

Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry

Witness Statement of

Brian DAILEY

Support person present: No.

1. My full name is Brian Joseph Dailey. My date of birth is [REDACTED] 1947. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.

Background

2. I was brought up in Lanark. I left school aged fifteen with no qualifications. I didn't go to high school as such, in those days we had what was known as junior high school so I left junior high school after three years and started working. I worked in various shops in Lanark. I worked in an old-fashioned grocers called Coopers, I worked in a local wine merchants and grocers and then I moved to a chemists.
3. I first worked in the care environment as a volunteer at Smyllum Park. I worked there from the age of nineteen until my early to mid-twenties and again for a couple of months in 1976 during the school holidays. I also worked part-time in the evenings at Ridge Park Special School. I worked at Ridge Park from about 1971 until 1974. I then went to Ladymary. I was at Ladymary for three years, from 1974 until 1977, when I went to college in Oxford. After college I went to Millpark Children's Home from 1979 until the mid to late eighties.

Qualifications

4. I left school with no qualifications. I then went to Plater College in Oxford in 1977 and studied Politics, Philosophy and Economics. It was a mature students college affiliated to Oxford University. I completed that course in 1979.
5. I don't really have any formal childcare or social care qualifications. I replaced a member of staff from Ladymary who had been doing an in-service course one day a week. I managed to persuade Sister MHT to let me replace that member of staff and do that course, but that was the only basic training or qualification I managed to do.

Smyllum Orphanage, Smyllum Park, Lanark

General

6. When I was about nineteen I started going up to Smyllum which was in Lanark town, where I became a volunteer. I knew a few people who worked there. The caretaker and I were both in the amateur operatic society in Lanark and I gradually got to know staff in one of the houses.
7. I started off as a volunteer at Smyllum and I was basically just playing games with the kids. I would play football with them and take them out for walks. As my interest in that kind of work progressed I started helping out in the particular house that I was involved with. That house was called St. Kentigern's.
8. I was never provided with any induction training or anything like that at Smyllum.
9. I was never left on my own to care for any of the children at Smyllum. I would talk to kids and I spoke to groups, but I can't remember if there was always nuns there or not, it wasn't a formal set up.
10. By the time I was in my early twenties I made up my mind that I'd quite like to go into social work. I was friendly with the daughter of the headmaster, Nick Blackburn, at

Ridge Park Special School and I was also a town councillor by that point, the youngest ever in Lanark's history. I was also the school convenor for Ridge Park, as part of my role as town councillor. I got to know the headmaster as a councillor and he eventually offered me a part-time job at Ridge Park at night-time.

11. I did continue doing the voluntary work I was doing at Smyllum but I found I was spending less and less time there because of all the councillor business so I gave that up, particularly when I started doing the job at Ridge Park. I would maybe do some weekend work at Smyllum.
12. I last worked at Smyllum for a couple of months during my college summer holidays, it was my last year of college, so that must have been 1978.
13. I'm not aware of there being any vetting checks being done on me at Smyllum. I was never asked for anything. It was all female staff at Smyllum and I did speak to the SNR [REDACTED], Sister EAA [REDACTED], who said it was quite good there was a male member of staff. She asked if I would be able to teach the boys in St. Kentigern's the facts of life. That was because the females couldn't teach the boys. That was never formal, I would just speak to the boys, perhaps in a small group, perhaps after football, anytime really. It was just the basic facts of life I spoke about with boys who were aged around thirteen or fourteen. I would tell them not to get girls pregnant and tell them not to masturbate although I would have said wank in those days, that's the expression I would have used. The facts of life weren't something that was spoken about at all in those days, so the SNR [REDACTED] was just grateful to have a male who could speak to the boys about things like that.

Child Protection Arrangements

14. In relation to child protection there was no guidance or instruction given at Smyllum, on how to treat, care and protect children, in care, from abuse, ill treatment or inappropriate behaviour. The only place I had anything like that was at Ladymary from Sister MHT [REDACTED].

15. If a child had reported to me that they had been abused I would have spoken to a senior member of staff and got advice. I would have done that at all of the places I have worked.

Discipline and Punishment

16. I didn't ever punish or discipline any child in a way that might be considered abusive, not at Smyllum or any of the other places I have worked.
17. I have never physically disciplined or punished any child in any of the institutions or homes I have worked in. I cannot recall anybody, in any of the homes I have worked in, physically disciplining a child.
18. Other than the quiet rooms we had at Ladymary Secondary Institute the only segregation I am ever aware of would be when children were sometimes sent back to their bedrooms.

Abuse

19. During my time at Smyllum, or any of the other places I've worked, there was never anything spoken to staff about how to deal with kids in relation to what constituted the abusive treatment of children. There was no definition of abuse.
20. I didn't ever see any behaviour that I would have considered abusive at any of the institutions I've worked in. If I had I would have intervened and said something.
21. I've never had any child report abuse to me.
22. If a child was being abused at any of the places I have worked, I have no idea if it would have come to light at, or around the time it was occurring. I don't know.

Concerns about Smyllum

23. I don't think Smyllum or any of the other places I've worked at have ever been the subject of concern, within the institution or to any external body or agency or other person, because of the way in which children were treated.

Convicted abusers

24. The only people I know, who were convicted of abuse, and have worked in a children's institution are from Smyllum. That is Sister Eileen Igoe, another Sister who's name I can't remember and a lay member of staff whose name was Margaret Hughes.
25. I did work with Sister Eileen Igoe in St. Kentigern's unit when I worked at Smyllum, she replaced another Sister during the unit rotations. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Sister Igoe was fine with the children, just the same as all the Sisters who worked there. I think she was the third Sister in charge of that unit during the time I was going up there.
26. I also knew Margaret Hughes, [REDACTED] I knew them quite well. She was also in St. Kentigern's. She was fine with the children. I didn't ever see her ill-treat or abuse any child.
27. I don't think Sister Eileen Igoe or Margaret Hughes had any childcare qualifications, but I'm not sure. I think Sister Eileen Igoe and some of the other Sisters went to a once-a-week course in Glasgow somewhere but what that concerned I've no idea.

Other Staff at Smyllum

Sister ^{AEG} [REDACTED]

28. I don't recall that name. There was a period before Sister ^{EAA} [REDACTED] with a Sister ^{AEG} [REDACTED], that's the only name I recall, I don't know if she had a second name.

29. There was a Roncalli House, named after Pope John the 23rd, but I don't remember a Sister ^{AEG} or ^{AEG} being head of that house. I don't remember that name at all.

^{BAC}

30. I remember ^{BAC}, he was the handyman. He was a former resident of Smyllum. He could be rough with the children because he was a rough guy. It was in the way he spoke though, like a countryman. He wasn't ever physical with them, it was just his manner. He set up a Smyllum kids football team that played against local teams and he could be rough in the way he shouted at the kids about how they should play football, that's what I mean by rough.
31. He was good because he was very knowledgeable and he was a good singer. Every November, for 'Sister Margaret's Feast Day', he would organise a little concert or play and he was very good at doing that for the children.
32. I didn't ever see him ill-treat or abuse any children.

Sister ^{AGD}

33. I remember Sister ^{AGD}, she was in St. Mary's House at Smyllum. I saw her very few times because I was seldom in St. Mary's, I would only pass through it sometimes when I was going up to St. Kentigern's.
34. I would occasionally go and speak to them that was about it. Sister ^{AGD} seemed fine. I never saw or heard any complaints about her and I'm not aware of her ever being abusive towards or ill-treating any children.

Sister ^{EAC}

35. I remember Sister ^{EAC} [REDACTED], she was in charge of Ogilvie House, where Sister Eileen Igoe was a member of staff. It wasn't a house I was in very often but when I did see her with the children she seemed fine.

36. I've never heard any complaints about her and I'm not aware of her ever being abusive towards, or ill-treating, any children.

Sister ^{AHN} [REDACTED]

37. I don't recall a Sister ^{AHN} [REDACTED].

Sister Keiran / Sister Esther McDermott / McDermitt

38. Sister Keiran replaced the Sister who was in charge of St. Kentigern's House when I first went there. She was okay but she didn't take to me. She wanted me out of the house until she got to know the children. She wanted to get to know the children and staff on her own without me. We did become friends after that.

39. She was fine with the children as well. I never saw her abuse or ill-treat any children and I'm not aware of any complaints about her ever being abusive towards, or ill-treating, any children.

Ridge Park Children's Home, Lanark

General

40. I was working at a chemists in Lanark when I started working at Ridge Park. I worked there during the daytime then went down to Ridge Park at night. It was voluntary to start with, when I was working nights, but the headmaster did make sure I was paid.

41. I lost my council seat in 1973. I had a full-time post at Ridge Park at that time. ^{Secondary} [REDACTED]

Secondary Institutions - to be published later

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46. I left Ridge Park after two or three years, to go to Ladymary. I'd heard about Ladymary being a very progressive, good place to work. So I applied for a job there and got it.

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Woodfield Ladymary School, Edinburgh

General

48. When I applied for the job at Ladymary I provided references. One was Nick Blackburn who was the headmaster at Ridge Park and I think the other was Sister EAA who was SNR at Smyllum. I provided their names and addresses, I don't know if they were spoken to.
49. Sister MHT was SNR at Ladymary when I was there. Each unit also had a nun who was in charge of that unit. I think it was Sister Catherine who was in charge of my unit but she was moved on after about six months or so. After her it was Sister MHV. I can't remember the names of any of the other nuns. The name of the order was the Good Shepherd Sisters.
50. The nuns worked in the units as well. They weren't 'stand back people' they would walk in with us, take children out, bath them and feed them as well. Sister MHV bathed the only girl and I was involved in supervising the boys having showers or baths as I was the only male member of staff at Ladymary. I would make sure the water wasn't too hot and I would go around with them and make sure they got washed and behaved.
51. My role was much the same at Ladymary as it was at Ridge Park. There were three units at Ladymary, which were just called the wee unit, the middle unit and the big unit. I was in the big unit. There were more children in the big unit than any of the other units.

52. My job was just to look after the kids. The school part was downstairs and we looked after them when they came out of the school. The only time children were allowed outside to the playground was if a member of staff was out with them. That was because we had quite a few absconders. If we were with them in the playground they never left the grounds. I did sometimes go outside the grounds with boys, that could be one or two or three boys, when we would go to Colinton village and buy sweets or go into town and buy clothes, or shoes or toys and games.
53. At night we made the meals for the children and prepared them for bed. The boys would get into their pyjamas and dressing gowns, they had to wear their dressing gowns, and they would then be walked downstairs to get washed and brush their teeth. There was sometimes other staff but I would often be on my own with the boys, maybe ten boys. I would take them all together for that. We would then get them back up to bed where the female staff would be there and put them to their beds. I sometimes read bedtime stories to all the boys, I'd sit at the end of the corridor and read loud enough for all the boys to hear from their rooms.
54. When I worked at Ladymary I lived there. I had a room that I stayed in which was next to the dining room. It was actually just a big cupboard which had been emptied. On the other side of the dining room from me were the dormitories where all the children slept.
55. There were no night staff, as such, at Ladymary, there was just the staff who had rooms and stayed there. That was a female member of staff who had a room just after the boys' dormitory, Sister MHV who had a room just beyond that next to a little kitchen, bathroom and shower, and myself. So we had three members of staff there every night for the unit I was in. I'm not sure about the other units but we always had staff on duty until 9:00 pm then there would be one member of staff left and the others would go off duty. There were no waking night staff until just before I left to go to college. That was when night staff were first employed at my unit.
56. The children would go to their beds at 8:00 pm and the staff who went off duty would go to their rooms in the attic or socialise amongst themselves or go out or whatever.

I would go to my bed about 10:00 pm or 11:00 pm but it always depended on how quiet it was, and whether the children had settled.

57. When I was on duty I always did a tour of the dormitories, to check the children, before I went to bed. Sister **MHV** would do that as well. I would just do a quick check, look in the bedrooms, without switching any light on, as that would disturb them.

Training

58. The only training I had at Ladymary was the in-service course I spoke about earlier.

Child Protection Arrangements

59. In relation to child protection the only guidance or instruction came from Sister **MHT** who was very strict. There was nothing formal but she gave me some guidance. She spoke to me on my first day and told me we were not allowed to smack the children or shout at the children. That was because the children may have been abused in that way prior to coming to Ladywell. They could have had a lot of that in their past.

Discipline

60. We didn't shout at them, we didn't smack them and we didn't make any our favourites. If we bought something for one child in the unit we would have to buy something for every child in the unit. That was to stop the children feeling as if they were being discriminated against.
61. I am aware that one or two children from Ladymary have made allegations that Sister **MHV** gave them tablets every night to make them sleep. That's a load of rubbish, we never gave out sleeping tablets. Aspirin was about the only thing we ever gave out unless it was something that had been prescribed by a doctor

62. We did have a quiet room at Ladymary but it was only ever used during school hours, we never used it at night. If a teacher rang for help, and a member of staff had to assist and remove the child from the class, they would be taken to the quiet room. It would be one member of staff that would do that if they could cope, however if the child was disruptive then the teacher or other staff would need to assist. That could mean physically lifting them up and carrying them to the quiet room. That was a very seldom occurrence. A child could be in the quiet room for an hour or more, it would depend how long they took to calm down. A child was never locked in the quiet room, that was not permitted and never happened while I was at Ladymary.
63. I left Ladymary in 1977 and went to college in Oxford until 1979. I got married that year and came back to Edinburgh to live. I was then unemployed from August until December 1979.

Other Staff at Woodfield Ladymary

Sister MHT

64. Sister MHT was fine with the children. She set all the standards.

Millpark Children's Home, Edinburgh

General

65. I applied for a job at Millpark School, both as a unit leader and an ordinary member of staff. Millpark was a brand new unit set up in Edinburgh by Lothian Region. I was told I was too late to apply for the unit leader post but I was interviewed for the ordinary member of staff role. Halfway through that interview they decided I could possibly be a unit leader and started asking me questions about policy and I ended up getting a unit leaders job at Millpark.

66. Secondary Institutions - to be published later

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Leaving Millpark Children's Home

84. When I left Millpark I was on the dole for a while. I knew a senior officer from Lothian Region and I wrote to him asking if there were any posts going. He knew my background and recommended me for the temporary post as deputy in charge of a

day centre for disabled young adults. I can't remember the name of the place but it was in Edinburgh, down by the old Hibs Social Club, off Easter Road

Allegations that have been made to the Inquiry about me

Woodfield Ladymary School, Edinburgh

MGW

85. MGW has given a statement to the Inquiry. On page 12 at paragraph 52 of his statement he has said, *"There was a care worker at Ladymary called Brian Dailey. He had a social work background but he wasn't a social worker. I was in the top unit before he came into Ladymary's. Brian Dailey came in to run the top unit. Brian Dailey was at Ladymary for eighteen months to two years. He left when I was eight years old. In the top unit, there was a cupboard before you came to the bathroom. Beside that was another door to a bedroom. When Brian Dailey was on shift, that was his bedroom"*.
86. On pages 12 and 13 at paragraph 53 of his statement, MGW goes on to say, *"At one point, I would see Brian Dailey four or five times a week for weeks on end. Then I wouldn't see him for three or four days. Brian Dailey took me into his bedroom and sexually abused me. Brian Dailey got undressed in front of me, grabbed my wrist and forced me to masturbate him. The abuse happened constantly over a year or so, when I was seven or eight years old. Brian Dailey abused me in my room, in the bathroom and also in the woods. Once, Brian Dailey came into my bedroom at night, when I was on my own, and molested me under the covers. Another time, Brian Dailey ran a bath. I came in dirty, got in the bath and he abused me"*.
87. I do remember MGW. He was a very small and very wiry child, who could turn on a sixpence and punch you in the face. I've had many a bruise like that. His statement at my trial and reading it here is total lies. He's a great storyteller. At my

trial, he said in his first statement that when I went into his bedroom at night he did not know what I was going to do. By the time it came to trial he said he knew exactly what I was going to do. My QC, who was useless, only asked about that once and accepted what MGW said.

88. He also said that at one point, after I had abused him, he went to his room, put on his Celtic top and ran outside to kick a football around. He never ever had a Celtic top and children were never allowed out on their own, they could only go outside if a member of staff went out with them. I would also like to say that my room was near the stairs, it wasn't next to the bathroom, as he is saying in his statement.
89. I've also learned, since I arrived in my hall, that there are two other guys here on his evidence who are from different establishments. Like me they say they never abused him once.
90. My original trial was delayed for six months because the night before it was due to start the prosecution finally released unredacted statements. We had been asking for them for two years and they'd kept saying no because they were redacted. So there was that delay to give us a chance to catch up on them.
91. What MGW is saying is sheer fantasy. He said in one statement that he'd been in about nine children's homes or establishments and that he'd been abused in every one of them.
92. I never punished or sanctioned MGW and I never abused MGW. My response to that allegation is that it is sheer fantasy.
93. The passage of time affected me a little bit because it took a wee while thinking about it before the trial, but it's not affecting me now. I can remember him very well now. I'm telling the truth, the absolute truth.
94. I think, like most people who have alleged abuse, the reason behind it is money. One of the problems with this system is that they're paid a lot of money. A couple of days

after I got my first letter from the Inquiry I got a letter from a group of solicitors from Ladymary School advising me that MGW had won £60,000 compensation, with £30,000 costs, or the other way around. The group of solicitors were trying to get me to pay them back.

95. If a child had been treated, in the way MGW is describing he was treated, then yes I accept that would definitely be abuse.
96. On page 13 at paragraph 54 of his statement, MGW goes on to say, *"One time, I fell out with Brian Dailey. I was in the lounge and I said something cheeky to him. He moved the table to block me from leaving. Brian Dailey chased me around the chairs and tables. Eventually, he caught me. Brian Dailey just grabbed me and took me to his room. Brian Dailey made me masturbate him"*.
97. No that never happened. That's sheer fantasy. The passage of time has not affected my recollection, and again, I think he is saying these things in the pursuit of money.
98. If it had happened I accept it would have been abuse but it didn't happen. I should say that my bedroom was beside the dining room and if I had taken him in somebody would have seen me, other children or another member of staff. There was usually three members of staff on and they would have asked me what was I playing at, what was going on or they would have seen MGW coming out allegedly upset.
99. On page 13 at paragraph 55 of his statement, MGW goes on to say, *"At the Commonwealth Pool, Brian Dailey would be there. That was difficult. I would say I didn't want to go swimming because Brian was there. I was always avoiding days out and school trips when Brian Dailey was involved. There was grooming going on, outside of the establishment. I could see it. There were nuns there to oversee, especially when it came to the shower-room. I had told the nuns that Brian Dailey had abused me. The nuns would say, 'Come on now'. The nuns could have stopped Brian Dailey taking kids out swimming"*.

100. We never ever went to the Commonwealth Pool, not once. The children had the use of the pool at Craiglockhart, which was a teacher training college at that time. On a Monday Sister MHT would drive us there and there was a qualified instructor to teach them swimming. We never ever went to the Commonwealth Pool. If I was told to be at Craiglockhart I may have been there with MGW but there were twelve or fourteen children going, so he was never on his own. I was never aware of MGW not wanting to go because I was there.
101. The passage of time hasn't affected my recollection of what he is saying and I've no idea why he is saying that.
102. What he says about 'grooming going on outside the establishment'; what does he mean by grooming and how does he know what I was doing outside the establishment? As I've said before he has a vivid imagination, his statement runs to sixty or seventy pages, far more than anybody else. He has a vivid imagination.
103. On page 13 at paragraph 56 of his statement, MGW goes on to say, "*Brian Dailey was physical with me and other children. He slapped you, pulled your ears and grabbed you. Brian Dailey put me against the wall. Sometimes it was because I was threatening to tell on him*".
104. That's not true, it's untrue. The passage of time has not affected my recollection of what is alleged. I don't know if he's been abused elsewhere, but basically, I can only think he is saying these things for money.
105. On page 13 at paragraph 57 of his statement, MGW goes on to say, "*One of Brian Dailey's abuses took place in front of my eyes. It was with [REDACTED] a boy from Aberdeen. [REDACTED] had been in Ladymary School before me. When I went into the dormitory in the top unit, [REDACTED] was there already. We were both about seven years old. [REDACTED] and I were in the bedroom together in the top unit, there was just me and him. I saw Brian Dailey come into the room and sit on [REDACTED]'s bed. I could see the full length of [REDACTED]'s bed from where my bed was. The beds were not far apart. Brian Dailey put his hand under [REDACTED]'s quilt. He*

molested [REDACTED]. I knew what was going on with Brian Dailey's hands under the covers. I could see in the light, I could see the movement. I could hear [REDACTED] whimpering. I pretended to wake up by moving my quilt. Brian Dailey got up and left the room".

106. On page 14 in paragraph 58 ^{MGW} [REDACTED] continues, "The following morning, [REDACTED] and I were in the bedroom. I was drinking lemon barley water by the window, looking out into the woodlands and the beautiful view. I said to [REDACTED] that I saw what Brian Dailey had done to him last night, [REDACTED] remained quiet. There was a build-up and [REDACTED] started crying. A couple of weeks later, [REDACTED] was gone and I never saw him again. I don't know where [REDACTED] went. It wasn't long after Brian Dailey abused [REDACTED] that he abused me".
107. I remember [REDACTED] and he wasn't there before ^{MGW} [REDACTED], he only came after I had started at Ladymary. He was from Glasgow, not Aberdeen. No abuse happened with [REDACTED] either.
108. We weren't allowed to punish the children but we could sanction them and send them to their room if they were being disruptive. I can't remember sanctioning [REDACTED] specifically but I imagine it happened as it happened with most of the children in the unit at some point. They were children and were acting just like children.
109. I did not abuse [REDACTED]. What ^{MGW} [REDACTED] is saying is absolute rubbish. The only reason I can think that he is saying that is just the same story, I think it's to build up his story for compensation.
110. The passage of time has not affected my recollection of what he is saying and yes, I do think what he is saying would be considered abuse.
111. On page 12 at paragraph 50 of his statement, ^{MGW} [REDACTED] goes on to say, "I started running away from Ladymary when I was seven or eight years old. I was

running away from Brian Dailey. Brian Dailey was employed by the Good Shepherd Convent as a housemaster”.

112. On page 14 at paragraph 59 of his statement, [MGW] goes on to say, *“Sister and Brian Dailey were always the first to put me in the quiet room. I’d spend days in and out the quiet room. I used to cause problems in the top unit or abscond to get away from the unit and from Brian Dailey, into the quiet room”.*
113. I cannot recall [MGW] ever absconding and the quiet room was only ever used during school hours, we never used it at night. It was only if they were disruptive in class and the teacher rang the alarm bell. I’m sure [MGW], at some point, would have been taken to the quiet room but not as often as he is saying. The teachers were very good, they stood a lot of abuse and carrying on before they rang the bell.
114. On page 15 at paragraph 63 of his statement, [MGW] goes on to say, *“The nuns would be telling you off for something, like running too fast in the house and Brian Dailey would be behind them, doing hand signals to me, telling me to keep quiet about the abuse”.*
115. It’s possible I was telling him to calm down, but I never abused him so there was never any attempt to quieten him down about abuse. I really cannot recall anything like that happening. I did not abuse any child.
116. On page 14 at paragraph 62 of his statement, [MGW] goes on to say, *“I told the nuns what he had done to me and to [REDACTED] I always told Brian Dailey that I was going to tell the nuns what he did to me. Every time he abused me, I always told the nuns. I told the nuns that Brian Dailey had taken me into his bedroom, got undressed in front of me, grabbed my wrist and forced me to masturbate him”.*
117. No nuns, staff or management at Ladymary ever asked me about what [MGW] is saying he told them.

118. On page 52 and 53 at paragraph 243 of his statement, **MGW** goes on to say, *"If Brian Dailey hadn't been at Ladymary, I would have been good. I messed it up or rather, Brian Dailey messed it up"*.
119. My only comment on why he is saying that is the usual one, to advance his own story to gain compensation.
120. On page 61 at paragraph 286 of his statement, **MGW** goes on to say, *"Brian Dailey's trial was the last trial. It was at Edinburgh High Court. I was giving evidence again, for two and a half days. There were five complainers. Charges for four complainers were found unanimously guilty, including mine. The other one were found not proven. Brian Dailey was given ten years imprisonment"*.
121. That statement by **MGW** about me being found unanimously guilty, is true. I can only reiterate that he has a vivid imagination.

PCF

122. **PCF** has given a statement to the Inquiry. On page 9 at paragraph 50 of her statement, she has said, *"One of the house parents, Brian Dailey, used to supervise me when I was in the bath. He gave me a bath every night. He used to say that I was his 'wee angel'. He would play with my hair while I was in the bath. I had very long hair and used to be able to sit on it"*.
123. On page 9 at paragraph 51, **PCF** goes on to say, *"He used to buy me Twinkle comics and sweets. He used to touch my 'lady' which was my private parts and would get me to touch him. He made me perform oral sex on him. I was seven years old when he started doing things to me. I didn't know it was wrong"*.
124. **PCF** was the only girl in the unit, I think, and I never ever bathed a girl. She was always bathed by Sister **MHV**, who said herself, in her statement at my trial, that I was never involved in bathing **PCF**. It was always Sister **MHV**. Sister **MHV** had put that in her statement when the police interviewed her. She wasn't well and didn't

come to the trial but her statement was read out by a police officer. Sister Joan stressed, in her statement, that I never ever bathed PCF and it was always her that did it.

125. I never bought her sweeties or comics, as I've said, if I had bought that, I'd have needed to buy that for every child. That was one of the very strict rules at the school; that we hadn't to make any child special. If we bought one child a birthday present we had to make sure we bought every child a birthday present.
126. The comment she makes about me calling her a 'little angel', that was Sister MHV that called her that. I'm sure PCF was the only girl, there might have been two, I'm not too sure, I really can't remember but she was definitely the only girl for a large part of the time there and Sister MHV always dealt with her. I heard Sister MHV calling her that, it used to be a joke with everybody, because Sister MHV was open about it, and would say it in front of all the children and staff.
127. I didn't ever sanction or punish PCF. I certainly did not abuse her.
128. The passage of time has not affected my recollection of what has been alleged. I've no idea why PCF is saying these things.
129. If a child was treated in the way she is describing, I would consider that to be abuse.
130. On page 9 at paragraph 52 of her statement, PCF goes on to say, "*One time, he did something different to me. It really hurt. There was blood coming out of me and running down my legs. I went to the toilet, saw the blood and thought I was going to go to hell. I was crying. Someone opened the toilet door and threw something that looked like a nappy into the cubicle. I think it was a Dr White. I think the nuns must have known that I was bleeding because it was all over my pyjamas*".
131. I do not recall anything like that happening and if it had happened it would be one of the female staff or a Sister who would have done it. I cannot recall anybody saying

that PCF had maybe started her period, or anything like that, with blood or anything. I've no idea what that was about.

132. The passage of time has not affected my recollection of what she is saying.

133. I've no idea why PCF is saying these things.

134. If a child was treated in the way she is describing, it does sound as if it could have been abuse.

135. On page 9 at paragraph 53 of her statement, PCF goes on to say, *"Brian Dailey used to hurt me all the time but I didn't know it was wrong. It happened every night. He said that I was his friend. If I had known it was wrong, I wouldn't have done it. It went on for a long time and I didn't tell anyone. I didn't know it was bad. I was just a wee girl"*.

136. That's absolute rubbish. I never abused her. I didn't attack her every night. It did not happen.

137. The passage of time has not affected my recollection of what she is saying.

138. I've no idea why PCF is saying these things.

139. If a child was treated in the way she is describing, it could have been abuse.

140. On page 9 at paragraph 54 of her statement, PCF goes on to say, *"When I went home once, I might have told my aunt about my 'lady' being sore and about there being a man in the bathroom. I was about eleven years old by then. My grandad went to the Mother Superior. He came to the home and noticed Brian because he looked dodgy. He worked it out and went off his nut. He was shouting at the nuns. After that, Brian disappeared. Nobody spoke to me about it"*.

141. I don't remember PCF's grandad ever coming to the home. No staff or management at Ladymary ever asked me about any complaint that was made by PCF's grandad. I don't know when this was but the only time I disappeared was when I went to college in 1977. The children all knew I was going then.
142. On page 22 at paragraph 136 of her statement, PCF goes on to say, *"The police from Edinburgh have come back to me and said they can't do anything about Brian Dailey abusing me. It is not because they do not believe me, but that they need more evidence, but they are leaving it open"*.
143. On page 22 at paragraph 137, PCF goes on to say, *"I felt like someone had physically knocked the wind out of me when the police told me they couldn't charge Brian Dailey. I feel like we are told to come forward and speak the truth but then when we do, nothing is done about it"*.
144. I've no explanation as to why this caused such a significant impact on PCF. I have no idea at all.

IUU

145. IUU has given a statement to the Inquiry. On page 11 at paragraph 62 of her statement, she has said, *"One day when the ballet teacher was hitting my ankles, I lost the plot and took his stick off him and hit him back with it. Staff came and took me away and put me in the quiet room. I lost the plot in the quiet room and exploded so the staff pinned me down and sat on me to calm me down. There were three of them, which I thought was a bit much for a nine year old girl. One of them was Brian Dailey and he was a pretty strong guy"*.
146. I never worked in IUU's unit. She's made lots of allegations about me but I was never in her unit. We worked in our own units. There was a ballet teacher, Mr zPRU, who came in every Tuesday night. All the children used to take part in ballet but I do not recall anybody saying that IUU had started hitting him with his stick. I've no idea whether he hit anybody or what he was doing because we were

never involved with the ballet. It was always Mr [REDACTED] who would come along with one of his students, I don't remember any of their names.

147. I didn't ever sanction or punish [REDACTED]. I was never in her unit. I had access, they were open, but we always worked with our own staff in our own unit. If we ever had a complaint about a child being cheeky or misbehaving we would report it to the staff at the unit the child was in.
148. I did not abuse [REDACTED]. It's fabrication, it's fantasy. When I say that, I had forgotten there was a community service volunteer, a young chap, who was called [REDACTED]. I only discovered that when I heard children call him that, when he was speaking to staff it was another name he used. I can't remember what that other name was. It was only at my trial that I found that out, when the prosecution put up a list of staff members names, I saw his name, [REDACTED], and I remembered him. I can't remember his full name. He worked in the middle unit where [REDACTED] was.
149. We were only ever told CSV's or community service volunteers, were coming to work with us. They were like an extra member of staff and they took part in everything that we did with the children. They were an extra pair of hands and helped with playing with the children, feeding them and bathing them. Similar to what I did when I volunteered at Smyllum. I had no idea what community service volunteer actually meant, it was never explained to us. To be honest I was never curious enough to ask what CSV meant all I know is that they were paid pocket money by the organisation. They never came out on any nights out when the staff were going out.
150. I would accept that was abuse if a child was treated in the way that's been described.
151. On page 11 and 12 at paragraph 63 of her statement, [REDACTED] goes on to say, *"Brian Dailey first sexually abused me when I was in the first unit after I had been there for two or three months, so I would have been about nine years old. I didn't know who Brian was at the time because he didn't work in my unit. He came into room at night with a boy. I still don't know the boy's name. He was about sixteen*

years old, I think. Brian Dailey made me perform oral sex on the boy. I didn't want to do it and tried to say no and kept pushing the boy away. Brian kept telling me to do it and I kept pushing it away. Brian then punched me in the nose. My nose started bleeding but he still made me do it. The boy ejaculated in my mouth. It was horrible and left me in a right state that night. I didn't know the boy or how old he was but he was definitely older than me. The oldest kids in the home were twelve years old but I thought the boy was older than that but he might not have been. He might also have been a friend of Brian's. I have no idea who he was".

152. I have no idea who this mystery boy was. There was never a teenage boy who was fourteen to sixteen. There were never any boys over the age of twelve staying at Ladymary. I've no idea what she's talking about. I have no idea why that boy would be there, you'd need to ask [REDACTED]. I never took any friends into Ladymary. I was only involved in the cubs and scouts when I lived in Lanark.
153. The passage of time has not affected my recollection.
154. I've no idea why she is saying these things.
155. If a child had been treated in the way she is describing I accept that would have been abuse.
156. On page 12 and 13 at paragraph 67 of her statement, [REDACTED] goes on to say, *"After the first incident, I would only ever see Brian Dailey when he was coming into my room to sexually abuse me with the same boy. I was making noise by crying and saying no. I don't know how the staff member in the room beside me didn't hear anything, especially after I had already told her. Brian started taking me to the bathroom to abuse me, which was away from my room. He probably did that so that the staff member wouldn't hear. It happened about six times when I was in that first unit and each time it was with that same boy. Brian would make me do stuff with the boy while he would masturbate and then ejaculate into a hanky that he had with him".*

157. That is absolute fantasy. I've no idea why she is saying that.
158. The passage of time has not affected my recollection.
159. If a child had been treated in the way she is describing I accept that would be abuse.
160. I should say that at the time of my trial my QC or lawyer said that [IUU] had provided a video statement and at the end of it she kept saying she couldn't remember my surname. She only remembered Brian. Then at the end of the video statement a police officer asked her if it could have been Brian Dailey and she said "Oh, it could have been". She never mentions [RDZ] the community service volunteer, who actually worked in her unit.
161. On page 12 at paragraph 66 of her statement, [IUU] goes on to say, "*My nose would bleed regularly after the punch from Brian Dailey. I have had problems with that my whole life. A doctor who examined me as an adult said it had been broken and the punch is the only incident that I know could have broken it*". On page 31 at paragraph 162 she goes on to say, "*I have had nose bleeds and problems with my nose since I was punched by Brian Dailey when I was nine years old*".
162. I have no idea why she is saying that unless she is getting me mixed up with [RDZ]. I hesitate to accuse [RDZ] but there was [RDZ] and he actually worked in her unit. I never worked in her unit. When she was in the wee unit, that was before I went to Ladymary. Newcomers always went into the wee unit for a while until a place became available in either the middle unit or my unit. She was in the middle unit by the time I got to Ladymary, she was never in my unit.
163. On page 13 at paragraph 68 of her statement, [IUU] goes on to say, "*I didn't know where Brian was coming from until about a year later when I moved into the second unit and introduced to the staff there. I would have been about ten years old then. That was when I saw Brian come into the lounge area and realised that he was one of the workers in the second unit. I felt sick and so vulnerable. I froze and went into myself*".

164. I have no comment to make, I really didn't know her. I only saw her every second weekend. [UU] and another boy, who was also from Aberdeen, got to go home every second weekend so the only time I really saw her was on the Friday when they were both driven to Edinburgh Airport to get a flight up to Aberdeen. That's the only contact I ever had with her other than outside at lunchtime, during a school break, when they were all playing.
165. On page 13 at paragraph 69 of her statement, [UU] goes on to say, *"Nothing happened for the first wee while then he came in, tapped me quietly to wake me and beckoned for me to follow him without making any noise. I didn't want to but I would because I was scared what would happen if I didn't. He took me down to his room, which was at the end of the corridor on the right. I remember his room was tidy and his bed was along the wall. There was a window with a wash hand basin beside it, and heater pipes. I remember his hanky hanging on the side of the heater, and I recognised it as the hanky he would ejaculate in".*
166. [UU] continues on page 13 at paragraph 70 to say, *"That first time he took me to his room, he told me to take my jim-jams down and bent me over his bed. Then he took this cast iron bracket thing that was about a foot and a half long and was hanging over the heating pipes. I think it was supposed to be bolted down but wasn't. He took it and pressed it onto my buttocks. It was absolutely roasting and really painful. It seemed like a bizarre thing to do but he obviously got a kick out of it. Horrible man. Then he ejaculated all over me and made me go to bed all covered in his stuff".*
167. That is absolute fabrication again. If I had taken a child from another unit we'd have walked through her unit, along a corridor and through into my unit. A member of staff might have been around or somebody else would have seen us. There was very little coming and going at Ladymary, the children didn't come in to play with each other, they stayed in their own units.
168. The passage of time has not affected my recollection.

169. I have no idea why she is saying those things.
170. I do accept that what she has described would have been abuse.
171. On page 13 and 14 at paragraph 71 of her statement, [REDACTED] goes on to say, *"After that, he would come into my room at night every few weeks and tap me awake and make me follow him to his room to abuse me. It was always him on his own when I was in the second unit. He digitally penetrated me and rubbed his penis over my private parts but didn't penetrate me with his penis. He would ejaculate onto my private parts. He abused me about six times when I was in that second unit, but I was never able to sleep properly because I was always expecting him to come in at any time and then having nightmares and wetting the bed"*.
172. Again, fabrication, because she claims that I went into her unit, but somebody would have seen me. A member of staff from that unit could have been around, it's impossible that every time I'm alleged to have gone into her unit there were no members of staff around.
173. The passage of time has not affected my recollection.
174. I have no idea why she is saying those things.
175. I do accept that if she had been treated that way it would have been abuse.
176. On page 31 at paragraph 163 of her statement, [REDACTED] goes on to say, *"I used to get tingling in my legs as a child, which started in Ladymary School and I sometimes would get it as an adult when I was really stressed. It turns out that it is Herpes, which I must have got from Brian Dailey"*.
177. I've never had herpes in my life so I don't know how I could possibly pass it on. It is fantasy by her, on her part again. I've no idea why she is saying these things.

178. On page 14 at paragraph 73 of her statement, [REDACTED] goes on to say, *"I didn't know at the time if he was abusing anybody else, I found out years later, as an adult, that he was abusing other kids at the same time he was abusing me. I found out that he had been abusing boys in the boys' dormitory and all the boys in the dormitory were aware it was happening"*.
179. It didn't happen. I never abused a single soul.
180. The passage of time has not affected my recollection.
181. I have no idea why she is saying those things.
182. If children were treated that way, it was abuse but I didn't do it and nobody else did.

Documents – Woodfield Ladymary School, Edinburgh

183. I am aware that the Good Shepherd Order of Ladymary School provided the Inquiry with documentation (reference number GSH.001.001.0382). An extract from that documentation, pages 15 and 16, have been shared with me. In box (iv) at section 5.9, which relates to a specific complaint, the document refers to the person accused of that complaint as being a male member of care staff, Brian Dailey. In box (v) it details the complaint as *"That he had sexually abused the boy when he was alone with him one evening. The boy had refused to go out with the group and the staff member had invited him to help him prepare the tea"*.
184. I couldn't relate that complaint to any of the list of names I was provided with by the Inquiry. I cannot think that the children were ever all allowed to refuse to go out if we were going out for a walk. If we were going out to play I'm sure they could refuse but if it was a walk, which that sounds like, I cannot recall anybody being able to make that decision.

185. In box (x), still at section 5.9, on the same documentation, it states, "*We have no record but the former headmistress informed us that the staff member was suspended while the accusation was investigated. He was interviewed twice by the psychiatrist who judged that there was no basis for the accusation and he was then allowed to return to work*".
186. I was interviewed by Dr Rodgers from the Sick Kids Hospital on two separate occasions. He grilled me, he really grilled me, several times, asking me the same questions under different guises. He did say there had been an allegation made but I can't remember what it was about. I didn't commit any offence so I cannot say anything about the allegation. I cannot remember who he said had made the allegation.
187. I was suspended during that, for three or four days, until Dr Rodgers had spoken to both me and the boy. I was then reinstated after Dr Rodgers stated that he couldn't see any validity in the boy's accusation.
188. I certainly did not abuse the boy who made that allegation.
189. The passage of time has not affected my recollection.
190. If the boy had been sexually abused as has been reported in the documentation then I do accept that was abuse.

Smyllum Orphanage, Smyllum Park, Lanark

[REDACTED]

191. I am aware that [REDACTED], who was at Smyllum between 1962 and 1968, has given a statement to Cambridge Constabulary (reference number CFS.001.001.0141). I have had sight of an extract of that statement. On page 10 of that statement he has said, "*I also recall a man called Brian Daley, who was a cub*

master locally. He approached the nuns and got friendly. He then tried to get boys to his cub pack. He spoke to me and asked me questions like 'did I get an erection', 'did I like to masturbate'. I would not speak to him as he was so creepy and he left me alone. I know that other boys did join his cub pack. He did make sexual advances to me. I know that later he ran a home for children for the Catholic Church in Edinburgh".

192. I remember [REDACTED]. When I read his name I did remember him, he was one of the older boys, about twelve or thirteen.
193. I never sanctioned, punished or abused [REDACTED]. I may have said something because, as I said earlier, Sister EAA [REDACTED], who was SNR [REDACTED] of the place had said it was lovely to have a guy, a man who could teach the boys sex education, but it was very basic. I can't remember if I asked him as boldly as that. To be honest I cannot think I would use the word masturbate because I was only about eighteen or nineteen at that point, and as a small country lad we didn't use words like that. I didn't know words like that.
194. I have no idea why he would make that allegation and says those things.
195. The passage of time has possibly affected my recollection but there's nothing to allege because I didn't abuse him. I can say that hand on heart, I did not abuse him. I did not make sexual advances to him or any other child.
196. If a child was asked if they got an erection or liked to masturbate or had sexual advances made towards them by someone then I would consider the part about making sexual advances to be abuse. To be honest, asking him if he ever masturbated, I cannot think I would ever use that word but I may have spoken to them about sex. I had a limited knowledge about sex as I was only about eighteen or nineteen and came from a small country town where we didn't talk about things like that and I didn't have any knowledge about things like that.

197. When the nuns asked me to speak to the boys, it was just assumed I had the knowledge and ability to do that. They didn't ask me if I had the knowledge and to start with I didn't feel comfortable doing that. It was new to me.
198. I am aware that [REDACTED] also provided a precognition to solicitors (reference number DSV.001.001.3326) and I have had sight of an extract, pages 125 and 126, from that precognition. In the first paragraph he says *"I remember some of the carers were very cruel. One of them was "Brian? Who was a Cub Scout Leader who visited us and various other care staff whose names I cannot remember"*. [REDACTED] then details a number of acts of cruelty including children being made to eat their own sick.
199. I can say hand on heart that I didn't ever see any member of staff physically or mentally abusing any child. It certainly never happened while I was around.
200. I did not see any corporal punishment by any member of staff or by a sister. I was never involved in any act or cruelty and never saw any other member of staff involved in any act of cruelty.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

201. I am aware that the Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul, who ran Smyllum, provided a documented response to the Inquiry (reference number DSV.001.001.4732). I have had sight of an extract, pages 181 and 183 of that response. I am aware that the document states that at some point between 1975 and 1979 a complaint of abuse was made against Brian Dailey. On page 182 of this same document, at paragraph (v) it states, *"The precise details of the complaint were disclosed to the Order in August 2017 by a former member of the Order who had been a Sister at Smyllum and heard of the incident of alleged abuse in the 1970s. On an unspecified date during that decade the witness was called into a meeting with the then Sister Servant of Smyllum, Sister, and was told that two boys had told their grandmother that a volunteer, Brian Dailey, had abused them while he was on holiday with their group. The message from the Sister Servant to the witness was*

that the grandmother had not wanted this matter to be reported to the Police, but that the boys would not be coming back to Smyllum".

202. In paragraph (vi) the document goes on to say, *"From the witness evidence now available it would appear that the incident/s took place when Brian Dailey accompanied children from Smyllum as a volunteer helper on a seaside holiday which is likely to have lasted for at most a two week period. From admissions records and the witness' Ministry History, this would appear to have taken place at some stage between 1975 and 1979".*
203. On pages 125 and 126 in the document in paragraph (iii) it states, *"The recently disclosed allegation indicates that, during the time a witness worked at Smyllum, 1975-1982, she was advised by the sister servant of receipt of an allegation that Brian Dailey had abused two brothers whilst on holiday with the brothers, as part of a larger group from Smyllum, as a volunteer. The two brothers have been potentially identified from the admissions registers as having been resident at Smyllum between 1969 and 1979, placing the alleged abuse at some point between 1975-1979".*
204. I did work at Smyllum during my college break in 1976. Instead of just going on the dole, as I'd done the year before, I thought I'd rather work.
205. I am aware that Sister Eileen Igoe has also given a statement to the Inquiry. I have had sight of an extract, pages 24 and 25, from this statement. On page 24 at paragraph 128 she says, *"I remember that Brian Dailey had contact with the children when I was a Sister at Smyllum. I don't know why he used to come into Smyllum. He didn't have a role. He just used to be there. I always thought that he came into Smyllum just to speak to the staff. I think he had something to do with scouts. He was a scoutmaster or something".*
206. Further, on page 24 at paragraph 130, Sister Eileen Igoe goes on to say, *"I got told by Sister a while after we came back from holiday that two children by the name [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were not coming back. They were not coming back because Brian Dailey had asked them to do something. I don't know if I was told this*

by her or not but I remember it was something to do with "touching". Sister told me that they wouldn't take the children back because the children wouldn't say that the incident didn't happen. She also said that the children's grandmother didn't want anything done about it. It must have been the boys' social worker who told Sister The social worker must have been the one who told her that the grandmother hadn't wanted to do anything about it".

207. I did remember [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] when I read their names. I remember they were brothers and were just the same as any other child up there at Smyllum. Just boys. I was there, that's when we went to Girvan on our holidays, so it was during my time working there.
208. I did not sanction or punish either of those boys and I certainly did not abuse them.
209. The passage of time has not affected my recollection.
210. I have no idea why those things are being said.
211. If a child was treated in the way that has been described then that could be considered abuse.
212. On page 25 at paragraph 131 Sister Eileen Igoe goes on to say *"At that time I was delighted. It was only later on that I felt maybe I should have said something. As soon as I heard that Brian Dailey was jailed I thought I should have told"*.
213. Later, in the same paragraph Sister Eileen Igoe goes on to say, *"I felt I had to tell after he was jailed because I wanted the boys to know they were believed"*.
214. I've no idea why she is saying that. I remember Eileen Igoe, she used to be a member of staff in one of the other units, in Ogilvie House, and I would see her around. I would sometimes go to some of the other houses just to talk to people, the staff and the Sister and the children.

215. I've no idea why she's saying these things and I have sometimes wondered because I believe she and another member of staff have been jailed for abuse at Smyllum and I wonder if it's her maybe trying to deflect from her. I haven't seen her for years.
216. Going back to the extract of the response the Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul provided to the Inquiry. On page 183, at paragraph (ix), under section 5.9, of that response, it states, "*There is no record of any contemporaneous investigation, but the witness evidence suggests that Brian Dailey did not attend Smyllum again after the allegation was received, although it is not possible to conclude if this was at the instigation or insistence of the Sister Servant*".
217. The holiday in Girvan was towards the end of my holiday from college so I went back to Oxford.

Millpark Children's Home, Edinburgh

Secondary Institutions - to be published later

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226. Secondary Institutions - to be published later

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Convictions

234. I think my first trial was at Edinburgh High Court in July 2017. I can't remember how many charges I was convicted of but there were four individual complainers. I was found guilty of the charges against those four people. The charges related to sexual abuse but I really can't remember much about it. I don't think there was any physical assault charges. It was the first time I was in a court and it was all new to me. My QC at that time was absolutely useless, I didn't have any confidence in him. I can't recall

his name but he has since become a prosecutor. The firm of solicitors I used for both my trials were BCKM at George IV Bridge in Edinburgh.

235. I used to write down notes and questions and my QC didn't listen to one of them. At the end of the Thursday he persuaded me not to let my last two witnesses come forward because he had a very important case starting on the Monday and this would interfere with that. I argued with him about it and he said one of my witnesses was a member of night staff, which was no good, and the other had only been working there for six months so that was no good. They were both defence witnesses speaking on my behalf.
236. Halfway through the first trial my QC tried to get me to change my plea to guilty to get a lesser sentence. I said that was still me saying I was guilty in front of everybody and nobody would believe I was just saying that to get a lesser sentence. I was sentenced to 8 years at that first trial.
237. I then had a second trial at the High Court in Glasgow in 2022 where there was quite a lot of charges. There were about twelve former children accused me, but I really can't remember much about it.
238. I think I was found guilty on twelve charges, one charge was dismissed, one was found not proven and one was not guilty. The vast majority were guilty. The charges all related to sexual abuse. I was sentenced to 18 years initially, which was reduced to 15 years and then reduced to 13 years. I'm not sure why they were reduced, my QC, Mr McConnachie, must have worked his magic.
239. My stance from the word go has been that I am innocent of all of these charges.
240. I had issues with my QC for my second trial as well. The QC was Brian McConnachie, and he was missing for the last three days of my trial. I'm sure it was at that time I saw the list of Ladymary staff and saw the name of RDZ [REDACTED] I've told the Inquiry about, so there was a chance for my QC to dive into that.

241. I have never been the subject of any allegations of the abuse of a child other than the ones I have been convicted of.

242. I have no idea why so many people are coming forward to the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry and making allegations against me.

Secondary Institutions - to be published later

Secondary Institutions - to be published later

243. I didn't appeal that because my QC at the first trial said there was no point because if I did it would only increase my sentence. He said the judge had done nothing wrong and if I appealed for a shorter sentence I'd be given a longer one. I believed him because it was the first time I'd ever been in a court.

Helping the Inquiry

244. I think one of the biggest reasons for people coming forward to speak to the Inquiry is money. Money got involved, people were getting handed out money which wasn't helped by Keir Starmer, when he was the director of Public Prosecutions, decreeing that every child who brought forward a complaint of abuse had to be totally believed.

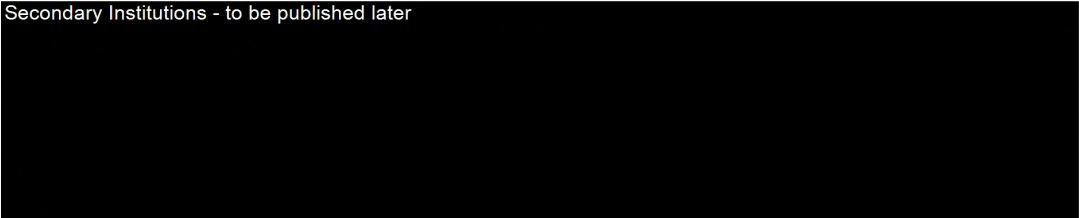
245. I sometimes wonder if that's why some of the children have gone on to make a complaint. I don't know how the people who come forward are spoken to but they could be spoken to in such a way, that it makes them believe and that would help them to then exaggerate things.

246. Some children do tell lies. That's a known fact they can be untruthful. If they meet up or contact one another, that's another thing. Children who've been in a particular place would keep in contact with one another.

247. I know the people who have made allegations against me are from three different places but I've no idea if they all know each other. I've not kept up with them once I left. If they've been in lots of different children's homes throughout their lives then they could possibly have met. I did argue that at my first trial and the QC for the prosecution absolutely shouted me down and demanded that I give him proof. I told him I didn't have proof but asked if he had proof that they didn't know one another. The judge eventually told me to come forward with the truth or shut up.
248. I've no idea why the abuse the children experienced continued to affect them and impact on their lives. I'm not a psychiatrist or medical guy so I cannot come forward with anything.

Lessons to be learned

249. Better education for staff is the main thing. There needs to be proper education not just a one-day course. Staff should be given as much time as they need.
250. I would hesitate, to be honest, from my experience and from what I've said, about involving children in coming forward and telling people about abuse because that could give them ideas that they had never thought about.
251. In all the places I worked the children were never told, when they first arrived at the institution, about the do's and don'ts and what they should do if they felt they were being ill-treated.

252. Secondary Institutions - to be published later
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253. Secondary Institutions - to be published later

254. There wasn't a children's rights officer or someone independent that could come in and speak to the children, not during my time, not at any of the institutions I worked at. Secondary Institutions - to be published later

Other information

255. 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... [redacted]

Dated... 10/6/25