

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

723

HIA 13

Mathew working in Belfast;

recommended by region of Mary.

Left - 7 June 68.

Boarding out with

Family

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

	Date of ad.	Recy No	Name	Date of list.
1 Rubber shoes and 1/2 worn)	21 4 '58	72	HIA 13	11 10 58
1 Rubber shoes and 1/2 worn)	2 6 '58	724	[REDACTED]	Nov 58
1 Rubber shoes and 1/2 worn)	16 8 '58	725	[REDACTED]	2 5 59
1 Rubber shoes and 1/2 worn)	16 8 '58	72	HIA 102	8 7 59
1 Rubber shoes and 1/2 worn)	21 9 '58	72	[REDACTED]	2 7 59
1 Rubber shoes and 1/2 worn)	21 9 '58	728	[REDACTED]	2 7 59
1 Rubber shoes and 1/2 worn)	11 10 '58	72	HIA 237	2 7 59
1 Rubber shoes and 1/2 worn)	[REDACTED]	730	[REDACTED]	2 7 59

HIA 13

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

HIA 102

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

HIA 237

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



516 Ravenhill Road,
Belfast, BT6 0BW

Tel: 028 9069 0600

Fax: 028 9069 0601

Name; [REDACTED] HIA13
 Date of Birth; [REDACTED]
 Date of Admissions: 18 January 1959
 Date of Discharge: 7 June 1968

Information taken from register

Where Born: Jubilee Maternity Hospital, Belfast
 Date of Birth: [REDACTED]
 Where Baptised: Holy Family Church, Belfast
 Mother's Name: [REDACTED]
 Occupation: Domestic
 Recommended By: Legion of Mary
 Received: 18 January 1959
 Discharged: 7 June 1968

Taken from the Sacramental Register

1st Confession: 11 June 1965
 1st Communion: 13 June 1965
 Confirmation: 19 May 1966

Taken from the Observation and Discharge Book;

Date of Admission; 18 January 1959
 Date of Discharge: 7 June 1968
 Age of Discharge: 10 years

This boy is boarded out- [REDACTED] was a little worried re [HIA13] stealing.

1969- Calls frequently

1975- [HIA13] and his two pals called on Sunday 17th October. He is getting on very well and quite happy with the [REDACTED] family

10 SEP 2013

HIA REF: 13

Witness Name: HIA13

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

WITNESS STATEMENT OF HIA13

I, HIA13 will say as follows:-

Personal Details

1. I was born on the [REDACTED] was placed in Termonbacca on the 18 January 1959 at the behest of the Legion of Mary. It was their suggestion to my birth mother but I do not know the reason for this decision. My mother was previously a home girl herself and had a daughter prior to me who was adopted at birth. She is three or four years older than me. My mother was a single mother when she had me and I think she tried to keep me initially but obviously it did not work out for whatever reason.
2. My sister and I had different fathers. When I eventually met my mother about twenty years ago she said that I was born because she had been raped by a person in a hospital where she was working at the time as a domestic. I do not know if that is true and my mother is dead now so I may never know. My sister [REDACTED] was with me when she said it and she was of the view that she may only have said it for shock value.
3. I found out in later years that my mother's name wasn't [REDACTED] but [REDACTED]. When my birth certificate was registered I think that my name was changed

deliberately because the nuns always considered my birth mother to be a bad girl as she had children outside marriage.

St Joseph's Home, Termonbacca, Derry (18 January 1959 – 7 June 1968)

4. The **SND69** family took me out of the home every Sunday and during the summer holidays from the age of three to stay with them and that continued until they fostered me when I was ten.
5. I remember being collected on a Sunday. There was no proper road between Creggan and Termonbacca, just a rough path, so I recall many times getting up on their shoulder like a wee spoilt boy which I still am today. I just loved getting out because I was younger and I was quite small and light so I would have been an easy target in the home. I wasn't a fighter but I could stand on my own two feet. I got better as I got older.
6. My first really bad memory was in Nazareth House School. It was run by the Sisters of Nazareth with the education authority. We walked to school initially but eventually got a bus. There was one nun in particular in Nazareth House, **SR9** and for whatever reason, she detested all home boys. She did not normally teach as she was the head mistress and we were usually taught by **SND130**. One day in class I said a curse word and she took me up to her desk at the front of the class, put me over it, took my trousers and pants down and just caned me in the tail end. She was not afraid to hit you hard with it. I sat at the back of the class crying for most of the day following that incident. I was six or seven at the time. It was a mixed class but it didn't matter to her that the class was mixed. She called us scum and just any name she could think of, she was always picking on us. She is dead now and buried in Scotland.
7. You were either in **SR2** group or **SR1** group in the home. I was in **SR2** and I was **SR2** you were given a number. Sometimes they would call you by the number; sometimes they would call you **HIA 13** you were rarely called **HIA 13**

8. Nothing really developed in Termonbacca until you went from the nursery to the big hall as it was called, that is where you started mixing with the older boys. There was always a hierarchy there and the nuns wanted that hierarchy because it made it easier for them to rule and discipline as there were only two of them in charge of approximately ninety children so it was probably quite tough for them. I got several beatings from [REDACTED] SR2 and [REDACTED] SR1. They would hit you over the head or slap you on every part of your body with their hands when we were just carrying on.
9. My first recollection of sexual abuse was with [REDACTED] SND14 another resident in the home. He was about seven or eight years older than me. He would wait until you were near or around the toilet area and he would come across, grab you and pull you in. There were three cubicles and whichever one was free was where he took you and just whatever he wanted to do I had to do it. I was only seven or eight years old when it started. He either made me masturbate him and on a few occasions he made me perform oral sex on him. It was always just until he was satisfied and then he let me go. That is why I was glad to get out at weekends and summers because I didn't have to face that. It went on for about three or four years. He just did this whenever it suited him but thankfully he was the only one in my memory that ever came near me.
10. [REDACTED] SND14 as part of the dormitory set up. He was on the other side of the dormitory to me because he was older. The abuse always happened during the day, never at night.
11. The dormitory was split into three lines of double beds. There were single beds initially but then we got bunks eventually. Line one was for non bed wetters, line two was for those who wet the bed every now and then and the third line was for what I call "the constants". I was a constant bed wetter but it was only years later that I realised I wet the bed because I was frightened to go to the toilet, I just couldn't go, I wasn't getting out of bed to get attacked.

12. I just found out recently from two former residents [HIA130] and [HIA125] [HIA125] that [SND14] has the majority of the photographs taken of us when we were in the home. In fact [SND14] approached [HIA130] to tell him that an ex-resident had been asked by the nuns to burn all their documentation and photos of the home and he passed them on to [SND14] for safekeeping. Another ex-resident, [SND113] also has quite a few old photographs. [SND113] a painter and decorator and does work for the nuns and does not want to be involved in the Inquiry process.
13. I believe [SND14] is living across the border but I have seen him a few times in town and I walked the other way. I have reported him to the police. I have dealt with Arnie Henderson at Strand Road Station. I made a statement about six or seven months ago.
14. Due to the fact that I was a constant bed wetter there was immense punishment given along with it. When you got up in the morning they knew that line was going straight to the showers or the baths. The bigger boys got you and the bed wetters were stood to one side with their sheets etc, and you were left standing there in your wet pyjamas, then you were marched down to a room with three big deep steel baths and each one of them was filled about half way with really hot water. Prior to you going to a bath, you had to stand in the corner with your wet sheets over your head.
15. This is when the bigger boys had their giggle at your expense. It was the bigger boys who did the laundry so they were probably raging they had so much work to do. Before you got in the bath they would add Jeyes fluid to the water. I wet the bed until I was fifteen but eventually grew out of it.
16. On one occasion I was taken with another boy to stay with a family in [redacted] the [redacted] and we were there for a week. I wet the bed every night but was too frightened to tell anybody and it was only at the end of the week that the mother found the wet sheets. She couldn't believe that I didn't tell her but the boy I was with told when we got back to the home and I got a beating from [SR2] for what had happened. [SR2] lapped me

all over my body with her hand. I have not had any contact whatsoever with the [REDACTED] since this time.

17. On another occasion [REDACTED] HIA22 [REDACTED] another boy and I were carrying on and [REDACTED] SR2 [REDACTED] beat us severely. She called us "dirty boys" and we were only carrying on. [REDACTED] SR2 [REDACTED] was in charge of the boys in the home and ensuring that they adhered to the routine within the home.
18. The beatings by [REDACTED] SR2 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] SR1 [REDACTED] were random. If you look at the back of the head of six home boys standing here now, every one of their heads will have a flat patch. We were always hit on the back of the head or if they had a stick or bamboo cane it was across the legs, mostly when we wore short trousers for indoors and during summer. If we didn't go to sleep at bedtime which was 7pm [REDACTED] SR2 [REDACTED] would pull your feet through the bottom of the bed and beat the soles of your feet with the cane.
19. If I was out on a Sunday or at the weekend and came back with sweets the bigger boys just took them off me so eventually I started eating them all before I went in and being sick at night.
20. At Christmas time we were invited to parties because we were "the poor wee home boys". We were invited to the fire station, the Sea Eagle base, navy boats, anything that was going on but we were never allowed to keep any of the presents we were given. As soon as we got back to the home they were taken off us, never to be seen again. You got a present on Christmas day. I remember cowboy suits and guns. The nuns told my now foster mother that the big boys were destroying the other presents. I do not think this was the case. It is my view that the presents were being sold by the nuns as we never saw the older boys playing with any of the presents previously given to us.
21. I always remember you had to put a show on for whoever the Bishop was at the time. One memory that stands out with me is Bishop Farren. I remember Phil Coulter came and taught us a song that we had to sing for the Bishop. I did

Irish dancing so [REDACTED] SND93 and I had to dance for him like performing monkeys. [REDACTED] SND93 is now deceased.

22. The routine in the home was getting up at 7am and going for breakfast which was usually porridge or cereal before going to school. There were floors to clean, big red tiled floors, peeling potatoes, scrubbing toilets, there was always something to do. When you came in from school you got straight into your old clothes to do chores. You cleaned your uniform and your shoes for school. [REDACTED] SR2 and some of the older boys supervised the chores.
23. The boys from the home wore a uniform but the other children did not so we were easily identified. At times outsiders would say "there's the poor home boys". There were a few occasions when people tried to stop and give us sweets and stuff but they were warned not to by the older boys. The older boys said if the nuns found out everybody would get punished. It is not the bigger boys but the younger boys that get beaten for taking sweets off strangers. I remember little about school. The only thing I remember in Nazareth House is [REDACTED] SR9 being bad and [REDACTED] SND130 being good. [REDACTED] SND130 taught us Irish. She died last year.
24. When I was fostered out, my mother sent me to [REDACTED] Primary School for my last year. I failed the 11+ exam because I didn't study and I just did not care. I then went to [REDACTED] Secondary School and was in bother for the first couple of years. It was only when I got to about fourth year that something switched on. A maths teacher, [REDACTED] gave me extra tuition which helped me but I just wasn't interested in school.
25. In the home there was a big room where you could watch TV. You played tag, football, cowboys and Indians or whatever in the big concrete yard. All the boys played out there. You got a bowl of gruel before you went to bed, it was like watery porridge laced with sugar and your cod liver oil poured down your neck by [REDACTED] SR2 every night.

26. Termonbacca had a brass band. We had all our own equipment which was often donated and then during the summer you would get on the bus and go to different towns and play and collect money.
27. I was a real rebel and I have had a terrible attitude towards authority since I was young. Even at school I was cheeky and challenging.
28. I was ten when I left care and was fostered by the [SND69] family.

Life after care

29. When I was young my past didn't play on my mind because I had other distractions such as canoeing and doing outdoor activities. However, about twelve or thirteen years ago I just hit the wall. I married when I was [redacted] and was married for [redacted] years. Everything just seemed to pile in on me and my first marriage broke up. I had [redacted] lovely children from my first marriage but I was gambling, drinking and going with other women.
30. I would not consider myself to be a heavy drinker or in the bracket of alcoholism but I enjoy getting out for a few pints and being out with the boys.
31. My foster mother [SND69] [redacted] tried to adopt me when I was only three but the nuns said I wasn't available and you didn't question it. I was allowed out to stay with my family but if I was out of line and they came to collect me they would be told I was not getting out. I would be left crying and they would have to leave without me. I had a fight one day with [HIA22] [redacted] and I was told I was not going out that day, it was the stick they beat you with.
32. [SND69] [redacted] was told that to be considered as adoptive parents you had to be either twenty one or twenty five years of age to adopt and one of you had to be twenty one years older than the child which looked like a normal family. There was only fifteen years between us. [SND69] [redacted] mother had died and [SND69] [redacted] was told she could take me out but she got a list of rules not to take me across

the border, she could not insure me etc. We were advised that had I been put in care by the welfare authorities then she would have received payment but as my mother had put me in care she could not get paid for looking after me. She was given this information by Mrs Black who worked for the adoption service at East Wall, Derry.

33. I always remember an incident where Mr Robert Niven from the welfare authorities visited a neighbour, [REDACTED] and she asked if they ever visited me. He then came to my door and spoke with my mother. They knew nothing about me prior to this visit. That was just before I left school, I was almost fifteen.
34. It also angers me that there is no record of the time I got a snooker cue stuck in my eye when I was seven or eight years old. I attended Altnagelvin Hospital yet there is no record of this incident or many of these types of incidents and accidents that happened in the home. I was told by a senior police officer (Arnie Henderson) that the lawyers representing Nazareth House have told them what information to pass on and it is minimal.
35. The only reason I can think as to why my mother would not put me up for adoption was that she wanted to try and keep me. Unfortunately when we did meet her, her health had started to deteriorate. It was twenty years ago but she told me things about my history. She told me my father's name, she told me that he had raped her and the night that she told him that she was pregnant he just walked away from her.
36. She is now deceased and when she died last year I was sent a text message from her daughter [REDACTED] ling me not to turn up at the funeral as I was not welcome but we all went and it was like a Mexican standoff although we stayed in the background.
37. My older sister [REDACTED] s a character and we get on well.

38. I left school having passed five GCSE's and I followed in my father's footsteps and went into fabrication engineering working with metal and welding and fabrication. I did that for two or three years and I worked in [REDACTED] doing fabrication welding. I left that and got married and was in and out of various jobs but I was mainly involved in youth work. I spent almost twenty years in youth work working for [REDACTED] ran summer camps for three weeks and organised their daily activities.
39. I joined the [REDACTED] in 1988 and I've been there since and retire in May as I am now [REDACTED]
40. I have [REDACTED] children from my first marriage. I had a good marriage and we have [REDACTED] wonderful children, [REDACTED] girls and [REDACTED] boys, and grandchildren. I am now married to [REDACTED] five years and we have been together twelve years. I blame myself, my attitude and the way I did things for the breakdown of my first marriage. I adore [REDACTED] and everything is going well.
41. A lot of my friends have committed suicide, it has been a big thing with home boys where they just can't manage, and they are not able to speak for themselves. My good friend [REDACTED] SND24 committed suicide. For years nobody listened or cared. No-one believed the Catholic Church could do wrong. But more and more stories have come out and it has become repetitive and everyone can see we were telling the truth. It is also sad that so many boys have left this country to escape their past where everything is in their face, even meeting one of the boys down town throws a shadow back at you and if you're unfortunate enough to meet your abuser it just makes it worse.
42. I see things on television and sometimes for days on end I will disappear out of the way or sit and drink maybe half a dozen bottles of wine over a few days just to get out of that scenario. I am a member of SAVIA. Hopefully this process will give us what we want. It has been a difficult process and I just hope that some of the boys who are away can come home and face their demons. I personally would like to see [REDACTED] SND14 put in jail and I want the Catholic

Church and the government to accept that they failed in their responsibilities towards us and to provide an absolute and sincere apology.

- 43. One point to note is that as grown men now we have had discussions about the abuse we suffered and it would appear that the abusers selected a group and the other abusers didn't touch that group. Some boys thought well of **SND 14** **SND14** because he didn't touch them. I am surmising but maybe there was a code of conduct "he's mine don't touch him", that is my point of view on reflection.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed _____

HIA13



Dated 5 SEPT 2013