

Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry

Witness Statement of

LKB

Support person present: No

1. My name is LKB My date of birth is 1943. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.

Life before going to Nazareth House, Cardonald

2. I was born and brought up in Ireland. When I was seventeen I started work as a house mother at St Michael's, County Wexford in Southern Ireland. I worked in the List D school, which was part of the home.
3. I am a catholic and my faith means a lot to me.
4. When I was 21 one of the nuns, whose sister ran Nazareth House, Cardonald, said that they she was looking for people to work there. I spoke with the Mother Superior from Nazareth House and decided to go. I started work there as a house mother on 1964.
5. I was only supposed to be there for three months but ended up staying for years. I stayed because I enjoyed working with the children. Cardonald was the only place in Scotland that I worked with children.

Qualifications

6. In 1983 I completed a two year CQSW course at in Aberdeen. This was a qualification in social work. When I was doing the course I

stayed at Nazareth House, Aberdeen. I only stayed there during the week and went back to Cardonald at the weekend. I didn't do any work or help out with the children when I was at Aberdeen.

Nazareth House, Cardonald

7. Nazareth House in Cardonald was a big old Victorian building with large grounds. There was an extension at the back. This was for the elderly residents. I think there were about forty staying in the extension when I arrived. They were kept separate from the children.
8. The Mother Superior was in charge of the home. When I arrived she told me that I would be working with Sister [LFL] in the green group.
9. When you entered Cardonald House the nursery was on the right side. The sitting rooms were on the left side. Each group had its own sitting room. The staff residencies were on the first floor. This is where I stayed. There was about ten staff members and twelve or fourteen nuns.
10. All the dormitories were on the top floor. Some of the dormitories would be partitioned off. There were around twelve children in each separate dormitory. All the different house groups slept together in rooms adjacent to each other.
11. Each group had their own bathroom on the top floor. There were about seven sinks and three baths. There weren't any showers. I don't know how many toilets there were. The baths were old fashioned and on stands.
12. I can't remember the names of any of the nuns who were in charge of the different groups other than Sister [LFL] and Sister [LHA] who were in my group.

Role

13. As a house mother I worked with the Sister in charge of a particular group of children within the home. When I first started it was Sister [REDACTED] LFL I worked with. She was in charge of the green group. There were two other house mothers that worked with the green group. I think one was called [REDACTED] but I can't remember the other ones name.
14. On my first day Sister [REDACTED] LFL told me that I would help get the children up in the morning. I would also be expected to have the children ready for school and make sure that they went to their meals.
15. I didn't look after the children at night. It was only during the day. I would normally start around seven in the morning and work until about six or seven at night. This was the same everyday unless someone else was off and I was covering for them. I worked a Saturday but not a Sunday. Sunday was my day off.
16. When I finished for the day my time was my own. There was a separate staff room that I could go to or I might go out. The staff room was for us not the nuns.

House groups

17. At the home there were five different groups. They all had a colour. The groups were red, green, blue and yellow. I can't remember the colour of the other group. There were 26 children in my group, both boys and girls. They were aged between five and sixteen. All the other houses were the same set up as mine. There was also a nursery for babies. This was from new-borns to school age. I think there were around twenty children in the nursery.
18. I don't know how the children were picked to go with each group. I think it might have just depended on how much space there was in a particular group. A lot of the children in my group were at the house long term.
19. I would say at that time there were between 150 and 200 children staying at the home.

Dormitories

20. My group had two dormitories. The boys and girls slept in separate dormitories. Within each dormitory there would be groups depending on the age of the children. This meant that the older boys or girls were together although they were on separate sides of the corridor.
21. The children had their own lockers next to their beds for their belongings. There were also wardrobes in the rooms that everyone used. We would check the lockers regularly to make sure there was no washing that needed done.
22. In my group there were more girls than boys. Overall in Nazareth House there were more girls than boys staying there.
23. Sister [REDACTED] LFL had a room next to the dormitories for the green group. If the children were up through the night she would be there to see to them.

Routine at Nazareth House

First day for children

24. A social worker would normally bring the children to the home. If the child was coming to my group the social worker would introduce them to Sister [REDACTED] LFL. After this the sister would bring the child to meet the rest of the group. It would normally be the sitting room where the child would be introduced to the other children.
25. I would introduce myself to the child. I showed them the dormitory and made sure they were settled in. I would also take them to the clothes store where they were given a school uniform and outside clothes. When a child came to the home they generally didn't bring a lot with them.

26. Any siblings coming to the house would stay together within a particular group.

Clothing / uniform

27. School uniforms were provided by Nazareth House for both the primary and secondary schools. The house also provided other clothing to the children for when they weren't at school.

Mornings

28. I would normally get up about six each morning when I was working. The children were woken up at seven. It would be one of the house mothers that would make sure the children were up. If I was doing this one of the other house mothers would help me.
29. The children would go to the bathroom and wash before breakfast. I would make sure that they did this right.
30. Children aged nine and older would go to mass about half seven and then go to breakfast.

Bed wetting

31. If any of the children had wet their bed they would normally say. It was mostly boys aged seven or eight that wet the bed. Some of them were regular bed wetter's. If anyone had wet the bed they would have a bath before breakfast.
32. I would strip their bed and use disinfectant on it. The sheets would then go to the laundry. Sometimes the children would help to strip their bed. Clean sheets would be put on the bed later in the morning.

Mealtimes / Food

33. Breakfast was at eight. There were three big dining rooms on the ground floor. Each group would eat together in their own separate area. The children in my group could mix with other people from their group. Sister [REDACTED] LFL would normally say grace or a prayer.
34. The breakfast came from the main kitchen, which was next to the dining room. Staff would collect it and take it to the tables. Breakfast would normally be porridge or cereal and toast. The children would clear their own dishes and take them to the kitchen. They would then go back upstairs and finish getting ready to go to school at quarter to nine.
35. At lunchtime we would collect the children from primary school. They were brought back to the home for lunch.
36. Before lunch Sister [REDACTED] LFL would say grace. Lunch was brought in the same way as breakfast. It was always a cooked lunch. For lunch there was normally meat, vegetables and potatoes. I can't remember if there were always two courses. If there was the children would either have soup or a pudding. I would then take the children back to school for one o'clock.
37. Tea time was five thirty. The main course would always be a hot meal. This would be something like fish fingers and chips. The pudding would be cake and custard or fruit and ice cream.
38. On a Saturday the children would get a cooked breakfast. This would be bacon, eggs and beans.

School

39. The younger children went to Lourdes primary school. This was about five minutes' walk from the home. The staff would walk the children to the school. Each staff member would be responsible for about nine children when going to school.

40. The secondary school was right next to the home. The older children went there by themselves.
41. The children who were in the nursery would stay at the house. I didn't have much to do with the nursery. I don't know who looked after these children.
42. School finished about three o' clock. I would pick the young ones up and take them back to the house. The children would change into their play clothes.

Leisure

43. There was plenty of toys for the children in my group to play with. Outside there were footballs and swings. Inside there were lots of board games and books.
44. If the weather wasn't very good the children could play in the hall. There was dressing up clothes in the hall. There might be thirty children at a time playing in the hall. This would normally be supervised by three staff, myself included.
45. If the older children had homework they would do this themselves. There wouldn't be any supervision.
46. One of the elderly residents, I can't remember her name, would come over to the home most evenings. She would read to the children. It was only my group that the woman read to. The children enjoyed this.

Children's possessions

47. If the children had presents handed into them I don't think these would have been shared out. I don't remember sweets being taken off the children. I'm sure they were allowed to keep these. I don't remember anything being taken from the children. I never did this.

Chores

48. Some of the children would polish the wooden floors by sliding up and down them with dusters on their feet. They might do this for about ten or fifteen minutes. The staff would still have to buff up the floors themselves.

Washing / bathing

49. I think that the children had baths most nights. I wasn't really involved with this other than the odd occasion. I don't know who ran the baths or if the baths were taken individually.
50. Sometimes after their bath the children might come back downstairs in their dressing gowns.

Bedtime

51. I think all the children had an allocated time for going to bed. The younger children, five to six years old, would go up for their baths around seven. The older children would go up later. I don't know what time this was as I would normally have finished for the day. Sister [REDACTED] LFL would be in charge of the children after this.
52. I never heard the children through the night. At night I never had any reason to go upstairs to see to them. After I had finished for the day the next time I would see the children would be the morning when I started work.
53. I don't know of the children being asked to sleep in a certain way. I've never heard of them sleeping with their arms folded across their chest.
54. I think Sister [REDACTED] LFL would lead the children in prayer at bedtime. I'm not sure as I wasn't there when they went to bed.

Weekends

55. On a Saturday the children would get up at the same time as through the week. After breakfast they would help me tidy their bedrooms and make the beds. It would depend on what age they were how much they could do.
56. At nine on a Saturday morning there was a mass that the children went to.
57. On a Saturday afternoon the children would go on the bus to the pictures at the Lyceum in Govan. There was always a staff member with the children when they went to the pictures. If I was on duty I would go with them. All the children from the age of six or seven would go.
58. Some of the children might go out for tea with their friends from school.
59. There were also people, called befrienders, who came to the house at the weekends. They would take some of the children out for the day. If this happened Sister LFL would record it in the visitors book.
60. I was off on a Sunday so I don't know what the routine was for the children. I know that they went to mass. If I was there I would see them. The chapel was in the grounds of the house.
61. At the weekends the older children would go to bed a bit later. The younger ones went to bed at the same time as through the week.

Religion

62. There wasn't any religious teaching at the house other than mass. The children would be taught this at school.
63. There were some nuns that died when I was at Nazareth House. It is possible that the children might have been taken to the chapel to see the nun at rest. I don't know of any child being asked to kiss the hand or forehead of a dead nun whilst they were

in their coffin. The children wouldn't have been allowed to go to the chapel on their own.

Trips / Holidays

64. There was a holiday house in Fairlie near to Largs. The toddlers would go there in the summer. We also had a place in Girvan. The older children would go there for two weeks in the summer holidays. I would go with the children to Girvan. I have never been to Fairlie.
65. The house at Girvan was an old guest house on the front. It was just my group that went when I was there. The other groups would go at a different time. Sister LFL wasn't there. There were other sisters who were in charge at Girvan. I don't remember their names.
66. The children would go swimming and go to the beach. The staff would make the meals at the house.
67. In June there would a taxi outing to Troon. All the children would go in the taxis for the day.

Birthdays and Christmas

68. I think if a child had a birthday it was celebrated but I can't really remember.
69. The home was always decorated for Christmas. There was a Christmas tree in each group's sitting room.
70. I wasn't always working on Christmas Day. It might have been days off. I can't really remember what happened on Christmas Day when I was working. I know that there was a Christmas dinner for each individual group. I don't remember if all the children from the house were together later on.

71. The children would get a present that had been donated to the house from local businesses. The present would be wrapped and have the child's name on it.
72. Places like John Lewis's and the shipyards would arrange Christmas parties for the children to go to.

Visits / Inspections

73. The children could have visitors at any time. Most visits were either a Saturday or Sunday. This was because the children were at the school through the week. Sometimes people who had befriended the children after being recommended by the social work would come and visit.
74. Relatives would also visit the children. There were meeting areas, referred to as call rooms, at the front of the house where visitors could speak with the children. These meetings could be as long as they wanted. I don't know if an appointment was required for a visitor. I think that Sister [REDACTED] LFL would have recorded all visits in a book.
75. If someone wanted to take a child out for a day they would have to arrange this through social services. This would depend on the reason why the child was in care. I don't remember a child being away overnight. I'm not sure if this was allowed.
76. Social workers would also visit the children to see how they were getting on. This meeting would take place in one of the call rooms. I didn't have much to do with the social workers when they visited.
77. I remember one inspection but I don't know much about what happened. I think that Sister [REDACTED] LFL would have recorded this.

Other adults

78. There was a priest who came to the home to carry out mass. He never had any other contact with the children.
79. I can't remember any other adults coming to the house and meeting with the children.

Sisters

80. I worked with Sister [REDACTED] LFL until 1971 when she left. Sister [REDACTED] LHA took over and was in charge for about five years. I didn't have a preference between Sister [REDACTED] and Sister [REDACTED] LHA. I would say they were different. I got on well with Sister [REDACTED] LFL and remember her more. I think that this is because she was the first sister I worked with.
81. I'm not sure of the names of any other sisters I worked with. All the sisters were older than me.

Rules

82. I can't remember a specific set of rules for the children. I know they weren't allowed to go back upstairs once they were ready for school. When they got back from school they were allowed to go to their rooms to get changed.

Punishments

83. Children were given pocket money on a Saturday. The amount that they were given depended on their age. If a child had done something wrong, like fighting, they might have their pocket money stopped. Other punishments might be to stop them going out to the swimming or the pictures.
84. I never saw a child being smacked within my group. I didn't see any child being hit with a cane or anything similar. I can't speak for any of the other groups.

85. I am not aware of any child being punished for wetting the bed.
86. There was nothing that happened at Cardonald that caused me any concern. If I had seen anything that concerned me I would have left. If any of the children were fighting I would tell them to stop. They were usually pretty good at stopping when they were told to.
87. I never heard anyone shouting or swearing at the children that could be seen as demeaning towards them.
88. If a child misbehaved the Mother Superior wouldn't get involved. It was left to the group sister to sort out.
89. I don't know if there was a book for recording punishments. I would think there would have been as it was the right thing to do. If there are books I would have thought they would have been held in the sister's office. The sister's office was on the ground floor next to the dining rooms.

Healthcare

90. Doctor [REDACTED] LKQ and his wife came to the house every Saturday. They would come in about eleven. Any child who was unwell or hurt would be seen by the doctor. They didn't need an appointment.
91. If any of the children were unwell during the week the sister in charge would deal with this. There was a medical box in Sister [REDACTED] LFL office. I think that there were medical records for the children but I'm not certain. I was very rarely in the sisters office as I had no reason to go there.
92. I can't remember ever having to take a child to see a doctor. There was one occasion I had to take a boy to the Southern General hospital. It was about ten minutes from the home. He had hurt his leg when he fell outside. I think the boy's name was [REDACTED] It was just a sprain.

93. I never saw any of the children in the home with bruises or injuries. I can't remember any child dying whilst I was at Nazareth House.

Running away

94. None of the children in my group ran away. I heard of children in other groups running away. They were always returned to the home. I don't think anything was done to the child when they returned.

Reporting of abuse at Nazareth House

95. None of the children ever raised any issues with me. I was never made aware of any problems with befrienders, staff or other children.
96. If a child had made me aware of any concerns I would have informed Sister [REDACTED] LFL I would have expected the sister to report this to social services.
97. I don't know if there was a book or record kept of any reports that the children had made.

Knowledge of allegations made by residents

General

98. I have been made aware of an allegation children were force fed their food by either Sister [REDACTED] LFL or Sister [REDACTED] LHA I don't remember anything like that happening. I can't believe that they would say things like that happened.

[REDACTED] LCT

99. I know [LCT] She is one of about nine people who were children at Nazareth House that I now regularly meet up with for lunch. [LCT] has never mentioned to me about anything that happened to her at the home. She has said to me that I was the only mother she ever had. [LCT] and her sister, [LDI], used to be in my group.
100. I have been made aware that [LCT] has made an allegation that Sister [LFL] would beat the children on their hands with a wooden hanger. I never saw this happening.
101. I have also been made aware that [LCT] has said Sister [LHA] would kick her [REDACTED] I never saw this happen. [REDACTED] I don't think anyone would have done this in front of me.
102. I have been made aware of another allegation by [LCT] that Sister [LJS] stripped her and put her in a bath of disinfectant then scrubbed her with a scrubbing brush. I knew Sister [LJS] when she was in the home. She was in very bad health and wouldn't have had the strength to do what has been said.
103. Sister [LJS] is dead now. She went to America hoping that the heat would help her. She died whilst she was there.
- [LDI]
104. I know [LDI] She is [LCT] sister. I know of Sister [LGS] and Sister [LKE] They were at Nazareth House when I was there. I don't know Sister [LGY]
105. I have been made aware of an allegation by [LDI] that she was force fed food at the dining table, punished if she wet the bed by lying on the wet sheet over her head and forced to stand in a corner facing the wall. I have no knowledge of any of these allegations.

106. I have also been informed that [LDI] has alleged that Father [LSO] came to the home and touched her and her sister, [LCT] in an inappropriate manner. I have never heard of Father [LSO]. I have no knowledge of this happening.
107. I have been made aware of another allegation by [LDI] that she has seen Sister [LGS] beat [REDACTED] by punching, kicking and pulling her hair. I have also been informed that [LDI] has said that I have pulled Sister [LGS] and [REDACTED] apart. This didn't happen with the people [LDI] has named. What I remember was seeing Sister [LVQ] and [REDACTED] fighting. They were hitting into each other. I don't know what happened I just pulled them apart. [REDACTED] would have been about fourteen. I think Sister [LVQ] was maybe late twenties. There might have been other children watching [LDI] might have been one of the children that was there.
108. When I pulled Sister [LVQ] away she went to her office. I asked the sister what was going on. I don't remember if she said anything to me. One of the other staff took [REDACTED] away. I don't remember anything else that was said or that happened after this.
109. I don't remember [LDI] and her sister [LCT] going out with befrienders called [LFO] and [LFN]. [LCT] and [LDI] did go out with people at the weekend but I don't think they were called [REDACTED]. [LCT] or [LDI] never said anything to me about how they were treated by the family they had been out with.
110. I have been informed that [LDI] has said that [LCT] told me they were sexually abused by [LFN] when they were at a caravan with him. [LDI] has also stated that after being told this I informed them I would speak to Sister [LHA] about it. I don't remember being told anything like this. If I had been informed of this I would have remembered it and would have reported it.

[LCY] and [REDACTED]

111. I knew [LCY] and [REDACTED] when I was at Nazareth House. They came to the house from Smyllum. They stayed in the bungalow which was looked after by Sister [LHW]. The bungalow was a separate building from the main Nazareth House building.

112. I have been made aware that [LCY] and [REDACTED] have said that Sister [LHW] would hit them with her clogs and rosary beads. I didn't see this happening and don't know anything about this.

113. I knew of Joseph Duffy. He was a volunteer at the home when I worked there. I know that he was jailed recently. When I worked at the home I didn't know that he was sexually abusing [LCY] and [REDACTED]. If I had known this I would have reported it to the Mother Superior.

[LMP]

114. I knew [LMP] and her brother [REDACTED] when they were at Nazareth House. I have no knowledge of either [LMP] and [REDACTED] being forced fed whilst they were at the home.

115. [LMP] was in a different group from mine. I wouldn't know what happened to [LMP] if she had wet the bed.

[LBC]

116. I know [LBC]. She is another of the children that I now regularly meet for lunch. [LBC] is married now and has the surname [REDACTED].

117. I recognise the name Sister [LKR]. I know her very well. She was at Nazareth House when I worked at the home. Sister [LKR] is older than me.

118. [LBC] was about nine years old when Sister [LKR] came to Nazareth House. At that time [LBC] was going out every weekend with a foster carer. The foster carer already had one of our other children, [REDACTED].
119. [LBC] left Nazareth House before she went to secondary school. After a couple of years she asked the social work if she could come back to the home. She had said she wasn't very happy. Social work refused and she remained in foster care.
120. I know [LBC] married at sixteen but later divorced. She came back to Nazareth House and asked Sister [LKR] for work. She started employment with the elderly but I don't know what happened after that.
121. I have been informed that [LBC] has made an allegation that she was force fed by Sister [LKR]. [LBC] has never mentioned this to me and I have no knowledge of this happening.
122. I have been made aware of another allegation that Sister [LKR] would lock [LBC] in the boiler room as a punishment for wetting the bed. I don't know anything about this but I know that there wasn't a boiler room near to the dormitories.
123. I have also been informed of an allegation by [LBC] that Sister [LKR] forced her to lie in her vomit when she was unwell and regularly beat her with a stick. I don't have any knowledge of this.
124. I don't know anything about underwear being inspected at the end of the week and the children being punished if it was dirty. Nothing like that happened in my group.
125. I know that [LBC] left the home when she was ten and went to stay with foster parents.

[REDACTED]
LDJ

126. I have been asked if I knew a child called [LDJ] at Nazareth House. I didn't know anyone by this name. I did have [LDJ] from Greenock, in my group. I think this may have been the same boy.
127. I have been informed that [LDJ] has said that Sister [LJS] was in my group at the home. Sister [LJS] was in my group. She was there after Sister [LFL] I have also been made aware that [LDJ] has alleged that he was disciplined a lot by Sister [LJS]. She would hit him on the back of the hand with forks at mealtime because he was left handed and wouldn't use his right hand. Sister [LJS] was left handed herself so she wouldn't hit someone because they were left handed. I have also been informed that [LDJ] has alleged Sister [LJS] hit him with a broom handle and on one occasion hit him with his own belt. I have never seen Sister [LJS] behave in this way. I don't remember anything like that happening.
128. I remember that [LDJ] went to the bungalow when he was about twelve. Sister [LJS] had left the house by this time. I can't remember her working at the bungalow.
129. I remember [LSM] He was a member of staff doing more or less the same job as me. He worked with me for a bit.
130. I remember a Marist priest called Brother [LTT] being at Nazareth House. I don't know why Brother [LTT] was at the home.
131. I have been told that [LDJ] has made an allegation that he was sexually assaulted by both [LSM] and Brother [LTT]. I don't have any knowledge of this happening.
- [LCF]
132. I have been informed that [LCF] stayed at Nazareth House, Aberdeen. I don't recognise this name. I didn't know many of the children when I was studying at Aberdeen.

133. I recognise the name Sister [LFB] She worked at Aberdeen but had left before I was there.
134. I have no knowledge of any allegations that Sister [LFB] assaulted [LCF]
[LCF]
[LCG]
135. I recognise the name [LCG]. He was in a different group from mine.
136. I have been made aware of an allegation by [LCG] that if he wet the bed Sister [LFR] separated him from the other boys, took his mattress away, beat him with a rubber hose, made him sleep on the floor and stopped him having any food. I can't provide an explanation why people who had wet the bed would say this had happened to them. I don't know anything about these other allegations but I can't see this having happened.
137. I knew Sister [LFR] when she was at Nazareth House. She is dead now. She was there for about a year when I arrived. I thought she was alright.
[redacted] and [redacted]
138. I don't know two brothers, [LCS] and [redacted] I have no knowledge of an allegation being made by [LCS] that if [redacted] wet the bed he was made to hold the wet sheet over his head. I also have no knowledge of an allegation that [redacted] was force fed and slapped on the face if he never ate the food.
139. I have heard the name Sister [LFP] I think that she had left prior to when I arrived in 1964.
[AAK]

140. I don't know anyone called [AAK] I have heard of Sister [FAF] but she wasn't at Aberdeen when I was studying there.

[LBR]

141. I don't remember anyone called [LBR] who was at Cardonald in the mid 1960's.

142. I don't know any nuns by the names of Sister [] or Sister [LDX] I have no knowledge of these sisters having whips with frayed edges that were used to hit the children.

Joanne Peacher

143. I knew Joanne Peacher when she was at the home. She was also known by the name Thomson.

144. I know of [LFV]. I didn't have any involvement with her. She was a worker in the bungalow at Cardonald [LFV] was aged around late twenties. She was short and stout.

145. I have been made aware that Joanne has made an allegation that [LFV] hit her on the ankle with a stick that caused a fracture. I have also been informed that Sister [LHW] took Joanne to hospital where her ankle was put in plaster. I have been informed of a further allegation by Joanne that [LFV] sexually assaulted her whilst she was in bed recovering. I don't know anything about this. I can't believe that this went on.

[LCC]

and

[LBN]

146. I knew [LCC] when she was at the home. I didn't know [LCC] until she was about fifteen. Her sister, [LBN] had left before I arrived. I was aware [LCC] had arrived at Cardonald with her sister when they were babies.

147. I didn't have much to do with [LCC] she was in the red group. [LCC] was more of a worker when I went to Cardonald.

[LBI]

148. I know the name [LBI] [LBI] had left before I arrived. I have no knowledge of an allegation made by [LBI] that Sister [LFL] raised her hand and hit the children.

[LBH]

149. I don't recognise the name [LBH] I don't know Sister [LHZ] She wasn't at Nazareth House when I was there.

150. I have been made aware of an allegation by [LBH] that if she had wet the bed she was made to stand with the wet sheet over her head, she would be beaten by nuns and at mealtimes she was force fed food. I don't have any knowledge of this happening. I have also been informed that Sister [LGD], Sister [LGC] and Sister [LHZ] were responsible for these allegations. I don't know any of these sisters by those names. I would have recognised the names if they had been at Nazareth House when I was there.

Other named sisters

151. I have been asked if I knew Sister [LFH] and Sister [LFP] at Nazareth House. Neither of these sisters were at the home when I was there.

Life after Nazareth House

152. I still keep in touch with about nine of the children who were at Nazareth House. We meet up as a group every couple of months for lunch. They are in their forties and

fifties now. Some of them had been at the home at the same time but not all of them.

153. I am also still in contact with some of the other children but I don't meet them. This is just with birthday and Christmas cards.

154. I would describe my time at Nazareth House, Cardonald as happy times. I wouldn't have wanted to be anywhere else.

155. After the home closed to children, I continued to work there with the retired priests who stayed in the bungalow after the children left. I worked there for [REDACTED] years.

156. [REDACTED]

Records

157. In 1985 when the children left, all the records would have went to Hammersmith in London. I know this because if any of the children who stayed there are looking for a copy of their records they would have been directed there.

Other information

158. I have never previously been spoken to about my time at Nazareth House.

159. Looking back at when I worked at Nazareth House I have no knowledge about any of the allegations that I have been made aware of.

160. I find it difficult to believe that the people, who were at Nazareth House as children and that I am still in touch with, would make these allegations. They haven't mentioned any of these allegations to me. They would always say that they were

happy at the home. We talk about the staff and nuns at Nazareth House and it is always positive.

161. If there had of been any issues I am sure that they would have told me when I met with them.

162. I have no objection to my witness statement being published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry. I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed.....  LKB

Dated..... 23rd April 2018