

Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry

Witness Statement of

IPU

Support person present: No

1. My name is IPU. My date of birth is 1962. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.

Life before boarding school

2. The Edinburgh Academy was the only school that I attended. I was enrolled for about 9 years. The main problems that I had were with the boarding house regime and with Mr Dawson who was housemaster at Mackenzie House Kinnear Rd Edinburgh.
3. I was born at the maternity hospital at Northampton. England. My mum was Dr. My dad was. Dad was a civil engineer. In the end, he became "The Director of". I had a brother called who is two years older than me. My mum was specially qualified in Family medicine and Paediatrics.
4. We lived in Northampton for a short time. I can't remember whether we lived elsewhere in England. We moved to Edinburgh when I was about 5 years old. I was sent to the Academy when mum and dad decided that the local school would not be an option. I thought that things were difficult because I was English. I did not know that there could be issues with sex as well.
5. I am guessing that we moved to Edinburgh partly because my mum wanted to get the best treatment for a medical condition that I had. Mum knew that XXY, which is a transgender/intersex condition, had first been observed and recognised in UK at an

Edinburgh hospital. She knew that I had a problem of that kind. She wanted to get the best help. I do not know the exact condition that I suffer from even today, even though I have made reasonably diligent efforts to find out in various countries. It is probably one of the 40 conditions that are sometimes referred to as Intersex. I realised that this was the likely problem in about 1997. My body changed unexpectedly. I might have known before, were it not for appearances and medical misinformation. I am now quite knowledgeable about consciousness and perception because of my life experiences. At about the time of the Millennium there was a surge of interest in "transgender" (in the general and original sense) children that coincided with the fact that some of these children had survived and were just like anyone else in most senses. I have about 5 books on the matter. Some are entirely scientific. Some are more sociological or even spiritual. I am not much the wiser for them. In 2010, I came across my best explanation on Wikipedia. I keep the books for reference. Until 2000, I went through life knowing that I was different but not knowing why. I thought that I was just "in touch" with my female side. I had little awareness of my condition as I grew up. I believed that I was a relatively normal boy. Mum was a doctor. No other doctor said anything. I chose to believe what she told me, rather than anything else that was, often unkindly said. It was a puzzle because I was never sure of the nature of my sex, which is one of the first things that everyone talks about if they meet an infant and one of the first things that almost everybody knows about themselves. I was probably named IPU after screen actors, although it could have been after Scots heroes. The idea was to overcome the condition with nurture. I would question that, but do not know what else could have happened back then. I had this problem, that I could not know about, and I felt as if I was a problem to others most of the time. I would describe it as living with negativity. I kind of screened that out as best as I could, without thinking. My mind subconsciously seems to have ignored that negativity in order to avoid more pain. There seemed to be nothing that I could do.

6. I had no routine hospital appointments. Mum was being my doctor. She arranged for me to have an operation when I was five. She told me that it was for my tonsils. She stuck to that explanation until the end. In fact, I can clearly remember being dressed in a nightie with rosebuds on it, and in a cot. The operation seemed to be between my legs. Afterwards, all the kids had to go for a shower at some point. It seemed routine.

But all the girls had to go to the right-hand line. I was directed left. I guess it seemed more important because of the nightie. I made a note to remember it all carefully at the time. Mum did not seem to love me very much. I started to keep my own mental records on the matter, and kind of, file them away, quite deeply. My throat was not at all sore after the operation. I did not make a close enough examination of myself until much later. At puberty, I realised that I had some intersex features, but I thought that many people have these and hoped that I was a boy who could have a happy family one day. Now, I think it likely that I was a "mosaic" which is a little-known condition related to intersex transgender problems. I imagine that this is where the "We/them" pronouns come from, although I have not used those myself. Apparently. People can be made from two separate genetic strands.

The Edinburgh Academy – Day Pupil at the Preparatory and Junior Schools

7. I was 5 years old when I first attended the Edinburgh Academy. My parents told me that it was a very good school, and that success would lead to a good job. Denham Green was for the youngest boys. My brother and I would go on the bus. We were picked up from school. I remember most about being in Miss **IPK**'s class. Then we went to 3rd year which was at Arboretum. I was **██████████** Mrs Bushnell was the teacher. I may have got some other prize too. We were presented with books which we chose ourselves. I chose "The last 2000 years" and "Great Battles of World History". I was promoted to the A stream for 4th year. The teacher was Mrs McKenzie. Things passed off quite well, and I was kept in the A stream (5th for **██████████**). That was my last year at Arboretum and the first year of boarding at Mackenzie House. I think it was at 9 Kinnear Rd, near Arboretum. In the end I was in 6th at the upper school, having boarded from then on. I was always in the A stream but chose to do Highers in 6th year because I wanted to go to university as soon as possible. The upper school years were 2 Fenton, 3 **BXK**, 4 **IDO**, 5 Lister and 6 Bevan. Luckily, Scots law always had better terms and conditions. I forgot that Mrs Mackenzie had numerous copies of "The Eagle of the Ninth" by Robert Graves in the class library. I forgot that I was pointedly given a triangle to "play" in music class. I did have some 6th sense, but most things did not become clear to me until mum passed away in 2012. My parents

sent me for an interview at The Royal High School when it was time to go boarding. Mum told me that the Royal High had offered me a scholarship, but that they had decided to keep us both at the EA. I was not very suited to boarding school. It was not easy at home. Perhaps I was too needy. I felt unloved.

8. I did very well at Junior school. Mr Brownlee was a very good teacher. He specialised in Geography. He would take us on day trips and show us the photographs that he had taken on his travels on a projector. We started to play rugby then. I was in the team as a prop forward. Then second row. Lastly as a number 1. I was one of Mr Brownlee's golden boys or star pupils, because I was quite good at everything at that time. I was boarding with Mr ICG by then. I had got into trouble for telling the truth. All the boys took it out on me a lot. I was big and chubby at that time, so I was able to defend myself. In fact, I was concerned that I might get too carried away with it. Things calmed down a bit.
9. As a day pupil, I was quite bright and physically able I did well and was a top achiever. I was interested in all the subjects and could pick most things up if I tried.
10. I attended Denham Green for 2 years. Then I was at Arboretum for 2 years as a day boy and lastly in 5, as a boarder under Mr ICG at Mackenzie House.
11. I enjoyed being in Mrs Bushnell's class. I came top. We had good facilities at Arboretum. We did some art and nature. We did the other usual subjects including music. I was concerned to be in Mrs McKenzie's class because my brother got into trouble and was demoted to the B stream for not knowing what a pibroch was.
12. Mrs McKenzie was alright with me, but I did not feel that I had a positive relationship with her in the way that I had with Mrs Bushnell.
13. Mrs McKenzie was a strict and intelligent teacher. I remember that there was a boy called who had a condition that made him smell a lot. Mrs McKenzie sat me at a desk with I tried to rise above it. Poor I thought. I think it likely that adults saw that I displayed some spiritual characteristics. I liked "Joseph and his

amazing technicolour dream coat". I was telling people that, "I am going to write a book". I had a rainbow scarf. With the benefit of hindsight, not everyone is going to like that.

The Edinburgh Academy – Boarding at the Senior School

14. I did well until I went into Mackenzie House. I did not want to go boarding. My parents insisted that I must. Immediately, I got into trouble with the other boys for telling matron who jumped on a bed when she asked me. It was tough because there are unofficial rules that the boys have. One of the main ones is that you must never help the staff in their enquiries. A lot of the other kids knew what these rules were from the beginning. I didn't know about them. That was a bad introduction to institutional life for me. Also, they gave me nick names when I did not want them. Dawson even had a "Nick" name for Mackenzie House. So, I was deceived as to my sex, my name was changed. I was reviled, beaten and abused by the other pupils, even before Dawson arrived.
15. Mackenzie House was nick named "Miffy" by Dawson. Miffy can mean "annoying". It more likely came from the 1955 cartoon. That was a girl bunny. We know that many of these artists were uninhibited with children. My research tells me that this is the kind of clever play on words that is behind much wickedness. I have learned a bit about that. I tend to tap odd words into my phone to see what comes up, if I do not understand them. That is what I have done with "Miffy" 50 years later because often, they give clues. It ties in with the comment made on the stairs to some extent. Also, Rabbits have holes and Miffy seems to have a crossed-out mouth. Prepare for a shock if you start to do that. I mean. Even "Bisto" (I baste) might relate to "I will bestow upon you a Kingdom". I remained at the school as a boarder for 6 years.
16. The housemaster in my first year was Mr ICG [REDACTED]. He was due to retire. It was his last year. There was a Mrs [REDACTED]. She was not really involved with us. Mr ICG [REDACTED] taught a class at Arboretum. Fortunately, I was with Mr Brownlee. There was a young matron called IQP [REDACTED] who drove a red MG sports car. She soon left the school for some reason.

17. Dawson arrived the next year. We had a new matron, Anne Kellas, who lived near on Deeside near Aboyne. She would take the younger kids to watch TOTP in her study. Ms Kellas gave pupils who lived there a lift from Aberdeen to school and back on several occasions in her mini.
18. Mr Dawson had a wife and two attractive relatively grown-up daughters. They were not involved with our care. They lived in the housemasters' quarters within the house. Half the house was theirs. We stayed on our side. Mr Dawson taught History at the Upper School. Mr Dawson's assistant in the house was Mr Fenton. He was a quiet chap. He wasn't a great teacher. He was not a problem for me.
19. The red sandstone houses were built as boarding houses by the EA around 1900. The orientation was North South. The front doors to the North. Mackenzie House had a basement. Jeffrey House did not. Mackenzie House also had a modern extension which housed A dorm, the surgery, and a bathroom. Entering by the boy's door, from the North, there was the payphone, a wrack for letters. The sports changing, showers, drying room, and modelling/photography room. The common areas were on the ground floor. There was a large room that was divided by a retractable wooden screen. Juniors would sit on one side, and seniors on the other. There were two beautiful staircases that ran from top to bottom of the house. We would have our tea and cakes in the hall at the bottom of the stairs. The main dorms were on the first and second floors.
20. There was A, B, C, and D dorm. We moved dorm every year as new pupils or "New Bugs" arrived. I have no idea where that terminology came from. A little consideration caused me to consider it to be "suspect". "A" dorm was at the top of the house near matron and the surgery. It was a modern room with a light wooden floor. There were big, South facing windows. A dorm had the scent of pine wood and Dettol. There were not too many boys. I remember the boys who were in my dorm as being [REDACTED], whose parents lived in New York, [REDACTED] whose parents were in Swaziland, [REDACTED] who came from a doctor's family in Dingwall and who was [REDACTED] younger cousin, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

whose dad owned a [REDACTED] in Cumnock. That was the original intake, although they may not all have been in "A" dorm. We were probably in "B" dorm when Mr Dawson took over as Housemaster.

21. I boarded at Mackenzie House for 3 years. Then I was at Jeffrey House for four years, but my last year was marred by being suspended and asked to leave. Honestly. I thought that they would leave us alone for smoking when we became adults. Silly me! Not that it is a good thing. The more physically able boys tended to go to Scott House. They would likely be destined for more physical work, such as oil working or serving in the armed "forces". [REDACTED] was an Academical. He became disgraced because he sold steroids to sports people. The EA is usually at the forefront of things. In that case it was professional paid sport. Manfred Mans Earth band were Academicals. Big changes were afoot in the 1970's. "Calculators" became "a thing". The intellectual boys tended to go into Jeffrey House. It was the softer option.
22. Mr Evans was the housemaster at Jeffrey House. He taught science in the upper school. He had a wife and a Golden Labrador. They treated me quite well. I was given a study on my own quite quickly. Mr [REDACTED] was his assistant. He was quite a good teacher and was enthusiastic about sports.
23. There was no emotional support available at Mackenzie House. We were not encouraged to speak about any troubles that we had. People in authority were not very truthful with me. I did not trust the situation. I got into big trouble with the other pupils for telling matron who jumped on a bed. I was already scared about boarding. I kept things to myself. Coincidentally, it was [REDACTED] who introduced me to the film "Scum" when we were at Aberdeen University. I have become quite a suspicious person, because I was a lawyer and because I realised that many of the people who I have met have caused me trouble. The film captures the institutional culture of the 1970s.

Routine at the Edinburgh Academy

Mornings and bedtime

24. We would be woken by the ringing of a hand bell. The boy who was on duty would go round the house ringing the bell loudly and calling out "First bell", "Second bell", or whatever. He was said to be "On bells" that week. There was also "Baths and dustbins", and there were duties to clean the common rooms. We all got up, got dressed, went down to put our shoes on and went over to the external dining room. We would also wear coats and scarves if we needed to.
25. The Housemaster or his assistant would go round the dorms with matron at bedtime. It would usually be one or other of them together with the matron. We did not have anyone read us a story at bedtime. We would have short but rather dull readings at "Prayers" after prep. I did not think to read my own story. Too much chatter. As the years passed by, some pupils began to listen to transistor radios on earphones after bedtime. Radio Luxemburg and such. That was new technology back then.
26. I do not remember boys getting upset at bedtime. I was always upset. They were very brave.
27. We might have had a head of dorm. There were prefects. I expect that the staff and the prefects had drills for things. I can remember that we had quite a few "fire drills". They took the precautions that were usual at that time. I imagine that there were about 50 pupils and staff in each of Mackenzie, Scott, and Jeffrey houses.

Mealtimes/Food

28. Meals were always taken in the external dining facilities. The cooks would have everything ready for us. We had our meals at two different places because the dining room at Arboretum burnt down. That was probably shortly after I went to Jeffrey House.

Christian Salvesen had an office with a refectory nearby. We were allowed to use that one because Christian Salvesen was run by Academics who were happy to help the school.

29. At senior school, we had our lunches in the old dining hall. The Rector would usually have his lunch at the top table. He would stand up, bang an old shell casing from the war and say "Benedictus. Benedicat." (It did not sound like Benedicta). And then we would eat. I thought it was "numbo jumbo".
30. The food was institutional 1970s food. It was usually edible. The breakfast on offer was substantial. Anyway, we were able to buy sweets at morning "tuck break" as well. When we got back to the boarding house from school, we had tea and cakes. We had lockers for our own fruit as well.
31. There wasn't a lot of choice at mealtimes. Staff would supervise, but they would usually leave before I did. Initially, it was self-service from "the hatch" with other things set out. Then it was a cafeteria at Christian Salvesen's. Day pupils were not encouraged to bring a packed lunch. I did lose weight quickly. They changed my "Nick" name from "Fatty" to "IPU".
32. We would have tea and cakes when we got back from school every day. That was in the stairwell at Mackenzie House and in the "kitchen" at Jeffrey House. It was an old kitchen, but it was not used as such. We had our tea and cakes there.

Washing/bathing

33. There were baths and showers. The showers were next to the sports changing areas. They were adequate showers. There was almost always enough hot water. The baths were nearer the dormitories. Mackenzie house had several washrooms with baths and a toilet. Jeffrey house had a bespoke bathroom with 5 baths in it. The pressure and water temperature were very good at both houses.

34. After school we did sport, got our cakes, did our prep, and went for dinner. That is what I remember. Someone would be on duty to supervise prep, but they did not always stay in the prep room.

Leisure time

35. We had a portable record player in the prep room at Mackenzie house. There was also a record player in the modelling room at Jeffrey house. I remember a boy called [REDACTED] who came from Madrid. He was ginger haired and fiery. His parents probably sent him to Scotland to keep him safe. He was playing "The Stranglers" record when it came out. Looking back, that was quite a wise joke about the strangling that did go on in the prep room. We were told that [REDACTED] was killed in a scooter accident that summer holiday, but perhaps he persuaded his parents that he should leave. I do not know the truth about it.
36. I remember a games room with a ping pong table. I imagine that was Jeffrey House. There were little music practice rooms off the games room. There was a TV room at Jeffrey House. We could watch certain things as approved until bedtime which was later for the older boys. There were not many programmes that we were not allowed to watch. The prefects would decide what we watched.
37. We had more time at the weekends. If we were not going out with our parents, we were allowed to go to the local shops. We also played sports. Usually, Rugby or cricket. I was in the first rugby team for our year until I was dropped in 5th form. Transgender kids tend to fail at sport in their teens. No one really helped me. They made me captain of [REDACTED]. I got '[REDACTED]' for that. Talking about it might not have helped but there was no option to do so. How would I know what normal was? I was not allowed to study science much. Certainly not biology.
38. Junior boys were allowed to go to Golden Acre and senior boys could go to Stockbridge. Sometimes we went, as a party, to the swimming baths at Drumsheugh. These baths are still open today.

Coping with boarding

39. The incident with Matron regarding the bed, the "nick names", the fighting, the bullying, the bog washing, the strangling, and the behaviour of Hamish Dawson broke my heart. I was trying to recover when my dad passed away. It was all too terrible. [REDACTED] got tickets for us to go to see "The Clash". We went to the St Vincent Bar and then to the concert. We did not drink too much. We went to the concert and then back to a friend's house. His mum called the boarding house, and we went back there in the early hours of the morning. Mr Evans was in sombre mood. [REDACTED] and I we were "suspended". That was the beginning of my final (Highers) year.
40. [REDACTED] also managed to locate a "Christian Union" fellowship meeting that we could pretend to attend on Sunday afternoons. We went once and then simply pretended to go. We would go to [REDACTED] mums flat to escape, drink ginger beer, and see if we could find any crisps or biscuits. We were never placed in the same dorm or study, but we were friendly for music and smoking. We used to smoke in various locations on the school estate as part of our routine. We enjoyed talking about 1970s bands as a kind of escapism. [REDACTED] had money for cigarettes. We even had "Sobranje's". Mostly, it was "Winston". [REDACTED] almost appointed himself to me. His dad had passed away. A friend suggested that I might cheer him up. I was at a loose end. Perhaps, we do need some social life. School life was dull for me. I did not witness any homosexuality at EA. [REDACTED] started to bully [REDACTED] a lot. We lost contact when I left school. I tend to move on if I feel that unacceptable issues have arisen in a relationship. I learned to be quite independent.

Education

41. My first Class Master at the upper school (from second year of boarding) were Jeremy Fenton [REDACTED] (Mackenzie House assistant housemaster). My second year was Mr [REDACTED] [REDACTED] BXK [REDACTED]. The third year it was Mr Lister [REDACTED]. The last year was Mr Bevan in [REDACTED] (I didn't see much of him because I was hardly in attendance). The class years and numbers seem

a little unusual, when it comes to moving up from school to school, but this is the way that I remember it to have been.

42. I was interested in Biology and nature. I was not allowed to study Biology. It must have been part of the plan that the adults in my life had come up with to help me to avoid the truth, which was that I suffered from one or more of the many individual transgender issues that there are. Mum and dad didn't want another child after [REDACTED] junior. It had been a difficult pregnancy. It was hard for them. They were always quite distant. Mum was an expert in Family planning. She was interested in feminism in the now traditional, respectable sense of the word. I listened dutifully. I did my best to fit in, but it was impossible, and I was always unhappy about it.
43. I was in the A stream (4A with Mrs Mackenzie) for a year before I started boarding when I was in Mr Brownlee's class. I had my prizes. I was quite able at most subjects. I felt a great sense of dread and unease about boarding. There was nothing I could do to change my parent's minds, so I had to resign myself to boarding even though the boarding house regime was abusive, and Mr Dawson was a wicked man. I was kept in the dark about my condition. All these things made life more difficult than it could have been for me.
44. Academically, it seemed that the school was good. They had Combined Cadet Force in senior school. I wasn't suited to that. There wasn't another option at the time. The school was a recruiting ground for the unionist establishment. They were at the forefront of the Duke of Edinburgh award. Students were picked to be masons. They would then join the Military, the police, lawyers, medics. They kept it all quite secret. They had good discipline. They came to control most things in Britain through promotion and skilful "play". They worked hard in this way for their families. I was a reject because of transgender issues. The masons and wider society have, historically, rejected transgender and intersex people. I had a feeling that groups were not for me. I felt that people should be individuals because most groups are very similar to "gangs". That did make life rather lonely. I remember my brother being accepted by the masons. He had left the school and had a place to study medicine at St Andrews university. That was after dad passed away. [REDACTED] came up to Aberdeen to see

him about it. I was there. He completely ignored me. The masons were probably always at the root of some of my boarding school problems. The regime was anti-Christian. My brother was a Christian. He was beaten in dorm for it. Mum told me that she saw the bruises and that she felt that she should have done something about it. She was probably on her own by then. That is what EA did for my family. I was doing much better at school before I went boarding, but I left school badly damaged. I wasn't a good Christian, but I did want to keep that up, informally.

45. I enjoyed all my subjects except, perhaps, Latin. I wasn't very good at maths but I was able to pass my Higher. I particularly enjoyed junior school. I learned a lot from the teachers. The teachers at the upper school did not seem to have many ideas to help me develop any talent. None of them took a particular interest in helping me. Mr Dawson taught me Higher history in my final year. I had escaped him completely when I went to Jeffrey House. That may have contributed to my bad behaviour. It is not easy for a pupil to deal with the reappearance of an abuser, years later, regarding something that matters to them. I had a clash of emotions about it. I got myself suspended and left school before the exams. Perhaps that was for the best. I worked just as well, if not better, on my own.
46. I wanted to have a go at playing a guitar at school. I was given a trombone. I did not practice very much because I did not like it very much.
47. Kim Needle was the art teacher at the upper school. I was excited because he took me aside and told me that I was one of the most talented artists in the year and that I had a real feeling for the flow of things. He told me that I was easily talented enough to do art O level and that I should do it. I was happy until they read out the names for the classes. I was placed in the less talented class that did not do O level art. By now there was a clear pattern. I did not even ask the school about it. Anyone who was looking could have seen what was happening. I realised that I could not trust them at all. My parents did not want to take the matter up. That was the end of that.
48. Mr Dawson was fond of playing "hang man" on the last days of term. He had Santa on the left and the gallows on the right. Santa had a large protruding cigar shaped

nose that draped over the chimney. "The false prophets enter the sheepfold by another way". He would have his back turned on us most of the time for this. He would wear his black gown, which was worn out. He came up with the name "Miffy" for Mackenzie House. I like to put these things together.

Decision and preparation to leave the Edinburgh Academy

49. I knew that I had to get away from EA as quickly as possible. I made the decision to sit Highers and go to a Scottish university because A levels were a two-year course. I opted for a quick escape even though I was in the A stream. I knew that I was finished there. I was suspended and then left after the Highers. Happily, Scots Law was a good choice for pleasant conditions and pay, when it came down to the work that I did, but I would quite like to have done A levels well, so that I could have had a career in the European Institutions. Perhaps, with better care and teaching, I could have done that.
50. My parents knew that I was transgender or "queer" as they might put it. I did not. Once, I asked mum what unisex means. She told me that it meant that that hairdresser dealt with both boys and girls. I always came up against a brick wall with it. Other kids had always been rude to me from time to time. Sometimes they said that I was queer. I had a chubby chest when I was at junior school. An unusual pubic hairline developed. The signs were all there. Now there are books about it. It was sad for me, and others, not to know my own sex situation as I grew up. That was the main reason why I did grasp the nettle in later life, just as I am finally disposing it here. Our physical sex is a fact that we need to know. The general ballpark. At least. No Doctor has ever agreed to do that for me. Private or Public. I have given up with them. In disgust.
51. From the time that I went boarding, I was a child in difficulty because no one was looking after me properly. Me and my close friends felt that we had to escape into fantasy too much as a result, whereas, we had hoped for a good education and a positive experience at school.

52. My dad passed away suddenly on [REDACTED], 1978, at Woodend Hospital in Aberdeen. I was in Malta with the naval cadets on a "camp". We were sitting on the tour bus, in the sun, about to set off for the day, when an officer came out of the main building, walked to our bus, and called me in to the office. There were several officers there. They told me that my dad had died suddenly. They said that it must be a terrible shock and that they would arrange for me to go straight back to UK. I flew back immediately on an RAF Hercules to Britain. We then attended the funeral.
53. That hit me very hard. Dad was quite good with me. He did do a lot to try to get me motivated again after Mackenzie House. That was working, but then he died. It happened during the spring holiday. I went straight back to school. [REDACTED] went back to St Andrews university. I did not get any support at school for it. Mum gave me some antidepressant pill at some point. I only took one. I avoid medicines. Mum had given me some before. Later, I realised that it was probably some male hormones. I didn't like taking the tablets, so I stopped taking them. Anyway, I was told that they were for acne. I remember running out onto the football field. I felt out of place. [REDACTED] and IHA [REDACTED] had both lost their dads too. We had that in common. There was very little advice given. My issues were hidden from me. My name had been changed. Dawson had abused us. I had been taught to lie to authority. There was fighting, bullying, strangling, bog washing, lines, the clacken and Coventry. Now, dad had died, and mum was struggling to come to terms with it too.

Religion

54. We would get readings and prayers after prep in the boarding houses. A senior boy would read something. The master would read something else. They were usually short prayers and vaguely spiritual passages. We never read larger parts of the Bible together. We had Scripture, in which we would talk about the book at one remove and other matters of faith. Most of the pupils knew where they stood on it, and most were against Christianity. I suppose there was SU, but The Bible seemed too big for me to read on my own at that time. I kept my feelings to myself because I was not up for an unhelpful discussion about faith or scripture. I did not drink from that well.

55. I was C of E. so I attended the Episcopalian church at Golden Acre. That was the Scots alternative to C of E. It was a good church intellectually, but not so much socially, perhaps. It was an important minority church in Scots history. I was confirmed into that church whilst I was at Jeffrey House. We had classes, but we never read the entire Gospel, even though it is not very long. That is one of the things that a Christian must do, according to the book itself. The chaplain did suggest that I read the gospel at one point, towards the end of my time at school, but it was "too little, too late" for me, although I did read it in the end, long after I had stopped going to church.

Prefects

56. We had duties in the boarding houses which were called "fagging", which is a verb with its origins in the 16th century, meaning "to grow weary". Hence, "Fagged out". These duties were "Bells", "baths and dustbins", "common room", and such. There was a rota. Prefects supervised. It was not personal fagging. It was a negative way of selling the idea that certain things needed to be done. We did them anyway.

Bed Wetting

57. There was a boy called [REDACTED] in our dorm at Mackenzie House. He had a problem with bed wetting. [REDACTED] might have had an issue with it too. Even [REDACTED] might have suffered. Matron might have gone so far as to whack boys with a shoe for it in dorm, but that would have been exceptional. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] had Scholls. Perhaps she left because she was too aggressive. I have vague memories of feeling sad for the boys who were in trouble for that because everyone withdraws into themselves when that happens, and then the isolation factor increases. I almost wondered whether I should take care to remember about it in case I needed to talk about it later.

Pocket Money

58. We did have pocket money. Parents put money into an account. The housemaster had a book of accounts. The master on duty gave out the money and adjusted the book there and then. The book was open once a week. That system seemed to work well.

Contact with Family

59. My parents would drive from Aberdeen to Edinburgh and back every two weeks to see us. They did their best. I do not underestimate the challenges. They would stay at a Hotel on Corstorphine Hill, and we would use that as a base for our "day out". One time we went to Cramond, and we almost got stuck on the island. Mum and dad did buy a flat in Edinburgh. They sold it before dad died because I went up with [REDACTED] and he insisted on smoking. Dad was not pleased. He sold the flat. He was a very senior Local Government official. His job was to supervise the [REDACTED].
60. Letter writing was done in the prep room every Sunday. We would not write to our parents if we had been on a day out that week. We might write some other letters, read, or even do prep.
61. There was a pay phone in the hallway at the boys' entrance to Mackenzie House. I remember phoning home, but it was not a very satisfactory thing. There was no point troubling my parents. Aberdeen seemed a long way away.
62. I would go home for the school holidays. It was quite dull for me up there. I was a stranger. I was intersex. I didn't even know what the problem was until much later.

Discipline and punishment

63. After we went to see the Clash, we went back to [REDACTED]'s house where we had tea and smoked his mums Embassy No 1 with her permission. She was an Irish Coleen and I think that she felt sorry for us, because we were displaced teens on the loose. She phoned the boarding house, and we walked back there ourselves. Mr Evans met us in his dressing gown, in sombre mood. It was the SNR [REDACTED] who punished me. His name was JGG [REDACTED]. He hit me with the clachan on my bottom over my clothes. It was not ultra excessive. My parents were told. I was suspended until the next term. I cannot remember what happened to the others.
64. I worked hard at home. There was not much else to do. I returned to school in the new year and sat my Highers. Shortly before, or after that [REDACTED] and I were smoking in the washroom with the windows open after breakfast. I was the master of through drafts. I had learned never to tell the truth to staff about an incident on my first term of boarding. Therefore, we denied that we were smoking whilst smoke was coming out of our mouths. I was asked to leave the school. I did not have any respect for the rules because of the way it was at Mackenzie House and later, more so, because my dad had died. I left knowing that I would not be welcome back at school, but that did not matter to me because I fulfilled my conditional offer to study Law at either Aberdeen or Strathclyde. I chose Aberdeen, so that I could be close to mum, whilst we suffered the trauma of losing dad.
65. Corporal punishment was common when I started boarding. They became less common, as time went by. The clachan was the most serious. There was a cane. I am not sure what else might be used. We avoided getting beaten by avoiding getting caught, most of the time. Corporal punishment could be done in front of other pupils, on occasion. I did not suffer real physical injury as a result of beatings. The nearest that I came to that was when two prefects grabbed hold of me because I had been smoking. One of them held me and the other repeatedly punched me in the face whilst abusing me. Dad had passed away. They tore up my cigarettes. I expect that they may have gone on to succeed in the establishment. Also, my brother [REDACTED] was badly beaten in the dorm at Jeffrey house. This was not by a prefect. The boy, called [REDACTED],

did this because [REDACTED] was in the SU, and perhaps because my family was from England. [REDACTED] changed. He abandoned the SU. He got into the army cadets and joined the masons. Mum told me that she saw the bruises and that she should have done something, shortly before she passed away. My family did not talk much about all this at all. I am not sure if I told her about the prefects at all.

66. The clachan was used as a punishment in the upper school. I am not sure if it was used at junior school.
67. Other punishments were lines, detention, untidy squad, and boat maintenance. [REDACTED] and I were placed on boat maintenance because I capsized our dinghy in the Forth.

Culture

68. There were lots of "Nick" names for things. Initially, I elected to be "Fatty", but circumstances were such that I became thinner, so I was referred to as 'IPU'. That is a lack of basic manners and respect, but what could I do?
69. There were prefects living within each of the houses, supporting the housemasters and the matron. There were other prefects at school as well. They had a special tie. They often wore sports colours in winter. They were also called "effers," (I got it in the end), by the other kids. That might have been a joke. There were so many things like that. I could not fathom them at the time.
70. There was a tradition and culture of "bog washing". Most people might be bog washed once or twice whilst boarding at EA, but others, namely [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], seemed to suffer a lot more. I felt that there was no way to take these matters up with the staff, or to persuade my parents to do something about it. The prefects were there to help maintain order. This was, sometimes, how that was done. Other bullies would bog wash kids too. It was quite a common thing in Mackenzie House.

71. Junior boys played a "game" or strangling "challenge", like the one that is killing kids at home today. This was a "craze" that went on for more than a few days. At first it was in the common or prep room with many boys present. Later, it was more secretive. Away from the others. The EA tie is blue and white "striped". So, some of the kids were quite clever about things, in a strange way. That must have shocked [REDACTED]. Was that why he brought "The Stranglers" record in, and played it at the other end of the room?

Abuse at the Edinburgh Academy

72. The incident with [REDACTED] that took place when I started boarding at Mackenzie House taught me that I must not tell staff the truth about any incident. [REDACTED] bounded into our dorm, jumped on the nearest bed, smiling, and then he bounded off again. He was full of beans. He was there for seconds. I was standing there when matron came in. She smiled at me and asked me who had messed up the bed? It didn't seem like much to me, so I got tricked into saying that "It was [REDACTED]". I did not know the rules. The other kids seemed to know them. All the other boys were on my case for being a "clipe" for the rest of that term. Even [REDACTED] would not talk to me. It was name calling, shunning, and some blows. That was when [REDACTED] chased me through the sports changing window wielding the cricket bat. [REDACTED] forgave me in the end. I explained that I hadn't thought that he would get into trouble for it. He laughed and told me that he quite enjoyed the beating because matron was "sexy". [REDACTED] was a handful. His parents lived in Edinburgh, but they sent him to board at school because they needed peace and wanted him to learn some discipline. [REDACTED] liked the Arts. He was the one who drew my attention to the film SCUM (1979), when it came out. Initially, I did not understand the boarding environment and my parents were unable to help me because they had no experience of public school.
73. So that led to the incident with [REDACTED] and the cricket bat. He was shouting something like "English queer". I escaped through the window. [REDACTED] broke the strip light with the cricket bat. He was two years older than me. He must have had to explain that to the staff. Things calmed down after that. I told my parents about it. They said

that things would get better. There was nothing that I could do about it. I thought "They call all English people names here. Why should I trust what any stranger says?"

74. There was another difficulty at the beginning of my time at Mackenzie House. Mr ICG wanted to have a secret vote to decide what sport we would play that morning. I refused to close my eyes. I didn't trust him because he liked cricket and was wearing an MCC tie. I did not want to have my eyes shut at school. I wanted them to open my eyes to things, although my parents must have had other ideas. I was punished by being put in the untidy squad. We had to weed the garden. I enjoy gardening. I could live with that but took much more care with the staff from then on.

75. I must have been about 11 years old when Mr Dawson came to be the Housemaster at Mackenzie House. That was when the "Nick" name of "Miffy" house came about. Good faith is important in our dealings and many of these names do not seem to be in good faith. That is why I started to focus on mystery words much more, like "Brexit". His manner reminded me of Jimmy Savile, who was on our tv screens a lot at that time. It always seemed as if he was restraining some aggression or anger. His "Nick" name was "Homo Hamish". I felt sorry for his wife. She seemed to be quite normal, but a little unhappy. They had two relatively grown-up daughters, living their own lives, and not involved with us. He tried to present himself as jolly, but he was not very funny and there was a threatening side to it all the time. I picked up on that immediately. He would wear a masonic style ring on his finger sometimes. He had big black whiskers, but not a beard. He had dark tinted glasses, which were unusual in those days. He had our side of the house painted various shades of purple. He called the house "Miffy". He punished the entire house by beating us and making us take communal cold showers whilst singing a nursery rhyme. It was sad that he was my history teacher for Higher History in my last year because I behaved badly outside class hours and didn't get my "A" grade.

76. I never witnessed any homosexuality between the pupils at Edinburgh Academy. I had my other unknown issues. After the incident with the showers Mr Dawson told me "That I would make someone a nice wife one day." He knew what he was saying. I made it my policy to feel free to disregard anything that nasty people told me because

they were not on my side. The people who were meant to be good told me that I was ok. There was some mystery about it. Also, it was easy for me to hope that Dawsons behaviour was responsible for my reluctance and lack of confidence with girls. There were very few girls at our school, and I did not have much social life at home. I felt quite sad about it. I am extremely cautious with everyone to this day.

77. It was bad when Mr Dawson went round the dorms at bedtime. He would select someone in each dorm, approach them and tickle them a lot. A tickling would last more than a minute and sometimes more than two minutes. Mr Dawson would ask "Who is tickly wickly?", (short for wickedly?), and things like that. If there is "magic" there will be "Black Magic". It seems obvious to me. That was the name of a popular 1970s chocolate assortment. That list is a long one. I would never behave like that with someone else's kid. That would not help them to sleep. It was hyperstimulation. Every night we were looking to see if it was Dawson or Fenton on duty so that we knew what to expect. Miss Kellas would be in attendance. She did not do anything to dissuade Dawson from tickling the boys like that, so he kept on at it.
78. One evening, at the beginning of the school term, something happened. My brother may have already been in Jeffrey House. I do not know what it was, but it really annoyed Mr Dawson. He was extremely angry about it. He called all the boys to the common room for a special assembly and told us that we had to tell him who did this thing, or he would beat the whole house. No one told him who had done the thing in question in keeping with the prohibition against boys "grassing" to the staff. Mr Dawson made everyone go to sports changing. We were beaten and then made to take a cold shower, in groups of five, singing, "Hey. Diddle, diddle. The cat and the fiddle ...". We were naked and all the showers were occupied. I think that we turned clockwise. It was bizarre, and deeply upsetting. It was done by dorms. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] might have been in my group. The nurse rhyme is sometimes said to have connections with Tolkien and Astrology. The cow as Taurus. That sort of thing. It seems likely that Mr Dawson dabbled in magic. I have not really discussed it very much with anyone these last 55 years. Going through it in writing, in another land, has allowed me to think quite deeply about it.

79. I didn't watch what was happening to the others. I simply tried to get through it. We were in shock. We acknowledged what had happened to each other. Some of us told our parents. I decided that this World is not very nice. I became a rebel. I started smoking every day, when [REDACTED] came to board at Jeffrey House. My friends were probably a bit of a set up. I might have had to approach [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] might have known what he was doing all along. This is why I don't have any contact with anyone from school anymore. I have been, quite happily, "in between people" for a long time now. There are things to be said in favour of it and there are disadvantages too. I became friendly with [REDACTED] because [REDACTED] suggested it. We would sit in Italian cafes drinking coffee and eating egg rolls, which was more fun than playing the trombone. [REDACTED] gave me a window into a very privileged "normal life". Mostly, we would talk about the things that were going on with young people, music, tv programmes, films, and such. We would skive off a lot to go to [REDACTED] house which was by the pond at the bottom of the Arboretum Park. We played many such tricks. The school did not recognise that anything was wrong. No special help was given to us. They covered it up and moved on. Many years later, I took steps to re-educate myself and that was a big help, but we had hoped for a good educational experience at school which would have stood us in good stead much earlier.
80. I heard that a boy called [REDACTED] told his parents about the showers. They went to see the Rector. Some parents get very angry about perversion. I seem to remember that [REDACTED] went to another school after that. Things did calm down a bit after that, but there was always the memory and the threat of trouble, and all the boys could be a bit "out of control".
81. A lad called [REDACTED] came to the house. [REDACTED] shared a study with him. [REDACTED] started to bully him very hard. I was busy being suspended and everything so I backed away and left them to it as a problem that I could not solve. [REDACTED] parents were rich. They lived in Germany. They bought a house in the New Town. [REDACTED] brought "friends" who were punks to the house. A boy brought heroin from abroad. They were "Trainspotting". I went to visit them once. Then, I stayed in Aberdeen.

82. We had to have a demob interview at the end of our stay in Mackenzie House with Mr Dawson. He called me to his study. He told me that I was going to become a man soon. He put his hand on my knee, and I bolted to the common room where I stayed until it was time for me to go to catch the train. I did not have to talk to him again until the last year when he taught me higher history. It didn't go very well.

Reporting abuse at the Edinburgh Academy

83. I told my parents about the incident in the showers, but they told me to ignore it and that I would soon be in Jeffrey House. Not soon enough, I feared. I had hoped that mum and dad would come up with some other idea as to where I might go to school, but they liked the idea of sticking with the EA, even though I had been quite unhappy there, since I became a boarder.

Leaving the Edinburgh Academy

84. I did not attend for much of my last year. I was 17 when I started to read Law at Aberdeen University. The teachers told me that I had worked well on my own.

Life after boarding school

85. I studied for my degree, but my school experience and dads passing made me lose confidence and direction. I got my degree and then the diploma from Strathclyde. I didn't want to study law, but after a while I could see that law was an important and necessary thing. I was interested in Architecture, but I had no Art O level. I did it as a duty.
86. I worked for several Law firms. One of the assistants who I worked with pled guilty to acting along with a High Court Judge who was an Academical in a case of cottaging at Dumfries or Galloway. I understand that there were three Academical High court

judges on the indictment. I went into partnership with an Academic from school. He was a disaster and that helped to wreck my marriage. My work was profitable but paid by bank transfer. I didn't spend enough time watching out for tricks. So, I was sad when I set up on my own and worked on as a lawyer in Scotland until 2007. I used my spare time to re-educate myself as best I could in Scotland and in India.

87. I became a fully qualified lawyer in 1987. I retired from law in 2007. I practiced in the civil and criminal courts. I started off concentrating on civil cases and, later, I did more criminal cases. I was exhausted in the end, but I did earn a living and travel all over Scotland. There was regular pay and there were many interesting cases and issues.
88. I dreamed of a simple life with a nice wife and kids. I did get married, but we divorced in 1997. Intersex doesn't follow the usual patterns and couples must know the truth about themselves. I will always be sad that I did not. Then, I thought, from books, that it would be easy to find out more about myself from doctors. Unfortunately, I haven't had any luck despite having made various efforts.
89. Mum was growing old. She was finding it hard to manage on her own. My brother and his wife were quite busy with their own lives. I sold up in Scotland and went to live in England again, after all those years. I haven't been to Scotland since. I was in danger of getting my life caught up in the debate about Scottish Independence. I feared that things might go badly. My domicile of choice reverted to my domicile of origin and the I took a new domicile of choice in Spain after mum passed in [REDACTED] 2012. Mum and I managed make peace about many things. She left me money. I sold the house and took the Portsmouth to Santander ferry on Halloween 2014.
90. I wrote a new Gospel shortly after I arrived in Spain. I didn't imagine that it would be so controversial, so I am just watching to see whether there are opportunities for it in the future. I am happy with my new life in Spain. There is plenty for me to do where I live. I seem to have the things that I need. It seems to have been a change for the better.

Impact

91. Mr Dawson taught me that there are dangerous types in positions of authority. EA taught me that there were dangerous institutions. I did take care to avoid a caseload of serious crime, but I came across many dangerous types in the end. The underworld is the underworld. They have rules. Those rules are satanic rules. If we meet enough people like that, we build up an idea as to modus operandi, but most people don't even see it. It is hidden away.

92. Several types of people always knew the truth of my situation. Those in authority, and those with better knowledge. Those in authority had a plan to hide my situation from me which allowed them to treat me as they did. Those who are against Jesus and his God would know the truth about me and call me out for being a "queer". There was one lone voice amongst the noise. There was a chap called [REDACTED]. He told me the truth, honestly, and without putting an edge on it. I imagine that his parents were medical people who saw me, understood what was going on, and had a different view as to the ethics of it. Authority was not truthful. [REDACTED]'s team was truthful, but secretly ready to hurt me, and a minute or two with [REDACTED] was the only truth that I heard. I decided to keep an open mind about things, say nothing about sex, and proceed. I envisaged that the matter would become clear at some point. I accepted that I did not know the truth. The first question that everyone asks when they meet an infant is, "Is it a boy or a girl?" Imagine! I still struggle with that one. That question is still at the root of my problems. It has always "held me back".

93. Mr Dawson behaved in such a way that it turned me against the school. [REDACTED] and I became smoking buddies. It provided us with a space of our own, away from the school matrix. I did try to keep up with my studies, but it was a further hard blow for me when dad died. I was unacceptable, but I did not know why. [REDACTED] and I parted company when I left the school. A group of us went to Stonehenge free music festival, and then on to Glastonbury. We went to see Pink Floyd down in Cheshire. Then, I visited [REDACTED] once in Edinburgh, when he was living in [REDACTED]'s house in the new town. It was like a scene from "Trainspotting". They had strong heroine from Pakistan, and some guy was freaking out on acid when I arrived.

The only other times that we met were at our respective weddings. He married [REDACTED]. I am not sure how it went. I was married, at a registry office, on [REDACTED] 1993. [REDACTED] was invited. He hinted that I was a mosaic. That was the first time that anyone indicated that I might be "a mosaic". Who knew, and how can it be confirmed? It does not matter very much to me anymore because I can not trust doctors for my own good reasons. I could not trust the likes of [REDACTED] either. Boys at school often teased other boys, saying, "You are doubtful!". I developed a safe way to live with the doubt, having decided that churches were of no assistance and that the "heathens" had much better knowledge and technique. I investigated that quite thoroughly when my marriage ended in disaster.

94. Boarding school was a bad idea for me. Things were as they were for children like me back then. Perhaps too many children are encouraged to seek a medical solution today. It is important that all kids have a safe place to be in at school. Children who are in difficulty at home need school to be a place that is truthful and supportive throughout their time at school. The internet should also be such a place. That is the challenge.
95. When my marriage came to an end and professional life became very tough, I began to use my limited spare time to re-educate myself. I learned about ayurveda, including yoga and meditation. I respected Gandhi and Mandela. I coupled my spiritual quest with an interest in the Indian independence movement before returning to my own cultural home. My professional life supported me. It was a means to an end. I let it go. I had learned what I wanted to learn from it, in a nutshell.
96. That was a lifesaver. Things started to work out much better. Mum left me money. I took up permanent residence in Spain. My legal experience helped me to do that. I wrote the book that my inner voice asked me to write when I was at school. I found a nice place to live, with different weather.
97. I have not talked about all this with anyone before. Mum and I exchanged a few brief sentences about it at the end of her days. I am estranged from my brother. That was a bad life. I was born again and chose a different path. Things have improved for me,

which has made it easier for me to face up to it all. I first thought to avoid the enquiry. Eventually, I considered that it might be good for me to provide a statement. The process has been uncomfortable. My jaw was trembling after giving the statement and I had quite a headache after reading it. Sadly, this is toxic media. I apologise for that. Perhaps some good can come from it. I never went back to the EA after I left. I am not on their mailing list. I have never attended any events for Academics. There were some pleasant and able kids, but I was never welcome. I avoid people. That is my choice.

Treatment and Support

98. I have not had any help from western services regarding intersex issues or abuse. I sought and received excellent help and advice in India and from unorthodox spiritual sources in Scotland and the North of England.

Reporting of Abuse

99. I have not reported any of the abuse to the police. I wrote to the EA about it before I departed for Spain. They advised me that Mr Dawson had died. I had no witnesses. I decided to concentrate on my plan to move to Spain for a new life. This statement would have been very depressing and difficult to prepare were it not for my improved circumstances. I did not obtain my records from the school. I considered that I would be unlikely to succeed in any court case for lack of witnesses and, in any case, these things can be a bit of a gamble. At first, I was working hard on other peoples' problems. Then I had to work hard on my own family and personal issues. There was no time to waste on a court case. Early retirement was a stitch in time for my family. My intersex condition did get worse in my 30s. By 2007, It was time to go.

Lessons to be Learned

100. We know that there are many kinds of children in the World. A good education would get the best out of all of them whilst another system might promote a certain type of child for success and to govern the others. Even the pleasant amongst those earmarked for success would be victims in such a situation. It seems to be important that all the children find their feet, before grown up endeavours commence.

101. I found out about the enquiry from my smart phone. I had bought this house immediately before the covid lockdowns. There was no internet in the village at that time, but there was phone reception. I always checked for Brexit news because of my personal and professional interest in same. I would read the papers, including "The Scotsman". Initially, I was reluctant to become involved. When specific allegations were made about the EA regarding my time there and repeated, I decided to get in touch. It was an "interesting" time. Society was implementing new technology whilst our old values came in for questioning and magical materialism gained force. I feel that kids were let down when Gary Glitter, Jimmy Savile, and all the rest appeared in our homes. I live a simpler life now. My TV has been unplugged for a while now, even though I have a good set and Spanish tv is free at point of use. We have up to date internet now. There are plenty of other, more practical, things for me to do each day, in the land of the "siesta". Clachan is a village near Campbeltown in Scotland. That is the root of the word for me. The Campbells are a well-known Scottish family, who are able and who have often cooperated with the English to secure power at home. Reference "Montrose" Sir Walter Scott and Glencoe. It is therefore an appropriate name for an instrument of discipline and punishment used at EA. I hope that this account of my time there can help all the kids to flourish and stay safe.

Other information

102. The Inquiry drafted a statement following a meeting I had with them and I have been reviewing that. I have decided to re-write my statement in a style and format I appreciate is different from the standard format utilised by the Inquiry and I wish this

to be used as my evidence to the Inquiry. I have requested that my statement remains in the order, format and with all the evidence exactly as I have presented.

103. 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..... IPU
Dated..... 25 de julio de 2023