

1 Wednesday, 7 November 2018

2 (10.00 am)

3 LADY SMITH: Good morning. We return to further evidence  
4 today starting, I think, with a witness who's giving  
5 oral evidence; is that right, Mr Peoples?

6 MR PEOPLES: Yes, good morning, my Lady. The next witness  
7 to give oral evidence wishes to remain anonymous and has  
8 chosen the pseudonym "Ken".

9 "KEN" (affirmed)

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

11 You are in a good position for the microphone. Can  
12 you make sure you stay in a good position for the  
13 microphone: it helps everybody in the room and it  
14 particularly helps the stenographers as well.

15 I'll hand over to Mr Peoples and he'll explain what  
16 happens next.

17 Questions from MR PEOPLES

18 MR PEOPLES: Good morning, Ken.

19 A. Good morning.

20 Q. To start with, can I just explain that the red folder in  
21 front of you contains a copy of your signed statement  
22 and that you're free to use that statement at any stage.  
23 I'm going to ask you some questions based on the  
24 statement. You will also see, when the statement's  
25 referred to, or any other document, the document will

1           come up on the screen in front of you, so feel free to  
2           use the screen if it's easier, or the folder, whichever  
3           suits you best.

4           A. Yes.

5           Q. I'll begin, for the benefit of the transcript, by giving  
6           the reference that we have given to your statement,  
7           which is WIT.001.001.9492.

8           Ken, if I can ask you to take the folder and go to  
9           the final page of your statement, which is page 9525,  
10          and confirm for me that you have signed your statement  
11          on that page.

12          A. Yes, that's my signature.

13          Q. Can you also confirm for me that you've no objection to  
14          your witness statement being published as part of the  
15          evidence to this inquiry and that you believe the facts  
16          stated in your witness statement are true?

17          A. Yes.

18          Q. Can I take you to the front page of your statement. It  
19          will come up on screen as well, but you may find at  
20          times it easier to look at the written statement,  
21          whichever works best for you.

22          Can I begin by asking you to confirm the year of  
23          your birth: were you born in the year 1971?

24          A. I was.

25          Q. I would like to start by looking at a little bit of

1 information about your family background and how you  
2 came to be in the care of Quarriers. I'll just take you  
3 through a little of what you've told us in your written  
4 statement. I don't plan to look at it in close detail,  
5 but I think we need to know the context in which  
6 you were placed in care.

7 You tell us, Ken, in paragraph 2 on page 9492 that  
8 you were born in Glasgow.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And that when you were born your family lived in  
11 Glasgow?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. You are one of four children?

14 A. Yes, I am.

15 Q. And I think you're the oldest of the four?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And you have younger siblings, two brothers and  
18 a sister?

19 A. That's right.

20 Q. And your sister is a year younger than you?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. One of your brothers is a year younger than your sister  
23 and then the other brother is two years younger than  
24 your sister. So you're quite close in ages?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. What you tell us in paragraph 4 is that for the first  
2 five to six years of your life, you were living with  
3 your parents.

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. At that point your parents split up?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And your mum, as you tell us, left the family home?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And you were left in the care of your father?

10 A. Mm-hm.

11 Q. I think you tell us that he coped as best he could  
12 in the circumstances, but he met someone else and at  
13 that point they decided to make a fresh start, which  
14 really meant that you would no longer be living with  
15 them.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. You tell us a little bit about the run-up to being put  
18 into care on page 9493 of your statement. I don't want  
19 to go through this in too much detail, but you have  
20 a fairly clear memory of the day before you went into  
21 care.

22 A. I do, yes.

23 Q. Can you tell us what happened that day?

24 A. The night before, I noticed something was going on  
25 because a removal van turned up and took all of the

1 furniture away. The day that we were taken away, what  
2 happened was we were picked up and taken by taxi to  
3 Hogganfield Loch. There was a Social Work Department  
4 there and it was at the weekend so it was shut and  
5 we were just dumped at the gate and they drove away and  
6 left us there.

7 Q. You tell us in your statement that the person who  
8 accompanied you in the taxi was your father's new  
9 partner.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. You tell us because it was at the weekend, the  
12 department itself was shut?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. But I think you say that basically, your father's  
15 partner just simply left in the taxi?

16 A. Yes, left in a taxi: put us in a wee area, shut the gate  
17 and just drove away.

18 Q. You say that by a bit of good fortune there was a church  
19 quite nearby and that the priest or minister of the  
20 church was able to phone a member of the Social Work  
21 Department?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And the upshot of that was that some social workers came  
24 and took --

25 A. Took us into the building, yes.

1 Q. After making a number of phones call, I think your  
2 recollection is you ended up either that day --

3 A. It was that day, yes.

4 Q. You ended up in Quarriers?

5 A. We did.

6 Q. At Bridge of Weir?

7 A. Mm-hm.

8 Q. Before I ask you about your time in Quarriers, can  
9 I just perhaps put some sort of timescale into the time  
10 you were there, so we've got an understanding of what  
11 you tell us in your statement.

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. So far as dates are concerned, we've had some  
14 information provided by Quarriers about dates that you  
15 were there. What they've told us is that you were first  
16 admitted on [REDACTED] 1979 when you were 8 years of age.

17 A. Correct.

18 Q. And I'll just say this now and we'll come back to this,  
19 that at that stage you were placed in cottage 7.

20 A. Mm-hm.

21 Q. We'll hear a little bit about that in a moment.

22 You stayed in Quarriers in cottage 7 until  
23 [REDACTED] 1982 when you were about 11 and a half years of  
24 age.

25 A. Correct.

1 Q. And then for a short period, you were in a foster care  
2 setting with a couple.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. I think that was in Ayrshire; is that right?

5 A. Yes, an elderly couple.

6 Q. That really didn't work out?

7 A. No.

8 Q. And what happened after that was that you were  
9 readmitted to Quarriers on about [REDACTED] 1982, which  
10 shows how short a period it was.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. So far as I can tell from the information we've been  
13 given, when you went back you went back briefly to  
14 cottage 7 with Mr and Mrs [REDACTED] -- and we'll hear they  
15 were the house parents --

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. -- but around about [REDACTED] 1982, you were  
18 moved or transferred to cottage 6 -- cottage 4, sorry.

19 A. Cottage 4, yes.

20 Q. Sorry, my mistake, cottage 4. The house parents there,  
21 and you'll tell us about them in due course, were Mr and  
22 Mrs Dunbar?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. So far as the records disclose, you stayed in cottage 4  
25 until about [REDACTED] 1984 when you were placed with

1 another couple of foster parents --

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. -- in, I think -- near Airdrie; is that right?

4 A. Chapelhall.

5 Q. And you were with these foster parents until early 1986,

6 but then there was a breakdown in the relationship and

7 what happened at that point was that, I think, you went

8 to live with your maternal grandmother --

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. -- where you continued to live until you left school.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And you were discharged formally from the responsibility

13 of the Local Authority, discharged from care, on

14 [REDACTED] 1987, I think that was the date that we've been

15 given when they formally said that you were no longer

16 their responsibility. It was just after your 16th

17 birthday, and I don't know how much of that you're

18 familiar with.

19 A. I don't know about them formally telling me that I was

20 finished there.

21 Q. And just so that we've got some idea why that happened,

22 I think the background to that is that when your parents

23 split up, and I think they did divorce at some point --

24 is that right?

25 A. Yes, they did.



1 Q. And I think that the local authority, probably around  
2 1980, when you were in Quarriers, were given  
3 responsibility for your care under what's called  
4 section 10 of the Matrimonial Proceedings Act 1958,  
5 which is familiar to some of us. It was an order the  
6 court could make to ensure that children of a marriage,  
7 in the event of a divorce, that there was suitable  
8 arrangements made for their care and custody.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. In the circumstances, the local authority was given that  
11 responsibility --

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. -- which they continued to have until you turned 16.

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. So that's the broad background and I don't think you're  
16 disagreeing with anything that I've said.

17 The only other matter I might mention at this stage  
18 so we've got some context to this -- we see from that  
19 short history of matters that there was an attempt to  
20 place you in foster care in 1982, which didn't work out.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And then there was another attempt in 1984, which did  
23 last for a bit longer before you went to your gran.  
24 I think it's fair to say, and I think you touched on  
25 this in your statement, that the records suggest that

1 from perhaps shortly after you went into Quarriers,  
2 maybe around 1980 when you were about 9 years of age,  
3 the local authority, who were directly responsible for  
4 your care, albeit Quarriers were giving you the  
5 day-to-day care, were looking to find a foster home for  
6 both you and your siblings.

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Initially, according to the records, they were trying to  
9 find a foster home where you could all live --

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. -- all four.

12 A. That's what they told me, yes.

13 Q. And I think you mention that in your statement.

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. But it appears from the records that they were having  
16 some difficulty because of the size of the family,  
17 finding a foster home that would accommodate all four  
18 children?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And I think in the event, they discussed whether the  
21 children should be separated and put in different foster  
22 placements. I don't know how much of that you're  
23 familiar with, but that seems to be what was going on at  
24 that time, that they had to look at the possibility that  
25 you and your brothers and sister would be separated and

1 put into different foster placements.

2 A. Yes. They actually -- again, it's another one of the  
3 things I remember. They actually came to me and said,  
4 because I was the oldest, I had to make the decision to  
5 split us up because they couldn't foster us together.

6 Q. I know you say that, and I think the records would  
7 probably say from the records because you were the  
8 oldest they were letting you know what was happening  
9 because the others may have been too young to be fully  
10 appreciative. I'm not trying to quarrel with you, I'm  
11 saying that's how the records present the matter. You  
12 were informed what was going on --

13 A. The person did say to me that it was my decision and  
14 I had to make the decision. But if I didn't make the  
15 decision, we would never be fostered.

16 Q. I think, as it happens --

17 LADY SMITH: That doesn't sound like a real choice.

18 A. It wasn't a real choice, but that's what I was told  
19 at the time when I was a kid.

20 LADY SMITH: I don't want to put words into your mouth, but  
21 did you feel that you were being told, we cannot find  
22 a foster home for all four of you, that's not going to  
23 happen?

24 A. That's what I was told, yes.

25 MR PEOPLES: I think that was borne out by events because

1 I think two of your -- one of your brothers and your  
2 sister were placed with a family; is that right?

3 A. With a farm, quite quickly.

4 Q. In a farm setting with a couple there?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And I think at another point your other brother was  
7 placed in a foster setting.

8 A. He had several foster placements, yes.

9 Q. But he wasn't with your other brother and sister?

10 A. No.

11 Q. So there was a separation?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And that's the factual position, and indeed you also  
14 were put in foster placements.

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Just so we're clear, the first foster placement in 1982  
17 that only lasted two weeks, were you in that placement  
18 without any of your brothers or sister?

19 A. Yes, I was on my own.

20 Q. Was that also the case in 1984 when you went to  
21 Chapelhall?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And when you went to your gran in 1986, you stayed there  
24 with her and you left school when you were with your  
25 gran; is that right?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. What was the position about your brothers and sister?

3 A. One of my brothers, as I say, the other one that was  
4 fostered separately, he couldn't stick with any other  
5 foster -- I can't remember how many he had, but he had  
6 quite a few foster placements. He couldn't stick with  
7 any of them and the same things happened to him: they  
8 eventually just gave him to my gran. He had been living  
9 with my gran before I went to stay with her. She also  
10 had two older -- her older sons living with her at the  
11 time as well. So it was a busy family, a busy house.

12 Q. You and your brother, the one that was a year younger,  
13 ended up with your gran?

14 A. Two years younger, yes.

15 Q. I'm sorry, you're right.

16 In 1986, that was the situation, that you ended up  
17 being together again?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Can I go back to the statement with that introduction to  
20 page 9494 and ask a little bit about life in cottage 7  
21 where you were until [REDACTED] 1982 and then for a short time  
22 after your foster placement broke down.

23 You tell us at paragraph 11 that you estimate that  
24 there were perhaps 12 to 14 children in cottage 7 when  
25 you were there.

- 1 A. There was quite a few children there, yes.
- 2 Q. It could have been more than that?
- 3 A. There could have been, I'm not sure.
- 4 Q. Were they boys and girls?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Can you give us a rough approximate age range for the  
7 children?
- 8 A. I don't think there were any babies. But there was  
9 pretty much -- from when we went in, [REDACTED] was very  
10 young, and so I would have thought maybe 6 or 7 right  
11 up, maybe even less, I'm not sure.
- 12 Q. The children, maybe the youngest would be perhaps either  
13 just about starting school age --
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. -- or slightly older than that? What about the oldest,  
16 how old were the oldest of the children?
- 17 A. I can't really remember now. I don't think there was  
18 anybody over about 14, 15.
- 19 Q. There were children that were older than you?
- 20 A. Yes he.
- 21 Q. And during that period you were there, you were between  
22 the ages of 8 and 11 [REDACTED], so there would be  
23 children older than you in the house in the cottage?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. I say a cottage, but it was a large house.

1 A. Yes, they called them cottages.

2 Q. We know what they look like and the size of them, so  
3 don't worry about that.

4 LADY SMITH: We're not exactly talking about a thatched roof  
5 and roses round the door.

6 MR PEOPLES: You tell us, of course, that there were also  
7 the [REDACTED] own children who lived in cottage 7.

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. How many children did the [REDACTED] have, do you  
10 remember?

11 A. I think it was only two.

12 Q. Was that a boy and a girl?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. No, sorry, am I ... Sorry, maybe I should just refer  
15 you to the statement. I think you actually think that  
16 the [REDACTED] had three children in paragraph 13. They  
17 had two boys --

18 A. They did have two boys, sorry. They had an older boy,  
19 a younger boy, and I think they had a girl, yes. Sorry  
20 about that.

21 Q. I think it would be easier just to use names if I can at  
22 this stage. The younger [REDACTED] child, the boy, was  
23 called [REDACTED]

24 A. Mm-hm.

25 Q. When you arrived, I think you tell us he was about 6 or

1           7 years old.

2           A. I think that was the age.

3           Q. So a bit younger?

4           A. He was a couple of years younger.

5           Q. And there was another boy called **QEL** who you  
6           estimate was maybe about 12 when you arrived, so about  
7           4 years older than you.

8           A. He was a bit older, yes.

9           LADY SMITH: So he'd feel quite grown-up compared to you if  
10          you were about 7 years old when you got there?

11          A. Yes, he was a lot more grown up than us.

12          MR PEOPLES: I think you have a memory there was a girl, but  
13          you don't have much recollection of her. You think  
14          there was also a daughter --

15          A. Yes.

16          Q. -- of the family?

17                 You tell us what you called the house parents. Can  
18          you tell us, how did you address them?

19          A. We had to call them mother and father, house mother and  
20          father.

21          Q. So that was how they wanted to be addressed?

22          A. That was how they wanted to be addressed -- and the  
23          cottage aunties, no names.

24          Q. Because I think you tell us, you're struggling to maybe  
25          remember the first names, but you think one of them was



1           QEI and I think you're correct on that, it was  
2           QEI And her husband was QAY You  
3           thought that they were perhaps in their 40s or 50s, but  
4           that's a difficult thing --

5           A. I can't remember how old they were.

6           Q. I think I can tell you that the information that we've  
7           been given is that QEI at least, was born in 1946.  
8           So you're a little bit out, but not too far out. And  
9           she is now deceased by the way.

10           So far as the children are concerned, and you make  
11           this point in your statement at 9495 at paragraph 13,  
12           you say you think the QAY/QEI had more time for their  
13           own children. Can you help us with that? What caused  
14           you to think that?

15           A. A lot of the decisions they made and a lot of the --  
16           they always believed their children over us. It wasn't  
17           an even playing field, we were nothing compared to her  
18           family. There was no comparison. We were nothing.

19           Q. I think you'll give us later on, when we look at some of  
20           the detail, perhaps examples of where something happened  
21           and you gave an account and you felt that your account  
22           was not accepted against one of their children?

23           A. Yes.

24           Q. We can look at that in due course.

25           You tell us that in cottage 7 at least you have

1 a memory that the QAY/QEI really had a separate section  
2 of the cottage that was their quarters, if you like --

3 A. They did.

4 Q. -- and that their children spent a lot of time in what  
5 I'd call the QAY/QEI section of the cottage.

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. So far as other staff is concerned, at paragraph 15 you  
8 have a recollection that they did have some  
9 assistance --

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. -- from staff known as, I think, cottage aunties.

12 A. Cottage aunties, yes.

13 Q. You tell us that the cottage auntie would leave at  
14 night.

15 A. I seem to remember -- I don't remember them ever past  
16 bedtime. So I don't think they were in the house then.

17 Q. I think we've heard some evidence that generally there  
18 was a place for cottage aunties to live, staff quarters  
19 in the village, and your recollection is that in this  
20 case the cottage auntie, whoever that was at the time,  
21 would not stay in cottage 7 but would be staying  
22 somewhere else?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. You would therefore see that person in the morning?

25 A. In the morning, when I got out of bed, they were doing

1 the breakfast and all of that kind of stuff.

2 Q. Would you see them when you got back from school?

3 A. I'm pretty sure they would -- they were there.

4 Q. And then at night, by the time it was bed time, would  
5 they have helped?

6 A. I'm pretty sure they would have disappeared because it  
7 was always the [REDACTED] QAY/QEI that put us in bed.

8 Q. And as you tell us, at paragraph 16, some of the things  
9 that the aunties did when they were there. One was  
10 cooking, as you've said, and they did all the chores, so  
11 things like housework and cleaning, was that all done by  
12 an adult, either a cottage auntie or some form of other  
13 domestic help?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. You do say, in relation to the aunties, that in  
16 cottage 7 they never spent any time with the children;  
17 is that your recollection?

18 A. I can't remember ever spending any time with any of  
19 them, no.

20 Q. And you don't have a memory of any real interaction with  
21 those individuals?

22 A. No.

23 Q. Just on the point of interaction, generally speaking  
24 when you were in cottage 7, how much interaction did  
25 you have with [REDACTED] QAY/QEI ?

1 A. It depends what you mean by interaction. As I say, they  
2 didn't have any time for us, but when we were out of  
3 line, they gave you plenty of attention.

4 Q. So that was the interaction --

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. -- that you remember?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. But in terms of just general discussion and talking to  
9 you and asking about your day --

10 A. No, no, I don't remember anything like that, no.

11 Q. And you tell us that you had a social worker, when you  
12 went to Quarriers there was a social worker. You  
13 mention this, I think, in paragraph 16 on page 9495.

14 I just want to be clear: the social worker you have in  
15 mind, was that someone from the local authority?

16 A. We had social workers from Glasgow, yes.

17 Q. And did you also have -- do you remember if you had  
18 a social worker that was an in-house social worker?

19 A. I seem to remember having different social workers, yes:  
20 ones for Quarriers and ones coming and visiting us and  
21 chatting to us about stuff.

22 Q. And both types of social worker then, you have a memory  
23 that they would come to see you from time to time and  
24 would have a chat with you?

25 A. Oh yes, yes. I seen social workers on a fairly regular

1 basis I think.

2 Q. And would these discussions -- where would the QAY/QEI  
3 be when these discussions were taking place? Were they  
4 present or not?

5 A. No. The discussions were either -- with the Quarriers  
6 ones there was a building that I went in to see them and  
7 the ones for the council, when they came to see me, we  
8 just wandered about the village.

9 Q. You tell us that you did at a fairly early stage in your  
10 time at Quarriers -- you asked, I think it's the  
11 external social worker, whether you could make contact  
12 with your father; is that right?

13 A. Yes, I did, with both my parents.

14 Q. Both?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. You tell us in the statement that the social worker did  
17 manage to find the whereabouts of your father.

18 A. What they told me, they said they'd found someone with  
19 the same name, the same date of birth, that matched all  
20 the criteria, but they couldn't tell me whether it was  
21 him or not. They had sent him a letter, but he hadn't  
22 replied to the letter so that was as far as they could  
23 take it.

24 Q. How did they explain this situation to you then about  
25 how -- did they tell you they had sent the letter?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. They had no reply?

3 A. That's what happened. That's what they told me. They  
4 said because they'd sent a letter and they had no reply,  
5 they couldn't do anything else.

6 Q. You say you were told that the social worker said your  
7 dad didn't want to know. Was that how it was put to you  
8 or is that --

9 A. I can't remember if they actually said that exactly, but  
10 they implied it.

11 LADY SMITH: You said a moment ago that they couldn't tell  
12 you if it was your father --

13 A. Yes.

14 LADY SMITH: -- that they had tracked down.

15 A. I'm talking about over several different visits because  
16 later on, when I was in care, a different social worker  
17 told me about a wee bit more about how we ended up in  
18 care, that I wasn't told when we went into care.

19 LADY SMITH: Do you want to tell me about that or not?

20 A. All it was was they said that my dad had approached the  
21 social work, this office that they left us at, for a few  
22 months before it, to say that he couldn't cope and they  
23 said words to the effect that there was nothing they  
24 could do, so that's why he took the action that he did.

25 MR PEOPLES: At the time you went in, just to follow that

1 up, you didn't really get any clear explanation of  
2 what was going on --

3 A. When I went into care --

4 Q. -- when you first went in?

5 A. When I went first in, no, there was nothing said at the  
6 time.

7 Q. All you can remember is just how you got there?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. No one else thought to say, "Well, this is the  
10 situation"?

11 A. No. As I remember, one of the reasons I remember it was  
12 the partner that dropped us off was because she made  
13 a big thing about we were going on holiday.

14 Q. She told you you were going on holiday?

15 A. She said, "You're going to holiday, here's your wee bag  
16 with your clothes in it", and we got a carrier bag with  
17 our clothes in it and a wee bit of Lego and that each.  
18 She said, "When you go on your holiday, we'll come and  
19 pick you up", and then drove off.

20 Q. She said that the pick up point for the holiday was  
21 Hogganfield Loch at the Social Work Department?

22 A. At the Social Work Department, yes. But I didn't know  
23 it was the Social Work Department then, obviously.

24 Q. You hadn't been there before?

25 A. I hadn't, no.

1 Q. In paragraph 17 on page 9496, Ken, you tell us about  
2 a further discussion you had with the social worker and  
3 I think this touches on something we discussed earlier  
4 about the separation of you and your brothers and sister  
5 in order to place you with foster parents. You have  
6 a memory that there was a discussion --

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. -- and that you had a discussion with the social worker  
9 on that subject and that basically you felt that it was  
10 left to you to make the decision about whether that  
11 should happen?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. But if you didn't agree to it, you say that you were  
14 being told that the children would all stay in  
15 Quarriers?

16 A. That was what I was told. I was told if I wanted to get  
17 us out of Quarriers, the best chance we had was if I let  
18 the family be split up because no one wanted a family  
19 that big.

20 Q. I take it then that you at least went along with the  
21 idea in those circumstances against that choice?

22 A. Yes. I didn't have a choice, I just said, yes, get it  
23 done.

24 Q. You weren't going to say, if it means splitting us up,  
25 I want us all to stay in Quarriers? You weren't saying



1           that to them?

2           A. No, I didn't want to say that to them.

3           Q. As you tell us in paragraph 18, your younger sister --

4           ██████████ I think we can call her just now -- and your  
5           younger brother ██████████ were fostered on this farm quite  
6           quickly after this discussion that you had with the  
7           social worker?

8           A. Yes.

9           Q. And you tell us at paragraph 19 about how your younger  
10          brother, ██████████ was fostered several times to your  
11          knowledge, but they don't seem to have been very  
12          successful.

13          A. No.

14          Q. And indeed each time they broke down, he would end up  
15          back in cottage 7?

16          A. Yes, he was always in cottage 7. He always seemed to go  
17          back to cottage 7.

18          Q. When you went to cottage 4, was it just you?

19          A. I was the only member there.

20          Q. At that stage?

21          A. Yes.

22          Q. You ended up seeing ██████████ at your gran's in 1986?

23          A. Yes.

24          Q. You have a section in your statement that describes the  
25          routine in cottage 7 and that's on page 9497. You make

1 the point at paragraph 20 that nobody explained to you  
2 at that time what was happening and what would happen.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. You have a memory of your first day in cottage 7 to do  
5 with sandwiches and cake.

6 A. Yes, that whole day is burned in my memory, yes.

7 Q. Can you help us then? What is it you remember  
8 particularly about that occasion?

9 A. As I say, when the social workers -- I remember  
10 Hogganfield Loch, I remember standing there for a wee  
11 while, going into the church, then getting up and are  
12 getting some soup and all that kind of stuff.  
13 I remember them making all the phone calls, and I don't  
14 remember what was exactly told to us, but we were  
15 bundled into a car, drove to Quarriers, taken straight  
16 to cottage 4, and when we went in, everybody was all  
17 nicey-nicey.

18 Q. Cottage 7, I think.

19 A. Yes, cottage 7. We were taken straight to cottage 7 and  
20 we were straight into the kitchen and there was this  
21 table with all these sandwiches and cakes and all that.  
22 That's the thing that I remember, going straight for the  
23 cakes, "Oh, there's a lovely big cake". So I grabbed  
24 the cake, started eating the cake and I got shouted at  
25 and that was a bit of a surprise.

1 Q. Do you remember who did the shouting?

2 A. Oh, it was her.

3 Q. [REDACTED] QEI [REDACTED] ?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Just so we're clear about this, the cakes and sandwiches  
6 were laid out on your first day, but when you arrived  
7 you were in the company of the social worker?

8 A. They were still there, yes.

9 Q. So they would see what was laid out for you?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. But then they left?

12 A. Yes. I can't remember how long they stayed.

13 Q. They left and the shouting started after they left?

14 A. No, they were still there because as soon as we went in,  
15 we went straight into the kitchen, they had obviously  
16 laid this stuff out for you, and they said, "Go help  
17 yourselves". I seen these -- I can't remember what type  
18 of cake it was, I seem to remember it being a cream  
19 cake. I went, oh, I'm having that, just went in,  
20 grabbed it first, and she just turned round and said,  
21 "No, sandwiches first". Whatever it was she was  
22 shouting, I can't remember. That's when I realised how  
23 strict she was going to be.

24 Q. You tell us how you felt. You said you felt scared?

25 A. I did. That got me going.

1 Q. And I think you indicate that that isn't something you'd  
2 experienced before, being shouted at for eating  
3 a cake --

4 A. No.

5 Q. -- rather than a sandwich and a cake?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. You tell us a bit about daily routine and we can read  
8 that for ourselves about how life operated. There was  
9 a routine?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. A fixed routine and you describe what that was. I'll  
12 just -- there's a couple of things I'll maybe pick up  
13 about the routine.

14 In relation to mealtimes at page 9498, paragraph 26,  
15 you say that the cottage aunties were the persons that  
16 you recall preparing the meals.

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. So it wasn't QEI

19 A. No.

20 Q. What was she doing when the meals were being prepared?

21 A. She was in her own section; she was probably making her  
22 own meals.

23 Q. I take it from that she didn't eat with the children,  
24 you and the other boys and girls?

25 A. Not that I'm aware of. I can't remember her eating with

1 us, no.

2 Q. You think she had some separate area?

3 A. She definitely had a separate house in the cottage, but  
4 I think she possibly had her own meals in there as well.

5 Q. You tell us a bit about the meals and some of the things  
6 you didn't particularly like. You didn't particularly  
7 like Brussels sprouts, perhaps not an uncommon thing for  
8 young children. But you also tell us what would happen  
9 if someone didn't eat their food. They were punished?

10 A. They were punished, yes.

11 Q. Can you tell me what you mean by -- I think you tell us  
12 they got leathered. Can you tell me what you mean by  
13 leathered in this context?

14 A. Leathered, they just used to punch and kick you.  
15 I don't remember them ever using any implements on us,  
16 but there were definitely a lot of beatings with  
17 punching and kicking.

18 Q. Who are "they"?

19 A. QAY/QEI

20 Q. Was it one rather than the other?

21 A. It was mainly her, it was mainly her, yes.

22 Q. What about the cottage aunties?

23 A. They cottage aunties were never involved. They just  
24 made themselves sparse, obviously, just didn't want to  
25 get involved.

1 Q. Would they have seen this though?

2 A. They must have seen it because it happened at all times  
3 of day.

4 Q. And this was the response if someone didn't eat their  
5 food?

6 A. It was the response for anything that they didn't like.

7 Q. Okay. So these forms of leathering could be for  
8 a variety of things, but one situation where that would  
9 happen is if --

10 A. If you didn't finish your dinner because they slaved to  
11 make the dinner so we had to eat it.

12 Q. I think the way you perhaps dealt with this situation  
13 was basically to try and eat the food even if you didn't  
14 enjoy it?

15 A. You had to eat the food.

16 Q. And did other children do the same?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Just so I'm clear, were there times when you didn't eat  
19 your food and you were punished in this way or is this  
20 more something you saw happen to others?

21 A. It probably happened to me sometimes. Sometimes you  
22 can't force yourself to eat something if it's that bad.  
23 It happened to me sometimes, but you just get into a  
24 rhythm of just trying to do everything better than  
25 someone else, so that it'd be someone else that got it

1           rather than you.

2           Q.   But did you see other people being leathered?

3           A.   Oh, other people got leathered.  I can't remember --

4           I remember it happened all the time, but I can't  
5           remember any of the other kids.  I have just blocked all  
6           the other kids from my memory.  But it did happen all  
7           the time, yes.

8           Q.   You can't remember the particular children you saw it  
9           happen to, but you saw it happen --

10          A.   Yes.

11          Q.   -- on a regular basis?

12          A.   Yes.

13          Q.   And at mealtimes?

14          A.   Yes.

15          Q.   But you also saw it at other times --

16          A.   It happened all the time.

17          Q.   If they didn't like something or they felt you were  
18          doing something wrong --

19          A.   Yes, you didn't go to sleep in time or anything.  There  
20          were lots of things.

21          Q.   Moving on in your statement at page 9499, you tell us  
22          a little bit about the school and we can read that for  
23          ourselves, but basically you loved going to school, did  
24          you say?

25          A.   I didn't have anything wrong with going to school.

1           There was a primary school in Quarriers and that was  
2           a really -- I really enjoyed that. Going to the  
3           secondary schools outside, the teachers looked down --  
4           I won't say looked down on us but they gave us an easier  
5           time because we came from care. They didn't really  
6           teach us all that much because they thought they're  
7           dealing with enough, so I didn't really learn enough in  
8           secondary school. But yes, I enjoyed school.

9           Q. I suppose you're saying then from an educational  
10           standpoint you didn't feel that secondary school gave  
11           you enough of an education but you were treated well  
12           enough?

13          A. Oh, I was treated well enough and a lot of teachers felt  
14           sorry for me. One teacher in particular, one of the  
15           French teachers, you just sat there -- the rest of the  
16           school -- I didn't have a bloody clue because I got put  
17           in at the middle of the year so I didn't have a clue  
18           what was going on. He told me to sit and draw pictures  
19           while the rest of the class were all learning the stuff.  
20           I remember all that.

21          Q. On page 9500, Ken, you tell us a little bit about free  
22           time or leisure time. Essentially you say the way you  
23           spent your free time was you would generally go out and  
24           about and wander around.

25          A. That was it.



1 Q. You kept to yourself a lot?

2 A. Yes. That was the way I coped, I just closed myself off  
3 from everything, yes.

4 Q. You tell us there would be trips during the summer,  
5 holidays to Girvan and that the **QAY/QEI** went with you?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Were these generally happier times for you or not?

8 A. They always seemed to give us more freedom out there.  
9 Things did go a lot nicer out there, yes.

10 Q. Just on that point, though, you weren't in their cottage  
11 on these occasions. Were there other house parents and  
12 other children that shared the accommodation?

13 A. Yes, there were. I can't remember how big -- this was  
14 another property that I think Quarriers owned because  
15 they had -- at Little Girvan there were several  
16 properties they owned and they were big, massive  
17 farmhouse-type buildings and, yes, there were a lot of  
18 children there.

19 Q. And on those occasions, the **QAY/QEI** and the children  
20 they looked after who went on holiday with them would  
21 not simply be on their own, they'd be with other  
22 children and perhaps other house parents?

23 A. I'm not sure if other cottages were there at the same  
24 time. I just remember there was -- and I remember that  
25 was times that the cottage aunties actually did take

1 time to actually be with us because I remember going  
2 down to the beach with some of the aunties some of the  
3 times.

4 Q. So far as special occasions are concerned at page 9501  
5 you don't have -- paragraph 37 -- a memory of either  
6 your birthday or other birthdays being celebrated in  
7 cottage 7; is that the situation?

8 A. I don't.

9 Q. So it didn't seem to be that there was anything special  
10 for someone's birthday?

11 A. No, I don't remember anything like that ever happening.

12 Q. At Christmas, you say very much the same. You didn't  
13 consider it was treated as a very special day in  
14 cottage 7?

15 A. No, it wasn't.

16 Q. And no one made a big deal of it, as you put it, in that  
17 cottage, although I think you did get a present.

18 A. Yes. But I can't remember if that was in cottage 7 or  
19 cottage 4.

20 Q. When you got a present?

21 A. When I got the present. That's the only present  
22 I remember getting when I was in Quarriers.

23 Q. Yes, because you do talk about getting a cassette and  
24 you wanted ABBA and you got Bucks Fizz, which no doubt  
25 was a huge disappointment at the time.

- 1 A. They told me they were the same.
- 2 Q. And you thought it was [REDACTED] QEI [REDACTED] who had given you  
3 that present, but you're not sure now?
- 4 A. I'm not 100% sure.
- 5 Q. It might have been --
- 6 A. It might have been the other cottage, I'm not sure which  
7 one.
- 8 Q. That's fine. At paragraph 41 -- and I think you've  
9 covered this in your evidence already -- you tell us  
10 that you would see social workers on a regular basis.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Both in-house and externally from the local authority?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Just in the matter of the local authority's  
15 social workers, was there always one person that you had  
16 dealings with or did the person change?
- 17 A. I had several. I can't remember how many I had, but  
18 I had four or five or six, maybe even more.
- 19 Q. I think maybe you say that in paragraph 42 on page 9502,  
20 that, as you put it, social workers came and went.
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. So you weren't getting the same social worker seeing you  
23 and talking to you?
- 24 A. No, I wasn't.
- 25 Q. You have expressed a view about how much interest they

1           were taking in what you were saying and what you were  
2           doing because you say it didn't seem to you as if they  
3           were really caring. Why did you feel that?

4           A. Are you talking about the fact that I told them what was  
5           happening in Quarriers and they didn't stop it? They  
6           said it was just their way, it was discipline, they had  
7           to --

8           Q. I'm just trying to get from you -- is that part of why  
9           you think they didn't seem to be caring about what you  
10          were saying? Because you say:

11                 "A lot of them just seemed to be just doing what  
12                 they needed to do."

13          A. Yes, a lot of them did. They just came -- there was  
14          a couple of them that were good social workers, and they  
15          did care, they took me out, we went to wee restaurants  
16          and they had wee chats with me, but most of them just  
17          didn't seem to what to know. They just came out because  
18          they had to come out.

19          Q. When you did say something about things that were  
20          happening, you didn't feel that you got a satisfactory  
21          response when you reported things to social workers?

22          A. When I was a kid, I just accepted it. They said,  
23          "That's just the way life it, deal with it", and I just  
24          accepted it. It's now that I'm looking back on it, it's  
25          definitely not what they should have been bloody doing.

1 Q. You took what they said at face value?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And you didn't question it?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And now you realise it wasn't an appropriate response to  
6 what you were saying?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Just again, I'll just take this from you, at  
9 paragraph 45 on page 9502, I think you have no memory of  
10 any inspections of cottage 7 or indeed of cottage 4 in  
11 your time, someone coming round to look at the place  
12 generally or to see how children were being looked  
13 after?

14 A. No, I don't remember that ever happening, no.

15 Q. So far as the way that you coped with life in Quarriers  
16 is concerned, you address that and tell us about that at  
17 paragraph 48 on page 9503. You say that:

18 "[You] got to a stage where you did what you had to  
19 do and nothing else and [you] stayed out of everybody's  
20 hair and [you] kept [yourself] to [yourself]."

21 What was it that caused you to deal with matters  
22 in that way?

23 A. It was the constant beatings and the constant putting  
24 down and it was just -- as I say, you just had to be one  
25 of the kids that stayed under the radar. That was all

1           you could hope for was that you could be below the -- if  
2           the **QAY/QEI** didn't see -- if somebody was doing  
3           something that they didn't like, more than -- less than  
4           you liked, then it was them that were going to get it  
5           rather than you.

6           Q. And you have an expression for that that you tell us  
7           about; what's the expression?

8           A. Again, that was after I left. Somebody said that to me.  
9           The expression is seagulling it. I just seagulled  
10          through life, I just coasted through life, and for years  
11          that's all I done. I kept my head down and hoped  
12          it would go away.

13          Q. Obviously, in doing that, you were also trying no doubt  
14          to avoid doing things that would attract punishment?

15          A. That was why. That was what it was about. You just  
16          tried not to do anything that would lift your head from  
17          the parapet. You'd want to be below the radar.

18          Q. And I think looking back, at paragraph 49 you tell us  
19          that you got so good at it that you didn't realise that  
20          it turned into something that appeared to be that you  
21          were ignoring people or you weren't listening to them  
22          and things of that nature.

23          A. Yes, that's how -- and even after leaving care, it took  
24          me quite a long time to stop doing that and I still go  
25          into that mode every so often. But yeah, I got sent to

1 a psychiatrist to see if there was something wrong with  
2 me mentally because I wasn't listening to anybody, and  
3 they sent me to a hearing place where I went into  
4 a booth and they were pressing all the buttons and all  
5 that kind of stuff. And they realised, yes, I could  
6 hear fine, I was just choosing not to.

7 Q. I think at that point they really discovered that you  
8 simply weren't paying attention --

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. -- or you weren't going to listen and you were just  
11 going to --

12 A. Seagull it.

13 Q. -- seagull it, to use your expression.

14 You tell us that although things did happen, there  
15 would be leatherings and you got some of these, that you  
16 never considered running away though?

17 A. No, that was never in my nature.

18 Q. Were there others who did run away?

19 A. There were other kids that ran away, yes.

20 Q. Would that be children from cottage 7 or --

21 A. I just remember that kids from Quarriers ran away. You  
22 heard about it all the time. I forgot pretty much every  
23 kid from the place now, so I can't really remember what  
24 cottages they were from.

25 Q. On page 9504, Ken, you tell us a bit about bed-wetting.

1 I think you make clear there that you weren't someone  
2 who wet the bed.

3 A. No.

4 Q. But there were children who did?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And this was in cottage 7?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Just tell us about that. What do you remember seeing?

9 A. I remember seeing kids getting dragged out of bed and  
10 forced to smell the sheets, pushing their faces into the  
11 sheets, taking the sheets off the bed and all that kind  
12 of stuff and putting them in the sheets, and them  
13 getting leathered and stuff like that.

14 Q. Who was dragging them out of bed?

15 A. It was always the QAY/QEI They were the only ones in  
16 the house at that time.

17 Q. Was it generally one rather than the other?

18 A. Nearly everything's her. Nearly everything's her.

19 Q. If she dragged a child out of bed -- and you saw this  
20 from time to time --

21 A. It was a big communal bedroom, so there were eight and  
22 ten and 12 of us in the room.

23 Q. Just again, so that I'm clear, what were the QAY/QEI  
24 particularly QEI, doing with the wet sheets?

25 A. Screaming at the kids, dragging them out of bed by their



1 hair and stuff, and pushing their face into the sheets  
2 and stuff like that.

3 Q. When the sheet was on the bed?

4 A. The sheet was on the bed, yes, there was a wet sheet on  
5 the bed.

6 Q. And she would push the child's head and face towards the  
7 sheet?

8 A. Yes, into the stuff, yes.

9 Q. To the point that there was contact between the wet  
10 sheet --

11 A. Yes, yes, rubbing the pee and that all over them.

12 Q. And you saw this happening?

13 A. Yes, everybody did.

14 Q. And did it happen to a number of children or particular  
15 children?

16 A. Yes, there were particular children that wet the bed on  
17 a regular basis, but anybody it happened to, they would  
18 get -- would get sorted out.

19 Q. Apart from being dragged out of bed and having their  
20 faces rubbed in these wet sheets, what else happened on  
21 these occasions?

22 A. Oh, they got leathered, for that they got leathered and  
23 they'd be forced to sleep on the floor or things like  
24 that. I don't think any of them people got put in the  
25 shed, but I can't really remember.

1 Q. When you say leathered, is it the same as before?

2 A. Yes, when I'm saying leathered, I'm talking about kicked  
3 and punched.

4 Q. So it's what you described earlier that would happen at  
5 mealtimes, for example, if food wasn't eaten?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. You say that if a child -- presumably on these occasions  
8 when children were dragged out of bed and had their  
9 faces rubbed in wet sheets and were leathered, these  
10 would be in the morning; is that right?

11 A. Not only the morning. It was sometimes at night if they  
12 got caught in the night. If the person woke up in the  
13 middle of the night and said, oh, I've wet the bed, it  
14 could happen then. It could happen any time.

15 Q. Although you do say that if someone wet the bed during  
16 the night they might have to continue to sleep in the  
17 wet sheets all night.

18 A. That happened a couple of times as well, yes.

19 Q. You have a memory of a specific occasion involving your  
20 brother [REDACTED] when he wet the bed; can you tell us  
21 about that?

22 A. There's been several things, but [REDACTED] and I, after  
23 a wee while in Quarriers, really got to the stage where  
24 we didn't get on. Part of that might have just been  
25 because of the fact that none of us wanted to be the one

1           that was getting into trouble. But [REDACTED] always seemed  
2           to try and get me into trouble more than him. And there  
3           was one -- he wet the bed a few times and there was one  
4           time I tried to make it look as if he had wet the bed.

5           Q. So on that occasion he hadn't wet the bed but you tried  
6           to make it --

7           A. To make it look like as if he had so that it was him  
8           rather than me that got it. Obviously, because I'm not  
9           a master criminal, I didn't get away with it.

10          Q. You were caught, as you tell us?

11          A. Yes.

12          Q. What happened when you were caught?

13          A. I obviously knew what was going and I tried to hide, and  
14          then I got the lettering and was told to sleep under the  
15          bed.

16          Q. Under whose bed?

17          A. His bed.

18          Q. And who was leathering you on this occasion?

19          A. Her again.

20          Q. And I think you have a memory of, is it [REDACTED] QEI  
21          kicking your head?

22          A. Oh, she -- that was --

23          Q. On this occasion?

24          A. She kicked my head a lot. You learned to try and go  
25          into the cocoon shape so it was just your back that was

1 getting it most of the time.

2 Q. When she did leather children, they could be struck on  
3 the head, the body, the legs?

4 A. Oh, she didn't care, no.

5 LADY SMITH: You say you had to sleep under his bed.

6 A. Yes, I remember that, yes.

7 LADY SMITH: And you have mentioned it being common for  
8 children who wet the bed having to sleep on the floor;  
9 is that right?

10 A. Yes. Either sleep on the floor, if it was so bad, or  
11 sleep on their wet bed if it was just pee that was on  
12 the bed or whatever, so yes.

13 LADY SMITH: When they slept on the floor, did they have bed  
14 covers.

15 A. No, you just slept on the floor.

16 LADY SMITH: Just in their pyjamas?

17 A. Yes.

18 MR PEOPLES: So far as these leatherings or beatings are  
19 concerned that you've described, at paragraph 56 of your  
20 statement on page 9504 you make the point that

21 QEI wasn't concerned who was there when she was  
22 doing this.

23 A. No, when she wanted to go off, she went off, yes.

24 Q. So she wasn't concerned to conceal what she was doing?

25 A. She didn't need to.

1 Q. Why was that?

2 A. I remember after it happening, the first couple of times  
3 I spoke to the social work, and that's what they said to  
4 me, they said it's discipline, she's got a lot of kids  
5 to look after, that's what they've got to do.

6 Q. To kick and punch and leather?

7 A. Yes, so they needed to keep us in line. That's what  
8 I was told.

9 Q. Did you make them aware what sort of discipline, to use  
10 that expression, she was using, leathering, kicking,  
11 punching and so forth?

12 A. Yes. There was at least once that they came to visit me  
13 when I was -- a couple of the beatings were so bad that  
14 I was in bed to the following day and I remember one of  
15 the times they came up to the room and they asked me  
16 what had happened and I explained to them what had  
17 happened. That's what they said, they said it's just  
18 discipline, it's fine, don't worry about it, just get on  
19 with it.

20 Q. On page 9505 at paragraph 57, and you've said this  
21 earlier, I think that generally [REDACTED] QEI was the one  
22 that was giving you the leathers and beatings and she  
23 did that with the other children.

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. But from time to time [REDACTED] QAY would give you --

1 A. I remember him --

2 Q. -- a beating?

3 A. Yes, there were a couple of times where he decided that  
4 the punishment merited the two of them laying into you.

5 Q. You say that when he was involved, in paragraph 57, it  
6 tended to be done when there was no one else around?

7 A. Probably. I'm not 100% of that, but I seem to remember  
8 that he always seemed to do it when it was just the two  
9 of them.

10 Q. Your general memory is that [REDACTED] QEI [REDACTED] was the one that  
11 was doing the bulk of it?

12 A. She was in charge, yes. She just done what she wanted  
13 to do, yes.

14 Q. At paragraph 58 you, to some extent, think that the way  
15 you were treated, as you've described, may have started  
16 after your younger sister [REDACTED] and younger brother  
17 [REDACTED] had left. Was that a point at which things changed  
18 or not?

19 A. I don't know. I don't remember them being involved in  
20 any of the beatings.

21 Q. So you --

22 A. I'm thinking -- I'm hoping they got out of Quarriers  
23 before it started.

24 Q. When you are talking about children being these beatings  
25 and leatherings, are you excluding any of the children

1 of any age from this?

2 A. As I say, I can't really remember. It seemed to happen  
3 to anyone. If you done something that upset her, you  
4 got it. So I don't think she had any problem with what  
5 age you were or what sex you were.

6 Q. So you at this stage in cottage 7 would have been  
7 between 8 and 12 --

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. -- for the bulk of the time you were in cottage 7. It's  
10 your memory that children that were younger than you as  
11 well as children that were older than you would have the  
12 same treatment --

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. -- would have got the same treatment?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. At paragraph 58 you mention something that happened.  
17 You talk about something happening to the younger

18 **QAY/QEI** son, **██████**.

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Was this an occasion when he was near a river?

21 A. Mm-hm.

22 Q. Because there is a reference to this matter in records  
23 that relate to you and I just want to be clear whether  
24 we're talking about the same occasion.

25 A. We are talking about the same occasion, yes.

1 Q. Can I perhaps look at the records at this stage, just to  
2 see what is said there on the matter. If we could have  
3 in front of you QAR.001.003.9568.

4 This bears to be a handwritten report, dated  
5 15 September 1981. It relates to you at a time you were  
6 in cottage 7, and I think this is the incident involving  
7 [REDACTED] that you refer to in your statement.

8 Have you seen this document before?

9 A. I haven't.

10 Q. You at this stage would have been 10 years old --

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. -- in 1981, in September? It seems to be a report of  
13 the incident and what happened thereafter, which has  
14 been written up by -- it looks like "[REDACTED] QAY",  
15 which would be the house parent, [REDACTED] QAY. It's  
16 countersigned by someone called J Mortimer,  
17 Joe Mortimer. I don't know if that's a name that means  
18 anything to you?

19 A. It means nothing to me.

20 Q. He was a superintendent, so a senior figure in Quarriers  
21 at the time. It appears he has been provided with this  
22 report and he makes a comment, which we can look at in  
23 a moment or we can read for ourselves.

24 The report says that something happened on Saturday,  
25 22 August 1981. It says that your brother [REDACTED], young



1 [REDACTED] -- and what age would [REDACTED] have been?

2 A. He would have been a couple of years below me, so he'd  
3 have been 8.

4 Q. According to the report, I'll read what it says:

5 "Young [REDACTED] came rushing into the cottage  
6 shouting, 'Wee [REDACTED] is drowning in the river'. He was  
7 asked by the house mother [that's [REDACTED] QEI [REDACTED] I take it]  
8 what part of the river but [REDACTED] was unable to answer.  
9 It was then the older boy [REDACTED] QEL [that would be [REDACTED] QEL  
10 the [REDACTED] QAY/QEI son] put his hands on [REDACTED] shoulders  
11 and was shaking [REDACTED] with [something] trying to get an  
12 answer. The house mother told [REDACTED] QEL to stop and ask  
13 [REDACTED] to show us where [REDACTED] was."

14 According to this report, [REDACTED] has come in, young  
15 [REDACTED] QEL reacts in a certain way, [REDACTED] QEI wants to  
16 know where [REDACTED] is, and tells her son [REDACTED] QEL to stop.

17 The report goes on and this is [REDACTED] QAY report:

18 "As we ran towards the river, we were met by the  
19 girls who pulled [REDACTED] out. She then held him over to  
20 his younger brother. As most of the kids were saying it  
21 was [REDACTED] QDU who did it and [REDACTED] QDU was saying it was [REDACTED]  
22 I told both boys [that's presumably [REDACTED] QDU nd [REDACTED] to  
23 come back to the cottage to explain what happened.

24 "By this time I had I had [REDACTED] in my arms and, along  
25 with my wife [REDACTED] QEI ], took him into the kitchen to

1 tidy the boy up.

2 QDU and ██████ were standing in the hallway along  
3 with my eldest son, QEL. When I went back to see the  
4 boys, I found ██████ crying and he was saying, ' QEL  
5 hit me'. I then sent QEL into the sitting room and  
6 started to ask the boys to explain what happened. QDU  
7 said he threw a crisp paper into the river and it got  
8 caught in the grass, but he did not mean to push ██████  
9 in."

10 This is how it's recorded:

11 "His punishment was a good smack in the behind  
12 [I think] and sent to bed. ██████, on the other hand,  
13 was slightly bruised at the eye and on both shoulders  
14 due to QEL pressing him there [it's hard to read]."

15 But it seems to mean that any injury was caused by  
16 what QEL did to him on that occasion. Then QAY  
17 concludes the report by saying:

18 "I personally believe that this was a boyish prank  
19 and that QDU meant no danger towards ██████. Indeed,  
20 since the incident happened three weeks ago there has  
21 been no further talk about what happened. QDU, ██████  
22 and ██████ remain the same as before."

23 In response to that report, on, it would appear,  
24 5 September 1981, Joe Mortimer says:

25 "I am completely satisfied with this report."

1           So it looks as if [REDACTED] QAY made a report of the  
2 matter in the terms that we've just looked at and this  
3 has been provided to Mr Mortimer, who is satisfied with  
4 the report and there doesn't seem to have been any  
5 further action --

6           A. Yes.

7           Q. -- suggested, at least according to this record.

8           Does that accord with your memory of what happened?  
9           Because I think to some extent you talked about [REDACTED]  
10 falling in your statement and I just wanted to be clear  
11 whether -- there's obviously a description at the time  
12 by [REDACTED] QAY. Obviously, he wasn't there when it  
13 happened, but he asked others to give him an account.  
14 I just want to know what you make of the report.

15          A. Nothing, really. As I say, I do -- again, I can  
16 remember this day clearly and it's pretty much right.  
17 The river ... [REDACTED] was young at the time and the river  
18 was only so deep (indicating). It wasn't deep, but none  
19 of us could swim at the time, so that's why none of us  
20 went into the river to actually get him. That's what  
21 the fault was: we should have climbed into the river and  
22 helped him out. But [REDACTED] ran back to the cottage and  
23 I ran and got somebody else and it was them who went  
24 into the river and got him. It was just a case of  
25 stepping into the river, but we were weans at the time

1 and we didn't know how deep the river was and none of us  
2 could swim.

3 What had happened -- when we went back to the  
4 cottage -- what happened was we were all out carrying  
5 on, he fell -- that's what it was. The side of the  
6 river had reeds hanging over it and he fell into the  
7 river, but the **QAY/QEI** wouldn't accept that, so that's  
8 why one of us had to be to blame. But when we went back  
9 to the cottage, we did get leathered.

10 Q. So the description in the report of getting -- I'll just  
11 try and find it again.

12 A. That was --

13 Q. He gave you -- he puts it in this way: the punishment  
14 that you received was, as he describes it, "a good smack  
15 on the behind and sent to bed"; was that all that  
16 happened?

17 A. No, definitely not, no.

18 Q. So you say you were leathered on that occasion?

19 A. We were. We were both on the ground and we were getting  
20 laid into.

21 LADY SMITH: When you say both, you and **██████████**?

22 A. Yes.

23 LADY SMITH: Because him being physically punished isn't  
24 mentioned in the report at all, I don't think. Is it?

25 MR PEOPLES: No.

1 LADY SMITH: He is being hit by [REDACTED] QEL, according to the  
2 report --

3 A. Yes.

4 LADY SMITH: -- but not as a punishment. That's just the  
5 boys hitting each other and [REDACTED] QEL is sent away to the  
6 sitting room.

7 A. No, what had happened, I remember, they were saying, "It  
8 was one of youse, one of youse has to own up", and we  
9 both explained, no, it was a crisp packet, he was going  
10 for the crisp packet, he fell threw the reeds. "No, one  
11 of youse done it". So eventually I just said, right, it  
12 was me that done it, and then I got even more of  
13 a kicking because I'd let [REDACTED] get some of the kicking  
14 that I deserved.

15 MR PEOPLES: What you tell us in paragraph 58 then, Ken,  
16 is that your clear memory of that occasion is that when  
17 you were in cottage 7, you were leathered in the sort of  
18 way that you've described in paragraph 58, that involved  
19 you being kicked on your back, your head, your legs, you  
20 ended up in what you describe as the foetal position  
21 during that beating.

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And that both [REDACTED] QAY/QEI were involved in that  
24 beating?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And that's what happened to you --

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. -- on that occasion?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Moving on, you tell us, and I think we're familiar with  
6 the fact that a lot of the cottages had sheds at the  
7 back of the property.

8 A. Mm-hm.

9 Q. Was that what they were generally called by the children  
10 or by the house parents, the sheds?

11 A. That's what we seemed to call them. That's what we were  
12 told they were, yes.

13 Q. This shed that was at the back of cottage 7, you tell us  
14 that QEI would use it as a place of punishment.

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. What would happen?

17 A. What would happen -- it was obviously at night, so if  
18 she decided that you were making too much noise at  
19 night, she would send you down to the shed and lock you  
20 in the shed. The shed is just a bit of the back of the  
21 cottage that's all glass, and it's got a concrete floor  
22 and you'd have to sit there, bare feet and jammies, and  
23 just try and keep yourself as warm as you could.

24 Q. If you were wearing pyjamas, would this therefore be  
25 a punishment that might well have been given at night?

1 A. It was only at night, yes.

2 Q. And as you say, you'd be taken there by -- was it  
3 generally QEI?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And it was a punishment that was frequently used?

6 A. It happened to me quite a few times.

7 Q. Did it happen to other children?

8 A. Yes, it did happen to other children, yes. It was  
9 always only one child at a time, I think it was only one  
10 child at a time, I don't remember talking to anyone when  
11 I was down there.

12 Q. I think that's the point you made in your statement,  
13 that you recall you were always on your own on these  
14 occasions. The lights were off?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Cold?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. You tell us the door was locked. Did you try it or did  
19 you just assume it was?

20 A. We knew. They always kept the key in it and we knew  
21 when the locked the door because -- you could hear them  
22 because it was a big lock, so you hear the clunk of them  
23 locking the door.

24 Q. You could hear the key being turned after you were put  
25 in the shed?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. You estimate you were left there for quite long periods,  
3 hours?
- 4 A. It always felt like hours, yes.
- 5 Q. And while you were there, you would fall asleep?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And at some point, someone would come in, wake you, and  
8 send you back to bed?
- 9 A. Take me back to the room, yes.
- 10 Q. You tell us about another form of punishment that  
11 QEI favoured at page 9506, paragraph 61,  
12 involving the use of books.
- 13 A. Yes. Holding the books out on either side (indicating).
- 14 Q. You're holding your arms outstretched?
- 15 A. Yes, and this was a group one. So it was the first  
16 person to drop the books got done in, got leathered.
- 17 Q. In the way that you've already described?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Have you a memory of being in the company of other  
20 children where all of you were holding books?
- 21 A. Yes, I can't remember how many children, but it was  
22 always a group one. That was the way it worked. It was  
23 a stamina thing to see who would go first and the person  
24 that went first was the person that got punished.
- 25 Q. What caused her to give this punishment to the group of



1 boys or children?

2 A. I honestly don't -- I can't remember. Anything that she  
3 decided she didn't like.

4 Q. Would this be a punishment that could be given to both  
5 boys and girls? Do you have a recollection whether it  
6 was one sex rather than the other that would get this  
7 type of punishment?

8 A. I always seem to remember it happening in the bedroom,  
9 so there was a boys' bedroom and the girls' bedroom, so  
10 if it happened in the girl's bedroom, then I wouldn't  
11 have seen it.

12 Q. You wouldn't be aware of it?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. So this might be something that you generally recall  
15 happening in the boys' bedroom?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. You tell us at paragraph 63 that there was an occasion  
18 when **QEL** the older son of the **QAY/QEI** lost  
19 a watch.

20 A. That's what we were told, yes.

21 Q. Tell us about that occasion.

22 A. Again, it was pitting me and **████████** against each other.  
23 He came in and said he'd lost his watch and one of us  
24 had taken it and I know I hadn't taken it. We got  
25 shouted at and beat up a wee bit until eventually --

1           because I remember QEL saying to me, "Well, if you  
2           took the watch and you're letting [REDACTED] get a beating,  
3           then what type of brother are you", and all that type of  
4           stuff. Eventually I just decided I took the watch and  
5           then it moved on to me and then I got told to give him  
6           the watch back, which I couldn't do because I didn't  
7           have the watch. They said to me, "What did I do with  
8           the watch?" The first thing I thought at the time was  
9           I buried it. He asked me where I buried it and I said  
10          I buried it out in the yard outside the cottage and so  
11          sent me out with a spoon to dig it out. Obviously  
12          I couldn't dig it out because I didn't have it. So  
13          I was out there for a while just digging random holes.

14         Q. On that occasion, initially, after QEL had blamed  
15          either you or your brother [REDACTED] for effectively taking  
16          the watch, is it?

17         A. Yes.

18         Q. Initially, when you both denied doing so, you were both  
19          beaten by QEI

20         A. Yes.

21         Q. But then you owned up?

22         A. That's what I was told --

23         Q. You say you didn't do it, but you took responsibility?

24         A. Yes.

25         Q. And you were beaten again because you hadn't admitted it

1 in the first place?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And then of course you were asked questions, where is  
4 the watch, and you told them that you had buried it in  
5 the garden?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And you were told to go outside and find it?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And you ended up having to take a metal spoon out and  
10 start digging for the watch?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. On page 9507, Ken, you mention one occasion when you  
13 were around 9 or 10, when you think that an older girl,  
14 and you're not -- you thought she might be around 16 or  
15 perhaps older, and you're not sure whether she was  
16 a member of staff or an older girl in Quarriers.

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. That she took you into a shower and you had to do things  
19 to her.

20 A. She wanted me to pleasure her, yes.

21 Q. You told the social worker, did you, about this?

22 A. Yes. I can't remember how many days after it, but when  
23 I seen the next -- the next proper social worker I seen,  
24 I said to them that this had happened. I didn't know  
25 what it was. I just explained what had happened.

1 I didn't know it was sexual abuse or whatever. I didn't  
2 even know -- we didn't get taught anything like that in  
3 Quarriers. So, as I say, it was when I told the  
4 social worker, I remember her saying to me, "Did you  
5 enjoy it?" and I said, no, it made me feel sick. She  
6 said, "Well, if you didn't enjoy it, it didn't happen,  
7 you're making it up".

8 Q. And that was the extent of the discussion in --

9 A. That was the extent of the discussion with her, but then  
10 she went back and told the **QAY/QEI** and I got leathered  
11 for, in their world, making stuff up or whatever.

12 Q. In your statement you say that you heard from other  
13 children, this is at paragraph 66 on page 9507, that  
14 cottage 7 was one of the better cottages.

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Who was telling you that, do you recall?

17 A. As I say, most of my daily routine was wandering around  
18 myself, and a lot of other kids had the same way of  
19 dealing with things, they stayed out of the cottages  
20 when they could. But you would speak to some of the  
21 other kids and they'd just say to you stuff like, the  
22 ones from that cottage, they're not even allowed out,  
23 and you never see them, you're lucky you ended up in  
24 cottage 7 because such-and-such happens in that cottage.  
25 There were talking like that all the time.

1 Q. Just on that matter, you tell us at paragraph 68 that  
2 you didn't personally go into other cottages, so you  
3 wouldn't really know whether in fact these things were  
4 happening.

5 A. No.

6 Q. It's just what people were telling you?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. But there was talk?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And there was talk of the sort of things that were  
11 happening in other cottages --

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. -- when you were wandering around speaking to other  
14 children?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And amongst the talk that was going around was that, as  
17 you tell us in paragraph 68, you remember that the talk  
18 included talk about sexual things happening in other  
19 cottages, that that was part of the talk?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Can you help us what you understood to be happening, who  
22 was involved in these sexual things? Did the talk  
23 disclose that?

24 A. At that age, I didn't -- when I left care I still didn't  
25 know anything about sex, anything. As I say, I remember

1 my first proper girlfriend asking me to get off with her  
2 and I thought that meant full sex and I thought, "I'm  
3 not ready for this", and it wasn't -- it was years later  
4 that I realised -- it took me a long time to work out  
5 what was going on.

6 Q. So I suppose you're making the point that you didn't get  
7 any education --

8 A. I didn't get any education, but I didn't really know --  
9 there was a lot of talk but I didn't know what it all  
10 meant at the time.

11 Q. I suppose the point I'm really asking you is that  
12 whether that talk at any stage suggested that these  
13 sexual things involved children and adults.

14 A. It was always about children and adults. I had a better  
15 cottage with a -- it was always about the children and  
16 the parents and the relationship that they had with the  
17 children and the parents, yes.

18 Q. And the talk included talk about sexual things happening  
19 in that relationship?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. In paragraph 67, just on page 9507, you tell us that  
22 you have a memory also of the use of threats by the

23 **QAY/QEI** Can you just tell us what you remember  
24 about --

25 A. Are you talking about how they would threaten to send us

1 to other cottages?

2 Q. Yes.

3 A. Yes. That was something they said. They said, if you  
4 don't behave, we'll send you to -- and again I've  
5 forgotten the numbers of the cottages that were used as  
6 threats, but it was, if you don't behave we'll send you  
7 to cottage 20, or whatever it was.

8 Q. They mentioned a specific cottage?

9 A. Yes, they always mentioned the cottage because they knew  
10 that was the cottage all the talk was about.

11 Q. Was it just one cottage they mentioned --

12 A. No, there were several, but it was mainly one. There  
13 was talk about different things happening in different  
14 cottages.

15 Q. You say they would say things like, "You know what  
16 happens in this or that cottage"?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Did they spell out what happened or did they just say,  
19 "You know what happens there"? What sort of things were  
20 they spelling out?

21 A. They were spelling out hospital visits -- because the  
22 beatings never got so bad that they needed to send us to  
23 hospital, but apparently some of the cottages, the  
24 beatings were so bad that you did have to go to  
25 hospital. As I say, there was always the talk about

1 sexual -- but I didn't know what it meant.

2 Q. Did they talk about sexual things happening?

3 A. Yes, they said -- they used the rape word and all that  
4 kind of stuff, so yes.

5 Q. So they did it as well as the talk --

6 A. Oh, yes. As well as the kids, the [REDACTED] QAY/QEI relished in  
7 stuff like that, yes.

8 Q. If we move on to page 9508, this is a section of your  
9 statement where you deal with reporting. You've told us  
10 quite a lot about what you were reporting and I think,  
11 essentially, the people that you were reporting things  
12 to were the social workers.

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. But you really weren't getting any -- as you say now, as  
15 an adult, you were getting responses which, as an adult,  
16 you now think were --

17 A. Inappropriate.

18 Q. -- as responses to what you were conveying to them.

19 You mention in paragraph 70, when you were  
20 recovering from the beating after the incident involving  
21 [REDACTED] and you were up in bed and had bruises, you say  
22 that you told this social worker what had happened and  
23 how you'd come by these bruises, and that the  
24 social worker spoke to the [REDACTED] QAY/QEI, as you understand,  
25 and came back and said all was fine and it's just



1 discipline?

2 A. Yes, that's it.

3 Q. And you were told that the **QAY/QEI** had a lot of  
4 children to discipline and that they had to discipline  
5 the kids in some way?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And that was it, that was how it was put to you?

8 A. Mm-hm.

9 Q. You just accepted it at the time?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. I think you've told us, and I think we've covered this,  
12 about what you said about the incident with the girl  
13 in the shower and how the social worker responded to  
14 that at the time.

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. I suppose that really you capture the way that you saw  
17 things at that point at paragraph 73. You say at  
18 page 9509 that:

19 "When [you were] in cottage 7, [you] knew it was  
20 a waste of time telling anyone what was happening."

21 Is that the way you saw things then?

22 A. Yes. It got to the stage where it was normal behaviour,  
23 so you didn't even bother telling anybody about it after  
24 a certain -- after I said so much and they said, no,  
25 don't worry about it, it's fine, that's the way things



1 MR PEOPLES: Ken, we had reached the stage in your evidence  
2 where you were leaving cottage 7 on around [REDACTED] 1982  
3 and, as we said at the outset of your evidence, you then  
4 had a short period of two weeks in a foster placement  
5 with a couple in Ayrshire, an elderly couple. We have  
6 your statement about that matter and I'm not going to  
7 ask you about it other than we know it didn't work out.

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. You went back to Quarrier's Village on, we reckon,  
10 [REDACTED] 1982. At page 9510 of your statement, at  
11 paragraph 81, you deal with life in cottage 4. Can  
12 I just say, your memory was that you went straight to  
13 cottage 4. I think the records show that you spent  
14 a short period with the [REDACTED] QAY/QEI

15 A. Before I was put over.

16 Q. And I think we've seen documents that they thought it  
17 was a good idea that you went to another cottage and you  
18 were placed in cottage 4.

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. As you tell us in your written statement, the  
21 house parents in cottage 4 were Mr and Mrs Dunbar;  
22 that's paragraph 82 of your statement.

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And I think, as we know, their names are William and  
25 Helen Dunbar.

- 1 A. Bill, yes.
- 2 Q. Bill and Helen?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. What were you asked to call them, do you remember?
- 5 A. Same thing, the house parents. But we also called them
- 6 the Dunbars as well.
- 7 Q. You tell us at the outset of this part of your statement
- 8 that your memory is that, in your time, they were
- 9 a really nice couple?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. I think that's the way you put it. At page 9511, you
- 12 say that one thing you remember is that you could
- 13 actually talk to the house parents and the other
- 14 children. Was that in some way in contrast to the
- 15 position with the **QAY/QEI** ?
- 16 A. Totally in contrast, yes.
- 17 Q. You tell us that you think that there were probably less
- 18 children in cottage 4 than there had been in cottage 7.
- 19 I don't know if --
- 20 A. I'm not 100% of that, but I seem to remember there being
- 21 less children, yes.
- 22 Q. When you went back to Quarriers, I think you went back
- 23 to Linwood High School, is that right, or had you been
- 24 there before?
- 25 A. No.

1 Q. That was the first time you went there?

2 A. I think that was the first time I went there, yes.

3 Q. You tell us that there were various activities and you  
4 tell us about the routine. You tell us at page 9512,  
5 paragraph 90, about something called the Fuzzy-Wuzzy  
6 Club.

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. I get the impression that you felt that you were a bit  
9 old for the Fuzzy-Wuzzy Club.

10 A. Yes, it was definitely aimed for younger children, yes.

11 Q. And who ran the Fuzzy-Wuzzy Club?

12 A. I can't remember who ran it; I just remember there were  
13 adults running it and it was toys and games for kids.  
14 That was all it was.

15 Q. So far as discipline and punishment in cottage 4 are  
16 concerned, at page 9514 of your statement, Ken, you say  
17 again that:

18 "Cottage 4 was a nice cottage, a really good place  
19 to live. We weren't beaten in cottage 4."

20 Can we just be clear then that there was nothing  
21 equivalent to what had happened to you in cottage 7?

22 A. No, there was definitely not. I may have been cuffed  
23 around the ear for something, but that was the worst you  
24 got. I don't think anything bad ever happened there.

25 Q. I think you indicate at that point, in paragraph 95,

1           that that was a time when you began to come out of your  
2           shell a bit?

3           A. Yes.

4           Q. Was that anything to do with the environment that you  
5           were then living in, in comparison to cottage 7?

6           A. Yes.

7           Q. Had cottage 7 been anything like cottage 4, would  
8           you have come out of your shell there, do you think?

9           A. I wouldn't have went into my shell.

10          Q. I suppose that's a neat way of putting it. You weren't  
11          in a shell in the first place, but you went into a shell  
12          and you wouldn't have done so if it had been like  
13          cottage 4?

14          A. Yes.

15          Q. Did you have any expectations when you went to cottage 4  
16          about what life might be like? Were you fearful of it  
17          initially?

18          A. I must have been fearful because I didn't know -- it was  
19          unknown. But I didn't have any problems as such.  
20          I went straight in, realised that it was a better place,  
21          and got on with it.

22          Q. So at least in that period when you were in cottage 4,  
23          which was from about 1982 to 1984, we don't need exact  
24          dates, we've got that already, that was a happy enough  
25          time for you; is that correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Then there came a time when a foster placement was found  
3 for you in Chapelhall.

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And we've got the detail of that and you've told us  
6 about that. And that ultimately, it didn't work out and  
7 you went to your gran's in 1986?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And I think, when you were with your gran, as you tell  
10 us in your statement, and I don't need to go through the  
11 detail here, your gran was living in Glasgow?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And you were living with her and you've told us you were  
14 living with your younger brother, [REDACTED], and a couple  
15 of your gran's --

16 A. My uncles, yes.

17 Q. I think you left that accommodation when you were about  
18 21; is that right?

19 A. No, I left that accommodation when I was 16.

20 Q. Sorry, I didn't -- yes, you're correct. I think for the  
21 first few years, life wasn't easy; is that right?

22 A. I was thrown about a wee bit, yes.

23 Q. But in fact, I think maybe 21 was a much better time  
24 because that's when you met your wife?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And you got married and you've got children of your own?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And since then, I take it life's been a lot better?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Indeed, although you mentioned, I think earlier -- and

6 I think it's a point you make towards the end -- that

7 you really felt that from the educational standpoint the

8 schooling didn't really do enough for you in terms of

9 providing you with an education for your adult life;

10 is that right?

11 A. Yes. It wasn't entirely their fault. I was thrown into

12 three or four different schools, so they all had

13 different ways of teaching and none of them had a --

14 I never managed to do a full term in any of them,

15 really.

16 Q. But you did end up, as you tell us, having tried various

17 forms of work placements, you did find a job that worked

18 for you, and you've been in that job for a long time?

19 A. A long time, yes.

20 Q. So far as impact is concerned, at page 9519 you talk

21 about the impact and indeed you make the point there

22 about education and the fact that you were going to

23 a number of different schools in your childhood didn't

24 help matters.

25 A. Yes.



1 Q. You don't feel that that provided you with the sort of  
2 education that would have perhaps made a difference when  
3 you were setting out in life?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. In terms of a more general point, you say at  
6 paragraph 119 that the one thing that still annoys you  
7 is that Quarriers really didn't teach you life skills.

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Is that something that you feel was completely lacking  
10 in the care that you got?

11 A. Totally.

12 Q. You've told us you didn't get much education about  
13 sexual development, relationships and so forth.

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. That just didn't really happen?

16 A. Nothing. But it was not just that. When I was fostered  
17 in Chapelhall, they had a younger son and I was --  
18 I can't remember what age now, but I was about 14 when  
19 I went in, and he was only about 8, and I stole all his  
20 pals because I didn't know any better. I didn't know  
21 that I was supposed to be hanging about with kids of my  
22 age.

23 In Quarriers, they just threw you together, hoped  
24 you didn't learn anything -- they didn't want you  
25 learning any of the sexual stuff because none of the

1 doors were locked so they didn't want relationships  
2 between any of the children. So they didn't teach  
3 anything.

4 Q. So you're almost suggesting that they made a conscious  
5 decision, you think, not to tell you too much about sex  
6 or sexual education because you were in a group of  
7 children of different ages?

8 A. Yes, and different sexes.

9 Q. And you were all in the same place together in that  
10 environment?

11 A. Yes. That's what it feels like now, yes.

12 Q. And as a matter of fact, so we're absolutely clear,  
13 QAY/QEI weren't the sort of people that would  
14 talk to you about these things anyway, about  
15 development, puberty, teenage development --

16 A. It wasn't -- the Dunbars didn't either. As I say,  
17 nobody did. Nobody took time to actually teach me the  
18 stuff like that.

19 Q. I think it goes wider than that, I think, because in  
20 terms of that aspect of life skills, as you say at  
21 paragraph 120, had you been given appropriate life  
22 skills and preparation for adult life when you were in  
23 care, you'd have been better able to cope with  
24 independent living in your own accommodation?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. I think you got accommodation, but you struggled with  
2 that for a time; is that correct?

3 A. Yes, I did.

4 Q. As you've told us, you were a family of four children  
5 who were living as a family until you were about 7, 7 or  
6 8 years of age, and then there were significant periods  
7 of separation after that for the rest of your childhood.

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. You've told us about the foster placements of your  
10 younger brothers and sister. That has, I think, you  
11 believe, had an effect on your relationship with your  
12 siblings in adult life; is that correct?

13 A. Yes, definitely.

14 Q. Because I think you don't have any significant contact  
15 with your siblings these days?

16 A. I don't have any contact at all.

17 Q. It's a difficult question to answer, this one, but if  
18 you had been kept together in care as a group, do you  
19 think that would have made any difference to the  
20 situation? It is a difficult question.

21 A. It is a difficult thing and I mean ... I would like to  
22 think it would have made a difference, but obviously it  
23 didn't happen, so I don't know.

24 Q. So you will never know the answer to that one?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. You deal with the effect of your experiences in care on  
2 page 9521 and how that has influenced the way that you  
3 deal with discipline with your own children. I think at  
4 paragraph 126 you make the point that you simply won't  
5 discipline your children and that really you leave it to  
6 your wife to be the disciplinarian.

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. To what extent is that attributable to the way that you  
9 were treated in cottage 7, for example? Do you see the  
10 two being connected?

11 A. 100%, yes.

12 Q. But you tell us that as an adult, you've not -- this is  
13 at paragraph 129 -- actually had counselling or  
14 treatment or support to deal with the effects of being  
15 a child in care with the experiences you've described.

16 A. No, I haven't.

17 Q. And your way of coping, and it may not work for  
18 everyone, is you try to simply move on?

19 A. I've segregated it all, yes.

20 Q. And when you add to that the fact that you've met  
21 someone at an early age who has been an anchor to you,  
22 as I think you put it, and has helped you in your adult  
23 life, has that been a big part of you dealing with this  
24 situation?

25 A. Yes, I've been lucky that at the key points in my life,

1 I've found someone and that's what's got me through it,  
2 yes.

3 Q. Can I just ask briefly about records. You tell us at  
4 page 9523 that you went at some point to the Social Work  
5 Department in Glasgow to try and obtain some records of  
6 your time in care. Is that right?

7 A. Yes. One of the ways that I had to cope and to get  
8 people to help look after me after I left care was I sat  
9 and I told everybody everything, and that's how  
10 I managed to get the [REDACTED] to look after  
11 me.

12 And it was at that point that I had seen in the news  
13 the freedom of information and the council had to give  
14 records, so I had asked -- this was probably when I was  
15 about 16 or 17, I asked one of the -- I can't remember  
16 exactly what department it was, one of the social work  
17 departments if I could see my records because I wanted  
18 to see what Quarriers had actually written about me to  
19 see if they had been telling the truth or not.

20 They said they would get them but they would be --  
21 they didn't use the word "redacted", but they would be  
22 blacked out and I would only get to see the bits about  
23 me. I said that's fine, I only want to see the bits  
24 about me.

25 That ran for a couple of months, I kept going back

1 in, and eventually I went back in and they said, no,  
2 sorry, the records have been destroyed in a fire.

3 Q. You were told that by?

4 A. By the Social Work, the person that was dealing with it.

5 Q. Because I think it's correct to say --

6 A. They don't look as if they've been destroyed in a fire,  
7 no.

8 Q. We certainly have some records that have been provided  
9 by the local authority, so clearly whatever they said to  
10 you is not accurate as a matter of fact.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. But that's what you were told?

13 A. That's what I was told at that point.

14 Q. By the local authority?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Did you ever make a direct approach to Quarriers to  
17 obtain records that they might hold?

18 A. I didn't see the point because it was the Quarriers  
19 records I asked for and if they were destroyed, they  
20 were destroyed, so I didn't see the point in asking  
21 again after that.

22 Q. Can I say that we've been advised recently that if  
23 a person who's been in the care of Quarriers now would  
24 wish to have access to such records as Quarriers hold  
25 in relation to them, they can contact Quarriers and they

1 will facilitate that.

2 A. Yes, I've already asked and I've been put in touch with  
3 a company that's not phoned me back yet but they're  
4 hopefully going to let me have a look at it.

5 Q. I tell you that if it's of any assistance and you wish  
6 to pursue this further now.

7 Just lastly, you have a section on "Lessons to be  
8 learned" at pages 9524 and 9525. At paragraph 138 you  
9 make a point -- I think to some extent you say that  
10 there were a lot of cottages --

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. -- and some were good and some were bad.

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. I take it, if we're trying to classify cottage 7, it was  
15 a bad cottage in your time?

16 A. Yes, it was going towards the bad end of the spectrum.

17 Q. Although there were rumours that there were worse  
18 there --

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. -- that you might end up in.

21 If we look at cottage 4, in your time, you would see  
22 that at the other end of the spectrum towards the good  
23 end?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. One thing you do say at paragraph 139 is that your

1 understanding is that the general policy these days is  
2 to, if children are in a residential care setting, to  
3 accommodate them in smaller groups. And you believe  
4 that is a far better way of dealing with it --

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. -- rather than a large establishment?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Do you have a particular reason for thinking that?

9 A. Just because they would have more time for the people.

10 I think that was one of the problems: they had too many  
11 kids to look after.

12 Q. You will not know to what extent [REDACTED] QEI had any  
13 training or qualifications or experience to cope with  
14 the number of children she had to look after. You don't  
15 know any of that?

16 A. I don't know any of that, no.

17 Q. Did it appear at times that she wasn't coping very well?

18 A. It definitely appeared she wasn't the right person for  
19 the job, yes.

20 Q. Lastly, at paragraph 141, I think you tell us why you've  
21 come here today and why you gave the statement to the  
22 inquiry. I think it can be summed up in the final  
23 couple of sentences there, that you have come forward  
24 because you want people to know what happened, you want  
25 people to know that you're not making up what happened



1 and that's what you care about.

2 A. Yes.

3 MR PEOPLES: Well, these are all the questions I have for  
4 you, Ken, today, and I just wish to thank you very much  
5 for coming today and giving us your account of your  
6 experiences as a child in care at Quarriers.

7 A. Thank you.

8 LADY SMITH: Are there any outstanding applications for  
9 questions?

10 Questions from MS DOWDALLS

11 MS DOWDALLS: My Lady, there is no outstanding application  
12 for a question, but there was one matter raised towards  
13 the end of this witness's evidence that I would  
14 appreciate the opportunity to follow up. It would be  
15 very brief.

16 LADY SMITH: Go ahead.

17 MS DOWDALLS: My Lady, that relates to the witness  
18 indicating that he had been in touch with a company in  
19 order to obtain records from Quarriers. I don't know  
20 what that company might be or what that reference  
21 relates to, but Quarriers is very clear and has provided  
22 to the inquiry team information that will enable  
23 applicants to contact Quarriers directly. Indeed,  
24 I have some business cards for the safeguarding manager  
25 which were handed over to the team yesterday, and if

1           this witness wishes to have one of those cards and  
2           a direct contact in Quarriers, he is more than welcome  
3           to have that and I can tell him that there are  
4           substantial records for his family available to him.

5           LADY SMITH: Ms Dowdalls, that's very helpful. So more than  
6           one card could be taken for passing on, if possible, to  
7           other members of the family?

8                     Yes. I had got the impression that Quarriers now  
9           have available records and they're very willing to give  
10          such assistance as they can. For example, the local  
11          authority isn't the place to go and third parties are  
12          not necessary. Does that make sense to you, Ken?

13          A. Yes.

14          LADY SMITH: I hope that's helpful.

15                     Ken, those are all the questions that we have for  
16          you. It remains for me to thank you very much for  
17          engaging with the inquiry. You've provided us with  
18          a detailed statement, explaining both about the  
19          background of you going into care and its particular  
20          features, and your time in care at Quarriers, and it's  
21          very helpful to me to have heard from you. So thank you  
22          for that. I'm now able to let you go.

23          A. Thanks.

24                                     (The witness withdrew)

25          LADY SMITH: Mr Peoples, before you call the next witness,

1 I'm going to have just a break of a couple of minutes as  
2 we're going to have screens for the next witness and  
3 that will give us time to put them up.

4 MR PEOPLES: If I could maybe say at this stage, the plan  
5 is that we would read in a statement first, therefore if  
6 we can do that first, as we have someone who wishes to  
7 hear the statement that's being read in.

8 LADY SMITH: Absolutely. Then we'll have a short break  
9 after that.

10 MR PEOPLES: But if I could just take a moment to get that  
11 sorted out and do a handover. If we could have a short  
12 adjournment.

13 LADY SMITH: Very well. A few minutes?

14 MR PEOPLES: Yes, please.

15 (12.08 pm)

16 (A short break)

17 (12.13 pm)

18 LADY SMITH: Ms Rattray.

19 Witness statement of "WILLIAM" (read)

20 MS RATTRAY: Yes, my Lady, this is a statement of an  
21 applicant who has retained his right to anonymity and  
22 has chosen the pseudonym "William". His statement can  
23 be found at WIT.001.001.0258.

24 "My name is William. I was born in 1948. My  
25 contact details are known to the inquiry."

1 I'm moving now to paragraph 4:

2 "I have no recollection of my parents. I was put  
3 into Quarriers when I was about 18 months old and was  
4 there for 14 or 15 years."

5 My Lady, Quarriers' admission records state that  
6 William was admitted on [REDACTED] 1950 and discharged  
7 on [REDACTED] 1964.

8 At paragraphs 5 to 7, William describes how he  
9 recovered his records from Quarriers and discovered how  
10 his mother was a clippy on the buses in the Glasgow  
11 area. He learned that she was single and unable to cope  
12 with both work and looking after William, who was a sick  
13 child. He was initially put into Quarriers for respite  
14 but things just snowballed from there.

15 Continuing at paragraph 8 on page 0259:

16 "It is through these files that I now know she  
17 simply didn't abandon me, but tried to get to see me,  
18 writing letters to Quarriers to get to spend time with  
19 me, but they just refused her access to me.

20 "The letters she wrote have shown me that my mother  
21 was quite a caring woman. That's something that really  
22 hurts me. Quarriers not only robbed me of my childhood,  
23 they robbed me of my family. I can never forgive that.

24 "The files actually gave me the name of my father,  
25 the man my mother had an affair with, but I'm not

1 interested in him. I'm only interested in my mother.

2 "Quarriers is made up of a number of buildings which  
3 were called cottages, though in reality each of them was  
4 like a small mansion. There was also a church,  
5 a nursery, a school, a laundry, a hospital and other  
6 buildings.

7 "There were a total of 43 cottages. I recall being  
8 in cottages 2, 22 and 43. I've since learned that I was  
9 in two or three of the other cottages, but I have no  
10 recollection of this.

11 "Each cottage had between 16 and 21 kids and were  
12 run usually by two house parents who were either man and  
13 wife or two women. We would always refer to them as  
14 house mother or house father, never by their first  
15 names. Us kids were always referred to by our surname.  
16 There were two or three superintendents above the house  
17 parents. One man was called Dr Davidson and another one  
18 was a Mr Munro. I don't think they knew much about what  
19 was going on in the cottages as it would only have been  
20 the house parents that they spoke to and they never  
21 spoke to us.

22 "It was the house parents who had total power within  
23 the cottages and I don't think that anyone outside  
24 really knew what went on inside them. The cottages  
25 I was in were always all boys though although I know

1           there were some that had both boys and girls in them.

2           "I think they got us up in the morning with one of  
3           the house parents coming into the dormitory telling us  
4           to get up. There is also something in my memory about  
5           a bell, but I'm not sure about that. Everything was  
6           timed and you had to get up and get washed, brush your  
7           hair, and get dressed. We would be inspected every  
8           morning by the house parents and, for example, if your  
9           ears were still dirty, you would be punished with a slap  
10          to the head or the back of the legs.

11          "The food was poor, always plain, and would be taken  
12          in the kitchen. The kitchen was massive and we all ate  
13          in there together around a big table. It was always the  
14          same, just plain, and never anything spicy. I don't  
15          think the house parents ate the same food as us and they  
16          sat at a separate table at the head of the room watching  
17          us.

18          "The only thing I remember for breakfast was  
19          porridge which I had to make every morning. After  
20          breakfast it would be school, back to the cottage for  
21          lunch, school again in the afternoon, and back to the  
22          cottage for supper, which was sometimes soup and bread,  
23          and then pudding. This was followed by evening  
24          activities. The weekends were not different food-wise;  
25          I just know that you were forced to eat everything that

1           you were given.

2           "I think bedtime was about 9 pm or 9.30 pm with an  
3           extra half hour at the weekend. There were two dorms in  
4           cottages 2 and 43 with about 12 to 14 in each dorm. The  
5           house parents had a separate room.

6           "We usually got a bath before bedtime. Cleanliness  
7           was a big thing in the home though. I can't remember  
8           if we all got fresh water for our baths or we all used  
9           the same water. We were checked for cleanliness after  
10          the bath.

11          "School was very strict. The classes were divided  
12          into ages and we had a teacher for each class. I think  
13          there were between 12 to 15 in each class. Although  
14          there were kids from different cottages in the class,  
15          you didn't really get a chance to talk to them.

16          "I wasn't a good scholar and I was forever getting  
17          belted for not being able to do this or that in lessons.  
18          There may have been some homework given but we were  
19          certainly never taught any life skills to help us when  
20          we left.

21          "I recall that we wore shorts and we would have  
22          a good outfit for church on a Sunday. On a Sunday, we  
23          would have to go twice to the church in the village.  
24          The morning service was at 11 am and then again for  
25          evening service at 7 pm. In between services we would

1           have to take our Sunday walk in the countryside, whereby  
2           we would walk in two files and with no talking allowed  
3           in line. If we talked, we would be whacked across the  
4           head. It was so regimented. I think there was a Sunday  
5           school element to it as well.

6           " We also had to say grace before every meal.  
7           Religious instruction was part of life at Quarriers. We  
8           had to be able to recite verses from the Bible and were  
9           told to read the Bible all the time. We were told to  
10          know every verse and would be asked to recite verses at  
11          random. If we were unable to recite a verse, then  
12          we would be punished for it in ways I will describe  
13          later. As a result, we would always be trying to learn  
14          it. This happened both at the school and in the  
15          cottage.

16          " There was a large flower bed at the bottom of the  
17          massive lawn in front of the church. The flower bed had  
18          flowers planted that spelt out the words 'Have Faith in  
19          God'. I don't know how they could call themselves  
20          religious given what they did to us. How dare they have  
21          something like that.

22          " A lot of my time in Quarriers was spent working and  
23          doing chores. The chores that I remember having to do  
24          were cleaning and polishing the grate in the kitchen,  
25          scrubbing the pots, cleaning the kitchen and outshed,



1 and polishing the shoes. I had to polish the shoes of  
2 all the other boys and the house parents, Mr and  
3 Mrs QBA/QBB. The polishes had to be done to the highest  
4 standard, to the extent that you could see your own  
5 reflection almost. They would always inspect it  
6 afterwards and often just muck up what I had just done  
7 and tell me to do it all over again for no reason and  
8 tell me that I was useless. They'd also use it as an  
9 excuse to punish you again in the ways I have described.

10 "When cleaning the grate, I had to use emery paper  
11 until you could see your face in it. If they saw even  
12 a trace of dirt you got battered and told to do it  
13 again. There was a play area at the front where the  
14 clothes would be hung up. The ground was concrete and  
15 I used to have to scrub that with the big bars of soap.

16 "Another one of the jobs I had to do in cottage 43  
17 was make the huge pots of porridge for the other boys at  
18 breakfast and that too would be tested by the  
19 house parents for its consistency.

20 "There was a big play area at the school and a big  
21 park behind the church which we could use for playing  
22 mainly at the weekend, but you spent more time doing  
23 chores than playing. Everything was timed and if you  
24 were late, you were punished.

25 "I don't recall a TV, but there was a big playroom

1 area on the ground floor to the front of the cottage,  
2 but you had to play quietly. I remember we got comics  
3 like the Beano and Hotspur. There were various comic  
4 books that were in the playroom. We didn't have much  
5 in the way of toys, but I remember particularly enjoying  
6 playing with a spinning top. There were no soft toys  
7 like teddies or things like that. Sometimes we got to  
8 play in the courtyard where all the coats and shoes were  
9 kept. If it was raining, we were allowed in there.

10 "There were no organised games or sports. We had to  
11 invent our own play, although we did play football at  
12 school.

13 "We never got to the cinema or out to the shops. We  
14 had a tuck shop. I just to love penny caramels and  
15 gobstoppers and we were allowed some small pocket money,  
16 which was a sort of happy memory I suppose.

17 "Every year we went to a Boys' Brigade camp, which  
18 is another sort of happy memory, although I have no idea  
19 where it was, just that there was a massive marquee in  
20 a field somewhere. It was very strict because it was  
21 run by Quarriers, but I recall it being a nice time and  
22 us all playing rounders.

23 "Also, once a year, the taxi drivers took us to  
24 Saltcoats, which was a brilliant day and a happy memory.  
25 We were given sweets and fruit. It was every July.

1           "I don't recall there being a nurse or regular  
2 health checks. There was a separate hospital in the  
3 village and I remember being in there once for a period  
4 of time for tests in relation to my bed-wetting. Tests  
5 were done on me and I remember a bell would go off if  
6 I wet the bed. I don't recall receiving any medication  
7 though. They were pretty decent to me in the hospital.

8           "I think that we did get dental checks at the  
9 school.

10          "I don't think that my birthday was ever marked or  
11 celebrated in Quarriers or at least I certainly don't  
12 remember ever receiving even a card or a birthday cake.

13          "At Christmastime we did get excited as there was  
14 a massive Christmas tree and we did get some presents.  
15 I think they were things that had been donated into  
16 Quarriers. There must have been some sort of Christmas  
17 dinner as I remember enjoying eating dumpling for  
18 pudding. However, for the most part Christmas was just  
19 another day for me.

20          "There was a visitors' day once a month. I never  
21 had any visitors except for a period of maybe two years  
22 in cottage 43 when I was visited by these two women who  
23 I was introduced to. I was told to call them Aunt Mavis  
24 and Aunt Margaret, I think, and I don't know who they  
25 were. They were maybe just two women who enjoyed

1           visiting children and taking them out. They would come  
2           with sweets and I think they were allowed to take me out  
3           for a day or something. I have a slight memory of  
4           a visit to a house in Paisley and thinking it was nice  
5           from the outside, but strangely I have no recollection  
6           of it from the inside. They would also take me to  
7           a park. They were so nice to me and they clearly  
8           thought Quarriers was a lovely place for me to be, but  
9           you just couldn't tell anyone what it was really like.  
10          I never had any visitors beyond those two women.

11                 "I have now learned from my Quarriers file that for  
12          about a year after I was placed in Quarriers at  
13          18 months of age that my mother wrote letters to  
14          Quarriers asking if she could come and take me out  
15          sometimes on visits to meet my cousins and aunts and  
16          uncles. Her requests were, however, always tersely  
17          denied by Quarriers. I sometimes now wonder if my  
18          mother was duped into signing something when I was  
19          placed there or signed something that she did not really  
20          understand. The letters seemed to stop after about  
21          a year until there was another one from Quarriers when  
22          I was maybe about 15 years old suggesting that I had  
23          been abandoned there.

24                 "There were no visits to Quarriers from any  
25          inspectors or any official outside. There were no

1 inspections of Quarriers that I know of and I never had  
2 or saw a social worker. Your life was run solely by  
3 your house parents. I just thought that the Quarriers  
4 way was normal, and only realised that it was not when  
5 I went to work on the farm at Drongan with Mr [REDACTED]

6 "I was in a nursery before I went into the first  
7 cottage that I remember, which was cottage 2. Obviously  
8 I don't remember anything of my time in the nursery and  
9 I don't remember how old I was when I first went into  
10 cottage 2. It was run by [REDACTED] called QBE,  
11 I think. I can't be positive about their name, and all  
12 I remember is the dreadful way we were treated.

13 "They were amongst the nastiest people I have ever  
14 met. There was no love for children from them. In that  
15 cottage, you would be punished for any wee thing, even  
16 just talking out of turn and it happened every day.  
17 I was slapped around the head, the arms, the legs,  
18 everywhere. They knew how to hurt you. It was  
19 constant, every day in life.

20 "If you looked them in the eye, then you got slapped  
21 for being disrespectful. You had to speak to them with  
22 your eyes looking downwards.

23 "They simply didn't speak nicely to you. There was  
24 no love. The mental and physical abuse was constant.  
25 In my opinion, they thrived on the torture they handed

1 out to us.

2 "Another punishment was to be locked in a cupboard.  
3 There would be no light and you would maybe be in there  
4 for two hours at a time.

5 "You would never show weakness by crying as that  
6 would just lead to more beatings.

7 "The food was also poor, very plain. If you didn't  
8 finish your meal, it was held over to the next meal so  
9 you eventually did eat it. It was awful, especially  
10 when we got tripe. I hated that. Sometimes the food  
11 was so bad, you would vomit on to your plate. When that  
12 happened, they still made you eat the food, vomit and  
13 all. Can you believe that? Can you imagine anybody  
14 could do that to a child?

15 "School was also very strict and the use of the belt  
16 was commonplace, again for any daft wee thing. Although  
17 you were in class with kids from other cottages,  
18 you weren't allowed to mix with them and certainly you  
19 wouldn't speak about the abuse you would get in your  
20 particular cottage. If you did, you knew you would get  
21 battered. It was usually the belt on the hand you  
22 received.

23 "From cottage 2 I went to cottage 22. I don't  
24 recall what age I was when I went there, but I know  
25 I wasn't there for long. All I remember about

1 cottage 22 was that it was run by a single house parent,  
2 a man, and that my time there was a lovely experience.  
3 The man there was brilliant to me and never hit me.  
4 I was there maybe nine months or a year and all  
5 I remember is good experiences.

6 "After that I went to cottage 43 where I stayed till  
7 I left the home. It was run by Mr and Mrs QBA/QBB and  
8 they were awful people. I was maybe about 9 or 10 when  
9 I went there. Th QBA/QBB were really nasty.

10 "As with cottage 2, the food in cottage 43 was also  
11 poor. Again, if you didn't finish your meal, it was  
12 held over to the next meal so eventually you did eat it.  
13 Like I said earlier, if you were sick on your dinner you  
14 had to eat that as well. Sometimes we would try and  
15 hide some of the food in our pocket to dispose of it  
16 later, but if you got caught that was another battering.

17 " QBA/QBB used to use a belt on us and would hit  
18 us on the hands, backside and the bare legs as we wore  
19 shorts. It was given if you spoke out of turn or if you  
20 did something they thought was wrong regardless of how  
21 trivial it was. They just seemed to enjoy inflicting  
22 pain on you. They also had a big stick that they used  
23 to beat us with.

24 "I think the QBA/QBB ere in their 40s and I think  
25 they must both be dead now. They would punish you for

1 no reason and if they thought you had not done your work  
2 to a high enough standard. For example, with the grate  
3 cleaning, if they saw even a trace of dirt you got  
4 battered and told to do it all over again. Or if the  
5 shoes were not highly polished enough they would muck up  
6 what I'd done and tell me to do it over again and tell  
7 me that I was useless. They would also use these things  
8 as an excuse to physically punish me again.

9 "Another example is a concrete play area that I told  
10 you that I had to scrub on my knees. There was no mat  
11 to rest my knees on and sometimes when I had finished  
12 they would throw a bucket of water over it and tell me  
13 to do it again. They would tell me I was useless, no  
14 use to society, a waster. It was awful, but that was my  
15 life there every day.

16 "I used to think I was doing my chores properly, but  
17 it just seemed that every time I did them I would get  
18 punished. I used to feel like screaming at them.  
19 I couldn't understand why I was getting punished for  
20 doing as I was asked. It was so frustrating. It wasn't  
21 just me who got this. That was how all the kids were  
22 treated.

23 "I said earlier that we used to get visitors once  
24 a month. I remember one incident involving a boy whose  
25 name is the only one I remember from the home. We were



1 all in the playroom looking out the window for people  
2 visiting and we saw this man come to the door. We were  
3 asking each other who knew him, but nobody did. We  
4 eavesdropped at the door and heard the man say he was  
5 here for that boy. He was astonished. The next thing  
6 was that **QBB** came into the room and told the boy  
7 to come through to the living room. Then we heard the  
8 boy screaming, 'No, no, you're not taking me, I'm not  
9 going'. It turned out the man was his father and had  
10 come to get him because he had come of age. When the  
11 boy was screaming, he was just showing his emotions.  
12 Well, he got battered for that. Absolutely leathered  
13 with the belt and all he had done was to show his  
14 emotions.

15 "Three times I tried to run away from Quarriers.  
16 I always knew that I would be caught and they always  
17 seemed to know where to look to find me. I never got  
18 any further than the main road. On being taken back to  
19 cottage 43, the consequences were serious in terms of  
20 punishment. I was hammered to a pulp and locked in  
21 a cupboard.

22 "As I've said, this was my life in Quarriers:  
23 constant abuse every day. I didn't know life could be  
24 any different."

25 At this stage, my Lady, I am going to move to

1 page 0271 and paragraph 77 there.

2 "I was a serious bed-wetter and in cottage 2 what  
3 they did to me was horrific. When it happened, I would  
4 be forced to stand naked in a bath of freezing cold  
5 water or forced to stand naked in a cold corridor all  
6 night. Sometimes you would be forced to stand naked in  
7 the corridor straight after the freezing bath and you  
8 wouldn't even be allowed to dry yourself. It was  
9 dreadful.

10 "I was too young to remember if I went to tell them  
11 I had wet the bed or if they just saw that I had wet the  
12 bed. All I remember is the punishment I got for it,  
13 which, like I said, was horrific.

14 "In cottage 43 my bed-wetting got worse and while  
15 they didn't put me in a cold bath or corridor or hit me  
16 for it, I do remember that, four or five times a week,  
17 I would have to walk all the way to the laundry with my  
18 wet beds sheets. This was very embarrassing as it meant  
19 that everybody knew I had a problem. That was their way  
20 of making me look a fool in front of everybody.

21 "At the weekend there was no laundry open, so if  
22 I wet the bed at that time then I would have to wash my  
23 own sheet and hang it out on the line. Very often  
24 it would not be dry when I would have to bring it back  
25 in so, I would end up having to lie on a damp sheet."

1           My Lady, since the start of the case study, William  
2 has been further in touch with the inquiry by email and  
3 he's asked that this should be added to what he has to  
4 say in his statement.

5           What he says is that he wanted to add something  
6 about bed-wetting and he says that:

7           "I have just read about a man that was in Quarriers  
8 that has burn marks on his buttocks from a rubber  
9 electric sheet. I have burn scars as well and I forgot  
10 to mention that in my statement."

11          My Lady, at this stage I'll refer to some earlier  
12 passages in the statement, which are at paragraphs 64 to  
13 76, and there William describes his life after Quarriers  
14 and describes his experiences being sent to work on  
15 farms. One experience was a negative one and  
16 a Farmer **QCK**, who was an alcoholic, turned the power  
17 hose on William for not cleaning a barn to  
18 Farmer **QCK** satisfaction. He also says that he was  
19 supposed to be paid but either was not paid or was  
20 short-changed. However, he did have a more positive  
21 experience with another farmer, Mr **██████** which William  
22 referred to briefly in his statement.

23          I'm going to turn to page 0272 and paragraph 80,  
24 where William speaks about impact:

25          "When I left Quarriers I made up my mind to put the

1 whole experience out of my mind and never spoke about  
2 it. I had very strong willpower to do that and simply  
3 decided to work hard all my life and just not think  
4 about things. That said, I think now that it did have  
5 an impact upon my life.

6 "But I didn't let what had happened to me get to me.  
7 Maybe it was just that I had a strong willpower, but  
8 I was determined to put it to the back of my mind and  
9 get on with my life. Looking back, I think it was quite  
10 remarkable that I was able to do that at such a young  
11 age, but I was determined that it wouldn't ruin my life.  
12 It all stayed in the back of my mind until my chance  
13 meeting two years ago with a man whose name I would  
14 rather not disclose.

15 "I spent my life putting it all to the back of my  
16 mind -- my mother, the home, the abuse, everything.  
17 I was determined to work as hard as I could and that  
18 nobody would ever get to know about the torment and  
19 abuse I had endured.

20 "I now believe that Quarriers robbed me of three  
21 things: my childhood, my family, and my file. I don't  
22 even have a photograph of myself as a child to look at.  
23 When I went back to Quarriers to try to recover my file  
24 about two years ago, the woman we met showed me  
25 photographs of children in books, but I never saw myself

1 in any of them. She was maybe an archivist or  
2 something, but I expected more from her that I got in  
3 terms of information. I almost felt as if she was not  
4 being entirely open or was holding back a bit.

5 "My bed-wetting I put down to Quarriers. It was  
6 an issue throughout my childhood and continued well into  
7 my adult life. I was three or four years married and  
8 about 28 years old before it finally stopped.

9 "Another big impact is that I have no idea what my  
10 mother looked like. Before I die, I would love to see  
11 a photograph of what she looked like.

12 "I'm a great believer in the Salvation Army and the  
13 good work they do. Years ago I asked them to try and  
14 trace my mother and they came back saying that they  
15 found her but she didn't want anything to do with me.  
16 However, we later worked out that at the time they  
17 reported this to me my mother was already dead. She  
18 died in 1978. There is another family nearby of the  
19 same name and I wonder if they got us mixed up.

20 "One thing Quarriers did do to me was to make me  
21 very respectful of other people, perhaps too respectful,  
22 particularly of people in authority.

23 "Educationally, I can't really answer whether or not  
24 it affected me. In terms of my working life, I've  
25 always been a great team player and enjoy good relations

1 with those I've worked with, which of course is a good  
2 thing. I actually think it may have helped me be  
3 a better parent myself once I realised there were other  
4 good people in the world when away from Quarriers.  
5 I did give my children chores and stuff while they were  
6 growing up, but nothing heavy like I had to do in  
7 Quarriers.

8 "There were lots of people I couldn't talk to.  
9 I have lots of friends, but could never tell them about  
10 what happened. I used to cry when I was around friends  
11 when they started talking about their parents and  
12 families. That's something that really hurts me, the  
13 fact that I didn't have someone to hug, somebody who was  
14 close to me. Quarriers robbed me of that.

15 "I do suffer from depression pretty badly, but  
16 generally deal with it on my own by taking myself off to  
17 the bingo and stuff rather than the doctor. I just  
18 can't talk to the doctor about it.

19 "Fortunately, I don't suffer from nightmares or  
20 flashbacks. I have never been a good sleeper and often  
21 stay up into the small hours.

22 "I did mention Quarriers in passing to my wife and  
23 kids over the years, but not in any depth and certainly  
24 not in the detail that I'm talking about now. There was  
25 another close friend who I used to work with, and to

1           whom I spoke a bit to about Quarriers. Again, it was at  
2           a fairly superficial level.

3           "The first person I really spoke to was the man who  
4           I mentioned earlier who I met just over two years ago on  
5           the golf course. He asked me if I did not remember him  
6           and when I said no, he just said two words,  
7           'Cottage 43', and it all came back to me. I don't  
8           remember him being there, but he remembers me. He is  
9           six years older than me and I think our time in the  
10          cottage together was about 12 to 18 months.

11          "Despite all these memories of Quarriers being  
12          revived after meeting my friend, we have never talked to  
13          each other about our experiences there. We just know  
14          what happened there without talking about it to each  
15          other. It was he who advised me how to get my file from  
16          Quarriers.

17          "He was clever; however, QBB tried to belittle  
18          him back then because of his intelligence. She would  
19          also get him to write things for her own son to copy and  
20          pass off as his own work.

21          "I have never reported the matter to the police and  
22          there was nobody at Quarriers I could talk to."

23          At paragraphs 100 and 101, William tells of  
24          attending some sort of what he describes as survivor  
25          group meetings and not finding them helpful and that he

1 felt let down by his MSP, Angela Constance, who said  
2 that there would help for survivors but nothing came of  
3 it; it was just words.

4 I'm now on page 0276, and paragraph 102:

5 "I don't currently receive any treatment or  
6 medication in relation to anything that happened to me  
7 in Quarriers. The only support I received, apart from  
8 my family and in particular my daughter, is from  
9 [REDACTED], provided by the In Care Survivors Support  
10 Fund. He has been of fantastic help and support to me  
11 in this process since we first met in August 2016. He  
12 helps and supports me in practical ways. Right now  
13 he is helping to try and research my birth family  
14 history and to try to find out if I have any other  
15 living relatives. Ultimately, all I really want to try  
16 and achieve is to find a photograph of my mother and to  
17 know what she looked like.

18 "In terms of lessons to be learned to protect  
19 children in care now and in the future, I think that  
20 people who work with children need to have a softer  
21 touch and a love for the children they look after.  
22 There should not be strict regimes like I had at  
23 Quarriers, also speak to them as a normal child.

24 "Lots of adults need to be educated in this regard.  
25 It requires a special sort of person to work with



1 vulnerable children and not just anyone. Just give  
2 children a little bit of respect and love. My hope  
3 is that these lessons will be learned.

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

8 The statement was signed by William on  
9 20 December 2016.

10 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much.

11 Yes, Mr Peoples.

12 MR PEOPLES: My Lady, because there are special arrangements  
13 for the next witness, I wonder if we would be best  
14 we have those set up and make an earlier start after  
15 lunch.

16 LADY SMITH: Break now and start at 1.45?

17 MR PEOPLES: I think that might be simpler.

18 LADY SMITH: Let's do that then.

19 (12.45 pm)

20 (The lunch adjournment)

21 (1.45 pm)

22 LADY SMITH: Good afternoon. Mr Peoples.

23 MR PEOPLES: My Lady, the next witness has the right to  
24 anonymity and wishes to remain anonymous and has chosen  
25 the pseudonym "Bobby".

1 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

2 "BOBBY" (sworn)

3 LADY SMITH: Bobby, please sit down and make yourself  
4 comfortable. That microphone is switched on now and  
5 I would like you to try and stay in the right position  
6 for the microphone so we can all hear you properly.

7 Before you start giving your evidence, there's just  
8 one thing I want to remind you of. You'll remember you  
9 provided written evidence to us by responding to  
10 questions that were put to you in writing. In one of  
11 the points in the form that you completed, you were  
12 asked whether you had ever been subject to a complaint  
13 about alleged abuse, and the form also told you that you  
14 didn't have to answer any questions about that, but you  
15 needed to understand that if you did then your answers  
16 could be used in any other proceedings.

17 A. Mm-hm.

18 LADY SMITH: It was telling you that you have a right not to  
19 incriminate yourself, but if you choose to answer  
20 questions that are about a subject matter that relates  
21 to the commission of a crime, such as abusing children,  
22 then they could be used as evidence at a later date.

23 I just wanted to confirm to you that, now you're  
24 here to give oral evidence to the inquiry, that still  
25 applies. You still have your right not to answer any

1           such questions if you don't want to do so, but you need  
2           to appreciate that if you do, your answers are being  
3           recorded and they could be used at a later date if  
4           anybody wanted to do so. Do you understand that?

5           A. I do, yes.

6           LADY SMITH: Thank you. I'm now going to pass over to  
7           Mr Peoples and he'll explain to you what happens next.

8                               Questions from MR PEOPLES

9           MR PEOPLES: Good afternoon, Bobby.

10          A. Afternoon.

11          Q. You have in front of you a red folder and in that folder  
12           there are two statements that you provided to the  
13           inquiry before today. Today I will be asking you some  
14           questions about those statements, but you're free at any  
15           stage to use the folder to consult and to refresh your  
16           memory as to what you said in those statements. The  
17           statement should also appear on the screen in front of  
18           you, so you're free to use the screen if that is easier  
19           for you. It's a matter entirely for you.

20                       Can I say at this stage, I will begin by giving the  
21           reference that we've given to the statement so that  
22           we can identify the statements that we're talking about  
23           and I'll give that to those that are taking a record of  
24           proceedings today. If I can start by saying you  
25           provided a statement which we have identified as

1 WIT.003.001.5589.

2 You have also provided an additional statement,  
3 which is WIT.003.001.6831.

4 If you could at this stage simply open the folder in  
5 front of you and if we could look, firstly, at the first  
6 statement, if I could call it that, and that's the one  
7 at WIT.003.001.5589. If you could turn to the final  
8 page of that statement, which is at page 5602. Take  
9 your time.

10 A. Okay.

11 Q. Can you just confirm for me at this stage that you have  
12 signed that statement on page 5602?

13 A. I have, yes.

14 Q. So far as the second statement is concerned, which is  
15 WIT.003.001.6831, again if you could turn to -- I think  
16 in this case it's page 6835.

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And could you again confirm that you've signed that  
19 statement?

20 A. I have, yes.

21 Q. With that introduction, can I begin by asking you to  
22 confirm the year of your birth. Were you born in the  
23 year 1961?

24 A. I was.

25 Q. Were you a resident along with [REDACTED] -- I think,

1 [REDACTED] perhaps -- in cottage 17 at  
2 Quarrier's Village between 1971 and 1977?

3 A. I was.

4 Q. In cottage 17 at the time that you were a resident  
5 there, was the house parent a person called

6 [REDACTED] QNZ

7 A. She was.

8 Q. Was she known to you and other residents at that time as  
9 Auntie [REDACTED] QNZ

10 A. She was, yes.

11 Q. I think from the dates that you were a resident in  
12 Quarriers, you went to Quarriers when you were about  
13 10 years of age, in 1971?

14 A. That's correct.

15 Q. And you stayed there until you were about the age of 16,  
16 is it, in 1977?

17 A. Yes, it was.

18 Q. The first matter I want to ask you about, based on what  
19 you've told us in your statement and other evidence that  
20 we've heard about, is about abuse at Quarriers suffered  
21 either by you or other children whilst a child in care  
22 at Quarrier's Village. So I'm going to start with some  
23 questions about that. Because you tell us some things  
24 in your statement that I'd like to ask you about at this  
25 stage.

1           The first question I would like to ask you  
2           is: in the written statements you've provided, you tell  
3           us that you, and I think other children, were abused and  
4           wilfully ill-treated by **QNZ**; is that correct?

5           A. Yes.

6           Q. I think you also tell us that children in cottage 17  
7           would have to eat the food served up to them or go  
8           without food; is that correct?

9           A. That's correct.

10          Q. And that uneaten food would be re-served at the next  
11          mealtime?

12          A. Yes.

13          Q. Did that happen to you?

14          A. Probably once or twice.

15          Q. Did it happen to other children?

16          A. Yes.

17          Q. How often did it happen to other children? Was it  
18          a regular occurrence?

19          A. No, I think we got to the stage that we realised that we  
20          had to eat it so that we weren't punished.

21          Q. Who was it that was carrying this regime on? Was it  
22          **QNZ**? Was she responsible for this practice?

23          A. She was responsible because she was the house mother.

24          Q. She knew it was going on?

25          A. Yes.

1 Q. And at times would she be involved in telling children  
2 they had to eat up and if they didn't they would get it  
3 again?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. You also tell us in your written statements that if  
6 a child was really bad, they were locked in a cupboard  
7 by the front door of cottage 17 under the stairs;  
8 is that correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Did that happen to you?

11 A. A couple of times.

12 Q. How long would you spend in the locked cupboard on the  
13 occasions that you were put in there?

14 A. I think it's probably difficult to tell because as  
15 a young child, you're just not sure timewise. It seemed  
16 a long time. It may not have seemed -- because it was  
17 dark, so I think it ... You know, you can't really  
18 determine a time.

19 Q. But you were locked in?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Who put you in the cupboard?

22 A. Whoever was on duty at the time, whether it was  
23 Miss QNZ or one of the other cottage aunties.

24 Q. So it wasn't just Auntie QNZ that would do this?

25 A. No.

1 Q. And if other persons such as cottage aunties did this,  
2 were they following an instruction from Auntie QNZ or  
3 not?

4 A. Truthfully, I'm not sure.

5 Q. How big was this cupboard?

6 A. Not very big. You could stand in it. That's where they  
7 held all the things like the Hoover and brushes and  
8 things like that.

9 Q. Did you tell us, I think, a moment ago that the cupboard  
10 was dark when you were placed there and locked in?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. You also say in your statements that children were,  
13 I think to use the word you used, spanked on the bottom  
14 and clipped around the ear; is that correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Who would do that?

17 A. Whether it'd be QNZ or QNZ or any of the  
18 other aunts.

19 Q. Any of the adults that were in the house?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Including QNZ

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. How forcibly were children spanked on the bottom?

24 A. Well, you felt it through your clothes, so it would be  
25 probably about two or three smacks and then sent



1           upstairs or into the cupboard.

2           Q.   So you might be sent to the cupboard after being spanked  
3           in this way several times?

4           A.   Yes.

5           Q.   And you were spanked over your clothes?

6           A.   Yes.

7           Q.   Was that always the case?

8           A.   Yes.

9           Q.   Were you spanked other than on the bottom, on any other  
10          parts of your body?

11          A.   Just round the ear, around the head area.

12          Q.   And just sticking with the spanking on the bottom, you  
13          said you'd feel it --

14          A.   Yes.

15          Q.   -- so do you mean -- was it painful at the time?

16          A.   Yes, it was, yes.

17          Q.   Did it ever leave marks?

18          A.   Sometimes you'd have a handprint if you lifted your  
19          skirt or trousers up, whatever you were wearing.

20          Q.   On the occasions when children were clipped around their  
21          ear -- and that included you, I take it?

22          A.   Mm-hm.

23          Q.   How forcible was the clip round the ear?

24          A.   Well, you felt it and it obviously would be painful with  
25          it being the ear area.

1 Q. Was the clip using a hand?

2 A. A hand, yes.

3 Q. Was it a closed hand or an open hand?

4 A. An open hand.

5 Q. Were marks ever left when this happened?

6 A. Well, your ear was red.

7 Q. And did you see other children being spanked or clipped  
8 around the ear in the way you've described?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Did you ever see Auntie QNZ or any other adult who was  
11 employed in the cottage slap a child on the legs, head  
12 or face, other than in the way you've described?

13 A. No, just the way described.

14 Q. Did you ever see Auntie QNZ or any other member of  
15 staff in cottage 17 use a belt to strike children on the  
16 leg or bottom?

17 A. Not that I can remember.

18 Q. Did Auntie QNZ have a belt that a teacher might use?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Did she have a waist belt?

21 A. Possibly. She probably wore them with trousers.

22 Q. Did you ever see her take it off and use it on a child?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Did you ever see Auntie QNZ or any other member of  
25 staff in cottage 17 grab a child by the hair?

- 1 A. Possibly if we ran off, if we knew that something was  
2 going to happen to us. That may have been the case.
- 3 Q. You say possibly.
- 4 A. Possibly, I really don't ... trying to think back, it's  
5 quite difficult.
- 6 Q. Would children sometimes seek to run away from  
7 Auntie QNZ if she was wanting to punish them in the  
8 ways you've described?
- 9 A. Yes, I think we all did.
- 10 Q. Can you remember how many children there were in the  
11 cottage in the time you were there?
- 12 A. I think probably about 14, if I can remember the amount  
13 of bedrooms and beds.
- 14 Q. And was that a mixture of boys and girls?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Can you give us a broad age range for the children that  
17 were there?
- 18 A. I think age 3, and the ones that were older, I think  
19 they were about 15, 16.
- 20 Q. Did you ever see any child, as a punishment, being made  
21 to sit under a table?
- 22 A. No.
- 23 Q. Did you ever hear Auntie QNZ or any other member of  
24 staff in cottage 17 say hurtful things about the  
25 children in their care or about their family members?

1 A. No.

2 Q. You never heard that said?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Did she ever say anything hurtful about you or your  
5 family?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Did she ever call anyone [REDACTED] in your presence?

8 A. No.

9 Q. You don't remember that expression being used?

10 A. I don't.

11 LADY SMITH: Do you remember any expressions being used?

12 A. No, no, I don't. It's just -- we'd be sent away if  
13 something was -- if we were naughty, we'd be sent  
14 upstairs, but I honestly don't remember expressions like  
15 that being said.

16 LADY SMITH: What sort of thing would she say if she was  
17 sending a child upstairs?

18 A. Just obviously, we've been naughty and we should  
19 understand why we were spanked or put in the cupboard,  
20 and hopefully that we've learnt a lesson and won't do it  
21 again.

22 MR PEOPLES: What did she call children? How did she  
23 address them?

24 A. By our names.

25 Q. Their first name, their second name?

1 A. Both. It'd be your first and your second name if you  
2 had done something wrong, she'd shout either my name or  
3 somebody else's name. Their first name followed by  
4 their second name.

5 Q. Would she ever just use the second name?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Would she ever use any other expression like "boy",  
8 "girl", "you"?

9 A. Well, she might have said, "You", and pointed her finger  
10 at you.

11 Q. Nicknames?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Did she generally show warmth and affection towards the  
14 children in her care?

15 A. She did to some, yes.

16 Q. Some?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. To some children or sometimes?

19 A. Sometimes.

20 Q. So were there other times when she showed little or no  
21 warmth or affection to the children in her care?

22 A. When she was angry, she didn't show any warmth or care.

23 Q. Would she get angry from time to time?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. And was it when she was angry that she would punish

1 children in some of the ways you've described?

2 A. Yes, if we had done whatever we'd done, if we'd done it  
3 more than once, because we should know better.

4 Q. Would you describe her as at times unpredictable?

5 A. Yes, sometimes.

6 Q. Did she have mood swings?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. On the occasions when she may have shown some warmth and  
9 affection, how did she do so?

10 A. Presumably we'd done -- we'd been good that day and some  
11 of us would be sitting in her sitting room and some of  
12 us would be in the children's sitting room. So the ones  
13 that I suppose she felt had warranted -- I don't know if  
14 you'd say it was a treatment or whatever, but we were  
15 allowed to go in there and have a story read or talk.

16 Q. So some children would be in her sitting room?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Getting a story or a talk?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. But other children might be elsewhere, in a playroom?

21 A. In the playroom or the sitting room.

22 Q. Why weren't they getting the same story and talk?

23 A. I really don't know. As I said, maybe it's because some  
24 had been -- done really well that day, had behaved, it  
25 wasn't the same children all the time, obviously it was

1 different children.

2 Q. Did she have her favourites?

3 A. I wouldn't say she had her favourites, although you  
4 sometimes thought she did have favourites, but I don't  
5 think she did.

6 Q. Why would she give the impression at times that some  
7 children were more favoured than others?

8 A. Just by the amount of times that you were in the sitting  
9 room.

10 Q. Were you in the sitting room a lot?

11 A. I wouldn't say an awful lot. I'd say just the same as  
12 others.

13 Q. Were there families that didn't spend as much time as  
14 your family in the sitting room?

15 A. No, I would say we all were in there. We all had turns  
16 in there now and again.

17 Q. You probably heard the expression touchy-feely. Was

18 QNZ a touchy-feely sort of person?

19 A. She would give you cuddles.

20 Q. She gave you cuddles?

21 A. But so would the other aunts, yes.

22 Q. Where would she give you these cuddles?

23 A. Just round the shoulder.

24 Q. In what location? Where were you when you got the  
25 cuddles?

1 A. It could have been in the children's sitting room, her  
2 sitting room, or just if you came home from school.

3 Q. Did all children get cuddles?

4 A. Yes, I would say that they did.

5 Q. Were there times when Auntie QNZ seemed to you unable  
6 to cope with the demands of looking after a large number  
7 of vulnerable children of different ages?

8 A. Sometimes when we heard her shouting and screaming at  
9 all of us, you just wondered why.

10 Q. Were there times when, to use a colloquial expression,  
11 she lost it with the children or a particular child?

12 A. Yes, she'd be screaming at the top of her voice.

13 Q. Would these be occasions when she'd punish in some of  
14 the ways you've described?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Including putting children in the cupboard --

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. -- and striking them as you've told us --

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. -- slapping them, spanking them?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. How was bed-wetting dealt with in cottage 17?

23 A. From what I can remember, it was sort of asked why we'd  
24 wet the bed and then you were told to strip the bed and  
25 take it downstairs, to the laundry downstairs.



1 Q. Did anything else happen to you for wetting the bed?

2 A. Spanked once or twice.

3 Q. In the way you've described already?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Would that be in the presence of other children?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And would other children know who had wet the bed

8 because of what Auntie QNZ did, the way she treated  
9 them?

10 A. Yes, she probably said.

11 LADY SMITH: Was that embarrassing?

12 A. A bit.

13 LADY SMITH: Because then everybody else would know you'd  
14 wet the bed?

15 A. Yes.

16 LADY SMITH: You said a few moments ago, Bobby, that  
17 children would be asked why they had wet the bed. What  
18 sort of answers did they give?

19 A. I don't ... My answer was I don't know.

20 LADY SMITH: Let's take you, for example. You told us that  
21 you had wet the bed in the cottage. Did it happen  
22 during your sleep?

23 A. Yes.

24 LADY SMITH: So how would you know why it had happened? You  
25 wouldn't know, would you?

1 A. No.

2 LADY SMITH: So I don't suppose children were able to answer  
3 that question, were they?

4 A. No.

5 MR PEOPLES: Did she ever try to seek help for children that  
6 had a problem with bed-wetting in terms of some sort of  
7 treatment or some sort of assistance to stop them, by  
8 referring them to anyone for support?

9 A. We went to the local hospital within Quarriers and had  
10 a sheet that had an alarm on it.

11 Q. And did you have that?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Did some other children have that too?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. But she still -- you're describing a situation where it  
16 was embarrassing and humiliating to be singled out as  
17 bed-wetters and be asked why you wet the bed and take  
18 your sheets to the laundry. Did that still continue?

19 A. Yes, it did.

20 Q. And just in terms of what was normal practice, who would  
21 normally strip the beds when sheets were required to be  
22 washed and laundered? I'm not thinking of the situation  
23 where someone wet the bed. Who would normally do that?

24 A. We had to strip our own beds.

25 Q. Did you have to take them to the laundry?

- 1 A. We had to take them down the stairs.
- 2 Q. But this was different, what you're describing. When  
3 you wet the bed there was a special walk to the laundry  
4 with wet sheets?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And other people could see that happening?
- 7 A. If they were awake, yes.
- 8 Q. And some would be awake?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Do you remember a child who couldn't say the letter C,  
11 a member of the [REDACTED] family? He had a problem.
- 12 A. Um ...
- 13 Q. I can give you the name if you want: [REDACTED] Do  
14 you remember him?
- 15 A. Yes, he was the youngest out of the three of them.
- 16 Q. Do you remember if he had a problem pronouncing the  
17 letter C?
- 18 A. Truthfully, I can't remember.
- 19 Q. Did Auntie QNZ, when the boy was very young, make fun  
20 of him in the presence of other children by, for  
21 example, asking him to say a word beginning with C, such  
22 as "cake"? Can you remember that happening?
- 23 A. No.
- 24 Q. But you're not saying it didn't happen?
- 25 A. I'm not saying it didn't happen; I'm saying I don't

1 remember.

2 Q. Would Auntie QNZ from time to time make fun of children  
3 as well as belittle them or humiliate them if they had  
4 wet the bed?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. How would she do that?

7 A. Usually we were sitting at the table or sitting doing  
8 our homework.

9 Q. Can you think of some examples of the sort of things she  
10 might say?

11 A. One of the times was, you know, who wet their bed last  
12 night, who wasn't able to dress themselves, those sort  
13 of things.

14 Q. How did it make those children feel so far as you could  
15 tell?

16 A. They'd be embarrassed.

17 Q. And were you sometimes spoken to in that way?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Did it embarrass you?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. You know, I presume, that Auntie QNZ was convicted of  
22 assaulting and wilfully ill-treating a number of  
23 children in her care.

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Including several members of the family name family?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Do you also know that the assaults included striking  
3 [REDACTED] QDK on the head with her hand -- this is with  
4 Auntie [REDACTED] QNZ hand -- seizing her by the body and  
5 placing her hand over [REDACTED] QDK s hand and body? Did you  
6 know that?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Did you know that she was convicted on various occasions  
9 of striking [REDACTED] QDK over the head with a hairbrush?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Did she have a dislike of the [REDACTED] family name family?

12 A. Not that I can remember.

13 Q. Because I think we know that the majority of the charges  
14 of which she was convicted were offences against members  
15 of that family. Is that just a coincidence?

16 A. Probably if they've spoken up about it and the others of  
17 us haven't spoken up.

18 Q. But there are others who could have spoken up and told  
19 of similar things happening to them; is that what you're  
20 saying?

21 A. I'm saying that they might have done, I don't know.

22 Q. Did you see Auntie [REDACTED] QNZ strike [REDACTED] QDK or other children  
23 with a hairbrush?

24 A. No, I didn't.

25 Q. On the head?

- 1 A. No.
- 2 Q. You didn't, and it didn't happen to you?
- 3 A. No, it was just the hand.
- 4 Q. I want to ask you about another matter: did you ever  
5 spend the night in Auntie QNZ's bedroom?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. In your case, how often did that happen?
- 8 A. Not a lot. It was taken in turns.
- 9 Q. It was done in turns?
- 10 A. Yes, other children were there as well, whether it was  
11 the boys or the girls.
- 12 Q. She would take children in turns to spend the night in  
13 her room?
- 14 A. Yes, she would just ask if we would like to go in there  
15 and we always thought it was a treat because we were  
16 allowed to go and sleep in that bed in the room.
- 17 Q. But why would it be a treat to spend the night in  
18 Auntie QNZ's bedroom rather than the dorm, for example?
- 19 A. I suppose because you felt as if you'd done well that  
20 day and behaved and that was your treat for doing that.
- 21 Q. And did she explain that that was the reason she was  
22 inviting you or any other child to spend the night in  
23 her bedroom?
- 24 A. No, she just asked, do you want to go in.
- 25 LADY SMITH: Can I just be clear: you said children took it

1           in -- it was done in turns. So was it one child at  
2           a time?

3           A. Yes.

4           LADY SMITH: Not more than one child on one night?

5           A. No.

6           LADY SMITH: Do you see what I mean?

7           A. Yes. I can't remember, I just know that there was a few  
8           of us that had been in one at a time.

9           LADY SMITH: Okay. Was that to sleep in her bed?

10          A. No, she had another single bed in her room.

11          LADY SMITH: Right. Thank you.

12          MR PEOPLES: Those that were invited, and you said it was  
13          one of two of us, were they girls that you can recall?

14          A. No, I think there was boys and girls.

15          Q. So on occasion, a boy would be asked to spend the night  
16          in her room?

17          A. Yes.

18          Q. What age were the girls and boys that were given this  
19          invitation?

20          A. I was about 11. QDK and QKT, I think, were 10.  
21          Then, obviously, QDK's younger sisters.

22          Q. This is QDK?

23          A. Yes.

24          Q. And QKT.

25          A. Yes.

1 Q. [REDACTED] QOH [REDACTED] ?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. You?

4 A. Myself.

5 Q. Who else can you remember in this group?

6 (Pause)

7 A. Other girls -- I honestly can't remember names. I think  
8 because we always played together, that's how I remember  
9 the three of us.

10 Q. We've heard evidence from [REDACTED] QDK [REDACTED] that she was told  
11 by her sisters when she was grown up that they were  
12 sexually abused by [REDACTED] QNZ [REDACTED] in her bedroom; have you  
13 any comment to make on that?

14 A. No [REDACTED]

15 [REDACTED]

16 Q. Did anything happen to you on any occasion that you  
17 spent the night in Auntie [REDACTED] QNZ [REDACTED] s bedroom?

18 A. No.

19 Q. At this stage, it's my intention to turn to the  
20 allegation that [REDACTED] QDK [REDACTED] has made against you, which  
21 you have responded to in your statements. Can I again  
22 reiterate the warning that was given at the beginning by  
23 Lady Smith, that you do not require to answer questions  
24 about this allegation or indeed any other allegations of  
25 abuse that have been made against you, because I think



1           you raised that something was said in the past and I'm  
2           not sure what exactly was said.

3           You don't have to answer questions about that,  
4           whether that allegation has been made to this inquiry or  
5           to the police or to anyone else. So do you understand  
6           your rights in this matter?

7           A. Yes, I do, yes.

8           Q. What I'm going to do is to tell you what **QDK**  
9           told the inquiry in her written statement and oral  
10          evidence and I intend after that to ask you some  
11          questions. After each question, pause and if you have  
12          any concerns about the question I'm asking and don't  
13          wish to answer it, then remember the warning that  
14          you have been given by me and by Lady Smith.

15          A. Yes.

16          Q. Do you understand all of that? So take your time.

17          A. Yes, I do.

18          Q. **QDK** who we understand is two years younger  
19          than you -- she was born in 1963 -- told the inquiry in  
20          her evidence that she and her sister **QOH**, who was  
21          born in, we think, 1966, so she would be five years  
22          younger than you, she told the inquiry that she and her  
23          sister were sexually abused by you in a shed at the rear  
24          of cottage 17.

25          She told the inquiry that you would go into the

1 shed, strip naked, lie on a shoe hamper -- which we  
2 understand was a large wicker basket -- you'd spread  
3 yourself out on the hamper and make QDK and her  
4 younger sister examine you and that was something that  
5 involved touching your vagina and breasts.

6 In her evidence to the inquiry, she said this  
7 happened a few times and she also said that she and her  
8 sister were given Polo mints for doing so. She also  
9 told the inquiry that she did not report this to anyone  
10 while she was in Quarriers from the time that she  
11 arrived in [REDACTED] 1971 until the time she left in  
12 [REDACTED] 1975.

13 I'll just add one more thing. She said in her  
14 evidence that she added that she believed that you were,  
15 like she was, a vulnerable person and had probably been  
16 abused yourself. So do you understand what she has been  
17 saying?

18 A. Yes, I understand.

19 Q. I think these were the substance of the allegations that  
20 you were asked to comment or respond to if you wished to  
21 do so.

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Against that, I'm going to ask you some questions, and  
24 I just remind you again about what we've said.

25 First of all, in your written evidence to the

1 inquiry, Bobby, you tell us that while you were a child  
2 in care, as I understand, you did suffer sexual,  
3 physical and emotional abuse, but that that happened  
4 when you were staying with a family member; is that  
5 correct?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Was that at a time when you were in the care of  
8 Quarriers but you were visiting a family member?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Were you at any time sexually abused by a member of  
11 staff at Quarriers?

12 A. No.

13 Q. You tell us in your statement that you were accused of  
14 physical and sexual abuse [REDACTED] when the police spoke  
15 to you; is that correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Who do you understand made that accusation?

18 A. QDK and QOH.

19 Q. What did you understand you were accused of doing at  
20 that time?

21 A. They just said sexual abuse, touching. That was it.

22 Q. Was it along the lines of what I have just told you?

23 A. No, they just said it was just sexual abuse.

24 Q. Okay. You've stated in your written evidence to the  
25 inquiry that you deny the allegation that I've just read

1 out to you by [REDACTED] QDK and consider it not only to  
2 be unfounded but malicious.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Is that your position today?

5 A. Yes, it is.

6 Q. In your written response you mention the fact that you  
7 believe that [REDACTED] QDK was jealous of the fact that  
8 you and your brothers were receiving regular visits from  
9 your dad. Is that --

10 A. That's correct.

11 Q. Are you suggesting to this inquiry that [REDACTED] QDK made this  
12 allegation to the inquiry and any allegation to the  
13 police [REDACTED] because as a child she was jealous of the  
14 fact that you and your brothers received regular visits  
15 from your dad?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. You're putting that forward as the explanation?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And I think you also say in your written statement that:

20 [REDACTED] QDK was always making comments or allegations  
21 about [you] and others in the cottage and sometimes told  
22 lies to get [you] and others into trouble and as a form  
23 of attention-seeking behaviour."

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Can you give examples of the sort of things she would

1           accuse you and others of doing?

2           A. That we had either hit her or we had told lies. That  
3           was mainly it -- or that we'd hit one of her younger  
4           sisters.

5           Q. Am I right in thinking that she never, at any stage  
6           while she was a child in Quarriers, accused you of  
7           sexually abusing her in the shed?

8           A. No.

9           Q. We understand that QDK left Quarriers in 1975 and you  
10          left in 1977.

11          A. Mm-hm.

12          Q. Since then, have you been in any contact with each  
13          other?

14          A. No.

15          Q. Are you suggesting that QDK in making her allegation  
16          to the police [REDACTED] which is more than [REDACTED] years after  
17          she left Quarriers, and more than [REDACTED] years after she  
18          last saw you -- are you suggesting that she made the  
19          allegation to get you into trouble with the law because  
20          of childhood jealousy?

21          A. Quite possibly.

22          Q. But if she wanted to get you into serious trouble,  
23          Bobby, not just with Quarriers but with the police and  
24          the law, why would she wait over [REDACTED] years to do so and  
25          only mention it after she'd been contacted by the

1 police?

2 A. I don't know. I only mentioned my abuse after I turned  
3 40 because I'd locked it away in my head.

4 Q. But you're talking about something different, locking  
5 jealousy away in her head for [REDACTED] years and bringing it  
6 out [REDACTED]

7 A. I don't know what's going on in [REDACTED] QDK's head, but  
8 I certainly didn't abuse her or her sister.

9 Q. Do you not think that that doesn't make a lot of sense  
10 that she would wait [REDACTED] years to do something because of  
11 some form of childhood jealousy about visits by your  
12 father?

13 A. At the time, [REDACTED] it was thingummied by Quarriers  
14 that they would give out compensation for children that  
15 had been abused in their care. It may have had  
16 something to do with that. I really don't know.

17 Q. So are you saying that there is really no reason to  
18 think that she continued to harbour jealousy. Is that  
19 how you're putting it? Are you departing from that?

20 A. I have never been in contact with them and I don't know  
21 why.

22 Q. It seems to be your position in your statement, and  
23 perhaps today, and I just want to be clear, that you  
24 can't really explain why [REDACTED] QDK would say she was  
25 sexually abused by you if it didn't happen. I think

1           you've said that in your statement. You're at a loss?

2           A. I did say that in my statement. The fact is she  
3           mentioned a large wicker box in the shed. There was  
4           never any of that. The shoebox, as she had said from  
5           what I was told by the police, was -- we put our shoes  
6           in a rack on the wall, like pigeonholes, so I don't know  
7           where this wicker box has come from.

8           Q. You don't remember such a box?

9           A. No, I don't.

10          Q. Might you have done things as a teenager that you now  
11          regret and don't wish to acknowledge happened; is that  
12          possible?

13          A. No.

14          MR PEOPLES: My Lady, I think these are really all the  
15          questions I have for this witness. I simply want to  
16          thank her for attending today.

17          LADY SMITH: Are there any outstanding applications for  
18          questions of this witness? No. Can somebody confirm  
19          nobody else is trying to get my attention? No.  
20          Thank you.

21                 Bobby, that's all the questions we have for you.  
22          Thank you very much for coming along today and answering  
23          the questions that have been put to you here in addition  
24          to providing the written evidence that you have to  
25          assist us in our work. I'm now able to let you go.

1 A. Thank you.

2 (The witness withdrew)

3 MR PEOPLES: My Lady, I think we have another witness. May  
4 we just have a short break because Ms Rattray will be  
5 taking over.

6 LADY SMITH: Very well.

7 (2.32 pm)

8 (A short break)

9 (2.38 pm)

10 LADY SMITH: Ms Rattray.

11 MS RATTRAY: The next witness is Marion Smillie.

12 MARION SMILLIE (sworn)

13 LADY SMITH: Please sit down and welcome back.

14 It's the same format as when you were last here  
15 in the Sisters of Nazareth case study. You know about  
16 the importance of the microphone and I'm going to hand  
17 you over to Ms Rattray.

18 Questions from MS RATTRAY

19 MS RATTRAY: Good afternoon, Marion.

20 A. Good afternoon.

21 Q. In front of you in the red folder you will find a paper  
22 copy of the statement that you gave to the inquiry.  
23 Just for reference, the reference given to that  
24 statement, which you'll see at the top right-hand corner  
25 of the page, is WIT.001.002.1651. That statement should





1           The background for this case study is that you  
2           approached the inquiry in circumstances where, as  
3           a child, you had an auntie and uncle who worked at  
4           Quarrier's Village.

5           A. That's correct.

6           Q. And you used to go and visit them in the summer?

7           A. Yes.

8           Q. What was the name of your auntie and uncle?

9           A. Bill and Esther Tangeman.

10          Q. And what age were you when you went there for your  
11          holidays?

12          A. I can't be completely accurate, but I would have been  
13          between 5 and 8.

14          Q. I think in your witness statement you suggest that you  
15          would have been there some time between 1962 and 1966.

16          A. Yes.

17          Q. What was their role at Quarriers?

18          A. They were house parents.

19          Q. Do you remember which cottage?

20          A. Cottage 23.

21          Q. So when you went for holidays, how long at a time would  
22          you spend there?

23          A. Again, it's not completely accurate because it's my  
24          memory from being a child, but it was certainly  
25          somewhere between a week and 10 days, but occasionally

1           it would have been over a long weekend, so it varied.

2           Q. If you turn to page 1652, or it'll appear in front of  
3           you, at paragraph 7 onwards, you give us a description  
4           of Quarrier's Village.

5           A. Yes.

6           Q. Can you tell us about the village as you remember it as  
7           a child?

8           A. I grew up in a mining village. I lived in a flat above  
9           a shop on a very busy street, so my memories of  
10          Quarriers were very much of it being a very big green  
11          space, big houses with lots of space around about them  
12          and it was something that looked very different to  
13          anywhere I'd been before. It looked very pretty and  
14          very regular and very organised, almost like a model  
15          village.

16          Q. I think you say at paragraph 9 there that apart from the  
17          cottages there was a church and, you think, a school?

18          A. I remember the church. I think there was a school. But  
19          I do remember the church because I went to church  
20          because I loved singing.

21          Q. You also tell us something that you refer to as "the  
22          colony". Can you tell us about that?

23          A. Yes. It was referred to when I was there as the  
24          epileptic colony. Looking back, as an adult now,  
25          looking back to it when I was there as a child, there

1           were adults who I'm presuming suffered from epilepsy,  
2           but I now recognise had a range of learning difficulties  
3           and they worked on the farm there, they made furniture,  
4           they made baskets and did other things.

5           Q. Turning to page 1653 in front of you, at the foot there,  
6           at paragraph 14, you explain that your auntie,  
7           Esther Tangeman, was your dad's half-sister?

8           A. Yes.

9           Q. Is that right?

10          A. Yes.

11          Q. And you think she was born around 1929?

12          A. I can now confirm she was born in 1912; I checked that  
13          out with my mum.

14          Q. Did your aunt and uncle have any children of their own?

15          A. No.

16          Q. Was that a matter of concern or --

17          A. My aunt would have liked to have had children, but she  
18          wasn't able to have any, and I think that was  
19          definitely -- I was a very treasured niece and I'm sure  
20          that was partly why.

21          Q. How did your aunt and uncle meet, do you know that?

22          A. They met during the war in the army is all I know.

23          Q. I think at page 1654, in paragraph 15, you tell us that  
24          you think your uncle met your aunt in the army and you  
25          know your auntie had been a cook in the army.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And you describe your uncle in a particular way there.

3 Can you explain how your uncle was to you, how he

4 appeared to you when you were a child?

5 A. He appeared to me as quite a strict person. He was

6 quite military. Everything was done with what I, as an

7 adult, would now describe as military precision. He

8 expected things to be done the way he wanted them done

9 at that time. I don't remember a lot of affection from

10 my uncle, but most of my time would have been spent with

11 my aunt. I don't recall spending much time with him.

12 I have no idea why that is, but that's in my memory.

13 He was there, I don't have any negative feelings about

14 him, but he wasn't somebody -- I couldn't say I knew him

15 very well.

16 Q. What do you remember about your aunt? How did she

17 appear to you as a child?

18 A. My aunt was a very loving, affectionate, caring person.

19 She shared her love -- she taught me to bake and to

20 cook. She was good fun. Yes, she came across as

21 a warm, affectionate person from my point of view.

22 Q. Did you ever find out in what circumstances your aunt

23 and uncle came to be working at Quarriers?

24 A. I didn't, and I've asked my mum about that, and my mum

25 said she didn't know either. They just were there;

1 I don't know the circumstances.

2 Q. Have you been able to learn at all from family members  
3 about when your aunt and uncle began working there --

4 A. No.

5 Q. -- or finished working there?

6 A. They had definitely finished working there in the early  
7 1970s; I couldn't be specific about the date. But I'm  
8 guessing if my aunt was born in 1912, presumably  
9 retirement age for her then would have been 1972, so I'm  
10 guessing that's when they retired, but I honestly am  
11 guessing they started there in the late 1950s, perhaps.

12 Q. Your aunt and uncle, they were there as house parents,  
13 so did that mean that they lived permanently in  
14 cottage 23?

15 A. They did. They also owned a property, which they would  
16 go to on their days off and at weekends. They had  
17 a flat.

18 Q. Do you remember any other staff at Quarriers?

19 A. Just Auntie Jean; I shared a room with her when I went  
20 to stay. She would have been the house parent on duty  
21 when my aunt and uncle had their day off.

22 Q. I think in your statement at 1655, at paragraph 19, you  
23 thought that she might have been training to do  
24 something at that stage?

25 A. Yes. I have no idea why that's what I thought, but

1           that's always been my memory that that's what she was  
2           doing, that she wasn't there as a permanent fixture.

3       Q.   So you shared a room with her, so she was someone who  
4           lived in the cottage as well?

5       A.   Yes.

6       Q.   Further down your statement on that page at  
7           paragraph 23, you describe cottage 23. Can you describe  
8           to us the layout in the cottage?

9       A.   What I remember is a Victorian-style entrance hall, the  
10          smell of wood polish, dark wood. I can remember  
11          a kitchen coming off that and a stairway and various  
12          other rooms, but I couldn't be more specific than that.  
13          There was a dining room, I recall, but that's it.

14      Q.   Do you have any idea from the time as to how many  
15          children were living in the cottage?

16      A.   I don't.

17      Q.   I think at your statement at page 1656, paragraph 26,  
18          when you gave the statement you thought there was  
19          between 10 and 15 boys.

20      A.   Yes, that feels about right.

21      Q.   Was this a boys only cottage?

22      A.   Yes.

23      Q.   What was the age range of the children that you recall?

24      A.   I recall that certainly at one visit there was  
25          a 4-year-old, a boy. I remember that because he was so

1           small compared to the others, who were mostly kind of  
2           10 years and up to, I'm guessing, 15 or 16.

3           Q. Did any children have brothers in the cottage?

4           A. I recall that there were siblings in the cottage, but  
5           I also recall that there were children who had siblings  
6           elsewhere in Quarriers, but not in the same cottage if  
7           that makes sense.

8           Q. Would these other siblings have been girls or were there  
9           brothers who were perhaps living elsewhere too?

10          A. There was definitely brothers who were living apart.  
11          I couldn't say about the others, but I do remember my  
12          aunt talking about two boys who'd been split up.

13          Q. Did your aunt explain the circumstances in which they  
14          had been split up?

15          A. Because of the -- the perception was that the older  
16          child would have been a bad influence on the younger  
17          child.

18          Q. In paragraph 28, at the foot of page 1656, you make  
19          reference to a couple of boys who were orphans in the  
20          cottage.

21          A. Mm-hm.

22          Q. Did you gain any information about the background of the  
23          other boys in the cottage?

24          A. Not really, no.

25          Q. What was your first impressions of the children in the



1 cottage?

2 A. They were different to children that I'd mixed with  
3 in the past. I can't think what words to use to  
4 describe it. They were definitely not happy-go-lucky,  
5 so they were quite reserved but equally could be  
6 shouting about something. They would switch from being  
7 calm to shouting about something or making a fuss about  
8 something. I couldn't honestly say they looked carefree  
9 and trouble-free.

10 Q. And the extent to which the children in the cottage were  
11 different to other children you knew at that age, can  
12 you identify the precise situation in which they were  
13 different? Can I take it from that that you wouldn't  
14 expect that sudden change in other children perhaps you  
15 knew at school?

16 A. Yes. And they didn't particularly interact with me, but  
17 part of that was I was not allowed to speak to them when  
18 I came downstairs in the morning. That was a given rule  
19 to me. So I sometimes felt uncomfortable around them  
20 because I guess, as a child, I was worried that I would  
21 get them into trouble. That's how it feels to me.

22 LADY SMITH: Were you given a reason as to why you weren't  
23 to speak to the children who were living there?

24 A. The only thing I recall was being told they had chores  
25 to do first thing in the morning and I wasn't to be

1           disturbing them.

2           MS RATTRAY: At page 1657 of your statement at paragraph 31,  
3           you start to tell us about the daily routine in the  
4           cottage. Can you generally describe to us what the  
5           routine was for the boys in the cottage?

6           A. The routine that I recall was by the time I came  
7           downstairs in the morning, they were on their hands and  
8           knees polishing, scrubbing stairs, polishing the floors.  
9           The only other chores I would have seen -- I recall  
10          children drying dishes in the kitchen, but most mornings  
11          there were boys on their hands and knees cleaning and  
12          polishing.

13          Q. Do you remember how that affected you as a child or did  
14          you think it was quite normal?

15          A. I do remember. That's my most vivid memory because it  
16          was completely foreign to me. Growing up as a child,  
17          I had wee chores to do as well, but there would never  
18          have been an expectation that I'd be on my hands and  
19          knees in the morning before I went to school scrubbing  
20          a set of stairs.

21          Q. These chores, were they before or after breakfast?

22          A. I can't be specific about that. I'm not sure.

23          Q. You mentioned school, so presumably having done their  
24          chores, the boys then went to school?

25          A. That's what I recall.

1 Q. Did they come back for their lunch or was lunch  
2 somewhere else?

3 A. In my head they came back for lunch, but I guess I could  
4 easily be mixing weekend and weekdays up. But I do  
5 recall them having lunch there, but in my head I think  
6 they came back for lunch. I couldn't be sure about  
7 that.

8 Q. What kind of things would the boys do at the end of the  
9 school day that you can remember?

10 A. I don't particularly remember them doing anything too  
11 specific, although I do recall that there may have been  
12 some board games, maybe reading books, but I don't have  
13 any particular memories of them being terribly  
14 purposefully engaged in anything. But I may not have  
15 been with them -- you know, I would have been in my aunt  
16 and uncle's quarters, away from them.

17 Q. So you mention your aunt and uncle's quarters. Did your  
18 aunt and uncle live in a separate part of the cottage?

19 A. They had their own sitting room and their own bedroom.  
20 I don't remember if they had a separate kitchen.  
21 I suspect they didn't, but I remember being in the  
22 sitting room.

23 Q. In relation to the sleeping arrangements, you have  
24 explained that you were sharing a bedroom with the  
25 cottage auntie. What about the boys? Did you ever

1 learn what the arrangements were for the boys?

2 A. I don't ... I'm sure I possibly did see where they  
3 slept, but I don't have a -- in my head it was shared  
4 accommodation, but I really don't have ...

5 Q. If we look at page 1658 of your statement, and firstly  
6 at paragraph 34, I think at that stage you say that your  
7 memory appears to be that the boys went to bed quite  
8 early.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Do you remember that?

11 A. That's how it appeared to me, but that may have been  
12 that I wasn't terribly good at going to bed as a child  
13 and sleeping, so I may well have gone to bed much later,  
14 but my memory was that they were tucked up in bed quite  
15 early, yes.

16 Q. At paragraph 36 you say that you think that there were  
17 two dorms for the boys.

18 A. Yes, split by age.

19 Q. Right. You seem to have a memory of helping out  
20 Auntie Jean with the cleaning and you might have seen  
21 the dormitories at that stage; does that ring a bell at  
22 all?

23 A. Yes. It's not -- I wouldn't say it's the most vivid  
24 memory I have, but I do recall beds that would have had  
25 railing-type bed ends on them. But I couldn't have said

1           how many were in the room or, you know ...

2           Q.   What was your impression of the beds and the dorm as far  
3           as you can remember?

4           A.   I guess, looking back on it now as an adult, they were  
5           clinical.  They didn't look like the bedroom I had at  
6           home.  There weren't a lot of personal possessions  
7           about.  There were beds in rows: that is what I have in  
8           my head.

9           Q.   In your statement you describe it as being -- "It was  
10          very regimented, clinical dormitory".

11          A.   Yes.  Mm-hm.

12          Q.   It was just a line of beds.

13          A.   Mm-hm.

14          Q.   Does that accord with your memory now?

15          A.   Yes.

16          Q.   In relation to -- you indicated that there was not much  
17          sign of the boys having personal possessions.  Do you  
18          remember if they had any private space where they were  
19          able to keep belongings or anything of that nature?

20          A.   I don't, no.  I don't know if they did or not.  I don't  
21          recall seeing lockers, but I think they had -- I don't  
22          know why, but I think they maybe had a bedside cabinet,  
23          there was a drawer or something, but that is a fairly  
24          vague memory, to be honest about that.

25          Q.   In your statement at paragraph 37 you at that time

1           remember an occasion when your uncle was perhaps --

2           A. I don't know what it was he thought somebody had that  
3           they shouldn't have had, but I do remember him going  
4           through drawers or I remember him saying that that's  
5           what he was doing.

6           Q. Okay. So your memory is, according to the statement,  
7           your Uncle Billy would rifle through those drawers  
8           looking for things?

9           A. Yes.

10          Q. You remember him saying he was doing that and presumably  
11          he was checking for contraband of some description?

12          A. Whatever that may have been.

13          Q. Moving now onto the subject of food, I think you say in  
14          your statement that your aunt was an amazing cook.

15          A. She was, yes.

16          Q. Can we take it from that, that as far as you are aware,  
17          the food was good in the cottage?

18          A. It was, yes, and she baked cakes and biscuits and  
19          treats, yes.

20          Q. You've indicated that you don't know what the boys  
21          in the dining hall had. I take it from that that you  
22          and your aunt and uncle ate separately from the boys?

23          A. Yes.

24          Q. Is that right?

25          A. Yes.

1 Q. And do you know whether that was a normal feature of  
2 life in a cottage or just because you were there?

3 A. I don't know. I certainly always ate with my aunt.  
4 I don't recall my aunt ever saying that they took their  
5 meals with the children, but again, you know, I couldn't  
6 be 100% sure about that.

7 Q. At paragraph 39 at page 1659 you say that your memory  
8 tells you that the boys didn't get their breakfast until  
9 they'd finished their chores.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And that you do remember that the boys had to be silent  
12 when they were in the dining room.

13 A. Yes. Certainly on one occasion, I don't know if it was  
14 a regular thing, but I do remember my uncle shouting at  
15 them for making too much noise.

16 Q. There's a bit of a difference between shouting at them  
17 for making too much noise as opposed to silence.

18 A. Yes, that is a fair comment.

19 Q. Was there room for chat over the table or was it  
20 expected to be silent to your knowledge?

21 A. In my head they were expected to be silent, but again,  
22 it's the memory of a child, so I can't be 100% sure  
23 about that.

24 Q. We spoke about your aunt being a good cook.

25 A. Mm-hm.

1 Q. Do you remember any references at all to the quality and  
2 quantity of the food given to the boys in this cottage  
3 as opposed to perhaps other cottages?

4 A. Only in that my aunt would have said that the children  
5 in the other cottages didn't necessarily get home-baked  
6 food and the same quality of food that she gave out.  
7 But clearly, that was the story I was being told by her.

8 Q. At paragraph 41 you indicate you've got a memory of your  
9 aunt telling you that the boys got extra food in her  
10 cottage because she put her own resources in.

11 A. That's what she told me. I remember discussions --  
12 I remember hearing conversations that she would have had  
13 with my mum talking about that.

14 Q. At paragraph 43 you tell us that one of the few things  
15 the boys told you was that they were better fed than  
16 some of the other children in the other cottages.

17 A. Yes. Although I didn't regularly interact with the  
18 boys, sometimes at lunchtime, when there would maybe  
19 only be a couple of them in the kitchen drying dishes,  
20 and I would have been helping out as well, some of the  
21 older boys, I don't remember their names, but they would  
22 have -- they passed comment on the fact that they were  
23 lucky because they got good food.

24 Q. You also indicate in relation to washing and bathing  
25 facilities that you think your aunt and uncle had



1 a separate bathroom from the boys.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. That's your memory?

4 A. That's my memory of it.

5 Q. You've also made a comment about the boys' clothing.

6 Can you remember what your impressions were about the  
7 boys' clothing?

8 A. I guess in my head, their clothing was grey and bland,  
9 although mine was colourful and different, so I just  
10 remember them being in the same things all of the time.  
11 But that could be -- it could have been that it was  
12 their school uniform. That's as much as I can say,  
13 really.

14 Q. I think in your statement at paragraph 45, page 1660,  
15 you have indicated that a lot of the clothes were a bit  
16 washed out or a bit too small?

17 A. Yes, I remember trousers that looked a bit too short,  
18 yes.

19 Q. I'm going to move on to chores. You've mentioned chores  
20 before, that the boys were doing certain chores like  
21 polishing the stairs and the floor. At page 1660 you  
22 tell us a bit more about the kind of chores that you saw  
23 the boys doing at paragraph 48.

24 You've indicated, as you've said before, it did  
25 strike you as odd because that wasn't the kind of thing

1           that you did at home.

2           A. No.

3           Q. And you have compared that to drying dishes, which is  
4           something that you had done yourself. In that, you  
5           refer to "fun and laughter in the kitchen".

6           A. Yes. Occasionally, certainly the boys that were doing  
7           the dishes -- sometimes when I was there, there would be  
8           moments of a bit of a joke, certainly with my aunt, and  
9           my aunt was demonstrably affectionate towards the  
10          children. That's what I remember. But it wasn't -- it  
11          was very much in an atmosphere that was in my memory  
12          contained to the kitchen.

13          Q. So can you help me with what were your impressions of  
14          the atmosphere in the rest of the cottage?

15          A. My impressions were that the boys had to be careful to  
16          get things right and that things had to be done in  
17          a certain way and there were certainly comments about  
18          making sure they referred to my aunt and uncle in the  
19          appropriate way.

20          Q. In relation to chores, I think further on in your  
21          statement, when you're being asked about any sort of  
22          systems of discipline or punishment in the cottage, at  
23          page 1666, you've indicated that you thought it was very  
24          strict in the cottage.

25          A. Yes.

1 Q. Could you help us further with that and describe what  
2 you saw and why you formed the view that it was very  
3 strict?

4 A. I recall trying not to overhear conversations that my  
5 uncle would have been having with the boys about what  
6 they maybe had or hadn't done, particularly if they  
7 didn't call them Mr or Mrs, which is what they were  
8 expected to call them. They were pulled up about that  
9 and I remember thinking that was strange because  
10 I didn't quite understand why that was what they had to  
11 call them -- as a child I didn't understand that.

12 It felt to me like what I thought it must be like if  
13 you're in the army. That's the best way I can describe  
14 it.

15 Q. You refer at paragraph 76 to remembering boys crying.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And some of the boys saying, "Quick, mister's coming".

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Do you remember your uncle shouting at the boys?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. You've described the boys would literally stand to  
22 attention when your uncle shouted at them?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. You have gone on to say that your uncle treated the  
25 children as if they were at boot camp.

1 A. That's how it felt to me as a child.

2 Q. Did you form a view at all as to whether the boys would  
3 be frightened of either your uncle or your aunt?

4 A. I think they were probably frightened of my uncle. They  
5 weren't frightened of my aunt, I definitely didn't have  
6 that impression, but they were frightened of  
7 Uncle Billy, yes.

8 Q. You indicate, towards the bottom of that page, you  
9 remember occasionally seeing a boy standing staring at  
10 the wall.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Can you tell me more about that?

13 A. I have no idea what it was, but it was -- I had no idea  
14 what the boy had done. But I remember a boy being told  
15 to stand and face the wall and, if he moved, being  
16 redirected to do that.

17 Q. I think in your statement, you say that it wasn't always  
18 the same child.

19 A. No.

20 Q. With the benefit of hindsight, have you formed any view  
21 as to what was happening when boys were being told to  
22 stand and stare at the wall?

23 A. I presume it was a punishment either for something  
24 they'd done or a belief that standing and thinking about  
25 something was going to change your behaviour.

1 Q. Do you remember at all for how long they might be --

2 A. No, I don't.

3 Q. Coming back to the question of chores, and perhaps  
4 in the context of being used as a punishment, you  
5 indicate at page 1667 that you saw boys cleaning things  
6 with toothbrushes.

7 A. Yes. Well, I think they were toothbrushes. They could  
8 have been small brushes of another description but, yes,  
9 on their hands and knees with a small brush cleaning  
10 corners of bannisters and things.

11 Q. Apart from corners of bannisters, was there anywhere  
12 else that they were cleaning with small brushes?

13 A. I think they may have been cleaning the toilet, but  
14 again, I can't be 100% sure about that. But definitely  
15 most of my memories are about the stairwell and the  
16 hallway because that was the area that I had to pass  
17 through to get to my aunt's sitting room and to get to  
18 the kitchen. So in my memory, that's my memory, most of  
19 the memory of the cottage, and knowing that I would have  
20 to walk down those stairs and not speak to them, which  
21 was quite a challenge for me.

22 Q. At paragraph 82 you say in your statement that you  
23 remember seeing boys on their own cleaning tiles on the  
24 floor and toilets with a toothbrush.

25 A. Yes. I have a memory of that. But what I don't have --

1 I don't have the geography in my head of where that was  
2 in relation to that hallway, if that makes sense.

3 Q. In your statement you say that you suspect that there  
4 may have been extra chores dished out as a punishment.

5 A. And I don't know why I think that, which I know is  
6 unhelpful, but that's my impression, that there were  
7 extra jobs given out if you'd done something you  
8 shouldn't.

9 Q. If I can help you at all, what you've said in your  
10 statement is:

11 "I say that because I do recall there occasionally  
12 only being one child doing the polishing after the other  
13 boys had finished their chores."

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And you say perhaps you're just joining up dots to form  
16 the view that it was a punishment.

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. You've also indicated that you have a memory of your  
19 aunt perhaps expressing an opinion on other carers in  
20 other cottages.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Can you tell us about that?

23 A. My aunt's belief was very much that she didn't feel the  
24 children were necessarily being treated right in other  
25 cottages. She would say they weren't nice to them, but

1 she would have said that they got smacked, but that was  
2 it. I don't have anything more specific than that, but  
3 she definitely had -- her opinion was that the boys in  
4 her cottage were luckier than some of the children in  
5 some of the other cottages.

6 Q. At paragraph 84 of your statement, on page 1668, you've  
7 said that you thought that your aunt must have  
8 recognised that your Uncle Billy was too strict. How  
9 did you reach that conclusion?

10 A. Well, I guess that's my memory as a child and from  
11 a childhood where I wasn't shouted at and expected to  
12 jump to attention. So in my head, he was too strict,  
13 and he definitely behaved differently towards the boys  
14 than my aunt did. So I'm assuming she must have  
15 recognised that he was too strict, but that might not be  
16 the case. That may be my opinion as a child.

17 Q. You also have memories of a view being expressed by your  
18 dad.

19 A. Yes, my dad wouldn't go and visit.

20 Q. What was the reason for that to your knowledge?

21 A. He just said it was a terrible place. Unfortunately, my  
22 dad died in 1976, long before -- you know, so I've never  
23 had a chance as an adult to have those conversations  
24 with him.

25 I've revisited the conversation with my mum and she

1           said he wouldn't -- he set foot in it once and he  
2           wouldn't go back. So any time they went to visit, they  
3           stayed at my aunt and uncle's flat, which was not at  
4           Quarriers.

5           Q. You've indicated in your statement at paragraph 86, on  
6           page 1668, that your mum told you that your dad didn't  
7           want to stay there because he didn't like the way in  
8           which the children were treated.

9           A. Correct, yes.

10          Q. And that apparently your dad's words were, when he  
11          talked about why he didn't stay or visit Quarriers,  
12          "Because of what goes on there".

13          A. Yes. But I have no more -- that's as specific as I can  
14          be.

15          Q. Do you have any memories of how children might have been  
16          treated if they wet the bed at night?

17          A. No.

18          Q. Perhaps I can take you to page 1665 of your statement  
19          and paragraph 72.

20          A. Yes.

21          Q. There you state that there were boys who wet the beds,  
22          without a doubt that happened, and you go on to describe  
23          some memories you have. Does that help you at all?

24          A. In relation to Auntie Jean, yes, not in relation to my  
25          aunt and uncle, but in relation to Auntie Jean, yes,



1           that's still correct.

2           Q.   So I think there you say that you remember your  
3           Auntie Jean stripping someone's bed and dealing with  
4           it --

5           A.   Yes.

6           Q.   -- before your uncle found out?

7           A.   Yes.

8           Q.   And you remember it quite clearly and there was a flurry  
9           of activity?

10          A.   Yes.

11          Q.   The boy concerned was crying and you think he was  
12          a teenager.

13          A.   Yes.

14          LADY SMITH:   So the auntie you're referring to there is the  
15          cottage auntie?

16          A.   Yes, not my auntie, yes.

17          LADY SMITH:   She wasn't Auntie Jean?

18          A.   No.

19          MS RATTRAY:   You indicate that you suspect Auntie Jean dealt  
20          with it and never told your aunt and uncle because you  
21          remember Auntie Jean saying to the boy, "Don't worry,  
22          they won't know".

23          A.   Yes.

24          Q.   Is that a memory you have?

25          A.   Yes, it is.

1 Q. With the benefit of hindsight, as an adult, thinking  
2 back to that occasion in your memory, is there any view  
3 you have formed about what was happening in relation to  
4 bed-wetting?

5 A. Well, clearly the boys -- that boy was frightened of it.  
6 So there was obviously some humiliation and shame  
7 attached and obviously fear that he was going to be  
8 punished.

9 Q. We've talked about some perhaps more negative aspects of  
10 life for the boys in the cottage, but it wasn't all  
11 negative from your statement.

12 A. No.

13 Q. Can you, for example, describe what the children did if  
14 they had any leisure time from your memory?

15 A. I recall -- I do recall boys being outside. There was  
16 a little garden area at the back. I do recall them  
17 being out there. I do recall somebody playing draughts,  
18 something like that. That's about it, really.

19 Q. Do you remember any sort of organised games like  
20 football or anything of that nature?

21 A. I don't remember that, no.

22 Q. In relation to birthdays, can you help us with what you  
23 remember about whether or not a boy in the cottage had  
24 their birthday celebrated at all?

25 A. I remember my aunt making a simple cake, a birthday cake

1           for a boy, and I remember them getting a gift of some  
2           sort, but I don't remember what it was. I remember them  
3           getting a package and a cake.

4       Q. Obviously you were visiting in the summer, so you  
5           wouldn't have been there at Christmas in order to tell  
6           us about that?

7       A. No.

8       Q. You did have an opportunity to accompany the children on  
9           a holiday?

10      A. Yes.

11      Q. Can you describe what was involved in the holiday?

12      A. We went to Burntisland. I presume that we were in  
13           a church hall or a community hall; we were basically  
14           camping inside. And we -- I think it was the cottage  
15           that my aunt was in and another cottage, but what  
16           I can't remember was whether that was mixed boys and  
17           girls or all boys because I guess I stuck to my aunt's  
18           cottage and Auntie Jean and familiar territory, because  
19           I would have been quite young, so it was quite an  
20           adventure for me being let out on my own.

21      Q. Did you remember anything about the children from the  
22           other cottage?

23      A. No.

24      Q. I think at page 1661, paragraph 54, at the foot of the  
25           page there, you have told us of a memory that:

1           "The children from the other cottage who went with  
2           us on holiday were quite careful to literally jump to  
3           attention to do things when they were asked. They  
4           appeared frightened."

5           A. And I guess, you know, I answered no before because that  
6           was kind of how they would have behaved in cottage 23 as  
7           well, so it's not a different memory in that sense but  
8           that's accurate, yes.

9           Q. So that's a kind of behaviour that you remember --

10          A. Yes.

11          Q. -- in cottage 23, but also --

12          A. In the other cottage, yes.

13          Q. I think in fairness, at page 1662, paragraph 57, you  
14          describe days on the beach digging holes in the sand --

15          A. Yes.

16          Q. -- and being allowed into the town to buy sweeties.

17          A. Mm-hm.

18          Q. That it felt like freedom for you?

19          A. Yes.

20          Q. And you think it did for the other children as well?

21          A. Yes.

22          Q. And that was something you've described as:

23                         "It felt happy, jolly and a bit of fun."

24                         And to you it felt right?

25          A. Yes, it felt like what in my experience that's what

1 children did, that's what a holiday was: digging in the  
2 sand and having a bit of fun.

3 Q. I asked you earlier on about your first impression of  
4 the boys when you arrived in cottage 23 and to some  
5 extent they were different. I think in your statement,  
6 you do describe them as being quiet and subdued.

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Is that something you remember?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Taking you now to page 1665 and paragraph 73, you expand  
11 a bit upon your impression as a child of life for the  
12 boys in the cottage.

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. If you could have a wee look at that --

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. -- and help us with what your general impressions were.

17 A. You know, when I was at school I quite liked climbing  
18 a tree, so I was quite accustomed to chatting with the  
19 boys and playing with the boys, but I just recall that  
20 they didn't say very much to me and I can remember  
21 feeling that I maybe shouldn't share too much of my  
22 happy life with them. So it just felt awkward; I didn't  
23 quite know how to engage in a conversation with them.

24 Q. You've described your life as happy --

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. -- and how you felt awkward about sharing that happy  
2 life with them.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Are you in any way referring to perhaps their life was  
5 not a happy one?

6 A. I was aware from my aunt that the circumstances by which  
7 some of them would have ended up in Quarriers would have  
8 meant that, to that point, they hadn't had  
9 a particularly happy time, so I think in that part of my  
10 statement, that's what I'm referring to, that they came  
11 from situations which had not been kind to them, unlike  
12 me who had had a very privileged childhood.

13 Q. You indicate in your statement that, as a child, that's  
14 what you thought, that:

15 "As a child I just put it in my head as they haven't  
16 had as privileged as life as I would have had."

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. But at the foot of the page, paragraph 75, you're able  
19 to reflect on that with the benefit of hindsight.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. If you could tell us what your views are.

22 A. I can vividly remember a boy that was often in the  
23 kitchen, drying dishes, I suspect because that was  
24 something that calmed him. With my hindsight as an  
25 adult and my hindsight as a professional adult, I'm sure

1 he would currently be diagnosed with autism or ADHD. He  
2 clearly had some developmental problems in addition to  
3 any emotional issues he had.

4 Q. You tell us a bit about your profession and your  
5 experience with children which allows you to make these  
6 reflections from a professional perspective.

7 A. Yes. I worked as a speech and language therapist for  
8 29 years and for most of that it was with children.  
9 Some of those children would have been in the care  
10 system, so I've had experience of children in care and  
11 I currently work as a pupil support worker with children  
12 with mental health difficulties and some of the children  
13 I currently support are in the care system.

14 Q. Towards the end of your statement, from page 1670  
15 onwards, you help us by considering lessons which could  
16 be learned, taking into account your own experience as  
17 a child.

18 At paragraph 94 you indicate that that experience  
19 has an effect upon you working with children now.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Can you explain that to us?

22 A. I think my memories of Quarriers were not ones of  
23 nurture, support and individual child-led care -- that's  
24 obviously me speaking as an adult. So when I'm working  
25 with children now I do try and put the child at the

1           centre of everything I'm doing and kindness is kind of  
2           my motto. Being kind is a good starting point.

3       Q. You indicate at paragraph 97 at the foot of that page  
4           that you felt there was a lack of compassion at  
5           Quarriers.

6       A. Yes.

7       Q. Can you help me more with that view?

8       A. Although there seemed to be an acknowledgement that some  
9           of those children had come from backgrounds which had  
10          not been kind to them. As an adult looking back, there  
11          didn't seem to be an acknowledgement that the system  
12          needed to change to accommodate that. The impression  
13          is that the children had to learn to behave and to  
14          behave in a certain way and that burden was on them, not  
15          on the adults, to perhaps change how they managed  
16          things.

17      Q. You say in your statement that it didn't feel like  
18          a happy and content place to be. You got the feeling  
19          back then that there wasn't a lot of caring that went on  
20          and you were left with the impression that it was all  
21          nice, organised and shiny, but there was no real feeling  
22          of care and it just never felt right.

23      A. Yes.

24      Q. So not feeling right: is it fair to say those are  
25          emotions or feelings that you experienced when you were



1 a child?

2 A. Yes, very much so.

3 Q. And you also state:

4 "It felt like everybody was on edge all the time."

5 Were those experiences of a child rather than of an  
6 adult?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And you also say that:

9 "It felt as if someone was always going to be in  
10 trouble for something at some point in time."

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Again, is that a memory of a child or is that an adult  
13 reflection?

14 A. No, I'd say that's a memory of a child, yes.

15 Q. At page 1671 you help us by looking back with  
16 reflections from the perspective of an adult.

17 At paragraph 101 you do indicate that you grew up in  
18 a time when you got your bottom smacked if you  
19 misbehaved --

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. -- and you were belted at school if you did something  
22 wrong.

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. So physical punishment was part of life for you --

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. -- as a child from a loving family background?

2 A. Not frequently; on three occasions and I remember each  
3 of them vividly.

4 Q. Right. At that stage you say that you thought that  
5 there were clear expectations but they were delivered  
6 with love and care and it didn't cause you undue  
7 distress and it seemed reasonable.

8 A. Growing up at that time -- I mean, views would be very  
9 different now. I guess what I am saying is all of my  
10 peer group would have been experiencing the same thing.  
11 It doesn't make it right, but we did get our bottoms  
12 smacked when we stepped out of line. But as I say it  
13 was on three occasions from my point of view and  
14 I remember each one and I never did those things again.

15 Q. Your experiences in the context of your family, a loving  
16 family, to some extent I think you are contrasting that  
17 in the following paragraph when you're thinking about  
18 children in Quarriers --

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. -- that you observed. Can you tell us about what  
21 you are saying in paragraph 102?

22 A. I guess for me it was the first time that I, as a child,  
23 had stopped and recognised that other people led lives  
24 that were very different to mine. Up until that point  
25 I presumed that everybody had the same expectations from

1 the adults round about them, but at Quarriers -- and  
2 obviously some of this is me looking back as an adult --  
3 they were quite troubled children, who clearly needed  
4 a lot of nurture and care and attention, but they were  
5 in an environment that was driven by rules and quite  
6 strict expectations and I'm not sure that their voices  
7 would have been heard.

8 Q. You say that:

9 "The life those boys were leading, with the benefit  
10 of hindsight as an adult, was austere, strict and  
11 unreasonable."

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. At page 1672 you give us thoughts as a professional who  
14 works with children when you look back over your  
15 memories. I think you've touched on some of those  
16 issues at paragraph 103, where you raise the question of  
17 who was asking questions --

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. -- and doing checks. Can you help us further with that?

20 A. It's just somebody somewhere should have been asking  
21 what was going on and looking to see how those children  
22 were being treated and nurtured or cared for, or not as  
23 the case may be. That's what I'm saying: who was asking  
24 questions, who was looking out for them, who was making  
25 sure that what was delivered was the best it could be

1 and appropriate?

2 Q. The care you observed, although you felt your aunt was  
3 someone who genuinely cared for the children --

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. -- nonetheless perhaps the care that you were observing  
6 in cottage 23 was very different from the care that you  
7 were experiencing in a family environment.

8 A. And that my peers would have been experiencing. Even  
9 taking account of the fact that my peer group would have  
10 been quite wide and their experiences would each have  
11 been very different, I was just very aware that the  
12 experiences of those boys to me did not feel right and  
13 today doesn't feel right either.

14 MS RATTRAY: My Lady, I don't have any further questions for  
15 this witness. I thank you very much for answering my  
16 questions. I don't know if there are any further  
17 questions that anyone else would like to ask.

18 LADY SMITH: Are there any outstanding applications for  
19 questions? No.

20 Thank you so much. Thank you for taking the trouble  
21 to engage with the inquiry separately on your experience  
22 of visiting Quarriers. It's very helpful to have that  
23 view from an outsider going in to stay in the cottage  
24 and being able to compare it with life living in their  
25 own family and as a professional later on. It's of

1 enormous assistance to me and I'm now able to let you go  
2 with my thanks.

3 A. Thank you.

4 (The witness withdrew)

5 LADY SMITH: I would just like to interject at this stage to  
6 remind everybody that as regards my restriction orders,  
7 they of course are still in place and you may have  
8 noticed that names have been mentioned today, including  
9 the names of some children who were in care and various  
10 house parents, including one house parent who has  
11 convictions and any evidence in relation to her conduct  
12 in relation to those convictions is not protected by the  
13 restriction order. But otherwise any allegations about  
14 people who have been named are protected and can't be  
15 repeated outside the hearing room.

16 Where do we go from here?

17 MS RATTRAY: Well, my Lady, as it's not 4 o'clock yet,  
18 perhaps we could take this opportunity to do one or  
19 maybe two read-ins.

20 LADY SMITH: Certainly. I wonder if the stenographers would  
21 appreciate a five-minute break. We'll do that.

22 (3.35 pm)

23 (A short break)

24 (3.40 pm)

25 LADY SMITH: Yes, Ms Rattray.

1                   Witness statement of "HAMMY" (read)

2           MS RATTRAY: The following is a statement of an applicant  
3           who wishes to remain anonymous and has chosen the  
4           pseudonym "Hammy". His statement can be found at  
5           WIT.001.001.9806:

6                   "My name is Hammy. I was born in 1960. My contact  
7           details are known to the inquiry."

8                   Now moving to paragraph 5:

9                   "I have very little recollection of my time there  
10          [that's in Quarriers]. I was still in nappies. I know  
11          that I was initially placed in the nursery and was there  
12          from 1961 to either 1962 or 1963. After that, I was put  
13          into cottage 13 where the house parents were Mr and  
14          Mrs QDW/QDX "

15                   Quarriers' records state that Hammy was admitted on  
16          ██████████ 1962 and discharged on ██████████ 1964:

17                   "I recall that Quarriers had wide open spaces and  
18          there was a lot of freedom. There was also a church  
19          there, which was the only time I saw any of my brothers  
20          or sisters. I remember that cottage 13 was right next  
21          to the nursery, which might be why I was put in there.  
22          None of my brothers or sisters were in cottage 13 with  
23          me.

24                   "Mr and Mrs QDW/QDX were in their fifties and  
25          I know they retired to Ireland in the 1970s.

1 Mr QDW would reprimand the other kids but I didn't  
2 see him abuse them.

3 "There were between three and five children in each  
4 dorm and I would say there were at least ten boys and  
5 girls in each cottage.

6 "The only thing I recall about the food was that we  
7 got tapioca, which I hated. Basically, you ate what you  
8 were given or you starved. I have no recollection of  
9 anybody being force-fed.

10 "One of my few recollections of my time there was  
11 standing on the table when QDW slapped me on the  
12 head, causing me to fall off the table whereupon I broke  
13 my arm. Whether he meant to break my arm or not,  
14 I cannot say.

15 "One thing I do recall about that was, because I had  
16 to get a stookie plaster cast on my arm, I wasn't  
17 allowed to go on a holiday I was due to be going on.  
18 That would have been the first holiday I would have gone  
19 on. I would have been about 4 years old at this time so  
20 it would probably be 1964.

21 "Another thing I would say about that time of my  
22 life was later when I was 8, I had an operation on my  
23 left eye, but they were unable to save the sight in it.  
24 I was told that if the operation had been done before  
25 I turned 5, they could have saved my sight. The problem

1 with my eye was never picked up during my time in  
2 Quarriers.

3 "At the age of 3, I went to stay with [REDACTED] and  
4 [REDACTED] in Paisley. This was arranged by my  
5 social worker, Mr Clark, who was my social worker until  
6 I turned 16. His boss was Mrs QKC whose office was  
7 in Clydebank. I recall being in her office one time and  
8 her battering my head with the back of her hand causing  
9 my head to hit a bookcase.

10 "Prior to me leaving Quarriers, [REDACTED] had  
11 been taking me out at weekends, probably as preparation  
12 for them fostering me. They were to become the only  
13 real parents I ever knew.

14 "When I was 14 or 15, I learned that my whole family  
15 was moved from Quarriers as one of my brothers, I don't  
16 know which one, was sexually abused."

17 My Lady, for the remainder of his statement, Hammy  
18 speaks of his experiences in other care settings which  
19 are not the subject of the present case study.

20 Turning to paragraph 101 on page 9821 Hammy said:

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

25 Hammy signed the statement on 20 June 2018.



1 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

2 MS RATTRAY: My Lady, there is another short statement,  
3 which could be read in at this stage.

4 LADY SMITH: Very well, let's do that as well.

5 Witness statement of "JOK" (read)

6 MS RATTRAY: This is a statement of an applicant who wishes  
7 to remain anonymous and has chosen the pseudonym "Jok".  
8 Jok's statement can be found at WIT.001.002.1873:

9 "My name is Jok. I was born in 1947. My contact  
10 details are known to the inquiry."

11 Now moving to paragraph 4:

12 "I was first put into care in 1948 when I was about  
13 six months old. This was at Quarriers in Bridge of  
14 Weir."

15 Quarriers' records provide that Jok was admitted on  
16 [REDACTED] 1948 and discharged to Dhurringile rural  
17 training farm in Australia on [REDACTED] 1961:

18 "Quarriers was a large self-contained village. It  
19 had about 10 to 15 separate cottages where the children  
20 stayed. There was also a church, school and a shop.  
21 Each cottage had a number. I was in cottage 33 for the  
22 whole time I was there.

23 "The cottage I was in had three dormitories  
24 upstairs. It was all boys that lived in my cottage and  
25 the girls had their own separate cottages. The ages of

1 the boys in my cottage varied from a few months old up  
2 to teenagers. There were other boys I remember being in  
3 the cottage with me.

4 "Miss QES? was my house mother at cottage 33.  
5 There was another woman, Margaret Cavill(?), who came to  
6 the cottage later. The house mother had her own room in  
7 the cottage.

8 "All the boys would get up at 6 each morning. I had  
9 a shower and then got ready for school and I then went  
10 for breakfast.

11 "At night bedtime was around 7 or 8. I remember  
12 that in the summer it was still light outside and we had  
13 to pin a sheet or blanket on the window to keep the  
14 light out.

15 "The dining room where we ate our meals was in the  
16 cottage. It had two long tables in the room. There was  
17 also a scullery, which was off the dining room. It was  
18 in there that we would wash the dishes. Miss QES?  
19 did all the cooking, although the older kids might help  
20 with this. The food was generally good considering  
21 there were a lot of people to feed.

22 "There was a communal shower area in the cottage  
23 where we all washed. There was no set times for using  
24 the showers and you could have one whenever you wanted.

25 "We always had clothes but I have no idea where

1 these clothes actually came from. I don't remember  
2 there being a separate uniform for going to school.

3 "The school was on the premises within  
4 Quarrier's Village. I remember on one occasion when  
5 I tried to wag or skip school, I tried to cross the  
6 river but was caught when trying to get around the  
7 safety barrier, which was a large spiked wheel. I had  
8 to go to the headmaster, Mr Grey, and was given the belt  
9 on the hand. This would be the only form of discipline  
10 that I knew of. I was generally good so I never got  
11 into much trouble.

12 "There was one time that I remember getting into  
13 trouble. I was about 11 and I was scoring at a cricket  
14 match. This meant I couldn't leave. I ended up being  
15 late getting home. I was chastised for this. I think  
16 I might have been given a whack and sent to bed without  
17 any food.

18 "I would say I was an average student at school.  
19 I do remember that my teacher was called Miss QBR?  
20 The only sports that I played were football or cricket.  
21 I don't remember there being any other sports. We also  
22 had Scottish dance lessons on a Friday afternoon.

23 "When I was older, I was expected to help out with  
24 jobs or chores about the cottage. This would be things  
25 like cleaning out the fireplace or making the porridge

1 in the morning. On a Friday night the boys would have  
2 to clean the whole cottage.

3 "We once went to Denmark for a week's holiday. We  
4 stayed with families and also did a day trip to Sweden  
5 whilst we were there. This would have been in 1959 or  
6 1960.

7 "There was about ten of us that travelled. I think  
8 that there may have been one person from each cottage.  
9 We travelled by boat from Newcastle.

10 "I think it was a Presbyterian church in Quarriers.  
11 You had to go to church on a Wednesday night. This was  
12 in addition to Sunday when we went morning and night.

13 "My earliest memory of Quarriers was when I was  
14 about 3 or 4 years old. It was Christmastime and I was  
15 given a pillowcase with some presents in it. Every  
16 Christmas we would go to the church. It was always  
17 decorated for Christmas and there was a big Christmas  
18 tree with all the presents around it.

19 "Every cottage had its own pew where you had to sit.  
20 Someone would come to the end of your pew and pass one  
21 present along for each child. I think the presents were  
22 all donated to the home. When we got back to the  
23 cottage, there was another bag of presents for each of  
24 us.

25 "My mother would visit me once a month. If she

1 didn't come, my stepfather would come. I can never  
2 recall them both visiting at the same time. I did used  
3 to ask my mother if I had any other family. She would  
4 always say no. My mother never explained to me why  
5 I was in Quarriers and I never asked her why I was in  
6 care. I just accepted that this was where I lived.  
7 I had no knowledge of any other life.

8 "When my mother or stepfather visited me, I would  
9 just take this for granted. I was never close to her.  
10 There was a little café and shop in the village. We  
11 would go there for a drink and then whoever was  
12 visiting me would take me back to cottage 33. My mother  
13 never gave me any pocket money or gifts.

14 "I never had any visits from the social workers.  
15 There was a medical team at the home, however there was  
16 no dental care. As a result, I am suffering from dental  
17 problems now.

18 "Everyone used the same toothpaste. It was called  
19 Gibbs and was a paste in a round tin. We did have our  
20 own toothbrushes. There were no regular dental checks.

21 "I never wet the bed but I remember that there were  
22 some boys who did. Miss [REDACTED] QES? would get very irate  
23 when this happened. The boys who wet the bed would get  
24 a clip around the ear and be chastised in front of  
25 everyone else. Miss [REDACTED] QES? would point to other boys

1 in the dormitory and say that they wouldn't do that."

2 LADY SMITH: Something's maybe gone wrong with the grammar  
3 there: pointing to other boys in the dormitory saying  
4 here are the boys who wouldn't do this and shaming the  
5 ones who did.

6 MS RATTRAY: I think that may be what Jok means.

7 "The bed linen would be washed and the mattress  
8 taken off. The mattress was put at the big window to  
9 dry. I can't remember if there was a laundry at the  
10 home.

11 "I used to help out at Mr Munro's house on a Friday  
12 night. When I left, he would sometimes give me a bag of  
13 chips. I felt that this was a treat.

14 "One night when I was walking back to the cottage  
15 I met a man who I didn't recognise as being from  
16 Quarriers. He pinched my chips from me and told me he  
17 was taking me to my mother. I was scared and I ran off  
18 to my cottage. When I got to the cottage I told  
19 Miss QES? about what had happened. She just  
20 dismissed me and asked me if I was sure. A few days  
21 later I found out the guy was an escaped prisoner. The  
22 police eventually found him in Bridge of Weir.

23 "When I was about 10 or 11 I was playing football  
24 with some other boys outside my cottage. The ball went  
25 over the fence so me and my friends climbed over to get

1           it. When we climbed back I heard [REDACTED] QFU  
2           shouting from an upstairs window in the cottage. He was  
3           saying that we shouldn't be down there and told us to  
4           get up to the room.

5           "When we got to the room, [REDACTED] QFU told us to  
6           kneel over the end of the bed. He pulled my pants down  
7           and then sexually assaulted the both of us. I have  
8           a memory of this happening again on a separate occasion.

9           "When this happened to us, I think Miss [REDACTED] QES?  
10          and Miss Campbell were at a staff meeting. They weren't  
11          in the cottage at the time. I knew [REDACTED] QFU  
12          because he used to stay at Quarriers, although he was  
13          older than me. By this time he had left and I think  
14          he was in the army. He used to come back with a uniform  
15          because and visit the home because he was friends with  
16          Miss [REDACTED] QES? "

17          "After this happened with [REDACTED] QFU I told  
18          Miss [REDACTED] QES? I said to her that he had tried to rape  
19          me. Miss [REDACTED] QES? dismissed me and said he wouldn't do  
20          that to me.

21          "I was on my own when I made Miss [REDACTED] QES? aware of  
22          the incident. I don't know if my friend spoke to her  
23          about what had happened to him.

24          "When I was about 10 or 11 years old, I heard about  
25          other boys from the home going to Australia. I asked if

1 I could go. I was told that my name would be put down  
2 on a list. I then just had to wait."

3 Jok left Quarriers and migrated to Australia when  
4 he was 13. His experiences in Australia as a child  
5 migrant will be considered at a later case study, which  
6 explores the matter of child migrants.

7 I now turn to page 1885, paragraph 76 where Jok  
8 speaks about the impact of his experiences:

9 "I would say that my time in care has made me  
10 tougher. I wouldn't want other kids to go through what  
11 I had to.

12 "The biggest mistake by Quarriers was not  
13 communicating to me about my extended family. I think  
14 this is something they could have done.

15 "After I made a submission to the Time To Be Heard  
16 forum, I was asked if I wanted to report what had  
17 happened to me at Quarriers to the police. I agreed and  
18 eventually made a statement to the police in Scotland.  
19 I don't know the outcome of the police investigation as  
20 there has been no further contact from them.

21 "In 2004 one of my cousins from Aberdeen in Scotland  
22 sent me a large envelope with lots of information about  
23 my family history. This was the first I knew of my  
24 family background."

25 Jok then speaks of meeting members of his extended



1 family and then at paragraph 84:

2 "When I was in Scotland, I visited the  
3 Quarrier's Village where I had arranged to meet  
4 Josie Bell. She was able to provide me with my records  
5 from my time in care before going to Australia, which  
6 included my original birth certificate. I found out for  
7 the first time that my father was a Polish soldier.  
8 I never met him."

9 Then turning on paragraph 91 on page 1887:

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

14 Certainly on my copy, at page 1888, we see that Jok  
15 signed his statement on 19 October 2018.

16 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

17 MS RATTRAY: My Lady, that concludes the evidence for today.

18 LADY SMITH: So we start again at 10 o'clock tomorrow  
19 morning with oral evidence, I think; is that right?

20 MS RATTRAY: Yes, my Lady.

21 LADY SMITH: Just to follow up, there have been further  
22 mentions of people against whom allegations have been  
23 made and those are covered by my restriction orders and  
24 can't be disclosed outside this room.

25 Thank you for that. I'll adjourn now for today

1           until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

2           (4.00 pm)

3                       (The hearing adjourned until 10.00 am

4                               on Thursday, 8 November 2018)

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3 "KEN" (affirmed) .....1

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16 Witness statement of "JOK" (read) .....177

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