

**GSC-21** The Congregation submitted these to the Inquiry under cover of letter 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2016. The Congregation presumes such returns in this pro forma template were submitted annually in compliance with the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1968, but unfortunately the Congregation has been unable to locate any copies of same.

7.1.4. **Roseville:** Despite searches, no records have been located, so we are unable to comment on what Government oversight or inspection was in place. However, in respect of one Applicant who was resident in Roseville Hostel for an intermittent period (HIAI ref 175) the Congregation has reviewed GSC-161 to GSC-232 and notes the considerable engagement that the social worker had with the Applicant during the time she was living in Roseville Hostel.

7.1.5. **Marianville:** The Inspection Reports for the years 1984 – 1990 have been furnished to the Inquiry. Despite searches, have been unable to locate any inspection reports in respect of earlier years, or any other official returns.

## **7 No allegations of child abuse**

### **7.1 Please set out any allegations of alleged abuse that came to the attention of the congregation in respect of the “children’s services” provided by it in Northern Ireland.**

7.1.1 Prior to engagement with this Inquiry, and receipt of the 10 Applicants’ Statements furnished by the Inquiry, the Congregation had received no allegations of abuse in respect of the “*children’s services*” in Northern Ireland. As already disclosed in the section 9 response furnished by the Congregation to the Inquiry under cover of letter 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2015, the Congregation received one allegation of negligence from a former resident, but that resident was not in receipt of “children’s services” as she was an **adult** at the time of her stay with the Good Shepherd Sisters. Pursuant to the written consent and authority of the individual (Applicant HIA242), the Congregation furnished the Inquiry with copies of that High Court Writ of Summons dated 5<sup>th</sup> October 2005. The Applicant did not pursue those civil legal proceedings, and they appear to have fallen into abeyance in 2005 and have not been pursued since then. No allegations of abuse in respect of “children’s services” have come to the attention of the Congregation either by way of direct disclosures or by way of initiation of civil litigation. It is notable that there were approximately 4,287 individuals admitted to the

Good Shepherd Sisters institutions in Northern Ireland during the period 1922 to 1995. As already explained to the Inquiry under letter 25<sup>th</sup> January 2016, it has not been possible break this figure down in respect of how many admissions related to children and how many related to adults. In the circumstances, having one (unpursued) claim of negligence made against the Congregation in respect of the period would suggest that the Good Shepherd Sisters discharged their child caring ministry with care and devotion, and met the standards of care expected of them. As stated in the policy document referred to at 4.16 above, the approach of the Good Shepherd sisters to their ministry was one of kindness, understanding and love. It is notable that the Inquiry has received statements from 12 Applicants of which 11 fall within the Inquiry's terms of reference, and of which 10 are proceeding within this Module. The Sisters cared for approximately 4,287 individuals during the relevant period. The Congregation does not believe it is helpful to engage in a crude mathematical statistical analysis of the percentages involved, because the Congregation's foundress, St. Mary Euphrasia, had a saying which has been adopted as a statement of ethos for the Congregation: "*one person is of more value than a world*". For this reason, the mere fact that even one single person saw fit to make a Statement to the Inquiry complaining of her time in the Good Shepherd Sisters is a source of considerable sadness and distress to the entire Congregation. It is hoped that the Applicants will draw some healing from recounting their stories to the Inquiry. They have been taken seriously, and listened to with respect. Subject to the above, as the Inquiry will have seen from the documentation furnished by the Congregation, there are a number of references to familial child abuse (including familial sexual abuse and familial neglect) suffered by girls and teenagers who have been brought to the Good Shepherd Sisters. In some cases, those disclosures of familial abuse and familial neglect were made by the teenagers directly to their social workers. In some cases, the social workers would have made disclosures of this information to the Good Shepherd Sisters.

**7.2 If there were any allegations that did come to the congregation's attention, then please ensure that each example deals with the particulars.**

See above.

Inquiry's reference dates, the Inquiry has received statements from 12 Applicants who narrate their time in a Good Shepherd Sisters Institution, of which 11 fall within the Inquiry's terms of reference, and of which 10 are proceeding within this Module. The Congregation does not believe it is helpful to engage in any analysis of the percentages involved, because as stated above the Congregation's foundress, St. Mary Euphrasia, had a saying which has been adopted as a statement of ethos for the Congregation: "*one person is of more value than the whole world*". It is hoped that the Applicants who are proceeding in this Module will draw some healing from recounting their stories to the Inquiry. They have been taken seriously by the Congregation, and listened to with respect. The Inquiry has also received a number of Statements from people who were cared for by the Sister over the years who speak warmly of the Sisters and the care they received. We welcome this inquiry and it is hoped that the Applicants who are proceeding in this Module will draw some healing from recounting their stories to the Inquiry. They have been taken seriously by the Congregation, and listened to with respect. The Inquiry has also received a number of Statements from people who were cared for by the Sisters over the years who speak warmly of the Sisters and the care they received. We hope that the voices of all will be heard and listened to.

#### 4. Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this Witness Statement are true.

Signed: Ethna McDermott

Sr. Ethna McDermott

Dated the 25th day of February 2016

but causing disorder wherever they pass. Still, even with these, we should use charity, in the hope of saving their souls:

Persons who place children in our classes, should be requested to specify their intentions with regard to the correspondence these children may have with persons outside, whether by visits or letters. This precaution will spare us many difficulties, we being thus authorized to refuse all communications except those indicated. We should inform them that no visit will be permitted during the first two months unless for some special reason.

All particulars and recommendations concerning each child, with the date of her entry, should be written down as also the address of the persons to whom we could have recourse in case of difficulty and to whom we could give up the child if we find it impossible to keep her.

We should never refuse a penitent because she or her parents cannot pay for her maintenance, but, if they can, we should exact their doing so.

Our object is to attract penitents; to take, if possible, all who present themselves; to refuse none, however poor they may be.

« And, in truth, it seems as if there was a special Providence for the houses of the Good Shepherd. Frequently they seem to be utterly without resources, yet, they have never wanted for what was necessary; in one way or another God has always helped them. We see this every year in the circular letters. »  
(*Inst.*, ch. vii.)

In case of a minor, the parents or guardians should sign a contract that she will remain in our class until she shall have attained her majority, and that they will pay a certain fixed sum should she leave before that period. This agreement may have no weight in law, we may be obliged to give up the children when the parents demand them, but it may have the effect of restraining certain persons who would not wish to violate such a promise.

The parents' engagement to leave the child in the house until her majority, does not deprive the Mistress of the right to send her away for grave reasons of which the Mistress and Superioress are the judges.

When a person who is of age enters of her own accord we should also exact an engagement that she will remain at least two years in the house, and that she will pay (provided

clear intention of being non-denominational  
 and Good Shepherd (as has happened  
 in the past) have a policy whereby  
 they will not refuse people in  
 need no matter what their  
 religion is, there is nothing  
 further we can do to influence  
 the situation - in short the  
 community gets what it wants  
 with no obstacles put in the  
 way of mixing the religions  
 either by the Board or ourselves.  
 This is [redacted] philosophy

A side result of the Good  
 Shepherd development is likely  
 to be the need for a boys  
 hostel. An interesting possibility  
 is that Blenheim SC might  
 become a boys and girls hostel.  
 Good Shepherd would be unlikely  
 to develop along these lines.

[redacted]  
 19.11.73

**"MY DEAR DAUGHTERS"**

CONFERENCES AND INSTRUCTIONS  
OF  
SAINT MARY EUPHRASIA PELLETIER

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## CHAPTER 60

## THE APOSTOLATE (CONTINUED)

*The fruit of the Spirit is kindness. (Gal. 5.22)*

1. Beloved daughters, today I must remind you once again of a very important regulation: never strike our children! I know that none of you do so, but it is my duty to exhort you to be faithful to this recommendation. Oh, no, you must never use harsh measures. It is well - known that they do not correct anything, and they would merely make us culpable before God and man. Let this order stand for ever and always, as though it were inscribed and printed everywhere, because, everywhere and in all circumstances, I wish it to be obeyed.

You must grasp this thoroughly; we have no rights over our penitents! We can neither ill- treat them, nor shut them up. Our protégées have all come to us voluntarily, or are placed with us by their parents' authority, and we can no more chastise them than keep them against their will. Besides, harshness is no more the spirit of our vocation than it is the Spirit of God. If a penitent openly rebels, if she threatens you, send her away; we should only have penitents of goodwill, we are not obliged to keep the others.

Take care not to scold too much; be serious but full of kindness, especially to the new arrivals. Whatever be the cause of their tears these are always bitter, and if you are not good and compassionate towards them they could succumb to despair. Make no mistake, often on coming to us, their first feeling is one of dislike for the house, and sometimes for the Directress. But later, if they are well treated, surrounded with kind attentions and signs of interest, they change their outlook and begin to feel attraction towards the Faith. Respect will follow and then affection for the Sisters. As you know some do not want to leave us. It needs much care and great concern to lead souls to God. We have experienced this in all our houses.

*The fruit of the Spirit is faithfulness.*

2. There are two things which usually have a bad effect on our girls, martial music and the sound of drums. Unhappily, in the centre of towns, this can often happen. More fortunate are the houses situated in quiet surroundings, a short distance away from noisy towns. There one can enjoy the peace, and the air is purer.

So redouble your vigilance. Be watchful in the Chapel, during work, above all at recreations and in the dormitories. Be sure a night light always burns there. Keep an eye on everything, without it being too noticeable and tiresome. Be like a mother always concerned for her beloved children. Above all be careful that nothing unfortunate nor anything that offends God happens through your lack of vigilance!

Those of you, dear daughters, who are not employed in the groups, must not go to them without permission, nor must you speak to the girls when you are not working with them. Be quite sure that if you are not named for an apostolate, you have not the grace to do good there; and you cannot deal with the children, that is, with the persons in our different establishments, without detriment to yourself; for they will learn that in doing so you are being disobedient. A Religious, however, who does her duty, who avoids being seen about, and does not speak to those she should not speak to, commands respect. If, one day, she should be named Directress, she will be received with esteem and happiness.

*The head cannot say to the feet,  
"I don't need you!" (1 Cor. 12:21)*

3. There should be a proper separation between the Community and the Sections, for the Sisters should have their privacy.

The second mistresses must act with authority when they are in charge. There is nothing more harmful than those exaggerated differences by which everything is in the hands of the

know how to work well, they will be able not only to earn their own living but also to help their parents. Rouse in them. great respect and devotedness towards their parents and families.

When you notice that a correction will make a child fly into a temper, speak in a general way about such and such a fault, or speak openly to another capable of receiving it quietly.

*The fruit of the Spirit is goodness.*

7. Keep their belongings and their clothes in good order. Our young girls take offence when this is not done, although sometimes they are themselves disorder personified. In our houses everything must be in perfect order. See that your children are always clean, and their clothes carefully mended. At a first glance one can tell whether there is order or not in our groups.

My dear daughters, you are bound to be mothers to your penitents; you owe them the care that a mother has for her children and, here, all of you are mothers. Cooks and bakers work for them and prepare their food, and should do so with great attention. Let me remind you once again never to give your children cold, badly prepared meals. Use your judgement and don't make one portion of bread do for three people. If a child doesn't fancy her portion, don't serve her a plateful of reproaches! Take as your guide what you have seen at the Mother House, and don't deviate from it. If you find yourself with someone who wants to do otherwise, remind her what she saw and heard here. Be like those farmers in the Vendée, who never stop telling their sons and grandsons: "My father used to dig here ...or there."

*If you work for souls,  
pray to the Holy Angels. (S.M.E.)*

8. I want you to keep well in mind, also, that the children must never work on Sundays, making little things on the pretext that they are pious objects of various kinds. Never consent to that .

Never put a preservation child, a penitent or a Magdalen in charge of the infirmaries. They can help, yes, but a Sister must always be the Infirmarian and keep control. If you leave them to themselves, you may be the cause of grave disorders. One of them could make a mistake, such as giving the wrong medicine through thoughtlessness, which could even cause the death of a penitent.

As you can see, it is vital that the Mistresses are vigilant, that the infirmarians are even more so, and that the pharmacists take good care to explain how medication should be given.

One last recommendation. Don't habitually sit up late, don't stay up all night under the pretext of urgent work. A directress, who is faithful to all these recommendations, trying to put all we have said into practice, can be sure of having carried out her mission. and indeed she can claim my deepest affection.

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Is it not specially to us Religious of the Good Shepherd that this call is addressed? The holy ambition to gain souls to Him, has enrolled us under His standard. Do not think, my dear daughters, that we will reach our end by any other way than the one He has Himself marked out for us. Following Him we must carry our cross, let ourselves be nailed to it, and like Him die on it, if such be His good pleasure, for the souls He has confided to us.

It is by meditating on your Rules and the Constitutions of our holy Order, by reading the *Instructions* of our Holy Foundress, and by imprinting on your minds the counsels contained in this little book, that you will learn to be charitable auxiliaries of Him who has said. « I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd gives his life for His sheep. »

My dear daughters — you who have already laboured long years in the field of the Father of the family, you who are

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commencing your career and have only quitted the cradle of your religious infancy, and you also dear novices, hope of the Institute — may you respond to the ardent desire of my heart! May you be throughout the world in every part of the globe where you are placed or may be placed by holy obedience, faithful Shepherdesses of the Lord! Be careful to preserve the tender lambs from the tooth of the ravaging wolf; be strong to snatch from him the prey he has already seized; be perfect in order to conduct your flocks *by justice and kindness* to the heavenly pastures to which they are invited by the heavenly Pastor! Such ought you to be my dear daughters to fulfil the promises you have made to the Lord.

When in the midst of your labours, trials and sorrows shall oppress your heart, when the cross shall weigh upon your shoulders, when nails pierce your feet and hands, then be glad and rejoice, for by these days of suffering you will purchase from God

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conversions and pardons which are the object of your fourth Vow.

May our Holy Mother Foundress and all the holy souls who have shared her noble labours, obtain for you, my dear daughters, from the Heart of Jesus, a perfect understanding of your holy vocation and excite in you the sincere and efficacious desire of sacrificing yourselves until death for the sublime work to which He has called you!

I have every hope that my wishes will be fulfilled, and I beg the holy Hearts of Jesus and Mary to bestow on you, my dear daughters, and on all the Institute, their most abundant benedictions.

Sister Mary of Saint Marine Verger,  
Superioress General.

Angers, April 24<sup>th</sup> 1897.

## PREFACE

*This book has not been undertaken to propose new practices, but to assure the observance of those which have been transmitted, for more than sixty years, in our Congregation. Example instructs better than precept, and that of the ancient religious is of more value to their Sisters than any book; but examples are more quickly remarked, they are more touching and more easily remembered, when we read the precepts and seek to penetrate them.*

*What a pity our Holy Mother Foundress did not herself write these Practical Rules which she observed in such a perfect degree, with such profit to souls, and which she taught to the Sisters formed*

should be extremely careful not to injure the reputation of a child, or cause scandal by making public an act known to us alone.

5. Faults denoting impiety, profanations, blasphemies uttered in public.

The duty of inflicting the more severe penances, belongs to the first Mistress alone. Her aides having rendered her an exact account of the faults committed, should be satisfied with her decision.

The Religious of the Good Shepherd should never forget that it is forbidden to strike the children<sup>1</sup>; they should rarely give fatiguing penances, such as, holding the arms in form of a cross. They should never deprive them of food.

If we be obliged to separate a child from her companions we should never shut her up alone; solitude is a bad counsellor for a child who is not good. — *This point is of extreme*

<sup>1</sup> « We must repeat to you to-day, my dear children, a recommendation of great importance. That is, never to strike the children. I know well that none of you fail in this respect, but it is my duty to tell you to be always faithful to this recommendation. Ah! my dear children, never use harsh measures: they do not correct the penitents, and only render us culpable before God and man. Then let this prohibition be for all times and all places. Consider it inscribed everywhere, for I wish it observed everywhere, and on all occasions. » (*Inst.*, ch. I.)

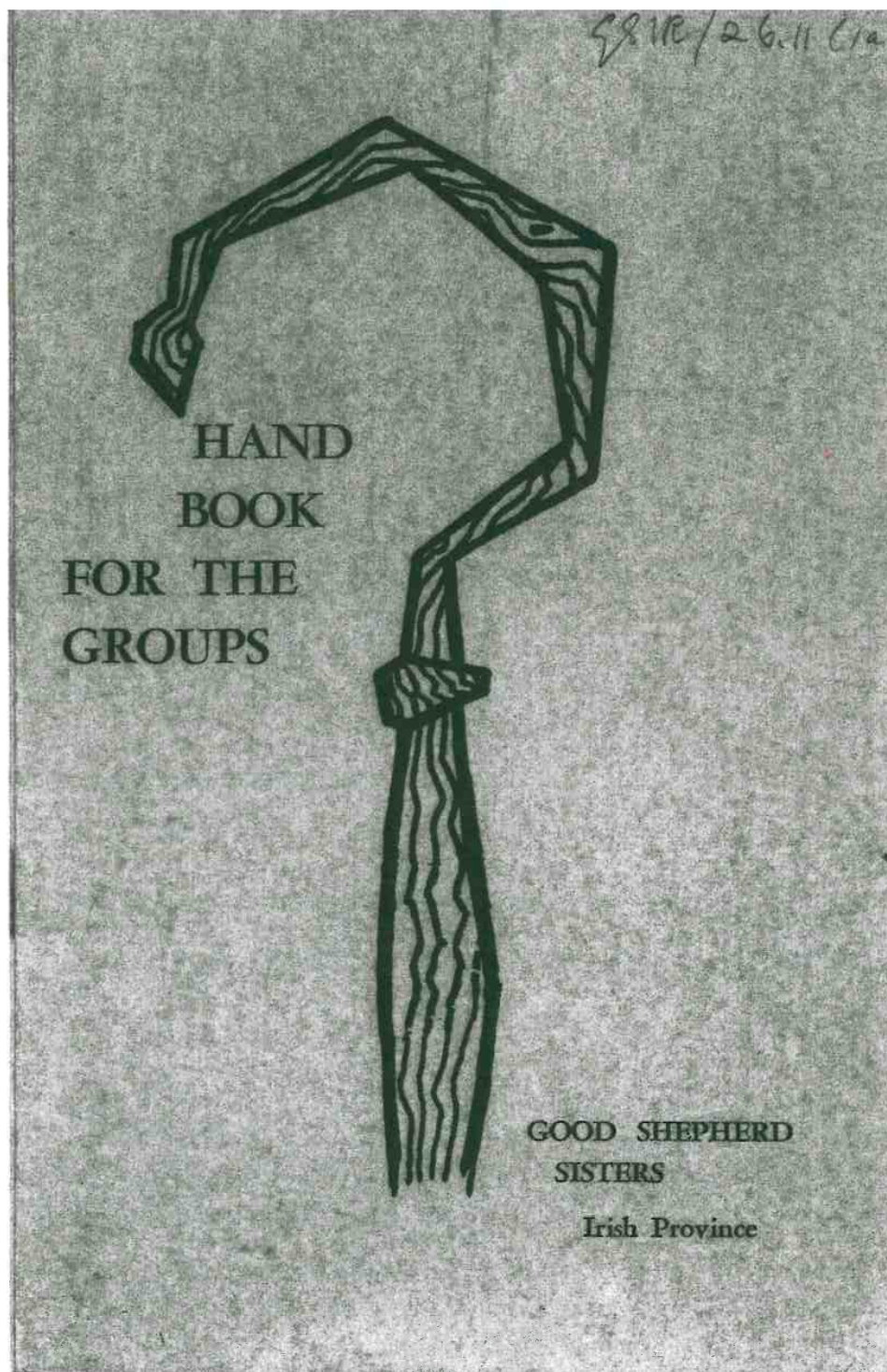
importance; she should be given in charge to a person of confidence.

Long penances are usually unprofitable; if we sometimes impose them it would be better to profit of the first sign of goodwill on the part of the child, to remit the punishment in whole or in part, but this should not be done in such a way that culprits might hope to obtain pardon too easily. The abuse of penances, whether by prolonging them excessively or by imposing them too frequently, renders them ineffective. The children become accustomed to punishment; as the palate habituates itself to what at first caused a strong impression.

What touches a young girl who is punished, is, in general, not so much the privation of pleasure as the humiliation she feels. There are classes where the smallest penances have a great effect because the children have been taught to regard punishment as a great humiliation<sup>1</sup>. That salutary sentiment should be

<sup>1</sup> « A means which I found effective to make them understand, when they had done wrong, was to look at them severely, and, several afterwards told me that they would have preferred the greatest punishment to this look of disapproval. »





Dear Sisters,

With the development of new trends in our Apostolate, the Provincial Chapter offers you this experimental Hand-Book as a guide.

Mother M. Agatha,  
Provincial Superior.

Dublin. January, 1971.



6. A good all round training should be given to those who come into our care. This should include :—
  - (a) A training in basic religious principles and attitudes to life.
  - (b) Training in general household management.
  - (c) Work training.

Human and spiritual development must go hand in hand. The spiritual development of those under our care is the shared responsibility of Directress and Group Mother. Where necessary, formal catechetical instruction should be given and it is the duty of the Directress to see that this is done. "In order that the Divine Plan of salvation be accomplished in each one, we must constantly seek the most effective way of presenting the Gospel message; our methods should be adapted to the needs and aspirations of the contemporary world." (Const. 10).

## ROLES

"The Sisters give themselves in a responsible way to the tasks entrusted to them by their Superiors. They respect the function of the sisters-in-charge. The latter will work as a team with their religious and lay helpers. The Superior, too, will respect the special competence and experience of sisters in charge, who shall be submissive to the Superior, carrying out her orders in all that concerns their work." (Juridical Norms 50).

With the Directresses and Group Mothers, the Sisters in the various works and training departments, by their fidelity to duty and loyal co-operation contribute to the success of this work. "As long as you are in this Institute you all work for the salvation of souls . . . it matters not where, all work for the same end". (Conf. St. Mary Euphrasia).

### DIRECTRESS

The role of the Directress varies according to her assignment.

1. She is responsible for the overall running of the groups and general administration, always keeping in mind, however,

the principle of subsidiarity which calls for sharing responsibility, trusting those with whom she works and encouraging initiative.

2. She is responsible for the admission and discharge of girls and children. A number of factors may have to be considered in these cases. This will necessitate dialogue with the Group Mother and Social Worker.
3. On admission of girls or children she should arrange for their assessment and procure all relevant information and certificates. Case histories should be kept up-to-date and properly filed.

#### **GROUP MOTHER (Residential Homes)**

1. She is responsible for the day-to-day running of the group and through her motherliness and kindness she should create a homely atmosphere, which should permeate all areas of the child's life; i.e., living apartments, meals, choice of clothes, personal training, correction, and recreation.
2. The needs, talents and capabilities of each child will be her concern and she will make available to the children opportunities in education and other fields of training as far as this is reasonably possible, with approval of Directress.
3. She will have an understanding with the Directress regarding the children's pocket-money, clothes and shoes. Regarding clothes and shoes she will arrange for individuality for the older girls.
4. She will attend parent-teacher meetings and any other functions of the group.
5. In collaboration with the Directress, she arranges medical treatment for the children.
6. It is her duty to encourage external contacts which will initiate the child into normal family living.
7. She should be observant of the needs of her group and should make timely representation of them when necessary.

**GROUP MOTHER (Adult Centre)**

1. The role of the Group Mother varies according to the age group with which she is placed. She operates within a more flexible structure than that of the Residential Home.
2. She is responsible for the clothes, bedrooms and general conduct of the group.

**SOCIAL WORKER**

The Social Worker should work in close collaboration with the Superior and with the different sections of the house, and maintain liaison with statutory and voluntary welfare bodies. She should assess the needs of the area in which she is situated and explore ways of meeting these needs. The Social Worker should try to co-ordinate our various services and make them known to other Social Workers.

The Social Worker should see that Case Histories are kept up-to-date. If necessary, she should keep contact with the girls and their employers when the girls have left us. Contact with the families of our children and girls may be also essential.

## TEAM-WORK

“Genuine team-work of all staff members, religious and lay, collaboration with diocesan and other social agencies, and consultation with Government departments are essential to the conducting of our apostolate”. (Constitutions—Norms 3)

Each Sister, while working on her own initiative, still depends on those collaborating with her for the successful achievement of the end in view. This will call for :

- (a) A clearly defined objective, so that the entire team knows the aim and is working to attain it.
- (b) Close co-operation and good will between all the members, together with a real readiness to override personal preference in favour of the general good. This will demand a high degree of unselfishness.
- (c) The emphasis must be on the constructive, with an openness to healthy constructive criticism and listening to new suggestions, sincere consideration of all proposals, and a flexibility to adopt whatever may contribute to the common good.
- (d) Sharing in discussions, formulation of policy and decision making by the entire team. Such meetings should be held regularly in order to weld the team into a unit and to maintain the unity so necessary for its operation.
- (e) Respect for persons, an appreciation of their rights, their gifts, their talents, as well as patience and tolerance with their immature tendencies and weaknesses.
- (f) Readiness to share responsibility without being overbearing or authoritarian in attitude.
- (g) An ability to accept oneself as one really is with all one's shortcomings and peculiarities, and likewise the acceptance of others as they are.
- (h) Consultation with Superiors at regular intervals.
- (i) It is also recommended that we might from time to time discuss our Apostolate with other religious or social groups interested in similar work.

Throughout the Province, there should be close co-operation between Sisters doing similar types of work, e.g., Directresses ; Social Workers, etc. They should meet regularly and share plans. Failures as well as successes should be discussed. We should make every effort to view our work on a Provincial level.

## GUIDE-LINES

1. Team-work and co-operation between Group Mothers and Directresses is absolutely essential.
2. Staff-meetings will be held weekly for the children and fortnightly for the girls and will be attended by the Directress, Group Mothers, and other members of the Staff when necessary. At times the Superior and/or Social Worker may also attend, and occasionally outside authorities concerned with the welfare of children and girls may be invited.

The following may be discussed at these meetings :—

- (i) Plans for the training and education of our girls and children.
- (ii) Time-table.
- (iii) The dividing of any gifts given for the groups.
- (iv) The planning of parties or outings for an individual group.
- (v) Holiday-Planning.

The Directress should give a short account of the major happenings since the last meeting and acquaint the sisters with current trends in our fields of social work, e.g. the Directress should tell the Sisters about proposed admissions and also give the sisters any information she has about girls who left.

Decisions of importance at staff-meetings would need the Superior's approval.

3. Sisters should avail of any Lectures provided for them to keep them up-dated on current trends.
4. It would be well if the Directress would relieve the Group Mother weekly, at recreation.
5. Ordinarily, girls or children will not be moved from one group to another.

of the hostel are stated to include facilitating reconciliation between residents and their families if necessary.

**6.14. How discipline was maintained (eg what was the policy on corporal punishment, privilege and reward systems etc).**

There was and is a strict written policy in the Congregation which explicitly states that a Sister **shall not strike a child**. This edict was issued by the Foundress of the Good Shepherd Sisters, Saint Mary Euphrasia Pelletier. This rule was initially inscribed in a document which the Congregation refers to as the “Book of Conferences”. At Chapter 60 on page 158 (which is a translation from the original French text) (copy extract attached as **Exhibit Seven**) it says:

*“Beloved daughters, today I must remind you once again of a very important regulation: never strike our children! I know that none of you do so, but it is my duty to exhort you to be faithful to this recommendation. Oh, no, you must never use harsh measures. It is well known that they do not correct anything, and they would merely make us culpable before God and man. Let this order stand for ever and always, as though it were inscribed and printed everywhere, because, everywhere and in all circumstances, I wish it to be obeyed.”*

The use of the word “children” is a translation from the French text and was an affectionate term used by adults to refer to both children and other (usually younger) adults. Therefore the use of the term “children” in this document is understood to refer to all of the Congregation’s protégées; that is anyone in their care. This policy was incorporated into a further written document issued 24<sup>th</sup> April 1897 by the then Superior General, Sr Mary of the Saint Marine Verger. The 1897 document was issued to the entire Congregation, and was entitled “*Practical Rules for the Use of the Religious of the Good Shepherd for the Direction of the Classes*” (“**Practical Rules**”). It states (at page 114) (extract attached as **Exhibit Eight**):

*“The Religious of the Good Shepherd Should, never forget that it is forbidden to strike the children”.*

It then recites in a footnote the text of the Conferences where the translation is slightly different from that set out above, wherein it states:

*“We must repeat to you to-day, my dear children, a recommendation of great importance. That is, never to strike the children. I know well that none of you fail in this respect, but it is my duty to tell you to be always faithful to this recommendation. Ah! my dear children, never use harsh measures; [...] Then let this prohibition be for all times and all places. Consider it inscribed everywhere, for I wish it observed everywhere, and on all occasions”.*

That rule would have been in force throughout the Irish province. The 1897 Practical Rules document refers to the following as forms of permitted punishments:

- **A look of disapproval** (per page 115): *“A means which I found effective to make them understand, when they had done wrong, was to look at them severely, and several afterwards told me that they would have preferred the greatest punishment to this look of disapproval”*
- **Brief separation from her companions** (per page 114): *“If we be obliged to separate a child from her companions we should never shut her up alone; solitude is a bad counsellor for a child who is not good. – This point is of extreme importance; she should be given in charge to a person of confidence”*.

The “Practical Rules” document was republished in 1943 and recirculated throughout the Congregation. Accordingly, it was written policy from at least 1897 onwards throughout the Congregation that there should be no corporal punishment administered by a Good Shepherd Sister against any person in their care. I note that the Voluntary Homes Regulations of 1952 and 1975 both permitted corporal punishment in voluntary homes. However, having regard to my knowledge of the ethos of our Congregation and knowing our individual Sisters, it would surprise and shock me if the congregational Rule prohibiting hitting or smacking was not adhered to strictly. From my own knowledge of our individual Sisters and to the ethos and charism that is so imbued in our culture, any such breach of the Practical Rules would have been a serious divergence from our commitment to those in our care. Given that corporal punishment would have been legal and utilised in schools and family homes during this period, the Practical Rules are enlightened and child-focused having regard to the context of their times. Subject always to the above, the discipline system administered appears to have centred around withdrawing privileges or withholding treats. In more recent times, the policy would have focused on catching a child being good, praising them for such good behaviour, and rewarding that good behaviour. In the Adolescent Centre, the most severe punishment for misbehaviour was withdrawing a girl’s permission to attend the Youth Club. See the attached return made by [REDACTED] to the Department of Health and Social Services Statistics Branch dated 11<sup>th</sup> January 1978 wherein she states: *“Within this approach, it is possible to be very firm and to correct individuals – girls can be deprived of club attendance if misbehaviour is grave.”*



*Good Shepherd Convent,  
Waterside,  
Derry*

Dept. of Health & Social Services, May 7th, 1979.  
Dundonald House,  
Upper Newtownards Road,  
Belfast.

*In Charge*  
Dear Miss McClintock, *10.5.79.*

Thank you for your letter of 23rd April, 1979.

Corporal punishment is forbidden in the Hostel. No member  
of staff is allowed to administer such punishment.

With every best wish,

Yours sincerely,

**SR 280**

Superior.



## VOLUNTARY HOMES.

NAME.	QUARTER-ENDED 30/9/79	QUARTER-ENDED 31/12/79	QUARTER-ENDED 31/3/80.	QUARTER-ENDED 30/6/80.
<u>EASTERN BOARD</u>				
Victoria Home, Belmont Road.				
Dr Barnardo's Carrigfoyle		✓	✓	
Glenalee Children's Home				
Spacedene Hostel, Dundela Avenue				
Phanton Memorial School	✓	✓	✓	✓
Good Shepherd Home Ormeau Road.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nazareth House Ormeau Road				
Nazareth Lodge, Ravenhill Road.				
Rt. Joseph's Children's Home, Belfast	✓		✓	
Dr Barnardo's, Tara Lodge				
Thornvale House, Budeen Ave				
Mayflower Hostel, Cliftonville Rd.				
Blackhaven, Millisle Rd N. Ardara		✓	✓	✓
De la Salle, Rabane, Kincubbin	✓	✓		
Major House Home, Lisburn	✓	✓	✓	
Maranville, Ormeau Road.	✓			

WESTERN BOARD

Rt. Joseph's Home, Traonacacca  
 Good Shepherd Home, Fungwen Rd.  
 Nazareth House, Bishop St L. Ferry.

NORTHERN BOARD

Dr Barnardo's, Manor House B'Booth  
 Dr Barnardo's, Maceston N' Abbey.

SOUTHERN BOARD

Nazareth House, Charles St Portadown  
 Good Shepherd Home Newry  
 Oranai's, Warrington Rd Newry ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓  
 Rt. Joseph's, Convent of Mary B'brook ✓

## 8.0 RECORDS AND REVIEWS

8.1 The social work advisers inspected the statutory records kept in the hostel. An admission and discharge register giving the name and address together with dates of birth, admission and discharge is kept for all girls under the age of 18 and all babies who are admitted. A menu book is maintained which describes in detail the very good meals that are served to the residents and a fire book contains entries for all visits by the fire brigade, lectures, evacuations and servicing to the equipment. There is also a book in which events of importance are recorded. These include the deaths and stillbirths of babies and rare occasions when residents have been interviewed by the police as well as more mundane occurrences.

8.2 Prior to the inspection the Social Work Advisory Group requested copies of the reports made by the voluntary visitor during the previous year as required by Paragraph 4(2) of the Children & Young Persons (Voluntary Homes) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1975. These were not submitted and discussions with Sister [REDACTED] showed that in the past the Order has not made formal arrangements for this regulation to be complied with. It is recommended that the Order as administering authority of the home should make arrangements to appoint a person to visit the home every month and report on its conduct. Since Sister [REDACTED] visits Marianville frequently it is suggested that if she makes minor alterations to her routine and submits brief reports to the Sister [REDACTED] in Dublin the requirements would be satisfied.

T.119

D/PC

I should like to receive some guidance (other than the definition in the Act!) of what is a Voluntary Home. There are some examples of problems that are troubling me, so I thought it a good idea to let them trouble some other people as well.

File T.119  
Mr. Martin,  
Please attach  
appropriate file  
and return  
to me. 8/23  
1.3  
55.

(1) Homes for working boys and girls, e.g. the Presbyterian Boys' Hotel and Victoria House Girls' Hotel. Neither is registered and neither is keen to be registered, though they take Welfare Authority children. These could, however, it seems to me be sent there under section 96 (1) even if the Homes are not Vol. Homes. If these two might be registered, where does one draw the line. What about Homes run by Y.W.C.A., G.F.S., Convent Homes for business girls & so on? Perhaps it would depend on the terms of their own constitutions?

(2) Good Shepherd Homes. Derry & Mary G. Shephards have registered. They have a few girls under 18 (i.e. 16 & 17 year olds) but the majority of their residents are older girls and women (some much older) and their purpose is to provide a training home for girls and women who need reformation. If they weren't registered as Vol. Homes, could W.A.s send children (under 18 year olds) for training under section 96?

Belfast Good Shepherd is not registered, although they take the same type of case and have more because they have a bigger population. A part of their premises is, as you know, given over to younger girls and is registered as a Vol. Home, Sacred Heart Home. A girl of 16 or 17 might be admitted to either part of the Home (in fact to the Mother & Baby Unit, Marazionville) depending on the circumstances of the case. Broadly speaking Sacred Heart is for prevention, Good Shepherd for reformation.

Belfast, Derry & Mary G.S. also take cases from Special Care Service. All three have been "approved" by [redacted] as vol. organisations under the Welfare Services Act. These laundries are inspected by [redacted]

There may be other Homes of this type that we don't know about. Blackthorn House is another mixed-purpose place registered for girls of 16 upwards.

(3) Mother & Baby Homes. Thandale, Hopkirk & Kennedy Homes are registered. Thandale does take unaccompanied children & young girls and does not confine itself to unmarried mothers. The other two do, but there may be two reasons for registering. One is that they may, exceptionally, have an unaccompanied baby - the second and stronger reason is that some of their mothers may be under 18.

Plater Dei Hotel which takes the same type of case is not registered. Marazionville (Good Shepherd Belfast) takes expectant mothers and is not registered. Mary G.S. now wing for mothers & babies.

may perhaps be regarded as part of Mary G.S. (though the [redacted] are kept separate from the others).

One three, Thornhill, Hopden, Kennedy House, plus Mater Dei, Mainville and Mary [redacted] have to be approved by Min. of Health, and I may add that local [redacted]

to exercise some sort of supervision, but I don't know exactly what their powers are.

- (4) Convent of Mary, Brookbrook This is a boarding school, which also runs a small boarding-school for girls attending the primary school. They are usually weekly boarders, they go home at weekends and their parents pay more or less according to their means. I don't think the boarders could be regarded as children in a Vol. Home, but in addition to them, the nuns take in from time to time a few other children, some possibly voluntary, some from W.A.S. Parents of these vol. children may not be asked to pay at all and these children don't usually go home for holidays.

This place is registered and I have always felt rather uncomfortable about it. Again it is a case of asking where does one draw the line between this type of boarding-school & places such as Methodist College or Friends School. Both of these could for all we know take in a few pupils! In fact at present both have W.A. children as boarders, though admittedly they don't stay there during holidays.

There is another similar Convent of Mary in Strabane, which is not registered. I have no means of knowing whether they take in voluntary cases (W.A.'s don't send any there). I can't go and ask each boarder whether her parents pay for her and whether she goes home for holidays!

Glenamair is regarded as an institution within the meaning of the Education Act (N.I.), 1947. See Education Letter of 28/9/47 on T. 339.

[redacted] one is Glenamair. It is not recognized as a special school, though Educ. Authorities may send children there. It is not recognized as a mental institution, though Special Care may send children there. It is not approved under the W.S. Act though W.A.'s might send handicapped children there. Altogether nobody wants to give it official backing and I don't think we need to do so either, as it doesn't fall within our definition. All the bodies who place children there can presumably arrange to see what goes on, so I don't think there should be any question of any child suffering by reason of it not being (a) approved, (b) registered, or what have you.

Holiday Homes for children Taken as a number of these, none of them registered. Some are attached to other organisations which are approved by Ministry of Health. I personally don't think they come within one definition, but I would like to see some making it.

What bothers me really is the meaning of the word "for" (see 98) especially as I now find that I didn't always attach the right legal meaning to the word "intended" (see 106) - also the meanings of the words "protection" and "care", and "for" and "otherwise in need of help". I'm not trying to be pedantic. I realize it probably isn't possible to give clear definitions of these terms, and yet they seem to have a considerable bearing on the question. In most cases one can see clearly enough that these words apply, e.g. at Regent's, Wandsworth & so on, but in those marginal cases it is not so clear to me at any rate.

Kathleen Fennell

21/12/55

T.119

12th April, 1950.

Sir,

With reference to Miss McMillan's letter of the 27th March, it appears to the Ministry that if poor children or children otherwise in need of help, under the age of eighteen, are accommodated in the Good Shepherd Home, registration under Part VI of the Children and Young Persons Act (N.I.), 1950, would be essential.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

*S. Elliott*  
for Secretary.

The Secretary,  
Londonderry County Borough  
Welfare Committee,  
Riverview House,  
Abercorn Road,  
Londonderry.

/SCG.



A913/82.

VOLUNTARY CHILDRENS HOMES

NAME OF HOME	DATE REGISTERED	COPY OF CERTIFICATE HELD IN FILE
NAZARETH HOUSE, ORMEAU ROAD BELFAST.	13 June 1950	YES <i>Closed.</i> <i>De-Registered 31.5.84</i>
1) GLENTHU CHILDRENS HOSTEL HOLLYWOOD ROAD BELFAST 4	14 June 1950	NO <i>closed 21/2/86</i> <i>certificate not returned. De-registered 25/4/89</i>
1) NAZARETH LODGE, RAVENHILL ROAD BELFAST	13 June 1950	NO
1) SACRED HEART HOME GOOD SHEPHERD CONVENT, ORMEAU ROAD BELFAST	29 June 1950	YES: RE-REGISTERED 7.5.56 AS THE SACRED HEART CHILDREN'S HOME: THE GOOD SHEPHERD GIRLS HOME AND MARIANVILLE HOME FOR MOTHERS AND BABIES. THE GOOD SHEPHERD HOME AND THE SACRED HEART HOME AMALGAMATED 15.5.63. <i>Cancelled - Registered</i> <i>on 14/3/83 as 'Marianville Home &amp; Baby Unit' only.</i>
5) MACEDON WHITE HOUSE CO ANTRIM 349 SHORE ROAD	29 JUNE 1950	YES - <i>Cancelled 7/7/82. Re-registered</i> <i>as Sharonmore Ballyduff Road Newtownabbey</i> <i>Macedon registration certificate not returned - could not be found.</i>
1) MANOR HOUSE HOME BALLYCASTLE CO ANTRIM	29 JUNE 1950	YES <i>closed 31.1.85</i> <i>De-registered w.s.f.</i> <i>1.2.85</i>
1) VICTORIA HOMES 'SCHMIDT'S' BELMONT ROAD BELFAST	1 JULY 1950	YES <i>CLOSED 22 NOVEMBER '83. Registration</i> <i>cancelled w.s.f. 23.11.83.</i>
1) ST JOSEPH'S HOME TERNURACCA CO LONDONDERRY	1 JULY 1950	YES - <i>Cancelled as home closed on</i> <i>28 May 1982. Cert. not returned - cannot be found.</i>
1) MANOR HOUSE HOME WEDBORN CO ANTRIM	29 JUNE 1950	YES <i>No: LETTER 20.15.1988 FROM SECRETARY OF</i> <i>MAN. COMMITTEE OF HOME INDICATING REGISTRATION</i> <i>CERT. IN HIS POSSESSION. Closed. De-Registered 1.11.84</i>
1) NAZARETH HOUSE, BISHOP STREET LONDONDERRY	16 JULY 1950	YES
1) THORNDALE HOUSE DUNGAIRN AVENUE ANTRIM ROAD BELFAST	16 JULY 1950	YES <i>De-Registered 30.11.82</i> <i>cert not returned - could not be found.</i>
1) HOPEDALE HOSTEL 55 DUNDOLA AVE BELFAST	11 AUGUST 1950	YES <i>De-registered 1/4/85</i> <i>Cert. not returned - could not be found.</i>
13) GOOD SHEPHERD HOME DUNGIEN ROAD LONDONDERRY	6 SEPTEMBER 1950	YES <i>De-registered 27/2/84</i>
14) CHILDMAN, DUNDELA AVE RD. MILLISLE	27 SEPTEMBER 1950	YES. <i>Re-registered on 10/7/57 as "Childman</i> <i>and Cairnmore Children's Home"</i> <i>Cert. dated 15/9/50 not returned - cannot</i>

**5.2. Who was the administering authority for the children's home for the purposes of these regulations?**

As explained above, the Congregation has been unable to locate many records, but presumes that the "administering authority" was stated to be the Good Shepherd Sisters.

**5.3. Who was the person in charge of the children's home for the purposes of the Regulations?**

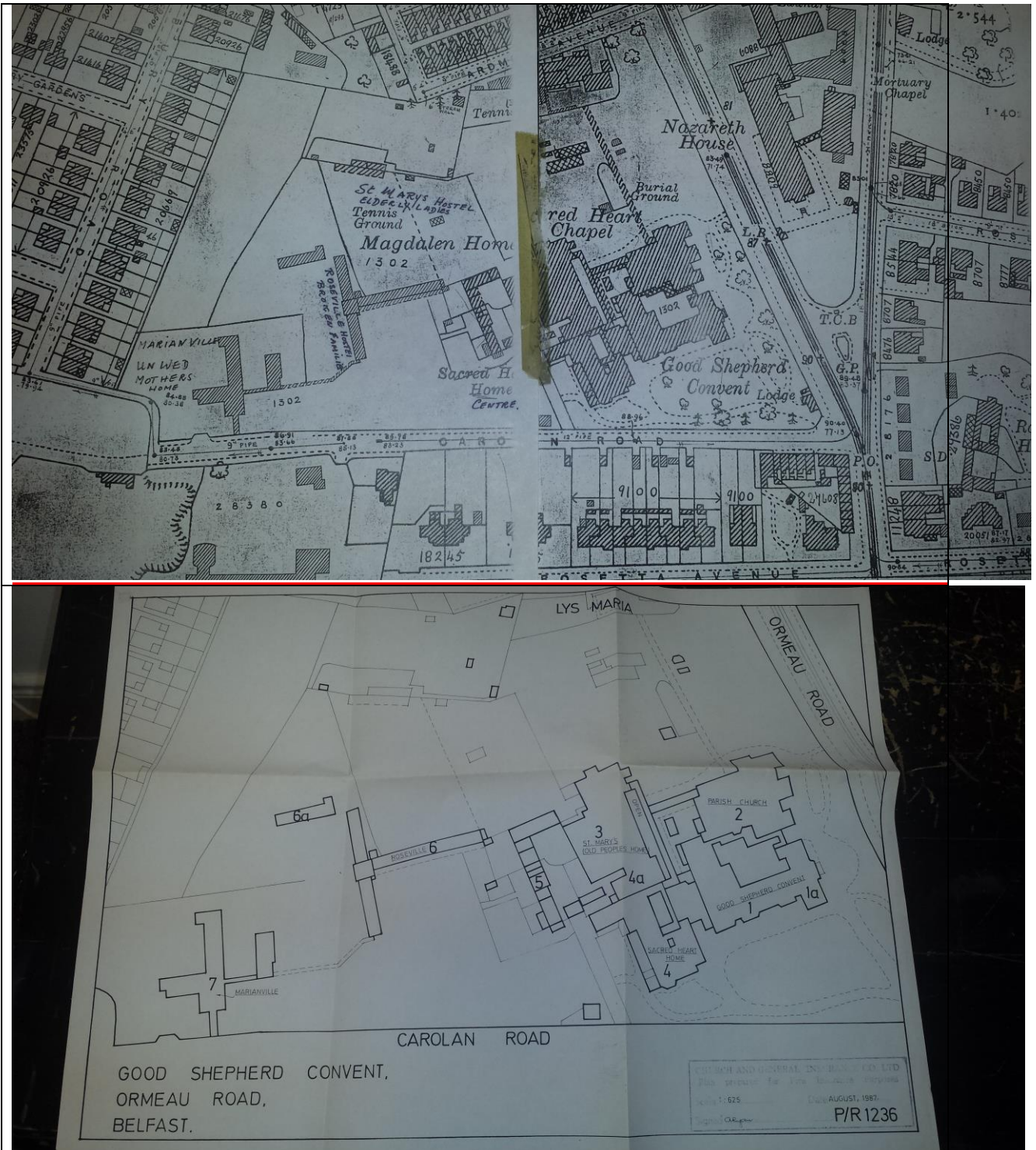
**5.3.1.** As explained above, the Congregation has been unable to locate many records, save for the Admissions Register, and therefore presumes that no or minimal records were retained beyond the Admissions Register, but from enquiries made of Sisters who were in Belfast at the time, it is their recollection that the following were the Local Superiors in Belfast during the following periods:

- SR 320 from 1926 until 1929
- SR 321 from 1929 until 1935
- SR 322 from 1936 until 1945
- SR 321 from 1945 until 1951
- SR 323 from 1951 until 1952
- SR 324 from 1952 until 1957
- SR 300 from 1957 until 1963
- SR 302 from 1963 until 1967
- SR 325 from 1967 until 1973
- SR 286 from 1973 until 1982
- SR 325 from 1982 until 1988
- SR 326 from 1988 until 1995

**5.3.2. Sacred Heart Home:** There was also a "Sister in Charge" of the Sacred Heart Home who was assigned to be the mother to a small cluster of children, creating a family grouping. The number of children in Sacred Heart Home was relatively small, usually around 10 children. Siblings were kept together to preserve existing family bonds. The Sister in Charge was responsible for the group. We understand that during the period 1922 – 1995, the Sister in Charge of Sacred Heart Home was the following (but please note that for some of the earlier years, it has not been possible to establish who the Sister in Charge was):

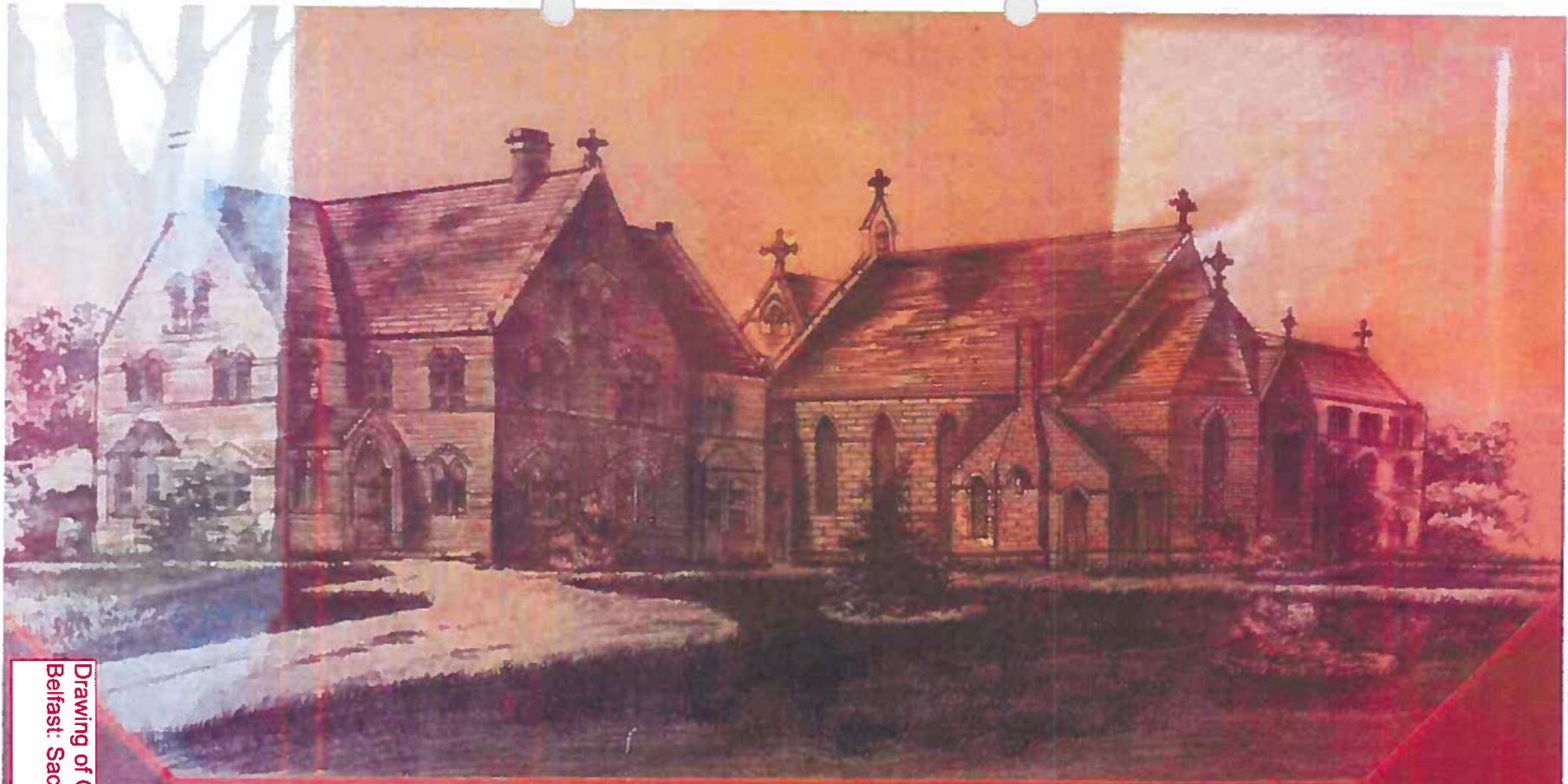
- SR 327 from 1926 until 1930
- SR 328 from 1935 until 1939





Above, annotated maps of Good Shepherd complex

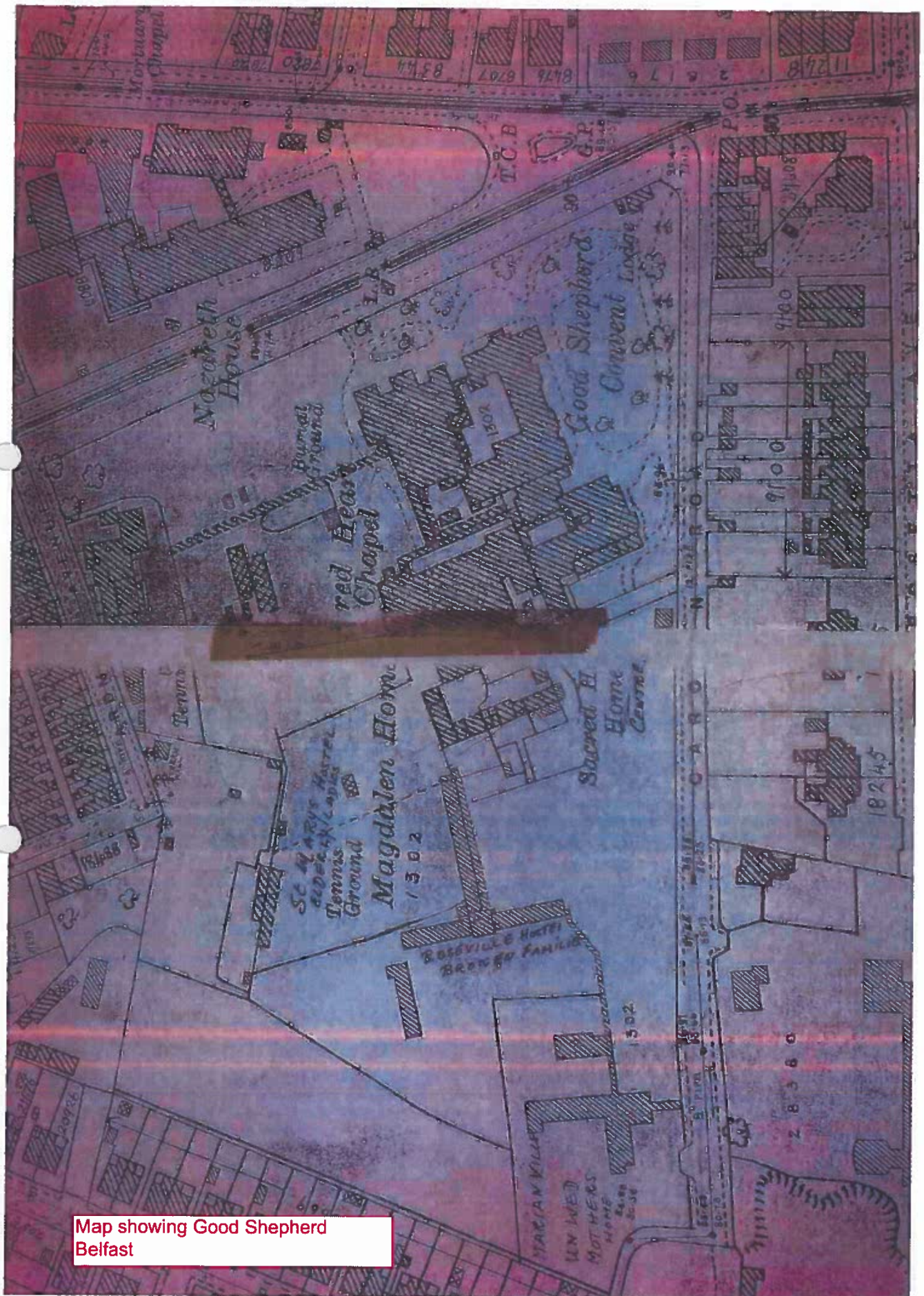




Drawing of Good Shepherd Convent  
Belfast: Sacred Heart Home on left

*Convent of the Good Shepherd  
Belfast*





Map showing Good Shepherd  
Belfast





CONVENT OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, BELFAST, 2175, W.L.

T.2418 / 1 / 231



9. Thorndale:- Well run by adequate trained staff.  
Salvation Army mother-and-baby Home. Takes some unaccompanied children and teen-age girls. Could do with more play equipment for toddlers. Otherwise standards of care and training excellent. Get grants from W.A.S. for mother-and-baby work and payment for them and other children and girls, who are, as a rule, placed there by W.A.S.

10. Hopedene:- } Mother-and-baby Homes. Only registered  
11. Kennedy House:- } in case they should ever have to keep  
an unaccompanied child temporarily.

12. Good Shepherd Convent:- } Only a few teen-age girls, the rest are  
Derry. } older women.

13. Good Shepherd Convent:- } Material conditions and equipment very  
Newry. } good. Girls and women work in laundry,  
have all amusements laid on inside Home.  
Quite happy atmosphere in both places.

14. Sacred Heart Home:- } Good material conditions. Could perhaps  
Good Shepherd Convent, } do with more play equipment, but would,  
Belfast. } I think, buy anything suggested to  
them. Have singing, elocution, dancing  
classes and girls go out to ordinary  
schools and to do shopping for Home.  
Not short of money, I think.

15. Rubane House:- } Good care and training by trained staff  
of Brothers - plus one woman cook. Is  
still in process of development, but on  
well organized lines.

16. Our Mother of Mercy Convent:- } Children go to outside school. This is  
Newry. } also a Home for old ladies. The  
children look quite well-cared, and the  
babies very well-cared, but I feel there  
are insufficient staff, and the bigger  
children's activities could be improved.

17. Convent of Mercy:- } Mainly a cheap boarding-school, on spartan  
Bessbrook. } lines, but affectionate care is given.  
Take a few voluntary children only.  
Said to have none when Dr. Simpson  
visited recently. Adequate care and  
training. Short of play equipment.

18. Nazareth Lodge:- } Poverty-stricken. Short of staff and play  
Belfast. } equipment. Very institutional for older  
children, and babies in desperate plight.  
Rev. Mother very anxious to improve and  
hopes to have Nursery School started.  
Getting equipment already. Trying to  
make holiday arrangements at Mrs. Stephen's Gleniff house.

19. Nazareth House:- } Very institutional, but material conditions  
Belfast. } better than Nazareth Lodge. Short of  
play equipment. Short of staff. Home made  
holiday arrangements at Mrs. Stephen's Gleniff house.  
/20. St. Joseph's Home



VOLUNTARY HOMES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS  
IN NORTHERN IRELAND

	<u>Accommodation available</u> <u>for</u>
<i>The Secretary,</i> Glendhu Children's Hostel, Holywood Road, Belfast.	35 boys and girls of all ages.
<i>The Mother Superior,</i> Nazareth Lodge, Ravenhill Road, Belfast.	280 boys and girls of all ages.
<i>The Mother Superior</i> Nazareth House, Ormeau Road, Belfast.	214 girls of all ages.
<i>The Secretary,</i> <i>Dr. Barnardo's Homes,</i> "Macedon", Whitehouse, Co. Antrim.	35 boys and girls up to 15 years.
<i>The Matron</i> Manor House Home, Ballycastle, Co. Antrim.	32 boys and girls up to 15 years.
<i>The Matron,</i> Manor House Home, Lisburn, Co. Antrim.	22 boys and girls up to age 14/15 years.
<i>The Mother Superior,</i> Sacred Heart Home, Ormeau Road, Belfast.	33 girls of all ages.
<i>Nazareth House,</i> Bishop Street, Londonderry.	180 boys and girls up to 14 years.
<i>The Organising Secretary</i> Victoria Voluntary Homes for Destitute Little Girls, Schomberg, <i>City Office.</i> Belmont Road, <i>16 Howard Street.</i> Belfast. <i>BELFAST.</i>	19 girls up to 16 years.
<i>The Mother Superior,</i> St. Joseph's Home, Termonbacca, Londonderry.	108 boys up to 16 years.
<i>The Children's Home,</i> Moyallon, Co. Down.	8 boys and girls of all ages.
<i>The Secretary,</i> Our Mother of Mercy Home, Kilmorey Street, Newry, Co. Down.	27 boys and girls of all ages.

*Regional Office*  
*Dr. Barnardo's Home,*  
*Fortwilliam Park,*  
*Belfast*



A913/82.

VOLUNTARY CHILDRENS HOMES

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1) MANOR HOUSE HOME WEDBORN CO ANTRIM	29 JUNE 1950	YES <i>No: LETTER 20.15.1988 FROM SECRETARY OF</i> <i>MAN. COMMITTEE OF HOME INDICATING REGISTRATION</i> <i>CERT. IN HIS POSSESSION. Closed. De-Registered 1.11.84</i>
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13) GOOD SHEPHERD HOME DUNGIEN ROAD LONDONDERRY	6 SEPTEMBER 1950	YES <i>De-registered 27/2/84</i>
14) CHILDMANEN, DUNDEWADDE RD. MILLISLE	27 SEPTEMBER 1950	YES. <i>Re-registered on 10/7/57 as "Childmanen</i> <i>and Cairnmore Children's Home"</i> <i>Cert. dated 15/9/50 not returned - cannot</i>

T.169

T.119

- copy for T.119.

8th May, 1956.

Madam,

I am directed by the Minister of Home Affairs to inform you that that portion of the Good Shepherd Convent, 511 Ormeau Road, Belfast, comprising the Sacred Heart Children's Home, the Good Shepherd Girls' Home and the Marianville Home for mothers and babies, has been registered as a Voluntary Home in accordance with the provisions of Section 99 of the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland), 1950. A Certificate of Registration is enclosed.

...

I am to ask that you will be good enough to return to this Ministry the previous Certificate of Registration issued to you on 29th June, 1950.

I am, Madam,  
Your obedient Servant,

for Secretary

The Reverend Mother Superior,  
Good Shepherd Convent,  
511 Ormeau Road,  
BELFAST.



(2) NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN VOLUNTARY AND WELFARE AUTHORITY HOMES

VOLUNTARY HOMES

Home	Child-places	1953	1954	1955	1956	Home	Child-places	1953	1954	1955	1956
Glendhu, Belfast. <i>Temporary care</i>	40	27	40	40	26	Good Shepherd, Londonderry. <i>(girls and 14)</i> R.C.	20	13	10	2	5
Nazareth Lodge, Belfast. R.C. <i>includes 100 boys</i>	145	229	151	145	132	Childhaven, Donaghadee.	30	32	26	27	27
St. Joseph's Babies, Belfast. R.C.	120		115	100	94	Rubane, Kircubbin R.C. <i>(boys and 11)</i>	66	42	50	51	56
Nazareth House, Belfast. R.C. <i>girls</i>	145	156	143	135	117	Johnston Memorial, Belfast	20	21	16	14	14
Macedon, Whitehouse.	52	46	39	50	50	Kennedy House, Belfast.	Temporarily closed				
Manor House, Ballycastle. <i>Babies Home &amp; Soldiers</i>	23	18	16	23	19	Convent of Mercy, Beasbrook. R.C. <i>(girls &amp; school age)</i>	40	3	3	4	9
Sacred Heart, Belfast. R.C. <i>(girls and 5-18)</i>	33	30	29	28	23	Moyallon, Co. Down.	3	3	Discontinued		
Nazareth House, Londonderry. R.C. <i>girls</i>	154	170	151	149	151	Altavilla, Portadown. R.C. <i>babies home (under 2)</i>	30/3	6	13	13	9
Victoria Homes, Belfast.	20	14	13	17	20	Blackburn House, Belfast.	14	-	5	1	11
Manor House, Lisburn.	Closed for renovations					Good Shepherd, Newry. R.C.	-	1	-	2	Mother Baby Hm
Termonbacca, Co. Londonderry. R.C. <i>(boys)</i>	92	86	90	90	89	Thorndale, Belfast.	-	14	Mother and Baby Homes		
Mother of Mercy, Newry. R.C. <i>girls - school age</i>	25	19	19	19	24	Hopedene, Belfast.	-	1			
Totals	849	795	806	796	745	Totals	220	136	126	114	131

$\frac{420}{1069}$      $\frac{136}{931}$      $\frac{126}{932}$      $\frac{114}{910}$      $\frac{131}{876}$

18 places out of every 100 vacant.



A913/82.

VOLUNTARY CHILDRENS HOMES

NAME OF HOME	DATE REGISTERED	COPY OF CERTIFICATE HELD IN FILE
NAZARETH HOUSE, ORMEAU ROAD BELFAST.	13 June 1950	YES <i>Closed.</i> <i>De-Registered 31.5.84.</i>
1) GLENTHU CHILDRENS HOSTEL HOLLYWOOD ROAD BELFAST 4	14 June 1950	NO <i>closed 21/2/86</i> <i>certificate not returned. De-registered 25/4/89</i>
1) NAZARETH LODGE, RAVENHILL ROAD BELFAST	13 June 1950	NO
1) SACRED HEART HOME GOOD SHEPHERD CONVENT, ORMEAU ROAD BELFAST	29 June 1950	YES: RE-REGISTERED 7.5.56 AS THE SACRED HEART CHILDREN'S HOME: THE GOOD SHEPHERD GIRLS HOME AND MARIANVILLE HOME FOR MOTHERS AND BABIES. THE GOOD SHEPHERD HOME AND THE SACRED HEART HOME AMALGAMATED 15.5.63. <i>Cancelled - Registered</i> <i>on 14/3/83 as 'Marianville Home &amp; Baby Unit' only.</i>
5) MACEDON WHITE HOUSE CO ANTRIM 349 SHORE ROAD	29 JUNE 1950	YES - <i>Cancelled 7/7/82. Re-registered</i> <i>as Sharonmore Ballyduff Road Newtownabbey</i> <i>Macdon registration certificate not returned - could not be found.</i>
1) MANOR HOUSE HOME BALLYCASTLE CO ANTRIM	29 JUNE 1950	YES <i>closed 31.1.85</i> <i>De-registered w.s.f.</i> <i>1.2.85</i>
1) VICTORIA HOMES 'SCHMIDT'S' BELMONT ROAD BELFAST	1 JULY 1950	YES <i>CLOSED 22 NOVEMBER '83. Registration</i> <i>cancelled w.s.f. 23.11.83.</i>
1) ST JOSEPH'S HOME TERNURACCA CO LONDONDERRY	1 JULY 1950	YES - <i>Cancelled as home closed on</i> <i>28 May 1982. Cert. not returned - cannot be found.</i>
1) MANOR HOUSE HOME WEDBORN CO ANTRIM	29 JUNE 1950	YES No: LETTER 20.15.1988 FROM SECRETARY OF MAN. COMMITTEE OF HOME INDICATING REGISTRATION CERT. IN HIS POSSESSION <i>closed. De-Registered 1.11.84</i>
1) NAZARETH HOUSE, BISHOP STREET LONDONDERRY	16 JULY 1950	YES
1) THORNDALE HOUSE DUNGAIRN AVENUE ANTRIM ROAD BELFAST	16 JULY 1950	YES <i>De-Registered 30.11.82</i> <i>cert not returned - could not be found.</i>
1) HOPEDALE HOSTEL 55 DUNDALA AVE BELFAST	11 AUGUST 1950	YES <i>De-registered 1/4/85</i> <i>Cert. not returned - could not be found.</i>
13) GOOD SHEPHERD HOME DUNGIEN ROAD LONDONDERRY	6 SEPTEMBER 1950	YES <i>De-registered 27/2/84</i>
14) CHILDHAVEN, DOWNSHILL RD. MILLISLE	27 SEPTEMBER 1950	YES. <i>Re-registered on 10/7/57 as "Childhaven</i> <i>and Cairnmore Children's Home"</i> <i>Cert. dated 15/9/50 not returned - cannot</i>

**4. Site****4.1. What other institutions existed on the same site?**

The buildings in which the Sacred Heart Home and later the Adolescent Centre operated were located in close proximity to the St Mary's complex, and the Good Shepherd Church. In later years the Marianville Mother and Baby Home, the youth club (the "St Mary Euphrasia Youth Club"), and a hostel ("Roseville") were located on the Carolan Road area. As set out above, Roseville Hostel was for women transitioning out of care and preparing for independent living, and operated from 1967 until approximately 1975. Roseville was then refurbished to provide a refuge for women and their children fleeing situations of domestic violence.

**4.2. What other facilities were provided on the same site?**

See above.

**4.3. What interaction was there between those institutions or other services and the children's home?**

Good Shepherd Sisters worked in all the institutions. In respect of Sacred Heart Home, upon its closure in or around 1962, those teenagers living in the Home at the time of its closure who were old enough went to St Mary's on a short-term basis until employment and suitable independent accommodation could be found for them and they were capable of independent living. One Sister can recall one exceptional case upon the closure of the Sacred Heart Home where one teenage resident (aged 17 years) wanted to go on to undertake further studies in order to obtain a professional qualification, but the relevant course would not accept her until she turned 18 years old. Upon the closure of Sacred Heart Home, that teenager moved to St Mary's and worked in the kitchen until she turned 18 years, when her chosen course accepted her. The Sister recalls that this case was an exception, and was not the norm. In the usual cases, those leaving the Home were found independent accommodation and suitable employment to ensure they would be able to cope with independent living on a sustainable basis. In respect of the Adolescent Centre, there was a planned winding down, and for a period from 1981, no new long-term admissions were accepted. Upon its closure in or around 1982, the teenagers in residence in the Centre at that time were assisted in finding suitable independent accommodation, and there was a transitioning process for them into employment or to another children's home.

11th. January 1978.

Department of Health and Social Services,  
Statistics Branch,  
Wards Unit,  
Stoney Road,  
Durban 4016 S.A.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I enclose herewith the completed statistics form for our unit caring for disturbed adolescents. The date used for completion of the form was the 22.12.77.

One of the girls in our group attends Amaculaba School and another is in need of remedial help in a low stream at St. Africa's Secondary School but neither girl has been ascertained as requiring special care within the meaning of the Mental Health Act(1961).

If you should require any further detail do not hesitate to contact me here.

Yours faithfully,

.....  
GSC-21

Residential Social Worker.

# ADOLESCENT CENTRE

Telephone: 0232 - 641346

GOOD SHEPHERD SISTERS,  
511 ORMEAU ROAD,  
BELFAST BT7 3GS.

Number in Group: 10.

Age Range: 13 - 17 years.

Admissions: All girls are referred by Social Service social workers - if a girl should be referred from any other source we would involve the Area Social workers prior to accepting new admissions.

Aims and Objectives:

1. Regular school attendance - we cooperate very closely with teachers and former schools.
2. To provide a positive group experience so that girls can grow and develop as individuals while we work both directly and through social workers to heal the broken relationships that have led to admission to the Centre.

Reasons for Admission:

From relationships in the home, broken families, girls have run away from home, beyond control and non-attendance at school.

Programme: All the girls attend school regularly. Within the Centre day-to-day living is as normal as possible - girls go out as much as possible - shopping, to the doctor, Mass and Confession. In the evenings they attend the Youth Club and take part in sports and organised events there. Within this approach it is possible to be very firm and to correct individuals - girls can be deprived of club attendance if misbehaviour is given. Girls are allowed to smoke after meals. Constant supervision is needed as the girls tend easily to hostility and aggression. There is constant work at individual level.

Work with Family: Close liaison with Social Service workers and also direct work has formed an increasing part of our role in recent years. We look on a girl going home for weekends as progress and the final aim is to have the girl discharged to her family.

Organised Holidays: Each year a two-week holiday is organised in Portugal. The girls then work for 3-4 weeks in a situation of their choice.

... .. £35.00 per week - we intend asking for £40.00 from March.

COPY

ORIGINAL SENT ON ADOLESCENT CENTRE HEADED PAPER

FEBRUARY 15, 1982

MR..E.S. GILLILAND  
DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
EASTERN HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES  
65 UNIVERSITY STREET  
BELFAST BT7

Dear Mr. Gilliland

RE: ADOLESCENT CENTRE, SACRED HEART HOME, GOOD SHEPHERD CONVENT  
511 ORMEAU ROAD, BELFAST BT7

We wish to inform you that in view of the low number of admissions to this Centre in recent years we have decided to close the Centre as a Children's Home on June 30, 1982 or soon afterwards and begin re-structuring the building for other use.]

We would therefore appreciate if you would bring this advance notice of closure to the attention of the District Social Service Officers in your Board, as from now onwards we will not be accepting any long-term referrals.

We take this opportunity of thanking you and members of your Board for their co-operation and support which we valued so much during our long years of collaboration in this field of service to children and young persons in need.

We will make contact directly with the Social Services Districts who presently have children in our care and assure them of our every assistance and co-operation in the planning of suitable accommodation for these children thus facilitating as smooth a transfer as possible in the circumstances.

Yours sincerely

**GSC-21**

Sister in Charge



A913/82.

VOLUNTARY CHILDRENS HOMES

NAME OF HOME	DATE REGISTERED	COPY OF CERTIFICATE HELD IN FILE
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1) GLENTHU CHILDRENS HOSTEL HOLLYWOOD ROAD BELFAST 4	14 June 1950	NO <i>closed 21/2/86</i> <i>certificate not returned. De-registered 25/4/89</i>
1) NAZARETH LODGE, RAVENHILL ROAD BELFAST	13 June 1950	NO
1) SACRED HEART HOME GOOD SHEPHERD CONVENT, ORMEAU ROAD BELFAST	29 June 1950	YES: RE-REGISTERED 7.5.56 AS THE SACRED HEART CHILDREN'S HOME: THE GOOD SHEPHERD GIRLS HOME AND MARIANVILLE HOME FOR MOTHERS AND BABIES. THE GOOD SHEPHERD HOME AND THE SACRED HEART HOME AMALGAMATED 15.5.63. <i>Cancelled - Registered</i> <i>on 14/3/83 as 'Marianville Home &amp; Baby Unit' only.</i>
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1) NAZARETH HOUSE, BISHOP STREET LONDONDERRY	16 JULY 1950	YES
1) THORNDALE HOUSE DUNGAIRN AVENUE ANTRIM ROAD BELFAST	16 JULY 1950	YES <i>De-Registered 30.11.82</i> <i>cert not returned - could not be found.</i>
1) HOPEDENE HOSTEL 55 DUNDOLA AVE BELFAST	11 AUGUST 1950	YES <i>De-registered 1/4/85</i> <i>Cert. not returned - could not be found.</i>
13) GOOD SHEPHERD HOME DUNGIEN ROAD LONDONDERRY	6 SEPTEMBER 1950	YES <i>De-registered 27/2/84</i>
14) CHILDMANEN, DUNDELAHILL RD. MILLISLE	27 SEPTEMBER 1950	YES. <i>Re-registered on 10/7/57 as "Childmanen</i> <i>and Cairnmore Children's Home"</i> <i>Cert. dated 15/9/50 not returned - cannot</i>



NAME OF HOME	DATE REGISTERED	COPY OF CERTIFICATE HELD IN FILE
5) GOOD SHEPHERD CONVENT, ARMAGH ROAD NEWRY	16 FEBRUARY 1951	YES - REREGISTERED ON 25/4/86 To include MARIANVALE MOTHER AND BABY UNIT. Re - registered 29/6/84 (closed)
6) ST JOSEPH'S CONVENT OF MERCY BESSEROCK CO ARMAGH	25 JUNE 1951	YES REGISTRATION CANCELLED wsf 31.83 HOME CLOSED Cert not returned. - Could not be found.
7) JOHNSTON MEMORIAL TRAINING SCHOOL 5 GREEN ROAD BELFAST	29 AUGUST 1951	dated 13/1/84 Certificate not being asked for. Re - registered 25/4/88 YES REREGISTERED 26.1.62 AS JOHNSTON MEMORIAL SCHOOL. (re-registered 12/3/84 as Johnston Cert dated 29.8.51 returned not obtained Memorial House. Re - registered wsf 31/1/86 & Cert. not returned as it had been burned
8) 'ATAVILLE' CONGRAGAN PORTADOWN	18 DECEMBER 1953	YES Re - registered wsf 31/1/86 & Cert. not returned as it had been burned
9) ST JOSEPH'S BABIES HOME RAVENHILL ROAD BELFAST	3 MARCH 1955	YES REREGISTERED AS ST JOSEPH'S CHILDREN HOME ON 11.8.78. original certificate requested but not received
10) 'MAYFLOWER' HOME OF SALVATION ARMY DIA CLIFTONVILLE ROAD BELFAST 14	30 DECEMBER 1957	YES - Re - registered 21/4/88
11) TARA LODGE HOSTEL FOR BOYS AND GIRLS 64 WELLINGTON PARK BELFAST	12 JANUARY 1971	YES
12) CARRAIGFOYLE 230 BELMONT ROAD BELFAST	6 APRIL 1972	YES
13) GLEBE HOUSE HOLIDAY HOME KILCREEF STRANGFORD CO DOWN	16 JUNE 1978	YES
14) OUR MOTHER OF MERCY HOME KILMOREY STREET NEWRY CO DOWN	20 AUGUST 1950	YES REREGISTERED AS 'GRANNA' 2 WARRENPOINT ROAD NEWRY BT34 2PF ON 23 JANUARY 1979. Cancelled - Cert returned Re - registered as "Granna Home" on 20/8/87
15) ST PATRICK'S HOLIDAY HOME BALLYHORMAN ARDARA CO DOWN	8 FEBRUARY 1979	YES Closed.
16) 144 SPRINGFIELD ROAD BELFAST	22 MAY 1979	YES CANCELLED - CLOSED 30.4.83.
17) SIMPSON HOUSE, KORMANEG ROAD BANGOR CO DOWN	1 NOVEMBER 1979	YES Closed - Children transferred to 31 George St Bangor.
18) OZANAM HOME HOLIDAY HOME KNOCKWELDER PORTAFERRY	21 APRIL 1980	YES Closed 31/1/89 - Certificate returned. Re - registered 25/4/89

NAME OF HOME	DATE REGISTERED	COPY OF CERTIFICATE IN FILE
1) 315 BALLYSILLAN ROAD BELFAST 16	15 AUGUST 1980	YES
2) 'SHARONMORE' 208 BALLYDUFF ROAD NEWTOWNABBEEY	7 JULY 1982	YES.
1). 34 DERRACOOLE WAY, RATHCOOLE, CO. ANTRIM	12 AUGUST 1982	YES.
2) MARIANVILLE MOTHER AND BABY UNIT, SII ORMEAU ROAD BELFAST	See entry No 4 - Re-registered on 14/3/83	YES. <i>Closed 31.12.90 Derragh</i>
3) 28 BRYANSGLEN AVENUE BANGOR	7 September 1982	YES.
4) RUBANE KIRCUBBIN	1951	<sup>YES</sup> No. - <i>Closed 31.12.85 Re-registered</i>



## OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

HA-13-218 C&YP Act 1950 Marianville Home Good Shepherd Convent Belfast Fire Reports 1965 (35) - PRONI - 11-02-16 OPT  
All communications to be addressed "Chief Officer"



Robert Mitchell.  
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~  
M.C., A.M.T. FIRE  
CHIEF OFFICER  
TELEPHONE 27766

## COUNTY BOROUGH OF BELFAST

FIRE BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS  
CHICHESTER STREET,  
BELFAST 1.



OUR REF P.78.

YOUR REF

13th August, 1962.

The Secretary,  
Ministry of Home Affairs,  
Stormont,  
Belfast 4.

Dear Sir,

Re: Proposed Girls' Hostel at Good Shepherd Convent,  
Carolan Road, Belfast.

Enclosed herewith for your approval find Fire Prevention Report on the drawings for the above building which were submitted to this Department by J. B. McGusker & Partners, Architects.

Perhaps you will notify me if you approve of the recommendations contained therein and retain the report for your information. On receipt of your approval, a copy of the report will be forwarded to the Architects for their attention.

If not approved, please return the report with your comments.

I look forward to hearing from you at an early date.

Yours faithfully,

CHIEF OFFICER

WW/JL.  
ENCL.

*WS*

- SR 326 from 1945 until 1955
- SR 329 from 1955 until 1960
- SR 283 from 1960 until 1962

**5.3.3. St Mary's:** The Sisters in Charge in St Mary's for the following years were the following Sisters:

- SR 330 from unknown date until 1934.
- SR 331 from 1934 until 1952
- SR 332 from 1952 to 1957
- SR 280 from 1957 until 1963
- SR 285 from 1963 until 1966
- SR 286 from 1967 until 1973
- SR 315 from 1973 until 2003

**5.3.4. Adolescent Centre:** We understand that from its opening in 1970 until its closure in 1982, **GSC 21** was the Group Mother in charge of the Adolescent Centre.

**5.3.5. Roseville Hostel:** We understand that **SR 196** was in charge of Roseville Hostel during the period of its operation.

**5.3.6. Marianville:** The following Sisters were the Sisters in Charge of Marianville for the following years:

- SR 331 from 1952 until 1957
  - SR 286 from 1957 until 1967
  - SR 333 from 1968 until 1974
  - SR 304 from 1974 until 1990
- SR 304** was in charge at the date of its closure in 1990.

**5.4. Who did the congregation appoint as the voluntary visitor pursuant to Regulation 4(2) and how were those visitations conducted and recorded?**

**5.4.1. In respect of the 1952 Regulations:** The Congregation has been unable to locate many records relating to this time period, and therefore presumes that not many records were retained. Sacred Heart Home closed in 1962, Roseville ceased operations in 1975, and St Mary's ceased as a laundry in 1977 and continued on thereafter as a residential service for adult women in need of care. We have been unable to establish whether any documentation compiled in compliance with the 1952 Regulations was transferred to a health board or other authority, or whether they were otherwise not retained following closure. Having spoken with Sisters who

1962

PROVINCE OF LIMERICK.

REPORT OF VISITATION - BELFAST.

---

Date of Visitation. 12th February - 26th February.

Subject of opening talk. End of Visitation and the means proper to make it fruitful.

whose health has been the cause of some anxiety has been keeping well, and is able to be present at all the exercises. She is very zealous for the spiritual progress of the Sisters. Mother is making many efforts to adapt our work to modern requirements.

Sister Assistant is very zealous, and helpful to Mother in every way.

Community. They had a good share of illness amongst the Sisters, and there are a number of aged. There is a very good spirit, and as far as we could see all are very faithful and devoted to their religious exercises. All were unanimous in saying that Mother was very kind to them, and very helpful.

Our Works. The Sisters Magdalens all seemed very fervent and happy in their little Bethany. They have four Novices. They are kept very busy with the making of vestments and Altar breads.

In the re-education centre they have 146 girls, and has effected many improvements in the buildings and for the training of the girls. All the teenagers receive lessons in the three R's and commercial. While I was there Mother was planning a re-union day for the past pupils.

In the Home for unmarried mothers there are fifteen. Much consoling work is done in that Section. Their building was erected during the war years and therefore was only of a temporary construction. Mother is having plans drawn up for a more up-to-date and permanent building.

General. The Reverend Bishop of the Diocese died early this year - all mourn his loss as he was a very good friend and most appreciative of the Good Shepherd work. He always came to interview the Sisters Magdalens and presided at their Ceremonies until last year when failing health prevented him. Mother provides regular Conferences for the Community and Sisters Magdalens.

Subject of closing talk. Mother Foundress' reading on the Church - Institute. Recommendation to spiritual renewal, and to pray for the success of the forthcoming Ecumenical Council.

Provincial.

Given at Limerick the 5th March, 1962.

TC 761 | 66

(Nothing should be written on this Cover except as indicated by the headings and any amendments will be carried out by REGISTRY on written request)

CAY. P. ACT (N.I.) 1950

CHILD WELFARE COUNCIL (1963-66)

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Continuation File No.

FORMER FILE No.

N.B.—Transfer from an Officer, Branch or Section of a Branch to another should take place through the Registry either direct or by transit slip (EF 205). Instructions to "bring forward" the file should be initialled by the officer concerned. WHEN NOT IN ACTION, THE FILE SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE REGISTRY. In all references to this file the number and year should be quoted as above. (ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO CIRCULARS GS 81 and GS 87)

**PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE  
OF NORTHERN IRELAND**

**CLOSED  
TO  
PUBLIC**

YEAR OF FIRST PAPER		1965
YEAR OF LAST PAPER		1966
FIRST REVIEW	YEAR	INTLS
	1977	h
SECOND REVIEW		

ENTER NOTES OF RELATED FILES OVERLEAF FORM EF 217

**Files Annexed:**

## Part I (Continued)

Name and Address of Home	Categories and Age Groups of Children admitted	Numbers and Ages of the Children in the Home										Total Number of Children in the Home	Number of Children in the Home who are in the care of a Welfare Authority under the Children and Young Persons Act (N.I.) 1950									
		Under 2 years		2-4 years		5-14 years		15-18 years		Total			Under 2 years		2-4 years		5-14 years		15-18 years		Total	
		B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.		B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.
Totals brought forward		46	36	80	53	208	270	5	31	339	390	729	12	7	16	8	49	79	3	2	80	97
12. Childhaven, Millisle Road, Donaghadee.	Over 2 years	-	-	3	1	4	6	2	-	9	7	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13. De La Salle Boys' Home, Rubane, Kircubbin.	Boys - 8-16 years	-	-	-	-	76	-	7	-	83	-	83	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	30	-
14. Johnston Memorial School, 5 Green Road, Knock, Belfast, 5.	Girls between 5 and 21 years on the roll of the Presbyterian Orphan Society	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	6	-	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15. St. Joseph's Home, Convent of Mercy, Bessbrook.	Girls - 5-15 years	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
16. Nazareth House Nursery Home, Altavilla, Corcrain, Portadown.	0-2 years	3	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	8	11	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
17. Blackburn House, 34 Annadale Avenue, Belfast, 7.	Girls - 15-18 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
18. Good Shepherd Home, Waterside, Londonderry.	*Girls - 14 years and over	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	8	-	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
19. Good Shepherd Convent, Armagh Road, Newry.	*Girls - 14 years and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
20. Good Shepherd Home, 511 Ormeau Road, Belfast, 7.	*Teenage girls	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	36	-	40	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	13
Totals carried forward		49	44	83	54	288	300	14	88	434	486	920	12	8	16	8	79	80	3	23	110	120



Recd. 30.1.64

T. 761

## CHILD CARE SERVICE IN VOLUNTARY HOMES

SACRED HEART and GOOD SHEPHERD HOME511 Ormeau Road, Belfast, 7

No 15

QUESTIONNAIRE

- 1.(a) Please give a brief description of how your home is governed, stating in particular whether your governing body is independent or subordinate to a central organisation.

The Home is governed immediately by a Mother Superior who is then subject to a Provincial Superior in Limerick & ultimately to a General Superior in Angers, France. There is no governing body.

- (b) Give categories of members of governing body (e.g. clerical, lay, male, female, subscribers, non-subscribers) and state whether they are selected as individuals or as representing other bodies.

None.

- (c) What relationship (if any) has your home with other children's home(s) or child care organisation(s)?

The Home has close relationships with the other Homes maintained by the Order in Northern Ireland namely in Derry & Newry. It has friendly contact also with the Girls Home of the Sisters of Nazareth Belfast.

- 2.(a) Do you receive children on transfer from other homes?

Yes from Nazareth House Belfast & St. Louis Convent St. Joseph's School Widdletown, Donegal. Occasionally to Good Shepherd Homes, Newry & Derry & to St. Joseph's Widdletown.

- (b) Do you transfer children to other homes?

No.

- (c) Have you any link with an adoption society?

(NOTE: The word "children" here and in following questions means boys and girls under 18 years of age).

3. From what geographical area are applications for admission normally accepted?

Principally from Belfast & Co. Antrim & Co. Down; but also from Counties Tyrone & Fermanagh.

4. What are the age limits of children for whom the home provides?

	Minimum	Maximum
Boys	15	30
Girls		

- 5.(a) Are there any qualifications or dis-qualifications for admission?

*Mentally defective girls are not usually admitted. But otherwise all girls in moral danger, or needing care & protection are admitted.*

- (b) Is the decision to admit based on the information given by the applicant only? If not, what additional information is gathered?

*Information is sought also from the Applicant's Priest, or Welfare Authority.*

- (c) Who collects and collates this information - a member of the staff; a member of the governing body; some other person?

*A member of the staff - the Sister in charge of the Home, under the direction of the Superiors.*

- (d) Who takes the decision to admit - the person in charge of the home; a local committee; or central office?

*The Superiors.*

- 6.(a) Where an application is not made on behalf of a welfare authority, is any contact made with the welfare authority -

(i) before admission?

*Not usually.*

(ii) after admission?

*Sometimes.*

- (b) Where contact is made with the welfare authority, what is its nature and purpose?

*To discuss the child's progress, or the child's aftercare.*

- (c) In what circumstances would you regard contact with the welfare authority inappropriate?

*To seek financial assistance.  
In certain circumstances when the child's problems are primarily moral and spiritual.*

- 7.(a) What is the total number of children who can be accommodated in the home?

*135 (at present many are over 18 years)*

- (b) How many were on the roll at 31st December, 1963 (including those who may have been temporarily absent on that date)?

Welfare Authority cases	Vol. cases & others	Total
10	113	123

- (c) Of those on the roll at 31st December, 1963, how many were:

(i) physically handicapped? ... ..

Welfare Authority cases	Vol. cases	If none at present would you normally admit them
None	None	Not normally.
3		
3		
11 (over age)		

(ii) educationally sub-normal? . . . . .

and  
attending special schools? . . . . .  
not attending special schools? . . . . .

(iii) ascertained special care? . . . . .  
and

attending day centres? ....  
not attending day centres? .....

- (iv) in how many of these cases does it appear that, since admission, the child's condition has -

improved? . . . . .  
deteriorated? . . . . .

- (d) How many of those in (c) above, also show

- (i) serious behaviour problems? . . . . .  
and  
(ii) attend child guidance clinics? .. . . .  
(iii) do not attend child guidance clinics? ....  
(iv) in how many of these cases does it appear that, since admission, the child's condition has -

improved? . . . . .  
deteriorated? . . . . .

- (e) How many children not included in (c)

- (i) above, show serious behaviour problems? ..  
and  
(ii) attend child guidance clinics? .. . . .  
(iii) do not attend child guidance clinics? ....  
(iv) in how many of these cases does it appear that, since admission, the child's condition has -

improved? . . . . .  
deteriorated? . . . . .

Welfare Authority cases	Vol. cases	If none at present would you normally admit them
-	11	
10		1 very slightly improved.
5		
None		
None		
4		
1		
25		
appears		
Nil.		
25		
25		
Nil.		

(NOTE: The term "serious behaviour problems" includes aggressive tendencies, withdrawal, enuresis, encopresis, pilfering, persistent dishonesty, and malicious lying).

8. In respect of children who are not the responsibility of a welfare authority -

- (a) In how many cases has contact with parents or relatives been lost (i.e. no visits, no correspondence, no contributions towards maintenance)?  
(b) At what intervals are individual cases considered with a view to establishing contact with parents or relatives?  
(c) At what intervals is the prospect of returning such children to the care of family or friends explored?

2

monthly

Six monthly, yearly or two yearly

9.(a) What is the total staff establishment?

44

(b) What are the categories of staff (including domestic and subsidiary employees, e.g. gardeners, etc.) at present in post?

Category	Number
Chaplain (Chaplain)	1
Religious Sisters	20
Voluntary Helpers	12
Male Laundry Employees	4
Gardeners	2
Teachers (Further Education Centre)	5

(c) What members of staff in post have completed any of the following recognised courses of training:-

State Regd. Nurse		State Enrolled Asst. Nurse		State Regd. Sick Children's Nurse		N.I. Res. Child Care Certificate		Nursery Nurses Exam. Bd. Certificate		Home Office Housemothers Certificate		Any other training	
Category	No.	Category	No.	Category	No.	Category	No.	Category	No.	Category	No.	Category	No.
Religious Sister	1					Religious Sister	1					Institutional Management Certificate 1. (Religious Sisters)	

(d) Number of staff included in (b) above who are recognised school teachers and are employed as such?

5.

10.(a) Which schools do the children attend?

St. Monica's Intermediate School,  
Ravenhill Rd., Belfast.

Name of School	Number of Children			
	Under 4	5-10	11-14	15+
St. Monica's Inter. School, Ravenhill Rd.	-	-	4	
Name of School	Number of non-residents who attend			

(b) Are any of the above schools in your own premises, and if so how many children not resident in the home attend?

No.

11. What provision is made by the home for religious training?

Weekly instructions by the Sister in charge, and by the Chaplain; as well as occasional talks by visiting priests, film strips etc.

12. (a) Describe the interest that outside organisations take in the children in the home by way of entertainments and outings, and state whether such interest is regular or spasmodic?

*Various amateur theatrical and musical organisations put on shows for the girls.*

- (b) How many children belong to organisations meeting outside the home, such as -

- (i) Boys' and Girls' Clubs ... ..  
 (ii) Boy Scouts and Wolf Cubs . ... ..  
 (iii) Boys' Brigade ... ..  
 (iv) Girl Guides and Brownies . ... ..  
 (v) Other organisations (please give particulars)? ... ..

- (c) What holidays away from the home do the children have in the year?

Organised by the Home	Arranged individually
<i>Day trips to the sea during the summer.</i>	<i>Girls from Belfast are allowed out to parents or near relatives one day each month.</i>

- (d) Do the children have local friends of their own age visiting them, or do they go out to visit friends of their own age?
- (e) Indicate the kind of relationship that children without family contacts have with adults outside the home. To what extent do you feel these relationships are helpful?

*Yes.*

*Adults such as former employers or members of voluntary welfare agencies visit such girls. We feel these relationships are helpful to the girls. They give an added interest in their lives.*

- (f) Have the children any other activity outside the home?

*They go out shopping. They like part in dancing competitions etc.*

13. (a) Is there an adequate library in the home?

*Yes.*

- (b) Do the children make use of the public library or the local mobile library unit?

*Yes.*

14. What opportunities are provided for quiet reading, homework, and/or hobbies?

*The girls attending school have a special room for study and reading.*

15. In what other ways do the children spend their leisure?

*They have television, radio, radio gram, indoor & outdoor games, choral singing, dancing, dramatics.*

- 16.(a) In the case of children discharged other than to their parents or relatives, what provision is made for after-care by -

- (i) finding employment ... ..  
 (ii) finding lodgings ... ..  
 (iii) visiting ... ..  
 (iv) supplementing earnings? *Rarely necessary.*

*Employment is found for each girl discharged, with lodgings if necessary. The Chaplain visits them, and they visit us. They also attend Girls Club here which is opened three nights a week.*

- (b) Are these services provided by -

- (i) a full-time officer .. ...  
 (ii) a part-time officer .. ...  
 (iii) voluntary help? ... ..

*These services are provided by the Sister in Charge.*

17. Are your financial resources sufficient to meet your ordinary day-to-day expenses, and to enable you to employ all the staff you think should be employed, and to have premises adequate for modern standards of child-care?

*We manage. But with more financial resources obviously more could be done in respect both of staff & amenities.*

18. Are there any desirable developments which you are unable to undertake for reasons of financial difficulty, e.g.:-

- (a) improvement of premises and staffing;  
 (b) employment of a field worker to investigate applications for admission and after-care work?

*All the private resources of our Order both in personnel & in money, are instantly available for our girls & our work. But voluntary welfare work such as ours becomes more costly every year, and there undoubtedly will be desirable or necessary developments which we shall find it difficult to finance out of our private resources.*

*No, we can manage at present.*

*If such a persons services became necessary & desirable we should find it difficult to provide the salary.*

19. If your financial resources are insufficient, it would be of assistance to the Council if you would give information on the following:-

- (a) annual running costs of the home;  
 (b) capital fund;

- (c) last year's capital expenditure;
- (d) actual weekly cost of maintaining a child in the home (not necessarily the amount charged to welfare authorities);

(e) income from -

- (i) Government grants; ... ..
- (ii) local authorities; ... ..
- (iii) parental contributions; ... ..
- (iv) alms, donations, or subscriptions;
- (v) any other source? ... ..

20. What is your idea of the role and place of your home in voluntary child-care service?

*In the sphere of moral education of young girls in which we specialise we are convinced that a religious motivation and a sense of personal vocation is indispensable. Our Sisters receive a specialised training, spiritual, intellectual and technical for the work. In performing it, we can benefit from the inherited experience of our Order, which has been engaged in this form of social work for over a century. The International structure of the Order enables us to profit by the experiences of our Sisters engaged in the same work in all the European countries and in the Americas; and keeps us in contact with new ideas, methods and techniques in the field of our special work.*

Completed form should be returned to -

The Secretary, Child Welfare Council, Ministry of Home Affairs, Stormont, Belfast, 4.  
not later than 31st January, 1964.



Copy for T. 119.

T. 169.

Ministry of Home Affairs,  
Stormont, Belfast.

D/PC.

Marianville and Good Shepherd Convent, Ormeau Road,  
Belfast

I visited Good Shepherd Convent on 12th January, 1964, when four girls were attending St. Monica's Intermediate School. The present staff seem reasonably well satisfied with this arrangement, and did not express such concern on the school-going problem, as was recorded in the last report.

Marianville, the new home for unmarried mothers, has been operational since 21st November, 1963, and the Rev. Mother escorted me on a tour of inspection, in the course of which I met Mother Otteran, who is in charge of the unit. The home is designed to accommodate 20 girls - 3 single rooms, 14 cubicles and one room with 3 beds. From the point of view of decor and general amenities these apartments are very pleasing; the colour schemes are attractive and varied, and each girl has an individual wash-basin and dressing-table unit and built-in cupboard. Curtains and bedspreads have been carefully chosen, and all the rooms appear welcoming and comfortable. The partitioning of the cubicles seems to be quite substantial, giving one an impression of privacy; the bathroom accommodation is satisfactory.

The living and dining-rooms are tastefully furnished and well-equipped, while the kitchen is bright, functional and well designed. A feature of the building is a small but beautiful chapel. The entire premises were in excellent order.

A room has been provided, though not yet fully equipped, as an infants' nursery, although it is not envisaged that children will be in residence except, perhaps, for very short periods. The routine is that unmarried expectant mothers are admitted to the home for varying periods of time before their confinement, which takes place in hospital. In the majority of cases the child seems to be placed in St. Joseph's Babies' Home, Altavilla or Newry, direct from hospital and the mother may return to Marianville for a period of recuperation.

The former Marianville Home is at present being used as a club for Old Girls of Good Shepherd.

Rev. Mother told me that the Northern Ireland Fire Authority had been consulted during the building of the new home, and that fire precautions had been taken in conformity to their requirements.

As this was an introductory visit I did not ask to see the records, nor had I an opportunity of speaking to any of the 15 girls in residence.

From the material point of view this Home caters admirably for the needs of the girls, and as [redacted] seems to be very understanding I should think that the environment is also suitable from a psychological point of view.

Miss Forrest

The Sacred Heart Children's Home, the Good Shepherd Girls' Home & the Marianville Home for mothers & babies are covered by a joint registration. Would you agree, please, that no re-registration is required as the result of the provision of new premises for Marianville?

Mr. J. Mac

5th February, 1964.

Miss Macanthy

Yes, I agree.

11/2/64

Ley 10/2/64.

FURTHER INFORMATION RELATING TO PART I, ITEMS 3 AND 4

Welfare Authorities' Children's Homes/Hostels

Children accommodated in Voluntary Homes under Section 90(1)(b) of the Act

[illegible]

PROVINCE OF LIMERICKReport of VisitationBelfast.Date of Visitation: 12th January - 1st February.Subject of opening talk Purpose of the Visitation.Visit Proper:1. Superior - [REDACTED]

Mother's influence on Community is deeply spiritual. The bringing to fruition of the highest ideals of sanctity in her Community is Mother's chief concern.

Outsiders regard her with honour and esteem, and her high religious standards have an encouraging and impressionable influence on all her extern contacts.

The management of the house is in good condition.

Sister Assistant: - Sister [REDACTED] who was former Superior of our Convent Derry. Sister is very exemplary, and most helpful to the Community. She has, however, very poor health, and is by Doctor's instructions restricted from following the full time table of her duties.

Community. There are thirty five in Community. They have an excellent spirit, are very regular, and most devoted to the observance of Constitutions and Customs. The most filial relations exist between the Superior and and Subjects - the Superior's deep spiritual influence permeating the entire Community.

2. Our Works. The apostolate here consists of three section
- (i) The Sisters of the Cross.
  - (ii) The re-Education Centre
  - (iii) Home for unmarried Mothers.

Sisters of the Cross: This is the Noviciate House for the Sisters. There are 25 in Community. It is to be regretted that the number of vocations here are very evidently diminishing, since at present there is only one Novice. They have an excellent spirit.

Re-Education Centre: There are 110 girls in this section, of whom [REDACTED] are under 20 years. The number of teenagers, coming in as they do from various sources - welfare, courts, and voluntary, is very much on the increase, over the past few years. Since very little State Aid, except that contributed for those committed by the court, is received; public laundry work has to be carried on to help with the maintenance

of the girls.

The Chaplain, as well as the Sisters in care of the different groups, give regular instruction to the girls.

A further education centre operates here too, and two of the Sisters, as well as two lay teachers carry on this work.

The parents and guardians of the girls visit the Convent frequently, and are given every opportunity and help to discuss the future well being of their charges.

Since the after-care of the girls is one of the chief concern of the Sisters a Club has been established to help the girls spend their leisure hours beneficently. It is run by the Sisters in co-operation with the Chaplain and a few lay helpers. The entire Staff work harmoniously at their specific tasks, each contributing to the general good and benefit of the girls. In a large industrial city like Belfast, the recreational, educational and religious opportunities of such a Club are inestimable. The girls are free to come to the Club every evening, and from mid-day on Sundays. Every spiritual and temporal help is given them and from time to time a one-day Retreat is organised by the Chaplain.

3. General; Relations with authorities both Ecclesiastical and civil is quite amicable.

The financial state of the house is in good condition, and the buildings are in good repair.

The Account books and Annals of the house are correct and kept up to date.

The existing laundry is not quite in keeping with modern requirements. Hence it was considered necessary to have plans drawn up by architect for its renovation. In the reconstruction of this we are hoping to reduce the size of the existing plant.

Subject of final talk and recommendations made:- The Constitution on the Church.

making special reference to up-dating our works in view of the present day requirements of our girls.



are some sixty members.

one of the tragedies attaching to the Club was the assassination of a young Protestant Member, a boy of 17, presumably because of his Association with a Catholic organisation. Requiem Mass was offered for his repose in the Convent Church. It was attended by boys and girls, past and present Club members, besides the entire Good Shepherd household, and was one of the most moving celebrations ever to take place in our chapel.

A bomb was left outside the Club one night, it was planted in a car, as is usually the case. Thanks to God's Protecting Hand, it did not result in the intended massacre. Except for the breaking of the windows occasioned by the blast, little damage was done. The Club was open the following evening.

On Nov. [REDACTED] 1974, GSC 43 a full-time [REDACTED] was shot at while [REDACTED] some boys in [REDACTED]. He died a few hour later in hospital. He was the only child of his widowed mother and had been married barely twelve months. Three of our sisters were working in the Club the same evening. One of them attended GSC 43 while awaiting the arrival of the ambulance and another remained there with his sorrowing wife and mother until the end. A young boy received wounds at the time of the shooting, but fortunately, they did not prove fatal. After this shattering experience the Club was closed indefinitely. Precautionary security measures were taken by the Club Management Committee and on certain specified nights the Club began to function again. At a meeting held on September 20th, 1975 and attended by Parents & Management Committee, it was decided to open the Club once more on a full time basis.

When violence erupted in 1969 in Belfast many families found them selves homeless - they had been bombed or burned out. The Sisters strained every nerve to help these displaced people, and put at their disposal any available space until they could find more suitable lodgings. "Roseville Hostel" was one of the places opened to them. This is a hostel for working girls, most of whom have been in our residential Centre or in "Marianville". It also caters for Girls sent by "Welfare". Experimentation in crisis intervention admissions is also done there. Mothers and their families have been admitted at times of family stress, also wives of alcoholics and "battered wives". All these type of admissions are arranged through the appropriate Social Service Officers.

Adolescent Centre. This was the former "Sacred Heart Home". Girls and Boys from eleven + are admitted, and the number in residence is generally fifteen. All admissions are arranged and fully financed by Area Boards after discussion with the Directress. Girls under school leaving age attend local schools, depending on their level of intelligence. Those who have left school have every opportunity of furthering their education. Classes in Cookery, Needlework, Arts & crafts, Music (Vocal & Instrumental), Shorthand & Typing, and First Aid are available at the Centre. Emphasis is placed on Home Management and on Work training, and every endeavour is made to develop a ~~child's~~ <sup>adult's</sup> character, sense of purpose, stability and sociability. With the approval of the local authority Welfare Officer residents are allowed home for a day or week-end each month. Every Saturday there is an opportunity of going to the seaside, swimming pool or on a trip to the Mountains, according to the season. All enjoy the help of a Social Worker from the Welfare Dept. who works, if necessary, with the family as well, in addition to the House Mother and Resident Social Worker.

→ ERROR - ADOLESCENT Centre set up for Girls only.

Entrance to Good Shepherd Convent, Derry



GOOD SHEPHERD CONVENT

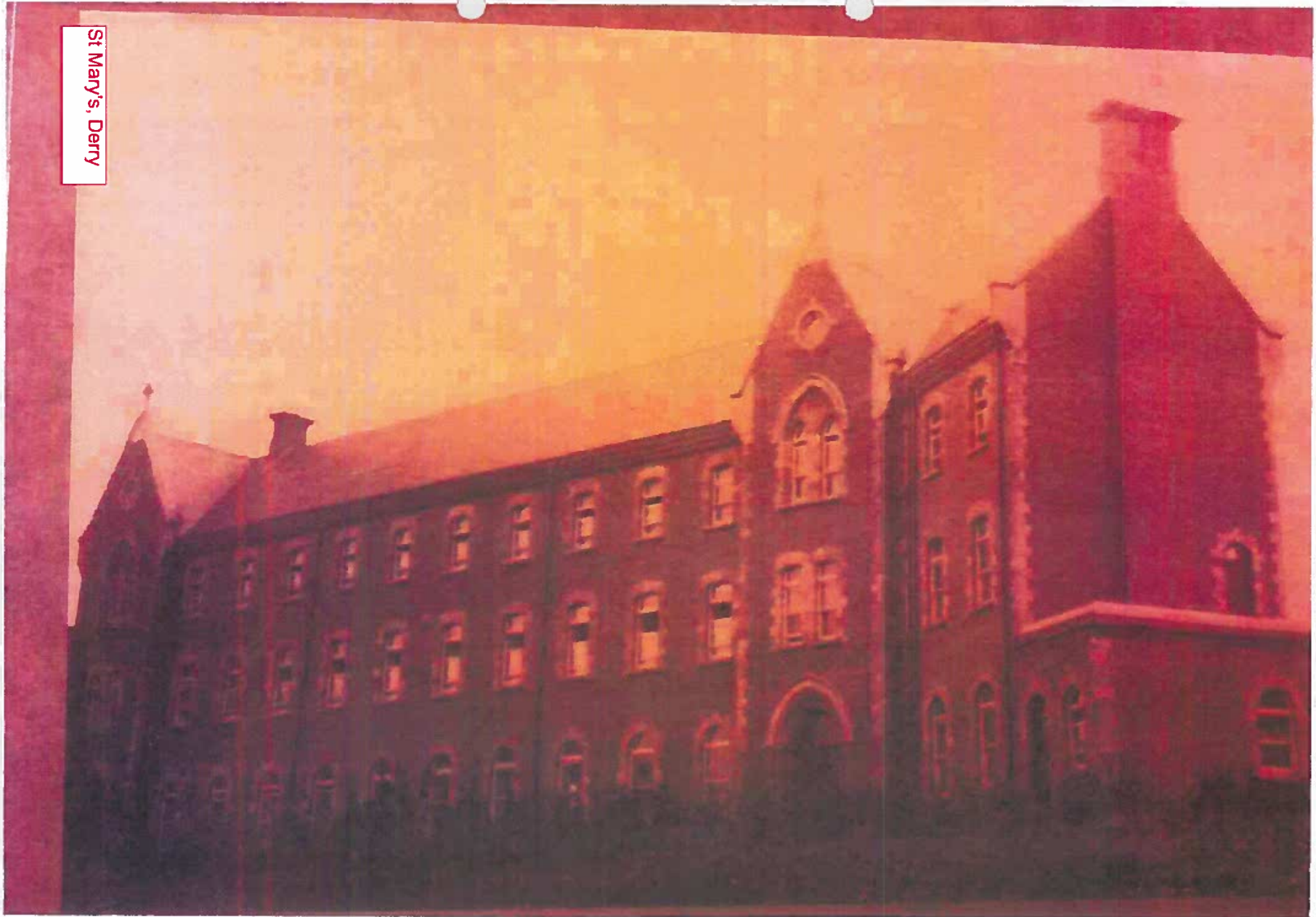
FRONT ENTRANCE



Good Shepherd Convent, Derry



St Mary's, Derry





Dining room, St Mary's, Derry





Theatre and stage, St Mary's Derry.



On 26th September, **SR 316** **SR 317** and Sacred Heart arrived in Derry. They were received very hospitably by the Nazareth Sisters in Derry and then went on to "Bellevue" their new home at about 4.15 p.m. in the afternoon.

"Bellevue" is approached by a gate lodge and a lovely winding avenue lined with beautiful trees. The house is a solid grey stone structure two storey high with a frontage of 100 ft. high by 60 ft. There were about 30 rooms in all at that time. The principal ones were spacious lofty apartments and the frescoes ornamenting the ceilings were particularly handsome, notably the one in the dining-room which was a beautiful design of grape and vine. This room became their Chapel. The Sisters were just locating the various rooms when [REDACTED] came to bid them a hearty welcome. Then [REDACTED] arrived, and after cordial greetings he blessed the house, reading the prayers in each room to banish all Orange Spirits (so they said). When the three travellers arrived at Bellevue, they possessed nothing but the packing cases which [REDACTED] had been sent on ahead of them. Sitting on these packing cases the following morning for their breakfast, a commotion outside drew the little community to the window. To their amazement, they found that the house was surrounded by a flock of sheep who had somehow found their way into the grounds! Was this a foreshadowing of spiritual things to come?

On Sunday, September 28th, the Sisters went to the Parish Church for Mass. They heard later that their white habits were greatly admired and people made all sorts of excuses to come and see the 'White Sisters' as they called them.

On Monday, the Feast of St. Michael, [REDACTED] celebrated the First Mass in the convent. The Sisters received their first girl into care on that day also.

A few days later, the Bishop of Derry, Rev. Dr. McHugh called and was shown around Bellevue. He was really delighted with the fine views of Derry from the windows and remarked laughingly that he would take the place off the Sister's hands whenever they got tired of it.

During that first year, two more Sisters joined the community and there were seven more admissions. Plans were going ahead to build a laundry and Hostel.

Sister **SR 310** came to Derry in November, 1920. Sister celebrated her Diamond Jubilee in 1981 and was 89 years old in April, 1982. Sister worked under twelve different Superiors during her sixty years

- 3 -

of Religious Life in the Derry Good Shepherd Community. She remembers how she worked in the convent kitchen when she came to Derry first. In a few months, when the laundry opened, she was assigned to it and began to organise what is now a flourishing laundry run on commercial lines. Sister SR 310 supervised the wash house. Sister SR 317 looked after the ironing room and Sister SR 318 was in charge of the packing room. Sister SR 310 admits that she knew very little about a laundry at that time apart from a few weeks' experience in the Laundry in Limerick. She felt very much at sea at first. There were twenty five girls in residence at this stage.



Sister SR 310 pictured with Sister GSC 20 in the convent grounds on the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee, 1981.

The first week in the Laundry was open to the public, the takings amounted to thirty shillings, but gradually it built up custom.

The Sisters organised fund raising events to help out. Sister SR 310 remembers a Gala Day which was held in the front field with all sorts of amusements including a Cat Show, which a local draper, organised. There was a fortune teller also and an afternoon dance in the girls' recreation hall. A local committee of lay people organised this fete and they also ran whistdrives.

When the military began to send their laundry, the success of the



- 4 -

Good Shepherd Laundry was assured. During the second world war, the Sisters succeeded in getting the contract for all the military laundry in Northern Ireland. This included male and female military personnel. The Americans at the Naval Base also sent their laundry and were very appreciative customers. It was really a hive of industry in those years, Sister **SR 310** recalls. Then when the war was over, the refugee camps throughout Northern Ireland became customers. In the meantime other developments were taking place in the life of the community.

When Sister **SR 316** term of office expired in 1930, Sister **SR 317** was appointed Superior and during her term in office, a new wing which now comprises St. Mary's Residential Home and Bellevue Hostel for working girls was built on. In 1936, Sister **SR 319** became Superior and she opened The Sacred Heart Home for young teenagers. This Home was closed in 1952 but we still have pastpupils coming back to visit, who recall the happy days spent there.



**GSC 44** revisits the Good Shepherd Sisters in Derry in the Summer of 1981. She is a past pupil of The Sacred Heart Home, now a teacher in [REDACTED]

A913/82.

VOLUNTARY CHILDRENS HOMES

NAME OF HOME	DATE REGISTERED	COPY OF CERTIFICATE HELD IN FILE
NAZARETH HOUSE, ORMEAU ROAD BELFAST.	13 June 1950	YES <i>Closed.</i> <i>De-Registered 31.5.84.</i>
1) GLENTHU CHILDRENS HOSTEL HOLLYWOOD ROAD BELFAST 4	14 June 1950	NO <i>closed 21/2/86</i> <i>certificate not returned. De-registered 25/4/89</i>
1) NAZARETH LODGE, RAVENHILL ROAD BELFAST	13 June 1950	NO
1) SACRED HEART HOME GOOD SHEPHERD CONVENT, ORMEAU ROAD BELFAST	29 June 1950	YES: RE-REGISTERED 7.5.56 AS THE SACRED HEART CHILDREN'S HOME: THE GOOD SHEPHERD GIRLS HOME AND MARIANVILLE HOME FOR MOTHERS AND BABIES. THE GOOD SHEPHERD HOME AND THE SACRED HEART HOME AMALGAMATED 15.5.63. <i>Cancelled - Registered</i> <i>on 14/3/83 as 'Marianville Home &amp; Baby Unit' only.</i>
5) MACEDON WHITE HOUSE CO ANTRIM 349 SHORE ROAD	29 JUNE 1950	YES - <i>Cancelled 7/7/82. Re-registered</i> <i>as Sharonmore Ballyduff Road Newtownabbey</i> <i>Macdon registration certificate not returned - could not be found.</i>
1) MANOR HOUSE HOME BALLYCASTLE CO ANTRIM	29 JUNE 1950	YES <i>closed 31.1.85</i> <i>De-registered w.s.f.</i> <i>1.2.85</i>
1) VICTORIA HOMES 'SCHMIDT'S' BELMONT ROAD BELFAST	1 JULY 1950	YES <i>CLOSED 22 NOVEMBER '83. Registration</i> <i>cancelled w.s.f. 23.11.83.</i>
1) ST JOSEPH'S HOME TERNURACCA CO LONDONDERRY	1 JULY 1950	YES - <i>Cancelled as home closed on</i> <i>28 May 1982. Cert. not returned - cannot be found.</i>
1) MANOR HOUSE HOME WEDBORN CO ANTRIM	29 JUNE 1950	YES <i>No: LETTER 20.15.1988 FROM SECRETARY OF</i> <i>MAN. COMMITTEE OF HOME INDICATING REGISTRATION</i> <i>CERT. IN HIS POSSESSION. Closed. De-Registered 1.11.84</i>
1) NAZARETH HOUSE, BISHOP STREET LONDONDERRY	16 JULY 1950	YES
1) THORNDALE HOUSE DUNGAIRN AVENUE ANTRIM ROAD BELFAST	16 JULY 1950	YES <i>De-Registered 30.11.82</i> <i>cert not returned - could not be found.</i>
1) HOPEDENE HOSTEL 55 DUNDOLA AVE BELFAST	11 AUGUST 1950	YES <i>De-registered 1/4/85</i> <i>Cert. not returned - could not be found.</i>
13) GOOD SHEPHERD HOME DUNGIEN ROAD LONDONDERRY	6 SEPTEMBER 1950	YES <i>De-registered 27/2/84</i>
14) CHILDMANEN, DUNDELA AVE RD. MILLISLE	27 SEPTEMBER 1950	YES. <i>Re-registered on 10/7/57 as "Childmanen</i> <i>and Cairnmore Children's Home"</i> <i>Cert. dated 15/9/50 not returned - cannot</i>

T.112

5th October, 1950.

Sir,

I am directed by the Minister of Home Affairs to draw your attention to the provisions of Section 99(8) of the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland), 1950, and to inform you that the Good Shepherd Home, Dungiven Road, Derry, has been registered as a Voluntary Home under Part VI of the Act.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,

(w-a-w)  
for Secretary

The Secretary,  
Londonderry County Borough Welfare Committee,  
1A Hawkin Street,  
LONDONDERRY.

/EM



9. Thorndale:- Well run by adequate trained staff.  
Salvation Army mother-and-baby Home. Takes some unaccompanied children and teen-age girls. Could do with more play equipment for toddlers. Otherwise standards of care and training excellent. Get grants from W.A.S. for mother-and-baby work and payment for them and other children and girls, who are, as a rule, placed there by W.A.S.
10. Hopedene:- } Mother-and-baby Homes. Only registered  
11. Kennedy House:- } in case they should ever have to keep  
an unaccompanied child temporarily.
12. Good Shepherd Convent:- S } Only a few teen-age girls, the rest are  
Derry. N. } older women.
13. Good Shepherd Convent:- S } Material conditions and equipment very  
Newry. N. } good. Girls and women work in laundry,  
have all amusements laid on inside Home.  
Quite happy atmosphere in both places.
14. Sacred Heart Home:- S } Good material conditions. Could perhaps  
Good Shepherd Convent, N. } do with more play equipment, but would,  
Belfast. S } I think, buy anything suggested to  
them. Have singing, elocution, dancing  
classes and girls go out to ordinary  
schools and to do shopping for Home.  
Not short of money, I think.
15. Rubane House:- S } Good care and training by trained staff  
of Brothers - plus one woman cook. Is  
still in process of development, but on  
well organized lines. ? 2 women and ?
16. Our Mother of Mercy Convent:- S } Children go to outside school. This is  
Newry. A } also a Home for old ladies. The  
children look quite well-cared, and the  
babies very well-cared, but I feel there  
are insufficient staff, and the bigger  
children's activities could be improved.
17. Convent of Mercy:- S } Mainly a cheap boarding-school, on spartan  
Bessbrook. N. } lines, but affectionate care is given.  
Take a few voluntary children only.  
Said to have none when Dr. Simpson  
visited recently. Adequate care and  
training. Short of play equipment.
18. Nazareth Lodge:- S } Poverty-stricken. Short of staff and play  
Belfast. S } equipment. Very institutional for older  
children, and babies in desperate plight.  
Rev. Mother very anxious to improve and  
hopes to have Nursery School started.  
Getting equipment already. Trying to  
make holiday arrangements at Mrs. Stephen's Gleniff house.
19. Nazareth House:- S } Very institutional, but material conditions  
Belfast. S } better than Nazareth Lodge. Short of  
play equipment. Short of staff. Home made  
holiday arrangements at Mrs. Stephen's Gleniff house.
- /20. St. Joseph's Home



- 2 -

Accommodation available  
for

*The Reverend Mother.*

Good Shepherd Home,  
Dungiven Road,  
Londonderry. ✓

100 girls aged 14 - 17 years.

*The Superintendent,*

"Childhaven",  
Millisle Road,  
Donaghadee,  
Co. Down. ✓

40 boys and girls of all ages.

*De La Salle Boys' Voluntary Home,*

Rubane House,  
Kirkcubbin,  
Co. Down. ✓

30 boys of all ages.

*The Mother Superior,*

Good Shepherd Home,  
Armagh Road,  
Newry,  
Co. Down. ✓

36 girls of all ages.

*The Mother,*

Johnston Memorial Training School,  
5 Green Road,  
Knock,  
Belfast. ✓

18 girls of school age and over.

*Thorndale House,*

Antrim Road,  
Belfast. ✓

Mothers and babies.

*Nantaw Hopedene Hostel,*  
55 Dundela Avenue,  
Ballyfinaghy, Belfast. ✓

Mothers and babies.

*Kennedy House,*  
8 Cliftonville Avenue,  
Belfast. ✓

Mothers and babies.

*The Mother Superior,*

St. Joseph's Convent of Mercy,  
Bessbrook,  
Co. Armagh.

Girls of all ages.

(T.175)

C. I. I.  
U. N. A.

*The Organising Secretary,*  
Church of Ireland Moral Welfare Association,  
Room 11, 20. Donegall Square East,  
Belfast.

HA 13-205 (CAT Act 1950 Good Shepherd Home Londonderry Fire Reports 1952-1963) **OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL** **T** 689

**Ministry of Home Affairs** Reg. No. **689**

Papers from Year **1952** to **63**

**C. & Y.P. Act 1950 - VOLUNTARY HOMES**  
**GOOD SHEPHERD HOME**  
**LONDONDERRY**  
**FIRE REPORTS**

Former File No. \_\_\_\_\_

REFERRED TO	DATE	REFERRED TO	DATE	REFERRED TO	DATE	REFERRED TO	DATE
C.W.	26.4.60						
John Forrest							
Miss H. Gowan	28/3/62						
Mr. Stirling	26/3/62						
Miss H. Gowan	8/5/62						
Mr. Warren	8/5/62						
Miss H. Gowan	17/5/62						
Mr. Warren	17/5/62						
P.A. (D.R.)	25/9/63						
P.A. C.W.	28/9/66						
P.A. R.	28/9/66						

PASSED BY P.R.O.  
FOR DESTRUCTION

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND

**HA/13/205**

**DR61/02**

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND

**CLOSED TO PUBLIC**

FOR CLOSURE DATE STAMP ONLY

**CLOSED**

YEAR OF FIRST PAPER	<b>1952</b>
YEAR OF LAST PAPER	<b>1963</b>
FIRST REVIEW	YEAR INTL
SECOND REVIEW	

Regd. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Files Annexed: \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL**

## OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

HA-13-205 C&amp;YP Act 1950 Good Shepherd Home Londonderry Fire Reports (54) - PRONI - 11-02-16 OPT

Section I.Description of Premises.Premises.

A range of buildings of two and three floors, brick walls, tiled and wooden floors, slated roofs, built roughly in the shape of an "L".

The premises are divided into three adjoining sections -

Section 1 - The Convent Building.

Section 2 - Oratory and Laundry.

Section 3 - Home.

Each Section has 2 stairways to all floors.

The buildings are located in private grounds bounded by the Dungiven Road.

Access for Fire Appliances is good and the premises can be reached by a Fire Appliance in 2/3 minutes.

Occupancy.

Accommodation is provided for approximately 100 occupants, plus the Mother Superior and 20 Sisters. 3 Groundsmen are also employed, two of whom live in the gatelodge.

Ground Floor.

The rooms are used as Sitting Rooms, Dining Rooms, Kitchens, Staff Quarters, etc.

The ground floor of the centre section is used as a Laundry, employing 60/70 female workers.

First Floor.

The rooms are used as Oratory, Staff Quarters, etc. This floor in the Home consists entirely of one large dormitory, with small rooms at either end, which are occupied by the Sisters in Charge of the Section.

Second Floor.

The second floor of the Home, which is the only three storey building, is similar to first floor above.

Means of Escape.Ground Floor.

20 doorways of adequate width give access to the ground floor, and numerous windows are available.

First Floor.

3 Internal Wooden Stairways, 4'6" wide, one Internal Concrete Stairway, 4'6" wide, and 2 Internal Concrete Stairways, approximately 3' wide serve this floor. Numerous windows are available.

Second Floor.

2 Internal Wooden Stairways, 4'6" wide, serve this floor. Numerous windows are available.

Lighting/



# Ministry of Home Affairs

Reg. No.

TC 576

Papers from Year 1955 to 58

C + Y P ACT (N.I.) 1950

No.

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL STATISTICAL RETURNS

Children in care of Welfare Authorities and Voluntary

Organisations at 31st December

(from year 1955 onwards)

TO	DATE	REFERRED TO	DATE	REFERRED TO	DATE	REFERRED TO	DATE
	18 9 58						
	18/9/63						
	6/5/64						
	21/4/60						
	28/4/65						

Public Record Office of Northern Ireland

OPEN TO PUBLIC

AVAILABLE FROM 1989 DS

Date 1989

Ref HA 13/152

Acc

GLANCED

YEAR OF FIRST PAPER 1955

YEAR OF LAST PAPER 1958

FIRST REVIEW

SECOND REVIEW

Public Record Office of Northern Ireland

HA 13/152

Accession



(2) NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN VOLUNTARY AND WELFARE AUTHORITY HOMES

VOLUNTARY HOMES

Home	Child-places	1953	1954	1955	1956	Home	Child-places	1953	1954	1955	1956
Glendhu, Belfast. <i>Temporary care</i>	40	27	40	40	26	Good Shepherd, Londonderry. <i>(girls and 14)</i> R.C.	20	13	10	2	5
Nazareth Lodge, Belfast. R.C. <i>includes 100 boys</i>	145	229	151	145	132	Childhaven, Donaghadee.	30	32	26	27	27
St. Joseph's Babies, Belfast. R.C.	120		115	100	94	Rubane, Kircubbin R.C. <i>(boys and 11)</i>	66	42	50	51	56
Nazareth House, Belfast. R.C. <i>girls</i>	145	156	143	135	117	Johnston Memorial, Belfast	20	21	16	14	14
Macedon, Whitehouse.	52	46	39	50	50	Kennedy House, Belfast.	Temporarily closed				
Manor House, Ballycastle. <i>Babies Home &amp; toddlers</i>	23	18	16	23	19	Convent of Mercy, Beasbrook. R.C. <i>(girls of school age)</i>	40	3	3	4	9
Sacred Heart, Belfast. R.C. <i>(girls and 5-18)</i>	33	30	29	28	23	Moyallon, Co. Down.	3	3	Discontinued		
Nazareth House, Londonderry. R.C. <i>girls</i>	154	170	151	149	151	Altavilla, Portadown. R.C. <i>babies home (under 2)</i>	30/3	6	13	13	9
Victoria Homes, Belfast.	20	14	13	17	20	Blackburn House, Belfast.	14	-	5	1	11
Manor House, Lisburn.	Closed for renovations					Good Shepherd, Newry. R.C.	-	1	-	2	Mother Baby Hm
Termonbacca, Co. Londonderry. R.C. <i>(boys 5)</i>	92	86	90	90	89	Thorndale, Belfast.	-	14	Mother and Baby Homes		
Mother of Mercy, Newry. R.C. <i>girls - school age</i>	25	19	19	19	24	Hopedene, Belfast.	-	1			
Totals	849	795	806	796	745	Totals	220	136	126	114	131

$\frac{420}{1069}$      $\frac{136}{931}$      $\frac{126}{932}$      $\frac{114}{910}$      $\frac{131}{876}$

18 places out of every 100 vacant.



BISHOP'S HOUSE,  
DERRY.

22nd July 1957

My dear [REDACTED]

As the extra hospital work has made it impossible to carry on with your present staff I propose appointing a full time chaplain to the Good Shepherd Convent. The work is still the responsibility of the Waterside parish and the chaplain appointed will be considered a member of the Waterside staff not claiming any division in parochial revenue nor having any responsibility for parochial work but drawing his allowance from the Convent.

In order to give the girls choice of confessor I direct that the curates in turn make themselves available for confessions in the convent once each week at an hour suitable for the girls.

I hope this arrangement will be of help to you and your staff. If it does not work we can try something else.

Best wishes,

Sincerely yours

Bishop of Derry.

## OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

HA-13-205 C&amp;YP Act 1950 Good Shepherd Home Londonderry Fire Reports (54) - PRONI - 11-02-16 OPT

FIRE ROUTINE (Cont'd):

- (c) Ensure that all fires of any kind are left safe and all fireguards are in position;
- (d) See that Smoothing Irons are switched off, plugs removed and left in a safe place to cool;
- (e) Observe that all combustible material is kept clear of any source of ignition;
- (f) Observe that all gas and electric points and appliances are left safe;
- (g) Check that all fire warning devices are in working order;
- (h) Test telephone and ensure it being in working order.

GENERAL:9. RECREATION HALL:(a) Occupancy:

The number of persons accommodated for dancing should not exceed 360 and for a closely seated audience 430. In addition, if loose chairs are to be used they should be battened together in groups of not less than four nor more than twelve. Twelve inches should be allowed between rows of seats, and gangways of at least 3'8" should be provided, intersecting the seating in such a manner that the centre line of any seat is not more than 12'0" from a gangway measured along the line of seating.

(b) Curtains, Drapes, etc.

Any curtains, drapes or scenery used or likely to be used should be of such material and/or so treated and maintained that they will not readily catch fire.

(c) Signs:

- (1) All exits in sight of public should be indicated "WAY OUT" or "EMERGENCY WAY OUT" in letters of at least 5" in height. These Notices should be tinted green;
- (2) Where possible these Notices should be placed above the doors to which they relate, but in any case they should not be less than 6'9" above floor level;
- (3) These signs to be illuminated by both main lighting and a safety or secondary lighting system.

N.B. Safety or secondary lighting may be by -

- (i) Electricity from a separate source;
- (ii) Approved pattern candle lamps which must be properly fixed away from woodwork or other combustible material and out of reach of the public.

/ 10.

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

HA-13-205 C&amp;YP Act 1950 Good Shepherd Home Londonderry Fire Reports (54) - PRONI - 11-02-16 OPT

T667.

Since receiving the letter below from [REDACTED] in the N.I.F.A. I went round to [REDACTED] in the Ministry of Research & L.G. to see if I could get a copy of the report. At that time the file was in use & I was not able to get a copy but [REDACTED] promised that she would get one for me. I went round again on Friday & I was given the file & from this I was able to get a copy of the report.

It turned out that the Initial Fire Protection Report was cancelled out on 27/4/59 & that there was a follow-up report on 5/4/60 - copies are now in our file. There are a great number of recommendations set carried out & M.P. & L.G. have written to the Home. I think however that we should write & attempt to get the Home to carry out the Recommendations.

26/2/62

JOVEN



OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL



OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

HA-13-205 C&amp;YP Act 1950 Good Shepherd Home Londonderry Fire Reports (54) - PRONI - 11-02-16 OPT

SV 23/7/62

  
 I would I think be confusing  
 for this Home to have to deal with two  
 government departments over this very important  
 matter. As H/Health have already taken up the  
 cudgels I think we should rely on them to  
 carry the matter through. The Home in any  
 event is only used to a limited extent for  
 the accommodation of children and at 31/12/61  
 there were only 6 in residence. I suggest  
 we ask  to keep us informed  
 of developments and tell her that if they  
 want us to put further pressure on the  
 Home to carry out the recommendations that  
 we will do so.

  
 23/7/62

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

T.669

Good Shepherd Home, Londonderry

Have you by any chance heard how the Fire Precautions work is progressing at the above Home? I should be glad if you would keep us informed and if there is any undue delay in carrying out the Fire Authority recommendations perhaps it might speed things up if we added to the clamour for immediate action.

23/2/62

For information the above the S.T.D. in being that he is still satisfied with the A. Corp. at the Home. It was last inspected by him in Dec 1961. 23-7/62.

Our Inspecting Officer Mr. Warren hopes to make an inspection of this Home shortly & I will keep you informed of any developments.

26/3/62

Please R.F. in about a month.

What is the position re? 27/2/62

9/5/62

Has this Home been visited by your Inspector, please?

9/5/62

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

Reference.....T 009.....

[REDACTED]

See [REDACTED] minute of 17/5  
Marked as below.

Apparently the Fire Authority are  
satisfied that adequate precautions  
against fire have been taken

[REDACTED]

21/9/67

[REDACTED] 2/5/62

You will see from para 7 of  
M/H & L.C. Circular Letter No W.66 dated 14/10/1960  
(tablet) or T 620 (attached) that M/H & L.C.  
interest in fire precaution of voluntary homes  
is very much less than ours. Virtually  
nothing recorded between reheraldated 5/4/1960  
and 1/12/1961 and we have no evidence to  
show that matters have improved since then.  
I think we must now take this  
matter up with the Home and I attach draft  
letter for approval on 31/3/62  
"up the (last country) heads them  
where 12 children" between the ages of 15 and 18  
in the Home. 21/5/62.

Coc 18-76

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

## Part I (Continued)

Name and Address of Home	Categories and Age Groups of Children admitted	Numbers and Ages of the Children in the Home										Total Number of Children in the Home	Number of Children in the Home who are in the care of a Welfare Authority under the Children and Young Persons Act (N.I.) 1950									
		Under 2 years		2-4 years		5-14 years		15-18 years		Total			Under 2 years		2-4 years		5-14 years		15-18 years		Total	
		B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.		B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.
Totals brought forward		46	36	80	53	208	270	5	31	339	390	729	12	7	16	8	49	79	3	2	80	97
12. Childhaven, Millisle Road, Donaghadee.	Over 2 years	-	-	3	1	4	6	2	-	9	7	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13. De La Salle Boys' Home, Rubane, Kircubbin.	Boys - 8-16 years	-	-	-	-	76	-	7	-	83	-	83	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	30	-
14. Johnston Memorial School, 5 Green Road, Knock, Belfast, 5.	Girls between 5 and 21 years on the roll of the Presbyterian Orphan Society	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	6	-	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15. St. Joseph's Home, Convent of Mercy, Bessbrook.	Girls - 5-15 years	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
16. Nazareth House Nursery Home, Altavilla, Corcrain, Portadown.	0-2 years	3	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	8	11	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
17. Blackburn House, 34 Annadale Avenue, Belfast, 7.	Girls - 15-18 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
18. Good Shepherd Home, Waterside, Londonderry.	*Girls - 14 years and over	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	8	-	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
19. Good Shepherd Convent, Armagh Road, Newry.	*Girls - 14 years and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
20. Good Shepherd Home, 511 Ormeau Road, Belfast, 7.	*Teenage girls	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	36	-	40	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	13
Totals carried forward		49	44	83	54	288	300	14	88	434	486	920	12	8	16	8	79	80	3	23	110	120



Recd. 31.1.64

T.761

## CHILD CARE SERVICE IN VOLUNTARY HOMES

Good Shepherd Convent,  
Waterside, Derry.

No. 19

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. (a) Please give a brief description of how your home is governed, stating in particular whether your governing body is independent or subordinate to a central organisation.

The Home is maintained by a Community of Religious Sisters under the care of a Mother Superior who is herself subordinate to a Provincial Superioress residing in Limerick. The Congregation of Sisters is world-wide, and has its central Government in Angers, France. The Home has no Governing Body.

- (b) Give categories of members of governing body (e.g. clerical, lay, male, female, subscribers, non-subscribers) and state whether they are selected as individuals or as representing other bodies.

None

- (c) What relationship (if any) has your home with other children's home(s) or child care organisation(s)?

None, except that the Congregation maintains, within Northern Ireland, similar Houses in Belfast and Newry. It has contact with the Girls' Home of the Sisters of Nazareth, Derry.

2. (a) Do you receive children on transfer from other homes?

Occasionally with Nazareth House Derry.

- (b) Do you transfer children to other homes?

Derry. Yes to our other Houses.

- (c) Have you any link with an adoption society?

No.

(NOTE: The word "children" here and in following questions means boys and girls under 18 years of age).

3. From what geographical area are applications for admission normally accepted?

Co. Derry, Co. Tyrone, Co. Donegal

9.(a) What is the total staff establishment?

*Secular*  
14 Sisters 3 Teachers

(b) What are the categories of staff (including domestic and subsidiary employees, e.g. gardeners, etc.) at present in post?

Category	Number
Religious Sisters	14
Teachers	3

(c) What members of staff in post have completed any of the following recognised courses of training:-

State Regd. Nurse		State Enrolled Asst. Nurse		State Regd. Sick Children's Nurse		N.I. Res. Child Care Certificate		Nursery Nurses Exam. Bd. Certificate		Home Office Housemothers Certificate		Any other training	
Category	No.	Category	No.	Category	No.	Category	No.	Category	No.	Category	No.	Category	No.
/												Domestic Economy	2

(d) Number of staff included in (b) above who are recognised school teachers and are employed as such?

3 4 1 Sister 5 Secular

10.(a) Which schools do the children attend?

Name of School	Number of Children			
	Under 4	5-10	11-14	15+
Name of School	Number of non-residents who attend			

(b) Are any of the above schools in your own premises, and if so how many children not resident in the home attend?

11. What provision is made by the home for religious training?

Religious instructions lessons are given by the Sisters, also by the Chaplain and frequent personal interviews are held with a view to helping the girl to overcome their moral and spiritual difficulties.

- 12 (a) Describe the interest that outside organisations take in the children in the home by way of entertainments and outings, and state whether such interest is regular or spasmodic?

*Spasmodic entertainments by visiting artists invited by the Sisters. The girls also go out to the local pantomime.*

- (b) How many children belong to organisations meeting outside the home, such as -

- (i) Boys' and Girls' Clubs ... ..  
 (ii) Boy Scouts and Wolf Cubs . ... ..  
 (iii) Boys' Brigade ... ..  
 (iv) Girl Guides and Brownies . ... ..  
 (v) Other organisations (please give particulars)? ... ..

*None.*

- (c) What holidays away from the home do the children have in the year?

*To date it has been possible to provide only a small number of day outings per year but investigations are being made with a view to acquiring a Holiday House by the Sea.*

Organised by the Home	Arranged Individually

- (d) Do the children have local friends of their own age visiting them, or do they go out to visit friends of their own age?

*Yes, visitors to the Home are encouraged.*

- (e) Indicate the kind of relationship that children without family contacts have with adults outside the home. To what extent do you feel these relationships are helpful?

*Adults such as former employers or members of voluntary welfare agencies visit such girls. Such relations are very helpful here and afterwards*

- (f) Have the children any other activity outside the home?

*Singing at Musical Fairs*

13. (a) Is there an adequate library in the home?

*Yes.*

- (b) Do the children make use of the public library or the local mobile library unit?

*Yes.*

14. What opportunities are provided for quiet reading, homework, and/or hobbies?

*There is a quiet period each evening and most of Sunday is available for the purpose.*

15. In what other ways do the children spend their leisure?

*Listening to and practicing Music & Singing. Typing for those capable of learning it. Crafts such as embroidery, toy-making etc. Outdoor games, chiefly basket-ball & tennis.*

- 16.(a) In the case of children discharged other than to their parents or relatives, what provision is made for after-care by -

- (i) finding employment ... ..  
(ii) finding lodgings ... ..  
(iii) visiting ... ..  
(iv) supplementing earnings? ... ..

*Employment is found for each girl with lodgings when necessary. Contact is maintained by the Sisters & the girls continue to visit the Home. Supplementary earnings not necessary.*

- (b) Are these services provided by -

- (i) a full-time officer .. ..  
(ii) a part-time officer .. ..  
(iii) voluntary help? ... ..

*These services are all provided by the Sisters.*

17. Are your financial resources sufficient to meet your ordinary day-to-day expenses, and to enable you to employ all the staff you think should be employed, and to have premises adequate for modern standards of child-care?

*Approximately, Yes, though some welfare payments are not adequate to meet the expenses actually incurred per capita.*

18. Are there any desirable developments which you are unable to undertake for reasons of financial difficulty, e.g.:-

- (a) improvement of premises and staffing;  
(b) employment of a field worker to investigate applications for admission and after-care work?

*(b) If such or persons services became necessary or desirable we should find it difficult to provide the salary.*

*The Private Resources of our Order both in personnel and in money are completely available at all times for our girls & for our work. But Voluntary welfare work like ours becomes increasingly demanding & expensive every year. Undoubtedly there will be in future necessary or desirable developments which it may be very difficult for us to undertake out of our own unaided resources.*

19. If your financial resources are insufficient, it would be of assistance to the Council if you would give information on the following:-

- (a) annual running costs of the home;  
(b) capital fund;



(c) last year's capital expenditure;

(d) actual weekly cost of maintaining a child in the home (not necessarily the amount charged to welfare authorities);

*At least £5 per week.*

(e) income from -

- (i) Government grants; ... ..  
 (ii) local authorities; ... ..  
 (iii) parental contributions; ... ..  
 (iv) alms, donations, or subscriptions;  
 (v) any other source? ... ..

*None*  
*50 £2.10 per week*  
*2*  
*Spasmodic*  
*No.*

20. What is your idea of the role and place of your home in voluntary child-care service?

*Homes animated by religious motives and staffed by Sisters with a*

*Sense of personal vocation have an irreplaceable role in child-care service, particularly in the case of children who have fallen under immoral influences, or who require moral and spiritual re-education, as so many teen-age problem children now do. Our Order is exclusively devoted to the work and is specialised in it, having been engaged in it for over a century. The Sisters receive special spiritual and intellectual training for the work and can draw on a rich tradition of experience in dealing with it. Also the international structure of the Order enables us to profit from the experience and experiments of our Sisters in other countries in the domain.*

Completed form should be returned to -

The Secretary, Child Welfare Council, Ministry of Home Affairs, Stormont, Belfast, 4.  
 not later than 31st January, 1964.

Reg. No.

10148

Year

Contd on 15370/78

Former File No. TC 178/68

Ex. 4. P. Act (A. 1) 1950

## Voluntary Homes

Good Shepherd Home

Dunrobin Road, Derry

REFERRED TO	DATE	REFERRED TO	DATE	REFERRED TO	DATE	REFERRED TO	DATE
C. N.	30.8.73	F8	1/11/74	Mr. P. Armstrong	11.5.77		
P. C.	13.9.73	J. I. Branch	1.11.74	Mrs. Wilde	14.3.77		
unlabeled	14.9.73	H. S. S. 14	5.11.74	Miss Hill	30.3.77		
to thee	14.9.73	HSS 14	6/11/74	Mr. Armstrong	31.3.77		
H + SS		Mc Christie QS	7/11/74	Room 404A			
PC	17.9.73	Works Unit		Area 5	5.4.77		
N	18.9.73	Mr. Killeen	24/3/75	Child Care	1.2.78		
to sent	2.10.73	ASS 14	24/3/75	Run by PA	14.6.78		
to Kirkpatrick	3/10/73	Mr. Paulter	24/4/75	Child Care	1/3/83		
R 317		ASS 14		D. O'Brien	2/3/83		
Brooke	20.11.73	Mr. Brooke R932	1/5/75	Child Care	3/3/83		
Miss C.W.	20.11.73	Miss Gault	1/5/75	Run by PA	3/3/83		
to Mrs. Hill	14/1/74	Miss Hill	28/7/75	Child Care	26.10.83		
to Mrs. Kirkpatrick	14/1/74	Mr. Kirkpatrick	7.8.75	General Hosp. St	26/10/83		
CHRISTIE	17/1/74	R. 3A					
KILLEEN	17/5/74	Mr. Brooke	8.8.75				
(OS) BR	17/5/74	Mr. L. Boy	11.8.75				
ALCO HOOSE		Child Care Branch	12.8.75				
OC(F)	13.5.74	Miss Hill	11.9.75				
Branch	13.5.74	Child Care					
to Mrs. Hill	6/5/74	R. 109					
to Mrs. Hill	6/5/74	GENERAL HOSPITALS BRANCH	11.9.75				
to Mrs. Hill	6/5/74	Child Care	12/9/75				
to Mrs. Hill	6/5/74	Mr. B. Munn					
to Mrs. Hill	6/5/74	Child Care Branch	12.9.75				
to Mrs. Hill	6/5/74	MRK. F. McCoy	6/11/77				
to Mrs. Hill	6/5/74	Miss M. I. Hill	6.1.77				
to Mrs. Hill	6/5/74	Mr. L. Boy	23.2.77				
to Mrs. Hill	6/5/74	Mr. P. Armstrong	23.2.77				
to Mrs. Hill	6/5/74	Mr. Wilde	24.2.77				
to Mrs. Hill	6/5/74	Mr. L. Boy	25.2.77				
to Mrs. Hill	6/5/74	Miss Hill	28.2.77				
to Mrs. Hill	6/5/74	Mr. L. Boy	10.3.77				

C & Y. P. ACT (N.I.) 1950  
VOLUNTARY HOMES  
GOOD SHEPARD HOME  
DUNGIVEN ROAD, DERRY

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE  
OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2064  
PARTIALLY  
CLOSED  
TO  
PUBLIC

HSS/34/13

BP 178/73

DR 10/03

CLOSED

Public Record Office of Northern Ireland

HSS/34/13

ACCESSION

DR10/03

PER

ER

YEAR INTLS

1983

64

C & Y. P. ACT (N.I.) 1950  
VOLUNTARY HOMES  
GOOD SHEPARD HOME  
DUNGIVEN ROAD, DERRY

**PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE  
OF NORTHERN IRELAND**

2064  
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TO  
PUBLIC

HSS/34/13

BP 178/73

DR 10/03

Public Record Office of Northern Ireland

HSS/34/13

ACCESSION

DR10/03

ER

72

FR

28

YEAR

INTLS

1983



d. No.

*Files Annexed:*

		Reference.....	
		Total.	Under 18
later	1960	97	5
	1963	100	6 (3 of school-age.)
	1964	92	6 (None of school-age)
	1964	91	7 (16-18 yrs.)
	1965	90	8 (3 girls of school-age)
	1966	80	3
	1968	98	7
	1969	97	7
	1971		8
	1972.	76	8 {one girl under 15 going out to school - 7 in except. outside Home.
	1973	65	2
	Stranded young girls who come to Kien door or who are brought by Alice are accommodated.		

Good Shepherd Convent,  
Ormeau Road,

Belfast.

February 4th, 1965.

Dear Miss Forest,

We have received 2 bills for £20 in respect of each of the 2 Sisters who were doing the Child Care Course at Rupert Stanley College.

We shall be glad to pay these if it is necessary, but I am wondering whether note has been taken of the fact that these Sisters were, as you know, obliged to withdraw from training on account of 2 key Sisters being suddenly taken ill, and it was imperative that these be replaced by the 2 Sisters in question. Under these circumstances, I hope you will be able to do something about the matter Miss Forest.

Mother Provincial has asked me to touch with you regarding Sr. [redacted] who trained in England last year. Sister is now in Derry and as she is fulfilling the required period of service in the North of Ireland, Mother asks would it be possible for you to kindly arrange that payment for her Course be settled by the Ministry.

I hope I am not troubling you too much Miss Forest, knowing the busy person you are, but you have always been so helpful to us in the past, we feel that we can call on you and that you will do your best in these matters also.

Mother Provincial has not been at all well and has not been able to travel North, but when she visits again I will let you know.

Thanking you for all past kindnesses and will all good wishes,

Yours very

Sister

SR 302

Miss Forest  
cleaned this  
with Rupert  
Stanley &  
Tuition  
also was  
reduced  
by.

1346



Copy for Secretary.

Welfare Office,  
2 East Wall,  
LONDONDERRY.

To Welfare Officer.

Please arrange to include the following report under the section concerning the welfare of children, at the Committee meeting to be held on the 5th June, 1967:-

Children in Residential Care: Girl. [REDACTED]

This girl was committed to the care of the Committee by Fit Person Order on the 6th July, 1965, and since that date has been cared for on the Committee's behalf by the Sisters in the Good Shepherd Convent. During the last two months the girl has become most difficult and ran away each week-end during the month of May. The City Solicitor has advised that the girl should be brought back to the Juvenile Court so that the Magistrate can decide what action would be in the girl's best interests, and has listed the case for hearing at the Juvenile Court to be held on the 6th June, 1967.

*Byrman*

CHILDREN'S OFFICER.

5th June, 1967.

KDG/NEB.

### APOSTOLATE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD SISTERS

Here in Northern Ireland, Good Shepherd Sisters have quietly served the community in a variety of ways for more than 100 years. Their special role has always been supported and sustained by a deep sharing in prayer and community. As in the life of Sister [REDACTED], so too for each Sister, prayer is the vital source of apostolic activity and is the main function of one section of the Sisters - The Sisters of the Cross, formerly known as the Magdalens.

The source of strength for the Good Shepherd Sister is the Spirit of the Good Shepherd, reflected in a constant attempt to witness to the views, values and image of their universal Shepherd who laid down his life for each one. Each Good Shepherd Sister is conscious of her role in constantly and courageously working towards peace and reconciliation. Hers is the daily task of prayer for the healing of wounded spirits in our society and of work towards building up community.

She does this, not in as spectacular a way as Sister [REDACTED] who directly approached Pope Leo XIII but each in her own way works through her unique role to bring peace of mind and heart to those with whom she comes in contact.

#### Work in Derry Diocese

The Good Shepherd Sisters have been in the Diocese of Derry since 1919. Through their life of prayer and sacrifice they draw the strength necessary to accomplish their mission which is involvement in various types of social work.

From 1919 the Sisters have provided a sheltered and homely environment for girls and women in need of accommodation due to personal or family difficulties. These people stayed on a long-term or short-term basis according to need. The Sisters also provided night shelter accommodation for women and girls.

Ecumenical relations with the clergy and members of the various Christian Churches in the North of Ireland were in existence from the opening of the convent.

In 1936 vestments and Church linens were made in the needlework room of the convent, which was run by a Sister who excelled in this field. Due to lack of personnel this invaluable work unfortunately had to cease.

In the early 1960's a large number of teenagers were referred to the Convent by parents and priests when work for young girls was very scarce. These young

TC.178

Ministry of Home Affairs  
 Dundonald House  
 Upper Newtownards Road  
 Belfast BT4 3SU

PC

GOOD SHEPHERD HOME, LONDONDERRY

I visited this Home on 6 September 1973 where Sister SR 280 has succeeded Rev Mother SR 334 as Directress. Sister SR 312 continues in charge of the younger girls and Sister SR 294 who is a Social Science graduate, is a valuable addition to the Community.

A new Mother Provincial, Mother SR 334 has taken office and has approved the much-discussed adaptation of the premises to provide a self-contained hostel for girls. Plans are being prepared by O'Connor (Builders) Ltd, Londonderry, who already have been advised by the Fire Authority.

It is planned to provide 16 single rooms, 4 sitting-rooms, dining-room, bathrooms and an office. A kitchenette for the preparation of snacks is envisaged, but main meals will be provided from the Convent kitchen. The Hostel will have a separate entrance and will occupy the ground floor and first and second floors at the end of one wing of the building.

No new building is contemplated and structural alterations will be kept to the minimum. The single rooms, equipped possibly with sanitary units, will be sited in the space occupied by cubicles on 2 separate floors. A cubicle, which at present contains 4 beds, will be converted into 2 single rooms, with floor to ceiling partitions, unlike the present arrangement. In this way 4 cubicles (16 beds) will be eliminated on each of the first and second floors, but the loss of 32 beds is no obstacle, as the number of women in residence has declined.

There were 65 women and girls in residence, only 2 of whom were under 18 - 2 girls, the responsibility of Co Fermanagh, were attending school. Several girls who have been in Good Shepherd while under 18 have remained, and are going out to work, and Sister SR 280 feels that they would benefit from the proposed Hostel facilities.

They are anxious to proceed with the adaptations as quickly as possible, and I asked Sister SR 280 to forward plans, when available, to the Ministry.

*Mr. J. Hill*  
 September 1973  
 Bk.

13.11.1973 - Visit by Miss Hill and Mr. Kirkpatrick  
regarding Grant for Hostel, - 16 girls.

Result

Grant will be given as if the hostel  
accommodated 12 girls, i.e. 12:16  
= 75% grant.

Grant is worked out thus: Supposing the  
total cost will be £24,000, 75% grant  
is worked out as 9/16 of £24,000  
= £13,500 which will be the amount given

---

When giving estimate to the Ministry, include  
professional fees. Also include beds, furniture,  
bedcovers, blankets, bedlinen, etc. The grant will  
cover all these so they should be included in the total.  
The grant given will be based on estimate submitted,  
so estimate should be very accurate.

8 Beds. 8 Wardrobes.



Reference TC 178

Good Shepherd Landlording

Discussed the Good Shepherd hostel proposal with [REDACTED] by telephone to-day. He has no objection to our proposal to give financial help to Good Shepherd and does not consider that a combination of Clarendon St and Good Shepherd will make over-provision for hostel accommodation for girls in the area.

He ~~is~~ mentioned the possibility that the vexed religious question could arise i.e. Good Shepherd would become the Catholic hostel and at same Clarendon St would become the Protestant hostel (the best being it would be mixed). I had already considered this problem and decided that as long as Clarendon St starts off with the

clear intention of being non-denominational  
 and Good Shepherd (as has happened  
 in the past) have a policy whereby  
 they will not refuse people in  
 need no matter what their  
 religion is, there is nothing  
 further we can do to influence  
 the situation - in short the  
 community gets what it wants  
 with no obstacles put in the  
 way of mixing the religions  
 either by the Board or ourselves.  
 This is [redacted] philosophy

A side result of the Good  
 Shepherd development is likely  
 to be the need for a boys  
 hostel. An interesting possibility  
 is that Blenheim SC might  
 become a boys and girls hostel.  
 Good Shepherd would be unlikely  
 to develop along these lines.

[redacted]  
 19.11.73

Miss E. Hill,  
 Dundonald House,  
 Upper Newtownards Road,  
 Belfast.

January 22nd, 1975.

Dear Miss Hill,

I am sorry I was not here when you called recently. **SR 294** and I were among a number of Sisters attending a meeting in Dublin.

Enclosed you will find the form relating to the Hostel and also the sample which you left. With regard to the heading on the Hostel form, I notice that it refers to details of any care facilities. As you already know our service includes night also as the girls are resident here.

With regard to our Residential Home, this caters only for those who have been with us for a number of years due to social inadequacy or personal or family circumstances. We do not intend adding to the existing number.

It is not yet too late to send you New Year greetings.

With every best wish,  
 Yours sincerely,

1976

Name: Collevue Hostel.

Address: Bungiwen Road, Waterside, Derry.

Staff: 2429  
Residents: 68451

Client Groups: Students and working girls.

Board: Western Omagh, Fermanagh, Derry, Linavady, Strabane.

Sex and Age Range Accommodated: Girls of 15 years of age and upwards.

Age Range for Admission: 15 to 18 years preferably.

Maximum Number of Places: 12.

Special Objectives: To provide accommodation for girls in their first job and for adolescents placed by Social Services.

Special Facilities: Hostel accommodation, modernly equipped, up to date and convenient to the city of Derry. Recreational and study facilities are provided.

Involvement of Voluntary Helpers: Two ladies help by providing lessons in crafts and organising outings and shopping sprees for adolescents in care.

Gen. Description of Aims & Regimes: The aim of the Hostel is to provide accommodation for young girls particularly those in their first job. The hostel setting should enable them to get used to their new surroundings away from home and to make new friends. After consultation with the Dept. of Health and Social Services, it was decided to give accommodation to teenagers placed by Area Boards provided that they do not require strict supervision, which would not be practical in a hostel setting. These teenagers could be school girls who after leaving school might remain with us and go into employment locally and in consultation with the placing authority. Care will be taken to ensure that these girls get freedom to attend club and other activities outside, but would be subject to reasonable discipline in so far as a time would be agreed for them to return to the hostel. Supervision or professional Social Work support will also be part of the caring programme.

Official Correspondence: Superior,

Address: Good Shepherd Convent,  
Bungiwen Road, Waterside, Derry.  
Tel. No. 2429.



1976

HOUSE J. 101 BY 10

Tel. 50451 (resident),  
2489 (Dr. in charge)

Hollevue Hotel,  
Langdon Road,  
Corry.

to give accommodation to students and working girls in our hostel, which is modernly equipped, up-to-date and convenient to the city of Corry. Hostel heating is provided, and there is hot and cold water in each room.

After consultation with the Dept. of Health and Social Services, it was decided to give accommodation to teenagers since it was decided that they do not require special supervision, which would not be practical in a hostel setting. These teenagers could be school girls who after leaving school might remain with us and go into employment locally and in consultation with the placing authority.

Care will be taken to ensure that these girls get freedom to attend club and other activities outside, but would be subject to reasonable discipline in so far as a time scale be agreed for them to return to the hostel.

Supervision and Professional Social Work support will also be part of the caring programme.

GENERAL

Q. How has our charism responded to the needs of persons in personal, social and family difficulties within their culture?

<u>NEEDS</u>	<u>HOW NEED WAS MET</u>
<p>1919 - 1950</p> <p>(a) Partially unemployed girls (due to type of work engaged in e.g. farm work)</p> <p>(b) Alcoholics</p> <p>(c) Unmarried mothers who were rejected by their families and society in general.</p>	<p>(a) Laundry Work, needlework, craft. Lessons in singing, drama etc. given by teachers from outside.</p> <p>(b) Sheltered and homely environment, prayerful atmosphere, and regular occupation. Some, short term - a few weeks. Some stayed for up to two years benefitted by their stay and did well in later life.</p> <p>(c) Protection and the opportunity to make a fresh start. Religious Instruction.</p> <p>From these three categories a number became Srs. of the Cross and Auxiliaries.</p>
<p>1936 - 1952</p> <p>Home for children from broken homes. (Preservation)</p>	<p>Lessons in home-crafts, some attended local primary school. This home was closed in 1952 as the need was no longer there.</p>
<p>1952 - 1960</p> <p>In addition to the above, adolescents from nearby orphanages were accepted here. These were for the most part 'war babies', very disturbed and very trouble-some.</p>	<p>Regular occupation in Laundry. Hand crafts, needlework. Lessons in cookery, drama, singing, by teachers from outside. Rel. Instruction.</p>
<p>Early 60's</p> <p>No work for young girls. A big number of teenagers brought here by parents, priests, and sometimes police. Some were the products of foster homes where relations had broken down.</p>	<p>Needlework, laundry work, lessons. These later took up employment when this became available outside.</p>
<p>1969 - 1973</p> <p>Separation of juniors and seniors.</p>	<p>Opening of teenage unit. Full time school on the premises. Later it was felt that attendance at local school would be more beneficial to them. Some also got jobs locally.</p>
<p>1973 - June</p> <p>Help in Parish Club.</p>	<p>Sisters' involvement in activities and holidays of the youth of Parish. Sisters trained for Youth Leadership.</p>
<p>October</p> <p>Wish of Parish Council to provide meeting place for the ladies of nearby estate.</p>	<p>Woodburn Club Girl's assembly hall placed at their disposal. Several sisters engaged to give lessons in cookery &amp; craft</p>
<p>October</p> <p>Women of the Parish made known their need through one of the curates for lessons in cookery</p>	<p>Commencement of evening class in cookery &amp; needlework in the local school, St. Breacan's</p>

Page 2NEEDS contd.HOW NEED WAS MET contd.

1974 - July	Bishop expressed wish to Vocation Director of the Diocese to involve religious & laity as well as priests in the formation of a new Vocations Council.	A sister accepted invitation to become a member of the new Vocations Council which is responsible for Vocations Exhibitions at in the Diocese.
1974 - October	Request from Community Social Services in the City for Sister to work in large housing estate.	A sister commenced Family Casework initially by house to house visitation - to ascertain the need of the people with a view to future service.
1975 - April	Parish Priest of a nearby newly formed Parish which has a new Church at present under construction asked if a Sister would train a choir worthy of the new setting.	Local boys and girls commenced choir practices in the month of May under the leadership of a Sister.
- May	Need of accommodation for working girls.	Completion of the Renovation of portion of residential home as a hostel.

An important feature of our Apostolate in Derry from the very beginning was

- (a) Ecumenical relations with the clergy and members of the numerous Christian Churches in our area of the North of Ireland.
- (b) Instruction of Converts.
- (c) Night Shelter providing accommodation for women and girls who were in need of it. These included prostitutes, drunkards, etc.

In recent years by request, our premises have been put at the disposal of the Parish for:

- (a) Nurses's Guild Meetings
- (b) Married Couples' Retreats
- (c) Conference meetings of Vincent de Paul Society and socials organised by them for the invalids and elderly of the Parish and local hospitals.
- (d) Ordination reception.
- (e) Year-ending celebration for the Waterside Primary school-leavers.

Q. How are you experiencing our charism in the totality of your life today?

By trying to show forth the Good Shepherd with all His lovable qualities to all those we meet. God has no other means to reveal His Love and Mercy except through us.

(We found it hard to clarify what you meant by the word 'experiencing' in the question. We took it to mean 'living' and answered accordingly.).

19th September 1976

Dear Mother **SR 280**

This is to inform you that I have appointed Father [REDACTED] to be C.C., Kilrea. Father [REDACTED] P.P., V.P., Waterside has undertaken the responsibility to see that one of the Waterside priests will offer the Community Mass for you each day and provide the other chaplaincy services.

I hope that you will find this to be a satisfactory arrangement.

Wishing you God's blessing,  
Yours sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Derry



7

Miss Hill  
Mr McCoy, Could you please prepare a  
report on this home.  
Kunde 6/1/77

I refer to the recent agreement made with Mr. Kirkpatrick and should be grateful if you would arrange for a visit to be made to the Good Shepherd Children's Home, Dungiven Rd, Londonderry, and for a monitoring report to be made accordingly.  
Thank-you.

A.J. Patter  
Child Care Branch  
5th January 1977

Mr. D. Williamson,  
Dept. of Health & Social  
Services,  
Child Care Branch,  
Rundown House,  
Belfast.

February 3th, 1977.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter of 19th January, I wish to apologise for delay in replying to you. The following information should help to update that already held by the Department.

We have had over the year a number of teenagers who were placed here by Social Services. They were given accommodation in our Residential Home for women and girls. Over two years ago we consulted the Department of Social Services regarding the conversion of a section of the Home for use as a hostel for working girls and students. We discussed the position of teenagers placed by the Area Boards and it was felt that it would be better if these teenagers were transferred from the Home to the hostel accommodation when it was ready. The hostel was completed in September, 1975.

Name of hostel: Bellvue Hostel, Fungiven Road, Waterside, Londonderry.  
Person in Charge: Sr. Maure, Superior, Good Shepherd Convent, Waterside.  
Manager: Sisters of the Good Shepherd, " "  
Age Range: 14 - 18 years.  
Capacity: 12.  
Tel. Number: Staff - 42429 (Convent) - Hostel 43451.  
Maintenance charges to Area Boards: £20 per week (includes £2 pocket money).

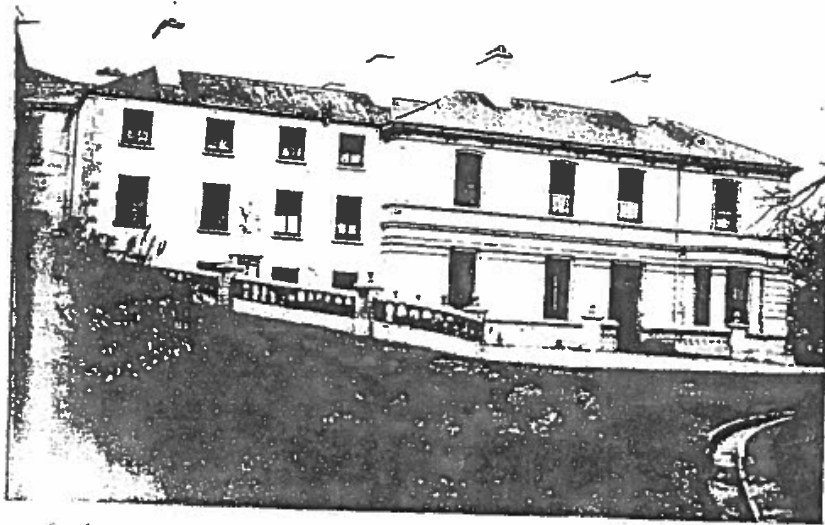
Yours sincerely,

(Superior).

1977  
Present occupancy of Home  
12 teenagers  
Rel. 125  
which includes  
pocket money.

# *The Good Shepherd Sisters*

SISTER BRIGID MACKLE



In the year 1919 the Good Shepherd Sisters came to the Waterside to begin their work in this city.

The first three sisters to come arrived in Derry on September 1926. They came with the sanction and blessing of Most Rev. Dr. McHugh who was the Bishop of the Diocese at that time.

The first Mass was celebrated by the Parish Priest, Rev. W.B. McFeely on the feast of St. Michael, September 1929 and later that day the Bishop officiated at the Installation of the Superior, Sister Mary Ita Rice, a great grand-niece of Edmund Ignatius Rice, founder of the Irish

Christian Brothers. With her were Sister Agnes Quinlan and Sister Mary of the Sacred Heart O'Connor.

As in many similar foundations the beginnings in Derry were small - just three sisters and one Resident. Soon there were six Residents and they supported themselves by needlework, embroidery, making vestments and church linens. When there were fifteen girls in residence it became necessary to build a Home suitable to the Apostolate and as there were no State aid a laundry was established as a means of support and work training.

The character of the services in those days was totally residential. Everything happened within the gates. They ran their own farm, baked their own bread, mended their own shoes. There was little involvement from the outside and to a great extent this reflected society's way of handling its problems in that area.

Change began coming in the 60's with many of those in residence responding to encouragement to avail of employment opportunities and by 1980 it was clear that running the laundry was no longer appropriate and a decision was taken to close it in 1982.

Fortunately, the Institution has outlived its usefulness. There is a situation to be welcomed, as it indicates a more humane and helpful approach to the domestic problems which were formerly left to the Sisters.

The cultural, social and economic progress of the past seventy years has solved some problems and raised others. So here in the Waterside as in all other Good Shepherd Convents in Ireland, in fact all over the world, the Good Shepherd Sister still devotes her life to the service of those in need. The task still remains to show the compassionate love of the Good Shepherd to all those with whom she comes in contact.

Convent, Newry - approx. 1945









## Ministry of Home Affairs

Papers from Year 1960 to 1962/3

C. B. Y. P. REC. 1950. - VOLUNTARY HOMES  
GOOD SHEPHERD HOME, NEWRY CO. DOWIN.  
(INCLUDES MARIAN VALE MOTHERS' & BABIES' HOME)  
FIRE REPORTS.

~~Former File No.~~

FOR CLOSURE DATE STAMP ONLY		
<b>CLOSED</b>		
YEAR OF FIRST PAPER	1950	
YEAR OF LAST PAPER	1963	
FIRST REVIEW	YEAR	INTL
SECOND REVIEW		

**PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICE  
OF NORTHERN IRELAND**

**Files Annexed:**  
**OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL**

## OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

HA-13-202 C&amp;YP Act 1950 Good Shepherd Home Newry inc Marianvale Fire Reports 1950-1962-3 (176) - PRONI - 11-02-16 OPT

1.

Section I: - LOCATION:

The Good Shepherd's Home, Armagh Road, Newry, is situated in it's own grounds, off the Armagh Road. It is about 50 yards off the Main Road and is approached by a 9' wide carriageway to the front of the building.

Section II: - CONSTRUCTION:

The building, used as a Home, and comprises six Nissen type huts placed alongside each other and inter-connected by means of a wide corridor, with four doors leading therefrom to open air and sited thus:- Approximate Dimensions 140' x 50'.

One pair at each end of corridor

One pair near Dining Hall

Single door through cloak room and thence to open.

Section III: - OCCUPANCY AND LAYOUT:

Three of the huts are used as sleeping dormitories, one as Dining Room, one as Kitchen and one as Recreation room. The Kitchen has an extra door to open area also an interconnecting door to dining room.

Section IV: - MEANS OF ESCAPE:

The existing exits would appear to afford adequate means of escape in case of fire.

Section V: - ACCESS:

The 9' wide carriageway from the Public Highway would provide good access to the Home for a Fire Engine.

Section VI: - WATER SUPPLIES:

Hydrants: - There are two hydrants in the grounds one at the Convent and one at the Laundry with a pressure of 75 lbs. and a flow of 300 gallons per minute.

The nearest open water supply is the river, approximately 180 yards from the House, on the Armagh Road. A Major Pump could be got to work from river.

Section VII: - FIRE DEFENCE:

There are no portable extinguishers in the Home, but there are some 2-gallon Soda Acid extinguishers in nearby Convent.

See Recommendation No. 1 and 2.

Section VIII: - FIRE DRILLS:

No Fire Drills are carried out.

See Recommendation No. 3

Section IX: - LIGHTING AND HEATING:

Lighting is by Electricity, in conduit piping. Heating is by low pressure hot water system.

9. Thorndale:- Well run by adequate trained staff.  
Salvation Army mother-and-baby Home. Takes some unaccompanied children and teen-age girls. Could do with more play equipment for toddlers. Otherwise standards of care and training excellent. Get grants from W.A.S. for mother-and-baby work and payment for them and other children and girls, who are, as a rule, placed there by W.A.S.
10. Hopedene:- } Mother-and-baby Homes. Only registered in case they should ever have to keep an unaccompanied child temporarily.
11. Kennedy House:- }
12. Good Shepherd Convent:- S } Only a few teen-age girls, the rest are Derry. older women.
13. Good Shepherd Convent:- S } Material conditions and equipment very Newry. good. Girls and women work in laundry, have all amusements laid on inside Home. Quite happy atmosphere in both places.
14. Sacred Heart Home:- N. } Good material conditions. Could perhaps do with more play equipment, but would, I think, buy anything suggested to them. Have singing, elocution, dancing classes and girls go out to ordinary schools and to do shopping for Home. Not short of money, I think.
15. Rubane House:- S } Good care and training by trained staff of Brothers - plus one woman cook. Is still in process of development, but on well organized lines. ? 2 women and ?
16. Our Mother of Mercy Convent:- A } Children go to outside school. This is Newry. also a Home for old ladies. The children look quite well-cared, and the babies very well-cared, but I feel there are insufficient staff, and the bigger children's activities could be improved.
17. Convent of Mercy:- N. } Mainly a cheap boarding-school, on spartan Bessbrook. lines, but affectionate care is given. Take a few voluntary children only. Said to have none when Dr. Simpson visited recently. Adequate care and training. Short of play equipment.
18. Nazareth Lodge:- S } Poverty-stricken. Short of staff and play Belfast. equipment. Very institutional for older children, and babies in desperate plight. Rev. Mother very anxious to improve and hopes to have Nursery School started. Getting equipment already. Trying to make holiday arrangements at Mrs. Stephen's Gleniff house.
19. Nazareth House:- S } Very institutional, but material conditions Belfast. better than Nazareth Lodge. Short of play equipment. Short of staff. Home made holiday arrangements at Mrs. Stephen's Gleniff house.
- /20. St. Joseph's Home

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

HA-13-202 C&amp;YP Ad 1950 Good Shepherd Home Newry inc Marianvale Fire Reports 1950-1962-3 (176) - PRONI - 11-02-16 OPT

Copy.

5th February, 1958.

Rev. Mother [REDACTED]  
 Convent of the Good Shepherd,  
 Armagh Road,  
 Newry.

Dear Mother [REDACTED]

It's a long time since I had the pleasure of a chat with you, or heard from you, and I do hope, very much that you are keeping well. I have not been down your way for a very long time or I should have called with you.

I was in the Ministry of Home Affairs the other day and found Miss Forrest very distressed over the fact that you were not keen to comply with the requirements of the Fire Authority in regard to the Home. I explained that, very probably, you were worried about the cost of meeting such requirements. The Ministry's worry is that, should these requirements not be met, then it (the Ministry) would have no alternative but to withdraw recognition, and the Home would have to close. This, I can assure you is the very last thing that the Ministry would want to do. But, as the responsible approving Authority under the Act it would be open to grave criticism and condemnation were a fire to occur which caused loss of life simply because it had not taken steps to see that adequate fire precautions had been observed. Similarly, of course, you would be open to grave criticism. That's the difficulty which confronts all homes, and we have had to meet very extensive - and expensive - requirements in respect of our old people's homes here. BR 39 has had to do the same at St. Patrick's.

It may be that you feel the requirements are more extensive than would appear to be necessary. If that be so, then I suggest you say so, and ask the Ministry representatives, the Fire Authority representatives and your architect to meet you as far as is consistent with the need for safety. The Authority often advises the desirable maximum provision, but where for any reason, this is difficult to achieve, then it is usually prepared to advise on a minimum. At least that is my experience.

So, I suggest that you contact all concerned, or ask your architect to do so, and see what can be agreed upon. After all, you and all of us are concerned to take all necessary and reasonable precautions against the possibility of serious accident

/over

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL



## OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

HA-13-302 C&amp;YP Act 1950 Good Shepherd Home Newry-inc Marianvale Fire Reports-1950-1962-3 (176) -PRONI-11-02-16 OPT

- 2 -

resulting from fire, and none of us can take a risk in the hope that the danger will never arise. If we fail to take all such precautions, and something serious happens then we are in a most unhappy position.

You will forgive me writing to you on the subject my excuse is twofold - my deep personal interest in your fine work and my knowledge of the regard in which that work, and your good self, are held in the Ministry.

If I can help, personally, in any way do not hesitate to ask me.

With very good wishes and assurances of my warm regards.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

## OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

HA-13-202 C&amp;YP Act 1950 Good Shepherd Home Newry inc Marianvale Fire Reports 1950-1962-3 (176) - PRONJ - 11-02-16 OPT

Ministry of Home Affairs,  
Stormont, Belfast.

D/P.C.

Good Shepherd Girls' Home, Newry

On the 13th of June I visited the Good Shepherd Convent, Newry, and was shown over the premises by Reverend Mother [REDACTED] who is now Reverend Mother Assistant, and Sister [REDACTED] who is in charge of the girls. The girls' recreation room, Domestic kitchen and dining-room had been redecorated in very pleasant colours and the entire building was in good order throughout.

There were 39 girls in residence, two of whom are under eighteen years of age. One girl is the financial responsibility of the Special Care Authority. The majority of the girls were working in the commercial laundry attached to the Home and all appeared to be in good health. Classes in cookery, needlework, reading and simple calculation of money are arranged for the younger residents. The girls enjoy watching television or films in the evenings. They go for walks or shopping expeditions in groups, and arrangements are in progress for their annual summer outings to nearby seaside resorts.

This Home continues to provide suitably for the women and girls in residence, many of whom are of low intelligence.

ORIGINAL ON  
T-100CWL  
CWL

THIS HOME CONTINUES TO  
 FUNCTION SATISFACTORILY.  
 A COPY OF THE WRIGHT'S  
 REPORT SHOULD NOW BE SENT TO NHILG.  
 13F. FILE IN A MONTHLY TIME RE  
 THE FIRE PRECAUTIONS AT MARIANVALE.  
 25. 19/6/58

Signed NWDate 19/6/58

/MAY.

X HM AGENT  
 CARRIED OUT  
 B.G.L.  
 20/6/58

## CHILD CARE SERVICE IN VOLUNTARY HOMES

Recd. 4.2.64

T. 761

Good SHEPHERD HOME,

Wm 24th Road, Hexby

No 17

QUESTIONNAIRE

- 1.(a) Please give a brief description of how your home is governed, stating in particular whether your governing body is independent or subordinate to a central organisation.

The Home is governed by a Mother Superior, who in turn is subject to a Provincial Superior and ultimately to a Superior General.

- (b) Give categories of members of governing body (e.g. clerical, lay, male, female, subscribers, non-subscribers) and state whether they are selected as individuals or as representing other bodies.

None

- (c) What relationship (if any) has your home with other children's home(s) or child care organisation(s)?

We have relationship with other Homes in the North.

- 2.(a) Do you receive children on transfer from other homes?

Yes.

- (b) Do you transfer children to other homes?

Yes.

- (c) Have you any link with an adoption society?

(NOTE: The word "children" here and in following questions means boys and girls under 18 years of age).

3. From what geographical area are applications for admission normally accepted?

Accepted from all areas in the North

4. What are the age limits of children for whom the home provides?

	Minimum	Maximum
Boys		
Girls	14 years	40

- 5.(a) Are there any qualifications or dis-qualifications for admission?

*Mental cases not accepted but all other girls needing protection are accepted.*

- (b) Is the decision to admit based on the information given by the applicant only? If not, what additional information is gathered?

*Not always - information is requested from local clergy, Doctor, Children's officer.*

- (c) Who collects and collates this information - a member of the staff; a member of the governing body; some other person?

*The Superior or Sister in charge.*

- (d) Who takes the decision to admit - the person in charge of the home; a local committee; or central office?

*The Superior of the house.*

- 6.(a) Where an application is not made on behalf of a welfare authority, is any contact made with the welfare authority -

(i) before admission?

*No.*

(ii) after admission?

*Sometimes.*

- (b) Where contact is made with the welfare authority, what is its nature and purpose?

*To seek information about the family in view of future placement.*

- (c) In what circumstances would you regard contact with the welfare authority inappropriate?

*Private cases and voluntary ones.*

- 7.(a) What is the total number of children who can be accommodated in the home?

*50*

- (b) How many were on the roll at 31st December, 1963 (including those who may have been temporarily absent on that date)?

Welfare Authority cases	Vol. cases	Total
1	39	40

- (c) Of those on the roll at 31st December, 1963, how many were:

(i) physically handicapped? ... *2* .....

(ii) educationally sub-normal? . ... *5* .....

and

attending special schools? .....  
not attending special schools? */* .....

(iii) ascertained special care? . ....  
and

attending day centres? .... */* .....

not attending day centres? */* .....

Welfare Authority cases	Vol. cases	If none at present would you normally admit them



- (iv) in how many of these cases does it appear that, since admission, the child's condition has -
- improved? . . . . .  
deteriorated? . . . . .
- (d) How many of those in (c) above, also show
- (i) serious behaviour problems? .....  
and  
(ii) attend child guidance clinics? ..  
(iii) do not attend child guidance clinics? ....
- (iv) in how many of these cases does it appear that, since admission, the child's condition has -
- improved?. . . . .  
deteriorated? . . . . .
- (e) How many children not included in (c)
- (i) above, show serious behaviour problems? ..  
and  
(ii) attend child guidance clinics? ..  
(iii) do not attend child guidance clinics? ....
- (iv) in how many of these cases does it appear that, since admission, the child's condition has -
- improved? . . . . .  
deteriorated? . . . . .

Welfare Authority cases	Vol. cases	If none at present would you normally admit them

(NOTE: The term "serious behaviour problems" includes aggressive tendencies, withdrawal, enuresis, encopressis, pilfering, persistent dishonesty, and malicious lying).

8. In respect of children who are not the responsibility of a welfare authority -
- (a) In how many cases has contact with parents or relatives been lost (i.e. no visits, no correspondence, no contributions towards maintenance)?
  - (b) At what intervals are individual cases considered with a view to establishing contact with parents or relatives?
  - (c) At what intervals is the prospect of returning such children to the care of family or friends explored?

2

Indefinite (to suit friends)

Yearly

9.(a) What is the total staff establishment? 25

(b) What are the categories of staff (including domestic and subsidiary employees, e.g. gardeners, etc.) at present in post?

Category	Number
Clergyman	1
Religious	11
House Mothers	3
Music	1
Elocution & dancing Teachers	2
Domestic	1
Gardiner & farm labourer	2
Van men	4
Boiler man	1

(c) What members of staff in post have completed any of the following recognised courses of training:-

State Regd. Nurse		State Enrolled Asst. Nurse		State Regd. Sick Children's Nurse		N.I. Res. Child Care Certificate		Nursery Nurses Exam. Bd. Certificate		Home Office Housemothers Certificate		Any other training	
Category	No.	Category	No.	Category	No.	Category	No.	Category	No.	Category	No.	Category	No.
	1											Domestic	1
												Music	1

(d) Number of staff included in (b) above who are recognised school teachers and are employed as such? 2

10.(a) Which schools do the children attend?

Name of School	Number of Children			
	Under 4	5-10	11-14	15+
Name of School	Number of non-residents who attend			

(b) Are any of the above schools in your own premises, and if so how many children not resident in the home attend?

11. What provision is made by the home for religious training?

Weekly instruction by the Chaplain and the Sister in charge, also talks by visiting Priests.

12. (a) Describe the interest that outside organisations take in the children in the home by way of entertainments and outings, and state whether such interest is regular or spasmodic?

*Occasionally Shows  
are given by local  
artists including Band  
Recital. Visiting friends  
also entertain the girls.*

- (b) How many children belong to organisations meeting outside the home, such as -

- (i) Boys' and Girls' Clubs ... ..  
(ii) Boy Scouts and Wolf Cubs . ... ..  
(iii) Boys' Brigade ... ..  
(iv) Girl Guides and Brownies . ... ..  
(v) Other organisations (please give particulars)? ... ..

- (c) What holidays away from the home do the children have in the year?

Organised by the Home	Arranged individually
<i>Day's outing at the sea</i>	<i>At parents request, &amp; when during the accomodation is summer suitable &amp; available</i>

- (d) Do the children have local friends of their own age visiting them, or do they go out to visit friends of their own age?
- (e) Indicate the kind of relationship that children without family contacts have with adults outside the home. To what extent do you feel these relationships are helpful?

*yes*

- (f) Have the children any other activity outside the home?

*Shopping Expeditions  
Outings to the Sea*

13. (a) Is there an adequate library in the home?

*yes*

- (b) Do the children make use of the public library or the local mobile library unit?

*No, but most desirable*

14. What opportunities are provided for quiet reading, homework, and/or hobbies?

*Ad Lib. outside ordinary schedule*

15. In what other ways do the children spend their leisure?

*Games, outdoor & indoor  
d. V.  
music, dancing & dramatics*

- 16.(a) In the case of children discharged other than to their parents or relatives, what provision is made for after-care by -

- (i) finding employment ... ..
- (ii) finding lodgings ... ..
- (iii) visiting ... ..
- (iv) supplementing earnings? ... ..

*Suitable employment is found for them when leaving & they return to visit us frequently*

- (b) Are these services provided by -

- (i) a full-time officer .. ...
- (ii) a part-time officer .. ...
- (iii) voluntary help? ... ..

*Sister in charge*

17. Are your financial resources sufficient to meet your ordinary day-to-day expenses, and to enable you to employ all the staff you think should be employed, and to have premises adequate for modern standards of child-care?

*Much more could be done to help in training the girls if our present circumstances permitted*

18. Are there any desirable developments which you are unable to undertake for reasons of financial difficulty, e.g.:-

- (a) improvement of premises and staffing;
- (b) employment of a field worker to investigate applications for admission and after-care work?

*We need badly a modern equipped kitchen & sewing room for the more efficient training of our girls very much desired & needed*

*Yes*

19. If your financial resources are insufficient, it would be of assistance to the Council if you would give information on the following:-

- (a) annual running costs of the home;
- (b) capital fund;

TC180

Ministry of Home Affairs  
 Dundonald House  
 Upper Newtownards Road  
BELFAST BT4 3SU

DPC

## GOOD SHEPHERD CONVENT AND MARIAN VALE HOME, NEWRY

I visited this Home on 22 June 1973 when I was received by Rev Mother <sup>SR 335</sup> who has succeeded Rev Mother [redacted] in overall charge of Good Shepherd and Marian Vale. Sister <sup>GSC 36</sup> is now in charge of the younger girls as Sister <sup>SR 295</sup> has been transferred to Belfast. Rev Mother obviously has great concern to provide, as suitably as possible, for the younger girls and knows them as individuals.

There were 29 women and girls in residence - this is a reduction in numbers, and the laundry in the premises now has a fair proportion of lay employees who come in daily from the outside community.

Five girls were in the 15-18 years range, one of whom was Special Care, while 4 were the responsibility of Welfare Authorities. One girl attends the Grammar School and another the Technical School in Newry. They are full-time students, but some other girls attend various classes in the Technical School.

The new unit referred to in the last report has been completed. It provides accommodation for 3 girls and has been attractively equipped in a modest way - an object lesson to the girls that great expense need not be incurred in making surroundings comfortable and home-like.

Although primarily intended to accommodate young girls who have been discharged from the Home and wish to return occasionally, it is also used by the younger group for short stays. From their conversation this appears to be a popular innovation in their routine and Rev Mother hopes that it may prove a way of inculcating an interest in good housekeeping and home-making.

Medical arrangements are unchanged and appear satisfactory. The health of the Home has been good and Rev Mother said that although some of the younger girls had been admitted from troubled areas in Belfast, where they had undergone traumatic experiences, they had settled down with surprisingly little trouble.

Sister Brede continues to be in charge of Marian Vale and is assisted by Sister Rosario, who is a State Certified Midwife.

There were 22 girls in residence, several of whom were under 18, and 5 were mothers with their very young babies. About half the girls were the responsibility of Welfare Authorities; Sister <sup>SR 295</sup> keeps in touch with the Unit and continues her casework support for any girl who has not a social work adviser.

This unit appeared to be functioning without special problems and to be providing suitably for the mothers and babies in residence.

h. J. Lee.

28th June 1973



Mr. McNamee 20/10 - Mr. O. Kane ✓  
 Cpy to Mr. Kirkpatrick

GOOD SHEPHERD CONVENT, NEWRY

Mr. Punter  
 Mrs. Smith 27/10/75  
 Mrs. Dunn 27/10/75  
 Mrs. Ryan  
 To see M. B.N.  
 27.10.75

I visited here at the request of Sister [redacted] SRN, SCM, who is in charge of Mariqnvale, the unit for unmarried mothers. They have a separate telephone number now, Newry 4597.

*1.2  
 Maryville  
 Hostel*

Mother [redacted] formerly known as [redacted] first showed me a new venture of theirs, a small refuge for battered wives and their children. This has been made from former store rooms, which sounds unpromising, but proved to have been extremely well done. It can provide for 2 families quite separately, except for a shared bathroom. Referrals are made by Police or Newry Branch of Samaritans and occasionally by Area Board. None are accepted without outside referral, though this seems to be more related to safety in present conditions, than from a social work point of view. There seems not to have been financial help from any quarter on this provision. It has been in use for a year. A wife and 2 children were occupying 1 part and were very comfortably housed. Reconciliation was a possibility in this case.

The Hostel provision for <sup>free</sup> visiting old girls continues in use, with current residents also having occasional use of it.

In Mariqnvale considerable adaptations are in progress to provide each mother or expectant mother with a cubicle of her own, each with wash hand basin and fitted wardrobe. No architect was involved but they themselves with their builder have worked out what appears to be a very satisfactory use of space. There has been some loss of bed spaces in the former dormitories, but this has been partly made up by using the former baby nursery. So few babies stay for any length of time that it is not now required.

A total of 18 mothers can now be housed. Fire Authority advice is being carried out including smoke stop doors. An extra exit has been provided over and above NIFA requirements. This seems likely to be quite a costly project, with plumbing and re-wiring as well as partitions. New beds and bedding are also being provided. For this project too the Area Board was asked to help but was presumably unable to do so. Mr Nelson has no knowledge of any approach.

The problems Sister [redacted] wished to discuss are financial, in common with other Voluntary Homes. Since January they have been receiving in total £15.50 for each girl, returning £1.50 pocket money. They have asked for a total of £20.00 per week, returning £2.00 pocket money but have not had a reply, although Sister had spoken to Mr Moore. I have since spoken to Mr Nelson about this. It appears the original letter was directed to Londonderry House and thereafter was sent from place to place. Mr Nelson has now sorted out, and agreed their £20.00 per week proposal. Mr Preston and Miss Cullen (now Mrs Conlon) will try to help them sort out their approaches to their financial problems. Mrs Conlon already is in close contact on adoption placements.

*(from Sister  
 Hill Hpt.  
 Newry 2  
 12/10/75)*

Sister [redacted] continues to have the full-time help of Sister [redacted] NNEB, but appeared to be feeling strain of being almost constantly on call day and night. For the rare occasions when Sister is not available the District Nurse would come in. The fact that mothers can sometimes be discharged with their babies on the same day the babies are born must add considerably to the work and worry. The emotional drain in dealing with a succession of distressed mothers is considerable and when financial worries are added it can no doubt seem overwhelming at times. I hope at a later stage to discuss with Mother [redacted] the possibility of some relief for Sister [redacted] perhaps some clerical help, some part-time nursing help and a degree of social worker attachment which Southern Area Board seems willing to provide.

Mr Kirkpatrick

To see please.

22/10/75

Seen R. B. Forest

24/10/75

R. B. Forest

15/10/75

Reference

Good Shepherd Convent Mary

7/2/76

11/3/76

I visited this Home <sup>on 10/2/76</sup> to deliver the forms for completion for the Information booklet. I discussed this with Sister **GSC 36** & Sister **GSC 36** in the absence of Mother **GSC 36** & Sister **GSC 36** who were attending a funeral.

Sister **GSC 36** explained how difficult it had become to give her group of girls & other women the freedom of outside contacts that she would wish. Attendance at evening classes has had to cease, but one group of nine girls & women are in great demand to provide music & dancing entertainment at other centres - singing, guitars, accordion, drums etc. They make regular visits to **GSC 36** Club for handicapped children & it was very evident in talking with several members of this group how much happiness they derive from the children's enjoyment.

They would not normally take in school-age girls because of travel difficulties, but have one fifteen year old in special circumstances.

Within their now rather circumscribed life, Sister **GSC 36** to offer such freedom as she can, of home visits & contacts, shopping, & choice of friends within

the Home.

Following their happy experience of a holiday home at Kellown where the centre of attraction was the open fire to sit around & chat & relax with a "cuppa" (no electricity, no T.V.) she & Mother [redacted] are trying to devise some means of providing a fireplace within the Home. They were anxious to show me the new & more automated equipment in the laundry & dry-cleaning. It still seems possible to find suitable occupation for persons of varying levels of ability & intelligence, working with ~~the~~ the men & not so big staff. Their business has been reduced by the refusal of some of their men to continue collection & delivery in some areas in present circumstances.

They have at present 30 girls of women, only five in the younger age-group.

[redacted] 12/2/76

- Work resumed at around 2pm or 2:30pm. There was another tea break at around 3:30pm and then work continued until around 6pm when the ladies had their evening meal.
- After evening meal there was recreation time. There were lessons (craft skills, cooking etc), and entertainment (singing and music classes). From 1956 onwards, there was a TV and many would watch this in the evenings.
- The Sisters and the ladies would have a snack e.g. cocoa or Ovaltine together with gingernut biscuits or a bun before going to bed.

#### **6.10. What the sleeping arrangements were for the children**

I understand there were four prefabricated buildings from 1946 until the mid-1960s. Two of those buildings comprised 2 dormitories, the other was a kitchen, and the final was a dining room/refectory. I have attached photographs of same to this Statement (see **Exhibit One**). In the mid-1960s, building works were carried out and a new residential wing was constructed. Following those construction works, there were 6 dormitories ranging in size from small to large. The small dormitories accommodated two beds, and the larger dormitories accommodated four beds. Each dormitory was divided into a separate, distinct space for each person containing her bed, wardrobe, vanity unit, chest of drawer, chair etc. This was to give each person some privacy and a sense of ownership over her own personal space. In addition, there was a refurbished bed-sit unit for any past resident who wished to come and stay for a short break and renew their friendship with the Sisters.

#### **6.11. How education was facilitated**

As no records remain, we have asked two Sisters who worked St Mary's Newry (one Sister was there during the period 1957 until 1971, and the second Sister was in Newry from the latter part of 1971 until March 1973), for their recollections of how education was facilitated in St Mary's. In the main, the teenagers who were brought to St Mary's Newry were 15 years and upwards. Not all were attending school prior to their placement with the Good Shepherd Sisters. From 1957 onwards, the school-going age was until 15 years old. The Sister who was resident in Newry in 1971-1973 recalls enrolling a 14½ year old teenager in St. Mary's College in Canal Street Newry in September 1972, and enrolling her older sister in the local Technical College for evening classes to enable her to sit her O-level English examination. Those two girls left St. Mary's Newry in June 1973.

have not been retained beyond the closure of these institutions (save for the Admissions Register, detailed above) but from enquiries made of Sisters who were in St Mary's Newry at the time, we understand that during the period of its operation (1946 until 1984) the local Superior of St Mary's Newry was in charge of the governance of the Convent and the services provided to those in the Sisters' care. The local Superior would have been supported by a "Sister in Charge". The following Sisters were the Local Leaders/Local Superiors in St Mary's Newry for the following dates:

- From 1945 to 1951 : Sr. SR 336
- From 1951 to 1957 : Sr. SR 338
- From 1957 to 1963 : Sr. SR 302
- From 1963 to 1967 : Sr. SR 337 |
- From 1967 to 1973 : Sr. SR 302
- From 1973 to 1979 : Sr. GSC 35
- From 1979 to 1981 : Sr. SR 293
- From 1982 until its closure in 1984: Sr. [REDACTED]

The following Sisters were the Sisters in Charge in St Mary's Newry for the following dates:

- From 1945 until 1957 :Sr. SR 339
- From 1957 until 1963 : Sr. GSC 24
- From 1963 until 1966 : Sr. SR 340
- From 1967 until 1973 : Sr GSC 35
- From 1973 until its closure : Sr. GSC 36

**5.4. Who did the congregation appoint as the voluntary visitor pursuant to Regulation 4(2) and how were those visitations conducted and recorded?**

The Congregation has been unable to locate the relevant records, and therefore presumes that no records were retained. From enquiries made of Sisters who were in St Mary's Newry at the time, they have been unable to recollect the name of the voluntary visitor, or how any visitations were conducted or recorded.

**5.5. Which of the records in the Schedule to the 1952 Regulations and Schedule 2 to the 1975 Regulations were kept, and what of these records are the congregation now in a position to produce to the Inquiry?**

From our searches, the congregation has been unable to locate the relevant records. It is believed that what records as were in existence may not have been retained after St Mary's ceased operations, as the purpose for which they were created ceased to exist.