

Special Inquiry
into
St Andrew's Hostel, Katanning
(including St Christopher's Hostel, Northam)

Held at: Courtroom 4, Level 18,
111 St Georges Terrace, Perth

Thursday, 24 May 2012 at 10.07am
(Day 32)

Before: The Hon Peter Blaxell

1 HIS HONOUR: Yes, Mr Urquhart.

2

3 MR URQUHART: Thank you, sir. Just before I call the next
4 witness I propose reading into evidence another statement
5 from an ex-student at St Christopher's. His name is Gary
6 William Bradley and Mr Bradley has endorsed this statement
7 of his as being true and correct. So it reads:

8

9 Garry William BRADLEY States:

10 I am 54 years of age and currently reside
11 in Perth.

12

13 I am a former student of Northam Senior
14 High School, which I attended from 1972 to
15 1976, this being year 8 to year 12.

16

17 During my time as NSHS Roy Wenlock was the
18 Warden at St Christopher's Hostel.

19

20 We lived in Northam because my dad was an
21 Engineer with Westrail.

22

23 Dad was also a volunteer Ambulance Officer
24 and in this role we were provided with an
25 "open phone".

26

27 The "open phone" was a phone system
28 provided to a number of houses of key
29 people in case there was an emergency. All
30 of these people could talk to each other
31 once the phone had rung or when the line
32 was open.

33

34 In other words, if one person picked up the
35 open phone and others were talking on it,
36 you could eavesdrop on their discussions.

37

38 I remember our "open phone" ringing many
39 times at day and night. This phone was
40 separate from our normal home phone line.

41

42 As a kid I used to walk to school every
43 morning and I used to walk past the "hut",
44 which is what we all called
45 St Christopher's.

46

47 I would at times walk with my mates to

1 school, some of whom lived in the hut and I
2 remember them talking about Wenlock and how
3 they had to wrestle him wearing only jocks.
4
5 They all hated the time when their
6 birthdays came because that meant that
7 Wenlock would invite them to his room for
8 more wrestling.
9
10 They all called Wenlock "Snoz", which was a
11 reference to him having a big nose.
12
13 None of the students at St Christopher's
14 ever told me about anything else apart from
15 Wenlock wrestling them in his jocks.
16
17 I remember one particular occasion, just
18 before dinner, my dad (who has now passed
19 away) telling me about a conversation he
20 intercepted on the open phone earlier that
21 day.
22
23 Dad told me that he heard the open phone
24 "dinging" (which is the noise it used to
25 make when someone dialled any of the other
26 phones) so he picked it up.
27
28 He overheard the local church minister
29 talking to a church representative in
30 Perth.
31
32 Their discussion was about how Wenlock was
33 dealing with the boys and that he needed to
34 be moved from Northam.
35
36 I did not understand the specifics of
37 Wenlock's dealing with the boys in the
38 context of the phone conversation that my
39 father overheard, nor did I ask further
40 questions of him.
41
42 I remember dad telling me about this
43 incident when I was in year 12, which would
44 have been in 1976.
45
46 Like most of the boys around my time, the
47 following year I moved to Perth for a short

1 time before moving to Karratha where
2 I began work for a company called MMA.
3
4 I have a recollection that when I left
5 Northam Wenlock was still the warden at
6 St Christopher's Hostel.
7
8 Dad never told me who the local minister
9 was on the phone that day and I cannot
10 remember who the minister was either.
11
12 I later found out through contacts that
13 around this time the then Principal of
14 NSHS, Mr Riordan contacted the Bishop about
15 Wenlock but I don't think they did anything
16 and Mr Riordan did not follow it up because
17 he was very ill with cancer as I remember
18 it.
19
20 I know that when Wenlock left
21 St Christopher's he was given a job at the
22 WACA but I'm not sure in what capacity.
23
24 This statement is true to the best of my
25 knowledge and belief. I have made this
26 statement knowing that, if it is tendered
27 in evidence, I will be guilty of a crime if
28 I have wilfully included in the statement
29 anything that I know to be false or that
30 I do not believe is true.
31
32 Sir, just before I do call the next witness, I am going to
33 read another short statement and that is from Claude John
34 Riordan, the man that Mr Bradley's statement referred to
35 and this statement has been signed as true and correct by
36 Mr Riordan and it reads:
37
38 CLAUDE JOHN RIORDAN STATES:
39
40 I am 84 years old and am retired. I live
41 in Menora.
42
43 I am currently an inpatient at Hollywood
44 Hospital and am likely to be there for
45 weeks to come.
46
47 I was previously the Principal of Northam

1 Senior High School during 1975 and 1976.
2
3 When I arrived at Northam, Roy Wenlock was
4 the warden of St Christopher's Hostel.
5 I had already heard the name Roy Wenlock
6 prior to moving to Northam.
7
8 My wife is from Merredin and when we met
9 her brother was a young and upcoming
10 cricket player. He was talking about going
11 away to a cricket camp and Roy Wenlock's
12 name was mentioned. I remember his father
13 preventing him from going and said "you're
14 not going anywhere with him".
15
16 I never thought any more about this till
17 I came across Roy Wenlock in Northam.
18
19 I recall towards the end of my second year
20 at Northam Senior High School that my sons
21 who were students at the school spoke to me
22 about Roy Wenlock. They told me that they
23 had heard stories around the school about
24 Roy Wenlock inviting boys to his flat and
25 making them wrestle with him in underpants.
26 They said that this would happen on the
27 boys' birthdays.
28
29 I contacted Bishop Challen who was the head
30 of the hostel board. We had a meeting in
31 my office and I told him about what my sons
32 had said.
33
34 I explained that there might be something
35 of concern but I did not have any other
36 evidence other than the stories my sons had
37 told me about.
38
39 I did not think it was for me to look into
40 these concerns but if it had been, I would
41 have gone to the Police. I am not certain
42 if the Police would have done anything as
43 I did not have any evidence other than what
44 my sons told me.
45
46 Bishop Challen told me that "we are aware
47 of the situation and we have it in hand".

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I was diagnosed with cancer and became unwell not long after this and left the school. When I left, Roy Wenlock was still at the hostel.

I later heard that Roy Wenlock had been transferred to work in Perth for the hostel authority doing something in relation to buying and ordering of food supplies in bulk.

This statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. I have made this statement knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I will be guilty of a crime if I have wilfully included in the statement anything that I know to be false that I do not believe is true.

It has then been signed by Mr Riordan and is dated 23 May 2012. So it's only actually yesterday, sir.

HIS HONOUR: Thank you.

MR URQUHART: Now, sir, the next witness I propose calling is once again an ex-student who boarded at St Christopher's Hostel. He has requested that he not be identified. The Inquiry will, of course, honour that request, given the subject matter of his intended evidence and he simply be known as "L". He is outside the hearing room, sir, so he may have to be called in but he will take the oath.

<L, sworn:

<EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR URQUHART:

MR URQUHART: Q. You're 52 years of age; is that right?

A. That's correct.

Q. You reside in the south-west region of this state?

A. That's correct.

Q. You are a self-employed businessman; is that right?

A. Yes.

Q. And you are married and you have three children?

1 A. Three boys, yes.
2
3 Q. I would like to ask you about some questions regarding
4 your high school years and just before I do that,
5 I understand you grew up in Wongan Hills?
6 A. Yes.
7
8 Q. And you lived with your family, of course, and they
9 had a small family business; is that right?
10 A. Correct, yes, yes.
11
12 Q. Did you spend what was known back then as your first,
13 second and third years at high school at the Wongan
14 District High School?
15 A. Yes, that's correct, yes.
16
17 Q. Where did you then go for your fourth and fifth years?
18 A. For fourth and fifth year we were sent to Northam and
19 we stayed at - went to school at the Northam Senior High
20 School and we were boarders at the St Christopher's, which
21 we knew as "the hut".
22
23 Q. When you say "we" did you have --
24 A. It was my brother, he went the year before, my
25 brother.
26
27 Q. I see. So he'd already gone the year before?
28 A. Yes.
29
30 Q. Okay, then. Can you recall the years that you were
31 there ?
32 A. '75, '76.
33
34 Q. Now, I normally wouldn't go into this but given the
35 fact that it will become relevant, I understand you have no
36 problems --
37 A. None whatsoever.
38
39 Q. -- stating all this but prior to attending the school
40 in Northam were you caught doing something?
41 A. Yes. It was in the evening. Me and a couple of mates
42 got caught stealing some Coca-Cola off the back of a
43 Coca-Cola truck that was parked in front of the Wongan
44 Hills pub.
45
46 Q. I gather you were caught?
47 A. I was caught. That happened earlier in the year -

1 that year - and it took some time for it to come to a
2 children's panel. So I got into quite a bit of trouble
3 with my folks, then it sort of disappeared away and then
4 just prior to me going away for the school - to the hut or
5 to St Christopher's - the panel came up so I got - and
6 that's sort of - all the trouble came back, so yes.

7
8 Q. As a result of that did your parents decide to do
9 something with respect to you going to the new school at --

10 A. Yes. Because of that my parents - firstly, they
11 threatened to me that I wasn't going to go to the hostel
12 because, you know, like, I was - I wasn't a good child and
13 then they decided that the best thing to do was to tell Roy
14 Wenlock, the warden, you know, that - what had happened in
15 case there was - you know, I had to go away to another
16 panel or something like that, yes.

17
18 Q. I see, okay. Did you know who the warden was at
19 St Christopher's before you went there?

20 A. I had only heard of him as referred to "Snoz".

21
22 Q. And that was from your brother?

23 A. From my brother, yes.

24
25 Q. Do you know how it was that he'd come to have that
26 nickname?

27 A. He had a pretty big nose.

28
29 Q. You got there in 1985 --

30 A. Yes.

31
32 Q. Sorry, 1975, my apologies.

33 A. Mmm.

34
35 Q. And I gather you were aware of the rules and
36 regulations of the hostel?

37 A. We were pretty much advised at the time that, you
38 know, there was - of the rules within the dorm and the
39 hostel, yes.

40
41 Q. Did you breach one of those rules shortly after you --

42 A. Yes.

43
44 Q. -- got there?

45 A. Yes. I was - I ran through the dorm fairly excited
46 but as I was running through the dorm one of the other
47 students had opened a locker door - a wardrobe door and

1 he'd opened it up so it went into the corridor of the - as
2 I was running through the dormitory and I hit the wardrobe
3 door and basically ripped it off its hinges.
4
5 Q. I see. Now, as a result of that were you told to
6 attend anywhere?
7 A. As a result of that and because of the trouble I'd
8 been in I thought it was best to advise the warden of what
9 I'd done because, you know, I learnt my lesson about, you
10 know, pre-warned is better than finding out later on, yeah.
11 So he was told.
12
13 Q. So he was told by yourself?
14 A. I was - I told him myself, yes.
15
16 Q. So you fell on your sword, as it were?
17 A. Best way to do it.
18
19 Q. Then as a result of that did he ask you to do
20 anything?
21 A. Yes, he - I was invited to his - I don't know, his
22 dorm or unit, right, to discuss my previous actions, you
23 know, like - yes.
24
25 Q. So was that a prearranged time that you would go
26 there?
27 A. It was a prearranged time to go there, yes.
28
29 Q. Can you recall whether that was to be in the evening
30 or during the day?
31 A. It was in the evening, definitely, you know, so early
32 evening, I think.
33
34 Q. So you had your older brother there at the hostel for
35 1975 because he would have been --
36 A. Yes. Yes, my older brother was there.
37
38 Q. Because he would have been in year 12?
39 A. He was in year 12. The year 11 dorm was on - below
40 the year 12 dorm, so yes.
41
42 Q. Did you go and speak to him and some of his friends
43 before you went to this meeting?
44 A. I definitely went up to the year 12 dorm, had a chat
45 with them, told them that I'd been invited around to
46 Wenlock's unit and asked them about - because, you know --
47 like, I asked them about what the process was.

1
2 Q. Had you heard of anything about what would take place?
3 A. I was aware of the bruting sessions, yes.
4
5 Q. You were aware of that even before you --
6 A. Vaguely aware, vaguely aware. Not completely - you
7 know, like, I wasn't sure what the process was.
8
9 Q. How did you find out about these bruting sessions?
10 A. From the time that I went spoke to my brother or
11 beforehand?
12
13 Q. No, before that first.
14 A. I think it was just kind of a bit of common knowledge
15 within the hostel. You know, like, slight common knowledge
16 within the hostel but I was only there fresh, it was quite
17 new, you know, so --
18
19 HIS HONOUR: Q. So approximately how long after you got
20 there did this broken door incident happen?
21 A. Pretty soon, sir.
22
23 Q. What, within days?
24 A. Yes, days. Days to a week, it wasn't very long.
25 I managed to - yes.
26
27 MR URQUHART: Q. Did they say anything further about --
28 A. The boys in the year 12 dorm?
29
30 Q. Yes, the dorm that had been --
31 A. They laughed at me to start with and said "You're up
32 for a bruting", basically, you know but that was the joke,
33 you know, it was - and then they proceeded to advise me
34 that the best thing was - to do was if you - you know, told
35 me what would happen and the best thing was is if "Snoz",
36 or Mr Wenlock, would offer you a can of cool drink, right,
37 then if you said "yes", then he would grab you and give you a
38 bruting. So the best thing to do was say no and then, you
39 know, kind of you're out of there.
40
41 Q. I see. Did you know what a bruting was?
42 A. Well, not properly, no. No, I wasn't aware of what a
43 bruting was, I just knew that a bruting - you know, there
44 was this a - kind of like a wrestling match.
45
46 Q. So these boys spoke to you about there was virtually a
47 routine?

1 A. Pretty much.
2
3 Q. So did you then go to this meeting with --
4 A. Yes, I went around to the meeting forewarned and
5 forearmed with the knowledge not to accept the can of Coke.
6
7 Q. Yes.
8 A. I knocked on the door. Roy Wenlock came to the door,
9 he was dressed in a pair of - like the old black footy
10 shorts, like the stubbie-style of footy shorts and a white
11 singlet that was tucked into the shorts. The shorts were
12 very tight and the crutch, it was pulled up high so, you
13 know, like, his penis and his tack - you know, was quite
14 accentuated, yes.
15
16 Q. You recall that, can you?
17 A. Hundred-per-cent.
18
19 Q. So what happened then?
20 A. We went into his unit. We sat down. It was sort of
21 like - I'm sure it was like at 90 degrees to each other and
22 there was open floor in the centre and then he proceeded to
23 discuss what had happened in, you know, Wongan, the trouble
24 I'd been in and there was an ongoing discussion but the
25 rest of it I'm not sure.
26
27 Q. Can you recall whether anything was playing?
28 A. Yes, I can. It was Handel's "Messiah".
29
30 Q. That was on the record player?
31 A. Yes, it was on his record player. 100 per cent.
32
33 Q. So after talking about your history at Wongan Hills --
34 A. Yes.
35
36 Q. -- did the subject matter turn to another area?
37 A. Yes. You're referring to - he then offered me a can
38 of cool drink which I sort of thought - well, the light
39 switched on and I went "No", you know, like, "I'm fine,
40 thank you very much. I don't need a can of cool drink,
41 no" and I thought that's fine, I'm - I can - I'm out of
42 here.
43
44 HIS HONOUR: Q. You're safe?
45 A. I'm safe. I thought the boys had given, you know -
46 they filled me in well and truly and I thought I was safe,
47 sir.

1
2 MR URQUHART: Q. But were you safe?
3 A. Not at all.
4
5 Q. What happened?
6 A. Basically he jumped up off his chair, grabbed me,
7 threw me on the ground and started, you know - like, well,
8 he was wrestling with me, I think I was more trying to get
9 away because, yes.
10
11 Q. As he did that did he say anything to you?
12 A. After a while he - it was suggested he was wrestling
13 me - it was suggested that I take my shirt off but I don't
14 clearly recall whether I did or not. Then he --
15
16 Q. Did he give an explanation as to why you should take
17 you --
18 A. Because it'd get - you know, could get ripped. Then
19 part - then it was basically the best of three, a
20 best-of-three wrestle. Part of the way through that he
21 suggested that what - he would show me a hold that you
22 can't - basically can't get out of. He said "This is a
23 hold that no-one can get out of, it's" - you know, which
24 was later referred to as the "Snoz hold".
25
26 Q. Okay. So you subsequently found out what it was?
27 A. Yes.
28
29 HIS HONOUR: Q. A "Snoz hold"?
30 A. The "Snoz hold", sir.
31
32 MR URQUHART: Q. What was the Snoz hold?
33 A. Okay. He lay on his back and then he's invited me to
34 sit on his - you know, like, to straddle him, so facing him
35 and straddling him. Then what he suggested is said - to
36 make this hold impossible to get out of you have got to put
37 your - put my hands down through his pectoral muscles here
38 (Witness indicates) and squeeze.
39
40 Q. So you're indicating there just to the sides of your
41 chest there?
42 A. Yes, just the sides of the chess there.
43
44 Q. So you had to lean across and do that?
45 A. So you're straddling him like this, leaning down
46 (Witness demonstrates). So you're basically sitting on his
47 stomach, leaning forward, squeezing his pectoral - yes,

1 these muscles, yes.
2
3 Q. And you did that?
4 A. Yes, I did. I don't know why.
5
6 Q. I was going to ask you: at this stage what were your
7 feelings, can you recall?
8 A. Disgust but I think at the time, because what had
9 previously happened in Wongan with my folks and then the
10 door and - you know, like, authority, you know, I - you
11 just did what you were told at that time.
12
13 Q. So you felt you didn't have a choice?
14 A. No choice whatsoever.
15
16 Q. Once you'd done that, grabbed him there in the area
17 that you have demonstrated, do you recall what he did next?
18 A. Yes. He lay there and he was writhing - you know, his
19 head was going back and he was going "You brute, you brute,
20 you brute" and at the same time he was bucking from his
21 hips and I could feel his penis pushing into my back, yes.
22
23 Q. When you say your back, was it --
24 A. My lower (Witness indicates).
25
26 Q. Your lower back?
27 A. Lower back/buttocks area.
28
29 Q. Did you try and do anything as he did that?
30 A. At that stage I can't remember. I think I was just -
31 at that - because I was - I got bruted twice. I went -
32 I had two sessions. At that session I don't remember
33 exactly how I got out of there or what state I was in when
34 I got out of there.
35
36 Q. You have mentioned there how you felt him at the base
37 of your back there, near your bottom.
38 A. Mmm.
39
40 Q. Can you recall what state his penis was in?
41 A. I don't think he was fully erect but, you know, I can
42 still feel his penis even now.
43
44 HIS HONOUR: Q. It's seared on your memory, is it?
45 A. Yes. It's upsetting me now, yes.
46
47 MR URQUHART: Q. Are you all right to go, you can

1 continue?
2 A. Yes, yes.
3
4 Q. Can you recall how long this lasts from the time that
5 you had the --
6 A. The wrestling match? I couldn't recall, you know
7 what, I think whoa to go it would have been an hour, two
8 hours, something like that, you know, from the time --.
9
10 HIS HONOUR: So you're saying you were straddling him for
11 an hour, two hours?
12 A. Oh, no, no. From the time that I arrived to there -
13 the wrestling match was the best of three and I think, you
14 know, it was contrived, sir, you know. But the wrestling
15 match, I don't remember how long it --
16
17 Q. What sort of periods would you have been straddling
18 him or don't you remember?
19 A. It wasn't - you know, like, if you said - I don't
20 know. Look, I would say, you know, a block of 10 minutes
21 or something, do you - you know, it was enough to - yes.
22
23 MR URQUHART: Q. As you ran from his room do you recall
24 seeing anybody else?
25 A. No, I didn't. It was - yes. No, I don't remember
26 seeing anyone else, no.
27
28 Q. You have mentioned the boys in fifth year, where their
29 dorm was?
30 A. Mmm-hmm.
31
32 Q. Did you see anything up in that area?
33 A. No, no. I just know that - I know afterwards when
34 I spoke to my brother and the guys in the fifth year dorm,
35 that from the fifth year dorm you could see down, which we
36 did - you could see down to Wenlock's unit and you could
37 see - I'm sure it was like the bathroom window, right, you
38 know those opaque windows?
39
40 Q. Yes.
41 A. But no, I saw nothing, I just - I think I was just too
42 upset. I just think I went straight back to my dorm.
43 I can't remember.
44
45 Q. Did you tell anybody about this immediately
46 afterwards?
47 A. Pretty much, yes, spoke - like I said, I spoke to my

1 brother the next day and I spoke to the guys in my dorm,
2 you know, the next day too.
3
4 Q. Did any of you resolve to do anything about it?
5 A. No, there was - you know, like, he was - at that stage
6 we were all new, right. So there was - yes, you just - I
7 wasn't ready to, you know, sort of create waves, I suppose,
8 I don't know. I was just - it was just - yes.
9
10 Q. I should ask you this: so you would have been 15
11 turning 16 that year?
12 A. 16, yes, because I was born in November, so.
13
14 Q. So you have just turned 15 the previous year?
15 A. 15, yes.
16
17 Q. Sometime after that, still in fourth year or year 11,
18 were you caught doing something?
19 A. Yes, I got caught smoking by the school.
20
21 Q. By the school?
22 A. Yes.
23
24 Q. As distinct from the hostel?
25 A. Yes.
26
27 Q. So the teachers at the school --
28 A. Yes, I got caught. We were down at the squash courts,
29 a group of - there was a group of us, some guys - the
30 townies - and some guys from the hut, we were down at the
31 squash courts, I got caught - we all got caught smoking and
32 we were sent back up to the school for discipline, yes.
33
34 Q. Were you also disciplined by anyone at the hostel?
35 A. Yes. So the school rang the hostel, we were then sent
36 up to the hostel to get disciplined by Roy Wenlock and
37 Roy's discipline was to give us - I got four; two on each
38 hand, yes, sure
39
40 HIS HONOUR: Q. So did you get disciplined both at the
41 school and at the hostel?
42 A. No. Then I went back to the school. I think it was
43 the following day went back to the school, I can't remember
44 the deputy headmaster's name but his full intention was to
45 discipline us again, sir, but I just turned around and
46 I flatly refused.
47

1 Q. So when you went back to school the first time you
2 were sent on to the hostel?
3 A. Got sent to the hostel, got disciplined at this
4 hostel. Then we - the next day we went back to the school,
5 we were called to the deputy headmaster and it was his
6 intentions to cane us again but I flatly refused to take
7 it, I turned - I just said "Look, I've been disciplined
8 once, you can't be disciplining me two times for the same
9 offence", which caused a bit of a ruckus.
10
11 MR URQUHART: Q. So you got caned twice on each hand by
12 Roy Wenlock?
13 A. Yes. Wenlock, yes.
14
15 Q. What sort of force was used for those, can you recall?
16 A. Yes, it was strong force, yes.
17
18 Q. Can you recall the cane that was used?
19 A. Yes, it was a cane.
20
21 Q. On Sundays were all the boys at St Christopher's
22 required to do something?
23 A. Yes, we were all required to go to the local Anglican
24 Church, which was in town. Basically you had a choice of
25 either walking to the church or you could catch the hut -
26 the hostel bus to the church. We generally walked.
27
28 Q. So that was compulsory?
29 A. 100 per cent compulsory, yes.
30
31 Q. Would that be so whether you were Anglican or not?
32 A. Yes. I was brought up in a good, you know,
33 Methodist/Uniting Church, you know, sort of - so everyone
34 had to go to the Anglican Church.
35
36 Q. Would Roy Wenlock be there?
37 A. Roy Wenlock was - he attended the altar in the full
38 altar gear, you know, the right smock and --
39
40 Q. Can you recall --
41 A. Can I just say this?
42
43 Q. Certainly.
44 A. Can I say this: prior to leaving Wongan Hills - and
45 this is just - I wanted to say this - it is that I was
46 brought up in a fairly Christian family. Methodists we
47 went to Sunday school, we went to church. I went to youth

1 - you know, like, youth - a lot of youth camps, church
2 youth camps and we went to like a youth Christian group.
3 After being sent to the hut and to the Anglican - you know,
4 like, to this Anglican Church and I saw the hypocrisy of
5 the church, I have no faith in the church since then.
6

7 Q. Since you were at the school?

8 A. Yes.
9

10 HIS HONOUR: Q. That's no faith in any church since
11 then?

12 A. No faith in what the church does. I have a belief
13 that there's a god, but I have no faith in --
14

15 MR URQUHART: Q. So you've never attended a --

16 A. No.
17

18 Q. -- service?

19 A. When I - when I married my wife - she's Catholic - she
20 had a very hard time even getting me to go inside a church,
21 and we were lucky we had quite an understanding Minister,
22 Catholic Minister.
23

24 Q. Sir, we have already heard a lot of evidence about
25 this, so I'll just go through very briefly there. You
26 recall what would happen in the shower blocks when the boys
27 had to have showers?

28 A. Yes.
29

30 Q. Yes. So your recollection is the same as --

31 A. Same as everyone else. There was, I think,
32 approximately 12 open showers. There was a group in the
33 showers, there was a group sitting waiting to go in the
34 showers, and a group behind, drying and changing. Wenlock
35 was at the doorway. He had a complete full view of the
36 showers, and I think he enjoyed every moment of his time,
37 yes, morning ritual.
38

39 Q. Right. Now, you mentioned that you were subjected to
40 these wrestling sessions twice?

41 A. Yes.
42

43 Q. Can you recall what year the second occasion was?

44 A. The second occasion was when I was in Year 12.
45

46 Q. So that's 1976?

47 A. '76, that's correct. Since talking to - making my

1 witness statement, I thought about that session and I do -
2 I strongly remember being dropped off at the driveway of
3 the - Wenlock's unit, and then having to go to the unit
4 to - I'm guessing was to let him know that I'd returned
5 from some sort of an outing.
6
7 Q. I see. You'd been out?
8 A. I'd been out.
9
10 Q. And hostel boarders were allowed to do that?
11 A. Yes. You know, like as long as there was permission
12 given all the way through. I don't know who I was out
13 with, but I do strongly remember being dropped off in a
14 vehicle and then, yes.
15
16 Q. And then was the requirement if someone was allowed to
17 go out in an evening, that they had to do something before
18 they went to bed?
19 A. It was go and check in.
20
21 Q. To?
22 A. The warden, to Wenlock.
23
24 Q. And did you do that on this occasion?
25 A. Yes.
26
27 Q. And what would check-in normally require?
28 A. Just to let him know that you were there, you were
29 safely - you know, safely back.
30
31 Q. And was that normally done at the doorway?
32 A. It's just that - yes. This time, no, he took me
33 inside. I don't remember what happened. All I remember is
34 it was another - another attempted bruting session, right.
35 He had me on top of him. I knew that he had a weak heart.
36 I had my hand on his chest like that, and my other hand - I
37 was just smashing him on his chest. I wanted to kill him.
38
39 HIS HONOUR: Q. So you lost control of yourself, did
40 you?
41 A. Yes. Then from that point I jumped - I jumped up and
42 ran from his - from his unit. I had - I was wearing a
43 cheese-cloth shirt, and the cheese-cloth shirt was ripped.
44
45 MR URQUHART: Q. Do you know how that got ripped?
46 A. By Wenlock.
47

1 Q. So he was grabbing you, was he?
2 A. Yes.
3
4 HIS HONOUR: Q. And just going back to when you were on
5 his chest, before you started hitting him on the heart -
6 was it any different from the last time in terms of, you
7 know --
8 A. I can still feel his penis.
9
10 Q. You can still feel his penis --
11 A. Yes.
12
13 Q. -- and things of that nature?
14 A. Yes.
15
16 Q. Yes.
17 A. Yes, sir.
18
19 MR URQUHART: Q. And was he saying the same thing that
20 he said to you the first occasion?
21 A. For a little while, then he got shocked, a bit of a
22 shock.
23
24 Q. Yes. And were you aware that he had heart problems?
25 A. 100%, that's why I did it.
26
27 HIS HONOUR: Q. And how many times do you think you
28 struck him in the heart area?
29 A. About three.
30
31 Q. Right.
32 A. Just bang, bang, bang.
33
34 MR URQUHART: Q. You got out of his unit?
35 A. I ran from his unit.
36
37 Q. And do you know where you went after that?
38 A. I went straight around to one of the housemaster's
39 unit, Tim Blee, and I told Tim about what had happened.
40
41 Q. Okay. And can you recall where Tim Blee's unit was?
42 A. Pretty much you went straight from the warden's unit,
43 you turned left down past the shower blocks, and on your
44 left was the steps to go into the fourth and fifth year
45 dorms, and Tim was out - out a door. You ran forward
46 instead of turning left, you ran forward. There was a
47 doorway there, I am sure, and he was in that - that

1 vicinity.
2
3 Q. So that was still some distance away from the warden's
4 unit, was it?
5 A. Quite a distance, yes; a reasonable distance, yes.
6 Within the building block.
7
8 Q. Were there any supervisors or hostel staff
9 accommodation close to where the warden's unit was?
10 A. I couldn't tell - from my recollection I couldn't tell
11 you, I only know that I was heading to Tim's place.
12
13 Q. And why were you going to Tim's place in particular?
14 A. Because Tim was a younger - he was understanding, you
15 know. Not understanding, but I - he was a good bloke and
16 we created - had a rapport with him. Most of the students
17 had a rapport with Tim.
18
19 Q. Right. And so you knocked on his door?
20 A. Mm-hmm.
21
22 Q. Did he answer?
23 A. Yes, he let me in.
24
25 Q. Yes. What sort of state were you in at that point?
26 A. Pretty upset. Very upset, you know. Well, obviously,
27 I'd been trying to kill - kill the warden.
28
29 Q. Yes, yes, fair enough. Yes. Did you explain to him
30 what had happened?
31 A. Yes.
32
33 Q. And did he - was he able to settle you down at all?
34 A. Yes, he settled me down. Tim - both Tim and I were
35 great lovers of music, I still am, and Tim just played
36 some of his - he basically gave me - sat down - he most
37 probably doesn't remember, but that's what he did for me.
38
39 Q. Yes, okay. And did you go into detail as to what had
40 just happened?
41 A. 100%, yes. I would have let him know exactly what's
42 going on.
43
44 Q. So it wasn't just a case of you saying, "Just had a
45 wrestle with" --
46 A. No.
47

1 Q. -- "the warden", or anything like that?
2 A. No, no.
3
4 Q. And did you leave his unit after you settled down?
5 A. Yes, and I went straight back to my dorm.
6
7 Q. Okay. And on what basis was it left when you left Mr
8 Blee's unit? Was the matter going to be taken further?
9 A. I have no idea. I don't know. That was never
10 discussed. It was just - he was - he just looked after
11 my - me personally.
12
13 Q. Can you recall now - I know it's a long time ago -
14 can you recall now whether you - you wanted to take the
15 matter further in that other people should be told?
16 A. At that stage I spoke to my mother about it, yes.
17
18 Q. But apart from your mum, did you --
19 A. No, not that I recall. I spoke to, like, you know,
20 like my friends; but, no, I don't - and I spoke to my
21 mother, who I don't think really actually, you know,
22 believed that that sort of stuff happens, but --
23
24 Q. Right. And so, yes, when you - again, did you go into
25 the detail when you spoke to your mum?
26 A. Yes, she was made aware. I don't know if I would have
27 explained to her about the penis thing because, you know,
28 like boys and mums and penises, but she was aware that
29 definitely that's what the bruting session was about.
30
31 Q. And can you remember whether you had asked her to take
32 the matter further?
33 A. I think it was more just telling her what was going
34 on. You know, like just saying, "Look, this is - this is
35 what's happening." And it's only just been recently that I
36 did, you know, since this has happened, I've spoken to her
37 and --
38
39 HIS HONOUR: Q. So about how long after the second
40 bruting session did you speak to your mother?
41 A. Well, I didn't go home often, so it would have been,
42 you know, like a couple of weeks, I suppose.
43
44 Q. Right.
45 A. Plus trying to work up enough inner strength to tell,
46 you know, like, your mother about things --
47

1 Q. You found that hard?
2 A. Yes, because basically sexual.
3
4 Q. And just within your own family, had there ever been
5 talk about matters of sex or any sort of fatherly advice or
6 that sort of thing?
7 A. Not, not really; no, sir.
8
9 Q. Yes, I think that's the position with most families in
10 those days.
11 A. Yes.
12
13 MR URQUHART: Q. Now, you mentioned that you also spoke
14 to your friends about it?
15 A. Yes.
16
17 Q. Can you recall a boy in your year who was a townie that
18 you were a friend with?
19 A. Brett, Brett McIver.
20
21 Q. Yes.
22 A. Yes.
23
24 Q. Right. Do you recall speaking to him about it?
25 A. I've spoken - I spoke - we spoke all about it, yes.
26
27 Q. Right.
28 A. There was a group of us, you know, sort of good
29 friends that we, yes.
30
31 Q. I see. So you do remember speaking to --
32 A. Yes.
33
34 Q. -- Brett about it?
35
36 HIS HONOUR: Q. Did you say your mother didn't really
37 believe you?
38 A. I think she was - I think she thought that Roy Wenlock
39 was an upstanding citizen, you know, and these things
40 weren't possible, sir.
41
42 MR URQUHART: Q. And, indeed, was she not alone in that
43 view amongst parents, to your knowledge?
44 A. I think so. I think what - because it came from
45 Wongan Hills - and this only is my thoughts - is that there
46 was other children from Wongan that were sent to the hut.
47 There was quite a few of us, and I think, from my

1 understanding, they're still getting sent to - you know,
2 they're still part of the hostel in Northam, and they're
3 still going there from Wongan Hills, but - and I think
4 she - I believe she would have spoken to other mothers,
5 tried to sort of confirm if this was actually going on, and
6 I think she may have made a half - bit of a half attempt
7 to, you know - nothing came - nothing came of it, no.

8
9 Q. Is that something she's told you?

10 A. Since, yes.

11
12 Q. And your mum now?

13 A. I feel sorry for her because it's been 35 years she's
14 lived with it, you know, feeling guilty because she didn't
15 sort of protect her children, you know, because my brother
16 got the - you know, had - I only recently found out that my
17 brother also had been bruted as well.

18
19 HIS HONOUR: Q. So do you know when your mother first
20 accepted that this had happened? How long ago?

21 A. I don't think - sir, I couldn't tell you exactly when
22 she first accepted it, that it happened, but by the time
23 we'd finished, you know, school, she was well aware that
24 that had - you know, it was the case.

25
26 Q. So just on that - I mean, so far as the public is
27 concerned, I think no one's known of these matters until
28 this Inquiry, but are you saying there was more common
29 knowledge out there in the community before now?

30 A. Every student knew. Every student that went to the
31 hostel knew what was going on, and I would believe that
32 there was some parents that would have definitely known -
33 you know, that would have been told. I would be sure of
34 that. And I'm guessing, you know, I would think - and I am
35 sure that Brett McIver will confirm that there would have
36 been discussion at his household as well in regard to what
37 was going on.

38
39 MR URQUHART: Q. With respect to - on the question of
40 discussions, do you recall speaking to Tim Blee about it,
41 and your friends, including --

42 A. Yes.

43
44 Q. -- Brett McIver and your mum?

45 A. Yes.

46
47 Q. Is that the extent of your recollection that you spoke

1 to people about this at the time?
2 A. At the time, yes, I think that would have been.
3
4 Q. So you don't recall having a meeting with any other
5 persons --
6 A. No one in authority.
7
8 Q. -- in authority?
9 A. No.
10
11 Q. No, not the - no one from the hostel board?
12 A. No, no, no.
13
14 Q. Another schoolteacher, apart from Mr Blee?
15 A. No.
16
17 Q. No?
18 A. No.
19
20 Q. Or Brett's father?
21 A. Brett's father - well, he - he was Ken McIver, MLA.
22 No, Mr McIver was - we used to go around to Brett's house
23 quite often. It was a little bit like a safe house. Not a
24 safe house, but it was good to go there. It was - we had a
25 lot of fun there and we were always welcome, but Brett's
26 father was always busy, he was never home. I don't - I
27 would say that I - I don't think I would have ever seen
28 him.
29
30 Q. I see, right.
31 A. Yes.
32
33 Q. So you finished school end of fifth year --
34 A. Yes.
35
36 Q. -- 1976?
37 A. Yes.
38
39 Q. And from there did you stay in Northam or did you
40 return to Wongan Hills?
41 A. I returned to Wongan Hills, but I when backwards and
42 forwards to Northam because my girlfriend who was
43 in - well, that - '77, she was in Year 12, so --
44
45 Q. I see. So she was a year younger than you?
46 A. Yes, and she boarded - I think it's called - is it
47 Adams - the girls hostel, Adamson House.

1
2 Q. Adamson House, yes.
3 A. She boarded there, so I used to go and visit on the
4 weekends.
5
6 Q. And did you find out in 1977 that year after you left
7 school, something happening regarding Roy Wenlock?
8 A. Yes, I gathered that - I found out enough that I've -
9 he'd been moved on and I - from what I understood, there'd
10 been another student from the hostel had been bruted, and I
11 think it had been brought to, you know, the authorities'
12 attention, and Wenlock had been basically given the sack.
13
14 Q. Right. And --
15 A. But prior to that, just - what I recall is I got
16 bruted. I saw Tim - Tim Blee, then one of my sort of
17 friends, he was bruted later - later on. His name was Ted
18 Thompson.
19
20 Q. Yes.
21 A. Right. He was bruted later on. From my
22 recollections, he either went to the head boy at that
23 stage, because Ted was a prefect. He went to the head boy,
24 Adrian Gamble, and they both went to the McIvers, or Ted
25 went to the McIvers by himself. That's, you know, my vague
26 knowledge, and then from there, then this - in '77 this --
27
28 Q. Right.
29 A. -- that's - that's like a sequence of events that I
30 seem to --
31
32 Q. And is that what your recollection is, going back to
33 what your memory was in --
34 A. Yes.
35
36 Q. -- at around this time --
37 A. Yes.
38
39 Q. -- rather than more recently?
40 A. Yes, I remember - I remember very - yes, I do remember
41 Ted getting bruted and I do - I was surprised because he
42 was - you know, like - and I do remember - and I was
43 surprised that he went to McIver, yes.
44
45 MR URQUHART: Okay. Look, thank you very much.
46
47 THE WITNESS: No worries.

1
2 MR URQUHART: That's all the questions I have to ask you.

3
4 HIS HONOUR: Perhaps I'll just ask you.

5
6 Q. I mean, you came from a home where you never had any
7 sex education and you probably were fairly naive about
8 sexual matters, would that be right, when you went to St
9 Christopher's?

10 A. Yes, pretty much, sir.

11
12 Q. All right. So when this first happened, the bruting
13 session with Wenlock, what was your understanding of the
14 nature of it, what was happening to you?

15 A. I realised that it was sexual. I knew that it was
16 sexual. I knew this. I could feel his penis, you know,
17 like - but from the first time to the second time I was
18 completely aware of what he was doing, you know. Yes, I
19 don't know, it was just - I can't.

20
21 Q. Right. And obviously both times you were very upset
22 that this had happened to you?

23 A. Yes, sir, yes.

24
25 HIS HONOUR: All right. Now, is there any questions from
26 the Bar table?

27
28 MR JENKIN: No, thank you, sir.

29
30 MS MORGAN: No, thank you.

31
32 HIS HONOUR: Q. Is there anything else you want to say?

33 A. Only from going from a - in those years, in third
34 year, I was an advanced A student to not even being able to
35 scrape in to get into university after I left fourth and
36 fifth year.

37
38 Q. So when you'd started you'd been a very high achieving
39 student?

40 A. 100%.

41
42 Q. And by the end of your time at St Christopher's --

43 A. Nothing.

44
45 Q. All right. And what do you attribute that to?

46 A. I don't know. I would say part of myself, you know,
47 being lazy, you know. I just think it wasn't an

1 environment - you know, it wasn't a good environment, you
2 know.

3
4 HIS HONOUR: All right. I'd like to thank you very much
5 for coming forward. Your evidence has been very helpful.
6

7 THE WITNESS: I would like to thank you for listening to
8 my story, sir.
9

10 HIS HONOUR: Very good. You're free to go. Thank you.
11

12 <THE WITNESS WITHDREW
13

14 MR URQUHART: Sir, the next witness will be Brett Kenneth
15 McIver, and Mr McIver's been outside the hearing room
16 during "L"s evidence.
17

18 <BRETT KENNETH MCIVER, sworn:
19

20 <EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR URQUHART:
21

22 MR URQUHART: Q. Now, Mr McIver, your full name is Brett
23 Kenneth McIver?

24 A. That's correct.
25

26 Q. And you're 53 years old?

27 A. That's correct.
28

29 Q. And you live in the Perth metropolitan area?

30 A. That's right.
31

32 Q. And you're a Customer Service Officer --

33 A. Yes.
34

35 Q. -- is that right? And you're married?

36 A. Yes.
37

38 Q. And I thought this was a typo on your statement, but
39 you actually have 10 children?

40 A. Yes, I do.
41

42 Q. All right. Now, Mr McIver, I want to ask you about
43 your time growing up in Northam, if I can, and could I just
44 ask you - it might be a little bit difficult, but if I
45 could get you, as much as possible, that when you're
46 referring to a friend of yours from school whose first name
47 begins with "L" - I think you're aware of who I'm talking

1 about - if you are able just to refer to that person as
2 "L"?

3 A. Yes, sure.

4

5 Q. Okay. Don't worry if, in fact, you say the name,
6 because we can always have that edited out in the
7 transcript. Now, Mr McIver, is it the case that you grew
8 up in Northam?

9 A. Yes.

10

11 Q. And your father was Ken or Kenneth McIver?

12 A. That's right.

13

14 Q. He was a train driver?

15 A. Mm-hmm.

16

17 Q. And he went on to become a long standing local
18 member --

19 A. That's right.

20

21 Q. -- for the Northam region, for the Labor Party?

22 A. Yes.

23

24 Q. He was a member of the Lower House, the State Lower
25 House?

26 A. That's right, yes.

27

28 Q. And as I understand it, he was a member of parliament
29 from 1969 through to 1986?

30 A. That's right, yes.

31

32 Q. And then he was also the Minister for Works from 1983
33 to 1986 or the Minister for Works, Lands and Surveys --

34 A. Yes.

35

36 Q. -- is that right?

37 A. That's correct, yes.

38

39 HIS HONOUR: Q. Would I be right in thinking the McIver
40 Railway Station is named after him?

41 A. Yes. Stuart Hinks, the head of transfers at the time,
42 suggested it.

43

44 Q. Right.

45 A. And, yes, it was accepted, yes, which was a nice touch
46 from Stuiie.

47

1 MR URQUHART: Q. And on the subject matter of names, I
2 think it was your father's idea to come up with the Tonkin
3 Highway?
4 A. Yes, that's very true. It was supposed to be the
5 Charles Court Freeway.
6
7 Q. I wasn't going to ask you about that, but you've
8 proffered that information. Mr McIver, is it the case that
9 you went to the Northam High School from 1971 to 1976 --
10 A. '76, yes.
11
12 Q. And now that's actually six years in total?
13 A. That's right.
14
15 Q. And did you have - did you repeat a year?
16 A. Yes, I repeated fourth year.
17
18 Q. Fourth year. So you were in fourth - so you had
19 completed fourth year for the second time in 1975; is that
20 right?
21 A. Yes.
22
23 Q. And so then you were in Year 12 or fifth year in 1976?
24 A. 1976, yes.
25
26 Q. Now, you were aware, of course, that there are many
27 students who boarded at the St Christopher's Hostel --
28 A. Yes.
29
30 Q. -- during your time there. And did you become friends
31 with a number of those students?
32 A. Yes, I did, yes.
33
34 Q. However though, there was a distinction between the
35 townies and the hut kids; is that right?
36 A. In - when I was in lower school there was more of a
37 distinction. By the time I got into upper school, that
38 distinction sort of disappeared some, yes.
39
40 Q. But was it the case that there were separate football
41 teams that comprised of the hut boys --
42 A. Yes, different sports - the hostel had their own team
43 in different sports, from the high school.
44
45 Q. Now, are you aware of the warden at the hostel during
46 your time at the high school?
47 A. Yes.

1
2 Q. Roy Wenlock?
3 A. Roy Wenlock, yes.
4
5 Q. And what was your impression of this man, Roy Wenlock?
6 A. I was dead-set scared of him from the first time I
7 ever saw him. He - I don't know, I just - my gut reaction
8 to him was that he was an unpleasant sort of guy that would
9 give you a real flogging, you know. I had heard around
10 school that he'd hit people with a hose pipe - you know,
11 garden hose or stick or whatever, but I don't know. I
12 can't swear to that, but I'm - that's sort of my
13 recollection. I know he went around hitting people anyway.
14 That was enough for me.
15
16 Q. When you say "people", are these hostel boys?
17 A. They're hostel boys, yes.
18
19 Q. All right. And not the townies as such?
20 A. No.
21
22 Q. Right.
23 A. But the - like, I'd come in contact with him. He - he
24 was the supervisor at one of my Commonwealth scholarship
25 exams and that sort of thing. I never had anything to do
26 with him directly.
27
28 Q. Right. Now, from about the time that you were in
29 fourth year, or fourth year for the first time, 1974, did
30 you become aware of some gossip circulating around the
31 school regarding Roy Wenlock?
32 A. There was - I never heard anything specific, but there
33 was discussion about the fact that he had these things
34 called bruting sessions, and that different boys would have
35 to go up and front up and wrestle with him --
36
37 Q. Right.
38 A. -- but I never heard any sort of details of that until
39 '76.
40
41 Q. Okay then. When you first heard about it, did you
42 hear anything else about where these wrestling sessions
43 would happen --
44 A. No, not really.
45
46 Q. -- and what clothes were worn --
47 A. -- not really.

1
2 Q. -- or anything like that?
3 A. No, not really detailed, no.
4
5 Q. No.
6 A. No, not at that stage.
7
8 Q. No. But in, you say, 1976, you became aware of more
9 details?
10 A. Yes, because in '76 I had people come and visit me and
11 tell me what had happened to them.
12
13 Q. All right. Now, if I can ask you, you mentioned some
14 names first. First is - I can say his name - a gentleman
15 by the name of Ted Thompson?
16 A. Ted Thompson, yes.
17
18 Q. Was he a friend of yours?
19 A. Yes, he was - well, yes, yes.
20
21 Q. Yes. Okay. And was he in the same year as you in
22 1976?
23 A. He - he was in the same school year. I was a year
24 older than him because I repeated; but, yes.
25
26 Q. And can you recall whether he mentioned anything to
27 you --
28 A. Yes, he did.
29
30 Q. -- regarding these sessions --
31 A. Yes.
32
33 Q. -- these wrestling sessions?
34 A. Yes.
35
36 Q. And --
37 A. I remember he came around one night. It's a bit hazy,
38 but I remember he came around one night and he was very
39 upset. Another guy comes around because he was upset for
40 the same reason, yes.
41
42 Q. All right. And would there be a certain way in which
43 they would come around to your place, particularly in the
44 evening, do you recall?
45 A. Yes, well, people used to come - this is the thing,
46 because people used to come around not just because of
47 that --

1
2 Q. No.
3 A. -- but just to say hello and socialise and whatnot,
4 and they'd knock on the window and come through the bedroom
5 window, because my bedroom was on the front of the house
6 and the side and it was easy to get in and out of --
7
8 Q. We heard --
9 A. -- without disturbing the parents, I think, if they
10 were home.
11
12 Q. Yes, and you were in a sleep-out?
13 A. Yes, sort of a sleep-out, yes.
14
15 Q. Now, how clear are you that this was 1976?
16 A. Well, it must have been '76 because I was in fifth
17 year. That's the only thing I could think of. I really
18 couldn't swear to anything anymore because it's been so
19 long.
20
21 Q. But you were certainly still at school?
22 A. I was at school because the day I left school I was
23 out of Northam. I've never lived there since.
24
25 Q. Okay.
26 A. So if it was there, it had to be '76 or prior, and I'm
27 pretty sure it was '76 because we were in our last year of
28 school.
29
30 Q. Now, you mentioned also somebody else coming around
31 and telling you about that. Is that the person that we've
32 identified as "L"?
33 A. Yes.
34
35 Q. Okay. Can you tell me about what you recall of his
36 visit?
37 A. Well, he came around one night and tapped on the
38 window and he was pretty upset. He was shaking and, you
39 know; so he came in and we sat down and he told me what had
40 happened to him, that he'd had, you know, had one of these
41 sessions, and he was really upset about it.
42
43 HIS HONOUR: Q. Do you remember if it was after or
44 before Ted Thompson told you about it?
45 A. I think Ted was a bit later.
46
47 Q. So "L" was the first one?

1 A. Definitely. Well - he was the first person that I
2 had - that directly said to me what had happened to him,
3 rather than just being general gossip and rumour, okay. He
4 was specific in what he was talking about, you know. It
5 was from the horse's mouth so to speak.
6
7 Q. And roughly how much later was it that Ted Thompson
8 came around, do you think?
9 A. I'm not sure.
10
11 Q. You're not sure?
12 A. But it wouldn't have been long - a matter of days,
13 weeks maybe.
14
15 Q. A matter of days or weeks. Right, okay.
16 A. Yes, not long between I think.
17
18 MR URQUHART: Q. Now, once "L" had told you about that,
19 did you ask him anything? Did you say anything to him?
20 A. I don't remember exactly what was discussed; but, no,
21 I really don't remember exactly what was said, no.
22
23 Q. Following that conversation you had with "L", did you
24 then speak to any other students --
25 A. Yes.
26
27 Q. -- about this?
28 A. Well, subsequent to that night, another night Teddy
29 Thompson came over and did the same thing and tapped on the
30 window and he was telling me how he was upset and what had
31 happened to him. And we discussed what we could do about
32 it, and I said, "I'll tell dad".
33
34 Q. So that's your discussion you had with Ted?
35 A. With Ted, yes.
36
37 Q. You didn't have any of that sort of discussion with
38 "L"?
39 A. I think so, but I think - I don't really remember, but
40 sort of my recollection is that he wasn't that interested
41 because of the trouble that he could get into taking it
42 formally any further. I might be wrong on that.
43
44 HIS HONOUR: Q. This is "L" - - you think he might have
45 been a bit wary about it going further?
46 A. Yes, he had real concern, and they were real concerns,
47 you know. It's not that easy back then to - well, say,

1 whistle-blower or whatever.
2
3 MR URQUHART: Yes.
4
5 Q. All right. So you spoke to Ted about raising this
6 with your father and anybody else? Can you recall who
7 the --
8 A. Adrian Gamble I also spoke to about that. He was the
9 head boy at the hostel.
10
11 Q. Right.
12 A. And although they were hostel kids, we went back a
13 fair way because Ted and Adrian and I went to this Red
14 Cross camp when we were in primary school. So although
15 they didn't turn up until when I was in fourth year for the
16 first time, because they didn't do their lower high school
17 in Northam - or maybe it was second year, it was that long
18 ago - but anyway, we'd known them before they turned up at
19 the school.
20
21 Q. Right.
22 A. So we were already sort of thick as thieves before
23 that. And when I spoke to my father about it. He asked
24 for me to set up a meeting with Adrian, as the head boy.
25
26 Q. I see. And how clear is your recollection on that?
27 A. Not very clear at all because it actually might have
28 been Ted Thompson who had the meeting with dad. I just
29 always - in my mind it's always been Adrian, and I just
30 think of it that way, but it could have been Ted, come to
31 think of it.
32
33 Q. One or the other?
34 A. One or the other I would have thought, yes. And I
35 think it would have been Adrian, given the fact he was head
36 boy, but --
37
38 Q. Yes, okay.
39 A. And I wasn't at the meeting, so I don't --
40
41 Q. You weren't at the meeting so you don't - yes.
42 A. So I don't know.
43
44 Q. Did your father speak to you about what had happened
45 at that meeting or who or who exactly was at that meeting?
46 A. Not after, no, no. Dad was always very - he respected
47 people's confidentiality. If someone asked - in a case

1 like that he wouldn't say anything to anybody, it was never
2 discussed around the family or - which might sound a bit
3 strange given the nature of his work and that but he really
4 didn't talk about confidential things. Gossip, yes, but
5 not confidential.

6
7 HIS HONOUR: Q. How long after your conversation with
8 Tim about his bruting session did you speak to your father?
9 A. The next time I caught up with him. I don't remember
10 if dad was in or - because he was away a lot, being a
11 member of parliament.

12
13 Q. So not long afterwards?

14 A. Oh, no, as soon as I had the opportunity to talk to --
15

16 Q. What was your father's reaction when you told him what
17 they'd had to say?

18 A. Well, he was pretty taken aback and he just said
19 "Leave it with me and I'll sort something out". Because I
20 remember talking to him and saying "Look, you know, you
21 have got to be really careful because if Snoz finds out" -
22 "if Roy Wenlock finds out that these kids have been saying
23 this they're going to be in a world of hurt" and there's no
24 question about that because, you know, I mean, you want to
25 go around hitting people for no reason. If he had a reason
26 God knows what he would have done.

27
28 MR URQUHART: Q. Clearly your dad was someone in a
29 higher position of authority.

30 A. Mmm.

31
32 Q. Can you recall whether anybody else was involved in
33 this that was in authority?

34 A. From my memory, he set up a meeting with himself and
35 Adrian and the minister, the guy who - the Anglican
36 minister at the time who was on the board - the head of the
37 board, chair of the board, whatever, of the hostel.

38
39 Q. Did you know who that was by name?

40 A. No, I didn't have a clue. I'm not an Anglican, so
41 I really had nothing to do with the minister.

42
43 Q. And you didn't know what happened as an outcome of
44 that meeting because your dad didn't mention it to you?

45 A. No, no. I don't know what was discussed or what the
46 outcome of that meeting was, or whatever.

47

1 Q. Mr McIver, is it the case that your dad has passed
2 away, he passed away some time ago?
3 A. That's right, in September '88, yes.
4
5 Q. What is the next thing that you can recall regarding
6 this particular matter?
7 A. Well, the next thing I remember was that Roy was gone
8 and I know that - I heard on the news this morning that was
9 in '77 but I would have taken an oath that it was '76 that
10 he actually left.
11
12 Q. So your recollection is that it was 1976?
13 A. Yes.
14
15 Q. The year that you were still at school?
16 A. That's right. I thought he left before I did but
17 obviously not.
18
19 Q. Obviously after these matters involving Ted, L,
20 Adrian, your dad and the Anglican minister; is that right?
21 A. Yes, yes. From my recollection it followed hard upon,
22 so close too, yes.
23
24 HIS HONOUR: Q. Do you remember what time of the year in
25 1976 it was that these things happened?
26 A. No, I don't. I've got a feeling it was towards the
27 end of the school year but I really couldn't say for sure.
28
29 Q. You say the day was the day you left Northam. Do you
30 remember what date or what month it was that you left
31 Northam?
32 A. Well, it would have been December - no, it would have
33 been November of '76 because it was - the scaling test was
34 the last test of the exams and then I was on a bus on the
35 Sunday to Geraldton to start work on the Monday.
36
37 Q. So you think you left in November '76?
38 A. That's right, yes.
39
40 Q. Can you recall roughly how long before leaving in
41 November 1976 that these events with Ted and your father
42 occurred, roughly?
43 A. No.
44
45 Q. No?
46 A. No, no. If I had a guess I'd say spring but that
47 would only be a guess.

1
2 Q. So perhaps around September or something like that?
3 A. Something like that. May have even been later.
4
5 Q. So it could have been only a month or two beforehand
6 or a couple of months beforehand before you leaving
7 Northam?
8 A. Yes, but I may be remembering it incorrectly because
9 in '77 I did visit Northam quite a bit and I would have
10 been kept up-to-date with the goss. My brother was still
11 at school there, so maybe I found out the year after.
12
13 Q. Found out what?
14 A. That Roy had left. But I would have sworn - I'd stand
15 - that it was '76 but there you go.
16
17 HIS HONOUR: Thank you, Mr McIver.
18
19 MR URQUHART: That's all the questions I have, sir.
20
21 HIS HONOUR: Are there any questions from the bar table?
22 No? Thank you very much, Mr McIver, your evidence has been
23 very helpful. You're free to go.
24
25 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
26
27 <THE WITNESS WITHDREW
28
29 MR URQUHART: Sir, I now intend to read out another
30 statement. Once more this is a statement from an
31 ex-student and it's been signed. He hasn't made a request
32 that his identity be suppressed and so it reads:
33
34 Michael John Kalajzic states:
35
36 I'm 51 years old and I live in Cadoux with
37 my wife Rhonda and three children. We have
38 2 girls and a boy.
39
40 I am a Wheat Farm owner in the neighbouring
41 area. [I] have been farming for 33 years.
42
43 Between the years 1974 and 1978, I attended
44 at St Christopher's Hostel in Northam as a
45 boarder as did my wife. She was known as
46 Rhonda SMITH then and we formed a
47 relationship during our last year of school

1 in 1978.
2
3 The school principal was Mrs Matthews, who
4 I believe was previously the Matron.
5
6 Roy Wenlock was the Warden of the
7 St Christopher's Hostel.
8
9 Generally, I enjoyed my time at High
10 School. The first year was the hardest,
11 being away from home. There was also the
12 normal peer pressure bullying.
13
14 The Prefects were nominated by the School
15 Board.
16
17 Then, sir, he identifies a person as the head boy and
18 another prefect as well that I won't bother naming. He
19 goes on to say that the second boy he names was "a good
20 footballer" and they "were looked up to by their peers". Over
21 the page:
22
23 I played Hockey and I remember my Social
24 Studies Teacher, John WARREN was my coach.
25
26 Roy WENLOCK wasn't a hard task master,
27 although he was hard at discipline but you
28 never thought you didn't want to be there.
29 He disciplined by using the Cane. If
30 no-one put their hand up for something
31 wrong, everyone involved got the cane.
32 Fortunately I didn't get the Cane.
33 I didn't hear of any sexual abuse by Roy
34 either.
35
36 The girls and the boys at the Hostels known
37 as Boarders got on well. Those that lived
38 in town, known as "townies", were always
39 against the boys from the Hut. The Hut was
40 the name they called the Hostel the
41 Boarders from the Regional areas stayed in.
42
43 As a Boarder, Roy had a lot of rules. One
44 of them was if you went anywhere, you had
45 to check in with him on your return. I am
46 sure that we had to be back by 10pm and to
47 go to his flat to let him know.

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One time I remember in 1977, I'd been to Perth for the weekend with my girlfriend. I remember I came back late. I remember it was the year before I was going out with my wife, Rhonda.

This was the first time I was back late to the Hostel and had to check in with Roy on my own. Roy invited me envied his lounge room.

I'd been to Roy's room once before with another boy in one of my earlier years and played Chess with him but there was no wrestling that time.

The wrestling was something that the boys and I had heard about from others at the Hostel. He also used to invite the boys up to his flat on their birthdays. Everyone thought he was different. He often had Prefects or Head Boys in his flat with him more often than others. He let them drive his Holden Ute and do "spinouts".

The boys would say that Snoz was a Poof. "Snoz" was the nick name we called him because of the size of his nose.

When I went to his room, he may have been wearing a Robe initially when he first greeted me.

He started an arm wrestle with me. I don't know how long we did that before he said he wanted a wrestle. Then he jumped on top of me to hold me down. It started like a friendly Grandfather type wrestle, then he tried to pin me down. I remember the look of determination on his face.

At some stage I remember he was only wearing his jocks and a robe. That night I wore a white shirt and shorts. At some stage he asked me to take my shirt off but I told him "No".

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The wrestling went for about 10 minutes with him before I said I was going and I raced out of his room. Roy ripped the shirt I was wearing as I was leaving.

I don't remember anything sexual about his actions or if he had an erection during the wrestle.

I went back to my Dormitory (Dorm) and told some boys that when I went to Roy's room he tried to wrestle me. I told them I was all right, but I was freaked out during the night as I thought Roy would come into the Dorm.

Tim BLEE was one of the House Masters. He was the Science Teacher. He wasn't much older than us and we attached ourselves quite nicely to him. I was lousy at Science so I kind of sucked up to him.

Tim came in to my Dorm. He told me I was white as a ghost. He asked me what happened and I told him what Roy did. I remember Tim saying "That's enough".

I think after I told Tim, he took me to the DENNISONs and told them what happened. Mr and Mrs DENNISON also lived at the hostel. Mr DENNISON assisted Roy with Warden duties and Mrs DENNISON tended to the boys welfare.

Within the week, Tim told either someone on the Hostel Board or it may have just been Mr and Mrs DENNISON which caused a meeting to be held.

In thinking back, it's hard to remember who was at this meeting. I believe I was there with my mother, Patricia Kalajzic. I think the DENNISONs were too. I'm not sure if Tim BLEE was there and I remember Michael CHALLEN was there who was a member of the Anglican Church.

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I remember Tim backed up how I looked to him when he found me after the incident with Roy, although I can't remember if that was when Tim took me to see the DENNISONs or during the meeting with Michael Challen.

Then, sir, the next three paragraphs refer to this witness speaking to his mother about her recollection of the meeting. As a result of Inquiry investigators speaking to Mrs Kalajzic about her recollection, I don't now propose to read out those three paragraphs. I can just now go to paragraph 32, which reads:

The next thing I know, not long after the meeting, Roy resigned. It was done very quietly. I believed the result of the meeting, instigated Roy leaving town.

And there's the declaration at the end:

This statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. I have made this statement knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I will be guilty of a crime if I have wilfully included in the statement anything that I know to be false or that I do not believe is true.

It has been signed by the witness and dated 16 May 2012.

HIS HONOUR: Do you wish to take a break?

MR URQUHART: I think we might, sir. Mr Blee will be the next witness and I won't be able to conclude his evidence before the morning break, so it might be appropriate to take that now.

HIS HONOUR: All right. We will take a short break.

SHORT ADJOURNMENT

HIS HONOUR: Yes, Mr Urquhart.

MR URQUHART: Thank you, sir. The next witness is going to be Timothy Stephen Blee. Mr Blee has been outside the hearing room during the evidence of the previous two

1 witnesses but he is in the back of the hearing room now and
2 he will take the affirmation, sir.
3
4 <TIMOTHY STEPHEN BLEE, affirmed:
5
6 <EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR URQUHART:
7
8 Q. Mr Blee, your full name is Timothy Stephen Blee?
9 A. Correct.
10
11 Q. And Stephen is spelt with a "PH"?
12 A. Yes.
13
14 Q. You are 58 years of age?
15 A. Yes.
16
17 Q. You reside in a town in the south-west?
18 A. Yes.
19
20 Q. You are a teacher?
21 A. Yes.
22
23 Q. In fact, you have been teaching at the same school now
24 for some considerable time?
25 A. 17 years.
26
27 Q. Your first posting, though, Mr Blee, can you recall
28 where that was?
29 A. That was to Northam Senior High School in 1974.
30
31 Q. Did you remain at the Northam Senior High School until
32 1978?
33 A. Indeed, yes. Five years.
34
35 Q. Five years. When you were initially posted to Northam
36 in 1974 was there any housing for teachers in the area?
37 A. It was very limited. It was prior to the days of a
38 guaranteed country posting housing situation. So no, very
39 limited and - no.
40
41 Q. I have done my maths very quickly, you were 20 years
42 old at this time?
43 A. Just turned 20, yes.
44
45 Q. So as a result of that were you accommodated along
46 with some other teachers at the St Christopher's Hostel?
47 A. I was. I went to Northam after I got my posting and

1 I can't recall exactly how I got pointed in that direction
2 but I was told at some stage that accommodation was
3 available for teachers as house masters where you got board
4 and lodgings in return for supervising kids in study and
5 that sort of thing and being domestically illiterate, that
6 was appealing.

7

8 Q. I suppose you couldn't take your mum with you.

9 A. No, although she did come up a few times, yes. But
10 yes, no, it was - 20 years old. Yes, it seems a reasonable
11 thing to do.

12

13 Q. In 1974 can you recall the names of the other teachers
14 who took up that offer?

15 A. There were - yes. Hopefully right because there were
16 lots of teachers that went through there but there was
17 Frank Gianetti.

18

19 Q. G-I-A-N-E-T-T-I?

20 A. Or A-T-T-I, I'm not sure which; Frank. There was a
21 Buhagiar, as in the footballing fellow. Not him, his
22 brother I think, or cousin, a Buhagiar. There was a bloke
23 called "Duffy" but that's all I - I don't - I can't remember
24 his - and Duffy was like an abbreviation of what his
25 proper name was, and a few others.

26

27 Q. That's all right.

28 A. Yes.

29

30 Q. The warden at the hostel?

31 A. Roy Wenlock.

32

33 Q. Do you remember him?

34 A. Very well.

35

36 Q. Did he have a nickname, not just amongst the boys but
37 also staff?

38 A. Yes, "Snoz".

39

40 Q. Did you actually call him that?

41 A. Oh, no; Oh, no. Oh, no.

42

43 Q. I wouldn't have thought so.

44 A. No, no.

45

46 Q. In fact, you teachers, how did you address him?

47 A. "Roy".

1
2 Q. It was "Roy"?
3 A. I think - oh, probably initially "Mr Wenlock" because
4 he was much older than us and probably - but no, "Roy".
5 I think "Roy", yes.
6
7 Q. Your initial impression of the hostel after you
8 arrived there for a short time?
9 A. Well, I didn't have much to judge it on, never being
10 in anything like that before but it seemed to run well and
11 orderly and there were lots of kids there and lots of
12 action and lots of things going on but it all seemed to be
13 very sequential: meal time, you know, study time, go to
14 school time, play sport time. I'd have to say it seemed to
15 run well, yes.
16
17 Q. Is it your recollection there were about 120 boarders
18 there at the time?
19 A. Yes.
20
21 Q. During your time was that about full capacity?
22 A. I suspect it was, you know. I - yes. I think there
23 were four or five dormitories and there might have even
24 been a demountable transportable dormitory as well, so
25 probably pretty full.
26
27 Q. Was it the case that this warden, Roy Wenlock, coached
28 football and cricket teams as well as his other duties?
29 A. I don't think he coached. He umpired.
30
31 Q. Umpired?
32 A. He umpired football and cricket, both internally at
33 the hostel and I think in the town as well. I think he did
34 some umpiring in the town, yes.
35
36 Q. What was your relationship like with him?
37 A. We didn't get on well. We disagreed politically,
38 I suppose, about certain things but "Jekyll-and-Hyde" sort
39 of. Some days he'd be really nice and you'd get on well and
40 other days he'd be prickly and dismissive but no, not
41 great.
42
43 Q. And his physical presence, can you remember?
44 A. Yes. Well, I'm - you know, I was a lot bigger than
45 what I am now but he was a big, solid man who used to sort
46 of stride purposefully. You know, he had a - he'd walk
47 quickly and he was authoritative and yes, biggish bloke,

1 quite - yes.
2
3 Q. You would have your meals with the students, would
4 you?
5 A. Yes, there was a dining room and there was the
6 so-called top table and the staff would eat at the top
7 table in the dining room with all the kids.
8
9 Q. Can you recall him at all during your time there
10 referring to an entity called "the board"?
11 A. Yes. He - yes. Look, I didn't know too much what the
12 board was but it certainly got mentioned and you sort of
13 got the understanding that the board ran or oversaw the
14 running of the hostel but yes, he would often talk about
15 the board.
16
17 Q. In what terms would he speak of the board?
18 A. Not fondly. He would - I don't want to make - in a
19 throw-away line sort of way would suggest "Oh, the board
20 couldn't" - didn't know what they were doing or "There's a
21 board meeting coming up" and that would irritate him or
22 "Yes" - or "I've got to go to the board meeting, 'tch'" and
23 he'd throw his eyebrows in the air, sort of thing. So he
24 used to talk about them in not glowing terms.
25
26 Q. Something else that you and he didn't see eye to eye
27 with, was that in relation to the concept of personal space
28 and privacy?
29 A. Yes. He used to refer to me as "Young Tim" all the
30 time and that used to irritate me because I thought he was
31 sort of putting me down and he - well, he might have, as
32 just a beginning teacher and that, but he used to sort of -
33 that used to bug me. He also used to invade your space and
34 he used to squeeze you on the back of the shoulder (witness
35 demonstrates) as he'd walk up behind you. In a public
36 place, I mean, he didn't do that one-on-one, it was just -
37 sort of just a way that he sometimes, you know (witness
38 demonstrates) and I like that. I didn't like that.
39
40 Q. Obviously he did that to you?
41 A. Yes.
42
43 Q. Did you see whether he did that to other teachers?
44 A. I think he was - I don't want to - I think he was a
45 bit touchy-feely but I thought about what that used to be
46 and I - maybe that was just me feeling uncomfortable but
47 yes, I think he did do that to other people or pat you on

1 the shoulder a lot (witness indicates) but yes, definitely
2 used to sort of just squeeze you behind the shoulder blade
3 and I didn't like it.
4

5 Q. Did he ever speak in your presence about his friends,
6 that you can recall?

7 A. His friends. Not really. His life seemed to be
8 concentrated on the hostel. I think he had family in Perth
9 that he would talk about. I think there was a dad --

10

11 Q. Yes.

12 A. -- or a sister that - no, not - no.
13

14 Q. Would he boast to you about people that he knew?

15 A. Oh, well, friends and friends, yes. He would - he was
16 a bit of a name dropper, in terms of important people. So
17 he would - in some of our discussions about politics and
18 that he suggests that he was good friends with the Premier
19 at the time and, yes, he was a bit of a name dropper, "My
20 friends" --

21

22 HIS HONOUR: Q. Who was the Premier at the time?

23 A. Sir Charles Court, he would, you know. No, I didn't
24 know whether he was a friend of Sir Charles Court or
25 whatever, but he would say, "Oh, yes, my friend, Sir
26 Charles Court", and he seemed to know the educational
27 hierarchy as well - you know, who was the principal at the
28 school and who were the superintendents that might visit
29 the school to - to - what's the word - evaluate staff - you
30 know, teaching superintendents. I don't know if you're
31 familiar with --

32

33 Q. Yes.

34 A. Yes.
35

36 HIS HONOUR: Q. And in what context would he mention
37 those sorts of things?

38 A. As a beginning teacher you go on probation or - I
39 don't think it's probation, but you're a temporary
40 appointment, and then to get your permanency you need to
41 fulfil an inspection. You know, the superintendents would
42 come and he would say, "Oh, well, when your superintendent
43 comes", you know, "I'll put a good word in for you", and
44 stuff like that. Sort of like you could interpret it as
45 nice or mildly threatening. It was sort of one of those
46 statements you could take either way.
47

1 MR URQUHART: Q. And getting back to his boasting about
2 knowing people in prominent positions, can you recall
3 whether he'd also name others, apart from Sir Charles
4 Court, more locally?
5 A. Well, yes, the Mayor of the town was Mr Killick, who
6 spent a bit of time at the hostel. I think he had
7 something to do with the board, and the Mayor was a
8 prominent person, and he knew just about everyone in town -
9 you know, presidents of football clubs and, you know, he
10 knew - he knew the sort of - the big end of town. Not much
11 of a big end of town in Northam but, you know, he knew the
12 prominent people in town --

13
14 Q. Right.

15 A. -- I think, yes.

16

17 Q. Do you recall one particular argument you had with Roy
18 Wenlock regarding an issue of privacy?

19 A. Yes. In those days we used to - mail, there was no
20 email or texting, we didn't even have phones - landlines
21 and stuff. So we would get mail. You'd write to friends
22 and friends would write back and that would come to the
23 hostel. And one day one of my letters was opened, and he
24 delivered it - he used to bring the mail in to the dining
25 room for the staff and - and "Letter today" and that sort
26 of thing, because it would all go to a central office. And
27 one day one was opened and he said, "Oh, I mistakenly
28 opened this with all the other hostel mail", and I accepted
29 that as a reasonable proposition and said, "Okay, yes, no
30 worries", and he'd sticky taped it back up again, but I
31 didn't worry too much about that, but then it happened
32 again.

33

34 Q. And how did you know that it happened again?

35 A. Well, I was seeing a - do I need to name names?

36

37 Q. No, no.

38 A. I was seeing a girl, girlfriend at the time, and she
39 would write actually very regularly, and the handwriting
40 was quite succinct or quite clear, so I - just would - knew
41 when a letter was coming from her and stuff, and she'd
42 written, and we'd arranged to spend time at Floreat Beach
43 on the weekend, and I've read the letter. I didn't say
44 anything to anyone about it, it was my business. Went to
45 Perth for the weekend and we did, indeed, go to Floreat
46 Beach and stuff, and when I came back after the weekend he
47 said, "How was your weekend at Floreat?", and there was no

1 way that he could have known about that had he not read the
2 letter. The letter wasn't - didn't appear to have been
3 pre-opened, so that then led to a frank exchange of views
4 between him and me.
5
6 Q. And did you feel you were able to stand up to him?
7 A. I felt pretty bold taking him on at that stage. That
8 was - you know, I was still only there. It was only in the
9 first half of the year or so.
10
11 Q. So first half - the first year you were there?
12 A. Yes, 1974. So I was still only pretty young and the
13 discussion, you know, it got a bit heated, and I said - I
14 can't recall exactly what I said, but it got heated and I
15 sort of worked out then that maybe it was time to move on.
16
17 Q. And is that would you actually did?
18 A. Yes. I was trying to recall how that came about and I
19 don't think it happened immediately, because you couldn't
20 just walk out, because there was nowhere to live, and so I
21 think I had - would have had to have contacted the
22 Government - the GEHA - Government Employee Housing and
23 find out whether there was anywhere to live, and once I got
24 a confirmation there was a vacancy in a GEHA duplex then I
25 think I - he might have - I don't - I can't recall whether
26 he said, "It's time for you to leave", or I said, "It's
27 time for me to leave", or whether we both agreed it was
28 time for me to leave.
29
30 HIS HONOUR: Q. Did he deny opening that letter?
31 A. He did, yes.
32
33 Q. Did he explain how he knew you'd been to Floreat
34 Beach?
35 A. Yes, we got, sadly, quite heated, yes, and he - look,
36 I can't - I can't remember whether he said, "Oh, well, you
37 must have mentioned it".
38
39 Q. Right.
40 A. I mean, I can't - that is - that's the --
41
42 Q. We can't expect you remember things.
43 A. -- eight years ago. I remember that it didn't go
44 well.
45
46 MR URQUHART: Q. Your view at the time was that he'd
47 read that letter?

1 A. He'd opened that letter. And that made me think,
2 "Well, what other letters had he been opening? Was this a
3 common practice or whatever?"
4

5 Q. Yes. Okay. So were you at the hostel for about how
6 many months before you left?

7 A. I would - yes, I mean, I'm - again, trying to think
8 because then I get confused because it's four term - four
9 term years now, and I think it was only three term
10 school years in those days.
11

12 Q. Definitely. Right.

13 A. I'm thinking, you know, August or, but I could check
14 by phoning GEHA and finding out when I moved in, but --
15

16 Q. So sometime around the end of second term, it sounds
17 like it.

18 A. I think so, yes.
19

20 Q. Okay. So you left the hostel?

21 A. Yes.
22

23 Q. As I understand, you didn't have any cause to think
24 there was anything untoward happening at the hostel or
25 anything of that nature?

26 A. No, at that stage. I hadn't heard - I'd been too busy
27 trying to survive the first six months of a teaching career
28 and - and living, you know, living a life. No, to me at
29 that stage things seemed to be pretty good, although, you
30 know, it was run pretty tight. You know, it was - he was
31 the boss. He was definitely the boss.
32

33 Q. Can you recall about how long you were at this duplex?

34 A. About 18 months, yes. About 18 months. It wasn't -
35 it wasn't pristine conditions, but it was a place to live.
36

37 Q. Okay, then. We're talking about the mid '70s, aren't
38 we?

39 A. It was an asbestos hot box. It was horrible, but, you
40 know.
41

42 Q. And was it the case that after about 18 months, Roy
43 Wenlock approached you?

44 A. Yes, because you would still see him around. I mean,
45 even though we'd have a blew, you'd still sort of see him
46 because he'd been down the school, "Hello, Roy", "Hello,
47 Tim", sort of thing; but, yes, he came and asked me whether

1 I'd consider coming back because they were having
2 difficulty getting supervisory staff and he needed a coach
3 for his - for the football team, which I was playing
4 football, keen on that sort of thing. And he said there
5 would be some other staff appointed, deputy people put in
6 place and that; you know, "There wouldn't be as much call
7 on your time and you'd be a bit freer" and all that sort of
8 thing so --
9

10 Q. Yes. And so were you aware - so you accepted that
11 offer, you moved back?

12 A. Yes, I don't know if I accepted it immediately or
13 whatever; but, yes, ultimately I did. I shifted for the
14 start of the next school year.
15

16 Q. So if it was - if you left in around August 1974 and
17 you went back to the start of the school year and you
18 mentioned it was about 18 months, that would take us to
19 February '76?

20 A. '76, I think, yes, yes.
21

22 Q. And when you went back there, were there - was there a
23 Deputy Warden there?

24 A. I think either they were there - Wally and - can I say
25 the name?
26

27 Q. Yes, certainly, yes.

28 A. Wally and Margaret Dennison, or they were about to be
29 there. It's my recollection that they were there because I
30 shifted into a unit that was next door to where they were
31 residing on the premises, and my recollection is they were
32 there, but --
33

34 Q. Okay. I'm now going to show you exhibit 113, and put
35 your glasses on and have a look at that. That's a plan of
36 the hostel. It's not to be confused with the second floors
37 there, actually separated from the first floors, but I
38 think you've had a look at that previously.

39 A. Yes.
40

41 Q. And would you be able to mark on that plan where you
42 were for the second stint?

43 A. Where it's got "Mrs Logan's flat".
44

45 Q. That was yours, was it?

46 A. Yes. And it looks like - yes, there's a couple of
47 rooms and a shower and stuff, and that's that bottom - yes,

1 where it's got Mrs Logan's, that's where we were.
2
3 Q. Well, Mrs Logan, we heard - was there a number
4 of years before you move into it in '76?
5 A. Yes.
6
7 Q. And then the Dennisons?
8 A. Were in - where it's got "Supervisor's Flat".
9
10 Q. In that same section there which --
11 A. Yes.
12
13 Q. -- has got the arrow, "Mrs Logan's Flat"?
14 A. Yes, I think there is the bigger bit down underneath
15 that.
16
17 Q. Okay. Well, I might ask you, Mr Blee, if you can just
18 mark on that map where your - write down your name as to
19 that section you were in, and maybe also add there the name
20 "Dennisons" for where Mr and Mr Dennison resided?
21 A. (Witness does as requested).
22
23 Q. We thank you for that. And we can see there it's
24 handwritten, another supervisor's flat, which is detached
25 from - and just below "Dormitory 3". It's been taken away
26 from you, so it's back again.
27 A. Yes.
28
29 Q. It's got written in there "Wenlock's Flat". Is that
30 your recollection of where Roy Wenlock 's flat was when you
31 were there?
32 A. Yes.
33
34 Q. Okay. And also while we are just on that, there's
35 also a handwritten note as to where the shower block was.
36 Again, is that your recollection of where the shower block
37 was --
38 A. Yes.
39
40 Q. -- when you were there?
41 A. In the passageway. There was a passageway along
42 there, yes.
43
44 Q. And from that I'm assuming that you would not be able
45 to see from your flat, or indeed from the Dennisons' flat,
46 who would be coming and going from Roy Wenlock's flat --
47 A. No.

1
2 Q. -- is that right?
3 A. No.
4
5 Q. And were there - was your accommodation and the
6 Dennisons' accommodation the nearest accommodation that
7 staff lived in relative to Roy Wenlock's flat when you were
8 there?
9 A. Yes.
10
11 Q. Yes.
12 A. Yes, I believe so, yes.
13
14 Q. When you're saying "nearest", they were still some
15 distance away?
16 A. Yes, it was - it was a big long passage, from memory,
17 quite a long passage that went past the shower room and
18 down, and then there was a dormitory off there and then
19 there was an outlet point - you know, a stairway or a door
20 that led to Wenlock's flat.
21
22 Q. Thank you for that, Mr Blee. You can hand that back
23 now. Now, Mr Blee, obviously you were there for some time
24 after you moved back in the second time?
25 A. Yes.
26
27 Q. How would you describe Mr and Mrs Dennison?
28 A. They were terrific people. They were - you know,
29 Wally and Margaret were great to work with. They were calm
30 and reserved - not reserved, but measured in their
31 responses. I think they really cared for the kids.
32
33 Q. Yes.
34 A. And I think you battled to find someone that didn't
35 like them or appreciate the way they went about their work.
36 They were - they were also very nice to us as staff,
37 treated us well and, yes, they were terrific.
38
39 Q. The way in which Roy Wenlock operated the hostel - had
40 it changed from 1974 to when you went back in 1976?
41 A. No, it was pretty much the same. Even though Wally
42 and Margaret were there, he was still definitely the
43 officer-in-charge. He's - he - he was undoubtedly in
44 control.
45
46 Q. And do you remember him giving you and the other
47 housemasters there a particular item?

1 A. Well, the cane was in vogue, or not in vogue but in
2 use in schools in those times, and they had canes at the
3 hostel, and when we were to supervise study, we were given
4 a cane to take with us to the study hall to use.
5
6 Q. Given to you by whom?
7 A. By Wenlock, yes.
8
9 Q. And so that's 1976?
10 A. Yes.
11
12 Q. And after - in the following year as well?
13 A. I believe so.
14
15 Q. Can you remember?
16 A. I don't know quite when the cane got phased out in
17 schools, but I don't know whether that applied at the
18 hostel as well, but I can certainly remember the cane being
19 given to us to use, and I can remember him using it.
20
21 Q. Did you ever use it?
22 A. No.
23
24 Q. Did you ever see the other housemasters use it?
25 A. I think in the first stint, the first six months.
26
27 Q. In '74?
28 A. Yes, but after that the personnel changed and I don't
29 think I saw it being used.
30
31 Q. And what about Mr Dennison - did you ever see him use
32 it?
33 A. No, I never did, no, and I would think he wouldn't.
34
35 HIS HONOUR: Q. Was it only the single cane or are you
36 each issued with your own one?
37 A. I think it was sort of like a - no, we weren't issued
38 with our own personal one. I think it was a cane that
39 resided in the office that you - in the early days, I think
40 that you took with you to study --
41
42 Q. What was the theory behind the use of the cane, as far
43 as you were concerned?
44 A. Discipline, yes, yes. I saw - I saw kids being caned.
45
46 Q. Did it use to work, do you think?
47 A. No, no.

1
2 Q. Right.
3 A. It didn't work on me when I was at school.
4
5 MR URQUHART: Are you looking at me, your Honour?
6
7 HIS HONOUR: No. Nor me either.
8
9 MR URQUHART: Q. Did you see Roy Wenlock use the cane
10 yourself?
11 A. Yes, I did, and it was sometimes quite public, in the
12 front foyer of the - of the hostel. You walked in the door
13 and there was a foyer and photos and plants and stuff in an
14 office, and anyone that had done something wrong, he would
15 cane them in that office area. I actually saw that happen.
16
17 Q. Right. And the way he used the cane --
18 A. Left-handed, and hard and frequent.
19
20 Q. And were you aware of the supposed indiscretions?
21 A. Sometimes yes, sometimes not. They never seemed to be
22 terribly, you know, awful indiscretions, and sometimes it
23 seemed to me, from my memory again - it seemed to me that
24 sometimes a kid will get caned for something and then on
25 another occasion that wouldn't be the case. You know,
26 there was inconsistencies in its application, put it that
27 way.
28
29 HIS HONOUR: Q. Just on that subject: was the cane ever
30 given for smoking?
31 A. It may - I don't know, yes.
32
33 Q. There has been evidence from one former hostel
34 student --
35 A. Yes.
36
37 Q. -- that he was given the cane by Wenlock for smoking,
38 but on another occasion he's offered a smoke in front of
39 his mother by Wenlock.
40 A. Really, okay.
41
42 Q. Did you ever see anything like that?
43 A. Well, there was smoking going on at the hostel and
44 there was an area out the back where a blind eye was sort
45 of turned to it sometimes, you know.
46
47 Q. I just have trouble understanding how you can have a

1 system where if you're caught smoking you get the cane, but
2 other times it's all right to smoke. So can you throw any
3 light on that?
4 A. No, that was confusing. I think that was confusing to
5 the kids as well. There was mixed messages and I - I
6 couldn't say that I saw - I saw the cane given for smoking,
7 but it wouldn't surprise me, but I couldn't say. It was
8 more likely to be - I don't know, I don't know what they
9 got it for. It might have been late for breakfast. I
10 mean, it could be something as trivial as that or - I don't
11 know.
12
13 MR URQUHART: Q. Now, Mr Blee, you mentioned there was a
14 smoking area. Was that for where a blind eye was turned?
15 A. Sort of.
16
17 Q. Sort of?
18 A. Sort of, yes.
19
20 Q. So a blind eye with respect to students smoking there?
21 A. Yes, yes. And they had a bit of a watch system up,
22 and if he came around, you know, "Here he comes", and
23 everyone would disappear --
24
25 Q. Right, I see.
26 A. -- you know, in a cloud of smoke.
27
28 Q. Yes. So to speak. When you saw Roy Wenlock caning
29 students, how did that make you feel?
30 A. No, not good. I didn't like it, and it wasn't because
31 I was, you know, a laissez-faire sort of teacher, I think I
32 was a fairly firm teacher, but this was too much. This
33 was - this was not - it was too hard. No, it wasn't good.
34 It made me cringe a bit.
35
36 Q. What, because of the force he would use?
37 A. Yes, yes.
38
39 Q. And was it always on the hand, that you saw?
40 A. You only ever saw the hand being caned, yes.
41
42 Q. Was there something else that you weren't comfortable
43 with regarding what Roy Wenlock did concerning the showers?
44 A. Yes, that was right from the word go. When I first
45 went there, I had to use a - if the map could go up. I had
46 to use a shower and toilet that was down the passage, so I
47 had to travel past the shower room --

1
2 Q. Okay.
3 A. -- in the morning. I didn't have - in the first stint
4 I didn't have a shower and toilet in my room.
5
6 Q. That's in '74?
7 A. Yes.
8
9 Q. I think we're getting that up there. Indeed, was it
10 the case that your accommodation, the first stint, if we
11 can just go down, put it up on the top.
12 A. It wasn't where it was in the second stint.
13
14 Q. No, was it up near the - where that cross is that we
15 can see at the top of the page, is that your - is that your
16 accommodation?
17
18 HIS HONOUR: Near the dining room.
19
20 MR URQUHART: Yes, near --
21
22 HIS HONOUR: Next to the dining room.
23
24 THE WITNESS: No.
25
26 MR URQUHART: No, it's not.
27
28 THE WITNESS: There was an old wooden building, on old --
29
30 MR URQUHART: Okay.
31
32 THE WITNESS: It was an old wooden building which got
33 knocked down, demolished, and there was a room in there --
34
35 MR URQUHART: Right.
36
37 THE WITNESS: -- and that's where I lived. That old
38 wooden building was the original study hall.
39
40 MR URQUHART: Okay.
41
42 THE WITNESS: Now, that got demolished at some stage, and
43 a new one was constructed. I mean, the first time I went
44 there in '74 I lived in a room in that old wooden building,
45 and I had to come down that passage to a shower --
46
47 MR URQUHART: Q. And you'd have to walk past the shower

1 block where --
2 A. Yes.
3
4 Q. -- where the student showered?
5 A. Yes, they'd all be lined up.
6
7 Q. Okay.
8 A. They'd all come down and line up and I had to walk
9 past the shower block, so down a passage, up past the
10 shower block on the right.
11
12 Q. And what were you uncomfortable with?
13 A. Well, he would be standing in there.
14
15 Q. In the shower block itself?
16 A. Yes, inside the shower block with a - a clipboard, I
17 think, and a - and a list, and he would - you know, steam
18 coming out and all that sort of - he was in the actual
19 room --
20
21 Q. Right.
22 A. -- in the shower block.
23
24 Q. Okay. And from there he could view boys naked because
25 it was, as I understand it, it was open plan shower?
26 A. Yes, I think it was, like, 10 or 12 shower roses or
27 showerheads and no partitions between each. You know, how
28 showers have cubicles?
29
30 Q. Yes.
31 A. This was just a long alley, I think.
32
33 Q. And it was the case that he made it compulsory for
34 students to shower in the morning?
35 A. Yes, he did. He offered - he used to offer the
36 reason - he didn't hide the reason why he did that. He
37 used to say, "It's to check that they've all got up, that
38 they're all well and that they're all up and about each
39 day."
40
41 Q. This is his reason for being in the shower block?
42 A. Yes. A head count per se.
43
44 Q. However, in your view did he have to actually be in
45 the shower block itself to do that?
46 A. No. You could have ticked them off as they were
47 arriving, or you could have ascertained who had not got up

1 as to who came to the breakfast hall in the morning.
2
3 Q. No. And, indeed, were there occasions in which you as
4 a housemaster would - just on the odd occasion, have to do
5 that?
6 A. We would sometimes be delegated that job. I think I
7 did it maybe once or twice.
8
9 Q. And what did you --
10 A. I stood outside and I think I just filled the list in,
11 quite - actually, to be quite honest.
12
13 HIS HONOUR: Q. You didn't even bother on a head count?
14 A. No. Well, it was pretty obvious in the dining room as
15 to who hadn't made it, because there was enough chairs for
16 enough bodies, and if someone was not in the dining room in
17 the morning, you could - then you knew someone wasn't well
18 and whatever. No. And Mr Dennison put a stop to that as
19 well. He didn't - he didn't - I think he canned that idea
20 as well.
21
22 MR URQUHART: Q. So once he took over?
23 A. Yes, yes.
24
25 Q. There wasn't the requirement to tick people off as
26 they went into the showers?
27 A. No.
28
29 Q. Now, Mr Blee, during your stint there, six months in
30 '74 and then onwards, it would seem from the beginning of
31 '76, did you hear any rumours regarding Roy Wenlock and
32 wrestling with boys?
33 A. There were intermittent stories that floated around
34 that they would get invited for a wrestle to his flat,
35 sometimes on their birthday. My memory is usually in the
36 company of others, safety in numbers sort of thing, but,
37 yes, and you would hear some things, and then nothing, and
38 then some things, and long spells, and nothing.
39
40 Q. And did you hear anything from what you heard that
41 would cause you concern regarding these wrestles?
42 A. No. I didn't. I - I wasn't aware of anything. I
43 knew about them, or I had heard about them. I didn't know
44 any detail about them, and no one had ever suggested that
45 there was anything wrong going on.
46
47 Q. Right.

1 A. But, yes, didn't sit too well, but I sort of thought
2 that they often went - the boys went in groups, and I
3 thought, well, safety in numbers, and I also thought
4 they're big strong country kids, if anything was tried,
5 they'd whack him.

6
7 HIS HONOUR: Q. Did you actually think about that at the
8 time, whether there was anything going on, or did you -
9 just never occurred to you?

10 A. I don't know. I might have. I mean, it's a long time
11 ago. I've certainly thought about it since then. It did
12 seem a bit odd, didn't it, and I think I probably thought
13 it was a bit odd at the time, but there were other people
14 who had been there a lot longer than me, and that would
15 have no doubt heard the rumours as well, and --

16
17 Q. And no one else seemed concerned?

18 A. No, no.

19
20 MR URQUHART: Q. And, of course, you, the entire time
21 you were there, you were still relatively junior?

22 A. Very much so.

23
24 Q. Were you the most junior teacher --

25 A. I think I was.

26
27 Q. -- then - not just in '74, but after that?

28 A. I believe so. Without knowing, but I think so. I
29 think I was still - I was only just turned 24 when I left
30 there, so I wasn't - wasn't very old.

31
32 Q. Do you ever recall an occasion when you went to his
33 unit?

34 A. Yes.

35
36 Q. And can you recall what year that was?

37 A. That was in the first six months that I was there, in
38 '74.

39
40 Q. And can you tell us about that? Do you remember it?

41 A. Yes. I got invited to - I was a keen football fan,
42 and 'The Winners' was a TV show that was a staple diet for
43 anyone interested in football.

44
45 Q. I'm old enough to remember it myself, yes.

46 A. And, you know, I think the tapes got flown over from
47 Melbourne or something, and you watched it at 6 o'clock on

1 Sundays, and I had - I didn't have a television, and I got
2 asked if I would like to go and watch 'The Winners' at
3 Roy's flat, and that was in the first stint, and I did.
4

5 Q. And was that an enjoyable experience for you?

6 A. Not particularly, no. I can't - nothing happened, but
7 I felt very uncomfortable, and I watched the program
8 wondering - I don't know what I was wondering. I mean, I
9 can't - I wasn't wondering where this was going to, because
10 it seemed like an innocent enough invitation, beginning
11 housemaster, "Come and watch 'The Winners'", you know. He
12 was keen on football, you know, he would often talk about
13 football and I would talk incessantly about football, so I
14 didn't think too - but I - you know, I felt uncomfortable.
15 I can't put any - it just felt a bit creepy, and I left
16 after the program.
17

18 Q. Now, aside from an occasion I'll ask you about in a
19 moment, your time there you didn't have any boys raising
20 any concerns or complaints to you about --

21 A. No.
22

23 Q. -- Roy Wenlock?

24 A. No. There were jokes and sniggers and that sort of
25 thing, and comments like, you know, "I'll be going home
26 this weekend, my birthday's coming up", you know, to avoid
27 the wrestle sort of scenario, but at the time I thought,
28 reasonably light-hearted - not light-hearted, that's not
29 the word - but, you know, not of great concern.
30

31 Q. So prior to two students approaching you - which we'll
32 talk about, as I said, in a moment - did you have any
33 concerns regarding Roy Wenlock, or did you have a
34 particular concern?

35 A. Not of anything sexual happening, no.
36

37 Q. No, no, but --

38 A. No.
39

40 Q. -- of --

41 A. Of --
42

43 Q. Of something else?

44 A. Other than the way he ran the place?
45

46 Q. Yes, yes. So other - was that a concern of yours, as
47 to how he ran the place?

1 A. Yes. Did I have any other concerns?
2
3 Q. No, no, just stay there with how he ran the place.
4 What was your concern in that regard?
5 A. Just all powerful, all powerful.
6
7 Q. So with respect to that, did you think - I mean, he
8 was the warden?
9 A. Yes.
10
11 Q. He did run the hostel, but --
12 A. I'm sorry, I don't - I'm - I don't know what you're
13 asking.
14
15 Q. Sorry. I mean, did you have a concern about the power
16 and control he had?
17 A. Yes.
18
19 Q. And did you think to raise that with anyone?
20 A. Did I think to raise that with anyone?
21
22 Q. Yes.
23 A. Is this prior to --
24
25 Q. Yes, prior to the --
26 A. -- to the boys coming.
27
28 Q. Yes.
29 A. Yes. Again, I don't --
30
31 Q. No, okay.
32 A. Yes I'm sorry, I can't think of what to say to answer
33 that.
34
35 Q. No?
36 A. Did I raise it with anyone? Did I talk to Wally and
37 Margaret about it? Did I talk to school principals about
38 it.
39
40 Q. Yes, any other?
41 A. Possibly, probably, other staff but not raising
42 anything at an official level.
43
44 Q. No, okay. Did it have anything to do with the
45 reputation he had that --
46 A. Oh, yes, yes. I mean, he had me bluffed. I mean, I -
47 he had me - yes, I was intimidated by him.

1
2 Q. What about his reputation in the community, were you
3 aware of that?
4 A. Oh, well, I think he had a - yes, I think he had a
5 very high reputation in the community. I think people
6 thought that he ran the place really well and, you know, he
7 was beyond reproach.
8
9 Q. Now, I am going to ask you about two students speaking
10 to you about some things. As I understand it, one of those
11 students was a boy by the name of Michael Kalajzic, am I --
12 A. Kalajzic.
13
14 Q. Kalajzic; have I pronounced that --
15 A. Yes.
16
17 Q. Yes. And there is another boy, and I'm going to ask
18 you if you could just refer to him, if you can, as "L"?
19 A. Yes.
20
21 Q. All right, then. Do not concern yourself if his name
22 does slip, either his first name or his surname, because we
23 can have the transcript edited.
24 A. Yes.
25
26 Q. But it would be easier if you didn't mention that but,
27 as I said, don't be too concerned if you were to mention
28 his name inadvertently. It's just he's asked that his
29 identity be suppressed.
30 A. Certainly.
31
32 Q. But Michael hasn't made that request.
33 A. Okay.
34
35 Q. So can you tell us about those two boys?
36 A. To the best that I can recall, yes. It was either
37 late in - well, it was late in an evening or in the middle
38 of an evening, I couldn't recall the exact time.
39
40 Q. Can you recall the year exactly or the years?
41 A. I'm - my best guess is 1977, it may have been '76 but
42 I think it was '77 but I don't think it was '78 but it -
43 sometime in there. I think in '77.
44
45 Q. Right.
46 A. And there was a knock on the door from one of the
47 students, who I think was L. And from memory --

1
2 Q. So you believe he was the one who spoke to you first
3 about this matter?
4 A. I believe so, yes, yes. And I have a recollection
5 that the other boy was hovering in the background as well
6 but I can't be sure about that or whether that was the next
7 day or whatever, but definitely a knock on the door and a
8 distressed person confronting me.
9
10 Q. Who we know is L?
11 A. L, yes.
12
13 Q. We're describing as L.
14 A. Yes.
15
16 Q. So just staying with him --
17 A. Yes.
18
19 Q. -- what can you recall happened on that occasion?
20 A. Something had happened to him, he was very angry, very
21 distressed and I think he had a T-shirt that might have
22 been torn, a brown - I'm thinking a brown T-shirt, I don't
23 know why I'm thinking that but I think a brown T-shirt that
24 might have been torn or it may not have or - but yes. And
25 he was angry about what had happened in Roy's flat.
26
27 Q. I think you mentioned that was in the evening?
28 A. I - yes, I think so.
29
30 Q. Did he tell you what had happened in the flat?
31 A. I don't think I ever heard - I don't think he ever
32 told me the actual detail but - of what exactly happened
33 but something had happened because he was very angry and
34 upset.
35
36 Q. Did he come into your unit?
37 A. I don't recall that happening but apparently he did,
38 yes. I've - in discussions with others apparently that
39 happened but I don't recall that. Apparently he came in
40 and I played some music to try and calm him down but I had
41 no recollection of that until recently.
42
43 Q. All right. So I think we'll just have to go with your
44 recollection --
45 A. Yes, yes.
46
47 Q. -- as you remember it.

1 A. I remember talking to him about it and saying that
2 this was a serious matter and I would send it on to the
3 next line of command or I would follow it up, words to that
4 effect.
5
6 Q. Can you recall whether he wanted you to do that or --
7 A. Yes.
8
9 Q. He did?
10 A. Yes, definitely. And I might - I mean, I said "Look,
11 this could get" - I can remember saying "This could get
12 rough because Roy's a very powerful person but, you know,
13 if you want to proceed, proceed we shall".
14
15 Q. You didn't have a concern from what he said to you
16 that there had been actually anything sexual; is that
17 right?
18 A. Not that I recall, no, no. Physical but, look,
19 I don't know. I have an idea that it was physical but I -
20 there was - from my recollection, no.
21
22 Q. Can we now just deal with the other occasion involving
23 Michael Kalajzic again?
24 A. Yes. Look, my view was that they'd happened together
25 and that's - as I'd understood it they'd been together
26 but --
27
28 Q. The two boys had been together?
29 A. Yes.
30
31 Q. Can you be certain about that or --
32 A. No, no. But I know Michael was involved. I'm sorry
33 I can't furnish adequate detail but --
34
35 Q. No, that's - it's a long time ago.
36 A. -- Michael was involved either with the same incident
37 or one shortly after it because I do recall speaking to him
38 about a similar thing, you know, proceeding to the next
39 line of command.
40
41 Q. So tell us about what you can recall with him. Again
42 was it an incident in Roy Wenlock's unit?
43 A. Well, yes, I mean, my memory is that it was of the
44 same night, it was - but I can - I think I can recall
45 talking to Michael I thought the next day on the veranda
46 nearby or within a day or two but I'm not - yes.
47

1 Q. Out of the two of them, can you recall whether one was
2 more adamant about taking the matter further than the
3 other?
4 A. I would have thought L was more adamant but I think
5 Michael was clearly adamant as well. I think both were.
6
7 Q. I'm just saying if one of them had said to you that he
8 didn't want to take the matter further, would have you
9 respected his wishes?
10 A. Well, that's a hard question to answer. I don't know.
11 That's a bit hard. I think because - no, I think I still
12 would have proceeded because it was - something wasn't
13 right. Something - my instinct said something wasn't
14 right.
15
16 Q. And of course this is many, many, many, many, many
17 years before mandatory reporting?
18 A. It is, it is but look, I can't answer that. I'm not
19 trying to make myself out to be a great fellow. I mean,
20 I think I would have - I think this was a serious issue,
21 yes.
22
23 Q. Can you recall then what you did and if you can't make
24 the distinction between the two, that's fine but what do
25 you remember doing?
26 A. I remember passing this information on to Wally
27 Dennison and having a discussion with him about it - not a
28 discussion, a - like, telling him what had happened.
29
30 Q. Yes.
31 A. While he was a lot older than me I had a lot of trust
32 and faith in him and I said - I told him what had happened.
33 Whether I did that that night or the next morning, I can't
34 be sure but I certainly passed it on - we talked about it
35 pronto, quickly.
36
37 Q. Can you recall his reaction to what you'd said to him?
38 A. Measured. Measured as always and he said that he
39 would proceed - he would take the matter further. We may
40 have discussed it again, I don't know, but certainly once
41 I put it in his hands I felt sure that it would be
42 proceeded with.
43
44 Q. Can you recall what then happened after that?
45 A. Well, I seem to recall that Wally would have -
46 I assume Wally proceeded with it. The next thing that
47 I can recall was being asked to go to a meeting. I'm not

1 sure where the meeting was, whether it was down at the
2 school or it was at the hostel.
3
4 Q. Can you recall who asked you to do that? No? If you
5 can't, that's fine.
6 A. I think it might have been David Carlson, the
7 principal came and saw me but - he was the principal at the
8 school at the time, I think.
9
10 Q. He was the principal at the high school?
11 A. Yes, and I think he might have - there were a lot of
12 principals, I think I've got the right one. We had a lot
13 of high turnover but I think he was the one and asked me to
14 come to a meeting or attend an office. I imagine it might
15 have been down at the school, I don't know, but he was
16 there and --
17
18 Q. So you attended the meeting?
19 A. I did.
20
21 Q. Can you recall who was there apart from him?
22 A. There was - Bishop Challen was at that meeting, I
23 recall that.
24
25 Q. Did you know who Bishop Challen was, how he fitted in
26 to the scheme of things?
27 A. I do now. At the time I thought --
28
29 Q. No, no, at the time.
30 A. Yes, at the time I - I had seen him at the hostel
31 before and he - I knew he had something to do with the
32 board. I was aware it was once an Anglican hostel and now
33 it wasn't but I still thought he had something to do with
34 them. I had seen him a couple of times because he always
35 wore a collar which was maroon or purple or - you know, a
36 religious colour.
37
38 Q. Certainly, yes. Can you recall whether anybody else
39 was at this meeting?
40 A. No, I can't. Wally might have been there but --
41
42 Q. Wally Dennison?
43 A. Yes, sorry, Mr Dennison might have been there but
44 I can recall - I think I can recall David and certainly
45 Bishop Challen.
46
47 Q. Can you remember what was said at that meeting and by

1 whom?
2 A. Well, I can remember being told that Wenlock would be
3 leaving the hostel.
4
5 Q. Can you remember who told you that?
6 A. I think Challen, Bishop Challen said that and I think
7 - I seem to recall, or I'm pretty sure, that it was along
8 the lines of "It's all over. He's been warned before" or
9 "he's been spoken to before and he will be going".
10
11 Q. Can you recall who it was who said that?
12 A. I think that was Michael Challen.
13
14 HIS HONOUR: Q. Do you remember approximately how long
15 after the two boys had come to you this happened or can't
16 you --
17 A. I think pretty quickly, yes. I mean, I think it
18 happened - my recollection is that it happened within a
19 week is my best guess but pretty quickly.
20
21 MR URQUHART: Q. Can you remember what happened after
22 that regarding Roy Wenlock?
23 A. He disappeared. He went. He had, from memory, a
24 distinctive motor car, you know, a black and yellow car and
25 he used to park in a carport and it just went and when that
26 went, he went and Wally took over - my recollection is that
27 Wally took over as the warden.
28
29 Q. And again can you recall how long it was after that
30 meeting?
31 A. I think - my recollection is it all happened pretty
32 quickly.
33
34 Q. So it certainly wasn't a case of it happening a year
35 after that meeting?
36 A. I wouldn't have thought so, no, no. I mean, my
37 recollection is that it happened pretty quickly, yes.
38 I might have that wrong but --
39
40 Q. No, no, no, that's --
41 A. -- no, that's certainly my recollection, yes.
42
43 Q. Once that happened, once he'd left, can you recall,
44 for want of a better word, the atmosphere around the
45 hostel?
46 A. Much better. A sigh of relief I think would be the
47 way I would - people were - life got happier.

1
2 Q. There were no tears?
3 A. No. None from me.
4
5 Q. Or from anybody else?
6 A. I hope not. No, no, I mean that's - that's, you know,
7 trivialising it but life was better, yes. Wally and
8 Margaret were well liked and I think everyone was very
9 comfortable with them running the hostel.
10
11 Q. Can you recall whether a story circulated around the
12 hostel as to why he had left?
13 A. I think wider than the hostel but in the town itself
14 the story was that he had health issues and that he was no
15 longer well enough to run the hostel and he would be moving
16 to Perth.
17
18 Q. Mr Blee, given what you said to us regarding Roy
19 Wenlock's reputation around the town, can you offer an
20 opinion as to what you think the town's reaction would have
21 been to complaints that he was acting inappropriately with
22 students?
23 A. I think people would have sided with him. I think he
24 had - I don't think he just had power in the hostel,
25 I think he had power in the town. People would have to -
26 you know, if the local football clubs wanted hostel kids to
27 play for their football team they would have to approach
28 him and he would have to give permission. So there was a
29 lot of, you know - player numbers were short, or whatever,
30 so there was a lot of - people were - what's the word? -
31 well, kowtow - not kowtow --
32
33 HIS HONOUR: Q. They wanted to get along well with him?
34 A. Yes, yes, it was - it would be good for their club or
35 whatever if things went well, yes. And so I think, yes,
36 people - many people probably wouldn't have - would have
37 taken on board the health story.
38
39 MR URQUHART: Q. I think you said that Bishop Challen
40 had a role running the hostel?
41 A. Yes.
42
43 Q. Can you recall whether anybody else did at that time;
44 do you recall their names?
45 A. I - the board would meet in a room - the boardroom
46 down at the - it was near the dining room in the reception
47 area and we would see people filing in and filing out

1 whenever the board met and Mr Killick was always there --
2
3 Q. Yes.
4 A. -- and I think that's the occasions that I saw Michael
5 Challen and there were other people but I couldn't give you
6 any names or recall.
7
8 Q. Michael Challen is one that you remember?
9 A. Oh, yes.
10
11 Q. And Mr Killick?
12 A. Mr Killick, Mr Fred Killick, yes.
13
14 Q. Did you know what position he had in the town?
15 A. Mr Killick was the mayor, yes, he was the mayor of
16 Northam for a long time.
17
18 Q. When was it that you left the Northam high school?
19 A. 1978.
20
21 Q. So that was at the end of 1978?
22 A. Yes.
23
24 Q. Can you recall whether that was the same year or a
25 year after or how many years after Roy Wenlock left? How
26 long --
27 A. I think - yes, I think that I was there in the last
28 12 months and he wasn't. I think he - I think Wally and
29 Margaret ran the show for the last 12 months and there was
30 another two people came in as deputy warden and deputy
31 matron but I don't - I can't recall their names but
32 I can --
33
34 Q. No, that's fine.
35 A. -- picture them.
36
37 Q. Yes. So your recollection is that you were there for
38 another year after Roy Wenlock left?
39 A. I think so.
40
41 Q. Did you leave at the end of the school year and
42 that --
43 A. Yes, I applied for a transfer out of Northam and the
44 education department shifted me.
45
46 Q. So that was the end of the year of 1978?
47 A. Yes.

1
2 Q. So your recollection is that Roy Wenlock left the year
3 prior to that?
4 A. I believe so.
5
6 Q. Can you remember when he left? Was it the beginning
7 of the year, the start of the year, the middle of the year?
8 If you can't, that's fine.
9 A. No, I - no. I think - I don't know why I'm thinking
10 towards the end of the year but - late '77, but I'm
11 guessing a bit there, yes.
12
13 Q. So at the start of 1979 you started at a different
14 school?
15 A. Yes, I went to Lynwood Senior High School and then
16 many since.
17
18 Q. Can you recall having anything to do with Roy Wenlock
19 after he left?
20 A. Yes - well, nothing to do with him as such but I did
21 go to the cricket one day and there was this haunting voice
22 on the PA doing the ground announcing at the WACA ground
23 and --
24
25 Q. You recognised the voice?
26 A. Oh, yes, because there was a PA in the hostel and he
27 used to - this booming voice, it was quite loud from
28 memory, would come out, you know "Billy Smith to the
29 office" and such and such, you know, announcements. It was
30 sort of run a bit like a - I don't know, a prison - not a
31 prison camp, no, but like - I don't know, how else could
32 you get people to - it was perfectly - but the voice was
33 very succinct.
34
35 Q. And you recognised the voice when you went to the
36 cricket?
37 A. I did, yes. I didn't like it.
38
39 Q. No?
40 A. No.
41
42 Q. Asking the obvious question, whose was it?
43 A. It was Roy Wenlock's voice as the ground announcer at
44 the WACA ground.
45
46 Q. Did you go to the cricket again after you heard that?
47 A. No.

1
2 Q. The reason for that?
3 A. I didn't - I just didn't go, no, I can't - I wasn't at
4 - I didn't go every week but I just never went back until
5 football was started playing there and then I went back.
6 I can't offer any reason as to why I didn't go, I just
7 didn't go.
8
9 Q. How would you describe your experience at Northam?
10 A. Not overly great. Lots of good times, of course, and
11 lots of enjoyable things but no, I've had much better times
12 in many other schools since. Part of that might have been
13 in being you're trying to find your feet. You know, you
14 didn't - 1974 you got chucked into school and handed a box
15 of chalk and told to survive, you know, it wasn't like
16 today, and you survived by the help of others and so it was
17 pretty tough going and you living away from home and not
18 really knowing what you were doing. No training in, you
19 know, how to run a hostel or look after kids, no - not much
20 PD, you just got chucked in at the deep end and if - you
21 probably made lots of mistakes and, you know, I'll put my
22 hand up to making plenty, you know, and teaching and some
23 of the kids that survived our classes, you know, fantastic.
24 They were better than what we thought they were because we
25 were really - I can't compare the two systems between then
26 and now. So a bit of trying to survive and being away from
27 where I wanted to be and hostel and - yes.
28
29 Q. I was going to ask you: your experiences as the
30 school was one thing?
31 A. Yes.
32
33 Q. Your experiences at the hostel?
34 A. Was another.
35
36 Q. And your experiences of that?
37 A. Not - yes, not that great.
38
39 Q. And why?
40 A. Because of the outcome, I think, you know. When
41 I think back now, it wasn't right what was happening there.
42
43 Q. You say "it wasn't right". Who wasn't right or what?
44 A. Well, obviously Wenlock wasn't right and the - yes.
45
46 Q. Regarding what you had heard, particularly from those
47 two students, and what you did as a result of that, you

1 believe that you did what you ought to have done in the
2 circumstances?
3 A. In passing the information on to Mr Dennison, yes.
4
5 Q. Yes.
6 A. Yes, I'm comfortable with that decision, yes. I'm
7 glad I did - I'm glad I made that decision.
8
9 Q. Thank you, Mr Blee, that's all the questions I have
10 for you.
11
12 MR JENKIN: I just want to ask one question.
13
14 HIS HONOUR: Yes, Mr Jenkin, you certainly may.
15
16 MR JENKIN: Thank you.
17
18 <CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR JENKIN:
19
20 MR JENKIN: Q. I just wanted to clarify. You mentioned
21 that Mr Dennison put a stop to the practice that Mr Wenlock
22 had previously employed of doing a roll call in the shower
23 block?
24 A. I believe so.
25
26 Q. Can you tell us roughly when that was?
27 A. I think when he took over as the warden.
28
29 Q. When he took over as the warden?
30 A. Yes.
31
32 Q. Right.
33 A. I think when he took over as the warden.
34
35 Q. That was after obviously Mr Wenlock had left?
36 A. Yes, I believe so.
37
38 Q. At that point the roll call in the shower stopped,
39 there were no more caning of the students, caning stopped,
40 Mr Dennison never caned anyone?
41 A. I don't believe so, no. I never saw him cane anyone
42 and it certainly wouldn't strike me as being in his persona
43 to do so; is that the right word? I don't know.
44
45 Q. And obviously under Mr Dennison's leadership you felt
46 that the hostel was being run in a totally appropriate
47 manner compared with the way that Mr Wenlock was running

1 the place?
2 A. Yes, yes.
3
4 HIS HONOUR: Anything from you, Ms Morgan?
5
6 MS MORGAN: No.
7
8 HIS HONOUR: That completes your evidence, thank you very
9 much, Mr Blee. Thank you coming up to give it and it's
10 been very helpful and you're free to go.
11
12 THE WITNESS: Thank you very much. So do I just leave.
13
14 HIS HONOUR: Yes. You can either sit in the back or
15 leave, whatever you prefer.
16
17 <THE WITNESS WITHDREW
18
19 HIS HONOUR: Yes, Mr Urquhart.
20
21 MR URQUHART: Thank you, sir. I propose now to read
22 another statement and we should be able to complete that
23 before lunch. That is the statement that's been prepared
24 and made by Walter Dennison.
25
26 HIS HONOUR: Yes.
27
28 MR URQUHART: The primary reason why I'm reading his
29 statement rather than calling him is that he is suffering
30 from poor health. So it reads:
31
32 Walter Dennison states:
33
34 I am 88 years of age and live in Menora
35 with my wife, Margaret DENNISON.
36
37 Margaret and I emigrated from England in
38 1976. We were both aged in our early 50s.
39
40 My employment history prior to emigrating
41 to Australia includes service as a Merchant
42 Seaman, Constable in the Liverpool Police
43 Department and a Salesman.
44
45 When we arrived in Perth, Western
46 Australia, Margaret and I got employment
47 with Purslowe's Funeral Home in North Perth.

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After about nine months of employment there, we saw an advert in the West Australian newspaper seeking a Deputy Warden and Matron to work at St Christopher's Hostel in Northam.

The advert specified applicants must be a married couple.

Margaret and I understood St Christopher's to be a boarding house for male students who attended Northam High School.

The hostel took in boarders whose families lived on farms outside of town or who lived in rural towns in the Wheatbelt area that didn't have local high schools.

Margaret and I travelled to Northam and were interviewed for the positions at St Christopher's Hostel by Bishop BRYANT.

The Anglican Church owned St Christopher's Hostel and as such Bishop CHALLEN was the Chairman of the hostel board.

Margaret and I were successful in obtaining the positions of Deputy Warden and Matron at St Christopher's Hostel.

The position was "live in" at the hostel and Margaret started work there almost immediately. I returned to Perth to finish up employment at Purslowe's Funeral Home and joined her a few weeks later.

We started working at the hostel sometime in the latter part of 1976.

Now, sir, I pause there just to state that it would be apparent from records from the relevant time that in fact Mr and Mrs Dennison commenced employment there in 1975.

HIS HONOUR: In the latter part of '75?

MR URQUHART: Sir, all I have is actually 1975.

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HIS HONOUR: In any event, some significant time before that you - he remembers.

MR URQUHART: Yes. We will be able to see that from the minutes of some meetings that the Dennisons attended to indicate that it certainly was 1975.

HIS HONOUR: Right.

MR URQUHART:

Roy WENLOCK was the warden of the hostel when we started working there.

WENLOCK'S flat was on the opposite side of the hostel to us.

He was responsible for dormitories (dorms) 2 and 3.

Margaret and I were responsible for dorms 1, 4 and 5.

Dorm 1 was for first year boarders. Margaret referred to them as the "criers", as the boys were often homesick and adjusting to life as a boarder away from their families.

Margaret was like a mother figure to the boys and gave a lot of comfort and reassurance to them as they adjusted to hostel life.

Margaret and I never socialised with WENLOCK. There was no occasion where we went to his flat or he visited ours.

We both got along with WENLOCK well enough but our interactions were purely professional in the capacity of work colleagues.

WENLOCK was younger than me but I was basically under his under his command. He was my and Margaret's direct boss.

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From about 5 or 6pm each day neither Margaret nor I saw WENLOCK until the start of duty the next day. Our paths rarely crossed outside of work hours.

Our working relationship was positive. There were times when I disagreed with him in regards to his actions and decisions regarding the hostel and the boarders and I wasn't shy in telling him my thoughts on issues that arose.

I can't remember any specific issues now that I may have challenged WENLOCK on but there was the occasional respectful differing of viewpoints.

As WENLOCK was Warden, he had the ultimate say when it came to decision making.

WENLOCK ran a fairly tight ship. He had stringent rules and routines for the boarders. I felt this was a good thing. The discipline and rules were not excessive in my view and the boarders responded well to organisation and routine.

We, as the staff of the hostel, endeavoured to be consistent with the boarders. It wouldn't have worked to chop and change rules and routine willy-nilly.

Punishments for breach of rules or misbehaviour at the hostel were usually a loss of privileges and extra chore duties at the hostel.

At no time did Margaret or I ever use the cane on any boarder at the hostel.

I don't recall WENLOCK using the cane to punish boarders either.

Come to think of it I don't think WENLOCK even had a cane in his possession at the hostel.

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I was always against using violence to punish boarders. They were only children when it comes down to it.

When I assumed the position of Warden at the hostel at the end of 1977 I made it a rule among the boarders that no physical punishment would be dealt by any student to another.

I selected Prefects and placed them in each dormitory. Prefects were selected based on observing their manner and interactions among the student group.

I specifically instructed Prefects to bring any issues with boarders to either myself or Margaret and not to hit them with anything at any time.

I had a strong stance against bullying as I was bullied as a kid and was very firm as Warden that bullying would not be tolerated at the hostel.

Margaret and I were known as Mr and Mrs "B" at the hostel. It was a friendly familiar --

HIS HONOUR: I think that should be "Mr D" --

MR URQUHART: "Mr" - yes.

HIS HONOUR: -- rather than "B".

MR URQUHART: Yes, indeed.

HIS HONOUR: Yes.

MR URQUHART: Definitely, sir. I should have picked that up. Thank you for that:

The staff and boarders in particular loved Margaret.

We endeavoured to create as pleasant an

1 environment as we could for the boarders
2 even whilst enforcing the rules and
3 routines at the hostel.
4
5 I don't recall during my year as
6 Deputy Warden to WENLOCK that any person,
7 staff or boarder, complained to me about
8 WENLOCKS treatment of them.
9
10 I can categorically state that neither
11 Margaret nor I had any inkling that WENLOCK
12 was physically or sexually abusing boarders
13 at St Christopher's Hostel.
14
15 I had no idea that WENLOCK even wrestled
16 with boarders. This must have occurred
17 after work hours. As I have stated,
18 neither Margaret nor I crossed paths with
19 WENLOCK after around 6pm each night until
20 the next morning.
21
22 We each monitored the dorms we were
23 responsible for.
24
25 With my hand on my heart I emphatically
26 state that I knew nothing of WENLOCKS
27 behaviour and treatment of boarders until
28 one night towards the end of 1976.
29
30 I always endeavoured to respect the privacy
31 of boarders in what was a very open and
32 shared living arrangement.
33
34 As example of this was the morning role
35 call. WENLOCK gave me the task of doing
36 the morning role call when the boarders
37 filed into the showers of a morning.
38
39 This was done to identify if there were any
40 absconders overnight so we could take
41 action early in the day to locate them.
42
43 I stood outside the shower room and ticked
44 the boys off as they entered. I didn't see
45 it necessary to stand in the room while
46 they actually showered.
47

1 It was a small gesture so as to respect
2 their privacy and dignity.
3
4 A presence was required by a housemaster or
5 supervisor in any event to monitor
6 bullying.
7
8 I don't recall a time WENLOCK ever did the
9 roll call. He allocated the duty to me and
10 I in turn allocated it to my Deputy when I
11 became Warden.
12
13 I don't remember the date or even month but
14 one night Margaret and I were in our flat.
15
16 It was quite late in the evening, some time
17 between 9 and 10pm.
18
19 Tim BLEE, a teacher at Northam High School
20 and housemaster at the hostel, came to our
21 door in company with a student.
22
23 I don't remember the lad's name, but I
24 recall he had been out for an evening meal
25 with his parents and was under instruction
26 from WENLOCK to report to him when he
27 returned to the hostel from his outing.
28
29 The boy must have been in his 4th or 5th
30 year of high school to have night time
31 excursion privileges.
32
33 I clearly remember this boy was a small
34 framed but good looking boy. He was
35 wearing a white shirt that was torn from
36 the collar down one side.
37
38 Margaret spoke with this boy and gave him
39 some comfort and reassurance. He seemed
40 very frightened and somewhat upset.
41
42 I spoke with Tim BLEE who told me that the
43 boy had gone to his flat shortly before
44 BLEE brought him to our flat.
45
46 Our flats were right next door to one
47 another. The boy told BLEE that he

1 reported to WENLOCKS flat to let him know
2 he was back at the hostel after his outing
3 with his parents.
4
5 When he spoke with WENLOCK, he was into his
6 flat.
7
8 And, sir, that should read I would think, "he was invited
9 into his flat":
10
11 The boy refused to go into the flat and
12 told WENLOCK he was going to go to his
13 dormitory.
14
15 As he turned to walk away, WENLOCK grabbed
16 him by his shirt and a struggle of some
17 sort occurred. The boy was of the
18 impression WENLOCK was trying to force him
19 inside the flat.
20
21 The boy broke free and ran straight to Tim
22 BLEE's flat to tell him what WENLOCK has
23 done.
24
25 I didn't speak directly with the boy and I
26 didn't press BLEE for further details.
27
28 The boy didn't say why WENLOCK wanted him
29 to go into his flat or why he tried to
30 force him into the flat.
31
32 I was satisfied that something
33 significantly wrong had occurred for the
34 boy to turn up to our flat with a torn
35 shirt and in such a frightened state.
36
37 Tim BLEE felt the same which is why he
38 brought the boy over and alerted us that an
39 incident had occurred involving WENLOCK and
40 a boarder.
41
42 The next morning Tim BLEE and I alerted
43 Fred KILLICK, who was the Secretary of the
44 St Christopher's Hostel board, of the
45 incident involving the boy and WENLOCK.
46
47 KILLICK was also the Mayor of Northam. He

1 held the position of Mayor for a great
2 number of years.
3
4 KILLICK advised us he would contact Bishop
5 CHALLEN and alert him of the matter.
6 CHALLEN was the Chairman of the St
7 Christopher's Hostel board at that time.
8
9 Tim BLEE and I had to return to our day
10 jobs at the hostel so we could not stay at
11 KILLICKS office while the Bishop was
12 contacted and the matter discussed.
13
14 Within a few days of this incident, Bishop
15 CHALLEN sacked WENLOCK as the Warden of the
16 hostel.
17
18 It was at this time that I assumed the
19 position of Warden.
20
21 I had no hesitation in reporting the
22 incident to CHALLEN and he in turn, had no
23 issue in sacking WENLOCK as the Warden of
24 the hostel.
25
26 I am not privy to any inquiries that
27 KILLICK or CHALLEN --
28
29 "KILLICK", rather, "or CHALLEN made" - I'll read that
30 again:
31
32 I am not privy to any inquiries that
33 KILLICK or CHALLEN made into the incident
34 with WENLOCK and the boarder. I approached
35 them as my superiors to manage the issue.
36
37 I considered WENLOCKS behaviour to be
38 highly inappropriate given the state the
39 boy was in when he was brought to our flat
40 by Tim BLEE.
41
42 I don't recall who the board members were
43 during my time at St Christopher's Hostel
44 Board other than KILLICK, CHALLEN and a
45 lady by the name of Betty DEMPSTER.
46
47 I don't remember a Board meeting being

1 called to discuss WENLOCK and the issue
2 with the boy.
3
4 From memory, WENLOCK was dealt with
5 directly by Bishop CHALLEN.
6
7 Margaret stayed on at the hostel --
8
9 And I think that should read, "Margaret and I stayed on at
10 the hostel":
11
12 -- as Warden and Matron until 1983.
13
14 We left as we were getting older and the
15 positions we held were very demanding. We
16 generally felt it was time to move on after
17 six years in the top job so to speak.
18
19 Bishop CHALLEN moved on during our time at
20 St Christopher's Hostel as well and moved
21 to Melbourne.
22
23 Reverend Max WEIR --
24
25 Spelt W-E-I-R:
26
27 -- then came on board as the Chaplain.
28
29 I don't recall who replaced Bishop CHALLEN
30 as Chairman of the St Christopher's Hostel
31 Board on his departure.
32
33 At no time during my employment at St
34 Christopher's Hostel did I meet or have any
35 dealings with Dennis MCKENNA or employees
36 of other student hostels.
37
38 My sole focus was on my role and
39 responsibilities at St Christopher's
40 Hostel.
41
42 I was shocked when I read about the goings
43 on --
44
45 And that should read "at":
46
47 -- St Andrew's Hostel in Katanning and the

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abuse of boarders at the hands of Dennis MCKENNA.

When I was made aware of the incident that occurred between the hostel boarder and WENLOCK at St Christopher's Hostel I did not hesitate to take the matter to my superiors. I did this as I was entrusted to care for the boarders at the hostel in my position as Deputy Warden.

I gave a statement to investigators from the St Andrew's Hostel Inquiry in May 2012.

This [declaration] is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. I have made this statement knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I will be guilty of a crime if I have wilfully included in the statement anything that I know to be false or that I do not believe is true.

Now, it has been then signed by Walter Dennison and it's dated the 14th of the fifth, 2012. And that, sir, might be appropriate time to adjourn for lunch.

HIS HONOUR: And 2.15?

MR URQUHART: Thank you, sir, yes.

HIS HONOUR: All right. We'll adjourn until 2.15.

LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT

1 UPON RESUMPTION:
2
3 HIS HONOUR: Please be seated. Yes, Mr Urquhart.
4
5 MR URQUHART: Thank you, sir. I call now Jennifer Emily
6 Leggoe, and Mrs Leggoe's in the back of the hearing room
7 and is ready to go. And Mrs Leggoe will take the oath.
8
9 <JENNIFER EMILY LEGGOE, sworn:
10
11 <EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR URQUHART:
12
13 MR URQUHART: Q. Now, Mrs Leggoe, your full name is
14 Jennifer Emily Leggoe; is that right?
15 A. It is, indeed.
16
17 Q. Okay. And you reside in Golden Bay; is that right?
18 A. Yes.
19
20 Q. And you have three adult children, five grandchildren
21 and one great grandchild; is that right?
22 A. That's correct.
23
24 Q. Okay. Now, Mrs Leggoe, you're a schoolteacher by
25 profession?
26 A. I am, indeed.
27
28 Q. And you retired and you had become the principal of
29 the Cooloongup Primary School before you retired; is that
30 right?
31 A. That was my last school, yes.
32
33 Q. And that was in 2004?
34 A. Yes.
35
36 Q. Now, Mrs Leggoe, as a result of our Inquiry, did you
37 write a letter to the Premier in March of this year?
38 A. Yes. Well, when I was reading about the Blaxell
39 Inquiry and I recalled events from my past, and I just
40 thought that people who may be damaged by that sort of
41 behaviour were mainly out there still, having been damaged
42 by stuff that went on at St Christopher's, so I wrote a
43 letter to Colin Barnett, who referred the letter to the
44 Education Department, and I sent - they sent me an email to
45 say that's what they done. I sent them an email saying I
46 was very sorry that was the case, being well acquainted
47 with the great black hole that's the Education Department,

1 but that I really didn't know how to get it to the Inquiry,
2 and that's what I wanted to do. So they gave me an address
3 for the Inquiry and I forwarded the letter on.
4
5 Q. All right. And we are grateful for that. And now you
6 then subsequently provided a statement to the Inquiry?
7 A. Yes.
8
9 Q. And now you're here today.
10 A. I beg yours?
11
12 Q. And now you're here giving evidence?
13 A. Absolutely.
14
15 Q. We're very appreciative of that, Mrs Leggoe. Now,
16 just to go back a little bit. You were born in Perth and
17 you moved to Northam with your parents as an
18 eight-year-old. Right. And your parents were John and
19 Marjorie Bulloch; is that right?
20 A. Correct.
21
22 Q. And you completed your schooling at Northam High
23 School?
24 A. I did.
25
26 Q. With your brother and two sisters?
27 A. Yes. Well, not with them.
28
29 Q. Sorry?
30 A. Not with them.
31
32 Q. I see.
33 A. They went there after I left.
34
35 Q. After you left. Right. So you're the eldest in the
36 family then?
37 A. I am, indeed.
38
39 Q. Right. Now, Mrs Leggoe, I'm going to ask you
40 something about your father. Was he a self-employed
41 businessman, and did he work in Northam?
42 A. He did. He was an earthmoving contractor.
43
44 Q. And --
45 A. He began - no, you don't want to know that.
46
47 Q. Right.

1 A. Yes.
2
3 Q. No, it's all right. But he passed away about 20 years
4 ago; is that right?
5 A. '92; May '92.
6
7 Q. And did he come to know, whilst he was in Northam, a
8 man by the way of Fred Killick?
9 A. No, he knew Fred before he went to Northam. I do not
10 know this for a fact, and I believe they both worked at
11 Chamberlain Industries, which was Ernie Tomlinson's
12 business, and - and when the business went bankrupt, dad
13 had already moved on and Uncle Fred came to Northam --
14
15 Q. All right. And so --
16 A. -- to be there too.
17
18 Q. -- you refer to him as "uncle", so obviously he became
19 a great family friend?
20 A. He was, yes, absolutely.
21
22 Q. Yes. And he worked there at the local Holden dealer
23 business; is that right?
24 A. Yes, yes, he worked - he was the parts manager for
25 Badger's Holden, Holden Badger's, Badger's Holden - anyway,
26 the Holden dealers in town.
27
28 Q. And he then became the Mayor of Northam?
29 A. Yes.
30
31 Q. And I understand - you may not know - but it was 1972
32 through to about 1985. Does that sound sort of right?
33 A. Yes, it does sound about right, but I couldn't give
34 you an exact date.
35
36 Q. No.
37 A. He was Mayor for a considerable length of time.
38
39 Q. And were you also aware that during the time that he
40 was Mayor, he also held a position on the Board of St
41 Christopher's Hostel?
42 A. Yes. Well, it wasn't something that was in my face;
43 but, yes, the Mayor of Northam was on the - whoever the
44 Mayor happened to be, was on that Board.
45
46 Q. Yes. Now, as I understand, Mrs Leggoe, you left
47 Northam shortly after you finished school; is that right?

1 A. Yes, I did my leaving in '58, and then I went to Perth
2 and I never went back to live in Northam.
3
4 Q. However, your parents did?
5 A. Yes, they both died there.
6
7 Q. Right. And you would go back to see them regularly?
8 A. When - because of my teaching, I didn't always live in
9 Perth and - going around the country. When I was out in
10 the country I used to see them on holidays, but when I
11 lived in Perth I would go every weekend on a Sunday.
12
13 HIS HONOUR: Q. On the Sunday?
14 A. Yes, always on Sunday. Uncle Fred and dad used to go
15 to the session, and mum and I used to cook the roast
16 dinner, and then they would come home and we'd all sit --
17
18 Q. Sounds like a very traditional arrangement?
19 A. We'd all sit - it was, absolutely.
20
21 MR URQUHART: Q. And I want to ask you something about
22 one of those conversations on a Sunday that you had --
23
24 HIS HONOUR: I wonder if we could just try and establish
25 roughly what period this was.
26
27 MR URQUHART: Yes, I was going to.
28
29 HIS HONOUR: Okay, right.
30
31 MR URQUHART: Q. And this is - we're talking about some
32 time around the 1980s; is that right?
33 A. Yes. Well, this is what prompted my letter. Upon -
34 when I saw the article about Roy Wenlock in the paper, and
35 I realised that my recollection maybe wasn't exactly right,
36 and then I went back and checked on the dates when I was
37 living in Perth, and it's my belief that on this particular
38 Sunday my father and Uncle Fred had been having their
39 Sunday beer, and they came home with a continuous of a
40 conversation about Roy Wenlock, that my father was a Paul
41 Harris Fellow of Rotary, and he'd gone to the rotary
42 meeting, and Roy Wenlock had been invited to the meeting to
43 speak about cricket at the WACA.
44
45 Q. And this was some time - this Rotary meeting, was it
46 sometime in the 1980s?
47 A. It would have been in the previous week --

1
2 Q. Yes. Okay.
3 A. -- before the Sunday lunch came along.
4
5 Q. Right.
6 A. And they were - they were obviously in this discussion
7 about this, so it was brought up at the table, which is
8 pretty amazing really because my father didn't speak about
9 those sorts of things in front of women.
10
11 Q. Okay. Can you just give a time frame as to when in
12 the '80s this conversation you would have had at the dinner
13 table?
14 A. No, I can't really --
15
16 Q. No?
17 A. -- I can only --
18
19 HIS HONOUR: Q. So just to make it --
20 A. I can only tell you that I've got a very strong
21 recollection because we got into a fairly vigorous
22 discussion.
23
24 Q. All right. And you sound like a person who - you
25 weren't shy in putting your thoughts forward?
26 A. Absolutely not.
27
28 Q. Just to get this into context, because it could get a
29 bit confusing, now, I understand you'd left Northam in 1958
30 after your leaving. You had a teaching career, and while
31 you were in Perth you used to go and visit your parents'
32 home every Sunday for dinner --
33 A. Yes.
34
35 Q. -- and your father and uncle - your Uncle Fred, Fred
36 Killick --
37 A. Yes.
38
39 Q. -- you called him "uncle" - they used to always go to
40 the session and come back for dinner; is that right? And
41 on this particular Sunday - this is in the 1980s - they
42 came back from a session, they were talking about a rotary
43 meeting that week when Wenlock had been invited to speak on
44 the WACA; is that right?
45 A. That's correct.
46
47 Q. All right. And as they came in you were there with

1 your mother and there was some continuation of that
2 discussion?
3 A. Yes, around the table --
4
5 Q. Right.
6 A. -- the discussion went on.
7
8 HIS HONOUR: All right. So we can go from there.
9
10 MR URQUHART: Thank you very much, sir.
11
12 HIS HONOUR: Right.
13
14 MR URQUHART: Q. And then with respect to that rotary
15 meeting, did you find out during that discussion or some
16 time earlier than, something your father had done?
17 A. Well, the matter was that dad had walked out of the
18 rotary meeting as soon as he realised Roy Wenlock was going
19 to attend it and - and the reason for him walking out was
20 the matter for discussion, and uncle - I am sure my father
21 knew previous to this time - well, he must have, otherwise
22 he wouldn't have walked out of the meeting. My father
23 knew - and they were talking about the fact that Roy
24 Wenlock had been dismissed from St Christopher's House for
25 being familiar with the boys, too familiar with the boys,
26 and it was never - the terminology was never couched, but
27 for me there was no doubt in my mind this was interference
28 of a sexual nature.
29
30 Q. Right.
31 A. And, you know, my argument at the time was these
32 people do it habitually and they don't stop, and if you
33 don't tell somebody about it, this man will go on doing
34 what he's doing. I know that. I know that's what happens.
35 And - anyway.
36
37 HIS HONOUR: Q. Now, you were talking about something
38 that happened in the past though, weren't you - or weren't
39 you?
40 A. I was talking about not speaking - you know, not
41 reporting him to the police. That was --
42
43 Q. What I'm trying to establish is what you were talking
44 about, about Wenlock leaving, it wasn't happening at that
45 time?
46 A. No, no.
47

1 Q. That was something that happened in the past, and he
2 had left?
3 A. Yes, no.
4
5 Q. All right.
6 A. It must have been in the past simply because he'd come
7 to the meeting to talk about the WACA.
8
9 Q. That's right.
10 A. And he'd been sent on his way.
11
12 Q. Now, who was it that was said - who was it that you
13 recall had said he'd been dismissed for being familiar with
14 the boys, and that was said in a way which indicates
15 something sexual. Who was it that said that?
16 A. Both my father and Uncle Fred. You know, it was part
17 of the argument that they were saying they couldn't leave
18 him there because of the way he was carrying on with the
19 boys.
20
21 Q. So who was the argument between at that dinner table?
22 A. Well, it was me and my father, who argues twice as
23 hard as I do, and Uncle Fred, who was a fairly quiet sort
24 of a character, he was.
25
26 Q. So you against your father and Uncle Fred - was that
27 right?
28 A. Yes.
29
30 Q. All right.
31 A. Absolutely.
32
33 HIS HONOUR: Okay.
34
35 MR URQUHART: Q. And did your Uncle Fred say anything
36 about his involvement in this decision to have Wenlock
37 dismissed?
38 A. Well, his case was that for the sake of St
39 Christopher's, it was better to just get him out of the
40 way, make sure he couldn't do it anymore, and that would
41 sort the thing out. And, of course, well, I've told you
42 what my case was, I won't say it again.
43
44 HIS HONOUR: So just explain that.
45
46 Q. You're saying St Christopher's, better to get him out
47 of the way. Get him out of the way of what?

1 A. Of doing what he was doing to the boys.
2
3 Q. At the hostel?
4 A. Yes.
5
6 Q. All right. And your argument was what?
7 A. That if he - if he wasn't reported and it wasn't
8 disclosed, then he would go on doing it to other boys.
9
10 Q. Somewhere else?
11 A. Yes.
12
13 Q. And that was a subject of --
14 A. Managing the junior cricket at the WACA seemed to be
15 like a perfect scenario. You know, I said to them, "What
16 do you think he's doing at the WACA now?"
17
18 MR URQUHART: Q. Were you aware of what he was doing at
19 the WACA?
20 A. Yes, absolutely.
21
22 Q. And how did you know that?
23 A. Because he'd come to the meeting to speak about the
24 WACA --
25
26 Q. I see.
27 A. -- and the work that he was doing at the WACA, you
28 know, and that was part of the discussion as well.
29
30 MR URQUHART: I see. Right.
31
32 HIS HONOUR: Q. And dealing specifically with Fred
33 Killick, what was his attitude to that point of view that
34 you had?
35 A. It had been done and dealt with as far as he was
36 concerned, you know.
37
38 Q. Did he concede in any way you might be right?
39 A. That he might be right?
40
41 Q. No, that you might be right, that your point of view
42 might be right. Did he make any concession to you in that
43 regard?
44 A. Oh, hello. Well, first of all, I was speaking about
45 things - I was speaking about things that ladies shouldn't
46 speak about. These two dear old blokes would be over 100
47 now, you know, "You don't speak about stuff like that."

1 Yes, so it was a bit tricky for them. Mind you, I was
2 always a bit tricky with my parents, poor things.

3
4 MR URQUHART: All right.

5
6 Q. And did Fred say anything about why it was that they
7 dealt with it in the manner that they did - that is, the
8 dismissal of Wenlock?

9 A. Well, you know, for the sake of St Christopher's, they
10 didn't want to bring a bad - a bad reputation down on St
11 Christopher's, and so that - that dealt with quietly like
12 that was the best way to go.

13
14 HIS HONOUR: Q. Was that an expression, "to deal with it
15 quietly was the best way to go"?

16 A. Look, I can't say that was --

17
18 Q. No?

19 A. -- exactly his - I cannot.

20
21 Q. But to that effect?

22 A. But, you know, that was - that was his position - that
23 it had been dealt with as best as could be done, you know
24 what had happened.

25
26 MR URQUHART: Q. And did he say who was involved in
27 dealing with it in that way?

28 A. Absolutely not. No, no. See, my whole purpose at
29 that meal was to say that other children were at risk, not
30 the history of the situation, you know. I just wanted them
31 to know that men who interfere with little boys don't stop
32 doing it.

33
34 Q. All right. And you mentioned both men would be over
35 the age of 100 now?

36 A. Yes.

37
38 Q. So they've both passed away since then?

39 A. Yes.

40
41 Q. And can you recall - obviously no doubt you can recall
42 when your father passed away, and what about Fred?

43 A. I can't tell you exactly how old he was when he passed
44 away. I must have been away in the country when it
45 happened.

46
47 Q. Right.

1 A. After my parents died I used to go and visit him, but
2 not as much as I did mum and dad. I just would go and see
3 him. He went blind. He lived in the old people's houses
4 up at the back, you know, and he was really, really valued
5 in Northam as a person.
6
7 Q. And so at the time you had this discussion with him in
8 the '80s, I'm thinking he may well have been somewhere in
9 his 70s. Would that be about right?
10
11 HIS HONOUR: I beg your pardon?
12
13 MR URQUHART: Sorry.
14
15 THE WITNESS: No, no, no.
16
17 HIS HONOUR: Who might have been?
18
19 MR URQUHART: No, I'm talking about Mr Killick.
20
21 HIS HONOUR: Right.
22
23 MR URQUHART: Yes.
24
25 HIS HONOUR: Yes, I thought you said you.
26
27 THE WITNESS: Yes, I've never really - no, I'm with a
28 zero. The seven and the zero, that's me.
29
30 HIS HONOUR: Yes.
31
32 MR URQUHART: No.
33
34 Q. But Mr Killick would have been, if he's around about
35 100 now, he would be somewhere --
36 A. Yes, he would. I can't tell you exactly --
37
38 Q. No?
39 A. -- how old he was then.
40
41 Q. And is that the only discussion you had with your
42 father --
43 A. Yes.
44
45 Q. -- and Mr Killick in relation to --
46 A. Yes.
47

1 Q. -- this matter? All right.
2
3 HIS HONOUR: Q. And why did it stand out in your mind?
4 A. Because I spent a lot of my career coping with
5 situations like that - you know, like brothers interfering
6 with sisters, or parents - you know, I mean, I --
7
8 Q. In your school career you mean, in your teaching?
9 A. Yes, in my own career. I came - and I just, having
10 had to deal with things like that, not lots, but enough to
11 have it seared in your mind that just how dreadful it is
12 for kids; and so, yes, like it was - I always had my
13 feelers out as it were, with kids who didn't seem to be
14 where they should be, you know, about one thing and another
15 and, you know, it's just incredible the things that happen.
16 You know, a little girl who's stealing, and I spoke to her
17 and she - she said, "If you really knew what was happening
18 to me, you wouldn't growl at me for stealing" and, you
19 know, when it emerged her brother was being into it with
20 her, the mother didn't believe her and threw her out, and
21 you think, "If I'd said nothing, that wouldn't have
22 happened", or way back in the '80s, a child who was raped
23 down at Deanmill, and by the time she actually got to court
24 - I mean, I just wished it had never ever been - it's -
25 yes. And as I - as I went on in my career, I learnt ways
26 to cope with it that was not using the judiciary or
27 anything like that because it just - as I was saying to Mr
28 Urquhart last night, one little girl I had in Year 7, who I
29 knew her father was living with her by himself, and I
30 called him into my classroom and said, "Can you tell me why
31 your daughter's always so tired?" And he sent her to live
32 with her grandmother and - you know, that's the sort of
33 strategy that I put in place because I just know that
34 legally it was just so damaging for girls.
35
36 Q. Did you have those views back in the '80s?
37 A. Absolutely.
38
39 Q. All right.
40 A. Absolutely.
41
42 Q. Now --
43 A. So it's a special thing of mine to worry about kids'
44 sexual safety.
45
46 Q. Now, in this Inquiry I've heard evidence from teachers
47 and principals from the period of the 1980s, and the

1 general picture that emerges is they didn't really have
2 much idea how to handle complaints of sexual abuse from
3 children, or that they weren't really sure what would be
4 the proper procedure by way of handling it. Have you got
5 any comment on that, in terms of the culture within the
6 Education Ministry at the time?

7 A. Yes. Well, I can give you an example of - not just
8 the Education Ministry. At the same time that I had this
9 little lass who was raped, there was another Year 7 girl in
10 our school who came to school with huge big love bites on
11 her neck, and I said, "Oh, you know where did you" - all
12 right, it turns out that her boyfriend was sleeping with
13 her in her parent's house, so I got the school nurse to
14 organise the pill for her, and when - which, of course, is
15 totally wrong to do; but, anyway, when the mother found out
16 the mother came roaring to have my head off my shoulders,
17 "I don't agree with the pill", she said, "It makes girls
18 loose and spreads disease". Hello. Now, this same
19 family - the little boy was - one of the girls was - it was
20 when - it was in Manjimup, and it was when the timber - the
21 mill was being built - you know, the big thing for
22 grinding - the chip mill was being built. And one of the
23 girls of the family was prostituting out of a caravan in
24 the caravan park, and her 11-year-old sister was collecting
25 the money at the door. And I went to Child Welfare, or
26 they were then, and said, you know, "These children are at
27 enormous risk, what are you going to do about it?" And
28 they said to me, "Oh, look, just because you're a prudish
29 person doesn't mean to say that these people can't choose
30 to live as they wish. So I had --

31
32 Q. So really what I'm asking is from your knowledge of --
33 A. Of what went on?

34
35 Q. -- of these issues back in the 1980s, what I'm asking
36 is was there much of an awareness about the problems of
37 sexual abuse of children, or do you think there wasn't?
38 I'm talking about in the Education Department?

39 A. Yes, I know what you're saying. I know I did, but I
40 can't say that, you know - people weren't trained to look
41 for it.

42
43 Q. Right. So people weren't trained to look for it?

44 A. No, no, they weren't.

45
46 Q. I think that's what the evidence has shown?

47 A. And, furthermore, as I've just described, we weren't

1 given any strategies to deal with it either. I, with the
2 case in point, I got the local member of parliament to come
3 and meet with me and the child welfare people again, and
4 went through the whole thing again, and his comment to me
5 was, "Oh, they've got their job to do and you've got your
6 job to do", but the family was moved out of Deanmill, so I
7 thought, "Well, I have done something there", but you can't
8 blame people for not doing stuff when there's no support,
9 you know. I had to kick people in the shins to get them to
10 take notice of things that really worried me.

11

12 Q. So the system really didn't focus on this problem, did
13 it --

14 A. No.

15

16 Q. -- in these times?

17 A. No.

18

19 Q. Yes. Like it does now, and it seems that things are
20 much improved now?

21 A. As I said to Mr Urquhart last night, I would be very
22 surprised if in a school, in a group situation like a
23 school or a hostel or something, something like this
24 reoccurred because children are taught to understand what's
25 appropriate and what's not appropriate, and - yes. Yes,
26 no, look, I'm --

27

28 Q. Well, thank you, that's most interesting.

29 A. Yes, but it was - it was pushing it up hill to try and
30 get something done back in the '80s. It was.

31

32 HIS HONOUR: Yes, all right.

33

34 MR URQUHART: Q. But had you seen improvements in place
35 by the time you'd retired in 2004?

36 A. Yes. I - I am sure that, you know - I'm - things have
37 changed, people do talk about sex now and kids are spoken
38 to about these things like they weren't before. It was all
39 something you didn't mention, and that's made it so easy
40 for paedophiles to keep it under the wraps.

41

42 MR URQUHART: Thank you, sir, that's all I have for
43 Mrs Leggoe.

44

45 HIS HONOUR: All right. Mr Jenkin, have you got anything?

46

47 MR JENKIN: No, thank you, sir.

1
2 HIS HONOUR: Ms Morgan?
3
4 MS MORGAN: No, thank you.
5
6 HIS HONOUR: All right. Well, thank you very much,
7 Mrs Leggoe, you've been extremely useful and very helpful
8 to the Inquiry. Thank you for coming forward.
9
10 THE WITNESS: Thank you very much.
11
12 HIS HONOUR: You're free to go.
13
14 THE WITNESS: I hope I've been helpful.
15
16 HIS HONOUR: You have been.
17
18 <THE WITNESS WITHDREW
19
20 MR URQUHART: Sir, all we've got left to do today is --
21
22 HIS HONOUR: You're free to go Mrs Leggoe, yes.
23
24 MR URQUHART: -- a further statement, a very short one.
25 Once more it's from an ex-student, but on this occasion he
26 has requested that his privacy be respected, so I'll read
27 it out in its entirety. Greg Fisher states:
28
29 I am 53 years old and live in Leonora. I
30 have been the Principal of Leonora District
31 High School for the past 7 years.
32
33 HIS HONOUR: Can you just pause there. You say his
34 privacy was to be --
35
36 MR URQUHART: He had no objection to --
37
38 HIS HONOUR: Had no objection.
39
40 MR URQUHART: No, had no objection.
41
42 HIS HONOUR: Very good. Thank you. Yes, please continue,
43 yes.
44
45 MR URQUHART: Greg Fisher states:
46
47 I am 53 years old and live in Leonora. I

1 have been the Principal of Leonora District
2 High School for the past 7 years.

3
4 I grew up in Beverley and attended the
5 district high school there until Year 10.
6 The only option for me to complete high
7 school was to go to a senior high school in
8 another town.

9
10 My parents arranged for me to go to Northam
11 Senior High School and to Board at St
12 Christopher's Hostel, which was also in
13 Northam. My sister later boarded at
14 Adamson House, which was the hostel for
15 female students, but this was after I had
16 left St Christopher's.

17
18 I was at the hostel from 1975 until 1977,
19 and during that time Roy Wenlock was the
20 warden. I was a prefect at the hostel
21 during my last year.

22
23 I recall that there was a man whose last
24 name was Dennison, who worked at the hostel
25 along with his wife. He would sometimes
26 cover for Wenlock as warden.

27
28 The showers at the hostel were a bit like
29 beach showers, there were 8/10 shower heads
30 all in a row with no cubicles. Wenlock
31 would come into the shower area and watch
32 the students take off their dressing gowns
33 and shower while he ticked their names off
34 the list of students.

35
36 I also remember when Dennison was covering
37 for Wenlock, and by contrast he would wait
38 outside the shower area and tick our names
39 off the list.

40
41 It was well-known among the students that
42 on your birthday you would be invited to
43 Wenlock's flat to wrestle with him. This
44 was called "being bruted."

45
46 As a result of this I tried not to
47 advertise when my birthday was, but one

1 year my mother told him when my birthday
2 was. I was invited to his flat and he lay
3 down and I had to climb on top of him and
4 wrestle with him. Nothing sexual happened.
5 I left as quickly as I could.

6
7 I never talked to my parents or anyone else
8 about this at the time; I don't think that
9 any of the students did.

10
11 I remember that Wenlock had his favourites
12 among the students; I always tried to sit
13 under the radar.

14
15 I never heard of any physical beatings of
16 students, but was aware that Wenlock had a
17 cane. He also had quite a temper when he
18 would yell at students.

19
20 I subsequently heard that Wenlock was moved
21 on and went to work at the WACA.

22
23 When I read about what happened at the St
24 Andrew's Hostel in Katanning, I thought
25 there were real similarities with what
26 happened with Wenlock. He was viewed as a
27 pillar of the community, and used to umpire
28 cricket in the town, but the whole time his
29 behaviour within the hostel was totally
30 inappropriate.

31
32 This statement is true to the best of my
33 knowledge and belief. I have made this
34 statement knowing that if it is tendered in
35 evidence, I'll be guilty of a crime if I
36 have wilfully included in the statement
37 anything I know to be false, or that I do
38 not believe is true.

39
40 It has been signed by Mr Fisher and is dated 4 May. That
41 would be 4 May of this year.

42
43 Sir, that just concludes the matters that we need to
44 deal with today. It was originally advertised, I think,
45 that tomorrow's hearing will commence at 9 o'clock because
46 of a recent development. There won't be any need to start
47 until 10 o'clock tomorrow, sir, so if we adjourn until

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then.

HIS HONOUR: And have we got a full day tomorrow.

MR URQUHART: We will have a full day tomorrow.

HIS HONOUR: Very well. We'll adjourn until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

AT 2.50PM THE HEARING ADJOURNED TO
FRIDAY, 25 MAY 2012 AT 10AM