

Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry

Witness Statement of

LBR

Support person present: No

1. My name is LBR My date of birth is 1957. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.

Life before going into care

2. My mother and father were and We lived on Hospital Street, Glasgow. It was a single end house. I had five siblings.
3. My gran, my mum's mum, was at the house all the time. She helped to look after us. My father was rarely there.
4. When I was four, my brother was six. He thought he was the man of the house as my father was never about. would smack us, he was a bully. My gran would smack him when he hit us.
5. My brother was born at home. We were put through to another room. My mother was screaming her head off in the other room. I wanted to know what was going on. Next thing we knew, a baby was there. It was a bit confusing.
6. When I was about five years old, my father took and I over to Ireland. We went on the boat. and I were doing our own thing on the boat. Our father was in the bar. When the boat stopped, and I couldn't find our father and we got off the boat. People we didn't know approached us and asked if we were LBR

and [REDACTED] They asked where our father was. We told them he was still on the boat and we couldn't find him. He came off the boat and it turned out that one of the people we had met was my gran, my father's mother. My gran started slapping my father. [REDACTED] and I were howling with laughter. [REDACTED] said that he was glad my father was getting hit.

7. We were all put on a truck. They put my father on the back. He was lying out flat, drunk. My gran was asking us questions. She asked us about my mother. We told her that we didn't see her that much. [REDACTED] told my gran that my mother was a waste, that my mum and dad were never there. My gran said she would sort that out.
8. We got to my gran's house, it was a cottage on a race track. My father woke up soberish. We got fed there. We stayed there for four or five days. My father didn't drink, it was the first time I had seen him normal. He was nice to us and talked us.
9. When we got back to Glasgow, my mother had had another baby. We didn't know about that either.
10. When I was about five, [REDACTED] was about four. One day we went to the railway line. Out of the blue, our dad appeared. He lifted us both up and took us home. He threw us under the bed and took his belt off. He went to town on us, hitting us with the buckle end of the belt. My mother did nothing, she did not intervene.
11. Neither my father nor my mother worked. We never knew where my father would go. He would be away for long periods at a time. Years later, we found out that he was actually in prison.
12. We moved to a new house in Carntyne as our single end house was too small. At this time there were my parents, [REDACTED] myself, [REDACTED] and the baby, [REDACTED]. In this house, there was a bathroom, a kitchen, a living room and three bedrooms. There was only one bed and mother and father took the bed. One day another bed appeared and that's where all the kids slept. There was not much in the house at all.

There was a square table with a gingham top. There were two chairs at the fire and that was it.

13. My gran was there quite a lot. After [REDACTED] was born, we saw less and less of mum. When I did see dad, he was drunk. He would lie on the stairs drunk outside our flat, the other kids would laugh. We knew what would happen when he did sober up. He would hit us. My mother would do nothing to stop him, she was very distant.
14. There was always a lot of lemonade in the house. This was for my mum. She would put some in a pan and boil it. She would then add aspirin tablets. We were not allowed to touch her lemonade. I asked my gran many years later why my mum would do this. She asked me why I thought it was aspirin that my mum was putting in. I said because my mum had told us it was aspirin. My gran said that if my mum had told us it was aspirin it must've been aspirin. I still don't know what it was. Whatever it was it kept her very distant and calm.
15. No-one got to sit on my mum's knee. When [REDACTED] my sister was born, I was handed her. I remember walking the floor with her, trying to calm her down. I was also told to go to the shops at the same time as I looked after [REDACTED]. I was six and a half years old. I was asked to get Cracker Barrel cheese, margarine, bread and milk. I would also go round to a building and get co-op milk to make up the baby bottles. In between this, I was going to school. I attended St Anne's primary school in Shettleston. That was the normal part of my life.
16. I came home one day from school and [REDACTED] had been bitten by a dog on the head. Her hair had to be shaved off. I had to stay off school to look after her. She had been given stitches. Her hair was full of what I thought was lice. There was a horrible smell coming from the wound. I took her to [REDACTED], our neighbour, and told her about the things in [REDACTED] hair.
17. [REDACTED] came into the flat and had a look at [REDACTED] head. She put some liquid on her head. I asked [REDACTED] if I had anything in my head. She told me that

whatever was in [REDACTED] head was coming from the wound. My mum turned up and [REDACTED] was taken to the hospital for treatment.

18. Mum was constantly at the bingo. When she did come home, she would constantly play Jim Reeves on her record player, that's all we heard. She didn't have anything to do with anyone. I sorted out the little ones.
19. A truant officer came to the house to see why we were not at school. I don't know what story she gave them. I think it was something along the lines of "How would you cope with no man here?" [REDACTED], my older brother said to them that Dad was there sometimes.
20. School didn't seem too bothered that I wasn't going to school. The truant officer visited before I was eight. He was known as the "schoolly man". When he used to visit, I thought I was the one that was going to get into trouble, but it was my mum and dad that were getting into trouble.
21. I remember when [REDACTED] was born, my dad was there for the birth. He had never been there when the rest of the babies were born. He had an argument with my gran about what to name the baby. My mother had said she was going to name the baby after her mum. My dad wasn't happy with the name [REDACTED]. Naming of the babies had not been difficult before as my dad had not been around. My mum got her way and the baby was called [REDACTED].
22. My dad was a bully. We would all squeeze on to my dad's chair. We didn't know when he would be getting back. He would come in and bawl at us for sitting on his chair. We would scramble out of the chair. One time I was last out the chair. He grabbed me and took the poker out the fire. He held it against my neck at the back. It had burned my hair off and burned my neck.
23. [REDACTED] came running through to the flat and barged in. She rushed me through to the kitchen and put my head under the cold tap and ran the water. I was screaming that I hated my dad and that I hated my mum. [REDACTED] took me through to her

place and put butter on the burn on my neck. She gave me something to eat. She told me that she was going to phone the police. The police came but they did nothing. The police had visited our home on a number of occasions. When my dad was in prison, I don't know if they were visiting for these sorts of domestic incidents or if it was for things he was doing outside the house. I don't know what he did.

24. My dad died in 1984 or 1985, he was 54. My brother [REDACTED] phoned me to tell me that he had seen an advert in the Evening Times paper asking if anyone knew the whereabouts of [REDACTED] to get in touch with Strathclyde Police. My brother [REDACTED] got in touch with them. He was told that my dad had died of a massive heart attack in the Tollbooth area of Glasgow. He had been living with the down and outs in a hostel.
25. [REDACTED] was born in [REDACTED] 1965. I was given [REDACTED] straightaway to look after. I was eight years old. She was an unsettled baby. I was constantly walking the floor with her to settle her. She was a screamer. My other siblings were all hungry.
26. My mother left us in October 1965. She told me to go with her to a café. In the café, she gave me a letter to take to my gran. My mum told me she would be back later on. I never saw her again.
27. I went over to my gran's with the letter. It was pitch black. I took the bus over. I gave my gran the letter. She read it and didn't say anything. She turned round to my grandfather and told him she was going away for a while and she took me home.
28. Many years later I heard from my aunt [REDACTED] who was my mums' sister, that my mum showed up at her door. My aunt [REDACTED] lived in Lincoln. She said my mum came to the door but my aunt would not let her over the threshold. My aunt told me that my mum had a fur coat on and looked like a film star. My aunt said to her that it was despicable what my mum had done, that she had walked out on her children. My aunt told her to go and get her children as we were all in homes. She said my mum just turned and walked away. No-one saw my mum again. It was no big miss.

I have never looked back to any time with my mother and recalled a nice day or a fond memory.

29. By November 1965, both my mum and dad were gone. My gran had been trying to look after us. She started to act a bit strange. We kept asking her where our mum and dad were. She told us where he was but didn't say where she was. I still think she knew where my mum was and I think they still saw each other.
30. My grandfather, [REDACTED] had an argument with my gran. He felt neglected. My gran phoned social services and told them she couldn't cope with the six children. She never said anything to us about what was going to happen.
31. One day, [REDACTED] came running down the street. He was shouting to me to run. I went to the window to see what he was shouting about. He ran up the stairs and told everyone to get away. He said there were two black cars coming. He knew they were coming to take us away. I remember saying to [REDACTED] that I couldn't run anywhere with a baby. My gran wasn't even there at the time. She had gone home and left us to it, knowing these cars were coming to get us.
32. Myself, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were put in one car with Miss Richmond from social services. She continued to see us for the years afterwards.
33. We were all taken to a centre. We were given something to eat and given a bath. We were given a change of clothes. I was with my sisters and I remember the boys were there too. I'm not sure where this centre was. We were not there long, maybe a few hours. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were called at the same time. There was a carry-on going on. Then [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were taken away, they left without a fuss. Then [REDACTED] and I were called. I was holding [REDACTED] Miss Richmond said that I would have to give them the baby. I was really upset. I was shouting and swearing at Miss Richmond. I was telling them that [REDACTED] slept with me. I thought in my head that we were all being killed. Miss Richmond told me that I was to calm down and that I was too old for my years. She was not a very nice person. [REDACTED] was taken away and then a car turned up for me.

34. We were all taken to different places. Miss Richmond came in the car with me and I was taken to Nazareth House.

Nazareth House, Cardonald, Glasgow

35. I never liked Miss Richmond. I kept asking her where my brothers and sisters were. She told me to mind my own business. She told me that I was only going to be at this place for a short while.
36. When we got to there, it was dark. I remember driving through the gates and I saw this huge, ugly building. Miss Richmond was being nasty in the car and was telling me how to behave. She was telling me to be polite, to do as I was told.
37. The door to the place opened and a nun was standing at the door. Miss Richmond and the nun were being nice to each other. The nun was nice to me. I was left sitting on a bench and Miss Richmond went away. She said "That's me away
LBR I asked her why she was being so mean. I never got a response.
38. Sister **LVP**, Sister **LHA** and Sister **LDX** took me upstairs. It was late at night. There were not many people about. I only saw nuns and some adults. I was shown a room with lots of beds in it. I thought all the kids were sleeping. I was taken to get washed and I was given a nightie to put on. A bed was pointed out to me and I was told to get in.
39. The kids were not sleeping, when the nuns left I asked them about the place. I was told it was a horrible place. They told me to wait till the morning, that the nuns hit you. I thought "no one is going to hit me."

First day at Nazareth House

40. In the morning, a bell woke us up at 5.30am. Some clothes had been put at the bottom of my bed. We all were taken to church to attend mass. We were expected to sing and you would get a dig from a nun if you were not singing the hymns. I had not combed my hair, I didn't realise that we had to comb our hair and we were supposed to look immaculate. I was like a fish out of water.
41. We then had to attend for breakfast. We were given a muffin-type thing. It was sitting on the middle of the plate surrounded by what looked like congealed fat. I decided that I wasn't going to eat it. A nun came up, Sister LHA and said that I was to eat up. I told her I couldn't eat it. She called me ungrateful. I told her that my gran used that fat for cooking her chips. The nun put the fork in the muffin and told me to open it up. She punched me in the ear and pulled my hair. She then said that she had let me off with that one. She did not force feed me on that occasion. The other kids knew the consequences of not eating. Some were eating it and others were playing about with it.
42. More nuns came in. The kids that went to school all left. I didn't go to school that first day. I was taken to what was a nursery-type room with younger kids in it. Later in the day, I was taken out the room and I was told to strip off. The nuns looked through my hair and they looked in between my fingers and toes. They looked up and down all over my body. I was standing naked without any clothes on. I did not like it. I was hit by Sister LDX

Routine at Nazareth House, Cardonald

43. We got up in the morning. We went to mass and then back to the House for breakfast. We would then get ready for school. Before we left for school, we would be inspected. They checked our shoes. We were not given our own shoes. It was a case of first-come-first-served. We were given a uniform to wear to school.

44. We didn't eat lunch at the school. We had to come back to Nazareth House to eat lunch. We were given watery soup and greasy meals like mince and potatoes. We were given fish every Friday. It was boiled fish. The smell was revolting.
45. In the evening we didn't get to watch television. There were books left out for us, but they were too old for us to read. Puzzles were left out for us to play with but half the pieces were missing. There was a lot of bickering going on between the kids. It was down to frustration. We were kept indoors all the time.

Schooling

46. I went to school the following week. It was the Holy Family Primary School in Cardonald. We walked to the school. We would walk two by two and we were accompanied by the nuns. The school was not that far away.

Chores

47. There were cleaners at the home. They used to clean the bottom part of the house and the kids had to clean the rest of the house. Visitors were only ever on the ground floor so it didn't matter what the upstairs looked like. Saturday was cleaning day. We were given rags to put on our feet to polish the floor. One child had to put the polish on the floor and the rest of us rubbed the polish in by using the rags on our feet.

Visits/inspections

48. I didn't receive any visits from family members, I had no contact with them. I was at Nazareth House for eighteen months.
49. I still had contact with Miss Richmond from social services. She would visit every few weeks. She would sit in a downstairs room and was given tea, cakes and sandwiches. I would just sit there. Sister [REDACTED] LHA would tell me to eat up. I told her I wasn't allowed to and she told me not to be silly. I told Miss Richmond that the

nuns were terrible. I told her that I was being hit. She went back and told the nuns what I had said. When I was with Miss Richmond, a nun would appear at some point. It was as if they were checking up on what was being said. I learned that whatever I told Miss Richmond would be repeated back to the nuns so I knew not to tell her anything. There was no one else I could complain to.

Medical care

50. I didn't receive any medical care when I was at Nazareth House. I have no recollection of seeing a doctor or a dentist the whole time I was there.

Birthdays/Christmas

51. Birthdays were not celebrated. I had no idea when my birthday was, I forgot.
52. At Christmas, presents were put on a table and a card with your name on it was put on top. They were not wrapped. They were toys that had been handed in.

Abuse at Nazareth House, Cardonald

53. The nuns had thin whips with frayed bits at the end. You would hear it going through the air before it hit you. The nuns would hit you on the face, neck and back. Their favourite place to hit you was the back of the legs. It was so sore you could fall down. The nuns were not heavy walkers so you couldn't hear them coming. They would just hit you and it came from nowhere. This would go on throughout the day. The punishments were not recorded.
54. You had to learn how to make yourself invisible. I withdrew into myself. I didn't get involved with anyone there. I kept thinking that my own siblings would turn up. I kept myself to myself. I was told to speak up more. The nuns saw that as a crime too and I got punished for that.

55. Sister [REDACTED] LHA got a book and she told everyone to sit round her. She then said that the “monkey” was going to read it out, she was referring to me. The book was too old for me to read, I couldn’t understand the words. She laughed at me. The kids were laughing too. Sister [REDACTED] LHA loved the kids’ reaction. I asked her why she didn’t choose someone who could actually read the words and she hit me.
56. The nuns would openly hit the kids. Not everyone got hit. Something was going on in there. Some of the kids were given special treatment. They were given nicer clothes. They were given sweets. There was a lot of disappearing going on. I didn’t know what was going on.
57. The nuns would also drag kids out of their beds at night and hit them with a belt or with their hands. They also pulled the kids hair.
58. There was bullying amongst the kids. There were a lot of fights going on all the time. This was mainly the older kids. They knew the times when the nuns wouldn’t be about and that’s when the fights would start. There would be civilian staff about. Some of them were hard, some were soft.

Leaving Nazareth House, Cardonald

59. When I met with Miss Richmond, I would always ask about my siblings. She told me that she was sick of coming to see me and that I was always complaining. She told me that she would sort something out. I took it from that she was going to get us all back together.
60. I was then told that I was going to be getting moved to another part of Glasgow. I was told my family would all be there.

Castlemilk Children’s Home, Glasgow

Secondary Institutions - to be published later

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Secondary Institutions - to be published later

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Leaving Castlemilk Children's Home

69. The decision, I believe, had already been made before the landslide at Castlemilk, that we were going to be moved to Aberdeen. We were only to be at Castlemilk for an interim period.
70. Miss Richmond came to get me with a white van. When the van door opened, inside were all my siblings, apart from [REDACTED]. I asked Miss Richmond where [REDACTED] was. She said she wasn't sure. She said that I had got what I wanted and that I was still not happy. She said that I didn't need to know where he was.
71. [REDACTED] was over two by this time. She didn't recognise me and was hyper. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were very quiet. [REDACTED] and I were upset to be leaving Castlemilk behind. I asked them all where they had been. [REDACTED] said he didn't know us, he had forgotten us. To [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and I were just people getting in a van. It felt awkward in the van, the conversation was not natural.
72. We were all taken to the train station. We were told that we were going to be living together. We were not told that we were going to Aberdeen. I didn't know until we got to the station and I saw the sign.
73. The train seemed to take forever. It was only Miss Richmond looking after us.

Nazareth House, Aberdeen

74. When we got there, we were picked up by [LDS] in a van. I later learned his name was Mr [LDS] and he was [REDACTED] at Nazareth House. He was accompanied by two nuns, Sister [FAF] and Sister [LTX].

First Day at Nazareth House, Aberdeen

75. It was not far from the station. My first impressions were that it was a bigger building than the one in Cardonald.
76. We were given tea in the blue parlour. Miss Richmond left us with the two nuns. Sister [LFZ] appeared and she took [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. I asked her where they were going. She didn't even speak to me.
77. [REDACTED] and I were taken up to the second floor. That's when Sister [LTX] started her abuse. She called us names and said we were "Glasgow tinks." I said I wasn't a Glasgow tink. Sister [FAF] stood playing with her rosary beads. She then wandered off and I heard water running in another room. There was a rocking-horse in the room we were in. We all went over to it and Sister [LTX] slapped us for touching it.
78. We were then taken into the bathroom. The clothes we were wearing were brand-new. They were bought for me going away. Sister [LTX] was calling me names. She said "So you think you are pretty do you? I'll soon knock that out of you". I thought "Oh my God, this is worse than the other home".
79. Sister [FAF] shouted that the bath was ready. I could smell Jeyes disinfectant. The water was pure white. Sister [LTX] was trying to take my clothes off. I refused to take them off. She got scissors and cut my clothes off. Sister [FAF] was dealing with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. I got chucked in the bath. The nipping started straightaway. It felt like my skin was burning. It was really bad. I reached down and pulled out the plug and the water started to go away. Sister [LTX] started to run freezing cold water in. To be honest, the cold water was a bit of a relief to the stinging. [REDACTED] was yanked out first then [REDACTED].

80. Our whole bodies were burning. We were given rough towels to dry ourselves. Our skin was red raw. We had not been given any soap or shampoo. Our hair was all matted. We all had long hair. [REDACTED] had the longest hair and it was all curly. Sister [LTX] brought out a big brush to brush our hair. I could feel the hair coming out. She was not being gentle. Then she started on the little ones. I saw lumps of matted hair come out. So Sister [LTX] decided to cut our hair. We were given bowl cuts. All [REDACTED] curls were cut off.
81. Then out of the blue, Sister [LTX] started to hit us. It was a real battering. She hit us with her knuckles, this was into our heads and our backs. Basically, anywhere she could get into us.
82. Sister [LTX] wore a rope as part of her uniform. She took this off and her belt. She started to hit us with the belt. She went to town on all three of us. She was using the belt and the rope. I was trying to protect the two smaller ones. Sister [FAF] left after the bath. I think she knew what Sister [LTX] was going to do.
83. I had a lot of blood on me where I had been hit with Sister [LTX]'s knuckles and from the buckle on the belt. I had welts on my legs. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were howling and screaming. We were all naked. We were still wet and we had hair still sticking to us. Sister [LTX] then put us into another room. There were three iron beds in it. She left us there and shut the door. She just banged the door shut. She gave us nothing to wear. It was the middle of the day. This was to be our room for the rest of our time at Nazareth House.
84. I didn't know what to do. I took [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to the furthest-away bed and put a cover round us. We waited for something to happen. Sister [LTX] appeared and asked why were not dressed. I told her that she had not left us with any clothes. She left and came back with clothes and a box of full of brogues. Told us to get dressed and to find shoes that fitted.

85. I took the bed at the window. [REDACTED] bed was at the door and [REDACTED] bed was at the wall. There was a square room like a cubicle next to our room. It had a small window with a blind on it. I didn't know what this room was for.
86. I remember that when the other kids arrived, everyone got a Jeyes bath. However, not everyone got a beating from the nuns. I think that Sister [REDACTED] LTX [REDACTED] was in a mood that day, and she used us to get her anger out.
87. Later that day, we started to hear voices, it was the other kids coming back. They had been to chapel and had had their tea.
88. Sister [REDACTED] LKG [REDACTED] appeared. She was really nice and friendly. She asked us what our names were. Because of what had just happened to us, we were scared to tell her. I remember a girl came into our room and told Sister [REDACTED] LKG [REDACTED] that there was hair in the bathroom. I told Sister [REDACTED] LKG [REDACTED] that we had just had our hair cut. I didn't know if she was going to turn nasty on us. I didn't know what to do.
89. One of the workers called [REDACTED] FAJ [REDACTED] came into our room to meet us. Sister [REDACTED] LKG [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] FAJ [REDACTED] were speaking to each other and I heard Sister [REDACTED] LKG [REDACTED] say "This won't go on." Sister [REDACTED] LKG [REDACTED] was being told by [REDACTED] FAJ [REDACTED] what was going on.
90. Sister [REDACTED] LKG [REDACTED] took us back into the room and asked us if we were hungry. I said yes. She took us into a dining room and said we would meet all the other girls. She told me that my brothers were in another part of the house. She made us jam sandwiches and gave us custard creams. We were wearing pyjamas and slippers. I knew she was alright by this time.
91. She asked me what had happened when we arrived. I told her what Sister [REDACTED] LTX [REDACTED] had done. She asked about our cuts and bruises. She told us that she had savlon lotion and she put it on our wounds. She told us that she was in charge of the floor and nothing bad would happen to us. She slept in the room next to us, the cubicle-type room that I had seen when I was first put in our room. This was the start of my life-long relationship with Sister [REDACTED] LKG [REDACTED].

Routine at Nazareth House, Aberdeen

92. Nazareth House was a mixed home, there were boys and girls wings. I never got to see my brothers. No boys or girls were allowed in the same area at the same time. The only time we were in the same place was at church. The girls went in first and sat on the right. The nuns then came in and sat behind us. The boys then came and sat on the left at the back. You daren't turn your head round to see if you could see your brother. We only saw the boys briefly on the school bus. They sat on the top of the bus and the girls sat on the bottom.
93. The house was huge. It was much bigger than the home in Cardonald. It stood in large grounds. There was a small playing area just outside the back door. There were three swings. The rest was stone and there was a grass bit. We were not allowed to pass over the grass towards the boys bit. There were three sections and a nun was in charge of each section.
94. The routine was similar to that at the Cardonald Nazareth House. We were woken early. It was an early start to the day. We were woken up about 6am. We had to go to church first and then we came back for our breakfast. We then went by bus to school. We were given a main meal at lunchtime and then something like sandwiches in the evening.
95. There was a little television but I remember the news was all about the IRA. The majority of the nuns were Irish and so were interested in what was going on so they were always crowded round the television. I remember Bobby Kennedy being assassinated in 1968, it was on the television.

When we came in from school we had to do our benediction and rosary. Then we had some tea. We did do clubs. Two nights of the week we had choir practice. We had Scottish country dancing on another night and then we had the girl guides on another night. A woman called Miss May taught us the girl guides.

Bed-wetting

96. When Sister [LTX] and Sister [FAF] did the bed duties for the bed-wetters, the day would start about four. They would come in the middle of the night and check the beds. [] and [] used to wet the bed. I asked Sister [LKG] if we could get a pot put into our bedroom. She said she couldn't do that.
97. Sister [LTX] and Sister [FAF] would use the time when Sister [LKG] was not there to check the beds. They had no right to be on our floor. They would drag the girls out of their beds and took the sheets off the beds. They would put the wet sheets over the girl's heads and called them smelly. They would then run the bedwetters a cold bath. You would always hear baths running. I found it hard to sleep. I would get up in the night quite a lot to check if [] and [] had wet the bed. If they had wet the bed, I would move the sheet up the bed so if it was checked the wet patch was in a different spot than where they expected it to be. That didn't always work.

Food

98. We ate in the dining hall. It was all girls, the boys ate a different time.
99. The food was just as bad as the Nazareth House in Cardonald. We were fed the same food all the time. Every Monday it was the same thing, every Tuesday the same thing and so on. Wednesday was the night I dreaded. We were always served steak and kidney pie. I hated it with a passion. I would vomit it up and I was made to eat it. Sister [LTX] used to stand at the front of the dining hall. When our food arrived on a trolley from the kitchen, she would stand and crack raw eggs into the mashed potatoes and mix them in. She loved an audience. I used to sit retching.
100. We had to learn ways to get rid of the food. One way was to put it down your top. If you had a seat at the top of the table, you could put food in the drawer under the table. We used to take crisp packets into dinner and hide food in them. Whatever way we tried we would always end up getting caught.

101. The food the kids were given was disgusting. The nuns were given really good food. They would get desserts and bread. I saw their food. Sometimes you would be sent to the kitchen to help clean the pots and pans and that's when you would see the trolley with the food that the nuns would be getting. I asked where the food was going and I was told it was none of my business.
102. I have a life-long phobia of food. I convince myself that I am allergic to some food. My doctor told me once that I was to eat more fish. I told him I was allergic to fish. He took blood and sent it off to get tested. The tests came back that I wasn't allergic to fish. I believe I have this phobia of food because of the disgusting food we were served in Nazareth House.
103. I found out why all our food tasted of disinfectant. The vegetables were kept under the sink next to all the cleaning products. There was a whole wall of sinks and all the potatoes, onions and carrots were kept under the sinks. It wasn't the tidiest of kitchens.
104. The cooking was carried out by civilian staff. Sister Paul was in charge of the kitchen. She looked after what the nuns were having more than what the kids were to eat.

Trips

105. Every year we would be taken to Tom Bay. Two nuns and four members of staff would take us up there. It was a big house. There were only two bedrooms upstairs. The bunk beds were wall to wall.
106. There was one bike for all the girls to play with. That was our entertainment. There was a stream nearby and we could sit by the stream. We would be taken hiking. We only had jelly shoes. If you stood in a boggy bit and lost your shoe it wasn't replaced.

107. I started my period when I was up at Tom Bay. I was eleven. Periods had not been explained to me. I started crying. I thought I was dying. I told Sister [LTX] that I had found blood in my pants. She took out her pocket watch and told me that I would be dead by midnight.
108. [LHX] was a member of staff there. I told her that I was going to die. I told her what had happened and that Sister [LTX] had told me that I was going to die at midnight. [LHX] told me to ignore her. She asked me if I had been given anything. I said that I hadn't received anything. She explained to me what my period was all about and she got me what I needed. That night I watched the clock till midnight as I still thought that I might die.
109. All the girls would go to Tom Bay. My younger sisters would be with me when we were away.
110. We were also taken to the beach for a few weeks. My recollection of that is being visited by the Masons every day. They would come and preach to us. We just knew them as the "bashers." They were not Catholics and I don't know why they came to visit us.

School

111. The school was not close to the house so we had to get a bus to the school. We went to St Peter's in Aberdeen. The school's headmaster was Mr [LFA] His wife, Mrs [LDA] also worked there as the PE teacher. I remember they had three daughters at the school who were spoiled.
112. We were called the "nazzie" kids. As soon as we stepped off the bus, it was "Here's the nazzies, here's the homers." If anything went wrong, the nazzie kids were blamed for it. If anything was taken, they blamed a nazzie kid. All our bags would be searched and, of course, something would turn up from one of our bags. The belt was given at school for punishment.

113. We wore a uniform for school. It was provided by Nazareth House. Mrs [REDACTED] LDA had a particular thing against the nazzie kids. I remember she made a big thing of what we wore to PE. The other kids got to wear shorts or skirts. We had to wear blue pants with our names on them.
114. It was a mixed school, boys and girls with separate play areas. It was not a pleasant experience and I did not feel safe there.
115. I did befriend girls who were not from Nazareth House. [REDACTED] was my friend. She burned her foot and was off school for a long time. When she was off, I became friendly with her sister [REDACTED]. I told [REDACTED] what was happening at Nazareth House. Sometimes I was so badly bruised I couldn't go to school. If I had a burst lip or black eyes, I was kept off school.
116. Some of the teachers were nice and didn't treat us like nazzie kids. Nazzie kids were not given homework. There were some good teachers. Even though I spent a lot of time off due to injuries, what I did learn just seemed to go in and stay there. A lot of the other pupils didn't treat us well until they got to know us.

Running away

117. I used to run away from Nazareth House. I did this several times. I enjoyed it. I enjoyed the freedom and I enjoyed being away. Sometimes I would go on my own and other times there would be a crowd of us. We would run away at about ten in the morning until about eleven at night. I would then hand myself into the police. They would take us to the chip shop and get us something to eat from there before taking us back to Nazareth House. I knew I would get punished when I returned to the home but it was worth running away to get the food from the chip shop.
118. When we returned we would be beaten in the van by the nuns. Then we were made to kneel all night out in the corridor. We were not allowed to go to bed.

119. We told the police what was happening to us but they told us that it couldn't be that bad. The police did ask us a lot of questions.
120. One time I ran away, I went to the circus. We were up at Tom Bay for our annual three week stay. I had cut my toe and I was going up to the prom to get my toe cleaned. The circus was there. I went over and stayed there for a few hours. I told them what was happening at the home. They were appalled and angry. The police were out looking for me and I was taken back.

Birthdays/Christmas

121. Our birthdays were not celebrated.
122. At Christmas, a present was put on a chair and a card with your name was placed on top of it. These were passed down toys. We would also be given an orange or a tangerine, some nuts and some raisins. I remember being given a book and on the inside it was written "This book belongs to [REDACTED] I remember scoring out the name and putting [REDACTED] LBR [REDACTED] A Christmas tree was put up at the front of the house.

Visits

123. My gran and grandfather came to visit us. We had not been told they were coming. We were given a meal with them, it was the type of food the nuns would eat. It was nice food. The nuns stood in the room the whole time we spoke with our grandparents. I used to try and make faces at my grandparents when they were asking how we were. I would be saying "Yes" but pulling a face to show that I was lying. My grandparents never picked up on it.
124. Miss Richmond would come to visit us once a year. Nothing was discussed at these meetings about what was happening.

Abuse at Nazareth House, Aberdeen

125. It was all confusing when we first arrived. We had been beaten and called names as soon as we arrived and then we were being told that nothing bad would happen to us. I later found out that Sister [LTX] had no business taking us to Sister [LKG]'s group. Sister [LTX] knew that Sister [LKG] was not in the house at the time and she couldn't wait to get her hands on the new kids. She had really bad bouts of anger. She would hit some kids every day. For some reason, I was one of the kids she hit every day. Even if it was a quick flick of a tea towel, or it could be a punch to the head or a slap on the face.
126. At her worst, Sister [LTX] would take you out the back door of the house at the old tin bins and just lose it. She would batter you. Her face would be red and she would be sweating. The white bit of her habit would move and you were able to see her hair. I don't know if she got anything out of it.
127. In my eyes she was old but she was in fact only in her twenties. She would wear her habit all the time, so you only saw her little face and big nose. [REDACTED] many years later, I found out that she was 58. I thought she should have been about 70.
128. Sister [LTX] and Sister [FAF] were in charge of the group of girls on the floor below us. They didn't have what we had on our floor. They had a kitchen and a community room/dining room. Their bedrooms were on the floor above us. They spent their time down there and they could come and go as they pleased. We couldn't go down to their floor unless it was a night when a club was using their community room. We used the room for the girl guides and Scottish dancing.
129. A new nun arrived, Sister [LJD], who was really nice. She put up with no-nonsense from the other nuns. She loved the children like Sister [LKG]. For some reason, Sister [LKG] was taken off our floor. They said it was too much for her as she was getting older. She was upset not to be working with the children

anymore. She would still come and visit us. Sister [LJD] replaced her. She was almost [REDACTED], she seemed to float about. She sang and was really funny.

130. If Sister [LJD] saw a mark on your body, she would take you and get it out of you what had happened. She would cause war with the other nuns if they abused you. She would scream at Sister [LTX] that she would give her a good slapping. She told Sister [LTX] she would take her pants down and give her a good slapping. She told her that she was a foolish woman who should be sent back home to her mammy. Sister [LKG] would humiliate Sister [LTX] in front of the kids. Sister [LTX] would look round to see who was enjoying it. That didn't go down well. If you showed any sign that you thought her humiliation was funny, you knew what would happen so you had to bite the inside of your cheek so you wouldn't show any emotion.

131. My brother [REDACTED] was raped by a priest called Father [LFG] Father [LFG] came from [REDACTED] Aberdeen. He was used by Nazareth House on saint's or feast days. He was there all the time. There had been talk between the kids in the yard about Father [LFG] sexually abusing the boys. We didn't really understand at that time what that meant.

132. I didn't know at the time he had been abusing my brother [REDACTED] Many years after we had both left Nazareth House, [REDACTED] told me that Father [LFG] had raped him. Father [LFG] would give him a two bob bit and then 50p. [REDACTED] couldn't look at a 50p after that. [REDACTED] passed away in 1999.

Abuse by Sister [LTX]

133. The worst bout of abuse from Sister [LTX] happened in 1971 to 1972 when I was about fourteen. I was sitting on one of the swings in the grounds. It was the summer holidays. No one saw her coming. We had been swinging back and forwards on the swing and chatting. Sister [LTX] grabbed me by the hair and pulled me off the swing. It all happened really quickly. I was on the ground. She

was kicking and punching me. She was still holding me by the hair, she threw me against the church wall. I went right into the dip at the wall. My mouth hit the dip and all my teeth shattered. I looked like an orangutan.

134. [FAJ] came running out of the house with [REDACTED] [FAJ] was in her forties and was really nice. [REDACTED] would come in to the house and give us sweets. [FAJ] and [REDACTED] grabbed Sister [LTX]. [REDACTED] dragged her away. [FAJ] was screaming to get the Mother Superior who arrived and I was carried to a bedroom. I was in so much pain. There was a lot of blood.
135. I remember [REDACTED] threatening to go to the police. Mother Superior talked [REDACTED] down, telling him that Sister [LTX] would be dealt with. [FAJ] said that she had gone too far and Mother Superior said that she would not be allowed to do this again.
136. Mother Superior did not want me taken to accident and emergency. Mother Superior said that they would clean me up. [FAJ] asked me if it was alright to take me clothes off. I couldn't speak. My teeth were gone. [FAJ] told everyone to get out the room. She looked all over my body and she got a pen and wrote it all down. I remember Mother Superior said she hoped [FAJ] would not be giving it to anyone.
137. They got a bowl of salt water and I had to swirl it round my mouth. It nipped my mouth. [FAJ] washed my body down. She got ice and put it on the worst part of my body.
138. [REDACTED] was knocking at the door. He was shouting that he was not letting it go and saying that he was going to go to the police.
139. My mouth was badly damaged, it started to really swell. The pain was horrendous. The salt water was not doing any good in my mouth. I needed something for the pain. I was given paracetamol, but that didn't work.
140. [FAJ] came in later with Mother Superior and they talked [REDACTED] round from going to the police. It was on the understanding that I would be taken to hospital. [FAJ] was

going off duty. She kissed me on the head and told me I would be OK and that she would see me in the morning.

141. I was dressed in my pyjamas but I was not taken to the hospital. Mother Superior sat on my bed and asked what level of pain I was in. I couldn't speak as the pain was so bad. I stayed in that room till the following morning. When [FAJ] came in the next morning she asked what the hospital had said and Mother Superior told her that I was to have plenty of rest. My teeth were all broken. I was kept off school.
142. [FAJ] took it as gospel that I had been to the hospital. I couldn't say that I had not been. I had been kept in that room the whole night. By the time the swelling and bruising had gone down, the pain was still there. [FAJ] walked out the home shortly after this incident. Sister [LTX] had slapped [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was about twelve or thirteen at the time. [FAJ] refused to come back to the house because of the abuse going on. I was then taken to see a dentist.
143. The dentist knew it wasn't a recent injury. He kept asking where I fell. My lip had healed and he asked why my lip wasn't burst. He kept looking at the nuns. The nuns were in the room with me. Of course, it was Sister [LTX] that took me to see the dentist. He said to them that something was not right, that the gums had closed over. He knew that it wasn't a recent injury. His name was Mr [LJU]. His practice was on [REDACTED] It was right across from the grammar school.
144. I was sedated with gas and he worked on my mouth. He took impressions of my mouth and I had crowns made of a sort. When they were fitted, they were huge. I was called names like [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] Everyone called me it unless they were my friends or they had been there when I had been assaulted.
145. I had been with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] when I was assaulted. My sister [REDACTED] was there. The [family name] [REDACTED] were there too. Quite a lot of people saw this happen to me.

146. Kids would simply disappear from Nazareth House. I remember one girl called [REDACTED]. We were all walking down the hill to get the school bus. Everyone was looking up to the roof of Nazareth House. [REDACTED] was on the roof. She was shouting that she was going to jump. Sister LGN who was walking us down the hill said "Let her." We were told to get down the hill. Sister LGN was bawling at us for listening to [REDACTED]. When we got back from school [REDACTED] wasn't there and I never saw her again. We were never told what had happened to her. I don't know if she did jump or if she was taken somewhere else.
147. I heard that some boys would disappear too. Other girls that disappeared were [REDACTED] someone called [REDACTED] and a girl called [REDACTED].
148. The kids would talk amongst ourselves and we would ask where they had gone. Some thought that they were put in the crypt under the church. Some older nuns were buried in coffins in there.
149. I remember when Sister LGN died. Her dead body was laid out in a coffin in the chapel. We all had to stand in line and go into the chapel. We had to genuflect and walk up to the coffin. Some of the girls were howling. They did not want to go up to the coffin. We were told we had to kiss Sister LGN on her forehead. I didn't want to do it. Before we were supposed to kiss her, we were to sprinkle holy water on her. [REDACTED] unfortunately spilled water on Sister LGN. She freaked and ran out. That started a panic with the other girls and they ran out of the church too. It was the first time I had seen a dead body. I was trying not to look. The nuns were standing watching us to see our responses.

Leaving Nazareth House, Aberdeen

150. I found out I was leaving Nazareth House the night before I was to be moved. It was later on in the year after Sister LTX had severely assaulted me. I was told to pack up everything that I had. I was unaware at that time that [REDACTED] was supposed to

be coming with me. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were upset, more so [REDACTED] than [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was quiet and was always hiding under tables and beds. She didn't show her face often.

151. Later that night Sister [REDACTED] LKG came to see me, she was heartbroken. She took me down the corridor and into the sewing room. She told me she didn't know where I was going. She said that [REDACTED] would be coming with me. She gave me a pile of envelopes with her name and address written on them. She said I was to write to her and she would get the letters as they would recognise my handwriting and not pass them on.
152. In the morning [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and everyone else went off to school. I was told to come down the stairs by Sister [REDACTED] FAF. When I went down there was Sister [REDACTED] LTX. Sister [REDACTED] FAF was being nice to me. She gave me 50p and wished me all the best. Sister [REDACTED] LTX butted in and said that the next time she saw me she expected I would have kids wrapped round my feet. She also told me that a tink never changes. I said "No, that's not what is going to happen". Sister [REDACTED] FAF turned to her and told her to weesht. Sister [REDACTED] LTX was getting her final dig in.
153. I went to the front door and I met Miss Richmond, the social worker. [REDACTED] was there. We were told that we were going to Glasgow to live with a family. Miss Richmond was telling us how to behave when we got to the place. She told us that if we didn't behave we would be taken back to Nazareth House. She told us we were going to be living together with a foster family.
154. [REDACTED] asked why [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were not coming with us. Mrs Richmond told us that the family only had room for two children.

House in Dunoon

155. When we got to Glasgow, there was someone waiting for us. There were two cars. I immediately became suspicious, I knew something was not right.

156. The woman who was waiting in in one of the cars came into the car with me and [REDACTED] We were driven down to the ferry crossing at Greenock. We thought that we were both getting the ferry over to Dunoon. We saw the ferry and I asked Miss Richmond if that was where we were going and she said it was. Someone else appeared and I was taken onto the ferry. The walkway was down but it was only me that was boarding the ferry. [REDACTED] was held back in the car. When I realised what was happening, I started screaming my head off. I was grabbing the ropes on the way on to the ferry. I wouldn't budge but they kept pushing me and trying to get my hands off the ropes. I screamed all the way to Dunoon. I was about fourteen years of age at the time. I didn't see [REDACTED] again until I was over sixteen.
157. I was met by a couple as I got off the ferry in Dunoon. It was clear that it was arranged for them to be at that side or they would have seen what went on the Greenock side. I told them what had happened on the other side. I told them that my brother should have been with me. The woman said that they only took in girls.
158. I was taken to a house where a woman took in girls. I don't know the name of the place. There were four girls there. The woman that looked after us seemed nice. The other girls were happy. I was well looked after there. We all had our own rooms and we were given pocket money. I think they were well paid to look after the girls. I was enrolled in Dunoon Academy. I was introduced to the rector and I started at school a few days later.

Girls' hostel, Castlemilk

159. After the house in Dunoon, I was taken to a girls' hostel in Castlemilk. I wasn't yet sixteen years old so I still had to go to school. I was only told the night before I was to be moved that I was being taken to another place. I wasn't given a reason for why I had to leave.

Secondary Institutions - to be published later

160.

161.

162. When I was at the house in Castlemilk, I received a call from a social worker about my sister [REDACTED]. She was still at Nazareth House in Aberdeen. I was told that [REDACTED] had been run over by a car on her way to swimming and was now in hospital. She was to stay in hospital for the best part of a year. I was told I was not allowed to see her. Sister [REDACTED] LKG kept me informed as to how she was recovering.

House on [REDACTED] Cardonald

163. I was then moved to a house in Cardonald. A woman called Aunty Molly ran this house. I remember it was on [REDACTED] Cardonald, Glasgow. I got a job in a doctor's reception. Aunty Molly ran the place ship-shape. She sat in her chair all the time, she was lazy. She had a side-kick that would do the cooking.
164. Aunty Molly would demand all my wages. I received £2 back from her. I was able to buy records. One day, I was in town, I saw notice advertising for people to go work on the Isle of Wight. I went in and enquired and I left the next day. That was me, finished with everything. If it had not been seen that advert, I don't know what would have happened to me after the house in Cardonald.

Life after care

165. I should not have gone off but they couldn't stop me. I kept thinking that someone would turn up and take me back. I didn't tell anyone about my life and I worried for a few months that I would be taken away. By that time I was seventeen. I started to have a bit of a life.
166. I went back to Nazareth House in Aberdeen to see [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. I arrived unexpectedly. There were hardly any kids left. Nazareth House was mostly looking after elderly people by this point. The kids that were left were in a little building that had been built on the side of the main building.
167. When I arrived, the nun that met me, Sister [REDACTED] LDX [REDACTED] was raging that I had turned up without any warning. I watched as she went over to a room and unlocked the door. Inside the room was [REDACTED]. He was sitting on a bed and when he saw me he said [REDACTED] LBR [REDACTED] was covered in bruises. I asked Sister [REDACTED] LDX [REDACTED] why [REDACTED] was covered in bruises. She just said that "Boys are boys." I told her to get all the kids ready as I was going to be taking them out for the day. She started to act like a "nun" towards me. She was trying to make it awkward for me to take them out. She said she didn't know who I was. I didn't take it from her. I was an adult and insisted she got the kids ready. She put a jumper on [REDACTED] to cover his bruises.
168. The four of us went out in Aberdeen for the day. I took them to the pictures and a Chinese restaurant. The things they were telling me sounded just as bad as when I was there. They told me that if they did anything wrong, Sister [REDACTED] LDX [REDACTED] would lock them in the room. [REDACTED] was thirteen, [REDACTED] was eleven and [REDACTED] was ten.
169. I bought them an outfit each. I took them to a corner shop and bought them some sweets and fruit. They each had their own bag. I took them back to Nazareth House. Sister [REDACTED] LDX [REDACTED] was not there when I returned.
170. I left them and I walked to the gates. It was only a walk of about 30 feet. I heard a piercing scream. I turned round and saw [REDACTED] screaming and banging on the

window. Sister [LDX] had returned and she had taken everything off of them and she was hitting them. I had a big row with her. There was nothing I could do really and I had to walk away and leave them.

171. Sister [LKG] had a brother who was a priest. He was called Father [REDACTED]. I asked him to tell Sister [LKG] that I would be back on Sunday and that I would meet her at the side door. I told him what was happening to my siblings. When I met with Sister [LKG], I told her what was happening. She said there was nothing she could do.
172. It wasn't long after that, that Sister [LDX] ceased to be a nun. She started work in an oil company.
173. [REDACTED] then left Nazareth House. I didn't know where he was taken to. I found out years later that he was taken to a foster family in Glasgow. The woman was called Mrs [REDACTED] said that she kept the kids until they were sixteen. If you didn't have a job she just kicked you out.
174. [REDACTED] ended up in a List D school. I only found that out when I visited [REDACTED] one time. [REDACTED] was sitting out on the grass outside the house. She had a plastic bag and was sniffing inside out. [REDACTED] told me she was sniffing glue. I went outside and asked her what she was up to. She said that she was only pretending to be sniffing glue to wind [REDACTED] up. [REDACTED] was not happy. He took her to the police. I was not happy about this and we had a bit of a fall out.
175. [REDACTED] has cancer now. I see her regularly. She says that she still sees me as her mother. She sends me Mother's Day cards and writes "to Mum" on them.
176. [REDACTED] fell pregnant aged sixteen. She ended up with a bad boy. She then went on to have four more children to various fathers. She now lives in Perth. She's still very closed, you can't get through to her. She is still traumatised. She won't sleep without the light on. You can't speak to her about Nazareth House. She doesn't want to talk about it. I asked her once why she was always hiding in Nazareth

House. She used to under chairs and tables. All we would see was the blonde hair. She denies that she that she did this.

177. After I left care, I moved around a lot. I have never been able to settle. Last time I wrote down all my addresses, there was a list of forty. That was a while ago. I think the list would be over fifty now.
178. In 1979 I married my husband, [REDACTED] I had been going out with him and he went to work offshore. After his first trip away, he came back and asked me to marry him. I wasn't keen. I went to see Father Gowans. He was a priest from Govan in Glasgow. He was a lovely man and stood for no nonsense. He would visit Nazareth House about three or four times a year. He knew what was going on there. You knew you could tell him anything. He would sort it out. Things would go quiet for a while and we would get peace. He made a fuss of the [REDACTED] family name children at Nazareth House. We were known as his pets. It was only Father Gowans and Sister [REDACTED] LKG that actually looked after us.
179. I wanted Father Gowans to marry us. By the beginning of March, I decided I did not want to get married. I knew [REDACTED] wouldn't stop going on at me to get married so I gave in. In [REDACTED] 1979, we got married.
180. We had two children together. My son [REDACTED] and my daughter [REDACTED] My son [REDACTED] died when he was older. I am still very close to my daughter and we see each other regularly. [REDACTED] and I are now separated. I worked all my life. I gave up work in 2007.

Reporting of abuse

Reporting of abuse at Nazareth House, Cardonald

181. I complained to the school about the abuse at Nazareth House, Cardonald, but that got back to the nuns. I told a few teachers about what was happening. The

teachers there were not very nice. I would tell them that I had a bad arm as I had been hit with the belt again. They would ask to see your arm or your leg. You would show them in the hope that something would be done about it. They reported back to Nazareth House, so you soon learned not to say anything to anybody.

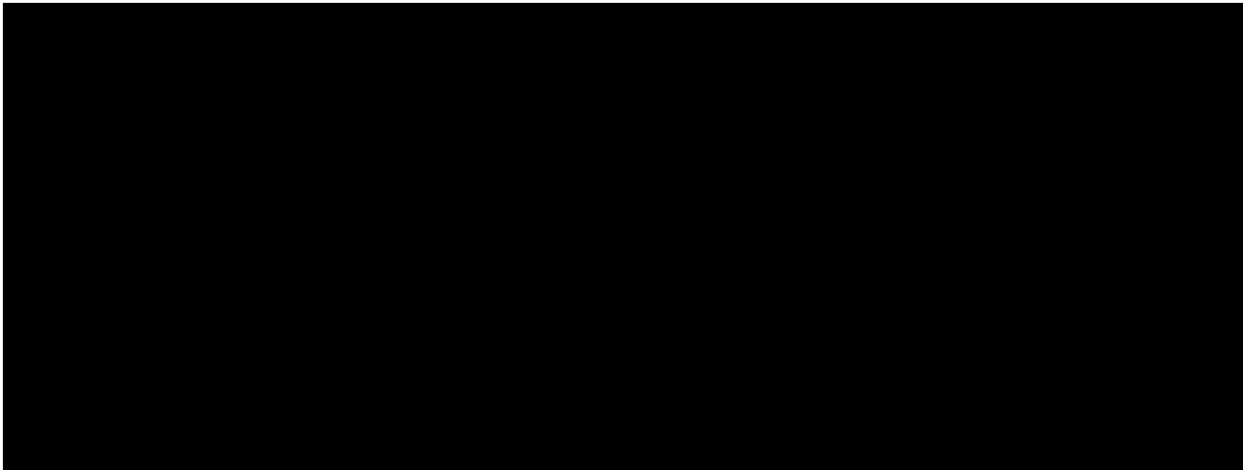
Reporting of abuse at Nazareth House, Aberdeen

182. I reported the abuse to Father Gowans at the time. I reported the abuse to the circus people. I told the police when I would run away from Nazareth House.
183. In 1997 I went up to see [FAJ] and Sister [LKG] at Nazareth House. [FAJ] had actually been brought up in the House from the age of four. It was not a planned visit. [FAJ] asked if I wanted some tea. We were going into the pantry and [FAJ] said to me "Don't look now." Of course, when someone says that you always end up looking. It was the nose I recognised first. It was Sister [LTX] I thought I was going to faint. It was a horrible feeling.
184. Sister [LTX] said hello and asked who I was. I said I was [LBR] I told her I was brought up at Nazareth House. I gave her my full name. She was in shock. She asked me how much I remembered. I told her I remembered everything.
185. [FAJ] thought I knew that Sister [LTX] was back. She was looking after the elderly residents and had been to Australia. Sister [LTX] invited me to her room. She was being overly nice. I thought I was going to pass out. I told her that I remembered everything that she did. I told her I remembered all the kicks, the slaps and the punches.
186. I asked her why she abused us. She said that she was following orders. She said that she was young at the time. I told her what she did was not normal. She tried her best to get out of it. She refused to apologise, she said she wouldn't be saying sorry. I couldn't bear to be in the room with her.

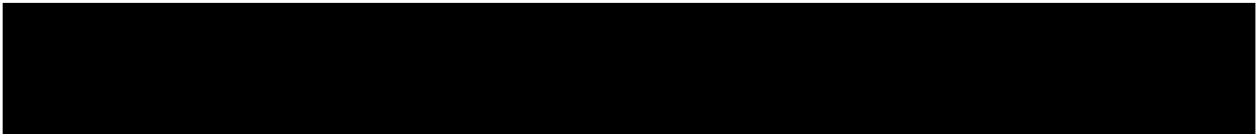
187. I was in a state. I went to [REDACTED] house. He lived in Aberdeen. I told him about seeing Sister [REDACTED] LTX [REDACTED]. He had never met her as he had been on the boy's side. I told [REDACTED] that I needed to go see someone. I went to see a solicitor at Stronach's in Aberdeen. He was a friend of the Sisters of the Poor. I remember he had his feet on the table and asked if it was money I was after. I said I wanted Sister [REDACTED] LTX [REDACTED] arrested. He wasn't interested.

188. I phoned the police. I told them that I felt stupid, that I had been abused by Sister [REDACTED] LTX [REDACTED] as a child and she was now back working at Nazareth House looking after the elderly. The police came and took a statement from me. I went to Bucksburn police station to see a police officer called [REDACTED]. I would see her on a weekly basis. I told her everything that I knew.

189.



190.



Impact

191. When I bumped into Sister [REDACTED] LTX [REDACTED] in 1997, it had a great effect on me. I started to have panic attacks. I had thoughts that Sister [REDACTED] LTX [REDACTED] was going to take away my kids. I wouldn't let [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] out of the house to play. I thought there were bad things out there. I would lock all my doors to stop Sister [REDACTED] LTX [REDACTED] getting to my kids. My brother [REDACTED] told me to calm down.

192. I went to see my doctor and he initially put me on beta blockers to stop my heart pounding. He then put me on a tranquiliser, and then he put me on Valium. That did take the edge off.
193. I was very over-protective with my children. I wouldn't let them do their own thing. I was constantly warning them how bad people could be. I went through a stage of telling them that there were normal people and then there were people like us. I confused them. I went to see an occupational therapist about that. I needed to sort things out in my head. The therapist gave me homework to do. I had to let the kids go a little at a time. I also had to stop over-spending. I had to have everything in the house lovely and perfect. I didn't want them having the life I had had. I couldn't use new towels. I would give the new towels to the kids and I would wait till they had been used before I would use them. I still buy things today and keep them for a while before I use them.


Records

194. I have never tried to get my records. My records are something I would love to see.

Lessons to be learned

195. If I was in a position to hire people to look after children, I would have them vetted a million times. I would not take the word of a simple piece of paper or rely on a police record. I would have cameras in the places of care. I would also put staff I trusted with the new staff who were watching the children for a period of time.

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

Signed.. .....

Dated.. *27/9/2017.*.....