

**Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry**

Witness Statement of

MPM

Support person present: No

1. My name is MPM. My date of birth is 1962. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.

**Life before going into care**

2. I was born and spent the first few years of my life in Glasgow. I was one of six children although I later found out my dad had two other girls from a previous relationship. They never lived with us. is the oldest, then there is me, and . Where we lived at first was very small, just a room and kitchen. The toilet was on the landing. There was a section that lifted out the bed to make it bigger and my mum, dad, and the six children all slept in the same bed. It was awful
3. My father, , worked for the post office but wasn't well paid. I sometimes followed him on his rounds and annoyed him. My mum, , looked after the children. She was always tired and unhappy. She resented being in the house all the time looking after so many of us in such a confined space. She missed going out because she wasn't allowed to, and she missed her friends. She wasn't happy that he was out spending money. Often my dad would come home drunk and he was violent and abusive especially to my mum and he was angry at us.
4. I know now, from my social work records that the police were often called to our house. I believe it was because of drunken fights. A couple of times the children were removed

and we were split up and went to stay with various aunts or uncles. We didn't really know them very well because we didn't see them very often. We would stay there for a couple of days then be were put back into the same situation at home where the cycle was repeated. It also says in the records that we were left in the house on our own. I recall at some point myself and [REDACTED] looking after the younger ones.

5. I remember I did go to school when I was old enough. I would have been five. I went to Auchinairn Primary School. We moved house several times so I went to other schools but I don't remember them or ever settling in one particular school.
6. When I was six my mother died. We were living in a house in Balornock in Glasgow at that time. My father's drinking got worse. He invited his friends round to our house several nights a week. The younger children were put to bed then me and [REDACTED] entertained the men. We would pour their drink. We sang and danced for them. We actually did a strip tease. They encouraged us to take our clothes off. We did it because they gave us sweets and juice. They may have given us alcohol. We ended up completely naked. They never touched us. I think this was just before my dad and these men joined the merchant navy.
7. After my mum died that was when the social work department became involved with us. Because my dad was spending all his money on alcohol we were constantly asking our neighbours for food. I think they must have become concerned and contacted the social work department. We were often out playing in the street at night with no shoes on. My dad would tell us to get out the house and we had to walk the streets. [REDACTED] and I got caught stealing food from Galbraith's supermarket. The man in the shop was really good with us. He told us to come back at closing time and he gave us bread. I was looking after my young brother [REDACTED] who was nine months old. Sometimes I had to put a tea-towel on him as a nappy. [REDACTED] stole ordinary milk for [REDACTED] to drink but he didn't like it. He cried a lot and dad just told us to shut him up. We were left to be responsible for [REDACTED]
8. I suppose we were quite happy children who didn't really know anything different. The social work department eventually took us from that house and put us in some sort of

temporary home in Castlemilk. I don't know the name of it. When we arrived we were all stripped, put in a big bath and scrubbed clean. We were given clean clothes. They checked our heads for lice. All my brothers and sisters were there. We had to sleep on mattresses on the floor. It was a huge place and there were lots of other children there. The staff wore uniforms. I presume this place was run by the council. I hated that we had to go back home after being there. In this place we were clean, and our bed sheets were clean. We were only in there for a couple of nights and usually went back home again. We came back and forth several times to this place.

9. We were subsequently all put in care. We were split up. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] went to foster parents somewhere. [REDACTED] went to a baby home in Blairvadach, near Helensburgh. I am not sure where [REDACTED] went. [REDACTED] and I went to foster parents at Ruchazie in Glasgow. I think my family got tired of having to constantly look after us when there was a crisis. It was a social worker who told us that we were going into care. I don't know the social worker's name. They came and picked me and [REDACTED] up and drove us to the foster parents. I would still have been six.

**Life in foster care.** [REDACTED] MPN/ MPO, Ruchazie, Glasgow

10. When we arrived [REDACTED] MPN/ MPO seemed pleasant to begin with. They were nice in front of the social worker. They showed us to our bedroom which had two nice single beds. When the social worker left we were sent upstairs but it wasn't the room that we were shown. It was further up into the house, into a sort of loft. It had two camp beds with rolled mattresses. Mrs [REDACTED] MPO told us this was our room.
11. [REDACTED] MPN/ MPO were rather obese. Mr [REDACTED] MPN disappeared during the day, I don't know where he worked but Mrs [REDACTED] MPO was always there. They had two sons who were older than [REDACTED] and I. They were about thirteen. I can't remember their names.

**Routine in foster care**

*Mealtimes/Food*

12. We never got a proper meal when we were with [MPN/ MPO]. We got scraps of food that were left over from their meals. We didn't eat at the same time as them. We were left in the kitchen while they ate their dinner. We took some biscuits and ate them.

*Trips and holidays*

13. We were never taken anywhere for the day or had any holidays with [MPN/ MPO]. When we got home from school that was us home. We didn't go out again.

*School*

14. I went to a school in Ruchazie but can't remember the name of it. Mrs [MPO] would pick us up after school and take us home.

*Healthcare*

15. I never went to the doctors or dentist when I was with [MPN/ MPO]. I didn't need any medical attention for the times I was beaten. It was usually just bruises.

*Visits/Inspections/Review of Detention*

16. When [MPN/ MPO] had anyone visit them, before they arrived they would have us dressed impeccably and well presented. I think I saw a social worker once when I was there. It was the same social worker who dropped us off and later took us away. The foster parents were present and we never got the chance to speak to her on our own. We were dressed smartly and just acted normal.

**Abuse at foster carers, [MPN/ MPO]**

17. From the very start [MPN/ MPO] made it clear that we were beneath them and didn't warrant any special treatment. If anything we were treated like glorified skivvies. We did the housework. Mr [MPN] would often make us strip naked when we were doing the chores. He would make us clean things that we had already cleaned. He would tell us that we had missed a bit and would need to start again. They were obsessed about cleanliness and for some odd reason they always insisted on us doing it naked. As soon as we came in from school, we had all these chores to do. We then helped wash up in the kitchen when Mrs [MPO] was cooking.
18. Mr [MPN] belted us. He took the belt off his trousers. Sometimes he folded the belt over and pull it quickly to make it make a loud snapping noise. He hit us most days with the belt. Mrs [MPO] had her own belt which she hit us with. It looked more like a ladies belt. Sometimes she would hit us with a wet tea towel and smack it right across the back of our legs. They would both hit us if they thought we weren't doing something properly or if the boys had told them we had done something. Mr [MPN] would hit us with the belt on our bare back or on our bare backside. Usually it was on our backside. Mrs [MPO] would tell us to take our vest off and hit us with the belt on our bare back. Most of the time [ ] and I were only in a nightshirt because we barely left the house. The only time was when we went to school. They never hit us near the face. Most of the time they made sure that the belt was on our back or bottom.
19. When we got food it wasn't a meal. It was usually because somebody had left something. There was a bit at the back of the kitchen, like a scullery and while they ate in the dining room we had to wait in the scullery. We were usually in there washing up their dishes anyway. The boys would come in sometimes with a bit food and make us think that it was for us. They would eat it right in front of our faces. They were really cruel. The parents thought this was highly amusing.
20. We didn't go to church. When [MPN/ MPO] and their two sons went, me and [ ] were stripped naked and locked in the wardrobe in their bedroom. Mr and Mrs

MPN/ MPO did this to us. They went every Sunday. We were locked in the wardrobe for hours.

21. On several occasions [REDACTED] and I were tortured. The boys did it and the parents watched. The boys instructed us to strip naked and lie on the floor and to spread our legs and our arms out between the beds. They tied us to the bed frames which were either side of us. They then ran their bikes over us. MPN/ MPO [REDACTED] were laughing and thought it was really funny. They were absolutely vile. The boys regularly hit us. They punched and kicked us.
22. We had to do housework every day. One time Mr MPN [REDACTED] told me I was to scrub the kitchen floor. I refused. [REDACTED] did it but he made her strip naked. She had to use a scrubbing brush and a big green bar of soap. When she was scrubbing she was sliding all over the floor. The boys found it hysterical because [REDACTED] was slipping all over the place. It was sick.
23. MPN/ MPO [REDACTED] would force me and [REDACTED] to stand on one leg and see how long we could stay like that. When we were doing that one of the boys would slap us with a ruler. They would also make us hop on one leg and we would hop around the room. They would make us do stupid things like that every single day just for their entertainment.
24. There were times when the parents were downstairs and the boys would tell us to do things. If we refused they would say that they would tell their mum that we had done something. They might hide things then tell their mum that we stole them. Mr and Mrs MPN/ MPO [REDACTED] would believe everything they said and we were beaten by them with the belt.
25. On one occasion one of MPN/ MPO [REDACTED]'s friends was visiting. She was in the living room. When we were alone she said that she hoped I was grateful for what MPN/ MPO [REDACTED] had done for me. She then slapped me on the face. I was so confused. I told her I was, while holding my face. I didn't know what was going on. Their friends were horrible.

26. There was no sexual abuse when I was at [MPN/ MPO]'s. It was all physical and emotional. It was humiliating. It was mostly their boys that did it while Mr and Mrs [MPN/ MPO] watched.

#### **Reporting of abuse in foster care.**

27. Mrs [MPO] always said to us that if anyone noticed any marks on us I was to say that I had been climbing or doing something like that. No one ever did ask. I even had a black eye one time. I got the black eye when I was turning to get away from the boys and I went into the wall. No one ever noticed or asked how I got it. Mrs [MPO] once told me not to do PE. I don't know if I had bruises or not but I had been belted across my back and it was sore. I had to just say that I wasn't feeling well. A couple of times she got me on the legs with a tea towel which left bruises but I had woolly tights on at the school.
28. We were too frightened to tell anyone what was going on in [MPN/ MPO]'s house. We wanted to tell the social worker but I was frightened that she wouldn't believe me and we would be left there and it would be worse for us.

#### **Leaving foster care, [MPN/ MPO]**

29. We stayed with [MPN/ MPO] family for six months. I have no idea why we left. We were just told that we were going back home. I was pleased in a way to be going back to familiar territory. I think my dad had said that he was ready to take responsibility and he must have proved to them that he could.

#### **Life back with dad**

30. We were taken home to my dad by the social worker. I think he wanted us back but that wore off within a few days. After that he didn't seem to care that we were there.

He seemed annoyed that he had been lumbered with us again. All my brothers and sisters ended up back with my dad about the same time. I was pleased to hear that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had lovely foster parents where they had been.

31. My dad was drinking and being horrible to us. He was calling us disgusting names, saying we were whores just like our mother. We didn't know what that meant at the time. We were looking after the wee ones again and he was treating us badly. He seemed annoyed all the time and was smoking heavily. Although I didn't want to go back to foster care, rather than put up with him, I wanted to go back to the home in Castlemilk. We were only back living with my dad for a few weeks. We went back to Castlemilk and that was good because they had a playroom with plenty toys and we had regular meals. That was short lived and we went back to my dad's house again.
32. When we were at my dad's he told us we were going for a two week holiday. A male social worker who I hadn't seen before took us in the car with my dad. I can't remember his name. In the car was me, [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. All the way we were chatting and quite happy. We were excited because we were going on a holiday. This was in 1971 so I would have been nine.

### **Lagarie House, Rhu**

#### *Layout*

33. Lagarie House was funded by a charity, the British and International Sailor's Society. I later found out that we went there because my father was a seaman and they are a charity set up to help seafarers and their families. My father must have approached them first and I think my dad contributed financially towards our care.
34. The building was an old Victorian style building. As you enter the front door there was a vestibule before you got into the main hall. On either side were huge wooden panels and ornate lights. There was a small bedroom and a big bedroom on the ground floor. We slept in there years later but initially we were up the tower. We were in the tower

for around a year. We then moved down to the ground floor right beside Mr Barrie's office. On the ground floor there was only one girls' bedroom.

35. Also on the ground floor was a sitting room, office, and the play room. A door to the right led into the dispensary and a bathroom which was for the younger children. Through from there was a reading room which had a little stage area for putting on plays. Through swing doors was a sloped floor which led to a little sewing room. Another dorm led into the Inverclyde room which had a piano and lots of seats. We held some services in there. The Inverclyde room was named after the benefactor of the restoration of it, Lord Inverclyde. From that room it led, at one end, to the boot room and an art cupboard and on either side two toilets.
36. When you came out the main hall there was another corridor that led to the laundry, the food store, the kitchen, dining room and another corridor that led to the back door where there was a shoe store, two toilets and a wash room. From the corridor leading from the kitchen there was a store cupboard with detergents and things like that. Along from there was a staff room for the cook and domestics. There was a staff toilet. There was a little set of stairs that took you up to a private sitting room and two bedrooms and a bathroom. Years later it was used for older children who got the privilege of going there.
37. There was a massive fancy staircase. Up the stairs was a big glass stained window and a big fireplace in the hall. There was a solid oak wooden box seat in there. We used to hide in there when we were playing hide and seek.
38. On the first floor, directly opposite the stairs there was a big bedroom for the younger children. Through a corridor was the boys' bedroom. That is where my brothers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] slept. There was a staff bedroom, a large shower room and a small toilet. Back along the corridor along to the right there was the girl's bathroom and opposite a staff bedroom. Further along was another staff bedroom and two further bedrooms opposite each other. On the same floor there was a laundry cupboard where the towels and bedding was stored. Then there was a staircase beside that which led up to a toy store and a clothing store.

39. Up in the tower there was a room with six or seven beds in it. There was barely a foot in distance between each bed. There were only girls in this room.

*Other children*

40. [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and I were in the same bedroom. We were kept together as families. There were other sisters there. [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Beside that room was a toilet. There were a lot of other bedrooms downstairs. There were other sisters, the [REDACTED]. They were kept together in another bedroom. There was another girl [REDACTED]. She had a room of her own. She didn't have anyone else there. She was initially up in our bedroom in the tower with us. The boys were in other bedrooms. There was a boy [REDACTED]. He was an only child and he slept in with my brothers, the [REDACTED] boys. I think the youngest person in Lagarie was [REDACTED]. She was only about 18 months old. There were a few young ones and there were nursing staff in charge of them. I don't know their names. We weren't allowed into the part of the building where the nurse children were looked after.

*Staff*

41. Mr and Mrs Smith were in charge when I arrived at Lagarie. Mrs Smith was the matron. She had a big chow dog. Mr and Mrs Smith lived in a cottage within the grounds. There were two cottages. One was the Smiths and the other was lived in by Mr Skelton and his wife. Mr Skelton was the gardener. The cottages were on a little driveway which was just outside the back door of Lagarie House. Just off this driveway was a big outdoor building used with Mr Skelton for storing tools, drying out onions and things like that and a garage used by the Smiths. Other members of staff were [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] PZF [REDACTED] PZF [REDACTED] later became a house mother. I don't remember any other members of staff. There was a cook, her name was Amanda or Anne Gillespie.
42. The Smiths were lovely people. They had two children of their own. She was very good with all the children and the staff liked her as well. Although it was a religious organisation we weren't forced to go to church if we didn't want to. Mrs Smith was always there or thereabouts if we needed her. Mr and Mrs Smith spent most of their

time in the office sorting out rosters and menus. More often than not it was the other staff who actually looked after us. The Smiths were there possibly one year or so. I have no idea why they left.

### **Routine at Lagarie under Mr and Mrs Smith**

#### *First day*

43. When we arrived we were greeted by Mrs Smith the matron, and [REDACTED]. My dad, the matron and the social worker went into the office so the rest of us went exploring in the grounds. [REDACTED] was really excited. I looked around and I could just see trees. We went further in to the trees and there was a huge woodland. There were bluebells and it was like a fairy-tale. There were rose bushes, an orchard and vegetable gardens. It was huge and absolutely stunning. It had a private front lawn and then to cap it all there was a Wendy house, a slide and swings. We thought it was unbelievable. [REDACTED] and I were 'high fiving' each other. The social worker came to get us and that is when we found out [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had arrived. It was really exciting that all six of us were together.
44. [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and I then got shown around the building. This had been sold to us as a holiday but when I saw the boot room, kitchen and the laundry I started to get a bit suspicious. I knew it didn't look like a hotel.
45. We were then told to say goodbye to our dad. I still didn't quite grasp what was happening. We were then shown to our bedrooms which were up in the tower part at the top of the house.

#### *Mornings and bedtime*

46. The staff always made sure that we were up in the morning probably about 7:00 am. They would help us get washed, maybe have a shower, get dressed, and make our beds. We would then go down for breakfast.

47. At night time we were usually in our bed about 7:00 pm or 8:00 pm. Bed time was according to your age. The younger ones went to bed first.

*Mealtimes/Food*

48. Before we had breakfast we said prayers. Everyone sat together. We would have Cornflakes, Weetabix and sometimes we would make porridge. I didn't like it at the time because by the time it got to the table it was usually freezing and it was like rubber. I wasn't really keen on the porridge but I liked the cereal better.
49. After breakfast we were given a play piece, maybe an apple or something like that to take to school. We had lunch at school. In the evening when our tea was ready a massive gong in the hall would sound and summon us for our tea. We lined up in twos, washed our hands, went into the dining room, said a wee prayer and had our tea. It was quite relaxed. We were seated at tables with the rest of our family. All the brothers and sisters sat together. My brother [REDACTED] was only five and he didn't eat with us. I am not sure where the young ones ate. There was a separate table for those that didn't have any siblings. The staff ate with us and our house mother was usually at the head of the table. Mr and Mrs Smith sat at another large oak table.
50. Generally the food was nice. The menu varied. We got lots of salad, vegetables and fruit. It was all fresh. I think we got meat and two veg type of thing and we always had a glass of milk. I never used to like milk at the time, I don't know why but because it was there and it is good for your bones I drunk it. I don't remember it being unpleasant. The menus were planned months in advance. It was well organised. At supper time we got toast and hot chocolate.
51. There were no issues if you didn't like any food. If you didn't like something quite often someone else would eat it. Sometimes we swapped food. Any food left over was scooped up and put in a wee pigs bin and that helped the animals. It got taken up to a farm nearby.

*Washing/bathing*

52. We had baths in the morning. We weren't in separate cubicles. In the girls bathroom there were two baths, no shower, three or four sinks and one toilet. Sometimes I shared a bath, with another girl. I think the bath was filled up once and we took turns getting in using the same water. Sometimes I washed at the sink. I didn't like sharing a bath. The staff supervised us and hurried us up sometimes.

*Clothing/uniform*

53. The house mother dealt with our dirty clothes. There was a laundry basket in the bedroom and we put our shirts and underwear in there. The staff would deal with that during the day while we were at school. When we got back there would be a clean night dress and everything on our bed. We had a clean shirt on every day. We would go to the clothing store when we needed new clothes.

*Leisure time*

54. We got home from school usually about half past three. We got changed out of our school clothes into play clothes and then went into the play room. If we had some wee project to do we would go into the reading room. There were tables and book cases there and staff would help you if you needed it. We would then go back into the play room. In the playroom there was a blackboard. That was good fun. There were some dolls but most had missing or odd limbs. There weren't really any other games for us to play. I used to read a lot. There were a few books to read but most were Christian books or with religious stories. The playroom had a bay window. I quite often sat there and looked out at the garden.

*Trips and holidays*

55. We didn't go on any trips, holidays or excursions when Mr and Mrs Smith were in charge.

*School*

56. We walked the back roads to primary school with a member of staff. We all went together. We went to Rhu Primary School. It wasn't far to walk and it was good fun. We sometimes got the bus but only if the weather was really bad. School was really good, I loved it. When I was old enough I moved from Rhu Academy to Helensburgh Academy.

*Healthcare*

57. There wasn't a nurse or doctor actually within Lagarie House. If we needed to see someone we would go to the surgery in Rhu. I don't remember any yearly health check. Dr Campbell came in to the home. He was the only doctor I ever saw. I have no idea where he came from. I remember the boys saying that they had to cough and do certain things. He never gave me a check over. One time I saw him he gave me an injection for something. The only other time was when I had chicken pox. I was feverish and I had spots. I only remember going to the dentist once but that was after the Barries took over from Mr and Mrs Smith.

*Religious instruction*

58. We only really went to church at Easter time, Christmas or if the brownies had something on. We would go to Rhu Parish church. We weren't made to go at any other time.

*Work*

59. We didn't really have any chores to do when the Smiths were in charge. That changed when the Barries arrived.

*Birthdays and Christmas*

60. We celebrated birthdays and Christmas at Lagarie. The cook would always present whoever it was with a birthday cake in the evening. All the birthdays were marked up in the calendar. We got a gift in the morning and everyone sung 'Happy birthday'. At Christmas there was a huge Christmas tree put up in the hall, and on the staircase was holly and berries. We had a special Christmas dinner. We got gifts which were handed in from charities and other people just handing them in.

*Visits/Inspections/Review of Detention*

61. In all the time I was at Lagarie my dad visited four times. One time he took us out to a local restaurant for a meal. One time he brought a lady friend with him, [REDACTED]. I thought that was a bit strange. We didn't go out anywhere that time. We just stayed in Lagarie. They chatted, stayed for something to eat then left. There were always staff members there when I was with my dad at Lagarie.
62. I think I saw a male social worker once or twice. I might have been taken out with him in his car. He was all of my siblings' social worker. When the Smiths were there, there was nothing really to tell him. After the Barries took over I didn't know how I could put into words what was going on. I was worried that if I told anyone and I wasn't believed then I would be left where I was. I didn't trust the social worker or anyone else enough to tell. After I left Lagarie I never saw a social worker again.

*Bed Wetting*

63. Both myself and my sister [REDACTED] wet our beds. This wasn't a problem. The staff would just make comment that we must have had too much milk or that we should have gone to the toilet before we went to bed. They just cleaned the sheets. There was no fuss made. They were more concerned than anything else.

### **Arrival of Mr and Mrs Barrie**

64. I don't know why the Smiths left. Mr and Mrs Barrie took over from the Smiths around 1971. Mr William Ewart Barrie was a church reverend. He was between fifty and sixty years old. He was bald and wore glasses. He only had three front teeth. He wore his dog collar nearly all the time. If not he wore a knitted mustard coloured cardigan with wooden buttons. He had his own regular Sunday evening services in the congregational church in Helensburgh. He did the Sunday morning service in the church in Rhu. Mrs Barrie became our new matron. That is what we called her. Things changed quite dramatically when they arrived. They lived in a cottage in the grounds.
65. Mrs Barrie's sister Jean Russell ended up working in the home as well. Her husband became the deputy. Mrs Barrie's mum came in too. They were nice actually. Mrs Russell was a wee bit frosty at times but Mr Russell was really sweet. They had two children. One was called [REDACTED]. They lived up in the tower which was converted in to a flat. After a while the Russells left and Mr GAD and his wife moved in. He became SNR [REDACTED] and Mrs [REDACTED] SNR [REDACTED]. Mr GAD came from a boys' borstal at Blantyre. There was a couple of young girls that also came to work for a while, Karen Lannigan and Heather somebody.
66. Mrs Barrie had many sisters, Mrs White, Mrs Gray and Mrs Black. The sisters were always in Lagarie. Mrs Barrie's mum, and Mr Barrie's mum were always in Lagarie. They seemed to stay for weeks and they weren't unpleasant. They were quite sweet in fact. They spent most of their time knitting and making dressing gowns in the sewing room. Relatives or friends of the Barries stayed either in the cottage with the Barries or up in the tower after it was converted to a flat.

### **New routine under the Barries**

67. On the first day they took over Mr and Mrs Barrie were nice and pleasant. The next day there was a meeting in the dining room. Everybody was there. The Barries told us that things were going to change. Some staff were to become house mothers and be

responsible for a certain family. The house mothers apparently were going to reward us for chores and give pocket money, sweets, comics or whatever. They would make sure that we kept our rooms tidy. GAA became my house mother. I first met her at a church convention. She used to play her guitar and sing religious songs. I had to go to her for things like sanitary provisions. She had access to the keys that were kept in the office. You couldn't just help yourself

68. The Barries also told us that we would be going to church and join the choir. We thought that all sounded fun and good. When I found out that we were getting kitted out with kilts and jumpers my views changed. We had two kilts, one was a green tartan and another was red. We had a red jumper and the boys would wear a tie that would match whatever kilt they were wearing. It took weeks to get the choir together and we had practices. I think it was mainly the older ones that were chosen to be in the choir. I think they wanted the older ones because some of the events that we went to were in the evening and we travelled all over Scotland. On Sunday mornings all the children and almost all the staff would go to Rhu Church.
69. Mrs Barrie did a weekly inspection of our rooms. The matron insisted that when she entered the room that we stand at the bottom of the bed, arms by our side. We had to stare ahead and not speak unless she spoke to us. If she opened a drawer and if something hadn't been folded correctly she shouted at us and pulled everything out the drawer and told us to do it again. There was a certain way that you had to make the bed, with hospital corners. If it wasn't made correctly, Mrs Barrie would strip the sheets off and you had to make it again and again until she was happy.
70. You were only allowed certain things on your dressing table. If there was too much on top and it was cluttered, you were fined. Usually it was confiscated and you had to buy it back with your pocket money. Sometimes when you were punished you weren't given any pocket money so you couldn't buy things back. If you couldn't buy it they sold it to another child and this caused so much tension.
71. One of the only gifts I had been given was a musical jewellery box. When you opened it a ballerina spun round. Mrs Barrie confiscated that. bought it and I

was fuming. With the kids there was a lot of fighting and squabbling. Our slippers were supposed to be at the bottom of our bed on top of our housecoat. If something was under the bed like a slipper or a toy you were fined. The whole thing just seemed unfair. Even the house mothers were stressed out about it all.

*Mealtimes / food*

72. When the Barries came we still sat as families at the tables. All the [REDACTED] sat together. So did the [REDACTED] and the other families. We maybe sat together but we weren't allowed to talk to each other. Mr and Mrs Barrie sat at the top table. After dinner we all just left and did our own thing. The only person I was close to at Lagarie was [REDACTED]. We are still in touch with each other.
73. The staff used to do most of the cleaning and tidying up. When the Barries came we had to do all the chores. I got put in the boot room, which was horrible. I had to scrub, clean and polish. The other chores were after dinner. Sometimes I had to clear the tables, and set them for the next meal. Sometimes I had to wash dishes, or put them away. I didn't do any chores like this when the Smiths were there.
74. We were never allowed to wear underwear to bed because obviously you had your pants on from the morning and through school so they went into the laundry bag. Mrs Barrie said we weren't allowed to wear another pair
75. Mrs Barrie's mum took my brother [REDACTED] and another girl [REDACTED] out for day trips. I thought it wasn't fair that they were getting taken out but when they came back they told us they had been mean to them. They didn't tell us how. [REDACTED] seemed quite withdrawn after these trips. [REDACTED] recently featured on the television documentary about Lagarie.
76. I loved reading and they had an extensive library. They had all the classics like Charles Dickens. It was absolutely brilliant. I sometimes took books up into the woods and sat and read them there. Up in the woods there was a wee place called the 'Lovers seat'. There was also a big hammock that was built by the sailors from Faslane naval base.

They also brought an old car without the tyres and left it there. We used to play in the car and pretend we were driving places. It was just great fun.

### *Discipline*

77. I think [REDACTED] was the only member of staff that, in all her time at Lagarie, never smacked a child or barely raised her voice. At one point we all filled in forms for Mrs Barrie. After that there was something implemented that meant if Mr or Mrs Barrie were to smack a child they had to have a witness or another member of staff present. If there wasn't a member of staff available there had to be a disciplinary punishment rather than a physical one. They weren't allowed to deprive you of food or anything like that. One time [REDACTED] was the only member of staff on duty and I had done something. [REDACTED] refused to be a witness so I couldn't get smacked. She just told the Barries that there was no need.
78. A lot of the staff tended to be straight out of training so they would only be about nineteen or twenty, and this was very obvious when they first started. The Barries rarely put an act on for anyone. They were just themselves in a working environment. I appreciate in a place like Lagarie you have to have some rules and some structure in order to function effectively because there was so many kids however, the rules that they adhered to went way beyond anything that was permissible chastisement. It was a level of cruelty.

### **Abuse at Lagarie**

#### *Abuse by Mrs Barrie*

79. It was only a few days after the Barries took over that I realised that things had changed for the worse. At meal times we weren't allowed to talk. We were in the dining room and after dinner we were sitting silently for a minute before the chores were given out. Even members of staff just sat there in silence. Somebody must have done something they weren't supposed to, maybe giggled. Mrs Barrie told us that we had

to sit for another half hour, in silence, until she said we could go. Just when that half hour was nearly up someone made a noise. She made us sit for another half hour. I was there one time when we were made to sit until it was time to go to bed. I was uncomfortable and sore. We told Mrs Barrie we wanted to go to the playroom but she wouldn't listen. I was scared of her. Her manner was frightening to a young child. Her voice would send chills down your spine.

80. One time I saw her hit one of the children. He was one of two black brothers who were in there. They were called [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. One was three and the other was seven. I can't remember which one was which. They were only there for a few months. The older one was very protective of the younger one. She slapped this child who was three when he was in the high chair. She slapped him across the face. She did it after he spat his food out because he didn't like it. She had the spoon in her hand and tried to force feed him. You could hear the spoon clattering off his teeth. This wee boy was screaming. His older brother came over and tried to stop her and hit her but Mrs Barrie just grabbed him and dragged him out by the hair into the hall. Mr Barrie appeared and joined in. I couldn't see what was going on but one was obviously holding him down and the other was hitting him. The slap Mrs Barrie gave this child was crazy. Other members of staff who were there and would have seen the slap or the immediate aftermath were PZF [REDACTED] and PZH [REDACTED].
81. After seeing this I realised that I had to be on my best behaviour. Mrs Barrie just seemed so mean. She had a softer side for certain people. Some of the older girls were given certain privileges, like being allowed into her sitting room to chat with her. They would be given sweets and have a cup of tea. I know that the girls actually felt uncomfortable, because they were ostracized by the other girls when they came out. Mrs Barrie didn't realise this would happen. We used to give them a hard time until we realised it wasn't their fault. One of them, [REDACTED] told us that if she got any sweets from Mrs Barrie she would share them with us. Mrs Barrie made them eat the sweets when they were with her so they couldn't share. Other girls who were invited to her room were [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

82. I wet the bed sometimes if I was anxious. My house mother <sup>GAA</sup> [REDACTED] was great because she covered up for me. When she was off duty Mrs Barrie the matron was always first in in the morning. She would remove the sheet and wipe it all over me smearing it on my face, and rub it hard into my hair, then down my body. You were not permitted to wash. She did this to several of the kids. It actually made my situation worse. I used to try and stay awake but that never happened. I cut down on my liquids, but it didn't work. I think it was pure anxiety and the more I thought about it the more I wet the bed.
83. One time Mrs Barrie hit me and was rubbing me with my wet sheet. She got so angry that she bit me on the shoulder because I was struggling with her. I think she just got frustrated but at the same time I thought she was mad. It left a teeth imprint on my shoulder. I showed it to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. No other staff were present.
84. Another time I had an argument with one of the girls, [REDACTED]. I told Mrs Barrie that [REDACTED] had done something. Mrs Barrie gave [REDACTED] a hiding with her Scholl slipper. She whipped [REDACTED]'s back and bottom until it was glowing. When Mrs Barrie left the room [REDACTED] threatened me so I shouted to Mrs Barrie. Mrs Barrie then turned on me. She dragged me by the hair and started punching me. She slapped me on the face and I fell back.
85. Later that day I wasn't in a very good mood. I was upset and didn't want my dinner. Mrs Barrie punished me for not eating my dinner and put me in the laundry cupboard. It was the height of a wardrobe with sliding doors. In the room there was industrial machinery like a big washing machine, big drier, a spinner, lots of wellington boots and outdoor coats. When Mrs Barrie put me in there she said she would see how hungry I was in a few hours. She locked me in. I had no idea how long I was in there. At some point I shouted through a crack in the door and some of the other children teased me saying they were eating their supper.
86. It was [REDACTED] that let me out and she gave me a hug. I was exhausted and she said she would help me get ready for school. I told her I hadn't had my supper yet and that's when I realised I must have fallen asleep and been in there all night. I don't remember

falling asleep but I must have. I had a shower and got ready for school. Mrs Barrie had forgotten all about me.

87. Mrs Barrie did things like this several times to me for a punishment. Sometimes she refused to give me any dinner and made me sit in the playroom. I was starving. She would tell me how ashamed I should be for what I had done. One time I was punished because I was slow getting out when there was a fire drill. It was at 3:00 am and I was looking for my slippers. Mrs Barrie ran in and she told me I was too slow to get out and I would have been killed in the fire.
88. Later Mrs Barrie took me into the sitting room for my punishment for being too slow at the fire drill. She forced me to strip naked then walloped me with a belt. She whacked me on the breasts, slapping my back and on my buttocks. She beat me like this often but this was the only time she asked me to strip naked. I thought it was very odd. I got an impression and had a strange feeling that she was getting some satisfaction out of it. Maybe it was the humiliation or intimidation she enjoyed.
89. A few months after that Mrs Barrie lined all the boys up in the main hall and forced them to strip naked. She did this because there was a game we used to play called 'kiss, cuddle or torture'. Mrs Barrie found out about it and told us that she would show us what torture was. That is when she insisted that the boys strip naked and got the girls to look at them. I refused but Mrs Barrie grabbed me by the hair, and pulled me into the hall. The boys were made to stand there for hours. This was obviously really embarrassing for the older boys. They weren't allowed to cover themselves. The older boys would sometimes hold themselves and matron would just slap them on the fingers with a ruler and tell them to get their hands away. My brother [REDACTED] was there and he would have been ten. He just thought it was funny. I was fourteen and was embarrassed. She made some other girls come and watch too.
90. There were several members of staff who would have seen the boys lined up, naked. They were PZF [REDACTED] and PZH [REDACTED].

91. After the Barries came I had to get taken to the dentist. I had an abscess. I had complained to the Barries that I had toothache. They ignored me until eventually Mrs Barrie had to take me because my face was so swollen and I was in too much pain to eat. I had to tell Mrs Barrie that my teacher had told me that I had to go to the dentist. She also gave me a note to give to Mrs Barrie. We went to the dentist the next day. The dentist was really cross that it had got to that stage because he knew I must have been in absolute agony. As far as he was concerned it was neglect. I had to get a tooth extracted. Mrs Barrie didn't even comfort me. Afterwards Mrs Barrie wanted to take me straight back to school but the dentist said that I wasn't to go back to school for a few days.
92. My dad would send me money in with my birthday card. I got the card which was addressed to me but I never got the money. It had been opened and removed before it got to me. My dad bought me a watch once as a gift. Mrs Barrie took it off me and I never saw it again.

*Abuse by Mr Barrie*

93. I would have been eight or nine when the abuse by Mr Barrie started. He started off coming into our room at night and would give me a kiss goodnight. It felt kind of nice at first because it was just like a dad and you felt loved. We initially thought it was quite sweet. He did this to all the girls. I saw him. My bed was nearest the door so he came to me first. He then went to [REDACTED], then my sister [REDACTED], then [REDACTED]. Their two beds were over by a bay window.
94. One time he leant over me and I kissed him goodnight. He told me I didn't do it properly and he told me to open my mouth. I did and he stuck his tongue in my mouth. I gagged and spat at him. He immediately punched me full force in the face. He did this in front of the other girls in my room. My head ricocheted off the headboard. My nose was bleeding. I thought I had actually done something to my front teeth. Nobody in the room moved to help me. He was shouting at me and I remember that he left and I was still crying, holding my face. [REDACTED] said that it wasn't a very nice way to show my appreciation. She said I would end up back at [REDACTED] if I did that again and if I was

she wasn't going to go there with me. I went to the bathroom and cleaned myself up. My teeth were fine but my face was swollen and my mouth was sore.

95. The next night he came again and he said he would show me how to kiss. I thought it was disgusting. He had this gigantic gut and he pressed himself against me. █████ said she and others had been kissing him for ages like that. He didn't just do this in the bedroom. Sometimes he took me out the room. Often he would come into the bedroom and took different girls out. He would rotate it. He took my sister █████ out the bedroom quite a lot.
96. It progressed past kissing. The first night it went past kissing he came into the bedroom and took me out by the hand. I can't remember what he said to me. He led me into the hall. It was pitch black. He took me into the laundry room. The window above the sink looks onto the back stairs and if you look up above there is a skylight. He shoved me up against the sink and I didn't know what to do. I lost my balance and as I turned round he asked me if I wanted to see something. He unzipped his trousers and pulled out his penis. He asked me to touch it. I said I didn't want to so he grabbed me by the hair. I was struggling and I was pushing at his legs and then he pushed his penis into my mouth and I couldn't move. I then felt something warm in my mouth. It tasted disgusting. I immediately vomited all over his trousers. He started hitting me on the head.
97. I felt something trickle down my leg and I realised that I had wet myself. I slipped and landed on the floor. I was crying and I was sick. He went into the dispensary which was right behind the laundry. I could hear him cursing and trying to get the paper towels from the towel dispenser which was on the back of the door. He was obviously trying to wipe his trousers. He came back and I just stayed on the floor. He told me I was disgusting, stared at me for a minute then walked away.
98. I was crying and sobbing. I was sitting in my own pee and I just felt completely worthless. I waited until I heard the back door close and lock. It was very distinctive. I felt like I was in hell. I tried to get up a few times but my legs were wobbling. I remember thinking I had to wash my nightie, because if matron found out she would be angry

and do something to me. I thought she would smell it, so I wanted to clean myself and get rid of the smell. I went to bed and I must have just cried myself to sleep. The next day I just felt awful and went into the dining room and tried acting normal.

99. The abuse by Mr Barrie happened on a regular basis. It was relentless. It was either oral sex, anal sex or vaginal sex. He never wore any protection and usually would ejaculate inside me. Before he had sex with us he would ask if I was having my period and if we were he would do something else. █████ used to put red felt pen on a sanitary towel. Sometimes he would want me to touch him and sometimes he would just do it himself and make me watch. At first I felt quite sick but after a while it just seemed it was quite normal. I ended up thinking that I just wanted him to hurry up and get it over and done with. It usually didn't take very long, maybe only a few minutes. One time I went into the reading room where there were some chairs. He told me to lean over the chair. He had anal sex with me. Another time in there he wanted me to put on a show because there was a small stage. I refused. I didn't know what he meant by that, maybe the other girls did something for him.
100. He constantly fondled me all the time, even in front of other children. In the minibus he would start off by tickling you. He would be laughing and you just knew what was coming. There was usually a fight to get in the back of the minibus because everyone hated sitting beside him. On one occasion, Mr Barrie was driving and he started tickling me. He touched my breast and then touched me between the legs. He put his hand right up my skirt. I told him to "Fuck Off". █████ was sitting beside me and the minibus was packed. He started slapping me in the face while he was driving. At one point he actually punched me, I was trying to avoid his blows and he actually punched █████ in the face by mistake.
101. At one point I felt something under my armpits and it was the older boys █████ and █████. They both pulled me into the back of the minibus. I was crying. When the minibus stopped and we got out █████ grabbed Mr Barrie by the collar. He threatened him that if he touched me again he would choke him. █████ █████ and █████ made sure I got in the building. I

- thought it was wonderful but Mr Barrie was fly he waited until the boys were at sea cadets, scouts or cubs and then he would target me.
102. I used to go up the woods and read books. One of the boys [REDACTED] sometimes came with me. He would watch out and warn me if Mr Barrie was coming. We had a wee hiding place. I remember one time I was up in the hammock and [REDACTED] was in the car. I saw Mr Barrie coming up the woods. I stayed where I was. He was calling on us but I kept quiet. [REDACTED] never let on that I was up in the hammock when he went into the passenger seat of the car. [REDACTED] was in the driver's seat. [REDACTED] started screaming but I couldn't move. I couldn't see what was going on. I never found out at the time what he did. All [REDACTED] said was that he had really hurt her. Years later [REDACTED] told me what he did. She said that he forced her to perform oral sex on him.
103. At the end of the working day Mrs Barrie usually left to go back to her cottage first. He would stay in his office attending to correspondence. His office was right next to our bedroom so I would always hear him typing on an old manual typewriter. I hated it when the noise stopped because I knew he had finished and he would make his way out and probably into our bedroom. I would then listen out for him coming up the few front steps towards our bedroom. The fourth step creaked. He probably came into our bedroom three or four times every week and took a different girl out each time. I have been told he went to the boys' room as well sometimes.
104. Mr Barrie played one girl off against another. I would see him at times, he would give some girls extra pocket money. I saw him kissing [REDACTED] one time. It was on the lips. I think he did it deliberately because he knew that I was watching. It wasn't a snog but a lingering kiss. I think it was just for affect because he knew that I had spotted him and then the big hug was so he could actually look at me and smile.
105. As he was kissing her he stopped and he leaned over her shoulder. He looked at me and then patted [REDACTED] on her back. It sounds awful but [REDACTED] and some of the other girls would boast about what they got from Mr Barrie for what they did for him. I know things happened between Mr Barrie and [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and my sisters [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. They told me. He kissed

the girls a lot and we never thought anything of it. He did it even in front of his wife. He did it when they were sitting on his knee. In the reading room there was a big projector and we would be shown slides of places we had been and sometimes during that a girl would be sitting on Mr Barrie's knee.

106. After a few months of going through the abuse most nights I decided that I wasn't doing it any more. I told [REDACTED] but she said that I just have to get on with it, everybody else was. She told me it was my turn that night and I had to do it. When you saw the other girls getting things you did anything to get these treats.
107. Sometimes Mr Barrie punished you if you didn't do what he wanted you to do. You wouldn't get privileges. Sometimes some children went on day trips you would be left behind. Matron made sure that you stayed in bed and she would come in and make sure that you had your eyes closed and that you were sleeping. You wouldn't get any food that day. After a while I realised that it wasn't worth it. I hated staying in and not getting pocket money. I hated punishments. I ended up doing most of the chores in the evening, like washing the dishes. Mrs Barrie sometimes told me that I had to do it all and I would be in the kitchen for hours until it was my bed time. It was relentless.
108. There was one time, at night, when he shoved a stick up my bottom. I was wearing my nightdress. He took me out my bed and told me to put on shoes and a coat because we were going for a walk and we went out. Because we were going for a walk I thought nothing was going to happen and I was quite excited. We walked past the Barrie's cottage towards the woods and I thought Mrs Barrie might hear us walking on the gravel. Mr Barrie told me to walk on a paved section then the grass until we were further up the road. We wandered right round the orchard and I didn't actually feel scared. I felt safe because I was outside and naively thought we were just going for a walk.
109. We went into the woods and went to where the 'lovers seat 'was. He asked me to take my coat off and lean over it. I refused and told him I didn't want to and started crying. He warned me to stop. He grabbed me and pushed me on that seat. It was freezing. He kicked my legs open and at first I thought he was actually going to go into my

- vagina because I felt something hard and it kept slipping in that direction. I then felt the most excruciating pain in my bottom. Afterwards we walked back to the building.
110. When we got back he asked me if I wanted him to walk me to my bed. I declined. I heard him lock the back door on his way out and I just sat there for ages. I filled the sink with cold water. I was bleeding from my bottom. I hoisted myself up and sat in the cold water. I was trying to pick little bits of stick, and splinters from my bottom. I realised then that it must have been a stick he put in me. One of the staff had old fashioned thick sanitary towels. I tore it open and took out the inside which was like cotton wool. I cleaned myself as much as I could. I actually had to feel inside my bottom to get little bits of wood out.
111. The next morning I just wanted to tell someone but I couldn't. I went into his office, with other girls, to get my dinner money. Mr Barrie told me to wait behind. I could hear the other kids singing "MPM [REDACTED] and Mr Barrie up a tree". He told me to shut the door before he gave me my dinner money. He told me that nothing happened last night and if I ever told anyone he would do something really bad to me. I told him that he had caused me some damage but he just told me to deal with it. After that night I talked to my sister [REDACTED]. I told her that something happened but didn't tell her what. We sat and we planned to kill him. We discussed stabbing him. I had planned to go into the kitchen and get a knife. It obviously didn't go any further than that. I also used to wish that he would drown or choke to death.
112. The incidents with Mr Barrie were unrelenting. Even if you were still sore from the last time he did it to me, either the day or a couple of days before, he didn't care and he did it again.
113. I had injuries sometimes, but I was never taken to the hospital. I had bleeding from my rectum and there were other issues. I never got any medical treatment. I wouldn't have been allowed if I had mentioned anything. They wouldn't have brought a doctor in, because I think they would suspect. I should have been taken to the doctors but they wouldn't allow me to go.

114. I would make myself scarce a lot of the time and hide up in the woods especially if I knew Mr Barrie was looking for me. The layout of Lagarie was such that you could run up the front stairs and dodge that fourth squeaky step and run up the stairs. I could hear him walking along and I would sneak down the back stairs. I would go out that door and then he would try and come in the other way and I think we were running round in circles. I was laughing because he couldn't catch me and I could tell that he was in a rage. The next day ██████ thanked me because Mr Barrie chose her to go with him because he couldn't catch me. ██████ said that I owed her one. It was almost a laugh and joke at first what Mr Barrie did to us but then after a while we stopped talking about it altogether. There developed an air of despondency.
115. One weekend I remember I was being punished and didn't get any pocket money so there was no point in me going into town with the other girls. I stayed behind in the house. Mr Barrie called me into his office and he was sitting in his chair. He asked me to give him oral sex. A new staff member Mr GAD came in. No one normally walked straight into that office without knocking and being told to come in. Mr GAD was a SNR ██████ so he didn't knock. I was just getting up after giving Mr Barrie oral sex when Mr GAD came in. He must have seen but I don't know if Mr Barrie managed to zip himself quickly. Mr GAD started talking to Mr Barrie and then he was looking at me, giving me dirty looks.
116. I have no doubt that Mrs Barrie knew what was going on with Mr Barrie and the girls. I think she was happy because I think it probably took the pressure off her as if he was getting some relief elsewhere. As a couple there was no affection between them. It was cold actually. Even at Christmas or on her birthday he would give her a kiss. I remember one time Mrs Barrie came in and caught me on Mr Barrie's knee. She never said anything, just walked straight right out the door. He tried to shove me off but she was already out the door. Later on she just gave me a dirty look.

*Abuse by Mr and Mrs Barrie*

117. When I was at Lagarie Mrs Barrie asked everyone to fill in a form. She wanted us to write down what we thought about the members of staff. We were told it was to

improve things. I wrote down honestly but very briefly what I thought. Later that night Mr Barrie called me into the office and Mrs Barrie was there. She said she could not believe the disgusting lies I had put on the form. She picked up my paper, ripped it and put it in the bin. She then slapped me on the face. I fell back and there was a metal filing cabinet and I smacked my head of it. I was lying on the floor and when I opened my eyes Mrs Barrie was kicking me. I started to struggle and tried to punch her because she was trying to get to my face. I tried to grab her hands. Mr Barrie joined in. It was absolutely crazy. He was hitting me with his hands and feet. They didn't get my face but at one point Mr Barrie caught my nose with his foot and I thought I had broken it. I crawled out the office and I went into my bedroom. [REDACTED] my sister, told me it was my own fault.

118. I think this was the most angry that I had ever seen Mrs Barrie. I think that she was so angry because she had read what I had put on the form and this was the first time she had been aware of some of the stuff that Mr Barrie had done. I think she was angry at him but she was directing her anger at me.

*Abuse by couple in Musselburgh*

119. I don't know who organised it but my sister [REDACTED] and I had trips to a house in Musselburgh. We were told we were going there as a treat. We were taken by Mr and Mrs Barrie to this house and they dropped us off. We travelled in their Volkswagen caravanette. It was a young couple in their twenties or thirties and they didn't have any children of their own. I can't remember their names. At first I thought it would be great because we would get all the attention to ourselves. They had a really nice house, took us to the park and had dinner. After dinner the woman took me upstairs to have a bath. [REDACTED] was left with the woman's husband. I was only six so wasn't shy and I just stripped off. It was a massive bubble bath. I jumped in the bath and she was washing me with lots of soap and she was sponging down my back, tummy and legs. She washed my hair and when she was rinsing it she said I had been a really good girl.

120. All of a sudden her husband appeared, naked, and he climbed in the bath. He pulled me, and turned me around so I was facing the taps at the other end. He was behind me at the back of the bath. His legs slipped under mine and I ended up sitting on him and he was holding my waist. His wife was holding my hands and I felt the most awful pain in my bottom. I was screaming because of the pain and she was telling me to "ssh, ssh, ssh", what a good girl I was, to be quiet, and everything was alright. It seemed to go on for a long time and then he just got out the bath. I thought I was going to drown because I fell back. I was still screaming and the woman just kept telling me to "ssh". I was sobbing and my bottom was really sore. She washed me again and had to actually lift me out the bath because my legs were shaking so much. I couldn't stand up. She lifted me out the bath and dried me, put on my pyjamas and brought me a hot drink. The next thing I remember was waking up in the morning.
121. When I went for my breakfast the woman acted as if nothing had happened. I tried to get [REDACTED]'s attention but she wouldn't look at me. She was just staring into her plate. I tried talking to her but she kept pushing me away. I asked her if she had heard me the night before. She said that she heard me screaming. I told her that they were really bad to me. She told me that she was fine. That day we did normal stuff with the woman. We played and went to the park and went back to the house. That night exactly the same thing happened again in the bath that had happened the night before.
122. At the end of that weekend the Barries came and picked us up. Mrs Barrie had a brief chat with the couple. They were all smiles then we got in the caravanette. The Barries never asked what we did when we were there or if we had a nice time. We were taken back to their house in Musselburgh on two more occasions and we spent the weekends there. Exactly the same thing happened to me every time that we were there.
123. This couple in Musselburgh attended some of the conventions that the choir attended, so I saw them there. They would actually come up and talk to me. They would say hello and ask what I had been doing. It was very strange but I used to think that was normal behaviour. Years after we left Lagarie, [REDACTED] told me that the couple in

Musselburgh were only interested in me and that nothing ever happened to her. She said that she was screaming that night I was abused in the bath because she heard me screaming. She said she was locked in a room so she couldn't get out. I am sure [REDACTED] wasn't harmed in any way by them. [REDACTED] told me later that she had heard that the couple actually wanted to have a couple of boys for the weekend but there were none. [REDACTED] thought that they picked on me because my hair and physique made me look a bit more like a boy than she did.

*Abuse at Church conventions*

124. We were taken to various church conventions. I went as part of the choir. Several were held in the Tent Hall on Glasgow Green. There was another one near Kelvin Hall. The Kelvin Hall used to have major events in there too. We were taken in the minibus or the caravanette because we wouldn't all fit in one vehicle. We would be there all day probably until about 6:00 pm then we would go back to Lagarie. Some people who went to these conventions would come back to Lagarie. They were invited back by the Barries.
125. At one of the religious conventions in Arbroath I remember helping [REDACTED] MLV putting bibles out before a service. [REDACTED] MLV was a naval chaplain. He sometimes wore his pastoral outfit and sometimes his naval uniform. He had a [REDACTED] on his neck. Mr Wallace was his deputy minister or something like that and it would alternate who was on duty. Mr Barrie took me there and left me.
126. When I was there I needed the toilet. When I flushed the toilet I turned round and [REDACTED] MLV was standing there behind me. He squashed me against the toilet and put his hand over my mouth. He pulled down my pants and touched me. I was holding on to the cistern. He sexually assaulted me and he hurt me. He made me perform oral sex on him. I felt disappointed and let down. He treated me like every other male did, expecting me to do something of a sexual nature and if I didn't they took it forcefully. [REDACTED] told me later that she had been abused by [REDACTED] MLV too. We were in Arbroath for a couple of weeks and this happened several times with

MLV [REDACTED] in the church. On the other occasions MLV [REDACTED] abused me he anally raped me.

127. There was a Mr GAB [REDACTED] and he was a minister in the church in Rhu and he was often inappropriate. He was very tall, and he looked like Spock from Star Trek. Some other children thought he looked like Dracula. He must have been 6ft 4ins, very thin with hollow cheeks. Because he wore a black robe he looked creepy. We would often help out with the Bibles and prayer books. I am not sure where it led to with the other girls but he would ask me for a kiss. He didn't do anything other than ask for a kiss. I didn't kiss him.
128. We went to conventions in Arbroath quite often. We saw the same people in Arbroath that we had seen in Glasgow. It was at holiday time in the 'Glasgow Fair fortnight'. These people came back and abused some of the girls. I don't know who they were. They targeted the [REDACTED] girls.
129. I am sure it was with the permission of Mr and Mrs Barrie or we were identified to other people who attended these conventions by them. It could be they told these people what girls they may be interested in. Sometimes I saw other girls being taken away but I am not sure if anything happened with them. I can't remember the names of any people who went to these conventions and if I did remember their names I am not sure that what I was told was in fact their actual names.

*Abuse by other staff*

130. GAA [REDACTED] was my house mother. She and [REDACTED] were always together. They were always kissing. I think she was 26 and [REDACTED] was 13 to 14. I saw them lots of times canoodling, full on snogging. Her room was next to mine and she used to tell me her door was always open. One time I walked in and they were lying on the bed. I don't know what they were wearing because they were under the covers. My first reaction was to get straight out the room. I wasn't shocked because but I had seen GAA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] kissing before. I ran out the room. Later on [REDACTED] came and spoke to me. He told me that I saw 'nothing' so I just agreed with him, but I did see them. After that

- I was too embarrassed to go into the room even though I wanted something. I would actually knock first.
131. There was one time we were knocking on her bedroom door for ages. We were sure GAA was in there. Eventually we went away but stayed as a lookout. told me later that came out of her bedroom.
132. I saw GAA with a couple of times. She was quite close to him. He was close in age to and were total opposites as well because had really blonde hair with a pale complexion. had a sallow complexion and jet-black hair. I often saw GAA and together outside Lagarie when we were going to the park. They were hand in hand like a couple would be.
133. Mr GAD SNR never did anything sexual but he was quite a brute and he was cruel. He was physically a monster. He would just batter or try and throttle the boys. One of his favourite things was to give Chinese burns. They were really sore. Sometimes he would give you a knuckle rap across the head or pull your hair. One time he pulled my hair. Mrs Barrie did the same thing. She actually dragged me along a corridor by the hair.
134. There was one time in the minibus. Mr GAD was driving us back from church in Helensburgh. We were coming down Sinclair Street and he said he was going to take his foot off the pedals and let the minibus slide into the water. We were terrified. I remember I was sitting on the floor because there weren't enough seats. We were all screaming. I told him he was crazy. He would speed up and say we were going into the water. At the last minute he would jerk the steering wheel. He did it several times. I think the boys got wise to it and they started walking home from church. I think eventually we told Mr Barrie about it. The Barries then took a dislike to GAD-SPO.
135. I even saw other female staff members kissing the boys so it wasn't just Mr Barrie doing it. There was a senior member, Mr GAF who had a well-known affair with . Their relationship was more than just holding hands. They were very intimate. Quite often you would see him teasing her. She was probably about ten or

eleven at that time, not any older. Mr GAF was probably in his late thirties. They would often go up to the woods together. Other times I would see them hand in hand. Mr GAF was a very handsome man. The girls would tease and he knew that a lot of the girls liked him. had obviously secured his affections. One day, his wife must have got wind of it and Mrs was enraged. She threw a Hoover over from the landing to the floor below. I was told it was because she had found out.

136. shared a room with who was my friend. We were in the same class at school. I went into s bedroom because I thought she was in there. When I went in I saw Mr GAF and lying in a bed under the covers. I don't know what they were wearing. I was really shocked to see them in the bed and I asked where was. They told me she might have been in the reading room and I left. I found and I told her that Mr GAF and were at it again. I think Mrs Barrie got wind of some of the things that were going on and not long after that Mr and Mrs GAF-SPC left.

137. At Lagarie there was a gardener called Skelton. He had an apprentice called GAH or it sounded something like that. The apprentice was a really handsome guy. One night there were several boys, one being my brother and one was . They were with Skelton and GAH. Some of the boys were raped by them. I have been told all of this by one of the boys who doesn't want to come forward. They then brought a dog in and they were stroking the dog and they were told to sit on the dog, which was lying on its back. Mr Skelton started playing with the dog to get it aroused. He then told one of the boys to sit on the dog. Mr Skelton and GAH started beating them with sticks and forced the boys to penetrate the dog. I only found this out recently after the funeral of . This happened often. I have been told the boys were regularly taken up to the converted flat in the tower by Mr Skelton and GAH. Apparently other men were there too. Mr Barrie wasn't involved in this.

#### *Abuse by Sailors*

138. Mr Barrie preached sometimes up at the Faslane base and we went to Christmas parties there. I went up with the choir. The sailors who put that hammock up at Lagarie

were often seen in the home. They wore their dark blue sailors' uniform and were always very smart. They were all sailors from the Faslane base. Apparently they came quite often. I think lots of things happened to the boys in the tower. I know that the person who told me this isn't going to come forward to the Inquiry. I saw the sailors go up the stairs into the tower. I saw [REDACTED], one of the boys, going up there with the sailors. I never saw anything actually going on. Sailors came into our bedroom too. I have seen a sailor in [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]'s bed. I don't really know what went on. One got in my bed and we kissed but it didn't go any further because I ran away.

Abuse by GAK [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

139. When I was at Lagarie the choir were taken to be on the Christmas [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. It was a children's programme with a Christian element. GAK [REDACTED] invited us to go up to the studios and we were filmed. He was lecherous, constantly asking my sister [REDACTED] and other girls, to give him a kiss. He also asked us to sit on his knee. We went along with him but he made me feel very uncomfortable. He did it in such a way that it looked almost normal. I was aware of him stroking my thigh up and down. It gave me a sick feeling in my gut and it was like wee alarm bells going off. I straight away jumped off his knee. He did it several times and one time he actually tried to push me, I could feel him rubbing himself against me and it took me ages to get away because he was holding my tummy. He wasn't invited back by the Barries to Lagarie. He did appear at Lagarie one time but he wasn't invited.
140. I was abused year after year at Lagarie. I know that I haven't told you about every incident because it would take too long. It happened so often to the point that it actually became normal and part and parcel of Lagarie. There were members of staff who were aware of what was going on and saw a lot of the incidents. They were too frightened and intimidated by the Barries to say anything or speak out. They included PZF [REDACTED] PZF [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and PZH [REDACTED].

**Leaving Lagarie**

141. My sister [REDACTED] left before me. I can't remember where she went to stay but she went to college to do some sort of childcare course. I knew that when I turned sixteen I would be leaving Lagarie. I don't remember the matron or anyone else telling me this on the lead up to me leaving. I didn't actually leave on my sixteenth birthday. I think I had to wait until [REDACTED]. I never got any support or advice before I left to prepare me for leaving. I am not sure but I think my dad came and picked me up when I left. No one at Lagarie said goodbye or wished me well.

**Reporting of abuse at Lagarie**

142. I tried to tell my dad what was going on in the times that he visited. I didn't go into any detail and I just told him little bits. He wasn't interested and told me that it was a nice place. I think I told him twice. At the very beginning when the Barries took over and then maybe a couple of years later, I told him they weren't nice to us and he just didn't want to hear it. He just wasn't interested at all. It seemed as if he came to visit out of obligation and nothing else.
143. My sister [REDACTED] tried to broadcast what was going on at Lagarie at one of the church conventions. We were on stage at Tent Hall in Glasgow Green. There were loads of famous preachers and evangelists. We got up to sing. [REDACTED] was so brave, she announced to everyone that bad things were happening to us. She didn't get much else out because she was huckled off that stage. Mr Barrie grabbed her, and then there was a woman who I don't know but was part of the convention, helped get [REDACTED] backstage.
144. [REDACTED] told me later that Mr Barrie battered her and told her never to say anything like that again. He told us both later on that night that no one was ever going to believe us if we said anything again. He told us to remember where we came from and we would go back there. He told us that we might have thought that we have got it bad at Lagarie but we should see some other places and we should think ourselves lucky.

145. One time Mrs Barrie came in and caught me on Mr Barrie's knee. She never said anything and just walked straight out the door. He tried to shove me off but she was already out the door. Later on she just gave me a dirty look.
146. When I was at Lagarie everybody was asked to fill in a document. We were in the dining room and we were given a document and we were asked to write comments about members of staff. If there was something we didn't like about a particular member of staff they said they would talk about it and do their best to change it. They said it would be great to hear about things that we did like. They said they were keen to hear what we thought. Mrs Barrie said that we weren't to worry and we could say what we liked. Nothing was going to happen to us. I didn't really know how these things worked as a child. I naively assumed it was going to be signed, sealed and delivered to the appropriate authority. Some of the other members of staff were helping the young ones fill in their forms.
147. I wrote down exactly what was happening. I said '*Mr Barrie was disgusting and was raping the girls. Mrs Barrie was constantly beating us. Sometimes we would be deprived of food as a punishment.*' On that form I made it very brief and did not mention everything or go into detail. If I had said all the things I wanted to say I would have needed many more pages. I felt at Lagarie that we were just put in there to be abused and we were just constantly farmed out to everyone. They all had a sexual motive and I was fed up. I felt abandoned by my dad and abandoned by the social worker as well who we saw very rarely. I couldn't bring myself to tell him some of the things that were going on. I didn't feel I could tell him I had a stick shoved up my bottom.
148. I have certain friends that I confided in what went on at Lagarie but no one in authority. Quite a few of the teachers at Hermitage Academy went to the congregation church with Mr Barrie and they were on first name terms so there was no way I could tell them what he was doing. The Barries were well known in Helensburgh, Rhu and further afield and they were well liked, so no one would have believed me.
149. When we ran away from Lagarie the police picked us up and took us back. One of the policemen told ██████ that we should be grateful that we had a roof over our heads. I

remember telling the police that they were really horrible to us and that they were beating us. It didn't make any difference and nothing was done.

### **Life after being in care**

150. When I left Lagarie my dad took me to a house in Glasgow and left me with two men who I presume were his friends. I was sixteen and they were in their late forties. I felt very uncomfortable and didn't like it. I think my dad must have arranged all of this. Lagarie wouldn't have been aware I was going to be staying there. My dad wasn't there because he was at sea, working. I shared a room with one of the men and we slept in separate single beds in the same room. Nothing happened with him but I was frightened to go to sleep in case something did. I was there for about eight weeks. I must have written to my dad and told him I wasn't happy because I was moved from there to my step mother [REDACTED]'s house in Auchinairn. Her full name was [REDACTED] then [REDACTED] then [REDACTED].
151. [REDACTED]'s house was filthy and she was a drinker. I didn't know her and she didn't know me. She had three of her own boys, [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], who were all between ten and thirteen. I often got them up and ready for school in the morning. I shared a bed with [REDACTED], which I felt was strange, but so did he. We slept back to back or top to tail. [REDACTED] was a bed wetter and I used to cover up for him, like the house mother at Lagarie used to do for me. I would wash his sheets and put them through the spinner and dry them so [REDACTED] didn't find out. I knew what it was like for [REDACTED] because I had been a bed wetter. [REDACTED] used to slap me and even punched me full in the face. Sometimes I would actually fight with her. I was scared of her. When my dad came home after being away with the navy he was violent to me and to her boys. [REDACTED], my sister, came to stay with us for a while too. So did my brothers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].
152. I did a secretarial course and got a place on a YTS scheme. I was in a placement for disabled children. I bought a typewriter from a charity shop so practised my secretarial skills on that. I was at [REDACTED]'s for around a year and a half. She had friends who sometimes came round and drank in the house with her. One of them, I don't know

her name, came into my room and slapped me on the face. She said I was lazy for not doing anything to help [REDACTED] and that I was a snooty wee bitch.

153. From working I got paid but [REDACTED] took half my money. This meant I didn't have enough money for my lunch when I was at college. When the other girls went for lunch I just went for a walk. I didn't get fed well at [REDACTED] and she was cruel but she was the same to her own boys and they were probably malnourished. I only had one thin coat and one pair of shoes but she refused to give me money to buy anything.
154. At no time when I was at [REDACTED]'s house did I ever see a social worker or anyone else in authority. No one came to check on how me or my siblings were getting on or what the conditions were like in her house. I cleaned the house for [REDACTED]. There was no way if social services visited they would have thought [REDACTED]'s house was fit for children to live there.

*Move to London*

155. At the end of our time there she accused [REDACTED] and I of stealing her engagement ring. As a result she put us out of her house. My dad was there and he didn't stick up for us. [REDACTED] and I ran away to London. After a couple of days I thought I needed to go back. I wondered how I was going to get my dinner. I didn't know how to do my washing. I only had one pound and I ended up in Centrepont which is an emergency shelter. I still wanted to get back to Lagarie because it was familiar and there were certain aspects that I missed. Not because of the abuse but it was my home and my brothers and sisters were there and I just wanted to go there. Inside me I knew I could never go back to Lagarie.
156. At some point [REDACTED] and I squatted in a flat on [REDACTED]. Two guys felt sorry for us and took us in. We were naïve and we went with them. Their girlfriends objected and we had to leave.
157. In London I got a job as a chambermaid in a hotel and with the job I got a room. [REDACTED] sneaked in and slept in my room at night. [REDACTED] was still under a care order and

eventually she was caught by the police and was returned to the hostel she had been in after she left Lagarie. [REDACTED] Secondary Institutions - to be published later [REDACTED] came back to London. She was caught again and was handcuffed and taken back to Lagarie. The hotel found out that [REDACTED] had been staying in my room so I lost that job.

158. When I was eighteen, I was back staying at Centrepoint. One day I met a man that I later married. He was from Iraq and he appeared very romantic. I very quickly fell pregnant to him and I was shocked. I later found out his visa was due to expire and he only married me so he could remain in this country. His mum came over to this country too and she thought I was useless because I couldn't cook. She slapped me to the head if I didn't do the cooking properly. My husband treated me badly and hit me during the pregnancy. I know my husband intended for the baby to go back to Iraq with his mum. I went into labour but sadly my baby was stillborn. My husband and his family were furious and blamed me for not looking after myself during the pregnancy. The beatings from my husband got worse and I ran away back to Glasgow.
159. For some reason, and I don't know why but I went back to my step-mum's house. I suppose I didn't know where else I could go. [REDACTED] and my dad were both horrible to me and I realised I couldn't live with them. I ended up living in a hostel, a women's shelter in St Vincent Street in Glasgow.
160. My husband came and found me and took me back to London. I only stayed with him another couple of nights and I went back to Centrepoint in London. There I met a man, [REDACTED] who was divorced with two children. He was twenty years older than me and I hooked up with him quite quickly. He said he would look after me if my husband came back looking for me. We subsequently got our own place in Notting Hill and I had my first daughter. Not long after she was born I fell pregnant again. [REDACTED] was born prematurely and had brain damage. He didn't get home until he was four months old. I wasn't coping with [REDACTED] and a health visitor came and said she had a friend who was desperate to have a baby. I let them take the baby and I thought it was temporary but before I knew it I was signing adoption papers. Six years after my first daughter was born I had another girl.

161. At some point in our relationship I had suspicions that [REDACTED] had cheated on me and after that I couldn't trust him. I felt different towards him and all intimacy stopped. We got a council house in Hackney but the area was quite rough and I had difficulty settling in. [REDACTED] often wanted to go out socialising but when I said I didn't want to he went without me. I decided to leave [REDACTED] He died in 1994.
162. I went back to secretarial college to continue my studies and I got a job in an office. I was doing typing and filing. I then trained as a childminder and registered with the council as a childminder. I then got a job as a proof reader for several well-known publishers and also did it freelance. I subsequently came back to Scotland. I went to university and did degree courses in medieval history and psychology. I now live in Glasgow with my partner.

### **Impact**

163. I blame Lagarie, and all the things that happened there, for all the things that impacted on my subsequent life after I left care. All the other places and incidents were fairly fleeting, but Lagarie has had a long term effect on my life. Lagarie doesn't define me as an individual but it is a very large part of who I am and has had a huge effect on me and my children.
164. For a long time after I left Lagarie I tried to forget about all the things that went on in there. When I left I couldn't cook. No one had ever taught me. The only time I was in the kitchen at Lagarie was to wash up. This was particularly obvious when I got married. I didn't know how to cook a proper meal.
165. What happened to me at Lagarie has had an effect on how I have brought up my two girls. I know that I was over protective of them. I never let them go anywhere for a sleepover until they were sixteen, even with members of my family. I found it very difficult to even trust their dad when he was with the girls. If he got out of bed through the night to go to the toilet or went for a cigarette I used to be right behind him. I would wait with him until he was back in his bed. I never let him bath the girls. I would always

do it. He was a lovely kind guy but I couldn't relax when he was with them. We never went out socialising together because I couldn't trust anyone to look after my girls.

166. I didn't even like leaving my girls at nursery. I was worried that something may happen to them. I knew that the staff were trained and qualified but I still couldn't be relaxed about it. From a very early age I taught my girls about their personal safety. They knew exactly what to do if ever they felt uncomfortable, or threatened in any situation and how they should raise attention. I have always taught my girls to be honest with me and not to be afraid to tell me anything.
167. I would have loved to have got more qualifications at university but I was hindered when my girls were growing up because I was too frightened to leave them with anybody else. I had to be there for them. I didn't trust anyone else.
168. For a long time I felt really guilty that I had pretended I was asleep when Mr Barrie came in our bedroom through the night. I did this so that he didn't pick me. As a consequence of this he would take another girl away. I told my sister [REDACTED] that I felt guilty about doing that. She told me not to be stupid as she did it too.
169. My relationship with my siblings was affected. Most of us went our own way and when I went to London we haven't really kept in touch. I didn't recognise my own brother when I saw him recently. We never really acted like a family. I have become closer to my sister [REDACTED] in the last year. We have confided in each other and have discussed Lagarie but did not go into any detail of the sex abuse. I can see that [REDACTED] has been horrifically damaged by her time at Lagarie. She has been admitted on several occasions to a psychiatric unit. She has self-harmed and attempted suicide on a number of occasions as a result of constant flashbacks from her time at Lagarie. She has caused herself considerable injury. [REDACTED] hoped to give evidence to this Inquiry but has been advised by her own doctor that this would not be in her best interests. I can't see [REDACTED] ever being able to speak to the Inquiry about her experiences.
170. I only have a group of around twelve people who I would class as friends and I trust. I generally don't trust anybody who I don't know well. I find it very difficult being in a big

group of people and prefer being with people who I know. When I speak to people I never go into any detail about my past. I am very defensive and give very limited information. In a way I felt embarrassed and ashamed about what went on at Lagarie. I don't know why but I felt that people would judge me. When I told some people I was in Lagarie they judged me and obviously thought that I was in Lagarie because of something I had done.

171. Because of the times Mrs Barrie used to pull my hair, to this day I don't go to the hairdresser. I don't let anyone touch my hair.
172. I am not an affectionate person and am not a tactile person. If someone cuddles me I think back to bad times at Lagarie. If my partner hugs me I don't like it because I think it is going to lead to more. I have always had issues over the years with intimacy with my partner. [REDACTED] I kept thinking about what I went through there and I couldn't. I wasn't intimate with my partner for about two years. Luckily he has been very understanding and patient and has stood by me. He is a great support for me. We have been together nine years. I like male company but it would suit me to have a loving relationship and never have any intimacy. I don't get undressed in front of my partner. Sometimes intimacy can make me feel physically sick. I panic before I go to bed, worrying that my partner might want any contact with me. I have no interest in intimacy and only do it to for my partner. This is a product of the unrelenting abuse I suffered at Lagarie.
173. When I am in my house I have to have every door open. I think it is because I need to see my exit and can get out quickly. I don't like having my back to anything in a room because I like to see everything in front of me. Even the toilet door is open all the time unless I need real privacy. Since Lagarie I have always had to sleep facing the door and the door is always open.
174. I think about my time at Lagarie every day. It can be triggered by a smell, or if I see certain things. I can't use lavender or certain scented soaps, or carbolic soap. They all make me think back to Lagarie. I sometimes get very anxious for no apparent reason. In the last few years my anxiety has really increased. At some stage I did have suicidal

ideation. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Luckily I phoned a friend and she talked me out of it.

175. For years I have been seeing a psychologist and three years ago I went through a series of tests and I was diagnosed with PTSD. At that time I think I read an article in a newspaper about Lagarie and it brought it all back to me. It really increased my anxiety levels. Recently I have been having terrible dreams and nightmares. They have been so bad that I have avoided going to bed. The flashbacks and other bad dreams all relate to my time in Lagarie. I have recently been having horrible dreams where Mr Barrie has been doing things and I have been shouting to my partner to help me. My partner has told me that I wasn't shouting but I felt that I was awake and was shouting on him for help.
176. In the last few months someone who was at Lagarie, but doesn't want to come forward to the Inquiry, told me about the incident with the dog where boys were forced, by the gardener and his assistant to penetrate the dog. He was in tears when he told me. I, possibly naively, didn't suspect that any of the boys were being subjected to any form of sexual abuse and certainly nothing like this with the dog. This really affected me when I heard this and it has been going round and round in my head.

#### **Treatment / support**

177. About ten years ago I went to my GP with depression and subsequently with anxiety. I have been prescribed various tablets for my depression and anxiety and it has been changed several times. I am also on sleeping tablets. I first started seeing a psychologist about five years ago. I am currently seeing a psychologist who I have been seeing for the last year. I am going on an eight week anxiety management course. I was referred to a mental health charity called Coach House Trust and I hated the suggestion that I had mental health issues and it was only recently that I accepted that in fact I did. These were stifled for a while and I didn't do anything about it.

178. In the last few years my short term memory has been affected. I think this is because there has been so much going on in my head. I have other issues which may also have affected it. The Coach House were really helpful because they gave me a booklet of photographs covering from my flat to their clinic so I knew where to go.
179. When I went to the psychiatric unit they referred me through the NHS to do art therapy. I now love painting and use that as an escape. My short term memory has recently become affected so I am currently painting from a picture we took when we were in Crete. I can't actually remember being there. I also got involved in music therapy which has been paid for by Future Pathways. I use both of these therapies a lot at difficult times. I have become involved with Future Pathways and they have asked me to become involved in a film they are making. I also have a really good GP and she always gives me as much time as I need.

### **Reporting of Abuse**

180. I wrote a letter a number of years ago to GAA [REDACTED] who was my house mother at Lagarie and I recently gave it to the police. In the letter I told her that she neglected me as her attention was engaged elsewhere with [REDACTED]. That is why she failed to pick up on the other abuse I suffered. I received a letter back from GAA [REDACTED] and she said she resented the fact that I had passed her details to the police. She said she was sorry if I felt like that and that she always tried her best. She said I never went to her with any issues but she said she made it clear that she was always free to sit down with me. She claimed that she didn't know the Barries before she went to Lagarie and in respect of training she said she had been trained before she got there. I still have this letter from GAA [REDACTED] and am happy to provide it to the Inquiry if requested.
181. I wrote a letter around the same time to [REDACTED] and I told him about what I was up to. I told him I was [REDACTED] about Lagarie. I was aware that he couldn't remember much about things at Lagarie but asked if he had any anecdotes. He replied in a typed letter to me and was quite protective about Lagarie in general but wished

he could have done more to protect the girls. I have this letter and would also be happy to pass this to the Inquiry.

182. About ten years ago an article appeared in the Sunday Mail newspaper about Lagarie. Two individuals from the [REDACTED] family had reported Lagarie to the police. The headline on the article was 'Children's home from hell'. My brother, [REDACTED] contacted me and asked if I had seen it. At the bottom of the article it said that if you had been at Lagarie and had any information or were affected, there was a number to call. I called the number and the police came to see me. I gave a comprehensive statement. They were from Partick or Maryhill police office. The case was dropped because there was insufficient evidence and there was also mention of time bar being an issue.
183. About three years ago the police visited me again and asked for another statement. I am not sure why they contacted me. I asked for time to type the statement myself which I did and I later gave it to them. The police came and saw me several times. One of the officers was female and I think her surname was Hoey. Apparently the procurator fiscal then decided that there was insufficient evidence to proceed. It was suggested to me after that that I could still pursue this in a civil case and that is still ongoing.

### **Records**

184. I have never actually tried to get any of my records. Future Pathways have said that they could help. [REDACTED] the journalist tried to get my records but he said he had found lots of paperwork for other individuals but all he could find for me was one photograph.

### **Lessons to be Learned**

185. I think that things have moved forward. People are listening more to children and believing them. Children have more of a voice now than they used to. This is improving

the lives of children in care. I think professionals need to look for signs of inappropriate behaviour. I think they need to be aware of the signs of child abuse and ask children the right questions. I know there are good people out there who are listening and are aware of what has gone on in the past. This will all help to make it safer for children in the future going into residential care.

186. There needs to be more safeguards implemented for children in residential care, in particular outlets for children to go and talk to an adult in a safe place where they can feel assured there will be no repercussions. The nominated person may not necessarily deal with what the child says but as long as it didn't get back to whoever the complaint was about.

#### **Other information**

187. When GAD-SPO were at Lagarie something went on involving the police and there was press outside Lagarie. GAD-SPO left but I don't know if they were sacked. One day we came back from school and we were told not to speak to the press. The police never came to speak to me or any of the other children.
188. I had been told that [REDACTED] who had been seeing Mr GAF had fallen pregnant. She left Lagarie for a few weeks then came back, I don't know where she went. [REDACTED], my sister disappeared for weeks too when she was thirteen or fourteen. I don't know why or where she went.
189. About eight years ago I phoned the phone number I found for MPN/ MPO who were my first foster carers. I don't know what possessed me, I just had an urge. It was on a Sunday morning and I managed to get hold of this document with their name and address on it. I phoned and a female answered so I asked for Mrs MPO. She asked who I was. I told her to cast her mind back to 1969 when she fostered two young girls from the Auchinairn area of Glasgow. I reminded her that she had tortured us, as had her sons. She started screaming awful abuse down the phone. I was shaken and

reverted back to a little child. She told me never to call her number again. She hung up but I held the phone for ages. I was shocked. I never attempted to ring her again.

190. My sister [REDACTED] had told me that Mr Barrie had forced her to have oral sex with him. Even now when we see each other we talk about the kids and things that are going on. We never discuss what happened to us at Lagarie. [REDACTED] knew that I was coming to the Inquiry [REDACTED]. When [REDACTED] saw [REDACTED] [REDACTED] she was shocked because it was the first time she found out what happened to me at the foster parents and at the couple in Musselburgh. I was pleased for [REDACTED] that her placement before Lagarie was alright.

191. I have been told, and I would rather not say who told me, that in the front hall there was a secret room. I think [REDACTED] mentioned it as well at some point when we were at [REDACTED]. The person who told me said he was walking along the hall and there were several pictures. He was running his hand along these pictures opposite the sitting room, near the office and something moved. It wasn't the picture that moved it was a section of the wall. It slid open like a door and revealed a room. There was nothing in the room. He said that from inside this room he could look out through one way glass and see into the office and into the sitting room.

192. Last year [REDACTED], my sister, told me that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

193. I just think it would be wonderful if they look at these things that went on and get these people, shame them and let them have to go through it. I have had to repeatedly discuss this with the police [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



194. I wrote a letter to Stuart Rivers, from the British Sailor Society recently in regards to his appearance on the Disclosure documentary. I thought he was very supercilious, and was very dismissive. I told him that it wasn't his place to say to people that he agreed or disagreed with things because it was only his opinion, which was irrelevant. The very brief response that I got back were words to the effect that I should contact his lawyers.
195. I then sent an email to John Sweeney who I have met a few times. John Sweeney used to be on the board of governors for the In Care Survivors. I sent him an email suggesting he watch the Disclosure documentary. He replied to say he hadn't watched it but knew about it. He said that it is great that people are coming forward and it might encourage other people to speak out if they know that they are going to be reassured that there are people looking after their interests and that they are always in control. He said the more people that we encourage to come forward strengthens our case. I told him that I was in control and that I could stop this at any time. I am very aware of that but people might not be.
196. With the help of others I have managed to trace every person who I remembered from being in Lagarie at the same time as me, apart from [REDACTED]. I used to share a room with her. Mr Barrie did things to her. In the six years that I was there she never had any visitors. She was still there when I left and now there is no trace of her. I am concerned that something may have happened to her after I left Lagarie and she has died.
197. I am so pleased that we have had this chance to talk about my experiences. I hope something comes of everything I have said.
198. 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. MPM [Redacted] .....

Dated. 20-03-2019 .....