

My name is Margaret Shew Maggie for short ‘
My story of being married to a homie and how hard is it for them and the partner, Yes for us to under stand where they come from.
Our marriage has been a very hard one for 8 years, I am the 3rd wive.
My husband has found it very hard to keep a relationship going.
As he has grown up with a lot of resentment hurt no education.
So that alone puts you in a rather lousy bracket to start your life.
First I want to say I went to the Brisbane meeting for the Forbes enquiries.
And what a very horrific and sad day that was for so many.
I sat there with my husband and listened and listened and watched and heard people crying sobbing there hearts out.
For the hurt has never and will never go a way for any of these people /
Stories that you just could not comprehend.
My heart went out to all of them.
But my heart went out for my husband for this was the first time in 40 odd years this man could even go leave alone sit in a room full of his own kind and I say that in a careering way.
I could see the hurt in this mans eyes I could see the hurt in others.
My god what strong people to be able to get up and tell there story.
I applaud them the strength in them.
Its hard being the partner some wont stay in the relationship they just cant because they just don’t under stand, where they are coming from.
My husband was put in to Indooroopilly boys home at 9 years of age.
A young little boy, we don’t have child Nigel and my self.
But he has one daughter now 30 and I have 4 children.
When Nigel began to tell me he was put into a home at 9 all I could do was go get a photo of my sons at 9 and I sat and looked and looked and I cried and cried, just a little boy.
And this little boy was there till 14,
And yes he has told me some terrible things but I am hoping he will tell you his story. What gets me is that the so-called parents put the child into a home for one reason or another.
And Nigel was made a ward of the state what is sad to me is these people do not get kicked in the guts once but twice.
They are given a way by parents but then they are given a way again when they turn 16 or 18 from the state,
It must feel to them well mother father etc did not want me the state dose want me now what do I do now who dose want me ?
Now they say after so many years go you are on your own?
My husbands says when he left the home and had to go to work at 14,
No one ever came to find out if he was ok did he have a place to live.
It just seems to me no one cared at all about these kids at all.

Well we bloody no the parents did not and seems like the the state could and did not care for them either ,

A 14 year old boy no schooling when they left , my husband said when they went to school the teachers did no care they would say OH they are just homies so they did not care if they learnt any thing or not .

They did not even have a pair of shoes to wear to school had to walk bare foot my husbands feet bleed and were very very sore,

Do you no he can't stand any one to touch his feet and don't put your hand near his neck. Oh my god all I can do is try pick up a few little pieces show him love but he can't show it back.

He had been a man on booze drugs as he has got to his mid 50s he finds life hard to cope with so now it is anti depressants.

I have got him of the booze and drugs,

But I can never fix his broken heart and the hurt inside and I don't think any one of us can for any one of these people.

We can just be there they need love support some one to care for them. Some one who will trust in them as a person and don't ever judge them.

I do hope one day you here the heart ach of my husbands story but it is not up to me to write about. IT IS IN SIDE OF THEM AND NO ONE COULD EVER WRITE THEIR STORY NO WOULD OR COULD EVER NO HOW AND WHAT THEY FEEL . I do hope my story helps others Just hang in there with them they are good people they are just badly hurts , god bless to all of you maggie shew

I hope you can open this letter from a Chris
Cole . principal officer child care . Well she was in 19/96.
I did di in contact with this lady twice i think .
And she did tell me she had a letter that may be of some intrest to nigel
but could not read over the phone and said we should go see her at the head
office .
I would like to no Leonie if you can follow this up for us .
As you can see she says NO FILES when boys were there.
So this was 8 years ago and have not heard one word if files ever came to
light .
I have written to her and have got no reply .
Last time would have been round 2001.
We would like to no what paper work she did have on nigel .
His father was walter shew and step mother elsie gorden.
But were married when nigel was put into home .
They lived in queensland .
IT is a bit of a story and we did not follow it up as nigel never wanted to
talk to me about thease things , It has taken 10 years for him to start to
talk to me .
But this Chris cole was saying Nigels father had put two other children in
the home , we think she must have had wires crossed . She even said she had
a letter to show us ,
But is was all two much for nigel then , But now he feels
what did she have to show us , And how do we find out now .
Can you help us as you are in nsw .
I have some photos she sent only on paper will scan and send , thanks
leonie hope we can follow this up and the missing files



The Salvation Army

AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY

21 May 1996

Dear Margaret

Thank you for your letter asking for information about Indooroopilly Boy's Home for your partner Nigel Shew. I have photocopied the photos we have but I am afraid we do not have any files from when the boys were there.

We have asked for all old records to be sent to this office, but so far no one has found the records from Indooroopilly. I am hoping that they were stored somewhere when the boy's home closed down and will be found when someone has a big clean up. I will keep your letter on file in case that happens soon.

Captain Bennett has died so I am afraid he cannot help.

I have had a few inquiries from other "old boys" but most of them were much older than Nigel. Merv Luckel who is about six years older than Nigel and was there until 1958 can not remember Nigel.

Have you tried to get copies of any Government files? There might be something in archives that may be useful.

I will let you know if the records are found.

Yours sincerely

Chris Cole

Christane Cole
PRINCIPAL OFFICER CHILD CARE