

A Formal complaint to Central Scotland Police (Family Unit Bannockburn) regarding allegations of physical and sexual abuse of pupils at Queen Victoria School Dunblane between 1989 & 1992

<u>Bookmark Description (pdf)</u>	<u>Index of Contents, Page 1 (This Page)</u>	
	<u>From page to page.</u>	
Explanatory note including the background of the complaint	2	3
Submissions to Lord Gill as Commissioner of Q.V.S.	4	12
Terms of Reference	13	13
Report re the Abuse & Bullying of Children at Q.V.S.	14	65
Squire Liddell correspondence	66	75
First letter to Commissioners & Responses	76	80
Second letter to Commissioners & Responses	81	101
Ogilvie, Boal, & Ure Evidence transcripts	102	110
Correspondence with Lord Advocate	111	121
“Cullen Uncovered”	122	127
Lord George Robertson	128	135
Complaint Inchmoan Camp	136	137
Telephone Notes of T. Minogue	138	139
Board of Governors QVS & Correspondence log	140	145
The Grand Lodge of Scotland	146	
E-mail Addendum to the Lord Gill complaint	147	150
Letter of response from Lord Gill (6 th June 03)	151	
Final letter to Lord Gill (7 th June 03)	152	153
Formal Complaint to Elish Angiolini, Solicitor General	154	
Solicitor General’s rejection of Formal Complaint	155	156
Acknowledgement of Solicitor General’s rejection	157	159
Request that the Solicitor General reconsider the complaint	160	
Solicitor Generals’s instruction to take complaint to police	161	
Letter advising Solicitor General of my complaint to police	162	163

Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terr.
Dunfermline
FIFE
KY12 0LU
Tel:01383 729869
E-mail: tomminogue@btinternet.com

The Officer in Charge
Central Scotland Police Family Unit
Bannockburn Police Office
Stirling

Monday 29th September 03

Dear Sir or Madam:

Formal complaint regarding the physical and sexual abuse of pupils at Queen Victoria School Dunblane between 1989 and 1992. (Explanatory Note)

I would be obliged if you would accept the enclosed dossier and two CD copies of same which detail allegations made to me by an ex-housemaster of Queen Victoria School Dunblane.

By way of explanation:

About the time I heard these allegations I was invited by the Justice 2 Committee of the Scottish Parliament to submit examples of cases where freemasonry had influenced court proceedings and I researched the Dunblane Inquiry and cited it as such an example.

In the course of my Dunblane research I had become aware of allegations made by the ex-housemaster on a website called "Eurorealist" which contained an article entitled "Cullen Uncovered". The article contained a letter from an unnamed person associated with Queen Victoria School, which claimed that he had reported allegations of abuse of boys at the school to the M.O.D. and that these allegations had not been investigated properly.

The anonymous letter writer also claimed that there was a link between paedophilia, freemasonry, and Thomas Hamilton the mass murderer at the school.

I was interested in this claim, which had been openly displayed for several years and an acquaintance of mine contacted the ex-housemaster who I in turn contacted. The ex-housemaster was called Glenn Harrison and lived in Unst, Shetland. I exchanged telephone calls, e-mails, and letters with Glenn Harrison before visiting him this year.

The most disturbing aspect of Glenn Harrison's story was his account of young boys in his charge being taken away for weekends with various people some of who abused the boys.

I believe that the allegations made are truthful and felt that I must make my concerns known to the authorities but I did not think it appropriate to complain to the police as they featured in Glenn Harrison's complaint.

I decided to accept an offer made by a Commissioner of the school Lord Gill the Lord Justice Clerk to make my concerns known to him. However Lord Gill thought that the best people to examine a claim of impropriety at the school in 1989 were the same people who had been in charge of the school at the time of the allegations and I found this unsatisfactory.

I advise Lord Gill that I would take my complaint to the Solicitor General for Scotland Elish Angiolini who indicated that the Family Unit of Central Scotland Police was the appropriate body to deal with it.

I would be obliged if you would consider investigating the abuse of boys at Queen Victoria School.

I would of course be willing to provide any clarification or help that is required in this regard.

Yours faithfully,

Thomas Minogue.

C.C. Pagans.

Enclosures: 1 Bound dossier, 2 CD copys.

Lord Gill, Lord Justice Clerk
Parliament House
EDINBURGH
EH1 1RQ

Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
Thursday 24th April

Dear Sir,

Complaint regarding events at Queen Victoria School 1989-1992

With reference to your letter of 6th March^{*1} I would accept your offer that I make known to you my concerns regarding matters relating to the Queen Victoria School.

I am aware that you are, by virtue of your office a Commissioner of the school, and though you were not a Commissioner at the time of the alleged matters of concern you are in a position to instigate an investigation into past matters. This may be necessary, as I have found a lack of willingness on the part of the current President of the Commissioners, the Past President, and most Commissioners of the school during the period 1998-1992 to treat seriously allegations that have been made to me by an ex-housemaster at QVS.

Circumstances leading to my investigation of the ex-housemaster's complaint.

In February 2003 as a petitioner to the Scottish Parliament I was asked by the Justice 2 Committee to provide evidence of specific instances where a Judges/Sheriffs membership of the Freemasons had caused problems. As I am not alone in Scotland in perceiving the Dunblane Inquiry as a case where Masonic membership had played a part, both in the events leading up to the Inquiry and during the Inquiry-I cited this as a case in point.

Many newspaper stories and Internet articles have dealt with the supposed Masonic influence of Thomas Hamilton having allowed him to obtain licences for firearms against police advice. Another theory commonly broadcast is that Hamilton's connections to prominent figures in public life had allowed him access to Queen Victoria School Dunblane and that these facts had been instrumental in Lord Cullen (a Mason) imposing an illegal 100-year ban on documents relating to Hamilton's activities prior to the shootings^{*2}. I decided to research these assertions.

I contacted an ex-housemaster at QVS who was reported to have made numerous complaints about bullying and abuse of pupils at QVS between 1989 and 1992. A website carried a letter from the ex-housemaster which alleged that one regular and apparently influential visitor to the school between 1989 and 1992 was Thomas Hamilton the Dunblane killer. The ex-housemaster confirmed this fact in a telephone conversation^{*3} and also claimed that the MOD (HM Commissioners), Scottish Office, Procurator Fiscal, and Stirling Council would not act on his complaints. The ex-housemaster also believed that Freemasonry had been a factor in the unreported abuse of pupils at QVS and also had adversely influenced the investigation of his complaints.

I have been able to independently corroborate 3 of the 4 main allegations made by the housemaster, namely that:

1/ Thomas Hamilton was a frequent, and influential visitor to QVS.

*1 See letter from Marlene Olsen page 11.

*2 See Euro-realist Internet article page 120—125.

*3 See Telephone Notes 132—133.

2/ Numerous complaints about bullying and abuse were made by the housemaster to various authorities to no avail because of the lack of a thorough investigation by the authorities.

3/ H M Commissioners ignored or were in ignorance of the above two facts.

Allegation 1: Thomas Hamilton & Friends of QVS.

1. Many visitors who the ex-housemaster described as “toffs” would arrive at the school and some of these visitors would take boys home for weekends.
2. Visitors to the school had access to the grounds and buildings within the school, which concerned him for fear that these apparently unauthorised visitors, might abduct a pupil.
3. He had challenged visitors who were not known to him and had complained to the headmaster about the presence of these individuals only to be told that these people were “Friends of Queen Victoria School” and were to be left alone.
4. Because of his concerns he suggested the issue of photographic passes for authorised personnel.
5. Boys who had spent weekends with some of the “Friends” would come back in a disturbed state of mind.
6. One pupil tried to hang himself after being buggered and this was hushed up.
7. He later found out that one regular visitor who, frequented the firing range, had watched naked primary level boys in the shower area, on dress parade, and visited teachers in their quarters was Thomas Hamilton the Dunblane killer.
8. Lord Cullen and George Robertson were mentioned by name as being visitors.
9. The ex-housemaster felt that if his complaints had been heeded and acted upon the massacre at Dunblane might not have happened given that Thomas Hamilton was well known to the police at this time.

Independent Corroboration

I had initially thought that the Queen Victoria School did not feature in the Dunblane Inquiry. However it is a matter of record that substantive evidence regarding Thomas Hamilton’s association with Queen Victoria School was given by three separate and unconnected witnesses to the Inquiry*¹

In her unchallenged evidence on **Day 3, Grace Jones Ogilvie** Hamilton’s neighbour told of how Thomas Hamilton organised and carried out **camping expeditions** for his boys clubs at Loch Lomondside and **Queen Victoria School**. Grace Jones Ogilvie also spoke of Hamilton showing her videos of what he described to her as “my boys”.

In his unchallenged evidence on **Day 14, Ian Steven Boal**, an undergraduate sports student, told of how in 1995 **Thomas Hamilton had used his influence at Queen Victoria School** to obtain him (Boal) a part time teaching position at the school.

In his unchallenged evidence on **Day 18, Robert Mark Ure** a neighbour of Hamilton told of how he wished to contact Stirling Rifle and Pistol Club as his wife who had been **to the rifle range at Queen Victoria School with Thomas Hamilton**, had embezzled money from the club. Hamilton had said that the Stirling Rifle and Pistol Club was not a static building and its address might have been in his mail.

*1/ Ogilvie pages 100--102, Boal pages 103--105, Ure pages 106--108.

None of the three independent witnesses to Hamilton's involvement with, and influence at Queen Victoria School were cross-examined or questioned further by the legal representatives of any of the parties represented. Lord Cullen did not ask any further questions of these three witnesses and there is no mention of Thomas Hamilton's involvement with the Queen Victoria School in Lord Cullen's Report.

Conclusion.

I found the ex-housemasters allegations regarding the presence of Thomas Hamilton at Queen Victoria School Dunblane convincing. In my opinion he was truthful and the evidence of the above three witnesses regarding Thomas Hamilton corroborates my impression of his veracity and suggests that he should have been heeded when he complained at the lack of proper procedures, and the climate of fear that pervaded the school.

That (between 1989 and 1996) an unemployed man known to the police of three forces (Central, Lothian & Borders, and Strathclyde) for numerous instances of unsavoury and threatening behaviour towards adults and children had the run of a Boarding School for young boys beggars belief.

That such a man, who was also known to the police for incidents involving firearms was allowed to bear arms within the school unbeknown to the school's guardians is truly unbelievable. It also begs the question as to what, or who Thomas Hamilton knew to allow him these extraordinary privileges?

Hamilton, while shooting on the range at Queen Victoria School obviously carried firearms and ammunition within the school. The possibility of Thomas Hamilton running amok at QVS must have been real, but is something that the Cullen Report does not consider or mention.

Allegation No 2: Numerous complaints about bullying and abuse being made to various authorities to no avail because of the lack of a thorough investigation.

1. The ex-housemaster told me of how he had made numerous complaints about bullying and abuse to: HM Commissioners of Queen Victoria School, The Educational Institute of Scotland, The Social Services Department of Stirling Council, and the children's parents, whilst he was at the school These complaints were not thoroughly investigated ^{*1}
2. After leaving the school he complained to The Patron, The Press, Esther Rantzen, Roger Cook, etc, and when he moved to Shetland to work he pursued his complaints through his local MP, Jim Wallace, and these complaints were not thoroughly investigated.
3. The housemaster felt sure that once his specific allegations of bullying and abuse were taken seriously, welfare staff with expertise in sexual abuse would identify such matters, which he had broadly categorised as abuse. The housemaster said he was sure that his complaints would be taken seriously by someone if he persevered, and in all he complained to dozens of different sources to no avail.
4. The ex-housemaster told of how his complaining eventually led him and his wife to protest by refusing to take their places at a dinner, which was attended by HRH Prince Andrew. This in turn led to a showdown with the outcome being that the ex-housemaster gave notice that he was terminating his employment.

^{*1} Report of bullying and abuse at QVS and addendum pages 12--63

5. During the notice period that the ex-housemaster worked he felt that his safety and the safety of his family was threatened and he sent his family away from the on-site flat accommodation provided by the school. In this period while the ex-housemaster was in Stirling the police broke down the door of his flat with a sledgehammer and removed documents relating to his complaints some of which were never returned. On his return to the school the ex-housemaster was taken by police to Stirling and held for questioning by detectives from Edinburgh. Despite his repeated requests for an explanation of these events none has been provided to this day.

Independent corroboration of the ex-housemasters allegation that he had made numerous complaints of allegations of bullying and abuse at Queen Victoria School Dunblane all to no avail due to the lack of a thorough investigation by the authorities.

The evidence of the ex-housemaster's allegations of abuse and bullying at Queen Victoria School Dunblane can be seen in the appended supporting documentation. Within this documentation it can be seen that the then Minister of State for Education, Lord James Douglas-Hamilton confirms that the ex-housemaster was **not** consulted in any way regarding the complaints he had made. Nor were the parents of the pupils consulted. It therefore goes without saying that a thorough investigation **did not** take place. The fact that almost all of the Commissioners to this day are unaware that any investigation had taken place is further evidence to suggest that whatever investigation did take place was not thorough.

Conclusion.

I found the ex-housemasters evidence regarding his numerous complaints of abuse and bullying at Queen Victoria School Dunblane receiving no thorough investigation convincing. I can understand why he was reluctant to clearly voice his concern regarding sexual abuse until he saw that professionals were involved. He was in my opinion truthful and the content from some of the documentation retained by him together with reference to Hansard corroborates my impression of his veracity, to say nothing of his conscientiousness and professionalism. The fact that the ex-housemaster continued to complain up to 1994 and renewed his complaints in 1996 when Thomas Hamilton was identified to him also speaks volumes for his tenacity and integrity.

The fact that only four of the 16 Commissioners and staff contacted who were at the school at the time are even aware that complaints had been made and investigated confirms my view that the complaints the ex-housemaster made were not thoroughly investigated.

Allegation 3: The Commissioners Apathy/Ignorance.

The ex-housemaster told me of how despite his repeated complaints HM Commissioners (who are also the governing body of the school) ignored or were in denial of the fact that serious complaints had been made regarding the practice and procedures at Queen Victoria School Dunblane. The ex-housemaster stated that HM Commissioners were available for any dinners or social events. However, on the occasions when their presence was **really** required, such as when he had serious complaints to make, HM Commissioners made themselves scarce, or simply went through the motions.

Independent corroboration of the ex-housemasters complaints that HM Commissioners were ineffective.

Independent corroboration of the ex-housemasters allegations in this regard would be impossible other than by analogy. Therefore I would draw upon my own experiences with the Commissioners to test the ex-housemasters claims.

I have written approximately 50 e-mails and letters to Commissioners past and present in three separate mailings^{*1} which are as follows:

1/ Letters and e-mails to my MP and the current Secretary of State for Scotland in her role as President of HM Commissioners regarding the ex-housemaster's allegations.

2/ A letter to The Patron, HM Commissioners, The Commandant and the Headmaster of the school seeking to know if they knew of a group called the "Friends of QVS".

3/ A reminder letter (as only 3 replied to my first letter) to the group at 2/ above and a new letter which asked a further two questions regarding Thomas Hamilton's presence and influence in the school and what if anything was known of the allegations of abuse and bullying. This letter was also sent to Lord George Robertson who together with Lord Cullen has been named as visitors to the school.

Responses.

The response from the Secretary of State for Scotland, (Helen Liddell) and my MP (Rachel Squire) was bordering on hostile. Liddell first claiming that she would not answer, as this was a question for my MSP-it being a devolved issue. She subsequently had a change of heart and decided to answer. However, her answer was to the effect that her role was "purely formal" and as such she could not answer questions. She suggested that the current Headmaster would be the best person to answer questions.

Rachel Squire MP was equally unreceptive to my requests that she should even trouble the Secretary of State for Scotland on this matter. Even though I had explained the background to my request i.e. Hamilton and VIP's being visitors to the school, and abuse having taken place at the school, my MP was surprisingly unhelpful other than suggesting I write to the current Headmaster.

My first letter to the Patron, Commissioners, and others associated with the Queen Victoria School Dunblane asking one question regarding the existence of a group called the "friends of QVS" received a poor response. A letter from the Duke of Edinburgh's P.S. Brigadier Miles Hunt-Davis who stated that he would be looking into the matter, and one from Lord Forsyth of Drumlean suggesting I write to the Scottish Executive were the sum total of responses.

There were however several phone-calls from Commissioners which seemed to be aimed at finding out **what I knew of the affairs of the school**, rather than answering the questions that I had asked.

^{*1} See Correspondence Register at pages 134—139, Squire Liddell pages 64-73 and 1st & 2nd letters at pages 74--99.

My second letter to the Commissioners, and others associated with the Queen Victoria School Dunblane asked two further questions regarding Thomas Hamilton's presence and influence at the school, as well as asking about the complaints of bullying and abuse. The response to this letter and my reminder to the first letter, were good. However, the **terms** of the responses were disappointing and record that almost all of those trusted with the stewardship of the school know nothing of the matters I had raised.

Lord George Robertson who had been named by the ex-housemaster as a visitor to QVS wrote a very aggressive letter advising me that he had sent **my letter to the Chief Constable of Central Scotland police!**^{*1}

Conclusion

As someone who has employed many hundreds of employees over a 25 year period in business I am well aware that the legal responsibility for the pupils safety lies squarely with the "Employer" in this case the Board of Management drawn from HM Commissioners and this much at least was clarified by Lord Cullen in Section 10 of his Inquiry Report as follows:

10.15 In Scotland the employer in regard to schools is the local authority, except in the case of self-governing schools where the employer is the board of management: and in the case of independent schools where it is the proprietor. In England and Wales the position in regard to legal responsibility is different.

Given their legal responsibilities it is astonishing that the current Commissioner and President of the Board of Management, Helen Liddell abdicates any personal responsibility and indeed initially attempted to devolve her responsibilities to my MSP. When Helen Liddell did a U-turn on the devolution issue, she still maintained that she had no **actual** duties or responsibilities for Queen Victoria School, Dunblane.

A previous President, Ian Lang, states that he has no **recollection** of the matters I referred to. He **thinks** he was Honorary President, but states he had no role in the management of the school. Although he **may** have appointed some of the Commissioners, he claims he was only at the school once in almost 5 years!

Another of HM Commissioners and past President of the Board of Management, Michael Forsyth, was the man who appointed Lord Cullen to head the Dunblane Inquiry, and set the terms of reference for the Inquiry. He referred my queries to the Scottish Office, who in turn passed the matter to the Scottish Executive, who claim that Mr Forsyth knows nothing of the matters I refer to, as he did not attend board meetings.

Lord Ross, the then Lord Justice Clerk, who after the Secretary of State and General Officer Commanding, Scotland, is the senior Commissioner, was annoyed that I should ask him about matters of public interest, stating he knew nothing of the matters I referred to and insisted that I stop writing to him. Lord Ross then passed the matter to the Scottish Executive Schools Division.

I am able to confirm the main thrust of the ex-housemaster's claims **from public records** some **12 years after the event**. Yet HM Commissioners, the legally responsible guardians of the pupils, and furthermore, **managers** of the school **knew nothing (or claim to know nothing) about Thomas Hamilton's** presence and influence at the school.

*1 See Lord Robertson pages 126--129

HM Commissioners almost to a man (with a few exceptions), claim to know nothing of the allegations of bullying and abuse at the Queen Victoria School far less the investigation that supposedly took place. **Without exception they are unaware that Hamilton visited QVS!** This is testimony to the ignorance of the Commissioners.

Allegation 4: Masonic Influence.

It is the ex-Housemaster's contention that there were powerful Masonic influences at work in the Queen Victoria School. He was advised by a colleague (a Mason) that there was no point in his complaining to the authorities or the Police as the influence of Freemasonry ran through the upper echelons of the Military, Government, Law and other VIP's who were part of the elite that frequently visited the school. The lavish Commissioners Lunches that were put on for this elite were on such a scale that the school was sometimes unable to cater for all guests at one sitting and they had to be accommodated in two sittings, two weeks apart.

The failure of the police to return all of his documents after breaking his door down and taking his property convinced the ex-housemaster that the school authorities and the police were linked by Masonry, which allowed them to act above the law.

Independent Corroboration.

There is no way of corroborating evidence of Masonic influence, as it is secret. The Grand Lodge of Scotland of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons will not divulge membership of "*gentlemen who are still alive*"^{*1}.

That Masons belong to an organisation with a constitution and obligations which demand fraternal preferment is a matter of fact but without confirmation of the identity of the "brother who must prefer a brother" evidence is at best perceived or circumstantial.

Summary.

I embarked on research into the Dunblane Inquiry as a result of an invitation from the Justice 2 Committee of the Scottish Parliament who asked "*if the petitioner was able to provide evidence of further specific cases where difficulties have arisen over the question of Sheriff/Judicial membership of the freemasons.*"

When responding to the Justice 2 Committee's invitation I had no idea that my research would lead to the allegations that have surfaced regarding Thomas Hamilton's privileged position at Queen Victoria School. In my petitioning of Parliament I gained an impression of secrecy and censorship regarding anything associated with the Dunblane Inquiry.

I found this same secrecy repeated when I wished to establish if the police reports of the arrest and door breaking incidents at QVS referred to in the Headmaster's letter^{*2} to the ex-housemaster featured in any Dunblane Inquiry police reports about QVS.

The Crown Office have refused my requests and a request made through my lawyers seeking access to inspect these documents^{*3}. Furthermore the Crown Office have refused to state whether or not the Queen Victoria School features in these closed documents.

*1 See Grand Lodge of Scotland letter page 140

*2 See Correspondence at page 50 . *3 See Correspondence Lord Advocate pages 109—119.

My disappointment regarding the lack of openness of the Crown Office is added to by their recent decision to remove the **names of all witnesses** from the embargoed document Index, and from the 4 documents that have been released as well as removing the **names of schools** from these documents.

I have viewed some of the Crown Office's recently released documents and the obscuring and deleting makes these documents barely legible. *¹ It is probably now the case that the documents as censored by the Crown Office would not provide any information regarding Queen Victoria School even if it were present in the original documents.

The above actions by the Crown Office and the recent Press expose which highlighted the fact that much of the Police and Crown documentation produced at the Dunblane Inquiry was **edited** and **summarised** gives credence to the recent claims by Dr Mick North who lost his only daughter in the Dunblane massacre that:

- 1. The Crown Office has been less than open.**
- 2. The Dunblane Inquiry looks to have been a cover-up.**
- 3. The Dunblane Inquiry was nothing more than a piece of theatre.**

To avoid any further allegations of this type regarding the allegations relating to Queen Victoria School, which is linked by Thomas Hamilton to the Dunblane Inquiry, I would urge you to act with complete openness and urgency in looking into my complaint.

The matters I raise are serious ones and no less so because of the passage of time. These allegations deserve proper investigation because, if the ex-housemasters allegations of physical and sexual abuse of pupils are true the victims will now be young men who may be psychologically disturbed by the traumatic experiences in their formative years.

It is within your power to trace those pupils who attended the school at the same time as the ex-housemaster and seek confirmation or otherwise of his claims. There are other serious allegations which have been intimated to me, but I will not disclose them until I am confident that they will be treated seriously and not as the complaints of the ex-housemaster.

I would have no confidence in your impartiality to carry out or instigate any enquiry unless you give me a personal guarantee that you have not taken the oath of Entered Apprentice into Freemasonry.

I would also ask you to consider whether there is any other matter, which might be seen as influencing your impartiality.

I would also make it clear that I would be reluctant to cooperate with HM Commissioners or any branch of the Scottish Justice System in helping to further expose the activities of Thomas Hamilton at Queen Victoria School without an assurance regarding their Masonic status.

*1 See Inchmoan Island Report pages 130—131.

My position in this regard is not frivolous and is expressed clearly because I genuinely feel that to assist those who are undeclared Masons in dealing with matters which I suspect are inextricably linked with Freemasonry would be to participate in the further suppression of the truth about the circumstances leading to the Dunblane shootings.

I intend to treat this letter as an open letter detailing matters of public concern and I will distribute it in order that its contents are not suppressed in any way.

Should you require any further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.
Yours faithfully,

Thomas Minogue.

CC. Lieutenant General Sir John MacMillan, Chairman of the Board of Governors.
Brigadier Miles Hunt-Davis, P.S. to H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh.
Others.



SUPREME COURTS
MARLENE OLSEN, Personal Secretary to LJC
Parliament House
Edinburgh EH1 1RQ

Tel: 0131 240 6732

Fax: 0131 240 6704

6 March 2003

Mr. Tom Minogue,
94 Victoria Terrace,
Dunfermline,
Fife,
KY12 0LU.

Dear Mr. Minogue,

**PETITION PE 306 CALLING FOR A REGISTER OF FREEMASONS IN
THE JUDICIARY**

The Lord Justice Clerk has asked me to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 25 February and the file of documents that accompanied it, and your letter dated 4 March and the further documents that accompanied it.

The case currently before the Court concerning the Speculative Society of Edinburgh will be decided on the basis of the information submitted to the Court by the parties in the case. The Lord Justice Clerk cannot therefore take into account your own submission.

The Lord Justice Clerk is a Commissioner of Queen Victoria School, Dunblane, by virtue of his office. If there are matters relating to the School of which you think he should be aware, you are free to write to him in his capacity as a Commissioner setting out your concerns.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Marlene Olsen'.

MARLENE OLSEN
Personal Secretary To The Lord Justice Clerk

Issue No

To all authorities responsible for the care of young
people in schools and institutions

**REPORT REGARDING THE
ABUSE AND BULLYING OF
CHILDREN AT THE MOD
QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL,
DUNBLANE,
SCOTLAND.**

**GLENN HARRISON FORMER HOUSEMASTER
AND TEACHER AT QUEEN VICTORIA
SCHOOL.**

**MR G.HARRISON,
THE SCHOOLHOUSE,
UYEASOUND,
UNST,
SHETLAND ISLANDS
ZE2 9DL**

JUNE 1994

PLEASE CIRCULATE

**COPIES TO:- SOED, GTC, various regional education
councils, Scottish Parent / Teacher Council and many
other groups and organisations concerned with the
care of children.**

WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT ?

The contents of this report should be of interest to parents, teachers, educationalists, legislators and all groups and organisations concerned with the care of children and adults.

It is a story about a teacher who dared to complain within a rigid, autonomous system and the attitude of that system towards him.

It is about the rights of children, parents and teachers in our schools and institutions *to complain and be heard.*

The story raises some very serious issues that should be of concern to the European Community as a whole and should not be ignored

Are the complaints procedures within a school or institution clearly structured and defined for ALL ? Stating clearly :-

That all persons have a right to complain about unfair treatment.

The school's policy on complaints procedure.

Who can complain.

How to complain.

And answers to questions:-

Are complaints taken seriously and acted upon promptly ?

Are professionals trained to deal with different kinds of complaints ?

How are those who complain treated ?

What is our attitude toward those who feel the need to complain ?

Glenn Harrison

Contents

page

1. A personal report about the situation and conditions at the Queen Victoria School (QVS), Dunblane.
13. A letter from a concerned teacher to parents.
17. Sketch
18. Letter from the SOED Minister of Education.
20. Letter from the Ombudsman, Parliamentary Commissioner.
22. Reply to Ombudsman - letter to J Wallace MP (in part).
24. Copy of the letter from the European Parliament.
26. Reply to the European Parliament.
30. Sketch
31. A typical newspaper report denying Bullying at QVS.
32. Recent letter from the SOED
33. Sketch
34. QVS revision word-puzzle
35. A final note to parents and guardians
36. letter from the headmaster explaining what had happened in the school since I left, written to me directly as a result of the action of my MP (by request of the MOD).

QVS REPORT

A report concerning the conditions and circumstances at the Queen Victoria School, a Boarding school for the sons of Scottish servicemen and women.

Issue: the care of children in schools and boarding schools.

Place: The Queen Victoria School (QVS), Dunblane, M.O.D. establishment, 1902 UNTIL April 1992.

Time period: August 1989 to December 1991

Headmaster: Mr. Julian Harkinson

address: The Queen Victoria School, Dunblane, Scotland, FK15 0JY

Chief Commissioner: IAN LANG MP, Secretary of State for Scotland.

Commissioners: Several men composed the body of appointed Commissioners -

Her Majesty's Commissioners (from various professional backgrounds, some ex-teachers/heads, headmasters and ex-HMIs. Some of them held similar positions in other schools in Scotland).

Since leaving the school and the publication of the HMI's first report I have endeavored to work through official channels for my case to be heard. My MP, Mr J Wallace, has taken the matter to the Ombudsman (Parliamentary Commissioner, [PC]) and I took the case to the European Parliament (petition 232/93) in March 1993; the results of these enquiry, are unsatisfactory to say the least. (enclosed)

I shall explain clearly and as concisely as possible what happened leading up to my final departure from QVS on the 12.12.91; these are brief details.

REASON TO COMPLAIN

1. I was appointed as teacher to QVS in the summer of 1989 to teach physics and set up electronics for S5 and S6; in the November of that year I was appointed as housemaster of Cunningham House caring for about 60 boys between 11 and 15; I had worked in a boys boarding school for five years before this and had some substantial experience. As time went by I became increasingly unhappy about the emotional and psychological welfare of the boys and the general conditions in the school. I thought the MOD would offer the best care of all but it slowly dawned on me that I was sadly mistaken. I had complained along with other staff about certain incidents and conditions, both verbally and in hand-writing to the headmaster; the complaints took the form of notes, type-written letters or simply verbal communications. The complaints were so frequent they seem to become the order of the day - and no one seemed alarmed anymore. There were many personal notes to the headmaster. The atmosphere was not that of a happy establishment; boys afraid to walk along the school corridor, clinging, petrified to the walls; children living in fear everyday and afraid of being ridiculed for cowardice; boys attacked in their beds while sleeping by older boys who came 'to punish them'; not just bullying but protection rackets, a regime which some boys and some staff called "TRADITION" and quite normal; used, filled condoms found in the toilets at 02:20, after an older boy and a younger boy scuttled away down the corridor [x2 occasions]; I placed the condoms in an envelope and put it on the head's desk first thing next morning - no response etc etc... An exaggeration? I am

talking about serious bullying, serious bruising and who knows how much deep emotional damage done especially to the young primary children.

REALISATION OF DEEPER UNDERLYING PROBLEMS

2. I spent much time in the House office in the early hours of the morning when boys felt free to come to me with their problems and fears. I have four children of my own (and two grand daughters) and I have had experience in counselling adolescents but I was unprepared to deal with this, I felt inadequate. I found it hard to interpret what the boys were trying to tell me, the para-language, but something was very wrong indeed - I started to feel afraid myself, mainly because I was responsible and had no one to turn to for help and advice. The voice of my experience and intuition told me 'all was not well !' and something must be done.

ATTITUDE OF OTHER STAFF

3. (see the 1st and 2nd reports)

Some staff knew little of other schools and conditions, their experience was limited. I had been around and I could compare standards. One member of staff told me that QVS was 'normal and healthy' for a boys school and if I told anyone about the conditions in the school he would sue me personally; he also said I would breach the Official Secrets Act and be liable to prison and prosecution ! (sadly this member of staff died of a heart attack and subsequent head injury, after a fall from a ladder December 1993). Reports available from the SOED.

TELL THE SCHOOL BOARD, THE PTA ! WHAT SCHOOL BOARD ? WHAT PTA ?

4. I contacted one of the parents and suggested she form an active PTA to help, but no response. Parents were afraid even to come and speak to me; on several occasions I had to cajole parents to come up to the House office for a cup of tea and a chat; some were often very nervous. Some of the parents were on secret missions (SAS) and I could understand the need for security, but I felt the atmosphere provided cover for other clandestine actions as well ! I once asked a worker in the administration what the headmaster did with all the notes from housemasters. I was told he files them all away. As I was walking out of the door the administrator shouted "in the bin !". So most of the complaints will be denied, no doubt. The reader will no doubt get a different story from the school (if you write and get a reply !) and which story you believe is your choice of course.

There was no real mechanism for change and update. This shows what can happen when parents are excluded from schools, either directly or indirectly for whatever reason.

GRAND DAY - THE DAY I RESIGNED (19,6,91)

5. On the final day of the summer term, Grand Day, (after a sleepless busy night): Prince Andrew was the guest speaker and this was a very important occasion. To cut a long story short I was unable to make it to lunch because I was delayed doing my work and this displeased the burser, Brigadier Tweedy, who became publically very loud and rude towards me; I had my job to do and had genuinely delayed, what with Glenn Garrys.

uniforms and kilts to ensure the boys were smart and ready for the parade, but it was one of those days, I replied with equal vehemence to the Brigadier; but this was not the cause of my resignation as some believe; the underlying reasons were far more serious and profound, I was unhappy with the whole pastoral set up; the incident with the brigadier could be said to have tipped the balance and I wrote a rather rushed over polite resignation not having much time to think.

I WAS ABSENT FROM THE LUNCH AND THE GRAND TOUR OF THE SCHOOL WITH PRINCE ANDREW - MANAGEMENT'S REACTION

6. My resignation was accepted without question and the headmaster suggested I leave the school AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, my wife thought we had until the end of the next term and she was more devastated than I was, she was in shock, and I had to hold her all night, There was no sympathy - it totally unprofessional and unnecessary to treat us in this way. If the headmaster had listened with a sympathetic ear and taken SERIOUS note of my complaints, throughout my period as housemaster, the whole matter could have been diffused and change could have been implemented in an equal but less dramatic way - being heard was a problem all staff shared. My contract stated quite clearly that as a housemaster I must give at least one terms notice and I would not break my side of the bargain; before this the headmaster strongly and seriously suggested that I get out of the flat by August (six weeks), (all verbal). I explained that my contract stated quite clearly 'one term's notice' at least; the headmaster then said that October was the end of term (actually half term break, not the end of term at all). He played with ideas and called them *scenarios*, one idea was for me to leave as soon as possible and I would be paid until the end of September - then out completely ! But it was some days later when the headmaster acknowledged the conditions of my contract.

My wife and I felt we were unnecessarily bullied !

7. I had committed it seems the unforgivable sin - what was that ? Assaulted a child ? Stole the house accounts ? Assaulted a member of staff ? None of these - the 'crime' was to insult the PR of the school by failing to turn up at the lunch with the VIP on that day. One is tempted to ask what sort of values the management embraced. Maybe it was a good excuse to get rid of this complaining member of staff ? I was never rude to the headmaster, honest perhaps - maybe I should have been rude ?

PERSONAL GRUDGES ?

8. It would seem from this that I was at odds with the Brigadier Tweedy and the headmaster - that was not the case at all ! The Brigadier and the headmaster were usually very kind and sympathetic colleagues and I had/nothing personal against them. I had never done anything, (as far as I know) to offend them before and always worked in harmony with their wishes; the headmaster's testimonial given to me seven days before I departed is evidence of this; but I offended them most seriously and they were most unsympathetic to me. (copy of testimonial enclosed)

SELF ANALYSIS AND TIME TO THINK

9. Over the summer holidays that followed I had time to think and evaluate my real underlying reasons for resigning and graphed out what I thought should be done in order to improve the school; maybe I would have had chance to voice my views to one of the appointed Commissioners as soon as I returned in August, but I was never approached - that never happened. I had a whole term to face and in that time to get another job and indeed somewhere to live, I could have just left and said nothing but I had read the Child Act of 1989 among other things and realised that I could not leave without doing something to make the school a better place for the boys knowing that a so-called formal complaint would be soon forgotten and lost. I asked myself: who am I really accountable to? I am a parent and I thought I would like to know how my son was treated.

ULTIMATELY WE ARE AS TEACHERS ACTING IN LOCO-PARENTIS, ACCOUNTABLE TO PARENTS AND PUPILS.

10. I saw those boys from the moment they got up in the morning to the last thing at night; so I know what went on in the school! Not merely the outward typical PR image as pictured in the BBC2 programme 40-MINUTES about QVS school (1991), but the real hidden circumstances.

It slowly dawned on me that in order to make real permanent changes in the school I had to bring in the parents!

IN ORDER TO BRING ABOUT A REAL CHANGE I DECIDED TO WRITE TO PARENTS AND INFORM THEM OF WHAT WAS HAPPENING TO THEIR SONS.

I would go out with a bang but ultimately I would bring real, wholesome beneficial change. I was not the only member of staff that was unhappy with the treatment of the children; many complaints from all staff were largely ignored and getting a private audience with one of Her Majesty's Commissioners was like seeing a Swiss Red Cross representative in a Nazi prison camp; they were shadowed so closely by the headmaster and the Brigadier.

THE DANGER OF COMPLACENCY - WARNINGS

11. The HMI warn teachers about the dangers of complacency regarding complaints of bullying (*Action on Bullying*, issued to schools by the SOED), and now I accuse the SOED of being complacent themselves. The letter to parents only quoted examples of the kind of bullying and abuse that went on, not the full story; serious bullying and abuse had been going on for years, (in the 1950s, although it is doubtful if there is access to a file on this!) and as far as I know parents as a whole have not had a chance to speak out about my letter, some may never have seen it!

THE FINAL DECISION

12. One of the last communications I had from the headmaster came on the morning of the 9th of December; the headmaster called to me across the school courtyard: "No more notes, please!!". The complaints system had effectively closed down. After the rather heated discussion with a fellow

housemaster who threatened to sue me if spoke out about the conditions in the school, I made my final decision to post the letter to parents I had thought of weeks before. I posted the personal letter to parents, (at my own expense), on the 11,12,91; the letter arrived to some of the parents on the 13,12,91.

THE.....HITS THE FAN !

13. On the day I knew that some of the letters were to arrive, I set up an incident desk in the flat. I had two phonecalls from outraged distressed parents before I was cut off.

14. Not all parents received the letters; those parents in the UK, perhaps but those addressed to Germany and abroad were probably intercepted and never arrived; I suspect that parents were commanded by superior officers not to read them; possibly an OS ACT threat.

BREAKDOWN OF TIME AND INCIDENTS - FRIDAY THE 13th OF DECEMBER 1991

15. I was serving my notice to the end of December and was resident teacher and housemaster, having tenancy of the flat until the 31st of December 1991; the term was due to end on the following monday and I, as housemaster, should have been there until each boy from Cunningham House had safely departed, last boy would go on the Tuesday lunch time the 17th. As housemaster it was my responsibility to ensure all arrangements for travel were made and that boys received cash, passports, railtickets and air tickets to travel safely home for the Christmas period. The house accounts, passports and tickets were my responsibility rather than my property, as I was still housemaster. My wife and my family had moved to our house in Banffshire at precisely 07-30 that morning of the 13,10,91 and I was hoping to stay behind to complete my duties according to my contract. On that crucial day when the letter arrived I was not teaching; about 13-15hrs I received a strange internal phonecall, which sounded like a bear growling, which got louder and louder; there were other strange calls also; I was quite afraid; a stone hit my flat window with some force but as far as I know nothing was broken and I was not sure which window it was, but I felt afraid.

16. At about 13-35hrs I phoned the porter to tell him that I would be going out of the buildings, because I felt threatened, and that I would return after tea when it became dark. An interview with porter who took the call will confirm this. I made no comment whatsoever about relinquishing my duties, surrendering keys or whatever, but simply that I was leaving because I felt threatened and that I would return to tend to my duties in the house after tea, which was part of the normal routine. I did return as I said I would at this time.

17. I drove my car out of my parking space, so staff would know I was not in, and went straight to the police station in Dunblane informing the duty constable briefly what had happened. I told him I felt threatened and that

I had informed the porter I was going out. I then informed the policeman that I was going into Stirling and would return to the school about 17-30; he made a note of this; at this point I begged off and went to Stirling.

18. I did not contact the school from Stirling, I walked around Stirling for some time and then returned to the school around 17-20hrs, only to find THE POLICE BASHED THE DOOR OF MY HOME DOWN ! The atmosphere was one of fear and threat not just for me but for the management too ! They were afraid too but of what in particular, to cause them to react so ?

19. The allegations made by the headmaster that I offered to voluntarily relinquish my position as housemaster and hand over keys etc., was supported by a an UNSIGNED STATEMENT FROM THE SCHOOL LOG and has no foundation in truth. I believe this is a fabricated lie. But if I did say such things then why was it necessary to break down my door ? Using the key would have been more simple and less expensive ! Maybe the headmaster had much to worry about and over-reacted under stress ? Or was the decision of the police, who strange as it seems, have no comments to make about the break in, and all documentation is strangely unavailable.

20. When I went to my flat I observed that the door had been forced open and it was hanging like the hinge was broken; all the account money and passports had gone. I was concerned and afraid to go in but immediately went to see the porters to demand an explanation! I was still a tenant there; it was my home and the house accounts, passports and personal property etc. were still there as far as I knew, all counted correct and in order/up to date, were they still there? I was annoyed at the breaking down of my door and the safety of the accounts etc. I found out later there was a letter behind the broken door removing me from my post as housemaster (on what grounds ? I only had four days left before I left !)

SACKED AS HOUSEMASTER ! WHY ? CONTRACT BROKEN - NO ANSWERS OR EXPLANATIONS

21. the porter told me to go to the Headmaster's office and so I did, finding the headmaster with the new bursar, Colonel Tapp, ready to receive me; I felt afraid to say the least, not because of the letter I had written to parents, I was sure I had told the truth and acted correctly under the circumstances.

22. The HM asked me questions and the bursar, Colonel Tapp, carefully wrote down what I said in answer. I asked him the where-about's of the accounts and other documents, he replied and said they were safe; the headmaster then asked who else I had told or written to and under the circumstances would I like to leave now. Because I felt so threatened I said I would like to leave soon, since my door had no lock on it, (and as you may guess I felt very threatened); he then asked me if I had received the letter from him written on that day, it was behind the door. I replied and said, NO, I had not. (The letter was relieving me of my duties, copy available).

23. Colonel Tapp then agreed to accompany me to the flat and help me load my car with my belongings; as we walked across the parade ground to the apartment, a policeman appeared and politely asked my name; he then asked me to accompany him to the police station when I had loaded my possessions into the car. I was shadowed by a large policeman all the time, what would

have happened to me if I had refused to go I know not but I felt like I was being arrested. How would the reader feel if your door had been bashed down with a sledge hammer BY THE POLICE and you were asked to help them with their enquiries ? WHAT ON EARTH HAD THE HEADMASTER TOLD THE POLICE I HAD DONE IN ORDER FOR THEM TO ACT SO DRASTICALLY ?

24. When we got to the flat, I found the headmaster's letter behind the broken door. Colonel Tapp was very kind and helped me to carry my things from the two storey apartment; while I was packing the policemen followed close by. To this day I have not had any answer as why this was done ! (police report on school, strangely unaccessible). I believe the headmaster overreacted and made a big mistake.

25. My car was hurriedly loaded up with my things. (I could hardly change gear!); then the policeman asked me to follow him down to the police station. I felt this was a polite arrest.

26. There, I waited for about 15 minutes until an inspector came from Stirling. I was then invited to go to the interview room, and for the next hour or so I was questioned by the police. The policemen on the reading a copy of the letter I had written to parents, seemed surprised, relaxed their manner and started to show some concern for me. When I asked them if I had committed a crime they replied and said, 'no sir, you have not', (what on earth they had been told about me God Knows). They suggested I stay over-night in a hotel before making the journey home, but I decided I would drive straight to Banffshire that night and arrived home at about 03-30 hrs on the 14/12/91, exhausted.

27. I know it was a very serious letter to write to parents, and I believe I had good reason to complain in THIS WAY, but I was shocked at the treatment meted out to me. The M.O.D said that the Headmaster and police had acted to protect myself and my family (letter available), but it was well known by all that my family were not there; a large removal van outside the flat, earlier that day of which the porters knew of. They also broke my door down when they knew I was not in the school grounds. THE PORTERS AND POLICE KNEW WHERE I WAS, AND THAT I WOULD RETURN AFTER DARK, 17-30hrs.

THE BEST I COULD HOPE FOR

28. What I reported in my letter to parents was the honest truth, not an exaggeration ! I believe there were other abuses taking place in the school; I hoped that the professionals at the Scottish office in cooperation with social services and the parents would sort this out, I was wrong ! I assumed the whole truth would come out in an army investigation or HMI's meetings with the whole body of parents(?) which never happened as far as I know; but the closing of their ranks proved to very effective.

OPERATION 'COVER UP' - 'THE OLD SCHOOL TIE'

29. One cannot be blamed for thinking that the swift action of the SOED in January 1992 was largely to cover over their own maladministration and lack of clear policies for ALL educational institutions in its audit area.

Recent research on bullying in schools has revealed that one of the main problems in schools is that bullying and abuse is often PLAYED DOWN; for instance the use of the word 'alleged' bullying in the HMI report, which strongly suggests that the bullying did not really exist and that its all a wild exaggeration, NOT SO even in the slightest sense, I strongly believe that the situation at QVS was 'played down' (see first report of May 6 1992 §2.2) by the HMI, and believe there is a touch of 'the old school tie' and a deliberate silence to cover maladministration on the part of the SOED and the MDD and possibly other agencies involved. But looking after and caring for children in the 1990s is not a matter to be taken lightly, nor can we hide child abuse behind the Official Secrets Act or any form of officialdom - this is surely a very dangerous thing to do ! THE HMI NEVER INVESTIGATED THE BULLYING OR SOUGHT THE OPINION OF THE KEY PARTNERS - THE PARENTS; perhaps they were/are, afraid - of the truth ! Was this a 'thorough' investigation ? *The motives for a cover up are well founded !*

30. I was never sent a copy of the H.M.I's report, even after phoning the office twice (they seem to be quite rare); eventually a friend, living on Unst, Shetland managed to get a copy sent to her after phoning the Scottish Office twice. A friend in England phoned twice and eventually recieved a copy. The HMI report of May 6th 1992 and the follow up report of March 1993 recommended sweeping changes and in September 1992 a new AHT was appointed, an experienced guidance teacher, in charge of pastoral care. Training for all staff with regard to guidance and care arranged; committees and working parties were set up to formulate new policies for the school - and LO AND BEHOLD - THE INCLUSION AND INVOLVEMENT OF PARENTS ! Many other changes have taken place but its difficult to know precisely - maybe it is still a closed system ?

Rather big expensive changes considering my supposed 'exaggerations', (ref §52.2, HMI first report) ?

31. I registered as unemployed the following monday and was told, eventually, that the grounds for my resignation form QVS were unjustified and that I was not eligible for unemployment benefit; this decision was based on comments from my former employer, QVS. eight weeks later I acquired a temporary teaching position in Shetland wher I am now permanently employed.

REFLECTIONS - WHAT I EXPECTED TO HAPPEN

32. To be honest I thought this treatment was appalling. I expected to be called into the colours room and face a group of Commissioners or some officials and defend my action; I DID NOT WANT TO 'HIT AND RUN'; but I was never interviewed ! And what is more from that day to this I have not heard a word from any parents, staff or anyone connected with the school---the silence is deafening and very suspicious !

ANY REGRETS ?

33. In my time at QVS I reached the pinnacle of my career, as housemaster and teacher of physics and electronics; I worked hard to do a good job and I must say, despite the circumstances that arose, I enjoyed my work

otherwise (see testimonials given to me a few days before I left); but you cannot teach unhappy children ! I gave it all up and brought considerable hardship on myself and my family who understand, and we have no regrets: my oldest daughter at home has finished her Standard Grades now and is now attending Anderson High in Lerwick doing her highers (weekly boarder), and the youngest daughter has started her Standard Grades at Baltasound Junior High School where I teach maths and science. The standards of care in Shetland are in my view, excellent.

34. Disappointment though in the Scottish Office - I will find it hard to swallow anything they say in the future; my responsibility is to the parents and pupils and what I do/did, is for them, and hopefully what I did will help to formulate or update new policies to prevent the QVS situation arising again - no regrets, what-so-ever.

LESSONS TO BE LEARNED FOR ALL

35. But the issue raised by the QVS affair is much wider and should be of interest to all the educational communities across Europe and all those interested in standards of care in boarding and other institutions. The complaints procedure in the school was ineffective, inefficient and inadequate. There was no active PTA or impartial body of elected body of governors NO SPECIFICALLY TRAINED GUIDANCE TEACHERS, I did not even have a job description ! There was no other way to get something done fast; internal complaints were absorbed and lost as so many have over the years. (several of the staff in the school read my letter to parents before I posted it off, and approved; sadly, not one member of staff stood by me, as far as I know, and I have had no communication whatsoever from that day to this.

36. I know we live in a tough world and children need an grow up in an environment of discipline, but there is a time to be tough and discipline can take many forms - the aim is to promote self discipline in the end not the sort where older boys are allowed to punish and bully younger boys because it just happens to be the 'tradition'. Those who are bullied become bullies, (and teachers often turning a blind eye because they were victims of bullying themselves); it is the old eternal circle. Children must be allowed to grow up in an atmosphere of learning and family love, to understand and be tolerant of the differences of others, whether it be culture, race, intellect, athletic prowess, big nose, large ears or otherwise. Statistics show that boarding pupil rolls are falling - could it be that boarding education needs a face lift and the *Tom Brown Schooldays* Image still lingers ? We must view the QVS affair as a lesson for all.

WAITING FOR THE SYSTEM TO WORK

37. After the publication of the first report I wrote MPs Margaret Ewing and James Wallace in early June 1992; there has been an exchange of letters and months of waiting in between. In September 1993 after extensive correspondence Mr J Wallace MP, took my case, at my request to the Ombudsman, the PC; the PC declared not to have the power to look into M.O.D or police files but if all is well there should be nothing to hide and everything should be upfront and honest. In March 1993 I wrote to the European Court and subsequently to the EC of Human Rights (the answer to

my petition and related letters are enclosed along with my reactions). It seems that they think that the longer they leave me and ignore the issues I have raised, the faster they just will just go away. Not so ! I cannot accept that this matter is closed ! I suspect someone or office is being protected, but who protects the children ? And what about the abused teacher ?

38. When abuse of children in institutions of care takes place (which can take many forms) and is exposed, sometimes unreported for many years, the public ask how can this happen for so long and go unreported ? A case about two years ago comes to mind where the head of the institution himself was abusing children in various ways and the staff knew about it ! Why did they not report the situation ? Answer fear. Fear of losing their job, pensions and future career prospects. But when someone does stand up and speaks out what happens ? How far do these so-called closed ranks extend ? And who is being protected ? Should we not be concerned about protecting children and national/European standards ?

39. If I was wrong about the conditions and 'alleged' bullying then surely as a professional I should be chastised/disciplined; why have so many changes taken place and so rapidly ?

MORE AMAZING FACTS

THE FEES PER PUPIL AT QVS EXCEEDED THE FEES FOR ETON; PARENTS PAID A NOMINAL FEE OF £100-00 PER YEAR, the rest subsidised by public money; THE SCHOOL RUNNING COST ARE estimated £13 Million a year ! Why is it they could not provide adequate pastoral care for those sons of Scottish service men ? When I was housemaster I received a bill for furniture broken over one month for over £800-00 FOR MY HOUSE ALONE; what went on in the other houses. is similar; in one weekend a liberal low estimate of £20,000-00 of damage was done ! Supervision did not seem a priority in the school. Inadequate supervision was mentioned in the HMI report... And more than this.....no wonder the MOD do not want to open their files up !

40. to summarise my objections:

- (a) How is it that the substandard unacceptable standards at QVS could be allowed to exist in a school in the audit area of the Scottish Office ?
- (b) How independent is a an independent school ? Should standards not be consistent in this very sensitive area of care ?
- (c) Should there not be a clear, well defined policy for complaining about sub-standard conditions in schools, a fixed agreed format of procedure ?
- (d) Education is a partnership and parents are "key partners" in that partnership (according to the message given out by the SOED). Should not parents be included in formulating school policies that involve the care of their children ?
- (e) (In the letter I asked parents to sit their children down and tell their parents themselves what sort of treatment they received or phone CHILDLINE number, NOT ON DISPLAY ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE SCHOOL. What is the response to this ? I KNOW there are many angry parents who either, know little of what really happened or know the facts but are afraid to speak

out against their employee and fearful official groups. ALL PARENTS OF QVS pupils should be allowed to respond, without fear, in the spirit of true democracy, and not just a 'selected' few ! I would like the boys and their responsible parents to tell their own story to alleviate any psychological damage that has been inflicted which may emerge in future years as they grow up to help to avoid such a situation re-occurring again.)

(f) If education is a partnership, can parents complain and object to the treatment of their children should it not conform to modern standards ? After I resigned in June 1991 the headmaster and the Brigadier (the complaints system) were more concerned about getting me out of the flat and school buildings within six weeks rather than discover the deeper underlying reasons for my wanting to leave.) What kind of values should the management of a school cultivate ?

(g) When I resigned in June no clear explanation was sought as to the real underlying reasons for my resignation. Surley someone in such a sensitive position in the care of young people should be encouraged to be specific as to the reasons for his/her resignation ?

(h) to whom is a teacher ultimately accountable to apart from pupils ?

(i) If my original resignation had been handled professionally and skilfully by the management team with correct order of priorities, and complaints listened to and taken seriously, changes could have taken place and the whole business of having to write to parents could have been avoided, diffused.

41. The principle here is not simply a personal one but is in the interest to the nation as a whole and the public ought to know what happened in Queen Victoria School, Dunblane in the time prior to and including December 1991 and circumstances of my resignation, to ensure and consolidate a need for high standards and professionalism in the care of the young in our schools and teachers and parents should be given a fair hearing.

42. Before a child can learn she/he must be happy; this surely is the ultimate right of every child. Some may say that this is a lot of sentimental fuddy-duddy - I think not; give a child a good start and a balanced disciplined environment and you set him/her up for life - those formative years are vital ! No child should have to run the gauntlet of the bully and suffer abuse of any kind. I know as a trained professional that when a child is seriously subjected to persistent bullying something dies inside him only to emerge in adult life as self hate or aggression and deep rooted psychological / behavioural problems.

43. Her Majestys Inspectorate of Schools must be seen to be carrying out their own recommendations to PROTECT CHILDREN. They must be without reproach when they come under the public magnifying glass if they are to retain any credibility. I strongly suspect there is something very wrong here, a serious blunder that is causing so much embarrassment they are just hoping it will all just go away. Maybe the real truth of what happened will never be trully known, but justice has its own voice and speaks in its own time.

Changes, however, have been made within the school; but no comments or explanations have been presented explaining how those conditions came to exist for so long in the first place in the audit area of the SOED.

Is The QVS an example of how the government care for children in schools ?
If so then is it any wonder that parents and pupils are 'silent' or have been silenced in some way.

I have said and done enough about the QVS affair, its now up to those responsible people and groups to see the matter through using all-round, fair and correct procedure.

What follows is a selection of letters from a number of many varied correspondences and exchanges regarding the conditions at QVS and the treatment meted out to me by the school management, SOED and MOD over a period of two and half years.

The first letter being a copy of the original letter written and posted to 57 parents of Cunningham House. In hindsight I now consider this to be a rather mild description of life at QVS, but nevertheless sufficient to alert any caring teacher or parent to unsatisfactory conditions in a school of the 1990s, containing, I believe, a serious undercurrent of words unspoken or unwritten - a story that only the pupils through their parents could corroborate.

note: There are four houses

Wavel. (primary). Trenchard

and Cunningham. (11 to 15)

Haig house is S5 and S6



CUNNINGHAM HOUSE
QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL
DUNBLANE FK15 0JY
TEL. 0786 - 822288

G. HARRISON
HOUSEMASTER EX. 5636

DATE 17/12/91

Dear parent,

As you well know I have resigned as Cunningham house master and will leave QVS on the 17/12/91. I thought you have a right to know the real reason why I resigned and what is going on at QVS. You have a right to know how your sons are being treated here, and the state of the school. I have taught for 7½ years in boarding schools and I have never seen anything quite like this. Education takes a very low priority and the pastoral supervision is seriously short staffed.

I am appalled at the bullying and abuse of boys by other boys; Many reports from staff are just brushed under the carpet, and nothing is done about it, bullying is ASSAULT, a criminal offence and these boys should be expelled. This is my last chance to do something for the boys. As a caring teacher and housemaster, I have done my utmost to ensure the emotional and psychological welfare of your son. It could be a good school if the management got their act together, but it seems they are a law unto themselves.

As a parent myself, I believe you have a right to know and demand an explanation.

In the last week I have investigated yet more reported incidents of bullying of younger boys by Haig boys. The three first years interviewed together, were petrified that I would reveal their names to you and others in the school for fear of reprisals. I shall call them X, Y and Z.

The boys named eight Haig boys; they said there were others but they did not know their names. The boy X, began to relate: "well sir, it works like this; as we walk by the Haig study area at the bottom of the staircase, a Haig boy would shout, 'Eh, come here you', those who went in were treated in various ways that varied from day to day, sometimes a DA, (painful thump in the arm), other times WWF moves, (wrestling backbreaker, where boys are thrown against the wall, quite violently, sir); winders, where a Haig boy will place his hand across a first year's mouth and hold him as shown in fig. 1, then another boy would punch him in the stomach to wind him. Arm benders or more like arm breakers, are also a favourite, they really hurt you sir! The boy Y said that this had gone on since the beginning of term and he dare not tell. He said he had learned not to answer them when they called but ran as fast as he could, afraid to look behind. All boys agreed that first years were punched and kicked around, ridiculed for crying and threatened with more for telling. All three verified that some boys had had shampoo squirted down their throats, while their noses were held, and some boys were prevented, deliberately from breathing."



fig. 1



fig. 2

One boy was named by all three as having a specialism: drumstick; in which he is very skilled. In prep he would rap their knuckles very hard. This is a serious assault! If a teacher did this he could be



dismissed and convicted! Boy X said the drumstick expert once hit him on the head with a drum stick so hard that his head was really sore for about two weeks.

The boys X and Y said boy Z was hit everyday in chapel because he was big. Incidentally all three boys are very good responsible boys; the kind of boy you would want at QV.

Other boys tell me that a lot of bullying takes place at the CCF, where older boys play sergeants and officers; a kick between the legs is common. To complain betrays the tough guy image, and the complaints are often ignored, the boys tell me. Haig boys were praised as protectors: Jamie Baird and Craig McKenzie.

It is not just first years, but second and third years are subjected to this. I related the case of David McMillan, recently; he was called in because he missed his 'day', and told to get down on all fours, (fig 2); as he did this, a Haig boy kicked him so hard in the ribs, David said he passed out for about 15 seconds. He then felt he must go to hospital and told sister he had fallen. I wonder how many 'falls', are really accidental falls? I usually leave the boys to wash and shower in private, but on seeing the many bruises, I often wondered if they were, as they said, just sports injuries.

It is so difficult to get the truth out of boys, what is going on that is unreported!?

These Haig boys regularly put boys on 'days' and they are not prefects. They bully first years because they are small and cannot hit back!! The classical BULLY. Is this one of those proverbial 'Haig Privileges', chiselled on tablets of stone? Its been going on for a long time.

When the boys were telling me this I thought of the BBC 2, '40 minute programme', on QV school, and that IN REALITY the school is more of echoes of 'Tom Brown's School Days'. Last year when I was in the process of sorting out a serious case of bullying, a third year boy in the house

said: "Sir, you do not understand; there is a special way at QVS of dealing with boys; we sort them out among ourselves; we have our methods. This is a long tradition and its been going on for years; bullying is good and keeps the boys in order, because staff can't use the strap anymore". A third year, alleged to 'beat the grub' out of boys, (hitting them so hard that they relinquish their tuck), said: but sir, this is the way things are done here; I got it in Wavell and now its my turn. Weaklings go under and the tough stay on top".

There is something very wrong about this attitude, which seems to be the root cause of so much bullying. I am ashamed I have not spoken up earlier; like the management I feel I was blinded by the pomp, vanity and pride, the swaying kilt and sound of the pipes, the 75% shop front which is so misleading to the newcomer.

So, from this, it appears that the boys consider bullying as a norm; this is why parents are not told when the boys go home because the boys live with it all the time and know no other way!



These Haig boys should be expelled! IT IS WRONG TO KEEP BOYS AT THE SCHOOL JUST TO KEEP THE NUMBERS UP, TO GIVE THE APPEARANCE THAT BOYS WILL BE BOYS AND REALLY ALL IS WELL: ALL IS FAR FROM WELL.

(Theiving in the school is endemic and in my view, out of control, so many boys are getting away with it and supervision is so thin on the ground the boys are able to choose their moment. Locks are frequently broken open, so providing lockers is not the answer, the answer is to expell the boys, and certainly NOT allow them to return just to keep the school numbers up.)

I suspect that someone on the management team or a commissioner, with a boarding school background, have this ridiculus 19th century notion that bullying and being bullied, is character building! Because it seems to me that a lot of these reports are just swept under the carpet. I heard a Haig boy say the other day, that they are taking the boys in hand to improve the discipline in the school.

(I would like to say a word on behalf of the commissioners who come frequently to see the school, and sit patiently and kindly listening to the staff; but sadly they do not see the school as it really is. They are victims of shopfronty!)

All this is not new; the management know it is going on; several members of staff have reported similar incidents too; especially the housemasters in the school and the particularly the deputy headmaster.

Ask your son to open up without fear, and tell you himself. In our society, abuse should not be classified information anymore; it is wrong that your son should have to endure these conditions. Maybe he is one of the lucky ones and has got away with it up until now. Needless to say your son is not a member of the British armed forces. ONE WAY OR THE OTHER, THIS AGE OLD QV TRADITION HAS GOT TO STOP! Your son has a right to be happy and enjoy the best years of his life, as Prince Andrew said on Grand day.

If he is being bullied and is afraid of reprisal, and does not get help from the school he should tell YOU, or if he finds it difficult to talk to anyone about it, he can phone:

C H I L D L I N E ON FREEPHONE 008 1111.

Most schools have this on the school notice board. This number is available to every boy on the Cunningham house notice board, as from this month. The police inform me that bullying is a criminal offence and that if a child reported being bullied, they would be only too happy to come up to QVS and investigate. One of the worst forms of bullying is NAME-CALLING, this is mental torment and common in the school.

There will be those that will say I am writing this letter out of malice and bitterness; they could not be more wrong. I have a genuine concern for these boys; I write this letter with a clean conscience and an honest heart.



Between 1939 and 1945, 55 million people gave their lives so we can be free and happy, our children and our children's children. Many more have died since, including those recently in the Gulf war, ridding the world of the international bully, Saddam Hussein. The sons of Scottish Servicemen deserve the best treatment and education in this war memorial school.

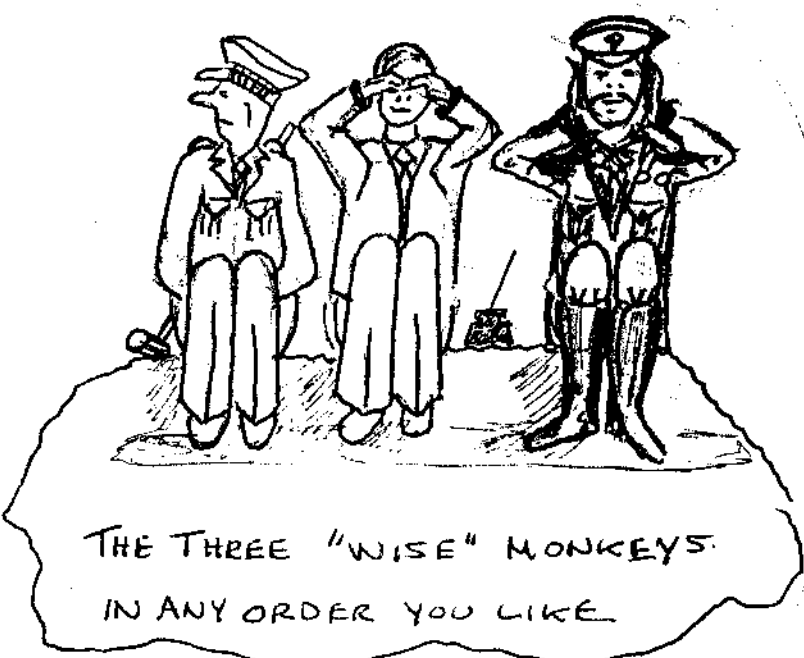
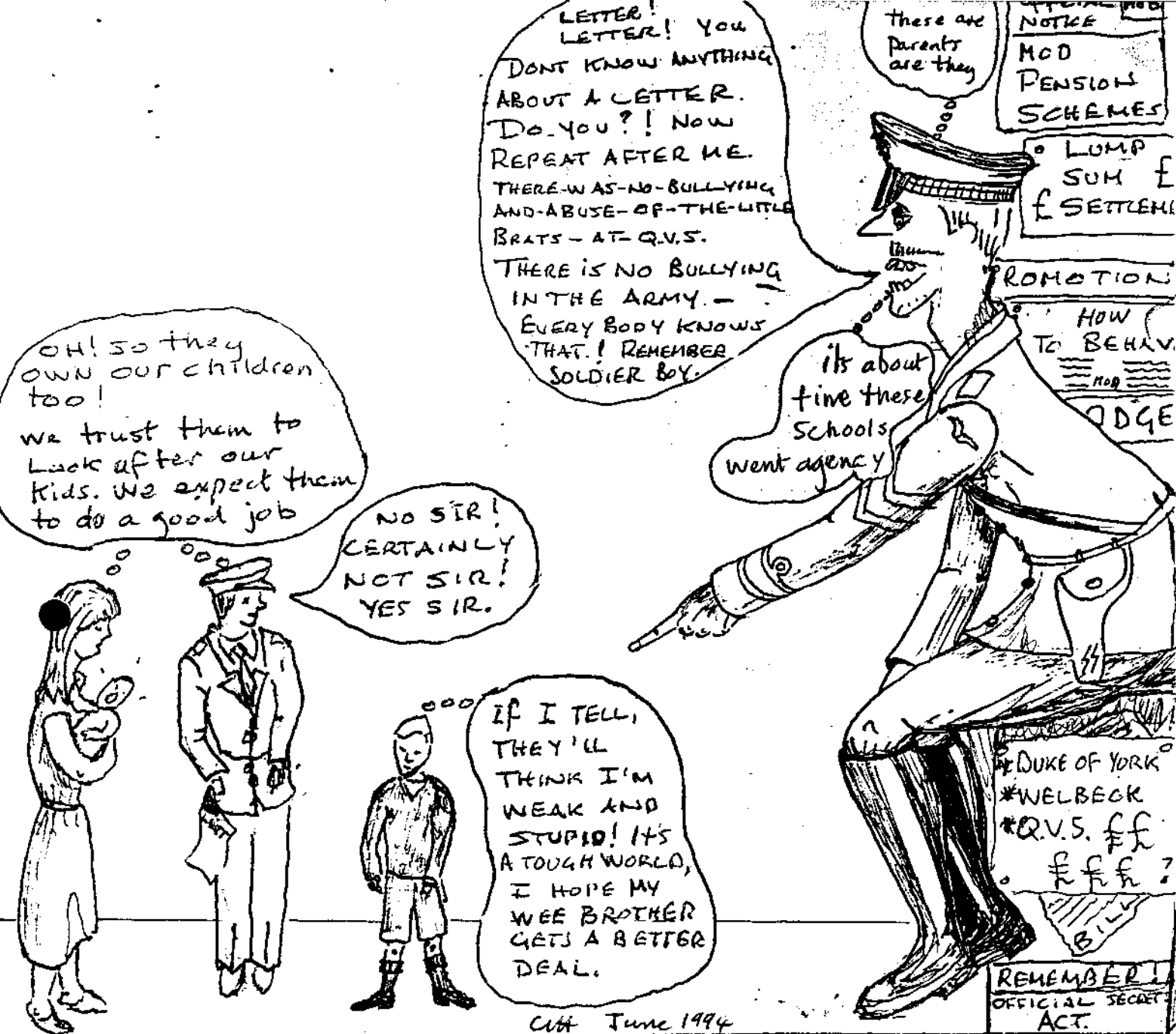
I have striven to be a loyal and caring member of staff at QVS; what I have said reflects my true thoughts and underlying main reason for my resignation.

Yours faithfully,

G. Harrison

Cunningham housemaster

G. Harrison



THE THREE "WISE" MONKEYS.
IN ANY ORDER YOU LIKE



THE SCOTTISH OFFICE

From the Minister for Education and Housing
James Douglas-Hamilton MA LLB MP

St. Andrew's House
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

Telephone 031-556 8400

Jim Wallace Esq MP
House of Commons
LONDON
SW1A 0AA

29 November 1993

Dear Jim,

Thank you for your letters of 17 September and 17 November about representations from your constituent Mr Glenn Harrison, The School House, Uyeasound, Unst, Shetland regarding the circumstances of his departure as a House Master and teacher at the Queen Victoria School, Dunblane and his views about the inspection undertaken by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools. I think that I can best respond by explaining the background to and the nature of the Inspectors' investigations.

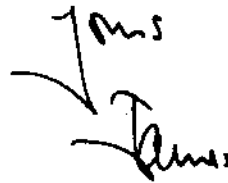
In December 1991, following receipt of a letter from Mr Harrison, Mr Michael Forsyth - then the Minister for Education - asked HM Senior Chief Inspector of Schools to arrange for the school to be inspected. HM Inspectors (HMI) enquired into the provision which the school made for the pastoral care and supervision of pupils, and the associated management arrangements. (The police enquired into the specific allegations of bullying.) The HMI enquiry resulted in a report which was published in May 1992. I enclose a copy of that report.

The Inspectors' investigation was conducted in line with normal procedures and the scope and nature of their activities are outlined on the first page of the published report. They did not find it necessary to interview Mr Harrison personally. He was no longer a member of staff at the time of the inspection in January 1992 having already left to live in the North of Scotland and, in any case, his views were extensively expressed in his correspondence with the school. Furthermore, Mr Harrison's letter of 8 February 1992 to HMI (which you enclosed with your letter of 17 November) was taken into account by the Inspectors. In reply he was assured that the points he raised had been thoroughly investigated. Throughout their enquiry the primary concern of HMI was to investigate the situation in the school in relation to pastoral care and pupil supervision rather than to investigate specific allegations of bullying.

After detailed discussion with HMI, the Board of Commissioners and the Headmaster accepted the conclusions and recommendations in the HMI report. In March 1992, they provided HMI with a plan of action for overtaking the recommendations and in January 1993, the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners wrote to HMI reporting on the progress made. In

February 1993, HMI revisited the school and concluded that, overall, good progress had been made towards implementing the recommendations. Their detailed evaluation of the situation was set out in the form of a letter to the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners which was published in April 1993. I attach a copy of that letter. In view of the progress made it is considered that HMI do not require to make a further visit to the school regarding the report although, of course, it remains liable to inspection as part of HM Inspectors' national audit of the overall quality of education in Scotland.

I hope that this explanation is helpful. I note that you have referred Mr Harrison's complaints to the Parliamentary Ombudsman.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'James', with a stylized flourish below it.

JAMES DOUGLAS-HAMILTON



Parliamentary Commissioner
for Administration
Church House Great Smith Street
London SW1P 3BW

From the Commissioner
W K Reid CB

071-276 2010/2040

Your Ref: JW/DM
Our Ref: C.750/93

Jim Wallace Esq MP
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA

10 December 1993

Dear Mr Wallace

Thank you for your letters of 17 September, 17 November, and 1 December, each enclosing papers relating to the complaint against the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and others which your constituent, Mr Glen Harrison of The School House, Uyeasound, Unst, Shetland ZE2 9DL makes in connection with his departure as a teacher from the Queen Victoria school at Dunblane in December 1991. I am sorry you have not had a substantive response until now but it has taken some time to consider Mr Harrison's complaint in full in the light of the many papers sent to me.

As I understand matters, some time after Mr Harrison had notified the school's headmaster of his intention to resign from 31 December 1991 he wrote to the parents of boys at the school warning them that bullying was taking place. On 13 December 1991 he was relieved of his duties as housemaster by the headmaster. The police who were called to his flat at the school the same day broke down its door. His charges of bullying were investigated by the police but the Procurator Fiscal subsequently decided to take no further action. An inspection of the school was also undertaken by the Scottish Office's Chief Inspector of Schools after Mr Harrison had drawn his concerns to their attention. In the light of their report, published in May 1992, changes have been made to this MOD-run school's procedures. Mr Harrison complains about the way he has been treated and seeks compensation for it.

I have carefully considered the papers sent to me but, for reasons given below, I see no basis for an investigation by me.

In so far as Mr Harrison's complaint may be directed at the actions of the police on 13 December 1991 I cannot help. My sole remit is to investigate complaints of maladministration on the part of those central government departments and other public sector bodies which are listed in Schedule 2 to the Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1967 as within my jurisdiction. The police are not so listed and it follows that I have no power to investigate complaints against them. The same is true of the Procurator Fiscal.

I can, in principle, investigate the administrative actions of MOD and the Scottish Office (including HM Inspectorate of Schools). However, under paragraph 10(1) of Schedule 3 to the 1967 Act I am expressly precluded from investigating any action taken in respect of appointments or removals, pay, discipline, superannuation or other personnel matters in relation to service in any office or employment, or under any contract for services, in respect of which power to take action, or to determine or approve the action to be taken, in such matters is vested in Her Majesty, any Minister of the Crown or any authority within my jurisdiction. Mr Harrison's own complaint against the school (and by



extension) MOD, relating as it does to his employment as a teacher, is caught by this exclusion which Parliament has put upon my jurisdiction.

Before I could begin an investigation into a complaint against HM Inspectorate of Schools - assuming that Mr Harrison intends one - I would need to be shown some evidence of administrative fault on their part as a result of which Mr Harrison might reasonably claim to have sustained some unremedied injustice. I would also need to be satisfied that there is some reasonable prospect of such an investigation by me producing a worthwhile outcome. I do not see these requirements as met by the papers sent to me - though the one document that was missing from them was HM Inspectorate's own report of the inspection. However it is clear that Mr Harrison's concerns were not ignored, with HM Inspectors conducting an inspection of their own and producing a report as a consequence. Mr Harrison is concerned that he was not interviewed in the course of that inspection, but that was a matter for the Inspectorate's discretion, as was the contents of their own report. Under section 12(3) of the 1967 Act I am expressly debarred from questioning the merits of a Department's discretionary decision taken in the absence of maladministration. Any reservations Mr Harrison may have about the contents of the report published in May 1992 are not therefore matters which I can investigate, though if it had appeared that Mr Harrison's representations had been ignored matters might have been different. I note, however, that Mr Harrison wrote to the Chief Inspector at the Scottish Office on 8 February 1992 setting out his reasons for leaving the school and that that letter was acknowledged by the Senior Chief Inspector on 12 February who assured Mr Harrison that the points he had raised would be thoroughly investigated. In the event the report published in May 1992 is said to have concluded that "There was no evidence of widespread systematic bullying at the school, but some incidents had occurred". Mr Harrison has expressed his concern that the inspection might have been biased and that there might have been a cover up, but there is no evidence in the papers sent to me to support that view. It is clear from them that the report contained a number of recommendations for changes at the school. It is clear too that HM Inspectors carried out a follow-up inspection in February 1993, so no evidence of fault on their part has been shown. That being so I have no grounds on which to question their actions.

I am sorry if this disappoints Mr Harrison. Since I cannot intervene as he asks I return the papers which you sent, as you requested.

*Yours sincerely,
William Reid*

Enc : 1

THE SCHOOLHOUSE
UYEASOUND
UNST
SHETLAND ISLANDS
ZE 2 9DL
DATE 19, 12, 93

MR J WALLACE MP
THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON

Dear Sir,

Re your letter of the 13, 12, 93, QVS, Dunblane

1
4

The leaflet, 'The Parliamentary Ombudsman - Can the Parliamentary Ombudsman help you?' describes the kinds of Complaint the PC can pursue: "Bad administrations can take many forms.....discoutesy or harrassment, failing to follow correct procedures.....Provided the actions given rise to your grievance are administrative actions..." (section 3)

" The Ombudsman has the power to inspect all official government files and papers and can summon anyone even Government ministers to give evidence in an investigation" (section 5).

(BA = bad administration)

I am amazed, to say the least, that no mention in the PS's letter is made of:

** I had no job description has a housemaster - I wrote my own (BA)

** No clear explanation was sought as to the underlying reasons for my resignation in June 1991; (anyone in such a sensitive position resigning must surely be made clear as why he resigned - for the record ?) (BA)

** No reponse to the harrassment and treatment on the day I left, 13, 12, 91; no chance to be interviewed by the school administration to explain why I wrote the letter (BA)

** On what grounds was I relieved as housemaster ? What 'crime' had I committed ? No mention ! (BA)

** the lack of an efficient, effective complaints system, other than the Headmaster himself. (BA)

** that sub-standard conditions were allowed to exist for so long, (BA) and why so many sweeping changes in the pastoral care in the school only took place AFTER I wrote the letter to parents.

** That the HMI failed to consider the parent's response to such serious allegations of bullying in my letter to parents, and completely ignored me after I had left the school, as a registered and practicing Scottish teacher.

** that the Headmaster alleged that I made a phone call to the school relinquishing my position as housemaster and offering to hand over keys etc.. This was 'supported' by an unsigned, alleged statement from the school log; this was a direct lie, I never made such a phonecall to the school, only an internal call to the porter, procedure, to inform the porter I was going out because I felt threatened, and would return after dark to continue my duties in the house - I did return, only to find my door of my home broken down.

Please pass this letter to the Ombudsman, for the record.

Thankyou again for your help.

G. Harrison

copies to:

G. Harrison

MORE INTRIGUE:

The Cook Report enquiring about QUS on my behalf were told the school is now closed !

IS IT CLOSED ?



De Europæiske Fællesskaber
EUROPA-PARLAMENTET
Europäische Gemeinschaften
EUROPÄISCHES PARLAMENT
Ευρωπαϊκές Κοινότητες
ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟ ΚΟΙΝΟΒΟΥΛΙΟ

European Communities
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
Comunidades Europeas
PARLAMENTO EUROPEO
Communautés Européennes
PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN

Comunità Europee
PARLAMENTO EUROPEO
Europese Gemeenschappen
EUROPEES PARLEMENT
Comunidades Europeias
PARLAMENTO EUROPEU

Commissione per le petizioni

La Presidente

Luxembourg
jak 019554 14.VL.1994

Mr Glenn HARRISON
The Schoolhouse
Uyeasound
UNST
GB - Shetland Islands ZE2 9DL

Subject: Petition No. 232/93

Dear Mr Harrison,

I would like to inform you that the Committee on Petitions continued its examination of your petition at its meeting of 7 and 8 April 1994, taking due account of the oral information provided by the European Parliament's Human Rights Unit.

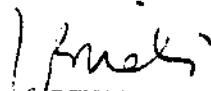
Moreover, the committee noted that following your complaints in December 1991 of widespread bullying at Queen Victoria School an independent investigation was immediately carried out by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools in January 1992. The recommendations made in this report were taken forward by the school authorities and an action plan was prepared. When HMI returned one year later to evaluate progress at the school, they were reasonably satisfied that steps had been taken to implement the recommendations contained in the report, although some of the recommendations were of a long-term nature and would need to be monitored. You are obviously aware of the aforementioned since you state in your letter of 8 February 1994 that you have received both reports.

On the basis of this information, the Committee on Petitions considered that your complaints had been taken extremely seriously and investigated by the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners and the Education Department of the Scottish Office and all serious efforts had been made to implement the recommendations put forward in the first report.

The committee considered, however, that it could not further investigate other specific complaints raised in your petition, particularly concerning the timely consultation of parents and your being informed by the appropriate authorities.

In the light of this the committee therefore decided to conclude its examination of your petition.

Yours sincerely,



Rosy BINDI
Chairman
Committee on Petitions

THE SCHOOL HOUSE
UYEASOUND
UNST
SHETLAND ISLANDS
ZE2 9DL
DATE: 20,6,94

ROSY BINDI
CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
LUXEMBOURG.

Dear Chairperson,

with regard to petition 232/93 and your letter of the
14,6,94.

My complaints are basically:

- 1) Of maladministration of the school and their behaviour and reaction toward me on the day the letter arrived to parents (13,12,91)
- 2) The failure of the HMI (SOED, Scottish Office Education Department) and other responsible agents to consult parents either directly or indirectly, as part of the original inspection conducted in January of 1992, to ensure the inspection was conducted "thoroughly".

I would like to answer your letter on all counts and present various questions which, as yet remain unanswered. This letter presents my objections as a whole.

[I refer to three letters (1) from the ombudsman or Parliamentary Commissioner (PC), (2) from the minister for education J Douglas-Hamilton SOED and (3) my letter, in part, of reply to the PC through my MP Mr J Wallace]

taking paragraph 2.2, page 1 from the HMI first report of May 6 1992:
" There was no evidence of widespread, systematic bullying in the school but some incidents had occurred. The allegations made about the school in December 1991 had exaggerated the situation ".

What body of 'evidence' were the HMI referring to ?

SOED letter from the Minister for Education, paragraph 3: *" Throughout the enquiry the primary concern of the HMI was to investigate the situation in the school in relation to pastoral care and pupil supervision rather than investigate specific allegations of bullying "*.

The HMI it appears, never investigated the bullying allegations.

So were the bullying allegations investigated ? Yes, paragraph 2: *" The police enquired into specific allegations of bullying "*. Letter from Parliamentary Commissioner (PC) paragraph 2: *" His charges of bullying were investigated by the police but the Procurator Fiscal subsequently decided to take no further action. "*

Were the parents interviewed by the police ?

Were parents interviewed by the HMI ?

The SOED consider parents as "key partners" in the educational process:

" Parents now have new roles as customers and managers of schools. They can exercise influence through parental choice of school and through parental voice in school boards and governing bodies.....They want their children to have a happy and enjoyable time at school.....Parents and teachers are key partners in children's education "

(see SOED publication *ACTION ON DISCIPLINE IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOL*, support pack, 1993, Pamela Munn and Co., page 10, paragraphs 1 & 2).

Why then no record of a consultation with parents ? Where is the "voice" of the parents, school board or other governing body ? The key role of parents as partners in the educational process is NOT a recent or new idea !

Where is the report from the MOD, those responsible for the school ?

Indeed, did the MOD conduct an enquiry of their own or did they leave it in the 'safe hands' of the SOED and the police ?

Where then is the police report into the allegations of bullying ?

I would also like an answer to why the police thought it necessary to bash down the door of my home with a sledge hammer on the day the letter was received by parents, December 13 1991 !

Letter from the PC, paragraph 4: *" In so far as Mr Harrison's complaint may be directed at the actions of the police on December 13 1991 I cannot help....I have no power to investigate complaints against them. The same is true of the Procurator Fiscal. "*

AS REGARDS MY COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION'S ACTIONS AND MY DISMISSAL AS HOUSEMASTER ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 13 1991: The PC's letter continues:

" I can, in principle, investigate the administrative actions of the MOD and the Scottish Office (including HM Inspectorate of Schools). However under paragraph 10(1) of schedule 3 to the 1967 Act I am expressly precluded from any action taken in respect of appointments or removals, pay, discipline, superannuation or other personnel matters in relation to service in any office or employment, or under any contract of services, in respect of which power to take action, or to determine or approve the action to be taken, in such matters is vested in Her Majesty, any minister of the Crown or any authority within the jurisdiction. Mr Harrison's own complaint against the school (and by extension) MOD, relating as it does to his employment as a teacher, is caught by this exclusion which Parliament has put upon my jurisdiction "

Paragraph 6 of the letter: *" I would need to be shown some evidence of administrative fault on their part as a result of which Mr Harrison might reasonably claim to have sustained some unremedied injustice "*. All roads are closed it appears. See letter to Mr J Wallace 19,12,93. (relevant part of the letter enclosed).

It seems that the whole incident was played down by labelling the complaints as an "exaggeration", but serious actions were taken however, by the SOED and pastoral changes have taken place as a RESULT of my letter. As regards other matters I believe I have been ignored.

With reference to paragraph 2 of YOUR letter, regarding the HMI's inspections:

It could be reasonably charged that the Inspection of QVS in January 1992 'closed the door after the horse had bolted', making recommendations for change in the pastoral and other arrangements for the school, AFTER my letter was received by parents. How did these conditions come to exist in the first place in the audit area of the Scottish Office ?

REGARDING THE ABSENCE OF COMMENTS FROM PARENTS AND PUPILS FROM THE ENQUIRY.

The European Parliament's letter 019554, 14,6,94: "...taking due account oral information provided by the European Parliament's Human Rights unit". How were the 'oral' arguments presented ? How am I to know that my case was represented thoroughly and accurately ? The letter concludes: " The committee considered, however, that it could not further investigate other specific complaints raised in your petition, particularly concerning the timely consultation of parents and your being informed by the appropriate authorities ".

There is no clear, logical explanation as to WHY the European Parliament "... could not further investigate... particularly concerning... parents ".

Why was I never questioned by the European Parliament ? For example: why did I think it necessary to write to parents direct ? And, Would it not have been possible to bring about changes in the school in other more discreet ways ?

It seems that the European Parliament offers a service to its citizens and then finds clauses within the law, as it suites, to withdraw the service.

The whole matter could be resolved simply by inviting ALL parents of QVS pupils in and before December 1991, to openly comment about their reaction to my letter of the 11,12,91 in which I asked the parents to " Ask your son to open up without fear, and tell you himself ". (paragraph 16)

Would any caring parent or teacher, seeing or receiving a letter like this, about their son (you have a copy), not be concerned about the seriousness of the allegations ? The letter merely gave some examples of physical abuse that had gone on for years long before I arrived and certainly did not represent the whole story; It was my hope that professionals, trained to counsel abused children would have the perception to realise the underlying message in the letter. What was the response of the children and response of the parents ?

There is no evidence from any reports seen, either from comments of parents as a whole or pupils, that my allegations were unfounded, 'exaggerated' or a malicious lie !

Why is it that reports and/or comments from either pupils or parents, including the police reports are inaccessible ?

Why this reluctance to consult parents by the SOED, the PC, the MOD and the European Court ? Parents and pupil's comments are the only source of historical truth as opposed to narrative truth, and they are strangely absent from the whole enquiry - silent.

THE EXCLUSION OF PUPIL'S COMMENTS AND PARENT'S REACTION - WHY ?

(The MOD who were responsible for the QVS until April 1992 are completely silent about the whole matter, pastoral recommendations however, have been made in other MOD schools eg Duke of York, Dover (House of Commons October 1992).)

Answers:

(a) The parents, most of them employees of the MOD, are told 'not to make waves' and threatened (as I was; a colleague at QVS) by the Official Secrets Act and the loss of security through their of employment and prospects of promotion, pensions etc.

(b) Open, honest comments from pupils and parents would reveal years of maladministration; unreported sexual, physical and deep emotional abuse.

The motive for 'a cover up' is well founded.

The Official Secrets Act is there to defend the security of a nation and must not be abused or misused eg hide child abuse or maladministration in schools and institutions where children are cared for.

I would like you to know that this matter is not closed and I am far from satisfied by the considerations of your committee which seem to evade the real issue here - the rights of parents, pupils and teachers to complain. There are many parents that are infuriated by the treatment of their children at QVS, in and before December 1991, but afraid to speak out.

It seems to me from this and other letters I have received that the European Court is no more than a convenience to conceal the actions of maladministrations of various government offices, a 'kangaroo court' similar to those found in the old Soviet Union prior to Glasnost. If the European court cannot defend the rights of children and their parent/teachers against maladministration, then perhaps the Court/Parliament should consult its original charter and the freedom of the rights of individuals. Child abuse is a very serious matter (Children Act 1989) and policies regarding standards and complaint procedures in this area must be consistent, clear and well defined across the European Community. Presenting the wall of bureaucracy and officialdom is no excuse, and in fact quite deplorable ! I look forward to hearing from you with regard to my questions in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

G. Harrison

- enclosed: *
- * Letter from the Parliamentary Commissioner 10,12,93.
 - * Letter sent by me to Mr J Wallace to be forwarded to the PC in answer to his letter.
 - * Letter from J.D. Hamilton, Minister for education. SOED.
 - * A copy of your letter of the 14,6,94 addressed to me.

copies to: Euro MP, The General teaching Council for Scotland and many various official groups and organisations within the community.

G. Harrison



'VICTORY AT QVS' DANCE

THIRD ANNIVERSARY 13 DEC 1994

THE ANNUAL POLICE SLEDGEHAMMER

BALL

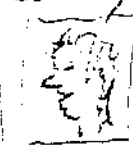
COMPETITION!

HOW MANY TEACHERS
DOORS CAN YOU
BASH DOWN IN
TEN MINUTES?
PRIZES! PRIZES!

SPONSOR:
F. MASON
HAMMER COMPANY

WANTED

BUT NOT FOR A GOOD REASON



MISSION
HAVE YOU
SEEN THIS MAN?

POLICE COURSE

HAMMER
TECHNIQUES
PREPARE FOR EXAMS

POLICE ACADEMY

IF I HAD A
HAMMER

ACTION
AGAINST
COMPLAINING
TEACHERS

After you
have bashed
in their
doors
IGNORE THEM!

POLICE
ADVISORY SERVICE

THE CHIEF WILL BE THERE!
Don't worry, he won't say a word.

ALL TAKINGS GO TO
CHARITY

- ① CHILDREN IN NEED
- CHILDLINE
- CHILDREN'S LEGAL CENTRE
- NSPCC
- A. ANOTHER
- Life Line
- CHILDREN IN WANT

OR -
② we could
buy more
hammers

Please
tick Box

1.

2.

• Hey-
diddle-de-de
A COMMISSIONER'S
Lifeform.

WANT AN
APPOINTMENT?

SEE YOU KNOW WHO,
WINK, WINK

Bullying allegations are rejected by inspectorate

ALLEGATIONS OF widespread and systematic bullying at a Perthshire boarding school for the sons of servicemen are rejected in a report by HM Schools Inspectorate, published yesterday.

The HMI report says that the allegations, made public in December by former housemaster Glen Harrison, exaggerated the situation at the 263 pupil Queen Victoria School in Dunblane, but confirms that "persistent problems caused by a small minority of boys" do exist.

When all other options are exhausted, the school may have to expel regular or serious misbehavers, the report adds.

Mr Harrison, who resigned last summer, wrote to parents claiming that younger boys had been kicked between the legs, punched in the stomach while their mouths were held closed, forced to eat shower gel and hit so hard that their noses were

broken. In one case, said Mr Harrison, a boy was kicked so hard he blacked out.

The report by inspectors, brought in at the instigation of the school's commissioners, calls for the school to carry out a thorough review of its "rigid and unwieldy" discipline policy within in a wider review of "pastoral care."

In what appears to be a partial vindication of Mr Harrison, who said the school's management seemed to be "a law unto themselves," the report stresses, "For real progress to be made there will have to be changes in management style and in the attitudes of some members of staff."

The report refers to "divisions and tensions" between teachers, and teachers and management, and says a significant number of staff regretted the abolition of corporal punishment, and looked for some

other kind of sharp and summary deterrent.

But with many parents living at a distance, the option of suspension as a punishment was constrained, while among the boys themselves there was a feeling that punishments such as detention and "gating" were ineffective.

The inspectors refer to "an unrealistic expectation" among some staff that swift and summary sanctions would work with problem pupils.

The inspectors add that senior school prefects and monitors had too much of a supervisory and disciplinary role with regard to younger boys, and contrast the ease with which a pupil could be disciplined for a very minor misdemeanour with the lack of any coordinated reaction to patterns of offending.

Headmaster Julian Hankinson acknowledged the reports findings that the number of adults involved in

"pastoral care" at particular times might have to be increased.

"The school is a very old building, largely built as a barracks, and geographically it is difficult for staff to supervise unless the numbers are increased," he said. "But by no means whatsoever has discipline broken down.

"What the report does indicate is that there are some boys who do have social and behavioural problems."

Mr Hankinson said that teachers all over the country had found it difficult to find alternative sanctions following the abolition of corporal punishment, and the problem was awkward in a boarding school for service children where pupils could not be easily expelled or suspended.

"This is a problem that we have been wrestling with for the last two years, and hope with the aid of this report to be able to solve," he added.



THE SCOTTISH OFFICE

Education Department

New St. Andrew's House
Edinburgh EH1 3TG

Telephone 031-244
Fax 031-244 4785

5148

G Harrison Esq
The School House
Uyeasound
UNST
Shetland
ZE2 9DL

24 June 1994

Dear Mr Harrison

Thank you for your letter of 13 June addressed to Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Minister for Education, about your serious allegations of bullying at Queen Victoria School, Dunblane and subsequent events.

I should first point out that HM Inspectors of Schools did not in fact carry out an investigation into the allegations made by you in December 1991. The specific allegations of bullying were the subject of direct investigation by the police. The then Minister for Education, Mr Michael Forsyth, following receipt of a copy of your allegations instructed HM Inspectors of Schools to conduct an enquiry into the provision which the school made for the pastoral care and supervision of the pupils and associated management arrangements. The conduct of the police enquiry, the report of that enquiry and the results were not a matter in which the Minister of Education could intervene. Indeed, the Minister has not seen a copy of the police report of their enquiry, nor would it be appropriate for him to do so.

The Minister, although aware of the referral of your complaint to the Parliamentary Commissioner by Mr Jim Wallace MP, is not aware of the results of that referral. Nor does he require to be made so aware since the Parliamentary Commissioner appears to have considered that no further action is necessary by him.

The question on whether the Minister of Defence, as founders of the school, should have launched their own enquiry into your allegations is entirely a matter for the Secretary of State for Defence.

I can assure you that the Minister for Education is satisfied that the school have complied with the recommendations made following inspections carried out by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools.

I cannot help you further.

Yours sincerely

ALAN McPHERSON
Registrar of Independent Schools

ABL03443.064

But chief, you can't get involved - Think what it will do to the Party!

WE HMI LIKE TO STAY ALLOOF, WE ARE ALWAYS RIGHT - ANYWAY, NEVER MAKE MISTAKES Hm hm... MAYBE - - - NO CANT BE

BULLYING & ABUSE AT Q.V.S! - NOW YOU BELIEVE OR - DO YOU WANT A KNUCKLE SANDWICH BOY!?

DOES HE MEAN THE COMMISSIONERS PARTY?

I'M NOT SAYING ANYTHING - SO THERE

KEEP THE PARENTS OUT OF THIS ONE - FOR GODS SAKE

PARENTS WHO THE HELL ARE PARENTS

DAMN TEACHERS WHY CANT THEY MIND THEIR OWN BUSINESS

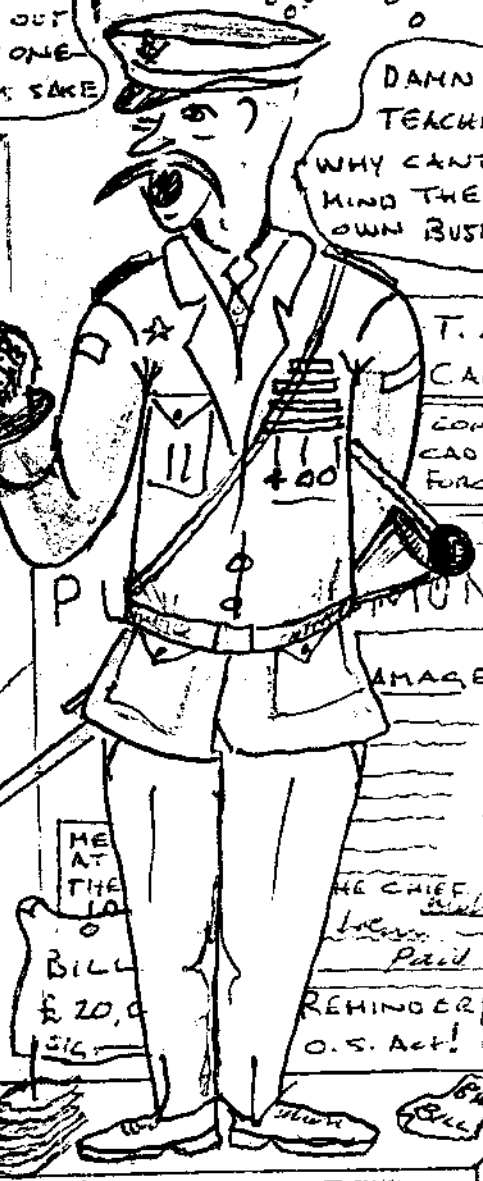
Your secrets are safe with me.

BUT CARING FOR CHILDREN IS A TEACHERS BUSINESS ????

REGAIN PRICES FOR LEDGER HA...

RECO USEFUL IN SCHOOLS FREE M...

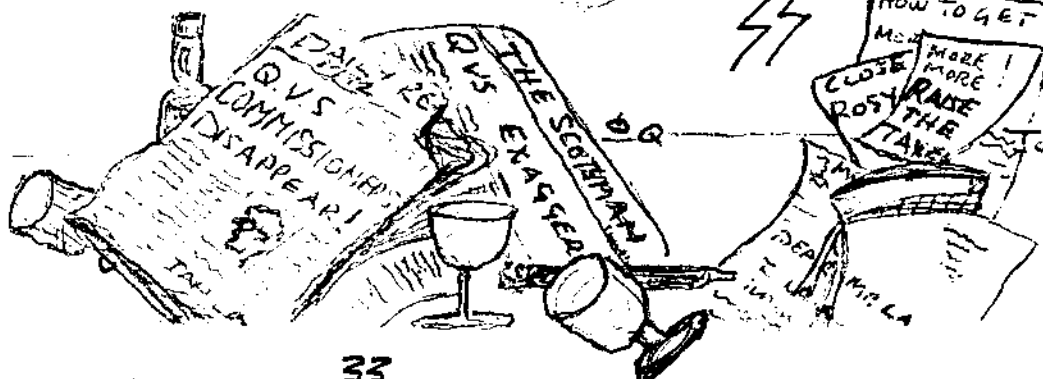
MENE MENE TEREL PARSIN.



MEETINGS AT THE LODGE FOR LANC... FOR CHIEF! INVITATION COMMISSIONERS LUNCH AT Q.V.S. ALL FREE FREE! BRING A FR... PIPES, BOYS DANCING! SEND THE TEACHERS!

HMI GUARDIANS OF PUPILS, PARENTS & TEACHERS OF SCOTLAND

SAVE THE REGIMENTS M.O.D



QVS REPORT REVISION WORD PUZZLE

1 K N R E N O I S S I M M O C F T Q R X E T
 2 W G F T H J D T N B A B A Z C B V A S C N
 3 T P L M H N D I S K F N E A S U S N N C E
 4 S O E D M O D P O L I C E H A L R K O H M
 5 Q L T H H H R P H H E T X E Z L E S S I E
 6 H I H A S Q V O H H E D L S N Y P Q A L G
 7 P C S R L G U R U R V F G R V I O B M D A
 8 U Y K S B I F E C G W C D E G N R T E R N
 9 R E C L E S T E H J H A R T H G T W E E A
 10 E G A I Y P S O F F I C I A L A Z P R N M
 11 V D S P E D F F R P A R E N T S M I F A D
 12 O F A U R T G R F I T C E T O R P M P C A
 13 C O M P L A I N T M A D S I O T E R E T B
 14 K A N G A R O O I O Y N J G S W R T Y R X

- 1) Working together as a team - teamwork ? (3 groups together).
- 2) You have to do this sometimes to change things.
- 3) What some official groups do when they've made a mistake.
- 4) The police use these to break down teacher's doors.
- 5) A law to protect children in institutions and schools.
- 6) Like a Swiss Red Cross visitor, non-parent, appointed not elected.
- 7) Key partners in the education process.
- 8) A law to defend the security of the nation, sometimes misused to hide other things, (a bit of a cheat this one)
- 9) CLEAR + experts with hammers with no 'e' and a 'y' on the end.
- 10) A 'down under' court trial where the key-witnesses are missing.
- 11) The real VIPs in a school - no connection with a prince !
- 12) A common problem in army institutions often ignored: B----
- 13) What the HMI call a _____ investigation.
- 14) A political state where the Police and the army have total control, people ignored and files are inaccessible to the public. Can you see the mistake ?
- 15) 'Closed _____ ' mums the word, SHHHHH !
- 16) QVS policy: "...when a housemaster writes to parents you _____ him'?
- 17) Another term for maladministration.
- 18) An HMI document that 'closed the gate when the horse had bolted'
- 19) Get the strength of the brotherhood around you !
- 20) Fitting slogan: "The SOED, working to _____ childrens', parents and teachers rights !" ???

totalitarian, tanks,
 thorough, cover up, QVSreport, Official Secrets Act, Commissioner,
 kangaroo, bad management, sack, parents, pupils, complain, protect, policy,
 building, justice, sledgehammer, Children Act, soedmpolice, treasons,

A FINAL NOTE TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Bullying and abuse can take many forms, sexual, physical and emotional. All forms of abuse can cause deep emotional and psychological harm. Some believe that because its a tough world children have to learn to be tough and take abuse in all its forms. The problem with this philosophy is knowing how far to go, knowing the limits - children and some adults cannot judge this.

There is a time and a place to be tough and *other ways* and means of developing the toughness and resilience to succeed. Recent research has revealed that bullying and abuse can result in deep emotional problems which may remain concealed for many years only to emerge in adulthood as serious psychological problems and behavioural habits. It is believed that victims of abuse and bullying often become bullies themselves, wifebashers and even worse.

One of the major problems is encouraging the child to be free to complain, should the need arise. Encourage your child to speak openly about what happens at school and listen very carefully to what is said (and often what is not said). Remember education is a partnership and is a continuum from the school to the home and home to school. To complain respectfully about justified maltreatment is not a weakness, neither is it foolish.

One of the problems in military schools, for example, is that children think they have to prove they are tough and 'complaining' often comes over as a weakness and 'not complaining' as extra tough, an attitude sometimes conveyed by their parents and teachers.

Assure your child he/she has a right to complain without fear or appearing foolish to others. It is NOT normal to live in an atmosphere of intimidation - no child or adult for that matter should have to run the gauntlet of the bully !

PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

Your child's school brochure may already contain advice about how to complain and be heard, should the need arise. If you are not sure, go and see (or write to) the headteacher, especially if your child is placed in a boarding school. A caring headteacher will not take offence at your request and should be glad to supply you with details of the pastoral arrangements and complaints procedures. Do not however take it for granted; ensure that school policy is being implemented and CLEARLY DEFINED in the school brochure. Are the guidelines clear to the child for instance? Most local education authorities are very caring and just as concerned as you are that your child gets a fair deal, and will be glad to help you with any enquiries you have to make.

Julian D. Hankinson, M.A.
Headmaster



QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL,
DUNBLANE,
PERTSHIRE,
FK15 0JY.

FAX: 031-310-2519 or
Edinburgh Mil 2519

Tel. Dunblane (0786) 822288
Dunblane Military

17 March 1993

Mr G Harrison
The School House
Uyeasound
Unst
Shetland Islands
ZE2 90L

I did not phone the school at 14-25 stating I wished to hand over keys etc.. If that was so what need would there be to bash down my door?

The Letter lay behind the broken door of my home and I did not get a chance to read it properly until I had left QVS.

Dear Mr Harrison

Your letter of 28 February 1993 to the Ministry of Defence has been passed to me for reply.

The following facts are pertinent to points you write of. On 20 June 1991 you formally gave a Term's notice as Housemaster and Teacher at QVS. On 13 December, 1991, I wrote to you requiring you to relinquish your role as Housemaster in keeping with the terms of my letter to you of 28 June 1991. Although you did not read my letter, you telephoned the School on that afternoon at 1425 hrs and, among other things, stated that you wished to hand-over your Housemaster's duties. Later that afternoon, in my study, you told the Bursar and me that you wished to "go at once". We agreed to your request. In short you chose to leave QVS when you did and were paid up until 31 December 1991, the date of termination of your notice.

May I also reiterate that it was Central Region Police and not the School who decided to break down the door of your home.

Oh yes! But why?

With regard to other points you raise in your letter to the Minister, I comment as follows. The police carried out their enquiries and subsequently concluded that no further action was necessary.

but what about the abuse?

An independent enquiry was initiated by the GOC and was conducted by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools. Her Majesty's Inspectors are a highly respected force who provide an independent audit of educational provision throughout Scotland. Your comments about bias are at odds with our experience of the enquiry which was undertaken in a thorough and objective manner resulting in a number of recommendations for action by the School. As part of that inspection, every parent received a letter from the Chief Inspector asking them to comment on any matter concerning the pastoral care and supervision of pupils. The Army did not carry out an investigation: that was done by the police and HMI.

As a result of the HMI Inspection in 1992, the School has implemented their recommendations. HMI have recently re-visited the School to evaluate our response to their recommendations and their findings will be published in the near future.

Thorough? Where are the key witnesses and key partners?

closed ranks and fear of losing pensions, promotions, OS Act and all who dares to complain?

CONCLUSION

This report contains only brief details of what really happened at QVS in the time I was housemaster and teacher from August 1989 to December 1991; but the full story would require the best part of a substantial book. When the public saw QVS, they saw an imposing grey building, plaids blowing in the breeze and the sway of the kilt; a little army marching to the sound of the pipes, sending shivers of pride down the spine. What they did not see is the sadness behind the painted smile of little soldiers, and the fear. Not all boys, however have been unhappy ! Especially the bullies. And not all boys will tell their parents what happened to them or indeed what they did to other boys; but for the sake of those unhappy boys, AND THOSE YET TO COME IN OTHER SIMILAR SCHOOLS, I did what I had to do as a responsible parent and teacher.

Perhaps you too, the reader, may be curious and want some straight answers to ensure that this situation never happens again and ask yourself: If this was allowed to happen in Scotland, in a government institution, then is it happening right now in many other schools and institutions across Britain and Europe ?

There is a clear need for a statutory body to formulate and implement fair agreed policies regarding the treatment of pupils, parents and teachers, in ALL schools, producing complaints procedures that are clearly defined across the European Community.

If you are concerned about the treatment of pupils, parents and teachers you may as an individual or a group like to write to the SOED, MOD or the headmaster of the school. Perhaps you will succeed where I failed and get some satisfactory answers; or face a wall of silence as I have for over two and a half years. Have courage - they are only faceless names and anonymous committees, but OUR children are the seeds of tomorrow, the adults and professionals of the future, our greatest resource. They are not pawns to fill school - roll quotas ! They have a right to be happy in a disciplined and caring environment.

Whether you believe the contents of this report to be the truth, an exaggeration or tall story is up to you as the reader to decide, but just remember: that this happened in a school in Scotland in this decade in the audit area of the SOED. Maybe it is easier for you to just ignore it and pretend it never really happened, living under the delusion that those skilled professionals we look to for guidance with respect and confidence are incapable of such errors. It is indeed sad to realise that those we often trust most implicitly fail to uphold their own standards that we strive daily to maintain. You may even be afraid, like so many groups and authorities I have dealt with over the last two and half years, and do not want to 'rock the boat'; but sometimes we have to 'rock the boat' in order to bring change and positive growth.

There is indeed a lesson to be learned for all here. As we approach a new century and look back over the years and decades of the past, we will perceive the painful mechanism of change and the need for 'men and women of vision' to allow space and growth and guide the direction of that growth and change:

"Where there is no vision, the people perish"

Solomon

Queen Victoria School was an anachronism, a 'prehistoric' relic of a bygone age and living proof of Solomon's wisdom, and who knows how long the system would have persisted had I not acted and taken the appropriate steps to ensure forward, positive change and growth.

GLENN HARRISON JUNE 1994

*And the woman who held her babe against her bosom said: Speak to us of
Children.*

And he (the prophet) said:

Your children are not your children,

They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself.

They come through you but not from you,

And though they are with you yet they belong not to you.

You may give them your love but not your thoughts,

For they have their own thoughts.

You may house their bodies but not their souls,

For their souls dwell in the house of to-morrow,

which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.

You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them like you.

For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday.

You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth.

*The archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinite, and He bends you
with His might that His arrows may go swift and far.*

Let your bending in the Archer's hand be for gladness;

*For even as He loves the arrow that flies, so He loves also the bow that is
stable.*

from *THE PROPHET* by Kahlil Gibran

Lessons of Dunblane tragedy will be ignored at our peril

IT WAS good of C Martin McGibbon (grand secretary of the Grand Lodge of Scotland) to write to your paper confirming that Dunblane killer Thomas Hamilton was never a member of his organisation (Letters, August 23). However, William Burns (Letters, 16 August) is correct in stating that many people were flabbergasted that the Cullen Inquiry seemed to ignore Hamilton's Masonic affiliation. It is a question that has never been addressed, which is why the issue of Freemasonry cannot be disregarded.

While William Paul's article (Spectrum, August 9) was very moving - referring to "the wanton ending of so many unsullied young lives" - his analysis was simplistic and lacking. To describe Hamilton as "a previously harmless loner" is to ignore the weight of evidence in the Cullen Report that demonstrates very clearly that he was not regarded as a harmless loner, not even by the police.

According to The Scotsman (March 22, 1996), a senior Scottish Freemason told the paper that Hamilton had been a Mason for a number of years and had visited functions at

different lodges. Given the evidence we now have about the numbers of senior police officers who are themselves Freemasons, the link between Freemasonry and Hamilton's actions, both prior to March 13, 1996, and on that day, must be examined if we are ever to find the "satisfactory answer to the question why" that William Paul believes we will never know.

Whether Hamilton was a Freemason or an ex-Freemason (thus presumably anti-masonry), the lack of any exploration of this issue and the total unaccountability of Central Scotland Police (bar one resignation), leaves a festering wound over the already massive scar of Dunblane.

To simply describe Hamilton as a "warped human being" doesn't do justice to the complexity of an individual's relationship with certain organisations, be it the police, local government or the Masonic lodge.

The pernicious influence of Freemasonry on all our public bodies - and potentially on the new Scottish parliament - is ignored at our peril.

Sandra Uttley
Dunblane

PARLIAMENT: Government asked for inquiry COOK'S QUESTIONS

This House notes that Thomas Hamilton, the perpetrator of the hideously distressing slaughter committed in Dunblane on the 13th March, 1996, had enrolled in Lodge number 1417 of the Masonic Order at Garrow Hill in 1977, had been granted his firearms certificate in 1979 and had stopped attending Lodge meetings in 1986.

That the immediate resignation of a very senior police officer on publication of the Cullen Report raises the question of that officer's Masonic membership.

That such a senior officer of a provincial force would be unlikely not to be a Freemason, that the apparent deletion of all computer reference to Hamilton in the databanks of Central Scotland Police files for the period both before and after the incident demands clear explanation. That police confiscation of the membership records of gun clubs that had disowned Hamilton in dispute of his false claims requires justification.

That their continued retention is both unwarranted and inexcusable.

That in view of all the foregoing, the range and character of the relationship between Thomas Hamilton and the police officer concerned would appear potentially suspect.

Consequently requires Her Majesty's Government to institute at the earliest date the most urgent, independent and exhaustive inquiry into those matters to ensure the open publication of the fullest report possible.



COOK seeks answers

Addendum to Q.V.S. Complaint Document

- The ex-housemaster's synopsis of events as related to a journalist in 2003.

Personal and in confidence to Davy

QVS “I am convinced it was a mason conspiracy, MOD, HMI, HMCs, military top brass and others. The matter was covered up to protect people in high Office In Government.” I know nothing of the conditions inside the school as it is now. I can only describe to you my beliefs and feelings about the school as it was 12 years ago. I have had reporters and journalists time and time again. I have had enough. All they want is a story, ‘here to day and gone tomorrow’. There is nothing new here, this is not a revelation, I do not have videos, written statements or lists of names or secret documents. Everything I know is here printed below.

I cannot tell you everything, it would take too long and I am trying to forget it now. Until Robbie phoned about six weeks ago and introduced me to Tom Minogue it was all gone and past. All of the letters/literature I wrote is lost now; I had to give it up; my wife pleaded with me to forget the past and just get on with life. I am lucky to have a job at all.

The background

In order to get a true picture of QVS we need to go back to the 19th century, the old colonial days of Gordon, Kitchener, Rhodes and Baden Powell. Where Eton and Harrow were templates of all good schools that bred young men fit to rule an empire. Where bullying and survival of the fittest was the order of the day -Tom Brown eat your heart out!

QVS begins in the later days of the colonisation of Africa. 1899 saw the Boer war and if you look on any war memorial for that war the bulk of the names are Scottish. Most of the soldiers killed were Scottish and in 1900 there were so many orphans in Scotland a petition was sent to the Queen. As a result she set up a Royal charter for the school, to care for the sons of Scottish Servicemen – it was indeed a noble cause. In 1902 the building started and the school officially opened in 1908. There is also a sister school in Dover called the Duke of York and both schools operated on the same lines. In WW2 both schools operated together in Dunblane where it was safe from bombs. But originally QVS was not a school, it was an orphanage, and boys were taught trades and raised as prospective soldiers for future wars or military conflicts; boys who would become men, ‘young men fit to rule or serve an empire’.

Here a young man would have a golden opportunity of being provided for by the state. Imagine a poor boy from the poor areas of Glasgow (in the Edwardian times) being financed through private military school! There were many applicants and long waiting lists. In 1990 it costs almost twice as much to send a pupil through QVS as Eton! Each boy would have standard issue, boy-size clothes. In 1990 a single kilt alone cost over £350-00 each. From socks to vests and underpants and full military dress boy-size uniforms, English redcoat-red. They would be able to follow in the footsteps of his father, learn a trade, basic literacy and learn the pipes, drums or both. It was a school for the sons of squaddies, not officers, but always to strive for the same standards on the sports field and military fetes. He would learn how to lead, be tough, strong, how to use and

assemble weaponry of all kinds, and most of all be trusted with secrets. But there was something else – going to QVS meant joining a brotherhood that spans decades, and old boys association and was/is very strong. QVS was/is a regiment in its own right, with its own colours and traditions, and each boy wears his father’s regimental insignia on his uniform and pipes. The sound of the pipes would send shivers down the spine, little soldiers in bright red tunics with hunting Stuart kilts would march in perfect formation, their Glenn Garry tassels blowing in the wind and their shoes so polished you use them as a mirror.

What could be more perfect? Much of the school business was shrouded in secrecy and was protected behind the OSA. Even the finances was often hidden and many of the traditions were unwritten and rituals were common, trials of strength and stamina run by the older boys who endured suffering themselves as young boys and felt duty bound to continue the tradition. Fagging was common, young boys treated brutally by older boys which was tolerated by the staff. Bullying is good for you! Teachers would teach boys and boys teach other boys and so adfinitum.

The sound of boots marching and sergeant majors screaming commands and boys obeying, ‘Yes, Sa!’ ‘No, Sa!’ Black cars with official Insignia arrived and Officers with Sam brown and stick under their arms visited the school, saluting and almost goose-stepping around the place, were held in great reverence. Boys saluted saying ‘Sa!’ . On Parent’s day and parades, the parents were almost afraid of the staff and very submissive, especially the mothers. The children were taught not to complain, **never to tell** because this was weakness and who knows you might break down under **interrogation by the enemy one day**, so do not tell anything ‘we are training you up for this’ how easy it is to fool young boys.

Father: How are you son?
son: Fine...but dad they.....:
Father: stand up straight son
Son: But dad they...they...?
Father: never complain son, a real man doesn’t complain, never complain
Son: yes dad, OK
Father: A good man doesn’t complain son, right! That’s life son, that’s the way it goes
Mother: and your father may be promoted to major soon and think of the pension when he retires!’
Son:well....errrr.....well I guess I must be OK then.

The parents rarely knew of the secret horrors that awaited their sons, broken bones which happened when they fell down the steps or an ‘accident’ in rugby – rugby! haaa there’s an excuse! A bully’s paradise and the teachers just turned a blind eye – part of school tradition, we must not interfere, they have to learn to be tough”. Several staff were ex-Navy sub-mariners and commanders. Boys had no one to speak to, to pour their hearts out to. I was approached in the early hours of the morning by boys. I was horrified and afraid of what they told me. There were no guidance teachers, advisors. Matrons were

just skivvies and trained to get on with their work and keep their mouths shut. **It was like stepping back in time!** QVS was/is an anachronism. **I was to learn that many teachers were masons**, as was the head teacher and another housemasters, and of course, the man who ran the show, The Brigadier. Boys were told that women were there to obey and behave or be beaten by bigger, stronger men. Women Full time teachers only came in after 1992. Housemaster and teachers having signed OSA were loath to discuss personal problems, pensions were at stake, promotions and futures. We had to write reports and 99% of complaints were filed in the bin. Parents, usually serving military were loath to complain lest their promotion or pension prospects were endangered. Dealings were mainly through their COs.

Housemasters used to be army majors but then they brought Civvies in, in the 70s to cope with increasing academic challenges. When I was originally interviewed for the job I told the head teacher that nothing stands still or it stagnates, that my intention was to keep abreast of modern education developments to bring the school out of the 19th Century and into the 90s and prepare for a new 21st Century. He seemed to like that and I got the job based on my experience after five years previously working in a boarding school in Shropshire.

I was in for a shock! Older boys were allowed to use younger boys as slaves. Naughty boys were given to older boys to punish (fagging) - I was told this was traditional – an unwritten code and I would not understand their ways because this was Scotland and I was English. I strongly objected and started to question the older boys, to write reports objecting to these *traditions*. As time went by more and more boys opened up and told the most dreadful and appalling stories. I fell into disrepute among staff. The Brigadier and military contingencies (the real rulers of the school) wanted me out. (Headteacher gave me an excellent reference before I left, by the way!)

I was in for a shock! One of the main problems was who do you complain to? There was no clear complaints procedure. There were official looking bodies of people called HMCs who spoke with posh, authoritative English accents **who would pretend to be considering your written complaints, in mock complaints meetings**, who took months to answer a single letter with no real answer at all! They even posed as a committee representative to appear sympathetic and take notes as you spoke, then when you had gone tear it all up and throw in the bin. I was told this had gone on for years! Meanwhile I would be fooled into thinking the procedures were being followed, but never a word came back.. I found out later the reports were never filed and recorded at all and the HMCs mysteriously gone, non-existent.

It all started when I refused to go to tea with a prince. “You fool” other staff said, “you have ruined a great career and a good pension!” I was alarmed at the brutality and if it was the last thing I did I would stop it once and for all – job or no job. I was naïve to think it would be all so easy. My wife and I refused to go to our places by the side of Prince Andrew at the mess meal table, in protest at the many unheard voices and suffering of young boys. I told the brigadier to stop playing soldiers and “get his act together”. No one had ever spoken like that to him before. Some of the stories the boys

told me were horrifying and **I found myself fighting for the child's right to complain and be heard, and be happy**, to grow up in a caring, family atmosphere of trust I recalled the poet's words:

“for we can house their bodies but not their souls – for their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow where you cannot come, not even in your dreams” (Children from *The Prophet* Khalil Gibran).

I said on several occasions that some day, I believe, one of these boys will pick up a machine gun, which he was trained to use at QVS, and murder innocent people in a shopping Mal or public place, because he was abused and deeply disturbed as a child at QVS. “When?” they ask: I don't know, it's time bomb, that the results of secret organisations and people are allowed to act with impunity. We all have an accounting and a responsibility to these lads! They do not belong to the Ministry of Defence **they are our responsibility**, they are the seeds of tomorrow and they have a right to be happy and grow up in a disciplined and caring environment, whether its Scotland or anywhere else on earth.

I told the police, the social service, child-line, Esther Rantzen and others NSPCC, and **dozens of agencies**; all of them ignored me. I eventually wrote to parents and told them that their children did not belong to the MOD, but to them, and the children's welfare was all that mattered; that their children have a right to be here and be happy. That joining the army is not the only career and its OK if they like poetry and literature and hate Rugby, because we are all different; that there are many battles in life and not all of them are won with guns and brutality. I told the head teacher this was no way to run a school in the 90s and that the MOD were not genuinely concerned with the educational process or care of the young. But alas! The powers were above him, he was more of a figurehead, a puppet ruler under command of the brigadier.

There was confusion between the culture of secrecy and genuine confidences which are in place to protect the innocent.

As housemaster I saw myself acting in *Loco Parentis* and I wanted to know where the boys were, what they were doing and whether they were happy or otherwise. Boys would go away on weekend military camps and with the brigadier to his home or homes of top brass or HMC or High society Perthshire people, Fiscals Sheriffs, Police Officials. They had to take their kilts and clean underwear and I was not given a contact address. What went on at these parties was secret but some boys were very disturbed. Older boys with younger boys. I became disturbed too, screams in the dorm at night, empty beds, rituals in dark places and used warm, filled, condoms hurriedly abandoned; fear throughout every age group. And the teachers knew about it. I complained but was ignored.

I was advised to get out. What was I supposed to do? I had no pastoral training, and no one to talk to. I told the Police and social Services but to no avail. The staff cut me off, missiles thrown at my window, and I was warned to keep my mouth shut. I was living dangerously in a Mason stronghold. I picked the phone up one day and I was growled at,

like a bear was on the other end. I was fuming mad to say the least!! Eventually the Police came and bashed down the door of home and took House cash and House records, then arrested me, took me to Dunblane Police station where I was interviewed for over an hour by special detectives brought from Edinburgh. Never from that day to this have I had any explanation for that action. In 1993/94 I *took the sword* again and found I was totally blocked and alone. They owe me a lot more than an explanation.

I wrote to Andrew Mellor in 1992/3, Scotland's guidance advisor at the time and he was appalled and showed a determination to help me. Then suddenly out of the blue **he was promoted to Chief Bullying Officer** and the communicating stopped.

Hamilton's friend, fellow housemaster and primary teacher Ben Philip, (Mason), died aged 44 in some freak accident in the school hall in December 1993 (!?) I think that Philip's death was suspicious to say the least; I think he was a man with a conscience and about to crackand a brother mason surgeon filled in the death certificate with an appropriate bogus cause of death. If I had have stayed at QVS I would have been dead too. Jim Wallace helped me as my MP, but said he hit a brick wall. The MOD threw the OSA at me, the HMI virtually ignored me, shame on them! But Wallace forced them (94) to send me a progress report to show the details of changes that had been brought in the school since I left a female AHT has been appointed, and the introduction of individual rooms instead of dorms, and last but not least, girl pupils!

So here we have the stage set which led to 16 children and teacher lying needlessly dead in a Dunblane graveyard. What possible connection is there? Two dead men, a gun club, vulnerable little boys and a nest of masons. These deceitful men have been hiding behind a screen of apparent respectability for decades, centuries even, high-ranking respectable persons preying on young boys who were conditioned to remain silent, thinking they were heroes by not telling. **Not all boys were abused** and these were often the abusers and bullies themselves, and will be in a hurry to defend the honour of the school.

In the HMI's report I was accused of exaggerating, but they never interviewed me or spoke with me at all, not did they send me a report. It was as if I did not exist.

There were serious reports of abuse in the fifties that never made it out of the QVS gates! Paedophilia is not new, it was and is today a huge problem, a cancer in society. All hidden behind the OSA! Even Dickens tried to expose it and we can see some the characters like Oliver Twist and the Beadle. Dickens was told that he would not have sold his books if he told too much. This is what I firmly believe but cannot prove, try as I will: QVS was a perfect cover for institutional physical and sexual abuse, at first, orphan boys and, on and off, over decades QVS has supplied children (with sealed lips) for abuse, **"Where the carcass is, there the eagles gather"**. They were accessible to 'eagles' like top brass military, politicians, Police Officials, Sheriffs, Fiscals and successful business people in Perthshire, and fools like me could be squashed, swallowed up or sent to some island somewhere. They all gather at the water hole. Outrageous you say? There are similar stories from Wellbeck college and Duke of York, where names of the famous are

well known associations including famous Statesmen. The link is **masons**, masters of secrecy and deception, which is where Hamilton comes in to the story, **the weak link in the powerful chain of abusers**. Here we have a perfect situation where boys, sworn to secrecy and parents under orders to keep quiet, helpless to complain. **Hamilton was unbalanced and had power by knowledge**. This is why he was allowed to have guns. He was **in on the secret** and knew names of those other paedophilic members.

If those names get out even now after 12 years there will be a riot and the press will have a field day! Lives and careers will be ruined! Is this why Hamilton's file went missing only hours after the Killings? Is this why Lord Cullen who I believe was a QVS Commissioner, was appointed to preside over the Hamilton investigations? This is how Masons operate, they control everything and their allegiance is to each other. No wonder they want a 100-year embargo on the Hamilton case!

HMC were *invited* into Office not appointed by interview, and included head teachers, Police, top military Brass (retired), Fiscals and generally rich, high Society people. Iain Laing was chief Commissioner of QVS in 1990/91. After I complained in 1991 these HMCs suddenly disappeared into thin air. But I got nowhere. I am just a foolish teacher, Mr nobody, who they squashed like a fly, the proverbial fool on the Hill, "the man with a thousand voices talking perfectly loud...but nobody ever hears him...they know he's just a fool" (Beatles 1967).

And I spoke out long before Hamilton committed his crime. The Police knew this man had an unhealthy interest in little boys and guns and that he was a friend of the Police and QVS a frequent visitor to the shooting range. I saw him but I had no idea who he was at the time. I was never a member of any gun club, just a teacher doing my job caring for boys.

I am most angry at the HMI. I confided in them with details. My allegations were never investigated except by the Police **and their file remains closed to all including Wallace, my MP**. But the HMI betrayed a teacher. They never interviewed me – no one ever did – I did not exist! They interviewed pupils and parents who were briefed by the MOD and known to be loyal to the QVS management. QVS was under their auspices. They failed the community and destroyed their own credibility. The English HMI were frozen into disbelief when I copied the material to them in London in 1994, and the GTC, of which I am a registered member, were equally helpless. In 2000 at the inspection of Baltasound Junior High School, I called them to a private meeting; the HMI were positively uneasy with me and 'bit my head off' when I referred to the QVS.

I did some research some years ago and found that masons are not only an anachronism but are powerfully implicated in nearly all cases of institutional abuse of orphan children going back over years in England, Wales and Scotland, Dickens's Beadle lives! Even if they are not direct perpetrators of abuse, they hide or disappear vital files that prevent the matter from going to court, appoint bogus fellow mason investigators like Lord Cullen - and all to protect their brethren and their own reputations. Biblical language is the only

way I can think of aptly describing masons: “this brood of serpents”, “these whitewashed graves full of dead men’s bones”? Secret societies bring shame to Scotland.

Circles and windmills

Why don't *old boys*, now men, complain? Because they are invited into the 'care' of 'the mason fold' with all its privileges - wheels within wheels, windmills and circles? This is the way secret societies perpetuate themselves. Would you want people to know how you were treated at QVS if you had a young wife and a family? The old boys association is very, very strong and mason controlled. Not all boys were abused, **maybe only a relatively small percentage**. Expect hundreds to rally to the defence of QVS! who will say how wonderful were their days at QVS.

The most precious resource is people! How can we raise up a new nation, as part of a cancerous system based secret societies? Scotland is a new nation full of talent and tremendous natural resources. The young are the seeds of tomorrow, our scientists, lawyers, all kinds of professionals, a responsible electorate - the young people – the Scotland of tomorrow? Somebody has got to stop masons!

My wife once described me as a general going into battle - with no army. Yes, I would like justice to be done and masons discredited, but I have done my bit. Maybe some day someone will have the courage (and good luck) to tear down that barrier and expose that secret societies who hide behind respectability and use their fellow human beings to satisfy their own gratification and desire – and then further abuse their power to cover it all over for 100 years, when they are safe, long gone from the scene and not accountable any more. Is it any wonder they want their membership of the lodge to be a secret!

They may say: who is this man who says such terrible things? Let him stand in a Court of Law and prove it! I can't, not now. I am just an ordinary teacher, not even promoted. Who am I to stand up against the might of the MOD who have sent countless men to their deaths in war, or tell the proud Cullen that he is corrupt and shames his countrymen?

If I had had help all those years ago and responsible agencies had seen the proverbial 'red light for danger', AND INVESTIGATED MY ALLEGATIONS THOROUGHLY, then maybe Thomas Hamilton could have been stopped, blacklisted and disarmed by a responsible Central Police Force.

And maybe, just maybe, those wee graves in a cold Dunblane graveyard would be green grass. Maybe there would be still another dedicated teacher like Gwen who died so bravely, and maybe, just maybe another 16, twelve year olds, like the pride of Scotland's youth, paused ready to be launched into their lives as a new nation is born!

I have climbed the great mountain and crossed the wide river, I have put my job and life on the line - I can do no more. I've had enough and my family have suffered too; now I

want to *go home* to myself. For my sins, I have settled in my exile on this most northerly Isle; I have fought the battle and lost, and now I want to tend my oysters in peace. Let others fight the battle, I've had enough. I cannot answer any more question, give names or details, videos. If you want answers to the Hamilton killings then QVS is the place to go and DIG. I would like to be left in peace, I can do no more now.

GH

Tom Minogue

From: "Tom Minogue" <tomminogue@btinternet.com>
To: <dunfermline.west@ukf.net>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2003 1:50 PM
Subject: Helen Liddell H M Commissioner and President of the Board of Queen Victoria School Dunblane

Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU
e-mail: tomminogue@btinternet.com
Tel: 01383 729869

Mrs Rachel Squire MP
The House of Commons
Westminster
LONDON

10th Feb 2003

Dear Mrs Squire,

Helen Liddell Head of H M Commissioners and President of the Board of Management, Queen Victoria School Dunblane.

A teacher from Queen Victoria School Dunblane has advised me that there is an organisation connected with the above school entitled "Friends of QVS".

I would be obliged if you would ask The Secretary of State for Scotland if she could advise me of where I can obtain details of the membership of this organisation.

I can assure you this is a matter of some importance and would ask you to attend to it at your earliest convenience.

Yours faithfully,

Thomas Minogue.
By e-mail and post cc. H Liddell

4/3/03



Rachel Squire MP

Member of Parliament for Dunfermline West

Parliamentary Office, Music Hall Lane
Dunfermline, Fife, KY12 7NG

Tel: (01383) 622889 Fax: (01383) 623500

Mr Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
KY12 0LU

11 February 2003

Dear Mr Minogue,

Thank you for your email requesting that I ask the Secretary of State for Scotland for information on the membership of an organisation called "Friends of QVS" associated with the Queen Victoria School in Dunblane.

I would suggest that you seek this information from the school directly. According to the website, the present Headmaster is Mr Brian Raine and the address of the school is Queen Victoria School, Dunblane, Perthshire, FK15 0JY.

I suspect that, like all organisations, the school will not be willing to give out such information without good cause. Indeed, they may be of the view that data security law prohibits them from giving you personal information on association members.

You do not explain why you believe the involvement of the Secretary of State in this matter is required urgently. Unless you can persuade me otherwise, I regret that I cannot comply with your request.

Yours sincerely,

Rachel Squire

Tom Minogue

From: "Tom Minogue" <tomminogue@btinternet.com>
To: <dunfermline.west@ukf.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2003 9:06 AM
Attach: HMCommissionersQVS.doc
Subject: F.A.O. Rachel Squire MP Private and Confidential

Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU
Tel: 01383 729869

Rachel Squire MP
Parliamentary Office
Music Hall Lane
Dunfermline
FIFE
KY12 7NG

12th February 03

Dear Mrs Squire,

Thank you for the prompt response to my e-mail regarding my request that you approach the Secretary of State for Scotland and ask for information regarding the existence and membership details of an organisation entitled the "Friends of QVS".

My request and its urgent status are connected with my petition to the Scottish Parliament PE 306 calling for a register of organisations such as the Freemasons in the Judiciary. I have been invited by the Justice 2 Committee of the Parliament to submit details of cases where there has been a problem with freemasonry to the Committee for consideration at its meeting of 4th March when it will be debated in the presence of the Justice Minister.

I will be submitting 5 case examples to the Justice 2 Committee and one of the cases that I have been asked to raise is the Dunblane Enquiry of 1996. The involvement of freemasons in the Dunblane incident is well known but the full extent of the involvement of freemasons in the circumstances leading up to and surrounding the events at Dunblane Primary School on Wednesday 13 March 1996 which resulted in the deaths of 18 people have of course been the subject of a report by Lord Cullen. My interest is currently centred on matters relating to the influence of freemasonry not covered by the report involving Lord Cullen.

I have spoken to a housemaster at Queen Victoria School Dunblane who made allegations of malpractice allied to freemasonry at the school prior to the events at the other Dunblane school and I have been advised that visitors to QVS who were described as "Friends of QVS" certainly included Thomas Hamilton and included many senior members of the Scottish Political/Legal Establishment possibly including Lord Cullen.

I have been advised by several sources that Lord Cullen is a Freemason and I have written to Lord

4/3/03

Cullen and the Grand Lodge of Scotland to verify the veracity of this claim. Grand Lodge have been unwilling to advise me and I await Lord Cullen's reply.

I asked you to ask the Secretary of State for Scotland about the "Friends of QVS" for a very good reason and whilst I would have liked to have included whatever details I uncovered in my submissions for the 4th of March it is not essential for my research to be complete at that date. The position of the Secretary of State as the senior Commissioner for Her Majesty carries certain responsibilities and I would have thought that she would have better dealt with this matter as it is certainly within her locus.

I trust you will consider my request, which arises out of a genuine concern for justice and openness seriously, and should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Tom Minogue.

File attachment. HM Commissioners QVS.

Her Majesty's Commissioners

Patron

HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH KG KT OM GBE

Her Majesty's Commissioners for the Government of
Queen Victoria School

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SCOTLAND - President
THE GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING SCOTLAND - Chairman

Commissioners

THE LORD JUSTICE CLERK

THE SECRETARY, SCOTTISH EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

MAJOR-GENERAL R LYON CB OBE

J D F MILLER Esq

REAR ADMIRAL D J MACKENZIE CB

AIR VICE-MARSHAL C E SIMPSON MB ChB MSc FFOM

DR S E McCLELLAND CBE BSc PhD

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR JOHN MACMILLAN KCB CBE

A S F MAIR Esq

G F BELTON Esq OBE MA FIMgt

MRS N H HOWE BSc

D MACLEHOSE Esq

MAJOR-GENERAL J D MACDONALD CB CBE

AIR VICE MARSHAL J MORRIS CBE BSc

CAPTAIN R A SMITH RN

Solicitor to HM Commissioners

JAMES CRAIG Esq MA LLB WS

Secretary and Treasurer to HM Commissioners

COLONEL (Retd) A R TAPP FIMgt, Bursar



Rachel Squire MP

Member of Parliament for Dunfermline West

Parliamentary Office, Music Hall Lane
Dunfermline, Fife, KY12 7NG

Tel: (01383) 622889 Fax: (01383) 623500

Mr Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
KY12 0LU

12 February 2003

Dear Mr Minogue,

Thank you for your email explaining why you want information on the "Friends of Queen Victoria School" and its membership.

The secondary school I attended has a "Friends" group. Many schools, universities and other types organisations have "Friends" groups associated with them. Examples that spring to mind are the Queen Margaret Hospital and the Samaritans.

I would be very unhappy if I knew the organisers of my school's Friends group were sending out my personal information to anyone who asked for it. In fact, if I knew this had happened I would take positive action to ensure it did not occur again. This does not mean that I and all the other women who attended my school are involved in a sinister conspiracy of some sort.

The Queen Victoria School was set up early last century to educate the children of Scottish servicemen. I suspect it was mainly the children of officers who were able to attend until fairly recently. It would therefore be unsurprising if several prominent members of the Scottish establishment have some sort of connection to the school.

Nothing you say in your letter suggests I would be justified in taking up this matter with the Secretary of State or that she would be justified in providing you with a membership list of a voluntary organisation that exists to support the school.

Yours sincerely,

Rachel Squire

Tom Minogue

From: "Tom Minogue" <tomminogue@btinternet.com>
To: <dunfermline.west@ukf.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2003 11:55 PM
Subject: Queen Victoria School Dunblane

Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

Rachel Squire MP
Parliamentary Office
Music Hall Lane
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 7NG

13Th February 03

Dear Mrs Squire,

I refer to your letter of 12th February in response to my e-mail of 12th and thank you for sharing your interesting and educational information relating to "friends" groups and the Queen Victoria School. The latter was known to me and the former is something I have no personal knowledge of and as a result it educates me.

Turning to the substance of my e-mail, namely the accusations made by a housemaster of Queen Victoria School regarding the abuse of boys at QVS and the activities of prominent members of the Scottish/Political and Legal Establishment calling themselves the "Friends of QVS". You seem to be in denial on this part of my letter. Did you read my letter?

You talk of "a sinister conspiracy of some sort." What do you mean by this reference?

Finally it is with regret that I note that you opine that there is nothing in my letter which would justify you taking up this matter with the Secretary of State with a view to providing me with a list of membership of a voluntary organisation that exists to support the school. This leaves me with no alternative other than to seek this information from other sources who may view my plight differently.

Yours faithfully,

Page 2 of 2

Tom Minogue.
e-mail copy to Secretary of State for Scotland

7/2/03

Tom Minogue

From: "TIMMONS, Jim" <TimmonsJ@parliament.uk>
To: <tomminogue@btinternet.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2003 7:54 AM
Subject: RE: Queen Victoria School Dunblane, Copy of letter to Rachel Squire MP

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE RT HON HELEN LIDDELL MP.

Dear Mr Minogue,

As the matters which you have raised are devolved to the Scottish Parliament, I have forwarded your enquiry to your MSP- Scott Barrie at scott.barrie.msp@scottish.parliament.uk.

Jim Timmons.
 PA to Mrs Liddell.

-----Original Message-----

From: tomminogue@btinternet.com [mailto:tomminogue@btinternet.com]
Sent: 12 February 2003 05:23
To: timmonsj@parliament.uk
Subject: Queen Victoria School Dunblane, Copy of letter to Rachel Squire MP

This message has been sent from the House of Commons WebSite Constituency Locata Service
 Your email address will not be divulged unless you reply by email to this message

Thomas Minogue 94
 Victoria Terrace Dunfermline
 Fife KY12 0LU e-mail:
tomminogue@btinternet.com Tel: 01383 729869
 Mrs Rachel Squire MP The House of Commons Westminster LONDON
 10th Feb 2003 Dear Mrs Squire, Helen Liddell Head of H M
 Commissioners and President of the Board of Management, Queen Victoria
 School Dunblane. A teacher from Queen Victoria School Dunblane has
 advised me that there is an organisation connected with the above school
 entitled "Friends of QVS". I would be obliged if you would ask The
 Secretary of State for Scotland if she could advise me of where I can obtain
 details of the membership of this organisation. I can assure you this is
 a matter of some importance and would ask you to attend to it at your
 earliest convenience. Yours faithfully,
 Thomas Minogue. By e-mail and post cc. H Liddell

The sender left the following as their name and address:

Page 2 of 2

Thomas Minogue

94 Victoria Terrace, Dunfermline, Fife, KY12 0LU

Message Ends.

Tom Minogue

From: "Tom Minogue" <tomminogue@btinternet.com>
To: "TIMMONS, Jim" <TimmonsJ@parliament.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2003 5:05 PM
Attach: F_A_O_Rachel Squire MP Private and Confidential.eml
Subject: Re: Queen Victoria School Dunblane, Copy of letter to Rachel Squire MP

F.a.o. The Right Honourable Helen Liddell. Subject the Queen Victoria School Dunblane 1990-1996. The "Friends of QVS".

Dear Jim, I refer to your e-mail of today stating that the matters to which I refer are devolved issues and would make it clear that the information I am seeking is at the time leading up to the Dunblane shootings (between 1990 & 1996) and therefore cannot be considered as devolved matters. Even if the information I sought was for today can the Royal Warrant be devolved? I act in the public interest and will ensure that my concerns are not lightly dismissed or diverted in this manner. I expect a response from H M Secretary of State and wonder by what means has the Secretary of State divested herself of the Royal Warrant to be Chief of H.M. Commissioners. I enclose my latest letter to Rachel Squire which should give you some idea of the seriousness of the issues I seek to verify least there be a need to present a complaint to the Procurator Fiscal. I will copy this e-mail to Rachel Squire and the press. Yours faithfully, Tom Minogue.

----- Original Message -----

From: "TIMMONS, Jim" <TimmonsJ@parliament.uk>
To: <tomminogue@btinternet.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2003 6:54 AM
Subject: RE: Queen Victoria School Dunblane, Copy of letter to Rachel Squire MP

> FROM THE OFFICE OF THE RT HON HELEN LIDDELL MP.

>

> Dear Mr Minogue,

>

> As the matters which you have raised are devolved to the Scottish
 > Parliament, I have forwarded your enquiry to your MSP- Scott Barrie at
 > scott.barrie.msp@scottish.parliament.uk.

>

> Jim Timmons.

> PA to Mrs Liddell.

>

> -----Original Message-----

> **From:** tomminogue@btinternet.com [mailto:tomminogue@btinternet.com]

> **Sent:** 12 February 2003 05:23

> **To:** timmonsj@parliament.uk

> **Subject:** Queen Victoria School Dunblane, Copy of letter to Rachel Squire

> MP

>

>



Scotland Office

An Oifis Albannach

Home & Social Division
Meridian Court
5 Cadogan Street
Glasgow G2 6AT

Telephone: 0141-242 5946
Fax: 0141-242 5992
Gerald.Mchugh@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
Website: www.scottishsecretary.gov.uk

Your ref:
Our ref:

14 February 2003

Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
DUNFERMLINE
Fife
KY12 0LU

Dear Mr Minogue

QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL, DUNBLANE

I have been asked to reply to the e-mail message to the Secretary of State's constituency office about her role as President of the Commissioners of Queen Victoria School and your request for information about an organisation known as "Friends of QVS".

This department holds no information on the organisation concerned. The Secretary of State's role as President of the Commissioners is purely formal. If you have not already done so therefore, I can only suggest that you write to the school with your request for information.

The most appropriate point of contact would appear to be:

Brian Raine, BA PGCE
Chief Executive/Headmaster
Queen Victoria School
DUNBLANE
Perthshire
FK15 0JY

I hope this is helpful.

As your original enquiry came via Rachel Squire MP, I am copying this letter to her.

Yours sincerely

GERALD McHUGH
Head of Home & Social Division



0141-242 5946

Lieutenant General Sir Peter Graham
Gordon's Museum
St Luke's, Viewfield Road
Aberdeen
AB15 7XH

17th February 03

Dear Sir,

Members of the Board of Her Majesty's Commissioners
Queen Victoria School Dunblane 1990-1996.

I believe that you served as a member on the Board of Management in the above and wonder if you could point me in the right direction to obtain details of the individuals who belonged to a group entitled "Friends of QVS".

My request is a serious one and is in no way part of any commercial enterprise but is rather a matter of public importance.

Thanking you in anticipation of your cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

Thomas Minogue.

From: Brigadier Miles Hunt-Davis, C.V.O., C.B.E.
Private Secretary to H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

24th February, 2003.

Dear Mr. Minogue,

The Duke of Edinburgh has asked me to thank you for your letter of 17th February in which you enquired about the organisation entitled Friends of QVS.

I am making some enquiries about this matter on His Royal Highness's behalf and would hope to be able to write to you again in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Miles Hunt-Davis

Thomas Minogue, Esq.

From: Air Vice Marshal J Morris CBE

22 The Inches
Dalgety Bay
Fife
KY11 9YG

21 February 2003

Mr T Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

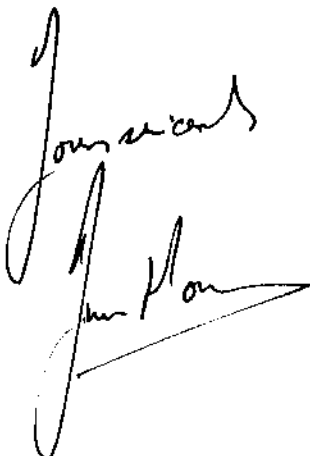


Queen Victoria School – Board of Commissioners 1990-1996

Your letter of 17th February seeking my help in identifying members of a group entitled “Friends of QVS” was forwarded to me by the Area HQ staff of RAFA Scotland. I still serve as a Queen’s Commissioner having joined the Board in 1995 but have no personal knowledge of any group calling itself “Friends of QVS”. I consulted the Headmaster but he also is unaware of such a group. However both of us are relative newcomers with no exposure to the school prior to the mid 90’s. My only suggestion is that you write to the Chairman of the Board, Lt Gen Sir John MacMillan KCB CBE, since he served as a Commissioner from 1992. You should write to him c/o

Queen Victoria School
Dunblane
Perthshire
FK15 0JY

I am sorry to have no other information but if I can help in any other way, do not hesitate to write.



The Rt Hon Lord Forsyth of Drumlean



Thomas Minogue Esq
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

5 March 2003

•
Tom Minogue

Thank you very much for your letter. I was a member of the board of QV School ex officio as Secretary of State. I think the best thing would be to write to the Scottish Executive who may be able to assist you.

•
Yours truly
L. Forsyth



SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

Education Department
Schools Division

Victoria Quay
Edinburgh EH6 6QQ

Mr T Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

Telephone: 0131-244 4502
Fax: 0131-244 1474
Shirley.anderson@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk>

31 March 2003

Dear Mr Minogue

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF HER MAJESTY'S COMMISSIONERS QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL DUNBLANE 1990-96

I refer to your letter of 17 February to The Right Hon Lord Ross asking for information about a group called 'Friends of QVS'. Your letter has been passed to the Executive and in particular this Division as we have responsibility for registration of independent schools and have a number of files relating to the Queen Victoria School, Dunblane.

We have carried out a substantial check of our files but unfortunately have been unable to locate any papers relating to the members of the 'Friends of QVS'.

Yours sincerely

S Anderson

MRS S ANDERSON



Tom Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace,
Dunfermline,
Fife
KY12 0LU
Tel: 01383-729869

E-mail: tomminogue@btinternet.com

The Rt. Hon Lord Ross
Court of Session
Parliament House
Parliament Square
EDINBURGH
EH1 1RQ

7th March 2003

Dear Sir,

Members of the Board of Her Majesty's Commissioners
Queen Victoria School Dunblane 1990-1996

I wrote to you recently in the following terms:

" I believe that you served on the Board of Management in the above and wonder if you could point me in the right direction to obtain details of the individuals who belonged to a group entitled " friends of QVS". My request is a serious one and is in no way part of any commercial enterprise but is rather a matter of public importance. Thanking you in anticipation of your cooperation."

I am disappointed to note that of the 12 Commissioner for whom I have addresses and to whom I have written none have seen fit to respond to my letter in writing although several have telephoned. The Patron has responded in writing.

I would again ask that you respond to my letter which is aimed at establishing the truth or otherwise of allegations which include the abuse of pupils at Queen Victoria School in the early 1990's.

Yours faithfully,

Thomas Minogue.

Lord Ross
33 Lauder Road
Edinburgh
EH9 2JG

17th March 03

Dear Sir,

Queen Victoria School Dunblane, 1989-1992

I thank you for your letter and regret that I have to ask more questions which I would be obliged if you would consider answering and while I have had no indication to date that the allegations have found any corroboration among the Commissioners of QVS I must be seen to be taking this matter seriously and make no apology for asking these further questions which you are of course at liberty to ignore.

I am looking into a complaint that has been raised with me by an ex-employee of the above establishment, which I understand you were associated with between 1989 and 1992. The nature of my enquiries which I must take seriously centre on three allegations of circumstances pertaining during the above period, which are as follows:

1/ That a group of prominent people with no official connection to the school, who were known as the "Friends of QVS", visited the school and took boys home for weekends.

2/ That Thomas Hamilton (The Dunblane killer) was known as a "Friend of QVS" and had access to and influence in the Queen Victoria School.

3/ That there were allegations of widespread Bullying and Abuse of some of the pupils by fellow pupils and others.

I would be obliged if you could tell me anything you know of these allegations which have been the subject of representations by me to all of the Commissioners who I have been able to contact to date. If you can advise me of any contact addresses on the list then please do, as I would like to attempt to do justice to my research.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Thomas Minogue. Petitioner to the Scottish Parliament.

Lord Lang of Monkton

17th March 03

Dear Sir,

Queen Victoria School Dunblane, 1989-1992

I am looking into a complaint that has been raised with me by an ex-employee of the above establishment, which I understand you were associated with between 1989 and 1992. The nature of my enquiries which I must take seriously centre on three allegations of circumstances pertaining during the above period, which are as follows:

- 1/ That a group of prominent people with no official connection to the school, who were known as the "Friends of QVS", visited the school and took boys home for weekends.
- 2/ That Thomas Hamilton (The Dunblane killer) was known as a "Friend of QVS" and had access to and influence in the Queen Victoria School.
- 3/ That Bullying and Abuse of some of the pupils took place by fellow pupils and others.

I would be obliged if you could tell me anything you know of these allegations which have been the subject of representations by me to all of the Commissioners who I have been able to contact to date. If you can advise me of any contact addresses on the attached list then please do, as I would like to attempt to do justice to my research.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Thomas Minogue. Petitioner to the Scottish Parliament.



26 March 2003

Tom Minogue, Esq.,
94 Victoria Terrace,
Dunfermline,
Fife,
KY12 0LU

Dear Mr Minogue,

Queen Victoria School, Dunblane 1989 – 1992

Thank you for your letter of 17 March.

As Secretary of State for Scotland between November 1990 and July 1995 I occupied an honorary role (Honorary President, I think) in respect of Queen Victoria School, Dunblane. In that capacity I paid one official visit to the school during that period.

I was not involved in the management of the school, though I may have been responsible for appointing some members of its management board.

I do not recall being made aware of any of the alleged incidents to which you refer.

I am sorry I cannot offer you more assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Lang of Monkton".

Brigadier OR Tweedy,
Inverbraan,
Little Dunkeld,
Perthshire, PH8 OAD
Tel: 01350727 725 - E-mail: Ortweedy@aol.com

18 March 03

Dear Mr. Macgregor

Thank you for your letter of 17 March 03.

I fear that I am totally unaware of the allegations contained in your letter.

Yours sincerely

Robert Tweedy



THE GORDON HIGHLANDERS MUSEUM
ST. LUKE'S, VIEWFIELD ROAD, ABERDEEN, AB15 7XH.

Tel: (01224) 311200

Fax: (01224) 319323

E-mail: museum@gordonhighlanders.com
Website: www.gordonhighlanders.com

T Minogue Esq
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

PWG/mem

20th March 2003

Dear Mr Minogue,

Thank you for your letter of 17th March 2003 which I have passed to QVS Dunblane, to whom I feel all your future correspondence should be addressed.

I reiterate I have never heard of the 'Friends of QVS', nor am I aware of Thomas Hamilton having access to nor influence with the School.

As I recollect there were allegations in the early 1990s concerning bullying of some pupils. As I recollect, these allegations were investigated by the educational authorities, and the Police and the School acted on recommendations made as a result of the former, while the Police decided there was no case for any prosecutions.

It is a long time since I was involved with QVS and I really feel you must now address any further correspondence to the School itself.

Yours sincerely,
Peter Graham

Lieutenant General Sir Peter Graham

Tom Minogue

From: "Scott, Dot J" <DScott@ScottishLife.co.uk>
To: <tomminogue@btinternet.com>
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2003 3:34 AM
Subject: J D F Miller - Scottish Life

We have received a further letter from yourself addressed to Mr David Miller.

Scottish Life no longer has a Board of Directors as we are part of the Royal London Group.

David Miller was previously a Director with Scottish Life but as such, we have no contact with him any longer.

I forwarded your original letter to him at his home address but know Mr Miller travels a lot

Hope this is of some help.

Dot Scott
Tel: 0131 456 7777 Fax: 0131 524 8830
E-Mail - dscott@scottishlife.co.uk

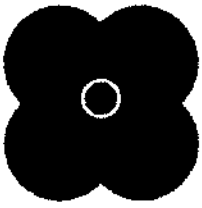
The information in this e-mail is confidential and may be legally privileged. It is intended solely for the addressee and access to this e-mail by anyone else is unauthorised.

If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, distribution or any action taken or omitted to be taken in reliance on it is prohibited and may be unlawful.

At present the integrity of e-mail across the Internet cannot be guaranteed and messages sent via this medium are potentially at risk. Therefore we will not accept liability for any claims arising as a result of the use of this medium to transmit messages by or to Scottish Life.

All incoming and outgoing e-mail communications are scanned automatically by software designed to quarantine e-mails containing material which is in contravention of our Company e-mail usage policy.

The Royal London Mutual Insurance Society Limited for life and pension products
Registered in England and Wales No. 99604.
Registered Office: Royal London House, Middleborough, Colchester, Essex CO1 1PP
Royal London Asset Management Limited for investment management services
Registered in England and Wales No. 2244297.
Registered Office: 55 Gracechurch Street, London EC3V 0UF
Royal London Savings Limited for Individual Savings Accounts



The Earl Haig Fund
Scotland

Scottish Charity No SC 014096



The Officers'
Association Scotland

Scottish Charity No SC 010665

18 March 2003

Mr Tom Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 OLU

Dear Mr Minogue

In response to your letter of 18 March you should be aware that during the period you refer to I was living and working abroad for most of it and, as I was not a Commissioner, unaware of the existence of their role or the functionings of Queen Victoria School Dunblane. I was appointed two years after the period you appear to be interested in.

Yours sincerely

Major General J D MacDonald
Chief Executive

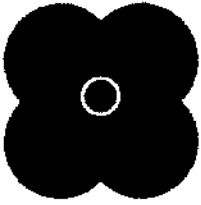
NEW HAIG HOUSE, LOGIE GREEN ROAD, EDINBURGH EH7 4HR

Telephone: 0131 557 2782 Fax: 0131 557 5819

HAIG HOUSE, 1 FITZROY PLACE, SAUCHIEHALL STREET, GLASGOW G3 7RJ

Telephone: 0141 221 8141 Fax: 0141 204 0939

The Earl Haig Fund Scotland is a Company Limited by guarantee, Registered in Scotland Number 194893 at the above address
The Officers' Association Scotland is a Company Limited by guarantee, Registered in Scotland Number 173449 at the above address



The Earl Haig Fund
Scotland

Scottish Charity No SC 014096



The Officers'
Association Scotland

Scottish Charity No SC 010665

11 March 2003

Mr T Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
FIFE
KY12 0LU

Dear Mr Minogue,

In response to your letter of 7 March enquiring about 'Friends of QVS' I am unaware of any such organisation and have therefore passed your enquiry to the School.

Yours faithfully
J D MacDonald

Major General J D MacDonald
Chief Executive, The Earl Haig Fund Scotland

c.c The Bursar, Queen Victoria School, Dunblane

NEW HAIG HOUSE, LOGIE GREEN ROAD, EDINBURGH EH7 4HR

Telephone: 0131 557 2782 Fax: 0131 557 5819

HAIG HOUSE, 1 FITZROY PLACE, SAUCHIEHALL STREET, GLASGOW G3 7RJ

Telephone: 0141 221 8141 Fax: 0141 204 0939

The Earl Haig Fund Scotland is a Company Limited by guarantee, Registered in Scotland Number 194893 at the above address
The Officers' Association Scotland is a Company Limited by guarantee, Registered in Scotland Number 173449 at the above address

33 LAUDER ROAD, EDINBURGH EH9 2JG
Tel 0131 667 5731

Mr Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 OLU

12 March, 2003

Dear Mr Minogue

QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL DUNBLANE

Thank you for your letter of 7 March.

I am no longer a Commissioner of the Queen Victoria School, having retired six years ago from the office by virtue of which I was an ex officio Commissioner.

I have no knowledge of any group entitled "friends of QVS".

I have no knowledge of any allegations relating to the alleged abuse of pupils at the School.

Accordingly, you will appreciate that I am unable to assist you, and I shall be grateful if you will cease sending me letters about this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Lord Ross

1/12/03



THE GORDON HIGHLANDERS MUSEUM
ST. LUKE'S, VIEWFIELD ROAD, ABERDEEN, AB15 7XIL

Tel: (01224) 311200

Fax: (01224) 319323

E-mail: museum@gordonhighlanders.com
Website: www.gordonhighlanders.com

Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife KY12 0LU

PWG/smm

11th March 2003

Dear Mr Minogue,

I felt I had responded to your previous letter when I telephoned you about a couple of weeks ago and told you I had never heard of the 'Friends of QVS'. I acknowledge receipt of your letter of 7th March 2003.

Personally I have not been involved with the School since I left the Army in April 1993 and I suggest you send your letter and any allegations you have to the Headmaster at QVS so they can be investigated.

Yours sincerely,
Peter Graham

Lieutenant General Sir Peter Graham



Registered Charity No. SCO 22039



THE ATLANTIC SALMON TRUST



PATRON: H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., K.T., G.C.B.

President:	The Duke of Wellington, K.G., F.V.O., C.B.E., M.C.	Chairman:	Colonel H. F. O. Bewsher, F.V.O., C.B.E.
Vice-Presidents:	Dr. Wilfred M. Carter The Lord Nickson, K.B.E., D.L. The Lord Moran, K.C., M.C. Rear Admiral D.J. Mackenzie, C.B.	Vice-Chairman:	Major General John Hopkinson, C.B.
		Executive Director:	J.B.D. Reid
		Deputy Director/Secretary:	E.B.B. Hoggart
		Finance Director:	J.B. Gray

Moulin, Pitlochry, Perthshire PH16 5JQ Telephone: (01796) 473439 Facsimile: (01796) 473554
E.mail: salmontrust@aol.com www.atlanticsalmontrust.org

c/o Atlantic Salmon Trust

25th March, 2003

Thomas Minogue Esq.
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

With reference to your letter of 7th March, I have no knowledge of any organisation "Friends of QVS".

Any further enquiries should be made direct to Queen Victoria School.

D.J. Mackenzie

The Rt Hon Lord Forsyth of Drumlean



Thomas Minogue Esq
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

12 March 2003

Dear Mr Minogue

I was a little surprised to receive your letter and enclose a copy of the response which I sent to you. I am copying your original letter to Sir Muir Russell, the Permanent Secretary at the Scottish Office.

Yours Sincerely
L. Forsyth

Enc

[Faint handwritten notes or signatures in the bottom right corner]

From: Captain R A SMITH RN

Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

12th March 2003

Dear Sir

QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of 7th March 2003. I have not received the earlier letter you refer to. Furthermore the address you used in your second letter is no longer appropriate and I suggest you write directly to the School.

For your information I have no knowledge of a group entitled "friends of QVS". Again I suggest you direct your enquiries to the School.

Yours faithfully

R.A. Smith

Commissioner

12/3/03



SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

Education Department
Mike Ewart, Head of Department

Victoria Quay
Edinburgh EH6 6QQ

Thomas Minogue Esq
94 Victoria Terrace
DUNFERMLINE
Fife
KY12 0LU

Telephone: 0131-244 1481
Fax: 0131-244 1475
ps/ed@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk>

Your ref:
Our ref:

12 March 2003

Dear Mr Minogue

Thank you for your letters of 17 February and 7 March.

I have no knowledge of the group "Friends of QVS". I have passed your letter and a copy of this reply to John Drysdale, Bursar at the school.

Sincerely

MIKE EWART

AJW00212.033



From: AirVice Marshal J Morris CBE

22 The Inches
Dalgety Bay
Fife
KY11 9YG

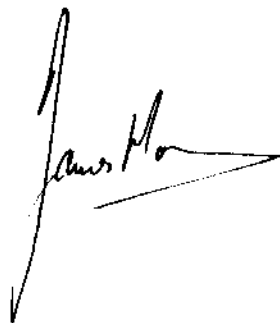
11 March 2003

Mr T Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

Dear Mr Minogue

I was disappointed to receive your letter of 7th March in which you claim that I failed to respond to your letter of 17th February concerning the "friends of QVS". I responded by letter on 21st February and you should have received it on 24th February. In order to complete your investigation I enclose a copy of my original response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Morris', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.



SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

Education Department
Philip Rycroft, Head of Schools Group

Victoria Quay
Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ

Tel No. 0131 244 7108

Fax: 0131 244 0419

e-mail: philip.rycroft@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Thomas Minogue Esq
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

26 March 2003

Dear Mr Minogue

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF HER MAJESTY'S COMMISSIONERS: QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL

You have written to Lord Forsyth of Drumlean on 17 February and 7 March to raise your concerns about allegations about the Queen Victoria School. I am replying on Lord Forsyth's behalf because he was a member of the Board ex officio in his position as Secretary of State and did not himself attend Board meetings.

You also wrote to Mike Ewart, Head of the Scottish Executive Education Department, who is a former Commissioner. My response on behalf of Lord Forsyth is the same response as you had from Mike: we have no knowledge here of the group entitled "Friends of QVS" and I have passed copies of your correspondence to the school.

*Yours sincerely,
Philip Rycroft*

PHILIP RYCROFT



jle000345.doc



SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

Education Department
Philip Rycroft, Head of Schools Group

Victoria Quay
Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ

Tel No. 0131 244 7108

Fax: 0131 244 0419

e-mail: philip.rycroft@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Thomas Minogue Esq
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

28 March 2003

Dear Mr Minogue,

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF HER MAJESTY'S COMMISSIONERS: QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL

Thank you for your letter of 17 March to Mike Ewart. I have been asked to reply.

As with your previous correspondence I have passed a copy of your letter to the school.

*Yours sincerely,
Philip Rycroft*

PHILIP RYCROFT



jle000348.doc

**Boghall Farm
Thornhill
Stirling
FK8 3QD
01786 850692**

Mr T Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

16th April 2003

Dear Mr Minogue,

Thank you for your letter of 3rd April, which has been forwarded to me at my home address, and arrived this morning. I had been made aware of your enquiries since many of the people whom you had contacted are friends. I was therefore somewhat surprised that you had not written to me as I was Chairman of Queen Victoria School from 1988 to 1991 and am now completing my second term as Chairman. The fact that you had addressed the letter to the Chairman of Erskine Hospital, (a post which I relinquished nearly three years ago), explains why I had not received your previous letters.


To answer your questions:

I was not aware of a group calling themselves Friends of QVS. This does not necessarily mean that the group did not exist, but I had never heard of it, nor have I met anyone who has.

Since I knew nothing about the 'Friends' I cannot add anything about Thomas Hamilton

An element of bullying did exist at the school, and an enquiry was held to discover the extent of it. A number of measures were put in place to bring the school more into line with modern practice.

If you would like to know more about the school I suggest you come and visit us and see for yourself how the children of servicemen and women are cared for at the present time. You would be very welcome.

In sincerely


Chairman, Queen Victoria School.

Craigielea Cottage,
Ardbeg,
Isle of Bute
PA20 0NL

16th April 2003

T Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace,
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

Dear Mr Minogue,

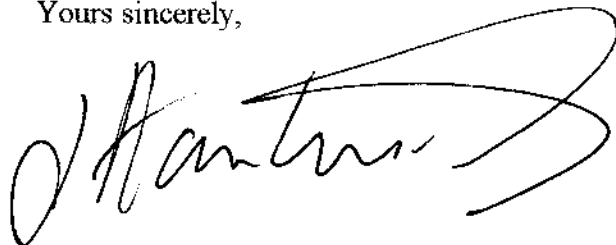
I acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 3rd April which I received on my return from holiday.

In answer to the three questions you asked in your letter, I can make the following replies:

- 1) I have never heard of "Friends of QVS", and no boys went from school except with parents or relatives or with their permission to go to the home of one of their fellow school pupils.
- 2) That Thomas Hamilton was known as a "Friend of QVS" is utterly unknown to me.
- 3) Any allegations of bullying were thoroughly investigated by the HMI and their report is in the public domain.

I would be grateful if you would address any further correspondence to the School.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J D Hankinson', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

J D Hankinson

From: Colonel A R Tapp

7 The Steadings
Easter Ross
Chalmerston Road
Stirling FK8 3AT

Our Ref:

Tel/Fax: 01786 860364

Your Ref:

22nd April 2003

Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

Dear Mr Minogue,

Re: Queen Victoria School, Dunblane, 1989-1992

Thank you for your letter of 18th April. I was the Bursar at Queen Victoria School from December 1991 to May 1999. My responses to your questions are as follows:

1. There was **no** group of people, prominent or otherwise, official or unofficial, known as the "Friends of QVS" who visited the school or took boys home for weekends.
2. Thomas Hamilton was **not** known as a "Friend of QVS" and did **not** have access to or influence in Queen Victoria School.
3. A former member of staff did make allegations of bullying in December 1991. These allegations were investigated by the Police and the Scottish Education Department and found to be untrue.

If you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Alan Tapp

actually done for a living? - Well, that's all I knew about, yes.

How did you know about the boys' camps? - He told me.

How frequently did you have talks, conversations, with him? - Not a lot but one or two conversations I had with him. Out the back in the garden or on the road.

If you met in the street would you acknowledge each other? - If I was on the same side as him, yes, but if I was on the other side, no.

Would you stop in the street or would it be very rarely you would actually have occasion to stop and speak to him? - No, I wouldn't stop and speak to him.

So that on the occasions when there was some conversation between you, who was it that started the conversation off? - It was him and I nearly jumped out of my skin.

Can you remember the first time that happened? - Well, if I was maybe out the back hanging out my washing, he was there. I never heard him coming but he was there and he would speak and I just got a fright and I would talk but then I just left him.

Did he ever do anything that you saw that either upset you or caused you any anxiety? - Well, he didn't really upset me but he asked me into his house and I was caught unawares and I went into his house but I was most uneasy. That sort of upsetting.

Was it just one occasion you were inside the house? - One occasion, yes.

Apart from that, and I will come back to that in a minute, there was not anything else you were aware of going on in the area which caused you any concern? - Just the way he went about. He was a sort of odd character. The way he walked and spoke.

Tell/

Tell me something about the way he walked? - He sort of crept. He was very head down and sort of crept along.

What about the way he spoke? - He was very proper and soft spoken.

He has been described as a slow, deliberate speaker?
- Yes.

Was there any sign in the activity around his house that he had an interest in boys' clubs? - Oh, yes.

What were the signs? - Well, he used to get a van from Central Region and he told me it was for camps on Loch Lomondside or at Queen Victoria School and he used to have big boards and he would take them down the back and paint them white. That was for flooring at the camps for the boys to sleep on.

Did you learn anything about whether he charged very much for these camps? - Yes.

Did you learn that from him? - Yes, I did.

What did he tell you about that? - £70 or £80 per week.

When you saw a van around the house, did you see boys there as well? - Once.

What age were they? - Well, I would have said between maybe six and 10 years of age.

What were they doing? - Well, they were in the van and he would put in big rolls, bales, of toilet rolls and washing up liquid but the boys would be in the van or running round the van. They were never in his house.

Tell me about the circumstances in which he invited you into the house? - Well, I was coming home one night round about 9 and he was at his front door looking up towards Annfield and he had a sort of telescopic thing in his hand and he was look at Annfield through it and he saw me coming and he just said "Mrs. Ogilvie, can I have a word?" and/

and I said "Well, what is it, Tommy?". "Just a minute" he said and his front door was open and he didn't go to shut it. He walked in in front of me and I walked in behind him and into his sitting room and he asked me to sit down. Well, I did sit down.

Roughly when was this? - Well, it was the summer time. I can't remember if it was last summer or the summer before. It wasn't any earlier than that.

When you sat down what happened? - He asked me to look at a video.

What was on the video? - Small boys.

How long did it last? - Well, he fast-forwarded it and stopped it and let it go for a bit and then he would fast-forward it again and let it go for a good bit. That is what he did all the time and he was very proud because he said "These are my boys". That is what he said. I sort of had my back to him and I was looking out the window more often than I was looking at the video.

How long do you reckon it lasted, showing you this video? - The bit that he showed me, well, I think about 40 minutes.

And can you tell me what you saw on the video? - Just small boys.

Doing what? - Well, they were walking along or maybe running. I can't remember if they were jumping over a wooden horse. I can't remember that but I think there was one bit that there was that on it but I'm not too sure. But they just seemed to be marching in lines, the boys.

Did they approach the camera at any stage? - Well, they turned their head towards the camera.

As they walked past the camera? - Yes.

So they would come right up to it more or less and look at it and walk past? - No, they were walking to the camera, the video, they were walking but they were never looking straight singly. It was just as if they were in a line and they were photographed as they were walking up. They didn't look/

Was it eventually paid? - Eventually, yes.

How much was it for? - £280. Originally it was supposed to be £250.

In September and December were you being paid for temporarily assisting him? - Yes, depending on the nights of the week.

In December I think you brought your relationship to an end? - Yes, because like, the only reason I had -- you might think it strange because I was at Dumbarton and I was travelling away up to Stirling, but the only reason I came to Stirling was my girlfriend at the time was at Stirling University so therefore I had a contact within Stirling, so it was quite convenient for me to work in Stirling.

What was your reason for bringing it to an end? - Well, sometimes he would maybe have me pick him up outside his house and he would have his camera stuff, equipment with him, and I felt that I was getting like a taxi service rather than a sports coach.

It wasn't concern over what he was doing at the clubs that made this end? - No.

When did you next hear from him? - It must have been -- well, after I said I wasn't coming to work for him he kept on phoning to say are you coming up and I said "No." It would be maybe May time.

What was the purpose of him contacting you then? - That was because he was looking for somebody for a sports camp in summer 1995, and he was actually asking myself whether I would be willing to work with him for two weeks.

Did you agree to that? - No, I just felt like it was only two weeks work, and I was unemployed and obviously the school period is over six weeks, so I was hoping to gain further employment.

Was it knowing about the previous year's camp that was influencing your view? - Well, to a certain/

certain extent. I never particularly liked the fact the kids had to do so much strenuous work. The sleeping arrangements weren't particularly good as I previously mentioned.

Did he do anything to try to persuade you? - He increased the amount of money that I was going to work for.

To what? - I think it was £300.

In fact, you didn't take that job? - That's right.

You had another job? - That's right.

What was that? - It was actually by Mr. Hamilton I actually gained that employment. It was at the International School teaching Spanish kids sports.

Where was that? - Queen Victoria School.

Was that a longer period than two weeks? - It was for four weeks. I gained that employment because Mr. Hamilton had gave my number on to somebody else.

Well, you were at that training....? - It was a school.

While you were there did you go to Dunblane High School Club at all? - Yes. He phoned me up a couple of times saying "Why don't you come down and see" -- some of the boys who had been at the previous camp were actually there in 1995 and he said "Why don't you come down and see how they are getting on".

Did you go? - I went down three times.

Did Mr. Hamilton have any assistance at the camp? - Yes, he had one qualified teacher and two other students.

Did you see them there? - Yes.

Did they know what they were doing, or appear to know what they were doing? - Yes. It was just virtually similar to exactly why I was there, /

there, i.e., while the kids were doing gymnastics, and they were in their trunks once again.

How many kids were there? - I estimate 25/28.

So it was bigger than the year before? - Yes.

On one of the visits you were there did you come across a child who was upset? - Yes. There was a kid in a corner crying. I asked him -- no, I never asked the kid directly -- I asked what was wrong with the kid and they said that he was homesick and he was upset. It was just he was homesick and therefore he was in a corner crying. I thought it was a bit harsh and when talking to him.....

Did he say whether he had run away? - Yes, I think he did. He said maybe two boys had run away the previous night and he said they came back and their parents had been notified. The parents seemed quite happy to have the kids continue.

Were the children wearing black swimming trunks again? - On the occasions I was there I was doing gymnastics, yes, and they were in their swimming trunks.

Generally speaking at that camp did the children appear to you to be happy or unhappy? - I don't think they enjoyed the gymnastics; I think they found that quite hard work. On the whole they seemed -- no, I never really had that much contact at the time. They seemed okay, yes.

What about the people who were working with them this time? Was he getting on with them? - He said he had a couple of problems with them because, in particular the school teacher, because I didn't think they were particularly impressed by his teaching methods, i.e. kids being in trunks, the same as I thought myself, a bit strange.

Were there any photographs taken on any of your visits? - He did take several when I went, yes. There was a picture taken, a group picture outside.

How/

just came out the blue, unexpected as I say.

Can you say whether he was in the school grounds or not? - Yes, he was definitely, because had he been any other way, that is to say coming from the back -- there is a road that comes in the back of the school, and we would have seen him coming down that road when we were coming to the gates. He was in the annexe, one of the annexes to the school.

As you walked along the path was the school to your right or your left? - Left.

The gates you are talking about, were they to your right or your left? - Well, they were a'fore us.

In front of you? - Yes.

These gates lead to where? - The gates lead out to Springfield Road, the gates of the school. They come off Springfield Road past the church and into the school playground.

How are you able to tell where Hamilton had actually come from? - Well, I would have seen him had he been in that part of the road from the back of the school.

Because you didn't see him where you would expect to see him if he was walking in the ordinary course like yourself, is the only place he could have come from.....? - The annexe to the school.

Did you speak to him? - Yes.

What did you say to him? - I turned round and said, "Where did you come from?" and he said "I was away to organise another boys' club". I just went to ask a question and -- he seemed agitated as if he had been caught out.

Did you address him by name? - Yes.

What name did you call him? - John.

Why did you call him John? - Well, I wasn't thinking properly at the time. It is actually a little -- I thought his name was John and he/

he brought us up on that and he says, "My name is not John, it is Tom".

This fairly unsavoury character whom you have told us lives across the road from you -- you didn't know his name for sure?
- I knew his name, it was just a misinterpretation at the moment.

Are you sure about it now that it was him? -
Certainly, definitely. There is no other one in Scotland like him.

I think you were asking him where he had been. Did you ask him anything else in that conversation? - Yes. I asked him what he meant by starting a boys' club at a quarter past 11 at night in the dead of winter, and he suddenly went on -- what I wanted to ask him, I asked him for the name of the Stirling Rifle and Pistol Club's address or the telephone number of it.

Why did you ask him that? - My estranged wife had told us previous to that she had been to the rifle range with him at **Dunblane Victoria School and she** had been embezzling money which was not to my knowledge, and I was wanting to rectify that with the gun club, I had nothing whatsoever to do with it, and I was wanting to contact them either by phone or by writing to the Secretary to point that out.

So you took this opportunity to ask him for what information? - The Stirling Rifle and Pistol Club's phone number, or the address of that place. He told us it wasn't a static building they had. He informed us that might have been in his mail, that is to say the telephone number or the address.

Now, you told me earlier you had seen him on some other occasion before the 13th March. When was that? - That was the 3rd of March we were talking about.

When was the next time you saw him? -
Approximately the 10th of March. We were going down, Helen Peters and I, my girlfriend, were going down to Cecil Street Garage at night to get the morning paper that comes in early, and he stopped me, he wanted to talk about the request I had made of/

of him.

How long after the evening you have told us about was that? - After the 2nd or 3rd March, it would be approximately seven or eight days.

Did you speak to Hamilton on that occasion? - Yes, in Cecil Street.

On the week of the Dunblane incident did you see him? - No. My girlfriend was looking out of the window and she said, "There's Thomas Hamilton away by".

What day was that? - The Monday.

Two days before? - She brought it to my attention it was a different colour of briefcase than he normally had. It was normally black, as if we would get the assumption he was into photography, but I knew otherwise through the estranged wife, he was in the gun club along with her.

This is the Monday -- what time? - Approximately 9 o'clock, half past 9.

What was he carrying? - It was a tan briefcase with insertions for guns.

Where was he going? - Going out the street.

From his house? - Yes.

Did he have any transport there? - No, he was walking.

Describe to me please the briefcase? - It was a tan briefcase, one that I had seen about in the military that officers had shaped for taking the contents of guns.

This is something for transporting guns, is it? - Yes. It is a briefcase.

But specifically for guns? - Yes.

Is that the last time you ever saw him? - Yes.

No cross-examination.

MR./

Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terr
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

F.A.O. Colin Boyd, The Lord Advocate
Crown Office
25 Chambers Street
EDINBURGH
EH1 1LA

Monday 3rd March 03

Dear Sir,

Petition PE 306 Calling for a register of membership of organisations such as the Freemasons for members of the judiciary.

I am the petitioner in the above petition and am currently responding to an invitation by the Justice 2 Committee of the Scottish Parliament to provide further information. Specifically they have invited me to provide examples of instances where a judge's membership of the Freemasons has caused a problem.

In the course of my research into the Dunblane Inquiry I have heard allegations of abuse of pupils at the Queen Victoria School Dunblane in 1991. I would be obliged if you could advise me as to whether any of the 108 documents listed in the National Archive Index contain any mention of the Queen Victoria School? The fact that there is no mention of the school on the document Index is not conclusive proof that the documents do not contain reference to the school.

I believe the descriptions of the documents are misleading. I say this after obtaining a copy of correspondence from Mr William Burns of South Queensferry who is listed at Document 105/1-2 as having correspondence with: "*the clerk to the Inquiry regarding possible affiliations of Thomas Hamilton with Freemasonry etc.*" The correspondence is in fact between William Burns and Lord Cullen regarding Lord Cullen's and police Officers' and witnesses' membership of the Freemasons.

The fact that Lord Cullen did not respond to the submissions of Mr Burns and allowed his clerk to phone and then write to Mr Burns does not alter the fact that William Burns made representations to Lord Cullen and the Index description should have reflected this fact. The terms of his correspondence speak for themselves and are not as stated on the National Archive Index.

I would urge you to treat this matter seriously as it is necessary for me to establish the truth or otherwise of allegations made by a housemaster who taught at Queen Victoria School in 1991. The allegations include claims that pupils at the school were taken home for weekends by members of a group calling themselves the "Friends of Q.V.S." some of who abused the boys.

If you find that there is anything about your own knowledge of the Dunblane Inquiry or the Queen Victoria School, or if you have ever taken the oath of Entered Apprentice in Freemasonry or if there is any matter which, if known might preclude you from being perceived as dealing with this matter objectively perhaps a referral to the Solicitor General might be considered?

Yours faithfully,

Thomas Minogue. Petitioner

Enclosures: 1 Copy of submissions to the Justice 2 Committee.



CROWN OFFICE AND PROCURATOR FISCAL SERVICE

Policy Group

Crown Office
25 Chambers Street
Edinburgh EH1 1LA

Mr Tom Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

Telephone: 0131 226 2626
Fax: 0131 247 2650
Rutland DX: 540310
<http://www.crownoffice.gov.uk>

Your ref:
Our ref: 0103/03/G LRA/JM

Date 19 March 2003

Dear Mr Minogue

Thank you for your letter of 1 March 2003 addressed to the Lord Advocate. I have been asked to reply on his behalf. You ask for information about allegations of abuse of pupils at Queen Victoria School in Dunblane and whether the school features in any of the documents currently subject to the 100 year closure.

As you know, Lord Cullen's inquiry into the circumstances leading up to and surrounding the shootings at Dunblane Primary School on 13 March 1996 sat for 26 days, between 29 May and 10 July 1996. The whole proceedings were held in public and recorded by shorthand writers. A transcript of the proceedings is available on the Internet at www.scotland.gov.uk/library3/justice/dunblane/dunblane-00.asp.

At the conclusion of the Inquiry the inquiry papers were lodged with the then Scottish Record Office. As is normal practice, the closure periods in this case were identified by the Scottish Record Office, in consultation with the Secretary to the Inquiry and the Crown Office. Lord Cullen was content with these arrangements. This was to ensure that information was not made public during the lifetime of any of the children identified in any of the documents lodged.

In the course of the Inquiry, a large number of documents were lodged with the Inquiry Secretariat and copies of all productions were given to those represented at the Inquiry, including those representing the parents of the dead and injured. All of these productions were available for reference in the course of the Inquiry and any issue arising from those documents could have been raised during the proceedings.

When these productions were lodged with the Scottish Record Office, no effort was made to distinguish between productions making references to children and other productions because of the sheer volume of the material.

The Lord Advocate's prime concern has been to ensure that the privacy of those children referred to in the reports, given the sensitive nature of much of the material which might



IN DEFENS OF PEOPLE

A Department of the Scottish Executive

cause anguish to those involved, should be maintained. He is also conscious of the need to abide by the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998.

The Lord Advocate has reviewed not only the report and statements prepared and submitted by Detective Sergeant Hughes in 1991 but all police reports submitted to Procurators Fiscal in relation to Thomas Hamilton, and has given careful consideration to the question of them being placed in the public domain. These reports have been edited only to remove personal data relative to all witnesses referred to in these reports and their families. He has consulted with Lord Cullen and the National Archives of Scotland has reached the view that in the exceptional circumstances of this case, the reports should now be made available to the public. None of these reports contains allegations against politicians or other prominent figures, nor do they mention the group "Friends of QVS" to which you refer in your letter.

At this time unrestricted access to the productions cannot be allowed because of the sheer volume of the material and the fact that much of it refers to children. The Lord Advocate has decided in the light of recent interest that the material should be catalogued by staff at the National Archives of Scotland in a way which does not lead to the identification of children. When a full catalogue is available, he will consider further the extended closure of the papers and whether other material which does not identify children or whose release would not be contrary to the data protection legislation can be made available.

Arrangements have been made to lodge the police reports about Thomas Hamilton at the National Archives of Scotland in Edinburgh where members of the public can gain access to them in the normal manner.

Yours sincerely



Lindsey Anderson
Policy Group



INVESTING IN PEOPLE

Colin Boyd QC
Lord Advocate
Crown Office
Edinburgh
EH1 1LA

20th March 03

Dear Sir,

I wrote to you on 3rd March to ask you certain questions and have since had a letter from a member of your staff purporting to be a reply on your behalf. Quite apart from not answering any of the questions that that I asked of you it is not acceptable to me that a third party enters into matters that require answers from you personally.

I would therefore repeat my questions to **you** as follows:

Have you ever taken the oath of Entered Apprentice in Freemasonry?

Do you have any personal knowledge or association with Queen Victoria School Dunblane, which might, if known, give rise to concerns regarding your objectivity in this matter?

Do you know of any reference to the Queen Victoria School in any of the 100-year closed documents held by the Scottish Record Office?

A prompt response to these questions would be appreciated, as your answers to these questions are required. Any such response or your failure to respond will form part of a publication in the public interest currently being compiled.

Yours faithfully,

Thomas Minogue.



CROWN OFFICE AND PROCURATOR FISCAL SERVICE

Policy Group

Crown Office
25 Chambers Street
Edinburgh EH1 1LA

Mr Tom Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

Telephone: 0131 226 2626
Fax: 0131 247 2650
Rutland DX: 540310
<http://www.crownoffice.gov.uk>

Your ref:
Our ref: 2203/03/G LRA/JM

Date 14 April 2003

Dear Mr Minogue

Thank you for your letter of 20 March 2003 addressed to the Lord Advocate. You will appreciate that the Lord Advocate receives a great deal of correspondence and it is not possible for him to reply to each correspondent personally.

In relation to the oath mentioned in your letter, the Lord Advocate has not taken such an oath. He is not and never has been a freemason or a member of any other like organisation. The independence of the Lord Advocate is preserved in section 48 of the Scotland Act 1998 and his position as head of the systems of criminal prosecution and the investigation of deaths is protected by section 27 of said Act. Decisions taken by him in respect of criminal prosecutions and the investigation of deaths are taken independently of any other person.

The Lord Advocate is not personally aware of any reference to the Queen Victoria School in any of the Dunblane Inquiry records currently subject to extended closure.

Yours sincerely

LINDSEY ANDERSON
Policy Group



Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU
Tel: 01383 729869
e-mail tomminogue@btinternet.com

Lindsey Anderson
Policy Group
Crown Office
25 Chambers Street
Edinburgh

23rd April 03

Dear Ms Anderson

With reference to your letter of 14th April in response to my letter to the Lord Advocate of 20th March I would comment as follows:

The matters I wrote to the Lord Advocate on were for him to respond to, particularly in relation to his having taken the oath of Entered Apprentice in Freemasonry. Your understanding of the Lord Advocate's position on this matter does not satisfy or reassure me.

Your statement that the Lord Advocate not being **personally** aware of any reference to the Queen Victoria School in any of the 100-year closed records is again less than satisfactory as it comes on the heels of your statement that the Lord Advocate is so busy that he cannot reply to his own correspondence and your inference that the 100-year closed documents are so voluminous that the staff of the National Archives will be kept busy for some time even identifying their content.

I also understand that representations made on my behalf by my legal representatives to allow me to inspect the documents held under the 100-year embargo have been unsuccessful.

Given that the Crown Office have also decided that the names of all schools be obscured from the 100-year closed documents it would seem that there is an unwillingness on their part to assist me in my efforts to establish the veracity or otherwise of the matters relating to that school that have been brought to my attention.

I will complete my submissions to the Lord Justice Clerk without the benefit of the assistance of the Crown Office.

Yours faithfully,

Thomas Minogue.

STRICTLY PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

Colin Boyd QC
Lord Advocate
Crown Office
Edinburgh
EH1 1LA

ALAN STALKER
SC/ADS/JD

23 April 2003

Dear Sir

Our Client: Thomas John Minogue

Our client Mr. Minogue, of 94 Victoria Terrace, Dunfermline, Fife, has written to your office on a number of occasions recently requesting information about the papers submitted to and considered by the Dunblane Inquiry, information in relation to Queen Victoria School, Dunblane and your having taken an oath of "entered apprentice in freemasonry". Our client further instructs us that he has not received a satisfactory response from your office. We therefore write to you to make a formal request for our client to have access to the papers and productions relating to the Dunblane Inquiry and Queen Victoria School, Dunblane held by the National Archives of Scotland (formerly the Scottish Record Office).

In your response to a question posed by Tom McCabe in the Scottish Parliament you observed that there is no statutory basis for the closure of records created by Scottish public bodies. You further observed that the productions to the Dunblane Inquiry could be accessed with the consent of the Crown by those showing a legitimate interest. Our client requests access to these papers and productions for the purposes of:

1. private study into the pervasiveness of freemasonry within the higher echelons of Scottish society;
2. answering a direct request from Lord Gill, Lord Justice Clerk, relating to criminal activities alleged to have taken place at Queen Victoria School, Dunblane;
3. facilitating a complaint being made to the Standards Commissioner of the Scottish Parliament in respect of the consideration of his Petition PE306 to the Parliament;
4. investigating allegations of serious sexual and non-sexual abuse alleged to have taken place at Queen Victoria School, Dunblane – our client having such a legitimate interest on the basis of a former master at Queen Victoria School, Dunblane making personal representations to him and reporting serious allegations of abuse;

We would be grateful if you would let us know within 14 days from the date of this letter the time and place when our client may study these papers and productions in detail. If you are not prepared to give our client complete and unfettered access to these papers or are going to

40 CHARLOTTE SQUARE EDINBURGH EH2 4HQ • T: 0131 220 3334 • F: 0131 220 7609 • DX: ED45 EDINBURGH
Email: businesslaw@pagan.co.uk • Web: www.paganbusinesslaw.co.uk

PARTNERS • John Clarke • Stephen Cotton • Alison Green • Carolyn Wilson

limit our client's access to the records in any way, we would be obliged if you would set out in writing, with statutory or other authority, the legal basis for such declination or limitation.

We would confirm that we are treating this letter as an open letter and would intend to treat any response from you in the same manner.

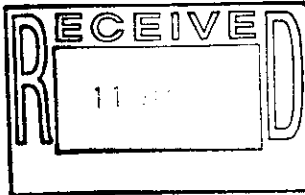
Yours faithfully



CROWN OFFICE AND PROCURATOR FISCAL SERVICE

Policy Group

Mr Alan Stalker
Pagan Business Law
40 Charlotte Square
Edinburgh
EH2 4HQ



Crown Office
25 Chambers Street
Edinburgh EH1 1LA

Telephone: (0131) 226 2626
Fax: (0131) 247 2650
Rutland DX: 504310
Lindsey.Anderson@copfs.gsi.gov.uk
<http://www.crownoffice.gov.uk>

Your ref: SC/ADS/JD
Our ref: 1204/03/G/LRA

10 April 2003

Dear Sirs

Your client: Thomas John Minogue

I acknowledge receipt of your letter to the Lord Advocate dated 4 April 2003 on behalf of your client Mr Minogue. The Lord Advocate has asked me to reply on his behalf. You indicate that your client wishes complete and unfettered access to the productions of Dunblane Inquiry, currently subject to a 100 year closure.

The Lord Advocate's response to parliamentary question S1W-34924 posed by Tom McCabe MSP, sets out the legal position in Scotland regarding the closure of records created by Scottish public bodies. There is no statutory basis for such closure periods in Scotland but as the Lord Advocate indicated in his response, the criteria for closure periods in excess of 30 years were defined in the 1993 White Paper on Open Government (CMD2290), in accordance with which it is for the department responsible for depositing the material to decide on the closure period. The White Paper sets out a clear statement of principle as to what information should be made available and what ought properly to be kept confidential in the public interest.

The Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service is not responsible for the imposition of the extended closure on the very substantial records of the Inquiry but this Department was consulted on the decision to impose such a closure and has effectively assumed the role of the "depositing department".

Documents containing information about individuals whose disclosure would cause either substantial distress, or endangerment from a third party to persons affected by disclosure or their descendants can be subject to a variable closure period of between 40 and 100 years. In the Lord Advocate's opinion documents containing information about the circumstances surrounding the tragic events at Dunblane Primary School fall squarely within the category of disclosure which could cause substantial distress.



A Department of the Scottish Executive

Your client has already been advised in my letter to him of 19 March 2003 that the Lord Advocate intends to review the 100 year closure order once the large volume of productions has been catalogued by the National Archives of Scotland.

So far as the justification for your client's particular request is concerned, the remit of the Inquiry chaired by Lord Cullen was to inquire into the circumstances leading up to and surrounding the events at Dunblane Primary School on Wednesday 13 March 1996, and to consider the issues arising therefrom. Given the terms of this remit the Lord Advocate does not consider that "private study into the pervasiveness of freemasonry within the higher echelons of Scottish society" constitutes a legitimate interest that would afford your client the opportunity to have unfettered access to the Inquiry productions.

Your client also wishes access to the papers for the purposes of investigation of allegations of serious sexual and non-sexual abuse alleged to have taken place at Queen Victoria School Dunblane and you state that he has a legitimate interest on the basis that a former master at that school made personal representations to him and reported these allegations of abuse. The Inquiry productions are not concerned with allegations of abuse at Queen Victoria School and if your client has knowledge of criminal activity being carried out at said school he, or the former master to whom you refer, should report this to the police who will be best placed to carry out an investigation. He will not be afforded access to the Dunblane productions for the purposes of his own investigation.

Staff at the National Archives of Scotland are in the process of preparing a detailed catalogue of all lodged productions, whether referred to in the course of the inquiry or not. I am not in a position provide you with an estimate of time for this process to be completed because of the volume of the material involved but when a full catalogue is available consideration will be given to reviewing the extended closure in relation to material that does not refer to children, subject to the normal conditions of privacy and confidentiality.

Finally in relation to the oath mentioned in paragraph one of your letter, the Lord Advocate has not taken such an oath. He is not and never has been a freemason or a member of any other like organisation.

Yours sincerely



LINDSEY ANDERSON
Policy Group






Your Jokes

Warning
If easily offended
avoid this site



 [Main Site](#)

 [Eurorealist Home Page](#)

Other Eurorealist sections

[Diary Updates](#)

100 Year Embargo

Bet you can't wait that long

For the latest information on this issue request more from Greg [e-mail here](#) with the subject line 'cullen info'

More details at these sites

<http://www.official-documents.co.uk/document/scottish/dunblane/duncntnt.htm>

You will find the transcript covered day by day at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/library3/justice/dunblane/dunblane-00.asp>

However you can download the entire text of the transcript from:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/library3/justice/dunblane/dunblane-01.pdf>

You will however require 'Acrobat 3+' or better to download and read the .pdf files and if you wish to download the full transcript it will take about 45 minutes on a normal line as it is 5,656KB.

HANSARD

House of Lords Official Report Vol. 589 - No. 151 - 12th. May 1998 - WA113 & WA114

Verbatim Transcription:

Thomas Hamilton: Inspector Hughes' Report

Lord Burton asked Her Majesty's Government:

Whether they will place in the Library of the House a copy of the Report by Sergeant, now Inspector, Hughes, of Central Police, into Thomas Hamilton; to list all the charges to which he recommended consideration for prosecution; and whether they will state why the Report is not listed in the index or appendix to Lord Cullen's Report into the Dunblane tragedy. [HL1712]

Lord Sewel:

This report was made to the Procurator Fiscal while Thomas Hamilton was alive. It was therefore not a submission to Lord Cullen's Inquiry, but the Inquiry took account of it as a production. Lord Cullen did not list productions in the report or in the appendix. Mr. Hughes' report is, however, referred to at pages 34 - 36 of Lord Cullen's Report.

Lord Cullen concluded that these productions should have a 100-year closure placed on them.

END OF TRANSCRIPT

OK - so what does this TELL us?

NOTE: Lord Sewel was 'The Parliamentary Under Secretary of State Scottish Office'.

NOTE Lord Burton "to list all the charges to which he recommended consideration for prosecution".

Lord Sewel did not answer this question and gave NO information of the charges recommended.

NOTE: Lord Burton "why the Report is not listed in the index or appendix"

Lord Sewell gave NO answer to this question, he merely confirmed it was not listed.

NOTE: Lord Sewel "This report was made to the Procurator Fiscal while Thomas Hamilton was alive." a mere statement of source of the submission.

NOTE: Lord Sewel "It was therefore not a submission to Lord Cullen's Inquiry, but the Inquiry took account of it as a production." This is 'weasel wording' it either was or it was not a submission.

If it was, why is it not listed.

If it was not, why is it referred to by Lord Cullen.

NOTE: Lord Sewel "Lord Cullen did not list productions in the report or in the appendix." We now note the PLURAL, what other documents and evidence were suppressed during this 'Public Enquiry'?

Why, contrary to precedent and common practice were not ALL documents & evidence listed?

NOTE: Lord Sewel "Mr. Hughes' report is, however, referred to at pages 34 - 36 of Lord Cullen's Report." How can reference be made to a document/evidence if it was not a submission to the enquiry and is not listed?

NOTE: Lord Sewel "Lord Cullen concluded that these productions should have a 100-year closure placed on them."

This leads to a host of questions:

1. By what authority can a member of the House of Lords enact a 'closure'?
2. By what authority does Lord Cullen ORDER the Procurator Fiscal?

3. Why was no reference made in the Report to a matter of such gravity that Lord Cullen enacted a 100-year closure?
4. How many items have been suppressed by this 'closure'?
5. What other evidence has been withheld from the PUBLIC Enquiry?
6. What could be SO important that it requires closure for 100-years! Cabinet war papers are normally released after 30 years.

I believe that the official answer would be 'to protect the names of victims of paedophilia activities perpetrated by Thomas Hamilton.' This of course would be a totally inaccurate and misleading answer. Various children are referred to in the Report and their anonymity is preserved therein by listing them in 'Appendix 2' of Lord Cullen's Report as '*Anonymous Former Boys Club Member' etc. The anonymity could be preserved by the simple expedient of use of a 'felt tip pen', which I understand was used in 'The Lawrence Enquiry'.

It becomes increasingly clear that a massive cover-up has and is taking place.

There is every reason to believe that this orchestrated cover-up is with the collusion of parties producing Lord Cullen's Report, for which Lord Cullen is personally responsible.

Further this cover-up has required the collusion of senior Police Officers.

Further the cover-up has required the collusion of Senior Government Ministers.

Further the cover-up has required the collusion of the Cabinet.

Further the cover-up has required the collusion of the Home Secretary.

Further the cover-up has required the collusion of the Prime Minister.

QUESTION: Do the people of Britain pay for a Report of this stature to be cover-up?

QUESTION: Who is of such a stature that members of the House of Lords, senior Police, Cabinet Ministers, the Home Secretary, the Prime Minister and others would 'spirit away' documents?

QUESTION: Who else was implicated in Mr. Hughes' Production, which senior politician(S) is being sheltered by this cover-up and was named by Mr. Hughes, of Central Police, into Thomas Hamilton; listing all the charges to which he recommended consideration for prosecution?

QUESTION: Was there a case pending against a senior politician linking him with Thomas Hamilton and paedophile activities, which was suppressed 'because' of the election?

QUESTION: Did George Robertson MP., now Lord Robertson head of N.A.T.O., as is alleged, support the application for a Firearms Certificate for Thomas Hamilton, stating him to be a man 'suitable and of good character'. George Robertson was at the time an MP.

Should this be established.

QUESTION: Was George Robertson 'leant on' to make the support.

QUESTION: Would this explain the 'over the top' vociferous activities of George Robertson MP, AFTER the Dunblane tragedy, against legal firearms and in breach of The Bill of Rights and existing legal legislation.

QUESTION: What documents are being suppressed?

QUESTION: Was there any connection between any of the following eg. membership of the same Masonic Lodge:

Thomas Hamilton, any Police Officer in the case, any Cabinet Minister, any MP or Lord Cullen?

QUESTION: Did then Sergeant, now Inspector, Hughes write a report [believed to be 7 pages long] condemning Hamilton as unsuitable as a Firearms Certificate holder.

QUESTION: Was Mr. MacMurdo, the Assistant Chief Constable of Central Police, responsible for the rejection of recommendations that Hamilton should not be issued a Firearms Certificate.

QUESTION: Why was Hamilton granted a Firearms Certificate when he was KNOWN to be of unsound and unstable character?

QUESTION: Why was this not shown in detail in Lord Cullen's Report? Surely this was a major constituent point that such a Report should have addressed.

DEDUCTIONS: We believe we know the identities of ALL concerned in terms of incriminated by this information.

We believe that Lord Cullen has by virtue of the cover-up in the Report on the Dunblane Tragedy in which it is possible that Politicians and Police were responsible, albeit indirectly, for the death of:

Victoria Clydesdale

Emma Crozier

Melissa Currie

Charlotte Dunn

Kevin Hassell

Ross Irvine

David Kerr

Mhairi MacBeath

Gwen Hodson/Mayor

Brett McKinnon

Abigail McLennan

Emily Morton

Sophie North

John Petrie

Joanna Ross

Hanna Scott

and

Maegan Turner

should be precluded from heading or participating in the Report on the Paddington Rail Tragedy.

We believe that ALL documents, evidence and pertinent data should immediately and forthwith be released to the public domain as the head of N.A.T.O. seems to be in some way embroiled in the matter and this could prove to be a risk to the safety and security of the N.A.T.O. Alliance and the Western World.

We believe that ALL documents, evidence and pertinent data should immediately and forthwith be released to the public domain as it seems that a PUBLIC Enquiry has been suborned.

We believe that ALL documents, evidence and pertinent data should immediately and forthwith be released to the public domain as there seems to be a cover-up relating to senior Ministers of Her Majesty's Government.

Should anyone reading this have ANY contribution of fact or evidence material to this apparent cover-up please take one of two actions:

1. IF YOU WISH to remain anonymous please contact me direct with any information you may wish to impart.
2. IF you are happy to be linked to the ongoing investigation PLEASE join and post your information to <EUroRealist@onelist.com> with a copy direct to me([Greg.](#))

PLEASE whatever you do distribute this 'e'mail as widely as you can - the British Public should be made aware that there would seem to be solid evidence of a cover-up sheltering senior Government Ministers and employees of the crown.

PLEASE also be mindful of the security of Britain, N.A.T.O. and the Western World, in the light of the FACTS above and acquit your duty to defend your Country by ensuring that this information is thoroughly brought to light.

Thank you ALL for helping to disseminate this information.

Top

I have taken the liberty of transcribing below a letter which was first sent in November 1996 to The Press & Journal of Aberdeen, HRH the Duke of Edinburgh and The Gun Club of Great Britain. No response was received. The substance was as a result sent to The House of Commons subsequently no response thereto was received.

I have taken the liberty of removing the identity of the original sender for their own security.

TRANSCRIPT:

"With regard to recent publicity correlating secret organisations with paedophilia, particularly the Free Masons, I would like to bring to your attention the link between the abuse of boys at the Queen Victoria School (QVS), Dunblane. The large presence of Freemasons in that establishment and the slaughter of 16 children and a teacher at Dunblane by Thomas Hamilton on 13 March 1996. As far as I know no such link was revealed in the Cullen Report. In June 1994 I released a report about my own experience as a ***** at QVS. A copy of my report was sent to almost every Scottish education authority in July 1994.

I believe that, had my allegations in 1991 been properly investigated, there is a strong possibility that Hamilton would have been discovered. His

signatures in the visitors log have been removed. The awful slaughter in March 1996 could have been prevented by an impartial police investigation.

In my report of June 1994 I accused the Ministry of Defence (MOD), the Scottish Office and the Procurator Fiscal of a deliberate cover up and of maladministration at the QVS.

The Masonic presence in the local police and the QVS was strong. It is a fact that Hamilton was enrolled in Lodge Number 1417 (Garrow Hill) in 1977. He was granted a firearms certificate in 1997. It was no idle boast when Hamilton claimed he was "a friend of the police" (Masons). In March 1996, just after the slaughter, Hamilton's file went missing. **Hamilton was a regular visitor to the primary departments of QVS. I saw him on several occasions as a friend of a housemaster.** He was one of many visitors. I presume the school security had cleared him. Nothing of this was in the Cullen report. **Lord Cullen is a Mason with a duty to protect brother Masons.**

There is evidence to show corruption and maladministration by the police. The following statement will show why the police are not going to be investigated.

[Top](#)

Lord George Robertson,
NATO Secretary General,
North Atlantic Treaty Organisation,
Brussels,
BELGIUM

Saturday 5th April 03

Dear Sir,

Queen Victoria School Dunblane 1989-91

I am presently investigating a complaint made by an ex-housemaster of the above school and to that end have written to the Patron, Commissioners, Brigadier, and Headmaster of the school in an attempt to verify the allegations that have been made by the ex-housemaster.

The nature of my enquiries which I must take seriously centre on three allegations of circumstances pertaining during the above period, which are as follows:

- 1/ That a group of prominent people with no official connection to the school, who were known as the "Friends of QVS", visited the school and took boys home for weekends.
- 2/ That Thomas Hamilton (The Dunblane killer) was known as a "Friend of QVS" and had access to and influence in the Queen Victoria School.
- 3/ That Bullying and Abuse of some of the pupils took place by fellow pupils and others.

I ask you if you know of any of the above matters due to the fact that the ex-housemaster states that you were a visitor to the Queen Victoria School at the time he was employed there. I would also state that to date of the many Commissioners and others who have been contacted there is little or no corroboration of the allegations to date.

Thanking you in anticipation of your assistance.
Yours faithfully,

Thomas Minogue.



SECRETARY GENERAL
LE SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL
THE RT. HON.
LORD ROBERTSON OF PORT ELLEN

14 April 2003

SG/AW(2003)073

Dear Mr Minogue,

I acknowledge your letter dated 5 April.

I do not know who you are or who the 'ex-housemaster' is. I know of no inquiry into any allegations.

I consider your letter to be an impertinence and not only have I no intention of replying to your questions, I am sending a copy of your letter and this reply to the Chief Constable of Central Scotland Police.

*Yours,
Robertson*

Mr Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU
United Kingdom

Lord George Robertson
Secretary General
North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
Boulevard Leopold III
Brussels
Belgium

18th April 03

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter of 14th April 03 I would comment as follows:

My letter of 3rd April advised you in polite terms of who I was and what I was enquiring about.

The fact that you claim to know of no enquiry is therefore puzzling as I thought that I had stated in polite and concise terms the nature of my enquiry. However if my letter was too brief then perhaps I owe you an apology for this and would clarify by expanding on the nature of the circumstances leading to my enquires as follows:

Circumstances leading to my investigation of the ex-housemaster's complaint.

In February 2003 as a petitioner to the Scottish Parliament I was asked by the Justice 2 Committee to provide evidence of specific instances where a Judges/Sheriffs membership of the Freemasons had caused problems. I am not alone in Scotland in perceiving the Dunblane Inquiry as a case where Masonic membership had played a part in the events leading up to the Inquiry and during the Inquiry and cited this as a case in point.

I was aware that many newspaper stories and Internet articles have dealt with the supposed Masonic influence of Thomas Hamilton having allowed him to obtain firearms against police advice. A commonly broadcast theory is that Hamilton's connections to prominent figures in public life had allowed him access to Queen Victoria School Dunblane and that these facts had been instrumental in Lord Cullen (a Mason) imposing an illegal 100-year ban on documents relating to Hamilton's activities prior to the shootings. I decided to research these assertions.

I contacted an ex-housemaster at QVS who was reported to have made numerous complaints about bullying and abuse of pupils at QVS between 1989 and 1992. A website carried a letter from the housemaster which alleged that one regular and apparently influential visitor to the school between 1989 and 1992 was Thomas Hamilton the

Dunblane killer. After a lengthy correspondence I visited the ex-housemaster who amongst other things claimed that the MOD (HM Commissioners), Scottish Office, Procurator Fiscal, and Stirling Council would not act on his numerous complaints. The ex-housemaster also believed that Freemasonry had been a factor in the unreported abuse of pupils at QVS and also had adversely influenced the investigation of his complaints.

I have been attempting to independently corroborate some of the main allegations made by the ex-housemaster. It was as part of this process of corroborating or otherwise what the ex-housemaster had claimed that I wrote to you. I wrote to ask if you were a visitor to the school as he had stated that this was the case. No other claim or inference on your presence at Queen Victoria School was claimed by the ex-housemaster or inferred by me. You were simply one of a number of VIP's noticed by the ex-housemaster at the school.

If you were familiar with the school I hoped that you could confirm or otherwise your knowledge of the matters detailed in the three questions I asked you. I have asked similar questions of many other people who were associated with the school and the many responses received will form the basis of a report of my findings. I will be making my findings known to a Commissioner of the school, Lord Gill shortly.

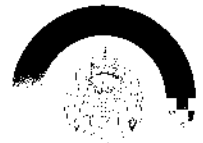
As a concerned citizen looking into the truth of allegations that have been made to me I find your remark that I am impertinent to be **offensive, ill advised, and warranting an apology.** The claims I have sought to verify are serious and require that I am satisfied or otherwise with their content before making them known to the relevant authorities. The only way I know of doing this is to ask those involved. To date your reaction to my questions is unique in its aggressive tone.

I have no objection to you sending my letter to whomever you see fit and I will not be slow to act in a like manner but I fail to see why you would wish to send my letter to the police, far less the Chief Constable of Central Region. If I did understand why you would consider it appropriate to send my letter to the police I would have thought that you would have sent letter to Fife Constabulary, as that is the police district in which I live.

I hope that my explanation of the background to my enquiry will reassure you of my sincerity in this matter and perhaps you might retract your police complaint. I would also ask that you reconsider your decision not to assist me in what is, after all, a matter of public interest. I would however respect your decision to decline my request and that is your prerogative.

Yours faithfully,

Thomas Minogue.



Central Scotland Police

Our ref: DW/74/03/es

3 June 2003

Andrew Cameron B.A
Chief Constable

Mr. Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife KY12 0LU

Police Headquarters,
Randolphfield,
Stirling FK8 2HD

Tel: 01786 456000

Telex: 777735

Fax: 01786 451177

Dear Mr Minogue,

Queen Victoria School, Dunblane.

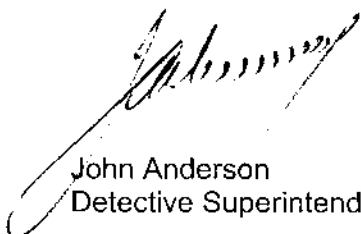
On 16th April, 2003, Lord Robertson, Secretary General, North Atlantic Treaty Organisation wrote to my Chief Constable attaching a letter he had received from yourself dated 5 April, 2003.

Having examined this letter I note that you suggest that you are investigating a complaint made by an ex-housemaster at Queen Victoria School, Dunblane. Some of the matters you allude to being under investigation have the potential of being serious criminal offences. It is the responsibility of the police to investigate criminal matters. We also consider any reference to abuse of any kind within the setting of a residential establishment for children to be a matter of the utmost seriousness.

With this in mind I would urge you to have this ex-housemaster contact Central Scotland Police to allow us to consider whether or not a criminal investigation should be commenced.

Within this force we have child protection officers based at our Family Unit. These officers are trained to investigate claims of abuse in residential establishments. The ex-housemaster should contact the officer in charge of this Unit, Detective Sergeant Moir. Telephone No: 01786 813412.

Yours sincerely



John Anderson
Detective Superintendent



Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU
Tel:01383 729869

e-mail: tomminogue@btinternet.com

Det. Supt. John Anderson
Central Scotland Police
Police Headquarters
Randolphfield
Stirling
FK8 2HD

Saturday 14th June 03

Dear Sir,

Queen Victoria School Dunblane

Given that I am the subject of the correspondence you make reference to I would be obliged if you could send me a copy of Lord Robertson's letter of 16th April to you so that I may consider the matters you refer to in context.

On the understanding that I am not fully appraised of the background against which your letter of 3rd June (received 12th June) was written, I would comment as follows:

It is true that some of the matters I allude to are indeed potentially very serious criminal offences, and in the normal course of events the police would be the first people to be advised of such matters. However the circumstances surrounding these allegations are anything but normal and for that reason it seemed appropriate to report the matters to a very senior Judge who is now a Commissioner of the school, though not a Commissioner at the time of the alleged incidents.

It was thought reasonable not to lodge allegations of improper conduct aided by Masonic influence among officials at QVS, with those suspected of the impropriety. For this reason Lord Gill's suggestion that the complaint be put to the Commissioners was rejected, and instead it was decided to lodge a complaint formally with the Solicitor General. This was done by e-mail on 12th June. At an earlier stage, but for the same reason, it was decided that a complaint critical of Central Scotland Police might best be assessed by others.

As to the suggestion that I should urge the ex-housemaster to contact Central Scotland Police, this would appear to be impractical in that the ex-housemaster accuses members of the same police force of:

- 1/ Breaking down the door of his flat with a sledgehammer.
- 2/ Taking documents from his flat and not returning them.
- 3/ Failing to act on his complaint.
- 4/ Being part of a cabal of Masons who were suspected of abusing pupils.
- 5/ Protecting their brother Thomas Hamilton from attempts to prosecute him.

Also given that in 1991 the then housemaster was convinced that the Central Scotland Police were dominated by Masons and this factor is widely believed, since then, to explain the inexplicable actions by this police force in renewing Hamilton's gun licence, it would be surprising if the ex-housemaster would have confidence in this force dealing objectively with his concerns.

Despite the above concerns I will pass your letter on to the ex-housemaster but will refrain from making the recommendations you urge, as I myself have serious doubts as to the impartiality of Masons who are present, if not prevalent, in all police forces in Scotland including Central Scotland.

As to the responsibility for consideration as to whether or not a criminal investigation should be commenced I am sure that the Solicitor General is the appropriate person to decide this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Thomas Minogue.

C.C. Solicitor General.

Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU
Tel: 01383 729869

E-mail: tomminogue@btinternet.com

Det. Supt. John Anderson
Central Scotland Police
Police Headquarters
Randolphfield
Stirling
FK8 2HD

Saturday 12th July 03

Dear Sir,

Letter dated 16th April 2003 from Lord George Robertson to Central Scotland Police regarding Thomas Minogue.

I wrote to you on Saturday 14th June in reply to your letter dated 3rd June and responded as best I could to your letter, given that I was limited by the fact that you had not saw fit to appraise me of the exact nature of a letter from Lord George Robertson which had prompted you to write to me.

Given the above facts I asked you to provide me with a copy of the letter Lord Robertson had sent to you. I have yet to receive a response and would again ask that I be given sight of the letter dated 16th April 2003 that Lord Robertson wrote to you concerning me.

If you do not accede to my legitimate request or fail to answer this letter in 7 days I will instruct my legal advisers to take measures to obtain a copy of this letter.

I would also ask you to confirm or otherwise the veracity of a claim made to me that Lord Robertson's son is a member of Central Scotland Police?

Yours faithfully,

Thomas Minogue.

C.C. Chief Constable Central Scotland Police, Pagans.

Date: 30 August 1988

Subject: COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY POLICE IN RELATION TO SUMMER CAMP HELD ON ISLAND OF INCHMOAN ON LOCH LOMOND

1 I refer to the above and have to report as follows.

On Sunday evening, 17 July 1988, the police at Alexandria were notified that a summer camp run by a Thomas Hamilton, 7 Kent Road, Stirling, on the island of Inchmoan, on Loch Lomond, involving a number of young boys, aged 8 to 11 years, was being run improperly.

Enquiries were made and a number of statements have been obtained. Several parents expressed concern about their respective sons who were still on the island or who had began their holiday after 17 July 1988. One set of parents most vociferous were Parents P of [REDACTED] who demanded that the police take immediate action about the situation as their two sons had just arrived on the island.

4 On the evening of Thursday 21 July 1988, after contacting ten sets of parents, I arranged for them to meet their respective sons and judge for themselves first hand if anything untoward was taking place. Only six sets of parents, including parents P, attended at Dumbarton Police Office and spoke with their respective sons. Four boys, including one of the child P, refused to leave the camp and had no complaint to make. Indeed none of the boys interviewed at this time made any complaint, but several felt homesick and were taken home, in some cases reluctantly, by their parents. All the parents present spoke with Hamilton who was quite happy to speak with them. None of the parents present were prepared to make any complaints or malign Hamilton in any way. Indeed some praised him.

5 Whilst at Dumbarton Police Office I spoke to Hamilton and ascertained his full particulars as Thomas Watt Hamilton (36) born 10.5.52, Unemployed, of 7 Kent Road, Stirling (Tel. No. Stirling 72228.) He informed me that he ran Sports Clubs for boys aged 8 - 11 years in [REDACTED], and [REDACTED], the one in [REDACTED] being in existence for almost 15 years. He was not licensed by the local authorities but had the use of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on alternate evenings. Each club catered for 30 members, each paying 50 pence per week subscription. He maintained he was qualified to teach gymnastics through the British Amateur Gymnastics Association of which he was a member. Once a year, during the school summer holidays, he ran a summer camp on either the islands of Inchmoan or Inchmurrin on Loch Lomond, but mainly on Inchmoan, and had been operating them for the past 15 years, this being his 55th camp. I informed him that the police had received a number of complaints from concerned parents to which he expressed sorrow, but maintained he was not acting improperly. He admitted there was no telephone on the island and that he had no arrangements with any of the local doctors or hospitals should a medical emergency arise. He stated that his boat was his only means of communication/transport with the island. I learned that it was a 30 minute journey from Inchmoan to Balmaha and one hour's journey from Inchmoan to Balloch. Hamilton did not deny striking some of the children, maintaining/

~~was suggested that he was only enforcing discipline in the absence of the boys' parents, adding that a number of boys were bullies, disruptive and cheeky. I informed him that enquiries were ongoing and that I may require to speak with him again.~~

~~In respect of the allegations made against WITNESS 10 and WITNESS 11 of exposing and rubbing their private parts, these remain uncorroborated.~~

7 Although many of the complaints are non-criminal in themselves it does seem that the camp conditions are extremely primitive, with the lack of ease of access and communication being a prime concern. In this respect it could be argued there is serious concern for the boys' moral and physical wellbeing. As yet no charges have been preferred.

8 I respectfully request that this report, together with the attached statements and accompanying leaflets in connection with the summer camp, be forwarded to the Procurator Fiscal, 3 High Street, Dumbarton, and the Reporter to the Children's Panel, McLean Place, Dumbarton, for their information and any further action they may deem necessary.

[REDACTED]

Sgt Divisional Officer
transmitted 30 August 1983

[REDACTED]

To Procurator Fiscal,
Dumbarton

Contemporaneous Notes taken in my telephone conversation with Glenn Harrison on Tuesday 11th February between 2000hrs and 2100 hrs. N.B. These notes are not an extensive or complete record and are more by way of a doodle in what was a horrific account by Mr Harrison.

Top of right column.

Warrington Lancs
Teaching 12 year olds
Physics Maths
Boarding House Master
Children 1st V.I.Ps
Something very very wrong
Secrets
Pscycological problems
Culture of secrecy
Hangings
Buggery
Gobstruck!
History boer war
Tried to appeal
MOD
No joy
Bruises
No training counselling
Frustrated Don't
Interfere
Complained about
Now know T. H. visitor to range
Sten guns
Go away to homes of
Toffs in Perthshire
Big Jags Daimlers
Sheriffs Fiscals
Generals rich
Businessmen

Top of Middle Column.

Come back with
£ saying it's a secret
easy to kid a kid
many times knock
at 3 in morning
no prior bias of masons (symbol)
thought O'K
Loco Parentis
Like your dad
Trust me
I lad wanted to hang (symbol)
wrote to dad Major
I believe 1970-1990
Comes to light
Don't tell dad they would say

Headmaster said
Get out of my office
Kids running around like headless chickens (symbol)
Police broke down my door took away files (symbol)
Spent £100.00 wrote
To Judith Gillespie
Dozens Chief Cuedoree (not sure of this word)
Officer in 1993
Most sympathetic
Mason (symbol)
Top of Left Column.
Chief bullying officer
Dave Mellor
Ayrshire
1993/4
Jim Wallace
Listened MP
For Shetland
Local MP
Questioned Hansard
Asked QVS (this arrowed up between above words)
Tried
44 Year old
Ben Philips
Fell off ladder (symbol)
Mysteriously died
Ombudsman can't help
All alone
Judges Sheriffs
Black cars
Crest on cars
Prince Andrew
Shot fired through my window (symbol)
Notes End.

Her Majesty's Commissioners

Patron

HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH KG KT OM GBE

**Her Majesty's Commissioners for the Government of
Queen Victoria School**

**THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SCOTLAND - President
THE GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING SCOTLAND - Chairman**

Commissioners

THE LORD JUSTICE CLERK

THE SECRETARY, SCOTTISH EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

MAJOR-GENERAL R LYON CB OBE

J D F MILLER Esq

REAR ADMIRAL D J MACKENZIE CB

AIR VICE-MARSHAL C E SIMPSON MB ChB MSc FFOM

DR S E McCLELLAND CBE BSc PhD

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR JOHN MACMILLAN KCB CBE

A S F MAIR Esq

G F BELTON Esq OBE MA FIMgt

MRS N H HOWE BSc

D MACLEHOSE Esq

MAJOR-GENERAL J D MACDONALD CB CBE

AIR VICE MARSHAL J MORRIS CBE BSc

CAPTAIN R A SMITH RN

Solicitor to HM Commissioners

JAMES CRAIG Esq MA LLB WS

Secretary and Treasurer to HM Commissioners

COLONEL (Retd) A R TAPP FIMgt, Bursar

Queen Victoria School

The 1994/95 Statement of Accounts

FOREWORD TO THE ACCOUNTS

- Introduction** 1. These accounts have been prepared on a historical cost basis as modified by the revaluation of fixed assets in accordance with a Direction dated 24th June 1994 given by the Treasury in pursuance of section 5(1) of the Exchequer and Audit Departments Act 1921. The Direction is shown in full at the end of the financial statements.
- History** 2. Queen Victoria School was founded by public subscription in 1908 and handed over to the War Office to be maintained in perpetuity. It was established as an Agency on 1 April 1992.
- Principal Activities** 3. Queen Victoria School provides boarding education for the sons of Scottish servicemen or women or those who have served on regular engagements in Scotland, and aims to prepare them for entry to university, other higher or further education institutions, the Armed Services, professions, business or industry.
- Financial Review** 4. A review of performance against key targets can be found in the Annual Report. The net cost to the Department amounted to £3,770,000. Net assets at 31 March 1995 were £6,679,000.
- Management Board** 5. The School's governing body is the Board of Her Majesty's Commissioners who are responsible to the Secretary of State for Defence. Membership of the Board of Her Majesty's Commissioners during the year was as follows:
- The Secretary of State for Scotland - President
The General Officer Commanding Scotland - Chairman
The Lord Justice Clerk
The Secretary, Scottish Office Education Department
Major General R Lyon CB OBE
J D F Miller Esq
Rear Admiral D J MacKenzie CB
Air Vice Marshal C E Simpson MB ChB MSc FFOM
Dr S E McClelland CBE BSc PhD
Lieutenant General Sir John MacMillan KCB CBE
A S F Mair Esq
G F Belton Esq OBE MA FIMgt
Mrs N H Howe BSc
D MacLachose Esq (Appointed April 1994)
Major General J D MacDonald CB CBE (Appointed September 1994)
Air Vice Marshal J Morris CBE BSc (Appointed January 1995)
Captain R A Smith RN (Appointed January 1995)

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, KG KT OM GBE
Buckingham Palace.
LONDON
SW1A 1AA

One letter to.
One response from P.S.

The Rt. Hon Lord Ross
33 Lauder Road
EDINBURGH
EH9 2JG

Three letters to.
One from Lord Ross
One from Scottish Exec

Lord Forsyth of Drumlean
C/O The House of Lords
Westminster
LONDON
SW1A 0PW

Three letters to
Two from Lord Forsyth
One from Scottish Exec

Mike Ewart
Department Head
Scottish Education Department
Victoria Quay
EDINBURGH
EH6 6QQ

Three letters to
None from Mike Ewart
Two from Scottish Exec

Lt Gen. Sir Peter Graham
The Gordon Highlanders Museum
St Lukes Viewfield Road
ABERDEEN
AB15 7XH

Two letters to
Two letters from Sir Peter

Mr J D F Miller, CBE
Director
Scottish Life
19 St Andrews Square
EDINBURGH
EH2 1YE

Two letters to
One e-mail back from Scottish Life
stating forwarding mail

Rear Admiral D J M Mackenzie
C/O Atlantic Salmon Trust
Moulin
Pitlochry
PERTSHIRE
PH16 5JQ

Three letters to
One reply from the Rear Admiral
One phone call

Lieutenant General Sir John MacMillan
Chairman
Erskine Hospital
Bishopton
RENFREWSHIRE
PA7 5PU

Two letters to
No reply

A. S. F. Mair, MBE DL
C/O Grampian Television PLC
Queen's Cross
ABERDEEN
AB15 4XJ

Three letters to
No reply

Major General J D MacDonald
C/O The Royal British Legion
New Haig House
Logie Green Road
EDINBURGH
EH7 4HR

Three letters to
Two letters from Major General
One phone call

Air Vice Marshall Jim Morris CBE BSc
C/O The Area Headquarters
20 Queen Street
EDINBURGH
EH2 1JX

Two letters to
Two replies from A.V.M. Jim Morris

Lord Lang of Monkton
C/O The House of Lords
Westminster
LONDON
SW1A 0PW

Three letters to
One reply from Lord Lang

Captain R A Smith RN
Queen Victoria School
Dunblane
Perthshire
FK15 0JY

Three letters to
One reply from Captain Smith

James Craig Esq.
Solicitor to the Commissioners of QVS
C/O Balfour & Manson
54-66 Frederick Street
EDINBURGH
EH2 1LS

Two letters to
One e-mail + one phone call

Mr Julian D Hankinson (ex-Headmaster)
34 Ardbeg Road
Rothesay
Isle of Bute
PA20 0NL

Two letters to
One reply from Julian Hankinson

Mr James David Frederick Miller, CBE
Blairuskin Lodge
Kinlochard,
ABERFOYLE
Stirling FK8 3TP
01877 387 249

One letter c/w 2 copies to
Phone call from "David Miller"

Alastair S. F. Mair, MBE DL
Dungora
Heathcote Road
CRIEFF
Perthshire
PH7 4AG
Tel. 01 764 652 191

One letter c/w 2 copies to
No replies

Lieutenant General Sir John MacMillan
Boghall Farm
Thornhill
Stirling
FK8 3QD

Two letters to
One letter + one e-mail reply

Colonel A R Tapp
7 The Steadings
Easter Ross
Chalmerston Road
Stirling FK8 3AT

One letter to
One reply from Colonel Tapp

D MacLehose
Over Kinfauns
Perth
PH2 7LD

One letter to

Brigadier (retired) O.R. Tweedy (ex-school Commandant)
Inverbraan
Little Dunkeld
Perthshire
PH8 0AD

One letter to
One letter from the Brigadier

Helen Liddell MP
Secretary of State for Scotland
C/O House of Commons
Westminster
LONDON

Three e-mails to
Three e-mails + one letter from Scottish Exec

Rachel Squire MP
Parliamentary Office
Music Hall Lane
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 7NG

Three letters to
Two replies from Rachel Squire

Lord George Robertson
Secretary General
North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
Boulevard Leopold III
Brussels
Belgium

Two letters to
One reply from Lord George Robertson

Air Vice Marshall C E Simpson, MB ChB MSc FFOM
No address

Dr S E McClelland
(Author of Scottish Education 5-14, : a parents guide)
No address

G F Belton Esq. OBE MA FIMgt
No address

Mrs N H Howe
No address

Major General R Lyon CB OBE
(Former director Royal Artillery)
No address

Tom Minogue

From: "Tom Minogue" <tomminogue@btinternet.com>
To: <molson@scotcourts.gov.uk>
Cc: "John MacMillan" <John@boghallfarm.fsnet.co.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, April 29, 2003 12:35 PM
Attach: 3 Pages from Dunblane Inquiry regarding Rifle Range at Dunblane.pdf
Subject: Addendum to report on Queen Victoria School Dunblane

Dear Ms Olsen, please find a three page addendum to my submission to Lord Gill which concerns an anonymous witness statement read out to the trial by Mr Lake. The statement details how Thomas Hamilton took the witness to a shooting range at Dunblane where he was allowed to fire real bullets from a rifle. This would seem to indicate that the events took place at Queen Victoria School as it is the only rifle range in Dunblane. There should not be a problem in tracing this anonymous witness who also claims he was sexually abused by Hamilton as the Dunblane Inquiry knew his identity sufficiently well for Mr Bonomy to be able to state that "**the witness in the past been convicted of a serious crime of dishonesty**". I shall circulate this information and any other information possibly regarding Queen Victoria School to the recipients of my submission and will of course advise Lord Gill of any other matters that arise. Regards, Thomas Minogue.

WEDNESDAY, 26th JUNE, 1996.

TWENTY-FIRST DAY.

LORD CULLEN: Mr. Bonomy, I think we are without Mr. Jones today, so you can proceed.

MR. BONOMY: Thank you, sir. I have had brought to my attention a witness who claims to have been abused by Hamilton. This is the first such evidence that has come to light. He is unwilling to be identified. I have given anxious consideration to the question whether an anonymous written statement of his evidence should be read to the Inquiry. The view I have formed, with some hesitation, is that that is the appropriate course in the circumstances, albeit it is not an ideal course. I also consider it appropriate to advise the Inquiry that there are certain matters mentioned in the statement peripheral to the meat of the statement that one might expect would be corroborated by independent evidence. Efforts have been made to try to corroborate that without any success.

You should also be advised, sir, that the witness has in the past been convicted of a serious crime of dishonesty.

That is a full account of the background, and with your leave, sir, I propose to invite Mr. Lake to read the statement.

LORD CULLEN: Yes -- Mr. Lake?

MR. LAKE: This is the anonymous statement -- "When I was about 12 and living at home I attended a Boys' Club called the Rovers Group at Bannockburn High School, which was run by Thomas Hamilton. I think I got to know about it through certain leaflets that came through the letter box. I attended that for about four weeks. I remember that on two occasions we got to shoot guns at the Club in Dunblane. This Club wasn't at the school but in a hut on the other side of the dual carriageway. We shot with real rifles with bullets, not pellets. Hamilton picked us up and took us to Dunblane. We once went to the High School/

School in Dunblane and joined in with that Club. It was a gymnastics Club.

"When the summer came, a trip was organised to go and stay on a boat. I got permission to go to it and Hamilton sent a letter home setting out the details of the camp trip, boat, how much money we needed etc.

"The holiday was to last for about a week or a week and a half and we were staying on a cabin cruiser on Loch Lomond. There were about eight boys of my age involved. The only boy I remember being there was my sister's boyfriend. I don't know who the other boys were but we were all specially chosen from the Bannockburn Club.

"One day I remember that I was particularly frightened because Hamilton was tying a rope round us, one at a time, and throwing us off the side of the boat and then pulling us back in. I cannot now remember what the purpose of this manoeuvre was, but I remember being very frightened and I refused to take part and pretended that I was ill and stayed in the cabin.

"That night I was told to report to his cabin. The boys all slept together at the back of the boat and Hamilton slept in his own cabin. I eventually went in. I only had on my underpants. He had a sort of telescopic pointer device which you would use to point to a map or a chart and he was pointing this at me and he told me that I had better behave. He began to touch me between my legs and my private parts and I was very scared. I started to cry.

"He told me to stop crying or I would be hit with the pointer. While all this was going on he was only dressed in shorts. I was then told to lie down on his bed and I was lying facedown. He started to push his fingers into my backside. By this time he had his shorts off and his penis was erect. He was rubbing it. He was also stroking my back and asked if I liked it. At one point I was crying and he banged this pointed device down at the side of my face. It didn't actually touch me, but hit the pillow. I lay there frozen stiff with fear. He then told me to stand up and face the wall and again he ran his hand up and down my back and/

and he was breathing heavily.

"I was then allowed to go. I was terrified, and then the next day I phoned my mother and asked if I could come home. All I did was to tell her I was homesick. I couldn't tell her what took place. I came home at the same time as everyone else. It was too far away for me to come home early. He didn't touch me again during the period of this holiday although I was very frightened of him.

"I can't be more specific about the year this happened. I do remember though that the boat blew up about a week after the trip.

"I do agree, however, that what he did to me should be known about. It has affected me badly and has always troubled me."

ROY CAMERON (49), Sworn:

EXAMINED BY MR. BONOMOY: Are you Roy Cameron? - I am, sir.

And are you presently the Chief Constable of Dumfries and Galloway Police? - That is correct, sir.

I think you are also Chief Constable designate of another Force? - That is correct -- Lothian & Borders Police, sir.

When do you take up that post? - The 6th September this year.

What age are you? - I am 49 years of age.

How long have you been a police officer? - 30 years' service.

Can you take us through your service, please? - Yes; I started as a cadet in Dumbartonshire; followed that with beat duties in Dumbartonshire Constabulary; was promoted sergeant fairly/



The Right Hon. Lord Gill
The Lord Justice Clerk
Parliament House
Edinburgh
EH1 1RQ

6 June 2003

Mr. Tom Minogue,
94 Victoria Terrace,
Dunfermline,
Fife,
KY12 0LU.

Dear Mr. Minogue,

YOUR COMPLAINT REGARDING EVENTS AT QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL

I have now completed my detailed study of the dossier that you sent me.

I am unable to reach a definite conclusion on your complaints on the information that you sent me and I am in no position to carry out an investigation of my own.

I infer from your dossier that the police and the prosecuting authorities have decided to take these matters no further.

It is a question for Her Majesty's Commissioners whether they will wish to take any action as the governing body of the school. The next meeting of Her Majesty's Commissioners will take place on Monday 16 June. I have requested that your complaint shall be an agenda item at that meeting.

After that meeting, and in the light of any decision reached by Her Majesty's Commissioners, I shall write to you again.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Cunniff

Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU
Tel: 01383 729869

e-mail: tomminogue@btinternet.com

The Right Hon. Lord Gill
The Lord Justice Clerk
Parliament House
Edinburgh
EH1 1RQ

Saturday 7th June 03

Dear Sir,

Complaint regarding alleged irregularities at Queen Victoria School Dunblane 1989-96

With reference the above document which was submitted to you on 24th April 03, and your response to that document of 6th June the following comments must be made:

“I have now completed my detailed study of the dossier that you sent me”.

It is noted that your study has been extensive which is exactly what you promised in your letter of 30th April, however it is disappointing to note that your comments regarding the complaint suggests that your study, however detailed, has missed the main points made in that document.

“I am unable to reach a definite conclusion on your complaints on the information that you sent me and I am in no position to carry out an investigation of my own”.

It is fully appreciated that you, as an individual, are limited in what you could achieve personally and would not be able to reach definite conclusions from the complaint. However it was hoped that as a very senior law officer and a Commissioner of QVS, perhaps chosen for that reason, you would be ideally placed to decide what action would be appropriate. It was anticipated that in such grave circumstances you might have instigated a judicial inquiry or requested that the Lord Advocate or Solicitor General so do.

“I infer from you (sic) dossier that the police and the prosecuting authorities have decided to take these matters no further”.

There is no basis to make an inference that the allegations made in the complaint document have been even considered by the police and the prosecuting authorities. The allegations made in the complaint document repeat, but are not limited to earlier allegations made by the ex-housemaster of abuse and bullying. **These were not investigated by the relevant authorities.** This fact is indisputable and is best witnessed by the then Education Minister, James Douglas-Hamilton who at page 32 of 144 of the complaint document stated:

“Throughout their enquiry the primary concern of HMI was to investigate the situation in the school in relation to pastoral care and pupil supervision rather than to investigate specific allegations of bullying”.

The Minister does not mention the allegations of **abuse** made by the ex-housemaster but it goes without saying that these allegations are included in the matters that **were not investigated**. In addition to the matters that were detailed by the ex-housemaster but not investigated, are matters regarding the Commissioners and their dereliction of duty in allowing Thomas Hamilton unfettered access to Queen Victoria School. These matters **simply cannot** have been investigated.

“It is a question for Her Majesty’s Commissioners whether they will wish to take any action as the governing body of the school. The next meeting of Her Majesty’s Commissioners will take place on Monday 16 June. I have requested that your complaint shall be an agenda item at that meeting”.

As the actions or rather the lack of action by HM Commissioners forms part of the complaint to you, the suggestion that the same Commissioners (or some of them) responsible for allowing a mass murderer to enjoy the run of QVS should decide what further action should be taken against themselves is more than a little puzzling. There is doubt that such a suggestion would engender any confidence, in the parents of children who had attended the school during the period in question, that the requisite duty to care was being properly exercised.

It is noted that you have not seen fit to address the concerns clearly expressed regarding your Masonic status.

The terms of what is a very serious complaint were clearly expressed. Your failure to address these concerns and the question of your Masonic status leave me to conclude that you have failed to appreciate my concern, or the serious nature of the complaint, and unless you intimate by return that you are willing to revise your proposed action I will have no option but to present my complaint to the Solicitor General in the hope that she may find that it warrants a full and thorough independent investigation.

Yours faithfully,

Thomas Minogue.

C.C. The Patron, The Chairman of the Board of Management.
By E-mail and letter am Monday 9th June.

Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU
Tel:01383 729869
e-mail: tomminogue@btinternet.com

Mrs Elish Angiolini QC
The Solicitor General for Scotland
The Crown Office
25 Chambers Street
Edinburgh
EH1 1LA

Saturday 14th June 03

Dear Mrs Angiolini,

Complaint regarding allegations of abuse and bullying at Queen Victoria School Dunblane.

I would be obliged if you would accept the attached file and consider it as a formal complaint. The matters contained in the file are of a serious nature and concern allegations of abuse and bullying at Queen Victoria School Dunblane in the early 1990's and the supervision of the school at that time.

I had originally lodged this complaint with Lord Gill who is a Commissioner of the school but for the reasons set out at pages 144-147 of the complaint document find that this avenue of complaint is not satisfactory to me. I would also point out that as the allegations contain a Masonic content I would ask for your assurance that anyone supervising or having a role in this investigation has no connections with Freemasonry.

Since e-mailing you I have received a letter from Central Scotland Police asking me to urge the ex-housemaster to make a complaint to them directly. I enclose this letter and my response to the police letter, which sets out my reasons for not agreeing that their suggestion would be practicable. I would not pretend to be an expert on the various options of investigation open to you but would have thought that the first step would be to trace and obtain statements from pupils who were at Queen Victoria School at the time of the alleged physical and sexual abuse to ascertain if these incidents did in fact take place and if Thomas Hamilton was involved.

Yours faithfully

Thomas Minogue.



CROWN OFFICE AND PROCURATOR FISCAL SERVICE

Policy Group

Crown Office
25 Chambers Street
Edinburgh EH1 1LA

Telephone: 0131 226 2626
Fax: 0131 247 2650
Rutland DX: 540310
<http://www.crownoffice.gov.uk>

Your ref:
Our ref: 2206//03/G LRA/JM

Date 14 July 2003

Mr Tom Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

Dear Mr Minogue

Thank you for your letter of 14 June 2003 addressed to the Solicitor General in which you make a complaint about abuse and bullying at Queen Victoria School, Dunblane in the early 1990's. I am replying on behalf of the Solicitor General.

I note that you have already received a letter from Detective Superintendent Anderson of Central Scotland Police and I would reiterate the points he makes in his letter. Allegations of physical and sexual abuse at a school are extremely serious and should be investigated thoroughly. I have made enquiries with the Procurator Fiscal at Stirling and there is no record of any complaint by the ex housemaster about activities at Queen Victoria School.

The Procurator Fiscal has responsibility at local level for the investigation and prosecution of crime in the public interest and has a statutory power to direct the police in the investigation of crime, however in practice the police, on behalf of the prosecutor, carry out the initial investigation.

The Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service and Police Forces have a close working relationship in which each has a defined, but complementary role in relation to the other. Procurators Fiscal are entitled to direct police investigations but Procurators Fiscal are trial lawyers, not detectives and the bulk of initial investigative work in serious cases is carried out by the police, reporting to the Procurator Fiscal on the result of their enquiries.

For these reasons I can only suggest that you encourage the ex housemaster to whom you refer in your correspondence, and who is named in the papers submitted to the Solicitor General, to come forward and make a complaint directly to the child protection officers at the Family Unit. The matter requires to be investigated by the police force covering the area in which the alleged crimes took place, and this will be Central Scotland Police.

I note the concerns about the activities of the police in the past but the Family Unit consists of dedicated, specially trained officers with a great deal of experience in investigating such matters. It is also open to the ex housemaster to make a complaint about the conduct of Central Scotland Police officers directly to the Assistant Chief Constable of that Force.



BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

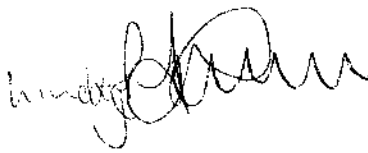
A Department of the Scottish Executive

Area Procurators Fiscal have a duty to investigate all complaints which are made against police officers where the complaint alleges that a crime may have been committed by a police officer or officers in the course of their duty. This duty is exercised in a way which is entirely independent of the police and in carrying out this duty the Area Procurators Fiscal provide a completely impartial and thorough system of investigation.

Most complaints against the police are made, in the first instance, direct to police forces. Where a report, allegation or complaint is made from which it may reasonably be inferred that a constable has committed a criminal offence in the course of duty it must be referred by the Assistant Chief Constable to the Area Procurator Fiscal. The Area Procurator Fiscal will advise the Assistant Chief Constable as to whether the matter is one inferring criminality, as opposed to misconduct - which is dealt with by the police under a scheme of regulations - and as to any further enquiries that should be made by the police. The Area Procurator Fiscal may elect to commence her own investigation at this stage; otherwise, when she has received a full report from the Assistant Chief Constable, she must then investigate the complaint.

I hope that this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely



LINDSEY ANDERSON
Policy Group

c.c. Detective Superintendent John Anderson, Central Scotland Police



IN SERVICE OF PEOPLE

Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terr.
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU
Tel:01383 729869

e-mail: tomminogue@btinternet.com

Lindsey Anderson, (Policy Group)
Crown Office
25 Chambers Street
EDINBURGH
EH1 1LA

Tuesday 15th July 03

Dear Sir,

Formal complaint to Elish Angiolini the Solicitor General for Scotland re allegations of abuse and bullying at Queen Victoria School Dunblane.

I refer to the above complaint addressed to the Solicitor General on 8th June (e-mail) and 14th June (letter) and to which you say in the first paragraph of your letter of 14th July you respond, “on behalf of the Solicitor General”. I would comment on your letter as follows:

The second paragraph of your letter echoes the reason why I chose to treat this matter very seriously and make every effort to verify the allegations made to me, namely, that allegations of physical and sexual abuse at a school are very serious matters.

You go on to support the position taken in a letter of 3rd June from Detective Superintendent John Anderson of Central Scotland Police to me, but you do not take into account my response to this letter, which details my valid reasons for not accepting his proposals that I complain to Central Scotland Police. Nor do you touch on my reasons for not recommending John Anderson’s proposals to the ex-housemaster, which are also set out in detail in my response to John Anderson.

The third paragraph of your letter seems to imply that the role of the Procurator Fiscal is not directly concerned with the investigation and prosecution of crime, which you imply is actually the role of the police.

Your promotion of Central Scotland Police in investigative matters over the Procurator Fiscal Service continues in the fourth and fifth paragraphs of your letter, where you show some personal expertise for investigation by spotting that the ex-housemaster is named in the papers.

My concerns about the past activities of the police (which might involve criminal conduct) and your praise for the work of the police Family Unit are dealt with in paragraph six of your letter.

Unlike the ex-housemaster I have no direct knowledge of Central Scotland Police other than second hand knowledge gleaned from the Official Transcript of the Dunblane Inquiry and my impressions as set out below are limited accordingly.

For the avoidance of doubt, I do have a high regard for some members of the police, which is soured by those bad apples who bring the service into disrepute.

I do not doubt that the Family Unit is served by many fine people and it is well known that between 1991 and 1993 the Family Unit (then called the Force Child Protection Unit) in the person of Detective Sergeant Paul Hughes produced recommendations and a report on Thomas Hamilton the Dunblane mass murderer, which, if acted on would have resulted in Thomas Hamilton being charged with 10 criminal offences and his gun licence being revoked.

Another upstanding member of the Central Scotland Police force with responsibility for the Child Protection Unit who comes shining through from the Transcript of the Dunblane Inquiry is Detective Chief Inspector Joseph Holden, who supported Detective Sergeant Hughes in his attempts to bring charges and revoke Hamilton's firearms licence.

Again from the Official Transcript of the Dunblane Inquiry it is apparent that someone also meriting praise is Detective Constable Ann Anderson of the Firearms Licensing Department, who after interviewing Hamilton as part of his firearms licence renewal tried to revoke his licence.

The commendable actions of the above police officers are in marked contrast to the officious actions of Depute Chief Constable Douglas McMurdo who overruled Detective Sergeant Hughes' recommendations in his report, and Detective Inspector John Anderson who dissuaded Detective Constable Ann Anderson from recommending refusal of Hamilton's licence renewal, despite the strong negative feelings that Ann Anderson had about Hamilton.

Contrasts such as the upstanding actions of the former group of police officers with the questionable actions of the latter group are notable throughout the Dunblane Inquiry and have caused some people, including myself, to conclude that Hamilton's Freemasonry protected him in life and in death. This would explain the inexplicable.

At a much earlier date (1989-1991) the ex-housemaster who related his experiences at Queen Victoria School to me also concluded that Freemasonry was the common denominator in the abuse of power that allowed a privileged clique including Sheriffs, Fiscals, and Thomas Hamilton to visit and in some cases abuse pupils at that school.

It is noticeable that you have not sought to address my genuine concerns with regard to Masonic membership. This is not unusual in Scotland and in fact Lord Cullen failed to respond to a submission to the Dunblane Inquiry regarding his Masonic membership and a request that police witnesses be required to state their Masonic status.

It is not strictly accurate to say that he ignored it as he concluded that it should be buried from the public for 100 years. A subject you are familiar with, as you have refused my lawyers request for me to view the 100-year closure documents.

In paragraphs seven and eight of your letter you deal with the police complaints system, which you note is available to the ex-housemaster. I have some knowledge of this system, having been involved in a complaint about the actions of members of Fife Constabulary for the past 2 years and it can be compared with wrestling smoke.

Reformers universally condemn self-regulation of the police force, and my experiences are in line with the generally held perceptions of this discredited process.

You then deal with the possibility that an Assistant Chief Constable can report a police officer to the Area Procurator Fiscal and that **she** might commence her own investigation.

Again without wishing to be disrespectful to the various Depute Chief Constables of Central Region from Norman McLeod in 1977 to Douglas McMurdo in 1996, who granted firearms licences to Thomas Hamilton, their actions do not engender confidence in the objectivity of their office in dealing with a complaint connected with Thomas Hamilton.

I am disappointed to note that the Solicitor General does not seem to have taken any of my concerns seriously, and I find her rejection of my complaint sad and inexplicable. The complaint was clearly not one that I could have taken to Central Scotland police.

I am particularly disappointed that the Solicitor General was not receptive to my suggestion that she initiate interviews with the pupils who attended Queen Victoria School at the time of the ex-housemasters allegations. We, the ex-housemaster and I, are perhaps less than objective given our personal experiences, which may have coloured our views on Freemasonry. Central Scotland Police are similarly subjective (post-Dunblane) in their defence of the tarnished reputation of that force.

It seems to me as a layman that the Solicitor General would have been able to employ specialist investigators would have been ideally suited for the task of assessing the veracity or otherwise of complaints that pupils were abused by an elite clique dominated by leading lights in Central Scotland public life. To me this would seem a sensible measure, as members of the legal establishment may have been involved in the abuse or the cover-up of the abuse of pupils at Queen Victoria School Dunblane.

Despite the above, I will pass on the Solicitor General's request that the ex-housemaster take his complaint about abuse at Queen Victoria School Dunblane to Detective Superintendent John Anderson of Central Scotland Police.

As was the case with the previous request from Detective Superintendent John Anderson that I urge the ex-housemaster to contact Central Scotland Police, I regret that in all honesty I am unable to add my voice to the Solicitor General's request.

I will write to the ex-housemaster copying your letter on behalf of the Solicitor General and will advise you of his response in due course.

Yours faithfully,

Thomas Minogue.

P.S. The Detective Inspector John Anderson who in 1995 dissuaded Detective Constable Ann Anderson from withdrawing Thomas Hamilton's firearms licence and the Detective Superintendent John Anderson who asks me to urge the ex-housemaster to contact him are not by any chance the same person are they?

C.C. The ex-housemaster.

Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU
Tel: 01383 729869

Elish Angiolini, QC
The Solicitor General for Scotland
Crown Office
25 Chambers Street
EDINBURGH

Thursday 17th July 03

Dear Mrs Angiolini,

Your rejection of my formal complaint re allegations of abuse at Queen Victoria School Dunblane.

With reference to the above which was received in a letter dated 14th July from Lindsey Anderson on your behalf I would ask you to reconsider your suggestion that I accept the suggestions made by Detective Superintendent John Anderson in his letter to me and take my complaint to Central Scotland Police for the following reasons:

Officers of Central Scotland Police and their actions in, among other things, breaking down the ex-housemaster's door could prove to be an actionable part of my complaint.

A Procurator Fiscal was stated as being one of a number of visitors to Queen Victoria School and could prove to be an actionable part of my complaint.

Detective Superintendent John Anderson of Central Scotland Police and many other officers in Central Scotland Police who had dealings with Thomas Hamilton might not be seen to be objective in dealing with a complaint which includes Hamilton's apparent unauthorised and suspect associations with Queen Victoria School.

The fact that Lord George Robertson who was said to be a visitor to the school (and has reacted with such hostility to my enquiries) might have a son in Central Scotland Police might give the impression of a lack of impartiality if that force dealt with this complaint.

Central Scotland Police have refused to provide me with correspondence from Lord George Robertson causing me to resort to my solicitors in an attempt to find out what has been written about me by Robertson sufficient to cause the police to contact me and then ignore my repeated, reasonable request to be appraised of the content of his letter.

Given all of the above reasons and those previously stated in my letter to you and the Central Scotland Police I respectfully ask that you consider using your own investigators to question pupils who attended Queen Victoria School Dunblane at the time of the allegations and when Thomas Hamilton was associated with the school (1989-1996).

Yours faithfully,

Thomas Minogue.



CROWN OFFICE AND PROCURATOR FISCAL SERVICE

Policy Group

Crown Office
25 Chambers Street
Edinburgh EH1 1LA

Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terrace
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 0LU

Telephone: 0131 226 2626
Fax: 0131 247 2650
Rutland DX: DX 540310
<http://www.crownoffice.gov.uk>

Your ref:
Our ref: 2206/03/G

8 August 2003

Dear Mr Minogue

Thank you for your letter of 17 July 2003 addressed to the Solicitor General concerning allegations of bullying and abuse at Queen Victoria School, Dunblane. Again, the Solicitor General has asked me to respond on her behalf.

I note the contents of your letter. You indicate that you have been refused access to the content of the correspondence between Central Scotland Police force and Lord George Robertson. The fact that Central Scotland Police force has refused to release to you copies of this correspondence is not a matter in which the Crown can seek to intervene.

I am unsure what you mean when you suggest that the Solicitor General uses her own investigators to question pupils who attended Queen Victoria School. As I have indicated previously, preliminary investigations into allegations of physical and sexual abuse, such as those alluded to by the ex housemaster, are carried out by police officers. The identification, tracing and initial interviewing of potential witnesses is the role of the police and not the Procurator Fiscal.

There is no further comment that I can make on these matters, which can add anything to what has already been said in the course of your correspondence with this office. I can only reiterate my earlier suggestion that any allegations of criminal conduct are reported to Central Scotland Police who will carry out the appropriate inquiries.

Yours sincerely

LINDSEY ANDERSON
Policy Group



INTEGRITY IN PEOPLE

Thomas Minogue
94 Victoria Terr.
Dunfermline
FIFE
KY12 0LU

Mrs Elish Angiolini
Solicitor General for Scotland
Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service
25 Chambers Street
EDINBURGH
EH11 1LA

Monday 29th September 03

Dear Mrs Angiolini

Your rejection of my “Complaint into allegations of bullying and abuse at Queen Victoria School Dunblane”.

I refer to the response on your behalf by Lindsey Anderson dated 8th August. This letter was in response to my complaint re the above, which was delivered to you for the second time by Messengers at Arms on 24th July. I had hoped that by delivering my complaint to you in person I may have received a substantive reply from you but instead I received the normal pathetic response from the Policy Group.

The complete failure by you to deal with any of the points raised in my letter leaves me feeling angry and bemused especially when I watched you in a recent television interview talk of your desire to bring greater accessibility to the general public and remove the pomposity associated with your position. I can only conclude that this was rhetoric on your part.

The only matter of substance you did deal with in your letter of 8th August was something that I quoted as one of many reasons why it seemed inappropriate for me to make my complaint to Central Scotland Police.

That you have wilfully chosen to take an example of a perceived lack of objectivity in Central Scotland Police as a complaint mystifies me, and begs the question: are you really interested in punishing those who buggered boys at Queen Victoria School Dunblane between 1989 and 1991?

For the avoidance of doubt the fact that Lord Robertson and Central Scotland Police refuse to answer correspondence or reveal the contents of Lord Robertson’s letter to the Chief Constable was not put to you as a complaint as you well know.

I should also point out that since my last letter I have been informed as a result of a request for information under the Data Protection Act that the Chief Constable of Central Scotland Police has advised Lord George Robertson that he has investigated me to determine my “motives and character” (presumably at the behest of Lord

Robertson). This unwarranted measure will form the basis of a complaint being drawn up by my legal advisor.

That Central Scotland Police will not respond to simple questions such as: “Is Lord Robertson’s son a member of the force?” is galling to me, and I again bring it to your attention as an example of actions unlikely to inspire confidence in the objectivity of that force. I do so for the record without any expectation that you will treat this matter seriously.

In light of your repeated refusal to deal with my complaint or allocate it to another police force I must conclude that you wish me to complain to a police force that forms part of my complaint and in which I have little confidence. With no other alternative avenue of complaint I am left with no choice but to do as you suggest and I will lodge my dossier as a formal complaint with Central Scotland Police today.

I would also respond to an apparent contradiction to in your last letter that the Solicitor General’s office did not have investigators. I have recently been interviewed by Bernard Ablett at the Crown Office on another matter, which he at least was under the impression he was investigating. Perhaps the two hours I spent at the Crown Office in Chambers Street being interviewed were part of a hoax by a bogus investigator?

To conclude I would like to be found mistaken in my belief that the ex-housemaster was truthful in his accounts of physical and sexual abuse at Queen Victoria School. However if I am correct, I dearly hope that the abused boys come forward of their own volition in the future at which time I will not be slow to publicise the difficulties I have encountered in having the pupils of the school between 1989 and 1992 interviewed by the appropriate authorities.

Yours faithfully,

Tom Minogue.

C.C. S.O.S; Pagans; etc.