

Wednesday, 8 November 2023

1

2 (10.00 am)

3 LADY SMITH: Good morning. As promised yesterday we're  
4 going to start this morning with read-ins and move on to  
5 a witness in person this afternoon.

6 Mr Peoples, we start with you; is that right?

7 MR PEOPLES: Yes, my Lady. I think the plan is that I will  
8 do three read-ins this morning and then depending on  
9 time I think Ms Forbes or -- will give us further  
10 read-ins this morning, if time allows.

11 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

12 I hesitate to say, does that mean the A-Team or the  
13 B-Team will swing in if necessary? You don't need to  
14 answer. It's very good to have the team ready to go.

15 MR PEOPLES: That's right.

16 LADY SMITH: When you are ready, Mr Peoples.

17 MR PEOPLES: If I could start with a statement provided by  
18 'McIntosh' if I could give the reference for his  
19 statement, WIT-1-000000895.

20 I propose to follow the same broad approach as we  
21 followed on Friday of last week, to give a very brief  
22 sort of summary of some of the establishments that  
23 'McIntosh' was in before he was placed in SPS  
24 establishments.

25 (A short pause for a technical issue)

1 LADY SMITH: Mr Peoples.

2 'McIntosh' (read)

3 MR PEOPLES: My Lady, 'McIntosh' was in various SPS  
4 establishments in the 1960s. And he was born in 1949,  
5 in Dumbarton.

6 So far as his pre-care history is concerned,  
7 I'll take that fairly short. His mother died in 1958,  
8 having previously suffered a stroke when 'McIntosh' was  
9 around two or three years of age, leaving her paralysed  
10 and permanently bedridden.

11 When his mother died, 'McIntosh' was eight years of  
12 age. His father's mental health deteriorated from that  
13 point onwards, as more fully recounted in the statement.  
14 In 1959, 'McIntosh' was given a year's probation for  
15 theft of a bike.

16 Social Services and the RSSPCC became involved with  
17 the family and Quarriers agreed to take 'McIntosh' into  
18 its care.

19 He was admitted to Quarriers on [REDACTED] 1960,  
20 when he was aged about 11 years and six months. During  
21 his stay in Quarriers, one of his brothers was killed in  
22 a road accident following a visit to the applicant.

23 'McIntosh' left Quarriers on [REDACTED] 1962,  
24 after disclosing sexual abuse by a volunteer and then,  
25 after a few days at home, he was taken by Social

1 Services to Bellfield Remand Home in Dumbarton. There  
2 he experienced physical abuse from one member of staff.

3 He spent a short period at Bellfield and then, after  
4 an unsuccessful attempt to place him with foster  
5 parents, he was placed for a time in Woodrow House,  
6 Lenzie, in the grounds of Woodilee Psychiatric Hospital.

7 From there, after appearing before a sheriff, he was  
8 placed in Thornly Park Approved School in [REDACTED]  
9 1962, as a child who was in need of care and protection.  
10 He remained at Thornly Park until 1965, around his  
11 16th birthday.

12 He considers he was denied a proper education when  
13 he was there and, during his stay, he tells us that he  
14 witnessed pupils being gratuitously slapped by staff.  
15 Bullying, he tells us, was endemic and he refers to  
16 cliques from Glasgow, but he does say that the worst  
17 thing you could do was to grass.

18 He tells us that sexual abuse happened after lights  
19 out, with older boys preying on younger ones.

20 After leaving Thornly Park and returning home, one  
21 night he was out and broke into a shop, stole a jacket  
22 and was charged with theft, and he appeared in Dumbarton  
23 Sheriff Court. He was remanded on bail and he was  
24 sentenced to borstal training when he was around  
25 16 years and eight months of age.

1           If I could turn to page 33 of his statement,  
2           starting at paragraph 153, which deals with his time in  
3           Polmont borstal in the mid-1960s:

4           "I spent several weeks in Douglas House, the  
5           induction unit. I attended classes daily and did  
6           compulsory circuit training three times a day, which I  
7           enjoyed. Then some of us were allocated to a dormitory  
8           in an annex. One night there was a fire which no one  
9           admitted starting. Without a shred of evidence, some of  
10          us were segregated for a couple of weeks. This was in  
11          a unit of cells in the basement called the 'Digger'.

12          "Mr **GLG**, the housemaster of Douglas House, came  
13          and demanded to know who started the fire. When he  
14          asked me, I said I was asleep and didn't know. He  
15          asked, 'How could you stay asleep during a fire?', I  
16          replied I was asleep when the fire was started, but woke  
17          up. He slapped me hard on the face, called me a cheeky  
18          bastard and said I would regret lying to him."

19          He then goes on to deal with "The Digger Unit", at  
20          paragraph 155:

21          "The Digger routine comprised of teasing coir,  
22          a material for stuffing mattresses, and sewing mail  
23          bags. We also did circuit training three times a day.  
24          When Mr Patterson, a PE officer, told the Digger  
25          officers I enjoyed doing it, they stopped me. On a few

1 occasions when we were opened up in the morning, they  
2 kicked over our slop buckets and wouldn't allow us to  
3 clean up the mess until shortly before the governor did  
4 his rounds at 1.00 am. Through the cell door he asked  
5 us if we had any complaints. I said that sometimes my  
6 food was so heavily laced with salt it was inedible.  
7 When my next meal was brought, the food was thrown all  
8 over my bed.

9 "We were allowed one book, which was removed each  
10 morning and returned after tea. The cell light was left  
11 on during the night. When we were checked hourly, the  
12 officers banged on our door to wake us, one of them with  
13 a metal bin lid.

14 "Shortly after being released from the Digger, I was  
15 interviewed by a psychiatric social worker. He  
16 questioned me about my family, but was more interested  
17 in how my brother's death had affected me.

18 "He also expressed surprise at the harshness of my  
19 sentence. As well as Douglas House there were another  
20 three houses in Polmont: Bruce, Rothesay and Wallace.  
21 I was allocated to Wallace, which was said to operate  
22 a much stricter disciplinary regime than Bruce and  
23 Rothesay, but didn't. It had two landings of occupied  
24 single cells, the ground floor cells used as offices for  
25 the housemaster, principal officer and matron, the

1 others for storage. There was also a shower block and  
2 a hotplate for serving food. The ground floor was also  
3 the canteen area.

4 "My first job in Wallace was on the fatigues team,  
5 which involved cleaning. We also brought the food from  
6 the kitchen, served it, washed the containers and  
7 cleaned the hotplates and service areas. After tea, we  
8 prepared the ground floor for association by stacking  
9 the dining tables.

10 "At association we could play pool or table tennis  
11 or board games, et cetera. We were also allowed to use  
12 the gym at night and attend classes. In summer, there  
13 were outdoor activities in the playing fields and  
14 football at weekends all year round. After a few weeks  
15 on fatigues, I was allocated to the joiners shop.

16 "I was in Polmont [this is page 35] for around  
17 11 months and settled into the routine. I was put on  
18 report several times, mostly for answering back. I was  
19 in a couple of fights and spent time in the Digger.  
20 A relative ... [it's his mother's brother] who had  
21 recovered from his heart attack, visited me a couple of  
22 times and I regularly wrote to ... [his father's sister]  
23 who told me father was in and out of hospital. When I  
24 asked the Wallace housemaster if he could find out about  
25 father, he referred to me a welfare officer who said it

1 was up to my family to keep me informed about him."

2 He goes on:

3 "After breakfast one morning in 1966, several of us  
4 were told to return to our cells and pack our gear,  
5 then, with inmates from Bruce and Rothesay, were bussed  
6 to South Inch House, Perth. Everyone knew it had been  
7 a detention centre and some of the inmates with us had  
8 served a sentence there.

9 "On arrival, we were greeted with a barrage of  
10 yelled commands, 'line up', 'stand to attention', 'no  
11 talking'.

12 "The relatively relaxed atmosphere of Polmont had  
13 been replaced by a military one. We were marched to the  
14 gym, where all our gear was searched and some items,  
15 like magazines, et cetera, confiscated. A guitar my  
16 aunt bought me was taken.

17 "Afterwards, we were fed. When we finished, we had  
18 to sit with arms folded. In the afternoon, we were  
19 allocated sparse rooms which had a board on a wall for  
20 a maximum of six personal photographs and given a letter  
21 to write home. At tea time, our doors were unlocked and  
22 we were ordered to stand outside at attention until  
23 marched to the canteen for tea. In the evening, we were  
24 allowed association.

25 "There was a lot of anger about how we were being

1 treated and around 20 of us asked for a governor's  
2 request next morning and for a petition to the Secretary  
3 of State for Scotland. This was a right and, after  
4 writing it, we could seal the envelope.

5 "We listed our grievances about the harshness of our  
6 treatment. We expected it would take about a week to  
7 receive a reply and weren't hopeful anything would  
8 change. But, next morning, the Governor, Mr Drummond,  
9 addressed us and said South Inch was no longer  
10 a detention centre and we wouldn't be subjected to the  
11 same discipline. Over next couple of days, the attitude  
12 of staff changed and the atmosphere became far more  
13 relaxed. I spent my last three of my 13 months of  
14 borstal training working in the gardens. I was  
15 discharged in [REDACTED] 1967 and returned home."

16 He then goes on, at paragraph 167, to what happened  
17 at home. If I could --

18 LADY SMITH: By that stage, he would have been about  
19 18 years old?

20 MR PEOPLES: Yes, he was getting toward that age. I'm going  
21 to read a little bit about what happened when he was  
22 over 18, because it is relevant. It's the same place.

23 LADY SMITH: I can see that. It follows on.

24 MR PEOPLES: It's not necessarily all when he was under  
25 18 years of age.



1           To explain the background to where he went next, if  
2           could I move to paragraph 169? He's at home and he  
3           said:

4           "One Saturday, I was working the midday to 8.00 pm  
5           shift and went to a party in Glasgow, got very drunk and  
6           missed the last bus to Dalmuir. I broke into a car to  
7           sleep it off and was arrested. On Monday, I appeared at  
8           the Magistrates' Court and, because I'd recently been  
9           discharged from borstal, was sentenced to 30 days in  
10          Barlinnie Young Offenders. But I didn't serve my  
11          sentence in the young offenders' wing.

12          "The principal officer in charge of the reception  
13          was Mr Robertson, who knew me from Polmont. He gave me  
14          a job in reception and I only returned to the young  
15          offenders' wing at night."

16          Then he says, after completing his sentence he went  
17          back home and, shortly afterwards, his father had, he  
18          tells us, a relapse and was admitted to Gartnavel  
19          Hospital, where he visited him in 1967.

20          He tells us that he decided, at paragraph 172, to  
21          move to Glasgow and then he goes on to explain how he  
22          ended up in his next institution at Longriggend. I can  
23          pick this up at 173:

24          "I rented a bedsit and now that I was 18 got a job  
25          in a bar. I visited father several times, but he still

1 didn't recognise me. Grandmother said the police were  
2 looking for me because an individual had reported me for  
3 taking GBP 75. About a week later, I was charged with  
4 theft and remanded in Longriggend Remand Centre which  
5 wasn't a pleasant experience.

6 "An officer nicknamed 'GUA [REDACTED]' enjoyed throwing  
7 his weight around and punching inmates for no reason.  
8 He punched me several times. After a short time in  
9 Longriggend, I was there when [REDACTED]  
10 [REDACTED], on [REDACTED], 1967. I was  
11 sentenced to ten months."

12 He goes on to deal with two institutions, Barlinnie  
13 and Edinburgh Young Offenders Institutions, between  
14 paragraphs 197 to 192. I'll just read some of that, if  
15 I may?

16 LADY SMITH: Certainly.

17 MR PEOPLES: Starting at 175:

18 "When interviewed by SNR [REDACTED] [this is at  
19 Barlinnie] Mr HEO [REDACTED], I was hemmed in by two  
20 officers. One was called GLE [REDACTED], who was nicknamed  
21 GLE [REDACTED], because he wore built up boots, to make him  
22 appear taller, and the other, GLC [REDACTED]. HEO [REDACTED]'s  
23 nickname was HEO [REDACTED] because he was reputed to have  
24 said he would give any inmate [REDACTED] (fair fight).

25 "During the interview, GLE [REDACTED] and GLC [REDACTED]

1 continually kneed my thighs. HEO asked me what  
2 Glasgow gang I was in. I told him I wasn't from Glasgow  
3 or in any gang. Sarcastically he said, 'I see you have  
4 a high IQ, so we'd better find you a job worthy of your  
5 intelligence'. I was put on wing fatigues."

6 He goes on:

7 "Shortly after lights out on my second night in  
8 Barlinnie, I had a cell search, a turnover. One of the  
9 officers, GLD, nicknamed GLD, punched  
10 me several times. It wasn't personal, just the way the  
11 screws let inmates know they had the power. Almost  
12 every night I heard the yells of inmates being beaten up  
13 in their cells.

14 "In 1967, gang warfare in Glasgow was out of  
15 control. As well as regular, mob-handed battles in the  
16 various districts of the city controlled by different  
17 gangs, armed to the teeth with a variety of weapons,  
18 there had been a spate of running battles in the city  
19 centre at weekends. Some gang members had died and many  
20 of them, along with innocent bystanders, received  
21 life-threatening injuries.

22 "The Glasgow Evening Times and Evening Citizen  
23 demanded action to end it and the High Court began  
24 handing out punitive sentences. Soon Barlinnie Young  
25 Offenders Institution was overflowing with gang members

1 and fights regularly broke out, and not only fist  
2 fights. Some inmates were stabbed with 'chivs' made in  
3 the workshop or slashed with razor blades.

4 "Every day, while cleaning the wing, we saw teams of  
5 screws turn over cells while the inmates were at work.  
6 They removed loads of personal possessions and tossed  
7 them on to the wire netting, which stretched across the  
8 landing to stop inmates jumping off. When the searches  
9 were completed, the fatigues team collected the stuff  
10 and took it to the incinerator.

11 "After induction, gang members were invariably sent  
12 to Jessiefield High Security Young Offenders Institution  
13 in Dumfries to serve their sentence. While non-violent  
14 inmates were sent to Saughton young offenders  
15 institution in Edinburgh. After a couple weeks I was  
16 transferred to Saughton, which compared to Barlinnie was  
17 a holiday camp. There was rarely any trouble, but soft  
18 drugs like cannabis were a problem. The YOI adjoined  
19 the prison and a lot of smuggling went on.

20 "The Governor at Edinburgh was Mr Neave, whose  
21 nickname was Jolly. He was very approachable and always  
22 around talking to inmates. He wasn't soft, but had  
23 progressive ideas. [Then he says] After my release, I  
24 decided not to return to Glasgow and stayed in  
25 Edinburgh."

1           But he tells us, on page 39, that he wasn't free for  
2 long. He had committed a series of crimes of deception  
3 and fraud and was sentenced to 15 months in Saughton  
4 Young Offenders Institution.

5           He then says that after his release, in 1969, he had  
6 a further conviction for theft and was sentenced to  
7 a further 21 months, and he says that since 1967:

8           "I had appeared in court five times and received  
9 a higher custodial sentence each time, successive  
10 sheriffs ignoring my probation reports."

11           He goes on to tell us a bit about Saughton, and  
12 I'll just read from paragraph 185:

13           "In 1968, a new modern wing had opened in Saughton  
14 Young Offenders Institution and the population  
15 increased. Shortly after commencing my 21-month  
16 sentence, a rumour circulated that Mr Neave was retiring  
17 as governor and [REDACTED] Mr HEO [REDACTED] from  
18 Barlinnie. This caused considerable concern among the  
19 inmates who had experienced his Barlinnie regime. But  
20 it wasn't only about him. It was also rumoured that  
21 coming with him was a principal officer called GLH [REDACTED],  
22 who would be taking over as chief officer. In  
23 Barlinnie, GLH [REDACTED] was HEO [REDACTED]'s enforcer and known to  
24 instigate and take part in inmates beatings.

25           "In Saughton Young Offenders Institution, providing

1 everything ran smoothly, which it invariably did, the  
2 officers left well alone. Every inmate had a single  
3 room and when opened up at night or at weekends for  
4 association would use the recreational facilities,  
5 attend classes or wander in and out of each other's  
6 rooms.

7 "I played guitar and several inmates would come to  
8 my room for a sing along. Others would gather in a room  
9 and play cards or just talk. A couple of officers would  
10 wander around ensuring everything was okay. The  
11 atmosphere was relaxed.

12 "When it was confirmed HEO [REDACTED] was [REDACTED]  
13 Mr Neave, we had secret meetings and around 40 of us  
14 decided to petition the Secretary of State for Scotland  
15 and tell of our experiences in Barlinnie Young Offenders  
16 Institution. I was asked to write the petition.

17 "I worked in the textile shop, which was run by  
18 prison officer MacLeod, a Gaelic speaker from the Isle  
19 of Lewis. We got along well because I had a fair  
20 command of the language from classes in Thornly Park.  
21 Mr MacLeod took me aside and warned me off writing the  
22 petition. He said that while most of the officers in  
23 Saughton knew about what had gone on in Barlinnie, it  
24 wouldn't happen in Saughton. He told me I was  
25 effectively leading a mutiny and would be in a lot of

1 trouble. How right he was."

2 "The prison section of the then Scottish Home and  
3 Health Department convened a hearing in front of what  
4 was called the Visiting Committee and most of the  
5 inmates who signed the petition called to give evidence  
6 as were several officers from Barlinnie, including  
7 GLE and GLH. The verdict was that there was no  
8 case to answer, that all the inmates were lying. I was  
9 found guilty of offences against good order and  
10 discipline and sentenced to segregation. This was  
11 around October/November 1969.

12 "During my segregation in a room in the new wing,  
13 I was allowed one hour's exercise a day. When HEO  
14 was appointed SNR he told me if I wanted to be  
15 released from segregation I had to make a governor's  
16 request and it would be considered. For a few weeks I  
17 only saw either the deputy governor or chief officer.  
18 Then HEO came to see me on my own and said, 'If  
19 the mountain won't come to Mohammed', he again told me  
20 I had to make an official request to be released from  
21 segregation, but I didn't.

22 "Without warning, I was released and returned to the  
23 textile shop. I had been in segregation for around  
24 eight weeks. On my 21st birthday, in 1970, I was  
25 transferred to Saughton to complete my 21-month

1 sentence."

2 Can I finish this by stating, at paragraph 193, he  
3 state:

4 "I have no objection to my witness statement being  
5 published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry.

6 I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are  
7 true."

8 He has signed his statement on 25 January 2022.

9 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much, Mr Peoples.

10 MR PEOPLES: If I could move to another read-in at this  
11 point.

12 LADY SMITH: Please do.

13 MR PEOPLES: This is a statement provided by 'Scott'. The  
14 reference WIT-1-000000640.

15 'Scott' (read)

16 MR PEOPLES: Again, 'Scott' was an individual who was in  
17 various SPS establishments in the 1960s.

18 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

19 MR PEOPLES: He was born in Glasgow in 1949. If I could  
20 just begin with a history of his life before going to  
21 the SPS establishments.

22 He tells us that after World War II, Glasgow  
23 Corporation came up with the idea of residential  
24 schools, which were not approved schools or special  
25 schools, and said children were put in these schools, as



1 he put it, to give families a break.

2 I think we'll probably hear about some of these  
3 places at another time, but I think it does give some  
4 clue to, perhaps, the origins of places that weren't  
5 approved schools.

6 LADY SMITH: Of course.

7 MR PEOPLES: He tells us that, so far as he was concerned,  
8 'Scott' went to Biggart's Residential School in  
9 Prestwick for perhaps no more than two or three months,  
10 when he was six or seven years old, with two of his  
11 younger sisters, Secondary Institutions - to be published later

12 Secondary Institutions - to be published later

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24 Then, on returning home, he tells us that he got  
25 into trouble periodically and, for example, breaking

1           into an ice-cream van in a garage to take a bottle of  
2           Irn-Bru.

3           At the age of nine, in 1959, he tells us he was  
4           arrested by the police, charged, and taken to Larchgrove  
5           Remand Home, which he tells us had recently opened in  
6           1957, initially for a three-day remand before going to  
7           court.

8           After a court appearance, he was taken to Larchgrove  
9           again, where reports were prepared. He then received  
10          14 days' detention for theft. At the time of the theft,  
11          he was already on release on a deferred sentence for  
12          another charge.

13          He tells us the boys at Larchgrove were aged from  
14          around seven to 16 years of age, and he tells us, at  
15          paragraph 24, and I quote:

16                 "It wasn't about how good a fighter you were in  
17                 Larchgrove. It was about who you knew. It was similar  
18                 to prison. I came from a big family."

19          He gives his family's name:

20                 "Even at that stage people knew where I came from  
21                 and they knew my family. That was where respect came  
22                 from. It didn't come from what the boys had done or who  
23                 they were. It was who their family was. It still works  
24                 like that in prisons to this day."

25          He goes on to describe, in this section of his

1 statement, his first day and the routine in the late  
2 1950s at Larchgrove. He describes Larchgrove as very  
3 regimental. He says staff wore civilian clothes, but  
4 they were very strict and regimental. He says, at  
5 paragraph 41:

6 "It was the type of regime where you were in fear  
7 all the time."

8 He goes on to say, at paragraph 44:

9 "There was cruelty in Larchgrove. A couple of boys  
10 were beaten up. In my day, it was the done thing to get  
11 a slap. As children, we accepted it. There was  
12 a hopelessness you felt when you were in Larchgrove. It  
13 felt as if the staff could do anything they liked to  
14 us."

15 He tells us he went to Larchgrove on a number of  
16 occasions before going to his first approved school, and  
17 says it was always the same routine each time he went  
18 there.

19 Then he goes on to say that when he was --  
20 on [REDACTED] 1961, when he was aged nearly 11, he was  
21 sentenced to, as he says, an indefinite period in  
22 an approved school. He went to St Joseph's School.

23 He says he should have been sent to St Ninian's, but  
24 it was full. He tells us that St Joseph's was run by  
25 the De La Salle Brothers and there were four houses,

1 St Patrick's, St De La Salle, St Andrew's and St  
2 Joseph's and pupils were given a uniform according to  
3 house. St Patrick's being green; De La Salle, brown; St  
4 Andrew's, blue and St Joseph's red. He says SNR  
5 SNR at that time was Brother PAF and that  
6 'Scott' was put in a large dormitory with around 30 to  
7 40 boys. But he tells us that because he wet the bed he  
8 was moved to a smaller dormitory with about 14 beds. To  
9 get to the dining hall boys from the big dormitory had  
10 to walk through the small dormitory, and that boys who  
11 wet the bed were ridiculed by other boys.

12 He tells us a bit about how he was treated by the  
13 Brothers and he describes one Brother, Brother HHT,  
14 who he says was a teacher, was described by him as  
15 a good teacher, but someone with a bit of a temper. He  
16 tells us that he once got a knuckle on the head, but  
17 that was normal in these institutions, he tells us at  
18 paragraph 61.

19 He tells us about another Brother, Brother GRE,  
20 that he can recall, who he says he really liked, and I  
21 quote from paragraph 62:

22 "He would let you know that there was no messing  
23 about with him. He would let out a roar that would put  
24 fear into your heart. He was very regimental. I got a  
25 couple of slaps from him, but that was the way we lived

1 in those days."

2 He tells us there were good things about St Joseph's  
3 as well as bad. He tells us, 'Scott', that he learnt to  
4 play the bag pipes and was taught games and there were  
5 summer camps and so forth.

6 He then goes on to tell us about what happened to  
7 boys who ran away from St Joseph's. They were usually  
8 beaten in Brother PAF's office. 'Scott' says he never  
9 ran away personally. He said the fear of what you would  
10 come back to was just too much, but he does recall  
11 a particular boy -- and this is at paragraph 74 -- who  
12 was beaten publicly in the shower area, when the rest of  
13 the boys were in the main hall, which was adjacent, and  
14 said that Brother PAF wanted to hear the screams of  
15 the boy -- they wanted the other boys to hear the boy's  
16 screams.

17 I'm not going to deal with this in any detail, but  
18 he tells us, as he puts it, there was dark side to  
19 St Joseph's, at paragraph 76, and that after bedtime  
20 boys were taken to Brother PAF's office and he went  
21 there, I think at least on one occasion, and felt  
22 uncomfortable by the behaviour of Brother PAF towards  
23 him.

24 He then goes on to deal with physical abuse and  
25 sexual abuse between paragraph 76 to 81, which he

1 describes in some detail, including an occasion when he  
2 was in Forfar, and that he was battered by  
3 Brother PAF, in Brother PAF's caravan, when he was  
4 hit all over his body. He tells us, on that occasion  
5 when he was being battered, he noticed that one of his  
6 fellow inmates was in a bed in the caravan naked. As he  
7 puts it, he had disturbed SNR in his intimacy  
8 with one of the schoolboys. He says that the beating he  
9 received left welts, and he was black and blue after  
10 that.

11 Then he said basically he tried to stay under the  
12 radar after that.

13 He also says, in relation to physical abuse -- he  
14 mentioned another Brother, Brother LUU, who was  
15 nicknamed LUU, and he describes him as "the most  
16 violent man I've ever met. His violence knew no  
17 bounds", and he says that around paragraph 90.

18 He also speaks of bullying by older boys and says  
19 there was no protection against that, at paragraph 92.

20 But he does say that as he got older and stronger  
21 the boy that bullied him started to leave him alone.  
22 But he says he told no one about the bullying because  
23 that would have made him a grass.

24 He was released from St Joseph's on [REDACTED] 1963,  
25 when he was around 13-and-a-half years of age, according

1 to his statement. As he puts it, at paragraph 97:

2 "That was the nightmare over."

3 Then, in 1964, he was arrested because he had  
4 previous convictions for theft and was out late at night  
5 and was sent, at the age of 14, to St Mary's Approved  
6 School where he tells us he remained for just over  
7 a year.

8 He does say, at paragraph 101:

9 "I had a bit of street credibility and a reputation  
10 because I had already served time in St Joseph's. I was  
11 a strong boy and I was respected."

12 He tells us that as a regime it was more relaxed  
13 than St Joseph's:

14 "Although there was abuse, it was an establishment  
15 that was pleasant, as far as institutions go."

16 He says that at 103, and:

17 "There were staff who genuinely cared at St Mary's."

18 He says when he turned 15, which would have been at  
19 the end of 1964, he was allowed to get a job in a bakery  
20 in Partick. He says there wasn't much violence, and he  
21 says:

22 "We got the occasional slap on the head, but that  
23 was the way it was back then."

24 Which is, I think, a familiar comment that he makes  
25 throughout his statement.

1 LADY SMITH: Yes.

2 MR PEOPLES: He says there weren't any bullies. There were  
3 too many boys at the same age level. He does mention,  
4 in the context of sexual abuse, there was a maintenance  
5 instructor, LYT [REDACTED], who had touched him or touched  
6 his penis in the showers, but left him alone when  
7 'Scott' told him that that sort of thing was not going  
8 to happen to him. He says that this happened to other  
9 boys as well.

10 Moving on to his Scottish Prison Service history, he  
11 tells us, at paragraph 115, on page 30 of the statement,  
12 that when he got out of St Mary's he had a job. But, in  
13 [REDACTED] 1966, he was charged with carrying an offensive  
14 weapon. It was a gang warfare in Glasgow at the time,  
15 he says:

16 "I had a stick and pushed it into a broken bottle,  
17 just as I was being arrested. I was sent to borstal for  
18 that after being charged with having an offensive  
19 weapon."

20 He says he was about 16-and-a-half. He tells us  
21 that Polmont was so full -- it was full, so he was sent  
22 to HMP Barlinnie, as that was where all the overflow of  
23 borstal boys went. He describes HMP Barlinnie, starting  
24 at paragraph 116. I'll read from there.

25 LADY SMITH: Thank you.



1 MR PEOPLES: "I had been in two approved schools and had  
2 been in Larchgrove on numerous occasions, but I didn't  
3 think I would end up in Barlinnie. I was totally broken  
4 inside when I went there, although I would never let the  
5 authorities know, so I used to put a brave face on.

6 "It was late afternoon when I arrived at Barlinnie  
7 C Hall, so it was time for untried prisoners to get  
8 locked up for the night. I was put into C Hall. When  
9 you stand in the hall, you can see the roof far above  
10 where you stand. There are galleries that go right  
11 round and it's on four levels. I was signed in and  
12 I had my bed block, with sheets and toiletries. I was  
13 sent to the top flat. Every prisoner was locked up, so  
14 it was only me and the prison officers in charge of each  
15 landing.

16 "The prison officer put me into my cell and slammed  
17 shut the door. I was standing inside the door with my  
18 bed block and my toothbrush. The smell of the place was  
19 terrible. It was a freshly painted cell, but the smell  
20 of urine was atrocious. There was a chanty in the  
21 corner that had what seemed like a fur coating on it.  
22 There was literally a growth covering it. The small  
23 glass windows, high up on the facing wall, were situated  
24 into a four-inch square framework. Some of the glass  
25 was missing and those squares had bits of paper stuffed

1 in them. There was a bunk bed with metal strands across  
2 it. It had an old, rolled up mattress on it. There  
3 were bits of the metal strands missing. I stood there  
4 for a few minutes and I thought they must be kidding me  
5 on. I thought it was just to frighten me and to teach  
6 me a lesson.

7 Nobody came, so I pressed the buzzer. I stood there  
8 for about 30 minutes and finally the cell door latch  
9 went up. I was still standing. The prison officer  
10 asked me what I was doing. I told him I was thirsty and  
11 that I'd had nothing to drink. I asked him if I was  
12 being left there. He said the next time I rang the bell  
13 I'd better be dead, because if I wasn't dead he would  
14 come in and kill me."

15 He tells us a bit about the routine at Barlinnie and  
16 I'll just read some of that, if I may:

17 "I was in Barlinnie for two or three months. We  
18 were all treated as prisoners, but we were taken to do  
19 some labour work on each of the five working days. I  
20 found that I preferred to be alone in prison, so having  
21 a single cell suited me. The prison guards would get us  
22 up at 6.00 or 6.30 am. We had to slop out, so we would  
23 take our chanty and empty it. We had to get a basin of  
24 water, go back to our cell, wash our face and then flush  
25 away the dirty water. We didn't get out for breakfast;

1           it was brought to our cells.

2           "After breakfast you would be taken downstairs to  
3           a workshop. I would stitch mail bags or work on  
4           telephone cables. We would strip telephone cables and  
5           separate the copper from other metals. We'd then go  
6           back up to our cells for dinner. The food was basic,  
7           bland and steamed. We did some more work on mail bags,  
8           eight stitches to the inch, or telephones in the  
9           afternoon, and then went back to our cells. We got half  
10          an hour exercise every day and we would walk around in  
11          the yard. At the weekend, we stayed in our cell. We  
12          were given an hour of exercise to walk around in the  
13          yard. Two or three times a week, we got an hour in the  
14          gym or playing football."

15          He goes on:

16          "The library at Barlinnie was non-existent. There  
17          were hardly any books to be had in the whole of C Hall  
18          for borstal boys. I managed to get one and I forced  
19          myself to read it. The prisoners on the landing below  
20          were untried men. They could get money into the prison,  
21          which meant they could buy newspapers. They'd pass  
22          their old newspapers up to us. If you got a day-old  
23          paper it was a luxury. Some of the older men downstairs  
24          would make their transistor radios with crystals. They  
25          would shout up the football scores and things like that.

1 If you stepped out of line, you would be put on report.

2 Your recreation could be taken away from you.

3 "There was hardly anything to do at all in  
4 Barlinnie. It was a difficult time. My three months in  
5 Barlinnie really hardened me. I think it went in the  
6 direction of institutionalising me."

7 Then he goes on to deal with a short period at  
8 Polmont borstal, at paragraph 123, on page 32:

9 "After Barlinnie, I was taken to borstal at Polmont.  
10 It was strict, more like a military institution. By  
11 then I had started to do 100 press-ups every day due to  
12 the circuit training that was part of borstal training.  
13 I was in the reception hall initially and then I was  
14 moved to ... [I think it's Rothesay House], which was  
15 within the same building. My cousin was in Wallace  
16 House in Polmont, so I was quite happy to stay there.

17 "About two months later, I was called up before the  
18 governor. He told me that I was being transferred to  
19 an open borstal in Forfar. I said I didn't want to go  
20 because my relative was in Polmont. He said that I was  
21 mad and that everybody wanted to go to an open borstal.  
22 He refused to allow me to stay and I was sent up to  
23 Noranside open borstal in Forfar."

24 He deals with his time in Noranside and he says, at  
25 124:

1           "I was sent out to work in the fields at Noranside.  
2           I was put in charge of a huge mound of cow manure. My  
3           first weeks were spent shovelling dung on to a trailer.  
4           The staff found out that I could use sewing machines, so  
5           I was then transferred into textiles and making shirts.  
6           I had to make five shirts a day. It was  
7           straightforward. It was just borstal. I don't remember  
8           having any visits and I didn't get out. It was too far  
9           away from Glasgow, anyway. I wrote a lot of letters  
10          home. It was just the jail. The jail was the jail. It  
11          was cold and uncaring."

12           He tells us, at 125:

13           "I was in borstal for 12 months in total. I got out  
14          on [REDACTED] 1967, at the age of 17."

15           Again, if we turn to the final part of his  
16          statement, on page 39, he states he has no objection, at  
17          paragraph 147, to his statement being published as part  
18          of the evidence to the Inquiry and believes the facts  
19          stated in his witness statement to be true. He has  
20          signed his statement on 23 March 2021.

21   LADY SMITH: Thank you very much.

22           Where now?

23   MR PEOPLES: If I could move to my third read-in.

24           Next read-in is from a statement by 'Henry'.  
25

1 'Henry' (read)

2 MR PEOPLES: 'Henry' was born in Glasgow in 1945, and he is  
3 now deceased, since giving this statement. Again, this  
4 is a person who was in SPS establishments, more towards  
5 the early part of the 1960s.

6 LADY SMITH: I can see that.

7 MR PEOPLES: His statement is WIT.001.002.2679.

8 He tells us a bit about his life before going into  
9 care, at paragraphs 2 to 11. Perhaps one can pick out  
10 that he was one of 12 siblings, who stayed in  
11 a one-bedroom flat. He tells us that his father, who  
12 was ex-army, was a heavy drinker who abused his mother  
13 and that his father also beat and kicked 'Henry'.  
14 Indeed, he says on one occasion, in front of the whole  
15 family, he tied 'Henry' to a bed and battered him with  
16 a belt. 'Henry' tells us that he got into trouble  
17 stealing and, at age ten, in 1995, was sent to an  
18 approved school, St Mungo's in Mauchline, Ayreshire.

19 He says that at St Mungo's, the headmaster was  
20 Brother Paul. He estimates there were around  
21 30 Brothers and around 40 to 50 boys, aged between ten  
22 and 12. There were dormitories with around 20 beds in  
23 each and three classrooms, exercise yards, shower rooms  
24 and bathrooms. He says there were always about four or  
25 five Brothers in the showers and bathrooms.

1           He tells us there were three dormitories that were  
2           marked, A, B and C. He was initially put in dormitory  
3           A, which was for new arrivals. At paragraph 15, he says  
4           he was always causing trouble and was put into dormitory  
5           C with the older boys. He tells us that they always  
6           wanted to attack him:

7           "So I fought with them. I was used to it from  
8           fighting with my father. I stood up for myself."

9           He tells us a bit about the routine there. What he  
10          does say is, he was shown how to make his bed when he  
11          arrived and that the following day he was given some  
12          help to do what he was required to do, and for not doing  
13          it himself, he was given a clout on the back of the head  
14          by one of the Brothers.

15          He tells us that sometimes boys were force fed; that  
16          is at paragraph 18. He said when this happened to him,  
17          'Henry' spat out food at the Brothers and was given what  
18          he describes as "a doing". Paragraph 18.

19          He tells us, in the classes there were three  
20          Brothers, one at the side, one at the door and one at  
21          the blackboard. He tells us boys had to copy what was  
22          written on the blackboard and that 'Henry' was rapped on  
23          the knuckles if he spelt words wrongly; that's at  
24          paragraph 22. He was clouted in class when he simply  
25          wrote the answers to sums that were written on the

1 blackboard.

2 He tells us that all the Brothers had a leather belt  
3 or strap, which they would use to hit boys and which  
4 hung down from the ropes. He tells us that on one  
5 occasion, when he tried to get belt off a Brother who  
6 kept hitting him in class, he was dragged off by the ear  
7 and put in a corridor; that is paragraph 22. The same  
8 Brother grabbed or squeezed at the back of his neck on  
9 that occasion.

10 He goes on to tell us a bit more about life in  
11 St Mungo's in his statement, and he describes what  
12 happened on the first occasion he tried to run away, at  
13 paragraph 44.

14 He refers to being taken from a padded cell, went to  
15 Mass and then was punished. He said his trousers were  
16 taken and he got 12 of the belt. When he returned to  
17 the padded cell, there were no mirrors for him to see  
18 what they had done. He touched his backside, there was  
19 blood on his hands. So he's telling us about excessive  
20 corporal punishment for running away.

21 He said, at paragraph 37, that boys weren't  
22 physically punished for wetting the bed, but he says  
23 that everyone knew they had done it because he would  
24 have to stand up to eat at breakfast the next morning.  
25 It was emotional abuse.



1           He tells us, at paragraph 38, you used to be  
2           punished for doing things either at the time by being  
3           hit with the hand or the belt, or for bigger things you  
4           were punished on Sunday, after Mass. They would cuff  
5           you round the ear whenever they felt like it.

6           He describes an occasion after Mass, at  
7           paragraph 40, when there was a list read out and his  
8           name was on it. He says he stood at the door with other  
9           boys whose names had been read out, was taken to a room  
10          with a round table. The head Brother said, "You have  
11          been nothing but trouble since you got here. I'll show  
12          you what we do with troublemakers". He tells us, at  
13          paragraph 40, he got bent over a chair, his shirt was  
14          taken off and hit six times with the leather strap. He  
15          said:

16          "I remember crying and thinking this is what they  
17          want. It was the last time I cried from abuse for  
18          years."

19          He says that boys would see marks on each other, at  
20          paragraph 41, from punishments received. He certainly  
21          says that he appears to have got more strokes than were  
22          permitted under the regulation. He gives estimates, but  
23          certainly the point he seems to be making is that there  
24          were --

25   LADY SMITH: It was excessive.

1 MR PEOPLES: Without trying to be too precise about it. It  
2 might depend on who the particular Brother was and how  
3 they felt at the time, at paragraph 43.

4 He says, also, that there was sexual abuse at night  
5 involving the Brothers and this happened to him after  
6 about six months at St Mungo's. He names two Brothers  
7 who were involved in this, who were on night shift, and  
8 how he was woken up and then sexually abused in the  
9 shower area; that is at paragraphs 46 and 47.

10 He tells us that this form of abuses was taking  
11 place about once a week, at paragraph 48. He describes  
12 in more detail, at paragraph 49, the nature of the abuse  
13 that would occur in the shower area.

14 He tells us, at paragraph 50, that he did report the  
15 abuse to the doctor, but wasn't believed. He also says  
16 he reported it to the head Brother on a Sunday at  
17 punishment, but was told, "That doesn't go on here,  
18 you're lying", and was then punished.

19 Then he tells us how he moved from St Mungo's to his  
20 next approved school, St Joseph's in Tranent. It  
21 appears that after running away from St Mungo's and  
22 stealing apples and a carrot from a shop, he appeared in  
23 court and was sentenced to St Joseph's Approved School  
24 in 1957. If that date is accurate, he would be around  
25 11 or 12 years of age at the time.

1 He tells us a bit about St Joseph's in his statement  
2 and that it was much bigger than St Mungo's. He recalls  
3 that it was Brother GRE at that stage who was SNR  
4 SNR. He reckoned that the age range of the boys was  
5 between 12 and 16.

6 He does say that at St Joseph's, at paragraph 58,  
7 they were more concerned with basics like reading,  
8 writing and arithmetic. He says:

9 "There was always a Brother walking around the  
10 classroom with a leather belt to hit you with. I would  
11 still get rapped over the knuckles for my spelling.  
12 There were chores to do."

13 He tells us about that. He tells us about  
14 activities, including, in summer, going to a farm near  
15 Dundee to harvest fruit and, in winter, picking  
16 potatoes.

17 He doesn't recall being visited by social workers or  
18 speaking to any inspectors. That is at 65.

19 So far as healthcare is concerned, at paragraph 66,  
20 he did say he did get to see a dentist at St Joseph's  
21 and describes the background to that:

22 "I only saw him because I tried to bite one of the  
23 Brothers. The Brother said, "I'm going to kick your  
24 fucking teeth out, you little bastard". Another Brother  
25 held me down and the first one hit me in the mouth with

1 a bumper, which was a bit weight like a curling stone on  
2 the end of a broom handle that you used for polishing  
3 the floor. My mouth was bleeding and I spat out one of  
4 my teeth. The Brother then kicked me in the mouth and I  
5 lost all of my top teeth at the front. These were my  
6 adult teeth. The Brothers took me to the dentist and  
7 told him that I had been fighting and that another boy  
8 had hit me with the bumper, which they brought to show  
9 the dentist. I tried to tell the dentist it was the  
10 Brothers, but their story was believed."

11 He tells us, at paragraph 67, there was a lot of  
12 corporal punishment at St Joseph's, "you would be hit  
13 for just about anything", and he describes either being  
14 rapped over the knuckles in class or getting the belt,  
15 and also this discipline after Mass on a Sunday, as  
16 well.

17 You could get belted for swearing or acting up in  
18 class. They might do it in class. They might wait  
19 until the Sunday, he tells us, in paragraph 68, and that  
20 might be for things like trying to escape, fighting with  
21 a Brother or being abusive to a Brother.

22 He says, at 69, harking back to what he told us  
23 earlier:

24 "You would get as many of the belt as they thought  
25 required."

1 He says:

2 "Boys would be stripped and belted across the back  
3 or backside. It was full force, but after the first  
4 half a dozen or so you didn't feel it as much."

5 He says, again, at paragraphs 71 and 72 -- he  
6 describes sexual abuse by Brothers at St Joseph's, at  
7 night-time, and says it happened quite soon after he  
8 arrived at St Joseph's. It seems to have taken  
9 a similar pattern to what he said happened at St  
10 Mungo's.

11 LADY SMITH: It sounds very similar.

12 MR PEOPLES: A similar description of the sort of thing that  
13 happened in the shower area.

14 He does raise an interesting point, at paragraph 73.  
15 He says that he saw about eight or nine boys with Our  
16 Lady of Lourdes medals, which was a medal he had  
17 received at St Mungo's. He says that everybody with  
18 this medal was taken down to the showers at night:

19 "Every boy with the medal at St Joseph's was  
20 sexually abused."

21 He says he spoke to some of the boys who told him  
22 they had been abused. He says, at paragraph 74:

23 "Boys who had medals would take the sweets their  
24 family gave them back to their dorms. Whereas non-medal  
25 boys did not get to do so. Boys with the medal had to

1 keep it on."

2 And he believes this was to mark them out for abuse.  
3 That is his belief.

4 He says that on one occasion, at paragraph 75, he  
5 tried to tell people about the abuse when he was at  
6 St Joseph's, while he was being punished he says:

7 "You are punishing me for him and him raping me."

8 And he got another six of the belt for saying that.

9 Then he tells us how he came to move from  
10 St Joseph's to St John's Springboig. He tells us that  
11 after being convicted of breaking into a shed and  
12 stealing some gardener's clothes, and he says the shed  
13 was open, he appeared in court and was sent to St John's  
14 Springboig Approved School, where he tells us he stayed  
15 between 1957 and 1959. So the late 1950s.

16 He goes on to deal with his time at St John's and  
17 says that he reckons he was just over 12 when he went  
18 there and estimates he was there for around two years.  
19 He thought there was perhaps 100 boys there between the  
20 ages of 12 and 14 or 15. He does say, at paragraph 79,  
21 that the initial inspection and shower, he believes his  
22 Lady of Lourdes medal was noticed. He doesn't remember  
23 who was the Brother in charge at that stage, but thinks  
24 the head Brother changed shortly after he arrived. He  
25 said there was a high turnover of staff at St John's.

1           Although, as far as he knows, there was no interchange  
2           of staff between St Mungo's, St Joseph's and St John's,  
3           that is what he says.

4           He says there were about 20 boys to a dormitory and  
5           the dormitories were identified by colours, red, blue  
6           and green, rather than names or letters. He was in the  
7           blue dormitory. That at meal times boys ate in the same  
8           groups as they were for schooling and work and not by  
9           dormitory. There were chores to do, and he says if the  
10          area around a boy's bed was not properly cleaned the boy  
11          was punished with three of the belt.

12          There was a work programme at St John's, and he says  
13          that after schoolboys would go to work placements until  
14          5.00, some did painting and decorating. There was  
15          a cobbler's shop, a tailor's shop. He says he worked in  
16          the tailor's shop and enjoyed doing so.

17          However, he does remember an incident, at  
18          paragraph 86, when he was working in the tailor's shop.  
19          He said that one of the Brothers who had abused him was  
20          there and was about to light a cigarette. He says he  
21          threw turps over the Brother, went back to court, and  
22          was charged with endangering his life. He says after  
23          that incident he wasn't allowed to go anywhere on his  
24          own.

25          At paragraph 91, he recalls visits by social

1 workers, but says there was no chit-chat. You only got  
2 to speak to them if they spoke to you:

3 "I was warned by the Brothers not to say anything.  
4 They threatened to cut out my tongue and I was petrified  
5 of them. We all were. I don't think those people were  
6 human."

7 He says, at 92, that he tried to run away at every  
8 opportunity. He said that when you got caught, you got  
9 battered.

10 He describes the form of discipline, and there seems  
11 to have been, at paragraphs 93 to 96, a process where --  
12 a gymnastic horse from the gymnasium was taken to the  
13 head Brother's office, and the head Brother would be at  
14 one end of the room with a row of Brothers on one side  
15 and a row of nuns, who were there for Mass, on the  
16 other, and that the nuns watched boys being punished and  
17 said he hated -- 'Henry' hated being punished in front  
18 of the nuns.

19 He tells us he could see them sniggering. He says  
20 you were stripped and put over the horse, which would be  
21 lowered or elevated, depending on the boy's size. Your  
22 hands and legs were tied by straps to the rings on the  
23 horse. He estimates 30 strokes for running away, and if  
24 you caused any other problems when you were on the run,  
25 he says it was 50. Then he says, at 96, there would be



1 other boys waiting in the corridor when you were being  
2 abused:

3 "When I was waiting I could hear the other boys  
4 screaming and, when they came out, they were dragged  
5 away, some of them still trying to put their trousers on  
6 as they went. Back in the dormitories they would  
7 compare injuries. They weren't marks, they were welts."

8 You weren't taken to the doctor, he says, for these  
9 injuries. You were taken to the medical room and some  
10 form of cream was put on the welts by one of the  
11 Brothers, who wore a white coat. He says there was no  
12 point in saying anything to him about what happened. He  
13 knew. He says there would be other boys there, too,  
14 being treated, some with a pink lotion, like camomile  
15 lotion.

16 He said one of the Brothers, Brother GVA, who was  
17 one of the abusers, once put iodine on the welts of his  
18 back, which had him screaming in pain. 'Henry' says he  
19 never felt pain like it and wanted to kill him.

20 Then he recounts an occasion in the gym, at  
21 paragraph 98, where a Brother, a former army PT  
22 instructor, said to him, "You think you're a fighter",  
23 and gave him boxing gloves. He says he put his gloves  
24 on and that the instructor beat him up and kept hitting  
25 him in the face. 'Henry' said he ripped his gloves off,

1 jumped on him and bit him on the jaw before he was  
2 dragged off:

3 "He remembered me for that. I suffered a lot more  
4 abuse from him after that and I was also punished that  
5 Sunday for that particular incident."

6 He also describes that he became an alter boy at  
7 St John's, which meant spending more time with the  
8 priests, rather than the Brothers, and says that two  
9 Brothers both abused alter boys, Father PAH and  
10 Father PAI. He describes Father PAH, at 99, as  
11 a cruel man, who, when he was in the chapel, he would  
12 take him to his office and lock the door, and that there  
13 was sexual abuse of him and by Father PAH.

14 Then he describes there was a similar form of sexual  
15 abuse, at paragraph 100, to the type that had occurred  
16 at St Mungo's and St Joseph's. This is again the  
17 pattern of Brothers, at night, taking boys to the  
18 shower.

19 He then says that the person who got him interested  
20 in the pipe bands, at 105, whom he describes as a good  
21 guy, 'Henry' says he told him a couple of times about  
22 the abuse, but the Brother he told this to said there  
23 was nothing he could do about it and told the applicant  
24 to keep it to himself. The Brother, Brother John, said  
25 there was no point in telling anyone and that he would

1 not tell anyone what the applicant had told him.

2 'Henry' says he didn't tell anyone, but he didn't do  
3 anything about it either.

4 Then he says -- and he explains how -- what he says  
5 was the occasion that caused him to move from St John's  
6 to another approved school, St Mary's, Kenmure, at  
7 paragraph 106.

8 He says that one night he was being abused by  
9 Brother PAM, who stuck his penis in 'Henry's' mouth and  
10 that 'Henry' bit him, even although he had no top teeth  
11 at front. He says: "My gums were tough enough that he  
12 was bleeding, there was blood all over my face. I was  
13 battered for that and about a week later I was moved to  
14 St Mary's in Kenmure. I didn't go to court because  
15 I don't think they would want to report that incident.  
16 I just went straight to St Mary's."

17 That's his recollection of how he came to move to  
18 St Mary's.

19 He deals with St Mary's, starting at around  
20 paragraph 107, and says that nothing like what had  
21 happened to him in the other establishments run by the  
22 order happened at St Mary's. He says he was there until  
23 he was 15, which was about 1960, I think.

24 LADY SMITH: Yes, that would be about 1960.

25 MR PEOPLES: The Head Brother at that time, as he recalls,

1 was Brother Matthew and, again, he tells us at 114 that  
2 there were no official visitors and that no one came and  
3 spoke to the boys and that there was no preparation for  
4 leaving care.

5 He does say, at paragraph 115:

6 "At St Mary's I ran away, not because of abuse, but  
7 because it wasn't very secure, so I could escape."

8 He then says, at 115, he ran away on one occasion,  
9 broke into a shop and stole a bike. He went to court  
10 and was sentenced to borstal training at Polmont, but  
11 first went to Larchgrove Remand Home. He tells us a bit  
12 about Larchgrove in his written statement. He was only  
13 there about 1 month and he describes the routine.

14 He does say boys would be disciplined with the belt,  
15 but it wasn't as bad as his previous placement. He says  
16 that at 120. But he says that he did suffer physical  
17 abuse and sexual abuse, but only at the hands of one  
18 member of staff, Mr GVB SNR .

19 He describes the nature of that abuse at paragraph 121.

20 (11.19 am) A Short Break

21 (11.38 am)

22 LADY SMITH: Mr Peoples.

23 MR PEOPLES: My Lady, if I can just perhaps complete the  
24 read-in for 'Henry'.

25 LADY SMITH: Please do.

1 MR PEOPLES: I had reached the point where I had been  
2 referring to what 'Henry' tells us about Larchgrove.  
3 I think I had finished at the point where 'Henry' had  
4 told us that he did suffer sexual and physical abuse,  
5 but only at the hands of one member of staff, SNR  
6 SNR, Mr GVB. There is a description of the  
7 nature of the abuse at paragraph 121, which is  
8 a detailed description of what he tells us happened to  
9 him.

10 LADY SMITH: And the frequency with which it happened in  
11 a very short period.

12 MR PEOPLES: That's right, yes. It wasn't just a one-off --

13 LADY SMITH: No.

14 MR PEOPLES: -- episode.

15 LADY SMITH: The statement tells us a dozen times over four  
16 weeks.

17 MR PEOPLES: Yes, so it's pretty regular.

18 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

19 MR PEOPLES: He does not have a lengthy history of SPS, but  
20 can I move on to that? He tells us, after Larchgrove --  
21 he must have been sentenced, I think, at some point when  
22 he went back to court from Larchgrove. So he tells us,  
23 at 123 -- he says:

24 "I was in Polmont for about 18 months from  
25 15-and-a-half to 17 years old. Polmont was very

1 regimented, but I didn't suffer any abuse there.

2 I would fight anyone who tried, so I was at the doctors  
3 a lot because of fighting injuries. After the doctors,  
4 you would go to the Digger, solitary confinement. You  
5 were stripped and your clothes and shoes left outside."

6 He then describes the routine. He just says:

7 "We worked hard [at 124, on page 27] at Polmont. We  
8 built Longriggend Remand Centre. We went out at seven  
9 in the morning, after breakfast. In the winter, we went  
10 up to Inverness to plant trees. We left Polmont at 7.00  
11 and drove to Inverness. We were planting trees from  
12 about 10.00 am until 3.00 pm and then drove back to  
13 Polmont. We got back at 10.00 at night."

14 Then he tells us, at 125, he got into a fight at  
15 Polmont:

16 "When a guy attacked me in the cobbler's workshop  
17 and I cut him. After that I was sent to Barlinnie  
18 prison and I was in there until I was 20."

19 He says, at 126, that he has never made a report to  
20 the police:

21 "After the life I have had, I didn't trust the  
22 police."

23 Thereafter, he tells us about his life after care.

24 If I could just move on towards the end --

25 LADY SMITH: Just to get the ages correct. He would have

1           been about 17 when he left Polmont?

2   MR PEOPLES:   Yes.

3   LADY SMITH:    About 17.

4   MR PEOPLES:    Yes.

5   LADY SMITH:    And the sentence that was imposed at that stage  
6           took him through into early adulthood?

7   MR PEOPLES:    Yes.  It's quite difficult sometimes to get  
8           dates here because the records are not there to tell us  
9           precisely, because it's about that time.  But, as I say,  
10          we have to bear in mind that you could be in Polmont  
11          usually between 16 and 21 and they were all  
12          experiencing, to a large extent, the same sort of  
13          conditions.  There were some variations, no doubt.

14                So if I could pass on to the final page of his  
15          statement, at paragraph 141.  'Henry' states:

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

20                That statement was signed on 20 November 2018.

21                That completes my read-ins for the moment.  If I  
22          could just pass over to Ms Forbes to take over and deal  
23          with some further read-ins this morning.

24   LADY SMITH:    Thank you.

25   MS FORBES:    My Lady.

1 LADY SMITH: Ms Forbes, where are we going next?

2 MS FORBES: This is a statement from an applicant who is  
3 anonymous and his pseudonym is 'Bon'.

4 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

5 MS FORBES: The reference for his statement is  
6 WIT-1-000001289.

7 'Bon' (read)

8 MS FORBES: 'Bon's' statement is mainly about his  
9 experiences in Scottish Prison Service establishments,  
10 so I propose to read-in almost his entire statement.  
11 But, just to summarise, he was born in 1954.

12 At paragraph 2, he tells us a little bit about his  
13 family background. He grew up in Tollcross, in Glasgow,  
14 with his parents. He has two bothers and two sisters.  
15 He was the eldest.

16 If I could start from paragraph 3:

17 "The story I have been told is: I was ten months old  
18 before my dad saw me. He had been in hospital for  
19 a year, apparently, with TB. I think his time in  
20 hospital and his illness turned him into a bitter man.  
21 I got blamed for everything growing up. I hated my dad  
22 at times. I grew up on the street. Sometimes I  
23 resented my mum for not standing up to him and for not  
24 leaving him. It was her that brought the money into the  
25 house, though, through her work at shops, pubs and



1 cleaning jobs.

2 "I believe he had a good job before he was ill.  
3 I think he was embarrassed because he had had TB, as it  
4 was known as a dirty disease. He never worked after  
5 that. He would be out drinking a lot at the pub and  
6 I would be sent to get him.

7 "I went to locals schools in Tollcross while I was  
8 growing up. My primary was the Good Shepherd and then I  
9 went to St Paul's Primary School. I went to St Mungo's  
10 for secondary. I started off well at high school, but  
11 my grades got worse over the years. I can read and  
12 write, but I don't have the concentration to, say, read  
13 a book.

14 "I left school at 15 and worked as a tea boy, and  
15 then the office of a scrap merchants."

16 He then goes on to tell us about his life before  
17 going into institutions, from paragraph 7:

18 "My family and I did not have any involvement with  
19 social work or anyone else before I went into the places  
20 I want to talk about. It was only when I was on reports  
21 before sentencing for my charges that social workers  
22 became involved.

23 "I have been in four institutions during my life,  
24 one of them twice. The places were as follows:  
25 Longriggend, in Airdrie, when I was 15 years old. I

1 stayed there for a week and was then bailed. I then  
2 went to Larchgrove Remand Centre, in [REDACTED] 1971, for  
3 two or three weeks for reports. I was 16 years old.  
4 I was then sent to Glenochil Prison from [REDACTED] 1971  
5 until [REDACTED] 1971. I then went back to Longriggend in  
6 [REDACTED] 1971 for about six weeks. I went to  
7 Polmont from [REDACTED] 1971 until [REDACTED] 1972.

8 "The reason I went to Longriggend was because they  
9 wouldn't give us bail on that occasion. There had been  
10 an incident outside a pub in Tollcross and a couple of  
11 my mates were getting lifted. Due to all the shouting  
12 outside, people from the pub came out to see what was  
13 happening. I think the police got frightened and they  
14 got on their radios and got more police. I called the  
15 police names and ended up getting lifted. I was taken  
16 to Shettleston Police Station. During the journey, my  
17 mate who was also there, was getting batoned by the  
18 driver and I was getting hit by his colleague. We ended  
19 up getting charged with mobbing and rioting and so we  
20 didn't get bail.

21 "I went to trial for that incident. It was  
22 a sheriff trial with no jury. I had previously been  
23 told by my lawyer that I was likely to get out. From  
24 the time of him saying that to me and me going into the  
25 court something must have changed. Some deal was struck

1 between my lawyer, Smith, and the prosecution and I was  
2 told I was being sent to Polmont for borstal reports.  
3 It was [REDACTED] 1971.

4 "I left there on [REDACTED] 1971. I was 18 years  
5 old."

6 He then moves on to tell us about Longriggend  
7 Detention Centre, at paragraph 11:

8 "I was sent to Longriggend, which was a remand  
9 centre, for one week. I was 15-year-old. It was  
10 sheriff officers who took me there from the High Court.  
11 My memories of the time when I arrived there were of all  
12 the shouting by the officers, saying things like, "You  
13 call me sir". I was locked up for 23 hours a day while  
14 I was there. All of your meals were taken in the cell.  
15 Once a week you got a 30-minute gym session.

16 "At Longriggend, you couldn't sit on your bed while  
17 you were in the cell, you had to sit on the chair in  
18 your room. It was the way the staff talked to you  
19 there. It was terrible. You didn't have much contact  
20 with the guards. They would do embarrassing things to  
21 people, though. My mate who was in there at the time  
22 with me, they cut his hair because he had lice. They  
23 shaved it all and left him a silly fringe.

24 "If prisoners were cheeky, you would hear the  
25 opening of the cell door and I believe the officers gave

1 the occupant a slap in the cell. I saw them slap people  
2 in Longriggend. There was also verbal abuse towards  
3 prisoners, with them calling prisoners names like 'shit'  
4 and 'scum'.

5 "I was quite excited to be going to Longriggend, as  
6 strange as that seems. It didn't bother me too much at  
7 the time. I believe that is when social work first got  
8 involved and visited my parents. They never came to see  
9 me. There was a report read out, but I cannot recall  
10 what was in it. I never had any opportunity to say how  
11 I felt.

12 "After my week there, I returned home to my parents.  
13 The trial for the original incident took place. I pled  
14 guilty and was sent to Larchgrove for reports.

15 "I returned to Longriggend in [REDACTED] 1971.  
16 I was on remand that time and hadn't been granted bail.  
17 I think I was there about six weeks in total. It was  
18 the same as the first time, in that we were locked up  
19 23 hours a day.

20 "I do think someone from social work spoke to me the  
21 second time I was there, but I cannot recall that. I  
22 might have got slapped in Longriggend on one of the  
23 occasions when I was there, but I cannot remember too  
24 well. There is nothing really I want to tell the  
25 Inquiry about my time at Longriggend."

1           He then moves on tell us about his time at  
2           Larchgrove Remand Home, from paragraph 24:

3           "I was in Larchgrove for two weeks. This was around  
4           ██████████ 1971. I don't have too much of a memory of  
5           Larchgrove, but there are small things I remember. It  
6           was young boys in Larchgrove, aged from 12 years until  
7           16. I was one of the oldest. During the day, it was  
8           like a school, you sat in a class and were taught. It  
9           was nothing like Glenochil or Polmont.

10          "The boys slept in dormitories with no single cells  
11          so everyone congregated together. This meant that there  
12          were quite a few fights that broke out.

13          "One day we were playing football in the gym and  
14          a guy punched me in the eye and we started fighting. It  
15          was broken up by staff and we got sent to the guy in  
16          charge of the centre. Both of us got the belt for  
17          fighting. That was the only time I got it. The staff  
18          generally used the belt in Larchgrove for punishment.

19          "Most of the trouble would break out in the gym, so  
20          there were usually extra officers in there, about six of  
21          them, who would be quick to respond to trouble. They  
22          would grab whoever was involved and they would be dealt  
23          with. There were a couple of cells that people might  
24          get sent to and there was the Digger, but I was not in  
25          either at Larchgrove.

1           "Similar to Longriggend, I don't remember anyone  
2 coming to speak to me in Larchgrove as part of the  
3 reports, but that's not to say it didn't happen.

4           "I knew I was going to Glenochil after Larchgrove.  
5 The sheriff said that to me when I pled. After the two  
6 weeks at Larchgrove, I went back to the Sheriff Court at  
7 Ingram Street and that's when I was formally sentenced  
8 to Glenochil. There wasn't anything that happened in  
9 Larchgrove that I want to tell the Inquiry."

10           Then he moves on to talk about Glenochil, the Young  
11 Offenders Institution, at that time, at paragraph 33  
12 onwards:

13           "I was sent to Glenochil in around [REDACTED] 1971,  
14 straight after my time at Larchgrove. I was 16 years  
15 old.

16           "They called the treatment at Glenochil "short sharp  
17 shock", and believe you me, it was certainly that. All  
18 of the staff were big men and ex-army. It was run as  
19 a military boot camp. I knew about its reputation  
20 before I got there, as I had heard from mates in my  
21 area.

22           "I knew others who had been in there, who told me if  
23 I ended up in there I should duck. I knew what they  
24 meant when I got there. It was to avoid being hit or  
25 slapped that I should duck.

1           "The inmates were all boys aged from 16 to 20 years.  
2           I think there were about 150 boys in total. They came  
3           from all over Scotland. My understanding was most of  
4           them had committed car theft, house breaking, or minor  
5           assault. There wasn't anyone who had committed anything  
6           more serious.

7           "The building itself is now part of the Young  
8           Offenders Institution. I remember it was spotless  
9           because the prisoners cleaned the place. If there was  
10          one thing it did teach me, it was to be tidy.

11          "There were three wings to the jail and they put the  
12          boys into houses. There was Devon, Alva and Ochil. You  
13          were basically put into whichever house there was  
14          a vacancy. The wing was just where you slept.

15          "The prisoners would all say you were in there for  
16          eight weeks, five days and a break. A break being your  
17          breakfast on the last day. It was a common saying in  
18          the jail. You timed it as per the coloured epaulettes  
19          that you wore. After the first three or four weeks, you  
20          would get your yellow ones. Two weeks later, your red  
21          grade. You also had a card on the outside of your cell  
22          with your liberation date on it. That date could change  
23          if you misbehaved inside. Three months was the maximum  
24          you could do. You got a white card, which meant you  
25          were Church of Scotland. A green one meant Catholic.

1           "The structure in jail was there was the governor,  
2           assistant governor, senior officers and officers. Each  
3           wing was three storeys high. There were two or three  
4           officers on each floor and a couple of senior officers  
5           for each wing. They were the ones that ran the wings.  
6           They would check for cleanliness and things. They had  
7           an inspection once a week. They would always find  
8           a little bit of dust or dirt and you would lose, say,  
9           some recreation time. I never saw the governor or  
10          assistant in the wings.

11          "There were PT instructors within the jail. They  
12          were prison officers who had an interest in sport.  
13          There were no teachers in the jail. It didn't bother me  
14          that there was no teaching, as I had left school by the  
15          time I went there, so I wasn't losing out.

16          "I don't remember many of the staff in there, but I  
17          do remember a guy with the nickname of [OK]. He was  
18          about five foot ten, with a good physique. I don't  
19          remember much more. I do remember there was another  
20          one, [OL], and I remember him because he had quite bad  
21          skin. Both of them would have been in their 40s then.  
22          I imagine they will be dead now.

23          "I'm not sure of the game of the governor, but I saw  
24          him on my second day. I think he saw all of the new  
25          boys. You would be taken in for a lecture and be told



1 you had to behave yourself and do as you were told. The  
2 governor was ex-army. I firmly believe he knew what was  
3 going on in his jail, but I did not see him present when  
4 beatings or slaps were taking place."

5 He goes on to talk about the routine at Glenochil  
6 from paragraph 45:

7 "As soon as I got there that first day, they opened  
8 the door and there was a lot of swearing. I was grabbed  
9 and told I was scum. The floors are highly polished and  
10 I lost my footing as I was grabbed and fell to the floor  
11 and slid up the floor. I was then kicked and punched  
12 while I was down on the ground and asked what my name  
13 was. I replied ... [he says his surname] and the guard,  
14 who was called IOK [REDACTED], who usually took PT, asked me  
15 again what my fucking name was. I then replied louder  
16 and then I was told not to shout. He then proceeded to  
17 slap me all the way round to the cubicles where they  
18 process you. He then punched me in the stomach while  
19 I was standing there. I bent over with the force. I  
20 stood back up and then he punched me again. The door  
21 was then closed and I was in the cubicle on my own.  
22 After a short time, I was brought some food, but I was  
23 too scared to sit down and eat it in case any of them  
24 came in again.

25 "I was then taken into a medical guy. I seem to

1 recall the name zHEF but I'm not sure.  
2 It's just that name sticks with me. He was a big guy.  
3 He told me to loosen my trousers and take down my  
4 underpants to my ankles. I was then told to lift my  
5 jumper to my chin. I was standing there practically  
6 naked. He was just staring. Maybe he was writing  
7 things down, I don't know. He was asking me questions.  
8 It felt like an eternity, but it may have been only two  
9 or three minutes. I was also told to cough and he felt  
10 something near my stomach. I'm not sure what he was  
11 looking for.

12 "The whole thing was horrible, degrading, and it was  
13 one of the most uncomfortable things ever. After he did  
14 that, he was sitting down writing. He left me standing  
15 there naked. Why? I ask myself: was it for  
16 humiliation?

17 "I think he was a medic. At that time in Glenochil  
18 they were dressed in suits and jackets and not in prison  
19 officers' uniform.

20 "After seeing him, I was then taken by the same  
21 prison officer, IOK, to my room. We all had separate  
22 cells. I got slapped about all the way up to my room by  
23 IOK. He was slapping me to the back of the head. He  
24 kneed me and gave me a dead leg. He then pushed me into  
25 my room. In the room, I then got a couple of digs to

1 the ribs. That all happened on my first day.

2 "I remember on the very first morning after I had  
3 arrived we all went to this square. I was wearing my  
4 issue army boots, shorts, vest and jacket. It was  
5 [REDACTED]. It was pitch dark. We marched around the  
6 square. I had never marched in my life. The staff were  
7 slapping me and the rest of the boys about the head,  
8 kicking us. They were screaming and shouting at us. I  
9 liken it to Full Metal Jacket, the film, like a boot  
10 camp. I do not know the names of the ones who were  
11 doing that behaviour.

12 "On that second day -- this didn't happen every day,  
13 it was because I was new. I was sent to visit the  
14 governor. I was standing in a line and I saw a boy I  
15 knew from my area ... [and he names him]. He saw me and  
16 I knew he acknowledged me, so I tried to do the same but  
17 I got caught by one of the guards and got a skelp across  
18 the back of the head. I believe the one who did that  
19 was called [REDACTED].

20 "They would get us up at 6.00 am by banging the  
21 door. We would go to the ablutions about 7.00 am and  
22 have a shave and shower. We would be marched a wing at  
23 a time. You would have to say, 'Excuse me, sir', when  
24 you passed the staff. Sometimes each of them wanted you  
25 to say it. Others only wanted the first and last boy to

1 say it. You never knew. If you got it wrong, you would  
2 get a slap.

3 "We then went back up the stair to our rooms and  
4 then down for breakfast. After breakfast, we would  
5 clean the wings, corridor and floors and then march out  
6 to the square, where we would then break off into our  
7 work parties. We would then march to our workplace.  
8 Everywhere we went we marched.

9 "Work lasted from about 8.00 am until 10.00 am. At  
10 10.00 am, we got to go for a cup of tea and a bun for  
11 a ten-minute break. We weren't allowed to talk to each  
12 other. After the tea break it was straight back to  
13 work.

14 "I think lunch was at 12.00 noon. We would go get  
15 a wash and then go for lunch. Everyone got running  
16 after lunch. The dinners were big and immediately after  
17 it we would be expected to run sprints and then a mile.  
18 I was decent at the sprints, but would sometimes get  
19 lapped on the mile and the officers would scream and  
20 shout at me for it.

21 "In addition, we would be split into groups for  
22 circuit training and would have that either in the  
23 morning or afternoon, every day.

24 "Each day there were seven or eight exercises on the  
25 circuit and you would have three minutes to do each of

1 the exercises. The purpose was to see how many you  
2 could get in that time. You were supposed to beat the  
3 number each day you did it.

4 "Someone who was wearing the red epaulettes, another  
5 prisoner, would go round and count it with you. He  
6 would count and shout out how many you got to the prison  
7 officers at the end. If you didn't beat the number from  
8 the previous day, they would scream and shout at you and  
9 shake you about. We did this five days a week.

10 "After the running, we would go back to change into  
11 our work clothes, march to the square and then back to  
12 the work party. Work finished about 4.00 pm/4.30 pm, we  
13 would march to our rooms and then be shouted for dinner.

14 "After dinner, you went to your room until 8.00 pm  
15 and then you got one hour of recreation from 8.00 pm  
16 until 9.00 pm. If I remember rightly, you never got  
17 recreation straightaway when you went into the place.  
18 You had to wait about two weeks for it. After  
19 recreation, at 9.00 pm, you went back to your cell to  
20 sit on the chair and then lights out at was at 10.00 pm.

21 "When you were in your room, you weren't allowed to  
22 sit on your bed. You had to sit on the chair that was  
23 there. If they caught you on the bed, you got a slap.  
24 You dare not lie on your bed unless it was bedtime. I  
25 sometimes did and, if you fell asleep, you would get

1 caught because the officers would lift the peephole  
2 cover on the outside of the door and would catch you  
3 out.

4 "We had pots in the cells if you needed the toilet  
5 during the night. We emptied them each morning.

6 "Weekends were different as we didn't work. You  
7 were in your cell all day. You did nothing but sit on  
8 your chair.

9 "There was order and routine with everything. You  
10 couldn't talk to people as you walked about. You  
11 certainly couldn't have a carry on.

12 "It was big dinners in Glenochil, but everything was  
13 steamed. They would give us dumplings and things like  
14 that. It was edible. There was no choice. You either  
15 took it or not. You weren't allowed to give your food  
16 to anyone else. If you were caught, you would be kept  
17 back and given a punch or a slap.

18 "If you didn't finish what was on your plate, you  
19 would get shouted at, but not hit.

20 "Dinner time was strange. You weren't allowed to  
21 talk to each other. You had to sit at your table of  
22 four with your arms folded. The prison officer would  
23 tap your table and you would all move your arm to the  
24 back of the chair and lift the back of the chair while  
25 at the same time standing up. We would then step to the

1 side and then put the chair back under the table. If  
2 you didn't want dinner, you still had to go through with  
3 going to the hatch and saying, "No, thank you, sir".  
4 You then returned with your dinner, stand, and wait  
5 until he told you to sit and you had to repeat the whole  
6 process. Each wing had their meals in separate dining  
7 rooms.

8 "I think you could have a shower once or twice  
9 a week. They were open showers and I think there were  
10 about six in total. The showers were supervised by  
11 staff. I never had any issues with showering. Most of  
12 our other washing took place in the ablutions, where you  
13 could have a basic wash each morning. They made you shave  
14 every day as well, whether you needed to or not. It was  
15 proper razor blades we used, not like the disposable  
16 ones. It was ones that you put the blade in. You had  
17 to get the blade from the staff and hand it back once  
18 you had used it.

19 "We used to wear army tackety boots and shorts, PT  
20 vest and a battle dress jacket, like a bomber jacket.  
21 We also wore epaulettes on our top. Once you had been  
22 in the place for four weeks you got yellow ones. The  
23 aim was that you would leave having gained your red  
24 ones. Success in circuit training helped you gain your  
25 red ones. PT kit was brown sand shoes, white socks,

1 shorts and a vest. I never got to wear my own clothes  
2 while I was there. They were taken off me when I  
3 arrived and returned to me when I left.

4 "You would be allocated a work party after you had  
5 been in there for a bit. I don't think it was decided  
6 where you went, other than on where there was a gap.  
7 Before you were allocated, though, and when you first  
8 arrived, you were allocated to floors. The floors had  
9 square designs on them. They measured about  
10 two-and-a-half feet by two-and-a-half feet. You had to  
11 go with a bucket, scrubbing brush, bar of soap and  
12 a cloth. You would wash one square and work your way  
13 down the length of the floor, and once you were  
14 finished, you would need to go back to the first square  
15 and wash it again. You would do this every day until  
16 you were allocated to your work party.

17 "Work party could be being attached to the fabric  
18 shop where they made things for the shirts which  
19 identified which wing you were in. There was also  
20 sewing mail bags. Another of the work parties was  
21 stripping down electric motors."

22 He goes on to talk about recreation, at  
23 paragraph 75:

24 "Basically, recreation allowed you to talk to  
25 people. You could sit at a table and have a chat.



1 I don't even remember if there was a dart board or  
2 a television. I think there may have been a radio.  
3 I'm not sure about books either.

4 "In the rooms there was a bed, a chair and a desk,  
5 nothing else. I didn't have any of my own things in the  
6 jail. We didn't get any money in there. There was no  
7 tuck shop and nor was there any smoking allowed.

8 "I think there were a couple of beds for sick  
9 prisoners, but I wasn't ill when I was there. There was  
10 that initial examination I got, but nothing else. I  
11 also didn't need a dentist while I was there.

12 "I seem to recall they made us go to church on  
13 Sunday. I think they had Catholic and Protestant  
14 services, but I don't remember.

15 "I got two visits while I was there. My mum and dad  
16 came together for both of them. The prison officers  
17 would always tell us not to talk about the place during  
18 the visits. The room we had the visits in was fairly  
19 small and there would be six visits on at a time. The  
20 prison officers would be walking up and down in amongst  
21 us, listening in on all of our conversations. There was  
22 no chance you could say anything to your parents, even  
23 if you wanted to. There was also no touching allowed.

24 "There were no phone calls in or out of the prison.  
25 I think you could get letters and I did write once

1 a week, but I know they were read by the officers. It  
2 was to make sure you weren't saying anything bad about  
3 the prison officers or what was happening in the jail.

4 "I never received any other visits. No social work  
5 or anything while I was there. There were no social  
6 workers in the place as far as I know. If there were  
7 any other visits to the place by anyone, I wasn't a part  
8 of them and never heard anything.

9 "I wasn't aware of anyone running away. It wasn't  
10 worth it.

11 "I didn't wet the bed while I was there, but I do  
12 know there were bed wetters. The prison officers would  
13 take great delight in ridiculing those that wet the bed  
14 and letting everyone know what they had done. That in  
15 turn meant the boys who did get slagged off by the  
16 others.

17 "I do remember there was a rubber mat on all the  
18 beds, but I'm not sure what happened to the wet sheets."

19 He then talks about the discipline from  
20 paragraph 87:

21 "It was definitely "short sharp shock" treatment in  
22 there. I'm sure the officers were told to be strict.  
23 They seemed to think their behaviour would teach us  
24 a lesson, but in truth I don't know anyone who didn't  
25 re-offend. I don't think it worked because of the

1 brutality. It made me loath them. I hated the staff.

2 I still hate them to this day.

3 "Apart from the brutality, the staff could stop your  
4 recreation as a punishment. They could also increase  
5 the time on your sentence. Three months was the maximum  
6 time you could do. They had about three weeks that they  
7 could add to your sentence if you didn't get out in the  
8 eight weeks, five days.

9 "If you were going to the Digger, which was  
10 a punishment place within the jail, it had to be  
11 approved by the governor and you would go to see him  
12 before it. The Digger was an empty room with a chair.  
13 Before lock-up at night you would spend the day walking  
14 in the cell or sitting on the chair. At lock-up, they  
15 would take the chair out and you would be given a thin  
16 mattress, a blanket and two pillows in exchange. At  
17 6.00 am, the same process happened with the mattress out  
18 and the chair in. I was never in the Digger at  
19 Glenochil. I am going by my time in the Digger at  
20 Polmont, but I believe all jails were the same.

21 "No one sat down with me to tell me how I was doing  
22 in there. I dare say those in charge of the wings were  
23 doing reports on us. I think that those in charge of  
24 the work parties were also doing the same, but I never  
25 spoke to anyone about these things."

1 He then talks about abuse at Glenochil from  
2 paragraph 91:

3 "A lot happened in that place. The things that  
4 happened in the first couple of days went on throughout  
5 my time at the place. There was an officer, [redacted] [redacted]. He  
6 got me in the ablutions. I had three small hairs on my  
7 chin. It was only bum fluff. He grabbed me and took  
8 a razor to my chin and shaved them off. After that,  
9 I had to shave every day. To my mind, there was no  
10 need. I didn't need to shave then.

11 "A lot happened to me, but I also saw a lot happen  
12 to others. There was a big, tall officer called  
13 [redacted] [redacted] GY. I saw him holding a clipboard and a boy was  
14 talking. [redacted] [redacted] GY smacked him on the side of the head  
15 with the clipboard. I can see the boy went dizzy.

16 "I saw guys coming in on their first day with long  
17 hair, being dragged by the hair along the corridors in  
18 to get their hair cut. This wasn't by any officer in  
19 particular; it was just who was on duty at the time.

20 "I saw guys fighting with each other. One of them  
21 was [redacted] [redacted], who I knew from the Gorbals. The fight  
22 was broken up and I saw them both getting slapped and  
23 then they were dragged round to the Digger. I heard  
24 that while in the Digger they were set about in there by  
25 officers.

1           "The thing with all of the assaults was that the  
2 officers were really clever and they would not hit you  
3 in the face because the marks could be seen. It was  
4 always on the head, back of the head, or on the body.

5           "The verbal abuse was awful. They would make  
6 reference to my mother and her being dirty. They would  
7 refer to me and others as 'Glasgow scum'. It was mental  
8 torture. Sometimes I couldn't help myself and couldn't  
9 take it anymore and I would say something back, but then  
10 I would get a doing for that.

11           "They didn't just say those things to me either. It  
12 was said to all of us. We all suffered that. They  
13 would be quite sneaky in their behaviour. There was  
14 a hasp lock on the door and sometimes you would hear it  
15 getting opened on other cells and you would hear one of  
16 the other boys shouting out in pain, like they were  
17 getting beaten up.

18           "It happened to me a couple of times, just because I  
19 opened my mouth and spoke back to them. I don't know  
20 the names of the officers. On one of those occasions I  
21 got rammed against the wall and they squeezed me between  
22 the legs and I got punched in the stomach.

23           "I heard it happening to others from the screams and  
24 shouts I heard when I was in my cell.

25           "I accepted most of what happened to me at

1 Glenochil, but it was the first day and what happened  
2 when you went in that I couldn't. I don't know anyone  
3 who has been in Glenochil who didn't get set about on  
4 their first day in there. It was definitely  
5 an intimidation thing.

6 "The staff thought they had carte blanche to do what  
7 they wanted to do with you. I believe it was worse the  
8 years before I even got there. I heard from other guys  
9 about the inmates having to run with a telegraph pole  
10 years ago as punishment.

11 "I don't believe the abuse took place in front of  
12 the governor or assistant. That said, I can't for  
13 a minute believe they didn't know it went on. Officers  
14 and senior officers abused prisoners in front of each  
15 other.

16 "I never reported anything that happened in there.  
17 If I did, I would need to first ask to speak to the  
18 governor. The officers would then likely ask me why.  
19 If I told them, there is no chance, I believe, they  
20 would allow me to speak to them. I'm not aware of  
21 anyone reporting anything that happened."

22 He then talks about leaving Glenochil, at  
23 paragraph 104:

24 "A week before I got out I ended up in a dormitory.  
25 I just got told I was going to the dorm one day and

1 that's when I knew I was coming to the end of my time.  
2 It was a normal process to go to the dorm prior to  
3 release.

4 "I found the dorm harder because you could have  
5 a carry on and a bit of fun, but there was potential for  
6 there to be fights. The officers could walk in any time  
7 and then you risked a beating or longer on your  
8 sentence. For those reasons, I preferred the room on my  
9 own. Luckily nothing happened.

10 "On the day I left, I got up and had my breakfast.  
11 I was then put into one of the cubicles they put you in  
12 on your last day, near the reception. I was handed back  
13 my clothes and I sat there for about an hour waiting on  
14 the bus to take me out. I got on the bus and they took  
15 me to Stirling train station for the train to Glasgow.  
16 The prison officers were in control of me until I was  
17 put on the train.

18 "There was no preparation for me being released.  
19 Nor did I speak to anyone once I left. I went back to  
20 my parents' house and that was it. I left Glenochil in  
21 [REDACTED] 1971.

22 "The next place I went to was for my second time at  
23 Longriggend. That was in [REDACTED] 1971 and that was  
24 for remand and reports.

25 "In [REDACTED] 1971, I was sentenced to Polmont Young

1 Offenders Institution following an incident."

2 He then talks about his experience at Polmont Young  
3 Offenders Institution from paragraph 110:

4 "I knew I was going to Polmont, but because I had  
5 appeared on the Wednesday at the sheriff and jury court  
6 in Ingram Street and they told me. I had to go to  
7 Barlinnie for two days until I could get to Polmont on  
8 the Friday. In Barlinnie, I didn't get any exercise  
9 whatsoever. That's all I want to tell the Inquiry about  
10 there.

11 "I was then taken from Barlinnie to Polmont. The  
12 treatment was similar to Glenochil, with the punching,  
13 slapping, screaming and shouting, but maybe not quite as  
14 bad.

15 "At Polmont, you went to an allocation wing for  
16 eight weeks first. After allocation, I was then sent to  
17 West Wing. North Wing was the same layout as allocation  
18 wing. South was a newer wing, and east and west were  
19 exactly the same and were quite new, too. There was  
20 also a wing called Carrick House.

21 "There were about 60 or 70 boys in allocation, as it  
22 was on three floors. In the other wings, which were on  
23 two floors, there were about 50 or 60 boys. In Carrick  
24 there were about 30 boys. All the boys were aged  
25 between 16 and 20 years old. My understanding is that



1 boys were in there for similar things to Glenochil:  
2 assault, theft and burglary.

3 "In allocation, it was a dorm that I slept in. It  
4 had about eight beds in it. There was only one dorm in  
5 allocation. The rest of the allocation was single  
6 cells.

7 "I think there were about six staff on duty per  
8 wing. In the night shift, there were only about two  
9 staff on in the wing. I do remember some of the names  
10 of the staff in the allocation wing. There was  
11 Spaniard, GSM and zGIL. He was the PO.

12 There was another officer, IOM, who was  
13 particularly bad, but his nephew came into the jail as  
14 an inmate and he changed overnight. He certainly wasn't  
15 the bully he had been. He had been one of the biggest  
16 bullies before, screaming in your face, pushing you  
17 about.

18 "The highest ranking person you saw daily was the  
19 senior officer in charge of the wing. The only time you  
20 saw the governor was before you were going to the  
21 Digger. He was the only one who could confirm you were  
22 going to the Digger.

23 "Morrison was in charge of one shift. There was  
24 Parley and Redpath as well as McGroovy."

25 He talks about his routine then and the first day,

1 paragraph 120:

2 "I was taken into a small cubicle and I'm pretty  
3 sure I got a slap. I was definitely shouted and sworn  
4 at. I think it was them trying to show the new  
5 prisoners that they were the boss. I think the one that  
6 slapped me on the first day was called GSM . He was  
7 blonde haired. I think there may have been one called  
8 GIP there, too.

9 "We were woken at 6.00 am. We got our breakfast and  
10 then we were marched down to meet with our work party.  
11 We got our morning break and then returned to work. We  
12 had lunch in the dining room and afterwards we would go  
13 upstairs to our room for half an hour and then return to  
14 work in the afternoon. We got a break in the afternoon  
15 for ten minutes, but then it was back to work. At the  
16 end of the working day, it was dinner, upstairs for  
17 an hour, then you got two hours of recreation in the  
18 evening.

19 "We didn't work at weekends, so we would get two  
20 hours recreation in the afternoon and the two hours in  
21 the evening. Because there was no work, you would just  
22 stay in your room.

23 "The food was rubbish. It was all steamed stuff,  
24 like Glenochil. In the mornings we would get  
25 cornflakes. It was the kit boys who could dish it out

1 and you hardly got anything. You might get one sausage  
2 with a roll as well. At dinner there wasn't much meat.  
3 On Saturday, it might be a cheese roll with tomato, but  
4 that was it.

5 "We wore heavy blue canvas trousers. You got two  
6 sets, one for work and another for other times.

7 "We also wore thin, red and white striped shirts  
8 when you first started on a wing. You would be three  
9 months on a wing being assessed and, at the end of that  
10 time, you would moved to a blue shirt. Once you had  
11 a blue shirt, it meant the next time you went up a month  
12 later and you had a good report, then at assessment you  
13 would get a liberation date. You then got out three  
14 months after your liberation date. This was the only  
15 way in which you knew you were coming to the end of your  
16 sentence.

17 "We got swimming once a week in the pool near to the  
18 North Wing. GIH was [REDACTED]  
19 He was a small stocky guy with no neck. You had to have  
20 short nails and be clean before you entered the pool.  
21 He would inspect your hands and nails before you got in.  
22 He would also watch us in the shower beforehand and make  
23 comment about our private parts, about the size of our  
24 privates.

25 "They had classrooms in the Allocation Wing, where

1       you would do sums and things. You would spend about  
2       four weeks in the classroom and then you would be  
3       assigned a work party. I think the classroom work was  
4       more about assessing you, rather than teaching you  
5       anything.

6               "Every Sunday, at 11.00 am, we got our rooms  
7       inspected by the PO. If you failed an inspection you  
8       would lose recreation. The initial work party job after  
9       the first four weeks was to clean the other wings.  
10       A bricklayers' course came up not long after I was in,  
11       so I applied for that and got on it. The course was for  
12       six weeks. Cornton Vale women's prison was getting  
13       built at the time and they used some of the Polmont  
14       workforce boys under supervision to go and help build  
15       it.

16               "Once you had been working on it for about two  
17       months, they then allowed some of the boys to stay up  
18       there as some of the accommodation was already built.

19               "I never got to stay, as I got into an altercation  
20       with a couple of boys up there. They were trying to  
21       take the mick out of me. I saw them standing beside  
22       a cement mixer and I saw that one of them put something  
23       in his waist band and started walking towards me. I  
24       assumed it would have been a knife. When I returned to  
25       Polmont that day I reported it. I think it was to

1 Baxter, who was in charge of my wing. I told him I  
2 wouldn't be returning to Cornton Vale because of them.  
3 He asked me if I knew who the males were. I told him I  
4 didn't, though I did. He told me I was going anyway.

5 "The next day they shouted for the work parties and  
6 I sat on my chair in my room. I got sent to the digger  
7 for three or four days because it of. It was a wee  
8 brute who was in charge of the Digger, **GH**, the same  
9 guy **[REDACTED]**. They would take turns about  
10 supervising the Digger. He would get a dig in every now  
11 and again. I mean a slap or a punch, while I was down  
12 there.

13 "After I had been to the Digger, I was sent to the  
14 governor. It was the first time I had seen him. He  
15 asked me why I had been sent there and I told him about  
16 being threatened. He asked me who they were and I  
17 refused to say. He then added three months on to my  
18 liberation date and I was sent back to the wing.

19 "I had done six months by then and when I went up  
20 for my blue shirt I didn't get it because of the extra  
21 time given by the governor.

22 "I never did report anything after that incident. I  
23 do know that one of the guys who had been involved  
24 subsequently hit another prisoner over the head with  
25 a hammer on a separate occasion.

1           "After the bricklaying, I was moved to the pallet  
2 party. They would get loads of wooden pallets, which we  
3 would strip down and make them into decent usable  
4 pallets, which they sold on.

5           "In my last two weeks, I was allocated to cleaning  
6 the officers' mess room. I remember taking a cake from  
7 there and I got caught, but the chef stood up for me and  
8 said he had given me it. It was the only time someone  
9 was nice to me in there.

10          "During recreation we could do darts, table tennis  
11 and snooker.

12          "At Christmas, they would put on a show with the  
13 prisoners who could sing or play an instrument. We also  
14 got a Christmas dinner. The only Christmas I was there  
15 I was in the Digger, so I didn't get it. To me it  
16 didn't matter where you were locked up, whether it was  
17 the cell or the Digger.

18          "There was a matron in each of the wings. I don't  
19 really know what her function was, but she did look  
20 after the laundry and sheets. I don't think she was  
21 medical because there was a separate doctor. I know she  
22 read all of the letters going out and coming into the  
23 jail.

24          "If you felt sick you would be taken to the doctor  
25 in the jail. Depending on if there was something wrong,

1       you may get put to the sick room, which was beside his  
2       surgery. I didn't see the doctor while I was there.

3                "If you needed the dentist, one would be brought in.  
4       I had to see the dentist when I was there.

5                "You could go to church in the jail on a Sunday, but  
6       I didn't go.

7                "We got two visits a month in Polmont. My parents  
8       didn't come together, so my dad would come on one and my  
9       mum on the other. The visits were in a private room,  
10      with one officer who was also there. You could talk  
11      fairly openly. I never had visits from anyone else.

12              "I can't remember how much money we got, but we did  
13      get wages. I used my wages for toothpaste and sweets.  
14      They did give us powder as toothpaste and it was  
15      disgusting, so I bought my own.

16              "I didn't wet the bed, but there were guys who did.  
17      I only knew this as they would have to change their  
18      sheets. I'm not aware of them being punished or  
19      anything for it.

20              "I remember they held this 'clear the air' meeting  
21      every Wednesday, between 1.00 pm and 2.00 pm. It was  
22      supposed to be that you got out your grievances. It was  
23      all the boys in your wing and whichever prison officers  
24      were on shift. It ended up no one said anything because  
25      of the reaction the boys got. They would be told to

1 shut up or a denial that whatever the boys spoke about  
2 had happened. You certainly wouldn't get anyone  
3 complaining about, say, being assaulted. That would  
4 never happen.

5 "There was a picture frame in all the rooms. It  
6 measured three and a half feet by four feet. You could  
7 pin up posters or things on it. For some reason the  
8 ones in West Wing were so much smaller, about ten  
9 inches. I was really into music and it would have  
10 a poster in it. I would draw around the poster to make  
11 it as small as I could. I pinned the posters up, but  
12 I would always tuck the excess up the back, so it  
13 measured exactly.

14 "One day I came back from the work party and my room  
15 had been turned upside down. They would do this often  
16 in case you had anything you shouldn't have. My  
17 pictures were all ripped off the wall. I brought this  
18 up at the Wednesday meeting. Parley, who was the one  
19 who had done it, along with Morrison, told me to shut  
20 up. I didn't get recreation after that. I thought to  
21 myself, "What on earth was the point in having these  
22 meetings?"

23 He then talks about abuse at Polmont from  
24 paragraph 151:

25 "There was physical abuse in the Allocation Wing.



1 If you answered back or didn't do as you were told you  
2 would get a punch or the officers would come into your  
3 room. They punched me to the body a couple of times.  
4 It would happen because I would answer them back. I was  
5 fed up with the name calling and sometimes I just had to  
6 say something. There was no need for them to slag off  
7 my family, saying things like, 'Spawning a piece of shit  
8 like you'. There was no need for them to speak about my  
9 family at all.

10 "One day at the swimming pool, my nails were checked  
11 and GIH said they were too long. It was a 25-metre  
12 pool with four lanes and this day I was sent to the  
13 furthest away lane. I'm not a swimmer at all, but what  
14 he made me do was swim the length of the pool, get out  
15 the other end. He was at the other end and he made me  
16 run down the side of the pool and jump in again and  
17 repeat it. I had to do it for the full 30-minute  
18 session. He was watching and I think he would have  
19 jumped in if something had happened, but it was  
20 frightening for me. I was just doing the doggy paddle.  
21 I swallowed that much during water during it, I ended up  
22 being sick.

23 "There was an incident with another prisoner on  
24 a different day. A guy, [REDACTED] in the swimming pool.  
25 GIH slapped him and the prisoner grabbed him and pushed

1 him in the pool. He was dragged down to the Digger and  
2 I believe he got a real doing from the prison officers.

3 "If GIH caught you diving into the swimming pool,  
4 you would get a slap off him, as you had to jump in and  
5 not dive. GIH was an animal and no one liked him.

6 "The prison officers abused prisoners in front of  
7 each other and other prisoners. The governor nor deputy  
8 were ever about when they behaved the way that they did.  
9 I saw boys being slapped in there frequently and  
10 everyone was being verbally abused.

11 "I overheard one of the officers, maybe his name was  
12 Leitch, making comment to another officer, about one of  
13 the prisoners whose wife had just had twin babies. He  
14 said something about, "How could a piece of shit like  
15 that have twins when other people couldn't?" I took  
16 from that comment that maybe he couldn't or he knew  
17 someone that couldn't. It then made me realise how much  
18 those guys really hated us. I couldn't believe it.

19 "There were no good officers in there. I hated them  
20 all. Their behaviour made me hate them. I did what I  
21 did and I accept that, but verbal abuse and getting  
22 beaten up made me really hate them."

23 He then talks about leaving Polmont from  
24 paragraph 158:

25 "A month before you were due to be released, you got

1 a four-day home stay from the Monday to the Thursday.  
2 I had stashed money in the house, so when I returned  
3 home I got the cash and got alcohol and got drunk. It  
4 was a struggle to return for the last month. My mate  
5 had to come down to the railway station to encourage me,  
6 as I didn't want to go back. It would have been stupid  
7 if I hadn't because I would have had time added. I got  
8 out of Polmont on [REDACTED] 1972."

9 He then talks about living after leaving what he  
10 calls "jail" from paragraph 159:

11 "I went to my parents' house after Polmont. Shortly  
12 after I got out, I got a job in Scottish Special  
13 Housing. I got a girlfriend, she got pregnant and we  
14 married about a year after me getting out. We had one  
15 daughter and two sons. My daughter sadly passed away  
16 earlier this year from breast cancer.

17 "My wife passed away when I was 27 years old. It  
18 was very sudden. She choked on vomit while she was  
19 sleeping. I brought up my children on my own with help  
20 from my mum. During my life I have worked on buses,  
21 British Steel and, latterly, I went into scaffolding.

22 "I never reported the abuse I suffered in any of the  
23 jails I have been in."

24 He then talks about the impact from paragraph 165:

25 "I detested my dad because of the way he treated me,

1 my mum and the rest of my family. He was a drinker and,  
2 as I've said, didn't work after his illness. I  
3 definitely think my relationship with my dad had  
4 something to do with me detesting authority and probably  
5 contributed to me getting into bother. I ended up  
6 rebellious. I didn't think at the time it impacted on  
7 me, but it obviously did.

8 "The impact of the brutality at Glenochil made me  
9 loathe staff. I have already said I hated police, but  
10 that stems from what I saw on the streets in my area and  
11 how I was treated by them. We used to stand at  
12 a corner. There were these two detectives we used to  
13 call them 'the untouchables'. They would drive about in  
14 a van. They would screech up to us where we were  
15 standing and they were so fast that they would be out of  
16 the van and have you pinned up against the wall before  
17 you had a chance to run.

18 "When I was 13, I got sent to the chip shop and I  
19 saw two guys fighting. I didn't know who they were. As  
20 I was walking I saw a panda car pull up with two police.  
21 I then heard a thud and one of the police had whacked  
22 one of the guys who was fighting right across the  
23 forehead and he bent down and there was lots of blood.  
24 There was another time I was playing in the graveyard  
25 and I simulated throwing a stone at someone.

1 A policeman saw me and he chased me. He caught me and  
2 took me into the nearby police box and slapped me about.  
3 I was only 13 years old. It would be fair to say I did  
4 have issue with all authority because of my dad and the  
5 police.

6 "This distrust continued once I went to Glenochil.  
7 When I had to strip that first day at Glenochil, all  
8 these scenarios were running through my head as to what  
9 was maybe going to happen to me, sexually or otherwise.

10 "I do think being in jail has affected my mental  
11 health. When I get angry and start screaming and want  
12 to hurt people, I think that stems from what happened in  
13 jail and the way they spoke to me and treated me in  
14 there. I did not have that type of temper when I was  
15 young, so I can only assume it's what happened to me  
16 later on.

17 "I love music AC/DC, Metallica and Led Zeppelin. I  
18 loved the music in the 1960s. It reminds me of my  
19 childhood with my sisters. I remember the first time I  
20 heard My Sweet Love by George Harrison, I was in  
21 Glenochil. T Rex when I was in Glenochil. Silver  
22 Machine when I was in Polmont. Hold Your Head Up, when  
23 I was in Polmont. I can listen to them now and I start  
24 thinking back to my time in these places. I often start  
25 crying and then I have to switch them off.

1            "It definitely changes your life. You don't think  
2            about it at the time. You think you're okay, but it  
3            does affect you. There isn't a year goes by that  
4            I don't think about these places.

5            "I haven't spoken to anyone about any of this. I  
6            know I'm my own worst enemy. I shut down and don't say  
7            a word about how I'm feeling. When my wife died people  
8            said I should speak to someone, but I never have.

9            "I would never ever commit suicide, but I have  
10           thought about it. I then think of my kids and grandkids  
11           and what impact it would have on them. At the same  
12           time, if I died in my sleep, I'd be okay with that.  
13           I would miss my grandkids.

14           "I was on depression tablets for about five years.  
15           That was a while ago, but I came off them on the advice  
16           of my doctor.

17           "I have felt great today sharing all of this. I  
18           came with the intention of sharing things, but  
19           I've surprised myself how much. I haven't shared this  
20           much before, not even with my partner. I've been  
21           emotional today, but I am an emotional person anyway. I  
22           still think about my time and it was over 50 years ago.  
23           As I've sat here today talking about it, I have realised  
24           just what impact these places had on me throughout my  
25           life and it's really sad."

1 In relation to records, he says:

2 "I have never tried to get records. I feel they  
3 would likely be full of lies."

4 He talks about lessons to be learned from  
5 paragraph 176:

6 "The short, sharp, shock treatment may have worked  
7 for some, but not me. I'd be interested to know what  
8 percentage it did work for. I think it would be very  
9 low.

10 "I'm not sure what would have worked for me. I was  
11 quite rebellious and I sometimes think to myself my  
12 behaviour was to get back at my dad. I don't know.

13 "The main thing is that each generation should learn  
14 from last in so many aspects. Hitting and beating  
15 didn't work then."

16 He talks about his hopes for the Inquiry from  
17 paragraph 179:

18 "I hope me speaking to you today will allow you to  
19 learn more about what happened with people in these  
20 places and that it gives a good understanding of what it  
21 was like and how brutal it was. I hope the stories are  
22 all similar and it shows that people are not making it  
23 up. That it actually happened.

24 "I should think if these people were challenged  
25 about their behaviour they would deny it, but if more

1 people tell their story, then there can be no debate."

2 He says, at paragraph 181:

3 "I have no objection to my witness statement being  
4 published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry.

5 I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are  
6 true."

7 And he has signed it. It's dated 11 July 2023.

8 LADY SMITH: Yes.

9 Thank you very much.

10 MS FORBES: My Lady, I think there is time for a shorter  
11 read-in perhaps before lunch.

12 This next statement is from an applicant who is  
13 anonymous and his pseudonym is 'George'. The reference  
14 for his statement is WIT.001.001.6659.

15 'George' (read)

16 MS FORBES: 'George' was born in 1949, and whilst he was  
17 later in Castle Huntly in Barlinnie, he was also in  
18 other establishments which are part of this case study.  
19 I will try to summarise them at this stage. We'll hear  
20 more detail about these places later.

21 'George' talks about his background and life before  
22 going into care, between paragraphs 3 and 7 of his  
23 statement. He tells us he was the third oldest in a  
24 family of six. The parents were both alcoholics. He  
25 was brought up in Glasgow near to Rangers' football



1 stadium, and he didn't go to the local primary school  
2 because he didn't like it.

3 His parents didn't notice and he drifted into a life  
4 of petty crime and would steal lead and other small  
5 items. He was eventually caught by the police.

6 His first charge was assault and robbery, when he  
7 took a tuppence ha'penny off a boy scout. He appeared  
8 at Govan Magistrates' Court and was sentenced to 14 days  
9 at Larchgrove Remand Centre.

10 He estimates that would be in 1959, when he was  
11 about ten years old. His aunt tried to get the court to  
12 pass custody to her, but they didn't listen. He doesn't  
13 remember any social worker involvement.

14 He talks about his two spells at Larchgrove between  
15 paragraphs 8 and 26 of his statement. The first time he  
16 was in for 14 days, and the second time he was remanded  
17 for background reports. All in all, it was about six  
18 weeks.

19 He was sent there because he thinks he was Church of  
20 Scotland and describes it as a horrible place, but has  
21 very little memory of it.

22 He was kept separate from the other boys the first  
23 time. But, the second time, he was treated as if he was  
24 a normal inmate. He remembers peer bullying and teasing  
25 about bed wetting. The regime there was strict.

1 Because of his connections to the Govan area of Glasgow,  
2 he didn't suffer from the bullies.

3 The court decided he should be sent to Balrossie  
4 Approved School and he was given 18 months to two years.  
5 He estimates that that was between 1960 and 1962.

6 He talks about his time at Balrossie between  
7 paragraphs 27 and 53. He was taken to Balrossie  
8 straight from court by police and, again, he thinks that  
9 it was a school run by the Church of Scotland.

10 He remembers a system of punishment where you would  
11 get the belt from SNR . There was no love.  
12 They were bad boys and needed to be treated strictly.

13 There was also an informal cuff around the ear from  
14 all members of staff if he did something wrong, but he  
15 didn't see it as excessive.

16 He was assaulted by another boy whilst there, who  
17 hit him with an army belt and he received seven stitches  
18 above his ear.

19 Bed wetters there would have to line up outside SNR  
20 SNR office and he would make them take their  
21 trousers down, get a piece of paper, like litmus paper,  
22 and rub it against his penis.

23 The matron wasn't nice. If you wet the bed, she  
24 would make him wash the sheets and bath him in a cold  
25 bath. He was quite capable at that age of bathing

1 himself, but she insisted on doing it.

2 Whilst he was on holiday with Balrossie to a school  
3 in Aberdeen, he wet the bed and the night shift watchman  
4 hosed him down. He then tells us about his time in  
5 Balgowan between paragraphs 54 and 69. He believes that  
6 he was sent to Balgowan because it was further away and  
7 it would be more difficult for him to get back to his  
8 mother's in Glasgow if he were to run away.

9 He describes what happened to him as being ghosted,  
10 that was given no warning that he was going and told to  
11 get dressed and just taken there.

12 He remembers the cobbler there was told to shave  
13 a cross into their hair because they were running away.  
14 He was with the Glasgow boys again, so he escaped  
15 bullying. But there was the odd fight between boys.  
16 SNR [REDACTED] gave the belt and he and another boy  
17 broke into a nearby shop and stole cigarettes. Police  
18 caught them very quickly and recovered the cigarettes,  
19 but he got a hiding from SNR [REDACTED].

20 He set about them with the school belt. He was  
21 assaulted about the head with the belt and he describes  
22 that as a vicious assault.

23 He then talks about time in Thornly Park School  
24 between paragraphs 70 to 87. He states that he was sent  
25 there due to him running away and, again, he describes

1 it as being ghosted away from Balgowan with no notice.

2 He was about 14 years old at the time he went to  
3 Thornly Park School. He was still bed wetting and  
4 addicted to nicotine. He was running away. The  
5 discipline there involved being laid over a medical  
6 couch, being made to change into gym pants, pulling the  
7 pants tight whilst being given six of the belt on the  
8 backside.

9 He states that he ran away so often that his  
10 backside became very tough with all the punishment he  
11 received. On one occasion, he ran away and broke into  
12 what he thought was an empty house. However, there was  
13 an old lady inside. He got a fright and he ran off, but  
14 the old lady told the police he had stolen £20. SNR

15 SNR took him to the couch and set about him with  
16 the belt on his bare backside and he went over eight  
17 strokes and drew blood and kept going until he was  
18 stopped by a member of staff.

19 He then went to Kibble and tells us about that  
20 between paragraphs 88 and 94. That was in about 1965.  
21 He states that he had good memories of Kibble. He was  
22 told that he could smoke there and, if he didn't run  
23 away for six months, he would be out.

24 I think then it takes us to paragraph 94 of his  
25 statement at the time when he left Kibble and before he

1 went into Scottish Prison Service establishments.  
2 I'll just start from paragraph 94. He says of leaving  
3 the Kibble in 1966:

4 "I did my six months at the Kibble and was then  
5 released back home. I was home for about six weeks when  
6 I was sentenced to a spell at Castle Huntly Borstal for  
7 an offence that I had committed. I would be about  
8 16 years old at this stage."

9 He then talks about Castle Huntly and Barlinnie  
10 between 1966 and 1968, from paragraph 95:

11 "I was sentenced to a year's imprisonment at  
12 Castle Huntly. While I was under 18 I also received  
13 a sentence of 15 months which I served at Barlinnie  
14 Prison Young Offenders in Glasgow. These were  
15 establishments run by the Prison Service and I had no  
16 issues with them at all. There was a lot of peer  
17 fighting, but no abuse by the prison staff. These  
18 places were violent institutions, but you learned how to  
19 cope with what went on. I have no complaints about the  
20 prison system at that time."

21 He then talks about leaving Castle Huntly and  
22 Barlinnie and transferring to Saughton Young Offenders  
23 Institution, at paragraph 96:

24 "I also served part of my sentence at Saughton Young  
25 Offenders Unit in Edinburgh, where I was transferred

1 from Barlinnie Young Offenders. I think I was in  
2 Saughton Young Offenders for about a year between 1968  
3 and 1969.

4 "After I served my sentence, I drifted into a life  
5 of crime, but all that changed when I met my wife. I  
6 met and married her in 1974. I have not been in trouble  
7 with the law since. We have three children and  
8 an adopted daughter. I must have changed my way of life  
9 because the courts agreed that my adopted daughter could  
10 be fostered by us because I was a reformed character.

11 "I have eight grandchildren and a great grandchild  
12 on the way. I have also been involved in voluntary work  
13 in London, helping children from troubled backgrounds.  
14 I ran that youth club in partnership with the local  
15 police until May 1992."

16 He then talks about his life after care, from  
17 paragraph 102. Then, at paragraph 104, he talks about  
18 impact. I just want to read a part out in the last part  
19 of that paragraph. He states:

20 "From the time I was a teenager until I was 25,  
21 I was never liberated from care or the Prison Service  
22 for a period of more than six months."

23 He then talks about lessons to be learned,  
24 paragraph 106. We can see that there, where he talks  
25 about Kibble and some of the other places.

1 Paragraph 107, he states that he has no objection to  
2 his witness statement being published as part of the  
3 evidence to the Inquiry and that he believes the facts  
4 stated in this statement are true. He has signed that  
5 and it's dated 13 December 2017.

6 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

7 MS FORBES: My Lady, I do have another one that we could,  
8 probably, do before lunch.

9 LADY SMITH: Yes, please.

10 MS FORBES: Lady, this is a statement from an applicant who  
11 is anonymous and his pseudonym is 'Joseph'. The  
12 reference for his statement is WIT.001.003.0744.

13 'Joseph' (read)

14 MS FORBES: Whilst 'Joseph' was later in Longriggend and  
15 Glenochil, he was also in other establishments, which  
16 are part of this case study. Again, I will just  
17 summarise those briefly.

18 'Joseph' was born in 1951 and he talks about his  
19 background and life before going into care between  
20 paragraphs 2 and 8.

21 His father's ancestors were Italian immigrants and  
22 his mother was Spanish. He's the oldest of nine  
23 siblings. He was born in a military hospital in  
24 Gibraltar and then he lived in the Gorbals area of  
25 Glasgow until four and then moved to Maryhill.

1           His father had been in the Royal Artillery and,  
2           after being released from the Army, worked as  
3           a landscape gardener. He was a heavy drinker and he  
4           would come home drunk and batter his mother and him.  
5           His father spoke Italian and his mother spoke Spanish in  
6           the house, and he spoke Spanish until the age of five or  
7           six years old. His father didn't like him speaking  
8           Spanish and wanted him to only speak English. He  
9           describes his father as kicking speaking Spanish out of  
10          him. He would call him a "Spanish bastard" or  
11          a "Gibraltarian bastard" when he was drunk.

12          He enjoyed primary school until he was about eight  
13          or nine and, at that time, he got what he calls a rat  
14          for a teacher, who was an ex-army man, who would strap  
15          him with the belt all the time.

16          Looking back, he doesn't know whether he got more  
17          torture at school or at home.

18          His educational prospects changed at that time and  
19          he went from being near the top of the class to failing.  
20          His father couldn't afford to feed the family with so  
21          many of them and so 'Joseph' was out and about trying to  
22          earn money for his mother and siblings. He got into  
23          trouble with the police and he ended up in children's  
24          court, as he calls it. He was sent to Larchgrove for  
25          28 days. He talks about Larchgrove between paragraphs 9



1 and 36.

2 He thinks he was eight or nine-years old when he  
3 first went to Larchgrove, but he was in there a number  
4 of times. Each time was for periods of 28 days for  
5 minor offences. The discipline there was strict. They  
6 were locked up and ruled by a regime. It was a place of  
7 dread and fear.

8 There was physical and emotional abuse. He saw kids  
9 being hammered by staff and dragged about by their hair.  
10 There was peer bullying, name calling for wetting the  
11 bed, and fighting. In between Larchgrove, he went back  
12 home.

13 There was a hatchet that he had to use for chopping  
14 wood in the house at that time. His younger brother had  
15 taken it and was playing with it outside, so he took it  
16 off him. However, he was seen by a policeman, who he  
17 says didn't like him, and then he was charged with being  
18 in possession of an offensive weapon. He was about  
19 12 years old at that time. He was sentenced to three  
20 years at St Mary's.

21 His mother told him she thought it would be for the  
22 best because he would be getting away from his father.  
23 He went to Kenmure St Mary's and he talks about that  
24 between paragraphs 40 to 88.

25 This was run by the De La Salle Order and he talks

1           about the Brothers slapping him and others. He was  
2           given the cane in the headmaster's office, punishments  
3           in the form of segregation in the dorm, taking away of  
4           privileges, chores in the form of scrubbing floors and  
5           showers. If you didn't conform, you were dragged about  
6           and hit.

7           Boys who were out of control disappeared and some of  
8           those boys came back after as long as six months and  
9           they looked to him traumatised and like different  
10          people. It was a brutal regime that was run like  
11          a prison and most of his time there he felt threatened.  
12          He describes living in terror, being assaulted by the  
13          Brothers, smacked, punched and kicked.

14          There was fighting with other boys. He remembers  
15          being battered by a Brother with a bunch of keys. He  
16          was thrown outside in the snow in shorts for hours and  
17          boys were dragged out of their beds at night by the  
18          Brothers and taken away down the corridor.

19          He was dragged out of bed one night by a Brother and  
20          slapped. He would wake up to one of the Brothers  
21          leaning over him in bed. A night watchman made him get  
22          out of bed at night and took him into the corridor, made  
23          him strip naked, stand and open his legs and then  
24          examined his backside.

25          There was a gang mentality there. Square goes and

1 bullying. He was assaulted by older boys. He told his  
2 father about one of the incidents and he came up to  
3 St Mary's to speak to the headmaster. Things calmed  
4 down after that and the Brothers left him alone.

5 He left there when he was about 15 years old. He  
6 went back to his parents' house, got a job in a bakery,  
7 but was made redundant. He said he found it hard to get  
8 a job because he was Catholic.

9 He got a job at the brickworks, but that was cut  
10 short because he ended up in Longriggend. He tells us  
11 about his time in Longriggend from paragraph 91:

12 "I went to Longriggend when I was about 16. I was  
13 only there for about a fortnight. I think I was there  
14 so that they could do a borstal report. There is  
15 nothing in particular I want to talk about concerning  
16 Longriggend. After my two weeks there, I was  
17 transferred to Glenochil."

18 He goes on, at paragraph 92, to talk about his time  
19 at Glenochil:

20 "I ended up staying in Glenochil for about eight  
21 weeks when I was about 17. It was a three-month  
22 sentence. It was a regimented place. I remember  
23 scrubbing tiles with toothbrushes when I was found to be  
24 out of order by the staff. The staff also made us go on  
25 marches. Glenochil was tough. But, in my mind, by that

1 stage, I was an adult. The one thing I can say that was  
2 positive about Glenochil is that when I left there I was  
3 fit. It meant that I was healthy enough to look after  
4 and defend myself.

5 "One thing I remember from there that didn't seem  
6 right was that they used to inspect your backside in  
7 much the same way as St Mary's. That only happened on  
8 one occasion. I was taken out of my cell by two members  
9 of staff one night-time. I don't remember the names or  
10 anything about the staff members. I was made to place  
11 my hands against the wall. They then pulled down my  
12 pants and both looked at my backside. It all lasted  
13 about a minute or two minutes. I don't know why they  
14 did that. I was given no explanation as to why they  
15 were doing what they were doing. I don't know whether  
16 they were looking for contraband or something."

17 He then talks about life after leaving there, at  
18 paragraph 94:

19 "There was no support from social workers or  
20 anything like that when I left Glenochil. I remember  
21 that when I came out of Glenochil I went back to the  
22 family home in Maryhill. When I got to the house I  
23 discovered that that there was nobody there. Nobody  
24 from Glenochil had checked or let me know that my family  
25 was no longer living there. I ended up living with my

1 pals for a while. I can't remember how long that was  
2 for. I got my job back in the brickworks. I ended up  
3 being there in total, on and off, for about two years."

4 He then remembered that he had family in Coventry  
5 and when he went there he discovered that his family  
6 were indeed there.

7 He talks about impact from paragraph 98. He met his  
8 wife, who was a friend of his sister, and got married in  
9 1972. They've been together ever since. They had three  
10 daughters together. He's had bowel and lung cancer, but  
11 got the all clear.

12 The section on impact talks mostly about his time in  
13 Larchgrove and St Mary's.

14 Then, in paragraph 113, we see:

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

19 He signed that and it's dated 21 November 2019.

20 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much. We've achieved a lot this  
21 morning through yours and Mr Peoples' efforts.

22 I will rise now for the lunch break. But, before I  
23 do that, for completeness, I should refer to -- I'm not  
24 going to mention all the names, but we have of course  
25 used a number of names of officers, of Brothers, of

1       SNR           the Approved Schools, SNR           , and one or two  
2       other people who were in care with the applicants.  
3       They're all protected by my General Restriction Order  
4       and they can't be identified outside this room.

5               Thank you very much. I'll rise now and then sit  
6       again at 2 o'clock, when hopefully the witness who is  
7       coming in person will be ready.

8       (1.02 pm)

9                               (The luncheon adjournment)

10       (2.00 pm)

11   LADY SMITH: Good afternoon, Ms Rattray. Is our next  
12       witness ready?

13   MS RATTRAY: Yes, my Lady. The next witness is  
14       an applicant, who has waived anonymity and is  
15       George Quinn.

16               My Lady may recall that George previously gave oral  
17       evidence on 1 December 2017, Day 28 of the hearings  
18       about his experiences in Smyllum.

19   LADY SMITH: I was about to say, it was quite a number of  
20       years ago and that would fit, because he was in Smyllum  
21       for quite a while, I think.

22               Well, if he's ready, I'm ready to hear him.

23                               George Quinn (sworn)

24   LADY SMITH: George, welcome back. I do remember we engaged  
25       before, in relation to Smyllum and your time there when

1           you were a little boy. I'm very grateful to you for  
2           coming forward again to talk about evidence that's  
3           relevant to Phase 8 of our investigations and case  
4           studies.

5           You know the routine. I hope you remember. Still  
6           red folders for written statements. It's there in front  
7           of you. You'll see your statement coming up on the  
8           screen. You can use either or neither of those, if it  
9           would help you.

10          You know about keeping in the right place for the  
11          microphone. We'll let you know if you're too close or  
12          too far away.

13          But also, as ever, if there's anything I can do to  
14          help or make it more comfortable for you to give  
15          evidence, do let me know.

16          This being the afternoon session, I'll normally  
17          break around 3 o'clock for five or ten minutes or so,  
18          but if you want a break at any other time for any  
19          reason, please let me know, will you?

20   A.   Thanks, ma'am.

21   LADY SMITH: If you're ready, I'll hand over to Ms Rattray  
22           and she'll take it from there.

23   A.   Thank you.

24   LADY SMITH: Ms Rattray.

25                           Questions from Ms Rattray

1 MS RATTRAY: Thank you.

2 Hello, George.

3 A. Hi.

4 Q. George, you have come to give evidence based upon the  
5 second statement that you have given to the Inquiry and,  
6 just for our records, I'm going to read out the  
7 reference we've given to your second statement, and that  
8 is WIT-1-000000767.

9 You will see that appearing on the screen in front  
10 of you, George.

11 However, to start with, if I could ask you to go to  
12 your red folder and to look at the paper version of your  
13 statement. If you could turn to the back page, which  
14 should be page 28.

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Can you confirm that you've signed your statement?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Do you see, at paragraph 105, you say:  
19 "I have no objection to my witness statement being  
20 published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry.  
21 I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are  
22 true."  
23 Is that correct?

24 A. That's correct.

25 Q. Thank you, George. You can put that to one side.



1           George, you have come forward with the second  
2           statement, again, as we know, a situation where earlier  
3           in your childhood, from the ages of six until 12, you  
4           were living in Smyllum.

5           By way of your background, you tell us that you were  
6           born in 1955; is that right?

7    A.   Yes.

8    Q.   We know from your previous oral evidence, George, that  
9           you grew up with your family in the Pollock and then  
10          Kinning Park areas of Glasgow?

11   A.   Yes.

12   Q.   Largely, against a background of poverty, your parents  
13          had problems with drink, with alcohol?

14   A.   Yes.

15   Q.   You said the house was grim and nobody was supervising  
16          you, and it was that background which led you moving to  
17          Smyllum?

18   A.   Yes.

19   Q.   We know from what you've told us in some detail before,  
20          at Smyllum, you suffered years of physical and emotional  
21          abuse?

22   A.   Yes.

23   Q.   Moving on now, I think we are moving on a few years in  
24          terms of this statement, and you tell us that by the age  
25          of 16 you were living on your own in a rented flat in

1 Glasgow?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Then you say that you got yourself into some trouble?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Can you tell us what happened?

6 A. Well, I had been staying when my family was staying

7 sometimes [REDACTED]

8 and my mum, my dad just kept moving about. So I got  
9 a chance in that flat in Govan and it was really just  
10 a one-bedroom bedsit. But it was mainly just used for  
11 drinking purposes. I was going a bit daft, drinking  
12 wine and just being a -- a young tearaway at that age,  
13 basically, because nobody is supervising you and nobody  
14 is stopping you or anything. But, in that case, you  
15 start going about with bigger boys, older than you.

16 So I got involved with these two guys. They were  
17 coming back to my flat and, on the way back to the flat,  
18 the three of us decided to break into this shop, and  
19 I was that drunk with wine I was stealing Mars bars, not  
20 realising they were going to the back and trying to get  
21 whatever else they could get.

22 So the shop was from about here to ... maybe three  
23 times the size of this room away from my flat. That's  
24 how stupid it was. I never even locked the door to my  
25 flat. Then the police came in and all hell broke loose,

1 sort of thing.

2 They accused us of breaking into the shop and all  
3 that. You didn't get a chance to answer. They had you  
4 in handcuffs and they were doing thing to you, punching  
5 you and all this carry on.

6 Stupidly, my flat -- this is going to sound awfully  
7 silly -- I'd ripped all the wallpaper and everything off  
8 the flat and I was going to decorate it the following  
9 weekend. My pal was a fantastic painter, but he'd wrote  
10 "F the police" and put a big pig on the wall, so that  
11 didn't help when the police came in. But it wasn't -- I  
12 did it intentionally. I thought nobody was going to see  
13 it. But they came in and seen that and they went a wee  
14 bit crazy with it.

15 Then, from there, I was dragged down to the Orkney  
16 Street police station. And they asked for your name and  
17 all this carry on. I was getting a wee bit cheeky with  
18 them, because I didn't -- I didn't know what I was  
19 doing, basically. I was still half drunk. And so they  
20 throw you in a cell, and then I don't know what time in  
21 the morning they came in, but two of them come in, in  
22 the morning, in the cell and they were, "Tell us what  
23 your name is", and all that, and they really started  
24 punching us and kicking us and slapping us about, and  
25 banging my head off the walls and what have you.

1           So I told them everything. I wasn't a big, brave  
2 boy then.

3           Next morning, you are up to court. So I was up to  
4 the Sheriff Court, I think it was. I'm sure it was the  
5 Sheriff Court.

6           You are up in front of the judge, and I'm standing  
7 there. I've not had a chance to wash. I've not had a  
8 chance to do anything, so my hair is all matted with  
9 blood. I had long hair. My face is black and blue, and  
10 I'm in a bit of a state.

11          I get a Legal Aid lawyer. So he was chatting to me  
12 and he says, "This is what you do". I says, "What do I  
13 do here?" He says, "They're going to ask you: how do  
14 you plead?". I says, "Well, what do I plead?" He says,  
15 "Well, if you plead guilty, you'll probably get a kick  
16 in the arse and a fine".

17          So I says, "Right, okay". I went in and pled  
18 guilty, and then the judge decided to put me on remand  
19 for three weeks to Longriggend, which I didn't even know  
20 existed. The other two guys who were with me pled not  
21 guilty, so they get bail and they get out.

22          Then that was me took from court, straight to  
23 Longriggend. I was in there for three weeks for  
24 background reports. So they would look at all the --

25 Q. In fact, I think you tell us, George, that while you

1           were told you were going to Longriggend, you were taken  
2           away and in fact you ended up in Barlinnie?

3   A.   No, I think I've got that bit wrong because I'm sure it  
4           was Longriggend for three weeks.

5           I then got up to the court and I get sentenced, and  
6           then they sent me to Barlinnie. I don't know if it was  
7           because it was overcrowded or whatever, but I think I  
8           got that bit in the statement wrong.

9   Q.   If we move on, as I understand it then, you were in  
10          Barlinnie for a shorter period of time?

11   A.   Yes.

12   Q.   Before being moved for a longer period of time to  
13          Longriggend?

14   A.   Yes.

15   Q.   If we look, first, at your experiences in Barlinnie,  
16          George. You tell us about that from paragraph 9 on your  
17          statement. What are your memories of arriving in  
18          Barlinnie?

19   A.   Terrified. Because, first of all, you're in the back of  
20          the van, getting took up. And I think as I said in  
21          there, there's a thing called the 'dog box' they put you  
22          in. You are just sat there. You can't move, so that's  
23          the way you're transported.

24                As soon as the doors open, you're took out and this  
25          big, massive structure's in front of you, really.

1           You're scared. You don't know what you're going into.

2   Q. You mentioned that there was a 'dog box', a cubicle in  
3       the police wagon.

4   A. Yes.

5   Q. But then, when they brought you into reception, there  
6       was another 'dog box'?

7   A. Yeah. The reception, they take all your possessions and  
8       all that. But I think that came in a box with you,  
9       because you had your prison -- Longriggend stuff on.  
10       And then after you get that, I think they gave you your  
11       prison sort of outfit, which was a shirt and jacket, if  
12       I remember, and denim sort of things and sort of  
13       plimsolls.

14           Then you are just basically -- they take you to  
15       where you are going.

16   Q. At that stage, did anyone explain to you what was going  
17       to happen or what the routine might be, or whether there  
18       were any rules or anything like that?

19   A. Not really, no. They sort of just registered you in and  
20       then just said: you are going to D or B Hall.

21           Whichever you were going, and I had no idea what  
22       they were talking about.

23           So you are then just basically -- once that's  
24       done -- I'm trying to think if I was put back in the  
25       'dog box', but I can't remember. But, once that's done,

1       you are took to the area you are designated to and  
2       that's when you get in, that's when you see the  
3       actual -- the jail for what it is.

4   Q.   What was the building like, the inside of it?

5   A.   Very cold, very grey.  Noisy.  It was sort of -- the  
6       stairs going up, I think it was two or three flights,  
7       and all the prison cells all the way around the square.

8       You had a sort of games area down the bottom, but  
9       you never see anything.  They just took you right up the  
10      stairs.  I think I was on the first or the second floor.  
11      Then I was put in a cell and, at the time, I was put in  
12      the cell myself, so you are just sitting there going:  
13      what do I do?  Who do I speak to?

14      Lucky enough, whoever was sharing a cell -- I can't  
15      remember the guy's name -- he was an older boy and I  
16      talked to him and tell him, and he says, "Don't worry  
17      about it.  You'll be all right in here, just as long as  
18      you keep your mouth shut and do what you're told and  
19      you'll be fine".

20   Q.   You say he was an older boy; what kind of age was he, do  
21      you think?

22   A.   I would think -- I was about 16-and-a-half then.  I  
23      think he'd have been about -- he'd have been around 35  
24      or 40, I don't think.

25   Q.   He was a full grown adult?

1 A. Oh, he had been in a few times, aye.

2 Q. Were there many boys of your kind of age there?

3 A. I didn't see a lot of boys my age. The only time you  
4 would see a lot of the people when you come in is maybe  
5 when they cut your hair, because you go down the stair  
6 and stand in the line, and you would see some young boys  
7 in there, older boys and whatever. As soon as you get  
8 sentenced, they cut your hair.

9 Q. We're looking at you're 16, you're in with an adult in  
10 his 30s; what did the wardens do or the staff do? Were  
11 they keeping a close eye on you, given you were so  
12 young?

13 A. I don't remember speaking to anyone of them at all.  
14 They were called screws. The guy says, "Just keep your  
15 head down. Just do what they tell you. Don't talk to  
16 them". He says, "You'll be fine". Nobody seemed to  
17 care, because there wasn't much you could really do.  
18 There was plenty of officers and things, and the only  
19 time you were really out this thing was when you went  
20 for your meals and things like that.

21 Q. Moving on now to the daily routine; was there  
22 a particular structure to the day whilst you were there?

23 A. The structure was you were usually -- I'd imagine it was  
24 6.30/7 o'clock you were up. It might have been --  
25 I don't think it was any earlier than that. Then the



1 cells opened and we did what they call a slop out. And  
2 that's because they didn't have any toilets in the  
3 cells, they only had these pot things and you had to do  
4 your stuff on that, which was totally disgusting. That  
5 was for two people.

6 You couldn't wait for the doors to go open to get  
7 these things. You had to clean them and get it  
8 disinfected. Then you just go down for breakfast. And  
9 you would get your breakfast and it would be a tray you  
10 get the breakfast on. So it was usually porridge and  
11 a bit of toast, maybe, or something and a cold cup --  
12 a cup of tea. It was cold by the time you got it to  
13 your cell.

14 Q. In terms of eating, you had to go and fetch your food  
15 and take it back to your cell?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. There wasn't a dining room or anything like that?

18 A. No, not there. The other ones, they had dining rooms to  
19 go to and things like that. But I don't know if it was  
20 because I was young or whatever, but I didn't eat with  
21 the rest of them.

22 Q. What was the food like?

23 A. The food, it was horrible. Porridge were lumpy. Lumpy,  
24 lumpy porridge and things like that. No sugar, no salt  
25 or anything like that.

1           The dinner was -- it could have been anything,  
2           anything from mince and tatties to soup, mince and  
3           tatties and maybe a cake, but it's all on this tray. So  
4           you get that on a tray and by the time you walk up the  
5           stairs to where your thingy is everything is all  
6           mixed-matched(sic) so you are eating -- it's -- that's  
7           squirrel, I don't know what you would call it. But that  
8           was -- every meal was like that.

9   Q.   What about the showers? Was that a place you would get  
10       privacy, when you were having a shower or something?

11   A.   No, you never get privacy.

12   Q.   Were you able to access the showers every day?

13   A.   No, no. You had to ask for a shower if you wanted one.

14       I honestly can't remember how many days I was in  
15       Barlinnie, but I only had the one shower.

16   Q.   Moving on now to whether there was any work or  
17       activities to do; how was it you spent your day when you  
18       weren't out getting a shower or meals?

19   A.   Basically, the guy -- I think he was maybe out working  
20       or something, or doing some sort of thingmy, there was  
21       nothing you could do. Maybe get a book, if you were  
22       lucky, and read a book.

23       Again, I don't think they were allowed to get me to  
24       work, maybe because of my age. I really don't know.

25   Q.   When you had nothing to do; where were you? Were you

1 still in your cell or were you able to walk around?

2 A. You could walk around, but nine times out of ten I would  
3 stay in my cell, just for the simple reason you're  
4 scared and the noise and -- it's all grown men in there  
5 and your imagination runs overtime, so you just stay out  
6 the road of them. You think you're a wee hard man when  
7 you get in these places, but you're just a wee, stupid  
8 boy.

9 Q. You mentioned, when you were describing the building,  
10 that at the bottom there might be some sort of  
11 activities to do?

12 A. Yeah. They'd maybe sit and play cards or -- I'm trying  
13 to think if there was a ping pong table or something  
14 down there. I don't think there was a pool table, but  
15 they had things to do. But the recreation wasn't --  
16 I think the television was probably the biggest  
17 recreation they'd get down there. Again, I didn't even  
18 go down for that.

19 Q. Do you remember whether anyone came to visit you whilst  
20 you were there?

21 A. No. Nobody came, no.

22 Q. Did you see a social worker or anything like that?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Did anyone tell you, if you wanted someone to visit,  
25 whether there was something you were able to do to

1           arrange that?

2   A.   They told me you could write a letter.  But, with my --  
3           I'm dyslexic, so for me to write a letter was a major,  
4           big deal, so I never bothered.  And who I would write it  
5           to, I don't know anyway, because my family was quite  
6           messed up.

7   Q.   Did you encounter any abuse in Barlinnie?

8   A.   Not so much in Barlinnie, no.  Not that I can remember.

9   Q.   I think in your statement, at paragraph 23, whilst you  
10          are not speaking about anyone being abusive to you, you  
11          mention that there were quite a lot of gang fights; is  
12          that right?

13  A.   Gangs were a big thing in Barlinnie.  It all depends  
14          what area you came from.  If you came from a certain  
15          area, you hung about with a certain gang of boys, and if  
16          you came from another area, another gang of boys, and  
17          there were fights between them.  Noises and a lot of  
18          mouthing off.  But gangs were a big thing then.

19  Q.   Did you see for yourself any fighting between prisoners?

20  A.   I've seen fighting, yeah.  You could get them fighting  
21          just going up the stairs or coming down for their food.  
22          I don't know if they're biding their time to do it or  
23          are going to do it or whatever, but it happens quick  
24          whenever it happens.

25  Q.   What happened if a fight broke out?  How did the screws

1           respond?

2   A. Well, I think the fight would go off and there would be  
3       a lot of noise and all the rest of it, and all the other  
4       prisoners would be shouting and bawling and "Fight!  
5       Fight! Fight!", and making all sorts of noises and then  
6       the police -- the screws would come in and they would  
7       usually just get in amongst it and break it up. But  
8       they would come in with truncheons and things like that,  
9       so they wouldn't last very long. They'd get dragged  
10      away, wherever they were going. They'd probably get  
11      what they called the Digger, which was a holding cell.  
12      You were put in there if you did things wrong.

13   Q. If there was anything that was concerning you, worrying  
14      you; was there anyone that you were able to confide in  
15      at Barlinnie?

16   A. Not really, just the guy in the cell with me. Any  
17      feelings you had you kept to yourself.

18   Q. I think you mention, at paragraph 24, about you weren't  
19      able to say something because you might be caught as  
20      a grass?

21   A. Oh, yes, you couldn't -- your life wouldn't be worth  
22      living if you did that in the jail. It's the one thing  
23      they don't tolerate at all.

24   Q. You say that it's not just the prisoners who don't like  
25      grasses; you say the wardens didn't like them either?

1 A. No. Funny enough, no. They didn't seem to. But the --  
2 the grasses were the sort of people that were looking to  
3 get things. You know, you could tell that somebody  
4 had -- I don't know, more cigarettes than somebody  
5 else --

6 LADY SMITH: Almost like selling information, George,  
7 trading?

8 A. Yeah. And a lot of the police -- I keep saying the  
9 police, the officers, wardens, they would love that  
10 because that gets them information. They can then go  
11 and do their thing, and they'll get brownie points from  
12 their warden and the snitch will get what he wants, and  
13 the guy that's been snitched on will get disciplined.  
14 But, if they found out you've done it, then everybody  
15 was against you in the jail. A lot of them were locked  
16 up and in solitary confinement, and some of them got put  
17 in with paedophiles and things like that, which nobody  
18 wants. But they were safer in there, because if they  
19 were out in the prison -- as I mentioned, I think I've  
20 seen that there, a guy got smashed with the steel tray,  
21 that would have been least of his worries. You couldn't  
22 go for a shower. You couldn't -- you would be just  
23 watching your back 24/7.

24 Q. How long was it you were in Barlinnie before you were  
25 moved on to Longriggend?

1 A. I think it was five to seven days. It was only about  
2 then. It wasn't a long, long time. It seemed a long,  
3 long time at the time, but it wasn't a long, long time.

4 Q. George, thank you.

5 We'll move on to Longriggend, which you talk about  
6 from paragraph 26 in your statement; what do you  
7 remember about your first day there?

8 A. It was completely different from Barlinnie. It was  
9 a more modern place than Barlinnie. The officers  
10 weren't as abrupt with you and things like that. They  
11 would talk to you and some even called you your name  
12 rather than a number. And so you would get in and they  
13 would tell you what was happening: you're in here for  
14 three weeks for background reports.

15 I was asking, "What do you mean background"?  
16 Because I didn't have a clue what they're talking about.  
17 They said they were looking into how you were living,  
18 who you were living with before, and what you done and  
19 things like that. I said: right, okay.

20 Then, again, you get a change of uniform and then  
21 you get put into a cell. It wasn't as bad a cell as  
22 Barlinnie. It was more modern, but still didn't have  
23 a toilet. But it was cleaner than Barlinnie. Barlinnie  
24 was filthy. It was a dirty place.

25 And then --

1 Q. You mentioned that when you arrived at Longriggend there  
2 was also a 'dog box'?

3 A. Yes. We always got -- the 'dog box' was -- as I found  
4 out going through, that's what they do. You are  
5 supposed to go in there and get changed and things like  
6 that, but there's barely enough room to sit, never mind  
7 anything else, but you eventually get it done. A lot of  
8 the time you're naked and they just open the door and  
9 you just cover yourself as quickly as you can.

10 Q. In terms of how you spent the day; were there any  
11 activities or structure to the day for you there?

12 A. Not in Longriggend, no. You were out for meals and  
13 things like that. You could have meals with other  
14 prisoners. Access to books, you were getting that.  
15 I think we even got a wee bit of telly, but that was  
16 about it.

17 It was long days. Weekends were -- you just got  
18 locked up on a Friday and they fed you in the cell, and  
19 then you got out on the Monday. So they would come the  
20 Saturday morning, you'd slop out again, do that and then  
21 lock you up again.

22 They might come on the Saturday night and let you  
23 slop out again, but that's all you got. You were locked  
24 up all weekend. No television, no radio, nothing.

25 Q. Some of the other people there; were they able to work?



1 A. Not in Longriggend. Longriggend was a sort of holding  
2 place for prisoners. I think they had either been  
3 sentenced or waiting to get sentenced. I don't remember  
4 any work details. I don't know what details is when you  
5 actually went in the borstal. That's when people were  
6 detailed work details.

7 Q. Were there any activities to pass time?

8 A. That was it. Just reading books or if you were lucky  
9 enough to have a pack of cards, you could play with  
10 the guy. A packet of cards, that's about it.

11 Q. Once again, did anyone come and see you?

12 A. Just when I went into reception. Nobody came, no. I  
13 never -- nobody came to ask me anything, so they must  
14 have done the background reports themselves, or just  
15 looked into whatever records they had or whatever. And  
16 then they probably looked at my upbringing from Smyllum  
17 and things, so that wouldn't have done me any favours.

18 Q. Your experience at Longriggend; did that involve any  
19 abuse?

20 A. No, not really. No. Just mental abuse more than  
21 anything else. You are young and you are full of life  
22 and all the rest of it and you're contained in this  
23 place and there's nothing you can do about it. You get  
24 depressed very quickly. You know, things like that,  
25 downhearted.

1 Q. I think you say after your experience there, you were  
2 taken back to court?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. From paragraph 34, you tell us about that and something  
5 in particular I think you say the judge said?

6 A. Oh, I'll never forget that until the day I die. He  
7 says, "I'm going to do you a favour, Mr Quinn, I'm going  
8 to sentence you to two years in borstal".

9 The two-year thing floored me, but I didn't really  
10 know what borstal was. [REDACTED] was the only one that  
11 was in the court and [REDACTED] just burst out crying, and I  
12 turned round and I'm saying, "It's okay, it's okay", but  
13 I didn't even know what I was saying there. It wasn't  
14 until I got down the stairs, there was a guy, I'm sure  
15 his name was [REDACTED], it stuck with me, and he says,  
16 "What are you for wee man?" I told him. He says, "What  
17 did you get?" I says I got two years borstal. He says,  
18 "Oh, Christ, that's hard", and he explained to me what  
19 borstal was and what I was going into, and it was quite  
20 hard to comprehend that I was going to be two years in  
21 a prison.

22 I didn't know about parole or anything at that time.  
23 I didn't know anything about that. It was just sinking  
24 in I was going to be in two years.

25 Q. Did anyone ever sit down and explain to you what the

1 purpose of sending you to borstal was?

2 A. No, no. You were just a number. The judges just -- no  
3 disrespect, ma'am, but they're just -- they believe what  
4 is in front of them. The believe what the police say.  
5 They believe this, they believe that. And very rarely,  
6 I would imagine, they would listen to you. They never  
7 asked me, anyway, because I probably swore or said  
8 something because I was in complete shock.

9 "I'm going to do you a favour", that was some  
10 favour.

11 Q. I think you do tell us in your statement, at  
12 paragraph 35, I think you had to rely upon the other  
13 prisoner there to tell you that the two-year sentence  
14 was probably to teach you a lesson and try to get you on  
15 straight and narrow?

16 A. I don't know if I says that or not, but they gave me  
17 a lesson. It was definitely -- I think at that time  
18 there was an awful lot of people using knives and the  
19 knife culture, and people were getting slashed and  
20 things like that. And I don't know if this was a short,  
21 sharp lesson they were trying to give people and I must  
22 have just fallen into -- maybe not that category, but I  
23 fell into the category, "We're going to give a short,  
24 sharp lesson". Because there is another thing call  
25 detention you used to get, I found out once I was in

1           borstal. That was three months' detention at Glenochil.

2           That was like the hardest SAS training, discipline,  
3           you'll ever get in your life and that was three months  
4           solid. But you got out after the three months, so that  
5           was a short, sharp lesson there. But, to get two years,  
6           considering I didn't have a big line of convictions as  
7           well, I just thought it was -- once I got to think about  
8           it, I thought: that's pretty hard.

9           Then they says I was going to borstal and a place  
10          called Polmont, which I hadn't heard of, didn't know  
11          existed.

12        Q. Moving on then to what you tell us about Polmont, from  
13          paragraph 37 of your statement, George. At this stage,  
14          you are obviously still aged 16, when you are going  
15          there?

16        A. I think I was about 16-and-a-half, if I'm honest.

17        Q. When you arrived at Polmont; what were your first  
18          impressions?

19        A. As soon as you get out the police van you are taken  
20          again into a reception place and it was -- nobody spoke.  
21          They tell you to speak when you're spoken to. Don't do  
22          this, don't do that. So you're standing there. Again,  
23          I think you were put in the 'dog boxes' to change into  
24          their uniform.

25          I think -- I think what they did to us that time is

1           they gave us our stuff, sort of your blankets, your  
2           pillow cases, your clean uniforms, your thingmy. You  
3           didn't have -- you were in the 'dog boxes'. You didn't  
4           have anything on at the time. This is what they gave  
5           you.

6           They tell you -- when you open the door, they says,  
7           "When this door opens ..." There was a few of us, they  
8           were all standing in line and we were all naked "... you  
9           run through there as fast as you can to the other end,  
10          until the officer opens the other end of the door". So  
11          we don't know what we're going into. Then, as soon as  
12          the door opened, we were that terrified we just ran and  
13          it was the dining hall, and everybody is peeing  
14          themselves laughing because we're running through there  
15          until we got to this door.

16          They opened this door and we move off. Couldn't  
17          wait to get in the door because we were all embarrassed.  
18          But that was your first sort of introduction to Polmont,  
19          and you didn't say a word. You didn't, because the  
20          place was really -- it was quite scary that way. The  
21          discipline of it.

22          There was no discipline in Barlinnie. There was no  
23          discipline so much in Longriggend, but as soon as you  
24          went there, you knew. You would only be a number. You  
25          answer to your number, so you had to remember all that

1 as well.

2 Q. You first arrived there and you were told to run naked  
3 through the dining hall?

4 A. Yes, after you had been in front of reception. I don't  
5 know if they took your details, or if they had the  
6 details, but you were told not to say anything. And  
7 once we were done with that, they put you in the 'dog  
8 box' and we think we're going to be getting -- well, I  
9 thought I was going to be getting stuff to put on.

10 They've opened the 'dog box' -- told you take your  
11 clothes off, opened the 'dog box' and they gave you this  
12 pile. So, once we've run through there, they then  
13 brought you back with your clothes on and you had to  
14 walk through the dining room again and go up the stairs  
15 to the cell they put you in.

16 Q. How did that make you feel, being made to do that?

17 A. It felt ... first of all, as soon as they open the door,  
18 you have to run. The hair on the back of your head  
19 stands up. What am I running for? But you do it  
20 anyway. You'd have run into a fire, you would have done  
21 what they told you to do, and as soon as you're at the  
22 other end, they said it was a laugh. And they're  
23 waiting for you coming in because you are new prisoners.  
24 And when you get back and think about it, that's to  
25 degrade you.

1           Then they tell you not to talk and that's your  
2           number, so you know right away it's a serious place  
3           you're in now.

4           And then they take you up to your cell and they put  
5           your stuff in the cell, and then one of the officers  
6           will come in and he told you your number, gave you your  
7           number, which I couldn't remember. And he says: this is  
8           your place now for the next eight weeks. This is  
9           detention. You'll do what you're told. You'll stand to  
10          attention. You'll speak.

11          Blah, blah, blah, all the way through.

12          So you are standing there and you're listening.  
13          Then he says: your room will be spotless. Your room  
14          will be checked every day. If there's a spot of dust,  
15          any privileges you have will be taken from you. This is  
16          on -- this will be taken from you. If you break  
17          discipline you'll be put in the Digger.

18          Blah, blah, blah. Then he came in with another  
19          prisoner and he says, "Come with me".

20          He took me into his room and he says, "Look at  
21          that". There was a thing called a bed block, that was  
22          a square block like that, and that was your blanket with  
23          your sheets inside and it was pristine. You couldn't  
24          have got it any tidier. That is the way your bed block  
25          is going to be made up every single day. If it's not,

1 your room will be tossed upside down and you'll do that  
2 again. You'll get no privileges. You'll be not out at  
3 night, you'll get no TV privilege, you'll get nothing.  
4 So he's going to show you how to do it.

5 So the boy came in and here I went, and I was  
6 chatting to him and I was saying, "How bad is this  
7 place?" And he said, "You've got a lot to learn, son, a  
8 lot to learn. Learn this quick because this is a bed  
9 block. If you don't get this right, this stupid ..."

10 I forgot the name of it again. "The bed block", he  
11 says. They seem to be focusing on this.

12 Try as I might, they would come in the next morning,  
13 do as best I could, bed up, bed block up, everything, do  
14 it again. Do that again. Do that again. It must have  
15 took me days to get it to the satisfaction. It was  
16 getting to the stage now I was sleeping on the floor,  
17 rather than sleeping in the bed once I got it right  
18 because I didn't want to go through all that again the  
19 next day.

20 That was a sort of introduction to Polmont.

21 Q. You say that at the end of the day that you went to bed  
22 both physically and mentally exhausted?

23 A. Oh, the mental side of it, it's very, very hard to  
24 explain because you can't speak when you want to speak.  
25 You can't do anything without asking permission.



1           You know they're going to -- you can feel the  
2           tension in the place and you just felt as if it was  
3           a very violent place. And a lot of the times they come  
4           in, when they've kicked your bed block up, they would  
5           give you a kick as well, they would give you a shove and  
6           they'd be right in your face, "That's not right".  
7           They'd be like a Sergeant Major in the army and you're  
8           standing there absolutely terrified.

9           You would go away and your mind's doing overtime: if  
10          I don't get this right, I'm in trouble.

11          And it was just a stupid bed block. But, as I found  
12          out maybe, the detention, I think the idea was to break  
13          you down to build you up again. After I thought about  
14          it, years after, that's what they've tried to do, but  
15          it's horrible, horrible way of doing it.

16 Q. You've mentioned about being slapped; is that right?

17 A. Oh, you would get slapped or punched or kicked for no  
18          reason. No reason whatsoever.

19          My cell was here and there was another cell there  
20          and another cell there, and I was two flights up and it  
21          was all the way round the square, and there were  
22          dormitories round the bottom as well. Whenever the  
23          doors opened in the morning -- and I'm sure it was  
24          7 o'clock -- you had to be up, ready, teeth brushed,  
25          hair brushed, everything, and you had to be out that

1 door as soon as they say "out" and everybody -- you've  
2 got your -- what you call it, your potty. So you're  
3 standing like that, as soon as they shout you have to be  
4 out standing to attention with this potty.

5 If you're a second later than somebody else, they  
6 come out and they would stand on your feet. "Do you not  
7 hear? Are you deaf?" Whatever. And you couldn't  
8 answer, because if you answered, again, "Who told you to  
9 speak?", just things like that.

10 That was sort of par for the course.

11 Q. You obviously mentioned your potty, so you still had to  
12 slop out?

13 A. Yes, that was through the -- the only time you didn't  
14 have to do that was when I went to Castle Huntly. You  
15 were put in a dormitory and it had toilets for you.

16 Q. What about the food at Polmont? How was that?

17 A. I would like to say the food was -- it was all steamed  
18 food. And that was another thing, they were timing you  
19 for eating, so much time to eat your lunch. Breakfast  
20 wasn't too bad because you never got a lot. You just  
21 got the usual porridge, sometimes you might get  
22 cornflakes. But your lunch, I think you were lucky if  
23 you'd get 20 minutes to eat that.

24 It could be anything from potatoes, cold meat, soup,  
25 sometimes you got a bit of cheese, a ploughman's sort of

1 thing. And at night-time, it would be -- it could be  
2 anything from, again, maybe steak pie, maybe mince pie,  
3 maybe fish or something like that. The food wasn't the  
4 worst. It was a lot better than Barlinnie's.

5 Q. You say, at paragraph 44, where you're talking about  
6 meal times and food, that you ate together in a dining  
7 room; is that right?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. There were issues that you weren't allowed to sit  
10 particular places because it was someone else's seat or  
11 something like that?

12 A. No, again, it would be the sort of gang side of it.  
13 A lot of them tried to get -- they never said: you sit  
14 there.

15 When you got your food, you could sit basically  
16 anywhere. So the usual, all the boys from Govan would  
17 sit with the boys from Govan. The boys from Pollock  
18 would sit with the boys from Pollock or whatever. So  
19 I was from a mixture of places, so I didn't bother, so  
20 I would just sit and somebody would come and sit beside  
21 you. And you would have a wee blether as you were  
22 eating, that was when you would get your wee  
23 conversation.

24 At night-time, if you didn't get your bed block  
25 thrown up, you were allowed to go down and watch the

1 telly and things like that. So that was -- it wasn't  
2 too bad. You got some sort of recreation time there to  
3 speak to people. And you were finding out more and more  
4 things about the place as well, because you were asking  
5 other boys what the story was.

6 Q. You say in that paragraph:

7 "Nobody really bothered us and we didn't bother  
8 them."

9 When you were sitting in your groups. You say:

10 "You could see the guys that weren't physical enough  
11 to put up a fight against the bullies. They were the  
12 ones who were picked on."

13 A. Yes, and a lot of them -- there were dormitories down  
14 the stair, and the ones that were getting picked on  
15 seemed to be in dormitories. Because once the door's  
16 shut to the dormitories, you're locked in until the next  
17 morning, so they were definitely getting picked on.

18 You could see the weak guys and you could see the  
19 bullies as well that were bullying them. As far as I  
20 could see, the screws wouldn't do much about that  
21 either.

22 The boys that were getting bullied were scared to go  
23 to the screws because then they would be grasses and it  
24 would be ten times worse for them.

25 If you did -- it happened to me, I had to fight

1 a guy in the jail I'd never met before in my life, and I  
2 ended up getting -- I don't know if I put that in the  
3 statement. But I ended up getting put in the Digger  
4 because of it.

5 Q. You do, actually. Perhaps if we move to that part now.

6 You say later on -- and we can move there -- at  
7 paragraph 54 onwards, you are telling us that you always  
8 had to be on your toes and be very wary. You had to  
9 toughen up. I think you then go on to give us an  
10 example of you having to toughen up and, perhaps, this  
11 is what you are referring to when some strange boy said  
12 he wanted to fight you?

13 A. It was crazy. As I say, I was -- I tried to get through  
14 no bother and nobody bother me and sit and talk to the  
15 same sort of guys who were in the same sort of mind, and  
16 up to then nobody had.

17 But I was two flights up and, in the morning, you  
18 have to get out that door. You are basically standing,  
19 like coming out the trap. The door is open, but you're  
20 not to come out until they tell you to come out. Down  
21 on the ground floor there was this guy, and his hair, it  
22 was cut right in, like a skinhead. Although I got  
23 a haircut, it wasn't cut right in. Usually, when it is  
24 cut right in, it meant you had nits.

25 For whatever reason he caught my eye and I caught

1 his, and he was making all sorts of gestures to me, rude  
2 gestures, and I'm looking at him and I'm going, "Who are  
3 you? I don't know you". He's going, "You're getting  
4 this". Aye, very good.

5 LADY SMITH: You are demonstrating him drawing his finger  
6 across your throat and across your cheek.

7 A. I was getting it every way. I didn't even know the  
8 guy's name, ma'am.

9 So this guy came up to me and said, "So and so wants  
10 to fight you", and I said, "Who?" And he says,  
11 "Thingmy", and I looked and it was him with the skinhead  
12 and he's going, "Me and you". I said, "Give us peace".

13 He said, "Look, you better fight. If you don't  
14 fight, he's going to come down and he'll chib you".  
15 Aye, very good. "Where do you want to fight?" He says,  
16 "In the toilets". Right, okay. So I go up and walked  
17 to the toilets. I knew before I went in he wasn't  
18 coming in himself. So I'm looking about the toilet for  
19 any sort of weapon I could get and all I got was  
20 scrubbing brush for doing the floor. He came in and he  
21 ran at me and he had something in his hand, I don't know  
22 what it was, but I hit him in the head with the  
23 scrubbing brush. And his two pals came in and they shut  
24 the door, then it was a stramash. You try not to get  
25 hit in the face, because if you're hit in the face, then

1 the screws would see it and you would be in trouble. So  
2 it was plenty of punches to the body and all the rest of  
3 it.

4 Eventually, the screws come in and it all got broke  
5 up, and then you are took up front. I can't remember if  
6 it was the governor or if it was one of the wardens. He  
7 says, "You've been caught fighting. Who started it?"  
8 And I says, "I didn't really start it. We were messing  
9 about". He says, "Who started it?" I said, "I don't  
10 know, I was just messing about, nobody got hurt". He  
11 said: right, you're getting three days in the Digger.

12 I had heard of the Digger. I didn't know what it  
13 was.

14 They stick you down, and it's a cell with nothing in  
15 at all. It's like a police cell and it has a concrete  
16 base. It's like a wedge, and that was your bed and  
17 you've got slopping out thingmy. So you're in there all  
18 day. They bring you meals. They get your meals. You  
19 put it back out.

20 At night-time, they would give you a book. You  
21 would start reading the book. Next night they would  
22 take that book off you and give you another book. So  
23 nobody reads a book in a night, so it's a waste of time.  
24 They took that away. You're in there for three days and  
25 three nights and then they come in and say, "Have you

1       learnt your lesson?" I says, "Aye, definitely".

2               "Who started it?" I says, "I've no idea". They  
3 say, "Right, get out", and I was back with the rest of  
4 the prisoners.

5 Q. You actually say that you felt that it was your saving  
6 grace that you didn't bottle it when he wanted to fight?

7 A. Yes, without sounding bravo or hard or anything, it's  
8 just as well the wardens came in because I would  
9 probably get a really bad beating because it was three  
10 of them and me. But once you stand up for yourself  
11 you've got a wee chance because they'll think twice  
12 before they come from you, then. I was a big boy  
13 anyway. That's why I feel sorry for the wee scrawny  
14 guys and the wee guys that don't fight back. That  
15 happened on numerous occasions.

16 Q. Although you do go on to say that not backing down then  
17 got you into trouble later in life?

18 A. Well, it's a fight or flight thing. And ever since  
19 those days -- again, no disrespect to the court, I don't  
20 trust judges, lawyers, police, anybody in authority.  
21 I'm very, very, very wary, because I don't think my  
22 version would be believed. And that's ever since I was  
23 a boy, and I've lost jobs for fighting for other people.  
24 I've stood up for other people, I've stood up for  
25 myself. My stupid big mouth has got me into all sorts



1 of trouble and it's been from the early days.

2 You've got -- you had to -- I had nobody else to

3 stand up for me, so I had to do it for myself.

4 LADY SMITH: George, am I right in thinking that in the days

5 I used to sit in the High Court you never appeared in

6 front of me?

7 A. I don't know what you would have given me.

8 LADY SMITH: Maybe there are alternative experiences.

9 A. It would be a blessing, your Honour. I wasn't that bad

10 and thank God I never had anything to do with High

11 Court.

12 LADY SMITH: You stuck to the Sheriff Court, did you?

13 A. Yes, it was the Sheriff Court I got sentenced.

14 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

15 MS RATTRAY: You also say that there was a time where you

16 tried to run away; what happened there?

17 A. I don't remember that one.

18 Q. Sorry, I think I am confusing that. My apologies.

19 What I'm thinking of, it's the time that you were in

20 front of **SNR** and you enquired about whether you

21 were allowed to appeal your sentence?

22 A. Yes. I had been talking to the boys, as I said, when

23 you're having your dinner and things like that,

24 recreation, and they were saying, "What had you done

25 before you got your sentence?" I said, "A few breaches

1 of the peace and a few daft things, being lifted when  
2 drunk. Nothing outrageous". He said, "They gave you  
3 two year? Why don't you appeal against it?" I said,  
4 "How do you that?" He says, "Get a request to speak to  
5 SNR [REDACTED]".

6 Now, I had heard about SNR [REDACTED]. His nickname  
7 was GIL [REDACTED], they called him. And I asked them why he  
8 is called GIL [REDACTED] -- because he looks like a big  
9 [REDACTED]. He's got this moustache and the tweed  
10 three-piece suit on and his shoes -- when you see him  
11 you'll know why he's called GIL [REDACTED].

12 I put in an appeal to see SNR [REDACTED] and they asked  
13 what it was for -- SNR [REDACTED], sorry -- I said I  
14 wanted to put in an appeal against my sentence. So  
15 I don't know if it was that day or the next day, I get  
16 marched up to his office and get marched in, and he's  
17 sitting there at this big table and he's got the  
18 three-piece suit on. He's like as straight as a rod,  
19 very, very regimental, and he says, "Right, blah, blah",  
20 number whatever it was. "What's this? You're up here  
21 appealing your sentence? Why would you appeal your  
22 sentence?"

23 I says, "Well, sir, I think two-year was really  
24 severe for what I've done". I said, "I don't think I  
25 deserve ..." as I'm saying this he's walking round. And

1 I think I said I was standing, but I can't remember if  
2 I was standing or sitting when he hit me. But he walked  
3 round and the last thing I expected was him hitting me,  
4 but he hit me a clout and I can still feel it to this  
5 day. My ears were still ringing. And I get down, and  
6 then he came over me and I got up, and I said, "I don't  
7 want to appeal, I don't want to appeal". I broke down.  
8 I was terrified.

9 I thought he was going to kick me with these brogue  
10 shoes he had on, and it was a "Stand up, you ... Get out  
11 of here", that was me out the door. I think I saw him  
12 one more time that I was in there and that was just  
13 goodbye and that was enough for me. He absolutely  
14 terrified me, the man. That was his nickname, GIL

15 GIL .

16 I can't remember -- I would only have known him as  
17 SNR . I would never have spoken because that  
18 would have been insolence or something and you'd get  
19 another slap for doing that. So I just ended up doing  
20 my -- two month I did in Polmont. And then they had  
21 three places to go after that. You either stay and do  
22 the rest of your time in Polmont, you go to Carrick  
23 House, where all the nutters are, and you go to  
24 Castle Huntly, in Dundee.

25 I was getting further and further away from Glasgow.

1 So whatever chances I had of a visit, which I didn't  
2 really have, was getting further and further away. So I  
3 got sent to Dundee anyway. And as soon as I went down  
4 to Dundee, to Castle Huntly, it was like day and night.

5 Q. We'll move on to that.

6 Whilist we're not focusing on Castle Huntly -- and in  
7 statement in front of you you'll see it's redacted  
8 because it's not one of the particular places that we're  
9 looking at in the hearings -- I think it would be quite  
10 helpful to compare and contrast Castle Huntly to your  
11 experience in Polmont, if you're able to do that from  
12 your memory.

13 What we understand is that Castle Huntly was an open  
14 prison?

15 A. Yes. I got to work out on the farm. They called you  
16 your first name. You called officers their first name.  
17 You are very sceptical right away because they call you  
18 George and nobody's called you George since you've been  
19 in the prison system. And I'm waiting for me to say  
20 something and then I'm going to get hit. Didn't happen.

21 Then the food was better. They had a football team.  
22 You played for the football team. It was day and night.  
23 But that was preparing you for getting released again.

24 I think I was in there six or seven weeks and they  
25 gave me a parole date, which I was amazed at. You are

1           actually getting a date when you're going to get  
2           released.

3   Q.   What you say -- you won't be able to see it because it  
4           is redacted just now -- that it was much more relaxed?

5   A.   Oh, very much so.

6   Q.   You say that the officers there were nice?

7   A.   Aye, they were.  You could actually have a conversation  
8           with them and things like that.  You were allowed to  
9           have an opinion and you were allowed to speak about  
10          things.  Just -- it was completely day and night.  You  
11          are taken aback because I was going to Castle Huntly, no  
12          idea how good or bad it was going to be.  Was it going  
13          to be the same as Polmont?  Was it going to be worse  
14          than Polmont?  And then to go to this place where they  
15          are all so relaxed and laid back, trustworthy because  
16          you could have run away any time you wanted.

17                 You were in the middle -- maybe you were four-mile  
18                 from Dundee centre, so you could easily have run away.  
19                 But, when you get your parole date, that gives you  
20                 something to aim for and they say: right, I'm not going  
21                 to do something stupid and get put back in and have to  
22                 do two years, when I can get out maybe in a year or  
23                 less.

24                 And that's what I've done.

25   Q.   You tell us in that part of your statement that you were

1 treated like human beings?

2 A. Yes, yeah.

3 Q. And that being able to play football and so forth gave  
4 you back a bit of normality?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And that people encouraged you?

7 A. Yeah. They know what's happened to you in Polmont and  
8 places like that. So they -- they're wanting you to do  
9 your time. You're in prison. They want you to do your  
10 time. They don't want any trouble. They don't want you  
11 to cause any trouble, so they're fair with you and, if  
12 you're fair, I find with most people, if you are fair  
13 with people they are fair back, and that's exactly what  
14 they were.

15 You still used to get cheeky with them, and you'd  
16 get "Cheeky bugger", and kid on they were going to hit  
17 you and things like that, but they never followed it  
18 through like the other ones. You would never have  
19 dreamt of speaking to them the way you spoke to the  
20 officers in Castle Huntly.

21 Q. You say that -- I don't know if you recall -- you  
22 mentioned you had an issue with one officer and he  
23 appeared to initially come into the room and close the  
24 door and suggest he was going to fight you or something  
25 like that?

1 A. He did. I was chancing my arm. I never thought for a  
2 minute he was going to do this. I said, "See if I was  
3 outside, I would sort you right out". I was kidding on  
4 with him. So everybody was coming out of the dormitory  
5 and he said, "Hold on", and he shut the door and took  
6 his jacket off and said, "Well, fill your boots". I  
7 said, "I was only kidding. I'm not going to fight you".  
8 He said, "If you want to fight me, fight me", I said,  
9 "I don't want to fight you. I was only joking". He  
10 said, "Well, stop showing off in front of the other boys  
11 and get out of here". He would have leathered me. So  
12 I was daft, but I wasn't stupid.

13 That was tongue-in-cheek that come back and bit me  
14 on the bum.

15 Q. You were released from Castle Huntly?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And you were allocated a parole officer?

18 A. I was. But, to this day, I couldn't tell you what his  
19 name was or anything. I don't even know if I saw the  
20 parole officer. I ended up doing a year of my sentence,  
21 so I -- if I was on parole, I would be on parole for  
22 a year. I never got into trouble in that year, so -- I  
23 didn't see him that often, if I remember right. Maybe  
24 once a month I've seen him.

25 As soon as I came out, I got a job right away. So

1           once I saw him and he saw I was making an effort, I was  
2           staying with [REDACTED], I was in a job, I had  
3           a girlfriend, I met my wife [REDACTED]. So I was doing all  
4           the right things. So he says, "I will see you once  
5           a month to see how you're behaving", and then it was  
6           getting less and less, and once your parole is up,  
7           that's you.

8    Q. I think, at paragraph 86, you tell us that your wife  
9           changed your life?

10   A. Oh, big time. Without her, I don't know where I would  
11           have ended up. That is the gospel truth.

12   Q. In terms of reflecting on your experiences in Barlinnie  
13           and Polmont and Castle Huntly; is there anything you  
14           think, looking back, you have learned from those  
15           experiences?

16   A. Just I didn't want to go back into it again, that's for  
17           sure. It was -- to say an eye opener was  
18           an understatement. I can't put into words what it was  
19           like to go in. You see a lot of the films, and I  
20           mentioned it as well, you see the films now, it's easier  
21           now to get drugs in jail than it is outside, and things  
22           like that, there was always sort of -- there was never  
23           drugs or anything like that, when I was young. It was  
24           basically people smuggling in cigarettes or tobacco and  
25           things like that.



1 I don't think it was -- it was more severe then.  
2 When you got borstal, you had to be an idiot if you  
3 wanted to go back in again, because usually after  
4 borstal it was detention, and after detention it was  
5 Barlinnie, and that was you right in the police system  
6 all your life. And for anybody who wanted to do that, I  
7 couldn't have comprehended getting your freedom taken  
8 away like that. You try your damndest never to get  
9 into trouble again.

10 It's an experience. As I say, it's very, very hard  
11 to put into words. It's terrifying and just horrible.

12 Q. I think you say, at paragraph 91, that you would love to  
13 erase Polmont from your mind?

14 A. Oh, yes, yes. Aye, especially GL [REDACTED]. He'll be with  
15 me be until the day I die. You go to somebody that's SNR [REDACTED]  
16 SNR [REDACTED] of the prison system you're in and for that to  
17 happen to you, and when I thought back, he's just done  
18 that because he doesn't want to get his card marked: one  
19 of [REDACTED] prisoners had the cheek to go get an appeal.

20 That's all I can think.

21 The only other thing, when I was doing this and  
22 thinking about it, it comes back to you. Sometimes you  
23 don't think about it for a long, long time and it hits  
24 you like a tonne of bricks. Some of the things I didn't  
25 put in the report and I couldn't believe what I didn't

1           was the sectarian side of things when you were inside  
2           prisons.

3           When I was young, if you went for a job, the first  
4           thing you were asked was what school you went to. If  
5           you said a Catholic school, nine times out of ten you  
6           never got the job. By the same token, I know a lot of  
7           protestants that went to Catholic firms and the first  
8           thing they asked was what school you went to, if they  
9           found out they were Protestants, they weren't getting  
10          the job. That was an everyday day occurrence when I was  
11          young. Bigotry was something you lived with and you got  
12          it all the way through the Prison Service as well.

13          The police, when they lifted me, I was a wee Fenian  
14          this and a wee -- this and that and the next thing. And  
15          that was from the start and all the way through, until I  
16          got to Castle Huntly and then it just stopped, because  
17          the officers didn't like it and the boys -- if you were  
18          a Celtic supporter, you were Celtic supporter and if you  
19          were a Rangers supporter, you were a Rangers supporter.  
20          It's a game of football at the end of the day and that's  
21          the way it should have been, but that had a big part to  
22          play in my youth as well.

23    Q. I think when you speak about lessons to be learned, from  
24          paragraph 97, in your statement, George, you tell us  
25          that the brutality of Barlinnie and Polmont was

1 mind-boggling?

2 A. Yeah.

3 Q. And you say that people committed suicide in these  
4 places?

5 A. Yes. Some people -- well, I never saw them.

6 I've talked to people as well and people were telling me  
7 people were throwing themselves off [REDACTED]

8 [REDACTED].

9 There was nothing in the jail to keep you occupied  
10 as such, you know? You've got to keep your brain  
11 stimulated in some way or you're just going to end up  
12 getting deeper and deeper in depression. If I'd been in  
13 Barlinnie any more than I was, I don't know what would  
14 have happened to me, because it's a grim, grim place.

15 Q. George, that actually concludes the questions I have for  
16 you, unless there is anything in your statement that you  
17 haven't spoken about, that you would like to bring out  
18 in any way?

19 A. Just what I brought up there, about the sectarian side  
20 of it.

21 Another side of it as well, I don't know, the  
22 discipline I went through -- I came out Castle Huntly to  
23 freedom, if you like, and I was still saying "Yes, sir,  
24 "No, sir", to the bus conductor, to somebody I would  
25 meet. "Thanks very much, sir". It is just imprinted in

1 your brain and it took me ages to get that out my  
2 system.

3 It's like -- it's just hammered into you. You don't  
4 speak until you're spoken to in Polmont.

5 But I just look at the jails nowadays and they're  
6 an absolute joke. You've got your computer, you've got  
7 your cup of tea. You've got your kettle, your radio,  
8 your television. Where's the punishment? Where's the  
9 deterrent in that?

10 You've got all the pensioners who can't get a fire  
11 on. And they're getting three meals a day and they're  
12 getting a wage and they're criminals. If they'd done  
13 what I'd done and they were getting what I got done to  
14 me, they would think twice before they would want to go  
15 back in the jail again. That is just my opinion now.

16 I'm not saying what they've done to me is right  
17 because it wasn't right, but it made sure I've never  
18 done it again.

19 Whereas these sorts, they're in and out the jail  
20 willy-nilly.

21 Q. When you sort of compare and contrast your experience in  
22 Polmont and Barlinnie on the one hand, and Castle Huntly  
23 on the other, which experience do you think helped you  
24 in your life, moving forward?

25 A. Polmont and Barlinnie never helped me in any way, shape

1 or form. It just terrified me. Castle Huntly was  
2 a safe haven for -- don't get me wrong, you're still in  
3 jail. You still have to put your hand up if you want to  
4 go toilet and ask permission to this, that and the next  
5 thing, which is your sentence, but it's a more civilised  
6 way.

7 As I say to you, if they're fair with you, you're  
8 fair with them. So it's a status quo. Whereas there's  
9 no status quo in the other two. It's just: you do it  
10 that way or you'll suffer the consequences.

11 Questions from Lady Smith

12 LADY SMITH: George, a couple of questions from me, going  
13 back to Castle Huntly and the way they somehow dealt  
14 with sectarianism. You sound very positive about the  
15 way things were there; how did they achieve that?

16 A. If you go to a football situation, a Celtic and Rangers  
17 game would be on the telly and they would tell you  
18 before a ball was kicked: if you start any nonsense  
19 about this song or that song, we're turning the telly  
20 off and none of you will watch it.

21 So you learned -- as I say, if you give respect,  
22 you'll get respect.

23 Don't get me wrong, you are still a Celtic supporter  
24 and you're still a Rangers supporter, and you can still  
25 have your wee arguments. There was no fighting or

1 anything like that. A lot of it was just banter. To  
2 this day, I've got great friends who are Protestants and  
3 Rangers supporters, and I have great friends who are  
4 Celtic supporters and they're still my friends no matter  
5 what religion or what team they support.

6 LADY SMITH: Thank you. It's very interesting.

7 George, thank you again for engaging with us for  
8 this part of our work here. It's been really valuable  
9 to have your contribution, not just in writing, but you  
10 prepared to come along and talk to us about it today.  
11 I'm very grateful to you for doing that.

12 I'm now able to let you go. Thank you very much  
13 indeed.

14 A. Thank you.

15 (The witness withdrew)

16 MS RATTRAY: My Lady, that concludes the oral witnesses.

17 But perhaps after the short break we could recommence  
18 with more read-in statements.

19 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much.

20 We'll take the break just now.

21 (3.10 pm)

22 (A short break)

23 (3.21 pm)

24 LADY SMITH: Ms Forbes.

25 MS FORBES: Good afternoon, my Lady.

1           We'll now proceed with another read-in from  
2           an applicant. This applicant is anonymous and his  
3           pseudonym is 'Alex'.

4           The reference for his statement is WIT-1-000001042.

5                           'Alex' (read)

6           Whilst this applicant was later in Longriggend and  
7           Polmont, he again was also in other establishments which  
8           are part of this case study, and I will provide a brief  
9           summary of his time in those places as well.

10           He was born in 1951. He talks about his life before  
11           going into care between paragraphs 2 and 12. His father  
12           died when he was three and his mother remarried. He  
13           then called his step-dad "dad". His dad was a van boy  
14           and his mum was a clippy on the buses. [REDACTED]

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LADY SMITH: Usually quite a smelly one.

MS FORBES: He tells us he nearly lost his eyesight from

1 that. They lived altogether in a small one-bedroom  
2 flat. He didn't go to school for very long. He kept  
3 absconding. It wasn't a happy childhood and the police  
4 were always involved.

5 They would catch him and take him for a cup of tea  
6 and a biscuit and he would tell them he didn't want to  
7 go back home because [REDACTED] was hitting him.

8 They would say to him that they'd make sure that [REDACTED]  
9 [REDACTED] didn't hit him, but as soon as they were away, [REDACTED]  
10 [REDACTED] was back to hitting him again. [REDACTED] used to lock him  
11 in his room with no clothes on because he would climb  
12 out of the window.

13 He remembers a probation officer, but no social  
14 worker. He thinks he went to court around 10 May 1961,  
15 just after he turned nine. His mum was told that she  
16 could take him home and she said, no, she didn't want to  
17 take him home. He doesn't remember much about the  
18 circumstances surrounding him going to his first  
19 establishment, which was Bellfield. He just thinks he  
20 was sent there because he was running away from the  
21 house. And he thinks it was a court decision.

22 He tells us about Bellfield between paragraphs 13  
23 and 19 of his statement. He says he was only there for  
24 a matter of weeks. He must have been nine or ten years  
25 old. He doesn't remember anything bad happening whilst



1 he was there.

2 After being in Bellfield, he returned home. The  
3 situation was just the same, so he started running away  
4 again. When he was ten he was charged with reset for  
5 taking two bottles of stout from a drunk man lying in  
6 the street and taking them home for his dad.

7 The police had apparently seen him doing that and  
8 ended up charging him. He went to court in Govan and  
9 pled guilty, so he was only home a couple of weeks and  
10 then he was remanded to Larchgrove to wait for a place  
11 at an Approved School.

12 He remembers the term "care and protection" being  
13 used to describe what they were doing. He thinks  
14 because he was running away he was becoming a danger to  
15 himself.

16 He tells us about Larchgrove Assessment Centre  
17 between paragraphs 20 and 39 of his statement. He  
18 thinks he was in there at least three times. It was  
19 only ever for a couple of week, although the last time  
20 he was there, he was waiting to go to an Approved School  
21 and he was there for six weeks.

22 Whilst there, he says that he got belt for running  
23 away. He experienced physical assaults from one  
24 particular member of staff, who punched and kicked him  
25 and gave him the belt and he received the belt from

1 other members of staff. He was told the night before  
2 that he was going to St Ninian's, Gartmore. He talks  
3 about St Ninian's between 40 and 99 of his statement.

4 Whilst there he experienced force feeding, including  
5 the bones of fish and chicken. He believes he absconded  
6 about 20 times and was belted every time he returned and  
7 received a loss of privileges. Long walks were given  
8 and hillwalking as punishments.

9 He witnessed and heard about sexual abuse by staff.  
10 And he experienced physical assaults from staff in the  
11 form of sticking a dirty nicotine-stained finger in his  
12 mouth and receiving the strap over thin gym shorts.

13 He estimates that he was given the belt over 200  
14 times whilst he was there. He received assaults by  
15 kicking. He was told by another boy who was there, who  
16 was aged ten or 11, that one of the Brothers had raped  
17 him and that that rape, he says, was in the papers years  
18 later and that Brother was found guilty.

19 He experienced a Brother putting his arms around him  
20 and bouncing him up and down and rubbing up against him  
21 and he received electric shocks from a Brother who made  
22 him hold on to two rods to give him an electric shock.  
23 This made him cry. Once he refused to hold on to them  
24 he was given belt.

25 There was peer abuse in the form of fighting among

1 the boys. There was also assaults from other Brothers,  
2 punching him in the ear with closed fists, assault with  
3 riding crop on the bum. He told his mother about what  
4 was happening, but she didn't believe a priest would do  
5 that.

6 He left St Ninian's when he was around 13. He was  
7 told he was going home, but he was back to running away  
8 again. And after that, he ended up at St Mary's  
9 Kenmure.

10 He tells us about St Mary's between paragraphs 100  
11 and 117. He was there for about two years. He  
12 remembers gang fights between the boys. There was  
13 Edinburgh and Glasgow gangs. He believes staff knew and  
14 would let the fights carry on. He received belts from  
15 the Brothers for absconding. There was a physical  
16 assault in the form of being belted, kicks on the behind  
17 or punches on the side of his head.

18 He told his aunty about this. A week before he left  
19 someone told him he would be going home to stay with his  
20 mum. Things weren't any better and he got recalled to  
21 an Approved School within a couple of weeks.

22 He then tells us about St John's Approved School and  
23 I think that's at paragraph 118. He was about 16 years  
24 old there and was there for about two months before  
25 a job was found for him at Broomhouse Brickworks. He

1 didn't receive the belt at St John's and he doesn't  
2 complain of abuse there.

3 When he was 17, he went to stay with [REDACTED] for  
4 a few weeks. He got in trouble again, although he can't  
5 remember what that was for and he was remanded to  
6 Longriggend. At page 24, paragraph 128 of his statement  
7 he starts to tell us about Longriggend:

8 "I was at Longriggend about three times between the  
9 ages of 17 and 20. I would have been staying with my  
10 mum when I wasn't at Longriggend. Once you reached 21  
11 you couldn't stay there any more and you had to go to  
12 Barlinnie.

13 "It was single cells at Longriggend. There were no  
14 shared cells. I was always in the Remand Wing until I  
15 went to court. Twice I went to court I got off with it,  
16 but there was one time I went to court and got done.  
17 I was then sent to Barlinnie until they got a place for  
18 me at Polmont.

19 "I was only ever at Longriggend for a short time as  
20 I was on remand. It was a hell of a place and between  
21 there and St Ninian's they were the two most brutal  
22 places I'd ever been in."

23 He talks about the routine at Longriggend at  
24 paragraph 131:

25 "We got up in the morning and had to dust our cell

1 and write a letter before we went down for breakfast in  
2 the dining hall. After breakfast, you were back in your  
3 cell and you would maybe get an hour's recreation,  
4 walking around the yard, depending on the weather. You  
5 were then back in your cell until tea time. After tea  
6 in the dining room, you were back in your cell and they  
7 did come round with a supper at night, but that was you,  
8 basically locked up in your cell until the next morning.

9 "When you were in the cell the doors were closed and  
10 you weren't allowed to lie on your bed. Some people  
11 would take a towel and lie on it on the table you had in  
12 the cell. You would hear the screws yelling, get off  
13 that table. You basically just sat on your seat all  
14 day.

15 "You had your hour outside when you were walking  
16 about, but other than that, there was nothing at  
17 Longriggend. I got Commando comics at my visits, so  
18 I would sit in my cell and read my comics. I don't  
19 remember much other recreation. I don't know if you  
20 could refuse going out to walk about. I think you could  
21 and I think I did, because I couldn't be bothered.

22 "I did get visits from family. That's when I got my  
23 comics. Sometimes if you were bad though and you had  
24 something handed in for you at a visit you wouldn't get  
25 it. The screws wouldn't give it to you.

1           "There was a punishment at Longriggend and they  
2           called it the Digger. It was solitary confinement and  
3           I was sent there a couple of times. Once was because I  
4           went for a screw, Mr HLS [REDACTED], because I knew he was  
5           coming for me and another time it was for fighting with  
6           somebody.

7           "You would go in front of the governor and you would  
8           be told you were getting seven days' loss of remission  
9           or whatever it was to be and they would take your sweets  
10          and things away from you as well and you'd be sent away  
11          down to the Digger. If you got a decent screw you might  
12          get a book but a lot of the time you would just be  
13          sitting for days in there and that was you. You would  
14          get out for the toilet but that was it. They would  
15          bring food to you but it was disgusting. I hardly ate  
16          the food."

17          He talks about abuse at Longriggend from  
18          paragraph 137:

19          "The screws were animals at Longriggend. There was  
20          a fee fat guy called Mr HLV [REDACTED] who was from Aberdeen and  
21          he would beat you up. There was another one or two that  
22          did the same. They would just come into your cell and  
23          beat you up. The screws just liked having that power  
24          over you. That can go to a lot of people's heads and it  
25          certainly went to a lot of the screws' heads at

1 Longriggend.

2 "The screws I remember are GUD [REDACTED], Mr HEG [REDACTED], who  
3 we called HEG [REDACTED], because he had a big, long face,  
4 a Mr HLT [REDACTED] who was an utter animal. [REDACTED]  
5 [REDACTED] so we called him HLT [REDACTED]. They would all come into  
6 your cell and kick you or punch you. They didn't need a  
7 reason to be honest. HLT [REDACTED] once broke a guy's arm. I  
8 didn't see it happen, but I remember seeing the boy with  
9 the sticky on afterwards. HLT [REDACTED] did assault me though.  
10 He and another two screws once held me upside down and  
11 just kicked me again and again.

12 "When I was in the Remand Wing these people would  
13 just come into the cell and kick me, punch me and slap  
14 me. It was never just one either. There would always  
15 be at least three of them.

16 "I got into a tiff with a Mr HLS [REDACTED] at  
17 Longriggend once. We would get told to have our cell  
18 all done in the morning and then we would get a letter  
19 to write. You had to do all that before breakfast so  
20 you had about an hour-and-a-half. He came round this  
21 morning and I hadn't finished my letter and he was  
22 wanting to take it off me, but I wouldn't give him it  
23 until I'd finished it. He said he would come back and  
24 see me about it later.

25 "Next thing I could hear the footsteps coming along

1 the corridor and I thought, okay here we go. I knew  
2 I was getting a do-in. HLS came in with other  
3 officers and gave me a beating. He kicked me and  
4 punched me along with the others. I can't remember the  
5 other men's names. I lied down and curled up into  
6 a ball to protect my head so they could just kick my  
7 back and my ribs.

8 "I don't remember ever getting any medical treatment  
9 for any injuries. But it wouldn't have been offered  
10 anyway. It would need to be a really serious injury to  
11 get medical treatment. I did ask to see a doctor once  
12 or twice for black eyes and bruises and things like that  
13 from the beatings. I asked the screws that had beaten  
14 me, but they never ever got me a doctor.

15 "It was a brutal regime and I did tell other people  
16 that they didn't want to be going to Longriggend because  
17 of that, but I gave up speaking to people about the  
18 beatings and things that happened to me. I certainly  
19 never reported anything to the police. It had  
20 a reputation for being a brutal place."

21 He then talks about Polmont Young Offenders  
22 Institution from paragraph 146:

23 "I was only at Polmont for a couple of months.  
24 I was sent there for a sort of assessment and then they  
25 decided I should go to a semi-open borstal so that was



1 Noranside. I think I had been done for reset while  
2 I was on probation at Glasgow Sheriff Court. I remember  
3 my probation officer was a Mr Ross Mathie. He actually  
4 wrote a report that said I had been in institutes for so  
5 long that I was now thoroughly institutionalised. Then  
6 they sent me to borstal after all that.

7 "I must have been about 18 when I was in Polmont.  
8 When I was there I was in an area they called the  
9 Ally Cally, which was just the name they gave to the  
10 allocation place you were assessed."

11 He then talks about abuse at Polmont from  
12 paragraph 149:

13 "Polmont had a problem with BUs as well. There were  
14 a few screws who beat up the boys just the same as at  
15 Longriggend, but I can't remember the names of the staff  
16 at Polmont."

17 He then talks about Noranside and Kenmuir, at  
18 paragraph 150:

19 "I think I was moved to Noranside because I wasn't  
20 as serious an offender as some of the other boys that  
21 were in Polmont. There were bank robbers and attempted  
22 murderers in Polmont. I was at Noranside for about ten  
23 months.

24 "Noranside was semi-open, which meant that at  
25 night-time you left all your doors open until they were

1 ready to close it down for the night. You could wander  
2 about and visit other boys in their cells and talk and  
3 play music, things like that.

4 "They also had what was called the special unit,  
5 which was for when you'd done so long at Noranside,  
6 about three months I think it was, and you were put into  
7 that unit and went out to work. Once they trusted you,  
8 you could go out and work. That was what it was all  
9 about there."

10 He then tells us that whilst he was at Noranside he  
11 went to that unit and he then got to work at a textile  
12 company. At paragraph 154, he tells us:

13 "Noranside was all right and the officers were okay.  
14 There was no violence or abuse there."

15 That he saw. He left Noranside when he was about  
16 21.

17 He talks about his life after care between  
18 paragraphs 157 and 161. He tells us that he got married  
19 in 1972, had a son and has granddaughters. He did some  
20 labouring jobs, but couldn't stand them and worked for  
21 the Maritime Museum as a tourist guide and did some  
22 seasonal work. He also worked in pubs and as a night  
23 watchman.

24 He talks about the impact, between paragraphs 162  
25 and 180. He says that he started drinking heavily:

1 "I had dreams and nightmares, mostly about the  
2 Approved Schools and mainly St Ninian's."

3 He relates drinking to what happened to him in care.  
4 He tells us that he tried to kill himself in 2007 by  
5 walking in front of [REDACTED]. He took drugs. He  
6 took a [REDACTED] overdose.

7 In lessons to be learned, between paragraphs 186 and  
8 189, he talks about child welfare and things like that  
9 now being in a better place.

10 He says, at paragraph 187, that they have to get the  
11 best people to do these jobs and the organisations  
12 responsible need to have a mission statement, telling  
13 everyone: this is how we do it.

14 Paragraph 188, he states he thinks having a group of  
15 people for the children to speak to would be a good  
16 thing. People who are independent and would listen and  
17 do things when children tell them about abuse.

18 At paragraph 190, he states:

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

23 He signed that and dated it on 27 July 2022.

24 My Lady, I believe that now we are going to have  
25 a further read-in from my learned friend, Ms Rattray.

1 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much.

2 MS RATTRAY: My Lady, the next statement is of an applicant  
3 who is anonymous and has the pseudonym 'Scott' and his  
4 statement is at WIT.001.002.1102.

5 'Scott' (read)

6 MS RATTRAY: "My name is 'Scott'. I was born in 1956. My  
7 contact details are known to the Inquiry.

8 "A lot of the places I am going to talk about in  
9 this statement have bad reputations. I stayed in most  
10 of the places for short spells. It is difficult for me  
11 to say exactly how long I was in each place when I  
12 arrived there or when I left. My memory isn't great on  
13 that sort of thing. I am very forgetful. I remember  
14 all the places I was in, but I don't always remember  
15 some of the detail."

16 From paragraph 3, 'Scott' speaks of his life before  
17 care. He was brought up in Glasgow, where he lived with  
18 his parents and three siblings. They lived in a single  
19 end and all six shared the same bed. He said that life  
20 in the house was horrendous. His parents were never  
21 there. His dad drank and gambled. The gas and  
22 electricity was cut off and 'Scott' had to steal coal  
23 for the fire, candles from a local church and clothes  
24 off washing ropes.

25 He says he was like a starving fox roaming the

1 streets looking for something to eat. His mother was  
2 never at home and always away with her fancy man. The  
3 children witnessed violence between their parents. His  
4 mother beat him naked with a carpet beater, which led to  
5 him being taken into care.

6 From paragraph 10, 'Scott' tells of his experiences  
7 in care. He was admitted to Haggbaws Childrens' Home in  
8 Glasgow. Secondary Institutions - to be published later

9 Secondary Institutions - to be published later

10  
11  
12  
13

14 On being returned home, 'Scott' was sexually abused  
15 by a neighbour. He says the next thing he remembers was  
16 being in Larchgrove Remand Home when he was nine or ten  
17 years old and where he suffered sexual and physical  
18 abuse by staff.

19 At paragraphs 45 to 67, 'Scott' speaks about  
20 Balrossie in Kilmacolm where he was sent, somewhere  
21 between the ages of nine and 11. He describes being  
22 bullied and abused, sexually and physically, there.

23 He ran away to his mother, who took him to a police  
24 station in Kilmacolm and showed the police his injuries  
25 from a beating. He says the police didn't want to know.

1 His mother then took him back to Balrossie and  
2 complained to SNR . 'Scott' says SNR  
3 apologised and his mother then left, but nothing changed  
4 for 'Scott' at Balrossie and he kept running away.

5 'Scott' was then moved to Thornly Park Approved  
6 School, Paisley. From paragraph 68 to 72 he speaks  
7 about his time there. A resident who had sexually  
8 abused him at Balrossie was also there. 'Scott' began  
9 running away again.

10 'Scott' was moved again and this time to Balgowan  
11 School. He thinks he was aged somewhere between 12 and  
12 14 was there for a couple of months. He speaks of his  
13 time there, from paragraph 73 to 82.

14 He says he was sexually and physically abused there  
15 and ran away.

16 Moving now to paragraph 83, on page 18, where  
17 'Scott' speaks about HMP Barlinnie:

18 "I was the youngest boy in Scotland to have ever  
19 been sent to Barlinnie prison. I think I was told that  
20 by prison staff. I think I was younger than 13 when I  
21 first went there. I could only have been 12 years old,  
22 but I may have been as old as 14. I was placed in  
23 D Hall. I was in amongst the main population of adult  
24 prisoners. I was still a young boy. I was kept on the  
25 top landing. They kept people in that area who would go

1 on to places like Longriggend. They had me there for  
2 a wee while. I think I went there before the first time  
3 I was in Longriggend.

4 "I remember an inmate called Jonny Ramensky when  
5 I was first in Barlinnie. I was in Barlinnie the same  
6 time as him. He was a safe cracker. During the war, he  
7 was dropped behind enemy lines to crack safes for the  
8 allies. He was the first prisoner to escape Barlinnie.  
9 I remember speaking to that man in there. I mention  
10 Jonny Ramensky because it may provide an idea as to when  
11 I was first in Barlinnie.

12 "In between all these Approved Schools, I was always  
13 in Longriggend. I was there when I was a young boy.  
14 I was in and out of there. I was the youngest to have  
15 ever gone there. It was the 1960s that I was in there.  
16 I don't think I should have been in there at that age.  
17 I was only a wee boy. I was underage. I was maybe only  
18 12 the first time I went there. I am not sure. I was  
19 only in there for one or two weeks. I went back to  
20 Longriggend a few times after that. It was always for  
21 assessment and reports.

22 "I would get woken up at 6 o'clock in the morning,  
23 taken into the gymnasium for about an hour and then  
24 taken back to my cell. I then got washed and whatever.  
25 I then had my breakfast at about 8.00 am. I was taken

1 back to my cell just before 9.00 am. I was then made to  
2 clean my cell. I had to polish the floor of my cell  
3 until it was like glass. I had to dust above the doors  
4 and the window ledges. I remember that I walked around  
5 with cloths on my feet, so I wouldn't make marks. You  
6 had to make your bed like a bed block. You laid out all  
7 of your kit on top of your bed.

8 "I remember my mother coming to visit me in  
9 Longriggend. She would hand me big parcels with  
10 cigarettes, fruit and things like that in them. I was  
11 only a wee boy. I remember looking around the visiting  
12 room. All the inmates were like big men to me. I was  
13 in there with guys who had big beards.

14 "They wouldn't allow the prisoners in Longriggend to  
15 work because they were juveniles, up to the age of 21.

16 "Longriggend was a bad place. During the day you  
17 weren't allowed to use your bed. You couldn't go on  
18 your bed and lie down. You had a wooden chair in the  
19 room. You had to sit on that chair reading a book from  
20 9 o'clock in the morning until 8 o'clock at night. I  
21 couldn't read then. I didn't even know what I was  
22 reading.

23 "I remember lying under my bed one time because  
24 I was so tired. I got caught. I got dragged out by the  
25 staff and given a horrible doing. I was assaulted quite



1 a lot in Longriggend. It was all to do with things  
2 concerning your cell or being cheeky to the prison  
3 officers. I saw guys getting dragged along corridors.  
4 There was nothing you could do because you were locked  
5 behind your door. You would hear the guys squealing.

6 "As time went on, I continued to return to  
7 Longriggend. I returned there a few times before I  
8 became an adult. It became a better place. I remember  
9 being in the cook house and it was great."

10 From paragraphs 92 to 129, 'Scott' speaks of life at  
11 more institutions. He was at Oakbank School in  
12 Aberdeen, where he says he was bullied and ran away.  
13 Rossie Farm school, Montrose, where he suffered sexual  
14 abuse by another resident and saw another boy physically  
15 abused by staff.

16 'Scott' speaks of returning to Oakbank, then being  
17 sent home when he was 15. He says he ended up in  
18 Larchgrove Remand Home before being moved to Geilsland  
19 School, Beath, where he says he was physically and  
20 sexually abused.

21 Moving to paragraph 129, on page 28, where 'Scott'  
22 speaks about moving to Polmont:

23 "I think I was allowed out on leave from Geilsland  
24 towards the end of my time there. I don't think I got  
25 released after Geilsland. I remember breaking into

1 a bingo hall alongside two other boys whilst I was on  
2 leave. I think we all went to Glasgow Sheriff Court.

3 "After that, I was sent to Polmont with the two  
4 other boys.

5 "Polmont was used as an assessment centre. They put  
6 you there whilst they decided where they were going to  
7 put you. I was about 16 or 17 when I went to Polmont.  
8 I was in there for nine months. That was the least you  
9 could do in there. You could do up to two years. I was  
10 so well behaved they let me out after only nine months.

11 "When I got there I was put in a part of Polmont  
12 called the allocation centre. You got put there for the  
13 first couple of months. After that, they can either  
14 keep you in Polmont or send you out to open prisons,  
15 like Castle Huntly or Dungavel.

16 "I didn't get the chance to go to an open prison  
17 because of my background. I was kept in Polmont. There  
18 were four wings in Polmont, north, south, east and west  
19 wings. I was placed in West Wing.

20 "There was a big, long corridor in the allocation  
21 centre. I remember being down on my knees with a big  
22 scrubbing brush and pail washing that floor. That was  
23 a chore they handed out. Two boys would do that. One  
24 boy would start at one end and the other would start at  
25 the other. You would meet in the middle. It wasn't

1 a nice chore, because the corridor was so long and the  
2 floor was made of rough concrete. The corridor must  
3 have been about a mile long.

4 "When I was in the allocation centre, I was  
5 assaulted by a man called Mr GSM His nickname was  
6 GSM. He came into my cell and physically  
7 assaulted me. I think he did that because I wrote my  
8 name on a wall with a felt tip pen. All of the other  
9 boys were locked up at the time. It was during the day.  
10 He was on his own. He definitely did that sort of thing  
11 to other inmates.

12 "I heard and witnessed other people being dragged  
13 out screaming by Mr GSM and other prison officers.  
14 They would get dragged off to the North Wing. North  
15 Wing was a bad wing. That was where all the evil people  
16 went. There were a lot of violent people in North Wing.  
17 I remember that the floor was slabbed and there were  
18 stairs that went down to a basement underneath the hall.  
19 In the basement, there were cells. For some unknown  
20 reason, I remember being in North Wing. Seeing people  
21 get dragged away was horrible. It is possible that the  
22 boys were getting dragged way because they had done  
23 something wrong.

24 "When I got to West Wing I discovered a boy who had  
25 sexually abused me before at another children's home.

1 He was on a different landing, though. He couldn't get  
2 near me in the wing itself. There was an automatic gate  
3 in the way. He told me to ask to get into the welders.  
4 I asked to get in there and got in there. I couldn't  
5 get rid of this guy. He was always around me. The  
6 sexual stuff all started again with him in the toilet  
7 cubicle that was actually inside the workshop. He'd  
8 make me go in first and then he would go in behind me.  
9 He'd make me stand up on toilet pan seat. He did that  
10 so nobody could see two people in the cubicle. He made  
11 me do dirty things. That happened every single day.  
12 I think I was in the welder for a couple of months. I  
13 ended up asking to get out of there.

14 "I got into the cook house. I had a great time in  
15 the cook house. All the people were great to me. There  
16 were no problems there. Working in the cook house kept  
17 this boy away from me during the day. The only time I  
18 saw him was during meal times in the dining hall. I  
19 could see him and he could see me, but he was sitting at  
20 a different table. There was no interaction between us.  
21 That was the last time I came into contact with him,  
22 until I came across him again in prison in Perth in  
23 adult life.

24 "I was too frightened to tell any of the staff what  
25 was happening to me. The boy who sexually abused me had

1 a hold over me. He told me that if I told anybody he  
2 would tell all the other boys what was happening. He  
3 told me that he would tell everybody that I was someone  
4 that dished out wanks and gobbles. If other people had  
5 heard that, then they would have wanted to do the same  
6 to them. I was frightened. I would have been slagged  
7 off by the other boys. I didn't want anyone knowing  
8 what was happening.

9 "I did as I was told in Polmont. I was, "Yes, sir,  
10 "No, sir", "Three bags full, sir". That was the way  
11 I was. I would class myself as a model prisoner when  
12 I was in there. I was allowed to go at the earliest  
13 opportunity. I was released. I ended up getting into  
14 trouble after leaving Polmont. I got what is called  
15 a recall. When you get a recall you aren't sent to  
16 Polmont. You are sent to Barlinnie Young Offenders.

17 "I was 17 or 18 when I got my recall. I was put  
18 into E Hall. That was where recalls went to. We were  
19 all young offenders. We were all placed on the bottom  
20 landing. We were kept separate from the other inmates.

21 "I was in a single cell. Everybody was in a single  
22 cell. I was locked in my cell a lot of the time. You  
23 used to hear people squealing when they were dragged  
24 away, but you were behind your door. You didn't really  
25 see it. I didn't really have any problems in Barlinnie.

1 I wasn't abused or anything like that. None of that  
2 went on. There were no issues with the staff.

3 "Looking back, Barlinnie was great. I was a good  
4 prisoner. You only had to do ten weeks on a recall.  
5 I don't think they could keep you much longer than that.  
6 I got out after ten weeks.

7 "I went back to my parents after my ten weeks on  
8 recall. It was horrible. My mother was there, but she  
9 wasn't there. It was like it was before. My father was  
10 there. He was still drinking and gambling. My brother  
11 was a drug addict. It wasn't nice.

12 "I don't think I told anybody about what was  
13 happening to me whilst I was in care at any of the  
14 institutions I was at. I didn't tell any social workers  
15 or any staff. The only person who suspected anything  
16 was my mother. That was in and around when I was in  
17 Balrossie. That was why she went to the police station  
18 in Kilmalcolm. That's the only time when anything was  
19 reported to the police. I think it was all brushed  
20 under the carpet.

21 "I'm sorry to say, but Barlinnie came a second home  
22 to me after I left care. It was like a revolving door  
23 to me. Up until 21, I was in and out of E hall. After  
24 that, I ended up in other halls. I ended up in the  
25 mainstream prison system. I was in and out of prison.

1            "I remember that I became what they called a trustee  
2            in Barlinnie. I was a very trusted prisoner as  
3            an adult. I was allowed on all the landings. I kept  
4            myself clean. I think that's why the staff liked me. I  
5            remember making the staff tea and coffee and things like  
6            that. I got all the best jobs."

7            Moving now to paragraph 156, page 34:

8            "My life has been all about being passed about.  
9            I've been institutionalised. I quite liked my prison  
10           life. I always got all the good jobs. I was always  
11           polite and gave prison officers respect. I did as I was  
12           told. Growing up, I didn't really have an outside life  
13           to compare to my time in care. I think that is why,  
14           although I was in institutions and prisons, I sometimes  
15           had an okay time. All I had was other prisons and  
16           institutions to compare my time with.

17           "I would never have turned out the way I have today  
18           if I hadn't had led the life I had. I think I would  
19           have been a normal person if I hadn't been in these  
20           places. It's left me unable to hold down conversations.  
21           I can't hold down a relationship. I can't communicate.  
22           There is nothing between my ears. All I talk about is  
23           my past. When I'm out and about all I want to talk  
24           about is jails and prisons. Nobody wants to hear about  
25           that sort of thing."

1 Moving to paragraph 178, page 39:

2 "I have no objection to my witness statement being  
3 published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry.

4 I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are  
5 true."

6 'Scott' signed his statement on 5 September 2018.

7 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much, Ms Rattray.

8 MS RATTRAY: My Lady, that concludes the evidence for today  
9 and we resume tomorrow with an oral witness at 10.00 am.

10 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much.

11 MS RATTRAY: Apologies, that is wrong. Apologies. There  
12 will be more read-in statements by way of evidence in  
13 the morning and a further oral witness at two.

14 LADY SMITH: Thank you for the update. Until 10 o'clock  
15 tomorrow morning.

16 (4.00 pm)

17 (The Inquiry adjourned until 10.00 am on Thursday, 9

18 November 2023)

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