

## **Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry**

Witness Statement of

IBU [REDACTED]

Support person present: No

Edinburgh Academy representative present: Yes – Michael Short, Clyde and Co Solicitors

1. My name is IBU [REDACTED] but I have been known as IBU [REDACTED] since childhood. My date of birth is [REDACTED] 1933. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.

### **Background**

2. I was born in Duns, Berwickshire and went to various primary schools in Dumfriesshire. West Linton was the last primary school I went to. Then, instead of me going to Peebles High School, my father in his wisdom dispatched me to Heriots. I had to cycle for three miles to get the bus and then travel a further seventeen miles each day.
3. When I left school, I went to Jordanhill College to do a diploma in physical education (PE). The diploma was three years, but because I had slight problems with injuries, which might have threatened my career in PE teaching, I did an extra year doing what we called Chapter Three. That permitted me to teach general subjects in primary school and was, in fact, very handy because that's what I did for my first teaching job.
4. I went from Jordanhill to national service with the RAF and was in the fitness branch there. Then, I went to Melville College to teach. I was half a PE man and half a primary school teacher, which I thoroughly enjoyed. I was registered with the Teaching Council of Scotland and I had enough time in the classroom at Melville to get fully certified to

teach general subjects. I was an assistant at Melville College and I was looking to do my own thing and in one of the biggest errors of judgement in my life, I went to Edinburgh Academy in January 1961.

### **Employment with Edinburgh Academy**

5. The post I applied for at The Academy was head of physical education in the senior school. I knew the previous guy who was leaving the PE post and he told me about the job opening. I applied and was interviewed by the rector who was ICH at that time. It was only years later that I discovered the job was offered to someone before me. We had a team over from the south and one of the guys told me that ICH offered the job to him, he turned it down, and it was then offered to me. I don't remember providing any references as such and I don't know if the rector was in contact with Melville College, my previous employer. I do remember that new teachers to The Academy had to do a probationary year.
6. The Academy had a different system because it was being run as an English school. They had somebody in charge of rugby, somebody in charge of cricket and I was in charge of athletics, which came as a little interlude between rugby and cricket to allow the pitches to recover. However, at one stage, the head of rugby left and he suggested to the rector that I would be in a better position to do all the fixtures, instead of having various people in charge. I was then put in charge of all aspects of games.
7. I was officially supposed to oversee the PE teacher at The Academy prep school, but the prep school was a law unto themselves. If I had tried to stick my nose in, it would not have been welcome. I was also talked into teaching geography in the senior school for a short time and I was used as the school nurse because I had a certificate in first aid. I had a medical station with a bed in my changing room. The school paid for me to go on a refresher first aid course, but I didn't get paid any extra for taking on that role.

8. I was answerable to the rector only, that was ICH until 197 or 197 and then Laurence Ellis came in. I can't say the years with ICH as the rector were enjoyable. If he hadn't have left, I would have had to go elsewhere or move out of teaching altogether. He was a man who very seldom confronted you. It was a running joke that you would get a little brown envelope with a note in it saying things like, this boy's shirt was outside his trousers or this boy's hair is too long, can you see to it. That was all you got and I had very little interaction with him. One of the few interactions I recall was shortly before he left the school. My father, who had a bad heart, collapsed midway through the games. I told ICH I had to go to see my father and he said "you'll have to be here tomorrow for the games". When I returned later that day, ICH never even asked after my father. Ellis was at that game as he had already been appointed to take over from ICH as the new rector. Ellis sent for me the next day and asked after my father and made sure to ask if my mother was coping at home. What a difference there was between them. I think Ellis remained the rector until I left my employment with The Academy, but I can't be sure about that.
9. When ICH was rector, the athletic games were in March and he wouldn't budge on that, even though we had an athletics track. When Laurence Ellis came along, the games were immediately shifted to the summer and there was more athletics. That really kept me sane in some ways. I had guys that I could turn to when I worked at Melville, but apart from the registrar at The Academy, Bruce Stenhouse, I had nobody to turn to. I never imagined I would cope with a guy like Bruce; Edinburgh Academical Tie, sports jacket, grey flannels and a clipped middle-class accent, but he gave me some sound advice. He told me I had to be there years before anybody would listen to me and think that I knew anything. He also told me never to be heard comparing The Academy to Melville College because The Academy was better at doing everything. He was being absolutely serious.
10. I had never seen anything like Edinburgh Academy before. My life experiences and my teaching practice didn't prepare me for it at all. I felt like a fish out of water because the Academy was run as an English public school. It was a completely alien environment. The first ten years teaching at The Academy were the worst. If it had been my first teaching job, I would never have completed it. I did actually try to move,

but other schools that I applied to said I had no experience teaching girls and they said that the pupils in their school were not like the kids at The Academy, so I was stuck there.

#### *Policy*

11. I didn't have any involvement in making or implementing policy at the school. I was quite good at organising, but I could never have coped with the timetable if I was also doing the admin side of things. I was good at organising the games and getting the right people, to the right place, at the right time for sports.

#### *Strategic Planning*

12. I didn't have any involvement in strategic planning at the school.

#### *Other Staff*

13. I didn't really manage other staff, apart from when the games were on. Other teachers would come to help out and I had to oversee that. I won't list all of the teachers who helped with sports over the years, but one of them was IPT [REDACTED].

#### *Recruitment of staff*

14. I wasn't involved in the recruitment of staff, other than those associated with rugby. I remember later on in my employment at The Academy, during Laurence Ellis' time, we had a disastrous appointment of someone to teach geography and run the first fifteen rugby team. I was involved in his recruitment and was essentially his boss insofar as rugby was concerned. I interviewed the guy and said I didn't like him, as did the head of geography, but Ellis said he had heard good things from his previous headmaster and didn't "listen to staff room tittle-tattle".
15. I think the guy's name was Millet and he was completely out of his depth. He would turn up to practice without the balls for example. His whole organisation was hopeless

and as soon as the kids see that, that's it. To be fair to Ellis, I spoke to him again some months later and he listened to me. He obviously accepted that he made the wrong decision and that takes some courage. He got rid of Millet at the end of his probationary year. The guy was mortally upset.

16. I don't have any other knowledge of the recruitment policy at The Academy. All I know is that, in the time I was there, there were only two teachers with Scottish Highers, including me. The rest had English A levels or were anglicized Scots who had been at Fettes or the like.

*Training of staff / Supervision / staff appraisal*

17. As far as I'm aware, there was no induction training specific to The Academy or continual appraisal of how I was performing. I was responsible for training academic staff, to an extent, when they were involved in games. I think when staff were appointed, they were expected to help with other things such as sports, not just teach their subject. Initially, I had a say in who helped out, but ultimately, I just accepted whoever came along.
18. I had an assistant for the first fifteen team called Dave Robertson for around one year during Ellis' time. He was half assistant, half French teacher. He moved from Merchiston which made Ellis a bit suspicious about why he'd come to The Academy. I was a bit naughty about his recruitment. I met Dave at a fixture meeting at the prep school and told him we were looking for someone, so he applied. Dave was a brilliant player and played for the Scotland A team, but he was a real schoolmaster. Ellis really wanted a guy called Frank Haddon to take the role, but I suggested he refer Frank to Merchiston, which he did and Frank went on to become the national coach for Scotland. Although Dave was my assistant, I was never asked to carry out any appraisal of him.



*Living arrangements / Boarding Houses*

19. I never lived at the school. I lived elsewhere with my wife and daughters. I wasn't involved with the boarding houses at all. The Housemasters were appointed by seniority. When you reached the top of the tree, you got to go to a boarding house. I never had any intention of going to a boarding house. There did come a time when myself and another guy, who started teaching at the school at the same time as me, were given the opportunity to go to a boarding house, but I made it known that I didn't want to do that. I had a life outside of the school and rugby.

*Culture within Edinburgh Academy*

20. There were ephors in The Academy and at one time, they were permitted to beat younger pupils. I have a feeling that was stopped by the time I went there. It is a thing I find appalling but something that was acceptable in an English run public school. I don't think ephors were in any position to judge their peers. Report them, yes, but not to beat them. As far as I'm aware, it didn't happen during my time at the school and I don't believe any fagging took place.
21. I didn't witness anything that I considered to be bullying. I did have some odd boys who I suspected were victims of bullying. They were boys who didn't necessarily fit in, which I could relate to. I also had some boys who could have been bullies. I knew one of these boy's fathers. I wouldn't say he was an alcoholic, but he drank far too much. The boy, [REDACTED] played rugby and would get angry with other players for not trying hard enough. When he got angry, I was never really sure what damage he could do. Ultimately, the rector asked his father to find another school for him.
22. I am aware from the statements I have been provided with, that IBO [REDACTED], IGN [REDACTED], IGN [REDACTED], Neil Douglas and Philip [REDACTED] all say they were the victims of bullying. That is not something that I was aware of or witnessed. While I'm not aware of any specific acts of bullying, I was aware that some boys had the propensity to be bullied. By that I mean, I think some boys are more likely to be bullied than others. That's no excuse, but I do think it's a factor.

23. A number of years after I left the school, I was walking one day near the museum. There was a guy sitting on the wall who was obviously a down and out. When I walked past I heard this voice saying "Mr [REDACTED], are you just going to walk past me". He had been a pupil of mine at Edinburgh Academy. As a youngster, he had a temper and he didn't fit in. We chatted and he said I was the only person that was kind to him the whole time he was at The Academy. He told me he was expelled shortly after I retired.
24. I don't know how a school can deal with people who don't fit in. The Academy took the easy way out, they just got rid of them. There was another boy with a bad temper who came from a difficult home. His dad was asked to find another school for him. The Academy was under a lot of pressure from other parents saying they didn't want certain boys who behaved badly at the school, so they really had to do something about it. If you're running a private organisation, the people that are paying you expect to get what they want. The school had to guard their own interests. There was quite a sense of elitism in the school. I think if you are a paying customer, you should get the respect you deserve. I'm not necessarily saying the school thought it was a good idea to deal with things that way, but would you rather lose say six parents or the parents of one child.

#### *Discipline and punishment*

25. I don't believe there was any formal policy for discipline of pupils at The Academy. Any of the teachers could give detention, lines, or use corporal punishment. I had no direct experience of other teachers or ephors using the tawse or clachan to discipline pupils. I couldn't say whether that was something that happened at the school. I never owned a tawse or clachan while I taught at The Academy, but I've seen me getting cross and doing one whack with a trainer or a slipper.
26. Detention tended to be on a Saturday morning, which is when rugby and cricket practice was. I always felt that was unfair. It meant that boys who played rugby or cricket were punished more than others, because they missed out on their practice or games. I remember one boy, [REDACTED], who got detention from an English teacher and would have missed a game. I went to the English teacher and asked him to wave

the detention so he could play and said I would give him a suitable punishment. I made [REDACTED] run laps which he hated. I suppose if he had refused to do the laps, I could have pulled him from the team for the next game.

27. I really don't know to what extent senior pupils or ephors were allowed to discipline their peers. It would have been a lot more than in a state school and I don't think anybody supervised that behaviour. The head ephor was in charge as far as I know.
28. IGN [REDACTED] says in his statement that he has given to the Inquiry, *'You were issued with a book that listed all the rules ... called 'Notes for the information of parents, geits, new boys and girls ... It contained quite an extensive list of regulations.'* I don't know anything about a book of rules. That's a mystery to me. IGN [REDACTED] goes on to say there was also a punishment called 'hard labour' which consisted of things like picking up litter. That's not a punishment I'm familiar with or used.
29. I have been read the following quotation from the statement of ICN [REDACTED] *'The worst single incident was in the summer of 1970 when I was participating in the athletics option at Arboretum Road. IBU [REDACTED] the PE Master was away on that day and he left a prefect in charge.'* I have no recollection of that at all. I don't think I would ever have left a prefect in charge of physical education. It goes against my ideas altogether. I was always astounded at just how much power senior boys had at The Academy and I didn't necessarily agree with it. As far as I was concerned, when it came to PE, ephors didn't exist. They were just the same as the other boys.
30. I have been read the following quotation from the statement of IBR [REDACTED] that he has given to the Inquiry. *'I never witnessed this as it happened after I left but I was informed that the gym master IBU [REDACTED] had been beaten up by the boys. He was small in stature and it is another example of how unruly behaviour wasn't stopped and the teachers were vulnerable when boys wanted to have a go at them'*
31. That didn't happen. I was never beaten up by the boys. Of course some teachers at the school were vulnerable, but I think that was based more on their personality than the circumstances they found themselves in.



*Day to day running of the school*

32. I didn't have any involvement in the day to day running of the school.

*Concerns about the school*

33. I'm not aware of any concerns about The Academy or of the school being the concern of any external body or agency.

*Reporting of complaints / concerns*

34. There was no complaint or reporting process that I was made aware of at The Academy. Although, complaints were obviously taken seriously by the school. There was an American boy at the school who was a pain. He thought that nothing at The Academy was as good as it was in America. I once gave him a cuff across the back of the head. Immediately afterwards, I apologised to him but he and his parent made a complaint to the school. I was spoken to by the rector and the chairman of board of directors as to my future behaviour.
35. In the ICH regime, I wouldn't have even considered making a complaint to him because of the way he operated. When he was in charge, you were one of the minions and you just had to bloody get on with it. Ellis was a completely different kettle of fish. He was someone you could approach with a complaint, but I never had the need to.

*Trusted adult / confidante*

36. I don't believe there was anyone officially appointed to be a trusted adult or confidante. Reverend Haslett, the school chaplain, was someone who was in a trusted position, but I don't think he was someone the boys would have approached if they had any concerns. I recall one boy described him as a "fat hypocrite". I would tend to agree with that statement. I have mixed feelings about Howard. If it wasn't for me, he wouldn't have been at The Academy as it was me who told him of the job opening. He had quite a frivolous side which might have made pupils think they couldn't approach him with

anything serious. During my time at The Academy, I never knew of a single boy who went to him.

37. I have been told that Neil Douglas said in his statement that he has given the Inquiry *'The school wasn't a nurturing environment'*. I have been asked if I agree with that statement. That depends, I have nurtured plenty of athletes. When it came to the school in general, I think if you were clever, it was very good and nurturing, but if you were struggling, it wasn't great. There would never be any thought of introducing subjects more suited to the less intellectual pupils.
38. I have been asked about pastoral care within The Academy and referred to IGN [REDACTED] [REDACTED]'s statement in which he says *'There wasn't anything formally in place when it came to pastoral care'*. I can't pass comment on that because I wasn't involved in that side of things. If I had concerns about a pupil, I would have spoken to them about it in confidence. If needed, I would have taken those concerns to the relevant person. For example, there was a guy struggling with maths who spoke to me about it. I went to the head of the maths department to make him aware, but the teacher wasn't very receptive.

### **Abuse at Edinburgh Academy**

39. I don't think, during my period, the school had a definition of abuse as it applied to children. If they did, I wasn't aware of it. I was personally aware that PE was riddled with traps and pit falls that could get into trouble by allowing things to be misread. It could leave teachers vulnerable. We were warned about these things at Jordanhill and how to keep ourselves right when it came to the kids.
40. We were told to demonstrate things to the kids, but not to physically help them or touch at all. Teaching shot put for example, you would be taking a terrible gamble if you If you started lifting a kid's arm up to show them how to throw. If a pupil injured himself and had to come to the medical station to lie down, I made sure I kept the door open if I needed to be in the room to make calls or something.

41. What was I to do if a guy was in need of help? PE in particular was fraught with problems because there could be accidents. I only really had two accidents during my time. A boy called [REDACTED] dislocated his shoulder playing basketball. I had to help him by supporting his arm as we made our way to the medical station in my changing room. I put his shoulder back in and got him to the Western to be checked over. The other injury I remember was a boy who broke his wrist while vaulting, despite my efforts to save him.

*Child protection arrangements*

42. I don't believe there were any formal child protection arrangements in place at The Academy. There was certainly no guidance given to staff on how to handle or respond to reports of abuse. I really can't think of anything the school did to help with that sort of thing.
43. My subject was more likely to need guidance than others. As I've said, PE was full of pitfalls which I was aware of. I managed mainly to avoid them, but obviously not entirely. Showers have always been a bloody menace. The showers were there for the boys to use, but I just stopped making them. I remember when we got a new groundsman, he commented that on a Saturday after a game, the showers were always dry.
44. Even when going on overnight trips with the pupils, there were no child protection arrangements put in place. I went on various day trips with the kids and I once went on an overnight trip with Hamish Dawson. We went to Coldingham and stayed in a youth hostel. My eldest daughter, [REDACTED] actually came with us at Hamish's suggestion. She was the only girl there. She thought Hamish was hilarious with his jelly beans rewards for completing tasks. I don't remember the sleeping arrangements on that trip, but I think we were quite well separated.

### *External monitoring*

45. I'm sure we must have had some sort of external monitoring or inspections but I can't remember anything about that.

### *Record keeping*

46. I don't know how the school generally dealt with record keeping as I wasn't involved in that. I kept my own records for PE as I was a meticulous keeper of records, but I did that off my own back. I recorded every detail of the fixtures and I also set up an injury book in which I recorded any incidents or accidents. I don't think anyone paid any attention to it or looked at it. When my successor came in 199█ he nearly threw all of my record books out but I rescued them and I believe they are now in The Academy archives. If I hadn't intervened, I don't think The Academy would have to save them. I think they would have ended up being thrown out.
47. In terms of recording of punishments given to the kids, I don't remember there being any expectation that you would record such things. I certainly didn't.

### *Investigations into abuse – personal involvement*

48. I was never personally involved in any investigations into abuse.

### *Reports of abuse and civil claims*

49. I was never personally involved in any reports of abuse or civil claims.

### *Police investigations/ criminal proceedings*

50. My only involvement in a police investigation or criminal proceedings was when I gave a statement to police about IPT █. He was a █ teacher at The Academy, but my involvement with him was only in so far as athletics was concerned. I wasn't aware of any concerns being raised about him during his time at The Academy. He was a bit different. It's difficult to explain how he came across as different. It was just the way



he looked and his inability to have small talk. You couldn't sit down and have a conversation with him. I wasn't aware of any suggestion that he was inappropriate with any of the pupils while I was at The Academy. It was only after he left that I was aware of any allegations.

51. I told police that I found him the most odd guy. He was odd in the way he spoke. There was a semi-shyness about him and he didn't really look you in the eye or socialise with staff, but I don't suppose there's anything wrong with being odd. Although he was a bit different from the rest of us, I was surprised when I learned of the allegations against him. I didn't hear anything further from the police after I provided a statement and I never gave evidence in court. They couldn't have convicted him on anything I said. If I had known anything, I wouldn't have hesitated to tell the police and I wouldn't have been worried about going to court.

#### **Convicted abusers**

52. I'm not aware of any person who worked at The Academy who was convicted of the abuse of a child.

#### **Specific alleged abusers**

ICA

53. I remember ICA as another odd fellow. He looked a bit odd and seemed to scuttle along with his head slightly tilted to one side. He was one of the few teachers from the prep school who took part in things in the upper school, like CCF.
54. He had considerable difficulty with discipline. I used to go up to the prep school to take squash. The squash courts look out onto the playground of the primary school. If ICA came out the boys would beat on the windows and the next thing, he would come bursting in. I never actually saw ICA discipline the children, but from



what I know, they would play up and he reached a stage where he got very angry. I never witnessed how he dealt with that, but I could see he was getting to the point of boiling over.

55. I have been read the following quotation from the statement of ICW [REDACTED] that he has given the to the Inquiry. ICA [REDACTED] ... *had a reputation for giving it [corporal punishment] out with the belt and his hands. He was scary and a bit of a bully.* I have been asked if I agree with that statement and I would say yes, that is probably how ICA [REDACTED] dealt with things. That said, I never heard or knew of ICA [REDACTED] abusing children.

*Iain Wares*

56. I was aware of Iain Wares during my time at The Academy. He had very light, fair hair. I didn't really know him at all or have any involvement with him. I am not aware of him abusing children at the school.

*Hamish Dawson*

57. Hamish Dawson was a teacher at the school when I arrived. I'm not sure if he was still there when I left. He was a history teacher in the upper school and he was a great character.
58. Hamish had a difficult upbringing which he told me about. Nobody really takes that into account. His father was an outstanding sculptor. Hamish and his brother both appeared as little model figures in various places in Paisley. His father was also an alcoholic. Hamish only took a half pint if it was Christmas or something like that. His brother went the other way and died an alcoholic.
59. Hamish's relationship with the boys at The Academy always seemed jocular and he would give out jelly beans as treats. He also he ran the Cairngorm Club which took pupils up to the Cairngorms. When I joined The Academy, IDT [REDACTED] a teacher at the school who I had a bit of respect for, gave me a bit of advice. He told me if I was

ever asked to go to the Cairngorm Club, don't. He never said any more than that, but if a guy like IDT says that, you listen. What he said did raise alarm bells a little bit. Reading the statements that were sent to me was not the first time I've heard allegations against Hamish, but I wasn't aware of anything while I was employed at the school.

60. When it comes to Hamish, I don't know whether people are naturally devious or whether they think about what they are doing. I feel sorry for his family in some ways because they have been affected. I know one of his daughters won't have a family of her own because she's frightened they will turn out like Hamish.

IDT

61. I knew IDT quite well. I had a lot of respect for him because he was a very good teacher and he had a general demeanour of kindness about him. He didn't push his beliefs down your throat. He didn't take any nonsense as a teacher, but he was always fair. I never saw him discipline or abuse any children. During my time at The Academy, IDT left to become at Glasgow Academy. That's a position I thought he greatly deserved and would have been very good at .

IGG

62. I don't know IGG at all.

IBW

63. IBW taught at the school when I was there. We crossed paths sometimes when he tried to make the boys go to practice instead of rugby at the weekends, but I generally got on well with him. I never saw him discipline anyone. I think he went off to be a somewhere, possibly at Stewarts.

*John Brownlee*

64. I never got on with John Brownlee. He was full of his own importance. He was a primary teacher and always tried to give the impression that he was very much in charge. His two boys went to The Academy and they were pleasant boys. He was not of a public school background at all, but he tried to make out that he was.
65. I was recently speaking to a man who lives near me. I was friendly with his dad. He told me that in Brownlee's class if you didn't get half marks in a test, you got the tawse. That's second hand information of course. I never saw Brownlee discipline any of the boys and I never hear of him abusing anyone. However, what I've read about him in the statements I was sent didn't really surprise me, but I don't know if that is just because I didn't like him.

IEF

66. I don't have any recollection of IEF

IDR

67. I remember IDR. He was my next-door neighbour in the school. He taught. He was a bit pretentious in a sort of oldy-worldly sort of way, but kind too. I always felt he was a sad figure in some ways, like he was quite lonely.

68. IDR loved his subject and he wouldn't take any mucking about from the pupils. I never saw IDR discipline any of the pupils. I heard him raise his voice occasionally, but that's it.

IDP

69. IDP was at one time in the upper school. Then, they decided to appoint him as the primary school teacher. He had a military background and was quite brusque. I

don't think his relationship with the children came easy. I never witnessed him disciplining the children and I didn't see or hear of him abusing anyone.

IHJ

70. I don't know much about IHJ. I think he taught and he might have also been a careers guidance teacher. I never saw him discipline a child and I never saw or heard of him abusing a child.

IBP

71. I knew IBP quite well. He had so much going for him, most of which I found out from speaking to a guy at his funeral. I only saw what he was like as a teacher when I accompanied him on outings. He was very matter of fact and he was a bit of a disaster as a teacher. My god, he could not deal with a class. You would hear the ruckus and him shouting in his classroom. That said, he was a very knowledgeable person.

Mr IFN

72. IFN was a teacher and he was a lovely guy. He might have had something to do with the shooting range at the school too, but I'm not sure about that. IFN could be a bit of a snob, but he was also a desperately kind man, devoted teacher and I think, a very good teacher.

73. I don't have any knowledge of how he disciplined children at the school. I think his words would have been enough because of the way he would talk to the children like they were small adults.

Miss ICF

74. I don't know anything about Miss ICF at all.



## Leaving the school

75. I retired from The Academy in 199█. You had to give a term's notice but I told them the year before that it was my intention to retire. I didn't want to work as a teacher again and I ended up showing property for around twenty years.

## Allegations made to the Inquiry in relation to me

ICW █

76. I have been read the following quotation from the statement of ICW █ that he has given to the Inquiry. *'IBU █ was the PE teacher in the Senior School ... his nickname was IBU █ ... hanging around the showers was what he was known for.'* He also says *'... He would come into the showers and flick the boys on the backside and their genitals with a towel ... it was definitely more than horseplay on his part.'* And says *'Within the shower area there was a small section that was obscured by a wall ... I believe that things progressed to a higher degree of sexual abuse behind that wall.'* I think I might remember ICW █, his name is familiar, but I never abused him.
77. The reason for making boys shower was because they were sweaty after being in the gym. The reason for me going into the showers was because the boys would be playing on it to be late for their next class. I always made me being in there as brief as I could and there was certainly never any flicking of towels or anything like that on my part. I went in, switched the showers off and said 'the bell will be going any minute, get yourself moving'. After that, I would retire back to my room. I might have had to go in again to say 'come on, you're going to be late'. I don't know why he would say these things. If he was treated in the way he describes, of course it would be abuse.
78. From years of teaching PE, I know where the boundaries are and where you can get away with being more informal with the boys, but the shower area was certainly not one of them.



79. I have been read the following quotation from the statement of IBO [REDACTED] that he has given to the Inquiry. IBU [REDACTED] ... *shouted at me once and I urinated myself ... in front of all of the boys. My memory is that he came over to me and hit me with his hand on my bottom ... The whole experience was so humiliating ... happened around 1971. I would have been eleven years old.* He also so says 'A couple of years later it was sports day at Arboretum playing fields ... I walked over to him IBU [REDACTED] and told him I didn't have my kit and he absolutely blew up. In his anger he took his megaphone and thrust it into my stomach ... I collapsed onto the ground. He was shouting at me to get up ... he walked away.' I don't remember him and I certainly don't remember any of that.
80. I did use a megaphone at games, but there must have been a whole load of other people about if it was at the playing field. What he describes is certainly abusive behaviour. If it happened, I would apologise unreservedly, but as soon as you apologise, you accept it and I really can't accept it. I can't imagine doing a thing like that. It's disturbing it should even be considered. I could get edgy at times when the games were on but I can't admit to something I have no recollection of. It's something that is just so out of character for me, if it happened, I'd remember it.
81. I find this whole thing disturbing. Not too long ago, I had an encounter that almost prepared me for this. I bumped into a guy on the street. He stopped me and said he was a pupil at The Academy and I bullied him at the boxing. I didn't do boxing at The Academy. One of the first things I did when I arrived was get rid of the boxing equipment. I gave it away to a boys' club in the Grassmarket. I thought to myself, how the hell a guy could say that when it couldn't have happened? This guy had it in his head that it happened and there was no use in trying to convince him otherwise.

*Neil Douglas*

82. I have been read the following quotation from the statement of Neil Douglas that he has given to the Inquiry. 'Either IDP [REDACTED] or IBU [REDACTED] insisted that you didn't wear

*underwear under your gym shorts ... They pulled the front of your shorts to make sure.' He goes on to say '... we called him [REDACTED]'. He was a bully and a nasty character ... I couldn't swim and he made me jump in the deep end of Glenogle Baths and swim down to the shallow end. I was so much in fear of him that ... I jumped into the deep end ... [and] ... the lifeguard pulled me out after I'd been underwater for a while. There was no apology or anything from [REDACTED].'*

83. Neil also says [REDACTED] stood around in the showers talking to the boys ... *That's perverted ... You are developing at that age'* And he goes on to say [REDACTED] said to a friend of mine that he was a bloody liar and he was fat. *That really upset the guy ... If you weren't good at sports then you were nothing to him ... he treated you like dirt.'* His name is familiar to me, but I can't put a face to it. Never in my wildest dreams did anything like that happen.

84. The issue of not wearing anything under rugby shorts was never a thing for me, but I can't speak for [REDACTED]. I don't believe it was something the school insisted on and I certainly wasn't something I insisted on. I wouldn't think it was terribly hygienic. I did insist that they didn't wear tops in the gym. The reason for that was we were trained at Jordanhill to look out for any possible physical defects, such as the spine being out of alignment, which I found once or twice.

[REDACTED]

85. I have been read the following quotation from the statement of [REDACTED] that he has given to the Inquiry. *'I recall one incident where the senior school gym teacher Mr [REDACTED] ended up trading punches with a boy called [REDACTED] who was probably about sixteen at the time'* That's another name that sounds familiar. I have no idea why he's said that. I can't remember punching anyone since national service. I wasn't even a fighter when I was a youngster because I was too wee. It didn't happen and I can't imagine a more heinous thing to do.

86. I have been read the following quotation from the statement of IGM [REDACTED] that he has given to the Inquiry. IBU [REDACTED] *... always seemed to have the small man syndrome, in that he was always angry ... He would have a habit of watching the boys while they were in the shower room ... As the boys showered, he would stand at the door observing' He also says 'On other occasions in the gym classes if someone had upset Mr IBU [REDACTED] then he would be one of the teachers who would give you a clip around the ear.'*
87. There were two IGM [REDACTED] at the school. One went into the Army and became a chef. The other one became a farmer and part-time fireman. I'm not sure which one is which. I certainly didn't watch boys in the showers. I can't imagine doing that. I've never had any inclination for boys in that way at all. I simply couldn't help passing the showers and going in on occasion, so maybe that has been misconstrued.

Philip [REDACTED]

88. I have been read the following quotation from the statement of Philip [REDACTED] that he has given to the Inquiry. IBU [REDACTED] *was a PE teacher and he was an awful man ... He seemed to know who would be wearing underpants and he lined us up in his office ... He then made us take our shorts and underpants down then stood and ogled at us then told us to put our shorts back on ... I am not sure if this was his fantasy, or if he just liked to humiliate boys.'* He also says 'After PE IBU [REDACTED] would stand in the showers and watch us when we were washing ... even back then it should have been considered inappropriate. It is something that has remained with me until this day.'
89. I can't really give any response to that. It alarms me that either my memory is going or why he would say these things if they are not true? I cannot for the life of me accept that it's true.



IGN

90. I have been read the following quotation from the statement of IGN that he has given to the Inquiry. IBU ... *had this aura around him. You would be constantly on edge around him ... in fear of what he might do next because he was quite unpredictable ... It would be the more vulnerable boys who tended to be singled out ...* He also says in his statement '*... in either March or April 1989 ... I ... enrolled myself in an 800 metre running race for Sports Day ... I later crossed off my name ... later I was sat in a French class [when] there was a knock at the door ... [it was] IBU [who] said that he wanted to see me ... [I was] taken out of class ... He then said something like "who the hell do you think you are crossing your name off the list". That was the sort of way that he would talk to pupils ... The only thing I remember after being told off is IBU punching me in the face. He punched me once to the side of my face. It was quite hard. I remember being really scared.*'
91. IGN also goes on to say '*... there were rumours around IBU being sexually inappropriate with boys. There was one rumour surrounding an incident with one boy, but I don't remember the specifics ... But I recall he said the incident had occurred years previously.*' He goes on to say IBU *did hang around the showers in a way that was quite odd. That was a topic that was regularly discussed amongst the boys ... He would stand watching us getting undressed and going into the showers*'
92. All I can say is, I've never gone into anybody's class to get a boy. If I was to choose one person to do that with, it would not be Annie Kennedy, the French teacher. She would have sent me packing. She was someone who protected her territory like an old hen. As for the rest of it, I've never been a puncher. It's not something that's ever been in my armoury. I do accept that what he describes, if it happened, is abusive behaviour.

IEE

93. I have been read the following quotation from the statement of IEE that he has given the Inquiry. '*I read somewhere about a PE teacher, IBU, who used to make you do your rugby without your boxer shorts on. This happened to us*

*as well. You didn't wear your boxer shorts, you were only allowed to wear your rugby shorts for whatever reason ... if he saw you had them on you got sent back to the changing room to take them off ... the stories I've read in the press about making us play rugby without the boxer shorts on and standing watching us have a shower after rugby are both entirely true.'*

94. I don't particularly remember IEE I really don't remember the first thing about boxer shorts. I can't see any reasoning behind why I would even suggest that.
95. As I said, I thought it was important for the boys to have a shower after playing sports, but ultimately I stopped insisting on it. I made the showers available, but if they didn't want to, I didn't make them. Kids would find ways to get you in trouble and they would mess about and turn up late to their next class. I got a fly in my ear about it a few times. I tried to avoid going into the showers, but it wasn't always possible. If I did have to go in, I tried to make it quick, but I have obviously failed in my attempts to get around the hurdles of PE teaching. I find that pretty sad really.

IKA

96. I have been read the following quotation from the statement of IKA that he has given the Inquiry. "IBU was the PE teacher at senior school. He was an international rugby referee. He delighted in being in the changing rooms. They weren't very big. The showers were near his office. After gym, we had to get undressed and have showers. He always made a point of coming in and standing in the changing room where he could see into the showers. He would watch everybody naked. He would talk nonsense to us to make it look like he was there to talk about stuff. He was watching all the boys. That was well known and I saw it happen. He would say things like, "You're not even wet, IKA Just go in again." It was creepy. With hindsight, he was definitely up to no good."
97. I didn't insist on showers up at the field because I felt that the boys were going home afterward. When they were with me for games and going to a class afterwards, I felt they should shower. As I've said, I did sometimes have to go into the shower area to



encourage them to hurry along, because they were going to be late for their next class. To suggest I got any pleasure out of it, I cant understand. There was nothing in it, but I suppose that's just what youngsters say. I never sanctioned or abused IKA IKA. If someone had behaved in the way IKA says, I would agree it was abuse. The mere thought of it is appalling.

### **Complaints made to Edinburgh Academy about me**

98. I have been advised that [REDACTED], Philip [REDACTED] IBO [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] have made complaints directly to the school about my conduct. I am advised that these complaints allege physical and sexual abuse and in some instances, these individuals have raised civil claims against the school. Edinburgh Academy have not contacted me to make me aware of any such complaints. The only one of these individuals I recall from my time at the Academy is Philip [REDACTED].

### **Helping the Inquiry**

99. Why the Inquiry would have to look at someone who's been retired for thirty years, I don't know. What the Inquiry should be doing is looking at what's happening today to see how it can improve on it for the years to come. I don't see the relevance of things that happened twenty to thirty years ago, especially when you are relying on the memory of both the accusers and the accused.

**Other information**

100. 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.....<sup>IBU</sup> [REDACTED] .....

Dated.....<sup>3rd</sup> July '23 .....