

1 Friday, 27 April 2018

2 (10.00 am)

3 LADY SMITH: Good morning. We return to further oral
4 evidence this morning and I think we have a witness
5 ready for us, do we, Mr MacAulay?

6 MR MacAULAY: Good morning, my Lady. Yes, we do. The next
7 witness is an applicant who wants to remain anonymous
8 and he wants to use the name "Alan" in giving his
9 evidence.

10 "ALAN" (affirmed)

11 LADY SMITH: You'll find that microphone is very helpful, if
12 you can get yourself into the right position, and you
13 won't have to shout and we can hear you clearly.
14 Mr MacAulay will explain what he wants you to do with
15 the red file in a minute.

16 Mr MacAulay.

17 Questions from MR MacAULAY

18 MR MacAULAY: Good morning, Alan.

19 A. Good morning.

20 Q. I don't want your date of birth, but to give us a time
21 frame I would like to get the year of your birth.

22 Am I right in saying you were born in 1961?

23 A. That's correct, yes.

24 Q. In the red folder you'll find your statement. I will
25 give the reference for the transcript: it's

1 WIT.001.001.4622. If I could ask you to turn to the
2 final page of the statement. Can I ask you to confirm
3 that you've signed the statement?

4 A. I did indeed, yes.

5 Q. If you look at the last paragraph, do you say there:

6 "I have no objection to my witness statement being
7 published as part of the evidence to the inquiry"?

8 A. That's correct.

9 Q. You go on to say:

10 "I believe the facts stated in this witness
11 statement are true."

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. If you go to the beginning of your statement -- and
14 we can perhaps work off the screen, it might be easier
15 for you -- do you begin in the second paragraph of the
16 statement of telling us why you came forward to speak to
17 the inquiry?

18 A. For me personally, I've carried a lot of this hurt and
19 pain and anguish for many years of my life. (Pause).

20 I think it was important for me to come forward.

21 I obviously knew there was an ongoing inquiry taking
22 place and I think it was about time that I told my
23 story.

24 Although I've suffered from mental health issues
25 in the past, I believe that I brought a lot to society

1 and probably contrary to the belief that people who are
2 brought up in care go down a particular path, and
3 I decided to come forward because it was my time.

4 Q. Okay. Do you try and summarise in that first paragraph
5 what your experience was like in care?

6 A. From my earliest memory, it was a very strict regime.
7 My biggest thing, on reflection back, was there was no
8 nurturing. I was in there at a very young age. I was
9 a very withdrawn child. I was bullied both -- by the
10 nuns, who had a responsibility and a duty of care to
11 look after me, and I think my life in Nazareth House in
12 Aberdeen was a very cold experience. There was no way
13 out, it was just one way, although towards the end, as
14 I've said later on in my statement, I believe there was
15 a change of regime towards the late 1970s -- and I think
16 I've mentioned it. The old guard had gone and it was
17 like a new set of nuns and the experiences were more
18 positive than they were previous.

19 Q. We'll look at some of that later on then in your
20 evidence, Alan.

21 Just to go back, as it were, to life before going
22 into care. Because you went into care at a very young
23 age, I understand you have no real recollection of what
24 your family life was like before care; is that correct?

25 A. That's correct, yes.

1 LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay, I'm sorry to interrupt, one
2 moment. I've got a slight problem with my document
3 management here. We may need to rise. I'm so sorry,
4 Alan. It's a computer problem.

5 (Pause)

6 I don't know if you use computers often, Alan, but
7 password problems can be the bane of one's life.

8 A. Sometimes, yes.

9 (Pause)

10 LADY SMITH: Give me two moments, I think we're almost
11 there.

12 (Pause)

13 Success. I'm so sorry to have interrupted, but
14 we're all up and running now.

15 MR MacAULAY: I'm obliged, my Lady.

16 What you do tell us in your statement, I think, is
17 information you have gleaned from another family member;
18 is that right?

19 A. That's correct, yes.

20 Q. What you tell us, I think, is that you were born in
21 Edinburgh and you were one of 11 children.

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And you had a twin brother as well?

24 A. Yes, that's correct.

25 Q. I think, to put it shortly, your family had quite

1 a difficult time and, against that background, you were
2 taken into care?

3 A. Yes, that's correct.

4 Q. So far as records go to show, Alan, it would appear that
5 you were admitted to Nazareth House Aberdeen on
6 [REDACTED] 1963. How does that fit in with your own
7 understanding? By then you'd be about 2 years of age.

8 A. As I think I said earlier, I thought it was a bit
9 earlier, but I think in my statement I recollected that
10 my first memory as a child was as a toddler, so that
11 well could tie in.

12 Q. Clearly, as a toddler in Nazareth House, you'd have very
13 little recollection now of what life was like, but at
14 a point in time did you move from what one might call
15 the nursery section to another part of the
16 establishment?

17 A. I was in -- as far as I recollect, I was in
18 Sister [REDACTED] LTX 's side, as we put it, and that was the
19 girls' side, predominantly girls, and the reason I was
20 told I was there was because my sister, [REDACTED], she
21 was on that side and her responsibility was to look
22 after both me and my twin brother.

23 Q. And she was an older sister?

24 A. She was indeed, yes.

25 Q. We understand, certainly, that Nazareth House was

1 essentially divided into three: there's the boys' side,
2 the girls' side, and there was also the section for
3 elderly people.

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. Is that your recollection?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Then so far as the time that you were in
8 Sister [REDACTED] LTX 's side, what sort of ages were the
9 children who were there?

10 A. Well, obviously I was in Sister [REDACTED] LTX 's side as
11 a toddler and, as far as I'm aware -- my recollection is
12 I was up there until about the age of 10, 9 or 10.
13 I can't remember there being older -- there may well
14 have been older children, but I can't be honest about
15 that, to be honest with you.

16 Q. Do I take it from what you're saying then, you're
17 talking about -- you, of course, as a boy and I think
18 your twin was a boy?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Were the rest of the group girls?

21 A. Yes, they were.

22 Q. Do you have any recollection of what the number was over
23 the period?

24 A. I think there was about 16. I remember there was about
25 four dormitories and I think there was about four in

- 1 each. Yes, about 16 roughly.
- 2 Q. Were you then, at a point in time when you reached
3 a particular age, moved from what one might call the
4 girls' side to the boys' side?
- 5 A. I was indeed, yes.
- 6 Q. I think you reckon you thought it might have been 9 or
7 10, but are you particularly clear as to when that
8 happened?
- 9 A. No, I'm not, actually.
- 10 Q. But the side you were moved to then, who was in charge
11 of that side?
- 12 A. Sister [REDACTED] LFB .
- 13 Q. Was it Sisters [REDACTED] LTX and [REDACTED] LFB that you had more to
14 deal with in your time at Nazareth House?
- 15 A. Yes, it was indeed.
- 16 Q. You tell us a little bit about the segregation of the
17 boys and girls. When you went to the boys' side were
18 you able to nevertheless still mix with the girls?
- 19 A. Yes, there was big outbuildings and surroundings in
20 Nazareth House at that time. There was a football
21 pitch, there was a green, so yes, eventually. At one
22 point it did change -- I can't specifically say as
23 regards to what date -- but they started integrating the
24 girls' side and it wasn't specifically boys or girls.
25 They started integrating both sexes into one side.

1 Q. I think you tell us in your statement that when
2 a particular sister came to Nazareth House, things did
3 begin to change.

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And that was into the 1970s, I think.

6 A. That was Sister -- I can't recall, it's either
7 [REDACTED] LDX or [REDACTED] LDX and she made the
8 significant changes that were quite clear and some of
9 the old routines and some of the stuff just didn't go on
10 any more.

11 Q. Again, we'll look at some of that. But what I want to
12 ask you is this. One of the things you say in
13 paragraph 10 of your statement is that:

14 "I can honestly say that I can't remember the nuns
15 calling me by my first name."

16 Is that the case?

17 A. Yes. I was never called -- my name at -- am I allowed
18 to say my name at that time?

19 Q. You don't have to.

20 A. It was always [REDACTED] LBA ; I was never called by my first
21 name.

22 LADY SMITH: So it was your surname they used?

23 A. Yes, they did.

24 LADY SMITH: Did you also have a number?

25 A. No, not that I'm aware of or can recollect.

1 MR MacAULAY: You also give us information, beginning at
2 paragraph 15 of your statement, about the staff and the
3 nuns in particular. You mention the Mother Superior.
4 Did you see very much of the Mother Superior?

5 A. No, not at all. On occasions if there was visitors
6 coming to the home she may take them round, but not on
7 a regular basis, no.

8 Q. You mention then after a sister called
9 Sister [REDACTED] FAF . What can you tell us about her?

10 A. She was a very, very old woman, I remember that. She
11 was very strict. I think I've said in my statement
12 I got the impression on reflection that she bullied
13 Sister [REDACTED] LTX . She would have been deemed as the old
14 guard, very cold, did physically abuse you. I remember
15 in particular, as I said in my statement when she took
16 me for reading, if I got a word wrong, she would have
17 slapped my face or hit me with a ruler on the back of my
18 hands if I got a word wrong.

19 Q. As you put it in paragraph 16, she had a pivotal
20 influence on Sister [REDACTED] LTX ?

21 A. Yes, definitely.

22 Q. Can you explain that?

23 A. Although there was obviously never any physical
24 confrontation between both Sister [REDACTED] FAF or
25 Sister [REDACTED] LTX , I do remember -- I will try and

1 describe it in words, but you could tell that
2 Sister [LTX] wasn't comfortable around her and she
3 was watching her every move and she used to take our
4 side got a lot and have words with her. You just knew,
5 it was just something you could see.

6 Q. Was Sister [LTX] much younger?

7 A. Very much younger.

8 Q. What age do you reckon Sister [LTX] was at this time?

9 A. I would say, at a guess, 24 or 25.

10 Q. But one of the things you do say, the way you put it is
11 that she -- and there you're talking about

12 Sister [LTX] -- certainly made a good effort at
13 becoming her.

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. What do you mean by that?

16 A. Well, I think she was out to impress. I think because
17 there was definitely a status there, Sister [FAF]
18 would be up there and Sister [LTX] would be down
19 there (indicating), and because Sister [FAF] had
20 such a strict regime, she tried to follow in her
21 footsteps to try and make an impression. That's my take
22 on it.

23 Q. What role did Sister [FAF] have?

24 A. Well, alls I can remember is although it was
25 Sister [LTX]'s unit, Sister [FAF] always used to

1 be around. I can't specifically say what her role was,
2 but alls I know is that she was always there. She
3 wasn't there for the day-to-day running of that
4 particular unit as such, but she was always about and
5 always watching over what she was doing.

6 Q. You've referred once or twice to Sister [REDACTED] LTX 's group
7 as a unit.

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Did it have a particular name?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Were there other units then --

12 A. I've used the word unit; it's just something that came
13 into my head. It was the girls' side or the boys' side
14 and you had the elderly in the middle.

15 Q. So far as the girls' side was concerned, was there
16 another section or unit within the girls' side apart
17 from Sister [REDACTED] LTX 's group?

18 A. No.

19 Q. You talk about Sister [REDACTED] LDX or [REDACTED] LDX ,
20 who you mentioned already --

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. -- and that was really when the changes came in.

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Did she replace a particular sister?

25 A. As far as I can recollect, she took the place of

1 Sister [REDACTED] LFB .

2 Q. You describe her in particular as a caring nun.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Can you perhaps give us some examples as to what you
5 mean by that?

6 A. I think because we were used to such a regime -- for
7 example, when we used to have supper, when it was
8 Sister [REDACTED] LFB that used to do it, she used to line us
9 up in a long line and it was hot cocoa and you had to
10 have finished your cocoa by the time you got to the
11 other end, sometimes burning your tongue on the way,
12 because you knew if you didn't you would get a slap. By
13 the time you had gone down there -- and even if you
14 hadn't, you just handed the cup back.

15 When Sister [REDACTED] LDX came she would have gone
16 to the kitchen on her own accord, made supper on a tray
17 and brought it into the living room and sat all the kids
18 down and we would have sat together and had our supper.
19 There was just no comparison in the two.

20 Q. You tell us that you thought that Sister [REDACTED] LDX
21 came in in about 1973.

22 A. I'm guessing. I only -- alls I can say is I know for
23 a fact it was Sister [REDACTED] LFB, she went to
24 Bexhill-on-Sea, I think, and Sister [REDACTED] LDX was
25 the one who replaced her. As to the dates, that was a

- 1 guess, so I don't know specifically.
- 2 Q. Can I put this to you: although there isn't a record
3 in the Sisters of Nazareth records as to when you left
4 Nazareth House, according to the social work records
5 that the inquiry has seen, you left Nazareth House on
6 ██████████ 1974 to go into foster care.
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Does that fit in with your own recollection?
- 9 A. I thought it was later, I thought it was 1975, but
10 I wouldn't be surprised if it was correct because
11 obviously ...
- 12 Q. I know, dates are difficult, so I wouldn't be too
13 concerned about that. If it was about 1974 then that
14 would be you about 13?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. So you were 13, possibly 14, you think?
- 17 A. I thought 14.
- 18 Q. In any event, on that basis, you may have benefited from
19 a year or two of Sister ██████████ LDX ██████████'s regime?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Another nun you mention there is Sister ██████████ LFZ ██████████
22 ██████████ LFZ ██████████ --
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. -- who appeared to have been a good football player.
- 25 A. Yes. I can't remember if she looked after specific

1 kids, but I remember she had a high profile and she was
2 good at playing football, [REDACTED]

3 [REDACTED]
4 [REDACTED] she was probably seen as
5 a fun-loving nun in comparison to the old guard.

6 Q. Okay. The other nun you mention is Sister Borromeo.

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And you say she was nice?

9 A. Yes, she was.

10 Q. Can you --

11 A. As far as I can recollect, she was the nurse, I think
12 she was on the middle floor and -- we only ever used to
13 go to see the doctor once a year and that was
14 a Dr Henry. I can't remember -- I know his surgery was
15 out of Nazareth House. But we had an in-house sister
16 and she was deemed as the nurse. So we used to go to
17 Dr Henry to get a polio cube, a sugar cube. That's all
18 I can recollect.

19 Q. If I was to ask you if you can give any examples,
20 because I have been asked to ask you this as to how she
21 was nice, are you able to give us any examples?

22 A. She was nurturing, she was caring. She had an
23 empathetic nature.

24 Q. You do mention other names. For example Sister LGR,
25 who I think you say looked after the chapel.

1 A. Yes. At that particular time, I can remember she had
2 role in the chapel. There was Sister LGR and Sister
3 LKG. They were the ones who would go out
4 collecting for Nazareth House and they always seemed to
5 be together.

6 Q. You also provide us, Alan, with some details in relation
7 to lay staff. Do I take it there were lay staff there?

8 A. Yes, there was.

9 Q. If you're just looking at your own section or unit, were
10 there lay staff who assisted Sister LTX, for
11 example?

12 A. You had FAJ, she assisted --
13
14 I have no recollection of her being
15 anything but nice. She had a caring nature. It was
16 different.

17 Obviously, the nuns weren't there 24/7, so they were
18 either going to Mass or going to something or other,
19 meetings, but it was a different atmosphere.

20 Q. When the nuns were not there?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. You mentioned some other names, for example LDU.

23 A. LDU and LHQ, yes.

24 Q. Were they --

25 A. That was on the other side, where -- Sister LFB's

1 side -- [REDACTED]
2 [REDACTED]
3 [REDACTED] LDU used to bath you and [REDACTED] LHQ would have
4 been more strict, but nothing of significance.

5 Q. In particular, what did you understand [REDACTED] LDU 's
6 role to be?

7 A. He would have been probably seen in these days as
8 a residential care worker, you know. That would be my
9 perception if you want to put it in terms of residential
10 care of the here and now.

11 Q. Can I just ask you a little bit about the daily routine,
12 just looking over the piece, if you can. I know you say
13 it changed later.

14 When you got up in the morning, and after
15 breakfast -- and you talk about this in paragraph 29 --
16 there seems to have been a process whereby you were
17 given malt and cod liver oil, is that right, was that
18 a standard practice?

19 A. That was every morning. It was a spoonful of malt or
20 a spoonful of cod liver oil.

21 Q. And I think then you had your hair --

22 A. We had Brylcreem as well.

23 Q. Who did that?

24 A. Sister [REDACTED] LTX would have done it, Sister [REDACTED] FAF ,
25 done it, depending. As I say, Sister [REDACTED] FAF didn't

1 have specific role, she just seemed to be there at
2 specific times. I don't know if she was --
3 Sister [REDACTED] LTX was under her in some way, but that was
4 the perception that I had at that time.

5 Q. For example, you had schooling, so when you were of
6 school age you went to the local schools?

7 A. We got a bus. A bus arrived at Nazareth House every
8 morning and it took us to St Peter's Roman Catholic
9 school in Nelson Street in Aberdeen.

10 Q. So far as getting up in the morning, can you remember
11 what time it was?

12 A. I remember it as being, as I think I've said, either 6
13 or 6.30. That would have been the norm. And if you
14 were serving Mass, if you were an altar boy, you would
15 have gone to Mass before you got washed. I can't
16 remember what -- I think it was washed first then you
17 went to Mass, then you came back and you had breakfast,
18 and then you would have got your cod liver oil, and then
19 went to school.

20 Q. Going to bed, what time?

21 A. It was early. It was always early. There never seemed
22 to be an age difference, you know, it was just everybody
23 went -- my recollection -- at the same time, about
24 8 o'clock, I think.

25 Q. You have no recollection of the timings varying with age

- 1 or over the years?
- 2 A. I think at one point they did start to vary, but that --
- 3 specifically, when I was thinking about it, I can't
- 4 honestly recollect.
- 5 Q. Insofar as being in bed is concerned, was there
- 6 a particular procedure in relation to what you had to do
- 7 with your arms?
- 8 A. Yes. When the nuns used to come round at night they
- 9 used to say a particular prayer with the rosary beads in
- 10 their hand. They used to come round and you had to lie
- 11 on your bed with your hands across (indicating) --
- 12 Q. And you're demonstrating your hands across your chest.
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And if you didn't do that?
- 15 A. Well, they had a cross on a thing and your hands would
- 16 have got whacked. But the majority of times, you did do
- 17 it. You know not to do anything but that.
- 18 Q. You tell us a little bit about washing and bathing and
- 19 you don't remember ever having a shower, but so far as
- 20 bath was concerned, was there a particular bath --
- 21 A. As far as I'm -- well, baths, it goes -- I mentioned if
- 22 you wet the bed, which I wet the bed quite a lot -- and
- 23 it was a cold bath.
- 24 Q. Again, I'll come back and look at that with you.
- 25 So far as the food was concerned, you say that on

1 Sister [LTX] 's side there was a large dining room;
2 is that right?

3 A. That's correct, yes.

4 Q. And how many would be in the dining room then?

5 A. The amount of people that were in her side. I'm saying
6 up to 16 from what I can recollect.

7 Q. But on Sister [LTX] 's side there was a different
8 dining room, was there -- Sister [LFB] 's side?

9 A. On Sister [LFB] 's side there was a kitchenette and it
10 was a very small dining room, but it was completely
11 different. It was more homely as opposed to this --
12 Nazareth House is a big Georgian house, it was
13 a massive, massive room and it was a very cold room.

14 Q. So far as clothing was concerned, you tell us you had
15 a school uniform for school; is that correct?

16 A. Yes, that's right.

17 Q. But in Nazareth House you had your own clothes and you
18 say they were hand-me-downs?

19 A. Yes, other than your school uniform I can't recollect
20 getting any new clothes.

21 Q. You do tell us about one particularly embarrassing
22 episode in relation to a duffle coat.

23 A. Near the winter time people used to donate all sorts of
24 things and at this particular time I was handed a duffle
25 coat and it fitted me and I took it and wore it to

1 school and then I actually found out that somebody in my
2 class had donated it, so I was a target for bullying.

3 Because when we were at school, we were called "the
4 Nazzies", and anybody that wasn't in Nazareth House was
5 called outsiders. And that goes for if you were in
6 Nazareth House or -- it would be, "He's a Nazzy, he's
7 from Nazareth House".

8 Q. Pocket money. I think you tell us at least at a point
9 in time you did get some pocket money.

10 A. Yes. I can't remember when I was in Sister [REDACTED] LTX 's
11 unit whether I got pocket money or not, but I do
12 recollect in Sister [REDACTED] LFB 's we did get pocket money
13 and we also had a Post Office savings account, but we
14 certainly didn't manage it.

15 Q. Did you get access to it at any point in time before you
16 left?

17 A. I think -- no. I remember when we used to go on holiday
18 to a place called Tombay, near Tomintoul, it was
19 a holiday house, we did receive money, so my assumption
20 would be that maybe that was some of our savings.
21 I don't know.

22 Q. Since you mentioned going on holiday, was that in the
23 summer you would go on holiday?

24 A. Yes, it was indeed.

25 Q. I think you tell us in your statement a little bit about

1 that, and that was something you really enjoyed; is that
2 correct?

3 A. I really enjoyed going to Tombay. It was -- I use the
4 word escapism. It was completely different from what
5 you were used to and even having gone there with
6 Sister [REDACTED] LFB, I don't recollect going with
7 Sister [REDACTED] LTX. She was completely different and --
8 it's hard to describe it. I have fond memories of going
9 up there.

10 Q. How was she different?

11 A. She was different in that she seemed a lot more relaxed
12 and there wasn't that strict regime that was about all
13 the time. I don't think I ever got physically chastised
14 when I was up there. It was the freedom because there
15 was a lot of fields about and there was a river and you
16 could do what you want, went fishing. It was an amazing
17 time.

18 Q. You also tell us on at least a couple of times you went
19 with your brother to stay with a family in Dumbarton.

20 A. Yes. There obviously was a relationship between
21 St Patrick's Roman Catholic church in Dumbarton and
22 a father called Father Gowans, who was a lovely man.
23 The congregation there, as far as I recollect, they took
24 people from Nazareth House into their homes for
25 Christmas and summer. I don't know how many times we

1 went to the [REDACTED] but we went a few times.

2 Q. You tell us a little bit about chores that you had to
3 do. What was the arrangement you had in relation to
4 doing chores?

5 A. Shoes, for example. You would have -- people used to
6 come in after school and there was like a metal cage
7 where they just took off their shoes and it would be one
8 person, for example, who would have to get all the dirt
9 off and put polish on them and shine all the pairs of
10 shoes that were sitting there.

11 But there were other various chores. I can't
12 recollect cleaners coming in to do specific jobs. But
13 you did have chores to do, the norm, like sweeping up
14 and cleaning the dining room and taking the plates up
15 and stuff like that, and the kitchen -- when I say the
16 kitchen, not the main kitchen because the food was taken
17 from the main kitchen in Nazareth House to the specific
18 areas where they had kitchenettes and the food was
19 served up there.

20 Q. One thing you do say in relation to chores is you
21 sometimes had to clean the toilets.

22 A. Yes. Toilets was part and parcel of it. I can't
23 remember how many jobs, but there was quite a few jobs
24 that you did have to do.

25 Q. And did the jobs take up much of your free time?

1 A. I wouldn't say necessarily predominantly, but after you
2 came back from school, you did have a list of chores to
3 do, yes, before you did your homework.

4 LADY SMITH: You mentioned shoes at the beginning of your
5 list of items that you had to attend to. How many pairs
6 of shoes would one person have to clean?

7 A. I think I always thought it was about 30, but maybe as
8 a child it seemed a big number, but it would
9 specifically be the amount of people who were in that
10 particular -- I'll use the term -- unit. So it could
11 have been up to 16 pairs, but I always had in my head it
12 was hundreds of pairs of shoes.

13 LADY SMITH: Is that what it felt like?

14 A. Yes. Yes.

15 MR MacAULAY: And birthdays. What about your birthday,
16 Alan? Was your birthday celebrated?

17 A. I can never recollect having a birthday cake in all the
18 time I was in Nazareth House.

19 Q. What about a card or a gift?

20 A. No, there was only -- I think I recollect, about 7 years
21 of age, I got a phone call apparently from my mother and
22 she had sent a gift into Nazareth House, but other than
23 that I never received any cards or birthday cakes or
24 anything like that.

25 Q. And on that occasion did you speak to your mother?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. I think what you say is that that was the first and last
3 time you spoke to your mother.

4 A. It was indeed, yes.

5 Q. Christmas then. Did you receive a gift at Christmas?

6 A. Yes, Christmas you would have -- you went to midnight
7 Mass and then you would have come back, you'd have gone
8 to bed and in the morning you'd get up and it would be
9 a stocking, an apple and an orange and a selection box
10 and one present.

11 Q. Can I ask you now a little bit about visits and what
12 happened if visitors were coming? Was there a process
13 whereby if visitors were coming, there would be some
14 sort of discussion with you by the nuns?

15 A. Yes. I can't recollect -- I've used, I think I remember
16 St Vincent de Paul used to come round the home because
17 I think somebody asked the question about was there any
18 inspectors. Obviously at that particular age and time
19 I don't know whether there were inspectors or what they
20 were, but we had to get out -- I think they called them
21 counterpanes and they were very, very expensive looking
22 counterpanes, embroidered, so the normal bedding would
23 have been taken off and these would have been replaced
24 when visitors were coming around. You were basically
25 told in no uncertain terms that you don't really ask

1 many questions and you don't answer. I always remember
2 you just kept your mouth shut.

3 Q. Who said that to you?

4 A. Specifically I can't say what nun specifically said it,
5 but it was the norm, you just knew.

6 LADY SMITH: When you say that you think you remember
7 St Vincent de Paul used to come, what is it you're
8 talking about?

9 A. It was a group of people from St Vincent de Paul getting
10 taken round Nazareth House for whatever reason, I don't
11 know.

12 LADY SMITH: So that's from the order, from the St Vincent
13 de Paul order?

14 A. As far as I'm aware, yes.

15 LADY SMITH: Men or women?

16 A. Men I think it was.

17 LADY SMITH: And when you were talking about counterpanes,
18 you're talking about bed covers --

19 A. Yes.

20 LADY SMITH: -- that go on top of each bed?

21 A. Yes.

22 LADY SMITH: But you didn't normally have those?

23 A. No, not at all.

24 MR MacAULAY: What you say is this you'd meet the visitors
25 in the big parlour, so there was a big parlour area

1 within the home; is that right?

2 A. When you come into Nazareth House in Aberdeen, to the
3 left and the right there's two parlours, and they're
4 dressed in mahogany furniture and it's completely
5 different than what you're used to. It was all done up
6 nice.

7 Q. You say on these occasions there would be a cake.

8 A. Yes. There would be cake, yes.

9 Q. Were you given any instructions in relation to the cake?

10 A. Yes, you were allowed to have one piece and no more.
11 But you never really did. Sometimes you did and
12 sometimes you didn't. But you didn't certainly ... It
13 was the old adage, children could be seen and not heard.
14 You just knew not to say much. It was -- a lot of the
15 time in Nazareth House you lived in fear.

16 From the Roman Catholic order you know you're damned
17 to hell if you do A, B, C and D, so as a child that knew
18 nothing less, that's the way you responded and that's
19 the way you filtered things through.

20 Q. You're giving us evidence at the moment as to how things
21 were being presented to those visiting but that
22 presentation, you say, was not the normal presentation?

23 A. That was far removed from what was the norm, you know.
24 It was a nice smile at the door and the reverence that
25 went with it, and to me on reflection it was farcical.

1 Q. I think you tell us your recollection was in the earlier
2 years you don't remember getting visits from
3 a children's officer or social worker, but that you did
4 later on get such visits.

5 A. I can honestly say I can't remember. I know now --
6 I don't know what the legislation was back then for
7 statutory visits each month, but my recollection of
8 visits from social workers was towards the end, where
9 the idea of me and my twin brother being fostered -- in
10 saying that I can't recollect, that's not to say that
11 I didn't have social workers, I just can't remember them
12 being there.

13 Q. And I think I can say to you that there are some entries
14 in records to indicate that there may have been some
15 visits to you. I don't think you're disagreeing with
16 that, it's just that your recollection may not be
17 particularly good.

18 There is a section then in your statement beginning
19 at paragraph 66 where you start to provide some
20 information as to how you were treated in
21 Nazareth House. Can you give me an overview as to how
22 you feel that you were treated?

23 A. I think I've said earlier on, I was a very withdrawn
24 child because I never knew anything else other than that
25 particular regime. I was quite numb to the experiences

1 that happened. I think a lot of the time I emotionally
2 detached myself from what was actually going on at that
3 particular time. Looking back then, I'm able to
4 articulate now how I felt, but I wouldn't have been able
5 to put in words how I felt. But I was certainly
6 withdrawn and life wasn't very good.

7 Q. What you say in paragraph 66 is that most days involved
8 some form of abuse.

9 A. Yes. Whether it would be -- I used to wet the bed
10 I would say probably most days, so my day didn't start
11 very well anyway.

12 Q. This suggestion that they dished out punches quite
13 frequently --

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. -- can you tell me about that?

16 A. I think a lot of the time nuns were frustrated. I think
17 they didn't have the training and the knowledge to
18 manage a group of vulnerable children. I think their
19 frustration was taken out in anger, manifesting itself
20 in anger.

21 For example, if I'd wet the bed, I would have got
22 punched. I would have to stand with my wet sheets on
23 top of my head. If you had choked on the cod liver oil,
24 you would have got punched. If you were getting your
25 hair brushed and Brylcreem put on, you'd have got

1 a knuckle to the head. So it was the norm.

2 Q. I'll look at some of the detail of that in a moment, but
3 you mention that there was never any nurturing, there
4 was no love or genuine care?

5 A. No, definitely not, no. I can't remember ... I can't
6 remember ever being given a hug or ... It was just very
7 cold. Very cold, cold people. Nothing like they
8 portrayed to the public. Nothing at all.

9 That's why I'm here today because I've done
10 reasonably well with myself and I got educated and I'm
11 here today because it did go on. And for them to have
12 the audacity to come out with statements saying it never
13 happened -- I don't like calling anybody a liar, but on
14 this occasion they're lying. Sorry.

15 Q. It's all right. You say here also, Alan, that you lived
16 in constant fear.

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. You also say that you received physical abuse if you
19 were crying; can we just understand that?

20 A. You weren't allowed to cry. You had to keep your
21 emotions to yourself. If you cried, you got worse:
22 "I'll give you something to cry for".

23 LADY SMITH: Is that what you remember being said to you?

24 A. Yes.

25 MR MacAULAY: Were you told anything about why you were in

1 care?

2 A. I remember Sister [REDACTED] LTX in particular saying that

3 we were -- particularly as regards to me and my twin

4 brother, we were put in care because my mum and dad

5 didn't want us.

6 Q. What about praise? Did you ever receive praise for

7 something you did?

8 A. No. To this day, I'm one of those people that --

9 I don't deal with praise very well but yet I get a lot

10 of praise in this day and age and time now for what I've

11 done with my life but it doesn't sit well with me. You

12 crave it, but when you get it you struggle with it.

13 Q. One thing you say in paragraph 71 is that:

14 "I could talk all day about the abuse I suffered.

15 I could cite probably a hundred more incidents than the

16 ones I have set out in my statement."

17 A. Yes, because it was just a constant -- it was -- other

18 than when you went to, which was the latter -- when you

19 went to Tombay and Tomintoul and stuff. The regime in

20 there, it was just around abuse. There's no other way

21 to put it. It was physical and emotional abuse. I know

22 I say I could cite -- I cited an example where

23 Sister [REDACTED] LTX -- I'd wet myself and I was out on the

24 concrete where the swings were and she spotted it and

25 she was in a rage and she literally dragged me by the

1 ear right down to -- and she took my trousers and pants
2 down and smacked me with a brown plastic sandal and it
3 seemed to go on forever.

4 Q. On your bottom?

5 A. Yes. And I was black and blue. I know it's against the
6 law to hit children nowadays, but the thing is, though,
7 it was more than chastising, there was anger in it. For
8 me, when I look back on it, a lot of it was frustration
9 on their parts because they didn't know how to handle --
10 they had little experience of how to -- I'm not
11 saying -- I can't recollect if I was a good boy, but
12 I always seemed to be a bad boy.

13 Q. The incident you mentioned with Sister [REDACTED] LTX, were
14 you in her unit or group at the time that happened?

15 A. I was indeed, yes.

16 Q. So you were quite young at that time at that point?

17 A. Yes, yes.

18 Q. Let's then just look at some of the things you have told
19 us in your statement, if you don't mind, Alan.

20 At paragraph 72, for example, you provide us with
21 some information about Sister [REDACTED] FAF.

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And what you say is that she would "knuckle you". Can
24 you describe what you mean by that?

25 A. Well, basically, getting Brylcreem -- we used to get

1 Brylcreem in the morning and the girls would have got
2 a brush through the hair and the boys a comb. And if
3 you were perceived to be moving in any way, she would
4 just knuckle you on the head or go like that
5 (indicating). Sometimes it would come up and sometimes
6 it would be rubbed in, and you were slapped. That was
7 the norm.

8 When I say abuse every day, that was the norm. So
9 from the time you got up in the morning -- there was
10 always something. You couldn't go to bed and then think
11 nothing would happen today. I used to think, lying in
12 bed, is this what life's about. The ironic thing is
13 that was it -- I didn't know there was a different life
14 out there from what I was going through.

15 Q. You've told us about your own experience with
16 Sister [REDACTED] FAF . What about other boys? Did you see
17 this happen to them?

18 A. It happened to everybody. I wasn't the only one that
19 was targeted. I wouldn't say that I was specifically
20 targeted. It happened to other people as well.

21 Q. And for the girls, when you were in Sister [REDACTED] LTX 's
22 group?

23 A. They used to get hit with a hairbrush on the back of the
24 head. Usually if their hair was getting plaited or put
25 up in a ponytail or they weren't standing still or

1 whatever, they definitely got hit on the back of the
2 head.

3 Q. You have told us, as you tell us in the next paragraph,
4 if you got words wrong when Sister [FAF] was
5 dealing with you then, you would be given a slap or hit
6 with a ruler?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And did that happen?

9 A. Yes. It most definitely did happen. Sister [FAF]
10 -- I can even specifically remember -- that's why
11 I know, it was "Tip the Dog", I was trying to piece it
12 together, how I knew, because it was a very early
13 reading book, and if I got a word wrong she would have
14 either slapped my face or banged me with a ruler across
15 the back of the hands.

16 Q. You tell us about --

17 LADY SMITH: Alan, a few moments ago you said the ironic
18 thing was you didn't know there was another life out
19 there. You seemed to be saying to me that when you're
20 that age, when you were a child, you just thought life
21 was like that because your life was like that. Is that
22 really the message you're trying to get across?

23 A. That is 100 per cent -- that is the way I felt. You
24 were cocooned in that environment and I thought that's
25 what life was.

1 LADY SMITH: You would have no memory of an earlier life in
2 a family setting?

3 A. None what ever so.

4 LADY SMITH: So nothing to compare it with?

5 A. No.

6 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

7 MR MacAULAY: You also mention what happened if a nun were
8 to die.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Can you tell me what happened then?

11 A. We used to have to go into the chapel and we used to
12 have to touch their hands. We were made to literally
13 touch -- they were in the coffin like that (indicating)
14 and you had to touch their hands and that in itself
15 haunted me for a lot years, gave me nightmares because
16 of the smell, the embalming smell of somebody that had
17 died in a coffin ... That's why I remember it so well.

18 Q. And over the period that you were there, how often do
19 you think --

20 A. I ... I remember Sister **LGN** I remember
21 Sister **FAF** dying and Sister **LGN**. And I think
22 there was Sister Borrromeo at one point died, I could be
23 wrong on that. About three times I can recollect.

24 Q. I think you do think that this practice may have stopped
25 after Sister **FAF** died.

- 1 A. Yes, yes. She seemed to be -- although as far as
2 I recollect, I don't think she was ever the
3 Mother Superior, but she certainly was high up in the
4 chain of command.
- 5 Q. And did she have an influence then on what others did?
- 6 A. Well, I've said previously, as far as I'm concerned, she
7 had a pivotal influence on Sister [REDACTED] LTX 's behaviour
8 and I think, on reflection back, it was like
9 Sister [REDACTED] LTX was trying to almost -- what's the word
10 I used -- please her, that they were singing from the
11 same page.
- 12 Q. You also mention in connection with Sister [REDACTED] FAF
13 the use of carbolic soap; can you just explain that to
14 me?
- 15 A. I can't remember specifically if I'd done something or
16 said something wrong, but I remember that carbolic
17 soap -- they used to break a piece of it off and shove
18 it in your mouth and you'd froth at the mouth and on
19 most occasions it would make you sick.
- 20 Q. Did that happen to you?
- 21 A. It happened to me quite a few times, both with
22 Sister [REDACTED] LTX and Sister [REDACTED] FAF .
- 23 Q. And did you see that being done to other children?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Let's look at Sister [REDACTED] LTX who was in charge of your

- 1 unit or group until you moved to Sister [REDACTED] LFB .
- 2 What was she like towards you?
- 3 A. I can't remember anything positive, to be honest with
4 you. As I say, in my recollection, there was no
5 nurturing, there was no love, there was no empathy,
6 there was no nothing. I only seem to remember the
7 negatives because there is no positives.
- 8 Q. You begin by telling us, I think, as you mentioned
9 before, that Sister [REDACTED] LTX said on a few occasions
10 that you were in there because your mother and father
11 don't want you.
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And how did that make you feel?
- 14 A. If I'm being honest, I can't remember. I know what
15 I could say now on reflection back, but at that
16 particular time I was just a withdrawn child anyway, so
17 it probably just exacerbated how I felt anyway.
- 18 Q. And what about when then the Brylcreem procedure was
19 being carried out by Sister [REDACTED] LTX ? Did anything
20 happen with --
- 21 A. Yes. It was the same frustration, Sister [REDACTED] FAF or
22 Sister [REDACTED] LTX . I'm not sitting here saying that every
23 time you got Brylcreem on your head that you got
24 a knuckle, or a slap or a punch. Not every occasion.
25 What I will say is that there were occasions where that

- 1 did certainly happen.
- 2 Q. And mealtimes, can you tell me a little bit about
3 mealtimes? Did anything happen in the course of
4 mealtimes?
- 5 A. Mealtimes in Sister [REDACTED] LTX 's -- the meals were
6 delivered from the main kitchen and then they were
7 served up and basically you sat there until you finished
8 your meal.
- 9 Q. And if you didn't finish the meal?
- 10 A. You were force-fed.
- 11 Q. By whom?
- 12 A. Sister [REDACTED] LTX .
- 13 Q. What did that involve?
- 14 A. That involved coming up behind you, slapping your face,
15 sitting by you, slapping your face if you wouldn't eat
16 it, and then ultimately pulling your head back, your
17 hair, and force-feeding you. And it was usually out of
18 anger, it wasn't done -- it was anger more than anything
19 else. Frustration.
- 20 Q. You've touched upon bed-wetting already, Alan, and
21 I just want to ask you a little bit about that. I think
22 you've already said that you were somebody who did wet
23 the bed.
- 24 A. Yes, I did.
- 25 Q. Did that continue throughout your period or was that at

- 1 a particular point in time?
- 2 A. Certainly it was the majority of the time when I was
3 with Sister [REDACTED] LTX . But I can't remember once I moved
4 up and obviously I got a bit older. I don't
5 recollect -- I think I still wet the bed for a bit when
6 I was transferred over to Sister [REDACTED] LFB 's, but not to
7 the extreme that it was in Sister [REDACTED] LTX 's.
- 8 Q. Can you tell me what would happen, insofar as
9 Sister [REDACTED] LTX is concerned, if you wet the bed?
- 10 A. You knew anyway -- I used to have this rubber sheet,
11 orange rubber sheet on it, and you knew what to do
12 anyway, and you had to take your sheets off and you had
13 to lift them up in a bundle and stand outside her --
14 I call it her cell because that's what it was called --
15 and above your head, and that was so everybody knew you
16 had wet the bed. And once you had come out of the cell
17 you would have been taken down, there would have been
18 verbal abuse, physical abuse, and you were thrown into
19 a cold bath.
- 20 Q. By?
- 21 A. By Sister [REDACTED] LTX .
- 22 Q. One thing you say in your statement is that a rage would
23 come across Sister [REDACTED] LTX 's face when she found out
24 you had wet the bed.
- 25 A. Yes. I could never understand why because

1 Nazareth House in itself, you know -- I don't know if it
2 put her out of her way that she actually had to put your
3 sheets in a basket and wheel them to a laundry. That's
4 all she had to do, but she seemed to personalise it as
5 if you were putting her out.

6 Q. You've just said this, I think, in giving that piece of
7 your evidence that you knew what to do.

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. How did you know what to do?

10 A. I can't remember a specific time, whether it was I knew
11 by somebody else telling me this is what you do, or on
12 a particular time she said, "Right, you've wet the bed".
13 Don't ask me how it came about; I just knew if I wet the
14 bed I had to take my sheets off, go out of my room and
15 stand outside her cell with my wet sheets above my head.

16 Q. You're telling us your own experience; what about other
17 children?

18 A. Same. The exact same.

19 Q. You did mention, I think, that you would be, I think,
20 verbal abuse and physically abused. And so far as
21 the physical abuse was concerned --

22 A. Punching, slapping, just cajoling you round the corridor
23 to get to you the bath. Calling you dirty, stupid. It
24 was the norm. It was the norm.

25 Q. Looking to the early period in particular when you were

1 in Sister [REDACTED] LTX 's group, were you a regular
2 bed-wetter?

3 A. Yes. Very much so.

4 Q. So this was a regular occurrence for you?

5 A. Mm. I can't remember ever getting seen by an expert or
6 a doctor to help me. Alls I remember is I had an orange
7 rubber sheet on my bed, but I still wet the bed.

8 Q. Did you answer back on an occasion when you were being
9 called dirty or stupid?

10 A. I honestly don't know. I can't answer that. I think
11 I probably on occasions did, or say something, because
12 I did get carbolic soap, so I would have got it for
13 a reason.

14 Q. From her?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. What impact at the time do you think this process or
17 procedure in connection with bed-wetting had on you?

18 A. It probably did make you feel dirty. It was
19 humiliating, it was ... I've already said that I felt
20 very withdrawn anyway as a child and ... depressing. No
21 way out. It was your life. You just didn't know if
22 it would ever change. It made you worse than you
23 already were. You were very vulnerable anyway in
24 Nazareth House, but it just exacerbated all the emotions
25 that you had already.

1 Q. When you went to bed at night, did you cry when you were
2 in bed?

3 A. I lost count of the amount of times I cried.

4 Q. You're painting a picture of an unhappy --

5 A. Very, very unhappy experience, which has affected my
6 life and had a massive detrimental effect on my life.
7 It's only recently, you know -- well, when the initial
8 inquiry came out back in just 2000 or whenever it was,
9 it was like somebody had opened a Pandora's box and it
10 all came running back in flashbacks, dreams, depression,
11 anxiety, medication had to be gone up again.

12 But at the same time, that's why I'm here today,
13 because as I've said in my statement, there's
14 a resilience in me that, for whatever reason, qualities
15 in me that, all things considered, I've done okay.

16 Q. So far as the bed-wetting is concerned, Alan, you
17 thought it might have continued into the later years,
18 but you don't remember being treated in the same way by
19 Sister [REDACTED] LFB as you had been by Sister [REDACTED] LTX ;
20 is that correct?

21 A. Yes, that's correct.

22 Q. Another sister you mention in your statement is
23 a Sister [REDACTED] LGQ , and that she locked you in a dark
24 cupboard for --

25 A. Yes, I need to correct something there. You said

1 something earlier on about was there other units in that
2 specific side. There was, so my apologies. There was
3 Sister [LTX] on the bottom and Sister [LGQ] on the
4 top --

5 Q. I see.

6 A. -- on the middle floor.

7 Q. Did she deal with a different age group?

8 A. Yes, I think she did.

9 Q. But was it girls she had?

10 A. Yes. I can't remember specific -- why I was in her
11 unit, whether it had been for a day, if something had
12 happened, but I was specifically with her and I remember
13 she put me in some cupboard because I'd done something,
14 but other than that there's not much more I can say.

15 Q. But I think what you say about there being another unit
16 makes sense when you look at the numbers of girls that
17 may have been there during the time you were there
18 because you talk in 16 in Sister [LTX]'s unit
19 and another number --

20 A. I can't be specific, I'm kind of going on memory.

21 Q. Can I then look at the position when you moved to
22 Sister [LFB]'s side when you got that bit older and
23 that was for the boys, of course.

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. What about her behaviour? How did she behave towards

1 you?

2 A. She wouldn't have been as physical as regards to,
3 like ... I can't remember if ... I think for a short
4 time you still got the malt and the thingummy, but
5 I just can't remember her being -- I just remember
6 specifically if you did something wrong she would punish
7 everybody rather than -- and I always felt a sense of
8 guilt or people used to admit that they'd done something
9 when they didn't. She used to make you stand for hours
10 and hours and hours in the bathroom.

11 I've cited an example whereby -- we used to sing in
12 St Mary's Cathedral in Aberdeen and I used to be a
13 soloist and if I got a note wrong or something, when you
14 returned, she had a stick and she would hit you with
15 a stick on your hands for not singing correctly.

16 Q. You mentioned a process whereby she'd make you stand for
17 hours in the bathroom. What was that? Can you tell me
18 about that?

19 A. I can't remember specifically. It was something that
20 she used -- I'll use an example of if a window was
21 broken, not necessarily saying that's what it was, but
22 it was something that she used. She would make
23 everybody stand there literally for hours until somebody
24 admitted to doing what they did.

25 Q. Are you saying that sometimes --

1 A. I remember, yeah, on occasions that people, including
2 myself, I said I've done it, or somebody else would have
3 said they did it.

4 Q. Even --

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Why --

7 A. Because you just couldn't take it any more. You were
8 just standing there.

9 Q. Would this be a number of boys then that --

10 A. Yes, this would be a whole -- the whole unit, I'll call
11 it the unit, just standing there until somebody admitted
12 it. Sometimes it would just take half an hour and the
13 person that had done what they did admitted it.

14 Sometimes you'd be there from, say, 9 or 10 o'clock
15 in the morning right through to 5 or 6 at night.

16 Q. And you mention being hit by the stick and the example
17 of a problem with singing. That had happened in the
18 church, but when you got back, I think --

19 A. Yes. It was a particular time, the priest at the time,
20 LFG had actually clapped from the altar and
21 said, "Can we start again?" and when we got back, we
22 knew what was coming.

23 Q. What sort of stick was this?

24 A. It was a stick about that (indicating).

25 Q. You're --

- 1 A. Like a cane type thing.
- 2 Q. Was this something she used?
- 3 A. Yes, she used it. I have seen her use it on other
4 people, yes.
- 5 Q. Where would she hit you?
- 6 A. She'd hit you on the hands.
- 7 Q. Did you witness, particularly when you were in the
8 girls' section with Sister [REDACTED] LTX, what happened to
9 girls?
- 10 A. Yes. All the time. The girls -- it was more
11 humiliating for them, although you didn't actually
12 witness it per se, because they were taken into the
13 bathroom and they had to remove their underwear if
14 somebody had wet themselves. But that would have
15 been -- they would have talked about it and then they
16 would have got the same. You knew if they had found
17 somebody, they would have been trawled away to probably
18 the cold bath, the same as we were.
- 19 Q. I think I took from you that you may have left
20 Nazareth House when you were about 13 or 14.
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. You do say that before you came to leave that
23 Sister [REDACTED] LDX had come and things began to
24 change.
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Can you give us an understanding as to what the changes
2 were when she appeared?

3 A. It was a more relaxed atmosphere. The fear that you
4 kind of used to live with on a daily basis seemed to
5 dissipate. The structure -- it was more a warm, caring
6 atmosphere. There was just no comparison to the old
7 guard.

8 Q. From what you've said, you benefited from this for maybe
9 a year or two?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Then, moving on to foster care, can you just give me the
12 background to that? How did that come about?

13 A. My recollection is that I must have got a visit from
14 a social worker who put the idea, how would we like to
15 be fostered out, and of course this was probably the
16 most exciting thing for me and my twin brother. And
17 then we got -- I can't remember how many visits we got
18 initially for them to come up and meet us and then we
19 then went and spent weekends with them and then
20 ultimately we moved in with them.

21 Q. I think you thought that was in about 1975.

22 A. Yes, I thought that, yes.

23 Q. Dates are difficult. Can you tell me how long you spent
24 in foster care?

25 A. Well, I thought at the time it was about two years

1 because I joined the army at 16, so I always had it in
2 my mind I was about 14.

3 Q. When you moved to foster care did you move there with
4 your twin brother?

5 A. I did indeed, yes.

6 Q. Had you spent the whole time in Nazareth House Aberdeen
7 with your twin brother?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And had you both been in the same units?

10 A. We were never separated.

11 Q. You've been telling us about your treatment; what about
12 the treatment of him?

13 A. He would have got the same. I've only recently been in
14 contact with him and he has a different idea on life --
15 I use the term loosely. He seems to have a chip on his
16 shoulder about being brought up in care and he probably
17 wouldn't be as open as me about it and he hasn't done as
18 well as I have in life.

19 Q. You do give us quite a bit of detail about your time in
20 foster care. We're not going to look at that today
21 because looking at foster care is something we'll be
22 looking at later on, so we'll have regard to that when
23 we do that. Today we're looking at the Sisters of
24 Nazareth. But we'll come back to what you tell us about
25 your time in foster care.

- 1 A. Okay.
- 2 Q. What I want to ask you now is this: I think as you've
3 just said, after care, you joined the army; is that
4 right?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. I think you tell us you adapted quite well to the strict
7 regime of the army.
- 8 A. Very well. I think I already had been totally
9 institutionalised anyway and it was like going from one
10 institute to another institute and I adapted very, very
11 quickly where others who had been brought up with their
12 biological parents struggled somewhat.
- 13 Q. You say you joined the army in 1977 and you took
14 voluntary redundancy in 1993?
- 15 A. That's correct.
- 16 Q. So you were there for quite a considerable period of
17 time?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And what you say is you thoroughly enjoyed your time
20 in the army?
- 21 A. Thoroughly enjoyed it, yes.
- 22 Q. Then did you go into social work?
- 23 A. Yes. I initially went to a residential home, who dealt
24 with kids beyond parental control or had been
25 physically, emotionally and sexually abused. I went as

- 1 a residential day care worker, and then in 2006 --
2 sorry, 2003, I qualified as a social worker.
- 3 Q. You've done a number of things since then and in
4 particular, without looking at the details, you've
5 worked with children with special needs?
- 6 A. That's what I currently do now, for the last six years.
- 7 Q. So far as your twin brother is concerned, as it
8 happened, you both went into the army but into different
9 parts of the army.
- 10 A. When we initially applied to join the army, we had to do
11 a test and academically the perception was that I was
12 more academic than my twin brother and he was deemed to
13 be a bit slower than myself. He didn't get enough
14 points, so we had to separate and he had to join the
15 infantry and I went to a [REDACTED] which
16 you had to have higher marks for.
- 17 Q. Did that mean that you lost sight of each other for
18 a period of time?
- 19 A. Yes. Not initially, but then eventually as time went
20 on, yes, we did lose contact.
- 21 Q. But you've come together in more recent times?
- 22 A. More recently, yes.
- 23 Q. Can you just summarise, if you can, Alan, what you see
24 the impact of the life -- of your time in Nazareth House
25 has had on your life?

1 A. Is it too early to read this (indicating)? Because it
2 really -- it's all written there what I feel.

3 Q. Can I leave that aside and come to that? Because I know
4 you want to give a statement at the end.

5 But can I ask you this then instead: have you ever
6 reported the treatment that you received in
7 Nazareth House to anyone?


8 A. No. When the initial inquiry came out in 2000 or 2003,
9 I can't remember, I was going through social work at the
10 time and I decided that it was in my best interests at
11 that particular time that I wasn't ready to report
12 anything.

13 Q. 

14
15 A. 

16 Q. And you didn't take part in any --

17 A. No, I didn't, not at all.

18 Q. Before you read your statement to the inquiry, Alan, can
19 I just put this to you, because the inquiry has been
20 able to speak to Sister  LTX, who you've mentioned
21 in your evidence, and essentially she has denied, for
22 example, saying to you that your mother and father
23 didn't want you. She says she didn't hit you with her
24 knuckles, she didn't have any episodes of force-feeding
25 or slapping, she never punished any child for

1 bed-wetting, and never used carbolic soap, and never hit
2 girls on the head with a brush, for example, just to
3 give another example. What do you say to these denials?

4 A. I totally refute everything she's saying. I came here
5 voluntarily to give my statement and the reason
6 I decided to do it was because people need to know that
7 things did go on. Whether Nazareth House are proud of
8 the fact or ashamed of the fact, the reality of the
9 situation is that these things did happen. I'm not
10 sitting here just for whatever reason. I feel quite
11 passionate about it. Unfortunately, there are some
12 people that came up in the care system and don't have --
13 their lives haven't gone maybe as well as mine has,
14 albeit I have suffered from mental health issues and
15 depression.

16 I just feel that I just needed to be heard, for
17 somebody to sit up and hear what I have to say, because
18 the fact is it did go on. You can have a million people
19 queueing up and saying, or jumping on the bandwagon,
20 they're only in it for this or they're only in it for
21 that. No, they're not. I'm here today because I want
22 somebody in authority to listen to what happened because
23 it did happen, no matter what the order says, the
24 Catholic Church says. It happened and they need to
25 accept responsibility, just as Aberdeen City Council

1 Social Work Department need to accept responsibility.

2 These things happened and they failed in their duty
3 of care as regards vulnerable children that were brought
4 up in Nazareth House in Aberdeen and elsewhere. It's
5 a sad state of affairs that we're coming again to
6 another inquiry, albeit all for the right reasons.

7 I'm proud and I'm glad I'm here because it went on,
8 no matter what they say. It went on and the press or
9 whoever are trying to -- you know, it'll make stories
10 out of everything. I was there, I went through it, and
11 it still affected my life, but I'm here because today is
12 closure for me.

13 Q. Very well, Alan. Once you're ready, if you don't mind,
14 if you would like to read out what you prepared for the
15 inquiry.

16 A. "I would like to close by saying thank you to Lady Smith
17 and Mr MacAulay for giving me the opportunity to hear my
18 evidence today and the professionalism that has been
19 demonstrated throughout this process.

20 "I would like to thank [REDACTED] from the witness
21 support team for her patience, support and empathy
22 throughout this process, and to the witness support team
23 that travelled to [REDACTED] to take my statement.

24 "The definition of the word 'nurture' is 'to care
25 for and protect, encourage and support'. But what

1 happens if nurturing doesn't take place or there is no
2 dignity or respect for a child? There have been many
3 studies and much research carried out on this subject
4 and what is clear abundantly is the negative impact on
5 children it has had and the role it plays in their
6 future due to not receiving the nurturing they so richly
7 deserve in their formative years.

8 "They are more likely to suffer from low
9 self-esteem, no sense of belonging, have attachment
10 issues, struggle with relationships and anxiety, and are
11 more than likely to go on to have mental health issues.
12 I'm standing here today aged 56 years of age and I can
13 personally identify with every one of these traits.

14 "There are many lessons to be learned from placing
15 vulnerable children into the care system. Back then
16 there was most definitely institutionalised systematic
17 abuse around with little experience and a lack of
18 training to manage the most vulnerable children who
19 experienced trauma and a sense of loss and despair being
20 placed in residential care.

21 "The Sisters of Nazareth as an organisation need to
22 accept the wrongdoings of the past and accept that
23 mistakes were made and, as a consequence of those
24 mistakes, that it had a massive impact growing up in
25 Nazareth House Aberdeen, and we experienced both

1 physical and emotional abuse, and the hurt and pain and
2 psychological damage both then and now.

3 Ironically, the opening statement or ethos of
4 Nazareth House in Hammersmith, the headquarters in
5 London of the order, reads as follows:

6 "'To provide a peaceful and caring atmosphere, to
7 ensure that our residents live their lives to their full
8 potential, with a comfortable and supportive community.
9 Our caring philosophy is based on dignity, competence
10 and compassion, which responds to human need overseen by
11 the Sisters of Nazareth.' .

12 "It's very sad that those words and philosophy were
13 not around when I was growing up in Nazareth House in
14 Aberdeen in the 60s and 70s, but hopefully lessons will
15 be learned.

16 "Aberdeen City Council Social Work Department also
17 need to look at the past and accept some level of
18 responsibility and failings on their part as they had
19 a duty of care to those that they placed in care.

20 "As a society we have a massive responsibility to
21 ensure that any child in the future is provided with
22 a warm, nurturing, safe environment. To give them the
23 opportunity and the right to self-determination and
24 choice in their own futures without living in fear.

25 "My personal hope is that lessons will be learned

1 from this process and this inquiry and that safeguards
2 will always be in place to keep safe and protect the
3 most vulnerable children in society that are placed
4 within the care system and that there is accountability
5 at every level and that we, as a society, never have to
6 repeat history and have future inquiries in years to
7 come.

8 "I am very proud of who I am today and the
9 contribution I have made to society, including 17 years
10 serving in the British Army and later qualifying as
11 a social worker working with children that have been
12 physically, emotionally or sexually abused. I achieved
13 all this considering my traumatic past and the hurt and
14 pain I have experienced having been brought up in
15 Nazareth House Aberdeen.

16 "I stand here today not as a victim but as
17 a survivor of systematic abuse in the Scottish care
18 system in the 60s and 70s, which most definitely took
19 place. Hopefully, I am a voice for other survivors who
20 for whatever reason cannot be here today."

21 Thank you.

22 MR MacAULAY: Thank you, Alan, for that and for coming today
23 to give your evidence to the inquiry. I have no further
24 questions for you.

25 I think I've put to you all the questions that have

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I'm sure

you will remember that, but I make no apologies for reminding you.

We'll stop now for the morning break and the next witness will be ready by 11.40, 11.45, something like that?

MR MacAULAY: Certainly 11.40, yes.
(11.20 am).

(A short break)

(11.44 am)

LADY SMITH: Yes, Mr MacAulay.

MR MacAULAY: My Lady, the next witness is also an applicant and she wants to remain anonymous and to use the name "Jill" in giving her evidence.

LADY SMITH: Thank you.

"JILL" (sworn)

LADY SMITH: Do sit down and make yourself comfortable.

That microphone is there to help you and help us so that you don't have to make too much effort to speak and we'll be able to hear you clearly, so do make sure you get into the right position to speak into it.

Mr MacAulay will explain what he wants you to do with the red file and I'll now ask Mr MacAulay to start his questions.

1 Questions from MR MacAULAY

2 MR MacAULAY: Good morning, Jill.

3 The first thing I want to ask you about is, in order
4 to get a time frame, not the date of your birth, but the
5 year of your birth. Am I right in saying that you were
6 born in 1957?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. The first thing I want to do is to ask you to look at
9 your statement, which is in the red folder, and we'll
10 give a number for the benefit of the transcript:
11 WIT.001.001.3738.

12 Could you turn to the last page of the statement,
13 the very last page? Can you confirm for me that
14 you have signed the statement?

15 A. Yes, that's my signature.

16 Q. And do you also tell us in the last paragraph that:

17 "I have no objection to my witness statement being
18 published as part of the evidence to the inquiry"?

19 A. Yes, that's correct.

20 Q. Do you also go on to say in the last paragraph:

21 "I believe the facts stated in this witness
22 statement are true"?

23 A. Mm-hm.

24 Q. Is that right?

25 A. Yes, that's all correct.

1 Q. Can I say this to you at the beginning, that I'll be
2 asking you questions and if there are things that you
3 remember that you hadn't put in the statement, then
4 please feel free to tell us about that. The other side
5 of that coin is, if I ask you a question, let's say
6 about a date, and just can't remember, just say you
7 can't remember. Do you understand that?

8 A. Okay, yes.

9 Q. You begin in your statement, Jill, by telling us some
10 information about your life before you went into care.
11 Just jumping ahead a little bit, you went into care,
12 first of all, in Nazareth House in Cardonald, is that
13 right --

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. -- so far as we're concerned, and then later on to
16 Nazareth House in Aberdeen?

17 A. After Cardonald, I went to another children's home --

18 Q. You did, but --

19 A. -- and then moved on.

20 Q. I'm going to look briefly at that, but you ended up in
21 Aberdeen?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. You tell us at the beginning of your statement that you
24 had a number of siblings; is that correct?

25 A. Yes, five.

- 1 Q. And you had, in particular, an older brother?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. You had two younger brothers?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And you had two younger sisters?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. What you tell us over the next number of paragraphs is
8 the background to you being taken into care and, in
9 particular, that your family background was relatively
10 unhappy.
- 11 A. Yes, very.
- 12 Q. That was the background to you ultimately being taken
13 into care in Nazareth House at Cardonald?
- 14 A. Uh-huh.
- 15 Q. One thing you do tell us in paragraph 25, if I can jump
16 ahead to there, is that your younger sister was born in
17 [REDACTED] 1965; is that right?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. So she was quite a bit younger than you, about six or
20 seven years younger than you?
- 21 A. Eight years and two months younger.
- 22 Q. You're right. My arithmetic has let me down.
- 23 You also go on to tell us in the next paragraph that
24 shortly after your sister's birth, your mother left you;
25 is that right?

1 A. Yes, she did.

2 Q. And you never saw her again?

3 A. No.

4 Q. I think you tell us on paragraph 29 that by
5 November 1965, both your parents had gone.

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. It may be -- it's entirely up to you -- you find it
8 easier to look at the screen rather than looking at your
9 statement, because it'll go on to the screen in front of
10 you and you might find it easier. That's the background
11 to you being taken into care.

12 So far as that is concerned, in relation to dates,
13 when do you say that you were taken into Nazareth House
14 Cardonald, first of all? What date would you place on
15 that?

16 A. I would have said round about the [REDACTED] of 1965.

17 Q. So at that time then your sister who was born in [REDACTED] --

18 A. [REDACTED].

19 Q. -- would be but a baby?

20 A. Yes, I was still holding her at that time.

21 Q. Was she taken into care with you?

22 A. No. When the cars came to take us away from the house,
23 the three boys went into one car, three girls went into
24 another, and then we were taken to the same place, and
25 from there we were separated, each went -- I don't know

1 where yet.

2 Q. But do I take it from that answer that it was only you

3 then that was taken to Nazareth House?

4 A. To Cardonald, yes.

5 Q. And your baby sister was taken somewhere else?

6 A. Yes. As were the rest of them -- all different places.

7 Q. At that time when that happened, I think you're saying

8 that your baby sister was a very small baby of about,

9 what, 2 or 3 months old; is that right?

10 A. She would have just been over the 3 months.

11 Q. And you have a clear recollection of that being her age?

12 A. Mm-hm.

13 Q. Is that correct?

14 A. Yes, because there were three under five.

15 Q. So far as the Nazareth House records are concerned, the

16 suggestion there is that you were admitted to Cardonald

17 in, first of all, [REDACTED] 1966, which is a year out

18 from what you're telling me.

19 A. No.

20 Q. So your position is it was some time in the latter part

21 of 1965?

22 A. Definitely 65, it couldn't have been 66.

23 Q. You left -- if it was 66, in [REDACTED] 66, according to

24 the records you left in [REDACTED] 66 as well, so the

25 suggestion there is you were only there for a week, but

1 your position is you were there for over a year?

2 A. Yes, uh-huh.

3 Q. Is that correct?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. When you went to Nazareth House Cardonald, were you

6 taken there by a particular children's officer or social

7 worker?

8 A. Yes, Miss Richmond.

9 Q. And do you have dealings with Miss Richmond over the

10 years?

11 A. Yes, all the time I was in care in Nazareth House.

12 Q. When you first went to Nazareth House, do you have

13 a recollection of your first day there, your first time

14 there?

15 A. In Cardonald?

16 Q. Yes, let's deal with Cardonald first of all and just

17 take it chronologically.

18 A. Yes. Cardonald, that was -- taken there by

19 Miss Richmond on my own. I was asking why I was on my

20 own. She told me more or less to mind my own business,

21 keep quiet, behave. When we got into Cardonald, by this

22 time I'm crying, screaming, wanting to know where the

23 rest of them are, and she told me to mind my own

24 business.

25 Then, when we got to Cardonald, inside the actual

1 house and the nuns greeted you at the door, they were
2 all nicey-nice towards Miss Richmond and me too, but as
3 soon as she went, the abuse started.

4 Q. What started?

5 A. Hitting.

6 Q. But at the time, when Miss Richmond had left, what
7 happened in connection with any of the nuns at that
8 time?

9 A. After she'd gone, they totally changed, their attitude
10 changed, and they became like -- pulling, pushing,
11 taking you to get to your dormitory. I had to go to bed
12 that particular night.

13 Q. Were there particular nuns that you met at that first
14 time that you can remember?

15 A. In the Cardonald one it was Sister [REDACTED] LHA , mm-hm.
16 Sister [REDACTED] LHA .

17 Q. Was she the sister you dealt with in the main?

18 A. There was Sister [REDACTED] LHA and Sister [REDACTED] LDX ,
19 yes.

20 Q. I think you said you were taken to the dormitory;
21 is that right?

22 A. The dormitory.

23 Q. Who took you to the dormitory?

24 A. Sister [REDACTED] LHA .

25 Q. Did you meet with other children then when you were

1 in the dormitory?

2 A. They were actually in bed and I thought they were all

3 sleeping, but they weren't.

4 Q. Did you speak with the children at that time?

5 A. Yes, well, I was crying and I'd got hit, but they'd said

6 that was a light one, you know.

7 Q. You got hit by whom?

8 A. Sister LHA .

9 Q. Why did she hit you?

10 A. I don't know -- because I'd been crying.

11 Q. And did any of the other people in the dormitory say

12 anything to you?

13 A. Well, I thought they were all sleeping, but when

14 Sister LHA went away, a few started speaking and

15 said, "That's nothing".

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. "That's nothing."

18 Q. Did they tell you anything about the place itself?

19 A. Yes. They said it was really bad, wait till morning.

20 Q. So far as the morning was concerned then, just looking

21 at that first morning that you were there, can you

22 remember what time you had to get up at?

23 A. About 5.30, 6 o'clock, to go to Mass.

24 Q. Did you do that?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Can I just -- assuming my arithmetic works this time,
2 you're about 8 years of age at this time; is that right?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. After Mass then, did you have to go to breakfast?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And did anything happen on that first day at breakfast?

7 A. Yes. I was hit that day because -- when we got to the
8 dining room after being to Mass, I was told I was in
9 a real state, meaning my hair was like standing on end
10 and I'd made no effort. I wasn't told to do anything
11 like go into the bathroom and get washed or anything
12 like that. I just had to put the clothes on that were
13 on the bed, that were left there by the nuns. They
14 didn't fit.

15 After the Mass, I was taken into the dining room,
16 given a chair to sit at, and the breakfast was already
17 out. It was just -- it was a plate with like a muffin
18 and it had congealed fat round it. I made a remark
19 like, "That's what my gran makes chips with", so I got
20 a slap on the ear for that.

21 Q. From whom?

22 A. Sister LHA.

23 Q. What about eating the food?

24 A. She gave me something to eat and she said, "I'll let you
25 off of that one for now".

- 1 Q. Then I think you tell us in your statement that after
2 breakfast, children went off to school; is that correct?
- 3 A. Yes. I didn't go to school.
- 4 Q. What did you do then that particular day?
- 5 A. I was just kept in the house and had to meet all various
6 people. There were actual girls there -- I don't know
7 why they were off school, they didn't say why they were
8 off school.
- 9 Q. But were you at a point in time told to take your
10 clothes off so you could be examined?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And were you examined by one of the nuns?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Did anything happen in the course of that examination?
- 15 A. Yeah, you were hit all the way through it.
- 16 Q. Why was that?
- 17 A. I didn't want them undressing me. I said that I didn't
18 want my clothes to be taken off. And they said,
19 "They're coming off ", so then more hitting and then
20 they took the clothes off themselves and just left me.
- 21 Q. Who was doing the hitting on this occasion?
- 22 A. That was Sister LHA.
- 23 Q. Can I ask you this, just stepping back a bit: once you
24 got to know the place, was there a particular nun that
25 was in charge of you?

1 A. In Cardonald?

2 Q. Yes.

3 A. Sister LHA and Sister LDX were the main
4 ones for the girls.

5 Q. Do you mean by that all the girls then that were there
6 or was there some sort of split by way of age groups?

7 A. They were in age groups. There was babies. The
8 babies -- I don't know which part of the house the
9 babies would have been in. I didn't have anything to do
10 with the babies.

11 Q. But then if we look at your own position and the group,
12 any group you were in, how many --

13 A. How many children?

14 Q. Yes.

15 A. Maybe about 40.

16 Q. And girls or -- just all girls?

17 A. Just all girls.

18 Q. But were there boys in Cardonald at that time?

19 A. Not that I seen.

20 Q. I want to put this on the screen for you. It's a list
21 of numbers that have been provided to us by the order.
22 It's NAZ.001.001.0265.

23 If we look at the way this is set out, towards the
24 top you'll see reference Aberdeen, Kilmarnock, Glasgow.
25 If you go down -- Glasgow is Cardonald, of course. If

1 you go down the list to 1965/1966, can you see in
2 1965/1966 the suggestion here is that there was possibly
3 50 or 61 girls in the home at that time. Do you see
4 that middle column?

5 A. Mm-hm, yes.

6 Q. There also appear to have been some boys, 14 or 19, and
7 there's also reference to quite a number of babies.
8 Do you see that?

9 A. Mm-hm, yes.

10 Q. I think you said you didn't have anything to do with the
11 babies. Did you see boys there when you were there?

12 A. No, not at the Cardonald one, no.

13 Q. But looking to these numbers then, if there's, let's
14 say, 61 or 52, depending on what year you look at, does
15 that broadly fit in with your own recollection as to the
16 number of girls?

17 A. The amount, yes.

18 Q. And so far as the girls were concerned, were these girls
19 of different ages then?

20 A. Yes, from really young to 14, 15.

21 Q. So quite a wide range of --

22 A. Yes, there was a good gap.

23 Q. In relation to where you slept, what were the sleeping
24 arrangements?

25 A. It wasn't any different. What happened was the younger

- 1 ones would go to bed earlier, then the next age would
2 go.
- 3 Q. But were the younger ones kept in the same dormitory or
4 was there some -- what was the set-up, can you remember?
- 5 A. There was only two dormitories on the floor that I was
6 in in Cardonald, and I was on the top floor in
7 Cardonald.
- 8 Q. In your dormitory were there girls of different ages?
- 9 A. All different ages, yes.
- 10 Q. And then if the two dormitories have about 50 girls, so
11 you're talking about over 20 in each dormitory; is that
12 your recollection?
- 13 A. Yes, 20, 30.
- 14 Q. If I ask you one or two questions about the routine.
15 I think you tell us that you went to the Holy Family
16 primary school in Cardonald; is that correct?
- 17 A. Yes. I think that was the name of that one.
- 18 Q. Because you leave when you're still at primary school
19 age, that would have been the only school you'd have
20 gone to when you were at Cardonald?
- 21 A. Yes, mm-hm.
- 22 Q. Was the school quite close to the home?
- 23 A. Yes. We walked down there with the nuns.
- 24 Q. So they took you to the school?
- 25 A. Took you to the school. It was quite a short walk. It

- 1 wasn't a long walk.
- 2 Q. Did you have chores to do in Cardonald?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Can you just give us some idea of the sort of things you
- 5 had to do?
- 6 A. All the polishing of the floors -- the downstairs had to
- 7 be kept immaculate, so then you were given -- one girl
- 8 would be put on the polisher, two girls would put on
- 9 polish and the rest would have the rags on their feet,
- 10 and they would use that to rub in the polish, and then
- 11 more would come about and they would do the buffing up
- 12 of it.
- 13 Q. So that was something you yourself did then, was it, you
- 14 did that?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Any other jobs you had to do?
- 17 A. Yes. We had to do kitchen duties, bathroom duties,
- 18 clean out the toilets, yes.
- 19 Q. Can you tell me if there were other cleaners there? By
- 20 that I mean lay staff who would do that sort of work.
- 21 A. Yes, there was staff that came in from the outside, but
- 22 I can't really say they did anything in front of the
- 23 children. The children did the work.
- 24 Q. Okay. What about the nuns then?
- 25 A. I never saw a nun lift a finger to do any kind of work

1 at all.

2 Q. Are you able to give me any sense of how many nuns were
3 in the home when you were there?

4 A. In Cardonald?

5 Q. Yes.

6 A. There was more in Cardonald. Maybe about 24, 26 nuns,
7 maybe, in Cardonald.

8 Q. You've mentioned Sister [REDACTED] LHA in particular as being
9 involved with you. How many would have been involved
10 with the girls altogether?

11 A. About three.

12 Q. Can you remember the names of the others? You mentioned
13 Sister [REDACTED] LDX. Was she one of them?

14 A. She was one, [REDACTED] LDX, [REDACTED] LHA. Lots of them had
15 names that were all pretty much sounding the same.

16 Q. You mention a Sister Anthony in your statement; is that
17 a name you remember?

18 A. Yes, mm-hm.

19 Q. You also say in your statement, Jill, that you did have
20 visits from Miss Richmond.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. I think you didn't have any visits from any family
23 members during that time.

24 A. No. Later on in life, when I did meet my gran --

25 Q. That was later on, of course.

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. But during your time at Cardonald?
- 3 A. No one apart from Miss Richmond.
- 4 Q. How regularly did she visit you at Cardonald?
- 5 A. She came at that time about twice a year because not
6 only did she have me to see, she had other people to
7 see. She'd see you one at a time or in a family group
8 if you were part of a family.
- 9 Q. Can you then give me an understanding of what the
10 arrangements were for such a visit? Would there be
11 a particular part in the building that you would meet
12 Miss Richmond?
- 13 A. Yes. She was kept in the posh bit and it was the tea
14 and the sandwiches. If she came at lunchtime, she got
15 a lunch. Then if it wasn't that time she came, if she
16 came like after school hours, there'd be sandwiches laid
17 out and we were told -- well, I was told to help myself
18 at Cardonald, but I said I wasn't allowed.
- 19 Q. Who told you to help yourself?
- 20 A. The nuns would say to help yourself. They would act
21 different.
- 22 Q. So far as Miss Richmond was concerned then, did you tell
23 her anything about how things were in Cardonald?
- 24 A. Yes. I was quite vocal to her. I said to her what was
25 going on, what had gone on, about the beatings, and she

- 1 told the nuns, so ...
- 2 Q. And what happened then?
- 3 A. I didn't tell her again after that.
- 4 Q. Why?
- 5 A. I got a beating off the nuns for that.
- 6 Q. Was there any particular nun that was involved in that?
- 7 A. Again, Sister [REDACTED] LHA . I had Miss Richmond throughout
- 8 all my time in care.
- 9 Q. I think during your time at Cardonald then, and I think
- 10 from what you've been telling us, you'd be there for
- 11 about a year or so, your birthday would have come up;
- 12 is that right?
- 13 A. Mm-hm.
- 14 Q. Was your birthday celebrated?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. Did you know when your birthday was?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. I take it there came a point in time when you did know
- 19 when your birthday was? Was that later?
- 20 A. When people at school were having their birthday and the
- 21 class had to sing happy birthday, we would do that, and
- 22 then you would ask when your birthday was.
- 23 Q. Was that at the school at Cardonald?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. So you would know to say when your birthday was then?

1 A. Yes, but it was ignored. No one sang happy birthday to
2 the Nazareth children, no.

3 Q. Can I just then ask you a little bit about how you were
4 treated at Cardonald. You do tell us about that from
5 paragraphs 53 onwards in your statement. How were you
6 treated when you were in Cardonald?

7 A. Just like a punchbag really, you were there for their
8 entertainment, the put-downs, the beatings. You
9 actually got used to the beatings, but things like -- if
10 you wanted a magazine you were denied that, you were
11 denied books -- and then there was one particular time
12 the nun got a book out and she said for me to start
13 reading this book. It was a book along the lines of
14 maybe Charles Dickens or maybe Jane Austen, words that
15 I could not pronounce. I said that I couldn't --
16 I wasn't able to read this book. But before that, she
17 said that I was a monkey, "The monkey will read the
18 book". I didn't know she was referring to me.

19 Q. And I think --

20 A. And I had said, "I'm not a monkey". But ...

21 Q. What nun was that?

22 A. [REDACTED] LHA . Sister [REDACTED] LHA .

23 Q. Insofar as what you refer to as beatings is concerned,
24 did the nuns use anything when you were being beaten?

25 A. Yes. They had the belts, their rosaries, they had

1 little whips, and they had their fists. They would just
2 use a mixture of the whole lot.

3 Q. Where would they strike you then?

4 A. You didn't have to do anything, you could be walking
5 past them and you would get a punch to the side of the
6 head, you could get kicked, you could get flicked with
7 the whip or just kicked.

8 Q. Who did this?

9 A. Any nun could do that. Any nun. Some of the nuns that
10 I was actually abused by in there, I didn't even know
11 their names.

12 Q. How often did this sort of behaviour happen?

13 A. In Cardonald it was a weekly basis anyway, two, three
14 times a week in Cardonald.

15 Q. Were you misbehaving or doing something that would cause
16 this sort of treatment to be given to you?

17 A. No, because in Cardonald I was really frightened in
18 there, I was really frightened because I was on my own
19 and I had no one to turn to, like even ... I didn't
20 have a relationship of any kind with my mother, father
21 or gran. At least if they were there, they were there,
22 you know. There was someone there. You didn't feel as
23 if you were on your own and you could get yourself out
24 of ...

25 Q. You're telling us about your own experience, Jill. What

1 about other children? Did you see how other children
2 were treated?

3 A. Yeah, you would watch children being hit and you just
4 knew it was wrong.

5 Q. One thing you do say in your statement is that there
6 were some children who got special treatment?

7 A. Oh yeah. Yes.

8 Q. Can you explain that to me?

9 A. Yeah, they got sweets, they got nice clothes, they got
10 taken out, and unbeknown to me at that time we were
11 allowed a clothing allowance twice a year, which I never
12 got in all the time that I was in care and I never once
13 got taken out for new clothes or shoes or anything like
14 that. I was all hand-me-downs, most of us were
15 hand-me-downs, but if you were a pet, you were dressed
16 to the nines in the best of clothes.

17 Q. One thing you tell us in your statement -- this is at
18 paragraph 57, and you'll see it on the screen --
19 is that:

20 "The nuns would also drag kids out of their beds at
21 night --"

22 A. Mm-hm.

23 Q. "-- and hit them with a belt or with their hands. They
24 also pulled the kids' hair."

25 Can you just explain that to me? Why was that done?

- 1 A. Because they maybe wet the bed. They were always
2 checking the beds for bed-wetters.
- 3 Q. Did you wet the bed?
- 4 A. No. I was the only one in my family, of the girls, that
5 didn't wet the bed.
- 6 Q. And what happened to the children that did wet the bed
7 so far as you could see?
- 8 A. They were taken into the cold baths, you got a cold
9 bath. Before that happened, like, they were degraded,
10 they were, like, put to the floor with sheets put on top
11 of them, you know, their soaking sheets put on top of
12 them. They'd be crying out. They might have only been
13 round about 4, 5, 6. They were crying, screaming. Some
14 were on the floor, some were standing, some were
15 shaking, screaming, like about the cold bath, they
16 didn't want to go in there, shouting, "Sorry, sister,
17 sorry, I won't do it again, I won't do it again". But
18 no matter how much they pleaded, it was done.
- 19 Q. And how often did this happen?
- 20 A. Every night, the bed-wetting, the checking, every night.
- 21 Q. You talk about bullying as well, I think, amongst the
22 children themselves. Did much bullying go on with the
23 children?
- 24 A. Yeah, the bigger ones picked on the smaller ones. We
25 just had to take that as well.

1 Q. And did what?

2 A. They'd hit out.

3 Q. What about the sisters? Were they aware of this, so far
4 as you know?

5 A. The nuns would be in their room, their recreation room.
6 They knew it was going on. They did come in and, yeah,
7 they would catch the older ones doing it, but that was
8 okay. The older ones were really copying what the nuns
9 did to us and did to them.

10 Q. Did you ever run away when you were at Cardonald?

11 A. No, not at Cardonald, no.

12 Q. I think you tell us in your statement that when you met
13 with Miss Richmond that you would ask about your
14 siblings; is that correct? Did you ever get any
15 information from her?

16 A. No, I was told to mind my own business, and really
17 becoming quite annoying, asking all the time where they
18 were. I was to stop asking.

19 Q. You were, as you indicated a little while ago, Jill,
20 moved from Nazareth House to another home; is that
21 right?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And that was Castlemilk children's home in Glasgow.
24 Certainly according to the records you left
25 Nazareth House Cardonald in about [REDACTED] 1966.

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Would that be about right?
- 3 A. Yes, mm-hm.
- 4 Q. When you got to Castlemilk children's home, did you meet
5 one of your siblings when you got there? That was one
6 of your brothers?
- 7 A. Yes, I was over the moon.
- 8 Q. I'm sorry?
- 9 A. I was over the moon, crying and everything. It was too
10 good to be true.
- 11 Q. I think you say you were in Castlemilk for a number of
12 months; is that right?
- 13 A. Yes, about seven, eight months.
- 14 Q. And something happened to the home, there was
15 a landslide or some problem?
- 16 A. Yes. When I first went there, it was like the house --
17 although it was a big house and had been a big house at
18 one time, when I went it was -- part of it was
19 completely closed down anyway. So it looked as if you
20 were just in a house. That was normal, that was
21 a normal life.
- 22 Q. But you were moved from there to Aberdeen?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. When you went to Aberdeen, did you go there with any of
25 your siblings?

1 A. Yes. All of them. Miss Richmond -- there was no
2 warning again, really, as to where we were -- this was
3 going to happen. A van had turned up, Miss Richmond
4 and -- when they'd opened the van, there was my
5 siblings, except my older brother.

6 Q. So that would mean yourself, two younger brothers and
7 two younger sisters?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Five of you altogether. Were the five of you taken to
10 Nazareth House in that van?

11 A. No, we were taken to the train station.

12 Q. Okay.

13 According to the records kept by the Sisters of
14 Nazareth, you were admitted to Nazareth House in
15 Aberdeen on [REDACTED] 1967; would that be about
16 correct?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. So you were aged about 10 then?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Just to move on, according to the records you left on
21 [REDACTED] 1971 when you were aged about 14; is that
22 about correct?

23 A. Yes, I was going on to 14 and a half.

24 Q. When you got to Aberdeen then, I think you tell us that
25 you were picked up in a van; is that right?

- 1 A. Yes, **LDS** .
- 2 Q. **LDS** was the driver of the van?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. At that time did you meet two nuns, Sister **FAF**
- 5 and Sister **LTX** ?
- 6 A. Yes. Those were the first two nuns that we ever met.
- 7 Richmond and ourselves were picked up by **LDS** and then
- 8 we were met at Nazareth House by **LTX** and
- 9 **FAF** .
- 10 Q. I think what you tell us in your statement at
- 11 paragraph 76 is that when you got to Nazareth House, you
- 12 had tea in what's called the blue parlour.
- 13 A. The blue parlour.
- 14 Q. Were you then taken from there to one of the floors
- 15 in the building?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Can you just tell me about that? Who took you there?
- 18 A. Sister **LTX** and Sister **FAF** after
- 19 Miss Richmond had left.
- 20 Q. Perhaps I can put a photograph to you, Jill, just to see
- 21 if this helps with seeing where you went. If you look
- 22 at NAZ.001.001.0254 -- it'll come on the screen for you.
- 23 If we move down, first of all, I think there we're
- 24 getting a view of the front of the building; is that
- 25 correct?

1 A. Yes. I wasn't in that part.

2 Q. The other photograph we have at the top, does that help
3 you at all as to ... It's not very clear, is it?

4 LADY SMITH: Is that photograph taken from the back,
5 Mr MacAulay, the back of the building that we see on the
6 lower photograph?

7 MR MacAULAY: I think it is, but it's not too clear.

8 LADY SMITH: It looks as though it might be.

9 A. Yes. I recognise it now, yes. This back picture on the
10 second floor --

11 LADY SMITH: What you could do for us, Jill, is stand up.
12 The photograph's also on the screen behind you. If you
13 were able to help us, by reference to that photograph,
14 what it is you remember about it.

15 A. This is the opposite, I think this is the boys ... They
16 were similar on both sides.

17 MR MacAULAY: There was something similar on the right-hand
18 side to that?

19 A. The right hand for the girls, left hand for the boys.

20 LADY SMITH: Would you like to just have a look again at the
21 photograph that's on the lower part of that sheet? We
22 understand that's the front of the building -- and the
23 brown door looks as though it would be the main door in.

24 A. That's right. Then over that side --

25 LADY SMITH: So that's to the left of the brown door as we

1 look at it.

2 A. This part here was old people (indicating). Round

3 there, in the side door for the boys, and the boys were

4 here (indicating).

5 MR MacAULAY: You're pointing to the second from the top,

6 yes --

7 A. Yes. Here (indicating) and here (indicating).

8 Q. -- and in the middle as well?

9 A. Not so much into here because they had old people. So

10 the boys' bedrooms went further back, on the left-hand

11 side, going up the way. And here (indicating).

12 Q. You're pointing to the right.

13 A. Yes, that was the nuns' quarters.

14 Q. That's the lower level.

15 A. This is the red and the blue parlour (indicating).

16 Q. You're pointing to the windows to the right of the door,

17 next to the statue.

18 A. So that's the blue parlour (indicating). Then you come

19 into the nuns, the nuns' bedrooms.

20 Q. That's on the first floor on the right-hand side.

21 A. Yes. Mm-hm. That's the attics (indicating). And

22 these ... There was a sewing room.

23 Q. You're pointing to the window above the door?

24 A. Uh-huh, the sewing room. On the left was the red

25 parlour.

- 1 Q. Again, that's directly to the left of the door?
- 2 A. Yes. And old people. So many windows ... And then
- 3 there may have been some boys up here (indicating).
- 4 Q. The second from top?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. But I think what you're saying is that to the back, if
- 7 you like, there were parts of the building that would
- 8 accommodate on one side the boys and on the other side
- 9 the girls?
- 10 A. Yes. So the girls were right over there (indicating),
- 11 boys right over there (indicating).
- 12 Q. And you're pointing to the right and to the left?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 LADY SMITH: Thank you, that's very helpful, Jill.
- 15 MR MacAULAY: Looking to that first day, you tell us,
- 16 I think, you were taken to the second floor and at that
- 17 point in time you were with Sister [REDACTED] LTX ; is that
- 18 correct?
- 19 A. [REDACTED] LTX and [REDACTED] FAF , yes.
- 20 Q. And what happened then at that point in time?
- 21 A. Well, away went the nice act again, like they were quite
- 22 nice -- [REDACTED] FAF was quite nice while Miss Richmond
- 23 was there, and then it was a case of Miss Richmond had
- 24 said, "Well, I'd better get making tracks", something
- 25 along those lines, and we just started to walk through

1 the corridors to get to the girls' bit. That took about
2 five minutes or so, maybe a bit longer. It was quite
3 a walk from that front door to the actual girls' part.
4 We went up to the second floor and it started really
5 quite severely, like hitting, punching, hitting you in
6 your ears, kicking, running the baths. They ran a bath,
7 the water being ran, and told to take my clothes off.
8 I refused point-blank.

9 Q. I wonder if you could bring yourself closer to the
10 microphone so we can hear you. Yes. So you're telling
11 us that you had a bath being run?

12 A. Yes, a bath was being run. I was well used to hearing
13 baths being run, so I knew vaguely what was coming, but
14 I didn't think they would do that to such a little one
15 like [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

16 Q. Were the three of you there at the time, you and your
17 younger sisters?

18 A. The three of us were together, yes.

19 Q. So what happened?

20 A. [REDACTED] and my other sister were easily stripped because
21 of their age, but I refused and [REDACTED] LTX took a pair of
22 scissors and cut off what I had on, and then we were put
23 into a bath and it contained the Jeyes disinfectant. It
24 was absolutely burning.

25 Q. Were there three of you in the same bath?

1 A. Yes, and it was like just burning, burning. Jugs of it
2 going over your head, your eyes nipping and ... As well
3 as me screaming my head off, I had my sisters screaming
4 their heads off, and then I just reached for the plug
5 and I took it out and then she started running cold
6 water, but by doing that she did a favour because it
7 actually cooled down the amount of Jeyes that was in the
8 bath.

9 Q. Was anything being said to you in the course of this?

10 A. Yes, we were Glasgow tinks, we were hoors, we were
11 sluts, our mother didn't want us, nobody wanted us.
12 What a wonderful time they would have dealing with us
13 and, more or less, the fun was just beginning.

14 Q. Were you hit at all at this time?

15 A. Yes, battered, yes.

16 Q. I'm sorry?

17 A. Battered.

18 Q. By whom?

19 A. Both. Mostly by [REDACTED] LTX , but ... Yeah. Even in the
20 bath, being hit, being hit in the bath.

21 Q. How were you being hit?

22 A. Punched, hair being pulled, being nipped, scratched.

23 Q. I think you tell us that at a point in time

24 Sister [REDACTED] LTX decided to cut your hair; is that
25 correct?

- 1 A. She had to because of just Jeyes being on it, you know.
2 The brushes -- it wasn't a soft-bristled brush or even
3 a hard bristle, it was like a brush that you would use
4 on a dog. So they were trying to get that through my
5 hair, which was quite long (indicating).
- 6 Q. You're pointing down to your shoulders.
- 7 A. Yes, my hair was quite long and [REDACTED], my middle
8 sister she was quite long and curly, and the little one
9 was just fine, baby hair, but it was still all matted
10 with the Jeyes. So she was cursing, swearing her head
11 off, and she just said, "Nothing for this but to carry
12 on with the cutting", so she just picked the scissors
13 back up and cut my hair, [REDACTED]'s and [REDACTED]'s hair.
- 14 Q. And coming back to the hitting, we've mentioned
15 punching. Can you describe any other methods of hitting
16 that was being used at this time?
- 17 A. Belts again. There was belts and the hairbrush.
- 18 Q. Were you naked when this was happening?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Did any of this leave marks?
- 21 A. Mm-hm, yes.
- 22 Q. Where were the marks?
- 23 A. All over your body.
- 24 Q. Were you bleeding?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. From where?

2 A. The back, the stomach, the legs, your face. Just

3 wherever she managed to dig it in.

4 Q. When you say she, just to be clear, is it --

5 A. LTX .

6 Q. What time of day was this when this happened?

7 A. It'd have been mid-afternoon.

8 Q. And what happened after what you've just been telling us

9 about what happened when you were being bathed? Did you

10 go somewhere then?

11 A. They put us into a bedroom with nothing.

12 Q. So what happened next? Did she come back to see you?

13 A. She closed the door.

14 Q. But did she then come back at some point?

15 A. Yes, she did, she came back and other children were

16 starting to come home, so she had to go.

17 Q. Why was that? Why did she have to go?

18 A. The children were coming in from school.

19 Q. What about clothes? Were you given clothes at some

20 point?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Who gave you the clothing?

23 A. I think it was FAF .

24 Q. You tell us then that a Sister LKG appeared; is that

25 right?

1 A. Yes, Sister **LKG**. It took a while to realise that
2 she was actually in charge of that floor, but she was an
3 older nun.

4 Q. So although you'd been dealt with by Sister **LTX** and
5 Sister **FAF**, it was actually this sister that was
6 to be in charge of you in your group; is that right?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And what was she like?

9 A. Really nice. I didn't trust her to start with.

10 Q. But afterwards, did you find out that she was a nice
11 person?

12 A. Yes, lovely. She was lovely.

13 Q. Did she ask you about what had happened?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Could she see that you were injured?

16 A. Yes, she helped. She put on Savlon and ...

17 Q. On your injuries?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. What about your two younger sisters, did they have
20 marks?

21 A. Yes. We all did, we all did.

22 Q. And so far as Sister **LKG** was concerned, did she ask
23 you what had happened to you?

24 A. We told her what had happened, the two nuns, because
25 I didn't fully understand their names being **FAF**

1 and [LTX]. I hadn't come across names like that.

2 And ... She said, "Things happen, but they can't always

3 be sorted".

4 Q. I'm sorry, could you say that again?

5 A. "Things happen, but they can't always be sorted."

6 Q. Is that what Sister [LKG] said?

7 A. And, "Try and keep out of their way as much as

8 possible".

9 Q. I think you do tell us that Sister [LKG] was someone

10 that you developed a lifelong relationship with.

11 A. Yes, I did, yes. Mm-hm.

12 Q. Can you just tell me about that? How long did that go

13 on for?

14 A. Until she became ill in about 1984.

15 Q. So that was after you'd left?

16 A. Mm-hm.

17 Q. And what was the nature of the relationship? Did you

18 keep in touch with her? Did you correspond with her?

19 A. What had happened was I'd only been in Nazareth House

20 Aberdeen for a few months and then Sister [LKG] was

21 removed from the floor to become a begging nun along

22 with Sister [LGR]. So there wasn't a replacement for

23 Sister [LKG] to look after the children or help look

24 after the children, the excuse being that she was too

25 old to look after children, it was too much for her, so

1 she was put on to the begging, to be a begging nun with
2 Sister **LGR**. And then what would happen was she would
3 come up -- we could be at school or whatever, and she
4 would put something under our pillows, like a sweet or
5 an apple or an orange or something like that.

6 Not only my family, she would -- whatever she had,
7 she would give to others as well.

8 Q. So she's a nice and friendly nun and these are examples
9 of what she did?

10 A. Yes, she was absolutely lovely.

11 Q. And you kept in touch with her after you left
12 Nazareth House?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Did you keep in touch by writing? How did you keep in
15 touch?

16 A. By writing.

17 Q. Can I just ask you a little bit about the routine
18 itself. Was the routine at Nazareth House quite similar
19 to the routine at Cardonald? By that I mean you were up
20 early and had to go to church and so on?

21 A. Oh, the routine was worse.

22 Q. What can you tell me about it?

23 A. Well, that was another one: you were up half 5, 6 in the
24 morning, off to church, back from church, breakfast.
25 Sometimes there was force-feeding there if it was

1 something disgusting. But they didn't always have the
2 time -- but they did have the time to give you a good
3 smack or a punch.

4 You were given a spoon of malt. They had a big,
5 huge big tin like that (indicating) and it had malt and
6 you got a spoon of that and everyone had to take from
7 the same spoon.

8 Q. Can I ask you about one thing that you talk about and
9 you have mentioned already in connection with Cardonald
10 and that's bed-wetting. What was the position with
11 regard to bed-wetting in Aberdeen?

12 A. The same but worse.

13 Q. Can you help me with that? Can you describe what
14 happened?

15 A. In Nazareth House in Aberdeen, the bedroom we had there,
16 I was at the window, and the other two -- one was at the
17 door and one was at the wall.

18 Q. Are you talking there about your two sisters?

19 A. Yes, and it was like constantly -- I was checking their
20 beds, I would check their beds, and if they were dry,
21 that was fine. If they were wet, I would move them
22 round, try to take the wet one, move that to the top,
23 put the top one down to the bottom, but by morning
24 they'd be wet again.

25 Q. So what happened?

1 A. They got the same treatment they did as anyone else who
2 wet the bed, and that was they had to stand with the
3 sheets over their heads while the cold baths were being
4 run.

5 Q. And who did that?

6 A. LTX . She slept up the stairs from where we were.

7 Q. But she wasn't in charge of you at least for a number of
8 months, so why was she involved at that point in time?

9 A. We didn't have a nun on our floor at all.

10 Sister LKG had gone, so her bedroom was at the front
11 of the house now and she worked alongside Sister LGR on
12 the begging side.

13 Q. I see. This is --

14 A. She had nothing to do with the children any more. But
15 she would still come over.

16 Q. So you've told us then about the process of what was
17 done with the sheets. You say the sheets were put over
18 the girls' heads.

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. What about yourself, did you wet the bed at this time?

21 A. No, no.

22 Q. So you're talking here about in particular your younger
23 sisters. Can I ask you about the food then at
24 Nazareth House in Aberdeen. What was the food like?

25 A. Disgusting. Terrible.

1 Q. What was the procedure then if you didn't want to eat
2 your food?

3 A. They fed it to you.

4 Q. Who did?

5 A. The nuns.

6 Q. Was there any particular nun that you were involved in
7 at this point?

8 A. Yes. That was Sister [REDACTED] LTX and sometimes
9 Sister [REDACTED] FAF, and the staff would also help as
10 well. Depending on the staff, the staff would help.

11 Q. What happened then? What would they do?

12 A. Well, in my case it was a Wednesday. Wednesday was
13 steak and kidney pie day and I absolutely hated kidney,
14 steak and kidney pie.

15 Q. So what happened?

16 A. I was force-fed that.

17 Q. By whom?

18 A. [REDACTED] LTX.

19 Q. And what was involved in that?

20 A. Me being sick and then being forced to eat the sick.

21 Q. How were you forced to eat it?

22 A. Head back, nose held, sometimes she did it on her own,
23 sometimes she had a member of staff to keep my shoulders
24 down.

25 Q. Did you see other children being treated in that way?

- 1 A. Yes. It was -- mm-hm.
- 2 Q. Did you then have to learn ways of how to get rid of the
3 food?
- 4 A. At school the normal kids would have, like, snacks, so
5 if they had like a crisp bag or a sweet bag, I'd ask for
6 it or take them out of the buckets in school. Sometimes
7 we got away with it, sometimes we didn't.
- 8 Q. If you didn't get away with it?
- 9 A. You were battered again.
- 10 Q. Who would be involved in that?
- 11 A. [REDACTED] LTX .
- 12 Q. When you talk about being battered on these occasions,
13 can you just give me an understanding of what she did?
- 14 A. Two of the worst batterings was one that was so severe
15 she had me -- she'd taken me into the bedroom and I was
16 actually foaming at the mouth, like I was on the ground
17 and I was like foaming at the mouth and I knew I was
18 going in and out of consciousness. It had gone on that
19 long that her own headpiece had come off, you know, this
20 whole bit (indicating), that had moved back. The black
21 piece had come off completely and she was left with this
22 white thing. That's when I realised that she had hair.
23 I didn't think that they had hair.
- 24 Q. But what had she done in that particular battering?
25 What had she done to you?

1 A. Kicking, kicking, kicking, kicking. Banged my head off
2 the radiator. She banged my head off the radiator and
3 that's when I went down and that's when I started
4 foaming at the mouth and my head was like exploding and
5 then someone come running in and got her away.

6 Q. What age were you then at that time?

7 A. At that time probably about 12.

8 Q. Was that to do with food or was it to do with some other
9 reason?

10 A. Food. And then another time a beating like that was
11 because we'd gone out on a Saturday, supposed to be
12 going to the park, and she had the money that should
13 have been the children's pocket money and she decided
14 that so many people weren't getting sweets that day and
15 the others were. I was one of the ones that wasn't
16 getting and I was hungry, so I took a box of Smarties
17 and I just opened them and I ate them.

18 Q. And what happened?

19 A. We were all taken home and I was taken by the ear all
20 the way up Claremont Street, all the way up the road of
21 the house, Claremont Street ... Place, then on to
22 Claremont Street, then up to the house, all the time,
23 you know, like holding me up by the ear, and then she
24 got me and then she just went to town, really.

25 Q. What did she do?

- 1 A. Battered me again.
- 2 Q. And when you say battered --
- 3 A. Throwing me off walls, calling me a thief. I was
4 shouting at her, "I know I'm a thief, but I was hungry.
5 Everyone else got sweets, I didn't".
- 6 Q. One thing you do tell us is that at a point in time when
7 I think you had been taken to a place called Tombay that
8 you went every year, you started your periods; is that
9 right?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. I think you thought you might have been about 11 at that
12 time.
- 13 A. I was 11, yes. Early.
- 14 Q. Had you had any explanation before that happened as to
15 what might happen?
- 16 A. No. We were excluded at school, even from sex education
17 classes. The school wouldn't have allowed any
18 Nazareth House children to have that.
- 19 Q. Do you know why that was?
- 20 A. Well, we were different.
- 21 Q. And when you then realised that something had happened
22 to you, were you upset?
- 23 A. Yes, I didn't know what it was.
- 24 Q. Did you speak to Sister [REDACTED] LTX [REDACTED] about it?
- 25 A. Yes, because in that house up in Tombay, the nuns

1 had the front of that house and there was a bedroom and
2 a sitting room. They had the garden area and nobody was
3 allowed through that part at all, and the girls were all
4 in the two bedrooms upstairs, and that was just row upon
5 row of bunk beds all put together, and it was top to toe
6 for the three weeks you were up there. But not every
7 girl went. Like 100 or so went.

8 Q. Coming to the time when you started your period then,
9 did you go to Sister [REDACTED] LTX and tell her, speak to her
10 about it?

11 A. Yes. I went to the toilet because I had this cramping
12 in my stomach, I went to the toilet, I seen this blood
13 and I panicked, and when I came out -- the stair went on
14 an angle, and there she was coming up anyway, and I said
15 to her that I'd had blood -- and she called me -- well,
16 all the names again.

17 Q. What sort of names? What sort of names did she call
18 you?

19 A. Dirty tink and hoor and slut and that's what happens and
20 that I'd be dead by midnight.

21 Q. Did she do something to you when she said you'd be dead
22 by midnight?

23 A. Yes, she laughed and she hit me as well.

24 Q. What was your reaction to that, that you'd be dead by
25 midnight?

1 A. Well, I spoke to a member of staff who was there --
2 well, cried to her, and she said, "Oh, don't listen to
3 her. What a load of rubbish". And I said, "So what
4 actually happens?" She said, "I'll see to you, I'll
5 give you something". But she was embarrassed to talk
6 about it.

7 Q. But did you watch the clock --

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. -- until midnight to see what would happen?

10 A. Mm-hm.

11 Q. So you were worried about what had been said to you?

12 A. Yes, I told everybody I was going to die. We were all
13 on clock watch, those that were able to stay awake, yes.

14 Q. Did you run away when you were at Nazareth House
15 Aberdeen?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. On more than one occasion?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Where did you go?

20 A. Stonehaven was a favourite. Just basically anywhere
21 that I could get away.

22 Q. Did you end up on these occasions handing yourself into
23 the police?

24 A. Yes. I either handed myself in or been picked up.

25 Q. By the police?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Did you tell the police what was going on at
3 Nazareth House?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And what did they say?

6 A. "Can't be that bad. Surely it can't be that bad."

7 Q. And would the police take you back to Nazareth House or
8 how would you get back?

9 A. Well, if it was Stonehaven they would come out in the
10 van because Stonehaven didn't cover Aberdeen. They
11 would come out in the van.

12 Q. You say they --

13 A. The nuns. And pick you up.

14 Q. And if it was Aberdeen, would the police take you back
15 themselves?

16 A. Yeah, they would take you back.

17 Q. What would happen to you when you got back?

18 A. The beatings, really, really bad beatings, and then you
19 had to go into the church, and you didn't get to go to
20 your bed. That was a kneeling in the corridor offence.
21 So you stayed in the corridor all night.

22 Q. And how often do you think you ran away?

23 A. In all the time I was there, maybe about six times,
24 five.

25 Q. Would you run away with other girls?

1 A. Yes, or I would run away by myself. Twice myself and
2 maybe four or five other times with whoever organised
3 the next getaway.

4 Q. Would there be more than one girl involved?

5 A. Yes, uh-huh.

6 Q. Insofar as telling the police about what treatment you
7 were receiving, would the other girls also be telling
8 the police?

9 A. Yes, mm-hm.

10 Q. You do tell us in your statement that your birthdays
11 were not celebrated; is that right?

12 A. No.

13 Q. What about Christmas? Did you get a present at
14 Christmas?

15 A. What happened at Christmas was on the chair in the
16 morning -- it was just the living room and it was just
17 the old stuffed chairs going round, and on each chair
18 there'd be something, your name was written there, and
19 that was it. That was your present.

20 Q. Did you get a present then? Did you get a present?

21 A. Well, you would get a book. But the book belonged to
22 someone else. You would open it and it would say, "This
23 book belongs to [so and so]", but I'd score that out and
24 put in my own name. There would be, like, a tangerine
25 or an apple or an orange, some raisins, sometimes nuts,

1 and that was it really. There wasn't selection boxes or
2 nothing like that.

3 Q. You tell us in your statement, Jill, that your
4 grandparents did come to visit you; is that correct?

5 A. Yeah, they came once, they came twice but we only got to
6 see them once.

7 Q. When they came to visit, were you able to speak to them?

8 A. No, because the nuns stayed in the room.

9 Q. What about Miss Richmond, the social worker or
10 children's officer? Did she visit?

11 A. She came twice a year, and then again she had, as well
12 as my family to see to, she had other people to see to
13 as well. But I just stopped completely telling her
14 anything that was going on, everything that was going
15 on, I just stopped because she went back and she told
16 them, "Yet again has made a complaint", or, "Her
17 sister's joined in this time and said, 'This is
18 happening', and the other one said it's happening", so
19 I think we were seen as a bit of a nightmare family.

20 Q. If we look at paragraph 125 onwards of your statement,
21 you're there giving us information about how you were
22 treated at Nazareth House and I think we've been looking
23 at some of this already.

24 One thing you tell us in paragraph 126 is that, at
25 her worst, Sister LTX would take you out of the

1 back door and batter you there. Is that --
2 A. Yes, at the buckets, yes, mm-hm. She would take you by
3 the hair and she would take you out to the buckets. It
4 was huge side doors -- like the size of that front door
5 would be the size of the side doors at both ends. And
6 she would take you out and there would be the buckets
7 and everything was surrounded by Jeyes. There was a lot
8 of drains there. And, yeah, she would start again. Off
9 she would go, she would just ... Sometimes she didn't
10 even wait until the door was opened at the back door,
11 she would start throwing you into the wall where the
12 jackets and the shoes and everything were kept. She
13 would start there -- you know, she'd have you by the
14 hair or have you by the arm, or wherever she could get
15 a hold of you, and then she would just drag you out, and
16 there was about maybe eight buckets or so, the
17 old-fashioned tin lid ones. That was for that house and
18 also the other girls' houses. She'd be battering you
19 all amongst these buckets, throwing you off the granite
20 wall that surrounded the buckets.

21 Q. You tell us in your statement about the arrival of
22 another nun, you say she was called
23 Sister [REDACTED] LJD .

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. She was nice?

1 A. Yes, she was nice.

2 Q. Was she coming to be in charge of your group?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Can you say when that was?

5 A. She came about ... Oh ... Probably about 68, maybe
6 towards the end of 68.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. She said she'd been there.

9 Q. Insofar as she was concerned then, what about her
10 relationship with Sister [LTX] that you've been
11 telling us about?

12 A. Oh, they hated each other with a passion. Absolutely
13 hated each other.

14 Q. How did things go in connection with Sister [LTX]
15 once Sister [LJD] was on the scene?

16 A. It didn't stop her from doing what she was doing, but if
17 Sister [LJD] was there she wouldn't touch you.
18 And then the times that she did and she was caught by
19 Sister [LJD], [LJD] would make light
20 work of her, she would chase her and she would threaten
21 to put her over her knee. She would put her skirt up
22 and give her backside a good --

23 Q. She said that to her?

24 A. Mm-hm. And she said stop calling the children -- well,
25 my children: "Stop calling my children tinks and hoors

1 and sluts". She said, "It's terrible language to be
2 using to children". She said, "I can hear you from
3 halfway down the corridor", and she was meaning she
4 could hear her from almost coming out of the church, the
5 second entrance. So that was a good bit away and she
6 could hear [REDACTED] LTX [REDACTED] bawling from there.

7 We called her the [REDACTED] nun because she wore [REDACTED]
8 [REDACTED] and sometimes [REDACTED], sometimes [REDACTED]
9 [REDACTED]. She didn't fit into the role
10 as ...

11 Q. You left in [REDACTED] 1971, so was she then there up
12 until you left?

13 A. No, she was away. She went away again.

14 Q. How long was she there for?

15 A. She was there for about maybe two years. In that two
16 years she was there, I don't know if she made it worse
17 or I don't know if she made it better, but there was
18 more conflict going on, more beatings going on, and
19 because Sister [REDACTED] LJD [REDACTED] was like -- not
20 airy-fairy, but [REDACTED] and, "Oh, things can only get
21 better, I'll sort her out" -- she liked a good argument.

22 MR MacAULAY: My Lady, I'm looking at the time. I'm happy
23 to press on because I understand that your Ladyship is
24 quite anxious to finish with this witness.

25 LADY SMITH: Yes, but this evidence obviously takes

1 priority.

2 How much longer are you thinking that we might need?

3 MR MacAULAY: Probably 20 minutes.

4 LADY SMITH: Jill, how are you feeling at the moment? Are
5 you okay to carry on for another 20 minutes?

6 A. Yes. Uh-huh.

7 LADY SMITH: Let me check with the stenographers.

8 (Pause)

9 We will carry on, but if you feel it's too much and
10 you want to break, please say so.

11 MR MacAULAY: You do tell us in your statement, I'm not
12 going to look at the detail of this, but I am just going
13 to reference the paragraphs, 131 and 132, about abuse
14 that one of your brothers told you about.

15 A. Mm-hm.

16 Q. Is that correct?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And it was sexual abuse by a priest?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. That brother has since died?

21 A. Yes. Should you ever ask for evidence, I do have the
22 evidence.

23 Q. Sorry?

24 A. I have evidence that that happened.

25 Q. What do you mean by that?

1 A. I have a letter.

2 Q. From your brother?

3 A. That he wrote to a friend --

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. -- which was unusual for that particular brother because

6 he was very private.

7 LADY SMITH: Maybe if that is something you're prepared to

8 share with us, we could follow up on that after today.

9 A. Yes.

10 LADY SMITH: But we can talk about that once you've finished

11 giving your evidence. Thank you for alerting us to you

12 it.

13 MR MacAULAY: Just to be clear, that brother of yours died

14 [REDACTED]

15 A. Mm-hm.

16 Q. If we go back to Sister LTX, you highlight

17 a particular incident you thought happened in 1971 or

18 1972 when you were about 14. I think you were perhaps

19 sitting on a swing.

20 A. Mm-hm.

21 Q. Can you tell us what happened on that occasion?

22 A. Yes, I was sitting on a swing and it was like, "Oh no,

23 here she comes", sort of thing. Next thing it was --

24 I was actually taken off by the hair, kicked, punched,

25 and then she threw me into the church wall and it was

1 just unfortunate that the part of the wall that I hit
2 had a dip in it. So we've gone into the dip, but it was
3 my mouth that got it, my nose and mouth and my eye was
4 scarred above the left eye. So this (indicating) was
5 all burst open and my teeth were out.

6 Q. I think you say your teeth were broken.

7 A. Yes, they were out. A member of staff and her husband,
8 who were actually sitting round the corner, came running
9 to see what was going on, and then they got the
10 Mother Superior, and it was taken from there.

11 Q. I think, as you tell us in your statement, one of the
12 men who came there threatened to go to the police;
13 is that right?

14 A. Yes, he did.

15 Q. But that in fact did not happen?

16 A. It didn't happen.

17 Q. Do you know why it did happen?

18 A. They spoke him down, they told him this would never
19 happen again. This was the Mother Superior. It would
20 never happen again, [REDACTED] LTX would be dealt with, and
21 that I would be taken to hospital and properly seen to,
22 but I wasn't.

23 Q. You weren't taken to hospital?

24 A. I wasn't taken to hospital.

25 Q. Were you taken for some dental treatment?

1 A. No, not straightaway. I was taken back into the house
2 where the member of staff cleaned me up as best as she
3 could and then I was given hot salty water to take.

4 Q. Just to understand the extent of your injuries then, how
5 many teeth were damaged?

6 A. Four.

7 Q. Were these the four front teeth?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And did you eventually get some dental treatment?

10 A. Yes, once all the bruising from my lips and my nose and
11 my face -- [REDACTED]

12 [REDACTED] That had to go down
13 first. But the dentist knew that it wasn't a recent
14 fall, as -- when I was taken to the outside dentist, he
15 asked what had happened. But I didn't really get to
16 speak for myself; they said, "She fell ".

17 Q. Who was with you when you went to the dentist?

18 A. It had to be [REDACTED] LTX and [REDACTED] FAF .

19 Q. Did you tell the dentist then what had happened to you?

20 A. No.

21 Q. I think you required some quite extensive dental
22 treatment to sort your mouth; is that right?

23 A. Yes. You see, we had a dentist in Nazareth House, that
24 was on the floor that I was on, so that was for the use
25 of everyone. But for the work that I needed done, that

- 1 couldn't be done in the house.
- 2 Q. If we look at your statement at paragraph 146 and 147 --
- 3 if we can put that on the screen -- you're giving an
- 4 example of a girl who was on the roof. I think you make
- 5 reference to a girl being on the roof of
- 6 Nazareth House --
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. -- and shouting that she was going to jump.
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. But I don't think she did jump, did she, as far as
- 11 you're aware?
- 12 A. As far as I know, she didn't jump.
- 13 Q. I think what you say is when you got back to
- 14 Nazareth House she was no longer there.
- 15 A. Never saw her again either, no.
- 16 Q. And you also say there that -- actually I think what you
- 17 say is that children would disappear from
- 18 Nazareth House.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. It has been suggested that I ask you that it may be
- 21 these children were going back to their own families or
- 22 to foster care or being moved to another place. You
- 23 just don't know?
- 24 A. No, I wouldn't even agree with that, because there's one
- 25 in particular who disappeared -- she used to sit and

1 just bang her head off the wall all day, just like ...
2 You weren't allowed to approach her. She wasn't
3 dangerous, she just did that all day, and I came back
4 and she was gone, she was away. Another girl,
5 [REDACTED] was away.

6 Q. But you don't know where they went?

7 A. No. No idea.

8 Q. The other thing you tell us about in your statement,
9 Jill, is at paragraph 149, when one of the sisters died,
10 that you had to do something. What did you have to do?

11 A. What did we have to do?

12 Q. Yes.

13 A. We had to go into the church and say goodbye. This was
14 a nun I barely knew, and she was lying in her coffin,
15 and we were given the holy water and it was just to give
16 her a sprinkle and we were to kiss her forehead. The
17 kids were lined up coming down towards the altar and her
18 coffin was lying up here (indicating) in the nuns' part
19 where they prayed in the afternoons.

20 When it came to my youngest sister, I just quickly
21 did mine, like most folk, just very, very quickly did
22 it, but my sister had knocked the top off and the water
23 had gone over the dead nun's habit, so she was battered
24 for that.

25 I don't think they should have shown children as

1 young as us a dead body.

2 Q. What age were you then at that time; can you remember?

3 A. I'd have been about maybe 13, 14.

4 Q. Coming to when you left Nazareth House, I think what you

5 tell us in your statement, Jill, is that you found out

6 the night before that you were leaving.

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. I think Sister **LKG**, who you liked, came to see you?

9 A. Yes, she was heartbroken.

10 Q. But she gave you some envelopes that you could try and

11 keep in touch with her; is that correct?

12 A. Yes, she gave me the envelopes with the stamps on them

13 and already written out to herself.

14 Q. Did that allow you to keep in touch with her over --

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. In the following years?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. When you came to the -- the morning you came to leave,

19 were you leaving your two sisters behind?

20 A. Well, that night, when Sister **LKG** came round, she

21 couldn't believe that I was going in the morning because

22 she wasn't informed, so later on at night, when she came

23 around, she was writing and she'd said that, I've got

24 all this ready for you, please keep in touch, and I did,

25 right up until she died.

- 1 Q. I think you told me earlier when that was. When was
2 that?
- 3 A. She died in 1989. But she became ill in 1984/1985,
4 Alzheimer's.
- 5 Q. But you did see Sister [REDACTED] LTX [REDACTED] the morning you left,
6 is that right? Did she say anything to you?
- 7 A. Yes, she got her final dig in. I got a nip in the arm
8 and she said that the next time she would see me I would
9 have a squad of kids, brats, at my feet, and that
10 I wouldn't go very far in life and good riddance to bad
11 rubbish.
- 12 Q. Was it Miss Richmond who to met you then to take you
13 away?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Can I ask you this: you've told us that your two younger
16 brothers went with you to Nazareth House; did you see
17 very much of your brothers over your time when you were
18 there?
- 19 A. No, you weren't allowed to see them at all, no.
- 20 Q. I think you've already confirmed with me that you left
21 in [REDACTED] 1971 when you were aged about 14.
- 22 A. Mm-hm.
- 23 Q. When you came to leave then, I think you tell us, first
24 of all, you went to stay in a house in Dunoon; is that
25 correct?

1 A. Mm-hm.

2 Q. And you then went to a girls' hostel in Castlemilk?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Was that before you were 16?

5 A. Yes. I wondered why I was being moved all the time, but

6 yes.

7 Q. Again, you moved on again to a house in [REDACTED]

8 in Cardonald; do you remember that?

9 A. Mm-hm.

10 Q. Can I ask you a little bit about your life after care?

11 Because one of the things I think you tell us you did is

12 you went back to Nazareth House to see one of your

13 brothers and your sisters; is that right?

14 A. Yes, I went back. I didn't say I was coming back

15 because -- well, in my eyes I was an adult. That was in

16 1975. So I was 18. The youngest one was 10.

17 When I went in, there was no children at all in the

18 main house. But I already knew that anyway as

19 Sister [REDACTED] LKG had let me know, but she said they're

20 being well cared for.

21 When I went in, it was a nun and her name was

22 [REDACTED] LDX and she was more or less asking me to

23 leave. I said, "No, I'm here to take them out", so the

24 only one that I actually saw was the youngest one and

25 then she said, "They're locked in their rooms". I said,

1 "Could you open the rooms and let them out?"

2 Q. And did you have them? Did you take them out?

3 A. I said if she didn't open the rooms and let them out

4 that I would do something about it. So when she opened

5 the room, my brother was absolutely covered in bruises.

6 Q. Did you ask why he had the bruises?

7 A. Yes. She says, "Boys are boys, girls are girls". This

8 is before she opened my sister's room. But apparently,

9 he'd been in there for more or less all of the school

10 holidays, the same as my sister.

11 Q. Why was that?

12 A. Well, when I had them out, they said that they hadn't

13 done anything at all. I said, "Well, nothing?" and they

14 went, "No".

15 Q. But when you had them out and you discussed what the

16 position was like, did it sound any different to your

17 own time?

18 A. No, not one bit. I checked over [REDACTED], I preened her

19 like a monkey. She was just as bruised as what they

20 were.

21 Q. When you took them back, had you bought them some gifts?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. When you left, what happened?

24 A. I'd only gone so far and I heard this almighty

25 screaming. I thought, "I'm sure that's [REDACTED]", and

1 I turned and there's [REDACTED], her face was at the window
2 and she was howling, screaming her head off, so I did
3 run back. Just in that short time, she'd taken
4 everything off them and hit them and threw them into the
5 room.

6 Q. Did you do anything?

7 A. Yes, I screamed at her to let them out. I was going to
8 report her. It wasn't long after that, she left the
9 order anyway, as a few did -- in the time that I was
10 there, there was a few nuns left the order altogether.

11 Q. The other thing I want to ask you about is reporting
12 what had happened to you at Nazareth House. I think you
13 did in due course report what had happened to the
14 police; is that correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. [REDACTED]

17 [REDACTED]

18 A. [REDACTED]

19 [REDACTED]

20 Q. What would you say the impact of having been at
21 Nazareth House Cardonald and Aberdeen might have had on
22 you?

23 A. Cardonald, just to be wary, be on your guard, be as good
24 as you could be.

25 Q. And Aberdeen, do you feel that's had any impact on your

- 1 life?
- 2 A. Yes. I would say that was the place that broke me. She
3 got her wish. I picked myself up again.
- 4 Q. One thing you do tell us in your statement is that you
5 did meet Sister [REDACTED] LTX later on in about 1997; is that
6 right?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And you asked her why she abused you; is that correct?
- 9 A. Yes. If I'd known she was there, I'd have never have
10 gone in. I was in to see the member of staff that I had
11 known and she said, "Don't look now, but Sister [REDACTED] LTX 's
12 behind". I had never heard a Sister [REDACTED] LTX here, but
13 when someone says, "Don't look", you look, and it was
14 [REDACTED] LTX, but she was now Sister [REDACTED] LTX.
- 15 Q. You say in your statement you did ask her why she abused
16 you when you were there.
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. What did she say to you, what was her answer?
- 19 A. She said, "I was only following orders".
- 20 Q. Did she say whose orders she was following?
- 21 A. [REDACTED] FAF 's.
- 22 Q. The other thing, if I can just turn to the final bit of
23 your statement, Jill, which is at paragraph 195. You're
24 putting forward lessons that you think should be learned
25 from your experience; do you see that?

1 A. Mm-hm.

2 Q. What do you say about that?

3 A. Yeah:

4 "If I was in a position to hire people to look after
5 children, I would have them vetted a million times.
6 I would not take the word of a simple piece of paper or
7 rely on a police record. I would have cameras in places
8 of care. I would also put staff I trusted with the new
9 staff who were watching the children for a period of
10 time."

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. I think in other words, I wouldn't allow her near
13 anyone. Any of them near anyone.

14 Q. I can say to you, Jill, that the inquiry has taken
15 a statement from Sister [REDACTED] LTX [REDACTED]. Just so you can
16 understand the position, she says a number of things.
17 She says that she was never really someone who looked
18 after you. She says that she never disciplined or
19 punished you. Indeed, she denies that she had any
20 interaction with you that could be described in any way
21 as abuse. What do you say to that?

22 A. [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
23 [REDACTED].

24 Q. But just looking to what I've said to you, do you agree
25 or do you disagree with what she's said to us in her

1 statement?

2 A. I completely disagree. She did everything.

3 MR MacAULAY: Thank you.

4 Jill, thank you for coming today to give your
5 evidence. I can see it has been quite difficult for
6 you.

7 The questions I have been asked to put to you,
8 I have done that in the course of asking the questions I
9 have put to you, but I don't know if there are to be any
10 other questions.

11 LADY SMITH: Are there any outstanding applications for
12 questions? No.

13 Jill, those are all the questions that we have for
14 you. Thank you very much for all the assistance you've
15 given us, both in giving your written statement and in
16 coming here today. I can see that it has been hard work
17 and a real effort for you, both physically and
18 emotionally to do it, but I'm very grateful for your
19 dedication to that task and I'm now able to let you go.

20 A. Okay.

21 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

22 A. Thank you.

23 (The witness withdrew)

24 MR MacAULAY: My Lady, that really is all for today. Next
25 week, we will start again on Tuesday with hopefully

1 three oral witnesses.

2 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much. So Tuesday morning,
3 10 o'clock start as usual, is that right, Mr MacAulay?
4 The witnesses will be ready for then?

5 MR MacAULAY: Yes.

6 LADY SMITH: We're going to now rise for today.

7 In the light of the last witness's evidence, I will
8 just remind everybody of what I said earlier about all
9 the nuns that were mentioned being subject to
10 a restriction order that I have issued, so they cannot
11 be identified outside this hearing room. Thank you.

12 (1.25 pm)

13 (The hearing adjourned until Tuesday,
14 1 May 2018 at 10.00 am)

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"ALAN" (affirmed)1

Questions from MR MacAULAY1

"JILL" (sworn)57

Questions from MR MacAULAY58

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