

26 August 2004

**Without Prejudice**

Mr. James Luthy

REDACTED

Dear Mr. Luthy,

Thank you for your recent letter. I have read it carefully.

Thank you for providing additional detailed information on some of your experiences while at the Gill Memorial Home for Boys. These are indeed very serious matters to which we would like to respond appropriately.

Could I ask you to set out for us the response you would like The Salvation Army to make? Some of the people who approach us speak with an independent counsellor who assists them in preparing their record and statement of complaint. If you wish to do that we would fund the counsellor's costs.

Alternatively you might of course wish to speak with a solicitor. We would offer every cooperation we can.

In your account you mention X11. Mr. X11 is no longer with The Salvation Army. We have no desire to protect him, but neither do we have any control over him now. We certainly regret that he was appointed to the Gill Memorial Home.

We do not deny that abuse and cruelty happened. We see that this was a terrible wrong. I would say again that if we can assist you we will do our best.

Yours sincerely,

RS

Peter Farthing (Major)  
SECRETARY FOR PERSONNEL