NEWSLETTER

Edition No: 8

November 2026



Welcome to the latest edition of the Newsletter and our thanks to all who have submitted articles for inclusion. Please keep them coming.

This years Summer lunch was a great success and I am pleased to confirm we have booked the same venue, the Ampfield Golf club for next year. The date for your diary is **Wednesday 14th July.**

With Best Wishes

Roger Parsons
Chairman





LAURIE BISHOP - OUR MOST SENIOR OT - WE THINK!

Laurie Bishop celebrated his 103rd Birthday on Monday 13th July. As possibly our 'Most Senior' OT, he continues to share memories of his time in Southampton through this Newsletter. Laurie settled and married in Greece after his time in the Hampshire Regiment after WW2. He taught English to the Greeks and wrote text books. Later in life he moved to Canada where he taught English as a Foreign Language. This photo is of Laurie and his late wife's family. He continues to live independently in Montreal!



MORE TAUNTON'S MEMORIES - 1951 GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS

These documents have been leant to us by Peter Dommett (1951 – 1958). They show what was expected of parents whose sons had been allocated places at Tauntons in September 1951. The Uniform cost would have been £4. 18s 5d which equates to £200.64 in today's money. Do these stir any memories?

Brian Osman (1951 -1958)

TAUNTON'S SCHOOL,
HIGHFIELD,
SOUTHAMPTON.

29th June, 1951.

Dear Parents,

You have already been informed by the Chief Education Officer that following the success of your son in the recent examination a place has been allocated to him at this School. We shall be glad to welcome him and to help him make the most fruitful use of his new opportunities.

Will you please note that the Autumn Term will commence on Thursday, 13th September, but new boys will not be required to attend until the following day, Friday, 14th September. The normal school hours are 8.55 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.55 p.m. to 4.05 p.m.

I am sending you particulars of school uniform, games outfit and school dinners. You will also find an application form enclosed. Will you please complete and return this by Wednesday next, 4th July, in order that I may have the necessary particulars for registration.

At 7.00 p.m. on Thursday, 12th July, I should like to meet at the School the parents of all new boys. You are asked to make a special effort to attend, because I shall explain the purpose and scope of grammar school education and answer any questions you may wish to ask now that your son is beginning a new venture. Your co-operation in all matters relating to your son's welfare and progress will always be appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

R. P. CHALLACOMBE.

Headmaster.

29th June, 1951.

SCHOOL UNIFORM, OUTFIT AND DINNERS

1. SCHOOL UNIFORM

(a) School cap and tie

These can be obtained from either the School or Messrs. Bastick and Son, 122, Above Bar, Southampton.

(b) Suit

Under normal conditions each boy is required to wear either a medium grey flannel suit with shorts or the School blazer with medium grey flannel shorts. Under existing conditions, however, this regulation dress is not insisted on, but parents who find it necessary either now or in the near future to give the boy a new outfit will be able to obtain the regulation dress at Messrs. Bastick and Son.

2. GAMES AND P.T.

(a) Games

Each boy should be provided with a pair of black or dark blue shorts, which can also be used for P.T.

Football boots.

House shirt for games - parents are asked to buy this item as soon as new boys have been placed in houses.

White cricket trousers are desirable but need not be purchased until the 1952 cricket season.

(b) Gymnasium Outfit

Shorts, black if possible, or dark blue, as stated above.

White rubber shoes, if possible.

Towel for showers.

3. MARKING. Each article of clothing must be clearly marked with the owner's full name. (Preferably with Cash's woven name-tapes.)

4. SCHOOL DINNERS

Payment for School dinners (2/11d a week) is made in advance on each Thursday morning for the week commencing the following Monday. Boys who will be staying to dinner on the first day, Friday September 14th, should bring 3/10d for that day and the following week.

Name ..... SCHOOL HOUSE .....

Address ..... HOUSE COLOURS .....

PRICE LIST (*Prices subject to fluctuation*)

SCHOOL CAP ..	..	..	..	7/5	8/9
SCHOOL TIE ..	..	..	..	5/6	6/11
SCHOOL BLAZER ..	6–8 39/10	9–10 43/7	11–13 45/10	36 54/–	
BLAZER BADGE ..	..	..	..	4/2	
SCHOOL STOCKINGS ..	8½″ 5/6	9″ 5/8	9½″ 7/5	10″ 7/5	
GYM SHORTS ..	..	26″ 6/3	30″ 6/3	34″ 9/5	
HOUSE JERSEY ..	..	28″ 11/8	32″ 13/–	36″ 14/2	
PULLOVER (with sleeves) ..	28″ 20/4	30″ 21/7	32″ 22/6	34″ 22/6	36″ 23/6
SLIPOVER (sleeveless) ..	28″ 12/1	30″ 12/11	32″ 13/8	34″ —	36″ —

ASK BASTICKS TO FILL IN YOUR SIZE AND DATE OF PURCHASE

	Size	Date	Size	Date	Size	Date
CAP						
STOCKINGS						
BLAZER						
GYM SHORTS						
HOUSE JERSEY						
PULLOVER						

MARKING. It is essential that every article of clothing and footwear be clearly marked with the boy's name, preferably with Cash's name tapes (available from Basticks).

BASTICKS 122, ABOVE BAR, SOUTHAMPTON
OUTFITTERS TO TAUNTON'S SCHOOL

TAUNTON'S
SCHOOL
SOUTHAMPTON

RESPICE FINEM

SCHOOL CLOTHING LIST
1951

A 75th ANNIVERSARY

A few days before the first Monday of the month an email arrives on several computers. After the usual apology for short notice, it reminds the recipients of the forthcoming 'First Monday of the Month' get together.

What makes the arrival of the next email special is that it will be a chance to celebrate the fact that it will mark the 75th anniversary of the group members initial meeting when they went for their first day at Taunton's Grammar School in Southampton.

Over the years the members of that year group have kept in touch firstly under the umbrella of the Old Tauntonians Association with attendance at the Annual Dinner, and when that stopped, this particular splinter group began to have their own dinner and latterly, with declining numbers, a monthly lunchtime meeting.

The lunchtime meetings began even while the Dinners were in operation and took place at the Bellemoor Inn which is opposite the location of Richard Taunton Sixth Form College to where the former school had moved.

Instigator of the meet-ups in the early 2000s was the late David Osman (father of TV/Author Richard Osman) and Ted Colenutt (their Lower 6th form master) was a regular attender. Over the years the meet-ups have enjoyed guest appearances from other OT's, Peter Wainwright (woodwork master), Pete Munro (principal of Richard Tauntons College, and Ken Carmichael, who had the advantage of living near the Bellemoor Inn.

The current attendees, whilst few in number, have an opportunity to share memories and spend a little time putting the world to rights. Brian Osman has done much over the years to keep the group together, organising the annual Dinners. After leaving the Civil Service he spent some years working with another of our year, Tony Baker, who was at that time Chief Executive of Hampshire County Cricket Club. Indeed that made possible the Dinner venues at the former Northlands Road County Ground before moving to the Rose Bowl.

Pete Dommett lectured for some years at Southampton Technical College, whilst Ron Limburn taught locally and spent a year on exchange to Canada. Norman Eades, for years a well-known local sportsman, was also a teacher. He eventually joined the staff of Taunton's School then College, thus coming full-circle. Completing the teaching section, Jim Rumsey spent many years at Southampton Institute prior to it becoming Solent University. He was also associated with Solent Stars Basketball club which played in the National League for 27 years. Among his more public duties he acted as the announcer at home matches at Fleming Park Leisure Centre. Jim Hallum trained and worked as a civil and structural engineer. He is also responsible for the monthly email reminders. Finally. the group is completed with the attendance of Chris Satterly who attended Tauntons for two years before the arrival of the others and finally left as Head Boy. He is known to members of the Concord Club where he still plays piano.

Jim Rumsey - (1962-1966)

THE 100 CLUB

Recent Winners

April 2026	£20	
Robin Carr	1956-1961	
May 2026	£20	
Peter Jones	1958-1965	
June 2026	£20	
Brian Carter	1950-1958	
July 2026	£20	
David Powell	1956-1961	
August 2026	£20	
Ian Davidson	1947-1952	
September 2026	£20	
Ray Wright	1946-1952	
October 2026	£20	
Brian Valentine	1958-1961	
November 2026	£250	
Pete Muddiman	1954-1962	
November 2026	£100	
Brendan Brophy	1956-1962	
November 2026	£50	
David Watson	1962-1965	

DEATHS

Geoff Fooks	1946-1952
Derek Jackson	1950-1957

JOHN HANNIDES - FORMER STUDENT OF RTC

I was at RTC and in the same tutor group (Andrew Thompson) as John Hannides (1980-1983). We became great friends although we had known each other from the age of five at Shirley School before moving to Bellemoor. During my time at Taunton's I got to know the whole Hannides family well – all five of the brothers went to Tauntons College from the mid 1970s onwards. John was the youngest son of the family whose Father (and patriarch 'Godfather' of the Greek Cypriot Community) was Michael, known by many Southampton residents as 'George' – he of the 86 year old Southampton restaurant institution still run by the family to this day! Michael's connection to Taunton's College runs perhaps even deeper in that he was Best Man to nonother than Lord Maybray King!



John Barnard (1980 – 1983)

Former student John Hannides served 29 years consecutively as a Conservative councillor in Bassett from 1994 to 2023, claiming nine election victories in this period. His appointment as Honorary Aldermen was approved by current councillors on Wednesday 20th May 2026.

Cllr. Peter Baillie, who proposed Mr Hannides said 'There are legends and then there is John Hannides'. He added 'with an astonishing 29 years' unbroken service in the same ward, with his six years of being a cabinet member and 18 years as group deputy leader, I feel John Hannides fully merits being made an Honorary Alderman for his services to this council and this City'. John Hannides achievements included serving on the cross-party panel to oversee the St Mary's Stadium land accumulation and development, playing a driving role in the creation of The SeaCity Museum and reopening of Tudor House Museum.

John Hannides said it was an honour to be nominated for the role, which he would accept with deep gratitude and humility. He said 'as councillors, we are given the privilege of being temporary custodians of the city we are elected to serve. Our time here is limited, but the impact of our decisions is not. And if, in a small way, I have made a positive difference, then it has all been worthwhile. I am proud to have been part of this city' story, and I thank you all for this very special honour of being appointed to the aldermanic bench'.

Honorary aldermen nominees must have served as a councillor for at least eight years and be seen to have given outstanding service to the council over and above a councillor's normal duties.

Footnote: *John has been Chairperson of the National Spitfire Project (NSP) since inception. This organisation is raising funds for the building of the stainless-steel mast and striking Spitfire replica and monument at Southampton's Mayflower Park. This will recognise the City's vital role in the development and production of this icon of World War Two. Under John's leadership the NSP has so far raised over £1.5 million privately and is on its way to raising the last million needed to complete the project to finally honour the contribution this local invention made to `the back to the wall defence' of our Nation in 1940 and throughout WW2.*



Our thanks to the Southern Daily Echo for their contribution to this article.

