

1 Tuesday, 12 June 2018

2 (10.00 am)

3 LADY SMITH: Good morning. We now turn to this week's
4 evidence, which begins, I think, with an oral witness;
5 is that right, Mr MacAulay?

6 MR MacAULAY: Good morning, my Lady. Yes, that is correct.
7 The first witness wants to remain anonymous and to use
8 the name "Elizabeth" in giving her evidence.

9 "ELIZABETH" (sworn)

10 LADY SMITH: Please sit down and make yourself comfortable.

11 Elizabeth, one of the things, I'm afraid, you have
12 to be very careful about is making sure you use the
13 microphone so that everybody can hear you. Just to
14 explain, the stenographers pick up your voice through
15 the sound system, so it's very important that you use
16 it, even although they're sitting very close to you.
17 I'll now pass over to Mr MacAulay and he'll explain
18 about the red file and so on.

19 Questions from MR MacAULAY

20 MR MacAULAY: Good morning, Elizabeth.

21 A. Good morning.

22 Q. I don't want your date of birth, but to get a time
23 frame, I need to confirm the year of your birth. Can
24 you confirm you were born in 1943?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. In the red folder you'll find the statement you have
2 already provided to the inquiry. I'll give the
3 reference of that to the stenographers and that's
4 WIT.001.001.8096. If I could take you to the very last
5 page, 8119, can you confirm you have signed the
6 statement?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Do you say in the last paragraph:

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

11 Is that correct?

12 A. Yes, it is.

13 Q. Do you go on to say:

14 "I believe the facts stated in this witness
15 statement are true"?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. You tell us at the beginning of your statement,
18 Elizabeth, that you were born and brought up in Ireland;
19 is that right?

20 A. Yes, I was.

21 Q. I think you are a staunch Catholic and your faith means
22 a lot to you.

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. I think you say that, when you were 21, you were
25 approached by a sister on behalf of the nuns at

- 1 Cardonald; is that right?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Can you tell me what the position was?
- 4 A. A housemother to the children.
- 5 Q. What was the approach that was made to you? Someone
- 6 approached you --
- 7 A. Yes, they were looking for someone to help out in
- 8 Nazareth House in Cardonald, and was I interested, and
- 9 I said yes.
- 10 Q. And you were in Ireland at that time?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. I think, as I put to you, you were aged about 21 at that
- 13 time; is that correct?
- 14 A. I was, yes.
- 15 Q. What were you doing? What sort of work were you engaged
- 16 in at that time?
- 17 A. Approved school.
- 18 Q. And were you working there as an assistant?
- 19 A. Yes, housemother --
- 20 Q. The approved school, what sort of range of ages did
- 21 that --
- 22 A. Intermediate, 13 to 17.
- 23 Q. Mixed, was it?
- 24 A. Girls.
- 25 Q. I think you tell us in your statement that you started

1 work at Nazareth House Cardonald in [REDACTED] 1964.

2 A. Yes, that's right.

3 Q. So you'd be aged 21 in fact?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. You'd had some experience, clearly, in dealing with
6 children of a particular age in the approved school
7 before you went to Cardonald; is that correct?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. What training had you had, if any, before Cardonald?

10 A. When I went to Cardonald?

11 Q. Yes.

12 A. The residential childcare course and I had done work
13 with intermediate approved school girls.

14 Q. Was that in Ireland?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. What sort of course was that?

17 A. More like a social work type of course.

18 Q. Was it a year's course? What was the duration of the
19 course?

20 A. Eight months, I think it was.

21 Q. Full time?

22 A. Full time, yes.

23 Q. Did that give you a qualification?

24 A. It did.

25 Q. I think later on, you also do another qualification in

- 1 social work at Robert Gordon's in Aberdeen.
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. But that's much later?
- 4 A. Yes, 1982, I think it was.
- 5 Q. Let's then look at Nazareth House in Cardonald. You've
6 told us you were there in 1964. I think you indicated
7 earlier that your duty would be that of housemother;
8 is that right?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Were you to work along with someone else?
- 11 A. Yes, there's another couple of staff members and
12 a sister in charge.
- 13 Q. Who was the sister in charge?
- 14 A. Sister [REDACTED] LFL
- 15 Q. I think it's [REDACTED] LFL
- 16 A. [REDACTED] LFL
- 17 Q. [REDACTED] LFL is it?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Because I think we see [REDACTED] LFL and various other names
20 in statements.
- 21 So she was in charge of you and some other lay
22 staff; is that correct?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Were you directly answerable to her?
- 25 A. Yes, I was.

- 1 Q. What was the set-up then in relation to the group that
2 you were to be involved with?
- 3 A. Sorry, how do you mean?
- 4 Q. If we start on the top, you've got Sister [REDACTED] LFL --
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. -- and yourself and other members of lay staff and
7 a group of children; is that right?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. How many were in the group that --
- 10 A. About 30 children.
- 11 Q. Was it a mixed group?
- 12 A. Mixed.
- 13 Q. And what was the age range?
- 14 A. From 5, school age, to 15.
- 15 Q. So quite a range of ages?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And at that time, were there family members or not?
- 18 A. Yes. Families, groups, family groups.
- 19 Q. Even at that time in 1964?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. So do I take it from that then that at that time your
22 recollection is that boys and girls from the same family
23 were not separated?
- 24 A. No, they were kept together.
- 25 Q. What was the set-up in relation to accommodation then

- 1 for your group? How was that organised?
- 2 A. Dormitories on the top floor and separate: the small
- 3 ones slept together, small children; the older girls in
- 4 other dormitories; boys on the other side of the
- 5 corridor.
- 6 Q. Looking to the size of the dormitories, can you help me
- 7 with that? How many beds in a dormitory?
- 8 A. Some of them were partitioned off and there might be
- 9 five beds, four or five beds in each.
- 10 Q. But you'd keep the younger ones together --
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. -- and then you'd split the older boys and girls?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. I think we know there were other groups as well?
- 15 A. There were.
- 16 Q. And how many groups were there altogether when you got
- 17 there?
- 18 A. There were four groups and a nursery.
- 19 Q. Leaving the nursery aside, did the groups have names?
- 20 A. They had colours.
- 21 Q. What was the colour of your group?
- 22 A. Green.
- 23 Q. And was it green, blue, red, yellow?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. You were there, I think, if we run the clock on a little

- 1 bit, for quite some considerable time. [REDACTED]
- 2 [REDACTED]
- 3 A. [REDACTED]
- 4 Q. [REDACTED] when did
- 5 you actually stop looking after children?
- 6 A. They left about 1987, I think, the last -- the last lot
- 7 of children finished.
- 8 Q. We have been provided with some statistics by the order
- 9 and I'll put that on the screen for you; it's at
- 10 NAZ.001.001.0265.
- 11 So this is information that's been given to us by
- 12 the order. You'll see it's headed:
- 13 "Statistics of numbers of children and babies at
- 14 Scottish Nazareth Houses (1925 to 1984)."
- 15 You'll see where Cardonald, Glasgow, comes in the
- 16 table, and that's the second table from the right.
- 17 If we go on to the second page, it certainly
- 18 suggests here, if we look at that same column, that
- 19 certainly by 1982/1983, the numbers had dwindled quite
- 20 considerably. We don't appear to have been given
- 21 a number beyond that. May it be that, so far as taking
- 22 children in is concerned, it may have stopped round
- 23 about then?
- 24 A. Yes. Yes, it would.
- 25 Q. [REDACTED] but I think what

1 happened was that, although Cardonald stopped catering
2 for children, it still looked after the elderly?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Was that a job you took on after --

5 A. They took in retired priests, retired clergy, and I took
6 on that job.

7 Q. While we have this in front of us, if we go back to the
8 previous page, 0265, again, focusing on Cardonald,
9 picking it up towards the bottom of the page from 1964
10 onwards, can we see that girls significantly outnumbered
11 boys?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Taking 1965, for example, there were 50 girls and
14 19 boys, and in 1966 there were 61 girls and 14 boys.

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Was it the case that when boys got to a particular age,
17 they left?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Where did they go?

20 A. They went to the Salesian Brothers boys' home.

21 Q. Why was that; do you know?

22 A. I don't know.

23 Q. What age was it when they'd have to leave?

24 A. Maybe about 11/12, maybe.

25 Q. Would you yourself have any involvement in the

- 1 arrangements for that?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. You've told us that it was Sister [REDACTED] LFL [REDACTED] that was in
4 charge of your group when you started. Did that change
5 as the years went on? Did other sisters replace
6 Sister [REDACTED] LFL [REDACTED] ?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Can you provide some of the names of the sisters?
- 9 A. Sister [REDACTED] LHA [REDACTED] took over from Sister [REDACTED] LFL [REDACTED]
- 10 Q. Was she known as Sister [REDACTED] LHA [REDACTED]
- 11 A. That's right.
- 12 Q. Was there another sister after her that you can
13 remember? One of the names we've heard, for example, is
14 Sister [REDACTED] LJS [REDACTED]
- 15 A. Yes, she did come later on.
- 16 Q. Can you remember any other names? If you can't, it
17 doesn't matter.
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. Do I take it that, at least if we follow the line of
20 Sister [REDACTED] LFL [REDACTED] Sister [REDACTED] LHA [REDACTED] and
21 Sister [REDACTED] LJS [REDACTED], we're looking at the green group?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Other groups would have their own people looking after
24 them?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Just on that point, how autonomous were the groups? By
2 that I mean, how self-sufficient was the green group as
3 a group? Did you dine together?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. So what about the sleeping arrangements, were they all
6 again -- were you kept together?

7 A. They kept together, yes.

8 Q. Other than that, did the groups mix?

9 A. Going to school. School time, yes. And outside,
10 playing outside, they mixed.

11 Q. When you got there, were you given any instructions as
12 to what your duties were to be?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. What were your duties?

15 A. Call the children in the morning, get them up, get them
16 ready for school, down to breakfast. General day-to-day
17 things, you know. Get them to school afterwards.
18 Collect them from school.

19 Q. Would that be the younger children you'd collect from
20 school?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. I think you tell us that in relation to the sleeping
23 arrangements that Sister [REDACTED] LFL had a room next to
24 the dormitories?

25 A. She did, yes.

- 1 Q. What about yourself?
- 2 A. The floor below, staff quarters.
- 3 Q. So there were quite separate staff quarters?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Is that where the staff would get together? Did
6 you have a staff room, for example?
- 7 A. Yes, there was rooms for the staff and a sitting room as
8 well.
- 9 Q. You were there as a layperson, Elizabeth. Did you have
10 particular hours of work?
- 11 A. Usually from -- a 12-hour shift, 7 to 7 usually.
- 12 Q. What about weekends?
- 13 A. I worked the Saturday, not the Sunday.
- 14 Q. And days like Christmas and other holidays? Did
15 you have these days off?
- 16 A. It was on a rota system.
- 17 Q. And would you also be entitled to a holiday?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. What were the holiday arrangements for you?
- 20 A. It was usually two weeks in the summer holidays and
21 public holidays.
- 22 Q. So far as your dining area was concerned then, can you
23 tell me what floor that was on?
- 24 A. The ground floor.
- 25 Q. Were all the dining areas on the same floor?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Would the children all dine at the same time, albeit in
3 different places?
- 4 A. It was one big dining room separated into groups.
- 5 Q. So really it was partitioned off?
- 6 A. Yes, partitioned off, yes.
- 7 Q. Can I ask you a little bit about the routine? Let's
8 just look at what might happen if a child was to be
9 admitted to your group. Would you have any involvement
10 with that process?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. Who managed that process?
- 13 A. Sister [REDACTED] LFL, the sister in charge.
- 14 Q. That would have changed, of course, over the period?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Do you know what was involved in that process? What
17 records were made and --
- 18 A. Records were kept, yes.
- 19 Q. Did you see the records?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. How do you know they were kept?
- 22 A. I know sister used to sit at her desk and write
23 everything in.
- 24 Q. Is that Sister [REDACTED] LFL?
- 25 A. Sister [REDACTED] LFL.

- 1 Q. What about Sister [REDACTED] LHA [REDACTED] ?
- 2 A. Yes, who took over.
- 3 Q. Do you know what information was provided to
- 4 Sister [REDACTED] LFL [REDACTED], for example, in relation to the
- 5 background of the child?
- 6 A. I think the parent -- who the parents were and why they
- 7 were in care.
- 8 Q. Was that information relayed to yourself? Would you
- 9 know?
- 10 A. She told me not a lot. I didn't always know why they
- 11 were brought into care.
- 12 Q. What sort of information would she give you?
- 13 A. They're all different. I don't know really. I can't
- 14 remember.
- 15 Q. Can I ask you then about the meals and the quality of
- 16 the food? How did you regard the quality of the food?
- 17 A. It was good, yes.
- 18 Q. Was there any compulsion on children to eat their meals?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. Did you ever see any child being told to eat because he
- 21 or she didn't want a particular dish?
- 22 A. No, not really, no.
- 23 Q. Children can sometimes be quite picky in relation to
- 24 food.
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Did you never witness any child being difficult about
2 eating a particular dish and having to be persuaded?
3 A. No, I can't remember, sorry.
4 LADY SMITH: You said a minute ago, "Not really".
5 I wondered what you meant by that. Is there something
6 in your memory about it?
7 A. Sorry, could you repeat the question again? Sorry.
8 MR MacAULAY: I'm just asking whether you ever witnessed
9 a child having to be persuaded to eat a particular dish.
10 A. No, I don't think so. I think they just left it if they
11 didn't eat it.
12 Q. Did you see a child being in any way punished for not
13 eating food?
14 A. No.
15 Q. Did you ever see a child being force-fed?
16 A. No.
17 Q. Did you, as a member of staff, have the same food as the
18 children?
19 A. Yes, everyone had the same.
20 Q. You were also asked, Elizabeth, when you gave your
21 statement about bed-wetting. Were there children who
22 did wet the bed?
23 A. Yes.
24 Q. Was it seen as a problem?
25 A. No, the beds were just stripped and put away for the

- 1 wash.
- 2 Q. What you say in your statement is that it was mostly
3 boys aged 7 or 8 that wet the bed.
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. So we're looking at the younger children, are we?
- 6 A. Mm-hm.
- 7 Q. And you say that some were regular bed-wetters?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Was bed-wetting something that you would discuss with
10 Sister [REDACTED] LFL and indeed Sister [REDACTED] LHA
11 when she was there?
- 12 A. She would usually ask -- sister would usually ask.
- 13 Q. Sister would usually ask what?
- 14 A. Ask if there were any wet beds that day.
- 15 Q. And did anything happen to the children?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. I mean in particular did you see children being punished
18 for wetting the bed?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. Did you see any form of public humiliation of children?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. Did you yourself require to do anything in connection
23 with the wet beds?
- 24 A. Just to take the sheets off.
- 25 Q. And do you say that it was you who did that?

1 A. Yes.

2 LADY SMITH: So at the very least it was extra work in the
3 morning?

4 A. Pardon?

5 LADY SMITH: At the very least, it was extra work to do
6 in the morning?

7 A. Yes, I suppose so, but ...

8 LADY SMITH: Depending on the number of beds that had been
9 wet, it could be quite burdensome to have that extra
10 work, couldn't it?

11 A. It varied. Sometimes maybe only three, sometimes one.

12 LADY SMITH: And at the most?

13 A. Yes.

14 LADY SMITH: How many?

15 A. In my own group.

16 LADY SMITH: Just three --

17 A. Yes.

18 LADY SMITH: -- in all the time you were there?

19 A. No, three each day, you know.

20 LADY SMITH: There would be more than three children who had
21 a problem.

22 A. Yes, there would be.

23 LADY SMITH: Was anything done to address the bed-wetting
24 problem?

25 A. Some of them saw the doctor about it.

1 LADY SMITH: What did the doctor do?

2 A. Maybe give them tablets to see if it would help.

3 LADY SMITH: Did it?

4 A. Some of them. Some didn't.

5 LADY SMITH: Do you know what the tablets were?

6 A. I don't, no.

7 LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay.

8 MR MacAULAY: What about bathing the children who had wet

9 the bed? Did they require to be bathed?

10 A. They got bathed, yes.

11 Q. Would you be involved in that?

12 A. In the mornings.

13 Q. There's a suggestion that cold baths were seen as part

14 of the --

15 A. No.

16 Q. -- process --

17 A. No, definitely not.

18 Q. You would disagree with that?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. You told us earlier, Elizabeth, that there was also

21 a nursery attached to the home; is that correct?

22 A. Mm-hm.

23 Q. Was the nursery within the main building?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. I think we've heard it may have been on the ground

1 floor --

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. -- to the right as you go in the building.

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Did you have anything to do with the nursery?

6 A. No.

7 Q. What about Sister [REDACTED] LFL [REDACTED]? Was she in general charge
8 of the nursery?

9 A. No, it was the sister in charge of the nursery.

10 Q. Was Sister [REDACTED] LFL [REDACTED] in charge of the nursery at a point
11 in time?

12 A. No, I don't think so.

13 Q. Who was the sister that you remember being in charge of
14 the nursery?

15 A. I don't know. I don't remember who the first sister
16 was.

17 Q. There's a sister -- I don't think her pseudonym has been
18 put on your list, but I'll get it passed to you.
19 I think you've been made aware that you have what we
20 call a key, which will provide you with real names and
21 pseudonyms. You'll see on that list there's the
22 pseudonym "Monica" and a name associated with it.

23 A. Yes, I know that sister.

24 Q. Do you remember if she had anything to do with the
25 nursery?

- 1 A. Yes, I do now, yes.
- 2 Q. Was she working under Sister [REDACTED] LFL or not?
- 3 A. I think Sister [REDACTED] LFL was the sort of senior sister.
- 4 Q. Because I think that sister that we're looking at there,
5 Monica, she was young when she had that particular
6 responsibility.
- 7 A. She possibly was; I really had nothing to do with the
8 nursery.
- 9 Q. Can I ask you this: would there be children in the
10 nursery who would have siblings in the other groups?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. So to that extent there would be a degree of separation
13 from the siblings?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Were there any arrangements made to allow these siblings
16 to have regular contact?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. What were the arrangements?
- 19 A. They played with them outside, out in the garden.
- 20 Q. What about in the house itself?
- 21 A. I think they could go down, they could go to the nursery
22 and see them.
- 23 Q. Can I ask you about leisure. You tell us, I think, in
24 your statement at paragraph 43 that there were plenty of
25 toys for your group.

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. What was the position in relation to the presents? If
3 a child was given a present, would the child be allowed
4 to keep it?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. So any suggestion that you may have a present for
7 a short period of time but then have to hand it over,
8 you wouldn't accept that was the case?
- 9 A. No, no.
- 10 Q. Homework then. Did you require to help children with
11 their homework?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. What you say in your statement at paragraph 45 is that:
14 "If the older children had homework, they would do
15 this themselves."
16 So the older children would do it for themselves?
- 17 A. Yes, they would.
- 18 Q. Chores then is the other thing I think you address in
19 your statement. I think you do say that children would
20 polish floors.
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Did that change over the years?
- 23 A. It did, yes.
- 24 Q. Did the nature of the jobs they had to do become less of
25 a burden for them, if I can put it that way?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. In the earlier years, children did polish floors; did
3 they clean toilets?

4 A. No, no.

5 LADY SMITH: Tell me about the floor polishing. What did
6 the children have to do?

7 A. They used to come up after breakfast. The staff had put
8 wax on the floors and they used to come up and slide up
9 and down with dusters on their feet.

10 LADY SMITH: They had dusters on their feet?

11 A. Yes, but it wasn't a punishment.

12 LADY SMITH: Did the children ever have to put the polish on
13 themselves?

14 A. No, the staff done it.

15 LADY SMITH: Was this every day?

16 A. No.

17 LADY SMITH: How often?

18 A. Every Saturday.

19 LADY SMITH: How long did it take the children?

20 A. 15 minutes, maybe.

21 LADY SMITH: Could it have been longer than that?

22 A. I don't think so, no. The staff took over then and
23 finished it off.

24 LADY SMITH: Right. Were you always there when they were
25 polishing the floor?

1 A. Most Saturdays -- I worked Saturdays.

2 LADY SMITH: Maybe I picked you up wrongly. I wasn't sure
3 if you said you always worked Saturdays because I think
4 you said you --

5 A. I did.

6 LADY SMITH: You always worked Saturdays?

7 A. I did Monday to Saturday, yes.

8 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

9 MR MacAULAY: There's been a suggestion in evidence that the
10 task of polishing the floor, from the point of view of
11 the children, was perhaps more onerous than you remember
12 in that a good part of the Saturday may have to have
13 been devoted to it by children. That's not your own
14 recollection?

15 A. No.

16 Q. You've told us what your hours of work were, Elizabeth.
17 Can I just look at bedtimes, were you involved in the
18 children being prepared for bed?

19 A. No. Sometimes I'd get the smaller ones changed, but
20 that was it.

21 Q. One of the things you were asked when you gave your
22 statement was whether you knew of children being asked
23 to sleep in a particular way, and in particular with
24 their arms folded across their chests. Did you have any
25 knowledge of that?

- 1 A. No.
- 2 Q. Were you ever in the bedrooms, can you remember, after
3 children had been put to bed?
- 4 A. No, I was usually off.
- 5 Q. Perhaps I should have asked this when we looked at toys.
6 Do you have any recollection as to what sort of toys
7 were available to the children?
- 8 A. The boys had footballs and cars, different things like
9 that. There was balls, books, jigsaws. There was quite
10 a lot. They had a playground outside, swings, and they
11 went to dancing, they had dancing classes as well.
- 12 Q. Another thing you say also is -- this is at
13 paragraph 57 -- that the children would go to the
14 cinema --
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. -- on a Saturday afternoon. Would a member of staff go
17 with them?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. So did you yourself do that?
- 20 A. I had been, yes.
- 21 Q. How regular an event was this?
- 22 A. About every second Saturday.
- 23 Q. One of the things that you were asked about when
24 you were giving your statement was in connection with
25 whether nuns died when you were in Nazareth House. Did

- 1 some nuns die when you were there?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. What was the procedure in relation to funeral
- 4 arrangements? The nun's body would be taken into the
- 5 church; is that correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Would that be the chapel within the home?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And was it the practice in those days that the coffin
- 10 would remain uncovered?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And was there also a practice, at least on the part of
- 13 the nuns, that they would kiss the dead nun?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. Did nuns not kiss the dead nun?
- 16 A. I don't think so.
- 17 Q. Were you ever asked to kiss --
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. -- a dead nun? What about children?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. You tell us at paragraphs 64 through to 66 about trips
- 22 and holidays that you had. In particular, that there
- 23 was a holiday house in Fairlie, near to Largs.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Also one in Girvan?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. When you went on holiday, did you go as a group?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. What about the other groups? Did other groups go at --

5 A. They went at different times.

6 Q. So do I take it if you're talking about 30 children in

7 your group, it would be those 30 children and yourself;

8 is that right?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Sister [REDACTED] LFL, if she --

11 A. No, she never went.

12 Q. So who would go?

13 A. Another sister. Sister [REDACTED] LJS was there at one time.

14 Q. That's later on of course.

15 A. Yes. Mm-hm.

16 Q. Are you saying that in Sister [REDACTED] LFL's time, she just

17 did not go?

18 A. No, she didn't go.

19 Q. What about Sister [REDACTED] LHA?

20 A. Sister [REDACTED] LHA went, yes.

21 Q. So would it be one lay staff or more than one?

22 A. No. Not all the children went: some of them were maybe

23 out with befrienders, foster carers.

24 Q. Are you able to remember what sort of activities then

25 that the children would be able to engage in on these

1 trips?

2 A. When they were on holiday?

3 Q. Yes.

4 A. Swimming, going to the beach, swimming, walking.

5 Q. Can I now ask you about birthdays, first of all. Can

6 you remember if a child's birthday was celebrated?

7 A. I don't remember if it was on the day. I can't

8 remember. I don't know if it was a group thing, if

9 there were so many in the group and they'd have the one

10 party.

11 Q. Who would organise that?

12 A. The sister in charge.

13 Q. Do you really have any recollection then of birthday

14 celebrations at all?

15 A. I know they got presents, the staff brought them in

16 presents. They always got a present in the house.

17 Q. Were these presents they were allowed to keep?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Was Christmas celebrated?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Were you there for Christmas Day?

22 A. Some years, yes.

23 Q. But some years you'd be off because it was a holiday?

24 A. Mm-hm.

25 Q. You also tell us a little bit about visits, and what you

1 say in your statement is that children could have
2 visitors at any time.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. But in particular, at the weekends; is that right?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. One thing you say at paragraph 75 is that if someone
7 wanted to take a child out for a day, they would have to
8 arrange this through Social Services.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. How sure are you about that? Would a family member have
11 to go through Social Services in order to arrange to
12 take a child out?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Would it not be up to the sister in charge?

15 A. I think between the sister and the person that was doing
16 it.

17 Q. You say also that you don't remember a child being away
18 overnight, but is that just something you don't
19 remember?

20 A. I don't, no. I don't think it was allowed.

21 Q. What if a child was -- there was a plan to foster
22 a child and they were having a sort of trial run?

23 A. Yes, if it was arranged with Social Services, yes.

24 Q. So those would be instances where a child would be out
25 for the night?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Do you remember if the Knights of St Columba would visit
3 the home?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Were they allowed to take children out?
- 6 A. I think they did, yes.
- 7 Q. Did you really have much to do with the social workers
8 yourself?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. Again, would it be the sister who would deal with the
11 social workers?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Just trying to get a time frame for when the different
14 sisters you worked with were there, I think you say at
15 paragraph 80 that you thought that Sister [REDACTED] LFL left
16 in about 1971.
- 17 A. About that, yes.
- 18 Q. And it was Sister [REDACTED] LHA who took over?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And you thought she was there for -- I think in the
21 statement you said about five years.
- 22 A. I think so, yes.
- 23 Q. I understand dates --
- 24 A. I can't really remember.
- 25 Q. -- can be difficult. And at a point in time,

1 Sister [LJS] was in charge?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Was she later on, really?

4 A. Later on, yes.

5 Q. Was she the last person who was involved in your group;

6 can you remember?

7 A. I think she could have been, yes.

8 Q. Was there a Sister [LKR] at any point?

9 A. Yes. Not with me.

10 Q. Can I then ask you about discipline. Were you given any

11 guidance as to how a child or children should be

12 disciplined?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Was there any written guidance, any written procedure

15 provided?

16 A. No, I don't think so.

17 Q. Did you ever discuss with sister how a child should be

18 disciplined?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Did you see children being disciplined?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. In what way?

23 A. Just being told off or pocket money stopped, not going

24 out, being kept in, to an outing.

25 Q. Who --

- 1 A. The sister in charge.
- 2 Q. Were you yourself required to discipline a child?
- 3 A. It was mostly sister.
- 4 Q. When you say mostly, were there occasions when you
5 yourself would be required to discipline a child?
- 6 A. Maybe for something that was going on in the group,
7 nothing -- maybe arguing or something.
- 8 Q. And how would you do that?
- 9 A. Just tell them to stop, and if they didn't, I'd let
10 sister know. We were usually all right.
- 11 Q. In that event then, if you had to bring sister in, what
12 would happen?
- 13 A. She'd either send them up to bed, depending on the
14 time ...
- 15 Q. Did you see a child being smacked?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. But were there children who were smacked for
18 misbehaviour?
- 19 A. Could have been. I didn't witness anything.
- 20 Q. Did you see children crying?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. If you saw a child crying, would you try and find out
23 what the reason was?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And what sort of reasons can you tell us about?

- 1 A. I don't know, really. I can't remember.
- 2 Q. Did a child ever tell you that he or she was crying
3 because he or she had been hit by sister?
- 4 A. No, no.
- 5 Q. Did you ever hear anyone shouting or swearing at the
6 children that could be seen in any way as demeaning
7 towards them?
- 8 A. No, no.
- 9 Q. Do you know if there was a book kept to record any
10 punishments?
- 11 A. Possibly. I don't really know.
- 12 Q. Did you ever see such a book?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 Q. Did you ever see anything in connection with the way
15 children were treated that caused you concern?
- 16 A. No, I don't think so.
- 17 Q. Did any child in your group run away?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. Are you absolutely sure?
- 20 A. Not that I remember.
- 21 Q. Did you hear of other children running away?
- 22 A. I think I did. Just hearing about it. I don't know --
23 we had nothing to do with the other groups at all. You
24 just kept to your own group.
- 25 Q. Insofar as Sister [REDACTED] LFL is concerned, how do you

- 1 think she was regarded by the children?
- 2 A. They liked her. She was very fair.
- 3 Q. Would there be any cause for children to be afraid of
4 her?
- 5 A. No, I don't think so, no.
- 6 Q. One thing you also tell us in your statement, Elizabeth,
7 is that children were given pocket money, but
8 deprivation of pocket money could be one of the
9 punishments?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Do you know how much children were given? I suppose it
12 varied depending on age.
- 13 A. It varied on ages.
- 14 Q. I want to put a number of points to you that have come
15 out of the evidence. What I'll try and do is I'll try
16 and look at different points in time under reference to
17 the different sisters that you worked with. Do you
18 follow me? The first, of course, is Sister LFL.
- 19 This witness -- and I'll put the transcript on the
20 screen and it's TRN.001.003.2477. This witness, if you
21 look at the key in your red folder, you'll see that she
22 has taken the pseudonym "Tess". If you look across,
23 you'll see who she is. Does that name look at all
24 familiar to you?
- 25 A. Sorry, what was the name?

- 1 Q. Tess. It's the second bottom.
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Do you recognise the name?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. This person would certainly have crossed over quite
6 a bit of your time there because she was there from
7 [REDACTED] 1962 until [REDACTED] 1973.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. If we turn to page 2478, towards the bottom of page
10 she's asked the question:
- 11 "Question: You're someone -- although I think you
12 do make some criticisms of the regime we're about to
13 discuss, you had fond memories of your time in
14 Nazareth House Cardonald."
- 15 And on the next page, 2479:
- 16 "Answer: Yes, that's correct."
- 17 So this is someone who had a positive experience,
18 I think, according to her own evidence. Are you in
19 touch with this person still?
- 20 A. Yes. This is her married name.
- 21 Q. Indeed, but in any event you know who we're talking
22 about?
- 23 A. I know who we're talking about, yes.
- 24 Q. If we go to page 2492, again, this is at line number 13,
25 I'll read that:

1 "Question: What you say in your statement in
2 connection with Sister [REDACTED] LFL -- and we've now tried
3 to get a time frame for her -- is that she was in charge
4 of your group and you describe her as being very strict.

5 "Answer: Yes.

6 "Question: Can you elaborate on what you mean by
7 that?

8 "Answer: Well, she was strict in the sense that you
9 were not allowed to sort of -- if you were in church or
10 if you did something wrong, you knew that you were in
11 trouble because she would punish you depending on what
12 you were doing."

13 She goes on again to say that she was extremely
14 strict. Is that a description that you recognise?

15 A. I suppose she was strict to them because they were
16 young.

17 Q. Would that be a reason why children might have been
18 afraid of her then?

19 A. I don't think they were afraid of her.

20 Q. If you turn to page 2509, towards the bottom at line 19
21 she says:

22 "Answer: Again, as I said earlier on, it was quite
23 strict. If you did anything wrong -- in the younger
24 years, I do remember getting the odd clip around the
25 head and the odd cane, but not -- I didn't get the cane

1 that much. I knew other children were getting the
2 cane."

3 Did you see a cane being used?

4 A. No.

5 Q. At no point in time?

6 A. No, never.

7 Q. And if you go on to the next page, 2510, at line 5 she's
8 asked:

9 "Question: On those occasions who did the clipping?

10 "Answer: My recollection would have been
11 Sister [REDACTED] at that time.

12 "Question: And the cane?

13 "Answer: Again, Sister [REDACTED].

14 "Question: Just so I can understand what the cane
15 was, what was it?

16 "Answer: Just a stick, a long thin stick, but at
17 school it was a belt.

18 "Question: Yes. And was there a particular part of
19 the body that the cane was used to hit?

20 "Answer: Just generally the hands."

21 Again, she's really implicating Sister [REDACTED]
22 in that. You saw --

23 A. I never saw that, no.

24 Q. If I take you then to page 2511, here she starts to talk
25 about bed-wetting. Bearing in mind this is someone who

1 looks upon this as a positive experience. What she says
2 at line 8 is:

3 "Answer: I recall one incident of wetting the bed--
4 I may have done it more than once but I definitely
5 recall one time wetting the bed.

6 "Question: What is your recollection of that
7 particular incident?

8 "Answer: I remember waking up in the middle of the
9 night and realised that I'd wet bed and got into a bit
10 of a panic because I knew that bed-wetting wasn't
11 acceptable and that if you got caught wetting the bed,
12 it wasn't good for you because you'd have to hold your
13 sheets and stand in the corner, et cetera."

14 So this is why she was in a panic, because of what
15 she'd have to do. Now, is that correct?

16 A. I never, ever saw that.

17 Q. And, as it turned out, she wasn't caught because she
18 dried the sheets. But if you turn to page 2512, when
19 she's talking generally about bed-wetters, she's asked
20 at the top:

21 "Question: What happened to them?

22 "Answer: Generally, you had to wash your sheets,
23 but you tended to sort of either -- you were put in
24 a corner -- you'd stand in a corner for a bit.

25 "Question: With your sheets?

1 "Answer: With your sheets so everybody knew you'd
2 wet the bed of the again. That was in the early days.
3 I don't ever remember that happening with
4 Sister [REDACTED] LHA [REDACTED]."

5 Again, she's implicating Sister [REDACTED] LFL [REDACTED] in this
6 practice. And you were there in the mornings, I think,
7 Elizabeth?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Is this something that could have happened and you've
10 just forgotten over the years?

11 A. I didn't see that. I never saw anything like that.

12 Q. She goes on to say at line 16:

13 "Answer: I think that's why you were always
14 a little bit nervous of making sure you didn't wet the
15 bed. I don't really understand why that happened,
16 I don't know whether they thought that would train you
17 to not wet the bed, but it probably had the adverse
18 effect and made you more nervous.

19 "Question: What you say in your statement -- and
20 this is at paragraph 52 -- is that:

21 "'Serious discipline from the nuns meant the cane
22 and that's when somebody did something wrong such as
23 bed-wetting.'

24 "Were children caned for bed-wetting?

25 "Answer: Yes, I think so."

1 Did you see a child being caned for wetting the bed?

2 A. Mm.

3 Q. She's also asked:

4 "Question: Running away. You never ran away.

5 "Answer: No.

6 "Question: Were you aware that there were children

7 who did run away?

8 "Answer: Yes.

9 "Question: Can you say how regular an occurrence

10 that was?

11 "Answer: I couldn't say how regular, but it wasn't

12 overly regular, but I do remember at least two of the

13 children that were in [your] group who were regular

14 runners. They'd just run away."

15 She goes on to say there were children who were

16 treated worse than she was. But your recollection,

17 I think you told me earlier, was that children did not

18 run away.

19 A. No.

20 Q. But could you have forgotten that there were children in

21 your group who did run away for whatever reason?

22 A. I don't think they ran away. They might have gone into

23 the garden and stayed out of sight for a while. I don't

24 actually remember them running out of the grounds.

25 Q. Can I then ask you about another child, a former child.

1 Again, if you look at the key, I'm looking at the fourth
2 entry from the bottom on the right-hand side, where this
3 person has chosen the name "Anne". Do you recognise the
4 name?

5 A. Oh, she had left before I came. She was the oldest of
6 her family.

7 Q. According to the registers for Nazareth House, she was
8 there from [REDACTED] 1961 until [REDACTED] 1968, so that's --

9 A. I don't remember that one. I remember the other three,
10 the younger ones; I thought she'd gone.

11 Q. Well, in any event, she was in the group, the green
12 group, that was managed by Sister [REDACTED] LFL .

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Well, can I just pick up one point then at page 1389 of
15 her transcript. I'll perhaps put the first page of the
16 transcript on the screen: TRN.001.003.1369.

17 That's where her evidence begins. Perhaps I'll just
18 take you to page 1374. She's told us on the previous
19 page that she went there in 1961 and it's here that she
20 says at line 7 -- it is put to her:

21 "Question: According to the records that we've
22 seen, you left on [REDACTED] 1948?

23 "Answer: That would be correct."

24 So on the face of it, it does appear your paths may
25 have crossed, although your recollection may not bear

1 that out.

2 A. She said she'd be 18. There was no one as old as that.

3 Q. That's what the records from the Sisters of Nazareth
4 suggest, but leaving that aside, can I just take you to
5 what she says at page 1389. It's at line 11 and she
6 says:

7 "Answer: But the routine for bed-wetting was the
8 beds would be put back and they would focus on the
9 certain age group and check the beds and there was
10 regular children that had that problem -- right, the bed
11 would come -- the sheets would come off, stand over
12 there, hold your -- they would stand out in the corridor
13 and there would be a wee line of them holding their
14 sheets -- usually regular wee faces there."

15 Now, can you, again -- that's quite a graphic
16 description of --

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. -- what the process involved. And this would be under
19 Sister LFL's reign.

20 A. Not in my time, that's all I can say.

21 Q. She actually gives the example on page 1390 at line 16.
22 She was asked:

23 "Question: There were children who regularly wet
24 the bed?"

25 And she has the recollection:

1 "Answer: One wee girl -- it sticks in my mind
2 because I can remember her name but she was a regular
3 wee girl that probably had an accident every night."

4 I think you have said there were regular
5 bed-wetters, Elizabeth; is that right?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. "And the one incident I do remember is what that -- she
8 had been told to go and stand wherever it was and they
9 forgot about her. They completely forgot about her.
10 This child was, I am making a guess, about 6 or 7.
11 Apparently, at 10 o'clock that night, one of the staff
12 members got a knock on the door to say, 'Can I go to my
13 bed now?' and she had stood there the whole day and the
14 whole day had gone by and nobody had missed her. How
15 did that happen? It did happen."

16 That's a rather sad account of what happened.

17 A. But the staff didn't sleep with the children; they were
18 on the floor below.

19 Q. But there'd be sisters in that area.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. She also said -- and I can take you to the evidence --
22 that when children were admitted, their clothing would
23 be removed. Did you have any recollection of that?

24 A. No.

25 Q. I can take you to the page, it's 1399 and it's at

1 line 13. She just gives an example of how clothing that
2 her mother, who had I think died shortly after she was
3 admitted, had brought two little straw bonnets for the
4 younger sisters and she remembered at Mass on
5 Easter Sunday seeing some children in the blue group,
6 not the green group, wearing the hats. So the inference
7 being that the clothing had been removed and passed on
8 to another group. Could that have happened?

9 A. No.

10 Q. When you were giving your statement, Elizabeth, a number
11 of other allegations were put to you that had been made
12 by former residents; is that right?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Again, if I can just look quickly at some of that. The
15 first I want to look at is the second top name in the
16 list. You'll see this person has taken the name
17 "Yvonne".

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Do you recognise that name?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. If I can get her transcript up on the screen. It's
22 TRN.001.003.1475.

23 She begins by talking about her time in the nursery,
24 and I think you probably can confirm that she was
25 somebody who went in at a young age.

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. With, I think, a younger sister?
- 3 A. Four of them.
- 4 Q. Pardon?
- 5 A. Four: two older ones and one younger.
- 6 Q. Okay. The reason I asked you before if Sister [REDACTED] LFL
- 7 had any role to do with the nursery is that this former
- 8 resident does have a recollection of Sister [REDACTED] LFL
- 9 in the nursery and I'll just take you to the page. It's
- 10 1479. What she says towards the top there at line 4 is:
- 11 "Question: Do you have much of a memory as to what
- 12 life was like in the nursery?
- 13 "Answer: Yes, with Sister [REDACTED] LFL [and I think
- 14 one can infer that is a reference to Sister [REDACTED] LFL]."
- 15 Was there a Sister [REDACTED] LFL at any time?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. Certainly Yvonne seems to suggest there that she was at
- 18 one point in charge of the nursery and, towards the
- 19 bottom of the page, at line 21, she says she moved from
- 20 the nursery at 5 up to the green group.
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. That was in your group?
- 23 A. Mm-hm.
- 24 Q. And she's asked:
- 25 "Question: What about your younger sister? Did she

1 stay in the nursery or not?

2 "Answer: She stayed in the nursery."

3 And then there came a point in time when she moved
4 up as well; is that right?

5 A. Yes, she did.

6 Q. If I take you to the next page, page 1480, she's asked
7 the question:

8 "Question: What was life like in the nursery."

9 "Answer: I remember, after you've had your tea,
10 then all the kids would all get lined up into this wee
11 basin, sink, we would all get washed, but if any of the
12 kids moved out of line or anything, they would be beaten
13 with wooden hangers because they had stepped out of
14 line.

15 "Question: Who did that?

16 "Answer: Sister [REDACTED] LFL "

17 A. I don't think so. I never knew Sister [REDACTED] LFL to go
18 to the nursery.

19 Q. She goes on towards the bottom:

20 "Answer: Even in the nursery --"

21 At the bottom of the page, she is asked at line 23:

22 "Question: When you went to bed in the nursery,
23 when you were of an age that you can remember, did
24 you have to sleep in a particular way?"

25 Over the page, 1481:

1 "Answer: We had to sleep with our arms folded, as
2 if we were angels.

3 "Question: And you're indicating that with your
4 arms crossed over your chest?"

5 So even in the nursery that seems to be the way the
6 children were trained to sleep; were you aware of that?

7 A. No.

8 Q. And she goes on to say at line number 8:

9 "Answer: If we were found in a different position,
10 the nuns would come in, drag you out of bed, and you'd
11 end up getting a doing, a slap."

12 And when she's asked about the nuns, she says:

13 "Answer: Mainly Sister [REDACTED] LFL because you only
14 really had one nun."

15 Now --

16 A. No.

17 Q. I think I took from you earlier that Sister [REDACTED] LFL
18 was a senior nun.

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. So is it possible that she did have some duties in
21 connection with the nursery even although she was in
22 charge also of the green group?

23 A. Maybe, but I don't know. I didn't think she had.

24 Q. The only other point I'll perhaps take in connection
25 with the nursery is at page 1483. This is at line

1 number 4, and again this is still in the nursery:

2 "Question: What's your recollection of the food
3 when you were in the nursery section?

4 "Answer: Some food I liked, some food I didn't.
5 The foods I didn't like were Brussels sprouts, custard
6 and semolina. But the nuns forced you to eat it. And
7 say you were vomiting -- because even now to this day,
8 I can't even stand the smell of Brussels sprouts -- they
9 would get the spoon and throw the vomit and the food
10 back into your mouth and hold your nose until you
11 swallowed it."

12 Again, she goes on to implicate Sister [REDACTED] LFL
13 in that process. Now, I know you weren't in the
14 nursery, but you did see mealtimes in the green group.

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Did that sort of behaviour happen in the green group?

17 A. No.

18 Q. You never saw anything like that?

19 A. No.

20 Q. You mentioned earlier, Elizabeth, that it was

21 Sister [REDACTED] LHA who took over from

22 Sister [REDACTED] LFL in the green group. If I can just look
23 at what's said about her by Yvonne. This is at
24 page 1491.

25 At line 9 she actually spells the name [REDACTED] LHA as

1 LHA , but I think it was a LHA rather than
2 a --

3 A. LHA , yes.

4 Q.

5

6

7

8

9 A.

10 Q.

11

12 A.

13 Q.

14

15 "Answer: Yes, she would grab you against the wall
16 and hold you up and then start booting into your legs

17

18 "Question: So she was in charge of the group?"

19 What about that behaviour? Did you ever see

20 anything like that happening?

21 A. No, never.

22 Q. And I think it was this witness who spoke about having
23 to kiss a dead nun. If you turn to page 1493, at line
24 number 4 she's asked:

25 "Question: You tell us something in your statement

1 also about a nun who died when you were there and what
2 happened."

3 "Answer: We were young. We all had to go to Mass
4 and all the kids were all lined up and we all had to
5 kiss her.

6 "Question: Where did you kiss her?

7 "Answer: On the forehead.

8 "Question: What did you feel about that?

9 "Answer: I didn't like it."

10 And she goes on to say she was about 7 at the time.
11 You just don't recognise that as a procedure that
12 happened at all?

13 A. No, never.

14 Q. Again, is this somebody you keep in touch with still?

15 A. Yes, I meet up with her maybe every couple of months.

16 Q. Another passage I can take about her is at page 1496.
17 It's towards the top of the page and I think this is
18 possibly when Sister LHA is in charge. At line 3:

19 "Answer: I was called a devil's child."

20 Do you see that?

21 "Answer: I'm left-handed and my left hand used to
22 get strapped up my back to try and write with my right
23 hand.

24 "Question: Was that in the nursery as well?

25 "Answer: That started in the nursery."

1 Did you see this child or indeed any child being --

2 A. No, never.

3 Q. -- managed in that way?

4 A. No, never.

5 Q. Did you hear a child being called "the devil's child"
6 because he or she was left-handed?

7 A. No.

8 Q. We have had evidence along these lines not just from
9 this source but from other sources.

10 A. No. I never, ever saw that.

11 Q. So far as bed-wetting is concerned, again this witness
12 gives some evidence about that. This is on page 1499
13 and is at line: 10. She's asked the question:

14 "Question: Can I ask you about bed-wetting.

15 I understand from what you say in your statement, you
16 did not have a problem with bed-wetting.

17 "Answer: I never had a problem with bed-wetting,
18 no.

19 "Question: Did you see what happened to
20 bed-wetters?

21 "Answer: A very good friend of mine was
22 a bed-wetter.

23 "Question: What happened?

24 "Answer: She would get taken out of bed and the
25 sheet would get wrapped round her and then she'd have to

1 go in and get a shower -- as far as I know it was a cool
2 shower she got.

3 "Question: What about other children? Did you see
4 what happened to them?

5 "Answer: It was only that one that was in the next
6 bed to me."

7 Again, this would, I think, be in the time of
8 Sister **LHA**. Did that sort of --

9 A. There were no showers at all.

10 Q. Then it would be a bath?

11 A. Baths, yes.

12 Q. But this business of having the sheet wrapped round you,
13 did --

14 A. No, that never happened.

15 Q. This girl, when she was there, in her evidence she said
16 she ran away. If you turn to page 1500, she's asked:

17 "Question: Why did you run away?

18 "Answer: Because I was getting the blame of
19 everything and the way I was being treated."

20 Do you have a recollection now, Elizabeth, that --

21 A. I don't.

22 Q. -- Yvonne may have run away?

23 A. No, I don't.

24 Q. This appears to be at a time when Sister **LJS** is in
25 charge of the group, because I think you've told us the

1 sequence was [REDACTED] LFL , [REDACTED] LHA and [REDACTED] LJS .

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. She tells us towards the bottom of that page at 1500 at
4 line 21:

5 "Answer: One occasion I'd ran away and I was trying
6 to climb a big fence and I sort of hurt myself climbing
7 over the fence so I started bleeding and I thought to
8 myself -- I think it was about three days I ran away
9 for, and the blood was getting worse and worse and
10 worse."

11 And moving on to the next page:

12 "And I decided to go back because I was scared. So
13 I went back and it was at night-time with Sister [REDACTED] LJS ,
14 and I says to her what had happened and she stripped me,
15 she filled the bath up with disinfectant, and the
16 scrubbing brushes that you use for your floor, I got
17 scrubbed from head to toe with that to cleanse my sins,
18 and apparently it was my periods I had taken."

19 And that was what was causing the bleeding and she
20 was about 12 at that time. What about that? Does that
21 ring any bells with you as to how Sister [REDACTED] LJS might
22 behave?

23 A. Sister [REDACTED] LJS was in bad health, she was in very poor
24 health. There was no way she could manage to put
25 a child of that age in a bath and do that.

- 1 Q. So you just don't accept that that happened?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Were you aware, Elizabeth, that this was a resident that
4 claimed to have been sexually abused when she was out
5 with a couple?
- 6 A. I didn't know. I wasn't aware until I was told about
7 it. She's supposed to have told me when she came back.
8 She never did.
- 9 Q. If we look at what she said in her evidence at 1502,
10 she's asked at line 7:
11 "Question: The other thing you tell us, Yvonne,
12 is that you were taken on holiday by a particular couple
13 to England; is that right."
14 And it was in a place in Staffordshire and her
15 sister went with her. Do you remember the event? Do
16 you remember her going?
- 17 A. No, I don't.
- 18 Q. There was an accident involving water with someone --
19 she thought someone had saved her from drowning, but
20 that evening in a caravan, if we look at page 1503,
21 towards the bottom, she's asked at line 25:
22 "Question: I think you say he sexually abused you."
23 And over the page at 1504:
24 "Answer: Yes.
25 "Question: What about your sister?

1 "Answer: He abused my sister as well."

2 And she goes on to say towards the bottom of that
3 page:

4 "Question: When you got back did you speak to the
5 nuns about what had happened to you?

6 "Answer: There was about three nuns standing
7 talking. I overheard my name getting said and they were
8 talking about going back out on holiday and I said, 'I'm
9 not going out with him again, he did things to me'.
10 I was called a liar, a troublemaker. I was told to go
11 down to the chapel and say 10 Our Fathers and
12 20 Hail Marys.

13 "Question: Did you tell the nuns what he had done
14 to you?

15 "Answer: Aye, I told them he was doing things to me
16 that I didn't like.

17 "Question: Did you actually tell them what he had
18 done?

19 "Answer: I said he had done dirty things."

20 And she goes on to say:

21 "Answer: I was to ask God for forgiveness."

22 Now, did you have any knowledge at that time that
23 this was being said?

24 A. No.

25 Q. Do you know if Yvonne went back to the --

1 A. I don't even remember her going out with these people at
2 all.

3 Q. Are you saying if she says that she -- that you knew --
4 you knew nothing about this?

5 A. No, no.

6 LADY SMITH: Am I right in remembering that when you were
7 talking about taking the children on holidays, though,
8 you did say that sometimes children would be away with
9 families that --

10 A. Yes.

11 LADY SMITH: -- were offering to give them a holiday or
12 short-term fostering of that sort?

13 A. Yes.

14 LADY SMITH: So it was something that could happen?

15 A. It could happen, yes.

16 MR MacAULAY: I think the inquiry has seen some records to
17 suggest that in fact there was a complaint made to the
18 social workers about dirty things having happened and
19 that being a reason why Yvonne and her sister did not go
20 back out. Did you know about that?

21 A. No.

22 Q. If I go back to your statement and take you to
23 paragraph 107 -- perhaps before I look at it, if I can
24 take you back to the key. The person who is being
25 mentioned in the statement at this point is the third

1 name down from the top. This person took the name
2 "Bernie".

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. You recognise the name?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Perhaps what I'll do, before I ask you about your own
7 statement, is take you to her evidence. That begins at
8 TRN.001.003.1515.

9 I'll read out what's said at page 1533. What she
10 says there is:

11 "Answer: I saw Sister **LGS** severely batter a girl
12 on a flight of stairs when we were on holiday in
13 Glengarry Guest House. Sister **LGS** was a bitch. The
14 girl was in our group and she beat her because the girl
15 and I had gone downstairs and stolen food from the
16 kitchen. The two of us were walking back you up the
17 stairs and Sister **LGS** was standing at the top waiting
18 for us. She grabbed the girl and started battering into
19 her. She was kicking her, pulling her hair and punching
20 her and she carried on kicking into her when the girl
21 was on the floor. It lasted a while, about 10 to
22 15 minutes, I'd say. I started screaming and shouting
23 for **LKB** to come. **LKB** came and pulled
24 Sister **LGS** away. I remember **LKB** trying to defuse
25 the situation. The two of them were shouting at each

1 other. I remember LKB said, 'You can't treat kids
2 like that', and the sister saying, 'That's their
3 punishment, they shouldn't be stealing'. Again, I would
4 say I was between 8 to 10 or 11 when this happened."

5 You were asked about that when you gave your
6 statement, Elizabeth. Did you remember that event?

7 A. That didn't happen in the holiday house; it happened in
8 Nazareth House and it wasn't the sister that they've --

9 Q. Can you recollect what happened?

10 A. I came up the stairs and I heard a commotion on the
11 corridor and there was a young sister, who's no longer
12 with the order, and a different child fighting and
13 I split them up. But it didn't happen in the holiday
14 house. It definitely didn't.

15 Q. Could that be a different event? Could the event that
16 you're recollecting involving a different sister --

17 A. I know nothing about the one in the holiday house.

18 Q. Let's look at the one you do know about.

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. So this was a different child?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And a different sister?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. What was the sister's name?

25 A. LVQ A different LVQ

1 Q. Sorry?

2 A. A younger sister that was there a number of years ago.

3 Q. What did you see happening?

4 A. They were fighting. The child was about 14. I don't

5 know why, what the reason was. I just pulled them apart

6 and one of the other staff took the child away and

7 I went up after the sister and I said, "what happened?"

8 and she sort of didn't answer me.

9 Q. Did you do anything else about it?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Was the girl --

12 A. I went down to see if she was all right and she said

13 yes.

14 Q. The girl?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Was she in your group?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Was Sister [REDACTED] LVQ part of the group at that point?

19 A. She was.

20 Q. She was in charge of the group?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Did you not enquire to see what -- I mean, this is the

23 sister in charge of the group fighting with a young

24 child.

25 A. I don't know what happened.

- 1 Q. And the fighting that you saw, what did you see?
- 2 A. I just saw the two of them hitting each other.
- 3 Q. In what way?
- 4 A. Punching each other.
- 5 Q. Kicking?
- 6 A. No, no.
- 7 Q. Did the child go to the floor?
- 8 A. I think they fell. I think they went down on to the
- 9 floor.
- 10 Q. When you say "they", both were on the floor?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. From what you're saying then, you didn't make any
- 13 enquiries as to why the sister should be behaving in
- 14 this way?
- 15 A. She didn't tell me. I didn't question her. She didn't
- 16 -- sister didn't tell me what it was about.
- 17 Q. How long had she been in charge of the group?
- 18 A. Not long, a few months.
- 19 Q. Was she in charge for very long?
- 20 A. She was there about a year, I think.
- 21 Q. Where did she come in the chain then, between [REDACTED] LFL
- 22 and Sister [REDACTED] LJS ?
- 23 A. I think before Sister [REDACTED] LJS maybe.
- 24 Q. How did she behave generally with the group?
- 25 A. All right. I think they liked her because she was

1 young.

2 Q. And how would you describe Sister [REDACTED] LVQ [REDACTED] ?

3 A. All right. She was fine, yes. I had no problems with

4 her.

5 Q. Did the children have problems with her?

6 A. I don't think so, no.

7 Q. Did you see any other behaviour that --

8 A. No, just that incident.

9 LADY SMITH: Did it occur to you that you ought to report

10 it?

11 A. I don't know if I did. I can't remember if I did.

12 LADY SMITH: Do you think you might have done?

13 A. Possibly.

14 LADY SMITH: Who would you have reported it to?

15 A. The Superior.

16 LADY SMITH: And what would you have expected to be done

17 about it?

18 A. Maybe sister being disciplined.

19 LADY SMITH: How?

20 A. By the Superior. I don't really know. I can't

21 remember.

22 LADY SMITH: How did you feel about the fact that there was

23 a nun, to use a colloquialism, laying into a child?

24 A. I know. Terrible.

25 LADY SMITH: Is that how you felt about it at the time?

1 A. Yes.

2 LADY SMITH: Did it trouble you?

3 A. It did.

4 LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay.

5 MR MacAULAY: Did you say at that time to Sister **LVQ**

6 "You can't treat kids like that"?

7 A. No.

8 Q. So the incident then that Bernie talks about is one that

9 means absolutely nothing to you?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Was Glengarry Guest House a place that you went on

12 holiday to?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. So that part of it is correct?

15 A. Mm-hm.

16 Q. Would you go as a group, the green group?

17 A. Sometimes two groups. It depended how many children

18 were left at the holiday time.

19 Q. Sister **LGS** was she in another group?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. So that might have been an incident when there were two

22 groups there?

23 A. Yes, it would have been.

24 Q. Did you know Sister **LGS** ?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And what was she like?

2 A. I didn't have much to do with her, but yeah, she was
3 fine.

4 Q. So insofar as Bernie is concerned, she has completely
5 misunderstood that you were there at the time?

6 A. I definitely wasn't there.

7 Q. Would other staff members be on that kind of holiday as
8 well?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. It was, I think, in particular Bernie who suggested that
11 you were told about the sexual abuse. If I can just
12 take you to that part of her evidence where she talks
13 about that, that's at TRN.001.003.1534.

14 This is still Bernie who's speaking here. This is
15 at line number 14:

16 "Answer: When we came back from the caravan, my
17 sister told [REDACTED] LKB what [REDACTED] LFN had done to
18 us and then I spoke to [REDACTED] LKB. [REDACTED] LKB said she would
19 go to Sister [REDACTED] LHA and tell her. Sister [REDACTED] LHA
20 then took us into a room and my sister tried to tell her
21 what happened. Sister [REDACTED] LHA told us that these
22 people had gone out of their way to do this for us and
23 we should be more grateful. She told my sister to stop
24 telling lies. I said we weren't telling lies and he had
25 done dirty things -- that's how I put it. Nothing at

1 all was done about it."

2 We know in fact that something was done about it by
3 the social workers. But what I want to ask you is this:
4 could this conversation have taken place but you've just
5 forgotten?

6 A. No, I don't think so. I hope not. I don't think so.

7 Q. Did you say earlier that you now have knowledge that
8 there was this allegation, were these allegations of
9 sexual abuse by these former residents? Did you become
10 aware of that?

11 A. I don't remember it.

12 Q. Did you at any point in time become aware of these
13 allegations?

14 A. Just when --

15 Q. Just when you were giving your statement?

16 A. Mm-hm.

17 Q. If you weren't aware of it at the time and it was
18 reported to the sisters, and that seems to be borne out
19 by the social work records, ought you to have been made
20 aware of it?

21 A. Ought I to be?

22 Q. Yes.

23 A. Yes, I ... I don't remember being told about it.

24 Q. Would it be Sister LHA then that would have the
25 responsibility of telling you about it if you were

1 not --

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. -- made aware?

4 LADY SMITH: Why do you agree that you should have been
5 told?

6 A. I don't know really. Sorry, I'm not really sure of the
7 question. The last ...

8 LADY SMITH: You just agreed with Mr MacAulay that if you
9 weren't aware of the allegations at the time, the sexual
10 abuse allegations at the time, and it was in fact
11 reported to the sisters and indeed to the
12 social workers, then you should have been told about it
13 too. And you agreed with Mr MacAulay that, yes, you
14 should have been. I just wanted to explore, thinking
15 back to the position you were in, why you think that you
16 should have been told as well.

17 A. No, I was wrong there. I shouldn't have been told.

18 LADY SMITH: You shouldn't? Why not?

19 A. Because it really had nothing to do with me.

20 LADY SMITH: But it could impact on the children.

21 A. Yes. I don't know.

22 LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay.

23 MR MacAULAY: I suppose the point is, you were the
24 housemother --

25 A. I was one of them.

- 1 Q. -- caring for the children.
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. So would you agree, at least with the benefit of
4 hindsight, that really it's something you should have
5 been told?
- 6 A. Yes, probably.
- 7 Q. I now want you to go back to the key, if you would, and
8 above halfway there's the pseudonym "Donna". Do you see
9 the pseudonym?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. You'll see the name associated with that pseudonym;
12 is that a name you recognise?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Again, is that somebody you keep in contact with?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. As we've seen, you're in contact with quite of number of
17 these former residents --
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. -- who have come to this inquiry to make quite serious
20 allegations.
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Just to be clear, was Donna a member of your group?
- 23 A. No.
- 24 Q. But she was somebody you knew?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 MR MacAULAY: I'm about to put one or two parts of
2 a transcript to the witness and I see it's coming up for
3 11.30.

4 LADY SMITH: Perhaps we could take the morning break at this
5 stage and sit again in 15 or 20 minutes, please.
6 Thank you.

7 (11.27 am)

8 (A short break)

9 (11.45 am)

10 LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay.

11 MR MacAULAY: Before I move on to where I was going to go
12 before the break, Elizabeth, you mentioned
13 Sister [REDACTED] LVQ as being someone who came in at
14 a point in time to be in charge of the green group.

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. I think you thought she came after Sister [REDACTED] LJS; is that
17 right?

18 A. I think so. I'm not really sure, but I think so.

19 Q. Can I say, that's what the employment register suggests.
20 If I can put that on the screen and that is at
21 NAZ.001.003.1115.

22 We're looking at what are described as the sisters'
23 employment registers, which list -- and these are for
24 Glasgow -- the sisters in Glasgow at a particular point
25 in time. We're looking, for example, at 1929, that's on

1 the screen.

2 If you turn to page 1168, can you read towards the
3 bottom -- and this is in 1979 -- that there's
4 a Sister [REDACTED] LVQ there?

5 A. Yes, that is the one.

6 Q. That's the one?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. That's 1979. So this is quite late on in the existence
9 of Cardonald as a children's home, 1979?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. If you go on to page 1169 for 1980, can you see her
12 name's also there at the bottom?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And she's allocated children. Again, if you go on to
15 page 1170, for 1981, can you see that she's also
16 featuring?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. I think that's when -- that's the last time we see an
19 entry for her. So it would appear that she was there
20 for possibly two, at most three, years?

21 A. Must have been, yes.

22 Q. And you said she was young?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. When you say young, what age do you think?

25 A. 24 maybe.

- 1 Q. Do you know what sort of experience she had?
- 2 A. I don't, no.
- 3 Q. I think I'd put to you the key for the next person
- 4 I want you to look at and that's the pseudonym "Donna";
- 5 do you see that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. That's somebody you know?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. If I could just look at her transcript. This is at
- 10 TRN.001.003.1545.
- 11 I think the allegations she makes are directed
- 12 towards a Sister [REDACTED] LKR . Did I understand you to say
- 13 that Sister [REDACTED] LKR was not in charge of your group at
- 14 any point in time?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. But she was somebody you knew?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. You also knew Donna when she was --
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. How did you get to know Donna? Was Donna in your group?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. I think you've told us that the groups were fairly
- 23 separated from each other.
- 24 A. Yes, but I knew most of the children.
- 25 Q. Okay. Did you see how Sister [REDACTED] LKR interacted with

1 the children?

2 A. All right, as far as I know. I didn't work with her.

3 Q. I won't go through the detail then with you of this
4 particular person, but she makes allegations of being
5 forced to eat -- forced eating and beatings with
6 a hairbrush and a tennis racket. Did you witness any of
7 that behaviour?

8 A. No, never.

9 Q. The next person then I want you to look at is the person
10 named at the very bottom of the list who's taken the
11 pseudonym "James". Do you recognise that name?

12 A. I think it might be the same boy under another name.

13 Q. Very well. Do you recognise him as somebody who was in
14 your group?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Can we then look at one or two things that he says. His
17 transcript is at TRN.001.003.1725.

18 If I can take you to page 1729. At lines 9 to 10
19 he's asked:

20 "Question: But when there, were you introduced to
21 another sister?

22 "Answer: Yes, Sister [REDACTED] LJS .

23 "Question: Was she somebody that you did have
24 dealings with over the time that you were in
25 Nazareth House?

1 "Answer: Yes."

2 If we're talking about a period from [REDACTED] 1977
3 onwards, would that be a time when Sister [LJS] may have
4 been in charge of the group?

5 A. Possibly yes.

6 Q. If we turn to page 1733, towards the top he's asked:

7 "Question: On that first day, and once you'd met
8 Sister [LJS], did she show you around?

9 "Answer: Yes. I'm not sure if it was the first day
10 or the second, but she took us up to the unit and she
11 had us in setting the tables and things like that.
12 I think it was just to make you feel part of the place.

13 "Question: Did something happen when you were
14 setting the table?

15 "Answer: Yes. I set my knives and forks the wrong
16 way because I'm left-handed and then she smacked me on
17 the knuckles with spoons. That was a regular thing."

18 So you see, there you're having a form of
19 punishment, it would appear, by being smacked on the
20 knuckles. Did you see that sort of behaviour happen
21 when Sister [LJS] was in charge?

22 A. I didn't, but I know Sister [LJS] was left-handed
23 herself, so I can't see her doing it. I can't see her
24 doing it to anyone else.

25 Q. Towards the bottom of that page, he's asked at line 24:

1 "Question: Did you wet the bed?

2 "Answer: Yes."

3 And over the page at 1734:

4 "Question: Can you tell me about that? What
5 happened?

6 "Answer: I remember she'd make you have a cold
7 bath, or one of the staff would, and they'd make you
8 wash the sheets or try to wash them.

9 "Question: Was anything done to you when you wet
10 the bed?

11 "Answer: You used to just get hit, basically.

12 "Question: By whom?

13 "Answer: It'd have been Sister **LJS**."

14 I think he was also -- if you look towards the
15 bottom of the page, at line 15:

16 "Answer: She would insult you a lot [that's
17 Sister **LJS**], tell you you're no good and things like
18 that."

19 Did you hear things like that being said?

20 A. No, never.

21 Q. And he says:

22 "Answer: She was always shouting at me that I was
23 the devil's child because I was left-handed as well.

24 I heard that a lot through my time in Nazareth."

25 You say she was left-handed, but did you hear that

1 sort of expression being used?

2 A. No.

3 Q. Do you remember a man by the name of [REDACTED] LVN being
4 there?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What was his role?

7 A. He was a volunteer.

8 Q. Was he there on a full-time basis?

9 A. Just used to come in evenings, after work, weekends
10 maybe.

11 Q. Did you see how he interacted with the children?

12 A. No, I wasn't with him at all. It was a different group.

13 Q. Was he not involved in your group?

14 A. No.

15 Q. If I turn to page 1746 of what this witness is saying,
16 he's talking there about the group moving to
17 a refurbished unit. Did that happen?

18 A. Yes, a bungalow.

19 Q. He's asked at line 9:
20 "Question: So was [REDACTED] LVN then involved in the
21 new unit, if you called it that?

22 "Answer: Yes.

23 "Question: What was his role?

24 "Answer: Just a member of staff."
25 Was he a member of staff?

- 1 A. No, he was a volunteer.
- 2 Q. Then:
- 3 "Question: And how did he behave towards you?
- 4 "Answer: All he done was batter me.
- 5 "Question: Why would he do that?
- 6 "Answer: Well, probably if I ever spoke or was out
7 of line or Sister **LJS** wanted him to do anything, she
8 would get him to batter you or hit you about.
- 9 "Question: How would he hit you about?
- 10 "Answer: He used to give me some good kickings
11 basically, beat me up properly. Proper punches and
12 kicks and throwing me off walls."
- 13 Did you see Mr **LVN** behaving in that way towards
14 any children?
- 15 A. No, I didn't work in the bungalow and neither did
16 Sister **LJS** She was never in the bungalow.
- 17 Q. So are you saying this witness has really got that
18 completely wrong?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. This is also a witness who alleges that he was sexually
21 abused by a **LSM**. Is that name you recollect?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. What was his position?
- 24 A. He worked. He was a member of staff.
- 25 Q. And was he a young man?

1 A. Maybe late 20s, I'd say.

2 Q. Did you see how he interacted with children?

3 A. I thought he was all right. I thought he was quite
4 popular with them.

5 Q. Could he take children out of the home?

6 A. I suppose they went swimming and that together maybe.

7 Q. He also mentions a person by the name of [REDACTED] LTS ;
8 does that ring a bell with you?

9 A. I don't know that.

10 Q. And he also mentions, I think, a Brother [REDACTED] LTT . Do you
11 remember a Brother [REDACTED] LTT ?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. What was his position?

14 A. He worked in the children's unit. I don't know why
15 he was there.

16 Q. Did you know if he took children out of the home?

17 A. I don't know.

18 Q. Do you know what order he came from?

19 A. The Marist Brothers.

20 Q. Was he involved with your group?

21 A. No.

22 Q. If I take you back to the witness Bernie, who you were
23 asked about when you gave your statement, and I think
24 I've already referred you to some of what she said. If
25 I go back to the transcript, that's at TRN.001.003.1515

1 and if I take you to 1529, at line 7 he tells us about
2 a priest and I'll read that:

3 "Answer: A priest called Father LSO used to
4 come into the sitting room once a week, mostly on a
5 Sunday, sit you on his knee and touch you down below.
6 He first started doing this to me when I was about 9 or
7 10. As I said, most of the abuse happened around the
8 same time for me, between the ages of 8 to 10 or 12.
9 The older I got, I realised that I should stay away from
10 him."

11 This witness thought that Father LSO abused
12 a good few of the children in the same way. Did you
13 know a Father LSO ?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Were there priests that did come into the home?

16 A. The priests came from the parish to say Mass, but they
17 went back again in the morning. There was no priest
18 came over on Saturdays.

19 Q. You describe your time at Nazareth House, Elizabeth, as
20 a happy one; is that correct?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. So the kind of allegations that I've put to you this
23 morning really do not chime with your own -- any form of
24 recollection you've got as to what life was like?

25 A. No.

- 1 Q. What you say in your statement is that you find it
2 difficult to believe that the people who were in
3 Nazareth House as children that you're still in touch
4 with would make these allegations.
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. You do find it difficult to accept?
- 7 A. Yes, I find it very hard.
- 8 Q. Why is that?
- 9 A. I just can't believe they're making these allegations.
10 They were coming back, they were bringing their
11 husbands, bringing their children back to see the place,
12 meeting up with me. I can't understand why they would
13 do this. If the place was so bad, why did they come
14 back?
- 15 Q. So quite a number of the children that you cared for
16 have kept in touch with you?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And they visit you still, do they?
- 19 A. They do, yes.
- 20 Q. Do they write to you?
- 21 A. At Christmas maybe.
- 22 Q. Have you been invited to weddings and such occasions?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. More than once?
- 25 A. Yes. I'm also godmother to three or four of the

1 children.

2 MR MacAULAY: Very well, Elizabeth. Thank you very much
3 indeed for coming to give your evidence. I think I've
4 asked you all the questions I've been asked to put to
5 you. Thank you.

6 A. Thank you.

7 LADY SMITH: Could I check whether there are any outstanding
8 applications for questions? No.

9 Elizabeth, that's all the questions we have for you.
10 It just remains for me to thank you for the assistance
11 you've given the inquiry, both by providing your written
12 statement and by coming along today to answer the
13 questions that we wanted you to answer here at the
14 hearing. It has been really helpful to hear from you
15 and I'm now able to let you go. Thank you.

16 A. Thank you very much.

17 (The witness withdrew)

18 LADY SMITH: There's one thing I want to say in relation to
19 the last witness: some people may have noticed that on
20 a couple of occasions a name other than her pseudonym
21 "Elizabeth" was used. As I'm sure you all understand,
22 the only name that can be used to refer to that witness
23 outwith this hearing room is the name Elizabeth.
24 Thank you.

25 Mr MacAulay.

1 MR MacAULAY: My Lady, the next witness wants to use the
2 pseudonym "Monica" in giving her evidence, so she is
3 Sister Monica.

4 "SISTER MONICA" (sworn)

5 LADY SMITH: Please sit down and make yourself comfortable.

6 Before I hand over to Mr MacAulay, sister, can
7 I just say it's very important that you do speak into
8 the microphone, both so that everybody in the room can
9 hear you, but particularly so the stenographers can pick
10 up what you're saying, because they listen to you
11 through the sound system. Mr MacAulay will explain what
12 the red file is for and so on.

13 Questions from MR MacAULAY

14 MR MacAULAY: Hello, Monica. I don't want your year of
15 birth, I just want the -- I don't want your date of
16 birth, but the year of your birth. Am I right in saying
17 that you were born in 1941?

18 A. Yes, correct.

19 Q. So you're now, what, 76?

20 A. That's right, yes.

21 Q. If you look, please, at the red folder, you'll find in
22 that the statement that you've already provided to the
23 inquiry. I'll give the reference of that to the
24 stenographers and that is WIT.001.001.8285.

25 If you could turn to the very last page, that's

1 8297, can you confirm, sister, that you signed the
2 statement?

3 A. That's correct.

4 Q. Do you also say in the last paragraph:

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

7 Is that right?

8 A. Yes, that's right.

9 Q. Do you also say:

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

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. You tell us in your statement, sister, that you joined
14 the Sisters of Nazareth order in [REDACTED] 1963.

15 A. That's correct, yes.

16 Q. So you'd be 21 or 22 at that time?

17 A. 22, yes.

18 Q. I think you were sent to the house at Cardonald in
19 [REDACTED] 1965.

20 A. Yes, that's right.

21 Q. So you'd still be very young when you went to Cardonald?

22 A. I was, yes.

23 Q. What you tell us is that you were in Cardonald for about
24 five years or so; is that right?

25 A. That's right, yes.

- 1 Q. The bulk of your life, I think, has been spent in
2 South Africa --
- 3 A. That's correct.
- 4 Q. -- where you spent over 30 years?
- 5 When you left school in Dublin -- I think you were
6 at school -- you went to do some training; is that
7 right?
- 8 A. That's right, yes, I trained as a nursery nurse in
9 St Patrick's Hospital in Blackrock.
- 10 Q. And can you tell us a little bit about the course? How
11 long a course was it?
- 12 A. It was a two-year course and we did everything from
13 infants up to, I think, about 10 years of age for
14 children. Then, after I qualified, I was asked to stay
15 on in the hospital to be in charge of a ward of tiny
16 pre-adoptive babies. Then after that I joined the
17 convent.
- 18 Q. And after that, shortly after that, you came to
19 Scotland?
- 20 A. That's right, yes.
- 21 Q. Perhaps can I ask you about the course. Are you able to
22 remember now -- I know it's a long time ago -- what sort
23 of areas you covered in the course?
- 24 A. Well, we covered development of children and how to care
25 for children and how to play with children and how to

1 love children and -- everything that a mother would do
2 for a child, I expect, that's what we learned.

3 Q. I think you also tell us, sister, that you did another
4 childcare course in Aberdeen in the late 1970s.

5 A. That's right, yes.

6 Q. But that was after you'd been at Cardonald?

7 A. Oh yes, that was much later. That was after I'd been at
8 Cardonald, yes.

9 Q. So far as going to Cardonald was concerned, I think
10 I understand that you would simply be told to go and you
11 would have to abide by that.

12 A. Yes, you didn't have a choice where you would go, and we
13 knew that when we made our vows, first vows, that you
14 would be called -- we were on a mission to go anywhere.

15 Q. When you got to Cardonald then, what duties were you
16 allocated?

17 A. When I got to Cardonald, I was told that I was going to
18 be in the nursery. I would only be a junior person
19 in the job, obviously, because there were other senior
20 sisters who were over me. So I went to the nursery,
21 where I would look after the infants up to 4 years of
22 age.

23 Q. You mentioned other senior sisters. I think you mention
24 in your statement that Sister LFL in particular
25 was the sister who was senior to you; is that right?

1 A. Yes, Sister [REDACTED] LFL [REDACTED] was overall responsible for all of
2 the children in the home.

3 Q. So she would have a degree of responsibility then for
4 the children in the nursery?

5 A. That's right, yes.

6 Q. Did you receive any induction, by that I mean any
7 handover from anyone previous to you?

8 A. No, there was no induction in those days. It was nearly
9 50 years ago now, so we didn't have induction, you just
10 went into the place and you just got on with it.

11 Q. Looking at the children themselves then, were you
12 provided with information about their backgrounds?

13 A. Not initially. I think you learned it as you went
14 along, but I mean it was quite daunting to come into
15 a group of 15 children and you couldn't learn the
16 backgrounds straightaway. As you dealt with them, they
17 would tell you or you would learn it from
18 Sister [REDACTED] LFL [REDACTED].

19 Q. So Sister [REDACTED] LFL [REDACTED] would be the person who would have
20 the information?

21 A. That's correct, yes.

22 Q. Perhaps just to get an understanding as to the numbers
23 when you got there, I'll put this document on the screen
24 for you, sister. It's at NAZ.001.001.0265.

25 (Pause)

- 1 A. I'm a bit lost. Which one ...
- 2 LADY SMITH: The document will be up before you in a moment.
- 3 It's just processing in the electronic system.
- 4 A. Sorry, thank you.
- 5 MR MacAULAY: So we're looking at a list of:
- 6 "Statistics of numbers of children and babies at
- 7 Scottish Nazareth Houses (1925 to 1984)."
- 8 This is information that has been provided to the
- 9 inquiry by the order. You'll see that there's
- 10 a reference to Glasgow, second from the right-hand side.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. If we move down the page to 1965 onwards, can we see
- 13 that, under the heading "Babies", in 1965 we have 27,
- 14 and then 1966, 29. It goes up to 30 in 1967 and it
- 15 varies thereafter. So does that give us an
- 16 understanding, assuming these figures are correct, as to
- 17 what sort of numbers of children there were in the
- 18 babies' section, which I would take to be the nursery?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. So quite a number of little children to be looked after?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. What sort of staff -- leaving aside Sister LFL who
- 23 was in overall charge?
- 24 A. We had -- there were two members of staff and myself and
- 25 we had a laundry lady and a nursery teacher that took

1 them for some periods during the day. So that was
2 basically the staff that we had. It was in a very
3 compact area, so we could see all the children at any
4 one time because it was all on the flat, and the rooms
5 were off, you know, a big long passage and the rooms
6 were off each side.

7 Q. We've been led to believe that the nursery was on the
8 ground floor of the building.

9 A. That's right, yes.

10 Q. To the right as you went in the door?

11 A. That's right.

12 Q. But were you then quite separate from the other groups?

13 A. Yes, we were very separate from the other groups -- and
14 in those days you weren't allowed into the other groups,
15 into anybody else's employment, so I just stayed in the
16 nursery.

17 Q. But there would be children in the nursery who would
18 have siblings in other groups?

19 A. That's correct.

20 Q. How was that managed? By that I mean were there
21 arrangements whereby they could see each other?

22 A. Yes, I think they would see each other maybe after
23 school, but it wasn't a very satisfactory arrangement
24 for siblings that were separated. They would only see
25 each other maybe for a short period, maybe every few

1 days, but they wouldn't be living in close contact with
2 them for meals or sleeping quarters, that sort of thing.

3 Q. You say that was unsatisfactory?

4 A. I would, yes, I would say for the children it was.

5 Q. Were there any concerns voiced at the time that there
6 was such little contact?

7 A. Yes, I think at some stage when the children -- if two
8 children came into the nursery, and then one had to go
9 to the older children, then I would say that, you know,
10 that I didn't think it was a correct idea, that they
11 would be separated, because the little one would be
12 pining for her bigger sister. But then when she became
13 of age, she went and joined her other sister, so there
14 was a lapse of a period when they didn't see each other
15 for a while.

16 Q. Could there also be occasions when there wasn't much
17 contact and by the time the little one got into the
18 bigger groups, the other sibling had gone?

19 A. I wasn't aware of that.

20 Q. So far as your staff is concerned then, sister, did they
21 have training?

22 A. No.

23 Q. But your commitment was a 24-hour a day commitment?

24 A. That's correct.

25 Q. What about the staff then? How did that operate?

1 A. Well, the staff would have obviously not worked 24/7,
2 but they would have their time off and they would have
3 their days off. They still slept on the premises when
4 they would come back in the evening. So all three of us
5 slept on the premises, on rooms off the children's
6 rooms. It wasn't what you'd call an en suite or
7 anything like that, but it was adequate.

8 Q. Can I just look at what the position was if a child or
9 children were to arrive there, a young child? How was
10 that managed?

11 A. Well, we would be told that the child was coming or
12 children were coming, and they were brought by the
13 social worker, and we would welcome them. That's how
14 you would welcome a child into your home. And that was
15 about all.

16 Q. Did you yourself seek to obtain information from the
17 social worker as to why the child was being admitted?

18 A. Well, sometimes the social worker, if I talked to her or
19 she talked to me, she would tell me. Otherwise then
20 I would have to ask Sister [REDACTED] LFL why were the
21 children here.

22 Q. So was it Sister [REDACTED] LFL then that, as it were,
23 managed any record-keeping?

24 A. That's right, yes.

25 Q. So did she keep records as to why children --

1 A. I can't say yes or no because I never saw records, but
2 obviously because you have a lot of records here, I'm
3 sure she must have kept them.

4 Q. But you yourself weren't involved in that process?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Was there any sort of reviews being carried out of the
7 little children on a relatively regular basis?

8 A. No, there was no -- I think I saw a social worker coming
9 in on two occasions. The social workers were never seen
10 after they dropped the children off -- at least I didn't
11 see them during my five years there. I had no contact
12 with them. As we didn't have computers or cellphones in
13 those days, we had little contact with any of those kind
14 of people.

15 Q. You talk about bed-wetting in your statement, sister, at
16 paragraph 14 and you say there were no big issues over
17 bed-wetting.

18 A. No, I couldn't recall any big issue about bed-wetting.
19 With the little ones you except them to wet the bed,
20 of course, now and then, but it wasn't an issue because
21 it was an understood thing that if a child was taken
22 from their family that they would be emotionally upset
23 and would wet the bed. But we had a laundry lady and
24 she would do the washing. Then, if the child cried at
25 night, there would be three of us there to get up to see

1 to the child if she wanted the toilet and make her
2 comfortable if she had wet the bed.

3 Q. Was a child ever punished or humiliated --
4 A. No.

5 Q. -- for wetting the bed?
6 A. No, never.

7 Q. What about meals? What was the food like for the
8 children?
9 A. The food was very, very good. The food was cooked in
10 the main kitchen and everybody in the house had the same
11 food. It was very nourishing and the children got
12 porridge and a fried breakfast I think, a few mornings
13 a week, and toast and marmalade, whatever.

14 Q. Did children have to eat their food?
15 A. No, they didn't. I think I found it difficult when --
16 the porridge was enough for babies and when they got
17 bacon and eggs, they weren't inclined to eat it, so it
18 was wasted most of the time.

19 Q. Was there any suggestion of children being punished for
20 not eating their food?
21 A. No, never.

22 Q. Or being made to eat their food?
23 A. No, never.

24 Q. You tell us that children had toys and games to play
25 with. Can you just help me with that? What sort of

1 toys and games were available for the children?

2 A. Well, there would be the normal set of toys that you
3 would give nursery children and then they had other
4 toys, educational toys, like Lego and bric-a-brac,
5 whatever you call it, jigsaws that they could do under
6 supervision, obviously, because you couldn't leave them
7 out all the time because the pieces would get lost.

8 Q. And these are children that are pre-school children?

9 A. That's right, yes.

10 Q. So you really had them all day?

11 A. We had, yes.

12 Q. Pocket money: did these children have pocket money?

13 A. Yes, they went out with the staff. I have a photograph
14 here if you want to see it later.

15 Q. You can leave it with us and we will send it back to you
16 later.

17 A. That's fine.

18 They went out with the staff and they got pocket
19 money and they went down to the Barras, I think, in
20 Scotland, in the town, and the ladies there were always
21 so good to them.

22 Q. Trips and holidays then?

23 A. Yes, every year we went on holiday to the sea for two
24 weeks and we went to the swimming and I went in with
25 them, with my big habit on me in those days. They had

1 a very good time and you could see the improvement in
2 their health and that, after the sea, two weeks at the
3 sea.

4 Q. Would it just be the group?

5 A. Just the nursery group, yes.

6 Q. You and the staff then would require to go to --

7 A. Yes --

8 Q. -- look after such a large group?

9 A. Yes, but it wasn't -- it was like a pleasure, it wasn't
10 a penance.

11 Q. Birthdays, were they celebrated?

12 A. Yes, we always celebrated the birthdays. We always had
13 a cake and a little toy and everybody sang "Happy
14 Birthday" and clapped their hands and all that.

15 Q. How would you identify that it was a particular child's
16 birthday on a particular day?

17 A. It would be the date of their birthday.

18 Q. Did you have a record then that you kept?

19 A. We must have known the dates of birth because we'd have
20 to have their dates of birth.

21 Q. When you're talking about 25 to 30 children, it is a lot
22 of dates to remember unless you have it written down
23 somewhere? Did you have a record?

24 A. We must have had. I can't visualise having seen it or
25 whatever, but we must have had something because why

1 would we celebrate their birthday if we didn't know the
2 date?

3 Q. Very well. Christmas was a happy time?

4 A. A very happy time, yes.

5 Q. Were presents brought in for the children?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. I think you've already said that, so far as
8 social workers are concerned, you don't recollect
9 social workers coming in after the child had been placed
10 in your care.

11 A. No.

12 Q. You say in paragraph 30 that:

13 "When a child turned 4, the child would then go to
14 the older section. If there was a much younger sibling
15 in the nursery, then there would be that degree of
16 separation."

17 A. Definitely, yes.

18 Q. I think at the time, even then, you were unhappy about
19 that?

20 A. Yes I was.

21 Q. Did you make representations about that?

22 A. Well, it was difficult making representations when
23 you're the youngest member of a community, but I did
24 express my view about it.

25 Q. To whom?

1 A. To Sister [REDACTED] LFL . And if anybody else wanted to
2 hear, they were going to hear it as well, but I didn't
3 express it -- and to the Superior. I did once express
4 it to the Superior.

5 Q. What reaction did you get?

6 A. Well, they just said to me, they have to leave the
7 nursery when they are ... and you can't hold on to them,
8 and so that was the way it was.

9 Q. I think, sister, you've portrayed the nursery
10 environment in your time as being a safe and happy
11 environment.

12 A. It was a very happy environment. I loved those
13 children. They were like my own.

14 Q. Did you have any insight into what environment or
15 environments a child who came to leave the nursery would
16 be going into?

17 A. No, I hadn't a clue.

18 Q. Why was that?

19 A. Because we were never allowed into the other employments
20 where the children were, where the older children were.

21 Q. You're telling us about how well you cared for these
22 children and yet they're being moved to an environment
23 that you have no knowledge of.

24 A. That's correct.

25 Q. Was that something you thought about at the time?

1 A. I thought about it a lot of times, yes, I did, but there
2 was nothing I could do about it. I just had to let the
3 child go and hope for the best.

4 Q. Did you ever have any inkling as to what treatment
5 children in these other environments and different
6 units --

7 A. I didn't see much, but I obviously thought all the
8 children were very well cared for, the sisters gave them
9 all that they had -- and they were out collecting, day
10 in and day out, for money to buy food for them and to
11 keep the doors open. So I thought that -- I never seen
12 any abuse or anything like that, so I wasn't aware of
13 anything. And I really stayed in the nursery most of my
14 time there.

15 Q. Was a child ever discharged from the nursery direct? By
16 that, I mean either into foster care or even adopted
17 during your time?

18 A. Yes, we had one child that was adopted, but she was
19 adopted by some friends of Nazareth House. I'm still in
20 contact with her. She had a very happy life and she did
21 very well.

22 Q. Is that the only instance --

23 A. That's the only -- yes. I think there was another one
24 as well, but I'm not -- I don't know much about that
25 one.

1 Q. Would the social work people then be involved in that
2 whole process?

3 A. No, I think it was through the adoption agency -- like
4 there was a private agency in those days and you could
5 go to the adoption agency or the lady that wanted to
6 adopt her, I think, went.

7 Q. I see. Were you directly involved in that yourself or
8 was it Sister [REDACTED] LFL [REDACTED] who was involved?

9 A. It was probably Sister [REDACTED] LFL [REDACTED]

10 Q. Can I ask you, sister, a little bit about discipline.
11 Did the children in your care in the nursery require to
12 be disciplined?

13 A. Well, all young children sometimes require a bit of
14 discipline. The discipline would only be just a little
15 smack on the hand, but nothing else. There'd be no
16 discipline because anybody -- you couldn't ...

17 LADY SMITH: Let me just intervene here for a moment. I'm
18 not sure where the questioning is going next, but if
19 it is suggested to you that you abused children in any
20 way whilst they were in your care, as I think has
21 already been explained to you, you're not obliged to
22 answer questions about that. If you make any such
23 admission about you abusing children, you're not obliged
24 to answer any questions that seek to follow that up.
25 That applies even although this is not a court and

1 it's not a trial, it's a public inquiry, but it applies
2 because anything you say here is, as you know, being
3 recorded and could be used elsewhere at a later stage.

4 As I say, I think that has been explained to you
5 already, but I just need to confirm that you understand
6 that that protection against self-incrimination, as we
7 call it, still applies.

8 A. Thank you, my Lady.

9 LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay.

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

11 I think you told us, sister, that the odd smack, if
12 I can put it in that way, would be one way of
13 providing -- punishing a child for misbehaving.

14 A. Yes. It wouldn't be punishing them; it'd just be like
15 directing them in the right direction to go.

16 Q. Giving a child a row, would that be another approach?

17 A. They were too young to give them a row, really.

18 Q. Just to follow through what's been put, I understand you
19 to be saying that, so far as you're concerned, you never
20 ill-treated a child in such a way that it would
21 constitute abuse?

22 A. No.

23 Q. Did you witness any abuse?

24 A. No.

25 Q. Did you witness any ill-treatment?

- 1 A. No.
- 2 Q. Were you aware at that time of any -- what might be
3 described as abusive practices being practised in
4 Cardonald?
- 5 A. No. I always felt the children were very well looked
6 after and the sisters gave their life for caring for
7 them, and the staff that we had with them were very
8 dedicated laypeople, and I found that -- I wouldn't
9 say -- any sort of abuse, as far as I'm concerned.
- 10 Q. Were you provided with any guidance as to how the
11 children in your care should be disciplined?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. In your training, had you been provided with any insight
14 into how to discipline young children?
- 15 A. No, I don't think discipline came really into caring for
16 young children. I mean, you gave them the love and the
17 care that they needed, so if you gave them that, then
18 they wouldn't require any discipline because you would
19 have a relationship with them that would be more
20 powerful than any discipline.
- 21 Q. When you gave your statement, sister, you were asked
22 about whether or not you did witness any abuse at
23 Nazareth House. A number of points were put to you. Do
24 you remember that part of giving your statement? It
25 starts at paragraph 40 and --

1 A. I'm on 43 now.

2 Q. Yes. In fact, if I can take you to paragraph 44, the
3 person being mentioned there -- if you look at that
4 table in front of you in the folder, you'll see the name
5 "Maureen" in the table. If you look to the left-hand
6 side --

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. -- do you see "Maureen"?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. You'll see the name associated with that?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. We don't want you to tell us the name because these are
13 anonymous, but that is Maureen that's talking in
14 paragraph 44.

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And what Maureen has said is that:
17 "None of the nuns showed kindness: even the babies
18 got hit. My friend told me she had seen the babies,
19 about 2 years old, being hit with wooden spoons by
20 Sister LFT "

21 That is very much a hearsay statement, but I think
22 you were asked about that and you say that never
23 happened.

24 A. No. In the first place, we wouldn't have wooden spoons
25 because we never did any cooking. I can't recall ever

1 seeing a wooden spoon in the nursery. So I don't know
2 where she would have got that information from. It
3 certainly didn't happen.

4 Q. One thing you do tell us at paragraph 46 in connection
5 with another sister, Sister [REDACTED] LFP , is she was
6 elderly at that time. Is that someone you remember?

7 A. That's right yes.

8 Q. What you do tell us is she did not have much patience
9 with children and would shout at them.

10 A. Well, Sister [REDACTED] LFP 's sitting room was on the ground
11 floor and sometimes when you'd pass, you'd hear some
12 noises coming out, but I don't know what they were
13 about, whether it was the children playing or whether it
14 was anything else. I don't know.

15 Q. Was she in charge of a group?

16 A. That's correct, yes.

17 Q. But she was an older nun?

18 A. Yes, that's correct.

19 Q. If I can ask you about Sister [REDACTED] LFL . As
20 I understand your position, sister, she was in overall
21 charge of the nursery as well as any other groups that
22 she may have been in charge of?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Did she spend time in the nursery?

25 A. Not really, no. She would visit now and then, but she

- 1 wouldn't be like in every day.
- 2 Q. Did you see how she interacted with the children in the
3 nursery?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. You never saw that?
- 6 A. No. If she came in, it would be maybe overall or just
7 to have a word with me or with the staff or whatever.
- 8 Q. So are you saying there was no real interaction then?
- 9 A. Well, not with -- no, no.
- 10 Q. If there was a suggestion that she might have hit
11 a child or hit children --
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. -- you say that didn't happen?
- 14 A. No, definitely not.
- 15 Q. Did children, when in the nursery, have to sleep in
16 a particular way? The reason I'm asking you that is
17 there has been a suggestion that even young children had
18 to sleep with their arms crossed across their chest.
- 19 A. No, I don't know. I've never -- I have no answer about
20 that.
- 21 Q. You know nothing about that?
- 22 A. Nothing. I mean, would you go round every night and put
23 the children's arms across their chest? I don't think
24 we'd have time for that.
- 25 Q. I think the suggestion is that children were disciplined

1 in such a way that they had to sleep in that way.

2 A. No.

3 Q. That's not true?

4 A. That's true, no.

5 Q. If we just look at Sister [REDACTED] LFL , at paragraph 51,
6 what you say -- and you've told us about this already --
7 is:

8 "With regard to Sister [REDACTED] LFL , she was in overall
9 charge of all the children, as well as having her own
10 group. She would correct children if they were running
11 up and down the corridor. She would shout. She was my
12 senior and somebody to be feared for me as I was so
13 young."

14 And can I just ask you about that: were you afraid
15 of Sister [REDACTED] LFL ?

16 A. I wouldn't say I was afraid, but she was much senior to
17 me -- I was just newly out of the noviceship -- and this
18 was my first kind of position, you could call it. So it
19 was like the person in charge, like, was always the
20 important person. It wasn't that I was really afraid of
21 her or anything like that because I had no reason to be
22 afraid of her. But it was just that I wouldn't -- that
23 I needed to have everything right if she came in or
24 whatever, you know.

25 Q. Okay. Were you able to make any -- get any insight into

- 1 how the children regarded her?
- 2 A. No, I'd never been into her employment ever.
- 3 Q. But even in passing, did you see how children reacted to
- 4 her?
- 5 A. I wouldn't be passing because our place was completely
- 6 separate. The nursery was very separate from where the
- 7 other children lived and, even though it was a big
- 8 house, you wouldn't be passing so many times that you'd
- 9 see anything. So I couldn't comment on that.
- 10 Q. So you really did keep separate lives?
- 11 A. That's right, yes, except when we came together as
- 12 a community, yes.
- 13 Q. Just on that point, when you came together as
- 14 a community, would there be discussions about what was
- 15 happening in the different groups?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. Nothing at all?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. Was that a rule that --
- 20 A. I don't know, but we didn't discuss, like ... What was
- 21 private to you was private and the next was private to
- 22 them so we didn't ...
- 23 Q. But even a parent might discuss with another parent how
- 24 a child --
- 25 A. Yes, but we didn't, no.

1 Q. And I think I understand that you yourself in your unit
2 didn't keep any records at all?

3 A. No.

4 Q. But there were records kept of the children by
5 Sister [REDACTED] LFL [REDACTED] ?

6 A. Yes, obviously there were, yes.

7 Q. Would you have the opportunity of looking at these
8 records?

9 A. No, I didn't. I never saw any records.

10 Q. Can I ask you this: have any of the children, I think
11 you've mentioned one, who you cared for kept in touch
12 with you? I don't need names.

13 A. They haven't kept in touch over these years, but when
14 I left there first, I thought my world had come to an
15 end and I used to worry about them day and night, you
16 know, how they were doing. But they haven't really kept
17 in touch with me because obviously they were babies.
18 But I kept in touch with two children, [REDACTED]
19 [REDACTED], for a long time, but I haven't been
20 in touch recently.

21 Q. Were you invited to any weddings or any such occasions?

22 A. No, I was too far away.

23 Q. As you're aware, sister, there have been former
24 residents who have come forward to the inquiry and made
25 quite serious allegations against the sisters, including

1 sisters at Cardonald, and pointed to what may be
2 described as various abusive practices. You saw nothing
3 and heard nothing about these practices when you were
4 there? Can you help us as to why these allegations
5 would be made?

6 A. Well, I would say -- you see, these children, before
7 they ever arrived at our front door, they had various
8 deep-seated problems, and they were not really addressed
9 when they came to the children's home. I would say that
10 it's a projection of what they were feeling for their
11 parents that they have transferred to the sisters --
12 I mean in some of the cases, anyway, I can't say in all
13 of the cases. But I would say it's because they were
14 very damaged little children already at 2 and 3 years of
15 age, and I expect when older children came in, they were
16 even more damaged, so they carried a lot of baggage with
17 them.

18 But the social workers never made any attempt to get
19 them any kind of therapy or to see how they were doing
20 or not doing. So we didn't have anybody to recourse to
21 to get them therapy, and I think these children then
22 took it out on the sisters because of their own parents,
23 that transference of their anger and whatever. But
24 I would say the sisters did their utmost to care for
25 these children with all the dedication in the whole of

1 their body. I don't think they could have been at
2 fault.

3 Q. It might be said that the irony in that line of argument
4 is if the sisters were so caring and provided such
5 a happy environment, then why would the former residents
6 make these allegations?

7 A. Yes. That's the big question. I don't know.

8 MR MacAULAY: Thank you, sister, for coming along in any
9 event to give your evidence. I've asked you all the
10 questions I want to ask you and I think I've covered the
11 questions I've been asked to ask. Thank you very much.

12 A. Thank you.

13 LADY SMITH: Let me check whether there are any outstanding
14 applications for questions. No.

15 Sister, that is all we have to ask you today. It
16 just remains for me to thank you very much for engaging
17 with the inquiry, both by providing your written
18 statement, which we have, and coming along to talk about
19 your evidence today. It's enormously helpful for me to
20 hear from you in person about your time at Cardonald and
21 I'm now able to let you go. Thank you for that.

22 A. Thank you, my Lady.

23 (The witness withdrew)

24 LADY SMITH: Again, for the avoidance of doubt, can I just
25 say that that witness is only to be known by the

1 pseudonym "Monica" outside the hearing room. Thank you.

2 Mr MacAulay?

3 MR MacAULAY: It's probably earlier than normal, but can

4 I suggest we adjourn for lunch and come back for

5 2 o'clock?

6 LADY SMITH: Very well. We'll do that.

7 (12.42 pm)

8 (The lunch adjournment)

9 (2.00 pm)

10 LADY SMITH: Good afternoon. Mr MacAulay.

11 MR MacAULAY: Good afternoon, my Lady. The next witness
12 wants to use the name "Sister Clio" in giving evidence.

13 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

14 "SISTER CLIO" (sworn)

15 LADY SMITH: Sister Clio, please sit down and make yourself
16 comfortable.

17 I think from hearing a little bit of your voice
18 there you're in the right position for the microphone.
19 It is very important that you do stay in the position
20 that the microphone will pick up your voice so that
21 everybody can hear you, and so the stenographers can
22 pick up what you're saying, which they do through the
23 sound system.

24 You're obviously ready to look at your statement.

25 I think Mr MacAulay might be about to refer you to it,

1 but he will explain what he wants you to do.

2 Questions from MR MacAULAY

3 MR MacAULAY: Good afternoon, sister.

4 A. Good afternoon, Mr MacAulay.

5 Q. I do need to confirm the year of your birth, not the
6 date of birth. Can you confirm for me that you were
7 born in 1945?

8 A. That's correct.

9 Q. In front of you in the red folder you'll find your
10 statement. The reference for the stenographers is
11 WIT.001.001.8388. If I could ask you, sister, to look
12 to the last page, 8405, can you confirm that you have
13 signed the statement?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Do you also say:

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

18 A. No, I don't.

19 Q. You also go on to say:

20 "I believe the facts stated in this witness
21 statement are true."

22 A. True, yes.

23 Q. Sister, can we go back to when you came to
24 Nazareth House in Cardonald. I think you tell us that
25 that was in the 1960s; is that correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Where had you come from?

3 A. Hammersmith, for a while. Yes, I had a few months in
4 various houses just after my formation years, and then,
5 to gain experience, I was in a few houses here and there
6 and then I came to Glasgow.

7 Q. You tell us, I think, you joined the sisters in 1961.

8 A. That's right.

9 Q. That means you'd be quite young at that time.

10 A. I was, yes.

11 Q. I think you thought you came to Cardonald in about 1967.

12 A. Seven.

13 Q. We have recovered the -- we have had sent to us the
14 sisters' employment registers. I would normally put
15 them on the screen, but I think we've got a glitch with
16 the equipment. I'm just going to give references so
17 that the references are in the transcript.

18 The reference for the employment registers
19 themselves are NAZ.001.003.1115. What I want to do is
20 just put to you what the entries are in the employment
21 registers. It won't come on the screen, sister, so I'll
22 put it to you.

23 According to the registers, you are recorded as
24 being in Cardonald in 1966. That's probably a little
25 earlier than you thought.

- 1 A. Yes, possibly.
- 2 Q. I think at that time you spent a number of years there
3 and left and went back; is that right?
- 4 A. That is correct.
- 5 Q. According to the registers, it would appear that you may
6 have been there until about -- I'll just double-check
7 this -- 1970.
- 8 A. 1970.
- 9 Q. You went back, according to the registers, again you
10 thought about maybe 1970 to 1972; is that right? So you
11 had these two stints in Cardonald?
- 12 A. I did, yes.
- 13 Q. Am I right in thinking, sister, although it's not
14 mentioned in your statement, that you were also in
15 Kilmarnock?
- 16 A. I was.
- 17 Q. Was that to care for children?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. The employment register for Kilmarnock at
20 NAZ.001.003.1405, at page 1447, suggests that you were
21 in Kilmarnock certainly by 1973. Would that be --
- 22 A. About that time, yes.
- 23 Q. Again, just under reference to the registers, you were
24 certainly there in 1974, but you don't appear to be
25 there in 1975.

1 A. No. It was a short while.

2 Q. Can I take you back then to Cardonald, the first time
3 you went there, sister. Looking to the dates, you would
4 have been 22 or 23 when you first went there; is that
5 correct?

6 A. That's correct, yes.

7 Q. So you were a very junior sister?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Had you done any training before you went to Cardonald?

10 A. No.

11 Q. I think you did do a childcare course at a point in time
12 when you were there; is that right?

13 A. I did, I did.

14 Q. What was the course?

15 A. It was childcare course at Langside College.

16 Q. Can you tell us a bit about the course? First of all,
17 can you remember what year it was you went to do the
18 course?

19 A. I can't remember the year. Sorry, I don't remember the
20 year.

21 Q. Well, that's hardly surprising because it's a long time
22 ago.

23 A. It's a long time ago.

24 Q. According to the registers -- this is at
25 NAZ.001.003.1154 -- you're recorded as being on

1 a childcare course and with a group of children in 1968.
2 So not long after you went to Cardonald -- perhaps
3 a year or two -- you went on the course.

4 A. That's right, because we had a sister social worker who
5 was very keen on every sister being trained and to have
6 some training in the development of children and how to
7 handle children with difficulties.

8 Q. Was it a one-year course?

9 A. It was a year and a half, yes.

10 Q. Do I take it, from what was in the register, you were on
11 the course, but you were also at Cardonald itself?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. We'll come to what your position was in Cardonald in
14 a moment, but insofar as the course was concerned can
15 you give me some understanding as to what areas then
16 you'd cover in the course?

17 A. We covered from babies upwards and their development,
18 child development, and children, you know, with
19 behavioural problems and the effects of being in care
20 and the effect it has on children. So we followed the
21 whole process through to teenage years.

22 Q. And did you find the course beneficial to you in your
23 work?

24 A. Absolutely. Absolutely, yes.

25 Q. Did you receive a formal qualification?

1 A. I did, yes.

2 LADY SMITH: Sister, you mentioned a moment ago having
3 a sister social worker. Is that a sister who herself
4 had a social work qualification?

5 A. She's passed away now. She would have had, yes.

6 LADY SMITH: Right. Obviously something stuck in your mind
7 about associating social work skills with her.

8 A. Yes, social worker, healthcare, yes, but she was very
9 supportive and very -- you know, when I went first --
10 and she'd be there to guide me and to show me the way
11 and to support me in the work with the children.

12 LADY SMITH: Was she leading your group or was she the
13 Superior?

14 A. No, she wasn't, she was in the area. She'd be, in
15 today's language an area manager, if you like, so she'd
16 visit the homes around.

17 LADY SMITH: So not based in Nazareth House Cardonald, but
18 visiting different homes?

19 A. Yes, she moved around, yes.

20 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

21 MR MacAULAY: Can I ask you a little bit now, sister, about
22 the set-up at Cardonald when you arrived there. What
23 did you understand your role to be on that first
24 occasion?

25 A. I was the junior sister and accountable to the senior

1 sister, what we'd call today a line manager, and again
2 she was a very, very good, very calm person, and I don't
3 know if I ever heard her raise her voice. But she held
4 all the documentation on the children and she would keep
5 a close eye on how I was progressing as well and how
6 I was getting on with the children.

7 Q. And who was that sister?

8 A. Sister [REDACTED] LFL [REDACTED].

9 Q. Were you then in the same group as Sister [REDACTED] LFL [REDACTED] ?

10 A. No, no. There were three groups. She was the overall,
11 you know, like headmistress. She was the overseer.

12 Q. But you then had your own group?

13 A. I had yes.

14 Q. Although you were still very young to be in charge of
15 a group?

16 A. I was, yes.

17 Q. At that time you had no training. What about staff, did
18 you have staff underneath you?

19 A. We had a staff, yes.

20 Q. How many staff did you have?

21 A. We had two that took turns: we had one on in the morning
22 and one on in the afternoon.

23 Q. Were they trained staff?

24 A. No.

25 Q. Perhaps you can remind me, did you tell me how many were

- 1 in your group?
- 2 A. There was about 15 to 18.
- 3 Q. Was it a mixed group?
- 4 A. It was, yes, but they were a younger age group.
- 5 I didn't have too many senior staff(?), but if there
- 6 were families we would have the girls -- we would have
- 7 the family together.
- 8 Q. Do I take it then that you are dealing with a group
- 9 that's essentially primary school age?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. When you arrived there, were you given any induction or
- 12 instruction?
- 13 A. I was, I was. Sister LFL, yes. She did indeed.
- 14 Every day or morning and night, she would supervise me,
- 15 yes, and make sure everything was going and that I got
- 16 to know the children individually and she would --
- 17 we would have a meeting, maybe, and she would give me
- 18 some information that was necessary about the children
- 19 in my care.
- 20 Q. We've heard that the groups were divided in such a way
- 21 that each was provided a colour. Did your group have a
- 22 colour when you went there?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Can you remember what the colour was?
- 25 A. All I know is red, white and blue, I think, or green,

1 white and blue. I think mine was blue.

2 Q. You were blue?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. You leave and go back again. Can you remember the
5 position then? Was it the same group or a different
6 group?

7 A. It was a different group, yes.

8 Q. A different colour?

9 A. Yellow.

10 Q. What sort of instruction or guidance were you given by
11 Sister [REDACTED] LFL ?

12 A. Well, I was introduced -- she introduced me to the unit
13 and to the staff on duty and to the children, and we met
14 and we had a talk and they received me well and I was
15 delighted to meet them. It was a challenge for me,
16 which I faced and enjoyed, and gave me great pleasure to
17 look after the children at the time.

18 Q. And other sisters and other groups, did you have much to
19 do with other sisters and other groups?

20 A. Not a whole lot because each sister had her own
21 individual group.

22 Q. Can you remember the names of other sisters who were
23 there at that time in the 1960s?

24 A. One was Sister [REDACTED] LFP -- she's since passed away --
25 and Sister [REDACTED] LFS , who has passed away as well.

1 We were friends together.

2 Q. In relation to the make-up of your group, you've said it
3 was mixed, but can you say if there was a preponderance
4 of girls as opposed to boys or not? Was it fairly even?

5 A. Fairly even. Once the boys -- if there were families,
6 we kept them together as best we could.

7 Q. Was there a practice that boys of a particular age would
8 leave Cardonald?

9 A. Yes, when they came to 11. That was the norm in those
10 days, back in the 1960s.

11 Q. Do you know where they went?

12 A. Aberdeen.

13 Q. Is that the Nazareth House in Aberdeen?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. If an individual child had a sibling then, the child
16 going to Aberdeen would lose contact with the sibling?

17 A. That's right.

18 Q. Did you have any views about that at the time?

19 A. I can't recall many in the unit that I was in going to
20 Aberdeen. But I think, just before I went there, there
21 was one boy transferred, but I can't recall how many
22 were in the family.

23 Q. If we also focus on the make-up of your group in this
24 first spell. I think in your statement you said that
25 you thought that was the blue spell, but I think in your

1 statement you thought it was the second spell where you
2 had the blue group. But it may not matter.

3 If we look at paragraph 17 of your statement.
4 I think there the suggestion is that for the second
5 spell you were in the blue group. So does that mean
6 in the first spell you might have been in the yellow
7 group?

8 A. Yes. Maybe, yes. I can't remember.

9 LADY SMITH: Is that right or were you saying at first you
10 weren't in charge, but when you came back again you were
11 in charge? It could be the same group. Do you see what
12 I mean?

13 A. Yes.

14 LADY SMITH: I'm not quite sure what you were trying to
15 explain when you were giving your statement. As
16 Mr MacAulay says, it may not matter. I got the
17 impression from reading it you were telling us, perhaps
18 not surprisingly, that initially you were learning the
19 ropes, and then you came back and you were given charge
20 of the blue group; is that right?

21 A. The blue group was a little sitting room -- yes, but
22 different children. That's probably why I was -- it
23 would be different children who had moved on, my Lady,
24 yes.

25 LADY SMITH: Yes, of course.

- 1 MR MacAULAY: Let's look at when you are in charge and
2 perhaps focus more on that spell. Does that mean that
3 you were no longer, as it were, under the line
4 management, if you want to call it that, of
5 Sister [REDACTED] LFL ?
- 6 A. Yes, I was taking on more responsibility of the children
7 and their records and keeping a check on how they were
8 generally and their school performance, et cetera.
- 9 Q. Were you answerable to any other sisters then in the
10 home?
- 11 A. Well, of course we had my Superior, again, who kept
12 a vigilant eye on how things were going with me and the
13 children as well.
- 14 Q. So that would be the Superior in the home?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Can I then ask you, sister, about children coming into
17 the home and focusing again on the second spell. You
18 tell us at paragraph 21 that a child could be brought in
19 really through a number of different sources. You say
20 the police, a health visitor or perhaps their own
21 family. Is that correct?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. And the other thing you say there is that some were from
24 very disturbed backgrounds. Do you see that?
- 25 A. What number, 22?

1 Q. 21.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. So at this time when you were in charge of the group,
4 were you provided with information about the background
5 of the child?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Was that important, to be aware of that?

8 A. It was very important, yes, because -- in order for them
9 to fit in with the other children, you know, and how to
10 kind of keep them and try and -- well, monitor them and
11 keep them happy, if at all possible, and talk to them
12 and explain the reasons why they were in care, brought
13 into care.

14 Q. And did you yourself keep a record or records
15 in relation to each child?

16 A. Well, if there was anything that needed to be kept,
17 I did. We had a little book, you know, a diary, which
18 we would do, yes.

19 Q. Was that a diary for all the children?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Did you have separate files for children or not?

22 A. They were just being introduced at that time, yes.
23 Sister [REDACTED] LFL kept all those files, mostly but
24 I would keep a record of anything that she needed or
25 required for her records.

1 Q. So in your second stint, was Sister [REDACTED] LFL still in
2 charge --

3 A. It was Sister [REDACTED] LHA, yes, who was there
4 then.

5 Q. Was she then in charge of any record-keeping?

6 A. She was.

7 Q. So just to understand your own role in record-keeping,
8 sister, by way of record-keeping did you keep very much
9 by way of records?

10 A. We didn't -- it was just being introduced and we were
11 just getting it into order and getting it set up.

12 Q. What was being introduced, can you help me with that?

13 A. Children's admission forms, certificates, birth
14 certificates, baptismal certificates and any information
15 from a doctor.

16 Q. Would you have social work input at that time?

17 A. They were just coming along and -- yes, and good support
18 from them as well if needs be. They would come along if
19 there were any issues regarding the children or the
20 child.

21 Q. So we're into the early 1970s now then?

22 A. Yes, that's when things were beginning to, yes, change.

23 LADY SMITH: Do you remember being aware of any changes
24 in the law around or just before that time?

25 A. Well, there was more -- children were more focused -- we

1 were more focused on the children and their needs and
2 more time given and having social workers come and visit
3 and having multidisciplinary meetings now and again
4 regarding ... So things were much more improved in the
5 two years, yes.

6 MR MacAULAY: If we look at paragraph 73 of your statement,
7 sister -- that's jumping ahead a little bit, but since
8 we're talking about this, let's just look at that.
9 It'll come on the screen for you. There you are dealing
10 quite specifically with records and record-keeping.
11 That's at page 8399. What you say there at 73 is:

12 "We had a filing cabinet with files on the children
13 therein. I believe that diaries were kept as well as
14 logbooks that official visitors could refer to. The
15 records that I kept were fairly basic, like if there had
16 been trouble at school or if a child had been
17 disruptive, and I would note anything at the time it
18 happened."

19 So you're talking there more generally, but in
20 connection with how records were being kept, there were
21 files for children kept?

22 A. Yes, little -- yes.

23 Q. And you do think there was a punishment book at
24 Cardonald?

25 A. Yes, that was kept in the senior sister's office.

1 Q. Did you have any involvement with the punishment book?

2 A. No, no.

3 Q. Did you have access, free access, to the files?

4 A. Oh yes.

5 Q. When you say the senior sister then, was that your

6 Superior or was that the equivalent of Sister [REDACTED] LFL

7 A. It'd be the equivalent, yes.

8 Q. So that's Sister [REDACTED] LHA if she was the senior?

9 A. Yes, and the Superior would be in the know of what was
10 in the files as well because she'd be involved in the
11 admission of children.

12 LADY SMITH: Just going back to this matter of keeping the
13 punishment book, what would happen if a child was
14 punished within their individual group by the nun in
15 charge of that group? I think you said the punishment
16 book was kept by the Sister Superior and you didn't have
17 anything to do with it.

18 A. It would be kept with the senior sister: not the
19 Superior, but the senior.

20 LADY SMITH: Ah, the senior sister within the group?

21 A. Within the senior -- the line manager, my line manager,
22 yes.

23 LADY SMITH: Ah right. Would there be more than one
24 punishment book in the house?

25 A. No, just the one.

1 LADY SMITH: Going back to what I was just trying to work
2 out: say somebody punished a child within the group and
3 that wasn't the senior sister, so they weren't the
4 person that kept the punishment book, what happened
5 about the information that the child had been punished?

6 A. I don't think I have any recollection of any child being
7 punished and having to enter it, you know. There'd be
8 sanctions on them maybe if they had maybe broken
9 something on another child or misbehaved.

10 LADY SMITH: Well, a sanction is a punishment.

11 A. Maybe deprived of pocket money or given extra chores.

12 LADY SMITH: Those should go in the punishment book,
13 shouldn't they?

14 A. That would have gone in our little diary or whatever we
15 had in our own cabinet in the unit.

16 LADY SMITH: All right. One last question. Help me with
17 this then: what did you think the punishment book was
18 for?

19 A. Well, to record, I suppose -- yes, to record any
20 punishments that were imposed on the children.

21 LADY SMITH: Anything at all?

22 A. Yes.

23 LADY SMITH: All right. Mr MacAulay.

24 MR MacAULAY: Do you recollect seeing a punishment book at
25 Cardonald?

- 1 A. Yes, I remember seeing where it was kept in the senior
2 sister's office, yes.
- 3 Q. Do you have any recollection of reporting to the senior
4 sister that a particular child had misbehaved in
5 whatever way and therefore required to be punished and
6 an entry had to be put into the book?
- 7 A. Nothing I recall as a serious sort of punishment, you
8 know, that I needed to sort of tell her about, no.
9 There was nothing, no.
- 10 Q. Did you work on the basis that only serious
11 punishments --
- 12 A. That's right, yes.
- 13 Q. -- would go into the book?
- 14 A. And there was nothing that I would say was serious
15 in the unit that I was in.
- 16 Q. Again, can I just understand the set-up with the units
17 because we have heard that the units were quite separate
18 units.
- 19 A. They were.
- 20 Q. And that one sister could not interfere with the other's
21 employment, I think, as it was called; is that right?
- 22 A. Well, there was that kind of a system, you know, but it
23 didn't mean that we didn't see each other or the
24 children wouldn't play or mix. Yes, we were independent
25 and we sort of protected our own group of children.

1 Q. You've been telling me about a degree of line management
2 with a senior sister and you in charge of your group.
3 And that senior sister, for example, could have been
4 Sister [REDACTED] LHA --

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. -- who would have her own group; is that right?

7 A. That's right, yes.

8 Q. So there was a degree of line management,
9 notwithstanding the fact that you had your own
10 employment. I don't want to put words into your mouth,
11 but do I understand that correctly?

12 A. Yes, yes. That's ...

13 Q. Did that apply to the other groups?

14 A. It did, the three groups, yes. Or two groups.

15 Q. You say there in paragraph 21, if we go back to that,
16 that some children were from very disturbed backgrounds.
17 Can you let me understand what sort of backgrounds
18 you're talking about there?

19 A. Well ... What number are we on?

20 Q. Paragraph 21. It's the same sentence.

21 A. Well, of course, they would come in perhaps by the
22 police and they'd be already maybe -- they'd be very
23 disturbed when they came in. So, of course, we had to
24 try and protect them as best we can and contain them and
25 keep them until they sort of settled in and not

1 embarrass them in any way -- and keep the other children
2 too from maybe seeing too much if they were creating
3 sort of -- they would be very upset when they came in.

4 So it would take time to give them the time that
5 they needed to settle in and to understand the reasons
6 being. So you had to spend time talking to them and
7 explaining and perhaps maybe have the social workers to
8 stay in and talk them through it and help them to settle
9 in.

10 Q. One thing you say in this part of the statement is that
11 head lice was something of a problem.

12 A. A big problem in some cases, yes.

13 Q. How did you deal with that problem?

14 A. Very sensitively, because you had to, again, protect
15 them and protect the other children, take them aside to,
16 you know -- trying to explain what you had to do and use
17 the Prioderm that we had then and the special lotions in
18 order to clean their heads and get them ready to mix
19 with the other children.

20 Q. Was there any suggestion of using disinfectant to deal
21 with head lice?

22 A. No, we had special -- I can't remember -- Prioderm and
23 a fine comb, and that would require quite a few washes
24 to get them completely cleaned because they were poorly
25 when they came and it was hard for them to sleep and

1 hard for them to settle in because of the problem that
2 they had.

3 Q. Would you yourself be doing that type of work?

4 A. I would, yes, I did it, yes. It gave me great
5 satisfaction to see them back to themselves when they
6 were ready to go out to school and to play with the
7 other children without feeling maybe isolated.

8 Q. What about the food, sister? How would you describe the
9 food?

10 A. The food was good and -- I mean, we didn't have choices
11 in those days, but it was wholesome and the children,
12 from what I could ... They ate what was there, there
13 was porridge and there would be fries and there'd be
14 fried bread. It was good food, yes.

15 Q. Did the sisters eat the same food as the children.

16 A. I did, yes, I enjoyed it.

17 Q. Was there any compulsion on a child to eat a particular
18 dish?

19 A. They'd be encouraged to eat what they could.

20 Q. But what does "encourage" mean? What do you mean by
21 that? How would you encourage a child?

22 A. Just to try to eat what they could and, you know, they
23 mightn't all like vegetables, so if they didn't, there
24 wasn't much you could do, only just let them eat the
25 meat and the potato or whatever.

- 1 Q. If you're talking about encouragement, what would you do
2 to try and encourage a child to eat?
- 3 A. I would just say, "Try and eat what you can".
- 4 Q. Were children punished for not eating their food?
- 5 A. No, not in my -- no, no, I never saw it happening.
- 6 Q. What about being physically force-fed?
- 7 A. No, no.
- 8 Q. That never happened?
- 9 A. It never happened.
- 10 Q. Washing and bathing. What were the arrangements for
11 bathing?
- 12 A. Well, the older ones would bath themselves, but it
13 wouldn't be a bath every day or anything like that,
14 maybe once or twice a week or when needed, because
15 sometimes you wouldn't have all the running hot water
16 every hour of the day, and then the little ones -- the
17 staff would bath the little ones a few times a week.
- 18 Q. Were you involved in that yourself?
- 19 A. Not a lot, but from time to time if it was needed. You
20 know, just to be there to supervise the other member of
21 staff or she could supervise me, if need be, the two of
22 us at the bathing.
- 23 Q. Did you always have fresh water for each bath?
- 24 A. Ah yes, yes.
- 25 Q. Clothing. Could children keep their own clothes?

- 1 A. They did, yes.
- 2 Q. So the suggestion we've had from time to time in the
3 inquiry that when a child was admitted, the child's
4 clothes were taken away, that never happened in your
5 time?
- 6 A. No, because they wouldn't come in with an awful lot, but
7 they'd be washed and ironed and they could wear them --
8 I mean, it was important for the children to have their
9 own clothes.
- 10 Then we got -- we got clothes -- the C&A's, the
11 stores in town were very good. They had lovely clothes,
12 I have to say. The children went out looking very
13 smart, no matter where they went, yes.
- 14 Q. Tell me about chores: were the children allocated some
15 chores to do?
- 16 A. Yes. They would help the member of staff, you know. It
17 wouldn't be imposed, they would help them, and sort of
18 help with washing up and setting tables and kept them,
19 you know -- that was it. They helped.
- 20 Q. More manual work?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Do they do some more manual chores, polishing floors?
- 23 A. Oh, that was part of it, you know, to shine the bedroom
24 floors and they had dusters under their feet and like
25 a skating rink, they'd be up and down the floor and one

1 would be trying to see who would get the best shine up.

2 So it used to be fun at times.

3 Q. What about putting the wax on the floor?

4 A. No, they didn't put the wax on. They wouldn't. They
5 just kept the shine up.

6 Q. And you also tell us a little bit in your statement,
7 sister, about the leisure time and in particular music
8 was quite an important feature of life; is that right?

9 A. Yes, there was lots going on for them. Lots of things:
10 Scottish dancing, Irish dancing, violin, accordion.
11 There was lots in the evening, lots of recreation times.
12 We had plenty of space outside for the boys if they
13 wanted to play football and the girls to play with their
14 skipping ropes and that. So there was a lot going on
15 for them.

16 Then they had the baths and the cinema to go to, the
17 pictures, and yes, I think some were in Brownies and
18 Guides. So there was a lot going on.

19 Q. Were birthdays celebrated?

20 A. They were, yes. Maybe -- yes, the birthdays were
21 celebrated and I know that our Superior would bring in
22 things for them, sweets and drinks. Their families
23 might come with a cake or St Vincent de Paul were very
24 good, they would have a record of the children's
25 birthdays. They would come in and give them some little

1 gift.

2 Q. How would you know it was a child's birthday coming up?

3 Did you have some system? Because if you have up to 15,

4 20 children --

5 A. I know.

6 Q. -- how would you identify the date?

7 A. We would have them on their admission forms and then you

8 would have a little book yourself that should have had

9 dates so you would remember them.

10 Q. So you had a record then to tell you?

11 A. Yes. We mightn't have a lot, but what we did --

12 Sister Superior would have little things for them to

13 make it special.

14 Q. If a child got a present or presents on their birthday

15 or Christmas, was the child able to keep the present?

16 A. Oh yes.

17 Q. There wasn't any suggestion of the present being taken

18 away?

19 A. No, I never did it, no.

20 Q. Can I ask you now, sister, a little bit about

21 bed-wetting. Were there children in your group who did

22 wet the bed?

23 A. Yes. Not many, but yes, it was quite ... Yes.

24 Q. How would you manage that?

25 A. Well, maybe get them up before I would retire at night,

1 you know, and explain to the child first -- I would call
2 them -- but very often they would waken up themselves --
3 just to take them out and hopefully they'd be all right
4 in the morning, but very often they'd be wet again in
5 the morning.

6 So that was treated again very sensitively. They'd
7 be got out to the bathroom, maybe before the others
8 would get, up and they got a little bath and cleaned up
9 by the member of staff and the sheets taken off and put
10 into a little laundry bin in the bathroom, and the
11 member of staff would take it to the laundry in the
12 morning and then the bed was made up for them in the
13 evening again with clean, fresh beds and pyjamas.

14 Q. Was there any humiliation of children who wet the bed?

15 A. No, no, we tried to keep it very -- perhaps keep it very
16 private and, as I said, treat it very sensitively
17 because the child would be embarrassed.

18 Q. Any punishment?

19 A. No.

20 LADY SMITH: Were you aware of there having been a time when
21 that was a practice that was engaged in anywhere --

22 A. No.

23 LADY SMITH: -- if children wet the bed, they were punished,
24 called names, humiliated in front of other children?

25 A. No.

1 LADY SMITH: You hadn't heard of that happening?

2 A. No, no.

3 LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay.

4 MR MacAULAY: I'll maybe just come back to that in a moment

5 or two.

6 So far as schooling is concerned, sister, I think

7 you tell us that you always encouraged children to do

8 their homework.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And would you help children with homework?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. So are you talking about primary schoolchildren?

13 A. Yes, and once they went on to secondary school, then

14 that had to be dealt with as well. They would need

15 supervision at that.

16 Q. Can I then look at visits and visitors. I think what

17 you do tell us is the St Vincent de Paul society had

18 volunteers who came to visit?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And you also mentioned the Knights of St Columba.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Would they be permitted to take children out of the

23 home?

24 A. They would, because they'd be well-known to the home and

25 the children would have known them through visits and

1 Christmastimes, yes. Then of course, in the summertime,
2 there would be the outings, the taxi outing and all
3 those, and they would have organised all that. So they
4 knew the children and the children got to know each
5 member of the society.

6 Q. But these persons who took children out in those days,
7 there was no checks made?

8 A. There was no vetting, no.

9 Q. So they were trusted with the children?

10 A. They were trusted, yes, and they'd be just out for the
11 day.

12 Q. Although I think we've heard that there may have been
13 children who might have been away overnight, perhaps not
14 in your group, but could that happen?

15 A. It could, yes, but I don't remember.

16 Q. Insofar as then visits from social workers would be
17 concerned, once you were in charge of the group, did you
18 then deal with social workers directly if they came to
19 visit a child?

20 A. Well, if the social worker -- they would see a child on
21 their own if that was -- you know, they liaised with the
22 child and their parents or whoever. If there was
23 an issue or a child was maybe disturbed or not settling
24 in at school, you would get in touch with the
25 social worker and the social worker would come and talk

- 1 and discuss with -- yes.
- 2 Q. With you?
- 3 A. With me and perhaps with the child and maybe the
4 Superior of the house would need to be in the know as
5 well of what was going on, yes.
- 6 Q. And in that second phase, that second stint, did you,
7 along with the social worker, review the progress that
8 a child might have been making? By that I mean, were
9 there progress reviews?
- 10 A. It was just coming in. They were being set up, regular
11 reviews, on how they were coping and, if needs be,
12 we would meet up with the teacher in the school if there
13 were issues and the teacher would keep in touch with us
14 if there were any issues again with the child.
- 15 Q. So would records be kept then of these reviews?
- 16 A. Yes. There would be a record of -- yes, we spoke with
17 the teacher and the social worker and the child, and
18 we would keep up the ... How to deal with it, we would
19 keep up that system, you know.
- 20 Q. We've already touched upon families, sister, and how it
21 might come to be that if a child left Nazareth House --
22 a boy left Nazareth House to go to, say, Aberdeen, that
23 a sibling or siblings could be left behind, so they'd be
24 separated. That's the way it worked; is that correct?
- 25 A. It was the way.

1 Q. What was your attitude towards that? By that I mean,
2 towards this whole notion of siblings being separated.

3 A. It was painful, but it was beyond my control. So
4 perhaps boys and girls together -- and we didn't have
5 the facilities to accommodate boys once they came to 11
6 or girls as well, you know, there were little
7 dormitories, so it was the norm then to move the boys
8 on.

9 Q. From what you're saying, sister, it was driven by the
10 type of accommodation you had?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. So you couldn't have the mix of sexes at a particular
13 age?

14 A. No, no.

15 Q. Whereas in Aberdeen, I think because of the
16 accommodation --

17 A. That's right.

18 Q. -- they could?

19 A. They could.

20 Q. At least in principle?

21 A. Yes, and then, I suppose, the time was coming where
22 we would be able to maybe have individual rooms for
23 senior girls and senior boys, but that hadn't come in
24 when I left. So that was sort of proposed that there
25 would be more accommodation to keep families together

1 within the homes.

2 Q. But looking at the practice --

3 A. I know, yes.

4 Q. -- how would you describe it now at least, if not even

5 then?

6 A. If it was today, families would be kept together unless

7 they were beyond the control of the sisters.

8 Q. We're talking in the 1970s at the moment.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Would you describe it as a cruel practice to separate

11 children and break up families?

12 A. It wasn't easy to do. I didn't feel -- but then again,

13 if it had to be done and that was the practice then,

14 yes.

15 Q. But was the practice at Cardonald for the reasons you've

16 given --

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. -- namely the type of accommodation? But was it the

19 practice in other places so far as you're aware?

20 A. I think it was more or less the best practice then, but

21 from my point of view, if families could be kept

22 together I would have much preferred it. But

23 I hadn't -- it was beyond my control.

24 Q. The inquiry has heard evidence about when siblings were

25 separated and lost touch and it clearly had an impact on

1 their lives.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Is that surprising?

4 A. No, no.

5 Q. Can I ask you, sister, about discipline and punishments.

6 We've touched on this already when we discussed the

7 punishment book. When you went to Cardonald, on either

8 occasion, were you provided with any guidance as to how

9 children ought to be disciplined?

10 A. Well, yes, and from my own background: always treat the

11 child with great respect and love and never to -- just

12 talk to them and never slap them.

13 Q. That's your own philosophy?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. But what I'm asking is did anyone provide you with

16 guidance as to how the children --

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. -- were to be disciplined?

19 A. It would be Sister LFL, yes, she was my first one,

20 so I followed on her. Yes, the guidance was that they

21 would be given extra chores to do if they misbehaved,

22 such as deprived of their favourite TV or going to the

23 baths or the pictures, or maybe going out for the day or

24 whatever little pocket money they got. So that was

25 what was imposed on them.

- 1 Q. That was the guidance that was given to you by
2 Sister [REDACTED] LFL in the first instance?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Was that just verbal guidance?
- 5 A. It was verbal, yes.
- 6 Q. There was nothing written down?
- 7 A. No, no, verbal.
- 8 Q. Just to come back to how you yourself then would
9 discipline a child, sister, within your group: if you
10 found that a child had been fighting or misbehaving,
11 whatever it may be, how would you manage it?
- 12 A. Well, you would have to see what was the reason behind
13 it and have to say, well, we have to -- you have done
14 something wrong or you've broken something, so we'd
15 maybe send them up to their room or to the bedroom and
16 get them to do lines, which was quite a thing then which
17 they didn't like, or deprive them of going to the
18 pictures or swimming baths, or whatever was on that day.
19 So it wasn't easy to do, but they accepted it, yes.
- 20 Q. Did you ever hit a child?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. There's no suggestion that you did in the evidence
23 before the inquiry. But you say you never?
- 24 A. No, no.
- 25 Q. There has been evidence that Sister [REDACTED] LFL did hit

- 1 children. Does that surprise you?
- 2 A. It does, because I never saw her, never saw her lift her
3 hand, no, and her advice to me was never to slap
4 a child, so yes.
- 5 Q. And the other sister you mentioned, I think, was
6 Sister [REDACTED] LFP . I think there's been evidence that
7 she pursued practices like force-feeding and also
8 hitting children. Does that surprise you if it's true?
- 9 A. I never observed it. I never saw anything of it.
10 Of course, I wasn't there for too long, you know, to
11 sort of see. I was in training, if you like, but I have
12 to say I never saw anything.
- 13 Q. Coming back to Sister [REDACTED] LFL and indeed
14 Sister [REDACTED] LFP and, I think, if we look at those two
15 meantime, bed-wetting practices, you may have been aware
16 of this, sister, when the statement was being taken, but
17 there have been allegations that children were
18 humiliated for wetting the bed. For example, by having
19 sheets put over their heads and indeed made to wash
20 their sheets and possibly being caned for wetting the
21 bed. What's your attitude to that?
- 22 A. Awful. Awful. But I never experienced anything like
23 that happening in my time.
- 24 Q. Do I understand from your reaction that then, whether
25 it's in the late 1960s or early 1970s, that would be

- 1 abusive?
- 2 A. Oh, absolutely.
- 3 Q. You also mentioned Sister [REDACTED] LFS . Again, there has
4 been a suggestion in evidence that she may have struck
5 a child and indeed at one point, I think, maybe hit
6 a child against a radiator. If that was true, would
7 that surprise you since you seemed to know her well?
- 8 A. It would surprise me.
- 9 Q. Did you say she is deceased?
- 10 A. Yes, she died quite young, yes.
- 11 Q. For example, Sister [REDACTED] LFP 's been described as having
12 what was referenced to as a "head banging practice"
13 where she'd bang heads together. Did you hear of any of
14 that going on?
- 15 A. No, I didn't, no, because I if did, I would have brought
16 it to the attention of my Superior.
- 17 Q. Would that be what you would have done?
- 18 A. Oh yes, yes, to my next in line, yes.
- 19 Q. You then give us some final thoughts about your time at
20 Nazareth House. Do I understand from what you say that
21 it was, for you, a happy time?
- 22 A. Very happy, yes. I have very happy memories of my time
23 in Cardonald, yes, both times.
- 24 Q. Can you compare the second time to the first time then?
- 25 A. Well, of course I had gained a lot of experience my

1 first time and then, when I came back again, I gained
2 a lot more and knew more about how the work with
3 children had improved and with my own training within --
4 and it was very helpful and I was able to cope with the
5 children and with the staff and understand them more,
6 each one individually.

7 Q. What you say in your statement is that in comparing the
8 second stint to the first stint, you thought that the
9 place was less institutionalised.

10 A. Oh of course, yes.

11 Q. Can you explain what you mean by that?

12 A. Well, it's a difficult one. There was more -- the
13 groups were sort of apart and we were able to -- we had
14 more control with the children within our groups and
15 we were able to go places and get the staff to go places
16 and use our own initiative on where they were to go,
17 yes. And just make more decisions within our units as
18 regards the children in a more mature, adult way.

19 Q. One thing you say in your statement, sister -- and maybe
20 I should have picked this up earlier -- is that if the
21 Mother Superior did have any concerns about how any of
22 the sisters were dealing with children, she would have
23 moved them on.

24 A. She would, or she would have been in touch with our
25 higher Superiors in London and, yes, they would deal

1 with it, yes.

2 Q. Did you know of any sisters who were moved on --

3 A. No, I didn't.

4 Q. -- for that sort of reason?

5 A. No.

6 Q. You also said at the beginning of your evidence, sister,

7 that you spent a year or two at Kilmarnock.

8 A. I did, yes.

9 Q. And that may have been from about 1972 possibly until

10 1973 or 1974?

11 A. I just remember it, yes.

12 Q. It wasn't very long?

13 A. Not long, no.

14 Q. What was your role in Kilmarnock?

15 A. I was in charge of an unit there, a very nice little

16 unit in Kilmarnock: boys and girls, families.

17 Q. Was it a similar set-up to Cardonald?

18 A. Similar, but smaller, with just two groups there, and it

19 was families and we kept the families together. Lovely

20 children, yes.

21 Q. Can you remember any of the other sisters who were there

22 in Kilmarnock when you were there?

23 A. Sister **LGO**.

24 Q. Was she in charge of one of the groups?

25 A. She was.

1 Q. There had, I think, been a Sister **LHZ** in Kilmarnock;
2 she was no longer there?

3 A. No.

4 Q. What about Sister **LGO**? How did she behave with the
5 group? Did you see?

6 A. At a distance, she seemed to -- well, she was there and
7 she was fine. We'd chat and I found her very sisterly
8 and a calm person, again, you know. I never -- she
9 looked after her group and managed it as far as I could
10 see ... I couldn't comment anyway on how she ran it or
11 anything.

12 Q. The groups were kept quite separate?

13 A. They were, yes.

14 Q. So how many were in your group?

15 A. Maybe 15?

16 Q. Was it a similar number in her group?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Were there just the two groups there?

19 A. Yes. I'm sure I'm right.

20 Q. So we're looking at Kilmarnock in the -- are we looking
21 at the early 1970s, 1973/1974? I'll perhaps put this on
22 the screen for you. It's NAZ.001.001.0265.

23 We're looking at:

24 "Statistics of numbers of children and babies at
25 Scottish Nazareth Houses (1925 to 1984)."

1 This is information that's been provided to us by
2 the order. You'll see that Kilmarnock is second from
3 the left and Glasgow is second from the right.

4 If we go over to the second page, can we see that in
5 Kilmarnock in 1973/1974, there were 16 boys and
6 23 girls? Do you see that?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. So that's about almost 40 and, again, similarly in 1974.
9 So the groups, if there's just two groups, you may be
10 talking about 20 in each group --

11 A. Possibly, yes. I just can't remember the numbers. It
12 was just the two groups ...

13 Q. Were you based in the main building or in another
14 building?

15 A. The main building.

16 Q. Did you see any evidence then of there being the sort of
17 practices we've already discussed of bed-wetting
18 practices and humiliation, force-feeding? Did you see
19 any evidence of that?

20 A. No, no.

21 Q. Did your group eat separately from the other group?

22 A. So far as I know, we had our own dining room, yes, and
23 there were groups -- you know, big groups, older
24 children and younger ones, and the older ones looked
25 after the little ones and they were very protected. So

- 1 there was a nice family environment and, yes, they
2 looked after each other very well.
- 3 Q. When you say older then, are you talking about boys and
4 girls who are over 12?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. So this is different to Cardonald?
- 7 A. Different to Cardonald, yes.
- 8 Q. Was it possible to keep the families together in a way
9 that --
- 10 A. It was, it was in my time, yes.
- 11 Q. This is just a year or so after you'd been in Cardonald?
- 12 A. It was important, yes. I think the facilities were
13 better. You know, there was more space in the bedrooms
14 -- the accommodation in the bedrooms, yes.
- 15 Q. Did you keep records when you were at Kilmarnock?
- 16 A. Yes, whatever, yes. Important ones, you know.
- 17 Q. Records of each child?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. So these records that you've mentioned before in
20 connection with Kilmarnock, these ought to have been
21 kept by the order?
- 22 A. Yes. When the house closed and they all went to our
23 house in Hammersmith, to the archives ...
- 24 Q. And again, if I can ask you about discipline and
25 punishment, were you given any further advice when you

1 went to Kilmarnock as to how children should be
2 disciplined?

3 A. No, I was able to use my own initiative there.

4 Q. Did you deal with social workers in the same way as you
5 had when you were in Kilmarnock?

6 A. Yes, there was a good social work input there, yes.

7 Q. You were only in Kilmarnock, from what I gather, for
8 a relatively short period of time.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Any reason for that?

11 A. Well, perhaps we were moved for more experience and not
12 to get attached maybe to places. It was all gaining
13 experience, going from A to B, but again Kilmarnock was
14 a very happy place to be and lovely children and good
15 staff and, yes, good back-up from social workers.

16 Q. You say "gaining experience"; are you gaining experience
17 for what purpose?

18 A. Well, for the well-being of children as well, to move
19 on -- and for myself as well, because you had to go back
20 and ...

21 LADY SMITH: You mentioned that it might have been that you
22 weren't to get attached; attached to what?

23 A. Well, I suppose as young sisters, you know, you can
24 become attached to maybe children as well as --

25 LADY SMITH: What would have been wrong with that?

1 A. Well, again, Lady Smith, that was how it was, do you
2 know?

3 LADY SMITH: That's your memory of what may have been the
4 thinking at the time; is that right?

5 A. Yes.

6 LADY SMITH: To stop you getting too close to the children?

7 A. Yes.

8 LADY SMITH: You mentioned to Mr MacAulay that you felt that
9 if a member of the order had been behaving badly towards
10 children, treating them in the way that has been
11 suggested to you, that you think the Mother Superior
12 would have moved them on -- I think that is your
13 language and you say that in your written statement.
14 I just wanted to explore that with you a little. What
15 is it you're thinking would have happened in this moving
16 on? What would that have involved?

17 A. I think they'd be taken from the unit or taken from the
18 children and maybe given another job within the convent
19 apart from children.

20 LADY SMITH: That would be one of the other jobs that, for
21 example, we've seen in the list of activities that
22 different nuns carried out?

23 A. Yes.

24 LADY SMITH: Some of which didn't have direct involvement
25 with children?

1 A. Yes.

2 LADY SMITH: So that would have been open to the
3 Sister Superior as a possibility?

4 A. Yes.

5 LADY SMITH: I see. Just while I'm asking you a couple of
6 things, I noticed that in paragraph 59 of your
7 statement, when you were talking about Cardonald,
8 I think it was, you mentioned that some of the children
9 there were not Catholics, they were of other religions,
10 and you said that had to be respected. Do you remember
11 how that respect was shown towards them? What was done
12 practically to show them that you respected the fact
13 that they were not Catholics?

14 A. Well, you'd make sure they went to the school that
15 they -- you know, the Church of Scotland or whatever
16 school they wished to go to or their parents would like
17 them to be at and that they were taken to the chapel or
18 to church of their choice on a Sunday or whenever they
19 went, you know.

20 LADY SMITH: Do you remember which church they'd have been
21 taken to in Kilmarnock?

22 A. I don't. I don't.

23 LADY SMITH: Or which school?

24 A. I can't remember, no.

25 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

1 MR MacAULAY: If I go back to your statement, sister, this
2 is at paragraph 102, page 8403. What you say there is:

3 "I know the inquiry has received a number of
4 complaints. I can only say that maybe I was young and
5 naive and I would not have expected to see such things."

6 But might it be said that if the sort of practices
7 that I have mentioned, if you'd seen these, then surely,
8 even if you were young and naive, you'd know how to
9 respond?

10 A. Oh I would, I would. But I hadn't seen it. It's very
11 stressful to read it. No, I wouldn't have expected it
12 to go on, but apparently it did.

13 Q. You say:

14 "I also think that if these things had gone on, then
15 surely at least one the children would have said
16 something to somebody."

17 A. They would have, because there were staff and there were
18 teachers in the school and there were people coming in,
19 you know, friends coming in and their relatives. Yes,
20 I would have thought so.

21 Q. But witnesses to this inquiry have said they were too
22 scared. If these practices were going on then children
23 would be scared.

24 A. I can't answer for the people that they were making the
25 allegations against.

1 Q. Have any of the children that you cared for, sister,
2 kept in touch with you over the years?

3 A. Yes --

4 Q. I don't need names.

5 A. Not now.

6 Q. But in the past?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Did children write to you?

9 A. They used to, yes, but they have married and moved on
10 now. I have lost touch.

11 Q. Have you been invited to weddings or any such occasions
12 by former residents?

13 A. No, no.

14 MR MacAULAY: Very well, sister. These are all the
15 questions I have for you and I have asked, I think, all
16 the questions I've been asked to ask. Thank you very
17 much indeed.

18 A. Thank you, Mr MacAulay.

19 LADY SMITH: Let me check if there are any outstanding
20 applications for questions. No.

21 Sister, those are all the questions we have for you.
22 It just remains for me to thank you very much for
23 engaging with the inquiry, both by way of providing your
24 written statement and coming along today to answer the
25 questions that we had for you. It has been extremely

1 helpful to me. Thank you.

2 A. Thank you, Lady Smith.

3 (The witness withdrew)

4 LADY SMITH: Yes, Mr MacAulay.

5 MR MacAULAY: My Lady, that is the evidence for today.

6 Tomorrow we have just one oral witness but there will be

7 certainly three, if not four, read-ins tomorrow.

8 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much. Starting at 10 o'clock as

9 usual?

10 MR MacAULAY: Yes.

11 LADY SMITH: I'll rise now and sit again at 10 o'clock

12 tomorrow morning.

13 (3.05 pm)

14 (The hearing adjourned until 10.00 am

15 on Wednesday 13 June 2018)

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"ELIZABETH" (sworn)1

Questions from MR MacAULAY1

"SISTER MONICA" (sworn)78

Questions from MR MacAULAY78

"SISTER CLIO" (sworn)105

Questions from MR MacAULAY106

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