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4	HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE INQUIRY
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7	
8	being heard before:
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10	SIR ANTHONY HART (Chairman)
11	MR DAVID LANE
12	MS GERALDINE DOHERTY
13	
14	held at
15	Banbridge Court House
16	Banbridge
17	
18	on Wednesday, 26th November 2014
19	commencing at 10.00 am
20	(Day 73)
21	
22	MS CHRISTINE SMITH, QC and MR JOSEPH AIKEN appeared as
23	Counsel to the Inquiry.
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Wednesday, 26th November 2014
1
2
     (10.00 am)
                        WITNESS DL509 (called)
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4
              Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Can I remind
    CHAIRMAN:
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        you, as always, to ensure, please, your mobile phones
        are either switched off or at the very least placed on
         "Silent/Vibrate", and I also have to remind that you no
        photography is permitted anywhere, either in the Inquiry
        chamber or anywhere on the Inquiry premises.
              Morning, Chairman, Panel Members, ladies and
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    MS SMITH:
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                     The first witness today is DL509.
        gentlemen.
        designated "DL509". DL509 wishes to take the religious
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        oath. He has been afforded anonymity by the Inquiry
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        insofar as while he has been convicted of certain
        offences and the fact of those convictions can be
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        reported and he can be identified in relation to those,
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        he is not to be identified in relation to other matters
        that were not the subject of those convictions,
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        Chairman.
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    CHAIRMAN: Yes. Well, I remind the media, as I did
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        yesterday when Mr Aiken mentioned this in relation to
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        one of yesterday's witnesses, what Ms Smith has said
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        must be very carefully considered. The Inquiry has its
        anonymity provisions set out clearly. Anything which
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25
        might tend to result in what lawyers call jigsaw
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- identification must not occur.
- 2 MS SMITH: Thank you, Chairman. As I have indicated, DL509
- is willing to take the oath.
- 4 WITNESS DL509 (sworn)
- 5 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Please sit down, DL509.
- 6 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY
- 7 MS SMITH: I'm sorry. There is an appearance to be
- 8 announced, Chairman.
- 9 CHAIRMAN: Mr McCraner.
- 10 MR McCRANER: Mr Chairman, I appear with Mr Chris Holmes.
- We are instructed by Grainne Heaney of Stewarts
- Solicitors on behalf of DL509, designated "DL509".
- 13 CHAIRMAN: Is your instructing solicitor here?
- 14 MR McCRANER: She is, sitting behind us.
- 15 CHAIRMAN: Sorry. I didn't see her there. Thank you.
- 16 MS SMITH: Now, DL509, I know you do have hearing
- 17 difficulties. We have a system in the chamber and
- I just want to check --
- 19 A. I can pick you up dead on.
- 20 Q. You can hear me?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. That's great. Now you provided a statement to the
- Inquiry, which can be found at RUB5548 to 5552. If we
- could just pull that up, please. Again this is "The
- Witness Statement of DL509", which is DL509. If I can

- just go to the last page of that at 5552, and can I just
- ask you to confirm, DL509, that you have signed this
- 3 witness statement on 6th October of this year?
- 4 A. I did, yes.
- 5 Q. And you wish the Inquiry to take this into account as
- 6 your evidence together with anything else that you tell
- 7 us this morning?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Now if we go back to paragraph 1 of your statement, and
- I deal with this right at the outset, DL509, you were
- 11 convicted in Newtownards Crown Court in May 1982 of
- three counts of indecent assault and three counts of
- gross indecency. Those offences date back to 1975. As
- 14 you say, apart from those offences, you have never
- abused physically or sexually any other child. You
- 16 received a 12-month suspended sentence, suspended for
- 17 three years. You admitted those offences to police when
- 18 you were interviewed in June 1980, and you say in your
- 19 statement and you have said to me this morning that you
- are ashamed and deeply regret what you did.
- 21 A. I do, yes.
- 22 Q. Now the details of those are set out in your statement
- at (g) through to (j), at paragraphs 1 (g) through (j).
- I don't think we need to go into them in any great
- detail, but they are there and the background as to how

- 1 you came to be convicted of those offences against
- 2 children is there.
- What I want to talk about today, DL509, is your
- involvement in the Rubane Children's Home at Kircubbin.
- You talk about this in paragraphs 1(k) through to (q).
- 6 There are a number of things that I want to raise with
- 7 you. It says at (k) that in 1977/1978 you:
- 8 "... applied for and was given a job at De La Salle,
- Rubane House, Kircubbin as an outdoor pursuits
- 10 instructor."
- Now can you remember -- I know it is some time ago,
- but can you remember how you came to apply for that job,
- or how that came about, or how you heard about it?
- 14 A. I can't honestly remember how I heard about it or how
- I got to know about it.
- 16 Q. At that time you, in fact, were working in Donaghadee --
- 17 A. Carpets.
- 18 Q. -- Carpets. So you had not had a background as
- a physical instructor or anything like that.
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. You say as part of the job you were given private
- 22 accommodation on the farm at Rubane. You worked in that
- position up until June 1980. At that time you did a lot
- of mountain climbing and walking. You also taught the
- children table tennis and organised a team to compete in

- tournaments around the country.
- Now a number of people who have spoken to us
- describe you as a housemaster. You weren't, in fact,
- 4 a housemaster. Is that right?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. Although you did have some duties in regard to one of
- 7 the chalets.
- 8 A. I did, yes.
- 9 Q. What exactly did that entail, DL509?
- 10 A. That would have entailed being there at dinner -- at
- 11 teatime just to make sure everything was all right for
- teatime, or staying with the boys up till the Brother
- 13 took over.
- 14 Q. Roughly if we just look at (m) here, you say that your
- duties included responsibility over unit 1, but that is
- not, in fact, correct. It was chalet 4 that you had
- 17 duties with.
- 18 A. No, it was chalet 4.
- 19 Q. During the day you say you would have started about 10
- or 11 o'clock in the morning. What would you have done
- 21 during the day, DL509?
- 22 A. Basically I would have just done my own thing, but
- 23 I wouldn't have been involved with any of them unless
- they were off school or something like that there.
- 25 Otherwise no.

- 1 Q. You say you would have supervised the school yard
- between 6 o'clock and 8 o'clock.
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 Q. One of the Brothers who spoke to the Inquiry yesterday
- 5 said that he -- and he was essentially brought in to
- 6 Rubane to help set up various after-school activities,
- 7 and he was heavily involved in the sporting side of
- 8 things at that time of day. That was BR10. Do you
- 9 recollect him being involved at that time?
- 10 A. I can't remember him being involved in that, but
- I remember him involved in -- his playing guitar and
- using groups and things like that, getting people to
- just be involved with singing and things, you know.
- 14 Q. He did say that he helped set up a folk group in the
- 15 home.
- 16 A. That's correct, yes.
- 17 Q. And what he -- but what he did tell us was that after
- school he and DL149, who was a teacher in the school,
- 19 would have been involved in dealing with the sports for
- the boys.
- 21 A. Probably would. I couldn't tell you.
- 22 Q. What exactly then did you do after school with boys
- 23 maybe? Did you look after a different group or
- 24 something?
- 25 A. No, I would have just been -- just being my own thing

- around the yard or down, you know, the farmhouse or
- something, but I wouldn't have been involved again until
- about 6.00, when I would come up for the unit's tea or
- 4 something like that there.
- 5 Q. And you say you finished about 8 or 9 o'clock in the
- 6 evening --
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. -- when the Brothers came on duty.
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. You say that any contact that you had with the children
- 11 was outside of the school hours and outside of their
- 12 schooling.
- 13 A. That's right.
- 14 Q. You do point out that you received no training in
- relation to looking after children and we know that you
- 16 hadn't come from that kind of background --
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. -- before you came to the home, but you also go on to
- 19 say here that whilst you were aware that the Brothers
- 20 used corporal punishment to discipline the children, you
- 21 yourself were never involved in that, nor did you see
- 22 any of it take place.
- 23 A. I never seen any being -- taking place. You heard
- 24 general talk, but I never seen any and basically
- I didn't do any myself either.

- 1 Q. You say -- when you say you heard general talk, who
- would have been talking about the Brothers using
- 3 corporal punishment?
- 4 A. Probably the boys themselves in the yard talk, you know.
- 5 Q. You say that you were aware of an incident you say where
- 6 Brothers punished some children by leaving them outside
- in the winter time, but you didn't witness that either.
- 8 A. No.
- $^{9}\,$ Q. You became aware of it when the children came back and
- their feet were cold.
- 11 A. When they came for their tea.
- 12 Q. Can you tell us anything more about that, DL509? What
- 13 exactly --
- 14 A. I would say it would have been something to do with the
- 15 farm. Probably they might have been bringing the cows
- in from the fields or something. I don't know.
- 17 I couldn't tell you.
- 18 Q. You just have a recollection of some time the children
- 19 coming in and complaining --
- 20 A. Wet feet, being cold.
- 21 Q. -- of being cold. You describe it in your statement as
- being punished for something.
- 23 A. Aye.
- 24 Q. Can you remember why you felt that this was some sort of
- 25 punishment?

- 1 A. I don't know. I couldn't honestly tell you.
- 2 Q. You go on to say that you are aware that the Brothers
- 3 would have used a belt or a cane to physically chastise
- the children. Again I just wanted to ask you, DL509,
- 5 how you became aware of that if you didn't actually see
- 6 it yourself.
- 7 A. I'd say it would be general -- general talk, but I never
- 8 ever seen it myself. I definitely didn't, you know.
- 9 Q. Do you ever remember the boys in the chalet saying
- anything to you in particular about a Brother hitting
- them or anything like that?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. You say that the children also had privileges withdrawn
- if they misbehaved. If some of the children misbehaved
- while under your supervision, you would have reported
- them to their housemother and you didn't discipline them
- 17 yourself.
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. Do you remember who the housemother was in chalet 4?
- 21 Q. It's a lady called DL89 who was in charge in that chalet?
- 22 A. DL 89 DL 89.
- 23 Q. Thank you. You also go on then to talk
- 24 about regularly driving a minibus for the children in
- chalet 4 to the swimming pool in Ards or the disco in

- 1 Downpatrick. You say you were accompanied by another
- member of staff on these occasions. The minibus would
- 3 have held 12 to 15 children. Just to confirm, there is
- 4 only the one minibus in the home?
- 5 A. There is only one minibus in the home.
- 6 Q. We heard yesterday from a witness who said his duties
- during the day -- it was BR10 again -- that he would
- 8 have been driving the minibus during the day.
- 9 A. He probably was, yes.
- 10 Q. And that -- so would you have been accompanying him on
- 11 these trips?
- 12 A. I probably was, yes --
- 13 Q. You do say --
- 14 A. -- or some other member of staff -- member of staff.
- 15 Q. Do you remember who the other member of staff might have
- le been?
- 17 A. Not offhand. It could be any -- it could have been
- a Brother or it could have been a lay member. It could
- 19 have been a school teacher.
- 20 Q. But you say there was always somebody else with you when
- 21 you were driving?
- 22 A. There was always somebody else with you.
- 23 Q. So can we take it then there ought to have been somebody
- else with BR10 when he was driving?
- 25 A. Yes, could have been, yes.

- 1 Q. Now you say in paragraph (q) here that:
- 2 "The only children I would have taken on trips would
- 3 have been from chalet 4. I would not have been
- permitted to take children from other chalets",
- 5 but I take that when you did go on the camping
- trips, which I am going to talk to you about, there were
- 7 children from other chalets on those?
- 8 A. There would have been children from five different
- 9 units.
- 10 Q. And can I just confirm -- and we talked about this
- earlier -- there was you and there was a particular
- 12 Brother in the home who organised the camping trips.
- 13 A. He did all the camping trips, yes.
- 14 O. And that was Brother?
- 15 A. BR77.
- 16 Q. In fact, we have heard from a number of boys that you
- and he did take them on camping trips. You would have
- gone to Ardnabannon, which I understand is outside
- 19 Castlewellan. Is that right?
- 20 A. Yes, that's right.
- 21 Q. Do you remember going to the Mournes?
- 22 A. Well, that's where -- Ardnabannon, close to the Mournes,
- and that's where you would be using the outdoor pursuits
- 24 as in Castlewellan for canoeing or ...
- 25 Q. I think we talked about the boys went bouldering.

- 1 A. Bloody Bridge I think was the other one. There was
- bouldering. We did Bloody Bridge and ...
- 3 Q. You talked about there was one occasion you went over to
- 4 Scotland --
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. -- and stayed in a youth hostel in Glencoe.
- 7 A. That was Glencoe.
- 8 Q. Did you ever -- some boys talked about a trip to
- 9 Donegal. Were you part of that trip?
- 10 A. Never was in Donegal with them.
- 11 Q. Now just talking again about the camping trips, you say
- 12 that you -- at one stage you said you would have been
- tail end charlie. Is that right?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. And that was -- am I right in thinking --
- 16 A. That was to make sure that nobody lagged behind, that
- you wouldn't let the leader get too far ahead, that the
- 18 young fella or whoever was at the back was slow. So you
- 19 stayed behind him so as there was always somebody behind
- the person in front.
- 21 Q. Now some of the boys have complained about these camping
- 22 trips. One in particular said that BR77 put rocks into
- 23 his rucksack. Were you were you aware of that having
- happened at all?
- 25 A. Well, BR77 was at the front. If there was twelve boys

- in between, I couldn't honestly see, you know.
- 2 Q. Or did you ever hear BR77 threaten to put stones into
- 3 the rucksack to make sure that they kept up?
- 4 A. No, no, no.
- 5 Q. Now if I can just come on to -- there is just one
- 6 photograph -- I know there are others in the bundle, but
- 7 I will just have a quick look at one, which is 90035.
- If we look, this is -- there is a number of boys in the
- 9 top photograph. If we look at the bottom photograph
- here, that's the minibus, is it?
- 11 A. That's the minibus and that's the school yard.
- 12 Q. This -- there's a gentleman to the -- as we look at it
- to the right-hand side. Is that BR77?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And the person on top of the minibus, is that, in fact,
- 16 you, DL509?
- 17 A. I don't know.
- 18 Q. I know it is difficult to see. Maybe if we can perhaps
- 19 expand it. There are other photographs which I am
- 20 afraid I can't just put my -- it is hard to see from
- that photograph, but can you even remember sort of
- 22 packing the minibus up in that fashion --
- 23 A. No. BR10 is in that photograph.
- 24 O. It is BR10?
- 25 A. Yes. He is in that photo as well. He is beside BR77.

- 1 Q. Just behind him? Is that him just behind?
- 2 A. Or is that BR77? I don't know if that is BR77.
- 9 Q. The person in the white jumper, is that BR77?
- 4 A. It could be.
- 5 Q. And you say --
- 6 A. It could have been -- I honestly don't know.
- 7 Q. It's perhaps not the best of photographs, but you think
- 8 that the gentleman behind him with the dark hair --
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. -- that's BR10.
- 11 A. Yes, definitely BR10.
- 12 Q. And might it be yourself on top of the minibus?
- 13 A. I don't think so.
- 14 Q. Okay. It is just that you see here it says -- down
- 15 below it says:
- 16 "DL509 on bus."
- I don't know who has written that, but that is
- certainly why we thought that might be you.
- 19 A. It might be, but it doesn't look like me. Well, it
- could be. I don't know. It's 35 years ago.
- 21 Q. I appreciate that.
- 22 A. I can't honestly say.
- 23 Q. I had hoped to be able to show you a clearer one.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. There is a photograph I know was shown to a witness

- earlier of you standing beside a group of boys along
- a stone wall on one of these trips. Do you remember
- 3 photographs being taken when you were on the camping
- 4 trips?
- 5 A. Now and again, yes.
- 6 Q. Did you yourself take some photographs?
- 7 A. Not in them camping trips, no, not that I can remember.
- 8 That one there, I can't ever remember that being taken,
- 9 but I know it is in the --
- 10 Q. The school yard?
- 11 A. The school yard. Well, it's through the -- there was
- the farmhouse and then there was a gateway and in to the
- 13 right-hand side of it was where they kept their
- equipment, their camping gear equipment. So that's
- probably where the camping gear equipment was coming out
- and being put in, you know.
- 17 Q. We have heard talk from some boys of there being
- a camping store in the home. Is that -- is that --
- 19 A. That's probably it.
- 20 Q. And is that what you remember is where the camping
- 21 equipment was kept?
- 22 A. Yes. It would have been in it. That particular place
- there it would have been in, yes.
- Q. Sort of like a garage type place. Is that right?
- 25 A. Correct, yes.

- 1 Q. If I can come on now, DL509, to discuss some of the
- specific allegations that have been made by people about
- 3 you.
- 4 A. Uh-huh.
- 5 Q. Now HIA362 -- and again I am using the names that are
- 6 not to be used outside this chamber -- he is "HIA362" --
- 7 he spoke to the inquiry, and I am going to summarise
- 8 what he said. He talked at paragraph 16 of his
- 9 statement, which is at RUB710 -- basically he said that
- 10 he got fed up with his brother following him and --
- because he had been absconding, the brother had been
- told to stop him running away. He got fed up with this
- and he turned and told his brother to "Fuck off". He
- then felt a slap to the side of his face. He turned
- round and swore again, and you beat him, as he put it,
- from the TT room to the chalet, kicking and slapping
- 17 him. You nearly took his head off his shoulders. You
- 18 told his brother -- you told his brother to go down to
- 19 the sports complex and you put him into the chalet and
- 20 locked him in. He described you as being bald with a
- 21 bad leg and driving motorbikes, which you would accept
- 22 would have been a description of you.
- 23 A. I don't know about the bald part, but ...
- 24 Q. Certainly maybe not in those days.
- 25 A. Well, I had hair, some hair then, but I haven't got it

- now like, you know.
- 2 Q. But certainly would you accept the bad leg and the
- 3 motorbikes description?
- 4 A. Oh, I had a bad leg.
- 5 Q. He gave evidence to the Inquiry on Day 68 at pages 127
- 6 to 131. In the course of that the relevant parts of
- your statement were read to him. Sorry. The relevant
- 8 paragraph was read to him together with statements he
- 9 made to the police in 1980 and 1995. Now he didn't even
- 10 remember speaking to the police on those occasions, but
- 11 he did accept that the account of the allegation that he
- had made against you was slightly different in 1995 to
- what he told the Inquiry.
- 14 A. Uh-huh.
- 15 Q. What you said to police was put to him --
- 16 A. Uh-huh.
- 17 Q. -- and what you had said in your Inquiry statement,
- which we can look at shortly. If we just maybe look at
- 19 that now, which is at paragraph 3 at 5550. There at
- 20 paragraph 3 you say:
- "I have been provided with the statement of HIA362
- dated 12th May 1995. He is a former resident of
- Rubane."
- Do you remember the boys' names?
- 25 A. I can't remember him, no.

- 1 O. But you have:
- 2 "... read and considered the allegation he has made
- 3 against me in his statement.
- The allegations were put to me in April '96 by
- 5 police. I denied the allegations then and I maintain my
- 6 denials now.
- 7 I was never involved in the disciplining or corporal
- 8 punishment of children in Rubane House. This was the
- 9 role of the Brothers in the De La Salle Order. I never
- struck HIA362, nor did I ever hit or kick any of the
- 11 boys in my care."
- Now that was read to HIA362 when he gave evidence
- and his response was that you are lying. Is there
- anything you want to say to that, DL509?
- 15 A. Well, I would have to say to HIA362 definitely I never
- hit a person in the home. I definitely didn't do any
- 17 corporal punishment. I didn't lock him up, because
- 18 I hadn't got the keys for the chalets.
- 19 Q. Another person who made an allegation against you, and
- if we go on to discuss him, that was HIA170 -- again
- 21 name not to be used outside -- HIA170. Now he didn't
- 22 say anything about you in his statement to the Inquiry,
- but he did make a police statement where he made
- an allegation. If I can just check where that is.
- 25 Certainly in evidence on Day 68 at pages 40 to 41 it was

- put to him that you had denied the allegations and he
- 2 said -- he described you as having had polio. Now
- I know from talking to you that's not correct, but it is
- 4 possible the boys might have thought that.
- 5 A. Could have done, yes.
- 6 Q. And he said you were still a big man. You would take no
- 7 hassle from any of the boys at all and his recollection
- 8 was in accordance with his police statement, which, if I
- 9 can just find that. Sorry. I don't have that to hand.
- I ought to have it, but I just can't put my hand on it
- at the moment, but you deal with it in paragraph 4 here
- of your statement, where you were provided with his
- statement, and you again were interviewed by the police,
- and you said that again the allegations raised by him
- are untrue, because you weren't involved in the corporal
- punishment of the children, nor did you hit any of the
- boys in your care at any time. You have denied those
- allegations during interview with police and maintain
- 19 that denial.
- 20 A. I'm still denying it, yes.
- 21 Q. A third person who complained about you to the Inquiry
- was HIA149, HIA149. At paragraphs 19 to 22 of his
- Inquiry statement he described you as "the worst beast".
- 24 He said that you drove him and his brother to Portrush
- where you anally raped him in the back of a van, causing

- 1 him to bleed. You threatened him on the Carrick-a-Rede
- Rope Bridge that you would throw him over if he ever
- 3 told anyone, although he said he did tell his elder
- 4 sister, who was very angry.
- In evidence on Day 67 at pages 77 to 94 he said that
- 6 you took him and his brother DL56 to your house and
- abused him as well as his brother DL56 and you were part
- 8 of one big paedophile ring in Rubane.
- Now, just to be clear, I have not gone into the
- details of your convictions, but his brother DL56 is one
- of the two of children that those convictions relate to.
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. You accept that you did take DL56 --
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. -- out to your home. Did you -- you also accept
- I believe that you did take HIA149, but you don't accept
- 17 that you ever abused him.
- 18 A. I never abused him.
- 19 Q. In paragraph 7 of your witness statement, which is at --
- 20 you deal with it, and you say that you are aware that he
- was a former resident of Nazareth House and he has made
- 22 allegations of a sexual nature against you. You have
- 23 been provided with a statement that he made to police in
- 24 1980, together with an interview transcript dated 2012
- 25 -- again that was for the police -- and his statement to

this Inquiry. 1 You were interviewed in August 2012. You deny all 2 3 the allegations that are raised against you by HIA149, and in respect of those allegations you received a letter indicating that there was to be no prosecution in respect of those allegations, and that was in 7 January 2013. One other person who wasn't actually complaining about you himself, but related an occurrence that he said that he witnessed, and that was HIA41, HIA41. 10 11 told police that: 12 "DL509 had had a fight with a boy called DL125, who 13 got his leg broken, and when he came back from the 14 hospital, he threw the crutch at DL509." 15 In evidence on Day 67 at pages 60 to 62 he said that 16 he saw the incident from about two feet away. 17 described it as a tussle or a fight between you and He said DL125 went down and he heard the crack 18 19 of his leg breaking. He said that when DL125 came back 20 from the hospital, he threw a crutch at you, but it 21 actually missed and hit a boy called Perkins. Now in paragraph 5 of your witness statement you 22 23 deal with that allegation. You were provided again with 24 the statement of DL125, who again indicated -- and 25

I will just -- to be fair, just to say that what he --

DL125 had told police, and that's at 61103, he said that:

"I remember when I was at the home and I was in the smoking room, I was messing about. A member of the civilian staff, DL509, told me to behave. I took no notice of him, so he hit me a slap on the head. outside crying and I pushed his motorbike over in a fit of temper. Someone told him. He came back in a rage and kicked me on the right knee. As a result of this I was taken to Newtownards Hospital and then to Musgrave Park Hospital. I underwent two operations on the right knee due to this assault and I have lost about 60% use of the leg. It just goes from under me. I do recall when I came back to the home, I was in plaster. I threw my crutches at DL509. I think I hit him. A crutch also hit another kid, but I don't know who it was."

You were interviewed again by police about that and you denied ever doing this, and you also denied anybody ever knocking over your motorbike. You talked about another boy called DL47, who had fallen off your motorbike on an occasion. Do you remember telling the police that?

23 A. Sorry?

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Q. Do you ever remember telling the police about a boy called DL47? That's the only person you remember --

- 1 A. He was the only person who --
- 2 Q. -- on your motorbike.
- 3 A. He was on the back of it and he fell off it actually,
- but he was all right.
- 5 Q. But there was nothing -- I mean, you denied this
- 6 allegation that was being made by DL125.
- 7 A. I deny it 100%.
- 8 Q. You deal with that in paragraph 5 of your witness
- 9 statement. That's at 5551. You say there at (b) that
- 10 you were interviewed by police about his allegations in
- 11 April '96, when you denied any wrongdoing. You maintain
- those denials, and specifically with reference to some
- of the alleged facts you say that your motorcycle was
- 14 not kept in the yard at Rubane House.
- 15 A. It wasn't kept in the yard at all, no.
- 16 Q. You say it was--
- 17 A. It was kept down beside the house.
- 18 Q. And that was in the farmyard?
- 19 A. That was way down the farmyard, the very bottom of it.
- 20 Q. You say it would only have been kept in the yard on
- a few occasions. It was never knocked over by any of
- 22 the boys who were resident in Rubane.
- 23 A. No.
- Q. You go on to talk here about the incident involving a
- boy called DL47, who was a passenger on the back of the

- 1 motorcycle --
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. -- when it fell over on the way out of the gate at
- 4 Rubane, but he was uninjured as a result of the
- 5 incident.
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. You don't remember DL125 or HIA41?
- 8 A. I don't remember DL125 or HIA41, but I couldn't have ran
- 9 after him anyway. I can't run, never have been able to
- 10 run since I was 2-year-old. So how could I -- how could
- I have caught him? If he's any fit sort of child at
- all, he would get away from me.
- 13 Q. You go on to say --
- 14 A. And --
- 15 Q. Sorry.
- 16 A. And I can -- never used or kicked anybody. So ...
- 17 Q. Did you have a stick when you were in Rubane, DL509?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. But you would have had -- some of the boys describe you
- 20 as having had a limp. Would that be fair?
- 21 A. I have a limp, yes.
- 22 Q. You say that if DL125 did sustain any injury during his
- time at Rubane, it wasn't caused by you.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. You don't ever remember any of the boys throwing

- a crutch at you, nor if there was ever an ambulance at
- 2 Rubane to take any of the boys to hospital.
- 3 A. Not my thing.
- 4 Q. I know BR10 said he would have taken boys to hospital or
- for doctors' or dentists' appointments.
- 6 A. He probably would have, yes.
- 7 Q. But you certainly don't have any recollection of anybody
- 8 going?
- 9 A. Nothing, no.
- 10 Q. Now there are a number of other allegations that were
- made to police, and I am just going to look at those.
- 12 The first was by a boy -- again the names aren't to
- be repeated elsewhere. His full name is DL59, but DL59.
- 14 If we look at page 60396 and just -- it says just about
- 15 the second line down:
- "I also remember a member of staff called DL509. He
- was in charge of chalet 4",
- not Channel 4:
- 19 "He had a camper van and he used to take some of the
- 20 boys out in it."
- 21 That is correct, isn't it, DL509, that you did have
- 22 a camper van?
- 23 A. I did have a camper van, yes.
- Q. "I remember he used to take us all over the country,
- north and south, and he would have had six to eight boys

- 1 in the camper."
- 2 A. That would have been right.
- 3 Q. Did you ever take them out north and south in the van?
- 4 A. I wouldn't have took chalet --- any other chalet.
- 5 I wouldn't have had permission to take any other chalet.
- 6 I only had chalet 4 people.
- 7 Q. Was this boy in chalet 4?
- 8 A. No, not the -- I can't remember him, but I don't think
- 9 he was, no.
- 10 Q. Well, he said -- what he describes you as having done is
- 11 you would watch some of the boys, including himself,
- having full anal sex in the back of this van.
- 13 A. No, no, definitely never.
- 14 Q. He names a boy whom he says he had sex with. He said to
- his knowledge, this is DL59's knowledge, you never took
- part in any of the sex acts.
- 17 A. No, definitely not.
- 18 Q. You deal with that in paragraph 2 of your Inquiry
- statement, where -- we don't need to go back with it,
- 20 but you were provided and interviewed again by police
- 21 about that allegation. You denied it and you maintain
- 22 your denials of those allegations. You say you have
- 23 never witnessed and are not aware of any boys having
- anal sex in the back of your van, and you say he was
- 25 actually in chalet 3, not chalet 4, and it would only

- 1 have been chalet 4 boys that you would have taken away
- on trips and he was never in your van.
- 3 A. He would never have been in it.
- 4 Q. Now we have dealt with the situation about DL125, and
- you know he hasn't spoken to the Inquiry, but what he
- said in the police statement was put to you in
- 7 interview, and again you have looked at that at
- paragraph 5.
- 9 DL56, who is a boy against --
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. -- you have convictions for, he spoke to police about
- other offences than that for which you were convicted.
- 13 That's at 61024. He said there that -- he said that he
- hadn't told police all that happened to him. He goes on
- to -- he remembers:
- 16 "During a week-end visit to the farmhouse at De La
- 17 Salle Christian Brothers Home at Kircubbin that DL509
- made me suck his penis."
- 19 That would have been on a week-end visit from
- 20 Nazareth Lodge, when you would have taken them down in
- the red caravanette. Now I know you accept you did take
- 22 him down from Nazareth Lodge --
- 23 A. I did take him down.
- Q. -- but you say you never abused him there.
- 25 A. Never abused him, no.

Q. You said that he stayed in the farmhouse with you and that's correct. He then said that was the incident that he described in his first statement to police and for which you admitted and were convicted.

5 A. Yes.

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6 Q. He then gives further details of that, and he then in
7 the statement talks about other occasions, and remembers
8 you taking him and his brothers to Achill Island and
9 other places, but at page 61027, if we go down to the
10 bottom of that page, he says:

"The only other thing I remember is when I was 6 to
7 years old during one of my week-end visits to
Kircubbin, I walked into the farmhouse and into the
living room and saw DL509 and one of the Brothers
standing there playing with each other. Both of them
had their trousers and pants down round their ankles and
they were masturbating each other. As soon as I saw
this I just walked back out again."

He said:

"The Brother I saw is either BR1 or BR77."

Again I am using names that are not to be repeated outside.

Just to be clear, BR77 has spoken to the Inquiry and he has said that that absolutely did not happen, and in evidence to the Inquiry yesterday he said that it did

not happen and that he was not a homosexual. You deal

- 2 --
- 3 A. It never happened with me either.
- 4 O. Pardon?
- 5 A. It didn't happen with me either.
- 6 Q. And you did deal with that in paragraph 6 of your
- 7 witness statement, where you say that you admitted to
- 8 police in interview in 1980 the offences that you had
- g committed against DL56, but those admissions made were
- 10 the full extent of your offending behaviour, and you
- deny committing any other acts of unlawful sexual
- 12 activity involving this child.
- 13 He made a further statement and those allegations
- were put to you and again -- that's the statement we
- have just been looking at, and you again deny that
- 16 allegation in its entirety. You did not engage in any
- sexual activity as described with any members of the De
- 18 La Salle Order at any time.
- 19 A. It never -- never happened. It definitely never
- 20 happened.
- 21 Q. Just to be clear, that again that was reported by police
- 22 and that resulted in a no prosecution as well -- isn't
- 23 that correct -- those allegations that he made?
- 24 A. I haven't been charged for any of them.
- 25 Q. Now one other person who said something is someone

DL 51 I am not going to go to his called statement, because I am going to come back to it for another reason, but he basically said that he had been 3 told by a boy that this boy had caught another boy called DL44 wanking off DL509, the chalet parent for chalet 4. "This was in DL509's Volkswagen minibus. parked down in the farmyard beside DL509's house." 8 You again in your statement deal with that at paragraph 8 and you say that that too never happened. 10 It never happened. 11 Certainly you weren't involved in that incident as 12 Ο. 13 alleged and deny the allegation. 14 Now you were interviewed by police in April 1996, and we talked about this earlier this morning, DL509. 15 16 I~am going to come to some of the things that were in 17 your police interview. It is true to say that you were

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Police asked you -- and if we look at this at RUB63057 -- the interview I should say in its entirety is at 63023 to 63067, but on this particular page, if we can look at this, the police are asking you just towards the bottom of this page about how you felt that the home was being run at the time that you were there. If we can just go on down, please, you said:

denying all of the allegations they were putting to you.

```
"Well, there's a few of the Brothers were a wee bit
1
        heavy-handed. Two of them were definitely -- shouldn't
2
3
        have been Brothers."
             If you can go on to the next page, the police then
5
        say to you:
                      Can you name those Brothers?
7
                 Brother -- what do you call him? Brother ..."
             You give two names there that I am going to use so
9
        we know who you are talking about:
10
             "BR40 and BR18."
11
             The police say:
12
             "BR40 and BR18. Did you ever take any complaints
13
        from the inmates of sexual or physical abuse?"
14
             You say:
15
             "No'.
16
                 So no boy ever came to you and said he was --
17
                 No."
             Α.
18
             They say boys fought among themselves and they go on
19
        to talk about who was the person in charge of the home
20
        at that time. You said:
             "BR1 and Brother -- what is the other Brother's
22
        name?
23
                 Was it BR2?
             Q.
24
                 BR2 was the one I signed up with, BR2."
25
        That's right.
```

- 1 Q. So he was the person who employed you to work in Rubane?
- 2 A. Correct.
- 3 Q. Now later at 63061, if we can just go to that page -- in
- 4 fact, if we just go to the previous page, please, which
- is at the bottom of that page, you are being asked about
- 6 punishment and just -- in fact, just go up to the top of
- 7 that page. You say:
- 8 "If something happened -- if something happened in
- 9 a unit, a particular unit, a person -- if the
- 10 housemother didn't administer what she wanted and it was
- away out of hand, he was sent over to the house."
- Now I was asking you about this and this is the
- passage that I was talking about. Were boys -- if the
- housemother couldn't chastise a boy or, you know, it was
- something more serious than she could handle, was he
- sent over to the main house?
- 17 A. I honestly don't know, because the only one I would have
- sent them to would have been the housemother. If she
- sent them, that would have been up to her, not up to me,
- you know.
- 21 Q. No, I appreciate you wouldn't have sent them to the main
- 22 house, DL509 --
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. -- but what I'm saying is you were telling police that
- you understood that's what would happen. If she

- couldn't handle the situation, she sent the boy on to
- the Brothers for punishment.
- 3 A. I can't honestly remember. It could be right. It could
- be wrong. I don't know.
- 5 Q. You don't remember telling the police that --
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. -- but you accept that's what you did tell the police
- from this passage, or if I have got that wrong, please
- 9 correct me.
- 10 A. I can't honestly remember saying that. It is 30-odd
- 11 years ago. So I can't say it is true. I can't say it
- is untrue.
- 13 Q. You go on then to talk about --
- "What -- right. What do you mean?",
- 15 the police say.
- 16 "The instructions were that a housemother could
- administer punishment to you."
- 18 You said:
- 19 "No, no, no way. None of -- no. In other words,
- 20 his privileges would have been stopped."
- 21 A. That's right.
- 22 Q. This is what you were talking about what the housemother
- could do.
- "... and he wouldn't be allowed to go to a disco,
- 25 wouldn't be allowed to go to pictures or any particular

```
outdoor -- his privileges would be stopped.
                                                     He wouldn't
        be allowed to get his money.
                                       Whenever he went out the
        week-end he'd be deducted so much. He'd get so many
3
        points against him, but if it was serious, really,
5
        really serious or something, but in -- it would be the
        house. Right."
7
             The police then say:
             "Did you ever witness anybody administering corporal
        punishment?"
10
             You say you never witnessed it:
11
             "But there was a fella got -- I was in a camping
12
        outfit and this particular man liked using a rope."
13
             The police say to you:
             "I know who exactly you are talking about there.
14
        That's BR77."
15
16
             You say:
17
                     I had to stop him one night for doing -- "
18
             The police say:
19
             "Do you remember who it was? I know who it was he
        hit, but do you remember who it was he hit?"
21
             You say:
22
             "Yeah, it was ...",
23
              and the name that is given there is
24
                                     DL 51 did give
             Now, just to be clear,
25
        a statement to the police, and I just want to look at
```

what he said about BR77 in that at page 60105. quite difficult to make out here, but you will see just before the "DL41" there he says: 3 "One day" -- he gives the boy's name -- " DL 41 , who is class A2, and myself had been fighting with 5 He has since left. BR77 called DL 106 and myself into the hurley store and beat us up. didn't cut me, but he hurt me and I cried. 8 I heard from other boys that BR77 has beat up boys before and cut 10 them." 11 Then he names the boys that he said BR77 had beaten 12 Now there is no mention in that statement of a rope 13 having been used. What I wondered about you was is it 14 possible when you spoke to police that you got the name of the boy wrong? 15 16 I could have done. 17 The reason that I want to ask you that is if we look at Q. 18 another statement, this is a statement of DL44, who is 19 He made a statement to the police, which is at 20 60089. If -- I just want to go -- he talks about two 21 things that involve you. If we go down to the bottom of 22 that page, he says that, about six lines or seven 23 lines up or so:

"On one other occasion on the all-weather pitch we were doing some sport. I was talking to ...", a boy he

24

25

- names there as **DL23**. "One of the Brothers called me
- down. I asked him to wait a minute as I was talking to
- 3 DL23. BR77 came up to me and hit me with his fist in
- 4 the stomach. He then pulled me down and kicked me four
- 5 to five times in the stomach and side. I vomited as
- 6 a result of this. I had a wild pain in my side and
- 7 stomach. DL509, one of the houseparents, told me to lie
- 8 on the grass. DL509 couldn't say anything to BR77, as
- 9 the Brothers are higher than the houseparents."
- Now if I can just pause there, this boy is saying
- 11 that you either witnessed this assault or were certainly
- 12 present --
- 13 A. I can't honestly remember it.
- 14 Q. -- after it. You told him -- but you would have been --
- I mean, you were saying you would have been around after
- school time.
- 17 A. If it was after school, yes, but if it was in the school
- play time, you know, or school games, I wouldn't have
- 19 seen it.
- 20 Q. Although he does -- what he is saying is that you told
- 21 him to lie down on the grass. Whether you -- he is not
- 22 actually saying, although the implication I think is
- there, that you would have witnessed this.
- 24 A. Yes. I honestly can't remember it, no.
- 25 Q. He then goes on to talk here:

- 1 "At the beginning of last year we were camping in
- 2 Ardglass."
- 3 Is that one of the places that you would have gone
- 4 camping?
- 5 A. We would have used a school in Ardglass.
- 6 Q. He said:
- 7 "Me and another boy were arguing -- I think the
- 8 boy's name is DL26 -- were arguing over table tennis.
- 9 DL509 told to us sit down. BR77 came over and took me
- out of the TV room and made me bend down. He whipped me
- several times with a camping rope. This left bruises
- around my back and legs. Apart from the things I told
- you nothing else happened to me."
- Now it is clear from this that he's not actually
- saying you witnessed what BR77 did?
- 16 A. I didn't witness anything, but again I can't say,
- 17 because I would have still been in the room with the
- other boys, you know.
- 19 Q. But what -- what you told the police was that you had to
- stop this Brother hitting a boy with a rope.
- 21 A. Well, I probably would have had to stop him some time.
- I just said I didn't go for that sort of thing, you
- know. I didn't go to corporal punishment of any sort.
- I just don't believe in it.
- 25 Q. Well, again you were interviewed in 2012, DL509, and

that was at 66300 to 66317. You said again to police at

- that time that the Brothers used the belt or cane,
- 3 although you didn't see it, that it happened behind
- 4 closed doors.
- 5 A. It probably did, but, as I say, I didn't see it, because
- 6 I didn't go -- I wasn't involved in the main house and
- 7 that's where all the Brothers were situated bar the ones
- 8 that stayed at night in the chalets.
- 9 Q. At the -- just to be clear that the entry where you say
- 10 that:
- "I wouldn't have seen that anyway. As I say, they
- done it behind closed doors. So the lay persons
- wouldn't have seen it."
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. You told police that at 66309.
- Just to look at a document here, the police view of
- 17 what they had been told is given in a document at
- 18 RUB63103. This is where the police are reporting the
- 19 allegations that have been made against you to the
- 20 Public Prosecution Service, and they said that the
- allegations had been fully investigated. They go on
- down to say that, if I can just scroll down to the
- 23 bottom:
- 24 "Overall the evidence contained in these papers is
- I believe insufficient to warrant criminal proceedings

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and I support the recommendation that the file be marked
        'No prosecution'."
            63102, which is the next page. Sorry.
3
                                                     It is the
        previous page, in fact. This is the direction from the
        Public Prosecution Service saying that there's no
        reasonable prospect of a conviction for any of the
        offences that have been reported and they direct no
8
        prosecution against you.
9
            Now your position --
10
    CHAIRMAN:
              Can we go to the page we saw first, please?
11
    MS SMITH:
               Sorry. The next page. The police --
12
    CHAIRMAN:
              Just a moment. Thank you.
              The position as you sit here today, DL509, is
13
    MS SMITH:
14
        that you make in paragraph 1(a) of your Inquiry
        statement, and that is that you -- aside from the
15
16
        convictions that we have looked at or talked about:
17
             "I do not -- I do know I never abused either
18
        physically or sexually any child over and above that for
19
        which I was convicted in May 1982."
20
            Now speaking to me earlier, I know that you wanted
21
        to say something about your convictions and how you feel
22
        and how your life has been since.
23
        Well, my life has changed.
                                     I have turned it round
24
        completely. I do not get involved with any children
25
                     I work with the elderly, which I am myself.
        whatsoever.
```

- I try to keep out of everybody's way, keep to myself and
- 2 that's basically what I do. I was and still am -- worry
- 3 every day and I listen to the doorstep, listen to things
- 4 coming in through the door. I regret doing this, deeply
- regret it, but I just have to try and keep going, but
- 6 definitely I wouldn't -- if it happened again, it would
- 7 never have happened to me again.
- 8 Q. Certainly you have not been in trouble with the police
- 9 __
- 10 A. I have never been in trouble with the police --
- 11 Q. -- since that time.
- 12 A. -- since that day. I have said I turned my life round,
- worked at the business, looked after my mother for
- 14 thirty years, who died last year, and -- it was her
- birthday was yesterday, so -- but we have to carry these
- things on, you know.
- 17 Q. Well, DL509, is there anything that you feel that you
- haven't had the opportunity to say about either the
- 19 allegations that were made against you or about your
- time in Rubane? This is your opportunity to tell the
- Inquiry if there's anything.
- 22 A. The only thing I can say is I didn't see anything
- happening. It might have happened. It probably did
- happen. You only heard what people said, people talked
- 25 about or children talked about, but again I never seen

- anything. I can't go down and say, "A did this and B
- did that". I can't say that.
- 3 Q. DL509, can I just ask you you say that the children
- 4 talked about it. Did you yourself ever decide to do
- 5 anything about what you were being told by the children?
- 6 A. Not really, no, no, because they had social workers.
- 7 They were probably telling their social workers that
- 8 this was happening and why were they not doing
- 9 something?
- 10 Q. Thank you, DL509. I have no further questions for you,
- but the Panel Members may have some things they want to
- 12 ask you.
- 13 A. Right. Fair enough. No problem.
- 14 Questions from THE PANEL
- 15 CHAIRMAN: DL509, can I just ask you about what you have
- just said about the children talking? What did the
- 17 children talk about that you heard?
- 18 A. The children would have talked about maybe, you know,
- 19 having a hard day at school or something like that
- there, or maybe a hard day at the football, perhaps
- games and things like that, but basically didn't talk
- 22 about anything else but their own life, what they were
- going to do that night or what they were going to do
- 24 that day, you know, or where they were going.
- 25 Q. Well, did any of the children say anything in your

- 1 hearing that might have indicated that a particular
- 2 Brother or more than one Brother had ill treated them in
- 3 any way?
- 4 A. Not offhand that I can remember, but I'm sure one or two
- of them did complain about one of the Brothers or so,
- 6 you know. I think the farmer was complained about
- 7 a bit, you know.
- 8 Q. Well, complained about in what way?
- 9 A. Probably bringing animals in in the cold winter night.
- 10 Q. You mean that the boys had to help doing that?
- 11 A. Oh, yes, I think so.
- 12 Q. But do I take it from what you are saying that you
- didn't hear any boy complain of any sexual approach by
- any of the Brothers or any sexual abuse?
- 15 A. Never heard anything like that in the whole time I was
- there. I never heard anything like that there and
- 17 I never was involved with any of the Brothers
- whatsoever. The only time I would be involved with the
- 19 Brothers was when I was working with them. Again
- 20 I wouldn't been allowed into their house.
- 21 Q. A number of the people who have come to speak to us have
- 22 said, to put it in a very general way, that some of the
- 23 Brothers were very free with their fists.
- 24 A. Sorry?
- 25 Q. Were very free with their fists. They would strike for

- the boys for no reason --
- 2 A. Well, I never --
- 3 Q. -- or other Brothers would administer very severe
- 4 corporal punishment. Were you aware of any children
- 5 talking about things like that?
- 6 A. Just at that camping trip that the boy was saying that
- 7 he -- the Brother took him into another room, but again
- 8 that's the only thing, but I never heard anything else.
- 9 I'm sorry.
- 10 Q. Thank you.
- 11 MS DOHERTY: Thanks, DL509. Can I just check when you took
- 12 the boys away in your camper van, did you stay away
- 13 overnight?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And you were the only member of staff that went with
- 16 them?
- 17 A. It would have -- in my camper van?
- 18 Q. Yes.
- 19 A. In my camper van there would have been only the two --
- one or two boys. There wouldn't have been over five --
- four or five. In one year they went to the North-West,
- 22 but there was another person went with us, who would
- 23 have -- another staff member, a school teacher, met up
- with us.
- 25 Q. Met up with you there?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. But you would take away a few boys, three or four boys,
- in your camper van?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. No?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. So who -- what -- who would you take away or ...?
- 8 A. The first two -- one -- from Nazareth Lodge.
- 9 Q. But in Rubane --
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. -- when the boys talk about you going out in the camper
- van with them, you didn't take them out in the camper
- van?
- 14 A. Not camper van I didn't, no.
- 15 Q. So you are saying you never took them out in the camper
- 16 van and did --
- 17 A. In the camper van the only person would have been taken
- would have been the two boys that -- to start with.
- 19 They wouldn't -- one of them by that time was down in
- there. No.
- 21 Q. So when the boys describe you taking them away in
- a camper van, you are saying that didn't happen, that
- you wouldn't have taken any boys from Rubane?
- 24 A. Not that I can remember.
- 25 Q. Okay. Can I say we have heard quite a lot about

- incidents happening round the sports field and the
- 2 all-weather pitch and boys talking about getting hurt in
- matches with staff playing with boys.
- 4 A. Sorry. Say that again.
- 5 Q. Boys getting hurt in matches where staff members were
- 6 playing with boys.
- 7 A. At football or something?
- 8 Q. Uh-huh. Gaelic.
- 9 A. I didn't --
- 10 Q. Do you --
- 11 A. Sorry. I never played Gaelic.
- 12 Q. No, but you -- if you were down supervising down at the
- 13 --
- 14 A. Well, if they were playing Gaelic, that would have been
- in school --
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 A. -- and I wouldn't be supervising that.
- 18 Q. But after school when they were playing down in the
- 19 sports field, did you see any incidents of violence or
- 20 --
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. None?
- 23 A. Definitely not.
- Q. Just finally, can I just clarify -- I am just trying to
- work out what you did. You started work at 10.00, but

- you didn't start supervising the boys until after
- 2 school?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. So between 10.00 and 4.00 what were you ...?
- 5 A. Just round the house or something or down at the house
- 6 or in Newtownards or something till it started.
- 7 Q. So you weren't actually working -- you didn't really
- 8 start work until after school hours?
- 9 A. I wouldn't start work until after school hours. I would
- 10 be there maybe at 10.00 in the morning, but I can't
- remember what I did in between, but I wouldn't --
- definitely can't remember what I did in between, but
- 13 I didn't start till 5.00 or 6.00 when I took them for
- their tea, but that was basically it.
- 15 Q. Then you would finish at 8.00 or 9.00?
- 16 A. I finished at 8.00 or 9.00, yes, night-time, yes.
- 17 Q. Thank you.
- 18 MR LANE: Looking back now, what do you feel was the sort of
- 19 general quality of care and education offered at Rubane?
- 20 A. Their education was very good, because it had a very
- 21 good school. Care I thought was dead on, but then again
- 22 I'm not -- I wouldn't have known much about care. There
- 23 were so many boys to each room or each chalet and so
- 24 many boys to the house. I think three of the chalets
- 25 had housemothers. (Inaudible) the Brothers I don't

- think -- well, maybe they had a houseparent. I don't
- 2 know. Again with the -- it's one of the other chalets.
- 3 I don't know whether it had a housemother or not.
- 4 I never heard.
- 5 Q. And the activities you were offering you felt were good
- 6 as well?
- 7 A. Pardon?
- 8 Q. The activities you were offering, they were good?
- 9 A. I only done outdoor pursuits and basic table tennis,
- 10 because I like doing table tennis.
- 11 Q. How does that generally good impression square up with
- the allegations that you are aware of?
- 13 A. I couldn't honestly say. I don't know. I'm not into
- that sort of thing. I really couldn't say.
- 15 Q. Okay. Thank you.
- 16 CHAIRMAN: Well, DL509, that's all we need to ask you about
- 17 today. Thank you very much for coming to speak to us.
- 18 A. No problem.
- 19 (Witness withdrew)
- 20 MS SMITH: Chairman, the next witness is to be taken by
- 21 Mr Aiken. If we could take a short break, I am sure he
- will be ready to start shortly.
- 23 CHAIRMAN: Yes. We will take a break anyway now for
- 24 a few minutes.
- 25 (11.30 am)

1 (Short break)

- 2 (11.40 am)
- WITNESS DL149 (called)
- 4 CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 5 MR AIKEN: Chairman, Members of the Panel, good morning.
- 6 The next witness today is DL149, more commonly known as
- 7 DL149. He is "DL149". He is represented by
- 8 Mr Rafferty, solicitor, who is present.
- 9 CHAIRMAN: Yes. Mr Rafferty.
- $10\,$ MR AIKEN: DL149 is aware, Chairman, you are going to ask
- 11 him to take the oath.
- WITNESS DL149 (sworn)
- 13 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Please sit down.
- 14 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY
- 15 MR AIKEN: Now, DL149, coming up on the screen is your first
- witness statement to the Inquiry, which is at 5542. Can
- 17 you just have a look at it? Apart from the black marks
- and the designation "DL149" that you can see, you
- recognise that as your statement?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. If we go to 5544, please, and if you can just confirm
- 22 that's the back page. Don't worry about the --
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. -- grey redactions that we can see. Names can't be used
- outside the chamber.

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. You have signed that statement?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And you want to adopt that as your evidence before the
- 5 Inquiry?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Then you have provided a second statement at 5893. Car
- we look at that, please? It as yet does not have any
- black marks, but will have when it is published. We
- move into the second page at 5894. Can you confirm
- again, DL149, that you have signed that statement?
- 12 A. Yes, I have.
- 13 Q. And you want to adopt it as your evidence to the Inquiry
- 14 as well?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And, as I was discussing with you beforehand, the
- 17 purpose of the black marks, although some of this has
- not black marks as yet, is the Inquiry's anonymity
- 19 policy in operation, and you want to keep your
- anonymity?
- 21 A. Absolutely.
- 22 Q. And, as I said to you beforehand, everyone involved with
- 23 the Inquiry is aware of the Inquiry's restriction
- orders, and while we will use names today as we are
- going through your evidence, those names are not to be

- used outside the chamber, including your own, in
- line with the Inquiry's anonymity policy that's at work.
- 3 A. Okay. Thank you.
- 4 Q. What I am going to do to begin with, DL149, is ask you
- 5 some general questions and then I am going to summarise
- 6 a lot of the material that you have already had the
- 7 opportunity to look at, which the Panel has also had the
- 8 opportunity to consider.
- 9 A. Okay.
- 10 Q. I am going ask you some general questions about your
- time in Rubane to begin with.
- 12 A. Okay. Okay.
- 13 Q. You were born on .
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. You have just turned .
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And you were in Rubane between September 1977 and
- 18 June 1982.
- 19 A. That's correct.
- 20 Q. That was almost a five-year period when you were 22 --
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. -- until you were 27.
- 23 A. That's correct.
- Q. When you arrived in September '77, BR1 was taking over
- as the Head Brother, head of the community of Brothers

- 1 --
- 2 A. Uh-huh.
- 3 Q. -- and he was the person in charge of the children's
- 4 home.
- 5 A. Uh-huh.
- 6 Q. You had BR3 or BR3, as he became known, as the Principal
- 7 of the school.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Your role was as a teacher in the school --
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. -- and working effectively to the Principal Brother,
- 12 BR3.
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. There were six or seven teachers you recall teaching the
- sixty boys in effect who were there at your time in
- 16 1977, although those numbers reduced by the time you
- were leaving in 1982.
- 18 A. That's true, yes.
- 19 Q. Your background, you had been -- you had gone to what
- 20 was then St. Joseph's, now St. Mary's, Teacher Training
- 21 College.
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. You were telling me beforehand you had some -- you make
- this point in one of your police interviews -- you
- 25 had -- you came from the country. Fortunate to have

- a good upbringing and good opportunities, but you had
- from your time in St. Joseph's a particular individual
- who did help you to understand that not everyone's life
- 4 was like that.
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Do you want to just say a bit about that, because you
- 7 came with that knowledge --
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 O. -- to Rubane.
- 10 A. Yes. Well, I did as my main subject and I did Youth
- and Community Studies as a subsidiary subject. I had
- 12 Willy McCarney as my tutor on that particular course,
- and he was involved in the juvenile courts and that, and
- 14 he would often have spoken about the difficulties young
- 15 people might have had in a life different very much to
- the one that I was reared in and brought up in. So I
- 17 was aware to some extent when I came to Rubane, you
- 18 know, of the idea of maybe the background of some of the
- 19 young men or young boys that we had to work with.
- 20 Q. This was your first teaching post, in effect, your first
- 21 permanent job.
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 O. You would have done some work placement presumably
- 24 during your teacher training.
- 25 A. Yes, I would have done teaching practice in a primary

- school in my first year in in County Tyrone, and
- then in my second and third year I did it in
- in the secondary school.
- 4 Q. Ultimately after you left Rubane in 1972 that was to
- 5 take a full-time post up in
- 6 A. In 1982.
- 7 Q. Sorry. 1982.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. You did that for about 22 years.
- 10 A. Yes, 22 years until 2003, and then other things took
- over, like and stuff, and I left the
- 12 profession.
- 13 Q. What I want to do as far as we can -- I appreciate there
- is a long number of years have passed since 1977 -- at
- 15 that point in time when you took --
- 16 A. Excuse me.
- 17 Q. -- you took the post in Rubane, you initially for about
- a year before you got married to your wife you
- 19 lived in the farmhouse on the Rubane site, which was
- 20 down at the farm --
- 21 A. Uh-huh.
- 22 Q. -- along with DL509 and --
- 23 A. On occasion he was there in one part of it and DL81.
- 24 O. DL81.
- 25 A. And at a later stage maybe would have

been an art teacher who would have stayed there sometimes as well. You had that facility to live there and on occasions you 3 did reside there. On occasion I did. I was playing with 5 the time and I'd have been going home maybe two nights a 6 . So on those nights week to training back to I wouldn't be staying. I'd go back, and my wife-to-be 8 lived with some other girls in Belfast. So on occasion 10 I would stay there. So probably Mondays and Wednesday 11 nights would have been the ones I would have stayed in 12 the farmhouse in Rubane, if at all. It would have been no more than that and not even -- not always even that 13 14 amount, but that would have been it, yes. 15 Then after you got married in you moved with your 16 wife and lived in Glengormley --17 That's right, yes. 18 -- and then travelled to teach in Rubane. 19 Yes. 20 You also said to me that you in addition to teaching 21 would have done 23 Α. Yes. -- before going home. Ο. 25 There was activities on the four days of Page 55

- the week, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and
- I would have participated in that, yes.
- 3 Q. In the school with you at the time who also did and
- 4 was also the science -- doing science -- it was science
- 5 he was doing was BR77 or BR77. Do you remember him?
- 6 A. I do, yes.
- 7 Q. DL6 was the woodwork teacher.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. You have mentioned the art teacher. I think it changed
- 10 at various points.
- 11 A. It changed a few times, yes, yes.
- 12 Q. BR6 also taught.
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. The class sizes would have been ten to fifteen boys. Is
- 15 that --
- 16 A. Something like that. I would have had certainly no more
- than that, yes.
- 18 Q. In one of your police interviews you say in addition to
- 19 teaching and you mention , you would have also
- done a general basic teaching across the subjects,
- 21 because the level of teaching, although it was -- often
- 22 included boys beyond the age of 11, the level that they
- were at was not necessarily their age.
- 24 A. Yes. That's true. Academically it would have been more
- 25 sort of basic learning than something that you might

find in a secondary school setting. It was kind of the
primary school standard in many ways of the basic
subjects, because many of them hadn't been to school as
often as they probably would like to have been or could
have been in other circumstances. So they were always
behind academically, the majority of them, yes.

If you can, transport yourself back to when you are

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- coming into Rubane for the first time to teach. What guidance, if any, can you recall being given about the type of boy or type of background of boy that you were going to be teaching and how you might need to manage yourself or them differently from a different type of school, perhaps the ones you had done on your teaching placement? Do you remember getting any guidance about that?
- 16 No, I don't remember getting any specific guidance. 17 I mean, I felt I was there to teach in the school. 18 I suppose I was made aware of the fact that this was 19 different in that there was a home and a school 20 environment, if you like, on the one campus, and that 21 was all I knew, that these boys lived on site and that 22 they weren't all from the one family, but they were sort 23 of trying to be placed in a family environment, if 24 possible, within the chalets that existed there, but 25 they came to school to learn, and no specific sort of

- guidance as to say what to expect or anything else.
- I just -- I was there to do the job I had been trained
- 3 to do, which was to teach young people.
- 4 Q. And the -- if I -- was it a shock when you began
- 5 teaching in that environment with the types of boys that
- 6 you then came across in '77 to '82 from your previous
- 7 experience or was it not really much of a shock? How
- 8 would you describe going in there?
- 9 A. Well, I do really think that my engagement with Willy
- 10 McCarney and the information that he imparted to us
- 11 through that particular youth and community course gave
- me some grounding for the fact of the type of young
- person that I might be in contact with there. So
- I think that was beneficial to me. So to say shock I'm
- not sure, because I went in there with a very open mind,
- 16 you know. I didn't -- I went to do the best I could.
- I come from the country, as I said, and I expected
- everybody to sort of be like me, and therefore I was
- 19 prepared to look at life through that lens until I found
- it to be different, if it was going to be different, and
- 21 it turned out I suppose that it was different to what
- I had been used in teaching practice.
- 23 O. And one of the -- at various times during the evidence,
- if I can try to pull it together in this way, the boys
- 25 would have talked about fights between them. Other

people have talked about how that violence maybe went beyond the use of a knife being pulled, weapons being used in some form, glue sniffing, various difficulties with the group of children who made up that sixty. Others have talked about homosexual practices going on

Others have talked about homosexual practices going on with them and so on.

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issues affecting the boys that you were dealing with?

A. Uh-huh. No. I wasn't very aware of much of that at all. I just saw them in a school environment. I knew there was a home environment where maybe they spent more time there. I am hearing now that there was other

things happening there that I was not aware of at all.

To what extent were you aware of those types of

What I heard of in my environment was people -those young men slagging each other off with that kind
of language about being queer, being this or the other.
They would openly use that against each other. I didn't
like to hear that and I didn't advocate it or -- you
know, I thought there was better ways of speaking
towards each other, but that's what happened, and I just
thought it was just bravado talk between them just to
try and insult each other, and my thinking never went
beyond that.

Q. Were there occasions whenever -- in the sporting context and potentially in the classroom context that, you know,

there were verbals between boys and square-ups between boys and you had to intervene to put that to an end? 3 I mean, when young people are playing sport, they Yes. do run across each other and get aggressive at times. I mean, any walk of life, never mind the environment we are speaking about, and sometimes you have to stand between people and get them to settle down. happen on occasion, but it's not something that sticks in my mind as something you really had to be thinking about all the time. It was just an occurrence that 10 happened from time to time, and to me it wasn't a big 11 12 issue, you know. They would be aggressive because 13 somebody run across somebody or somebody hit somebody a 14 tackle that they didn't think was very fair. 15 happens. It happens all the while, you know. So 16 I didn't see anything particularly different about that 17 aspect of life there. 18 I was asking you beforehand obviously you taught 19 alongside BR77, for instance, or BR77, and he in, as it 20 turns out, October '79 punched and split a boy called 21 I was asking did you remember him. You didn't 22 remember him in particular. 23 The sequence of events thereafter is that somehow it makes its way to Father Peter McCann, who is in charge

of the Management Committee, so overall responsible, as

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it were. He comes in and tells BR1, "That behaviour is not acceptable. If he does it again, we will have to throw the book at him". Some communication makes its way potentially back to BR77 about how that's not acceptable.

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Do you -- did you at any stage become aware that -- I want to try, if I can, to stay in October '79, so before the subsequent matters that become more public -- do you remember it being a subject of discussion at any stage by the Principal with you or the Principal with the staff of which you were part about what he had done and how you should generally behave with the children?

No, I'm not aware and there was no such discussion either individually or collectively about it, and until you mentioned it to me this morning, I was not aware that BR77 had been charged with anything.

17 What then happens after that incident and that exchange Q. 18 that takes place in the hierarchy, as it were, there are 19 two further incidents where he again assaults boys and 20 draws blood and he is ultimately charged and convicted 21 in May of 1981. I was asking you, because he had moved 22 from Rubane the year previous, so in 1980. 23 around April/May Father McCann has explained he required 24 him to absent himself. The Order moved him to 25 Downpatrick.

- 1 A. Uh-huh.
- 2 Q. What were you aware of as to -- were you ever made aware
- of the incidents two and three that he ultimately was
- 4 convicted of and the reasons why he was being moved?
- 5 A. No, I was not aware of any of those incidents at all.
- 6 I just took it again for face value that he's a De La
- 7 Salle Brother. Within the Order they move people around
- 8 to different schools. That happened when I was at CBS.
- Different Brothers came and went. I just thought that
- was par for the course. So I had no inkling that that
- was a forced move, if you like. I thought it was just
- par for the course, normal procedure.
- 13 Q. And again was there ever a discussion between BR1 or BR3
- or both of them with the staff about the fact these
- 15 events had occurred?
- 16 A. Not to my knowledge. I'm not aware of any such meeting
- or any such talk. Not in my memory at all.
- 18 Q. And in fairness it would have been BR2 coming back in,
- 19 as it were, because BR1 himself had been suspended.
- I was asking you to what extent you were aware of the
- reasons why BR1 disappeared, as it were.
- 22 A. Uh-huh.
- 23 Q. What had you been told about what happened to him?
- 24 A. I had been told just he had been ill with cancer and he
- 25 was moved off to Dublin. In my thoughts or mind was he

- was to go there just to die just. That's what I
- believed and that's the story I was told.
- 3 Q. So there was no discussion again with you in particular
- 4 or the staff generally about the fact his move was
- 5 because of allegations of indecent behaviour with
- a number of boys?
- 7 A. No, not at all. Not at all.
- 8 Q. You discuss at various times during -- you have been
- 9 interviewed a number of times by police and we will look
- 10 at those. One of the issues that's covered is the issue
- of discipline within the school and references to
- 12 corporal punishment.
- 13 A. Uh-huh.
- 14 Q. You make the point that you never had a cane --
- 15 A. Uh-huh.
- 16 Q. -- and never used a cane.
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. But you were saying to me earlier today you were aware
- 19 that others did use a cane and some used a strap.
- 20 A. Uh-huh.
- 21 Q. Can you describe the strap to the Panel?
- 22 A. Just like a piece of leather that's about maybe 18
- 23 inches long, just something similar that would have
- been used in school when I went to school in my own day.
- 25 It was that kind of strap just, a thickish strap, not

- one you would wear around your trousers or belt or
- anything. Just something for the purpose I think.
- 3 That's all -- my memory of it.
- 4 Q. Was it flexible enough?
- 5 A. Flexible enough, yes, but not something you would roll
- 6 up, but flexible enough at the same time.
- 7 Q. Whenever -- to the extent that you can, whenever you
- 8 have come into the school and you are being told what
- 9 the discipline policy is --
- 10 A. Uh-huh.
- 11 O. -- within the school --
- 12 A. Uh-huh.
- 13 Q. -- can you remember what was to happen when there was
- 14 discipline issues?
- 15 A. There was a reward and debit system in that if people
- behaved well, they got so many points, if you like,
- towards maybe some privileges in the home or more pocket
- money or whatever it was. If you had things against
- them, then you put the opposite, debits on them. At the
- 20 end of the week that would decide how well off they
- would be in terms of the privileges they would get. So
- that was the main way of dealing with the discipline.
- 23 Q. And that affected their money?
- 24 A. It did. I believe so, or their privileges or their
- 25 pocket money or whatever at the end of the week. Now

- that was a home or a chalet matter in the detail of it,
- but that was the essence of it anyway.
- 3 Q. You mention in your police interviews that there were
- occasions whenever you would send somebody to the
- 5 Principal --
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. -- to BR3 to deal with whatever it was he had done.
- 8 A. Yes.
- $^{9}\,$ Q. But in the classroom itself the administering of
- 10 corporal punishment was not something that you engaged
- 11 in.
- 12 A. No, no.
- 13 Q. You have said that the hierarchy, as it were, the head
- of the home and the head of the school, never told you
- about BR77 hitting boys.
- 16 A. Uh-huh.
- 17 Q. Did you ever become aware of that through the boys
- 18 talking? How did they describe him?
- 19 A. Well, I suppose they just described him as, you know,
- that he was very firm with them and kind of, you know,
- sharp with them. I suppose that's the way they would
- have seen it. He was pretty sharp and pretty strict and
- 23 probably they were more wary of, you know, him demanding
- things off them to do it the way he wanted it done just,
- 25 you know. He was a firm and strict disciplinarian

- I suppose that way.
- 2 Q. Did you ever hear allegations, rumours, about any other
- 3 Brothers being overly physical with the boys? Was there
- 4 anyone in particular you remember?
- 5 A. No, I don't have any memory of anybody else, no.
- 6 Q. You lived for a time in the farmhouse, which obviously
- 7 was connected to the farm.
- 8 A. Uh-huh.
- 9 O. The farm at the time I think BR18 looked after.
- 10 A. Uh-huh.
- 11 Q. The Inquiry has heard various pieces of evidence about
- 12 him.
- 13 A. Uh-huh.
- 14 Q. How would you rec... -- can you recollect him? What was
- 15 he like?
- 16 A. Yes. Well, I just know that he was spoken about that he
- was sort of a man you didn't sort of mess about with,
- 18 you know. He was about that -- he was never in the
- school and he was -- you know, I didn't see much of him,
- 20 but he just had this reputation that BR18 was a rough
- 21 kind of a guy that you didn't mess with sort of thing.
- 22 That's what the boys would say. You'd jump out of his
- 23 road sort of thing, you know. That's the impression
- 24 I got, that you just steered round him if he was about,
- you know. You didn't get in his air space, you know.

- 1 Q. From a sexual perspective --
- 2 A. Uh-huh.
- 3 Q. -- did you ever hear discussion amongst the boys or the
- 4 boys talking to you about any Brother being
- 5 inappropriate with them in a sexual way?
- 6 A. Not ever. Not ever did I hear the boys talking about
- 7 that, no.
- 8 Q. We will come to one -- there is one particular incident
- 9 you are aware of that a witness to the Inquiry, HIA41,
- says he told you about another boy, interfering
- with another boy, DL69.
- 12 A. Uh-huh.
- 13 Q. I think you said in police interview you genuinely don't
- remember him ever speaking to you about that.
- 15 A. That's right. Never, never spoke to me. The only time
- 16 I ever heard language like that was in the general run
- of the -- the environment that we worked in of people
- 18 slagging each other off about having orientations of
- 19 various kinds, but never did I go into the detail about
- 20 any individual or have anything spoken to me about any
- incident of that nature, any specific incident of that
- nature, just the general talk that went on.
- 23 Q. If that -- if any boy had brought to you a story like
- that, given you have described your background and your
- 25 perspective, is it the sort of thing that you would

1 forget?

- 2 A. No, absolutely not. I would be disgusted and alarmed
- and I just -- I don't know how I would have dealt with
- 4 it then, because it's still -- still very difficult for
- me to think about anything like that. I just -- it's
- not in my -- on my radar at all, and, you know, if
- 7 something like that had been said to me, I certainly
- 8 would have been very much -- it would have been
- 9 something shocking to my system and I wouldn't have kept
- it to myself.
- 11 Q. Were you aware -- I mentioned to you when the 1980,
- May -- April/May 1980, matters arose initially to do
- with BR1 and him moving off, can you remember the police
- took over a chalet and interviewed in total in the end
- 15 124 boys over the course of a period of time? Do you
- remember that taking place on the site?
- 17 A. I really do not remember it. That's the truth. I do
- not remember it. I was just coming into the school,
- doing my work, going home. If that was happening in the
- 20 chalets, it was kind of outside my zone, and it wasn't
- 21 something that was big in my agenda. I really do not
- remember anything of that detail at all.
- 23 O. Again you don't remember BR3 or BR2, who would have come
- in, or if it was him.or somebody in the interim between
- 25 him and BR1 for a short period until he arrived back --

- at no stage you were brought together to talk or be told
- 2 about what was going on?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. The police didn't come to you, for instance, as another
- 5 teacher in the school to say, "Do you know anything
- 6 about this?"
- 7 A. No, no. I have no recollection of any issue around that
- 8 at all or me talking to anybody about it, no.
- 9 Q. What I want to do, as you know from our discussion
- 10 earlier then, I want to try and go through the matters
- that are alleged against you.
- 12 A. Okay.
- 13 Q. As I said to you, to put them in context, in 1980 the
- police spoke to 124 boys who were in the home between
- 15 1977 and 1980. So that's your -- that covers part of
- 16 your window, as it were.
- 17 A. Uh-huh.
- 18 Q. I will just make it clear, as you have made clear in
- 19 your statement in relation to a couple of specific
- 20 individuals who have said something about you, in 1980
- in all of those people no-one made any allegation
- against you at all that you are aware of.
- 23 A. No.
- 24 Q. And certainly from what the Inquiry has found there is
- nothing in any of those statements that make any

allegations against you, but in 1995 then, by which

2 stage you were teaching in --

3 A. Uh-huh.

4 Q. -- and were you then in your still?

6 A. I would have been at that time, the

, yes.

8 Q. So you were heavily involved in that. Then the police

9 arrived to talk to you about matters that were said to

10 have taken place involving you in Rubane.

11 A. Uh-huh.

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12 Q. As I was explaining to you earlier, Operation Overview,

case 29 of it, involved Rubane. It produced 41 files.

So it covered a range of individuals, of which you were

one, and file of 41 related to you. I have to give

the Panel various page references as we go. So just

bear with me while I am doing that. Members of the

Panel, that file runs from 63104 to 63195.

Now I am going to look at this with you now, DL149.

It involved four boys of the at that time 150 who were

spoken to, many of those who had been spoken to before,

but many others beyond the original 124. So some

repeats, if I can put it that way, but not necessarily

all repeats. Four boys who were spoken to as part of

25 the '95 investigation made allegations involving you,

one of whom only, and that's HIA41, who we will come to talk about later as well, is a witness to the Inquiry. So the other three matters that I am going to talk to 3 you about, these individuals have not come forward for whatever reason to the Inquiry. I will deal, first of all, with just showing you the 7 HIA41 allegation that's made on 16th January 1995. we can look, please, at 63126, and the -- you will see a mark on the right-hand side of the page, a line that 10 just highlights the area we are talking about: 11 "I recall a time when I was assaulted by a teacher 12 called DL149." 13 That is you, DL149. 14 "It was in his class. He gave us books to read. I said I had read the book the previous time and he said 15 16

"It was in his class. He gave us books to read.

I said I had read the book the previous time and he said

'Read it again'. I said, 'Could I not change it to

another book?' and he lost the head and started to punch

me, and the beating was that severe that the rest of the

class stood up and he turned and faced them. He had

punched and kicked me and tramped on me."

You -- we'll just take the allegation and we will look at the other three and then we'll look at the interview you did where you explained what you had to say, but essentially you've said that did not happen.

25 You'd never --

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- 1 A. It absolutely did not, no.
- O. You would not treat a child like that.
- 3 A. Absolutely not.
- 4 Q. You did not treat this child like that.
- 5 A. No way.
- 6 Q. This allegation is not true.
- 7 A. Not true.
- 8 Q. We will come back to look at it in more detail.
- 9 A. Okay.
- 10 Q. Then the second allegation is by an individual called
- DL131. If we look, please, at 63132, he made
- a statement on 6th March 1995. He is DL131. You can
- 13 see he says:
- "I can remember one other occasion I was in the
- room. DL149, who was a teacher there, came in.
- 16 He told me to get a move on. I answered him back. He
- just laid into me with his fists and boots. He punched
- 18 me and cut my lip. He seemed to know where to hit where
- it hurt the most but didn't show. I can't remember any
- other incidents because it is so long ago."
- 21 Have you any recollection of DL131?
- 22 A. I would know who he is, yes.
- 23 O. You know who that is --
- 24 A. Yes, yes.
- 25 Q. -- that's speaking?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Can you remember any incident in a room
- 3 involving him?
- 4 A. No, absolutely not. That did not happen.
- 5 Q. Well, that's what he -- in 1995 obviously he said to the
- 6 police that's what he says you did.
- 7 A. Uh-huh.
- 8 Q. We will look at your position, but effectively you are
- 9 saying that didn't happen.
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. You did not assault a boy like that.
- 12 A. I did not, no.
- 13 Q. The third incident is one that you do recognise
- involving a DL121. You recount it differently than he
- does, but before we look at what you say, this came
- about -- he had actually already spoken to the police,
- given a statement and there was no discussion about you
- in that statement, but another boy, DL85, if we just
- 19 look at his statement of 13th June 1995 -- it is at
- 20 63138 -- again the line on the right-hand side of the
- 21 page, he says:
- 22 "A fellow called DL121", that's DL121, "was in the
- room one day."
- I am not sure what means. Do you know what
- 25 that means?

A. Aye. I suppose the old word for

2 I suppose instead of

- 3 Q. "He went on to go to the toilet without asking -- he
- 4 went to go to the toilet without asking permission. The
- teacher, who was called DL149 -- he was from
- 6 -- tried to stop DL 121 from -- DL121
- 7 from leaving. DL149 tried -- DL121 tried to walk on and
- 8 DL149 punched him in the face. There was a scuffle
- 9 between them and the boys broke it up."
- 10 So he says that to police and then as a result of
- 11 him saying that the police go back to DL121 and ask him
- about it. He makes a statement on 18th July of '95.
- 13 That's at 63136. He says:
- "Further to my statement I made in February '95",
- which says nothing about you, "I have been asked about
- 16 an incident involving a teacher called DL149. I can
- 17 remember this particular incident. I was in the room
- one day during school hours. I asked him if I could go
- 19 to the toilet. He refused to let me go. When his back
- 20 was turned, I sneaked off and went to the toilet. When
- 21 I returned, he came walking towards me and was taking
- 22 his watch off. He said, 'I have been waiting for this'
- and something else which I didn't make out. He punched
- 24 me into the corner. I gave him back as good as I got.
- 25 Some of the other lads split us up a couple of times.

- 1 It stopped when BR3 came down the stairs and shouted.
- I was brought before BR3 about the incident and gave him
- my side of the story. DL149 was also spoken to about
- 4 the incident. Brought back in and was told there would
- 5 be no further action. It appeared to me BR3 thought we
- 6 were both at fault."
- 7 He says he got a chance to look at the punishment
- 8 book on one occasion, and if he is right, there was
- 9 a note in it about the incident, saying that he had
- 10 attacked you, which, of course, is what you say he did
- 11 --
- 12 A. Uh-huh.
- 13 O. -- which we will come to.
- 14 A. Uh-huh.
- 15 Q. That's how he is describing it. So he is describing it
- 16 slightly differently from DL85. He is saying he got out
- 17 to the toilet --
- 18 A. Uh-huh.
- 19 Q. -- and was coming back. DL85 was saying it was when he
- was going out to the toilet that you stopped him.
- 21 A. Uh-huh.
- 22 Q. Either way they are saying you engaged with him and
- a punch was thrown.
- 24 A. Uh-huh.
- 25 Q. As to that, you remember this boy.

- 1 A. Uh-huh.
- 2 Q. You remember he was a physically big guy.
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. You explain to the police in your interview that what
- you are saying happened was that he asked to go. You
- 6 wouldn't let him, because you had a view about whether
- 7 he needed to go or not.
- 8 A. Uh-huh.
- 9 Q. And he was defiantly going to go anyway.
- 10 A. Uh-huh.
- 11 Q. You just could not let -- in terms of controlling the
- 12 class could not let a pupil just ignore you blatantly in
- front of the children. So you blocked him from going.
- 14 A. Uh-huh.
- 15 Q. Then he grabbed you by the hair.
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Do you want to just explain -- you can remember this
- incident, because it was --
- 19 A. I do remember. This incident did happen, yes. This did
- 20 happen for sure.
- 21 Q. This was the worst one for you in your time in Rubane?
- 22 A. It was, it was, yes. He did want to go out. I didn't
- 23 allow him to go and I stood in front of him and stood at
- 24 the door not to let him out. That's what I wanted to
- do. I thought, "When I physically stand in front of

- him, at least he will turn back and not continue to go",
- but at that he just grabbed me, grabbed me by the back
- of the head, and I had a lot more hair in those days
- 4 than I have now, and he had plenty to grip, and that was
- a wrestling match that ensued and there was no punches
- 6 thrown at all. It was just an engagement, if you like,
- 7 of that sort, which was him involved really pulling my
- hair for a minute or two, or seemed like a minute or
- two. I am sure it wasn't that long, but that's where the
- incident happened. He made the move. I stayed to stop
- him and there was no punches thrown at all, but the
- incident did happen.
- 13 Q. As that scuffle is going on or the wrestling match, as
- you describe it, is going on, BR3 eventually comes in,
- 15 breaks it up.
- 16 A. Yes. He came down the stairs. Obviously he heard
- 17 whatever was going on, heard the commotion. He came
- down and that ended it, yes.
- 19 Q. You and he spoke about it then in his office.
- 20 A. Yes, yes.
- 21 Q. And if DL121 is right, he spoke to BR3 about it as well.
- 22 A. Uh-huh.
- 23 Q. And I was asking you then when we were speaking earlier
- 24 whether that changed your relationship with the boys or
- 25 coloured how things went after that and you were saying

- it really was forgotten about.
- 2 A. Uh-huh.
- 3 Q. It didn't really make any material difference in the
- 4 school.
- 5 A. No, no, it didn't. It was just it happened. It's over.
- 6 It's done with, and you would hope that it wouldn't be
- 7 happening again or it didn't, either before or after.
- 8 Q. The one other incident that is in those 1995 papers,
- 9 there was a DL96. I don't know if you remember him. He
- made a statement on 26th July 1995. If we look at
- 11 63141, please. In that statement just down at the
- 12 bottom of the page, he says:
- "The only other thing I can remember is DL149, who
- was in charge of chalet 2 ..."
- Of course, you were never in charge of a chalet.
- 16 A. Never.
- 17 Q. He says:
- "... he gave DL64", that's DL64, "a severe beating
- on a one day in front of 22 people.
- I didn't tell the other detectives about this as they
- 21 arrived out the blue and caught me by surprise."
- I think he is referring back to when he spoke to the
- 23 police in 1980 --
- 24 A. Uh-huh.
- 25 Q. -- being taken by surprise, but there is a police record

of -- they then phoned or got in touch with DL64, if we look, please, at 63114, and what he -- the Detective Sergeant McArdle, who was the investigating officer on 3 your -- the file involving you, spoke to this man by telephone. "He", DL64, "confirmed the assault as described by DL96 and also a further assault in a classroom. stated he didn't wish to make a complaint about the 8 assaults, because he was partly to blame." 10 Do you remember any altercation with him on the 11 about something? 12 No, I do not, no, and I don't remember DL96, the man you 13 mention or the boy you mention. I don't remember him, 14 but no, there's nothing -- there's no truth in that at 15 all, no truth. 16 As you said, you were then interviewed on 14th May 1996. 17 Members of the Panel, that begins at 63149. 18 explained to the police -- I am just going summarise 19 this or we will be here for a very long time, DL149 --20 you taught various subject at basic level. You were 21 asked about HIA41, who made -- he was a boy who made one 22 of the allegations. You said he was sly. He sneered 23 a lot and you said he was cute rather than clever.

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That's at 63155 and 6, but you said you never assaulted

I will just give the Panel the reference for that.

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- 1 him in the way -- at all or in the way he is describing
- in the class.
- 3 A. No.
- 4 O. I will come back to look at that in more detail. You
- said if you had to punish a boy, you operated a reward
- 6 system. Beyond that the only time physically was
- involved was trying to restrain or separate fights
- whenever they occurred.
- 9 A. Uh-huh.
- 10 Q. You wouldn't administer corporal punishment. The DL131
- incident you said you had no recollection of any
- involvement with him in the way that he was describing.
- The police suggested to you that, you know, if somebody
- was not doing what you asked, would it not be natural to
- maybe hit them a slap? That's the word they put and
- your reply to that was that you just didn't do that.
- 17 That's not your profession.
- 18 A. Uh-huh.
- 19 Q. The reference for that is at 63168. You describe then
- 20 the incident involving DL121. You describe it as you
- were indicating just now. You said that he was
- 22 physically strong and you describe it as happening in
- a different way from he says it happened.
- 24 A. Uh-huh.
- 25 Q. I was asking you about that earlier. What -- there was

- obviously a need to keep control if a boy was just going
- 2 to defy you.
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. This was one occasion when that got out of hand. I was
- saying to you, looking back on it, you probably wish you
- 6 had let him go to the toilet at the time.
- 7 A. Yes. Well, I mean, it is just a decision you have to
- 8 make on the spot, you know. If you are in charge of the
- g class and people can see they can just do what they
- want, walk out whenever they feel like it, that's not
- good practice either. So you try to stop it in as easy
- a way as you can and you would never expect it or
- I didn't expect it to turn into the row or brawl that it
- did. I can only reflect on that now. I made the
- decision I made and I thought it was the right one at
- 16 the time.
- 17 Q. That's the only one that you recall in terms of trying
- to keep control where it spiralled out of hand.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. As I was saying to you earlier, the way the police file
- works is the investigating officer says something about
- it. Then various officers review it thereafter.
- 23 On 1st August 1996 the detective sergeant who
- 24 prepared the file recommended no prosecution. That's at
- 25 63115. That was on 1st August '96.

His detective inspector -- I am just going to show you as I was discussing with you earlier -- 63116 -- he described it in his way. This is obviously just his 3 view he is expressing as a police officer investigating the matter: 5 "It is obvious from reading these papers that DL149 used violence on the boys on occasions." 8 You don't accept that. 9 No. Α. 10 "However, although the alleged assault ... took place in 11 class, no-one corroborated it." 12 That's the one involving HIA41. Then he points out in the other involving DL131, 13 14 there is no corroboration for that. Then looking at the DL121, that account is somewhat 15 16 corroborated, though they disagree at what stage it took 17 Then points out that you describe the matter in 18 a different way and therefore unlikely ever to be 19 a successful prosecution, and he directed no 20 prosecution. 21 The superintendent, if we look at 63194, then writes 22 to the DPP in 1996 and says essentially the same thing. 23 He says: 24 "Whilst there is in my view substance in their 25 complaints, the evidence falls short of that required to

- sustain a case against ...", you, DL149.
- "I therefore recommend no prosecution."
- 3 Your position is he might have formed that view, but
- 4 you are explaining to the Inquiry what happened and you
- didn't assault these guys in the way that they are
- 6 describing.
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. On 22nd August 1996 then the Director of Public
- 9 Prosecutions directed no prosecution. That's at 63195.
- Now, as I was explaining to you then, four
- individuals have come forward to the Inquiry to speak
- 12 about you.
- 13 A. Uh-huh.
- 14 Q. One of those four is HIA41, who was involved with you in
- 15 1995.
- 16 A. Uh-huh.
- 17 Q. The other three are the HIA 15, HIA 25 & HIA 31.
- 18 A. Uh-huh.
- 19 Q. We are going to look at what they have to say. I know
- 20 that you find some of that difficult to deal with and
- 21 you will just bear with me and explain to the Panel what
- 22 you want to say about the allegations that have been
- made.
- 24 A. Uh-huh. Uh-huh.
- 25 Q. The first one -- I will deal with HIA41, because we

looked at that incident earlier. I just want to show you what he describes the incident as in his Inquiry statement. If we can look at 498, please. It is a rather long paragraph:

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"I have attached ... the teacher at the school was a man called DL149. I came to the school I was around 14 years old. When we went into the classroom he had his head bowed at his desk. said to us, 'Get a book and read it'. He produced a box containing books. I was sitting at the end desk to his right as he looked down the class. He threw a book I said, 'Sir, I've read the book' and across to me. passed it back to him. He threw it back and said, 'Read it again'. I said, 'But, sir, I've already read the book'. At this point he jumped up from his desk and started swinging punches at me with both his fists. The punches hit me about my head. He came behind me and continued to punch me. Then he pulled me by the hair out of the chair and punched me to the floor. started kicking me. He stamped on my head with his Some of the other boys in the class stood up and said 'Sir, sir'. He told me to get up off the floor. I was crying at this stage and had to sit down again. My nose and mouth were bleeding. The whole class 4A and 4B witnessed this, but no-one intervened. As a result

- of this assault I was totally terrified." That in essence is what he says in his police statement of 26th February 2010. If we just look at 3 that for completeness. It is at 67674. If you just scroll down, please, you see he is describing the same incident and you punching him to the floor and then stamping on his head with your foot and him being -- his nose and mouth bleeding. 8 Then he gave evidence to the Inquiry on Day 67. 10 I am just going to show you what he had to say about the 11 incident further to what he has said in his statement. 12 That's 80448, please. Just scroll down, please: "Well, I think the point ..." 13 14 He begins talking about DL149, DL149. He says: 15 "I sat at that end." 16 He names -- HIA104 is HIA104. Can you remember him? 17 I don't actually. 18 You don't? 0. 19 No. 20 "Some days you went into his class and he looked down 21 under the desk. He was in a bad mood. He never taught 22 the class", 23 Presumably you don't accept you never
- 25 A. I don't accept that at all.

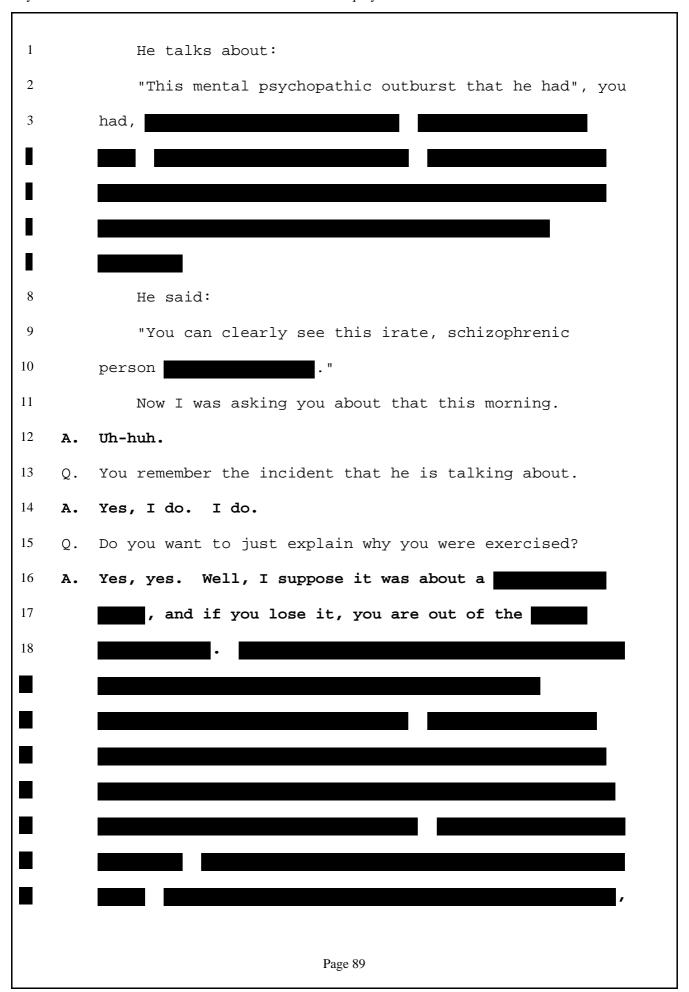
taught the class.

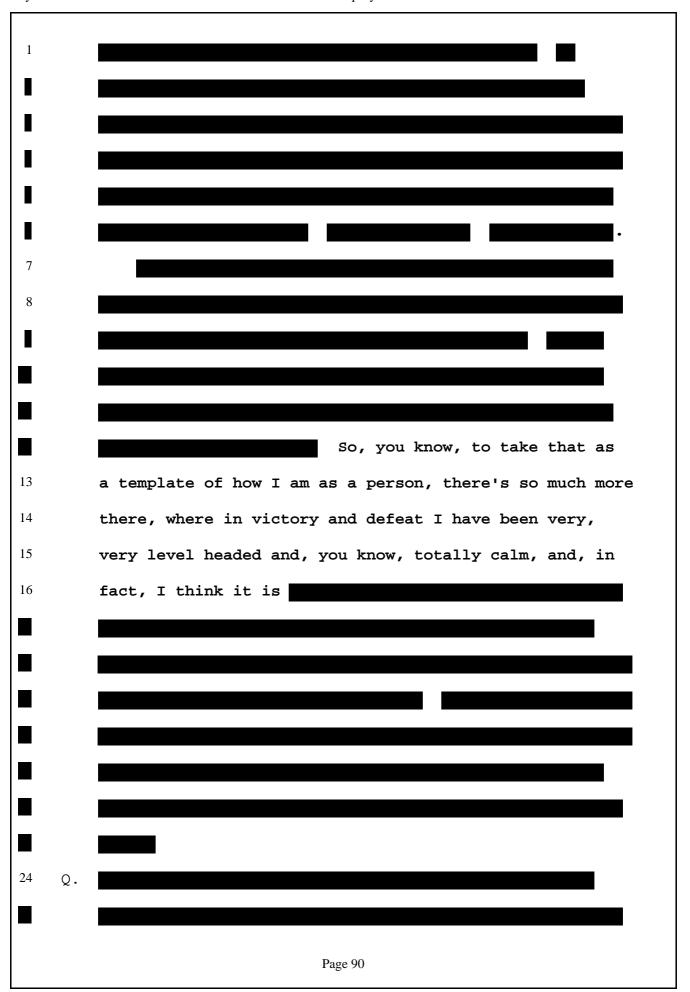
- 1 O. "He had a brown box of books and he threw them round.
- I said, 'Sir, I have read the book'."
- Just scroll down, please.
- 4 "He threw it back and said, 'Read it again'."
- 5 He repeats what he is saying in his Inquiry
- 6 statement. It was witnessed by the class. None of them
- 7 intervened. Just scroll on down, please. He says:
- 8 "He carried out numerous violent assaults on the
- boys in that home. He was a wicked white sepulchre full
- of demonic evil and at no time did he show any care or
- respect to the boys in that home. He was a complete
- 12 animal."
- 13 Then your denial was put to him by Ms Smith. If we
- just scroll down, please, and it was put that you made
- 15 the point in your police interview that you were a
- 16 caring teacher and had compassion for the boys. He
- 17 expressed the view that you were not a caring teacher,
- that you were an animal in the classroom.
- 19 You have obviously responded to that in your
- statement, which the Inquiry is aware of.
- 21 A. Uh-huh.
- 22 Q. When you were interviewed about this on 8th December of
- 23 2010, you said -- and I will just give the reference to
- 24 the Panel, 67509 -- you said this was a total
- 25 fabrication.

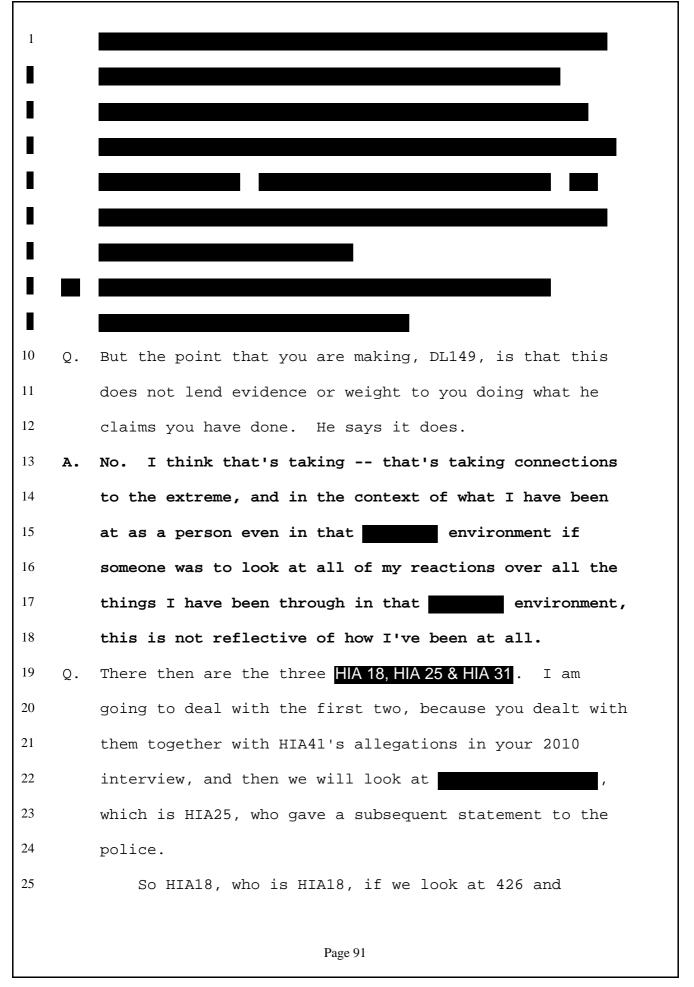
- 1 A. Uh-huh.
- 2 Q. That you would never stand on anyone's head, never mind
- 3 the head of a child, you as a teacher in the classroom.
- 4 A. Uh-huh.
- 5 Q. Do you want to say something more about your position as
- 6 regards that allegation that has been made that you did
- 7 this assault in this way in class?
- 8 A. Well, obviously I refute it and I say again that, far
- from being an animal or non-caring person, I am quite
- 10 the opposite and I got that from my home upbringing. My
- mother was a very good person and always had us looking
- out for other people rather than exploiting anybody in
- any shape or form. I had a lot of sympathy for all of
- the young boys in the school environment that I was
- teaching in, because I could see the upbringing I had
- and I was comparing it to theirs. I could see the
- security of the home environment that I had and I could
- see what they had to contend with, and I really did care
- 19 about them, and, you know, I just felt that life had
- dealt them a difficult hand and I wanted to try to give
- 21 them as positive a piece of myself as I could in terms
- of, you know, could I give them something better than
- 23 maybe they had been used to in life. That's what
- 24 I wanted to do and I tried my best to do that. So
- I wouldn't -- you know, I would not do any of those

things on any person, any human being. As a human being, never mind anything else, a teacher, anything else, it's not the way I'd behave or whatever, condone 3 that kind of behaviour. 5 By way of example this witness gave the Inquiry -- if we Q. can just scroll on down, please -- he talks then about 6 the mask slipping a couple of months ago. If we just scroll on down to the next page, he refers to you being 8 caught on camera, as he describes it, ranting and raving 10 for five minutes If we just scroll on 11 In fact, no. If we just -- go back up, please, 12 just above the -- keep going slightly. I think the 13 suggestion was that 14 go to 80450, please. Right. What we are looking at on the screen is the redacted -- just scroll down to the 15 16 We're reading -- that's the redacted transcript 17 so that you couldn't be described from it. I am just 18 going to read to you, HIA149, what was said. 19 "He was a vile, vicious man. If you go back to 20 a couple of months ago where", and it's, 24 He said: 25 "The mask slipped."

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paragraph 6 and 7, he says you arrived at the school and 2 talks about your --Under that redaction, when we were speaking earlier, is a reference 3 to they were told they were getting the You may not see yourself in that way, but that's how it was described he says to 7 him. 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 That's BR7, but I think it's meant to be BR10, BR10: "... and DL149. DL149 started punching and kicking 15 16 He broke my nose, my jaw and busted my knee cap. 17 I wasn't taken to hospital. I was 13. BR10 told me to 18 go to the , get cleaned up and They didn't care. When I arrived back to the house, all the other boys saw me and said it was 21 a disgrace that I had not been taken to hospital. DL12 was my ..." 22 23 Just scroll down, please: 24 "... was my houseparent and she was also a trained 25 nurse."

She apparently told him that his nose was broken and 1 offered to take him to hospital, but the Brothers he said wouldn't give her the car keys. He didn't get any 3 treatment. Then he said there was more than one incident with you. 5 "If you didn't get out of the rooms on time on to the , he would be standing at the top of the steps on to the 8 and he would hit you a punch and tell you to hurry up and he 10 would give you extra to do if you weren't on on time." 11 the 12 Then he describes on one occasion and you had beaten them up because they decided to 14 , as it were, and I think the suggestion was it might have been 15 that they went to possibly to BR10's old 17 school or your old school, 19 Uh-huh. 20 He then describes in paragraph 9 an incident in the 21 where he says: 22 "... just messing about. When I got on to the 23 , DL149 grabbed me by the back of the head and took me straight out on to the middle of the floor 25 and started punching and kicking me."

- 1 Then he says:
- 2 "Above the is a small hatch that leads on to an
- office used by the Brothers. They could open it and see
- 4 what was going on."
- I was asking you do you remember BR3's hatch, as he
- 6 is describing it?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. But you don't remember it.
- 9 A. It's not a significant thing in my memory. It may well
- 10 have been there. I can't say it wasn't there, but it's
- not something -- this incident didn't occur anyway. So
- it has no relevance to what we are talking about,
- because whether it was there or whether it wasn't is not
- here nor there. The fact of the matter is this didn't
- happen.
- 16 Q. But I am just asking you you don't yourself remember
- whether there was a hatch there?
- 18 A. I couldn't be sure. I couldn't be sure, no.
- 19 Q. He said:
- 20 "The Principal of the school saw what was happening
- and called DL149 and I up and he said to DL149,
- 'I warned you before about beating the boys up, but
- I can't sack you. I'd love to sack you, but I can't'."
- 24 He expresses the view as to why.
- 25 He repeated or he had made those similar allegations

in his police statement of 26th November 2010.

I'll just give the Panel the reference for that. That's

3 at 67611 and 67612.

Now he gave evidence on Day 66 of the Inquiry.

I just want to show you at 80452, please, he -- just

scroll down, please. You can see it begins describing

various incidents involving DL149. Just scroll down.

8 Then I put the incidents to him. Just move on down,

please, the next answer. I was putting your denial that

10 you didn't do this as he is alleging:

"He did hit me. I know. I was there."

He repeats the same about another individual that

he's referring to. Just scroll down, please. Keep

going down, please. He says there was

Keep going down. I'm reading to him then the

part that I have read to you about what he says took

17 place.

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18 A. Uh-huh.

19 Q. If we just scroll down, please. He was 13 at the time.

20 Keep going. I was asking him about the injuries that he

21 has described suffering, as he didn't get medical

22 treatment. He didn't get an x-ray. I was asking was it

just his belief based on the level of pain that he was

saying he had a broken jaw or broken nose. He said he

could see his nose. DL12 had told him about his jaw.

1 He then describes the incident. You sandwiched him

- into -- he went into wire meshing and you started
- punching him. Just keep going down, please. He said,
- 4 to be honest, you were always bad tempered with a short
- fuse and you hated losing. Just scroll down. He says
- 6 he is not the only one and when he would have went past,
- you would have swung at him. Do you recognise any of
- 8 that, DL149? Is there any --
- 9 A. No. It's --
- $10\,$ Q. Can you think of any incidents that he -- you are saying
- it didn't happen. So in that context can you think of
- any incidents involving him where he might have
- misconstrued what happened?
- 14 A. No. I have no idea why he should come up with a script
- like that. It's not true. It didn't happen, absolutely
- did not happen.
- Q. His brother, HIA31 -- do you remember the
- 19 A. I do. I do. Yes, I do.
- 20 Q. Had you much interaction with them? Can you remember?
- 21 A. No, just normal, like. They were part of a class, you
- 22 know, the same as everybody else. There was nothing
- 23 specific, nothing particular, nothing more, nothing less
- 24 than whatever your class contact would be.
- 25 Q. You said in your police interview -- and I will

- summarise this later -- you said they were rough and
- tumble, vociferous boys. They would have engaged in
- 3 verbals with other boys and that sort of thing --
- 4 A. Yes, yes.
- 5 Q. -- but nothing out of the normal.
- 6 A. No, no, no. They were maybe just easily risen, easily
- annoyed, you know, and other boys would have known how
- 8 to rise them, you know, and that kind of thing, because
- 9 they were -- kind of tended to give out quite a bit, and
- 10 I suppose there was three brothers and there was kind of
- this sort of standing up for each other, you know, or at
- least they felt they had the comfort of numbers in their
- own group, you know.
- 14 Q. Well, HIA 31 allegations, as you know, go
- beyond allegations of physical assault.
- 16 A. Uh-huh.
- 17 Q. I am going to deal with those with you now. If we look
- at, please, RUB915, if we just scroll down, he is saying
- 19 he was both physically and sexually assaulted. He then
- 20 wanted to explain in his own words to the Inquiry what
- 21 took place. So if we look at his transcript at 80466.
- Just scroll down, please. Scroll down a little further.
- 23 Keep going down a little further, please, until we get
- to the bit where it starts. Yes.
- 25 "Then DL149 came in. The Brothers told us he was

- coming. We went, 'Who the heck is he? Who is DL149?'
- We never heard of him before. We were meant to give
- 3 him -- when he came in, we were meant to stand up and
- 4 give him a round of applause."
- 5 Do you remember ever being --
- 6 A. Never.
- 7 Q. -- given a round of applause --
- 8 A. No, I didn't, no.
- 9 Q. -- when you came in?
- 10 A. I didn't think in that league at all or expect any such
- 11 stuff.
- 12 Q. "Then he started bullying us in the staff room when we
- got changed. When you came in the back, straightforward
- into the cloakroom where we changed our footwear, you
- know, for the school, and then you had a wall where the
- boys went and changed. Then you had another wall where
- 17 the showers were. DL149's offices had -- office had
- 18 like a servery -- survey like you see in the prison
- 19 cells."
- I presume that's a window that you could look out of
- 21 --
- 22 A. Uh-huh.
- 23 Q. -- perhaps without glass.
- 24 "He was -- you could open it and close it. He was
- 25 watching boys undressing and taking showers. So if he

is not a paedophile, why did he have that hatch?"

The point you were making to me earlier was you did

3 not build the building.

"I caught DL149 playing with himself when boys were

taking showers, and any other time when DL149 used to

say, 'Boys, right, put your hands out', the boys would

have one hand down covering their privates and the other

one out, and he used to slap you, 'Put your two hands

out', and he would look at your privates and go, 'That's

10 not big enough. You haven't grown yet'. Know what I

11 mean? You are only a wee child like that, haven't even

matured yet and he's slagging you about that. 'Look at

the size of your manhood. You are no good to me'."

14 You say in your police interview -- you describe

this very strongly as this is a fabrication. It's

16 ridiculous.

- 17 A. It's disgusting.
- 18 Q. This never happened.
- 19 A. Disgusting. That's all I can say. Just absolutely
- 20 disgusting and so untrue and just pathetic. That's what
- 21 it is.
- 22 Q. Then he says:
- 23 "Then one time I came back from an outside
- 24 appointment. My school mate was in unfortunately. It
- was the last Friday on the day they were in doing the

last activity, doing ."

2 He said you got them all undressed, showered and 3 all.

"I came in. He grabbed me, stripped me naked, pulled me by the hair, assaulted my privates and he was to stick something up my arse in the shower. I broke free."

Then he says:

"BR3 was in -- let me see -- in his office upstairs in the school, and when I ran into the assembly hall, I shouted for BR3. He popped his head out of the pigeon hole looking into the assembly hall and he shouted down to DL149, 'You were told about this before. Any more sexual behaviour towards the boys you have to be excused from the home' and DL149 turned round and said to BR3, 'Who the fuck are you talking to?' Know what I mean? That's not the first time that DL149 has done this to me. He has done it twice, on two occasions. I'm just saying."

Then he goes on to talk about something else. The allegation here is that you were engaged in sexually abusing him in some way and then that moved on into an exchange between you and the Principal in front of him and the Principal saying he had warned you about this type of behaviour before. I know you are shaking your

1 head, but just can you form for the record -- if you can

- just say what you want to say.
- 3 A. Absolutely none of that is true. It did not happen.
- 4 Complete fabrication. It's just -- and a pathetic one
- 5 at that.
- 6 Q. Can you -- I was asking you to reflect on this earlier
- before you gave your evidence. Can you think of any
- 8 reason why the HIA 18, HIA 25 & HIA 31 would -- because you
- are going to say the same thing about HIA25's physical
- 10 allegation we will come to -- can you think of any
- 11 reason why they would want to say these things about
- 12 you?
- 13 A. I really don't know. I don't understand it. I don't
- 14 know whether they think it's because I'm
- or something that this would be good to be
- getting at me or whatever. I don't know. I really
- don't understand it. I am so sorry that they feel that
- way, that just -- it's a pity that, you know, life
- hasn't been good to them and they haven't seen anything
- 20 different than to be making up that kind of story, which
- they know very well is just not true.
- 22 Q. He goes on to recount an incident -- if we just scroll
- down a little further, please, to see if we can get it
- on the screen. I am not sure we can. In fact, just
- 25 keep scrolling down for a moment, please, to see can

I get the -- he describes another incident where -involving your brother (sic). Keep going. In fact, this is -- he says -- just stop there -- that you -- he 3 You couldn't get the was You didn't like it. You put him in his corner and him. tied his hands behind his back, spread his legs and kicked -- kicked the in his privates, knowing he had a medical condition. You didn't care in essence he 8 9 is saying. Is your position the same about that? 10 Oh, absolutely. That's just -- I don't know how you 11 could dream up that. That's just so untrue. 12 If we just scroll down, please, he recounts -- just keep going, please. Just keep going down. I will recount it 13 14 to you, because it is not coming up as part of that transcript. He said -- and you dealt with in your 15 16 police interview -- that in 2000 or 2003 he had 17 confronted you in after -- it was part of the 18 19 Uh-huh. 20 -- of the --22 A. Yes. 23 He claimed to have punched you a number of times in the 24 stomach because of what you had done to him back in

25

Rubane.

Uh-huh. 1 Α. I know you are shaking -- again you said to the police 3 that, first of all, you haven't seen the guy since the time in Rubane. 5 Uh-huh. A. That you were never assaulted by him --7 Uh-huh. Α. -- and you never saw him in Rubane -- sorry -- you never 8 9 , that if he had turned up and did saw him in 10 the sort of thing that you are describing (a) you would remember it, but (b) so would lots of other people --11 12 Α. Uh-huh. -- because there were lots of other people around. 13 14 Yes, yes. Obviously there was a lot of around us 15 You know, to believe that something like 18 that could have happened and nobody have seen it or 19 nobody reported on it is just beyond ridiculous. 20 would know that, you know, he wouldn't be able to do 21 that and run away, because there was So there would be a serious incident if that happened. It wouldn't go unnoticed. So it's just

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a complete fabrication.

- 1 Q. You -- as I said, those three individuals, so HIA41,
- 2 HIA18 and HIA 3 1 , when they made their
- 3 statements to the police in 2010, then you were
- 4 interviewed on 8th December 2010 and the interviews
- run -- there is two parts to the interviews and they are
- 6 in the bundle in the opposite direction round. They run
- 7 from RUB67529 to 67549 and then from 67498 to 67528. In
- 8 similar terms to you are describing, you recount to the
- 9 police that your approach from your background was of
- 10 care and compassion, that you didn't engage in corporal
- 11 punishment. You said most of the teachers were there
- for the right reasons. I was asking you earlier --
- 13 A. Uh-huh.
- 14 Q. -- whether you had somebody in mind that you thought
- wasn't there for the right reasons --
- 16 A. Uh-huh.
- 17 Q. -- but you were saying that was a --
- 18 A. No, that was just a bad choice of word. I think that's
- 19 all it was.
- 20 Q. There is no particular teacher sticks out?
- 21 A. There was no specific weighting on the word. It was
- just a bad choice of word.
- 23 O. You acknowledge their difficulty in learning. You
- 24 describe HIA41 as a cunning character, but you were
- asked, "Why would he make this up?" You don't know.

- 1 You have never had any involvement with him that gave
- you a reason why you think he would say what he's
- 3 saying.
- 4 A. No, no.
- 5 Q. You were asked whether there had ever been any fall-out
- 6 in games with any of them. You couldn't remember any
- 7 time when you'd fallen out with them.
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. You describe, as I said, the HIA 18, HIA 25 & HIA 31 as "rough and
- 10 tumble and vociferous", but again you were asked why
- they would make it up and you couldn't really think of
- 12 a reason why they would.
- 13 A. No.
- 14 Q. You were asked about the showers. I just want to pick
- this up and let you explain what you mean to the Panel.
- 16 You were -- you said when you were being asked about the
- 17 HIA31 allegations, and you expressed your disgust at
- those in the interview, but you went on to say you were
- 19 conscious about not being around the showers.
- 20 A. Yes. Well, I did not --
- 21 Q. Can you just explain what you mean by that?
- 22 A. Just I wasn't going to force or push anybody into
- a shower if they didn't want to go, and I believed they
- 24 were getting plenty of showers in the chalets they were
- in during the rest of the day anyway. So it wasn't

a matter that was essential for their hygiene or

anything. So it was a choice. If they wanted to take

a shower, they could take it. If they didn't, I had no

issue with it. So I wasn't in a position of making them

take a shower. So therefore I was never in that

environment of trying to make people go into the shower.

7 Q. You went on to say you were hurt that these allegations

had been made against you and they were fabrication and

9 that they were ridiculous.

- 10 A. Absolutely and disgusting to be saying those things
- about me. I'm just absolutely disgusted about it.
- 12 Q. In September then of 2011, the police having submitted
- their file to the PPS, the PPS directed no prosecution
- in respect of you and that's at 67486.
- The last individual that I want to deal with is the
- fourth Inquiry witness, but who is one of the
- HIA25. He is HIA25. Can we just
- look at his statement, please, at 853 and paragraph 38?
- 19 Scroll down please. Thank you. He says:
- "I became a real rebel. I would stand up to them
- and fight back. Anything they told me to do I would do
- the opposite. When I was 15 years old, I fought two of
- them, DL149 and BR10. DL149 was a civilian teacher and
- he had a mobile classroom. He was a very rough man.
- I remember once playing down on the gravel



one cold day. We didn't want to play, because if
you fell on the gravel, you would cut yourself.

I past him and ducked under his arm.

DL149 grabbed me by the back of my hair. I had long
hair in those days. He hit me a dig in the face. I saw
stars. I had a black eye and a busted nose. I went up
and showed DL11."

I think that's DL11.

"I got beaten because a grown man couldn't take
being made a fool of. He had known better no matter how

"I got beaten because a grown man couldn't take being made a fool of. He had known better no matter how much we provoked him -- he should have known better no matter how much we provoked him. DL149 would often hit us over the head or arms with a metre stick."

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He repeated -- he gave what's called an ABE interview, an achieving best evidence interview, to the police on 6th March 2013, which begins at 66776, and he recounted in similar terms what he's describing to the Inquiry.

You were interviewed about that on 31st January 2014. That runs from 67570 to 67582. If we just look at 67573, the description of what's happened is put to you. If you just scroll down, please. You say:

"Absolutely not. Not a figment of truth in that and it's a figment of imagination. There is not an element of truth in that at all.

Definitely not." 1 You concluded by saying, if we just go to 67581 --3 you say: "I deny every inch of it. It is a fiction." 5 If we just scroll down, you just say: "I am shocked the kind of stuff is coming out. is so untrue. It's insulting to me to say that, and I know that I had great empathy for all of the young 8 people there. 10 That came from my mother -- God rest her -- that she 11 was really that kind of person. Even these boys 12 sometimes come and they are representing the area in the 13 competition and they came to 14 That was your homeland, as it were? 15 I live close by, yes. They were going 16 there. 17 "I allowed them back to our home where my mother lived Q. 18 and we made them grub and all, like, you know. 19 totally different outlook on those young people and 20 I really cared about them. 21 I certainly would not be involved in anything like 22 that and that's the honest truth of the matter, and I am 23 just so insulted that people would say that I was 24 involved in that kind of action." 25 He gave evidence to the Inquiry, HIA25, on Day 66.

That's at 80472, where he describes the incident. keep going down, please, on to the next page, 80472. That's it. He talked about hit with a metre stick. 3 you remember -- I was recounting to you a lot of pupils no doubt can remember the teacher with the metre stick in the classroom. Did you have a metre stick? I did not, no. 7 No. 8 And he's recounting: 9 "... hit you over the head or arms with the metre 10 stick. 11 he lost his temper." 12 He thought you were pure evil. That has been described to the Inquiry. He said he had witnessed you 13 14 beating up HIA18 in the gym. We looked at that earlier, where HIA18 was assaulted on the ground. Just scroll 15 16 down, please. Keep going, please, on to the next page. 17 He describes -- he doesn't know what went through your 18 mind coming to work. You never came in a good mood. 19 You were always grumpy and always fighting towards him, 20 his family and other boys. 21 Then the denials are put by me to him, and if we 22 just scroll down, please, he says: 23 "It was during a 24 He said: 25 "We would not be here today if he'd accepted that he

- 1 hit boys."
- 2 He says:
- 3 "Of course we came to the Inquiry knowing that DL149
- would say that he didn't do things. The proof is in the
- 5 pudding. It has already been proven what kind of man he
- 6 is. This man was fighting from the minute he walked
- 7 into the home till the minute he left, not just all my
- family, but all the boys. Anybody who knew DL149 had
- 9 hit them -- anybody I knew DL149 had hit them in some
- 10 way, had roughed them up in some way."
- 11 So that's how he is describing his recollection of
- 12 your period of time teaching him.
- 13 A. Uh-huh.
- 14 Q. Is that something that you recognise?
- 15 A. No, I'm very sorry that that's his view of it, and
- however he comes to that conclusion I don't know, but
- I know several of the boys who were there, and I have
- actually met some of them since that, and I have a very
- good relationship with them, you know. So it's
- 20 unfortunate that's the lens through which he looks at
- 21 life and I can't -- I can't legislate for that, but it's
- 22 a pity that's the way he looks at life and it's not
- true, and I have, as I say, a good relationship with
- 24 many of the boys that I taught in that time.
- 25 Q. We ask each witness in your context who is having to

- come and deal with the allegations that are made whether
- there's anything else -- the Inquiry is looking at
- 3 systems failures --
- 4 A. Uh-huh.
- 5 Q. -- to try and ascertain why -- you say the things that
- 6 are alleged of you are not true, but there are others
- where what has happened to them was true and is accepted
- 8 as having happened, and the Inquiry is looking at the
- 9 systems issues, the system failures that might have
- 10 allowed that to happen or might have not prevented it
- when it should have been prevented.
- 12 A. Uh-huh.
- 13 Q. Is there anything else you can think of about your time
- in Rubane that you consider might assist the Inquiry?
- Obviously you will have been thinking about coming here
- to give evidence and perhaps not looking forward to it.
- 17 A. Uh-huh.
- 18 Q. But is there anything else you can think of that would
- 19 assist the Inquiry with its work from your recollection
- of your time in Rubane?
- 21 A. Well, I mean, as I said to you earlier, it is just the
- 22 whole idea of the variables that the young boys had to
- 23 deal with in that environment. Now that's just the
- 24 system was the chalets and sort of substitute homes, if
- you like, which were very different in each of their

individual contexts, and then they had social workers to deal with. Then they had school to deal with and maybe struggling with their education.

So there were so many things that were difficult for them and I appreciate that, but, you know, the system -- I think that wouldn't happen again, that you wouldn't have the kind of set-up that was in Rubane, because there were too many variables for young people to try and find a path through life with some consistency in it. It probably just didn't exist there. There was too many different engagements with people. So, you know, I don't know if that helps anything or not. I just think, you know, there is an awful lot of learning.

I always felt again there was a lot of young boys in there across the entire behaviour spectrum who were just put together and expected to be able to work together and have some kind of normality. I think it was always going to be very difficult for them to do that, but that's the way it was and that's what life happened at that time, and, you know, I am sorry that some people didn't get much value out of that, and yet it's very encouraging to know that some other people did very well for themselves from that very environment. So, you know, it's a strange world.

Q. I am not going to ask you anything else, DL149. The

- Panel may want to ask you some questions --
- 2 A. Okay.
- 3 Q. -- about what we have been discussing. So if you just
- 4 remain where you are for a short while --
- 5 A. Okay.
- 6 Q. -- until they do that.
- 7 A. Okay. Thank you.
- 8 Questions from THE PANEL
- 9 CHAIRMAN: DL149, can I just ask you to go back to the
- 10 questions you were asked about the matters which we now
- know led to BR77 being prosecuted and appearing in front
- of a court and pleading guilty to three matters?
- I understand from what you say that you didn't know that
- he had been in front of a court until today.
- 15 A. No, I didn't know he had been charged or convicted or
- anything, no.
- 17 Q. Had there not been some rumour or talk that would have
- got back to the staff? I appreciate the Brothers might
- not have wanted to talk about it, but --
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. -- something in the newspaper or something like that?
- 22 A. No, I never heard. I never heard anything of it at all.
- 23 O. Yes. Thank you.
- 24 MS DOHERTY: Thanks, DL149. Can I just check, when BR3
- 25 talked to you after the DL121 incident, the one that you

remember --2 The DL121? 3 Yes. Q. 4 Yes. 5 Can you remember what he said to you in relation to that 6 incident? 7 Not the detail other than just it wasn't a good thing to have happen in a school, you know, and it -- you know, 8 we'd try not to let anything like that happen again. 9 10 That's just about the essence that I could take out of 11 it, you know. It was something that ought not to have 12 happened but it did and we had to try and learn from it. 13 Okay. Did he give you any guidance about how you might 14 deal with that situation --15 Not particularly, no. 16 Were you ever talked to again about any incidents about 17 dealing with boys? Is that the only time you can --18 No, no other, never other -- nothing else at all, no. 19 No. 20 Q. Okay. Page 114

1 Ο. Okay. It's just that that happened that way, yes. I mean, given that 8 tempers can 9 flare up and whatever, how would you deal with that in 10 relation to the boys if they started tackling each other 11 and squaring up to each other? What way --12 You just try to get them separated and tell them to 13 settle down, cool down and, you know, get over it, you That's it. They might be angry for thirty 14 seconds or twenty seconds and then they do get over it, 15 16 you know. It seldom would continue on to be anything 17 more than that, or if it became too much, you might ask 18 someone to cool down. 20 But you never saw a teacher or Brother hit a boy or ...? 21 No, not at all. I never did. I never did. 22 Okay. This is the last question. There is a Brother 23 that had a nickname BR77. Do you remember nicknames? 24 Well, I presume that's BR77. 25 Okay. Ο.

- 1 A. I'm presuming that, you know. He was BR77. I can only
- imagine that's the name there. I didn't -- I wasn't
- yery much aware of that, but it sounds like the only
- 4 thing it could be.
- 5 Q. Okay. Thanks very much.
- 6 A. Okay. Thank you.
- 7 MR LANE: When you were appointed, who were the people who
- 8 were involved in appointing you?
- 9 A. To the school?
- 10 Q. Yes.
- 11 A. That's at interview?
- 12 O. Uh-huh.
- 13 A. It's very difficult to remember now. That's a lot of
- 14 years ago. I'm presuming that BR3, the Principal, was
- there, maybe BR6, who was a senior -- a Brother in the
- school as well, and maybe -- I'm not sure there was many
- others, because back in those days there wasn't the same
- 18 sort of formalised --
- 19 Q. Quite.
- 20 A. -- interviewing Panel that there would be nowadays.
- 21 Q. Was the local education authority involved at all?
- 22 A. Not -- not to my knowledge. I'm not aware of anybody
- from -- I'm not saying there wasn't somebody there, but
- it's not sticking out in my mind that there was somebody
- 25 from there.

- 1 Q. And you were actually employed by the Brothers at
- 2 Rubane?
- 3 A. I was employed by the Department of Education as a
- 4 teacher.
- 5 Q. You were employed by the?
- 6 A. Department of Education as a teacher --
- 7 Q. Right.
- 8 A. -- and appointed to that particular school.
- 9 Q. And so did they somehow second you, when you say
- 10 appointed to that school?
- 11 A. No. This job came up, but actually the Department of
- 12 Education is my employer. It happens to be a school run
- by the De La Salle Brothers at that time, but I was
- 14 actually -- the Department of Education was my employer
- 15 always.
- 16 Q. So did you have supervision from somebody within the
- 17 Department at all?
- 18 A. You would. You would have to have your first year's
- 19 probation. I would have had somebody visit me for two
- or three occasions without my first year of teaching.
- 21 You had to pass your year -- probation year to become
- 22 a fully qualified teacher, which I did.
- 23 Q. Right, but after that you wouldn't see any more of them?
- 24 A. After that you were on your own devices unless there was
- a school inspection. In the four years I was there

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after that there wasn't an inspection.
        Were you actually paid by the education authority as
3
        well?
        Paid by the Department of Education, yes.
5
        Okay. Thank you very much.
        Thank you.
6
7
              Well, DL149, I am sure you will be glad to hear
    CHAIRMAN:
        that that's the last question we wish to ask you.
8
9
        you very much for coming to speak to us today.
10
        Thank you very much. Thank you.
11
                          (Witness withdrew)
12
    MR AIKEN:
               Chairman, that's the end of today's evidence,
        because we were to hear from BR33 -- that was formerly
13
14
        BR33 -- who has communicated with the Inquiry that he is
15
        not going to attend to give evidence. The Inquiry
16
        actually has his statement and the Panel can decide what
17
        weight to attribute to what he has had to say.
18
    CHAIRMAN: Yes. Very well.
19
            Well, ladies and gentlemen, that completes the
20
        hearings for today. We will sit tomorrow at the usual
21
        time.
22
    (1.20 pm)
23
        (Hearing adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning)
24
                              --00000--
25
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