

The Old Southportonians' Association

Reunion Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Are we looking forward to seeing you?

Answer: Yes!

WHAT: Reunion of the 4s cohorts (within 2024 Old Boys' Weekend)

WHEN: Friday 26 July 2024; 6pm registration for 6.30pm to 9.30pm

WHERE: The OSA Pavilion (registration on Pavilion Deck), southern end of Village Green oval, parallel with Winchester Street.

WHO: Old Boys from 1964; 74; 84; 94; 04; 14

Who can I contact for more information?

Please reach out to your year coordinator/s. Many cohorts have communication groups to join. A big thank you to our coordinators.

You can also contact Julianne Young, OSA Admin, on osa@tss.qld.edu.au

Where can I purchase my ticket?

At <https://www.trybooking.com/COVQH>. RSVP is Friday 12 July 2024.

Can I get a refund if I don't attend?

As we pay our suppliers prior to the event, we are sorry but there are no refunds after Friday 19 July, as per the T&Cs on your ticket. Thank you for your understanding.

Where do we come on the evening?

The OSA Pavilion is situated at the northern end of the Village Green oval, parallel to Winchester Street. Registration will be marked with a banner.

What is the registration process?

From your booking we will have your printed name tag at registration. At registration, you will be given your complimentary drink voucher from the Headmaster as well as your exclusive OBW gift.

The Old Southportonians' Association

Can I just turn up on the night?

Sorry, no – there are no ticket sales on the night. Entry is by prepaid booking only. We implore our Old Boys to abide by this – it impacts our staffing, space available and catering. Please spread the word.

Why is there a cost when it is at school?

As the school is not an events centre, we must source and hire most equipment for events. All catering for food and beverage is outsourced along with appropriately trained staff; photography, entertainment, theming, cleaning and security. To keep it as reasonable as possible, we utilise a pay-as-you-go bar (credit card payments) rather than an all-inclusive price.

Can I bring my partner?

Partners are welcome but we do advise that this is a boys' school reunion with a lot of male energy in a confined space and the evening is geared to this demographic. As an indicator, in 2023 partners were less than 20% of the total. We remind our Old Boys that there is the opportunity to bring family for the Welcome Back Morning on Saturday 27 July with Chapel, Museum, tours, and refreshments, followed by GPS.

Can I bring children?

This is strictly an adults only event. We remind our Old Boys that there is the opportunity to bring family for the Welcome Back Morning on Saturday 27 July, with Chapel, Museum, tours, and refreshments, followed by GPS.

How will I find my cohort?

We will informally marshal cohort areas with large, numbered balloons.

Will it be loud?

Yes! We are expecting many guests in a limited space and there is a whole lot of catching up to do. A wonderful air of (loud) excitement prevails. Please be mindful that this event caters for 28- to 78-year-olds and there is a huge amount of movement and activity on the night.

Many cohorts are organising their own additional smaller events over the course of the weekend, please reach out to your coordinator for more information.

The Old Southportonians' Association

Can we visit the Boarding Houses and other venues during the reunion?

School buildings and grounds are off limits as staff and boys are in residence. We encourage you to attend the Welcome Back Morning on Saturday 27 July for Chapel, Museum, tours, and refreshments.

What transport options are there when the reunion finishes at 9.30pm?

We will alert local taxi companies. Please road trip with mates as possible and order ride shares to collect you immediately after 9.30pm. The OSA Pavilion is conveniently located at the northern end of the Village Green oval with easy access to Winchester Street. The driveway entrance to TSS where Winchester Street meets Dixon Drive would be a convenient collection point.

Where can we go after the reunion finishes at 9.30pm?

Please check with your year coordinators on plans. Nothing formal is organised by TSS or OSA. Please consider your transport options before hand – we want everyone to get home safely.

Will it be like my last reunion in the Dining Hall?

The school is at capacity with student numbers; and more communication channels means more attendees at our events, requiring a suitable space. For these reasons and more, most schools hold their reunions in casual settings offsite – our important Point of Difference is that we want our Old Boys back at TSS.

Feedback from reunions 10+ ago was that seated tables were not preferred as many wanted to mingle in the time available. Hence, we have moved to a professionally catered stand-up cocktail-style event. We also heard that many formalities were not desirable with the time available, and these are now significantly limited.

Has the 60-Year Group always been invited?

This wonderful cohort is part of Older Old Boys and as such attends Older Old Boys' Day over OBW. However, in 2023 a very keen 1963 cohort wanted to join the reunion and we were only too happy to oblige. Such was the success that we are continuing.

The Old Southportonians' Association

Is there seating?

We will have limited seating for our 50- and 60-year reunion groups inside the Pavilion, we cannot seat everyone in these groups due to space. We have found in the past that most guests rotate and mingle. We will also have limited seating in and around the Pavilion for guest comfort – but please be mindful this is intended as a stand-up cocktail-style event.

Will there be cohort photos?

We have a professional photographer engaged who we have used with great success for the past two years. Cohort photos will be in a specific area on the night. The photographer will also take many roaming photos during the evening. The link to the gallery will be sent to you in the following weeks and will be on the website.

Is there a band and dancing?

We aren't going to stop you from dancing if your memories of dance classes with St Hilda's waft back! However, space doesn't allow for a dance floor. We have an Old Boy acoustic guitarist singer playing an array of tunes on the night for a lovely atmosphere.

What if it rains?

In the unfortunate event of heavy rain, we will advise alternate on-campus location upon arrival.

Where can I park?

There is parking at the Centenary Centre car park (southern end of the Village Green oval, off Dixon Drive). There is also parking available on Winchester Street and Dixon Drive.

Do I need cash?

This event is cashless, so please bring your credit card. After your first drink from the Headmaster, we have pay-as-you-go bars. We will also have OSA merchandise for sale. Everything else is included.

What is the dress code?

Smart casual or jacket and tie if you prefer. If you have your school blazers (and they haven't, ahem, shrunk in the wardrobe), we'd love to see them. You may have an OSA jersey – we'd also love to see these in force! School or OSA ties are also a delight to see.

The Old Southportonians' Association

There will be an OSA merchandise stall on the evening or you can purchase via the website.

The OSA Pavilion has open bifold doors across the front and is an indoor/outdoor setting. With the numbers expected, we will likely have many people outside. **Please dress warmly!** If partners attend, flat or wedge shoes would be easier to navigate the surrounding oval.

Where can I smoke/vape?

When you get home. TSS is a no smoking venue.

Where are the toilets?

There are toilets located on the deck level of the Pavilion. There are also toilets in the change rooms downstairs.

What food and drink will there be?

We have award-winning caterers who will provide sumptuous, substantial and gourmet finger foods. Please note dietary requirements when you book so we can cater accordingly.

We will have indoor and outdoor bars with premium beer, wine, G&T cans, and soft drinks at very reasonable prices. Your first drink is compliments of the Headmaster and you will be given this voucher with your name tag at registration. There is also a tea and coffee station. Please note glassware is not used for events that include use of the Pavilion balcony and exterior, due to proximity of the oval.

We hope the above information is helpful and we can't wait to welcome you!

Julianne Young
OSA Administrator