

HIA REF: [ ]

NAME: [ **SND 76** ]DATE: [ 25<sup>th</sup> February 2014 ]**THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995**

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**Witness Statement of **SND 76****

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I, , will say as follows: -

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Statement of **HIA 60** dated 18<sup>th</sup> July 2003**

I have had previous knowledge of the general contents of this statement, as I was formally spoken to by police officers from the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) who interviewed me under caution [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] on the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2004, as part of their investigation into the specific allegation that **HIA 60** had made against me. I made it quite clear to the officers conducting that inquiry that the allegation was malicious and I strongly rejected the claim that I had attempted to sexually assault **HIA 60**. The Northern Ireland DPP subsequently directed no prosecution against me in relation to the allegation. I am very concerned that despite the DPP having made that particular decision that it is

now proposed to allow HIA 60 to give this specific malicious allegation another public airing at the Historic Institutional Abuse Inquiry. In my opinion to allow that to happen would simply be an abuse of process and I strongly request that HIA 60 be disallowed from making any further public reference to that malicious allegation.

In his statement HIA 60 makes reference to having been first admitted to Termonbacca in [REDACTED] when he was [REDACTED] years old. I have no memory of him having been in Termonbacca when he was younger. He also makes reference to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] when he was [REDACTED] years old. Again I have no recollection of having known her.

HIA 60 makes reference to two nuns who were in charge of the children when he returned to Termonbacca aged 15. One was called SR 1 who I assume was SR 1. She died a few years ago. She was previously in Termonbacca when I was a very young child and was subsequently transferred to a Nazareth House in [REDACTED]. She returned to Termonbacca on the [REDACTED]. I have no knowledge of a SR 58.

On page two his statement HIA 60 makes the claim that “at Termonbacca physical and sexual abuse was rife”. Although I was by then no longer residing at Termonbacca I had lived most of my childhood up to age of [REDACTED] at Termonbacca and was regularly visiting the home after I left, and I simply cannot identify with that spurious claim that sexual and physical abuse was rife there. I am not denying that some sexual and physical abuse must have occurred from time to time, but considering I lived there for nearly [REDACTED] years compared to the about [REDACTED] year that HIA 60 lived there, I think I am in a better position to refute that nonsensical claim made by HIA 60.

For the record I was never sexually abused in all the time I lived in Termonbacca. I am sure that at some point I must have been on the receiving end of some physical chastisement but the occasions when it happened are so rare that I am not in a position to give details of any specific incidents. Indeed during the 1960's and 1970's corporal punishment was very much the norm and I actually was on the receiving end of physical chastisement from my teachers at [REDACTED] School, far more regularly than anything that may have occurred in Termonbacca. I am not

complaining about that. It was accepted practice in those days and like the majority of former pupils of schools in those days, I have just moved on.

On page 3 of his statement HIA 60 makes reference to having been repeatedly punched in the face by former Termonbacca boy HIA 98 and he claims that he just stood there and took it. I have known HIA 98 all my life. He is about two years younger than me and like me he had spent all of his childhood in Termonbacca. I have never known HIA 98 to be a violent person so I find that particular allegation difficult to believe. Also HIA 98 is quite small in stature, probably [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] tall. From memory HIA 60 was about the same height as me at that time, about [REDACTED]. My memory of HIA 60 then was that he was an extremely aggressive person and was constantly getting into verbal and physical confrontations with other residents and the staff. There were numerous occasions when I had to physically intervene to stop him fighting with other people. This would usually consist of me pulling him away from those people. The idea that he would let HIA 98 HIA 98 'repeatedly' punch him and not react to defend himself I just find very hard to believe.

There was an article published in the [REDACTED] dated [REDACTED] with the headline [REDACTED] This was an interview with the then [REDACTED] year old HIA 60 talking of his experiences at Termonbacca when he was admitted there aged [REDACTED]. The article includes the following quote "I myself was attacked twice but proved too much of a handful for my would be assailants". That comment does seem to contradict his claim that he was repeatedly punched by HIA 98 and that he did nothing to defend himself.

On page 3 of his statement HIA 60 makes reference to the nuns going off to evening prayers and that this was a time when "former boys would prowl the home bullying and abusing us". That statement is really just complete and utter nonsense. There would have been other members of staff on duty when the nuns went to evening prayers and had their meals. The notion that former boys were prowling the home bullying and abusing residents is just complete and utter tosh. If that had been happening I am sure I would have seen it or been made aware of it. And for the record I never prowled the home bullying and abusing residents.

On page 4 of his statement **HIA 60** makes reference to the malicious allegation that he made against me. He claims that he had been given a new jumper by [REDACTED] and that I had then called him "Sister's Pet" because he had been the recipient of this new jumper from her. Firstly I don't know who [REDACTED] is and the idea that firstly I would even notice he had a new jumper and secondly that I would somehow be jealous of that fact is simply ludicrous. Although I regularly visited Termonbacca, that might have been once or twice a week, and very little of that time would actually have been spent in the Children's Unit, so the idea that I would notice someone had a new jumper is just nonsense anyway. Also the idea that somehow I would get jealous because someone had a new jumper is just bonkers.

**HIA 60** claims that I had forced him into the sewing room and that I had ripped the jumper off his back and that I had tried to rip the rest of his clothing off. He then suggests that if he had not got away that I would have sexually assaulted him in some way. That incident did not occur. **HIA 60** is telling blatant LIES. I have never physically or sexually abused any resident in Termonbacca and for the record I never had any sexual interest in **HIA 60**. I do not know what has motivated him to make that FALSE allegation against me. Because I am 100% confident that **HIA 60** has fabricated this malicious allegation I think all of the other allegations he has made of incidents that allegedly occurred when he was a resident in Termonbacca aged [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] should be treated with extreme caution.

I am angry that people like **HIA 60** can make false allegations against innocent people, put those innocent people through the trauma of being the subject of a police investigation, and despite the DPP deciding there is insufficient evidence to prosecute that innocent person that **HIA 60** be then given another opportunity to publicly repeat those lies about me in a public forum. This is simply outrageous.

On page 5 of his statement **HIA 60** refers to having seen an item on [REDACTED] News, possibly in [REDACTED], which referred to me being [REDACTED] and how he had then made contact with **SND 132** who had allegedly informed **HIA 60** that I had "fucked **SND 132** when he was a kid". That is another blatant LIE. I very much doubt that **SND 132** would have made that claim because I have never had any sexual interaction ever with **SND 132**. It is my understanding that **SND 132** **SND 132** has never corroborated that further malicious claim made about me by **HIA 60**.

On page 6 of his statement **HIA 60** makes reference to another ex Termonbacca boy called **SND 154** who had allegedly referred to me and some other ex Termonbacca boys as being 'perverts'. I am not sure what the context of that alleged claim is. I very much doubt that **SND 154** would personally have referred to me as being a pervert as I would never have done anything to justify such a label being attributed to me. I genuinely believe that this is a further attempt by **HIA 60** to tarnish the good reputation that I had during my time at Termonbacca. I am not aware that **SND 154** has ever made a statement to corroborate that further spurious allegation.

On page 7 of his statement **HIA 60** makes reference to having undertaken some internet research on me [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] There is no reference anywhere [REDACTED] to the word 'beating'. It seems that **HIA 60** has a habit of using highly emotive and misleading language when he compiles his statements. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] he had actually given three separate versions of the alleged assault on him and then when he went to court he gave a forth version. He had never sustained any injury and I had always believed his false allegation of assault against me was motivated by [REDACTED] work that I was undertaking in that particular area of [REDACTED] at the time. **HIA 60** also conveniently forgot to record that the [REDACTED] also mentioned that [REDACTED].

On page 7 he also makes reference to the ordination of ex Termonbacca boy **SND 65** in [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] I may or may not have spoken to him. I do not recollect having provided him with my contact details.

He also mentions that he sent an email to [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. I have never had sight of that email and have no recollection of ever having been made aware of it by my superiors at work.

He says he had then left 'numerous messages' at work for me to contact him and that I had made contact and provided him with my contact numbers.

**Telephone & Text Contact from HIA 60 between 07/05/02 – 26/06/03:**

I have kept a personal diary since 1974. I made records in my diaries of the numerous contacts I had from HIA 60 from the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2002 onwards. Below is a verbatim record of my diary recording of those contacts, some of which were phone calls, and many abusive text messages.

**7<sup>th</sup> May 2002:**

I had an unusual phone-call this morning from HIA 60 whilst I was at work. He initially introduced himself as DL 48 (Whom I knew was now dead) He then subjected me to a tirade of abuse. The bottom line is that he was suggesting that he had been abused whilst he was living at **Termonbacca**. He then intimated that my alleged actions in restraining him whilst he was at **Termonbacca** were my really getting close to sexually abusing him.

Not sure what he is on about. He is talking absolute bollocks. Not sure what the guy's agenda is. First time I have spoken to him for over 10 years, maybe longer. This guy is crazy. For record I have never sexually or physically abused anyone in my life and certainly no paedophile as he claimed.

**8<sup>th</sup> January 2003:**

Had a phone-call from [REDACTED] tonight. He said that there was an abusive message left on the answer machine at [REDACTED] today. It would appear that HIA 60 left this. What a twat that guy is.

**2<sup>nd</sup> February 2003:**

Apparently HIA 60 phoned work again. He is a grade one asshole.

**3<sup>rd</sup> February 2003:**

Phone-call this afternoon from HIA 60. He has left a contact number [REDACTED] I phoned and left a message.

**4<sup>th</sup> February 2003:**

Phone message on answer-machine at work from HIA 60

**5<sup>th</sup> February 2003:**

Spoke to a former **Termonbacca** boy on the phone today and told him that I was having abusive contact from HIA 60. He told me that he had changed his name to HIA 60. He had also completed some degrees, and that one of the degrees related to [REDACTED]. (Think from memory told that he had done a dissertation on [REDACTED].) This person also told me that there was a letter in the

██████████ newspaper last year, in which <sup>HIA 60</sup> ██████████ had accused people of abusing him whilst he was in **Termonbacca**.

**11<sup>th</sup> February 2003:**

That asshole <sup>HIA 60</sup> ██████████ phoned me again at ██████████. He said that he was going to see me and that he knew where I lived. (Said ██████████ He said that I had allegedly physically assaulted him in Termonbacca, had tried to pull his clothes off and possibly had other intentions. I told him that I flatly refuted this. I asked him to put up or shut up. He ranted and raved. I am convinced that this guy has mental problems.

**12<sup>th</sup> April 2003:**

I had a text message at 2331hrs tonight from ██████████ from unknown person, which said; **“Hows the little boy”**? That’s the second time I got a similar message from that number this week. I phoned back but the number rang out.

**30<sup>th</sup> April 2003:**

Text message from ██████████ **“Hows the little boy”**, at 2155hrs.

**1<sup>st</sup> May 2003:**

Text message from ██████████ **“Hows the little boy”** at 1201hrs.

**3<sup>rd</sup> May 2003:**

Text message from ██████████ **“Hows the little boy”**, at 1801hrs and 2145hrs. Again phoned back but not answered.

**4<sup>th</sup> May 2003:**

Text message from ██████████ **“Hows the little boy”**, at 1325hrs and 1344hrs. No answer when I phoned number?

**9<sup>th</sup> May 2003:**

Text message from ██████████ **“Hows the little boy”** at 2336hrs.

**10<sup>th</sup> May 2003:**

Text message from ██████████ **“Hows the little boy”** at 0449hrs.

**31<sup>th</sup> May 2003:**

Text message from ██████████ **“Hows the little boy”**, at 0514hrs.

**7<sup>th</sup> June 2003:**

Text message from [REDACTED] **"Hows the little boy"**, at 1017hrs, 1058hrs, 1150hrs, 1415hrs, 1504hrs, 1907hrs, 2013hrs, 2057hrs, 2243hrs and 2320hrs.

**8<sup>th</sup> June 2003:**

Text message from [REDACTED] **"Hows the little boy"**, at 0454hrs, 0532hrs and 2305hrs.

**9<sup>th</sup> June 2003:**

Text message from [REDACTED] **"Hows the little boy"**, at 0031hrs and 0524hrs.

**14<sup>th</sup> June 2003:**

Text message from [REDACTED] **"Hows the little boy"**, at 0118hrs.

**17<sup>th</sup> June 2003:**

Text message from [REDACTED] **"Hows the little boy"**, at 2309hrs.

**26<sup>th</sup> June 2003:**

Text message again from [REDACTED] at 2134hrs: **"This phone will scan your hands for spunk stains..... Scanning.....still scanning.....SPUNK FOUND!...Conclusion.....WANKER"**

**Statement of [REDACTED] HIA 60 dated 10<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

When [REDACTED] HIA 60 was again admitted in [REDACTED] I would have been aged [REDACTED]. I had actually left Termonbacca when I was [REDACTED] years old but regularly returned to visit. On page 3 of his statement [REDACTED] HIA 60 makes reference to ex Termonbacca boys returning to visit "because it was the only home they knew or they knew that the boys were easy targets to abuse". I personally find that comment to be very inflammatory and malicious and also very insulting towards the many ex Termonbacca boys who would visit their 'home' from time to time.

I personally never ever physically or sexually abused any child when I either resided in Termonbacca or when I returned to visit. I was not aware of any ex Termonbacca boys returning to physically or sexually abuse any of the residents. I know that it is possible that some abuse could have occurred but to suggest that one of the main motivations for ex residents to return was to abuse current residents is simply a lie



and is evidence of the pure malice that has motivated HIA 60 to make so many spurious allegations against myself and other ex residents of Termonbacca.

In this second statement HIA 60 again alludes to the alleged assault on him by HIA 98 and also the alleged assault by me. On page 4 of the statement he also refers to an alleged assault by an ex resident [REDACTED]. On page 6 of the statement he again refers to being assaulted by someone [REDACTED]. He also refers to someone who was in charge of [REDACTED] Group who had slapped and threatened him. So although in his previously mentioned interview in the [REDACTED] newspaper on [REDACTED] he stated he had only been attacked twice, he actually refers to FIVE assaults in this statement!

On page 4 of his statement dated 18<sup>th</sup> July 2003, detailing my alleged assault on him, HIA 60 stated "he ripped the jumper off my back and began to try and rip the rest of my clothes off me". On page 4 of his statement dated 10<sup>th</sup> January 2014 he states "He ripped off my new jumper tearing it in two". If I had allegedly ripped his jumper in two, why not mention that alleged fact in his original statement?

On page 4 of his statement dated 10<sup>th</sup> January 2014 he states "He pushed my face down onto the sewing bench which was in the middle of the room". He makes no reference to that alleged aspect of the alleged incident in his original statement, which should have been included, if it really did happen.

On page 4 of his statement dated 18<sup>th</sup> July 2003 HIA 60 states "I thought it was just a beating because of the jumper, but the more I thought about it, why was he trying to get the rest of my clothing off me, I believe that if I had not have broken free he would have sexually assaulted me in some way". In his statement dated 10<sup>th</sup> January 2014, although he claims I had tried to pull his clothes off him he makes no reference in his statement to having believed there was a sexual connotation to the alleged attack!

#### **Relevant Email interactions with HIA 60 between 17/05/05 to 04/06/06:**

I think it is very important that I highlight the campaign of abuse that HIA 60 has subjected me to, before and after I had been spoken to by PSNI officers, and also

subsequent to the DPP decision not to instigate proceedings against me in relation to the allegation he made against me.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] On the 17<sup>th</sup> November 2005 **HIA 60** sent a defamatory email about me to the chair of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**17<sup>th</sup> November 2005:**

[REDACTED] **HIA 60** wrote:

Dear sir,

I have a question for the chairman of the [REDACTED].

Why is someone who has been accused of being a paedophile and of using violence to prove his innocence still [REDACTED]? It could appear that you condone this behaviour is this in fact the case? I refer to the [REDACTED] reported in the [REDACTED] This person **SND 76** claims not to know why [REDACTED] had a vendetta against him despite having been investigated by police [REDACTED] as a suspected paedophile. Isn't it about time that this man was removed from his position [REDACTED] and if not why not?

**17<sup>th</sup> November 2005:**

Email to me from [REDACTED]

**SND 76**

Do you know this chap before I respond?

I will reply obo [REDACTED] so please don't respond directly.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]  
To: [REDACTED] HIA 60  
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2005 9:46 PM  
Subject: Re: [REDACTED]

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your enquiry.

The selection and appointment of [REDACTED] is a matter for the

[REDACTED]

Can you please first indicate who you are [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] and what your interest in this [REDACTED] relates to. I  
would then be happy to answer your question more specifically.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Chairman

>> [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] SND 76  
Date: 11/17/05 22:26:53  
To: [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Fw: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Thanks for that.

For what it's worth I actually know this guy from Ireland many years ago. Bit of a long story so would be useful to speak sometime about him as there is some history to this guy who I believe has serious psychological problems.

Not sure what has motivated him to suddenly send this message now? Had some indirect dealings with him about two years ago when he was making abusive phone calls to my [REDACTED]. To be honest this guy needs to be warned very robustly about his actions and advised that if he repeats these messages then I will make a formal complaint of harassment against him.

SND 76

From: [REDACTED] HIA 60

To: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, November 18, 2005 11:04 PM

Subject: Re: [REDACTED]

Dear Sir

Who am I ? I am someone who has personal knowledge of [REDACTED] SND 76

[REDACTED] SND 76 character, I have known him since [REDACTED].

I am neither [REDACTED] merely a tax paying member of the public.

My interest is merely as someone who has experienced violence and threats at the hands of this thug who hides [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] appears to have made allegations against [REDACTED] SND 76 I am prepared to state I believe he is right.

What I would like to know from you why is this man allowed to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and what are you prepared to do about it? if anything

Yours [REDACTED] HIA 60

**From:** [REDACTED] SND 76

**Date:** 11/17/05 23:20:46

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Re: Fw: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Had a search of my computer and found the attached document that I had completed about a year ago. Basically will show some of the history between me and this guy. Will fill in the gaps when we speak.

He did do as I ordered him, when I asked him to "put up or shut up". He made a complaint against me to the PSNI (Police service of Northern Ireland). They actually came and spoke to me [REDACTED]. I was astonished when they actually told me the details of the allegation he had made against me, which was meant to involve a sexual assault, but actually contained nothing of a sexual nature.

He is about [REDACTED] and we first met in an orphanage in Derry in the [REDACTED]. I had spent all of my youth in the orphanage but he came in when he was about [REDACTED] due to family problems. It's fair to say that even then he was a hard case. As I was one of the older guys in the house I was sometimes asked to help supervise

other residents, when the nuns had to go off and pray/eat etc. He was always getting into fights with other guys, requiring me to have to intervene and separate them. He made an allegation to the police that on one of those occasions when I physically intervened and pushed him into another room that I had intended to sexually assault him. However when he was quizzed by the police he admitted that he had not been sexually assaulted but that he "believed that the intention was in my mind to do it"? I did make the PSNI aware of the recent harassment he had subjected me to, and was able to show them a number of the text messages he had sent me. I did ask them to advise him of his actions.

The police have formally notified me that the matter has been NFA' d, but why they even felt it necessary [REDACTED] to speak to me about such a non issue, defies logic.

I am not prepared to let these dam allegations fester any longer. That is why I have persuaded [REDACTED] to re-open that enquiry into [REDACTED] and that is why I will have [REDACTED] HIA 60 made subject of a formal complaint if he sends any further messages to [REDACTED] or myself. Still not sure what has motivated him to resurrect his vendetta as I have heard nothing from him for over two years.

I can imagine how this might seem to you, another (spurious) allegation of me being a pedophile. It's almost like a cancer that infects you and the more you protest your innocence the more you feel that people will start having their doubts about your honesty. For what it's worth there is no basis to any of these dam allegations and I am determined to zap them once and for all.

**SND 76**

**2314hrs 20<sup>th</sup> November 2005:**

Email from me to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I am going to directly reply to this guy who seems to have moved on from accusing me of being a pedophile to now having subjected him to threats and violence, something which he has never mentioned before to me or to the PSNI for that matter.

There must be some bad spell against me that encourages these assholes to attack my character. I have not seen this guy for many years and then he raises his ugly head a few years ago. Now he is back again. I have no idea what is motivating this guy. Can only conclude that he is twisted in some way. I have done absolutely nothing to that guy ever that justifies him coming back at me again. I will tell him very firmly to back off otherwise I instigate formal action.

I know that there will be concerns going through your mind (again) as a result of this latest bloody incident. I do despair at times. Work every hour I can, do my best to help people, then get attacked by another asshole. This guy is sick.

Hope the meeting went well. Had a very uneventful day at work.

**SND 76**

**0205hrs 21<sup>st</sup> November 2005:**

Email from me to **HIA 60**

**HIA 60**

I write to you in anger, in response to that nasty e-mail you recently sent to [REDACTED]. I am at a loss to understand what has motivated this latest attack on my character by yourself.

Let me get one thing straight first **HIA 60** I am not and have NEVER been a pedophile.

I first met you in the [REDACTED] when you were transferred into Termonbacca. I do not know what the background to your domestic problems were that resulted in you being placed in Termonbacca. For you and me Termonbacca had a different meaning. It was my home for all of my life, from the time I was a baby until I left aged [REDACTED]. You came in when you were in your [REDACTED]. Cannot remember exactly, as we are talking about nearly [REDACTED] years ago for god sake. For you it was a short term placement and I don't really think you saw it as home in the sense that I did.

As I say I do not know what your background was prior to coming to Termonbacca. However I do feel that it is reasonable for me to conclude that you had a very difficult background as it was obvious to all of us at the time that you were an extremely aggressive person. It was felt by many of us, including the nuns, that this aggressiveness was a manifestation of a possible brutal childhood that you had experienced prior to being placed in Termonbacca, and that indeed this brutality may have been a motivating factor on the part of the authorities to actually place you in a children's home. I accept that is mere speculation on my part, because as I have previously stated, I did not know what your background was prior to first meeting you.

When you arrived you were regularly getting into fisticuffs with other boys and constantly challenging the authority of the nuns. On occasions, as one of the older boys, I was asked to supervise the group, when the nuns were absent, and you constantly challenged my authority when I had to intervene to prevent you fighting with other children. On some occasions this necessitated my having to physically separate you from your victims', using only reasonable force and no more.

In your latest diatribe to my colleague [REDACTED] when referring to me, you talk about you being someone "who has experienced violence and threat at the hands of this thug who hides behind a [REDACTED]". HIA 60 again you are talking crap. I am confident that if any of the nuns that I came across in all the years I was in Termonbacca were approached, and if all of the children who had known me in all the years I was resident at Termonbacca, were likewise approached, I am confident that none of them would agree with that crap description that you attribute to me. I would say that I was actually a bit of a pacifist to be honest. I can remember an occasion when a school bully challenged me to a fight and I simply would not lower myself to his standards. Maybe it's a [REDACTED] HIA 60

I understand that a few years ago (not sure exactly) there was an article published in the [REDACTED] newspaper, in which you alleged that you had been physically and sexually abused whilst resident at Termonbacca. I have no evidence to dispute your claims. However as someone who spent a lot longer there than you did, I certainly did not witness the matters that you complained of. I am not saying that it could not have happened, but if it did, it does seem strange that you, someone who had no loyalty to Termonbacca, which was never really your home, took it upon yourself to publicise these allegations.

It seems pretty clear to me that something must have happened to you in your childhood that has basically screwed your life up. Cannot be sure what it is but also cannot believe for one minute that it has anything to do with what I am alleged to have done to you. I cannot remember when I last saw you. It might have been about [REDACTED] years ago when I visited Derry to bid farewell to [REDACTED] SR 2 the last time I was in Ireland. However it's possible that you were not there, in which case its well over [REDACTED] years since we last met, I think. Then all of a sudden, out of the blue, about three and a half years ago you make contact with me via text. (Not sure who gave you my number.) You then claimed that I was a pedophile, and alluded to an incident in which I had been trying to restrain you, and you then suggested that you believed that it was my intention to strip you for sexual purposes, albeit that this did not happen? I told you to put up or shut up, telling you that you should report it to the police as I had done nothing to give me any cause for concern.

What motivated this contact three and a half years ago? What was the trigger? [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I [REDACTED] even though you indicate that no sexual contact actually took place?

You did take my advice and contact the PSNI. However in addition to that you subjected me to harassment for about another year, via text messages. Let me remind you here and now HIA 60 that Harassment is a CRIMINAL OFFENCE, and you can be arrested for this offence.

I was subsequently spoken to by the PSNI [REDACTED] about two years ago. Sadly for you, I was not arrested, I was simply interviewed under caution [REDACTED] [REDACTED] However it was still a traumatic experience for me and I will never forgive you for having put me through such an ordeal. I was concerned when

two police officers had travelled to [REDACTED] to interview me. Despite the fact that I knew I had done nothing wrong whatsoever I was concerned that you would have alleged something very serious, as after all you were alleging I was a pedophile.

They revealed the allegation which was very much what you had mentioned previously. You had said in your statement that I had pushed/manhandled you into a room (not a bedroom) and that you believed that it had been my intention to sexually abuse you. However when you were probed by the police officer you admitted that no sexual abuse had taken place, but that "you believed it was my intention to abuse you"? So when did you discover this great gift of mind reading? That was the one and only incident that you have alleged against me. So were in all that do I become a pedophile?

The bottom line HIA 60 is that I have never had any sexual interest in you, and you should know that, as I have NEVER at any stage in your life made any sexual approach towards you. [REDACTED] HIA 60 Furthermore as someone who has allegedly studied Pedophilia at University then surely you should know what the traits of a pedophile are. From what I read in the papers, there is sometimes a grooming process and at some point it involves having sex with underage kids. I have never had sex with underage kids. Also if I was this pedophile as you claim why is it that no one else in Termonbacca has made a similar allegation about me?

Now I don't know what's going on in that screwed up head of yours HIA 60 but I am not prepared to stand back this time like I have previously done and allow you to further slander my character. You have communicated to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] that I am a pedophile and also claiming that I am a violent person. You have offered no evidence to substantiate those claims. The original allegation was investigated by the PSNI and they have been told by the DPP that there is no case to answer.

Bottom line is I am putting you on a warning. If you make any further communication with me [REDACTED] making similar spurious allegations I will instigate formal proceedings against you for Criminal Harassment. Furthermore if you continue to communicate to others these spurious allegations of me being a pedophile then I will give serious consideration to suing you for defamation. That is not an idle threat [REDACTED]

Do us all a favor HIA 60. Move on with your life. I am sure that something bad must have happened to you in the past to cause you so much distress, even after all of these years. This may have happened either before you came to Termonbacca, or possibly whilst you were there. I simply don't know. What I do know is that I have done nothing to you to justify being on the receiving end of your disgraceful vitriol.

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

So to remind you again **HIA 60** I am not, repeat, not a pedophile, and I now urge you to cease your hate campaign against me. I suggest you get some help for your problem.

**SND 76**

I did not hear from **HIA 60** for over six months. Then at 2350hrs 25<sup>th</sup> May 2006 **HIA 60** sent an email to all members of the [REDACTED] with a word document attached:

[REDACTED]

**ATTACHMENT RECEIVED FROM** **HIA 60** **25/05/06**

1. Initially I dismissed your email with contempt however having re read it requires a response. You write to me in anger? Your display of self righteous indignation is a patently weak smokescreen, am I supposed to be afraid?

The Termonbacca children's home you describe is unrecognizable to me because it never existed. The whole tone of your email smacks of desperation and is certainly written for a third party, not me. You claim surprise as to 'what has motivated my latest attack on your character' 'the following email will hopefully explain to you and whoever your last email was intended for. It most certainly was not written for me as I already know what happened don't I **SND 76**?

2. You make statements about, my character, my family, my reasons for being in Termonbacca, my stay in Termonbacca, my relationship with the sisters of Nazareth all of which I now intend to answer. All of the statements you make are clearly intended to goad me and have no relation to the truth. You try to create the impression that you have some knowledge of me. Clearly you know much less about me than you would like to think.

3. You attempt to present me as some sort of ungrateful anti social thug, in direct contrast to yourself. You present yourself as some sort of trustee of Termonbacca with the qualities of a peace making saint. You would have any one who does know about Termonbacca believe that you were some sort of member of staff. You also appear to believe that having been resident in Termonbacca since you “were a baby until you were 18” justifies your actions and gives you the right to present your fiction as truth.

3. Sadly for you and your contemporaries the truth is more mundane Termonbacca was a children’s home and there were no extra rights for having been there the longest. The sisters of Nazareth provided a home for children who through no fault of their own could not be with their families. Also for your information I first was admitted to Termonbacca aged [REDACTED]. As your memory seems to be failing you let me remind you of the last time we did meet. It was in [REDACTED] at the ordination of [REDACTED] **SND 65** [REDACTED]. Then you wrote your address in my address book: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] We then spoke in June 2002 when I rang you following that we then had a conversation when you rang my home address.

4. Furthermore I reserve the right to comment on my experience of Termonbacca and the ex residents of Termonbacca, They had no right to be there and perpetrate their abusive activities, that includes you. I do not ever remember witnessing you repaying the nuns for their kindness to you, I only remember you and your contemporaries intimidating the younger, weaker or more vulnerable residents. Apart from prowling around Termonbacca I have no memory of you attempting to be friendly or to interact in a positive way with the other children who were there legitimately unlike you and your ilk.

5. The fact is you had left Termonbacca and had no right to be there, had no authority other than the fact you could physically intimidate younger smaller children. Another fact is that despite this and presenting yourself “as a *bit of a pacifist*” you now admit to having physically assaulted me at least once. You now seem to have a recollection of having also assaulted me in the sewing room of **SR 1** **SR 1** group which you have previously denied.

6. You refer to the incident when you dragged me violently into the sewing room beside St Joseph’s group dining room/TV room. You are correct it was not a bedroom however I fail to see the point that you attempt to make here. If it had been a resident’s bedroom then I would be doubly concerned as you absolutely had no right to be there. Are you saying that you did go into young people’s bedrooms? Sexual abuse and physical violence happens anywhere and is not just confined to bedrooms.

7. You claim that I must have developed some sort of ESP to be able to tell why you attacked me the truth is actually much more simple. I was beaten and assaulted on numerous occasions by various former Termonbacca residents. However these

assaults involved nothing more than violence the nature of your attack on me was very different. No one else ripped tore off my new lamb's wool jumper and shirt that **SR 1** had just bought for me.

8. The other reason why this incident has always stuck in my mind is because I can remember your foul breath and saliva at this point you then attempted to rip off my jeans but you were unable to overpower me. I got away to my room and locked my bedroom door until **SR 1** returned to the group after her evening prayers.

9. It was quite obvious what your motivation was, nothing other than your own sexual gratification. My life and the lives of countless other Termonbacca children that were difficult enough already were only made worse by your presence and several other ex residents of Termonbacca.

10. I could never understand why you would attack me like this I particularly remember the brutality of your attack. I was used to violence before I re entered Termonbacca and this was an advantage as I was more than capable of resisting you.

11. You state that if all of the children who had been in Termonbacca were approached you would be confident they would make no such accusation against you. Unfortunately I have to beg to differ and this is why. The following incident I describe helped me to understand just why you attacked me and your presence in Termonbacca.

12. In 1996 I saw you [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]. At this point I rang another former Termonbacca boy and told him [REDACTED] I told him I would ring him back afterwards. When I rang him back he said without any prompt from me and I quote

13. 'That's why he (you) used to fuck him up the ass when I was [REDACTED] years old'.

14. I'm sure that you will remember who he was unless there was more than one [REDACTED] year old boy you used to rape. I have spoken to two other ex Termonbacca boys who again without any prompt from me mentioned your name along with several others who they said were involved in sexual abuse.

15. I want to ask you whatever made you think that I would forget or forgive anything you did to me or to any other child who was supposed to have been protected in Termonbacca? When I spoke to you 4 years ago you denied ever having touched me. Funnily now it seems that you remember and admit to having had to 'physically separate you from your victims, using only reasonable force and no more'. I can assure you of this had you admitted this 4 years ago we would not be having this communication now. Instead then you were deliberately rude, insulting, arrogant and dismissive.

16. I have had my professional and personal character consistently described as exemplary throughout my career [REDACTED]. I have countless personal testimonies and professional references that will attest to this. Despite the picture you try to portray of me I have never been arrested or charged with any offence. This leaves your character assassination sadly flawed. Whereas you on the other hand have been involved or accused of at least two well documented violent incidents I know of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

17. The truth is quite simply this you are the one who has been brutalized by your childhood experience and is prepared to use violence when it is to your advantage. It is you who exhibits the characteristics of a psychopath devoid of feeling for anyone else, much less your victims

18. I find it very interesting that someone like you who [REDACTED] is in fact totally amoral you have been able to fool everyone so far, but I know you **SND 76**. I also know there are quite a few others like you from Termonbacca. You can no doubt justify your actions very well but essentially you are the same **SND 76** that used to haunt Termonbacca. Also I have heard what those two other ex Termonbacca boys told me about you.

19. In conclusion this disproves your claim that you behaved blamelessly while you were in Termonbacca and puts in doubt the rest of your self proclaimed role as Saint **SND 76** of Termonbacca. You are nothing of the sort you are little more than someone without any moral principles. If the Sisters of Nazareth really knew you they would know you are a wretched disgrace, after all the care and guidance they tried to give you. It is you not I who needs to seek professional help.

20. You state that you offered to meet with [REDACTED] for two years to discuss his accusations against you I would like to extend the same offer to you at the venue of your choice with whoever you choose as witnesses. Otherwise I suggest you carry out your threat to take action against me. I have nothing to hide can you say the same? I advise you to examine your conscience and ask yourself the same question.

I responded to **HIA 60** as follows:

From: **SND 76**  
Date: 05/26/06 18:13:12  
To: **HIA 60**  
Subject: Re: My reply

**HIA 60**

I am very disappointed that yet again you have decided to continue to slander my reputation [REDACTED]. A few years ago you made a spurious, I repeat a spurious allegation about me to the Police Service of Northern Ireland. (PSNI) an allegation which consisted of ONE incident which on the face of it could amount to a physical assault, when you were aged [REDACTED] I believe. There was no mention in your statement to the police of any attempt as you claim to "rip your jeans off". There was only reference to your jumper being slightly ripped. The police were satisfied with my explanation that I had to separate you from a fight involving you and another one of the boys, something which you regularly involved yourself in. You talk about the "brutality of the attack" which actually consisted of a slight rip to your jumper and this was done when I was acting in a supervisory capacity on behalf of the nuns.

Let me remind you that your spurious statement to the police made reference to only one incident involving you. I repeat just that **one** incident. Your statement had claimed that you believed that I had intended to sexually assault you albeit that you admit that no such attack ever occurred. The so called intention to sexually assault you was simply a corruption of your mind.

Your statement to the police made no reference to any other person who resided in Termonbacca. Your statement was made after 1996, when you allegedly had this phone call with the other un-named person who allegedly has claimed that I had sexually assaulted him when he was aged [REDACTED]. If this conversation had taken place why did you not reveal this to the police? **HIA 60** that is a dam and unforgivable lie. On this occasion you have simply gone too far.

**HIA 60** I am outraged that you make these further completely untrue allegation and even more enraged that you take it upon yourself to circulate your nasty attachment [REDACTED]. What has motivated you to make this further response? I wrote to last November and I made it quite clear that I was not prepared to put up with your sick attacks on my reputation. I repeat, if I was this nasty aggressive person that you are now claiming that I am then why did you make no reference to this when you first contacted the PSNI a few years ago?

I am convinced now that you are simply mentally unstable **HIA 60**. I am sorry if that is harsh but I simply am at a loss to understand why you made that spurious allegation against me to the police a few years ago about an incident that occurred about [REDACTED] years ago. Then when that was thoroughly investigated you then pop up last November sending another nasty and defamatory e-mail to my colleague [REDACTED]. I gave you a lengthy response to that message and warned you that if you continued with your unwarranted attacks on my character then I would both make a formal complaint of harassment and also take action for defamation of character against you. I WILL now be taking the action as threatened.

**HIA 60** I really do not know what is going on inside your sick mind. I accept that something must have happened to you when you were younger, that has resulted in you having this warped recollection about some of the people you knew in your childhood. I am simply not prepared to allow you to continue to slander my reputation. If you wanted to resolve the so called issues why have you again taken it

upon yourself to circulate your message [REDACTED] (again). What are you attempting to achieve by this HIA 60n?

I am somewhat flattered that you seem to be regularly following my career [REDACTED]. Have you made any contact with [REDACTED]?

I am not sure where you are living at the moment. It would be useful for me to have your address and contact number as I want to pass this information on to the police when I make my report of harassment. This will give you an opportunity to convey your allegations to them. HIA 60 I am comfortable with involving the police in this matter as I know I have nothing to hide. I actually would like to get on with my life rather than continue to be subjected to your deranged attacks on me. In fact do me a favour, go back to the police officers you spoke to [REDACTED] a few years ago and make them aware of these new allegations. Also maybe you could explain to them why you failed to make them aware of what are much more serious allegations, than the stupid allegation you made against me at the time.

I do not propose to meet you as I am concerned about your mental state. HIA 60 do us a favour go and get yourself some help.

I would ask that you respond to my personal e-mail address rather than subject my colleagues to your nasty vitriol. My address is: [REDACTED] SND 76

SND 76

I sent the following email to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Hi all

I am sorry that you have been subjected to the ramblings of a deranged man. HIA 60 is a person I knew when I lived in Derry, over [REDACTED] years ago. A few years ago he made an allegation of attempt sexual assault on him which allegedly happened when he was about [REDACTED] and I was [REDACTED]. The allegation was investigated by the PSNI and they found no evidence to support the ONE allegation he made at the time.

I have spoken to [REDACTED] and they advise me that he has made numerous allegations against other people.

I want to stress to you that there is absolutely no justification for him making the original and now new allegations, which he for some reason does not appear to have communicated to the police. If he was concerned to have the so called allegations investigated then it would seem logical to make a formal complaint to the police, rather than circulate a malicious message to [REDACTED] which is simply intended to damage my reputation.

I will be making a formal complaint of harassment to [REDACTED] Police and I will be speaking to [REDACTED] with a view to get legal advice on the possibility of suing this nasty little man for defamation.

**SND 76**

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2006 I contacted my local force [REDACTED] Police and made a formal complaint of Harassment against **HIA 60**. The investigation was allocated to [REDACTED].

**Reply from [REDACTED] HIA 60 4<sup>th</sup> June 2006:**

Let me state again for the record:

You now remember the incident when you attacked me previously you denied this, proving you are a liar.

The only reason why no sexual attack occurred when you attacked me was because I fought you off.

You never separated me or any other boys in a fight nor did you ever had any supervisory role on behalf of the nuns.

To use your own language it would be a dammed and unforgivable lie if I said that the conversation never took place when this other person said you raped him.

The fact that the PSNI decided to act upon my statement when they did is up to them, if they decided to take no further action it only means they could not prove a case against you it does not mean it did not happen. I know what happened.

You are convinced I'm mentally unstable? Somehow I don't think that you are qualified or intelligent enough to have the slightest understanding of mental ill health never mind make any diagnosis.

You would like to get on with your life than be subjected to my deranged attacks on you? Poor sensitive **SND 76** you're being over dramatic, get a sense of perspective if you ever had been subjected to a deranged attack you would not know what hit you. Again I have a little insight into experiencing deranged attacks courtesy of none other than you.

In actual fact it is you who is in need of professional help you are in total denial of your past actions in Termonbacca. You are one of several former residents I met there who were thugs and perverts. Obviously you had all been through the same abusive experiences however several of you went on to abuse others.

The biggest mistake that poor misguided **SR 2** made was letting you and your kind have any contact with the younger residents of Termonbacca. You and several others exploited this for your own sick perverted needs. No surprise to me then that such a thug and bully boy as yourself would then go on [REDACTED]

it seems that **SND 76** found a true home from home.

All you did was swap one intuition for another Termonbacca children's home for [REDACTED]. You obviously revel in the authority you imagine it gives you, [REDACTED]. You obviously have a lot to hide and lose including your reputation of thug and bully boy.

Throughout your verbal attacks on me you attempt to cast doubt upon my family, my reputation and now my mental state. Believe me my friend when it concerns you my emotions are ice cold and focused. My family are fully aware of just what occurred in Termonbacca and your role. I do not believe that someone of your type can change. This has been further confirmed after what I have heard from various former residents of Termonbacca leaving no doubt in my mind your intentions for me back in the sewing room of **SR 1** group in [REDACTED].

If you would like my address I am very easy to find and would never hide from you or whoever you would like to send to do your dirty work. Rest assured you will not find me as easy a target as when I was [REDACTED] years old [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

I had regular updates about the investigation into my complaint from [REDACTED], who subsequently informed me that he had interviewed **HIA 60** under caution at [REDACTED] police station in [REDACTED] on [REDACTED]. He informed me that **HIA 60** had admitted making contact with me, to in **HIA 60** words "To wind me up". He also said that **HIA 60** had also admitted that during the period that he had been contacting me he stated that he went about it the wrong way, used the wrong forum to do it, and that he did regret contacting me and the various other people. [REDACTED] stated that **HIA 60** had informed him that he had suffered a mental breakdown. [REDACTED] also said about **HIA 60** that he is "clearly a man with a lot of troubles and assures me that he will not have any contact with you again".

[REDACTED] informed me that there was enough evidence to instigate criminal proceedings against **HIA 60**. He did seek my views on whether I would be agreeable to **HIA 60** being issued with a formal Caution. I told [REDACTED] that I was content for **HIA 60** to be offered a police caution as long as could assure me that he would move on, and if necessary get some help for himself.

**Issues included in emails from **HIA 60** that were not mentioned in his two witness statements:**



On the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2006 HIA 60 circulated an email that contained an attached word document, [REDACTED] which included many defamatory comments about me. In that document he stated “The other reason why this incident has always stuck in my mind is because I can remember your foul breath and saliva at this point you then attempted to rip off my jeans”. There is no mention of that description in either of his two witness statements. He also states “. I could never understand why you would attack me like this I particularly remember the brutality of your attack”. Now I know that the term ‘brutality’ can be mean different things to different people, but I am not sure that even the two contradictory descriptions of the alleged attack in the two statements would warrant the inclusion of the adjective ‘brutality’ when referring to the incident. It seems that the more HIA 60 refers to the alleged incident the more he spices up the description of an incident that in reality NEVER happened. It’s all a figment of his warped imagination.

In his email to me on the 4<sup>th</sup> June 2006 HIA 60 stated “You now remember the incident when you attacked me previously you denied this, proving you are a liar”. I should again make it quite clear that I have no recollection of the specific incident that forms the basis of his false allegation against me, where I apparently was jealous because he had been given a new jumper and had forced him into the sewing room etc.

In my email to him on the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2006 I was informing him that there had been a number of occasions when I had to physically separate him from fighting with other people. Those would have been the only occasions where I would ever have had any physical interaction with him.

#### **Summary of Tape Recorded Interview 27<sup>th</sup> February 2004:**

I think it is necessary for me to comment on the summary of my interview under caution that was conducted by PSNI officers [REDACTED]. The summary was completed by Sergeant Michelle Boyd of the PSNI, one of the interviewing officers.

[REDACTED]

On page 3 of the summary the officer records that “when he visited at weekends he would have received payment of food and lodging for the chores he would carry out”. The officer then immediately records after that comment, the following; “He denied

staying at the home on an overnight basis as an adult". Those two comments obviously contradict each other. Firstly I never did any of the work I undertook for any kind of payment of reward, and I never stated that I had done so during the interview. In effect I was returning to my family home and like any other decent person returning to their family home, I would help out with a range of chores. Any meals provided were not conditional to any work undertaken and I most certainly was not offered lodging, as by then I had my own accommodation independent of Termonbacca.

[REDACTED] :

**HIA 60** makes a number of references to the [REDACTED] in the aforementioned email interactions with me. I have attached the following documents which give some background to the links between [REDACTED] and me:

A). Letter of complaint about [REDACTED] to [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

B). Complaint Against [REDACTED], [REDACTED] Made By [REDACTED]  
**SND 76** [REDACTED] . - Chronology of Events

[REDACTED] made an allegation of assault against me on the [REDACTED] to [REDACTED]. He claimed that I had punched him in the face in a night club in the [REDACTED] area. Whilst I had always admitted having a verbal interaction with him on the night in question I had always denied having physically assaulted him.

I appeared before [REDACTED] t on [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and was acquitted of the alleged Section 39 (Common) Assault against [REDACTED]

### **Relevant entries in my personal diary 1976 to 1982:**

Prior to compiling this statement I decided to check my personal diaries for the above periods to see if I had made any entries related to **HIA 60**. There are no entries of me having any disputes with him or of my having to intervene in any disputes involving him. Below are verbatim records of the few references to him in my diaries:

**2<sup>nd</sup> December 1979:** "Apparently **HIA 60** has been shifted over to **SR 6r** **SR 6** group on a temporary basis".

**19<sup>th</sup> May 1981:** 'Met **HIA 60** this evening at **HIA 22** flat'.

**18<sup>th</sup> January 1982:** 'Up with [REDACTED] this evening. Met **HIA 98**  
**HIA 98**, **HIA 60**, **SND 132** and **HIA 11**

### **My Memories of my childhood in Termonbacca**

I was born in [REDACTED]. I have subsequently discovered that I was born out of wedlock. My mother's name was [REDACTED] and my father was called [REDACTED]. They were both from [REDACTED] and I understand that when my mother became pregnant she left [REDACTED] to conceal her pregnancy, and that when I was born I was handed over to the local parish priest and he subsequently handed me into the care of the Sisters of Nazareth. For various reasons the option of marriage for my parents was not considered.

My father subsequently married someone else and they had their own children. Although I have managed to meet my father only once he told me that he could not reveal my existence to his family as he was too ashamed to admit that he had fathered a child before he got married. I don't know if my father is still alive these days. He did tell me that my mother had married an older man who was [REDACTED]. My father showed me her grave which is located in a churchyard in [REDACTED].

I did manage to trace [REDACTED] of my deceased mother in [REDACTED] and I visited their homes and revealed who I was. They basically didn't want to give me the time of day. I got the impression that they felt that admitting that their deceased sister had borne a child out of wedlock would have brought shame to their wider family.

Although I now don't have contact with any blood relatives it really has not had a detrimental impact on my life. I think it's a case of what you never had you never miss. I think I have been quite fortunate in that respect as I know that the rejection by blood relatives has had a detrimental psychological impact on some of my former colleagues from Termonbacca.

I spent all of the first [REDACTED] years of my life in the care of the Sisters of Nazareth, first as a baby in their house in Fahan in Donegal and then in Termonbacca. I remember as a young boy in Termonbacca in the 1960's there were two nuns totally responsible for looking after, somewhere between what I believe was about 80 to 100 boys, aged between about 6 to 16. There was a separate Nursery in Termonbacca for the younger children. In those early days I am not too sure if they had any employed staff to assist them with the supervision of the boys. The nuns themselves were relatively young, and probably had no formal childcare training. They also had this responsibility for seven days a week from morning noon to night. They never had a day off. Towards the late 60's and early 70's the nuns did get some help from volunteers and paid staff.

I have a very vague recollection of my time in the Nursery. I think I remained there until I was about aged [REDACTED] or [REDACTED], and then moved to the section of the house where the older boys lived. When I was young it was solely a home for boys. Towards the end of my time in Termonbacca in the mid 1970's, girls were also admitted. I am pretty confident that I had a happy childhood in the nursery and was well cared for by the sister in charge of the Nursery. I remember that **SR 3** was in charge of

the Nursery when I was young but I cannot remember if she was in charge when I was actually a resident in the Nursery. I believe that the nun who eventually replaced her was SR 23. She was very young, most likely in her SR 3 and SR 23 were very nice and very caring people.

The two nuns in charge of the boys were SR 1 and SR 2 SR 2. I got on well with both sisters and have always had great respect for both of them. Sadly SR 1 is now deceased. SR 2 was the younger of the two. At some point the house was divided into two groups and each of the sisters had responsibility for one half of the boys. I was in SR 2 group and remained in her group until I left Termonbacca in SR 2. I had a very good relationship with SR 2. In effect she was my surrogate mother, as I had spent the majority of my childhood in Termonbacca under her direct care.

The section where the older boys lived was all on one level. There was no upstairs area like there was in the main convent building and in the nursery. There were two large dormitories. One was called the junior dormitory and the other was the senior dormitory. I genuinely cannot remember what age triggered a move from the junior to senior dormitory.

My memories of the beds were that they were comfortable and that the bed linen was clean and regularly changed. We all were issued with pyjamas. I remember one occasion in the 1960's how excited we were when we came home from school and found dozens of brand new mattresses lined up in the main play room, which was situated between the two dormitories. Although I had always found the beds to be comfortable I always remember how fantastic the new mattresses felt. There were large radiators in the bedrooms and other areas of the home and they were always in use when needed. The building itself was rather spartan compared to conditions that we would be used to today, but at the time they felt adequate to me.

At night time there was a routine where some of the boys who were habitual bed wetters would be required to get up and line up to use a bucket that had been placed on the floor. There would have been a rubber sheet under the bucket to deal with any spillage. The purpose of this routine was to try and reduce the likelihood of those particular boys wetting their beds overnight. I am not sure if it was really that effective. I don't remember why they were not required to use the toilets as opposed to the bucket. I am not sure we saw this process as problematic at the time though.

There was a large play room and there would have been a TV set in the corner. I think there might have been some tennis tables and maybe snooker tables. My memory of that is vague. When the weather was fine most of the boys would prefer to be outside playing football or other games. In those days the boys were quite adventurous and I remember some of the boys building their own go carts from old wheels and bits of wood.

There was a large dining room in the old building and there were lots of small tables and chairs. I think we actually called it the refectory. The main meals were prepared in the kitchen which was situated in the basement of the main convent and the meals would be conveyed from there. From an early age I always felt that we were well fed. Breakfast would usually be porridge or sometimes cereal. I am pretty sure that in addition to that there was also some cooked food with breakfast, maybe bacon

and/or sausages and usually always fried bread. Most cooked food in those days was fried. There were also large pots of tea.

If we went to school we invariably had a cooked lunch there and I always remember that immediately when we came home from school we would have afternoon tea. It was either in large tea pots or Tea Urns and the milk was already added, and possibly the sugar as well. I was a prolific tea drinker and always looked forward to my cups of tea. There was usually something to eat with the tea, which we would have around 4pm, possibly cake or similar. I particularly remember regularly having a very rich coffee flavoured cake, which had a very generous covering of icing. I don't know for certain, but I think the cakes would have been donated by local bakeries or supermarkets, maybe as they were close to the sell by or use by date. They certainly always tasted fresh and delicious. I also remember that every Saturday a local bakery called Hunters used to deliver a very large tray of cakes for us. Sometimes they were what we called paris cakes, cream buns, sometimes chocolate éclairs, or a mixed range of other cakes. Not sure if they were paid for or donated, but they always tasted good.

We would then have an evening meal probably around 6pm. It was either a cooked meal or maybe a salad during the summer time. The chips were always very popular. They would have been made with potatoes from the farm that was attached to the home and there was a machine in the kitchen for peeling potatoes and one for cutting them into chip shapes and they were always cooked in a deep fry cooker. We had chicken a lot for either dinners or evening meals. All in all I remember the meals being adequate in terms of quality and quantity. We always could have bread butter and jam with the evening meal. So in effect we were averaging three cooked meals a day, breakfast dinner and evening meal. We would usually have something to drink before bed, maybe hot chocolate or gruel. I actually quite enjoyed the taste of the gruel. Sometimes we would have biscuits with the drink. I particularly remember the biscuits being in large catering size boxes and there was one particular one I liked with had a minty flavoured topping.

I remember there was always plenty of milk available, and many of us would drink the milk in addition to using it for cereals and tea. There were many cows on our farm and the milk was obtained from the farm and pasteurised there as well. I remember large milk urns being delivered from the farm to the kitchen and being transferred to large stainless steel buckets. It would be allowed to sit in the buckets in the fridge for a while and the cream would rise to the top and then be skimmed off by the kitchen staff and they were then able to use the cream when making deserts etc.

Most of the vegetables we used were grown on our farm. I remember how nice the new potatoes were when they were in season. Lovely potatoes boiled in their jackets and when taken with butter they just tasted amazing. There was also a ready supply of fresh eggs from the farm. I certainly think we were fortunate to have access to the produce from the farm. I can honestly say that I don't ever remember being deprived of sufficient food in all the time I resided in Termonbacca. In many respects I think we were better fed and also better clothed than many of the 'outside' boys in our classes at school. Many of the boys at my school came from the large council estates in the Creggan, Bogside, Brandywell and surrounding areas, and some of

them most likely lived in conditions of deprivation that we personally did not experience in Termonbacca.

There was a sewing room in the boys unit and **SR 2** was also in charge of that facility. There were a few sewing machines in there and she would spend a lot of time there mending and altering clothing and also darning socks etc. I suppose money was tight and clothes had to be repaired rather than replaced with new ones, and of course they would be handed down to younger children when they were outgrown. The sisters made every effort to ensure that we had smart and regularly washed clothing, even if it was handed down clothing.

On special occasions like Easter Halloween, Christmas and Feast Days, like St Patricks Day we would have a special meal, a party in effect. There was always the customary ice cream and jelly to follow, our all time favourite dessert.

I have heard that some of the ex Termonbacca Boys who have made allegations against the nuns have claimed that they were only ever addressed by their number and not by their name. I am sure I had a number allocated to me when I lived in Termonbacca but I genuinely cannot remember what it was. The number was only used for labelling clothing etc as you can imagine how difficult it would have been to distribute freshly laundered clothing to dozens of boys, especially when much of the clothing was similar. None of the boys would ever have been addressed by their number. We were addressed usually by our first name rather than number. Practically speaking unless the nuns carried a clip board with the names and numbers of the boys around with them, how would they know what the boy's number was? It is surely much easier to know someone by their name rather than a number.

Given that there were a large number of boys residing in one house, all of varying ages ranging from say seven to sixteen, I suppose it would be inevitable that some of the older boys would have been involved in physically bullying some of the younger boys and I suppose realistically as the older boys went through the various stages of puberty, and with the possible confusion about their sexual orientation sometimes associated with that process, that there would have been the possibility that some of the older boys may have sexually abused some of the younger boys.

As I have said earlier I don't think that in the 1960's certainly, that the nuns would have had any formal childcare training, which I imagine would have covered the impact that puberty could have on boys and of the possible implications of that process for other boys. It's possible they may have had training, I am merely surmising. I genuinely believe that many of the nuns would really have had no understanding of this issue and thus would not have felt any need to give any consideration to the need to introduce some form of safeguards to address the potential risks posed to younger boys. I am sure that if they were aware of this situation they would have addressed it. I certainly am not aware of any situation where any of the nuns would have condoned or failed to take action if they were aware that boys had been the victims of any physical or sexual abuse.

Given that the nuns could not have been in the boys unit 24/7, due to having to attend the convent section for daily formal prayers, mass etc and for their meals, and given that certainly in the 1960's when there were few if any adult staff available to supervise the children in their absence, they would most likely have had to leave some of the older boys in charge. I am pretty confident that the majority of those

older boys would have conducted those supervisory duties in a fit and proper manner, but of course there would have been the opportunity for some of those 'supervisors' and other older boys to take advantage of the absence of the nuns during those particular periods.

I personally have no memory of ever having been the victim of any physical or sexual abuse from any of the older boys in all the time I resided at Termonbacca. I have no recollection of having witnessed any older boys physically or sexually abusing other boys. There would have been many occasions when boys would have got involved in physical fights with other boys.

I have read that some of the ex Termonbacca boys who lived there around the same time I was there have portrayed Termonbacca as a place where physical and sexual abuse was a regular part of life in Termonbacca and have claimed that some of the nuns regularly subjected the boys to gratuitous violence with the use of a range of weapons such as bamboo sticks. I certainly have no memory of ever having been hit by any nun using any weapon or witnessing any nun hit any of the boys with the use of weapons. There would have been occasions when the nuns would have had to resort to the occasional use of corporal punishment to deal with a misdemeanour. That of course was quite lawful at the time. The notion that the gratuitous use of physical violence by the nuns was a regular part of life for all the boys in Termonbacca in the 1960's and 1970's is simply nonsense. I lived there for [REDACTED] years and certainly cannot relate to allegations of that nature made by some of the ex Termonbacca Boys.

From time to time we would have visits to the home from members of the St Vincent De Paul Charity and later representatives from the large local factory called Du-Pont. The St Vincent De Paul charity organised our Christmas presents in the early years, arranged daily outings to places like Buncrana and other sea side resorts, and sometimes showed us films, bringing their own projector and screen. Their visits were always well received by the boys. I remember some of their names. There was [REDACTED] **SND 182** (deceased) [REDACTED] (deceased) and former Termonbacca boy [REDACTED] who sadly died last month. (January). There were many more who visited but I cannot remember their names now. From Du Pont their main representative who regularly visited the home was [REDACTED] Eventually the Du Pont workers would arrange collections and pay for most of the Christmas presents that we received. From memory they were always good quality presents. We enjoyed the visits from these volunteers and to be honest I genuinely believed they enjoyed making the visits.

I also remember when I was younger we had several visits from **SND 131** and his successor **SND 228**. The Mother Regional (Ireland) of the Sisters of Nazareth visited from time to time. I think we would have had some visits from Mother General also. I remember these visits were all rather grand affairs, with all of the children and nuns gathering at the front of the convent to greet the arriving guests.

During the summer holidays we always went away usually for the month of August. From the mid to late 1960's and for part of the 1970's we went to a house at a place called Carrowmena which was located near Moville in County Donegal. It was situated about 10 minutes from a beach, which we more or less had exclusive use of. We were always excited about going to Carrowmena. It was a large detached family house but it did get somewhat cramped when all of the boys were living there.

I remember the bedrooms were crammed full of bunk beds. We didn't mind that though, we were on holiday and that was all part of the fun of being on holiday.

The two nuns and staff who came with us to Carrowmena undertook the cooking of all meals whilst we there. There was a store room crammed full of food and we certainly were well catered for. When the weather was fine we would spend most of the day down at the beach. The sisters and staff would have prepared a packed lunch for the day and then we would have a cooked dinner in the evening after returning home from the beach. Occasionally we would receive some pocket money and be allowed to walk up to the one and only small shop in the nearby village. Unfortunately for us their stocks of sweets and chocolate bars would run out pretty quickly.

When the weather was fine we would all go out for long walks with the nuns along the quiet country roads. That was quite exciting really as we were used to living near a city where all the roads had street lighting and here in Donegal the roads were completely pitch dark. I remember **SR 2** used to tell us lots of ghost stories as we walked in the dark, and they had more impact on us due to the fact that we were walking in the pitch dark and waiting for a ghost to pounce out from behind a hedge at any time. We enjoyed the walks and the ghost stories. I have very fond memories of Carrowmena and whenever I return to Ireland I always take the opportunity to drive down there and have a look at the house and have a walk down to the beach. They were very enjoyable holidays.

When Carrowmena became unavailable sometime in the 1970's we then went to a large house called 'The Fort', in Greencastle which was also situated near to Moville in County Donegal. That house belonged to **[REDACTED]** and I believe he allowed us the use of the house for free. **[REDACTED]**

**[REDACTED]** When we were at Carrowmena and at 'The Fort' **[REDACTED]**

I remember around Christmas time that we used to get invited to lots of Christmas parties. The Fire Service used to regularly hold parties for us at their main station on the Northland Road in Derry. They would provide us with nice party food and then there was the inevitable arrival of Santa on the back of a fire engine and we would all be provided with presents. I also remember parties at the American Base, which I believe was called Sea Eagle. What we liked about that party was the fact that we got American type food and also cans of Coke and Pepsi. I am sure we went to parties at Ebrington Army barracks in the Waterside, but they most likely stopped around 1968 when the 'Troubles' started.

Every Saturday afternoon we were given our pocket money. Cannot remember exactly how much we got but it was either two shillings or maybe half a crown. We were then allowed to go 'down the town' for a few hours to spend the money. Like many of the boys I headed to Woolworths or Wellworths. One of the main items many of us purchased was the broken biscuits, because they always represented good value for money. We would have to be home by a certain time.

I suppose we lived a relatively enclosed life. Apart from going to school or popping down the Town to spend our pocket money on a Saturday afternoon we spent the



majority of our time in Termonbacca or together when we went away on holiday. Many of the nuns who worked in Termonbacca originated from the Irish Republic. One of the manifestations of my having lived a generally enclosed life in Termonbacca during my childhood is that I and many of the other boys never truly acquired a proper Derry accent. To this day many people think I originated from Southern Ireland, because of my soft Irish accent.

Although we may not have had the opportunity to take part in 'extracurricular activities' away from Termonbacca, we were given many opportunities to take part in such activities whilst we were there. We had a choir and a local Teacher [REDACTED] regularly visited to give us choir lessons. I was a member of the choir. We also had a [REDACTED] and a local man called [REDACTED] (deceased) regularly visited to give us [REDACTED] practice. I was also in the band. I also remember a local teacher who also visited and gave us [REDACTED] lessons. Another teacher from [REDACTED] Secondary School, [REDACTED] used to regularly visit the home. I think he used to prepare boys for participating in concerts.

When I was younger I attended Nazareth House Primary school at Bishop Street. I am pretty sure that most days we were taken to school by bus. The nun's also had their own minibus which was used to take children to the primary school. Boys attending the senior schools tended to walk to school. One of the employees at the home, [REDACTED] **SND 1** regularly drove the children to and from primary school in the minibus. That might have happened after I had left the primary school as I think that during my time a proper single decker bus was used to take us to and from Primary school. It is possible that I may have had to walk to and from the primary school from time to time, I just cannot remember exactly to be honest.

I have generally pleasant memories of my time at Nazareth House Primary School. The principle was [REDACTED] **SR 9** She was strict but I think for the right reasons. She wanted the pupils to do well. I know she must have worked very hard because in addition to being school principle I believe she had responsibility for a group of the girls who lived in the Nazareth House orphanage that was attached to the school. She was also in charge of the highly successful Nazareth House Irish Band. Members of that band were all girls who lived at the Nazareth House in Derry. I know that when I was at the primary school the band had appeared several times on the then popular TV show 'Opportunity Knocks'. We were all issued with postcards at the school and encouraged to vote for the Nazareth House band.

I also remember the other nun who taught in the school during my time there, **SR 59** **SR 59** She was very nice. I also remember some of the teachers, including **SND 130** **SND 130** and **SND 321** I have fond memories of my time at the school. I remember there was a period when I kept on after the end of the school day to undertake extra tuition, which I think was connected to the 11 plus exams. I imagine **SR 9** had identified that I had the potential to pass that exam and was enabling me to have a better chance of so doing.

One of the things I liked about staying on later was that I was given my evening meal there as well. It always seemed to include chips. Sadly for me and for the tireless efforts of the nuns and teachers I did not pass the 11 plus. I genuinely have no recollection of having sat the exam. I wish I had passed the exam, mainly because I believe the nuns had great expectations for me and I felt I had let them down. I don't

remember any of the Termonbacca Boys ever going to [REDACTED] grammar school during my time in Termonbacca.

I would have started at [REDACTED] Secondary School [REDACTED] and remained there until [REDACTED]. Most of the senior Termonbacca Boys went to [REDACTED] school around the 1960's, but in 1970 a new secondary school, [REDACTED], was opened in the [REDACTED]. That was situated at the top of Southway and was geographically closer to Termonbacca. From 1970 onwards the senior boys went to [REDACTED] school. It is possible that some of the senior boys were also sent to [REDACTED] school after 1970, I just don't remember to be honest.

[REDACTED] was a tough school and as I have previously mentioned, corporal punishment was regular part of the school regime. All teachers had access to a leather strap and made regular use of it to enforce discipline. If I am being honest the strap was abused by some of the teachers and used on many occasions when it was totally unjustified. The headmaster at the time I started was [REDACTED] SND 180. He was later succeeded by [REDACTED] SND 73. It is fair to say that [REDACTED] SND 73 most certainly made robust use of the strap. I remember that if you were even five minutes late for school you would receive 'six of the best' from him. You were normally hit on the palms of your hand and the slaps were truly painful. [REDACTED] later succeeded [REDACTED] SND 73 as headmaster. [REDACTED] was a truly decent man and I have no recollection of ever having been physically admonished by him. I was definitely subjected to corporal punishment at [REDACTED] Secondary School much more frequently than I ever was at Termonbacca. I achieved four reasonable grades in my CSE's which I completed in [REDACTED].

I remember in the late 1960's there used to be regular meetings at Termonbacca in the main parlour of the convent at Termonbacca of two separate committees of a local volunteer group called the 'Termonbacca Aid Association'. For some reason they seemed to have a Senior Committee and a Junior Committee, and each committee held their meetings on separate days. It seemed to me that the senior committee members appeared to be much wealthier than the junior committee members. (Think they were all men). I could always tell which committee was meeting from the quality of the cars that were parked at the front of the house. Each committee seemed to have twenty plus people on them. The senior committee members always had big flash cars like jaguars and BMW's whereas when the junior committee met it was box standard Ford Cortina's, Vauxhall Viva's Morris 1100's etc. I think many of the junior committee would have been public sector workers like teachers etc.

I understand that the main reason for the formation of the 'Termonbacca Aid Association' was an acknowledgement that the buildings where the boys lived in Termonbacca were no longer fit for purpose. Whilst the main convent and nursery buildings were made from bricks and mortar the boys section appeared to be constructed with the use of wooden walls and a corrugated metal sheet roof and exterior walls. The committee was formed to raise money to construct a new building to replace the boys section.

In the grounds of Termonbacca and near to the main convent was an old cottage that was inhabited by the [REDACTED] SND 15 and a few other male employees at Termonbacca, including [REDACTED] SND 1 who was the [REDACTED], and

HIA 144

who worked [REDACTED]. All of these men were ex residents of Termonbacca and had spent all their life at that time in Termonbacca.

The committee has decided that they would need to prepare temporary accommodation for the boys, to allow for the demolition of the old building and erection of the new building that would replace it. They decided that they would build a brand new smaller cottage for the above named men and alter their older and larger cottage to provide accommodation for one of the groups. I think by that time

SR 1

had left Termonbacca and had been replaced by SR 5

SR 5

It was her group that was housed in that older but redecorated cottage. It is fair to say that the older cottage was made of similar material to the old building that was to be demolished. It is possible they were constructed around the same time.

Next to the older cottage the volunteers also constructed a brand new 'temporary' building which had a wall made of brick and a roof made from corrugated steel panels. It actually looked like one of those wagons from the old western movies. That was designated as the dormitory for SR 2 group. There were toilets and I think two bathrooms inside the building and two small bedrooms, one for SR 2

SR 2 and the other for SND 194 who by that time was now employed as a member of staff, mainly to supervise the children.

Near to these buildings were two other abandoned buildings, one of which was where chickens had previously been housed. This building was also designated for SR 2 group, which I was still in. It was converted and redecorated. It was mainly just one big open plan room, with one half designated as the play and TV area and the other half was the dining room. It's fair to say that it might have seemed a bit small for so many boys (cannot remember exactly how many were in the group at this point), but we managed OK.

Next to that was an out building where there were some toilets and I think space to store shoes and maybe clothing, coats etc. That was also part of SR 2 group. If it was raining or snowing during the day it probably was a bit inconvenient having to go outside to another building to use the toilets or even just to get to the dormitory. Also it was a bit of a problem when collecting meals etc from the kitchen in the main convent building. There were bunk beds in the dormitory, but I don't think at the time I ever felt hard done by, having to live in such cramped and pretty spartan conditions for well over a year. (Not sure exactly how long we stayed in the temporary buildings). There was a large field nearby where we could play. I found the whole experience of living in the temporary buildings all a bit of an adventure really.

I think it is really important to contextualise the conditions that the sisters had to cope with at this particular time. They had to look after a large number of children living in temporary cramped conditions for quite a long period of time. You can imagine what it must have been like when you had long wet days when the children could not go outside due to the rain and the strain this causes to the children who are then feeling very claustrophobic being stuck inside. Tensions were bound to be raised at times.

I think it's only fair to point out that by now a further problem that the nuns were having to deal with was the effects of the 'Troubles' which started in the late 1960's. Certainly going to and from school many of us were getting caught up in riots that had become a regular part of daily life then. It was common for army land rovers to

drive past my school around 3.30pm just as the school was closing for the day. This was like waving a red flag in front of a bull. Many of the pupils would attack the land rovers with bricks and bottles and invariably more soldiers would arrive at the scene and the riot would then escalate, and soon the air would be filled with CS gas, which also impacted on people who were not directly involved in the riots. I personally was never motivated to get involved in rioting but unfortunately quite a few of the Termonbacca boys did get involved.

Termonbacca was situated on the edge of the large Creggan estate. As the 'Troubles' developed the Creggan and other similar republican area's became 'No Go' areas, the residents having erected large barricades on the main access roads to prevent the police and army from gaining entry to the estates. One of these barricades was situated at the top of a road called Southway which was where the front entrance to Termonbacca was situated. It was a regular occurrence for IRA men to undertake gun battles from that location or sometimes from within the grounds of Termonbacca, taking shots at soldiers on the nearby Letterkenny (Lecky) Road and shooting straight across the River Foyle to a rubbish dump that was directly opposite the River Foyle from Termonbacca. Sometimes military vehicles would attend the dump and be attacked by the IRA who were literally using Termonbacca and the nearby roads as the launch pad for these attacks.

I know that **SR 2** personally spoke to some of the IRA men who would enter the grounds in their cars and request that they leave as they were putting the children and other residents at risk by their actions. I also know that she managed to instigate dialogue with a well known IRA leader in Derry at the time, firstly to get reassurance from him that the IRA would not get involved in terrorist activity within or near to Termonbacca. I also know that she was concerned that some of the ex Termonbacca boys might have got involved with joining the IRA and she sought reassurance from him that any who did make approaches to join would be discouraged from joining. This is one of the many occasions that **SR 2** intervened to offer direct or indirect support to ex Termonbacca boys. Contrary to what some ex Termonbacca boys have claimed, they were not all abandoned forever once they had ceased living in Termonbacca.

As the house was located on the edge of the Creggan estate there were many occasions when the army would enter our grounds sometimes in vehicles but usually on foot patrol and they would sometimes conceal themselves in our fields maintaining discrete observations on the Creggan. I know that for a period of time they had established a permanent post on our farm in Termonbacca near to the Braehead Road entrance.

I remember many nights when we were in bed in the 'wagon' we could hear gun battles occurring literally outside and we knew the soldiers were outside because we could hear them shouting instructions to each other with their strong British accents. Many nights we would literally be lying on the floor as we feared bullets coming through the corrugated panels of the roof. It really was quite terrifying at times to be honest. I remember the night of the infamous 'Operation Motorman' on the 31<sup>st</sup> July 1972 when British Soldiers undertook a coordinated operation to penetrate the so called 'No Go' areas all round Northern Ireland. Some of the soldiers entered the Creggan via the Termonbacca grounds. A woman, **SR 2** whose house

was at the top of Southway and near to the barricade, was shot dead by the soldiers. That was another truly terrifying night for all of us.

I remember another occasion when our [REDACTED] **SND 15** found the body of a murdered UDR soldier which had been dumped inside the grounds of Termonbacca near to the Braehead Road entrance. He had been abducted and murdered by the IRA. At times it felt like we were living in a war zone. I also remember the day of Bloody Sunday on the 30th January 1972. I was 14 at the time and we were still living in the temporary buildings. We saw the Civil Rights parade go past Termonbacca walking down Southway. We were aware that a number of the older Termonbacca Boys who had left Termonbacca and some of the staff were taking part in the parade. I remember how shocked we all were when we could hear the sound of continuous gunfire coming from the city centre, especially when we knew people who were involved in the march. Then we started hearing stories of two then four then eventually that thirteen people had been shot dead and many more seriously injured. It was quite a traumatising time for many of us as I am sure it was for many other people in Derry that day.

These gun battles, the finding of dead bodies in our grounds, the constant presence of terrorists and soldiers in and around Termonbacca, the exposure on a regular basis to public disorder on the streets, the interaction of Termonbacca Boys with fellow pupils, some of whom who were directly involved in the public disorder and who had close family members directly involved with the IRA represented even greater challenges for the nuns, who did all they could to shield us from the worst aspects of the Troubles. That context is really important.

When we eventually moved into the newly constructed building, sometime in the mid 1970's it was truly like moving into a palace. We had a large TV and dining area. There were plenty of walk in showers and decent toilets. Instead of a dormitory there were bedrooms for the children. There was a single one then some doubles and some designed for three or four children. Towards the end of my time at Termonbacca I acquired the single room. There was also a separate bedroom with adjoining en-suite for the nun. There was an outside covered area where the children could play if it was raining. There also was a large gravel all weather area, the size of a football pitch for the children to play on. There was a small kitchenette downstairs with a cooker etc, but the meals were still prepared in the main kitchen. There were two separate identical sections in the new building which was designed to accommodate two separate groups of children.

During my time in Termonbacca the sisters worked with the St Vincent De Paul Society and possibly other organisations to find families who would be willing to take some of the children out for short holidays, usually in the summer and Christmas periods. I suppose the rationale for doing that was to allow us to experience life in a 'normal' family setting. I was very fortunate to have been found two families who took me out.

The first family was [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who lived in [REDACTED] near [REDACTED]. I went there for many holidays during the summer and Christmas periods with another Termonbacca boy called [REDACTED] **HIA 136**. I think we would have been around eleven or in our early teens when we first visited them. [REDACTED] worked for the [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] was a [REDACTED]. We used to enjoy our holidays there as [REDACTED] was a fantastic cook and was always

baking lovely homemade soda bread and cakes. She was also a very gregarious woman. She had [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was a [REDACTED] to me. Sadly both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are now deceased but I still maintain contact with some of their family members.

The other family who took me out for many years was the [REDACTED] family from [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was the [REDACTED] at a [REDACTED] and his wife [REDACTED] was a full time housewife. I think that the [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had links to the St Vincent De Paul Society. The [REDACTED] had [REDACTED] children and most were a similar age to me or slightly younger. Again I spent many happy holidays with them. They subsequently moved to [REDACTED] when [REDACTED] was promoted to a senior position within [REDACTED]. To this day I still maintain contact with the [REDACTED] and they always invite me to stay at their home whenever I am back in Ireland on holiday. I have been truly fortunate to have had the privilege to have been introduced to these two wonderful families.

During my regular holidays with these families we would talk about my life in Termonbacca. I am satisfied that if any members of the [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] family were approached now they would be able to confirm that I have always spoken positively about my time in Termonbacca. Thinking of some of the new allegations that have been made by a small number ex Termonbacca boys in recent years; given that many of them like me may have had holidays with external families one wonders if they ever discussed with these families any of the alleged physical or sexual abuse that they are now claiming they were subjected to many years ago during their time in Termonbacca!

The farm that was attached to Termonbacca was quite large, possibly 120 acres. There were a few people employed full time to work the farm but when crops such as hay and potatoes had to be harvested then we would be expected to muck in, much like I imagine would happen to children who are raised on any other farm. I remember many happy summer days helping with the hay harvesting. I think we would have been maybe [REDACTED] when we helped out on the farm, possibly [REDACTED] but I don't think any younger. Our job was to lift the bales of hay onto the tractor trailer and then when they were taken to barn to unload them and stack them up. I am not sure any of us were forced to do it. I certainly enjoyed doing it.

I remember that around that time the sister in charge of the kitchen was [REDACTED] **SR 36**. In addition to being a thoroughly nice person [REDACTED] **SR 36** was also a fantastic cook. When we were working on the farm she would bring our food up to the fields in the car. I can remember now the lovely meals of chicken and chips, freshly buttered bread and a large urn of tea that she brought to us. We worked hard but we also ate hard. [REDACTED] **SR 36** would eventually go on to become the [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] Sadly she died a few years ago in the Nazareth House in [REDACTED] at a relatively young age.

We would also help out with potato harvesting. That was usually around late September and October time if I remember rightly. That was less attractive than harvesting the hay as the weather was usually colder and wet and in many respects it was a harder job. Initially they just had a machine attached to the rear of the tractor that dug up the potatoes but scattered them onto the ground. We would be armed with baskets and have to bend down and place potatoes into the baskets and then empty the baskets into larger sacks which were subsequently placed onto a tractor

trailer and taken to one of the farm sheds where they were sorted. In subsequent years the farm acquired a potato harvesting machine, which was hooked up to the rear of the tractor. We could stand on that machine and the potatoes would be dug up and then deposited onto a conveyor belt type mechanism and our job was simply to place the potatoes into large sacks which would then be transferred onto a trailer when full.

I think again only older boys would have been allowed to get involved with the potato harvesting. I am pretty sure that we were paid for doing the work. I cannot remember exactly how much but I am sure that the nuns can confirm the details. I know that around that time **SR 2** had a small tin which contained individual purses for each of the children in her group. The purses contained money that we were saving. So in addition to saving some of my pocket money I am pretty sure I was saving some of the money that we received from the nuns for working on the farm.

Normally the boys left Termonbacca when they were aged about 16. However due to my getting good grades in my CSE's the nuns agreed that I could stay on longer **[REDACTED]**

**[REDACTED]** The Mother superior at the time gave the money directly to me even though she could quite legitimately have retained it to pay for my board and lodging.

Whilst I was still living at Termonbacca the nuns would entrust me with tasks such as regularly walking down to The Sisters of Mercy Convent at Pump Street in the centre of Derry to collect the bread that was used for hosts during the mass service. This bread was produced at that convent. I would also be entrusted to walk down to Glendinnings Chemist at Waterloo Place in the city centre to collect prescriptions for the nuns and other residents. I enjoyed going there as when they realised I was from Termonbacca they would always give me a tip, maybe a shilling, to go and buy myself some sweets.

We had regular visits to the dentist during my time in Termonbacca. I also remember a local GP visiting Termonbacca on a regular basis to conduct checks on boys or nuns who had any medical issues that needed to be addressed. The one I remember most was **[REDACTED]**. Thankfully I rarely had a need to consult the doctor. Every few weeks a group of local barbers would come to Termonbacca and cut the hair of all of the boys. They never charged for this voluntary work.

During my time in Termonbacca we regularly attended mass and said prayers every evening. I remember there was a period of the year where we participated in what was called the '40 hours' service. This involved lots of visits to the church which was kept open for that 40 hour period and we sung lots of Latin hymns. It is fair to say that most of the boys were not big fans of attending mass, so when the priest saying the mass was **[REDACTED]** we quietly cheered amongst ourselves because he had a reputation for doing a quick mass, sometimes it would all be over in 15 to 20 minutes. If it was a priest like **[REDACTED]** then we would equally quietly groan

to ourselves because he was slow and loved to do a long sermon to compound matters.

During the summer a lots of Derry priests who were working abroad and home in Derry for their holidays would use the church at Termonbacca to say their daily masses and invariably the boys would be required to attend. During May time we had special services for the Virgin Mary and sometimes we would do a short procession around the grounds of the house, which involved someone holding a statue of Mary and all of us saying prayers and singing hymns related to the Virgin Mary. Sometimes on a Saturday afternoon we would have to go to the chapel to participate in a Novena type service. Prayers and hymns were generally part of that service.

When I look back I realise just what a difficult job the sisters had. I also realise the great personal sacrifices that they had made for their religious vocation. They left their families at a relatively young age to train to become nuns and once they were fully qualified nuns they could be posted to any of the many convents that the order then had, and they would not be allowed to have very much contact with their own families. In those early days I think they would only be allowed home to see their families once every seven years. I might be wrong about the exact figure but I know it was certainly something near that number. I am not even sure they would be allowed to go home for family funerals etc. I think it's important to stress the massive personal sacrifices they had made by choosing to become nuns.

People also need to understand that despite the long hard days the nuns were working they were not receiving any formal remuneration for their work, and if they needed money for anything, even to purchase small personal items, they had to request money from the Mother Superior or the Bursar.

You can imagine how difficult a job the nuns had, looking after so many boys, without any proper formal support network. Whilst most of the boys would have been easily managed there were always a number of quite troublesome boys who were always getting into confrontations with other boys and also with the nuns. Today some of those boys would most likely have been diagnosed as having conditions such as ADHD. When I look back I now realise what impossible conditions those nuns had to work in.

In those days corporal punishment was quite lawful form of chastisement, and if I am being honest I was subjected to corporal punishment far more frequently when I was a pupil at ██████████ Secondary School. You got the strap simply for being late for school. Am I going to seek an apology from the school or from the Education Department for the corporal punishment that I was subjected to at school? Of course not! I accept that was a fact of life at the time and like many others I have moved on and put that to the back of my mind.

It would be crazy for me to suggest that no one was ever subjected to some form of corporal punishment in Termonbacca. There were I am sure occasions when I was most likely on the receiving end of the odd slap due to my bad behaviour. I cannot give specific details, as I genuinely cannot remember them all, mainly due to the fact that they did not have much of an impact on me, very much like my not being able to



remember all of the occasions when I was subjected to corporal punishment at school.

From my reading or press reports over the past few years, a number of articles in the Derry Journal for instance, and also from feedback I have received from friends in Derry, the impression now being given my some ex Termonbacca boys is that all of the children living in Termonbacca many years ago were the victims of a regime of gratuitous and excessive violence from the nuns. That is simply nonsense. My memories of having lived in Termonbacca have always been very positive. I loved living there and was very sad when I had to leave. Like many other ex-Termonbacca boys I regularly returned to visit my 'home' and I am very grateful to the Sisters of Nazareth for the wonderful start in life they gave me and many other ex Termonbacca residents.

I strongly believe that a number of ex-Termonbacca boys are now being coordinated into making historical allegations against the nuns. I am sure that some of the allegations being made are genuine. In relation to the sexual abuse allegations I understand that these are being made against some of the older boys and to the best of my knowledge there is no suggestion that the nuns were actively aware of this abuse or condoned it. Given the ratio of boys to nuns it would have been impossible for the nuns to have effectively supervised the children to prevent such abuse. I think it's important to contextualise these allegations.

I have kept in contact with many of the ex Termonbacca boys over the past thirty plus years and was not aware, either directly or indirectly of many of the allegations of sexual and physical abuse that are now being made. I know that many would have felt reluctant to disclose sexual abuse, but less reluctant to discuss alleged physical abuse. I have not been aware of these allegations of physical abuse being made against the nuns until quite recently. I am not denying that some of the allegations might be genuine, but do find some of the allegations lack credibility. I also question the motives of some of the people making these allegations. Are they seeking justice or compensation? Are the two the same?

My focus now is on the sad re-writing of history, which is now trying to depict Termonbacca as some sort of hell hole where the children were the victims of a regime of gratuitous violence from the nuns. That is simply NOT the Termonbacca that I and many other former residents remember.

There are many hundreds of ex Termonbacca residents still living all over the world, and I am sure that the majority of them will have very positive memories of their life as a child in St Joseph's Home Termonbacca. My thoughts are now with those former Termonbacca nuns who have to cope with this at a time when they should be enjoying their retirement. My thoughts are also with the many ex Termonbacca nuns who are now dead and whose good reputations are being destroyed.

**Life after Leaving Termonbacca:**

I officially left Termonbacca on the [REDACTED]. Needless to say it was quite an emotional experience for me. I moved into digs in the [REDACTED] area of Derry with the [REDACTED] family. This was arranged by the nuns. I had known the family for many years. Two other ex Termonbacca boys were also staying at the house, [REDACTED] **SND 65** and [REDACTED] **HIA 150**. The [REDACTED] also had a son [REDACTED] who was the same age as me. It was a three bedroom house. I shared a bedroom with [REDACTED] **HIA 150**. We had single beds. Although it was kind of the [REDACTED] to take us all in it was quite cramped to be honest and I found it difficult to undertake study at the house due to the relatively cramped conditions.

Although I had left Termonbacca I still regularly visited as it was still after all my 'home'. When I visited I used to help out with a wide range of chores, such as helping maintain the garden and hedges, washing the nuns car and minibus, sometimes driving the nuns and children on trips in their car or minibus. I had to drive the nuns to Dublin and Belfast a few times and I remember sometimes driving the nuns and children to Knock in County Mayo for pilgrimages. I also helped [REDACTED] **SR 2** and I also was entrusted to issue the weekly stores to the various groups in the house. I also still helped out on the farm from time to time. So although I was still regularly visiting Termonbacca after I left I was making myself useful when I made those visits.

On the [REDACTED] **SR 2** left Termonbacca for good, having been transferred to the [REDACTED]. It was a very emotional time for her as she had been in Termonbacca from the early 1960's, so it was difficult for her to leave behind her 'family', all of the children she had raised over that period. There was a special farewell ceremony for her at Termonbacca shortly before she left and many of the ex Termonbacca boys came to bid her farewell. That was acknowledgement of the high esteem in which she was held by many of the ex Termonbacca boys. I still continued to visit Termonbacca after she had left but there was an obvious void after she had gone. She had in reality been my surrogate mother for the majority of my childhood and now she was gone.

After leaving [REDACTED] I spent a year [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] which was situated [REDACTED] where I studied [REDACTED]. I successfully completed the course. To qualify [REDACTED] you were still required to do three [REDACTED] examinations. Sadly in those days none of the Polytechnics or Universities in Northern Ireland offered those courses on a full time basis so I had to resort to studying for them via correspondence course and entering into full time employment.

I managed to get a job as a [REDACTED], with a [REDACTED] called [REDACTED]. I stayed there for about six months and realised that the job I was doing there was nothing more than [REDACTED]. I realised that

in order to get the requisite experience to become [REDACTED] I would need to obtain a position [REDACTED]. Fortunately for me local [REDACTED] who was a good friend of [REDACTED] SR 2 was [REDACTED] with a firm called [REDACTED] and he readily offered me the position [REDACTED]. The salary was pretty poor in those days, but the deal was that you were there to gain experience and also be offered help with your studies [REDACTED]. I enjoyed my time there but found that I was having little success with my examinations. I acknowledged that the cramped conditions at my digs made it hard to find the time to study and possibly trying to combine study with a full time job was probably too much.

I managed to secure a place on a course for [REDACTED] I decided to leave my job at [REDACTED] and started [REDACTED]. I stayed in digs in [REDACTED] during the week and returned to my digs in Derry at the weekend. Due to a combination of reasons I did not do as well as I would have liked in the subsequent exams [REDACTED] and I then made the conscious decision that maybe a career [REDACTED] was not for me after all.

I later secured a job as an [REDACTED] with the [REDACTED] in their Derry Branch. The job was enjoyable enough and more importantly for me at the time it was quite reasonably well paid. I was finally able to move out of my digs in 1981 and move into a spacious rented flat in the [REDACTED] area of Derry. The freedom of finally having my own space was exhilarating.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SR 2 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

### **Review of Transcripts and evidence called - Days 1 to 10**

During the compilation of this statement I have taken the opportunity to read the 'Transcripts and Evidence Called' section of the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry website, and I particularly focused on the transcripts of evidence that directly related to Termonbacca. I have to admit that I was shocked at some of the evidence that has been given by a number of the witnesses as it felt to me that they were referring to a completely different place to the Termonbacca where I had spent the first 18 years of my life.

One witness who has made reference to the temporary accommodation that we lived in whilst the new house was being built, made the claim that we 'lived with rats'. I have to say that is a complete exaggeration. I personally was not aware at any time of any rat or even mouse infestation problem. I am sure that at some point during the few years we lived in the temporary accommodation the odd rat or mouse might have been seen. They were old buildings and we lived next to a farm, so invariably these unwelcome guests would make an appearance from time to time.

A witness again making reference to the temporary accommodation and comparing it to the main convent building at Termonbacca, claimed that whilst the kids lived in poverty the nuns lived in luxury. They failed to mention that the two nuns who were in charge of the two groups of children who were living in the temporary accommodation where themselves also living in the temporary accommodation.

██████████ lived in a small room, that the nun's always called cells, and that room was situated within the 'wagon' dormitory building. It was a very small room, just big enough for a single bed and a small wardrobe. There was no en-suite or sink available in that room. ██████████ who was in charge of the other group would have had a similar sized bedroom.

In relation to the main convent building, although there were a few large bedrooms, they were actually guest bedrooms. There was a separate section upstairs where a small number of bedrooms had been created for the few nuns who slept in the main building, possibly three or four at most. These were very small rooms and from memory they did not have an en suite or even a sink. I believe they were deliberately designed to be spartan. Luxury they were not.

A witness referred to the temporary accommodation being cold. From memory there was a large industrial fan heater in the 'wagon' dormitory and that provided more than adequate heating for the dormitory. In the former 'chicken house' that was being used as part of the accommodation for ██████████ SR 2 ██████████ group, I remember that for a time there was a problem with condensation on the walls and the heating not being

adequate. A local [REDACTED], [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was a very good friend of [REDACTED] SR 2 [REDACTED] had managed to source a large industrial fan type heater which we were able to use in that particular room and that managed to dry the walls off and provide excellent heating. I believe that the old cottage that [REDACTED] SR 5 [REDACTED] group lived in had proper central heating.

One witness has claimed that they were “hungry all the time, and that “for breakfast you got lumpy porridge and milk”. I have previously referred to the meal situation in my statement. I cannot dispute that maybe on the odd occasion due to a catering malfunction that sometimes there might have been lumps in the porridge, but that really was not the norm. For the majority of occasions the porridge was very tasty and in addition to the porridge or cereal that we were given there was also usually a cooked part of the breakfast, sausages and/or bacon, possibly with fried eggs and fried bread. I remember there used to be lots of dripping in the dish that contained the bacon or sausages and we regularly liked to dip our bread into it and then eat the dripping flavoured bread. Possibly not the healthiest option but it tasted good. The accommodation might not have been four stars but one thing the nuns never did was skimp on the food. I have no recollection of ever having felt deprived of adequate food in all the time I lived in Termonbacca. In fact as I have previously said I would even claim that we were most likely better fed than many of the people we went to school with at the time.

One witness has claimed that the boys were lined up naked waiting for their bath. I really must challenge that claim. The one thing that the nuns would never allow is for naked boys to be visible to other boys. Modesty was a very strong principle for them so the idea that they would condone a group of naked boys all lined up and being in a position to see each other’s naked bodies is just not correct. Even when the boys had showers they had to wear swimming trunk type garments so that they could not see each other’s naked bodies.

A witness has claimed that presents were taken off the children and that the nuns had a store of toys that they refused to give to the children. For the record I have to challenge the authenticity of that ludicrous claim. I have never known the nuns to take the toys or presents away from the children.

One of the witnesses who is aged [REDACTED], referred to an incident at Termonbacca where the children were given out of date Easter eggs and that as a result many of the children suffered “the runs”. I am not a medical expert so not in a position to know if out of date chocolate could even have that impact on people. For the record I have no recollection of that ever happening. Again I seriously doubt the authenticity of that claim.

Another witness has claimed that the nuns had him working on the farm picking spuds when he was aged 8, 9 or 10. There is really no way that children of that age would ever be involved in any work on the farm. That simply could not have

happened. As I have alluded to in my statement the children involved with farm work relating to hay or potato harvesting would most likely have been aged about [REDACTED], possibly [REDACTED] but most likely [REDACTED]

A witness claimed that the Mother Superior had thrown him out of bed and had caused him to hurt his head. I have never witnessed any of the Mother Superiors who were in Termonbacca during the time I lived there to have ever used physical violence against any of the children. Even the scenario about the Mother Superior asking him to get out of bed lacks credibility. The Mother Superiors rarely if ever got involved in the day to day running activities of the children's groups, so the notion that she would ask him to get out of bed in the first place is very doubtful.

I am horrified by the claim made by a witness that one of the nuns specifically bathed him and a few other boys when they were aged 13 to 14, implying that she was getting some form of sexual gratification from this. This is really scraping the barrel and it seems to me that this particular witness has made a whole litany of mendacious claims. This is the same witness who has made the claims about the dodgy Easter Eggs; and who claims he was thrown out of his bed by the Mother Superior; and who has claimed that children were deprived of their toys; that children were required to stand naked in a line prior to bathing; and that the children were locked outside in the cold. I note he has also made claims about being hit with a stick by the nun known as SR2. I am confident that I know the identity of that nun and I again seriously challenge the authenticity of that further spurious allegation. I have known SR2 all my life and she just would never do what this witness has alleged. Indeed it has to be said that many of the allegations made by this particular witness are simply so far-fetched that everything he has said should be treated with extreme caution. I question what his real agenda is for making these spurious claims.

### **Statement of Truth**

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed: **SND 76**

Dated: 25<sup>th</sup> February 2014

HIA REF: [SND 76 ]

NAME: [ **SND 76** ]DATE: [22<sup>nd</sup> March 2014 ]**THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995**

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**Witness Statement of **SND 76****

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I. **SND 76**, will say as follows: -

2. I have viewed the transcript of the cross examination of **HIA 60** and I have also read all of the statements and transcripts of evidence given for the first 5 weeks of the inquiry. I have compiled notes of relevant sections of the statements and transcripts that I have viewed. I have also re read all of the papers submitted to me by the inquiry team including the two statements made by **HIA 60**. I had intended to draft some notes to bring to the inquiry when I attend to give evidence next month but I now feel that it would be useful for me to submit a further statement to the inquiry documenting further relevant information and thoughts.

**HIA 60 statement dated 18<sup>th</sup> July 2003:**

3. Page Two: He claims that in Termonbacca “physical and sexual abuse was rife”. His statement refers to the specious allegation involving me, the alleged assault on him by **HIA 98**, the incident(s) involving **SND 23**, and my alleged sexual assault on **SND 132** which **SND 132** has denied having ever occurred. He makes no reference in this statement to any other incidents of physical and sexual abuse. Given that **HIA 60** resided in Termonbacca for about a year, I hardly think that FOUR incidents, two of which I strenuously deny, is evidence of “abuse being rife” in Termonbacca.

4. Page Three: In relation to the allegation against **SND 23**, it is impossible for me to comment on the alleged sexually related incident. However I have known **SND 23** all my life and I certainly cannot remember any occasion where I ever seen him physically assault anyone else. Quite a few of the boys in Termonbacca would have been very boisterous and would have got involved in physical interactions with other boys from time to time. **SND 23** was never like that. I would describe him as

being a rather placid individual; both as a child and throughout his adulthood. I find it very hard to believe the allegation that he allegedly punched HIA 60 in the face. That is simply not something that I have ever seen SND 23 do or can ever imagine him ever doing.

5. Page Three: HIA 60 names five ex boys, SND 23, SND 152, HIA 69, HIA 69, SND 153, and myself who were allegedly “bad ones”. Despite having lived in Termonbacca for approximately [REDACTED] the only allegation he makes against me is the ONE alleged incident, which as a result of a bit of revisionism, has evolved into an alleged attempt indecent assault. He has not in his statement explained why SND 152 (He is now called SND 152) or SND 153 were “bad ones”, and his statement makes it clear that he only became aware of the sexual assault allegation against HIA 69, long after HIA 69 had left Termonbacca, so I am not sure why he would refer to HIA 69 as having been a “bad one” when he lived in Termonbacca!

6. Page Four: HIA 60 claims that SND 23 must have been “bullying or abusing SND 132 when he was alone. I note that he has not offered any evidence to support that claim!

7. Page Four: HIA 60 claims that I grabbed him from behind and forced him into the sewing room. “He ripped the jumper off my back and began to try and rip the rest of my clothes off me”. “I managed to struggle free with my clothing torn”. He has made no specific reference as to what he means by “tried to rip the rest of my clothes off”. If it happened then why no specific description as to what I am alleged to have done? He also has not described what he means by ‘ripping the jumper of his back’.

8. Page Four: HIA 60 states, “The more I thought about it why was he trying to get my clothes off. I believe that if I had not broken free he would have sexually assaulted me in some way” If someone was in the process of sexually assaulting another person in these alleged circumstances then one would expect that the perpetrator would possibly have sexually touched the victim at some point during the incident. At no stage has HIA 60 indicated that there was any form of sexual touching. I would imagine a real sex offender would have sexually touched the victim even when they were fully clothed and in the process of attempting to remove the alleged victim’s clothing!

9. So what specifically was it about that alleged incident described in this statement that would make HIA 60 conclude that he might have been sexually assaulted if he had not managed to egress the situation? Also he does not state what the duration of the alleged incident was.

10. Page Four: HIA 60 claims that “Rumours were rife around the home of the bullying and sexual abuse”. However he gives no examples of how these alleged rumours manifested themselves. What specifically had he heard and from whom?



This is yet another meaningless claim in his statement that is not supported by any evidence

11. Page Six: HIA 60 claims that during a conversation with SND 154 in 2001 that SND 154 had made reference to a number of 'perverts' in Termonbacca and that SND 154 had claimed that SND 153, SND 152, HIA 69 and I were perverts. HIA 60 has not provided any context for this alleged conversation. If all of us were 'perverts' what did we specifically do to justify being referred to by SND 154 as being perverts? What was the nature of that alleged discussion??

12. HIA 60 names four of this group on page three of his statement as being 'bad ones'. Was that based on something else or on what SND 154 had said, or are these same names just a mere coincidence? As I have stated in my previous statement dated 25<sup>th</sup> February 2014, I very much doubt that SND 154 would have had any genuine grounds to refer to me as being a 'pervert'.

#### **HIA 60 statement dated 10<sup>th</sup> January 2014:**

13. Page Four: HIA 60 claims he left the TV room and that I followed him and that I then **"pulled him into the sewing room"** On Page four of his previous statement dated 18<sup>th</sup> July 2003 HIA 60 claims that I **"grabbed him from behind and forced him into the sewing room"**. Surely both of those statements are contradictory. Was he pulled or was he pushed, or did he just make the whole story up?

#### **Relevant Email interactions with HIA 60 between 17/05/05 to 04/06/06:**

14. On page nineteen (Para 14) of my previous statement dated 25<sup>th</sup> February 2014, I make reference to an email received from HIA 60 on 25/05/06. He wrote ". I'm sure that you will remember who he was unless there was more than one ■ year old boy you used to rape. I have spoken to two other ex Termonbacca boys who again without any prompt from me mentioned your name along with several others who they said were involved in sexual abuse".

15. That 'rape' allegation is linked to SND 132. If I have correctly interpreted what HIA 60 is saying, then the "two other ex Termonbacca boys", does not include SND 132. If HIA 60 has heard any other allegations against me why has he not stated who these 'other ex Termonbacca boys' were and what other cases of sexual abuse that I was supposed to have been involved in? I believe he has not mentioned these other cases in his statements because like most of the allegations he has made against me and others they are just a figment of his very sick mind.

**Cross Examination of HIA 60 at HIA Inquiry Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014:**

16. Page 23: HIA 60 states "I was also assaulted by an ex-resident called SND 76 within the first couple of months. So that's [REDACTED]". In his first statement dated 18<sup>th</sup> July 2003 he did not indicate what time of the year the alleged incident occurred. However on page four of his statement dated 10<sup>th</sup> January 2014 he did state "I was also assaulted by an ex-resident called [REDACTED] SND 76 within the first couple of months."

17. On page two of the Summary of tape Recorded Interview of me by PSNI officers on the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2004, in relation to my visits to Termonbacca after I left in [REDACTED], it is recorded "'stated he regularly went back there. He described his visits as initially every day dropping to once a week".

18. On page four, paragraph one, of my witness statement dated 25<sup>th</sup> February 2014 I have recorded ". Although I regularly visited Termonbacca, that might have been once or twice a week".

19. [REDACTED]

20. So in reality my visits to Termonbacca by [REDACTED] were less frequent and given that HIA 60 claims the alleged assault by me would have occurred within the first few months of his arrival, it is very unlikely that I would have known him that well, certainly not well enough to have noticed he had acquired a new jumper. That story about his new jumper just lacks credibility and undermines the whole basis of the original allegation.

21. Page 25: HIA 60 states "but as I got outside the room right on the left was the sewing room, and as I got to the sewing room, he ran at me from behind, pushed me up against the bench and there he tore the lambswool jumper off my back".

22. On page three of this statement I have already highlighted the contradictions in the two statements made by HIA 60, and on whether I pushed or pulled him into the sewing room. In neither statement has he made any reference to me having 'run at him'. Seems like the story changes every time he is asked to give an account of it!

**General Comments about allegation HIA 60 has made against me:**

23. I still to this day find it very difficult to understand why HIA 60 made the original allegation against me and why he then subjected me to a long term hate campaign, which included the series of abusive text messages in 2002/3 and then the email

exchanges in 2005/6 which included him sending malicious emails to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] accusing me of being a paedophile. If there had been a history of persistent problems between us during the time he was resident in Termonbacca then his perverse actions might just be understandable. But he has only ever referred to ONE incident involving me and him which I genuinely have no recollection of and which I am adamant never happened. But even he admits that at the time the alleged incident occurred he did not perceive what had allegedly occurred as having any sexual context. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

24. So why all the vitriol and hatred over ONE alleged relatively minor incident? His actions are simply disproportionate and I find it very hard not to conclude that they were solely motivated by homophobia.

25. The PSNI conducted an investigation into the original allegation made against me by HIA 60 in 2003 and that was concluded by the DPP of Northern Ireland directing that there was no case to answer.

26. On page five of the police report submitted by Sergeant 1563 Boyd, PSNI, dated 26/04/04, in relation to the police investigation into HIA 60 allegation against me, the officer recorded the following comment about HIA 60; "He is also portrayed by SND 132 and by his unsubstantiated allegations in the media, and indeed by his harassing behaviour towards the defendant, as obsessive and vindictive, and indeed homophobic".

27. On page nine of that same police report, Detective Inspector Tara Nicholl records the following comment; "The Injured Party obviously has some form of perverse interest in the Defendant and may in fact be [REDACTED]."

28. I am convinced that if HIA 60 had not discovered [REDACTED] he would never have made any complaint against me. I think he needs to come to terms with his personal problem with [REDACTED] I actually find it amazing that someone who is so overtly [REDACTED] is working as a [REDACTED]. It seems to me that he is totally unsuited to that role.

#### **Review of Transcripts and evidence called – Weeks Four & Five:**

29. In my previous statement dated 25<sup>th</sup> February 2014 (Page 44 to 46) I had included comment on the transcripts and evidence called for days one to ten (Weeks 1 to 3) of the Inquiry Hearings.

30. I have now had the opportunity to view all of the statements and transcripts for week's four to five. A number of the witnesses either resided at Termonbacca after I had left, or resided in Nazareth House Bishop Street, so it is difficult for me to give

any meaningful comment about the specific evidence that they have given. I am however struck by the similarity in some of the evidence provided by supposedly independent complainants. It is also apparent that some of those who are making the most serious allegations, some of which actually just seem incredulous to me, are also the ones who are seeking compensation. Is that merely a coincidence or have they simply exaggerated their allegations to influence the size of any compensation claim that might possibly be awarded at some future point?

31. Although all of the statements and transcripts have been anonymised I believe that I have been able to identify some of the witnesses from the information that remains un-redacted.

32. I believe that the witness with designation HIA 94 is [HIA 94]. (might be [HIA 94]) I would have been resident in Termonbacca throughout all of the time he lived there. I remember [HIA 94] being very much a hard case. He was a very aggressive person who seemed to be constantly involved in fights with other boys. I remember that he had to eventually be sent to a tougher children's home as he was simply out of control. I note from his statement that he claims that he was "beaten by [SR 2], hit on head many times, weapons used were brush pole or electric cable of kettle, wooden brush or mop or branch of tree". For what it is worth in all the years I resided in Termonbacca I never saw [SR 2] use any of these weapons or any other weapons on the children.

33. He also claims that he saw older boys beat the children and that [SR 2] condoned it. I am not going to beat about the bush here that is simply a lie. There is no way [SR 2] would ever have condoned such actions. Also contrary to what he claims I never saw [SR 2] beat children simply because they wet the bed. Also as I have said in my previous statement dated 25<sup>th</sup> February 2014, we were more than adequately provided with food so I question the claim of HIA 94 that he was "hungry all the time".

34. I have not seen [HIA 94] for a very long time, possibly over [ ] years now.

35. I believe that the witness allocated the designation HIA 130 is [HIA 130]. Again [HIA 130] would have been in Termonbacca for most of the time I resided there. I note that he also makes quite dramatic allegations against [SR 2], including claims that she attacked him with a variety of weapons. I think his use of the phrase "We were brutalized and they made monsters out of us" shows just how lacking in any credibility this particular witness is. That statement is just complete and utter nonsense.

36. HIA 130 claims that he was given drugs by the nuns to sedate him. From memory there were a number of boys who I believe might have been diagnosed as having hyperactive related symptoms and who were prescribed a medicine called largactil by the doctor, which I understand was meant to help calm them down. He

implies that something really sinister was occurring in relation to the administration of that substance.

37. He claims that **SR 2** checked the children's underwear for stains. I have no recollection of that ever happening. Also I have no recollection of children being bathed in jeyes fluid. This witness has also claimed that the Nuns sheltered older boys who were carrying out abuse. Again I strongly refute that claim. There is no way that the nuns would have condoned or encouraged older boys to abuse the younger boys.

38. I note that **HIA 130** has made a claim for compensation. I believe the specific specious allegations he has made are simply motivated by a desire to achieve some compensation.

39. **HIA 130**  
**HIA 130**

40. On most occasions I was home in Derry, **HIA 130** would arrange a get together at his flat for other ex Termonbacca boys so that we could all meet up for a reunion type function. One of the people who regularly attended those functions was **HIA 130**. In all the times that he attended those functions, in which we would invariably talk about our time in Termonbacca never once did I hear him say anything negative about the nuns or about his time in Termonbacca.

41. **HIA 130** a few years ago, things started to change. We became aware that a number of the ex Termonbacca boys, including **HIA 130** were now starting to make serious allegations against the nuns. I have to admit I have been surprised at the extent and nature of the allegations that some of these people are making. Whilst I understand that people would be reluctant to disclose details of any sexual abuse they might have been subjected to I believe that they would be more inclined to discuss with others, any physical abuse that they might have experienced.

42. I was not aware of this plethora of allegations against the nuns until the last few years. Many of the people making the allegations had maintained contact with some of the nuns, long after they had left Termonbacca, and during numerous social interactions that I have had with many of these people over the years, they have generally spoken positively about the nuns and about their life in Termonbacca. This

is why I am finding it very difficult to accept the veracity of many of the allegations that they are now making.

43. I have heard third hand that there is possible collusion between a number of the people who are making these allegations. I understand that the common link between many of these complainants is a group called 'Survivors and Victims of Institutional Abuse' [REDACTED] HIA 151

**HIA 151** I am told that they have been provided with premises in Derry and that there is an opportunity for 'victim's to meet up with other 'victims' on a regular basis. Whilst the motives for allowing these 'victims to regularly interact with each other might be quite laudable, this will also enable them to have the opportunity to discuss their individual allegations with each other and to coordinate their allegations should they feel so inclined to do so. I have also been told that there is an internet forum where these 'victim's can interact with each other. I do not have any further details of that particular internet forum.

44. Now whilst I have no hard evidence yet that there has been any criminal collusion between a number of the witnesses/victims, having seen some of the outlandish allegations that are being made by some of them, and the common themes in relation to the allegations being made by these so called 'independent' witnesses/victims, I find it very hard not to suspect that there has been some criminal collusion between a number of them who I suspect have made false allegations, especially against a number of the nuns from the Sisters of Nazareth order, and that these false allegations have been purely motivated by a desire to get compensation either from the Sisters of Nazareth or via the HIA Inquiry.

45. [REDACTED] I do hope that the HIA Inquiry Team have given serious consideration to the possibility that a significant number of false and malicious allegations have been made to the Inquiry and that they are keeping open the possibility of involving the police to see if they can secure and preserve evidence of a possible Conspiracy to Pervert the Course of Justice and related offences.

46. I have no desire to defend the indefensible. If I believed that any of the allegations were genuine then I would do my public duty and support the victims of physical and sexual abuse who quite rightly have approached the HIA Inquiry to enable them to seek justice for the crimes that they have been subjected to. My concern is that this inquiry has literally been hijacked by some people who are so devious that they are prepared to make false and malicious allegations against innocent people, who themselves risk being the victims of a future miscarriage of justice if these criminal allegations were to subsequently lead to a criminal prosecution.

47. Now I understand that it has been stated from the outset that 'victims' who approach the HIA Inquiry will not automatically receive compensation from the Northern Ireland Assembly even if their complaints are upheld. However the

possibility that 'victims' may be awarded compensation has been left open. I personally believe that was a grave mistake as it simply encourages unscrupulous people to make false and malicious allegations.

48. I remember speaking to a barrister [REDACTED] about fourteen years ago and at that time he was dealing with appeals that had been launched by a number of former teachers and care home workers who had been imprisoned after being convicted of allegations of sexual and physical abuse that had been made by school pupils and children in Local Authority care. It later transpired that a number of the 'victims' had colluded with each other and had made false allegations, their motivation being compensation. Basically the more allegations they made the more compensation they were awarded. My concern is that this is almost certainly happening again with the HIA Inquiry, in relation to some of the so called 'victims'.

#### Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed: [REDACTED] **SND 76**

Dated: 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2014

HIA REF: [ ]

NAME: [ **SND 76** ]

DATE: [ 28<sup>th</sup> February 2014 ]

**THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995**

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**Witness Statement of **SND 76****

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I **SND 76** will say as follows: -

1. Further to my previous statement dated 25<sup>th</sup> February 2014, I now wish to make a further statement to the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry (HIAI).

2. On the evening of Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2014 I decided to spend time catching up with some of the further evidence given to the HIAI for the week commencing Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2014. Having read the statement given by the witness who has been allocated the designation HIA11 and also having viewed the transcript of the verbal evidence he provided to the Inquiry on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2014 I feel compelled to make this statement because I have grave concerns about his honesty in relation to the contents of his statement and also in relation to the verbal evidence he gave on Monday. Although his identity has been anonymised I am pretty confident from the details supplied that I have correctly guessed the name of this witness to be **HIA 11**.

3. I have known **HIA 11** since I was a child. We both spent the majority of our childhood first in Nazareth House Fahan and then subsequently at Termonbacca in Derry. He was just about [REDACTED]. I am currently aged [REDACTED] and he is [REDACTED]. We have still maintained contact since we left Termonbacca just under [REDACTED] years ago.



I was aged [REDACTED] when I left Termonbacca. I know he moved to [REDACTED] many years ago and I moved to the [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] and I currently reside in [REDACTED].

**Statement from Witness HIA11 dated 08/07/13**

4. In paragraph 5 of the statement the witness claims that on one occasion when he was so “hungry and thirsty” in the nursery he “got one of the cats to suck its milk”. He claimed that he was not the only one to do that. I really have to say that I have never heard anything so absurd in my life. Firstly I have no recollection of ever having experienced a time in Termonbacca when I was either hungry or unable to get anything to quench my thirst. The idea that children had to resort to attempting to obtain milk from a cat is just complete and utter nonsense. Personally I don’t think our knowledge of anatomy at that age would have extended to knowing that you could get milk from a cat. Also if that really did happen I am sure that HIA 11 might just have mentioned it maybe even once during the [REDACTED] plus years that we have known each other. Also for what it’s worth I have no recollection of there ever having been any cats in the nursery during the time we were there.

5. This witness claims to have been the victim of sexual abuse from older boys on many occasions when he was in Termonbacca. Obviously I have no way of disproving his claims but I am surprised that such levels of alleged sexual abuse could have been occurring at Termonbacca without me either hearing or seeing it happening or even being the victim of abuse myself. I was never sexually abused in all the time I was in Termonbacca and I am simply astounded at the claims made by this witness in relation to the frequency of the attacks that he was allegedly subjected to.

6. In paragraph 10 the witness claims to have been sexually abused by a catholic priest. In paragraph 11 he states that he believed that this same priest “abused a lot of other boys”. Again I have no way of disproving that claim that he was abused. However I can say that in all the time I was in Termonbacca I was never physically or sexually abused by any catholic priest and I had never heard anyone from Termonbacca either directly or indirectly mention that any catholic priest had been

involved in sexual abuse of any of the Termonbacca boys. I suppose it does help the witness that the priest who allegedly abused him is no longer around to defend themselves.

7. At paragraph 12 the witness claims that in the junior dormitory the boys were given 30 seconds to sleep and that if they failed to sleep they would be beaten by an older boy. I am sorry but that is just a lie. I slept in that junior dormitory for several years and the notion that we were given just 30 seconds to sleep or risk getting beaten is just utter nonsense. In the same paragraph the witness claims that some of the junior boys were taken down a longer corridor by older boys to the bathrooms to be abused. I personally never witnessed this happening and it never happened to me.

8. At paragraph 13 he makes reference to boys from Belfast visiting and they also being involved in sexually abusing Termonbacca boys. Not sure who these Belfast boys are meant to be or even if they ever existed in reality?

9. In relation to paragraph 16 the witness makes claims that he had “brushes broke over the back of his head” and he also claims “this was the nun’s form or punishment”. Not sure what type of brush he is referring to, but for the record I was never hit with any type of brush by any nun whilst I lived at Termonbacca and nor did I witness any nun hit any of the other children with any form or brush.

10. From paragraph 17 onwards the witness makes claims that he was regularly beaten by a nun with the identity SR 2. I believe this refers to [REDACTED] SR 2 [REDACTED]. I very rarely saw [REDACTED] SR 2 [REDACTED] hit any of the children and if she did she would have used her hand. I have never seen her use any form of implement to hit any of the children.

11. I would have been in the same group as this witness for many years and I certainly have no recollection of SR 2 having a particular dislike for the witness as he claims.

12. In relation to paragraph 20 onwards; I also attended Nazareth House primary school around the same time as this witness, albeit he would have been [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. I am sure that during my time at the school I must have been on the receiving end of some form of physical chastisement from the nuns. However I have

no recollection of specific incidents but I can confidently say that at no point was any form of implement used to administer the punishment. Whilst the teachers at my secondary school had access to a leather strap I have no recollection of the teachers at the Nazareth House primary school having access to any form of 'weapon' to administer punishments.

13. In relation to paragraph 22; I have no recollection of ever having been bathed in jeyes fluid.

14. In relation to paragraph 24; I attended [REDACTED] secondary school for five years. I am pretty certain that the Termonbacca boys were not "picked on" simply because they were orphans by any of the teachers.

15. From paragraph 25 onwards the witness makes reference to his time at [REDACTED] school. I never attended that school so am not in a position to make direct comment on the specific claims made against a number of individuals from that particular school.

16. Over the past few years or so I have had quite a lot of phone calls from **HIA 11** **HIA 11**. Although we have kept in contact since we left Termonbacca many years ago, that contact might have been us either meeting each other in Derry [REDACTED] or him ringing me. The majority of phone interactions between us have always been instigated by him. Up until a few years ago there might have been just a few phone calls each year but in recent years they have become much more regular. I have checked my diaries for 2013 and this year. In 2013 he phoned me on the following dates; 31/01/13, 18/02/13, 17/03/13, 31/03/13, 05/04/13, 13/04/13, 14/04/13, 26/04/13, 28/04/13, 28/05/13 (Twice and was drunk on second occasion), 07/06/13, 09/07/13, 26/07/13, 06/08/13, 20/09/13, 10/10/13, 14/10/13, 17/10/13, 03/12/13, 18/12/13, 13/01/14, 29/01/14 and 09/02/14. (Long call, over one and a half hours).

17. The one thing that the majority of the more recent telephone calls had in common was that **HIA 11** was always keen to talk about his alleged physical abuse from the nuns at Termonbacca. Pretty sure he never mentioned any sexual abuse allegations that allegedly occurred in Termonbacca to me on the phone, because if he had I am pretty confident I would have remembered. He did refer several times to

the alleged physical and sexual abuse he was subjected to at [REDACTED]. In relation to the alleged 'sexual abuse' his references mainly consisted of him saying that a certain [REDACTED] had "interfered with him". He did not elaborate and I did not seek elaboration on what he meant by interference.

18. Several times when we spoke on the phone [HIA 11] would say things like; 'it was common knowledge amongst everyone at Termonbacca that all the 'Home Boys' (Termonbacca) were targeted by the school staff and were regularly beaten by them'. Then he would say to me, "you remember us all coming home with black eyes and injuries don't you [SND 76]"? I honestly said to him several times that I genuinely had no recollection of those claims and I certainly did not remember them coming home from [REDACTED] school with visible injuries. He always seemed to get exasperated that I would not agree with him on those points.

19. He would then also refer to [SR 2] and he said to me on numerous occasions "We were always beaten with a flex by [SR 2] weren't we [SND 76]". Again I genuinely disputed that claim and he would get further exasperated by my responses. Because of the way he was constantly focussing on these abuse issues during our phone conversations I later formed the view that there was a strong likelihood that he may possibly have been recording our conversations in an effort to try and get evidence for his civil claim against the Sisters of Nazareth, which he had disclosed to me during some of our conversations. I accept that I am unable to corroborate that claim but it was an honestly held view that I formed.

20. During our phone conversations he did mention that he had been linked up to the Northern Ireland Survivors and Victims of Institutional Abuse (Savia), group that was [REDACTED] [HIA 151]. He did tell me that he was aware of this particular Inquiry into historic allegations but that he was not going to get involved with it, saying that he would focus solely on suing the nuns for compensation. You can imagine how surprised I was to then see what I believe to be his statement and the transcript of his verbal evidence on the HIAI website this week. He did also tell me that he was no longer in contact with [HIA 151] and indeed he did regularly speak in negative terms about [HIA 151] and his alleged actions in encouraging ex Termonbacca children to make allegations against the nuns. With

hindsight it is possible that he was also soliciting my response to this for his recording equipment!

21. At paragraph 32 the Witness (HIA 11?) claims he slept in the barn for three or four months. I am pretty sure that if that had really happened he might just have mentioned it to me or one of the other ex Termonbacca boys. I have not heard him or any other Termonbacca boy make reference to that claim ever!

22. At paragraph 33 the witness claims that he was robbed of his childhood. Well I was raised with HIA 11 and my recollection is that he had a pretty good childhood in Termonbacca despite what he now claims. I was there with him for the whole of his childhood in Termonbacca.

23. At paragraph 35 he makes reference to his time [REDACTED] and states that at times he "could have gone crazy but managed to control himself". From memory I believe he was [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED].

24. At paragraph 36 he claims that his life has been ruined because of what has been done to him. He has managed to hold down a job in the [REDACTED] for a very long time and every year he seems to go off on [REDACTED] with allegedly 'rich friends' to places like [REDACTED], and many other places. He is usually away for [REDACTED] each time he goes on holiday. From my many conversations with him HIA 11 seems to have a pretty good lifestyle and makes the most of his life. I am not sure that I have seen any evidence of his life having been 'ruined'!

**Transcript of Evidence given by Witness HIA11 24<sup>th</sup> February 2014:**

25. At page 121 the witness claims that the children were addressed by their numbers not their names. As I stated in my previous statement dated 25<sup>th</sup> February 2014 my recollection is that we were always addressed by our names not numbers and that from a practical point of view that would just make sense. It would be easier for the nuns and staff to know people by their name than a number.

26. On page 121 this witness claims that a family who took him and another boy **SND 113** out for holidays had expressed concern that numbers were used on the boy's clothing rather than their name. I have no memory of anyone having a problem with the use of a numbering system to identify the boy's clothing etc. **[REDACTED]**  
**[REDACTED]**  
**[REDACTED]**

27. At page 123 the witness makes reference to people in their 70's and 80's looking after the children in the Nursery. I personally don't remember people of that age ever having worked in the nursery.

28. At page 124 he claims that people who wet their beds were punished by the nuns. I have no recollection of that ever happening and I am pretty certain that children were NOT punished simply for wetting their beds.

29. I am surprised that at page 127 the witness simply dismisses the celebration of special occasions like Christmas and Halloween. I remember these as being very special occasions. I remember in the old house at Termonbacca the excitement of coming home from school and discovering that the Christmas tree and decorations had been erected. It was always a real and very tall tree and the decorations were always very nice. We used to get invited to lots of parties during the Christmas period and of course on Christmas Day Santa came to Termonbacca and we were all given lovely presents which always included individual selection boxes and we always had a generous Christmas dinner and a lovely evening meal that same day. We always had a party at Halloween and I remember there being lots of apples oranges and nuts in addition to the usual party food.

30. In relation to page 127, I personally don't remember ever watching a boxing match at Termonbacca. I am not a sporting fan so if it did happen I must have found an excuse to avoid seeing it.

31. On page 128 the witness claims that he was never given any pocket money. That is simply not true. We were all given a weekly sum of pocket money. It is possible that on occasions his pocket money may have been deferred as a form of punishment for his misbehaviour!

32. On page 135 the witness claimed that the nuns where complicit in his abuse. There is simply no way that the nuns would have condoned the physical or sexual abuse of any of the children in their care by any older boy or adult.

33. On Page 149 there is reference to £500 having been donated to the Sisters of Nazareth and this having been facilitated by the witness, who said it was raised at the [REDACTED], which I know to be the [REDACTED]. At that time HIA 11 was heavily involved in fundraising events in [REDACTED]. I remember on one occasion maybe around 10 years ago when I was on the [REDACTED], I along with other [REDACTED] were invited by HIA 11 to attend a fund raising event at [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] HIA 11 was heavily involved in the [REDACTED].

34. I know from speaking to him at the time that HIA 11 used to regularly visit the Nazareth House in [REDACTED]. I also remember an occasion about six or seven years ago (could be slightly longer as cannot remember the precise date) when both HIA 11 and myself were back home in Derry on holiday and we were both visiting Nazareth House Bishop Street to see SR 1, who was the superior at Nazareth House Bishop Street at that time. She had been previously in Termonbacca when we were young children.

35. Whilst there we also spoke to SR 90 who was also based at Nazareth House Bishop Street, and who used to teach at the Nazareth House Primary School in Derry when we were much younger. I was in the front parlour with SR 90 and HIA 11. She mentioned that she was due to be transferred to Nazareth House [REDACTED] to take over there as the new superior. As soon as she said that HIA 11 suggested to her that maybe he could stay for a fortnight's holiday at Nazareth House [REDACTED] once she had taken over. She advised him that she could not possibly give any commitment at that stage. I know for a fact that HIA 11 also visited Termonbacca many times after he had left. If HIA 11 had really experienced such a bad time from the nuns in Termonbacca as he claims one might have expected that he would have kept his distance from the Nazareth House sisters after he had left Termonbacca!

36. On one occasion, maybe about eight or nine years ago the [REDACTED] had agreed to take part in the [REDACTED] in [REDACTED]. I stayed at HIA 11 house in [REDACTED], for my first and only time, on that occasion. It was agreed that one of my [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] would pick me up from HIA 11 house on the morning of the [REDACTED]. When HIA 11 answered the door to her I could see that she had a look of horror on her face when she saw him. I was later advised that HIA 11 had previously come to the attention of [REDACTED] for [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED].

37. In relation to page 152; I am not sure I understand how asking Derry City Council to supply a plaque granting SR 2 the Freedom of Derry could be construed as having just been done for a joke. It seems to me that HIA 11 made that request because he had great respect for SR 2 at the time and that he wanted her long years of devotion to the children in Termonbacca to be formally acknowledged by Derry City Council.

38. At page 156 and 157 HIA 11 makes reference to having been sexually abused on the first night he moved into his new accommodation after having left Termonbacca. I must admit I cannot remember where he moved to on leaving Termonbacca. In all the times I have seen and spoken to him since he left Termonbacca I have never heard him make any reference to the sexual abuse that he was allegedly subjected to on the first night he left!

39. On page 161 there is a discussion about the BBC Spotlight programme that covered the alleged abuse in Childrens Homes run by the Sisters of Nazareth. That particular programme was broadcast by BBC Northern Ireland on [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. The witness stated that "we don't get Spotlight so how would I have known Spotlight? We don't get that". He also claimed that he did not know what Spotlight was and claimed that he could not get it "where I live out in the hills".

40. During my many conversations with HIA 11 over the past few years he would make occasional reference to the abuse allegations that had been made by ex Termonbacca/Nazareth House residents and several times he would mention that he had seen some coverage of related stories on the local BBC Northern Ireland News programmes. He would ask me if I had seen the same news programmes. I



explained that as I lived in the [REDACTED] I would only be able to see the [REDACTED] [REDACTED], [REDACTED] HIA 11 explained that you could set your TV to receive any regional programmes if you had a Sky Box, and he told me that his TV was adjusted to only receive [REDACTED] television programmes. I explained that I only had Freeview TV and was really not that motivated to watch [REDACTED] to go to the bother of acquiring a Sky Box.

41. So if HIA 11 has been watching [REDACTED] TV programmes on his TV set in [REDACTED] there is a strong likelihood that he would have seen references to that BBC Spotlight programme at the time and thus very likely he could have viewed it. I obviously have no direct evidence that he did view the programme, but even I, who had no access to [REDACTED] on my own TV, had been made aware of that particular programme from phone calls from friends in [REDACTED] and I actually did subsequently view the programme on [REDACTED] my home computer. Bearing in mind that at the time the Spotlight programme was broadcast there is a strong possibility that HIA 11 would have had links to HIA 151 'Savia' group and thus may have been notified of the imminent broadcast of the Spotlight programme by that particular group! I also know that HIA 11 has a friend in Derry called [REDACTED] who he has regular contact with. He is always referring to him in phone conversations. I believe they went to school together and that [REDACTED] is a [REDACTED]. I am sure that during his regular contacts with [REDACTED] it is very possible that he would have been made aware of the BBC Spotlight programme.

42. I strongly challenge the claim made by the witness on page 164 that "We were treated like animals, because we were orphans". I am sorry but that is just a complete lie. There is no way that he can justify such a cruel slur against the nuns that they treated us like animals. That is simply a complete travesty and an insult to the many nuns who have dedicated their lives to looking after ungrateful people like this witness. HIA 11). It seems to me that he is so desperate to force the nuns to pay him compensation that he is prepared to slander the good reputations of the many nuns both living and deceased who devoted their life to the care of the children that they raised in Derry. These lies make me so angry.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

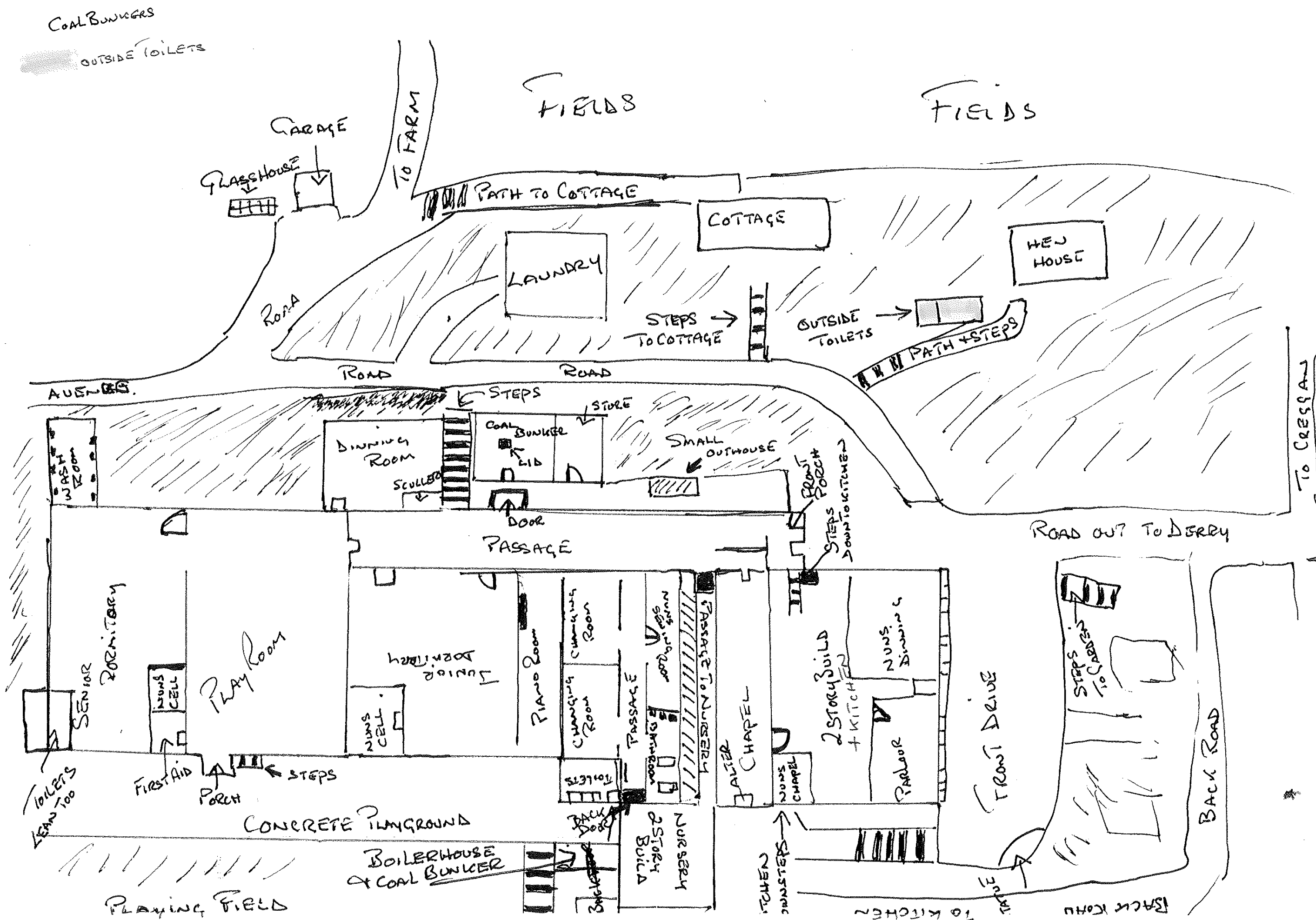
Signed: **SND 76**

Dated: 28<sup>th</sup> February 2014

71	Christian Name	Where Born	Date of Birth	Where Baptised	Parents' Names	Occupation
	[REDACTED]	Strabane Hosp.	[REDACTED]	Parish of Lickpatrick. Strabane. Co. Tyrone	[REDACTED]	

SND 76

Recommended by	Received	Died	Left	Observations	No.
Mother Superior, Galan.	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]		72
					747





**Department of the Director of Public Prosecutions**

18 Lodge Road, Coleraine, Co. Londonderry BT52 1NB

Telephone: Coleraine 52116 Fax: 53468

PSNI Ref: C61/77/04

DPP Ref: 263539

Subject: INDECENT ASSAULT IN LONDONDERRY BETWEEN [REDACTED]  
R -v- [REDACTED] **SND 76**

Chief Constable

**DIRECTION**

I direct no prosecution.

The police investigation file is returned herewith.

*T. Martin*

**T MARTIN - Ext 28  
Northern Circuit  
for Director of Public Prosecutions**

**28 June 2004**

**TM/JC**

