

PRIVATE

the four of us in Australia. That was when I found out I had family in Ireland. I then went over to Ireland to meet her. I went back in 2010 with my wife to visit.

28. I never received a birth certificate as a child. I eventually obtained one through the Immigration Department in Perth when I was getting married.
29. I found out about the Redress Scheme after the deadline and I missed my opportunity to apply. I still see boys from Clontarf at meetings which I attend now and again.
30. My life in institutions has had a profound impact on me. I have always wondered what it would have been like to have had a family - a mother and father and brothers and sisters. I never got the chance to find out because I was sent to Australia. We were exported to Australia like little baby convicts. It is hard to understand why they did it. I know the theory – to populate Australia. I still cannot get over the fact that I was taken away from a family I never got the chance to know. I was treated like an object, taken from one place to another. I found it very hard to show affection to my children when they were young. I have improved as the years have gone on. I have a nightmare every night of my life. I relive my past and I am happy when daylight comes.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed _____

Dated _____

1 Monday, 1st September 2014

2 (11.00 am)

3 OPENING REMARKS BY CHAIRMAN

4 CHAIRMAN: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

5 I would like to welcome you to the opening day of
6 the public hearings of the second module of the Inquiry
7 into the Historical Institutional Abuse in Northern
8 Ireland. The unusual aspect of today's proceedings is
9 that this module will be devoted to examining the
10 experiences of fifty applicants to the Inquiry who live
11 in Australia. These are individuals who were in
12 institutions in Northern Ireland, from which they were
13 sent to Australia, almost all of whom went in the years
14 after the Second World War.

15 When we publicised our existence in Australia last
16 year, we received a very large number of applications.
17 As a result of what we were told by the Australian
18 applicants, we decided that these matters required
19 investigation, and so we sent teams from the Inquiry to
20 Australia for about a month at a time in the autumn of
21 last year and again earlier this year.

22 The teams were made up of members of our
23 Acknowledgment Forum, members of our legal staff and
24 witness support officers. They went to Australia for
25 two reasons: first of all, to enable those living in

1 Australia to have the same opportunity to describe their
2 experiences to the Acknowledgment Forum as applicants
3 who live in Northern Ireland and elsewhere; secondly, by
4 recording witness statements from them, our legal team
5 were able to gather a considerable amount of information
6 in relation to those matters which the Inquiry will now
7 investigate.

8 I want to express my thanks and those of my
9 colleagues to all those in Australia who have come
10 forward to assist the work of the Inquiry and who have
11 provided us with many documents which have helped us to
12 assemble the information which will be presented in
13 these public sessions in the coming weeks.

14 This information has revealed that approximately 130
15 young children from Northern Ireland, children who were
16 in the care of voluntary institutions or state bodies,
17 were sent to Australia as child migrants between 1922
18 and 1995, those being the years with which the Inquiry
19 is concerned.

20 We have set aside three weeks of our programme to
21 examine their evidence and during that time we will
22 receive evidence from most of the applicants who have
23 contacted us. I say most, because a small number wish
24 to speak to the Acknowledgment Forum only and did not
25 wish to take part in these public hearings. We expect

1 that all but three of the witnesses who will give
2 evidence will do so by Livelink from Australia, while
3 others who have made statements will have those
4 statements read out to the Inquiry.

5 Not everybody will be giving evidence in person by
6 Livelink, because it is clear from their statements that
7 many have little recollection of their time in Northern
8 Ireland or of the circumstances surrounding their
9 travelling to Australia. That is not surprising,
10 because some of those children who were selected were as
11 young as 5 years old and many were 8 or under.

12 Although it is common for courts in Northern Ireland
13 to receive information from witnesses from locations all
14 over the world by way of a live television link, the
15 Inquiry is unusual because so many witnesses will be
16 giving evidence in this way. Many of those witnesses
17 are retired, and it is more straightforward for them to
18 give evidence to us here in Northern Ireland from
19 a location in Australia, because the logistical and
20 other difficulties involved in moving the entire Inquiry
21 and our staff to Australia would be very great.

22 Modern technology enables us to speak directly to
23 individuals in Australia, and it is a sign of our
24 commitment to this part of our Inquiry that not only
25 have we sent members of the Inquiry to Australia and

1 made these arrangements for witnesses to give evidence
2 by way of Livelink, but we have arranged for today's
3 opening to be transmitted to Australia.

4 I also want to take this opportunity to express my
5 thanks and those of my colleagues to the authorities in
6 Australia who have made available Family Courthouses in
7 Perth and Melbourne so that our witnesses can give their
8 evidence from those locations. We are most grateful to
9 Chief Justice Thackray of the Family Court of Western
10 Australia and to his staff and to the staff of the
11 Family Court of Australia at Melbourne for their
12 invaluable help in making it possible for witnesses to
13 give evidence by Livelink.

14 I want to add our thanks to the staff of the Child
15 Migrants Trust and to the staff of Tuart Place, who have
16 been most helpful in facilitating contact between
17 a number of witnesses and the Inquiry.

18 As will become clear during this module, in their
19 witness statements many of those who will give evidence
20 describe their experiences after they arrived in
21 Australia in shocking terms, setting out in graphic
22 detail their descriptions of the severe hardships and
23 grave sexual and physical violence to which they say
24 they were subjected as children in the institutions to
25 which they were sent in Australia.

1 However, I have to emphasise that this Inquiry is
2 limited to what happened to children in institutions in
3 Northern Ireland. By the Act of the Northern Ireland
4 Assembly under which we operate and our terms of
5 reference this Inquiry does not have the power to
6 investigate what happened to those child migrants in
7 those Australian institutions.

8 This does not mean that their accounts of their
9 experiences in Australia will be swept under the carpet.
10 I want to assure them that that will not be the case.
11 Their evidence will be given in public either in person
12 or through their statements, and all of the evidence
13 will be published on our Inquiry website. Those who
14 wish to familiarise themselves with these accounts will
15 be able to do so, whether they live in Australia or
16 elsewhere.

17 In addition, at the conclusion of this module
18 arrangements will be made to furnish these statements to
19 the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to
20 Child Sexual Abuse, which is presently carrying on its
21 work in Australia. That will ensure that these matters
22 are drawn to its attention, and I urge any of the
23 applicants to this Inquiry, and indeed anyone who has
24 had a similar experience, who may be following the work
25 of this Inquiry, to contact the Royal Commission if they

1 have not already done so.

2 I want to thank the Royal Commission for the
3 assistance they are giving to this module of our
4 Inquiry. They have made available several of their
5 staff to support our witnesses as they give their
6 evidence in Perth and in Melbourne. This means that we
7 are able to provide the same types of support and
8 counselling to those witnesses as we provide to
9 witnesses when they give their evidence here in Northern
10 Ireland, and we are extremely grateful to the Royal
11 Commission for this invaluable help.

12 In a few moments I will invite Miss Christine Smith,
13 QC, who is the Senior Counsel to the Inquiry, to outline
14 the background to child migration to Australia from the
15 United Kingdom in general and from Northern Ireland in
16 particular, but before she does that there is one other
17 matter that I wish to mention at this stage.

18 We have adopted a policy of giving anonymity to
19 witnesses who are applicants to the Inquiry, because we
20 know that many of those who speak to us have never
21 described their experiences in public or told their
22 closest relations what happened to them. We know that
23 describing their experiences in public is not easy for
24 them and can involve considerable stress and upset. To
25 help make the process as stress-free as possible we have

1 given everyone a designation by which they will be
2 referred in documents published by the Inquiry. So far
3 some individuals who have already given evidence in
4 Northern Ireland have chosen to waive their anonymity
5 and that is entirely for them to decide.

6 We are treating the Australian applicants in exactly
7 the same way and so we have given them anonymity as
8 well. Some of them may wish to waive their anonymity;
9 others may not wish their names to be given in public.

10 As I have explained, our powers only extend to
11 Northern Ireland and so we cannot enforce in Australia
12 or anywhere else the right to anonymity in Australia of
13 those Australian applicants who wish to remain
14 anonymous. However, I appeal to the media in Australia
15 and anywhere else outside Northern Ireland not to add to
16 the distress that taking part in this process will
17 inevitably inflict on those witnesses by publishing
18 their names and to respect the desire of those who wish
19 to remain anonymous.

20 Ms Smith.

21 OPENING REMARKS BY COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

22 MS SMITH: Good morning, Chairman, Panel Members, ladies and
23 gentlemen.

24 Before commencing my opening remarks I should like
25 to express thanks to those members of the Inquiry staff,



Tuart Place

Growing Strong Together

24 High St., Fremantle WA 6160 Ph: 08 6140 2380 Freecall: 1800 619 795
Fax: 08 9382 4114 admin@tuartplace.org www.tuartplace.org



9th August, 2013

Sir Anthony Hart
Chairman
Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry
P O Box 2080
BELFAST,
NORTHERN IRELAND
BT1 9QA

Dear Sir Anthony,

Please find attached a Report on the *Impacts and outcomes of child migration experienced by former child migrants from Northern Ireland*

This Report was prepared by Tuart Place to provide background information relevant to applications submitted to the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry by former child migrants from Northern Ireland.

Each former child migrant in contact with your Inquiry will have an individual account of how they were affected by their time in Northern Irish institutions and their migration to Australia, however some impacts of child migration are common to the entire group.

This Report focuses on those impacts and outcomes that were universal, or were experienced by the very great majority of child migrants.

We hope the Report will assist in informing the Inquiry about the particular circumstances of children sent to Australia from Northern Ireland under the UK child migration schemes.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Philippa White
Director, Tuart Place

Impacts and outcomes of child migration experienced by former child migrants from Northern Ireland: A Report by Tuart Place

Introduction

This Report examines the impacts of child migration on former child migrants from Northern Ireland, and identifies common outcomes experienced by this group. Information was gathered from a series of reports and publications, and from the personal statements of former child migrants, documented by Tuart Place. The first section of the Report outlines the legislative basis for child migration, provides statistical data, and refers to three official reports on child migration published in the 1940s and 50s. These reports provide a context for the policies and practices of child migration and reveal the attitudes to child welfare and contemporary professional knowledge at that time.

The second section of the Report describes the treatment of child migrants in Australia and identifies a failure in the duty of care exercised by authorities involved in child migration. Specific harms experienced by the great majority of child migrants, such as lack of access to personal information and records, loss of connection to family and local communities, loss of personal and national identity, loss of cultural heritage, and loss of connection to country of origin are discussed in greater detail.

The Report concludes with an outline of previous responses and reparations offered to people harmed by the experience of child migration, and a summary of key issues identified in the Report.

Legislative basis for child migration

The legislative basis for child migration was provided by the *Empire Settlement Act 1922 (UK)*, which was reactivated after WWII, when the British Government, in partnership with the Australian Government, entered into agreements with each of the sending agencies. Sending agencies such as the Sisters of Nazareth, the Christian Brothers and Barnardos were responsible for the administration of the schemes. They were required to provide information to the UK Secretary of State for his authorisation to migrate children. However, as stated in the Australian Senate's report on child migration, the British Government effectively 'out-sourced' the task of child migration to the charities and religious organisations, noting that: "it appears that in practice [the sending agencies] dealt with all decision-making processes and procedures in relation to the selection of children, consents and migration arrangements"¹.

Statistical data

- Of the 1,355 children sent to Australia from the UK under post-WWII Catholic migration schemes, 1,096 were received by orphanages in Western Australia.
- Of these, 310 children were Maltese, 303 of whom were sent to WA.
- Of the 793 Catholic child migrants sent to Australia, an estimated 112 were sent from Northern Ireland, and were placed in orphanages formerly operated by the Christian Brothers and the Sisters of Mercy and Nazareth in Western Australia.

These 112 children were selected for migration by local authorities in Northern Ireland and were sent to Australia via England. Typically, children left Belfast by ferry, then travelled to London by train. All departures for Australia took place from the port of Southampton.

¹ Senate Community Affairs References Committee (2001). *Lost Innocents: Righting the Record*, Report on Child Migration, Commonwealth of Australia, August 2001. p.26.

The whereabouts of all 112 former child migrants from Northern Ireland is not known. Of the 69 known to Tuart Place, six are deceased; three live overseas; and five live interstate (four in Victoria and one in Queensland).

Motivations underpinning child migration policy

The motivation for choices made by governments, religious orders, and local authorities involved in sending children to Australia is the subject of analysis in published reports and other literature, and there is widespread consensus that motives were 'mixed'². It is well recognised that child migration policy was underpinned by a genuine philanthropic desire to rescue children from destitution and neglect and send them to a better life in the Colonies"³. However, child migration was also seen to be of economic benefit to those responsible for sending children and to the countries receiving them, and to be driven by motives other than the best interests of the child.

The Report of the *Lost Innocents* Senate Inquiry states that:

[D]uring and immediately after World War II there was a concerted effort within Australia to boost immigration to Australia of preferably British migrants, including child migrants. Dr Constantine noted, however, that in the United Kingdom, the studied effects of wartime evacuation and family separation confirmed the more widely publicised view in official and professional circles of the importance of stable child-parent relationships for the psychological well-being of children. These conclusions led to a questioning of the appropriateness of child migration as a child care practice.⁴

The Curtis, Moss, and Ross Reports

In 1945 the United Kingdom Government appointed the Care of Children Committee (the Curtis Committee) to report on the care of children. The Committee identified the conventional natural family as the unit most conducive to the well-being of children. The emphasis they placed on the psychological and not just the physical needs of children signalled an important shift in professional child care thinking. In its conclusions, the Curtis Committee emphasised that local authorities and voluntary societies caring for children 'deprived of a normal home life' should attempt to replicate the 'natural family' as far as possible in child care practice.

The Committee concluded that the emigration of children in care should remain open for those with 'an unfortunate background' and who 'express a desire for it', with the important caveat that the treatment of children sent overseas should not be less satisfactory than the care which they should receive in the United Kingdom (emphasis not in original)⁵.

Two major investigations into the situation of child migrants were conducted by British government officials in the 1950s. These led to the publication of two reports – the Moss Report in 1953 based on John Moss's visit in 1951-52; and the Ross Report in 1956 based on a UK official fact finding mission.

While the Moss Report commented favourably on several Australian institutions, as Dr Stephen Constantine of Lancaster University points out, the necessary reforms that John Moss sought to encourage were still guided by principles outlined in the Curtis Report⁶. Assessing some institutions, Moss was critical of their accommodation and facilities and of their isolation, expressed concern about single sex establishments, and drew attention to a lack of trained staff. He was keen to see more effort to encourage integration of children with the wider community and wanted to see more use of employment and vocational guidance services. He also urged the societies to abandon

² For detailed analysis, see <http://www.findandconnect.gov.au/wa/biogs/WE00473b.htm>. Accessed 8-8-13.

³ House of Commons. Op.cit. p.viii

⁴ *Lost Innocents*, Op.cit. p.49

⁵ *Lost Innocents*, Op.cit. p.39

⁶ *Lost Innocents*, Op.cit. p.41

barrack-like institutions in favour of cottage homes, boarding-out of more children, or the promotion of adoption as an option.

The Ross Report also criticised the nature of institutional care in Australia. The report noted that not all staff in these institutions had sufficient training, and was critical of the lack of educational and employment opportunities made available to the children. The larger establishments lacked a 'homely atmosphere', had too little privacy, and separated children by age and gender. The report noted that the separation of siblings indicated a failure to grasp the importance of family-focussed child care. The report also noted that some boys and girls were being exploited as cheap labour.

Contemporary attitudes to child welfare

The findings of the Curtis Committee, and the Moss and Ross reports were not congruent with the standards and arrangements for out-of-home care of child migrants sent to Australia in the 1940s and 50s. The 'best practice' model outlined by Curtis included the following guidelines:

- Support children with their natural parent(s) if possible, and failing that to secure adoption or boarding-out of children with foster parents.
- Where children were to be retained in institutional care, the preferred 'institution' was to be a small group of children, looked after by a married couple, living in 'scattered homes', that is, ordinary houses indistinguishable from others in the neighbourhood.
- If, as a less desirable option, distinctive institutions were to be operated, these should allow children in small groups of different ages and both sexes to be looked after by a trained house 'mother' in purpose built 'cottage homes'.
- Far less acceptable were large 'barrack' institutions, especially those in which children slept in dormitories and dined in large groups. It was also seen as important that children should not be gathered into single-sex institutions.
- Siblings should not be separated.
- Contact with other relatives and friends should be retained.
- Conventional socialisation should occur by arranging for children, if possible, to attend normal state schools and to be involved in local sports and club activities⁷.

Despite the UK Government's acceptance of Curtis Report recommendations in March 1947, child migration to Australia continued until 1965.

Child migration from Northern Ireland

As mentioned above, only 69 of the 112 former child migrants sent to Australia from Northern Ireland have ever had contact with this agency or its forerunners. Of these, 55 are men and 14 are women. The years of arrival of the 69 former child migrants from Northern Ireland recorded on the Tuart Place database are identified in the table below:

Year of arrival	No of Children
1938/39	3
1947	32
1950	1
1952	1
1953	16
1954	1
1956	1
1957	9
1958	1

⁷ Ibid.

As this table shows, the majority of child migrants from Northern Ireland known to this agency were sent to Australia in 1947, with further peaks in 1953 and 1957. These children were sent to conditions that constituted the opposite of the 'best practice' model specified in the 1945 Curtis Report. As Dr Stephen Constantine concludes: it was 'abundantly clear' that the particular practice of child migration after 1945 was considered by most child care professionals in Britain as at best unnecessary and at worst – unless the Curtis Committee caveat was followed – damaging. Dr Constantine added that the politics of child care ensured that the caveat was dishonoured⁸.

Treatment of child migrants in Australia

Unfortunately, history has revealed that a large proportion of child migrants were not well cared for, and suffered serious disadvantages related to their involuntary migration to Australia. In 1996, the Western Australian Select Committee's investigation of child migration identified significant levels of abuse in Catholic orphanages formerly operated in WA. A number of other reports identify a disturbing level and extent of abuse and assault inflicted on many child migrants, with particular attention given to sexual abuse. Coldrey points out that: "Severity, violence, physical abuse, sexual abuse were on a continuum. The more severe the regimen the more likely the prevalence of sexual abuse"⁹.

In 1998 the UK House of Commons Health Committee reported that children sent to Australia "were placed in large, often isolated, institutions and were often subjected to harsh, sometimes intentionally brutal, regimes of work and discipline, unmodified by any real nurturing or encouragement. The institutions were inadequately supervised, monitored and inspected"¹⁰.

Types of abuse experienced by child migrants

In addition to the more well-known forms of abuse mentioned above, the *Lost innocents* inquiry found that the following forms of abuse were also widespread:

- "Depersonalisation - many former child migrants made reference to their becoming totally depersonalised in their childhood. Their names were changed, they were lied to about the existence of their parents, possessions were removed, gifts and letters were not passed on, and they were referred to by number and not by name. A lifetime lack of self-esteem resulted from such actions leaving a yearning for identity and connection.
- Psychological abuse – was manifested through deliberate, sustained cruelty and emotional deprivation. Constant reference was made to the lack of individualised care and attention, with disparaging and insulting comments about identity being common. Psychological trauma evidenced itself most frequently in high incidences of bed-wetting. Children from several, geographically separated institutions referred to the consequences of bed-wetting in terms of embarrassment, physical beatings and public humiliation in front of their child peers. Bed-wetting flashbacks have plagued mature adults. Many child migrants spoke about the feeling of exile and isolation and the yearning for close contact with a protective, human figure.
- Work practices – daily chores, especially in rural institutions, were so exhausting or time-consuming that children were too tired or had insufficient time for education. Some children were forced to undertake arduous and unsafe manual labour as part of construction work at

⁸ *Lost Innocents*, Op.cit. p.41

⁹ Coldrey, BM, (2000). *Caring and Corruption: Church Orphanages and Industrial Schools*, Studies, Vol 89, No.353, Spring 2000, p.9.

¹⁰ House of Commons, Great Britain, Select Committee on Health, *The welfare of former British child migrants*, London, 30 July 1998, Volume I - Report HC 755-I, Background, viewed 30 October 2009, <http://www.parliament.the-stationery-office.co.uk/pa/cm199798/cmselect/cmhealth/755/75504.htm>

the institution. Many submitted that wages earned when they were placed in work never materialised and they are still deeply aggrieved.

- Education – educational standards were so limited or virtually non-existent that some child migrants have progressed through life with minimal literacy skills.
- This educational deprivation has led to lifetime effects, especially for employment prospects and adopting itinerant job habits.
- Food and clothing – children were inappropriately clothed for the extreme Australian conditions, often cold, often lacking footwear. Children were not provided with adequate protective clothing to undertake the physical labour they were expected to perform. In many institutions there was a common experience of being constantly hungry and of being aware the nuns and brothers in charge of them always had better quality food. Scavenging and stealing food was reported as a common practice at some institutions.
- After-care – the provision of after-care services was often very poor. Constant reference was made to leaving an institution and being dumped into the alien environment of an unknown community without any experience of that community; about having poor social skills, limited life skills apart from a survival instinct, and little in the way of material and financial resources”¹¹.

Outcomes of child migration

A series of investigations and reports published over the last thirty years identify a range of negative outcomes for people sent to Australia under the child migration schemes. These outcomes are the sequelae of the abuse and neglect suffered by many child migrants in Australian orphanages, in addition to the specific set of harms associated with child migration. It did not help that the UK government provided a subsistence allowance only until the child migrant turned 14, which increased the number of children who were discharged from Australian orphanages with little or no preparation for life on the outside. Some of the key problems identified by former child migrants are summarised below.

Access to information and records

A major source of frustration and distress for many former child migrants is the lack of adequate documentation and personal records.

Children were sent to Western Australia from Northern Ireland and other parts of the UK accompanied by only two documents - the Child Migration Medical Examination Report, and the ‘L.E.M. 3’ Child Migration form. These two-page documents were completed by the Catholic authority responsible for sending the child, and were supposed to include signed consent from the child’s parent(s) or guardian. In many instances, the Medical Examination form and the LEM3 are incomplete, and lack the basic information they were designed to collect.

Copies of the two child migration selection documents were retained by the UK and Australian Immigration Departments. Child migrants generally had no access to their child migration forms or any other personal documents relating to their identity or family history. Many encountered problems when they left an orphanage and found they needed proof of identity, such as a birth certificate, and had great difficulty in obtaining even the most basic personal documentation.

Family medical histories have been largely inaccessible by former child migrants, a considerable proportion of whom have compromised physical health, and therefore have a particular need for this information. The lack of adequate documentation has denied child migrants access to

¹¹ *Lost Innocents*, Op.cit. p.73

information about the medical histories of their families of origin, and other important documents, such as vaccination records.

The false or misleading information provided to child migrants, who were often told they were orphans, has had devastating impacts:

Firstly, because they were told they had no family or that the families did not care for them, they did not try and reunite with them until many years later; secondly, some agencies for many decades clung to the view that child migrants were better off not knowing their backgrounds and therefore offered little or no assistance to former child migrants seeking records, again causing many to give up their search in frustration.¹²

Poor record-keeping practices by the sending agencies often resulted in children arriving in Australia with inaccurate information about their personal identity – including their names and dates of birth. Unless one has experienced it, it is hard to imagine the damage to identity caused by finding out that your birthdate is incorrect, or that the name you used throughout childhood was not really yours.

Records were routinely destroyed by the sending agencies, adding further frustration and distress when former child migrants have sought to find information relating to their personal identity.

There is considerable evidence that sending agencies also provided false information to families looking for children that had been sent to Australia. M's experience is typical of this:

M located her full birth certificate when she was in her 40s and needed a passport for her first overseas trip. It was at this time that M discovered the name of her mother, and felt that she had an identity.

M immediately set about tracing her family in Northern Ireland, only to be informed that her mother had died the year before.

When M travelled to Belfast she was told by an aunt that the family had tried to find her for many years but had been told by the Sisters at Nazareth House that M had been adopted.

Loss of national identity and cultural heritage

Some of the major implications of removing children from their culture and place of birth are identified in the 1997 *Bringing them Home* report, the Australian Human Rights Commission's report on the separation of Indigenous children from their families. The report reveals the shattering effects of the forcible removal policies in terms of the broken ties to family, community and country, diminished physical and mental health as a result of psychological abuse, physical and sexual abuse, the loss of language, culture and connection to traditional land, the loss of parenting skills and the enormous distress of many of its victims today. It also revealed the intergenerational impact and damaging effects that these forced child removals continue to have on the families and communities from which those children were taken¹³.

Some strikingly similar outcomes are described by people who were removed from Northern Ireland and other parts of the UK and sent as child migrants to Australia. The harm arising from this kind of removal is powerfully conveyed in evidence provided by a former child migrant to the British House of Commons Health Committee's inquiry:

For the vast majority of former child migrants the most often asked question is 'Who am I?' Most of us were born in the British Isles of British parents. Our culture, heritage and traditions are British. Our nationality, our rights and privileges were our inheritance. Unable to make a reasoned decision we

¹² *Lost Innocents*, Op.cit. p.169

¹³ Australian Human Rights Commission (1997). *Bringing them Home: Report of the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families*, April 1997.
<http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/special/rsjproject/rsjlibrary/hreoc/stolen/>

were transported twenty thousand kilometres to the other side of the world. Our crime for the most part was that we were the children of broken relationships. Our average age was eight years and nine months. In this one act, we were stripped of our parents and our brothers and sisters. We were stripped of our grandparents and extended families. We were stripped of nationality, culture and birthright. Many of us were stripped of our family name and even our birth date. We were stripped of our person hood, human rights and our dignity. We were referred to as migrant boy number 'so and so' or migrant girl number 'so and so'. And so we arrived, strangers in a strange land, lost and with no way back¹⁴.

The testimony of this former child migrant also highlights the issue of consent. In some instances, children were asked if they wanted to go to Australia “where they would ride to school on horses, and eat oranges picked straight from the tree”. The ‘consent’ of those children who agreed to go cannot be viewed as a legitimate, given that the children were not of legal age, and their consent was not ‘informed’. Research on the abovementioned child migration selection forms conducted by the Catholic Child Welfare Council (UK) in the 1990s found that, of 1149 child migrants, consent by birth parent(s) was given to the migration of children in only 229 instances (20%). In 920 (80%) of instances it is unknown whether or not parental consent was given¹⁵.

Many former child migrants have experienced confusion and distress regarding their national identity and a common assumption was that they were Australian citizens. J’s story is characteristic of many:

When J turned 18 he registered on the electoral roll, and voted in each election until he turned 22, when he was informed by his landlady that he wasn’t legally allowed to vote. J had believed that as a child migrant he automatically became an Australian citizen. At the time of the discovery, J felt shocked and embarrassed, and he later gained a sense of outrage that no one had ever thought to inform him of these things, or to provide him with basic identification and documentation¹⁶.

Other former child migrants recount similar experiences, and it was not uncommon for young men to be called up and complete National Service without becoming aware they were not citizens of Australia.

Loss of connection to family

Perhaps one of the most devastating outcomes for most child migrants has been the loss of connection with their families of origin, and this problem was among the first to be formally recognised by governments and other agencies. A major aim of the Select Committee into Child Migration appointed by the Western Australian Legislative Assembly in 1996 was to inquire into and report on the action necessary to assist former child migrants in the tracing of their family history and research, the tracing of relatives and reunification with them.

As mentioned above, many child migrants were told they were ‘war orphans’, leading to long delays in seeking family members. Countless former child migrants only began to search for family in the late 1980s after watching *The Leaving of Liverpool*, a televised program about work by the Child Migrants Trust to uncover the child migration scandal. L’s story is typical in this regard:

“Because information about my family was withheld from me, I did not try to find my family until I was 53. After watching a TV program I contacted the Child Migrants Trust who found out my mother was very much alive. Because of the amount of time elapsed my mother did not want to have a relationship with me or get to know my children – her grandchildren”. Like many relinquishing

¹⁴ House of Commons, Op.cit. p.xx

¹⁵ *Lost Innocents*, Op.cit. p.272

¹⁶ Unpublished statement, 2008.

mothers who had lived for decades with the secret of children born out of wedlock, L's mother felt unable to welcome him into her family, which was extremely hurtful and disappointing for L. L believes that if family information had not been withheld from him he would have searched for his mother earlier, and would have stood a much greater chance of being accepted into her life. He may also have been able to meet his grandparents, who were alive until the mid-1970s. L continues to suffer a deep sense of grief for the loss of opportunity to establish a relationship with his family of origin¹⁷.

Failure to implement proper duty of care

The lack of follow-up care by sending agencies across the UK, and their failure to monitor the well-being of children sent to Australia is a prominent theme in published literature. The House of Commons Health Committee's 1998 report states that: "A recurrent feature of child migration schemes seems to have been lack of effective monitoring of the children's welfare by either the British Government or the sending agencies. The post-War schemes, particularly to Australia, were excessively permissive. British Government supervision appears to have been non-existent..."¹⁸

The Health Committee further reported that:

In our visits we heard of very few local authorities as having been responsible for any of the child migrants we met. This bears out a statement in the Moss Report written in 1952 attached to the DoH memorandum: "local authorities have taken very little interest in the scheme ... There seems to be a feeling in some quarters that it is wrong to send a child, for whom a local authority is responsible, some 10,000 or 12,000 miles away."...[W]e consider the local authorities were correct. This also strongly suggests that it is inadequate to describe the practice of child migration as simply due to "a different social climate" as the DoH memorandum does¹⁹.

Following their visit to Australia in 1997, members of the Health Committee described being "appalled at the apparent lack of proper monitoring and inspection" in the large Australian institutions. Committee members noted that "the prime responsibility for the neglect of checking procedures rests with the state governments concerned. But the sending agencies might have been expected to have investigated more thoroughly the conditions in which children were living". There was clearly a breach of guardianship duties in sending the children in the way they were sent and in not monitoring their health and welfare sufficiently'. Furthermore, 'there was a failure to care for them to contemporary standards'.²⁰

The reports and research on child migration are consistent in their findings in this area – ie that abuse and neglect of child migrants was primarily the responsibility of Australian authorities, however, the agencies and statutory authorities complicit in sending children to Australia failed to implement a proper duty of care in regard to their welfare. As Coldrey observes: "Over the thirty years that child migration was planned and operated by Catholic Agencies in Britain and Australia, no British child care leader visited Australia to inspect the Catholic institutions"²¹.

Responses and reparations

The hardships and harm experienced by former child migrants have been formally acknowledged by various Commonwealth and State Governments and religious congregations previously involved in child migration. In 1997 the British House of Commons Health Committee accepted that responsibility for matters relating to the welfare of former British child migrants rested with the

¹⁷ Unpublished statement, 2008.

¹⁸ House of Commons. Op.cit. p.x

¹⁹ House of Commons. Op.cit. p.ix

²⁰ House of Commons. Op.cit. p.xv

²¹ Coldrey, B. (1993) *The Scheme: The Christian Brothers and Childcare in Western Australia*, Argyle-Pacific Publishing, Singapore. p.139.

British Department of Health and commenced an inquiry into child migration. The House of Commons Health Committee, chaired by David Hinchcliffe MP, took evidence in Australia in June 1998. The Committee tabled its report: *The welfare of former British child migrants*, in July 1998.²²

In December 1998 the British Health Secretary Frank Dobson accepted the report's main recommendations. He accepted the policy had been misguided and promised assistance to former child migrants by setting up a central database of information in the UK to help former child migrants trace their records and a Support Fund of 1 million pounds over three years to help pay for family reunions.

In January 2000 the Australian Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs, Phillip Ruddock, tabled the Australian Government response to the British Government response to the recommendations of the British House of Commons Health Committee's report of its inquiry into the welfare of former British child migrants²³. The Australian Government agreed to cooperate with the British Government in establishing a central database to help former child migrants trace their families.

In June 2000 the Australian Senate referred the issue of child migration to the Senate Community Affairs References Committee for investigation and report. In August 2001 the committee published its report, *Lost Innocents: Righting the record report on child migration*. The Committee noted that the two dominant concerns of child migrant witnesses were their loss of identity and their need to have the opportunity to tell their story, be heard and believed. It concluded that the Committee's inquiry clearly showed that issues associated with child migration to Australia had not been extensively covered and deserved the thorough Australia-wide attention the Senate inquiry was able to deliver. The report made 33 recommendations, including continued funding to assist reunions, tracing and access to records; that all state and territory governments undertake inquiries into the abuse of children in institutions; and that the Commonwealth and state governments all issue formal statements expressing deep sorrow and regret for the psychological, social and economic harm caused to the children²⁴.

In November 2009 the Australian Government delivered a formal apology to the 'Forgotten Australians' and former child migrants at a remembrance event in Canberra, ACT. A number of State Governments in Australia have also offered apologies to former child migrants. In August 1998, the Western Australian Government apologised to former British child migrants who suffered sexual, physical and emotional abuse in Western Australian orphanages and institutions. The parliamentary motion was: *That this House apologise to the former child migrants on behalf of all Western Australians for the past policies that led to their forced migration and the subsequent maltreatment so many experienced and express deep regret at the hurt and distress that this caused*. In April 2005 the Western Australian Government issued a broader apology to people who were harmed in institutional care.

²² Cited in Dow, C. & Phillips, J. (2009). *'Forgotten Australians' and 'Lost Innocents': Child migrants and children in institutional care in Australia*, Social Policy Section, Parliament of Australia, 11-11-2009, accessed 4-8-13.

http://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Library/pubs/BN/0910/ChildMigrants#_Toc245702529

²³ For details see the Minister's press release, P Ruddock (Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs) Child migrant inquiry Minister tables Australian response, media release, Parliament House, Canberra, 27 January 2000, viewed 4 August 2009, <http://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/search/display/display.w3p;query=Id%3A%22media%2Fpressrel%2FVPP06%22>

²⁴ *Lost Innocents*, Op.cit.

Forms of reparation and redress

Some of the abovementioned apologies have been accompanied by tangible gestures of regret, such as additional services for child migrants, financial reparation, and travel funds. The British Government's apology to former child migrants in 2010 was followed by a travel fund, still in operation, which is focussed on family restoration. The decision to implement another travel scheme has been widely criticised by former child migrants because many were unable to make use of the fund, either because they have never been able to locate any family in the UK; they are too ill or otherwise unable to take the long flight to the UK; or they have not made a successful connection with any family members in the UK. For this cohort, the 'take it or leave it' offer of funded travel has added insult to injury, and many have expressed a firm preference for financial reparation, which is viewed as a more respectful option.

This view has also been expressed by former child migrants who accessed the travel fund because it was 'all that was offered'. This group points out that they have already travelled under the various travel funds previously offered by religious congregations and the Australian Government, and would have preferred an offer of financial reparation, which would have allowed them greater self-determination and would have represented a more respectful option than yet another travel fund.

Conclusion

The Tuart Place Report on the impacts of child migration reveals a range of harms and negative outcomes of child migration experienced by former child migrants from Northern Ireland and other parts of the UK.

The Report demonstrates that unaccompanied children were still being shipped from Northern Ireland to Australia for many years after this practice was recognised as harmful. The 'best practice' model of child care outlined in the 1945 Curtis Report recommended that children should be accommodated within small, mixed-sex 'family-style' groups; sibling connections should be maintained; and contact with other relatives, friends and local communities should be facilitated. None of these conditions were met by the Catholic receiving agencies in Australia.

Children sent to Australia had almost no chance of experiencing the kind of family life that was recognised as best practice in the UK, and migrant children were destined to spend their childhoods in regimented, barrack-style accommodation, separated from siblings, and with little or no contact with children (or adults) of the opposite sex.

Had these children remained in Northern Ireland they may have had opportunities to establish links with extended family or to be fostered or adopted, but in Australia they had no chance. As stated in the *Lost Innocents* report: "Neither private fostering nor adoption of child migrants was favoured, partly for legal reasons as the death of the parents of refugee children might be impossible to determine"²⁵. Private adoption of child migrants was very rare, and none of the 69 child migrants from Northern Ireland known to this agency were adopted by families in Australia. Some child migrants spent time with local 'holiday families', however, they were always returned to the orphanage once the holiday was over.

While some former child migrants identify various benefits to living in Australia, the negatives inevitably out-weigh the positives, primarily because of the way in which children were selected and sent away from their country of birth. There is substantial evidence that the great majority of child migrants have experienced a loss of national and personal identity as a direct result of their

²⁵ *Lost Innocents*. Op.cit. p.25

migration. Many, many former child migrants describe feeling that they do not really 'belong' anywhere – not in Australia, and not in their country of origin.

Some of the problems encountered by child migrants could have been avoided if local authorities and sending agencies in Northern Ireland had kept accurate information and been open and honest in sharing it with those formerly in their care. However, vital documents were routinely destroyed and, in many cases, information that could have helped reconnect people and reunite families was deliberately withheld.

The lack of information available to child migrants had devastating effects. Countless child migrants missed out on meeting their mothers because they died before they could be found. Family reunifications have also been fraught with problems, and the success rate among those lucky enough to find each other has been dismally low. How do you establish a meaningful connection with a person you have met once or twice who lives 15,000 kilometres away? There may be a biological connection but you have grown up in different cultures and have little in common. There have been some wonderful exceptions, but sadly they are rare, and even these 'lucky' families still face the tyranny of distance – a major obstacle to maintaining an ongoing family connection. Options for staying in touch have often been further restricted by impaired literacy skills and/or lack of access to communication technology such as email and Skype.

It is clear that the abuse and neglect experienced by child migrants in Australia was primarily the responsibility of local authorities and individuals, however, the agencies and statutory authorities complicit in sending children to Australia failed to implement a proper duty of care in regard to their welfare, and there was clearly a breach of guardianship duties.

Had these children remained in Northern Ireland they may well have suffered the types of abuse that have been reported by ex-residents of Northern Ireland's orphanages, however they would not have experienced the additional range of harms specific to child migration.

The evidence cited in this Report indicates that there was a long-standing and pervasive failure in the duty of care exercised by authorities in Northern Ireland and other parts of the UK to ensure that the children in their care were protected. Conditions in Northern Ireland's Catholic orphanages may not have been ideal, but the solution was not to send vulnerable children to the other side of the world.

1 I have spoken this morning about children and young
2 people, and it's clear from the documentation that we
3 have examined, the Inquiry has examined, there was
4 a wide age range of children who were migrated from
5 Northern Ireland in particular, some as young as 5, some
6 right up to the age of about 17, and obviously there
7 were different schemes within those age groups
8 operating. I just wondered if you wished to make --
9 when I was speaking to you earlier, you made a comment
10 about the distinction between the age groupings, and if
11 you wanted to expand upon that at this point?

12 **A. Lovely. Yes. I called it the child and juvenile**
13 **schemes, because the distinction being that a juvenile**
14 **was anyone over the age of 14, because at the time 14**
15 **was an acceptable age to leave school and get a job. So**
16 **you could have been on the work force from the age of**
17 **14. These were mainly -- the juveniles I was looking at**
18 **were mainly people who chose of their own volition to**
19 **go. They made -- they approached the various**
20 **organisations. Sometimes they paid their own fare or**
21 **had it paid for them, and they went there with the**
22 **option of going to work.**

23 The younger children, the child migration schemes,
24 were different. They were the children under 14 who
25 would have been in the care of an institution or

conditional, revoke the order on the breach of any of the conditions on which it was granted, and thereupon the youthful offender or child shall return to school, and if he fails to do so he and any person who knowingly harbours or conceals him or prevents him from returning to school shall be liable to the same penalty as if the youthful offender or child had escaped from the school.

(2) The Secretary of State may order—

- (a) a youthful offender or child to be transferred from one certified reformatory school to another, or from one certified industrial school to another;
- (b) a youthful offender under the age of fourteen years detained in a certified reformatory school to be transferred to a certified industrial school;
- (c) a child over the age of twelve years detained in a certified industrial school, who is found to be exercising an evil influence over the other children in the school, to be transferred to a certified reformatory school;

so however that the whole period of the detention of the offender or child shall not be increased by the transfer.

(3) Where a youthful offender or child is detained in a certified school in one part of the United Kingdom, the central authority for that part of the United Kingdom may, subject to the provisions of this section, direct the youthful offender or child to be transferred to a certified school in another part of the United Kingdom if the central authority for that other part consents.

For the purpose of this provision "central authority" means the Secretary of State, the Secretary for Scotland, or the Chief Secretary, as the case may be.

Power to apprentice or dispose of child.

70. If any youthful offender or child detained in or placed out on licence from a certified school, or a person when under the supervision of the managers of such a school, conducts himself well, the managers of the school may, with his own consent, apprentice him to, or dispose of him in, any trade, calling, or service, including service in the Navy or Army, or by emigration, notwithstanding that his period of detention or supervision has not expired; and such apprenticing or disposition shall be as valid as if the managers were his parents:

Provided that where he is to be disposed of by emigration, and in any case unless he has been detained for twelve months, the consent of the Secretary of State shall also be required for the exercise of any power under this section.

Offences in relation to Certified Schools.

Refusal to conform to rules.

71.—(1) If a youthful offender detained in a certified reformatory school is guilty of a serious and wilful breach of the rules of the school, or of inciting other inmates of the school to such a breach, he shall be liable upon summary conviction to

Post-World War II migration

2.56 Child migration policy in the post-war period was based on several objectives, partly humanitarian and partly in line with the larger objectives of the post-war migration program. The Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs noted:

The concept of rescuing “war babies” and underprivileged children from orphanages in war torn Britain and offering them a new life in Australia had popular appeal, and the fact that these migrants were children was thought to give them an advantage in being able to more readily adapt and “assimilate” into the Australian community.⁴⁹

2.57 Strategic and defence considerations arising from World War II also played an important part in the genesis for Australia’s post-war immigration policies, of which child migration was a part. The Department observed that:

Australia was a large, sparsely populated country with densely populated neighbours at its doorstep. “Populate or perish” was the slogan; mass immigration was seen as the solution. This policy had bipartisan support in Parliament, and wide community acceptance. The need to defend Australia’s shores against the possibility of invasion, a declining birthrate, and an urgent need for labour provided the justification for a significantly increased immigration program.⁵⁰

2.58 Dr Constantine also noted that from 1942 Australian concerns about national security and under-population ensured that child migration again featured strongly among ideas to boost immigration to Australia of preferably British ‘stock’.⁵¹

2.59 Economic factors also played a role. The Department stated that like other migrants, child migrants ‘would eventually supplement the labour force but would not immediately take jobs away from returning ex-servicemen. They were...also part of the larger immigration scheme aimed at massively increasing Australia’s population in the post war period’.⁵²

2.60 Even prior to the end of World War II the Commonwealth Government had been developing plans to bring large numbers of child migrants to Australia. On 19 October 1943, Dr HC Coombs, Director-General of Postwar Reconstruction, wrote in a memo: ‘the Minister [the Hon JB Chifley, Minister for Postwar Reconstruction] thinks we should plan for immigration of large numbers of children after the cessation of hostilities’.⁵³ The involvement of child migration in this program was considered at an interdepartmental committee on postwar reconstruction in 1944. In the context of

49 Submission No.42, p.8 (DIMA).

50 Submission No.42, p.18 (DIMA).

51 Submission No.88, p.2 (Dr Constantine).

52 Submission No.42, p.8 (DIMA).

53 Cited in Coldrey, *The Scheme*, p.130.

increased adult migration, the Commonwealth Government undertook to take every available opportunity to facilitate the entry into Australia of approved children from European countries. The Government had already approved in principle a plan to bring to Australia, in the first three years after the war, 50,000 orphans from Britain and other countries.

2.61 On 2 August 1945, the then Minister for Immigration, the Hon Arthur Calwell, in his first major statement on immigration policy referred to the Government's plan to bring 50,000 orphans to Australia during the first three years of peace. In his speech, Mr Calwell stated:

Pending the resumption of large-scale adult migration, the Government will take every available opportunity to facilitate the entry into Australia of accepted children from other countries. The Government has already approved in principle a plan to bring to Australia, in the first three years after the war, 50,000 orphans from Britain and other countries that have been devastated by the war. Discussions on the details of this plan are proceeding with the States, and we hope soon to reach a stage where the full possibilities of the scheme can be properly assessed.⁵⁴

2.62 This program of child migration was the most specific immigration program to emerge from the war years. Australia's post-war immigration program – for both adults and children – formally came into effect on 31 December 1946. However, it soon became evident that the target of 50,000 war orphans could not be reached. The belief that the war had created a greater number of orphans in Britain was soon dispelled. Other European governments also proved unwilling to send children as they considered that it was their own responsibility to care for the homeless and orphaned, and their countries also needed rebuilding after the war.

2.63 The plans for child migration were made in consultation with the State Governments. It was decided that as far as possible the Commonwealth Government would rely on private organisations such as Barnardos, Fairbridge and the religious organisations, to promote child migration. Neither private fostering nor adoption of child migrants was favoured, partly for legal reasons as the death of the parents of refugee children might be impossible to determine.⁵⁵

2.64 On 20 August 1946, a conference of State Premiers gave specific attention to child migration. The conference expressed the hope that child migration should be on as broad a scale as possible, under the auspices of 'approved voluntary migration organisations'. According to the conference resolution: 'It was agreed that the Commonwealth should continue to be the sole authority in respect of migration activities overseas, and should accept financial responsibility for the recruitment, medical examination and transportation of all assisted migrants'. It was agreed in principle that the States should carry out the function of reception on arrival in

54 House of Representatives, *Debates*, 2.8.45, p.4914.

55 Submission No.42, p.18 (DIMA).

Australia, and also that of looking after the migrants' accommodation needs, but in practice this was passed to the voluntary agencies.⁵⁶

2.65 In 1946 a new assisted passage scheme was approved in which 'assisted' adults could travel to Australia for £10, and certain categories of migrants, such as child migrants would travel free. The Immigration Minister, Mr Calwell also announced a schedule of priorities for assisted migrants. There were 11 categories, with child migrants at the head of the list.

Legislative basis for post-war child migration

2.66 In 1946 the Empire Settlement Act, discussed earlier, was reactivated and the British Government, in partnership with the Australian Government, entered into agreements with each of the sending agencies. The agreements prescribe child migrant numbers and financial contributions agreed by the governments, and the powers of the UK Secretary of State to approve all immigration. The British Government was responsible through the Secretary of State to regulate and oversee the schemes.

2.67 The voluntary societies and sending agencies were responsible for the administration of the schemes. They were required to provide information to the UK Secretary of State for his authorisation to migrate children. However, 'it appears that in practice they dealt with all decision making processes and procedures in relation to the selection of children, consents and migration arrangements'.⁵⁷ The Committee notes that the British Government effectively 'out-sourced' the task of child migration to the charities and religious organisations. Dr Constantine has noted that agreements were signed with the voluntary societies in 1947 and were repeatedly renewed. He has argued that these renewals were among the occasions when the merits of child migration as a welfare strategy in general and of Australian child care institutions in particular were officially debated.⁵⁸

2.68 The legislative basis in Australia for post-war child migration was the *Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act 1946* (IGOC Act). As noted previously, prior to 1946 the Commonwealth Government had not legislated for child migration. The IGOC Act placed legal guardianship in the Minister for Immigration for child migrants when they arrived in Australia until the child reached the age of 21 years. The intention of the Act was to enable uniformity in regard to legal guardianship of the children.⁵⁹

56 Gill, pp.64-65.

57 Submission No.135, pp.8-9 (WA Department for Family & Children's Services).

58 Submission No.88, p.6.

59 Submission No.42, p.20 (DIMA). DIMA provided further advice on the definition of 'guardianship'. The Department stated that a guardian in relation to a child is 'a person with the right to make decisions about the long-term needs of the child, as opposed to the day to day care of the child...The Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act modifies the traditional role of a guardian. The Act does not define guardian, so the ordinary understanding of that word, as discussed above, must be taken as the proper meaning. However, in ascertaining legal obligations and liabilities by the Act, it must be recognised that

2.69 Clause 6 of the Act stated that:

The Minister shall be the guardian of the person, and of the estate in Australia, of –

- (a) every evacuee child; and
- (b) every immigrant child who arrives in Australia after the commencement of this Act, to the exclusion of the father and mother and every other guardian of the child, and shall have, as guardian, the same rights, powers, duties, obligations and liabilities as a natural guardian of the child would have, until the child reaches the age of twenty-one years or leaves Australia permanently, or until the provisions of this Act cease to apply to and in relation to the child, whichever first happens.

2.70 The Act made further provision for the delegation of these powers. Subsection 5(1) of the Act enabled the Minister to delegate his functions and powers as guardian:

...to any officer or authority of the Commonwealth or of any State or Territory of the Commonwealth all or any of his powers and functions under this Act (except this power of delegation) so that the delegated powers and functions may be exercised by the delegate with respect to the matters or class of matters, or the child or class of children, specified in the instrument of delegation.

2.71 The Minister delegated his powers as guardian of child migrants to State welfare authorities shortly after the legislation was enacted. The Department stated that it was ‘not intended that the Commonwealth exercise direct control over the migrant children, but that State Authorities should assume that role’. Indentures were made between the delegated State Government welfare officials and voluntary organisations in which the organisations agreed to bear the responsibility for the care and welfare of the children placed under their care. The statutory scheme established by the IGOC Regulations:

...envisaged that the State authority would be primarily responsible for the supervision of the welfare and care of child migrants. The local State authority was likely to have better knowledge of the rights, powers and responsibilities of guardians and custodians under child welfare legislation and a better understanding of local conditions. In addition to this, officers of the State authority dealing with child welfare matters on a regular basis were

the legislation does in some ways modify the traditional role of a guardian. For example, the Act envisages delegation of the powers and functions of the Minister to State welfare authorities; and together with the regulations, the legislation provides inspection and other powers to State welfare authorities to supervise custody, and envisages that the State authority would be primarily responsible for supervision of the welfare and care of children covered by the Act. See Submission No.42, Additional Information, 9.4.01, pp.11-12 (DIMA).

better equipped to deal with these matters than the staff of the Commonwealth Immigration Department.⁶⁰

2.72 The Western Australian Department for Family and Children's Services described the operation of the system in Western Australia. After the Commonwealth Minister for Immigration delegated his powers to the Western Australian Under Secretary for Lands and Immigration in 1947,⁶¹ indentures were drawn up between the custodians (the receiving agencies) and the guardian, dealing with the respective responsibilities for the care of migrant children. Under the terms of the indenture each custodian agreed to '(1) bear all responsibility for the care and welfare of the children (2) not remove them from the place specified without consent, and (3) in all things comply with the provisions on its part relating to such children and contained in the *Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act 1946*, and in the *Child Welfare Act 1907-41* and the regulations made thereunder and amendments thereto'.⁶² At the same time, the Child Welfare Department agreed to assume an inspectorial role over child migrants, to assist the Lands and Immigration Department in fulfilling its responsibilities.

2.73 Some submissions argued that as the custodian (the receiving agency) agreed to bear 'all responsibility' for the care of the children, this meant that the primary responsibility for the subsequent maltreatment of children under their care belongs to those to whom the children were entrusted – those who were there in the institutions and those who supervised them. Professor Sherington stated that:

The vast majority of child migrants arrived in Australia under the age of twelve. The child migration societies had thus effectively assumed a duty of care until the child migrants reached the age of majority at twenty-one. This moral if not legal obligation appears to have been enforced by governments on an intermittent basis.⁶³

2.74 *The Children Act 1948* (UK) gave the UK Secretary of State the legal power to control the emigration arrangements made by the voluntary organisations. Under the Act, local authorities could arrange for the emigration of children in their care. The Act provides that a local authority may, with the consent of the Secretary of State, procure the emigration of any child in their care; and that the Secretary of State shall not give his consent unless satisfied that emigration would benefit the child and that suitable arrangements have been, or will be made, for the child's reception and welfare in the country to which he is going; that the parents or guardian of the child

60 Submission No.42, pp.20-21 (DIMA). Copies of the 1946 instrument of delegation signed with each State and an example of an indenture are appended to the submission.

61 Guardianship of migrant children was transferred from the WA Lands & Immigration Department to the WA Child Welfare Department in 1952.

62 Cited in Submission No.135, p.6 (WA Department for Family & Children's Services). See also Submission No.146, Additional Information, pp.4,6 (Queensland Government).

63 Submission No.119, p.3 (Professor Sherington).

have been consulted or that it is not practicable to consult them; and that the child consents.⁶⁴

2.75 In the post-war period the main receiving agencies for child migrants were Catholic Church agencies, Fairbridge, Barnardos as well as some Protestant Churches. A number of organisations did not operate child and youth migration schemes as they had prior to World War II. The Dreadnought Scheme ceased bringing out British youths and the Salvation Army confined its activities to single adults or people, including children, travelling with or coming to join families (see also later discussion of the Salvation Army in chapter 3).⁶⁵

2.76 Child migration did not resume until 1947 with the arrival of boys for the Christian Brothers institution at Bindoon (Western Australia). In the period 1947 to 1950 a number of Catholic women's religious orders – notably the Sisters of Mercy and the Poor Sisters of Nazareth – entered the field of child migration. In 1951 Barnardos opened a new home, 'Greenwood', at Normanhurst (New South Wales) with both boys and girls in residence, which was intended to keep brothers and sisters together. By 1952 most of the 'caring' organisations were also looking after Australian-born children. Barnardos was the exception – concerning itself exclusively, until the 1960s, with youth migrants from the United Kingdom.

Financial arrangements

2.77 With the recommencement of child migration in the post World War II period, it was again agreed that maintenance payments would be shared by the participating Governments (British, Commonwealth and State). Payments were made for all children to the age of 14 years and for those still in school, up to the age of 16 years. All States agreed to pay 3/6 per week. The Commonwealth's maintenance payment was replaced by child endowment of 5/- per week which had been introduced in 1941 (increased to 7/6 and then 10/-) for all children resident in Australia aged under 16 years.⁶⁶ It was also agreed at the 1948 State Conference on child migration, that the State would provide child migrants with a clothing and pocket money allowance, and a wage subsidy upon leaving care, commensurate with the assistance given wards.⁶⁷ The Commonwealth also agreed to pay an equipment allowance if the child was under 14 years at the date of sailing to Australia.⁶⁸

2.78 Professor Sherington and Mr Jeffery noted that by 1953 there were considerable differences in State maintenance payments. Western Australia at that date was contributing £1.3.3 per child per week while Victoria was contributing 6/-

64 Cited in Submission No.15, p.42 (Dr Coldrey).

65 Gill, p.68. Mr Gill notes, however, that a small number of child migrants, travelling independently, were sponsored by the Salvation Army (see Gill, p.78).

66 Sherington & Jeffery, *Fairbridge*, p.262.

67 Submission No.135, p.13 (WA Department for Family and Children's Services).

68 Submission No.42, p.22 (DIMA).

per week and New South Wales 4/8 per week. These State differences remained in place throughout the next decade.⁶⁹

2.79 The Western Australian Department for Family and Children's Services provided the following detailed information on maintenance payments. In 1948 payments to child migrants up to 16 years were summarised as:

Commonwealth child endowment	10/- per week
State subsidy	3/6 per week
British Government subsidy	6/3 per week
Lotteries Commission	3/- per week
Total	£1.2.9 per week

In 1963 payments were:

Commonwealth child endowment	10/- per week
State subsidy	15/- per week
British Government subsidy	£1.5.0 per week
Lotteries Commission	10/- per week
Total	£3.0.0 per week⁷⁰

2.80 The Queensland Government provided the following information from Annual Reports for 1954-55 and 1956-57 for payments for child migrants under 16 years of age:

Commonwealth child endowment	10/- per week
State subsidy	12/6 per week
British Government subsidy	12/6 per week
Total	£1.15.0 per week

Where a child was still attending secondary school at 16 years of age, the State increased the payment to 25/- per week and payments from the other Governments ceased.

2.81 The Queensland Government noted that in 1954-55 the amount paid by the State Government to denominational homes for each State ward was 25/- per week. In addition to this amount, child endowment of 10/- per week was received for each child, making a total of £1.15.0 per week, the same amount received by the institution for each child migrant. In all instances, the cost of medical and dental treatment of the children and of school requisites was defrayed by the State, which also paid half the cost of buildings, extensions, repairs and other capital items.⁷¹

69 Sherington & Jeffery, *Fairbridge*, pp.262-63.

70 Submission No.135, pp.14-15 (WA Department for Family and Children's Services).

71 Submission No.146, Additional Information, p.4 (Queensland Government).

2.82 In 1950, the Maltese Government agreed to pay a 10/- sterling maintenance subsidy per week until the age of 16 years.

2.83 While the Commonwealth Government and the relevant State Governments contributed to the support of child migrants, the funding arrangements for the church and charitable institutions caring for children generally varied across the country. Institutions received child endowment payments from the Commonwealth from 1941, but in New South Wales and South Australia, for example, maintenance payments were not paid by the State to voluntary child care institutions for Australian-born children. Dr Joanna Penglase has stated that in effect the institutions in New South Wales were run on the 19th century model, relying on charity and endowments. Thus 'private donations, bequests and fund-raising appeals were a major source of income for most Catholic Homes, and even an important factor in their survival since the Diocese itself rarely funded the Homes within it'.⁷²

2.84 The poor financial situation of some New South Wales institutions was also illustrated by Dr Marion Fox's research on St Anne's at Liverpool where in 1951, 'the orphanage administrator was instructed by her superior that economies such as reducing the children's supply of meat and sugar were to be discontinued'.⁷³

2.85 Following intense lobbying by the Association of Child Caring Agencies (established in 1958 for the express purpose to address the issue), the New South Wales Government commenced payments for children in voluntary child care institutions in 1961. However, these children had to be made a state ward. The requirement for wardship was eliminated in 1965.⁷⁴

2.86 Dr Fox stated that post war the Catholic bishops sought capital funding from Government for all new buildings and equipment and for the extension of existing buildings to house child migrants. In return, the Church would guarantee to accommodate the children for at least ten years.⁷⁵ In 1946, the Commonwealth and States agreed each would pay one-third of capital expenditure for Commonwealth approved projects to accommodate migrant children. Dr Fox observed that 'this was a major concession for Catholic orphanages in New South Wales which otherwise received no capital grants'. Dr Fox also noted that :

With governments paying all transport expenses for children, passages expenses for escorts, and a small equipment allowance for each child under the age of fourteen, Simonds [Coadjutor Archbishop of Melbourne] advised the bishops in October 1946 that they had won at least twelve 'generous concessions'. Notably, they would retain full control of buildings which

72 Penglase, J, *'Orphans of the Living': The Home Children NSW 1939-1965*, Ph.D thesis, Macquarie University, 1999, pp. 196, 197.

73 Fox, M, 'British Child Migrants in New South Wales Catholic Orphanages', *History of Education Review*, Vol.25, (2), 1996, p.8.

74 Penglase, p.152.

75 Fox, p.4.

received government grants and would not be required to repay grants unless buildings were used for other purposes. Writing to Calwell [Commonwealth Minister for Immigration] in March 1946, Conlon had acknowledged the Minister's need for caution to ensure that concessions made to the Church could apply equally to all voluntary agencies.⁷⁶

2.87 In Western Australia, Brother Keaney sought funding for extensive work at Bindoon. This was not without disagreements—evidence indicates that the Commonwealth Government had concerns about the cost of the building projects at Bindoon and that it was known to Commonwealth officials that much of the labour was provided by children at the institution.⁷⁷ In New South Wales applications for government capital funding for two new Catholic orphanages at Cowper and new buildings at Liverpool were not approved. The Murray-Dwyer and Monte Pio orphanages received a joint capital grant of £10,000. An extensive building project began at Monte Pio in expectation of additional funding. This was not approved because officials believed that even with extensions, accommodation remained inadequate and indeed Child Welfare reduced the approved number of Australian children in the home by twenty.⁷⁸

2.88 Ms L Williams in her study of child migration to Tasmania also noted the benefits of capital grants for institutions. The Church of England Clarendon Children's Home had, in 1946, proposed to build a set of small cottages. However, 'due to financial difficulties this idea had been shelved, and was only revived in the early 1950s, when involvement in child migration allowed the Home to utilise financial incentives being offered by the federal and state governments to participate in the scheme'.⁷⁹ Documents also indicate that State and Commonwealth capital funding was proved for Swan Homes. In 1949, both Governments agreed to contribute £5,990 each towards the building of Lee Steere House (Western Australia).⁸⁰

The Catholic Church and post-war migration

2.89 After the Second World War the Catholic Church became the largest single sponsoring agency bringing child migrants to Australia.⁸¹ As noted previously, prior to this time, Catholic Church involvement in child migration was small-scale. By the end of World War II, meetings of the Catholic hierarchy in Australia were discussing the possibilities for post-war migration, including child migration. This took place in

76 Fox, p.4.

77 From National Archives RecordSearch - Letter from the Western Australian Department of Lands and Survey to the Commonwealth Department of Immigration, dated 20.2.51, K403/3 W59/87, pp.70-71.

78 Fox, pp. 8-9.

79 Williams, L, "'Good British Stock": British Child Migration to Tasmania after 1945', *Tasmanian Historical Studies*, Vol 5, no.1, 1996, p.160.

80 Submission No.42, Additional Information, Attachment J, 9.4.01, p.4 (DIMA).

81 This section of this chapter relies on several sources including Coldrey, *The Scheme*, pp.133-139; NAA, *Good British Stock*, Ch 3, Part 14; Gill, pp.71-75.

Therefore, I say to the House that there are proper safeguards—I think it is right that there should be—for the legitimate rights of the family unit, so to speak, and of the child, when making vital decisions to send a child many thousands of miles away to start a new life. The Oversea Migration Board drew attention in its First Report to the fact that local authorities in the United Kingdom were in many cases unaware of the advantages of child migration. It is obviously right that where a local authority arranges for a child in its care to emigrate, it should be satisfied that the decision is in the best interests of the child and that the conditions which the boy or girl in question will meet with when it arrives at its destination are satisfactory.

It was partly with the object of reassuring local authorities that the fact-finding mission to which reference has been made in this debate went to Australia and reported in August, 1956. It is perfectly true that certain aspects of that Report were critical of some of the features of the system which was then in operation, but I think it would be fair to say that the Report was not intended to be antagonistic to child migration in principle, nor, indeed, critical generally of the admirable work being carried out both here and in Australia by the various voluntary bodies to which reference has been made.

It suggested certain improvements, and these have been carried out. As a result, local authorities can be assured that where they decide that it is in the best interests of a child to emigrate the conditions under which he or she shall do so will give him or her a fine opportunity of making the most of the new life which the child will lead when it reaches Australia. In 1957 my noble Friend the Secretary of State completed a series of new agreements with the various voluntary organisations under the Commonwealth Settlement Act, which embodies the recommendations, or those which were acceptable, of the fact-finding report. As a result, local authorities should consider very carefully whether for a particular child in a particular case the project of going overseas and starting a new life would provide a future for that child which would provide the best answer to the individual problem which the child represents.

This new pattern of child emigration which is now developing has one important aspect. This aspect certainly fits in very closely with our ideas of child welfare here. It is represented by the development of the Fairbridge Family Scheme to which my hon. Friend the Member for Surbiton made reference, which was introduced with the approval of the Australian and United Kingdom Governments in May, 1957. As my hon. Friend explained, this provides for the emigration of children with one parent—a widow or widower, a deserted wife or husband who is the mother or father—and normally arrangements are made for the child to go ahead of the parent and for the parent subsequently to follow to Australia. This scheme has been working on an experimental basis and is due for review at the end of the second year, which will be in May next.

The extension of what one might call family emigration to other voluntary societies is a possibility. If, as I hope, the Fairbridge experiment can be shown to be successful, I believe that in some respects the future of child emigration may increasingly take this form. This does not mean that there is no scope for the continuation of the emigration of individual children from this country to Australia. It merely means that where there are strong arguments for trying to keep some part of the family unit together those arguments should be respected so that as far as possible the principle which is at the basis of the Act of 1948 is maintained in emigration.

However, concerning the arrangements for the care of these children who go on their own to Australia, it has become increasingly the practice of societies there to find some means of fitting those children into the environment of family life as opposed to keeping them in what is called, rather crudely, an institution. Even where it is necessary for them to remain on a farm or at a school, it is the practice to ensure that as far as possible the children go to an Australian family during the school holidays and later, if it can be arranged, that they should be boarded out with a neighbouring family so that they can enjoy not only the advantages of instruction and training, but also a family environment in which to grow up.

No one supposes that such arrangements are easy to achieve, but I am sure that that principle of trying to maintain the family environment in their new home in Australia, even for those children who can no longer remain in contact with their own family or any part of it in the United Kingdom, is right and proper.

Generally speaking, therefore, I would say with great sincerity that I believe that child migration today is on sound and proper lines and that, as my hon. Friend the Member for Surbiton said, the only thing that is wrong is that insufficient children are coming forward to fill the existing vacancies. Out of a total of nearly 2,000 places for the

United Kingdom at the end of November last year, over one-half were unfilled and only 62 children were awaiting transport to Australia. Whereas in 1950 388 children emigrated, in 1958 the total was only 80. As my hon. Friend has said, this is not a question of money. It is a question of the opportunities being available; and where it is appropriate, there are strong arguments that good use should be made of those opportunities.

I hope that this debate will help to call attention to these opportunities and also to reassure those who are responsible for the care of eligible children so that they may consider seriously the chances of a better life which emigration may hold open to them and that perhaps they may be more willing than is at present the case to take advantage of the existing schemes for child migration, both for the benefit of the children and their families and for the benefit of Australia and the United Kingdom.

Question put and agreed to.

Adjourned accordingly at fourteen minutes past Nine o'clock.

H. 815/694.

4/12
Sat May, 1928.

Sir,

I am directed by the Minister of Home Affairs to refer to sub-section (9) of Section 74 of the Children Act, 1908, which empowers a local authority to contribute towards the ultimate disposal of any inmate of a certified school for whose maintenance in such school the authority are responsible or towards whose maintenance the authority have voluntarily contributed, and to state that occasionally cases occur in which an opportunity presents itself for effecting the emigration of a child detained in a Reformatory or Industrial School in circumstances which offer a good prospect for the future welfare of the child.

In the majority of cases the disposal of a child by emigration will effect a substantial saving in the sum which would otherwise be expended in capitation grants by the Government and the local authority if the child were to complete its full term at the School. But apart from such financial considerations the Ministry considers it desirable in the interests of the children that when a suitable opportunity for emigration presents itself this should not be lost by reason of lack of funds. It will be realised that owing to the present prevalence of unemployment in this country it is difficult to ensure a means of livelihood for young persons on discharge from Certified Schools and it sometimes happens that in such cases young persons after discharge from the School drift back to a life of crime a result which might have been avoided had they been enabled to obtain work in the colonies.

In view of these considerations, the Minister would be glad to learn if your Council would be prepared to contribute one half of the net cost (not exceeding 25) of the emigration direct from the School of each child towards whose maintenance your Council contributes, the remaining half of the cost being borne by Government.

It is anticipated that the total cost of any one emigration is not likely to exceed £10 and in many cases it will be considerably less. It is moreover proposed to obtain, where possible, contribution from parents towards the emigration expenses of their children.

During the past three years the number of cases in which this Ministry has been asked for financial assistance in regard to emigration has been two, and it will, therefore, be seen that if your Council is prepared to agree to the present proposal the annual expenditure is not likely to be serious.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant.

(Sgd) W. A. Magill.
Assistant Secretary.

Despatch 8/12
1928 4/5
The Clerk of each Co. Boro' Council;
The Secretary of each Co. Council
in Northern Ireland.

Letters should be addressed
"The Town Clerk
Belfast"



*City Hall
Belfast*

H.71/5068

Your Ref: HB15/694

31st May, 1928.

Sir,

With reference to your Circular letter of the 4th inst., Ref:HB15/694, I beg to inform you that the subject matter of this letter has been under the consideration of the Children Act Committee of the County Council for the Borough of Belfast, and they have instructed me to state that they cannot see that there would be any saving in the Capitation Grants paid by the Government and the Local Authority by the emigration of children in Industrial Schools, as in their opinion it would not be desirable except in very exceptional cases, when a child was being emigrated in the care of near relatives, that children under 16 years of age should be emigrated. They quite agree with you, however, that the important consideration in the matter is the welfare of the child. Their experience in the matter of emigration has led them to the conclusion that it is not the children who would be likely to drift back to undesirable surroundings who are usually accepted for emigration, in fact, they have usually found that the ones accepted are just such as would be successful at home. Further, they are convinced that the alluring advertisements appearing in the Press are having a very unsettling effect upon young people who are not without employment, and there have been cases in which children have thrown up their employment and even Apprenticeship as a result of these advertisements.

The Committee desire to remind you that on

10-11-1964

[illegible][illegible]

1-23

to parents of children considered for the Migrant Scheme is not applicable. However, a relative of [redacted] HIA 354 who was a Presbyterian Minister was consulted. [see paragraph (d) above.]

- (h) See above. The files recovered so far relate to three children, all of whom are described as 'orphans'. Therefore, the issue of parental consent did not arise.
- (i) The HSCB has forwarded all documents found so far in relation to children considered for nomination and/or migrated to Australia to the Inquiry. I have been advised that Inquiry staff have identified two other children named [redacted] from Londonderry Welfare Committee who apparently emigrated to Australia through the Child Migrant Scheme. To date, no records have been identified for them. However, painstaking and exhaustive searches are continuing and if any further documentation is discovered, it will be sent to the Inquiry without delay.
- (j) [redacted] HIA 354 file evidences that, as part of the nomination for migration process, he was medically examined by Dr Bradley and a certificate stating that [redacted] HIA 354 was free from Tuberculosis was obtained from Dr James, the Tuberculosis Officer for County Tyrone. [redacted] HIA 354 also underwent an IQ test and he had a 'very good' IQ rating.
- (k) There is no evidence on the files of [redacted] HIA 354 [redacted] that the predecessors of the HSCB received payment in respect of children sent to Australia.
- (l) As set out in paragraph (c)(iv) – (viii) above, the documents of [redacted] HIA 354 file demonstrates tenacity and persistence on the part of the welfare authority in keeping itself informed about [redacted] HIA 354 progress in Australia. Written reports were requested and received (although no replies were received to written requests for progress reports and photographs between 1952 and 1956). The last half yearly report is dated 14 March 1963, shortly before [redacted] HIA 354 attained 21 years of age.

There is no evidence of [redacted] HIA 354 file that any inspections were carried out of the institutions after he was sent to Australia either by or for the predecessors of the HSCB although, as referenced above, the welfare authority did ask a trusted contact in Australia to assess Dhuurringile and give a view as to whether the welfare authority should continue to send boys there after a letter of complaint was received from a child migrant. In addition, the progress reports that were received in respect of [redacted] HIA 354

- 24 -

Report of Children's Sub-Committee (Continued)Children's Officer's Report (Continued)

4/9/52 [redacted] Date of Birth [redacted] Religion - Protestant.
 Ologrennan.

Following an eviction in Crumlin, these children were accepted into Ologrennan on 15/4/52 and taken out again by their parents on 22/4/52. ✓

10/6/52 [redacted] Date of Birth [redacted] Religion - Presbyterian
 Antrim.

[redacted] started work in Antrim at a wage of £2 per week, until such time as he is accepted by the Big Brother Movement. The Boarding-out Allowance ceased with effect from that date. Approval is requested to the payment of expenses amounting to £18, incurred by the immigration of [redacted] to Australia, when he is accepted by the Big Brother Movement. ✓

10/8/52 [redacted] Date of Birth [redacted] Religion - Presbyterian. ✓

10/8/52 [redacted] Date of Birth [redacted] Religion - R.C.
 Belfast.

It is regretted that the above-named boys are unemployed at present. It is requested that their foster-parents receive the Boarding-out Allowance, less any insurance due for the period of unemployment. ✓

Housemother/Home-helps:

The [redacted] Family, [redacted] Larne.
 The [redacted] Family, [redacted] Andersonstown ✓
 The [redacted] Family, [redacted]

Housemother/Home-helps have been installed in the above-named homes, during the period of the mothers' illness. (See Note 3.)

Ologrennan Staff - Handyman

[redacted] left Ologrennan on 8/4/52. [redacted] aged 78 was transferred from Hawthorne Cottage until such time as a younger man could be employed.

[redacted] will take up employment on Monday, 12th May, 1952, at a salary of £3. 10. per week. ✓

Unmarried Mothers

10/4 [redacted] [redacted], Glengormley.
 [redacted] Muckamore.

The above-named unmarried mothers were accepted into Thomdale House on 8/4/52 and 14/4/52 respectively. It is requested that the Committee accept financial responsibility for all expenses incurred on their behalf. ✓

/ Conference -

Children in Voluntary Homes, Etc.

164. [REDACTED], b. [REDACTED], Horsington House, Templecombe, Somerset. [REDACTED] has settled down remarkably well at Horsington House and is happy there. At first, he attended Gillingham Secondary Modern School and, although it was difficult to assess a true report of his abilities there, the Headmaster and his Staff rapidly took to the boy, but quickly found out that he should attend a Grammar School. This he now does in Yeovil, where he is working hard to catch up with his work. He is making most satisfactory progress.
165. [REDACTED], b. [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Belfast. [REDACTED] is a difficult girl to understand. She is so childish at times and takes fits of giggling, for no apparent reason. She absconded on the 11th October, 1956, and was returned by the police on the 12th October, 1956; during this period, she had been in association with two men and the police were informed. She was medically examined by Dr. Dunn and by Dr. Milliken of the Child Guidance Clinic. Miss Bryans (Matron) has gained her confidence and, under her influence and guidance, if given time, should settle down to a more normal life.
166. [REDACTED], b. [REDACTED], Our Mother of Mercy's Home, Kilmorey Street, Newry. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are good children and are at school every day. The School Report is very satisfactory, which shows they are interested in their work. [REDACTED] is working very hard for a Scholarship to the Technical School and this she hopes to gain at the end of the school year. They are both in good health.
167. [REDACTED], b. [REDACTED], Parkstone Sea-training School, [REDACTED] was admitted to Parkstone Sea-training School on the 8th October, 1956. Before the summer holidays, he was a pupil at Friends' School, Liphurn. Since his arrival at Parkstone, his conduct has been good and he seems to be happy there. His written work is rather untidy and, as he is somewhat lethargic, it has always been found difficult to make him work to his maximum capacity.
168. [REDACTED], b. [REDACTED], [REDACTED] Lodge Supervised by Nazaret [REDACTED] continues to gain useful and valuable experience and is proving his worth as a member of the Kitchen Staff at the Mayfair Restaurant. His regular and punctual attendance has drawn favourable comment from his employer. [REDACTED]'s landlady reports that his conduct and behaviour is satisfactory, that he is clean and tidy and takes an interest in his personal appearance. He settles faithfully each week for his part board and lodgings and keeps reasonably good hours.
169. [REDACTED], b. [REDACTED], c/o [REDACTED], [REDACTED] Maida Vale, W.9. The Welfare Officer of Dr. Barnardo's Homes reports that [REDACTED] is working as an trainee photographer for [REDACTED] Limited, Portrait Photographers, [REDACTED] W.2., and is making satisfactory progress. He is growing tall and is in good health. He seems happy in his work and his employer takes a personal interest in him.
170. [REDACTED], b. [REDACTED], St. Joseph's Babies' Home, Ravenhill Road, Belfast. [REDACTED] who is employed in the abovementioned Home is continuing to be most satisfactory. She is at present doing the Child Care Course and is making good progress and should make a good little nurse.
171. [REDACTED], b. [REDACTED], De La Salle Boys' Home, Rubane, Kircubbin. [REDACTED] is in good health, satisfactory in conduct and making reasonable progress in his school subjects.
172. [REDACTED], b. [REDACTED], Dhurringile Rural Training Farm, Victoria, Australia. [REDACTED] is a very fine boy and has made good progress. He has grown considerably and is looking the picture of health. He has recently changed his employment and is now working for [REDACTED] of Kyabram who runs one of the leading Jersey Studs in the State; this is an excellent opportunity for [REDACTED].
173. [REDACTED], b. [REDACTED], Blackburn House, Annadale Avenue, Belfast. [REDACTED] has greatly improved recently. She tries to please and likes to be recognised if she does well. She is not easy to keep in her place, is rather noisy in her movements and must be heard whoever else is silenced. She enjoys knitting, jigsaws and the cookery class and P.T.



Name	In care under section	Welfare Authority	Consent of parents	Details
[REDACTED]	81	Co. Limerick	Mother - written (illegitimate)	Emigrated to Barbados with father - mother to join father - father Air fare (LTD) paid by W.A. Minister's Order dtd 28/12/62 empowering W.A. to arrange emigration
[REDACTED]	63	Belfast C.B.	Mother - written father - verbal	Wished to emigrate to Australia under Big Brother movement Order empowering Belfast to arrange emigration and discharging F.P.O. prepared. Turned down by Chief Migration Offr. 14/7/64
[REDACTED] family	63	Co. Antrim		In Oct. 1964 the father - mother (Mrs [REDACTED]) requested permission for the children to accompany her to Australia. Later abandoned the idea
[REDACTED]	81	Belfast C.B.	Father - written mother's whereabouts unknown	Emigrated to Australia under Big Brother Movement. Order dtd 1/6/65 empowering W.A. to arrange emigration. Approval to exp. of £20 on equipment & £16 to join the Security Scheme.
[REDACTED]	63 F.P.O. revoked & taken into care under S. 81	Belfast C.B.	Mother - verbal	Boy's wish to emigrate obtained in writing at Ministry's request. Subsequently visited by Miss Hill Emigrated to Australia to join father Order dtd 23/12/65 empowering W.A. to arrange emigration

WHEREAS on the 26th May, 1954, the Juvenile Court at Belfast made an Order under Section 63 of the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1950 committing [REDACTED] to the care of the Belfast Welfare Authority as a fit person:

AND WHEREAS by virtue of Section 79 of the said Act the said Order, subject to the provisions of the said Act, remains in force until 12th July, 1965, when the said [REDACTED] attains the age of eighteen years:

AND WHEREAS the said [REDACTED] is desirous of emigrating to Australia and consents to the arrangement of his emigration by the Belfast Welfare Authority:

AND WHEREAS I am satisfied that the emigration would be for the benefit of the said [REDACTED] and that his parents have been consulted:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, the Right Honourable William Craig, Minister of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland, in exercise of the powers vested in me by Sub-Sections (4) and (5) of Section 111 of the said Act, do hereby empower the Belfast Welfare Authority to arrange for the emigration to Australia of the said [REDACTED] and do hereby order that as from the said [REDACTED] be discharged absolutely from the care of the Belfast Welfare Authority to which he was committed by the said Order of 26th May, 1954.

Dated this

day of

, 1964.

*Application for emigration
to Australia not
accepted by Chief
Magistrate.*

MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR SCOTLAND
AND IRELAND

TELEPHONE 27579

6 INDIA BUILDINGS
VICTORIA STREET

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT

NMM/AW.

EDINBURGH, 1

August 9th ¹⁹ 49.

Dear Mr Dunbar,

Catholic Child Migration to Australia.
Northern Ireland.

I must apologise for not having communicated with you earlier on the above subject, but we have been trying to get the position clarified with regard to children emigrating, from the point of view of both the Local Authorities and the guardians of the children.

His Grace Archbishop D'Alton referred us to Father John Quinn of Armagh, who is, we understand the Hierarchy's representative on the committee which is being, or has been formed in Belfast in connection with the new Children Act for N.Ireland. We wrote to Father Quinn explaining our interest in the matter, but have not so far received a reply from him.

With regard to Scotland, the position is approximately as follows. Where a child is maintained in a Home entirely by a local authority, the Secretary of State is not prepared to waive the provisions of Section 17 of the Children Bill, unless the child is over ten years of age and is judged fit to express an opinion of his or her own. Children under ten years of age will only be permitted to emigrate if in company of, or to join, a parent, guardian, relative or friend. This irrespective of the age of the relative; i.e. a brother of six years of age is regarded as fulfilling the requirements of the Act with reference to a child of five years of age. The Secretary of State is to be the final judge of the merits of each individual case, whether a parent or guardian consents or not. The question of guardianship was also raised with the Scottish Home Department, and it was pointed out the the Dept. regard the term "Guardian", strictly as an individual one, and will not consider the appointment of a temporary guardian by the Emigration authorities as relative under the terms of the Act. Neither will the wider guardianship of the Australian Minister

-2-

Australian Minister/

for Immigration (as provided under the British and Australian Governments Child Migration Scheme Agreement) be acceptable. It is of course allowed to accept for emigration children in Homes who are maintained by their parents or by the authorities in the voluntary Homes concerned.

We have asked our Australian director who is at the moment in Sydney to take up the whole question with the Government authorities there and in this country.

So far as N.Ireland is concerned, there are many children in Catholic Homes there whom we would willingly place in the Australian Homes, but we shall of course be concerned with the granting of permission for them if they are subject to any provisions made by the N.Ireland Children Act. At the moment, the home - St Joseph's Termonbacca, Derry., would like us to take about eighteen boys whose ages vary from two years to twelve. All these children are voluntarily maintained, so that I imagine they would be free to go. Other children may possibly be available from Belfast and other Homes in the North. The question of Industrial school boys has also been raised, and there would appear to be no objection to taking them providing that they were not committed for criminal or criminally inclined misdemeanour. As you will recall, no doubt, this aspect was discussed during our conversation in June, but I thought it better to wait until the N.I. Children Bill was passed before contacting any of the authorities concerned.

I am expecting to hear from Canon Flint of Father Hudson's Homes, Coleshill, Birmingham., as to how the 1948 Children Act is being interpreted with regard to English Child migrants, and will inform you on this later. I will also communicate with you as to the result of the discussions with the Australian authorities.

Sincerely yours,

Norman W. Menaldini

Mr Dunbar,
Ministry of Home Affairs,
Stormont,
BELFAST. N.Ireland.

at S. Ballon has been and upon this

Plan for 1300

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE.

SCOTLAND AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT - CHILD EMIGRATION.

General Position regarding Child Migration. The position in Scotland and Northern Ireland with regard to the emigration of children to Australia, must be viewed at this time with dissatisfaction. Although in 1947 well over one hundred children were sent out to Australian Homes and Convents, the numbers since then have gradually dropped, and the last group sent out consisted of less than half a dozen children. There are, so far as can be ascertained, many reasons for this fall in numbers, the main ones being as follows:-

1 Attitude of the Homes and Convents in this country.

Of all the Homes from which it might be expected to obtain children for emigration, only one or two have so far been 100% co-operative. It would appear that a long term policy with regard to the children's future is not being taken, and that several factors contribute towards this viewpoint, the main ones being:-

- (a) Personal attachment to the children.
- (b) General dislike to letting the children leave the country.
- (c) Unwillingness to have the numbers in the Homes depleted.

Other factors having relation to the lack of response from the Convents are mentioned in Paragraph 4.

2 Attitude of Public authorities towards Child emigration.

Scotland. All children placed in Homes and chargeable to the Local authority are wards of the Home Department, i.e. the Secretary of State for Scotland, and the Secretary's permission must be obtained before the Local authority can consider allowing such children to emigrate. Under Section 17 of the Children (Scotland) Act of 1948, it is stated, "A local authority may, with the consent of the Secretary of State, procure or assist in procuring the emigration of any child in their care. The Secretary of State shall not give his consent under this section unless he is satisfied that emigration would benefit the child and that suitable arrangements have been or will be made for the child's reception and welfare in the country to which he is going, and that the parents or guardians of the child have been consulted or that it is not practicable to consult them, and that the child consents: provided that where a child is too young to form or express a proper opinion on the matter, the Secretary of State may consent to his emigration notwithstanding that the child is unable to consent thereto in any case where the child is to emigrate in company with a parent, guardian or relative of his, or is to emigrate for the purpose of joining a parent, guardian, relative or friend."/Unquote.

The Home Department in practice, is exceedingly co-operative insofar as the children for whom permission has already been sought are concerned, and they have, after the necessary investigation in no case refused permission. The local authorities vary with regard to helpfulness, but on the whole no serious objections have ever been raised to prevent a child leaving the country.

Northern Ireland. Up to the present time, no application has been made to Irish local authorities, as the necessity has not yet arisen.

3 Attitude of the Scottish and Irish Hierarchies towards Child Migration.

Scotland. The Scottish Hierarchy have, since the inception of the Catholic Scheme of Emigration to Australia, always shown great interest, and every encouragement has been given. A Report of the progress of the Scheme is presented to the Bishops' Meeting each quarter.

3 (Continued.)

N.Ireland. The Irish Hierarchy hold mixed views on the subject of emigration. His Grace the Archbishop of Armagh circulated information about the Scheme amongst the N.Irish Parish Priests in 1947., but other Bishops in the area have not responded to letters and circulars regarding emigration which have been sent to them.

4 Other Factors contributing towards the dearth of children for emigration.

1. Length of time between selection of children and sailing date. In this regard either parents or children or both get tired of waiting, and names are withdrawn.
2. High cost of outfitting, and inadequacy of Government Outfitting allowance. (this amounts to £4 per child.)
3. Attitude of parents towards Scheme. Some of these are traced through the Homes, others through the local authority. Information given to these people is often scanty, and their attitude is frequently one of suspicion.
4. Children not being selected young enough. Once they approach the age of fifteen years they are potential wage earners, and this is a great incentive to the parent to keep them at home.
5. Non-co-operation of some local authorities in tracing the parents.
6. Views taken by the Convents themselves - see Paragraph 1.
7. Lack of personal contact between representatives of the Scheme and the Clergy, Convents and local authorities concerned.

In summing up the foregoing Report, it is to be emphasised that there is no wish to emigrate children for whom adequate provision can be made in later years by parents or guardian. For these children, their rightful place is obviously in their own home with their parents, and it would be neither desirable nor judicious to urge their emigration. The majority of children in Homes however, are either illegitimate or have parents who are totally unable to provide a decent home and upbringing for their children. It is for these children that Emigration provides a complete answer to the question of the future. They are removed from parents who will exploit their wage earning capacities, given more chance of learning a trade or profession which will give them security, and above all, they are brought up in a completely Catholic atmosphere, thus removing all threat to their Faith which might well be endangered should they be returned to their own homes at school leaving age. To these children therefore, it is asked that every chance be offered, and every effort made to induce their parents to allow them to emigrate.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN ALREADY EMIGRATED FROM SCOTTISH AND IRISH HOMES.

<u>SCOTLAND.</u> and <u>N.IRELAND.</u>	1947	1948	1949.
Convent of the Good Shepherd, Colinton, Edinburgh.	7	7	1
Nazareth House, Lasswade.	27	-	1
Nazareth House Aberdeen.	11	-	-
Nazareth House, Cardonald, Glasgow.	-	-	1
Nazareth House, Kilmarnock.	-	-	-
Sayillum Park, Lenark.	-	-	-
Nazareth House Londonderry. N.I.	13	-	-
St Joseph's Termonbacca, Co.Derry. N.I.	27	-	-
Nazareth Lodge, Belfast. N.I.	23	-	-
From their own homes.	2	-	2

Approximately twenty-five children are now awaiting passages, and it is hoped to send them in August of 1949.

VIG. COPY.

G.R.

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM,
CANBERRA.

B:AM.

Ref: 7/138.0 (1) dated 11 "February" 1949 (1)
15th August, 1949.

Dear Dixon, in reply to your letter of 10th August 1949.

Our attention has been drawn to certain Sections of the United Kingdom Children Act, 1948, (11 & 12 Geo. VI Ch. 43) which describe the powers of local authorities in the United Kingdom to arrange for the emigration of children and to the interpretation of these sections by the Authorities concerned insofar as it affects the introduction to Australia of children from the United Kingdom under the terms of the Assisted Passage Agreement and the provision for their Guardianship in this country made by the Commonwealth Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act, 1946-1948.

With particular regard to Section 17 of the Children Act, 1948, the Department of Immigration state that they have been advised that the attitude to Child Migration of the Secretary of State for the Scottish Home Department is as follows:-

- "(a) Irregardless of whether a parent consents or not, the Secretary of State has the final word where a child maintained by a Local authority is concerned.
- (b) Except where a child goes to join a parent, relative, guardian or friend, he will withhold permission for emigration for all children of "tender years" - this being interpreted as all children under the age of ten years.

R. L. Dixon Esq., M.B.E.,
Commonwealth Relations Office,
LONDON.

/(c)

(c) After the necessary investigation and in consultation with the Local authority, children over the age of ten years may be allowed to emigrate providing that they themselves desire to go.

(d) The term "guardian" in Section 17 of the Children (1948) Act, is to be interpreted strictly as meaning an individual. The Secretary of State is not prepared to accept either the guardianship of Mr. Calwell, Australian Minister for Immigration (as is accepted under the Government Child Migration Scheme Agreement) or the guardianship of the Superior of a Home. Individual guardianship must be provided.

(e) A child of any age may be allowed to emigrate, providing all the authorities concerned are satisfied, if he/she goes to join a brother or sister already established in Australia - whatever the age of the brother or sister may be. An example of this being that of a child of five years of age having been granted permission to emigrate for the purpose of joining his brother who is not yet seven years old.

The term "children" in the foregoing covers all those maintained wholly or partially by a Local authority.

They fear that if the Secretary of State for Scotland has been correctly reported the consequences will be a virtual cessation of the migration to Australia, under the auspices of and for placement with voluntary child migration organisations approved by our respective Governments, of children maintained either wholly or partially by Local authorities responsible to the Scottish Home Department.

Could you please look into the matter urgently with a view to clarifying the position for the information of the Department

/or

G.R.

Department of Immigration here, and at the same time check the views of the Northern Ireland Government? I imagine there is not likely to be any change in the Home Department's attitude so far as England and Wales are concerned. The Australian authorities are particularly anxious that the interpretation of the term "Guardian" in Section 17 of the Children Act, 1948, should be established on a uniform basis throughout the United Kingdom.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) H. G. M. Bass.

W.39.

13
10th February, 1950.

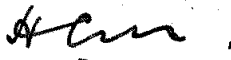
Dear McWilliam,

I am extremely sorry for the delay in replying to your letter of the 29th December last on the question of the emigration of children to Australia, but we have been very busy here as you will realise with new legislation and it has not been possible to deal with the correspondence before this.

Our Children and Young Persons Bill will enable a Welfare Authority to procure, or assist in procuring, the emigration of any child in their care, but where the child is capable of giving his consent such consent will be necessary. Where the child is too young to form an opinion he must emigrate in company with a parent, guardian, or relative, or must be emigrating to join a parent, guardian, relative or friend. In all cases the parent's consent must, where practicable, be obtained and the Ministry's approval will also be necessary in each case. As regards children in training schools, the Managers may, with the child's consent and with the consent of the Ministry, arrange for his emigration and must, where possible, consult with the child's parents.

I do not visualise any child emigration on a large scale from Northern Ireland and, therefore, would prefer to leave it that we would deal with any cases arising on their merits. We would not, as a general principle, apply the limited definition of guardian which appears to have been adopted by the Scottish authorities.

Yours sincerely,



W. N. McWilliam, Esq.,
Cabinet Secretariat,
Stormont Castle,
Belfast.

/MEP.

(c) After the necessary investigation and in consultation with the Local authority, children over the age of ten years may be allowed to emigrate providing that they themselves desire to go.

(d) The term "guardian" in Section 17 of the Children (1948) Act, is to be interpreted strictly as meaning an individual. The Secretary of State is not prepared to accept either the guardianship of Mr. Calwell, Australian Minister for Immigration (as is accepted under the Government Child Migration Scheme Agreement) or the guardianship of the Superior of a Home. Individual guardianship must be provided.

(e) A child of any age may be allowed to emigrate, providing all the authorities concerned are satisfied, if he/she goes to join a brother or sister already established in Australia - whatever the age of the brother or sister may be. An example of this being that of a child of five years of age having been granted permission to emigrate for the purpose of joining his brother who is not yet seven years old.

The term "children" in the foregoing covers all those maintained wholly or partially by a Local authority.

They fear that if the Secretary of State for Scotland has been correctly reported the consequences will be a virtual cessation of the migration to Australia, under the auspices of and for placement with voluntary child migration organisations approved by our respective Governments, of children maintained either wholly or partially by Local authorities responsible to the Scottish Home Department.

Could you please look into the matter urgently with a view to clarifying the position for the information of the Department

/or

Ministry of Home Affairs,
Stormont, Belfast.

Reference _____

A.S.H.

In connection with the attached correspondence, Clause 94 of the Children and Young Persons Bill contains the provisions which we hope to apply in relation to the emigration of children who are in the care of Welfare Authorities. The clause is based largely on the relative section in the Children Act, 1948.

Under our legislation a Welfare Authority will, with the consent of the Ministry, be enabled to procure or assist in procuring the emigration of any child in their care. In all cases where a child is capable of giving his consent such consent will be necessary, but where the child is too young to form an opinion he must emigrate in company with a parent, guardian or relative or must be emigrating to join a parent, guardian, relative or friend. In all cases the parent's consent must, where practicable, be obtained.

If we are going to put forward any views on the subject of emigration to Australia, we will have to decide the age below which we deem a child incapable of giving his consent to the arrangements, and we will have to make up our minds as to whether we will recognise an Australian Cabinet Minister as a guardian for the purposes of the section and similarly if we will also regard the Superior of a Home for children in Australia as a suitable guardian.

Up to the moment under the old legislation this question of emigration has never, to my ~~mind~~ cropped up, but I do know that at the present time the Roman Catholic Church has a representative in Northern Ireland who is trying to make arrangements for the emigration of boys and girls to Australia. This scheme is being worked through organisations which have been set up in Australia by the Church and which provide institutions for the reception of children from the British Isles and give them a certain amount of training in various trades before placing them in jobs in the Commonwealth. I understand that at the beginning this scheme was not looked upon too favourably by the Roman Catholic Bishops in Northern Ireland on the grounds that the Roman Catholic population would be reduced! At the present time, however, the representative of the movement from Australia is working in close contact with the Bishops and the scheme is being worked mainly through the Roman Catholic voluntary homes in Northern Ireland.

I don't know what procedure has been laid down by the Home Office in so far as England and Wales are concerned, but it is quite clear that the procedure in Scotland is at variance with that which obtains in England. On the question of age I think that the limit of 10 years fixed by the Scottish Home Department is a liberal one but I cannot understand why they refuse to accept the guardianship of the Minister for ~~Emigration~~, or, indeed, the Superior of a Home. On the whole I would be inclined to the view that we here should be prepared to accept whatever arrangements exist in England since, in all probability, that will eventually be the scheme which will be applied in Scotland.

In Great Britain the Secretary of State has power by regulations to control the making and carrying out by voluntary organisations of arrangements for the emigration of children. We did consider a similar provision for our legislation but the Parliamentary Draftsman thought that we would be prohibited from doing so. The whole question is more likely to arise in connection with voluntary organisations than in relation to children in the care of Welfare Authorities.

As I have already said, I think we should merely reply to this letter to the effect that we will be ~~be~~ prepared to accept

- 7.10 In tandem with the consideration of the inspection programme, the HIAI has identified a lack of reference within MoHA and SWAG reports to the regulatory duty of administering authorities to:

*“make arrangements for the home to be visited at least once in every month by a person who shall satisfy himself whether the home is conducted in the interests of the wellbeing of the children and shall report to the administering authority”.*⁶

- 7.11 This was a matter raised by the Hughes Inquiry, which found that MoHA and SWAG did not consider whether this and a similar duty imposed on statutory bodies in respect of statutory children’s homes was being discharged in a satisfactory manner. The findings were that it in a number of cases, it was not. This provision was an important safeguard for children, having the potential to alert those ultimately responsible for the management and running of the home to poor care or questionable practice. It was a statutory requirement and a fundamental matter that should have been checked during each MoHA or SWAG inspection/visit to each home.

The migration of children

- 7.12 The Departmental statement to the HIAI dated 9 September 2014 in respect of the migration of children, set out the statutory framework in which schemes for the migration of children to Commonwealth countries operated. The statement also detailed MoHA’s knowledge of the extent to which children were sent from Northern Ireland under the auspices of these schemes and the concerns expressed about them. The migration of children was an initiative of the UK Government and there was no evidence to suggest that MoHA or the Executive Committee of the Privy Council (the then Northern Ireland governing body) were involved in the establishment of such schemes. Nevertheless MoHA and members of the Northern Ireland Cabinet were aware of their existence and operation in Northern Ireland. The Department has already conceded that the migration of children was a misguided policy
- 7.13 The Department’s statement noted that on 24 February 2010, the then Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, on behalf of the UK Government apologised to former child migrants from the United Kingdom who had been sent as children to Australia and other British Colonies. The Prime Minister stated that in too many cases vulnerable children suffered unrelenting hardship, neglect and abuse in the often cold and brutal institutions that received them. The Department has stated to the HIAI that it fully endorsed the Prime Minister’s apology and acknowledgements in this matter.

⁶ regulation 4 in respect of Welfare Authority Homes and regulation 4(1) in respect of Voluntary Homes

TYRONE COUNTY WELFARE COMMITTEE

Dist. No. 2

CASE REPORT

Reg. No.

Name Mrs. [REDACTED]
 Address [REDACTED]
 Date 29th June, 1950.



~~Old Person~~
~~Blind~~
~~Ex-Off Child~~
~~1908 Act Child~~
~~Handicapped~~
~~Born~~
~~Mental Ex-Act~~

I discussed the **HIA 354** child with Mrs. [REDACTED] to-day in the presence of several members of her family.

All are in favour of taking the boy on three months probation. I have no doubt but that the home will prove to be suitable to the boy's requirements, and he will be given the utmost care and attention.

My report of last week was based on the physical capabilities of Mrs. [REDACTED]. She has a cataract on her left eye, and as a result, her sight is slightly impaired; she is awaiting development of the impairment, when an operation can be performed.

Mrs. [REDACTED] daughter, aged 23 years, does most of the housework. She appears to be a sensible girl, and in any event could handle a child expertly.

I have completed an A1. and also Forms W.31 which is herewith attached.

The home will be ready to receive the child by Monday, July 3rd.

*Dist. 1000
 Welfare Officer
 of the Tyrone County*

SL 096

SIGNED

TYRONE COUNTY WELFARE COMMITTEE

Dist. No.....

CASE REPORT

Reg. No. 6/0.129

Name _____

Address

Date 156 March 1951

C. & Y. P.

Part I.

2.

3.

4.

Adoptions

Unmarried Mothers

Probation

Mr

In September 1950 a letter was received from Northern Ireland Tuberculosis Authority, stating [redacted] was ready for discharge. He was admitted to the Children's Home, Coneywarren in September 1950. where he remained until placed with Mrs Finlay on 25th inst. [redacted] was recently X-rayed, and a satisfactory report received.

His brother [REDACTED] HIA 354 migrated to Australia on 6th November under the scheme organised by the Presbyterian Church in Victoria.

"Nan" is boarded-out with Mrs Elizabeth Moore, Castletown, ~~She~~ who is a sister of Mrs Finlay, James' foster-mother.

Following the mother's death, the small farm was disposed of, and the sum of approximately £300 is held by Messrs McConnell & Fyffe⁷⁷, Solicitors, Omagh in trust, during minority, to be divided equally between the three children.

J6081

SIGNED

Wb Wf adden

TYRONE COUNTY WELFARE COMMITTEE

Dist. No. 3

CASE REPORT

Reg. No. B.O. 129Name [REDACTED]Address Coneywarren Children's Home.Date 9th February, 1951.

C. & Y. P. ☒
 Part 1. ☐
 2. ☐
 3. ☐
 4. ☒
 Adoptions ☐
 Unmarried Mothers ☐
 Probation ☐

When placing [REDACTED] with Mrs E. Moore of Castletown this afternoon, the address of proposed foster-parent of James was obtained. The home is with Mrs Matilda Finlay, sister of Mrs Moore, who resides in County Londonderry. It was explained to Mrs Moore that before placing [REDACTED] it would be necessary to obtain approval from Co. Londonderry Welfare authorities.

20TH FEBRUARY.

To-day a letter was received from Co. Londonderry authority intimating their approval to the placing of James with Mrs Finlay. Subsequently Mrs Moore was advised the position. She will communicate with her sister as to suitable date for placement to be effected.

23RD FEBRUARY.

Called with Mrs Moore this afternoon, and learned that Mrs Finlay could accept [REDACTED] on Sunday afternoon 25th February. Mrs Finlay is a school teacher, and this is the most suitable day. Arrangements were made for [REDACTED] to be conveyed to the foster-home on 25th inst., and that Mrs Moore, and Nan (James' sister) would travel with him.

25th FEBRUARY.

This afternoon [REDACTED] was conveyed to the home of Mrs Finlay, and en route Mrs Moore and [REDACTED] were picked up at Castletown.

The Finlay home is about eight miles from Londonderry. It is a wooden bungalow, comprising sitting room, two bedrooms. They contemplate adding another bedroom and scullery in the early summer. Meantime, a single bed has been provided in the sitting room for [REDACTED].

The occupants of the home are Mr and Mrs Finlay, adopted daughter, and boy who works for them. Mrs Finlay and daughter occupy one bedroom, and Mr Finlay and the boy the other.

[REDACTED] as well received and although a little upset, it quickly passed. When time of departure drew near, he was busy "playing" the piano, Mrs Finlay's daughter having promised to teach him.

Mrs Finlay will take [REDACTED] to school with her each day.

The children will see each other frequently as it is the desire of both Mrs Moore and Mrs Finlay that the [REDACTED] should not lose touch.

Agreement, duly signed
attached.

SIGNED Madelaine Kelly

71084

xx 381-2

Our Ref: B.O. 122.

10th July, 1950.

Dear Sir,

In response to your circular concerning the efforts of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria to give opportunity to orphan children at their Farm School in Dhurringile. We have a child in our care HIA 354 date of birth 1942, an orphan whom I feel would benefit from this experience. Being an Australian myself and being intimately acquainted with the Fairbridge Farm School projects, I can appreciate what this opportunity might mean to an orphan boy.

At present he is in a Presbyterian foster home and after consultation with the Rev. J. Boyd Moore, B.A. we both agreed that we would like you to consider this child. No doubt, you will require further information and we will be only too happy to give you the complete case history.

Yours faithfully,

County Welfare Officer

Rev. Andrew Boag,
11 Miller Terrace,
Maybole,
Ayrshire,
Scotland.

VCJ/EMcM

SL091

TYRONE COUNTY WELFARE COMMITTEE.

No. 21 Reg. No. 112
REPORT CARD

Name **HIA 354**

Address

~~Old Person~~
~~Blind~~
 B.O. Child
~~1908 Act Child~~
~~Other Case~~

Rev. J. Boyd Moore B.A. called this afternoon to discuss with County Welfare Officer, the future of **HIA 354**.

I had a long talk with Mr Moore on the subject, and he is prepared to approve of **HIA 354** going to Australia. He had not previously considered the suitability of the climate but now thinks it would be ideal for the child. He now feels that migration to Australia may afford **HIA 354** more opportunity than he would have in Co. Tyrone.

In regard to separating the family, he feels that the brother and sister's health condition is such, it might never be possible to re-unite them.

I told Mr Moore that County Welfare Officer would keep him informed of any action taken.

He was pleased to learn that Dr James, T.B. Officer for Co. Tyrone had examined **HIA 354** and pronounced him fit, and free from infection.

52090

Signed W. W. J. J. J.
 Date 7/15 July 1950

23

TYRONE COUNTY WELFARE COMMITTEEMINUTE RELATING TO TRANSACTIONS AFFECTING CHILDREN

A Meeting of the Welfare Committee of Tyrone County Council was held in the Urban District Council Chambers, Town Hall, Omagh, on Monday, 17th July 1950.

Members present:- (1) Mr. J.P. Duff, presiding; (2) Mr. C.A. Beattie, (3) Mr. M. Busby, (4) Mr. S.C. Colhoun, (5) Mr. A. Gallagher, (6) Mr. R.A. Orr, (7) Mr. D.H. Martin, (8) Mr. S. Millar, (9) Mr. J. McGuckin, (10) Mr. J.A. Gamble, (11) Mr. W.A. Elliott, (12) Mr. T.J. McCaughey, (13) Mr. Wm. Stewart.

An apology for non-attendance was received from Mr. B. O'Reilly.

10.

MINUTES, CONEYWARREN HOME SUB-COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the Coneywarren Home Sub-Committee were submitted and approved.

On the proposal of Mr. Gallagher, seconded by Mr. Orr, it was agreed to ratify the appointment of Miss Pollock as Matron in a temporary capacity.

11.

BOARDED-OUT CHILDREN

The following recommendations were submitted by the County Welfare Officer

(a)

(b)

(c)

The County Welfare Officer suggested that **HIA 354** might be considered for emigration to Australia. He sought permission to pursue enquiries with this in view. Agreed.

12.

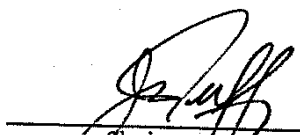
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT 1950

On favourable reports being submitted by the County Welfare Officer the

13.

CONEYWARREN HOME IMPROVEMENTS

The Secretary reported that he had received further correspondence from the Ministry of Home Affairs relative to the proposed improvements in the laundry accommodation at Coneywarren. He stated that the Ministry were not in complete agreement with the views of the Committee's technical adviser and he had arranged for the technical officers to get together and discuss the matter further. Noted.



FORM NO. W.23

YRONE COUNTY WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Dist. No. 2 Reg. No. 162

REPORT CARD

Name

HIA 354

Address

d.o.

~~Old Person~~~~Blind~~

B. O. Child

~~Rec. Act Child~~~~Other Case~~

On instructions from C.W.O.
I brought a pr child from Doreman
to Dr bomb for I.O. Test at 2 p.m.

At 3.30 p.m I collected
HIA 354 and returned with him to

I p lanted me Requisition
for Birth certificate for completion.
I left this at Divisional Office for
Mr Robinson.



Signed

Lidia Lefallagher

Date

27/7/50

SLO86

RECORD BOOKLET—Form L
FOR THE REVISED STANFORD-BINET SCALE
 as described in Terman and Merrill's "Measuring Intelligence"

No. _____

Series _____

COPYRIGHT, 1937, BY LEWIS M. TERMAN AND MAUD A. MERRILL

The reproduction of any part of this Test by a duplicating machine, or in any other way, whether the reproductions are to be sold or not, is a violation of the copyright law.

Name HIA 354 Examiner E. F. CROFT, M.B. C.A. 8 $\frac{2}{12}$
 Sex M Birthday 42 Date 27 7 50 M.A. 7 $\frac{6}{12}$
 School EARLSGIFT Class JUNIOR I.Q. 92
 Parent _____ Address c/o m^r _____

TEST BEHAVIOUR

Willingness	enthusiastic eagerness	enters actively into task	normal attitude because proper	disagreeable task	active objection
Self-confidence	extremely self-confident; relies on own ability	rather self-confident	neither distrustful nor entirely self-reliant	inclined to distrust own ability	extremely lacking in self-confidence; constantly distrustful of own ability
Social confidence	perfectly assured in personal contacts	rather confident	normal for age	rather shy	shy, reserved, reticent
Attention	completely absorbed by task	little interference from distracting stimuli	normal; attention to outside stimuli does not impair efficiency	easily distracted by extraneous stimuli or by own ideas, but returns readily to task	abstracted; difficult to get and hold attention

TEST SUMMARY

Yrs.	Mos.	Yrs.	Mos.	Yrs.	Mos.
II		VI	<u>6</u>	XIII	
II-6		VII	<u>6</u>	XIV	
III		VIII	<u>6</u>	A.A.	
III-6		IX	<u>2</u>	S.A. I	
IV		X	<u>2</u>	S.A. II	
IV-6		XI	<u>2</u>	S.A. III	
V		XII			
Time				Total	<u>77</u> <u>6</u>

GEORGE G. HARRAP & CO. LTD.
 182 HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.1

Made in Great Britain

SL 085

TYRONE COUNTY WELFARE COMMITTEE

Mr C. Jones, B.Sc.
County Welfare Officer

Telephone No.
OMAGH 22-42

Our Ref: P.O. 112

COUNTY WELFARE OFFICE
OMAGH

1st August, 1950.

Dear Mr. Shanks,

Re: **HIA 354** Born [REDACTED]

This boy is in our care on account of being an orphan. We have been considering whether he should be nominated for the Migration Scheme to Australia conducted under auspices of the Presbyterian Church. The Presbyterian Minister related to the **HIA 354** family is in agreement that this might be an opportunity for the boy.

I wonder if you would give me some indication as to whether the Ministry would approve of us recommending this boy for the Migration Scheme. You will find enclosed a Circular about the scheme, also a letter from Mr. Andrew Doug. Would you kindly return both to me when finished with.

Yours sincerely,

Walter J. Jones
County Welfare Officer

Mr. E. Shanks,
Ministry of Home Affairs,
Stormont,
BELFAST.
VDS/EMOM

** C.C. to Birmingham Post during tour
near Claphamton,
Walsley,
Australia*

Ministry of Home Affairs,
Stormont, Belfast.

Ref: 1000

T.47

HIA 354

A.S.E.

Please see the attached letter from Tyrone County Welfare Committee asking if the Ministry would approve arrangements for the emigration of this boy who is an orphan aged 8¹/₂ years. Sections 94 and 111(5) of the Children and Young Persons Act refer.

The scheme under which the proposed emigration would take place is administered by the Presbyterian Church in Australia. The boy's prospects would probably be brighter if he were allowed to emigrate under this scheme than if he were to remain at home.

The proviso to Section 111(5) of the Act, however, debar the Minister from authorising the emigration of a child unless he is satisfied that the child consents, or, being too young to form or express an opinion on the matter, is to emigrate in company with a parent, guardian or relative or is to emigrate for the purpose of joining a parent, guardian, relative or friend.

A child of eight years of age is obviously too young to form or express a proper opinion on the advantages or disadvantages of emigration. In the circumstances the Section would appear to debar any prospect of emigration in this case for the present.

A representative of the Dhurringile Training Farm has recently approached the Welfare Authorities in Northern Ireland (having previously ascertained that no objection to this course would be raised by the Ministry) to inform them of the facilities for emigration which they could offer in the case of suitable boys. It is possible that other requests for information may be received from Welfare Authorities.

particular
Whilst it is difficult to say at what age any child may reach the stage of mental development at which he is capable of forming a proper judgment on such a question, it is unlikely that such a stage would be reached before the age of twelve years at the earliest. I think, therefore, that unless the conditions laid down in paragraph 111(5) are satisfied we should not agree to the emigration of any child under that age.

J. Shanks

9th August, 1960.

Note:

A.S.E. spoke to the Minister about this yesterday afternoon. The Minister agrees generally. As it would probably be in the interest of the child, if he could emigrate under a scheme sponsored by a responsible body such as the Presbyterian Church he would be prepared to approve if a responsible officer or agent of the managing body of the Farm could take reasonable responsibility of the child on other reasonable arrangements for travel and subsequent care.

T-47.

19th August, 1950.

Dear Mr. Jones,

I am sorry that I have not been able to reply to your letter of the 1st August (ref. B.O.112) sooner about the proposal that HIA 354 should be allowed to emigrate to Australia under the scheme organised by the Presbyterian Church in Victoria. The position of orphan children who are too young to be able to form a proper opinion as to the advantages and disadvantages of emigration is one which has given some concern to the Ministry. Where, however, it is obviously in the interests of any child that he should be allowed to emigrate and satisfactory arrangements can be made for safeguarding the child's interests, the Ministry will not raise any objection to his emigrating under a scheme conducted by a reputable organisation.

Yours faithfully,

2/19/50
(Sd.) E. SHANKS

V.C. Jones, Esq., B.Sc.,
Tyrone County Welfare Office,
OMAGH.

ES/MNB.

3

TYRONE COUNTY WELFARE COMMITTEE

Dist. No. 2

CASE REPORT

Reg. No. ? ✓

Name HIA 354

Address C/o

Date 13th September, 1950.

Old Person:
 Blind.
 B. O. Child. ✓
 1908 Act Child.
 Handicapped.
 Burials.
 Mental H. Act.

HIA 354 was to-day conveyed to Tyrone County Hospital where he was X-rayed.

I talked with Dr James, Tuberculosis Officer for Co. Tyrone and he gave me a certificate stating that HIA 354 was free from infection. He considered it an excellent plan to send this boy to Australia.

We went to Coneywarren where HIA 354 had lunch. Subsequently, HIA 354 was medically examined by Dr Bradley on behalf of Dr J.A. Sunningham. The necessary form was completed, and together with certificate from Dr James, forwarded to Australia House.

X A fee of 7/6d was paid to Dr Bradley.

I conveyed HIA 354 to foster-parent's home at Donemana, and discussed privately with her the proposed migration of this boy. While if selected, she will be sorry to lose HIA 354 but realises the opportunities he will be afforded in Australia.

SC073

SIGNED *Maeleine K. W. Jackson*

30

TYRONE COUNTY WELFARE COMMITTEE

MINUTE RELATING TO TRANSACTIONS AFFECTING CHILDREN

A Meeting of the Welfare Committee of Tyrone County Council was held in the Courthouse, Omagh, on Monday, 18th September 1950.

Members present:- (1) Mr. J.P. Duff, presiding; (2) Mr. S. Millar, (3) Major R.A. Orr, (4) Mr. D.H. Martin, (5) Mr. W.A. Elliott, (6) Mr. T.J. McCaughey.

11.

MINUTES OF CONEYWARREN HOME SUB-COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the Coneywarren Home Sub-Committee were submitted and approved.

The County Welfare Officer stated that it would be desirable that employees in the Committee's Homes should be medically examined before taking up duty. He stated that he hoped to make voluntary arrangements for the examination of existing staff and that there might be some little expense involved in the matter in having X-Ray plates taken, etc. The County Welfare Officer was authorised to make appropriate arrangements and it was agreed to meet any expenses involved. It was suggested that one of the Medical Officers of the Health Authority be asked to conduct the examinations. It was agreed that future staff should be examined before employment.

12.

BOARDED-OUT CHILDREN

The County Welfare Officer made the following recommendations to the Committee:

(a)

(b)

(c)

(d) that final approval be given to the inclusion of **HIA 354** in the Migration Scheme organised by the Presbyterian Church of Victoria and that authority be granted to his departure to the Dhurringile Rural Training Farm for Migrant Orphan and Homeless Boys, subject to his being accepted under the scheme.

(e)

(f)

On the proposal of Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. McCaughey, the recommendations were approved.

The County Welfare Officer reported that Desmond Hamilton had been discharged from Coneywarren Children's Home and returned to the care of Fermanagh County Welfare Committee with effect from 24/8/50.

It was agreed to grant standing authority to the County Welfare Officer to expend a sum not exceeding £10 in each case to provide a complete new outfit for any child leaving a primary school and entering a secondary or technical school.

FORM No. W.35
 TYRONE COUNTY WELFARE COMMITTEE. ✓
 Dist. No. 2 Reg. No. 112

CASE REPORT

Name

HIA 354Address C/o

C & Y. P.

 Part 1.
 2.
 3.
 4. ✓

 Adoptions
 Unmarried Mothers
 Probation

HIA 354 was today
 interviewed by Mr. Price
 representative of Australian
 Government. The boy
 was very shy, & would
 not talk freely.

Subsequently B.W. Officer
 learned that **HIA 354**
 had been accepted for
 migration.

SC068

SIGNED

H. W. Fadden

5.10.50



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PLEASE REPLY TO
THE CHIEF MIGRATION OFFICER
AND QUOTE

AUSTRALIA HOUSE
STRAND · LONDON
W.C.2

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"CROTONATE, ESTRAND, LONDON"

GFG/JMW

Telephone: TEMple Bar 2435.



30th October, 1950.

Dear Sir,

With reference to the party of children proceeding under the sponsorship of the Dhurringile Rural Training Farm Organisation, sailing in the M.V. "CHESHIRE" from Liverpool on or about the 7th November, 1950, I have pleasure in enclosing herewith a railway warrant No. 31043 for the undermentioned child.

HIA 354

A Document of Identity in lieu of a passport for the above named child will be handed to the Reverend A. Boag who is the Senior Escort to this Party.

Yours faithfully,

Noel W. Lamidey
(Noel W. Lamidey)
CHIEF MIGRATION OFFICER.

Mr. V.C. Jones, Esq.,
County Welfare Officer,
Tyrone County Welfare Committee,
County Welfare Office, Omagh,
Co. Tyrone. N. Ireland.

SL056

FORM NO. W.25

TYRONE COUNTY WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Dist. No. 2Reg. No. 112

REPORT CARD

Name Mrs. [REDACTED]Address [REDACTED]

Old Person
 Blind
 B. O. Child ☒
 1908 Act Child
 Other Case ☒

At the request of the Children's Officer, I visited [REDACTED] this morning, and collected clothing and other articles belonging to the B. O. Child, **HIA 354** [REDACTED] **HIA 354**. These have been left at Greenfield for conveyance to Coneywarren to-morrow.

There was an air of depression and deep resentment in the [REDACTED] home, at the removal of the boy, and all I could say, was that the decision to send the boy abroad was taken, after long and most careful consideration.

The decision would prove to be the right one, while the opportunity, from the point of view of the boy's future was too good to be overlooked.

C. W. O. A.	
Date Received	8 NOV 1950
D. O. 1.	
D. O. 2.	
D. O. 3.	
C. O.	
SECY	
Signed	<i>[Signature]</i>
	C. M. G.

Date 1.11.50.

SC052

Steamship Line—ORIENT

SECRET 15

Date of Departure 1941 Year: 1941

Where Bound—AUSTRALIA

NAMES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF **BRITISH** PASSENGERS EMBARKED AT THE PORT OF LONDON, LIVERPOOL,

Images contributed by members of The National Archives London. Extract www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

1 I think precludes me from doing that, because it does
2 indicate a guardian would normally be appointed by the
3 court, and I would assume it means a court in Northern
4 Ireland.

5 But if I may go back a little in time, it is right
6 to say the Minister may have been mistaken in granting
7 consent, but there was a continuing duty on the Tyrone
8 County Welfare Committee to keep the Ministry appraised
9 of all relevant events. Now even before it made its
10 request to the Ministry or at the time it made its
11 request to the Ministry it failed to inform the Ministry
12 that HIA354 had a younger brother and a younger sister.
13 It failed to inform the Ministry that two of the foster
14 families were living almost directly opposite one
15 another and in the case of a third child the mother in
16 that family was the sister of the mother in one of the
17 other families. None of this was brought to the
18 attention of the Ministry.

19 But perhaps of most importance is the failure to
20 inform the Ministry of the request for adoption by the
21 foster family with which HIA354 was living. I think
22 the remark made by one of the County Tyrone welfare
23 officials, perhaps the Child Officer, was, "Let's hope
24 it blows over", something to that effect.

25 I have to put to this Inquiry the position that the

HIA 354 provided reasonable detail of his progress, health, development and interests until he attained 21 years of age.

(m) HIA 354 file evidences that the welfare authorities consistently promoted indirect sibling contact in the form of letters, photographs and updated information about HIA 354 in Australia. This is in keeping with the policy to 'maintain family links' that is referred to in a letter signed by the welfare officer dated 10 October 1956.

(n) Documentation in HIA 354 file shows that the welfare authority consulted with the Ministry of Home Affairs in August 1950 about considering HIA 354 for the Migration Scheme to Australia.


(o) There is no documentation on the files discovered so far that the HSCB's predecessors were consulted by the relevant departments in London before any children from Northern Ireland were sent on the Australia Migrant Scheme.

(p) There is no documentation on the files discovered so far that predecessors of the HSCB were informed by any voluntary organisation that the organisation intended to, or had sent, children from Northern Ireland on the Australia Migrant Schemes.

(q) The Foster carers came forward to ask to be considered to adopt HIA 354 albeit at a late stage when he was about to emigrate to Australia. There is no evidence to suggest that this was given due consideration which, upon reflection, I would have expected to happen.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed: 

Dated : 10 September 2014

paragraph 4). MoHA consent was given in the belief that the statutory requirements had been met. It is noted that prior to giving his consent, the Minister sought reassurance that “a responsible officer or agent of the managing body of the farm” would assume guardianship of the child (Annex A paragraph 5). As the guardianship of immigrant children was vested by law in the Australian Department of Social Welfare,³⁶ this information, if made known to him, might well have satisfied the Minister’s concerns. With reference to the requirements on the Minister to ensure that, where practicable, parents had been consulted, the child in this case was an orphan and therefore the question of parental consultation/consent did not arise.

34. A letter from the MoHA dated 19 August 1950, by way of response to Tyrone County Welfare Authority’s request regarding the approval of the Ministry to HIA 354 emigration stated;

.... The position of orphan children is one which has given some concern to the Ministry. Where, however, it is in obviously in the interests of any child that he should be allowed to emigrate and satisfactory arrangements can be made for safeguarding the child’s interests, the Ministry will not raise any objections to his emigrating under a scheme conducted by a reputable organisation.”³⁷

35. It is apparent from this communication that the Minister had given considered thought to the child’s circumstances, and as required by Section 115(5) of the 1950 Act, the potential benefits of emigration to him. However, it is now known that prior to HIA 354 departure for Australia, his foster carers, Mr and Mrs HIA 354 having been deeply disturbed at the removal of HIA 354,³⁸ had visited the Tyrone County Welfare Authority office on 3 November 1950 with a request that they might adopt the child.³⁹ This information was both significant and relevant to the Minister’s considerations about emigration and the best interests of the child. There is no evidence to suggest that the foster carer’s interests in adopting HIA 354 were shared with the MoHA. The record of the visit would indicate that the Welfare Authority was determined the request would not be further pursued.⁴⁰

Question d)

What was the rationale for participation in the Australian Child Migrant Schemes by the Department, or any of its predecessor bodies?

36. Other than the statement made by an MoHA official and reported in paragraph 18, the Department has been unable to locate any further information which explains the rationale for the MoHA’s expressed willingness to facilitate the migration of children to Australia. As part of its

³⁶ see paragraph 49

³⁷ Annex A paragraph 10

³⁸ Annex A paragraph 13

³⁹ Annex A paragraph 14

⁴⁰ Annex A paragraph 14

PRIVATE

bath. We were given new clothes and we were taken by boat across the Irish Sea to Liverpool to board a ship to Australia. I recently found an article in the Tyrone Constitution newspaper about me going to Australia.

9. My medical certificate is dated 13th September 1950. I left on 7th November 1950 on the M V Cheshire when I was eight years old. On board a Minister called Reverend [REDACTED] was looking after us along with a Scottish lady called [REDACTED] who was moving to Australia with her son.
10. There was no duty of care shown to us whilst we were on the ship. After two or three days into the journey a boxing ring was set up and we were made to fight each other for the entertainment of the other passengers. This was a horrendous experience as I had never boxed before and I was one of the youngest boys on board. I didn't know what was happening to me.
11. When we crossed the equator we were made to sit in a chair and we were then tipped backwards into a tub of water. Apparently it was a tradition but I found it a very frightening experience and I hid on the ship for two days in case it happened again. I befriended a worker on the ship called [REDACTED] and he eventually found me. On the ship we docked at Port Said. Local men in rowing boats came over to the ship to barter for goods. I thought this was a good opportunity to get a treat so I sent down all my clothes on a rope and in return I received a box of Turkish delight. When I opened the box it was full weevils. I was only left with the clothes I was wearing.

Dhurringile Rural Training Farm, Victoria, Australia (15th December 1950 - 1961)

12. We arrived in Melbourne Port on 15th December 1950. We were taken on a bus to Dhurringile Training Farm which was about a hundred miles from Melbourne. It used to be a prisoner of war camp and when we arrived it still had barbed wire around the grounds.

TYRONE COUNTY WELFARE COMMITTEE

CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

A Meeting of the Children's Committee was held at Coneywarren on Wednesday, 6th August 1952.

Present:- Mrs. Glasgow, presiding; Mrs. Leary, Mr. Todd, Major Orr, Mr. McCaughey, Mr. Colhoun and Mr. Brennan.

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Brennan on his first attendance at a meeting of the Children's Committee.

1.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 4th June 1952 were confirmed and signed.

2.

RE-ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

On the proposal of Mr. Todd, seconded by Mrs. Leary, Mrs. Glasgow was re-elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

On the proposal of Mr. McCaughey, seconded by Major Orr, Mr. O'Reilly was unanimously re-elected Vice-Chairman.

3.

MATRON'S REPORT

The Matron, Coneywarren Children's Home, submitted her reports for the months of June and July. It was stated that at the end of June there were 26 children in the Home and at the end of July 23 children in the Home. During the two months period there had been 22 admissions and 19 discharges. The health of the children was stated to be satisfactory and all children over five years of age were reported to be attending church and school. It was reported that Nurse E. Randall had gone on sick leave with effect from 26th June and that Nurse K. McGeown had been employed in a temporary capacity in her place with effect from 27th June; that Nurse M.A. Dunne had been employed for temporary holiday duty from 15th June and had terminated her employment with effect from 12th July. Miss V. Parke had been employed from 20th July to relieve during domestics' holidays. It was reported that the sandpit had been enlarged and more sand provided, that fire drill had been held on 1st July under Fire Officer Walker from Omagh and that the staff had been disturbed by a night prowler in the grounds; the police had been notified. It was stated that on 2nd June four of the children, accompanied by Nurse McNally, had attended a circus and that on 26th July the Children's Officer had taken four of the older children on a trip to Bundoran and Rosstown. Gifts were reported from Mr. B. O'Reilly, High Street, Omagh, and Mrs. McSorley, Bridge Street, Omagh. The Matron sought approval to the purchase of loose covers for the settee and two chairs in her sitting room and blinds for the kitchen windows.

Arising out of the report thanks were expressed to those who had donated gifts since the last meeting and the matron was authorised to provide the necessary furniture coverings and blinds for windows.

Appreciation was expressed to the Children's Officer for taking four of the children on a trip and on the suggestion of the Chairman it was agreed that next year the members should join in organising a trip for as many of the children as possible.

On the proposal of Mr. McCaughey, seconded by Mr. Todd, the report was adopted.

3.

REPORT OF CHILDREN'S OFFICER

The report of the Children's Officer for the months of June and July was submitted, which indicated that there were at the end of July 134 children in the Committee's care, four of these being the responsibility of the Belfast Welfare Authority and one the responsibility of the Down Welfare Authority.

The following recommendations of the Children's Officer were adopted on the proposal of Mr. McCaughey, seconded by Mr. Todd:-

11th June,

52.

Dear Sir,

Re. [redacted] AU 98 [redacted] born [redacted] 1944.
B/O. Mrs. [redacted] [redacted] Cross.

In November, 1950 [redacted] HIA 354 brother of above named, migrated to Australia under the Presbyterian Church of Victoria Scheme. It was our intention that when [redacted] AU 98 attained 8 years, he should if possible, join his brother at Dhurringile Training Farm school.

We have to-day written to Rev. W.V. Martin, re. possibility of having [redacted] AU 98 nominated. It would be appreciated if you could arrange to have [redacted] AU 98 tested and let us have an I.Q. certificate for submission to the Presbyterian Church Authorities. We would also like a report from the Chest Specialist, at St. Columbs on his health condition.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,



For County Welfare Officer.

The County Welfare Officer, & Secretary,
County Londonderry County Council Welfare Committee,
1, Strand Road,
Coleraine,
CO. DERRY.

MEMCF/BD.

JL051

sister in England, where employment was being found for her, and that approval be given to an expenditure of a sum not exceeding £13 on the provision of a suitable outfit.

(e) That [redacted] be removed from the care of Miss Boyle, foster parent, with effect from 1st August as it was felt that the foster parent was too old to exercise effective supervision and control and that this child be boarded out with Miss Margaret Kerr, Pollockstown, Strabane, with effect from 1st September 1952, and that as she was entering Strabane Technical School the usual grant of £10 be made towards the cost of a school uniform, etc.

(f) That [redacted] be placed in the employment of Mr. Cressan McIvor, Braokey, Sixmilecross, with effect from 14th August and that he reside with his former foster parent without payment of boarding out allowance. Approval was given to an expenditure not exceeding £15 on the provision of suitable clothing.

Will
Ble
arr
McS
of
that
spe
had

that
corps
d
had
ents

Arising out of the report reference was made by Mr. Colhoun to the fact that Mrs. M.A. McAleer, Dernaught, Castlecaulfield, the former foster parent of David J. Moore, had assigned a small farm [redacted] for his lifetime and he suggested that the Committee's appreciation should be communicated to Mrs. McAleer. The Secretary advised the Committee against this action, stating that the matter was a personal one which may have been disclosed to the inspecting officer without any intention that undue publicity should be given to it. He further stated that the Committee had no evidence as to how the assignment was effected and that it may have been done by provision in a will about which Mrs. McAleer would not desire any publicity. Eventually it was agreed that a member of the staff should verbally communicate the Committee's appreciation of the action.

The County Welfare Officer indicated that at a [redacted] meeting it was HIA 354 tentative arrangements for [redacted] to rejoin his brother at the Dhurringile Farm Training Centre in Australia but that since then, by indirect manner, he had learned of rather disquieting reports concerning the unhappiness of the boys there. He stated that he had written to the Supervisor of the Centre and also to some personal contacts in Australia and that he awaited replies. In the circumstances, it was agreed to defer further arrangements in regard to the migration of James Lockhart.

Reference was made to the low salary scales prevailing in the case of Nursery Nurses and it was agreed to recommend the Welfare Committee to approach the Ministry of Home Affairs with a view to suitable review.

M. H. Slingsby
Chairman

ROBERT PARKE
Secretary

Dated this day of 1952.
/SS



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA.

Department of Social Services,
Assembly Hall,
156 Collins Street,
Melbourne, C.1.
AUSTRALIA.

26th August, 1952.

The Welfare Officer,
County Tyrone Welfare Committee,
OMAGH, NORTHERN IRELAND.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of 14th inst. with copy of Robert's letter to Sadie. I am very appreciative of your courtesy in advising me immediately.

I am quite at a loss to understand some of Robert's assertions, but I feel that you should know some facts.

1. Food. I regularly ate porridge when I was a boy in England but soon found that eating porridge in this warmer climate made me suffer from pimples and boils. Hence, porridge is not a popular breakfast food here. I still like it but it does not like me.

I have had mid-day and evening meals with the boys and eaten the same food and I have never heard the boys complain of lack of food. I will make full inquiries, however. A good breakfast is essential.

2. Our boys at 17 Or 18 years of age choose their own callings in life and we find accommodation for the boys in the Christian homes of our Church folk. Two of our senior boys have been placed and are working in towns of the Goulburn Valley.

3. All boys at 18 must undergo 6 months' National training in one of the Services. This is a Government directive and law. All other boys do this and very few boys in Australia take up the life in any of the Services as a Calling.

We are training the boys who leave school, and do not choose a trade or profession, in farming pursuits. Such senior boys receive wages plus keep, the two being worth £5 to £6 per week.

4. Our Superintendent, who is an Elder of the Church, has been intimately known to me for almost 20 years and he sacrificed a lucrative job to take up this position at a much reduced salary because of his love for work amongst boys and youth of the country.

Visitors to "Dhurringile" have all stated that there is a freedom and family happiness in "Dhurringile" which they have not met anywhere else in this State.

3045

National Committee
 Y.M.C.A.'s. of Australia,
 Cr. Sturt St. & City Rd: STH. MELB.
 AUSTRALIA. 9th October, 1952.
 Jones, B.Sc.,
 Welfare Office,
 OMAGH. IRELAND.
 Dear Vic,

What a welcome surprise yours of August 14 was. You will see by the above that I am still on the job, but only in an honorary capacity as I am attached to the Commonwealth Government assisting in the assimilation of migrants. My job is to coordinate work of churches and voluntary organizations throughout Australia - a challenging and exacting privilege. It entails a lot of travelling but the results, speaking in general, are so far rather encouraging. Seven-hundred-thousand migrants take a lot of blending into a community in five years in a small population such as Australia's. We have not had experience of "foreigners", nor indeed very much of the post-war Britisher who seems to be somewhat different from those who came out many years before.

The economic situation in Australia is not good and so the number of migrants coming has had to be drastically cut, but everyone looks forward to renewal later.

I am doing an appreciable amount of Y.M.C.A. work and still occupy my old office, because although I am at present on Government payroll I am still only an "attachment" and not looked upon as a public servant. This has very many advantages as I deal with churches and other independent bodies.

Re Dhurringile Farm School. I have been absent and so have delayed reply to your enquiry. I know the place and have been there but have not first-hand knowledge of the existing school management. It is in a delightful part of Victoria and from that point of view I do not think it could be faulted. I was hoping I might be able to pay a personal visit but find this impossible at present. I have, however, made some judicious enquiries in various quarters and in the absence of a personal inspection, my impression is that the conditions compare quite favourably with other similar institutions being run by various churches. My impression is that it is not as far advanced as some others, e.g. Methodist Church Tally-Ho Scheme, but I know of no reason why a boy should not have a great opportunity as result of attending the school. I will not cease enquiries and if I should have opportunity of a visit, or securing some further valuable knowledge from reports I will let you know.

Football. I have only seen one senior match I am away so much, but I still have a responsive chord vibrating whenever I hear the sound of a football or hear a report with the yells of the crowd over the radio. What a long time it is since you and I met! Much water has flown under the bridge. I have been to Japan twice in connection with Australian YMCA service there. We now have only one representative in Korea and except in a supervisory way I have relinquished direct control to one of my colleagues.

One of our forward advances is the Opening of the YMCA College for Leadership Training at Homebush Sydney. Clive Smith, whom you will remember, from Perth and Springfield is Vice-Principal and doing a great job. It is going well after four years' experiment, but we have the old story, we need much more finance. I think we would require about £50,000 for buildings and establishment. The graduates are doing well in various jobs in churches and Y.M.s. and other youth leadership. I saw Ern Pickering recently. He has resigned from Perth and is now

74

(4)

8.

AVENUE AT CONEYWARREN

Mr. Gallagher drew attention to the fact that there was a long narrow avenue leading up to the Children's Home; he emphasised the desirability of arranging two or three passing bays at which traffic could meet and pass and it was resolved to refer the matter to the Welfare Committee.

9.

VISIT BY REPRESENTATIVE OF DHURRINGILE TRAINING FARM

The Chairman extended a welcome to Rev. and Mrs. Bell, Australian representative of the Dhurringile Rural Training Farm under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria. Mr. Bell gave an interesting talk on child migration and presented a very favourable picture of what was being done for boys at the Dhurringile Training School. He asked the Committee to encourage migration of boys of suitable type and handed round for inspection numerous photographs indicative of the good work that was being done.

Mr. Gallagher moved a resolution of thanks to Mr. Bell for a most enlightening and interesting talk and this was seconded by Mr. O'Reilly and passed.

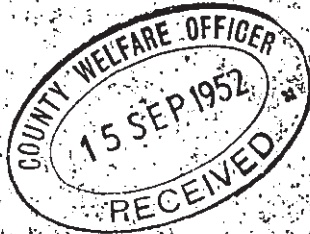
Chairman

ROBERT PARKES
Secretary

Dated this day of 1952.

/SS

B. O'Reilly
3/11/52



The Manse.
Tatura
Victoria
Australia.
August 1st. 1952.

Mrs M.E. McFadden.
Children's Officer.
County Welfare Office
Omagh

Dear Mrs McFadden,

Many thanks for your letter dated 11th. of June last.

I have asked the Superintendent of Social Services, the Rev. A.G. Harrison to arrange for an official report on **HIA 354** to be sent to you from his office and have also asked that a photo of **HIA 354** be included. I herewith send you my own personal report as Convener of Dhurringile.

HIA 354 holds a place in my affection that is all his own. I liked him when I saw him and that liking has grown with time. He is a dear little lad. Everybody reacts to him in the same way and I feel he will have a very successful life in Australia. He is happy here and is doing well at school. We have not said anything to him about the possibility of his brother coming out and will not until that possibility becomes a certainty but I know how thrilled he will be when he does hear. He is in perfect health and is a favourite with the boys. I shall arrange with the Superintendent of Dhurringile to send you a report at stated intervals.

I hope that it will be possible for your committee to migrate a large number of boys of **HIA 354** type. You may rest assured that we will do all in our power for them if you do.

With kindest regards from Australia,

Your's sincerely,

THOU
Andrew Boag

PRIVATE

groin and I was kept in Moorcopna hospital. **AU 45** came to visit me and he sat close to my bed. He slipped his hands in under my bed sheets and interfered with me. I didn't know what was happening. He took advantage of me as I couldn't push him off. A nurse was in the room at the same time but she didn't see what he did. This was the only sexual abuse I suffered whilst I was a resident in Dhurringile.

23. Tyrone County Welfare Committee meeting minutes of February 1958 state that on 10th February 1958 the Committee received another letter from Superintendant **AU 45** advising that I had contacted TB and that my brother and sister be kept informed. The same letter stated that I had completed my third year at technical college and had gained my Junior Technical Certificate. My education was to continue by correspondence but this was never arranged. The letter from Dhurringile requested that my brother and sister keep in touch by correspondence and suggested they send photos of themselves to keep my spirits up. The Committee noted that and were advised of my illness and that they promised to write more often and send snaps.
24. The whole time I was in Dhurringile I wrote to my sister and she replied. I think we exchanged letters every couple of months. I wrote to once or twice but I don't think brothers are very good at keeping in contact with one another.
25. The Tyrone County Welfare Committee meeting minutes of August 1958, March 1959 and October 1959 state that it had received a health progress report about me from Dhurringile. In January 1960 the Committee discussed a health report from the new Superintendant at Dhurringile called . The report confirmed that I was out of hospital and had returned to the home and that I was doing well. I went back to Dhurringile for a short time and one day I was given a train ticket to Melbourne and I had to leave. I left Dhurringile in 1961 when I was seventeen years old. When I arrived at Spencer Street Station I didn't know where to go and by chance I saw a boy from the home called . He along with a few other boys from the home were living with **AU 45** in Bayswater which is a suburb of Melbourne. **AU 45** had moved from

13/

TYRONE COUNTY WELFARE COMMITTEE

A. P. FIELDS,
County Welfare Officer

MRS. M. E. McFADDEN
Children's Officer.

Telephone No.
Omagh 381-2.



COUNTY WELFARE OFFICE,
OMAGH.

7th September 19 56.

Dear Sir/

Under the Presbyterian Church of Victoria scheme, one of our boarded out orphans, **HIA 354** born 1942, sailed for Australia on 6th November, 1950, and duly arrived at "Dhurringile" Rural Training Farm in December of that year.

On 5th September, 1951 we received from Rev. A.G. **AU 43** Supt. of Social Services a progressive report about **HIA 354**

On 11th June 1952 I wrote to Rev. Andrew Boag at 156 Collins St., Melbourne asking for a progress report, but no reply was ever received here. In that letter, it was pointed out that there was a possibility of **HIA 354** brother, **AU 98** born [redacted] being nominated. On 8th July 1952 I wrote to Rev. **AU 43** at the same address requesting a progress report, but that letter too was ignored. On 14th August, 1952 the County Welfare Officer wrote to **AU 43** - no reply received.

From time to time members of the Children's Committee inquire how **HIA 354** is getting on, but I can tell them nothing.

Apart from that, **HIA 354** has a sister **AU 99** who resides with a [redacted] at [redacted] Omagh and his brother **AU 98** resides with foster-parents in Co. Derry, and naturally they inquire about him, indeed **AU 99** is terribly disappointed at not receiving a letter from him since March, 1956.

You will appreciate that as a Welfare Officer I am most anxious that members of families should be kept in touch with each other, and I would respectfully ask you to be good enough to let me have by return, a full progress report on **HIA 354** and a photograph for his sister.

/2.

14/

TYRONE COUNTY WELFARE COMMITTEE

A. P. FIELDS,
County Welfare Officer

MRS. M. E. McFADDEN
Children's Officer.

Telephone No.
Omagh 381-2.



COUNTY WELFARE OFFICE,
OMAGH.

19

/2

If I do not hear from you, I shall be forced to take the matter up with the High Commissioner.

Yours faithfully,

M. E. McFadden

Children's Officer.

Secretary,
Department of Social Service,
Assembly Hall,
156, Collins Street,
Melbourne, C.I.,
AUSTRALIA.

MEMCF/VG.

TYRONE COUNTY WELFARE COMMITTEE

Mrs. M.E. McFADDEN
Children's Officer.

County Hall,
Mountjoy Road,
Omagh,
Co. Tyrone.

Tel. No.: Omagh 881.

7th August, 1963.

Mr. Colin G. Tutchell,
Superintendent,
"Dhurringile Training Farm",
c/o Murchison Rural Delivery,
Victoria,
Australia.

Dear Mr. Tutchell,

re: **HIA 354** born **HIA 354** 42.

I have to acknowledge with thanks your letter of 14th March enclosing Progress Report in respect of above-named.

My Committee at recent meeting were delighted to have news of **HIA 354** and send their best wishes to him for a happy, and successful future.

Please give my kind regards to **HIA 354** and tell him that one day I hope we will meet again in Northern Ireland.

HIA 354 sister **AU 99** has achieved one of her ambitions, and took up employment as shorthand clerk/typist in our County Council Offices on [REDACTED]

My Committee have no fixed policy concerning migration, and we would always be willing to co-operate. At present we have no boys available, as any that would be suitable have family ties.

Yours sincerely,



5L004

Children's Officer.

Appendix E

2

THE BANNER OF THE TRUTH IN IRELAND

Catholics (which is an important link leading to the Enquirers' Classes) will go on. The vital Scriptural instruction and general education for the children will be maintained by I.C.M. teachers as formerly. Colportage work in the country and the witness of the Society in Dublin will bring the message of the Gospel to many needy hearts.

That is the intention of the Committee, because it believes it is the purpose of God. It is hoped also that it will be possible to continue the Babies' Nursery, which is contained in the modern building erected in the grounds of Boley House, at Monkstown, Co. Dublin.

Tokens Already

These important decisions have been made after much consideration and prayer. Far-reaching changes now follow them. It has been a source of great encouragement to the Committee to see already manifest tokens of God's blessing outpoured upon the Society. We know that supporters will rejoice with us that these evidences of the Lord's favour have already marked the difficult path we must tread in the present reorganization.

We invite all friends to special waiting upon God, whose promise is:

"Call upon Me in the day of trouble:
I will deliver thee,
And thou shalt glorify Me."

—Psalm 50, v. 15.

MANOR HOUSE HOME, LISBURN

The following are some notes concerning our children's home in the North of Ireland.

First of all we send our prayerful good wishes and congratulations to Mrs. Weir (whom we have formerly known as Miss Scott, the Matron of the Home). She was married on January 13. As she is to live at Finaghy, only four miles away she hopes to keep in touch with the children still.

At the beginning of the autumn Canon J. S. Taylor was compelled through ill-health to resign the chairmanship of the local Committee which he has guided so ably since the Home

The Banner of the Truth in Ireland

AUS-11063

1001

Published

April - June 1951

THE BANNER OF THE TRUTH IN IRELAND

3

was opened in 1927. A successor to him has been found in the person of Canon Henry O'Connor.

Early in November seven of our boys sailed away to Australia. They are going to a training school from which there will be opportunities for them to enter secondary schools and the universities. Writing from Port Said, they were evidently enjoying the trip. But they were missed very much at the Manor House.

News of the arrival of the seven boys in Australia has reached us and we have been asked to include the letter which has been received at the Manor House Home. It was written from Melbourne on January 12 last, and comes from Rev. A. G. Harrison, of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria. He says:

"On behalf of our 'Dhurringile Rural Training Farm' Committee, I have to thank you for your co-operation and help in arranging for the migrants from the Manor House Home to come to Australia with our representative, the Rev. A. Boag.

"The boys arrived safely and are settling down to Australian conditions. Arrangements are being made for their Primary, Secondary or Technical education for 1951 according to each boy's inclination.

"Great interest has been shown in the boys throughout the whole district and there have been many offers of help in the surrounding towns and countryside that, when the boys are ready to leave the Home, many good friends will offer the lads a home and positions. Each boy will choose his own job in life.

"Meanwhile, with abundance of milk, butter, cream, fruit and meat, etc., all the boys appear to be happy and putting on weight."

We know that our friends will remember to pray for these lads as they begin life in a new land.

During last year an appeal was made over the wireless of the B.B.C. for the Home in the Week's Good Cause. The Rt. Hon. Sir J. Milne Barbour was the speaker.

In January Miss Bonyng, the new Matron, was welcomed; and we shall pray that under her direction the work of God amongst the children will go on.

Appendix C

2 R

195

Manor House Home

2nd November 1950 Contd.

Mr Gird called the attention of the Committee to the payment of accounts, and was not satisfied that these should be discharged without being examined by the Committee and initialed by the Chairman.

Matron reported that the seven boys selected for migration to Australia under the Sherrington Rural Training Farm scheme, in connection with the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, would shortly be leaving and will travel via Liverpool to Tahua, about 1000 miles from Melbourne in the beautiful district of the Goulburn Valley. They will be educated at a local State School, High Schools, and Technical ^{Schools} and be trained in farming; and if any boy desires to enter a trade or profession, the Church will provide him with every facility to do so and will sponsor him through his apprenticeship or course.

G. S. Baunister.

7/12/50.

PRIVATE

3. Manor house was mixed with boys and girls of all ages. We stayed in rooms which had about four or five to each room. I was beaten a couple of times by staff. I cannot recall their names. On one occasion I was carrying a brick and I dropped it on my toe by accident. A male member of staff hit me around the head for carrying the brick. I later found out that the brick was attached to a rope that was tied to me stopping me from running away. I was also tied to my bed at night. We were beaten as a form of punishment – I think it was the staff's way of disciplining us. After being beaten we were put into cold water baths, I am assuming this was to prevent bruising. If I ever played up the staff threatened that my mother would not come to visit me.
4. I attended Lisburn Public Elementary School which was down the road from the home. We went to church every Sunday as the home was run by the Church of Ireland. In the home I felt like an ordinary child as I didn't know anything different
5. My mother married a man called [REDACTED] on 2nd July 1949. She told me years later that after she married she told Harry about me and they came to Manor House to take me home but she was told that I was adopted by a wealthy family in Dublin. I obtained my school records in 2000, the records show that I was taken out of school for a period of about one month. I believe that this was when my Mother, [REDACTED] and his children went to the home to collect me. My mother did not have any more children, although she became step-mother to [REDACTED] two children and the family continued to live in Belfast, until [REDACTED] retirement when they moved to Lowestoft in England.
6. I cannot remember what we were told about going to Australia. I do recall older boys in Manor House saying I would come back black because of the sun. I didn't want to go as soon as I heard this. I do not recall being asked by anyone if I wanted to go to Australia.

would then say "well it is going to hurt more if you keep wetting the bed". It was yet another punishment for wetting the bed.

10. I remember always being thumped on my head by staff at Manor House. They would use their open hands and hit both my ears at the same time and it was really painful. I recall being punished by the use of a cane and I recall a whip with long strings attached which really hurt on impact. The staff would shout at you when they hit you "Don't cry and don't tell, you cry, you get more".
11. I recall being dressed in girl's clothing by one Minister although I do not recall his name. I felt a silk dress belonging to my wife at one stage and it was made from the same fabric and it brought this memory back to me. The Minister did this quite often to me and made me sit on his knee. There was not skin to skin contact but I could feel that he got an erection and I could feel it through the silk fabric. Again I was brought to see this Minister by [REDACTED]
12. I do not recall what age I was when the sex abuse commenced in residential care in Lisburn but the more painful physical punishments started when I was around seven years old. I also recall my feet became totally misshapen because we never wore shoes.
13. I did not receive a proper education in Northern Ireland. They referred to me as "a retard" because I was small and I would stand up to them and fight back so they kept me under lock and key and called me retarded and I was not kept at school or given a proper education.
14. I remember the issue of migration to Australia being discussed in Manor House. My mother gave consent to my being sent to Australia. They did not ask us if we wanted to go but they told us that we were going. I recall being petrified because I had not been going to school and I distinctly remember asking some of the other children to teach me what they had learned at school because when I arrived in Australia I was going to have to know as much as they did.
15. I left Manor House in November 1950 when I was nine years old. Six other boys from Manor House left with me. Their names were [REDACTED] HIA 346 [REDACTED]

PRIVATE

7. I sailed to Australia in December 1950 on the MV Cheshire which was a former troop ship. Eight boys in total left from Manor House. I was the youngest. Two boys came from Coleraine to Manor House to make the journey with us. We left on a boat from Belfast and arrived at Liverpool. There were twenty-nine boys in total that went on the ship – eight from Ireland and twenty-one from Scotland and England. All eight boys from Ireland had to share clothes from a small suitcase and we were not allowed to wear shoes on the ship. A Minister called [REDACTED] was on the ship with us. I was starving for the first three or four days on the ship as no-one told me where we were to eat as we were not allowed in the dining room of the ship, we had to eat in a separate area, so I missed out on meals. We were allowed to run around the ship with little supervision. I think we had lessons on board.
8. My certificate of migration was signed by the Matron of Manor House, [REDACTED] MH 1 [REDACTED] MH 1 on 20th July 1950. My medical examination certificate is dated 14th September 1950 however I do not recall having a medical exam. My date of birth recorded on the migration certificate was incorrect. This also I believe when I started being called [REDACTED] HIA 346 instead of my first name [REDACTED] HIA 346

Dhurringile Rural Training Farm (15/12/1950 – 1956)

9. When we arrived in Melbourne on 15th December 1950 we were taken on a bus to Dhurringile which is about 100 miles from Melbourne. It was in the middle of nowhere and was used as a prison camp during the war. It was dormant for a number of years and then bought by the Presbyterian Church. It only opened in 1950 and we were the first boys that stayed in it. Boys kept coming and going and I think there may have been around one hundred boys through the home. Dhurringile was run by the Presbyterian Church of Tatura and we were sponsored by them for a supposedly better life in Australia.

PRIVATE

bath. We were given new clothes and we were taken by boat across the Irish Sea to Liverpool to board a ship to Australia. I recently found an article in the Tyrone Constitution newspaper about me going to Australia.

9. My medical certificate is dated 13th September 1950. I left on 7th November 1950 on the M V Cheshire when I was eight years old. On board a Minister called Reverend [REDACTED] was looking after us along with a Scottish lady called [REDACTED] who was moving to Australia with her son.
10. There was no duty of care shown to us whilst we were on the ship. After two or three days into the journey a boxing ring was set up and we were made to fight each other for the entertainment of the other passengers. This was a horrendous experience as I had never boxed before and I was one of the youngest boys on board. I didn't know what was happening to me.
11. When we crossed the equator we were made to sit in a chair and we were then tipped backwards into a tub of water. Apparently it was a tradition but I found it a very frightening experience and I hid on the ship for two days in case it happened again. I befriended a worker on the ship called [REDACTED] and he eventually found me. On the ship we docked at Port Said. Local men in rowing boats came over to the ship to barter for goods. I thought this was a good opportunity to get a treat so I sent down all my clothes on a rope and in return I received a box of Turkish delight. When I opened the box it was full weevils. I was only left with the clothes I was wearing.

Dhurringile Rural Training Farm, Victoria, Australia (15th December 1950 – 1961)

12. We arrived in Melbourne Port on 15th December 1950. We were taken on a bus to Dhurringile Training Farm which was about a hundred miles from Melbourne. It used to be a prisoner of war camp and when we arrived it still had barbed wire around the grounds.

Appendix E

2

THE BANNER OF THE TRUTH IN IRELAND

Catholics (which is an important link leading to the Enquirers' Classes) will go on. The vital Scriptural instruction and general education for the children will be maintained by I.C.M. teachers as formerly. Colportage work in the country and the witness of the Society in Dublin will bring the message of the Gospel to many needy hearts.

That is the intention of the Committee, because it believes it is the purpose of God. It is hoped also that it will be possible to continue the Babies' Nursery, which is contained in the modern building erected in the grounds of Boley House, at Monkstown, Co. Dublin.

Tokens Already

These important decisions have been made after much consideration and prayer. Far-reaching changes now follow them. It has been a source of great encouragement to the Committee to see already manifest tokens of God's blessing outpoured upon the Society. We know that supporters will rejoice with us that these evidences of the Lord's favour have already marked the difficult path we must tread in the present reorganization.

We invite all friends to special waiting upon God, whose promise is:

"Call upon Me in the day of trouble:
I will deliver thee,
And thou shalt glorify Me."

—Psalm 50, v. 15.

MANOR HOUSE HOME, LISBURN

The following are some notes concerning our children's home in the North of Ireland.

First of all we send our prayerful good wishes and congratulations to Mrs. Weir (whom we have formerly known as Miss Scott, the Matron of the Home). She was married on January 13. As she is to live at Finaghy, only four miles away she hopes to keep in touch with the children still.

At the beginning of the autumn Canon J. S. Taylor was compelled through ill-health to resign the chairmanship of the local Committee which he has guided so ably since the Home

The Banner of the Truth in Ireland

AUS-11063

1001

Published

April - June 1951

THE BANNER OF THE TRUTH IN IRELAND

3

was opened in 1927. A successor to him has been found in the person of Canon Henry O'Connor.

Early in November seven of our boys sailed away to Australia. They are going to a training school from which there will be opportunities for them to enter secondary schools and the universities. Writing from Port Said, they were evidently enjoying the trip. But they were missed very much at the Manor House.

News of the arrival of the seven boys in Australia has reached us and we have been asked to include the letter which has been received at the Manor House Home. It was written from Melbourne on January 12 last, and comes from Rev. A. G. Harrison, of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria. He says:

"On behalf of our 'Dhurringile Rural Training Farm' Committee, I have to thank you for your co-operation and help in arranging for the migrants from the Manor House Home to come to Australia with our representative, the Rev. A. Boag.

"The boys arrived safely and are settling down to Australian conditions. Arrangements are being made for their Primary, Secondary or Technical education for 1951 according to each boy's inclination.

"Great interest has been shown in the boys throughout the whole district and there have been many offers of help in the surrounding towns and countryside that, when the boys are ready to leave the Home, many good friends will offer the lads a home and positions. Each boy will choose his own job in life.

"Meanwhile, with abundance of milk, butter, cream, fruit and meat, etc., all the boys appear to be happy and putting on weight."

We know that our friends will remember to pray for these lads as they begin life in a new land.

During last year an appeal was made over the wireless of the B.B.C. for the Home in the Week's Good Cause. The Rt. Hon. Sir J. Milne Barbour was the speaker.

In January Miss Bonyng, the new Matron, was welcomed; and we shall pray that under her direction the work of God amongst the children will go on.

-2-

SECRETARY'S
REPORT contd.

A circulating pump in the heating system which ensured the flow of hot water to the drying room had gone out of action. Mr. J. B. Cathcart, Plumber & Electrician, 32 Railway Street, Lisburn, had been asked to examine this. He had dismantled the pump and had discovered that certain parts needed oiling. The pump was now working and the job would cost £1 approximately. The Secretary had also asked Mr. Cathcart to repair a leak between two sections of the urinal in the boys' toilet. This had to be approached through the ceiling of the boiler house beneath. He was informed that the charge would be in the region of £2. His action in these matters was approved. He promised to look into the question of having the whole circulation system serviced at regular periods. This was apart from the oil-burner which was serviced by the Clyde Fuel Company who installed it.

FOOTBALL FIELD

Re report of Sub-committee on 23.6.61 (paragraph 8). It was decided to ask Mr. Leslie Bell to inspect the job which had been done by his sub-contractor in the hope that he might be moved to compensate the Committee in some way.

The Rev. T. H. Frizelle proposed that Committee members should inspect the Home at frequent intervals - men outside and ladies inside.

OTHER CORRESPONDENCE:

SUNDAY PICTORIAL

A letter from the "Sunday Pictorial" inviting the Committee to allow the Home to join the "Lonely Children Appeal, 1961" (whereby gifts are sent to children in Residential Homes) was read. It was decided to write a letter of thanks and appreciation in reply stating that the children of the Manor House Home were well catered for in this respect.

REPORT OF
DHURRUNGILE
TRAINING FARM,
MURCHISON,
VICTORIA.

This report had been received per the Belfast Welfare Committee from Mr. R. J. Read, Superintendent of "Dhurrungile Training Farm". Mentioned in this report were five of the six boys who left the Manor House Home for Australia in December, 1950.

It was decided to send a circular letter to each ex-M.H.H. boy, whose address it was possible to get, giving such news of the Home as might be thought interesting.

It was suggested that a similar circular letter be sent to any ex-M.H.H. children whose addresses could be found.

MRS. W. TEASEY

It was reported having received a letter from Mrs. Wm. Teasey, 49 Belmont Ave., Belfast 4, requesting to have two children in her home for a week at Christmas. The Secretary had visited Mr. & Mrs. Teasey and was impressed by them and their family. Mrs. Teasey had spent some of her childhood days in the Manor House Home.

It was decided that as the number of children was usually reduced at Christmas time this could not be approved. The matter could be discussed again if things seemed favourable nearer Christmas.

OTHER BUSINESS:HONORARY
TREASURER'S
REPORT

In the absence of the Honorary Treasurer the Secretary read the list of subscriptions, etc. received during September and the accounts for the same period (listed on page 4). Dr. McCann proposed these be paid and Mr. Frizelle seconded.

J. M. J. +

1923

1923

Dear Mother General said that Major Macaulay is very anxious for us to send out children about 12 years of age to Australia and thinks the Government will pay their passage out & also for the Sisters who may accompany them. If they could be sent to Brisbane after an arrangement has been made with Archbishop Duhig, who is also anxious for Catholic girls to go there - the members agreed it would be a good thing but the scheme would need to be well thought out and none but Margaret's own children to be sent and to be entirely in the hands of the Sisters.

Linton - Dear Mother said that the Corporation want to make a public road of the land

1925 will be provided with a copy of these regulations. and after reading it over, any suggestion made will be welcome.

Register of Vows - In this book Sisters names to be entered on every second line according as they renew their vows. Names in all books to be entered in same order as in Register of Sisters not alphabetically. A Superior suggested to enter Children's surname first in Register - This was not approved of, as it would cause confusion. Arranged to have an Index Children taken by relations, as well as those sent to situations to be entered in Disposal Book - the former to have two names on each page - the latter one. A book to kept in each house for the use of the Bishop or the priest who examines the Sisters for Final Vows. Specimen Observation Book Pension Book shown to the Superiors - all approved of the method, and thought the proposed way of keeping Pension Book very simple and clear. Sending girls to Australia. Rev. Mother General

said she wished to ask the opinion of the Chapter on this matter (and told the members that) About two years ago a Catholic gentleman in London called her and asked us to send some of our girls out to Australia for the spread of Catholicity. The matter was brought before the General Council and all were in favour of it, if it could be satisfactorily arranged. When out in Australia Brisbane seemed to us the most suitable place for our girls - We spoke to Archbishop Duhig. who not only approved of and encouraged the

1928. Emigration of the children in our Homes as to spread Catholicity. Rev. Mother General said the Christian Brothers in Australia had offered to take 50 boys to a farm they had acquired there, and to be entirely responsible for their education &c. The offer will be availed of, as soon as the Brothers can make definite arrangements for the boys to go out. Reports very satisfactory of girls who had emigrated under the care of our Sisters and been received in our Home at Brisbane. The Bishop there is very interested in the scheme. A site for a new Foundation has been procured in Melbourne, this house might be used to receive children emigrated from the Home houses.

The majority of the children in the English homes emigrate to Canada under the care of the Catholic Rescue Society. Reports of these children are good and the supervision exercised over them in Canada is highly satisfactory.

Training Centres for the girls in the Home houses.

These centres to be in Homes having the necessary equipment for domestic training, e.g. Birmingham, Isleworth. Children should be well grounded in the Elementary Subjects first, then a good domestic training would be useful, school work being continued in the evenings.

Mentally-defective children. What provision can be made for these children? Could a place be set apart in one or two Homes of the Congregation at home, and one in each colony, where children from the different houses could be placed, and trained to look after themselves, as is done in homes for the mentally deficient - or could they

Brother Movement, and this appeared an affront to some Catholic leaders who felt they had no equivalent service to offer suitable Catholic youth.⁴⁶

2.51 In 1922 the Knights of the Southern Cross was established in order to promote the interests of Catholics and to counter perceived Masonic and 'Orange' influence in the community generally. One of the objectives of the Knights was the promotion of Catholic immigration. It was in Western Australia that the Knights moved to encourage child migration with the approval of the bishops and the assistance of the Christian Brothers, especially two prominent members of the Order in Perth— Brothers PA Conlon and FP Keaney. The success of the Fairbridge Farm School at Pinjarra provided a challenge to Catholics in Perth. They responded by developing their own farm school at Tardun, which was intended to train both Australian and British youths in farming techniques.⁴⁷

2.52 After extensive negotiations between British and Australian churchmen and the Australian, Western Australian and British Governments, Brother Conlon was eventually sent in 1938 to the UK to finalise arrangements to bring about 100 boys to Western Australia. Three groups of British child migrants – 114 boys in all – were brought to Christian Brothers' orphanages in Western Australia in 1938-39. Dr Coldrey characterised Catholic child migration in the late 1930s as small-scale, privately organised, enjoying a small government subsidy; and motivated by sectarian and child rescue considerations.⁴⁸

2.53 In 1930, as the Depression deepened, almost all immigration to Australia ceased. Youth migration under the Dreadnought Trust and the Big Brother Movement was curtailed, however Fairbridge was permitted to continue its work bringing children to Western Australia and Barnardos to its home at Picton (NSW). There was almost a complete cessation of immigration for the next seven years.

2.54 By the mid 1930s, as noted earlier, Canadian restrictions on the entry of child migrants forced the various agencies emigrating children to turn their attention to other countries, including Australia.

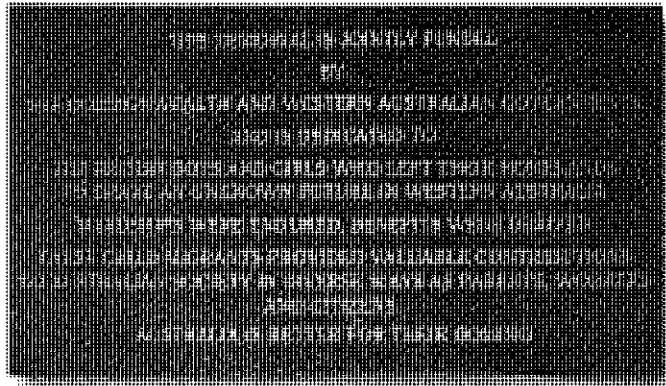
2.55 In 1937, juvenile migration to Australia under the Big Brother Movement and the Dreadnought Trust recommenced. In the same year a second Fairbridge farm school was established at Molong (NSW) and the Lady Northcote Trust established a similar farm school at Bacchus Marsh (Victoria); and the Christian Brothers brought their first group of child migrants to Tardun (Western Australia). Two years later the outbreak of World War II terminated migration for the duration of the war.

46 Coldrey, *The Scheme*, p.126.

47 Coldrey, *The Scheme*, p.128. See also Submission No.54, p.4 (JLG).

48 Coldrey, *The Scheme*, p.128.

programmes at the time they were in operation, there was a growing awareness during the latter part of the twentieth century that the whole concept was questionable and that its implementation had caused much emotional pain and distress to many of those involved.



Inscription under Perth Memorial Photo Jim Hyland

The child migration programmes have evoked acknowledgement, by most voluntary agencies, that their predecessors' policies (which led to many vulnerable children being sent thousands of miles away from their homeland) had negative aspects, even if well intentioned. More constructively, this revised thinking has also led to the emergence of systems to assist the people who have experienced migration in order to help them discover their families and their origins in the United Kingdom.

The Original Justification

The legislative basis for funding the child migration schemes was the British Empire Act 1922. This allowed the Government to give funds to non-government agencies in support of their migration work. This included the subsidising of fares and the maintenance of children sent overseas by the voluntary agencies. As has been observed in the earlier chapter on migration to Canada, many in positions of authority in the Governments involved and in the various charities, saw migration as an opportunity to address a number of issues. Thus all involved were persuaded that everyone would benefit from a degree of directed migration for children who it was said, were unable to live with their families.

The Curtis Report (1946), also considered the issue of migration of children and it is worthwhile quoting from their one paragraph on this subject (515): *"It is clear to us that the effect (arrangements to select children for migration) is that this opportunity is given only to children of fine physique and good mental equipment. These are precisely the children for whom satisfactory openings could be found in this country, and in present-day conditions this particular method of providing for the deprived child is not one that we specially wish to extend. On the other hand, a fresh start in a new country may, for children with an unfortunate background, be the foundation for a happy life (and should) remain open to suitable children who express a desire for it. We should, however, strongly deprecate their setting out in life under less thorough care and supervision than they would have at home, and we recommend that it should be a condition of consenting to*

emigration of deprived children that the arrangements made by the government of the receiving country for their welfare and aftercare should be comparable to those we have proposed in the report for deprived children remaining in this country."

The general position of Curtis was not in favour of sending children abroad. Where it was to happen it should be only open to children: *"who express a desire for it."* They were also very clear that the care that the children should receive on arrival in other countries should be as good as that that they would receive in this country. The benefits claimed for the scheme were considered to be that the care agency would no longer be financially responsible for the child, the receiving country would have fresh citizens of "Christian British stock", the receiving family or institution would have another pair of hands and the child would have somewhere safe to live and all the future opportunities of a new land. The Catholic involvement in child migration was also in part fuelled by concerns that the Protestant child care agencies had become well established and that there was no similar provision for Catholic children in Australia.

Request from Australia

When the religious order of Christian Brothers made a plea for 100 English Catholic boys to be sent to their newly established farm school in Western Australia in 1938, Cardinal Hinsley and the Catholic Emigration Association agreed, reluctantly, to support the idea. Also, in 1938 the Christian Brothers were approached by the London County Council (L.C.C.) with a request to establish a scheme for girls. It was hoped that the Sisters of Nazareth would run a project for girls in one of their Western Australian projects, which they later did.



Cardinal Arthur Hinsley

'150 Years' p86

In 1939 copies of the planned scheme were sent to Canon Craven, then Administrator of the Crusade. In a letter to Bishop Griffin, of Father Hudson's Society in Birmingham (later Cardinal Griffin) about the proposal, Canon Craven observed that while supporting the plans, *"I should myself have been very much opposed to girls going out simply to be trained for domestic service and I ought to tell you that the LCC were absolutely opposed to such a scheme. They are afraid, like myself, that it would mean using poor girls as drudges on farms and in the towns. This we must certainly prevent."*

Progress Report

Part of the Administrator's account of the work of the Crusade during 1938 printed in the 1939 Annual Report gives a full account of these initial developments:

"A scheme for improving the education and prospects of our boys is that provided by the Christian Brothers at their Farm Schools at Clontarf and Tardun in Western Australia.

The Crusade, in common with all the other Rescue Societies and the Nazareth House Orphanages in England, has an arrangement with the Christian Brothers in Western Australia, whereby a certain number of our boys may be sent to them to be prepared in their Schools for an agricultural career.

The boys are sent out to the Christian Brothers between the ages of 7 and 11+. The object of this early emigration is to bring the children under the influence of Australian life in their earliest formative years and so ensure that in both habit and outlook they will be, as far as possible, one hundred per cent Australian. The type of education given to these boys is, first of all, elementary; later secondary; and if the boys have the intelligence and a taste for higher studies, a University education.

During the past twelve months 110 boys have been sent out from various Homes in England, and as I have already reported, 11 of those boys were from our Crusade Homes. The reports we have received of these children are most satisfactory.

The very satisfactory nature of this Scheme is in no way lessened by the fact that the cost of the voyage to Western Australia is paid by our Dominions Office and the costs of maintenance at the Christian Brothers' Schools are met, partly by our Dominions Office and partly by the Christian Brothers."

It was agreed by the Bishops of England and Wales in February 1939 that the Catholic Child Welfare Committees (CCWC) of which the Crusade of Rescue was a member, should have exclusive control and management of the emigration and settlement of all children up to the age of seventeen. The outbreak of World War II put an end to all such activity until 1945.

An Imperfect System

In May 1945 Cardinal Griffin received a letter from the Archbishop of Perth asking his agreement to restarting child migration. In May 1946 Cardinal Griffin wrote to Canon Craven at the Crusade about the pressure he was having from the Church in Australia and suggesting a meeting of the Catholic Child Welfare Council to discuss the issue. The Cardinal also refers in his letter to "adverse reports" about Australia of which he thought Brother Conlan, of the Australian Christian Brothers schools, should be made aware. Canon Craven replied that he was not aware of such reports but agreed that if they existed Brother Conlan should be told about them. He added that he believed that before any further migration of children began the whole issue needed to be explored on the spot in Australia.

At the subsequent meeting of the CCWC it was noted that the Australian Government were seeking 70,000 migrants a year, of whom they expected 17,000 would be children. They agreed that someone from the Council should visit Australia before resuming the scheme, although there is no record of anyone going at this time. Brother Conlan had by this time,

April 1947, been travelling around England and agreeing with the various Catholic agencies the numbers of children who could be sent to Australia. He had identified places for 400 children to go to homes in Western Australia. The Australian Catholic Bishops had appointed a Bishop to be co-ordinator of the whole migration scheme and a General Secretary was also appointed for all Catholic migration Reception Committees.

By August 1947 the UK Government had agreed, after receiving assurances from the UK High Commissioner in Australia, that conditions in the Catholic institutions in Western Australia were satisfactory. In the same month, in 1947, some 150 children sailed for Australia.

The Scheme Ends

It was not until November 1955 that it became necessary for the consent of the child's legal guardian/parent to be obtained before migration could take place. By this time a number of Catholic agencies were beginning to question the child care practice and standards in some of the various institutions in Australia and were saying they required further assurances before they could agree to any further child migration. By 1958 the Home Office contacted CCWC to ask that trained social workers carry out: "*careful investigation of each child's circumstances*" and liaise with other agencies before agreeing to children's migration. CCWC replied by saying that there was now: "*very little likelihood at present of our sending children to Australia.*" In fact no children had been sent since December 1956, and none was sent after this time, although 15-17 year-olds continued to go out via other schemes for the next few years. Whilst the scheme was in operation the Crusade of Rescue sent a total of 95 children.

All of this does suggest that the Catholic involvement in the sending of children to Australia was not managed in the coordinated way of the Canadian scheme. It is also



Children with parents on route to Australia 1947



St. Mary's Cathedral
Perth

For the past 70 years, the Archdiocese of Perth has been privileged to foster Orphanages for the material and spiritual uplift of Catholic children who have no parents or guardians to care for them. This notable work has been carried out by the Christian Brothers at their Clontarf and Castledare Institutions, and by the Sisters of Mercy at St. Joseph's Girls' Orphanage and St. Vincent's Foundling Home.

Many thousands of homeless Australian boys and girls have passed through the sheltering portals of these homes and just prior to the war, it was our privilege to add young citizens from the United Kingdom to our flock.

Since the inception, every year has witnessed new improvements and more up-to-date facilities to provide for the welfare and training of the boys and girls. The enterprise of the Christian Brothers, in providing not only Technical

training, but also Farm Schools, aiming at settling on the land, boys suitable for agricultural and pastoral pursuits, is worthy of the highest possible praise.

I wholeheartedly commend the proposal to arrange for the reception of children from the United Kingdom at the Institutions in Western Australia and commend the Catholic Episcopal Migration and Welfare Association which is to arrange and control the migration scheme.

Archbishop of Perth.

Neomon Prendergill

"A scheme for improving the education and prospects of our boys is that provided by the Christian Brothers at their Farm Schools at Clontarf and Tardun in Western Australia.

The Crusade, in common with all the other Rescue Societies and the Nazareth House Orphanages in England, has an arrangement with the Christian Brothers in Western Australia, whereby a certain number of our boys may be sent to them to be prepared in their Schools for an agricultural career.

The boys are sent out to the Christian Brothers between the ages of 7 and 11+. The object of this early emigration is to bring the children under the influence of Australian life in their earliest formative years and so ensure that in both habit and outlook they will be, as far as possible, one hundred per cent Australian. The type of education given to these boys is, first of all, elementary; later secondary; and if the boys have the intelligence and a taste for higher studies, a University education.

During the past twelve months 110 boys have been sent out from various Homes in England, and as I have already reported, 11 of those boys were from our Crusade Homes. The reports we have received of these children are most satisfactory.

The very satisfactory nature of this Scheme is in no way lessened by the fact that the cost of the voyage to Western Australia is paid by our Dominions Office and the costs of maintenance at the Christian Brothers' Schools are met, partly by our Dominions Office and partly by the Christian Brothers."

It was agreed by the Bishops of England and Wales in February 1939 that the Catholic Child Welfare Committees (CCWC) of which the Crusade of Rescue was a member, should have exclusive control and management of the emigration and settlement of all children up to the age of seventeen. The outbreak of World War II put an end to all such activity until 1945.

An Imperfect System

In May 1945 Cardinal Griffin received a letter from the Archbishop of Perth asking his agreement to restarting child migration. In May 1946 Cardinal Griffin wrote to Canon Craven at the Crusade about the pressure he was having from the Church in Australia and suggesting a meeting of the Catholic Child Welfare Council to discuss the issue. The Cardinal also refers in his letter to "adverse reports" about Australia of which he thought Brother Conlan, of the Australian Christian Brothers schools, should be made aware. Canon Craven replied that he was not aware of such reports but agreed that if they existed Brother Conlan should be told about them. He added that he believed that before any further migration of children began the whole issue needed to be explored on the spot in Australia.

At the subsequent meeting of the CCWC it was noted that the Australian Government were seeking 70,000 migrants a year, of whom they expected 17,000 would be children. They agreed that someone from the Council should visit Australia before resuming the scheme, although there is no record of anyone going at this time. Brother Conlan had by this time,

April 1947, been travelling around England and agreeing with the various Catholic agencies the numbers of children who could be sent to Australia. He had identified places for 400 children to go to homes in Western Australia. The Australian Catholic Bishops had appointed a Bishop to be co-ordinator of the whole migration scheme and a General Secretary was also appointed for all Catholic migration Reception Committees.

By August 1947 the UK Government had agreed, after receiving assurances from the UK High Commissioner in Australia, that conditions in the Catholic institutions in Western Australia were satisfactory. In the same month, in 1947, some 150 children sailed for Australia.

The Scheme Ends

It was not until November 1955 that it became necessary for the consent of the child's legal guardian/parent to be obtained before migration could take place. By this time a number of Catholic agencies were beginning to question the child care practice and standards in some of the various institutions in Australia and were saying they required further assurances before they could agree to any further child migration. By 1958 the Home Office contacted CCWC to ask that trained social workers carry out: "*careful investigation of each child's circumstances*" and liaise with other agencies before agreeing to children's migration. CCWC replied by saying that there was now: "*very little likelihood at present of our sending children to Australia.*" In fact no children had been sent since December 1956, and none was sent after this time, although 15-17 year-olds continued to go out via other schemes for the next few years. Whilst the scheme was in operation the Crusade of Rescue sent a total of 95 children.

All of this does suggest that the Catholic involvement in the sending of children to Australia was not managed in the coordinated way of the Canadian scheme. It is also



Children with parents on arrival in Australia 1952

AU 41 [REDACTED] 4/12/56
 AU 42 [REDACTED] 4/12/56
 HIA 322 [REDACTED] 4/12/56
 HIA 279 [REDACTED] 4/12/56
 HIA 309 [REDACTED] 4/12/56
 HIA 296 [REDACTED] 4/12/56
 HIA 308 [REDACTED] 4/12/56
 AU 40 [REDACTED] 4/12/56
 [REDACTED] 4/12/56
 HIA 392 [REDACTED] 4/12/56
 HIA 307 [REDACTED] 4/12/56
 HIA 336 [REDACTED] 4/12/56
 AU 36 [REDACTED] 4/12/56
 [REDACTED] 4/12/56
 HIA 310 [REDACTED] 4/12/56

The Sisters believe that 122 children were sent from Northern Ireland. There are 122 children named above. 6 boys appear within the Sisters' lists of children intended to travel to Australia, it may be that they did not in fact travel due to family not consenting or due to failing the medical, these boys are:

AU 34 [REDACTED]
 AU 22 [REDACTED]
 AU 37 [REDACTED]
 SND 49 [REDACTED]
 AU 24 [REDACTED]
 AU 23 [REDACTED]

There were 5 boys who travelled from Sligo to Termonbacca and then on to Australia for 29/8/47 sailing:

AU 74 [REDACTED]
 AU 75 [REDACTED]
 HIA 302 [REDACTED]
 AU 76 [REDACTED]
 AU 77 [REDACTED]

9. The only other reference to emigration, in the period between the two world wars, occurs in 1928 when the General Council minutes refer quite bluntly to the 'emigration of the children in our Houses so as to spread Catholicity'. About that time, the Christian Brothers in Australia had offered to take 50 boys to their farm

AUSTRALIAN CHILD MIGRANT DETAILS**PERSONAL DETAILS**

SURNAME: [REDACTED]

FIRST NAMES: [REDACTED]

SEX: M

DATE OF BIRTH: [REDACTED]

PRE-MIGRATION INFORMATION

CHILD CARE AGENCY: UNKNOWN

RELIGIOUS ORDER: NAZ/HO

LOCATION IN UK: SLIGO

ORDER PAPERS:

NH SLIGO

NAZARETH HOUSE REG NUMBER:

472
200

CCWC PAPERS: NO

REG.NO: 1174

AGENCY PAPERS:

SAILDATE: 29/08/47

AGE AT SAILING:

12

PARENTAL CONSENT TO MIGRATION:

NOT KNOWN

AUSTRALIAN INFORMATION

INSTITUTION: ST JOSEPH'S FARM & TRADE SCHOOL

DESTINATION ORDER: XTIAN BROS

DESTINATION LOCATION: BINDOON

STATE: WEST/AUS

AUS PAPERS: NO OTHER PAPERS IN AUS

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FIRST CONTACT WITH CATHOLIC AGENCY IN UK: UNKNOWN

LATER CONTACTS: 1991 (AUG) CHILD WELFARE DEPT (FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES DEPT)
PERTH(?)

QUERY BY FAMILY: UNKNOWN

HEALTH: UNKNOWN

R.I.P.: UNKNOWN CAUSE OF DEATH: UNKNOWN

AGE/DEATH: UNKNOWN

LATEST ADDRESS OF MIGRANT:

NOTES: BELIEVED SAILED WITH BOYS FROM TERMONBACCA 1947 BAPTISED 9/8/35 (WATERSIDE DERRY -
ST COLUMBAS) MO'S NAME MARGER Y(?) MILLER. ADMITTED CLONTARF 29/5/48

DERIVATION OF INFORMATION: SR JOHN - NAZ HO

AUSTRALIAN CHILD MIGRANT DETAILS**PERSONAL DETAILS**

SURNAME: [REDACTED]

FIRST NAMES: [REDACTED]

SEX: M

DATE OF [REDACTED]

PRE-MIGRATION INFORMATION

CHILD CARE AGENCY: UNKNOWN

RELIGIOUS ORDER: NAZ/HO

LOCATION IN UK: SLIGO

ORDER PAPERS:

NH SLIGO

NAZARETH HOUSE REG NUMBER: 500

CCWC PAPERS:

NO

REG.NO: 1175

AGENCY PAPERS:

SAILDATE:

29/08/47

AGE AT SAILING:

10

PARENTAL CONSENT TO MIGRATION:

NOT KNOWN

AUSTRALIAN INFORMATION

INSTITUTION: ST MARY'S AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL

DESTINATION ORDER: XTIAN BROS

DESTINATION LOCATION: TARDUN

STATE: WEST/AUS

AUS PAPERS: NO OTHER RECORDS IN AUS

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FIRST CONTACT WITH CATHOLIC AGENCY IN UK: UNKNOWN

LATER CONTACTS: 1991 (AUG) CHILD WELFARE DEPT (FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES DEPT)

PERTH(?) AND CATHOLIC MIGRANTS CENTRE PERTH HAS CURRENT ADDRESS AND

QUERY BY FAMILY:

HEALTH:

R.I.P.:

CAUSE OF DEATH:

AGE/DEATH:

N/A

LATEST ADDRESS OF MIGRANTSEE CONTACTS ABOVE

NOTES: BELIEVED SAILED WITH BOYS FROM TERMONBACCA 1947 CATHOLIC MIGRANT CENTRE PERTH
HAS DOB 1936 D.O.A. CLONTARF 28/05/48 BORN EIRE CASTLEBLANEY(?)

DERIVATION OF INFORMATION: SR JOHN - NAZ HO

AUSTRALIAN CHILD MIGRANT DETAILS**PERSONAL DETAILS**

SURNAME: AU 75

FIRST

SEX: M

DAT

PRE-MIGRATION INFORMATION

CHILD CARE AGENCY: UNKNOWN

RELIGIOUS ORDER: NAZ/HO

LOCATION IN UK: SLIGO

ORDER PAPERS: NH SLIGO

NAZARETH HOUSE REG NUMBER: 474

CCWC PAPERS: NO REG.NO: 1173

AGENCY PAPERS:

SAILDATE: 29/08/47

AGE AT SAILING: 11

PARENTAL CONSENT TO MIGRATION: NOT KNOWN

AUSTRALIAN INFORMATION

INSTITUTION: UNKNOWN

DESTINATION ORDER: UNKNOWN

DESTINATION LOCATION: UNKNOWN

STATE: UNKNOWN

AUS PAPERS: NO RECS IN ANY XTIAN BROTHERS, CMC PERTH, FAMILY & CHILDREN SERVS DEPT PERTH

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FIRST CONTACT WITH CATHOLIC AGENCY IN UK: UNKNOWN

LATER CONTACTS:

QUERY BY FAMILY:

HEALTH:

R.I.P.:

CAUSE OF DEATH:

AGE/DEATH:

N/A

LATEST ADDRESS OF MIGRANT:

NOTES: BELIEVED SAILED WITH BOYS FROM TERMONBACCA 1947

DERIVATION OF INFORMATION: SR JOHN - NAZ HO

AUSTRALIAN CHILD MIGRANT DETAILS**PERSONAL DETAILS**

SURNAME: [REDACTED]

FIRST NAMES: [REDACTED]

SEX: M

DATE OF [REDACTED]

PRE-MIGRATION INFORMATION

CHILD CARE AGENCY: UNKNOWN

RELIGIOUS ORDER: NAZ/HO

LOCATION IN UK: SLIGO

ORDER PAPERS: NH SLIGO

NAZARETH HOUSE REG NUMBER: 473

CCWC PAPERS: NO REG.NO: 1176

AGENCY PAPERS:

SAILDATE: 29/08/47

AGE AT SAILING: 11

PARENTAL CONSENT TO MIGRATION: NOT KNOWN

AUSTRALIAN INFORMATION

INSTITUTION: UNKNOWN

DESTINATION ORDER: UNKNOWN

DESTINATION LOCATION: UNKNOWN

STATE: UNKNOWN

AUS PAPERS: NO RECS IN ANY XTIAN BROTHERS, CMC PERTH, FAMILY & CHILDREN SERVS DEPT PERTH

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FIRST CONTACT WITH CATHOLIC AGENCY IN UK: UNKNOWN

LATER CONTACTS:

QUERY BY FAMILY:

HEALTH:

R.L.P.:

CAUSE OF DEATH:

AGE/DEATH:

N/A

LATEST ADDRESS OF MIGRANT:

NOTES: BELIEVED SAILED WITH BOYS FROM TERMONBACCA 1947

DERIVATION OF INFORMATION: SR JOHN - NAZ HO

AUSTRALIAN CHILD MIGRANT DETAILS**PERSONAL DETAILS**

FIRST [REDACTED]

SEX: M

DATE OF [REDACTED]

PRE-MIGRATION INFORMATION

CHILD CARE AGENCY: UNKNOWN

RELIGIOUS ORDER: NAZ/HO

LOCATION IN UK: SLIGO

ORDER PAPERS: NH SLIGO

NAZARETH HOUSE REG NUMBER: 564

CCWC PAPERS: NO REG.NO: 1177

AGENCY PAPERS:

SAILDATE: 29/08/47

AGE AT SAILING: 5

PARENTAL CONSENT TO MIGRATION: NOT KNOWN

AUSTRALIAN INFORMATION

INSTITUTION: UNKNOWN

DESTINATION ORDER: UNKNOWN

DESTINATION LOCATION: UNKNOWN

STATE: UNKNOWN

AUS PAPERS: NO RECS IN ANY XTIAN BROTHERS, CMC PERTH, FAMILY & CHILDREN SERVS DEPT PERTH

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FIRST CONTACT WITH CATHOLIC AGENCY IN UK: UNKNOWN

LATER CONTACTS:

QUERY BY FAMILY:

HEALTH:

R.I.P.:

CAUSE OF DEATH:

AGE/DEATH: N/A

LATEST ADDRESS OF MIGRANT:

NOTES: BELIEVED SAILED WITH BOYS FROM TERMONBACCA 1947

DERIVATION OF INFORMATION: SR JOHN - NAZ HO

1 I remember the first batch of boys going. I was --
2 maybe a year -- a year before that, and SR 11 and the
3 new Reverend Mother says, "No more boys. No more
4 children are going away". That was it. You know, that
5 was -- that wasn't going to happen. They weren't going
6 to have it. You know, they weren't going to allow
7 children to be taken away, and no child was sent unless
8 maybe some -- from what I -- from my inquiries no child
9 was allowed to be sent unless some family member can
10 agree to it. Maybe in my case they couldn't maybe trace
11 mine.

12 Q. So what -- if I unpack that a little with you, what you
13 understand had taken place was that at some stage prior
14 to 1954 --

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. -- a number of boys from Termonbacca had gone to
17 Australia?

18 A. Oh, yes.

19 Q. And you remember them going?

20 A. I remember just a lot of guys dressed up and next they
21 were gone. I never seen them going away and I never --
22 we knew that they were going away, but we went to school
23 and when we came back, they weren't there.

24 Q. But for whatever reason SR 11 put an end to that
25 process in and around the time --

COPY

1459
T-298D/P.C.

When I visited Nazareth Lodge on 11th November, Reverend Mother mentioned several points of interest:-

Mr. McRendall has now completed his report on Fox Lodge and it is to the effect that the premises are not worth repairing.] A

The Orphan Society, having heard that they cannot get grant from us, consider that they probably won't be able to afford to maintain more than 80 children in St. Joseph's Babies' Home instead of 120.

Reverend Mother now wonders if perhaps they may yet manage to place the Fox Lodge 2-5 year-olds in a wing of the Babies' Home, as I suggested long ago. However, there are obvious difficulties of dividing the cost. I don't quite see how the subject can be tackled, except by Reverend Mother herself in the first instance.] B

Estimated for action on T. 11/14/55
She also tells me she is sending 23 boys to their Homes in Australia soon and may send another 20 later. Rubane can't absorb all their output and this is how they are to be disposed of. This is being arranged by a priest from Australia now collecting children here. She wondered if Mr. P. Murphy, their After-Care Officer, could cope with the negotiations and formalities for her. I said I didn't see why he shouldn't do so.

(Intld.) K.B.F.

21.11.55

No action is necessary regarding "A" pending receipt from Mr. Harlandus of the proposals and plans. E minor reference is made in Dr. Killian's minute of 6.10.55. 21/11/55

Dr. Killian,

For any observations, please, regarding "B" above. The fifth paragraph of your minute dated 6.10.55 refers. 21/11/55

**Former Child Migrants to Australia: Analysis of Computerised Database
(4th Edition January 1998)** *By Rosemary Keenan, Deputy Director of The
Catholic Children's Society (Westminster)*

Between 1938 and 1963 Catholic religious orders and Catholic Child Care Agencies in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland sent children to Australia to be cared for by religious orders who ran a variety of institutions for children. It is not the purpose of this report to argue the cause and effect or the push and pull factors operating on the various parties to the programme at the time. This report is an analysis of data provided by the Child Migrants' Register, kept at the time, and other extant records where found in the UK and Australia. It should be added however that the accuracy and completeness of information recorded at the time varies substantially. All entries on the first edition of the database have been cross-checked by Agencies and Religious Orders in the UK and Australia. Amendments have been made to that edition. Subsequent to this, the database has been kept up to date and this fourth analysis of the database is therefore a more accurate reflection of Australian child migration by Catholic Agencies and Orders. From the central Register of Migrants it appeared that 970 children had been sent to Australia. The early process of cross referencing revealed an additional 37 children, to which a further 140 have since been added. Whilst the majority of children were sent under the scheme administered by CCWC, it is believed that other children were sent by religious orders working directly with representatives of the Australian Church, Australia House London, and the Christian Brothers in Australia. Evidence for this is found within the minutes of CCWC meetings written at the time and supported by the finding of additional children mentioned above. The total number of children sent to Australia is unknown at this time. There are currently 1,147 entries for former child migrants on the database. Work undertaken by the Poor Sisters of Nazareth, who have cross-checked every entry on the original database of migrants, has revealed new information and additional papers which have been added to the files kept by CCWC.

Age The average age of children sent to Australia was approximately 9.4 years, the youngest being two years and the oldest entrant on the original register (with a number prefixed with "C" for child), was a 23 year old who was accompanying her younger sister. The ages and numbers of children sent in each age range can be seen in table 1.

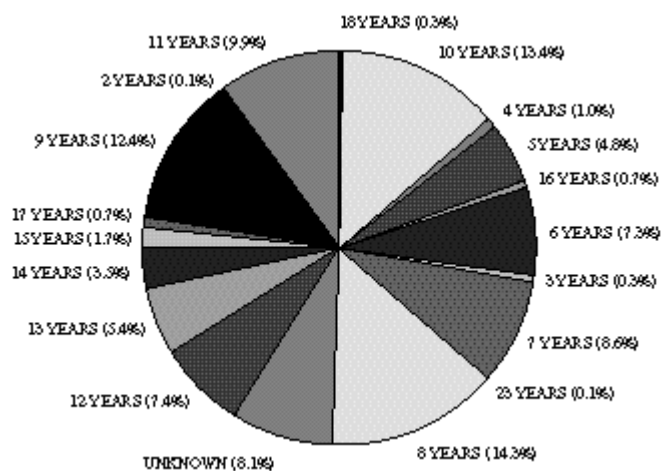
Table 1: Ages of Children and Numbers sent to Australia

2 years	1
3 years	3
4 years	11
5 years	55
6 years	84
7 years	99
8 years	164
9 years	142
10 years	154

11 years	114
12 years	85
13 years	62
14 years	40
15 years	19
16 years	8
17 years	8
18 years	4
23 years	1
Unknown	93
Total	1,147
Average	9.4

The majority of children sent were between the ages of 5-13 years, the Australian Catholic Church preferring younger children to be sent. The highest single percentage of children sent were eight year olds with about half of all children aged between 7-10 years of age. There are 93 children for whom the date of birth/age is not given in records.

Age Analysis of Children



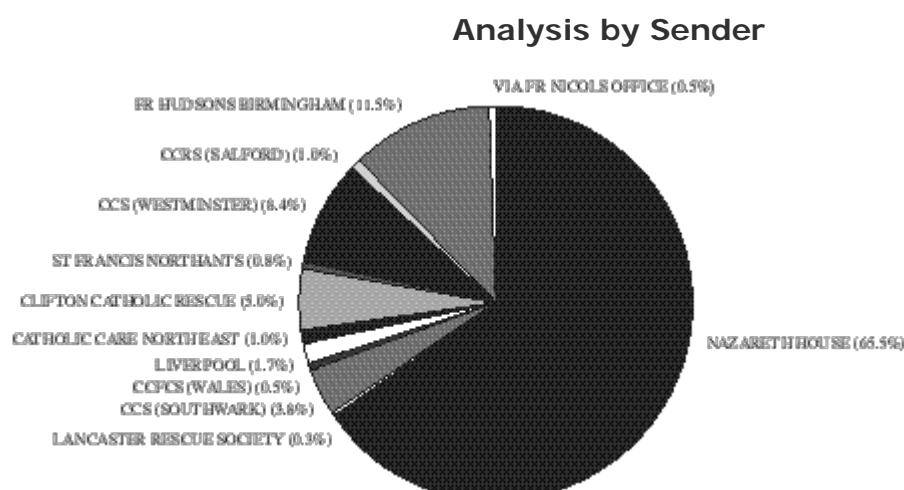
(at time of emigration)

Gender of children Of the 1,147 children sent 795 were boys (69 per cent) and 352 were girls (31 per cent).

Consent to Migration Consent by birth parent(s) was given to the migration of children in 221 instances (19 per cent). In 926 (81 per cent) instances it is unknown whether or not parental consent was given as the documentary evidence remains unfound.

Sender It is often difficult to identify the exact relationship between the religious orders running the homes and the Child Care Agencies that may have placed children with them. In most instances the Agency would have been involved with

the migration procedures and consents. The relationship between Agencies and Orders in the decision making process is usually unclear. The social history and clear reasons for migration are not given on migration forms and only rarely in supporting documentation. An analysis of those sending children to Australia reveals that of the 1,147 children, 65.5 per cent appear to have been sent by the Poor Sisters of Nazareth.



The analysis in the above chart is distorted somewhat by double counting—certain migrants have both agency and order recorded (eg Reg Nos 50-53 have Lancaster Rescue Society and Nazareth House recorded).

Table 2: Children sent to Australia—Analysed by Religious order in UK

<i>Order</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>% total</i>
<i>Daughters of Charity</i>	1	0.1%
Brothers of Charity	6	0.8%
Franciscan Sisters	1	0.1%
Good Shepherd Sisters	15	1.9%
Mercy Sisters	8	1.0%
Poor Sisters of Nazareth	755	95.9%
Sisters of Charity	1	0.1%
Grand Total	787	

Destination Almost half (44.5 per cent) of all children who migrated went to the care of the Christian Brothers. For 14.6 per cent of all children CCWC has no record of their destination. Details of destinations are contained in the chart and table following.

Destination Order of Child Migrants

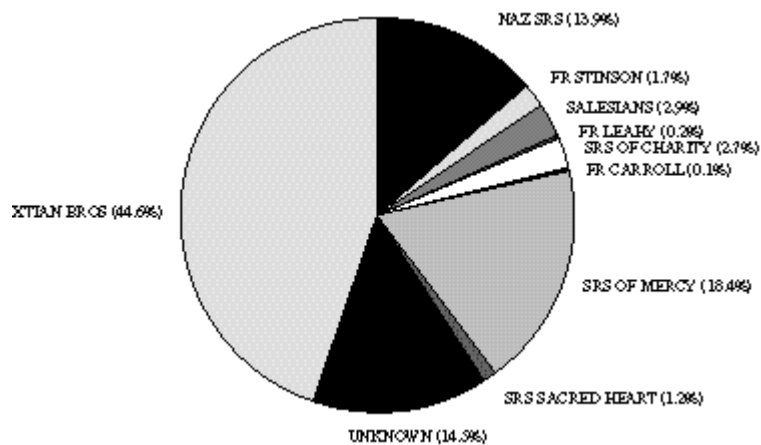


Table 3: Destination of Children Sent to Australia

<i>Order/Institution sent to</i>	<i>Location sent to</i>	<i>State</i>	
FCIC	Brisbane	Queensland	1
Fr Carroll		Total	1
Overall Total			
Unknown	Rockhampton	Queensland	2
Fr Leahy		Total	2
FCICI	Unknown	Unknown	19
Fr Stinson		Total	19
East Camberwell Nazhouse	Melbourne	Victoria	54
Nazareth House	Geraldton	West Aus	84
Nazareth House	Ballarat	Unknown	1
St Josephs	Ballarat	Victoria	1
Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	18
Naz SRS		Total	158
East Camberwell Saz House	Melbourne	Victoria	1
Naz SRS		Total	1
St John Bosco's Boys Town	Hobart	Tasmania	33
Salesians		Total	33
Murray Dwyer Memorial Home	Mayfield	NSW	31
SRS of Charity		Total	31
Goodwood Orphanage	Adelaide	South Aus	46
St Joseph's Home Neerkull	Rockhampton	Queensland	54
St Brigids	Ryde	NSW	6
St Josephs	Subiaco	West Aus	62
Thungoona	Albany	NSW	22
SRS of Mercy		Total	190
Largs Bay or Boys Town Brooklyn	Adelaide	South Aus	3

Goodwood Orphanage	Adelaide	South Aus	1
Hostel (YCW)	Melbourne	Victoria	13
St Vincents	Perth	West Aus	4
SRS of Mercy		Total	21
St Josephs	Kellerberrin	West Aus	7
St Josephs	Sydney	NSW	7
SRS Sacred Heart		Total	14
Catholic Immigration Committee	Rockhampton	Queensland	1
Hostel (YCW)	Melbourne	Victoria	2
Tresca-Fairbridge	West Tamar	Tasmania	2
Unknown	Melbourne	Victoria	1
Unknown	Perth	West Aus	3
Unknown	Unknown	NSW	157
Unknown		Total	166
Castledare Junior Orphanage	Cannington	West Aus	133
Clontare Boys Town	Victoria	West Aus	111
St Mary's Agricultural School	Tardun	West Aus	96
St Joseph's Farm & Trade School	Bisdoon	West Aus	156
Unknown	Unknown	West Aus	15
Xtian Bros		Total	511
Overall Total			1,147

Deaths There were 13 deaths recorded either in the Register or in supporting correspondence. Two were girls who died within months of arrival. The remainder were boys, mostly in road accidents. To the above deaths have been added additional details on the deaths of former migrants as adults. It is hoped that this information will assist those working on behalf of birth families of former migrants in the future. In total 27 former child migrants are known to have died at the time of this analysis (January 1998).

Supporting Paperwork Aside from an entry in the migrants register, additional papers kept by CCWC were found for 789 migrants, (69 per cent). Papers varied considerably in both quality and quantity of information and included combinations of the followings:

- Migration papers
- Correspondence
- Brief details of reason for migration
- Copies or originals of birth certificates/baptismal certificates
- Medical reports

— School reports from England

— Progress reports on individual children from institutions in Australia. The above figure does not take into account records that may be held by individual sending agencies or religious orders.

Enquiries by and on behalf of former child migrants According to the register and additional supporting paperwork so far consulted 343 former migrants (30 per cent) have made enquiries about themselves or their families, or information has been requested by third parties on their behalf. 30 per cent of this 30 per cent of enquirers have returned to agencies requesting further searches, information etc. Some of these enquirers have made a number of contacts over a lengthy period of time. Additionally there were 107 migrants (9 per cent) whose families made enquiries about them, with double enquiries made in a few cases eg a sibling and a parent both enquiring on separate occasions. For the purposes of this analysis contacts subsequent to second enquiries have not been included. The preceding figures are an underestimate of the total number of migrants that have made contact. Until recently CCWC did not record all enquiries made by or on behalf of former migrants. Enquiries to religious orders and other child care agencies in the UK have now been added to the database. Table 4 below gives an analysis by year of initial enquiries made by and in respect of former migrants. Again, this understates the total, as a significant number of former migrants have, over the years, made further enquiries.

Table 4: Enquiries by year

<i>Year</i>	<i>First enquiry</i>	<i>Second enquiry</i>	<i>Family enquiry</i>
1941	0	0	1
1942	0	0	0
1943	0	0	0
1944	0	0	0
1945	0	0	0
1946	1	0	0
1947	1	0	3
1948	1	0	2
1949	0	0	3
1950	2	0	2
1951	2	0	1
1952	1	0	3
1953	1	0	0
1954	1	0	10
1955	1	0	6
1956	2	1	4
1957	2	0	8

1958	6	0	7
1959	6	0	7
1960	7	1	3
1961	5	0	3
1962	8	0	1
1963	11	1	4
1964	13	0	0
1965	7	1	3
1966	7	4	5
1967	9	2	2
1968	1	1	1
1969	6	0	1
1970	1	1	0
1971	2	1	0
1972	3	1	0
1973	2	0	0
1974	3	0	0
1975	2	0	0
1976	1	0	0
1977	0	0	1
1978	2	0	0
1979	1	1	0
1980	5	0	0
1981	1	1	1
1982	4	2	1
1983	3	1	0
1984	1	0	0
1985	1	0	1
1986	1	1	0
1987	4	0	0
1988	5	2	0
1989	8	3	0
1990	7	6	0
1991	13	2	2
1992	24	15	2
1993	22	10	4
1994	46	12	4
1995	23	7	4

1996	13	8	5
1997	39	18	2
1998	5		
	343	103	107

Although it would be dangerous to draw conclusions from such incomplete records, it appears that there is a substantial (and probably increasing) level of enquiries at present. For example, there appears to have been only a handful of enquiries during the 1980s, but during the 1990s the number rose to a peak of 62 in 1994. Experience in respect of migrants to Canada indicates that enquiries from migrants and their descendants are likely to continue for many years. *Acknowledgements*—compilation of this report and the three editions of the central database has taken approximately 700 hours to complete. In addition to this, many hours have been spent by workers in Agencies and Religious Orders in the UK and Australia. Considerable credit should go to Sister John Ogilvie of the Poor Sisters of Nazareth who spent 1,500 hours cross checking the references to children sent by the order against extant records from the 26 Nazareth House homes across the UK which sent children to Australia. I would like to express my appreciation of Mother Bernard Mary, the Superior General of the Poor Sisters of Nazareth, who made Sister John and her computer skills available for this task and who ensured that Nazareth House records in Australia were likewise checked. My final thanks go to David Walley, whose computer expertise, gentle guidance and commitment to this project has made the whole database viable. Rosemary Keenan January 1998

Telephone:
POPESGROVE 7472



St. Aquin's,
38 Strawberry Hill Road,
Twickenham,
Middlesex.
(CHRISTIAN BROTHERS)

18th June, 1946

His Lordship, the Most Rev N. Farren, D.D. Bishop of Derry.

My Lord Bishop, are co-operating
The Catholic Hierarchy of Australia, with the
Australian Commonwealth's Immigration scheme for securing
several thousand adult and child migrants annually, in order
to prevent Catholic Migrants from being taken over by
Non-Catholic organisations, and also to build up the Catholic
population in Australia.

I have been selected by the Australian Bishops to assist
his Grace, the Most Rev Dr Simonds, Co-adjutor Archbishop
of Melbourne, in the work of Migration in the United Kingdom,
and he has asked me, in his absence in Rome and the occupied
countries, in connection with Migration, to request your Lord-
ship's permission to visit the Homes or Institutions for
children in your Diocese, with a view to select suitable
children, boys and girls, between the ages of 5 and 14 years
for the Australian Bishops' Migration scheme.

In 1938 the Bishops of Western Australia sent me on a
mission, similar to the present, in connection with Child
Migration, and I am taking the liberty to enclose a copy of
a letter which I received from the late Cardinal MacRory on
that occasion in connection with Migration,

I remain, my Lord Bishop, with respect.

Your obedient servant in J.C.

P. A. Coulson

Australian Catholic Immigration Committee

AUS-12178

SYDNEY BRANCH:
150, ELIZABETH STREET,
SYDNEY.

REVEREND FATHER W. A. NICOL, P.P.
DIRECTOR

London Office:
146a, St. Stephen's
Westminster, S.W.1.

CABLE ADDRESS: "CATHMIGCOM" LONDON.
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "CATHMIGCOM" PARL. LONDON.

TELEPHONE: WHITEHALL 6502.

21st March, 1952.

The Mother Superior,
St. Joseph's Home,
Termonbacca,
Derry.

*ack 14/3/52
about 6 long letter*

Mr. H. Lee 3377

Dear Mother,

I have just returned from a visit to Australia and beg to advise you that after a number of years battle with the Home Office here I have succeeded in securing approval for most of our institutions in Australia who are prepared to take British migrant children, both girls and boys. Under the circumstances it will now be possible for us to proceed with the migration of many of the children whom you first submitted.

I would respectfully point out that in all cases every application must be covered by a case history, a medical history, a school report and I.Q. test, birth and Baptismal certificates, and where necessary Confirmation certificates.

At the moment we are processing the following boys:

[REDACTED]

HIA319

It is necessary for us to have the following documents in regard to these boys: Case History, I.Q. Report, School Report and Medical History. We have all the other papers.

I would also be pleased to receive from you some indication as to whether or not you have any other boys ready to submit for migration, and if a trip across to Derry would be justified. The age groups would be as follows: 8 - 12, and 5 - 6. In the case of brothers we are prepared to extend the ages either way.

Wishing you every Grace and Blessing,

I remain,

Yours sincerely.

William Nicol

(Very Rev. W.A. Nicol, P.P.)

SUPERIOR GENERAL CIRCULAR LETTER TO SUPERIORS 21/03/1952 DBx/4/5

J.M.J.-4

Nazareth House,
Hammersmith,
London W.6

21st March 1952.

My dear Mother,

A request has been received for boys and girls to be sent to Australia under the Catholic Emigration Scheme, and I wish you to be prepared to send some children.

Twenty girls are required at once for Nazareth House, Geraldton, W.A. and I am consenting to the girls going, on condition that they will be sent to Nazareth Houses in Australia, and not to other Homes. The boys will go as usual to the Christian Brothers and to a new Home being opened for boys, by an order of Priests.

I am grieved to say that the Australian Department for Emigration has complained about problem children, wet-beds and mentally deficient children being sent from Nazareth Houses to Australia, and these children will be returned by the Australian Government to the Houses from which they were sent. The Government in Australia with the Government in this country, pays the cost of transport, and says these children are a liability on the country. The Home Office, London, has been notified by the Australian Government about this matter, even the Nazareth Houses in this country that sent such children have been named to the H.O., so it is humiliating for the Congregation, and looks as if we were putting our obligations on other people. This is very serious, as I have been notified that some Catholic Homes in Australia were to be closed to children on account of the unsatisfactory state of affairs among these children. Please remember that Nazareth Houses will be included in this and the good name of the Congregation (at present respected in Australia) will suffer also.

Only normal, well-behaved children from 5 to 10 years

of age are to emigrated and this is the responsibility of the Superiors and Sisters in charge of the children. It has been put before me that only the Sisters living in the Houses with the children can really tell if they are what they ought to be, it is not possible for doctors &c. to know, except in very bad cases.

As soon as you have selected the children send me their names and ages, and be careful not to select children belonging to people who may object to their going.

With warm love from all in the 'Old Home' and praying God to ever bless and guide you.

Your affectionate Mother,

M. Emmanuel Mary

Superior General.

CHAPTER XIII

MIGRATION

History.

475. Although individual children had previously gone to many countries abroad, the first organized Barnardo party of fifty-one boys was sent to Canada in 1882. With the outbreak of war in 1939, migration to Canada was suspended and has not been resumed. Canadian records have been collected at Stepney where the Migration Department deals with enquiries about Old Boys and Girls.

The first party to Australia sailed in 1921. Migration was interrupted during the war but started again in 1947. It is confined to the State of New South Wales.

Policy.

476. The opportunities which exist for enterprise and hard work in Australia have confirmed the Council in their migration policy, which is as follows:

1. Children must genuinely desire to go and must not be over-persuaded;
2. Migration is arranged as a move within our family and if other children are assisted to migrate they must first spend a period of six months in our Homes in Great Britain before sailing.
3. The best age for children to make the move is when they are between 7 and 12 years, but where a family group is involved such a limiting consideration need not apply.
4. Normally girls should not migrate between the ages of 13 and 17 years.

Preparation of a Party.

477. Superintendents are required to forward to Stepney the name of every child who is likely to satisfy the requirements laid down in para. 476.

General character, family relationships, case histories and Superintendent's comments are considered; preliminary medical examination and intelligence tests are carried out. The Chief Medical Officer makes recommendation and each child's case is then discussed by the Placement Committee.

478. The Authorities at Australia House carry out a medical examination and interview the children we have selected. The migration party with their escort are then assembled at our pre-migration centre. All children are fully outfitted with clothing suitable for the journey and for wear in a hotter climate.

Selection of Children.

479. (1) The medical examination is strict. Children must show an I.Q. of at least 80; they must not be enuretic nor have a family history of tuberculosis or mental illness.

(2). Colour: New South Wales does not admit coloured or half-caste children.

(3). Consent: Consent to emigration in writing must be obtained by the Migration Department of (a) parents if alive;

MIGRATION

77

(b) other relatives if they have guardianship; (c) the Home Office in Custody Order cases; (d) Local Authorities where they are concerned.

480. Escorts are chosen as far as possible from our own staff. The maximum number of escorts allowed by the Australian Authorities is a ratio of one escort to eight children. Escorts.

481. Cabin accommodation is allocated by the Authorities. Books, games, toys and other play equipment are needed for the children on the voyage. Our parties are met and entertained by Scouts and other Welfare Associations at ports-of-call en route. Voyage.

482. A grant of £4 per head is paid for each child on sailing, by the United Kingdom Government. A maintenance grant of 10s. per week is paid by the U.K. Government until a child is 16 or takes up employment, whichever is sooner. This amount is claimed by Stepney from the Commonwealth Relations Office. Grants.

483. Our Homes are all in the State of New South Wales. They are (1) a small Home for girls at Burwood, in Sydney; (2) Green Wood, at Normanhurst, near Sydney, for girls and younger brothers, children accommodated in separate brick-built houses. (3) A Farm School for boys near Picton, some fifty-five miles from Sydney. Australian Homes.

484. The normal school-leaving age is 15. Children attend the State schools and from there can pass on to other forms of higher education and training. Education.

485. Every form of employment is open to our children according to their wishes and capabilities whether professional, industrial (including commercial) or agricultural. The placing of a boy at the Farm School does not oblige him to take up farming as a career though there is a bias of interest in that direction. All children attend "outside" schools and church, and join in all local activities. Training and Employment.

Regular reports come to us from Australia.

486. *Manager in Australia.* Our Manager is responsible for all our Child Care work and co-operates closely for this purpose with the State Welfare Department, especially for after-care work in which we follow the pattern of our work in Great Britain. Organization.

The Manager is also responsible for all Barnardo property directly in use for the care of children.

487. Financial obligations are discharged under the authorization of a Power of Attorney. An Advisory Committee under its own Chairman meets regularly to safeguard our interests in the State of New South Wales and to assist our Manager. Financial Obligations.

PRIVATE

5. My mother paid for my upkeep while I was in care in Nazareth House. My mother often visited me as did my step father. It was her intention to come back for me when she got herself established and was able to care for me. When my mother came to collect me she was informed that I was no longer there and that I had been sent to Australia. My mother told me this in her correspondence when I was older.

Sailing Dates (8 February 1950 – 6 March 1950)

6. I was deported to Australia without my mother's consent or knowledge in 1950 when I was five years old. The Nazareth House records show that I was sent to Australia in November 1950 but I know from receiving my documents from the Australian Authorities that I arrived in Perth on the SS Asturias on 6th March 1950. This ship left Southampton on 8th February 1950. Even though my mother was alive the consent form was signed by the Mother Superior of Nazareth Lodge, Sister McCullagh. As I was born in the South of Ireland and I was therefore an Irish citizen I do not understand how the Sisters of Nazareth and the government had the authority to send me to Australia.
7. Because I was so young I have no memories of my time in Nazareth House. My grievance is that I was sent to Australia without my mother's consent or knowledge and from that day I lost my identity and all connections to my family, my home and my country.

St Joseph's Orphanage, Subiaco (1950 – 1960)

8. When I arrived in Australia I was placed initially in St Vincent's Foundling Home, Subiaco, Western Australia. Shortly thereafter I turned six and I was placed in St Joseph's Orphanage which was in the same grounds. I remained there until I was fifteen. The home was run by the Sisters of Mercy.
9. Luckily for me my mother was a very determined woman and she eventually got the name of the home I was sent to in Perth. When I was Grade 3 or 4, to my

SR 85

Dear [redacted]
 I am sorry to have kept you waiting so long for some news about the boys, but I only received the final approved list of children from Australia House yesterday. These children are to sail for Australia from Southampton by the "New Australia" on Jan'y 28. Derry is well represented. We did not get all our nominations approved but we did well, I think. The approved boys are as follows:

1. AU 25
2. HIA 305
3. HIA 288
4. AU 8
5. [redacted]
6. HIA 306
7. AU 27
8. HIA 337
9. AU 28
10. HIA 311
11. AU 29
12. HIA 301
13. HIA 285
14. AU 30
15. AU 31
16. HIA 295

Rail warrants and steamer tickets for the boys travel will be sent will be forwarded to you from Australia House. They will not provide warrants for any escorts to bring the boys to London. I think it would be wise for the children to arrive in London no later than the Tuesday morning. I can arrange for them to be looked after here for the night. Their boat train leaves for Southampton early on Wednesday morning. I will arrange all that with Australia House, and I will write to you in a few days time when the arrangements are more finalised. My main idea at the present time is to let you have the names of the boys so that you can arrange their outfits etc.

Australia House gave me a list of names of boys you had given to the selection officer as possibles for the next sailing. Could you let me know whether or not their names have been submitted before or not, also date of birth, and whether or not we have to get parents consent. The boys names are, [redacted] AU 33, [redacted] AU 34, [redacted] AU 35, [redacted] AU 22, [redacted] AU 16, [redacted] AU 33, [redacted] AU 34, [redacted] AU 35, [redacted] AU 22, [redacted] AU 16, [redacted] AU 16, [redacted] SND 49, [redacted] HIA 284, [redacted] HIA 319, [redacted] AU 37, [redacted] AU 38, [redacted] HIA 266, [redacted] I

know that some of these boys have been submitted before, but if you could just give me the above details about them I will try and get them approved for a sailing in March.

I understand [redacted] SND 1 was withdrawn because his grandmother refused consent. Excuse the typing. I have no typist at the moment.

Wishing you every blessing
 Yours sincerely, [redacted]
 Cecil Hanson

I could not find a suitable name for the child boy.

SUPERIOR GENERAL CIRCULAR LETTER TO SUPERIORS 21/03/1952 DBx/4/5

J.M.J.-4

Nazareth House,
Hammersmith,
London W.6

21st March 1952.

My dear Mother,

A request has been received for boys and girls to be sent to Australia under the Catholic Emigration Scheme, and I wish you to be prepared to send some children.

Twenty girls are required at once for Nazareth House, Geraldton, W.A. and I am consenting to the girls going, on condition that they will be sent to Nazareth Houses in Australia, and not to other Homes. The boys will go as usual to the Christian Brothers and to a new Home being opened for boys, by an order of Priests.

I am grieved to say that the Australian Department for Emigration has complained about problem children, wet-beds and mentally deficient children being sent from Nazareth Houses to Australia, and these children will be returned by the Australian Government to the Houses from which they were sent. The Government in Australia with the Government in this country, pays the cost of transport, and says these children are a liability on the country. The Home Office, London, has been notified by the Australian Government about this matter, even the Nazareth Houses in this country that sent such children have been named to the H.O., so it is humiliating for the Congregation, and looks as if we were putting our obligations on other people. This is very serious, as I have been notified that some Catholic Homes in Australia were to be closed to children on account of the unsatisfactory state of affairs among these children. Please remember that Nazareth Houses will be included in this and the good name of the Congregation (at present respected in Australia) will suffer also.

Only normal, well-behaved children from 5 to 10 years

of age are to emigrated and this is the responsibility of the Superiors and Sisters in charge of the children. It has been put before me that only the Sisters living in the Houses with the children can really tell if they are what they ought to be, it is not possible for doctors &c. to know, except in very bad cases.

As soon as you have selected the children send me their names and ages, and be careful not to select children belonging to people who may object to their going.

With warm love from all in the 'Old Home' and praying God to ever bless and guide you.

Your affectionate Mother,

M. Emmanuel Mary

Superior General.

PLEASE MARK
ALL CORRESPONDENCE

~~PERSONAL~~ A/AV

73, ST. CHARLES SQUARE,
W.10.

LADBROKE 5305

THE CATHOLIC CHILD WELFARE COUNCIL

Emigration Committee:

9th December, 1955

The Reverend Mother,
Nazareth House,
Termonbacca,
Derry, N. IRELAND.

49
1
46
62
3
2

Dear Reverend Mother,

Many thanks for your letter of the 6th regarding
the eleven boys whom you wish to emigrate to Australia.

Would you kindly complete the enclosed form L.E.M.3.
in duplicate for each child and return it to me together with a
birth certificate (short form), school report and I.Q. I shall
also require certificate of baptism, details of First Communion
and Confirmation and a case history. It is further necessary
to have the parents consent form signed in triplicate and duly
witnessed. This matter is of special importance owing to a
new ruling from Australia House. As soon as you can let me have
these documents I will take the matter up with Australia House.

Wishing you every blessing.

Yours sincerely,

Shanley

Secretary

EMIGRATION COMMITTEE

Co. Derry,
N. Ireland.

Contd.

I would the mother still be in contact with the child, then you should state that the mother wishes the child to be emigrated for the future benefit of the child. Trust this is clear.

Wishing you every blessing.

Yours sincerely,

B. H. S. H. S.
Secretary
EMIGRATION COMMISSION

3. CONSENT

1. An analysis of the extracts from the registers in Hammersmith disclose that there are 40 children for whom consent was sought or for whom it was not possible to seek consent. This goes beyond the 20% of cases of consent cited by Rosemary Keenan for the whole of the UK. The register suggests there was a genuine effort to ascertain whether there were parents who could maintain contact with their children: *"mother in service"*, *"parents dead"*. There were cases in which children had been adopted or fostered and such placements had fallen through. There were instances in which the mother had deserted or was irresponsible, or had neglected the child, and there were children for whom a mother or another family member gave consent.

2. The following is a summary of the extracts:-

Extracts from the registers found in Hammersmith

1. 
-  
-  
-  
-  
-  



29.



In addition to the foregoing children, in the statement of evidence of HIA324 deceased, he recalls that he had no visitors at all in Termonbacca except for a woman who visited and gave him thruppence before he went to Australia. It is submitted this is hardly a coincidence and it supports the proposition that attempts were made by the Sisters of Nazareth to get parental consent and in this instance was given.

4. The case of HIA332, although his mother gave her consent, his consent form was signed by [BAU 4] and the Mother Superior. It is also notable that on the day of his departure a woman arrived and shook his hand (paragraph 6 of his statement). Thus the fact that a consent form does not contain the signature of a parent does not mean that consent was absent.
5. In the case of HIA349 his consent was signed by [BAU 4] and the Mother Superior, his mother died before he emigrated.
6. The above list does not include HIA63 whose mother signed his consent.
7. In the case of HIA311, his mother sent him to Australia to prevent adoption by his aunt and uncle. His mother wrote to him when in Tardun so she clearly knew of his whereabouts in Australia.
8. In the case of HIA325 his mother consented.
9. The statement of [SR 189] is an important document in that it reveals the reasoning re adoption where there was no contact from a natural parent. As the statement is silent on whether the mother consented to emigration, it appears as though the congregation may have applied the same criteria for emigration if the home had lost contact with a child's parents or relatives. This is consistent

²² AUS-11016

<p>1 letter. I've not been to Glasgow.</p> <p>2 Q. Very well. Well, we'll leave it there, HIA121. In any</p> <p>3 event --</p> <p>4 CHAIRMAN: Sorry. Just a moment. Yes. Thank you.</p> <p>5 MS SMITH: If I can take you back to another issue, if we</p> <p>6 could just go back to the statement, please, which again</p> <p>7 commences on page SND-638. At paragraph 33 of the</p> <p>8 statement you talk about being aware that there were</p> <p>9 some boys who went to Australia from the home.</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. What can you tell the Inquiry about that?</p> <p>12 A. My memories of parades being held in the day room of</p> <p>13 Termonbacca and the nuns telling the boys that they were</p> <p>14 going to Australia, and I remember they were told about</p> <p>15 sunshine, about apples and oranges and kangaroos, and</p> <p>16 many of the kids were really happy at that, but somehow</p> <p>17 I detected something, and I remember hiding behind a boy</p> <p>18 as the nun walked along the line with a doctor to select</p> <p>19 the boys. It was frightening. I felt very frightened.</p> <p>20 But I remember one day waking up and Termonbacca</p> <p>21 seemed to have been empty, seemed -- seemed to be all</p> <p>22 gone. It was like a morgue it was so quiet. They went</p> <p>23 I think around 1956, '58 under the British migration</p> <p>24 scheme, and I remember seeing a photograph in the Derry</p> <p>25 Journal some days later, children pointing out -- the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 65</p>	<p>1 going to Australia?</p> <p>2 A. Oh, God! No, no, no.</p> <p>3 Q. Can we just discuss for a moment your life after care?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. You went -- after Salthill you actually went back to</p> <p>6 Termonbacca on occasions. Isn't that correct?</p> <p>7 A. When I -- when I left Termonbacca -- sorry -- when I</p> <p>8 left Salthill, the Brothers got me a job in a pub about</p> <p>9 thirty miles from Salthill. I had no idea about the</p> <p>10 ways of the world. I didn't have an idea about money,</p> <p>11 and I stayed for four days very frightened, because</p> <p>12 there was an elderly bachelor man who owned the pub, and</p> <p>13 you can appreciate what I'm thinking. I was frightened,</p> <p>14 and how I got back to Derry I don't know. I genuinely</p> <p>15 don't know, but I stayed in Salthill living on the farm</p> <p>16 in the sheds where the animals were for about four or</p> <p>17 five days and nights, because I was distressed and</p> <p>18 frightened.</p> <p>19 I got back to Derry. How I don't know, but I lived</p> <p>20 on the streets of Strand Road and the GNR factory</p> <p>21 railway was just across. I remember on June 27th, a day</p> <p>22 that will live forever in my memory, frightened,</p> <p>23 distressed as I was, I went up to the door of</p> <p>24 Termonbacca. I mean, I had no money. I had no food.</p> <p>25 I had no water. I had no family. I had no-one.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 67</p>
<p>1 paper was on the large tennis table -- sewing table in</p> <p>2 the orphanage.</p> <p>3 Q. Do you ever remember in one of the many letters that you</p> <p>4 wrote to the Sisters ever saying anything to them that</p> <p>5 your parents would have gone ballistic if you had been</p> <p>6 picked to be sent to Australia?</p> <p>7 A. I would need to see that.</p> <p>8 Q. If we could pull up SND-1221, please. Just at the top</p> <p>9 of that page you see the record in the Derry Journal of</p> <p>10 several assemblies held in Termonbacca with the purpose</p> <p>11 of sending children from Termonbacca to Australia under</p> <p>12 the British migrant scheme.</p> <p>13 A. I -- if I -- does it say it here?</p> <p>14 Q. It just says:</p> <p>15 "Both myself and", your brother, "were selected. My</p> <p>16 mother and father went ballistic when they heard about</p> <p>17 it and we were taken off the list."</p> <p>18 A. When I met my mother and father in 1965 at 16, they</p> <p>19 discussed that. That would be in that context.</p> <p>20 Q. So that's after --</p> <p>21 A. That would have been in that con... -- that's after</p> <p>22 I came out of the industrial school when I met the birth</p> <p>23 mother and father.</p> <p>24 Q. But when you were in Termonbacca, you didn't know that</p> <p>25 there had been any discussions with your parents about</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 66</p>	<p>1 I knocked on the door and I asked -- I found out later</p> <p>2 she was the Mother Superior, and I asked her for help,</p> <p>3 and she totally dismissed me with a wave of the hand and</p> <p>4 told me she would have me arrested if I didn't leave,</p> <p>5 and I felt that that day was a turning point. When they</p> <p>6 slammed the door, they proved to me that they were</p> <p>7 slamming the door on the core values of their own</p> <p>8 mission statement: "When I was hungry, you gave me to</p> <p>9 eat; thirsty, you gave me to drink; naked, you clothed</p> <p>10 me; distressed, you comforted me". I knew that that day</p> <p>11 one day they would be brought crumbling down and it has</p> <p>12 come to pass.</p> <p>13 Q. Subsequently arranged -- someone in Derry actually</p> <p>14 arranged for you to go to Dublin. You spent some time</p> <p>15 working in a hotel there, and then you worked for the</p> <p>16 Jesuits. In May 1965 you joined the Irish Army. Is</p> <p>17 that correct?</p> <p>18 A. That's correct, yes.</p> <p>19 Q. You served in that army for the next 43 years?</p> <p>20 A. 43 years.</p> <p>21 Q. You did ten hours of duty --</p> <p>22 A. That's correct.</p> <p>23 Q. -- including out in the ?</p> <p>24 A. .</p> <p>25 Q. And in and you actually retired only in 2008?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 68</p>

<p>1 floor flat in the main -- high street in Dromore. Like</p> <p>2 a friend said, "What if she falls over while you are</p> <p>3 working?", you know. So I couldn't take her out.</p> <p>4 Q. She, in fact, passed away in 1989?</p> <p>5 A. Yes.</p> <p>6 Q. HIA235, just finally, as you know, the Inquiry has to</p> <p>7 make recommendations to the Northern Ireland Executive</p> <p>8 about potential apologies, some other form of</p> <p>9 appropriate memorial or tribute, or whether any form of</p> <p>10 redress is appropriate.</p> <p>11 Is there anything you would like to say to the</p> <p>12 Inquiry about that and what they might like to</p> <p>13 recommend?</p> <p>14 A. Well, I think perhaps the state of health -- the mental</p> <p>15 state of the nuns who were looking after us has got to</p> <p>16 be questioned, because when you think we were in</p> <p>17 institutions, I was there for ten years. Some of these</p> <p>18 poor unfortunates were there for a lifetime. Excuse me.</p> <p>19 Q. HIA235, this has clearly been difficult for you, but</p> <p>20 this is your opportunity if there's anything that you</p> <p>21 feel you haven't had -- you haven't said until now, if</p> <p>22 there's anything you would like the Inquiry to hear from</p> <p>23 you.</p> <p>24 A. Well, I'd like the Inquiry would take on board just to</p> <p>25 the extent these bamboo canes were used. On one</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 105</p>	<p>1 from the belt -- I don't know -- or they used -- they</p> <p>2 might have had big pockets in them or something. They</p> <p>3 had them on their person somewhere. They used to use</p> <p>4 them liberally as well.</p> <p>5 Q. Thank you, HIA235. The Chairman and the Panel members</p> <p>6 may have a few questions for you. If you just stay</p> <p>7 there, please.</p> <p>8 Questions from THE PANEL</p> <p>9 CHAIRMAN: HIA235, can I ask you about what you have said in</p> <p>10 relation to your mother? You said that she visited you</p> <p>11 occasionally. I am not quite clear whether you have</p> <p>12 your own recollection of this or this is something that</p> <p>13 one of your family has told you happened.</p> <p>14 A. No. No, sir. I do recollect her visiting me a few</p> <p>15 times, but when I was 12 and in I actually</p> <p>16 went down to visit her in and, you know,</p> <p>17 whether I got buses down I forget. I just went and</p> <p>18 visited her and I seen where she was working and ...</p> <p>19 Q. Well, if you went down to visit her in County Tyrone,</p> <p>20 did the nuns give you the money for the fare?</p> <p>21 A. No. This is when I was in in County Monaghan.</p> <p>22 Q. Oh, I see. You had moved away from Termonbacca by that</p> <p>23 stage?</p> <p>24 A. Yes.</p> <p>25 Q. Yes, but when you were in Termonbacca, your mother came</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 107</p>
<p>1 occasion -- I should say on another occasion the nun</p> <p>2 asked me to pass her a bamboo stick, and usually the</p> <p>3 bamboos they start off this length with a hook. This</p> <p>4 one was reduced to about that size, and all the end was</p> <p>5 frayed. So she said, "That's no good". So I go to the</p> <p>6 cupboard and gets a new bamboo stick out for her to beat</p> <p>7 me with, you know. I mean, how sad is that?</p> <p>8 In the cupboard there was a box. It was about that</p> <p>9 height. It would have been about 9 inches like that and</p> <p>10 about 4 inches that way and that's what the canes come</p> <p>11 in. So there must have been lots of bamboo canes</p> <p>12 shipped into Northern Ireland -- not only Northern</p> <p>13 Ireland; Southern Ireland as well. There must have been</p> <p>14 tonnes of the stuff. I don't think it grows in Ireland.</p> <p>15 So, I mean, if the bamboo cane goes from that to that</p> <p>16 and it's just for beating children with, you know,</p> <p>17 I think you can draw your own conclusions.</p> <p>18 Q. Apart from the bamboo canes is there anything else that</p> <p>19 you --</p> <p>20 A. We used to get beaten with thick straps. They were</p> <p>21 about an inch and a half, two inches, like that. Some</p> <p>22 of the nuns used to I think hang them on -- they had</p> <p>23 a big -- they had rosary beads down to the floor and</p> <p>24 they had some sort of a belt on or something like that</p> <p>25 and some of them used -- I think they used to hang them</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 106</p>	<p>1 to visit you. Is that what you are saying?</p> <p>2 A. Yes. She came occasionally.</p> <p>3 Q. Yes. Now you also said that your mother wouldn't allow</p> <p>4 you to be taken to Australia.</p> <p>5 A. She didn't want me to go.</p> <p>6 Q. Did you know that at the time --</p> <p>7 A. No.</p> <p>8 Q. -- or is this something you learned later?</p> <p>9 A. No, it is something I learned. I used to get a lot of</p> <p>10 information from my cousins and who were</p> <p>11 nurses in Manchester at the time. I mean, they even</p> <p>12 told me who my real father was.</p> <p>13 I was in a bar in Dromore once -- not that</p> <p>14 I frequent bars often -- but I was there on this</p> <p>15 occasion and a friend of mine, he said, "See them two</p> <p>16 fellas over by the bar?" I said "Yeah". He said, "Do</p> <p>17 you know they are your half brothers?" I hadn't, you</p> <p>18 know, but that's ...</p> <p>19 Q. Yes. Well, as you may or may not know, the Inquiry is</p> <p>20 also interested in the children who went to Australia,</p> <p>21 who were sent to Australia --</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. -- which is why I'm asking you about this, but this is</p> <p>24 something you learned later on, that your mother wasn't</p> <p>25 willing that you should go to Australia?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 108</p>

27 (Pages 105 to 108)

1 to your migration. I know you have an issue about the
2 address. I'm not going to -- as you've asked for
3 anonymity, I am not going to give your father's name or
4 the address --

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. -- other than to say it gives an address at a number 13
7 at a particular street in Belfast and you say that
8 address was incorrect, that the address, in fact, was 9
9 in that street. So although --

10 **A. Correct.**

11 Q. -- although his signature appears on it, it may be that
12 someone else filled in the incorrect details of his
13 address?

14 **A. Well, I can tell you for a start that that's not his**
15 **signature -- okay -- and I won't elaborate any further**
16 **as it will involve my family. That is not his**
17 **signature.**

18 Q. So you dispute the fact -- although there's a signature
19 there, you dispute the fact that your father actually
20 did sign it?

21 **A. I'm not disputing it. I am stating it. It is not his**
22 **signature.**

23 Q. Okay. Just coming on then to -- back to your witness
24 statement at page 10049, you talk about when you
25 eventually managed to get the passport difficulties that

1 to your migration. I know you have an issue about the
2 address. I'm not going to -- as you've asked for
3 anonymity, I am not going to give your father's name or
4 the address --

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. -- other than to say it gives an address at a number 13
7 at a particular street in Belfast and you say that
8 address was incorrect, that the address, in fact, was 9
9 in that street. So although --

10 **A. Correct.**

11 Q. -- although his signature appears on it, it may be that
12 someone else filled in the incorrect details of his
13 address?

14 **A. Well, I can tell you for a start that that's not his**
15 **signature -- okay -- and I won't elaborate any further**
16 **as it will involve my family. That is not his**
17 **signature.**

18 Q. So you dispute the fact -- although there's a signature
19 there, you dispute the fact that your father actually
20 did sign it?

21 **A. I'm not disputing it. I am stating it. It is not his**
22 **signature.**

23 Q. Okay. Just coming on then to -- back to your witness
24 statement at page 10049, you talk about when you
25 eventually managed to get the passport difficulties that

1 **A. Yes.**

2 **Q.** So I've taken some time to go through that, HIA308,
3 because it is quite a complete version of the form, and
4 you talk -- if we go back to your witness statement, you
5 talk in paragraph 14 about the fact that that signature
6 is on that form, and you say that you doubt if that is,
7 in fact, your mother's signature. You asked her in
8 later life whether she knew you were being sent to
9 Australia and she said she had received a letter from
10 the nuns:

11 "... but told me that she did not respond to them,
12 and that is the reason why I doubt that that was, in
13 fact, her signature."

14 **A. Yes.** I stated that and that is what I say is correct,
15 that my mother did tell me she did not respond. I --
16 because I did have the time to ask her a few questions.
17 Like, for example, I asked her, "Who was my father?" but
18 she wouldn't go there. I asked her, "Did you know I was
19 coming to Australia?" She said -- I think she said, "I
20 don't know". I'm not absolutely sure, but she said,
21 "They sent me a letter and I didn't sign it", or I even
22 doubt if she read it, but what -- her reply was she
23 didn't respond. I do state that as an occurrence. It
24 happened in [REDACTED] in 1977 when I visited for the first
25 time, when I first found my mum, the first and only time

SUPERIOR GENERAL CIRCULAR LETTER TO SUPERIORS 21/03/1952 DBx/4/5

J.M.J.-4

Nazareth House,
Hammersmith,
London W.6

21st March 1952.

My dear Mother,

A request has been received for boys and girls to be sent to Australia under the Catholic Emigration Scheme, and I wish you to be prepared to send some children.

Twenty girls are required at once for Nazareth House, Geraldton, W.A. and I am consenting to the girls going, on condition that they will be sent to Nazareth Houses in Australia, and not to other Homes. The boys will go as usual to the Christian Brothers and to a new Home being opened for boys, by an order of Priests.

I am grieved to say that the Australian Department for Emigration has complained about problem children, wet-beds and mentally deficient children being sent from Nazareth Houses to Australia, and these children will be returned by the Australian Government to the Houses from which they were sent. The Government in Australia with the Government in this country, pays the cost of transport, and says these children are a liability on the country. The Home Office, London, has been notified by the Australian Government about this matter, even the Nazareth Houses in this country that sent such children have been named to the H.O., so it is humiliating for the Congregation, and looks as if we were putting our obligations on other people. This is very serious, as I have been notified that some Catholic Homes in Australia were to be closed to children on account of the unsatisfactory state of affairs among these children. Please remember that Nazareth Houses will be included in this and the good name of the Congregation (at present respected in Australia) will suffer also.

Only normal, well-behaved children from 5 to 10 years

of age are to emigrated and this is the responsibility of the Superiors and Sisters in charge of the children. It has been put before me that only the Sisters living in the Houses with the children can really tell if they are what they ought to be, it is not possible for doctors &c. to know, except in very bad cases.

As soon as you have selected the children send me their names and ages, and be careful not to select children belonging to people who may object to their going.

With warm love from all in the 'Old Home' and praying God to ever bless and guide you.

Your affectionate Mother,

M. Emmanuel Mary

Superior General.

C O
O N
P L
Y Y

The Queen's University of Belfast,
7 Lennoxvale,
Belfast.
Department of Psychology.

6th September, 1956.

Dear Mr. Armstrong,

I am sending you now the report of our examination of the nine children in Nazareth Lodge, Belfast, whom you referred to us.

The examinations were carried out in Nazareth Lodge on Monday, 27th and Wednesday, 29th August, 1956. All intelligence quotients reported were obtained on the Terman-Merrill Binet Scale (Form L). In qualification of the actual I.Q. figures, it should be noted that all the results were in our opinion somewhat lowered by the limited range of experience in this group of children due to their prolonged institutionalisation.

In all cases report from the staff of Nazareth Lodge, and our own observation of the children would not suggest any marked degree of emotional maladjustment in any of these cases. All the children co-operated well in the test situation, and we formed a very good opinion indeed of the care and training that had been provided for them.

Some comment on the lowest result obtained - that on Stephen Donnelly (I.Q. 80) - is perhaps in order. This child was very well adjusted in the test situation, but he is very young, and at several points in his performance there were suggestions that this result falls short of representing his effective intelligence.

If there are any points about which you would care to have fuller information, we shall be glad to try to amplify this note.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) George Seth.

R. E. Armstrong Esq.
Chief Migration Officer,
Australia House,
Strand, London W.C.2.

MA., B.Ed., Ph.D., F.R.Ps.S.
Head of Department.

(b) If so, has the required consent of the Secretary of State for the child's emigration been obtained? . . NO

MEDICAL HISTORY.

16. Sex . . M Height . . 3ft 8½" . Weight . . 3sts 9lbs . .
17. What illnesses has the child had (including infectious complaints)?

Australian Catholic Immigration Committee

SYDNEY BRANCH:
150, ELIZABETH STREET,
SYDNEY,

REVEREND FATHER W. A. NICOL, P.P.
DIRECTOR

London Office:
146a, St. Stephen's House,
Westminster, S.W.1.

CABLE ADDRESS: "CATHMIGCOM" LONDON.
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "CATHMIGCOM" EARL, LONDON.

TELEPHONE: WHITEHALL 5502.

SR 106

St. Joseph's Home,
Termonbacca,
Londonderry.

4th December, 1951.

Dear **SR 106**

We have just received a small nomination for boys aged 9 - 12 and as Fr. Nicol has left instructions for your boys to be given first consideration, I propose to submit the following boys whom we have on our files and who apparently would be eligible under this nomination:-

As you know, we require the following documents in respect of each child:- Application Forms, Birth Certificate, Baptismal Certificate, Confirmation Certificate if confirmed, Case History, I.Q. report and School Report. Many of these documents we have already. I therefore set out below the list of papers we are holding for each boy:-

Application Forms, Birth & Baptismal Certificates.

" " Baptismal Certificate. Birth was not registered.

" " Birth & Baptismal Certificate

, Only 1 Application Form and Baptismal Certificate.

We would be grateful if you would let us know if these children are still available for emigration, also if you have any other boys of this particular age group whom we could perhaps migrate with a later batch? If you wish these lads to be included in the next sailing of migrant children, we would appreciate it if you would furnish us with any documents which are missing from our files. We would point out that very careful selection is now taking place and, therefore, if children are anyway below average and do not come up to the required standard, they are being sent back.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,

M. Canning

Secretary to:
Rev. Father W.A. Nicol, P.P.

Australian Catholic Immigration Committee

SYDNEY BRANCH:
150, ELIZABETH STREET,
SYDNEY.

REVEREND FATHER W. A. NICOL, P.P.
DIRECTOR

London Office:
146a, St. Stephen's House,
Westminster, S.W.1.

CABLE ADDRESS: "CATHMIGCOM" LONDON.
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "CATHMIGCOM" PARL. LONDON.

TELEPHONE: WHITEHALL 5502.

The Sister Superior,
St. Joseph's Home,
Termonbacca,
Derry.

20th December, 1951.

Dear **SR 106**

We wrote to you on the 4th instant but feel that inadvertent the letter was wrongly addressed, having put Termonbacca, Londonderry, instead of Termonbacca, Co. Derry. Perhaps the letter has by this time found it's way to it's proper destination, however, in case it has not we desire to tell you that we have received a nomination for boys and have submitted the applications of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. In our previous letter we suggested [REDACTED] also but he comes outside the age group for this Tasmanian nomination of boys from 9 - 12, so we have had to withdraw him for the time being.

As you probably know already, it is now necessary to furnish 3 application forms, birth certificate, Baptismal certificate, school report, I.Q. report and case history in respect of each child. Some of these documents we already possess. We therefore set out below a list of the papers we are holding for each boy.

[REDACTED] Application Forms, Birth and Baptismal Certificates.

" " and Birth Certificate. (It would appear that his birth was not registered and we would be grateful if you would check on this. A Birth Cert: must be obtained if possible).

[REDACTED] Application Forms, Birth and Baptismal Certificate.

We would be grateful if you would let us know if these children are still available for emigration, and if so, we will be glad to have their I.Q. and school reports and case histories. At the same time perhaps you would be so kind as to let us have a list of any other boys whom you wish to be migrated to Australia and who fit into the specified age group.

Since our first letter we have noticed on our files an application for [REDACTED] presumably the brother of [REDACTED]. If this is so and you wish the brothers to be migrated together, we may possibly be able to fit them into a special nomination which has come through for W. Australia.

When submitting further applications, Father Nicol asks you to bear in mind the fact that if these children are anyway below

average, mentally or physically, they will be sent back.

Wishing you every Blessing for the coming Holy Season,

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

M. Banning

Secretary to:
Rev. Father W.A. Nicol, P.P.

Australian Catholic Immigration Committee

AUS-12178

SYDNEY BRANCH:
150, ELIZABETH STREET,
SYDNEY.

REVEREND FATHER W. A. NICOL, P.P.
DIRECTOR

London Office:
146a, St. Stephen's
Westminster, S.W.1.

CABLE ADDRESS: "CATHMIGCOM" LONDON.
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "CATHMIGCOM" PARL. LONDON.

TELEPHONE: WHITEHALL 6502.

21st March, 1952.

The Mother Superior,
St. Joseph's Home,
Termonbacca,
Derry.

*ack 14/3/52
about 6 long letter*

M. H. 3377

Dear Mother,

I have just returned from a visit to Australia and beg to advise you that after a number of years battle with the Home Office here I have succeeded in securing approval for most of our institutions in Australia who are prepared to take British migrant children, both girls and boys. Under the circumstances it will now be possible for us to proceed with the migration of many of the children whom you first submitted.

I would respectfully point out that in all cases every application must be covered by a case history, a medical history, a school report and I.Q. test, birth and Baptismal certificates, and where necessary Confirmation certificates.

At the moment we are processing the following boys:

[REDACTED]

HIA319

It is necessary for us to have the following documents in regard to these boys: Case History, I.Q. Report, School Report and Medical History. We have all the other papers.

I would also be pleased to receive from you some indication as to whether or not you have any other boys ready to submit for migration, and if a trip across to Derry would be justified. The age groups would be as follows: 8 - 12, and 5 - 6. In the case of brothers we are prepared to extend the ages either way.

Wishing you every Grace and Blessing,

I remain,

Yours sincerely.

William Nicol

(Very Rev. W.A. Nicol, P.P.)

PRIVATE

never get anything like that?". This is when I started thinking to myself that I was bound to have some family. When I was about ten or eleven I asked [REDACTED] SR 178 "haven't I got anyone at all?" and she told me that I had a brother. I never thought any more about it at the time. We all received sweets from the Orangemen who marched past Nazareth House. We used to get up on a Sunday and climb on the wall and watch them play and clap and they used to give us lollies.

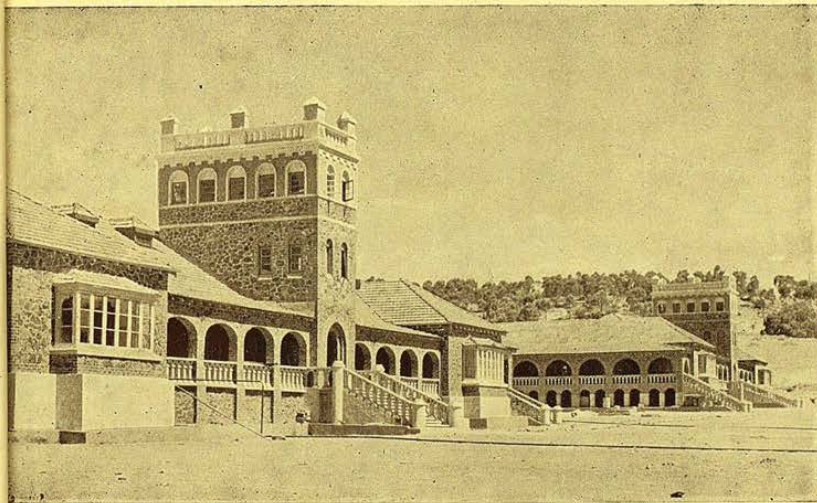
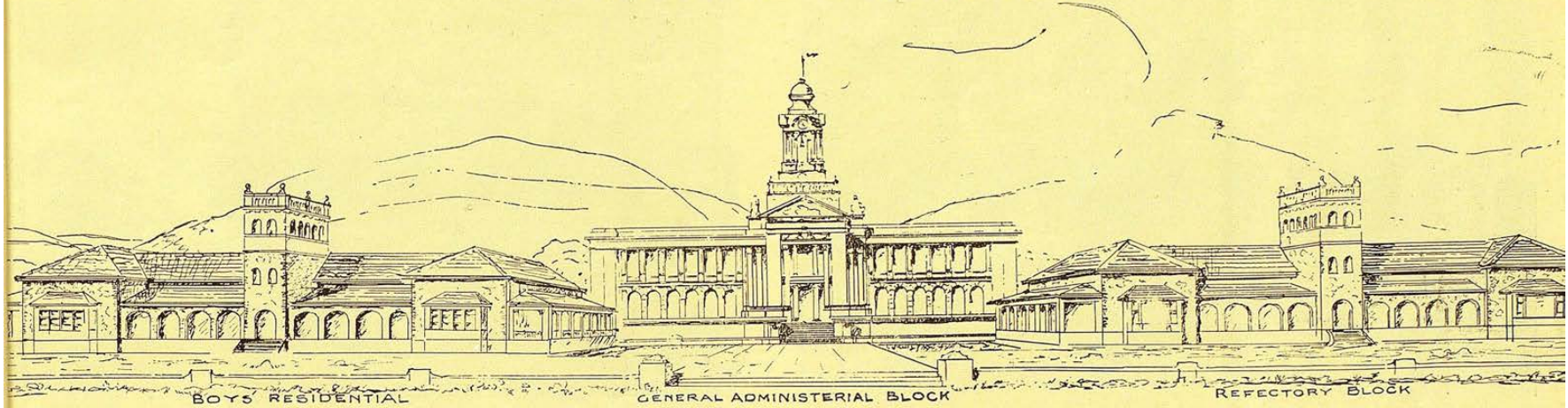
11. We had a good priest while I was in the home. His name was Father Geoffrey. He used to take us for sport. He gave us all nicknames and called me [REDACTED] [REDACTED] after the famous dog. He was just lovely. I named my first son after him - [REDACTED]
12. The days on which we made our First Holy Communion and our Confirmation were special days as we were allowed to go on the trams outside the home. We wore white and people used to see us and give us sweets and pennies.
13. When I was about ten years old I was made to help out in the morgue in the old people's home at Nazareth House. I used to have to go in and dress the bodies and put pennies in their eyes. I was absolutely petrified working there. We took it in turns.
14. We went to Mass every day in the home. We had to learn the catechism off by heart. If we didn't know it, we would be whacked over the ear or hit across the hands with an implement. We also had to learn hymns in Latin as part of the Latin Mass.
15. I never had shoes to fit me in Nazareth House. I had big feet and I was always given shoes that were too small for me and I had to squeeze my feet in them.
16. I made good friends in the home and it was hard leaving them. They were very upset too. I didn't know where I was going. I wasn't told I was going to Australia. One day in school, a [REDACTED] BR 49 came and talked about Australia. He said we would be able to ride horses and pick oranges off trees. He also told

PRIVATE

try to locate my home address. She was only there one week after this incident and then she got laid off.

19. When I was ten years old I recall that a Christian Brother, BAU 4 came to talk to boys in the home about going to Australia. He came in 1946 as soon as the war had ended. We had to sit a test in order to qualify to get to Australia. It was a three to four page questionnaire that took about half an hour to complete and all the boys selected for Australia took the test. Brother BAU 4 brought books about Australia and told us that it would be good there, the aboriginals were great, there was plenty of orchards and fruit and we would never go hungry, there was plenty of open space and we would not feel confined by four walls and that we should not worry about going there. No-one ever asked me if I wanted to go to Australia. I had no idea where Australia was but I was convinced by his description of the country.
20. My mother was never told about my being transferred to Australia and they never sought her permission.
21. The nuns fitted me out with clothes for the trip. The last thing they did was change my name from [REDACTED] to HIA 299 I have no idea why they chose the name HIA 299 as it has no connection to me but I think they wanted to ensure that I could not be traced. They told me not to change my name back when I got to Australia as all my papers had gone through immigration. However, I did stick with my original name and I have [REDACTED] currently on my passport.
22. My child migration document notes my name as HIA 299 and it has been signed by the Mother Superior of Nazareth Lodge, Sister SR 102 She has also signed the form for and on behalf of the Catholic Council for Child Welfare, Coleshill, Birmingham. My medical form was dated 15th July 1947 and SR 102 has again signed this form in place of my parent or guardian.

PERSPECTIVE DRAWING



Residential and Refectory Blocks.



Administration Block in Course of Erection by the Boys.



PRIVATE

recall that whatever the nuns put in the water had a burning effect on my skin and I found out in later years that it was a cleaning agent called Phenol.

4. I recall the nuns stating "all those who want to go on holiday put your hands up". We all put our hands up as it sounded exciting but I had no idea at the time where Australia was, and nor did the other boys. There is a medical form dated July 1947 showing that I was examined prior to departure although I do not recall this examination. We were taken to Liverpool and I thought that we had arrived at our destination when we got to England. I had no idea that our journey was only beginning.
5. On my migration forms it shows that [REDACTED] SR 81 [REDACTED] the Mother Superior of St Joseph's Home, Termonbacca signed in place of my parent or guardian giving authority for me to be transferred to Australia.
6. We sailed on 29 August 1947 on the SS Asturias and arrived in Australia on 22 September 1947. I do not recall who went with us as a guardian on the ship but no doubt there would have been someone travelling with us. I cannot recall any members of the crew. I recall I did not have my own cabin and that there were about twelve of us sharing accommodation on board the ship. I remember staying below deck a lot of the time. Some boys went up on deck to be sick overboard but most of the time I recall being confined to below deck so the journey was not very enjoyable.

Castledare (22 September 1947 – 1 February 1949)

7. I don't recall how many children travelled from Termonbacca on the ship with me. We arrived at Fremantle and the Archbishop, the Mayor of Fremantle and [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] representing the Commonwealth Government were there to greet us. I went to Castledare initially as a junior boy on 22 September 1947 and remained there until 1 February 1949.

PRIVATE

communion in May 1947 all contact with my family stopped. I was devastated and constantly asked where my brother was.

5. I ran away from Nazareth House on two occasions back to my house which was close by. Someone always found me and took me back. Once I was put into a dormitory without a meal for that day as punishment for running away.
6. I took an IQ test while in Nazareth House and **BAU 4** a Nun and a government official were there. I was patted on the head and told I was a 'clever and smart girl' and was going to go on a trip to Australia. There were five junior children and a few aged fourteen years old. We were given the impression that life was going to be like a fairytale, with lots of fruit, sunshine and kind people.
7. I left on 28th August 1947 when I was taken to Australia. I sailed on the 29th August 1947 on the SS Asturias. We realised we weren't going back home and we were not allowed to send letters back to our families. I was denied any effort to see my family and my brother was unable to locate me.
8. I was medically examined before I left Northern Ireland. I was seen by a British Medical Officer and I recall injections which left scabs on my arms. **SR 132** helped to clean this.
9. **SR 132** and **SR 133** accompanied us to Australia and from the beginning I suffered pain at the hands of the Sisters of Nazareth. The voyage was really difficult. **SR 133** was kind and good but **SR 132** threw me across the ship's deck for talking to boy migrants. This happened on a couple of occasions and I was thrown into items on the ship which I remember was very painful. The first time this happened was shortly after disembarking from Northern Ireland. I was speaking to the boys trying to find out some information about my brother **SR 132** beat me with her belt when I asked where my brother was and she hit me with her leather strap numerous times over my body. She did this to some of the other girls too.

PRIVATE

pants or messing myself. I was slapped with a strap most days by different nuns. I remember the superior nun was the worst. I was called "scabby" and "leopard" by the nuns because of the wounds that I had from being hit. I was told for years that my parents were dead but they were still alive.

5. When I was five I was sent to Australia. I was taken to my sisters and a priest told us that we were going on holiday to England for three weeks. Instead we were sent to Australia on the SS Asturias on 29th August 1947. I remember a big ship and having to wear a badge and follow the leader.
6. Apparently my father signed the permission form for me to go to Australia but like most gypsies he could not read or write so I do not believe that he did.

Australia

7. We landed in Fremantle, Western Australia on 22nd September 1947. Australia was very hot and sticky and my face got covered in mosquito bites. I was sent to Castledare Boys' Home. There were nine brothers and four or five nuns looking after about 200 or 300 children. When I reached the age of ten I was sent to Clontarf. I was one of the first children in Clontarf and we were set to work building the place in the blazing heat. If you sang an Irish song while you were working you were beaten.
8. In 1949 / 1950 when I was about nine or ten years old I was taken in to a dark room and gang raped by five Brothers; **BAU 9** **BAU 10** **BAU 11** **BAU 8** and another brother. There were hands all over me. I was in agony.
9. I used to walk the dog and when I was walking down the lane a woman came over and spoke to me. She asked me what my name was and it turned out that a family of **BAU 9** lived nearby and she took me to their house. I went to their house twice and they asked the Brothers once if I could spend the weekend with them. **BAU 9** said no and punched me in the face and broke my

If St. Joseph's Home, Termonbacca, is easily accessible from Londonderry, and you would prefer Mr. Humphries to interview the boys at the Home, I am sure he would be happy to do so. Mr. Humphries will be at the Employment Exchange at the above address from 3.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, 29th January, 1951, and I should be grateful if you would ring him there (Telephone: Londonderry 2242) between these hours, regarding final arrangements for the interviews.

Yours faithfully,

Noel W. Lamidey
(Noel W. Lamidey)
CHIEF MIGRATION OFFICER.

The Reverend Mother Superior,
St. Joseph's Home,
Termonbacca,
Co. Derry,
N. Ireland.



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIA HOUSE
STRAND · LONDON
W.C.2PLEASE REPLY TO
THE CHIEF MIGRATION OFFICER
AND QUOTETELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"CROTONATE, ESTRAND, LONDON"
TELEPHONE: TEMPLE BAR 2435BH/DEW
C46/1/7

10th March, 1953

Dear Madam,

I refer to the boys on the attached list whose applications have been submitted by the Australian Catholic Immigration Committee for migration to Australia.

Arrangements have been made for these boys to be seen by an Australian Selection Officer, Mr. A. Gross, at the Employment Exchange, Bishop Street, Londonderry, at 3.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 24th March, 1953.

It would be appreciated if you will arrange for the boys to be present at this time to see Mr. Gross, who will advise you regarding medical examinations after the interviews.

Yours faithfully,

S. T. Dempsey(S. J. Dempsey)
ACTING CHIEF MIGRATION OFFICER.

The Mother Superior,
St. Joseph's Home,
Termonbacca,
Londonderry,
N. Ireland.

Enclosure: 1 List



OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR AUSTRALIA

Telephone : TEMple Bar 2435.

Telegraphic Address :
"CROTONATE, ESTRAND, LONDON."

CHIEF MIGRATION OFFICER,

AUSTRALIA HOUSE,

STRAND,

LONDON, W.C.2.

16th March, 1956

Please quote : BH/IR
CL46/1/7

Dear Madam,

I wish to refer to the applications for migration to Australia of a number of boys from St. Joseph's Home, which you forwarded to Canon Flood recently.

In order to reach an early decision about these boys, arrangements are being made for the Child Migration Officer, Mrs B. Hunt, to call at St. Joseph's Home next Friday, March 23rd at about 11 a.m. to see these boys.

It would be appreciated if you would advise me if this arrangement would not be convenient to you.

Yours faithfully,

R. E. Armstrong
(R. E. Armstrong)
CHIEF MIGRATION OFFICER

The Mother Superior,
St. Josephs Home,
Termonbacco,
Co. Derry,
NORTHERN IRELAND

1 it -- and I came upon this paperwork and child migrants
2 was mentioned, and I says, "Well, this is very
3 interesting", and at the time Australia had what they
4 called the white Australian policy and they were very
5 concerned that the country needed to be filled with
6 white people, white children, and so they encouraged --
7 it started off with Barnardo's I believe and other
8 institutions and then the Catholics got whiff of it and
9 thought, "Oh, we'd better get involved in this", and so
10 the Australian government assisted these organisations
11 to send children out to Australia, because they wanted
12 good, strong, white children and in -- in the
13 documentation the institutions or the religious orders
14 were given monetary assistance for the children that
15 they were sent out -- that were sent out from Ireland
16 and the UK -- the UK and Northern Ireland, and some were
17 sent to Canada, and some were sent to South Africa.
18 I think that's South Africa, Ireland and Australia.

19 Q. So the Australian government was providing financial
20 assistance. You talk about the sum of \$10.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Is that actually what --

23 A. It could have been 10 pounds. 10 pounds, yes.

24 Q. And the documentation you saw suggested that the
25 financial -- sorry -- the Catholic authorities were

1 being provided with 10 pounds per child?

2 **A. Financial -- yes, financial assistance, and with other**
3 **organisations they were provided funds for technical**
4 **assistance. They were worded in different language, but**
5 **basically they were helping to finance the child**
6 **migrants coming out to Australia.**

7 Q. Now in paragraph 26 you say that you have a strong
8 faith. You have taught in Catholic schools and worked
9 with the bishops, and you had great respect and empathy
10 for the work of the church, but as a result of your own
11 personal difficulties and particularly the difficulties
12 encountered in obtaining documents relating to your past
13 from the Catholic Church you have lost respect for it?

14 **A. Correct.**

15 Q. And --

16 **A. Particularly the religious -- particularly the religious**
17 **orders.**

18 Q. You say at paragraph 27:

19 "All my life I have lived with not knowing who
20 I really am. I have no reliable family history
21 particularly in regard to medical history, which is
22 extremely important to me, because I have children of my
23 own and now grandchildren. Whilst I cannot recall my
24 time in care both in Northern Ireland and Australia,
25 I feel that I have suffered the emotional and

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

105
1949

J. M. J +

the donation.

March 11th £50. legacy was received by the Will of Mrs Conerton R.I.P. Mother of Sister M. Austin. At this time about 200 square yards of the top portion of the boys playing field was concreted at a cost of £200.10.0 and another £100 was spent on drainage of field. This work has proved a boon to the boys as they can at all times - except when raining - go out to play without fear of getting wet feet.

A cheque for £55.0.0 was received on 7th May from the Australian Migration Scheme towards outfits of the Loutham boys who went to Australia August 1947.

A four day Carnival was organised in May by the Hostel Committee and held in St Marys Hall realizing over £300. after all expenses were paid. This sum goes towards the Hostel which is in contemplation or to help the boys to learn trades and pay lodging fees. The boys did remarkable well at the Leis this year by winning the School Cup for Irish. Several Certificates and a Silver Medal. Two boys have won Scholarships and will be going to a Secondary School. Three boys are already going out to Secondary Schools and one boy has just got his B.A. honours degree at Queens University.

Mother Joseph Fidelis with dear Mother's permission very generously divided

1949

J. M. J +

a legacy which came by Will to the late Mr Francis Coyle R.I.P. who died in Nazareth House. The sum received was £400. and will be a help towards expenses of new lavatories for Senior Babies. The work being done at present. The May Processions of Our Lady took place as usual each Sunday round the grounds. The weather on each occasion ^{good.} On Sunday June the 5th St. Peter's Brass and Reed Band gave a very enjoyable programme in the grounds and was much appreciated by all who were present. There was very great excitement amongst the boys when Rinty Monaghan World's Flyweight Champion arrived and sang a few songs. Rinty is a native of Belfast.

June 11th Several of the little boys made their First Holy Communion.

During the month about 90 pence were received through an advert in the paper appealing for pence for the babies. The appeal exceeded all expectation and has been a great boon to the Sisters as they can now have the little miles in fresh air and Sunshine all day.

John Rice one of the boys who had gone through St. Marys Secondary School and passed into the Queens University got his final exam and received his B.A. degree with second class honours. He will now teach.

Examined at the
Chapter 1949

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

inquiry was conducted by the Prime Minister's Department, but shortcomings were only detected at Dhurringile and Bindoon and minor improvements suggested. The Australian inquiry concluded that 'in view of [this], it is felt that there is no justification for your government to take any action to cause even the temporary deferment of child migration to Australia'. In the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth Relations Office recorded that 'as we feared, the Australian authorities focus only on material things like bathrooms and carpets, and ignore what has been said about atmosphere and management'. A UK Home Office official minuted that the Australian report 'confirms my view that Australian and UK thinking on child care matters is poles apart'.¹¹⁶

2.115 Dr Constantine concluded that it was 'abundantly clear' that the particular practice of child migration after 1945 was considered by most child care professionals in Britain as at best unnecessary and at worst – unless the Curtis Committee caveat was followed – damaging.¹¹⁷ Dr Constantine added that the politics of child care ensured that the caveat was dishonoured:

The voluntary societies in Britain had inherited traditions, reputations and allies, and neither the Home Office nor the Commonwealth Relations Office faced up to confrontation. Even the dependence of the voluntary societies upon British taxpayers' subsidies was not employed as a sanction to insist upon changes in the treatment of British child migrants. Instead British officials attempted to "educate" Australia.¹¹⁸

Conclusion

2.116 The Committee believes that the Commonwealth Government's policy of child migration in the post-war period reflected the values of the time and was well-intentioned. However, this policy is now regarded to have been seriously flawed. The policy had obvious serious and long-lasting deleterious impacts on the lives of many former child migrants.

2.117 The Committee notes that the original intention of the post-war immigration policy was based on a number of motives including humanitarian concerns, and was also in line with the need to increase Australia's population. The idea of rescuing underprivileged children from orphanages in war-ravaged Britain and offering them a new life in Australia had particular popular appeal. At the time it was thought that migrant children would be the 'best migrants' – more readily adaptable than adults, and easier to integrate into the wider Australian community. However, evidence to the Committee indicated that the children sent from British homes and orphanages were amongst the most socially deprived in the United Kingdom at the time and that their backgrounds were not as originally envisaged by the Australian Government.

116 Submission No.88, p.18 (Dr Constantine).

117 Submission No.88, p.23 (Dr Constantine).

118 Submission No.88, p.24 (Dr Constantine).

2.118 The Committee considers that the policy of child migration cannot be seen other than in the context of its time and with regard to the practices of the time, especially the emphasis placed on the institutional care of children, which judged by today's standards is an outmoded practice, and detrimental, in many cases, to the welfare of children in care. This aspect of removing children from the United Kingdom under government and private migration schemes needs to be seen separately from the subsequent treatment they endured in Australian institutions by those who had direct charge of them. However, both aspects contributed to the harsh outcomes for the children in care.

2.119 The Committee also believes that the roles and responsibilities of all governments involved in child migration need to be recognised. While the Australian Government played a significant role and must accept its responsibility for the consequences of those policies, the role of the British Government in facilitating and providing financial support for the schemes was fundamental. The Committee considers that it should be recognised that without the co-operation of the British Government, the child migration schemes could not have operated.

Child migration from Malta

2.120 Between 1950 and 1965 some 310 Maltese children – 259 boys and 51 girls were sent from Malta to Australia (see Appendix 6 for further details), although child migration, a long-standing feature of British social policy, had no long-standing roots in Maltese society. In Maltese society comprising large, extended close-knit families the 'abandoned child' hardly existed. However, most Maltese were poor, their families were large, and the pressure of population on resources meant that the Maltese, from at least the 19th century, were an emigrant people.¹¹⁹

2.121 Child migration from Malta was a marginal feature of Maltese emigration in general, with adult migration playing a much larger role. Child migration was first mooted in the 1930s when the Christian Brothers through Brother Conlon, negotiated with the Catholic Emigration Society (UK) regarding the emigration of child migrants from Catholic institutions in the United Kingdom to the Brothers' institutions in Western Australia. Some Maltese Catholic leaders in Australia were anxious for Maltese children in institutions to be included in the scheme. In 1938, Brother Conlon negotiated a draft agreement with the Maltese Government to take some 20 boys annually from institutions and poor families in Malta to Western Australia. However, the agreement was not implemented immediately and the war postponed further consideration of child migration.

2.122 World War II had a devastating effect on Malta, and in its wake, and in the midst of a population explosion in the country, the Maltese Government encouraged tens of thousands of its citizens to emigrate. In February 1950 a formal agreement between the Maltese Government and the Catholic hierarchy in Australia was signed

119 Coldrey, BM, *Child Migration from Malta to Australia: 1930s to 1960s*, Tamanaraik Publishing, 1992, p.i.

PRIVATE

13. My child migration form was signed by [REDACTED] SR 104 authorising my migration to Australia. It noted that my mother was still in contact with me but stated "in interest of child to emigrate".
14. There were fourteen boys that travelled together from Ireland and we were taken to a warehouse at Fremantle wharf and were separated into several groups according to age. Each group was taken to a different institution – Castledare was where the younger boys were sent and the older boys went to Bindoon, Tardun or Clontarf. I had grown up with these boys since infancy and it was like taking your brother away from you. I cried all the way to Castledare and for many nights afterwards I was traumatised. To this day I have not seen several of these boys again.

Castledare Boys Home (22 January 1957 - 9 February 1959)

15. For the first eight months I remember receiving the occasional letter and gift from my mother on my birthday. She sent me a pen as a present once. She was helped to write these letters by a man who was later to become my brother in law. He owned a shop and my sister [REDACTED] worked for him and they married in later life. In my last letter to my mother I asked why I had been sent to Australia and after that I never received another letter from her. The letters stopped coming and I asked why and was told that my mother didn't want me and could not afford to keep me so she sent me to Australia. Many years later I found out that this was a lie and I will never forgive the Christian Brothers for saying such a thing.
16. I was about nine years old when I was first sexually assaulted. All the boys slept in a large dormitory and the Christian Brother in charge of that dormitory slept in a room to the rear of the dormitory. One night I was awoken by a Christian Brother who I think was called [REDACTED] BAU 29. He told me to follow him to his room. He lay back in his bed and told me to sit next to him. He removed his penis from his pyjamas and started to masturbate himself. I became agitated and started to cry. He took my hand and placed it on his penis and told me to

6. One day in Melbourne when I was in my late thirties I went to the Derry Association picnic and a photo was taken of me and sent back to the Derry Journal. The [REDACTED] family in Derry recognised me. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], from Derry, wrote and told me that I had lived with [REDACTED] and his family until I was seven. [REDACTED] was ten years older than me and remembers that the sisters of Nazareth came around to his mother and told her and the family that I would have a better life in Australia. He told me that I had a mother and a father, my mother was a nurse during the war and my father was in the army. I wrote back but felt embarrassed and lost and didn't know how to address all these difficult issues from my past. I wasn't even confident or good at spelling or writing in those days and not much better these days. [REDACTED] also told me the nuns used to send photos of me to [REDACTED] in Derry, as I was growing up in Australia, including my graduation – I didn't even know I had graduated. I remember that after I had left Nazareth House in Geraldton, [REDACTED] SAU 7 [REDACTED] had said I should write to [REDACTED] and I said to [REDACTED] SAU 7 [REDACTED] I have no idea who she is, she gave me the address and I wrote to her asking what happened to my parents. She wrote back and told me that I had parents that my mother was a nurse and my father had been in the war. It all seemed too painful at the time and I just seemed to lose contact with her.

7. In 1997 my psychologist encouraged me to find out about my family because she believed that would help me to deal with many emotional issues. The Child Migrants Trust helped me to trace my mother [REDACTED] [REDACTED] who sadly had died in 1991 in Belfast before I could find her and my father [REDACTED] who also had died in 1976 in America. My parents had three children, I was the third child. My brother [REDACTED] (DOB 1934 Belfast) had left Ireland and was living in America and my sister [REDACTED] (DOB 1932) nee [REDACTED] was living in Scotland and still is. My father married again in the UK, London and then went to live in America. I have a paternal sister called [REDACTED] who tells me that my father was not in the army. My mother didn't marry again nor have any more children.

Interestingly at the same meeting the Curtis Inquiry was discussed in relation to staff training and the response of the Catholic agencies. At the request of Father Sewell, under any other business, the Cardinal and Monsignor Craven "gave a verbal and strictly and confidential report on the latest stages of the Curtis Inquiry". Details were not given in the minutes. That the issue of Curtis was alive is again revealed in the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Catholic Children Welfare Council held on November 7th 1946. Minutes show that plans for training centres and courses were progressing. Under any other business at the same meeting, Monsignor Craven read a letter from the Cardinal informing the members of the hierarchy's recommendations, including item 5, "the hierarchy agreed to the establishment of training colleges for child care workers and suggests that there might be one in the North and one in the South". This it is recorded was well received by members of C.C.W.C. Whilst making plans for training child care staff in England, they were at the same meeting discussing the sending of children to Australia where they knew child care staff were totally untrained in residential work. As seen in Brother Conlan's proposals some staff at Australian institutions were qualified teachers.

On November 7th 1946, C.C.W.C. again discussed having first hand information on "conditions in Australia". Monsignor Craven remarked that "we are not thinking of sending out children merely to please the Australian Government".

Between the start of the migration programme in 1938 up until May 1956, concerns were often expressed about the migration programme within C.C.W.C and the Church hierarchy but nothing in effect was done about it. In May 1956 in a letter to Canon Flood, R.T. Rainer from Southwark Catholic Children's Society wrote "I am keenly interested in these problems of supervision of children in Australia, as I made all the arrangements for all our children to emigrate and interviewed all the available parents but so far have not seen one official report about the welfare and progress of the Southwark children." He goes on to say that without "positive evidence of its standards and achievements that the local authorities will not be prepared to use the scheme" for the Catholic children it has in care. Further he states, "there is an opinion in some quarters that we have merely succeeded in transferring children from one institution to another and unfortunately we do not possess any information which suggests the position is in fact satisfactory". In another letter he makes clear that Australia and England do not appear to understand each other's conception of child care. By June 1956 Southwark were no longer prepared to send children to Australia until they had details of the welfare and after care of children already out there. Reports from Australia on children that had been sent out there were very brief in content and spasmodic in arriving.

There is evidence that members of C.C.W.C were aware of the work

1 today, and I was going to the Children's Hospital anyway
2 to have it dressed, and it just became going to the
3 hospital. So it never entered my mind, no.

4 Q. You didn't see your brothers during the trip to
5 Australia, but you were left in charge of your younger
6 sister, **AU 63** and you say people were very nice to you
7 on the boat.

8 "They gave us breakfast, lunch, tea, and sometimes
9 supper as well."

10 You remember a sports day. You say you were allowed
11 to win as you weren't very good at sports.

12 Then you were called up in the evening of
13 21st September 1947 and were told that whoever spotted
14 land first was going to get a pound. You say one of the
15 boys managed to get that.

16 You then packed your cases, and there was
17 an envelope taped into the inside of your cases which
18 the nun took from you, and you found out later that
19 those envelopes contained your birth certificates and
20 baptismal certificates?

21 **A. That's right.**

22 Q. And you remember there was a great fanfare when you got
23 off the boat. There were dignitaries and the archbishop
24 there to welcome you, and you were told that you were
25 there to fill the empty cradles of Australia, and you

PRIVATE

thirties and early forties. My oldest son is civil and keeps in touch but the younger boy has a fiery temper. I have two grandchildren who are now twenty one and nineteen years old but I do not see them very often, the love and affection is just not there.

44. My time in care has affected my attitude to religion and I have not visited a Catholic church since I left the Creedon family. I married my wife in the Church of England. Religion was forced down our throats day and night so now I do not let religion enter my life any more.

45. I started to do my own research regarding my family circumstances when I was preparing my papers for the Western Australian Redress Scheme. My adoptive mother had passed away at that stage. I have never visited Ireland. I regret never having the opportunity to meet my birth mother and having no knowledge of my Irish ancestry. I never made any further enquiries about my family. If you've written me off, you've written me off for life.

46. I received \$28,000 AUD under the Western Australian Redress Scheme.

47. I have no contact with my biological family and I no longer have any contact with my adoptive family. I do not know who my father is, I have never met my mother and I do not know if I have any biological siblings. If the nuns in Belfast, the Christian Brothers in Australia or the Child Welfare Department had encouraged such contact when I was younger then I might have had the support of a family now in contrast to the current position where there is a stark family disconnection. I also feel that the relevant authorities should have carried out a much more thorough assessment of the suitability of the [REDACTED] as foster and adoptive parents and monitoring of their performance as parents. They were an emotionally abusive adoptive family. I was used as child labour to their advantage but never properly accepted as an equal family member. They had little interest in my educational, social and emotional development.

1 specialist professional services.

2 **A. Uh-huh.**

3 Q. If we could scroll down through the next page, please,
4 present management of records lacking organisation.

5 Things have improved in Northern Ireland, but you think
6 more streamlined access to the records would be good.

7 **A. Yes, I think there has been improvements but more could**
8 **be done.**

9 Q. As you say, measures to support the spirit of the
10 national apology.

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. Continued funding for the family restoration fund --

13 **A. Yes.**

14 Q. -- which is to allow people to travel over to meet their
15 families --

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. -- and legislation to ensure ethical, independent
18 practice that does not compound the original damage
19 through intervention by past service providers or
20 perpetrators of historic abuse.

21 Finally, coming back to the appendix to your report,
22 which is the -- in which you set out the case study of
23 **HIA 333**, **HIA 333** is someone who has spoken to the
24 Inquiry and his statement will be read later this week.
25 You set out in this appendix the difficulties that he

1 himself experienced in seeking to find his family even
2 as recently as 2008. I know that you have a box with
3 you which is simply the measure of difficulty, if I can
4 put it that way. It is an example of the measure of
5 difficulty you had in accessing the right records in
6 order to find out where **HIA 333** came from and his
7 history. Perhaps rather than me go through it you might
8 want to explain exactly what -- with reference to your
9 report, if you wish, what steps the Trust did take in
10 his case and what the difficulties were.

11 **A. I'm happy to do that. This Inquiry is historical abuse**
12 **but do you know for child migrants and their families it**
13 **is now? It is still going on. It is the present and**
14 **this, if you like, time line is really to help us be**
15 **aware that this is now. There are things that need to**
16 **change now. So this was recent. This was **HIA 333**, who**
17 **could have met his mother. His mother could have met**
18 **her son. We had been looking for years. The agencies**
19 **involved said they had given all the records. After**
20 **years of looking for his family, in particular his**
21 **mother, having DNA -- done a DNA test on two Irish**
22 **families, and both were negative -- so imagine the**
23 **trauma of a family living -- someone knocks on the door.**
24 **"Do you think this is your relative? Here is the birth**
25 **certificate. These things all lead us to you but we**

1 don't know". The DNA says very clearly, "This is not
2 the family". Yes, a lot of circumstantial evidence has
3 brought you here, but this is not the family. So other
4 families -- we are intervening in other families'
5 private lives, when the records, if they had been given
6 to us, would have stopped all that, the absolute waste
7 of resources, but more importantly than all of that is
8 that this child migrant would have met his mother and
9 she would have met her son and it would have all been
10 all right as well. This mother never moved from her
11 home address at all.

12 So do you call that deception? Do we call that
13 deceit? Do we call that -- whatever it is, whatever
14 motivates this, it lacks compassion. It fails to
15 address human rights. It fails to deal with rights and
16 responsibility arguments and we got there just too late.

17 If I could just say that all the time we were
18 looking -- and he himself had been looking for years,
19 investigating -- all the time that particular
20 institution had this piece of paper signed by his mother
21 and that was all that was needed, and within three days
22 of getting this we found the family. Mother had died
23 while we had been looking and, in fact, in this
24 particular case I came to Northern Ireland with **HIA 333**
25 who lives in Australia, because, like a lot of people,

1 you know, they have to trust. Child migrants don't
2 trust easily. Why should they trust us more than
3 anybody else? He would constantly say, "You are not
4 looking. You keep coming back here. You have not found
5 them. You are not looking". So I said to **HIA 333**, "You
6 come and look with me. You have some control as well.
7 You be part of this".

8 So he came back to Ireland for the first time, and
9 I was with him when he came back to Ireland for the
10 first time, and he kissed the ground. That's what
11 I mean about being Irish. People don't arrive in London
12 Heathrow and kiss the ground I can assure you. I have
13 never seen that, and he kissed the ground.

14 For three days we went to lots of presbyteries day
15 and night, knocked on the door of presbyteries, spoke to
16 lots of priests, looked at baptismal records. They were
17 all so welcoming, so helpful. Sometimes it was
18 8 o'clock at night. We would be knocking on the door,
19 standing there, saying, "Can you help, please?", but it
20 didn't lead anywhere.

21 Were they difficult? Did they not want to help?
22 Absolutely not. Absolutely they were not, but then much
23 later on, a couple of years later, this is produced.
24 She died during that time. Actually when we were
25 knocking on these doors, his mother was alive and about

1 half an hour's drive from us. That's what he has to
2 live with.

3 Now a statue in Fremantle does not help him. I can
4 assure you it does not help him, but this would have
5 done and this would have helped his mother. So this was
6 all we were given -- this is it -- and this is the work
7 it took to find her. I went to America. There was
8 a lady in America by her name. That's what it took.

9 So this is the life of a child in care, a decision
10 you made to send this child to the other side of the
11 world. This is it. When we were knocking on doors, she
12 was alive. No other children. Living with a family
13 about half an hour from where we were. That was in
14 Northern Ireland all the time. So when we talk redress,
15 let's look at contemporary issues.

16 CHAIRMAN: May I just see the document?

17 A. I am sorry about that.

18 CHAIRMAN: No, no.

19 A. I think these are things that we really have to take on
20 board to stop it happening to other people.

21 MS SMITH: Dr Humphreys, you will be glad to know that I
22 have no further questions for you. Thank you very much
23 for your time and again for the detailed report you have
24 provided to the Inquiry. The Panel Members may have
25 some things that they want to ask you. So if you just

1 stay there for a moment. Thank you.

2 **A. Thank you.**

3 **Questions from THE PANEL**

4 MS DOHERTY: Dr Humphreys, thank you very much. Thank you
5 for the way you have I think really represented the
6 voice of child migrants. We will hear from them
7 themselves, but I think you have done a wonderful job
8 this afternoon.

9 One of the things that I was very I suppose touched
10 by in your report was not just about too late, mothers
11 being dead, but also unsuccessful reunions where time
12 had passed too much for a reunion to be something that
13 was successful for both the mother or the family. Could
14 you just talk a wee -- because I think that's an impact
15 that needs to be remembered as well.

16 **A. Uh-huh. I think reunions under these circumstances and**
17 **with the passage of time they're highly complex,**
18 **particularly for mothers and fathers, and particularly**
19 **for mothers, who are sometimes elderly and frail. They**
20 **themselves are visiting their past, their young years**
21 **and everything that's gone before. So it's a very**
22 **specialist piece of work I think. What are all the**
23 **things that need to be in place to help that be as they**
24 **would both want?**

25 **Guilt is a big factor. We have to kind of take that**

1 on ourselves actually, societies, guilt. What is it all
2 about? How do we understand it all? So what are the
3 things that help reunions be fulfilling, meaningful?
4 I think I have talked a little bit about the
5 independence that is required and particularly people
6 say to me, "Are you from the church? Are you from here?
7 Are you from there?", and you can see the difference
8 when you say, "No, I am not. I'm not that". So these
9 are all legacy issues, aren't they, legacies of all this
10 that people carry into their old age?

11 So what helps a reunion be meaningful? I think good
12 planning, respect and regard for everybody, looking very
13 closely at what each particular person needs, requires.
14 How is this going to happen? Where is it going to be?
15 What is a failed reunion? What is it?

16 For child migrants there cannot be a lot of failure.
17 To know and to have what we all take for granted,
18 a photograph of your mother, of your father for the
19 first time in your life when you're 40, 50, 60, 70 is
20 a hugely, hugely changing experience. It's moving from
21 dark to light. "I didn't know and now I do. I couldn't
22 see and now I can have an image of my mother and I can
23 see her." So failure whatever that is for a child
24 migrant is -- like everybody, what is the big unspoken
25 fear? Rejection and abandonment. It rarely happens,

1 very rarely happens. Mother and Father live with the
2 child. Sometimes they only have a photograph of the
3 baby, of a toddler. Who are they going to meet?
4 A grown adult man and woman. That's the challenge.
5 That's the leap.

6 I'm not sure if that answers your question.

7 MS DOHERTY: Absolutely. I just wanted it out. Thank you.

8 MR LANE: Several points, if I may. In paragraph 3.9 you
9 said how their childcare experience in Northern Ireland
10 institutions effectively groomed and demoralised the
11 children and sort of prepared them for further assault
12 in Australia.

13 I just wondered whether you felt you had picked up
14 anything from the people you had spoken to about what
15 the quality of childcare was like in the Northern
16 Ireland institutions, what their philosophy was, what
17 their approach was to childcare.

18 A. Well, the impression I get it was a culture. There was
19 a culture of a lack of respect for the child, a lack of
20 individuality. Rather cold, brutal institutions, that's
21 what comes over quite clear, but beyond that more
22 recently -- I'm sure you're going to hear that from the
23 child migrants themselves -- is sexual assaults,
24 criminal assaults, the kind of assaults that if a parent
25 had done that to a child, the child would be removed and

1 the parents would probably have had a custodial
2 sentence.

3 Then to be sent away -- I think the questioning
4 recently is, "Is this why I was sent? Was I sent
5 because somebody was going find out about the abuse?"
6 and that's a quote somebody said to me a few weeks ago,
7 "And then I walked straight into it from the minute
8 I arrived in Bindoon. It was the same".

9 I think that's where that expression -- inquiries
10 help give an expression to memory, to experience, don't
11 they? I think this is what's happening. It's
12 a trigger. You've given permission for the trigger and
13 so it is being talked about a lot more now. So I think
14 that when we talk about, "Was this grooming?", I think
15 some of this heightened awareness is also coming from
16 evidence that is being given to the Royal Commission in
17 Australia. So if we're looking now at the life of
18 a child and that life in terms of Northern Ireland
19 started here and you're looking at here and it's
20 gradually merging into there.

21 MR LANE: Have you picked up anything by way of positives
22 about the childcare experiences people had?

23 A. I'm talking about just Northern Ireland now.

24 MR LANE: Yes, just Northern Ireland.

25 A. So I'm focusing on that, of course. Well, I think

1 people had different experiences. So a few -- most
2 certainly had different experience. If you talk to
3 people who went with different schemes, I think you
4 would say what are the strands that runs across all of
5 it? It is lack of identity, loss, fragmentation of
6 identity, all of those things, confidence, self-esteem.

7 MR LANE: Thank you. One other question, if I may. The
8 recommendations you make at the end, were there any of
9 those that you wanted to expand on other than the ones
10 you have already talked about?

11 A. I don't think so. I think that most certainly in terms
12 of Northern Ireland particularly that the records should
13 be a central point. I mean, I think they should be in
14 a government department and I think there should be
15 a clear protocol and it is not too late for that. You
16 know, it is not too late. We still need to find
17 families. I think that's something that should be
18 closely looked at.

19 MR LANE: Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN: If I might just follow up on the last thing you
21 said, Dr Humphreys, you said that there's still searches
22 for families.

23 A. Yes.

24 CHAIRMAN: Is that right?

25 A. Yes.

1 CHAIRMAN: Now we are examining somewhere in the region of
2 130 individuals and I think -- I can't remember exactly,
3 but you have been able to carry out searches for just
4 under 60 or so from Northern Ireland. How many more,
5 and I don't mean an exact figure, but are we talking in
6 terms of 10, 20, 50 or the remaining 60 or 70?

7 A. Can I write to you about that so that I can give you
8 a really looked at figure?

9 CHAIRMAN: I think it would be very helpful if you could.

10 A. It's going to be 20 or more. That's for sure.

11 CHAIRMAN: Yes.

12 A. You know, at the moment we are in the middle of a very
13 complicated Inquiry that's gone on for years, Northern
14 Ireland, where the mother cannot be found anywhere at
15 all. Mother never been in touch with her family since
16 1949. They've never seen her since then. They've never
17 had a birthday card, Christmas card. She's never been
18 in touch with her siblings. Can't find her anywhere.
19 That's where a central point located we could have this
20 discussion. What can we do in Northern Ireland to find
21 this Mother? What can we do? We have to do something.
22 Time is running out. She's 90 now. The son is 70.

23 CHAIRMAN: Well, it would be very helpful if you could give
24 us an indication, because that example underlines very
25 dramatically how difficult, complex and time-consuming

17. Appendix 1 – PJM Case Study & Timeline

- 17.1. [REDACTED] never met his mother. Sent from Termonbacca to Australia in 1947 aged ten, [REDACTED] the search for his mother soon after he left institutional care in the 1950s. He tried nearly every possible way of finding her and never gave up.
- 17.2. By the [REDACTED] approached the Trust for help in the early 1990s, he had returned to Ireland twice, visiting Termonbacca and Nazareth Houses in Derry and Sligo where he had spent his early childhood. Apart from his certificate of baptism, he received no information to help him find his family.
- 17.3. The Trust had few details at the start of the search. Over fifteen years, thousands of pounds were spent buying certificates and travelling to interview dozens of potential family members across the United Kingdom and the Irish Republic. On three occasions, families who matched the research profile could not be excluded but DNA tests proved negative.
- 17.4. Just before the search was finally and unexpectedly resolved, the researchers found a woman who had moved to California and had recently died. CMT was actively negotiating with U.S. authorities to exhume the body for further tests to determine if she [REDACTED] mother. This drastic measure was clearly an ethical minefield and an indication of the vital importance of the search [REDACTED] The Trust grappled with the dilemmas of disrupting the mortal remains of an elderly woman who, in the event, was not the person we were so desperately seeking.
- 17.5. The answer to the search had been at Nazareth House all the time.
- 17.6. The Trust, with [REDACTED], had visited Nazareth House Sligo three times, seeking documentation or any other possible sources of information, including interviewing elderly Sisters. The result was the same every time – no information. In [REDACTED] visited Nazareth House again, this time on his own. He left with a photocopy of a sheet of paper that gave the details of the parish priest who had recommended [REDACTED] admission. [REDACTED] gave that paper to the Trust and it was decided that a CMT social worker would return to Nazareth House to explore if any other information had been found.
- 17.7. The Trust visited Nazareth House to request sight of the document that had been photocopied for [REDACTED] After more than three hours waiting, the paper giving the name of the recommending priest was finally produced.
- 17.8. **The other side of that document revealed the name and address of [REDACTED] mother; details withheld from Patrick.**

- 17.9. Investigation quickly established that [REDACTED] mother had never married or moved from the home where she was born in 1912 and been a much loved sister, aunt and great-aunt to a large family. She had died in 1999, many years after [REDACTED] the Trust had requested information from the Church, more than forty years after [REDACTED] began his search. Whilst the Trust was searching for her, requesting records from Nazareth Houses, Patrick's mother had been still living at the family farm in County Fermanagh.
- 17.10. The response, or the lack of response, from different Catholic agencies meant this mother never met her son, her grandchildren or her great grandchildren. The costs and consequences were massive and intensified the pain and suffering of [REDACTED] and his mother. It meant that dozens of families were needlessly investigated and disrupted; some generously agreeing to participate with intrusive DNA testing and re-examine their own family history in the context of a possible missing child. A recently deceased, devout Irish woman in America was almost disinterred. It is difficult to find words which adequately convey the pain and suffering involved.
- 17.11. This was not an example from the distant past. This took place in 2008, at the time of the Ryan Inquiry in Ireland.

[REDACTED] Timeline		
Year	Date	Event
1937	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	13/05/1937	According to Castleblayney hospital register Patrick was discharged and admitted to Nazareth House, Derry
1939	19/03/1939	Admitted to Nazareth House, Sligo – recommended by Mother Elizabeth, Nazareth House, Derry
1947	07/05/1947	Authorisation for migration documents signed by Brother P.A. BAU 4 for and on behalf of the Scottish Migration Secretary
	29/08/1947	Migrated from Termonbacca on the 'Asturius'
	22/09/1947	Arrived in Fremantle aboard the 'Asturius'
1965		[REDACTED] contacted a Catholic agency to help find his family - he was told he has no living family members
1992	19/05/1992	First contact with CMT
1993	22/05/1994	[REDACTED] was interviewed by Margaret Humphreys in Perth, Western Australia

Timeline

Year	Date	Event
1994		CMT conducts extensive research this year covering 8 Brigid's – all excluded. Baptismal sponsor also investigated.
	09/05/1994	Letters to Australian Archives and the West Australian State Government
1996	24/09/1996	CMT wrote to St Mary's Hospital, Castleblayney, Nazareth Houses and the Family Care Society in Belfast requesting urgent assistance.
	24/09/1996	CMT wrote to NE Health Board - they suggested we write to the Registrar in Co. Monaghan
	26/09/1996	CMT wrote to the Registrar in Co. Monaghan
1997	30/07/1997	
	31/07/1997	Visited Nazareth House, Sligo
	31/07/1997	Met with Matron, St Mary's Hospital, Castleblayney. Their register cites "Maggie, alias Brigid " - with another surname crossed out. Also states 25 years old.
	05/08/1997	CMT located and excluded Brigid M. in Enniskillen
	10/12/1997	CMT wrote to Catholic Enquiry Service, Edinburgh
1999	19/05/1999	
	16/06/1999	Met with Hon. Dr Mal Washer MP in Joondalup to discuss difficulties searching for his family
	09/08/1999	visited Ireland and made enquiries with Castleblayney Hospital, who confirm 'Brigid M.' as the correct name
	23/08/1999	CMT research visit - 85 possible births and 27 possible marriages located for Brigid M.
2000	21/10/2000	DNA tests conducted on daughter of a Brigid prove negative
2001	05/03/2001	CMT met with family in Belleek
	25/04/2001	DNA testing conducted of family in Belleek - results prove negative
	26/05/2001	Ireland
	26/06/2001	in Nottingham
	06/07/2001	to Bertie Ahern T.D.

Timeline

Year	Date	Event
2001	20/12/2001	Response from Mary Hanafin T.D. Referring to 'adoption' throughout
2002	07/06/2002	Solicitor's letters to Dept of Health and Children in Dublin re. lack of records
	12/11/2002	CMT arranged a case conference with NE Health Board in Drogheda
	11/12/2002	CMT contacted priest in Belleek who is trying to determine whether Nazareth House Derry & Sligo have further information
2003	07/01/2003	CMT called a case conference held in Solicitors, NE Health Board, Child Care Legislation Unit DoH, St Mary's Hospital Administrator, Castleblayney and CMT
	17/04/2003	St Mary's Hospital provide copy of 'Unmarried Mothers Admitted' returns showing Maggie M., aged 25, admitted on 10/4/37 - only
	19/05/2003	Patrick met with NE Health Board in Ireland
	04/06/2003	CMT liaise with NE Health Board regarding others admitted to Castleblayney in 1937
	24/06/2003	wrote to the Registrar General in Dublin requesting an inquiry into his birth registration
	24/06/	to Enda Kenny, Fine Gael Leader in Dublin
	22/10/2003	Response from Registrar General - making enquiries with Castleblayney
	07/11/2003	Response from GRO - no further information is available
2004	27/01/2004	CMT research visit to Belfast
	21/03/2004	CMT visit to Enniskillen to meet family of 'Molly M.' of San Francisco
	31/03/2004	CMT visit to Belleek to meet possible family
	10/11/2004	DNA testing conducted in Belleek proves negative
2005	17/03/2005	Residential Institutions Redress Board offer accepted
2007	03/09/2007	CMT met with and discussed possible exhumation for DNA testing of Maggie/Molly in San Francisco

Timeline

Year	Date	Event
2008	12/06/2008	visited Nazareth House, Sligo and was given a 1937 paper with new information - 'recommended by Fr. Connolly CC, Belleek' - which focuses the search in Belleek
	11/11/2008	CMT visited Nazareth House, Sligo and was given the same piece of paper which was handed
		visited Ireland for the wedding of his niece - the first family wedding he has attended. The family farm has changed little - the family have lived there for generations. walks the lane alone in the early morning – <i>“Walking in the steps of my Mother. Walking where my grand-parents and mother placed their feet. They walked this lane for years. It’s as close as I can get.”</i>

PRIVATE

am good with my hands and I can fix most things and I feel that if I had a decent education I could have been an engineer.

Life after care

12. I married my wife [REDACTED] in 1971 and we have two children – a son called [REDACTED] and a daughter called [REDACTED]. I only obtained my birth certificate when I was getting married. I was hard to live with at first, as my upbringing was very different to that of my wife's. She came from a family of seven. I saw things as black or white and took things literally. Thankfully I didn't have any problems relating to my children and I am close to them and I am very proud of them. I am very self-critical and I always think I could do better. I become annoyed and frustrated with myself easily and sometimes I feel inadequate. I do not know how to accept praise. I think this stems from my time in care when I never received any praise as a child and I never felt valued.

13. When we had our first child, my wife wanted to know about our family health history and that is when she asked more about my family and the fact that I was a war orphan. She wrote to the Sisters of Nazareth in Hammersmith in the mid 1970s and they said they couldn't give us any information. She then wrote to a priest in St Malachy's Church in Belfast where I was baptised and he gave me the address of my mother. When I got her address I wrote her a letter and she replied and said she was pleased to hear from me, but also horrified. She had put a lid on her past and now it was reopened. When my mother moved to England she married and had two children. She never told her husband or children about my existence. I was a secret and only her sister [REDACTED] knew about me. My mother's parents had passed away at that stage.

14. We wrote letters back and forth to each other and she told me that when she put me in Nazareth Lodge the nuns told her that I would be adopted and brought up in Ireland. She had no idea that I had gone to Australia and she was never asked for her permission. We exchanged letters for only a couple of months in the late 1970s or early 1980s because she was terrified her husband would

1 Department?

2 Submissions by MR O'REILLY

3 MR O'REILLY: Yes. At the outset, Mr Chairman, I can
4 respond as fully as I am briefed in terms of a matter
5 you raised at the end in relation to the Restoration
6 Fund.

7 CHAIRMAN: Yes.

8 MR O'REILLY: The Department here got in touch with its
9 counterparts in the mainland, and the response that came
10 back was that not only does the Restoration Fund remain
11 open, but, in fact, it has been extended until 2017.
12 Unfortunately there were no direct answers to questions
13 such as, "Was the particular witness a one-off in
14 seeking an extension? Had others made application and
15 had been refused?", but merely that as of last Thursday
16 the fund was extended until 2017, and it is therefore
17 open to those who qualify as having been child migrants.

18 CHAIRMAN: Well, I am sure that news will be extremely
19 welcome not just to the witness who raised it but to
20 anyone else in advancing years who may be contemplating
21 trying to return to this part of the world --

22 MR O'REILLY: I would think so.

23 CHAIRMAN: -- for the purpose of a visit. We are most
24 grateful to you for confirming that.

25 MR O'REILLY: Mr Chairman, Members of the Panel, I don't

1 Q. Yes, but what I -- I am interested in is that's one side
2 of the coin, but it also seems to be the case that for
3 whatever reason the two homes in Derry decided that they
4 wouldn't send any more children, but the Belfast homes
5 continued to do so until December 1956. I just wondered
6 was there some reason for this difference in attitude
7 that you are aware of?

8 A. Not that I'm aware of, Chairman, unless the immigration
9 people were looking for girls. Maybe there's more girls
10 in Belfast than there was in Derry. I mean, that's just
11 speculation. I don't know.

12 Q.

13 A. Sorry.

14 Q. Then a completely unrelated question that I would just
15 like to raise with you. At the end of your first,
16 longer statement you said that the congregation had set
17 aside a sum of money in Australia to assist any issues
18 arising from child migrants and you then go on to say
19 that in 1995 the Superior General of the day I take it
20 paid the passage of about fifty child migrants to return
21 to the United Kingdom. Is that correct?

22 A. That's correct, yes.

23 Q. Does that mean it came out of the Order's funds?

24 A. Yes, yes.

25 Q. Thank you, and you refer to the assistance of Caritas

5.APOLOGY

1. The Inquiry heard Sister Brenda McCall express the congregation's regret at its participation in the Child Migrant Programme. Ms Doherty enquired of her whether an apology was given by the congregation when it hosted a reception for 55 former child migrants in its home in Hammersmith.

2. In 2005 the Sisters of Nazareth issued a statement of apology to the Australian Child Migrant Project as follows:-

"We, the Sisters of Nazareth, sincerely apologise and are deeply saddened by the pain and distress suffered by so many men and women as a result of the Child Migration Scheme. We wholeheartedly commit ourselves to continue to support those who contact us and warmly welcome each one to Nazareth House, welcoming accommodation if required".

3. The Congregation confirms that they remain committed as aforesaid and they continue to welcome and to assist all former child migrants who contact them.

1 I'm sure the Panel will have some questions for you and
2 I'll hand you over to them very shortly, but at this
3 point I'm just wondering if you are -- if you wish to
4 add anything to what is in your statement. I haven't
5 gone through it paragraph by paragraph, but I have
6 touched on a number of issues. If there's anything you
7 want to add to what's in that or is there anything else
8 you wish to say on behalf of the congregation?

9 **A. I think hindsight's a great thing and I think -- looking**
10 **back now, I think the congregation regrets the grave**
11 **injustice done to these children in sending them out,**
12 **not just to the children but to their families as well,**
13 **and I think no matter -- the most eloquent apology, or**
14 **the most beautiful monument, or no matter how much money**
15 **they receive will never make up for what we took from**
16 **them in sending them there.**

17 I know some made good lives for themselves, and
18 having been out in Australia and spoken to some migrant
19 children, they still have this, "What if ...? What if
20 I had stayed in Ireland?", even though they had made
21 good lives for themselves out there, and I think we have
22 to acknowledge -- that's the government, the British
23 government, the Australian government, the churches, the
24 congregations, the institutes -- we all have to put our
25 hands up and acknowledge that maybe it wasn't the right

1 thing, even though it was done in the best interests of
2 the child at the time.

3 I just thank the Panel for listening to me.

4 Q. Thank you very much, Sister.

5 A. Thank you.

6 Questions from THE PANEL

7 CHAIRMAN: Sister, I wonder if I could just try and
8 summarise in a few sentences what seems to be the
9 overall position in general terms about the role of your
10 Order in what happened.

11 There are a number of different strands to this it
12 seems clear. I list them in no particular order of
13 significance, but, first of all, British governments
14 over many years were prepared to support and encourage
15 organisations to send children to various parts of what
16 was then the British Empire and later the British
17 Commonwealth, such as Canada and particularly Australia.

18 However, they left the process to individual
19 organisations to manage and so on, and we have heard
20 that other organisations, secular organisations, such as
21 the Fairbridge scheme and Dr Barnardo's took part.

22 There were quite a number of organisations, some of
23 which were other Christian denominations, such as the
24 Church of England, Presbyterian Church, the Methodist
25 Church, but there was definitely a second element, which