

Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry

Witness Statement of

LWR

Support person present: Yes

1. My name is LWR. My date of birth is 1951. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.

Life before going into care

2. My family life was ok. My father was my hero. His death really hurt me. My father and mother were poor. They worked hard to support the family. I was the youngest of six children. Three brothers, two sisters and myself. I was an unplanned child but the one that gave them the most happiness. That has always stuck with me as the nicest thing ever said to me.
3. My father was a gardener. He worked in farms all his days. He worked in [REDACTED] He was awarded. He had a small cardboard box and when you opened it, it was like green felt inside. It contained a spoon that was engraved with his name and thanking him for what he'd done during his time there.
4. My mother worked [REDACTED] in Ayrshire, which is now knocked down. I am trying to write a book about my life. I have a niece, who was [REDACTED] and she's from the Mormon faith and she helped me do this.
5. My father's side of the family are from Ireland, my mums is from Lanarkshire. My parents met in Ayrshire. He then went to work in a farm in Yorkshire and my mum

found out she was pregnant. It wasn't accepted then. My grandfather, who was an alcoholic, gave my mother an ultimatum. She had to find the child's father or she was going into a home. My mum almost walked to Yorkshire and she found him. There was nowhere she could stay overnight so she slept in a hay shed. My father gave her money to return home. He sent money to support my mother and my brother. My grandfather was taking the money from my mother.

6. My grandfather was a vicious man. He was known to drink, fall down and come home three days later, especially at weekends. When he got paid my granny never saw much of the money. So they were poor. I remember my mum telling me she had to steal a loaf once, just to feed the family.
7. My father came to Scotland and he found work on a farm in Newton Mearns. My mum fell pregnant again. They got married in [REDACTED] parish manse. I can't find the manse now, but I will.
8. My mum's health wasn't great. By this time she worked in Quarriers home, in the [REDACTED]
9. I was brought up in a village called [REDACTED] in Renfrewshire. It is [REDACTED] miles [REDACTED] of Glasgow and [REDACTED] miles [REDACTED] of Greenock. At this time there was only my sisters [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and I in the family home. [REDACTED] was the second youngest and we were really close. We fought like cat and dog but I could say what I want about her and she could say what she wanted to about me, but nobody else could. In later life [REDACTED] helped me a lot.
10. [REDACTED] was my oldest brother, then came [REDACTED] then me. [REDACTED] both died before I was born. [REDACTED] was a cot death. I can't remember the year he died. My mother found him. He died on the first of [REDACTED] and was buried on the second. [REDACTED] had epilepsy and died when he was one and a half. He took a fit. They tried to revive him.

11. My mother and father were young when this happened and it was a thing they never really spoke about. After my mother's death, I asked my father about my brothers. I wanted to find their graves. He said I was to go to [REDACTED] and see a blacksmith called [REDACTED]. I was named after him. He was a friend of my dad. I went there and I spoke to his wife or sister. She said when I go up to the graveyard I had to take so many steps and she picked me some flowers from the garden. That's where [REDACTED] was buried. I did this and saw that the ground sunk and knew it was [REDACTED] grave. It was harder to find [REDACTED] grave. I found it years later. I wanted to find them so much. I got [REDACTED] grave signed over to me.
12. I've always been known as [REDACTED] LWR. I stayed in the same place until I was sixteen. If my dad said jump you asked how high. If they said to be in at a certain time, you were in. They were strict in that sense. His name was [REDACTED] and my mother was called [REDACTED].
13. I started school at Quarriers children's home, Bridge of Weir. It was the nearest school to us. When we just went to school there, my sister and I had to walk. At lunch time we were taken to cottage 21. It was a girl's cottage. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] My partner [REDACTED] LWQ was at Quarriers too. She remembers my mother working there. Our school work there was good. I loved school.

Quarriers Children's Home, Bridge of Weir

14. When I was seven I went to Quarriers to stay from Sunday night until Friday after school. Why I was taken there, I still don't know. My mum's health wasn't too good and she went in to hospital. My dad worked long and hard. I was there for two and a half years.
15. There were forty odd cottages in Quarriers. They were large houses. Each cottage could contain ten to eighteen kids. I was sent to cottage 24, it was all male. There were female cottages too. There were very few mixed cottages. We weren't allowed to talk to girls and vice versa, except when we were in the playing fields or at discos,

where you could dance with them. It was the luck of the draw what cottage you went to.

16. I think there were 43 cottages. They were all numbered. They were gifted by rich people. They could decide where they wanted their cottage built, so they didn't run in numerical order. William Quarrier was born in Greenock and he was a shoe maker. He bought the ground and he built a building in the middle of it. We called it the central. It was called Summerville Weir Hall and it was the first building there. It was a workshop below and kids stayed upstairs. Eventually, when the money started coming in, the cottages started getting built. They also built a cottage called Home Lea, where Quarrier stayed. It's just as you go in the main gate of Quarriers. There was a stone wall almost around the whole place.
17. It had its own school, hospital and fire service. Everything they needed, they had it there. They had a church too. I don't know the religion. I think we were protestant. There were mixed religions there. Catholic and protestant children.
18. I don't class myself as a Quarriers kid. I lived there Sunday night until Friday. I went home from school on Friday afternoons and stayed the weekend. I had a mother and father. On Saturday morning my father worked for [REDACTED] He was the gardener there. I didn't spend many weekends in Quarriers. Mainly just when my mum wasn't well. Kids were in there for different reasons, like having no parents, things like that. LWQ just only had her father.
19. The age groups at Quarriers were from birth to sixteen years old. There was a row of baby cottages, four or five of them on one side. They kept the kids in them from birth to five years old. The main home was from five to sixteen years old.

Routine at Quarriers Children's Home, Bridge of Weir



First day

20. When I started staying at Quarriers nobody told me what would happen. I remember being taken to this cottage, it was cottage 24. I was introduced to this man and his wife, Mr and Mrs QDC who were the house parents. There were also other kids that I knew. We were all brothers and sisters in there. We had respect for each other. We could talk our problems over. I was shown my bedroom and the toilet.
21. As you walked in the front door there was a play room on one side and a kitchen and dining room on the other. There was a shed, a building built adjacent to the house. We couldn't come in the front door; we had to come in through the shed door. There was a long bench seat with hooks above. You put your jackets there, shoes underneath the bench.
22. Upstairs there were three bedrooms I think. There were six beds in my room, all boys. There were toilets upstairs too. It was a boy's cottage ranging from five year olds to sixteen. The couple treated us like slaves. Cleaning, peeling potatoes, helping with meals, everything.
23. All the cottages had a mother and a father, or just a mother. If it was just a mother there would be a cottage auntie.
24. We never got to know Mr and Mrs QD's first names. We were told that they were our new mother and father. We had to call him sir. He told me that he was my new father and he was king of the hill and I wasn't to forget it. He called me 'boy'. 'Boy' was a name we all got used to in that cottage. At first he was great but once he knew you, your life changed. They were maybe in their late fifties, early sixties. He was a grey haired guy. They had their own sitting room and bedroom. The sitting room was downstairs. We went by their rules. They owned us more or less. We had to do what they told us and god help us if we didn't.

Mornings and bedtime

25. We got up at roughly seven o'clock, had breakfast then went to school. Kids went to bed at different times. Scouts finished at half past nine, dinner and bed by ten thirty. Younger kids before that. It depended on your age.

Mealtimes / Food

26. At lunch time we went back to the cottage from school. We sat at three tables of six. There were eighteen of us at the cottage. When you sat at the table you had to sit straight with your arms folded. You didn't move. We got two potatoes, tripe and cabbage, or Fray Bentos corned beef, one tin for the six of us, and cabbage. I hate cabbage and I hate tripe.
27. At night we got two potatoes, a sausage and cabbage. There was that much cabbage made that in the morning there was a big frying pan, the size of a dustbin lid, with lard put in it, cabbage and then eggs were cracked into it. It was like a cabbage omelette. We got that with a slice of bread and a glass of milk. We got a lot of milk, they had their own farm. The only hot drink we got was a malty drink, Horlicks I think, at night time.
28. Mr  would always be there watching. We never saw much of his wife, she'd come in now and again. He called us 'Boy', all the time. There was always rage in his voice, shouting, "Come on boy, get that done". The younger boys cleared the table and washed the dishes. Prisoners were better looked after. They had rights, we had none. I didn't like the food. All the time he would just sit and watch us. I called him the owl. Everything you done, he watched.
29. In Quarriers you never got sweets. My granny and aunt gave me a big bag of sweets to share but  took them from me. I got wise to it and hid them.

Washing / bathing

30. There were two baths in the place and it was a case of how many can we get in the bath at a time. I know the kids got baths on a Sunday night. I got mine on a Wednesday. You always shared a bath and **QD** always sat and watched.

Clothing / uniform

31. They had their own store and I was given a new suit, underwear, kilt, shoes and socks. You were kept really tidy. You had school clothes, not a uniform, then after school you changed into play clothes. It was the first time in my life I'd ever had something new.

School

32. In Quarriers I enjoyed my schooling. I was doing not too bad. I wouldn't say I was the brightest torch, but I shone. After the abuse I didn't care about my life. My mum and dad asked me what was wrong. I said I was alright. I kept this false smile on my face and I learnt over the years.
33. When I started school I met **LWQ** there. We were boyfriend and girlfriend. When she was fourteen, she went home. She had an abusive father. He was a pure bastard. He had fallen into debt. Quarriers were meant to be this charitable organisation but they were taking five shillings a week for each child from her father and there were three of them in there. She left because he wasn't paying it. He never visited **LWQ**
34. When she went back home we never saw each other again until I became unwell. I did something I'm not proud of. I ended up in a psychiatric hospital and it took me seven months to rebuild my life. I got involved with this **████████** drumming group, who were in the hospital in Paisley. They helped people like me at the time. We all talked about our problems, we understood each other. We were like a family.

Trips / Holidays

35. Quarriers wasn't all bad, there were some amazing days in there. I loved the Boys Brigade, loved the scouts, playing football, disco's on a Saturday and Sunday night.
36. I went to camp at Burntisland with the scouts. The Boys Brigade went to Peterhead. Both the scouts and BB's were held within Quarriers. I left the scouts and went into the BB's. I loved the camps. I've got a photo with me and [REDACTED] outside a tent. His dad worked in Quarriers. I have a photo of the football team. In the photo are two boys, [REDACTED] and me, I can't remember them all. I went on the taxi days out, they were great. They went to Turnberry, Troon and Girvan. Turnberry was the favourite.

Religious Instruction

37. Every night in the play room with Mr [REDACTED] QDC we all took turns at reading the bible. There was a piano in the play room. I could play the piano a bit, my mum taught me. I had to play the piano there, hymns and that sort of thing. I wanted to be a rock star. I always wanted a guitar. My mum and dad couldn't afford one.
38. I stayed at Quarriers a few weekends and went to church on a Sunday morning, then bible class, then church again at night. I went on a Wednesday night too. Kids went to Australia and Canada and there was a service the day before that.

Visits / Inspections/ Review of Detention

39. I didn't need to get a visit as I was going home on a Friday. There were visitors for some kids and there were people who came and took kids away for the weekend. I didn't get that. Our meals changed when someone came to visit. A lot of falsifying went on in that place. If someone came we were told by [REDACTED] QDC say we loved it and to be on our best behaviour.

Healthcare

40. Quarriers had their own hospital for injured or ill children. I was never in it for any reason. I don't think any kid who was abused went to the hospital.
41. I had toothache and was taken by Mr QDC to the dentist at Elise hospital. The dentist took my tooth out. Since that day I have had a fear of the dentist. I still get flashbacks of the dentist

Running away

42. I know people who ran away from Quarriers and I know what happened to them when they were brought back, so I never did it. I was too frightened. What was the sense of it? You'd be taken back. [REDACTED], a girl I know, she was abused in Cottage 24. Shortly after I left, it became a mixed cottage. She ran away and when she came back she got hammered.

Bed Wetting

43. If you wet the bed Mr QDC dragged you from it, the bed stripped, mattress taken outside and the child had to clean it. They were then put in a cold bath and had to sit in it until they were told to come out.

Abuse at Quarriers Children's Home, Bridge of Weir

44. When I was eight, not long after my birthday, at tea time QDC pointed to me and said, "You boy, you got anything to say?" I had to get up, stand to attention and say, "Yes sir, may we leave the table?" He asked if you'd had enough and you had to say, "Yes sir, we've had more than our full". Although it never was. I was always starving. Mr QDC growled to me, "You boy, dishes. The rest of you get out". Everybody left. I knelt on a seat, washed the dishes, dried them and put them away. He told me my clothes were in a mess and I had to take them off. I got down to my pants and vest and he said they were a mess too and I was to take them off. I did and I was trying to cover

myself up and he told me to put my hands to my side. What he did to me next, he shouldn't have done to any kid. It was disgusting. It destroyed me. If he was alive, I'd kill him. I would do time. No child should have to go through it. It was the most evil, hurtful thing you could do. I found out later in life that he did it to the little girl [REDACTED] too.

45. When I took my clothes off I had to bend over a chair. I felt his hands on me. He penetrated me. I was screaming, I was begging. I lost my religion through that, because Jesus didn't come to help me that night. The hatred is still there. I can never get over it. Before being involved with Future Pathways it was like a projector. It would switch on and off. I'd get sweats, depression. I've tried to take my life several times. I'd be sleeping and waken up screaming.
46. Later that same night, after this man raped me, he had a two pronged leather belt and he battered me, hammered me. He had his foot on my back so that I couldn't move and he battered me and told me not to tell anyone.
47. I reported him to the main office. The first thing they did was phone him and that was the worst I ever saw him. He called me a liar and slapped me and was shaking me, in front of the people who were meant to look after you. I was made to apologise to him. It was a woman and a man at a sort of reception area.
-
48. After I reported him, I got it again. I can speak about it now but I still get in a rage about him. It scarred me. It happened more than once but I don't want to go into any more detail. I was called a liar and it's all in my head. The likes of today, I feel proud of myself because of what I'm doing now. I want someone to believe me.
49. It was like a military school but harder. I've seen boys getting dragged out by the hair or the scruff of their neck. He would belt them and they'd be screaming for their life. He was evil. Once we were getting ready for bed and this little guy's back was black and blue all over. I asked what happened and he said he'd fallen out of a tree. We believed him. I'd never seen anything like it before. Seemingly, before my time, there were other kids that had fallen from a tree.

Reporting of abuse at Quarriers Children's Home, Bridge of Weir

50. The only people I told about the abuse were the man and woman at the reception at Quarriers. They called Mr [QD] right away, who called me a liar and battered me.

Leaving Quarriers Children's Home, Bridge of Weir

51. I left Quarriers when I was nine. Nobody told me why. I just remember going in a little school bus and getting dropped off in the country. I was moved back to [REDACTED] and I hated it. I despised it. The first day at school there the teacher called me out and introduced me. She told everyone I was a Quarriers child. The abuse I suffered through that was terrible.
52. After I left cottage 24 [QDC] left but seemingly the guy who took over was even worse. I don't know his name. Mr [QD] is dead now.

Life after being in care

53. I went to Port Glasgow High School. By this time I just didn't care. My mother and father, everybody, was asking me what was wrong. They couldn't understand. It was the worst time of my life. At this time I didn't give a shit.
-
54. I was only there for a few weeks and I saw a fight. It wasn't a fight, it was like a murder. One of the guys was from [REDACTED] I got beating after beating at the school, so I gave up. I stopped going.
55. I got caught not going to school one day by the police. My brother [REDACTED] had been in the police and as a result all the police knew my mother and father. They had an open house. Lots of people visited.
56. Where I stayed in the country, there was a house at the bottom of the road. This very religious woman called Miss [REDACTED] stayed there, she ran the Sunday school.

57. I went down to Miss [REDACTED]'s house one night and [REDACTED] QKA [REDACTED] was cutting the grass with a scythe. He took me into a hen house, took his shirt off and got me to rub his back. He asked me what this thing was that was on the end of a big rusty key ring. I told him it was a bull horn. He said it was a cock and asked if I'd seen one. I didn't know what he was talking about and he took his trousers down and started masturbating. He asked me to masturbate him. I told him I was telling my dad and he let me go. This guy [REDACTED] QKA [REDACTED] is still running about. I think he's in Edinburgh.
58. My father's family were at the house one day and we were out in the garden. My dad asked me to go and get his cigarettes. He smoked roll ups. I went back and my sister was shouting, "Get my mum, get my mum". I didn't know what was happening. My uncle, my dad's brother in law, had put his hand down her knickers and fondled about. My dad went mad at that obviously.
59. My abuse started before Quarriers, by an auntie. Her name was [REDACTED] QKB [REDACTED] we knew her as [REDACTED] QKB [REDACTED] I was brought up as a protestant but I was in a mixed family. She took me to bed and touched me and made me touch her. I was four or five years old. When I left school at fifteen I could hardly spell my name, far less write it. I learnt to read and write by going to the library in Cumbernauld. If I didn't know how to spell a word I looked up a dictionary.
60. My first job was at [REDACTED] in Bridge of Weir. I was a [REDACTED] [REDACTED] I did that for six months then became a [REDACTED] with the same firm. It wasn't the job for me. I went to a farm to work and done that for about six months too. I was then told by my parents I was to become a joiner but I was rubbish at it and I got paid off.
61. I couldn't get a job. My sister [REDACTED] was married and staying in [REDACTED]. My brother-in-law said I should come to Glasgow and get a job there. On the last day before I was to go home I got a job. I became a wood machinist. I enjoyed it. It was with [REDACTED], in [REDACTED] Glasgow. They made fire surrounds. A guy who worked there was stealing and they caught him. I was taken in and asked if I would be a

witness at court. I said no, so the next Friday I was told I was getting paid off, that there was no work. That was a lie.

62. My brother [REDACTED] was a partner in a firm called [REDACTED]. They did roads. I went there but didn't stay long. I didn't like it. I became a [REDACTED] and enjoyed that.
63. I got paid off, then two weeks later re-employed. I went to Langside College and got my apprenticeship. It was amazing. I'd worked so hard for it. I moved to the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] at Cumbernauld.
64. After my apprenticeship was over, my friend [REDACTED] came to see me. Along with [REDACTED] a few friends and I went out on the town on a Friday night. My brother-in-law told me to go out and find a wife. Both my friend and I met girls that night. I met [REDACTED] we got on well for a while and set a date to get married.
65. [REDACTED]'s father had died when she was young and her auntie looked after her and her brother because her mother had a couple of jobs. We got married anyway and set up home in Cumbernauld.
66. At the time I was working with [REDACTED]. I worked away a lot. It was good money. [REDACTED] was working [REDACTED] in Cumbernauld, head of the office. Both of us were making good money. One evening, I came home from work and two sheriff officers came to the door looking for our furniture. My wife hadn't been paying the rent. I went to the bank and there was no money in the account. There should have been a lot. I returned home and told them I couldn't pay and they said they'd be back the next day.
67. The bank told me we had lifted the money but I knew we hadn't. We only had one bank card and I kept hold of it. I made sure [REDACTED] had enough money and I took the card with me to work and was away Monday to Friday. I found out she had falsified my name and applied for another card. When she came home I confronted her but she attacked me.

68. A while after this, I came home another night and it was the same thing, debt collectors, and the same thing, no money. Again she went in a rage and attacked me. She dug her nails right into my eyes. I went to Monklands Hospital in Airdrie because of the pain in my left eye and they wanted me to call the police but I said no.
69. The next Sunday I received a call from my brother [REDACTED] late at night. He told me my mum had died. The shock knocked me for six. I had brown hair. I got a shot from the doctor to help me sleep and I woke up the next day and my hair had turned white. I believe this was my mother's gift to me as she had white hair.
70. I had my own business as a [REDACTED] I have only one child. [REDACTED] was born in 1977. I had a car accident and our son nearly died. I started suffering from depression. In [REDACTED] 2011 I took a mini stroke, then a second in [REDACTED]. I took some time off and went back on the second week in [REDACTED].
71. I collapsed at work and called my wife and asked her to call an ambulance. I later found out that my wife hadn't called an ambulance at all. I went to the Royal Alexander Hospital in Paisley. I'd taken a massive heart attack. My wife came to see me a few days later and said, "You bastard, I can't believe you're not dead.
72. I divorced in 2012. I tallied up how much debt she had put me in over the years. It was over a million pounds.
73. Between [REDACTED] 2011 and [REDACTED] 2012 I had two mini strokes and three heart attacks.
74. When I got out of hospital I told my wife to get out, it was finished. She did. I don't know how long I was in the house but I was depressed and I attempted to take my own life. I looked outside and thought, what a beautiful day. I thought, today I'm going to be free. I'm going to see my mum, dad, sister and brothers again. I woke up in Dykebar Hospital in Paisley. I then got shifted to a more secure place in Kirkcaldy.

I managed to escape but they found me and I was put on this medication that brought me right down.

75. I went back to Dykebar and I eventually spoke with other people and was asked to tell my story. I left there thinking, that there were people who were worse off than me". I spoke to a Dr Benny and told him about my abuse. I came away and felt good. I never, ever spoke about it again.
76. My dad died and I took his job at [REDACTED] house at [REDACTED] At Christmas [REDACTED] died and her son and daughter took over the estate and I lost my job. They gave me two weeks to leave. I tried to get another job and went to Inverclyde council to get a house.
77. I had to start from scratch. I went through a bad divorce then I got my own place. This friend said I should set up a Facebook site. I got a computer and did this. I met up again with [LWQ] who I had first met back at Quarriers and we went back there to relive happier times.
78. We met two sisters, [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] lives in Australia. We walked round Quarriers and got to Cottage 24. The three girls walked around cottage 24. [LWQ] and [REDACTED] came back but [REDACTED] didn't. I went round and found her at the kitchen window crying her eyes out. She said many times she'd looked out of that window praying that someone would look in and see what was happening to her. I wondered what she had been doing in that cottage because it had been boys only. She turned to me and said, "It happened to you to, didn't it?" I just nodded. We decided we'd walk away as survivors. We did that. We buried it.
79. I met an ex-Quarrier's boy, when I was in my twenties. I went into a little café in Glasgow. He greeted me and said, [LWR] He gave me a hug. I didn't know him but he had got kicked out of Quarriers as well. He did good. A lot of the kids from there did well. A lot didn't.

80. We run a thing just now called [REDACTED] and we try to help victims. Myself, LWQ, [REDACTED] and his wife [REDACTED] who was abused in Nazareth House, Glasgow are all involved. We use our past experience to help people. We've passed a few over to Future Pathways. We just try to get people to open up and be honest because it helps. We have a Facebook site with about 5000 people on it and a quarter of them have been abused. It's trying to get them to open up. I have 5 people from cottage 24. There's only one prepared to talk about the abuse they suffered. That's my adopted sister [REDACTED]. We adopted each other. Being believed really helps.
81. When the Quarriers thing came out, the biggest kick between my legs was when a guy called John Porteous, who abused David Whelan, got £50000 in legal aid. He got an eight year sentence, reduced to six, then to four and out in two. When he got out he was rehoused in Quarriers. I had a photo of him and put it on A4 paper with who he was and what he'd done and pinned them all to trees around Quarriers and put them through everybody's letter box so that they knew who he was.
82. I went to a group called Open Secret in Falkirk, they are now called Wellbeing Scotland run by Janine Rennie. She is part of Fresh Start Foundation, which was set up for victims, for justice. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] I still get depressed. It's not fair on LWQ. She seems to take the brunt of it.
83. I wanted to find out how many there were from Quarriers and LWQ and I started a Facebook site called [REDACTED] It started growing and growing. I don't want money; I just want truth and justice. If the Inquiry can achieve that, that's what I want.

Impact

84. I have tried at various times to take my own life. On [REDACTED] 2011, I had no medication and I took another turn. I went to the [REDACTED] and was going to [REDACTED] A man came over and talked me down, gave me a cigarette. He then

disappeared. I then went on an eight day walk. I didn't tell anyone where I was. I slept for a few days in the graveyard where my sister was buried.

Reporting of Abuse

85. I have never reported the abuse I suffered to the police or anyone else.

Records

86. Years ago, I remember coming home one night and my wife said the police had been and wanted to see me about Quarriers. I saw them and they wanted to know why I'd been at Quarriers looking for children. I didn't know what they were talking about. The police told me my name had been written in a book. It eventually clicked that I'd put my name in the book looking for children that were there when I was. They said they'd checked the records and I wasn't listed as being there. They eventually found an ex-Quarrier's boy who confirmed to them that I'd been there. I wondered why there was no record of me.

87. In 2012, I spoke with a Josie Bell at Quarriers, who was to do with records. I was asked to come back in two weeks. I went back but was told they didn't have my records. LWQ asked about her records and was asked to go back in a further two weeks. When she did they had photos and other things. I asked about mine and was told by Josie Bell that they didn't keep records then. I asked how LWQ had hers and was told there had been a fire. I told her not to lie and she said, ok, we moved office and lost them. I was concerned that my records and other peoples were lying around somewhere for anyone to see. I pulled her up and she said, ok, I've had a busy day and walked out. We sat a while then went to the reception and were told that she had gone home for the day. We never saw her again.

88. I was told last week that possibly my mum and dad had an agreement with Quarriers because I wasn't a full time resident and that's why I don't have records. If that's the case I can accept that in my life.


Lessons to be Learned

89. I'm 67 this year. I just want a life, like everyone else. I want someone to take care of children. Educate them. It can be done. We're so backward in Britain. We have been let down so much by MP's. They have to take responsibility and do something for us. Listen to us and don't just write it down and do nothing. Do something. Changes can be made. I know hundreds who have died through this. I nearly died through this. Let's start today. I've spent the last six years of my life reading up on this, educating myself. A helpline in the evening for victims would be another good thing.

Other information

90. I love art, photography, writing poetry and music. I had an expensive camcorder. I went through a hellish divorce and didn't get the camcorder back, amongst other things. I told Future Pathways that I'd love a camcorder as I used to do documentaries for schools and colleges about history. Future Pathways got me that. I wished I'd found Future Pathways earlier in life.

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

Signed...  LWR

Dated... 24-05-2018