

1 Tuesday, 23 January 2018

2 (9.30 am)

3 LADY SMITH: Good morning. As we indicated on Friday, the
4 first witness before us this morning is giving evidence
5 by means of a link from Australia and I'm going to
6 invite Mr MacAulay to introduce that witness.

7 Mr MacAulay.

8 MR MacAULAY: Yes. Good morning, my Lady. The next witness
9 I would like to call is Leon Carberry.

10 LEON CARBERRY (sworn)

11 (The witness appeared via video link)

12 LADY SMITH: Good morning, Mr Carberry. Can you see and
13 hear me?

14 A. I can't see you, my Lady, but I can hear you.

15 LADY SMITH: We can probably fix the camera so that you can
16 see me.

17 A. I can see you now, ma'am.


18 LADY SMITH: Good. The first thing I would like to do is
19 ask you to take the oath. I'm not going to ask you to
20 stand up or we will lose the view of your head. I won't
21 stand up in case you lose the full view of me. But
22 I can see your right arm, so I would ask you to raise
23 your right hand, please, like this (indicates) and
24 repeat after me.

25 Questions from MR MacAULAY

- 1 MR MacAULAY: Good morning, Leon.
- 2 A. Good morning. How are you this morning?
- 3 Q. The first thing I want to do, Leon, is to take you to
4 the last page of your statement; could I ask you to do
5 that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Can you confirm for me that you have signed the
8 statement?
- 9 A. I have signed the declaration.
- 10 Q. Do you also say in paragraph 83:
11 "I have no objection to my witness statement being
12 published as part of the evidence to the inquiry.
13 I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are
14 true"?
- 15 A. That's correct.
- 16 Q. Leon, I don't need your date of birth, but can I confirm
17 with you that you were born in 1944.
- 18 A. I was.
- 19 Q. And you're now aged 73?
- 20 A. I am.
- 21 Q. I understand, Leon, that you are at the moment in
22 a place called Mandurah, which is about 70 kilometres
23 from Perth in Western Australia; is that correct?
- 24 A. That's correct.
- 25 Q. Can I begin, Leon, by asking you to tell us in your own

- 1 words what life was like before you went into care.
- 2 A. It was pretty hard. There was rationing on in the
3 United Kingdom and food wasn't in great sic supply and
4 my family was going through a hard time. So obviously,
5 things weren't going too well so we had to move on and
6 my family decided, or my parents decided, they would
7 visit my maternal grandmother in Scotland in Barrhead.
- 8 Q. You tell us in your statement that there were in total
9 16 children in your family; is that correct?
- 10 A. That's correct, but not at that time.
- 11 Q. After you moved to Barrhead, did it become the case that
12 you [REDACTED] were taken into care
13 at Smyllum?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. The date that we can find in the records for that, Leon,
16 is 14 November 1954; would that be about right?
- 17 A. The date would be approximately right. I knew it was
18 1954 but not exactly the month or the date.
- 19 Q. At that time were you taken into care [REDACTED]
20 [REDACTED]?
- 21 A. That's correct.
- 22 Q. Looking to the dates, looking to your date of birth, you
23 would be about aged 10 at that time; is that correct?
- 24 A. Yes, I would be aged 10.
- 25 Q. [REDACTED] with you to Smyllum was

- 1 your younger brother, David; is that right?
- 2 A. That's correct.
- 3 Q. We know, and we'll look at this in due course, that
- 4 David died while he was at Smyllum.
- 5 A. He did.
- 6 Q. When you arrived at Smyllum, can you just give us some
- 7 understanding as to what happened [REDACTED]
- 8 [REDACTED]? By that I mean, did you stay together or
- 9 were you separated?
- 10 A. [REDACTED] separated [REDACTED] from David. The
- 11 other boys were kept together.
- 12 Q. Insofar as David was concerned, Leon, do you tell us in
- 13 your statement that after your admission to Smyllum, you
- 14 never saw David again?
- 15 A. Never saw him again after the admission.
- 16 Q. You tell us in your statement that you left Smyllum in
- 17 1957 when you were aged about 13; is that right?
- 18 A. Yes, just approximately -- I can't remember accurately,
- 19 but approximately.
- 20 Q. So by then you'd be aged approximately 13 and I think
- 21 I said 1957.
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Can you tell me where you went? Where were you
- 24 accommodated once you were at Smyllum?
- 25 A. I was accommodated in Falkland, in Fife, [REDACTED]

1 

2 Q. That's when you left Smyllum. Can I ask you, though,
3 when you went to Smyllum, where were you accommodated?
4 Were you in a particular part of the building?

5 A. Sorry. I was accommodated in one of the dormitories
6 above the school.

7 Q. Can you remember the name of the dormitory?

8 A. Not accurately, no.

9 Q. What can you tell me about it? For example, how many
10 beds do you think there were in it?

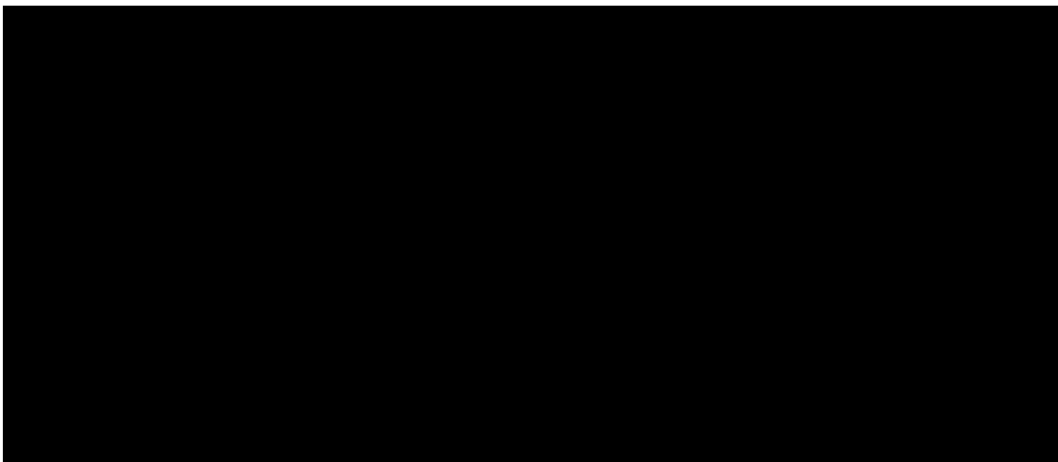
11 A. I would say round about 30 beds, although my memory
12 isn't entirely accurate.

13 Q. And was that all boys?

14 A. All boys.

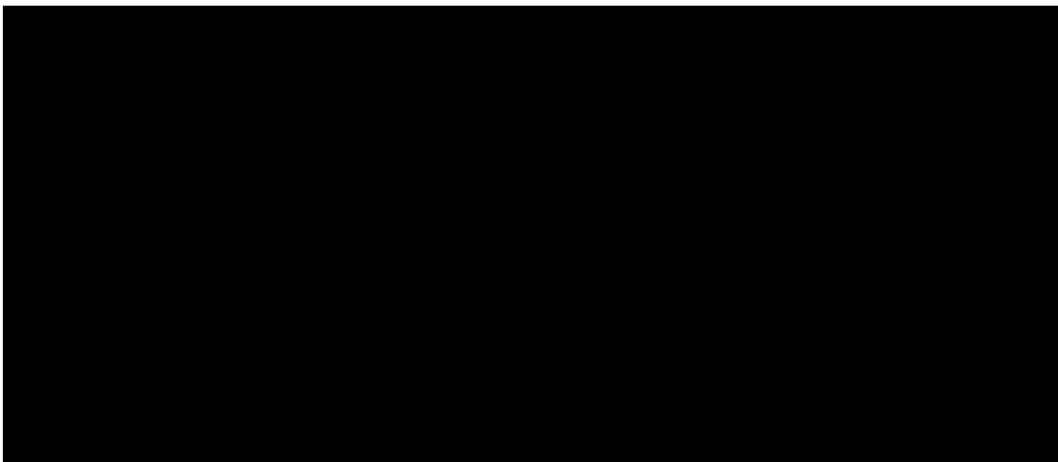
15 Q. What about the age range in that dormitory; can you help
16 me with that?

17 A. Approximately all about the same age group, some maybe
18 one or two years older, not many younger.

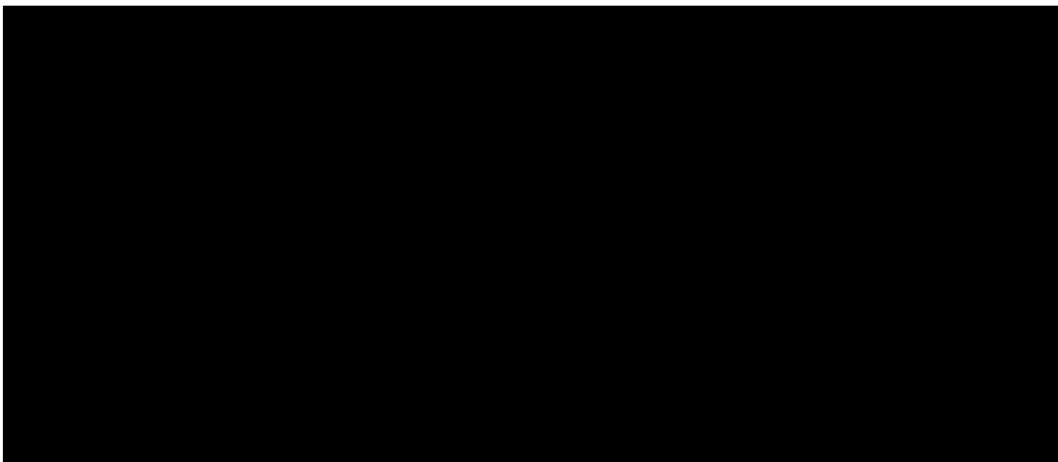
19 Q. 

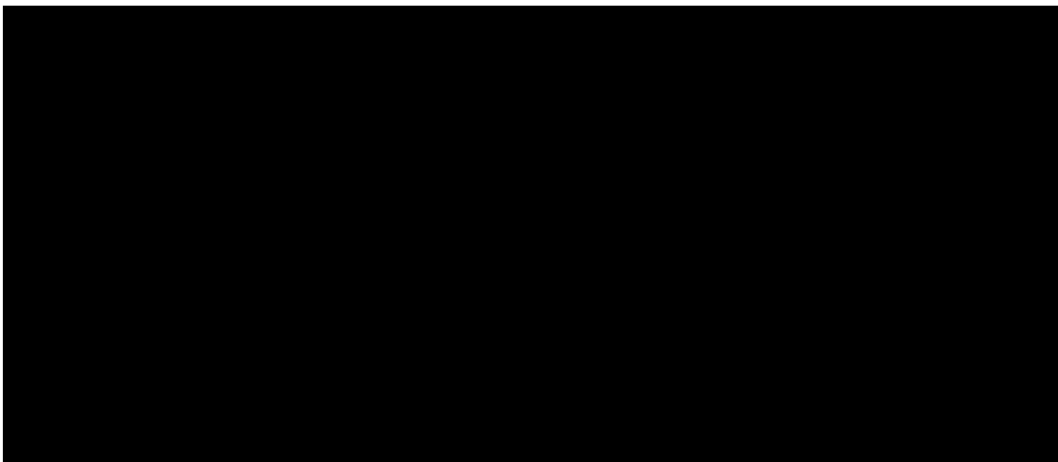
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22 A. 

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24 Q. 

25 A. 

1 Q.

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4 A.

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8 Q. So far as your dormitory was concerned, Leon, I think
9 you tell us in your statement that there was a nun,
10 a Sister **AFK** in charge of the dormitory; is that
11 correct?

12 A. That's correct, yes.

13 Q. What you tell us is that she seemed to be an
14 even-tempered sort of person and never punished you at
15 any time.

16 A. No, I always found it to be very even, her personality,
17 and, as I said in the statement, although I was never
18 physically punished, occasionally I was humiliated when
19 I wet the bed.

20 Q. I'll look at that in a moment. But can I then look at
21 some aspects of the routine at Smyllum. First of all,
22 so far as schooling is concerned, we understand that
23 there was a school that was an in-house school. Did you
24 attend that school for a period of time?

25 A. Yes. There was an in-house school and that was below

- 1 our dormitory and I did attend that school.
- 2 Q. How did you find that?
- 3 A. Fine. I was quite happy at school because the teachers
4 that we had were good teachers and I can't remember ever
5 being punished for anything.
- 6 Q. What can you tell us about the food at Smyllum? How did
7 you find the food?
- 8 A. Well, considering I'd been badly fed and badly nourished
9 as a child, I found the food quite good, actually.
10 I did enjoy the food while I was there.
- 11 Q. I think in relation to washing and bathing, what you
12 tell us is that you never had showers, baths were rare,
13 and you mainly washed in the sinks; is that your
14 recollection?
- 15 A. Yes. We had to wash in the sink on a daily basis.
16 I can never, ever remember getting a bath or a shower --
17 in fact, I don't think I knew what one was.
- 18 Q. What can you tell me about chores? Were you given
19 chores to do when you were there?
- 20 A. Yes. We were given the chore of polishing the dormitory
21 floors, which were wooden floors, and that was done by
22 laying the polish down and then using what was called
23 a bumper, which is a polishing head on a -- a manual
24 polishing head on a stick and you had to polish the
25 floors until they shone.

1 Q. When you say "we", would you be doing that with some
2 other children?

3 A. The other boys in that dormitory.

4 Q. How often would you require to do this sort of job?

5 A. Probably about once a week.

6 Q. Any other chores that you can recollect?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Can I ask you about birthdays, Leon. Was your birthday
9 celebrated in any way when you were there?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Generally, so far as you could see, were birthdays
12 celebrated at all?

13 A. Well, at home my parents tried to celebrate the birthday
14 by giving a small present and, if we were lucky, a cake,
15 but that was about it.

16 Q. That was at home?

17 A. That was at home, yes.

18 Q. But when you went to Smyllum, was there any evidence for
19 you that birthdays were being celebrated?

20 A. No, not at all. I never celebrated a birthday when
21 I was there.

22 Q. What about Christmas, what happened at Christmas?

23 A. Well, at Christmas you'd go to church and obviously sang
24 hymns. You would celebrate Christmas by getting a few
25 toys, not very many, but I mean, one or two toys, cars

1 with pressed tin, toys of similar type -- at most one or
2 two toys, but they were taken off you immediately after
3 Christmas, never to be seen again.

4 Q. Do you know why they were taken off you?

5 A. No. No reason was given, they were just taken away from
6 me.

7 LADY SMITH: Leon, do you have any idea where the toys went?

8 A. No idea whatsoever, none. Just disappeared out of thin
9 air.

10 MR MacAULAY: Can I ask you about visits. Did you receive
11 any visitors while you were at Smyllum?

12 A. All the time I was at Smyllum I never saw one visitor.

13 Q. Do you include in that any social or welfare worker?

14 A. I didn't even know what a welfare worker was and, as
15 I said, no visits whatsoever.

16 Q. You already mentioned bed-wetting. Can I ask you about
17 that? Were you somebody who did wet the bed?

18 A. Prior to going into Smyllum, no. Within I would say
19 about a week or so, I started wetting the bed.

20 Q. Can you then explain to us what the procedure would be
21 if you did wet the bed?

22 A. As I've said in the statement, there was an assistant --
23 a lady assistant, not a nun -- and that assistant would
24 sometimes come up in the middle of the night and find
25 out I'd wet the bed. She would drag me out of bed and

1 sit me on the sink and wash me down. The peculiar thing
2 was, the sheets weren't replaced until the next morning,
3 so I went back and laid on the wet sheets.

4 Q. Physically, would she do anything to you?

5 A. During the wash, just after she washed me, looking back
6 on it, she kissed me and derided me for wetting the bed,
7 telling me I was a naughty boy.

8 Q. What about the morning then? You say the sheets were
9 not changed when this happened. What happened in the
10 morning?

11 A. In the morning I had to strip the bed off and the sheets
12 were put into the wash area where the washbasins were,
13 and the nun in charge would, in front of everybody, tell
14 me I was a naughty and a dirty boy -- incidentally, I've
15 just lost your picture.

16 Q. Was -- that embarrassing for you?

17 LADY SMITH: Hang on, Mr MacAulay.

18 A. Very embarrassing.

19 LADY SMITH: Leon, can you see Mr MacAulay again now?

20 A. Yes, it just flashed back on again. Thank you.

21 LADY SMITH: Good, thank you.

22 MR MacAULAY: I think I had asked you if this process was
23 embarrassing for you and you said it was very
24 embarrassing.

25 A. Very embarrassing, yes.

1 Q. Can you tell me, Leon, for how long during your time at
2 Smyllum you wet the bed?

3 A. I wet the bed all the time I was there. The whole
4 period.

5 Q. Were there other boys in your dormitory who also wet the
6 bed?

7 A. I'm not aware of that at all. I don't know.

8 Q. Then was the process the same throughout your whole
9 period, that you could be woken up during the night,
10 washed in the way you've described, and then in the
11 morning required to deal with the sheets?

12 A. That went on the whole time -- and I can never remember
13 a night when I didn't wet the bed, so obviously every
14 night it was just about the same procedure. So
15 I suspect that they knew I would wet the bed and they'd
16 get me up in the middle of the night.

17 Q. Can I now, Leon, talk about discipline with you.
18 Because you do tell us in particular about a
19 Sister [REDACTED] BAE and what her approach to discipline
20 was. Can you help me with that? What can you tell us
21 about her?

22 A. I certainly can. She was a very angry person, always
23 telling us off, and during the -- after we played in the
24 quadrangle area, we were taken inside into a hall, all
25 the boys, taken inside into this hall, and made to line

1 up both horizontally and directionally by putting our
2 hands out in front, held out in front to get equal
3 distance to the person in front of you, and the other
4 hand out to the right to get an equal person in front of
5 you.

6 She then -- she had a clicker, which we called "the
7 frog". It was operated by, the small clicker, by the
8 finger and thumb, and she would walk up and down the
9 lines and we were told that we had to do certain
10 exercises, ie put our hands on our shoulders, up in the
11 air straight, out to the side, out to the front, and
12 if we didn't do it properly she had a red stick, which
13 I'd say was approximately 12 to 18 inches long, and with
14 this red stick, particularly when your hands were on
15 your shoulders and they weren't square, she would come
16 and belt you across the knuckles with that.

17 But other times, for some unknown reason when she
18 thought you'd done something wrong, she had a brush
19 under the apron, under the white apron she wore on her
20 front. This hairbrush had a lacquered sort of back and
21 she'd make you put your hands out and she'd belt you
22 with the brush -- and, believe me, it stung. It made
23 one cry.

24 Other times, when she perceived you'd done something
25 wrong, you were grabbed by the ear and dragged down to

1 a storeroom-cum-office, and she had a thick belt which
2 was split down the middle and it had a hole at one end
3 so she could hang it on a hook. She'd bring this thing,
4 which we called "the Lochgelly", and she would belt you
5 with that. She also had another strap which was very
6 thin and that was the worst one of the two because she
7 would make you put your hands out and when she hit you,
8 because it was a thin, well-worn leather strap, it went
9 round the back of your hands when she hit you and once
10 again it made one cry.

11 Q. Can I go back and ask you about the frog process.

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. First of all, how many children would be lined up in the
14 way you've just described to us?

15 A. Quite a few. I couldn't recall numbers, but I'd say
16 well over 50, well over 50.

17 Q. Would that be boys only or boys and girls?

18 A. To the best of my knowledge, boys only.

19 Q. What was the purpose, so far as you could understand, of
20 this particular --

21 A. I could never understand, and to this day I can never
22 understand, because for me there was no rhyme or reason
23 for it. She couldn't possibly have an outcome except to
24 make everybody cowed and frightened to do anything
25 wrong.

- 1 Q. And were children hit regularly in the course of this
2 whole procedure?
- 3 A. Yes, including myself.
- 4 Q. How regularly was this frog process carried out?
- 5 A. Approximately once -- at least once a week, if not more.
- 6 Q. Would children be upset and crying because of what
7 happened?
- 8 A. Yes, certainly some of them did because being rapped on
9 the back of the knuckles with a stick is not very nice
10 and quite painful.
- 11 Q. And where was this done, where was this exercise carried
12 out?
- 13 A. As I've explained before, the building was virtually
14 a quadrangle surrounded on four sides with a courtyard
15 or a court, and to the -- looking from the dining room
16 end, that's the best way I can describe it, on the
17 right-hand side there was the wooden doors going into
18 a hall and this hall had benches down the side.
- 19 Q. So was it indoors then that this was done?
- 20 A. Yes, it was.
- 21 Q. The use of the hairbrush, can I just ask you about that:
22 again, are you identifying Sister BAE as the
23 person who did this?
- 24 A. Yes, that's correct (overspeaking) --
- 25 Q. Sorry?

- 1 A. Sorry.
- 2 Q. I was about to ask you: would it be evident to other
3 sisters that Sister [BAE] was using the hairbrush to
4 punish children?
- 5 A. Yes, but for why, I don't know. That includes myself.
- 6 Q. The frog exercise or process, again would other sisters
7 working within the establishment be aware of that
8 particular practice?
- 9 A. Yes, there was other sisters around at the time,
10 probably about four or five standing around in different
11 areas.
- 12 Q. Can you tell me, as best you can, how long this
13 particular exercise would last?
- 14 A. Probably round about 15 minutes in all.
- 15 Q. Would Sister [BAE] say anything in the course of
16 this exercise?
- 17 A. Sorry, can you repeat that?
- 18 Q. Would she be saying anything to you or to any child when
19 this exercise was being carried out?
- 20 A. No. At first when I first got the -- I just followed
21 the rest of the children in what they were doing and
22 nothing was said. The only thing that happened is, as I
23 said, we were rapped across the knuckles, which for me
24 came as quite a shock at first, and from then on
25 I expected it.

- 1 Q. But were you being rapped across the knuckles because
2 you had failed in some way in the exercise or not?
3 Can you help me?
- 4 A. We were rapped across the knuckles because your fingers
5 weren't in the correct position, ie on the shoulders,
6 they weren't completely square or up in the air, they
7 weren't completely square. It was mostly -- most of the
8 times I was rapped on the knuckles was whenever my
9 fingers weren't square on my shoulders (indicates).
- 10 Q. You have just demonstrated how that would be. Perhaps
11 you could do that again. You placed your fingers
12 directly across your shoulders so that they would be, as
13 it were, a potential target for the stick you mentioned.
14 That's the position, is it?
- 15 A. A great target for that stick, a great target for the
16 stick.
- 17 Q. I think you tell us in your statement that you were hit
18 many times because of this.
- 19 A. Yes. Yes, I was. Obviously I wasn't perfect.
- 20 Q. Was Sister BAE at Smyllum when you came to leave
21 Smyllum in 1957?
- 22 A. Still at Smyllum during that period, yes.
- 23 Q. And throughout your whole period at Smyllum, was this
24 exercise, if I can call it that, carried out?
- 25 A. All during that period.

1 Q. You also mentioned the hairbrush. Can I just understand
2 that implement? When would Sister [REDACTED] BAE bring out
3 the hairbrush to use on someone like yourself?

4 A. When she perceived that you'd done something wrong. It
5 was never explained what we had done wrong; we were just
6 dragged out, hand out, and take it. That was it.

7 Q. Which part of the body would she be targeting then with
8 the hairbrush?

9 A. On the palm of the hand -- the hand was outstretched to
10 the side and on the palm of the hand.

11 Q. Would there be one blow or more than one blow? What was
12 the practice?

13 A. Several blows. She would decide. It could be two, it
14 could be half a dozen, it just depended. You put one
15 hand out and then the other hand out and if it was two,
16 that was it. If not, one hand after the other and so
17 forth.

18 Q. Would this cause you to be upset and cry?

19 A. Certainly did. Certainly did.

20 Q. The belt you mentioned, the Lochgelly, from what
21 I understand from you, Leon, you would be dragged to
22 a particular location for that punishment to be
23 inflicted; is that correct?

24 A. That's correct.

25 Q. So that wasn't public, if I can put it that way? Would

- 1 it be just yourself --
- 2 A. There was nobody there. She dragged us down to the back
- 3 to this storeroom, shut the door, and laid into you.
- 4 Q. Again, can I ask you then what part of the body would be
- 5 targeted with the belt?
- 6 A. You had to bend over, but the belt didn't just hit your
- 7 backside, it would also occasionally hit you in the
- 8 back.
- 9 Q. So it's not the hands that are being targeted, it's the
- 10 backside or the back?
- 11 A. It's the backside and the back.
- 12 Q. The other belt you mentioned, which I think you said was
- 13 worse, what part of the body would that be targeted for?
- 14 A. That was on your hands, on your bare hand.
- 15 Q. Are you able to say if there was any reasoning as to why
- 16 one implement would be chosen as against another, or
- 17 do you not know?
- 18 A. It was just that particular sister's whim. No rhyme or
- 19 reason.
- 20 Q. You've been telling us about Sister BAE, Leon.
- 21 Did any other sister hit you, do anything to you
- 22 untoward during your time at Smyllum?
- 23 A. All the time no other sister ever physically punished
- 24 me.
- 25 Q. The punishments that you mentioned in connection with

1 the hairbrush and the belts, how regular were these over
2 your period at Smyllum?

3 A. A week would go past and then it might be -- it could be
4 twice a week. There could be two or three weeks go
5 past, but it was certainly regular and always a surprise
6 to me because, although I'm rather boasting, I was
7 a good boy, you know, and I wasn't a troublesome boy,
8 and that led to my confusion as to why I was being
9 punished. I probably looked the wrong way, I don't
10 know.

11 Q. Did you see other children being punished in a similar
12 sort of way by Sister BAE?

13 A. I saw the red stick, obviously, where other children had
14 the knuckles rapped with the red stick. I saw the
15 hairbrush being used. But as far as the other two
16 straps were concerned, no, because the child was always
17 dragged away and punished in that particular office or
18 storeroom.

19 Q. Did you see children being dragged away by
20 Sister BAE presumably for that purpose?

21 A. I certainly did. Certainly did. Of course, the child
22 sometimes came back crying. The irony of it is we all
23 knew that the thin strap had been used because that's
24 the one that really hurt, whereas because Lochgelly was
25 administered when you were wearing your clothing and

1 therefore it didn't have the same impact.

2 Q. We're making good progress, I think, Leon.

3 You do mention in your statement, Leon, one episode
4 of sexual abuse. Do you want to talk about that?

5 A. I do.

6 Q. Could you tell us about that?

7 A. Yes, okay. [REDACTED]

8 [REDACTED]

9 [REDACTED] was by the name of [REDACTED] AHP and one day

10 I came down the steps and as I got to the boiler house,
11 he took me by the arm and pulled me into the boiler
12 house, and he seemed to be being quite nice to me. He
13 shut the boiler house doors and the only light in there
14 then was the coals burning in the boiler. He sat me on
15 his knee and he put his penis up in between my legs and
16 put my hand on his penis and made me masturbate him.

17 Q. What age were you at that time?

18 A. Pardon?

19 Q. What age were you when that happened?

20 A. I don't remember. I don't remember.

21 Q. I think you tell us in your statement, Leon, that this
22 only happened once.

23 A. That's correct.

24 Q. Can I ask you now a little bit about the death of your
25 brother David, who we know died on 1 July 1955 when

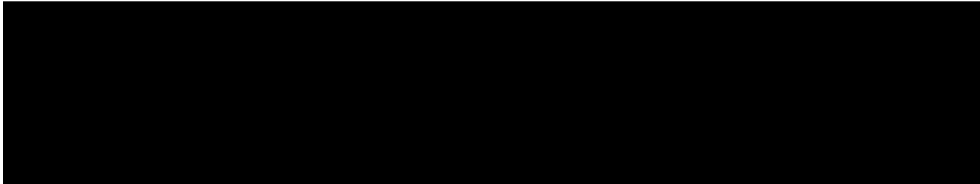
1 he was aged about 4. I think you've already told us
2 that in your time at Smyllum, no doubt because he was in
3 another part of the establishment, you never saw him
4 after you were admitted before his death; is that right?

5 A. That's right, I never saw him. Even after his death,
6 I never saw his body.

7 Q. If he died in 1955, you would then be about 11 years of
8 age.



9 A. That's correct.

10 Q. What can you tell us, Leon -- what can you remember
11 about your young brother's death?

12 A. 

13

14

15  taken round -- and as I said, I believe it
16 was at the front of the building towards the nursery
17 area. The nun told  that he had passed away and it
18 always stuck in my mind that I was told that it was
19 measles and diphtheria that had killed him. It's only
20 recently that I found out that is incorrect.

21 Q. Because I think recently, because of press coverage,
22 I think you've understood, at least from what's on the
23 death certificate, that the cause of death is said to be
24 bronchopneumonia.

25 A. That's what they've said, so obviously somewhere either

1 the doctors have issued a certificate to say that's how
2 he died or he was subject to autopsy, I don't know. But
3 at the end of the day that is not what I was told. It
4 was said quite clearly and I'll remember it until
5 I die: measles and diphtheria.

6 Q. Who told you that, can you remember that?

7 A. I can't; it was just one of the nuns. That's all.

8 Q. Was there a funeral Mass for David so far as you can
9 remember at Smyllum?

10 A. I can't even remember going to a Mass for him. It
11 doesn't ... I just can't. I can't remember. I don't
12 believe there was one. I didn't even go to the funeral.
13 I didn't see a coffin. I don't know. I've never
14 seen ...

15 Q. When you say you didn't go to a funeral, do I take it
16 then that you did not know where he was buried?

17 A. To this day I don't know where he was buried.

18 Q. Leon, I've already taken from you that you left Smyllum
19 in 1957 when you were aged about 13. You've already
20 mentioned that at that time you left to go to
21 [REDACTED] in Falkland; is that right?

22 A. That's correct, yes.

23 LADY SMITH: Leon, can I just, before we go there, take your
24 recollection back to Smyllum? Did you ever come across
25 a man called [REDACTED] BAC ?

1 A. Yes, I certainly did. Yes, [BAC]. He punished me for
2 whatever reason. My contact with him --

3 LADY SMITH: Tell me about that.

4 A. I do know why he hit me. I do know why. There was
5 a coal hole where the truck emptied the coal down -- and
6 bear in mind that the boiler house was below the level
7 of the school level. So the coal was delivered down to
8 that level. Boys being boys, we used to get in there
9 and slide down the coal. Unfortunately for me, [BAC]
10 was in the boiler house and as soon as I popped up he
11 belted me really hard round my left ear and made my nose
12 bleed. Of course, he threw me out the boiler house.

13 When Sister [BAE] saw me, she accused me of
14 being in a fight and dragged me off and once again gave
15 me a good serve of the Lochgelly.

16 LADY SMITH: So you were punished physically both by [BAC]
17 and by Sister [BAE] ?

18 A. That's correct.

19 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

20 MR MacAULAY: Apart from that episode, did you have any
21 further dealings with [BAC] ?

22 A. No, I just -- I would see him around and make sure
23 I avoided him very closely and I certainly never slid
24 down the coal hole again.

25 Q. Okay. Then I was moving on to look at life after

1 Smyllum. You confirmed, I think, that you did move from
2 Smyllum to [REDACTED] in Falkland when you were 13.

3 A. That's correct.

4 Q. Can I ask you this: why were you being moved from
5 Smyllum to [REDACTED]?

6 A. I don't know. I think it was possibly because I was
7 in the last year at school at Smyllum itself, where it
8 was a rare case where any resident went to school
9 outside the establishment. In fact, there was only one
10 boy that I ever remember doing that and I surmise it was
11 for that reason. There was no reason given, I was just
12 told, "You're out of here", and that was it.

13 Q. So was this quite a sudden event?

14 A. Yes, there was no warning whatsoever. I was told one
15 day that I was going and the next day I was on my way.
16 It sounds like a song, doesn't it?

17 Q. And insofar as personal possessions, did you have
18 anything to take with you when you went to [REDACTED]

19 A. Just the clothing that I wore at Smyllum. No big bag of
20 clothing or anything like that.

21 Q. We know that [REDACTED] in Falkland was run by the
22 [REDACTED] That's the case. I don't think you
23 spent long in [REDACTED]; is that right?

24 A. No. My maternal grandmother came and took me back to
25 England, to Newcastle.

1 Q. I think you mention in your statement that you may have
2 been at [REDACTED] for a few months before you went
3 away.

4 A. Yes. Possibly. It was a very, very short period of
5 time anyway.

6 Q. Then can I just touch upon, for a moment or two, Leon,
7 life after care for you. You did some training as
8 a coal miner for a period of time, is that right, once
9 you left school?

10 A. Yes. Yes, in Sauchie and Alloa.

11 Q. Just before you turned 17, you joined the air force;
12 is that correct?

13 A. I did.

14 Q. And can you tell us a little bit about life in the
15 air force?

16 A. Life was great in the air force. I was a radar operator
17 and ended up as a fighter controller. I served in
18 a couple of bases in England and I served in
19 Northern Ireland. I went to Singapore and served
20 a couple of years in Singapore. During that time the
21 Borneo crisis broke out and I was a member of a Special
22 Air Operations unit based in the joint military unit
23 between army, navy and air force specialist services,
24 including Singapore and Malaysian services. When the
25 crisis broke out in Borneo, my unit, our task was

1 whenever there was any trouble spots to be first in and
2 set everything up. Obviously, make sure everything was
3 prepared for the other troops to come in. So I did
4 a tour in Borneo while I was in Singapore, a three-month
5 tour. I went back to the United Kingdom. I was put on
6 voluntary draft and went back to Eastern Borneo to serve
7 another 12 months.

8 Back in the United Kingdom, I served a short
9 secondment to Cyprus and to the (inaudible), which I did
10 in Aden. I was discharged from the air force in 1972 in
11 a place called Boulmer in Northumberland.

12 Q. You tell us you were twice awarded General Service
13 Medals for service in Cyprus and Borneo and you were
14 also awarded the Pinjat Jasa Malaysian medal from the
15 Malaysia government; have I got that right?

16 A. That's correct, yes.

17 Q. Did you say a moment ago that you left the air force in
18 1972 or did I get that wrong?

19 A. That's correct, yes.

20 Q. And I think before that in 1968, you married, you were
21 married?

22 A. I got married in 1968, yes.

23 Q. After you left the air force, it was then I think you
24 decided to emigrate to Australia; is that right?

25 A. That's correct.

1 Q. You tell us you worked as a sales representative for
2 a couple of years, but then you joined the
3 Western Australian Prison Service in 1976.

4 A. Correct.

5 Q. Did you make a career out of the Prison Service
6 thereafter?

7 A. I did. I did approximately 28 years and rose up to the
8 rank of assistant superintendent, which in the
9 United Kingdom is assistant governor.

10 Q. You were awarded the Australian National Medal and bar
11 for the service that you gave to the Prison Service.

12 A. That's correct.

13 Q. Thereafter, did you join the Western Australian Police?

14 A. Yes, I did, but I didn't apply to join them; they asked
15 me to come and join them to set up a new system for
16 police auxiliary officers going to one-day lock-ups
17 throughout the state.

18 Q. And did you finally retire then in 2015?

19 A. I did.

20 Q. But you were awarded the Western Australian Police Medal
21 and the Police Commissioner's Medal for Excellence;
22 is that right?

23 A. I was, that's correct.

24 Q. Can I ask you then about what impact you see your time
25 at Smyllum might have had on you? So far, we've looked

1 at what seems to have been a highly successful life
2 after Smyllum. Would you say that Smyllum and your
3 experiences at Smyllum did have an impact on you?

4 A. Yes. It did have an impact, to such a degree that from
5 time to time I would think about it, have dreams about
6 it. It turned me very bitter towards the Roman Catholic
7 Church. Ever since I've turned away from the church
8 entirely. I still feel to this very day that nothing
9 had ever been done and the authorities had stood back
10 and took no action whatsoever.

11 Of course now, obviously, the authorities are
12 looking at it and that gives me total satisfaction, but
13 the impact is there, particularly the punishments and
14 the sexual misconduct towards me has made me quite
15 bitter about that -- particularly, as I've said before,
16 and I still believe it, as I wasn't a bad boy. I never
17 warranted that type of treatment. I believe it did have
18 an effect on my personality in some ways.

19 I can get very angry with people -- sometimes I get
20 angry unnecessarily, but that's life, and I move on.
21 I've got a good life, I've got a great life, I've had
22 some great experiences in my life and met lots of lovely
23 people. As I said, my life's been great, I still have
24 a great life, and I enjoy life. I have a good marriage
25 to a good wife. I have two boys. And, as I said,

1 life's good to me. But I still get those thoughts from
2 time to time and the odd dream.

3 The dreams at times seem real, but I've also had
4 dreams about other things that particularly happened
5 when I was in active service and I was in the Prison
6 Service. I've seen some horrible things and I dream
7 about them, but I'd like to think I'm very cognisant
8 that they are dreams. Once I wake up, I shake it off
9 because I know that's exactly what they are, just
10 dreams.

11 Q. As you've just indicated, Leon, you say that you still
12 have dreams about Smyllum. Can I ask you, what are
13 these dreams? What do they consist of?

14 A. I still dream about waking up when I've wet the bed.
15 I still dream about being punished and I still dream
16 about being sexually assaulted. But as I said, it's not
17 all the time, it's not every night, it's not every week,
18 it might be two or three times a year, but I still get
19 the dreams. Unfortunately, since this inquiry started,
20 I've dreamt a little bit more but, as I said, that's
21 life.

22 Q. When you went to [REDACTED] in Falkland, [REDACTED]
23 [REDACTED]
24 [REDACTED]

25 A. To the best of my knowledge, yes.

1 Q. But I think you tell us in your statement that,
2 notwithstanding that degree of separation, you did get
3 together again and you still have contact with your
4 brothers and sister.

5 A. Yes. I've got one brother, [REDACTED] over here.
6 He lives here. [REDACTED] my brother -- I only have
7 phone contact a couple of times a year, but I've been
8 back to the United Kingdom a good deal. My sister,
9 [REDACTED] my elder sister, [REDACTED]
10 I have contact with her about once every ten days. We
11 call each other and we speak quite extensively on the
12 phone.

13 Q. Good. You've already mentioned, Leon, the fact that
14 your experience at Smyllum has made you bitter towards
15 the Catholic Church. One thing you say in your
16 statement is that you believe the Catholic Church is
17 responsible and should be made to pay. You go on to
18 say:

19 "There were priests and others around at the time
20 that witnessed things happening and did nothing. To me
21 that is just wrong."

22 Can I ask you about that? You've told us about
23 Sister [REDACTED] BAE and her behaviour. I think you have
24 told us that there were sisters there who would have
25 witnessed that behaviour. What about priests?

1 Do you have any recollection of a priest or priests
2 being --

3 A. I remember two different priests. Don't ask me the
4 names because I can't remember. I remember them
5 sometimes being in the area when this was happening, and
6 to me, looking back, they did absolutely nothing about
7 it, nothing about the treatment whatsoever. As you've
8 already said, in the witness statement I blame the
9 church. Like any organisation, including the
10 organisations that I've been manager of, when employees
11 or staff in that organisation do wrong, management has
12 to take responsibility, and the church to me has never
13 taken responsibility for those things that have
14 happened.

15 It has to take responsibility and there must be an
16 effort to take responsibility. As I've said in my
17 witness statement, and I said to you before, I believe
18 when I say "made to pay" I'm not talking about money,
19 I'm talking about law. People have to answer to the law
20 for cruelty, for any type of cruelty, whether it be
21 adults or children, and I just trust and hope that these
22 people are made answerable to the law, although, as I've
23 said, the people that dealt with me have probably passed
24 on many, many years ago. But I've got no doubts that
25 punishment to children continued long after I left, and

1 to me those people must be answerable for what they've
2 done.

3 Q. I think you did tell us, Leon, that when you came to
4 leave Smyllum in 1957, Sister [BAE] was still there.

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. Your final thought in your statement is that you think
7 it's very important that the inquiry is very strong in
8 its recommendations. Can you elaborate upon what you
9 mean by that?

10 A. I mean to say that should the commission, as I call it,
11 find that a lot of these things did happen, then to me
12 they must strongly condemn what happened and, if any of
13 those people are alive, recommend that further action be
14 taken and be handed over the correct authorities, ie the
15 police, and that the recommendations be very, very
16 strong. They should also recommend that an inspectorate
17 be set up to go round unannounced to inspect these
18 establishments, make sure the records are accurate,
19 speak to the people that are resident at these
20 establishments, speak to staff, all staff, and if
21 anything's going on that shouldn't be going on, bring it
22 to the attention of the authorities.

23 MR MacAULAY: Thank you for these thoughts, Leon. I've
24 finished my questioning of you.

25 My Lady, I haven't received any written questions to

1 put to Leon and I don't know if there are to be any
2 applications.

3 LADY SMITH: Could I check if there are any outstanding
4 applications for questions? No. Thank you.

5 Leon, nobody else has any questions for you today,
6 so it only remains for me to thank you very much for
7 being prepared to give evidence in this way by a link,
8 which is probably not the most convenient time of day
9 for you, but it has been of great assistance to us to
10 hear from you and hear from you in such detail.

11 Thank you very much.

12 A. Thank you, ma'am.

13 LADY SMITH: We'll now be switching off the connection,
14 Leon. Thank you.

15 (The video link was terminated)

16 MR MacAULAY: My Lady, I don't know if your Ladyship would
17 consider having a break at this point in time.

18 LADY SMITH: I think that would be helpful. There's
19 a problem I need sorted out with my screen, apart from
20 anything else, Mr MacAulay. When will the next witness
21 be ready?

22 MR MacAULAY: The witness should be here now, so quarter to
23 ten, I would suggest.

24 LADY SMITH: We'll do that. Thank you.

25 (10.27 am)

1 (A short break)

2 (10.45 am)

3 MR MacAULAY: My Lady, the next witness wants to remain
4 anonymous and wants to use the name Mary Ann in giving
5 her evidence.

6 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

7 "MARY ANN" (sworn)

8 LADY SMITH: Can I make clear at the outset. If you need
9 any breaks, we can have a break at any time. Please
10 speak up if you feel that that would work for you,
11 because it's important that we follow what you feel is
12 the most comfortable way for you to give evidence. Do
13 you understand?

14 A. I do.

15 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

16 Mr MacAulay.

17 MR MacAULAY: Just to say, my Lady, there may be an
18 allegation being made against this witness and I think
19 it would be appropriate in those circumstances for
20 a warning to be given.

21 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

22 You've heard, Mary Ann, what Mr MacAulay just said.
23 You may remember that when you gave a statement it was
24 carefully explained to you that if any of the
25 questioning was about the abuse of children and you

1 spoke of being involved in any way in the abuse of
2 children, then you would be asked further questions
3 about that, but because you have the protection of not
4 being bound to incriminate yourself, you're not bound to
5 answer any such question, but if you did answer it, then
6 the answers would be recorded and could be used in the
7 future in, for example, a criminal prosecution.

8 Although this is an inquiry and not a criminal
9 trial, exactly the same protections apply to you here.
10 So if any such questioning arises and it does involve
11 the abuse of children and the possibility of you having
12 abused children, you do not have to answer those
13 questions, but you do need to understand that if you do,
14 the questions will be recorded, just like all the
15 evidence in the inquiry, and would be available in the
16 future -- not for the inquiry to use against you but for
17 any other agency, such as the criminal agencies. Do you
18 understand that?

19 A. I hope so.

20 LADY SMITH: Just to reassure, that is hopefully understood
21 by you as being for your protection and not by way of
22 anything to worry about.

23 A. Okay.

24 LADY SMITH: Do you understand that?

25 A. Yes.

1 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

2 Questions from MR MacAULAY

3 MR MacAULAY: Good morning, Mary Ann.

4 A. Good morning.

5 Q. Can I begin by taking you to your witness statement.

6 I'll give the reference of that for the transcript and

7 that's WIT.003.001.1188. Can I take you to the last

8 page of the statement? Can you confirm for me that

9 you have signed the statement.

10 A. I can, yes.

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

12 "I have no objection to my witness statement being

13 published as part of the evidence to the inquiry"?

14 Do you see that?

15 A. I do.

16 Q. I think that was after you had been given the sort of

17 warning that Lady Smith has mentioned; is that correct?

18 A. I can't remember that, but --

19 Q. Okay. And you go on to say:

20 "I believe the facts stated in this witness

21 statement are true."

22 Is that correct?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. I don't want your date of birth, Mary Ann, but I need to

25 have the year of your birth so I can get a time frame.

- 1 Am I right in thinking that you were born in 1944?
- 2 A. I was.
- 3 Q. That would make you 73, I think, now.
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Can I turn to your ministry history, a copy of which
6 will go on to the screen in front of you. You, I think,
7 joined the Daughters of Charity, and do I take from here
8 that was in about 1971?
- 9 A. I joined in 1968.
- 10 Q. Right. When did you take your vows then?
- 11 A. 1974.
- 12 Q. We're looking at what you did after you joined. For
13 example, we can see that from 1976 to 1981 you were at
14 Smyllum; is that right?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Although as we'll see, you'd been at Smyllum before you
17 actually joined the order.
- 18 A. That's right.
- 19 Q. You then set out what you have done since then. I think
20 your last position as a member of the order was in 2016
21 when you had a position in connection with hospital
22 ministry at [REDACTED]; is that right?
- 23 A. I lived in [REDACTED], but the hospital was the
24 infirmary, I think, the Royal Infirmary.
- 25 Q. In any event, you have now left the community?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Was that in 2017?
- 3 A. Just last year, yes.
- 4 Q. As we just touched upon, you were really at Smyllum
5 before you joined the order and was that from 1966 to
6 1978?
- 7 A. 1966 to 1968.
- 8 Q. What was your position then when you were at Smyllum?
- 9 A. Assistant house mother.
- 10 Q. How did it come to be that you took up that position?
- 11 A. I had been working in an office and I just felt that
12 I was called to do something different, that wasn't what
13 God wanted me to do. So there was an advert in the
14 Catholic Observer for assistant house mothers and
15 I wrote away for it and went for the interview and I was
16 told that I could start. When I went home, I didn't
17 really want to go because I didn't want to leave home,
18 but eventually I did go.
- 19 Q. I think later you do do some training, but when you
20 actually went for the first time did you have any
21 childcare training or experience?
- 22 A. Only with nephews and nieces and things like that.
- 23 Q. When you went there in 1966 as an assistant house
24 mother, were you attached to a particular section?
- 25 A. Yes. Yes, one group.

1 Q. What was the group?

2 A. Ogilvy House.

3 Q. Who was actually in charge then at that time?

4 A. Do you mean --

5 Q. The sister.

6 A. In Ogilvy House?

7 Q. Yes.

8 A. Sister EAC.

9 Q. Perhaps I can get you to look at a photograph. This is

10 at DSV.001.001.4661. We're looking at an aerial

11 photograph of Smyllum and an effort has been made to try

12 to identify different parts of the building.

13 You'll see, for example, if you look towards the

14 bottom, there's a box which says:

15 "Nursery then Ogilvy House after nursery closed in

16 1961 to 1962."

17 Was that the building that was known as

18 Ogilvy House?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Can you tell me what the set-up was then when you went

21 there in 1966? By that I mean what was the

22 accommodation like and the number of children and so on?

23 A. The accommodation, when I think about it, wasn't

24 particularly good in the sense that there were children

25 that didn't have proper bedrooms. It was three bedrooms

1 only. Now, what were the three bedrooms? One was the
2 boys' and then there were two girls' bedrooms, and the
3 two girls' bedrooms were off each other. I think there
4 was a door. That's what I think I remember.

5 Q. Okay. Looking to those who were being accommodated,
6 you have mentioned boys and girls. Can you help me with
7 numbers?

8 A. I think I had 20; there were more girls than boys there
9 then.

10 Q. You mentioned that Sister [REDACTED] EAC was the sister in
11 charge.

12 A. Uh-huh.

13 Q. And there was you as the assistant house mother. Were
14 there any other lay staff there?

15 A. There was, yes. There was another girl and there was
16 a part-time -- the one that was in the nursery did
17 two evenings in our house.

18 Q. If you look at the respective functions of you and
19 Sister [REDACTED] EAC would you be there at the same time or
20 was it worked in such a way that you'd be there when she
21 wasn't there and vice versa?

22 A. Most of the time -- well, she was there, but always in
23 the background. It wasn't ... I really can't remember
24 too much about who was where, what, and everything.

25 I think when I was there, I think Sister [REDACTED] EAC

1 thought I was able to do the things, so she would maybe
2 do something else. I don't know. That's how I feel
3 about it.

4 Q. In any event, you were there for the two years you've
5 mentioned?

6 A. Mm-hm.

7 Q. You then went to join the order, effectively?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. In 1968?

10 A. Mm-hm.

11 Q. Did you leave Smyllum then at that time?

12 A. I did, yes.

13 Q. You ended up going back to Smyllum later on?

14 A. Uh-huh.

15 Q. How did that come about?

16 A. I did the course, the childcare course, in Langside, and
17 after it I suppose somebody had to be placed in Scotland
18 and I was assigned to Smyllum. The only reason
19 I wouldn't have wanted to go back was the numbers, but
20 I loved it when I was there. The numbers were quite --
21 it was quite hard with the numbers.

22 Q. Do you mean the numbers in each section that have so
23 many children would be quite a challenge?

24 A. Yes, yes. But they were good children. Most of the
25 time.

- 1 Q. When then you returned, you were returning as a sister;
2 is that correct?
- 3 A. Mm-hm, yes.
- 4 Q. And that was, you thought, 1976/1977, around that time?
- 5 A. It would be 1976. It was in 1975 I did the course
6 because it was after my vows.
- 7 Q. Okay. Where did you go then when you returned to
8 Smyllum? Which section?
- 9 A. St Kentigern's.
- 10 Q. What was the set-up with St Kentigern's then in relation
11 to the accommodation?
- 12 A. That was slightly different. It was slightly better
13 in the sense that, as far as I can remember, I think
14 they had maybe only four in a bedroom. But I can't
15 remember the set-out at all.
- 16 Q. What about the numbers then? Can you remember what the
17 numbers --
- 18 A. Oh, the numbers were the same, I think.
- 19 Q. About 20?
- 20 A. Mm-hm.
- 21 Q. And boys and girls?
- 22 A. I can remember having 15 boys and five girls when
23 I first went there.
- 24 Q. So more boys than girls?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Again, we can look at the photograph I put up on the
2 screen before to see if we can identify where we might
3 be. This is DSV.001.001.4661.

4 Again, you'll see if, you look at the bottom right,
5 there's a little box and there's been an effort made to
6 identify where St Kentigern's may have been within the
7 Smyllum establishment. Is that a correct
8 identification?

9 A. I can't make out what it is, but there was a fire escape
10 to the entrance of St Kentigern's. That's all
11 I remember.

12 Q. This appears to be pointing to part of a building that's
13 to the right of what one might call the main building;
14 do you see that?

15 A. Mm-hm, mm-hm. That was the way we would have gone in,
16 up the fire escape, I think.

17 Q. Okay. Just to follow through your time at
18 St Kentigern's, because I think you were there until
19 1981; is that right?

20 A. That's right. When it closed.

21 Q. That's when the establishment closed. Was there
22 a change in relation to the group set-up before Smyllum
23 closed? The reason I ask you that is if you look at
24 paragraph 10 on the screen you say:

25 "I don't know why they did it, but about six months

- 1 before Smyllum closed my group was closed and we all
2 went back to Ogilvy House."
- 3 A. I would have thought St Kentigern's would have been
4 a better -- the room situation. But they didn't do
5 that. I don't know why.
- 6 Q. But what are you telling us, that what happened was
7 St Kentigern's closed down?
- 8 A. Yes. Because the numbers were going down, there were
9 only a few, and the sister that was in Ogilvy, she was
10 changed to do something else -- I think she went to do
11 nursing or something -- so I took the few children that
12 I had over into Ogilvy.
- 13 Q. Was Ogilvy in a different place now to where it had
14 been --
- 15 A. No, it's the same place.
- 16 Q. Okay. Can I then just go back to when you were there in
17 1966 to 1968. Can I ask you this: what knowledge, if
18 any, would you have in relation to the children's
19 backgrounds that you were caring for?
- 20 A. We didn't really get to know much about it.
- 21 Q. And what about when you were back in 1976? Had the
22 position changed to any extent?
- 23 A. I can't see that I really thought it did. We didn't
24 really know much.
- 25 Q. If you look at -- let's look at Ogilvy House when you

1 were there and Sister EAC was in charge. I'll just
2 ask a little bit about the daily routine. When children
3 got up in the morning in Ogilvy House, in that time,
4 what would happen? Would they have to make their beds
5 or what was the procedure?

6 A. They would make their beds or somebody else tidied them
7 up afterwards. But they were expected to do their beds.
8 Some did them better than others, but there was ...
9 Someone came in and made sure later on, a woman -- what
10 we called the daily woman -- came and she would do the
11 rooms.

12 Q. Was there any pressure on children to make their beds in
13 a particular way or not?

14 A. Well, they were supposed to -- I didn't pressurise them
15 to do it. I didn't pressurise them to do -- we used to
16 say, try and do it, but sometimes I helped them, as far
17 as I remember.

18 Q. Was there any question of a bed being stripped again
19 because it hadn't been properly done?

20 A. No. I didn't see that anyway.

21 Q. If I can ask you about washing and bathing at this time,
22 this first stint. Let's look at bathing first of all.
23 Were baths provided on a regular basis?

24 A. Do you know, I really can't remember much. There
25 wasn't -- I think there were only two baths and there

1 were sinks. But it's such a long time, I can't remember
2 half the things. But when ... I can remember twins had
3 a bath and I would -- if I was bathing them, I would
4 bath them in the same bath, but we always did back to
5 back. It was just the way we were at that time.
6 Sometimes it'd be all right, but I don't think anybody
7 else had to share anything.

8 Q. And was the water always warm or could it be cold?

9 A. I don't think the water was ever cold for a bath, no.
10 I can't even remember what we did as staff. We shared
11 that as well.

12 Q. Can I ask you about bed-wetting at this time when you
13 were in Ogilvy House in 1966 to 1968. If a child wet
14 the bed, what would the procedure be?

15 A. I can't remember exactly, but I think -- I know they had
16 probably nylon sheets, so they'd take them down, if they
17 were old enough to take them down, to wherever we washed
18 them -- I can't even remember all of it because I've
19 been in so many different places. I put them -- well,
20 we washed them and they got sheets to put on, and if
21 they were too young to make the bed, we'd make it, and
22 if they weren't too young, they could make it themselves
23 and do the best they could as far as I can remember.

24 Q. Can I take you to your statement on this topic. We're
25 looking at paragraph 70 on page 13. Here you're looking

1 at bed wetting and you say:

2 "The number of children who had problems with
3 bed-wetting varied. Sometimes there would be four or
4 five children who would wet their bed. I think by the
5 time I left Ogilvy House they weren't many at all."

6 So you're looking here at your time at Ogilvy House.
7 You tell us:

8 "Everybody usually got a milky drink before they
9 went to bed. I think that the bed-wetters didn't get a
10 drink too late at night."

11 You remember that?

12 A. I remember saying that, yes.

13 Q. Then you say:

14 "Sister [REDACTED] EAC used to get the wet beds up in
15 Ogilvy House. She did that so they wouldn't have wet
16 beds in the morning. When Sister [REDACTED] EAC got the child
17 up [and I am moving on to the next page] she would get
18 them to bring their sheets down. She would get them to
19 do that if they were old enough to carry their sheets."

20 I want to understand what you're telling us there.

21 Is this during the night?

22 A. No, no.

23 Q. So when you say in the next paragraph:

24 "I used to think that we should just have left them
25 so as we didn't disturb their sleep. I thought it was

1 a shame because the children were sleepy."

2 And you go on to say:

3 "I don't think that getting them up was the answer.

4 Getting the children up was the done thing then.

5 I decided, later on that after I did my childcare

6 course, I wouldn't do that."

7 A. That's right.

8 Q. So the impression perhaps that might have been is that

9 this was something that happened before the morning, but

10 can I understand from you what the practice was then?

11 A. What I meant was when sister came over from the sisters'

12 house part, and before she went to bed, she got them up.

13 Q. So the children had been in bed?

14 A. Yes. Mm-hm.

15 Q. So what time would this be?

16 A. Oh ... I wouldn't know. When the children -- I don't

17 really know. Half past seven some of them would have

18 been in bed, the younger ones -- maybe half past eight,

19 nine o'clock.

20 Q. As you're telling us, the children's sleep was being

21 disturbed in the sense that the sister would come and

22 get them to remove their sheets from the bed; is that --

23 A. No, no. They wouldn't have wet the bed in between going

24 to bed and being wakened up to go. Do you understand

25 what I'm trying to say?

1 Q. Are you saying then that they're being woken up to go to
2 the toilet?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Is that right?

5 A. Yes, so they wouldn't wet the bed.

6 Q. And this was a practice that you witnessed and I think
7 you thought it was a bit of a shame?

8 A. I did, yes. But I mean, if it was the done thing,
9 I couldn't be seen -- you know, somebody coming in ...

10 LADY SMITH: You make reference in your statement to how
11 your thinking changed later on when you did the
12 childcare course.

13 A. Yes.

14 LADY SMITH: So with that learning, what would you have
15 done?

16 A. I'd have let them sleep.

17 LADY SMITH: Through the night?

18 A. Yes, if they could, yes, because they were going to be
19 wet in the morning anyway, I felt.

20 LADY SMITH: Was there any teaching on your childcare course
21 about ways in which bed-wetting should be dealt with?

22 A. I can't remember any of that being addressed.

23 LADY SMITH: Okay, thank you.

24 MR MacAULAY: Coming back then to the morning, during this
25 period when Sister EAC was in charge, and if

1 a child had wet the bed, I just want to understand from
2 you, Mary Ann, what would happen.

3 A. I just think they had to go and get the sheets away.

4 I didn't see any abuse part, like they had to do
5 anything different from taking their sheets down.

6 Q. There's been a suggestion in evidence that children
7 would be humiliated, for example by sheets being put on
8 their person, perhaps even hit and chastised.

9 A. I never saw anything like that any time when I was
10 there. I never saw any wet-beds getting anything done
11 to them like that.

12 Q. And when you say "any time you were there", you are
13 including not just this time when you're there at
14 a pretty young age actually and later on when you're in
15 charge yourself of St Kentigern's?

16 A. I didn't see anything like that -- at least I can't
17 remember seeing anything like that at all.

18 Q. What about food at Smyllum? When you were there the
19 first time in Ogilvy House, what were the dining
20 arrangements?

21 A. Well, I have to say it was all right. We did our own
22 cooking and I ate with them, I ate with the children and
23 I ate what the children had, so I thought it was all
24 right.

25 Q. Did you see if any children were reluctant to eat their

1 food?

2 A. I can't remember it being an issue. I really can't. It
3 could have been, but I just can't remember. Only one
4 time did I remember and that was later on, not in that
5 time, was somebody trying to get this child to eat
6 something that they didn't like and I ended up saying to
7 them, "Just leave it".

8 Q. Did you see any children being made to eat food?

9 A. No -- do you mean in Ogilvy House at all or any place --

10 Q. Anywhere.

11 A. I can't remember anybody being -- in fact, they used to
12 run into the dining room as if they were quite hungry.

13 Q. Can I ask you a little bit about discipline because you
14 do mention that in your statement. How was discipline
15 managed?

16 A. I don't know, really. They didn't get -- I don't know.
17 You would give them a wee smack if needed. But they
18 didn't -- I can't remember any issue, really bad issue.

19 Q. Who would give the smack?

20 A. Well, I can only say about me. It would just be like
21 a telling off. I can't even remember doing that, but
22 obviously I must have done something a wee bit because
23 you had to make sure the wee ones knew what you were
24 meaning. But I don't mean a big -- they weren't getting
25 thrashed.

- 1 Q. What you say in your statement at paragraph 107 is:
- 2 "If a child did something and he was youngish, they
- 3 would get a slap."
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. That's what you tell us and I think you are saying
- 6 that's something you would do?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. But a slap, would it be a slap across the wrist, on the
- 9 bottom?
- 10 A. I would say probably a smack across the bottom.
- 11 Q. Did you see other sisters --
- 12 A. I didn't see anybody else doing anything. I've got
- 13 something in my statement later on but -- I didn't see
- 14 anything.
- 15 Q. Okay. But to that extent there was a form of corporal
- 16 punishment then?
- 17 A. Like everywhere.
- 18 Q. I'm not being critical of you.
- 19 A. I know. It's awful when you think about it now.
- 20 Q. In those days corporal punishment was acceptable.
- 21 A. Uh-huh.
- 22 Q. But you're saying that so far as a smacking would be
- 23 concerned, it was something you did?
- 24 A. Mm.
- 25 Q. But you say that you never saw any other sister doing

- 1 the same? Is that --
- 2 A. I didn't see any sister smacking anybody because you
3 were too interested in your own group.
- 4 Q. As far as smacking is concerned, are you dealing with
5 your period at Ogilvy House and subsequently when you
6 went to take over St Kentigern's?
- 7 A. I don't think I needed to smack them after the course.
8 I can't remember. Maybe I'm just rose coloured --
9 I don't know.
- 10 Q. One thing you do say is that it would not be your
11 practice to send a child to bed early as a punishment.
- 12 A. Yes, because that was one thing we were taught on the
13 childcare course, because they just go through all their
14 emotional things and everything.
- 15 Q. So that would be something you'd put in place when you
16 were back?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. You do mention in your statement that you were aware
19 that some children did run away from Smyllum.
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Do you know why that was?
- 22 A. Well, obviously something had happened or they were just
23 unhappy. I don't know.
- 24 Q. Did any children run away from the time you were in
25 Ogilvy House?

- 1 A. I can't remember, but I think they probably did.
- 2 Q. More than one?
- 3 A. Probably. Because they used to say, you know,
4 so-and-so's ran away, and such and then what were they
5 wearing. I would never remember what they were wearing,
6 you know. I can't remember any specific runaways.
- 7 Q. Did it cross your mind to think, well, this child or
8 these children have run away, I wonder why?
- 9 A. Yes, but we didn't sit down and talk, like you
10 couldn't -- like we should have, probably.
- 11 Q. When you were in St Kentigern's in 1975/1976, were there
12 children who were in that group who ran away?
- 13 A. I honestly can't remember if there were. I can't
14 remember them running away. But then maybe I just hoped
15 that they didn't. I can't remember.
- 16 Q. Can I ask you a little bit about an incident you mention
17 in paragraph 119 of your statement. This is dealing
18 with an incidence when there had been thefts. There was
19 a lining up of children to find out who was the thief;
20 is that right?
- 21 A. I remember that part, yes.
- 22 Q. Was this when you came back?
- 23 A. It was.
- 24 Q. And the sister that was involved, you tell us in your
25 statement, was a Sister IAG .

1 A. In other group, yes.

2 Q. She was from another group?

3 A. Because I didn't know how to handle it. I was too soft.

4 Q. So what did this sister have to do?

5 A. She just said to them, "Who is it that's stealing?" It
6 was more the bigger ones, I think, and one of the boys
7 said, "I know who it was but I'm not telling you", and
8 the sister said, "Well, he's taken from you", and then
9 he pointed him out, who it was, or he said the person
10 who had done it.

11 Q. And was that then the end of the process? Was that it?

12 A. As far as I remember, yes. And I just had to make sure
13 my door was locked after that.

14 Q. Okay. You do tell us, though, about an incident that
15 involved Sister **EAC**.

16 A. Mm-hm.

17 Q. And can you tell me about that incident?

18 A. I was on duty and --

19 Q. Can I just backtrack? This is when you were in
20 Ogilvy House, of course, and Sister **EAC** was in
21 charge?

22 A. Oh aye, so it was, that's right. I was on duty and
23 we were carrying on, but it was a controlled
24 carrying-on, it wasn't out of -- I didn't ... I didn't
25 feel we were out of order, you know, I didn't think the

- 1 children were out of control.
- 2 Q. Was this in one of the rooms or --
- 3 A. I really can't remember exactly what it was, but I think
4 it was the three places -- the three rooms, they were
5 running around. It sounds as if it was awful, but they
6 weren't ... And when Sister **EAC** came along, she
7 was really annoyed.
- 8 Q. How did she manifest her annoyance?
- 9 A. I don't know what she did, but we all knew to scatter,
10 you know. I didn't see anything, but I know something
11 must have happened.
- 12 Q. When you say "to scatter", did you leave then?
- 13 A. I honestly cannot remember what we did.
- 14 LADY SMITH: Who is the "we" you're referring to?
- 15 A. The children and I. I think that's what I'm trying to
16 say. It's hard because it was such a long time ago, but
17 I know that -- I just really knew that something had
18 happened.
- 19 MR MacAULAY: Well, did you discover the following day what
20 did happen?
- 21 A. I don't know if it was the following day or that night,
22 but anyway, I was shown the child's back and it was
23 redder than it should have been and I just gathered
24 something had happened.
- 25 Q. If we look at your statement, Mary Ann, what you say at

1 the end of paragraph 123 is:

2 "I remember that Sister [REDACTED] EAC came along and she
3 was really annoyed about it all."

4 That's the carry-on you've been mentioning?

5 A. Mm.

6 Q. "I went away."

7 So you've clearly left the scene, as it were,
8 according to that?

9 A. I really can't remember.

10 Q. You next say:

11 "I discovered the next day that Sister [REDACTED] EAC had
12 hit this one lad after I went away. One of the children
13 told me."

14 A. Did one of the children tell me? I can't remember that.

15 Q. That was what's in the statement.

16 A. I know. I can't remember that though, but maybe they
17 did. They must have.

18 Q. You say at paragraph 125:

19 "I saw the marks on the boy."

20 A. Mm-hm.

21 Q. I just want to understand. What were these marks?

22 A. It was only redness. But I didn't see any actual --
23 just red marks.

24 Q. Where were the red marks?

25 A. The back.

1 Q. Did you ascertain what had happened to the boy?

2 A. I didn't.

3 Q. According to your statement, it's Sister [REDACTED] EAC who
4 actually shows you the redness on the back; is that
5 correct?

6 A. She didn't say anything, she just showed me it.

7 Q. I am trying to understand the purpose of all of this.

8 A. I don't know.

9 Q. Well, what did you take from it all at the time?

10 A. Well, I just thought sister had lost her head and done
11 that and that was it. I was too green to do anything.

12 Q. Was she prone to losing her head?

13 A. No. I didn't think so. I hadn't -- I didn't think so
14 anyway.

15 LADY SMITH: Well, you said earlier you knew to scatter when
16 she appeared and was obviously cross about what was
17 going on.

18 A. But it's like if a teacher came in, you would run, you
19 know? I think that was the idea. I don't know what
20 happened. But she definitely -- to me she wasn't
21 somebody that went daft, you know, often. That was the
22 one and only time I saw anything really bad. I didn't
23 even see it.

24 LADY SMITH: In your statement at paragraph 125, you say you
25 remember Sister [REDACTED] EAC being ashamed of herself.

1 A. Mm-hm.

2 LADY SMITH: This is a statement you signed not very long
3 ago.

4 A. That's right.

5 LADY SMITH: I take it there's something in your memory
6 that is that she was ashamed of something that she'd
7 done; yes?

8 A. I would think so, yes. Well, because she lifted
9 whatever he had on -- I don't know what it was he had
10 on -- I thought she must have been. She wasn't happy
11 about what she had done, I don't think.

12 MR MacAULAY: How old was the boy?

13 A. I said about 10 or 11, but I really can't remember how
14 old.

15 Q. You have told us about these red marks.

16 A. Mm-hm.

17 Q. At the time did you think to yourself what could have
18 been used on the boy to cause the red marks?

19 A. I don't know what she used. I didn't think of what she
20 used. I just knew something had happened to him and
21 I didn't like it and that's how I remembered it so much.

22 Q. Did you see Sister EAC or indeed any other sister,
23 using a hairbrush, for example, to punish a child?

24 A. No. I had an experience of one of the girls coming and
25 saying, but she was kind of laughing about it as if it

1 was in a friendly way. And then when I said it to her
2 another time, she said, "She never did do that, she
3 didn't do that". So I never saw any of that.

4 LADY SMITH: I'm sorry, you said:

5 "[You] had experience of one of the girls coming and
6 saying ..."

7 Coming and saying what?

8 A. She was talking -- this girl was talking to me about the
9 sister.

10 LADY SMITH: Is this a child?

11 A. Well, I think she was older.

12 LADY SMITH: A resident? One of the youngsters that was
13 living in Smyllum being looked after; is that right?

14 A. I'm not sure if she had actually left by then and had
15 come back. That's what I'm trying to say. I can't
16 remember. The sister was good to her so when I said
17 to --

18 LADY SMITH: But what did she say? Something in your
19 memory --

20 A. She said something about the brush, but she wasn't like
21 she slapped me in front of ... It wasn't that kind of
22 (indicates) ...

23 LADY SMITH: You have just hit your left hand with your
24 right hand when you say she was telling you something
25 about the brush. That looks rather as though she was

1 demonstrating being hit on the hand with the brush;
2 is that it?

3 A. I don't know where she was hit. The girl said something
4 like that she used to use the brush, but when I said to
5 her later on about it, she says, "No, she didn't".

6 MR MacAULAY: This is something you discuss in your
7 statement at paragraph 127. You tell us about this
8 resident who still lives in Lanark:

9 "She said to me that she had got hit with
10 a hairbrush across her hand by Sister AEG "
11 A. Mm-hm.

12 Q. "The girl told me that after she had left care."
13 So is that the position, just to be clear? That's
14 what's in your statement.

15 A. I know. But you see, it's quite hard -- I mean
16 obviously she must have said that.

17 Q. You must have said it when the statement was taken --
18 A. Sorry.

19 Q. -- unless it's not been accurately recorded.
20 A. No, sorry. I just remember her telling me -- the girl
21 telling me that, and then, later on, when I said it to
22 her, she said it didn't happen.

23 Q. I just wonder, notwithstanding what you're saying about
24 that, whether you can help me as to why was a hairbrush
25 being mentioned at all as something that would be used

- 1 to hit somebody. Do you understand what I'm getting at?
- 2 A. Yes. But what I was trying to think of afterwards is
3 sometimes if you're brushing somebody's hair and they're
4 moving, you'd knock the brush on them to tell them to
5 stop moving. Do you understand what I am saying for
6 that? No?
- 7 Q. I'll let you carry on giving your explanation -- what
8 I'm trying to get at is why anyone who had been
9 a resident at Smyllum would be mentioning a hairbrush at
10 all in this context.
- 11 A. I know. Well, that's what she mentioned.
- 12 Q. Can I ask you about visits and visitors during your
13 whole time at Smyllum, if you try and cover that period.
14 First of all, either social workers or welfare officers.
15 Do you recollect if you had visits from social workers?
- 16 A. We did, yes.
- 17 Q. Would they be coming specifically to speak to
18 a particular child or particular children?
- 19 A. Yes, a particular family, yes.
- 20 Q. What about families themselves? Were there families
21 that visited?
- 22 A. Some families visited and sometimes they'd see them
23 coming and they wouldn't come, so they'd be
24 disappointed, the children. But when the families came,
25 and when I was first in Ogilvy, I felt they were

1 welcomed. When I was in St Kentigern's, I made sure
2 they were welcome.

3 Q. What about inspections from anyone in authority to
4 inspect -- a more general type of inspection, not just
5 the social worker coming to see a child? Do you have
6 any recollection of inspections during your time there?

7 A. I can't remember any inspections. I just remember one
8 time I was putting things in a cupboard and I was told
9 off for putting them in not the right way because I had
10 put things in any old way kind of thing but you had to
11 have it -- and I was told, "We could be inspected", you
12 know, or -- I don't know if they were coming or if we
13 could be inspected ... So that's the only thing
14 I remember. But I can't remember anybody coming round.

15 Q. I've already asked you, Mary Ann, about when children
16 were admitted to Smyllum and I think your position
17 is that you wouldn't really have any information as to
18 their backgrounds and so on or any significant
19 information. What about when children were being
20 discharged and leaving? What preparations, if any, were
21 put in place to organise that?

22 A. I can't remember. I can remember going to somebody's
23 house after he was discharged, because it must have been
24 near either his birthday or Christmas, and we had
25 presents for him and I went to his place. That's all

1 I remember for that. And another -- a child who was
2 very young, I went to his place to bring some of his
3 toys to his, you know ... But apart from that, I can't
4 remember anything being done or prepared.

5 Q. Just going back to -- this is from social workers who
6 were coming to see particular children, would you
7 speak -- particularly when you were in St Kentigern's,
8 would you speak to the social worker?

9 A. I would speak to them and make them a cup of tea or
10 coffee or whatever, but the children were the ones that
11 saw them.

12 Q. Particularly when you were in charge of the house, did
13 you keep a record of the progress of the child?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Did you keep any records?

16 A. No, I wouldn't, no. I remember, when I was working in
17 Ogilvy to begin with, we had a food diary. That's all.
18 But I don't remember any other records and I didn't do
19 it when I was ...

20 Q. With the benefit of hindsight do you think progress
21 records for the children would have been a good thing to
22 have?

23 A. Of course, yes. Lots of things would have been better,
24 different.

25 Q. I want to ask you about someone else and that's a name

1 that's been mentioned on a number of occasions in the
2 evidence and that's [REDACTED] LVK [REDACTED].

3 A. Oh, mm-hm.

4 Q. There has been evidence, sister, that [REDACTED] LVK [REDACTED]
5 visited Smyllum. Do you have a recollection of seeing
6 [REDACTED] LVK [REDACTED] at Smyllum?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. How often do you think he came to Smyllum?

9 A. He came quite often. It could be -- I don't know
10 how ... I can't remember how often, but he was there
11 because he was a local boy.

12 Q. What was his role?

13 A. He didn't really have a role. He just came.

14 Q. And he was allowed to come?

15 A. Yes, because we didn't think anything of it.

16 Q. And did he have unsupervised access to children?

17 A. Well, I never thought he was alone with the children,
18 you know, but he must have been.

19 Q. You tell us in your statement that he must also have
20 gone on a holiday when the children were on holiday.
21 I think that's what you tell us.

22 A. Yes, that's because I think that's where some incident
23 was reported. I can't remember if it was on holiday,
24 but I think it was. It must have been that he came on
25 holiday.

1 Q. After that, did you understand that two children who had
2 been on that holiday were not to come back to Smyllum?

3 A. I was there when that was -- uh-huh.

4 Q. Why was that?

5 A. Because he was supposed to have -- I suppose it was
6 trying to get them to touch him. He was doing something
7 to them anyway. I really couldn't do anything about it.
8 The one in charge had the social worker -- had phoned,
9 I think, and said what had happened and the gran didn't
10 want anything done about it.

11 Q. But just to be clear, these two children, from what
12 you're saying, had made allegations of some form of
13 sexual abuse; is that right?

14 A. That's right.

15 Q. That's your understanding?

16 A. Mm-hm.

17 Q. And the children did not come back to Smyllum?

18 A. That's right.

19 Q. Why was that?

20 A. Because they were refusing to come back and I don't know
21 what happened to them. Because I wasn't in charge then,
22 it wasn't up to me, and we didn't get much -- I didn't
23 get much ... I don't know.

24 Q. Much what?

25 A. I just got told, you know.

1 Q. You didn't get much?

2 A. Well, we didn't get any -- it was the one that was in
3 charge of the whole place that got all the information.

4 Q. Were these children in your group?

5 A. They were in my group, yes.

6 Q. So to that extent you had responsibility for them?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. You were the house mother in care of the children?

9 A. Uh-huh.

10 Q. In whose care the children were in?

11 A. Uh-huh.

12 Q. What you tell us in your statement, Mary Ann, at
13 paragraph 130, is that:

14 "Sister told me that they wouldn't take the children
15 back because the children wouldn't say that the incident
16 didn't happen."

17 I just want to understand --

18 A. Oh ...

19 Q. -- what that means. That's what's in the statement. It
20 suggested to me when I read it that somehow, because the
21 children wouldn't withdraw the allegations, that they
22 wouldn't be allowed back to Smyllum. But I may have
23 misunderstood that.

24 A. I don't know why. That's a true statement. But it
25 looks bad on there now I come to look at it. But that's

1 what I was told, that because they wouldn't say that it
2 wasn't true, they didn't want to go back. That's what
3 it sounded like. I don't know really why.

4 Q. Well, that's different to what's said in the statement
5 because what's said in the statement is that you were
6 told that they wouldn't take the children back because
7 the children wouldn't say that the incident didn't
8 happen.

9 A. Mm-hm. I don't know who -- if it was we wouldn't take
10 the children back or if the social worker wouldn't take
11 them back. I don't know why, I don't know ...

12 LADY SMITH: According to what's in paragraph 130, your
13 memory seems to be of something Sister **AGK** told you.
14 You see that if you look --

15 A. That's right, it is. She was the one that was telling
16 me. I didn't have anything to do --

17 LADY SMITH: You're just being asked what you understood
18 at the time, and if I've got you right, you're saying
19 all you knew was what Sister **AGK** told you about the
20 explanation of the children not coming back.

21 A. That's right. I mean, I had nothing -- they didn't talk
22 to me -- the social workers didn't talk to me about it,
23 it was only to Sister **AGK** .

24 LADY SMITH: It seems that since they wouldn't withdraw the
25 allegations, they didn't return to Smyllum.

1 A. And knowing now, and I feel so guilty about it all --
2 I do -- and I think some probably others have suffered
3 because of it, which makes me really feel awful. But
4 I couldn't do anything; I was only the house mother.

5 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

6 MR MacAULAY: I think what you're telling us now, Mary Ann,
7 is that you know now that [REDACTED]

8 [REDACTED]

9 [REDACTED]

10 A. Yes. As soon as I heard it, that's why I put this in.

11 Q. I think what you're saying now is that had something
12 more been done about it then --

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. -- then it might be that any further abuse might have
15 been prevented.

16 A. And that's why I feel so bad about it.

17 Q. Okay. What you say in paragraph 131 in the second --
18 first of all you say:

19 "At that time I was delighted. It was only later on
20 that I felt that maybe I should have said something. As
21 soon as I heard [REDACTED]

22 I thought I should have told. [REDACTED]

23 [REDACTED]

24 [REDACTED] I felt

25 I had to tell [REDACTED] because I wanted the

- 1 boys to know that they were believed."
- 2 A. Mm-hm.
- 3 Q. But do I understand that your recollection is, or is it,
4 that the boys were not being believed at the time?
- 5 A. Well, I didn't know if they were believed or not.
6 That's what I wanted to -- because it must have been
7 awful for them. I didn't have anything face to face
8 with them.
- 9 Q. In any event, it is, I think, the position that the
10 police were never told about these allegations at the
11 time?
- 12 A. Not as far as I know -- no, they wouldn't have been.
13 And, as I say, at the time I was delighted because it
14 was an awful thing, but I realised how wrong it was.
- 15 LADY SMITH: Sorry, what was it that delighted you?
- 16 A. Just because it was all hushed and that was wrong --
- 17 LADY SMITH: I see.
- 18 A. -- and we realise now that they should never have done
19 that. But at the time, you just thought, oh, let it go
20 away. I know it's wrong, but at that time ... It was
21 awful.
- 22 MR MacAULAY: In your statement, Mary Ann, you were asked
23 about specific allegations of abuse directed at, for
24 example, Sister EAC, who you worked with.
- 25 A. Mm-hm.

1 Q. And also, I think, against Sister [REDACTED] AEG who you knew
2 at least during your second stint --

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. -- at Smyllum. Can I just ask you this, this is in
5 paragraphs 133 and 134. 133:

6 "I only worked with Sister [REDACTED] EAC in my role as
7 assistant house mother in Ogilvy House. She had left by
8 the time I returned to Smyllum as a sister. She was the
9 only sister I worked for or with during my time in
10 Ogilvy House."

11 Then you say:

12 "I wasn't about when Sister [REDACTED] EAC was about. She
13 was only there really on a Saturday. I don't know what
14 she did about discipline."

15 That's what I think I asked you before about the
16 extent that you did have contact with her. The
17 impression on gets from reading that is that really you
18 didn't see much of Sister [REDACTED] EAC ?

19 A. As I said before, she was around but didn't have an
20 awful lot ... I know that on a Saturday night, she was
21 on duty and sometimes I'd just be sitting there as well
22 and the children seemed to enjoy her being on duty on
23 the Saturday night. Sister [REDACTED] EAC was about, but ...
24 It's hard to explain when you see it in writing and all
25 that, and I know I've signed everything. I'm not

- 1 telling lies about anything, but just ... What is it
2 I'm supposed to be trying to say?
- 3 Q. Well, I can perhaps approach it in this way. A number
4 of quite significant allegations were mentioned to you
5 when the statement was being --
- 6 A. Yes, and I didn't see anything at all like that.
- 7 Q. And your position, put in a nutshell, as you tell us in
8 paragraph 153, is that:
- 9 "I can't remember any of this stuff. I honestly
10 can't remember it."
- 11 That's in paragraph 153. Is that --
- 12 A. I can't -- I never saw anything really. The only
13 incident was with that ...
- 14 Q. And that's allegations such as how bed-wetters were
15 dealt with, how children might be made to eat food and
16 indeed children being struck. Your position is --
- 17 A. I honestly can't remember seeing anything bad.
- 18 Q. You were there for about 2 years at that time?
- 19 A. Uh-huh.
- 20 Q. Could you have forgotten that these incidents --
- 21 A. There's a possibility, but I didn't -- I can't remember
22 seeing anything.
- 23 Q. Okay. Similarly with Sister **AEG** -- I don't think
24 you actually worked with Sister **AEG** in the sense of
25 being in the same unit or section.

- 1 A. No.
- 2 Q. I don't propose to go through the details because
- 3 I think what you say is again you simply have no
- 4 recollection of the incidents that were put to you when
- 5 the statement was taken from you.
- 6 A. That's right.
- 7 Q. Can I ask you a little bit about what you say in
- 8 paragraph 210 on page 38. What you say there is:
- 9 "I must admit that I was a wee bit scared of
- 10 Sister **AEG** at times. I remember one of her
- 11 children, a lad, was bullying one of the girls in my
- 12 group. I felt that I had to stick up for my girl.
- 13 I didn't want to tell her because I wasn't sure what she
- 14 was going to do. I went over to Sister **AEG** and told
- 15 her what had been happening. She listened to me. After
- 16 that there was no bullying again."
- 17 Let's just break that down. You say you were a wee
- 18 bit scared of Sister **AEG**. Why was that?
- 19 A. Because I'm like that. She was tall, she was assured of
- 20 herself, I felt, you know -- and I was more timid.
- 21 I thought, do I or don't I, but I knew I had to tell.
- 22 Q. And do you know what Sister **AEG** did to stop the
- 23 bullying?
- 24 A. No.
- 25 Q. But it did stop?

- 1 A. It did. Well, the girl didn't complain again.
- 2 Q. Can I ask you a little bit about a witness who's given
3 evidence; she used her own name and that's June Miller.
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Do you remember her?
- 6 A. Do you know, I remembered the name and I know that she
7 said she was pally with me, and I can't remember that
8 part.
- 9 Q. Can I just put to you what she said and then see if that
10 jogs any memory. Her transcript begins at
11 TRN.001.002.1379. She told us that she was admitted to
12 Smyllum in 1969 and left in 1981, so there would have
13 been a crossover with you in that period; that's
14 correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. I think, latterly at least, she was in Roncalli and she
17 was being managed by Sister **AEG**.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. If we turn to page 1400, towards the top of the page --
20 and for transcript purposes it's 1400 at page 62. I'll
21 just read what the witness said:
- 22 "Question: How did you find her?
- 23 "Answer: She was really nice.
- 24 "Question: You also became friendly with
25 a Sister **AHM** [and I think that was a name you used

1 when you were at Smyllum]; is that right?

2 "Answer: Yes.

3 "Question: Was that later on when you were at
4 Smyllum?

5 "Answer: I was in Ogilvy -- sorry, I was in
6 Roncalli when I became pally with Sister AHM . I must
7 been about 12 or 13.

8 "Question: You obviously got on well with her then?

9 "Answer: Yes.

10 "Question: Did you tell her about what was
11 happening with you in connection with Sister AEG ?"

12 Her evidence was that she was being struck by
13 Sister AEG :

14 "Answer: No, she had actually seen it.

15 "Question: Was it obvious?

16 "Answer: She was taking driving lessons and I would
17 go in the car with her and on this particular day she
18 asked me to put the seat belt on and I couldn't put the
19 seat belt on."

20 Can I just ask you this: did you take driving
21 lessons while you were at Smyllum?

22 A. I did and the thing she's talking about is I was given
23 an old banger of a car to practice in the grounds of
24 Smyllum, and I thought I only took my group in the car
25 but I must have -- I can't remember her being in the

1 car, but I must have done that. Well, she's saying
2 things but I can't remember any of that.

3 Q. Let's read on. There's no dispute you were taking
4 driving lessons and you were practising in the area.

5 A. Mm-hm.

6 Q. She goes on to say:

7 "Answer: I had been marked right round and I was in
8 pain and she knew and she just lifted my jumper up and
9 she says to me, 'That won't happen to you again', and it
10 didn't.

11 "Question: Did the beatings stop after that?

12 "Answer: Mm.

13 "Question: That's when you were, did you say, about
14 13 or so?

15 "Answer: 14.

16 "Question: And apart from that then, did you tell
17 anyone else about what had been happening to you?

18 "Answer: No."

19 So this witness has provided that evidence, which at
20 least links into the notion that you were learning to
21 drive and that she showed you marks on her --

22 A. Yes. But I honestly -- I honestly cannot remember that.
23 I can't remember any child showing me anything. First,
24 when I read it, I thought, am I getting accused of
25 sexually assaulting her by lifting up her jumper?

- 1 That's what I thought it was all about.
- 2 Q. The other point she makes, I think, or the inference
3 is that you intervened and the beatings stopped.
- 4 A. I didn't go and -- that's how I can't understand it.
5 How did it stop when -- I can't remember doing anything
6 about it. Where could I have gone?
- 7 Q. I suppose the inference from her evidence was that you
8 may have gone to Sister [REDACTED] AEG and raised this matter
9 with her, because that was the background, that she was
10 being beaten by Sister [REDACTED] AEG .
- 11 A. Yes, well, I didn't go to Sister [REDACTED] AEG to tell
12 anything like that, as far as -- I didn't. I can't
13 remember telling ... Because I can't remember that
14 incident at all.
- 15 LADY SMITH: But you had spoken to Sister [REDACTED] AEG , as you
16 recall, to stand up for one child in your group.
- 17 A. Yes. I honestly believe that if that had happened,
18 I would have thought I would have gone, but I can't
19 remember that actual incident at all. Now, I know it
20 seems awful, but I can't remember it.
- 21 MR MacAULAY: But if it happened and you can't remember it,
22 but if it did happen, then do I take it from what you've
23 said that it would be something that you'd take on board
24 and go and speak to someone like Sister [REDACTED] AEG ?
- 25 A. Well, I'd have been scared to, but I think I would have

1 done it, yes. But that's why I can't understand when
2 I'm supposed to have said that it won't happen again.
3 How, if I didn't say anything to anybody, how could it
4 have stopped if it was -- I don't know. It's ... It's
5 just horrible.

6 Q. Okay. The other piece of evidence I want to put to you
7 was evidence given by a witness who was referred to in
8 his evidence as "Jack". If you turn to the front of
9 your folder, sister, you'll find on the left-hand page
10 a list that's provided in order to tell you what Jack's
11 proper name would be because Jack wants to be anonymous.
12 You'll see the name there. Do you recognise the name?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Jack was admitted to Smyllum on [REDACTED] 1974 and he left
15 really [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] 1981, so again there
16 was a crossover between yourself and him. He too was in
17 Roncalli House and had dealings with Sister [REDACTED] AEG so
18 he wasn't in your group.

19 A. That's right.

20 Q. But you do remember that boy?

21 A. I do recognise the name, yes.

22 Q. This may sound like an odd question, but at that time
23 were you a Hibs fan?

24 A. Is that what he's got against me? Yes.

25 Q. That's --

1 A. Well, I mean, I could only support them by cheering.

2 Q. There's nothing wrong with that. There are a few of
3 them around.

4 A. Yes.

5 LADY SMITH: Football teams are entitled to have those
6 supporters and I'm sure Hibs needs them as much as
7 anybody else.

8 MR MacAULAY: Well, I just want to put to you what Jack said
9 and see what your reaction is. He gives his evidence,
10 the transcript begins at TRN.001.002.3311. If I move to
11 the top of the page, that is the transcript number
12 we have on the screen now and that's at page 68. If
13 I take you to page 3351, he says at the top of the page:

14 "Answer: There was a Sister **AHM**. She battered
15 me with a doormat and slapped me a few times on one
16 occasion.

17 "Question: Can you remember what that was for?

18 "Answer: I can't remember what it was for, but
19 I vividly remember.

20 "LADY SMITH: What do you say that she did with a
21 doormat?

22 "Answer: My head -- she hit it off the door --

23 "LADY SMITH: Off the doorpost or the door frame or
24 something?

25 "Answer: The workshop door.

1 "LADY SMITH: The workshop door?

2 "Answer: It was outside, aye.

3 "Question: And I think you said she slapped you as
4 well?

5 "Answer: Aye.

6 "Question: Can you remember what was the reason for
7 that?

8 "Answer: That's what I'm saying, I'd have been --
9 I might have been misbehaving, but -- well, in her eyes.

10 "Question: You tell us in your statement that
11 Sister **AHM** was a Hibs fan; is that right?

12 "Answer: That's right.

13 "Question: How did you know that?

14 "Answer: She told us ... she used to sing a couple
15 of wee songs."

16 So there's an allegation being made there, sister,
17 by Jack and, at least so far as being a Hibs fan, he's
18 got that right. What about the rest, do you have any
19 recollection of this incident?

20 A. Honestly, no. I can honestly say -- and ... No,
21 there's no way. Even for singing, I mean I do sing daft
22 things, but I definitely did not do anything that I can
23 remember, doing anything to him like that. Things were
24 so long ago, but I would remember if I'd hit him with
25 a doormat or ... What I thought I was supposed to have

1 done was hit him off a worktop or something, and
2 I thought, where in the name of goodness would he have
3 been? Because he was never in my group, so I definitely
4 did not do that. Definitely. I don't know why he said
5 that.

6 Can I just say one thing? He was a boy that was
7 bullying and so maybe -- and that's ... I don't know if
8 that's why he's said that.

9 Q. Well, could that be a reason why you felt you had to
10 deal with him then?

11 A. No, because what [REDACTED] had done -- I had done what
12 I wanted to do and that was it.

13 Q. And that was to mention it to Sister [REDACTED] AEG ?

14 A. Uh-huh. That was all. When I was trying to think why
15 would -- that's the only reason I could come up with.
16 But I didn't do anything like that.

17 Q. Okay. Now, can we then just move on in your statement?
18 Before I do that, again, I think you were asked about
19 allegations also that have been made against
20 Sister [REDACTED] AGD . Without looking at the details then,
21 you have no recollection of witnessing any of that?

22 A. No, because we were over on the other side.

23 Q. So you had little dealings with --

24 A. I didn't have any dealings with her because she came
25 only about a month or so before I left.

- 1 Q. You're also asked about Father [ADA] because there
2 has been an allegation made against Father [ADA] of
3 sexual abuse.
- 4 A. Mm-hm.
- 5 Q. Was Father [ADA] someone you knew?
- 6 A. I knew him just because he was [REDACTED]
7 and that's all. I didn't go around speaking to him or
8 anything.
- 9 Q. Did he come to Smyllum to say Mass?
- 10 A. Oh yes, to say Mass, yes. I think, anyway. Well,
11 he was a priest there so he must have. He wasn't the
12 only priest there.
- 13 Q. If I take you then to your closing thoughts, Mary Ann.
14 In paragraph 224, what you're telling us here -- and
15 I think also at 225 -- is that, as indeed you have just
16 mentioned, there were groups within Smyllum that you
17 never really saw.
- 18 A. That's right.
- 19 Q. So when you were in St Kentigern's in your second
20 period, you'd have really very little to do with any of
21 the other groups?
- 22 A. That's right.
- 23 Q. One of the things you say is that you thought the groups
24 were too big.
- 25 A. Yes. Yes, they were too big. And we know that --

- 1 I mean, I think anybody would agree with that.
- 2 Q. But even at the time that was your thinking?
- 3 A. Yes, because when I went on the childcare course, they
- 4 were only maybe ten in a group at most when we were
- 5 doing practicals -- and I wouldn't say it was much
- 6 easier because sometimes the children were in List D
- 7 schools and things like that, but the children in
- 8 Smyllum were much easier because I think they had plenty
- 9 of places to play and everything, so they had a lot
- 10 going for them that way. But it was hard to be one of
- 11 20.
- 12 Q. Did you think there was a shortage of staff?
- 13 A. There were too few staff for the number of children, but
- 14 it wasn't because ... It wasn't because we couldn't
- 15 recruit staff; it was just that was the number that we
- 16 had. I think it was finance, probably, because we
- 17 probably didn't get enough.
- 18 Q. So the groups are too big and you've got a shortage of
- 19 staff; is that what you're saying?
- 20 A. Well, there weren't -- the staff ratio wasn't good.
- 21 I don't know if you'd call it a shortage of staff
- 22 because if a shortage of staff meant we couldn't recruit
- 23 them, it's different from how many we were allowed. Do
- 24 you know what I'm saying?
- 25 Q. I'm just looking at your statement. What you say in

1 paragraph 227 is:

2 "I have been asked by the inquiry whether there were
3 problems at Smyllum. I think one of the problems in
4 Smyllum was a shortage of staff."

5 A. So we really would have needed more staff, but we didn't
6 have them.

7 Q. And that wouldn't be down to you, that would be really
8 down to the superior, would it?

9 A. It would be, yes.

10 Q. I have been asked to clarify one point with you,
11 Mary Ann. It's the paragraph we looked at before,
12 paragraph 127. I may have misunderstood. This is the
13 paragraph where someone has reported to you at a point
14 in time that she had been hit with a hairbrush. Do you
15 remember we looked at that?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. What's in the statement is that:

18 "She said to me that she had got hit with
19 a hairbrush across her hand by Sister [REDACTED] AEG ."

20 A. Mm-hm.

21 Q. Is it Sister [REDACTED] AEG that was being identified at the
22 time this was being said to you?

23 A. It must have been, yes.

24 Q. Okay. I think in short, in relation to the allegations
25 that have been made here, Mary Ann, you're not accepting

1 the allegations?

2 A. No. No, not at all.

3 Q. One of the things you say in your statement is that:

4 "If the allegations are not true [and this is at
5 paragraph 232] then maybe the former residents have had
6 to blame somebody other than their parents for being in
7 care."

8 Do you see that sentence?

9 A. I remember saying something like that, uh-huh.

10 Q. That's the third sentence in that paragraph. What do
11 you mean by that statement?

12 A. Well, I suppose the children were damaged and it was
13 hard for them. I really don't know. I really -- they
14 have to blame somebody, I suppose.

15 Q. I have put this to other witnesses. The other side of
16 that coin might be that if children had a happy time at
17 Smyllum, then one would have thought that Smyllum would
18 not be the target for criticism.

19 A. Yes. That is true too, yes. But I don't know how
20 damaged they were before. I just know that I did my
21 best and, as far as I could see, so did the other
22 sisters. But maybe the children didn't think it was
23 good enough. But I tried and I loved those children in
24 my group. I couldn't say -- you know, I just liked them
25 and I was saying that when I left to -- oh no, that was

1 the other place.

2 When I first entered the community, I was saying
3 that I would have loved some of the children to have
4 come down to London with me because I really missed
5 them, but that wasn't to be.

6 I don't know why they would be like that. I don't
7 know why anybody would be telling lies. I don't know if
8 it's true or not.

9 Q. If it is true, if the allegations that have been put to
10 you, and you've read about, are true --

11 A. Not the ones that I've been alleged to have done?

12 Q. No, no, no.

13 A. The other ones?

14 Q. If they are true then, would they constitute abuse?

15 A. If they were true, yes. I would -- yes, because they
16 were terrible things that I read and I honestly wouldn't
17 have thought that any of our sisters would have done
18 that.

19 MR MacAULAY: Very well, Mary Ann. Thank you very much for
20 coming to give evidence. My Lady, I haven't been asked
21 to put any further questions to this witness and I don't
22 know if there be for any applications for further
23 questions.

24 LADY SMITH: Are there any outstanding applications for
25 questions? No.

1 evidence of my deceased mother's experience as
2 a resident at Smyllum and the impact on her and our
3 family.

4 "My mother was the eldest of three children. She
5 had a younger sister who was 6 or 8 years younger and
6 a brothers about 18 months younger. At that time they
7 stayed in a tenement building in Dundee. My mother
8 looked after her sick mother and her father was
9 unemployed, as I think was usual at that time.

10 "The family were on the parish. Her mother was
11 believed to be ill from having the three children,
12 despite doctors previously advising her against having
13 children on medical grounds.

14 "After my mother had a breakdown, she would talk
15 incessantly about her life in Smyllum, though she just
16 called it 'the convent' at that time. As she
17 continually and obsessively talked about it, and it felt
18 like a constant assault, I blanked some of her
19 conversations out of my mind.

20 "She did also talk about the church being a big
21 thing in her life but I am not sure if it was before or
22 after the convent. Attending the Catholic Church,
23 confession and concerns about sin, belief, limbo were
24 great concerns to her.

25 "My mother, her sister and brother were all taken

1 to Smyllum. I am not certain of the exact reasons for
2 their admissions, but their admission occurred after
3 their mum had died. I don't know why their dad did not
4 continue to care for them. Her mum died when my mum was
5 around 14 or 15.

6 "I am told that when all three arrived at Smyllum,
7 they were separated. My mother's brother went to the
8 boys' dormitory, her younger sister to a different
9 dormitory because of her age. My mother was placed with
10 some of the older girls.

11 "My mother talked about only being able to see her
12 siblings from a distance and I am not sure how this was.
13 I think my mother did serve food to the younger children
14 and would see her siblings then. I believe she was not
15 however allowed to talk to her siblings. This caused
16 her great suffering.

17 "My mum was seen as a useful person because she was
18 put in the nursery to look after the babies.

19 "Whilst at Smyllum, my mum told us that she became
20 ill and her body was covered in boils and they were
21 expecting her to have to leave the convent. She
22 eventually recovered and remained there.

23 "Mum always said the food at the convent was really
24 poor. The nuns sat at their table and would be fed the
25 best of food, including eggs, but the food fed to the

1 children was basic and horrible to eat. They might have
2 been given an orange or other piece of fruit at Easter
3 or Christmas.

4 "The nuns lived a life of luxury compared to the
5 children. There was no attempt made to disguise this
6 fact, that there was a huge disparity in treatment
7 between the nuns and the children. My mum told us that
8 at Christmas the child would be given presents but these
9 would then be taken off them very soon afterwards. It
10 seemed that the nuns wanted to be seen to be giving to
11 the children but actually it was a lie and they were
12 not; it was just for show.

13 "The staff used religion as a tool to control the
14 children. Committing a sin was a major controlling
15 thing with the nuns.

16 "I am not sure if there was such a thing as social
17 workers at that time, but my mum never said that she had
18 any visits from anyone from the authorities. It all
19 sounded like they were a complete law unto themselves.

20 "Her father visited occasionally at the convent, but
21 she still felt abandoned. The nuns put on a good show
22 in front of her father.

23 "Mum often talked about the level of violence being
24 really bad and living under a reign of terror. All the
25 children at the convent were terrified. She said the

1 nuns were haters of all children and many were plainly
2 vicious. She talked a lot about the beatings her
3 brother received from the staff. Her whole life there,
4 along with many others, was horrible and a violent
5 existence.

6 "Mum would talk about the nuns as being really ugly
7 people, especially in relation to their violence. She
8 also remarked about some being lesbians. She didn't
9 have any issues with people and their sexuality, but
10 this is what she said. I don't know why she would talk
11 about the sexuality of the nuns as this was not the sort
12 of thing she discussed in any other context apart from
13 when she had a breakdown. Therefore I am not sure if
14 she was talking about them in this manner because she
15 witnessed something or was a victim of something.

16 "When mum was about to leave the convent, and as
17 a way to try and force her to stay, one of the priests
18 took her rosary from her and told her if she left she
19 would be excommunicated. This had a massive impact on
20 her for the rest of her life. Her belief was very
21 strong. She believed that she had been excommunicated
22 and did not take communion again in the Catholic Church.

23 "When mum left Smyllum she went to London where she
24 trained as a nurse. As a nurse my mum stayed in the
25 nurses' home. She was always tired but really enjoyed

1 it. She was proud to have found that vocation and to be
2 very successful in her training despite having have had
3 very little formal education previously. She had lots
4 of friends whilst working there. Whilst nursing she met
5 and married my father.

6 "At the time she left Smyllum her sister and brother
7 were still residing there. She had a lot of guilt from
8 her time at Smyllum and most of that guilt was because
9 she was unable to look after her siblings, which she did
10 prior to them being placed in the convent.

11 "When my mum's brother left Smyllum he stayed in
12 Scotland and eventually married. My mum's sister came
13 to England and later returned to Scotland. She tried to
14 visit once or twice but mum did not want to see her.
15 I only saw my aunt and uncle about once or twice as
16 a young person. I never went to Scotland with them.

17 "Mum never reported any of the abuse she sustained
18 at Smyllum except to her psychiatrists.

19 "My dad was in the RAF. ■ he was a single child and
20 his parents were from Ramsgate. His mother did not
21 accept my mother into the family as she considered my
22 mother to have come from the wrong side of the tracks.
23 My dad fell out with his mother as he did not appreciate
24 the way she was reacting.

25 "When we were living on an RAF base, my mum did not

1 want anyone visiting to the house. She never went out
2 anywhere or had any friends. When my mum's sister had
3 her grandchildren, my mother was very critical of the
4 way she was sharing the care of them with her daughter.
5 I wish my mum had been able to care for us that much or
6 to help out with my children.

7 "Recently I spoke with my mum's brother's wife and
8 she told me he is now suffering from Alzheimer's.
9 I know he did not want to go into a home but that is
10 where he is now. He is a danger to himself and others.
11 He seems to be reliving his life from his younger days.
12 I will be going to visit him soon but will not be
13 talking about this. It's awful. It is like he is going
14 through all those experiences all over again.

15 "His wife told me that she married him not knowing
16 anything about his time in care. She did once ask him
17 about a very large scar on his leg and he said it was
18 from playing football with the teachers who wore
19 football boots and the children did not.

20 "Until they married, my mother had never disclosed
21 her experiences to my father and he knew nothing of her
22 background. I was not aware of any problems until one
23 of her compulsory admissions into a psychiatric
24 hospital. This was when I was about 13. My dad said
25 that in retrospect mum had been getting ill from about

1 three years into their marriage and then about 8 years
2 in, around the time my sister was born, she was then
3 becoming very ill indeed and incapable of caring for us
4 very much.

5 "When my mum because sent to hem she was diagnosed
6 with what is now labelled 'bipolar disorder'. At that
7 time this was called 'manic depression' and she had
8 acute psychosis. The psychiatrists were very clear that
9 this was due to her time in Smyllum. Some of the
10 psychiatrists suggested that my mother and father attend
11 group therapy. They would go to London once a week for
12 those sessions. She would make comments that these
13 people would say she was intelligent. When I was
14 a teenager she wore a badge saying, 'I am a person too'.

15 "As a result of my mother's psychotic issues she
16 would send six months in the hospital and be home for
17 nine months. This cycle would just keep repeating.
18 Apart from the very later years of her life, when my mum
19 was admitted to hospital after my brother killed
20 himself, her last entry to hospital was when I was 21.
21 After this she was very highly medicated and would only
22 be awake for a short period of the day.

23 "I am not sure if all the psychotherapy helped mum.
24 For all the efforts and money that went into it, we did
25 not see any difference in mum. With the effect on my

1 mother's life and my father having to live and cope with
2 her, it impacted greatly on the upbringing of my
3 siblings and myself.

4 "My father would tell us it was all about my mother
5 and nothing to do with us, despite us witnessing it all.
6 Dad would tell us not to worry and that her illness was
7 to do with the convent and that we were all right.

8 "My dad was very concerned about caring for our
9 mother to the exclusion of our needs. We had no family
10 nearby and no social work visits ourselves. We had to
11 spend very long periods of time witnessing our mother's
12 distress and not express any ourselves. You had to not
13 upset your mother. I am glad my mother had this devoted
14 care from my father, but we needed a bit too.

15 "I was about 12 or 13 when I first witnessed my
16 mother in a psychotic state. This was totally
17 terrifying with my mother pinning me up against a wall
18 and saying my sister was a lesbian, I was a drug addict,
19 and my father had run off with someone. She had been in
20 hospital prior to this but we were told this was because
21 she had fallen down the stairs and hurt her back. I now
22 suspect she was ill at this time and might have thrown
23 herself down the stairs.

24 "My father tried to protect us from knowing about
25 this. Listening to our upset and fear might have been

1 more helpful.

2 "At an early stage of her being in hospital we were
3 offered some family therapy but did not take the
4 opportunity up at that time and were not offered it
5 again. My dad was probably run ragged caring for my mum
6 and three children. I did have a lot of responsibility
7 in terms of household chores and feeding myself and my
8 brother. I remember my dad doing the ironing. I would
9 be sitting on the settee scared to move because he was
10 just so angry all the time.

11 "I do remember corporal punishment when I was young
12 and my dad was very authoritarian. I did not have those
13 boundaries with my children but later realised some
14 boundaries are necessary.

15 "My sister was 8 years younger than me and she had
16 a terrible time with our mum. Mum was quite vicious to
17 my sister. My mum would make dinner for dad and her and
18 leave my sister's food raw. There was not much he could
19 do about it and he did not protect her from my mum's
20 madness. My mum would threaten to kick my sister out.

21 "One time my sister said mum was being so horrible
22 to her that she walked out and sat on a bench for
23 a while. She realised she could not look after herself
24 and returned home.

25 "I remember one time when my brother and I had been

1 swimming and dad having gone off to work. When we
2 returned there was no one at home. Neighbours told us
3 they had found my mother wandering the streets and was
4 in their house. I was a 12-year-old but expected to
5 pick mum up from these terrified adults. When she came
6 back to the house she was angry and pinned me up against
7 a wall, she was calling my brother a drug addict, my
8 sister a lesbian, and telling me I was pregnant. She
9 also said my father had run off to Ramsgate. She was
10 psychotic.

11 "One Christmas my mother asked what I would like as
12 a present. When I asked her for a pair of glasses she
13 was explosively angry and said that I was accusing her
14 of causing my partial sight in one eye. This made no
15 sense to me at the time. I later found out from
16 a doctor that as I had squints as a young child, which
17 were not treated. This caused my brain to cut out the
18 sight in one of my eyes. I was not born with the
19 condition, which is what I had been led to believe.

20 "I remember being told by family that one time when
21 my sister was really young and she used the toilet she
22 went to my parents to get her bottom wiped. They told
23 her to ask her big sister, me, to clean her bottom. She
24 left the house to find me and was found over a mile away
25 from the house. A neighbour recognised her and took her

1 to the police station and she was returned home.

2 "My sister was sent to be looked after by our aunt
3 for a period. She was only there for a short time as
4 she was unhappy and came back to the house. I was older
5 and I don't really know how she was looked after, but
6 I do know that she was very badly neglected.

7 "My sister never had my mother looking after her.
8 When she was going to school, her hair was a mess and
9 was not being brushed at all. My sister remembers it
10 being just two clumps of hair on her head. Her clothes
11 were unclean and she smelled. She had to walk through a
12 really rough area on the outskirts of London at a very
13 young age to get to school unaccompanied. The teachers
14 never did anything to help her and no one ever did
15 anything to address this. Our mum was too ill to notice
16 or do anything.

17 "When she was around 12 or 13, and I was at
18 university, my sister, over a period of time, became
19 a victim of what is now called childhood sexual
20 exploitation. This was extreme and extensive. My
21 parents did not nothing to help her. Dad only once
22 dragged her in off the street and was angry with her but
23 did not really say why. My sister recalls that
24 a neighbour told dad that if she did not watch out, she
25 would come home with a big belly. She was abused

1 verbally at school.

2 "Intellectually, my sister knows that none of this
3 is her fault as it was the result of her vulnerability
4 and being neglected. However, emotionally, she feels
5 great shame about this and that she would be judged by
6 it. She can feel extremely disturbed thinking about
7 this period of her life and it is one of reasons for why
8 she's not felt able to give evidence to this inquiry.
9 I don't think she has felt able to tell her partner
10 about her past and can continue to feel very isolated at
11 times.

12 "Around about his age, my sister had a boyfriend and
13 his parents were concerned for her welfare and helped to
14 look after her, almost like a surrogate family.

15 "While I was young at home I was having to look
16 after my brother. No one showed me what I should be
17 doing or how to cook things. I would try to feed him
18 fish finger sandwiches, but sometimes they were still
19 frozen on the inside.

20 "My brother went off the rails. He was smoking
21 cannabis at school. On one occasion he was found in a
22 vulnerable position at some older man's house. My
23 brother killed himself when he was 38 years old.

24 "I had a frustrated relationship with my brother.
25 He had little or no parental involvement but I always

1 felt protective towards him. He was very vulnerable but
2 I tried to help him as much as I could. He got on well
3 with my sister but I could not interact with her as well
4 as I did my brother.

5 "When my brother died, the relationship between my
6 sister and I got better. I felt I lost a brother and
7 gained a sister.

8 "At primary school I was chattering away to
9 a teacher and she called my parents to the school
10 because of it. They thought I was talking too much and
11 they couldn't even find time to talk to the teacher.
12 I was not able to get any comfort.

13 At secondary school when my mother was spending long
14 periods of time in hospital, the deputy headteacher at
15 my school did offer me some time away from school so
16 that I could do the housework. Nobody talked to me
17 about what was going on and I felt very isolated,
18 confused, rejected and alone. I was not able to make
19 friendships.

20 "I never kept in touch with anyone from my
21 schooldays. Dad offered for me to attend boarding
22 school once but I turned it down.

23 "Although I was brought up by an essentially
24 Catholic mother, I attended church of England secondary
25 school and Sunday school. I was never treated as very

1 bright. I passed my CSEs and was told I could do
2 secretarial studies, which I did. I then went on to do
3 A levels, not expecting to pass but did, and went to
4 university. The A levels I did included sociology and
5 psychology as I was desperate to understand the human
6 experience.

7 "In those days we were given a grant for university
8 education. My mum and dad earned enough and were
9 supposed to top mine up, only by £200. They didn't and
10 their answer to me was because they had to pay for her
11 psychotherapy and there was no money left for my
12 education.

13 "When I left to go to university, I was about 19.
14 This was also about the last time my mother went into
15 hospital. I never went back to visit during any of the
16 holidays, preferring to stay at university. My younger
17 son is so different as he comes home to visit and I have
18 trouble getting him out, he is very comfortable at home.

19 "I have completed three university courses but
20 inside I still feel unintelligent and at times
21 worthless. How many degrees does it take to show myself
22 that I am intelligent?

23 "About ten years before my mum died, we gave my mum
24 a wind-up toy called 'Nunzilla'. It was a plastic nun
25 and when it was wound up it would walk and shot sparks

1 out of its mouth. She loved it!

2 "As a result of the abuse in Smyllum, and the priest
3 taking her rosary, my mum began attending at Church of
4 England services and avoided the Catholic Church. This
5 went on for some time until she had one of her
6 breakdowns after my brother died. She would then go
7 into Catholic charges and light candles. We were raised
8 as Church of England but mum had Catholicism in her
9 blood.

10 "The only extended family experience I had was when
11 we visited my great aunt on my father's side. It was
12 great when we saw her as she would buy cakes and she
13 always had tins with sweets. We rarely had visits from
14 my grandparents or other family members because of my
15 mum's illness. We also never had any visitors to the
16 family home. I never once remember anyone coming for
17 a meal.

18 "My mum used to scream at night. Those were
19 bloodcurdling screams and there was never any discussion
20 with us about them. No one would come in the night and
21 see how we were. I too occasionally scream at night and
22 have been told that it is a result of PTSD because of my
23 experience of my mother's mental illness.

24 "I have two children, both boys, one aged 28 who is
25 a nurse and my 24 year-old son just qualified as a

1 doctor. I am fine now but I spent very many years until
2 I was 45 being confused about my sexuality and gender.
3 Although I knew biologically I was a woman, I did not
4 feel emotionally that I knew I was one. I very much
5 believe this had been my way of defending myself from
6 confusing and intrusive behaviours of my parents when I
7 was younger. My relationship with my husband ended when
8 I was about 45. When he left, I felt really great about
9 myself as a woman and felt much better inside myself.

10 "Growing up, my kids have always called me by my
11 first name, not 'mum' or anything similar. About
12 15 years ago I was writing a card and tried to sign it
13 off as 'mum' but I could not bring myself to do it. We
14 had always had to relate to our mum as though she was
15 a mum, but to me as a young person she was a fake mum
16 and it was all a sham. It was just an act and a charade
17 that we were going through as a family. I was expected
18 to treat her as my mum for her benefit, not mine.
19 I felt unable to expect my children to call me mum. It
20 has been painful to realise this.

21 "I felt guilty about my children. I was never
22 accessible to my children. When they were young I was
23 glad when they went to a childminder as I did not know
24 how to talk to them. When they were growing up and my
25 husband was away, I was scared and if they woke up,

1 I could not help them. I now realise that is because
2 I was scared that I would be triggered about my mum
3 screaming in the night and would be frozen rigid and
4 unable to attend to them.

5 "My first job was working in therapeutic community
6 for young adults with mental health problems. I later
7 trained as a lawyer and went into mediation. Through
8 later meetings with social workers, foster carers and
9 children in care, I then retrained as a social worker
10 and now work in child protection. I think my career
11 path has been dominated by my early experiences.

12 "During many periods in my life I have sought and
13 received counselling. At university I found it hard as
14 I could not relate to people, but there were counselling
15 groups which I attended.

16 "A couple of years ago I sought some help with my
17 sleeping and I was diagnosed with PTSD. This actually
18 helped me as I now had a name for the problems I was
19 going through.

20 "My partner has talked about his parents going out
21 and playing badminton together and with friends when
22 he was young. I find this quite extraordinary as I have
23 no experiences of my parents ever socialising with
24 anyone. When I worked with the Richmond Fellowship as
25 a residential social worker for young adults with mental

1 health problems, I attended psychotherapy twice a week.
2 One visit was paid for by the fellowship and I paid for
3 the other. This lasted for about two years. I found
4 the counselling helped in some ways but was frustrating
5 and unproductive in others. I felt like an alien in so
6 many ways and in some therapies have felt that the
7 therapists have not been able to understand my
8 experience. This has led to further distress at times.
9 I have done co-counselling for about 20 years and this
10 helped with feeling listened to and being able to relate
11 to others.

12 "I function okay with my mental health problems and
13 at this time do not require any medication, but I have
14 used medication in the past. I would say I have been
15 depressed since I was about 8 years old and have
16 struggled in my relationships with people.

17 "I have been doing mindfulness for about eight years
18 now. I now know how to have fun. I enjoy being part of
19 a choir and an improvisation group. I still lack
20 self-confidence but I am better in how I relate on other
21 people now.

22 "I am always on hyper-alert. On the outside
23 I appear calm but that is not how I feel on the inside.
24 This is a result of what I had experienced as a child.
25 I had to be quiet, still, and look calm in order to

1 survive.

2 "My sister has not appreciated the treatments I have
3 received for many years. I feel they've really helped
4 me. She eventually went for treatment herself but found
5 it deeply shocking and was re-traumatised by the
6 experience. My sister has had extreme difficulties at
7 times and herself esteem can be very low at times. She
8 had also been on a lifetime journey of how best care for
9 herself and make sense of the world.

10 "I do not have and have not had access to any of my
11 mum's records. I would be interested in finding out
12 what her records say about her before she left and
13 suffered for her mental health issues. It would be nice
14 to know more of her family history. I would like to
15 know of any wider family I may have. I feel desperate
16 for my children as they do not have the support or any
17 relationship with a wider family.

18 "My mother died about 12 or 13 years ago. I thought
19 when mum died I would get some relief but I was wrong;
20 nothing changed. There was no relief from what I had
21 been struggling with for years.

22 "My aunt has been a member of the campaigning group
23 to get this inquiry. My mother was very dismissive of
24 this and was not interested in it. She was always
25 dismissive of what her sister did but I suspect this was

1 defensive on her part.

2 "I hope the inquiry makes things better for the
3 children of tomorrow. I feel quite distressed seeing
4 the amount of money, time and resource that is being
5 used for this inquiry when children in abusive
6 situations today continue not to be well served due to
7 lack of resources.

8 "I have no objection to my witness statement being
9 published as part of the evidence to the inquiry.
10 I believe the facts stated in the witness statement are
11 true."

12 The witness statement was signed by Ann on
13 7 January 2018.

14 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much, Ms MacLeod.

15 It's 12.45. The next witness will be here for
16 2 o'clock, is that right?

17 MS MACLEOD: That's correct, my Lady.

18 LADY SMITH: So it's suggested that we break now and resume
19 at 2 o'clock?

20 MS MACLEOD: Yes.

21 LADY SMITH: Very well, that's what we'll do.

22 (12.45 pm)

23 (The lunch adjournment)

24 (2.00 pm)

25 MR MacAULAY: My Lady, now the next witness wants to remain

1 anonymous and to use the name "Ann" in giving her
2 evidence. She would require to be warned because there
3 are allegations against her.

4 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

5 "ANN" (sworn)

6 LADY SMITH: It really helps us to hear you if you stay in
7 the right position for the microphone and hopefully it
8 makes it less effort for you to make yourself heard.

9 Mr MacAulay will probably take you to the red file
10 in a moment. It doesn't matter that you've opened it,
11 but he'll show you where he wants you to go.

12 Mr MacAulay.

13 Questions from MR MacAULAY

14 MR MacAULAY: Good afternoon, Ann.

15 I do want to start by looking at the red folder,
16 which contains your statement. I'm going to give the
17 reference for the transcript of the statement. It's
18 WIT.003.001.1367. If I could take you to the final page
19 of the statement.

20 LADY SMITH: Just while the statement is coming up, before
21 you find that page, Ann, can I just say a couple of
22 things to you.

23 You may remember that when you gave your statement,
24 your written statement, it was explained to you that
25 although this is a public inquiry and not a trial,

1 you have a right not to incriminate yourself. It was
2 explained that if you say that you were involved in any
3 way in the abuse of children in the course of your
4 evidence, then you can be asked further questions about
5 that, but you don't have to answer those questions.

6 If you do choose to do so, however, your answers
7 will be recorded and could be used against you in the
8 future and I think that was what was said to you in some
9 way at the time you gave your statement.

10 The same applies at this hearing. It is a public
11 inquiry, not a trial, but you still have the right not
12 to incriminate yourself and if you tell us you were
13 involved in the abuse of children, then you may be asked
14 further questions about that. Whether or not to answer
15 those questions is a matter for you, you don't have to
16 do so, but if you do, you do need to appreciate that
17 there is a recording going on all the time at the moment
18 and a transcript being made of the evidence, and what
19 you say could be used at a future date, for example in
20 a criminal prosecution.

21 What I have said is all for your protection, Ann,
22 and it's important that you confirm to me whether or not
23 you understand. I can explain it again if necessary.

24 A. No, I understand, thank you.

25 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

1 Mr MacAulay.

2 MR MacAULAY: Ann, if I can turn then to the last page of

3 the statement. That's at 1395. Can you just confirm

4 that you have signed the statement.

5 A. Yes, I have signed it.

6 Q. Do you tell us in the final paragraph:

7 "I have no objection to my witness statement being

8 published as part of the evidence to the inquiry"?

9 A. That's correct, yes.

10 Q. And also you go on to say:

11 "I believe the facts stated in this witness

12 statement are true."

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Ann, I don't require your date of birth, but to get

15 a time frame I need to get your year of birth.

16 Am I right in saying that you were born in 1949?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. So you're now 67 or 68?

19 A. 68; yes.

20 Q. I think you tell us in your statement that you joined

21 the Daughters of Charity order on [REDACTED] 1966.

22 A. Yes. That's right.

23 Q. You left the order, am I right in thinking, in 1987?

24 A. Yes, I was given a year's leave of absence.

25 Q. Having left the order, I think you had a career in

1 social work.

2 A. I did, yes.

3 Q. Then if we look at your position when you're in the
4 order, in [REDACTED] 1969 did you go to St Vincent's in
5 Newcastle?

6 A. I did.

7 Q. Looking to the dates, it would appear that you were 20
8 or so at the time.

9 A. I turned 20 in the [REDACTED], and I think it was
10 [REDACTED] I went to St Vincent's.

11 Q. What was your purpose in going to St Vincent's?

12 A. To be a house mum in -- a house mother in a family group
13 home for children.

14 Q. What was the name of the --

15 A. St Vincent's.

16 Q. But was there a particular unit within --

17 A. Yes, my little unit was called Seton House.

18 Q. Had you had any training in childcare before you went to
19 Newcastle?

20 A. No, I didn't have any training.

21 Q. Or had you had any experience in childcare?

22 A. Not in looking after children, no; I was brought up in
23 a family of six children.

24 Q. After you'd been in St Vincent's -- I think it was from
25 [REDACTED] 1969 to some time in 1972; is that right?

- 1 A. Yes, 1972.
- 2 Q. What did do you then?
- 3 A. From St Vincent's I went to Boston Spa School for the
4 Deaf in Yorkshire.
- 5 Q. And was that a home or --
- 6 A. It was a school for deaf children, children who are
7 deaf.
- 8 Q. Were the children accommodated --
- 9 A. Residential, yes.
- 10 Q. It was a residential school?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. I think at some point you went to work at Smyllum; is
13 that right?
- 14 A. When my time at Boston Spa was finished, I went to train
15 in childcare, I think. From there, I went to Smyllum.
- 16 Q. And the training that you did in childcare, where was
17 that?
- 18 A. It was in Langside College for one year.
- 19 Q. The date I have is that you may have started in Smyllum
20 in [REDACTED] 1975.
- 21 A. That's right, yes.
- 22 Q. You were there for about four years until
23 [REDACTED] 1979?
- 24 A. Yes, I think that's right.
- 25 Q. Can I begin by looking at the position of St Vincent's.

1 You have already told us that when you went there, you
2 were in charge of a unit.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Did you have members of staff to assist you?

5 A. Yes. I had two members of staff.

6 Q. And how many children were you looking after?

7 A. I think somewhere between 14 and 18. I honestly can't
8 remember exactly.

9 Q. Was there a mixture of sexes?

10 A. Yes, there were boys and girls. It was a family group
11 home.

12 Q. How was the accommodation set out?

13 A. There was small rooms for two to three beds, there was
14 one room, I think, with four or five beds, and
15 I stayed -- my bedroom was in the children's ... in the
16 unit as well. And a staff bedroom, which staff would
17 alternate -- when the staff were on duty, they would
18 sleep over as well.

19 Q. One thing you tell us in your statement is that most of
20 the children that were there when you got there had been
21 there for some time; is that right?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Did that remain the position when you left? Were
24 children still there that had been there when you went
25 there?

1 A. There were some still. Some had gone and one or two new
2 ones had come on.

3 Q. What information did you have in connection with the
4 background of any of the children that you were caring
5 for?

6 A. I don't remember there being any written information
7 about their backgrounds or how they came to be in
8 St Vincent's. The children themselves would tell you
9 what their background was if they had it. One or two
10 had access and contact with their family, but the
11 majority didn't have.

12 Q. Did you yourself, while you were at St Vincent's, keep
13 any record of a child's progress?

14 A. I don't remember doing so. I don't think so.

15 Q. In the statement, going on from paragraphs 12 through to
16 about paragraph 30, you provide us with some information
17 about the routine at St Vincent's. Can I ask you about
18 visits and in particular visits by social workers.
19 Because at paragraph 31 you say that social workers
20 never came to see the children; do you see that?

21 A. Yes, I can. It's not on the screen though.

22 Q. It'll perhaps come on the screen. It's page 1374.

23 We have had some evidence in connection with one

24 particular family that was sent from Scotland to

25 Newcastle that a social worker from Scotland may have

- 1 visited that family. But you have no recollection of
2 that?
- 3 A. I can't remember.
- 4 Q. In any event, from what you've said then, you never were
5 required to prepare any reports --
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. -- for social workers?
- 8 A. No, I was never asked to write reports for social
9 workers.
- 10 Q. We've looked at the position when you went to
11 St Vincent's and information you had in connection with
12 children who were there or would be admitted. When
13 children came to leave, can you tell me what
14 arrangements there were in place to manage their
15 departure?
- 16 A. I think at the beginning one of the families in
17 question -- the oldest of the three boys that I had
18 moved to the hostel, which is at the other side of
19 Newcastle. I was just told by my superior at that time
20 that this was happening, but it was only a few weeks
21 after I arrived.
- 22 Q. So that had been arranged beforehand?
- 23 A. Absolutely, yes.
- 24 Q. Generally were there any procedures in place for when
25 children came to leave.

1 A. Not to my knowledge that I remember. It doesn't mean to
2 say they weren't there; I just don't remember them.

3 Q. Can I ask you about discipline then? Did you have any
4 guidance as to how children should be disciplined?

5 A. I don't remember any official -- being told you do or
6 don't do any particular type of thing. I just used my
7 own experience, you know how I was brought up as to ...

8 Q. Of course at that time you hadn't had a lot of
9 experience.

10 A. That's right, my experience was at home, it would be
11 with my family.

12 Q. You mentioned a little while ago a particular family and
13 that's why the inquiry has a particular interest in
14 St Vincent's because a family's care was arranged from
15 Scotland.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. If you go in your red folder to the very, very
18 beginning, because the persons involved want to remain
19 anonymous, they have used pseudonyms when they've been
20 giving evidence and against the pseudonym you can see
21 the name of the individual. Do you see that?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. We don't want you to blurt out the name, we just want to
24 stay with --

25 A. Use this one?

- 1 Q. Use the pseudonym, yes.
- 2 So, for example, if we look at Jimmy, is that a name
3 you recognise?
- 4 A. Only in the sense of the conversations we've been having
5 up to now and the papers I've been given, but I never
6 met this boy.
- 7 Q. Well, would that be -- when you say you never met him
8 because your paths didn't cross?
- 9 A. My understanding is there were six siblings of that
10 particular family. There was the two older boys, which
11 is Jimmy and Michael, and they had a sister called --
12 I don't think she's on there. But they had a sister.
13 The three -- I think the children were all moved to
14 Newcastle from Scotland in order that the sister could
15 be in the same group home with them. But the sister and
16 the two older boys had moved on by the time I got to
17 Newcastle. I only had one whose name is not there,
18 David, and another younger boy of that family.
- 19 Q. Can I just take you to what this particular witness said
20 in his evidence. The transcript of his evidence begins
21 at TRN.001.002.1039. I can say to you that this child
22 left to go to Newcastle from Scotland in September 1970
23 when he was aged 9. I think your position was that
24 you were at Newcastle from [REDACTED] 1969 to 1972.
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. So on the face of it, there'd be scope for a degree of
2 crossover.

3 A. I certainly never, ever met the two older brothers or
4 the sister. I had the other -- the oldest one for a wee
5 while and then the other two for quite a while. One
6 left to join the navy.

7 Q. I'll just take you to what this witness said. This is
8 at page 1082. It'll come on the screen for you, Ann.
9 That's page 44.

10 The transcript number for these purposes is 1084.
11 On this page, the witness is giving evidence as to how
12 he came to leave to go to Newcastle and he'd been at
13 Smyllum, of course. What he says at line number 16 is:

14 "Question: I think your older brother went with you
15 at that time --

16 "Answer: Yes.

17 "Question: -- but not your sister."

18 And then he goes on to say towards the bottom:

19 "Answer: We got there and that's when I discovered
20 I had brothers. There were three of my other brothers
21 there and the older brother, he was in a different --
22 there used to be St Vincent's and then it was
23 St Phillip's and then St Phillip's was for the older
24 people. So he was there."

25 So an older brother had moved on. Do you see that,

1 that seems to be what he's saying?

2 Then at page 1084 at line number 21, page 46, the
3 transcript number is 1084, he's asked at line 21 -- or
4 before that he said he was at St Vincent's until he's
5 aged 14/15 and that would take him into the 1970s. And
6 he's asked:

7 "Question: Who was in charge at St Vincent's when
8 you got there?

9 "Answer: There was -- when I first went there there
10 was a nun called Sister IAG who was in charge.

11 "Question: The same set-up as in Smyllum?

12 "Answer: The same set-up: a nun was in charge of
13 the house followed by members of staff. The difference
14 between that, there were four members of staff in
15 Seton House where they used to fluctuate and they would
16 sleep the night and have their own bedrooms and that."

17 I think I'm right in saying that your name, when in
18 the order, was Sister IAG.

19 A. It was, yes.

20 Q. And sometimes you were known also as Sister IAG --

21 A. No, no, I was always IAG.

22 Q. So he certainly seems then to identify Seton House, as
23 he goes on to say, and also yourself as the person in
24 charge of Seton House, but I understand you don't have
25 a recollection of him.

1 A. Not at all, no.

2 Q. If I take you then to -- we're still on page 1085 and at
3 line 12:

4 "Answer: That was Sister IAG to start with.
5 Again, as time went on, the nuns changed. There was a
6 Sister IAG, a Sister AFZ and then
7 a Sister HAE "

8 Do the other two names mean anything to you?

9 A. I know both those names, yes.

10 Q. Did either of those succeed you at Seton House when you
11 left?

12 A. AFZ succeeded me. I can't remember HAE whether --
13 I know she'd been there at some stage, but I can't
14 remember when. AFZ came after me.

15 Q. He is asked at line 16:

16 "Question: You tell us in your statement that
17 St Vincent's was more homely than Smyllum.

18 "Answer: Yes.

19 "Question: But what about the sorts of abuse you
20 have told us about and intimidation you have told us
21 about as far as Smyllum was concerned. What was
22 St Vincent's like?

23 "Answer: Again, you got slapped about and you got
24 punished but it wasn't as severe as what Smyllum was.
25 One of the good things about St Vincent's was you could

1 access the outside world because it was only about
2 100 metres along the drive and you were outside."

3 And he goes on to tell us that he went to school
4 outside and so on. And was that the position, the
5 schooling was off-site so to speak?

6 A. Off-site, yes.

7 Q. Then he gives this evidence and perhaps -- this is
8 really why I want to take you to this section. He says
9 at the end of the previous paragraph:

10 "Answer: But I used to get beatings in there as
11 well.

12 "Question: Was there any particular sister that was
13 involved in that?

14 "Answer: There was a Sister IAG to start with
15 and, again, she was a really, really good footballer as
16 well and everyone used to play football and I was
17 playing in the back of St Vincent's. Again, it is a
18 vivid memory, I can picture it in my mind. At one end
19 there was a stone built wall and the other end was
20 a rendered wall with like a pebble-dash on it. I let
21 a goal in and she came up with the ball once and she
22 rammed it in my face. I was close enough to the wall
23 when she rammed it in my face that it pushed my head
24 into the wall and I cut my head. I was bouncing my head
25 off the pebbles that were there, the pebble-dash. Again

1 that hurt as well, but it is normal."

2 What do you say about that, that particular incident
3 that he's describing?

4 A. I don't recognise it. I don't have any memory of it and
5 I'm quite sure it didn't happen; that I didn't do it.

6 Q. Did you play football?

7 A. I kicked a ball about, yes. I had brothers, but I never
8 actually played football as such. But I could kick the
9 ball and keep it up and things like that, so the boys
10 were quite impressed.

11 Q. But so far as the incident is concerned, and just so
12 I can understand your position, you're saying it didn't
13 happen insofar as it involved you but if it happened, it
14 must have been someone else?

15 A. If it happened, I wasn't involved.

16 Q. What about the general observation that he made that you
17 did get slapped about when you were at St Vincent's?

18 A. I was 22 years a Daughter of Charity and I don't
19 remember anyone ever being slapped or hurt or treated
20 harshly.

21 Q. He goes on then to say on the next page -- that's
22 page 49, and this is 1087 for the transcript and this is
23 at line 6 -- he's saying as he got older, thing changed,
24 but he's asked:

25 "Question: But as far as Sister IAG was

1 concerned, what you say in your statement is that she
2 would, as you put it, tip off the edge every now and
3 then.

4 "Answer: Aye, she would go off her rocker and just
5 for whatever reason, just lose it, and just --

6 "Question: And what would happen if that was the
7 case?

8 "Answer: It would all depend how close you were to
9 her at the time. Again, she would just lash out and
10 just hit you."

11 So that's his position. What's your response to
12 that?

13 A. No, I never met this boy or hit this boy, but I didn't
14 hit any children.

15 Q. Could this boy have been in Seton House, as he tells us,
16 but you've just forgotten?

17 A. No, no. I mean, his younger brothers were at the end of
18 their stay in Seton House.

19 Q. If you look at the list at the front of your folder,
20 I have been asking you about number 2 in your list --

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. -- and I put to you that his date of birth -- I didn't
23 put his date of birth. I think I said that when he went
24 to St Vincent's in 1970, he was aged about 9. Is that
25 what I said? I can't remember now. Yes, he went to

1 St Vincent's in 1970 -- and the pseudonym David, he was
2 an older brother. Do you understand that?

3 A. The date of his kind of age sort of reconciles with
4 David's younger brother, who's not on this list.

5 LADY SMITH: [REDACTED] 1970, aged 9, is what you put to the
6 witness as being the point at which this boy moved from
7 Scotland to Newcastle.

8 MR MacAULAY: That's correct. So I said he moved at the age
9 of 9 in 1970, but what I'm putting to you is, if we look
10 at the pseudonyms, can I just explain to you that the
11 first name in the list, David, he's an older brother to
12 Jimmy. Do you follow me?

13 A. Yes. I'm following what you're saying, but that's not
14 the case. David was only the older brother of one other
15 sibling, who would have been about that age.

16 Q. Well, we have another pseudonym, Michael --

17 A. And he's even older again.

18 Q. He's younger than David.

19 A. No. David only had one younger brother.

20 Q. Perhaps that's where the confusion is because my
21 understanding is that the position was that David was
22 born in 1957, Michael was born in 1960, and Jimmy that
23 we've been talking about was born in 1961. That's the
24 information I have.

25 A. Well, I looked after David and one older brother, not

1 named here, and David's younger brother, by about three
2 years. I looked after him from when I arrived in 1969
3 and until I left in 1972.

4 Q. Whatever that may be, you can see that Jimmy, the one
5 I've been looking at, has identified you as someone who
6 cared for him during part of his stay at St Vincent's,
7 and I think you're challenging that.

8 A. Yes, I think I am challenging it because I don't think
9 either Jimmy or Michael were ever in Newcastle in
10 St Vincent's when I was there. They had left. I knew
11 there were two older brothers and an older sister who
12 never, ever came back to see the two younger brothers.

13 Q. If you look at Michael, Michael was born in 1960. He
14 left Smyllum at the same time as Jimmy in 1970, aged 10.

15 A. I can't understand why the dates fit the way they do
16 because they were never -- they didn't even come to see
17 the three younger boys, the sister or the two older
18 brothers.

19 Q. So far as David is concerned, do you remember David?

20 A. Oh, I do. I remember David well.

21 Q. And you couldn't be confusing David with Jimmy?

22 A. No, no.

23 Q. Or Michael?

24 A. Or anyone. David I remember.

25 LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay, remind me: the date

1 [REDACTED] 1970, is that a date that we've identified
2 from the Smyllum records?

3 MR MacAULAY: No, that's a date I think from -- I can't
4 remember if it's from the records, but certainly from
5 the evidence.

6 LADY SMITH: Certainly I think we had it in the evidence and
7 it seemed to be fairly clear from the witnesses from
8 this family that we heard.

9 MR MacAULAY: I can check.

10 LADY SMITH: Was it the social work records?

11 MR MacAULAY: It is --

12 LADY SMITH: I had in the back of my mind that that was
13 a pretty firm date --

14 MR MacAULAY: It is, I think so.

15 LADY SMITH: -- verified independently, and otherwise
16 we have the dates of birth of the witnesses that you're
17 referring to.

18 MR MacAULAY: Yes.

19 LADY SMITH: Do you see what I'm saying, Ann? We've got an
20 independently verified date for their move and we have
21 their dates of birth.

22 A. If you have the dates of birth -- I only know that David
23 and his younger brother were the two that I had. The
24 older brother -- "Jay" I'll call him -- was just about
25 two years older than David and he left just after I got

1 -- just shortly after I got there, he went to the hostel
2 on the other side of Newcastle and I then remained with
3 David and the younger one, the little one. David
4 eventually left to go to the navy; he joined the
5 ████████████████████. But the two older boys and the
6 older daughter, the girl, I never, ever met or had any
7 care of.

8 MR MacAULAY: There may be older siblings, but I think what
9 I'm putting --

10 A. They weren't there while I was there.

11 LADY SMITH: There were some already there, some of the
12 family already in St Vincent's?

13 A. They could have been, but they weren't there when I got
14 there. When I got there there was just the older
15 brother, David, and the younger brother.

16 MR MacAULAY: If it be the case that David was born in 1957
17 and Michael in 1960 and Jimmy in 1961, then clearly
18 there is confusion here as to who you may have been
19 dealing with.

20 A. They just definitely were not in Seton House while I was
21 there.

22 Q. So far as David is concerned, in any event, you do
23 remember David?

24 A. Yes, I remember David well.

25 Q. And you were asked about David when you were giving your

1 statement.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Perhaps we can look at that then under reference to your
4 statement and take you to paragraph 40. At 40 what you
5 say is:

6 "I do know David. He left to go to the navy when
7 he was 15. He was a very well-behaved boy. I have been
8 asked about an allegation made by David that I slapped
9 him on one occasion."

10 And I think you say you never slapped him.

11 A. I never slapped him, no.

12 Q. You're also told that he said that the physical abuse at
13 St Vincent's was really harsh, harsher than Smyllum. He
14 states that the beatings were more sustained. I'm not
15 suggesting he was pointing to you for that because he
16 only points to one incident. What about that? Did you
17 see any evidence of beatings?

18 A. No.

19 Q. While we're looking at the **family name**, can we look at what
20 Michael said. I'm looking at a transcript at 1106.
21 TRN.001.002.1106.

22 We can see at the bottom, if we move up to the
23 top -- and I'll get the transcript number for the notes.
24 It's 1106.

25 Michael takes the oath and then, if we move on to

1 the next page, which will be 1107, can we see that he
2 confirms that he was born in 1960? If you look on the
3 screen.

4 A. Yes. I've got it.

5 Q. As I said to you already, it's noted that he left in
6 1970, but I just want to take you to one bit of his
7 evidence.

8 LADY SMITH: Just before we go there, could I just point out
9 that a surname in relation to these witnesses was
10 mentioned a moment ago. My restriction order still
11 applies in relation to that surname. It cannot be
12 repeated outside this hearing room. Mr MacAulay, I'm
13 sure, it wasn't meant.

14 MR MacAULAY: It wasn't meant; it was a slip of the tongue.

15 Perhaps I can take you to 1124, page 86. Perhaps
16 I can just take you to this evidence to see if this
17 clarifies matters. At line 7 it's put to him:

18 "Question: You came to leave Smyllum in
19 [REDACTED] 1970 when you were aged 10.

20 "Answer: I don't want to sound cheeky, I just got
21 hijacked."

22 But he confirms he was moved in [REDACTED] 1970 and
23 he tells us about how that came about. Then moving on
24 to the next page, page 87, that's 1125, can you see that
25 what he says is it was only at that point in time that

1 he was told he had brothers:

2 "Answer: Up to that point I didn't have brothers."

3 That's his position. And I think the position is
4 he had older brothers. So the position seems to be that
5 Michael goes to Newcastle at the age of about 10 in
6 1970, so his path would at least have crossed over with
7 your path in some way at Newcastle.

8 A. If he came, I did not ever meet Michael.

9 Q. Okay.

10 A. David's younger brother was around that age.

11 Q. Okay. If we turn to page 88, I just want to put to you
12 what Michael says about yourself. That's at 1126.

13 Towards the bottom of that page he's asked:

14 "Question: Do you have any recollection of any of
15 names of the nuns that you dealt with when you were in
16 St Vincent's?

17 "Answer: There was three nuns in the time I was
18 there: the first one is Sister IAG the second one
19 was Sister HAE and the third one was -- the second was
20 Sister AFZ and the third one was Sister HAE."

21 Again he identifies those three. Then he's asked:

22 "Question: How did you get on with these nuns?

23 "Answer: I didn't get on with the first two, but
24 the last one, she liked me, so basically I got on with
25 her.

1 "Question: If you look at Sister [REDACTED] IAG, what
2 about her? Did anything happen in connection with her?

3 "Answer: Well, she had never lifted her hands to me
4 really, but I seen her hitting my other brother."

5 And he provides the name:

6 "Answer: And I seen her giving him a -- but I don't
7 think them two got on, like."

8 So that was his position, that you never hit him --

9 A. No.

10 Q. -- but he did see you hit another brother.

11 A. That's what he is saying, but I didn't.

12 Q. And you wouldn't accept that.

13 You told us already, Ann, that when you came to
14 leave St Vincent's at a point in time you went to
15 Langside College to do the childcare course.

16 A. When I left St Vincent's, I went to Boston Spa School
17 for the Deaf.

18 Q. At a point in time you went to Langside College?

19 A. After that, yes.

20 Q. Having done the course at Langside, did you then go on
21 to Smyllum?

22 A. Smyllum, yes.

23 Q. I think we take from your statement that you arrived in
24 Smyllum in perhaps [REDACTED] 1975? Is that
25 correct?

- 1 A. I think so, yes.
- 2 Q. When did you leave?
- 3 A. 1979. I started my course either 1979 or 19. 1979,
4 I think.
- 5 Q. That was another course, was it?
- 6 A. Yes. My first course was in childcare, the second one
7 was in social work, a certificate of qualification in
8 social work.
- 9 Q. When then you went to Smyllum in about 1975, what
10 position did you take up when you went there?
- 11 A. Similar. Yes, I was a house mother within a family
12 group home.
- 13 Q. Were you attached to a particular house?
- 14 A. Yes. I can't remember the name of it. I know this
15 sounds terrible. I think it was Ogilvy, but I'm not
16 sure.
- 17 Q. And as far as the house was concerned, what was the
18 set-up then with regard to numbers? For example, how
19 many children were under your care?
- 20 A. I think there might have been a few more. 18, possibly,
21 and again two staff. A bigger building, a much larger
22 building, but the rooms -- they tried to make an effort
23 to make them smaller and more family-like, tried to put
24 children in sibling groups in the rooms. Again, my
25 bedroom was in the unit and the staff room.

- 1 Q. So from what you have said there was a mixture of the
2 sexes as well, boys and girls?
- 3 A. Yes. If there was brothers and sisters, we tried to
4 keep them -- at a certain age. At a particular age we'd
5 probably move them and put them in separate rooms in
6 that's what they wanted. But the little ones -- I had
7 four little ones and they had the same room, and it was
8 male and female.
- 9 Q. And did you have help?
- 10 A. Yes, we had two staff.
- 11 Q. Was there a time when Smyllum was being identified for
12 closure?
- 13 A. I don't know if I would actually say closure, but yes,
14 certainly we were talking about we need to be moving
15 into smaller units, less of these big institutional
16 buildings. So that conversation -- I wasn't officially
17 told, "You're going to close therefore we want you to
18 pull out".
- 19 Q. Perhaps I can put a photograph to you and see if you can
20 identify where you might have been located.
- 21 A. All right.
- 22 Q. That's DSV.001.001.4661.
- 23 This is an aerial photograph of Smyllum where
24 efforts have been made to try and identify different
25 locations. So for example you'll see that, towards the

1 bottom, Ogilvy House is identified in a particular
2 location, but it may not have been there when you were
3 there.

4 A. I think it was still there and I think it was called
5 Ogilvy. I honestly can't remember. I think they're
6 calling ours -- there's no point going into it. The
7 building, if you went in the front door and turned
8 right, the sort of block up there, the top of that and
9 the very bottom of that.

10 Q. So when you went there, that's when you were located?

11 A. Where that little thing is. No, I wasn't in that. If
12 you can move up to the left a wee bit. That there
13 (indicates). I was in there. There's no arrow going
14 straight to that.

15 Q. I understand that. I think we have in evidence that
16 what was Ogilvy House moved into the main building.

17 A. Oh right.

18 Q. So that's what you, I think, are confirming.

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. That when you --

21 A. It wasn't in the outside building, it was --

22 Q. In the main building?

23 A. In the main building.

24 Q. Can I then ask you just a little bit about the set-up at
25 Smyllum? Again, if I can ask you about the children who

1 were in your care. What information did you have
2 in relation to those children in relation to their
3 backgrounds and so on?

4 A. Probably a little bit better, but I'm not sure if that
5 was because it was there when I got there. But having
6 had a little bit of training, I feel I probably chased
7 social workers up a bit more and tried to get
8 information and tried to get in contact with the
9 families and stuff like that. I felt that was easier to
10 do. I probably didn't have enough experience to have
11 done that in the previous -- in Newcastle.

12 But, yes, we had notes and I do remember we would
13 write notes, the staff and myself would keep a diary
14 type thing. So each of the children -- if there was
15 anything to pass on that we might not remember to say --
16 and bits about the children, if parents were coming or
17 if they were going home, just to note things down so
18 everybody knew what was going on.

19 LADY SMITH: Were these diaries kept individually or was
20 there a house diary?

21 A. I think it was kind of like a folder and you would have
22 different children in, maybe a bit about Johnny and then
23 a bit about Mary in the diary. I don't think we had
24 files. I can't remember -- I'm not saying they didn't
25 exist, but I don't remember files on each child saying

1 where they came from or anything like that.

2 LADY SMITH: Where was this diary kept?

3 A. There was a little room at the end and it was kind of

4 like an office. It was too small to be a bedroom so we

5 had a filing cabinet and a desk in there.

6 LADY SMITH: Could anybody write in the diary?

7 A. Staff, yes, myself.

8 LADY SMITH: Did you write in it?

9 A. Yes.

10 MR MacAULAY: This is something you discuss in your

11 statement at paragraph 78 and what you say there is you

12 kept records for each child.

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And as you've just confirmed to her Ladyship, that you

15 write in the records and the staff would write in the

16 records?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. I'd be interested to know what sort of information would

19 you provide. For example, would you write in the diary

20 that if a particular child required to be disciplined

21 for a particular reason, that would happen?

22 A. No.

23 Q. So what sort of material would you put --

24 A. Things like -- it was so-and-so's dad was coming to see

25 them on Saturday, the children were going out to

1 something, or they were doing something, or they may
2 have had an appointment for dentists or -- the older
3 children, some of them had jobs in the town and would
4 have to be collected at night-time when they were
5 finished with their jobs. Things like that. And if the
6 family had -- social worker was coming to see them or
7 the social worker had phoned, that type of information.
8 Information that would help things to go smoothly and
9 get a better understanding of the children.

10 Q. You were there for about four years, so do I take it
11 that by the end of that period, you would have
12 accumulated a reasonable amount of material in relation
13 to each of the children that were under your care?

14 A. I would think -- yes, I would think so. That's
15 reasonable, yes.

16 Q. Was that material kept in that little office that you
17 mentioned?

18 A. Yes. It would be kept in a filing cabinet or in a desk.

19 Q. And do you know what happened to it?

20 A. I don't.

21 Q. Was it there when you left?

22 A. Yes, yes. I can't even remember who took over after
23 I left.

24 Q. You left in 1979 --

25 A. Mm-hm.

- 1 Q. -- which is not long before Smyllum shut down.
- 2 A. But I don't know who took over the children I had.
- 3 We were trying to figure if we could try and get them
- 4 back to their families or what move-on there would be,
- 5 considering that they were thinking of closing, but
- 6 I can't remember if any sisters replaced me.
- 7 Q. Can you remember how many children actually were left in
- 8 your group --
- 9 A. No, I can't.
- 10 Q. -- by the time you came to leave?
- 11 A. I can't remember now.
- 12 Q. Can I just touch upon the routine at Smyllum then with
- 13 you, Ann, for a moment or two. First of all, can I ask
- 14 you, did you have children who would wet the bed?
- 15 A. We didn't. No, none of the children at Smyllum. I did
- 16 have one little boy in Newcastle but never in Smyllum.
- 17 Q. Do you know anything about any practices that might have
- 18 been in play at Smyllum in connection with bed-wetting?
- 19 A. Not -- I never saw any behaviours or anything. I have
- 20 heard hearsay and stuff but, no, I never had any --
- 21 no one ever said to me, this is what you do when a child
- 22 wets the bed, or, this is how we treat things. That
- 23 never, ever happened.
- 24 Q. When you say you heard hearsay, are you looking at the
- 25 inquiry or are you looking at your time at Smyllum?

- 1 A. I'm looking at the television reports and stuff.
- 2 Q. I see. The food then for your unit, how was that
3 managed? Did you have your own kitchen? What was the
4 position?
- 5 A. We did. We had a little kitchen. We were on the top
6 floor and unfortunately our dining and kitchen areas
7 were on the very ground floor, but we had facilities --
8 oven, cooker, tables -- and the cooking went on. We
9 used to have to go to Glasgow -- I remember going in
10 a minibus to pick up food for my group that we would
11 feed -- and that would be what we'd cook, my staff.
- 12 Q. How would you describe the food?
- 13 A. Fine. We tried to get what they wanted. If they
14 preferred one thing to another, we would try and
15 accommodate that. It was good, wholesome food.
- 16 Q. Did children require on occasion to be persuaded to eat
17 their food?
- 18 A. No, if they didn't like their food then they didn't eat
19 it. If they liked something else, we would try and get
20 the something else if it was possible. I didn't ever
21 have any bother with children not eating.
- 22 Q. Can I also ask --
- 23 LADY SMITH: Why were you going to Glasgow to get food
24 rather than locally?
- 25 A. There was -- what do they call it, not a supermarket ...

1 The name's gone out of my head.

2 LADY SMITH: Somewhere for trade buying, a cash and carry?

3 A. Cash and carry, that's the word.

4 LADY SMITH: Right.

5 MR MacAULAY: Can I ask you about visits? Did social

6 workers come to visit children that may have been placed

7 there by a particular local authority?

8 A. Yes, they did in Smyllum. They did. Some of them

9 needed a bit more encouragement to come and see the

10 children and get interested and see what the -- thinking

11 that this is not going to go on forever, what were their

12 futures. And I would discuss this with the various

13 social workers that I could get in contact with.

14 Q. What about inspection? Do you have any recollection of

15 there being an inspection by someone in authority?

16 A. Like Home Office inspections and stuff?

17 Q. Any form of inspection --

18 A. No.

19 Q. -- as opposed to a social worker coming to see a child.

20 A. No, no, not the home being inspected.

21 Q. Let's look for the moment at when children came to leave

22 Smyllum. Can you help me with that? What arrangements

23 were in place for that?

24 A. The social worker and myself, and depending if the child

25 was an older child, would probably try and work out what

1 they wanted and what we could accommodate. Some of
2 them, mainly the girls -- there wasn't any family
3 connection available for them, so they would go to the
4 girls' hostel in Glasgow. It was like an after-school
5 hostel. We would discuss that. Some of the children
6 would go back to their families because things had
7 altered since they came. Those four boys from Newcastle
8 -- not those boys from Newcastle but another four
9 boys -- who went become to stay with their gran and that
10 took a bit of backwards and forwards and one wee lad
11 went back to his mum, I think.

12 Q. Did you have children there in your time that were, if
13 I can put it this way, long term in that they were there
14 not just for a few months but for several years?

15 A. I think most of the children were long term. None of
16 them were a few months that I remember. I don't think
17 any of them were just a few months.

18 Q. And the hostel you mentioned, was that a girls' hostel?

19 A. Yes, it was an -- an aftercare hostel, I think it was
20 called. There was two. There were two houses next to
21 each other. One was for the girls who had been in care
22 to help them adjust through working and stuff. The
23 other was for girls who maybe came from the Highlands
24 and had a hostel to live in while they worked in
25 Glasgow.

- 1 Q. So the one that was perhaps more associated with
2 Smyllum --
- 3 A. Was the first one.
- 4 Q. It wasn't just Smyllum, it would be children from other
5 places as well?
- 6 A. From other places as well.
- 7 Q. And the number that could be accommodated was relatively
8 limited?
- 9 A. I couldn't tell you. I don't know.
- 10 Q. What about discipline at Smyllum, sister? Were you
11 provided with any guidance?
- 12 A. No, I didn't feel it was necessary. I don't think
13 I ever asked, how do I discipline the children, or I was
14 never told by my superior, this is how you discipline
15 the children.
- 16 Q. In relation to your own group -- and I think you do say
17 this in your statement somewhere -- you did live
18 a relatively autonomous existence, is that right, in
19 that you had your group which you managed and others had
20 other groups --
- 21 A. And other sisters had other groups, yes, and we were in
22 different parts. You could go quite a few days before
23 seeing anyone in the other groups. The children were
24 going up and down to school in the drive, you might meet
25 them then or various activities in the summer and be

1 outside but, no, you were quite independent of the other
2 groups.

3 Q. Did you gain any insight at all as to how discipline was
4 managed in the other groups?

5 A. I just presumed it was like I did myself: you
6 disciplined the children by stopping the telly or maybe
7 no sweets or something. I would be disappointed or
8 I would be quite -- if they did certain behaviours and
9 stuff, but I didn't really have to discipline them very
10 often.

11 Q. What about any physical chastisement?

12 A. No, never saw any physical.

13 Q. Again, if we go back -- in fact, we don't need to look
14 at the key because the next witness I want to look at,
15 if you look at your list, has used her own name in
16 giving her evidence and that's **Margaret Crawley**
17 who gave evidence to the inquiry. I think you have been
18 asked about aspects of that evidence; is that correct?

19 A. I have, yes.

20 Q. Can I then look at some aspects of that. I'm looking at
21 the transcript, TRN.001.002.0698. If we just look to
22 the top, that's transcript 0698. If I take you to
23 page -- before I do that, perhaps I can ask you this: do
24 you remember this --

25 A. Yes, I remember her well, yes.

1 Q. She was in Smyllum from August 1968 to October 1979, so
2 she was there before you.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. But clearly, your paths crossed. Was that because she
5 was in Ogilvy House and you were the sister in charge?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. From what you have said to us already, Ogilvy House was
8 by then in the main building?

9 A. Yes, up in the top.

10 Q. This witness gave evidence about going to school and, in
11 particular, to Our Lady's High in Motherwell and getting
12 homework to do from school. If I take you to page 0715
13 and page 20. It'll come on the screen, Ann. If I just
14 move up to the top and I'll get the transcript number
15 for these purposes: 0715.

16 Here she's talking about what chores would be
17 required after school. You'll see that's from line 8
18 onwards. So because she had to be in bed by 9 o'clock,
19 she didn't have time to do her homework. What she says
20 at 15:

21 "Answer: I would wait until everyone was asleep at
22 night, about 11/12 o'clock, and go along the corridor to
23 the toilets, lock myself in, sit on the toilet seat, and
24 do my homework.

25 "Question: Did you ask for permission to stay up to

1 do your homework?

2 "Answer: Many times, 'Could I just please finish
3 this', because I would do it in the playroom as there
4 was no other place where there was a table. I was just
5 told, 'No, get to bed, young lady, you are no different
6 to anyone else'."

7 She confirms that she was in her teens at that time.

8 What do you say to that, Ann?

- 9 A. I can't understand why Margaret remembers it like this.
10 We were very, very pleased that she was doing so well
11 with her studies. The superior, my superior at that
12 time, offered the use of a little parlour room -- I just
13 remember this, a little room that we would give the
14 priest his breakfast in when he'd finished Mass in the
15 morning. So a quite quiet little room, small, with
16 a table and a little fire in, and that's where she could
17 do her homework. I don't remember her having difficulty
18 with getting home and having time to do her homework or
19 having to go to bed at 9 o'clock. I don't remember that
20 at all. They did clear up the dishes and stuff, but all
21 the children kind of helped out with that. I really
22 don't know where she's getting this memory from because
23 it's not the way it was. We were very, very proud of
24 Margaret having done so well.
- 25 Q. So that doesn't -- you would disagree with that?

1 A. Yes. Can I just comment on line 4 when she said the
2 only night that she was different was Saturday?

3 Q. Yes.

4 A. They did actually stay -- I would get my dressing gown,
5 the four or five girls would all be in their dressing
6 gowns on Saturday nights actually. I couldn't remember
7 who it was they would see. And they would sit and talk
8 about their ambitions and **Margaret**'s was very clear: she
9 wanted to do very well at school, she wanted to be an
10 author. Some of the other girls -- one wanted to be a
11 hairdresser, which she is, and another one wanted to be
12 a mummy. So there was those sort of occasions and
13 I think it's nice that she's remembered -- well, not
14 that she had to go to bed early, but they were nice
15 occasions when we had nice chats.

16 Q. One thing she also said is that insofar as birthdays
17 were concerned, until I think she was about 16 and got
18 a gift, birthdays really weren't celebrated.

19 A. That's not true. We made as good a fuss as we could.
20 We didn't have loads and loads of toys and things, but
21 we would make a cake and each child -- we would make
22 a fuss of their birthday. They'd get a candle on their
23 cake. As much as you could for a birthday or Christmas.
24 They were good times to have.

25 Q. Many of the allegations she makes in her evidence are

1 really directed to a time before you got to Smyllum, but
2 she also mentions your time at Smyllum. If we turn to
3 page 0769, that's page 74, and that's page 0769, at
4 line 5 she's asked:

5 "Question: You also mention another nun in your
6 statement and that's sister ..."

7 And that's a reference to you. I think in her
8 statement she does refer to you as "Sister IAG", but
9 you say that was never your name?

10 A. Not while I was with children. I changed my name
11 because when I went to college to do social work, there
12 was a sister in the house with my name, so we couldn't
13 have two of us. So I changed mine -- plus I was hoping
14 to work with the deaf and it's much easier to sign my
15 other name as a great big long one like IAG. So
16 when I was with children in Smyllum I never had any
17 other name than IAG.

18 Q. The suggestion that she makes here is that at line
19 number 8 is that:

20 "Answer: She [that's you] asked us to call her
21 IAG."

22 A. She would know that from -- when she was at university,
23 she came to see me once and my name would then have been
24 changed.

25 Q. But not while at Smyllum?

1 A. Not while I was in Smyllum.

2 MR MacAULAY: And I think she confirms that you came on the
3 scene later on when she was 14/15. She tells us:

4 "Answer: She was in charge of Ogilvy House."

5 Which you've confirmed you were.

6 Perhaps I should stop there for the short break,
7 my Lady. It's 3 o'clock.

8 LADY SMITH: That would be a convenient point. We will take
9 a five-minute break and start again after that.

10 (2.58 pm)

11 (A short break)

12 (3.05 pm)

13 LADY SMITH: Just before we get back to the evidence,
14 I would like to take this opportunity to say again
15 something I've said on a number of occasions.

16 I have issued a number of restriction orders to
17 protect the privacy of a number of categories of people.
18 Occasionally, during the taking of evidence,
19 accidentally names come out or it may not be possible
20 for the evidence to be made sense of within the hearing
21 room without the use of names which are protected. But
22 that does not mean that they can then be repeated in any
23 way at all outwith the hearing room. We had an example
24 earlier of a surname slipping out. There may have been
25 one or two other things. It could yet happen despite

1 the best of care.

2 But the hearing room, if you like, is a protected
3 bubble outwith nothing which falls within one of my
4 restriction orders, whether it is the name of a person
5 meeting allegations made against them or the name of an
6 applicant to the inquiry or one of the other categories
7 of people such as their families and so on. Nothing
8 outside the hearing room, please.

9 Mr MacAulay.

10 MR MacAULAY: My Lady.

11 We were looking at Margaret Crawley's transcript.
12 Can I take you to this part of it; this is on page 75.
13 Here she's discussing her relationship with you, Ann.
14 If I pick it up at the top of the page, it's at 0770,
15 what she says is:

16 "Answer: So I tried very hard to be friends with
17 her [that's with you], to get on well with her, but she
18 just did not like me at all from the very start.
19 I don't know why."

20 What about that point? Is there any truth in that?

21 A. I don't understand why Margaret is saying these things.
22 I don't know what would give her the impression that
23 I didn't get on with her. I greatly admired her. She
24 was a hard-working wee lass. I wasn't aware that she
25 thought I didn't like her, because I did.

1 Q. She goes on to say:

2 "Answer: She would say that I was very hard and
3 I had a wall up and she had to break that wall down
4 because it wasn't good for me. Both when I was on my
5 own and in front of other people, she would use her
6 finger and point into my chest, right into my ribs,
7 'It's not good for you not to cry, come on you, you know
8 it is not good for you, I have to break you down, you
9 should cry, you know it is not good for you', and I just
10 refused to cry, I refused to cry, but she did everything
11 she could to make me cry."

12 What do you make of all that?

13 A. As I say, I don't know where it's coming from because
14 it's just so foreign to how I remember **Margaret** and
15 myself, how our relationship was. I didn't think she
16 was hard, I didn't think she needed to cry, and I don't
17 imagine anybody would want to break another person down.
18 But I certainly didn't feel that way towards **Margaret**,
19 I was very proud of **Margaret** and what she'd accomplished.
20 She worked very hard.

21 LADY SMITH: Did you tell her that?

22 A. Do you know, I wonder if I didn't tell her that enough
23 that that was the case.

24 LADY SMITH: Did you tell her at all?

25 A. I would like to think I did. I don't remember saying,

1 "Margaret, you're great", you know, and whether I did,
2 I don't know. But she did. She worked very, very hard.

3 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

4 MR MacAULAY: If we read on, she's asked:

5 "Question: Did she say some personal things to you
6 that were quite hurtful?

7 "Answer: She would say that I had shagged my uncle,
8 my mother was a whore, don't get above your station, and
9 if I told her I had done well, for example, in my
10 Highers or O grades it would be, well, you are just
11 a big fish in a little pond, remember where you came
12 from, young lady, your mother's a whore, you will end up
13 one too."

14 What about all that? That's quite significant.

15 A. Awful, yes, dreadful. I have no recollection of ever
16 having thought, never mind having said, those things.
17 It's not the kind of language I would use ever --
18 especially with children.

19 LADY SMITH: Do you remember knowing anything about

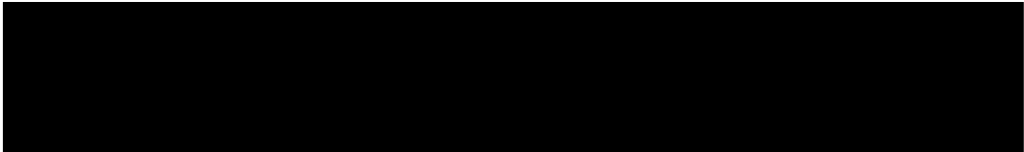
20 Margaret's background?

21 A. Knowing anything about it?

22 LADY SMITH: Yes.

23 A. Sorry. No, I don't. I knew the area she was brought up
24 in. I didn't know the reason she had been brought into
25 care. [REDACTED]

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She was really on her own, very much on her own.

LADY SMITH: What did you know about the area she was brought up in?

A. It's an area I knew when I was small. I was brought up not too far away from it.

LADY SMITH: What was it like?

A. Quite a poor, quite a run-down area -- not to say that everybody in that area was poor, but it was quite a difficult area. Still is, I think.

LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay.

MR MacAULAY: Then her evidence goes on to say:

"Answer: I remember saying, 'Why are you saying that, why would you say that, are you not proud of me?' And of course, no, she wasn't, but I couldn't reason with her, I couldn't get inside her head."

So that's her take on it, if you like. What do you make of that?

A. I find it difficult to understand why she felt that way when she did. I mean, later on, when we were having conversations as more adult to adult, she never sort of referred to the fact that, "Sister, you were never proud of me". I think maybe at that time I was able to tell her, "You know, we were all very proud of you, Margaret ,

1 and you did work very hard".

2 Q. If I move on to the next page, page 76, this is at
3 line 6, page 0771. She's asked:

4 "Question: But apart from that sort of physical
5 contact [that's the poking we discussed], was there any
6 other physical contact?

7 "Answer: Not physical, she never hit me. I was
8 bigger than her. I was stronger than her; her thing was
9 more to break me down psychologically."

10 That's her perception of the relationship; do you
11 understand what she's saying?

12 A. I can see what she's saying, yes, but it's just not
13 true. We didn't.

14 Q. She goes on to say:

15 "Answer: One of the other boys -- I think
16 I mentioned him in my statement -- there was a lot of
17 physical abuse with him. She wanted to kind of tame
18 him -- I think that was her exact word. So she wanted
19 to break me or, as she called it, make me more human,
20 and she wanted to tame him and they would just get
21 off -- they would be literally -- he would be kicking
22 and punching and she would be punching, usually in the
23 playroom, usually in the one corner of the room. I was
24 witness to it very often."

25 What about that? That's almost like a stand-up

1 fight that's being described there.

2 A. This particular boy, I still keep contact with. When --

3 his parents were older parents and he had very few

4 boundaries as a baby, I understand, and through the

5 psychological services -- and he was brought to Smyllum,

6 I think, from school because his parents were having

7 a difficult time. He did have -- we would now call them

8 anger issues, I think, and he had dreadful temper

9 tantrums. We would go together to the psychologist and

10 she would see the boy, the psychologist, have a chat

11 with him, then she would see me and then she would have

12 a chat with us both together to see how we could deal

13 with these temper outbursts. They were really,

14 really -- he'll tell you himself. He would throw

15 televisions along the room and stuff.

16 The main thing he will now say is: sister,

17 I remember you would always stay in the room with me.

18 Q. What about punching and kicking?

19 A. No, no.

20 Q. That's the allegation here.

21 A. There was a lot of stuff thrown about. He was very

22 capable of lifting beds and chairs and throwing them

23 around, but it was just total temper and anger. He did

24 calm down. It didn't take a long, long time through the

25 services of the psychological services.

1 Q. Just to be clear, what she says is that:

2 "Answer: He would be kicking and punching and she
3 [that's you] would be punching."

4 A. No.

5 Q. That didn't happen?

6 A. That didn't happen, no. He would kick walls, he would
7 kick the telly -- I remember him throwing a telly on the
8 floor -- and he would just lash out at whatever was
9 around.

10 LADY SMITH: So what did you do? Did you try to stop them?

11 A. No, the main thing I had to do was to close the other
12 children off from him harming any of the other
13 children -- and he never ever tried to attack me. He
14 always attacked things in the room and kicked things and
15 hit his own head with his hands, he would do that. But
16 that didn't last terribly long. It would be a flash and
17 it would be gone and then he would calm down.

18 After talking to the psychologist, she helped me to
19 understand, "We need to talk about what's just
20 happening", and he would, he would talk about it: why
21 were you angry, why did you burst like this? And
22 it would be over then, he would calm down.

23 MR MacAULAY: If I move on to the next page, page 77, the
24 transcript number for that page is 0772. We've touched
25 upon this already, but it's at line number 4 where she's

1 asked:

2 "Question: You mentioned your schooling earlier,
3 I think, and how you would have to go to bed at
4 9 o'clock. Was this sister involved in that?"

5 That was a question in relation to you:

6 "Answer: She was the one who was most involved
7 because she came when I was 14. That was when I was
8 going into third year. So then of course you choose
9 your subjects."

10 And so on. She gives some examples. And then at
11 line 16 she goes on to say:

12 "Answer: Many, many times when I was sitting in the
13 playroom by myself trying to finish homework, she would
14 come in and, 'Go to bed, young lady, it is past your
15 bedtime', and I would say, 'Please, I just need to
16 finish this translation', or, 'I just need to finish
17 this essay'. 'Get to bed now and it was like, 'Okay I'm
18 not arguing, I'll go to bed now'."

19 Again, this is going back to, I think, when she said
20 she had to go to bed at a particular time and here she
21 is saying you were making her effectively go to bed and
22 therefore not in a position to finish your homework when
23 she was working with it.

24 A. I don't remember ever telling her to go to bed at
25 9 o'clock or anything like that, that she suggested

1 earlier. Probably as it got later, it would be, come
2 on, you need to get to bed, get it finished and get to
3 bed. It would be quite late because I was not an early
4 bedder either; I would go to bed quite late.

5 Q. According to this evidence, you would go to bed at about
6 11 o'clock. That's what she says and that would give
7 her the opportunity, as she says, to get up and go to
8 the toilet and do her homework.

9 A. No, 11 o'clock would not be unusual for me to go to bed
10 and I would have been saying to her if that was that
11 time -- and to the others, she wasn't the only one --
12 come on, get your homework finished, you should have got
13 it done earlier, get to bed. I can see myself doing
14 that.

15 Q. What about her suggestion that that's what you were
16 telling her at 9 o'clock or thereabouts?

17 A. No.

18 Q. What arrangements would you have made then for her to do
19 her homework? Would she be allowed to stay in the
20 playroom?

21 A. Because she had her -- it was 0 levels at the time, she
22 had those. She was given this other little room that
23 was called the parlour -- it was in the main entrance of
24 the house, just beside what was the big parlour -- and
25 the priest would go there for his breakfast in the

1 mornings. So it was a nice little table and
2 a fireplace, and she had that at her -- access for her
3 homework, for anything she needed to do for school.

4 Q. Did she? Did she actually --

5 A. Actually, I don't think she used it that often.

6 Q. But are you clear the offer was made?

7 A. I certainly made it. It was the superior at the time
8 that suggested it, that it would be a good idea because
9 I said to the superior, the children are not always
10 quiet and **Margaret** can have difficulty getting her
11 homework and it is sometimes it is quite late before she
12 has finished. So she offered it, why can't she use the
13 parlour?

14 LADY SMITH: Who was the superior?

15 A. She was a Sister **HCC**.

16 LADY SMITH: Right.

17 MR MacAULAY: We have heard from perhaps another

18 Sister **[REDACTED]** in fact, **[REDACTED]**

19 **[REDACTED]**

20 A. Right.

21 Q. I think you're talking about a different --

22 A. **HCC** died a long time ago.

23 LADY SMITH: Was this parlour offered from the outset or was
24 it as **Margaret** got older and closer to formal exams
25 needing to be done?

1 A. I think nearer exam times.

2 MR MacAULAY: And perhaps to finish off with what she said
3 in her transcript, if we go on to the next page,
4 page 78 -- I think we're on that page actually. The
5 number is 0773. She's asked:

6 "Question: You describe her attitude [that's
7 referring to you], I think, in your statement as someone
8 who was trying to sabotage your schooling."

9 And her position was:

10 "Answer: It really felt that way, it really did. I
11 don't know why -- excuse me, I'm a little bit emotional
12 -- but of all of things which happened at Smyllum,
13 that's the one thing that I really can't fathom. Why
14 not just be -- you don't have to be proud, but just let
15 someone get on in life. You don't have to tear them
16 down, break them down, just constantly reminding me
17 where I came from. No matter what I did, what I won,
18 medals, awards, she was just constantly pulling me
19 down."

20 That was Margaret's position in evidence. Now, what
21 do you say to that?

22 A. I just can't understand why she felt like that.

23 I possibly didn't say clearly enough to her that we were
24 very proud of what she was doing and we wanted her to do
25 well. She possibly would have been better suited in

1 a family, but she really got on with the other children
2 very well, so I can't understand why she felt got at
3 because I certainly didn't feel that myself.

4 Q. She went on to say that her schooling was affected and
5 I think that the headmaster or her adviser became
6 involved. And you left shortly after this, in [REDACTED]
7 [REDACTED] 1979, but I think you tell us in your
8 statement there was no connection between anything that
9 might have been related to whether or not she was
10 allowed to do her homework and your leaving.

11 A. No, my leaving was established in the [REDACTED] of that year
12 when I was interviewed for Jordanhill, and I was offered
13 a place in the [REDACTED]. So it doesn't bear any
14 reasonings for that to have been the reason why I left
15 Smyllum. It was always in plan that I would go to
16 Jordanhill.

17 Q. As you can see, Ann, [REDACTED] Margaret has made some quite serious
18 allegations against you and, in particular, that you had
19 an impact on her life in a rather unfortunate way.
20 Am I to understand that you simply do not accept that
21 evidence?

22 A. I don't because I don't remember her being this
23 troubled. She was very capable and caring. She was
24 a caring girl, helped to look after the others when they
25 were needing it. When she was at university, when she

1 was leaving, she didn't want to go to the hostel with
2 the other girls and her social worker got her digs
3 at the university. She then came to see us just at the
4 end of her first year at university and she was saying
5 that she was struggling financially and she really had
6 to have the extra job and her studies were hard.
7 I suggested that she come to the hostel, she could go to
8 the working girls' hostel, and at least she would get
9 fed and have a bed and stuff like this if that was how
10 she felt, but she really didn't want to.

11 The next time I saw her was when she had just
12 finished her exams at uni -- I don't know if she was
13 engaged at that time or was just about to get engaged to
14 a Norwegian -- I don't know if he was a diplomat or
15 worked for the diplomatic ... and then I got a letter
16 from her after that with her address in Norway, and
17 I sent her a Christmas card once, but that's about it.
18 But I honestly don't know -- if she was feeling like
19 that then, I was completely unaware of it.

20 Q. Okay. Can I ask you about another couple of incidents
21 then, Ann. If you go back to the beginning of the
22 folder that you have in front of you, again if we look
23 at the names, the pseudonyms and the names on the right.
24 The pseudonym Patrick, you'll see there is a name
25 associated with him; is that a name you recognise?

1 A. I didn't at first but, yes, I do remember it now, yes.

2 Q. I just want to put to you a piece of evidence that he
3 gave. The transcript is TRN.001.002.1339. I think that
4 gives us 1340 at page 2. Patrick was admitted to
5 Smyllum on [REDACTED] 1974 and left really when Smyllum
6 closed in 1981. I don't think he was in your group.

7 A. No.

8 Q. I think he may have said he was in Roncalli. At
9 page 1358, and that's page 20 of the transcript that's
10 on the screen -- that's 1358 -- towards the bottom his
11 attention is drawn to what he said in his statement at
12 line 22:

13 "Question: You do mention in your statement an
14 incident where you were involved in stealing sweets
15 from, I think, the Co-Op in Lanark."

16 And he agrees to that.

17 Then over the page, page 1359:

18 "Question: And you were caught?"

19 "Answer: Yeah.

20 "Question: And what happened then?"

21 And he says:

22 "Answer: At the time a few of us -- I said it
23 was -- I think we thought we were the 40 Thieves.
24 We were going down the town and basically we were going
25 into the Co-Op. There were one wee woman and we were

1 stealing sweeties and ginger. Obviously the woman from
2 the shop must have got in touch with the home because
3 she knew we weren't local boys and we all got caught."

4 Then he goes on to say -- and this is what I want to
5 draw your attention to:

6 "Answer: We never actually got caught stealing, but
7 we all got lined up in the room. Sister IAG was
8 there and boys from other houses who were doing the
9 stealing and all, and she would question you, 'What did
10 you steal?' So you would say, 'I stole a bar of
11 chocolate, a can of juice'. But there was one boy,
12 [REDACTED], he was from Ogilvy. He thought it was
13 a competition and he was reeling, stole that, stole
14 this, and Sister IAG, just attacked him, gave him
15 the hiding of his life, do you know what I mean?

16 "Question: Can you describe the hiding?

17 "Answer: Just hitting him: face, hands, throwing
18 him about. He got some doing that day."

19 Patrick is pointing to you in connection with this
20 incident. Does this mean anything to you?

21 A. I remember it, yes. I remember the incident. It wasn't
22 the Co-Op, it was Woollies. Woolworths. And there must
23 have been -- 40 Thieves is not too far removed. There
24 was nearly 20 to 25 of the children, but not just
25 Smyllum children. The local children were involved as

1 well. The staff must have just walked out of Woollies
2 and all the children went in -- I'm talking 6/7
3 year-olds right up to the big lads like Patrick -- and
4 they were just filling their pockets. There was no
5 staff in the shop. It was two of the mums from the
6 local estate who phoned me to say all the children have
7 been stealing, your children and ours, and they were
8 going down to remonstrate with the people in the shop.

9 I did -- I got the children together and asked them
10 how they managed to have so many sweets with so little
11 pocket money, and they rhymed off all the sweets that
12 they had got, so we put them into a box, a shoebox, and
13 I was saying, well, sister has to now be very
14 embarrassed and take that back and give it to the man in
15 the shop, it's Smyllum children who have stolen things,
16 "Didn't steal them, sister", "But you didn't pay for
17 them", so it was a lesson that was going across.

18 The boy he mentioned, God rest him, was murdered
19 a while back. He remembered years and years later that
20 that was a really exciting day that they'd all gone into
21 the shop and it was a free for all, they were all just
22 stealing. There was no child smacked or even told off
23 individually. They were all told: you can't take sweets
24 if you don't pay for them. There was no punishment, no
25 non-telly or anything like that. The punishment was

1 that sister is going to have to get embarrassed and say
2 her children stole sweeties, and that's that.

3 Q. So what I think you're saying is what's set out by this
4 witness is partly true.

5 A. Yes, there was a --

6 Q. An incident involving theft?

7 A. An incident involving sweeties and lots of them.

8 Q. But it's that part where he says that you gave this boy
9 the hiding of his life, which involved hitting him, face
10 and hands; That's invention, is it?

11 A. Oh yes, yes. He was never hit or whatever else it says,
12 on his face or hands. I never, ever hit him at all.

13 Q. Why were you involved in the discipline of this
14 particular incident?

15 A. The ladies from the town came -- I met them first and
16 they came into my unit to tell me about these children,
17 what had happened, and their children were involved in
18 it as well. So it was in my sort of sitting room area
19 and one boy would say, oh he was there and he was -- so
20 all the children were involved and I'm saying 5 and
21 6-year-olds were all involved and they all had to be
22 brought into my sitting room and had to give back
23 whatever they had stolen and hadn't paid for. But there
24 was no hitting or punishment.

25 Q. So again, that's invention? You would say --

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. The other piece of evidence I want to put to you is
3 in relation to the pseudonym "Marie" that you see on the
4 list.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. You can see who that relates to; is that a name you
7 recognise?

8 A. Her proper name, yes.

9 Q. She was someone who was in Smyllum --

10 A. Sorry, sorry. I don't actually recognise it, but when
11 I got the statement before her --

12 Q. Her maiden name was there?

13 A. And I recognised that.

14 Q. She was in Smyllum between 1969 and 1976, so again
15 we can understand why there would be a crossover. Was
16 she in your unit?

17 A. She was, yes.

18 Q. I just want to look at one thing that she says. This is
19 at TRN.001.002.3409. Can I just say that this was
20 a witness whose statement was read into the transcript
21 and therefore has not been directly questioned on her
22 statement. But if I go to 3457, at line number 11 she
23 talks about an occasion when it was thought she may have
24 stolen cigarettes. I think she says it was her sister
25 that stole the cigarettes:

1 "That didn't matter, I was slapped by one of the
2 sisters."

3 And she doesn't identify who that was. But then she
4 goes on to say:

5 "I remember on one occasion I was in the cloakroom
6 and Sister [that's a reference to you] came up to me.
7 She asked me what I was doing and I said nothing. She
8 then slapped me across the face and told me to go and do
9 something. I remember that because it was particularly
10 painful."

11 Now, what about that? Does that --

12 A. No, no. Marie, I had no -- never any occasion to behave
13 in that way with Marie. She was a very quiet wee child
14 and I never, ever slapped her. I don't remember them
15 serving the priests dinner or breakfast or something
16 there I saw. I don't remember them having to do that,
17 serving the meals. I don't know what that was about.
18 I do remember her sister did smoke.

19 Q. I'm sorry?

20 A. I do remember her sister did smoke.

21 Q. I think I have sought to put to you the points made by
22 a number of witnesses that may be making allegations
23 against you. I think also when you gave your statement,
24 you were also asked about other sisters and whether you
25 could assist, particularly Sister AEG I think.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And in particular whether you could assist in relation
3 to certain allegations that were made against her and
4 I think your position was that you had no knowledge of
5 any of these allegations; you never witnessed
6 anything --

7 A. Anything, no.

8 Q. In short, what you say in paragraph 110 is that:

9 "I never heard or saw anything negative in relation
10 to Sister AEG."

11 Is that right?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Can I then just take you finally to what you set out as
14 your hopes of the inquiry, Ann. That's in
15 paragraph 112. Can I just understand the message you're
16 trying to convey there? That's at page 28 of your
17 statement.

18 A. I suppose I think that the start that all of the
19 children have had will have had some form of effect on
20 them. Children in care are -- I think we have failed
21 them as a society. The way childcare, social work,
22 dealt with children's needs in those days is different
23 to what it is today. But if this event, this inquiry,
24 can inform the people that are looking after children
25 and their needs, especially when they've had such

1 a difficult start, then I think it can be a good thing.

2 It has been very traumatic, I think, I would say,
3 even for the people on both sides of the scenario. It's
4 very hard to be alleged, not necessarily accused I was
5 told, but these things that are allegedly my behaviour
6 or the children are saying we're doing these things,
7 I find it really, really difficult to come to terms
8 with.

9 But I do feel strongly that the Daughters of Charity
10 as a whole, the people that I've been involved in, you
11 know, we took vows: poverty, chastity, obedience, and
12 a fourth vow to serve the poor. I've left the order for
13 20 years and I still -- not the poverty, charity and
14 obedience, but the service of the poor is still crucial
15 to who I am and how I look at things, and I cannot see
16 the formation we had, the way we were all taught to love
17 the poor, I can't reconcile it with these accusations or
18 allegations.

19 But I really just hope that whatever comes of the
20 event, of the inquiry, that it will inform today's
21 providers of service, be it schools, health, whatever.

22 Q. As I understand it, what you can't reconcile is the
23 ethos of the Daughters of Charity that you have
24 mentioned with the nature of the allegations that
25 witness after witness has provided to the inquiry?

1 A. Mm-hm. I cannot begin to explain why that happens and
2 it's distressing.

3 MR MacAULAY: Very well, Ann. These are all the questions
4 I have for you. I haven't received any written requests
5 for questions and I don't know if there are to be any
6 applications.

7 LADY SMITH: There is one other thing I would like to
8 explore: was it also part of the ethos of the order, the
9 Daughters of Charity, to engage in humility?

10 A. In the sense of?

11 LADY SMITH: Personally.

12 A. I think there would have been pre-1960s -- the reason
13 your name was changed, like you may be Mary but when you
14 go to a house your name is now Margaret -- or even a
15 male name -- we have John and Vincent -- and that was
16 for you to emulate that person, you were giving up
17 yourself. So there may well have been an attempt for
18 you to become part of something, you're no longer --
19 I don't mean they took away your individuality, but
20 you are now part of a response.

21 LADY SMITH: And required to be obedient?

22 A. You had a vow of obedience.

23 LADY SMITH: Unquestioning?

24 A. I don't say that often happened, but that was --

25 LADY SMITH: That was what you were expected --

1 A. The poverty, the chastity and the obedience. As I say
2 the main was for us, and it still is for me, is the
3 service of the poor.

4 LADY SMITH: These would not seem to sit comfortably beside,
5 for example, personal ambition.

6 A. Yes, definitely not. No, if you were -- if I entered
7 the community and I wanted to be a psychologist or
8 a great brain surgeon, I would probably be pushed in
9 another direction. That was pre-1960s. Once you got
10 into the 1960s, you got the Vatican Council, you got the
11 church becoming more relevant, becoming more normal,
12 less institutional, because that's what our founders
13 were about: they were trying to respond to a need within
14 society at the time.

15 LADY SMITH: But I'm not hearing in any of this a principle
16 of seeking to encourage children to pursue personal
17 ambition or to excel or achieve. It doesn't sound as
18 though that would have been part of the order's
19 thinking, and perhaps just not part of how they saw
20 their role in relation to children.

21 A. Some of the sisters were in childcare, some were in
22 schools. I would think about -- the whole ethos of
23 making the person better, you know, helping them to be
24 their best selves, I accept that with my having
25 apparently failed to say to **Margaret** clearly enough how

1 proud we were of her, how proud I was of her, and to try
2 and achieve better things, it might belie the fact that
3 that is behind it. You want the best for those you
4 love.

5 LADY SMITH: I just wonder whether it would be difficult for
6 the sisters to do that because it wasn't something that
7 was naturally part of the way they lived together.

8 A. When you yourself are trying to become a better self, so
9 when I say denying yourself, I mean your poverty, your
10 chastity, these are all ways that you become less, so
11 that the better person can become more, so you can give
12 more. The reason for the chastity, for example, is not
13 that we just don't want to have relations and things,
14 but our family -- you don't have a family so that you
15 can give yourself completely to the others, the other
16 children, you don't have your own, and that's the
17 reason. That was my reason behind it, anyway.

18 LADY SMITH: Okay. Just let me check if there are any
19 outstanding applications for questions.

20 No, there are no other questions. Thank you very
21 much for coming along today, Ann. It has been very
22 helpful to hear from you and I'm now able to let you go.

23 A. Thank you.

24 (The witness withdrew)

25 LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay.

1 MR MacAULAY: That's all the evidence for today. Tomorrow
2 we have Sister Eileen Glancy and Sister Ellen Flynn to
3 come and give evidence.

4 LADY SMITH: And that will be back to 10 o'clock, the usual
5 time, tomorrow morning?

6 MR MacAULAY: Yes.

7 LADY SMITH: I'll rise now until 10 o'clock tomorrow,
8 please.

9 (3.46 pm)

10 (The inquiry adjourned until 10.00 am
11 on Wednesday 24 January 2018)

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