

We were emailed by Peter Ward from Canada initially in December last year, and then a series of emails that ran through to March, with Peter and then with his brother Michael

Peter's initial email said "I have a 6 x 4 photo of our class, taken outside the school in about 1956 or 1957. I am in the back row. In the front row are Lt Col Corbin, headmaster, and Mr "Barrel" Rutt the deputy headmaster, together with some older boys who may have been prefects."

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Christmas intervened and then Peter came back with "I have scanned the photo, which I believe was the Lower 6th form class, taken in about 1956 or 1957. I left Huish's in July 1957, because my parents emigrated to Africa, so the photo must have been earlier than that. I am in the back row, third from left. I don't remember many names, but of course most of the faces are familiar. I do remember Pritchard, as I used to compete with him for the best marks. He is in the back row, second from the right. He used to do better in Arts subjects, and I used to do better in Science.

Lt Colonel Corbin , the headmaster is in the front row, and next to him Mr "Barrel" Rutt, the deputy head. Mr Rutt was very popular with staff and students alike. He was approachable, always knew what was going on around the school, had a good sense of humour, and generally was a huge asset to Huish's Grammar School.

My family lived in Pitney, and I used to travel to school every day by bicycle and bus, rain or shine.

I have lived in Africa, and now in Canada for many decades. I have travelled widely, and had a successful career in Engineering. I have always looked back on my time at Huish's as a privilege, and realized how lucky I was to go there. I enjoyed the emphasis on academic excellence. My brother Michael Ward, about 3 years younger than me, was at the school for a year or two in 1956-57.

Then in March, Michael joined in:

What a lovely memoir, and thanks for the picture. I remember you so well from those days. It is very useful to have the OHA to share these with! I have so many memories, even tho I didn't stay there long. Not ENTIRELY sure how accurate they are! It was, as I remember, a very close knit school, without being in the least stifling. There was a sense of purpose and possibility there.

Taunton, you may remember, was twinned, in a system aimed at promoting cooperation, with the French town of Lisieux in 1955. I remember this because I was the first form lad from Huish's chosen to present the mayor of Lisieux with his freedom of the city scroll when he came to visit Taunton!