

Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry

Witness Statement of

Anne Marie Carr

Support person present: Yes

1. My name is Anne Marie Carr. My date of birth is [REDACTED] 1954. I am 63 years old. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.

Life before going into care

2. My mother was called [REDACTED] I was born in Greenock and that is where we lived. My mum didn't have a house so we lived with her parents. My mum had six kids so the house was over crowded.

3. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] The youngest was my brother, Samuel, who was really young. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

4. My mum went away one day and didn't come back. She left us with our grandparents. My gran was not well, and my aunties came over one day and told us that we were going away somewhere tomorrow. I was too young to understand [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

5. The next day, my gran had packed some stuff for us. A big motor came to take us away. [REDACTED] I was six or seven. Samuel was only about a year old, if that.

6. I remember my gran was still holding Samuel, who was little, in her arms. He had to be passed to Mr McKenzie, our welfare officer, in the car. Mr McKenzie used to work on John Street in Glasgow.

7. [REDACTED] we went in the motor with Mr McKenzie. At the end of our journey, we came to this big place I had never seen before. It was Smyllum.

Smyllum Children's Home, Lanark

8. We rang the doorbell and a nun came to the door. She took us in and put us in a massive visiting room. We sat there until the Mother Superior came in. We didn't know who she was at the time, but later found out she was the head of the nuns. We were in a convent.

9. The Mother Superior and Mr McKenzie spoke for a while. Then she came to us and said that she was going to take us to meet [REDACTED]. She took us to the other nuns and left us there.

10. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I didn't understand but I dried my tears. I was still upset.

11. My young brother was taken away to the boys' side. He was put into a nursery when he first went in. He got moved into a group when he got a bit older, but boys and girls were kept separate. The only time [REDACTED] saw my brother was at mass or at playtime.

12. There was a big room with boxes that had our names on them. Our clothes that we went in to the home with were kept in there. We didn't see them again until we left. Smyllum gave us clothes to wear. The kids all wore the same clothes but they were in different colours. We would get our own clothes back most of the time, but sometimes you would get back a dress that was too long or too short.

13. There were a lot of boys and girls in the home. There were babies that came into the home and went all the way up in age. Some of them were fifteen and sixteen years old. Some were even as old as eighteen.
14. The nuns were called sisters, and they all came from different places. Some were English and some Irish. I was so young that I didn't really notice the difference. We were just frightened of them and looked up to them. We got told by other girls what to do and what not to do in the place.
15. There were about four nuns looking after [REDACTED] one time, but then they would change over and other nuns would come on. Other nuns would leave and then the rest would get moved about [REDACTED] It was always changing. I don't remember their names. I only remember Sister [REDACTED] AGI [REDACTED] She worked over at the boys' side but came over [REDACTED] for a while.
16. It was a big place. The dormitories were upstairs. When you came out of the dormitory, you came downstairs and along the corridor to the dining room. Then there was the sitting room, where we would sit if it was raining. Then there was a door that took you out to the big yard.
17. I know from my papers that I was nine or ten years old when I left Smyllum.

Routine at Smyllum

18. I got into the routine that they wanted us to be in after a couple of weeks. If you didn't then hell mend you.

Mornings and bedtime

19. There was a long corridor with lots of dormitories. I was in a dormitory with about six beds. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] The nun on night duty had a bedroom, which was in our dormitory.
20. We would say our prayers at night time in the dormitory. We would be told to get undressed so we would get undressed. We would go and get washed and then come back into the dormitory. Then the sister would tell us we had five or ten minutes before the lights went off. We weren't allowed to speak after the lights were out. If we got caught, we would get a doing, which meant being hit.
21. In the mornings, the nun would come in and ask who wanted to go to mass. I would go every morning at 6 am, then I would come back in time for others getting up.
22. When it was time to get up, the nun would come out of her bedroom, put the lights on and start shouting "up girls, up girls." We all had to jump out of bed, then we knelt down on the floor and said a prayer.
23. We were told to go and get washed, and not to take too long. We got washed, came back and got dressed. Then we had to make our bed and go downstairs to the dining room for breakfast. We lined up in twos and walked places.
24. After breakfast, we had work to do. We had to sweep the floors, clean the lockers, make sure the beds were made properly. The nuns checked the beds, and if they didn't think it was made properly, they stripped it and we had to make it again.

Mealtimes and chores

25. The dining room we ate in was for the girls only. There were a lot of girls. We got porridge for breakfast one morning and then we could have corn flakes the next

morning. We sometimes got sausage, or even just a bit of toast because we had chores to do.

26. At lunch time we would get soup and a dinner, and always a pudding. In the evening, we just got an evening meal. You weren't allowed to leave anything in the plate but if I didn't like anything then I would leave it. I would be forced to eat it and the nuns would hit me.
27. The food was not nice. I had a very bad experience with semolina and prunes. I don't touch it to this day. After that I got used to it and learned the rules about what I could and couldn't do.
28. We had to do the dishes and clean up the dining room and get it ready for the next meal. That was one of the chores. The girls had their own chores and we had our day's work every day.
29. The corridors also had to be washed and polished. We would go up and down the long corridors with cloths on our feet until the nuns could see their faces in the floor. You would be picked to do the floors and had to do it even if you didn't want to. It was boring and you got hit over the head if you stopped.
30. You could be working in the kitchen, which was a big kitchen. You would have a lot of potatoes to peel and you could be there for hours. Another chore was to wash the pots and pans in the kitchen. You would have to do them again if it wasn't done properly.
31. You could be working in the laundry with the dirty clothes and wet bed sheets. You'd have to put the things in the machine and then put the sheets through the press. I learned to do that and quite enjoyed it. I think this was in Smyllum but I may be getting mixed up with another home.

Leisure time

32. After dinner and cleaning up, we got our play time. We got to watch television for an hour or two in the evening. Then we would get a sandwich or something. Then we had to get lined up and go to bed.
33. There was a library in the home. I didn't bother going because I wasn't much of a reader.
34. We played rounders and I played with my roller skates. I loved going down the hill. [REDACTED] We played out in the back yard.
35. The boys and girls had different bits to play in, in the back yard. We weren't allowed to mix. We were told by the nuns not to talk to the boys.

Bath times

36. We had baths on certain days. I never saw the nuns come in when I was having a bath, but I know they went in with others. They had a habit of just going in if they wanted to. They would usually just say how long you had to get out of the bath because someone else was going in.
37. We heard a girl really screaming one day. We asked her afterwards if it was her that was screaming and why. The girl told us it was because the nun roasted her with water. The girl had to go to the nurse and then to the Law Hospital in Lanark for her burns. The hospital has shut down now.

School

38. The school was within the grounds of the convent. It was up the hill from the home.

39. We done our school work in the school. The teacher would sometimes give homework if someone was a bit backward.

Holidays

40. We would go on a big bus to go on holiday in summertime. We would go to a big site with caravans, but I can't remember the names of the place. We would all go to the same place but the boys and girls would go on different buses. The boys would go to their bit and we would go to ours.

Day trip to Rosewell

41. Two buses came into the home. The nuns told us we were going away for a day out. The boys went on one bus and we went on the other. We went to Rosewell if I remember correctly. It was another Convent for mentally handicapped people and we were invited up there.
42. There was a playground in Rosewell. The people there were mentally handicapped and violent. We couldn't hit them back so we got called away so we could sit down. We got lunch.
43. When it was time to leave, we all got on the buses. It was quite a long bus journey home and the driver needed to stop for a break so we stopped at a golf place. I don't remember what it's called. The boys were allowed to get off the bus but the girls weren't.
44. The boys were playing golf. Then the girls were allowed to get off the bus to stretch their legs. As we were getting off the bus, one of the nuns who was with the boys came up to our bus and said "don't let the girls get off the bus."
45. We were being nosy and looking out the window. The police and the ambulance came. We didn't really know what had happened at the time, but we knew something

had happened with a golf ball. The boys stayed there and the police would have spoken to them. The girls' bus was taken back to Smyllum straight away.

46. When someone died in Smyllum, the nuns would come and tell us. That night, when the nuns who were with the boys had come back, they must have spoken to the girls' nuns. That night, the nuns told us that one boy had thrown a golf ball and hit another boy, and the boy had fallen. We were told that he had died by the time the ambulance and police came.
47. They were both boys from Smyllum but I didn't remember their names. We weren't allowed to speak to the boys so we didn't know them. I think the boy who died was about eight or nine years old. We were told that the boy who threw the golf ball hadn't liked the other boy and had really meant to hit him.
48. We had to be told he was dead because his body would be brought back to the chapel. Some of us knew him from school and we were allowed to go and see him in the church if we wanted to pay our respects. We were never forced to go and see a dead body. A lot of people didn't go but I did because I knew him.

Birthdays and Christmas

49. I don't remember any birthdays being celebrated in Smyllum.
50. We all got something at Christmas and it would be left at the bottom of your bed. I can't remember if we got a Christmas lunch.

Religious instruction

51. I am a pure Catholic and I love my religion no matter what goes on in the news. They didn't force any of that on me. I knew all about my faith anyway. I used to go to church with my grandparents before going into Smyllum.

52. I went to church every morning at 6 am in Smyllum. I didn't have to go but I wanted to go. The nun would come into the dormitory in the morning and ask who wanted to go to mass, and I would be the first up.
53. Everybody went to mass on a Sunday. Everybody had to go on a Sunday, even if you were a Protestant.

Visits

54. There was no arrangement [REDACTED] younger brother in the home. The only time [REDACTED] saw him was at school, at church on Sunday or if we got a visitor. He would come up to [REDACTED] when we were outside playing sometimes, even though he wasn't supposed to.
55. My gran got very ill after she had to put us [REDACTED] in Smyllum. She was asked not to visit us for the first two weeks so that we could get settled. She came to visit us after two weeks, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
56. My gran brought a big box of stuff [REDACTED] When she left, the nuns shared the stuff, which was comics and sweeties, out and every child got some of it. I was a wee girl and wanted it to be mine, but I could see the point of sharing. There were kids in there who didn't get a visit, so I was privileged.
57. When it was time for my Gran to leave after the visit, she had to walk down the massive, big driveway out of Smyllum. She collapsed when she got to the end of it and died. We were pulled into the Mother Superior's office and told that our granny had died.
58. I think my granny died of a broken heart and because she felt guilty for putting [REDACTED] [REDACTED] us in there. I think if my granny was alive and we told her what was going on in there, that she would have taken us out. To this day, I ask my aunty why only us [REDACTED] were put in care [REDACTED]. I have never got an answer.

59. My mum came to see [REDACTED] been there for about two years. I was glad to see her and I also wasn't, to be honest. I blamed her for my brother's death. Samuel died in the convent. If she hadn't left us for another man, then my gran wouldn't have been left [REDACTED] My gran wouldn't have had to put us into care because she couldn't cope because of her age, and my young brother would be alive today.
60. My mum was allowed to takes [REDACTED] to the stables. The horses were all in the fields and we got photos taken with the horses. [REDACTED]
61. We weren't able to tell our mum, gran or anyone else what was going on in the convent. It was the same for every child. If any child was to tell their family, then they would question the nuns and we would get in trouble afterwards.
62. Mr McKenzie would come to see us quite often. [REDACTED] He would tell us that he was leaving money with the nuns for us, for clothes. We never saw the money or the clothes.
63. We didn't even tell Mr McKenzie. We couldn't tell anybody what was happening to us. We had to keep it all in because we didn't know who to trust. Maybe if we had told him, he would have taken us out of there and put us somewhere else. He would have had to have spoken to the Mother Superior and the nuns would have found out.

Healthcare

64. We had a medical room where we could go to see the nurse if we were sick. Some of the nuns were trained as nurses. They did courses and had qualifications. It wasn't just any nurse.
65. Sometimes the nurse would give us an aspirin. We would be sent to bed if we were really ill and our dinner would be brought up to us.

66. The doctors had to come in for me once but it was my own fault. It was a beautiful day and I was outside and I lay on the roundabout in the sun. My eyes all shut with the sun, and I couldn't open my eyes at dinner time. I had to go up to the sick bay with a nun and member of staff guiding me. They couldn't have been that good because I fell and broke my nose. I presume it was an accident but I couldn't see so I don't know. The doctor had to come in to open my eyes.
67. They brought a dentist in to the home on certain days. If you had a problem with your teeth then you had to tell the nuns, and they would organise for the dentist to come in. We never got out to see a dentist. Once we were in there, we were in there. The only time we got out was on their terms.

Rules and punishment

68. We weren't allowed to talk to the boys. If you were caught talking to the boys, you would be pulled out of the playground and sent to bed, even if it was your own brother. My brother would sometimes be naughty and come over [REDACTED] [REDACTED] would tell him to go back to his bit or he would get a doing. [REDACTED] didn't know at that point that he was getting a doing anyway.
69. If we had a visit, we were told not to go back in and talk to the girls about our visit and what we'd been given. I did talk about my visit to the girls. The nun heard me so she grabbed me and took me into the bedroom. She told me that I knew I wasn't allowed to tell the other girls about my visit. I said that I didn't see any harm in it. She told me to go to my bed. I learned not to do it again from being punished.
70. There was a shop where you could get sweets. Another punishment was not being allowed to have any sweets. They would also take away any presents or things you might have been given, as a punishment too.
71. If you were talking or doing something you shouldn't have been doing, they would hit you across the head with their hand.

Abuse at Smyllum

72. Sister [REDACTED] AGI worked on the boys' side. She came over and stayed with the girls for a while. She must have come over to us when they were short of nuns. Nobody liked her. She was one of the worst nuns there.
73. Sister [REDACTED] AGI would tell you to do chores that weren't your job, and if you said it wasn't your job, she would hit you. She would belt you over the head and pull you by the hair, and tell you to get it done. She hit a lot of people. Then another nun would get you in trouble for not doing the chore you were supposed to be doing.
74. A few months after I had been in Smyllum, we got semolina and prunes at dinner one night and I said that I wasn't going to eat it. Sister [REDACTED] AGI started trying to force me to eat it. I was gagging and telling her I couldn't do it. Everybody else finished their dinner and put their dishes away. They then moved onto the recreation area, but I was kept in the dining room until I ate it.
75. I wouldn't eat the semolina and prunes so Sister [REDACTED] AGI started hitting me and forcing my mouth open and the food in. I was sick all over my dinner and she was still trying to force me to eat it. She said that she would be back and I had better have it finished. The nun kept coming in when she felt like it to see if I'd eaten it. I couldn't eat it, I had been sick in it. I was kept there from tea time until 6 am the next morning.
76. Sister [REDACTED] AGI realised I wasn't going to eat it, so she took the plate away. I got a doing after that. I answered back though. My problem as a wee girl was that I couldn't keep my mouth shut. She started hitting me. She was grabbing me by the hair and punching me on my head and back. She was booting into me with her shoes. It wasn't very nice for a wee girl.
77. She didn't get my face because I was curled up and protecting my face. I knew what I was going to get because other girls had told me not to answer back. I don't think I

should have been forced to eat what I didn't like. I knew not to answer back after that.

Bedtimes and bed-wetting

78. We weren't allowed to talk after lights out at night, but sometimes we all had a carry on when the sister went into her room or downstairs. The sister caught us one day. She put the light on so quick and caught a lot of us out of our bed laughing and joking. She told us all to go to our bed, then she came round individually to our beds and we all got a doing. We all got kicked all about the bedroom. It was terrible and we were all screaming. When she did it to me, I got up laughing so I got it the worst.
79. Night time was a very frightening time. The sister on duty came around the dormitories and walked up and down to make sure everybody was in their beds. If you were out of your bed or talking, she would pull the blankets off you and you would get a doing. You'd be dragged right out of your bed by your hair and onto the floor. Then you would be kicked and punched. They used their feet and their fists.
80. We wouldn't be shouting out but would sometimes just whisper to each other after lights out. The sister would listen in the dark. We would all be frightened about who was going to get it that night, and that is the way it went on.
81. We could hear the screaming but we couldn't interfere or stop it. If you shouted out to the nun to stop or leave her alone, then you would be next to get it. I was terrible for shouting out and so I would get hit quite a lot. I would laugh in their faces and would answer back. [REDACTED] would tell me my worst fault was answering back.
82. The worst kids were made to kneel at the bottom of the bed until the sister came back to tell you that you could get up. That would sometimes be near the time to wake up for breakfast. This happened more than once.
83. We watched a girl get kicked and we couldn't stop it. That girl wet the bed as she was being hit. She was pulled out of her bed and the nun started punching into her.

She even took off her shoe and beat the girl in the back and face. The nun didn't care. They wore horrible shoes with studs in them. We were all crying and telling the nun to leave her alone because the girl couldn't do anything. She told us all to get to sleep. We pulled the covers over our heads, so we wouldn't be next to get it.

84. The girl was made to kneel on the floor with her wet sheet over her head until we got up the next morning. If you wet your pants, they would be put over your head too, until they decided to take it off you.
85. Quite a lot of kids wet the bed because of all the abuse we got in there. The sisters would come round with the lights on in the morning and pull the covers off you. If they saw you had wet the bed, you would get it. You would be made to kneel and have your wet covers over your face until the nun decided to take it off. I never wet the bed.
86. We were all hit. I can't remember one kid who wasn't. You would have bruises from it. They didn't really mark your face. They were too fly for that.
87. I've stayed in different convents and not all nuns were bad. There were good nuns who didn't hit us. You could see that they didn't like what they saw. You could guarantee that they would be moved onto another convent within two weeks.

Samuel Carr

88. Samuel was in the nursery when we first went into Smyllum, then he moved to the boys bit. He was a holy terror and would get himself into mischief. He was a typical little boy and was into everything. He was beautiful and lovely with blonde hair. He didn't deserve to die.
89. He was too young to tell [REDACTED] what was happening [REDACTED] never saw much of him. One of the older boys told [REDACTED] that Sammy wouldn't eat something and walked away from the table. [REDACTED] BAC, who was the

██████████ grabbed and really battered my little brother. His mouth was all burst open and he was screaming, but nobody could help him. We couldn't do anything.

90. Samuel used to play at the bins at the back of the home sometimes. He used to play with rats and get in trouble for it. We weren't allowed to play there. He would sometimes come and tell us that he'd killed a rat. There wouldn't have been rats there if they emptied the bins with the food waste in them.
91. One day, we saw Samuel playing at the bins when we were outside. We told him to stop playing there or he would get in trouble. He was probably poking the rats with a stick again. We all had to go for our tea after that and he went away to the boys' side.
92. That same night, the girls were all sitting watching television in the big room in the yard. Three boys then chapped the window and told us that my younger brother was going away in an ambulance. The boys told us that one of them had been playing with Sammy and they had both had been late for dinner. When the nun asked where they had been, they said they had been playing with rats. He had then been sick and blood was coming out of his mouth, and from down below. He had to be taken to his bed and his mattress was covered in blood. The nurse was called and then the ambulance.
93. We jumped up and ran to the window and saw the lights of the ambulance flashing. We knew it was serious but we didn't know how serious it was. We got pulled back because we weren't supposed to be at the window.
94. We looked out the window again and saw a man and woman paramedic. The woman had my young brother wrapped in a blanket and was carrying him into the ambulance. I actually thought he was dead. I started screaming and crying, and ██████████ had to tell me to be quiet or we would get into trouble. We had to then just sit and wait for more information.

95. Less than an hour after the ambulance went away, the Mother Superior called me [REDACTED]. She started speaking and said that Sammy was away to Law Hospital. She said he had been playing with rats. I got upset so she told me to leave because I was too young to hear it.
96. [REDACTED] that Sammy and his wee pal were playing where the bins were, and the bins hadn't been emptied. If there is food then there will be rats. Sammy was playing with the rats and stabbing them with sticks, and the blood got all over him. She said she would keep us informed about how he was.
97. We later saw Samuel's mattress being burned in the incinerator.
98. Samuel was only in Law Hospital for a few hours and then they had to transfer him. I think he went to either Yorkhill or Ruchill hospital.
99. [REDACTED]
100. On the third day, [REDACTED] nuns went to the hospital. They came back and told Mother Superior, who [REDACTED] that Sammy had passed away. He died in Yorkhill hospital. As far as I heard, the rat poison got through his body.
101. They tried to find my mum so she could identify the body. They couldn't get a hold of my mum so the body was released and brought back to Smyllum. It must have gone into the church straight away.

102. [REDACTED] Mother Superior's office and told that Samuel's coffin was in the church and [REDACTED] the boys and girls who wanted to see him, [REDACTED]. We went in two at a time. They were asked if they wanted to go. The whole convent went and we kissed him.
103. We went to church for mass in the morning. My granddad and uncle [REDACTED] travelled from Greenock to come to the funeral. We all went to the graveyard in Lanark and he was buried. My uncle and granddad were going to get a head stone, but the nuns told them that they would put a headstone up.
104. My mum came about four hours after my brother was buried. I was glad to see her, but my granddad was angry with her and told her that she couldn't even be bothered to turn up for her own son's funeral. I got a bit upset and the nuns told them to stop [REDACTED] away. One of the nuns filled my mum in on what happened.
105. When you are in those kind of places, you are not allowed to dwell on it. You are supposed to get on with things and let on that nothing happened. You don't get support or anything like that. We weren't allowed to speak about it.

Leaving Smyllum

106. Mr McKenzie came [REDACTED] after Samuel died. He [REDACTED] said [REDACTED] you are going to get moved very shortly and I will be here to pick you up." I didn't pay any attention, but [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
107. After hearing, as an adult, about the things that happened to Samuel, I am beginning to wonder [REDACTED]
108. [REDACTED] shifted from Smyllum only two or three months after Samuel died. Mr McKenzie picked [REDACTED] to Nazareth House in Kilmarnock. I know from

my paper work that I was between nine and ten years old when I left Smyllum and moved to Nazareth House.

Nazareth House Children's Home, Kilmarnock

109. I arrived at Nazareth House with [REDACTED] Mr McKenzie. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] a member of staff called [REDACTED] LGJ met us. [REDACTED] it was nice at first.
110. There were just girls in Nazareth House and they were split into two groups. The groups were run by two nuns called Sister [REDACTED] LGO, who was [REDACTED], and Sister [REDACTED] LHZ, who was [REDACTED]. There were about twenty to 25 girls in each group. [REDACTED] in Sister [REDACTED] LGO's group. The staff in my group were [REDACTED] LGJ from Ruchhill in Glasgow, and Rosemary.
111. There were loads of other nuns in other parts of the convent but they didn't look after the girls. We would talk to them when they came through and would say hello. There was a Mother Superior but we only saw her on the day we went in. I can't remember her name.

Routine in Nazareth House

112. The routine was getting up in the morning and getting washed. We then made our bed and went downstairs to get our breakfast. Then we would put the plates in the sink and one of the girls would wash the dishes.
113. After breakfast, we went back to our rooms and put our uniforms on for school. we wore clothes provided by Nazareth House. Our school was not in the convent, it was called St Columba's and was right in Kilmarnock town. We got fresh air walking to school and back. I later went to St Joseph's Secondary School.

114. We didn't have work to do like we had in Smyllum because we were going out for school. When we came back from school, our shoes were put outside and a girl would be told to clean the shoes. We also did things like the laundry and cleaning up after mealtimes.
115. Both groups all had meals together in the dining room. We didn't get forced to eat food we didn't want to eat in Nazareth House. If you didn't want it, you didn't have to eat it.
116. We got to watch television in our own groups. We also had parties sometimes. I remember Christmas in there and getting toys. It was brilliant. We had our birthdays celebrated by the nuns and the girls. The kitchen nun would bake a cake. The taxi drivers used to take us out once a year too.
117. At night, the lights went out at 9 pm and we would be upstairs to bed before that.
118. The room we slept in was one long room with lots of beds in it. It was like in a hospital. All 25 of us slept in the same room and we could see everything that happened in the room.
119. A lot of people wet the bed in there. It wasn't dealt with as badly as it had been in Smyllum. You would just be asked to put your wet bedding in the laundry basket. Whoever was working in the laundry would collect the dirty washing.
120. There was somebody who had nursing experience if you weren't well, and there was a room you could go to. You would first go to your group nun if there was something wrong with you and she'd tell you to go to the nurse nun. A doctor came in about once a month to do check-ups. The nuns would also call him in if there was something serious with one of the girls. We got taken to a dentist outside of the convent.

121. We had our own church and it was lovely. I went all the time. I led the choir and loved church and hymns. Our Sunday clothes for church were nicer than the uniforms.
122. It was good in Nazareth House to start off with. I was cheeky and then it started for me. The nuns started setting about me. I was forever getting punished but it wasn't as bad as it was in Smyllum.
123. Girls got punished for things like answering back or not doing their homework. They would be punished by not being allowed to go to things, like a party or something. Another punishment would be not being allowed sweets or treats when everybody else got them.

Trips and visits

124. After a few years, [REDACTED] allowed to get out at weekends [REDACTED] [REDACTED] would go [REDACTED] mum's house, but had to come back on the Sunday.
125. Mr McKenzie came to [REDACTED] at first but then another worker came. Mr McKenzie brought the new worker with him [REDACTED] he wouldn't be back. I think he was getting old. [REDACTED]

Abuse at Nazareth House

126. Nazareth House wasn't as bad as Smyllum but we saw some of the same things happening to children in there.
127. There was a party at the school one time, and the nuns expected us to just go to the party in our uniforms. I took my Sunday clothes out of my locker and hid it in my school bag, and took it to school. A couple of other girls did it too. We got changed

into our Sunday clothes in the toilets at the school. We didn't know that the lockers were getting checked that day at school.

128. At the end of the school day, we got changed back into our uniforms and went back to the home. We were allowed in the door and we went up to our lockers to change out of our uniform and slip our Sunday clothes back into it. We got grabbed by **LGJ** the staff member. She told the rest of the girls to hurry up and get out and told me and **██████** to stay. The third girl was in the other group.
129. **LGJ** kicked us all about that locker room. They were tin lockers and she was banging my head off the lockers. She was punching all over my face and body, and kicking me. She even danced all about my stomach and my back while I was on the ground. I got that because I had taken my Sunday clothes. I was then sent up to bed. I was punished for it again by not being allowed to go to a party that was coming up. I was sent to bed and the doors had been locked.
130. There were beatings in there but they weren't as bad as at Smyllum. Not all the girls got beatings. I got hit quite often because I would always answer back or would do something that I wasn't supposed to do.
131. I was given the duty of cleaning shoes once and I refused to do them. I was told I wasn't allowed to go to bed until I had cleaned them. I was up until about 6 am. I gave in and did them or I wouldn't have been allowed to go to school. It was because I was dead cheeky and bold.
132. It was mostly the staff that punished you. They would be the ones who really hit you. If the staff weren't there, then the nuns would hit you. Sister **LGO** was known for hitting. She was terrible. I only saw Sister **LHZ** hit someone once.
133. We said grace at mealtimes. You were not allowed to talk before saying grace. One day this wee girl was laughing through the prayer. She got pulled out of the dining room and into the corridor by Sister **LGO**. We could hear the nun banging the girl's head off the floor, and the girl was screaming.

134. The staff was just standing there and didn't help. We all commented, and were asking for it to be stopped and saying the girl was going to be killed. We just got told to be quiet. I was a devil so I got up and walked out into the corridor. I saw the girl getting her head banged off the ground.
135. I had seen what they were doing to that wee girl so I got dragged upstairs by Sister LGO and flung into the bedroom. She started punching and battering me, and told me that's where I would stay for the rest of the night. She locked me in the bedroom and I started soaking the bedroom. I ran the taps and left them on, and soaked the bedroom. I got water all over the floors and all over the beds. I was a nasty girl, I must admit.
136. When the girls came up to bed, the room was soaked. Sister LGO made me clean it all up. I had to take all the sheets off and make the beds up again. I never got to sleep that night because I got a doing all night. I was kicked, punched, battered and she stood all about me. Those shoes were terrible, they had steel things at the toes. My back and face were all marked but I never got any help. It was just the two of us in the room but the girls must have heard me screaming. I know I shouldn't have done it, but they shouldn't have done that to the girl.
137. Sister LGO told the girls they couldn't get into the bedroom. Some of them came to check and when they opened the door, the water went out of the room and into the hall. They had to go into another room and wait until I had dried up the room.
138. There was a fire escape out of Nazareth House and it was just opposite the Johnny Walker factory. There was a wee girl who managed to get out onto the fire escape, and then she flung herself off it and killed herself. I don't remember her name. I think I had been in Nazareth House for about a year when this would have happened, so it would have been in about 1965.
139. I don't know much about what was happening with her because she was in Sister LHZ group. We never got told much about what was happening in the other group

unless we were told something in private. The girl was getting doings every single day. I think she just felt that she just had to kill herself. The fire gates were always shut unless there was a fire. I don't know how the little girl got the door open.

140. We were locked in so we couldn't see anything, even when the police came. I don't think she had parents so the nuns had a funeral for her. I vaguely remember the funeral.

Leaving Nazareth House

141. The nuns had asked my mum to help with looking after babies until they got fostered out. My mum started looking after babies for the home, until the foster carers would take them away.

142. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] allowed to go home to my mum.

St Euphrasia's Convent, Bishopton

143. When I went to live with my mum, I wouldn't go to school. I was sent to court and then I was sent to St Euphrasia's Convent in Bishopton, which was for older girls. It

Secondary Institutions - to be published later

144.

145.

146.

Secondary Institutions - to be published later

147.

148.

Life after being in care

149. I never told anybody about the abuse I got in Smyllum or Nazareth House because I just thought it was natural. I didn't know it was abuse. I just thought I was getting hit because I was cheeky.

150.

151. [REDACTED] My young brother, Samuel, would have been 58 if he was alive today. I have a lot of resentment for my mum for that. If she hadn't left us then that wouldn't have happened. She is now dead.

Samuel Carr – other information

152. A police officer called Lindsey came to my house about three years ago. The police officer said it was about my brother, Samuel. I brought her in and asked why this was coming up now. She said somebody had come forward and had said that he'd seen

a nun really batter my brother and stand all over his head. That knocked me a bit. We had always thought that the rats had killed him.

153. Lindsey came to my house every so often for a few weeks, and kept me up to date with the police investigation. I gave a few statements to them. She told me to go to the memorial in Lanark that year and a family there would tell me what really happened. I went to the memorial that year and met [AAI] and his two brothers. Frank Docherty, who was at the head of it all, told me to take a seat in the café and someone would speak to me.
154. [AAI] came and spoke to me in the café. He told me he had been a very good friend of Samuel's. He said Samuel was a holy terror and always getting into mischief. He told me that one day they were playing behind the wall and Samuel had managed to get a hold of matches from the kitchen. He lit a bit of cloth on fire. [AAI] had tried to take it off him and had burnt his hand. Sister [AGI] then came along and saw them.
155. Sister [AGI] had asked who had the matches and Samuel said it was him. [AAI] said his hand got burned. The nun then threw Sammy to the ground, started jumping all over his head, punching into him and booting him like it was an adult that she was booting. She walked away and Sammy was screaming for help. He was holding his head and screaming in pain.
156. [AAI] brother and other boys were passing, and heard Sammy screaming [AAI] brother went to get another nun, and it was through that the ambulance was called to take Sammy away. [AAI] said he was there when it happened, and other people at the memorial said they were there too. It came as a shock to me.
157. I was shocked when I was told at the memorial that there were about 400 children buried there. There were no gravestones and people were walking over the grass. I showed everybody where Samuel was buried in the cemetery. They might have put other children on top of him.

158. After that I was watching the television and how the nuns were denying it, and I couldn't take it anymore. I hit [AAI] with the papers he'd given me and said to keep them. I told him he should have left it as it was. Why bother to tell me when I'm 64 when I could have been told when I was younger? Sammy has been dead 57 years so we have had to live a lie.
159. There is a report done by the top dogs that say that Sammy had a blood clot in his head, malnutrition and dysentery. If there was dysentery in that convent then we would have had it too because it does spread. I want to know how he got the blood clot.
160. I was on television with David Cowan and then went to the houses of some of the boys from Smyllum. They pointed Samuel out to me in one picture as having dark hair. I didn't recognise it as Samuel because I remembered him as having blonde hair, but then I didn't see much of him in the home.
161. There are so many tales about it that I couldn't take it. People were stopping me in the street and asking me about things because they had seen me on the telly. I don't like telling people I was in a convent so I would tell them to get lost. I had to go to my doctor and get my depression tablets put up because it all got too much.

Impact

162. I was very strict with my own children. They tell me that now. I thought about this a few years ago and wondered if I was doing the same to them as the nuns did to me. I didn't hit them, but they have told me I was strict in other ways when they were younger.
163. Since I have found out more things about what happened to Samuel, it has affected my health. I don't even know what to believe about what happened to Samuel. I thought it was the rat that killed him, but then after what [AAI] said, and then what Lindsey told me about the medical reports, I am not sure.

164. I had a breakdown and was in hospital for a week. It took its toll on me. It has been in recent years that it has affected me after hearing things about my brother.

Records

165. Lindsey the police officer found out that all the childrens' paperwork had been taken away from Smyllum. She found out that the papers were in St Vincent de Paul's in London. She asked for our papers and she managed to get some, including four photographs.

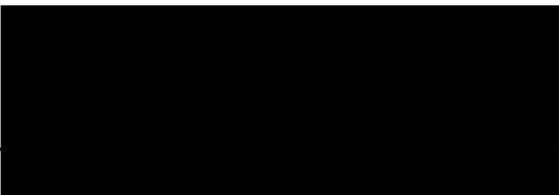
Other information

166. It's ok to punish kids but not to beat them and jump all over them. It annoys me when I see nuns coming out and saying that they weren't abusive. I want to face them and tell them that they were.

167. The best way to avoid children being abused is to make sure better people are employed, and places are not run by nuns. There needs to be rules for the staff not to lift their hands.

168. I want people who have suffered abuse, and the people who have died, to get justice. I want the truth to come out. We can't all be lying. We need to be believed.

169. I have no objection to my witness statement being published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry. I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed.. 

Dated... 15 / 12 / 20 14