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HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE INQUIRY

being heard before:

SIR ANTHONY HART (Chairman)

MR DAVID LANE

MS GERALDINE DOHERTY

held at

Banbridge Court House

Banbridge

on Wednesday, 7th January 2015

commencing at 10.00 am

(Day 83)

MS CHRISTINE SMITH, QC and MR JOSEPH AIKEN appeared as
Counsel to the Inquiry.

1 Wednesday, 7th January 2015

2 (10.00 am)

3 WITNESS HIA89 (called)

4 CHAIRMAN: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Before we
5 start, as usual can I just remind everyone to ensure
6 their mobile phones have been turned off or at least
7 placed on "Silent/Vibrate" and also remind you that no
8 photography or indeed recording is permitted in any part
9 of the chamber or the building complex.

10 Yes, Ms Smith.

11 MS SMITH: Good morning, Chairman, Panel Members, ladies and
12 gentlemen. The first witness this morning is HIA89. He
13 is "HIA87" (sic). HIA89 wishes to maintain the
14 anonymity afforded to him by the Inquiry and he also
15 wishes to affirm. Chairman, I know the Panel are aware
16 that HIA89 has come from his sick bed to be here this
17 morning. So if he could sit while he is affirming.

18 CHAIRMAN: Yes, of course.

19 WITNESS HIA89 (affirmed)

20 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, HIA89. I know Ms Smith will
21 have told you this, but if you feel at any stage that
22 you need to stop, just let us know.

23 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

24 MS SMITH: HIA89, just before I come to you I am just going
25 to tell the Panel where certain documents are in our

1 bundle of papers.

2 The statement that HIA89 has prepared for the
3 Inquiry is at SNB-486 to 491.

4 The congregation's response is at 1931 to 1933.

5 There is a response from the Health & Social Care
6 Board at 5680 to 5681, indicating that they believe that
7 this was a private placement and they have no records in
8 relation to HIA89.

9 HIA89 spent time in Kircubbin in Rubane, and the
10 Order's response is at SNB-30847 to 30848.

11 HIA89 also spoke to police and there's a police
12 statement at SNB-32242 to 32247, and there are
13 additional police papers in the bundle at 61222 to
14 61239.

15 He also has brought a civil claim and the papers
16 relevant to that are at 70577 to 70589.

17 Now, HIA89 --

18 CHAIRMAN: He is HIA89, is he not?

19 MS SMITH: HIA89, yes. Did I say 87? Apologies. 89.

20 Sorry.

21 Yes, HIA89. The witness statement you prepared for
22 the Inquiry is on the screen at the moment. You will
23 see it says "Witness Statement of HIA89", which you are
24 aware is the designation that we have given to protect
25 your identity. If we could just go to the last page of

1 that, which is at 491, you see that there instead of
2 your signature it says "HIA89", but the original has
3 your signature on it, and you signed your statement on
4 28th February 2013.

5 Can I ask you, HIA89, to confirm that this statement
6 of evidence, together with whatever else you tell the
7 Inquiry about this morning is what you want the Inquiry
8 to consider as your evidence?

9 **A. Yes.**

10 Q. Thank you. Now if we go back to the first page of your
11 statement at 486, the personal details are set out there
12 in paragraph 1. We know from the records that we have
13 obtained you were in Nazareth Lodge from April 1943
14 until September 1953. You were placed there when you
15 were 2 years old and you left to go to Kircubbin when
16 you were 12. Your brothers were also in the Lodge,
17 although they were older than you. Isn't that right?

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. And your sisters were in Nazareth House. Now you --

20 **A. Nazareth Lodge.**

21 Q. You were in Nazareth Lodge, but your sisters were in
22 Nazareth House.

23 **A. Oh, yes. Nazareth House, yes.**

24 Q. Isn't that right, HIA89? I am going to deal with some
25 general matters about your time in the home and I am

1 going to jump through your statement, as we have
2 discussed.

3 At paragraph 20 you talk about being separated from
4 your brothers in the Lodge and seeing your sisters --
5 sorry. That's at page -- just there.

6 "Whilst my Brothers were in Nazareth Lodge, I never
7 saw them until I was about 12. We were in different
8 classes. My sisters came down to the Lodge with the
9 other girls from Nazareth House on special occasions
10 about twice a year. They told me they were my sisters
11 and I spoke to them every time they came, but we weren't
12 given the chance to form proper relationships and
13 I didn't really know them."

14 I should point out to you, HIA89, as we discussed
15 earlier, that the Order in response to the statement
16 that you have given apologises for the separation of
17 your family and says they did try to maintain sibling
18 relationships where they could do that.

19 Going back to paragraph 5 of your statement, please,
20 on 487 you talk about the routine in the home and you
21 say you would get up about 6.00 or 6.30, go for
22 breakfast.

23 "For breakfast we got bread and dripping, maybe
24 a cup of milk, but it wasn't much. I was always hungry
25 and the food was always of a poor standard."

1 About the food, the nuns would say they did their
2 best to provide what they could for the children. They
3 are aware this would have been during the war when you
4 were there and later when rationing was still in force
5 at that time, HIA89 --

6 **A. Uh-huh.**

7 Q. -- but your memories are not good about the food that
8 you got. Isn't that right? You are shaking your head.

9 **A. Sorry.**

10 Q. I know I did say I would do most of the talking but
11 I still need you to say the odd word, HIA89.

12 Also you go on to talk at paragraph 7 there about --
13 I am going to come back to school, because you went to
14 school on the same site and you were taught there by the
15 same nuns who looked after you in the home.

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. I will come back to say a bit more about that shortly.

18 "School finished between 3.00 and 4.00. After
19 school the nuns would either make us do work or allow us
20 to go out to the playing field at the back of the home.
21 Other than a football there were no toys to play with
22 and we made up our own games."

23 Certainly the nuns would say that they would have
24 relied on outside sources to provide toys for the home,
25 but you don't remember any toys being given in.

1 **A. Never in a month of Sundays.**

2 Q. You go on to talk about the chores that you had to do
3 there, paragraph 8. One of your main jobs was cleaning
4 a large terrazzo corridor.

5 "I had to sweep, scrub and polish it. There were
6 two boys at one end and two at the other. It would take
7 about two or three hours to clean and the nuns would
8 regularly come out and check on us. I was 8 years old
9 and the work continued until I left when I was 12."

10 "The weekends", you say, "were the same except we
11 had no school. We had to do more jobs around the home.
12 When we weren't cleaning, we passed the time in the
13 dining room."

14 Paragraph 10 you say that after dinner you usually
15 went to the playing fields and then to the chapel for
16 benediction before bed.

17 At paragraph 22 you describe the clothes that you
18 had to wear and you said that:

19 "We wore the same clothes day in, day out. I wore
20 shorts until I was about 10 or 12 years old and I had
21 holes in my shoes."

22 Again the Order would say that they did the best
23 they could to provide for the children that they looked
24 after in their care both in terms of food and in the
25 clothing that they provided for them. They are sorry

1 that any child ever went hungry and they said -- one of
2 the things I asked you about was about some of the
3 people who have spoken to us said they quite enjoyed the
4 work they were given to do by the nuns. Was that your
5 experience, HIA89?

6 **A. Never, never.**

7 Q. You weren't happy with the things you were asked to do?

8 **A. No, no.**

9 Q. At paragraph 23 there you said that Christmas wasn't any
10 different. Maybe you got a bun and a glass of orange
11 juice or a glass of orange. You don't remember any
12 concerts or plays in the home around Christmas time?

13 **A. Any what?**

14 Q. Any concerts or plays? Concerts?

15 **A. No.**

16 Q. What about -- you don't -- somebody else has said they
17 used to go out to a factory, to Mackies factory, for
18 parties. Do you ever remember doing anything like that?

19 **A. Never, never.**

20 Q. At paragraph 24 you said you didn't see any inspectors
21 or welfare officers in Nazareth Lodge. Did you ever see
22 anybody else visiting the home, such as the bishop or
23 nuns or anybody?

24 **A. Never.**

25 Q. You never --

1 **A. I'd see the priest at mass times and benediction times**
2 **and that was it.**

3 Q. Going back -- and I know I am jumping through this
4 statement -- but going back to paragraph 11, you talk
5 about the dormitories there, and you said at night --
6 sorry.

7 "The rooms had 30 or 40 boys in each room. I think
8 there might have been five or six dormitories and there
9 was nothing wrong with the bedding or heat."

10 So you were warm enough and the beds were
11 comfortable enough, HIA89?

12 **A. Yes.**

13 Q. Now I am going to move on to talk about specific things
14 you complain about during your time in the home. If we
15 could go, first of all, to paragraph 3, you say there
16 that things changed once you reached 6 or 7 years of age
17 and the bad things started. Can I just check with you,
18 HIA89, that was when you were moved from the nursery --

19 **A. Yes.**

20 Q. -- where you had been from the age of 2 --

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. -- into the junior section --

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. -- of the home. Is that right?

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. You say there that you got beaten for things such as not
2 doing what the nuns asked you to do; for example, if you
3 didn't clean the floor to the nuns' satisfaction. You
4 say you were hit on the palms of your hands and your
5 backside. The nuns would use sticks, straps, hurley
6 sticks, anything they got their hands on, and you name
7 two nuns here, SR118 and SR100, who beat you the most.

8 Now I have explained to you that we have given
9 designations to them, but just so you are clear that
10 these two designations related to SR118 and SR100 --

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. -- whose names are not to be used outside of this
13 chamber.

14 CHAIRMAN: Just a moment. It is a little difficult to hear
15 what you are saying, HIA89. Could we have that
16 microphone moved closer to you, please?

17 **A. No, I can hear.**

18 CHAIRMAN: No, no, it is us having difficulty hearing what
19 you are saying.

20 **A. Oh, I see. I am sorry.**

21 CHAIRMAN: So if you would just keep the microphone close to
22 you, please.

23 MS SMITH: As I said, those are the names of the two nuns we
24 are talking about, but they are not to be used outside,
25 HIA89.

1 Paragraph 6 you say that:

2 "SR118 would shout or beat us even though we weren't
3 doing anything wrong. If work wasn't done right, God
4 help you! You would get battered on the floor. SR118
5 would usually use a hurley stick, an ordinary stick or
6 strap to beat us. She was a wicked old woman."

7 Now can I just check with you, HIA89, this is --
8 where you talk about this, you are talking about her
9 just after having talked about the school and the
10 teachers being the same nuns. Was SR118 one of the nuns
11 who taught you in school?

12 **A. Yes, yes.**

13 Q. When you are talking about she would hit you if work
14 wasn't done right, is that school work you are talking
15 about there?

16 **A. That's very true.**

17 Q. Then at paragraph 12, if we could scroll down to that,
18 you say that:

19 "At night when you were caught talking, the nun who
20 was supervising would come and give you a whack. SR118
21 and SR100 were in charge of my dormitory. They had
22 their own rooms beside the dorm and took the night duty
23 in turn. If they could not see which boy was talking,
24 they would beat every boy in the dorm as punishment."

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. Paragraphs 17 to 19 you talk about a different nun and
2 this was SR149. Now she was not someone who was in
3 charge of the children. Her job was to look after the
4 chapel. Isn't that right?

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. In your police statement at SNB-32244 that is what you
7 told them about her, that she was the nun in charge of
8 the chapel. You say it was your job to take up a large
9 jug of hot water to her.

10 "It was unbelievable the abuse that that woman made
11 me suffer. She used to beat me with a whip. I remember
12 I was late with the water one afternoon and she hit me
13 across the face with her crutch. The boiling water from
14 the jug went all over my body and hands and scalded me.
15 I was taken to the Mater Hospital and I was kept in for
16 two or three weeks."

17 **A. Correct.**

18 Q. Now I did ask you about this, HIA89, and you said that
19 at the time your hands were badly burnt.

20 **A. Yes.**

21 Q. The scars over the years have healed, though. There is
22 nothing to show now, and we have -- certainly we have no
23 medical evidence about it, and you did say that your
24 solicitor had felt that the medical records probably
25 were no longer in existence.

1 **A. He said they couldn't find any.**

2 Q. Then on another occasion the same nun pushed you down
3 the stairs and you broke your arm. You said you spent
4 about three or four weeks in the Mater Hospital
5 following that incident. No-one asked you how the
6 injuries happened on either occasion. So nobody in the
7 hospital ever said, "Well, how did this happen?"

8 **A. Well, if they did, I wouldn't have known, no.**

9 Q. At that stage that these two things happened involving
10 this nun you were between 7 and 11 you think.

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. Now in 2010 as a result of taking a civil claim against
13 the Order you spoke to Dr O'Kane. Do you remember doing
14 that, speaking to the psychiatrist in 2010?

15 **A. Oh, yes, yes, yes.**

16 Q. She prepared a report and it is in the bundle at 70588.
17 We don't need to call this up, but she said you told her
18 nobody came to see you when you were in the hospital.
19 Is that right?

20 **A. That's correct.**

21 Q. Just to be clear, the Order say that they have no
22 medical records about you spending time in the Mater
23 Hospital at all, and they don't believe that the
24 incident would have happened -- would have been as you
25 describe, but they don't offer any explanation as to how

1 else it might have been in their statement.

2 One other nun that you complained to police about
3 when you spoke to them was an SR9.

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. That statement and the relevant reference can be found
6 at SNB-32244. Do you remember telling -- do you
7 remember that nun?

8 **A. Yes, big tall nun.**

9 Q. What can you say about her?

10 **A. She wasn't bad. She wasn't good, but she wasn't as bad
11 as the other two.**

12 Q. Another thing that you told police in that statement --
13 and I should tell the Inquiry that you brought some
14 notes to the Inquiry this morning after you read over
15 your statement --

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. -- in preparation for coming here. In those notes you
18 added something that you told the police, which was
19 about the nuns placing your hands in cold water before
20 they hit you.

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. If we look at that, that's at 32244. This is just
23 a page. You spoke to the police in England -- isn't
24 that right, HIA89 -- in 2007?

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. If we can just scroll down there, you are describing the
2 nuns that you remember, and you remember, if I can just
3 take there:

4 "I remember beatings by SR118, SR100 and SR9. SR100
5 and SR9, they would use what I describe as a hurley
6 stick. The sisters would make me fold my thumb into the
7 palm of my hand, then strike me using the stick. This
8 would be on my left hand, my natural writing hand, and
9 beatings would come when I had not learnt what I should
10 have done properly or correctly from my studies or my
11 writing was wrong. I cannot remember specific times or
12 dates when this occurred, due to the amount of time that
13 has passed, but I definitely remember the beatings
14 taking place. I remember how the Sisters used to get us
15 to place our hands in cold water. Then they would hit
16 us with whatever object they had, usually a cane or
17 a stick. The beatings would happen to everyone who
18 lived in the home, not just me. Also what stands out in
19 my mind is how we were made to stand in the corner naked
20 in front of approximately 30 other residents as a
21 punishment and then be beaten. I cannot name anyone in
22 particular for the beatings that occurred like this."

23 Then you also talk in that police statement -- if we
24 could just scroll on down to the next page, please, you
25 talk about the incident with SR149. You say:

1 "I would also like to add that there used to be only
2 one bath and the Sisters would make me -- make us
3 (that's me and the other boys) line up naked ready for
4 a bath."

5 You say:

6 "We would only have a bath once approximately every
7 six weeks, but I remember getting into this bath and
8 there being Jeyes Fluid in the water. This would cause
9 all of my body to ultimately sting and it would cause me
10 great pain. Jeyes Fluid was used to disinfect us and
11 cleanse us. This was something else that stands out in
12 my mind."

13 You go on then to make allegations about a priest
14 beating you. You remember being beaten by a priest for
15 forgetting to light the incense lamp as an altar boy in
16 the home. As best you could you gave the police the
17 name of what you thought that priest's name was.

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. Now also, HIA89, in your statement to the Inquiry at
20 paragraphs 13 to 15 at page 488 you describe how you
21 were sexually abused by two other boys at Nazareth Lodge
22 and you give names there of the boys, although you
23 couldn't remember when you were speaking to the Inquiry
24 their first names. You were about nine years old and
25 they would have been around 14 or 15. One of them made

1 you go to his bed and tried to get you to put your hand
2 on his private parts. You started screaming and ran
3 away from him. About six months later the other boy
4 tried to get you to do the same thing. Again you
5 screamed and ran away.

6 Now you gave police more details about this and I am
7 just going to tell the Panel -- we don't need to call up
8 the details but they are found at SNB-32246 -- about the
9 details that you say the -- these boys -- the sexual --
10 the details of the sexual abuse. One thing that the
11 Order have said is that they were unaware that this kind
12 of abuse was taking place in their home, and that they
13 have been shocked and horrified to discover this.
14 What -- would you -- would the nuns have known that
15 older boys were doing this to you?

16 **A. Honestly I wouldn't know, love.**

17 Q. You also talk then at paragraph 16 in your statement
18 that after these incidents these two boys physically
19 abused you. They slapped and punched you are whenever
20 they felt like it, because you didn't do what they
21 wanted. They bullied you and made your life hell and:

22 "... I didn't tell anyone, because no-one would have
23 believed me and nothing would have been done."

24 You don't know what became of those two boys.

25 Just to be clear, the congregation on occasion --

1 has said that on occasion their policy of no physical
2 punishment was not adhered to and they want to express
3 the congregation's hurt and sadness at the allegations
4 and say they always tried to provide a safe and loving
5 home and must offer you an unreserved and most sincere
6 apology for any treatment you received which fell below
7 the acceptable standard.

8 Now I read that out to you earlier, HIA89. Is there
9 anything you want to say about the fact that they have
10 offered you this apology?

11 **A. It doesn't interest me at all.**

12 Q. I think one of the things that you said was that you
13 wouldn't have minded the odd slap, but the punishments
14 you got went far beyond that.

15 **A. Of course, yes, yes, but not with a stick or a big strap
16 or a file.**

17 Q. Just talking about when you were speaking to the police
18 again, you told police that SR189 never did anything bad
19 towards you, although you told Dr O'Kane that you didn't
20 fear her as much as the rest but that she hit you too.
21 I mean, is that what you are talking about, the odd
22 slap?

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. Is that the kind of punishment you got from her?

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. You told me when we were speaking earlier that you felt
2 she was okay and that you remembered another nun who was
3 good in the home --

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. -- although you can't remember her name, but you
6 described her as a small nun.

7 **A. Yes, very small.**

8 Q. You accepted then there were some nuns who were good.

9 **A. Oh, yes, there was. Never seen them much, but they were**
10 **there.**

11 Q. Just to be clear and to sum up, the police did carry out
12 investigations as a result of you speaking to them back
13 in 2007, and they were unable to identify one of the
14 boys whom you named. They discovered that the other one
15 -- they actually managed to identify him, but by the
16 time in 2007 he was no longer alive, and the nuns that
17 you had named were dead by that time.

18 They also carried out an interview of a priest who
19 had been a chaplain in the home over some of the years
20 that you were there, and he had no recollection of you,
21 and as a result nobody was ever prosecuted for anything
22 that happened to you in the home and the police
23 investigation came to an end.

24 **A. Well -- sorry. There was nobody there to ask me if**
25 **anything happened.**

1 Q. Sorry, HIA89?

2 **A. There was nobody there to ask me if anything happened.**

3 Q. In what sense do you mean?

4 **A. Any sense, beatings, everything.**

5 Q. No, but what I am saying, when you spoke to the
6 police -- do you remember when you spoke to the police
7 back in 2007 --

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. -- they carried out investigations to find out what they
10 could to see if they could bring anybody to court for
11 what you were saying?

12 **A. Yes.**

13 Q. They weren't able to do that, because most of the people
14 were dead. There was one person they couldn't identify
15 at all. They identified a priest who may or may not
16 have been the priest that you were talking about and he
17 didn't remember you --

18 **A. Uh-huh.**

19 Q. -- at the time.

20 **A. Yes.**

21 Q. So they weren't able to take the matters any further at
22 that stage.

23 **A. Of course, yes.**

24 Q. Now just coming on to paragraph -- going back to your
25 statement at paragraph 26, you moved -- you were one of

1 the boys who was transferred automatically to Kircubbin
2 when you turned 12.

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. We know from documents that we have seen from the De La
5 Salle Order that you were actually one of 26 boys who
6 transferred on the date that you did in 19... -- in
7 September 1953. You stayed there until 1958.

8 Now you have no real complaints to make about your
9 time in Rubane. You said it was all right. You got the
10 odd belt or slap as a punishment if you got something
11 wrong, but they looked after you much better than
12 Nazareth Lodge. You said a typical day was more or less
13 the same as Nazareth Lodge. You went to school on site
14 and the teachers were the Brothers. If you can scroll
15 on down, please, you said the food wasn't too bad. It
16 was much better than what you had got in Nazareth Lodge
17 and recreation was also a lot better. You had no
18 visitors, but you remember going on trips to the sea
19 about two miles away. You certainly during your time in
20 Kircubbin were not aware of any abuse involving other
21 boys while you were there --

22 **A. No.**

23 Q. -- and you left when you were 17.

24 **A. No, I was maybe 15 and a half, 16.**

25 Q. Yes. I thought that couldn't have been right. You

1 certainly left in 195... -- I think we actually have the
2 date you left, which was 9th -- I will just double check
3 it. I think it was 9th April, was it? No.

4 9th September 1955 was actually the day that you left --

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. -- Rubane. We know you would have been, as you say, 15
7 and a half at that stage.

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. Now you talk about how you came to leave. You said you
10 were told you were leaving on the actual day and you had
11 no notice you were leaving.

12 **A. No.**

13 Q. You put on your suit and travelled on the bus to Belfast
14 to meet the welfare officer, a Mr Murphy.

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. You say he was a nice man. You had not seen him before
17 this. He arranged lodgings for you and got you a job.

18 **A. Correct.**

19 Q. Now just one of the people who spoke to us during the
20 last -- when we were dealing with what happened to
21 people in Kircubbin said it turns out he actually went
22 to the home on the same day as you, transferred from the
23 Lodge on the same day and left Kircubbin on the same
24 day. I asked you his name. He is "HIA24". I am just
25 going to use the first name, HIA24, but you have no

1 memory of that boy?

2 **A. No, no, no.**

3 Q. You were one of 26 boys who transferred on the same day.

4 **A. I don't really remember 26 boys.**

5 Q. He has certainly different memories, but you can only
6 speak -- he remembered there being Christmas parties in
7 Mackies. You don't remember any of that?

8 **A. What was Mackies? Tell me.**

9 Q. Mackies was a factory in Belfast. They organised
10 Christmas -- to take the children from Nazareth Lodge
11 for a Christmas party in the factory. You don't
12 remember anything like that?

13 **A. Never in a month of Sundays.**

14 Q. Okay. Do you ever remember there being a gardening
15 section in the Lodge where boys worked in the garden?
16 Does that ring a bell at all?

17 **A. No.**

18 Q. Or the choir?

19 **A. They used -- they used to send some boys at the back of
20 Nazareth Lodge to do some farming, you know, things and
21 stuff like that. That was it.**

22 Q. Or do you remember there being a choir in the home?

23 **A. A what?**

24 Q. A choir.

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. You remember the choir. Were you a choir boy?

2 **A. Yes, and an altar boy.**

3 Q. Was the choir enjoyable?

4 **A. Not bad.**

5 Q. Paragraphs 34 and 35 here, HIA89, you talk about your
6 time after care. In 35 you say:

7 "If I can't sleep or I am in a bad mood, I am always
8 thinking about my time in the home. Remembering the
9 nuns causes me stress and anxiety. As long as I live
10 I will never forget them."

11 We know that you have spoken to police in 2007 and
12 brought a civil claim in 2010.

13 Now, HIA89, you know that we ask everybody when we
14 come to the end of their evidence about the fact that
15 this Inquiry has to make recommendations about what
16 should happen next, and some people -- for some people
17 an apology is enough. Others would like to see some
18 form of compensation or some form of memorial, and the
19 Inquiry Panel is interested in knowing what your views
20 are. What do you think is the appropriate ...?

21 **A. I would like to see compensation and just give it to my
22 children.**

23 Q. I have no further questions, HIA89. I can see -- are
24 you okay? HIA89, nothing further that I want to ask
25 you, but --

1 **A. Oh, you carry on.**

2 Q. Pardon?

3 **A. You carry on.**

4 Q. There is nothing else that I want to ask you. I had
5 come to the end of what I wanted to ask you anyway, but
6 is there anything you feel that we haven't covered that
7 isn't in your statement or that you haven't had the
8 opportunity to say? Please now tell us you if there's
9 something else that you want to add.

10 **A. Well, at school I could never understand why I got hit
11 and everything else because I was left handed. They
12 made me write with my right and I am not a very good
13 writer now. I can do everything except write with my
14 left hand; all my chef's jobs I was in, everything.**

15 Q. HIA89, thank you very much. As I say, there is nothing
16 else I need to cover with you, but the Inquiry Panel may
17 have some questions for you.

18 **A. I hope not.**

19 **Questions from THE PANEL**

20 MR LANE: Thank you very much for your evidence. You
21 mentioned that SR118 used a hurley stick.

22 **A. Yes. Half a hurley stick.**

23 Q. Were -- did anybody in the home play hurley at all?

24 **A. Yes, we all played.**

25 Q. So there would have been sticks around for playing with?

1 **A. Oh, yes.**

2 Q. That's fine. Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN: Well, HIA89, I am sure you will be relieved to
4 hear we don't have any more questions for you. Thank
5 you very much indeed for coming to speak to us today,
6 because we know in your case particularly it's been
7 a considerable physical effort to do that, because you
8 I understand have just come out of hospital, but you
9 were determined to come and speak to us today, and we
10 are very grateful to you for doing that. Thank you very
11 much for coming.

12 **A. Thank you.**

13 CHAIRMAN: We will just rise for a few moments to allow
14 HIA89 time to leave the chamber.

15 (Witness withdrew)

16 (10.47 am)

17 (Short break)

18 (11.04 am)

19 WITNESS HIA87 (called)

20 CHAIRMAN: Yes.

21 MR AIKEN: Chairman, Members of the Panel, good morning.

22 The next witness today is HIA87, who has travelled from
23 Scotland. He is "HIA87". He is aware, Chairman, you
24 are going to ask him to take the oath.

25 WITNESS HIA87 (sworn)

1 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, HIA87. Please sit down.

2 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

3 MR AIKEN: HIA87, coming up on the screen will be the first
4 page of your witness statement I hope. If you just look
5 at the hard copy you have, you can see under the black
6 marks on the version on the screen. Can you just
7 confirm that's the same first page of your witness
8 statement?

9 **A. It is.**

10 Q. If we move through, please, to SNB-262, and if you look
11 at the last page in your hard copy, HIA87, I am just
12 going ask you to check that's the same last page, and
13 can you confirm that you have signed that witness
14 statement?

15 **A. Yes. That's it.**

16 Q. And you want to adopt the contents of your witness
17 statement as your evidence to the Inquiry?

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. I was explaining to you that the reason for the black
20 marks is the Inquiry's anonymity policy in operation,
21 and you want to keep your anonymity?

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. Bear with me just for a moment, HIA87, until I give some
24 references from the bundle to the Panel Members.

25 There is a typed statement from HIA87 that reflects

1 the content of his witness statement but it's just
2 separate from it. It is at SNB-30829 through to 30832.

3 There is then a response statement from the Sisters
4 of Nazareth and that's at SNB-1697 through to 1698. I
5 have made HIA87 aware in paragraph 2 of the statement
6 there is an expression of regret and in paragraph 7
7 there is an unreserved apology to him for any treatment
8 from any Sister that fell beneath an acceptable
9 standard.

10 Then the Health & Social Care Board statement can be
11 found at SNB-5678 and 9.

12 As I explained to you, HIA87, what I am going to do
13 is summarise what you have got to say to the Inquiry and
14 then ask you some questions about it and then the Panel
15 Members at the end may want to ask you a few questions.

16 So you were born on

17 **A. That's right.**

18 Q. You are now aged .

19 **A. That's true.**

20 Q. We were working it out earlier and it took a little
21 time. You have had a particular interest in getting to
22 the bottom of your family history, and you have
23 explained to the Inquiry in your statement that you
24 didn't feel you always got the help with that that you
25 should have from those who were looking after you, but

1 Q. Very quickly for both of you and your brother you went
2 to live with a family on a farm in County -- not on
3 a farm -- you went to live with a family fostered out in
4 County called the .

5 **A. That's right.**

6 Q. Your brother, he was adopted by a family in

7 **A. That's true.**

8 Q. You lived with that family in County until you were
9 the age of 8.

10 **A. That's true.**

11 Q. That placement with that family got into difficulty not
12 on your behalf. There were concerns about how well you
13 were being looked after, and arrangements were made for
14 you to go back and live in Nazareth Lodge.

15 **A. Yes. That's true. That was beyond my control.**

16 Q. Yes, and you went into Nazareth Lodge in approximately
17 1946, aged

18 **A. Well, according to the records that's the time they put
19 down.**

20 Q. And you were there until around about 1952, when you
21 were -- '53, when you were

22 **A. Well, I think I would be about at that time.**

23 Q. . My apologies. You would have been indeed.

24 Unfortunately, as I said to you earlier, the

25 congregation would not have had a huge amount of records

1 on individuals it seems, but what normally did exist was
2 a ledger entry which showed when you came in and when
3 you left and perhaps who had been involved in your
4 placement, and unfortunately the congregation has said
5 to the Inquiry that they can't find a ledger entry
6 relating to you. When I explained that to you this
7 morning, you have a memory of SR118 looking at your
8 ledger entry whenever you were trying to find out
9 information about your background.

10 **A. Well, that was in the year '55. I went back to Nazareth**
11 **Lodge, and she opened a ledger and she produced the --**
12 **my baptism lines and she also says, "That's all I can**
13 **give you", she says, "but if you want anything else, you**
14 **will have to go to the Mater Hospital and get your**
15 **bap... -- birth certificate", which I did do.**

16 Q. Well, as I said to you, what we will do after today is
17 we will raise that again with the congregation and see
18 if whatever it was you recall her looking at is
19 something that can be found, and we will try and produce
20 it, if that's possible, but you at the time, just so the
21 Panel have context, when -- in the period, for instance,
22 April '47 to March '48 there were approximately 181
23 children in Nazareth Lodge, and the reference for that
24 is at 16549 through to 16551. Of that 181 it seems
25 about seven children were responsible -- were the

1 responsibility of the local authority, as it would have
2 been prior to the 1950 Act coming into force. So that
3 would accord with your recollection there were upwards
4 of 200 children in Nazareth Lodge during your time.

5 **A. That's right.**

6 Q. Your dorm that you were in, which you -- your feeling
7 was there was about 40 children in your dorm that you
8 remember.

9 **A. Well, I would estimate roughly about 40.**

10 Q. SR118 was the nun who was in charge of your dorm.

11 **A. That's true.**

12 Q. She had a cell, as it were, or a cubicle in the corner
13 of the dorm room with a window and a curtain --

14 **A. That's true.**

15 Q. -- where she slept?

16 **A. That's true.**

17 Q. As I said to the Inquiry yesterday, she was born in
18 . So she would have been between 46 and 52 years of
19 age during the time that you were in Nazareth Lodge.

20 You describe, HIA87, in paragraph 15, if we can go
21 to 257, please, a form of group punishment that was
22 given to you if anyone in the dorm of the 40 boys wet
23 the bed. You explain how the boy who wet the bed was
24 put in a cold bath and then the other boys were made
25 kneel with their hands above their heads on the floor.

1 **A. That's true.**

2 Q. You would have been hit with a belt that she wore around
3 her waist.

4 **A. That's true.**

5 Q. You say if her belt wasn't available, she would use
6 a brush shaft to hit you instead.

7 **A. Well, that's another thing that was available to her at
8 times.**

9 Q. So in the main when she did the hitting, it was the belt
10 she was using. Is that right?

11 **A. That's right.**

12 Q. And then on more limited occasions it was this brush
13 shaft?

14 **A. That's true.**

15 Q. You described her to me earlier as an angel and a devil.
16 At times she could be nice and then at times she was
17 anything but nice.

18 **A. Well, it was I think -- I don't know what was wrong with
19 her, but she wasn't just a person you could trust.**

20 Q. You say in paragraph 16 to the Inquiry that her
21 punishments that she meted out to you knew no bounds.
22 What do you mean by that?

23 **A. Well, for a start when she did -- putting it politely,
24 when she was in a bad mood, you know, I think she got
25 rid of her ill feelings into -- into the boys and into**

1 the person that she was administrating the punishment to
2 and the next day she was okay. So I don't know why --
3 what it was with her, but I think -- I think personally
4 it was -- sometimes it was too much for her, now looking
5 back on it.

6 Q. I was asking you earlier do you remember how many nuns
7 there were looking after this group of 180 children, if
8 my number is right, and you thought there was five,
9 maybe six nuns.

10 A. Well, I can remember SR118, SR184 and the Sister in the
11 front parlour and the Sister in the kitchen and that was
12 about it. The rest of the sisters were never really
13 seen, you know. We only seen them when they went to the
14 chapel during services. We never -- if we were in the
15 corridor, maybe meeting Mother Superior and she'd speak
16 to you and ask you if you were okay and how things was,
17 and that's the only time you seen her. You never seen
18 her on any official duties round about the dormitories
19 or anything. Well, she maybe done it when we weren't
20 there. So ...

21 Q. Did you feel able to tell the Mother Superior what
22 things were really like?

23 A. I felt intimidated, because you weren't supposed to
24 speak to the Mother Superior unless she spoke to you.

25 Q. When she asked you how things were, did you feel able to

1 tell her about what was happening to you in the dorm,
2 for instance, getting hit with the belt or --

3 **A. Well, you were afraid to tell her.**

4 Q. And why were you afraid to tell her?

5 **A. Because you were afraid to speak out.**

6 Q. What made you afraid to speak out?

7 **A. Well, for a start you didn't know what was going to**
8 **happen if you said something. So you had to just speak**
9 **to her and not say anything.**

10 Q. You describe, HIA87, in paragraph 16 on the top of
11 page 258 that you -- her favourite move -- this is SR118
12 -- was to grab someone by the ear and hit them with the
13 belt that she wore round her waist, but you say as well
14 that if she -- if a boy had wet himself, she would make
15 that boy lie down and would wallop him across the body.

16 **A. That's true. You know, she thought that the -- as I now**
17 **know from having grandchildren born, boys sometimes wet**
18 **the bed at night without knowing about it, you know, and**
19 **she must have thought they shouldn't have done that.**
20 **They should have known better, and if the boy wet the**
21 **bed, we were supposed to waken them up and make sure**
22 **they didn't wet the bed. So we were getting punished**
23 **along with him.**

24 Q. You describe then an incident where if somebody coughed
25 in the chapel, you say that person would have been

1 brought out in front of everyone and given a walloping.

2 Can you explain how that punishment was carried out?

3 Where was that done?

4 **A. That was carried out in the refectory when we were**
5 **having our breakfast or having a meal. She'd take us**
6 **out -- take the boy out in front of all the boys sitting**
7 **at their tables and she administrated the punishment,**
8 **you know, corrected him. You were afraid to cough in**
9 **the chapel.**

10 Q. Was that with the belt?

11 **A. Well, it would be -- I wouldn't say the belt but, you**
12 **know, she did use a belt sometimes, but she could punish**
13 **you other ways, you know: grabbing hold of you by the**
14 **ear and hair and that and just being abusive to you.**

15 Q. When this was happening in front of other boys, was this
16 just your dorm that was in the refectory or was this all
17 of the boys who were there together?

18 **A. That was all the boys other than the infants. You know,**
19 **them that was in from a certain age in the school right**
20 **up to the older boys were all sat in the building -- in**
21 **the refectory.**

22 Q. Then you explain, HIA87, she utilised older boys to hit
23 you. You were explaining to me -- you used the word --
24 I think it is an American phrase -- "flunkies". So she
25 is in charge, but then she's got this group of boys who

1 are supposed to keep you in line or the rest of the boys
2 in line.

3 **A. That's true.**

4 Q. You describe how they would have used sticks. Now were
5 these from branches from trees or what type of sticks
6 are you talking about?

7 **A. Well, stuff that they got lying about the place and that
8 and broken brush shafts and stuff like that. You know,
9 they had them all hidden away, stored.**

10 Q. I was asking you whether SR118 would have known that
11 these -- I think the general word we use for them is
12 "charge boys" -- whether these boys who were placed in
13 charge of the rest of the boys, would she have known
14 they were hitting you and others?

15 **A. Well, I think if she didn't -- if she didn't know her
16 job, she wouldn't be -- she would know, because she had
17 her finger on the pulse, as the saying is.**

18 Q. You describe then on other occasions you were made to
19 strip off and were beaten about the bottom by SR118.
20 Now, as I understand it, the reference to stripping off,
21 that's about bath time. Is that right?

22 **A. Well, when we had the -- when we had to go into the
23 bath, as I explained to you earlier on, it was --
24 I think at the present time as far as my memory goes
25 I think there was three baths for the floor and we**

1 stood -- stripped off and we stood in lines. If you
2 done something in the bathroom at the time, you know,
3 maybe carrying on, she would give you a hammering, you
4 know, and then you would have to go in a bath, and once
5 the bath -- you know, you took your turn, two in the
6 bath at once, and you took your turn. There was no
7 modesty involved in it. You were nude and they gave you
8 a sheet to dry yourself on, and when the sheet was wet,
9 you still dried yourself. So the last boy in the bath
10 or the last people in the bath were using stuff that
11 shouldn't have been used.

12 Q. So if you were lucky, you were at the front of the queue
13 rather than the unlucky person who was right at the back
14 of the queue.

15 A. That's true.

16 Q. In paragraph 17 you say that there was nobody to tell
17 about what was happening to you, and if you did tell the
18 priest, he would tell the nuns about what you had said.
19 I was asking you earlier was that something that you
20 yourself experienced? Do you remember telling the
21 priest about something happening and then him telling
22 the nuns about it, or is that just what the boys would
23 have said to each other was the position?

24 A. Well, as you go through the story, you will come
25 across -- I did tell the priest what happened to me, and

1 for a while things was very quiet and I was left alone,
2 but eventually it went back to the old story where, you
3 know, discipline was administrated again, but that was
4 the way of life in there.

5 Q. So you felt there was nobody safe, if I can put it that
6 way, to talk to about what was happening --

7 A. No.

8 Q. -- because it would come back against you eventually if
9 you told the priest, as an example.

10 A. That's true.

11 Q. I think the point you made to me earlier, if I can try
12 and let you summarise it in your own words, but if
13 I give you this as a hanger, you were talking about the
14 place was being run on a shoestring with the children as
15 the work force.

16 A. Well --

17 Q. Can you just explain to the Panel what you mean by that?

18 A. Well, for a start everybody had a job to do. When there
19 was -- if they were needing work done in the
20 institution, the likes of the corridors had to be
21 scrubbed, we scrubbed them on our hands and knees. If
22 the refectory had to be scrubbed out, we scrubbed it on
23 our hands and knees, put polish down on the floor and
24 polished it. All the dormitories and that, they were
25 wooden floors. You had to do them the same. The

1 bathroom, we cleaned them and looked after them,
2 everything. We prepared them -- helped to prepare the
3 food, you know, likes of peeling potatoes, doing manual
4 jobs about the place. Everybody had a job to do. Maybe
5 some boys were sent to split kindling for the fires and
6 different jobs, you know.

7 I was detailed off to go into the children's bit
8 where they had a laundry and I was working in the
9 laundry, and then earlier I was working out in the
10 garden out the front, and, you know, I'm explaining it
11 to you. You know, they didn't have the staff to run the
12 place, but they were getting the place looked after.

13 Q. You describe in paragraph 19 a particular physical
14 assault that you recall. You remember going into the
15 school and becoming aware that in one of the classrooms
16 in the cages mice or perhaps you think they might have
17 been hamsters were dead, and you went back over to the
18 main building to tell SR118 about that. She blamed you
19 and got the belt to you, you were explaining to me
20 earlier, and started to wallop you with the belt.

21 A. Well, let me explain to you. The classroom I am on
22 about was across from the home across the playing
23 fields. It was a big classroom and it had a main
24 classroom and two side rooms and a toilet block. I was
25 put in charge of that to look after it and clean it, and

1 these animals were brought in in a cage and we had the
2 -- you know, must have been given to them. I went in
3 one morning and they were lying dead. I went across to
4 SR118 and told her they were dead, and she blamed me for
5 killing them. So the next thing was she got the belt
6 out and I got a hammering. Now I wouldn't cry.
7 I wouldn't let her see me cry. So that got the better
8 of her. So she started on me again and then she got
9 NL85, which is the headmaster in the classroom, he come
10 across and gave me a hammering and my hands swoll up
11 till the blood was coming out of them.

12 Q. While SR118 used the belt on you, what you are talking
13 about with NL85, he used the cane --

14 A. That's right.

15 Q. -- hitting you on the hands.

16 A. Uh-huh.

17 Q. That was his form of -- you said to me you thought you
18 were about 12 at that stage, older and given some
19 responsibility for that particular part of the school in
20 terms of cleaning and so on, and that's how you came to
21 know about the pets that had died.

22 A. Uh-huh. That's true.

23 Q. You then describe in paragraph 19 the results of, as
24 I understand it, you threatened to run away and the way
25 of dealing with you then was to put you in the top floor

1 of the Nazareth Lodge, and they locked the corridor
2 doors at each end of the corridor and put you in
3 a single room, and you were not locked in that room, but
4 you were locked in the corridor as a whole during the
5 day. At night there were also dorms on this corridor,
6 this floor that were used by the groups of boys at
7 night-time, but during the day you were locked in this
8 place and your meals were brought up to you, and you
9 felt you were there for two to three days.

10 **A. That's true.**

11 Q. You think that because you threatened to run away, this
12 was their way of making sure you didn't.

13 **A. Well, I now know that that was the reason why I was put
14 in there, because, as I explained in my statement, I was
15 going to run away, and I explained to you I wasn't going
16 to do the normal route, and I knew where I was going to
17 go, but then when I seen what happened to other boys in
18 the place, I thought better.**

19 Q. As you were explaining to me, boys who ran away were
20 physically punished in front of the group as a means, as
21 you look on it now, of trying to encourage people not to
22 run away.

23 **A. That's true.**

24 Q. You were explaining to me then when you were released
25 from that top floor, as it were, you were given a shadow

1 to follow you around and make sure you didn't run away.

2 **A. Well, I was a country boy and I wasn't going to just sit**
3 **there and take it lying down. So they had to make sure**
4 **I didn't do it, even though I said I wasn't going to do**
5 **it.**

6 Q. You do say in paragraph 20 that you remember SR157,
7 however, in very different terms from SR118, and SR157
8 was a kind woman, though she could be strict as well,
9 but for you she was more like how a mother would behave.

10 **A. Well, I think she had mother feelings, you know, and she**
11 **couldn't treat one boy any better than another, but she**
12 **could show a bit of sympathy to the boys, and I will**
13 **always remember that, you know.**

14 Q. I think the point you made to me earlier, HIA87, was
15 that she conducted herself the way you would expect
16 a nun to conduct herself --

17 **A. That's true.**

18 Q. -- and that if all the nuns had been like her, life
19 would have been different.

20 **A. That's true.**

21 Q. You then go on to describe a particular -- in
22 paragraph 17, if we can go back to it, please,
23 a particular individual, an older boy as you remember
24 him, who assaulted you, and he was called HIA192. Now
25 no names should be again for completeness used outside

1 the chamber, but you describe him in paragraph 17 as
2 an older boy and you say:

3 "I recall one of the older boys called HIA192. He
4 was an evil boy and regularly hit me."

5 Can you explain -- he was someone who was in the
6 same dorm as you, but was one of these charge boys who
7 was supposed to keep you in line.

8 **A. He was detailed off with the responsibility to keep
9 us -- keep us in line when the nun wasn't there.**

10 Q. The way you were describing him to me earlier was more
11 like a school bully, the head of a gang of boys who
12 bullied the other boys.

13 **A. Well, he had his boys that went with him, and you knew
14 when you crossed their path, you didn't cross one; you
15 crossed the group.**

16 Q. What was it he hit you with? When you talk about the
17 hitting that he did to you, what did he hit you with?

18 **A. Well, he'd a brush shaft.**

19 Q. Can you remember how often he would have taken the brush
20 shaft to you?

21 **A. Well, he'd be standing in the line and he'd go up the
22 line and he'd maybe wallop somebody across the legs or
23 something like that -- you didn't know when he was going
24 to do it -- just to make sure everybody was behaving
25 themselves.**

1 Q. Why, HIA87, is he someone who sticks in your mind as
2 a -- you know, you remember his name. You remember what
3 he did. Why does that stick in your mind rather than
4 some of the other boys who were part of his gang?

5 **A. Well, as I explained to you, if you ever had a school**
6 **bully, you always remember them, and that's what he was**
7 **like.**

8 Q. I was asking you earlier can you explain to the Panel do
9 you feel SR118 would have known that he was doing this?

10 **A. Well, if she didn't know, she was walking about with**
11 **shut eyes.**

12 Q. You go on then in the next sentence to say you recall
13 waking up some mornings after being battered in your bed
14 at night and there was blood on your pillow, but I was
15 asking you although that comes after you talking about
16 HIA192, you don't know precisely which boys hit you
17 while you were in bed --

18 **A. No.**

19 Q. -- but you know that's what happened, and occasionally
20 there was blood on your pillow when you woke up.

21 **A. That's true.**

22 Q. Then you make the point that despite what happened to
23 you, you can't -- you say you can't really blame the
24 older boys, because they didn't know any better. They
25 were effectively seeing some nuns behave like this and

1 therefore that's their normal.

2 **A. Well, if they were in Nazareth Lodge from they were**
3 **babies, it was a way of life. They were**
4 **institutionalised and they wouldn't know any different.**
5 **It was only when they came out into modern society they**
6 **would realise that that wasn't the way to conduct**
7 **themselves and they would -- they would have to readjust**
8 **themselves.**

9 Q. You make the point in paragraph 23 that this wasn't just
10 assaults that were taking place on you, that you
11 witnessed assaults on other boys who were there living
12 with you.

13 **A. That's true.**

14 Q. You then -- on a separate subject you describe in
15 paragraph 18, if we scroll up to 258 -- you describe
16 Nazareth Lodge as high walls, a prison in effect was the
17 impression. You couldn't get out of it, but there was
18 this occasion on Sundays when you did get out and you
19 were taken for a walk, and you were describing to me you
20 went down the Ormeau Road to the Lagan Bridge and back
21 up through Ormeau Park, but you didn't feel free when
22 that was taking place. Can you explain to the Panel
23 what you mean by that?

24 **A. Well, I have had the occasion to go into different**
25 **places during my work and some of these places top**

1 security, and I could realise now that these people --
2 we were out on trust, you know. There was a group of us
3 and there was the boys in charge of us and the nun in
4 front and the nun at the back, and if you done anything
5 wrong, you were taken -- when you went back, you know,
6 you had to account for it. So, you know, you knew not
7 to do nothing.

8 Q. You make the point that you were dressed well for going
9 out in your Sunday best, if I can put it like that.

10 A. That's true.

11 Q. You were recounting to me the nuns would have maybe
12 spoken to men who were sitting in the park, who then
13 made donations to them.

14 A. That's true.

15 Q. You explain then in paragraph 21, HIA87, that eventually
16 you became a charge boy of sorts in that you were -- by
17 the time you got to about 12 or 13 you were asked to go
18 and work in the children's section. Now we are talking
19 about the infants section between 0 and 5, and you had
20 about 20 boys to look after.

21 A. Well, we had -- when I was in that part of the Nazareth
22 Lodge, it was the infants, and we would have had to help
23 them with their food and stuff like that, and they
24 didn't have nappies in those days, you know. You had to
25 clean up at the back of them and that. I was in there

1 **for a wee while.**

2 **Then I was put out into the children's laundry,**
3 **which was next door to it, and I had to do the washing**
4 **in there, and then I was taken out of that and I was put**
5 **into the garden, and I was working in the garden when**
6 **I left Nazareth Lodge.**

7 Q. That's because your schooling had come to an end by that
8 stage and then you were moved to these various tasks
9 after your schooling had finished.

10 **A. That's true.**

11 Q. But you didn't sleep there then. You went back to your
12 own dorm at night-time and then during the day went to
13 these places to work, including the infants' section.

14 **A. The only -- I went to my own dormitory at night, and**
15 **when I was working in the garden, I went into the main**
16 **refectory to get my dinner at dinner time, then went**
17 **back out to do the gardening work.**

18 Q. You describe in paragraph 28 on 261 that you since
19 learned you were twice on lists to go potentially to
20 Australia, and you were recounting to me -- can you just
21 explain to the Panel the memory you have of the
22 selection process that you now identify with being
23 picked for Australia?

24 **A. Well, for a start SR118 and SR184 brought all the boys**
25 **out into the front -- into the playground, and we stood**

1 in two lines, if I can remember right. Came out with
2 a clipboard and shouted out our names, and you had to go
3 to another line and that was you selected for going to
4 Australia. Then they came out at a later date and
5 shouted out the names again and the line got smaller and
6 I was taken off after the second time.

7 Q. So there was a whittling down process of a separation
8 and then that larger second group was split again, and
9 you eventually, as I think I used the words with you
10 earlier, you never made the final cut and therefore you
11 didn't get sent to Australia.

12 A. No. I can mind when the boys all went to Australia.
13 There was two double-decker buses came in and all the
14 cases was on bottom level and the boys was on the top
15 level. The nuns started their geography lessons,
16 telling the boys they were going to Australia for
17 a holiday. Now it takes six weeks to go to Australia at
18 that time. They were going to send them to Australia
19 for six weeks, send them out and then bring them back
20 again. Anybody with a bit sense would know that wasn't
21 going to be -- that's the only way they could get them
22 to go out there. The kids thought it was a big
23 experience.

24 Q. You do in paragraph 24 of your statement record some
25 positive -- in addition to SR184 some positive

1 experiences that you remember. That was the holiday
2 camping trips that you went on to various locations, and
3 you were explaining to me the irony of one occasion
4 going to , because it turns out your mum and your
5 granny had lived there, although that wasn't known to
6 you at the time you were visiting .

7 **A. That's true. Through the records I have found out since**
8 **then.**

9 Q. But those trips, the holidays, as it were, are positive
10 experiences that you remember from your time in the
11 Lodge.

12 **A. That's the good times.**

13 Q. You have described then in paragraph 25 the process
14 where you are leaving the Lodge, where SR118 gets you
15 ready and you go out to work on a farm in with
16 a family called

17 **A. That's true.**

18 Q. Again no names should be used beyond the chamber. Your
19 recollection is that -- did they come in and select you?
20 Can you remember how you were identified to go to that
21 location?

22 **A. What happened, SR118 took me into the side and they got**
23 **me rigged out with clothes, and then one day I was in**
24 **the garden, and she told me to go upstairs and get**
25 **a bath, and gave me a rig out of clothes, and I went**

1 within the Lodge, who said there was a job for you in

2 You went, took that job and eventually

3 settled and have lived your life in

4 **A. That's true.**

5 Q. You describe how when you were living on this farm in

6 you essentially were in a lean-to hut -- that's

7 where you lived -- next -- and it was leaned against the

8 farmhouse.

9 **A. Uh-huh. Well, in modern terms it was a bothy.**

10 Q. That was your home while you did this work.

11 **A. Well, it was while I was living with . The**

12 **only thing I can say about them, they did feed me well.**

13 Q. I was asking you earlier in the context of positive

14 memories. You say, perhaps not for the right reasons,

15 but what you did learn through life in the Lodge was

16 an important life skill of independence, albeit you

17 learned it from perhaps treatment that shouldn't have

18 taken place, but that life skill of being independent

19 has allowed you to stand on your own two feet as you

20 moved out into the world.

21 **A. Well, it did. It made me stand on my own two feet and**

22 **make decisions, and I had to make decisions, because**

23 **I had nobody at the back of me, and I made the decisions**

24 **on a long-term view that I was going to make something**

25 **of myself.**

1 Q. One of the matters that you talk about in paragraphs 30
2 and 32, you have an anger about how badly the lack of
3 records meant that your family was lost to you, so that
4 basic information about your family couldn't be given to
5 you, or people weren't in a position to give you, and
6 you spent the greater part of your adult life chasing
7 information about your family in order to try and get
8 that connection. Part of that work has resulted in your
9 niece who is with you today through trying to find your
10 relations.

11 **A. That's true.**

12 Q. You -- the point you were making to me earlier, you felt
13 and feel that proper information should have been kept
14 on individuals so that they could be linked and the type
15 of experience you have had of not having your family
16 shouldn't have arisen.

17 **A. Well, I don't think -- I think that they had the**
18 **records, but they didn't want to disclose them. I think**
19 **what they were doing, they were passing the buck among**
20 **themselves.**

21 Q. By that you are talking about attempts you made to --
22 one organisation would have told you to speak to another
23 organisation and go to another place where you would
24 find a different type of record and so on. That was
25 your experience of trying to connect with your family.

1 **A. That's true.**

2 Q. In the end -- we were discussing earlier your mother has
3 since died in , but you have been able to connect
4 up with some more members of your family than you were
5 aware of at the time you were leaving Nazareth Lodge.

6 **A. Well, I think they withheld the information from me and
7 some of the things.**

8 Q. Just take your time, HIA87. As I said to you earlier,
9 there is absolutely no problem. Just take your time.
10 There is some water there with you if you want to have
11 a sip of water. Just take your time.

12 **A. All I can say is this, that if they had given me the
13 information I asked for, I would have left it to the
14 people at the other end whether they wanted to see me or
15 not and I would have left it at that. Because they were
16 so adamant to keep information off me, I had to involve
17 other organisations to get it, and these organisations
18 had the resources to dig into it, and also I found out
19 in -- I just can't mind the date -- under the Freedom of
20 Information Act if I had known then, I would have been
21 able to be in contact with my relatives.**

22 Q. Sooner.

23 HIA87, as I said to you, we ask every witness
24 towards the end of their evidence two questions. The
25 first is about the recommendations. The terms of

1 reference of the Inquiry require the Panel to consider
2 what recommendations that the Panel might make to the
3 Northern Ireland Executive, the Government of Northern
4 Ireland about three main areas: one is some form of
5 apology -- as you know, the Sisters have apologised
6 personally to you; some form of memorial of some kind
7 potentially; or some form of redress for those who have
8 had experiences in care. We ask each witness whether
9 there's anything that they want to say to the Panel to
10 assist them with considering what recommendations they
11 might make. Is there anything you want to say about
12 that?

13 A. Well, some of the -- some of the boys in the home
14 I don't know what their circumstances is. Some of them
15 are maybe well off. Some of them are maybe just living
16 normal lives. A memorial wouldn't do anything to them,
17 wouldn't bring them any benefit. All it would do was
18 remind them what have they went through.

19 I don't know whether the Panel would recommend
20 a monetary thing to the boys, you know, so -- some
21 recompense for the suffering they went through. Me
22 personally, it cost me a lot of money to find out the
23 different things I did find out. I worked for that
24 money. These people that were running the Nazareth
25 Lodge, they were hiding behind a cloak, you know. They

1 **were blaming the church. The church is a good thing.**

2 **It is the people that is in it were in the wrong job**

3 **doing the wrong thing.**

4 Q. Well, the last question, HIA87, that we ask every
5 witness is whether there's anything else they want to
6 say. What I mean by that is this is your opportunity to
7 say what you want to say to the Panel about your time in
8 Nazareth Lodge. It may be I haven't covered something
9 properly, or not in sufficient detail, or maybe I have
10 not covered it at all. This is your opportunity if I
11 have missed something out or you have something more you
12 want to say to the Panel about their work or about
13 Nazareth Lodge. Now is the time to do that. Is there
14 anything else you want to say?

15 **A. I would just like to thank the Panel for giving me the**
16 **privilege of being here today, and I hope they make**
17 **a wise decision.**

18 Q. HIA87, I am not going to ask you anything else. If you
19 just stay where you are for the moment, the Panel may
20 want to ask you one or two matters about what you have
21 had to say. So just bear with us for a short while.

22 Questions from THE PANEL

23 CHAIRMAN: HIA87, can I just ask you to take your mind back
24 to what you told us about the work you were asked to do
25 once you had reached school age -- the end of school

1 age? You said, first of all, you worked in the
2 children's laundry and then out in the gardens.

3 **A. Well, they had a kiddies' laundry across from the main**
4 **building. That was all infants' clothes --**

5 Q. Yes.

6 **A. -- and we had to wash them. There was machines for**
7 **doing it and we had -- there was an old air raid**
8 **shelter, which they had converted into the drying room,**
9 **and we hung up the clothes there and dried them. Then**
10 **we took them over to the infants. I was in that job for**
11 **a while.**

12 Q. Now if I can just stop you at that point, you mentioned
13 there were no nappies in the modern sense. I suppose
14 you mean a disposable nappy.

15 **A. Oh, no, there was no --**

16 Q. Were you having to wash the towelling nappies that were
17 used, if that's what they did?

18 **A. Well, putting it politely, the children, they were only**
19 **infants. There was no -- when I was there, my job was**
20 **to get the feeding bottles and feed them with the**
21 **feeding bottles --**

22 Q. I see.

23 **A. -- and what I seen, they were running about in the nude.**

24 Q. But in any event you were helping to look after these
25 tiny children?

1 A. Well, that was part of the job.

2 Q. Then you talk about working in the gardens outside.

3 Where were these gardens?

4 A. Well, there was a garden in front of the building. It
5 ran the full length of the building, which would be
6 I think about 100 yards long, maybe about 50 yards wide.
7 It was walled in. There was a gate at one end and you
8 went in the gate. You could work in the garden and you
9 could -- by working in the garden you could see the
10 Sisters going across. At the end of the building the
11 refectory was there. They were up the stairs and you
12 could see them going for their meals and that. So, you
13 know, you were being watched while you were working.

14 Q. And were you growing vegetables or anything like that in
15 the garden?

16 A. Well, there was -- we grew all the different -- the
17 likes of cabbage, turnips and stuff like that, you know.

18 Q. So this was a kitchen garden?

19 A. A kitchen garden.

20 Q. Yes. We have heard some references to a farm. Was
21 there anything like that that you remember?

22 A. Yes, there was a farm. There was a farm at -- as far as
23 I can mind the land run from where the pigs was right
24 down to the rugby ground, Craighill rugby ground. Land
25 run right down there.

1 Q. I think you mean Ravenhill rugby ground.

2 A. Aye.

3 Q. Yes.

4 A. The land run right down there and down at the bottom of
5 that was the cemetery, and they used to grow potatoes in
6 it. They would have a couple of cows and pigs, and the
7 pigs was -- they used to get the swill out of Belfast to
8 feed the pigs. They had a byre with a couple of cows in
9 it for milk.

10 Q. So I appreciate you were just a young boy at the time,
11 but it sounds like a fairly small scale farming. Is
12 that right?

13 A. Well --

14 Q. A couple of cattle, milking cows, a few pigs.

15 A. Well, I was -- I was brought up out in the country and,
16 I mean, I used to go down to the farm. There was
17 a couple of fields, but they were good sized fields.
18 You grew potatoes in them and they got all the dung out
19 of the byre for growing tatties and stuff like that.
20 Then we picked the potatoes. You know, they had
21 a plough and everything.

22 Q. Uh-huh.

23 A. They had a pony and cart. So it was a fairly
24 organised -- it was -- you know, it was a part-time
25 thing, you know. It was one of the sidelines, and then

1 **they had pigs that they fed with the swill.**

2 Q. Could you walk to the farm without leaving the grounds
3 of the house, if you know what I mean, or did you have
4 to cross a main road to get to the farm?

5 A. **Oh, no. That was -- the home was this side on to the**
6 **Ormeau Road --**

7 Q. Yes.

8 A. **-- and the farm was at the other side right down towards**
9 **the rugby grounds. So, you know -- and if you wanted to**
10 **come out, you had to come down the main lane past the**
11 **home, out to the gate house, on to the main road.**

12 Q. I see. Then you walked along the road to get to the
13 fields presumably?

14 A. **No. Aye. You walked away from the home to get down**
15 **towards the foot... -- the rugby grounds to get to the**
16 **fields.**

17 Q. Yes.

18 A. **We used to be sent down to lift -- pull the weeds out**
19 **and stuff like that, you know, and when the potatoes was**
20 **getting lifted, we had to lift the potatoes.**

21 Q. I see. Thank you very much. That's very helpful.

22 A. **Right. Thank you.**

23 MR LANE: Yes. You mentioned about the difficulty you had
24 getting documents from the Order and so on. I just
25 wondered did you pick up any idea about why it was so

1 difficult? Were they trying to protect you from
2 information or anything?

3 **A. Well, the -- the last person I had to deal with,**
4 **, the Catholic Care Society, she said she didn't**
5 **have much information. Now she had all the information**
6 **in front of her, because when I found out under the**
7 **Freedom of Information Act, I quoted this to her, and**
8 **within three weeks I got a folder of about 40 pages with**
9 **all the information about my family, my mother, my**
10 **granny right down to way back to 1917, and yet they said**
11 **they didn't have it.**

12 **Q. And she could have given you that at the time?**

13 **A. She could have -- they could have given it to me**
14 **thirty years ago.**

15 **Q. So why do you think they didn't? Do you have any idea?**

16 **A. They said -- they said -- actually one of the letters**
17 **I've got, they didn't have any information.**

18 **Q. Okay. Thank you.**

19 **A. Right. Thank you.**

20 **CHAIRMAN:** Well, HIA87, you will be glad to hear that we
21 don't have any more questions for you, but thank you
22 very much for coming to speak to us today, particularly
23 since you have come across from to do that. We
24 are very grateful to you for coming to speak to us.
25 Thank you.

1 **A. I would just like to thank you for being so open with**
2 **me.**

3 CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

4 MR AIKEN: Chairman, Members of the Panel, if we take
5 a short break, we should shortly be able to resume to
6 deal with one or two of the next matters.

7 CHAIRMAN: Yes. Very well. We will just rise for a moment
8 or two.

9 (Witness withdrew)

10 (12.03 pm)

11 (Short break)

12 (12.10 pm)

13 WITNESS HIA24 (called)

14 MS SMITH: Good afternoon, Chairman, Panel Members. The
15 next witness is HIA24. He is "HIA24". HIA24 has
16 already given evidence before the Inquiry and affirmed
17 on the last occasion. So I don't believe it is
18 necessary for him to do that again.

19 CHAIRMAN: HIA24, you are still under the same obligation as
20 you were before.

21 **A. Right.**

22 CHAIRMAN: So there's no need for you to affirm again.

23 **A. Okay. Thank you.**

24 MS SMITH: He also wishes to maintain the anonymity that has
25 been afforded to him throughout.

1 CHAIRMAN: Yes.

2 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

3 MS SMITH: Just to advise you as to where the papers are in
4 the bundle in respect of him, his statement is at
5 SNB-416 to 424.

6 The congregation's response is at 1644 to 1646.

7 The Health & Social Care Board have put in
8 a response at 5513 to 5514, indicating they have no
9 records.

10 The De La Salle Order's response from the last
11 module is now in this bundle at SNB-30497 to 30509.

12 There is also an extract from the transcript of what
13 was said on the last occasion at SNB-90019 to the 90027.

14 Now, HIA24, you understand how we go through your
15 evidence --

16 **A. Yes, I do.**

17 Q. -- as you have been here before.

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. It will come as no surprise to you to see your statement
20 back up on the screen --

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. -- described as "The Witness Statement of HIA24".

23 I asked you on the last occasion if you had signed that
24 on the date you had and you confirmed that you had done
25 that.

1 We are now turning today to talk solely about your
2 time in Nazareth Lodge. You have already told us about
3 your time in Kircubbin.

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. Your personal details are set out in paragraphs 1 to 7
6 of your statement. If we just go to paragraph 8, you
7 were in Nazareth Lodge, and the records we have been
8 able to obtain suggest you went there on
9 21st December 1945 and you left on 24th September 1953,
10 when you were transferred with a group of 25 other boys
11 on that date to Kircubbin. Now the records say that you
12 were in Nazareth Lodge from December 1945, but you
13 dispute that, and the reason you do is the circumstances
14 that you were taken into care --

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. -- which you set out there in paragraph 8 --

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. -- where you say that you were 4 years old. You had
19 been living in a caravan with your mother and older
20 brother.

21 "One day I was out playing with my brother and he
22 told me to run. I saw two policemen chasing me. So I
23 ran into the caravan and hid in a blanket box. The
24 policemen found me and lifted me out by the arms. They
25 put me in a car and drove me somewhere to put me in

1 care. I was kicking and screaming and crying. The
2 reason my brother and I were on my own was because my
3 mother was at work where she was working at the time."

4 You say you don't think that that -- the date that
5 the Order have given us for you being in Nazareth Lodge
6 can be right, because you were outside playing in
7 December.

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. You were outside playing and you don't think you would
10 have been doing that, had it been the month of December.

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. Also you remember your younger brother being brought
13 into Nazareth Lodge --

14 **A. Yes.**

15 Q. -- in February 1946.

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. He was born in 1945. Isn't that correct?

18 **A. That's right. (Inaudible.)**

19 Q. You don't -- you don't remember his birth.

20 **A. I don't, no.**

21 Q. So you think that you were in the home before he was
22 born.

23 **A. Quite a while, as would you imagine.**

24 Q. So you say that while you were certainly probably in
25 Nazareth Lodge some time in 1945, you think it was much

1 earlier that year.

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. You have never known why you were taken to Nazareth
4 Lodge and the only thing you have been able to ascertain
5 is that the records show that it was the NSPCC in
6 Belfast who recommended your placement, but they have no
7 record of you and said they only kept records of those
8 cases --

9 **A. But why would the NSPC (sic) in Belfast be responsible**
10 **when I was actually in Tyrone, because that's where the**
11 **caravan was?**

12 Q. Yes. So, I mean, this is another mystery in your life
13 --

14 **A. Yes.**

15 Q. -- that you don't understand.

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. Sadly, because of the lack of records, we can't provide
18 the answers as to why that happened.

19 **A. That's right.**

20 Q. What the NSPCC have told you is they only have records
21 for those cases where there were court appearances by
22 them. Is it possible -- do you know where your family
23 were originally from? They were originally from County
24 Down. They were not even from the Belfast area. Isn't
25 that right?

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. -- a few times when you were in Nazareth Lodge, but not
3 that often, because she was living outside Belfast and
4 travelling was difficult in those times. For the visits
5 the nuns told you to be careful of what you said and you
6 knew what they meant by that.

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. That is not to be saying anything derogatory about them
9 or the home.

10 **A. Yes.**

11 Q. "During the visit we would just sit out in the field and
12 talk for about an hour. Even though my brother was in
13 the nursery in Nazareth Lodge, he was never brought on
14 these visits with my mother. I never saw him after he
15 was brought in. When he was brought in, they took me
16 over to the nursery and said, 'This is your brother'",
17 but that was the last you ever saw of him during
18 your time in the Lodge.

19 **A. It was, yes.**

20 Q. So there was no contact between you and him --

21 **A. None at all.**

22 Q. -- at that time.

23 I am going to go back to paragraph 15 and 16 of your
24 statement, where you give a little bit of information
25 about what life was like generally in the home, and you

1 say that:

2 "The routine in Nazareth Lodge was we got up about
3 7.00 am, got dressed and went down for breakfast, which
4 was toast or something. On Fridays you'd get a boiled
5 egg and a little thing of butter. The food was very
6 poor, but it was just after the war. After breakfast we
7 went to school, which was on site."

8 I am going to look at some photographs later, but
9 just to be clear, the school was actually located within
10 the same building as the dormitories in which you were
11 living. Isn't that right?

12 **A. That's what I remember. There used to be another one**
13 **that was further down over the green, but that was**
14 **mainly used for showing films and stuff. In my time**
15 **that was anyway.**

16 Q. You say school was very basic and you had to learn
17 Latin, because you were an altar boy. You do remember
18 at some point they sent three or four of you to the
19 on the Falls Road, but the younger boys didn't
20 like it and started crying. So they took you all back
21 out again.

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. You were an altar boy and you served mass and
24 benedictions. You marched at the front of holy parades.
25 You were also in the choir until:

1 "One day we all had to sing by ourselves",
2 and you got thrown out, because your voice was
3 breaking, and you were very upset by that.

4 **A. Something was breaking.**

5 Q. You had been promised sweets at Easter, but -- and they
6 were a rarity at the Lodge, but because you weren't in
7 the choir anymore, you didn't get any.

8 **A. I didn't get any.**

9 Q. You could remember the choir as something you did enjoy.

10 **A. Yes, when I was in it, like, you know.**

11 Q. You go on to say you wore shorts all the time with
12 an orange jacket. The bedding was just blankets and
13 sheets. You don't think you had pyjamas. It was quite
14 warm in bed, because they had big -- central heating
15 with big radiators.

16 "After school we would go to a big common room,
17 where there was a gramophone and a radio."

18 You say outside there was a big field, and when you
19 got older, you had your own gardening section and you
20 grew gooseberries and things like that.

21 **A. That's right.**

22 Q. Can I take it the things like the gardening are
23 something that you enjoyed as well?

24 **A. I did. I still enjoy it.**

25 Q. And that was a positive memory that you had --

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. -- of your time there.

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. Just to be clear, you are aware that the Sisters -- the
5 congregation of Sisters of Nazareth have provided
6 a response statement to what you have said. They would
7 say that the clothing and food they provided at the
8 times they were looking after children were the best
9 they could do and I think you accept this was wartime
10 and there was rationing.

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. So they may not have been able to provide the kind of
13 food we would expect today.

14 **A. Yes. Mainly the clothes you got was what you grew into
15 when somebody else had grown out of. They were handed
16 down like, you know.**

17 Q. Just if we can move on to paragraph 22, you say there
18 that you:

19 "... never saw anybody from the Welfare or anyone
20 coming to inspect Nazareth Lodge while I was there."

21 Do you ever remember visits by bishops or by
22 visiting nuns at all when you were there, HIA24?

23 **A. No. If they did, I didn't take a big load of -- they
24 used to have some, like, celebrities that used to come
25 now and again, like, you know. I can't really remember.**

1 Q. There is an entry that I have seen. I don't know if
2 this was during your time. It may have been later.
3 There was a boxer called Rinty Monaghan. Do you ever
4 remember somebody like that coming to visit the home?

5 **A. I don't remember him, no. The vague memory is Jon**
6 **Pertwee. He might have been there a few times. I don't**
7 **actually really remember fully, like, you know.**

8 Q. But you do -- you have some sort of sense of somebody
9 who was well-known coming to visit the home.

10 **A. Yes, yes.**

11 Q. You do remember, however, the doctor coming -- sorry --
12 the nit nurse and the dentist coming out to the home.

13 **A. Yes. They just came to give you a quick run over, like,**
14 **you know.**

15 Q. You also remember in paragraph 23 that you were sent out
16 for weekends a few times to different families.

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. You remember one of them was a doctor, and you also went
19 out to visit your mother a couple of times when she had
20 moved back to the east of the province and was living in
21 -- on --

22 **A.**

23 Q. -- the .

24 **A. She was living in at the time. There used**
25 **to be huts there, army huts.**

1 Q. You do remember the Christmas parties at Mackies there
2 in paragraph 24.

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. You remember going -- leaving the home, going there and
5 getting an apple, an orange and a couple of nuts in
6 a bag at the end of that.

7 **A. That's it, yes.**

8 Q. If I can then just scroll back up then, please, to
9 paragraph 17, coming on to talk about some of the things
10 that you complain about about your time there, you say
11 that:

12 "On bath nights we had to strip naked and get into
13 a queue."

14 **A. That's right.**

15 Q. "There would be two nuns, one at each side of the bath.
16 The nuns I remember are ..."

17 and you name them here. You will see we have given
18 them designations: SR118, SR36 and SR100. Just to be
19 clear, the names -- I am going to use the names, but
20 they are not to be used outside this chamber, HIA24.
21 Those would have been SR118, SR36 and SR100.

22 **A. Something like that, yes.**

23 Q. One of the things the Order said, that SR36, whom you
24 name there as "SR36", was, in fact, a catering nun and
25 didn't look after the boys.

1 **A. Uh-huh.**

2 Q. So she wouldn't have anything to do with the bath time.

3 Might you have got her name wrong?

4 **A. Well, it is quite possible. All I know is there were**
5 **two nuns. One was one side of the bath and the other**
6 **was the other side, the front, and that was it.**

7 Q. Some others have said -- told the Inquiry that there
8 were older boys in charge of bath time. Is that your
9 memory?

10 **A. No, not when I remember.**

11 Q. You do remember the older boys -- and if we can just --
12 just before we move on to some more of your complaints,
13 if we look at some photographs. These were photographs
14 that you brought to the Inquiry. They have been given
15 to you by your brother NL 37 Isn't that right?

16 **A. That's right, yes.**

17 Q. If we can just look at SNB-18419, now you are not in
18 this photograph. Isn't that right?

19 **A. That's right. I think my brother NL 37 said he was in**
20 **this one.**

21 Q. And this was the young -- youngest group of the boys who
22 were looked after by the Sisters.

23 **A. Yes. Well, no. They used to look after them from**
24 **babies.**

25 Q. Yes. Sorry. Yes, but after they left the nursery.

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. This would have been the very junior boys.

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. If we could just scroll on down to the next photograph,
5 please, now this is a photograph of Nazareth Lodge.

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. I don't know if we can see the entire photograph on the
8 page, but perhaps not. Perhaps if we just scroll on
9 down. We see there there is -- the front door there is
10 shown to the -- to my left of the photograph.

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. Can I ask what your memories are, HIA24, of where the
13 dormitories would have been in the home?

14 **A. Yes. As far as I remember they were the first and the
15 second floor.**

16 Q. And have you any idea what was on the floor up above?

17 **A. None at all, no.**

18 Q. And where -- you say that the school that you attended
19 was within this building. Is that right?

20 **A. It was within that building, yes.**

21 Q. I think when we were talking earlier, you felt that that
22 was in the ground floor, that the school rooms were on
23 the ground floor.

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. Now coming back just to talk about the older boys, when

1 we were talking earlier, I asked you about this, the
2 fact that the older boys wouldn't have been involved in
3 bathing the younger ones. What is your memory of what
4 the older boys did? I am going come on specifically to
5 what -- if we -- perhaps we will just look at
6 paragraph 12 of your statement. That's 418.

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. There at paragraph 12 it says:

9 "In Nazareth Lodge we slept in big dormitories.
10 There were about 20 boys in each dormitory. We were
11 grouped by age, but there would be older boys in the
12 dormitory as well. When the nuns would go to evening
13 prayers and evening meals, they would delegate
14 responsibility to the older boys. They were in charge
15 of us more often than not. While we were in bed, the
16 older boys would come round with a big stick and beat
17 us. This went on continuously, but nobody ever said
18 anything."

19 You say:

20 "A nun would sleep in a small wooden cubicle in the
21 dormitory, but it had no windows, so the nun never knew
22 what was going on outside. You learned to keep your
23 head under the blanket and not make any noise."

24 Now some others have said there was actually
25 a little window in the nun's cell.

1 **A. I didn't see any window in the nun's cell, because if**
2 **you look at it straight on, there wasn't anything there.**
3 **There was just the blank.**

4 Q. Can I just -- apart from supervising in the dormitories
5 and looking after you when the nuns were at evening
6 prayers and meals, what else did the older boys do in
7 response -- in the sense of having responsibility for
8 the younger ones? You talked about other chores that
9 you were given to do and they supervised those.

10 **A. The chores and the -- we had to clean the dormitories.**
11 **We had to polish them, and when they were polished, we**
12 **had to use this -- like a big bumper, which was**
13 **extremely heavy, and obviously if you weren't getting on**
14 **with the way they wanted you to get on with it, you'd**
15 **get a clout.**

16 Q. I think you talk about this at paragraph 18 in your
17 statement.

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. Just there. You said that it was extremely heavy, this
20 bumper, and if you weren't getting on with it, you would
21 get a dig or a clout from one of the older boys.

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. As you got older, they started going to Rubane, so there
24 wasn't such an age gap in the dormitories after Rubane
25 opened effectively --

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. -- which we know would have been about 1950/'51 when the
3 boys started to move.

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. You say there they sent the first group of older boys
6 when you were 10. That was in 1951. There were
7 14-year-old boys in the dormitories with 6-year-olds
8 until the time when the transfer started.

9 **A. That's right.**

10 Q. You also talked about having to carry out work in the
11 nursery section. You said you were asked to do dishes
12 in that section.

13 **A. Yes, we were sent over to do chores and things like
14 that.**

15 Q. One thing that I wanted to ask you, we know that there
16 were boys who were in the home during your time who were
17 selected to emigrate to Australia. Have you a memory of
18 that, HIA24?

19 **A. I have a memory of that. I was out with them on the
20 front -- the front door there was steps, and they stood
21 us around on it, and there was other people came. They
22 were seeming to pick what they wanted, like. Do you
23 know what I mean?**

24 Q. When you say other people, were these other nuns or were
25 they --

1 **A. There was nuns and other things in among them, like.**
2 You know what I mean? It is like you were put on show,
3 if you know what I mean.

4 Q. And did those boys then go to Australia? Have you
5 a memory of them going?

6 **A. I don't know where they went. They obviously didn't**
7 **tell us what was happening.**

8 Q. But you certainly didn't go, and your mother was still
9 alive --

10 **A. My mother was still alive.**

11 Q. -- and in contact with you. Isn't that right?

12 **A. That's right, yes.**

13 Q. Just going then back, if we might, to your statement at
14 paragraphs 13 and 14, again talking about the older
15 boys, and this is where you describe the sexual abuse
16 that you suffered at their hands. You say later on at
17 night your blanket would go back and one of the older
18 boys would take you out of your bed and bring you to
19 his.

20 "There were a few older boys who did this to me.
21 I remember one of the boy's names", and you give it
22 there, "but I don't know his first name. Another boy",
23 whom you name, "also used to sexually abuse me in the
24 Lodge. They would make me perform sexual acts on them.
25 They forced me to masturbate them and would try to push

1 my head down to give them oral sex, but I resisted that.
2 I would have been about 6 years old and they would have
3 been up to 14."

4 Again you say it wasn't until 1951 that they were
5 transferred. You say:

6 "Sometimes when we were in the toilets, we would get
7 attacked by older boys. They would always try to get
8 you on your own when nobody else was around. They would
9 be trying to rape us, and if you weren't quick enough,
10 that was bad luck. I was never fully raped, but this
11 particular boy tried to rape me on a couple of
12 occasions."

13 Now can I just say that the congregation have said
14 that they have been shocked and horrified to learn that
15 this type of abuse was happening in their home, and do
16 you believe that the nuns would have known that the
17 older boys were doing this to the younger boys?

18 **A. I haven't got the slightest -- I mean, you learned to**
19 **take what you were given. If you were hit or anything**
20 **like that, you learned to take it. The same with this**
21 **carry-on until you got old enough to say, "Piss off",**
22 **like, you know, and that was it. It just went on.**

23 **Q.** But as regards what knowledge the Sisters who were in
24 charge would have known?

25 **A. I don't know. I don't know what they would have known.**

1 Q. At paragraph 19 you describe the nuns as --

2 "... were also violent with us sometimes."

3 I wanted to know, HIA24, what you meant by that.

4 I~am going to go on to the next incident that you
5 describe, but in general terms how were they violent?

6 **A. Well, they were violent in the sense that if you -- you**
7 **did something or you said something that they didn't**
8 **like, they would just clout you or she gave you a strap.**
9 **It's just like I say. You learned to live with it.**

10 Q. You do talk here about when you were 9, you went to be
11 confirmed, and it was 13th March 1951.

12 **A. Yes.**

13 Q. You say you were sitting there in the church with the
14 other boys when all of a sudden you were dragged out by
15 the ear. You can't remember her name, but a nun dragged
16 you down the aisle, slapped you on the back of the head
17 saying, "You're not baptised". You obviously didn't
18 know. As you say, "How was I supposed to know I hadn't
19 been baptised?" You say they were really angry about
20 that, though, because you had been an altar boy and had
21 received communion, and it upset them to think they had
22 a pagan in the community.

23 **A. Uh-huh.**

24 Q. In fact, you were baptised then that same day --

25 **A. That's right.**

1 Q. -- and confirmed on the same day.

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. There's an issue here in paragraph 20 where you talk
4 about the records being incorrect, but I think I have
5 managed to clear that up for you by saying that the
6 information that you were given when you subsequently
7 asked from the Sisters of Nazareth about where you were
8 baptised was that it happened in St. Brigid's Church in
9 Belfast, but whoever copied that out of the record got
10 it wrong. It was obviously an error that they made when
11 they gave you that information, because the record
12 clearly shows that your baptism took place in Holy
13 Rosary Church. The person who is below you on the list
14 in the record was baptised in St. Brigid's Church, and
15 that might be how they gave you that misinformation.

16 **A. Well, it's quite possible, but then --**

17 Q. You also say your date of birth was wrong in the
18 records.

19 **A. My date of birth was wrong and everything else was
20 wrong. I wasn't born in Belfast. I was born in**

21 **The records were a bit of a ...**

22 Q. The records were inaccurate, and that has caused you
23 difficulty in trying to find out what you could about
24 how you came to be in care. Isn't that right, HIA24?

25 **A. That's right. The other thing is that they said that**

1 the NSPC (sic) didn't have any records, but the point is
2 who gave the NSNCCP (sic) or whoever they were --

3 Q. NSPCC.

4 A. -- permission to take me or have me taken?

5 Q. Yes, and there is no -- there is no answer to that --

6 A. There is no answer to that.

7 Q. -- in anything you have been given.

8 A. It wouldn't have been the NNCP (sic) from Belfast. We
9 were in Tyrone at the time.

10 Q. Uh-huh.

11 A. It is strange altogether.

12 Q. From what the Inquiry has been able to discover there is
13 nothing that we have that can give you any more
14 information --

15 A. No.

16 Q. -- or shed any more light on how you came to be taken --

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. -- into Nazareth Lodge.

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. When you spoke to us on the last occasion -- and the
21 transcript is there at SNB-99... -- sorry -- 90020, you
22 spoke about how there was no preparation for you leaving
23 for Rubane.

24 A. No.

25 Q. In fact, you were just lined up and told you were going

1 essentially. Isn't that right?

2 **A. That's right, yes.**

3 Q. You were taken on the bus and there was nothing went
4 with you; just the clothes that you were wearing.

5 **A. That's all, yes.**

6 Q. We looked at a document this morning which comes from
7 the De La Salle Brothers' record. I know you have seen
8 this before. If we could just look at that. It is
9 30504, SNB. This is the kind of document that the De La
10 Salle Order were keeping on children when they were
11 admitted to the home. You see there they have you
12 admitted on September 24th, 1953 and:

13 "Circumstances of entry: Transferred from Nazareth
14 Lodge with age group of 21 -- of 11 plus."

15 Then the date below that is 21st September '45,
16 which is the date that the Sisters of Nazareth would say
17 that you went into Nazareth Lodge. They've said:

18 "Arrived at Nazareth Lodge. Sent by the NSPCC of
19 Belfast. A younger brother is also in Nazareth Lodge
20 while a sister is a nun in a convent in France.
21 Mother's maiden name" is recorded there. "The family
22 resided", as you've said, "in _____ previous to
23 going to Belfast. Father??? HIA24 is of average
24 ability and was in 6th standard while in Nazareth Lodge.
25 Health good.

1 Baptised: 13th March '51. Confirmed: 13th March
2 '51.

3 Certificates herewith."

4 Then:

5 "24th September '53: Transferred to Rubane House."

6 The source of that information is recorded as
7 Nazareth Lodge. I am calling that up to show the
8 Inquiry essentially the kind of information that was
9 being given to the Brothers when they received boys like
10 yourself --

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. -- into their care from the congregation. I know that
13 you have obtained that document previously and you had
14 seen it before, HIA24.

15 Well, we have on the last time that you came to
16 speak to us talked about the time that you spent in
17 Kircubbin and we don't need to look at that again.

18 **A. Right. Okay.**

19 Q. You talk also about your time after you left, and there
20 was a Mr Murphy who got you a job when you left
21 Kircubbin. Isn't that right?

22 **A. That's right. He was the welfare officer.**

23 Q. He was what was known as the Nazareth Lodge Welfare
24 Committee Welfare Officer. We have heard from a number
25 of people that he helped them with accommodation and

1 with a job after they left.

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. Then you weren't entirely happy with that. So you left,
4 and you record the life that you had afterwards in
5 paragraphs 37 through to 43.

6 If we could just go to paragraph 42 at SNB-424, you
7 say there that:

8 "My memories of the home have never left me.
9 They're still with me today. Sometimes I go to bed at
10 night and it's still rushing through my head. I have
11 never been for counselling and I don't think I would
12 want to go. My faith has long gone by the wayside.
13 I didn't baptise my kids because of my experiences
14 growing up. I left it to them to decide if they wanted
15 to follow a faith.

16 I have never reported the abuse I suffered to the
17 police. Growing up, you were scared of the police. You
18 were scared the priests and you were scared of anyone in
19 authority. You learned to stay clear of them."

20 Then when you were signing your statement you added
21 a comment at the bottom. If we could scroll down:

22 "It's funny that a movie has just been released this
23 year, '12 Years A Slave'. This is what I think of my
24 time in homes."

25 **A. That's right.**

1 Q. That -- in February of last year, when you were signing
2 your statement for the Inquiry, that essentially summed
3 up your views of your time in care. Is that right?

4 **A. That's still my views of the times I am in there.**

5 Q. Well, one question that we -- I did sort of half ask you
6 on the last occasion, HIA24, and you did say something
7 about what you feel the Inquiry should recommend about
8 those like yourself who were brought up in institutions
9 and about what you suffered there, and I wondered if you
10 had had any more thoughts about it, or if there's
11 anything else you want to add to what you said on the
12 last day.

13 **A. Well, it's like I said. I said I didn't think them**
14 **places were the proper sort of places to bring up**
15 **children. I mean, if you are taking children out of**
16 **homes and stuff like that and putting them into another**
17 **place like that, you really don't learn anything about**
18 **life. Once you get outside you are lost. You have to**
19 **start all over again from scratch. There's no help out**
20 **there for you.**

21 Q. You certainly have expressed to me the fact that you
22 feel that your decision in coming forward to this
23 Inquiry is not about compensation but really to ensure
24 that what happened to you doesn't happen to anyone else.

25 **A. That's right.**

1 Q. HIA24, I have no further questions for you, but is there
2 anything you feel we have not covered that you want to
3 say about, particularly about your time in Nazareth
4 Lodge, that you feel you haven't had the opportunity to
5 say? Please do tell us now.

6 **A. Well, it's -- you are in them places. You are not**
7 **actually an individual. You're just a group and you're**
8 **getting controlled. It's just like you control slaves,**
9 **like. You know what I mean? You are told to do**
10 **something. You do it. If you don't do it, you get**
11 **whacked and that's it, and you learn to put up with all**
12 **that, and that's about as much as I can say.**

13 Q. Well, thank you very much, HIA24. As I say, I have
14 nothing further. The Inquiry Panel may have some things
15 they want to ask you.

16 Questions from THE PANEL

17 CHAIRMAN: HIA24, can I ask you to think back to what you
18 were telling us about there being a gardening section as
19 you referred to it?

20 **A. Yes. It was just a little place at the side of the**
21 **field that we used to go and we used to have**
22 **gooseberries and bits and pieces, like, you know,**
23 **growing and that was it.**

24 Q. Can I just take you through a number of things? First
25 of all, do you remember any walled garden or anything

1 like that beside the house itself --

2 **A. Walled garden?**

3 Q. -- or close to it?

4 **A. No. There might have been a wall around it. I don't**
5 **know. I can't remember back that far now.**

6 Q. When you say there was a field where you would grow
7 gooseberries and so on, was that further away? Did you
8 have to walk along the public road to get to it?

9 **A. Oh, no, no. That was part of the -- it was part of it,**
10 **part of the big field.**

11 Q. Somewhere -- somewhere in the grounds?

12 **A. Yes, somewhere in the ground, yes.**

13 Q. Was this area used as a kitchen garden? Were there
14 vegetables grown there or was it just there were some
15 gooseberry bushes and that sort of thing?

16 **A. It was just -- it's just gooseberry bushes and things,**
17 **like, you know. People went for just an hour or so at**
18 **a time just to -- it was more like for your own**
19 **enjoyment.**

20 Q. Yes. Were you just allowed to play in there, as it were
21 --

22 **A. That's it, yes.**

23 Q. -- as opposed to in an organised way gathering the fruit
24 to be made into jam or something like that?

25 **A. No, no, we weren't doing that.**

1 Q. No.

2 **A. No.**

3 Q. Thank you very much.

4 MS DOHERTY: Thanks, HIA24. Can I just check? I heard what
5 you said, that you didn't know whether the nuns knew
6 about the sexual abuse, but do you think they knew about
7 the physical bullying that went on by the older boys.

8 **A. Well, it probably wasn't done when the nuns were about.**

9 **You know what I mean? Whether they actually knew it**
10 **happened -- I mean, if they put the older boys in**
11 **charge, they must have given them some leeway how to**
12 **keep control --**

13 Q. Okay.

14 **A. -- if you know what I mean.**

15 Q. Uh-huh. I mean, we have heard from other people saying
16 that the older boys were kind of given the right to
17 discipline the --

18 **A. Well, I don't know if they were actually -- I never knew**
19 **they were actually given the right, but I would imagine**
20 **there would have been some leeway given to them for to**
21 **control us.**

22 Q. Okay, and can I just clarify who gave you the records
23 that had the wrong information in it?

24 **A. My younger brother -- oh, who gave me them?**

25 Q. Who gave you --

1 **A. The Lodge gave them to me. They sent them to me.**

2 Q. Okay. So it was the Lodge. Okay. Thanks very much,
3 HIA24.

4 **A. Okay.**

5 CHAIRMAN: Well, thank you very much indeed, HIA24, for
6 coming to speak to us. I am sure you will be relieved
7 to hear we don't have any more questions for you. I am
8 sorry that you have had to come back a second time, but,
9 as we explained before, it is very difficult to cope
10 with recollections of different places at different
11 times.

12 **A. Yes.**

13 Q. We have got to try to divide them up in some way, but
14 thank you very much for coming back to us a second time.

15 **A. Well, I hope it's been of a help.**

16 Q. Yes, it has. Thank you very much. Please feel free to
17 go. I think we have just one more matter to deal with.

18 MS SMITH: Yes, there is one more matter. Mr Aiken
19 I believe will be ready very shortly.

20 CHAIRMAN: If you want to leave now, HIA24, just feel free
21 to go.

22 **A. Pardon?**

23 CHAIRMAN: If you want to leave now, please --

24 **A. Is it over?**

25 CHAIRMAN: Yes. That's it. Thank you.

1 Nazareth Lodge.

2 As with the last occasion, Chairman, I have
3 confirmed with that she adopts and confirms the
4 witness statement that she has provided annexing
5 material relating to HIA159 as being the evidence that
6 she gives to the Inquiry on his behalf, and you didn't
7 require her to formally confirm that.

8 CHAIRMAN: No.

9 MR AIKEN: The witness statement from can be found at
10 SNB-591. If we just can bring that up, please. 591,
11 please. explains she is making this statement on
12 behalf of her late husband. If we move on to the next
13 page, please, she indicates that a typed summary of
14 HIA159's time in Nazareth Lodge and Rubane is attached.

15 If we move through to 593, running from page 593
16 through to 597 is a typed summary of HIA159's time in
17 Nazareth Lodge and then latterly his time in Rubane.
18 His daughter , who is here, explained to me this was
19 typed up by his other daughter, on his behalf.

20 In addition to this four-page narrative that's
21 available to you in typed form you also have the very
22 helpful eleven-page handwritten narrative of general
23 life in Nazareth Lodge. It does contain some elements
24 of abusive behaviour that I will refer to, but which
25 gives a helpful summary of what life was generally like,

1 and that runs from SNB-32183 through 32193. HIA159 had
2 provided a similar helpful narrative about Rubane, and
3 his summary about Nazareth Lodge alerts the Panel to
4 things like the farm, and how the choir operated, and
5 various other, perhaps more humorous, elements of time
6 as well as contrasting it with some of the more
7 difficult or bad times that he experienced.

8 In addition, the Sisters of Nazareth's response
9 statement can be found at 1618 and 1619, and I have made
10 the family aware that the congregation has offered
11 a sincere and unreserved apology to HIA159 and his
12 family for any treatment he received that fell beneath
13 the acceptable standard, and I know that that was
14 an emotional communication to receive for the family,
15 but which is welcome.

16 The Health & Social Care Board statement runs from
17 5509 through to 5510 and that records that HIA159 was
18 a private placement and not someone under the care of
19 the welfare authority.

20 By way of background, HIA159 was born on
21 and was aged when he died in He
22 entered Nazareth Lodge on 22nd November 1948 through the
23 auspices of the local priest, it seems, aged . That
24 was because his mother was going to She
25 married there in 1950. The register entries can be

1 found at 4438 and 4442. HIA159 spent nine years in
2 Nazareth Lodge before moving to Rubane on 12th
3 August 1957. That's evidenced at 4440. He went there,
4 aged , as part of the annual transfer of boys to
5 Kircubbin, and the De La Salle admission register
6 confirming that can be found at RUB, rather than SNB, so
7 RUB2162.

8 In the fourth paragraph of the typed statement that
9 we can see on the screen HIA159 describes a particular
10 incident of group punishment at the hands of SR100,
11 "SR100". He says:

12 "After mass all the younger boys were seated on
13 benches along the corridor ..."

14 I am sorry:

15 "The first Sunday after we made the first communion
16 we were excited that we had our very first prayer book.
17 Our excitement was too much for one of the nuns, SR100.
18 During the service all the boys had to pass their book
19 to her, because she thought we weren't paying attention.

20 After mass all the younger boys were seated on
21 benches along the corridor, while some of the older boys
22 just walked up and down threatening, 'You're for it' and
23 smiling. SR100 came out of a bedroom and told us that
24 we were getting six of the best (six strokes of the
25 cane) for carrying on in the chapel. One by one we were

1 in the bedroom and held down by four older boys and made
2 to sit down on the benches again. One boy was screaming
3 so loud that the nun was going to give us all six more
4 unless he was quiet, while the older boys were
5 encouraging him to scream louder."

6 He describes that in more detail if we can look at
7 SNB-32186, please, and this is the type of handwritten
8 record that I am indicating there is eleven pages of
9 that will assist the Panel. You can see just towards
10 the bottom of the page:

11 "All had our new prayer books and, being excited,
12 were sharing with each other our books and whispering.
13 Then the nun in charge warned us to be quiet or else.
14 In the end we all had to hand our prayer books along the
15 pew to her and we never did see them again. After mass
16 the nun, SR100, made all the boys sit on the benches
17 along the wall. The older boys were watching us."

18 Scroll down, please:

19 "Four other boys were in the dormitory with SR100
20 and one boy at a time went in, laid across the bed,
21 being held down by the four boys, and caned six times
22 across the bum. We were not allowed to make any noise
23 after it was over, but sit quietly. One boy did roar
24 his head off. The older boys found this funny and egged
25 him on. SR100 came out and said if that didn't stop,

1 that yelling, we were going to get it again."

2 In paragraph 5, if we go to 593, please, in the
3 fifth paragraph of the typed transcript HIA159 then
4 describes being beaten by SR152 because he was late for
5 choir practice. He explains he was late because he was
6 having cleaned by a different Sister
7 in the attic of the Lodge. He -- and he
8 explains this in the typed statement -- he
9 when he was hit by another boy during a game with a cane
10 made out of a piece of a privet hedge. That resulted in
11 him having He describes how
12 on this occasion as a result of being late the Sister
13 took a broom to him, and he describes how it only
14 stopped after the broom had broken on the desk that he
15 was sheltering under.

16 If we look at page 6 of the handwritten narrative,
17 he does describe the contrasting behaviour of the nuns.
18 If we look at 32188, please -- just scroll down, please
19 -- he says:

20 "Regardless of what seems a lot of happy times we
21 did have a lot of occasions to remember the bitter
22 times."

23 So he is acknowledging that there were lots of good
24 times involving -- in the home and involving the nuns
25 who were in the home, but he says:

1 "The nuns could on many a time turn vicious and
2 vindictive and be cruel both verbally and physically,
3 and some of these punishments came in the form of not
4 seeing your mother or other relation when they came to
5 see you. Verbal abuse was if you were untidy; your
6 underwear was soiled; you were caught doing what they
7 thought was in their minds of a sexual content; and not
8 eating your food, which on a number of occasions was
9 forcefully shoved into your mouth. Physical abuse came
10 in the form of whatever came to hand: their hands, brush
11 handles, the long straps which they wore around their
12 waists and hung down the side of their hip. Rare
13 occasions a cane was used. They could stop you going
14 out at weekends, on visits or holidays."

15 Scroll down, please:

16 "On the other hand, they could show enormous
17 feelings of love, compassion and care when a boy or boys
18 needed their help in time of any great illness or
19 accident and would visit them in hospital, but in the
20 end it does not excuse their behaviour. Some day they
21 will have to answer for it."

22 It goes on to say that parcels were received, were
23 not passed on, and others were punished by being made to
24 stand naked in the bathroom, and some were put into
25 baths of cold water and made to sit there until told to

1 get out.

2 "Just sometimes they were forgot about."

3 He describes those punishments in the first -- if we
4 go back, please, to 594 of the typed statement, he
5 describes the type of punishments that were utilised by
6 the nuns. He describes how -- you will see a reference
7 to the Jeyes Fluid being used, but he points out that
8 that was the way of trying to keep heads clean from
9 infestations, and he describes then how there was
10 difficulty whenever you -- your underpants were being
11 examined, and how when silence wasn't achieved, having
12 been asked for, or you did something wrong, then you
13 could be made sit in a cold bath for over an hour. He
14 identifies some of the boys who were involved in
15 carrying out this punishment on behalf of the nuns.

16 At the top of SNB-596, if we can move through to it,
17 please, he describes a particular group punishment,
18 which involved being --

19 "On another occasion ..." -- you will see it is the
20 third paragraph down -- "a few boys and I sneaked down
21 to a large hay barn where they stored fruit to eat some
22 bananas and apples. However, we did not find any, as it
23 was too dark. The next morning all 80 boys in the home
24 were ordered to form rows in the changing room. A nun,
25 SR34", that's SR34, "said that some boys had been seen

1 down at the barn and some apples were missing. Boxes of
2 apples were carried in and we were ordered to eat all of
3 them. After eating five or six apples they started to
4 run out and they were then cut in half and we had to eat
5 them.

6 SR34 said she hoped we had learnt a lesson. Lots of
7 boys were ill with stomach pains and had to make lots of
8 trips to the toilet."

9 He describes that -- I am not going to take you to
10 it, but in the handwritten narrative he describes it in
11 similar terms at SNB-32183.

12 As you can see, he also describes one particular
13 incident involving SR152 at the top of the section that
14 begins about "Force Feeding", whenever he is forced to
15 eat something that he wasn't wishing to eat and how his
16 jaw was grabbed and the food was forced into his mouth
17 until it was gone and he had to struggle to stop
18 throwing up.

19 He also describes in the typed statement various
20 injuries that he sustained during his time in the home
21 and those run from the bottom of 594 and on to 595, and
22 they include how -- the circumstances under which he

23 and how various other injuries sustained
24 resulted in hospital visits for him at various times.

25 He also points out at the bottom of page 595 in five

1 paragraphs he sets out under the section that begins
2 "Loss of contact" how -- his belief that contact wasn't
3 facilitated with his mum and his aunt and the hurt that
4 that caused. He expresses in those paragraphs his
5 belief that contact was not desired by those who were
6 running the home and as a result a relationship that
7 could have been fostered wasn't.

8 Now, as I indicated, in paragraph 7 of the SNB
9 response statement, if we just look, please, at 1619 and
10 at paragraph 7, the congregation, Sisters of Nazareth,
11 recognise that the Sisters HIA159 refers to are now
12 deceased and therefore can't speak for themselves, but
13 the congregation, therefore, offers HIA159 and his
14 family an unreserved and most sincere apology for any
15 treatment that he received by any Sister which fell
16 below the acceptable standard.

17 I have also made the family aware that the
18 narrative, handwritten as it is, of eleven pages is
19 something that the Panel will find of considerable
20 assistance as it does its work in relation to Nazareth
21 Lodge.

22 Chairman, Members of the Panel, those are the
23 remarks that I propose to make in respect of HIA159's
24 time in Nazareth Lodge, which I trust will be of some
25 comfort to his family, who have travelled again today.

1 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Mr Aiken.

2 Well, before we conclude our proceedings today
3 I would just like to thank [name redacted] and her
4 family for not only coming not just once but twice to
5 hear the account written by the late HIA159 placed
6 before us. We have two documents, in fact, the typed
7 form of document, to which reference has been made
8 today, but also this much longer and very revealing
9 personal account which he has prepared in years gone by,
10 and, if I may say so, it is a document which in many
11 ways helps us in a way that others have not, because of
12 the passage of time, been able to help us, by creating
13 a very clear picture of many of the aspects of life,
14 good, bad and indifferent, that he experienced all those
15 years ago, and I have no doubt we will find it very
16 useful indeed as we look back through it to see small
17 details which add so much to the broader picture which
18 we have to consider. So we are very grateful to you for
19 sharing that with us. Thank you very much.

20 MR AIKEN: Chairman, Members of the Panel, that concludes
21 today's evidence.

22 CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Well, we will resume tomorrow at the
23 usual time.

24 (1.05 pm)

25 (Hearing adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning)