

Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry

Witness Statement of

PYK

Support person present: No – Section 21 notice

Personal Background

1. My name is PYK My date of birth is 1957. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.
2. I obtained an LLB degree from Dundee University in 1982. I became a Writer to the Signet in 1986, as well as a Notary Public in the same year.
3. On completing university in 1982, I joined solicitors as a trainee. In 1985 I worked with solicitors, in Dunblane, before returning to I became a partner in 1986, and senior partner in 2009 which is my current position.

Role of Clerk to the Board of Governors

4. I began my role as Clerk to the Board of Governors at Loretto school in . I retired from this role in . My full-time employment throughout has remained as a solicitor in Edinburgh. My role as Clerk had no defined hours. I was expected to give of my time to discharge my duties as Clerk. Those duties and responsibilities as Clerk were to maintain, update and circulate the principal list of governors and master list of committee memberships. I had to write to new governors when appointed and when they retired, and ensure all key players and agencies were advised. Each autumn I had to draft and adjust with key players, dates for the following calendar year for Full Board, General Purposes and Finance meetings. I was also responsible for maintaining a list of retired governors who needed or

wished to be advised of key intimations. I also drafted agendas for the Full Board, General Purposes and Finance meetings for approval by the respective Chairman.

5. Part of my responsibilities was to ensure that key players had their reports circulated together with any other necessary papers. I had to attend Board meetings, take minutes, prepare draft minutes for revision by the Chairman, then when approved, circulate to the Full Board. I would also deal with Governor's general queries and questions.
6. I had to ensure that Loretto School Limited and Loretto Enterprises Limited held its AGM timeously and that accounts were signed off and lodged within the prescribed time limit. I also had to ensure that Loretto School Limited and Loretto Enterprises Limited's annual returns were lodged timeously and check all Director details/shareholdings were correct. I had to ensure the Chairman and Vice Chairman on the one hand and Full Board on the other are kept apprised of all material developments.
7. I also liaised with the Headmaster, Bursar and Head of the Junior School regarding material issues and developments, including providing advice as the Clerk as necessary, and liaising with the Chairman or Vice Chairman. I organised the administrative process for the appointment of the Headmaster or Bursar and assisted with the appointment of the Head of the Junior School. I organised retiral gifts, presentations and dinners.
8. I sat on the Old Lorettonian, (OL), Central Committee and acted as a link as necessary between Full Board and the Committee. I advised Governors as necessary on attending SCIS courses, particularly on Governor Induction. I acted as a link with AGBIS, (Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools), and ensured the school had an up to date contract with parents. I obtained legal advice for the school on employment matters, pursuit of fee debtors, claims against the school, and all other legal issues.

9. I was also responsible for overseeing any necessary legal conveyancing and all security work and the safe keeping of the school's title deeds, previous Governor's minutes and various historical and previous trust papers and accounts, etc.
10. The list of governor's while I was Clerk were as follows; Douglas Foulis, Sir Ian Denholm, Donald Marr, Alan Johnston QC, Anthony Kidd, Robert Bruce, John Salvesen, John Oscroft, Iain Pattison, Ronald Greenlees, William Thomson, John Gourlay, Hamish Ritchie, Ian Raitt, Robert Gordon, Graeme Simmers, Richard Scott, David Stevenson, Ronald Graham, Martin Gaunt, Michael Brown, Robin Gilmour, John Hunter, Ewan Cameron, Andrew Russell, Robin Gordon, Lorn Macneal, Jonathan Wotherspoon, Michael Mavor, Mrs Sarah Kwiatkowski, Mrs Sheila Low, Mrs Alison Outlaw, Mrs Pauline Saunter, William Bergius, Andrew Brown, Jim Hume, Alexander Watt, David Briggs, Sir Angus Grossart, Mrs Gillian Hinton, Mrs Susan McLaren, Rev Alastair McGregor QC, Peter Arthur, Michael Black, Mrs Anne Brobbel, David Christie, Mrs Stephanie Geddes, Simon Graham, Mrs Frances Hickox, Michael Hinton, Mrs Rosalyn Marshall, Roy Martin QC, Jeffrey Semple, Mark Simmers, Mrs Amanda Swanson, Robin Walker and William Waterhouse.
11. As Clerk, I was also company secretary of Loretto School Limited and its trading subsidiary, Loretto Enterprises Limited. My law firm provided legal advice, if sought.

Recruitment

12. As regards the vacancy for the role of Clerk at Loretto, in [REDACTED] I was asked to meet with the Chairman of the of Governors, the late Bob Gordon CA. He invited me to be the Clerk. I believe the board was seeking to appoint a solicitor who was Edinburgh based, and an Old Lorettonian, who would be able to give of his or her time and I met those criteria. As an OL, I was pleased to be invited on to the Governing body. I was not, and never was, a Governor. The Chairman met with me and we had a full discussion regarding the position of Clerk. I knew him as a CA with Chiene and Tait and he knew me personally. I subsequently deliberated and reverted to say that I would accept the invitation. Although the role of Clerk and Company Secretary was primarily administrative, the Chairman wanted to be sure I could devote the

necessary time to the post, as well as having some secretarial support. I have been, throughout my professional career, a busy solicitor, working in our office premises at [REDACTED] Edinburgh.

References

13. I did not give any references for the role. Back in [REDACTED] I suspect no "checks" were done. At some stage thereafter Disclosure Scotland checks were carried out on all Board members. The Clerk has traditionally been a solicitor, which was helpful as Company Secretary. It was also useful to be an OL, who was reasonably familiar with the school.

Structure

14. Throughout my nineteen years as Clerk, I reported to the Board of Governors, and in particular to the Chairman. Senior Staff and management reported to the Board. The Board set the school strategy and set a budget. The Head managed the academic staff, and the Bursar the non-academic staff. Between them, and in consultation with the Board, they implemented the Strategy and Budget, and ran the school.
15. There was a full range of staff there to deliver teaching, sport and extra curricula activities, and to provide pastoral care, as well as full administrative staff. The Head was in charge of the academic staff, and the Bursar the non-academic. The Head of the Junior School was accountable to the Head. I was accountable to the Chairman and the Board. In [REDACTED] there were about fifty academic staff, in [REDACTED] the figure was about eighty-six. There was a gradual turnover of staff, and a general increase in numbers.

Training

16. I was not given any formal training in child protection, under explanation that my role did not involve working with pupils. I did not work at Loretto, but I attended meetings with Governors and senior management. I did not initially attend training or

education courses. Latterly I attended various relevant seminars, e.g. on charitable benefit. Board members did attend seminars run by SCIS and similar organisations on topics that were useful in their role as governors. The skills that I needed came principally from my experience as a solicitor in private practice. As such I wasn't given any written or unwritten guidance or instruction from the school in respect of my role, as I wasn't working at the school.

Internal monitoring

17. The Chairman, and less directly, the Governors, continually monitored my performance and role as Clerk. I worked closely with the Chairman and would be directed and guided by him as appropriate and necessary.
18. The Head was responsible for disciplining staff, as well as for practice and procedure. I was never involved with disciplining staff. If a member of staff felt unable to get a fair resolution of a grievance with the Head, that member of the staff would contact either a Governor or the Chairman. I cannot recall if I was directly involved in a staff grievance process. I do recall accompanying the Chairman at a meeting, I think around 1992, with David Stock, who was a member of staff. At that meeting there was discussion on David Stock leaving Loretto, but I cannot recall upon what terms.
19. Staff knew that if there was a matter of concern in relation to another member of staff, they could always contact a Governor, who were in my opinion, always approachable. I always felt I had the support of the Chairman and the board of Governors.

External monitoring

20. The school was subject to periodic HMI of Schools inspections and HMI officials would inspect the school. Latterly, during my time as Clerk, the Care Commission took an interest in pastoral care. HMI inspected the school as a whole and would review both staff and pupil experiences. I do not know if inspectors spoke directly to

pupils and I'm not aware if staff were present. I wasn't spoken to by the inspectors. I believe they gave feedback to the Head(s). HMI and I believe the Care Commission would take notes of inspections. As Clerk I was not involved in school inspections. HMI produced the reports. I recall there would be follow-ups in areas where concerns were identified. As I wasn't involved in these inspections, I am unaware if any steps were taken to obtain the views of the children.

Records

21. The Head was responsible for record keeping within the school on academic staff and pupil matters. The Bursar was responsible for non-academic staff and financial and other administrative record keeping. Good practice was promoted but I cannot recall if there was any written policy, as I was not involved in that area of school management. I took and kept the formal minutes of Board meetings, and when appropriate, file notes and lists of Governors. I did not keep or have access to pupil records. The minutes recorded discussions made, and decisions reached, but were also a historical account of the ongoing development and progress of the school. I would normally write these records as soon as possible. I have always sought to have records typed as soon as possible, and did so. Good management practice dictates that accurate records be kept, which can be referred to if need be.
22. Governors and the Head(s) and Bursar read the Board minutes, once produced, after each meeting and again as necessary. File notes were for my record keeping. The formal minutes are held at Loretto. Having retired as Clerk in [REDACTED] my paper files were retained for ten years and then destroyed, which is my law firm's policy on file retention, as recommended by the Law Society of Scotland. Some records post 2001 are still held on our office server. On records generally, I can only comment on those records that I was responsible for, and they were well managed and maintained.
23. In relation to records kept on admissions, punishments, visitors, inspections, discipline and health, I cannot comment on what records were kept or in what form,

other than to observe that the Head(s) would have overall responsibility for maintaining and keeping such records.

24. The Head(s) and the Bursar would each keep a pupil file, but beyond that as Clerk I wasn't involved in, or had particular knowledge of record keeping at the school. That was all carried out by, and was the responsibility of, the Head(s) and Bursar.

Discipline

25. As Clerk I was not, and never was, involved in any aspect of disciplining and punishment of children. That was the responsibility of the Head(s). Likewise, I was not involved in, or had knowledge of codes of conduct, written or otherwise, or what justified what punishment. I was not involved in determining punishments, or what the policy was. Bearing this in mind, I would just comment that expulsion from school became rarer during my time as Clerk. The Head(s) and Housemasters/ Housemistresses in conjunction with prefects administered any sanction or punishment to the children. During my time as Clerk, I do not think children were physically punished, but again, I wasn't involved in the whole process. I would describe the culture of the school towards discipline to be fair and reasonable. I never had any concerns, and indeed my [REDACTED] children attended Loretto from [REDACTED] [REDACTED] I do not know what, if any, record or punishment book was kept of when children were sanctioned or punished.

Peer Discipline and Prefects

26. I do not know what the prefects/pupils' range of responsibilities were in administering discipline. As Clerk I was not aware of, or recall, whether some prefects did abuse some pupils. As I was not involved in the administration and evolution of the school's disciplinary system, I cannot comment on if and how the system changed during my time as Clerk. The school did operate a prefect system. I only have a general understanding that prefects still have a role in monitoring school discipline, taking decisions on less serious issues, but otherwise they liaise with and report to the Head(s) and senior management, as well as providing general assistance. I do

not know the extent of their remit or powers. I do not know what the selection process for prefects was.

Abuse, be it physical, sexual or psychological and emotional

27. Whilst Clerk, and bearing in mind the passage of time, I would advise, (a) I recall hearing about an instance of bullying in the junior school in 2001, when some pupils bullied a pupil called [REDACTED] I don't know the exact circumstances; (b) I recall hearing that a pupil called [REDACTED] reported that he had been grabbed by the SNR [REDACTED] CRS [REDACTED]. I don't know when this was exactly, approximately the late nineties. [REDACTED] had said that CRS [REDACTED] had remonstrated with him about losing an exam paper; (c) I recall the Head reported that two boy pupils got into a fight on a ski trip abroad in 2003, and the boy who was attacked, [REDACTED] needed hospital treatment. The board was told that the attack followed [REDACTED] sexual advances made to a girl pupil.
28. It would be correct to say that I was not aware of abuse taking place, albeit occasionally the Head(s) would periodically report to Governors that they had dealt with a serious disciplinary matter. Children never spoke to me personally about any abuse. If other pupils witnessed abuse happening, then they would have obviously been aware, but they did not speak to me. The only incident I can recall, where hospital treatment was required, was the incident involving [REDACTED]. During my time as Clerk I cannot recall any sanction or punishment which would constitute abuse.

Supports and reporting of abuse

29. As Clerk I wasn't involved either directly or indirectly with the provision of support and/or reporting of abuse of pupils. I did not have direct contact with the pupils. Within school the pupils could speak to a number of individuals, including his or her tutor, and to a teacher or housemaster or housemistress or matron. There was a Director of Pastoral Care and then a Child Protection Officer within the school, who oversaw pupil welfare. Latterly, I recall that abuse helplines were promoted, should a

pupil have had a need or wish to speak to someone out with the school. I recall latterly there were notices in the school regarding external helplines for pupils. I would have hoped that the pastoral care was such that the pupils had confidence to raise a concern.

30. If I had any concerns or worries the Chairman or any Governor within the school would have been an obvious first option for me as Clerk. I was able to raise any matter with the Chairman or a Governor. My recollection is that I do not recall reporting a matter that caused me concern to the Chairman, that was not already a matter that the Chairman had known about. I cannot recall ever taking a decision not to report or advise the Chairman of a matter of abuse that he should be made aware of. In the normal course of running a school, concerns would be raised by those who had concerns or knowledge, but I would not expect them to be raised with me as Clerk first. David Stock, a teacher of English, had raised concerns, but not directly with me, in the early 1990's, which I will go into later.
31. I was not involved in policy formulation or implementation or guidance and as such I cannot say what written or unwritten policy, guidance or instructions were given by the school on reporting of abuse by children, staff or any other people. I did not ever see anything, or become aware of anything that I thought should have been reported.

Police Investigations

32. I recall two meetings with the police at Loretto with the Head, Michael Mavor. The first was on 30 August, 2001, following the press publishing articles about Guy Ray-Hills' behaviour whilst a teacher at Loretto. The Observer and Herald had carried articles. It was an informal meeting with a Detective Constable Imery, who informed that there was no formal investigation at that stage. The second was about 2006 when the Head called in the police for advice about anonymous leaflets that were being distributed around Musselburgh and surrounding areas, that were critical of the school. The police said they would monitor the situation.

33. There was a third meeting between me and the police, when they took a formal statement from me on Guy Ray-Hills in 2001. They wanted to know when he had been employed by the school. I do not know if the police made other visits or what they would have been for. I honestly cannot recall what else SNR [REDACTED] /school may have reported to the Police. I do recall that the school co-operated with the police in full over the Guy Ray-Hills complaints. The Head would have contacted the local police station, then it was Dalkeith I believe. I do not recall if Lothian and Borders Police issued a formal report into the Guy Ray-Hills complaint. I recall that he was charged by the police whilst living in England, but I do not think the trial was completed. I think that his old age and ill health were factors.
34. When Don Boyd's OL article was published in the Observer about Guy Ray-Hills, and his complaints and concerns were aired, SNR [REDACTED], having liaised with the police then wrote to parents, but also to OL's, who had been in the Nippers, i.e. the Junior School, when Guy Ray-Hills was a teacher there. Such OL's who wished to make a complaint about Guy Ray-Hills were asked to write a letter in response to me as Clerk, and I would forward any such letter received to the police, unless the OL concerned expressly told me not to forward their letter on to the police.
35. I am currently aware of ten letters that were written by OL's in response, six to me and four to SNR [REDACTED]. I believe that two OL's got in touch with the police, CCF [REDACTED] and CCF [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] also raised court proceedings against the school and such proceedings were handled on the school's behalf by Simpson and Marwick acting for the school's insurers. I believe that [REDACTED] did not continue with his court action. I understand that the criminal proceedings against Guy Ray-Hills were abandoned in 2003 on account of his age and ill health.

Role of Clerk to the Board of Governors – Specific questions

36. I honestly cannot recall the circumstances of any stabbing at the school nor can I honestly recall an incident in the Pinkie Gallery in the late 1990's.

37. The only allegations of bullying or abuse that I can think of might relate to concerns David Stock had. I do recall that he raised concerns. This would be about 28 years ago, and I cannot the details of them, but I think if I recall correctly, that his overall concern may have been that the school weren't treating his concerns about pupil welfare or possible bullying seriously enough. This was in about 1992. I knew him as an English teacher at the school. I don't recall if he had any other responsibilities other than teaching English. I do not know or recall who David Stock made such reports to, but I remember Alan Johnston QC as a Governor being involved. I don't know or recall who had made such reports to David Stock, I don't recall what involvement, if any, I had in any reports. I would have been liaising with the Chairman, Graeme Simmers, and with Alan Johnston QC, who as a Governor became involved if there were employment issues. Given that I know Alan Johnston had a meeting with David Stock, then I believe there would have been a discussion at board level. Given the passage of time, I honestly do not recall what was discussed between Alan Johnston and myself.
38. I cannot recall what investigations were carried out 28 years ago, and by whom in relation to any such reports made by David Stock. As far as I can recall I did not prepare any reports. Indeed, I cannot recall having a direct role was in any investigations. I cannot recall what the exact conclusions were, other than I do recall that Alan Johnston met with David Stock at his house, and I think terms were put to him, for him to leave Loretto, as I sat in on that meeting. This was in 1992. I cannot recall who suggested the meeting or the reason why. I presume further information would have been sought regarding the basis of the concerns raised by David Stock. The only meeting I recall being present at, was the one I have mentioned above, with Alan Johnston and David Stock. My role would have been to accompany Alan Johnston and I may have taken a note of the meeting, I believe David Stock's employment at the school was terminated. Alan Johnston met with David Stock, and if my recollection is correct Alan Johnston advised him that his contract of employment had been terminated. I cannot recall on what terms.
39. I honestly cannot recall why his termination of employment was felt necessary, but I think it related to suggestions that David Stock did not believe that the school was

taking the allegations of possible bullying seriously enough. I do not know if the Headmaster and Bursar arranged weekly meetings with the staff following David Stock leaving.

40. In my time as Clerk to the Board of Governors I honestly cannot recall concerns regarding Hope House.

41. The Common Room is the name given to the Senior School's Academic Staff. They would meet in what was called the Common Room. The Common Room didn't get right behind and fully support the previous Head, Keith Budge, when he came to Loretto in 1995. He left in 2000. Keith Budge, who had taken over from the Reverend Norman Drummond, preceded Michael Mavor, who was appointed by the board in [REDACTED] to lead the school and take the Common Room forward, which he did. The Common Room rallied round him. With his track record, having been Head of Gordonstoun and Rugby Schools, using his experience and leadership skills, the Common Room followed and supported his leadership in taking the school forward, as the new Head.

42. When I became clerk in [REDACTED] Norman Drummond was Head. He was a young and dynamic head, and like every Head, he had to inspire and take forward the Common Room with him, which I believe he did. Looking back, I do not recall anything untoward. I cannot recall Norman Drummond empowering a small group of senior pupils to the exclusion of the staff.

43. I spoke earlier of Guy Ray-Hills, when the Observer published the Don Boyd article in 2001. Don Boyd first came forward, then other papers ran with the story, as did Radio Forth. The complaints were that Guy Ray-Hills had carried out a prolonged campaign of serious sexual abuse on a number of pupils in the Nippers school in the fifties and sixties. The school liaised with the police and with their approval then contacted all the parents and OL's. Staff and pupils were addressed. Press releases were issued widely. The police approved of, and supported the lengths the school went to, to contact and advise all interested parties.

44. Pupils who were in the Nippers when Guy Ray-Hills was a teacher were all written to by ^{SNR} [REDACTED], and asked to write to me, if they so wished. The purpose was to advise that the school were treating the comments made by Don Boyd very seriously and that it deeply regretted what had happened and asked that if anyone wished to make a complaint of abuse, to write to me. As I mentioned earlier, I received some letters. The ones that I am aware who wrote were, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and ^{CBX} [REDACTED]. Three who wrote confirmed that they had been seriously sexually abused by Guy Ray-Hills, these were [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. The others referred to wholly unacceptable behaviour by him. They felt that the headmaster of the junior school, Hamish Galbraith, must have known about Guy Ray-Hills behaviour and what he was 'getting up to'. They were very critical of the school in not recognising what was taking place and taking appropriate action.
45. Some of the former pupils provided statements, I have letters from [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. I recall that [REDACTED] wrote to me too, but I don't hold his letter. [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] wrote to ^{SNR} [REDACTED]. I hold the letters, or copies of them, of the former pupils who wrote to me, except [REDACTED].
46. At least one OL, ^{CCF} [REDACTED] had made a complaint to the police. The school was advised that the whole matter and all further investigations were then in the hands of the Procurator Fiscal. The Chairman of the Governors, Alan Johnston, got in touch with Hamish Galbraith, who had first been a teacher and latterly headmaster of the Nippers whilst Guy Ray-Hills had taught there. Hamish Galbraith wrote back in full to the Chairman with his response to the abuse that had been outlined, and his full recollection of Guy Ray Hill's time at Loretto and thereafter. I have a copy of that letter dated 29 August, 2001.
47. As already advised, I provided a formal statement to the police confirming that Guy Ray-Hills had been employed by the school and giving as much background information that I could. Other than receiving letters from OL's, I wasn't involved in

investigations. The school's insurers were advised of the abuse and the claims, and they appointed Simpson and Marwick, Solicitors, who advised that they would deal with the claims. I recall one OL, [REDACTED] made a civil claim and Simpson and Marwick handled the interests of the school.

48. As one OL had made a complaint to the police and another subsequently made a civil claim, the police and Simpson and Marwick were handling necessary investigations. I understand that Guy Ray-Hills was formally charged by the police. The school liaised with the police and Simpson and Marwick and provided such statements as were sought by them. As I said, I understand that one civil claim was made by [REDACTED] but I think he didn't pursue the claim. I am not aware of, or recall any other claims, but Simpson and Marwick would have handled them if they had been made.
49. [REDACTED] parents intimated a civil claim. I honestly cannot recall now what other abuse claims I may have been involved in. I cannot recall what other abuse claims, if any, may have been intimated during my time as Clerk, under explanation that none come to mind.

When a pupil at the school

50. I was a pupil at Loretto between 1966 and 1975. I enjoyed my ten years, the first five at the Nippers and then the senior school. The culture back in the 1960's was quite different. It was harder, cold tubs in the morning, a run before breakfast, PE mid-morning, sport just about every day. There were inevitably some pupils who bullied others. Beatings with a cane were pretty common, both for minor and serious offences. In the junior school this was by the staff. In the senior school it was from staff and school prefects, but my recollection is that beatings were by then less common. Beatings entailed being beaten with a cane on the backside, over the clothing. But for most of us the Nippers was a good school. By the time I went to the senior school in 1970, pastoral care was improving, but it was still very much an all-boys boarding school.

General

51. Back in 1966 there would be about 75 Nippers and 240 in the senior school. Latterly the Nippers took in more pupils, but I think the senior school remained at 4 boarding houses of 60 in each, hence 240. Girls didn't come to Loretto until 1981.
52. In 1966 the age range was from eight to eighteen years old. The Nippers were eight to thirteen, the senior school thirteen to eighteen. Most Nippers went on to the senior school, so pupils tended to stay at the school until they were eighteen. I don't know what the ratio of children to staff was when I was at the school and I don't know if it changed while I was there.
53. While I was at Loretto, Hamish Galbraith was headmaster of the Nippers. In the senior school it was Rab Bruce-Lockhart. My housemaster in the senior school was initially ^{CRP} [REDACTED] then it was Peter Lapping.

External monitoring

54. I honestly don't know what inspectors or officials would have come to the school between 1966 and 1975. I don't recall inspections, but it was a long time ago. I don't recall any inspector or official speaking to me.

Discipline

55. When I was in the Nippers discipline was administered by the Head of the junior school and teachers. In the senior school the prefects administered routine discipline for matters of lesser severity, with the Head and housemasters dealing in particular with the more serious disciplinary issues. The Head, housemasters and prefects all administered disciplinary beatings when I was at school. Beatings involved being caned over the backside. It hurt, the pain stung and could be very sore. I imagine if you were caned very hard you would be injured, but in the main you were left with bruising.

56. In the Nippers you were beaten for a wide range of disciplinary offences, unless minor. In the senior school minor disciplinary infringements were dealt with by writing out geographical maps, or by being given an early morning wake up call, when you had to get up at seven in the morning and wake up a prefect.
57. In the senior school beatings were, I think I recall correctly, administered for a pattern of ill-discipline over a period of time, cumulative bookings, or for a serious one off disciplinary issue. I cannot recall what the codes of conduct were back then, written or unwritten. Likewise, I can't recall any written or unwritten guidance or instruction given by the school on sanctions and punishment of children. Any breaking of rules would be met either with a warning or a punishment, whether serious or minor.
58. Sanctions and punishments happened routinely, almost every day. The physical beatings were with a cane. This would be for the things I have mentioned above. The culture of the school discipline was traditional and firm. I accepted it as the system when I was a pupil, namely that if you broke the rules you could expect to be punished. Staff would administer the cane in private, in a room. Prefects had to administer the cane with two other prefects as witnesses, I seem to recall, in a room. This was always over the backside, over clothing. I was at Loretto between forty-five and fifty-five years ago, but I seem to recall it was between one and six strokes. As I have said, it stung and could be very sore. I imagine if you were caned very hard you could be injured but in the main you were left with bruising.
59. In the senior school I recall there was a 'bookings' system and if you broke a rule you could be booked by a prefect. If you accumulated a certain number of bookings, you were beaten with a cane by prefects. A record was kept of bookings and I suspect of beatings administered too. The Head boy and prefects kept the record of bookings. I do not recall what the Head or Housemasters had to do with the record keeping.
60. Together with the Head and Housemasters, school prefects administered some routine discipline, both non-physical punishments and beatings, whilst I was in the senior school. Some of the beatings were both administered and witnessed by

school prefects. It could have been the case that some prefects picked on certain pupils. I do not have any evidence, or recall that actually happening to any particular pupils, but bear in mind I did leave Loretto forty-five years ago. I think prefects beating other pupils stopped, and quite rightly so, shortly after I left Loretto.

61. I believe the school still operates a prefect system. They were appointed at the start of each academic year. Some were school prefects and some were house prefects. There were fewer school prefects, they generally being, but not always, heads of house or the head of the school. I was a school prefect latterly, in my last year at Loretto in 1975. All prefects assisted the Head and housemasters and other teaching staff with discipline and with general administration, e.g. running a school event. The Head would liaise with the head boy who would be able to pass on feedback from prefects and vice versa. Heads of houses would similarly liaise with their housemaster, who would be able to pass on feedback from the house prefects, and vice versa.
62. I was in the senior school from 1970 to 1975. As far as I recall back then, both house and school prefects had similar duties and responsibilities. As I outlined earlier, they assisted in general organisational duties both within and outside of the boarding houses. They would ensure that the rules were observed, that pupils were generally in the right place at the right time, and that good timekeeping was observed. They handed out minor punishments, e.g. maps or morning calls. They could book pupils for breaking rules. Serious infringements were reported to the housemaster or Headmaster. This system was in respect of all pupils in senior school. The Headmaster in conjunction with senior management chose the prefects.

Abuse be it physical, sexual or psychological and emotional

63. Having been five years in the junior school and then five years in the senior school, I recall witnessing incidents of what we then called bullying, and which is now more likely to be called abuse. Being at an all-boys boarding school in the sixties and seventies, it happened. I did see such behaviour as boys picked on boys. I can say in all honesty that I do not recall any particular incidents of abuse that stand out,

such that I can remember it now, or the perpetrator. I was not aware that Guy Ray-Hills was abusing boys at the junior school. He taught me during his last year in 1966-1967. The bullying was either at the hands of a more senior pupil, or by a pupil in the same year.

64. Other than Guy Ray-Hills, I cannot think of another abuser, or one who had 'a role', as asked of me. I have since learned that Guy Ray-Hills abused boys in the junior school whilst a teacher from 1951 to 1967. He abused an unknown number of boys during this time. From the accounts I have seen, he sexually interfered with those boys and had them carry out sexual acts on him. From what I have read, it reads as though it was fairly regular abuse. I cannot say for certain how old the boys were, but junior school pupils were aged between eight and thirteen years old. I had no idea or suspicion that abuse was taking place. I was only nine years old when Guy Ray-Hills left the school, and no-one ever spoke to me about it.
65. From the accounts I have read, the small number of boys who were being abused, may not know whether, or which other boys were being abused. It transpires that Guy Ray-Hills was a manipulative paedophile, and he put pressure on the boys he abused, not to talk to anyone about the abuse. I was not aware of any pupil who required medical attention through abuse, either back then or now.
66. Some beatings, especially six strokes of the cane, were a very severe punishment. I didn't think of it then as abuse as a pupil, as that was the known punishment for some of the more serious offences, but looked at objectively now, it would be labelled as abuse.
67. Given school culture in the sixties and seventies you would witness bullying, which wouldn't be reported. Indeed, it was known for an individual who did report bullying or unacceptable behaviour, to then be given a hard time by the perpetrator. The bullying that took place at the hands of a small number of boys, would today be called abuse.

Supports and reporting of abuse

68. I was aware of pastoral care at the school and recall that you could speak to a teacher or matron in the junior school. In the senior school you could speak to the housemaster or assistant housemaster or matron. Indeed, if you got on well with a teacher you could speak to that person too. Back in the sixties and seventies I cannot recall what if anything, was actually promoted by the school regarding who you could speak to.
69. It was a long time ago, but I do not recall a culture of not feeling that you could speak to someone in a position of authority if there was a concern. The Headmaster of the junior school, Hamish Galbraith, was I recall, approachable and a very fair and good Headmaster when I was there. Pupils did, I recall, speak to staff if there was an issue.
70. Guy Ray-Hills aside, some pupils would not feel confident about reporting bullying or abuse. I think they would have been concerned about repercussions about complaints about fellow pupils, which is a known and typical worry for the complainer. I honestly don't remember if I reported any circumstances or concerns during my time as a pupil there. I also can't recall, given the passage of time, the circumstances of another pupil reporting concerns. I cannot recall what or if written or unwritten policies, guidance or instructions were given to us.

Guy Ray-Hills

71. I have already commented on Guy Ray-Hills. He taught me French, he was a popular teacher and his lessons were fun, but then I was only nine years old. I had no idea whatsoever that, as it transpired, he was also sexually abusing some pupils.

Mr ^{CRW} [REDACTED]

72. ^{CRW} [REDACTED] taught me in the junior school, I cannot recall what subject. As far as I remember he was a competent and fair teacher. I do not recall any concerns.

Helping the Inquiry

73. The culture now at Loretto, especially from a pastoral point of view, is so very, very different from the sixties, seventies and the years before that. Having been a pupil in both the junior and senior schools, I do not recall thinking that the school had a deep rooted problem with abuse. It was very unfortunate that some pupils were bullied. Having educated my [REDACTED] children at Loretto, in both the junior and senior schools, my wife and I were very happy with the care, welfare and education provided, not just to our children, but to our children's friends there too. The pastoral care of pupils is paramount and Loretto has, like similar schools, evolved and adapted to make sure that pupils are both educated and well looked after.

Signed.....PYK [REDACTED].....

Dated..... 27 August 2020