

My name is Johnny and I am 62 years old. I went to the Salvation Army Boys Home Bexley from 1949 to 1954.

Then I went to Salvation Army Goulburn from 1955 to 1957.

My education was shot to pieces.

In the Salvation Army Homes there was no love there. you couldn't talk in the dormitory, you would get caned 4 to 6 cuts.

We had to go to Church 3 times each Sunday. We marched from Bexley North to Bexley 2 miles along Forest Rd, Bexley. We had to go there , like it or lump it. That went on for 5 years.

Visiting day was Saturdays 10am to 2pm, parents could pick you up and return at 4.30 pm.

There was no passion, no love , personally I feel they area cruel bunch of Bastards.

We had to clean bathrooms, toilets, dormitories and playgrounds, kitchen and serve food. 7 boys to a table cultery out, bread with jam.

I was never a good boy, I never got the good jobs.

A lot of boys cried. when parents left after visiting day.

Goulburn was just as cruel, same principal as in Bexley. The drummed the Bible into us , we dreaded it. The Salvation Army are the experts in the Holy Bible.

I didn't like being there. I couldn't blame my Mum.

There were 105 boys at Goulburn and 122 boys at Bexley.

My father died in 1976 and I never saw him.

I could never understand why the Salvation Army had the right to cane children? If your hands were swollen, they didn't care.

i never give to the Salavation Army never ever as long as I've got breathe, they will not get a cent.

I never told her about the S.A. Homes, she died last September , she was doing her best. She paid 2 pound 10 a fortnight board for me to the Salvation Army.

Johnny.