

1 Friday, 7 June 2019

2 (10.00 am)

3 LADY SMITH: Good morning. As we indicated yesterday
4 afternoon, we start today with one witness who I think
5 we expect to take the best part of the morning --

6 MR MacAULAY: I think that's probably right, my Lady.

7 LADY SMITH: -- and there will be another one this
8 afternoon.

9 MR MacAULAY: There's certainly one planned for this
10 afternoon. This morning's witness is David Sharp.

11 DAVID SHARP (sworn)

12 LADY SMITH: Please sit down and make yourself comfortable.
13 I'm sure you'll appreciate the microphone is there to
14 help you to help us and particularly to help the
15 stenographers, so if you could make sure you try and
16 stay in the right position for that.

17 If you're ready, what I'm going to do now is hand
18 over to Mr MacAulay and he will explain what happens
19 next. Is that all right?

20 A. Yes.

21 Questions from Mr MacAULAY

22 MR MacAULAY: Dave, in front of you you'll find a red folder
23 and in that red folder you'll find your statement.
24 Could I ask you to look at it. I'm going to give the
25 reference of the statement for the purposes of the

1 transcript: WIT.001.001.7159.

2 If I could ask you, Dave, to turn to the very last
3 page of the statement, can I ask you to confirm that
4 you have signed the statement?

5 A. I have, yes.

6 Q. Can I ask you to confirm that you're content that the
7 statement be published as part of the evidence to the
8 inquiry?

9 A. Uh-huh, yes.

10 Q. And is it right to say that you believe the facts stated
11 in this statement are true?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Am I right in thinking, Dave, that you were born on
14 [REDACTED] 1959?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. So you're now 60?

17 A. 60.

18 Q. In your statement, at the beginning of the statement,
19 you provide the inquiry with some information about your
20 family background. It seems to have been the case that
21 your mother died when you were very young; is that
22 correct?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. What age were you when she died?

25 A. I think I was 1. [REDACTED] my mother

1 died of TB.

2 Q. Did that mean that your father was left to look after
3 [REDACTED] yourself?

4 A. Well, I found out years later that that was the case,
5 yes.

6 Q. Was that really the background to you going into care
7 for quite a number of years thereafter?

8 A. I can't answer that directly because, even after the
9 home, I wasn't sure of the facts. But, yes, my mother
10 died, I know that much, and then I spent the next
11 16 years in residential care.

12 Q. Can I just trace the history of that? I'm doing this
13 under reference to records that the inquiry has had
14 access to.

15 It would appear, first of all, that you were in
16 Nazareth House Kilmarnock and you were admitted on
17 7 November 1961 when you were aged about 2. And you
18 left ultimately on 22 December 1967 when you were aged
19 8. Do you remember your time at Nazareth House in
20 Kilmarnock?

21 A. I actually do, yes --

22 Q. And I'll come back to that then.

23 A. Okay.

24 Q. At the moment I'm just tracing the history.

25 After that, in December 1967, when you were aged 8,

1 you went into foster care and you left foster care in
2 October 1968. Can I ask you again, do you remember
3 being in foster care?

4 A. I remember being put into -- taken to lots of places,
5 but, no, I don't remember -- I remember various places,
6 but no dates. So if you're asking about the date, no,
7 I don't know where I was at certain dates.

8 Q. Do you actually even remember being with a particular
9 family in a foster care arrangement or not?

10 A. I remember being in a number of families, but again to
11 be completely honest, over the 16 years I was taken out
12 to that many different environments and situations,
13 including foster care, that -- yeah, there was a lot of
14 different places I was taken to.

15 Q. What the records suggest is that you were taken into
16 foster care [REDACTED]

17 [REDACTED]

18 A. That would have been in Irvine, if that's the one you're
19 referring to.

20 Q. Yes.

21 A. I think it was a Mr Cooper.

22 Q. Have you a vague recollection of that?

23 A. No. I remember he had a son. I remember going there.
24 I even remember the address, funnily enough. But
25 I don't remember any -- I don't have any memories of it.

1 Q. I'm not looking at that today in any event.

2 A. Okay.

3 Q. Then after that, according to the records, you were
4 admitted to Nazareth House Lasswade on 25 October 1968
5 when you were aged 9, and you left when you were
6 transferred to St Ninian's in August 1971 when you were
7 aged 12. Can I ask you this: do you remember being in
8 Nazareth House Lasswade?

9 A. I don't have a single -- I don't have any single memory.
10 Whenever I'm asked this question all I see, even when
11 I see pictures of it, all I can see is the gates and
12 a big wall, but every time when I look over the wall,
13 all I see is a darkness. I know things happened there,
14 but I have absolutely -- I'm not going to assume or
15 guess at anything that happened at this stage, but I've
16 got absolutely no memories at all of those three years
17 of my life.

18 Q. Following upon those three years, thereafter in
19 August 1971, when you were aged 12, you were admitted to
20 St Ninian's in Falkland?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. That's what we're going to focus on today in a moment.
23 You left St Ninian's Falkland on 11 July 1975 when you
24 were aged 16. Do you remember that, leaving
25 St Ninian's?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. So far as Nazareth House Kilmarnock is concerned, you
3 deal with that in paragraphs 8 to 20 of your statement.
4 Can I just perhaps tell you or remind you that those
5 paragraphs of your statement have already been read into
6 the evidence in that they formed part of the case study
7 into the Sisters of Nazareth, so we have a transcript of
8 that already in the evidence.

9 So far as Nazareth House Lasswade is concerned, you
10 deal with that at paragraphs 21 to 24 of your statement,
11 and again that's been read into the evidence, and it's
12 in the transcript. But as you've said, Dave, so far as
13 that part of your life is concerned, you have no real
14 recollection of being there?

15 A. As far as Nazareth House Kilmarnock goes, I'm often
16 asked, people ask me regular, "Were you abused, what
17 happened?" And my answer to that is that I've got a lot
18 of memories of Nazareth House, but I was locked in
19 cupboards, I was hit by rulers. I had a lot of things
20 happen, but as far as I was concerned, that was the
21 norm, and the reason I say that is because for someone
22 like me, and I guess probably everybody else that was in
23 there, we spent most of our time looking for and
24 fighting for the attention of anybody who would show us
25 any love.

1 That's my abiding memory of the place. So you know,
2 as far as abuse went, yes, I remember getting, what
3 do you call it, a ruler across the fingers, I remember
4 getting put in cupboards, but I never -- to me it was
5 normal. It felt normal because it was just the way it
6 happened, that's what happened there.

7 Q. Can we then leave Nazareth House aside then, because
8 we've covered that already for the inquiry, and can we
9 focus on your time at St Ninian's in Falkland?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. As we have just mentioned, you went there in August 1971
12 when you were aged 12.

13 When you went there, do you remember going there?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Who took you there?

16 A. I don't know.

17 Q. When did you first know that you were going to
18 St Ninian's?

19 A. I don't know. My very first memory is I got taken into
20 this big building, and I remember I walked in and I was
21 approached by a group of boys --

22 Q. Before we come to the group of boys -- I know you want
23 to tell me about that. Before you meet the group of
24 boys, and you tell us about them in your statement, when
25 you were taken in, were you introduced to any of the

1 Christian Brothers who ran the establishment?

2 A. I don't remember.

3 Q. So what is your first recollection then?

4 A. Of being left alone and a group of boys coming up to me.

5 Their first question was, "Where are you from?" and

6 I said, "I don't know". They said, "Well, where do you

7 live?" I said, "I don't know". And they said, "Well,

8 where's your mum and dad?" and I said, "I don't have

9 a mum and dad". They said, "Well, you must know where

10 you've come from", I said, "I've got no idea, I live

11 here, this is where I live, I'm here", and one of the

12 boys called me an orphan.

13 Then I remember they all started laughing and one of

14 the guys stepped forward and stuck their head on me,

15 I fell to the floor, and this guy said, "We're the

16 Glasgow guys", I'm a Christian so I don't swear, so I'm

17 not going to, "mess with us, and this is what'll

18 happen".

19 I got up and I remember one of the

20 Christian Brothers come over, took me into one of the

21 recreation rooms where the televisions were. I was told

22 to sit down and shut up and that was my introduction to

23 St Ninian's.

24 Q. The reference to you being an orphan, did that stick

25 with you?

1 A. That stuck with me. Many, many times, I used to get
2 into situations where a lot of the young bucks would try
3 and impress the older guys. I was an easy target
4 because I was really small. I was inferior in the sense
5 that most of the other boys all went home at weekends,
6 I didn't. Most of the other boys would come back with
7 shiny new clothes and sort of stories of tales of their
8 families, but I never left. I was there for six years,
9 five years, and I very rarely left.

10 Q. The reference to being an orphan, was that something you
11 believed at that time, because I think we know when you
12 went into care -- we know now that your father was still
13 alive, although your mother had died? But did you
14 believe at the time --

15 A. At the time, of course I did, yes, because nobody came
16 and visited me -- never -- I can tell you now, if I can
17 advance, I found out years later the story I heard,
18 I don't know how true it is, but I found out years later
19 that my father had turned up at Nazareth House
20 Kilmarnock. He used to turn up at 10 o'clock at night
21 really drunk, demanding to see me. One of the nuns had
22 told him that I'd been fostered out to a farm where they
23 had horses and everything, so my dad had decided, well,
24 I may as well just leave him there. I never -- knowing
25 my father as I eventually did, I'm not sure how much

1 truth was in that, I don't know.

2 Q. And that's something that you were told by him much
3 later on --

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. -- that that was what he said he'd been told by the
6 nuns?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. You have just told us about the time when you were met
9 by these boys and then you were moved and you went into
10 a room where there were other people. Did anything
11 happen in that room at that time?

12 A. I was told to sit down and, as I say, that was my
13 introduction. See, I knew straightaway I was in
14 a prison environment. I knew I was in a place where
15 I was out of my depth. I don't know where I came from,
16 I don't know -- I can't tell you now what the situation
17 was before. It obviously must have been very traumatic
18 to the point where I can't remember anything.

19 So walking into this situation, I can only imagine
20 it's some sort of extension to where I'd just been. But
21 again, I've spoke to many psychiatrists about it and
22 I can't explain why those three years ... Going into
23 St Ninian's, it was -- again, we'll talk about this
24 later on -- it just became one lifelong trauma.

25 Q. Let's look then at the brothers themselves because the

1 place was run by the Christian Brothers. Can I just ask
2 you: who do you remember as being the brothers there,
3 looking back?

4 A. What, the names, you mean?

5 Q. Yes.

6 A. I can name off Brother LNA Brother LMZ the --
7 sorry, the older guy, the headmaster.

8 Q. Brother LHC

9 A. LHC Brother MCY MCY
10 Brother BHD, MBV. But putting faces to them
11 would be another question.

12 Q. Could I ask you this then: were there particular
13 brothers that you became involved with in your time
14 there?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Who did you become involved with?

17 A. Predominantly Brother LNA.

18 Q. You mentioned Brother LHC. Were you able to form
19 a view as to who actually was in charge of the
20 establishment?

21 A. He was in charge but he was too old to -- he was kind of
22 too old. You just saw this old man who was very, very
23 old, and LNA was the one that was making all the
24 decisions.

25 Q. So far as lay staff is concerned, do you have any

1 recollection as to what the lay staff was?

2 A. Mr BHB was the guy who used to take us out
3 swimming. He was also the He did the
4 class. He was in charge of cleaning up the sports
5 equipment and stuff. I was always seen him as a jolly
6 kind of character, He was always kind
7 of ... he just seemed to be a nice guy to be around.

8 Q. And so far as teaching was concerned -- and we'll look
9 at schooling in a moment -- were there other lay
10 teachers there?

11 A. I don't remember.

12 Q. So as far as teaching is concerned, who do you recollect
13 being the teachers?

14 A. Only LNA

15 Q. We know from the information supplied to the inquiry
16 that at a point in time after you got there, and there
17 was another MCX who was there as a brother at the same
18 time as the LNA who was there when you were there.
19 I think the LNA that you're talking about, and will
20 talk about, is a brother LNA is that correct?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And I think you've been shown a photograph of him and
23 you've identified that person as Brother LNA
24 is that correct?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Can I just then turn, first of all, to some aspects of
2 the routine that you can tell us about? I've already
3 raised with you schooling. What is your recollection of
4 school? Because there was an in-house school at the
5 establishment.

6 A. In order to talk about schooling, I would need to jump
7 forward to the abuse, because I very, very quickly
8 became involved in an abusive relationship, sexual
9 relationship, with LNA and from that moment, for the
10 rest of my time in St Ninian's, this man told me when to
11 breathe, this man told me when to blink, this man told
12 me when to speak, this man ruled every section of my
13 life.

14 When I was sitting -- if I'd be sitting in
15 a classroom -- this is one of my abiding memories --
16 I would not be paying attention to what's on the board,
17 I would not be paying attention to what this man's
18 saying, I would not be paying attention to anything that
19 anybody else that was in that room -- I would be frozen,
20 fixed, on him as a person, terrified, knowing that at
21 any time, at any time, this man could and did explode
22 and did horrific things to me. So any schooling, if you
23 talk about history, maths and stuff like that, I ...
24 It's too much of a blur.

25 Q. Okay. As I understand it, what you're saying when

1 you're using descriptions like "he would tell you when
2 to blink and when to talk" and so on, are you
3 essentially seeking to present a picture of someone who
4 was in control of you?

5 A. Of everything. Of my whole existence.

6 Q. We are going to move on to talk about the abuse very
7 shortly, but just before that, again to get some
8 understanding of the background, can you help me with
9 the sleeping arrangements when you were there? Can you
10 describe where you slept and who with?

11 A. I was there sort of nearly six years, so obviously I was
12 moved about quite a bit. I remember being in dormitory
13 situations, and I also remember being in single room
14 situations.

15 As far as -- people often talk about the juniors and
16 the seniors. I don't have any -- there's no sort of --
17 as far as rotas go and things like that, as far as
18 programmes go and things like that, I honestly don't
19 have any recollection. For reasons you'll hear soon,
20 because of the fact that my life was so controlled in
21 there that I ... at no point did I need to know because
22 I was being so controlled.

23 Q. Can I ask you to look at a plan for me, Dave? It'll
24 come on the screen in front of you in a moment. The
25 reference is CFS.001.006.8297. It's also on the screen

1 behind you because I may have to ask you to look at that
2 in a moment.

3 Can you orientate yourself Dave, and can we see, for
4 example, where the front door is just coming off from
5 the car park to the right?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. We have an entrance hall, which is a large area, and
8 then there's a main hall; is that right?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And you'll see, between the letters N and H, there's an
11 indication of stairs, these lines running across the
12 page.

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. That's going up to an upper level, the first floor on
15 that block.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. If we look to the right-hand side of the plan, can you
18 see that there is an area where there's an indication of
19 there being dormitories?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Was that where the dormitory area was?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Are you able to say, when you first went there, was
24 there a particular dormitory that you went into or not?

25 A. Yes. Where the chapel is, again I'm not 100% sure

- 1 because I was 12, but where the chapel is, the first
2 dorm, if you go up, scroll up to the chapel, and then
3 this one (indicating).
- 4 Q. You can stand up and just point. You're pointing to the
5 top left dorm.
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. So you think that's where you went first of all?
- 8 A. I think so, yes.
- 9 Q. Were there other children in that room as well?
- 10 A. Oh yes. I say that because we used to go up the
11 stairs -- and I'm guessing it's from the chapel -- and
12 this was the first room, so that was my -- that was the
13 first one. But again, looking at this, I can tell over
14 the years that this changed many times.
- 15 Q. By that you mean you moved to other dorms as well?
- 16 A. No, by that I mean -- if you look at the top there where
17 it says "dorm, dorm, dorm, dorm", you have four dorms,
18 but I know for a fact that at one point, where you're
19 pointing now, room 4, that was LNA room, and I was
20 in the next one down.
- 21 Q. So if you count from left to right, 1, 2, 3, 4, you
22 think that the fourth dorm area was Brother LNA room?
- 23 A. At some point. It was a very, very small room with
24 a double bed, a chair, and a dressing table, and
25 I remember being in the dorm because he used to come in

1 and take me in.

2 Q. You were in a dorm at a point in time close to where

3 Brother [LNA] room was?

4 A. Yes. Saying that, again, you can see you've got

5 "Brother's bedroom" next to that. So it could be there

6 was four and then -- I'm guessing. It could be I was in

7 room 4, but I know I was in room 1 and then at least

8 another one of those.

9 Q. But in any event, Dave, what you're telling us is that

10 Brother [LNA] had a room in the area --

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. -- close to where you were?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Were there any other brothers who had a room in the

15 dormitory area?

16 A. Yes. If you go right round the thingummy, go right

17 along it and down again.

18 Q. It's easier probably to point to the screen.

19 A. If you go back down here (indicating).

20 Q. You're pointing to the bottom right.

21 A. This was [MCY] room.

22 Q. So Brother [MCY] had a room there?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Thank you. The other area of the building I want to

25 explore with you for the moment is the shower area. Can

1 you remember where the showers were?

2 A. Oh yes, yes.

3 Q. Where were they?

4 A. You used to go down the back stairs. Out the rooms and

5 down the back by the courtyard, down -- and the showers

6 were down in the basement.

7 Q. Do you remember what the set-up was with the showers?

8 A. Yes. There was two rows -- if you want me to add up,

9 I'm not sure, four on each side, six on each side, eight

10 on each side. It was a large room with showers, with no

11 doors or nothing, where you queued up and there was

12 showers on this side and then showers on this side

13 (indicating).

14 Q. Is the picture you're presenting then of a row of

15 cubicles on one side, a row on the other?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Was there anything covering the cubicles?

18 A. No, no doors or nothing, no.

19 Q. One of the things you tell us early on about in your

20 statement about your experience in the showers is

21 in relation to Brother LNA Did something happen early

22 on?

23 A. Mm-hm.

24 Q. Can you tell us about that?

25 A. Yes. This is where most of the abuse happened. The

1 abuse started in his room --

2 Q. Perhaps we should go there rather than to the showers
3 then. Can you tell me how any abuse started in his
4 room?

5 A. Yes. My earliest memory is of Brother LNA coming in
6 and wakening me up. He would take me into his room and
7 he would sit me on his knee, and next thing I know I'd
8 wake up and we were both naked. Something in the back
9 of my head says that I may have been drugged, but I've
10 got no confirmation of that at all, but I know he liked
11 to drink, he drank a lot of wine and stuff. But he was
12 cuddling me and telling me that he loved me. Nobody, as
13 far as I know, had ever done this before. From there,
14 it progressed to going on to his bed, where he would
15 make me perform oral sex with him, and I enjoyed it
16 because, again, this is what the grooming process is all
17 about: he made me feel loved, he made me feel wanted.
18 But something happened, something happened between then
19 and the violence.

20 Q. Before we come to the violence, then --

21 A. The showers.

22 Q. You used the word grooming in that explanation that
23 you have just given. From what you've been saying,
24 am I right in understanding that he was being, to use
25 a normal word, nice to you --

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. -- during this process?

3 A. Even now, to this day, sometimes when I get sexually
4 aroused it comes into my head and I get homosexual
5 tendencies and I have to stop and go, whoa, whoa, whoa,
6 no, no. And for that brief second I'm back in that
7 situation because that was the first time I'd actually
8 felt loved.

9 Q. Just looking at that process, during this period when
10 he is grooming and he is being nice to you, over what
11 sort of period of time are we talking about?

12 A. I have no idea. I remember going into his room.
13 I remember this love period being very, very short.
14 There's not a lot of it. It then jumps very, very
15 quickly to beatings, being belted, and then taken down
16 the showers.

17 Q. But during this, what you have described as the love
18 period, was there sexual activity?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And you have mentioned oral sex; was that the extent of
21 the sexual activity?

22 A. As far as I know. I don't remember any -- in my head,
23 I don't remember any loving, sexual ... I don't. But
24 as I say, when I woke up, I'd be naked, and I don't know
25 what happened. I just don't know what happened.

1 Q. From what you're saying, this is at a time after you've
2 been in your bed and you've been taken out of your bed
3 by --

4 A. I'd only been in the home a matter of, I don't know,
5 days or weeks at this time. I'd just arrived.

6 Q. Can you then take it on from there, David? You have
7 said once or twice that the approach that he took
8 changed. Can you help me with that?

9 A. I don't know what came first, but we would talk about
10 the shower. What used to happen in the shower was that
11 we all had to go there, we all had to line up. We all
12 had like a tea towel round us, nothing more, just
13 a very, very short towel. Sometimes it was winter, it
14 could be minus 30 down there, really, really cold.

15 A lot of times when you were in the shower, LNA
16 would come round and sometimes he would pull at his
17 penis and play with it. Then other times, what would
18 happen is I would be standing -- when you finished your
19 shower, you had to stand in a line and you weren't
20 allowed to say a word, you couldn't speak.

21 I knew what was going to happen, I just knew, even
22 before what would happen is he would shout, "Shut up!
23 I told you not to speak, get over there", so I'd be sent
24 in the corner. Sometimes ... Sometimes I'd be left
25 there all night, freezing cold.

1 Q. Can I try and break that down a little bit? The first
2 thing you say is you'd be in the shower. Would you be
3 there with other boys?

4 A. Sorry?

5 Q. Would you be in the showers with other boys?

6 A. There was a whole queue of us. There could be 20, 30.
7 We may have just played sports or we may be getting
8 ready for bed. Sometimes he would leave me there all
9 night and then sometimes he would come down during the
10 night and you could hear the keys and then he would come
11 down and you knew he'd been drinking. There were these
12 sinks and sometimes he would bend me over the sink and
13 he would put his hand over there (indicating).

14 Q. Over your mouth?

15 A. Yes. And sometimes he would belt me with the towel and
16 other times he raped me and then he'd just leave me
17 there.

18 Q. Let's again try and understand that. Going back to the
19 start of what you said, you said that he would be in the
20 shower and he would be exposing -- would he be exposing
21 himself?

22 A. He would do that quite often, yes.

23 Q. To you alone or to --

24 A. I don't know. Even in his room -- you would be in his
25 room and there'd be groups of boys there and he'd be

1 sitting there playing with himself. Whether these boys
2 were under the same spell, if you like, that I was,
3 I don't know. I'm going to try and refrain from saying
4 I've heard this and I've heard that, I'm going to try
5 and stick to just what I know, but I know there were
6 other boys there that said the same thing that he kind
7 of liked to ... but I find it hard to believe. And
8 again I think this is because I was an orphan, that
9 I didn't go anywhere, I couldn't report to anybody.

10 But I struggle to think that anybody -- I know at
11 Christmastime and the holidays there were one or two
12 other people stayed there, but I find it hard to believe
13 and hope that nobody else suffered kind of what
14 I suffered because when he was in his room, sometimes if
15 I did something wrong, or even during the night, he
16 would take me in and he would strip me naked and he
17 would be naked. He would give me the belt on each hand
18 and he would make me give him oral sex at the same time.
19 And then he would be slapping me on the face and then
20 kicking me. And then send me back to my bed.

21 Q. Can I just look at one or two things that you've said?
22 First of all, this evidence you have given of other boys
23 being in his room. Were you present in Brother LNA
24 room when other boys were there?

25 A. Yes. He used to have groups of us sitting round and

1 he was like the Pied Piper or something. They'd all be
2 sitting there.

3 Q. Would these be boys of your age?

4 A. I'm guessing now what they call -- there's the younger
5 group and the older group, so I'm guessing it's all the
6 younger group. Whether he was telling Robin Hood
7 stories or something, I don't know. I don't know what
8 his motives were, I don't know what he was playing at,
9 I don't know what the game was. I do remember that he
10 used to pull out his thing, as well, in front of other
11 boys, yes.

12 Q. Going back to the showers, then. You have given us
13 a fairly graphic account of things that happened to you
14 in the shower area at night. Can I just understand
15 that? Would you be left in the showers after having
16 taken a shower?

17 A. I've took the shower, I'm standing in the queue, waiting
18 to go up, and **LNA** would just shout out "Shut up!
19 I told you to shut up, get over there!" So I'd be left
20 there while everybody else went up. So everybody else
21 would go up to the rooms and it was freezing, freezing
22 cold, solid dark, no lights at all, and you just had to
23 sit there, and you sat there sometimes all night. And
24 then, as I say, sometimes he came down at night-time and
25 just did the most horrible things. He just liked to ...

1 He was drunk. He was violent. He was mad. Just the
2 devil.

3 Q. And I think you said he raped you?

4 A. Yes, many times.

5 Q. How often did this shower type of situation occur during
6 your time there?

7 A. Sorry?

8 Q. How often did the shower type of situation happen?

9 A. We'll talk about the later time when I was hung by
10 a rope and I was blindfolded.

11 Q. You can talk about that now if you wish.

12 A. What happened was many times in the bedrooms, we knew
13 that other -- you know, sometimes you were picked,
14 sometimes other boys were picked. Many times you heard
15 screams. This went on for a long time. We know this
16 happened. Sometimes I used to pray that the boy in the
17 next bed got picked before me or rather than me.
18 Sometimes my prayers got answered and sometimes they
19 didn't.

20 But what happened is one of the young boys went
21 missing, completely disappeared off the face of the
22 earth. He was my pal, he was my mate, I used to play
23 table tennis with him. I started asking questions:
24 where's [REDACTED] gone, what's happened? [REDACTED] LNA took me down to
25 the showers one day and he took a black robe off, not

1 the belt, the -- help me out, what do you call it?

2 Q. A cord?

3 A. A cord.

4 Q. Was he wearing his robes?

5 A. Yes. He tied my hands behind my back, tied them up
6 behind my back, he took a hanky out and blindfolded me,
7 he hung me up by the shower and said to me, "If you
8 don't do what I tell you, you're going to be murdered
9 just like [REDACTED], and then he violently raped me.

10 That was the time then -- that was when my whole
11 life was completely changed and has changed forever. It
12 was from that day forward that everything I did was
13 under his complete and utter control.

14 Q. I think you discovered later on in life that the young
15 boy you referred to, [REDACTED] in fact, when he was on
16 home leave, [REDACTED] Did you discover that?

17 A. Aye, 45 years. For 45 years I lived this lie. It
18 affected every single relationship I've ever had. It
19 affected my whole life. Whenever anybody tried to get
20 close to me, I had to lie to people because I couldn't
21 have anybody find out this secret.

22 And then a number of people started calling me and
23 it was an ex-police officer, a woman, who told me that
24 she had new information and so we then called the
25 police. This is in 2010, 2011 I think it is. The

1 police phoned me to confirm and said, yes. I said, "How
2 can anybody be so cruel? How could you do that to
3 a child?"

4 Q. I think what you're saying is that Brother [REDACTED] LNA
5 threatened to kill you --

6 A. Mm-hm.

7 Q. -- if you told anybody?

8 A. If I told anybody.

9 Q. And how do you say [REDACTED] came into this particular
10 discussion?

11 A. Because I was asking questions: where was [REDACTED] where was
12 my mate, what had happened to him?

13 Q. And what he did say?

14 A. He killed him, he murdered him. He told me he'd
15 murdered him.

16 Q. When you say you carried the secret, is that the secret
17 you carried with you --

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. -- that this boy --

20 A. Yes, his exact words were, "You'll be murdered just like
21 [REDACTED]". It's something that stuck in my head. It's
22 never left my head, ever.

23 Q. The incident you told us about, about being tied up when
24 you were in the shower and being violently raped, did
25 that just happen the once, this occasion you have been

1 telling us about?

2 A. Different things happened. He used to tie -- when he
3 used to bend me over -- I think he liked bondage and
4 things like that. I used to be tied.

5 There was -- where the sinks were, I used to have
6 my -- my legs used to be tied to the metal, so
7 I couldn't move. I do have some recollection of other
8 men coming down, the same as when I was in the single
9 room when it was dark, I remember being tied in there
10 and other men coming in there.

11 So this was men who I couldn't put a face to,
12 I couldn't tell you who they were. We do know that
13 there were other men and priests that were coming in
14 from all over the country. And I think a lot of this
15 was during the Christmastime and the holiday times when
16 all the other kids would go home for the holiday. This
17 is when the worst abuse happened. This is when there
18 was just me or probably one or two other boys.

19 Q. These other men you mention, how clear is your
20 recollection on this?

21 A. I don't know. If you talk about -- again, I keep moving
22 backwards and forwards. If you talk about when I went
23 to Ireland, when I got taken over to Ireland and I was
24 taken in a room where there were up to ten men who raped
25 us, me and another boy. And I said this to the police

1 for the many years that I've been campaigning, I have
2 always said to the police that -- and I even went up to
3 Glasgow and I took a lot of evidence up to the police
4 with me. I said, "If you were to put 100 pictures on
5 a table now and there were three to five men who were
6 in that room, to this day I would be able to pinpoint
7 them". This is when I went to Ireland -- or it could
8 have been Scotland because we were trafficked all over
9 the country.

10 In St Ninian's it was different. It was obvious
11 there were other people there. Obviously there was,
12 I guess it was under ... What do you call it? People
13 could come and inspect at any time. But when we used to
14 get taken out to houses around Scotland, obviously they
15 didn't have to hide.

16 Q. Let's leave that aside for the moment. Just coming back
17 to the other men that you have mentioned, as
18 I understand it, you don't have a clear recollection of
19 these men? Is that what you're saying?

20 A. See, I've got this thing in my head, I've got
21 Brother [REDACTED] LMZ I can't say for sure. I know I was
22 in the company of Brother [REDACTED] LMZ I know he used to
23 grab me a lot. I know he was an awful -- a heavy, heavy
24 smoker. I know that he had this room and I can tell you
25 the room, but I honestly can't tell you if he did

1 anything to me. I just can't --

2 Q. I think so far as your statement goes, really, the
3 person that you point to as being an abuser, so far as
4 the brothers were concerned, is Brother LNA

5 A. Mm-hm.

6 Q. Is that correct?

7 A. Yes. And also, again, this is me just assuming from
8 sort of so much I've learned since. I kind of look at
9 Brother LNA as ... I don't know if it's right to say
10 he didn't like to work in groups, but, for instance,
11 when I used to go to Ireland, he used to take me to meet
12 his parents. Then he would take me to other places, but
13 he wouldn't be there, there would be all these other
14 men. So whether he was dropping me off -- and the same
15 in Scotland.

16 I only remember being in St Ninian's -- face wise
17 anyway, I only remember Brother LNA It's strange to
18 know that -- I believe I was abused by other men, but
19 I don't ... Again, was I drugged? I don't know. This
20 is my truth, as my head knows it.

21 Q. One thing you tell us in your statement, Dave, is that
22 you would also be left in the hallway overnight.

23 Can you help me with that? This is in paragraph 51 of
24 your statement. How did that come about?

25 A. Again, this was the domineering thing that was

1 Brother LNA Brother LNA had complete and utter
2 control of everything I did and said.

3 For example, I was very, very good at table tennis,
4 even now when I talk to men, "You were the champion".
5 Even if I won a competition at table tennis, I would
6 still find myself being punished. I think this was his
7 way of isolating me from everybody else.

8 So there were various kinds of things that I did
9 that -- again, this is why the psychological abuse is
10 almost as bad as the sexual abuse. Sometimes I would
11 end up, it was mostly during the night -- now, if you
12 see pictures of the hallway of St Ninian's, it's
13 a pretty, pretty scary place. There's some big pictures
14 there of people who lived there in the 15th and 16th
15 century and there was all these stories about it being
16 haunted.

17 Sometimes he would leave me there all night. It was
18 so terrifying. I was terrified that a ghost was going
19 to come and get me. My ears -- I can remember my ears,
20 the pain, just ... you couldn't blink because you were
21 so terrified. And then on other occasions, if I did
22 something wrong, I would be in front of the whole
23 school. What do you call it, in the morning?

24 Q. Assembly?

25 A. Assembly, sorry, yes. I'd be in assembly, and I'd go

1 from being a hero, if you like, I don't know, well done,
2 well done, for some reason he would turn it around and
3 I got 12 of the belt on each hand. And I couldn't ask,
4 but I had no idea what I'd actually done wrong.

5 Q. But so far as being put to stand in the hallway would be
6 concerned, was that a punishment for something you may
7 have done wrong?

8 A. That's what I'm saying. But many, many times I had no
9 idea. I was singled out at the showers; I hadn't even
10 said a word. That was the control this man had over me
11 my whole life. This is what I'm saying about I often
12 get men now, people saying, do you remember, and I say
13 to people, listen, you have to understand, this man
14 controlled my whole life, everything, you know, my
15 breathing, everything, everything, I barely remember --
16 of course I remember guys used to come back from their
17 holidays and they'd all have new clothes and stuff, and
18 they'd all be really happy.

19 I would end up -- I would be in the toilets and I'd
20 be crying because I wanted to tell somebody what was
21 happening to me. But you couldn't, you were too
22 terrified.

23 Q. If you take the hallway episodes where you're standing
24 there for, as you have described it, considerable
25 periods of time, would the other brothers in the

1 establishment be aware of that?

2 A. Oh yes. Well, of course, they must have been, yes.

3 Because I can remember times when this was the normal
4 punishment. I think there were times where you could go
5 days and days and there would always be somebody there
6 at some time of the day.

7 Q. So it wasn't just you?

8 A. No, no, it wasn't just me, there were plenty of other
9 guys that got it. My worst memory is night-time when,
10 as I say, I fully believed this place was haunted.
11 I would be there all night, all night. I don't remember
12 any other boys being there all night, but I'm sure there
13 was.

14 Then, early in the morning, LNA would come down and
15 say, "Right, go and get ready for school". So I had to
16 go and try and be normal, but I hadn't slept, I couldn't
17 blink, I was so scared.

18 Q. LNA behaviour towards you in relation to, for
19 example, the showers, would that behaviour have been
20 witnessed by others?

21 A. There was other boys. See, when we were in the
22 bedrooms, you know, again it's a Scottish thing or
23 whatever it is, or it's a fear thing. Did people talk
24 about it? No. I meet people now, they say, "We knew
25 things were going on, we knew this, we knew this", you

1 know. I say to myself, is it because I was an orphan,
2 is that why I was singled out, because I couldn't report
3 to anybody? I stayed there all the time, my name was
4 never called out or anything.

5 But yeah, I know there was many other boys. I have
6 found out since there was other boys, you know. In
7 2011/2012, when I finally started making waves with my
8 campaigning, I came forward to the Scottish
9 Daily Record, and I said to them -- I mean, even in my
10 original police statement, I was too scared to mention
11 the murder. I was just too terrified.

12 But then I found the courage to speak to this woman,
13 and listening to so many other people doing all my
14 campaigning, and then when the Scottish Daily Record
15 covered the story, the reporter guy said to me, "Dave,
16 we have got eight people here who are telling us the
17 exact same things that you're saying". So for me to
18 have -- I'd met many men, I've been campaigning for
19 a lot of years now, 20-odd years of campaigning, I've
20 met many men that sort of are terrified to talk about it
21 and trying to encourage people to come forward and
22 things like that.

23 This was kind of one of the first times now that
24 there was other men that were actually coming out in the
25 papers, who'd actually also got taken over to Ireland

1 the same as me, who actually -- if I can give you one
2 quick example, I got a phone call from a man. He said,
3 "My name is so-and-so, I live in Aberdeen, do you
4 remember me?" I said no. He said, "You and I used to
5 get taken out to from St Ninian's and we used to get
6 taken to houses in Glasgow, where they used to put us in
7 coffins".

8 Straightaway -- this is something I couldn't speak
9 about. I couldn't speak about it. It was there, but
10 I was too terrified. And the guy -- and I said to him,
11 "Can you remember this? Can you remember certain
12 details about it?" and he was exactly right.

13 Q. Well, could you remember being taken to Glasgow?

14 A. Oh yes. And about two months, three months later, I got
15 another phone call from another man on the other side of
16 the country, Dundee or something, who would say, "Are
17 you Dave Sharp? Do you remember getting taken to
18 Glasgow?" I said, "Yes", "I was the blond-haired guy".
19 Of course, I knew there were other guys there, but
20 I can't tell you their names.

21 Q. Since you've jumped to Glasgow, and you've mentioned
22 these conversations you've had with other people, before
23 you had these conversations, did you have any memories
24 of these Glasgow trips?

25 A. You have to remember, when I left St Ninian's, within

1 six months I had the equivalent of a £100 a day drug
2 habit. I spent the next 25 years homeless, trying to
3 forget everything. But it was all in my head and I was
4 terrified to speak about it. Just very briefly, I ended
5 up in mental hospitals, several, several times
6 throughout England, and when I lost my wife, 20 years
7 ago -- I was only married for five weeks -- when all
8 this sexual abuse stuff started coming back, I ended up
9 in a mental hospital again and that's when I was able to
10 speak about it, speak about certain things that I could
11 never speak about.

12 Since then it is a regular occurrence that
13 sometimes, "Whoops, I remember, I used to get taken to
14 a house on the West Coast of Scotland, it was a castle".
15 And even then, it's hazy. But I know that there was
16 a lot of ... I think they were MPs or something. There
17 was a big table, a King Arthur table.

18 I have spoken to men and I quiz people all the time.
19 There is hundreds of men in this country who suffered
20 the same as -- this went on, it happened to a lot of
21 people. This wasn't just me and a few others.

22 Q. Okay, Dave. Can we go back to St Ninian's for a moment
23 or two when you were there as a boy, because -- and
24 you have touched on this already -- you've said that
25 Brother **LNA** would also come round at night and take

1 boys from the dormitories to his room; is that right?

2 A. Mm-hm.

3 Q. And that happened to you, you've explained that.

4 I think you have said also that happened to other boys;

5 is that correct?

6 A. Mm-hm.

7 Q. And I think you mentioned -- did that happen to

8 [REDACTED]

9 A. You're just assuming. You knew because you're lying in

10 your bed waiting, seeing if you're going to get picked.

11 You can hear screaming in the background, you know

12 things are happening. You know what's going on, but

13 you're not allowed to talk about it. But you see

14 people, you see LNA and other men coming in and taking

15 boys out, actually picking them up and in some cases

16 dragging them out. Yes, you knew they weren't going to

17 play ludo.

18 Q. Did you see Brother LNA in particular coming and

19 selecting a particular boy from his bed and that boy

20 going with him?

21 A. I would say yes, yes. Yes. Yes. I would see him --

22 I would walk in on situations where he would be

23 enraging -- I can't use the word, just such

24 a violent ... The violence was just ... And again,

25 sometimes you think that they wanted you to see that, to

1 put the fear of God into you, so that you wouldn't talk
2 about it.

3 Q. One thing you do mention in your statement is trips to
4 a clothes shop in Glasgow I think.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Can you tell me about that? What was that about?

7 A. When we used to get taken to these houses -- this is
8 where I think -- this is where it all becomes a bit
9 satanic. There used to be a shop in Glasgow called The
10 Crazy House in the 1970s. They used to take us in there
11 and --

12 Q. When you say "us", who do you mean?

13 A. There'd be me and other boys, not just me. There'd be
14 a group of us. They would dress us up like -- I don't
15 know how to describe it, I don't want to say gay, but
16 Lionel Blair. I remember specifically I had like yellow
17 trousers, a cravat. It wasn't like normal boys'
18 clothes. Maybe it was the fashion in those days,
19 I certainly wouldn't wear it now.

20 LADY SMITH: Was it a clothes shop?

21 A. It was a clothes shop, yes, sorry. It was right down
22 at the Gallowgate. It was a very, very famous shop.
23 And as I say, they would take us in there and dress us
24 up.

25 MR MacAULAY: When you say "they", who do you mean? Who

1 would take you there?

2 A. Priests.

3 Q. So this isn't Brother **LNA** then, is it?

4 A. I don't know specifically. I don't know specifically.

5 I can't say specifically. But I know we used to get
6 taken there and then we'd be taken to these houses where
7 they would have these parties.

8 Q. When you say "these parties", what do you mean by that?

9 A. There would be a living room. There would be a living
10 room with -- and this is where I get confused as between
11 Ireland and Scotland. This is where I get a bit
12 confused. As I say, I keep saying they used to put
13 drink down us, but we used to go to these houses where
14 there would be like a red light and there would be red
15 wallpaper, sort of paint. There would be like settees
16 and there would be these men who would be really, really
17 drunk.

18 Again, I'm getting a picture now in my head of three
19 men who I know, who I know were part of this thing, this
20 paedophile ring. You would be naked and this man would
21 have me on his knee and he'd be having sex with me and
22 there would be other men round about masturbating.

23 I think there was a kind of -- how do you describe it
24 where the top man and then it goes down? Because from
25 my recollection, there was another room where, I think

1 by this time we were kind of out of it, we'd be taken
2 into this other room and this is where men came in
3 singular and would rape you.

4 Again, I've got pictures in my head. I think these
5 are the dominating characters who are running these
6 parties, who I believe -- and I still do to this day --
7 were politicians and priests.

8 Q. When you say you're getting pictures in your head, do
9 you remember these events?

10 A. Oh yes.

11 Q. So they are memories that you have?

12 A. Oh yes, absolutely, yes. Absolutely. As I say, if you
13 put 100 pictures there on the table, I could pick at
14 least three out that were both in Glasgow and,
15 I believe, in Ireland.

16 Q. I will come to Ireland in a moment. So far as Glasgow
17 is concerned then, how often do you remember this sort
18 of event taking place in Glasgow?

19 A. I can picture -- I've got the thing on the West Coast of
20 Scotland, I've got something to do with the church,
21 whether it's the -- what do you call it where the priest
22 lives? The mance. A mance. I remember regular, we
23 used to get taken out in a car and we always went into
24 this sweet shop. There was always a sweet shop.
25 We were taken in there and we were told to have what we

1 want, and right next door was the house. That's where
2 everything happened.

3 Q. I think you've maybe moved on to the Irish experience
4 because I think you talk about that in your statement.

5 My question, going back to it, David, was
6 in relation to the events you've been describing,
7 particularly I think in Glasgow. Do you have any
8 recollection at all as to how often that particular
9 event happened? If you can, just say.

10 A. You've got to remember -- for a five-year period. You
11 talk about going out at ... When you talk about -- when
12 you said -- not fostering, what's the other word?

13 Q. Sorry?

14 A. When you said I went out, not fostering, you mentioned
15 another word. When I was taken out to the Coopers'.

16 Q. Yes, you were in foster care.

17 A. Yes, foster. What was foster and what was actually
18 being taken out to these ... I didn't know the
19 difference. So if I was being taken out to a family,
20 I don't know what's going to happen. You didn't know
21 until you got there, and a lot of times you got there
22 and it was ... they poured drink down you. They did
23 things to you. I've seen my records. I've seen my
24 records where I've gone out for, like, days and days and
25 weeks at a time and no idea where I've gone and there's

1 no record of this, you know.

2 I don't know the answer. I don't know because --
3 was I drugged most of the time? Probably. Is a lot of
4 it blocked in my mind? Of course it is. Three years of
5 my life has completely -- I don't know if that's ever
6 going to come back. I have to live with that.

7 But what I do know is when we went to these houses,
8 there used to always be myself and at least two or three
9 other boys. In a very short space of time it was
10 regimental, it was satanic, it was group sex and it was
11 extremely violent.

12 I have got very, very clear memories of having
13 strawberries, cherries and things being thrown at us,
14 red wine like blood being thrown all over the rooms.
15 Even as you're growing up, even into adulthood, you're
16 thinking: this is just satanic, this is stuff that --
17 I don't know to go down that road, you need to shut it
18 out.

19 Q. Can I then move on to when you say you went to Ireland.

20 Can I just look at that? Who took you to Ireland?

21 A. That was Brother LNA

22 Q. Apart from yourself, was there anybody else being taken
23 by him at that time?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Was that another boy from St Ninian's?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. This was a boy you knew?

3 A. I always got a picture of a guy with blond hair because
4 when I was -- even afterwards, I used to have
5 a recollection of -- I used to come up with this word
6 Germanic. I don't know where that came from. There was
7 something about -- because he used to get special
8 attention because he was a good looking, blond-haired
9 boy. I remember that. Whether that was something to do
10 with what was going on with this satanic stuff.

11 Q. So do I take it from what you've said that your
12 recollection is that Brother **LNA** took yourself and this
13 other boy to Ireland?

14 A. At least, yes.

15 Q. And how did you travel to Ireland?

16 A. I've been asked that and thought of that question many
17 times. I don't know.

18 Q. Do you know where you went in Ireland?

19 A. I remember we went to his mother and father's house.

20 Q. I meant the place. Was it a town --

21 A. I don't know.

22 Q. You don't know?

23 A. I don't know. I just know that we went and we met his
24 parents. We got taken to a house where there was an old
25 woman and an old man. It was his mum and dad. We met

1 them and I think that was just the cover because from
2 there, we used to go to these houses where the same
3 things happened.

4 Q. Was that sexual things that happened?

5 A. This is -- you're talking about ten men at a time raping
6 you, and you're there for days.

7 Q. What about Brother LNA Was he involved in this?

8 A. Brother LNA was there. Brother LNA wasn't the leader
9 there. There was people there that were -- there was
10 one big guy, like ... I won't say a QEQ
11 character, but not far off it. Again, as I keep saying,
12 if I could only have pictures. I even went to the
13 police and begged them to show me pictures. I knew
14 I could have picked them out. But LNA was involved in
15 certain ones of these things, yes.

16 Q. Do you know if these men that were involved were
17 religious people or not?

18 A. I know there was priests there.

19 Q. Was there any violence?

20 A. Oh yes. Oh yes.

21 Q. What sort of violence?

22 A. Tying up.

23 Q. Did just go to Ireland the one occasion or more than one
24 occasion?

25 A. I'm not sure.

- 1 Q. Do you remember getting back to St Ninian's from
2 Ireland?
- 3 A. Not sure.
- 4 Q. But you went back to St Ninian's after you'd been in
5 Ireland?
- 6 A. I'm not sure.
- 7 Q. Can you remember what age you were when you went to
8 Ireland?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. Or whether it was early on in your time or --
- 11 A. I often get asked by people: what age did the abuse
12 stop? I left when I was 16 and I don't have any other
13 memory other than continually being abused. If you say
14 to me as a 15 or a 16-year-old boy, the memories are the
15 same at that age as they are when I went in at 12.
- 16 Q. What you have said so far, David, it seems to have
17 been -- what you've described really is a catalogue of
18 serious sexual abuse in St Ninian's and in other places
19 in Scotland and also in Ireland. Is that a reasonable
20 summary of what happened to you?
- 21 A. Mm-hm.
- 22 Q. I just want to be clear that what you've been saying to
23 the inquiry represents your memories of what happened.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Is that the case?

1 A. Yes, absolutely, yes.

2 Q. In your statement, I think you talk about flashbacks and
3 I'm trying to understand the difference between
4 a flashback and a real memory. So far as your evidence
5 is concerned, what is it that you're giving us today?

6 A. Yes, what I'm giving you today is memories. As I say,
7 it's memories backed up by people who have come forward
8 and who have confirmed the exact same.

9 Certain people contacted me who had contacted the
10 Record, people who live in London, and I have met, who
11 say that they have never, ever been able to speak about
12 it. When I kind of start talking about the grooming
13 process, even when I'm helping homeless people and I'm
14 talking about the grooming process, about what actually
15 happened, when you find that you talk with other people
16 who have been through that same experience, that's when
17 people open up, and I have learned a lot through the
18 years to be able to do that.

19 But again, I know for a fact that these blank
20 periods -- I'm not going to attempt to make up stuff.
21 I'm not going to attempt to, you know -- I know for
22 a fact, I could walk out here today and some memory
23 could come back. I will live with that for the rest of
24 my life. What I don't want to do is to lie, you know?
25 Because as I said before, I know -- and what we're all

1 hoping for here is at the end of this inquiry, youse
2 guys have got to put the jigsaw together, and hopefully
3 you'll be able to sit us all down and we're hoping that
4 youse can make sense of all this because we're the ones
5 that lived the life.

6 Q. David, I want to leave the position with St Ninian's
7 then and look at what happened after you left. Is there
8 anything further you would like to tell us about the
9 events at St Ninian's themselves?

10 A. Say that again.

11 Q. I now want to move on and look at your life after
12 St Ninian's, unless there's anything in particular about
13 St Ninian's that you would like to tell us that you'd
14 want us to know.

15 A. No, I think ...

16 Q. The picture, as I've said, I think, is one of serious
17 sexual abuse along with serious violence; is that a fair
18 summary of your life there?

19 A. You know, it's safe to say that, as I said before, place
20 ruled my life. Up to that point, I'd never experienced
21 any kind of love. I never had any family. This man
22 took that and he used that to his own means and
23 destroyed my life.

24 Three years, almost three years ago now, as most
25 people know, I won a case against the Catholic Church.

1 I went to a joint settlement meeting in Manchester,
2 where I was awarded a large sum of money. I met the
3 insurers of the Catholic Church, and even the lawyers
4 that were in the meeting were saying -- they said some
5 disgusting suggestions about me.

6 But the lawyer was actually saying: listen, they've
7 offered you this money because they know that you're not
8 the only one, there's many, many more men who suffered,
9 and many people -- it's been said by many that the
10 Christian Brothers were probably the worst of the lot
11 because they had such freedom to move as opposed to the
12 Catholic Church residents. This seems to be the case,
13 kind of, all over the world, you know?

14 Q. You were at St Ninian's from August 1971 until
15 July 1975, according to the St Ninian's records.

16 I think you said earlier that looks about right because
17 you went there when you were 12 and you left when you
18 were 16.

19 During that time I think you've been focusing on
20 Brother **LNA** as the person who you say was in control of
21 you; is that correct?

22 A. Mm-hm.

23 Q. And that's your recollection; is that right?

24 A. Mm-hm, mm-hm.

25 Q. According to records, it would appear that Brother **LNA**

1 may have been absent from St Ninian's for about
2 nine months or so between May 1974 and February 1975.
3 Covering that particular period, do you have any
4 recollection of Brother **LNA** not being there?

5 A. I actually -- when you're saying that, I actually get
6 a great sense of relief inside me, thinking, I must have
7 had some peace at that time, but I don't remember it.
8 I actually felt a wee bit: I wonder if I was ever ...
9 was that a time when I was actually allowed to be happy
10 and do normal things that boys do?

11 Q. There was certainly a nine-month period or so when
12 he wasn't there, heading up towards the end of your time
13 there, but as you've said, you don't remember that
14 specifically?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Can I then look at the position, Dave, once you came to
17 leave St Ninian's at the age of 16. Can you give me the
18 background to how it came to be that you left?

19 A. I remember I got taken in a room one day and it was
20 a probation officer. They said to me, "You're about to
21 reach 16 and you're going to be going to live in Glasgow
22 in a place called a hostel. There's going to be other
23 boys in the age group, you're going to like it, you'll
24 really like it, you'll have your own room", and this and
25 that. And I don't know why, I said, "Listen, can't you

1 just -- why is that everybody else here has got families
2 and I haven't? Can't you just see if I've got a family?
3 How come they go home every weekend and Christmas?" and
4 all the rest of it. And that was it, that was the end
5 it.

6 Then a couple of weeks later, I was down in the
7 woodwork class -- and this is where I get emotional,
8 I cry all the time.

9 (Pause)

10 I was in the woodwork class and for the first time
11 ever in all the years I was there, it was the first time
12 ever my name got called out on the tannoy, and everybody
13 kind of looked, and I thought ... Because I was just
14 a piece of furniture, I was somebody -- nobody bothered,
15 nobody visited me, nothing. I thought, what on earth is
16 going on?

17 I went upstairs and then they sat me down and they
18 says, "We found your family". I said, "What?" "We've
19 found your family: your mum's dead, [REDACTED]
20 [REDACTED] and in a couple
21 of weeks' time you're going to go and visit [REDACTED]"

22 So I remember running out and I remember running
23 down the stairs, shouting, shouting at the top of my
24 voice, "I'm not an orphan. I'm not an orphan". I don't
25 think anybody else realised or understood what it meant,

1 but -- yes. And not just that, I was from Glasgow as
2 well, which, you know, made me feel great. But I was no
3 longer an orphan.

4 Q. Was it the probation officer who gave you this
5 information on this particular day? Had you seen this
6 person or someone of that kind, like a social worker and
7 so on, during your years at St Ninian's?

8 A. I don't remember anybody coming. As I say, I just --
9 nobody bothered. I didn't know ... All I knew was that
10 I used to get told, "I'm going here, I'm going there",
11 getting passed about here, passed about there, abused
12 here and abused there.

13 Q. Then was that the background to you leaving St Ninian's
14 and you left shortly after that; is that correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Where did you go when you left?

17 A. I went to live with my dad and they put me with my dad,
18 who was an alcoholic.

19 Q. Did you meet the rest of your family on your first day
20 out, so to speak? Did you go somewhere?

21 A. There were loads of people there, all my family, my
22 granny and uncles and my [REDACTED] this guy with
23 long hair and tattoos over his body, and then they
24 quickly left and it was just me and my dad. He used to
25 come in drunk and he used to tell me to go and get

1 a job, but I didn't understand, and then after about
2 a month, he come in one day, and he got a brush, and he
3 smashed the brush against my nose and smashed all my
4 face in.

5 So I went out and I started staying out on the
6 streets, and then I found something that could block out
7 all the memories, which was drugs. I went back into my
8 dad's, he beat me up again, so I packed a bag and I fled
9 to London.

10 Q. Before you come to that, though, in relation to the
11 episode with your father when he hit you with a brush,
12 I think you say in your statement he also stabbed you;
13 is that right?

14 A. Stuck a screwdriver in my back.

15 Q. Did you have to go to hospital for that?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. So you left in due course your father's house and went
18 to London. What was your purpose in going to London?

19 A. My [REDACTED] who had the long hair, he lived in
20 Northampton, so I went and I found him, but I also found
21 something that could block out all my memories, which
22 was drugs. But I did that in Glasgow. When I was in
23 Glasgow, very, very quickly I got involved in fights and
24 drugs. And before I knew it, I had drug dealers after
25 me. I went out one night and got involved in a gang

1 fight where I got stabbed again. And then I left --
2 I decided I couldn't ... You've got to remember,
3 I often kind of tried and thingummy with my father
4 because how on earth could he cope?

5 I remember that [REDACTED] stayed there for a while
6 as well and she used to make comments like, "Why don't
7 you change your underwear?" and I didn't know how to do
8 that. I had everything done for me in the home.
9 I didn't even know how often I was supposed to change my
10 underwear or my socks. I didn't know ... My dad would
11 say, "You need to go to the Job Centre", and nobody
12 taught me. I had no training, I had no social skills
13 whatsoever.

14 So from then on, I moved to London and I became
15 homeless for the best part of 20 years.

16 Q. I think you tell us in your statement that you lived in
17 squats and at one time you were living close to a skip;
18 is that right?

19 A. Yes. I got myself a dog and it was in Cricklewood,
20 North London, and the skip was like that (indicating)
21 and I slept in here (indicating). I had a curtain and
22 there was a shopping centre, shops there, and I stayed
23 there for three years, because every time I came out,
24 any time I tried to make friends, I couldn't because,
25 (1), I had no social skills, (2), I was trying to keep

1 this dark secret so I had to lie to people, and as you
2 know, nobody likes a liar. Even to this day, I still
3 have trouble trying to -- not to lie to people, to keep
4 my truth, because for so, so many years -- and again,
5 whenever anybody tried to get close to me -- even to
6 this day, I suffer with this as well -- when people try
7 to get close to me, I push them away because of what
8 happened.

9 I stayed there for three years.

10 Q. Did you make your way to Northampton where [REDACTED]
11 was?

12 A. I made my way to [REDACTED] first, but [REDACTED] was
13 married with three kids in a two-bedroomed house. By
14 this time I was doing drugs and I was uncontrollable.
15 But by then I'd found London. I used to go down to
16 London regular and because I needed high doses of drugs,
17 what I would do is I would go and register -- I found
18 out how to use the system very quickly. So I would go
19 to different doctors' surgeries using different
20 identification and I would get different scripts. So
21 sometimes I might get Biseptol, sometimes I might get
22 methadone, sometimes I might get ritanin(?), and I would
23 always make sure I had a very high dosage of drugs, and
24 also alcohol.

25 Q. I think at one particular time you discovered [REDACTED]

1 [REDACTED] who you, I think, were close to, he died in
2 prison in 1986.

3 A. Mm-hm.

4 Q. That also had an impact on you?

5 A. He was the only person I'd ever loved.

6 Q. What you tell us in your statement, Dave, is you were
7 a drug addict for about 20 to 25 years. Did you have
8 a nickname because of that?

9 A. They used to call me The Bowl, because I'd been in and
10 out of mental hospitals, I tried to kill myself a number
11 of times. [REDACTED]

12 [REDACTED]

13 [REDACTED]

14 them and I'd sometimes be out of it for days at a time.

15 Q. I think you also had a nickname, at least you tell us
16 this in your statement, Dave the Neck?

17 A. That was because I had a £100 a day drug habit. I had
18 to shoplift £300 worth of thingummy every day. As you
19 see here, I had £100 a day drug habit and I used up all
20 my veins (indicating) --

21 Q. You're pointing to the veins in your arm.

22 A. -- and so I had to use my neck to inject, so my nickname
23 became "Dave the Neck".

24 Q. As you mentioned earlier on in your statement, Dave, you
25 did get married at a point in time. Can you help me

1 with that? What happened there?

2 A. I'd been with women. Most of the women I'd been with up
3 to that time was all drug related in the sense that
4 I was a very, very good shoplifter, but I was able to
5 use the system. I always had a high amount of drugs
6 because I had to block out my childhood. Most of the
7 relationships I'd had up to that time were all drug
8 related, it was just sex.

9 Then I met [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was from Greenock,
10 a Scottish girl. At this time -- see what I used to do
11 is I'd live in squats, I'd live in homeless centres, I'd
12 move from city to city, I would try to settle down, I'd
13 have mental breakdowns, I'd end up in hospital and then
14 my body would burn up. So I'd go into a bedsit with no
15 intention of paying any rent and I'd stay there until
16 they kicked me out. During one of these times I met
17 [REDACTED] and she became my girlfriend, my first real
18 girlfriend.

19 One day she told me, "I've got something to tell
20 you". She was teasing me all day. I said, "What is
21 it?" and she said, "I'm pregnant". I got on the floor
22 and I cried like I've never cried before.

23 I said, "I've never had a family, I don't know what
24 to do". So I did the honourable thing and on [REDACTED]
25 we got married in Northampton registry office, and

1 exactly five weeks after we got married, we were out one
2 night, holding hands, doing what normal people do that's
3 just got married, and then we went home, and in the
4 morning -- this is exactly five weeks after we got
5 married -- I woke up in the morning and I felt this cold
6 thing. [REDACTED] was lying on top of me and it was pitch
7 dark, but it felt really, really cold. She was frozen,
8 so I kind of panicked, and I jumped out of my bed and
9 I put the light on.

10 What I saw was -- I can only describe it as one of
11 the Planet of the Apes. She'd been dead about seven
12 hours. The way she was lying, her face had kind of
13 stretched a little bit and I panicked and I ran out and
14 I went to the next-door neighbour and I shouted, I said,
15 "My wife's not well".

16 So the doctor was called and the police were called.
17 They told me she was dead. They gave me an injection
18 and they took me back to the mental hospital, and then
19 they told me the baby was also dead. So I had to wait
20 weeks and weeks for the autopsy. She was only 23 and
21 they told me she died of natural causes. She just
22 choked on her vomit.

23 That's when anger took over. That's when I became
24 very angry and I started drinking two bottles of vodka
25 every day and very, very large amounts of amphetamine.

1 I would buy -- steal first and then buy huge amounts of
2 amphetamine and inject. Whereas, to give you an
3 example, a half ounce of amphetamine would get you sort
4 of, I don't know, sort of ten, 15 hits. Well, I would
5 use two hits. So I was taking huge, huge doses of
6 amphetamines for weeks.

7 Then all of a sudden, the police were called to my
8 house and they noticed that on the ceiling, the lights
9 were all down, the whole ceiling was down, and there
10 were two lights, [REDACTED]
11 [REDACTED] So they took me
12 back into the mental hospital.

13 MR MacAULAY: If you can just stop there and I will pick
14 that up shortly. You'd probably welcome a break at this
15 point, Dave. We'll have a short break. It's now 11.30?

16 LADY SMITH: We normally stop at this point, Dave. Is that
17 okay for you if we stop now?

18 A. Yes.

19 LADY SMITH: We'll do that.

20 (11.30 am)

21 (A short break)

22 (11.50 am)

23 LADY SMITH: Dave, are you ready to carry on just now?

24 Thank you.

25 Mr MacAulay.

1 MR MacAULAY: We can see from your statement, Dave, that you
2 had quite a number of admissions to hospitals over the
3 years, both for physical matters and also for
4 psychiatric matters; is that right?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Did there come a point in time, and you discuss that in
7 paragraph 116, when you went to hospital called
8 St Crispin's and you were there for some time, and did
9 something happen to you when you were there?

10 A. I remember being taken in a room with a group of
11 psychiatrists. They said to me -- there were
12 psychiatrists, psychoanalysts, psycho this and psycho
13 that. They said to me, "You've been through an awful
14 lot, you're going to be here for some time, you're going
15 to be here for quite some time". I remember saying to
16 them, saying, "Listen, can we talk about this? I don't
17 want to be on drugs for the rest of my life".

18 That was when they said, "You're going to be here
19 for some time", so I went back to my cell and at that
20 time I was in a secluded area because I was a danger to
21 myself and everybody else. That's when I did something
22 I'd never done before and I prayed. I prayed to God.

23 In the morning, when I woke up, when I opened my
24 eyes, or shut my eyes, rather, all I could see was
25 a clear blue sky and I suddenly realised that my asthma

1 seemed to be gone, my stomach pain had gone, and
2 I wandered outside and I bumped into one of the doctors,
3 a doctor called Dr Baak, a South African chap who I kept
4 in touch with him for many years.

5 He told me, he said -- I told him what had happened
6 and he said, "You've been born again". If I am allowed
7 to crack a joke in such an environment, I said to him,
8 "What does that mean, does that mean I've got more brew
9 money?" Because I had no idea what it meant. He said,
10 "No", he said, "but from this day on, your life is going
11 to change". We sat down and we spoke and I said to him,
12 "I've got two choices here: I can either go back to the
13 life I've been living and end up dead or I can turn my
14 life around". And that's what I did.

15 Q. And I think the position is that you didn't drink for
16 many years after that.

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Or take drugs?

19 A. Well, within months, I enlisted to a tertiary college
20 for 12 months and then, after that, I went up to the
21 north of Scotland and I enlisted in the Highland
22 Theology College in Dingwall and I did an access course
23 there. The next thing I know, I'm on a plane to Peru
24 and then Brazil, and ever since then my life has
25 completely transformed.

1 Q. Can you give me any dates, some sort of time frame so
2 I can understand the chronology here? When would you
3 say this turnaround happened in your life?

4 A. Twenty years ago, after my wife died.

5 Q. And so far as being in Brazil is concerned, I think you
6 went there and you actually spoke to thousands of
7 people. Were you talking about your experiences of
8 life?

9 A. Mm-hm.

10 Q. Was that the subject of your talks?

11 A. Yes. I went over there to work with homeless people.
12 At the time I was in a church in Scotland and I was
13 involved in the Sunday school, and I used to -- what
14 I used to do is I used to dress up as a clown and I used
15 to come on and speak to people and then I would take the
16 clown's outfit off and reveal all my tattoos and my
17 track marks and I would tell this story of this man
18 who's now happy, who's gone through so much that I've
19 been through and how God turned my life around. And
20 somebody said, you should take that to Brazil with you.
21 So what I didn't realise is that when I went to Brazil,
22 we got taken to São Paulo -- and I wasn't actually
23 dressed as the clown at the time, but they actually took
24 us underneath the city where there are sort of thousands
25 of people who actually live there. We seen children as

1 young as 3, 4, who are sold for sex, and it just taught
2 me so much about life.

3 Q. I think what you're saying to us is you became
4 a Christian.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And you're now able to talk freely about what happened
7 to you?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. One thing you do say in your statement is that you have
10 learned to forgive your abuser.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Is that the case?

13 A. When I found out what Brother LNA had done was a lie --

14 Q. Do you mean the [REDACTED] episode?

15 A. Yes. I remembered the police called me to confirm, they
16 said, "Yes, [REDACTED] did commit suicide". I remember
17 falling to the floor and crying and praying to God and
18 saying, "How on earth do I deal with this? How on earth
19 am I supposed to deal with this?" At that point, you
20 know, I ... If I can just put it this way: I watch lots
21 of programmes, "Mind of a Killer", "Autopsy", all these
22 people who go on to murder people and do all kinds of
23 mad things. For what I have suffered, I've often
24 thought I should ... You know, my criminal record is no
25 more than shoplifting and getting -- I've never done

1 anything -- and I thought, I have to forgive this man,
2 because if I don't, I'm going to live the rest of my
3 life bitter, twisted.

4 So I learned to forgive and I forgave him.

5 Q. So far as [REDACTED] was concerned, you've told us that
6 he was somebody that you knew at St Ninian's.

7 Do you have any information as to how he came -- did you
8 discover how it came to be that he decided to hang
9 himself?

10 A. I don't know. I ... Remember, I was 12, 13. I heard
11 many stories afterwards, but I'm trying to avoid gossip.
12 I'm learning to try and avoid gossip and just stick to
13 the facts of what I know. All I know is that he
14 disappeared. In my eyes, I know as well as I can that
15 he was also being abused.

16 Q. You tell us in your statement, David, that you did go
17 back to St Ninian's after you left.

18 A. I've been back several times. I have just done
19 a documentary a few months ago with an Australian TV
20 company and before Christmas I did a documentary with
21 a Mexican TV channel.

22 Q. In paragraph 126 of your statement, I think you tell us
23 about going back to St Ninian's about 10 or 15 years
24 ago. Did you meet anybody when you went there?

25 A. I drove up there one time and I chapped the door and

1 a woman came, a rather large woman came to the door, and
2 she let me in and I was standing in the front bit.
3 I told her who I was and I said to her, "My name's
4 Dave Sharp, I was here in the 1970s and I was abused",
5 and the woman turned round to me and says, "We get many,
6 many men come here telling us this. We get many men
7 coming and telling us that they were also abused". She
8 was very nice, she didn't chuck me out, and I actually
9 asked her, I said, "Would it be possible for me to go up
10 to the church because I would like to pray to forgive my
11 abusers?" and she said, "It's no longer a church, it's
12 now something else".

13 I remember asking her about the secret door behind
14 because behind the church there's a secret door where we
15 used to get taken down these back stairs, but she didn't
16 want to talk about that.

17 Q. The next main section of your statement, beginning at
18 paragraph 133, all the way through to paragraph 153,
19 about 20 paragraphs or so, you set out in quite some
20 detail your contact and dealings with the police over
21 a number of years. Can you summarise that for us, Dave,
22 rather than going through it bit by bit?

23 A. This is kind of hard for me and it's something I've been
24 struggling with to talk about today because I now do
25 a lot of campaigning, as you know, and I've now got

1 a really, really good relationship with Police Scotland.
2 But five, six, seven, eight, even ten years ago,
3 I believe there was a lot of cover-ups. As I've already
4 said, twice I came up to Scotland with a folder just
5 like this (indicating).

6 Q. The red folder?

7 A. With lots of information. I walked into Pitt Street
8 police station and I said, "I want to make a statement,
9 I want to give this evidence". A guy called DC McGinnis
10 came down and said, "Dave, I'll be back in a minute",
11 and he left me sitting there for over an hour and
12 a half, and then him and another guy came down and said,
13 "Dave, why don't you just drop this? Why don't you just
14 leave this?" I said, "No, that's not going to happen,
15 I'm not going away", because by this point I had met
16 lots of men, I had done a lot of campaigning. I used to
17 stand outside the Scottish Government, three, four, five
18 days at a time. I did that five or six times.

19 Also many places in England, I would meet lots of
20 Scots guys, especially on the streets, homeless, and
21 I had amassed a lot of information about St Ninian's,
22 and I was trying to get the police to listen to me.

23 What they would do is they would get -- in the three
24 years in the investigation, not once did anybody come
25 down, because I was living in Northampton at the time,

1 not once did anybody come down and speak to me. They
2 used to get the local police, a friend of my called
3 Peter Ward, who's now a sergeant, and Peter used to say
4 to me -- Pete Long, sorry, and Pete used to say to me,
5 "This isn't right, Dave, we don't like what's going on
6 here".

7 It was him in fact who also came to my house with
8 the first photograph of LNA He came in and he said --
9 and this is what you are talking about, the drinking,
10 I had been off the drink for so long. And what happened
11 was that Pete Long came to my house and he said, "Dave,
12 I've got to do this and I don't feel comfortable doing
13 this. I've been told to show you this photograph".
14 I went, "Okay". He said, "I want you to tell me if you
15 recognise the man in the photograph".

16 So he pulled it out and it was the one with
17 Brother LNA with all these guys, and right at the
18 bottom was me. I got all -- I said, "That's me, that's
19 Brother LNA , and I got ecstatic and emotional.

20 Then he said, "Right, okay, the Scottish police will
21 be in touch with you in a couple of days". So they went
22 away, and I sat there and I waited two days, three days,
23 four days, five days. Nothing.

24 And then something snapped. Something just snapped.
25 And I went down to the Co-op and I bought 2 litres of

1 vodka. I hadn't drunk for so long, I bought 2 litres of
2 vodka and I went home and I started drinking.

3 The next thing I knew, I woke up and I was lying on
4 my living room floor and I was covered in blood and
5 I looked round and I walked into my kitchen and the
6 whole of the kitchen, everything, everything,
7 everything -- the linoleum, the oven, everything -- was
8 complete smashed. I'd smashed everything to
9 smithereens.

10 I had to contact my landlord who was also a police
11 officer. That was the time I sat him down and told him
12 everything that happened. That was the start of three
13 years trying to get through to Police Scotland.

14 Q. Was that campaign and your dealings with the police
15 directed to an investigation you'd been carrying out in
16 connection with Brother [REDACTED] LNA Was he the target,
17 essentially, Brother [REDACTED] LNA

18 A. What we found out was that I wasn't getting any
19 information. I had to phone. So often I was being
20 told, "Listen, we can't give any information out, but
21 we'll keep you updated", and then they never did. Then
22 I would find out from another source -- it was a woman
23 who was an ex-police officer, who I befriended, so I'd
24 never met, still never met her, and she was telling me
25 updates of things that were happening.

1 Again when I was phoning Police Scotland -- and
2 I actually went up to Scotland and I met some guys who
3 had been abused as well who I knew, and lots of
4 information was coming out that people were being called
5 and then not being updated.

6 Then alarm bells started to ring: something's not
7 right here, something's not right here. And again, as
8 I say, twice I went up to Scotland to speak to the
9 police and twice they turned me away, wouldn't talk to
10 me. This is when I had a breakdown. I had two
11 breakdowns.

12 Q. I think you do know there was a police investigation
13 into what had gone on in St Ninian's and there was
14 a criminal prosecution.

15 A. Yes, but what gave me the breakdown was -- when I had
16 the breakdown was the fact that when we found out that
17 Operation Winterton was involved after 1975, and for
18 those three or four years the police had led me to
19 believe that I was actively involved in this operation.

20 Q. You used the date 1975. Did you mean -- what date
21 do you say Winterton was?

22 A. I was there 1971 to 1975.

23 Q. You were there, yes.

24 A. Operation Winterton was after 1975. But the police kept
25 on phoning me up and they would ask me a question and

1 I'd say, "Hang on, while you're there, what about ..."

2 "No, no, no, that's all we need".

3 Q. I think what you're saying is the police investigation
4 seemed to be focusing on a later period and not on your
5 period.

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Did you discover -- at some point in your dealings with
8 the police were you told by the police that Brother LNA
9 in particular had died?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And I think he died in, according to the information
12 supplied to the inquiry, in [REDACTED] 2013.

13 A. Say that again, sorry?

14 Q. [REDACTED] 2013 was when he died.

15 A. I'm not sure. I'm not sure, sorry.

16 Q. They did tell you -- at some point you were told by the
17 police that he had died?

18 A. But also, remember, by this time what had happened I'd
19 gone to the press, so when I went to the press, people
20 would say to me things like, "Cor, you're so brave,
21 you're so brave". I thought, what does this mean? Is
22 something bad going to happen to me that I'm not aware
23 of? What I didn't realise at the time was I very
24 quickly became this unelected and unofficial and
25 untrained ambassador for so, so many people. And what

1 happened is I was getting floods and floods of phone
2 calls and emails from all kinds of sources, giving me
3 all kinds of information, and again that's when I had
4 the breakdown. I spent ten days in a mental hospital
5 because it was all too much.

6 Q. But you went on to say earlier on, Dave, that
7 notwithstanding, I think, what you describe as your
8 unhappiness with the way the police were responding to
9 you, you now have a good relationship with the police --

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. -- in your present position as a campaigner?

12 A. Yes, absolutely, yes. And I'm keen for that to get out
13 because, yes, I believe things have changed, resources
14 have changed, reporting abuse has changed. And
15 if we don't work with the police, then we're not going
16 to get more people coming forward, which is what we all
17 want.

18 Q. Are you thinking also that perhaps attitudes are
19 changing?

20 A. Attitudes have changed, resources have changed. The
21 Scottish attitude towards the police has been one
22 that -- it's never been good, as a culture, everything
23 in the gang culture and the men culture. But yes,
24 I firmly believe -- and it took me a number of years
25 working with Police Scotland -- and we tell people on

1 the streets now that things have changed, resources have
2 changed.

3 But you have to remember as well, the date that
4 you're giving, 2013, it was just before -- this was just
5 going into the Savile era. We were now just stepping
6 into the Savile era. So all of a sudden, the whole of
7 the UK was going nuts, all kinds of accusations from all
8 kinds ... So Police Scotland, I realised they were
9 getting bombarded, they didn't have the resources then
10 that they've got now.

11 Q. Good. One thing that you have mentioned already is that
12 you have taken on the role of a campaigner in recent
13 years; is that correct?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Do you devote a significant part of your life to that?

16 A. It's my whole life.

17 Q. One of the things you did, and you tell us this at
18 paragraph 162 of your statement, is you stood outside
19 St Andrew's Cathedral on Clyde Street in Glasgow for
20 12 days in a protest campaign. Is that correct?

21 A. Yes. I tried -- over the last ... Things changed for
22 me and things changed for a lot of people in 2010 when
23 the Pope visited Ireland. By that time I was heavily
24 involved in campaigning all over the UK. I would turn
25 up at events in London, Manchester, wherever I could,

1 wherever I knew there were any child abuse campaigns,
2 I would make sure I was there. In 2010, when the Pope
3 came over to Ireland, and when he got on the plane to
4 leave Ireland, he apologised to the Irish Catholics, but
5 he didn't apologise to the Scottish people. And that
6 stirred a lot of things in a lot of people. That's when
7 a whole new movement started.

8 No sooner had he got off the plane that I was on the
9 phone to Cardinal Keith O'Brien and I demanded a meeting
10 with him and what happened was a meeting was set up
11 between me and someone from the Christian Brothers --
12 and I can't forget the date, it was 14 February,
13 Valentine's Day.

14 They sent over a man -- I had no family. I had
15 nobody to go with me. Obviously I wasn't going to have
16 this man in my house, so I arranged for a meeting in
17 a Chinese restaurant and this Brother David Gibson came
18 over. This was all done with emails and stuff and that.
19 He kept on -- he was wanting to arrange a meeting, then
20 he would cancel at the last minute. He was playing all
21 these games with me. And then eventually he came over
22 and he sat in this Chinese restaurant and he said, "What
23 is it you want? Why don't you leave us alone? Why are
24 you doing all this campaigning?"

25 Because what I would do as well is I'd find out

1 where the Christian Brothers had retirement homes and
2 administration offices, places like Altrincham and
3 Middlesbrough, and what I'd do is I'd go up and get
4 a banner that said, "Christian Brothers, pay for your
5 sins", and I would stand outside there for five days and
6 lots of police would turn up and ask, "What are you
7 doing?" So I would tell them what I was doing, and
8 they'd say, "Where are you going to sleep?" and I would
9 say, "I'm going to sleep here, I'm not going to move
10 from here". So I'd stay there for days at a time.

11 Brother Gibson said to me, "What is it that you
12 want? You're not going to get any money out of us,
13 nobody ever gets money out of us". I said, "Listen,
14 there's two things you've got that I want back and
15 that's my childhood and my heart", and the guy got up
16 and walked out.

17 Q. I think you also met or had some contact with Brother
18 Edmund Garvey as well?

19 A. Edmund Garvey is the head of the Christian Brothers.
20 I contacted him and I told him, I said, "I'm coming for
21 you, I'm not going to give up, you can lie to me, you
22 can say whatever you want, make up all these stories and
23 stuff". So a meeting was arranged at a Manchester
24 Airport hotel, and he said to me, "I've got your
25 records". I went, "Wow, this is ..." I believed him.

1 Q. And I think that was an excerpt that was taken from
2 what was called the daybook or the logbook that was
3 kept. I think I've seen that same record.

4 A. In my eyes it was to make me look out to be some kind of
5 criminal and not to be believed, you know. But it just
6 made me more determined. So I kept on pursuing and
7 pursuing and I kept on -- and then I got in touch with
8 Archbishop Tagliatari of the Catholic Church. I turned
9 up at different venues all over the UK.

10 Q. But I think you met the archbishop, you tell us in your
11 statement.

12 A. I met the archbishop. I had a 2-hour audience with
13 Archbishop Tagliatari.

14 Q. In 2015?

15 A. This is before I did the church. And I sat -- and he
16 turned up in his full rigmarole, I think to scare me.
17 He didn't have a suit on. He actually had a red hat on
18 as if he was either just going to or coming out of
19 church, and I think it was to scare me.

20 I said to him, "There's three things I want from
21 you: I want you to publish a number and a service where
22 all survivors of historical child abuse of the
23 Catholic Church can go for counselling; I want you to
24 arrange a meeting between me and the
25 Christian Brothers", and I said, "I want you to set up

1 a service or let me know when you're doing a service and
2 I want to come to that service that you're running and
3 I'll come in and I can sit down and I can walk out and
4 then I can make my peace and put your treatment behind
5 me". And I said, "I want it done in six weeks".

6 Q. What was the archbishop's response to that?

7 A. He said, "That's fine, we'll certainly arrange that".

8 I reminded him of his responsibilities and I told
9 him, I said, "The way that you've ignored survivors of
10 historical child abuse in this country is ridiculous.
11 You wore that robe" -- I actually made a comment to him,
12 I said -- and I looked him straight in the eye and I was
13 only 2 feet away from him and I said, "When I get to
14 heaven -- and I'm going to heaven -- and see when I get
15 to heaven, and St Peter opens the doors, and he said
16 sorry, guys, there's only room for one left, see if
17 I turn round and you're standing beside me, I'm going to
18 Ladbroke's to have a final bet and I'm putting my money
19 on me", and he didn't respond.

20 I gave him six weeks and nothing.

21 Q. I think we've come round to this point, Dave, when
22 I asked you the question about your protest outside
23 St Andrew's Cathedral, which is the Catholic cathedral
24 in Glasgow. I think, as I took from you, you spent some
25 12 days protesting outside the cathedral --

1 A. It was supposed to be 10.

2 Q. At paragraph 162, if we go back to that, you tell us
3 there that:

4 "Someone came out, a man who had been, I think,
5 at the church came and told [you] that the church told
6 him to ignore you because you had mental health issues."

7 Did he say that?

8 A. Aye. Originally, I was going to do 10 days, and the
9 church ignored me. I knew they would. It was day 6 or
10 day 7, I had a lot of people come out the church, a lot
11 of Catholics came over and said, this is what we need,
12 you're exactly what we need, we need this out in the
13 open. A man, more than one, said, "We've been told to
14 ignore you because you've got mental health issues". So
15 I waited until day 9 and then on day 9, nobody came, so
16 I got this guy who was -- he's an SNP councillor, not in
17 office, but under office, and I said, "Can you take
18 a message to the Catholic Church, the diocese? Can you
19 tell them that I'm going to be here for 40 days and
20 40 nights, I'm not going to be moving, I'm going to be
21 staying here for 40 days and 40 nights".

22 So of course, the original plan was for 10 days.
23 When I turned up on day 11, I could see all panic, they
24 were all running about, and then on day 12, I got this
25 huge, huge, huge long email from the Christian Brothers,

1 from Edmund Garvey. Whereas before he denied any
2 knowledge of everything and stuff, now all of a sudden
3 it was the most detailed of every conversation, every
4 meeting, everything. It was long, and it basically
5 said, "Let's meet". So what happened was it was what's
6 called a JSM, a joint settlement meeting was arranged.

7 About six months after that, I went down to
8 Manchester, Slater & Gordon solicitors, and what
9 happened there is -- I'm sure if you haven't heard about
10 them already, you probably know about Hill Dickinson.
11 Hill Dickinson is one of the lawyers that the
12 Catholic Church uses against survivors. They boast they
13 have a record of less than 3% of survivors of historical
14 child abuse who actually put a claim against them are
15 successful. I can give you a list of many, many, many
16 people who have tried this course and they have a guy
17 who's called The Professor. If you go to The Professor,
18 this guy will take you apart. If you have any drug
19 history, anything at all, it won't even go to court.

20 So I knew what -- I did my research first. I went
21 in to this office, and I suffered, Lady Smith.
22 I suffered the most -- seven hours of the most
23 horrific -- I can't even begin to describe to you.

24 What happened was I went in this room with my
25 solicitor, these people are in the other room so you

1 don't see them. And the solicitor said to me, "A lot is
2 going to depend on the initial amount that they're going
3 to offer".

4 Q. Was this towards reaching a settlement --

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. -- with the Christian Brothers?

7 A. With the Christian Brothers. This agreed, this was now
8 going to -- before I went in, I had two specific
9 demands: (1), I wanted a counsellor with me; and (2),
10 I wouldn't settle for any less than a six-figure sum.
11 I just wouldn't settle for anything less --

12 Q. We don't want to know about figures, Dave.

13 A. I sat in and the lawyer told me, "Let's wait and see
14 what the first figure is", and he went in and he came
15 back and he gave me a figure -- I'll take your advice,
16 we won't talk about figures. But he gave me a figure
17 and he said, "Dave, you have to take this". I said,
18 "Why is that?" He said, "Because they've got all your
19 criminal records". And they -- I can't even begin --
20 you've got no idea, Colin, you've got ...

21 "We know your mother was a prostitute, we know your
22 father was an alcoholic, and we've got proof that your
23 father abused you". I was just stunned. I was like,
24 "What? What are you talking about? What?" He said
25 "Listen, they are saying this to -- they want to wind

1 you up". I said, "But that's just disgusting, they
2 can't be saying ..."

3 "Stay calm, it's okay. So I'm going to go back in.
4 What will happen now is it will either go up in fives or
5 tens. If they go up in tens, you've got a good chance
6 of getting a lot of money. If they go up in fives,
7 they're going to play games". So he went back in and he
8 came up with fives. It went up in 5,000s.

9 He said, "Dave" -- and this is really interesting,
10 and this is -- I have not said this before, but this is
11 really interesting given what I've found out recently
12 about Lasswade. He said to me, "They've got evidence
13 that you were abused before you went into St Ninian's".
14 I thought, "What are you talking about?" Now, that's
15 got no significance until what you told me a couple of
16 weeks ago when I met the inquiry team.

17 But that actually happened, they said, "We have got
18 evidence that you were abused before you went into
19 St Ninian's". And of course, at that point, I can't
20 argue and I can't -- I don't know. I said, "No,
21 I wasn't", and this was some serious, serious mind games
22 they were playing with me.

23 Q. I don't want to cut you short, but does it come to this:
24 that as a consequence of this negotiation, you were able
25 to reach a settlement figure with the

1 Christian Brothers?

2 A. That left me traumatised. I was walking around
3 Northampton for four days. I slept homeless.
4 I couldn't go home. I didn't want to be ... I've never
5 experienced anything like it. I walked about. Because
6 I was homeless in Northampton for many years, I knew
7 places I couldn't be found. I remember I went into
8 a second-hand shop and bought an old blanket and I went
9 and I slept rough. I was in shock, I was in shock that
10 people could be so cruel: my wife was a prostitute, they
11 knew my wife was a drug addict, all the things ... I've
12 never, never experienced such evil in my life.

13 I'd heard about so many other people -- and it's
14 still going on today -- from people who have gone to the
15 Catholic Church and they will say that things happened,
16 and some people leave with £500 and similar threats.
17 That's a fact. That's going on to this day. It is far,
18 far, far more regular than anybody in this room even
19 imagines because I talk to many survivors who'll back
20 that up.

21 Q. Can I move on from that, Dave, to another aspect of what
22 you say in your statement? That's the chapter in your
23 statement where you talk about the impact of the abuse
24 you suffered. You have given us a fairly full
25 description of what that abuse consisted of and you

1 begin telling us this at paragraph 175.

2 I want to ask you is this. In that paragraph, what
3 you say is -- and I quote:

4 "My head is like a big dirty washing machine."

5 Perhaps you can tell us what you mean by that.

6 A. It's a term I've used often, about what's ... Because
7 I believe I was drugged so many times in all the dark
8 periods, you know, the three years in Lasswade. Given
9 as well that I constantly, even to this day, with my
10 campaigning ... it's almost on a daily basis, I hear
11 some of the most ... stories of what happened to people
12 in this country and what happened with child abuse.
13 Sometimes it's too much for me.

14 I've got people that have got no family, no family
15 at all, that are living in bedsits in Springburn or in
16 a cottage in Oban who have suffered sometimes worse
17 abuse than me, and I'm the only person they know. All
18 this stuff, it's ...

19 Q. Of course, that's you focusing on the impact that
20 they're telling you the abuse had on them --

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. -- but looking to yourself, Dave --

23 A. After 2015 when I had the breakdown, I knew I had to get
24 help, I couldn't take it all on myself. That's when
25 I started getting support. I knew when I was hearing

1 these stories, I had to pass them on.

2 Q. Yes, but what I'm trying to get at is the impact the
3 abuse has had on you. Perhaps I can try and summarise
4 the position. You were a drug addict for about
5 25 years; is that correct?

6 A. Mm-hm.

7 Q. That's right, is it?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. You had a serious alcohol problem?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. You lived on the streets?

12 A. For many years.

13 Q. Your health, both physical and mental, has been
14 affected?

15 A. What I didn't tell you was, when I went -- after my wife
16 died when I was in the mental hospital, the doctor said,
17 "We've got history here". Now, I think there was also
18 a police record somewhere that says that there's about
19 seven -- Leeds, Manchester, different places where
20 they'd found I'd actually tried to report the abuse.
21 But I couldn't stay long enough to actually take
22 a statement because I was always running. In the
23 hospital they actually said that they had records that
24 showed that I had [REDACTED]
25 [REDACTED] and broke both my legs.

1 Q. That was the other point I was going to put to you. You
2 did attempt suicide on more than one occasion?

3 A. Oh yes. There was a point in Northampton
4 General Hospital where I knew most of the staff in
5 Emergency. There's also a story -- I don't remember
6 this, I only found out years later somewhere else --
7 where I'm supposed to have -- I went up to the
8 multi-storey car park and [REDACTED]
9 and they actually shut the whole town centre down and
10 [REDACTED] but obviously I got talked
11 down.

12 Q. The other aspect of this that you talk about in your
13 statement, paragraphs 186 onwards, is that the abuse you
14 suffered has had a serious impact on relationships.

15 A. I've been on my own my whole life. What happened two
16 years ago, when I did the cross -- when I did the cross,
17 I was standing there, it was all over the papers, all
18 over the world. And this guy came over, and I looked
19 and I thought, I recognise him. [REDACTED]
20 [REDACTED] And he said, "We all miss you",
21 because when I came out of the hospital with my dad,
22 I had made attempts to connect with my family but
23 I couldn't do it. I had come up once or twice and tried
24 to connect, but I think I stole off my family, I was
25 a constant liar and stuff. So I lost contact with my

1 [REDACTED] many -- [REDACTED] as
2 well, so the relationship ...

3 But [REDACTED] came over and said, [REDACTED]
4 [REDACTED] and I thought, wow, my God. He said, "All
5 [REDACTED] want to see again, we love you, we miss you,
6 we're proud of you". Oh dear, I thought, bloody hell.
7 So we arranged to go and have a meal and I bought lots
8 of flowers for the women and stuff like that. Ever
9 since then, we're trying to build a relationship. But
10 up to that point, I've been on my own my whole life.

11 Q. That at least is promising, looking to the future. But
12 what you do say, against the background of the impact
13 that your life in care has had on you -- this is what
14 you say at paragraph 189:

15 "I want a meaningful apology."

16 A. Mm-hm.

17 Q. I just want to understand what you mean by "a meaningful
18 apology"?

19 A. I'm like any other survivor. When the Catholic Church
20 stole my youth, they stole my heart. I've walked about
21 with a concrete slab in my heart all my life. I still
22 feel as if the Catholic Church owns me, because they
23 took my childhood, and they took my life. A meaningful
24 apology means -- and I won't stop until the
25 Catholic Church shows a willingness to be a part of the

1 healing process and creates an environment in this
2 country, as well as the Scottish Government, where they
3 create an environment where people can actually feel
4 safe enough to come forward and get meaningful help. If
5 that means individual help, the money has to be
6 provided, and I also say now that I firmly, firmly
7 believe that now is the time. This is the time now
8 where we now have to have a serious, serious national
9 discussion about how we deal with historical child abuse
10 in this country and how we treat survivors and I've got
11 many high profile people now wanting to work with me.

12 Q. Are these the thoughts that you are capturing in
13 paragraph 201 of your statement? Perhaps we'll put that
14 on the screen. You say:

15 "The Scottish Government need to be seen to be
16 reaching out to victims and not just hiding behind
17 meetings with a few people. They need to reach out via
18 and in unity with the police. The government needs to
19 focus on the individual survivors and the survivor
20 groups."

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. "The focus needs to stay on institutions."

23 Is that what you are capturing in the thoughts that
24 you've just left with us?

25 A. Yes. What we're saying now is that, as I say, it has

1 been said -- if every survivor of historical child abuse
2 was to come forward now, it would cost in excess of
3 £300 million and £400 million, which would have
4 a massive impact not only just on the economy but also
5 on the police services and the local authorities, but
6 what we're saying is, what I'm saying is, that's not our
7 issue, because if we had dealt with this issue 10, 15,
8 20, even 25 years ago, our prisons wouldn't be full, our
9 homeless centres wouldn't be full, our drug and alcohol
10 units wouldn't be full. These disgusting pathetic
11 hostels that we're throwing these poor people into
12 wouldn't be full of people who were abused in childhood.

13 We know statistically in the last 50 years, between
14 60% and 75% of people who are or were homeless or are or
15 were in addiction suffered some kind of abuse. This
16 figure has never changed. Most of these people took
17 their abuse to the grave. The only thing that's changed
18 is the death rates are getting younger and younger and
19 younger. That clearly states that something is not
20 working. We are not doing enough to help and create
21 that environment where more people can come forward.

22 And if we don't -- we're now talking to people like
23 Social Bite and Housing First, who -- Josh Littlejohn
24 and people like that and Jane Bruce from Social Bite
25 who are now saying -- they're creating these housings

1 for homeless people. I met them just a couple of weeks
2 ago and they're saying, "We're now starting to believe
3 and understand what it is you're actually saying here".

4 Nobody is actually looking for these people. Quite
5 often I go underground. I take my teeth out and I grow
6 a beard and I go up to Dundee, to the homeless centres,
7 and I talk to the staff there. Some of them have never
8 heard of the public inquiry. Never heard of it. This
9 is what's happening all over the country and we need to
10 have a national discussion about how we deal with this
11 issue.

12 MR MacAULAY: Well, Dave, thank you for that. These are, if
13 I may say so, very important messages that you're trying
14 to convey to us.

15 Thank you for that and for coming here today to give
16 your evidence to the inquiry. I have no further
17 questions for you and I haven't been asked to ask any
18 other further questions. Thank you very much.

19 LADY SMITH: Are there any outstanding applications for
20 questions of this witness? No.

21 Dave, as Mr MacAulay has said, that completes all
22 the questions we have for you today. Thank you for
23 everything you have told us today and for your written
24 statement, of course, which we have as your evidence in
25 addition to that. It has been very helpful to hear from

1 you in person and I'm now able to let you go.

2 Thank you.

3 A. Thank you.

4 (The witness withdrew)

5 LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay.

6 MR MacAULAY: That's the evidence for this morning, my Lady.

7 We have another witness coming this afternoon.

8 LADY SMITH: And the witness will be ready for 2 o'clock;

9 is that right?

10 MR MacAULAY: That's right.

11 LADY SMITH: I'll adjourn now until 2 o'clock.

12 (12.37 pm)

13 (The lunch adjournment)

14 (2.00 pm)

15 LADY SMITH: Good afternoon.

16 Ms MacLeod, I think the next witness is here and

17 ready to give evidence; is that right?

18 MS MACLEOD: That's right, my Lady. The next witness is an

19 applicant who wishes to remain anonymous and use the

20 pseudonym "James" in giving his evidence.

21 "JAMES" (sworn)

22 LADY SMITH: Please sit down and make yourself comfortable,

23 James.

24 If you're ready, I'll hand over to Ms MacLeod and

25 she will explain to you what happens next.

1 Questions from Ms MacLEOD

2 MS MACLEOD: Good afternoon, James.

3 A. Good afternoon.

4 Q. I'll be asking you questions based on the statement
5 you've provided to the inquiry. First of all, I don't
6 need your full date of birth, but can you confirm that
7 you were born in 1960?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Your statement is in the red folder, which is in front
10 of you on your desk. I'll give the reference for the
11 transcript: WIT.001.002.2726.

12 Could you look for me, James, at the final page of
13 the statement.

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Have you signed the statement?

16 A. Yes, I have indeed.

17 Q. In the final paragraph, do you tell us that you have no
18 objection to your witness statement being published as
19 part of the evidence to the inquiry?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Do you believe the facts stated in the witness statement
22 are true?

23 A. They're true.

24 Q. I would like to start, James, by asking you some
25 questions about your life before care. I think you tell

1 us in your statement that you had a younger brother and
2 sister; is that right?

3 A. Yes, that's correct.

4 Q. And two older stepbrothers?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. You say that you had a happy childhood.

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Can you tell me a little bit about that?

9 A. Yes. I played a lot of football for the school,
10 represented the school in football games and that. They
11 used to do a lot of swimming and that too.

12 Q. I think something you say is that you were well looked
13 after.

14 A. Yes, we were well looked after as children, yes.

15 Q. How was your time at primary school?

16 A. I enjoyed primary school.

17 Q. Am I right in thinking that when you went to secondary
18 school, things changed for you?

19 A. Yes, for the worse. It was just -- I couldn't get my
20 head round secondary school, so I decided not to go.

21 Q. I think you tell us that you basically refused to go to
22 school.

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. What was done about that?

25 A. I was sent away by the Children's Panel in Paisley.

1 Q. Were you allocated a social worker?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. What happened at the Children's Panel?

4 A. I was sent to St Ninian's in Falkland.

5 Q. At that time, James, what did you know about St Ninian's

6 in Falkland?

7 A. Just that it was run by Catholic monks. That was all

8 I knew.

9 LADY SMITH: So that would be you being sent to the other

10 side of the country because I think you were brought up

11 on the west side of the country; is that correct?

12 A. Yes, that's correct.

13 MS MACLEOD: Was it at the Children's Panel you found out

14 you'd be going to St Ninian's?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Did you go straight to St Ninian's?

17 A. Yes, straight to St Ninian's in Falkland.

18 Q. Who took you there?

19 A. My social worker.

20 Q. Do you remember the name of your social worker?

21 A. It was either Ms Hill or Ms Hull.

22 Q. Do you remember the age you were when you went to

23 St Ninian's?

24 A. Aye, I went in 1973.

25 Q. We've been able to look at some records which the

1 Christian Brothers have which suggest that you were
2 admitted to St Ninian's on [REDACTED] 1973.

3 A. That could be correct, yes.

4 Q. You would have been about 12 then; is that right?

5 A. Yes, something like that, yes, 12 and a half or
6 something.

7 Q. I will put a photo on the screen if that's all right:
8 CFS.001.006.1186. What do we see there?

9 A. Falkland -- St Ninian's in Falkland.

10 Q. What was your first impression when you arrived with
11 your social worker?

12 A. I thought, actually, it's got to be safe because it was
13 run by Catholic monks.

14 Q. Could we look at CFS.001.006.1188. What do we see
15 there?

16 A. That's the main entrance to St Ninian's in Falkland.

17 Q. CFS.001.006.1190.

18 These photographs were taken, James, quite a while
19 after you had left St Ninian's.

20 A. Yes, I see a carpet and -- carpet and that down now.
21 I'm sure that's the main entrance that you would come
22 in. This is you up at the games area taking the picture
23 of the main entrance.

24 Q. Looking towards the main entrance?

25 A. Yes, looking towards the main entrance, if memory serves

1 me correct, yes.

2 Q. And then do we see on the left-hand side of the photo --

3 A. A stairwell, yes.

4 Q. And then if we can look at -- no, if we can further down
5 in that same photograph. If we could scroll down to the
6 next one on the page.

7 A. Yes, that's the main steps that takes you up to the
8 classrooms.

9 Q. So the classrooms were upstairs?

10 A. Yes, but weren't allowed to use them to access the
11 classrooms. You weren't allowed up those stairs. You
12 had to go another way up. There was another way to get
13 to the classrooms. You weren't allowed up those stairs.

14 Q. So when you were going to the school classrooms there
15 was another way you could use to get there?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. I think you tell us in your statement that there was
18 a courtyard in the middle, somewhere in St Ninian's --

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. -- and we'll come to look at that.

21 Who were the brothers that you remember being at
22 St Ninian's?

23 A. The ones that was in it? Can they be named?

24 Q. Yes.

25 A. Brother **LMZ** Brother **LNA** Brother **MCX**

1 Brother [MCY] Brother [LMZ] Brother [LHC]
2 Brother [MHJ]
3 Q. Did you have an impression at the time of which -- was
4 one of these brothers in charge?
5 A. Brother [LNA] made himself out to be the main alpha
6 male in St Ninian's. To be quite honest, he was the
7 main person that everything went through. He thought
8 he was the alpha male.
9 Q. You have mentioned there a Brother [LNA] --
10 A. Yes.
11 Q. -- and a Brother [MCX]
12 A. Yes.
13 Q. I think you tell us in your statement that they were not
14 related.
15 A. No. No way, no.
16 Q. And you speak -- the brother you had most to do with, is
17 that Brother [LNA] ?
18 A. Yes.
19 Q. So when you mention Brother [LNA] do you mean
20 [LNA]
21 A. [LNA] yes.
22 Q. Did the brothers stay on site?
23 A. Yes, they had their own part, a dorm, their own room.
24 Q. What about other staff? Were there --
25 A. Yes. There had other staff. There were kitchen

- 1 assistants and there was an art teacher that was female.
- 2 Q. What was her name?
- 3 A. Ms Brown -- Mrs Brown, sorry.
- 4 Q. What was her role?
- 5 A. Art teacher.
- 6 Q. You mentioned a Mr Kelly.
- 7 A. Mr Kelly was kind of admin, kind of paperwork stuff,
8 sorting out your weekends and that.
- 9 Q. Is that sorting out your weekends when you went out of
10 St Ninian's?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Was there somebody called MCS while you were
13 there?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. How many boys were there at St Ninian's when you were
16 there?
- 17 A. Between 30 to 40, probably.
- 18 Q. And what was the age range?
- 19 A. From 12 -- from what I can remember, 12 to 16.
- 20 Q. Were you one of the younger boys when you arrived?
- 21 A. I was put in the junior part of St Ninian's. When
22 I went to Falkland I was on the junior section.
- 23 Q. Was there a junior section and a senior section.
- 24 A. And a senior, yes.
- 25 Q. And did that division apply to the dormitory areas?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And to the --

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And to the classrooms?

5 A. Yes, it was still the same -- well, some of the juniors

6 were in the first year class and some of the juniors

7 were in the second year class. I think it just depended

8 the way your age was running, though.

9 Q. We've mentioned dormitories. What were the sleeping

10 arrangements?

11 A. Four to a dorm, maybe five to a dorm, a room with three

12 in it too.

13 Q. Were you allocated to a particular dorm when you

14 arrived?

15 A. When I arrived, yes. With two other boys, that was the

16 dorm that slept three.

17 Q. I'm going to put a plan on the screen and ask you to

18 have a look at it: CFS.001.006.8297.

19 If you take a few moments to orientate yourself on

20 the plan, do you see the entrance hall?

21 A. To the main school, yes.

22 Q. Yes, the entrance hall and then the main hall.

23 A. Yes, I see the main hall too, yes.

24 Q. If you come in the entrance hall, would you turn right

25 to go up to where the dormitories are?

1 A. When you come in, you would turn right, go along that
2 wee corridor until you ... On this one you were going
3 to where your clothes and that were kept, this side here
4 (indicating).

5 Q. Is that where we see a marking saying the matron's room?

6 A. Yes. The matron's room is placed there. Then it was
7 where your clothes and that, where you used to go and
8 get a change of clothes and that for going on weekend
9 leave -- or even if you were getting kept behind in the
10 home, you got your clothes changed twice a week.

11 Q. Can you see where the courtyard is. Is that where the
12 courtyard was?

13 A. Yes. That's the courtyard and you had actually two
14 doors there to take you back into the stairwell that
15 took you up to the juniors' side. If you went in there,
16 it took you up to the seniors' side.

17 Q. The plan is actually on a large screen behind you as
18 well as on the screen in front of you. Would you mind
19 standing up and just indicating for me? I think you
20 were saying there were doors going from the courtyard to
21 where we can see the stairs --

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. -- to the left side of the courtyard as we look at the
24 plan.

25 A. Yes, if you come in the door of the thingummy, that's

1 the dormitories, but downstairs there was a door over in
2 this corner (indicating).

3 Q. I see. So is the dormitory area actually on a first
4 floor? Are there stairs up to the dormitory area?

5 A. Yes, there's stairs up to the dormitory area.

6 Q. Do you remember, James, which dormitory you went into?

7 A. For the very first time, this one (indicating).

8 Q. You're pointing to the top right of the photograph and
9 the second dorm down?

10 A. This one here, yes.

11 Q. Did you move to another dorm at some time?

12 A. Yes. This one (indicating).

13 Q. So in the top line of dorms, it's the third one from the
14 left?

15 A. Yes. This one here, yes.

16 Q. Both of these dormitories you've indicated, are they
17 both junior dormitories?

18 A. Yes, they were junior dorms.

19 Q. Did you go to any other dorm while you were at
20 St Ninian's?

21 A. Yes, I went to the senior side, to this dorm
22 (indicating).

23 Q. That's the dorm at the bottom right side of the dorm
24 area?

25 A. Then I was in this dorm (indicating).

1 Q. That's the dorm closest to the sewing room.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. So you were in two dorms on the junior side and two
4 dorms on the senior side?

5 A. Yes, that's correct.

6 Q. Were there brothers who had rooms in the dormitories
7 area?

8 A. Yes. [REDACTED] LNA [REDACTED] was here (indicating).

9 Q. So that is on the senior side --

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. -- the second dorm from the right?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Is that what's marked "staff bedroom"?

14 A. The staff bedroom is [REDACTED] LNA [REDACTED] bedroom.

15 Q. Were there any other brothers in that area?

16 A. Not in this area, but in the junior side here
17 (indicating), you had [REDACTED] MCY [REDACTED]

18 Q. So that's the second room from the right at the top of
19 the plan --

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. -- which is marked "Brother's bedroom". Brother [REDACTED] MCY [REDACTED]
22 was there?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Thank you for that.

25 You have told me about arriving at St Ninian's and

1 your social worker taking you there. What's your first
2 recollection once you were actually in the building?

3 A. Everybody was in their bed.

4 Q. Was it the evening time?

5 A. Yes. It was late, it must have been -- she got lost and
6 we didn't get to Falkland until after 10. So I was just
7 sent to the bed. The bed was made but I was just given
8 pyjamas and that was left for me and I just changed my
9 own clothes and plus they had left me clothes to wear in
10 St Ninian's and my own clothes went into a wardrobe.

11 Q. So you were given clothes to wear?

12 A. Yes. Yes, I was given clothes to wear, yes.

13 Q. And would you get your own clothes back at any time?

14 A. Yes. You kept them yourself in the wardrobe that was in
15 your dorm. There were wee wardrobes you kept your
16 clothing and that in.

17 Q. I'm going to ask you a little bit about the routine,
18 what happened during the day. If we look to the
19 morning, first of all, what happened first thing in the
20 morning?

21 A. Usually, breakfast was served at 8 o'clock in the
22 morning. Then we were sent round -- matron used to be
23 in charge of the cleaning schedules that we had. You
24 were each given a chore to do. Certain of us had
25 certain parts of the home to clean, keep tidy.

1 Q. This was in the morning?

2 A. This was in the morning, yes. This was the morning
3 after your breakfast. Then you went to a classroom.
4 You went to the classroom at 9 o'clock, and that was you
5 until lunchtime.

6 In the winter, it was different. In the winter,
7 because you played your games in the afternoon, you went
8 back to class in the evening. But the morning, that was
9 just you were kept to run the home, actually, to keep it
10 clean and tidy for them.

11 Q. What about bedtime? Was there a particular time you had
12 to go to bed?

13 A. Yes. 9 o'clock you had -- was it 9? Hold on. Aye,
14 9 o'clock. Taken up at 9, get a shower, about half 9
15 that was lights out, into bed. The seniors used to get
16 background music played over the tannoy, that's correct.
17 It was -- I'm positive it was Radio Luxembourg.

18 Q. Is that something that was played over the tannoy?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. I think you mention in your statement that through the
21 night, would there be someone on duty.

22 A. Yes, LNA

23 Q. And what would being on duty involve?

24 A. He would just keep checking the dorms and that. You
25 weren't allowed to close your bedroom door in Falkland.

1 Your dorm door had to be kept open at all times.

2 Q. You have mentioned [REDACTED] LNA [REDACTED] there. You were in junior
3 dorms and senior dorms?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Who was on duty when you were in the junior dorms?

6 A. It was supposed to be Brother [REDACTED] MCY [REDACTED] but it was mostly
7 [REDACTED] LNA [REDACTED] that took to do with it.

8 Q. And what about the senior side?

9 A. Senior side, nobody bothered with the dorm checks.

10 Q. So [REDACTED] LNA [REDACTED] then, it was when you were in the junior
11 side that he was coming into the dorms?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. What was the purpose of him coming in?

14 A. In the morning times, the earliest probably about
15 7 o'clock in the morning, he'd just be coming to check
16 if any of us had wet the bed, to take them to get their
17 showers, get changed and all.

18 Q. We'll come back to bed-wetting. That's in the early
19 morning. Was there anybody coming into the rooms
20 throughout the night?

21 A. He just used to be patrolling the corridors and every
22 now and again you'd hear him.

23 Q. What would you hear?

24 A. His footsteps up and down the corridor -- you'd see --
25 the door next to your bed where the dorm was, it was

1 awful, it used to make a hell of a noise banging shut
2 and you would hear that so you were off -- so you were
3 wakened with it anyway.

4 Q. Did he come into your dorm --

5 A. We had a bed-wetter in my dorm, yes.

6 Q. So was that in the morning then that he would come in?

7 A. Yes, the morning time.

8 Q. What about food? Where would you go for your meals?

9 A. To the -- the canteen, I was going to say. The
10 dining room. We went to the dining room downstairs away
11 from the dorms ...

12 Q. What was the food like?

13 A. Terrible. There was no menu. It was just a take it or
14 leave it. So there were a lot more slops than boys had
15 actually ate. Some of the boys used to sell their food
16 for cigarettes and that too. But a lot of people were
17 slavering in there, the boys.

18 Q. You say in your statement that a lot of the boys went
19 hungry because they didn't like the food.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Did anything happen if you didn't like the food?

22 A. No, no, no.

23 Q. You mentioned showers earlier. Can you tell me where
24 the were showers in St Ninian's?

25 A. The showers were just between the dormitory area

1 upstairs. There were showers downstairs for the
2 woodwork class. There were showers down there,
3 individual showers, blocked or sectioned off, two rows
4 of them.

5 Q. Okay. If we start, first of all, with the showers you
6 mentioned upstairs. Could we put the plan back on?
7 CFS.001.006.8297.

8 That's the plan of the dormitory area again. You're
9 pointing to the area which is marked "Toilets/showers".

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. So can you describe what the showering set-up was there?

12 A. The shower set-up in this area was an open-plan one. It
13 was four showers.

14 Q. So when you say open-plan, were there cubicles or was it
15 one area?

16 A. Just the one area.

17 Q. So if you showered in there would people be showering in
18 there at the same time?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And would be able to each other showering?

21 A. Yes, there were boys all in there, yes.

22 Q. I'll just put another plan on: CFS.001.006.8299.

23 Do you see that that plan is marked "lower
24 basement"? Do you recognise that area?

25 A. Yes. That's the stairwell taking you down and your

1 showers. But there's no sign of -- the woodwork class
2 was upstairs from there, further up. The boiler room
3 and that, they were there. Shower room, stairwell --
4 I can't remember what this area was (indicating).

5 Q. So the stairs there, did you mention that the woodwork
6 room was above that area?

7 A. Above that, yes.

8 Q. And you would go down the stairs to the shower rooms?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And what was the set-up in those shower rooms?

11 A. That was cubicles.

12 Q. Cubicles?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. How many showers approximately were there?

15 A. 15 on each row.

16 Q. So there were two rows of showers?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And were there any doors or curtains?

19 A. No, no.

20 Q. So somebody could see into the showers?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. But the boys couldn't see each other showering?

23 A. No, we couldn't see one another but they could see you.

24 Q. Okay. Thank you for that.

25 A. Thank you.

1 Q. So which shower area did you tend to use, the upstairs
2 showers or the basement showers?

3 A. The basement showers were only really used for after
4 football games and rugby, games really. They were for
5 any outdoor activity. That's when the bottom showers
6 got used. Night-time it was the upstairs shower.

7 LADY SMITH: So you would go straight in at that level,
8 would you, from having been outside playing sport?

9 A. Yes. We'd get changed and down there with your towel
10 round you.

11 LADY SMITH: Can I take you back to the very first
12 photograph, which is 001.006.1186.

13 You looked at that photograph a few minutes ago,
14 you'll remember, James.

15 A. Yes, my Lady, yes.

16 LADY SMITH: Tell me if I am getting this wrong but I have
17 the impression that this basement area you're telling us
18 about is in that lower part of the building that seems
19 to drop away on the right.

20 A. Yes. It drops away over here (indicating).

21 LADY SMITH: Yes.

22 A. It's below this section, the juniors' section, my Lady.

23 LADY SMITH: Yes. So the building is on a bit of a hillside
24 there?

25 A. Yes.

1 LADY SMITH: I think we can also see that if we go to
2 001.006.1187. That should be the third photograph in
3 this run of photographs.

4 (Pause)

5 Are we able to get that, Ms MacLeod?

6 MS MACLEOD: We're not able to get that on the screen, I'm
7 afraid.

8 LADY SMITH: Don't worry, James. What I'll do, because I've
9 got a hard copy of it ...

10 (Handed)

11 If you can look at -- you've got this photograph as
12 well, Ms MacLeod, have you? It's at 03.

13 If you look at the top photograph there, what I'm
14 seeing past the fountain is part of the building that
15 I think might be the bit that had the dormitories in it,
16 and possibly the showers below --

17 A. Below level, ma'am, yes.

18 LADY SMITH: I'm guessing there was probably access from the
19 grounds into that lower part of the building.

20 A. Yes.

21 LADY SMITH: It would have felt like ground level from the
22 outside, but from the inside it would have felt like the
23 basement? Have I got that right?

24 A. Exactly, yes.

25 LADY SMITH: Super, thanks very much. I'll get that back

1 from you.

2 MS MACLEOD: How were you addressed when you were at

3 St Ninian's by the brothers.

4 A. Just my second name was used.

5 Q. And how would you address a brother?

6 A. Just as "brother".

7 Q. We know there was a school on site at St Ninian's.

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Did you go to that school?

10 A. Yes, I went, yes, to both the junior and senior section,

11 yes.

12 Q. Can you tell me about the school?

13 A. It wasn't school -- not in the secondary term it wasn't

14 school.

15 Q. What do you mean by that?

16 A. I mean it was more of a -- maybe back to primary school

17 work and that.

18 Q. So you'd been to primary school before you came to

19 St Ninian's?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. You'd also been to secondary school?

22 A. Just partly secondary school, not a lot.

23 Q. At the time when you were there in St Ninian's, what was

24 your attitude towards the schooling?

25 A. Oh, I didn't like the schooling in there either.

1 I thought it was -- well, it beggars belief, but it was
2 a joke, really, when you look back.

3 Q. You say it was a joke. Could you elaborate upon that
4 for me?

5 A. If you were a senior, you were looking for maybe
6 secondary schoolwork to do, but you weren't doing
7 secondary schoolwork. The only thing I think was the
8 class where something was worthwhile was the art class.

9 Q. You enjoyed that?

10 A. Yes, I enjoyed the art class, yes.

11 Q. Did you feel you were learning anything in the school?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Who taught in the school?

14 A. Brother LNA taught in the school. Brother LMZ
15 taught. Brother MCX done a bit of teaching.
16 Brother MCY used to take the sports and so did
17 LNA he took the sports too. But for the
18 classes -- Mrs Brown for the art teacher.

19 Q. You tell us, I think, that there came a time when
20 you were selected to go to another school.

21 A. Selected to go to college.

22 Q. To college?

23 A. Yes, in Fife, Cupar.

24 Q. How did that come about?

25 A. I don't know, I can't remember. I don't know how, but

1 we used to go once a week to it for woodwork classes and
2 metalwork classes.

3 Q. So you were still attending the school at St Ninian's
4 but you would also be --

5 A. Yes. I was off, aye.

6 Q. Do you know how it was decided which boys went there?

7 A. Just the senior boys that went there.

8 Q. Did all the senior boys go?

9 A. Yes, the majority of them, yes.

10 Q. What were the sporting facilities and sports
11 opportunities on offer?

12 A. The sporting facilities were -- I've got to say --
13 excellent. I really enjoyed the sports. They did give
14 you a lot of various sports to do in St Ninian's, which
15 I always remember. Yes, it was good, yes, I'd say that
16 was a good part, the games was good.

17 Q. Did you play sport most days?

18 A. Yes, yes. It didn't matter the weather, didn't matter
19 the weather, you were involved in something. Indoor or
20 cross-country or something. You weren't idle.

21 Q. You mention in your statement that you were also
22 involved, the school I mean, in putting on concerts and
23 shows.

24 A. Yes, that's right. That was Brother LMZ that was in
25 charge of that. Him and Mrs Brown, they would organise

1 that.

2 Q. Did you take part in these things?

3 A. Yes, I done a couple of occasions, yes.

4 Q. Is that something you enjoyed?

5 A. No.

6 Q. You mentioned chores earlier --

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. -- when you were talking about the morning routine.

9 Can you tell me a bit more about that?

10 A. Just every boy was given an area of the -- you showed me

11 the photo of the main hall, the stairways; I remember

12 one of my chores was I used to go down on my knees and

13 polish that stairwell on my knees. Other boys were

14 given other areas -- except for the dormitories, they

15 weren't attended to. It was just like the stairs

16 leading up to classrooms and toilets were to be cleaned

17 and you name it, the boys had to do it all. Concerning

18 cleaning, they had to carry it out.

19 Q. Were there cleaning staff?

20 A. No.

21 Q. So I think what you're telling me is that the cleaning

22 was really down to the boys?

23 A. Yes, it was, yes.

24 Q. You mentioned cleaning toilets. Is that something you

25 had to do?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. What about cleaning the brothers' rooms?

3 A. Yes, we done that too. Done their rooms too. You were
4 allocated one of the brothers' rooms.

5 Q. Was the allocation done on a rota basis or did you have
6 your own --

7 A. No, it was just off the top of your head. She would
8 just say to you in the morning: you're on so-and-so
9 today. You weren't on the same place any two days
10 given. No, you were moved about quite a lot.

11 Q. And who would say this to you?

12 A. The wee matron.

13 Q. Do you remember her name?

14 A. No, sorry.

15 Q. You said you had chores to do in the morning.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Did you do them all then or were there any other times
18 you had to do chores?

19 A. At the weekend -- if you were there at the -- if you
20 were kept behind for a weekend, going home, there was
21 work to be done on a Saturday, yes.

22 Q. During holiday periods, were you able to go home to your
23 family?

24 A. Yes, I could go home at holiday periods, yes, but some
25 boys couldn't, no.

- 1 Q. Some boys remained on site?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. What about going on trips with St Ninian's? Did you go
4 on any trips?
- 5 A. Yes, I went to Liverpool and I went to Sunderland with
6 them.
- 7 Q. So when you went to Liverpool, for example, was that
8 a group of people going?
- 9 A. Yes. I think it was the junior boys -- sorry, I'm
10 telling a lie. I was a senior when I went to Liverpool.
11 They took us out to Kirkcaldy and got us booted and
12 suited for going down, rather than wearing our own
13 clothes, which -- I don't know why, but anyway I think
14 it was something to do with social work or something.
15 And we were all suited and booted and taken from
16 Falkland all the way down to Liverpool to play rugby on
17 a Saturday.
- 18 Q. Was that the purpose of the trip, to play rugby?
- 19 A. Well, I think so, yes.
- 20 Q. I think you mentioned Sunderland as well.
- 21 A. Sunderland, too, yes. I think I was a senior then --
22 a junior then when I went to Sunderland.
- 23 Q. Was that a sports trip?
- 24 A. Yes, a rugby trip.
- 25 Q. You mentioned some other trips in your statement;

- 1 can you recall any other trips?
- 2 A. Yes, a ski trip to Glenshee and that, hill walking,
3 camping to St Andrews. Brother **MCY** used to take us
4 there. When we went camping with the Army Youth Team it
5 used to be **LNA** that took us to that.
- 6 Q. And those trips, James, can you just give me a feel
7 for -- were they happy times or were they trips you
8 enjoyed or not?
- 9 A. I don't know, I just have to say now. At that time I'd
10 don't think I'd have been given the opportunity to
11 travel down to Liverpool or Sunderland from my
12 background. So I thought, well -- like a holiday or
13 something. I know it was only a weekend, but I don't
14 think I would ever be able to do half of the things that
15 St Ninian's put on offer to you from where I was from.
16 No way.
- 17 Q. You said you would go home for holidays. Did that
18 include Christmas?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. So you weren't at St Ninian's for Christmas?
- 21 A. No, no.
- 22 Q. Do you remember if your birthday was celebrated while
23 you were at St Ninian's?
- 24 A. It wasn't, no. I don't know the reason why, because
25 a couple of times my birthday come up -- maybe it was

1 because of the way Easter holidays fell, sometimes I was
2 in, sometimes I wasn't in, but I never got -- no.

3 Q. I should have taken this from you earlier, James. We've
4 looked at when you were admitted to St Ninian's, in
5 ██████████ 1973, and I think you remained there until you
6 were 16; is that right?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And you were discharged, it is noted in the records, as
9 ██████████ 1976.

10 A. No, it was ██████████ my birthday night. I was 16 and
11 they let me go.

12 Q. So it would have been in ██████████ 1976 instead of ██████████

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. That's your own recollection?

15 A. Yes, that is my own recollection. Mr Kelly took me to
16 Queen Street, yes.

17 Q. And we'll come on to look at your leaving in due course.

18 A. Uh-huh.

19 Q. Did your family visit you at St Ninian's?

20 A. It was impossible, one end of the country to the other
21 for them.

22 Q. Were you able to keep in touch with them in any other
23 way?

24 A. Yes, I could phone an aunt and my aunt had a landline
25 phone, so I could keep in touch with her. I also used

- 1 to get mail and parcels from my mum.
- 2 Q. So in terms of phoning members of your family, how did
3 that work? Were you free to do that?
- 4 A. Not without somebody standing there while you were on
5 the phone, know what I mean? You weren't allowed to
6 talk -- I wasn't allowed to talk on a one-to-one basis
7 because LNA was standing there and the
8 brothers -- where they got their dinner, he used to
9 wander about in there.
- 10 Q. Did you have to let the brother know or ask the brother
11 if you wanted to make a call?
- 12 A. You used to have to ask to see if you could go and stay
13 with her at the weekend. Do you know what I mean? If
14 I didn't want to go to my mum's and dad's, I could go
15 there with my aunt because my aunt had a spare -- not
16 a spare single bed, but one of the wee kiddies would
17 sleep in the bed with their mum and dad knowing I would
18 get the single bed.
- 19 Q. So if you wanted to phone somebody, you would ask?
- 20 A. I need to ask, yes.
- 21 Q. Who would you ask?
- 22 A. Brother MHJ
- 23 Q. And what would his response be?
- 24 A. Yes, you could get a phone call, but I says it wasn't on
25 a one-to-one because LNA was in the brothers'

1 area where they get -- the dining area, the brothers'
2 phone was just outside it. So it wasn't a one-to-one
3 call.

4 Q. I think you say in your statement that you had to be
5 careful what you said.

6 A. Yes, very.

7 Q. Leaving holiday periods aside, how regularly did you get
8 to go home to see your family?

9 A. Sometimes maybe twice a month, sometimes maybe just
10 once. It all depended on Brother [REDACTED] LNA

11 Q. When you say it all depended on Brother [REDACTED] LNA what
12 do you mean?

13 A. A couple of times he used to refuse me, saying that
14 I hadn't -- my behaviour that week didn't qualify for
15 a weekend home. The other reason was he would just say
16 to me, "Your dad's took ill and you've not to go home
17 this weekend, your mum phoned", but my mum and dad
18 didn't have a phone, so it was all lies, no.

19 Q. On the occasions where you weren't allowed to go home,
20 were you given a reason?

21 A. No, just that. Just [REDACTED] LNA just saying that my mum
22 had phoned, my dad was not well, but I found out that
23 wasn't true.

24 Other times he used to drop you at the drop of
25 a hat. He took me out of a ski trip too for nothing.

- 1 Q. He took you out of a ski trip?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. What was the reason for that?
- 4 A. Because I wouldn't represent the home in a cross-country
5 event. I refused to run, so I got pulled out of that.
- 6 Q. When you went home for home leave at weekends, what was
7 your attitude towards going back to St Ninian's at the
8 end of the weekend?
- 9 A. A few times I never returned to St Ninian's. A couple
10 of times I've had to make my own way back to Falkland
11 from Paisley. I remember one particular one, it was
12 a winter's night, it was dark, and I had to make it from
13 Auchterarder. I phoned when I got to Auchterarder and
14 they told me they had nobody available to come and
15 collect me, so I had to walk from Auchterarder to
16 Falkland myself and I was only a young boy.
- 17 Q. I think you tell us that if you told your mum you didn't
18 want to go back to St Ninian's, she'd ask you to go and
19 see the social worker.
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And what would happen then?
- 22 A. The social worker, they would just give me my fares to
23 go back. They would just tell me that there was nothing
24 that social work -- they wanted me back in there ASAP.
- 25 Q. Is that when you would get the train to Auchterarder?

- 1 A. No, a bus. The bus there, yes.
- 2 Q. And you would walk from there?
- 3 A. Walk from Auchterarder to Falkland, yes.
- 4 Q. How long would that take you?
- 5 A. Maybe 25 minutes or something, half an hour. But on
6 a country road, sometimes traffic -- well, no busy
7 traffic, but cars anyway.
- 8 Q. When you returned to St Ninian's, having been on home
9 leave, did anything happen to your bags when you got
10 back?
- 11 A. Yes. My bags used to be ransacked by LNA looking
12 for tobacco or any other stuff he could find. This was
13 done whenever he felt it right to do it. You would
14 leave all your bags -- as soon as you came in the main
15 entrance you'd leave your bags down there, he would send
16 you away, and then the next thing you were back to get
17 your bags and all your tobacco or cigarettes or whatever
18 you had was all away.
- 19 Q. And would you see the tobacco and cigarettes again?
- 20 A. Yes, he used to organise a smoking night for juniors and
21 seniors in the junior room and it was the fags that
22 he had -- obviously it was the cigarettes that he had
23 confiscated from the boys he was given back to them. It
24 was a smoke night, we used to call it.
- 25 Q. I'll come back to look at that. You also mentioned that

1 LNA would search your rooms, your dorms?

2 A. Yes. If we were out on games with MCY he
3 used to ransack all the dorms, beds threw over,
4 mattresses, wardrobes, all your good clothes all slung
5 about, your wee cupboard at your bedside, and all pulled
6 out and all that and at the end your room was just
7 a pit.

8 Q. What was the purpose in doing this?

9 A. Searching for contraband again.

10 Q. Would that be tobacco?

11 A. Yes. Tobacco or maybe boys' with books at that age,
12 know what I mean? Magazines and stuff like that.

13 Q. Would he take that away?

14 A. Yes, he'd take anything he found. He would confiscate
15 it.

16 Q. How often --

17 A. Whenever he was ready to do it. It wasn't on a weekly
18 basis. It was just whenever he wanted to do something,
19 he would do it.

20 Q. Can I ask you now about discipline in St Ninian's. How
21 was discipline managed, how was it arranged?

22 A. The discipline -- well, for instance, can I go back to
23 the smoke night? He used to give you smoke nights, then
24 see the next day, if you were caught smoking, you used
25 to get six of the belt off him. And that was only the

1 night before you were allowed to sit and smoke in front
2 of him.

3 Q. Who is this we're talking about?

4 A. LNA And the next day it was six of the belt if
5 you were caught smoking again.

6 Q. So sometimes if it was in his room, you've said on those
7 kind of smoke nights, you could smoke?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. But then you could be caught doing the same thing and
10 punished for it?

11 A. Punished for it, yes.

12 Q. What other kinds of things could boys be disciplined
13 for?

14 A. Running away too.

15 Q. And I'll come back to look at running away.

16 A. Yes, running away, fighting -- well, really, anything
17 that young boys got up to. Know what I mean?

18 Q. In your statement you say about LNA that he was
19 "the alpha male" in there.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. What do you mean by that?

22 A. I mean everything was all at his beck and call,
23 everything that had to be done was run by his rule of
24 thumb. Other brothers gave out their punishments, but
25 they all had their own reasons for giving out their

1 punishment, but to me everything went through [REDACTED] LNA
2 in Falkland.

3 Q. Looking at [REDACTED] LNA then, how would he punish you if
4 he perceived you had done something wrong?

5 A. Well, I mean, I'd get the belt off him. I'd had a
6 cigarette smoked into my arm off him.

7 Q. And we'll look at that incident in particular.

8 So when he would give you the belt then, where would
9 that happen?

10 A. Outside the brothers' room, outside their sitting room,
11 the brothers' sitting room, or if it was in the
12 classroom it would be in the class or that, because he
13 seemed to always have his belt with him all the time.

14 Q. Could you describe the belt he had?

15 A. It was just a leather belt like you would get in
16 primary -- not primary school, secondary school then.

17 Q. Which part of your body would he use the belt on?

18 A. On occasions, different parts of your body, you know,
19 but mostly on the hand for boys, that I've had it --
20 I've had the belt all parts of my body.

21 Q. Who hit you on all parts of the -- who are you talking
22 about there?

23 A. [REDACTED] LNA

24 Q. You mentioned an incident involving a cigarette there;
25 could you tell me about that?

1 A. Yes, I can tell you. I was put to clean out the
2 toilets. I was hanging out a window smoking and
3 [REDACTED] LNA came into the toilets. He shouted at me what
4 I was doing, I came in the window, and he said, "You've
5 been smoking", and he smelled my breath. I'd hidden my
6 cigarettes and he then put his hand down and took my
7 cigarettes out, lit up a cigarette, and smoked it into
8 my arm and took my cigarettes away.

9 Q. Was your arm injured as a result of that?

10 A. Yes, I still carry the scar today.

11 Q. Did he say anything while he was doing that?

12 A. "This'll teach you not to smoke any more."

13 Q. Was it painful?

14 A. Yes, very.

15 Q. You mention in your statement another occasion when
16 a group of boys, including yourself, were down at the
17 pond.

18 A. Yes, the duck pond, yes.

19 Q. What happened on that occasion?

20 A. On that occasion I got punched in the mouth.

21 Q. Could you tell me what led to that?

22 A. Just as I says, boys are boys. It was a nice evening
23 and we decided to go down to the duck pond and we were
24 frolicking about in the water having and laugh and that.
25 By the time we got back up to St Ninian's, it was all

1 shut. It sounds quite funny but it wasn't. We had to
2 press the buzzer and he came out like the madman that
3 he was, [REDACTED] LNA Took me away from the group to the
4 door that led you to the senior dorms. He said
5 something to me like I was the ringleader, which
6 I wasn't, and don't smirk at him and, bang, I got
7 punched and I lost two teeth.

8 Q. Did you receive any medical --

9 A. I was taken to the dentist on the Friday, taken to the
10 dentist on the Friday because I remember it well,
11 because I got home for a weekend. I had to travel after
12 being at the dentist into Glasgow. There was no way
13 I was going to miss my weekend.

14 Q. So you were taken to the dentist on a Friday. How long
15 after the incident --

16 A. This happened on a Wednesday, the Wednesday night, and
17 we couldn't get a dentist appointment until whatever,
18 the Friday or that.

19 Q. So after he punched you and your teeth --

20 A. I had toothache that night.

21 Q. And did you tell somebody? What led up to you being
22 taken to the dentist?

23 A. Because I says to matron that I had toothache, but
24 I never told her the reasons why I had the toothache,
25 and she arranged for me to get an appointment.

- 1 Q. I think you say Mr Kelly took you.
- 2 A. Aye. He took me to Auchterarder, to the dentist.
- 3 Q. Did he ask you what had happened?
- 4 A. No, no, he just thought it was a toothache. I never
- 5 told anybody. As I always thought, who the hell would
- 6 believe me, you know?
- 7 Q. Did you see other boys receive this kind of physical
- 8 punishment --
- 9 A. Yes, I seen that --
- 10 Q. -- from [REDACTED] LNA [REDACTED] ?
- 11 A. Yes, I seen a boy getting battered -- I seen a boy
- 12 getting battered with [REDACTED] MCX [REDACTED] then ragdolled --
- 13 Q. By [REDACTED] MCX [REDACTED]
- 14 A. By [REDACTED] MCX [REDACTED], not [REDACTED] LNA [REDACTED] on this occasion, it was
- 15 Brother [REDACTED] MCX [REDACTED], and he punched the living daylights
- 16 out of him.
- 17 Q. So on that occasion, could you set the scene for me?
- 18 Where were you?
- 19 A. We were up in the library -- that takes you into where
- 20 the three classrooms are. Brother [REDACTED] MCX [REDACTED] --
- 21 Q. Is that the level above the main hall?
- 22 A. Yes. That's the level upstairs. It was a wee library
- 23 and he had the room before you went into the junior
- 24 classroom.
- 25 Q. Is that [REDACTED] MCX [REDACTED] ?

- 1 A. [MCX] had the room there. The boy -- he just
2 basically attacked the boy. He was accusing him of
3 stealing cigarettes or something, if my memory serves me
4 correct. It was something to do with cigarettes anyway.
- 5 Q. So you say he attacked him. What did he do?
- 6 A. He was punching the living daylights out of him. He was
7 screaming for him to stop and that and I think he
8 realised that everybody was all standing watching him,
9 no? So he stopped and says to him, "You'll not do that
10 again", or something, no?
- 11 Q. Were any other brothers present?
- 12 A. No. No. No.
- 13 Q. I think you say in your statement that he was beating
14 him with his fists.
- 15 A. Yes, he was.
- 16 Q. And that he ragdolled him.
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. What do you mean by that?
- 19 A. Pulling him by the hair, pulling him all about, shaking
20 him, physically.
- 21 Q. Was the boy injured?
- 22 A. No, no, just I think he had burst the side of his nose,
23 if I remember.
- 24 Q. Did you see Brother [MCX] behave in that kind of
25 manner at any other time?

1 A. No, that was the first I'd seen it. That was the first
2 I'd ever seen it.

3 Q. What about Brother [REDACTED] LNA [REDACTED]? You have given me some
4 examples of how he treated you in relation to
5 punishment. Did you see him punishing other boys?

6 A. [REDACTED] LNA [REDACTED]? No.

7 Q. What about punishment and discipline in school, in the
8 classrooms?

9 A. In school, it was a belt and that. You were given the
10 belt if you didn't do your homework. [REDACTED] LNA [REDACTED] used to
11 give you poetry to learn and you had to memorise it, and
12 if you didn't memorise it, then God help you.

13 Q. What would happen if you didn't memorise it?

14 A. You'd get the belt off him in front of the class.

15 Q. Did any other brothers discipline boys physically?

16 A. Yes, they all had their own wee ways of punching boys
17 with the belt and that for things that they'd done. It
18 just wasn't the one person. No, no, they were all the
19 same. They could give you the belt.

20 MS MACLEOD: I think that's almost 3 o'clock, my Lady.

21 LADY SMITH: Yes, it is. We break at this stage. We
22 probably haven't got too far to go, is that right?

23 MS MACLEOD: Not too far.

24 LADY SMITH: I was just checking. We usually take a break
25 in the middle of the afternoon. If it's all right with

1 you, we'll do that now for five or ten minutes and then

2 we'll finish your evidence after that, James.

3 A. That's fine. Thank you, my Lady.

4 (3.00 pm)

5 (A short break)

6 (3.10 pm)

7 LADY SMITH: If you're ready, James, we'll carry on; is that

8 all right?

9 A. Thanks, ma'am.

10 LADY SMITH: Ms MacLeod.

11 MS MACLEOD: I would like to ask you about children who wet

12 the bed. Did you wet the bed --

13 A. No.

14 Q. -- when you were at St Ninian's?

15 A. Not at all, no.

16 Q. Were there boys in your dorm who wet the bed?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. You mentioned earlier that Brother LNA would come

19 into the dorm early in the morning --

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. -- to see if anybody had wet the bed.

22 A. Very early, yes.

23 Q. What would happen then, what did you see happen?

24 A. What we used to see was just him wakening them. I don't

25 know if other boys in the dorm would be wakened, but

1 I used to be always wakened when he came in the dorm and
2 he used to give them a wee shake and that, wake them up,
3 asking them if they'd wet the bed and that and they'd
4 get up.

5 Q. And if they had wet the bed --

6 A. If they'd wet the bed, they would be taken out of the
7 room, taking their bedding and that with them, their
8 sheets -- not the quilt not their blanket -- it wasn't
9 a quilt, it was a blanket that was on the bed. Take
10 their sheets to the bottom shower room and wash them
11 down there and put them in the drying room. If they wet
12 the bed five nights then they had to -- they'd have to
13 do without sheets for the following five days.

14 Q. Did you see boys taking their own bedclothes out of the
15 dorm?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And what would you do at that time, would you still be
18 in bed?

19 A. We were still in bed, yes. They were up early so they
20 could go and get themselves prepared for breakfast and
21 that, get their bedding done and get themselves showered
22 and that.

23 Q. Would you see them washing the sheets or is that
24 something that you were told?

25 A. No, that was downstairs away out of the road of

1 everybody, but you knew what the boys were down there
2 for to do.

3 Q. Was there anything else they had to do, those who had
4 wet the bed?

5 A. No, I don't think so, no.

6 Q. Did they have a shower in the morning?

7 A. Yes. The boys that had wet the bed had a shower in the
8 morning, but the other boys, no.

9 Q. What about making up the beds after the sheets had been
10 washed?

11 A. No, they made it themselves.

12 Q. They made it themselves?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Did you see boys doing that?

15 A. Yes, I seen boys in my dorm making their own beds, yes,
16 when I was in the junior section.

17 Q. In your statement you mention that boys who'd wet the
18 bed could be made to stand in the corridor.

19 A. Yes, sometimes, yes. They could be made to stand in the
20 corridor holding their wet sheets and their pyjamas.
21 They would be standing naked with their pyjamas off too,
22 so they were made to wash their pyjamas too with big
23 blocks of red soap that was out in the bottom showers.

24 Q. Did you see boys standing in the corridor in the way
25 you have described?

1 A. I seen boys standing with their bedding, yes, coming out
2 of my dorm and standing outside the door until they were
3 all gathered together and led down like a wee bunch of
4 sheep to the shower room.

5 Q. Who was leading them down?

6 A. LNA

7 Q. I think you say that the boys were obviously really
8 embarrassed.

9 A. Yes, yes. Yes, yes. But it was just -- that was
10 another thing, that could have been more stigma for the
11 boys, do you know what I mean, because they were
12 bed-wetters.

13 Q. How often would you see boys standing in the corridor?

14 A. Probably every two to three times a week or something.

15 Q. Do you remember if the boys standing in the corridor
16 would be wearing anything?

17 A. I don't think they were. I think the pyjamas and that
18 were off too.

19 Q. Is this something you remember happening when you were
20 in the junior side or the senior side or both?

21 A. No, just the junior side.

22 Q. Did you see any other brother being involved in this
23 process?

24 A. No, not at all. Not at all.

25 Q. You tell us in your statement that Brother LNA

1 took you and some of the other junior boys to his
2 private living quarters.

3 A. Yes, he used to take you to his private bedroom over on
4 the senior side. He used to take young boys over there
5 to sit and had them sitting on his knee and that,
6 between his legs, he had them bouncing up and down too.

7 Q. How often?

8 A. Every night he would probably take a couple of junior
9 boys over.

10 Q. How often were you taken over?

11 A. Twice, I think, I was in his room. I never went back
12 because I just didn't -- I don't know, I just ...
13 Something just ... I don't know. I just didn't want to
14 go back over there, no.

15 Q. So the times you were there, could you tell me what
16 happened in the room?

17 A. I can tell you. He was bouncing me up and down on his
18 knee. He used to bounce you up and down between his
19 legs on his lap and he had an erection. I knew what an
20 erection was as I was going through puberty and it just
21 made me -- I thought to myself, is that when you're
22 happy, you get one of them, I just didn't know.
23 I couldn't fathom it out in my head what it was all
24 about.

25 Q. How many times do you think you went to Brother

LNA

1 room?

2 A. Me?

3 Q. Yes.

4 A. Personally, twice. Maybe three. Between two and three.

5 Q. And you have mentioned sitting on his knee. Did that

6 happen on each of these occasions?

7 A. No, just the once.

8 Q. Can you remember the first time you were taken into his

9 room?

10 A. Yes, I can remember the first time. I know I wasn't

11 long in the place. I know for a fact that I can

12 remember that.

13 Q. Looking at that first occasion, how many other boys were

14 with you in his room?

15 A. About three or four.

16 Q. How did it come about that you were in his room? What

17 led up to that?

18 A. I thought I was just getting introduced to him because

19 I was just a new boy in the set-up. So I went to his

20 room, along with another couple of boys, and he was

21 doing it with every -- doing it with each and every

22 individual, sitting them on his lap, unloosening their

23 pyjama top, tickling about their body and that to make

24 them laugh, and at the same time -- and I know I'm

25 repeating myself -- the man had an erection.

1 Q. You mentioned a pyjama top. Were you and the other boys
2 wearing pyjamas at the time?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Were you wearing any underpants under your pyjama?

5 A. No, you weren't allowed to wear your underwear under
6 your pyjamas.

7 Q. Who told you that?

8 A. LNA

9 Q. So on that first occasion then when you were sitting on
10 his lap, how did it come about that you were sitting on
11 his lap?

12 A. He said, "Come over here, I want to introduce you to
13 St Ninian's", words along the lines. I thought he was
14 making me welcome. That's what I mean.

15 Q. What about the two other boys?

16 A. The other boys were just sitting on the floor and they
17 were laughing because of his antics.

18 Q. How did that situation come to an end on the first
19 occasion?

20 A. The first occasion -- that was me, I didn't go back near
21 his dorm, I tried to stay out of the road of him and
22 that. But unfortunately, I didn't.

23 Q. I think you mentioned you went back to his room in that
24 way on a couple of -- you said two or three times?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. On those other times you went to his room what happened?

2 A. Just the same again, the same repeat occurrence on his
3 lap and that, there was the loosening the pyjama tops
4 and the tickling and that.

5 Q. So were you on his knee again the next --

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Did you see other boys sitting on his knee?

8 A. Yes, the other boys that were in the room with me sat on
9 his lap and that too, yes.

10 Q. You say in your statement that he was drinking beer.

11 A. Yes. That was on the smoke nights he used to drink cans
12 of beer.

13 Q. The incidents you have been describing, the two or three
14 occasions, were they smoke nights?

15 A. No.

16 Q. So what were the smoke nights then?

17 A. Just whenever he decided it was a smoke night, we had
18 a smoke night. That was you allowed to smoke in front
19 of him and that, and he'd be sitting with his cans of
20 beer.

21 Q. How many times were you involved in a smoke night with
22 him?

23 A. Oh, a few, because of the length of time I was in
24 Falkland.

25 Q. So what would happen at the smoke night?

- 1 A. All the boys would just sit around, getting cigarettes
2 and that and having a smoke and that.
- 3 Q. Would they be junior boys or senior boys?
- 4 A. Mixed.
- 5 Q. Would there be any physical contact between [REDACTED] LNA
6 and any of the boys?
- 7 A. Not in that situation, no.
- 8 Q. You tell us in your statement, James, that several times
9 you saw junior boys getting taken into [REDACTED] LNA
10 room.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Can you tell me about that? Where did you see them
13 being taken from?
- 14 A. The junior side of the home they were taken from, over
15 to his room in the senior side.
- 16 Q. Is that people who were in your dormitory?
- 17 A. No. By the times you're talking about when I went to
18 seniors, I was in the senior side, and I seen juniors
19 coming into his room and that too.
- 20 Q. So this was when you were on the senior side?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. The side that his room was on?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. You saw junior boys going into his room?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Would they be going in themselves or would he be going
2 in with them?
- 3 A. He was going in with them there.
- 4 Q. How often did you see junior boys go into his room?
- 5 A. It's was mostly every night he had them in there.
- 6 Q. Did you get any indication of how long they might spend
7 in there?
- 8 A. Half an hour, maybe up to half an hour to bedtime, to
9 lights out.
- 10 Q. Would you see boys coming out of his room at any time?
- 11 A. Yes, I used to see the boys coming back because we were
12 up that wee bit longer by then, being on the senior
13 side.
- 14 Q. At the time, did you have any thoughts about what was --
15 why they were going into his room, or what they were
16 doing?
- 17 A. No, I probably just thought they were treated the same
18 way when I used to go into his room. I thought they
19 were going into -- I thought he was doing with the
20 juniors what he did to us as juniors.
- 21 Q. Are you referring there to what you told me about
22 sitting on his lap?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. You told me earlier about the two shower areas in
25 St Ninian's.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Would Brother LNA be involved in the showering process?

3 A. Yes. All the time.

4 Q. Which showers are we talking about?

5 A. Both, both upstairs and downstairs.

6 Q. If we start with the upstairs shower. Those are the

7 showers you told me are open-plan, no cubicles?

8 A. No, no cover.

9 Q. Would LNA be involved in boys showering in that

10 area?

11 A. Yes, upstairs, the juniors, yes.

12 Q. Was that the area the juniors used for showering?

13 A. Yes. Both juniors and seniors used it, but juniors

14 mostly first before the seniors.

15 Q. What was LNA purpose for being in that shower

16 area?

17 A. No purpose at all. Nothing. No reason whatsoever.

18 Q. How often would you see -- when you were using those

19 showers --

20 A. When we were using those showers, LNA was

21 present -- most of the time juniors were having showers

22 LNA would be in presence.

23 Q. What was he doing?

24 A. Just standing there, trying to kid on he was having fun

25 and that with boys, hurry up and get washed, and that.

1 But he was just in there to ogle boys, I think.

2 Q. Would he say anything while he was there?

3 A. He would just look about at the boys getting dried and
4 boys that was in the shower, boys that were waiting to
5 go for a shower.

6 Q. What you say in your statement is:

7 "I don't think he was there to supervise; he
8 watched."

9 A. He watched, yes. And I can't remember him coming in
10 when I was a senior. I can't remember once that man
11 being in the area.

12 Q. Did the boys have any nickname for [REDACTED] LNA ?

13 A. Yes, we had a lot of nicknames for him. Some used to
14 call him [REDACTED] LNA , some used to call him the
15 [REDACTED] LNA He had a number of nicknames.

16 Q. So that's the upstairs showers. What about the
17 downstairs showers? Would you sometimes shower down
18 there?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And would there be any involvement there from

21 [REDACTED] LNA

22 A. Yes, of course, yes. He would prowl up -- he would walk
23 up and down -- the showers came off the wall, the
24 cubicles, so he would walk down one side, go back up, go
25 down the other side.

- 1 Q. I see. Were the shower cubicles two rows back to back?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And what would he be doing in that area?
- 4 A. Just looking at boys' bodies, boys showering and that.
- 5 Q. When you say "looking at boys' bodies", would he be
- 6 doing that from outwith the shower?
- 7 A. Yes, outwith the shower, yes.
- 8 Q. Would he say anything in that area?
- 9 A. No, no.
- 10 Q. In relation to the showering experience you say:
- 11 "There was no privacy whatsoever."
- 12 A. No, not at all.
- 13 Q. You go on to tell us in your statement, James, about
- 14 three episodes in particular relating to sexual abuse.
- 15 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 16 Q. I'm going to ask you about that now.
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. I think you say the first of these was after a rugby
- 19 game.
- 20 A. That's correct.
- 21 Q. Did something happen during the game?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Can you tell me what?
- 24 A. Yes, I swore at him on the rugby pitch.
- 25 Q. Who did you swear at?

1 A. [REDACTED] LNA

2 Q. After the game, I think you say you were queueing up to

3 go to the showers.

4 A. Yes. I was queueing up to go to the shower and I was

5 told to go to the back of the queue.

6 Q. Was this the upstairs showers or the downstairs?

7 A. Downstairs.

8 Q. So you were asked to go to the back of the queue; was

9 any reason given for that?

10 A. No, just: you, get to the back.

11 Q. And did you have your shower?

12 A. No.

13 Q. What happened?

14 A. Well, I went in to get the shower, and every boy --

15 I was held until it was time to go into the showers and

16 then I thought there were still some boys in the shower.

17 But when I went in, there was nobody there at all and

18 I turned round and he had locked the door on me. So

19 there was nowhere for me -- I didn't know what was

20 forthcoming next. He told me to remove my towel, which

21 I did. He grabbed me by the hair and he threw me over

22 the sink, which I was big enough to go over, and he

23 sexually abused me.

24 Q. He threw you over the sink, did you say?

25 A. Yes, bent me over, yes.

1 Q. And you say he sexually abused you?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. What did he do?

4 A. He sodomised me.

5 Q. Did he say anything while he was doing this to you?

6 A. Yes, he was saying things, but I wasn't taking them in.

7 I can't remember exactly what words he used to me.

8 Q. You tell us in your statement that you were traumatised

9 when he was doing this to you.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And that you'd never experienced anything like that

12 before.

13 A. I never experienced anything like that in my life -- and

14 I shared a bed with two older brothers.

15 Q. Just to be clear, James, who did this to you?

16 A. LNA

17 Q. How old were you at this time?

18 A. No older than 13.

19 Q. What happened afterwards? Do you remember if he said

20 anything afterwards?

21 A. I don't ... I just ... After the first time, he just

22 used to say to me when he was passing me, because I had

23 never heard about abuse, but I didn't know what it was,

24 but I knew there was something wrong, and he used to

25 say, "Are you being a good boy?" I can remember him

1 saying that to me on a few occasions.

2 Q. I think you say in your statement that he said this was
3 his way of turning a bad boy into a good boy; is that
4 what he said?

5 A. Yes, something to that effect, yes, that if I kept on
6 doing what I was doing, I'd keep getting that
7 punishment.

8 Q. Did he say anything to you about what would happen if
9 you told anybody?

10 A. Yes, he once threatened me with my mum and dad, with my
11 parents, that I wouldn't see them again if I spoke about
12 this in any way to them. I remember that and I'll
13 remember that until I go to the grave.

14 Q. Did he also tell you, I think you say, that you would be
15 sent to a place worse than St Ninian's?

16 A. Yes, worse than St Ninian's, yes. I didn't know --
17 I didn't get into my head what he was meaning with that.
18 Do you know what I mean? But he did say that on
19 occasion too, yes.

20 Q. Staying with this particular incident, how did it affect
21 you physically? Were you in pain?

22 A. Yes, I couldn't walk, I couldn't -- I went to my dorm.
23 Went to my dorm. I couldn't walk. There was blood
24 seeping out of me. It was on my pyjamas and that when
25 I got up the next day. That particular thingummy, I was

1 in my bed and he come bursting into the dorm demanding
2 and that, that I get up out of the bed and get back down
3 for tea. But I just says to him, "I can't walk, I can't
4 move", and he slammed the door, and I seen him the next
5 morning and he was just staring at me.

6 Q. So this is the same evening?

7 A. Yes, this is the same evening, I went to my bed and
8 I think I just cried myself to sleep that night.

9 Q. You tell us in your statement that you were in pain and
10 bleeding from your back passage.

11 A. That's correct, yes.

12 Q. What about the morning? How were you in the morning?

13 A. Yes, still a bit -- couldn't walk. A wee bit better
14 walking, but not a normal way for me to walk.

15 Q. Did you get any medical attention?

16 A. No, none whatsoever.

17 Q. Were you scared of **LNA** after this incident?

18 A. Yes, I was shit scared. I was shit scared of

19 **LNA**

20 Q. I think you say that after this occasion when he would
21 pass you, he might say something to you.

22 A. Yes, he used to just, as I say -- as I've already said,
23 "Are you being a good boy?" and all that.

24 Q. Did Brother **LNA** sexually abuse you on another
25 occasion?

1 A. Yes, another time. I was fighting at rugby with a boy
2 and the same thing, the same routine. The exact same
3 routine. Taken into the showers downstairs and I was
4 left at the back of them and the same treatment what I'd
5 already suffered the first time, I received the second
6 time. He abused me again, sodomised me.

7 Q. On that occasion, I think you mention that he used the
8 belt on you.

9 A. Yes. I was leathered over my buttocks and my back with
10 his belt into submission and then placed over the sink
11 and he had sex with me again.

12 Q. Were you crying?

13 A. I was heartbroken, yes.

14 Q. Were you in pain on that occasion?

15 A. Yes, yes, but not as much as the first time.

16 Q. Were you bleeding again?

17 A. No, not that I remember, no.

18 LADY SMITH: How long after the first occasion did this
19 happen?

20 A. It wasn't that long, ma'am. It wasn't long between the
21 first and the second attack.

22 LADY SMITH: Were you still about 13 --

23 A. Yes.

24 LADY SMITH: -- or do you think you'd had your 14th
25 birthday?

1 A. In the 13th region, ma'am.

2 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

3 MS MACLEOD: Did abuse like this happen again, James?

4 A. Yes. The third time, the same -- funnily enough -- it's

5 not funny -- it was the same boy I was fighting with.

6 I probably just didn't take a liking to this boy. And

7 like the first and the second, the third was the exact

8 same, the same procedure: go to the back of the queue,

9 shower door locked, sodomised me, grabbed me by the

10 hair, thrown into the cubicle of the shower and the cold

11 water turned on you.

12 Q. That was on the third occasion?

13 A. Yes, that was on the third occasion, the cold water

14 shower.

15 Q. Were you crying?

16 A. Yes, I was breaking my heart, yes.

17 Q. Was he saying anything on this occasion?

18 A. Just that I would learn.

19 Q. Was there any further sexual abuse of this nature by

20 Brother LNA?

21 A. Not to me, it just seemed to stop because I think

22 I learned quickly what I was getting a punch for.

23 I obviously had to come out on the playing fields.

24 Q. I think you tell us that the physical assaults

25 continued.

- 1 A. Yes, the physical assaults continued, yes: the punching
2 in the mouth, the cigarette burn. I can't mind what
3 else. I think that was it. Aye, that was it, the
4 cigarette, yes.
- 5 Q. You mention in your statement, James, that you recall
6 some boys going to Ireland.
- 7 A. Yes. The reason I remember that so clearly is the two
8 boys -- on my very first time going to Falkland, the two
9 boys were in my dorm who went to Ireland.
- 10 Q. Who did they go to Ireland with?
- 11 A. LNA
- 12 Q. What was the purpose of the visit?
- 13 A. He says it was -- the boys say they were going to his
14 home to see his mother. That was the reason for taking
15 the two boys.
- 16 Q. Did you have any understanding of why those two
17 particular boys were going?
- 18 A. No, none at all, none whatsoever.
- 19 Q. Did you notice anything when these boys came back to
20 St Ninian's?
- 21 A. Aye, just didn't seem -- just didn't seem the same kind
22 of boys. Their demeanour and that had all kind of
23 changed. One was full of fun and all that and he didn't
24 look the same either from what I'd known him in my dorm.
- 25 Q. What did you make of that change at the time?

1 A. As I says, I was already trying to come to terms with
2 what had happened to me because I never knew anything
3 about abuse, I never heard anything about it, so I was
4 trying to come to terms with what I'd suffered and those
5 two boys were probably trying to come to terms with what
6 they'd suffered in Ireland.

7 Q. Did they ever say anything to you about what happened?

8 A. No.

9 Q. Did you ever run away St Ninian's when you were there?

10 A. I ran away -- the first time I ran away I ran away with
11 a boy. We didn't get very far, because we had on the
12 home shoes, the two of us. So we didn't get very far
13 and the police caught us in Kinross, I think it was,
14 Kinross or somewhere about there, and we were taken
15 back.

16 Q. Do you remember why you ran away on that occasion?

17 A. Yes, the punishment, I was running away from the
18 punishment. I didn't want any more punishment.

19 I didn't want that abuse. The punishment was just
20 not -- not from a residential home, no.

21 Q. So you were running away because of the way you were
22 being treated?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. The inquiry can look at records, James, to show that you
25 ran away, and if I can just put one of those on the

1 screen at CBR.001.001.2184.

2 You will see that part of this document has been
3 blanked out and that's to protect people's identities,
4 James, including your own, so you won't see your own
5 name there.

6 If we can look down to -- slightly further down the
7 screen. It's the entry that's marked [REDACTED] 1975.

8 LADY SMITH: The dates aren't there, they're all taken out.

9 MS MACLEOD: There's a number 35 before it. That's it
10 there.

11 A. "Picked up by Kinross police"?

12 Q. Yes. I can tell you that the names are redacted, but it
13 names yourself and the other boy.

14 A. I can name the other boy.

15 Q. We don't need the name. It says:

16 "Absconded at 9 am. Picked up by Kinross police at
17 3 pm."

18 A. That'd be correct, yes.

19 Q. Did you tell the police why you'd run away?

20 A. No, I didn't know what I could tell them.

21 Q. Did the police take you back to St Ninian's?

22 A. No, Mr Kelly came and got us.

23 Q. Did anything happen when you returned to St Ninian's?

24 A. We were just made to stand in -- we had got the belt and
25 we were main to stand in the main hall.

1 Q. Who gave you the belt?

2 A. LNA

3 Q. Who made you stand in the main hall?

4 A. LNA

5 Q. Can you tell me about that? What did standing in the
6 main hall involve?

7 A. The standing in the hall involved me -- you have seen
8 the length of the hall. The picture doesn't tell the
9 story. It is a fair size hall. So I was at one end and
10 the boy that ran away with me was at the far end.
11 We weren't allowed to talk to any other boy or talk to
12 each other.

13 Q. How long were you standing there?

14 A. For the full five nights for running away, we had to
15 stand there the rest of the week and we lost our
16 weekend, too.

17 Q. Did that include during the day?

18 A. No, we went about -- just when it was recreation time.

19 Q. I see.

20 A. Sometimes --

21 LADY SMITH: Let me get this right then, James: instead of
22 going out and being allowed to play sport or whatever,
23 you had to stand --

24 A. In the main hall.

25 LADY SMITH: And that's the long hall with the wooden floor

1 that we saw in the photographs?

2 A. Yes.

3 LADY SMITH: How long would you be standing there for?

4 A. For an hour and a half, ma'am, after tea until bedtime.

5 Yes, about an hour and a half.

6 LADY SMITH: And that happened on five consecutive days?

7 A. Five consecutive days, yes.

8 LADY SMITH: Ms MacLeod.

9 MS MACLEOD: Did your social worker become involved after
10 you ran away?

11 A. The very first time I ran away, my social worker came to
12 see me and I asked if I could be removed and be out into
13 another home or something because I didn't like the
14 punishment in Falkland. I didn't go into any detail
15 about it because I still didn't know what had happened
16 to me was wrong and very, very wrong. So she came to
17 visit me and, as I say, that's what I said to her,
18 "I just want to get out of here, I can't take it", "Oh,
19 that's impossible, just nothing we can do, I'm sure
20 you'll grow to like it".

21 Q. Is that what she said?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Can you remember running away on any other occasion?

24 A. Yes. The second time, it was nearly half the home that
25 ran away.

1 Q. Can you tell me about that time?

2 A. Yes. We had about 15 or 16 of us. I don't know who
3 organised it. We all decided to run away.

4 Q. We can also look at a record in relation to that at
5 CBR.001.001.2192.

6 Again, you'll see that the part of the pages are
7 redacted. If we go down to number 41, I can tell you
8 from my copy that that entry is dated [REDACTED] 1976. So
9 it's about nine months or so after the previous
10 incident. It's noted there that a group of boys,
11 including you, ran away from the home.

12 I think it says:

13 "Fifteen boys absconded, 11 pm. All back by
14 1.30 am."

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Can you remember that occasion?

17 A. Just partly. We didn't get far, I can remember that.
18 We got punished for it, too.

19 Q. I was just about to ask that. Is that when you got
20 back?

21 A. Yes, when we got back we were punished again, yes.

22 Q. Who punched you?

23 A. [REDACTED] LNA

24 Q. Did he punch you?

25 A. No, the punishment he carried out on the boys who had

1 absconded.

2 Q. Sorry, did you say punished?

3 A. Punished.

4 Q. What happened?

5 A. We all got the belt.

6 Q. How many strokes of the belt?

7 A. Six of the belt each.

8 Q. While you were at St Ninian's, James, did you ever

9 report the abuse --

10 A. No.

11 Q. -- that you were receiving?

12 A. No. No, not to my parents, not to the law, no. I kept

13 it all to myself.

14 Q. Did you tell any of the other boys or did you speak

15 about it to any of the other boys?

16 A. I used to -- when I was in the senior side, I used to

17 warn junior boys to stay clear of [REDACTED] LNA

18 Q. What would you say to them?

19 A. I'd just say, "Don't get on the wrong side of

20 [REDACTED] LNA , you know what I mean? Because of the

21 punishment I'd received I didn't want to see boys the

22 same age going through the same thing what I was going

23 through.

24 Q. You say in your statement that after Brother [REDACTED] LNA

25 sexually abused you and you had to hide it from your

- 1 friends.
- 2 A. Yes, yes. Before I went into Falkland I went about with
3 a group of friends from [REDACTED] We used to play
4 football all the time, just having a laugh, in those
5 days, and that, but when I used to come home at the
6 weekend, I would never -- meet up with them at the
7 weekends, but never go into any detail of any of what
8 was happening in St Ninian's because some of the boys
9 I palled about with were in homes themselves.
- 10 Q. I think you say:
11 "[You] had to put a brave face on so they didn't
12 notice a difference."
- 13 A. Yes, exactly, yes.
- 14 Q. Did any of the boys in the home or your friends outside
15 the home ask you if there was anything wrong?
- 16 A. No, not at all, not to my memory anyway. Not to my
17 memory I was ever asked. I think my mum used to say to
18 me, what's wrong with you, but I never told her.
- 19 Q. You tell us in your statement, James, that you thought
20 it was normal punishment.
- 21 A. Yes, I thought it was a normal punishment, yes.
- 22 Q. Are you including in that the sexual abuse?
- 23 A. The sexual abuse, I was unaware of sexual abuse.
- 24 Q. You say in your statement that you blamed yourself
25 because you had been bad --

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. -- and this was your punishment?
- 3 A. Yes. I carried that guilt around with me up until about
4 two years ago.
- 5 Q. You say:
- 6 "I had sworn or had been fighting so I thought it
7 was my fault."
- 8 A. Yes, I was blaming myself for him doing that to me, yes.
- 9 Q. Did you say you thought that until about two years ago?
- 10 A. Yes, yes. The guilt part of it, I carried it on my
11 shoulders. Whatever that man wanted to do what he done,
12 then he'd have done it. There was no stopping him.
- 13 Q. There came a time when you were leaving St Ninian's.
14 Were you sent out to work for a period in preparation
15 for that?
- 16 A. Before I left Falkland, yes, I was working for a week in
17 a paper mill in Falkland. I got a job in there for
18 a week. The other one was -- I'm not saying it was
19 a newsagent, it was a shop, a big shop ... I'm trying
20 to mind the name of it -- something like Marks & Sparks
21 to that effect -- in Kirkcaldy, and I got a week's work
22 in there too. So that was my work experience from
23 Falkland.
- 24 Q. And did you get much notice that you were going to be
25 leaving Falkland?

- 1 A. No. On my 16th birthday I was down (inaudible) and I
2 was getting lunch. We were sitting with my friends
3 at the dining table and that and Brother LMZ was
4 taking lunch. There was an album lying beside him and
5 he says, "Can I have your attention?" We were all
6 sitting and he was like that and I was called MCW
7 in the home, that was my nickname. He says, MCW
8 going to be leaving us today", and I was like that,
9 "Me?" Sixteenth birthday, no time to say cheerio to
10 anybody. "There will be a bag waiting for you outside
11 matron's room. After lunch, get your bag, come to the
12 main hall, Brother LHC will give you your train fare
13 and that and your pocket money, and then any bank money
14 you managed to save up." And that was it. That was me
15 out of Falkland.
- 16 Q. You tell us in your statement, James, that you didn't
17 want to go home because you were frightened you might
18 get drunk --
- 19 A. With my friends, yes.
- 20 Q. Why were you frightened you might get drunk?
- 21 A. In case I elaborated more on my abuse in Falkland.
- 22 Q. You stayed with an aunt for a period of time.
- 23 A. Yes, I stayed with an aunt and uncle and two boys, yes,
24 her two young boys.
- 25 Q. And you say you were happier there and that you wouldn't

1 reveal anything to her about the abuse?

2 A. Yes. My aunt and uncle liked to go out on the weekend
3 and I was left to take care of the children, look after
4 the children. So I quite enjoyed that, just being by
5 myself for the weekend.

6 Q. What was your concern at the time about telling people
7 about the abuse?

8 A. The way you'd be portrayed, the stigma, really.

9 Q. Looking back on your time in Falkland at St Ninian's,
10 what impact do you think it had on your life?

11 A. Oh, a terrible impact on my life. I turned to the world
12 of drink and alcohol. Got myself into bloody situations
13 that I probably never would have got myself into.

14 Q. I think you say that was to stop you from thinking about
15 what happened.

16 A. Yes. To stop me thinking about what happened, as I say,
17 I didn't realise I'd been abused, I was 16, that's being
18 honest. It was my two older friends that was talking
19 about homosexuals, and the slang term then, it just
20 dawned on me that's what happened to me in Falkland.
21 I didn't want people thinking that I was gay.

22 Q. I think you tell us there came a time when you left
23 drink and drugs behind you.

24 A. Yes. That's about 10 years or something I've been sober
25 now.

1 Q. How often do you think about your time at St Ninian's?

2 A. Every day.

3 Q. How big an effect has it had on your life?

4 A. Well, it ruined my life. It ruined everything because
5 I had good jobs, I've been through good jobs and all
6 that and I've lost them all to drink and that. So yes,
7 a big impact on my life.

8 Q. You tell us, James, at paragraph 69 of your statement
9 that:

10 "If you were to ask me what affected me more, the
11 death of my mother or the abuse at St Ninian's, I would
12 have to say the abuse."

13 A. Yes. Yes.

14 Q. You say:

15 "My mum is in my heart and I always cherish and
16 think of her. The abuse is in my head and I can't get
17 rid of that."

18 A. No, and I still see a psychiatrist today for that.

19 Q. In more recent times, have you reported what happened to
20 you in St Ninian's to anybody?

21 A. I think it was reported to the police, but because the
22 two of them are -- because LNA is now dead, it
23 was just -- well, the inquiry would be the only thing
24 that could help me. Know what I mean?

25 Q. Did you report anything to the police?

1 A. No, not personally, no.

2 Q. I think you say that:

3 "[You] have never come forward before now to tell
4 anybody about the abuse that you suffered at
5 St Ninian's."

6 A. No. I only just recently told my psychiatrist a couple
7 of months ago that I'd been abused, suffered abuse
8 there. I've been seeing him for about seven to eight
9 years.

10 Q. Why do you think that is, that it's taken that period of
11 time for you to come forward?

12 A. Well, to be quite honest, I came out of St Ninian's
13 thinking, well, if that's what happened to me, I've
14 taken it as a punishment. Then my partner brought in
15 a newspaper and there was an article in it. I don't
16 read papers, I never have in a very long time, I don't
17 like newspapers for some reason. So my partner had
18 brought in the paper and it was about another survivor
19 from Falkland who had a piece in the paper, and that
20 gave me the inspiration, well, there must have been more
21 than one person, so I came forward and I still keep in
22 touch today with that survivor.

23 Q. You tell us at paragraph 71 of your statement that:

24 "I have always thought: who was going to believe
25 a wee boy from [REDACTED] -"

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. "-- who said he was being abused by a man of God, hiding
3 behind a white collar?"
- 4 A. That's correct.
- 5 Q. At paragraph 74 of your statement, James, you talk about
6 lessons that you think or hope would be learned from
7 your experiences. Are you able to tell me today what
8 lessons you think should be learned?
- 9 A. What lessons should be learned? It's time the system
10 needs a shock. Survivors should be more understood, and
11 maybe me coming forward today will help and other
12 survivors who haven't come forward yet will come forward
13 now because I was going to go to the grave with it. But
14 I've been turned -- turned myself against that, taking
15 it to the grave, and came forward, done the brave thing,
16 and I hope it pays off.
- 17 Q. I think you say, James, that you think there should be
18 more checking of backgrounds.
- 19 A. Background, yes, background checks on them. I know it's
20 all Disclosure Scotland and that now, but even
21 a frequent visit to the home and that, and quizzing
22 children more in depth that's in care, they should be
23 quizzed more, because I feel it's still going on today.
- 24 Q. One other thing you say is that:
25 "When children leave the home, they should be

1 asked."

2 A. Yes, they should be helped, yes. The social work should
3 be more involved with them. I was dropped at the drop
4 of a hat by my social worker when I left Falkland but
5 I think the social work should be still in touch with
6 the person who's leaving the home until they're about 17
7 at least.

8 Q. I think you say that:

9 "Children should be asked after they leave just in
10 case there are children like me who didn't come forward
11 because they were too frightened."

12 A. Frightened, yes, exactly.

13 MS MACLEOD: Well, thank you James, for coming forward to
14 the inquiry. That's all I need to ask you today. I'm
15 not aware of any other questions.

16 LADY SMITH: Thank you, Ms MacLeod.

17 Are there any outstanding applications for questions
18 of this witness? No.

19 James, that does complete all the questions we have
20 for you today.

21 A. Thank you, ma'am.

22 LADY SMITH: It just remains for me to thank you so much for
23 coming to talk to us in addition to having provided us
24 with such a clear written statement. Both contributions
25 are of enormous help to me in the work I have to do

1 here. Thank you for speaking up.

2 A. Thank you, ma'am.

3 LADY SMITH: I'm now able to let you go.

4 A. Thank you.

5 (The witness withdrew)

6 LADY SMITH: I think that completes the evidence for this
7 week, does it, Ms MacLeod?

8 MS MACLEOD: It does, my Lady. During the course of that
9 applicant's evidence, I think a name was mentioned.

10 LADY SMITH: It was at one point. It was an adaptation of
11 a name and that is a name -- I'm not going to repeat it,
12 I'm sure people heard the witness talking about it --
13 under reference to himself, but he has the benefit of
14 anonymity and that name mustn't be repeated outside this
15 room, nor any guess at what the true version of the name
16 was.

17 So next week?

18 MS MACLEOD: Next week, my Lady, we have three applicant
19 witnesses scheduled to give evidence on Tuesday, two
20 in the morning, one in the afternoon.

21 LADY SMITH: With a 10 o'clock start as usual, I think.

22 MS MACLEOD: Yes.

23 LADY SMITH: Very well. I will adjourn now until Tuesday
24 morning. Thank you all very much.

25 (4.00 pm)

1 (The inquiry adjourned until
2 Tuesday, 11 June 2019 at 10.00 am)
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DAVID SHARP (sworn)1

 Questions from Mr MacAULAY1

"JAMES" (sworn)89

 Questions from Ms MacLEOD90

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