

1 Thursday, 10 May 2018

2 (10.00 am)

3 LADY SMITH: Good morning.

4 I'm guessing from the positioning of counsel that
5 we're continuing with the plan that was aired yesterday
6 afternoon, which will be to start with a read-in of
7 a statement this morning; is that right, Ms MacLeod?

8 MS MACLEOD: That's right, my Lady. The plan is actually to
9 read two statements in this morning and then probably to
10 have the break slightly earlier than usual and we're
11 hoping to have the witness come in at about 11.15 to
12 start his evidence then.

13 LADY SMITH: Good. Thank you very much.

14 Witness statement of "CLARE" (read)

15 MS MACLEOD: The first statement I'll read is from an
16 applicant who wishes to remain anonymous and she wishes
17 to use the pseudonym "Clare". The witness statement is
18 to be found at WIT.001.001.3622. I can say that this
19 witness did not wish to give oral evidence because of
20 anxiety.

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

23 In paragraphs 2 to 4 of the statement, Clare
24 describes her life before care with her three brothers
25 and a sister, she explains that her mother went into

1 hospital, that her father was struggling to cope and
2 that ultimately the children went into care. I'll pick
3 the statement up at paragraph 5 on the same page:

4 "I don't remember going into the home, but my father
5 later told me that he bought us all new duffel coats and
6 told us we were going on holiday. We were being sent to
7 Nazareth House children's home. My brother was only
8 one year old at the time, so he didn't go into the home
9 with us. I think he maybe went to Lasswade
10 children's home and came to Nazareth House later.

11 "I know from my dad's diary that we all went into
12 the home, Nazareth House Cardonald, in [REDACTED] 1963.
13 I was 3 years old, my older brother was 8, my other
14 brother was 6 and my sister was 4."

15 The admission register for Cardonald does show this
16 witness going in in [REDACTED] 1963:

17 "I went straight into the nursery. I must have gone
18 into the nursery with my sister but I don't remember
19 that part. My brothers went straight into the older
20 group. I think you had to be five years old to go into
21 the older group. My sister was older than me so she
22 would have gone into the older group before me.

23 I remember that my younger brother came into the nursery
24 while I was still there. He would have been 2 years old
25 and I would have been 4.

1 "The only recollection I have of the nursery was
2 when I was about 4 years old. You were taken out of bed
3 and sat on the potty until you done the toilet. I also
4 remember sitting my brother on a toy cupboard and he
5 fell off. I got scared and ran away.

6 "I left the nursery and went into the older group
7 when I turned 5 years old. The groups were named after
8 colours and I went into the red group.

9 "I think my older brothers had left Nazareth House
10 by the time I went into the older group. They left the
11 home in [REDACTED] 1965. They would have been 10 and 8 years
12 old. I don't remember seeing them at all when I was
13 in the home. Maybe I did see them and I just can't
14 picture their faces in my memory.

15 "I don't remember there being any high school aged
16 boys in the home. I remember there were older girls.
17 I don't remember what age girls stayed there until.

18 "My next memory after going into the red group is
19 seeing people lined up in the corridors to get their
20 bums skelped by the nuns.

21 "I remember Sister [REDACTED] LFL, who was in charge of
22 the green group. Sister [REDACTED] LFR was in charge of
23 the blue group and Sister [REDACTED] LKE looked after my
24 group. She was the only one that had a nice complexion
25 and rosy cheeks and she smiled. The other nuns were

1 very pale skinned. There was no cheeriness in the nuns'
2 faces. There was another nun who was also in our group.
3 I think she came after. She was tall and scary.
4 I think her name was Sister LHA.

5 "I can't remember how many beds were in each dorm.
6 There were maybe six or seven, but I can't remember.
7 There were bars on the beds and a small rug next to each
8 bed. I don't know if it was all girls in each room.

9 "When you got up in the morning you were lined up.
10 The beds were checked to see if they were wet. If you
11 had wet the bed, you would get a good hiding.
12 I remember one night me and my sister were grabbing the
13 bars and sliding under the beds. One of the nuns came
14 in and caught us. My sister tells me that we were made
15 to sleep under the beds all night. I can't remember who
16 this nun was.

17 "I couldn't sleep at night. I'd listen to the bus
18 screech by when I was lying in bed and I would imagine
19 that I was jumping on the bus and going home. Then
20 I would hear a motorbike and I would visualise myself
21 jumping on that and going home. That is how I would get
22 myself to sleep. I was probably not able to sleep
23 because I'd been sent to bed early for wetting myself.

24 "The home provided you with school clothes.
25 I couldn't fault the clothes, which were always clean.

1 We had toothbrushes and we all got given a little tin of
2 Gibbs toothpaste. I remember that because I liked the
3 smell of the toothpaste. We later started getting tubes
4 of toothpaste.

5 "The home also gave us our after school and weekend
6 clothes. I remember getting a new anorak. I had a navy
7 blue one and my sister had a bottle green one. I loved
8 my anorak. It was warm and zipped right up. It was
9 like getting a cuddle, which we never got. I only had
10 it for a short time and it disappeared.

11 "Shoes and everything were fine. They were provided
12 for us. I remember having nice plastic sandals when
13 going to the seaside. I remember having black plimsolls
14 and the smell of them. The clothes and shoes were fine
15 and clean.

16 "We wore little kilts at Christmas and velvet
17 dresses at Easter time. I remember passing the kitchen
18 and smelling food. I remember fruit and veg near the
19 kitchen. I don't recall having enough to eat myself.
20 At dinner time we would get things like liver and butter
21 beans. I hated it. If you didn't eat your food, you
22 would get force-fed. The nuns would hold your nose so
23 you had to open your mouth, then force you to eat.
24 I can't remember if this happened every time that I
25 didn't eat my food. We also got semolina and prunes. I

1 think we also got topica (sic). It was disgusting.

2 I think we got fish on a Friday."

3 LADY SMITH: I suspect that is "tapioca".

4 MS MACLEOD: Yes, my Lady:

5 "When I got moved to the red group, I remember going
6 downstairs at nights and stealing fruit from the red
7 group dining room. I don't think I was on my own.
8 Someone must have shown me what to do because I wouldn't
9 have known how to steal. I was hungry and that's why
10 I did it. I don't know why else I would have risked it
11 because the nuns were very strict.

12 "There was a cupboard in the red group playroom,
13 which had sweets and a money tin in it. I found the key
14 for the cupboard and used to steal from there as well.
15 I never got caught stealing and I think I did it for
16 a while.

17 "I know there were people who did get caught
18 stealing. My sister told me about a boy who was caught
19 stealing. He got a really hard time for it. He also
20 had a sister at Nazareth House.

21 "The school that we went to was outside the home.
22 It was a Catholic school. I think that it was called
23 something like Lady of the Rosary or Lady of Lourdes.
24 It was fine. We used to walk in a procession to the
25 school, past Moss Side and the pensioner cottages.

1 We were normally say prayers when we were at school.

2 "I remember that I showed a wee boy my bum for
3 a caramel at school. That makes me laugh.

4 "I used to wet myself at school. I can't remember
5 if there was a routine for the toilet or if you had to
6 queue up. I remember dancing about because I needed to
7 go to the toilet and the teacher just ignored me.
8 I can't say if I was deprived access to the toilet
9 because I don't remember.

10 "We used to have polish the floors. We would put
11 some sort of boot-type cloths on our feet. Wax would be
12 put on the floor and we had to polish it with these
13 cloths on our feet. It was tough at first because of
14 the wax but then it was good because we were sliding on
15 the floors. I can't remember what time of the day or
16 week we would have done this.

17 "I remember being in the laundry and helping out in
18 there. There were big wardrobe type things that had
19 rungs on them to dry sheets on.

20 I can't remember what we did when we got back from
21 school. I don't remember if we had a television in the
22 home. My sister has told me since that there was
23 a television in the home, but I don't remember watching
24 it.

25 "We were given pocket money every week. We had

1 a savings card and you would be given a stamp on it
2 showing the value of the money you were getting.
3 I don't know how much it was. I also don't recall
4 seeing the stamp book or seeing the money. I do
5 remember going to the halfway shop just outside the home
6 to spend it on sweets.

7 "I must have gone to the same shop at lunchtime when
8 I stole the money from the cupboard. I remember hiding
9 the money in my shoe.

10 "We were taught Irish and Scottish dancing. There
11 were also toys in the home. We must have played with
12 them but I don't remember. I don't remember there being
13 any books.

14 "I didn't have any concept of time in there. There
15 was a clock on the wall in the entrance. My dad bought
16 me a watch when I was 9 years old but I kept that at his
17 house.

18 "Some things just stand out more in my memory than
19 others, and I don't remember what happened before or
20 after certain incidents.

21 "When we were in bed at night-time, there was
22 nothing there. I played with my vest and tie when I was
23 awake at night.

24 "The presents we got on Christmas Day were kept
25 in the red playroom. I don't remember having anywhere

1 that I could have kept my own things. All the toys were
2 kept in one place.

3 "We used to go to Troon once a year. We also went
4 to the seaside with a cine camera. They filmed us and
5 they showed it on the projector. I also remember going
6 to see 'Frankie and Josie'. We went to a place called
7 Fairlie for a day out. I remember getting lovely brown
8 sandwiches there. We would sometimes get food when we
9 went out.

10 "We would get taken to the pantomime around
11 Christmastime. We would always get presents when we
12 were taken places and sometimes get food. I remember
13 getting ice cream and jelly.

14 "I remember getting a present from Santa at the
15 pantomime. I got a doll and a wee sewing machine. The
16 nuns took them off me straightaway when we got back to
17 the home and I was told I'd get them on Christmas Day.

18 "We wore kilts on Christmas Day. We got a wee
19 stocking on the bed with an apple and orange in it. We
20 also got a bag of toys, but it wouldn't be the stuff we
21 had collected or were expecting to get. I never got my
22 doll and sewing machine. They probably didn't think
23 that the kids would remember what had been taken off
24 them. They didn't realise that we had wee brains and
25 were taking things in.

1 " My birthday was around [REDACTED] before my sister's.
2 My dad would bring a cake in on my sister's birthday so
3 I had to wait until her birthday to get some cake.
4 I don't remember the home marking my birthday. I don't
5 remember any presents, cake or them singing 'Happy
6 Birthday' to me. They maybe did, but I don't remember.

7 " I have no knowledge of a social worker coming in to
8 see me or any regular visitors that I had. Similarly,
9 I am not aware of any inspections that took place whilst
10 I was in care.

11 " I remember that my dad would come and see me every
12 Sunday. He would take me, my sister and my brother out
13 to Angela's Café in Bellahouston. We would get a glass
14 of juice and an ice cream and sit on the balcony. Those
15 were the times I would see my brother. I never saw him
16 in the home.

17 " I never saw any of my siblings regularly in the
18 home. The older ones would have left by the time I went
19 into the red group because they would 9 or 10 years old.
20 The boys only stayed in the home until aged 9 or 10. My
21 other siblings never came to visit with my dad. I don't
22 remember my mum coming to the home. My aunties never
23 came near the home neither.

24 " One of the nuns called Sister [REDACTED] LKE [REDACTED] was
25 having an affair with the priest, Father [REDACTED] All the

1 children would be in the room and the priest would
2 sometimes come in. One time he came in and touched
3 Sister [REDACTED] LKE 's bottom. She jumped and turned
4 bright red and looked around to see if anybody had seen.

5 "Father [REDACTED] had a strong smell of alcohol about him.
6 I think he was oblivious to the kids being in the room;
7 he was only interested in her. We didn't have any
8 contact with him other than when he came in to see her.
9 We saw them cuddling through the keyhole once.

10 "There was a woman called [REDACTED] LKB who was the
11 care worker for the green group. She was Sister [REDACTED] LKE
12 [REDACTED] LKE 's friend and I'm sure she knew about her affair
13 about Father [REDACTED] because she would be in their company.
14 [REDACTED] LKB later married [REDACTED], who looked after
15 the [REDACTED] in the home.

16 "Sister [REDACTED] LKE was moved to a home in
17 Kilmarnock. Maybe the affair with the priest had been
18 found out. I was worried about her. I thought she was
19 nice and pretty and she was the only nun who smiled.
20 I remember visiting her at the home she'd moved to. She
21 gave me a brown case full of clothes for my sister,
22 brother and me. I remember getting a denim dress that
23 was dark at the bottom and lighter at the top. I loved
24 it.

25 "I'm generally a very healthy person and I can't

1 remember any occasion when I was ill in the home.
2 I don't remember seeing a doctor but I do remember
3 getting sugar lumps for vaccinations. I remember
4 getting injections but I don't remember what for.
5 We would get our hair bone-combed every week with a nit
6 comb. It would be done by whichever nun was in charge
7 at the time. I remember having scabs on my head and the
8 nun would just bone-comb right through them. I don't
9 know why I would have had scabs on my head.

10 "I don't remember seeing a dentist at all in the
11 nine years I was in the home. My brother recently told
12 me that he remembers being held down by two nuns and
13 getting his teeth pulled out with pliers.

14 "There was a care worker called **LJW** who used to
15 come into the home. I remember standing in the red
16 group room and she asked me if she was a cat, pig or
17 a dog. I had to answer her and I didn't know what the
18 right answer was. I said a dog because I remembered
19 seeing little puppies that I liked so I thought I had
20 better say something nice. She walloped me and knocked
21 me right off my feet. Children were laughing and I was
22 crying.

23 "I would say **LJW** was less than 30 years old. She
24 wasn't old but she wasn't a girl. She must have been
25 a care worker to have been in the room with us without

1 any nuns there. She wasn't wearing nun's clothes.

2 "I don't recall Sister [REDACTED] LIKE being mean to
3 me. She wasn't kind to me, but she wasn't nasty to me.
4 I don't know if that is because I had seen her with the
5 priest. I didn't see her being nasty or hitting any of
6 the kids. She was the only nun who I saw smiling and
7 having any expressions on her face. The rest of the
8 nuns hit the kids.

9 "I couldn't distinguish the rest of the nuns from
10 each other. They all wore black and white habits. They
11 were very solemn. I don't remember them ever smiling.
12 Looking back, they were quite scary as they swayed along
13 the corridors with humpy backs. They had a scary
14 appearance. I don't remember anybody ever getting
15 a cuddle from them.

16 "I didn't like that the nun was having an affair
17 with the priest. Why was she getting cuddles when
18 I wasn't getting any?

19 "The home was just somewhere we ate and slept.
20 I don't remember anybody saying my name.

21 "I wet the bed all the time. You would get a good
22 hiding from the nuns in the morning if you'd wet the
23 bed. They would hit you with either a belt, a black
24 plimsoll or their hand. They used mainly their hands
25 and hit you on the bare skin on your backside. I can't

1 remember how the sheets were cleaned or who cleaned
2 them. I remember people standing in corners holding
3 their sheets after wetting their beds. We were made to
4 stand in the corridor with our arms outstretched holding
5 our sheets. I don't know how long we were made to stand
6 for.

7 "I remember one night I wet the bed. My bed mustn't
8 have been checked the next morning. I can only assume
9 that I'd stopped wetting the bed and that's why it
10 hadn't been checked. The following night I slept in the
11 wet bed. I remember sleeping all curled up to avoid
12 touching the wet part. I don't know what I did with my
13 wet pyjamas.

14 "I changed my bed sheets the next day. I swapped
15 them with another bed but I don't remember which bed.
16 I question myself as to how I managed to change the
17 sheets. I don't know what time of day I would have
18 found the time to change the sheets without anybody
19 seeing me. I think I must have been a bit older when
20 I did that.

21 "I used to wet myself in church, in school and in
22 bed. I would get a good hiding for it and be flung up
23 the stairs. I would also be put to bed early without
24 any food. This happened a lot as I was always wetting
25 myself.

1 "I remember something about a bath tap running but
2 not exactly what it was about.

3 "There was a time when I wet myself in church.
4 I had tried to hold it in. I don't know if the problem
5 was that I wasn't allowed to go when I needed to. When
6 I left the church, a nun grabbed me by the ear and
7 dragged me along. I was almost running beside her.
8 That was really painful. I got dragged along by the ear
9 more than once. I was in the home for nine years so
10 I don't know how many times that would have happened.

11 "My sister has told me that she was waiting in line
12 for a bath once and was desperate to go to the toilet.
13 She had asked to go but wasn't allowed. She ended up
14 doing it in the bath and got battered for it.

15 "I left Nazareth House when I was 11 years old. My
16 sister and brother left at the same time as me. They
17 were 13 and 9 years old at the time. We went back to
18 stay with my dad.

19 "My older brothers had already left the home when
20 they were 8 and 10 and gone to live with my dad. My dad
21 would be working during the day so my auntie, who lived
22 around the corner, would take them after school.
23 I don't know why my sister and I stayed in the home
24 until we were older.

25 "I don't remember leaving Nazareth House or anyone

1 telling me that I was going home. I just remember
2 getting home and running up and down the stairs, and
3 jumping on the bed. I must have known I was home for
4 good, but I don't remember anybody telling me."

5 In paragraphs 68 to 96 of the statement, the
6 witness, Clare, speaks about her life after being in
7 care. She describes some happy memories, some very
8 difficult times, and some better times. I'll now move
9 to paragraph 97 on the statement, which is on
10 WIT.001.001.3637:

11 "I never reported what happened at Nazareth House.
12 I didn't tell anybody while I was in the home.

13 "I had to get all my teeth taken out before I was
14 20 years old because they were all rotten. I don't know
15 how they came to be like that. I don't remember having
16 seen a dentist in all the nine years that I was in
17 Nazareth House.

18 "When I have been at work and someone has spoken to
19 me without using my name, I have thought that they don't
20 like me. I don't remember the nuns at Nazareth House
21 ever using my name. That has been something that stuck
22 in my head.

23 "I am very hard working and am a workaholic now.
24 I worked in a restaurant in Glasgow once. I left there
25 because I had an incident with the manager. I have left

1 other jobs because of clashes with the bosses.

2 "I got a lot of freedom once I passed my driving
3 test. I had three jobs at one point. I ran up a lot of
4 debt from spending on catalogues but I have worked
5 really hard in the last ten years and paid everything
6 off. I can slow down now and start to take things a bit
7 easier. I just want to be secure so I don't have to
8 answer to anybody.

9 "My sister is the same as me. She is also a carer
10 and a workaholic. We tend to work really hard so we
11 don't have to answer to anybody. I don't have to put up
12 with anybody's abuse or deal with horrible people.

13 "I never talked about my time in the home with my
14 dad or my siblings after I came out of care. My dad is
15 dead now. I'm not part of any survivor group because
16 I find it embarrassing. I remember a woman talking
17 about being in Nazareth House in the pub a few years
18 ago. She asked me what I thought of it. I found it
19 embarrassing, so I just said it wasn't very nice.
20 I stopped going to the pub after that.

21 "I only started talking about my time in the home
22 in the last few years. I laugh about it and talk about
23 it jokingly. People don't find it funny. I have never
24 had any counselling or professional help.

25 "I phoned my sister and told her I was coming to

1 talk to the inquiry. I asked her if she was okay in the
2 home and she said that she was a good girl and was okay.
3 That was when she told me about not being allowed to go
4 to the toilet and peeing in the bath.

5 "I go to family homes now as part of my job and see
6 lots of toys around. I never had any of that growing
7 up. It doesn't affect me now because I don't feel the
8 need for a teddy bear, but maybe it affected me earlier.

9 "I was always very protective about my daughter.
10 We were very close. I gave her what I never had.
11 I don't know how I managed that when I didn't have it.
12 I think I learned from watching other people.

13 "I am now quite protective of vulnerable people who
14 are being picked on. In one job, I was the only person
15 to stick up for a gay boy who wasn't invited to the
16 Christmas party. I also reported a nursing home that
17 I worked in because I saw an old man being assaulted.
18 I was questioned by the police about it. Unfortunately,
19 nothing was done because nobody else spoke up.

20 "I never connected my childhood with my adult life,
21 but I always wondered why I was so angry as an adult.
22 I have only recently started to wonder if they're
23 connected. I wonder if it is because I couldn't speak
24 up for myself when I was a child in the home, and that's
25 why I did it in such an angry way as an adult.

1 "My partner says that I am like a she-devil when
2 I have had a drink. He says that I am really nice and
3 happy without a drink but my head spins if someone says
4 anything to me after I've had a couple of drinks.
5 I lash out because I want to get them before they get
6 me.

7 "I even hit my partner once when I was drunk, which
8 I am not proud of. I used to get jealous if he looked
9 at anybody. One night I punched him three different
10 times. On the fourth occasion he said he'd hit me back
11 and I have never done it again.

12 "I know I shouldn't have hit my partner because
13 that's abuse. I didn't know what I was doing. I never
14 had anybody to tell me that wasn't right. I felt bad
15 for fighting and hitting people. Things changed after
16 I passed my driving test aged 40.

17 "I feel as though I am nice to people and I put
18 people before me, so when people say or do anything to
19 me, I can't understand why. That's why I got so angry.
20 I am kind, caring and considerate.

21 "I am too scared to drink now. I have two drinks
22 throughout the day with food if I am on holiday while
23 drinking water. I feel like all my anger is out now.
24 I don't know what I was angry about.

25 "I don't practise being a Catholic at all now. Nuns

1 are supposed to be married to God, but I saw a priest
2 and a nun fooling around. They were supposed to be
3 closer to God than anyone. If you mistrust them, then
4 you mistrust everyone.

5 "People in uniform are one person with their uniform
6 on and someone else without it. I just don't trust
7 people.

8 "I don't think there even is a God. Maybe there is
9 a big racket. I think they are hiding something
10 untoward behind their uniforms.

11 "I don't have any paperwork or records from my time
12 at Nazareth House. I would like to go back and see the
13 place just to see the staircase and corridor that I used
14 to run down to steal food.

15 "The people who done things to me in the home would
16 be old now. I like old people and would feel sorry for
17 them now regardless of what they had done. I wouldn't
18 want to see them now in case I felt sorry for them.

19 "I think people need to be made to work in pairs
20 when working with large numbers of children. Maybe the
21 nuns were just stressed when they were looking after so
22 many of us, who were peeing here and there, and that is
23 why the nuns acted the way they did. Maybe the nuns
24 weren't trained for the job of the maybe they were just
25 young.

1 "Nuns working in homes should have their backgrounds
2 checked to see why these young women were in these homes
3 and hiding from the world. Why did they want to do this
4 job and hide away and pray all the time? Maybe they
5 were unhappy and took it out to the children. Do the
6 nuns get holidays or a chance to see their family?
7 Maybe the regime was too strict and they were unhappy,
8 and that is why they took it out on the kids. People
9 need to be happy in their jobs.

10 "Social workers should also be able to go in and
11 talk personally to children.

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

16 The statement was signed by Clare on
17 23 October 2017.

18 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much.

19 Witness statement of "JOHN" (read)

20 MS MACLEOD: The next statement is from a witness statement
21 who wishes to remain anonymous and to use the pseudonym
22 "John". The statement can be found at WIT.001.001.4002.
23 Due to suffering from PTSD, John would find attending
24 hearings too stressful so his statement will be read in
25 instead:

1 "My name is John. I was born in 1961. My contact
2 details are known to the inquiry."

3 In paragraphs 2 to 6 of the statement John describes
4 his family life, including difficult times which
5 resulted in his mother leaving and the witness and his
6 siblings going into care. I'll pick the statement up at
7 paragraph 7 on WIT.001.001.4003:

8 "My mother wasn't coming back, so I think my father
9 decided the best thing was to gather everyone up and
10 send us to Nazareth House. At first it was just the
11 four of us that went. My youngest brother appeared
12 a couple of months later.

13 "I think that I have blocked out a lot from that
14 time and I don't remember being taken to Nazareth House,
15 but I do remember no one told us we were going."

16 The registers for Cardonald show this witness being
17 admitted in [REDACTED] 1969 when he would have been 7:

18 "I think we all went to a wee home for a short time
19 before we were taken to Nazareth House. It was only
20 after a few months of being at Nazareth House when we
21 started going to school that we realised that we were
22 staying.

23 "We all slept in bunk beds in dormitories.
24 I remember the first week I was there, I was crying and
25 everybody else was crying. They wouldn't let me go to

1 the toilet for some reason, so I started screaming and
2 I wet the bed. They took me away and locked me in a wee
3 area on my own somewhere.

4 "In the mornings we had to go to the chapel to pray.
5 I don't remember going to church before I went to
6 Nazareth House and I rebelled against it. I was dragged
7 along through and I wasn't given any food because I was
8 rebelling.

9 "I remember I passed out twice for lack of food in
10 Nazareth House.

11 "After chapel we went to breakfast, but I don't
12 remember much of what we were given because I wasn't
13 there half the time. I think there were tea urns and
14 we were given cereal or porridge but no toast. I don't
15 remember what sort of food we got for the evening meal.
16 All I remember is the plastic plates and cutlery.
17 I don't remember any food that was nice.

18 "After breakfast we were marched round to the
19 school, which was just around the corner. At the end of
20 school, we were marched back. We weren't allowed to
21 talk. It was like one of those chain gangs.

22 "I was off school a lot and I hardly have any memory
23 of it, except that I was constantly playing catch-up.
24 Often I had been awake half the night because I'd wet
25 the bed. The nuns made me try and sleep with no

1 mattress and I was exhausted all the time. I just sat
2 up at the back of the classroom and slept.

3 "It was freezing in Nazareth House because there was
4 not enough blankets. The school was warm so I just
5 dozed. At school you got play times and break times.
6 I got to see my brothers and sisters then. They
7 couldn't control that too much.

8 "Education was purely religion based. I was taught
9 the rosary but not my times tables. They weren't going
10 to teach you anything until you got the faith. I'm not
11 sure I had even been taught to read by that time.

12 "I don't see the need to be praying 25 times a day
13 and I just thought it was brainwashing. I was told if
14 I didn't go to chapel I couldn't get breakfast or go to
15 school.

16 "I remember there were little black and white tiles
17 there and even now when I see tiles like that I feel
18 faint. I think that comes from fainting when I wasn't
19 being fed. The black and white tiles were the last
20 thing I would see when I fell to the ground.

21 "There was an old folk's home at the side of
22 Nazareth House. I was taken there to clean or to help
23 the old folks out in the garden. I did nothing but
24 chores there and I remember brushing leaves and picking
25 up cigarette butts.

1 "I was there a lot instead of being at school and
2 I hated working there. I was only a wean and I had
3 nothing in common with the old folks.

4 "After school or after I'd finished working at the
5 old folks' home, which would be about the same time,
6 4 o'clock, we would be allowed to watch the cartoon
7 Scooby-Doo on TV. That was our one treat. We then had
8 to do our homework. After that we were fed and we were
9 sent to bed. We weren't allowed to speak.

10 "They also used this as a punishment too though. If
11 they thought you'd misbehaved they would not allow you
12 to watch the cartoon Scooby-Doo.

13 "I'm not sure if I was at Nazareth House over my
14 birthday. I certainly don't remember getting a card.
15 I don't remember any presents or parties for anyone else
16 on their birthdays either.

17 "I do remember there was a Christmas party and Santa
18 came, although I don't remember getting a present.

19 "I remember my dad came to visit a few times.
20 I think he came on a Saturday, but I don't think he
21 visited very often. When he came to visit he would take
22 us swimming or to the cinema. The nuns never took us
23 anywhere. It was worse when he left. It was the only
24 time my brothers and sisters and I were all together.
25 All the other times we were kept separate.

1 "Relationships were not encouraged and I had very
2 little contact with my brothers and sisters. I think
3 they tried to keep us all apart as a way of controlling
4 us. It was like they wanted all the girls to be girls
5 and the boys to be boys. If they separated us, they
6 could control us better and we couldn't bond.

7 "My youngest brother was so small when he arrived
8 that I think he probably found it easier to adapt to the
9 regime. The one who took it the hardest I think was my
10 sister. She had a much closer bond to our mother before
11 we went into Nazareth House.

12 "I don't remember having any friendly conversations
13 with anyone. I think they wanted all relationships
14 destroyed. You couldn't have any normal relationships
15 in there.

16 "I never saw any of the nuns smiling or
17 acknowledging us or even each other. They never spoke
18 to us like human beings and there was no small talk or
19 chit-chat between us.

20 "I don't remember what tops we wore, but we wore
21 short trousers and wee open-toed sandals with a buckle.
22 We wore those sandals so our feet wouldn't grow out of
23 them. They were never new and were probably charity
24 clothes.

25 "I remember the shorts because you were always on

1 your knees and my knees always hurt and used to get
2 bloody.

3 "I never remember getting any pocket money and
4 I don't think my dad gave us any either. I don't think
5 we were allowed money because we were never taken to the
6 shops. I never saw an ice cream or an ice cream van
7 either.

8 "I think we got a shower once a week, on a Saturday
9 or Sunday. The water was always cold. During the week
10 we washed our face, hands and neck at the sink when we
11 went to bed. There was no such thing as privacy. All
12 the boys showered at the same time and the nuns were
13 always there.

14 "You weren't allowed to go to the toilet at night.
15 If you needed to go to the toilet in the daytime, you
16 had to ask and the nuns took you. You were not allowed
17 to go on your own. They would deny permission to go
18 during prayers.

19 "I don't remember anyone official coming round to
20 inspect Nazareth House. I'm not sure if they did or
21 that I would have been told. I certainly have no memory
22 of anyone asking how I was doing.

23 "I was very stressed throughout my stay at
24 Nazareth House and I wet the bed a lot. I don't know if
25 it was badness or what. I remember they separated me

1 from the rest of the boys in the dorm. My mattress was
2 taken from me, I was beaten, and I wasn't given any
3 food.

4 "Sometimes I was made to sleep on the floor. There
5 was one nun in particular who seemed to take against me,
6 Sister [REDACTED] LFR [REDACTED]. She was like my jailer. I don't
7 know if it was just me or my brothers and sisters too,
8 but she used to beat me all the time.

9 "I can understand a wee bit where the nuns were
10 coming from. They were dealing with problem children
11 going through stress and they needed to control them.

12 "The level of cruelty in Sister [REDACTED] LFR [REDACTED] was not
13 human though. She would use a rubber hose, or whatever
14 came to hand to beat me, every time she saw me. Her
15 punishments were just cruel. It wasn't normal. She
16 didn't hit me because I had done anything wrong.
17 I think it was her method of control. You had to do
18 absolutely everything that she said.

19 "You couldn't look Sister [REDACTED] LFR [REDACTED] in the eye.
20 If you did, she thought you were being cocky and she
21 would beat you.

22 "Every time I wet the bed, they took the bedding off
23 me and she would beat me. The more she beat me, the
24 more I wet the bed. One time I was made to sleep on the
25 floor. My sister told me there was a lot of sexual

1 abuse going on in the girls' bit but I can't corroborate
2 that. I was not sexually abused but I was physically
3 and mentally abused.

4 "I only stayed at Nazareth House for a year. When
5 I turned 9 I was told they couldn't keep me any longer
6 because I was too old. I think it was really because
7 I wasn't conforming to all the praying though.
8 I thought it was a load of rubbish.

9 "My father came to see me and told me he had spoken
10 to his mother in Galway and I was to go there. I was to
11 go on my own; my brothers and sisters were to stay at
12 Nazareth House. I didn't want to go, but I was sent
13 away. It was traumatic."

14 The Nazareth House card register shows this witness
15 leaving on [REDACTED] 1970, when he would have been
16 aged 9:

17 "When I got to Galway, my granny went crazy when she
18 discovered my head was full of lice. I must have got
19 them in Nazareth House and nobody had checked. I was
20 sent to the local school in Galway and I gave all the
21 other kids them. Apart from lice, I was healthy.

22 "After I had been in Galway for 6 months, life was
23 a hell of a lot better. I was out all the time playing
24 football. I knew it was a better place.

25 "Education was a nightmare because of the different

1 curriculum. I sat in a class with all different age
2 groups and was put with the other kids at the same
3 level. I came on leaps and bounds because it meant that
4 we could help each other.

5 "I stayed with my granny until I was 11, when my
6 mother came to get me. I think my granny got too old.
7 My mother had met a fella in Manchester and I went down
8 to live with them. My mother had two other children.
9 My brother, I don't remember his name, had been put in
10 care and I had a half-sister too.

11 "My mother became ill and I was sent back up to stay
12 with her mum, my gran, in Scotland. My mum later died
13 of a brain tumour.

14 "My sister phoned round the family about the
15 Nazareth House inquiry and she asked me to participate.
16 This was a few years ago. I thought it was just for
17 money-grabbers though and decided not to get involved.

18 "I have since had therapy and I realise now that
19 a lot of my problems have stemmed from my childhood.
20 The beatings I received were always around the middle
21 part of my body. They never hit my face or hands.
22 I think that was so I could still work in the old folks'
23 home. I never showed anyone the marks. I just took it
24 as normal and it never crossed my mind to show anyone.

25 "The move to Scotland to stay with my gran meant

1 another change of curriculum and I had difficulty again
2 at school. The constant change meant there was no way
3 I could sit exams so I decided to join the army when
4 I was 16 years of age.

5 "I stayed in the army for about 12 years and got
6 blown up a couple of times in Northern Ireland by mortar
7 bombs. When I was posted in Northern Ireland I met
8 a woman and stayed there for about 30 years. I never
9 had any children; I didn't want any.

10 "I wet the bed for years when I left Nazareth House.
11 It has been very difficult for me and it still happens
12 today. When I feel stressed, I wet the bed. I now take
13 precautions before I go to bed if I'm feeling stressed.

14 "I have since found out that I have PTSD through my
15 experiences in the army and I still have bad dreams.

16 "I have been getting counselling and therapy through
17 Veterans First for my PTSD. I brought up my childhood
18 and Nazareth House experiences with my therapist.
19 I told him about the bed-wetting. He told me that a lot
20 of things stem from childhood and I think everything has
21 a knock-on effect.

22 "I think if I had had a more sympathetic childhood,
23 I would have been able to turn to therapy quicker after
24 getting mortar bombed. I think that people who have
25 been damaged when they're young just learn to shut up.

1 They carry on and just take it. Instead I turned to
2 drink and had bad alcoholism for a couple of years
3 because I thought that was the only way.

4 "I think the stress of that year, leaving a loving
5 mother and father and going into care at Nazareth House,
6 had a huge impact on me for the rest of my life.

7 "I actually lived in my house for two years because
8 I felt that because of what happened to me, I didn't
9 have the confidence to ask anyone for help. I didn't
10 think I would get any. Some of that is the army's fault
11 too; they didn't recognise that. I think if I'd had
12 a more stable and understanding childhood though,
13 I might have been able to deal with this a lot better.

14 "None of my brothers and sisters came out great
15 either, apart from my of my sisters. She met a great
16 man and got married 35 years ago. They have two
17 children and she has brought them up well. My other
18 sister is the most damaged. She left Nazareth House at
19 16 and went into the sex trade. She later married
20 someone who was 30 years older than her. It was the
21 best thing that could have happened.

22 "My youngest brother is an alcoholic and went to
23 England with my sister. He declared himself gay a long
24 time ago.

25 "I haven't heard from my other brother for about

1 six years. He got into drugs and I assume he's still
2 living, though I don't know where he is.

3 "If I hadn't joined the army I would have been dead.
4 The army has a lot to blame for my PTSD but they've got
5 their act together and the support network is second to
6 none. I have found Veterans First to be massively
7 beneficial. The therapist there is the only other
8 person I've told about my time in Nazareth House.

9 I have been in touch with Future Pathways and I think
10 I would like a wee bit of counselling from them as
11 it would focus on my childhood trauma. Future Pathways
12 are going to assist me with trying to get my records.

13 "I hope the inquiry will stop anything similar ever
14 happening again. The cruelty of the regime there in
15 Nazareth House was totally unnecessary. I don't think
16 what happened to me should happen to anyone else.

17 "I hope that those who went through worse than me
18 can understand that they're not on their own.

19 "I have no objection to my witness statement being
20 published as part of the evidence to the inquiry.

21 I believe the facts stated in the statement are true."

22 The statement was signed by John on 9 October 2017.

23 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much.

24 So you're proposing that we break now with a view to
25 hopefully getting to the oral witness at about 11.15 or

1 A. Good morning.

2 Q. I'll be asking you questions based in the main of what
3 you've said to us in your statement. Before I begin
4 that process can I just confirm with you the year of
5 your birth, not the date of your birth?

6 A. 1968.

7 Q. Thank you.

8 In the red folder, you'll find your statement. I'll
9 give the reference for the transcript of
10 WIT.001.001.8153. Could I ask you to turn to the very
11 last page, which is 8181. Can I ask you to confirm that
12 you've signed the statement?

13 A. Yes, I have signed it.

14 Q. And do you tell us in the last paragraph:

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

17 A. No.

18 Q. And do you also say:

19 "I believe the facts stated in this witness
20 statement are true"?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Thank you.

23 I want to ask you questions about your time in care
24 in Nazareth House Cardonald. Can I just say this to
25 you: if I ask you a question about a particular matter,

1 such as a date, for example, and you can't remember,
2 just say that you can't remember. Likewise, if
3 something comes to mind that you hadn't thought of
4 before but you've thought of either today or since, then
5 please feel free to tell us that. Do you understand
6 that?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Looking to your family background, I think it was quite
9 an unhappy background; is that correct?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. In any event, it led you to going into care?

12 A. Aye.

13 Q. And I think you tell us that you have an older sister
14 and a younger brother.

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. When you went into care I think you went very briefly
17 into a children's home in Greenock; is that correct?

18 A. Yes, Neil Street.

19 Q. And were you living in Greenock at the time?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. But having been there for a very short period of time,
22 a few days, did you then go to Nazareth House in
23 Cardonald?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. So far as the records that have been provided to the

1 inquiry go to show -- and these are records that have
2 been provided by the Sisters of Nazareth -- they suggest
3 that you were admitted to Nazareth House Cardonald on
4 [REDACTED] 1977 when you'd be aged about 9.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Would that be about right?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And you left on [REDACTED] 1981 when you were about 13.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. That accords with your own recollection?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. So you'd be there for about four years or so?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. When you went, James, did your brother and sister go
15 with you?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Can I ask you what your recollection is when you first
18 got to Nazareth House?

19 A. Scared.

20 Q. What were you scared of at the time?

21 A. Just the size of the building. It just looked like
22 a big castle, and then big Virgin Mary statues and that.

23 Q. So it was an imposing --

24 A. Very, yes. Very frightening going in.

25 Q. Who took you?

- 1 A. A social worker, Adrian McBride.
- 2 Q. Did you have some dealings with him subsequently?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. When you got there the first time, were you taken to the
5 office of the Mother Superior?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Can you remember her name?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. But when there, were you introduced to another sister?
- 10 A. Yes, Sister **LJS**.
- 11 Q. Was she somebody that you did have dealings with over
12 the time that you were in Nazareth House?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. When you first met her in the presence of the
15 Mother Superior, how did she come across to you?
- 16 A. Just normal, basically. We were in the
17 Mother Superior's office and she must have called
18 Sister **LJS** down and just introduced us and she
19 probably told us this would be the nun who we'd be going
20 with.
- 21 Q. And that was the case, she would be in charge of you?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Was that for most of the time that you were there?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Because I think you tell us in your statement she

1 left --

2 A. She left for a short while, then she came back.

3 Q. When she was away, who looked after you.

4 A. Another nun came, Sister [REDACTED] LSI [REDACTED].

5 Q. I think you do mention her in your statement; how did
6 you find her?

7 A. Very nice.

8 Q. I think somewhere you describe her as quite a lovely
9 person.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Why do you say that?

12 A. First person I had seen smile and was actually nice to
13 you.

14 Q. When you say -- what about the other persons that were
15 there, how did they behave towards you?

16 A. I can't say any of them were actually nice to anyone.
17 The only nice person I remember was Sister [REDACTED] LSI [REDACTED].

18 Q. Can you say how long you had some connection with her?
19 How long was she in charge of you?

20 A. I think she'd be there maybe six months, something like
21 that.

22 Q. You went with your brother and your sister. Let's leave
23 your brother aside for the moment. So far as your
24 sister was concerned, did you see very much of her once
25 you were there?

- 1 A. No.
- 2 Q. Can you just set out for me how you were organised, how
3 you were placed? Were you in a particular group?
- 4 A. We were in the same unit but the girls were separated
5 from the boys. You'd see them at lunchtime, food times,
6 or when you went outside you'd see them.
- 7 Q. Was "unit" the word you used to describe your group or
8 was there any other name for it?
- 9 A. I just called it a unit or Sister **LJS** 's unit,
10 basically.
- 11 Q. And how many units were there; do you know?
- 12 A. There was three in the main building, then there was
13 a separate building right out the back of
14 Nazareth House.
- 15 Q. Looking to your unit then, James, how many children were
16 in the unit?
- 17 A. I can't remember because I don't remember any of the
18 children's names.
- 19 Q. I think one thing you say in your statement is you've
20 really blocked out the other children.
- 21 A. Aye.
- 22 Q. Are you able to tell me whether or not there were girls
23 in the unit?
- 24 A. Yes, there was girls and boys, yes.
- 25 Q. In your unit?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. But your older sister, who I think was about two years
3 older than you, was not in the unit?
- 4 A. She was in, she was just in the girls. She was in the
5 same unit as me.
- 6 Q. But with girls?
- 7 A. Yeah.
- 8 Q. And your younger brother then, was he in the same unit?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And what about the sleeping arrangements, can you help
11 me with that? What was the set-up there?
- 12 A. Boys had like a dormitory -- it was like a dormitory
13 with partitions between the rooms. Then the girls were
14 in -- there was like a big partition across the hallway
15 that separated the girls' section from the boys'
16 section.
- 17 Q. Did these partitions go all the way up to the roof?
- 18 A. No, you could look over them. They were just thin.
- 19 Q. Then if you look at the area that you were sleeping in,
20 how many were in that particular partitioned-off area?
- 21 A. I'd say there might have been about eight rooms, maybe
22 six or eight rooms, but in each room there would have
23 been anywhere between two and four beds.
- 24 Q. Was your brother in the same section as yourself?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. On that first day, and once you'd met Sister **LJS**, did
2 she show you around?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And what is your recollection of that?
- 5 A. I'm not sure if it was the first day or the second, but
6 she took us up to the unit and she had us in setting the
7 tables and things like that. I think it was just to
8 make you feel part of the place.
- 9 Q. Did something happen when you were setting the table?
- 10 A. Yes. I set my knives and forks the wrong way because
11 I'd left handed. Then she smacked me on the knuckles
12 with spoons or ... that was a regular thing.
- 13 Q. On that first occasion did she smack you?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. What did she use to smack you?
- 16 A. A spoon or a fork it would have been.
- 17 Q. Was that for putting the knife and fork in the wrong
18 places?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Can I then ask you a little bit about the routine.
21 Let's look at the mornings first of all. Was there
22 an issue over bed-wetting?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Did you wet bed?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Can you tell me about that? What happened?
- 2 A. I remember she'd make you have a cold bath, or one the
3 staff would, and they'd make you wash the sheets or try
4 to wash them.
- 5 Q. Was anything done to you when you wet the bed?
- 6 A. You used to just get hit basically.
- 7 Q. By whom?
- 8 A. It'd have been Sister **LJS**.
- 9 Q. And can you describe how would she hit you on these
10 occasions?
- 11 A. In the mornings like that, she would just proper shout
12 and she'd be slapping you basically. I don't know what
13 she'd be shouting at you.
- 14 Q. You don't know what she'd be saying?
- 15 A. No. Because the -- what I'd get from Sister **LJS**, she
16 would just insult you a lot, tell you you're no good and
17 things like that.
- 18 Q. Can you remember anything else that was said? Can you
19 remember?
- 20 A. She was always shouting at me that I was the devil's
21 child because I was left handed as well. I heard that
22 a lot through my time in Nazareth.
- 23 Q. What about your brother? Did he wet the bed?
- 24 A. I can't remember but he probably did.
- 25 Q. Were there others who did wet the bed?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And did they have the same sort of treatment?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. What about the sheets? Did you have to do anything with
5 the sheets?

6 A. I just remember one time getting told to wash them
7 in the sink. I couldn't wash them.

8 Q. Why couldn't you wash them?

9 A. I was too little.

10 Q. As time went on, were you able to wash the sheets?

11 A. No, I think -- I don't know if it was just like
12 a punishment because you'd wet the sheets, that you
13 could wash them.

14 Q. Were there lay members of staff in Nazareth House when
15 you were there?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. I think we'll look at some male members in a moment, but
18 were there female members of staff?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Can you remember the names?

21 A. I remember one woman called LKB.

22 Q. What was her role?

23 A. To me she looked like a matron. I always thought she
24 was a nun that they wouldn't have because she reminded
25 me of one of the nuns, very straight faced, very strict.

- 1 Q. Did she hit you?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Do you think she saw you being hit?
- 4 A. Oh, she seen a lot of stuff going on in that place,
5 definitely.
- 6 Q. One thing you say in your statement, James, at
7 paragraph 20, when you're talking about bed-wetting,
8 is that, as you put it, it was pure fear.
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Were you fearful during your time there?
- 11 A. Aye.
- 12 Q. Why was that?
- 13 A. You were always getting beat up for anything. Didn't
14 matter what you'd done.
- 15 Q. At night, do you have a recollection as to what time
16 bedtime was?
- 17 A. I don't know, but it'd probably be -- I think maybe
18 9 o'clock, I'm not sure what time it would have been at.
- 19 Q. Okay. Did you have to be quiet in the bedroom?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And what would happen if you made any noise?
- 22 A. You'd get battered. Sister **LJS** would come in and she
23 would be shouting and that and she would start hitting
24 whoever she thought was making the noise -- because her
25 room was directly behind the wall from the boys' dorm.

- 1 Q. Did that happen to you?
- 2 A. Aye. She battered me several times.
- 3 Q. When you say "battered", at that time when you're in
4 bed, what would happen?
- 5 A. She'd just come in and start hitting you.
- 6 Q. How would she do that?
- 7 A. If she heard you at night she would just come in and
8 start slapping you, basically, is what she would do.
- 9 Q. Did you see that happening to others?
- 10 A. I can't remember. I remember being in the room with
11 other boys and she came in, but if she came in, you
12 would lie with your just eyes tightly shut. You
13 wouldn't breathe, just hoping she wouldn't see you or
14 notice you.
- 15 Q. Another aspect of the routine I want to ask you about at
16 the moment is about mealtimes and the food; what was the
17 food like?
- 18 A. All I remember is disgusting.
- 19 Q. Was there a particular dish that you didn't --
- 20 A. Tapioca I got fed one time and I didn't eat it, so they
21 served it me every day for a week, didn't give me
22 anything else until I ate it.
- 23 Q. And did you eat it?
- 24 A. I would put some in my pocket and then I would take some
25 into my mouth and ask to go to the toilet so I could be

1 sick and spit it out.

2 Q. Did you say this lasted for a week?

3 A. It seemed as if it was a week, yes.

4 Q. Was that the only instance where you had difficulty with
5 the food?

6 A. Other times, if there was like fat or whatever, you'd be
7 able to give it to -- other kids would take it off your
8 plate.

9 Q. Were you ever forced to eat your food?

10 A. No, they didn't physically force you; they'd just stand
11 over you and give you nothing else, just give you the
12 same bowl of food.

13 Q. If you didn't eat it, would you just sit there and --

14 A. You'd just sit and stare at it.

15 Q. What about the other children?

16 A. I'd been there on my own, they'd keep you back.

17 Q. And how long would you be there on your own for?

18 A. I don't know. I remember at school, I think we'd come
19 home for lunch, so she'd give you it then, but it'd just
20 be for the lunchtime, then you'd get sent back to school
21 and then you would get it in the evening time and again
22 and get it for breakfast.

23 Q. You've already mentioned the lady lay member. You also
24 talk about a particular male member who was there as
25 well, by the name of LSM.

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Was he involved with you at mealtimes?
- 3 A. He was the one that got told to stay with me and make
4 sure I ate the bowl of tapioca.
- 5 Q. Can you tell me a little bit about him? What did you
6 see his job to be in the home?
- 7 A. He was just a member of staff, like a male figure.
- 8 Q. Looking back, how old do you think he was at that time?
- 9 A. At that time, I thought he was late 20s, maybe 30ish.
- 10 Q. Was he a full-time member of staff?
- 11 A. From what I've been told, he was voluntary then he got
12 offered a full-time.
- 13 Q. Can I ask you also about washing and bathing. What were
14 the arrangements if you were to have a bath?
- 15 A. What I remember, it was -- I don't know if it -- it
16 might have been on certain nights of the week you had
17 bath nights, but there would be a bit of a humdrum, one
18 kid in, one out, in and out basically, and there'd be
19 a bit of a commotion going on.
- 20 Q. How many baths were there?
- 21 A. One.
- 22 Q. Would any members of staff be involved in that process?
- 23 A. No, if they were -- what I remember is the female
24 members of staff would tell you to get into the bath and
25 they would tell you to get washed, they wouldn't do it.

1 The most they would do was come in with your dressing
2 gown and things like that and just help you get in or
3 out.

4 Q. So far as leisure time, free time, would be concerned,
5 did you have free time, leisure time?

6 A. Yes, you played out in the grounds.

7 Q. And at that time would you see your sister?

8 A. Aye. You would see the kids from other units.

9 Q. Television, you were able to watch television?

10 A. Yes, they had a TV room.

11 Q. I think you say in your statement that you were a keen
12 reader; is that right?

13 A. Aye.

14 Q. Did you have books?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Was that something you did?

17 A. Aye.

18 Q. The school, I think we understand, the primary school in
19 particular, was very close to where the home was.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And was that the school you went to?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. At least initially?

24 A. Yes, Our Lady of the Rosary.

25 Q. You tell us about one incident where you had a flick --

1 what you called a flick comb.

2 A. Aye.

3 Q. How did you get the flick comb?

4 A. I don't know if I get it at a fair or fête or something,
5 but I remember having it and taking it into school and
6 showing off with it.

7 Q. Did that cause a problem to you?

8 A. Yes, somebody said to the teacher that I had a knife and
9 she phoned the nun.

10 Q. And what happened?

11 A. The nun came down and took me home and walloped me for
12 it.

13 Q. The nun, who was this?

14 A. Sister **LJS**.

15 Q. Why were you being battered?

16 A. Because I had caused trouble in school is the way she
17 looked at it.

18 Q. And when you say you were battered, what happened to
19 you?

20 A. She would start slapping you about and hitting you about
21 and just pushing you about and all that.

22 Q. Would you be upset?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Would you be crying?

25 A. Yes.

1 LADY SMITH: Tell me about the flick comb; what was it like?

2 A. It did look like a knife if the thing was closed, but
3 when you pressed it, it was just a plastic comb, it came
4 out of it.

5 LADY SMITH: So was it hinged at the part between the handle
6 and the teeth of the comb then?

7 A. Yes, it would have been, because it did flick out like
8 a comb or a knife I should say. It was basically like
9 that.

10 LADY SMITH: Do you remember what colour it was?

11 A. It was black. If it was closed, you would have thought
12 it was a knife.

13 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

14 MR MacAULAY: But I take it you pressed something and it
15 opened?

16 A. Aye, you pressed a wee button and the comb popped out.

17 Q. At school, did you get the belt from time to time?

18 A. I can't remember in primary, but in high school, yeah.

19 Q. What you say in your statement is that that was the
20 worst punishment you got at school, the belt?

21 A. Aye.

22 Q. But it was nothing compared to the beatings in the home?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Can I just understand what you mean by that? I think
25 I can understand what's meant by getting the belt, that

1 would be on your hand or hands?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. But you are saying that was nothing compared to beating
4 in the home?

5 A. Yes, you just got strapped on the hand. That's nothing.

6 Q. So what are you comparing that to?

7 A. One time, one of the boys hit a girl, and Sister LJS
8 went crazy and she dragged him into the dorm room and
9 she got four or five boys to come in and she told us to
10 batter him because he hit a girl and if we didn't batter
11 him she would batter us -- and she had a big leather
12 belt that she had taken off me that my uncle had given
13 me and she just started basically whipping us all with
14 it until we hit the boy.

15 Q. Did you hit the boy? How many boys were involved in
16 hitting the other boy?

17 A. About four or five.

18 Q. Did that upset you at the time?

19 A. Aye, because I know that wee boy. He probably still
20 remembers that to this day.

21 Q. Can I ask you about Christmas: was Christmas celebrated?

22 A. All I remember is it was always religious. The only
23 presents you got was -- some shops would have
24 a Christmas party for kids in care and they would give
25 you a present there.

1 Q. What about birthdays, would your birthday be celebrated?

2 A. No.

3 Q. Did you get a present on your birthday?

4 A. I remember I got Easter eggs once on my birthday.

5 Q. And was that because your birthday was close to Easter?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Who gave you the Easter egg?

8 A. Sister **LJS**.

9 Q. So far as visits, I think you tell us your mother did

10 visit --

11 A. Aye.

12 Q. -- once or twice, at least early on; is that right?

13 A. Aye.

14 Q. Did she visit after that?

15 A. No.

16 Q. I think she'd have quite a bit to travel to get to where

17 you were.

18 A. Aye.

19 Q. What about a social worker?

20 A. I think maybe I seen them -- I don't know if it was once

21 a month maybe or if the home might have called them.

22 Q. So you had regular visits from the social work?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And was it the social work who took you there?

25 A. Aye.

- 1 Q. Was there another social worker you also had contact
2 with?
- 3 A. I had Adrian McBride for the first few years, then
4 a Jim Lyons took over.
- 5 Q. You tell us that you didn't have much contact with your
6 sister when you were in the home, but what about your
7 younger brother?
- 8 A. Yes, he'd be in my dorm and you'd see him about.
- 9 Q. Can I just look a bit more then at the treatment you say
10 you had when you were there. Can you perhaps just
11 describe to us how often you might be treated in the way
12 you've described, being hit and so on?
- 13 A. If felt as if you were hit all the time. If you stepped
14 out of line in the slightest sense you'd be walloped for
15 it.
- 16 Q. And are you looking for Sister **LJS** for that?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. But you tell us there was a member of staff by the name
19 of **LVN** who was also on the scene; is that
20 right?
- 21 A. That's when I moved unit.
- 22 Q. Let's just look at that then. The unit you were in when
23 you went there, were you moved to another unit at some
24 point?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Why was the move made?
- 2 A. It was just a refurbished unit.
- 3 Q. Was it within the main building or --
- 4 A. It was on the same floor I was already on. We were just
- 5 in once part of the building and we moved over to the
- 6 other part.
- 7 Q. And did the whole group move?
- 8 A. Yeah.
- 9 Q. So was [REDACTED] LVN then involved in the new unit, if you
- 10 call it that?
- 11 A. Aye, yes.
- 12 Q. What was his role?
- 13 A. Just a member of staff.
- 14 Q. And how did he behave towards you.
- 15 A. Oh, all he done was batter me.
- 16 Q. Why would he do that?
- 17 A. Well, probably if I ever spoke or was out of line or
- 18 Sister [REDACTED] LJS wanted him to do anything, she would get
- 19 him to batter you or hit you about.
- 20 Q. How would he hit you about?
- 21 A. He used to give me some good kickings basically, beat me
- 22 up properly. Proper punches and kicks and throwing me
- 23 off walls.
- 24 Q. Did he do that to other children?
- 25 A. I never seen him hitting other kids, but he probably

1 did.

2 Q. What about your brother? Did you see if he hit your
3 brother?

4 A. No.

5 Q. Did any other member of staff hit you?

6 A. Just Sister [LJS] and [LVN].

7 Q. I think you say you were also moved into what was known
8 as the bungalow.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Was that later on?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. When was that in connection with when you left?

13 A. I think I was only in the bungalow a few month.

14 Q. If we focus on Sister [LJS], because you talk about her
15 quite a bit in your statement, she was really the person
16 who mainly disciplined you; is that correct?

17 A. Aye.

18 Q. And if it wasn't her, she'd get somebody else to do it?

19 A. In the first unit she was always the one that
20 disciplined you. Then in the second unit she would get
21 [LVN] to do it for her.

22 Q. What age were you when you moved to the second unit?

23 A. Primary Seven, probably near the end of Primary Seven
24 because when I went into the bungalow I was in first
25 year.

1 Q. One thing you say in your statement at paragraph 57
2 that's on the screen is that you thought she enjoyed
3 hitting people.

4 A. Aye.

5 Q. What makes you say that?

6 A. She would beat the living hell out of you. One morning
7 it was raining and she told us to put our wellies on, me
8 and my sister, so we sat down and done it really slowly
9 and she picked them up -- the fire exit door was ajar,
10 it was always ajar and there was a mop stick in it, she
11 pulled it out and started battering me and my sister
12 with it because we weren't quick enough at putting our
13 wellies on.

14 Q. Did that leave marks?

15 A. It probably did, yeah, but she took us straight to
16 school after it.

17 Q. You've already mentioned that you were left handed and
18 that caused some difficulty for you.

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Did that cause issues with Sister **LJS** ?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Can you explain that?

23 A. Any time she -- because I would eat -- I would have
24 a knife in my left hand and it was always my left
25 knuckles, basically because I was left-handed. It was

1 always stuff about the devil being left-handed and all
2 that and I was just an evil child and stuff.

3 Q. And would she use something to hit your --

4 A. It was always spoons, cutlery. It was usually at the
5 dining table she'd notice it.

6 Q. You tell us about an incident about, when you were
7 in the first unit, you kissed a little girl.

8 A. Aye.

9 Q. Did that cause some problem for you?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. What happened?

12 A. I can't remember, I'd just come out of primary school,
13 and it was one of the wee puckers, a wee -- like that,
14 and **LSM** seen us doing it and he grabbed us and
15 took us to Sister **LJS** and told her and she went
16 mental. She threw us into my room and she probably
17 threw the girl into her room. Then later that night she
18 came in and leathered me.

19 Q. Were you in bed?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And did she use something to leather you?

22 A. She had some rolled thing and just started smashing me
23 across the face with it and shouting -- I don't know
24 what she was shouting at me.

25 Q. So you had gone to bed by now?

1 A. Yes, I was lying in bed sleeping and she just came in
2 during the night and started smacking me across the face
3 and shouting stuff at me.

4 Q. Can you remember what she was shouting?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Did that cause some injury?

7 A. It burst my nose open. I just lay there until one of
8 the staff came in and seen it. And I remember her
9 screaming, and Sister **LJS** coming in, saying, "He must
10 have done it during the night".

11 Q. She didn't own up to doing it?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Did you tell anybody that she had --

14 A. No.

15 Q. So was there blood on the bedclothes?

16 A. The sheets were soaking. So was my pillow.

17 Q. The incident that you told us about already, James,
18 where you and other boys were told by her to hit another
19 boy, can you tell me what age the boy was that was to be
20 hit?

21 A. Probably my age.

22 Q. What age were you at the time?

23 A. Probably about 9.

24 Q. And the other boys that were --

25 A. Roughly 8, 9, 10 maybe.

1 Q. You've also mentioned the issue with the belt because
2 I think you tell us in your statement that you were
3 given a present of a belt by an uncle; is that right?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. What happened?

6 A. She took it.

7 Q. Why did she take it?

8 A. I don't know.

9 Q. Did she do something with it to you?

10 A. That's when she battered us with it, me and the other --
11 she was slapping us across the back of the legs with it.

12 Q. Why?

13 A. Because we wouldn't hit the boy.

14 Q. You've already mentioned [REDACTED] LSM in your evidence
15 and what role he was playing. If you did something, do
16 I understand you to say that he would take you to
17 Sister [REDACTED] LJS

18 A. Aye.

19 Q. How often did that happen?

20 A. I can't remember. I just remember if anything, he would
21 always just report you to her if anything ever happened.

22 Q. You tell us a little bit more about him and, if you
23 don't mind, can I just ask you about that now. We've
24 already discussed bath times and how at normal bath
25 times there would be a bit of commotion because of the

1 number of children requiring to be bathed. Is that
2 right?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. But were there occasions when you would be bathed on
5 your own?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Can you tell us about that?

8 A. He'd do it and it would always be at night and it was
9 never that humdrum. The big lights wouldn't be on or
10 anything like that and he would take you in and bath
11 you.

12 Q. Are you talking about **LSM**?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Why would he be in that position to bath you?

15 A. I don't know. Not unless -- if he was out -- maybe
16 we were out in the grounds and we were getting -- it
17 was, oh, they need bathed, dirty, I don't know.

18 Q. On these occasions then, what happened?

19 A. He'd touch you.

20 Q. Are you able to tell us what he did?

21 A. He'd fondle you down there and he'd try and masturbate
22 you. And he'd put his fingers up your backside. Other
23 times when you were in the toilet, he'd tell you to take
24 your trousers down to your ankles. I remember him
25 saying, "Show me how you pee", and then he'd come behind

1 you and he'd start touching you in the toilet.

2 Q. So there's two types of behaviour you're talking about
3 there?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. If you're looking at the bathing behaviour, how often do
6 you think that happened to you?

7 A. Three times I remember.

8 Q. What ages were you at that time?

9 A. Primary school. If I had been in the first year, I'd
10 have been about 9, 10.

11 Q. And the toilet behaviour, how often did that happen?

12 A. Twice I remember.

13 Q. Again, were you the same sort of age?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Did he say anything to you on these occasions?

16 A. No. I always remember him just grabbing me there
17 (indicating).

18 Q. You're pointing up to your neck, are you?

19 A. Yes, or he'd grab me on the arm and squeeze you really
20 tight and he'd get in your face and I just remember
21 him -- I don't know what he'd say to you, but he'd just
22 get in your face and say stuff to frighten you.

23 Q. You also tell us about another incident when you saw him
24 bathing someone else.

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Who was this person?

2 A. A wee girl.

3 Q. What age do you think she was?

4 A. I think -- to me she was smaller than me, so I just take
5 it she was a lot younger than me.

6 Q. How did it come about that you witnessed this?

7 A. I went to the toilet, I came out of the toilet, the
8 bathroom light was on and the door was ajar, and as
9 I came out into the main hallway, I turned around and
10 looked into the bathroom and seen him there and the wee
11 girl in the bath and I seen the wee girl just staring at
12 me.

13 Q. Did you see what was happening?

14 A. No, I didn't see, but to me he was doing to her what
15 he'd done to me.

16 LADY SMITH: What made you think that?

17 A. The wee girl looked at me. I just seen her big eyes and
18 she was scared. She was just looking at me, staring,
19 and I think she wanted help.

20 LADY SMITH: Was he alone with this little girl?

21 A. Yes. And when the wee girl looked at me, I sort of
22 froze and looked at her and he seen me and he came after
23 me, and I just remember him grabbing me and getting into
24 my face.

25 MR MacAULAY: Did he say anything to you?

- 1 A. I don't know what he said to me. I can never remember
2 what he said to me.
- 3 Q. Was there anybody else around at the time?
- 4 A. No. This was in the evening time. The rest of the kids
5 would have been in the TV room.
- 6 Q. What about the sisters?
- 7 A. I don't know where the sisters would have been, but
8 a member of staff would have been in the TV room where
9 the kids were.
- 10 Q. And then do you know what happened after that so far as
11 the wee girl was concerned?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. Do you know if any other children were receiving this
14 treatment from him?
- 15 A. Not at the time, no. I didn't know nothing basically,
16 never told anybody nothing. I think everybody just
17 thought it would just happen to them.
- 18 Q. Was he there the whole time you were there or just for
19 part of the time?
- 20 A. Only part. I only remember him there in the first unit.
- 21 Q. And how long do you think you were in the first unit
22 for?
- 23 A. Probably about two years, maybe.
- 24 Q. You've also mentioned LVN.
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. I think you've told us already that he would hit you.
- 2 A. Aye.
- 3 Q. You've described the sort of beating you would get from
4 him, which would involve, I think you said, punches and
5 kicking; is that right?
- 6 A. Aye.
- 7 Q. How often do you think that happened to you from him?
- 8 A. He gave me quite a few beatings.
- 9 Q. Was he doing that off his own bat or was he being asked
10 to do that?
- 11 A. Probably both.
- 12 Q. Did he ever do anything else to you apart from that?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 Q. Do you think the sisters in particular knew what
15 LSM was doing?
- 16 A. I don't actually know. He could probably have hidden it
17 from the sister.
- 18 Q. You tell us about an occasion when you seemed to have
19 been locked out of the home; do you remember that?
- 20 A. Aye.
- 21 Q. How did it come about that you were locked out?
- 22 A. I was in the bungalow, the nun told me to be in for
23 9 o'clock. Everything was just strict, do this, do
24 that, and when to do it, so I decided I'm coming in at
25 five past nine, and she said if I wasn't in at 9 o'clock

1 she'd lock me out, so I thought, I'm coming in at five
2 past.

3 Q. Was the door locked when you got there?

4 A. Yes, and she wouldn't let me in.

5 Q. Did you knock the door?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Who was the nun?

8 A. I can't remember her name.

9 Q. What did you do?

10 A. I just wandered about Cardonald until the police found
11 me.

12 Q. Can you remember what time it was that the police found
13 you?

14 A. It might have been midnight, 1 o'clock in the morning.

15 Q. What happened?

16 A. The police seen me, then they came over to me, wondering
17 what I was doing out wandering, and I told them where
18 I was from and I told them that I got locked out and
19 then they took me back.

20 Q. What age were you at that time?

21 A. I would have been in first year.

22 Q. Did the police speak to any of the nuns when they took
23 you back?

24 A. Aye, they spoke to the nuns when they took me back.

25 Q. What happened?

1 A. She said she was worried and out looking for me and that
2 I was unruly and things like that. I remember the
3 policeman giving us a lecture -- everyone thought the
4 same, nuns were lovely, and I remember him saying, these
5 nuns are really nice to you, an all that, you'd better
6 get your act together, whatever. It was just a lecture
7 off the police.

8 Q. Had you said anything to the police about how you were
9 being treated?

10 A. No.

11 LADY SMITH: When you say "first year", are you referring to
12 first year at high school?

13 A. Yes.

14 LADY SMITH: So that's 11 going on 12.

15 A. Yes.

16 MR MacAULAY: Were you becoming a bit more rebellious as you
17 got older?

18 A. Before I got put in the unit, yes, before she moved me
19 to the bungalow I was getting rebellious. Because when
20 Sister **LJS** come back, I don't know, she was trying to
21 hit somebody and I stood in her way and I wouldn't let
22 her and she went to hit me and I grabbed her and threw
23 her a bit and that's when she knew she couldn't beat me
24 up any more.

25 Q. I thin you have told us that **LVN** would then --

- 1 A. Aye, that's when he would beat you up, basically.
- 2 Q. I think you tell us that you grew quite tall.
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. So were you taller than Sister [REDACTED] LJS ?
- 5 A. Yes. I was small when she left and when she came back,
- 6 I had taken a stretch. Then she went to hit us but
- 7 I wouldn't let her and then she knew then she couldn't
- 8 beat me up any more.
- 9 Q. Did she say things to you as to why you were in the
- 10 home?
- 11 A. I always remember her telling you that you were no good
- 12 and you're lucky that people like them are good enough
- 13 to take you in and look after you.
- 14 Q. You also mention another person by the name of
- 15 [REDACTED] LTS .
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. What was his role at the time?
- 18 A. I don't know. He just appeared in the home. I just
- 19 thought he was another worker, like another male figure.
- 20 Q. What age do you think he was when he was there?
- 21 A. I thought he was about the 20 age.
- 22 Q. Where were you when he first appeared on the scene?
- 23 A. I'd have been in the first unit. After [REDACTED] LSM , he
- 24 appeared. I don't know if they were there at the same
- 25 time or not.

- 1 Q. Was he doing the same sort of job as **LSM** was
2 doing?
- 3 A. All I remember of him is taking kids out to the park and
4 all that and the nun would allow it. Take kids to the
5 shops and things like that.
- 6 Q. How was he regarded by the children?
- 7 A. They all looked up to him.
- 8 Q. Did you look up to him?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And what age do you think you were at this time then?
- 11 A. I'd have been 10.
- 12 Q. Did things happen in connection with him?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Can you tell me what happened?
- 15 A. He basically groomed us.
- 16 Q. When you say he groomed you, can you let me understand
17 what you mean by that?
- 18 A. He'd take you out and buy you stuff all the time. Take
19 you to football matches and ice skating and things like
20 that. And then he sexually abused us a few times.
- 21 Q. In relation to the abuse, can I just look at that for
22 a minute or two, if you don't mind? Did he take you to
23 particular places?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Can you help me with that?

1 A. It was flats [REDACTED] and there
2 was garages behind it. He'd take you up to the garages,
3 a car in one of the garages, and he'd take you in there.

4 Q. What happened?

5 A. He sexually abused you, he'd make you do things to him.

6 Q. And do you say that he also took you to his house?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. How often did this happen to you?

9 A. He took me to his house once.

10 Q. And what about the garages?

11 A. Several times.

12 Q. Were you still at primary school when this happened?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. You're telling us about your own experiences. What
15 about other children? Do you know if he did anything to
16 other children?

17 A. I don't know, but he did take a lot of kids out. He was
18 a main -- he was there amongst the kids quite a lot.

19 Q. So far as you could see, was he being supervised in any
20 way by a sister or another member of staff?

21 A. No. To us he was a member of staff.

22 Q. Okay. Did he stay there -- was he there when you left?

23 A. No. When we had moved into the next unit, me and my
24 brother went home for a few months and when we came
25 back, he wasn't there.

- 1 Q. And do you know anything about how he came to leave?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Another person you mention in your statement is someone
4 you refer to as [REDACTED] LTT .
- 5 A. Aye.
- 6 Q. Can you tell me about him?
- 7 A. A Marist Brother. He was brought in, obviously by the
8 nuns. I think he was just another male figure,
9 religious, and he would take you out.
- 10 Q. Was he living in the home?
- 11 A. No, no. He lived -- I think it was Glasgow, and
12 wherever the Marist Brother place was. But he would
13 come in and take you away to Dumfries, like Easter
14 Holidays, summer holidays and things like that.
- 15 Q. Insofar as being in the home would be concerned, what
16 role would he play in the home, if any?
- 17 A. I think he was just a male religious figure, basically,
18 brought in for the boys.
- 19 Q. What age would you say he was then when he was there?
- 20 A. To me I think he might have been about 30s. I just
21 remember a big stocky bloke, [REDACTED] and all that.
- 22 Q. Did he wear anything -- did he wear a -- was it
23 ordinary --
- 24 A. Just ordinary clothes. |
- 25 Q. Did he take you away then?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Where did he take you?
- 3 A. A place called Hetland House in Dumfries.
- 4 Q. How often did that happen?
- 5 A. I've been out there a few times.
- 6 Q. And did he take other boys from the home?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. What about your brother, was your brother taken?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. How long would you stay at Hetland House on these
- 11 occasions?
- 12 A. It might have been the Easter holidays and then a few
- 13 weeks in the summer, maybe a week in like
- 14 autumn/wintertime.
- 15 Q. And how many children would go?
- 16 A. The first time I went myself. The second time there
- 17 would have been probably four.
- 18 Q. Let's look at the first time that you went. How long
- 19 were you there that first time?
- 20 A. It probably would have been at the Easter holiday, maybe
- 21 the Easter weekend, Friday to Monday, something like
- 22 that.
- 23 Q. What age were you then?
- 24 A. I would have been in primary school, Primary Seven.
- 25 Q. Did anything happen on that occasion?

- 1 A. No.
- 2 Q. Did you meet anyone else at Hetland House?
- 3 A. I just remember meeting one other bloke the first day
- 4 there. Then you'd see other Marist Brothers maybe
- 5 wandering the building.
- 6 Q. Is this quite a large building?
- 7 A. Aye, it's like a stately home.
- 8 Q. And I think you told us it's near Dumfries; is that
- 9 right?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. On that first visit, what did you do there for these
- 12 days?
- 13 A. I can't remember anything what I done. All I remember
- 14 is the first day going there, we were down wandering
- 15 along the beach. I don't remember what we done for the
- 16 rest of the weekend. All I remember is at night-time is
- 17 right bad horror stories is what he'd tell you.
- 18 Q. He read you horror stories?
- 19 A. He'd tell you horror stories. Basically, it'd be
- 20 supper, horror stories, bed.
- 21 Q. Clearly, the nuns allowed you to go with this brother.
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. That's the first occasion. On the next occasion, how
- 24 many children went?
- 25 A. There would have been four of us.

1 Q. When do you think this next occasion might have been?

2 A. That might have been during the summer or something like
3 that. It was always like the holidays.

4 Q. For how long do you think on the second occasion you
5 were there for?

6 A. Probably a week.

7 Q. Were there other men in Hetland House at that time?

8 A. Yes, all the Marist Brothers there.

9 Q. On this occasion then, the second occasion, did anything
10 happen?

11 A. I remember waking up one night and he was sitting on my
12 bed and he had my pyjama trousers down and he was
13 masturbating me.

14 Q. Did anything else happen that you can remember?

15 A. Another night I woke up and I seen him bringing a boy
16 back into the room. It was during the night and he told
17 me to get back to sleep and I seen him putting the boy
18 back to bed.

19 Q. Did anything else happen on that occasion that you can
20 now remember?

21 A. There was another time, I don't know if that was the
22 same week, there was a room upstairs, me and another boy
23 was in it, and [REDACTED] LTT was there and two other
24 men. They were sitting beside the chair and I had my
25 pyjama trousers off and there was another boy sitting

1 at the side of me.

2 Q. And did anything else happen?

3 A. That's all I remember.

4 Q. Are you saying something might have happened, you just
5 have no memory of it?

6 A. I've got no memories of it. I have bad nightmares about
7 Hetland House.

8 Q. I think on that occasion you say that [REDACTED] LTT [REDACTED] was
9 there and three other men?

10 A. Two other men.

11 Q. So three altogether?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. But you have no recollection if any of them did
14 anything?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Did you go back to Hetland House after that?

17 A. I think we did, yes. We went a few times.

18 Q. On the other occasions did --

19 A. Hetland House, I've blocked it out of my head. I don't
20 like to think about it. It's the one place that gives
21 me serious nightmares.

22 Q. How long do you think [REDACTED] LTT [REDACTED] had a connection
23 with Nazareth House?

24 A. A couple of years.

25 Q. Let's just look at whether or not and to whom you may

1 have reported anything that happened to you at
2 Nazareth House.

3 First of all, at the time when you were there, and
4 being treated the way you were being treated, did you
5 tell your social workers?

6 A. Yes, you'd tell them, they battered you and hit you and
7 other stuff, but you didn't go into detail.

8 Q. Did they ask you?

9 A. No, I always remember them saying they'd look into it,
10 then you'd never hear anything of it again.

11 Q. You're saying that you told the social workers at the
12 time --

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. -- that you were receiving certain treatment --

15 A. Aye.

16 Q. -- and other stuff?

17 A. Aye. You'd say the other things, they'd do other
18 things.

19 Q. But you wouldn't say what they were?

20 A. No.

21 Q. What did you mean?

22 A. Just the sexual abuse. You'd tell them and they didn't
23 pay any attention.

24 Q. I'll look in a little moment as to what you have done
25 since then, but when you came to leave Nazareth House

1 I think you tell us in your statement that you ran away?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. With another boy; is that right?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And how did that come about? Why did you do that?

6 A. I came in from school and one of the older boys came
7 into my room and he was scared witless and he told me
8 that he had stolen a wage packet that day. The nun had
9 found out and he was going to get a heavy doing
10 afterwards off [REDACTED] LVN and the boy was petrified. So
11 he said to me, "Do you want to run away?" and I said
12 aye.

13 Q. And that's what you did?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. I think then you'd be aged 13; is that correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And that would be in [REDACTED] 1981?

18 A. Aye.

19 Q. Where did you go to?

20 A. Greenock.

21 Q. Did you go to a particular --

22 A. I probably went to my mum's house.

23 Q. I think it's right to say you didn't go back to
24 Nazareth House.

25 A. No, they didn't want us back.

1 Q. Did the other boy go back?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. You tell us in your statement, James, that you also went
4 to another children's home called Carrswood in
5 Johnstone; is that correct?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And you cover that in your statement. I think you're
8 aware we're not looking at that today, although we won't
9 lose sight of that.

10 Just looking to your life after you left care,
11 I think you went to stay with a sister for a while;
12 is that right?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. At a point in time you met some brothers and sisters
15 that you'd never met before; is that correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. What about the brother and sister that had been at
18 Nazareth House? Did they stay there after you left?

19 A. They were fostered out. They had foster families.

20 Q. You also tell us in your statement the different jobs
21 you've done over the years; is that correct?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Quite a number of different jobs?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. I think at the moment your work involves being

1 a supporting actor.

2 A. Aye, working as an extra, supporting actor now and
3 again.

4 Q. And you get regular work?

5 A. I did do, yes.

6 Q. You also provide us, at paragraphs 132 through to 136,
7 with details about your personal circumstances and
8 I think you have one daughter; is that correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. You look after her?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Can I ask you a little bit about the reporting of abuse
13 to the authorities, in particular to the police. Have
14 you reported to the police what happened to you?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. In particular, what happened to you involving

17 **LSM**?

18 A. Basically the police showed up at my door one day and
19 I knew what it was, basically what they wanted. Then
20 I just told them what I knew.

21 Q. Was that fairly recently?

22 A. It was -- last Friday was my last meeting with them.

23 Q. So it's in recent times then?

24 A. Yes, over the last few months I've been speaking with
25 the police.

1 Q. Do I take it from what you have just said that you
2 yourself never went to the police?

3 A. No.

4 Q. But have you told the police, no doubt in greater
5 detail, broadly what you have told the inquiry today?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And about the way you were sexually abused --

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. -- by these three different individuals in particular?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Can I then ask you what impact you think your life in
12 care has had on you, James.

13 A. I don't trust people. Never have, never will. I don't
14 let anybody get close to me.

15 Q. Okay. Is that the main thing?

16 A. Yes, I don't keep relationships going. I will destroy
17 them on purpose.

18 Q. You do tell us in your statement the lessons that you
19 think should be learned. If we can look at
20 paragraph 155 -- That'll come on the screen for you in
21 a moment. What you say there is:

22 "You're never going to stop paedophilia."

23 Do you focus on that in particular because of what
24 happened to you?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And you say that you think that children's homes should
2 have CCTV in the public areas.

3 A. Yes, staff should all have body cams on. It's the only
4 way to make sure everybody's safe.

5 Q. I want to go to just to cover a couple of points I've
6 been asked to raise with you, James. In paragraph 37 of
7 your statement, you say that you were taken on outdoor
8 trips, I think in particular to the Campsie Hills --

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. -- is one place you mention. How often did these trips
11 take place?

12 A. I don't know. They'd take you out in a minibus just to
13 get you out running about basically, get you out of the
14 kids home.

15 Q. Who would take you out?

16 A. Whoever staff members were there.

17 Q. You also talk about being taken swimming now and again.
18 Again, how often do you think that happened?

19 A. Very rarely.

20 Q. Were there local swimming baths you could go to?

21 A. I think it was Govan. It wasn't that far away.

22 Q. So it wasn't a regular thing?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Just to come back to the trips that you made to
25 Hetland House, how were you taken there?

- 1 A. The first time I thought I went by minibus, but we
2 actually went by train, and the times after that, when
3 other kids came, it would be the minibus.
- 4 Q. Not to cover the same ground again, but you mentioned,
5 certainly on the second occasion, there were four
6 children there?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Including your younger brother?
- 9 A. Aye.
- 10 Q. What about any other occasions after that, can you
11 remember how many children there might have been?
- 12 A. I remember a few times going out. There would have been
13 four of us.
- 14 Q. Was it the same four or a different four?
- 15 A. I think it was the same four a few times, because it was
16 me and my brother. I'm not sure if the other two boys
17 were brothers or not. I'm not quite sure of that.
- 18 Q. And we know that your brother is a younger brother?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Can you tell me about the ages of the others, what ages
21 were they?
- 22 A. Probably my age and my young brother's age.
- 23 Q. And I think your younger brother is two years younger
24 than you, so that sort of range of age?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 MR MacAULAY: Thank you for coming today to give your
2 evidence. Those are all the questions that I have for
3 you. Thank you for answering these questions for me.

4 My Lady, I don't know if there are to be any more
5 questions for James.

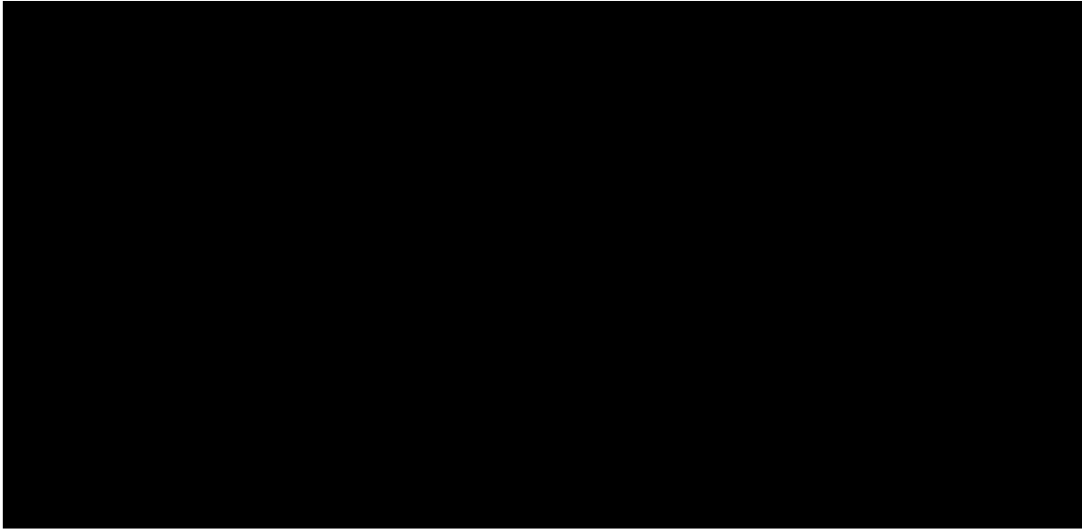
6 LADY SMITH: Could I check whether there are any outstanding
7 applications for questions? No.

8 James, that's all the questions that we have for
9 you. Can I just thank you for coming forward to the
10 inquiry and providing your written statement, the
11 details in it, and also coming here to talk to us today.
12 It has been really helpful and I'm grateful to you for
13 it. I'm now able to let you go. Thank you.

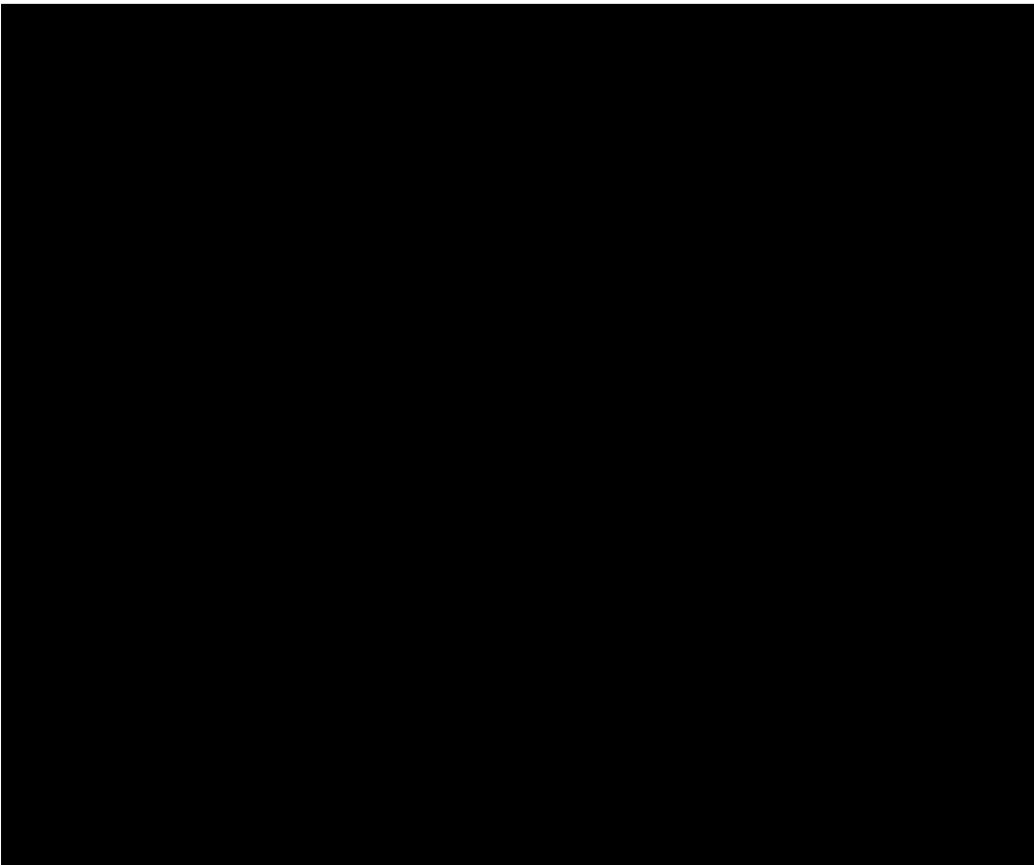
14 (The witness withdrew)

15 LADY SMITH: There are one or two things I need to say to
16 those who are present in the hearing room about names
17 that have been mentioned by this witness.

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Now, Mr MacAulay?

MR MacAULAY: My Lady, that is it for today and indeed for this week. I can say that we are up-to-date with the published programme.

LADY SMITH: Good.

MR MacAULAY: We're not sitting tomorrow or indeed next week. We return on 22 May for three days; I think that's because the Friday is a bank holiday. We continue thereafter with more evidence from applicants. I can say that the delayed process of taking statements from the nuns is almost complete.

LADY SMITH: Good.

1 MR MacAULAY: Your Ladyship is fully aware of the reasons
2 for the delay.

3 LADY SMITH: Yes, we have discussed them in a hearing
4 before.

5 MR MacAULAY: Over 20 sisters have been seen and only two
6 remain to be seen. So it is anticipated that we will be
7 starting that evidence in early June.

8 LADY SMITH: That's very helpful. Thank you, Mr MacAulay.

9 For anyone who didn't hear yesterday the explanation
10 for why we don't have another oral witness today, can
11 I just repeat that that witness unfortunately was not
12 able to come today. That was not something we were
13 aware of earlier this week but we may return to that
14 witness at a later date.

15 However, so far as today is concerned, that is the
16 end of the evidence before the hearing today and I'll
17 now rise.

18 (12.14 pm)

19 (The hearing adjourned until
20 Tuesday, 22 May 2018 at 10.00 am)

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Witness statement of "CLARE" (read)1

Witness statement of "JOHN" (read)21

"JAMES" (affirmed)34

Questions from MR MacAULAY34

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