

## Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry

### Witness Statement of

DPL [REDACTED]

Support person present: Yes

1. My name is DPL [REDACTED] My date of birth is [REDACTED] 1954. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.
  
2. My horrific memory of my childhood has taken me from an innocent child to having hatred towards white men and women. From that early age I have many blanks and knowing the way this country treated me, I do not wish to remember.
  
3. The three significant memories that remain with me are to all do with [REDACTED] my own elder brother and his escapades in our dormitory at Morrison's Academy in Perthshire. The first was when he confused me with his relationships with another member of our dormitory called [REDACTED] This was when we were boarding at Morrison's Academy in Crieff, Perthshire. [REDACTED] is now dead, he committed suicide.
  
4. My brother [REDACTED] was having a homosexual relationship with [REDACTED] when they were both at Morrison's. My brother was about ten years old then and [REDACTED] was about nine. [REDACTED]'s brother [REDACTED] was also in our dorm and was also aware of what was going on. He is still alive and was a sergeant in the police in the [REDACTED] area. He will be about 68 or 69 now but will be able to tell you about the relationship his brother and my brother were having.

5. I have already told the two other nightmare memories to the police, in 2014, and they are recorded on a CD. They have not been looked into. I named [REDACTED] and two boarding houses, Whinmount and Dalmhor, at Morrison's Academy and described incidents of abuse.

### **Life before going into care**

6. I was born and brought up in India. My father was [REDACTED], who was a scumbag, and my mother was [REDACTED] nee [REDACTED]. I have one older brother, [REDACTED], he's known as [REDACTED] and he's scum as well. He is two and a half years older than me.
7. One of the gentlemen who brought me up from birth to seven was [REDACTED] who was employed by my mother and father. [REDACTED] was responsible for me until I went off to boarding school aged seven.
8. I was in an Indian school from the age of three and a half until I was seven, when I was sent to Morrison's Academy. I always preferred being with [REDACTED] and all the Indian people more than being with my family. I really didn't like my mother and father.

### **Morrison's Academy, Crieff**

#### *General*

9. I was a very small seven year old, starting at Morrison's Academy. I was there until I was ten. I also arrived there speaking with an Indian accent. My brother [REDACTED] started then as well but he had been with mum and dad and didn't speak with an Indian accent. My brother had started Morrison's when he was seven, he had been going a couple of years before I went. He was about nine and a half when we were both at Morrison's.

10. The school was Morrison's Academy and they had private, or semi-private boarding houses within the grounds. The houses I stayed in were Whinmount and then Dalmhor, I forget the names of the other houses.
11. I believe staff stayed in the houses, RPL [REDACTED] and RPM [REDACTED] stayed there, but I don't know exactly where. He was Irish and was an alcoholic, she was just gross.
12. The main school building was in the grounds as were the houses but there were other buildings the school owned, spread all around Crieff.
13. The headmaster at Morrison's Academy was Reg Quick. I do remember there was a [REDACTED], who helped out about the place, I can't recall her name. I believe a couple of prefects were having sex with her. She was scared of the prefects and just did exactly what the prefects told her to do.
14. The prefects all had dorms, similar to ours, but the head boy had his own room. They were all upstairs from our rooms, which were on the middle floor.

### **Routine at Morrison's Academy, Crieff**

#### *Early memories*

15. I have a memory from Morrison's of me flinching and stuttering, because I was so scared. I think that comes from the constant beatings and bullying. I didn't know how to fight, Indian kids don't really fight, so I'd never been in a fight.
16. I remember, near the beginning of my time there, a horrible little white boy challenged me to a fight. I was about seven and a half and, as I said, I didn't know how to fight. I was just standing there with my arms at my side and head down. The guy charged at

me but he ran straight into my head, and his nose burst. I was still none the wiser as to why this was happening.

### *Mornings and bedtime*

17. In my room there was my brother [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and myself. I was the youngest at seven and I think [REDACTED] was the oldest at eleven.
18. The dormitories usually depended on which class you were in, although ours didn't seem to be. I was the youngest one in our dorm.

### *Mealtimes/Food*

19. Breakfast was a small bowl of this watery oil, one roll and butter, and one cup of tea. The butter was marked out for you, you got one small pat each which just covered one side of the roll.
20. We had lunch back at our house, not at Morrison's school, then we went back to the school. We had supper at 5:00 pm.
21. I was used to rice, dal and curries, decent food and I remember, at my first meal, I had to ask what it was we were eating. I was told it was rabbit and it was disgusting, I couldn't eat the stuff. The only thing I could eat when I was there was potatoes. I just wasn't used to that kind of food. I had eaten meat, we had chicken and goat in India, but not beef and certainly nothing like the kind of stuff we were being served up at Morrison's.
22. I hated the food and didn't eat it. My brother [REDACTED] would eat my food. If you didn't eat your meals that was it, you went without. The meals were supervised by the prefects, or perhaps the housemaster would be there sometimes as well.

23. I used to eat dried rice with water at night to make the hunger go away. It would be handed out by other boys. The staff just did not care one iota about us at Morrison's.

*Leisure, trips, holidays*

24. There were no leisure activities, or trips away, nothing like that, not that I remember. I did do swimming, I was a swimmer, which is why I went on to do diving.
25. During the holidays, Christmas and Easter, [REDACTED] and I were sent to aunts and uncles in Helensburgh or Cambridge. One of them was my mother's brother, who was a cop and I remember him telling me, my father had given him permission to beat me. Just me though, not [REDACTED], because he was always top of the class.
26. I was so busy trying to escape getting beaten at school and then I was getting beaten up by relatives on my holidays as well.

*School*

27. I think my father told Morrison's Academy that I was to get rid of my Indian accent and I believe RPL [REDACTED] told them they would get rid of it in one term. I do have a lot of blanks around that, and I can't remember exactly when or how that came about, but I was terrified of my father, until I was about twelve, and I did lose the accent.
28. Part of what took me through Morrison's Academy was survival, not learning. I know I'm not a stupid person but I cannot remember one decent teacher at Morrison's Academy. I just couldn't learn anything.
29. I remember my report card said I must do better and that I suffered from a lack of concentration, but no wonder, I'd get a beating in the morning, then as the day went on, I'd be wondering if I was getting another beating at night. That was in my head every day.

30. Mr RZB [REDACTED] was my [REDACTED] teacher in P5 and P6, he was another one who beat me, and many times.

#### *Healthcare*

31. I remember seeing the dentist, he had a thing, a monthly payment from Morrison's Academy or something like that. All he did was pull your teeth out, he didn't give you fillings. It was a disgusting place, it really was. The dental surgery was off site, I can't remember exactly where, but it was within walking distance of the school. We walked alone to the dental surgery.
32. The dentist was aware that we were from a boarding school and without the protection of parents or anyone else and therefore did not try to save any teeth. He just seemed to do extractions under gas. At one time I had 5 teeth extracted in one go. I was terrified of the dentist with no-one to go to with my fears.

#### *Religious instruction*

33. We went to church every Sunday at Morrison's, my only recollection is that it was so boring. Sunday was for letter writing, church and prayer.

#### *Work*

34. We did some cleaning but I think they had enough cleaners and people to help with all that.
35. I was a fag though, for a senior boy, [REDACTED], I think it was. Senior boy prefects, would take a junior boy to do things like laundry, cleaning shoes, ironing and this and that. That was called fagging and was very common.

36. On Saturdays, we would play sport or I would be a fag and carry [REDACTED]'s rugby kit for him. I wasn't very good at fagging though, and after two or three weeks I got the sack because I didn't put in very much effort. I detested [REDACTED] anyway.
37. I didn't like the fagging, but you did it or you were beaten. I had been taught in India how to do all those chores anyway, so that part was easy.

#### *Family contact*

38. I usually went back to India, to stay with my parents, for most of the summer holidays when I was at boarding school. I would spend all my time with [REDACTED] as I wasn't interested in my biological mother and father for anything. That would have been from the age of nine.
39. At the ages of seven, eight and nine, when I left India to return to school, I was in tears leaving my protectors. That's [REDACTED], not my parents. I then flew from Guhati to Calcutta with my parents and brother and my brother and I were then left to continue from Calcutta to London and on to Edinburgh alone. I can't remember how we got from Edinburgh to Crieff.
40. At the beginning of a term, many boys cried when their parents left them at the boarding school. They were told it was shameful to cry when the parents left.

#### *Personal possessions*

41. We got a shilling a week as pocket money, which is about 5 pence these days. You could go out, in your own time, and buy something with that, if you wanted.

#### *Running away*

42. I never ran away from school, I only left Strathallan, at age seventeen, after ten years of boarding school, I had had enough.

43. If anyone ran away at Morrisons it was a punishable offence. The boys would be threatened with beatings, or lines or the removal of privileges.

#### *Discipline*

44. The prefects were supposed to be monitoring the younger boys, but there was nothing like that. We rarely saw teachers or staff, it was always the prefects, and they just gave the younger boys beatings.

#### *Bed Wetting*

45. I myself wet my bed occasionally at the ages of eight or nine. I was never caught as I would turn my mattress over. If you were caught doing it, the whole house would be informed by the housemaster, to belittle you.
46. One boy, [REDACTED] used to wet the bed regularly and he was not as adept at covering it up as I was. He was belittled and taken to the housemaster's study, then he would come out in tears. He didn't tell any of us what threats were given or what was done to him. [REDACTED] was a stutterer, like me, we were in the same class and same boarding house Dalmhor.

#### **Abuse at Morrison's Academy, Crieff**

47. The housemasters, house prefects and school prefects all had the authority to give out beatings. So when the housemaster was away, the prefects gave out beatings hundreds of times, it happened all the time, and you just got used to it. The prefects were only meant to give a maximum of three strikes on your backside and they did it with a wooden drum stick.



48. What the prefects did though, so they could give more than three strikes, was to try and hit you on the exact same spot on your backside, that they'd just hit, so they didn't make more than the three marks.
49. I used to get battered because I would flinch and stutter. It happened all the time from big people. You got beaten for any reason at Morrison's. I never cried when I was being bullied, but my brother [REDACTED] told me to cry. He said if I didn't cry, could I imagine what our father would think of my report card. That was enough for me and I turned on the tears after that.
50. Our housemaster, RPL [REDACTED], would beat us with a slipper, but so would his wife, RPM [REDACTED] RPM [REDACTED]. She would sneak into our dorm and give us the slipper for talking, or whatever. Every one of the staff beat the boys, I don't know why. I think I got it more though. The staff would use a strap or the cane, only the prefects used the wooden drumsticks.
51. [REDACTED] was an older boy at Morrison's, he was seventeen, a fully grown man and a big rugby player and a bully. I was so scared of him, I used to wet myself when he came into the prep room.
52. When he came in, I was always thinking '*not me, not me*' and I'm sure everyone else was thinking the same. It was always me though, because I was the smallest. He would grab me by the arm, with one arm and the thigh, with another and then he lifted me up in the air.
53. I didn't know what he was doing to start with, I wasn't that clued up, but his fingers would move up under my shorts. I would fold up because I thought he was going to feel my pissy pants and I would then get six of the cane or drumstick, and then I would fall on the floor. He would give me a kick and that would be the end of it. That was in the prep room in front of all the other boys.

54. ██████ did that to me most of the time, but sometimes to other small boys. It had to be a small person or he wouldn't have been strong enough to do that. I believe ██████  
██████ went on to become a doctor.
55. ██████ was a prefect and had the authority to hit children. I remember sitting at supper one night, we all sat in our dormitories or classes or whatever and the prefects were all sitting at the top table. There was a lot of silly stuff going on, boys putting salt in tea, poking one another that kind of thing.
56. ██████ once saw me put salt in ██████'s tea. ██████ and I were mates and often played tricks on each other. I felt sorry for him as I think he got even worse than me.
57. On that occasion ██████ told me I was to prepare myself for a four after supper. That meant four strikes with a drumstick. I went along to the bathroom and got my punishment but ██████ then told me to drop my pants. I had an extra two pairs of PE shorts on underneath, as I had genuinely prepared myself, but he then told me to take them off and prepare for a six, so ten strikes in total on my bare ass.
58. There were other prefects there, but it was the 'same old same old' for them, no one was going to say anything. That kind of thing just happened all the time.
59. I was then left in the bathroom and I was preparing to have my bath, as it was my bath day, when the matron walked into the bathroom. She initially thought I'd defecated myself and called me a disgusting urchin, but when she came closer she saw it was blood on my backside and that it had come from the ten strikes across my backside.
60. My brother ██████ used to kick the shit out of me as well. By the time he was thirteen or fourteen, he was a lot bigger than me and playing rugby. He would batter me regularly at Morrison's so I never respected him.

## Reporting of abuse at Morrison's Academy

61. I told [REDACTED], on my next leave to India, about the abuse. I can only presume that was because I did not trust my biological mother or father. That was ten months after the incident so it took me that long to be able to make any sense of it.
62. There was absolutely no clyping or grassing up at Morrison's. My first experience of clyping was when all the boys in the house lined up, smallest to tallest in a line and I had to walk up the line being hit by all the boys who had pillow cases filled with books and things. You had to experience that and partake in that, so you would never clype on anyone. A lot of boys took a lot of spite out on other boys during that line up and I never clyped on anyone after experiencing that.
63. I didn't tell any teachers or my parents but they all knew, the staff all knew and were witnesses to much of the abuse that went on anyway.

## Leaving Morrison's Academy

64. It was actually a friend of my parents, [REDACTED], who got me out of Morrison's Academy when I was eleven. He was the son of Lord and Lady [REDACTED] and I had a fabulous relationship with him. I told [REDACTED] how terrible it was at Morrison's and he knew how much I disliked it. He could see it and would keep me off school at the drop of a hat.
65. [REDACTED] could see I was going nowhere and he got me into a [REDACTED] school called [REDACTED] which I went to as well.

[REDACTED]

*General*

66. I attended [REDACTED] from the age of eleven until I was thirteen, when I went to Strathallan. [REDACTED] stayed at Morrison's. The headmaster and housemaster at [REDACTED] was a Mr [REDACTED]
67. I'm not sure what the class set up was at [REDACTED] but it was quite good for me, and I certainly liked it there. I continued to board there and it was much better. The dorms were by age and I was dorm head.
68. I got into boxing at [REDACTED] because it was compulsory, and that was great. I boxed at [REDACTED] and carried it on to Strathallan, right up until I was sixteen. I found it very easy, as by then I wasn't a nice guy, I didn't even particularly like myself. Boxing was very good for me though and I was good at it. I enjoyed myself and it stopped me getting picked on. Once I became good at boxing, I was never bullied again.
69. The bullying regime didn't happen to me at [REDACTED] and I wasn't aware of it happening to anyone else either. I actually became second head boy and as the head boy didn't like doing it, I was more or less the boss. I enjoyed that.
70. I do remember the scripture teacher at [REDACTED] was a Mr Fidderman. He read to us from a book called 'God is the Real Man', which was basically the bible in hippy vernacular. It was different, it was funny and it made us remember the stories. We all passed our 'O' levels so he was a good teacher.
71. I was way below the educational standard when I was at [REDACTED] school. I did not do well, but there was a whole lot of higgledy-piggledy going on there, because I needed 56% to get to Strathallan and that was exactly what I got.

## Abuse at [REDACTED]

72. There didn't seem to be the same abuse at [REDACTED] it wasn't something I was aware of at all. I would say the place was run well and I have no complaints of any abuse.
73. It was really my mother and father that I didn't like. When I was about eleven, and at prep school, my mother had to come over to Scotland and rented a house for us to stay in during the holidays. My parents hadn't managed to farm us out to anyone else that year.
74. I remember I was late for breakfast one day and my mother went mad. She grabbed me by the collar and I remember her face was all scrunched up with hatred and she was right in my face.
75. She threw me across her bed and I rolled off, jumped to my feet and raised my fists. I remember telling her I would hit her if she did that again.. I never had a problem with my mum ever again after that.
76. I also had a physical fight with my dad when I was fifteen and at Strathallan. He won that, but only just, and he never tried it again after it.

## Strathallan School

### *General*

77. I was at Strathallan, we called it Strath, from thirteen to seventeen. It was at Bridge of Earn, just outside Perth, in the middle of nowhere.
78. There was a preparatory part of Strath School, which was for boys aged from seven to thirteen, then you went to the big school from thirteen to seventeen. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

79. The set up at Strathallan was okay. There were senior people there to supervise the boys and there was SNR [REDACTED], Mr RYB [REDACTED], and my housemaster Mr RXY [REDACTED]. There were also prefects, who were about seventeen or eighteen, and who stayed in their own separate studies or dorms.
80. I was in a dormitory to start with, and shared it with boys my own age. It was later, after about a year or two, that Mr RXY [REDACTED] put myself and another four boys into a separate dorm. He thought we were a bad lot, because we were the ones who fought.
81. Meals weren't much different really, we did get a supper later on though. We had tea at 5:00 pm or 5:30 pm and after we'd done our homework we had a supper, which was a glass of milk and a digestive biscuit. That did take the edge off any hunger.
82. I don't remember doing much leisure or going on any trips. I did shooting at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Strath, and we were taught really well, so that was good. I did swimming, cross country running and boxing, those were my things. I used to get up at six in the morning to do my swimming. Anything up to fifty metres, I could do without a breath but anything over that and my smoking kicked in and I would come last.
83. I wasn't that interested in getting up at 6:00 am and at fifteen I made the decision to stop the swimming, boxing and running.
84. I remember we would run into Perth when we got to fourteen and fifteen to get booze. It was about six miles away. There was a bit of thing between ourselves and the Perth boys, the lads from Perth or wherever. They would sometimes come out to Strathallan and we would all have big fights.
85. When I got to fifteen I more or less did as I pleased. The prefects weren't going to give me lines, there was nothing they could do if I refused to do them.
86. I boxed competitively at Strath and got my name [REDACTED]. We all fought against everybody else and if you beat everybody, as I did, you got [REDACTED].

## Abuse at Strathallan

87. The methods of beating at Strathallan were the gym shoe, the leather strap and the cane.
88. The PE teacher at Strathallan was Mr Henderson who was built like Tarzan. He was an ex SAS chap and when he hit you with his gym shoe, your whole body moved. I wouldn't describe him as over aggressive or violent though, I would say his behaviour was just par for the course.
89. He once hit me on my ass three times, probably for talking out of turn. I was told to bend over, hands on knees and he hit me with his gym shoe. Mr Henderson was not a nasty human being, it was just the system and it was the same for everyone.
90. He just acted like everybody else, so you would get the belt or whatever punishment, and that was accepted. The music teacher was Mr Stoddard, or something like that, and he used to belt you. His belt was so worn out that one of the straps had gone and when he strapped you that was sore.
91. My [REDACTED] headmaster, at Strath, was Mr Wilfred Hoare, who was okay, he was a nice old guy. [REDACTED] SNR [REDACTED] was Mr [REDACTED] RYB [REDACTED] who came from Fettes or Loretto. He beat me as well. I showed no fear and no respect at Strath, but I would still say the punishments were more discipline than abuse.
92. That's just how it was seen. I do remember Mr [REDACTED] RYB [REDACTED] used to take two or three steps towards you when he was caning you, then whoosh, he would hit you with his cane. The head boy would be present when he caned you.
93. My housemaster was Mr [REDACTED] RXY [REDACTED] and he gave me six of the best many times. Boys were usually beaten or belted or caned for having a cigarette in their possession, for smoking a cigarette, for leaving items out, or for bad behaviour. Instead of telling boys off, that's how they dealt with it, they gave us a thrashing.

94. You got your punishments after prep, at the end of the day, about 9:00 pm. There was one time, RXY made me wait until 9:30 pm, everyone else had gone and I was preparing myself for my six. I remember having this big mug, six golf balls and a putter and I started putting the balls into the mug. RXY walked in, I smiled at him, and he took me into his room and gave me six of the cane.
95. Unfortunately, on that occasion, I had two non-safety matches in my back pocket and he hit them when he was caning me. They lit up and I got a big blister on my ass. It was staggeringly sore, but he kept going, and he knew what had happened. That's something else that contributes to my hatred, but I still wouldn't describe any of the behaviour by the teachers at Strathallan as abuse.
96. I was not offered nor given any medical treatment, none, after that caning. I was being caned for smoking cigarettes
97. When I was seventeen I decided I'd had enough of Strathallan and I set off for Dundee, where I had some friends, and where I knew I could get some work on labouring sites. I was hitchhiking down the road when my housemaster Mr RXY drove past. He stopped, rolled down the window and shouted at me to get in his car.
98. I had a bit of a fight with him and I did clip him once or twice but he persuaded me to go back to the school and a female called Mrs came and collected me. I never went back to Strathallan again after that.
99. I actually went to see the school doctor after that, to have some kind of assessment. Mrs was with me, she was my guardian, and had taken me away from Mr RXY. The school doctor then told me that I had let down my headmaster and my housemaster and I lashed out at him as well.
100. I was then sent to the Murray Royal Hospital in Perth. I was seen by two psychiatrists there. I had a six week assessment by these two chaps, always on their own, until right at the end, when I saw them both together.



101. I remember one of them wrote everything down and the other one never wrote a thing down. At the end of it all, they said that I was a product of my environment. I could have told them that six weeks previous. That was it, I was then left to get on with it. They did nothing more to help me and I had no further counselling or anything at all.
102. I told them everything that had happened to me at Morrison's but all they were interested in was that I had been aggressive with my housemaster and that doctor. They didn't ask me any questions, they never asked me why, and nobody ever asked me why.
103. I left Strathallan after that as I'd had enough.

### **Life after boarding school**

104. I joined the navy at nineteen. I signed on for nine years but I had no intention of staying on that long. I just joined to get my training in diving and then I would be going straight to the North Sea.
105. I did twenty months and six of them were in military prisons. One of the places I was sent was in Colchester, it was called a Military Corrective Training Centre. I hadn't ever done anything bad, I'd just decided that I didn't want to work in the navy anymore. I left the navy when I was twenty one.
106. I went on to work on the rigs in the North Sea as a deep sea saturation diver. I didn't have the qualification, as the navy didn't send me on the course. I paid for a 6 week diving course in air diving. I was never trained to mixed gas bell dive but I was qualified by virtue of experience as can be verified in my log books. I also did diving work at Bombay High oilfield in India.
107. I did deep sea diving for many years until I was about forty. I then carried on and did some civil engineering, in diving, for a while.

108. I met my wife, [REDACTED], in Edinburgh in 1989, and we got married in 1994 and lived in Stockbridge in Edinburgh. Following on from my diving career I went to work in the care industry. I had been cared for by [REDACTED] in India, and I began to think that was something I could do. I went on to look after adults with learning difficulties and the elderly for several years.
109. In 1999 I started to travel back to India, sometimes for the summer with [REDACTED] and sometimes for as long as six months. After [REDACTED] retired from her teaching job we continued with that, often staying for much longer periods of time in India. When we came back to Scotland I would work as a carer.
110. I feel I got lucky meeting [REDACTED]. We are divorced now but she is my best friend, in fact, she's my only friend.

### **Impact**

111. [REDACTED] says she doesn't know if the impact on me has come from Morrison's and the abuse I suffered there, my deep sea diving and whatever damage might have been done to my brain, or, more probably, a combination of them both.
112. [REDACTED] also says I see life as either black or white, and that I don't see any shades of grey in between. She thinks life has many shades of grey, but I don't. I do agree that I see things in black and white, absolutely, so something is either right or it's wrong. She also says that I have absolutely no trust in anyone, especially authority and institutions but really it's everyone.
113. She's right, I trust no-one but myself and I think I have been proved right from my treatment at school, my treatment by the diving companies and governments of UK, Norway and Denmark and from the office politicking in the care home system, to the present inquiry. The procurator fiscal on various court cases accused me of racism and vandalism among other things. Several of these cases were later dropped.

114. I have been assured that this Inquiry is completely independent and staff are currently working independently for the Inquiry but I have my own misgivings having previously met one of the panel on more than one occasion.
115. My memories from Morrison's Academy played a really big part in my aggression for the rest of my life. They have built up an anger in me. I do get angry and I have felt anger, it builds up in me and I feel that comes from my childhood.
116. I mentioned having a stutter and my flinching at Morrison's. That all went, I didn't have it at all at [REDACTED] or Strathallan. I got loads of bollockings and punishments for that, from my family, and from teachers at Morrison's, because that was not the way a public school boy does things, and then it stopped when I left Morrison's.
117. My dad was an intimidating man. I didn't take that from him, he was scum, so he lost me. I didn't go to his funeral and I didn't see him for over a year before he died. If my mother was still alive, I wouldn't cross the road for her. It's as simple as that. So, I have had no relationship with my mother, my father or my brother, the only relationships I ever had was with [REDACTED]. I think to a certain degree my parents were jealous of [REDACTED].
118. I have a step daughter, [REDACTED]'s daughter [REDACTED], and at first my relationship with her was okay, but I just don't have the chip in me, to look after children. Later on in life, I looked after the elderly and people with learning difficulties but I struggle with people of the age I was, when I was at Morrison's Academy.
119. I got no education and I failed nearly all my exams. I passed 'O' level English Literature and Religious Education and failed all the rest. I resat exams later when I attended Basil Paterson's College in Edinburgh. I passed English Language, French and Geography on that occasion.
120. Later in life, when I was diving, I sat exams and I passed them every time. I passed all parts of my Divers Certificate of Competence and received top qualifications in air

diving and gas diving. I had all my Welding Inspector's certifications and I completed my medical training and was a Diver Medic.

121. So, my childhood education and time at boarding school, absolutely, had an impact on my education.
122. I was asked to go back to Morrison's and give a talk about diving, when I was about twenty five. That was by Mr <sup>RZB</sup> [REDACTED], and I did, but I should have told them exactly what I thought of them, I should have told them to go and shove it.
123. At that point in time, I didn't have the same anger and I loved my diving. When I was working, doing my diving, everything got buried, it was when the diving stopped that it all came back.
124. Alcohol is a bad one for me, so I'm better not drinking. I used to drink to excess, and I'd go out and socialise with friends, particularly when I was diving. Every diver would take a drink, though. We would go into a chamber, deep under the North Sea, for thirty two days on a saturation dive, so it's not surprising that divers took a drink.
125. I did go along to alcoholics anonymous, for four years, and didn't drink at all. I don't drink socially now, I just have a drink, privately, in my own house.

### **Reporting of Abuse**

126. On one occasion when I was being interviewed by police I told them about [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and the abuse at Morrison's Academy. I went on to tell them about [REDACTED] [REDACTED], about Dalmhor and Whinmount, about the [REDACTED], everything.
127. I was never contacted by the police about any of it ever again.

## **Counselling / support**

128. I have been assessed by a psychiatrist and a psychologist, as an adult, many years after boarding school and two incidents with the police. I was basically told there was nothing that could be done. I had told them about my childhood and about the abuse and I was provided with medication, that was it.
129. I have also received counselling, as an adult, to do with my diving, and not my childhood experiences.
130. I was diagnosed by Dr McIntosh at the Stockbridge Medical Centre as having Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, the aggressive type. I now take paroxetine every day for that. That was perhaps as much as twelve years ago.
131. I have also been assessed by a lady psychiatrist who said there was nothing they could do for me, that was it. Then I went to a psychologist and she asked me why I had been sent to see her by the psychiatrist. They both told me I was past the point of no return and there was nothing that could be done to help me so I just left after that.

## **Records**

132. I don't have any records from any of the schools I have attended. I have a few old pictures but nothing else.

## **Lessons to be learned**

133. Age is a big thing, going to a boarding school at the age of seven is just not on. You shouldn't do that to a child. If my parents were so desperate for me to go to a boarding school, why didn't they just send me to a boarding school in India? There were plenty of them available in India.

134. I don't care about Morrison's, I think they're filthy, as far as I believe, the abuse of children in care, will never stop, it's as simple as that.
135. The Inquiry needs to take everyone who has been caught, so far, and punish them heavily. It could be a fine or a prison sentence, but those paedophiles also need to be taken out of the system, so the next lot don't come along and get influenced by them.

**Other information**

136. I have strong feelings about deep sea diving and the injustice towards divers, which came from the British, Norwegian and Danish governments.
137. 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.

DPL

Signed. ....

Dated.....

18<sup>th</sup> of May 2020.

Witnessed by