

**ABUSE IN CARE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
LAKE ALICE CHILD AND ADOLESCENT UNIT INQUIRY HEARING**

Under The Inquiries Act 2013

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

Royal Commission: Judge Coral Shaw (Chair)
Ali'imuamua Sandra Alofivae
Mr Paul Gibson

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Mr Hayden Rattray for Mr Selwyn Leeks
Mr Eric Forster for Victor Soeterik
Mr Lester Cordwell for Mr Brian Stabb and Ms Gloria Barr
Mr Scott Brickell for Denis Hesseltine
Ms Anita Miller for the Medical Council

Venue: Level 2
Abuse in Care Royal Commission of Inquiry
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Hearing opens with waiata and karakia tīmatanga by Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei

[10.04 am]

CHAIR: Tēnā tātou katoa, nau mai hoki mai ki tēnei hui>Welcome everybody again to this important hearing. For those of who you are sitting through stay well. Remember that we have well-being available to you should you need it. We welcome our first witness, but first if you'd like we'll start with you, Mr Molloy, just to introduce the day's proceedings.

MR MOLLOY: Good morning, ma'am, a very important morning's evidence this morning. I'm going to hand over to Ms Joychild and her team and they have two witnesses I think they are going to take through for you.

CHAIR: Thank you, tēnā koe Ms Joychild.

QUESTIONING BY MS JOYCHILD: Tēnā koe ngā Kōmihana. Our first witness is Tyrone Marks, is that right Tyrone?

A. Yes.

Q. And Tyrone, you are a survivor of Lake Alice?

A. Correct.

Q. You first mentioned --

CHAIR: Just a moment, we better take the affirmation if that's okay.

MS JOYCHILD: Oh.

CHAIR: That's all right. We know you're keen to get going, Tyrone, but let's do the formalities quickly first. Do you mind taking the affirmation?

A. What's that?

Q. That's just to swear to tell the truth.

A. Yeah, I know what it is.

Q. You know what it is. We've all been here before haven't we. Do you solemnly, sincerely, truly declare and affirm that the evidence you give today will be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?

A. Yeah.

Q. Thank you. All yours Ms Joychild.

QUESTIONING BY MS JOYCHILD CONTINUED: Tyrone, the first time you went into Lake Alice you were just 11 years old?

A. [Nods].

Q. You've got a photo in front of you. Could you explain that, what that is?

A. Yes, this photo that I have in front of me is of my 10 year old son and the reason I brought it today was just to give you some idea that, you know, when I'm 10 years old, all these

1 things, all these horrible things that we're about to talk about happened to me and if you
2 look at my son he's cuddling a teddy bear. That's kind of what I should have been doing
3 when I was 10 years old.

4 Q. Tyrone, is this a particular special day for you in any way?

5 A. Well, yes, because on 15 June 1972 was my first admission to Lake Alice Hospital, on 15
6 June 2021 marks 49 years since my first admission to Lake Alice. It's not a celebration but
7 it's an acknowledgment that here we are today after 49 years and we finally get to talk
8 about this in length, as it happened, where it happened and who was responsible.

9 Q. Okay, Tyrone, you've already spoken to the Commission once, so they're aware of your
10 history from the residences hearing. So I thought we could pick it up, if you look at your
11 statement at paragraph 5, when you had tried to run away from Hokio and Holdsworth and
12 you ended up being struck by a car, very seriously injured and you were in hospital for four
13 months. Can you explain what your injuries were?

14 A. Well, what actually happened is myself and -- it was more than three others, there were
15 actually seven of us that decided to leave Holdsworth School. I think it's called
16 absconding. And we were actually, all of us had basically had enough of what was
17 happening, you know, in terms of our -- how we were treated, so we decided that we were
18 off to Wellington, and we didn't even make it out of Whanganui and I was struck from
19 behind and run over by a car in front of all the rest of my friends. I suffered horrific
20 life-threatening injuries and found out later that I was on -- I wasn't expected to survive
21 because of those injuries, which was dislocated spine, I had, oh --

22 Q. A lot of internal injuries?

23 A. Just so many injuries, I was in plaster from head to toe and in actual fact it wasn't four
24 months, it was four and a half months. And so that is what happened.

25 Q. After that you were brought back to Holdsworth, you still weren't completely healed, were
26 you, you were still being treated?

27 A. No. I had no -- all I received in hospital was rehabilitation to be able to walk again. The
28 trauma that I suffered was so horrific that I'm looking at half of my body is sown together
29 and there's bits and pieces missing. So I'm still coming to terms with, you know, this is the
30 new me. And it was only somewhat three weeks before I ended up in Lake Alice. I still
31 had bandages on, so wounds were still leaking, they were still seeping, I had a number of
32 skin grafts. I think all up I had somewhat of 286 stitches holding me together. So yeah.

33 Q. So you were still really in recovery and how did you come to go to Lake Alice that first
34 time?

- 1 A. It was in the afternoon, the groundsman, he took me there, he said -- I didn't know where
2 "there" was actually, to be honest, I thought it was just another hospital. Similar to what I'd
3 just been in, but different, and he told me that I'll just be here for, you know, 10 minutes,
4 half an hour or something, and he'll come and pick me up. He never picked me up, so I
5 think I was there for six weeks.
- 6 Q. And did you have a medical examination when you first went there?
- 7 A. No, no medical examination at all.
- 8 Q. So where were you put when you got there?
- 9 A. I was actually put in a villa called villa 5 and in this villa, they were older patients, pretty
10 well mentally disturbed, way different than the hospital that I had just left. And it was quite
11 -- I was quite concerned, it was quite scary.
- 12 Q. Right, were they male or female or --
- 13 A. They were all male.
- 14 Q. They were all older male, were they all adults?
- 15 A. They were adults, yeah.
- 16 Q. How many other children were there?
- 17 A. None.
- 18 Q. None, you were the only child?
- 19 A. Yeah. So I was made to put on pyjamas, which were adult sized pyjamas, and my very first
20 night there I was sexually abused by an adult patient.
- 21 Q. Right.
- 22 A. I tried to defend myself as best I could by smashing a chair in his head, which just actually
23 aroused him even more, so the next day I complained about what had just happened and I
24 was told to fuck up and not to complain and go and sit down. Basically that's it.
- 25 Q. So who would have told you that, one of the nurses?
- 26 A. It would be one of the charge nurses, but I didn't know, you know, who was a charge nurse
27 and I didn't know anything about that, it was a male nurse anyway.
- 28 **CHAIR:** It was a member of staff?
- 29 A. Yeah.
- 30 Q. You didn't complain to other patients?
- 31 A. No.
- 32 Q. Someone in authority?
- 33 A. Yeah, the person who I thought was in charge.
- 34 Q. Yeah.

- 1 **QUESTIONING BY MS JOYCHILD CONTINUED:** Okay. And then what happened that
2 next day to you?
- 3 A. The next day?
- 4 Q. You say that you were given Largactil for two days?
- 5 A. Three days.
- 6 Q. And anaesthetic for the next three days?
- 7 A. Okay, well this is what happened. I was given these strange drugs, I was laid out in a
8 hospital bed and I could see the whole ward on one side was full of older patients also laid
9 out on the bed and I watched, they started up one end and they were going from bed to bed,
10 you know, I didn't know what they were doing, there was a box and there were a number of
11 staff and they were going from bed to bed. So by the time they got to me, I still didn't
12 know what was going on, and whatever they had given me had made me kind of groggy.
13 And then I remember my last memories was someone shoving something down my mouth
14 and then I was off to sleep.
- 15 So, you know, I had no idea what was happening and it's only by the -- my
16 medical notes that suggests that I was in some sort of -- they were doing some sort of
17 experiment, because I'd been kept sedated and knocked out for more than probably three
18 days and electrocuted, sometimes twice a day while I had no recognition of it until I
19 actually read these notes.
- 20 So eventually I've come to some days later and apparently when I was
21 anaesthetised there was a doctor that came in and changed my bandages and this would
22 have been while I was knocked out because I don't have any recollection of that.
- 23 Q. So it's in your notes a Dr Leeks visited to change your bandages but you have no
24 recollection of it?
- 25 A. No. And given the dates, that's pretty much happened while I was unconscious.
- 26 Q. So for the rest of the time you had that period where you were, you know, just lying there
27 asleep and you believe it was electric, well, the notes say you were electric shocked. What
28 happened for the rest of that time, that two months before you were sent back to
29 Holdsworth?
- 30 A. Well, I'd ended up just -- that was six weeks, so --
- 31 Q. Six weeks?
- 32 A. So I just ended up hanging in that -- in the ward causing trouble, causing problems, because
33 I didn't want to be there, I was in fear of my life because of constant battling other patients
34 that were wanting to, you know, abuse me because I'm only 11 years old and to them I'm

1 pretty well fresh meat and so I spent -- one of the patients, the first one that sexually abused
2 me, he actually never ever did that again and then what he did was he kind of shielded me
3 and protected me from everybody else, so he never did that to me ever again, so he kind
4 of -- I kind of hung with him all the time and he made sure that no-one else tried anything
5 on me, so I was pretty much appreciative of that, you know.

6 Q. Right. Okay. So then you were back and about a year later you were admitted again to
7 Lake Alice, you were back at Holdsworth for about a year?

8 A. I think it was a lot less than that.

9 Q. Oh do you?

10 A. Yeah. You see when I was in there in 1972 this villa 11, which is the main focus of the
11 Lake Alice Inquiry, wasn't even up and running, so the adolescent unit as such, there wasn't
12 any, not in villa 11. So yes, I did go back and subsequently I was sent back and to Lake
13 Alice. When that happened it was villa 11.

14 Q. So the second time, the notes suggest you were -- it was a year, but from your memory it
15 was a lot less?

16 A. I think it was, you know.

17 Q. Okay. So you went back on your own or were there any other boys that were taken over
18 with you the second time?

19 A. No, I ended up there being taken on that occasion by myself again and then subsequently
20 others followed because I knew they came from Holdsworth.

21 Q. Did you know why you were being taken back a second time, did anyone tell you?

22 A. No, I had no idea, no. I know why I went there the third time, but we'll get to that when
23 you finish your questioning on this part, but yeah, so I think, you know, from memory it's
24 always about antisocial behaviour disorder. I think, you know, I've read that and I've seen
25 that, they're always talking about you're misbehaving. However, there's no disorder that
26 actually comes with antisocial behaviour disorder, it doesn't fit there.

27 Q. We'll take you to one exhibit a bit later that will go through the diagnosis and things like
28 that in one go. So you were diagnosed with antisocial behaviour disorder?

29 A. Yeah.

30 Q. With your second admission you say you received ECT multiple times?

31 A. Yeah.

32 Q. You were fully awake and you weren't anaesthetised, is that right?

33 A. Yeah.

34 Q. Okay, so why did you get it? Why did you get this unanaesthetised ECT the second time

- 1 respect for them I won't mention his name.
- 2 Q. Thank you.
- 3 A. But the person I'm talking about did actually get arrested and charged from Lake Alice,
4 from that unit some years later.
- 5 Q. Right. Okay, but at the time you and many other boys were at his mercy more or less?
- 6 A. Correct.
- 7 Q. Okay, so let's go back to the ECT that we were talking about. Whereabouts in villa 11 did
8 ECT happen?
- 9 A. It happened upstairs, there was two separate rooms, so where it happened particularly
10 would be on the left side of those two rooms.
- 11 Q. So there were two dormitories and two rooms in the middle?
- 12 A. Yeah, yeah.
- 13 Q. That's where they did it?
- 14 A. Yeah.
- 15 Q. Who would be in a room when ECT was happening?
- 16 A. There'd be Dr Freaks -- I mean Dr Leeks. I don't even know if he was a Dr Leeks. And at
17 least four other staff members.
- 18 Q. Were they male or female?
- 19 A. They were male.
- 20 Q. And were they nurses?
- 21 A. If you could call them nurses, yeah.
- 22 Q. So explain the process from when, say, you start the day, how do you end up getting ECT,
23 how do you know you're going to get ECT?
- 24 A. Well, sometimes they'll give you a hint and that might be by walking around with the
25 electrodes and the little box shaking it around saying "It's your turn, this could be you, this
26 could be someone else." And generally that's how it happened. And then there's times,
27 most of the time you wouldn't know. But let's put things in perspective here. What they
28 used to do was make us at times get the machines, the headset ready and then you'll be
29 electrocuted at some stage.
- 30 And how that is, I'll give you a description on how that is. It's like I said,
31 headphones, steel headphones and you put bandages around each one and then you --
32 there's a silver bowl which has water and salt. These earphones are put in there, two
33 reasons, one is so that it conducts the electricity and the other, the salt part of it is so it
34 doesn't set you on fire or you don't catch on fire. And then those are pulled out and put on

- 1 your head so the water is dripping everywhere so that they conduct, you're plugged into the
2 national grid.
- 3 Q. So when you're dipping the headphones in, is this when you're already up in the room?
- 4 A. No, they're pre-dipped in there and then that bowl and the machine goes up together and
5 placed on something similar to this.
- 6 Q. Right, okay. So then what happens, you've dipped them in, sometimes you had to do it
7 yourself?
- 8 A. No, they're already dipped in there.
- 9 Q. They're already dipped?
- 10 A. So once you've been dragged up there screaming, fighting, punching, whatever, then you're
11 held down on the bed and then Leeks would put those on your head. As soon as they are
12 put on both sides of your temple your eyes immediately shut from the electricity and that's
13 when it all -- that's where it starts, and -- do you want a description?
- 14 Q. Yeah, please if you could describe it?
- 15 A. I'll give you a description. So what happens then, is -- so your eyelids automatically shut,
16 and then there's a dial on the machine and so that's turned up slowly and then to the left, to
17 the right there's two white lines, electricity, you can see them because you're, you know,
18 even though your eyes are shut you can see what's happening through your skull and these
19 two lines come together and they slowly come together, you're screaming and, you know,
20 you're in immense pain. And then when they hit, touch each other, then it goes all squiggly
21 and then up and down, he turns the dial up and down so that you're convulsing, you're
22 shaking, you know, you're screaming. And you can hear everything that's going on, you
23 can hear talking, you can hear laughing. And then this on average would last for about 3, 4
24 minutes and sometimes even longer, depends what he'd done. And it's turned up and down,
25 up and down, so, yeah, so that gives you some idea. These are children, we were little kids,
26 we're screaming, we can hear this guy, he's, you know, he's enjoying what he's doing.
- 27 Q. Was he ever talking to you while it was going on?
- 28 A. Yeah.
- 29 Q. What was he saying to you?
- 30 A. He was saying "You're my favourite kid, that's why I'm doing this to you" -- no, he didn't
31 say that at all. He was enjoying the pain that he was getting out of it, you know, and your
32 reaction to it. And he would be -- he would say things like "You're not going to get cheeky
33 again", or, you know, "You're not going to be disobedient", you know, and "You're not
34 going to do this" or "You're not going to do that." And of course we're all not going to do

1 that anymore, whatever it is, even if it wasn't, we didn't do that, you know, you would say,
2 "Yeah, sure", you know, while you're screaming and jumping around, yeah.

3 Q. Did you have a rubber piece in your mouth when you were being -- did you have a rubber
4 bit in your mouth?

5 A. Sometimes and sometimes you didn't. Generally the rubber was so that the teeth wouldn't
6 shatter and smash, but bear in mind, you know, electricity, we're not talking about the
7 normal ECT machine, the ECT machine is not actually called that, he had it modified
8 especially for his purposes, and the, you know, the reason that muscle relaxants and other
9 things that are given is so that it doesn't break your bones, it doesn't fracture your skull, it
10 doesn't break your legs, it doesn't kill you.

11 What he was doing with us, he was playing with our lives, he was electrocuting us,
12 all the above things that I just said could have happened. And I have no doubt at stages
13 they probably did happen to others.

14 **CHAIR:** Can I just ask a quick question, just to take you back before we lose it. You said,
15 Tyrone, it lasted a number of minutes, 3 or 4 minutes. You said the words "depending on
16 what you'd done".

17 A. Yeah.

18 Q. What do you mean by that?

19 A. Well, what I actually meant, depending on what levels that, you know, I mean I'll give you
20 an example. If I got cheeky, which I do a lot, and they said something to me, and I told
21 them to get fucked, which I usually did, then I'm in for some more minutes, you know, I'm
22 in for longer, because of those, you know, the more you resisted and not, you know, the
23 more they took offence to it. It's not they, it's more Leeks. But then the staff that are
24 behind it would give him the story on, you know.

25 Q. So they'd tell them what you'd done?

26 A. Yeah, on the --

27 **Q.** And depending how serious they thought it was you'd get more or less of this --

28 A. Yeah, longer, longer. So he would play with the switch up and down, up and down, so
29 when you thought it was over and you thought oh that's it, then up it would go again, you
30 know, so it's not quite over.

31 Q. Thank you, sorry to interrupt you.

32 **QUESTIONING BY MS JOYCHILD CONTINUED:** No, no I was going to ask the same
33 question. Thank you.

34 Okay so just back, you said you were being dragged kicking and screaming.

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. From where were you being dragged?

3 A. Well, they had a day room that they would gather everyone in and actually keep the doors
4 shut in the day room and then come in and subsequently grab whoever they were going to
5 grab. Now a lot of that time there would be many, probably most of the children would be
6 on the ground and in foetal position and, you know, they'd be defecating and, you know,
7 and screaming before it even happened.

8 I didn't do that, I wanted to have a fight, you know, you're not going to get me just
9 like, I ain't going peacefully and I tried to tell the others in a protective sort of a way, "Just
10 stand up to him, you know, go hard, you know, don't lie on the floor", you know, but
11 I come to realise that obviously my spirit is a lot stronger than some others and so that's
12 how it would happen. You wouldn't -- they'd just come in and grab whoever it was. They
13 already knew who they were going to do.

14 But, you know, the thing is, even if a number of those children didn't get picked,
15 they may well have because they went through it even though they didn't actually get it that
16 day.

17 Q. Right.

18 A. So every single one of them, and I remember them all. You know, and I felt sorry for them
19 all, you know, and it's just unbelievable, this sort of crap that was going on.

20 Q. So you're all in a day room?

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. And --

23 A. And they locked the main door so you couldn't escape.

24 Q. Was this a particular day a week that happened, ECT day?

25 A. Well, you know, ECT could be any time, but, you know, it could be Thursday, Friday. You
26 know, sometimes they'd said there were set days, but, you know, I don't remember being set
27 days because I had it sometimes three times a week and it wasn't a set day, it was any day.
28 Could even be at night, it could be in the weekend, it just depends --

29 Q. Right.

30 A. -- on what happened.

31 Q. But Selwyn Leeks was always there doing it to you?

32 A. Yeah, yeah, I always got electrocuted by him, yeah.

33 Q. Right. So I'm just going to read a paragraph that you've written and you might want to add
34 to it. "I cannot describe the pain of receiving ECT. It felt like somebody was smashing my

1 head open with a hammer and it used to make me scream. It was the most terrible pain I've
2 ever felt in my life. I would have honestly rather died on my bike accident than receive it."

3 A. Yeah.

4 Q. And "The terror of receiving ECT was my biggest fear at Lake Alice, especially the fear of
5 not knowing if and when I would receive it. To me it was clear the staff enjoyed giving it
6 to us when I'd beg or cry for them to stop they would just laugh."

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. So the ECT you received, that was always on your head?

9 A. Yeah, yeah.

10 Q. Did any boys tell you of other places that they got it?

11 A. Yes. They would get it, you know, on the arms, on their legs, on their genitals, yeah, in all
12 those places, and they, you know, I mean everyone talked, you know, of the ones that I met
13 and that's what happened to them, and I know that that's exactly what, yeah. And I even
14 heard, but I hadn't seen it for myself, that other children were electrocuting other children
15 under Leeks' supervision and other members of that staff. Animals, the whole lot of them.
16 Absolutely animals.

17 Q. So you're not just holding Selwyn Leeks responsible, are you?

18 A. No, no.

19 Q. Who else was responsible?

20 A. Selwyn Leeks had his little team, you know, I refer to them as his team of maggots because
21 they enjoyed every part and what he was doing and also they were involved in making sure
22 that certain people got it and probably more often than others, because of resistance and
23 because they couldn't break the mould, they couldn't break the spirit, so yeah.

24 And also, you know, this -- the responsibility, it's not just Leeks and his crew, you
25 know, the thing is Good Health Whanganui I hold responsible too. This is the same
26 hospital that worked tirelessly to save my life when I was run over. This is the same
27 hospital that Lake Alice come under, under their watch, who at times could have taken my
28 life away again from, you know, we haven't even talked about the drugs yet, but we'll get to
29 that part.

30 Also, I blame the Department of Social Welfare. You know, we're wards of the
31 State. This is not about abuse, you know, the changeover as abuse in care, we are wards of
32 the State. This happened, the wards of the State were the ones in Holdsworth that was
33 being Shanghai'd over to Lake Alice in their numbers. It's them, it's also, you know, in
34 some cases it's Department of Education, and it's the -- and then there's individuals within

- 1 Holdsworth, AKA Drake, John Drake. There's also another guy, his name is -- I don't
2 know if I can mention his name.
- 3 Q. Well, it's written down anyway in your statement.
- 4 A. Yeah, but we mention his name because I don't want this to be cut off, so you know. Those
5 two were responsible for sending the wards of the State for their own reasons to Lake
6 Alice.
- 7 Q. Right. So they were housemasters there, were they?
- 8 A. Well, they were housemasters, but John Drake particularly and the other guy, they were --
9 one was Acting Principal and the other one was Assisting Principal.
- 10 Q. Right.
- 11 A. So the Acting Principal. Now they are well-known, they are at the pinnacle of sending
12 children to Lake Alice. And, you know, to me, I know some of the -- part of the reason for
13 that and the biggest part of the reason, especially when it comes to John Drake.
- 14 Q. Tell us what you think.
- 15 A. Do you want me to tell you?
- 16 Q. Yes please.
- 17 A. Okay, well, John Drake is now dead and I had nothing to do with that, so he -- I met this
18 guy John Drake in 1969, he was employed by the Department of Social Welfare at a home
19 run by Ministry of Education called Campbell Park School. Whilst I was there in my
20 nearly two years I was sexually assaulted by this man on many occasions.
- 21 Recently, the MSD, we had -- I had a claim, two claims, MSD had declined my
22 claim for their reason is that I wouldn't have been in fear of John Drake whilst he was at
23 Holdsworth. He came from Campbell Park to Holdsworth. And then six weeks later they
24 went on to the Ministry of Education claim and then accepted that John Drake had sexually
25 assaulted me on many occasions.
- 26 John Drake is at the pinnacle of sending us to Lake Alice. Part of that I believe is
27 because he knows that we know that, you know, and he thought -- I'm not sure what he --
28 how he knew about the experiments or whatever, I'm pretty sure he thought that it might
29 erase our memories of what happened and to actually, you know, to know that he was at
30 that -- sending us there, he had the authority, he worked deals, whatever. But I think that's
31 the story that will come up later today by somebody else.
- 32 Q. At the time you were there, did you think Drake had something to do with you being there,
33 even as a child?
- 34 A. Yeah, yeah. While we were there we made a complaint about John Drake and some of the

1 others who had been sexually abusing other boys and stuff. Obviously this complaint went
2 back to Holdsworth School, this is when I'm back at Holdsworth, and I was hit up directly
3 by John Drake about the complaint that I made and others made. I called him a homo and
4 said that that's exactly right. We both got into a fight, a full punch up. He didn't win,
5 I didn't win, he won in a way of sending me back to Lake Alice.

6 Q. Right.

7 A. Again. So that's what that was all about.

8 Q. So is that the second -- before the second time you went or before the third time?

9 A. The third time.

10 Q. Before the third time, so it was Drake who actually sent you back there the third time?

11 A. Yeah. But not -- he wouldn't name that reason.

12 Q. No.

13 A. But that's what it was for.

14 Q. That's what it was about. Okay, let's turn to drugs now. At paragraph 18 you say you got a
15 lot of Paraldehyde injections, "the nurses seemed to just give them to me and others
16 randomly whenever they felt like it. They would do it in the dispensary in villa 11." Tell
17 us about those injections, how did they give them to you?

18 A. Well, apparently the first time I received them, Paraldehyde injections, was because I was
19 disturbing and making too much noise after 8 pm and that I was disturbing the good
20 patients. What the hell? And making too much noise. So that's my first introduction to
21 Paraldehyde.

22 On another occasion I was given it because I kicked someone in a fight. And it's
23 documented that they injected the offending leg so that I wouldn't kick anymore as
24 punishment. Remember this drug isn't meant to be for punishment, nor is ECT. But yet in
25 their own words in the nursing notes it said that it was because of that incident.

26 Q. Yeah. So you would get it in your leg or backside?

27 A. Yeah.

28 Q. Okay. And it would cause pain in your entire leg, is that right?

29 A. Yeah, yeah, it's a pain-inducing type injection. I mean the name suggests what it is,
30 Paraldehyde, it's paral-hyde, it's paralysis, it causes paralysis.

31 Q. Right, and from your observations, did other children get Paraldehyde?

32 A. Yes, yeah, yeah.

33 Q. Everyone, it was pretty common was it?

34 A. It was common, yeah.

- 1 Q. Would you see other children being given it?
- 2 A. Yeah, yeah, yeah. And they couldn't sit down because it was a painful injection and you
3 couldn't sit on that part where you had it, that's why they did it in the arse so that -- so you
4 couldn't sit on your arse again.
- 5 Q. And then you say you also received other drugs in a liquid form?
- 6 A. Yeah.
- 7 Q. You've said you received Largactil. There's a list there somewhere.
- 8 A. Oh look there's so many drugs that they gave me, it's a wonder I didn't turn out to be a
9 junkie.
- 10 Q. I think at the top there, I don't know if you can read it but there's a list of the drugs from
11 your nursing notes that you were given?
- 12 A. Yeah. Look I've been able to identify a lot of these drugs. You know, most of them you
13 don't give to children for a start. Some of them are dangerous anyway. And the reason
14 they're giving them for isn't designed for that use, especially on children. The saline and
15 the other type of drugs is okay when you're being anaesthetised, you have to give that, that's
16 a sort of a drug that can work two ways, it can be dangerous and it can kill you, it can cause
17 you to have a stroke, but it works so quickly within seconds to go the other way. So if
18 something happened to you while you're being anaesthetised and they give you that, I think
19 it's called saline or --
- 20 Q. Right.
- 21 A. What it does is actually pick you back up again. It's a bit like an adrenaline shot.
- 22 Q. Right.
- 23 A. But all the other ones are -- and we'll get into that soon, because these other drugs have
24 been given for certain things to do with behavioural, antisocial behavioural disorder.
- 25 Q. Right.
- 26 A. So yeah.
- 27 Q. So let's go to your Dr Skipworth's exhibit because that lists your drugs and things like that.
- 28 A. Yes.
- 29 Q. Can we put up on the screen Dr Jeremy Skipworth's exhibit?
- 30 **CHAIR:** We'll get it on the screen.
- 31 **QUESTIONING BY MS JOYCHILD CONTINUED:** Now Tyrone, you were one of the ones
32 that made a complaint through Grant Cameron, weren't you?
- 33 A. Yeah.
- 34 Q. And unknown to you, Grant Cameron had got a confidential psychiatric report on you?

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. Sorry, I'm wrong, it's not -- my apologies, it wasn't Grant Cameron, it was actually the
3 Crown Law Office. And this is the report that the Crown Law Office got from Dr Jeremy
4 Skipworth who is a forensic psychiatrist. Now he looked at your statement of claim and all
5 the greater details you gave him and your personal statement. He had your full medical file
6 and correspondence in relation to your admissions to Lake Alice. And he had your medical
7 and surgical notes from Palmerston North Hospital Board. So could we go to the first --

8 **[Copy provided]**

9 A. Jeez, I can see that screen.

10 Q. So the first part that he talks about is that you were referred to Lake Alice on 15 June 1972
11 and in the admission the principal of Holdsworth says that your admission was due to
12 persistent absconding and subsequent burglaries and other misdemeanours while missing
13 from Holdsworth. You'd continued to abscond and would appear that no form of deterrent
14 works in modifying his behaviour.

15 So he wrote to Dr Leeks, "It's now my belief that after three years of institutional
16 training -- and he talks about the boys' home you've been in, two years at Campbell Park,
17 short stay at Hokio, six months at Holdsworth -- we've not managed to modify or help this
18 boy's behaviour in any way." And then he says that there were previous indications
19 suggesting hospitalisation as a last resort.

20 So he said you'd absconded from Holdsworth no less than a dozen times and
21 you've said while you absconded because you hated what was happening there, is that
22 right?

23 A. Exactly, yeah.

24 Q. So he talks about the serious nature being burglaries, thefts, bicycle conversions. He's
25 wanting to put you in more secure facilities if other forms of treatment cannot stabilise your
26 behaviour. So this is what was written in your first letter that Skipworth first put up. Go to
27 the next one now.

28 The next bit he says that the nursing notes say that on October 1973, "It has been
29 reported that this boy is being insolent towards three elder patients in villa 10, also making
30 a noise after 8 pm, thus keeping the three good patients awake. I think Tyrone is due for
31 some ectonus therapy." Ectonus is what Dr Leeks often used because the machine was
32 called an Ectonus machine apparently often used to describe ECT.

33 Mr Skipworth's looking at a further note that said, "This boy will persist when out
34 of sight of staff making a general nuisance of himself and harassing other boys while they

1 are working at routine jobs. Some ectonus therapy may be necessary."

2 Then another note says, "This boy is still resentful of authority, he sometimes goes
3 out of his way to be obnoxious and is finding it hard to conform." So the note said "a nurse
4 recommended ectonus therapy per Dr Leeks."

5 So they're the reasons in your notes why you got ECT, electrocutions.

6 A. They're the excuses.

7 Q. They were the excuses, yeah.

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. And in the next paragraph the note says that you were involved in a kicking incident, names
10 a couple of other boys, couple of other patients. Paraldehyde administered to the offending
11 leg to deter a recurrence. And you've already talked about that.

12 Then we have a psychiatrist who wrote a report saying that you were -- this was
13 later and she said that you were a rather typical psychopath -- "I'm only using this term in
14 the sense that Tyrone has not, throughout his development, internalised what might be
15 called a conscience or controls of his own behaviours. From early childhood he's been
16 involved with numerous thefts, runnings away and acts of violence." But this psychiatrist
17 does not mention any mental illness such as you'd been previously diagnosed with suffering
18 from.

19 Next one please. So when Dr Skipworth was asked to comment on Tyrone's
20 statement of claim, were there valid medical grounds established for admission. And he
21 says the severe conduct disturbance that Mr Marks demonstrated was felt sufficient grounds
22 to admit him on an informal basis. "Hospitalisation was considered a final resort to modify
23 his behaviour. Whether this constitutes valid medical grounds for admission would relate
24 to the admission policy at the time and to proper consent being obtained."

25 Your parents did not know that you were receiving ECT, did they?

26 A. No. There was no consent given. My parents very, very early in the stage, in stages did
27 give consent only for immunisation or booster shots, only, nothing else.

28 Q. In your notes there is a consent form where they have consented to you being immunised
29 but no consent form was sent out by Lake Alice relating to ECT?

30 A. No, none at all.

31 Q. None at all.

32 **CHAIR:** Can we just be really clear about this document so we don't get confused. Where it says
33 at the top "No valid medical grounds established for admission", that's quoting the claim
34 that was made, is that right, it's not a conclusion of the doctor?

1 **MS JOYCHILD:** No, he's going through the statement of claim responding to some of the
2 questions.

3 **CHAIR:** That's right, but underneath that allegation the doctor then gives his views?

4 **MS JOYCHILD:** Dr Skipworth gives his views, yes.

5 **CHAIR:** Thank you.

6 **QUESTIONING BY MS JOYCHILD CONTINUED:** Could we go to paragraph (b) of that
7 please, where he was asked whether there was an incorrect or no proper diagnosis. So what
8 Jeremy Skipworth said here was "Mr Marks was diagnosed as having an antisocial
9 behaviour disorder or cyclothymic character disorder. His antisocial behaviour would
10 currently be described in terms of conduct disorder though these diagnoses may well have
11 been appropriate at the time. Reference to the diagnostic manuals of the time would be of
12 value to clarify in terms of ECT." Can we move on to the next page.

13 A. Are we looking at (c)?

14 Q. No, before (c) there's more text on (b). "Paraldehyde and antipsychotic medication are not
15 indicated for such conditions." So even if he did have a condition that could have been
16 called conduct disorder, you do not treat it the way it was treated.

17 The next question was whether there was incorrect or unjustified medication by
18 mouth, at times administered by punishment or for sedation. And the answer was, "The
19 available documentation indicates that this complaint is supported. Mr Marks was clearly
20 given Paraldehyde in a grossly inappropriate fashion as punishment. It was injected into a
21 leg which he kicked another boy with. There is no therapeutic indication for such
22 treatment."

23 Next one please.

24 **CHAIR:** Just remind me of the date of that again? It wasn't until you brought your claim.

25 **QUESTIONING BY MS JOYCHILD CONTINUED:** It was 19 --

26 A. 2001 was it?

27 Q. 2001, it was the very late 90s or -- sorry, I seem to have left my actual hard copy
28 somewhere.

29 A. Yeah, I've got it.

30 Q. Oh you've got it. Right.

31 A. See I took it without you noticing. [**Copy provided back**]. That's all yours eh.

32 Q. The next question was whether there was unjustified ECT, unjustified administrator,
33 unmodified ECT as a punishment in conjunction with verbal threats causing excruciating
34 pain. The notes do not indicate that unmodified ECT was given as punishment, however

1 Mr Marks' personal statement details how this occurred and how it occurred in conjunction
2 with verbal threats causing excruciating pain. If this is accurate it would appear that
3 Mr Marks received ECT in both modified and unmodified fashion."

4 And Your Honour, you'll find it's quite common that the notes will record the
5 modified ECT but not the unmodified.

6 **CHAIR:** So does it record that the ECT took place but it is silent as to whether it was modified or
7 unmodified?

8 **MS JOYCHILD:** It really varies, sometimes you will see the odd note with some of the clients
9 where it says "unmodified" or "modified", but for most it's all -- even actually with the
10 modified ECT a lot of them say they had it more than what's listed, but the unmodified is
11 grossly under-recorded.

12 **CHAIR:** Thank you.

13 **MS JOYCHILD:** That's what this document has said. So this is the Crown's own expert who
14 looked at all these documents has recorded "inappropriate treatment" and "treatment that
15 was unjustified". Those (e), (f), (j), they are just the extra parts of the statement of claim
16 that Mr Marks had.

17 **CHAIR:** Yes.

18 **QUESTIONING BY MS JOYCHILD CONTINUED:** Now Tyrone, we've talked about your
19 sexual -- the sexual unsafety that you had in all your institutions and while you were there.
20 Can we look now at your schooling while you were at Lake Alice. What's your general
21 comment about your schooling?

22 A. What schooling? I didn't get any. I didn't get any schooling even when I was in different
23 institutions that was satisfactory.

24 Q. In Lake Alice did you go to school at all?

25 A. No, no.

26 Q. So you're an 11 year old boy?

27 A. Yeah.

28 Q. First of all, in with mentally disturbed adult patient, no schooling?

29 A. No.

30 Q. Then when you were in the main other -- in the other villa with the other children, you
31 didn't go to school either?

32 A. No.

33 Q. What did you do in the daytime?

34 A. Nothing basically, just walk around.

1 Q. Some of the children --

2 A. And just lived there, you know.

3 Q. Some children say they did go to school, did you see other children going to school?

4 A. Not really, no. I think that one time they had a -- someone that put himself, an adult
5 patient who was actually a school teacher that had put himself in there as a voluntary
6 patient who was a school teacher at the time. I think very briefly he tried to do something
7 in terms of some sort of teaching, but then he left within days, so he wasn't really -- I think
8 it was just something to do while he was there.

9 Q. So because you were there in the early days you were one of the earliest boys there, there
10 was no school set up at all while you were there?

11 A. No, not that I remember, no.

12 Q. So tell us about -- you've made claims, let's talk about the Grant Cameron one, because that
13 was the first one.

14 A. Yeah.

15 Q. You have been paid compensation from that. You say that you were awarded 94,000 by
16 Justice Gallen but you only received 53,000, this is at paragraph 30. You had 41,000
17 deducted, "I wasn't happy about the amount or the deduction of fees, there was no
18 negotiation, it was take it or leave it." Can you explain how you got into working with
19 Grant Cameron and how many times you met him?

20 A. I actually only met him ever once and that was -- I'd been communicating with him for
21 some four years but he's Johnny Came Lately in all of this. Before him it was Billington
22 and the former -- it was John Edwards who's the Privacy Commissioner at the moment, it
23 was there that -- you know, I came on very early in the stage, and somewhere down the
24 track they -- Grant Cameron came and took it off their hands so to speak. So that's where
25 he came into this.

26 So for the next four years we were dealing with Grant Cameron and, you know, subsequently some
27 offer was made and I know a lot of us didn't agree with it, we said that it's, you know, it's --
28 yeah, that's a starting point. And he said there is no negotiation, it's a take it or leave it deal
29 and if you don't take it then you'll be excluded from it and you'll have to find your own, you
30 know, you'll have to get your own lawyer and go down that road, so, you know, given I had
31 four children on my own at the time, so I had to, you know, sign and take that offer, I mean
32 I didn't want to, but four years, nearly five years. We weren't happy with it at all, because,
33 you know, it just wasn't right.

34 And the other thing I always maintain that there was another defendant and that's

1 way before John, Grant Cameron or even John Edwards and Billington were involved, you
2 know, that I was a ward of the State and as being a State ward the responsibility I believed
3 was with the Department of Social Welfare who put me through that, so in terms of that,
4 that's where all that lie.

5 Q. Were you aware that Leoni McInroe was battling away on another case?

6 A. No, not until recently, yeah, within the last year or so.

7 Q. So when you were made the offer, did someone from Grant Cameron's office ring you up
8 and give you the offer, how did you find out about it?

9 A. Well, they used Sir Rodney Gallen who made -- who was put in there to make -- to
10 determine on who got what, and, you know, originally it was based on the level, it wasn't
11 based on torture, it wasn't based on sexual abuse, it wasn't based on a lot of things, it was
12 based on Leeks. And none of the stuff that I talk about in villa 5, none of that, none of
13 those experiments, it was only based on some of the ECT. It wasn't compensation, it was
14 an ex gratia payment. Compensation is when you take responsibility for it, then it becomes
15 compensation.

16 Q. How did you -- you would have got an apology from Helen Clark?

17 A. Yeah.

18 Q. What's your comment on that?

19 A. Well, I actually made a paper plane and threw it outside. So too late, what are you
20 apologising for? It's not you, it's the people that done this to us. And when it happened
21 would have been an appropriate time to apologise, not all those years later. So, you know,
22 and I've always made it clear, I'm not interested in your apologies, you know, it's too late.
23 We need to work something else out.

24 Q. Like what?

25 A. Well, you know, I have a -- when we were on the advisory panel way before, there was
26 actually an advisory panel, I have worked out a package which I thought was appropriate
27 rather than just money, it was a package which would include monetary compensation, it
28 would include rehabilitation, if survivors want to opt into it, it would also clear the way for
29 the red tape around ACC in terms of trauma and getting access to some sort of payment
30 system for, you know, PTSD, trauma, sexual abuse, electrocution, you know, just to name a
31 few. And also around tertiary education. So for those that never had that opportunity, then
32 perhaps as part of that package they could opt-in and be given that opportunity if they
33 wanted to go to university, to go to polytech, and not pay a single cent to do so, because
34 they had missed out on all this as young -- you know, bear in mind, we're all getting in our

1 60s, so, you know, that was my thinking around like doing a package. And I think it was a
2 pretty good idea.

3 **Q.** Right.

4 **A.** And, yeah, so --

5 **Q.** So you've talked about, you know, your time leaving Lake Alice and basically it was a
6 struggle to stay in work and out of trouble. And then you basically ended up a solo dad of
7 four daughters and that was the beginning of a change for you?

8 **A.** Yeah, you know, what I really want to do is I know that time is short, but, you know, this is
9 the whole part, I mean we haven't really talked too much about the actual impacts and, you
10 know, as what this has done to --

11 **Q.** Let's talk about that now.

12 **A.** Yeah, I think that we should.

13 **Q.** Yeah.

14 **A.** Because the -- in terms of just me, you know, I'm already dealing with the trauma of being
15 run over and nearly killed. I've got scars now and, you know, I'm trying to deal with this.
16 And then this comes along, Lake Alice and everything that happens there. And the trauma,
17 compared to my accident, like I said, I would rather have been left lying on the road and
18 just -- and die.

19 But it's not just the -- I seen more than 100 children in my time there who suffered,
20 who were traumatised, who screamed, who -- it wrecked their life. I'm saying there were
21 only a small handful of us that survived that onslaught and we watched many of our brother
22 and, you know, and sister survivors in other wards that lost their spirits and that were
23 damaged beyond repair for the rest of their lives.

24 And, you know, the impacts of what's happened, it doesn't stop. When he stopped
25 doing his stuff in 1977, it has to live with us all the way through. This is tattooed into our
26 whole bodies as a continuous reminder of the, you know, of what happened. You know,
27 most people have dreams and happy good dreams. Most of our dreams are nightmares. We
28 wake up and the same, you know, we have anxiety, we want to be up and we want to, you
29 know, we're just ready for anything that happens. And I'm out here battling for what
30 happened to me, but I'm battling for all the others that don't get a mention in this. Those
31 that have died, those that have lost their memories, and those that can't even speak for
32 themselves. So as part of my story, it's part of their story, because I seen this happen. So
33 that's what I want to acknowledge.

34 Getting back to what you're saying, in terms of how my life went. So we're up to

1 raising four daughters. Yeah, so my former wife had left and gone back to Australia and
2 I got left with four children, little children. And I had to bring them up by myself and raise
3 them, which I done, and successfully because they're all older kids now and they have their
4 own children. So none of my children knew what had happened to me and today they'll
5 watch me and they're hearing what I'm telling everyone else for the first time in that
6 capacity, they do know a little bit about this, but they're very, very supportive of me. My
7 10 year old son and my 13 year old daughter, this is my next family, they are very aware of
8 what abuse is. And they're right behind me.

9 So we get to that. Do you want me to ask me anything else? What happened to
10 me?

11 Q. Is there anything else you want to say?

12 A. Well, I just want to -- there's a couple of things that I want to say. First of all, I actually
13 done -- I'm actually a qualified professional practitioner in counselling and in social work.
14 I hold papers in sociology, social policy.

15 Q. Right, we're just going to put up your certificate, because you got two diplomas, didn't you?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Keep talking while --

18 A. Yeah, so I've got, you know, a double diploma, graduate diplomas in counselling, social
19 work and counselling comms. I hold papers in sociology, social policy -- Social Welfare
20 policy by the way -- and political and international relations at the University of Waikato.
21 But I've -- I work around at the moment a lot around survivors, I'm currently part-time
22 working as a support person and a counsellor for one of the news media crews that are
23 involved in podcasts, up and coming podcasts at the moment.

24 Q. Tyrone, if you look at your screen now that's your National Diploma in Counselling at level
25 6.

26 A. Yeah.

27 Q. That's one of them. Could we see the other one now please. Keep talking.

28 A. Yeah, so that covers, you know, this field.

29 Q. Any other points you want to make?

30 A. Well, there's probably -- there is quite a few more, but I'm not going to go into it really. I
31 think what we've done is covered where we're at. So in terms of even though I hold these
32 two graduate diplomas, it's been really, really hard for me to actually be involved and get
33 into, you know, in different agencies, and currently I'm working on my registration, but not
34 part of the mainstream, it's still the same registration. So I have to go somewhere else.

1 But the doors, just everything, you know, because of things like Lake Alice and
2 because of my background and stuff and it's been so hard just to climb up on that wall. I
3 had to educate myself, I couldn't read or write when I left welfare. I had to learn how to
4 read, I learned how to read and write from reading the newspaper and then spelling and all
5 that sort of thing. So it took me years to do what I should have been rightfully taught when
6 I was very, very young. I mean the comments that you've written, you've seen in these, all
7 over files that have been written about me by these so-called doctors is just way out the
8 gate.

9 I want to talk about if I can in terms of antisocial behaviour disorder. Have I got
10 time for that because --

11 **CHAIR:** Yes, you have because you referred to it before and I'm interested to know what you --
12 you're plainly concerned about those words. Tell us what it is.

13 A. Well, in actual fact the antisocial behaviour disorder, there is no disorder that comes with
14 antisocial behaviour. And antisocial behaviour in itself is actually quite normal. And
15 antisocial behaviour can be caused through a number of different things, such as what's
16 happening to us, we've been abused while we're in -- as a State ward, we've been
17 electrocuted, we've been all things happening. So as a reaction to that action, this is what's
18 causing it. This is what's causing us to run, us to fight, us to be anti-authority, you know,
19 it's all those things. Antisocial behaviour is probably one of the most normal things there
20 is. And if this -- just using that as Dr Leeks' normal -- as his way of getting people in there,
21 then half of New Zealand should have been put in Lake Alice.

22 **QUESTIONING BY MS JOYCHILD CONTINUED:** That's right.

23 A. From suffering from antisocial behaviour. Now, there is no such drugs prescribed for
24 antisocial behaviour, even today. There's nothing in the world. That's some good
25 old-fashioned sitting down and a bit of counselling to get you back on that journey again.
26 And all the things that we see here that are happening to children, and I know, I've seen a
27 number of other files in terms of antisocial behaviour disorder. And if you look in my file,
28 he even adds in different things that might be, but they're just extras to justify his means of
29 keeping us there and doing what he did, that electrocution, torture, and that's exactly what it
30 is. This is to children for goodness sake. In our country, because you act in an antisocial
31 behavioural way. Big deal.

32 So all this, we go through all this stuff just for that when it's actually normal. I'm
33 appalled. This is disgusting. This is shameful behaviour that his behaviour could have
34 been stopped had all these others that were responsible had acted a long, long time ago.

1 We are lucky that they say that in terms of 300 odd people went through Lake Alice. That
2 could have been 30,000 if this guy had have been carried on doing what he was doing and
3 backed, we could very well be looking at huge numbers. And that we're lucky that this
4 went from 72 to 1977. And that's all I can say about that, yeah. This is shameful in this
5 country's history.

6 Q. That's a very good point for me to leave it, if the Commissioners have any questions.

7 **COMMISSIONER ALOFIVAE:** No, Tyrone, I had made a couple of questions to ask you but
8 you had actually very succinctly answered them later on in your evidence, I'm very, very
9 grateful for your frankness and your boldness in stating things exactly as they were and are
10 today. Thank you.

11 A. Thank you Sandra. Come on Coral, I know you want to ask me some stuff.

12 **CHAIR:** No, I haven't because I've asked the ones. I just want to say two things. One is I know
13 how much detail you have not given us.

14 A. Yeah.

15 Q. And I know that, two reasons, one is that you gave us wonderful long and fulsome
16 testimony at the residences hearing, so we know the background and it's in our minds and
17 sharp focused. Secondly, you've given us another comprehensive brief of evidence with all
18 the medical records at the back. I want to assure you we know that, we've read it and we'll
19 continue to read it and it's important.

20 So I don't want you to go away thinking that we haven't noticed; we sure have.
21 And I just want to make a comment. You said in relation to that terrible car accident,
22 which not only you have described but remember Tony Jarvis described it to us as well, he
23 was a witness to it, so we've seen it from both angles. You said then that you were not
24 expected to survive.

25 A. No.

26 Q. Well, you did, kia ora.

27 A. So I guess I'm a survivor then.

28 Q. I think you're a survivor. And your voice for other survivors is so well appreciated.

29 A. Thank you.

30 Q. Last word to Paul.

31 A. Paul, your turn.

32 **COMMISSIONER GIBSON:** I do want to ask you questions because you're both entertaining,
33 educational and horrific in what you describe at the same time. Going back to the first time
34 you entered Lake Alice, and I suppose I'm talking about the line, you talk about being

- 1 experimental and we've heard allegations beyond therapy, punishment, torture, but I think
2 you've added a new dimension about almost trying to erase memories of sexual abuse of
3 State wards by State employees. When you first received ECT, do you know in your first --
4 do you know who was involved in that? Was Leeks or --
- 5 A. Leeks, he was leading, he was leading in the whole thing.
- 6 Q. Right in, I think villa 5 at that time as well?
- 7 A. Yeah.
- 8 Q. Your body at that point in time would have been pretty fragile, there's a risk to your body
9 around ECT as well.
- 10 A. Dangerous, it was dangerous.
- 11 Q. More than just dangerous.
- 12 A. I could have lost my life. I had skin grafts, and you know what happens, the skin's grafted
13 together, electrocution, electricity's going through my body. It's putting pressure on, that
14 could have any time just come away. If I had have died, they would have already would
15 have had a reason to say that it would have been because of my previous injuries. That's
16 how I feel that's what I -- if I look at it now, you know, that's a risk you're taking with my
17 life.
- 18 Q. You're almost a disposable part of an experiment.
- 19 A. Exactly.
- 20 Q. You also talked, you thought about the ECT machine may have been changed, modified by
21 Leeks. Do you want to speak more about that?
- 22 A. Well, the ECT machine that you've seen pictures of probably is a wooden box with two
23 electrodes that you hold on each end. This is not the one that Leeks had his machine that he
24 got made, it's like your headphones that you're wearing there but they're steel and they don't
25 have the -- those bits on. This is a special machine. The ECT, the original machine doesn't
26 have a switch where you can turn it up and down. As soon as you're hit with it, that's it,
27 that's what happens. With this one he had made especially so he could do that, turn it up
28 and down. You're plugged into the wall, you're plugged into the national grid, you know,
29 the voltage is less but it's more than the actual original machine. So it's not going to kill
30 you straight away as in like the electric chair would, but it's going to cause you, you know,
31 prolonged pain and suffering.
- 32 Q. Without mentioning other names, do you think there are other boys sent from Holdsworth
33 or other places who had been abused as State wards who then --
- 34 A. I think that this, you know, Lake Alice is the, you know, has been highlighted as, you

1 know, because of how this has turned out to be, and, you know, boys started going from
2 there in 1972 and then 1973 and onwards. I'm pretty sure that these practices happened in
3 other mental institutions around the country as well. It's more so highlighted at Lake Alice.

4 Q. And not just for punishment or torture but possibly experimentation in memory?

5 A. Experimentation, yeah.

6 Q. Memory eradication?

7 A. Yeah. I don't think any of this was legal, legal at the time, you know I'm not a law
8 professor or, you know, I don't know. But I know that that is -- there was a similar case in
9 Australia where the -- and that wasn't the last Royal Commission of Inquiry that was done
10 over there, the experiment was Deep Sleep Therapy and it killed a number of patients and
11 the youngest one was 14 years old. The oldest was under 40 and I think all up 24 out of a
12 number of subjects were -- that died from it. So it's -- I think it's something that's known,
13 the Deep Sleep Therapy and the Royal Commission in Australia, they came down hard on
14 those and they were convicted and kicked out and jailed, yeah. So I'm lucky I survived.

15 Q. Thanks, that's all my questions.

16 **CHAIR:** Thank you Tyrone. As I say, I think we've all expressed our gratitude towards you.
17 Time for you to have a break now and I hope this hasn't been too much of a drag on you.
18 I know its a personal toll that it takes always to tell the story which you've told many times.
19 We are all collectively really grateful because you've just added this vivid terrifying picture
20 to us which is going to be very important when we make our decision, so thank you very
21 much indeed, tēnei te mihi mahana ki a koe e hoa.

22 A. And it was very shocking.

23 Q. It's great you can still smile, thank you very much. We're going to take a short adjournment
24 because we have another witness available, so we'll take an adjournment now until 12
25 o'clock.

26 A. Bye.

27 **Adjournment from 11.49 am to 12.12 pm**

28 **CHAIR:** Ms Thomas. Kia ora.

29 **MS A THOMAS:** (Sung ma wai ra e taurima, te marae i waho nei. Ma te tika, ma te pono, me
30 te aroha e)

31

32 E tika ana ngā kupu i roto i tēnei waiata nei. Ma wai ra e taurima. Ma wai ra e
33 taurima to tātou whare. Ma wai rā e taurima ngā tamariki kua roa nei e noho mamae ana.
34 Ma wai rā e taurima ngā tamariki e rongu tonu ana i te tūkinotanga. Ma wai rā e taurima

1 ngā tamariki o ināianei ki a kore ai rātou I e rongō i ngā tū kinotanga i penāna. Ka hoki ano
2 au ki te kupu i roto i tēnei waiata, kei reira te whakautu, i te mea e hara tēnei te uimaki hoe.
3 Ko te whakautu o te nā waiata rā.

4 Ma wai ra e taurima? Ma te tika, ma te pono, ma te aroha. Hei tāpiri noa i terā
5 kōrero ānei aue ki ana ma wai ra e taurima? Ma koutou ngā Kaikōmihana, ma mātou, ngā
6 roia me ngā tangata i mahi ana i tēnei paki rehua engari te mutunga e hoa, mā tatau katoa
7 ma Aotearoa whānui. I runga i terā, e te Kaiwhakawā tēnā koe. Tēnā koutou ngā
8 Kaikōmihana, Talofa Lava. E mihi ana ki a koutou e mihi ana hoki i te hūhua o ngā mahi
9 kei mua i a koutou, i te hirahira o ngā mahi kei mua i a koutou anō hoki. I roto ēnei wiki e
10 rua kei te tū tonu mai kaore e kore, ka rongō koutou i ngā kōrero weriwari. Kāore e kore ka
11 tū ngā pihī. Kaore e kore ka hīnawana te kiri, kāore e kore ka tangi te ngākau, ēngari ko
12 tāku e kii atū ki a koutou i tēnei wā, me mahara ake tātou, he kōrero pono tēnei, he kōrero
13 tika tēnei, ko tēnei te āo o erā tamariki i haere ki terā whare mutunga ake mai o te weriwari
14 ko Lake Alice tēnā. Mē mahara ake tātou ki terā kōrero.

15 I runga i terā e te Kaiwhakawā koutou ngā Kaikōmihana nōku te waimārie ki te
16 whakataki te wāhanga ki a Rangi Wickliffe i tēnei rā nei. Me taku hōnora kia pēra. I roto i
17 a maua noho tahi ki ēnei mōrehu i rongō mātou māua i te mamae i rongō mātou i te
18 tūkinotanga kei roto tonu i o rātou whatumanawa. Nō reira, e tika ana kia noho penei tatou
19 i tēnei wā, ka mutu i roto e ngā wiki kei te tū mai nei. Ā, kā nui pea ēnā kōrero, hei
20 whakamohio no ia koutou.

21 It is my honour and my privilege to introduce Rangi Wickliffe today. So the
22 Commissioners are aware, Rangi would like to tell his story in his own way following his
23 own process. He has filed his statement but he would like to just speak to the key issues
24 that he wants people to hear today. So once he affirms his evidence, he will just speak
25 freely to that. He's then open to any questions that the Commissioners may have for Rangi
26 and he will answer those in the best way that he can.

27 So before I pass it over to you, the kaiwhakawā, I just wanted to say thank you,
28 Rangi, for coming here today, to all of the survivors that are so brave to share their kōrero.
29 We know it's a hard thing for you all to do, so he mihi nui tēnei ki a koe otirā kōrua tahi
30 Tyrone. Kei ā koe e te kaiwhakawā.

31 **CHAIR:** Kia ora, e tika ana ki te whakautu ki ā koe e hinebut I will do so in English because my
32 Māori is excellent in hearing and not so great in the thing, but thank you for
33 acknowledging, thank you for your waiata, which is entirely appropriate. Who will care is
34 what we're all about. And that waiata speaks to the qualities that we need of aroha, pono,