from what you've said in your statement
15 that because you were in different places, you may not
16 be particularly accurate in relation to dates; is that
17 correct?

18 A. Dates are not my forte.

19 Q. Can I say this to you, if I ask you a question
20 particularly about dates and you can't remember, just
21 say you can't remember.

22 A. Okay.

23 Q. Likewise, of course, if something comes to mind when I'm
24 asking questions and you think it's relevant to us, then
25 feel free to tell us about it; do you understand that?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. So far as Nazareth House Kilmarnock was concerned, did
3 you go there with other members of your family?
- 4 A. My other two siblings.
- 5 Q. Were they younger than you?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Without giving their names, one of them was about
8 two years younger and the other four years younger;
9 is that about right?
- 10 A. No, one was two years younger and one was a year
11 younger.
- 12 Q. So far as Nazareth House was concerned, and so far as
13 the records show, you were admitted to Nazareth House
14 Kilmarnock on [REDACTED] 1968, when you'd be aged
15 about 8; would that be approximately right?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And you left, according to the records, on
18 [REDACTED] 1970 when you'd be about 11 years of age.
- 19 A. That's probably correct, yes.
- 20 Q. So you were there for over two years in all?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. When you came to leave, and we'll look at why that
23 happened in a moment, did your brothers remain in
24 Nazareth House?
- 25 A. No. As far as I was told, [REDACTED] moved to Milngavie --

1 Mugdock or Milngavie.

2 Q. But what I was getting at was you were separated from
3 them?

4 A. Yes, we were separated.

5 Q. And I'll look at that in a moment.

6 What you tell us in your statement is that although
7 you know the home was run by the Sisters of Nazareth,
8 you can't remember any of the names of the sisters that
9 you were involved with.

10 A. I do not, no, unfortunately.

11 Q. Can you remember what the general set-up was when you
12 got there? By that I mean was there a particular sister
13 who was in charge of you?

14 A. I just remember one sister: she was the Mother Superior
15 and she was very strict and very stern. All I can
16 remember is just her white knuckles -- her hands were
17 white -- and getting slapped a few times with them.

18 Q. Again I'll look at that. So far as you and your
19 brothers were concerned, were you kept together when you
20 were there?

21 A. Yes, yes.

22 Q. If we look at the sleeping arrangements, what do you
23 remember?

24 A. A small wee dormitory thing, areas.

25 Q. Were you in the same area as your brothers or not?

1 A. I don't think so; I think there was another with older
2 children.

3 Q. Do you remember if you were in a group of children?

4 A. Yes, it was a group of children, yes.

5 Q. And was it mixed, boys and girls?

6 A. No, no, it was just boys.

7 Q. Can you remember the number of children?

8 A. It was probably about five or six in the same wee sort
9 of dormitory areas.

10 Q. Do you have any sense now of how many children there
11 were in Nazareth House Kilmarnock at that time?

12 A. Probably there must have been 30 or 40 children at
13 least.

14 Q. Do you have a recollection of seeing girls there?

15 A. Yes, I seen girls there as well, yes.

16 Q. We do have some figures that have been provided to us by
17 the Sisters of Nazareth. I'll just show these to you;
18 that is at NAZ.001.001.0265.

19 (Pause)

20 It's a bit slow, but it'll turn up.

21 A. It's okay.

22 (Pause)

23 Q. The way this is set up is you can see at the top there's
24 a reference to the different Nazareth Houses: Aberdeen,
25 Kilmarnock, Glasgow and Edinburgh. If we focus on

1 Kilmarnock and move towards the bottom, that sets out
2 the period of the 1960s and into the 1970s when you were
3 there. Can you see in that column for Kilmarnock,
4 according to this, in 1968 there were 18 boys and
5 29 girls; do you see that?

6 A. Yes, I do.

7 Q. Again in 1969, 15 boys and 30 girls. So you were
8 talking about 40?

9 A. Yes, roughly.

10 Q. You seem to have been about right.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. More girls than boys, according to these figures.

13 A. I can't remember; I just remember it was mixed.

14 Q. Okay. Were girls and boys together in a group or were
15 you kept separate?

16 A. We were in groups when we went into recreation areas.

17 Q. So you mixed with girls?

18 A. We did mix, yes.

19 Q. What about at mealtimes, would you mix?

20 A. Yes, we did.

21 Q. You were asked when you gave the statement about food.
22 You tell us that, so far as you were concerned,
23 breakfast was either cereal or porridge --

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. -- and the evening meal was okay. So the food was fine

1 from your perspective?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And you go on to say:

4 "We were never force-fed or anything like that."

5 A. Not to my recollection, no.

6 Q. But did anything happen if you didn't eat all your food?

7 A. Probably the younger ones were getting messed about,
8 yeah.

9 Q. What do you mean by that?

10 A. Well, the nuns had a habit of they'd just grab you
11 anywhere and just pull you and push you. It's not
12 a case of they'd call you over or anything; they'd just
13 grab you.

14 Q. Did you see anything happen at mealtimes?

15 A. Not to my memory. My memory's only stuck on what -- the
16 situation that happened with me.

17 Q. Okay. Generally then, did you think the quality of the
18 food was acceptable?

19 A. It was acceptable.

20 Q. The other thing I perhaps should ask you at this point
21 in time. You have mentioned that your brothers were
22 in the same group as yourself; did you play with your
23 brothers?

24 A. Yes, we did.

25 Q. I think you tell us that your recollection is that there

1 were showers at Kilmarnock.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Did you have any difficulty in having showers?

4 A. Not to my recollection, no.

5 Q. So far as leisure or recreation is concerned, you can

6 picture a recreation room where you could go and play.

7 A. Yes, I do.

8 Q. And you were also shown films there?

9 A. That's correct.

10 Q. How often did that happen?

11 A. I think about once a month.

12 Q. One thing you tell us is that is the Variety Club and

13 the Round Table would visit to entertain the children;

14 how often did that happen?

15 A. That was about once a month.

16 Q. You also tell us that birthdays were celebrated.

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. How was that done?

19 A. We were just given a cake and then they'd sing "Happy

20 Birthday" and that was it.

21 Q. Did you receive presents on your birthday that you can

22 remember?

23 A. I can't remember, no.

24 Q. What about Christmas? Was Christmas celebrated?

25 A. Christmas was meagre, to say the word, you know. It was

1 celebrated but it wasn't celebrated --

2 Q. Did you have a Christmas meal?

3 A. They had a Christmas meal, yes. They'd bring the Round

4 Table round again and they'd entertain us for about

5 two hours and then they would leave.

6 Q. Did you receive presents at Christmas?

7 A. I think we did.

8 Q. Can you remember what sort of presents?

9 A. I think wee things like Action Men, Barbie dolls or

10 something.

11 Q. Religion was important though, was it, in

12 Nazareth House?

13 A. Seriously.

14 Q. Can you explain that?

15 A. If you done anything wrong, you were immediately told to

16 recite some of the verses or whatever in penitence,

17 penance. That was after that; you got a slap or a kick

18 or a hit or a hit with the cane.

19 Q. And what sort of things might you do wrong to lead to

20 that sort of treatment?

21 A. I just think chat back to the nuns, if you answered back

22 or anything. It was just total discipline that was

23 instilled. So if you chatted back to them, then you

24 were getting it.

25 Q. Can I ask you about some things that you do say in your

1 statement about how you were treated. You do focus on
2 the Mother Superior in relation to one particular
3 episode, because I think you tell us that when you
4 arrived there, you were hen-toed; is that right?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What did that lead to, as far as you were concerned?

7 A. The nuns thought -- to my recollection is that when they
8 seen that my toes were going in the way, they
9 automatically made me switch my shoes and made me walk
10 up and down the large hallway on my tiptoes. If my
11 heels touched the ground, I'd get whacked with a cane.
12 So that happened for, I don't know, probably a few
13 months. I don't know if they rectified my toes, but
14 I still think I'm hen-toed.

15 Q. No, no, it's okay --

16 LADY SMITH: That actually helps, if you're that close to
17 the microphone, as we can hear you very well.

18 A. Is that better?

19 LADY SMITH: Just to be clear, I take it when you say
20 hen-toed, you mean your toes were pointing in towards
21 each other?

22 A. Yes, towards each other, yes.

23 LADY SMITH: Are you telling me that the nuns made you wear
24 your right shoe on your left foot and your left shoe on
25 your right foot.

1 A. That's correct, yes. They made me walk up and down the
2 hall with my hands on my hips, on my tiptoes, up and
3 down. The minute my feet touched the ground, I'd get
4 whacked.

5 MR MacAULAY: Who would whack you?

6 A. The Mother Superior.

7 Q. Where would you be whacked?

8 A. Because my heels touched the ground.

9 Q. Where would she hit?

10 A. Just anywhere on my back, the bottom, the back of my
11 legs, the back of my thighs.

12 Q. You say this was a cane?

13 A. Yes, a long cane.

14 Q. I take it this did hurt you?

15 A. Obviously it hurt me, yes.

16 Q. Would you be upset though?

17 A. I wouldn't show it.

18 Q. You wouldn't show it?

19 A. No, I never showed my fear. Never.

20 Q. Were you ever crying because of anything that happened
21 to you?

22 A. Probably crying of pain, but that was all. But very
23 seldom I'd cry. I don't cry.

24 Q. How long do you say this process of trying to cure your
25 hen-toedness lasted?

1 A. I think as long as I was there. To me -- it was a long,
2 long time ago, but I always have just got this vivid
3 memory of walking up and down this hall and being
4 whacked.

5 Q. Who else would be there apart from --

6 A. There would be a wee fat nun there as well -- sorry,
7 I shouldn't say fat, but obese.

8 Q. But she would not be involved in the whacking?

9 A. No, she'd just be standing watching and she'd be
10 encouraging me to keep my feet up.

11 Q. Do I take it the picture you are presenting is that
12 there'd be the two nuns, the Mother Superior --

13 A. Occasionally, but most of the time the Mother Superior
14 would just take me out for 20 minutes or something and
15 make me do this.

16 Q. Would other children be there?

17 A. Yes, they'd see it. They'd be passing up and down the
18 hall or going in and out of different rooms.

19 Q. One thing you touch upon also in your statement is
20 bed-wetting. I think you tell us that you did not wet
21 the bed.

22 A. No.

23 Q. But were there children who did?

24 A. Yes, there were.

25 Q. And can you say what happened?

- 1 A. They were spanked and slapped. They were kicked, they
2 were pushed, they were pulled.
- 3 Q. What age of children are we talking about?
- 4 A. Very young: I'm talking about 3, 4, 5, 6, whatever.
- 5 Q. What about your own brothers, did either of them --
- 6 A. To my knowledge, they were okay, they didn't have any
7 bed-wetting.
- 8 Q. So far as the children that were targeted in the way
9 you've described, would they be upset?
- 10 A. Of course they would, yes.
- 11 Q. How would they --
- 12 A. They'd be crying, they'd be squealing.
- 13 Q. How would they be hit?
- 14 A. Just obviously they'd pull them, my memory is, and then
15 they'd smack them on the bottom, and if that didn't work
16 they'd put them in the shower and make them shower down,
17 then they'd smack them with a cane. That's what
18 I remember.
- 19 Q. Did you see anything happening to the sheets?
- 20 A. Not to my recollection, no.
- 21 Q. You tell us in your statement that it was a strict
22 discipline.
- 23 A. Yes, very strict.
- 24 Q. Can you elaborate upon how that worked on a day-to-day
25 basis?

1 A. Well, if you were out of line in any way whatsoever, you
2 were reprimanded for it, you know. Just silly things
3 like if you didn't keep walking in that line, if you
4 came out of the line, they'd grab you and they'd hit you
5 and then put you back in the line.

6 Q. Who's the "they" you're talking about?

7 A. Just four or five different nuns. They used to walk us
8 from the Nazareth House to a school in Kilmarnock -- we
9 used to go to a local school there -- and it was like
10 a big train going down, all the kids. Obviously you'd
11 see them getting hit. They'd even hit them out in the
12 street.

13 Q. Did that happen to you?

14 A. A couple of times.

15 Q. Did you see it happen to other children?

16 A. Yes, I've seen it happen.

17 Q. Were there any particular parts of the body that would
18 be hit?

19 A. Just basically the back of the legs, the thigh and the
20 back.

21 Q. And what was used for that?

22 A. A cane again.

23 Q. You've told us about the Mother Superior having
24 a cane --

25 A. There's a few of the nuns who had canes, yes.

1 Q. What's your recollection as to how many nuns were
2 involved with the children?

3 A. It was different episodes at different times, you know.
4 I wasn't keeping my eye on everything that happened to
5 them; I was more concerned about my two brothers and
6 myself. As long as they were okay and I was okay, it's
7 kind of selfish, but that was fine with me.

8 Q. Did you see yourself as a sort of protector for your
9 brothers?

10 A. Most certainly, yes.

11 Q. You do tell us about an incident where one of your
12 younger brothers smashed a bottle over a nun's face.

13 A. It didn't actually smash it over the face: he threw it
14 in the air but it hit her on the nose.

15 Q. Did the bottle break?

16 A. Yes, it broke and she drew blood.

17 Q. Did something happen?

18 A. [REDACTED] -- sorry, I shouldn't have mentioned his name --
19 my middle brother, he got taken in, and I believe he got
20 a good beating -- not in front of us, but he came back
21 out and he was in tears and he looked red.

22 Q. Was there an incident where you decided to intervene and
23 start to try and protect your brother or brothers?

24 A. This happened when -- you could call him the
25 [REDACTED] LXC ... Are you talking about the nuns? Obviously

1 I ran over and I tried to protect my brothers and they
2 took the -- I believe they took [REDACTED] and then they
3 accused him of throwing the bottle, but it wasn't, it
4 was up in the air.

5 Q. Was he playing with the bottle?

6 A. Playing with the bottle, yes.

7 Q. You joined in, you got involved, did you?

8 A. Yes, I got involved as soon as the nuns went for any of
9 them, I went in and tried to stop them.

10 Q. How many nuns were involved?

11 A. Four or five. We were in a play area and we were being
12 monitored all the time.

13 Q. What was happening when these nuns went to your brother?

14 A. Just everybody stopped because it was that obvious
15 something had happened.

16 Q. What age were you at this time? You were 8 or
17 thereabouts when you went in and about 11 when you left.

18 A. When that happened, probably just before 11 years of
19 age.

20 Q. So your brother would be younger than that?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. At that time when you were outside, was anything done to
23 him that you could see or not?

24 A. No, just when he got back out, his face was red and his
25 back was red as well.

1 Q. You were going to go on and talk about the [REDACTED] LXC [REDACTED].

2 Did you have some difficulty with the [REDACTED] LXC [REDACTED] ?

3 A. Most certainly, yes.

4 Q. Can I just ask you about him, first of all. When you
5 say he was a [REDACTED] LXC [REDACTED], what was his job or jobs?

6 A. Cleaning up the area and just tidying things around.

7 Basically, that. [REDACTED]

8 [REDACTED]

9 [REDACTED]

10 [REDACTED]

11 Q. [REDACTED]

12 A. [REDACTED]

13 Q. But he was doing a job there?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. [REDACTED]

16 A. [REDACTED]

17 Q. Can you give me an idea as to what age you think this
18 man was?

19 A. I think he must have been about in his early 30s at the
20 time.

21 Q. Did something happen then involving him to you?

22 A. On one or two occasions he tried to make me do things
23 with his penis.

24 Q. When you say he tried to make you, what --

25 A. Tried to put it in my hand and tried to put my head

- 1 down.
- 2 Q. What age were you at that time?
- 3 A. Probably just before 11.
- 4 Q. Do you know if he tried to do that with any other
- 5 children?
- 6 A. He certainly did and that's when I intervened.
- 7 Q. When you say he certainly did, how do you know that?
- 8 A. Because I seen it happening on a few occasions and
- 9 I reported it to the nuns.
- 10 Q. That's indeed what you tell us in your statement, that
- 11 you did complain about the LXC to a sister.
- 12 A. Yes, I was taken aside, I was given -- in no uncertain
- 13 terms told not to repeat what I was saying, that they
- 14 would deal with it, they would get the priest in to
- 15 discuss it and they would deal with it.
- 16 Q. Before we come to that, first of all, let's just
- 17 identify the nuns that you spoke to. Did you speak to
- 18 the Mother Superior about it?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. What did you tell her?
- 21 A. I told her the man was pulling his thing out in front of
- 22 the kids and trying to get them to touch it. Some of
- 23 the kids were very, very young. I seen that happen to
- 24 some of them, that's why I got upset.
- 25 Q. You saw it happen to younger children, but it also

1 happened to you?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And what did the Mother Superior say to you then about
4 this?

5 A. She said -- if I remember correctly, I spoke to her and
6 I said it's not the first time, and then she said to get
7 the priest to come over. The priest came over, he sat
8 down, they had a verbal conversation, and basically it
9 was he would deal with it.

10 Q. Who would deal with it?

11 A. The priest.

12 Q. Were the police involved?

13 A. No. This is the reason I ended up in Newcastle.

14 Q. I'm just about to come to that, Stephen. Was anything
15 said to you about whether you should tell anyone else
16 about this?

17 A. All they said was, "Don't tell anyone else, we'll sort
18 this out", and the priest reassured me that things would
19 be sorted.

20 Q. So far as the priest is concerned, can you remember the
21 priest's name?

22 A. I do not, sorry.

23 Q. Was this a priest, though, that had dealings with
24 Nazareth House?

25 A. Yes, he would always come in and see us as well; we'd go

1 to confessions and whatever.

2 Q. So presumably he was some sort of local priest around at
3 about this time in the late 1960s?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. You were about to move on there, Stephen, to tell me
6 what happened to you after this; what happened to you?

7 A. Shortly after I reported these things happening, I was
8 told I was getting moved, but I wasn't told where I was
9 going moved to.

10 Q. Who told you were being moved?

11 A. It was the priest.

12 Q. I think you thought when you gave your statement that
13 was two or three days afterwards?

14 A. Yes, to my recollection, shortly after the second time
15 I reported it. That was when I was getting moved.

16 Q. When you say the second time, had you reported it more
17 than once?

18 A. Yes, yes.

19 Q. To the Mother Superior?

20 A. Yes, I did. The first time I reported it to the
21 Mother Superior, she said she would deal with it, and
22 then the second time the priest got involved, and that's
23 when I was shipped off.

24 Q. What you tell us is you were moved to Newcastle?

25 A. Yes. I don't know why Newcastle. Tell me why, you

- 1 know.
- 2 Q. So far as you were concerned, you were moved to
3 Newcastle. What about the **LXC**? Do you know what
4 happened to him?
- 5 A. I don't know what happened after that, but I believe my
6 brothers were moved to Milngavie shortly after that
7 also.
- 8 Q. This was at a point in time when you became separated
9 from your brothers; is that right?
- 10 A. Yes, it changed my whole life.
- 11 Q. I'll come to that, but you went to Newcastle and they
12 were moved elsewhere?
- 13 A. To Milngavie, yes, Mugdock Bank.
- 14 Q. What you tell us in your statement is that you were
15 taken to another place that was run by nuns in
16 Newcastle?
- 17 A. That's correct.
- 18 Q. Did you understand that they were the same order, the
19 Sisters of Nazareth?
- 20 A. I believe they were the same order.
- 21 Q. They wore the same --
- 22 A. They wore the same uniform, the same tunics.
- 23 Q. I think what you tell us in your statement is that
24 nothing happened there although the discipline was
25 strict.

1 A. Yes. I was only there for about nine months, I believe.

2 Q. After that, Stephen, you were moved to Cardross, which
3 at the time was a children's home; is that correct?

4 A. Yes, that's correct.

5 Q. Did you come across your brothers again at any of the
6 homes you went to?

7 A. Do you know, I really can't remember. I think, but my
8 brothers -- I don't think my brothers were there at the
9 same time as me in Cardross; they were in at a later
10 stage.

11 Q. I think you've been told that the focus today is on the
12 Sisters of Nazareth --

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. -- and although you tell us in some detail in your
15 statement what happened after Cardross, that you then
16 went to Bellfield Remand Home in Dumbarton, you then
17 went to St Ninian's in Falkland, which was run by the
18 Christian Brothers. I think you thought it was the
19 Jesuits but --

20 A. I thought it was the Jesuits.

21 Q. But in any event by a religious order. You then went to
22 Redheugh Adolescent Unit in Kilburnie and then
23 thereafter you went to St Mary's Kenmure?

24 A. That's correct.

25 Q. So you were in quite a number of institutions over the

1 time?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Can I focus -- and I don't propose to look at the detail
4 of what happened in these places, but you've given us
5 detail of what happened and that material will not be
6 lost sight of because it's covered in your statement and
7 is in evidence.

8 Can I then turn to the position of life after care,
9 if I can just look at that. I think what you tell us,
10 without going into the detail of it with you, is that
11 you did spend quite some time living [REDACTED],
12 I think, as put it in your statement; is that right?

13 A. Yes, I was in with the wrong crowd.

14 Q. But the turning point, I think, came -- and I think we
15 find this in a number of these cases -- when you met
16 your wife and you got married; is that right?

17 A. That's correct.

18 Q. And you were then, I think, in your 30s or thereabouts,
19 mid-30s?

20 A. No, I was in my late 20s.

21 Q. Okay. Can I ask you then what impact you would say
22 being in Nazareth House had on you? I think you've
23 already touched on this because you did feel quite badly
24 the fact that you were separated from your two younger
25 brothers?

- 1 A. Yes, I couldn't protect them.
- 2 Q. Was that your sense, that you weren't there to look
3 after them?
- 4 A. That's correct, yes.
- 5 Q. And how did that impact on your life?
- 6 A. Well, after Nazareth House and I went through the
7 different establishments, by the time I got back to get
8 my brothers, there was just hatred -- they hated me,
9 they blamed me for everything. I was responsible.
10 I was -- you know what I mean? It's my fault, anything
11 happened to them, it was my fault.
- 12 Q. Is that because you left --
- 13 A. We were separated at Nazareth House -- I had no control
14 on it then.
- 15 Q. I think what you're telling us is that that separation
16 really is what changed the family dynamics and has
17 impacted upon your relationships now with your brothers?
- 18 A. We don't talk. I've had my whole teeth knocked out
19 because of it as well from my brother. That's what he
20 said: it's your fault everything's happened to us, and
21 he attacked me. And since then I've not spoken to him.
- 22 Q. Of course, you did at the time report what the LXC
23 was doing at Nazareth House. You did report that?
- 24 A. Twice.
- 25 Q. But as far as the other treatments you've been telling

1 us about today, have you ever spoken to anybody else
2 about that sort of treatment?

3 A. Apart from [REDACTED], no.

4 Q. And [REDACTED] is the Witness Support --

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What about your partner, ex-partner?

7 A. My ex-partner just now, I've discussed it, she was
8 supposed to be here today but the trains have all been
9 delayed and cancelled. I've touched on it with her.

10 Q. And of course you've told us, the inquiry.

11 A. Yes. That's all. Just youse, my ex, and the inquiry.
12 Nobody else.

13 MR MacAULAY: Thank you for doing that, Stephen. These are
14 all the questions I have for you today. I think I've
15 asked all the questions I've been asked to ask as well.

16 LADY SMITH: Could I check whether there are any outstanding
17 applications for questions of this witness?

18 Stephen, that's all the questions we have for you.

19 Thank you very much for engaging with the inquiry --

20 A. You're very welcome.

21 LADY SMITH: -- both in giving your written statement and
22 coming along today --

23 A. No problem.

24 LADY SMITH: Thank you. It has been of enormous assistance
25 and I'm now able to let you go.

1 A. Thank you very much.

2 (The witness withdrew)

3 LADY SMITH: Yes, Mr MacAulay.

4 MR MacAULAY: My Lady, we now have time to have a statement
5 read into the transcript.

6 LADY SMITH: Let's do that then.

7 Witness statement of "JANICE" (read)

8 MS RATTRAY: My Lady, this applicant wishes to remain
9 anonymous and to use the pseudonym "Janice". She's
10 unable to attend to give oral evidence due to ill
11 health. Her statement can be found at WIT.001.001.4849:

12 "My name is Janice. I was born in 1953. My contact
13 details are known to the inquiry."

14 At paragraphs 2 and 3, Janice tells us that she's
15 the oldest of her siblings who were taken into care
16 because her mother was unable to look after them
17 properly. Janice recalls that this was in 1961 when she
18 was aged 8. The Nazareth House register also records
19 Janice as being received into the Kilmarnock house in
20 1961.

21 Turning to paragraph 4 at the foot of the page:

22 "We were then to Castlemilk Children's Home, which
23 was like a holding place. We were there no time at all.
24 A big black car arrived and took us to Nazareth House in
25 Kilmarnock.

1 "Nazareth House was an old building run by the Poor
2 Sisters of Nazareth. It was very creepy like a haunted
3 house. It was in its own grounds, which were very big.
4 At the back of the house was a large playing area.
5 There were also pigs in an area at the back of the
6 house.

7 "When we arrived there, I think it was
8 Sister Kathleen who met us. Sister Kathleen was fine.
9 We walked through a big hallway and then upstairs.
10 There was a big hall and all the children were there.
11 We had to take off our clothes and put on the clothes
12 that the sisters gave us. They also gave us shoes, some
13 were too big or too small. I think we were given
14 a bath. The Mother Superior was in overall charge of
15 the convent.

16 "As a family we were kept in the same group. There
17 were separate dormitories for the boys and girls.

18 "Sister [LHZ] replaced Sister Kathleen a couple of
19 weeks after we arrived. Sister [LHZ] was very cruel.
20 She was tall and skinny [REDACTED]
21 [REDACTED] Sister [LHZ] was at Nazareth House
22 until I left.

23 "I'm not sure how many children were in
24 Nazareth House. There were some quite young children.
25 I think my age group was the oldest. There were only

1 two groups: the one I was in and the one that
2 Sister **LGO** was in charge of.

3 "There were also nuns that stayed in another part of
4 the building. We never saw them other than at Mass.

5 "There were about 14 in each of the dormitories.
6 Inside the dormitory it was partitioned off. You also
7 had a locker each. It was all mixed ages in the
8 dormitory. Sister **LHZ** was in charge of our
9 dormitories, boys and girls. Sister **LHZ** had what was
10 called a cell next to the dormitory. This was where she
11 slept.

12 "We used to get up at six every morning. We would
13 get washed and dressed. The older children would help
14 the younger ones to get ready. We went to morning Mass
15 and then changed into our school uniform before going
16 for breakfast. This was the same as weekends, but
17 instead of going to school we would do our chores.
18 After school we would change out of our uniform, we
19 would do our homework and then we would go for dinner.

20 "After dinner we had half an hour recreation when
21 we were allowed to talk. If you spoke any other time,
22 you would be given the cane. Sometimes we would be
23 given hot cocoa with a piece on jam. This would only be
24 if we had been good.

25 "At night before bed we would take turns to polish

1 all the shoes. Sister **LHZ** would check them. She
2 would always say they weren't done right and batter you
3 over the head. There were about 20 pairs of shoes and
4 you would have to do team again. Sister **LHZ** would had
5 to see her face in the shoes before she would say they
6 were done.

7 "I think bedtime was 8.30 every night. Sometimes at
8 the weekends, if we were lucky, someone might bring in
9 a projector and a screen and we would watch a movie.
10 Now and again the staff would walk us to the pictures.

11 "At the weekend we all had chores to do. The
12 bedsheets were changed and we would make our beds up in
13 the dormitories.

14 "Every Saturday before lunch we had to go to the
15 church. The priest would drum it into us that we were
16 Catholics. He would say that we had to keep our flesh
17 covered up.

18 "At the bottom of the big hall was a Sacred Heart
19 statue. Sister **LHZ** would make us kneel in front of it
20 in the prayer position. She said that if we moved, the
21 statue would follow us. I'm still terrified of statues
22 to this day. This put the fear of God into me.

23 "In the evening we had to say the rosary at the
24 chapel. At Easter it was the Stations of the Cross we
25 went to. There was also a time called 'retreat'.

1 During the retreat Sister LHZ wouldn't let us talk.

2 If you did talk you were given a slap or the cane.

3 "We had a bath once a week on a Friday. At bath
4 time you had to line up and wait. You weren't allowed
5 any hot or clean water. The water was always dirty and
6 cold. Now when I have a bath, I have to make sure that
7 it's really hot.

8 "When you were getting changed you had to wear
9 a sort of cover, like The Flintstones. You had to wear
10 this when you were going for a bath. The boys had to
11 wear their underpants.

12 "Friday was the only day when you were given
13 a change of underwear. The rest of your clothes were
14 also washed on a Friday. We were given the same clothes
15 back later.

16 "Everyone ate together in the dining room. Each
17 group had its own area dependent on what nun was in
18 charge of you. The areas for each nun's group was
19 partitioned off. Someone had to go in and set all the
20 tables.

21 "You had to eat what you were given. I would rather
22 have eaten prison food. The bread was sometimes stale
23 and the milk would be sour. I used to sometimes spit
24 the food out in my hand and hide it until I went to the
25 toilet where I would flush it away.

1 "At mealtimes it didn't matter whether you liked
2 something you were given or not. If you left it,
3 Sister [REDACTED] LHZ would tip your head back and force-feed
4 you. If you never ate your food, you were given it
5 at the next mealtime until you finished it. It didn't
6 matter that it was cold. You always said grace before
7 any meal. I find it difficult to this day if grace
8 isn't said before a meal.

9 "One day in class the boy behind me said that my leg
10 was bleeding. I didn't understand what was happening.
11 The teacher came over and must have realised that I had
12 started my period. She asked one the other girls to
13 take me to the toilet. The school must have phoned
14 Sister [REDACTED] LHZ. When I got back, she said to me that
15 I was dirty and that this was the devil coming away from
16 me. One of the other girls had to show me what to do
17 with the Dr White for my period. Sister [REDACTED] LHZ gave me
18 the cane because I had let one of the other girls help
19 me. She said I was dirty.

20 "When I was about 12, I had to take the kids from
21 Nazareth House to school at St Columba's. I then had to
22 run back or I would miss my bus for school. [REDACTED]
23 [REDACTED] They
24 knew I was from the convent. I went back later to
25 St Columba's and picked the kids up and took them back

1 to Nazareth House. I was absolutely terrified I would
2 lose one of the kids. Sister [LHZ] never helped me with
3 my homework. She used to call me stupid.

4 "Sister [LHZ] got me up about 10 every night. She
5 would make me get the young children up for the toilet.
6 If I didn't watch them and make sure that they had done
7 the toilet, Sister [LHZ] would slap me. If I did watch
8 the kids doing the toilet, she would call me every name
9 under the sun and a brazen hussy.

10 "Sister [LHZ] would call anyone who wet the bed 'wet
11 bedders'. Sister [LHZ] would get really angry if anyone
12 wet their bed. I know that the wets sheets were put
13 into the laundry. I can't remember if we had to strip
14 the beds and make them up.

15 "There was a box with toys in it to play with. We
16 didn't have a TV or radio to watch or listen to. Any
17 gifts you were given were taken from you and put in the
18 box.

19 "I used to do Highland dancing. I was awarded
20 certificates and won medals. One time at a competition
21 I kicked the sword when I was dancing by mistake.
22 Sister [LHZ] gave me the cane later because I had kicked
23 the sword. When I left Nazareth House I asked for my
24 medals. Sister [LHZ] told me they weren't mine.

25 "We were taken out once a year by the taxis up to

1 Butlin's. I also remember a trip to Saltcoats. We
2 stayed there and slept in camp beds. When we were on
3 trips, we were always dressed nicely.

4 "At Christmas there would sometimes be concerts put
5 on for people coming in. You were given a Christmas
6 dinner. If you were given any gifts at Christmas these
7 were taken off you. They were put into a box so that
8 everybody could play with them. I was given a doll one
9 year. I really liked it but this was taken off me. You
10 were also given an orange with your present. That was
11 it.

12 "I remember one Christmas I got a slide viewer that
13 you could see things on. I kept this in my locker. One
14 night I was in bed under the covers watching it. One of
15 the other girls asked me what I was doing. When I told
16 here, she asked if she could come into my bed and watch
17 it. Out of the blue Sister **LHZ** came in and caught us.
18 I got the cane because of this. Again I was called
19 a brazen wee hussy and dirty for having someone in my
20 bed. It was so silly.

21 "At Easter there was a big Easter egg. You had to
22 break a bit off. Whatever size this was, you had to
23 take it. It didn't matter if it was only a small bit.
24 I was never given an Easter egg to myself.

25 "My birthday was never marked in any way at the

1 convent.

2 "I think visits only happened at the weekends. The
3 first time my mother visited I must have been about 13.
4 In the courtyard outside was a bench and there was
5 a woman sitting there with a fur coat on. I had my
6 brothers and sisters by the hand. I was very protective
7 towards them. The woman shouted to me. I asked her who
8 she was. The woman said she was my mum. I told her
9 that she wasn't my mum because my mum and dad were dead.
10 This had been drummed into us. Her face just dropped.
11 That was the only time she visited.

12 "My dad visited once and I remember holding onto his
13 leg and being dragged along the corridor. I was telling
14 him that they hit us and made us eat food we didn't
15 like. I can't understand why he didn't report this.

16 "My auntie used to visit us. She would take my
17 brother out. I think this was because she had boys of
18 her own and that's what she was used to. When she
19 visited, she would talk to us all. I remember after
20 I left the home my auntie telling me that my father had
21 said to the social work, 'Bring them home when they're
22 old enough'.

23 "I think I had a social worker, Mr Fife. I used to
24 think he was my dad. I remember him speaking to me but
25 I wouldn't tell him anything that had happened to me.

1 You had the fear of God put into you. When Sister LHZ
2 was caning me, she would say, 'If you open your mouth to
3 anyone, they won't believe you'. The only time I knew
4 about the social work was when they came to take me from
5 school and told me I was going home.

6 "I have trust issues to this day. I don't trust
7 many people. That's because of what has been drummed
8 into me when I was in Nazareth House. I'm always
9 frightened that if I tell people anything, they will
10 tell someone else.

11 "I can't remember any official inspections in
12 Nazareth House. I don't remember ever seeing a doctor
13 or a dentist in the convent. If you were sick you were
14 put to bed.

15 "One time I caught nits at school. Sister LHZ
16 shaved my hair off. I was then given the cane because
17 of this.

18 "Some Saturdays, if you'd been good, you would have
19 been given pocket money. When I was given this, I would
20 run away. I would try and find my mum and dad. If
21 I made it to their house, my mum would take me to an
22 uncle's. The police would then come and take me to
23 Nazareth House. I was terrified about going back.

24 "The first time I ran away, Sister LHZ caned the
25 back of my knees and feet. I was locked in a room with

1 bread and water and told this is what would happen if
2 I ran away. I still ran away again.

3 "When one of the nuns died, we were made to line up
4 and give her a kiss. I even had to lift up the young
5 kids and made sure that they gave her a kiss.

6 "I remember a time when I was in the park near the
7 cemetery. I was with another girl. There was a guy
8 there with a long coat on. He dropped something and
9 asked if we could pick it up for him. When we went
10 over, he wrapped us up in his coat. He tried to put his
11 bottom bit in my mouth, but I bit it. The police got
12 involved. After they left, I got the cane from
13 Sister **LHZ**. Sister **LGO** was there as well and also
14 gave me the cane. Sister **LHZ** told me that I was a
15 brazen hussy. She said that this was why my parents
16 didn't was us and that they were now dead. Sister **LHZ**
17 told me that I would end up as a street girl. At that
18 time I didn't know what this meant. She made me feel
19 dirty about what happened. I feel really dirty even
20 talking about this now. I can't ever forgive
21 Sister **LHZ** for this.

22 "Sister **LHZ** would cane you for anything: talking
23 or answering back. If you cuddled someone when you were
24 upset, she would cane you for this. She would say it
25 was dirty to do this. If you were to get the cane,

1 Sister [LHZ] would drag you by the hair into the toilet
2 area. There was a stone floor in there. I would
3 sometimes get hit six or seven times on the hands.
4 I also saw other children getting the cane from her.
5 I think she got satisfaction from doing this. We were
6 all terrified of Sister [LHZ]. If you cried when you
7 were given the cane, you were given it more.

8 "I remember one time when I came out of the dining
9 room, I saw Sister [LHZ] with all the kids.
10 Sister [LHZ] had hold of a little boy who was about 6 or
11 7 years old. She was holding him by the ears and his
12 feet were dangling. Sister [LHZ] pulled me once by the
13 ear but I can't remember what this was for.

14 Every fortnight you went to confession at
15 St Joseph's. My brother and I were there once and we
16 sat fire to a cloth on a candle by mistake. The
17 monsignor came in and saw us. Before we got back to the
18 house, Sister [LHZ] knew what had happened. My brother
19 hid in a cupboard and I got the cane for both of us.

20 "There was an occasion when I was on my knees and
21 Sister [LHZ] was about to give me another smack. The
22 Mother Superior walked in and took a hold of her hand to
23 stop her hitting me. She asked Sister [LHZ] what she
24 was doing. Sometimes I wonder if they knew what was
25 going on but didn't want to do anything.

1 "I went to a victim support group [REDACTED].
2 The woman there, [REDACTED] said I would have to go and
3 report what happened to me to the police. We went to
4 Baird Street Police Station. I gave a statement to
5 a police officer called Harry. I told him but I thought
6 he didn't believe me. Harry said that he believed me
7 100 per cent. After I spoke with the police, I never
8 heard anything else from them.

9 "I also reported what happened to me to the
10 procurator fiscal in Kilmarnock. They also told me they
11 believed me. After I spoke to them, I spoke with Ross
12 Harper Solicitors. It was a woman called Fiona Taylor.
13 She told me that she had heard the same story from other
14 people as well.

15 "Around this time my brother told me that four boys
16 had raped him when he was in the convent. I didn't know
17 about this before. I was angry that he hadn't told me.
18 He said that he had reported this to the police in
19 Easterhouse.

20 "I was 15 when I left Nazareth House."

21 My Lady, she would have been -- this would have been
22 about 1968. The Nazareth House register records the
23 date of 1967 when Janice would have been 14:

24 "A social worker came and told me I was to go home.
25 Believe it or not, I didn't want to go home. I was too

1 used to being locked up and didn't want to leave. I had
2 to change out of the clothes I was wearing into other
3 clothes that was given to me. I gave my sister a cuddle
4 and told her I would come and visit her. Sister LHZ
5 dragged me by the arm and held me up against the door.
6 She told me that under no circumstances was I to come
7 back and see my sister. She said I was a bad influence
8 on her. The door was then shut in my face. I never saw
9 my sister again for years.

10 "When I left the convent, I didn't know I had
11 a younger brother and sister. I saw them in the house
12 and asked my mum who the young kids were. She said that
13 was my brother and sister. I asked my mother and father
14 if they loved them more than me. They didn't answer.
15 I had a real hatred for a long time against my younger
16 brother and sister. I'm okay now, it was just at that
17 time. I'm quite close to them now.

18 "When I left Nazareth House, I went to St Osbourne's
19 School in Cathcart. [REDACTED]

20 [REDACTED] I left school when I was 16.

21 "I used to run away from home because I wasn't used
22 to a family life. I think it was the police that put me
23 into care at Bishopton because of this.

24 "Bishopton was different from the convent at
25 Nazareth House. It was, however, run by the same order.

1 I was in Bishopton for a short time. I can't remember
2 for how long. I was never given the cane at Bishopton.
3 If you did something wrong, you might be locked in
4 a cupboard. This could be for a couple of hours at
5 a time.

6 "The Mother Superior was really nice. I felt that
7 if I wanted to talk to her, I could have. I remember
8 once we were told that there was going to be visitors.
9 There was to be a show for them. I was asked if I could
10 do some Highland dancing as part of the show. When the
11 visitors came, I saw that Sisters **LHZ** and **LGO** were
12 there. I was terrified. Sister **LHZ** leant forward and
13 said to me, 'I told you that you would end up in a place
14 like this'.

15 "I don't have anything bad to say about Bishopton,
16 the nuns and staff were reasonable.

17 "After leaving Bishopton, I started a job as
18 a cleaner."

19 Then moving to the final sentence of paragraph 67:

20 "At this time I was still under the care of the
21 social work. I left the care of the social work when
22 I was about 18."

23 Then moving to three lines from the bottom of
24 paragraph 68:

25 "24 years ago I met my current partner. He has been

1 a rock to me. He always says he won't let anyone hurt
2 me again. I think that is why I have been with him for
3 so long.

4 "After being in care I suffered from panic attacks,
5 depression and nightmares. I like to be on my own and
6 don't like to get involved with things. I need to do
7 things in my own time. Sometimes I just need to be
8 myself. I'm even like that with my husband. I always
9 mistook someone giving me attention as liking me.

10 "I don't like being around a lot of people. I don't
11 have much confidence. I always feel I have to be home
12 for a certain time. I think this is due to always
13 having a fear of being late back at Nazareth House.
14 I get angry with myself if I can't get home when I want
15 to. I feel stupid because this is what Sister **LHZ** had
16 said to me.

17 "To this day I'm terrified of nuns. If I see one,
18 I have to cross the road. When I have seen a nun,
19 I feel sick. I can't be near them.

20 "I had a flashback recently where someone got into
21 my house and was punching me. They said that
22 Sister **LHZ** was saying that I had better not speak
23 about what happened to me.

24 "How I was treated at Nazareth House impacted on me
25 as a parent. If my kids were late in, I would make them

1 stand on one leg in the corner of the room. This is
2 what I was made to do in Nazareth House. I think about
3 what happened to me every day. If I'm not doing
4 anything, my mind goes into overdrive thinking about
5 Nazareth House.

6 "It was very difficult for me to get in touch with
7 the inquiry. I put it off for long enough before
8 deciding to go ahead with it. I have a fear that no one
9 will believe me. I feel a lot of guilt for not speaking
10 up more when I saw what was happening at Nazareth House.

11 "I have never seen any records from my time in care.
12 I asked Cameron Fyfe, the lawyer about this, but he
13 never had any information. I am not sure how, but I
14 found out that Sister **LHZ** died around 2007.

15 "I have been going to a counsellor that was
16 recommended by INCAS. She's really helpful. I did go
17 to another counsellor once before, but I didn't feel
18 they were any good. I'm a member of INCAS. I go to the
19 meetings once a month. This has really helped me.
20 I don't say much; I just listen to what other people
21 say.

22 "I think that if nuns or priests are going to work
23 with children, they should make sure a disclosure check
24 is carried out.

25 "I have no objection to my witness statement being

1 published as part of the evidence to the inquiry.

2 I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are
3 true."

4 The statement is signed by Janice on
5 14 February 2018.

6 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

7 MS RATTRAY: My Lady, this might be an appropriate time to
8 have the morning break.

9 LADY SMITH: We'll have the morning break now before we move
10 to the next witness.

11 (11.01 am)

12 (A short break)

13 (11.30 am)

14 LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay.

15 MR MacAULAY: My Lady, the next witness is Anne Marie Carr.

16 ANNE MARIE CARR (sworn)

17 LADY SMITH: Please sit down and make yourself comfortable.

18 You may remember from when you were here last time that
19 we need you to speak into the microphone that everybody
20 can hear you in the room, particularly so that the
21 stenographers can hear you through the system. That's
22 good. I'll pass over to Mr MacAulay now.

23 Questions from Mr MacAULAY

24 MR MacAULAY: Hello, Anne Marie.

25 A. Hello.

1 Q. Welcome back to the inquiry. The first thing I want to
2 take from you is your date of birth: were you born on
3 [REDACTED] 1954?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. In the red folder you will find your statement. Could
6 I ask you to turn to the last page. I'll give the
7 reference for the stenographers: WIT.001.001.3027.

8 I think you've already confirmed this for you, but
9 just to confirm again that you have signed the
10 statement?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. You have no objection, I think as you told us before, to
13 your witness statement being published as part of the
14 evidence to the inquiry; is that right?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And what you say in the statement is true?

17 A. True, uh-huh.

18 Q. You previously gave evidence on 11 January of this year
19 and in the course of giving that evidence, you described
20 your family background, but also your experience of life
21 in care at Smyllum; is that right?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. You remember doing that. In particular you gave us
24 evidence in connection with your brother's death at
25 Smyllum.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. I think the position is that he died in June 1964.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. As you are aware, Anne Marie, this part of the inquiry
5 is looking at the Sisters of Nazareth.

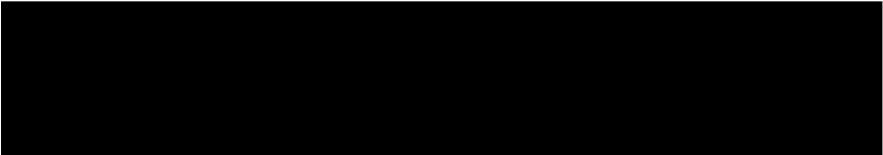
6 A. Yes.

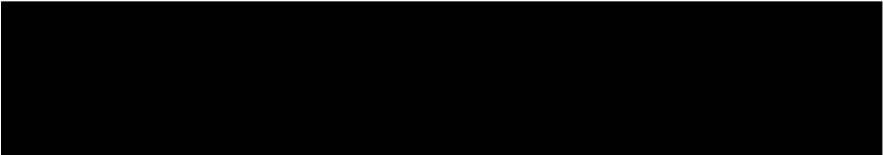
7 Q. We need to look just at that part of your statement
8 that's dealing with your experience in one of their
9 homes; do you understand that?

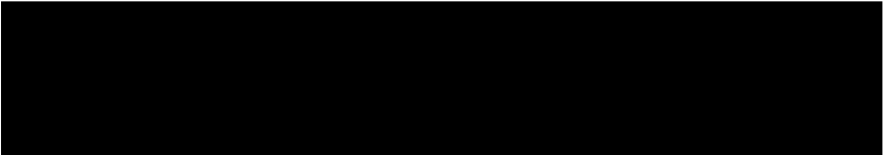
10 A. Yes.

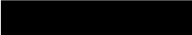
11 Q. I think it is the case that after you had been in
12 Smyllum, you were moved to Nazareth House in Kilmarnock.

13 A. That's correct.

14 Q. 

15 

16 A. 

17 Q. According to the Sisters of Nazareth records, you were
18 admitted to Nazareth House Kilmarnock on
19  1965. So you'd be aged -- just turned 11.
20 I think you yourself thought you were a little bit
21 younger than that.

22 A. Yes, I did.

23 Q. What age do you think you were when you moved?

24 A. Round about 7 or something, I thought I was.

25 Q. I think you were --

1 A. It was after my young brother's death [REDACTED]
2 three months.

3 Q. So he died in June 1964, so it would be after that --

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. -- in any event you moved?

6 According to the Sisters of Nazareth records, you
7 left Nazareth House on [REDACTED] 1967 when you'd be aged
8 about 14; is that correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. I'll put the relevant part of your statement on the
11 screen. That begins at paragraph 109 on page 3044. You
12 needn't look at it at the moment. I'll ask you some
13 general questions but feel free to look at it if it
14 helps you.

15 Your recollection is, I think, according to your
16 statement, that there were only girls at Nazareth House
17 Kilmarnock.

18 A. Yes, I did say that, but I now know there were boys.

19 Q. So far as you were concerned then, were you put into
20 a particular group?

21 A. Yes: Sister [REDACTED] LGO group.

22 Q. So far as that group is concerned, at least to begin
23 with, was it a mixed group or was it just girls?

24 A. Well, the last time I was here, I couldn't remember,
25 I said it was girls, but then when I thingummied it, it

1 came back that there were boys there.

2 Q. So it was a mixed group of boys and girls. If you were
3 about 10 or 11 --

4 A. Sorry, I can't remember boys being in Nazareth House.
5 It was just two -- Sister **LHZ** and Sister **LGO**, and
6 that was girls.

7 Q. That's fine. It's your own recollection that matters to
8 us. If you can't remember something or you disagree
9 with any point I put to you, just say so.

10 A. Right.

11 LADY SMITH: We do know that there were a lot of girls as
12 compared to boys, so don't worry about it. It may be
13 that you're just remembering that you were always with
14 the girls.

15 A. I don't want to be saying something and then I get told
16 that there's no boys here. I do recollect it's only
17 girls that was in Nazareth House.

18 MR MacAULAY: It's your memory that's important to us today,
19 Anne Marie.

20 So far as you were concerned then, your recollection
21 is that there was a group and the sister in charge was
22 Sister **LGO**; is that right?

23 A. That was ours.

24 Q. Was there another group?

25 A. Yes, Sister **LHZ**.

1 Q. 

2

3 A. 

4 Q. When you had your meals, for example, would you have
5 your meals together as a group?

6 A. Yes. Well, our group and then the other ones were in
7 their own group. Do you know what I mean?

8 Q. So the groups were quite separate?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Generally -- can you help me with this, Anne Marie -- to
11 what extent did the groups remain separate throughout
12 your time there?

13 A. Just when, like, say if we were watching television or
14 if we were -- something was going on, we opened the big
15 partitions and we were all together. Other than that we
16 just stayed as the one group and then they stayed as
17 their group.

18 Q. And if we look at mealtimes are concerned, if we just
19 look at that, you have told us that you'd have your meal
20 with your group.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. You do talk about this and you do say in your statement
23 that you didn't get forced to eat food that you didn't
24 want to eat.

25 A. No, not in Kilmarnock, no.

1 Q. Then if you didn't want to eat your food, did anything
2 happen?

3 A. No, we were just told to leave it on the plate. It was
4 mostly vegetables I didn't like.

5 Q. Generally, how did you find the food?

6 A. It was all right. I suppose it was all right.

7 Q. One thing you also tell us is that, as you mentioned,
8 you'd get to watch television and you may be in your own
9 group for watching television; is that right?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Sometimes you'd have parties; is that correct?

12 A. Yes. They would bring in people to -- bring in, you
13 know, for us, and all the groups would join in --
14 because it's like big partitions and it makes the room
15 thingummy. So we were all together for those things.

16 Q. You do mention Christmas and you describe Christmas
17 being brilliant.

18 A. Oh, I loved Christmas.

19 Q. Can you tell me why that was?

20 A. Well, we'd wake up, we'd go to Mass, we would go and get
21 our breakfast, and then our toys would be all lined out
22 for us, and it was just so great to tear the paper off
23 and found that we'd got a lovely doll or something and
24 all that. It was just brilliant then, do you know what
25 I mean?

- 1 Q. Your birthday also was celebrated?
- 2 A. Oh yes, aye.
- 3 Q. What would happen on your birthday?
- 4 A. Well, the cook would make a cake for -- it didn't happen
5 to everybody, I think it was a certain age that you came
6 or something. She would bake a cake and it would come
7 up and the people that was in our group, we would have
8 the party -- not a big party, just a party for the
9 group, and then we would get a bit of cake, and then
10 it would get passed to the other girls in the other one.
- 11 Q. Would you receive presents on your birthday?
- 12 A. Not a lot, we got just -- not a lot that we maybe got
13 for Christmas. Do you know what I mean?
- 14 Q. In your statement, you mention that there were people in
15 Nazareth House Kilmarnock who wet the bed.
- 16 A. Yes, there were quite a few, yes.
- 17 Q. How was that managed then at Kilmarnock?
- 18 A. Well, if you wet the bed -- when we got up, the lights
19 would go on and we would get told to get up. If they
20 had wet the bed, the person who wet their bed was made
21 to take their sheet off. When they were going down to
22 get their breakfast, they were to go into the laundry
23 with that. That had to be put in there for the people
24 who worked in the laundry to wash the wet sheets. They
25 did get punished for it to stop -- trying to stop them

1 from wetting the bed.

2 Q. In what way were they punished?

3 A. Either they didn't get to watch television or if it was
4 time for sweets we were getting, they didn't get that.
5 Do you know what I mean?

6 Q. Did you yourself wet the bed?

7 A. No.

8 Q. So far as the sleeping arrangements were concerned, can
9 you then just help me with regard to your group [REDACTED]
10 [REDACTED]? What were the sleeping
11 arrangements at Kilmarnock?

12 A. It was like cubicles and you had the curtain down. That
13 was my room and the other girls ... It was just all
14 like cubicles, wee rooms and that.

15 Q. How many would be in your room?

16 A. To be honest, it was not our room, it's a big long
17 thing, so all the cubicles were there and the girls were
18 in their separate cubicles.

19 Q. Are you suggesting you have one large dormitory --

20 A. Uh-huh.

21 Q. -- but it's split it up into individual rooms?

22 A. Into individual -- you know when you're in bed, as in
23 your clothes are -- that's the way it was in Kilmarnock.

24 Q. [REDACTED]

25 A. [REDACTED]

- 1 Q. One thing you tell us also is about receiving dental
2 treatment and you'd go to a dentist who was outside the
3 convent.
- 4 A. That's correct, you'd go to the dentist. They never had
5 dentists like that in Kilmarnock. You had to go outside
6 for that. We even had schooling outside.
- 7 Q. How often do you think you went to the dentist during
8 your time there?
- 9 A. I think once because we really had lovely teeth because
10 we were made to look after them.
- 11 Q. Trips and visits: did you have trips and visits?
- 12 A. Do you mean did we go away for the day or something like
13 that? Yes, sometimes, but not a lot, but sometimes,
14 aye.
- 15 Q. Did you have visits from your social worker?
- 16 A. Yes, Mr McKenzie, yes, I did.
- 17 Q. I think there came a time when he retired and someone
18 else took over; is that right?
- 19 A. If Mr McKenzie retired, [REDACTED] never seen anybody
20 after that. [REDACTED] didn't know he'd retired to be honest
21 with you, that is the first I've heard about it.
- 22 Q. If you go back to when you started off at Nazareth House
23 Kilmarnock, how did you find the place?
- 24 A. Well, I think it was just a bit -- wondering why [REDACTED]
25 getting moved on to convents above convents; right? At

1 first, I was a wee bit cheeky, I won't deny the fact,
2 I wouldn't do what I was told. Of course, you'd get
3 punished for that, do you what I mean, in those places.
4 Do you know what I mean? Other than that, when I got
5 used to the place, [REDACTED] just had to settle down and do
6 what [REDACTED] told or it wouldn't be worth staying in it.

7 Q. How were you treated when you were there?

8 A. When I first went into the place -- well, you've got to
9 get used to a place and get used to getting told what to
10 do. Right? So yes, I was pretty bad and I did get
11 thingummied, but as time goes on, you say to yourself
12 just stop it because it's worse for you, but at first,
13 yes, I did.

14 Q. Who dealt with you at the beginning then when you were
15 first there? Who would deal with you?

16 A. You mean when I got hit?

17 Q. Yes.

18 A. It was the nun.

19 Q. What nun was this?

20 A. Sister [REDACTED] LGO .

21 Q. When you talk about a nun being involved with you, is it
22 always Sister [REDACTED] LGO we look to?

23 A. That's the only one that had our group.

24 Q. You mentioned Sister [REDACTED] LHZ .

25 A. Sister [REDACTED] LHZ the next one.

1 Q. Did you have very much to do with Sister [REDACTED] LHZ ?

2 A. No, good morning, hello, seen her in church, or if she
3 passed us, we had to move out of the road. That was
4 all.

5 Q. You do tell us about one incident when there was a party
6 and the nuns expected you to go to the party in your
7 school uniforms or in your uniforms but you did
8 something different.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Can you tell me about that?

11 A. Yes. Right, I was at school one day and we got told
12 there was a party coming on in the school. Now, in the
13 convent you don't get wearing your own clothes, they're
14 called Sunday clothes and you don't wear them until
15 you're going to Mass on a Sunday. So me and my friend
16 who were in the convent, we sneaked our stuff out of the
17 locker to take to school because everybody else was
18 going to be wearing their own clothes and we're walking
19 in with our school uniform.

20 Q. What age were you when you did this?

21 A. It was in my secondary school. So we done it and we had
22 the party but we had to change before we got back to the
23 convent and we put our stuff in our school bag and we
24 went in.

25 We thought we got away with it until we got

1 undressed and we managed to hang our stuff back up and
2 it wasn't until the girls were to go down to the
3 recreation room -- that was what they called it, that
4 was where you played -- and they told us to stay back,
5 me and the girl that was with us. We got some doing in
6 there -- and the door was locked.

7 Q. Who was involved in that?

8 A. The staff -- Sister LGO and LGJ who was
9 the staff.

10 Q. What did they do to you?

11 A. The lockers -- we've all got individual lockers, the tin
12 lockers, you know the ones you use for football? Do you
13 know what I mean? She started shouting why we took our
14 clothes out. We tried to explain that everybody was
15 wearing their own clothes and we wanted to be like them,
16 so we took them -- I said we put them back and she said,
17 you know you're not allowed -- you know, they're Sunday
18 clothes, and all that. So the punishment was we didn't
19 get sweets or anything, but the doing we got for taking
20 them out and not asking.

21 Q. Can you describe the doing for us?

22 A. Yes, heads banged off the -- you know, the lockers.
23 Kicked in the back. Kicked in the face. Kicked in the
24 head. And we were screaming and they wouldn't stop.

25 Q. And "they", to be clear, who are you talking?

- 1 A. The sister and the staff that was in our group.
- 2 Q. Were you injured because of this?
- 3 A. Uh-huh. We had bruises and that on your body and that,
4 and then we were -- told us to get up and they told us
5 to get up the stairs and go to your bed and that's what
6 we done. We just covered up in the covers and went to
7 sleep.
- 8 Q. You've been telling us about that particular beating
9 that involved Sister **LGO** and also a member of staff.
10 Were there any other beatings that you received?
- 11 A. I wouldn't actually say any other beatings like that,
12 but we would get checked and you could get a smack, but
13 not the doing for taking your clothes, not as bad as the
14 first one. Yes, you got maybe a skelp or you got
15 punished, never got sweets or something, but nothing as
16 bad as that first one we got for taking our clothes out.
- 17 Q. You do tell us about an incident -- and this is at
18 paragraph 133, I think -- when you saw something
19 happening to another young girl --
- 20 A. Uh-huh.
- 21 Q. -- and this was at a mealtime. Can you tell us about
22 that incident and what happened?
- 23 A. We were all having our meal. Right? We were sitting
24 and we got, I think, our meal and the girl said
25 something about that she didn't want her meal or

1 something like that and the -- it was the staff I'm
2 talking about at the moment. She said, yes, you will
3 eat it, or something like that. Before you knew it,
4 because she wouldn't take the meal and that, it ended up
5 that they took her outside, outside the dining hall, and
6 you could hear her screaming and that because she
7 refused her meal and all that -- she was screaming.

8 Q. Who did she --

9 A. They came into us and said, "That will happen to anyone
10 else that doesn't clear their plate", and the next
11 minute the girl was put up the stairs and we didn't see
12 her until we went up the stairs that night to go to bed.

13 Q. Just to be clear about that: there was a young girl who
14 was removed from the dining room?

15 A. Uh-huh.

16 Q. Who removed her?

17 A. The staff.

18 Q. So --

19 A. The staff, [REDACTED] LGJ.

20 Q. Was the sister involved in this?

21 A. She came out after her -- she came out after her and
22 then they threw them -- you could hear the two of
23 them -- you could hear the girl screaming and you could
24 hear them, what they were doing, they picked her up --
25 we seen it for ourselves because we were coming out of

1 the dining room at that time because we were finished --
2 and we were told to walk on, we couldn't say nothing,
3 but she was screaming with the doing that they gave her
4 -- when I say the beating that they gave her.

5 Q. Just to be clear, they have taken the girl from the
6 dining hall outside the dining hall; is that right?

7 A. Uh-huh.

8 Q. Did you see what happened to her at some point in time
9 after she'd been taken out of the dining room?

10 A. No, we heard the screams, we knew she was getting what
11 we'd usually get anyway.

12 Q. But at some point did you see what was going on?

13 A. We didn't see the doing; we heard the screaming, but we
14 knew she got a doing -- well, she got beat up. You know
15 what I mean?

16 Q. Did you try and intervene at any point?

17 A. We weren't allowed to intervene. We were asked to carry
18 on as if we didn't see it.

19 Q. Did something happen to you at this time?

20 A. Pardon?

21 Q. Did something happen to you? Because you do tell us
22 about an incident when you were in your room and you put
23 all the taps on.

24 A. Uh-huh. That was because -- see, the clothes that we
25 had, the stuff we took into school, we were punished and

1 there was a party going on and we didn't get allowed to
2 go and we were told to go up the stairs. So in the room
3 where we stayed, there were bedrooms off one another.
4 So because I wasn't allowed to --

5 LADY SMITH: Anne Marie, just lift the microphone a little
6 bit.

7 A. Sorry.

8 LADY SMITH: It's okay, it's all right. I don't imagine you
9 speak into a microphone every day in your normal life.

10 A. Sorry.

11 Because we were getting sent up and we couldn't get
12 to the thing, the people who came to sing for us and
13 that -- so I put on the taps and soaked all their
14 bedrooms. I'm not boasting about it, but at that time I
15 soaked all the bedrooms, their beds were all soaked, the
16 floor was up to here in water (indicating) and then the
17 sister came into us and she was stepping over the water
18 and she went , "Who done that?" and I said, "Me", and I
19 got one doing then as well. I was made to clean up all
20 the water, strip the beds, take the stuff down to the
21 laundry, come back up, polish the floors and make all
22 the beds. The next day I was made to wash all the
23 sheets and everything that I had done.

24 MR MacAULAY: You say you got a doing.

25 A. Yes, Sister **LGO** done that.

- 1 Q. What did she do to on you that occasion?
- 2 A. Just dragged us by the hair and started punching -- and
3 those shoes that they wear with the steel things, that
4 was going right into my back and into my face.
- 5 Q. You also tell us about an incident that involved the
6 fire escape and another girl.
- 7 A. I know what you're talking about. She was in
8 Sister [REDACTED] s group to start off with. We still knew
9 girls, although they weren't in our group, but that wee
10 girl was in Sister [REDACTED] 's group. We were allowed to
11 play because the garden was for everybody, so we got to
12 know all the other girls. I can't just remember her
13 name. We used to play with her. I can't remember
14 exactly what she done, but she got told to get off
15 the -- come in from the playground, she wasn't to play.
- 16 Q. Do you know who told her that?
- 17 A. That would be Sister [REDACTED] because she was in her group.
18 Although we were out in the one playground, we were at
19 this side and the other group was at that side, but we
20 got allowed to play with one another. What happened
21 was, she was taken in and it was -- I can't just
22 remember the staff, it was wee Sister [REDACTED] but I knew
23 my own ... She had taken her up the stairs and had hit
24 her and battered her and told her to go to her bed.
25 We were still out playing -- but how the fire escape was

1 open -- because there were never any doors left open in
2 case we ran away, but somehow the fire escape was
3 opened. She must have took too much of a beating
4 because she went up to the top of the fire escape and
5 threw herself out in front of the building. We were all
6 locked up for that because the police and all that had
7 to come.

8 Q. From what height, what level would that be? What floor?

9 A. The floor, did you say?

10 Q. Yes, is it first, second, third floor, can you tell me?

11 A. The bedrooms are all on the one level if you get what
12 I mean. I wouldn't be able to tell you how high. But
13 the building where the fire escape is, Nazareth House,
14 that is a big building. That's where she came right
15 down to the bottom. We weren't allowed to see it. We
16 seen the police and we got locked up because we weren't
17 to thingummy. We just knew a body was there and it was
18 going to the thingummy, she was getting buried and that.

19 Q. Sorry?

20 A. When her body got thingummied and they done the
21 post-mortem and that, it came back to the convent for
22 them to bury her.

23 Q. She was killed when she came off the fire escape?

24 A. Oh aye. She was only a young girl, say, 10, 11, or
25 something.

1 Q. I think what you've told us is she wasn't in your group.

2 A. No, she wasn't in my group.

3 Q. You've told us about some of the punishments that you
4 yourself received, particularly some physical
5 punishments. Would you also be deprived of things like
6 pocket money and so on if it was seen that you had
7 misbehaved?

8 A. We never got pocket money. I didn't know what pocket
9 money was when we were in there.

10 Q. Can you look at this document for me? This is
11 NAZ.001.001.1973 and it will come on the screen.

12 Can we focus in a little bit so we can read -- not
13 you, we'll get the camera to do this, hopefully. This
14 is described as the "Nazareth House Kilmarnock
15 punishment book, 1966 to 1980". Indeed, you can see it
16 begins in January 1966. I know you haven't seen this
17 before, but that's what it's said to be. If we turn to
18 the next page, 1974, if we can focus on 22 May. I can
19 tell you, Anne Marie, although it is blanked out, for
20 22 May 1966, the bit that's blanked out is:

21 "Anne Carr. Kept in from film in town for showing
22 aggression in school."

23 So you can see you have been deprived of a film.
24 You may not remember that, but do you see that's been
25 written in the punishment book?

1 A. Has that been written in the punishment book?

2 Q. That seems to have been something that happened to you.

3 A. You're talking about something when I was in school?

4 Q. All I'm saying is it appears that one punishment you got

5 at one time was not being allowed to see a film.

6 A. That's correct, aye.

7 Q. If we move down to the next entry, 21 June, we then see

8 there's quite a gap actually in the punishment book

9 between that and the next entry of 7 October. Then

10 if we move to 6 November, there's two names blanked out.

11 We'll leave the first name, but it says:

12 "[The first name] and Anne Carr deprived of pocket

13 money."

14 Do you say that never happened?

15 A. I never knew we got pocket money.

16 Q. Very well. Let's move on then, Anne Marie, to when you

17 left Nazareth House.

18 A. Right.

19 Q. I've already taken from you that that happened on

20 [REDACTED] 1967 when you were aged about 14. At that time

21 did you go back to live with your mother?

22 A. Well, as I told youse before, my mum was taking babies

23 in, got foster parents for the nuns. When she was doing

24 that, [REDACTED]

25 [REDACTED] so

1 I couldn't tell you [REDACTED] to be
2 honest with you.

3 Q. But I think you thought before that you were about 14.

4 A. Something like that, aye.

5 Q. It would appear that you spent a little time at
6 St Euphrasia's in Bishopton; is that right?

7 A. Uh-huh.

8 Q. Do you know, can you remember how long you might have
9 been at St Euphrasia's?

10 A. I would actually say a year, maybe a year and
11 ten months; I could be wrong.

12 Q. Let's look briefly at your life after care because
13 I think we have touched on some of this before.

14 At paragraphs 149 to 151, you provide us with some
15 personal details and in particular that you got married
16 and so on.

17 A. Uh-huh.

18 Q. You then -- at paragraphs 152 through to 161, you tell
19 us about the birth of your brother and we looked at that
20 last time you were there.

21 In the final part of your statement, Anne Marie, you
22 discuss the impact of having been in care has had on
23 you -- and of course we're looking at care not just in
24 Nazareth House but also in Smyllum -- and you've
25 provided us with your evidence on that. I think one of

1 the things you do say is that you feel that one of the
2 consequences of being in care is you've been strict with
3 your own children.

4 A. I was strict, yes.

5 Q. Do you relate that to your time in care?

6 A. No, I think that I related that -- was because it
7 didn't -- well, it did in a way -- do harm to me. But I
8 -- in another sense, if it wasn't for getting taught
9 those things and ... I wouldn't have been able to teach
10 my children what I taught them and they never got taken
11 into care, so there's a good bit and there's also a bad
12 bit. Do you know what I mean?

13 Q. You do tell us towards the end of your statement,
14 Anne Marie, that:

15 "The best way to avoid children being abused is to
16 make sure better people are employed and places are not
17 run by nuns."

18 A. That's correct.

19 Q. That's your --

20 A. Yes, I did say that.

21 Q. You also say that:

22 "I want people who have suffered abuse and the
23 people who have died to get justice. I want the truth
24 to come out. We can't all be lying. We need to be
25 believed."

1 A. That's right.

2 Q. Is that your position?

3 A. That's right, uh-huh.

4 Q. You want to be believed?

5 A. Uh-huh.

6 LADY SMITH: Anne Marie, why do you think these places
7 should not be run by nuns?

8 A. Right. Lady Smith, although I was in these places,
9 there were other convents that I've never been in before
10 I went in, reading up on them and finding out about it,
11 because of what's going on now here, if they were so
12 bad, why did they take the habit for God and do it to
13 babies, small children? So I don't believe that if
14 they're there and needing a job, they have to do
15 something else and not take in kids because we seen
16 quite a bit when I was young and right up until I came
17 to thingummy. So that's the reason why I said don't put
18 nuns back in with children.

19 Maybe put them in with elderly people, but even at
20 that, they might do the same there.

21 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

22 MR MacAULAY: Thank you, Anne Marie. That's all the
23 questions I have for you today. Thank you for coming
24 back to give further evidence to the inquiry.

25 I have asked all the questions I want to ask and all

1 the questions that I have been asked to ask.

2 A. Thank you very much.

3 LADY SMITH: Are there any outstanding applications for
4 questions of this witness?

5 Anne Marie, those are all the questions we have for
6 you. Can I echo what Mr MacAulay's just said and
7 thank you for coming back again to speak to the inquiry.
8 We've moved on to a separate case study from the one
9 we were doing in January. It has been very helpful to
10 hear your evidence and I'm now able to let you go.

11 A. Thank you very much.

12 (The witness withdrew)

13 LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay.

14 MR MacAULAY: That completes the oral evidence for today.

15 We can now move on to have two read-ins: one is perhaps
16 20 minutes or so, the other one is very short, and that
17 will complete the evidence for today, my Lady.

18 LADY SMITH: Very well. Good. Thank you.

19 Witness statement of "SARAH" (read)

20 MS RATTRAY: This applicant wishes to remain anonymous and
21 use the pseudonym "Sarah". She's unable to attend to
22 give evidence today due to ill health. Her statement
23 can be found at WIT.001.001.4401:

24 "My name is Sarah. I was born in 1959. My contact
25 details are known to the inquiry."

1 At paragraphs 2 to 10 she speaks about her family
2 life in Paisley with her parents and five older and five
3 younger siblings. She entered Nazareth House Kilmarnock
4 when her mother became ill. Sarah does not mention the
5 date or her age at that time. The admission records of
6 Nazareth House have a date in 1967 when Sarah would have
7 been 8 years old.

8 Turning now to paragraph 11 at page 4403:

9 "I can't remember my first day at Nazareth House,
10 but it was like an old hospital with square windows. It
11 had gravel at the front, a fence round it, and a long
12 avenue surrounded by trees. At the back, there was
13 grass and trees which were separated from fields by
14 a wall. Nazareth House must have been on the edge of
15 the town because there were fields nearby. The fields
16 went off into yonder.

17 "It was built on three levels. I think the bottom
18 floor was where the nuns had their quarters, then you
19 went up the stairs to the living room, playroom, kitchen
20 and bathrooms for the children. The bedrooms were up
21 the stairs on the top level.

22 "There were at least 20 children there, maybe 30.
23 It was boys and girls. My sister came in for a while.
24 She was 15 when she was there. Other than my sister,
25 I think it was all little children at Nazareth House.

1 The nuns usually called us by our surnames.

2 "A Mother Superior ran the home. I think I saw her
3 when I came in, but I never saw her again. When we went
4 in, we were told the rules. They told us we had to do
5 our chores, about lights out, and being up at a certain
6 time, to eat what we were given and be thankful, things
7 like that. It was staffed by nuns. I think priests
8 came in as well, but just for chapel.

9 "I remember two nuns at Nazareth House.

10 Sister **LGO** was fat. She had a big waist with
11 a crucifix tied around it. Sister **LHZ** was tall and
12 skinny. She also had the rope tied round her waist with
13 the cross on it.

14 "There were dormitories with spring beds, metal beds
15 like you get in a hospital. The number of beds depended
16 upon the size of the room. I think one dormitory had 12
17 beds, one had six and one had four. I think there were
18 six children in my dorm. There was a room upstairs
19 where one of the nuns would sleep to keep an eye on us.
20 Bedtime was set at 7 o'clock. Lights out was at
21 9 o'clock, even for my sister who was 15. We were told
22 to say our prayers and ask God for mercy, but we were
23 left to say our own prayers.

24 "In the morning, we were woken by a bell at
25 7 o'clock. We got up and dressed, got washed and

1 brushed our teeth. We stood in a line when we were
2 ready to be checked by Sister **LGO**. If we hadn't
3 washed, we would be whacked.

4 "We would go down for breakfast and say prayers
5 at the table. I don't remember going to school in
6 Kilmarnock. We never left the place so we must have
7 been schooled in the convent.

8 "We all ate our meals together in the dining hall.
9 Breakfast was porridge and sometimes cereal. Lunch was
10 watery soup. I remember getting a lot of potatoes at
11 dinner time. We got chips now and again as a treat.
12 They'd make big pots of stew and mince. At mealtimes,
13 the nuns would walk round the tables with their hands on
14 their hips. Nobody talked, it was completely silent.

15 "After every meal we had to wash the dishes. Three
16 girls would be allocated to the washing and three to the
17 drying and putting away. The boys did the lifting. My
18 little brother had to lift heavy churns of milk, even
19 though he was small.

20 "There were lockers next to sinks but I didn't have
21 any possessions of my own. I don't know what the
22 lockers were used for.

23 "There was carbolic soap to wash yourself with.
24 There was a separate room for showers and a curtain
25 separating the showers. We showered two or three times

1 a week, unless we wetted bet. Children who peed got
2 a shower every day.

3 "There was a lounge downstairs for visitors and
4 a playroom with a telly. After dinner, we watch TV for
5 an hour or so in our jammies. The nuns were always
6 around. You had to check before you spoke because you
7 felt like they were scrutinising you. If I told my
8 sister I'd been hit by a nun and a nun heard, I'd get
9 another clout.

10 "There were boxes with toys in them, like balls,
11 jigsaws or books. Nothing spectacular. We weren't
12 allowed out the front of the house; mainly we got out
13 the back. There was a swing on the grounds and we could
14 kick a ball about. Sometimes we got a chance to talk
15 outside because the nuns stayed inside and watched us
16 from the window. Nazareth House was like a prison. We
17 never got out of there.

18 "We did the dishes after mealtimes. We also did
19 hoovering, sweeping and dusting on a daily basis, after
20 we finished our lessons. The children did the laundry.
21 I don't think I did it at the beginning, but before
22 I left I remember being in the laundry with big machines
23 and the boiler. I was classed as a bigger kid by then.
24 We didn't get a day off.

25 "We went to a chapel in the convent once a week.

1 Priests came in from outside. I must have made my first
2 communion at Nazareth House but I have no recollection
3 of it.

4 "The only Christmas I remember is the one before my
5 mum died. She came to visit three weeks before and
6 brought us all a gift. Seeing her was better than any
7 present. Otherwise, birthdays and Christmas weren't
8 celebrated.

9 "We didn't have any connection to a social worker
10 when we were in Nazareth House. We weren't encouraged
11 to write home. We knew letters would be vetted
12 if we tried to say anything. You were allowed to walk
13 around the grounds if you had visitors. We only got one
14 visit at Nazareth House and that was the only time
15 I ever got out of the front door.

16 "My mum was ill and she wasn't fit enough to visit.
17 She had TB. She knew she was dying and she managed to
18 come to visit us at Christmastime in 1968, three weeks
19 before she died. We hadn't known she was sick but
20 I knew when I looked at her that day. I held her hand
21 and she was so thin. I remember we had a photograph
22 taken outside next to the statue of the Virgin Mary. My
23 mum was wearing a green coat with brown fur round it and
24 a green bobbly hat. She had a pair of furry boots. The
25 coat was hanging off her. My mum, dad and my brother

1 and sisters were in the photo.

2 "My sister came into Nazareth House for a while;
3 I think it was about 1965. [REDACTED] came in around
4 that time as well because my mother was getting really
5 ill. My younger sister came to Nazareth House but she
6 was young and doesn't remember much about it.

7 "She wasn't there for long before we got moved. She
8 used to shake all the time and I tried to cuddle her.
9 My other sisters were in another home because they were
10 just babies. At Nazareth House they tried to separate
11 us. We always tried to catch up with each other to
12 talk. When we tried to talk, they would swing the rope
13 with the chain and they would batter us. They would
14 pull us by the ear. We weren't encouraged to talk to
15 our siblings.

16 "My mum died in 1969. Sister LGO received that
17 information that same day. She shouted us to the
18 washroom. [REDACTED] and I all trooped into
19 that washroom with the lockers. But that time my other
20 sister had gone to Hansel Village. Sister LGO said,
21 'Just to let you know, your mum died yesterday, back to
22 work'. She dismissed us with her hands. We stood there
23 stunned. We didn't know whether to cry or what to do.
24 My little brother bolted away. The lockers were open
25 and he hit every one of them on his way out. He didn't

1 want to cry in front of us. He ran and he ran. We
2 started crying because we didn't know where he'd gone.
3 The police found him three days later in a stable. He'd
4 slept there for two days, underneath a horse.

5 "We didn't get to go to the funeral. The nuns never
6 mentioned our mother's death again. Six weeks later my
7 granny passed away. Sister **LGO** broke the news to us
8 again in much the same way.

9 "I don't remember my first day, but I have
10 a horrible and clear memory about a month after
11 I arrived. We used to eat in a dining room with
12 six children at each table. One day I had celery on my
13 plate. I had never tasted it before and I just didn't
14 like it. I ate everything else on my plate but I didn't
15 eat the celery. Sister **LGO** came up and asked me why
16 I wasn't finishing what was on my plate. I was scared
17 to talk but I said I didn't like it. She told me to eat
18 it. I sat there and I didn't say a word.

19 "The next day she dragged me into the dining room at
20 breakfast time in front of all the other children. The
21 celery was put in front of me. Sister **LGO** said,
22 'You will eat that'. It was put down before me for
23 breakfast, dinner and tea. She was getting to the end
24 of her tether. Eventually she pushed it toward my head
25 to eat it. I wouldn't eat it. I ended up being sick

1 all over the table. She was hitting me all over the
2 back of my head with her hand. After that, I got a meal
3 the following breakfast time. To this day I can't eat
4 celery.

5 "Sister **LGO** was so angry I didn't eat the celery
6 she locked me up in isolation for the whole night. She
7 walked me out to a metal fire escape and took me to a
8 level even higher than the bedrooms. She took me to
9 a room with a mirror in it. She kept on telling me that
10 the devil was in the mirror. I was terrified. There
11 was no light in the room. There was a bed with
12 blankets. I was locked in. There was no toilet.
13 I just held it in. I would open my eyes and I could
14 just see the devil and the fire coming out of the
15 mirror. In the morning Sister **LGO** came to get me and
16 dragged me out by my ear into the showers. It was the
17 most horrific thing to be locked in that room at the age
18 of six. Even now, I still can't have a mirror in the
19 bedroom in case I wake up to go to the toilet during the
20 night and it brings back memories.

21 "Sister **LGO** pulled me by the ear a lot. Girls
22 that had long hair were pulled by their hair. The nuns
23 wore a crucifix round their waists. They would swing it
24 and hit you with it unexpectedly for no reason.

25 "Sister **LHZ** kept a cane or a riding crop all the

1 time. She would hit you every time you passed her. You
2 could hear it swishing. She'd do it for no reason.
3 I would just be setting the table and she'd come up and
4 hit me. She did it to other children as well. She did
5 it to me numerous times. I used to have welts on my
6 legs all the time. I was never bad in Nazareth House;
7 I was too afraid to be bad.

8 "On one occasion my brother and I were in the
9 corridor. It was a big, long corridor. We saw
10 Sister [LHZ] coming and we knew we would get it because
11 she hit us for no reason. My brother said, we'll need
12 to hide. We jumped into a cupboard and hid. She didn't
13 see us. We managed to escape that time.

14 "The physical abuse carried on right up until we
15 left. I was hit two or three times a week. It just
16 depended on who was there and where you were at the
17 time. If the nuns were in a mood you got hit. Every
18 kid there got penalised one way or another.

19 "My sister was a bed-wetter. She was very nervous
20 when we were at Kilmarnock. Bed-wetters were severely
21 punished. If you wet the bed you had to take your sheet
22 along to the washroom in front of everybody. Everybody
23 would be watching you. They would wear their wet
24 pyjamas on the cold floor and then boys and girls had to
25 walk back from the washroom naked. We girls would be

1 looking at wee boys saying, 'They are different from
2 us'. We didn't know that at that age.

3 "Bed-wetters were shouted at and humiliated.
4 We were shouted at all the time. We didn't get spoken
5 to like a person or a child. The nuns were the bosses.
6 We had to do what they told us to do.

7 "They didn't encourage laughter but I don't think
8 anybody laughed much. We were always full of fear,
9 which was worse than any injury. I felt alone all the
10 time. I was glad when my siblings came.

11 "My siblings and I left Nazareth House in 1969,
12 three months after my mum passed away. I don't know how
13 it came about. Nothing was said to us; we were just
14 told to get our stuff together. I was wearing a blue
15 velvet dress with a lace collar. My sister was wearing
16 the same, but her dress was red. My brother was wearing
17 a brown corduroy suit. The nuns at Nazareth House had
18 dressed us up in smart clothes to show that we were well
19 taken care of. We'd never worn those clothes before,
20 not even at Christmas or birthdays. We were taken to
21 Smyllum."

22 From paragraphs 36 to 93, Sarah speaks of her
23 experiences in Smyllum. At paragraphs 94 to 102, Sarah
24 tells us about her life after care. After leaving
25 Smyllum at the age of 16, Sarah lived with one of her

1 sisters and got a job in a clothes shop. Three years
2 later she got a job in an oil works, which is where she
3 met her husband. They have two children and one
4 grandchild.

5 My Lady, I'll now turn to page 4425 at
6 paragraph 103, where Sarah speaks about reporting abuse:

7 "When I was a child, I was too scared to say
8 anything about the abuse in case there were
9 repercussions. There was really nobody I could talk to.
10 I would never have told my father. He suffered from
11 a mental illness and it would have brought it all back.
12 He was diagnosed as suffering from schizophrenia. He
13 died 18 years ago. When we were older, my sisters and
14 I discussed it but we didn't want to tell him because we
15 didn't want to set anything off. We shielded him from
16 everything."

17 Moving to the last three lines of paragraph 104:

18 "I told my husband about the abuse in Nazareth House
19 and Smyllum as I got to know him. He knew I had been in
20 the homes and I wasn't like other 19-year-olds."

21 My Lady, Sarah goes on to say that she spoke about
22 abuse with her sisters and gave a statement to the
23 police.

24 Moving over the page to 4426 and paragraph 107,
25 Sarah speaks of the impact that being in care had on

1 her:

2 "When I left care, I didn't know my older siblings
3 as well as I should have. I hadn't seen them at all
4 when I was in Nazareth House. I'm now very close to my
5 siblings. We survived it and we're still here. Most of
6 my siblings have happy lives and nice children. The
7 nuns didn't get us.

8 "I was brought up as a Catholic. We had to go to
9 church in the homes. When I left Smyllum, I didn't go
10 to church at all because it had been forced on me so
11 much.

12 "I loved learning. I think that helped me when
13 I left. I have always worked when I've needed to.
14 I have just got on with my life, working, and looking
15 after my children.

16 "My time in care made me very wary of people.
17 I don't trust people until I get to know them. I was
18 very naive when it came to sexual relationships. We
19 didn't know as much as other than children on the scheme
20 who had mums and dads to explain things to them."

21 Moving over the page to paragraph 112:

22 "Sometimes I do think about being in care. When
23 people show me pictures of holidays they went on as
24 weans, it reminds me of what we didn't have. They have
25 snaps of mum, dad and the weans. We just have that one

1 photo of us on holiday in Girvan. We lost our family
2 unit.

3 "I don't have any records from my time at
4 Nazareth House in Kilmarnock. I sent away and asked for
5 them but they replied saying they didn't have anything.
6 I'd love to get the photograph that was taken three
7 weeks before my mother died.

8 "In 2014, my sister and I went down to Mill Hill in
9 Luton, hoping to get our records from the Sisters of
10 Nazareth. We stayed overnight at the convent. All we
11 got was a wee photograph of each of us and something
12 about our baptism. We have not even got our original
13 birth certificates. Apparently all the records got
14 burnt in 1980s. You'd think all the records would have
15 been moved to a safe place. You can't get them back,
16 the memories."

17 Moving to the end of paragraph 114:

18 "These things are important. I have no medical
19 records. I don't know if I had illnesses as a child.
20 I'm hoping Future Pathways can help me obtain more of my
21 records."

22 I now move to page 4428, paragraph 116. Sarah says:

23 "Children should be listened to because most of what
24 they say is true. I hope care isn't like it was when
25 I was a child. We needed somebody appropriate to talk

1 to. Mr Brannigan wasn't the right person. We lasses
2 can talk to a woman more than a man. Men are scary to
3 wee people."

4 My Lady, Mr Brannigan was Sarah's social worker when
5 she was in Smyllum:

6 "I hope that by coming forward to the inquiry
7 I might help other people who are going through similar
8 bad experiences. You can talk about it. You're not
9 alone.

10 "I have no objection to my witness statement being
11 published as part of the evidence to the inquiry.
12 I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are
13 true."

14 The statement was signed by Sarah on
15 26 January 2018.

16 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

17 Witness statement of "PAUL" (read)

18 MS RATTRAY: My Lady, a final statement to read in today.

19 Whilst it's quite a lengthy statement, this part will be
20 very brief because the applicant speaks at length about
21 his experiences in other establishments, but it was only
22 for a short period when he was young in Nazareth House
23 and has little to say about it.

24 LADY SMITH: Did I pick up correctly the previous statement
25 was somebody who was in Nazareth House for a couple of

1 years?

2 MS RATTRAY: Yes.

3 LADY SMITH: About eight years to 10 years old, something
4 like that?

5 MS RATTRAY: That's correct, my Lady. If I remember
6 correctly, I ought to have said that, I think: it was
7 from about 1967 to 1969.

8 LADY SMITH: Thanks.

9 MS RATTRAY: In relation to the next statement, this is an
10 applicant who also wishes to remain anonymous and has
11 chosen the pseudonym "Paul". He's unable to attend to
12 give oral evidence for health reasons. His statement
13 can be found at WIT.001.001.4014:

14 "My name is Paul. I was born in 1963. My contact
15 details are known to the inquiry."

16 My Lady, from paragraphs 2 to 6 Paul speaks about
17 his family life living with his mother and siblings.
18 All but two of his siblings died before he went to care.
19 Paul says he was in about five different homes over a
20 four-year period and is confused about what age he was
21 in the different places. He knows he was in
22 Nazareth House for short periods of time. He thinks
23 he was in two places run by nuns, one of which was in
24 Kilmarnock. The admission records of Nazareth House
25 Kilmarnock indicate that Paul was there in 1968 and left

1 in 1970. Accordingly, he would have been aged between
2 about 5 and 7 years.

3 Turning now to paragraph 7 on page 4015, Paul says:

4 "I know that I was definitely in Nazareth House.
5 That is locked in my mind. I don't know what age I was.
6 I was there each time for maybe a month or a couple of
7 months and then returned to my mother. My memory
8 is that my mum kept trying to have us back to look after
9 us at home, but she wasn't able to. I'm not sure how
10 long we spent back in her care. I lived in the home
11 seven days a week when I was there and my mum used to
12 come and visit us.

13 "My younger brother and I were in a dormitory
14 together with about 20 to 30 other children. The home
15 was run by nuns who were really cruel. They battered us
16 and whipped us with canes for things like not sitting
17 correctly, not sitting in the right place and not doing
18 what we were told. They hit us constantly. I was hit
19 and saw other children being hit. I don't remember the
20 names of any of the nuns. They were all the same. They
21 were all twisted.

22 "I don't actually remember telling my mother what
23 the nuns did, but I think I would have as I would have
24 had marks and bruises on me.

25 "I never received any medical attention for the

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