

1 Wednesday, 19 December 2018

2 (10.00 am)

3 LADY SMITH: Good morning. As was indicated yesterday,  
4 today's evidence is going to consist of statements that  
5 are to be read in. We will be going back to some  
6 Quarriers evidence at the beginning of this set of  
7 read-ins. I'm going to start by inviting Ms MacLeod to  
8 start with some Quarriers statements; is that right?

9 Witness statement of HUGH MCGOWAN (read)

10 MS MACLEOD: Yes, my Lady, good morning.

11 This is a statement of an applicant, Hugh McGowan,  
12 who has waived his right of anonymity. This statement  
13 can be found at WIT.001.001.7515:

14 "My name is Hugh McGowan. I was born in 1948. My  
15 contact details are known to the inquiry."

16 Hugh tell us that he remembers little of his life  
17 before care and was sent to Quarriers at the age of  
18 23 months in June 1950. Quarriers' records state that  
19 he was admitted on 30 June 1950 and that he was  
20 discharged to Dhurringile Rural Training Farm,  
21 Australia, on 12 September 1961.

22 Turning to paragraph 5 on page 7516:

23 "Quarriers was a self-contained children's home.  
24 There were 43 cottages and a baby's home. It had its  
25 own school, a hospital for minor ailments, and its own

1 church. All of the cottages had a dining room,  
2 playroom, and a kitchen. Upstairs there were two or  
3 three bedrooms and the cottage mother or cottage parents  
4 had their own private bedroom. The cottage parents or  
5 cottage mother lived with the children the whole time.  
6 They were live-in minders.

7 "I think that there were about a thousand children  
8 in Quarriers when I was there. When I left, there were  
9 about 600 children. I was placed in the babies' home  
10 for two years. My first memory is having no clothes on  
11 and playing and laughing. I also remember being on  
12 a table with people in white coats around me and I was  
13 screaming. I do not know the circumstances, but I have  
14 two burn marks or scars on my left wrist and I don't  
15 know how I got them. I suspect that that is what the  
16 memory relates to, but no mention of this is made in my  
17 records from Quarriers.

18 "When I turned four, I was put into cottage 40 at  
19 Quarriers. Each cottage was supervised by either  
20 a cottage mother or cottage parents. Where the cottage  
21 had cottage parents, that is a cottage mother and  
22 father, they would have more children to look after than  
23 a cottage mother would on her own. Boys and girls lived  
24 in separate cottages.

25 "Cottage 40 was run by a cottage mother and father

1 called Mr and Mrs QAF/QAG I have a couple of memories  
2 from that time. We had to line up every day in the shed  
3 and take cod liver oil and rosehip syrup. I loved it  
4 but no one else did.

5 "The other memory is more terrifying. The boys  
6 in the cottage were playing a joke. It was wet outside  
7 and there was thunder and lightning. I was pushed  
8 outside and they locked the door. I was terrified and  
9 it took me a long time to not worry about thunderstorms.

10 "I also remember being on my hands and knees and  
11 scrubbing the kitchen floor. We did that about once  
12 a week. There was no mistreatment in that cottage.

13 "There was a [REDACTED] in Quarriers  
14 called QAJ. She became a cottage mother for  
15 cottage 19. She was unmarried. I and other boys were  
16 transferred to this cottage. It was the cottage located  
17 nearest to the school. I was about five years old at  
18 the time. The majority of my time at Quarriers was  
19 spent with QAJ. I remember that on one  
20 birthday she turned 44 years of age.

21 "I think that as [REDACTED] she was well liked and  
22 others said she was a really nice person. But as  
23 a cottage mother, she became a tyrant. She made us call  
24 her 'mummy' and I hated that. I have a particular  
25 memory which I think shaped the relationship between us.

1 I was quite young and I was holding her hand and walking  
2 from church to the cottage. Something about the church  
3 service had made me ask her, 'Mummy, do I have a real  
4 mummy?' She replied, 'Of course you do, I'm your  
5 mummy'. I knew that wasn't true and I think she  
6 realised that I knew the truth. It shaped our  
7 relationship.

8 " QAJ had intolerant traits. This included  
9 if you wet the bed, which I did frequently. I didn't  
10 stop wetting the bed until I was 19 years old. The  
11 first time I did it she was very angry. She said if  
12 I did it again, that I would be punished. I did it  
13 repeatedly. I was punished each time. She would spank  
14 me on the bottom. That was their way to try to stop you  
15 doing it. I was the only one who wet the bed regularly.  
16 It was not good waking up to find I was wet. They put  
17 a rubber sheet on the mattress.

18 " QAJ was very strict. We were not allowed  
19 to fall out of line. She was quick tempered and  
20 intolerant. There are three others who were sent to  
21 Australia who were in her cottage. If you talked to  
22 them their views may be different. I don't think they  
23 did anything that annoyed her. I remember she used to  
24 say that a liar was worse than a thief as you can tie  
25 a thief's hands but not a liar's tongue. But I would

1 look at her and think that she didn't practice what she  
2 preached. This had a bearing on my treatment by her.  
3 I was in her cottage from age 5 to 12. I spent seven  
4 years with her.

5 " [REDACTED] QAJ [REDACTED] had her favourite boys. One of these  
6 boys was older than us. He was about 7 or 8 years older  
7 than me. He and [REDACTED] QAJ [REDACTED] got on very well. He was  
8 at an age of discovering his sexuality. He came into my  
9 bed one night and made me masturbate him until he  
10 ejaculated. At first it was an intriguing experience.  
11 We had heard that that sort of thing happened but we had  
12 not been told directly about it. I was 8 or 9 years  
13 old.

14 "He did not come into my bed every night, but over  
15 a period of weeks he came to my bed about a dozen times.  
16 I was sick of it and one night I said no. The next  
17 night I refused and I said to him that I would tell  
18 mummy. He told me not to tell anyone.

19 "A time after this, a window was broken at the  
20 cottage. I think he broke the window when [REDACTED] QAJ [REDACTED]  
21 was out. When she returned, she got all 12 boys into  
22 the playroom and asked who had broken it. The older boy  
23 said it was me. I denied it. [REDACTED] QAJ [REDACTED] grabbed me  
24 and took me to her parlour and belted me for breaking  
25 the window and also gave me another belting for saying

1 that I hadn't done it. She didn't believe me. After  
2 the punishment, the boy said, 'That's what will happen  
3 to you if you tell'. The boy never came back to my bed  
4 after that but I think he went to someone else in the  
5 cottage. He left Quarriers not long after that.

6 "I have passed to the inquiry a photograph of me and  
7 other children who were in the cottage with  
8 QAJ. I don't know when it was taken. In the  
9 photograph we are wearing our Sunday outfits. The older  
10 boy is not in that photograph as he had left Quarriers  
11 by then. The boy would be in his late seventies now if  
12 he is still alive. Three of the boys in the photograph  
13 were also sent from Quarriers to Australia. I have had  
14 this photograph for a number of years. I think one of  
15 the boys from the cottage who had been sent to Australia  
16 gave me the photograph. I have treasured this  
17 photograph as it is the first one of me.

18 "The food was okay at Quarriers. You had to eat it  
19 even if you didn't like it. You learned to eat  
20 everything, even if you disliked it. Breakfast could be  
21 cornflakes or porridge. Lunch was the main meal and  
22 would be things like stew, sausages, fish or shepherd's  
23 pie. Every second Friday we could have boiled fish with  
24 bones in it, which I disliked. We would have meat pie  
25 every other Friday and we looked forward that.

1            "All meals were eaten in the dining room of the  
2 cottage. We washed our hands and face before meals.  
3 The cottage mother had the same meals as us and ate with  
4 us. We had to go into the dining room and show  
5 [REDACTED] QAJ that our hands were washed. If there was  
6 dirt on our hands, she would slap us on the back of the  
7 head and make us wash them again. She was very  
8 fastidious.

9            "We would then stand behind our chair and sing  
10 grace. We did this for all meals. We would then sit  
11 down. Etiquette was very important to [REDACTED] QAJ .  
12 She made us aware of the rules. We had to sit up  
13 straight with elbows off the table. She taught us how  
14 to use cutlery in the correct order and how to set the  
15 table. She would tell you off for doing things wrongly,  
16 but if did you it correctly you would be not be praised.

17           "In the evening we would have tea. That would  
18 consist of bread with butter and jam and a cup of tea.  
19 Sometimes I would not get it if I had wet the bed.

20           "Including teachers, I think there were about  
21 150 members of staff the at Quarriers. They were all  
22 civilians and mainly middle aged. There were no younger  
23 people looking after us. There were no helpers in the  
24 cottage, but there were relief cottage parents who took  
25 over for short periods of time. [REDACTED] QAJ went to

1 Nairn for three weeks every year. When she did, we'd be  
2 looked after by relief cottage mothers. Some were okay  
3 and some were tyrants. There was one, who I think was  
4 named Miss Ferry, who was lovely. She loved us.  
5 Suddenly, she stopped coming to Quarriers.

6 "About 15 or 20 years ago I was told by another boy  
7 who had been sent to Australia from Quarriers that  
8 he had been back to Scotland and had been told that  
9 Miss Ferry had been sacked for getting too close to the  
10 children. I think that cottage mothers and cottage  
11 parents were not allowed to get close to the children as  
12 it was thought that it spoiled the children.

13 "Hector Munro was the superintendent at  
14 Quarriers Homes. He was in overall charge. The  
15 cottages were run independently by the cottage mother or  
16 cottage parents. I don't recall any cottage mothers or  
17 cottage parents having their own children. I think they  
18 had monthly meetings with the superintendent. There was  
19 a board. I know that a Dr Davidson, who was high up  
20 in the community, was on the board, as was Hector Munro.  
21 Hector Munro was a grumpy man who was in his sixties.  
22 We didn't see much of him.

23 "We would have to make our own beds, sweep the  
24 floor, wash dishes, set the table and generally keep the  
25 house in good order.

1            "We went to church regularly. The whole place was  
2 focused on the church. They preached hell and damnation  
3 at Quarriers. We went on Sunday morning, Sunday night  
4 and Wednesday night. We would attend Bible class on  
5 Sunday afternoon. On other days, except Saturdays, we  
6 had evening worship in the cottage. There we sang  
7 choruses from hymns and heard readings from the Bible.

8            "We would sit in rows in the church. The church was  
9 cold. There were heaters but they often didn't work.  
10 I would generally be in the front row. As the minister  
11 was delivering his sermon, we would not have a clue what  
12 he was talking about and we would be falling asleep.  
13 Suddenly QAJ would hit you with her knuckle  
14 into your kidneys and it hurt. When you got home, she  
15 would give you a row and call you an evil little boy.

16            "When we got home from church, we would be given hot  
17 milk or cocoa. I hated the skin on the top. I often  
18 didn't get any anyway if I had wet the bed the night  
19 before.

20            "The clothes we wore were supplied by Quarriers and  
21 were expected to last a long time. The clothes were  
22 new. The boys wore braces with woollen shorts. We also  
23 wore woollen underpants which were itchy.

24            "I was once given a pair of jeans to wear but  
25 I never saw them again. In the summer the boys wore

1 a shirt, underpants, shorts, long socks and boots. In  
2 winter we wore a grey jumper which had a collar. The  
3 girls wore shirts, socks, shoes, a similar jumper to the  
4 boys, and a skirt.

5 "In winter we still wore shorts. I have a distinct  
6 memory of going to school and the cold was biting on my  
7 hands and feet. The younger children were crying  
8 because it was so cold, but we were still required to  
9 remain outside at playtime.

10 "On Sunday, we wore a suit which consisted of  
11 shorts, a jacket, a sleeveless jumper, a shirt, a tie,  
12 long socks and shoes. We only wore shoes on Sunday.  
13 We would go for long walks on a Sunday afternoon. If  
14 you had new shoes, you'd have to walk in them, even if  
15 they were causing you blisters. It hurt. We polished  
16 our own boots and shoes. It was one of the chores we  
17 had to do.

18 "When our clothes were to be washed, we put them in  
19 a basket and [REDACTED] QAJ would inspect them. If you  
20 had soiled them, [REDACTED] QAJ would go berserk and call  
21 you 'a dirty, filthy little boy'. She would hit you for  
22 having streaks on your underpants. Our bed sheets went  
23 into the basket too and the laundry was washed at  
24 Quarriers. We didn't do the laundry ourselves.

25 "If our socks had a hole in them, we would darn them

1           ourselves. If you didn't darn them properly,  
2           **QAJ** would give you a row for poor workmanship.  
3           We would sew on our buttons. If we didn't do it in the  
4           particular way she expected us to, **QAJ** would  
5           cut the button off and make us do it again. We would  
6           also repair our own torn clothes. Any clothes mending  
7           was done before bedtime and was supervised by  
8           **QAJ**.

9           "The school at Quarriers had a headmaster. I can't  
10          recall his name. We feared him. If you were sent to  
11          him, you were in trouble. I wasn't sent to him.

12          "The school system at Quarriers consisted of six  
13          primary grades and three secondary grades. It was very  
14          basic schooling. I don't recall much about my primary  
15          grades. I did not get good results although I excelled  
16          in music and there was no opportunity to develop that,  
17          which is really unfortunate.

18          "In form 1 of secondary school the clever children  
19          were sent to school in Paisley. I was an ordinary pupil  
20          and wasn't smart enough to go there. I wonder if it was  
21          the favourites who got to do this rather than whether  
22          they were smarter than the others. After third form,  
23          the boys would leave Quarriers at age 15 or 16. There  
24          was a place was Overbridge, which I think was in  
25          Glasgow. I think some boys went there after Quarriers.

1           "Discipline at the school was very strong. We were  
2 to be kept under control. One day I saw a boy being  
3 strapped by a maths teacher. The boy grabbed the strap,  
4 hit the teacher, and threw the strap out of the window.  
5 He disappeared and I never saw him again. I can't  
6 recall the boy's name. The teacher had to take time off  
7 afterwards.

8           "The same teacher laid into me once. I had spoken  
9 to another pupil. The teacher took me to the anteroom  
10 and gave me a fierce beating with the strap. The strap  
11 was thick leather and we reckoned he soaked in salt  
12 water and dried it to make it very hard. It would leave  
13 welts on us that you wouldn't believe. He was a sadist.  
14 I really detested him. When I was back at the cottage  
15 and was getting undressed for a bath, QAJ saw  
16 the marks. She asked how I got them and I told her it  
17 was because I was talking in school. She then hit me  
18 for being naughty in the school.

19           "The school day was from 9 am to 4 pm, if you were  
20 late for school, even by just 30 seconds, the teacher  
21 would give you the strap twice on the hand. If you were  
22 late again, you'd get the strap six times. If you were  
23 late a further time, you would get the strap 12 times.

24           "There were six periods in the day, Miss Allan and  
25 Mrs Philips were teachers in the school and were very

1 nice. Miss QBR taught grade 6 and she was a terror.  
2 She was elderly and walked with a tentative gait. She  
3 was short and round. You never got in her bad books.  
4 I did once and she hit both her hands on my ears at the  
5 same time. My ears rang for a month after that.  
6 I didn't dare tell QAJ or she would have given  
7 me another beating.

8 "We did get some homework which we did after tea at  
9 night. We did not get any help with homework from  
10 QAJ .

11 "I wasn't a good or a bad student. I was not good  
12 with my hands and I was not encouraged in the things  
13 I was good at. That still annoys me today. We were  
14 never given any skills or teaching to prepare us for  
15 adult life.

16 "When we were leaving for Australia, I was 13 years  
17 of age. I remember a man took us into the vestry at the  
18 church and gave us our first father and son talk. The  
19 man said that as we were going overseas, we needed to  
20 understand things. The man said we mustn't touch or  
21 play with our penis as it would make us sick, deaf or  
22 blind. I can't recall who that man was, but that was  
23 our preparation for Australia.

24 "In the morning we got up at 7 or 8 am.  
25 QAJ would wake us up. School started at 9 am.

1 We made our bed and swept the floors. We would do other  
2 chores like polishing out shoes at night. QAJ  
3 would cook breakfast and we would set the table.  
4 We would have breakfast and then wash, dry and put away  
5 the dishes. We would leave for school at 8.50 am.  
6 Sometimes we left earlier. I remember making slides in  
7 the snow. I remember once making a 20-metre long slide.  
8 We would get into trouble for doing that. If you had  
9 very cold hands and were given the strap, it was very  
10 painful.

11 "At bedtime we were given hot milk or cocoa. The  
12 bedrooms were very cold. There were water radiators  
13 in the cottage which were changed to electric ones, but  
14 I am not sure if there were radiators in the bedrooms.  
15 We would get a hot water bottle. We would want the  
16 ceramic ones as they lasted longer. If I had wet the  
17 bed the night before I would not get a hot water bottle.

18 "We went to bed at 8 pm. The church bells would  
19 ring for a quarter of an hour on a Wednesday and Sunday.  
20 The bells were very loud. They were rung by the church  
21 organist. I loved listening to them.

22 "Six or seven boys slept in the same room.  
23 I remember I had regular dreams about witches in the  
24 bedroom. If you were punished you were sometimes sent  
25 bed earlier. We had to say our prayers at bedtime. At

1 the end of the prayer we would say, 'God bless mummy and  
2 daddy'. I always questioned this.

3 "We'd be left on our own to get to sleep.

4 I suffered regular earaches. I suspect Miss QBR had  
5 caused my ear problems. QAJ was so  
6 intolerant. I would be crying from the pain and she  
7 would tell me to stop it as I would wake up the other  
8 boys. She didn't do anything about it. I just had to  
9 suffer it. By morning the pain would be gone. I had  
10 these earaches often. I seemed to be the disliked one.  
11 I was never taken to the doctor for this problem.

12 "We got washed in the bath. The bath would be  
13 filled only once and one or two children would get in at  
14 a time. There were 12 kids and we used the same  
15 bathwater. I remember we had Lifebuoy soap. We washed,  
16 rinsed and got out of the bath. As a punishment for  
17 wetting the bed I would be in last and the water would  
18 be very cold.

19 "We brushed our teeth morning and night. We would  
20 brush them after at the time in the evening. The  
21 brushing wasn't well supervised and I suffered dental  
22 problems later on.

23 "After bath time, we would get to watch some TV, for  
24 example Laramie, Wagon Train, or Rawhide. After that,  
25 we went to bed. We did not get television on

1 a Wednesday night. On Sunday night we watched  
2 a religious programme, which was on at about 6 pm.

3 "There were some toys and books. I recall reading  
4 the Famous Five and the Secret Seven by Enid Blyton.  
5 There were playing fields which had a football pitch.  
6 There were also swings and a roundabout which we used at  
7 the weekend.

8 "We went to the Scripture Union camps once a year in  
9 July and other kids attended too. They generally took  
10 place in Brodick near Arran. We camped in tents in  
11 a field. There were six boys to a tent. There was  
12 a tent master. They held competitions and we played  
13 games. [REDACTED] was Mr QAW. If you were on  
14 his side, you were okay. I was afraid of him. If you  
15 talked or laughed at night, then [REDACTED] QAW would  
16 open the tent flaps and shine his torch in the tent. He  
17 would belt the kids and I heard them screaming. This  
18 didn't happen to me.

19 "We also went to camps organised by other groups.  
20 Once we went to a camp in Newcastle-upon-Tyne and one  
21 just north of Aberdeen. I loved the camps and hated  
22 going back to Quarriers as I had to face [REDACTED] QAJ.  
23 When we went to camp we would pack on singlet, shirt,  
24 underwear, socks and pyjamas and a little kit bag. We  
25 had to wear our underwear for the whole week.

1 Occasionally I lost a singlet and [REDACTED] QAJ would  
2 get very angry me with.

3 "Once a year we had a day out at the seaside, for  
4 example at Troon or Rothesay. I remember we went to the  
5 circus at the Kelvin Hall in Glasgow.

6 "There were not really any organised sports at  
7 Quarriers. We did play football and we also played  
8 rounders.

9 "I was in the choir at Quarriers. We won major  
10 competitions. The choir consisted mainly of girls and  
11 just two boys.

12 Christmas was special at Quarriers. We got presents  
13 and Christmas dinner. We sang carols in the church.  
14 You would get a big present, like roller skates,  
15 a cowboy suit and a cap gun, or Meccano. You would get  
16 little things in a pillowcase in the playroom, for  
17 example sweets and other small items. On your birthday  
18 you would get a small present. The boys in the cottage  
19 would sing 'Happy Birthday' and you would get a card.

20 "I did have personal possessions at Quarriers.  
21 I think I had a locker at Quarriers. We did not get any  
22 pocket money but we did get a penny which was for the  
23 collection plate in church."

24 Hugh describes being in hospital for surgery on his  
25 eyes in the following paragraph. Then he goes on to

1 say:

2 "After my second eye operation, I remember I was  
3 picked up by [REDACTED] QAJ as she was with another  
4 cottage mother. The other cottage mother said something  
5 about a boy in her care who was in hospital.

6 [REDACTED] QAJ told her to be careful as children in  
7 hospital get spoiled very badly. She said that she had  
8 made sure that I wasn't spoiled when I went into the eye  
9 infirmary. This epitomises her attitude towards me."

10 He then describes being in hospital for a period of  
11 eight weeks. Yes says:

12 "During that time I had four visits from  
13 [REDACTED] QAJ. I saw the other kids in hospital being  
14 visited by their mum and dad every day. Some of the  
15 other kids noticed I didn't have many visitors and gave  
16 me toys and one of them gave me a stamp collection.  
17 I have wondered why Quarriers didn't have a programme in  
18 place for someone to visit a child in hospital on  
19 a regular basis. [REDACTED] QAJ said I had been spoiled  
20 rotten in hospital and that it took a long time to get  
21 me back in line. No one visited me in the convalescent  
22 home. Because I had been in hospital for so long, my  
23 education suffered. I was always behind the others and  
24 had no opportunity to catch up.

25 "If you were ill, the cottage mother would be

1 responsible for you at the cottage. She would check you  
2 first. If she thought there was nothing wrong with you,  
3 then nothing would be done. Sometimes you would stay  
4 off school. If you needed a doctor, you would be sent  
5 to the doctor at the hospital in Quarriers. I never  
6 visited the hospital there except when I was getting  
7 a health check done before being migrated to Australia.

8 "We were not given any routine health checks or  
9 dental checks. Quarriers had its own dentist who had  
10 a drill operated by a foot pump. Once the drill slipped  
11 and it cut me. I felt as if I was going to drown in my  
12 own blood. We only went to the dentist if we needed  
13 treatment, not for checks.

14 "We did not have any sight or hearing checks.  
15 I once got an abscess in my ear when I was at a camp in  
16 Arran. I was taken to a doctor in Brodick. He said,  
17 'What's the matter laddie? Can you not take a wee bit  
18 of pain?' I have had a number of abscesses, mainly in  
19 my left ear in the past.

20 "I recall that a couple of kids died in Quarriers  
21 Homes. They had been ill. One of them had a hole in  
22 the heart but we didn't see a funeral. He is buried  
23 in the grounds of Quarriers but there are few headstones  
24 there now.

25 "There was no emotional support at Quarriers and

1           there was no one to talk to or confide in at the home.  
2           We almost weren't allowed to be sad or mournful as you  
3           would get a row from [REDACTED] QAJ . I understand that  
4           children in the family home would have been physically  
5           punished at the time but it was done differently. The  
6           child's mother or father would stay say that they loved  
7           him or her. Nobody told us that and we would be belted  
8           and left to figure out why.

9           "I once ran away from Quarriers. I was aged 12  
10          at the time. I ran away with two other boys and we were  
11          away for a couple of hours. When we got back to  
12          Quarriers, it was seen at my fault as I had been the  
13          eldest. I don't want to say what happened. It was  
14          a very humiliating time of my life. As the eldest  
15          I suffered for it. I was physically punished and this  
16          punishment had to be seen to be delivered. I don't  
17          recall seeing any punishment books or any notes being  
18          made of punishments being handed out.

19          "I am now cognizant of the period the world was in  
20          then. I had been born not long after World War II.  
21          Attitudes of adults had seriously hardened during the  
22          war. It took quite some time for that attitude to  
23          soften. But in Quarriers it remained hardened. They  
24          saw it as necessary to keep control of the children.  
25          That was seen as the main function of the Quarriers.

1           Because I understand that, it is easier for me to accept  
2           the things that happened to me, however much I disliked  
3           them. For me, the main failing was with the  
4           governments.

5           " There were two types of visitors to Quarriers.  
6           Children who did not have contact with their family were  
7           allocated an aunt. My aunt was called Aunt Margaret and  
8           I would sometimes go back to her home in Paisley for  
9           something to eat and then would be taken back to  
10          Quarriers. I did this once every one or two months.  
11          I think she was a friend of [REDACTED] QAJ .

12          "The other type of visitors were women's groups who  
13          came to Quarriers on a Wednesday to have a look at the  
14          home. I don't know why they visited. We were told in  
15          very strong terms to stay at the back while the visitors  
16          were there. None of the visitors spoke to us and  
17          we were not allowed to speak to them. We were kept out  
18          of the way. I once crept to the side fence of  
19          cottage 19 and a visitor gave me a sweet. After the  
20          visitors left, [REDACTED] QAJ was furious with me. She  
21          belted me for disobeying her. That is a vivid, bad  
22          memory.

23          "The church in Quarriers was very large. It had two  
24          balconies and the one at the back of capacity for 200  
25          people. The one at the side held 50 people. Visitors

1 sat in the balcony at the back. We were never allowed  
2 to talk in church.

3 "I don't remember any inspectors visiting Quarriers.  
4 I did not have any contact with or visits from my  
5 family. I do have a memory of a dark-haired lady  
6 holding my hand. I was very young. The lady walked  
7 away and I was screaming. I believe that was my mother.  
8 I think the family chose not to acknowledge my existence  
9 and they lived 30 miles away from Quarriers.

10 "I remember once the Queen visited us at Quarriers  
11 in about 1956 or 1958. We were not allowed to sing 'God  
12 Save the Queen'.

13 "I am not aware if there were any reviews of my  
14 continued care in Quarriers. I think the biggest fault  
15 of Quarriers is the lack of records and documentation  
16 relating to my care. I have passed to the inquiry  
17 a copy of my admission form in relation to Quarriers.  
18 In my file there is also reference to my mother having  
19 stopped paying money to Quarriers, but she had done so  
20 for my first four years there. On 10 June 1952 my  
21 mother intimated her change of address to Quarriers.  
22 There is also a letter from Quarriers of  
23 31 December 1958, which raises with my mother the  
24 question of my being put up for adoption.

25 "I later found out that my mother was the youngest

1 of nine children. The eldest daughter of the family had  
2 fallen pregnant and had a baby out of wedlock. She  
3 eventually married the father of the baby. My  
4 grandmother looked after the child when my mother's  
5 sister went to work. When my mother fell pregnant, my  
6 grandmother did not want to have to do it again. My  
7 records show that my mother did not want me adopted.

8 I think this is relevant to my being sent to Australia.

9 "I sometimes live in the past but generally I don't.  
10 I used to live in the past a lot of the time. It took  
11 me a long time to realise what I have. My life in  
12 Quarriers Homes could have been better had the system  
13 understood the needs of children better. I'm a great  
14 fan of Maslow's hierarchy of needs. When you see the  
15 hierarchy, you see what could be achieved rather than  
16 what was there for you. I see that part of this  
17 hierarchy was missing in my care. I am now quite high  
18 up on that hierarchy of needs and that is terrific.  
19 This is because of my wife. I have been through it and  
20 have come out the other side."

21 From paragraph 72 Hugh speaks of his former  
22 experiences in Quarriers in the context of preparing to  
23 migrate to Australia. The remaining parts of Hugh's  
24 statement will be considered at a later case study  
25 in relation to child migrants.

1           Turning now to the final page of the statement at  
2           page 7557, paragraph 203:

3           "I have no objection to my witness statement being  
4           published as part of the evidence to the inquiry.  
5           I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are  
6           true."

7           The witness statement was signed by Hugh on  
8           19 March 2018.

9           LADY SMITH: Should we perhaps record at this stage that  
10           Hugh's belief is that his mother never consented to him  
11           going to Australia? There's nothing in the Quarriers  
12           records that suggests that she changed her mind about  
13           that.

14           MS MACLEOD: That's correct.

15           LADY SMITH: Or was even asked as the adoption --

16           MS MACLEOD: My understanding is that there was a letter  
17           sent and it was returned unopened.

18           LADY SMITH: Yes. Is there anything in his records showing  
19           that anybody consented to him migrating to Australia?  
20           I don't think there's anything in his statement that  
21           indicates he found anything.

22           MS MACLEOD: Not in what's been considered so far, my Lady,  
23           but we will look at that further in the child migrant  
24           case study.

25           LADY SMITH: Of course. Thank you very much. Who's next?

1           Actually, just before we leave that, to clock the  
2           impact of my general restriction order on that  
3           statement, there were mentions of three names in  
4           connection with allegations of abuse: [REDACTED] QAJ ,  
5           Miss [REDACTED] QBR and Mr [REDACTED] QAW . It may be, of course, that  
6           Miss [REDACTED] QBR was not a Quarriers employee, but she should  
7           still be noted as having the protection of the general  
8           restriction order. [REDACTED] QAJ and Mr [REDACTED] QAW appear  
9           to have been within the Quarriers ambit. They also have  
10          the protection of the general restriction order  
11          in relation to any allegations of abuse. I think  
12          elsewhere we've had [REDACTED] QAJ referred to in  
13          positive terms.

14           Thank you.

15           Witness statement of "PAT" (read)

16          MS RATTRAY: My Lady, the next statement is a statement of  
17          an applicant who wishes to remain anonymous and has  
18          chosen the pseudonym "Pat". Her witness statement can  
19          be found at WIT.001.001.4675:

20           "My name is Pat. I was born in 1960. My contact  
21          details are known to the inquiry."

22           At paragraphs 4 to 11 Pat describes what she  
23          remembers about her life before care. She says that she  
24          and three of her siblings were placed at Quarriers on  
25          [REDACTED] 1964. Quarriers' records confirm that date

1 of admission and state that she was discharged on  
2 [REDACTED] 1966 to her father.

3 Moving now to paragraph 12 on page 4676:

4 "Quarrier's Village reminds me of the village in  
5 Harry Potter, when he goes back to where his parents  
6 were with the wee turreted cottages. That was what  
7 Quarriers Homes was like but on a slightly bigger scale.  
8 There was nothing else round Quarrier's Village because  
9 everything was contained in there. The school and  
10 everything was there. That was the whole philosophy of  
11 it. Round about that was countryside. You were  
12 completely enclosed and even if you ran away, you were  
13 only running into the countryside.

14 "My first memory of Quarriers Homes was walking down  
15 a leafy street with a strange lady who said that she was  
16 taking me to a nice place. Initially I didn't go to the  
17 same place as my three older sisters, probably as I was  
18 so young. I can't remember much of the first place  
19 I stayed in Quarriers, except for being in a Wendy house  
20 and the staff trying to pull me out of it and I was  
21 determined I was staying in there.

22 "I was later told I was going to join my sisters and  
23 I was taken to cottage 7. It seemed like a few months  
24 later. Maybe I wasn't old enough to go into cottage 7  
25 until I was 4 and that was why they waited. That makes

1 sense to me.

2 "When I arrived at cottage 7 there was a Mrs QBI  
3 there and she told me to call her the cottage mother.  
4 I was pleased to see my sisters. I have no idea how  
5 many girls were in cottage 7. Thinking back I would say  
6 Mrs QBI was old with grey, permed, flaky hair, stout  
7 with glasses. When I think more about it now, I think  
8 she would have been about 40 to 45 years old.

9 "I never saw any males at all in the cottage. The  
10 cottage only had girls. I cannot remember how many  
11 children were there.

12 "My first recollection of abuse at cottage 7 was on  
13 my first night there. There was quite a bit of activity  
14 and I got a bed next to my sister. When I was talking  
15 in the dormitory, the other girls were telling me to be  
16 quiet and not to speak. Then Mrs QBI shouted,  
17 'Whoever is speaking come downstairs'. The other girls  
18 told me to go downstairs and they were telling me I had  
19 to go and stand on the step.

20 "I knew that they knew about what was going to  
21 happen. Mrs QBI had this game where she stood at the  
22 bottom of the stairs with a belt and you were to go down  
23 to the third stair. She would count to ten and then you  
24 would to make a dive upstairs again.

25 "So I went downstairs and as I did she said, 'I've

1 got this game'. She told me the rules as I was standing  
2 there. I can't remember what words she used, but what  
3 I understood from what she said was that she would count  
4 to ten and then I was to run back upstairs again.  
5 I didn't know what was happening or what she was talking  
6 about, so I just stood there. You know the expression,  
7 'I don't know which way to turn', well, I didn't know  
8 which way to turn.

9 "I didn't know that she had a belt as I didn't see  
10 it. I didn't see the logic in going downstairs to run  
11 back upstairs until she started whipping me with it.  
12 I can recall it had a buckle and she hit me with the  
13 buckle end on my bottom and the back of my legs. I just  
14 had a nightie on. She didn't say anything. It was just  
15 a frenzied attack. It was so stupid. I just stood  
16 there when I should have just ran back upstairs. My  
17 sister came out from the dormitory and pulled me up the  
18 stairs. By that time my back and legs were really sore  
19 and I was in pain. I didn't understand what had  
20 happened and tried to talk to my sisters. They told me  
21 to be quiet again. I was in shock too.

22 "When I finally fell asleep that night, I wet the  
23 bed. My legs and bottom were stinging. It must have  
24 been a reaction with the urine on my skin. I got up and  
25 sat on the floor and I didn't want to waken my sisters.

1           "The beatings from Mrs [REDACTED] QBI continued if you made  
2 any noise or didn't eat your food. She honed in on the  
3 older girls. She was probably more wary of us because  
4 we had a parent who came to visit us. I would imagine  
5 anyone else who stayed in cottage 7 around that time  
6 would report the same, that it was common practice.

7           "The place was quiet. That's what she wanted. You  
8 had to be silent all the time. The only time you could  
9 speak was in the afternoon after the chores were done  
10 and you could go outside. That was the only time  
11 I could have a discussion with my sisters. You could  
12 have all those kids there but it was silent. If  
13 I walked into a situation like that now, I would  
14 immediately suspect something was wrong.

15           "You just felt as if you were nothing. Nobody  
16 wanted to hear what you had to say, nobody cared. The  
17 only people that did care, you could only talk to them  
18 outside in the afternoon. We were always on edge.

19           "I don't remember seeing or hearing about other kids  
20 getting beaten on the stairs like I did on my first  
21 night. I didn't see any other kids playing the game or  
22 getting hit with the belt. Maybe it was just  
23 a initiation she had for new starts.

24           "I presume there was some sort of understanding with  
25 everybody that they knew they couldn't make a noise.

1 Occasionally you would hear her shouting upstairs, 'Do  
2 I hear people talking?' and you would just immediately  
3 freeze, but I never saw anybody else going to do the  
4 stair thing.

5 "The other beatings I saw by her were just with her  
6 hands. She would hit them so fast all the time in an  
7 explosive burst of energy. She had big hands. She  
8 would grab you by the hair and literally hit you  
9 20 times within a minute. It's the only way I can  
10 describe it. She had a particular way of hitting. She  
11 didn't hit your bottom, it was all about the head. She  
12 either grabbed you by the back of the neck or hair.  
13 Then there was this rapid hitting all the time.  
14 Depending what mood she was in, it would be a slap or  
15 a punch, but definitely that was what you saw all the  
16 time.

17 "You didn't see her hitting someone on the arm. It  
18 was always the same method of hitting: explosive and  
19 kind of rapid hitting. That's the only way I can  
20 describe it. Always round about the head and she would  
21 be holding you by the hair or the back of the neck.  
22 This happened to everybody. I'm not saying that was her  
23 job, but it seemed that every time I looked up there was  
24 the fear of this happening or it was happening right in  
25 front of me.

1            "I never saw blood or injuries on any of the other  
2 children following the beatings from Mrs [REDACTED] QBI . After  
3 the belt incident on my first night I had red inflamed  
4 stripes on the back of my legs. I didn't see injuries  
5 on other people because she always hit their heads. She  
6 didn't attack their faces and it was more like coming  
7 from the side and back of the head all the time.  
8 I didn't see any bruises. Everything looked normal. If  
9 somebody was to walk in, or if we were going to church  
10 or anything like that, everybody looked normal.

11           "I wet the bed until I was 12 years old. Because  
12 I wet the bed they would gave me baths the following  
13 day, so I was never with my sisters at breakfast. It  
14 was every day or every other day this happened, so this  
15 was a routine for me. I was put into a cold bath.

16           "On one occasion, I wouldn't sit down in the cold  
17 bath. Another helper came in and they held my arms and  
18 tried to force me into the cold water. They looked  
19 terrified and kept watching the door. When I went  
20 in the water, they were trying to get me to sit down in  
21 cold water and I wouldn't go and I was screaming and  
22 they were scared. In order to shut me up, they took my  
23 legs away from me and put me under the water. They held  
24 me there with a hand on my chest and I can't remember  
25 any more. Like us, they were terrified that Mrs [REDACTED] QBI

1 could hear this.

2 "Because I didn't go with my sisters to breakfast,  
3 as I was having my bath, I dressed late. I would go  
4 into a room where the clothes were on benches. There  
5 was only a couple of piles left. One of piles of  
6 clothes was mine and I was meant to get dressed and go  
7 and get my breakfast.

8 "On one occasion Mrs [REDACTED] QBI came in and started  
9 hitting me around the head. She would say, 'You're  
10 getting this because you wet the bed'. I understood  
11 I was being beaten because I wet the bed. It was  
12 inconvenient. I was always inconvenient. This wasn't  
13 good enough and it was inconvenient.

14 "On one occasion, I was trying to put on my liberty  
15 bodice, which was a padded vest. All the girls in  
16 Quarriers Homes wore them. You always had to wear it.  
17 I was so small, and after having had a beating from  
18 Mrs [REDACTED] QBI for wetting the bed, my hands were shaking.  
19 I couldn't get the rubber buttons through the hole. She  
20 started pulling me by the hair and hitting me about the  
21 head. I fell to the floor. She brought me back up  
22 again by the hair and continued beating me around the  
23 head.

24 "This was a routine for me, but not exclusive to me.  
25 I got so used to this happening, the cold baths and the

1 hitting, you learned very quickly to do as you were  
2 told, to dress very quickly, to go into a cold bath and  
3 you complied and fell in line.

4 "I got the impression that the other staff were  
5 terrified of Mrs QBI as well. I don't know how many  
6 staff there were, I have no idea. It's strange as the  
7 staff were just like ghosts. There was no presence in  
8 them, I don't remember them. I just remember them as  
9 ghosts about the place. I don't remember ever seeing  
10 any of them challenging Mrs QBI or being nice to the  
11 kids, or cuddling the kids. I suppose that is  
12 unprofessional. I don't remember the staff doing  
13 something nice with the kids or favouring them or  
14 praising them in any way, shape or form. They were just  
15 an extension of her.

16 "I don't know if the other aunties lived in, but  
17 there was an occasion when I had wetted bet in the  
18 middle of the night and I had a nightmare with it as  
19 well. I was making a noise and they took me into this  
20 wee sitting room in the middle of the night and it had  
21 a log fire or a coal fire. There were staff sitting  
22 around this fire and they were drinking tea and  
23 Mrs QBI wasn't there. I was kind of standing at the  
24 door because I had to be changed into another nightie or  
25 not. I don't actually know, but there was definitely

1 more staff there that night.

2 "I presume the aunties had a hand in what happened  
3 as much as I would like to lay everything at  
4 Mrs QBI's door. I think she might have taught them  
5 and they are terrified of her. But I also think they  
6 must have carried out some form of discipline. It's mad  
7 to think that she was the one that was going to give out  
8 these frenzied attacks to keep discipline and to keep  
9 this fear. They must have just complied with what she  
10 laid down for them.

11 "They kept you quite isolated so I don't know if  
12 there were other children going in the cold bath before  
13 or after me. There were other piles of clothe in the  
14 room.

15 "You probably wonder how I could be isolated in  
16 a kids he a home, but to give you an example, Mrs QBI  
17 hit me around the ear on one of these beatings and I got  
18 a searing pain in my head. I was taken to another  
19 dormitory which looked like a medical room. I was lying  
20 there in excruciating pain and I thought I was going to  
21 die in this white-ish room with a few beds. My sisters  
22 didn't visit and I was completely isolated. I didn't  
23 see a doctor and there was no pain relief. No one came  
24 in for long periods of time. I thought that this was  
25 the room you came to die in because I had this very,

1 very bad pain. I think the room I was put into when  
2 I had the searing pain in my ear was still within the  
3 cottage.

4 "I don't know if there was visible injury because we  
5 never looked in the mirror. I don't ever remember  
6 actually looking into a mirror when I was there. I've  
7 actually just realised I can't remember ever looking in  
8 a mirror in Quarriers.

9 "On an occasion just before I left Quarriers I was  
10 taken to Dunoon on holiday and I was left in a barn. It  
11 was a heatwave. Everybody was playing on swings and the  
12 sun was shining. The staff put me into a darkened barn  
13 and I was told not to come out. I would imagine I was  
14 told this by the aunties. Some of them must have come  
15 on holiday with us to Dunoon. It was so hot in the barn  
16 and I could see blisters coming up on my arms and  
17 I think I passed out after that. Maybe I was too hot  
18 outside and they put me into the barn because they  
19 thought it was cooler, but in actual fact it was hotter.

20 "I had to have my arms bandaged because they were  
21 covered in blisters. Whilst I had the bandages on I  
22 couldn't go outside the cottage. I was told to help  
23 a lady polish the brasses. This woman had a lot of  
24 brasses on the floor and she was telling me to hand her  
25 them whilst she polished them.

1           "As I was looking through the door out to the hall,  
2 my older sister was polishing the bannister coming down  
3 the stairs. Mrs QBI was coming downstairs and was  
4 inspecting her work. I walked towards the door to say  
5 hello to my sister when Mrs QBI grabbed her by the  
6 hair and started beating her. I don't know why.  
7 I stood there with my bandages and couldn't leave the  
8 room. My sister was getting pulled about the place and  
9 getting beaten.

10           "There was a particular girl who was friends with my  
11 sister. Mrs QBI hit her more than anybody else.  
12 Mrs QBI hated this girl. I don't know what it was.  
13 She had it in for her, she absolutely hated her. She  
14 used to punch and beat her all the time when she wasn't  
15 beating other kids. I think she was there permanently.  
16 I don't think she had parents.

17           "After breakfast I went on to my duties. All the  
18 kids had duties like polishing the brass or sweeping the  
19 stairway or sweeping the stairway. Everybody had  
20 different jobs to do. While you were doing the jobs you  
21 could look over and see Mrs QBI beating another  
22 child.

23           "I think everybody had duties round the home. You  
24 couldn't be idle. You couldn't walk into a room and  
25 find a kid reading a book. Everybody always had to be

1 doing something and it was chores. I don't remember  
2 helping prepare food but I remember there was a regime  
3 around mealtimes and the more responsible tasks were  
4 given to the older kids. I don't remember myself ever  
5 having to put cutlery out or anything like that but you  
6 weren't there to enjoy yourself and have time to  
7 yourself and do things.

8 "On one occasion Mrs QBI wasn't around or on  
9 holiday. A woman took over. We called her the Danish  
10 auntie. I loved her. She taught us how to make Danish  
11 toffee and she would sing to us. I can actually sing a  
12 song she actually taught us. She had broken English and  
13 she said, 'I'm going to show you how to make this and  
14 this is how you do this: you put oats into the mixture  
15 then and what's that makes the toffee Danish'. We all  
16 had a bit of toffee and it was the most wonderful  
17 experience. She would teach us songs and she spent time  
18 with us and she would laugh with us and we would laugh  
19 with her. She just turned a light on. That's the only  
20 way I can describe it. We pleaded with her not to go.  
21 It was just a very short space of time that she was  
22 there. We didn't tell her what was happening as the  
23 other aunties were about and they would have told on us.  
24 We just knew we wanted her to stay, 'Please stay'. But  
25 she was gone.

1           "There was a big dormitory with maybe eight and 12  
2           beds in it and a couple of smaller ones. When I first  
3           went in, I was with my three sisters, then after a wee  
4           while it was only me, one sister and other girls. My  
5           two other sisters were put into another smaller  
6           dormitory. They changed about who was in each  
7           dormitory.

8           "The only time I went in my other two sisters'  
9           dormitory was one night when we heard an almighty  
10          screaming. All the kids were up and we all ran through.  
11          My sister was sleeping walking. She was up on top of  
12          her bed as if she were trying to climb the wall and she  
13          was screaming. Another of my sisters tried to go in and  
14          help her but the staff wouldn't let her. They told us  
15          to go back on our beds.

16          "Because I wet the bed I didn't get anything to  
17          drink after a certain time of night. There was  
18          a bathroom across from the dormitory and there was  
19          a cold tap there. I got into the way of sneaking out of  
20          the dormitory and getting a drink from this tap. The  
21          problem was that when I turned this tap on the pipes  
22          made a bit of a noise and the taste of the water that  
23          came out of the tap was awful. It didn't matter because  
24          I was really, really thirsty.

25          "I don't remember the routines regarding bathing and

1 washing. I had a different routine from everyone else  
2 in the morning. I can't remember what happened when the  
3 other children wakened in the morning.

4 "I must have received medical attention for the  
5 blisters on my arms. I can't remember if it was  
6 a doctor who bandaged my arms. I was in a lot of pain.

7 "This was near the time that we were going to leave.  
8 My stepmum had to take me to the doctor's to finish off  
9 the treatment I was getting with a different doctor. Me  
10 being bandaged and being in pain, it makes me sound  
11 really unfeeling and I don't mean it was all right; it  
12 was just part of the treatment at Quarriers. It was  
13 painful but at least somebody was doing something about  
14 it. At least somebody was paying attention to the fact  
15 you were in pain.

16 "I don't know what they did in the 1960s for pain  
17 relief. I never got any. I never got any medicines.  
18 I think you were meant to just tough it out and grin and  
19 bear it.

20 "I think a lot of the time these things were dealt  
21 with by the aunties, such as the time I got the searing  
22 pain in my ear. I don't remember ever seeing a nurse.  
23 There must have been a doctor because in the records  
24 I got from Quarriers it says a doctor attended.  
25 I presume there was a doctor in the village but not

1           within cottage 7.

2           "I don't remember any health checks or medicals or  
3           dental care. I don't remember seeing a dentist until  
4           I left Quarriers.

5           "On one of the afternoons that we could go outside,  
6           I went with my three older sisters to stand at the black  
7           railings. There was this big sign saying 'Epilepsy  
8           colony' and something like 'Do not enter' and stuff like  
9           a skull and crossbones.

10          "One of my sisters developed epilepsy when she was  
11          14. She thought she had caught it from the epilepsy  
12          colony. She thought it was contagious and she thought  
13          she had caught it from looking through the railings.

14          "When we were having dinner or lunch, it was always  
15          silent. All I could smell was hot food and the plastic  
16          smell of Tupperware. If they gave you semolina, it  
17          would have lumps in it. You now how kids can be. Some  
18          people don't like textures in their mouth. I would  
19          immediately start retching. If you started retching,  
20          you would get pulled out and taken out of the  
21          dining room, beaten, and put back in the room again.  
22          You had to finish it.

23          "So we got into the habit, when the staff wasn't  
24          looking, of passing the semolina up to my older sister  
25          and she would try and eat a lot of it. My sister would

1 pass me down her empty plate so that she would take the  
2 beating or she would try and eat it. That was the  
3 understanding we had between sisters.

4 "I cannot remember the main meals. I presume it was  
5 potatoes, meat and vegetables. I can remember the  
6 puddings. They were just like eating a plate of grey  
7 lumps. It was supposed to be semolina, sago or custard,  
8 but it was disgusting. You saw people gagging into  
9 their plates, but they still couldn't move from the  
10 table. You knew you couldn't move from the table until  
11 you had finished everything. The only way was to eat  
12 the lumps or to try and sneak them up to my sister.

13 "I must have got porridge in the morning because  
14 I hate it now and it was full of lumps as well.  
15 I remember that horrible feeling of sitting at that  
16 bench with a plate in front of me for hours if you  
17 didn't eat something. Everybody else would leave and  
18 you would just be sat there with your plate in front of  
19 you. You got the full treatment if you didn't finish  
20 your meal, so probably even if you were gagging you  
21 would still have eaten it.

22 "My dad visited every fortnight, every second  
23 Saturday. We weren't allowed out of Quarrier's Village.  
24 My dad usually brought my auntie. Only two visitors  
25 were allowed. My uncle must have been there in the car

1 and stayed outside. He must have driven them there. My  
2 dad had presents with him. I think there was one  
3 occasion when he brought my stepmother but that was  
4 later on.

5 "For visits there was a wardrobe with a sliding door  
6 in the corridor with lots of frocks in it. On visiting  
7 day they gave you a frock to wear. Mrs [REDACTED] would  
8 smile at everyone on that day. She spoke to my dad. We  
9 told him that she was horrible and beat us and she was  
10 smiling away as if there were no problems at all.  
11 I provided the inquiry with black and white photographs  
12 which my sister found after my stepmum died. The  
13 photographs are of my sisters and me at Quarriers. My  
14 dad is in one of the photographs. The photo was taken  
15 on a visiting day and the dresses we are wearing are the  
16 frocks that I mentioned. That is not normally what we  
17 wore. The photos were taken by my auntie. The wee hats  
18 and coats and shoes were just brought out for visiting.  
19 We had to look perfect. As soon as dad left, the frocks  
20 came right back off again.

21 "We all have short hair in the photographs as we got  
22 our hair cut. We didn't get a chance. It was a bowl  
23 cut and everybody got their haircut. I have no idea if  
24 the reason our hair was cut short was due to nits.

25 "The photographs were taken outside a big hall at

1 Quarriers and that's where you visited your parents.  
2 They didn't come into cottage 7. If it was a visiting  
3 day you were either inside the hall or just outside it.  
4 You could go outside and have a wander around.

5 "On these visiting days, Miss QBI was gooey-eyed  
6 when she met my dad because he was quite a handsome man.  
7 He did get a lot of female interest, I suppose. From my  
8 perspective, seeing her smiling at him, when we never  
9 saw her smile, we thought she liked him. Thinking about  
10 it later on, there was probably an underlying  
11 manipulation happening there to flatter his ego so he  
12 didn't actually think worse of what he was hearing. So  
13 we were very reluctant to say anything to him in case it  
14 got back to her because that would probably constitute  
15 another beating.

16 "The poor kids didn't have anyone to visit them. As  
17 faulty as my family were, we were deemed to be the lucky  
18 ones. You just think to yourself the horror for the  
19 other kids who were there and didn't have anyone  
20 visiting and had to put up with that. Of course we had  
21 somebody to tell, but somebody with closed ears. He  
22 didn't want to know.

23 "We were always told that we were better off than  
24 the other kids because we had a parent who visited.  
25 We were constantly told: do you know how well off you

1 are having a parent?

2 "My dad and aunt would bring presents for us.

3 Mrs QBI would come over and say, 'What lovely  
4 presents', but as soon as they left, she would take the  
5 presents off us and we would never see them again.  
6 I don't know why. I remember my dad bringing me  
7 a twinkly necklace and my sister got a pram and  
8 something for my other sisters. I thought my necklace  
9 was the most beautiful thing ever. As soon as my dad  
10 left, she took the presents away and I never saw my  
11 necklace again.

12 "On Sunday we went to church and then Sunday school,  
13 which was called Sunshine Corner, straight after. So  
14 you stayed on after church. I don't remember that much  
15 about it but I know I was part of the Sunday school.  
16 I don't remember if it was optional or not. I'm an  
17 atheist now, so it had no effect on me.

18 "I remember one time looking up and singing hymns  
19 and thinking, do they all go back to their cottages and  
20 do this to the kids in those cottages? None of them  
21 know that this woman does this to us. She looked just  
22 like them and I remember thinking do they all do this as  
23 well? It's not like you could escape and say, 'This is  
24 what happened to me', like you see in the movies.

25 "I don't remember any separate religious

1 instruction. The whole ethos was to do with religion  
2 and I always got the impression that the staff and  
3 cottage mothers were very religious. Mrs QBI could  
4 be religious and give the feeling of being religious  
5 when she was beating the kids. She always gave the  
6 impression that we were wrong and bad and they were  
7 righteous. They were always overseeing and looking down  
8 on us, to some degree, to a spiritual end which was  
9 a lot of shit as it had nothing to do with spiritualism  
10 or godliness or anything like that. I don't remember  
11 saying grace before we ate our meal, but I do remember  
12 bowing my head so I assume we did say it.

13 "Once we went on holiday to Turnberry to pick  
14 potatoes and Mrs QBI didn't come to that. I was in  
15 a room with my sisters. We also went to Dunoon as I  
16 have mentioned. I don't remember any other day trips or  
17 shopping or trips to the cinema. We were mostly kept  
18 indoors. We might have had the occasional Saturday  
19 afternoon outside the cottage -- I mean directly  
20 outside, nowhere else. I spent most of my time with my  
21 three older sisters outside on a Saturday afternoon when  
22 it wasn't visiting.

23 "I don't remember any birthdays at Quarriers. The  
24 first birthday I remember was after I left Quarriers.

25 "I don't remember anything to do with Christmas at

1 Quarriers. I can't remember coming out of Christmas  
2 with a present. I would imagine there would have been  
3 a church thing as they were at church all the time.  
4 I would imagine there must have been presents that my  
5 dad must have sent us, but I can't remember getting  
6 a present and opening it or keeping something from  
7 a present.

8 "I don't remember TV, radio, comics, books or toys.  
9 We were brought toys by my dad, but then they were taken  
10 off us. I can't remember ever sitting with any toys  
11 apart from when I first went into Quarriers and I played  
12 in a Wendy house.

13 "I remember seeing a graphic novel on the benches  
14 with the clothes on it in cottage 7. I remember there  
15 was some kind of comic there. It wasn't the Beano or  
16 the Dandy, it was a graphic novel with a horror story in  
17 it. I remember reading it and it was about these wee  
18 monsters under the bed. I got a wee nightmare about  
19 these wee monsters.

20 "I don't remember organised games, but I do remember  
21 being taken in a taxi with balloons and a trail of other  
22 taxis. I was taken in a tax with a woman and a man and  
23 a child. I was sitting in the back of this taxi with  
24 these complete strangers and thinking, 'I don't want to  
25 do this'. I had no interaction with these strangers.

1 I was to get in the taxi with these people and their  
2 child and they didn't speak to me and I didn't speak to  
3 them. I didn't know where I was going.

4 "I don't remember any inspectors, inspections or  
5 officials coming to Quarriers Homes when I was there.  
6 I think, like the time when the Danish auntie came,  
7 I would have remembered that. If inspectors were there,  
8 there were just more grey shapes around us.

9 "I have concerns as I can't remember two years of  
10 not being in school. I definitely was not at school at  
11 Quarriers. I started school in 1966 after I left  
12 Quarriers. I recall my sisters going to school at  
13 Quarriers but I didn't go to school. The school was in  
14 Quarrier's Village. However, that leaves two years of  
15 being at Quarriers when my big sisters were at school  
16 and I have no recollection of what I did for those two  
17 years. There is only so much shoe polishing you can do.

18 "I can't actually remember my last day at Quarriers  
19 but I remember how I felt sitting in the car. I felt  
20 there was nothing to be excited about. I don't know  
21 why, you would think we would have been running out of  
22 there, but I remember being in the back of the car and  
23 feeling very low and it's not consistent with coming  
24 from a horrible place to a new place. All I knew was  
25 that my dad had met someone and started up a home and

1 that meant we could get out of Quarriers.

2 "I never saw Mrs QBI again after I left. My  
3 sister always said that when she was a teenager she was  
4 going to visit Mrs QBI. We always thought it was  
5 going to happen, my sister turning up at Mrs QBI's  
6 door, but of course it didn't happen.

7 "When I was in Quarriers the only adult that  
8 I thought I could have confided in was the Danish  
9 auntie, but I didn't. She was only there a short time,  
10 maybe just a couple of days.

11 "There wasn't anybody else to tell. Everybody was  
12 connected. We went to church and it was connected and  
13 they all knew each other. We went to Sunday school and  
14 it was connected to the churches and the homes,  
15 connected to the cottage mothers and fathers. It didn't  
16 matter if you spoke to the milkman, it would get back to  
17 the cottage mother. You wouldn't have been brave enough  
18 to say anything. I didn't ever return to Quarriers and  
19 report what happened to me.

20 "We did tell our dad about what was happening but he  
21 just ignored it. We told him during and after the time  
22 we were at Quarriers. It was the 1960s. People hit  
23 their kids. Maybe he just thought it was a slap on the  
24 bum or something like that. We became very despondent  
25 that my dad never reacted to what we told him. He never

1           said he would go and see Mrs QBI when we told him  
2           what was happening."

3                     Now moving to paragraph 105 on page 4695:

4           "The next time I reported the abuse would be when  
5           I phoned Greenock Police in 2002. I don't know who  
6           I spoke to or what department it was. I saw the number  
7           on the telly. There was something like a documentary  
8           and it said if you were affected by these issues contact  
9           this number. I phoned the number and got straight  
10          through to Greenock Police.

11          "I said Mrs QBI had treated us badly at  
12          Quarriers. I spoke to a woman who was very vague and  
13          sounded as if she was in a rush. She asked for some  
14          context and I told her about the incident of counting on  
15          the stairs and being belted. It was as if she stopped  
16          me there and she didn't want any more detail. I said  
17          she beat us up a lot of the time.

18          "The person that I spoke to said that there was a  
19          good chance that Mrs QBI wouldn't be alive any  
20          longer. I said I felt that I had better say something  
21          and she said if Mrs QBI was alive, she would get back  
22          to me. Then she said cheerio and I just put the phone  
23          down and that was that.

24          "I think the police response was rubbish. They  
25          didn't get back to me. I took no response to mean that

1 Mrs QBI had died and there was no point in the police  
2 phoning me back.

3 "I didn't have a social worker. My dad hated  
4 social workers. I always wondered where that was from  
5 until I read the Quarriers records to do with the  
6 church. He didn't like people coming in and  
7 interfering. They never had people over, never wanted  
8 anyone to come in and talk about any of this stuff.  
9 Interfering busybodies, as he would call them. The only  
10 other person I told was my counsellor. She didn't get  
11 the full story but she got some of it. Today is the  
12 first time I have told the full story. Nobody has heard  
13 this full story before."

14 Turning to paragraph 134 on page 4701 at this part  
15 of her statement Pat speaks about impact and I will read  
16 some parts of the section out:

17 "It's probably due to what happened in Quarriers  
18 that I am an atheist now. Maybe I just haven't evidence  
19 some good comes out of a group of adults believing in  
20 the same thing. I think the whole experience at  
21 Quarriers was continually threatening, so I suppose it's  
22 emotional bullying. I think it's a wee bit like if you  
23 use forms to make rules stick then everyone is going to  
24 comply with them, but it's an ethos of fear all the  
25 time. You spend the rest of your life in fear of

1 stepping out of line. It is unsaid, untold and you have  
2 this pattern. I suppose it's to do with authority in  
3 your later life. It kept me in line for a lot of years.  
4 It just carries on and doesn't go away."

5 Now to paragraph 138:

6 "We were always today in Quarriers we were bad and  
7 to some degree it was our own fault we were there and  
8 especially me because I wet the bed. We carried it  
9 forward to when we left."

10 And paragraph 139:

11 "I only found my voice when I was 28 when I got into  
12 art, but prior to that I was always of the ethos that  
13 you just got on with things and you don't complain as  
14 complaining just meant you got another problem. Don't  
15 complain, just get on with it. Quarriers was  
16 a seriously steep learning curve for me and I think it  
17 made me all my life want to be in a situation to be  
18 liked and to be accepted, irrespective of what it does  
19 to me."

20 Now to paragraph 143 on page 4703:

21 "I have always had difficulty with sleeping.  
22 I maybe sleep for or five hours per night. I replay the  
23 events of Quarriers a lot in my mind. I live with it.  
24 It's not a way back there, I live with it."

25 Now to paragraph 157 on page 4706:

1           "I think it's fair to say that what happened to me  
2 in Quarriers has affected how I parent. A lot of people  
3 will just think I'm a protective mum and I get comments  
4 like, you're going to have to take the cotton wool away,  
5 and I just laugh it off, but I know where this is coming  
6 from, they don't."

7           Now to paragraph 163 at page 4707 where Pat talks  
8 about records:

9           "I don't remember when I asked Quarriers for my  
10 records. I didn't mention the abuse and I just asked  
11 for any records relating to me. I can't remember if  
12 I said anything. But when Josie Bell wrote back she  
13 said, 'I'm sorry your experience wasn't a pleasant one',  
14 so I must have said something. I was sent the records  
15 and I replied to her to say, 'This can't be all there  
16 is, shouldn't there be further stuff?' She came back  
17 and said, 'Sorry, it's not what you're looking for'."

18           To paragraph 165:

19           "I have never visited Quarriers at an adult. I was  
20 in a meeting with Quarriers staff in Glasgow City  
21 Chambers last year and they actually invited me to go  
22 out to Quarrier's Village. They said, 'It's beautiful,  
23 wait until you see it'. I said, 'Right, okay, I'll do  
24 that some time'. They said they would make me something  
25 to eat when I went out. They were lovely people, really

1 nice. They said, 'There are little cottages', and I was  
2 sitting thinking, 'I know'."

3 Moving to paragraph 167:

4 "I don't think one person should have power over  
5 a group of kids like Mrs **QBI** did. There should be  
6 monitoring and robust review to determine how kids are  
7 being treated. At the reviewing stage I think there  
8 should be some form of psychologist or psychiatrist to  
9 actually have these kind of discussions with the kids.  
10 Someone who understands that a child will say everything  
11 is all right when it's not to keep themselves safe.  
12 That person can't always be the same person each time  
13 because as soon as you have that regularity, that one  
14 person has all the power again. There has to be a phone  
15 at the end of the hall that kids can use and somebody  
16 safe to speak to at the other end. Not necessarily  
17 their parents; it could be like Childline, something  
18 neutral that has nothing invested in the kids' care.  
19 There should be some reporting mechanisms, a complaints  
20 procedure with a leaflet pinned up at the end of the  
21 hall where kids know that they can go to and the staff  
22 know that the kids can go to so the staff are aware that  
23 the kids can report back."

24 At paragraph 170, Pat says:

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 Pat signed her statement on 13 January 2017.

5 LADY SMITH: Thank you. Where next?

6 MS RATTRAY: Over to my colleague, who will read another  
7 statement.

8 LADY SMITH: While you're swapping over, I should probably  
9 draw attention to the fact that Mrs [REDACTED] QBI 's identity as  
10 somebody against whom allegations of abuse have been  
11 aired is protected by my general restriction order.

12 Witness statement of ERIC McBAY (read)

13 MS MACLEOD: My Lady, this is a statement of a former  
14 house parent at Quarriers. Eric McBay. The statement  
15 is to be found at WIT.003.001.5492:

16 "My name is Eric McBay. I was born in 1946. My  
17 contact details are known to the inquiry.

18 "I left school at the age of 16. I was bright  
19 enough at school, but I didn't apply myself. I never  
20 served an apprenticeship. I started working in motor  
21 engineering. I did that for about four years. I then  
22 moved from London to Birmingham to work in heavy  
23 engineering. I did that for several years and was  
24 promoted to assistant works manager. I didn't like that  
25 as I preferred to work on the floor. I hardly ever had

1 to attend job interviews. There was a shortage of tool  
2 setters and engineers at that time. I then moved into  
3 sales, which I did for a couple of years, before  
4 becoming self-employed and running a garage.

5 "At that time my cousin, Elsie, and her husband  
6 Alistair Murdoch were house parents at  
7 Quarrier's Village in Bridge of Weir. My wife, Carol,  
8 and I would visit them on holiday. They were in charge  
9 of cottage 10. We met the kids there and became more  
10 and more interested in childcare.

11 "We decided we wanted to move to Scotland. We  
12 wanted away from the Midlands. We thought our son would  
13 have a better mainstream education in Scotland at that  
14 time. My family was from Scotland originally and we  
15 liked it there. Alistair had a word with Joe Mortimer  
16 of Quarriers and we had an informal meeting with him.  
17 We decided to apply to become house parents there.

18 "We then received a letter from Joe Mortimer, which  
19 appeared to say that we weren't suitable. I had never  
20 been refused a job in my life and I contacted  
21 Mr Mortimer to find out why. He said it wasn't that  
22 we weren't suitable candidates, but there were no  
23 positions available at that time. We had a further  
24 meeting with Joe Mortimer followed by a final meeting  
25 with Dr Davidson, one of the general directors. I can't

1 remember what took place at that meeting. I think Carol  
2 and I nodded and smiled at the right times as he was  
3 speaking for his benefit and we couldn't understand his  
4 accent.

5 "I think Mr Mortimer was the main guy. He asked us  
6 questions about our hobbies and interests. We were  
7 asked about our family ties and any connections with the  
8 local area. We were asked why we were interested in the  
9 role. We were also asked about our Christian beliefs as  
10 there was a very strong emphasis on that. Carol and  
11 I were both churchgoers but we weren't members of an  
12 official church.

13 "I recall Mr Mortimer saying that my wife was the  
14 first person to wear a mini skirt at an interview.  
15 We were amongst the youngest house parents at Quarriers.  
16 Our son was three years old at the time. We were asked  
17 for references and for details of our employment  
18 history. We had to provide personal references.  
19 I think I named my brother-in-law as a reference.  
20 We were certainly aware that there were ongoing checks.

21 "Carol and I had no prior experience of working in  
22 childcare. I had no formal qualifications. It seemed  
23 there was more focus on people who showed a keen  
24 interest and were minded to get things right for the  
25 children. A lot of the emphasis was on our own

1           upbringings, our relationships with siblings, and our  
2           contact with the relatives. Shortly after that, we  
3           received a letter to say that an opening had become  
4           available at Quarriers. We sold the garage and our  
5           house and moved to Quarriers around January 1973.

6           "Before Carol and I arrived, the house parents in  
7           charge of cottage 6 had been the Wilsons. We inherited  
8           their staff, the cottage auntie and the cleaner. The  
9           cleaner came from Port Glasgow. She would bring the  
10          kids sweeties. We had two cleaners while we were there  
11          and they were both excellent. They were homely, nice  
12          people and they were part of the team. They would stay  
13          for lunch and talk with the children.

14          "There were three or four aunties over the years I  
15          spent at cottage 6. I think she might have been called  
16          Maureen. She may have been the auntie that the children  
17          nicknamed 'Bawler' because she was always shouting.  
18          Carol encouraged the aunties to discuss children and  
19          bring ideas to her. They worked alongside us. We had  
20          one day off a week when the auntie would be in charge.

21          "Carol and I were joint house parents. I think our  
22          contract stated the day we started, our salaries, and  
23          the pension provision. It was just one sheet of paper.  
24          There was no staff manual or written directions.  
25          I think we were told what time to get the children to

1 school, when the laundry days were, and how to order  
2 food. Everything was verbal. There was nothing in  
3 writing that I can recall. We picked things up as we  
4 went along. If we didn't know what to do, we asked  
5 other cottage parents.

6 "Alistair Murdoch and George Gill were very  
7 approachable. George Gill's door was never shut. There  
8 were 526 children in Quarriers. George prided himself  
9 by knowing every child by face and by name.

10 "The general directors were Dr Minto and  
11 Dr Davidson. I felt as though they were beyond us.  
12 Dr Minto knew me but he didn't know anything about me.  
13 On one occasion I had to drive him to Dumfries. I let  
14 him rabble on about the cars Quarriers were buying being  
15 a waste of money. He was sitting in my Rover and I just  
16 let him carry on. He didn't know what he was talking  
17 about. He didn't know what was happening at the grass  
18 roots and he didn't know the staff. I realise that  
19 senior staff can't know everything that's happening but  
20 it was still a small enough place that he could have  
21 known the staff better. I don't remember ever seeing  
22 him. He was there but I never had any contact with him.

23 "One of the other directors was Bill Dunbar. The  
24 children used to call him 'Buffalo Bill'. I think he  
25 dealt with the internal and external post. That was all

1 he was in my mind. He had no power. He was  
2 a house father, but I had no need to respect him. He  
3 didn't come across as management. He gave Carol a row  
4 for having a picnic on the grass and said the grass was  
5 to be seen, not for having picnics on. On a couple of  
6 occasions, our personal post arrived open.

7 "I remember a man called Mike Laxton being at  
8 Quarriers. He had been seconded from the  
9 Scottish Office. I don't know what his role was, but  
10 I think he was a great advocate for progression. He  
11 certainly looked after Carol's interests when she handed  
12 in her notice. Quarriers was shrinking at the time and  
13 she was asked to become a cottage auntie as she had  
14 a place to live outside the village. That would have  
15 been a demotion for her, having been a house parent for  
16 many years. She handed in her notice and Bill Dunbar  
17 accepted it and said she could leave in a month's time.  
18 Mike didn't want Quarriers to lose her. He arranged for  
19 matter to go to Southannan School, where I was already  
20 working at that time.

21 "There were monthly staff meetings which took place  
22 in Somerville Hall. They tended to revolve around mince  
23 and tatties and numbers of toilet roll sheets, minor  
24 things rather than procedure. However, Carol introduced  
25 regular staff meetings within our cottage team. We

1 talked about long and short-term plans for each child.

2 "Whatever people were suited to, they tended to work  
3 in that role. My role wasn't 100% in child care.  
4 Because of my engineering background, I was sent to the  
5 laundry and I maintained the large machines there.  
6 I also assisted with transport, hospital runs and  
7 delivering the bread. I would go to East Kilbride to  
8 pick up donations.

9 "After assisting Carol with the children at  
10 breakfast time, I would go to the laundry. Some  
11 house fathers worked in one of the stores. Others went  
12 to their own work outwith the village. I would return  
13 to the cottage to have lunch with the children and  
14 in the evening I did thing with the kids and helped them  
15 with homework.

16 "I knew a lot of children from other cottages as  
17 well as our own. As a house father, I had to carry out  
18 park duty. That entailed wandering around the village  
19 about once a month, checking there were no fights on the  
20 football pitch, nobody was leaving the village, nobody  
21 was damaging the grounds, and that kind of thing.  
22 I quite enjoyed wandering around the village on summer  
23 evenings.

24 "I think each cottage had a social worker from  
25 within Quarriers assigned to it. He or she would pop in

1 to discuss different children. I think Alistair Murdoch  
2 and George Gill oversaw those social workers and  
3 Joe Mortimer was above them. I think the social worker  
4 assigned to cottage 6 was called Rob Murphy. Not all  
5 the children had local authority social workers  
6 in addition to Rob. If children had been placed in  
7 Quarriers voluntarily by their parents, they didn't have  
8 a social worker from the outside.

9 "In 1975, Carol and I attended a training course at  
10 Langside College. We weren't directed to do the course  
11 by Quarriers. It was the first formal training either  
12 of us had received. It was an in-service study course.  
13 I think we went there on day release. There were quite  
14 a lot of essays. I remember sitting up all night doing  
15 the essays as I always left things to the last minute.

16 "It was a good course. In hindsight, it should have  
17 happened immediately upon or prior to us starting at  
18 Quarriers. We shouldn't have been able to walk in and  
19 be house parents to 14 kids. We went to see some  
20 children's homes to see how they operated. I can't  
21 remember the names of all the places. We went to  
22 a Barnardo's home in Watford or Hemel Hempstead. We  
23 spent the whole day there. It was a very similar set-up  
24 to Quarriers. We went to Todd Hill Training Farm, which  
25 is for people with severe learning disabilities. A boy

1 of 16 was sent there from Quarriers, which shouldn't  
2 have happened. He was put in with old men. It was  
3 a horrible place with big dormitories.

4 "I remember children's rights being discussed at  
5 Langside College. We were already aware of this subject  
6 as we had books about it and spoke to George Gill and  
7 Rob Murphy about it. We had looked into that ourselves  
8 because we wanted to do things right. It wasn't pushed  
9 at us. We saw our role as a calling, not a profession.  
10 I think that's what Joe Mortimer wanted, rather than  
11 people who saw being a house parent as a profession.

12 "We also discussed physical abuse of children at  
13 Langside, but not sexual abuse. One lecturer did raise  
14 the issue of sexual aggression, but other than that  
15 nothing of a sexual nature was discussed. We discussed  
16 the signs of physical abuse in care, at home or in  
17 foster care. We were told to look for children  
18 flinching, backing off quickly, or drawing away into  
19 a corner. We were told to look for bruises.

20 "There were around 14 boys and girls in cottage 6.  
21 I think there were more boys than girls, but I can't  
22 remember the exact ratio. The youngest child was about  
23 4 and the eldest 16. I remember some of the children.  
24 We had contact with some of the families after they  
25 left, but not many. I tended to think we'd done our job

1 properly when we didn't hear from the children we'd  
2 looked after. It was natural for them not to need us,  
3 to be doing things on their own."

4 At paragraph 28 Eric lists and describes some of the  
5 children he and his wife had in their care in the  
6 cottage.

7 He states that one of the children visited them once  
8 that child had left Quarriers:

9 "When we arrived at the village, I think we spent  
10 a month training at other units. We stayed with my  
11 cousin at cottage 10 for a week or thereabouts. After  
12 that, the house parents at cottage 31 left so I think we  
13 went there. We were then allocated cottage number 6.  
14 After that, Carol and I were on our own. There wasn't  
15 a lot of guidance or support. It was there if you  
16 shouted loudly enough for it, but we never did; we just  
17 got on with it.

18 "My first impression of Quarriers was that it seemed  
19 quite Victorian. When we reached cottage 6, we would  
20 give the kids a shout at breakfast time. When they  
21 didn't come downstairs, Carol went up to the bedrooms.  
22 All of the children were standing next to their beds  
23 waiting for bed inspection. Carol went along with that  
24 for a while, but she felt that making beds shouldn't be  
25 part of the child's role. She told them just to leave

1           it and she would make the beds when they had gone to  
2           school. The beds would be inspected by matron, who  
3           insisted on hospital corners. Carol felt that was our  
4           responsibility not the children's.

5           "Things appeared to be quite regimented when we  
6           arrived. The children had chores, like cleaning and  
7           polishes shoes and peeling potatoes for 18. I didn't  
8           think that was appropriate and I found it quite  
9           distressing.

10          "My wife Carol and I got up at the same time.  
11          We would give the kids a shout, then help them with  
12          breakfast and to get ready for school. Some of the  
13          children went to school outwith the village. We would  
14          make sure they caught the bus or transport. There was  
15          a minibus that would collect staff members' children and  
16          take them to school.

17          "The cottage had a main dormitory for girls and  
18          a main dormitory for boys. There were also two smaller  
19          bedrooms for two or three children. The boys' dormitory  
20          was a big long room. When we arrived they had no  
21          privacy. We built wardrobes with chests of drawers and  
22          placed them sideways between the beds. That way, when  
23          you walked down the centre of the dormitory, it was as  
24          if the boys had their own rooms to the left and right.

25          "We thought eight or nine boys in one bedroom was

1 too much, but there was no way round the fabric of the  
2 building. Our son tended to vacate his bedroom and go  
3 into the dormitory with the boys. They loved it. One  
4 of the boys would use our son's room.

5 "The meals were premised in the kitchen. There were  
6 five tables in the dining room. We ate our meals with  
7 the kids. Staff and children ate the same food. At  
8 lunchtime, there would be around 18 people in the  
9 dining room. The cleaner would eat her lunch with us as  
10 well. She was part of the team. We tried to make  
11 things as normal as possible for the children. If  
12 a child wanted to talk to the cleaner about something,  
13 that was fine. She'd tell us what the child had said  
14 and we would try help if there was a problem.

15 "The food was generally very good and I think the  
16 kids were happy with it. There weren't menu choices,  
17 but if a child didn't like something, he or she didn't  
18 have to eat it. My son was a fussy eater and I wouldn't  
19 expect another kid to eat something he didn't like.

20 "I had a contact with Mr Kipling Cakes so we were  
21 given lots of cakes which were almost out of date.  
22 We were able to supply cakes to the rest of the village.  
23 I used to cut bread and jam sandwiches with a pastry  
24 cutter and put them in the deep fat fryer. We would  
25 have them at supper time. They tasted a bit like

1           doughnuts and the kids often asked to have those. The  
2           older kids could make their own snacks if they wanted.  
3           They made things like porridge. We told them that was  
4           fine as long as they cleared up after themselves.

5           "The bathroom in cottage 6 had damp, so it was  
6           renovated a lot. I think there were showers. It looked  
7           modern. There were rows of sinks and toilets. There  
8           were separate toilets for boys and girls and a separate  
9           staff toilet. The children ended up using the staff  
10          toilet. We didn't want to tell kids to go downstairs to  
11          the toilet when there was a toilet just outside their  
12          door.

13          "I'm not sure how often the children had showers.  
14          It was mainly Carol who dealt with that kind of things.  
15          I think the kids might have showered every night, more  
16          if they were muddy from football.

17          "Bob McLaren was the headmaster of the school within  
18          Quarriers. If he felt that a child would do better in  
19          a mainstream school, he met with the child's social  
20          worker and house parents. I think the brighter children  
21          tended to go outside to school. If Carol and I thought  
22          that a child should go outside to school then we could  
23          also approach the school. The child would need extra  
24          funding for uniform so we had to justify it, but it was  
25          encouraged by social workers and the education

1 department.

2 "Carol used to attend parents' nights and school  
3 meetings for children who went to outside schools.  
4 I don't think there was a parents' evening at the  
5 Quarriers school. I think we just got a written report  
6 or we were called in if a child had been unruly.

7 If we were told that a child had been misbehaving at  
8 school, we would try to talk to the child and explain  
9 that it was wrong. The children used our old sitting  
10 room as a quiet space to do their homework. They could  
11 be on their own if they wanted as long as they were  
12 safe. Some of the children liked to study. I remember  
13 one child in particular who spent a lot of time  
14 studying.

15 "The oldest child we had in cottage 6 was 16 and he  
16 couldn't read or write when we arrived. He used to sit  
17 with Carol every night. She would practice reading  
18 newspaper headlines with him. He did well and succeeded  
19 after he left Quarriers.

20 "We were encouraged to follow any interests we might  
21 have and share them with the children. I bought my son  
22 a train set on the day he was born. I started a railway  
23 club. We met one or two nights a week in one of the  
24 cottage buildings. I also liked playing football, so  
25 I would do that with the kids. Carol and I both enjoyed

1           picnics. I remember Bill Dunbar told us off for having  
2           a picnic on the grass.

3           "Each child had a locker for their own stuff, but  
4           I don't think they had keys. There were also hampers  
5           full of toys. I had a contact in London who brought us  
6           lots of toys. We had two televisions in the cottage.  
7           We also had a radio and my sound system. I would play  
8           my music loudly, much to the displeasure of the other  
9           units. The kids would turn up the volume when I played  
10          Queen and other music like that.

11          "There was a library in the village. I'm not sure  
12          how often it was open but it was a building on the  
13          left-hand side just after you came through the main  
14          gate. We also had lots of books in our cottage and the  
15          children could read them in the sitting room, which  
16          became a quiet room, or upstairs in their beds.

17          "I used to take the older boys camping. I also used  
18          to make trolleys or bogies with the children. I would  
19          scrounge for stuff and get wheels. We used to race two  
20          or three kids. Some of the other cottages started to do  
21          the same thing and we would have intra-cottage races.

22          "There were organised clubs within Quarriers but  
23          I can't remember what they all were. There was a choir.  
24          Some of the children went to clubs outside. I remember  
25          one girl was really good at gymnastics so we encouraged

1 her to go to a club outside the village.

2 "Albion Motors used to collect money for the  
3 children and it was used if they needed money for  
4 special outings like to the cinema. Every year  
5 Albion Motors organised a whole day out for the  
6 children.

7 "Some of the older children had friends in Linwood,  
8 especially if they went out to school. They were  
9 allowed to meet up with their friends as long as they  
10 came back at a set time. I don't remember that being  
11 abused. The kids were pretty good."

12 LADY SMITH: I think we'll take the morning break now. It's  
13 11.30 and I'm sure the stenographers would like  
14 a breather.

15 (11.30 am)

16 (A short break)

17 (11.53 am)

18 LADY SMITH: Ms MacLeod, when you're ready.

19 MS MACLEOD: Continuing with the statement of Eric McBay  
20 from paragraph 51, which is at WIT.003.001.5502:

21 "When we arrived at cottage 6, I remember there  
22 being talk of a pot boy who was responsible for cleaning  
23 all the pots. I think other units might still have had  
24 children doing chores. It seemed to me that everything  
25 had been very regimented in cottage 6 prior to our

1 arrival. I remember there was a back shed after you  
2 went through the playroom. I remember seeing a kid in  
3 the shed taking eyes out and peeling potatoes. To see  
4 a kid doing that was wrong. He shouldn't been peeling  
5 potatoes for 18/19 people. It was alien to us. The  
6 children also polished all the shoes for children, staff  
7 and children of staff. They weren't slaves, they were  
8 children. I found all of that a bit distressing.

9 "If a kid wanted to help with the chores, he or she  
10 could. They all loved polishing the long corridors. My  
11 son loved doing that too. They would slide up and down.  
12 However, there were no specific chores or jobs for the  
13 kids. Jobs were done by the staff. I don't know what  
14 happened in other units. I heard snippets about  
15 children being on bathroom duties, but I never witnessed  
16 it. I think a kid might have told me that somebody had  
17 to clean the toilet.

18 "Carol and I took the children from our cottage down  
19 to London for three or four days. The children stayed  
20 with family friends of ours in London. We took them to  
21 see the sights, like Buckingham Palace. There was no  
22 procedure for vetting or monitoring the people the kids  
23 stayed with. We just asked George Gill or Joe Mortimer  
24 and it was left to our judgement, rightly or wrongly.

25 "We also went to Turnberry for holidays. The whole

1 cottage would move down there. Carol and I tried to get  
2 the kids nice clothes for the holidays. I remember  
3 going to Girvan in the evening. I also took the kids on  
4 beach walks. I got permission to go to the lighthouse  
5 and have a midnight feast. It was fun for me too.

6 "When we arrived at Quarriers, the children had to  
7 go to church twice on a Sunday. The children had to  
8 wear their Sunday best. The girls wore gloves and the  
9 boys wore kilts. Carol and I stopped that and the  
10 children in our cottage only had to go once. We  
11 encouraged Bible studies if a child was interested  
12 in that but we didn't force it. I think there might  
13 have been some remarks after staff meetings such as: our  
14 children don't want to go to church in the evenings  
15 because your children aren't going.

16 "Christmas was magical. A lot of the time, my  
17 family would visit from London. My parents and my  
18 sister and her kids would could many they would say  
19 locally and visit the cottage. The cottage 6 children  
20 were spoiled. They got money to spend and Carol would  
21 take them out individually to spend their Christmas  
22 money. Carol and I bought them toys, my parents bought  
23 them toys, and my sister bought them toys. I have  
24 always loved Christmas.

25 "One kid was given a new bike. I remember seeing

1 her pushing it along. I asked her what she was doing  
2 and she said she was taking it to the dump because it  
3 had a puncture. I helped her to fix it. We tried to  
4 get bikes for all of the kids.

5 "On a child's birthday, we took him or her out and  
6 bought presents. The child would have a birthday tea  
7 with a cake and candles. We would organise party games.  
8 Children were also given a present by Quarriers. Carol  
9 and I liked to make Easter special as well. On  
10 Hallowe'en we dooked for apples. We did these things  
11 for ourselves as well as for the children. We had a son  
12 and we wanted to make these things special for him. We  
13 probably spent more money on our son but we tried to  
14 make these occasions special for all the children.

15 "I think contact agreements were made by the child's  
16 social worker along with Carol. Family contact was  
17 arranged by Carol. Some parents kept in contact with  
18 the children. Some were in prison. Carol had to chase  
19 up some of the parents about contact. If contact was  
20 fortnightly or weekly, Carol tried to make sure that it  
21 occurred. She thought it was important. If something  
22 went wrong, Carol would follow it up herself. I recall  
23 one little girl had been taught how to masturbate by her  
24 mother. Carol went in at the deep end when I wouldn't  
25 have had the diplomacy to have spoken to the woman.

1           "The children's family members would come to the  
2 cottage. Some stayed there for the day. Others would  
3 go out into the local area if they were allowed to.  
4 Some children went home for the weekend. Carol would  
5 make food parcels for kids going home if she knew there  
6 were problems. She had the blessing of Quarriers for  
7 that kind of thing. It was quite progressive. I can't  
8 remember anything being stopped. Joe Mortimer was quite  
9 young. Dr Minto and Dr Davidson didn't stop anything.  
10 The management were supportive of Carol.

11           "Some children had no contact at all with their  
12 family. There was a befriending scheme at Quarriers.  
13 I remember befrienders coming in to visit the cottage  
14 but I'm not sure how that worked. I'm not sure if  
15 children went away overnight to the befrienders' homes.

16           "My dad lived nearby in Houston. It was my dad who  
17 got the kids the Mr Kipling cakes. He used to come and  
18 build snowmen with the kids in the wintertime. I can't  
19 remember there being a visitor log or a book.

20           "I think internal inspections were ongoing, but they  
21 were mainly physical inspections of the cottage.  
22 I remember a man called QFE who came in to inspect the  
23 building. I think he had a [REDACTED]. We used to  
24 call him "[REDACTED] QFE [REDACTED]". He would call the  
25 furniture store if we needed new items of furniture.

1           There were also monthly fire alarms. They timed how  
2           long it would take everyone to get out and the time was  
3           logged. I don't recall any external inspections.

4           "I do recall that a field social worker or Mr Murphy  
5           said that something was wrong in our cottage. Carol got  
6           a letter about it and insisted on seeing Joe Mortimer.  
7           Whatever it was, Joe Mortimer had followed it up, but  
8           I don't know what it was all about.

9           "If a child had a complaint about me or Carol, he or  
10          she could speak to other staff members or the cottage  
11          social worker or an external social worker. The  
12          children were left alone with their social workers.  
13          Carol or I might have been present for ten minutes, but  
14          then we left. Generally, the social workers took  
15          children into Bridge of Weir. Carol insisted that the  
16          local authority social workers came to the village at  
17          least once a month. I know Carol had to chase some of  
18          them up. I don't know if that happened elsewhere at  
19          Quarriers, but she certainly enforced that in her unit.

20          "The children who were placed voluntarily didn't  
21          have an external social worker. The Quarriers  
22          social worker visited at least once a month. He was  
23          friendly and the children got on well with him. I think  
24          he spent time with the kids on their own, but I wasn't  
25          usually at home for social work visits, as I would be

1 in the laundry or doing transport.

2 "Joe Mortimer would walk past and come in for  
3 a chat, but that wasn't a regular, formal thing. He had  
4 his office and that was where he was based.

5 "Carol arranged monthly planning meetings and weekly  
6 staff meetings within our cottage. At the meetings  
7 staff would discuss whether the time had come for  
8 a child to move on to a foster home or whether to bring  
9 a child in from the baby homes. It was better if  
10 children came when they were younger. I remember one  
11 child coming from the baby homes to be with siblings.  
12 At the meetings Carol and the other staff also discussed  
13 setting up or withdrawing family contact.

14 "Carol would be involved in fostering children out  
15 if she thought they were ready. She would meet  
16 prospective foster parents several times and if she  
17 thought the placement wouldn't work, she would say so,  
18 for example if she thought the foster parents were too  
19 old. There was a family who were supposed to be  
20 fostered, but because of the size of the family they  
21 couldn't be fostered together. The practice was that  
22 family groups should be kept together. One member of  
23 that family had moved on to a hostel at Quarriers. The  
24 younger children looked up to that child so they didn't  
25 want to be fostered out.

1           "Fostering wasn't always successful. Sometimes the  
2 child didn't like it. I remember one child wrecking  
3 a house because he wanted to be back in Quarriers. Not  
4 many of our kids were fostered but it did work for some  
5 of them.

6           "There was a hostel at Quarriers for older children.  
7 Gavin Roy ran it and he was superb. He had a great  
8 attitude with the kids. Kids would go there when they  
9 were about 15. Gavin would talk to the child and their  
10 social worker. He tried to find them local jobs or  
11 sometimes work in Glasgow. Some children didn't go to  
12 the hostel. They either went home or they went straight  
13 to lodgings. Carol and the child's field social worker  
14 would help them find supported lodgings.

15           "We tried to give the children in our care  
16 independent living skills. We would talk to them about  
17 budgeting and about their expectations for life when  
18 they left. We didn't want them to feel they were just  
19 thrown out. I've never known a child to approach  
20 Quarriers for help and be turned away. I felt we had  
21 a good team at that time and it was important to support  
22 the children as they moved on.

23           "Carol left home when she was 16. She knew what the  
24 kids would need and what counselling was required.  
25 I think the training we did at Langside College also

1           helped with that.

2            "If a child needed a doctor, the cottage auntie or  
3           house parent would take him or her. I think the  
4           children went for regular health checks or medical  
5           reviews, but that was Carol's remit. Within Quarriers  
6           there was a Matron McCreath and a dentist. It also had  
7           its own hospital but I don't think that was running any  
8           more. We could get cough medicine and things like that  
9           from the matron.

10           "The children were seen by the local doctor from  
11           Kilmacolm, Dr Wootton. He was fantastic with the kids.  
12           He was our doctor as well. He had five Dalmatian dogs.  
13           There wasn't one bit of leather in his car because the  
14           dogs had eaten it all. He came into the village a lot  
15           and the kids were always happy to see him.

16           "I remember a child ran into the side of my car.  
17           She hit her knee on the wheel arch and went over the  
18           top. The bone was sticking out of her leg. Carol  
19           called an ambulance. When we were waiting for the  
20           ambulance to arrive, Matron McCreath came over and said,  
21           'It's not your job to call an ambulance, you should have  
22           come to me first'. She cancelled the ambulance and  
23           called one herself. The girls' house parents went on  
24           holiday the day after the accident. Carol and I were  
25           supposed to be going on holiday too, but we felt guilty.

1 We cancelled our holiday so we could visit the girl in  
2 hospital every evening.

3 "The children didn't like going to the dentist.  
4 I remember one child had a temper tantrum and broke the  
5 dentist's drill. He ripped it out of the ground. Our  
6 son didn't like him either. He swore at the dentist and  
7 bit his arm.

8 "When we first arrived at Quarriers, there was  
9 a designated driver who would do the hospital runs if  
10 a child needed to attend an appointment. Carol felt it  
11 was important that we took our own children to hospital.  
12 Before things had been more centralised. Carol thought  
13 that the adults should have a link to the child  
14 attending hospital. Other house parents started to do  
15 the same and it became a more general practice.

16 "I remember one boy in our care had been badly [REDACTED]  
17 by his parents. He had a terrible [REDACTED], which had been  
18 provided by the NHS. Carol and Mr Mortimer went  
19 privately to get him a better [REDACTED]. There was provision  
20 for that kind of thing.

21 "No children died in my time at Quarriers so I'm not  
22 sure how death was dealt with. We did have children who  
23 were told by their father that their mother had died.  
24 She hadn't died, but he had beaten her up and was in  
25 jail for doing so.

1            "I think our son got more out of our time than the  
2 other children. He wasn't in care and there were more  
3 of the other children. We didn't want our own child to  
4 suffer. Our son talks happily of his childhood. He  
5 thought he was a Quarriers kid. He didn't want to be  
6 treated differently. He became the youngest life boy  
7 there. He mixed happily with the other kids. We did  
8 withdraw him to take him on family holidays, but we  
9 usually took one of his friends from Quarriers.

10           "There was a staff sitting room and a children's  
11 sitting room. We moved most of our furniture in the  
12 children's sitting room. We liked being with the kids.  
13 It was alien to us to demarcate our room and their room.  
14 Eventually, the children used our sitting room. It  
15 ended up being a quiet room where they could do homework  
16 and things like that.

17           When we first arrived, the bed-wetters stripped  
18 their beds in front of all the children. We felt sorry  
19 for them, standing in front of all the other children in  
20 their wet pyjamas. We put a stop to that. There were  
21 three or four bed-wetters. Carol would tell them just  
22 to make their beds as normal, go and have a shower and  
23 then the staff would strip the bed and clean the sheets  
24 when the children were at school. When the children  
25 became more relaxed, they stopped wetting the bed.

1           "I don't remember there being any guidance  
2           in relation to discipline. I can't remember it being  
3           talked about. I did know that some houses were stricter  
4           than ours. We brought our own experiences to the  
5           cottage and dealt with things that way. We had  
6           guidelines for the children in our cottage, based on our  
7           own beliefs, but they weren't written down.

8           "If a child did something wrong, such as get caught  
9           stealing, we might say that they couldn't go out for  
10          football or to go to bed half an hour early or he would  
11          be grounded for a couple of nights. We told the  
12          children not to hurt each other or damage each other's  
13          property. Any punishment would be logged by Carol or  
14          the cottage auntie. The kids knew we were fair. We  
15          told them what our expectations were. They were happy  
16          with that.

17          "One or two of the kids were shoplifters. We  
18          couldn't really control it apart from stopping them  
19          going out. Woolworth's was always a target. They had  
20          a policy of calling the police. I remember being  
21          present when a policeman asked a boy why he had stolen  
22          a Mars bar. He said he was hungry and the policeman  
23          shoved the Mars bar down the boy's throat. I had to  
24          intervene.

25          "If a child was caught stealing we would talk to the

1 child about it, but there wasn't a punishment that would  
2 stop a kid thieving. We couldn't lock them up, we  
3 couldn't stop their money or they would just steal  
4 something else. It all came down to talk. That was  
5 what I had been used to growing up. If I did something  
6 wrong, I was never smacked. I had a happy childhood.  
7 We were new to it all, especially dealing with  
8 teenagers.

9 "We were too insular to be aware of discipline  
10 practices in other cottages. We were friends with some  
11 of the other house parents, but not all of them, I do  
12 remember being with Bob Durrant, who was the  
13 house father in the cottage next door to us. The  
14 children lined up to show him that their nails, hands  
15 and feet were clean. The children would line up to have  
16 toothpaste dispensed on to their toothbrushes. He was  
17 a lot older than us so I just thought of it as something  
18 they did.

19 "I categorically never saw a child being physically  
20 abused at Quarriers, either by an adult or another  
21 child. I did hear something about [REDACTED] QAJ [REDACTED],  
22 although I'm not sure whether it was said in jest:  
23 '[REDACTED] QAJ [REDACTED] has a remedy, smother a child's bottom in  
24 Vaseline, smack their bum, then put them in a bath and  
25 it doesn't show'. That was the only thing I ever heard.

1 I can't remember where I heard it, but it stuck in my  
2 mind.

3 "I heard that house parents might be strict and  
4 bedtime was bedtime and that was it, but nothing I could  
5 class as abuse, either physical or sexual, while I was  
6 there. If a child was unhappy about some kind of  
7 treatment within our unit, he or should could speak to  
8 myself, Carol, the cottage auntie, the cleaner, Rob  
9 Murphy, George Gill or Joe Mortimer. There was quite a  
10 lot of office staff who were quite approachable. The  
11 children got to know them and could approach them as  
12 well. There was never any barrier. Any of those  
13 people's doors were always open. I never heard of a kid  
14 being prevented from talking to an adult. I never got  
15 the feeling a child was frightened to speak to me as an  
16 adult.

17 "If a child had said something untoward was  
18 happening, I'm not aware of there being any procedure in  
19 place. If I had heard a child say such a thing, I would  
20 have discussed it with Carol, I would then have reported  
21 it immediately to George Gill or, if George wasn't  
22 available, Joe Mortimer. I wouldn't have gone to  
23 Dr Minto or Dr Davidson because I didn't know them.

24 "Although I wasn't aware of any abuse taking place  
25 when I was at Quarriers, I have heard things since about

1 people who have been prosecuted. I can remember one  
2 such person, John Porteous. I knew John fairly well.

3 [REDACTED]  
4 [REDACTED] I knew his wife and  
5 children and where he lived but that was it. We didn't  
6 have any other contact and we didn't know him socially.  
7 I never saw anything in relation to him that raised any  
8 suspicion at the time.

9 "If John Porteous abused a child, I think somebody  
10 let the child down. The child wasn't given somebody  
11 like myself whom he or she could trust. If it had  
12 happened to a child in our unit, I like to think the  
13 child would have felt secure enough to say, 'Uncle Eric,  
14 John Porteous has suggested I do this'. In hindsight, I  
15 feel that whichever unit the children abused by Porteous  
16 were in has failed them. They weren't given the  
17 confidence to go to a person within that unit to say  
18 that they were being abused. I don't know how old these  
19 children were but they should have had those skills or  
20 felt enough trust by that time. I think it comes down  
21 to trust. I hope our children trusted us enough.

22 "John Porteous came into our unit once a month but  
23 he was never alone with any of the children in our unit  
24 that I can recall.

25 "I was aware that a lady called Ruth Wallace was

1 involved in a court case after I left. She was a big,  
2 tall woman. I had heard she was involved in some sort  
3 of abuse. Personally, I wouldn't have believed it if  
4 somebody had told me she was involved in abuse, but  
5 I would have followed it up. There was never any  
6 mention of abuse while we were there and I didn't see or  
7 hear of anything in relation to Ruth Wallace that would  
8 have aroused any suspicion.

9 "I knew of Alexander or Sandy Wilson. We took over  
10 his unit, but I didn't know him or his wife. We heard  
11 snippets of the past from the children. For example  
12 they had to stand by their bed for inspection. I got  
13 the feeling that Mr and Mrs Wilson were dictatorial, but  
14 I wasn't aware of any physical abuse. I wasn't even  
15 aware he had been prosecuted, but I did hear stories  
16 that he was very strict.

17 "I'm in contact with a man who was in Quarriers as  
18 a child, he is now an electrician and has his own  
19 company. He said that Bill Dunbar and his wife used  
20 more soap for bad language than they did for cleaning.  
21 I asked the man what he meant by that, and he said they  
22 would shove soap in children's mouths. This man is  
23 still fond of Bill Dunbar; he goes and visits him.

24 "I can't remember an adult taking a special interest  
25 in a particular child. If I had been aware of something

1           like that, I would have acted upon it.

2           "I have been asked how children might have been  
3 physically and sexually abused at Quarriers and people  
4 were unaware of it. In the case of John Porteous and  
5 Sandy Wilson, they were family members. It's very hard  
6 to break into things occurring within a family and  
7 accepted by a family. If it was happening in my family  
8 and Carol colluded with me, it would be very hard to  
9 break into that. I don't know how you do it or how you  
10 stop it. If people want to hide it, they can hide it.

11           "In that period of time I hope most of the staff at  
12 Quarriers were confident enough and modern enough in  
13 their outlook to act upon reports of abuse. There were  
14 older staff members there. Maybe a young cottage auntie  
15 in those cottages wouldn't have felt brave enough to  
16 approach a cottage father in his sixties in relation to  
17 an allegation against him. I don't know.

18           "If a child did report something, I had complete  
19 faith in the staff in our unit. I felt we were all  
20 modern enough in our thinking and worldly enough. We'd  
21 read stories about kids being abused and needing  
22 somebody to talk to and we would have encouraged the  
23 child to talk and listen to him or her.

24           "If a child had made an allegation against me,  
25 I think the staff member would have taken it on board

1 and approached Carol or vice versa. They would know the  
2 door was open to speak to somebody.

3 "There's truth in the assertion that the  
4 house parents were fairly autonomous at that time.  
5 However, I knew the management at the time and I would  
6 categorically say George Gill and Joe Mortimer would act  
7 if something untoward was reported to them. Joe is now  
8 deceased. I had great respect for George's openness and  
9 fairness. He was an advocate for the child.

10 "As far as George was concerned, the child always  
11 came first. I don't know how the general directors  
12 might have responded to a report of abuse. I think the  
13 general directors were aloof. Dr Davidson and Dr Minto  
14 were beyond us.

15 "If there had been a report of abuse to the staff  
16 that I knew, it would have been actioned. There  
17 certainly wouldn't have been any cover-up. I would have  
18 anticipated that if a child was physically or sexually  
19 abused by a staff member, that staff member would have  
20 been told to village the immediately. I would expect  
21 the police to be called. I would have called the police  
22 in. I had the confidence to do that. I don't think the  
23 management would have tried to stop me at the time.  
24 There was no talk of keeping things in-house.

25 "I have never been subject to any complaint, civil

1 claim or police enquiry. Nobody has ever come forward  
2 to say they suspect me of something. I have never given  
3 a statement to the police or anybody else about my time  
4 in Quarrier's Village. I was never approached to give  
5 a statement about John Porteous. In hindsight, Carol  
6 and I should have been asked if he had ever been in our  
7 cottage and had access to the children.

8 "I did have to go to court in relation to  
9 [REDACTED] I don't remember being approached by the  
10 police or defence lawyers but for some reason I had to  
11 go to court. I don't remember actually standing up and  
12 giving evidence. George was called on the same day.  
13 I think [REDACTED] was accused of [REDACTED]  
14 [REDACTED] I said I was unaware  
15 of anything untoward in relation to him. He had a nice  
16 wife and two lovely daughters. I saw him as a family  
17 man. I had no reason to suspect anything at all.  
18 Evidently, it was a girl in our unit who he was meant to  
19 have abused. To this day, I think she would have  
20 shouted loudly if something had happened.

21 "I couldn't believe that of [REDACTED] He had  
22 too much going for him and he didn't come across to me  
23 as somebody who would do that. [REDACTED]

24 [REDACTED]  
25 [REDACTED] I remember thinking it was

1           ludicrous that [REDACTED] should have been accused of this. If  
2 I had been told he had done something, I would have  
3 listened and I would have done something about it, but  
4 I still wouldn't have believed it at that point.

5           "I know the allegations ruined [REDACTED]'s life.  
6 I have never seen a man go downhill so fast. He was  
7 a bit younger than me. He was a good-looking lad and  
8 when I saw him he was gaunt and grey. It was probably  
9 just the worry, guilty or innocent. He had a new  
10 partner by the time I met him.

11           "Carol and I had a folder she wrote up every night  
12 about every child. She would note whether they had  
13 a good day, whether they wanted to go home and that kind  
14 of thing. She would also note if they appeared stressed  
15 after a home visit together with their physical state.  
16 I think each child had his or her own handwritten, loose  
17 leaf page.

18           "I don't think Quarriers required records to be  
19 kept, but Carol decided it was a good thing to do. When  
20 the social worker, Rob Murphy, came in, Carol and him  
21 would sit down together and prepare written reports on  
22 each child. I'm not sure if the cottage records were  
23 separate to his records. I think punishments were  
24 logged in the same book, along with visitors, on a daily  
25 basis. Everything was handwritten.

1            "I think George Gill must have come to look at the  
2 records as he was up-to-date on them. The folder would  
3 be kept in the cottage. I don't know what happened to  
4 the folder after I left Quarriers. When a child left  
5 cottage 6, I think his or her records went to Holmlea.  
6 If the child went to the hostel, the records also went  
7 to Holmlea as it had its own system for records.

8            "A man we came across in Largs told us that he was  
9 in Quarriers at a child. He asked Carol to help him  
10 with records. He went up to get them and they were just  
11 handed to him. Half of the records were obliterated.  
12 Carol said that she would go through them with him and  
13 she put them in some kind of order for him. At two or  
14 three years of age he was classed as a 'wee fly boy'.  
15 I call him 'the fly man' now.

16           "I can't understand why abuse wasn't picked up.  
17 People should have been aware of children having been  
18 taken away or an adult having a particular interest in  
19 a child. John Porteous was called the 'Beast of the  
20 Belfry'. He was taking children into a private place of  
21 his, somebody should have been aware of that happening.  
22 If he had asked to take one of our children to clean or  
23 ring the bells, I would be wondering what was in it for  
24 the child. No adult should be able to withdraw a kid  
25 into a situation like that without some form of vetting.

1           "Individuals have to take responsibility. You can't  
2 just let these things go on. I've been involved with  
3 children I knew were at risk of sexual abuse in  
4 Southannan. I did something about it. Fortunately,  
5 something else was done about it afterwards. Everybody  
6 has to take that on board. Generally, these things  
7 don't happen without warning. I had special  
8 relationships with children, but they were different.  
9 If a kid is being withdrawn from situations, somebody  
10 should be seeing it.

11           "It has to come into education about childcare. If  
12 one of our kids at Quarriers had been withdrawing from  
13 our care and I thought something wasn't right, I would  
14 like though think I would have done something about it  
15 people need to be taught the warning signs. Nobody  
16 taught me, but the knowledge was within me. There are  
17 plenty of things that act as warnings. You get to know  
18 people, their make-up and their general behaviour. Not  
19 everybody has that skill and people need to be trained.

20           "One weekend, around 1981 or 1982, Southannan was  
21 short-staffed. Southannan was also run by Quarriers.  
22 George Gill asked me to go down and help me for the  
23 weekend. I never returned to Bridge of Weir. It never  
24 occurred to anybody to send me back. It suited me.  
25 I enjoyed the work. There was never anything official

1 to say that I was no longer a house parent. I don't  
2 remember a new contract or anything like that.

3 "I became a residential social worker at Southannan.  
4 Prior to starting work there, I had never been there  
5 before. I knew very little about it but I knew it was  
6 for emotionally damaged, maladjusted children.  
7 Southannan was a fantastic place to interact with  
8 children and the use of skills and experience I  
9 developed with a lot of support. My first impressions  
10 were excellent and it was a place I wanted to be.

11 "I was there until 1995 when I retired through ill  
12 health. Southannan was an old family house with lots of  
13 grounds. There were a couple of cottages within the  
14 grounds. It was a fantastic place for children and for  
15 adults who wanted to be with children. It had a burn  
16 running through it. George and I dug the burn out to  
17 make a pond and put a death slide up. You wouldn't be  
18 able to do that now due to risk factors. Children had  
19 the opportunity to express themselves, to get over their  
20 problems and to build trust in adults. To my mind,  
21 Southannan was the place to be for these kinds of  
22 children.

23 "The school and the sleeping areas were in the same  
24 building. Downstairs, there were four classrooms,  
25 a dining room, office accommodation, a soft playroom,

1 and stores. Upstairs there were bedrooms and a big  
2 communal playroom with a TV. I also started a room for  
3 the older children to encourage independent living  
4 skills.

5 "Southannan was not a secure unit. The door was  
6 locked up at night but it was bolted from the inside.  
7 If a child wanted to escape, he or she could. It was  
8 a trust thing. Nothing was ever locked. The onus was  
9 on the child wanting to be there.

10 "My job title at Southannan was residential  
11 social worker. George Gill was the principal at  
12 Southannan and Joe Broussard was deputy principal.  
13 Janet Long and Ian Lamb were management, but I don't  
14 know what their titles were. There was another lady in  
15 management called Edwina. There was also a secretary.  
16 I tended to ask Joe for advice on educational matters  
17 and George for advice on a child's home.

18 "In my role, I was a key worker for two children.  
19 Everything to do with those children came through me.  
20 There were other people the child could go to, but  
21 education or social work would come to me. I could get  
22 advice from Joe or George. I never made any major  
23 decisions about a child without consulting upper  
24 management. For example, if I was considering sending  
25 a child to outside school.

1            "My day-to-day routine involved helping children get  
2 up and ready for school and ensuring they were ready for  
3 anybody coming in. It was really just about controlling  
4 the day for the child. We worked as a big team. There  
5 was a strong overlap with the teachers. We went in the  
6 classrooms with the children and acted as support for  
7 the teachers. The teachers had to stay in the school  
8 one night a month so they'd know how the children were  
9 acting in the evening.

10           "We also worked with external social workers because  
11 there was a strong input from them. George and Joe made  
12 sure field social workers did their side of the input  
13 and carried on working on the home situation. We did  
14 home visits and hospital visits for the children.  
15 I also met with outside schools if there were any  
16 problems.

17           "After a couple of years, I became a senior  
18 social worker at Southannan. I had no qualifications,  
19 so it was just a title with extra responsibility.  
20 George was a great believer in qualifications, but he  
21 said they just showed an ability to learn. He said  
22 there were people out there who could do the job but  
23 they weren't qualified. A few of us were promoted to  
24 senior because we had put a lot into the school.

25           "When I became a senior social worker, I entered the

1 on-call system and other staff would ask for advice.

2 I remained a key worker for two children. My additional  
3 responsibilities were transport, fire and pocket money.

4 "The staff didn't live in at Southannan. There was  
5 a cottage on the grounds which was used for a staff  
6 member but it wasn't even in sight of the main house.  
7 Carol and I lived there for a short time whilst we  
8 looked for a house. It was a horrible place, full of  
9 mice.

10 "I think guidance for staff was all written down in  
11 the philosophy. We were certainly trained to be of one  
12 mind. There was an expectation that we dealt with  
13 things in accordance with that philosophy. Some people  
14 didn't like it and they left. I think one or two were  
15 asked to leave. It was a residential school where you  
16 gave a lot of yourself.

17 "I was always happy with the way things were dealt  
18 with at Southannan. There was an open culture. At the  
19 staff meetings, people could bring up any concerns they  
20 had. We were free to talk about whatever we wanted,  
21 even if the item wasn't on the agenda. There was a good  
22 overlap of shifts so we could share with each other what  
23 had happened to the children. We had a handover period  
24 at the end of each shift. There was a lot of  
25 communication amongst the staff.

1            "We were given a lot of in-house training about how  
2            to manager children's behaviour. Joe Broussard,  
3            George Gill, Janet Long and Ian Lamb were very much on  
4            the ball. They did a lot of work finding out how to  
5            work with emotionally disturbed and maladjusted  
6            children. We learned how to deal with their behaviour  
7            and how it would affect us. We learned how to  
8            immediately respond to a child and when it was the  
9            correct time to withdraw a child from a situation.

10           "There was a lot of training. No staff member was  
11           brought in and just expected to do the job. The more  
12           experienced staff would tail a new staff member and that  
13           staff member became your responsibility. George would  
14           ask you to keep an eye on that person for a couple of  
15           weeks and give him or her pointers.

16           "We were trained in a he restraint method which  
17           I think was called therapeutic intervention. It  
18           involved making physical contact with the child and  
19           taking them to the ground with you. Joe taught new  
20           members of staff how to do it. He would demonstrate  
21           with another adult.

22           "The training wasn't solely in-house. We did have  
23           other people to give us lectures. I can't remember the  
24           specifics, but I know other agencies were brought in to  
25           give us skills. I do remember doctors and nurses coming

1 in to tell us about diabetes because we had a child with  
2 diabetes. The scale of support on offer to the staff at  
3 Southannan was tremendous: if we wanted something  
4 it would be found. I never felt alone. If I felt  
5 something was out of my depth, there was always somebody  
6 within the unit who had the correct skills.

7 "We didn't gain any certificates or formal  
8 qualifications as a result of the training. It was just  
9 in-house. We were encouraged to go to college  
10 if we wanted to and some staff members did go. I'm not  
11 academic so I chose not to go. The ethos of Southannan  
12 was to use people's strengths and help them with their  
13 weaknesses.

14 "There were about 16 to 20 children at Southannan.  
15 They were mainly boys, but I think there were four or  
16 five girls. The youngest child was about 8 and the  
17 oldest 16. There were no day pupils when I was there,  
18 it was purely residential. Most of the children were  
19 placed by the local authority in Strathclyde. Some came  
20 from North Ayrshire.

21 "Generally, social workers would contact us to ask  
22 if we had a place. If I had a vacancy as a key worker,  
23 I would have an initial meeting with the social worker  
24 along with Joe or George. I would then have a couple of  
25 meetings with the child. I would make sure the child

1           knew what they were coming into and what the  
2           expectations were. It was important that the child  
3           wanted to be there. I don't remember any children  
4           saying that they didn't want to come. What they saw  
5           they liked. They saw that there were decent people and  
6           they could have fun.

7           "Education Departments would also approach  
8           Southannan about placing children. One child came from  
9           a hospital in Dumfries where he had been having  
10          treatment for a mental health issue. The hospital was  
11          the wrong place for him. He had been placed in the  
12          hospital by his mother as a panic measure. I went to  
13          the hospital with George Gill and visited the boy.  
14          We were told that he could not communicate unless  
15          through a computer. The boy said to us, 'All they want  
16          to do is prove that I'm mad and I'm not'. When he moved  
17          to Southannan he turned out to be a very well balanced  
18          boy.

19          "Some of the children were placed by Children's  
20          Hearings and some were there on a voluntary basis. The  
21          children had to meet the criteria. Children who came to  
22          Southannan tended to have behavioural problems. Some  
23          displayed temper tantrums, ran away or had a tendency to  
24          violence. We had children with a full spectrum of  
25          challenging educational and emotional behaviour.

1           "I remember that we had 100 broken windows in one  
2 day. The children went on the rampage.

3           "Children were placed in Southannan based on  
4 individual needs, so they weren't placed with siblings.  
5 However, there was a brother and sister who came from  
6 another children's home. They both had strong needs and  
7 didn't want to be separated.

8           "It could be very rewarding if you got a little  
9 breakthrough. We shared the good times with the  
10 children. For example, I remember coming across a boy  
11 who was crying for the first time. It was fantastic  
12 because nobody had ever seen him cry before. It was an  
13 opening. He was upset because a member of staff had  
14 taken the mickey out of his private parts. The child  
15 actually got himself referred to Seafield Children's  
16 Hospital in Ayr about his small willy. I made a joke of  
17 it and told him, 'You may have a small willy, but you've  
18 got the biggest pair of balls I've ever seen'. It  
19 sounds ludicrous, but it gave the boy a lot of  
20 self-esteem.

21           "I put a lot of work in with that boy. He was one  
22 example of the kind of child that was at Southannan.  
23 He had himself put into care. He knew there was more  
24 for him in care than at home.

25           "One girl came from Quarriers to Southannan. She

1 wanted to follow Carol. She made sure she got herself  
2 placed in Southannan by displaying behaviour that  
3 warranted her being moved. There were two boys who came  
4 from Quarriers. There may have been more.

5 "If the children had a complaint they were told that  
6 they didn't have to tell the key worker. The children  
7 knew that every adult there was an advocate for the  
8 child. Every child knew that every single adult in that  
9 building was a key person, not just the key worker.  
10 Every adult was there for the common good of that child.  
11 Not one child was there to be punished. We told them  
12 that from the start. Southannan was not a secure unit.

13 "There were single bedrooms and rooms for two  
14 people. I don't think any of the bedrooms were bigger  
15 than that. Due to fire regulations, all the doors had  
16 to have locks and self-closures fitted on them. The  
17 kids didn't like the locks and a lot of them hated doors  
18 being shut. We got verbal permission from the fire  
19 officer to have wedges on the doors on condition that  
20 we would get the kids out and kick away all the wedges  
21 if there was a fire.

22 At night-time, the children were supervised by night  
23 staff. I think there were three night staff who came  
24 in. They were on a waking shift. On top of that, there  
25 would be an on-call person. Six or seven of us provided

1 on-call over. We were back up if the night staff needed  
2 support, for example if a child wouldn't settle or  
3 wanted to attack another child. We would help out if  
4 a child was playing up or if a child had run away or  
5 there was police contact. We were called in a lot.

6 "If you were on call, you knew there was a good  
7 chance you would be called between 10.30 at night and 1  
8 in the morning. It did our relationship with the kids  
9 some good. If something had happened the night before,  
10 we could talk to them the next day. They would learn  
11 that we weren't there to punish them and it helped to  
12 build trust.

13 "The food was all cooked on the premises. It was  
14 good quality food. The chef actually moved to become  
15 the groundsman and his deputy took over the job. They  
16 were both involved in the running of the school. At the  
17 weekend the care staff took over the role of the  
18 cooking. We would ask the children what they wanted.  
19 If I was on duty at the weekend, the kids would ask for  
20 a roast because I did a home-made roast with Yorkshire  
21 puddings.

22 "We would occasionally bring in suppers for the kids  
23 as a treat. If one of the children wanted a curry,  
24 we would go and get one. There was never a shortage of  
25 money but we had to justify that we had spent a bit

1 extra.

2 "We all came to eat at slightly different times.  
3 Sometimes it might take a while to find a child if he or  
4 she was playing out in the woods. We would generally  
5 try and eat at the same time.

6 If a child didn't like food, we would put something  
7 else on. He or she didn't have to eat it. There was  
8 a girl who had coeliac disease so she had her own menu.  
9 We had children who couldn't eat certain food because of  
10 their reaction to it. We had one boy who reacted to  
11 smoked fish. He knew it and would grab it off people's  
12 plates and gulp it down. The next thing we knew, he  
13 would be on top of a fir tree. It was as if he was  
14 getting the effects of glue. You had to watch kids'  
15 diets.

16 "If a child had a special need, he or she was  
17 catered for. There was a boy who was diabetic so we had  
18 to put things on for him and make sure he had his own  
19 drinks readily available. Everything was catered for.

20 "There was no specific bathing routine. The kids  
21 loved taking baths. They flooded the place. A lot of  
22 our play was dirty play. We would be out in the woods  
23 or in the burn and pond. The kids knew they had to have  
24 a bath straight afterwards. Generally, they were okay  
25 at that. Some of them tended to look a bit scruffy.

1 We would try and get them to put their good clothes on,  
2 but if they were comfortable, we would let them be.

3 "The school ran to normal hours. There was a  
4 playtime and then the children would go back into  
5 school. Quite often, children were not ready to go back  
6 into school. The social workers would then stay with  
7 them or go into the classroom with them.

8 "Sometimes, school inspectors didn't understand.  
9 I remember on one occasion a child was sitting on top of  
10 a filing cabinet reading. The inspector asked why  
11 he was there reading a book. We told him that the child  
12 felt secure. Nobody was going to annoy him and it was  
13 his own space. I think it was quite a forward-thinking  
14 philosophy at Southannan.

15 "The children did a lot of sport, they loved  
16 swimming, if we went swimming there was a expectation  
17 that the care staff would go swimming too. There was no  
18 point in putting the kids in by themselves. The staff  
19 members had the whistle blown at us more often than the  
20 kids. We would have them standing on our shoulders and  
21 that wasn't allowed.

22 "One the staff was heavily into horse riding so she  
23 encouraged the kids to do that. There was a lot of  
24 physical activities available to them. It was fun for  
25 the child and the adult. I feel it's good for children

1 to see adults enjoying the fun. You should bring  
2 yourself to their level. You shouldn't make the child  
3 come to your level every time: you should go down to  
4 their level and play. That's what we tried to do.

5 "The children didn't always want to go into class.  
6 It was shut during the evening. Carol always had the  
7 keys. She would open the classroom and they would fill  
8 it every night. They would beg her to open the  
9 classroom. They just related to her. I remember Carol  
10 being in the classroom with ten children on her own.  
11 She would be doing schoolwork and with other children  
12 she would be making beads and doing other crafts.

13 "The children would help the cleaners if they were  
14 in the mood to. Some of them liked to help the  
15 groundsman dig potatoes and plant stuff. They liked to  
16 clean vehicles and work on vehicles. While I was there  
17 I had a couple of old cars that I was stripping down for  
18 the kids. They all had their own little toolboxes. One  
19 of the boys had his own boiler suit. He had to cut the  
20 sleeves off because it was so small. All of these  
21 activities helped us get to know the kids and the kids  
22 to get to know us.

23 "Some of the children went home for the holidays.  
24 We also had a full summertime programme of camping  
25 activities, caravanning and that kind of thing. Hotels

1           couldn't really be done because of the children's  
2           behavioural issues. We would take them out at night for  
3           something to eat in a café. Generally, café owners knew  
4           us and would give us our own separate area where we  
5           could contain things. Otherwise, it could be mayhem for  
6           other people and it wouldn't be fair.

7           "During the school term we would take the children  
8           away for weekends. We would take them on educational  
9           trips during the day with both care staff and teaching  
10          staff. We took them to places like New Lanark. They  
11          loved it. It was my niche with another teacher. We  
12          took about five at a time. As long as there was  
13          education involved as well, we could justify it.

14          "Children would break into things. If they had  
15          something special, a toy or a radio, they would ask  
16          a staff member to look after it. If they didn't, they  
17          knew there was a risk that things could get damaged. If  
18          a child was in a temper tantrum, things could get kicked  
19          over or smashed. Personal possessions didn't last long.

20          "I used to put my key children's personal  
21          possessions in my locker. One of my children had a bike  
22          so I kept in the staff locker room. There were plenty  
23          of secure places, but if the kids kept things with them,  
24          there was a danger they would get damaged.

25          "The kids would get regular pocket money. Some

1 would save for holiday and some would go out on their  
2 own. For others, if it was pocket money night, we would  
3 take them into Fairlie or Largs and they could do what  
4 they wanted. Others would save up to go to Irvine or  
5 Glasgow.

6 "There was no expectation that a child had to attend  
7 church. It was there if they wanted it. We talked  
8 about it but it was on the fringes. In retrospect,  
9 I presume it was in the curriculum.

10 "Birthdays had to be made special for the child. We  
11 had to do something in the classroom and tried to do  
12 something at teatime. We might take them out somewhere  
13 special. We made sure the child got a birthday card; it  
14 was the key worker's responsibility. At Christmastime  
15 the staff went on holiday for a few days so the care  
16 staff did all the cooking. Whatever the children wanted  
17 we would make.

18 "Two of the care staff were trained nurses. They  
19 weren't on shift all the time but they were there to  
20 pick up on things. The staff were all aware of what  
21 could happen. We had a good relationship with the local  
22 doctors in Southannan. They knew what we were about and  
23 they wouldn't pass any judgement if the bedrooms were in  
24 a state or damaged.

25 "I had one child who was in hospital after a car

1 accident and contracted meningitis. The doctors would  
2 come in regularly. They were on the ball with  
3 medication. There was a log of medication given out.

4 "Family members were encouraged to visit children at  
5 Southannan. All the staff knew who they were. There  
6 would always be staff members around checking everything  
7 was happening as it should be. We encouraged the  
8 children to make regular contact with their families.  
9 They would make phone calls at night-time. We generally  
10 sat with the children when they were on the phone but we  
11 always asked them whether or not they wanted to be on  
12 their own.

13 We would also get the odd present or someone from  
14 the local community would turn up with donations.  
15 Sometimes these people wanted to stay around. We would  
16 give them guided tours around the school and let them  
17 say hello to a couple of kids. We would try and make  
18 sure somebody guarded their cars just in case the kids  
19 tried to damage them.

20 "We would insist that the children's social workers  
21 visited at least once a month. We would expect them,  
22 where possible, to make the child out and spend time  
23 with the child alone. The child then had another person  
24 to speak to about problems in the school or at home that  
25 we hadn't picked up on. We felt that other agencies

1           were just as important as us, they weren't a threat, we  
2           welcomed it and in fact demanded it. Placing a child in  
3           Southannan was expensive. The social workers had to  
4           play their part. If a child wanted something that we  
5           couldn't provide, the child felt free to express that to  
6           the social workers.

7           " There was no oversight from Quarriers that I can  
8           recall. Southannan seemed quite insular.  
9           Joe Broussard's boss would have been Joe Mortimer but he  
10          never came to visit. Mike Laxton, who had been seconded  
11          to Quarriers from the Scottish Office, came down but  
12          I don't know what his role was.

13          " We attended Children's Hearings with children. No  
14          child was put in Southannan and forgotten about. The  
15          children were free to express their views about what  
16          they wanted.

17          " I did a lot of home visits. I broke up  
18          a relationship between a couple once. The child was at  
19          serious risk if he went home, so I told his mum that he  
20          wouldn't go home unless she broke the relationship off.  
21          I told her it was likely her other son would be taken  
22          into care as well. In the end she did end the  
23          relationship and the boy was able to return home.

24          " I think the school was inspected annually. I think  
25          some of the older inspectors were ready to retire when

1           they were given the job. They didn't understand  
2           Southannan. It didn't fit in their book. They didn't  
3           think it was education. The school inspectors did speak  
4           to the social workers as well as the teachers. They  
5           understood that it was a residential school and there  
6           was a big overlap.

7           "The inspections involved a physical inspection of  
8           the place and talking to staff from groundsman, kitchen,  
9           care staff, teachers through to management. All the  
10          staff knew what the inspectors were there for and were  
11          encouraged to talk openly. If we felt we had a problem  
12          that management couldn't solve, we might raise it with  
13          the inspectors. We might ask for more funding.

14          "The inspectors spoke to the children as well. Some  
15          of them would sit down and talk to the children at their  
16          desks. We never lingered if a child was speaking to an  
17          inspector. We felt confident enough not to eavesdrop.

18          "I think the inspections lasted three or four days  
19          to a week. Some of them might have been shorter. The  
20          school was open to any inspection. On occasion, there  
21          would be a follow-up if the inspector had made  
22          recommendations. Otherwise, they would phone George or  
23          Joe to check recommendations had been implemented.  
24          I can't remember any particular examples, but sometimes  
25          they thought we were a bit lax when a child wasn't in

1 class. We would explain that some of the children  
2 couldn't emotionally deal with being in class for the  
3 usual required time. They didn't always agree with us  
4 at the time, but generally they agreed afterwards that  
5 what we were doing was right.

6 "We could all have access to the children  
7 unsupervised, but we always had to tell another staff  
8 member where we were and who we were with. The other  
9 staff member would hover. If a child was in a temper  
10 tantrum, we would tell another staff member and ask them  
11 to sit outside the room until we came out. Nobody was  
12 left on his or her own without another staff member  
13 being able to hear what was going on.

14 "This practice also took place at night-time. It  
15 was a waking night of the shift. If I was called in to  
16 bring a child back at night-time I would tell another  
17 staff member that I had brought the child back and that  
18 I was going to spend some time talking to him. I would  
19 ask that staff member to sit outside. The door was  
20 always open. We were never in a room with the door  
21 shut. That was the practice for all staff, from top to  
22 bottom. Anybody could sit and talk to a child if there  
23 was a need, but they would never be left alone.

24 "I think the only time I was ever alone with a child  
25 would be if the child was being taken to a hospital

1 appointment or on a special outing to spend clothing  
2 money. That was the practice throughout my time at  
3 Southannan. I don't think it was written down, but it  
4 was very strongly enforced. The practice was for the  
5 protection of both the child and the member of staff.

6 "Southannan wasn't secure. Nothing was locked. If  
7 a child wanted to run away, he or should could run away.  
8 The onus was on the child wanting to be there. Some of  
9 them did run away but generally they wanted to come  
10 back.

11 "If I was on call and a child ran away, I would get  
12 a phone call late at night. I would have a look around  
13 the locality if the staff hadn't done so already.  
14 I would then start making phone calls. The police would  
15 be called. If they turned up at home and the parents  
16 contacted us, I would go to the house. Occasionally the  
17 child would be left in the house as long as it was  
18 a place of safety. There was no point escalating things  
19 further.

20 "If the police found the child, we would go to the  
21 police station. I can't think of a case when a child  
22 had to be kept in the police station all night long.  
23 Whatever time of the day or night it was, we would go  
24 and collect him.

25 "We would talk to the children about why they had

1 run away. We would ask them what had upset them and why  
2 they felt the need to go. Some of them just liked the  
3 thrill of running away. Others might have had bad news  
4 from the family, for example they might have been told  
5 they couldn't go home for the weekend, they might have  
6 been upset and wanted out. We always tried to find out  
7 what they were running away from or running to. We  
8 tried to follow it up as best we could.

9 "If a child behaved violently, the philosophy was  
10 that he was allowed to display that behaviour. We  
11 taught the children that they couldn't damage another  
12 child's property, hurt another child, or hurt  
13 themselves. As soon as we saw signs of a child  
14 displaying violent behaviour, we immediately withdrew  
15 him from the situation to protect the child and the  
16 other children. If a child was putting himself or  
17 others at serious risk, the child was told it wasn't up  
18 for debate and we wouldn't allow it to happen. The kids  
19 accepted that. They might have had a temper tantrum,  
20 but it had to be that way.

21 "We were given training on how to restrain a child.  
22 There was a right and a wrong way to do it. Some people  
23 didn't have the skills, but there was always one of us  
24 who could deal with it. Some staff didn't have the  
25 strength. 15/16 year-old boys could be very strong.

1 It is difficult to restrain them without actually  
2 hurting them.

3 "I think the restraint method used was called  
4 therapeutic intervention. It was almost as if we were  
5 cuddling the child. We would cuddle them from behind  
6 and take the child down. We would go down first and the  
7 child would go down with us. We never pinned a child to  
8 the floor. Any bully can do that, but the child isn't  
9 being protected in the true sense. Through the physical  
10 contact, the child was able to relate to the adult. The  
11 child felt secure.

12 "Children would relate to certain people doing the  
13 restraint. Sometimes I'd go into a room and see a child  
14 being restrained. I'd take over because I knew that  
15 I had that kind of relationship with the child. I would  
16 say, 'It's Eric that's got you now'. Sometimes other  
17 people took a child off me.

18 "The only danger was headbutting. The child  
19 couldn't get hurt because we didn't have to grip hard.  
20 It was restrictive to the child because they couldn't  
21 break away from us. Ninety-nine times out of 100 they  
22 wanted that. They physically felt better to be  
23 restrained. They knew they were not going to get hurt.  
24 They knew it was wrong to hurt another child. Most of  
25 the time they didn't want to hurt other children because

1 they were all the best of friends.

2 "If a child was physically restrained, it was  
3 logged. If you didn't do it yourself, there was a  
4 coordinator on duty every shift. The coordinator's role  
5 was to keep a log on every child. They would log what  
6 the child had done and what his behaviour had been.

7 "My skill was getting children off the roof. I was  
8 scared of heights. The children believed I would go up  
9 on the roof after them. If a child was up on the roof,  
10 the staff would call me up and ask me to come in. There  
11 was a trust element. If I was telling them to come  
12 down, they would come down because they knew I wouldn't  
13 punish them. I would go and sit on the roof for two  
14 hours. If the time was right, I would suggest we go  
15 back down.

16 "The children weren't punished for running away.  
17 I never saw a child punished for bad behaviour. If  
18 a child was abusive to me, I would deal with it rather  
19 than tell the child I would tell his or her key worker  
20 later. We saw it through to the end. I saw staff  
21 members who had finished their shifts at 10 pm stay  
22 there until all hours of the morning. They weren't  
23 getting paid overtime. George had a good team and they  
24 were there for the right purpose.

25 "We did have children who went into people's lockers

1 at the swimming pool and flushed their belongings down  
2 the toilet. Those children would be told they couldn't  
3 go swimming for the next week and that what they had  
4 done was wrong. We told them that we would be putting  
5 them at risk if they took them, as the people who had  
6 their possessions stolen might wonder why they weren't  
7 being punished. We explained to the children in quite  
8 an adult way why they weren't being taken. They saw it  
9 as a fun privilege to be taken swimming. If they abused  
10 it they understood that it might be taken away for the  
11 next week. However, it had to be justified. That kind  
12 of thing had to be recorded and a reason given.

13 "Behaviour was dealt with through counselling.  
14 We would talk the behaviour through with the child,  
15 right from where it started to where it finished and  
16 where it should have gone. We would discuss how they  
17 should have dealt with the situation. We would tell  
18 them to try and deal with things themselves and, if they  
19 couldn't, go and find help rather than rather than run  
20 away from the situation. The onus was very much on the  
21 child to feel secure enough in their relationships with  
22 the school so that they could talk about their problems.

23 "Because it wasn't a secure unit, children were  
24 going home. We could only control things so far. Most  
25 of the control did come through relationships. We would

1 explain our expectations to the child. For everybody  
2 that built up a relationship with a child, it could be  
3 so rewarding for the child and the adult. If that  
4 happened, it was fantastic. Southannan was working.

5 "We had quite a lot of contact with the police. If  
6 a child was breaking into houses in the neighbourhood,  
7 the police would attend. We saw them quite often and  
8 they would ask if we knew the child, what it was about,  
9 that sort of thing. I wasn't involved in anything that  
10 went to court. We would talk to the police, the police  
11 would do their report, and that was usually the end of  
12 the matter.

13 "No children died while I was at Southannan. There  
14 was a child who committed suicide after he left. There  
15 was another child who died when I was on long-term sick  
16 leave. I'm not sure whether he'd left Southannan or  
17 not. He was a tearaway. He loved stealing cars. He  
18 was involved in car chases when I was at Southannan.  
19 I told him not to let him himself down at the weekends.  
20 I told him that if he wanted to get up to nonsense he  
21 should wait until I was on shift. He was as good as  
22 gold when I was on shift. That's how relationships  
23 worked. I think it could have worked long term, but  
24 he was killed. I think I should have been told about it  
25 but I wasn't. I mouthed off about that at the time.

1           "When children moved on from Southannan, it would be  
2 done in conjunction with the local authority. We also  
3 tried to prepare children for independent living. We  
4 started up a unit in the community to help the children  
5 learn independent living skills. It was a council house  
6 for three boys. They still attended Southannan School  
7 for their education, but they went back to the house at  
8 the end of the day. We gave them more leeway to go into  
9 Largs and meet friends. We did work on budgeting, how  
10 things would affect them, and what jobs they would do.  
11 We tried to get them ready for leaving or going into  
12 supported lodgings. We wanted them to know how much  
13 a loaf of bread cost and how much money we received per  
14 child per day. They were given an allowance every week  
15 and they had to plan how they wanted to use that money.  
16 If they blew it on the first day, that was unfortunate.  
17 We tried to teach them that that was a fact of life.

18           "The independent living was called Keppelburn. The  
19 children who went there were almost ready to leave  
20 Southannan. The staff had a sleep-in duty. There was  
21 a staff bedroom so once the kids had settled you went to  
22 bed. There was only one staff member on duty when I was  
23 there. Because it was in its infancy, George Gill used  
24 to come and sit with me every night. I think there may  
25 have been two staff members on duty after I left.

1           "When the children left, a lot of them went home or  
2 into supported lodgings in the local area. We would  
3 find lodgings with an understanding landlady. She would  
4 give them support and phone us. I would see them into  
5 supported lodgings or home.

6           "On one occasion, I came across a boy crying in the  
7 bushes. Nobody had ever seen that boy cry before. He  
8 was crying because a staff member said he had a small  
9 willy. I reported the staff member to George. George  
10 dealt with it and very soon afterwards, the staff member  
11 left.

12           "On another occasion, I saw a restraint being used  
13 wholly wrongly by another residential social worker,  
14 **QFK**. To my mind, he was hurting the child, not  
15 restraining the child. **QFK** called it the 'Indian  
16 death lock', it was something to do with pinning the  
17 child's legs and if the child moved, it hurt. I can't  
18 remember the name of the child but I could see he was in  
19 pain. I immediately stopped it, took the child away,  
20 and immediately reported it to George who followed it  
21 up. I told George the next morning and George asked me  
22 to send **QFK** to his office. I don't know what action  
23 George took and I never asked but **QFK** left soon  
24 afterwards. I can't remember whether or not I recorded  
25 the incident in the logbook.

1           "I did see one boy who I thought was sexually  
2           abusing another boy. He had his trousers down and  
3           he was on top of him. I don't know whether they were  
4           having intercourse or not, but the older boy jumped off.  
5           The older boy was the perpetrator. He was about 14 and  
6           the other boy was 12 or 13 but a lot smaller. It got to  
7           me a little bit. I didn't like it.

8           "If there had been other incidents of abuse, I think  
9           I would have known. There was no culture of children  
10          behaving in a sexual way towards each other at  
11          Southannan. If there had been warning signs I think  
12          I would have picked up on them. I think the incidents  
13          I witnessed were unusual. The other staff members would  
14          have talked about it if things like that were happening.  
15          There was no hidden culture among the staff to allow  
16          things like that to go on. There was nothing swept  
17          under the carpet. If we saw anything untoward, we went  
18          to our immediate senior. On any occasion I had to  
19          intervene with another staff member, I told the staff  
20          member that I was going to do it. I would then report  
21          it to George.

22          "When I came across the boy sexually abusing  
23          another, boy I reported it to Joe Broussard and  
24          George Gill. Both the young people received  
25          counselling. I don't think there was any repetition.

1 The older boy was aware that I had reported it, but he  
2 didn't hold any kind of grudge against me. I would  
3 imagine that incident was logged by management. I doubt  
4 that incident was reported to the police. I don't think  
5 it was a criminal thing that was going on. I don't know  
6 whether the young boy was consenting or not.

7 "If something like that happened to one of my key  
8 children, I would have discussed it with the  
9 social worker from the local authority. I can't speak  
10 for any other key workers. I was always quite happy  
11 with the way things were dealt with.

12 "I have never reported anything to Southannan to the  
13 police, nor did I give a statement to the police at any  
14 time. As far as I'm aware, I've never been the subject  
15 of any kind of complaint myself.

16 "The behaviour of each child was logged on each  
17 unit. If you arrived in the morning, you would be able  
18 to read the night shift log. It might say the child had  
19 slept through the night or had been restless or the  
20 on-call worker had been called due to behaviour. We  
21 followed it up with the children, either by positive  
22 encouragement or discussion with the child. Behaviour  
23 had to be addressed so it was important it was logged.

24 "I think each child had a page. We wrote things  
25 down and I think they might have been typed up by the

1 secretary. All of the records were kept in a locked  
2 room. I remember a child it coming back to ask what had  
3 happened on a certain day. I was able to go into the  
4 records room and find the logbook for that day. The  
5 records were kept in the old wine cellar in the house.  
6 There was a thick steel door. The logbook was a folder  
7 with a page for each child and they were all dated. It  
8 was primarily a behavioural record. Everything was  
9 in that book, including visits, medications,  
10 punishments. If a child complained about a staff  
11 member, it would be recorded in the logbook. George or  
12 Joe read the logs every morning. I was party to doing  
13 it with them on several occasions.

14 "In addition to the logbooks, each child had  
15 a folder. The folder contained all important  
16 information and records about the child. There would be  
17 records of social work meetings and hospital records  
18 in that folder. There was also information about home  
19 life or possibly fostering. The children had access to  
20 their folders. They could sit down and discuss them.  
21 Nothing was hidden from them.

22 "When a child left, the records were kept in the  
23 cupboard with the rest of the records. The child could  
24 have access to them if they wanted, but I can't remember  
25 a child asking for access to his or her records.

1           "Southannan was running successfully when I was  
2 there. It was a happy place. I think things changed  
3 when Southannan moved to Seafield but I had left by that  
4 time. My wife still worked there and she didn't like  
5 the way things were set up.

6           "In hindsight, there should have been two adults  
7 present when the unit for independent living was set up.  
8 I now feel that kind of risk was unacceptable. I think  
9 there should be more education that abuse happens.  
10 Adults are abusers. Children are abusers. The risks  
11 factors should be removed.

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

16           The statement was signed by Eric McBay on  
17 14 September 2018.

18 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much, Ms MacLeod. That neatly  
19 takes us to 1 o'clock.

20           Before I stop for the lunch break, let me just list  
21 the people I've identified who were mentioned that are  
22 covered by my general restriction order insofar as their  
23 names are associated with any allegation of abuse:

24 that's [REDACTED] QAJ [REDACTED], [REDACTED]  
25 [REDACTED]

1 [REDACTED] -- [REDACTED] QFX, [REDACTED] QFK  
2 [REDACTED] QLT. I think that's the complete list.

3 I will rise now. I think we just have one more  
4 statement to go; is that right or not?

5 MS RATTRAY: My Lady, we still have two very brief  
6 statements in respect of Quarriers, but then we have one  
7 very brief and one longer statement in respect of  
8 Aberlour.

9 LADY SMITH: Of course. Very well. We'll move to those at  
10 2 o'clock.

11 (1.00 pm)

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(The lunch adjournment)

(2.00 pm)

LADY SMITH: Good afternoon.

Ms Rattray, where are we going now?

MS RATTRAY: My Lady, the next two statements are brief statements in relation to Quarriers which are responses by two witnesses to allegations that have been made by applicants, those applicants having the pseudonyms "Elizabeth" and "John". Your Ladyship will recall that Elizabeth gave evidence on 26 October and John gave evidence on 6 November.

Witness statement of "LESLIE" (read)

MS RATTRAY: The first witness is entitled to be anonymous and has chosen the pseudonym of Leslie:

"My name is Leslie. I was born in 1929. I have no formal qualifications. When I left school, I went to work as a cook in a hospital. I left that employment and worked this various hotels as a cook. I was working in Northern Ireland. I became pregnant and then I moved to Scotland. Whilst in Scotland I was employed as a housewife.

"I started working for Quarriers in Bridge of Weir, I believe, in 1958. I worked there for a period of 30 years. I was employed initially as an assistant

1 house parent.

2 "I worked initially at Quarriers, Bridge of Weir.  
3 We then moved to Drumbreck Road, going I believe in  
4 1965, and then moved from there to St Andrew's Drive,  
5 Glasgow, in 1970.

6 "My job was general duties. I assisted the cook,  
7 I assisted the housemaid and I assisted in the  
8 organisation of the children, for example getting them  
9 ready for school, et cetera. I retired, I believe, in  
10 1989.

11 "I saw no behaviour that could be considered abuse  
12 of children taking place at the home. I would not let  
13 that occur. I was responsible on average for 14  
14 children along with my husband. No child ever spoke to  
15 me privately to suggest that they had been abused.  
16 I have no recollection of any child ever needing medical  
17 attention because they had been abused.

18 "If abuse had occurred I would have taken steps to  
19 prevent it. This applies throughout my career with  
20 Quarriers when I was working in Bridge of Weir,  
21 Drumbreck Road and St Andrew's Drive.

22 "I have never been the subject of a complaint  
23 in relation to abuse of children at the home.  
24 I recollect on occasion the police would visit the home.  
25 This was mainly to bring back a child who had absconded.

1 They never visited the home in relation to any specific  
2 allegations of events taking place in the home.

3 "Although I am retired, I am still in touch with  
4 some children whom I cared for whilst they were within  
5 the home. They will come to my house now and visit for  
6 tea and socialising.

7 "Dealing with the specific allegations, I turn first  
8 to the allegations made by John. I have no recollection  
9 of the boy. His name rings a bell, that's all. So many  
10 children passed through over the years whilst I worked  
11 there. I have no detailed recollection of him.

12 "I cannot help in relation to the allegations which  
13 he is making. I am not able to express a view as to  
14 what they were like.

15 "I did not sanction or punish them. If there was  
16 misbehaviour on the part of a child, the regime involved  
17 punishing by denying privileges. For example, they  
18 would be sent to bed early and denied the opportunity of  
19 watching telly, or they would not be allowed to go to  
20 swimming practice on a Tuesday. Once per month, an  
21 individual came with a cinema. If they had misbehaved,  
22 they would not be allowed to watch the film. They were  
23 not physically chastised.

24 "In relation to the specific allegations of  
25 Elizabeth, again I recall her name. I have no

1 recollection or any information that I can offer in  
2 connection with this girl. I can categorically say that  
3 I did not abuse this girl.

4 "Next is another girl. I remember the name but  
5 again have no recollection. In her statement she makes  
6 reference to me having long nails and jabbing her. That  
7 did not occur. I did not have nails of any great  
8 length. They were ordinary female nails. I did not  
9 physically chastise her or other children in my care.

10 "With regard to the statement by John, I confirm  
11 that my husband was associated with the [REDACTED]. He was  
12 employed as a [REDACTED]. He would work on  
13 a Friday night, once per week. On occasion he might be  
14 asked to assist with duties connected to a busy football  
15 match. Other than that, he did not work as a [REDACTED].  
16 He did not leave in the morning with his [REDACTED] on.

17 "The statement criticised the warmth or connection  
18 we had with the children. I do not know how to answer  
19 that. I did my very best. I never had a complaint made  
20 against me by the children or by the management of the  
21 organisation.

22 "The statement discusses an incident involving  
23 a motor car and my son. Again, I have no recollection  
24 of this occurring.

25 "I am not in a position to describe how the school

1 was run. I thought I was doing a good job. I ran the  
2 house to the best of my ability. I felt the children  
3 were happy. If a child was late coming back from  
4 school, they would not be beaten. They would be asked  
5 for an excuse and that would be dealt with. If it  
6 became a regular occurrence, then they might be punished  
7 by being denied the opportunity of watching television  
8 or going to swimming class.

9 "With regard to the allegations by the witness  
10 Elizabeth, again I have no recollection of this child.  
11 I would deal with children aged between 4, maybe 5,  
12 through to 16. There was a sitting room where they  
13 watched television. The older ones would sit in the  
14 chairs and the young ones would sit on the floor.  
15 I never assaulted this girl nor was I ever assaulted by  
16 a child.

17 "We were not responsible for children arriving or  
18 leaving at the house. This was dealt with by  
19 management. If a child left and I was there, I would  
20 wish them every success. I do remember when a younger  
21 child was leaving that I would personally get upset.

22 "This and the preceding two pages is my statement  
23 which I have read. I confirm it is accurate and  
24 reflects my evidence to the Scottish Child Abuse  
25 Inquiry."

1           The statement was signed by Leslie on  
2           15 October 2018.

3           LADY SMITH: Thank you.

4                         Witness statement of "ROBERT" (read)

5           MS RATTRAY: The following statement is similarly from  
6           a witness who is also responding to the allegations of  
7           applicants having the pseudonyms "Elizabeth" and "John",  
8           who gave their evidence on 26 October and 6 November.

9                         Just for the sake of clarity here, obviously when  
10           the witness is told about the allegations, the witness  
11           is given that part of the redacted statement of the  
12           applicant and is provided with the true name of the  
13           applicant, the year of the applicant's birth, and the  
14           years in which the applicants say that they were in the  
15           home:

16                         "My name is Robert. I was born in 1930. I have no  
17           formal university qualifications.

18                         "Whilst I worked with Quarriers, I attended  
19           Langside College and Jordanhill for a two-year course.  
20           I qualified and received a certificate in childcare.

21                         "When I left school, I worked in Northern Ireland.  
22           I was born on a farm and I worked on farms. I got  
23           married and I came to Scotland. Initially, I worked in  
24           Fairfield's shipyard, then I moved to Quarriers in  
25           Bridge of Weir. I was employed there as a house father.

1 I worked with Quarriers until I retired nearly 31 years  
2 ago.

3 "I would work in the same places and at the same  
4 times as my wife, Leslie. We started and worked  
5 throughout our careers together.

6 "Initially I worked in the premises at Bridge of  
7 Weir. I then moved to the Drumbreck premises and  
8 finally to the St Andrew's premises. When I left Bridge  
9 of Weir to move to Glasgow, I was promoted to the role  
10 of [REDACTED] I was responsible for the  
11 children in my care.

12 "I started working for the care provider, I believe,  
13 in or about 1959. I worked initially in Bridge of Weir.  
14 My role was that of house father. I then moved from  
15 Bridge of Weir to Drumbreck Road, I believe, in 1965.  
16 I then moved from there to St Andrew's Drive in 1970.  
17 I stop working for Quarriers when I retired in 1989.

18 "I am asked as to whether I had any awareness of  
19 abuse taking place within the home. As far as I am  
20 concerned, no abuse occurred. I did not receive  
21 a complaint from a child. I myself was never subject to  
22 a complaint. No private disclosure was made to me.

23 "I have never been the subject of a complaint  
24 in relation to alleged abuse of children at the home.

25 [REDACTED]. The police were

1 in and out of the premises on a regular basis for social  
2 reasons. They would come in for a cup of tea. They  
3 never came to the house as a consequence of any incident  
4 occurring within the house. I remember one occasion  
5 they arrived formally because they brought back a child  
6 who had absconded.

7 "Dealing with the specific allegations made, the  
8 first boy is a John. I recall his name, that is all.  
9 I do not recall him being abused. I do not recall what  
10 he was like. I don't recall him ever being physically  
11 punished or sanctioned. The regime in the house was to  
12 punish the children by denying the opportunity to watch  
13 television or to attend the swimming club.

14 "I do remember in the early days of Bridge of Weir,  
15 on occasion a child would receive the leather strap,  
16 such as that as was given by teachers at schools in  
17 those days. They were never, certainly in my opinion,  
18 physically chastised or punished. The children  
19 themselves knew the boundaries of their behaviour and  
20 the consequences for them.

21 "The next specific allegation is made by an  
22 Elizabeth. I recall her name vaguely although I can't  
23 remember much detail in connection with her. She was  
24 transferred from Bridge of Weir to the Glasgow house.  
25 I believe the reason for the transfer was because of the

1           behaviour of a gardener at Bridge of Weir towards her.  
2           I have no memory of what she was like. I have no memory  
3           of her receiving a sanction for punishment. I have no  
4           memory of imposing a sanction or punishing her. I most  
5           certainly did not abuse her. I can offer no explanation  
6           as to why she makes these allegations.

7           "She speaks about the children having to sit on the  
8           floor. From memory that did not occur. The sitting  
9           room where the television was situated was populated  
10          with the children. The older children sat in the  
11          chairs, the younger children sat on the floor.

12          "She makes reference to an incident involving my  
13          daughter. I have no recollection at all of this having  
14          taken place. I would doubt that it did occur. My  
15          daughter kept herself to herself and did not befriend or  
16          engage with any of the children. No complaint was made  
17          to me regarding any abusive remark made to my daughter.

18          "She also makes reference to the counting of navy  
19          blue knickers. I have never in my life counted navy  
20          blue knickers and I have no recollection at all of what  
21          she is talking about.

22          "I thought the general environment of the house was  
23          quite happy. Children would come and go. The children  
24          would arrive having left a difficult situation. On  
25          occasion they would thrive in the environment of the

1 house because of the care afforded to them. The house  
2 could be busy. Often we would exceed our stipulated  
3 number of 17; on occasion we would have 21. I do not  
4 think the regime in the house was harsh or oppressive.

5 "There was a Ladies' Committee which was interested  
6 in the running of the organisation. The committee was  
7 run by a Lady Maclay of Kilmacolm. A member of the  
8 committee would visit once per month. It was a surprise  
9 visit. The purpose of the visit was to observe how the  
10 house was run. No complaints were ever made by any  
11 member of the committee. In addition, the local  
12 authority supplied a homework teacher who attended once  
13 per week. Again, no complaints were ever made to that  
14 teacher. The children attended local schools. No  
15 complaints were made by that school. As far as I am  
16 aware, no child complained to anyone regarding any  
17 incidents or behaviour which took place within the  
18 house.

19 "The children had a good life. They were looked  
20 after. They would holiday on a regular basis I remember  
21 a number of children went to Majorca. This was funded  
22 by the Sunday Post newspaper. We also visited  
23 Southampton and Morecambe.

24 "This and the two preceding pages are my statement,  
25 which I have read. I confirm it is accurate and

1 reflects my evidence to the Scottish Child Abuse  
2 Inquiry."

3 The statement was signed by Robert on  
4 15 October 2018.

5 LADY SMITH: And then?

6 Witness statement of ANNE BLACK (read)

7 MS RATTRAY: My Lady, that concludes the read-ins in respect  
8 of Quarriers. We now have two read-ins in respect of  
9 Aberlour.

10 The first is a statement of Anne Black and this can  
11 be found at WIT.003.001.7233:

12 "My name is Anne Black. I was born in 1942. My  
13 contact details are known to the inquiry.

14 My first degree was from Edinburgh University. It  
15 was an arts degree in maths and French. While studying  
16 for my MA, I realised that I did not want to teach but  
17 rather pursue a career in social work. I went to  
18 Nottingham University to do a postgraduate diploma in  
19 social services. At that time the professional  
20 qualification for childcare was a letter of recognition  
21 in childcare from the Home Office, which I gained in  
22 1964.

23 "I started working with Edinburgh Corporation as  
24 a childcare officer in 1965 and held that post for about  
25 two and a half years before I was promoted to a senior

1           childcare officer post. The Social Work (Scotland) Act  
2           came into force in 1969 so we all became social workers  
3           rather than childcare officers. I became a social work  
4           area officer in the Social Work Department of the City  
5           of Edinburgh Council. I undertook that role until 1975.

6           "After regionalisation in 1975, I was appointed as  
7           a social work consultant within the social work  
8           department based in Edinburgh. The post was located  
9           in the training and development section where I provided  
10          training on several topics, but also was a consultant  
11          available to provide advice and support to workers who  
12          were dealing with complex cases. A lot of the training  
13          was related to child protection, an area of work  
14          presenting multiple issues for social workers and  
15          requiring collaboration with other professionals.

16          "I moved to Midlothian as a Divisional Director of  
17          Social Work in 1981. About 18 months later, it was  
18          decided that the Mid- and East Lothian councils would be  
19          rejoined, so I was transferred to Edinburgh North to  
20          work as the divisional director. I had additional  
21          responsibilities for the emergency duty team which  
22          provided out of hours services to the whole of Lothian.

23          "I was seconded for a year in 1991 to 1992 to sit on  
24          the Orkney Abuse Inquiry as one of Lord Clyde's  
25          assessors. That role was to advise Lord Clyde about

1 social work practice and assess the validity of actions  
2 of the professional social work staff involved in the  
3 removal of the children from Orkney.

4 "I was still employed by the social work department  
5 for the period of the inquiry. I returned to Edinburgh  
6 and worked for another three years as divisional  
7 director in North-west Edinburgh as there had been  
8 another change of boundaries in my year's absence.  
9 I was also allocated responsibility for the development  
10 and administration of the home care workforce.

11 "For the last two years of my career, I was given  
12 responsibility to develop the first City of Edinburgh  
13 children's plan. These plans had been introduced by the  
14 Children Act 1995 to ensure all regions created  
15 a coordinated plan with other agencies about the  
16 delivery of services to children and families.

17 "After retiring, I worked on a number of reviews,  
18 inquiries and investigations. One significant inquiry  
19 involved a review of practice in Fife in relation to  
20 abuse in two children's homes. I participated in child  
21 protection service reviews and serious case reviews in  
22 Aberdeenshire, East Lothian and Aberdeen City. I also  
23 led a group who were tasked with a follow-up to the  
24 Caleb Ness serious case review in Edinburgh making  
25 recommendations about changes to be made to ensure that

1 children were safer. I also did a review of residential  
2 care in Dundee.

3 "I became involved in several small voluntary  
4 organisations providing support for the senior manager  
5 and helping them shape their good practice.

6 "In 1999 or thereabouts, I was approached by the  
7 then chief executive of Aberlour, William Grieve, asking  
8 if I would be willing to become a member of their board  
9 of governors. I was appointed in March 2000.  
10 I continued as a board member and temporarily as vice  
11 chair until March 2012.

12 "I carried on with responding to enquiries from  
13 people who had previously lived in Aberlour Orphanage  
14 for a couple of years after I retired in 2012. Then it  
15 was decided that the tasks should go back in-house, so  
16 Aberlour staff then dealt with enquiries.

17 "I initially worked with William Grieve and then  
18 with Romy Langeland for a further five years. I also  
19 worked with Addie Stevenson, who followed Romy Langeland  
20 as chief executive of Aberlour. My role as a board  
21 member involved attending meetings, taking part in  
22 decision-making about Aberlour, and matters to do with  
23 archives, service developments, finances and human  
24 resources.

25 "In addition to that, I provided a professional

1           sounding board to the chief executive and deputy  
2           chief executive. It was not a decision-making role, but  
3           was to offer support on a consultancy basis about  
4           service and user issues when required. I was asked to  
5           undertake that role because of my social work  
6           background. No other board member was a professional  
7           social worker at that time.

8           "During my time on the board in 2008, I was also  
9           elected as the subscribers' representative. This meant  
10          that subscribers, who were members of Aberlour or anyone  
11          contributing to Aberlour, could speak to me if they  
12          wanted to speak to a board member. Nobody ever did so  
13          it was not much of a role.

14          "Soon after I joined the board I also took on the  
15          role of responding to enquiries that were coming in from  
16          people who had lived in Aberlour or who had close family  
17          members who had been residents of the orphanage asking  
18          for their records during their time in  
19          Aberlour Orphanage. I took on this task as an archivist  
20          and not as a board member. The board members did not  
21          look at individual residents' records.

22          "By the time I joined the board, Aberlour Orphanage  
23          had been replaced by smaller homes in various places  
24          across Scotland. Latterly, they had a major presence in  
25          Fife, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Dumfries & Galloway, and Elgin.

1           In 2004 when Aberlour head office had to move out of its  
2 premises, all of the individual records from the  
3 orphanage had to be rehoused within the Stirling Council  
4 archives. Around that time, many more ex-residents and  
5 their families started to write in and ask for their  
6 records.

7           "The Aberlour website was very clear that it  
8 welcomed people requesting more information on their  
9 time in Aberlour. Responding to enquiries for records  
10 became a much more extensive task than the earlier  
11 occasional search for records. I looked at about  
12 a thousand enquiries over the years I was undertaking  
13 the search and responding tasks. Most of them were from  
14 ex-residents themselves, but many were from many  
15 families of ex-residents who were looking to find out  
16 information on their family members who had been in  
17 Aberlour, some as far back as the early 1900s.

18           "Aberlour's response to enquiries about records in  
19 the past had been administrative. The letter would  
20 confirm the dates that the person was in Aberlour and  
21 provide the names of any parents. I thought that it was  
22 important to give people a lot more information about  
23 their childhood than that, so I would search out the  
24 records and give people as much information as I could.

25           "I would search in the children's file. I found

1 that this gave a rich history of key events and had the  
2 added benefits that you could copy easily some of the  
3 key papers for the enquirer. All of the records have  
4 now been digitalised. The paper copies have been kept  
5 with a company called Data Space. This meant I accessed  
6 the digital versions with the assistance of a very  
7 competent administrative member of staff.

8 Unfortunately, sometimes the digital copy was indistinct  
9 and any writing had faded.

10 "I preferred to have the paper copy when the  
11 information was extensive and poor quality and this was  
12 facilitated by the admin member of staff. Copies from  
13 the actual file also gave the enquirer greater  
14 authenticity, which I felt computer printouts could not  
15 do.

16 "The very early files had very little in them, often  
17 only a single sheet of paper on admission. As the years  
18 passed, the records began to contain correspondence  
19 showing referrals or letters, for example, about a child  
20 going to hospital. The later files would have  
21 information drawn together and put in the file by the  
22 senior managers at the time. I imagine it was gleaned  
23 from the people who cared for the children.

24 "The later files also contained review reports after  
25 reviews were introduced. They would be written by the

1 person caring for the child, like the house parent in  
2 charge. It is hard to remember, but I think there was  
3 usually some handwritten information and then, when it  
4 was time for the review meeting, it would be typed up  
5 into a more formal document.

6 "To try to glean more information for enquirers,  
7 I also looked through Aberlour's monthly newsletters.  
8 These were sent to subscribers who had donated money to  
9 Aberlour as well as being used to publicise the needs of  
10 the orphanage for resources to look after the children.  
11 These newsletters were sent across the UK as well as  
12 abroad where the orphanage had supporters. The  
13 newsletter usually listed people who had helped Aberlour  
14 with donations of money, gifts or food, but they also  
15 recorded events that had taken place over the month.

16 "The newsletters were eventually bound by year so  
17 there were ones dating from as far back as 1875 and the  
18 latest ones I saw were in the late 1960s. I think the  
19 newsletters ceased being published around 1975.

20 "I used to look through them to see if I could find  
21 any mention of the person who was looking for  
22 information. Sometimes I found a story which was  
23 specific to the enquirer. For example, one entry spoke  
24 of a 7-year-old boy travelling up from England by train  
25 to Aberlour when the train got stuck overnight in a snow

1 drift. Sometimes I would send a copy for the whole news  
2 letter for the month the person was admitted, just to  
3 bring alive what was happening in the orphanage at that  
4 time.

5 "There were also a lot of letters printed in the  
6 newsletter from ex-residents, especially during  
7 World War I. I would look through those and check if  
8 any related to the person enquiring.

9 "I would respond to people with all the information  
10 I had in relation to them. I would advise them about  
11 where else they could go to look for other records, such  
12 as their local authority records. It was often hard for  
13 people to trace those because the geographical  
14 responsibilities of local authorities had changed with  
15 several reorganisations.

16 "As soon as I responded to an enquiry, my response  
17 to their enquiry would also be copied and kept in the  
18 person's file. Although some of the enquiries were from  
19 as far back as 1890, we would still add any papers  
20 I sent to the original file.

21 "An administrative member of staff kept a record of  
22 all the enquiries received and the dates of responses.

23 "The files from 1876 to about 1920 did not contain  
24 much detailed information but there was usually a front  
25 sheet recording the child's name, address, which

1 authority was responsible for them, and who admitted  
2 them. That at least gave the enquirer basic birth  
3 information enabling the family or person to know where  
4 best to go and look for more information.

5 "There was an impetus in the early 1900s to get  
6 children out of poor houses and looked after somewhere  
7 more child-friendly. There were very young children  
8 travelling from across the UK to Aberlour, miles from  
9 anywhere they had known.

10 "However, the physical care in the orphanage would  
11 be a lot better than living in a poor house where many  
12 vulnerable, aggressive and elderly or ill people would  
13 be saying.

14 "I do not have a precise figure of the percentages  
15 of children who came to Aberlour from England and  
16 Scotland. Most children were admitted because of the  
17 orphanage's roots in the Episcopal Church throughout  
18 Scotland and the UK. Dioceses from all over England,  
19 Scotland and occasionally Wales supported the orphanage  
20 through donations of money, clothes and toys.

21 "Some of the children were admitted through the  
22 Poor Law administration, some came via the church and  
23 some privately. Where the child came privately, there  
24 was a signature from whoever was asking for them to be  
25 admitted as well as a parent's signature if they had

1           been caring for the child. It was not always easy to  
2           see what had been the trigger for the child to be  
3           admitted, although the majority came because of the  
4           death or serious illness of their parent or parents or  
5           homelessness. It would appear that in many cases no  
6           parent remained in touch with the children.

7           "As the years passed, the files got larger and there  
8           was more information recorded. The level of detail in  
9           the records dramatically improved from about the Second  
10          World War. There was a much fuller history of the  
11          children in the records and more information about what  
12          their background was and then more about their life  
13          in the orphanage and their school and other  
14          achievements.

15          "From the late 1940s, probably with the Children Act  
16          (1948) coming into force, there was even more detail  
17          beginning to be recorded. From the 1950s and 1960s, the  
18          level of detail increased greatly.

19          "With the creation of Children's Departments in  
20          1948, there was a direct link to the orphanage with the  
21          placing authority. There were then reports and reviews  
22          that went to the authority. Around the same time more  
23          information from the people caring for the children  
24          day-to-day was included.

25          "Most of the enquiries I dealt with were from

1 orphanage days. Latterly, we had more requests for  
2 information from the smaller post-orphanage group homes.  
3 These records were much fuller as residential homes  
4 regulations required more information about children and  
5 their issues as part of the required content of records.

6 "The early application forms had details about where  
7 the children came from, parents' names and addresses  
8 (where known), who was responsible for the child's  
9 welfare to date, and who was going to pay for their  
10 care.

11 "In response to a question from counsel, I found an  
12 application form dated 1898. The parent or guardian was  
13 required to sign the form and the form included the  
14 statement: 'I hereby promise not to remove the child  
15 without the manager's permission or, if I do, to pay  
16 before removing the child the cost of the child's  
17 maintenance since the date of admission.'

18 "It was a form that was probably created at the  
19 beginning of the orphanage's existence and did sound  
20 formal, but it was unlikely to have legal status. It  
21 did stop being used but I don't know when. I never saw  
22 evidence in a file of this being enforced.

23 "I suppose there was a logic in it because if you  
24 did not want a parent removing a child from the  
25 orphanage, say, after two weeks and then returning them

1 again after a short period time because they couldn't  
2 cope. I didn't see any evidence of the statement being  
3 interpreted as preventing a parent removing their child  
4 if they had a home for them. It was an indication that  
5 they couldn't come and gather their child up without  
6 some sort of preparation or negotiation.

7 "There were some examples of children returning home  
8 successfully after a period in orphanage care.

9 "I am sure Aberlour would be able to check the  
10 wording on admission forms used during the period of  
11 interest to the inquiry. A local authority would be  
12 responsible for placing the children in Aberlour's care  
13 and if they determined that the child was to be moved,  
14 they would make the final decision.

15 "There was not a culture of recording the views of  
16 the child in the early records. Childcare reviews,  
17 which were designed to be about the child's progress,  
18 tended to be formulaic. I think in the 1940s and 1950s  
19 people thought Aberlour was a good, steady place for  
20 children to be and they got a good education, so why  
21 would they move them? The reviews probably were seen as  
22 more of an administrative requirement rather than  
23 looking at how the child felt and what future plans  
24 should be made for their care.

25 "The reviews would record if the child was going to

1 school and other factual things, but not usually how the  
2 child felt. I doubt if any of the Aberlour children  
3 went to their own reviews until many years later,  
4 possibly in the 1970s. If they did, they would be  
5 unlikely to have been included in discussions. They  
6 would probably be wondering who all the other adults  
7 were in the room who were talking about them.

8 "I didn't see many files from Aberlour in the later  
9 years, but I know from my own experience, when the  
10 Who Cares? organisation started in 1975, social workers  
11 tried to make reviews more child-focused and record what  
12 their issues were. Reviews of care now will be very  
13 different and go into much more depth with the child's  
14 views central to the plans.

15 "In the period up to the 1950s, a lot of the  
16 children came to Aberlour from considerable distances.  
17 Some of the children only had one parent and some were  
18 orphans. Some children had the most horrendous  
19 background history and they had no real prospect of  
20 going home so the children were felt to benefit from  
21 separation from their past.

22 "Many children came into the home when they were  
23 young and stayed there until it was time to leave.  
24 There wasn't a tradition of boarding out and foster  
25 parents were not plentiful.

1           "Aberlour did have an active post-care plan with the  
2 orphanage, finding employment for many of the young  
3 people on local farms or in domestic service in larger  
4 estates near Aberlour. Many of the young people  
5 returned to the orphanage for their holidays from work.

6           "As time went on, Aberlour was actively re-thinking  
7 its position in relation to contact. It was becoming  
8 recognised that children needed to live in smaller group  
9 settings and that contact with family was important.

10          "I came across quite a few files where parents did  
11 come to see children in Aberlour. I occasionally came  
12 across a letter that parents had written to children.  
13 I certainly didn't see many. I would hope that the  
14 letters would have been passed on to the children. It  
15 could be that only a few parents did write and that the  
16 children retained those letters themselves.

17          "There is mention in some of the newsletters of big  
18 post bags at Christmastime with many cards for young  
19 people and staff. Having read Abrams' book 'The Orphan  
20 Country' and the Shaw report, I know that numbers of  
21 child migrants varied greatly across residential care  
22 homes. Quarriers is recorded as having had 7,000  
23 children on schemes of migration. Whinwell had 200 and  
24 Aberlour had 50.

25          "Aberlour had a strict and clear position about

1 sending children abroad. There was very definitely no  
2 migration scheme. Children weren't forced to go.

3 "Any records I found about young people who had  
4 emigrated were positive and the young people went mainly  
5 to Canada and into a specific area in known communities  
6 there, and often linked to the episcopal church.

7 I understand that a family would be identified there who  
8 would act as the child's sponsor.

9 "Some children went to follow up their farming  
10 interests in Canada because a lot of Aberlour boys went  
11 to work on local farms. The records I have seen of  
12 young people going to Canada were of young people aged  
13 in their late teens. I only found a record of one young  
14 person who went to Australia. He went out on one of the  
15 organised and assisted migration schemes. It was not  
16 forced and he went of his own accord at an age when  
17 he was capable of making that decision. He ended up in  
18 a successful legal position and became  
19 a procurator fiscal or equivalent in Sydney. He kept in  
20 letter contact and visited the orphanage on any visits  
21 to Scotland until his death a few years ago.

22 "I did not have access to the punishment books for  
23 Aberlour while I was responding to enquiries. Only if  
24 punishments were recorded in an individual child's file  
25 would I have known about it. I do not know whether

1 punishment books survived the various reorganisation of  
2 offices Aberlour experienced.

3 "In early files I do not recall staff members  
4 recording punishments in the child's file. Bed-wetting  
5 was not recorded in the files I used to respond to  
6 enquiries. Sometimes if a young person ran away or got  
7 into mischief, such as once where a few boys destroyed a  
8 farmer's haystack, that might be recorded in their files  
9 and sometimes anonymously in the Aberlour magazine.

10 I don't remember seeing any punishments recorded in the  
11 files.

12 "Child protection was not really a commonly used  
13 term until probably 1950/1960. Around 1930 it would be  
14 unlikely for any contact with the police to be made  
15 unless there was very serious abuse and charges were  
16 being pursued. Smacking a child for a misdemeanour  
17 would not be reported to the police, particularly as  
18 regulations set out what was acceptable punishment for  
19 children in care.

20 "From what I saw from the records from the 1950s and  
21 1960s onwards, if any action by a member of staff  
22 involving a child was considered abusive, then it would  
23 be referred to the police. The approach to child  
24 protection became increasingly collaborative after the  
25 1960s.

1           "When I started working in the 1960s, we certainly  
2 were involving the police if there was a serious  
3 allegation and I'm sure Aberlour would have been the  
4 same.

5           "I can recall in some of the correspondence phrases  
6 like 'a little bit too enthusiastic about punishment',  
7 which was euphemistic language to say the punishment the  
8 member of staff meted out has been too harsh. It  
9 probably wouldn't have warranted a police investigation  
10 but it would warrant Aberlour thinking if they wanted  
11 this person caring for their young residents. There  
12 weren't many avenues to report such things at the time  
13 to inspectorial services. There also was no  
14 Scottish-wide index of people who were not suitable for  
15 employment in care settings.

16          "I recall it was about 1975 when child protection  
17 really started to get a profile. The government issued  
18 child protection guidelines and outlined how to process  
19 any incidents of abuse, including which authorities  
20 needed to be told of any risks to children. All  
21 voluntary childcare organisations had to work within the  
22 procedures and collaborate with the local authority  
23 where the home was situated as well as keeping the  
24 child's home authority advised. All procedures spelled  
25 out collaborative working with the police as vital.

1           "The structure within Aberlour Orphanage would have  
2 meant that the senior manager there would respond and  
3 react to any allegations and would have to report them  
4 in line with the government guidance.

5           "During the time I was dealing with enquiries I did  
6 not find any evidence of allegations not being properly  
7 handled. That said, I only saw the records of the  
8 people who made enquiries, rather than any from people  
9 who were raising a complaint.

10          "The ex-residents who requested their records did  
11 not often describe their time in Aberlour in that  
12 request. Some did tell us about their experience there,  
13 but usually after we sent them information and asked  
14 them to share their experiences with us.

15          "They generally would have odd memories of things  
16 that happened, but common memories were that they didn't  
17 like the size of the place, that the food was boring and  
18 not always plentiful, and that going to church so often  
19 was not what they really enjoyed. There were three  
20 services a day at the time of special festivals.

21          "There were things that were quite regimented about  
22 the home, but with 500 children, how could be it  
23 otherwise? When you consider financial constraints, it  
24 was also not surprising that they had to watch their  
25 money carefully.

1           "Another thing that did come up in the letters was  
2           disappointment that there was not more contact with  
3           their siblings while in the orphanage. There were  
4           residential wings for the boys and for the girls, and  
5           they only saw their siblings, I understand, at weekends.  
6           They weren't kept as a family group but that was  
7           probably largely the nature of an orphanage and how the  
8           accommodation for so many children had to be organised.

9           "One thing that I was very clear about, and had  
10          specifically agreed with each of the chief executives,  
11          was that if I found anything in the records that I was  
12          concerned about which might involve abuse, then I would  
13          take it to the manager within Aberlour who had  
14          responsibility for child protection matters. That was  
15          important because it was not my role to investigate any  
16          potential abusive situation.

17          "I can recall only three occasions out of about  
18          1,000 enquiries where information I found during my  
19          search gave me cause for concern. There was certainly  
20          no evidence of any regular abuse.

21          "One occasion was where a man asked for information  
22          from his records, but he didn't mention any issue of  
23          concern or abuse in his letter. When I carried out my  
24          search for information relating to him, I saw from his  
25          records that an incident had occurred. It was about an

1 inappropriate relationship between a member of staff and  
2 three boys, including the man making the enquiry.  
3 I don't remember their names, but Aberlour will have  
4 a record of it.

5 "The incident was clearly recorded in the file. All  
6 the correspondence relating to the child was also in his  
7 file. There was a letter in the records to the placing  
8 authority, telling them that this child had been  
9 inappropriately treated. The letter explained the  
10 action taken, which included a report to the police and  
11 the dismissal of the person. This was all done at the  
12 time of the incident, when the boy was still in care.  
13 I think the man may have gone to prison for the abuse.

14 "I spoke to the chief executive and it was decided  
15 that we would both go to visit this man, who lived in  
16 Fife, and explain that we realised an incident had  
17 occurred.

18 "When we spoke to the man, he told us that another  
19 boy had supported him and the other boys when  
20 inappropriate behaviour happened. This other boy had  
21 seen that it was not right and encouraged the boys to go  
22 to the officer in charge and say that they weren't  
23 happy. The incident would have happened between the  
24 1960s to 1970s.

25 "After we met with the man in Fife, he said he was

1 happy that he had been heard at the time and the  
2 incident had been properly recorded and dealt with. He  
3 did not want to do anything further about it.

4 "The other two occasions related to corporal  
5 punishment. One of them was quite an old case.  
6 Corporal punishment appeared to be regularly used,  
7 particularly in the school. That was, however, common  
8 practice over many years.

9 "Whilst searching through records on those occasions  
10 and reading about what appeared to be excessive or  
11 unreasonable punishment, on both occasions the incident  
12 was recorded, the staff member was reprimanded, and the  
13 staff member usually left. I felt reassured that the  
14 incidents that I came across were dealt with openly.

15 "I don't remember what the outcome of these two  
16 enquiries were, because my role with enquiries from  
17 ex-residents had ended.

18 "I worked closely with a former child resident  
19 helping him to piece together his early history. He had  
20 found his care in Aberlour positive and he was well  
21 regarded by staff and young people. We did find many of  
22 his records and I was able to take him to see the places  
23 in Edinburgh where he spent his first years of life.

24 "When I was a member of the board, it had two and  
25 sometimes three subcommittees. Historically, these

1 committees dealt with staffing, the financial aspects of  
2 the orphanage, buildings, farms and financial  
3 arrangements for payment of staff. They didn't deal  
4 with individual children. The only time anything  
5 relating to individual children would be mentioned at  
6 a board was if it was in relation to a staff member  
7 being dismissed.

8 "The minute would record the name of the staff  
9 member, the nature of the allegation and why they were  
10 buying dismissed but it wouldn't name the child. By the  
11 time I was appointed to the board, there were committees  
12 for finance, human resources and care services.

13 "There were minute books for the collation of  
14 minutes of board meetings. The only time I would  
15 consult the minute books during my enquiries was if the  
16 chief executive asked me to try to find a particular  
17 record of a staff member being dismissed or leaving the  
18 superannuation scheme. I would literally only look  
19 through the book and pass on any information I managed  
20 to find.

21 "As stated earlier, the chief executives or  
22 directors of children and family services during the  
23 time I undertook enquiries required me to alert them to  
24 any evidence of abuse or if a staff member's name kept  
25 cropping up with some concerns noted. This procedure

1 was in place when the web pages were revised to invite  
2 ex-residents to get in touch if they wanted to explore  
3 their records for their time in Aberlour.

4 "Any serious allegations could be brought to the  
5 board anonymously by the chief executive and the chair  
6 would usually be the one involved in further action if  
7 there was to be any. They would decide on whether any  
8 further information would be shared with the board.

9 "If there was somebody on the board with particular  
10 experience or skill relating to child protection and  
11 child development issues, then they might be asked to  
12 join in discussions. An example of this would be the  
13 child psychiatrist or social work professor who were on  
14 the board when I left. The work and the investigation  
15 would not be done by the board itself.

16 "Over the years until the early 1960s, numbers of  
17 children remained high in the orphanage. They did fall  
18 considerably from the peak of 500 as childcare practice  
19 changed.

20 "In 1946 the Clyde Committee advocated foster care  
21 rather than residential care for children who could not  
22 remain safely with their own parents and large  
23 institutions were deemed an outworn solution. A limit  
24 of 30 children per home was recommended. The  
25 boarding-out of children at long distances from their

1 family home was also not recommended.

2 "From reading a number of the records and looking at  
3 old magazines and board papers, it is clear that people  
4 started to recognise that large orphanages were not the  
5 best places to care for children. Social work  
6 literature had started to identify the need for children  
7 to have a family life and these big orphanages could not  
8 give them what they needed. There was a need to revise  
9 and review the system and move children into family  
10 groups or group home care or extend the pool of foster  
11 carers.

12 "I think the change came from within the orphanage  
13 as well as from outwith. The staff started to see that  
14 it was not ideal to have so many children and young  
15 people cared for in very large houses far away from the  
16 home areas of the children.

17 "When I started working in 1965, there was  
18 recognition from those of us that had been trained that  
19 it was best to keep a child out of care if that could be  
20 safe rather than place them in large institutions.

21 "Where children did need to go into care it was  
22 recognised that it was preferable to find care  
23 placements for children nearer home and for them to have  
24 contact with parents. Aberlour was not local to most of  
25 the children so it was hard for parents to get there.

1           "Local authorities started to try not to refer  
2 children to large institutions if there was an option of  
3 placing children somewhere else. I think it was  
4 a principled decision to find care for children in  
5 smaller settings so that they could have more individual  
6 adult care and attention.

7           "As this practice developed, there was then no  
8 justification for having a building open which could  
9 house up to 500 children when there weren't children to  
10 fill it and the costs of maintaining large buildings had  
11 become prohibitive.

12           "Some newspaper cuttings I have read at the time of  
13 the closure suggest that the topic of closure had been  
14 very extensive discussed over the years leading up to  
15 the actual closure.

16           "The warden was Mr Leslie at the time Aberlour  
17 closed. He had taken over from Dean Wolfe. I realise  
18 that Dean Wolfe was always described as a charismatic  
19 person who sent a lot of his life developing and caring  
20 for the orphanage and its residents. I think it would  
21 have been hard for him to have to manage the closure of  
22 a home about which he was passionate.

23           "There were several get-togethers of ex-Aberlour  
24 boys and girls in William Grieve's time, around 1990.  
25 I can't remember what they called themselves. There are

1 many photographs of them coming together in Stirling and  
2 having social evenings. There would be about 70 people  
3 there who would be in their forties and fifties.  
4 I think these meetings stopped because of some tension  
5 about who should be invited and where to hold them.

6 "There was a reunion in 2000, which was to mark the  
7 closing of the former residents' association. I don't  
8 remember what it was called. It was recognising that  
9 people were no longer so able to travel to Aberlour to  
10 come to these events. A local man who still lived at  
11 Aberlour was keen for people to get together. A lot of  
12 people came and renewed friendships and shared memories.

13 "There was a last formal meeting of ex-residents  
14 before the 200th anniversary of Aberlour Village itself,  
15 which was in 2010. I attended that dinner and met  
16 former child residents there.

17 "That last event was a celebration of 200 years of  
18 Aberlour Village, not just the orphanage. I met  
19 Auntie AJF there, who was an old staff member. She  
20 had been a house mother at Aberlour and a very  
21 significant figure for many of the boys resident at that  
22 time.

23 "The ex-residents also had a website, which was  
24 quite active up until the later 1990s. People used to  
25 get information about each other and any Aberlour

1 developments. At Aberlour head office messages were  
2 picked up about information requests and I would respond  
3 to them.

4 "Several years ago, there was also a book which sat  
5 in one of the local corner shops in Aberlour Village.  
6 People who had lived in the orphanage would go there and  
7 would write down that they had visited and some recorded  
8 their wish to make contact with someone who had been in  
9 the orphanage at the same time as them.

10 "Over the years since the orphanage closed,  
11 St Margaret's Church in Aberlour has been instrumental  
12 and very supportive to any returning boys and girls who  
13 are looking for information. They have records of  
14 birth, confirmations and also the death register, which  
15 includes information on children from the orphanage as  
16 well as Aberlour Village.

17 "During some years in the early 1900s, a lot of  
18 children from the orphanage are recorded as having died  
19 as influenza, scarlet fever and measles were very  
20 serious illnesses then and there were few treatments  
21 available.

22 "The only recent contacts I have had with Aberlour  
23 staff have been with those staff who work from  
24 Aberlour's headquarters or other administrative offices.  
25 I do not have any contact with Aberlour staff in direct

1 work with children or families.

2 "From my contact with Aberlour over the years,  
3 I think it was like any other large institution. There  
4 were things that happened over the years that everybody  
5 would now acknowledge were bad practice. For example,  
6 separation of siblings, frequent use of the strap in  
7 school, and some deprivation of basic privileges if  
8 a child misbehaved.

9 "Of all the enquiries I did in Aberlour in response  
10 to letters seeking information, there were very few  
11 where I felt that the care had fallen short of what one  
12 would have hoped for. That for me is testament to how  
13 Aberlour operated.

14 "In the 12 years that I was involved with Aberlour,  
15 what I gleaned from the people who wrote in and the  
16 files I looked at was that there were staff who were  
17 very good and caring, while some staff weren't so good.  
18 Overall, I think the care that was offered was of good  
19 quality. A lot of thought went into how the children  
20 were cared for and activities and opportunities for fun  
21 and development were noted.

22 I had the opportunity to speak to a lot of old  
23 Aberlour boys and girls at the 200th anniversary in  
24 2010. A lot of them were in their seventies and  
25 eighties. By and large people didn't like some bits

1 about the home and some people didn't enjoy it, but it  
2 wasn't abusive. There was no overwhelming feeling of it  
3 being awful apart from the food.

4 "People who have been in care settings during their  
5 childhood have been encouraged to talk about any abuse  
6 they experienced over the last 20 years and people have  
7 been aware that they could come forward. There were  
8 survivor groups even 20 years ago.

9 "To the best of my knowledge, not many people who  
10 lived in the orphanage have come forward alleging  
11 abusive behaviour and I do feel there have been many  
12 opportunities for them. My feeling is that if there had  
13 been systemic or systematic abuse in Aberlour, there  
14 would have been more people coming forward and asking  
15 for their records or talking about abuse in the years  
16 before the current inquiry has been working.

17 "I sense from the evidence I have read during the  
18 course of the historic abuse inquiry so far that much of  
19 the abuse happening in other institutions was systemic  
20 and there appears to have been a culture of thinking  
21 that harsh discipline verging on abuse was acceptable.  
22 My reading of situations in other institutions where  
23 abuse took place was that there was usually more than  
24 one person who knew about any abuse that was going on  
25 and more than one member of staff was usually involved.

1 Those other staff may not have been actively condoning  
2 the abuse, but the people who did know appear not to  
3 have done anything to bring the abuse to light.

4 "In all my contacts and reading, I do believe that  
5 the incidents that did happen in Aberlour were isolated  
6 incidents. They were individual people over a period of  
7 time and not a cluster of people at one time who were  
8 covering up for each other. There is nothing to suggest  
9 a culture of abuse or cover-ups in Aberlour from my  
10 reading of their records over the years.

11 "Perhaps it was because Aberlour was  
12 a Christian-based organisation where the children were  
13 not seen as chattels but were seen as individually  
14 valued and important. There was a care towards children  
15 that I felt stemmed from Christian beliefs.

16 "There were, for example, many letters from the  
17 ex-Aberlour boys fighting in World War I that shows  
18 a real affection from the then warden, Canon Jenks, and  
19 for Mr White, a longstanding member of staff.

20 "In the 1950s and 1960s, there was no access to  
21 local authority or police information in the way that  
22 we have now which might indicate that a person was  
23 unsuitable to work with children. A lot of people who  
24 came for jobs would have done so without any  
25 qualifications or relevant previous employment.

1           References would usually be from next-door neighbours or  
2           a former employer.

3           "There was very little training for any residential  
4           care staff before the 1960s or 1970s, so there wouldn't  
5           be any records of that. The majority of enquiries that  
6           I dealt with pre-dated the 1970s, so the staff would  
7           have been largely untrained.

8           "When I was doing a consultancy job in the mid-1970s  
9           there was a lot of stress being put on residential care  
10          training for staff across the board. This would include  
11          approved schools, secure units, residential homes in the  
12          local authority, private and voluntary sectors, who all  
13          worked under the same regulations. There were some  
14          early specialist courses available in Bristol, and  
15          I think Jordanhill in Scotland.

16          "When Aberlour was still running as an orphanage,  
17          some people might have had some basic training, though  
18          they would have been a minority.

19          "In the late 1990s, there was a big drive to get  
20          residential workers trained and to get their SVQs. Now  
21          it is a requirement by SSSC that managers and other  
22          workers have achieved certain qualifications suited to  
23          their key tasks.

24          "The 1968 Social Work (Scotland) Act introduced  
25          inspections by local authorities of their own homes and

1 other homes in their authority run by voluntary  
2 organisations.

3 "Over the years a lot of individual children's  
4 records were destroyed in line with a practice policy  
5 which was in place until about 1971. Section 17(3) of  
6 the 1959 Boarding Out of Children (Scotland) Regulations  
7 required that every record that was compiled under this  
8 regulation to be preserved for at least three years  
9 after the child to whom it related had attained the age  
10 of 18 years or if he or she had died before that age,  
11 three years after his or her birth.

12 Requirements to compile personal records are  
13 mentioned in many different regulations but I couldn't  
14 find any evidence of a retention period being legislated  
15 for during the period of time 1959 to 1996.

16 "Section 12 of the Looked-after Children (Scotland)  
17 Regulations 1996 says that records are to be kept until  
18 the 75th anniversary of the date of birth of the child  
19 or, if the child dies before 18, for a period of  
20 25 years beginning with the date of the child's death.

21 "It would appear that retention of records for the  
22 first 30 years under consideration in the current review  
23 were not subject to any specific regulation. From 1959,  
24 retention would be governed by the 1959 regulations, but  
25 they related only to boarded-out children in foster

1 homes and seem not to be mirrored in residential  
2 regulations. Several sets of regulations appear to have  
3 required case records to be compiled, but are silent on  
4 retention.

5 "Some informal policies developed across authorities  
6 and they suggested that records should be retained up  
7 until the child's 25th birthday. If the child had died  
8 before that age, then you kept their records for three  
9 years after their death. I imagine that there were  
10 places that kept files outwith that time period, but  
11 I found no regulation that said this must follow that  
12 practice. Aberlour certainly retained records for much  
13 longer than any minimum timescale that I have found.

14 "I worked in Edinburgh Council at the time of the  
15 policy of retaining records until a young person  
16 attained the age of 25 and I know that boxes containing  
17 records of children would be marked for destruction once  
18 that date had been reached.

19 "I think people just thought that you couldn't keep  
20 things forever and that if someone hadn't asked for  
21 their records by their 25th birthday then they probably  
22 wouldn't. I don't think anybody realised at that time  
23 the extent to which people would want their records and  
24 information as they grew up, particularly when they had  
25 children of their own, to help them to piece together

1 their own childhood.

2 "I am fairly sure that some children were given some  
3 personal records by the local authorities when they left  
4 care. Children were sometimes so upset and angry when  
5 they left care that I think some of the young people  
6 just destroyed them.

7 "Many children's homes were closed in the 1970s and  
8 1980s and when what happened records were supposed to be  
9 returned to the placing authority. I can't remember  
10 what Act that was in. Aberlour had so many children,  
11 I am sure that some records would be copied and sent  
12 back to the placing authorities. I am not sure if this  
13 was done reliably by any institution, but it should have  
14 been. The local authorities may not have wanted them.

15 "It was only in the 1995 regulations that the  
16 requirements to keep records changed and agencies had to  
17 start keeping records for longer periods.

18 "I think the creation and retention of records is  
19 a very difficult issue and there must be increasing  
20 issues relating to the computerisation of so many  
21 records.

22 "In around 2000 I undertook some work for an  
23 authority and asked them what they would give  
24 a 17-year-old care leaver who was asking for their  
25 records. They said records were largely computerised

1 and many systems required a new sheet to be started for  
2 each new event. That could have meant there being  
3 several hundred sheets of computerised paper with a few  
4 lines on each. That felt to me a very unsatisfactory  
5 and impersonal way to let a young person learn more  
6 about their time in care. I'm not sure if this is  
7 an issue that remains for agencies.

8 "Corporal punishment in families was widespread and  
9 often severe during the years which the review spans.  
10 It was also regular practice in children's homes and  
11 schools until clear parameters were set out in  
12 regulation until the 1980s. I think using corporal  
13 punishment for children in care, who were often very  
14 fragile and unhappy children, is something one would  
15 never want to see happening now.

16 "I think corporal punishment appeared to be used for  
17 any perceived bad behaviour. Punishments for emotional  
18 distress often manifested in bed-wetting were,  
19 I believe, totally wrong. I think people understand  
20 much more now the trauma that children experience even  
21 in the most caring of residential or foster care homes.

22 "It is easy to condemn the use of corporal  
23 punishment from our perspective today but people who  
24 were working in the 1930s didn't have many guidelines  
25 for providing the best standard of care.

1           "There are a lot of dilemmas in reviewing past  
2 actions with today's knowledge and approaches. We do  
3 not know what happened all the time in the institutions  
4 and how acceptable practice was. For me, there is  
5 a tipping point of what constitutes reasonable  
6 chastisement and that was talked about in the rules.  
7 I think one regulation said that if a particular child  
8 was being chastised numerous times, then that had to be  
9 reported to a medical person involved in the care of the  
10 child and the needs of the child should be fully  
11 assessed. Although there appears to have been some  
12 attempt to manage punishment then, I fear that many of  
13 the reported occasions being raised now were much more  
14 than reasonable chastisement and became abusive.

15           "I am relieved that children in care now should not  
16 be subjected to any form of physical chastisement or to  
17 any emotional abuse. If staff are well trained and  
18 supported and resources are available for children and  
19 staff to explore difficult behaviour and emotional hurt,  
20 then punishment should be a thing of the past.

21           "I have no objection to my witness statement being  
22 published as part of the evidence to the inquiry.  
23 I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are  
24 true."

25           The statement was signed by Anne Black on

1           9 October 2018.

2           LADY SMITH: Thank you.

3           MS RATTRAY: My Lady, I'm conscious of the time, but there's  
4           now just a very short statement which will finish  
5           matters.

6           LADY SMITH: I think just carry on with that then, please.

7                         Witness statement of "MARY" (read)

8           MS RATTRAY: The next statement is a brief typewritten  
9           statement which has been provided by a witness who has  
10          recently got in touch with the inquiry. The statement  
11          is about the witness's mother's experience in  
12          Aberlour Orphanage. A full statement will be taken from  
13          this witness, who has come forward, but in the meantime  
14          the witness has consented to the present statement being  
15          read in.

16          LADY SMITH: Thank you.

17          MS RATTRAY: The witness's mother has been given the  
18          pseudonym "Mary". the typewritten statement can be found  
19          at WIT.003.001.8398:

20                         "Our mother, Mary, was born in 1920, out of wedlock  
21          to my grandmother. My grandmother had no family or  
22          financial support. She was shunned by her family as  
23          a sinner and had no further contact with Mary's father.

24                         "My grandmother's step-grandmother took mum in but  
25          didn't have the means to support her and approaches were

1 made to an episcopal church that Mary had been baptised  
2 into for a more permanent home for Mary, ie an  
3 orphanage.

4 "My grandmother was expected to pay for this  
5 privilege. We have this documentation."

6 Mary arrived at Aberlour Orphanage at around seven  
7 months old, according to our documentation:

8 "Mary never discussed any sexual or physical abuse  
9 during her time at the orphanage. Mary was subjected to  
10 psychological abuse at mealtimes when she refused to eat  
11 what was put in front of her, made to sit there for  
12 hours on end until she ate it or it was served up to her  
13 the next day or someone took pity on her.

14 "An elderly couple who had recently lost their own  
15 child, a daughter, from appendicitis made enquiries to  
16 the orphanage seeking a replacement child. Mary was  
17 chosen by the orphanage. Mary was 11 years of age and  
18 sent to live with this couple in Perth.

19 "Mary returned to the orphanage after the couple  
20 found her difficult to manage. Mary's account of the  
21 time with the couple was that she was dreadfully  
22 homesick for her friends at the orphanage. She was  
23 miserable and had been bullied at the local school she  
24 had been made to attend. After around six weeks with  
25 the couple, she was returned on a bus by herself to the

1 orphanage.

2 "In March 1932 Mary was part of a group of children  
3 chosen to go to Aberdeen Royal Infirmary to be treated  
4 for ringworm. This treatment was an experimental  
5 irradiation therapy for ringworm. Mary was adamant that  
6 she did have not ringworm, but was merely sent to make  
7 up the numbers.

8 "This is Mary's account of what happened to her at  
9 Aberdeen Royal Infirmary:

10 "'Prior to the treatment I had my head shaved.  
11 I was then put on a trolley at the infirmary. There was  
12 a male and a female supposedly looking after me. I can  
13 remember lying on the trolley and a machine being put  
14 over my head. An incredible burning sensation followed  
15 and it was so hot and painful, I tried to move down the  
16 trolley away from the burning. I distinctly remember  
17 a female with red painted fingernails flirting with the  
18 man and neither of them paying attention to me or my  
19 distress.'

20 "Mary was returned to the orphanage suffering  
21 horrific burns and was not able to return to school for  
22 many months whilst her head healed. After suffering 99%  
23 burns to her scalp, Mary waited for her hair to grow  
24 back, which she had been told would happen, but the  
25 severity of the burns meant this never happened and her

1 scalp was disfigured for life.

2 "Mary was adamant that of all the children that went  
3 with her to the infirmary for treatment, she was the  
4 worst because no one else suffered hair loss such as she  
5 did. She was resolute in her belief that she was the  
6 worst affected.

7 "For her remaining time at the orphanage, she was  
8 routinely bullied by the boys. She was given a woollen  
9 cap to cover her head with and they delighted in  
10 removing it and humiliating her. She was also mocked by  
11 some members of staff and not really given a lot of  
12 sympathy.

13 "At the age of 14, Mary was put in service with [REDACTED]  
14 and [REDACTED] at their estate in [REDACTED]. During this  
15 time, [REDACTED] took Mary to London where [REDACTED]  
16 purchased Mary her first wig.

17 "It is important to note that Mary did not have  
18 ringworm. She did suffer from eczema and was there to  
19 make up the numbers and that this was an experimental  
20 treatment.

21 "Following her time with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], she  
22 spent time, a very unhappy time, in service in [REDACTED],  
23 Aberdeenshire, in 1937.

24 "During World War II, Mary was working in a  
25 munitions factory in Wolverhampton. At this time,

1 around June 1942, she attempted to get financial  
2 assistance from the orphanage for a new wig. She had  
3 very little money and was becoming very self-conscious  
4 about her appearance in the wig that she had. She did  
5 also, in correspondence that we have, advise the  
6 orphanage that she would seek advice from a lawyer  
7 regarding getting compensation from the orphanage.  
8 After some correspondence between the warden of the  
9 orphanage, the wigmaker in Edinburgh and Mary, a small  
10 amount of money was reluctantly offered by the  
11 orphanage. This showed a complete lack of compassion by  
12 the orphanage and a reluctance by them to acknowledge  
13 Mary's situation.

14 "Once again, during Mary's time at the factory, she  
15 was once again subjected to bullying by co-workers on  
16 her appearance. In one incident she had her wig ripped  
17 off her head in front of her co-workers. This was to  
18 much amusement of all those who witnessed it, a truly  
19 humiliating experience for a young woman.

20 "Mary married in 1947 and moved to Australia in 1950  
21 with her husband and young daughter to start a new life.  
22 Unfortunately, the Australian climate of hot summers did  
23 not agree with Mary's head condition at all. She had to  
24 forego her love of swimming, being outdoors, bike riding  
25 and social activities. The Australian sun was far too

1 strong for her sensitive head and it caused her great  
2 distress and discomfort. All weather types, especially  
3 strong winds, caused her great anxiety and upset.

4 "By 1978, her head condition worsened. Her scalp  
5 began to show signs of ulceration, which was diagnosed  
6 as skin cancers. She was advised at this time that  
7 there was no treatment available for this condition.

8 "From this time on, Mary's health began to  
9 deteriorate and it became more of an effort for her to  
10 be outside the house. By 1983, her health had seriously  
11 declined and she once sought medical help. It has to be  
12 appreciated that Mary had no faith in the medical  
13 profession due to what had happened to her head and it  
14 was only that her health was in serious decline that she  
15 sought help.

16 "After the death of her husband in late 1983 she  
17 accepted the fact that she did indeed need medical  
18 assistance and eventually she was referred to the Peter  
19 McCallum Cancer Clinic in Melbourne. Mary's medical  
20 history follows in detail from this point."

21 That, at this stage, is the end of the statement  
22 provided.

23 My Lady, I should add that what this statement was  
24 released to those with leave to appear, Aberlour Child  
25 Care Trust have made some research into their own

1 records and I think it's minutes of a meeting of the  
2 board of governors, which they have produced to the  
3 inquiry, and just for information, they have produced  
4 a minute -- it hasn't been shared as yet. The minute  
5 bears to be dated 22 June 1937, possibly, or it is  
6 possible that it's 1931, depending on how the number 7  
7 or 1 might be written.

8 LADY SMITH: Yes. I see what you mean. It looks more like  
9 a 7 than 1, but no doubt it'll become clear when we can  
10 look at the original.

11 MS RATTRAY: The last paragraph on this sheet says:

12 "Mrs Gordon ..."

13 With a sub-heading in the margin that says:

14 "Bald patches on girls heads."

15 It says:

16 "Mrs Gordon [under the heading of 'competent  
17 business'] raised the problem of the girls with bald  
18 patches on their heads and said that something should be  
19 done. The warden explained that it was due to gross  
20 neglect on the part of the radiology department in the  
21 Aberdeen Infirmary some years ago. Various suggestions  
22 were made and eventually the warden was empowered to  
23 make enquiries about securing wigs and, in any case,  
24 Mrs Gordon proposed that these girls should be given  
25 a head covering during the daytime and, when they leave

1 the orphanage, they should be supplied with a wig. This  
2 proposal was seconded by Mrs Johnstone and agreed to."

3 My Lady, that concludes the evidence for today.  
4 In relation to this case study, the case study will  
5 resume on 8 January next year.

6 Housekeeping

7 LADY SMITH: Yes. Quite a thought. At 10 o'clock in the  
8 morning as usual.

9 Before I rise this afternoon, there's something  
10 I want to say about Monday the 21st and Wednesday  
11 23 January. During that week -- so it's the week where  
12 the first sitting day is Monday 21 January -- the  
13 inquiry is only going to sit to hear evidence in this  
14 case study, the Quarriers Aberlour and Barnardo's case  
15 study, on Tuesday. So that's on Tuesday, 22 January,  
16 we will return to Quarriers, Aberlour and Barnardo's  
17 evidence.

18 However, on Monday the 21st and Wednesday,  
19 23 January 2019, we are going to hear evidence via video  
20 link from Australia of witnesses whose evidence is  
21 relevant to the child migrant case study.

22 Prior to migration, these witnesses were children in  
23 care in institutions in Scotland run by the Sisters of  
24 Nazareth and the Good Shepherd Sisters, the Congregation  
25 of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd. The child

1 migrant case study isn't planned to take place until the  
2 latter part of next year, but there are various reasons  
3 why the evidence of these witnesses requires to be heard  
4 in advance.

5 Please also note that not only on those days will we  
6 be hearing child migrant evidence, but because of the  
7 time differences between the source of the video link,  
8 so that's between the places in Australia and here,  
9 we will need to sit outwith normal hearing hours.  
10 I can't confirm exactly when that will be at the moment,  
11 it may require both early morning and evening sittings,  
12 but we'll make sure that further information is made  
13 available about that as soon as we can and nearer the  
14 time.

15 So far as anyone who seeks leave to appear for those  
16 days, that's 21 and 23 January, sitting to hear the  
17 child migrant evidence, please would you apply no later  
18 than 4 o'clock on Monday, 7 January.

19 I will repeat that: the deadline for applications  
20 for leave to appear for those child migrant witnesses  
21 linking from Australia is 4 o'clock in the afternoon on  
22 Monday, 7 January.

23 There will be a small bundle of documents for that  
24 evidence and it will be made available in advance of the  
25 hearings on 21 and 23 January to those who are granted

1 leave to appear. If you have any further questions  
 2 about those hearings, please don't hesitate to get in  
 3 touch with the inquiry team, particularly with the  
 4 solicitors' team, who I think should be your first port  
 5 of call on this.

6 Otherwise, it just remains for me to wish those of  
 7 you who are still here a very Happy Christmas, all the  
 8 best for 2019, and thank you for your attendance in this  
 9 case study so far.

10 I will now rise until 8 January.

11 (3.15 pm)

12 (The inquiry adjourned until  
 13 Tuesday, 8 January 2019 at 10.00 am)

14

15

16

I N D E X

17

18 Witness statement of HUGH MCGOWAN .....1

19 (read)

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22 (read)

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