

Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry

Witness Statement of

EEF
[REDACTED]

Support person present: No

1. My full name is EEF [REDACTED] My name at birth and on my birth certificate was EEF [REDACTED] EEF [REDACTED] was my given Christian name at my confirmation. My date of birth is [REDACTED] 1948. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.

Life before going into care

2. I have no memories of my family and early life, but I have discovered things later in life, as an adult.
3. I know that I was from a strong Catholic family that lived in Glasgow. My mother was called [REDACTED] My birth certificate reads that my father was killed in action in 1944, although I was born in 1948, four years after his death. This must refer to my mother's husband who was killed in the last days of the war.
4. My mother had a legitimate son with her husband, called [REDACTED] who was about six years older than me. After she was widowed, she turned to drink to deal with what had happened and the lonely future ahead. In the years following her husband's death, she had two illegitimate children. I was one of them and my sister, [REDACTED] was born a year after me.

5. My mother was drinking a lot and she left us and ran away to London in 1952. Her family made the decision that they couldn't look after us all. They kept our older, legitimate brother, and my sister and I were put into the care of Glasgow Corporation, who fostered us out separately.
6. I was separated from all of my family when I was about five years old and I had no memory of them. I grew up thinking I didn't have a family.

Foster Care – Mrs EEG, [REDACTED]

7. I remember the train journey going north to my foster mother's house and changing trains at Aberdeen. A very stout lady took me on the train and to the house. She must have been from Glasgow Corporation. She handed me over to my foster mother and I never saw her again.
8. I remember crawling under a table when I got there and apparently I cried for two days.
9. I was placed into the care of a 78 year old lady who I had to care for. I believe she had fostered for many years. Her husband had died young and fostering was her way to keep busy and get some money.
10. There were five foster kids in the house, including me. I had four older foster brothers, and I was the youngest by six years so they were all much older than me. They were good with me. They gradually moved out as they got older and got jobs. She also had her own biological son, who was a farmer. I only saw him about once a year when he would come round for food.
11. My childhood was rough and ready. I was led to believe that I was an orphan and had no family or relations at all.

12. When I was growing up, I had to do all the household chores because my foster mother was unable to do them because of her age. I scrubbed the floors, did the dusting, washing, ironing, bringing in the coal, and collecting driftwood from the beach every day after school to keep the fires burning.
13. I was not allowed to go and play until all the chores were completed. I can't recall any other child in the community having to do these kind of chores in their homes. I was looked down on by all of my school friends and other children as the poor boy in the community.
14. I was good at sports so I was always picked first for any team. Everybody wanted me in their team for football, running, tig or anything else. I had to play all those games in heavy, black, leather boots with steel heels and toe undersides with studs on the bottom.
15. I never received or owned a pair of shoes other than the tackity boots. I got a package once a year from Glasgow Corporation with new boots and that is all I got from them in all the time that I was fostered out.
16. The community boys gave me the nick name of the 'EEF' because shopping would be delivered by horse and cart in those days, and they thought I sounded like with my loud, tackity boots and they could hear me coming from a distance.
17. I know Glasgow Corporation sent money to my foster mother because I remember her talking to my older foster brothers about getting the money monthly. She used that money for household costs and I never got anything.
18. When I became of age for secondary school, I had to walk two miles each way to the Catholic School. We had no spare money for bus fares. Rain or shine, I was kicked out of the door every morning and would be grateful when I saw the school gates for warmth and security.

19. I recall being sent to the local shop for goods without a coin to pay for them. I was refused on one occasion. Mum moved faster that day than I ever saw her move. She went to the shop and got the messages, and the bill was paid at the end of the month as usual.
20. In those days, holidays was just a word for being off school. I would usually be made to do potato picking in the fields for some extra money for the house.
21. Nobody from Glasgow Corporation ever came to visit me. Nobody came to see how I was living or to ask if I was ok.
22. Everyone called me 'EEF [REDACTED]' as a nickname, and because I had never seen my birth certificate or been told otherwise, I thought my name was EEF [REDACTED].
23. I was good at football and the school wanted me to play for the village, but my foster mother wouldn't understand because she felt that I had my duties around the house that I should have been doing.
24. On a few special occasions when a football match was to be played after school, I would throw my school bag in through the house door and run out to play. I knew I would get a horrendous beating from my foster mother with a washing stick later, for not doing the chores, but it was worth it to play. That was just the way it was.
25. The beatings from my foster mother happened mostly when I was in secondary because that was when I was making the decision to not do my chores and go and play football instead.
26. Nobody knew what was happening at home.
27. We lived near the harbour and sometimes if you shouted to a boat, the crawlers would take you out with them, and you could have a day out and give them a hand. One day it was a very hot day, and I took my shirt off and the one of the men was a bit taken aback because he saw the marks on my back. I just shrugged it off.

28. I don't know if he reported it to anyone, but a month or two later, I was taken away from my foster mother. It came out of the blue and I can't recall my mother being in hospital or anything else that could have caused this to happen. Maybe she had requested that I be taken away because I was the only child left there.
29. I still loved my foster mum and called her mum, and that was my home, so it was quite traumatic to just be taken away one day and not knowing anything about the place I was going to.

Going to St Ninian's Children's Home, Falklands

30. A lady from Glasgow Corporation just turned up one day, when I was twelve years old and said I was going to St Ninian's. We got on a train and when we got off, we got in a car and drove. I recall the journey as full of fear and apprehension.
31. I was apprehensive as I drove up to this big house. I didn't know if I was going to be locked in or if it was a borstal. I was just going to have to accept whatever was going to happen to me. I had no idea what to expect on arrival.
32. The lady, who must have been a care worker, left me there and I was placed in the care of the Christian Brothers at St Ninian's Children's Home in Falkland. I stayed there from 1960, aged twelve until I was about fifteen years old.

St Ninian's, Falkland

33. I was shown around by one of the Christian Brothers and I was pleasantly surprised. There was a sports emporium where they played all the sports under the sun. I was asking him if I could play this sport or that, and he was saying I could.

34. I also spoke to other boys who were saying I'd be alright there if I liked sport. I felt like I had gotten out of purgatory and into heaven. I had immediate good vibrations on the day of arrival.
35. There were two houses, the Stewart House and the Ramsay House. I think they were only really used for different sports groups, to create a bit of competition.
36. I have learned as an adult that there were about fifty boys in the whole school. The boys all had their own clothes peg with their numbers, and I was number [REDACTED] and I only remember there being [REDACTED] pegs after mine.
37. Some were in there because they were orphans, some had been in care already, and some because they had gotten into trouble.
38. There were six Christian Brothers, who ranged in age from approximately thirty to seventy. There were only six of them to run the whole school, along with the female secretary.
39. Brother ^{MOA} [REDACTED] was ^{SNR} [REDACTED] who was [REDACTED]. Brother Nugent was the oldest there. He was about 78 to 80 years old. He was always available to sit and have a chat to about anything. He probably had more time and less duties than others. There was also a Brother ^{LNC} [REDACTED]
40. The Brothers had their own rooms upstairs, which were reached by a circular staircase. I don't remember any boys ever going up there. We took that to be their quarters.

Routine at St Ninian's

41. The bedrooms could have up to five boys in a room. There were four to five beds in the dormitory that I was in. I must have moved dormitories in the time that I was there. I think there were mixed ages in the dormitory.

42. We were woken up in the morning at about 7.30 am by one of the brothers chapping on the door and shouting at us to get up.
43. Then we went along the corridor to the washroom and waited in line to get washed. We went back into our bedroom to get dressed then headed to the dining room to have breakfast at about 8 am.
44. We all then had cleaning duties that we had to do before going to school. We had classes until lunchtime, and then again after lunch and into the afternoon.
45. After school, we had a short break before having an hour to do homework, which we did in the classrooms.
46. Then we had an hour or two free time in the evening to do what we wanted. There were lots of sports and activities you could choose from.
47. It was then prayer time, and then we would queue to shower, which was an open shower block. You would queue and as soon as somebody walked out from under a shower, someone else would go in.
48. Showers were monitored by Brother LNC. He wasn't in the shower room all the time, but he would be around. I think he was there just to make sure boys didn't jump the queue.
49. Then we went into our dormitories to go to bed. The house was shut down at 9 pm every night and that was bedtime. A bell rang to tell us it was time to get into bed.
50. Brother LNC's duties included the dormitory watch at night, and his bedroom was to the side of the dormitory. After lights out, he would be seen wandering through the dormitories with his flash light, checking that all the boys had settled down for the night.

Bed wetting

51. You could get up and use the toilet at night if you needed to. Doors were always open, apart from the two main doors out of the house.
52. Some boys did wet the bed, as did I, and we had to carry our wet sheets to the wash room and have a shower in the morning. That identified the bed wetters, which wasn't great, but I don't think it could be helped, as we couldn't go about smelly. Hygiene was important in there.
53. The sheets would be changed if someone wet the bed. I don't remember it being an issue.
54. I felt ashamed because I was a bed wetter but that was my own shame. I don't remember the Brothers humiliating me or anyone for it. I remember the first time I got up before I wet the bed during the night and I managed to run to the toilet in time. I felt such a sense of achievement and I never wet the bed again after that.

Weekends

55. Saturday was sports day. There would be organised football or cricket in the morning, depending on the weather. You could do what you wanted in the afternoon.
56. On a Saturday afternoon, we were allowed to get sweeties from the tuckshop to the value of six pennies each. This was in payment for our cleaning duties.
57. On a Sunday, we went to mass and then for breakfast, before doing our cleaning chores.
58. We were then allowed four hours to do what we wanted. We could go out for a walk around the community. You could go as far as you liked, but if you returned late, then you lost your privilege to go out the following week.

Mealtimes / Food

59. All the boys and the Brothers ate together in the dining hall at mealtimes. The boys all had the same seats that they sat at for the term. It was very amicable.
60. I thought the food was fantastic. I remember getting cereal or porridge in the mornings, and as much toast as you wanted. I used to always go back for toast.
61. At dinner time, you got bread and butter, with soup and a main course like fish or mince. Then you got a small sweet.
62. There was quite a good choice of food and you could say if you didn't like anything, and you could get something else. I never liked fish, so I would get something else. I don't remember going hungry. The food was a lot better than what I had gotten at my foster mother's so I was happy.

Clothing / uniform

63. All the clothes came from St Ninian's. I didn't want for anything.
64. There was a stream that ran through the middle of the grounds that you had to cross to get to the sports fields. We would spend hours and hours there, fishing for trout. The school provided us with wellies for us to do that.
65. We had football boots to play football, and clothes to play sports. We had everything we needed.
66. All the boys were given a comb each. If you lost your comb, then you had to pay for a new one. I left my comb at a dog kennel that I used to spend time at, playing with the dogs. I thought the dog would remember my scent if I left my comb there, but I had to buy a new one when I got back.

Schooling

67. An education time table was laid out like any other school. You went from classroom to classroom to attend classes for different subjects. The Brothers taught all subjects except for woodwork and metal work, which civilians came in to teach. I don't remember the name of the civilian teachers.
68. Discipline was strict in class and there had to be total silence, unless you were asked a question.
69. We had an hour to do homework, which we did in classrooms after school and before playtime.
70. All books and jotters were free on request.
71. I didn't leave school with any national qualifications of any sort. I wasn't academic really. I wasn't the smartest guy there, but I certainly wasn't the dumbest guy there either. My interests were all sports.
72. There were some boys there who weren't as academic and couldn't take things in easily, and the Brothers treated them with respect by taking time to try and explain things to them, sometimes over and over. This meant that the boys were also respectful of our less able siblings because we saw the Brothers showing them respect.

Leisure time

73. We had an hour of playtime in the evenings. This would be outside in the summer and inside during the winter.

74. There were lots of sports available, which I loved. We played outdoor games like football, rugby and cross country running in the winter, as well as athletics, cricket and tennis in the summer. There were sports I had never seen, like lawn croquet but I was quick to learn.
75. We played [REDACTED] and Brother LNC [REDACTED] would teach it because it was his sport.
76. Indoor games were also always available in winter and on wet weather days. These included things like chess, draughts, table tennis, or five a side football in the gym. We could also watch television, read a book or do pottery and model building.
77. Competitions were organised regularly to encourage competitive spirit, which worked.
78. My sporting skills were recognised soon after I arrived at the school, and I was elected house captain of the [REDACTED] House. Being captain had no significance. I can think of no occasion when the title was used or recognised, but I enjoyed having it.
79. We also had four hours on a Sunday to do what we wanted, including leaving the grounds and going out.
80. We had a film night once a month. Some lucky lads would get to decide what film we all watched.

Chores

81. Everybody had cleaning duties to do. Each person had an area allocated to them that they had to clean. There was time available after breakfast when we were required to do this.
82. The chores could include dusting your area, cleaning, or polishing the floors with the big heavy weight bumper. You would spend about twenty minutes to half an hour doing this.

83. Your area was checked by a Brother to see if it was clean enough. If it wasn't then they would approach you in class and tell you it wasn't good enough and you had to re-do it after your lunch. You would then go back and re-do it during your lunch hour, after eating your lunch, while others went out to play.
84. The whole house was very clean and well maintained.

Religious instruction

85. We said grace before every mealtime.
86. The village priest said mass on a Sunday in the chapel which was within the grounds. We would also go to chapel on special religious holidays.
87. On Easter and Christmas we all marched to the Falkland Palace church in the village, wearing matching jackets and trousers. I only did that twice because I went home most holidays.

Trips / Holidays

88. We went on day trips into Edinburgh. I remember going over in a bus, and staying in a convent, which was unusual. We stayed the night, had breakfast and then had a day in Edinburgh. We walked around in groups and went to the castle.
89. We didn't have a lot of trips away. There were two Lomond hills near the school, and we climbed those quite a lot. We had a lot of healthy exercise.
90. Once or twice a year, we were requested by the locals to go beating for grouse shooting, which we all loved. It was an exciting day out. Other times, we went potato picking. We were paid money for it and it would be paid into an account for us. I can't remember how much we were paid but a small allowance was given to me when I travelled home during the holidays.

91. On special occasions, we would march as a school down to Falkland Palace, the church, for a special mass or service. We all wore smart school uniforms.
92. We were given train passes to go home three times a year during the school holidays. I considered this to be a major blessing. I would go home to [REDACTED] to see my foster mother.

Christmas and birthdays

93. I was fortunate enough to go home during the Christmas holidays so never spent a Christmas in the school.
94. There would be a Christmas tree in the school, and I think the boys all got a stick of rock or something, but I don't know what happened on the day because I wasn't there.
95. I was at school for my birthdays but I don't remember anything special happening. I think people sang happy birthday to you, but there was no cake or presents or anything.

Visits and inspections

96. We did not see many visitors around the school. We would maybe see people doing building works sometimes.
97. I was not aware of many comings and goings. On the very odd occasion, a boy would get called out of class because they had a visitor. I never had a visitor.
98. Nobody from Glasgow Corporation ever visited or called me.

Healthcare

99. If you got ill or hurt, you would just report to one of the Brothers. There wasn't a nurse or matron, so you would just speak to one of the Brothers and they would administer any first aid or give you a tablet if you had a headache.
100. The Brothers would take a boy to the doctor or hospital if that was needed. I can't recall ever being ill or hurt, or needing to go to the doctor or to hospital. I never visited a dentist in the time that I was there.
101. I recall one incident when playing rugby where a young boy was seriously injured. He was a very active boy, and he ran into another boy who was running with the ball and ended up getting kicked in the head. He went to hospital and then to a mental hospital. I was about thirteen years old when this happened.
102. I was asked to go and visit him in the mental hospital, which I did. I think I was asked because we were both part of the ██████ House. I remember it because he wasn't quite himself when I saw him. The boy never ended up coming back to school and died. I don't remember his name.

Discipline and punishment

103. Arguments and fights would break out between the boys, which was bound to happen with fifty or so young boys together. Most of the time the older boys would break it up and that would be the end, but sometimes the Brothers would see it.
104. The Brothers would call a full hearing to find out who was at fault, and then the strap would be distributed to the guilty party on their hand. Brother ^{MOA} ██████ would normally do the investigating and he would be the one who dished out the punishment.

105. The strap was used on the hand, and it was no worse than punishment I had seen at previous schools I had attended before going to St Ninian's. It was common practise across the whole country at that time. However, this often led to boys feeling hard done by and a break out would follow, where some boys would run away and try to get back to their home town, to their family and friends.
106. The boys were always caught and brought back by the police. When they got back, they would get six smacks on the bare bum as a punishment at night. I have no idea why it was on the bare bum because the pyjamas were not thick.
107. The smacks would be within ear shot of the boys in the dormitory, and were always given by Brother^{LNC} [REDACTED]. He was about thirty years old and very physical, like an ex rugby player. He was the strongest Brother there so it was a deterrent from running away to get the strongest Brother in there to smack you as a punishment.
108. My home in [REDACTED] was well over a hundred miles away, and I knew I would get an even harder beating from my mum if I made it home, so I never ran away.
109. If there were two boys who just couldn't get on, they could go to the Brothers and say they wanted to fight it out in the boxing ring. The Brothers would put them in a boxing ring and tell them to fight it out properly if they wanted to. They would then fight and as soon as one of them went down, it was broken up and that was the end of it.
110. I never fought anyone in the boxing ring. I was too wise for that.

Abuse at St Ninian's

111. I didn't witness anything that I consider to be abuse.

112. There were nights when I just went straight to sleep and didn't see anything. Other nights, I would be awake or wake up to seeing brother LNC walking around with a flashlight. I just thought that he was walking around and checking that everyone was asleep.
113. If someone did have a concern, the Brothers were always available to talk to. You could talk to them if you had any concern and they listened. The younger boys were always keen to walk alongside the Brother and talk to him when we were out walking, so we were all comfortable with the Brothers. I did that when I was younger too. As you got older, you wanted to walk with your friends.
114. As you got older, you would sometimes be able to chat to the Brothers as peers. They would open up to you about their life and why they chose to become a Brother and would be open and honest with you. The boys were comfortable with the Brothers so they would have been able to share with them if anything bad was going on.

Leaving St Ninian's

115. When I was fifteen years old, it was time to leave St Ninian's. I had seen boys leave before me and saw that some went home to their family, and some went into the army. When it was my time, Brother MOA one of the senior Brothers, asked to have a word with me.
116. He sat me down, like a father would, to discuss my future and where I saw myself going after I left. I said I hadn't given it much thought. He explained that my foster mother's health was failing and unemployment was high back home. He recommended that I join the infantry junior leaders battalion of the British Army, which I did.

117. I told my mother that I would be joining the army but that I would be coming back whenever I was on leave.
118. When the day came to leave St Ninian's, I got a train and was met by the army at the other side, who took me to the barracks.

Life after being in care

119. I had joined the boy soldiers on the advice of the Christian Brothers and signed up using the name **EEF** because I thought it was my name. They later informed me my name was actually **EEF** but let me keep it as **EEF** which I have used since.
120. I settled into the army. There was a lot of physical training and sports, which suited me well.
121. A few months after joining the army, someone informed me that my mother was ill so I got leave and went home. She was in hospital and she died soon after. I like to think that she held on until she knew that my future was secure before she passed over.
122. I was fifteen years old without a friend or relative in the world. I was on my own with no place to call home and nowhere to go when I got leave from the army.
123. The education and the grounding that the Christian Brothers gave me in those few years at St Ninian's was to guild my path in life.
124. I did three years as a boy soldier. At eighteen years old, I joined the regiment in Edinburgh and did a year of Castle Guard duties at Edinburgh, Balmoral and Holyrood Castles.

125. I got chatted up all the time on that job, so it was easy to meet girls. I had met a girl in Edinburgh whilst on duty. I realised that if I wanted a home, then the way to do that was to meet a girl and get married
126. I was told by the army that I was being sent to Germany for three years. I could get a marriage allowance if I was married, which was a considerable amount of money, so I got married before I went to Germany, and we used the extra money to save up.
127. Whenever I came home for six weeks every year, we conceived a child. My wife and I had three children together.
128. From eighteen to 21 was not a good time for me in the army. I fell out of favour with the Sergeant Major for not taking orders and I moved to another company.
129. After four years in the army, I decided to leave as I found many of the tasks pointless and illogical, so I would question things, which you can't do in the army. I was married and had somewhere to go so I left and home.
130. I came back to Scotland and got a job as an insurance salesman. I did that for two years and was very good at getting new sales, but the basic salary was too low so I left that job. I then tried a few other jobs, which were misrepresented to me. I would walk out and not stand for doing a job that was not right for me.
131. I then realised that the marriage wasn't for me and I had got into it for reasons of necessity at the time. I later married a millionaire, but that didn't work out so I walked away from her and all of that.
132. I went to work in the pits as a miner, which was thought to be a good, secure job in Midlothian at the time. Then Mrs Thatcher and the strikes happened.

133. Eight of us were asked to put a picket line up to stop the coal lorries passing through, which we did. Then there were lots of police officers around us and they cordoned off the road for the lorries to get past. We asked to speak to the lorry drivers but the police refused us so I charged through on my own.
134. The next thing I knew, there were ten officers on me and I was hurtled away. I was charged with breach of the peace on the picket line and appeared in court. I pled not guilty. They wanted me to sign an agreement to say I wouldn't go back to the picket line in exchange for my freedom, but I refused to sign it because I didn't think they should be able to take away my right to picket. I was remanded in Barlinnie Prison for three weeks.
135. I decided I wanted to sell things to miner's families in a small van. I filled out a business plan with the bank and got £7,000 to get a van, insurance and the goods I needed to get started. I built a good business and paid the money back within six months.
136. An opportunity came up to work in installation through a government national contract. I started a business doing [REDACTED] We were asked to cover the Midlothian area and given money to spend. We found that we spent our money for the year after nine months.
137. We got more money and a second contract to take over East Lothian too. I expanded the business and doubled the work force and got office space.
138. I joined various committees and gave back to the community. I started a street collection and build it into a community owned social enterprise company that put tens of millions of pounds back into the community in the form of wages for labour.
139. I have been to Buckingham Palace and received an MBE from the Queen for my work in the community.

140. When I retired after 25 years of work, my business which I had started from my own idea was worth tens of millions of pounds, which was many in and for the community. I had four thriving businesses, all making substantial annual profits of hundreds and thousands of pounds. I also had substantial money in my bank.
141. I have had an interesting life and I am very grateful for what I have had. I have been fortunate in so many ways.
142. I was never told about any relatives or family, until my mother was killed in London and my older brother was returning to Glasgow. This was in 1972. I was contacted by a cousin in Glasgow who explained the circumstances and asked if I would like to meet my brother, which I did, and we became brothers and friends, until his recent death.
143. I met my sister later in life, but we had too different a lifestyle to continue meeting and I didn't see her again.
144. My childhood, like many other boys, was hard. I am not looking for sympathy because it has made me the proud and happy dad I am today, with a family who think I am the best dad who ever walked the earth. I know, however, that if I could do it again, I would do it better, but then so could we all.

Impact

145. In general, I thought St Ninian's was fantastic. Maybe some other boys had better lifestyles with their families at home and so it wasn't great for them.
146. For me, St Ninian's had made a man out of a boy in those short years. They taught me right from wrong. They proved to me the need to have routine and discipline in my life, otherwise everything crumbles around you and disorder takes over. They taught me the importance of comradeship and team work. They showed me by example what hard work and effort can bring to your life, and what a wonderful life you can make for

yourself by helping others less fortunate than you. That is exactly what they were doing.

147. They wore black capes and white collars to distinguish themselves as belonging to the Christian Order, but they were human beings, just like me, yet, they were giving their whole lives to teach less fortunate children like me. Their families must have been so proud of their vocation and achievements, as was I, and I thank them from the bottom of my heart.
148. The kindness and example of the Christian Brothers encouraged me to look beyond my own garden and contribute to the wider community. I followed their leadership example and used my acquired life skills to help those less skilled, able or fortunate than me. I joined various committees and gave back to the community.
149. I had various successful businesses and made a lot of money. It was the grounding and life skills that I received in St Ninian's that gave me the life skills to achieve this.
150. I share my MBE medal with all those Christian Brothers at St Ninian's for their work and teaching while I was there.
151. I went back to St Ninian's about twenty years ago and I took a trophy for the boys. This shows the esteem that I hold for St Ninian's and qualifies the good things I am saying on behalf of the Christian Brothers. To me it would be a travesty of justice if they didn't get credit for the work that they did.
152. I look back and I am extremely grateful for the grounding and education they gave me. I don't know where I would have been if it wasn't for the guidance of the Christian Brothers.

Final thoughts

- 153. Glasgow Corporation never visited me the whole time I was in care. Other than taking me to my foster mother and then to St Ninian's. They had nothing to do with me and should have been checking up on me.


- 154. Once I left care at fifteen years old, I was on my own. Nobody followed up to see if I was ok. I was alone in the world.

- 155. I read in the papers and saw the news about the alleged scandals of child abuse that went on at St Ninian's, Falklands, in the years gone by. It pains my heart to think that this may be true. Personally, I would hurt for the boys who have to carry that through their lives, and secondly, and no less importantly, for the honour of those wonderful Christian Brothers who sacrificed their lives to help boys like me. Their honour and memory is now being trampled into the ground because of a few alleged, unscrupulous people.

- 156. I feel that if boys were abused then it is horrifying for them to have to carry that through life, but it was one bad apple, it doesn't make all the Christian Brothers bad. Some of them gave their whole lives to their work and it would be a shame to have all of that destroyed because of what one or two devious people did.

- 157. The fantastic work and sacrifice made by many Christian Brothers over the years should be recognised, as well as the gratitude that many boys, like myself, hold for them for the great example that many of them gave to young, innocent boys.

- 158. 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..... 

Dated..... 26-5-2021