

**ABUSE IN CARE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
DISABILITY, DEAF AND MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTION HEARING**

Under The Inquiries Act 2013

In the matter of The Royal Commission of Inquiry into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the Care of Faith-based Institutions

Royal Commission: Judge Coral Shaw (Chair)
Paul Gibson
Julia Steenson

Counsel: Mr Simon Mount QC, Ms Kerryn Beaton QC, Ms Ruth Thomas, Ms Lucy Leadbetter, Mr Michael Thomas and Ms Kathy Basire for the Royal Commission
Mr Gregor Allan, Ms Sandra Moore and Mr Vaughan Dodd for the Crown

Venue: Level 2
Abuse in Care Royal Commission of Inquiry
414 Khyber Pass Road
AUCKLAND

Date: 12 July 2022

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

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21 **Lunch adjournment from 1.21 pm to 2.13 pm**

22 **COMMISSIONER GIBSON:** Thank you. Ms Basire.

23 **MS BASIRE:** Thank you, sir.

24 Our next witness is going to be Tony Ryder but before we introduce, before
25 I introduce Tony Ryder, we have a Templeton video which is just for one minute and
26 Madam Chair, because Mr Ryder's evidence has been pre-recorded, his affirmation process
27 was done prior to that, so we don't need to go through that process.

28 **CHAIR:** Thank you.

29 **MS BASIRE:** So, we'll just play the Templeton video now and then Mr Ryder will come up on
30 the screens and I will introduce him and his prerecord. **[Video played]**. Tony Ryder is
31 watching from Christchurch with his friends Olive and Carol, and they've just come up on
32 the screen now.

33 Tony will be giving his evidence by way of a pre-recorded interview. He will speak

1 about his time in care in a children's home where he experienced physical and sexual abuse
2 as well as neglect.

3 At Tony's request, the name of the children's home and certain details of his time at
4 that home have been covered by audio bleeps during the recording.

5 Tony will also tell us about spending approximately 15 years at Templeton Hospital
6 where he experienced physical and sexual abuse, medical abuse, and neglect. But he will
7 tell us how his life has improved, and he will tell us about his thoughts for the future.

8 Before we play his interview, I want to acknowledge the importance of this day to
9 Tony. Today is the day he finally gets to tell the country his story and is the day he's been
10 very much looking forward to.

11 Thank you, if we can play the video now.

12 **[Video played]**

13 "Tony is dressed in a dark grey suit while sitting comfortably in a light grey chair.
14 Behind him is a cream and green coloured wall. You can also see a piano in the
15 background. Tony is speaking to an interviewer who is behind the camera."

16 **Q.** Can you tell us your full name?

17 **A.** Tony Anthony Edward Ryder.

18 **Q.** And where were you born, Tony?

19 **A.** I was born in Timaru.

20 **Q.** And where do you live now?

21 **A.** Templeton.

22 **Q.** And what sort of residence is that who looks after you?

23 **A.** I look after myself, there's about six people.

24 **Q.** And who runs the house?

25 **A.** Carol Peach(?).

26 **Q.** And who are they employed by?

27 **A.** New Zealand Care.

28 **Q.** I understand you have a learning disability.

29 **A.** Yes.

30 **Q.** Can you remember what year you were born?

31 **A.** 6/63.

32 **Q.** 6/63?

33 **A.** Yeah.

- 1 **Q.** June 1963?
- 2 **A.** Yeah.
- 3 **Q.** That's great. And tell us about your parents.
- 4 **A.** Me father used to own a --work at the Timaru freezing works-- the chook, where they used
5 to put chooks, hens down, used to get Tegel.
- 6 **Q.** Right. And what was his name?
- 7 **A.** John Ryder.
- 8 **Q.** And what's your mum's name?
- 9 **A.** Lorraine.
- 10 **Q.** Lorraine.
- 11 **A.** She died.
- 12 **Q.** How long ago did she die?
- 13 **A.** She died ages ago.
- 14 **Q.** I understand that you're one of eight children?
- 15 **A.** Yes.
- 16 **Q.** Two sisters and five brothers?
- 17 **A.** Yes.
- 18 **Q.** Wow, that's a big family.
- 19 **A.** It is, right?
- 20 **Q.** Yeah. You said your dad used to work at the freezing works?
- 21 **A.** Yeah.
- 22 **Q.** And tell us about what you remember about going to visit him at work?
- 23 **A.** We used to get free saveloys from them and used to eat them, and then we used to go down
24 fishing and used to eat mussels off the rocks.
- 25 **Q.** Can you remember what you used to do in the school holidays?
- 26 **A.** Used to, on school holidays we used to go to Waipara and visit our aunties, like Nana Port,
27 Granddad Port.
- 28 **Q.** Did you enjoy that?
- 29 **A.** Yeah. And me mother said there's a guy you want to meet, Donald Port, and she said not
30 Donald Port, Donald Duck, so when we got there we called him Donald Duck.
- 31 **Q.** Is that your uncle?
- 32 **A.** Yeah.
- 33 **Q.** So last time you told me about after a while it was too hard for mum to look after you?

- 1 A. Yeah.
- 2 Q. And do you remember the home that you went to in [GRO-C]?
- 3 A. It used to be the children's home.
- 4 Q. Used to be the children's home. Can you remember how old you were when you went
5 there?
- 6 A. About, I think I was about 12.
- 7 Q. Right. And --
- 8 A. We used to have good times.
- 9 Q. So, when you first went to [GRO-C] the--- first day, what can you remember about that first
10 day?
- 11 A. The first day when I got there used to get the strap. Did bad things. I used to go on the
12 flying fox and then let go of the flying fox and fell in the creek and got out and got told off
13 for it.
- 14 Q. Right. So is that your first memory, is being on the flying fox --
- 15 A. Yeah.
- 16 Q. -- Falling off and then getting told off?
- 17 A. Yeah, used to sneak inside and change and they caught me, "Where's your clothes?" And
18 I said, "I went through the creek, got dirty."
- 19 Q. Why did you go through the creek?
- 20 A. I just let go of the flying fox and went straight into the creek and just drove in the mud and
21 got covered in crap and everything.
- 22 Q. Right. And so [GRO-C-1] unhappy--- with you?
- 23 A. Yeah.
- 24 Q. What can you remember that he said or did?
- 25 A. He said, "If you do it again you won't be allowed to go outside or won't be able to do
26 anything or shopping."
- 27 Q. You talked about getting the strap?
- 28 A. Yeah.
- 29 Q. What can you remember about the strap?
- 30 A. Whacking me on the arse and everything.
- 31 Q. What did the strap look like?
- 32 A. It was like a long, like a same- long as that but it was like a cane. Then I
33 was -in they-- said, "Are you going to cry?" I said, "No." So, I fixed them, I put a cushion

- 1 down my butt and said, "Whack me" and didn't get any bruising. And after I took it out,
2 they gave me another strap and I had bruises.
- 3 **Q.** Right. So, they made you take the cushion out?
- 4 **A.** Mmm.
- 5 **Q.** So, when you lived at [GRO-C] was--- there girls and boys?
- 6 **A.** Yeah, upstairs there was girls and downstairs the boys.
- 7 **Q.** Can you remember like how many children were at [GRO-C] at the time?
- 8 **A.** I think, I don't know how many, there was heaps.
- 9 **Q.** Yeah. What did the buildings look like at [GRO-C]?
- 10 **A.** They were different.
- 11 **Q.** It was different?
- 12 **A.** Yeah.
- 13 **Q.** Different from home?
- 14 **A.** Yeah.
- 15 **Q.** How many buildings were there?
- 16 **A.** I think they put in, on the [GRO-C] they--- put a wing on it for the old people, so that's
17 where they are.
- 18 **Q.** Right. Okay. So, the girls slept upstairs, and the boys slept downstairs?
- 19 **A.** Yeah.
- 20 **Q.** Did you have your own bedroom?
- 21 **A.** Yeah.
- 22 **Q.** Or --
- 23 **A.** Used to be a dormitory with the boys.
- 24 **Q.** Right, so all the boys slept together?
- 25 **A.** Yeah.
- 26 **Q.** And --
- 27 **A.** And they had a fire exit door and I used to go down and find out where that wind was
28 blown and they had trees coming down, I wasn't supposed to, but I went down the ramp and
29 then went back up, it was too cold. That's when they had gale force winds.
- 30 **Q.** So, did you have to do jobs or chores at [GRO-C]?
- 31 **A.** Yeah.
- 32 **Q.** What did you have to do?
- 33 **A.** Used to go and do the chooks and feed the pigs.

- 1 **Q.** Did you like doing that?
- 2 **A.** Yeah. And then drive the tractor. Mowing lawns and then at the end I got sick of it, so
3 they had the other guy's vintage car, used to get a tow rope, pull it back and then nudge it
4 into the wall and pranged it. That was fun.
- 5 **Q.** Did you get into trouble for that?
- 6 **A.** No, didn't tell them.
- 7 **Q.** Now, I understand that sometimes you'd get pocket money?
- 8 **A.** Yeah.
- 9 **Q.** And what would you spend your pocket money on?
- 10 **A.** Lollies. And then I used to go shopping buy a Trumpet for all the guys at [GRO-C].
- 11 **Q.** Was that [GRO-C]?
- 12 **A.** Yeah.
- 13 **Q.** And when you were a bit older, I understand that you used to sometimes use your money to
14 buy cigarettes?
- 15 **A.** Yes.
- 16 **Q.** Was that allowed?
- 17 **A.** No, used to go behind the trees, hide and then smoke and then bury it.
- 18 **Q.** Bury the butts?
- 19 **A.** No, the smoke, the tobacco, not like- -tailor-mades-. Then they smelt your breath, "Have
20 you been smoking?" "No, just had a big bonfire lit", bullshit, didn't tell them the truth.
- 21 **Q.** When you were living [GRO-C] did--- you go to school?
- 22 **A.** Yeah.
- 23 **Q.** What school did you go to?
- 24 **A.** Used to go to Timaru and then from Timaru used to go to Marchwiell High School.
- 25 **Q.** Was that in [GRO-C]?
- 26 **A.** That's in Timaru.
- 27 **Q.** In Timaru?
- 28 **A.** Yeah.
- 29 **Q.** How did you get to school?
- 30 **A.** Used to walk.
- 31 **Q.** Right. Did you sometimes used to bike?
- 32 **A.** Yeah, once I did. I used to catch the bus, used to leave the bike at the [GRO-
33 C]-- and- locked it up.

- 1 **Q.** What did you learn at school?
- 2 **A.** Not much. Used to remember my other teacher's name Mr Eggleton. That was at
3 Marchwiel School, and it was when I was in the special class, room 4.
- 4 **Q.** So, you were in a special class?
- 5 **A.** Yeah.
- 6 **Q.** And were the teachers nice?
- 7 **A.** Yeah.
- 8 **Q.** That's good. When were you --[GRO-C] were-- you ever made to go to church?
- 9 **A.** Yeah.
- 10 **Q.** Which church where you made to go to?
- 11 **A.** The one in [GRO-C].
- 12 **Q.** Did you like going to church?
- 13 **A.** No. They said, "What do you think of church?" I said, "It's bible bashers", so I upset her, I
14 didn't like church, so I stayed at home. And used to go fishing there too and catch eels.
- 15 **Q.** At the church?
- 16 **A.** At the children's home. They said, "Do you want to go to church?" "No." So, I stayed
17 there and went fishing, kept fishing eels.
- 18 **Q.** Now, you told me about getting the strap --
- 19 **A.** Yeah.
- 20 **Q.** [GRO-C-1] do-- any other hitting?
- 21 **A.** No. But they had a chair brought in and they got the guys to sit on it, and said, "Try." And
22 it was like an electrocuted chair, and you'd sit on it, and they'd turn the power on and give
23 you, like, zaps from it. And I think they've still got it there, i t's in the gymnasium part.
- 24 **Q.** Can you remember how many times that happened?
- 25 **A.** About six.
- 26 **Q.** What did the chair look like?
- 27 **A.** It was, like, tall.
- 28 **Q.** A tall chair?
- 29 **A.** [Nods]. And the part where I'm sitting, that was electrified, and it was in the gy mnasium,
30 the gymnasium part and that's when they had all the games and all that and that's when
31 I thought I'll be able to sit down, and they turned it on, and I copped it. So, I didn't like it.
- 32 **Q.** Can you remember why you had to sit in the chair?
- 33 **A.** [GRO-C-1] chair- to sit on and that's when -I he-- said, "It's a nice chair, you'll like it", and

- 1 he switched it on and says just enjoy the seat, and I copped it.
- 2 **Q.** When I was talking to you last time you remembered that sometimes [GRO-C-1]
3 would--- smack you around the ear?
- 4 **A.** Yeah.
- 5 **Q.** Do you want to tell the camera about [GRO-C-1] doing--- that?
- 6 **A.** Yeah, [GRO-C-1] used--- to smack us around the ear when we did something wrong, and
7 I laughed and he got a bit upset he said, "No more of it. If you do it a gain, you'll be in the
8 shit."
- 9 **Q.** Now, when you were about 14 --
- 10 **A.** Yeah.
- 11 **Q.** - something happened between --[GRO-C] that--- was very bad.
- 12 **A.** Yeah.
- 13 **Q.** And it was just you [GRO-C] are--- you okay to tell us about what happened?
- 14 **A.** He caught me going up to the ladies upstairs- where the ladies slept and asked me to turn
15 the electric blanket on, so I did that, and about an hour later she said she couldn't get into
16 the room, so they said climb through the room, and I got caught. And they said, "What are
17 you doing up there?" I said --[GRO-C] lady-- told me to turn the -heater - the sleeping
18 thing on and after a while we had a -fire [GRO-C]--.
- 19 **Q.** So, you got asked to turn the electric blanket on?
- 20 **A.** Yeah, that's what the lady said, and that's when we had the fire.
- 21 **Q.** And the electric blanket caused a fire?
- 22 **A.** Yeah, it was somewhere some-- kids were jumping on it.
- 23 **Q.** And what happened to you because of the fire?
- 24 **A.** They told them [GRO-C] and-- it was his day off, so I banged on the door,- and he said,
25 "What's wrong?" "There's a fire up in the staff room." He said, "How did it happen?"
26 I said, "The lady told me to turn the sleeping thing on, I did that, and then an hour later
27 some kids went up there and jumped on it and caused the fire" and bla med it on me and
28 I got beaten up.
- 29 **Q.** Yeah. Now last time you talked about being put in the basement --
- 30 **A.** Yeah.
- 31 **Q.** -- because of the lighting of the fire?
- 32 **A.** Yeah.
- 33 **Q.** Can you tell us about what --

- 1 A. They locked me in there.
- 2 Q. Right. And in the basement, was there a bed?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. Was there any toilet?
- 5 A. No, it was just cold room.
- 6 Q. Were you allowed any food?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. Can you remember how long you were in the basement?
- 9 A. 24 hours.
- 10 Q. And how did that feel?
- 11 A. Bloody disgusting.
- 12 Q. Last time we were talking you told us about a time with you [GRO-C-1] where [GRO-C-1]
- 13 tied----- you to a bed?
- 14 A. Yeah.
- 15 Q. And I understand that happened in the boys' dormitory?
- 16 A. Yeah.
- 17 Q. And everybody else was at school?
- 18 A. Yeah.
- 19 Q. Can you tell us what happened that time?
- 20 A. He was going to kill me, electrocute me. That's all I remember.
- 21 Q. Right.
- 22 A. I screamed.
- 23 Q. Right. Did he do anything sexually to you that time?
- 24 A. He was playing around with me.
- 25 Q. Right. I know it's hard to talk about --
- 26 A. Yeah.
- 27 Q. -- but can you remember what he did?
- 28 A. He was playing with the bits and pieces on me and the back end --
- 29 Q. Right.
- 30 A. - shoving things in. And it was when I was really upset and I wanted to run away, so that's
- 31 what I was -planning that's-- what I did and that's when he sent the Police out looking for
- 32 me.
- 33 Q. Right. When he was doing those things to you on the bed, what did you say to him?

- 1 A. I said, "Don't put your hands on there." I didn't like it.
- 2 Q. Where was he putting his hands?
- 3 A. On the front of me and the back end.
- 4 Q. Right. And when you said he was trying to put things in the back end, can you remember
5 what it was?
- 6 A. The butt.
- 7 Q. Your butt?
- 8 A. Mmm.
- 9 Q. And what body part of his?
- 10 A. He was trying to feel me up and all that.
- 11 Q. Right. And so, you said you ran away after that?
- 12 A. Yeah.
- 13 Q. And where did you go?
- 14 A. I buggered off out of [GRO-C] and--- hid under one of the bridges.
- 15 Q. And how long were you away for?
- 16 A. For 24 hours, all night, didn't come back until the next day.
- 17 Q. And did anything happen after that?
- 18 A. No, he got told off by the Police after I reported him.
- 19 Q. Were there any other bad things that happened at [GRO-C]?
- 20 A. What else happened? He got when- he punished me,- he said, "You're going to go down to
21 the cellar and do the walnuts" and I said, "It will be cold." He said, "No, it's warm." I went
22 and did all the walnuts, and I ate some of them, and he went off for eating them.
- 23 Q. When you were at [GRO-C] did--- you see your family?
- 24 A. Only once, when they had the open day.
- 25 Q. And how did it feel not seeing your family?
- 26 A. A bit upset. I used to go in the trees and cry.
- 27 Q. I know you told me last time that sometimes you switched out [GRO-C] into-- some
28 homes?-
- 29 A. Yeah.
- 30 Q. And there were some nice ones, like, run by the [GRO-C]?
- 31 A. Yeah, I know them. [GRO-C] used- to get on well with when they used to come home and
32 I used to go out with them like shopping and visit people, and they were good to us. They
33 used to shout me ice creams. "If you're good we'll get you something." So, I enjoyed going

- 1 out –[GRO-C] like--- when I did, I used to wash their cars and do the gardening for them.
- 2 **Q.** Can you remember how long you stayed with them?
- 3 **A.** A long time.
- 4 **Q.** Was that after [GRO-C]?
- 5 **A.** Yeah.
- 6 **Q.** And then what about [GRO-C]?
- 7 **A.** Yes. I used to get on well with them too.
- 8 **Q.** And that was another home that you lived in?
- 9 **A.** Yeah.
- 10 **Q.** Okay. So, you said something before about pills?
- 11 **A.** Yeah.
- 12 **Q.** Just focusing on [GRO-C] home [GRO-C] did----- they ever give you pills?
- 13 **A.** Yeah.
- 14 **Q.** What sort of pills were they?
- 15 **A.** They were Veractil 25s, they slowed me down.
- 16 **Q.** Right.
- 17 **A.** And they asked me, "Have you taken them?" I said, "Yes", put them under my tongue and
18 went to the toilet and spat them out.
- 19 **Q.** How was [GRO-C] involved--- in you going to Templeton?
- 20 **A.** He arranged it because they couldn't cope. My mother couldn't cope with us, so they
21 transferred me to Templeton, they said, "Where would you like to go?" I said, "One of the
22 hospitals", and they commit me to Rowan House.
- 23 **Q.** So [GRO-C] was--- your --
- 24 **A.** Social Welfare.
- 25 **Q.** -- Social Welfare person?
- 26 **A.** Yeah.
- 27 **Q.** Was he how- often did you see him when you were -at [GRO-C]?
- 28 **A.** I used to go to the Social Welfare and see him.
- 29 **Q.** And was he the person who was supposed to be looking after your interests?
- 30 **A.** Yeah. And they've got [GRO-C] got--- my account under the Social Welfare and I haven't
31 heard if I got it, and I think it's under his name, I've got to find out where it is and get the
32 money back.
- 33 **Q.** Is that a bank account?

- 1 A. Yeah, with my name, and there was money in it.
- 2 Q. Now, that day that he drove you to Templeton?
- 3 A. Yeah.
- 4 Q. What's your first memory of that first day of Templeton?
- 5 A. When I was in Rowan House I used to be in tears, wanted to go home.
- 6 Q. In Rowan House how many men were there with you?
- 7 A. Quite oh-, heaps. There was- dormitories too.
- 8 Q. Dormitories?
- 9 A. Yeah.
- 10 Q. Can you remember how old you were when you went to Templeton?
- 11 A. I think I was about 13.
- 12 Q. Right. If the records show that you were at [GRO-C] until--- you were 14 --
- 13 A. Yeah.
- 14 Q. --do you think maybe you went to Templeton when you were 15?
- 15 A. Yeah.
- 16 Q. Would that be right?
- 17 A. Yeah, that's correct.
- 18 Q. Okay. And so how long can you remember that you stayed at Rowan House?
- 19 A. Until I asked him for a transfer to another like- another, like, Templeton apartment, like
- 20 Beech, and went from Beech to Puriri and then Puriri, and then after Puriri - then to Rimu,
- 21 and then from Rimu to Maple and then from Maple out, and then I went and lived with
- 22 Effie.
- 23 Q. That's a good memory.
- 24 A. Mmm.
- 25 Q. Yeah, so that first few days that you were in Templeton --
- 26 A. Yeah.
- 27 Q. - do you remember ringing --[GRO-C] and--- talking to him about being in Templeton?
- 28 A. Yeah.
- 29 Q. What did you say [GRO-C]?
- 30 A. I just didn't bloody like the place, and I said I used to get beaten up by staff in Rowan
- 31 House and all the other villas.
- 32 Q. What did he say to that?
- 33 A. He said he'll deal with it; he'd deal with it and have a case on to it.

- 1 Q. Did he ever deal with it?
- 2 A. Yeah.
- 3 Q. What did he do?
- 4 A. He ripped into them and said, "I'll have to take him out of there."
- 5 Q. But did he take you out of there?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And you moved to where?
- 8 A. To his house.
- 9 Q. How long did you stay with [GRO-C]?
- 10 A. For a long time.
- 11 Q. Tell me about the hitting in Rowan House, who hit you?
- 12 A. The staff.
- 13 Q. Right. And why did they hit you?
- 14 A. When I used to swear at them.
- 15 Q. So, you'd swear at them?
- 16 A. Yeah, and told them I hoped they die.
- 17 Q. So, you'd swear at them and say you hoped they'd die?
- 18 A. Yeah.
- 19 Q. And their reaction would be to hit you?
- 20 A. Yeah.
- 21 Q. Whereabouts on your body did they hit you?
- 22 A. They used to smack me around the ear hard.
- 23 Q. So, what was the house that you went to after Rowan House at Templeton?
- 24 A. I went to Beech.
- 25 Q. Beech?
- 26 A. Yeah.
- 27 Q. What was Beech House like?
- 28 A. Quite nice, used to get up and have coffees and that and breakfast with the other guys.
- 29 Q. So, we know that there was work that you did at Templeton?
- 30 A. Yeah.
- 31 Q. Can you tell us about when you went to the training centre, what would you do at the
- 32 training centre?
- 33 A. I used to help them out.

- 1 **Q.** Right. And what would you do?
- 2 **A.** Used to do the toilets, and wash dishes and all that.
- 3 **Q.** And you told me last time about pushing the food trolley?
- 4 **A.** Yeah.
- 5 **Q.** Tell the camera about the food trolley.
- 6 **A.** When they wanted someone to do the food trolley at Templeton, Pine to Kōwhai, I used to
7 do the trolleys from Kōwhai, then from Kōwhai up to Kauri, then used to take it up to
8 Brian, and used to stop behind the trees, used to nick a bit of bacon, have a feed and then
9 pushed it back (inaudible). They didn't know who did it. So, I pinched some bacon, I was
10 hungry.
- 11 **Q.** Were you often hungry at Templeton?
- 12 **A.** Yeah.
- 13 **Q.** Why were you hungry at Templeton?
- 14 **A.** Because they didn't do very much meals.
- 15 **Q.** And the food trolley, was that taking food from, like, a depot to the villas?
- 16 **A.** Yeah. I enjoyed it.
- 17 **Q.** Tell us about the work that you did with Effie Deans at the riding school?
- 18 **A.** I was working at the Bottle store, and they had somebody - wanted someone to work for the
19 riding and I said, "I'll take it." So,- I worked with Effie for 40 years, that's what
20 I remember. And Effie said, "There's a group coming over", she told me, I said, "I'll muck
21 out the paddocks", and after I mucked out, I said I'll lead the horses, I led them. And then I
22 competed for the Special Olympics.
- 23 **Q.** Oh, yes, we have the records. That was in 1985?
- 24 **A.** And they only entered me Effie-- only entered me in four, and Peter McMillan, who's an
25 electrician says, "We'll enter you in another lot", like five more, and I won the whole lot,
26 everyone down in the south said, "You won't win", and I thrashed everyone, they were
27 shitty. So, I came home with all the medals.
- 28 **Q.** Can you remember where it was that you went for the Special Olympics?
- 29 **A.** It was up in Wellington.
- 30 **Q.** Yes. And what events can you remember doing?
- 31 **A.** Doing dressage figure of 8s and doing show jumping.
- 32 **Q.** Wow, that's cool, isn't it?
- 33 **A.** Yeah, and I enjoyed them. And when I got back, and I told them I'm going to use the

- 1 medals for sinkers.
- 2 **Q.** The medals you got, you used for sinkers?
- 3 **A.** Yeah, for fishing. Olive's got the sinkers the-- medals here.
- 4 **Q.** Would you go every day to work with Effie?
- 5 **A.** Yeah.
- 6 **Q.** And what sort of things did you do?
- 7 **A.** I used to scrub out the water troughs and all that. I used to keep them nice and clean for
8 her, and then when she was (inaudible) I used to Hoover out the office and clean the toilet
9 blocks and do the horse feed.
- 10 **Q.** And did the other residents at Templeton go and have rides on the horses?
- 11 **A.** Yeah.
- 12 **Q.** And what about the horse and cart?
- 13 **A.** That's when she got someone to come in to set up the cart and then after they set it up, she
14 said, "We can take the guys around the block in the paddock." I said, "Yeah, cool." And
15 then I got it, then the horses took some carrying and all the other fellas for a ride. At the
16 end the horse some- bright person got like string, pulled the cart out with string and the
17 horse bolted and smashed the cart. I said to the staff -(inaudible), you're not coming back
18 here.
- 19 **Q.** Talk to me what it was like living in Rimu Villa?
- 20 **A.** Bloody awful. Like a hole.
- 21 **Q.** Why was Rimu Villa so bad?
- 22 **A.** Because the staff used to hit the clients and beat them up and chuck them inside rooms.
- 23 **Q.** What was the charge nurse at Rimu, what was his name?
- 24 **A.** [GRO-B].
- 25 **Q.** So, you said that the staff used to hit the residents?
- 26 **A.** Yeah.
- 27 **Q.** Now [GRO-B] did--- he have a walking stick?
- 28 **A.** Yes.
- 29 **Q.** Tell us about what he would do with the walking stick?
- 30 **A.** He used to smack you on the head. One of the guys called [GRO-B] got-- smacked on the
31 head and he had a lump, and he says who did it -[GRO-B] so--- that's what he was like, he
32 was mean.
- 33 **Q.** So [GRO-B] was--- mean?

- 1 A. Yeah, and I used to go down to the side room, and they had a staff called [GRO-B]
2 he--- used to come to work and used to drink alcohol and then he ripped [GRO-B]
3 and--- used to [GRO-B] so--- I bolted outside and ran up to the head Superintendent Dr
4 Marshall and told him what happened, and then [GRO-C] and--- I told him, and said,
5 "What's wrong?" I said, "You better get me outside, I need to let rip", I said, "I have been
6 hit by [GRO-B] and--- he said, "what happened?" "He's bowled him over and I've got a
7 complaint", I want him out of the site, I want (inaudible) because [GRO-B] not--- very
8 well. Then after a while [GRO-B] got--- smacked [GRO-B] said--, "I think he's been
9 drinking beer." So, - he got taken out of there and put in where the alcohol apartment was.
- 10 Q. You've mentioned "side room".
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Can you describe for me what was the side room?
- 13 A. Dark. It had bars on it.
- 14 Q. Where was the side room in Rimu?
- 15 A. It was on the right-- in the corridor.
- 16 Q. And what was the side room used for?
- 17 A. For locking people up.
- 18 Q. And why did the staff at Rimu lock the residents up?
- 19 A. And they had big master keys.
- 20 Q. But do you know why they locked them up?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. Did you ever get locked up in the side room?
- 23 A. Yeah.
- 24 Q. And what was in the side room?
- 25 A. Just a cold bed.
- 26 Q. Cold bed. And was there any windows?
- 27 A. Yeah.
- 28 Q. And --
- 29 A. I used to climb out of it.
- 30 Q. Right. And so, can you remember a specific time that you got put in the side room, like just
31 one time in your memory?
- 32 A. Yeah.
- 33 Q. And how long would you have been in the room for?

- 1 A. For they'd-- kick me in there about 12 o'clock and they used to bring out the lunch. They
2 said, "You know the side room, you can have your own freedom, or you can go in the
3 dormitory, in the people's lounge", I said, "No, I want to go in the big boys' room", and
4 that's where I went.
- 5 **Q.** Right. So --
- 6 A. And I remember another thing too, they had two guys called [GRO-B] and--- they wanted
7 to know how they can get out so I said, "I'll go and tell the staff you need to go to toilet", so
8 by the boys' dormitory [GRO-B] off--- and said, "Get out" and they took off [GRO-B]
9 and-- I said, "I don't you know", I wouldn't tell them. So, I let them out of the boys'
10 dormitory out to the end of the door and I locked in, - and I didn't tell them I let them out.
- 11 **Q.** So, you got sometimes locked in the side room?
- 12 A. Yeah.
- 13 **Q.** Sometimes locked in the dormitory.
- 14 A. Yeah.
- 15 **Q.** And sometimes you were let out of the side room.
- 16 A. [Nods].
- 17 **Q.** Was it a punishment to go into the side room?
- 18 A. Yeah.
- 19 **Q.** If you'd done something bad?
- 20 A. Yeah.
- 21 **Q.** So, before he had that accident, did [GRO-B] used--- to do anything to the residents that
22 wasn't very nice?
- 23 A. Used to beat them up.
- 24 **Q.** And where did he take them to beat them up?
- 25 A. In the side room.
- 26 **Q.** Can you remember times where the staff at Rimu hit you?
- 27 A. Yes, I remember they used to kick me in the stomach and everything. And kick me up the
28 arse for being smart.
- 29 **Q.** Were you smart sometimes?
- 30 A. Mmm. And I used to swear at [GRO-B], told him he stunk, and he blew me up for saying
31 it.
- 32 **Q.** Right. So sometimes you used to call the staff names?
- 33 A. Yeah.

- 1 **Q.** But did the staff sometimes call you names?
- 2 **A.** They used to call me queer and all that.
- 3 **Q.** Right. They called you queer?
- 4 **A.** Yeah.
- 5 **Q.** Can you remember other words that they used that weren't nice?
- 6 **A.** They called me f'ing C.
- 7 **Q.** F'ing C?
- 8 **A.** And (inaudible) spastic.
- 9 **Q.** So "f'ing C" means fucking cunt?
- 10 **A.** Yeah.
- 11 **Q.** Yeah.
- 12 **A.** That was my favourite word, that I enjoyed saying that to them.
- 13 **Q.** You can say it to the camera what they said to you.
- 14 **A.** Templeton used to call me "f'ing bloody fucking little cunt" and what a wanker I was being
- 15 smart. So, I used to piss them off and I used to pull knives to the staff. They used to call
- 16 me retarded and spastic and a queer bastard and all that, and they said I'm going into a right
- 17 place like a stupid little arsehole, that's what they used to call me.
- 18 **Q.** Now, I want to talk about something that happened at Templeton.
- 19 **A.** Yep.
- 20 **Q.** I think it was not long before you left Templeton?
- 21 **A.** Yeah.
- 22 **Q.** And it's the one really bad thing that happened at Templeton with John van der Pol?
- 23 **A.** Oh yeah. He used to call the guys into, not (inaudible) but industry department and got the
- 24 girls in there, into the toilet block where the toilet was, and he had a cold mattress, he used
- 25 to play with the girls and he used get on top of them and do all the business, and he'd try it
- 26 on me too.
- 27 **Q.** Yeah. Okay. So, he was a training officer?
- 28 **A.** Yes.
- 29 **Q.** And he worked at the training centre?
- 30 **A.** Yeah.
- 31 **Q.** Can you describe what the training centre looked like for us?
- 32 **A.** It's a big workshop, where the guys used to do plugs and all that, and boxes, the box they
- 33 used to do is mushroom ones.

- 1 **Q.** Slow down for a minute. So, the guys used to do boxes?
- 2 **A.** Yeah.
- 3 **Q.** Can you explain what that means?
- 4 **A.** Boxes like mushrooms, where they put mushrooms in, and they used to take them to the
5 supermarkets.
- 6 **Q.** They used to make cardboard boxes?
- 7 **A.** Yeah, for the mushroom factory.
- 8 **Q.** So, residents would go to the workshop and work in the workshop?
- 9 **A.** Yeah.
- 10 **Q.** And in the workshop was there a room with a mattress in it?
- 11 **A.** Yeah.
- 12 **Q.** And where was that room?
- 13 **A.** In the staff toilet.
- 14 **Q.** Okay, in the staff toilet?
- 15 **A.** Yeah. Not a wee room, it was big.
- 16 **Q.** It was a big room?
- 17 **A.** With a shower and all that in there.
- 18 **Q.** What was in the room?
- 19 **A.** There was a mattress and toilets.
- 20 **Q.** And you said that you knew that he took girls in there?
- 21 **A.** Yeah.
- 22 **Q.** How did you know that?
- 23 **A.** I used to creep on the edge of the toilet where the door was and used to look in, and then
24 I reported him.
- 25 **Q.** I just want to talk to you about the time he did it to you?
- 26 **A.** Yeah.
- 27 **Q.** Okay. Was there anyone else at the training centre when that happened, or was it just you
28 and him there?
- 29 **A.** Yeah, it was there-- was guys there.
- 30 **Q.** Right. And how was it that you ended up in the toilet?
- 31 **A.** He just grabbed me by the arm and says, "I want to show you something", then he dropped
32 me on the floor and put his thing up my butt.
- 33 **Q.** What did he say to you when did he that?

- 1 A. He said, "I'm going to fuck you."
- 2 Q. And what did you say to him?
- 3 A. I said, "No, don't do that to me."
- 4 Q. Right. And did he do that to you?
- 5 A. He tried, but I just got out of there quick.
- 6 Q. Right. How long were you in there for?
- 7 A. A good hour.
- 8 Q. Right?
- 9 A. It was at lunchtime, about 12.
- 10 Q. Right. Last time you told me about him taking photos, was that right?
- 11 A. Yeah.
- 12 Q. Can you tell us about that?
- 13 A. He took photos and I think he sent it to his friend.
- 14 Q. What makes you think he sent it to his friend?
- 15 A. He's got a friend that knows about it, and he was like that too.
- 16 Q. Right. When you say, "like that", what do you mean?
- 17 A. He used to let him look at the photos what he was doing to me.
- 18 Q. I understand that you ran away from the training centre that day?
- 19 A. Mmm.
- 20 Q. How long was it before you told anyone about it?
- 21 A. I told the Superintendent about it and said, "I'm not going back there." "Why? You've got
- 22 to." I said, "No, I need to make an appointment with the head boss in Templeton." So, I
- 23 rung the office and told them. And they said, "Who?" I said, "John van der Pol done this
- 24 to me and the guys."
- 25 Q. Is that [GRO-C]?
- 26 A. Yeah.
- 27 Q. Before you talked to [GRO-C] who-- is the first other person that you spoke to- about it?
- 28 Was it [GRO-C]?
- 29 A. Yeah, and [GRO-C] what--- happened.
- 30 Q. Right.
- 31 A. I told him that "John van der Pol's putting things up my butt." When John van der Pol
- 32 picked me up from Templeton and said, "We're going to pull down the shed", and they had
- 33 the shed down, he says, "I'll give you \$100" and I didn't get the money. And that's when –

- 1 [GRO-C]- - they shut Beech down and then they said, "There's money there." I didn't get
2 the money –[GRO-C] I--- think they spent it.
- 3 **Q.** Okay, slow down, I don't understand this bit. So, after that happened?
- 4 **A.** Yeah.
- 5 **Q.** You were supposed to go to John van der Pol's house --
- 6 **A.** Yes.
- 7 **Q.** - to help him pull a shed down?-
- 8 **A.** Yeah, and he said, "I'll pay you."
- 9 **Q.** How long was this after this thing that he did to you?
- 10 **A.** He did after me, after he did that, he did it to me at his house, and his wife heard me
11 scream.
- 12 **Q.** Okay, so you went to his house?
- 13 **A.** Yes.
- 14 **Q.** To pull a shed down?
- 15 **A.** Yeah.
- 16 **Q.** And where did he do it to you?
- 17 **A.** Right in the back end.
- 18 **Q.** Right. In the shed?
- 19 **A.** In the house.
- 20 **Q.** In the house?
- 21 **A.** The wife heard me.
- 22 **Q.** Right.
- 23 **A.** She when- he went out,- I told her, I told her, "You better split up, John's done this."
- 24 **Q.** So how many times did John do these things to you?
- 25 **A.** About six times.
- 26 **Q.** In different places?
- 27 **A.** Yeah, between the front, from the front to the back, between the legs.
- 28 **Q.** Was that just on two occasions, the time at the toilets and the time at his house?
- 29 **A.** Yeah.
- 30 **Q.** Okay.
- 31 **A.** It was in Papanui.
- 32 **Q.** The house was in Papanui?
- 33 **A.** Yeah. He's built a new house, a big storey house, and he sold it.

- 1 Q. So, you can remember have a having a meeting and [GRO-C] was-- there and --[GRO-C]
2 was--- there?
- 3 A. Yeah, I remember that.
- 4 Q. But the Police weren't called, were they?
- 5 A. No, I was going to ring them.
- 6 Q. Can you remember a nurse called [GRO-C]?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Yeah.
- 9 A. I know her.
- 10 Q. Tell us about her involvement with this thing with John van der Pol, what can you
11 remember about [GRO-C]?
- 12 A. She said she can't take care of it, and she said I had to let the [GRO-C] (---inaudible) be
13 able to say why? I said, "I've been molested by John van der Pol", and I said, "I want
14 something done, if you don't, I'm going to have to get Social Welfare to move me out of
15 here." And I told them what happened.
- 16 Q. And what did [GRO-C] do---?
- 17 A. She didn't do anything about it.
- 18 Q. Did she try and help you?
- 19 A. The first time she did.
- 20 Q. Right. Did she know about the second time?
- 21 A. Second time, she knew.
- 22 Q. Right.
- 23 A. I think she was a good sort for helping me out.
- 24 Q. I know that you were at Templeton for about 15 years.
- 25 A. Yeah.
- 26 Q. That's about, right?
- 27 A. Yeah.
- 28 Q. I just want to talk to you about medication that they might have given you?
- 29 A. Yeah.
- 30 Q. I'm not sure which villa this was in, but --
- 31 A. Rimu.
- 32 Q. In Rimu, was it?
- 33 A. Yeah.

- 1 **Q.** So, who would give you drugs in Rimu?
- 2 **A.** The staff.
- 3 **Q.** Right. Do you know what the drugs were?
- 4 **A.** Veractil 25, it slows you down.
- 5 **Q.** And how did you know that they were drugs to slow you down?
- 6 **A.** They said it helps you.
- 7 **Q.** Right.
- 8 **A.** I used to dribble too from it.
- 9 **Q.** Was that when you were first in Templeton or later?
- 10 **A.** I was in there the first.
- 11 **Q.** When you were first in Templeton?
- 12 **A.** Mmm.
- 13 **Q.** So, when would the staff give you the pills?
- 14 **A.** They used to give it at breakfast time and teatime and lunchtime.
- 15 **Q.** And how did those pills make you feel?
- 16 **A.** Like slow. I used to run, and it slow me down.
- 17 **Q.** You talked about dribbling?
- 18 **A.** Yeah.
- 19 **Q.** So, the drugs would make you dribble?
- 20 **A.** Yeah.
- 21 **Q.** And --
- 22 **A.** And makes you sick too.
- 23 **Q.** Make you feel sick?
- 24 **A.** Mmm.
- 25 **Q.** In the day room did you notice other people being given the drugs?
- 26 **A.** Yeah.
- 27 **Q.** And what did it make the other people look like?
- 28 **A.** Like gaga, they used to have their head on the knee, and they were like zonked out.
- 29 **Q.** So, what did you do about those pills?
- 30 **A.** I told Dr Lee I didn't like the pills and I made an appointment with him and said, "These
31 pills make me go gaga."
- 32 **Q.** And then what happened?
- 33 **A.** He took me off.

- 1 **Q.** The day rooms, residents who didn't go off to the training centre or to riding, what
2 happened to them in the day rooms?
- 3 **A.** They stay there.
- 4 **Q.** Were they locked in the day rooms?
- 5 **A.** Yes, they do sometimes, they used to bring cups of tea into the guys and pour cups in them.
- 6 **Q.** So, they'd just drink pots of tea?
- 7 **A.** Yeah.
- 8 **Q.** Did staff take them to the toilet?
- 9 **A.** Yeah, they used to, they don't now. They used to piss on the floor.
- 10 **Q.** Right. So --
- 11 **A.** After they pissed on the floor, they mopped it up and said, "We need something done." So,
12 I said, "I'll polish the floor", so I went and polished the whole floor.
- 13 **Q.** Right. The residents who didn't go to the training centre or go and do a job, they'd just stay
14 in the day room?
- 15 **A.** Yeah.
- 16 **Q.** Did you ever see those residents put in the side rooms?
- 17 **A.** Yeah.
- 18 **Q.** And why would they be put in the side rooms?
- 19 **A.** For being naughty and pissing on the floor.
- 20 **Q.** Right. So, then the staff would put them in, lock them in the side room?
- 21 **A.** Yeah, and they'd lock the window so they can't get out.
- 22 **Q.** Right.
- 23 **A.** And they screamed.
- 24 **Q.** What would the staff do when something like a radio would go missing or a tape deck?
- 25 **A.** They used to round them up ask them where they put it, and they gave it to me, gave it
26 back, and then a week later they took it again and hid it.
- 27 **Q.** And how did you feel about that?
- 28 **A.** Pissed off.
- 29 **Q.** When you were working at Templeton, did they pay you any money?
- 30 **A.** Only about \$15, that wasn't enough.
- 31 **Q.** How many hours a week were you working when you got paid \$15 a week?
- 32 **A.** I was only doing spuds and veggies and all that. I used to do Kauri and Pine.
- 33 **Q.** Were you working every day?

- 1 A. Yeah, and weekends as well.
- 2 Q. But you only got paid \$15?
- 3 A. Yeah.
- 4 Q. The bad villas, what were they named? You've told us about Rimu, what were the other
5 bad villas?
- 6 A. Was Pine and Pine--, yeah, Pine, Rimu and Rowan House, they're all a pain.
- 7 Q. And what made them bad villas?
- 8 A. And Rata.
- 9 Q. And Rata?
- 10 A. Yeah.
- 11 Q. What made them bad villas?
- 12 A. They used to hit the guys there.
- 13 Q. The staff used to hit people?
- 14 A. Yeah.
- 15 Q. We know that you then went and lived at Effie's.
- 16 A. Yeah.
- 17 Q. Can you remember how it is that you came to be living at Effie's?
- 18 A. Effie had a talk to Steve about me moving in with her, on trial.
- 19 Q. On trial?
- 20 A. Yeah. And then I did some jobs for her, and she says I- did some painting, we haven't got
21 paint, get some diesel. So, I used to go out and said I'll paint half of this and then I painted
22 the whole post,- and she came back after 9 o'clock and the posts were finished. It's teatime.
23 Don't worry, I'll be back in an hour. So, the posts were all finished, came back, how was it,
24 finished all the posts. And that's when she had a fire in her place.
- 25 Q. So, Effie lived close to Templeton, is that right?
- 26 A. Yeah, Adams Road.
- 27 Q. So, you lived with Effie for a long time after that?
- 28 A. Yeah, yeah.
- 29 Q. How did you feel about living at Effie's compared to living at Templeton?
- 30 A. Pretty bloody good. Then I got a job for removals international.
- 31 Q. Was that with Grace Brothers?
- 32 A. Yes, not-- Grace, it was called Movement International, they changed it to Grace Brot hers.
- 33 Q. Tell us about your job at Movement International?

- 1 A. Used to go out, and they said, "We're going to go out and do some work. Do you want to
2 do some jobs?" "Yes." We didn't get home until after about 10 o'clock. And I rung Effie
3 and said, "We're going to be out late, me and removals are going to do packing." We did
4 the packing. He said, "What's all this?" I told him, and named it, and he says, okay, what
5 is it? Jewellery, girls' knickers, put those in the box, taped it all up, it was all ready to put
6 in the container when we got back, boxes, and then unloaded containers, like the
7 (inaudible).
- 8 Q. How much money did they pay you at Movements International?
- 9 A. About \$12, a 10 and a 2.
- 10 Q. \$12 an hour?
- 11 A. Yeah.
- 12 Q. So that was a lot more money than Templeton?
- 13 A. Yeah.
- 14 Q. How did that make you feel?
- 15 A. Felt good, and used to spend it, buy lunch.
- 16 Q. And how did you get to work when you went there?
- 17 A. Used to bike.
- 18 Q. And I understand after a while you had enough money to buy yourself a scooter?
- 19 A. Yeah.
- 20 Q. Was that right?
- 21 A. Yeah.
- 22 Q. When you lived at Effie's --
- 23 A. Yeah.
- 24 Q. -- how was that different to living in Templeton?
- 25 A. Bloody good, peaceful.
- 26 Q. Peaceful?
- 27 A. Yeah.
- 28 Q. When you say peaceful, what was it like living in the dormitories with all those other men?
- 29 A. It was like shit.
- 30 Q. Since you've been living under New Zealand Care, do you know what I mean by "under"
31 New Zealand Care?
- 32 A. Yes.
- 33 Q. Like sort of under their umbrella, can you describe the house that you now live in?

- 1 A. Much better.
- 2 Q. Much better?
- 3 A. Yeah.
- 4 Q. So how many bedrooms in the house?
- 5 A. About seven.
- 6 Q. Right. And where's your bedroom?
- 7 A. By the kitchen.
- 8 Q. By the kitchen?
- 9 A. [Nods].
- 10 Q. And do you have to go into the house to get to your bedroom or have you got a door to the
11 outside?
- 12 A. I've got a door outside.
- 13 Q. Right. Why have you got a door to the outside?
- 14 A. So, I can go out and have a smoke out the front. But you don't smoke where the drive is,
15 you've got to have a smoking area. So, I'm going to get a notice put on the by-- my room
16 and say smoking is just there by the water feature.
- 17 Q. So, did you want an outside door on your room?
- 18 A. Yeah.
- 19 Q. And why did you want an outside door?
- 20 A. So, I can go out the door and then I can go bike riding.
- 21 Q. And why do you like going bike riding?
- 22 A. I can go anywhere I want to go with the people I- get -people's when- people -say I-- get the
23 papers for them and they say number 5, number 2, so I take the papers up to the people's
24 drive and put it down there and go back to the house and have a coffee and feed the
25 cockatiels.
- 26 Q. So, in the house you're living at now, do you have freedom to do what you want?
- 27 A. Yeah.
- 28 Q. Is that important to you?
- 29 A. Yeah. They don't run my life, I just go out -- if I want to go fishing, but I haven't been
30 fishing for a long time, been busy working with horses, I had to let them know, I have to
31 finish this two weeks from today, but they don't run my life, I like going out visiting people
32 like Derek and Rebecca, sometimes I go out to Lyttelton and from Lyttelton to Diamond
33 Harbour, and then out to Quail Island.

- 1 **Q.** And did you have that freedom at Templeton?
- 2 **A.** No.
- 3 **Q.** How does it make you feel to have that freedom?
- 4 **A.** It's just perfect, how I want it.
- 5 **Q.** So, if you look back at your time at [GRO-C]-- --
- 6 **A.** Yeah.
- 7 **Q.** -- and at Templeton --
- 8 **A.** Yes.
- 9 **Q.** -- what do you think the impact has been on you, what are the bad things you still carry
10 with you from that time?
- 11 **A.** It gives me bad memories of it.
- 12 **Q.** Okay, so you have bad memories?
- 13 **A.** Yeah. And stress, putting up with it.
- 14 **Q.** Stress, tell me about the stress?
- 15 **A.** When I'm asleep and I always think about [GRO-C] and--- all that, and Templeton, it's like
16 a shit place.
- 17 **Q.** Yeah. So, at night time?
- 18 **A.** Mmm.
- 19 **Q.** Does it stop you sleeping sometimes?
- 20 **A.** Yeah.
- 21 **Q.** If you get a bad temper now, what do you do?
- 22 **A.** Just go for a bike ride, cool down.
- 23 **Q.** Right, that's good. And do you sometimes smash up your own things?
- 24 **A.** Sometimes I do, yeah.
- 25 **Q.** Why do you think you do that?
- 26 **A.** Because I get pissed off with them and I think I'll smash something, then after I smash it I'll
27 go out for a walk.
- 28 **Q.** Right, yeah. Those bad feelings --
- 29 **A.** Yeah.
- 30 **Q.** -- or bad temper --
- 31 **A.** Yeah.
- 32 **Q.** -- are they more now or less now since you've left Templeton?
- 33 **A.** It's less.

- 1 **Q.** Less?
- 2 **A.** Yeah.
- 3 **Q.** So, you feel better now?
- 4 **A.** Yeah.
- 5 **Q.** Right. All those bad things that happened at [GRO-C] and-- Templeton.-
- 6 **A.** Yeah.
- 7 **Q.** Nobody's ever apologised, have they?
- 8 **A.** No.
- 9 **Q.** And nobody's ever given you any money?
- 10 **A.** No. There's only one staff I like, it's Chris Connor, he's one of the good staff.
- 11 **Q.** Was that at New Zealand Care?
- 12 **A.** At Templeton.
- 13 **Q.** What do you think should happen now that people understand that bad things happened at
14 Templeton, what do you think should happen?
- 15 **A.** I think the person that causes it should be put in jail for the rest of their life. And I think it's
16 a bloody good place, I don't want to see them.
- 17 **Q.** What do you think the Government should do to make sure things like this don't happen
18 again?
- 19 **A.** They can tell them that they are not allowed to see where I am and find where I'm going.
20 I just don't want to see their faces.
- 21 **Q.** Do you mean the people who used to work at Templeton?
- 22 **A.** Yeah.
- 23 **Q.** Some of the people who hurt you at Templeton, are they have-- they since died?
- 24 **A.** I think he has; I don't see him now. But I said to the staff I hope they die.
- 25 **Q.** Right. If you could sit in a room with the people who hurt you, what would you say to
26 them?
- 27 **A.** I'd just tell them to stop doing things to people like molesting them and getting into their
28 pants and touching them up.
- 29 **Q.** Would it make you feel better if you could tell them that?
- 30 **A.** Yeah.
- 31 **Q.** What do you think the Government should do?
- 32 **A.** The Beehive should tell those people to pull their fingers out their arses, buck their ideas up
33 and do a better job themselves, because I don't want nothing to do with them.

- 1 **Q.** People who are looking after people who have got learning disabilities like you?
- 2 **A.** Yeah.
- 3 **Q.** How should they be treating people like you?
- 4 **A.** They treat me like shit.
- 5 **Q.** They do treat you like shit, but how should they treat people like you?
- 6 **A.** They should treat them normally.
- 7 **Q.** When you say, "treat them normally", what do you mean?
- 8 **A.** Help them out.
- 9 **Q.** Help them out?
- 10 **A.** And be kind to them.
- 11 **Q.** And be kind. What else helps?
- 12 **A.** They should take them out for a drive and shout them an ice cream and all that.
- 13 **Q.** Take them out for a drive, shout them an ice cream?
- 14 **A.** Yeah, and milkshake.
- 15 **Q.** Tony, are you telling us that you want to be treated just like anyone else --
- 16 **A.** Yeah.
- 17 **Q.** -- in New Zealand?
- 18 **A.** Yeah, that's right. And just be myself.
- 19 **Q.** You want to be yourself?
- 20 **A.** Yeah.
- 21 **Q.** Do you want the people who care for you to understand that Tony Ryder wants to be
- 22 himself?
- 23 **A.** Yeah. That's my favourite thing, and I like doing other things for people just like gardening
- 24 and all that, that's my favourite job, they asked me to do New Zealand Care, I said, "No."
- 25 **Q.** Do you have a job now that you're living at New Zealand Care house?
- 26 **A.** Yeah.
- 27 **Q.** Who do you work for?
- 28 **A.** I work for Treena Jordan and Marguerite and John Boyd.
- 29 **Q.** And what do you do?
- 30 **A.** I do the cleaning- out the stables and then I do -the wash-- out the water and then when they
- 31 come back in, around the track six times, I tie the horse up. And you got to be careful with
- 32 horses, if you don't, they can kick you. I've already had my toe broken two times.
- 33 **Q.** You got your broken tooth from it?

- 1 A. No, broken toe.
- 2 Q. Oh, broken toe.
- 3 A. They stood on it with a horseshoe.
- 4 Q. In your spare time what do you like doing?
- 5 A. I like, in my spare time I like going fishing. Not Brighton or Sumner, I go over towards
6 Lyttelton, before there's a place like the marae, I go fishing there. And there's graveyards.
- 7 Q. Do you go fishing as much as you would like?
- 8 A. Mmm.
- 9 Q. Is there sometimes a problem with going fishing because you don't have money?
- 10 A. Yeah.
- 11 Q. Yeah.
- 12 A. I need money to go fishing, I catch the bus. Sometimes I catch the bus, sometimes I bike
13 up the bridle path to the top and then go down to Lyttelton and go to the shop and then head
14 around and do fish, I buy bait.
- 15 Q. If you had more money from the Government, would you go fishing more?
- 16 A. Yeah.
- 17 Q. Would that help you?
- 18 A. Yeah.
- 19 Q. Is there anything else you would like to say on camera --
- 20 A. Yeah.
- 21 Q. -- about your life experience, particularly at Templeton?
- 22 A. It's like a hole, a hole of a place. I wouldn't even dare go there because it's like a place that
23 they can pick on you and upset you or whack you and then punch you in the stomach, and
24 all that, and give you black eyes, because I already copped that then I had a broken arm out
25 of it from Templeton and I hated it, one bit of it.
- 26 Q. And is there anything else you'd like to say?
- 27 A. I just don't want nothing to do with Templeton staff anymore, I want my own I've-- got my
28 own life to run, and I feel different, I enjoy it, thank you.
- 29 Q. Tony, why is it that you wanted to tell your story to the Commission?
- 30 A. I think that the Commission should do something about [GRO-C] and [GRO-C]
31 Templeton---- and [GRO-C] I-- think that should be put on TV to let everyone see it, and
32 do something about it, and deal with those staff they can call them in and talk to them why
33 they done that at Templeton and- been that long."

- 1 **MS BASIRE:** So that's the end of the pre-record and Mr Ryder is happy to take questions.
- 2 **COMMISSIONER GIBSON:** Thank you, Tony. It's such a honour to hear your story, it's great
3 that New Zealand's getting to hear your story, you're still good for us to ask you some
4 questions?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 **Q.** Okay, Commissioner Shaw, would you like to ask?
- 7 **CHAIR:** Hello, Tony.
- 8 A. Hello.
- 9 **Q.** Thank you for that story that you've told us, it just held us all spellbound and you've just
10 taught us a great deal today. I've just got one question. And it's to do with the impact on
11 you of the terrible things that happened to you while you were in care. And you've told us
12 that you feel have- bad memories and that sometimes you can't sleep, - or you think about it
13 when you're asleep. Is that right?
- 14 A. Yeah, exactly right.
- 15 **Q.** So, I'm just wondering, have you ever had a chance to talk to somebody about this impact,
16 like a counsellor or anybody to talk about the stress that you've suffered from those bad
17 things?
- 18 A. No, I haven't, not yet I haven't, I need to speak to someone.
- 19 **Q.** Yeah, yes. Would you like to talk to somebody to try and help you deal with that stress that
20 you're feeling?
- 21 A. Yes, please.
- 22 **Q.** Okay. Well, look, I haven't got any other questions. Thank you very much again.
- 23 A. Thank you.
- 24 **COMMISSIONER GIBSON:** Questions from me, Tony. You like biking and you like fishing.
- 25 A. Yes.
- 26 **Q.** Did you get to do any biking around Templeton?
- 27 A. Yeah, I enjoyed every bit.
- 28 **Q.** When you were in Templeton you were allowed to bike as well, were you?
- 29 A. Yeah.
- 30 **Q.** That's good to hear.
- 31 A. I used to bike from the bottom end to the top end, around the villas, and I used to go fast.
- 32 **Q.** If you were getting some counselling, somebody to help you sleep better and do other
33 things that help you recover from what happened to you --

- 1 A. Yeah.
- 2 Q. -- what kind of person would it be, would you like somebody who would go fishing with
3 you, or how would that make you want to do that, help tell what happened?
- 4 A. I like going fishing with a guy called Derek who works out at (inaudible), we went down
5 south, and we enjoyed it. That's my favourite, I like catching salmon.
- 6 Q. I like salmon.
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Do you sleep better, do you feel much better after you've been fishing with Derek?
- 9 A. Yeah, we have a great time.
- 10 Q. Maybe we should maybe-- the Government should make sure you get more chances to do
11 that, do you think?
- 12 A. Yeah, I agree.
- 13 Q. Yeah, it's so good to hear, Tony. I'll ask Commissioner Steenson if she has any questions.
- 14 A. Yeah.
- 15 **COMMISSIONER STEENSON:** Hello, Tony. Nice to meet you.
- 16 A. Good to meet you too.
- 17 Q. I just have one question for you.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. It's really encouraging to hear that you're enjoying your freedom and the life you've got
20 now.
- 21 A. Yeah.
- 22 Q. Can you tell us a little bit more about how you might be even more supported?
- 23 A. Supported yeah-, I just want to have my own (inaudible) plan to go fishing, I haven't been
24 for a long time, used to fish at Lyttelton-, but I miss that. But I've still got my rods and
25 I plan on going out maybe on Saturday when it's fine, there's a bus out there, then I'll take
26 my bike.
- 27 Q. Great, that's great. Thank you. Well, I just want to, on behalf of the Royal Commission
28 say thank you to you, Tony. Thank you for your statement and speaking about your
29 experiences of abuse in the homes and institutions that you stayed in. Thank you for your
30 courage in speaking about it at this hearing and telling us about your thoughts for the future
31 and what the Government should do. Thank you so much.
- 32 A. Yeah.
- 33 Q. We understand that you're going to have a bit of a celebration now; is that right?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. That's great.

3 A. Too right, yeah.

4 Q. You have a wonderful time and thank you again, all the best, take care.

5 A. Thank you. Thank you very much. Cheers.

6 **COMMISSIONER GIBSON:** Thanks, Tony, you deserve that celebration.

7 A. Thank you.

8 **COMMISSIONER GIBSON:** Now afternoon teatime. Ms Basire, can I just check on what time
9 we need to be back?

10 **MS BASIRE:** We have enough time to take 15 minutes, quarter to 4 actually, 20 minutes.

11 **COMMISSIONER GIBSON:** Thank you.

12 **Adjournment from 3.24 pm to 3.47 pm**