

BOARDING SCHOOL SURVIVORS – SUPPORT NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2022



This Newsletter comes to you with all good wishes for a Happy Christmas and a good / better / best New Year. We do know that these can be quite sad and lonely times for some people, and we send our special good wishes and thoughts to you. 2022 was not a good year for many people for a variety of reasons... but looking back and trying to be optimistic, here's hoping for a better year ahead.

This newsletter also brings you news of the Conference last month. We had an excellent response with 83 people registering. It felt so very good to meet up again with old friends after missing you all with the two years of Covid restrictions, but it was also immensely pleasing that about half of those who attended were new to the reality of Boarding School Syndrome. Most were very recent contacts with BSS-Support and it was really great to meet you all.

Our thanks go to the speakers and the therapists who facilitated the groups. We had many letters much appreciating you all. Videos of the talks are now [on the website](#).

We know it's been a few weeks: but, if you attended the conference, any feedback you can give us via [this link](#) would be much appreciated. The form shouldn't take more than a few minutes to complete.

The connection we now have with so many 'new' supporters is a very real indicator that the work being done on various levels, Nick Duffell's and Joy Schaverien's books, Alex Renton's broadcasts and our website, is all 'spreading the word' and resulting in much interest and many letters. We really welcome contact from you all and it means you are now in touch

with a growing community of former boarders all of whom understand where we are 'coming from'. This contact means we are able to keep in touch, direct you to help and offer support.

Hopefully the information about BSS is also reaching parents and making them think twice about sending their children to boarding school. Sadly, about 40% of all children in UK boarding schools now come from overseas. Many have to learn English as a second language on arrival and that feels as if it must add greatly to the sadness and disconnection for the children concerned.

This is a brief seasonal letter, but we will write again soon. Many of you write to us saying you would like to tell your story. We would love to receive articles and stories and poetry for our Newsletters. Please write to us about this at info@bss-support.org.uk.

Seasonal warm good wishes to you all, from us all:

Allison, Margaret, Mike, Paul and Sam