

Client Copy

The family's first contact with this department was on 22.3.72. Mrs. Reilly approached the Area 2 office for help with accommodation. She and her children had stayed at the small flat of her sister, Mrs. Claire McMurchie [redacted] - for one week and she was now squatting at [redacted] Mr. Reilly had followed her from Dundee having been detained by the police for failure to pay a fine. The social worker contacted local authority social workers in Dundee who had known the family, and who said that the family had requested assistance with financial problems on two occasions and had changed address many times. Mrs. Reilly explained the move to London by reference to Mr. Reilly's difficulty in obtaining employment.

The next contact with this department was on 7.5.73 when Mrs. Reilly approached the Area 2 office to request the reception into care of her three children while she underwent hospital treatment for a kidney condition. The family had been rehoused to 103, Whites Grounds Estate, S.E.1. on 23.7.72. No names were given of friends or relatives who could care for the children. Her husband had left her three months before. The children attended local schools.

The children were placed in a children's home and a nursery from 9.5.73 to 7.6.73. A social worker visited Mrs. Reilly in Guy's Hospital and met Mr. Reilly who had returned to the family. Mrs. Reilly hoped to convalesce at her mother's address at Cecilia Road, E.5. and later with in-laws in Scotland. After her discharge from Guy's Hospital her whereabouts were often unclear to the social worker; she was seldom at home; however she was glad to have the children returned, and they were pleased to see her.

For two years there was only occasional contact with the family. The school expressed concern at the length of time the children were sometimes apparently left alone.

In September 1975 the family was transferred to a three-bedroom house at 29, Brunel Road, S.E.16., the children to St. Mary's School, Rotherhithe, and the case work to the Area 3 office.

The school health visitor referred the family to the Area 3 office on 21.5.76 as the head teacher, Mr. Chaceman was worried by the children's stealing, absconsions, uncleanliness and demands for attention.

A case conference on 11.6.76 heard from the head teacher that in the autumn of 1975 the children had attended and settled well at the school. [redacted] interviewed by the educational psychologist who recommended special help. Both boys had joined a remedial group in April 1976. Then they began to steal and stay out late. In May 1976 Mrs. Reilly informed the head teacher that she was seeing her general practitioner because of depression. At the case conference representatives of various agencies agreed in their view of the children as isolated and unable to form relationships with peers. It was now clear that Mr. Robert Stewart was cohabiting with Mrs. Reilly; the children seemed attached to him, addressed him as "dad" and confirmed impressions of his stable relationship with Mrs. Reilly. The head teacher had been visited by a grandmother who had said that [redacted] would be better off living with her.

The social worker had already discussed with Mrs. Reilly the strain under which Mrs. Reilly was managing the children. Mrs. Reilly agreed to the children's reception into care. They were placed in Kent with the Clover Trust, from 15.6.76 to 14.7.76. On 14.6.76 [redacted]

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A case conference decided to take no action over this, and the children went on their holiday and returned on the planned dates.

In September 1976 [redacted] Philip had gone missing for one and now again for three days, and twice had broken into the school to steal sweets. Mrs. Reilly asked the head teacher not to inform the police. When the boys were discovered they said they had been camping at a garage in the docks area close to their home. They had separated the previous night. Mrs. Reilly was worried and perplexed by this conduct. She and Mr. Stewart suggested that perhaps the boys should stay with their father or grandparents. Mrs. Scott was now living in Dundee again.

The boys were received into care on 27.9.76 and placed at Davey Street Assessment Centre. On 8.10.76 Mrs. Reilly told Ms. Mary Brydges her social worker that her divorce was now finalised. By 30.11.76 Davey Street and Area 3 had made numerous arrangements for Mrs. Reilly to visit the children and only one had materialised. She often telephoned the children while in the pub. Consideration was given to fostering of all three children. Mrs. Reilly was unhappy at this suggestion. In December 1976 an assessment conference at Davey Street decided it was impossible to provide sufficient support for the whole family at home permanently; but equally impossible to persuade Mrs. Reilly to place the children in long-term care: Davey Street would gradually reduce their care perhaps to weekends only. At a review conference in February 1977 it was felt that the balance between Davey Street and family was confusing for the children and not easy for their mother. All three children's needs were quite different. [redacted] by far the least able to cope with education, society, peers, and family emotions. Graham and Philip were discharged home. [redacted] Mrs. Reilly agreed, and the boys were discharged from care on 11.2.77.

On 2.3.77 Mr. Mary Brydges learned that [redacted] Philip had gone missing and that Mrs. Reilly was receiving medical attention for a collapsed lung. Her condition steadily improved. The assessment centre psychiatrist [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

In May 1978 the case was allocated to Mr. Patric O'Neill.

For a year the department provided regular travel warrants for Mrs. Reilly and Mr. Stewart to escort [redacted] withstanding their customary discrepancies in time-keeping, these journeys went fairly well as did, apparently, [redacted]

In 1979 Mrs. Reilly's alcohol drinking seemed to agencies' representatives to be generally more frequent. However, early in 1980 Mrs. Reilly was perceived by the same people to have entered a more stable phase, drinking less, less rejecting of

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much of her mother and a sister and brother all of whom are now living in London. She was smarter now, but her house was still generally untidy and dirty. Progress was made in liaison with the D.H.S.S. over her financial problems. She had built a very trusting relationship with Mr. O'Neill. In the summer the department funded fares to enable the family to take a summer holiday in Dundee.

On 20.8.80 Mr. O'Neil learned from Mrs. Reilly that on the family's return from Scotland Mr. Stewart had failed to accompany them. Mrs. Reilly had made appeals to him some by telegram, asking him to return.

The case was allocated to me with effect from 3.11.80. On that day [redacted] to Gloucestershire: his mother felt completely unready to come with us though she had prepared a substantial food parcel for him.

Despite many attempts to contact Mrs. Reilly I did not see her until 20.11.81, when she agreed to see me in order to [REDACTED]. On 17.11.81 I learned that neither child had attended school for at least two weeks. [REDACTED], but on 20.11.81 I found the children and Mrs. Reilly very comfortable and contented together. Mrs. Reilly explained her elusiveness as a fear of being hounded by her relatives and the authorities. She insisted she was living at the house and I could visit her whenever I liked. She spoke of a new man friend, Mr. John Dean. A friend of [REDACTED], was at the house.

On various visits to the house in the next twelve days I could get no answer or any sign of her or the children whose school attendance had continued at a very low level.

On 1.12.80 Mrs. Reilly and a friend Mr. Michael Browne telephoned me. Mrs. Reilly was miserable and incoherent in requesting [redacted] Philip's reception into care immediately. When I saw her she pleaded with me to remove the children. They themselves had packed their bags and were waiting for me at the house in Brunel Road. Mrs. Reilly was at 60, Tyers Estate, Bermondsey Street, S.E.1., Mr. Browne having offered her refuge. She was plainly scared that I would trick her into a hospital admission. She said she despaired of getting them to attend school. They said they had had enough of her drinking and the company she kept. They were placed for one night at the Heygate Children's Home and on 2.12.80 transferred to 1, New Place Square, a day care and residential unit less than half a mile from Brunel Road. Plans were made for [redacted] if necessary in his Christmas holiday. On 8.12.80 Mrs. Karagoz telephoned and I explained what had happened. The same day I visited Mrs. Reilly with the key residential worker and Mrs. Reilly showed us a conciliatory and remorseful letter from Mr. Stewart in Dundee. She said she wanted him to join her but she could not face living at Brunel Road. She said Mr. Browne was no more to her than an old and good friend.

On 9.12.80 I telephoned our Area 2 office and was given information about the

I visited the one bedroom flat at Tyers Estate very frequently, during some weeks daily. On some occasions Mrs. Reilly was very drunk. On many occasions several semi-vagrant acquaintances of [redacted] were at the flat. On more than one occasion [redacted] asked me to help him as there had been fights with knives among people in the flat. Occasionally there were broken bottles outside and inside the flat.

On 15.12.80 I persuaded Mrs. Reilly to leave her children in our care for a further number of weeks to give herself an opportunity to re-organise her life. The following day I collected [redacted] and we visited his mother amid [redacted] friends' arguments and laughter. Mrs. Reilly's house had been ransacked twice that week: she had visited New Place Square and accused Philip.

On the 22nd and 23rd various arrangements were made to help Mrs. Bailey to visit the children on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. All fell through, as, according to her

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afterwards, she had been too drunk to get to them.

On 24.2.81 Mrs. Reilly showed me a third very attractive letter from Mr. Stewart and was desperately anxious that I should assist her in visiting him to bring him to London.

On 3.3.81 in the early evening Mrs. Reilly telephoned Area 3 and spoke to me, inclined to commit suicide by drowning in the Thames. My local leader, Mr. Spearman acceded to her plea to collect her in his car and drive her to her parents in Hackney. Her mother welcomed her warmly, though her father was evidently angry at this sudden development.

The housing department was working on making the house occupiable as it had fallen subject to vandalism, disrepair and health hazards. The tenancy remained in her name for her eventual return.

For four weeks in March 1981 I attempted without success to contact Mrs. Reilly. I made two visits to Hackney, one by appointment with Mrs. Karagon, but did not find Mrs. Reilly.

On 7.4.81 [redacted] Philip's belongings and said his mother had invited them home to their former routine. He and Philip were hysterically opposed to any suggestion of delayed proper departure from residential care. I found Mrs. Reilly at 60, Tyers Estate and persuaded her to come to Brunel Road. Both Philip and his mother prevaricated over their decisions whether this discharge from care should take place. I had to interpret the event as the end of the residential episode.

On 9.4.81 Mr. Stewart returned to Brunel Road and spoke to me of his being home again. All three children looked happy, and I thought the atmosphere fairly encouraging, when I visited again, for example on 21.4.81. For several weeks Mr. Stewart was usually at the house when I visited. He carried out a great number of improvements to the garden, furnishings and fixtures and decoration.

Mr. Stewart complained of Mrs. Reilly's disappearance to visit [redacted] and [redacted]. He seemed to demonstrate a responsible attitude towards the children and promised to let me know if he needed help.

On 26.5.81 Mr. Stewart and Mrs. Reilly came to the Area 3 office both looking sober, organised and contented in their relationship. They wished to deliver [redacted] Gloucestershire for his forthcoming term. I made arrangements and they did so on 15.6.81.

On 11.6.81 Mr. Stewart and Mrs. Reilly called to see me to say that they would like to repeat the annual summer holiday in Dundee and that this time they might consider laying plans to move to live there. I said we must have a long discussion about that, and made an appointment which they did not keep.

On 22.6.81 I spoke to P.C. London of Rotherhithe Police who demanded an explanation for the children living at home and not being in care. I explained that Magistrates had recently rejected an application for care proceedings in respect of [redacted] and suggested that he consider his own agency's powers including a Place of Safety Order.

On 7.7.81 Mrs. Scott telephoned me to say she had fetched [redacted] Philip from Brunel Road the previous night after hearing that Mr. Stewart and Mrs. Reilly had not been seen for eleven days. I met Mrs. Scott, Mr. John Scott and Mrs. Karagon and was in the process of receiving Philip into care when we learned that Mrs. Reilly had returned from a week in Scotland.

[redacted] wished to stay with [redacted] relatives and refused to see [redacted] mother. Philip came with Mr. John Scott and myself to speak to his mother. There was a short sharp exchange of words between Mrs. Reilly and her brother and son, and Philip left with him. Mrs. Reilly was very rational and co-operative towards me, explaining with intense regret that she had fled with Mr. Stewart following harassment by her

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relations from Hackney when the father of Mr. Stewart's mother, Mrs. Reilly, herself precipitated by Mrs. Reilly's hitting of Elizabeth.

Mrs. Reilly and Mr. Stewart were very diligent in keeping appointments with me for the next two weeks, except in connection with Philip whom Mrs. Reilly nonchalantly visited on 15.7.81: he told her he did not want to live with her and she accepted his decision. Philip was received into care the following day, and admitted to Larch, a children's home in Sidcup. The staff and residents of Larch were all to go on holiday to France and Philip chose to go too rather than go to Scotland with his relatives. In order to acquire his birth certificate for a passport it was necessary for me to drive Mrs. Reilly to [redacted] address in N.M.I. on 21.7.81. She remained there, saying [redacted] was in tears begging her to stay. Nevertheless the following day she was ready with Mr. Stewart for [redacted] whom I brought home from Gloucestershire; [redacted] was greeted with great affection which delighted him.

Travel warrants were issued to Mrs. Reilly and Mr. Stewart on 4.8.81 to enable them to take [redacted] to Dundee for the annual holiday. Mrs. Reilly was at this time obeying instructions I had given in a letter regarding her communications with statutory agencies.

On 18.8.81 I discussed with Philip his wishes to remain out of his mother's care and his occasional desire to live at his uncle's home in N.I. We agreed that his uncle needed more accommodation if he were to care for Philip. On 28.8.81 I visited his uncle, Mr. John Scott and we discussed with equanimity and in depth the many considerations involved in any plan for Philip to live at his home. We agreed that Mr. Scott's contact with Philip was very welcome but for a while we should wait for Philip to settle at Larch before seeking a different living arrangement.

Mrs. Reilly returned [redacted] on 10.9.81 for his autumn term in Gloucestershire. When I collected [redacted] following day I emphasised that she must come to London again for some lengthy discussions with me concerning the move to Dundee, but my immediate task was to ensure that the two year old daughter of Mr. Stewart's niece whom she had brought to London for a treat was taken straight back to Dundee by her. She [redacted] told me that he had spent part of his holiday with his father, whom he had not seen previously for seven years; he had also spent some time with the Scotts.

On 5.10.81 Mr. Reilly telephoned me requesting [redacted] spend his next holiday with him. I believe this is his first contact with our department since 1973. I was not in a position to agree in the short time available; moreover [redacted] expectation of spending his Christmas holiday with Mr. Reilly depends upon our knowing a great deal more than we do about Mr. Reilly's personality and circumstances, and upon Mrs. Reilly's formal permission.

On 20.11.81 a care order was granted to this Borough in respect of Philip when he appeared at the local Juvenile Court on a charge of burglary. Mrs. Reilly decided not to travel to London for that court appearance.

But [redacted] Philip will need to be provided with new long-term residential and educational establishments in early 1982.

I last saw Mrs. Reilly on 11.9.81. I have spoken to her by telephone on 18.11.81 and 4.12.81. She told me she is renting her accommodation and living with Mr. Stewart (she has certainly relinquished her tenancy in Southwark). She has said to me that she sees no reason why [redacted] Philip should not join her in Scotland.

My own, and at certain stages my predecessor', work with Mrs. Keilly has far exceeded the ordinary degree of time, thought and resources deployed in the support, guidance and investigation of our department's clients. In summary, this may be explained by her chaotic and cavalier life-style, a low tolerance of problems presented by her children, and a habit of heavy drinking. She forms intensely emotional relationships with the people who surround her at any time. She prizes them and makes sincere promises, but very often fails to fulfil the promises. Either from fear of those people's distress or reprisals, or out of irresistible distraction elsewhere, she is frequently unobtainable; and since I have worked with her I have seen to grow an ever longer trail of children, relatives, men-friends, social contacts and service agents left at risk, disappointed, and bewildered or angry, many of them, most especially her own children, having suffered repeated cycles of affection, loss, recrimination, indifference and regret.

There are few records of departmental contact with Mr. Reilly in 1972-3 when he was living in London. He seems to have begun to separate gradually from his wife before he left to return to Dundee subsequently to be divorced. This department appears to have had no direct contact with him from 1974 - 1980. Mrs. Reilly continued to see him occasionally on holidays in Scotland for some years. [redacted] met him during these holidays. In 1981 [redacted] saw Mr. Reilly a great deal during his holiday with his mother in Dundee. A short time after that, Mr. Reilly made numerous telephone calls and sent letters to his three children suggesting that his contact with them should increase. I spoke to him twice by telephone and received a letter. I found him apparently very sensible, but know almost nothing of his character or circumstances. His contact with the children desisted again before Christmas.

Mr. Stewart.
Mr. Stewart is a friend of longstanding of the Reillys, also from Dundee. He has claimed to have introduced Mrs. Reilly to alcohol through her own rescue of him from his alcoholic and social destitution in 1973-4. He seems to have enjoyed good relations with Mrs. Reilly's relatives and children until the late 1970's when for reasons unclear to me he has been viewed by them all as in some important sense at fault. My own experience of him has been of a very honest person whose conscientious effective step-parenting of Mrs. Reilly's children could not withstand the restive behaviour of Mrs. Reilly and his own recurrent drinking bouts.

[REDACTED]

NAME:

Philip WILLEY:

15/10/81

D.O.B:

14th July, 1969

D.O.A. (LARCH):

16th July, 1981

LARCH:

Since his arrival at Larch Philip appears to have settled down very well and shows no signs of anxiety or apprehension at being placed at Larch. However, Philip, since admission, has been under the impression that he will soon be returning either to his Uncle or to Mother's when she has sorted her problems out. Though the Social Worker has gone to lengths to explain that this is by no means certain, it has not changed Philip's impression.

Within Larch Philip appears to have little difficulty in 'getting on' with either the client group or staff. Philip is a lively lad who craves affection and has a lot of affection to give in return. Though he appears not to have any particular interest or hobbies, he is a willing participator in any games being played or activities being organized.

Philip has a healthy appetite and experiences no problems with sleeping or rising in the morning.

AREAS OF CONCERN:

1. The question and likelihood of whether he is to return to either his Uncle or Mother will have to be settled as soon as possible.
2. His truanting still remains a problem. Staff at both Larch and the school have taken positive and supportive action to help Philip overcome or resolve these problems which cause him to truant; this appears to have reduced the amount of truancy, but his attendance at school still remains unsatisfactory.

This leads us to make several suggestions:-

- (a) Transfer to a local school where the staff of Larch can both supervise his attendance and monitor his progress, or
 - (b) recommend that Philip is seen by a specialist to ascertain whether what, if any, problems he has educationally.
 - (c) depending on the above, maybe we should be looking for a remedial unit or special school.
3. Recent absconding and thefts leading to his being charged and appearing in Court on Friday, 16th October, 1981.

I believe these incidents (with the exception of the thefts) can be related to both his problems at school and the limbo land he finds himself in at Larch, i.e. his belief that he will be returning to Mother or Uncle.

The impression that the staff have is that a return to either is unlikely but Philip is aware that he is under a voluntary section and that he can be taken out of care at a moment's notice; he refuses to accept that Mother or Uncle have not got the authority to overstep both the Social Worker and staff; and it is very hard for Philip

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PAGE TWO:

(as it would be for any 12 year old) to accept and understand that neither Mother nor Uncle no longer care for him as he must see it.

4. We believe that unless we can help Philip resolve the problems at school, he will continue to truant and we will continue to put pressure on him which is likely to result in further abscondings. Faced with this we may be forced into making recommendations for removal to a more structured placement possibly with education on the premises which we firmly believe would not be the solution to Philip's problems, but would serve only to contain the problem.

DSB _____ TD

Client Copy

UPDATE TO REPORT WRITTEN 15TH OCTOBER, 1981:

NAME: Philip FREELY
D.O.B: 14th July, 1969
D.O.A: 16th July, 1981,

Since the last report, Philip has attended the Juvenile Court at Camberwell twice to answer charges of: 1. Theft and attempted theft of bicycles: 2. Burglary. On both occasions decisions were deferred pending Social Enquiry reports and Psychiatric Reports. Next hearing is to be on the 20th November, 1981.

At Larch Philip remains settled and presents no real behavioural problems, other than what one would expect from a lively 12 year old. What disturbs us is his total lack of remorse at what he has done, and does not appear to either understand or acknowledge the seriousness of his situation.

From discussion with Philip, he appears to welcome the opportunity to go to a Boarding School, because we believe, he thinks it will be similar to the school Graham attends, which is run on therapeutic lines, but to Philip appears a place of great fun and interest.

School attendance has not improved since last report (please see school report).

Unfortunately it has been drawn to our attention that Philip is becoming involved with glue sniffing, though we at Larch have seen no evidence of this it has been reported to us from other houses on the Estate that Philip has supplied children with glue and been seen with plastic bags by the river in the park.

The Larch fully support the recommendation made by Dr. Swarries in his report.

D. BENNETT
SUPERINTENDENT,
LARCH:

TAYSIDE REGIONAL COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

DUNDEE DIVISION

Mr J Spearman
Social Services Department
Area No. 3
Lady Gomm House
58 Hawkstone Road
LONDON SE16 PA

Telephone 23281 ext 3710

If phoning or calling please ask to:

Mr Welsh

Your ref:

Our ref MAW/PRS

Date 9.4.82

Dear Mr Spearman,

RE: THE REILLY FAMILY

Herewith, as agreed, an initial report concerning the above family's progress since their arrival in Dundee in early March.

The family, along with Mr Stewart, had been staying with a [redacted] but have now been allocated their own tenancy at 171 Tranent Crescent, Dundee. This new home is situated in a perimeter scheme some 5 miles from the City centre and is characterized by a high degree of social problems and delinquency.

During their stay with [redacted] they seemed to survive quite well in what was a very overcrowded situation, but there are now signs that all is not going as smoothly as one might hope.

On the education side, Philip has been enrolled at his local school, Morgan Academy, where initial reports indicate that he has settled in quite well and there have been no adverse comments about his behaviour. [redacted] been enrolled anywhere, but he has been seen by Mr Meade, Depute Principal Child Guidance, [redacted] School.

This is a scheme [redacted] would attend as a day pupil along with a number of others at a facility provided within the setting of a List 'D' school. Mr Meade feels it is the only appropriate [redacted]

Neither of the two boys have come to the notice of the police or to my knowledge been involved in any delinquent activities. [redacted] his mother to the limits of her endurance.

On 6th April, Mrs Reilly, Graham, Philip and [redacted] called in to see me. Mrs Reilly was very drunk, could stand only with difficulty and urinated on 2 chairs during the interview. [redacted] (Mrs Reilly's sister) is an alcoholic, but she was not drunk and did her best to control Mrs Reilly.

Any discussion with Mrs Reilly was a waste of time, but [redacted] confirmed for her that [redacted]. Philip was described as being no problem.

While/.....

/While taking into account the fact that [REDACTED] and has, therefore, been around the house a good deal it still seems likely that history will repeat itself for this family, and that things will become too much for mother to cope with.

Things may improve when they move house on (9.4.82) and if and when [REDACTED] to Balgowan, but I feel this may only put off an eventual breakdown.

It may be best to leave the boys with their mother to see if [REDACTED] Balgowan and to see if they settle in their new home, but this is a decision for your Department.

Should you decide to allow their stay to continue, consideration will have to be given to affording them financial assistance for school uniforms, something they have asked for. While such items should normally be provided from the weekly supplementary benefit, could special consideration be given as, although the boys are in your Department's care, its costing nothing to keep them.

Sorry to end on a mercenary note, but it would mean one less issue for the family to cope with.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Michael A Welsh
Senior Social Worker.



Tayside Regional Council

~~Dundee Division~~

Area 4 Office,
91 Commercial Street,
DUNDEE
telephone Dundee 23281
(STD Code 0382)

REPORTER TO THE CHILDREN'S PANEL FOR TAYSIDE:

TUESDAY, 18TH JANUARY, 1983.

TRANSFER OF SUPERVISION - SECTION 75(2).

our ref DRI/CHB.

(Please quote on reply)

your ref

date 14th January, 1983.

Philip Reilly (d.o.b: 14.7.69).
171 Tranent Crescent, Whitfield, Dundee.

Household Composition

Margaret Reilly	(17.4.50)	-	Mother.
Robert Stewart	(28.5.44)	-	Cohabitee of Mother.
Philip Reilly	(14.7.69)	-	Subject of Report.

The family live in a four apartment house in the Whitfield area of Dundee. It is both adequately and comfortably furnished and well maintained.

Family Background:

A considerable amount of information will have already been presented to the members of the Panel concerning Philip's family background and events during the family's stay in Dundee.

The present situation is that Philip continues to live with his mother and her cohabitee in TranentCrescent. [REDACTED]

Philip has been attending Whitfield High School, but his attendance record is not very satisfactory. He appears to have made friends in Dundee and also regularly sees his own father, who lives in Kirkton. Philip seems happy to be in Dundee as compared to London, and was, in fact, quite apprehensive about the prospect of the forthcoming Panel as he feared that it might lead to his being returned to residential care. He gave this as his reason for not attending school after Christmas, but it remains to be seen whether or not his attendance pattern will improve.

I have had difficulty in making contact with this family, but have managed to have two interviews with Mrs. Reilly, Philip being present at one of them. The relationship between the two appears to be warm, and mother seemed to be genuinely surprised that Philip had not been to school during the first week in January.

I have not met Mrs. Reilly's cohabitee, Mr. Stewart, and cannot comment on his relationship with Philip.

Recommendation: /

Social Work Department , Area 4, 91 Commercial Street, Dundee.

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Philip Reilly.

Recommendation:

In view of Philip's history as provided by Southwark Social Services and also his unsatisfactory attendance pattern so far in Dundee, I would recommend that Philip be made subject to a Supervision Order under Section 44(1)(a) transferring Supervision from the London Borough of Southwark under Section 75(2) of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968.

14th January, 1983.

DRI/CHB.

David R Innes

Mr. David R. Innes.
Social Worker.

Case Type: 44(i)(a)

Date of Review: 10.3.83

Date of Order/Opened: 14.1.83

Social Worker's Report

Please include comments under the following headings:

PEN PICTURE OF CLIENT (include interests as well as physical and emotional attributes)

SUMMARY OF WORK done since last review (include frequency of visits)

SUITABILITY OF PLACEMENT (if appropriate - e.g. I.T., Day Care, R.H.E. etc)

SCHOOL REPORT (if appropriate - facts about attainment and potential, also behavioural or relationship difficulties)

HEALTH (details of any treatment in addition to description of health)

CONTACT WITH FAMILY (current home situation/parents' views re future)

PARENTAL CONTRIBUTION (if appropriate)

SOCIAL WORKER'S VIEW re future (indication why any change has taken place since last review/initial assessment. Specify why particular goals/contacts are used. Link with client's attitude and Social Worker's understanding of client's behaviour)

NAME	ADDRESS	DATE OF BIRTH
Philip Reilly	171, Tranent Cres.	17.12.82 13.7.69.

1) Philip is the third of four children born to Margaret Reilly - there being an older brother and sister, and a sister of one month. The family lived in London from 1972 to 1981, and were well known to the Social Services Department during that time. All the children, including Philip, have spent periods in care during this period, and as a result of this, Philip has shown little confidence in his mother's capacity to care for him.

He is a strange boy - seems very slow and vacant, though quick to smile. Often seems to react inappropriately in conversation. Also reacts inappropriately to conflict, often by running away. e.g. ran away from mother and her cohab. due to cohab. exercising reasonable discipline, and has run away from school for the same reason. On the last instance, he ran away to London, though came back voluntarily. He is presently staying with his father, who is divorced from Mrs Reilly, and refuses to return to Tranent Crescent, although they want him back, and conditions at father's are overcrowded.

Philip also has a history of offending, though not since coming to Scotland to my knowledge.

- 2) This is the first review work aimed at solving family conflict - i.e. where does Philip stay? - at helping Philip cope appropriately with conflict - i.e. not running away - and at getting regular school attendance.
- 3) Suitable candidate for I.T. group - application going ahead.
- 4) Attendance record very poor, otherwise described as having settled fairly well, though responsible for a few incidents.
- 5) No known health problems.
- 6) Regular contact with various family members - Mother and her cohab, father, and brother, who stays with mother. Both mother and father want Philip to stay with them, and Philip at present chooses the latter, with grudging agreement from everyone concerned. Mr. Reilly has not effectively fathered Philip since 1972, Mrs Reilly's cohab, Robert Stewart filling that role, and he (Stewart) seems genuinely concerned about Philip.
- Both Mrs Reilly and Mr. Stewart have histories of alcohol abuse, though I have only ever seen Mr. Stewart under the influence once, and there is no evidence that either of them overindulge regularly.
- 7) N/A
- 8) Philip must learn to react appropriately to confrontation. He must also start a regular attendance pattern at school, or else it is likely that a further hearing would recommend a residential placement. What Philip does need is consistency of care, which has been sadly lacking in the past.

Signed:

David Baines

(Social Worker)

Date:

10.3.83

Area 4,
91 Commercial Street,
Dundee.

Telephone Dundee 23281
Ext. 3306.

Tayside Regional Council

REPORTER TO THE CHILDREN'S PANEL FOR TAYSIDE

our ref DRI/RG

MONDAY, 9TH MAY, 1983 AT 2.15 P.M.

your ref

REVIEW AT THE REQUEST OF SOCIAL WORKER 48(2)

date 5th May, 1983.

Philip Reilly (d.o.b. 14.7.69)
171 Tranent Crescent, Dundee

Philip's supervision order under Section 44(1)(a) was made in January, 1983 when his supervision was transferred to Tayside from the London Borough of Southwark, though at that time he had actually been living with his mother and her co-habitee for some time.

Philip has not made good progress since the last Hearing and in fact, he has given increasing cause for concern.

He has never managed to attain a regular school attendance pattern, despite considerable support from both his mother and his father, with whom he latterly was staying.

He has displayed serious management problems at home, reacting adversely to any kind of disciplinary action. This led to his running away from home on several occasions and eventually going to stay with his father, who is living in Mid-Craigie. His father does not have a house of his own and lives with friends. At the time it was felt that one of the reasons for Philip's rejection of his mother might be the arrival of a baby sister, born to Mrs. Stewart and her co-hab, Robert Stewart, but Philip himself did not identify this as a problem.

His father had no more success in managing him, and Philip's attendance at school continued to deteriorate and he continued to react to any kind of conflict by running away - a feature of his behaviour that has been around for some time.

On at least three occasions that I am aware of, Philip has run away to London. He does not seem to be running to any particular person, but rather seems to be running away from Dundee to the only other environment he knows. Up till now, he has always handed himself in to the Social Services in London and has returned voluntarily. On the last occasions, however, in the week beginning 25th April, he was apprehended on a south-bound train at York with his brother, Graham, and charged with travelling without tickets. He was detained overnight and the pair of them were sent back to Dundee the following day with rail warrants. They failed to appear and turned up again in London at the Social Services Department asking to be received into care. They were then flown back to Dundee on 29th April and Philip has been in Burnside House since then.

Philip has not received much in the way of consistent care for a number of years. Both his mother and Robert Stewart have a long history of alcohol abuse and although this seemed to improve around the recent birth of Philip's sister, Mr. Stewart in particular would appear to be drinking heavily. I have witnessed him under the influence of alcohol on several occasions. Neither of them will admit to any problem/

Philip Reilly

problem of this nature. Their home is always clean and well-kept. Philip's father, due to his own circumstances, has not been able to give Philip the care he seems to need, though seems to be a caring parent.

Philip is an extremely immature, insecure and disturbed boy and needs the kind of consistent and supportive care that neither parent seems able to offer. It is to his credit that he does not seem to have committed any offences since being in Scotland (except for the railway incident) and he seems to be quite a competent survivor. A boy of thirteen, however, cannot be allowed to continue to flee from any conflict in the way he has done up till now. I feel that his order should be varied to 44(1)(b) though as yet have not identified suitable residential placement in the short period of time since his admission to Burnside.

David Blunes
.....

RG.
5th May, 1983.

Mr. D.R. Innes,
Social Worker.

Summary of Assessment Meeting at Burnside House on 26/5/83

Mr Innes Area 4

Name of Child: PHILLIP REILLY, DOB 14/7/69 (13½)
Admitted 29/4/83 - Section 15
Children's Hearing 9/5/83 - 44(1)(b) naming Burnside

Participants: Mr. Innes, Social Worker, Area 4
Miss Hume, Senior Social Worker, Area 4
Miss Hutchinson, OIC, Burnside
Mr. Reid, Depute OIC, Burnside
Mr. Byrne, Assistant OIC, Burnside
Mrs. Walker, Care Officer (Night Shift), Burnside
Mr. Barr, Care Officer, Burnside
Mrs. Erskine, Teacher in Charge of School Unit
Dr. Morton, Consultant Psychiatrist
Mr. Donnelly, Senior Psychologist to List D Schools
Chairman - Mrs. Sethi, Principal Officer (Assessment & Review)

Apologies: Dr. Jamieson, Liaison Medical Officer

Background

Reports were received from Mr. Innes dated 4/1/83; Whitfield School dated 14/1/83; Southwark Social Services Department (social work report dated 4/2/82) plus reports from Larch Children's Home, The Hollies, Sidcup and a previous psychiatric report.

Phillip is the youngest child born to Mr. and Mrs. Reilly. His parents split up soon after a move to Bermondsey from Dundee in 1972 and Mr. Reilly has lived in Dundee ever since. In 1974 Mrs. Reilly began cohabiting with Mr. Stewart and it can be seen from the past reports that Phillip experienced a very disrupted childhood. He was in care on four occasions and he experienced his mother's heavy drinking and associations with other men when he lived at home. The family also spent extended holidays in Tayside during the fruit picking season. Mother eventually fled to Scotland to join Mr. Stewart in 1981 and a Care Order was made in respect of Phillip on 20/11/81. Because of Phillip's behaviour within the children's home in Sidcup, his truanting from school and frequent absconding, the social worker recommended in his report of 4/2/82 that Phillip be transferred to a community home with education on the premises. This was not pursued as mother returned to London and requested Phillip's discharge from care. Presumably Southwark relented in view of the fact that Phillip and his brother Graham frequently absconded from Southwark to Dundee and did not seem at all settled in the London area.

The present situation is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Phillip's mother gave birth to a baby girl by Mr. Stewart four months ago. Phillip appears quite protective towards this child and is concerned about his mother's handling of her.

Although Phillip initially settled at Whitfield High School he lapsed into a pattern of non-attendance during the second term, has taken to running off to London, has left home frequently (squatted in an old van on one occasion during harsh winter weather) and has clearly not felt at all happy at home or at school.

Phillip Reilly (contd)

Observations from Burnside

As Phillip had been a frequent visitor to Burnside on occasions when he absconded from his children's home in Sidcup, he found it easy to settle in. He has not made any significant relationships with staff or peers and carries out tasks reluctantly. Staff find him quite worrying as he makes demands of them in an attention-seeking way and is rather agitated in his behaviour eg. he wanders about at night or makes noises that are just audible in order to attract attention and likes to be dragged out of bed in the morning (pretends that he is still asleep). He has been nicknamed "The Ghost" because of his rather furtive behaviour - he creeps up behind staff and moves around the building at night without making any noise. He has also been labelled a "poof" by his peers (within Burnside and in his home neighbourhood). This was felt to be related to his English accent and rather refined features rather than any other form of behaviour. He is aggressive towards smaller children and finds it difficult to accept no for an answer from adults. He is angry and foul-mouthed to female staff and girls in the unit and lowers the tone of most conversations very quickly to a very crude level. He maintains that the only time he felt good in the last two years "was when I smashed a milk crate over someone's head". Not surprisingly he lacks trust in adults and maintains that he has found that people are only nice to him for their own ends. The only person that he has made a positive relationship to within Burnside is the cook and has now gone on a diet in order to seek extra attention from her. He expresses negative feelings regarding his mother, maintains that he finds her drinking disgusting (although the social worker has never found her drunk) and is worried about the standard of care she is giving her baby. He has only absconded once from Burnside and this was to check that the baby was ok. He came back voluntarily. When asked he could suggest no one who is important to him in his life and when pressed, referred to Robert Edwards his social worker in Southwark.

Within the school unit, Phillip has become more unhappy as his stay has progressed. He is disinterested and shows no motivation. He is not dull but has difficulties in number work and spelling which is indicative of possible cognitive difficulties.

Conclusions

1. Phillip presents as a very deprived boy who has suffered from inconsistent parenting. He is "rootless" - hence running away from any care situation that he is placed in, and shows a distinct lack of knowledge of skills in relating to others:- he is spurned by his peers, is aggressive towards younger children, finds it easier to make contact with adults through negative approaches (eg. kicking male members of staff, pinching or grabbing women).
2. Despite Phillip's level of deprivation, there have been glimpses of feeling shown towards others eg. his feeling of responsibility towards his mother's new baby and worry about a neighbour's operation. He also found it difficult to cope with the local gang at Whitfield.
3. Although it was clear that Phillip needs to remain in care, it was felt that the prognosis is poor. He will have difficulty in settling in any residential establishment as he will always wish to test out and dictate his own terms. He feels secure in Burnside but realises that he needs to be placed elsewhere on a long term basis.

Phillip Reilly (contd)

4. It was felt that residential schooling was not imperative for Phillip as he did not present as a management problem when he was attending Whitfield High. His main problem within school and outside is his inability to relate to others and clearly if he attends outside school from any residential establishment he will need a great deal of support.
5. The type of establishment that will go some way towards meeting Phillip's needs will be one which offers 52 weeks of the year full time care for as long as he needs it, will tolerate a high level of acting out behaviour including running away. Suggestions given to the social worker were Barnardo's eg. Tyneholm or South Oswald Road; Aberlour Trust provision; or Balrossie School.

...*V. Hutson*...*W. Sethi*.....
Principal Officer (Assessment & Review)

cc. Area Controller, Area 4 ✓
Mr. Innes, SW, Area 4 ✓
Miss Hutchinson, OIC, Burnside
Mrs. Erskine, Teacher in Charge of School Unit, Burnside
Dr. Morton, Consultant Psychiatrist
Mr. Donnelly, Senior Psychologist to List D Schools
Dr. Jamieson, Liaison Medical Officer
Reporter to the Children's Panel, 91 Commercial Street

Client Copy

PHILIP REILLY, BURNSIDE HOUSE

Philip was referred to the Standby Service on 17.7.83. He was reported to be in custody in London having been charged with T.D.A. and arrangements were made for him to be returned by plane to Scotland.

During the journey from Edinburgh to Burnside House I had the opportunity to explore with Philip his reasons for absconding. He was open and able to confide his views and feelings. Philip gave the initial impression of being an angry young man, the basis of this being extreme unhappiness about living in Scotland. He also seems a bright youngster who gives thought to his difficulties. He feels there is absolutely nothing going for him in Scotland and feels a 'misfit'. He states he feels his parents dislike him and the only meaningful relationships which are worthwhile are with the staff in the Home in London. He misses his friends and all that is familiar and enjoyable in his life.

He says he does not wish to be angry but would like more account taken of his views, and his need to be back in London. He did mention the problems he experienced in trying to cope with strange accents and new schools and said he eventually 'gave up' trying. He feels he can trust no one.

The Standby Officer in London had an opportunity for a very lengthy discussion with Philip and she felt very pessimistic about any future plans for Philip in Scotland when he has no commitment to this area whatsoever. Furthermore her view was that unless some very early arrangement is made for Philip's return to London he will no doubt continue to abscond with increasing offences. I believe she will be forwarding a report to the Department in the near future.

Alistair Clark

MR. ALESTAIR H. CLARK
Senior Social Worker/Standby Duty Officer.

18 July 1983
MIC/EG.

Area 4,
91 Commercial Street,
Dundee.

Telephone Dundee 23281
(STD Code 0382)

REPORTER TO THE CHILDREN'S PANEL FOR TAYSIDE

our ref DRI/RG

FRIDAY, 22ND JULY, 1983 AT 2.45 P.M.

your ref

SECTION 44(6)

date 19th July, 1983.

Philip Reilly (d.o.b. 14.7.69)
Burnside House, Dundee

This hearing has been necessitated by circumstances arising from Philip's stay in Burnside House which recently led to Philip absconding.

Philip is very poor at socialising and has had a great deal of trouble, in settling in Burnside House. He was recently moved to a smaller unit in an effort to offset this, and had been showing some signs of improving. Meanwhile, efforts were continuing to find a suitable long-term specialist placement to meet his own very individual needs.

Matters came to a head when Philip absconded recently from a Burnside camp at Braemar after an argument with a member of staff and turned up at his mother's home in Dundee. Because of the trouble this caused, it had the effect of further alienating Philip from the other children in Burnside and when I attempted to return him to Burnside he ran away again to London, where he remained for about two weeks before being returned to Scotland on 17th July. Unknown to Philip, the member of staff with whom he had the argument had suffered a serious heart attack in his absence and when Philip did return to Burnside, he discovered that the other children were blaming him for what had happened. Although he was immediately moved to another unit, thereby somewhat reducing the problem, Philip understandably found the situation intolerable and was clearly going to react in the only way he knew how - by running away. I therefore considered it to be in his best interests to find an alternative place for him immediately, and after discussing the situation with Philip, moved him to Ellen Street Hostel on 19th July.

Philip's understanding of the situation is clear. Ellen Street has merely replaced Burnside as a holding situation while we continue our efforts to find a long-term solution. Philip realises that neither his mother or father have anything permanent to offer him, and is in agreement with these long-term plans. Recognising that he still feels a strong pull to London, we have agreed with him to include the London area in our search for somewhere suitable.

Meanwhile, Philip is content to remain at Ellen Street in the knowledge of what is being done, and has given a commitment not to run from any subsequent problem but to discuss it with myself or with staff. He has found Ellen Street to be pleasantly different from Burnside and may well settle in the more relaxed atmosphere. It is not beyond the realms of possibility that if Philip settles sufficiently at Ellen Street, then it might in the future be considered as a long-term prospect.

Meanwhile/

Philip Reilly

Meanwhile, I would recommend that Philip's order be varied to name Ellen Street Hostel.

David R. Innes
.....

RG.
19th July, 1983.

Mr. D.R. Innes,
Social Worker.

CONFIDENTIAL

Burnside House
Assessment Centre,
120 Harestone Road,
DUNDEE.

21st July, 1983

The Reporter to the Children's Panel,
DUNDEE.

Report on PHILIP REILLY (d.o.b.14.7.69)

Date of Admission: 29.4.83

Philip was moved on 20/6/83 to another wing in Burnside largely for his own good, reasons being that he had made no meaningful relationships with either children or staff and that hopefully in the smaller post assessment unit this social functioning would improve. One immediate aspect of this move appeared to be a heightening of sexual behaviour in the mixed group mainly starting from Philip and it was noted that he had little inhibitions in laying hands upon girls and provoking understandable hostile reactions. Despite this inappropriate behaviour it was felt that Philip was beginning to function more positively with others.

On 3/7/83 during a youth hostel week-end Philip absconded and this almost certainly led to a senior member of staff (who expended himself in searching and chasing around) having severe chest pains and the following day, a massive heart attack which he has subsequently survived.

On the 13/7/83 Philip was apprehended in London but left the train en route home. Finally on 18/7/83 he was returned here and not surprisingly, was met with a hostile reception from the children in the small unit so that he was transferred back to the larger assessment wing. In that environment he didn't meet the same kind of hostility connected with the hostel weekend and the rather tragic aftermath. However he was back in his old alienated position and adamant that he would continue to abscond. At this point his social worker indicated strongly that he wished to remove Philip from Burnside and after some discussion and communication with Ellen Street Hostel Philip was moved there. Our original ideas as outlined in the summary of assessment meeting at Burnside dated 26/5/83 concerning Philip's needs and future still stands.

S. Reid
S. Reid,
Deputy Officer-in-Charge

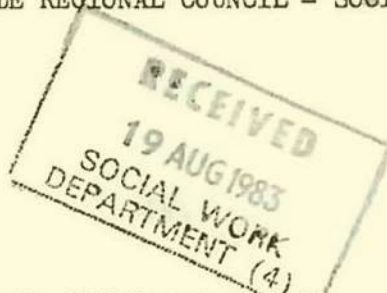
Copy to: Mr D. Innes, Social Worker, Area 4, Dundee.

Client Copy

TAYSIDE REGIONAL COUNCIL - SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

CONFIDENTIAL

The Reporter to the Children's Panel,
DUNDEE.



Burnside House
Assessment Centre,
120 Harestone Road,
DUNDEE.

18th August, 1983

Amendment to the Report of 21/7/83 on PHILIP REILLY (d.o.b.14/7/69)

With reference to the second paragraph in the above report ("on 3/7/83..... survived") I would wish it noted that the strong implication that Philip was being held responsible by the writer for a member of staff's ill health is very much regretted. I would therefore request that the paragraph be withdrawn as my intention, as indicated towards the end of the report, was to provide the context wherein Philip became the victim of the childrens feelings about the unfortunate train of events.

S Reid

S. Reid,
Depute Officer in Charge

c.c. Mr D. Innes, Social Worker, Area 4, Dundee.

Tayside Regional Council

Area 4 Office.

91 Commercial Street,
Dundee DD1 2AH.

Tel. No: 0382 23281.

REPORTER TO THE CHILDREN'S PANEL FOR TAYSIDE.

our ref DRI/CHB.

TUESDAY, 9TH AUGUST, 1983, AT 10.15 A.M.

your ref

CONTINUED FROM 22ND JULY, 1983.

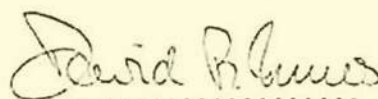
date 4th August, 1983.

Philip Reilly (d.o.b: 14.7.69).
Burnside House, Dundee.

This report is supplementary to that dated 19th July, 1983, prepared for the Hearing on 22nd July, 1983. At that time, the Hearing was continued as neither parent was present, Mrs. Reilly being away on holiday.

The situation remains the same as described in my first report, and my reasons for moving Philip to Ellen Street remain unaltered. It is difficult for me to say just how he has settled there, as he has been away camping with the other boys and staff from the Hostel for the past ten days, but Hostel staff should be able to give a clearer picture. Our long-term plans for Philip also remain the same.

I recommend that Philip's Order be varied to name the Ellen Street Hostel instead of Burnside House.



Mr. David R. Innes.
Social Worker.



Tayside Regional Council

~~Dundee Division~~
Area 4 Office,
91 Commercial Street,
DUNDEE
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(STD Code 0382)

REPORTER TO THE CHILDREN'S PANEL FOR TAYSIDE

TUESDAY, 23RD AUGUST, 1983 AT 10.15 A.M.

44(7) and 48(2), CONTINUED FROM 9.8.83

our ref DRI/RG
(Please quote on reply)
your ref

date 18th August, 1983.

Philip Reilly (d.o.b. 14.7.69)
Burnside House, Dundee

This is the second continuation of a Hearing originally scheduled for 22nd July, 1983. The Hearing was at my request, as a result of my having felt it necessary to remove Philip from Burnside House on 19th July. The reasons for this move are outlined in my report dated 19th July, and further corroboration of the feeling in Burnside that Philip had been responsible for a member of staff's heart-attack is given in a report dated 21st July by Mr. Reid, Deputy Officer-in-Charge of Burnside.

However real this feeling was in actuality, it was very real and intolerable to Philip, and had already led to one attempt at absconding since being returned to Burnside from London on 18th July. My concern at that point was that Philip should abscond again and once more disappear for a lengthy period, and in my opinion, the best chance of preventing this was by moving Philip that day to another establishment where the pressure and hostility that Philip was feeling could be relieved. The urgent nature of the situation, in my opinion, made any available temporary place acceptable, provided of course that it was also acceptable to Philip. A place was available that day at Ellen Street and after discussion with Mr. McGibbon, Officer-in-Charge at Ellen Street, Mr. Reid, Deputy Officer-in-Charge at Burnside, Miss Crawford, Area Controller and Mr. Miller, Assistant Manager for Residential Services, Tayside House, Philip was moved to Ellen Street on 19th July.

I must stress that this move is not consistent with the long-term plans outlined for Philip in Burnside's Assessment Report of May 1983, and those plans remain unaltered. All the possibilities in that report have been investigated and decision are still to be made by both the Aberlour Trust and Dr. Barnardo's with the former indicating that units in Kirkcaldy and Stirling may well be suitable for Philip. The Headmaster of Balrossie has indicated that he feels Philip is too old for his establishment, though is nevertheless considering the background information. Philip, however, has "put a spanner in the works" by stating since his last return from London that he is not prepared to remain in Scotland on a long-term basis, and wishes to return to the London area where he feels his roots are. He now seems to have completely given up his family in Dundee, though still maintains contact with them. Accordingly, a formal request has been made to the London Borough of Southwark with a view to that Borough trying to identify a possible placement. This, however, is the position that the Borough were in at the end of 1981, and at that time they were unable to identify anywhere suitable, Philip joining his mother in early 1982.

Virtually the whole of Philip's life up till the present has been marred by deprivation/

Philip Reilly

deprivation and inconsistency, and the result is the immature, inadequate and unhappy boy that he now presents as. To meet all of Philip's needs at this stage in his life is a difficult task, which is why careful consideration has to be given to any move. I still maintain, however, that Philip's move on 19th July to Ellen Street, although hopefully temporary, was entirely appropriate, and it must be noted that it has at least prevented any further absconding.

As a result of an incident which took place in London during July, Philip has been charged with an offence under the Road Traffic Act (the theft of a motor cycle, on which he was the passenger), and has to appear in Southwark North Juvenile Court on 16th September. It will be necessary to have Philip escorted to London, and hopefully the Court will be persuaded to refer the matter back to the Children's Panel.

A new development in Philip's family life is that his mother and her co-habitee have separated and she and Philip's six month old step-sister are presently staying c/o Mrs. Reilly's sister in Mid Craigie. Philip continues to show concern for both his mother and step-sister.

Assessment and Recommendation:

There is a very real fear in my mind that unless somewhere is found for Philip that can provide the consistent and fairly intensive care that he clearly needs, somewhere that Philip himself can accept and settle in, and somewhere that can provide this care for as long as Philip needs it, then he will continue to present the kind of problems that have been around till now, and could possibly end up in a secure unit. I think that every effort should be made to avoid this by thoroughly investigating the alternatives, and this is being done.

Meanwhile, I feel that to return Philip to Burnside would only rekindle the trouble of last month, and, accepting that Ellen Street is in the meantime only a temporary situation, I would recommend that Philip's order be altered to name Ellen Street as his place of residence rather than Burnside.

David Reilly
.....

RG.
18th August, 1983.

Mr. D.R. Innes,
Social Worker.



Tayside Regional Council

*Dundee Division,
Area 4 Office,
91 Commercial Street,
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telephone Dundee 23281
(STD Code 0382)*

REPORTER TO THE CHILDREN'S PANEL FOR TAYSIDE.

TUESDAY, 18TH OCTOBER, 1983 AT 10.15 A.M.

REVIEW AT THE REQUEST OF THE SOCIAL WORKER -

48(2) and 32(2)(g) - ALLEGED OFFENCE.

*our ref DRI/CHB.
(Please quote on reply)
your ref*

date 14th October, 1983.

Philip Reilly d.o.b: 14.7.69.
c/o Ellen Street Boys Hostel, Dundee.

This Review is regrettably having to be called less than two months since Philip's last appearance before a Hearing. At that time it seemed that Philip's needs seemed to be being met within the Hostel, and that he was settling well after his traumatic experiences in Burnside. In one sense the position remains unchanged, in that as far as life in Ellen Street is concerned, Philip is still doing well and I am sure that reports from the staff will confirm this. It is in the matter of schooling, however, that Philip has failed completely.

Since the first day of term, when Philip enrolled at Morgan Academy, he has failed completely to attend any further. Not only has he failed to attend, he has refused point blank to attend, despite encouragement from myself, staff at the Hostel and his parents. Mr. Reilly, in particular, tried quite hard at first with Philip, but had no more success than anyone else, and now seems to have given up with him.

Philip cannot rationally explain his non-attendance. He comes out with various explanations, never very consistent, such as schools being too large, or that he doesn't need education, or that he needs education at home. What is clear to all concerned, except for Philip, is that he must receive education of some kind, and if this cannot be done at Ellen Street, then Philip must be moved somewhere where he can be educated.

At this point I must admit that I called the Review before I had any definite alternatives to offer. I did this because I felt that it had to be made clear to Philip at least that his non-attendance could not be allowed to continue without some form of action being set into motion.

Since requesting the Review, I have been investigating alternatives for Philip. Bearing in mind the fact that, education apart, the type of regime at Ellen Street seems to suit Philip and he is relatively happy there, there are two possibilities. One is that Philip remains there and some kind of alternative education is arranged by the Education Department. Unfortunately, Philip is not old enough for any of the school leaver schemes, such as the one run in conjunction with I.T. Neither do we have recourse any longer to the very valuable day scheme at Balgowan. I have discussed Philip's situation with Mr. McNeil, Principal Child Guidance Officer, who is considering possible alternatives including residential places.

The /

Social Work Department, Area 4, 91 Commercial Street, Dundee.

Philip Reilly:

The other alternative, of course, is for Philip to be moved to an establishment with a similar regime to Ellen Street, possibly one of the more sympathetic and caring List 'D' schools, with education on the premises. With this in mind, I followed up again the earlier suggestion of Balrossie School, and paid them a visit. I found the regime there to be very close to what I was looking for, and the staff to be sympathetic to Philip's position. Two factors, however, prevented them from offering any immediate admission, one being the current industrial action and the other, more long-term issue being that Philip is really above their normal age range. They did, however, indicate that I would find that Wellington List 'D' School would offer a similar type of regime for the older age group, and I have discussed Philip with the Wellington Headmaster, and at the moment of writing, am hopefully awaiting an invitation to go through to the school with Philip for a meeting.

I do not want Philip to be in limbo for any longer than is necessary, but am anxious that he should not be placed in the wrong sort of establishment when the only needs that are not being met at present are educational. In the circumstances I would ask that the Hearing be continued for three weeks in the hope that our efforts might come to fruition.

14th October, 1983.

DRI/CHB.

David R. Innes

Mr. David Innes.
Social Worker.



Tayside Regional Council

~~Dundee Division~~
Area 4 Office,
91 Commercial Street,
DUNDEE
telephone Dundee 23281
(STD Code 0382)

REPORTER TO THE CHILDREN'S PANEL
FOR TAYSIDE:

our ref DRI/JG
(Please quote on reply)
your ref

TUESDAY 10TH JANUARY, 1984 AT 9.30 A.M.

date 19th December, 1983

SECTION 48(2) - REVIEW AT THE REQUEST OF SOCIAL WORKER:

Philip Reilly, d.o.b. 14.7.69,
c/o Rossie School, Montrose.

On 18th October, 1983, a Children's Hearing varied Philip's Supervision Order to name Rossie School as his place of residence. Philip was upset at this decision and immediately intimated to me that he wished to appeal against it. Consequently, I took Philip and his father to see a solicitor, and after some discussion, during which I reassured Philip that although he would be staying in Rossie, I would continue to pursue alternative accommodation for him, Philip agreed that an appeal would be pointless, and was conveyed to Rossie School on the Tuesday afternoon.

A lengthy discussion took place at Rossie between myself, Philip and the residential Social Worker and Philip appeared to be somewhat reassured after his initial apprehension. However, I received a telephone call on the Wednesday, October 19th, to say that Philip had absconded from the school. He has not been apprehended since that date.

Philip has been seen in Dundee on several occasions since that date, once by myself. Unfortunately when I saw him, it was on the other side of an iron grill in the Skarne part of Whitfield, and our conversation was quite meaningless. I did manage to ascertain that Philip had no intention of returning to Rossie. He was demanding that I find somewhere more suitable to him while he laid low. He would not tell me where he was staying, and I have seen both his mother and his father, who have seen Philip, but deny that he is staying with either of them. I have spoken also to the Police, who state that their normal policy with absconders is to call at the family homes on average about once a week. There are doubtless many homes which will put Philip up.

I am extremely concerned that a boy of fourteen should be on the run for a period of two months. Although Philip is quite experienced at surviving in the community, he is in a position where he could be exposed to all kinds of danger. His education is also continuing to be totally neglected and he has not now received any formal education since June, 1983.

I am quite sure that Philip will attempt to abscond if picked up again, and regrettably am of the opinion that Philip needs secure accommodation at present.

/cont'd.....

Philip Reilly:

- 2 -

I have discussed this with Mr. Coltart, the Headmaster at Rossie, and he is in agreement. I would therefore ask the Hearing firstly to issue a warrant for Philip's apprehension, and also to recommend that he be placed in secure accommodation in the McDonald Wing.

19th December, 1983
JG

D. R. Innes

Mr. D. R. Innes
Social Worker

Tayside Regional Council

~~Dundee Division~~,
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91 Commercial Street,
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telephone 0382 - 23281

REPORTER TO THE CHILDREN'S PANEL FOR TAYSIDE.

TUESDAY, MARCH, 27TH AT 10.15 A.M.

SECTION 48(2) - REVIEW AT THE REQUEST OF THE SOCIAL

WORKER, AND 58(C) HASSASSA.

our ref DRI/CHB.

you ref

date 23rd March, 1984.

Philip Reilly, d.o.b: 14.7.69.
2 Kerrystone Place, Dundee.

This Review is called as a result of new legislation regarding secure accommodation. Philip was placed in the secure wing at Rossie School on January, 19th, 1984, for an initial period of three months, which is due to expire on April, 9th. At that time he had been "on the run" for a period of about three months subsequent to an earlier placement in the open wing of Rossie School.

Philip's progress in the wing will be more fully discussed in reports supplied by the staff at Rossie but I would take this opportunity of observing that Philip has seemingly settled well in the wing, and is relating well to both the staff and his peers. The security imposed on him, both in the sense of lockfast security and Philip's security within himself, has been beneficial.

I have kept contact with Philip through visits to the school, and on two occasions have taken his father with me. Mr. Reilly maintains a close interest in his son, and they have also communicated by letter. Mr. Reilly has, at last, been allocated his own house at the above address, and his plans for the future include the possibility of Philip living with him. He is presently attempting to furnish his new house for such a possibility.

Mrs. Stewart, Philip's mother, was also in communication with him by letter, but was to be going to London for a week-end about a month ago, and I have been unable to contact her since or ascertain whether or not she has returned. Philip, however, is clear that his future is with his father.

In discussion with the staff at Rossie, we are agreed that we wish to work towards Philip's eventual return home. Given that target, it must be recognised that although Philip is beginning to show signs of development and increasing security, he has not had the chance to be tested with the freedom of leave from the school. It is proposed that this should be tried out for the first time over the week-end following his Panel, and, all being well, every fortnight after that. Looking further ahead, assuming that leaves go well, there is the possibility that Philip might progress sufficiently to return home in time for the start of the new session 1984/5.

The problem, meanwhile, is to decide where Philip should be placed. Along with his workers at the school, I am inclined to think that at a time when a definite improvement is beginning to show, a change of situation would be detrimental. Philip himself, for possibly the first time, is secure in more ways than one.
The /

Social Work Department, Area 4, 91 Commercial Street, Dundee.

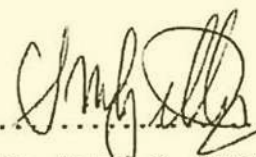
Philip Reilly:

The difficult question is whether or not Philip meets the conditions necessary for such a placement. He certainly has a history of absconding and would be in moral or physical danger should he do so, but to assess whether or not he is likely to abscond is altogether more difficult when he has not had the opportunity to do so for three months.

Personally, in the understanding that Philip could be moved to the open school at any time without recourse to a further Hearing and could, in fact, reach the point when he might be going home before the next Review would be necessary, I would request that the Supervision Order be renewed, continuing to name the McDonald Wing, feeling that at the present moment this is clearly in Philip's best interests.

23rd March, 1984.

DRI/CHB.

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 PP Mr. David R. Innes.
 Social Worker.



Tayside Regional Council

Social Work Department,
9 West Bell Street,
DUNDEE.

telephone 0382 - 23281

DUNDEE CHILDREN'S HEARING

Tuesday 19th June, 1984 at 10.15 a.m.

58(3) Review of Secure Accommodation

our ref DRI/KM
(Please quote on reply)

your ref

date 15th June, 1984

Philip Reilly (d.o.b. 14.7.69.)

2 Kerrystone Place, Dundee.

This is the second review of Philip's placement in the McDonald Wing, Rossie School, since his admission there on 8th January, 1984. At his first review on 23rd March, it was recognised that Philip was beginning to show signs of development and increasing security, and at a case review prior to that Hearing it was decided to augment a series of planned weekend leaves, including two of five days. At the time of writing, Philip has successfully completed four weekend leaves and one block of five days.

These leaves have all been spent with his father at his new house at 2 Kerrystone Place, and Mr. Reilly continued to look forward to having his son at home. Philip's mother has had no contact with her son for some time, and indeed, while I was on leave during May, she came to my office stating that she could no longer live with her cohabitee of the past eight years, Mr. Stewart, as he was drinking all the time, giving her no money, and making it difficult to bring up their baby daughter. She was given a travel warrant to return to London where she intended to stay with her mother, and I have not heard from her since.

Philip was again discussed at a case review at Rossie School on June 12th, when all factors of his situation were discussed. The home situation, i.e. his father's house, is considered suitable for his return there, and both Philip and his father wish this to happen. Philip has coped well with his leaves, always returning when planned, though he initially expressed some anxiety about his ability to cope with the freedom, especially of the five-day break. However, once assured of the support that our Department or Rossie would offer in the case of any difficulty that might arise, he appeared less anxious, and his leaves passed without incident.

The other major area of concern is Philip's full-time education should he be considered ready to return home. Although he has coped well within the educational provision at Rossie, the very great amount of schooling that he has missed since the commencement of his secondary education means that he is far behind the level that he might have attained. He will also, on his own admission, have great difficulty with the classroom situation and the normal size of class. I have referred Philip to the Child Guidance Department with a view to their contacting whichever school Philip might attend and formulating some kind of provision suitable to his needs.

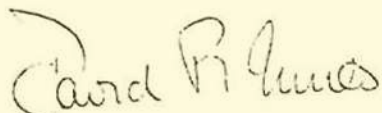
Philip has shown to everyone that he does not require, nor, under the existing legislation, is he eligible for, secure accommodation. He has done everything

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/everything expected of him in the light of our original proposals that we should be working towards his return to day school at the beginning of session 1984-85, and there is no reason to alter these plans. This transition is not expected to be easy, which is why the help of the Child Guidance Department has been enlisted, and Philip will also be referred for a place in an existing I.T. group, a proposition which is attractive to him. He is also assured of the support of those working with him, and I feel has learnt to face conflict rather than run from it.

My recommendation to today's Hearing would be to vary Philip's Supervision Order to 44(1)(a), allowing him to remain on supervision while at home with his father.



David R. Innes,
Social Worker.



Tayside Regional Council

Social Work Department,
Dundee East,
9 West Bell Street,
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Tel: 0382 23281

DUNDEE CHILDREN'S HEARING

Wednesday 15th May, 1985 at 6 p.m.

48(3) Annual Review

our ref DRI/KM

your ref

date 10th May, 1985

Philip Reilly (d.o.b. 14.7.69.)

2 Kerrystone Place, Dundee.

Philip's supervision was last varied in June 1984, at which time he had spent five months in the secure wing of Rossie School. This was after a background of years of residential care in both Scotland and England, and an extremely unsettled and disruptive home background.

Philip left Rossie School to stay with his Father who had set up home at Kerrystone Place in Mid Craigie. Also at that address was Philip's elder brother, Graham. Philip's Mother was staying with her cohabitee of many years' standing in Whitfield.

Since that time, Philip has remained with his father

Philip and his father have got on well together on the whole, despite the occasional domestic row. Mr. Reilly has been unemployed for the major part of the year and is in receipt of Supplementary Benefit. Unfortunately he had his electricity supply disconnected about a month ago, and is not to be reconnected until an outstanding amount of money is cleared. This is causing some hardship at home, quite understandably.

Against Philip's background, there was considerable concern over how Philip would settle both at home and in the community, despite the progress made at Rossie. His enrolment at Morgan Academy was arranged via a case conference involving Child Guidance, Education Social Work, myself and the School Rector, and an agreement was reached whereby Philip could be considered for work experience before his final term if his attendance was acceptable. Much to everyone's surprise, Philip did attend school, and I was able to arrange a one-day per week placement at the R.S.S.P.C.A. Animal Shelter, this hopefully expanding to take up more of the week as time went on.

Unfortunately, although Philip does like animals, and although he attended regularly, his manner with the public was such that his removal was requested by the R.S.S.P.C.A. Inspector. It has not been possible to arrange another placement since then.

Philip's school report quite frankly makes appalling reading. His manner with certain members of school staff is unfortunate to say the least, and I have to agree that if this attitude continues it will cause Philip problems in future. However, this conflict with staff make Philip's attendance all/

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/all the more remarkable, even although it stands only at about 50%. Philip at one point earlier this year even refused my offer of a place in a school leavers' group run by the Slessor Centre on the grounds that it clashed with a class that he did not wish to miss!

Against Philip's chaotic family background and his pattern of school attendance over the years, I would suggest that his attendance over the last year is remarkable, and his attitude to authority not so remarkable though no less forgivable.

Assessment and Recommendation

Philip will officially leave school at the end of this month, though to all intents and purposes he has already done so. He is not going to find life easy, particularly with his attitude to authority, but at the same time he has shown the ability to relate well to sympathetic adults and has also demonstrated a strong spirit of survival. Philip is someone who has shown himself to be capable of approaching me when he has been in need of help and advice, and apart from contact which has been at my instigation he has been a regular visitor to my office over the year.

In the circumstances, I see little point in continuing statutory measures of supervision, and would respectfully recommend that the existing supervision requirement is terminated.

David R. Innes,
Social Worker.