Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry

Witness Statement of

FTG

1. My name is **FTG** My date of birth is 1939. My contact details are known to the inquiry.

Background

- I have provided the Inquiry with my CV, which provides a brief resume of my qualifications and employment history.
- 3. I was employed at Fettes College from 1970 until 1983. Between 1970 and 1972, I was employed as teacher and House tutor. I then became head of the Department in 1972. Between 1973 and 1979, I was Fettes Junior School. I was the head of in the Senior School from 1974 until 1976. Between 1979 and 1983, I was the housemaster of Glencorse House and taught A-level
- 4. I left Fettes in 1983 and moved to

 also became co-educational that year. I became headmaster of
 in 1991. In 1993, I employed a fulltime trained school
 counsellor there. We were one of the first schools to employ such a person. It was of
 huge benefit to housemasters and mistresses, to me and of course to the pupils. This
 counsellor reported directly to me and to the boarding staff responsible for the welfare
 of the pupils. The chaplain also reported to me.

Fettes College

Recruitment

5.	I was interviewed for my role at Fettes in London by SNR
	. An offer of post then followed along with an invitation to stay at The Lodge,
	Fettes, was provided
	as a future residence for us.
	Managament atweature
	Management structure
6.	Initially, my line manager was ECD who was the head of the
	department. FNP was SNR and he was very
	approachable.
7.	In 1971, Tony Chenevix-Trench was appointed as headmaster. I was invited to
	a new junior school to open in September 1973. At that time, I had close liaison with
	the headmaster, who was my line manager. All potential members of staff were
	introduced to Mr Chenevix-Trench before their appointment was confirmed.
8.	As housemaster of Glencorse in 1979, I was answerable to Cameron Cochrane, who
.	became headmaster in September 1979. Cameron Cochrane was also approachable,
	but we did differ in our vision of the future of Fettes.
	Training/support
9.	In terms of training and support, I received much help from when I
	became head of the Department. I also received considerable support and
	help from Tony Chenevix-Trench in Fettes Junior School
	Cameron Cochrane was always helpful. However, he did not share my vision
	that Fettes should become fully co-educational. I wanted the school to accept girls at
	third form level, when they were thirteen years old. I believed that co-education was a
	natural and beneficial preparation for life in a world occupied by both men and women.
	The governors asked me to present a paper on the issue. I visited several co-

educational schools, including Bryanston School in Dorset and St. Mark's School in Massachusetts, USA. The governors then promoted the acceptance of girls at thirteen years old and the senior school became fully co-educational under Mr Cochrane.

Living arrangements

10. My wife and I lived at from 1970 until 1972. We then moved to Malcolm House, which adjoined the new junior school, remaining there until 1979. When I was appointed housemaster of Glencorse House in 1979, we moved there until I left Fettes in 1983. Our accommodation in Glencorse House adjoined the boarding house with entry on all floors. The house matron and house tutor lived in apartments within the boarding house, which was situated within the school grounds. During my time at Glencorse House, the house matron was Ann Tidy and the house tutors were John Begg and Mark Peel. Only myself, my wife and the house matron and house tutor had access to the children's residential areas.

School culture

11. We worked hard to instil kindness and respect for others. Co-education assisted in this. There was more kindness and mutual respect after the school became co-educational. Art, drama and music were strong and balanced a tendency in the school to place too much emphasis on sport. I ran the school plays. Two were musicals, 'Guys & Dolls' and 'The Boyfriend'.

Discipline and punishment

12. Staff managed discipline within the school, along with school prefects and house prefects. There were only eight school prefects, who were mostly the heads of houses. There were approximately forty house prefects. The prefects' duties included the supervision of dormitories and homework and the distribution of light domestic tasks around the boarding house that fell to pupils. For example, putting out the bins and collecting milk and bread for the communal kitchen. School and house prefects could issue punishments such as changing into and out of games clothes four times or rising an hour early at 6.30 am. They did not administer any corporal punishment.

- 13. Caning was only administered by housemasters or the headmaster. It was very rarely used in Glencorse House and only by the housemaster. This was a rare event for serious misdemeanours such as theft or bullying. It was on the backside, over trousers, in private for a maximum of four strokes. I beat approximately four boys over a period of four years. It was not intended to be to the point of bruising. The boys were thirteen years or older. There was no corporal punishment in the Junior School so the cane or belt was not used there by me or other staff. I encountered some bullying but believed it had ceased in Glencorse. I forbade the administration by the prefects of some of the more draconian traditional punishments, such as forcing juniors to run up and down the stone stairs carrying a heavy log.
- 14. There was very little formal written policy in relation to discipline and punishment when I took over as housemaster of Glencorse in 1979. However, I believe that boundaries were clear. Records of canings and minor punishments were kept. Senior school records were kept in my study. Boys who were problematic were referred to me. The main sanctions were 'gating', which meant being confined to the boarding house except for lessons and games, or 'suspension', which meant being sent home to their parents for a short period. I was not aware of members of staff using corporal punishment too much or over vigorously. Beating was very seldom used.

Record-keeping

15. Records were kept of all pupils in the house and detailed reports written by subject masters and housemasters at the end of every term. The records were kept in a filing cabinet in the housemaster's study. Similarly, records were kept at the junior school and a detailed report was written for parents at the end of each term. All pupils had a tutor and the report contained a specific report by the pupil's tutor, form master and the headmaster. All reports were hand written and carefully considered. I have no idea for how long records were retained or whether they made their way to a central archive.

Policy

16. I was responsible for the care of pupils in the junior school, which is now called Fettes Preparatory School. Latterly, I was responsible for the care of the pupils in

Glencorse House. All policies change over time and they were written up to be available for all to see. I believe that they became more exacting. School inspections made such requirements crystal clear. Training and child protection were given much more prominence to the benefit of all.

Other staff/recruitment

17. Whilst at Fettes I was responsible for the wellbeing of junior school pupils and then in 1979 for all the members of Glencorse House. The chaplain, house tutor and matron reported to me as the housemaster. At the junior school I was responsible for appointing but I consulted the SNR over each appointment. We would advertise in the Times Educations Supplement, normally with success. We would take up references given by the candidate and also often telephone the candidate's present school. References were expected to cover teaching ability, integrity and aptitude for the advertised post.

Training of staff/staff appraisal

18. As head of the senior school department, I was involved in the personal development of staff in our department. SNR the junior school I was also involved in the personal and pastoral development of staff. Termly and annual interviews were carried out. I was closely involved in the development of staff, appraisal and evaluation. This occurred in my role as SNR and head of department. It also involved attending lessons of members of staff and providing commentary on their performance.

Child Protection

19. I believe that all staff understood that children in the care of the school should be protected from abuse of any sort, physical or sexual. However, in 1970 or even 1980 specific instruction in identifying this was not given. Nor was guidance given on how to handle and respond to reports of abuse or ill treatment of children. All staff knew they should inform their direct senior staff member if they suspected any child was being abused by anyone, another child or a member of staff. We were all aware of the

need for child protection, but around 1980 it was not underlined and magnified in the manner it is today. That being said, we did our utmost to protect children from abuse by other pupils or members of staff.

20. There was no specific definition of abuse when I was at Fettes, but all staff understood it to be bullying or inappropriate handling of any sort. I do not believe that a clear definition of abuse was communicated and explained to staff in the manner it now is under the banner of 'Child Protection'. By 1985 Child Protection and awareness of child abuse had become a very important aspect of teaching and caring for children.

Day to day running of the school

21. After the commencement of the junior school in September 1973 I organised the timetable, lessons and recreation and class sizes and groups. I was also closely involved in the day to day running of the school. I am confident that if any child was being abused it would come to light at around the time it was happening. It is very likely it would also have been brought to our attention by the parents of the abused child. The junior school was essentially a day school and parents were in constant touch with their children and contact with staff was encouraged.

Complaints

- 22. I do not remember a formal complaints procedure being in place in 1973. If complaints were received they were treated very seriously, but I do not remember a scheme of officially recording such complaints. I do not recall there being a specific procedure for managing and recording complaints by the time I left Fettes in 1983.
- Jean Porter, was very involved with the pupils at the junior school. Pupils would confide in her and she would pass on their problems or difficulties to me or an appropriate member of staff. I am sure a complaints procedure now exists and has done for some time at Fettes, but I cannot say how much this is now used.

Abuse at Fettes College

24. I never directly witnessed the abuse of children at the junior or senior school. Abuse or ill treatment was very rare and I would expect it to reach me via the parents of a pupil. That is what occurred in the case of GKZ

's mother, spoke to me in the Lent term of 1975. She informed me that Iain Wares had inappropriately touched her son when GKZ

was standing by his desk having his work checked. Other than the complaints against Mr Wares, I did not receive any complaint of any abuse by a teacher on a pupil during my time at Fettes.

James Wares (also known as Iain DG Wares)

25. We advertised the post filled by Iain Wares in the Times Education Supplement and he applied to us. The headmaster of the Edinburgh Academy Preparatory School, Jim Brittain, gave Iain Wares an excellent reference. There was no mention of him being dismissed from St. George's School in South Africa, nor of his inappropriate touching or fondling of pupils at Edinburgh Academy. If there had been mention of those issues we would certainly not have employed him. I may well have telephoned Jim Brittain to discuss the application as I knew him well. Iain Wares was introduced to Anthony Chenevix-Trench and we were delighted to have found an accomplished maths teacher and games coach.

Allegations by GKZ against James Wares

- 26. I do recall a pupil at Fettes named GKZ. He was a pleasant boy, tall for his age. I remember meeting him with his mother in the Lent term of 1975. They disclosed that Iain Wares had inappropriately touched GKZ.
- Information that I have received from the Inquiry provides details of the behaviour alleged by has alleged that Mr Wares would stroke and slap his thigh, insert his hand up into his shorts and under his pants, whereupon he would fondle his genitals and insert his finger into his anus. On one occasion, has alleged that Mr Wares kept him back after class, grabbed his hair, shouted at him, put his hand down the

back of his trousers and inserted a finger into his anus. The details has provided to the Inquiry are of much more serious and intrusive behaviours than were conveyed to me at the time.

- 28. The information I have received from the Inquiry also indicates that has stated that on one occasion, Mr Wares pulled a pupil named up by the hair until his hair tore from his scalp. I am horrified to hear of Mr Wares' assault on and I should have been made aware of this.
- 29. I remember but my memory fails me over the details of his removal from the school. I cannot remember the details of complaint. I was certainly not aware of Iain Wares' hair pulling. I believe that with Iain Wares and Rosemary Wares his wife. Had we known at that time anything of Wares' appalling behaviour we would never have allocated a pupil to board with them. Iain and Rosemary Wares had also adopted a child.

Allegations by CTV against James Wares

- The Inquiry has provided me with details from a statement provided by another pupil named was not aware of or his father making any complaint to the school at the time. I understand that recounts that Mr Wares had regular outbursts of anger and rage, involving screaming at boys, grabbing them by the hair and banging their heads on desks. This happened to him. He remembers having a bald patch where his hair had been. I believe that my study was directly above Mr Wares' classroom, so not far away. I was not aware of him having outbursts of anger and rage. I believe that these complaints arose from the time before Mr Ware's intensive treatment from Professor Walton. We knew he was tense, but after his summer of treatment in 1975 he became a much calmer person.
- assembly, was seized by Mr Wares, dragged about and thrown against walls, whilst Wares screamed and shouted. He recalls that three other teachers were present, Mrs Orchard, Mr Mineyko and Mr Murray, and that the two male teachers

wrestled Mr Wares out of the room. Mr Mineyko, Mr Murray and Mrs Orchard were indeed working at the junior school in the period 1974 to 1976. I do not remember an incident in assembly involving the above three teachers and Mr Wares. They should have told me about it. However, it is extremely distressing to hear of it now.

has stated that teachers drank alcohol at lunchtime. I wish to make the point that teachers did not drink alcohol with lunch I do not recall staff ever taking alcohol into a meal with the pupils. Neither staff from the junior or senior school took alcohol into the school dining room during school meals.

Involvement in investigation of abuse by lain Wares

- 33. From my memory, approached me at school one day to advise that her son had made her aware of the abuse by Mr Wares. After the meeting with and his mother I informed them that Mr Wares would leave the school.
- I am sure that I spoke to Mr Wares about the allegation once I had received the information from in 1975. I am sure that Mr Wares did not deny that he had inappropriately touched in 1975. There was no discussion of the specifics of this and certainly not in the explicit terms now alleged. He did not say that it had never happened. In my view he had admitted it and he knew that he was leaving. Mr Wares admitted his offence. I was answerable to Mr Chenevix-Trench, the headmaster of the senior school at the time. He was closely involved when it came to dealing with the lain Wares issue. Both Mr Chenevix-Trench and I decided that Wares' employment at the school should be terminated. In the end we did not terminate Wares' employment at that time following the intervention of Professor Walton.
- 35. We were approached by a senior psychiatrist, Professor Henry Walton¹ of the Royal Infirmary. Wares had told him that he was going to be sacked. Professor Walton wrote to us, pleading with us that Wares should be allowed one term's medical leave whilst he dealt with his abusive behaviour. He assured us that he would cure Wares of his inclinations and behaviour.

¹ https://www.rcpe.ac.uk/obituary/professor-henry-walton-frcp-edin

- 36. I was firm that I did not want to keep Wares at the school. Mr Chenevix-Trench's view was that, having been approached by such a senior psychiatrist, we must respect his opinion and give him the chance to cure Wares. I was answerable to Tony Chenevix-Trench and therefore persuaded that we should put our trust in Professor Walton. Wares therefore remained at Fettes Junior School.
- After the intervention of Professor Walton, I informed of the new plan, explaining that Mr Wares would be treated by Professor Walton. I believe I had a second meeting with her. I apologised again, having already apologised for Mr Wares' abuse of was sceptical of Wares' ability to reform. She advised that in her own medical opinion, Iain Wares would not change.
- 38. Mr Wares did not continue to work at the school after disclosure. Instead, he began his intensive treatment at the Royal Infirmary under Professor Walton. All his classes and games were covered by other teachers. No external report was made in respect of the abuse, but Tony Chenevix Trench was involved in all decisions. He had the final say as my superior.
- 39. Wares returned a much calmer and gentler person. For three and a half years he was an excellent schoolmaster. But then one more complaint came at the beginning of the Lent term in 1979, stating that he had fondled a boy. I do not recall the name of the parent or boy concerned. It was an isolated complaint, but a very serious one which resulted in the dismissal of Mr Wares. I cannot recall any more about this particular instance of fondling. Mr Wares did continue to teach lessons and supervise sports until his employment was terminated at the end of Michaelmas term in December 1979. He was under careful watch and the threat of immediate dismissal and I do not believe that he offended again. The senior school headmasters, Mr Cochrane and Mr Chenevix-Trench, were closely involved in the treatment and supervision of him.
- 40. After the incident with GKZ we had considerable concerns about Iain Wares' treatment of children, but I must reiterate that he had excellent references from Edinburgh Academy Preparatory School. We did not receive any other complaint about Mr Wares prior to hearing from . His abuse of GKZ

would have been more than sufficient for us to terminate his employment had it not been for the intervention of Professor Walton.

41. I did not report Mr Wares to the police. I am not aware that Walton, Mr Cochrane or Mr Chenevix-Trench did either. I do not believe that we were obliged to inform the police about the complaints of abuse in 1979.

Correspondence relating to Iain Wares

- 42. The Inquiry has provided me with copies of correspondence relating to Mr Wares. Firstly, I have been provided with a letter dated 18 January 1979 addressed, "Dear Tony." I do recall writing this letter, which was to Tony Chenevix-Trench. When I referred to Mr Wares' "misdemeanour", I was referring to him fondling a pupil, something he had also done in 1975. Although mention is made of giving him "one more chance", in fact we did not give him "one more chance" and we terminated his employment at the end of Michaelmas Term in 1979, mid-December. All of this was discussed with Tony Chenevix-Trench, who had the final say when it came to the management of Mr Wares.
- 43. I have also been provided with a letter dated 8 February 1979 addressed, "Dear Cameron." I know that I did write Cameron Cochrane at about this time, but I have no recollection of writing this letter. Cameron Cochrane became headmaster of Fettes in September 1979. It is not signed by me and, unlike the letter dated 18 January 1979, is not typed on my office headed paper. It also refers to matters of which I had no recollection prior to being shown these letters referred to by the Inquiry, in 2020.
- 44. The letter includes the words, "As Iain's curriculum vitae states, he was at St. George's Grammar in South Africa in 1966 67 and was dismissed for indecent practices." At the time of Wares' appointment, we relied on an excellent reference from his former employer Jim Brittain, headmaster of the Edinburgh Academy Preparatory School. We were unaware of Wares' alleged indecent practices in South Africa or of alleged fondling at the Edinburgh Academy at the time. According to the letter of 8 February 1979, of which I have no recollection, Wares' history of offending only came to light

- sometime after his indecent behaviour in 1975 when a parent reported his behaviour to me, and before 8 February 1979 being the date of the letter.
- 45. I have no memory of having been told of Wares being dismissed from St George's in South Africa though this letter suggests that by 1979 I had become aware of this. However, the letter does document the steps I took to manage the situation, share information and seek advice from my superiors. I have no recollection of having written this letter or of the information about Wares' previous misdemeanours.
- 46. The letter seems to suggest that the CV referred to contained details of his previous employers, including St George's Grammar in South Africa. It also suggests that the information about the circumstances surrounding his departure from St. George's only emerged much later in 1975, some time after he had offended at Fettes. I therefore wonder if this further information may have become available through Professor Walton. Mr Wares certainly did not disclose the fact that he had been dismissed by St George's on the CV he provided at the time of his appointment in 1973. At that time, we were totally unaware of this fact. I have no recollection of having known about any previous misdemeanours committed by Mr Wares prior to being shown this letter referred to by the Inquiry in 2020. According to this letter, it wasn't until after 1975 when he offended at Fettes Junior School that we became aware of any previous misdemeanours.
- 47. If the letter of 8 February 1979 is to be believed, "all of this emerged in 1975." I believe that it must have been through Professor Walton that we were made aware of Wares' previous misdemeanours. If we had known this information in 1973 then we would never have appointed him. Equally, we were not aware of any problems at Edinburgh Academy, either loss of temper or inappropriate touching. He was given an excellent reference by the Edinburgh Academy. We were absolutely unaware of any background of prior issues either of indecency or temper outbursts. I have no recollection of having been aware of any previous misdemeanours at Edinburgh Academy prior to being shown the letter referred to by the Inquiry.
- 48. We witnessed a transformation in Wares' personality brought about by his treatment with Professor Walton. In 1975 Mr Wares was sent on sabbatical for treatment. We

were assured by Prof Walton that, with treatment, he would be able to manage his behaviour. For that reason, he was allowed to continue to work with children again. Indeed, his treatment seemed to be successful until 1979, when he reoffended and his employment was terminated.

- 49. Mr Wares was watched very carefully in the period from 1975 until 1979. He had regular follow up with Professor Walton. We were shocked and disappointed when we heard from a parent at the start of Lent Term in January 1979 that he had relapsed and was guilty of fondling a boy. His employment was terminated at the end of the year. I shared information about Iain Wares' misdemeanours with the senior school headmaster Tony Chenevix-Trench, the Board of Governors through Mr Robin Salvesen and Professor Walton. They were all aware of the situation.
- 50. I have been shown a letter dated 9 January 1979 by the Inquiry, which appears to be from Tony Chenevix-Trench to Clifton Preparatory School in South Africa. It was written by him literally days before he heard from me that Iain Wares had reoffended, as evidenced by my letter to him dated 18 January 1979. My letter of 18 January was most likely written immediately upon my receipt of the information regarding the offence. It would be helpful to find out from the school archive the date of the first day of the Lent Term 1979 at Fettes, which would be the date on which I heard the news from the victim's parent.
- 51. When Mr Chenevix-Trench wrote the letter of 9 January 1979, it is unlikely that he knew of the recent offence. He most definitely knew of the inappropriate behaviour towards in 1975 and, if the letter of 8 February 1979 is to be believed, of the extent of Mr Wares' offending history. I have never seen the letter before. I would not have supported Mr Wares in any application for a teaching post in South Africa. I cannot explain why no mention is made by Mr Chenevix-Trench of Mr Wares' prior conduct.
- 52. The Inquiry has provided me with copies of letters dated 12 July 1979 and 20 June 1979, which seem to relate to Mr Wares' applications for positions at Gordonstoun School and in South Africa. The letter of 20 June 1979 does appear to be from Mr Chenevix-Trench. I was not aware of the job application to Gordonstoun School. I

would not have supported either his application to Gordonstoun or the school in South Africa. I recommended in my letter to Mr Wares dated 18 January 1979 and in the open reference that I wrote for him that he work in commerce, industry or educational administration and definitely not near pupils of junior school age. I was not asked to support him in any application for a position at Gordonstoun.

- 53. The Inquiry has provided me with an undated letter of reference. From the description under my name, it does appear that this was prepared by me after July 1979. I do recall writing this reference for Iain Wares. It was intended to support him finding work outside of teaching. I had discussed Mr Wares' future with him and we had agreed that he would look for work in commerce or industry. He knew that I would not support a role in a junior school. He promised that he would not apply for another teaching role. That is the reason for my failure to mention his history of offences against boys at the junior school.
- 54. I certainly would have disclosed the history of abuse had he applied to a school, but he solemnly promised not to do so. Hence, my emphasis on his suitability for a job in commerce and industry. I remember unease about my reference at the time as I was relying on an omission in my open reference to prompt a future school to contact me, should he apply, rather than writing an explicit warning.
- 55. I did not mention the abuse of children in Mr Wares' care in the reference because I believed and believe that anyone in education reading my reference would have contacted me. I believed they would want to understand why I had only recommended him for a role in commerce and industry and stated that he would be a valuable member of a company with no mention of a school. Nowadays, we would have stated explicitly that he should not be allowed to work near children. He would be on list 99 now called the Children's Barred List Check. At that time, I was not aware of any specific Fettes policy relating to the provision of references where there were allegations of abuse. There was a lack of clear framework. The tragic consequence is that it is likely that St. George's Grammar did not warn Edinburgh Academy, who in turn did not warn Fettes College before Mr Wares took these positions.

I sent a copy of my reference to the new headmaster, Cameron Cochrane, for approval. He was fully aware of the situation and Wares' abusive behaviour. This was the only reference that I wrote for Mr Iain Wares. No school ever approached me in relation to this reference. Now that I have seen documents provided to me by the Inquiry, I realise that Mr Chenevix-Trench was, unbeknownst to me, corresponding with schools and supporting Mr Wares' teaching career.

Anthony Chenevix-Trench

- As already stated, I do recall Anthony Chenevix Trench. My employment coincided with his from 1971 until 1979 when he was aged 54 to 61. He was headmaster of the school whilst I was the head of Fettes department. I was then invited to Fettes Junior School now known as Fettes Preparatory School so I had a lot of contact with Mr Chenevix-Trench. I remember him as being charming. He always had time to listen and help. I knew him well and he was very experienced. I very rarely saw him with children, but he seemed to be at ease when I did.
- 58. I never saw Mr Chenevix-Trench discipline children, but I heard that he used the cane frequently. It was a generally known fact that he used the cane, but not excessively. This would have happened if the housemaster had passed a pupil on to the headmaster for a very serious offence. I never saw Mr Chenevix-Trench abuse children or heard of him abusing children.

CBU

59. I do recall CBU . He was at Fettes throughout my time there, 1970 to 1983. He was approximately 25 to 38 years old at that time. He was employed as a teacher. He had no direct link to my role, but he was a cheerful companion. I think we may have joined Fettes at the same time. I remember him as being cheerful and hard working. I knew him quite well, but I wouldn't describe him as being a close friend.

60.	I did see CBU interact with the children. He seemed to be happy in their company. I never saw him discipline the children and I never saw him abuse any children. I never heard about him abusing children.
	zDXM
61.	I never met DXM but I heard that he had been dismissed from Fettes. I have no knowledge of the details of Mr SXM s dismissal beyond hearing that he had been dismissed for misconduct. I know nothing more about any allegations against him and therefore cannot comment any further about him.
	Final thoughts on the case of lain Wares
62.	I would like to comment further that we, the school, should have dismissed Mr Wares immediately after complaint in 1975. That was what I wished to do. I think that Mr Chenevix-Trench was too compliant with Professor Walton's response. When it came to my own response, I was overruled by the headmaster of Fettes. I think that Mr Chenevix-Trench was too lenient with Mr Wares in 1975, allowing him the opportunity to return to Fettes after treatment. In hindsight, I think we should have made him redundant immediately in 1975 but offered to continue to pay him while he received treatment from Professor Walton.
63.	I have no objection to my witness statement being published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry. I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true.
	Signed