

CLIENT COPY

TAYSIDE REGIONAL COUNCIL - SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

CONFIDENTIAL

EDUCATIONAL REPORT

Teaching Unit,
Burnside House
Assessment Centre,
120 Harestan Road,
DUNDEE.

1st April, 1982

Re STEWART FRASER (d.o.b. 5.12.69)

Stewart looks healthy and well cared for. He seems young for secondary school, and although he chats normally, he seems to always look worried.

English Language and Written Work:

Stewart has attained the standards of an average Pr. VII pupil. His work rate is very slow and although he does written work, he has to be constantly urged to keep going. He is very easily distracted, his general knowledge is poor and shows little real interest in anything. Although he reads fluently, he has no interest in reading a book for pleasure.

Maths and Arithmetic:

Stewart has grasped the basics of arithmetic and so is not a remedial pupil but his disinterest and lazy attitude have made his achievements much less than his ability.

Test Results:

Burt Vernon, Reading Age	12.0+ yrs.
Burt Inglis, Spelling Age	10.8 yrs.
Daniels & Diack (Test 12) Reading Experience Age	11.2 yrs.
Vernon Miller, Arithmetic Age	9.1 yrs.

Attitude and Behaviour:

Stewart is a pleasant lad. I detect a rather stubborn streak in him. He makes no mention of home or parents or previous school but appears apprehensive of his surroundings and future.


Class Teacher

Art:

In class Stewart presents himself as a rather quiet, lazy boy. There have been no discipline problems with him, but his attitude to work could much be improved. He has a "could not care less" attitude and lacks enthusiasm about most subjects.

CLIENT COPY

-2-

He does though enjoy Art, P.E., Swimming. On asking him why he likes these subjects he answered "because you don't have to write anything".

Stewart has a stubborn streak and requires firm handling in order to get him to do some work.

[REDACTED]

Further Comment:

In the one to one interview Stewart was quiet, sensitive and on the verge of tears - which he held back. He can be very different in the peer group, looking defensive and surly. Stewart is fairly uncommunicative and unable to give of himself. He responds to kindness and gentleness. I am concerned at what I see as his lack of interest and resistance to any stimulation.

[REDACTED]

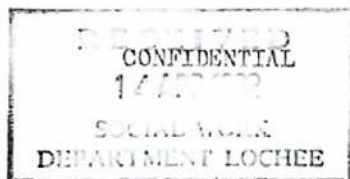
[REDACTED]

Teacher-in-Charge

c.c. Reporter to Children's Hearing, Dundee
Mrs Caplin, Area 1,
Social Worker

Miss Hutchinson, Acting Officer-in-Charge, Burnside House

TAYSIDE REGIONAL COUNCIL - SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT



14

Burnside House
Assessment Centre,
120 Harestone Road,
DUNDEE.

8th April, 1982

The Reporter to the Children's Panel,
DUNDEE.

Report on STEWART FRASER (d.o.b. 5.12.69)

Date of Admission: 17.3.82

Stewart was admitted to Burnside on 17.3.82 when the situation at home became critical. He subsequently appeared before the Children's Hearing on 23.3.82 when an order requesting assessment was made.

Within the Unit Stewart presents as a happy likeable boy however in an individual interview I found him to be rather dour and sad, giving the appearance of being depressed and apathetic. Staff feel he has been accepted by his peer group but is still able to retain a degree of anonymity and avoid focusing attention upon himself. He performs tasks when requested which are completed to a reasonable standard. He is generally untidy and sees no reason why he should improve.

It is quite clear that Stewart is finding great difficulty in resolving his inner conflicts with regard to the death of his father, the entrance of a cohabitee and possibly ambivalence towards his mother. I understand from reports that mother is caring and concerned and anxious for Stewart to return home. His attitude towards the cohabitee whose job keeps him away from the home periodically seems to be cool but increasing in warmth. Stewart refers to his extended family with interest and states he relates well to his two brothers.

In conversation I did not feel he was anxious but deeply sad yet with some motivation to lift himself. He has run away from Burnside on two occasions but these did not invoke overnight periods. In discussing some of his feelings with him he was able to talk a little about his father. This approach supported the other endeavours made by the Social Worker and other professionals. Stewart was able to accept his need to unburden himself so that his anti social actions would not be the result of hidden unresolved conflicts.

Stewart/

2.

Stewart Fraser (cont'd)

Stewart indicated that he wished to return home and he was aware of the requirement to attend school and avoid solvent abuse. I feel Stewart will need considerable support and I understand that Dr Mathai is willing to engage the family in Family Therapy. In addition to on-going support by the Social Worker with the family and school a place has been offered in the Intermediate Treatment Group at Polepark.

We would recommend that Stewart returns home under a S.44 1 (a) supervision order aided by the above supports to enable him to work through his unresolved conflicts and be party to the adjustments that will require to be made by the whole family.


R.D. Fisher,

Depute Officer-in-Charge

Copy to:

Mrs Caplin, Social Worker, Area 1

Dr Mathai, Child Psychiatry, D.R.I.

RDF/IT

CLIENT COPY

TAYSIDE REGIONAL COUNCIL - SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

Burnside House
Assessment Centre,
120 Harestone Road,
DUNDEE
29th June, 1982

STEWART FRASER (d.o.b. 5.12.69)

Date of Admission 7.6.82

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Observations from Burnside staff indicate that Stewart is totally dependent on staff members and that he appears to thrive on personal supervision. He is able to show respect to the authority of the Care Staff but he does not seem able to respond to authority from other agencies. He treats law and order and his offences in quite a light hearted manner. It is interesting to note he has not stolen from Burnside to our knowledge and despite other aspects of dishonesty he is generally truthful.

Stewart participates in sports such as football and swimming and he seems to enjoy these. He has not shown much interest in girls and generally maintains a low profile with his peers. He is unfortunately the subject of mild bullying from time to time and has no particular friend. He performs tasks in the unit only under supervision and he seems to need his times and activities arranged for him. It is at times of boredom that he absconds which he has done on a number of occasions.

It is felt Stewart is benefitting from the structured life at Burnside and that he functions well in a controlled setting. Stewart appears to relax in a secure situation and he allows others to hold things together for him. There are aspects of his life that he finds difficult to talk about or discuss and on one occasion following a confrontation he cried for a lengthy period for his father. It is felt he was referring to his deceased natural father. He appears to "bottle up" these emotions and feelings and it would appear he is requiring a residential setting where he has opportunity to release these pent up experiences in his young life. I understand Dr Mathai does not feel movement can be made within the family and perhaps Stewart may only be helped in a controlled setting which provides security and warmth over an extended period. We would recommend a place be found in the very near future but we are willing to offer Stewart a temporary place at Burnside during which enquiries can be made.

R.D. Fisher,
Depute Officer-in-Charge

Reporter to the Children's Panel, Dundee.

Copy to: Mrs Caplan, Social Worker, Area 1, Dundee

CLIENT COPY

7.9.82.

Stewart Fraser

Burnside House

5.12.69.

Mrs. Caplin, Social Worker, Area 1
Mr. Clark, Senior Social Worker, Area 1
Miss Hutchinson, Acting Officer in Charge, Burnside
Mr. Dryden, Balgowan School
Mrs. W. Sethi, Principal Officer (Assessment & Review)

Apologies

Mrs. Frank, Senior Educational Psychologist

Stewart's return home had not gone according to plan as following the last review on 5.8.82. Stewart was picked up by the police on 10.8.82. for Breach of the Peace as he was under the influence of glue. As both Mrs. Caplin and Mr. Clark were on holiday at the time Stewart had been allowed to remain at Burnside and he announced to Mrs. Caplin on 17.8.82. that he wanted to remain at Burnside otherwise he would get into trouble. He also felt it would be wise to remain until his mother returned from Spain on 17 September.

Stewart started at Balgowan School as a day boy after an initial introduction by Mrs. Caplin, was rather wary at first, has been missing on occasions but spent one very happy week prior to last weekend when a disastrous day with his mother again ended in glue sniffing and seems to have unsettled him.

Stewart was missing on 21 and 22 August when he absconded on return from weekend leave and was returned by the Fife Police. On 25 August he played truant on the way to school and was missing until lunchtime, on 30 August he was late back to Burnside from school and did not return until 9.15 p.m. On 4 September he was reported missing at 8 p.m. when he failed to return from day leave. He in fact returned on his own at 2.30 a.m. on Sunday 5 September under the influence of glue. On the evening of 5 September he absconded through the fire exit door in the gymnasium and was missing from 6.30 until 9 p.m. He again returned under the influence of glue and had been glue sniffing with [REDACTED]

Stewart had not revealed to staff exactly what went wrong at the weekend but it is known that Mike is now back with the family and there is no doubt that mother is rather preoccupied in mending her relationship with Mike and may not be giving Stewart the attention he needs.

Concern was expressed at the deterioration in Stewart's recent behaviour and also at his apparent lack of motivation to return home at present. This could

CLIENT COPY

be however related to his mother's trip to Spain and a means of paying her back. It could also be that Stewart is identifying with some of the very difficult children in Burnside.

Conclusions:

1. The consensus view of the meeting was that Stewart is still asking to be claimed in a far more positive way by his mother and although her commitment is good enough for the other children in the family it is not good enough for Stewart. Miss Hutchinson felt that Stewart has a great deal more testing out of mother to do before he can resolve his anger and be reassured about his relationship with her; mother needs to be aware of this and be prepared to "weather the storm".
2. Because of the disruption in the relationship between mother and Mike it has not been possible to work with him as planned at the Assessment Meeting. If Mike is again operating as a significant member of the family then he needs to be included in family therapy sessions and also be helped to make an ally of Stewart and also make positive moves to claiming him.
3. The strategy of investing authority in mother and hence developing her self-confidence in handling Stewart has been undermined by the too frequent use of Burnside as a bolt-hole and the pressure to keep Stewart in Burnside imposed by the Police, Children's Panel and other social work colleagues.
4. Although strong doubts were expressed about mother's ability to provide for Stewart's needs for dependency and structure at present it was agreed that this opportunity should be given to mother when she returns from holiday on 17 September. Mother will need to convince Mrs. Caplin, Mr. Clark and Miss Hutchinson of her commitment and her ability to sustain it and also make a fight for Stewart at the Children's Panel on the basis that she can do as well as any alternative residential establishment.

Area Controller, Area 1

Mrs. Caplin, Area 1

Miss Hutchinson, Burnside

Mr. Dryden, Balgowan School

Mrs. Frank, Senior Educational Psychologist, Nelson Street

CLIENT COPY

STEWART FRASER - Cont.

5. If this degree of determination on mother and Mike's part is not forthcoming then an alternative residential unit should be found for Stewart. Balgowan was considered as one possibility ([REDACTED] is now in charge of a small group of 11 - 16 boys in the cottage block) and will be available until the summer of 1983 if some positive work can be achieved during this period of time. An alternative could be St. Ninians School at Falkland where Stewart can have schooling on the premises and return to his mother for weekends.
6. It was agreed to review the situation again on 26 October at 2 p.m. but hopefully by that time Stewart will either be at home with mother or already placed in an alternative residential unit.
7. In the meantime it was agreed that he should continue attendance at Balgowan as a day boy.

XXXXXXXXXX / REVIEWS OF CHILDREN IN CARE

BURNSIDE HOUSE:- 26.10.82

(Chairman: Mrs Sethi)

NAME OF CHILD	OTHER AGENCIES/PROFESSIONALS INVOLVED/INVITED						
	SOCIAL WORKER	AREA	CHILD GUIDANCE	CHILD PSYCHIATRY	LIST 'D' PSYCHOLOGIST	COMMUNITY MEDICINE	OTHER AGENCIES/PERSONS
2.00 STEWART PRASER	Mrs Caplin	1	Mrs S. Frank				Mr Dryden, Balgowan School

The above are details of the forthcoming XXXXXXXX/Reviews of Children in Care at Burnside House.
I extend an invitation to the members of your Department as indicated thereon, or a representative, should the date not be convenient for the person involved or if the case has been re-allocated.

R.G. Hutchinson,

Officer in Charge

CLIENT COPY

EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT

TEACHERS REPORTS - DECEMBER, 1982

STEWART FRASER

Date of Birth - 5.12.69

ENGLISH

Stewart is reasonably competent in all the basics of language work and is operating at about an 11 year old level.

He is a competent reader and can express himself soundly both in speech and writing, so, in short, he has no problems in English.

With me he has been a fairly pleasant lad who is motivated to do well in class and he seems popular with his peers. He does tend to drift towards older, "tougher" boys with whom, he adopts a harder image.

Also he could be quite petulant, I think, if he did not get his own way at times.

G. ANNAN

MATHS

C.A. = 12:10 N.A. = 11:0 (Vernon Miller Test - 29.10.82)

Stewart is a conscientious worker in class who performs well within his limited ability range. His presentation is neat and organised. He gets on well with his peers and is co-operative with members of staff; very few behavioural problems have emerged.

R. EGGO

ART

Stewart enjoys Art and is probably of average ability in the subject for a boy of his age. He is keenest when given a choice in what he does and feel he is doing his "own thing".

J. SMERNICKI

TECHNICAL

Stewart is very keen in the Workshop and is reasonably capable given help along the way. He is extremely demanding, in a reasonable way, which would make things difficult in a large group.

G. D'ALL

FURTHER COMMENTS

Hearing due on 14th December, 1982. Possibility of his returning to Menzieshill High School.

7.9.82.

Stewart Fraser

Burnside House

5.12.69.

Mrs. Caplin, Social Worker, Area 1 ✓
Mr. Clark, Senior Social Worker, Area 1
Miss Hutchinson, Acting Officer in Charge, Burnside
Mr. Dryden, Balgowan School
Mrs. W. Sethi, Principal Officer (Assessment & Review)

Apologies

Mrs. Frank, Senior Educational Psychologist

Stewart's return home had not gone according to plan as following the last review on 5.8.82. Stewart was picked up by the police on 10.8.82. for Breach of the Peace as he was under the influence of glue. As both Mrs. Caplin and Mr. Clark were on holiday at the time Stewart had been allowed to remain at Burnside and he announced to Mrs. Caplin on 17.8.82. that he wanted to remain at Burnside otherwise he would get into trouble. He also felt it would be wise to remain until his mother returned from Spain on 17 September.

Stewart started at Balgowan School as a day boy after an initial introduction by Mrs. Caplin, was rather wary at first, has been missing on occasions but spent one very happy week prior to last weekend when a disastrous day with his mother again ended in glue sniffing and seems to have unsettled him.

Stewart was missing on 21 and 22 August when he absconded on return from weekend leave and was returned by the Fife Police. On 25 August he played truant on the way to school and was missing until lunchtime, on 30 August he was late back to Burnside from school and did not return until 9.15 p.m. On 4 September he was reported missing at 8 p.m. when he failed to return from day leave. He in fact returned on his own at 2.30 a.m. on Sunday 5 September under the influence of glue. On the evening of 5 September he absconded through the fire exit door in the gymnasium and was missing from 6.30 until 9 p.m. He again returned under the influence of glue and had been glue sniffing with [REDACTED].

Stewart had not revealed to staff exactly what went wrong at the weekend but it is known that Mike is now back with the family and there is no doubt that mother is rather preoccupied in mending her relationship with Mike and may not be giving Stewart the attention he needs.

Concern was expressed at the deterioration in Stewart's recent behaviour and also at his apparent lack of motivation to return home at present. This could

CLIENT COPY

be however related to his mother's trip to Spain and a means of paying her back. It could also be that Stewart is identifying with some of the very difficult children in Burnside.

Conclusions:

1. The consensus view of the meeting was that Stewart is still asking to be claimed in a far more positive way by his mother and although her commitment is good enough for the other children in the family it is not good enough for Stewart. Miss Hutchinson felt that Stewart has a great deal more testing out of mother to do before he can resolve his anger and be reassured about his relationship with her; mother needs to be aware of this and be prepared to "weather the storm".
2. Because of the disruption in the relationship between mother and Mike it has not been possible to work with him as planned at the Assessment Meeting. If Mike is again operating as a significant member of the family then he needs to be included in family therapy sessions and also be helped to make an ally of Stewart and also make positive moves to claiming him.
3. The strategy of investing authority in mother and hence developing her self-confidence in handling Stewart has been undermined by the too frequent use of Burnside as a bolt-hole and the pressure to keep Stewart in Burnside imposed by the Police, Children's Panel and other social work colleagues.
4. Although strong doubts were expressed about mother's ability to provide for Stewart's needs for dependency and structure at present it was agreed that this opportunity should be given to mother when she returns from holiday on 17 September. Mother will need to convince Mrs. Caplin, Mr. Clark and Miss Hutchinson of her commitment and her ability to sustain it and also make a fight for Stewart at the Children's Panel on the basis that she can do as well as any alternative residential establishment.

Area Controller, Area 1

Mrs. Caplin, Area 1

Miss Hutchinson, Burnside

Mr. Dryden, Balgowan School

Mrs. Frank, Senior Educational Psychologist, Nelson Street

CLIENT COPY

STEWART FRASER - Cont.

5. If this degree of determination on mother and Mike's part is not forthcoming then an alternative residential unit should be found for Stewart. Balgowan was considered as one possibility (Brian Allison is now in charge of a small group of 11 - 16 boys in the cottage block) and will be available until the summer of 1983 if some positive work can be achieved during this period of time. An alternative could be St. Ninians School at Falkland where Stewart can have schooling on the premises and return to his mother for weekends.
6. It was agreed to review the situation again on 26 October at 2 p.m. but hopefully by that time Stewart will either be at home with mother or already placed in an alternative residential unit.
7. In the meantime it was agreed that he should continue attendance at Balgowan as a day boy.

TAYSIDE REGIONAL COUNCIL - SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

CONFIDENTIAL

Burnside House
Assessment Centre,
120 Harestone Road,
DUNDEE.

Reporter to the Children's Panel,
DUNDEE.

13th December 1982

Report on STEWART FRASER (d.o.b. 5.12.69)

It must first be said that the considerable improvements in Stewart's behaviour and personal attitude are seen as a consequence of the changes at home brought about by the social worker's efforts with the family. If Burnside has had a part to play it has been as an instrument for Stewart in his stances of opposition and dependency during this struggle to find a tenable position in the family structure.

Stewart was actually resident here for just less than two months and we acknowledge having grave doubts at times about his ability to cope with living at home and Mrs. Fraser's commitment to him. There seemed to be a sense of confusion for a while as to whom Stewart saw as 'in control'.

However, with a vote of confidence in Mrs. Fraser's capacity to develop more effective parenting skills, Stewart was allowed to spend as much time as possible at home and after a few critical episodes there have been signs of steady progress.

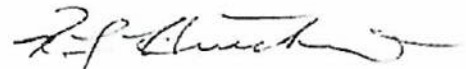
After spending the summer vacation at home Stewart was returned here by police on 10th August after an incident of glue-sniffing, and he said he wanted to remain until Mrs. Fraser returned from her holiday in Spain on 17th September. At this time he seemed to want a well-organised routine for himself and responded happily to staff controls although he remained emotionally guarded on personal issues. Whenever he was left to his own devices he became restless, moody and likely to abscond.

The question of appropriate educational provision was eventually settled, in spite of ambivalence on Stewart's part as he had been keen to return to Menzieshill High, by starting day-attendance at Balgowan School when the new session began. His resistance was dealt with by staff delivering him to Balgowan every morning; he truanted occasionally during the day but returned to Burnside when expected. Towards the end of August and early in September he went missing (truanting or absconding) on five occasions, for short periods, usually in the company of another boy, an unstable and immature personality.

Stewart Fraser (Contd.)

After his mother returned from holiday, with Stewart continuing home leave at weekends, he became more cheerful and self-controlled. On one occasion, 26th September, he returned from leave in a poor condition after eating wild mushrooms; apparently he was angry about some situation at home between Mrs. Fraser and Mike. At the beginning of October Stewart returned home for the school break and his leave has been extended since then. Reports from Mrs. Caplan at the end of October indicated that remarkable progress was being made and that Stewart was much happier. Plans were also being made for Stewart to return to Menzieshill High School.

During the past two months we have had regular contact with Stewart, who has been calling in to collect his pocket money. He is certainly more confident, cheerfully assertive and energetic and it is recognised that the family seems to be providing more warmth and security for him. We are now pleased to recommend that the supervision requirement be varied to section 44(1)a.



R.G. HUTCHINSON (Miss)
Officer-in-Charge

Copy to: Mrs. I. Caplan, Social Worker, Area 1

CLIENT COPY

Emergency Admission Meeting

Re: Stewart Fraser (13 years)

Present: Mr. Reid (Chairman)
Mrs. Smith, Social Worker
Mr. Clark, Senior Social Worker (Minute Taker)
Mr. Duff, Residential Social Worker
Mrs. O'Connor, Student

Apologies: Miss Dianne Gordon, M.A.R.S.

Behaviour is reputed to be reasonable at present by Mr. Duff but has absconded once since admission on 17.10.83. Information on the reason for Stewart's admission was outlined and the attached report from the Standby Duty Officer clarifies this further. Basically Stewart confronted his mother aggressively with a hoover and billiard cue and had been on glue. Mrs. Fraser was very frightened and requested Stewart's removal by the police. This was subsequently followed through by the Standby Officer.

Recently Stewart has been before the Sheriff for breaking and entering and will appear before the Children's Panel on 19.10.83, for review and these offences will be dealt with at the Hearing.

It is intended to recommend that Stewart be returned to Rossie School to explore fully the recent problems where he is wellknown to the staff. The purpose of this placement will be for short term assessment.

It was agreed that Stewart should remain in Burnside until he appears before the Hearing.

Alastair Clark

Mr. A. Clark.

19 October 1983
ANC/EG.

c.c. Mr. Stevens, Thyside House
Mr. Reid, Burnside House