

Survivor Supplementary Statement

Date completed: **28/07/2026**

Survivor Full Name: **Kathleen Kearney Henderson** Other Known Name/s: **Kathleen was known in care as Kathleen Maxwell Kearney. After adoption, her name changed to Kathleen Kearney Hickey. Kathleen married Alan Anderson and surname changed to Kathleen Kearney Henderson.**

DOB: **22/06/1971** Redress Case Ref Num: **APP512655** Status: **Low Priority**
Mother's Name: **Mary Kearney Johnston** Father's Name: **James Kearney**
Siblings Names/DOB: **James, Yvonne, Charles. Surnames & DOBs: not provided**
Serious Criminal Conviction in the last 5 years: **None**
Reason for being placed into care: **Neglect, decided through a children's panel**

1. Introduction

My name is Kathleen Kearney Henderson. I am making this statement to share my experiences of being in care as a child and the impact these experiences have had on my life. Some of the details are difficult for me to talk about, and some memories are clearer than others, but I will describe what I remember to the best of my ability.

I understand that my records from the time are limited or incomplete, and I want to explain my experiences in my own words.

2. My Time in Care – Overview

Both of my parents were alcoholics, and as a result the needs of my siblings and I were often neglected. A children's panel decided that I should be placed into care when I was about 18 months old, and I remained in care until just before my seventh birthday.

I was involved with social work services in the North Lanarkshire - Motherwell/Airdrie area.

Over the following months/years, I was moved between several care settings. I was first placed in Dunavon Children's Home at 18 months old. Around the age of two, I moved into foster care in East Kilbride with Mr. and Mrs. Aitken. At two and a half, I was transferred to Dale House in Lanark. Finally, at around five years old, I was moved to Carluke Children's Home, where I also began primary school.

I will describe being placed in Carluke as I remember it. Due to being so young I can't recall anything from being in care before this time.

Carluka Children's Home

I stayed in Carluka until just before my seventh birthday, when I was adopted. My most adverse experiences occurred during my time in Carluka. I recall an incident when people came to take photographs and the staff laid out a spread of food, including salad. I had never eaten food like that before, but I was forced to sit at the table until 9 p.m. until I had finished eating the salad. This was typical treatment if you did not like what was given to you, you were forced to eat it regardless.

On another occasion, I was taken to a female staff member's caravan and had my hair cut against my sister's wishes. As an adult, I now question why I was ever taken to a staff member's caravan in the first place.

There were two brothers (William and Daniel McNair) who were also residents in the home, and they sexually abused and raped me. The older brother, William, forced me to perform oral sex on him. Although I was very young at the time, I know this happened on more than one occasion. It took place within the home, and I cannot remember ever telling anyone about it at the time.

Later, William entered a relationship with my sister Yvonne which made it even harder for me to come forward and disclose what had happened. He eventually took his own life, and when I attended his funeral for the sake of my sister, I was confronted by his younger brother Daniel. This brought back many painful and unwelcome memories.

3. Emotional and Long-Term Impact

After leaving Carlisle, I was adopted. Because of what had happened to me there, I felt unable to return, which affected the contact I had with my siblings. This was a deeply distressing and emotional time.

The experiences I endured have had a profound and lasting impact on my life. I struggle greatly with intimacy and physical contact, as being touched can be extremely triggering and emotional for me. This has affected my relationships and my ability to feel close to others.

I continue to suffer from flashbacks and nightmares, which are a constant reminder of the trauma I experienced. I currently take anti-depressant medication to help me cope. Before I married, I confided in my husband about what had happened. He is the only person I have ever told.

These experiences have shaped my life in ways that continue to affect me today.

4. Missing or Incomplete Records

I understand that some of the institutions involved have been unable to provide full records of my time in care. This has been difficult, but I know that my memories and experiences are valid. I am sharing what I remember because these events had a significant impact on my life.

5. Closing Statement

I am making this statement to help Redress Scotland understand what happened to me and how it has affected me. I am doing this in the hope that my experiences will be acknowledged and that I can continue to move forward in my life.

Thank you for taking the time to read my statement.

Signed: *Kathleen Henderson*

Date: 28/07/2026