

Education Otherwise

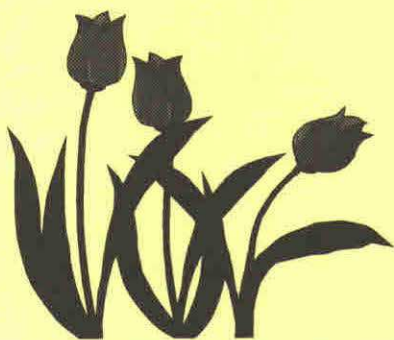
Editorial

Hello again. Firstly my apologies if you have tried to contact me and failed, we have moved! We moved the weekend of the Hatfield meeting, amidst snow, rain, hail and gale force winds, into the depths of Northumberland. Its lovely and we are all happy and settling well now that we've dried out. We are not on the phone at present, and after several years of busy EO work, the children are overjoyed not to have the phone ringing constantly, and we are slowly getting used to being able to eat a meal with out interruption.

Thank you all for all the letters and contributions, I've tried to include as much as possible and keep it interesting and well balanced, I hope I've succeeded. For those of you wondering why I've edited two newsletters: - our newsletter coordinator had resigned and there were no editors. I volunteered to edit for as long as needed for three reasons, firstly, concern about the future of the newsletter, secondly, guilt in that I've always meant to offer to do a newsletter, but never got around to it and thirdly having worked for years producing manuals and reports, it offered me an opportunity to use my skills doing something more pleasant. To put the record straight I'm not on a power kick or a take over bid - if I was I'd hardly be resigning would I?

I've thoroughly enjoyed doing the newsletter, it was great fun and forced me to learn a lot more about desk top publishing than I'd done before, and of course I had lots of phonecalls (before we moved) and loads of post since. Now having moved house, I am moving on from EO too, and have resigned as coordinator, research secretary and as a Director. I hope I have always given my best over the years, but sadly feel I have to stop. Some members have been very obstructive and hostile to the idea of the directors actually doing what they are legally obliged to do - making the decisions concerning the running of EO which are crucial to its future stability. After the recent Directors meeting (see the enclosed info) where I felt it all too apparent that some present would not take their responsibilities seriously I

have decided to resign. I hope all those I've got to know along the way keep in touch and I wish you all well. I'm off to get to know my children



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The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the editor, nor of Education Otherwise as a whole. This newsletter is edited by a volunteer and its primary purpose is to provide support and communication between members.

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A REMINDER TO READERS

The EO newsletter accepts advertisements, offers of services, articles and notices of social events in good faith and CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE for the consequences of responding to any of these. Readers are reminded that sensible caution should be exercised when responding to such.

THE NEXT ISSUE

The deadline for the next issue is 1st May, 1995, all copy should be sent to the editor by this date. All material intended as such should be clearly marked "for publication". Please ensure you include your name and address and age for contributors to children's pages. Contributions are more likely to be included if they are concise. Some editors may be able to use a copy on computer disk.

Newsletter Editor for the next issue:

Anne Mills - "Waverley", Murton Way, Murton, York. YO1 3UJ Tel: 0904 488088

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Oliver Wild, South View, Mill Lane, Skipsca, Driffield, E. Yorks. YO25 8SP

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A Directors Meeting

Will take place at 10.30 A.M. on Saturday 27th May 1995 at York Youth Hostel

Other EO members are welcome as observers. Agenda items and enquiries to Acting General Secretary - Anne Wade 0181 - 904 7155

Apathy Rules Okay!

Over 2,000 members and only 3 replies to my request for information on discounts/free entry into places of interest - I'm completely **underwhelmed!** I can't believe you don't know of any. Yes I am talking to YOU! Get your pens or dialling fingers out and let me know. If we all pool together we'll all benefit.

Here are a couple to be going on with:

Free entry and guided tour for EOers to Sneatondale Honey Farm, East Ayton, Near Scarborough, North Yorkshire. 01723-864001. Best to call May to October when things are most interesting. Honey and Propolis for sale. Birds of prey to see.

5% discount on purchases over £10 at Early Learning Centre. Show your EO card and fill in a Playgroup discount card (Valid for 1 year)

Pick up your pens and write or phone me TODAY

*Beverley Young
91 Lyndhurst Drive,
Preston,
Lancs PR2 1TB
Tel: 01772-735531*

Calling all grown-up EOers

Some members may remember the research I did in the 80's when Erlend was being educated at home - the Society of Authors has given me a small grant to cover the costs of a book on adults' reflections on their experiences of alternative education when young and how these have influenced their adult lives and view of the education system (e.g. how are their own children being educated?)

I would love to hear from anyone over 20ish who was educated either at home, or in a Steiner School or Small School and who wouldn't mind being interviewed. I'll happily repay all postage.

Thanks and best wishes,

*Julie Webb,
Jessamine Cottage,
Bonds End Lane, Sibford Gower,
Oxfordshire. OX15 5RT*

Some Education

What does the future hold?

What's going on out there?

Here's an update on some issues which have surfaced recently, with thanks to the vigilant members who noticed them.

Last year the DfE issued six circulars, "Pupils with Problems", which use the term "education otherwise" to describe the education provided by LEAs for children who cannot attend school because of their problems (illness, pregnancy, exclusion etc.). Letters were sent pointing out that the use of the term would cause serious confusion as "Education Otherwise" is associated in the public mind with home education practised voluntarily by parents. The response merely drew our attention to the fact that one sentence in Circular 11/94 distinguishes between our kind of "education otherwise" and theirs, but this reference is so insignificant that it could easily be missed. Far more prominent, though, is the instruction at the beginning of Circular 11/94:

"The aim is to return pupils to mainstream education as soon as possible. LEAs need policies and procedures for children out of school. These should be based on consultation with local schools, parents and the wider community. LEAs should know which pupils are out of school and require education otherwise; the reasons; the date on which the child last attended school; prior provision; current provision; the date for review and the likely time of each pupil's return to mainstream."

I know of one adviser who was misled by the circular into thinking that he was required to keep detailed records of this kind about EO children. If an adviser should say the same to you, refer him/her to paragraph 2, page 5 of Circular 11/94. "The Circular does not offer guidance on the education of children otherwise than at school which is conducted by parents voluntarily in accordance with Section 36 of the Education Act 1944 (the 1944 Act), usually at

home."

It's increasingly common for EO families to be monitored by an "Adviser for EOTAS" (Education Otherwise Than At School) who also has responsibility for the "pupils with problems" described in the Circulars. Hey presto! The distinction has disappeared altogether in the London Borough of Merton's glossy publication "Your School" where the term "Education Otherwise" (note capital letters) is defined as "the LEA has a duty to provide education for children who are not attending school e.g. at home, in hospital etc. This is known as "Education Otherwise" from the term used in the 1944 Education Act..." Also, responsibility for home education in the

DfE was moved last year from Schools Branch 1 to Pupils and Parents Branch. This Branch, which produced the Circulars, deals with children who have problems in school. Fine, but it may be that the DfE will come to ignore the fact that some families positively choose home education for educational and philosophical reasons.

Last summer some LEA advertisements declared: "Is your child 3 or 4 years old? If so, read on! Your child must start school by the beginning of the term after his or her fifth birthday. The time to apply for a place is NOW!" Stirring stuff, but not true. The former National Curriculum Council and OFSTED both failed to distinguish between compulsory schooling and compulsory education in their documents, but they know now. And then there was the Parent's Charter. New members might like to know that page 5 of the 1994 version states that "You have a duty to make sure that your child goes to school until he or she is 16". Letters to the DfE proved to be fruitless but the threat of legal action by EO secured an undertaking from Eric Forth that the wording would be changed in the next edition. If we value home education as a present and future option, we need to be vigilant, visible, credible and respected. It's only two years (or less) to the next election, and the national



curriculum may well become compulsory for all children if Labour wins. Last time EO's active opposition to this move received widespread support from the members, and it's time to reopen the debate. Also Dr. Amanda Petrie, at the University of Liverpool, has been researching home education in Europe for the past two years. Word from Europe is not encouraging. There are signs that Germany in particular may seek to impose a greater degree of uniformity upon education law in the European Community. We did receive assurances three years ago that there would be no common educational policy, but things move on and we cannot afford to be complacent. European sources say that our best defence is to be as noticeable as possible, so that any attempt to legislate against home education would be politically unacceptable. In Germany children are handcuffed or drugged and taken bodily to school, for all children must attend. There is no choice for them. Do we want this form of child abuse for our young people? It could easily happen here if we ignore these disturbing signs.

For the past ten years our membership leaflet has been saying "The larger our membership, the better our services and resources will be and the more clearly will our voice be heard." Therefore the arguments expressed above are not new! A small organisation would not stand a chance if threatened, and few members would want EO's growth to be deliberately limited. It's sad that there are some who have stated that they do, but such elitism is indefensible and unbelievably selfish. Growth is essential to survival and it would not damage our special ethos as a network and self-help group, in fact growth would enable the network to be more effective. But alongside the real business of EO we need a public face which stresses the creativity, value and diversity of home education, which puts EO on the map and ensures that it stays there.

*Jane Lowe,
5 Elm Gardens, Webwyn Garden City,
Herts. AL8 6RX Tel: 01707 335825*

Urgent - Please Help

Could you please write to me as soon as possible, relating your experiences of your child/children learning to read and write? I am in a court case battle, in which I would like to show that children learn these skills at their own pace and readiness. Please write to Barbara Hallam, Bushmead, Rake, Nr. Liss, Hants. GU33 7JG Tel: 0730 892349

Special Educational Needs

The Department for Education's Booklet on Special Educational Needs and the Code of Practice are available free from the DFE. Tel: 0787 880946.

The Code includes its principles and procedures together with information on assessment procedures - the statement - and annual reviews.

Paragraphs 4.62 - 4.63 and 6.24 - 6.26 refer to education otherwise than at school but generally this appears to relate to LEA provision otherwise than at school.

IPSEA - The Independent Panel for Special Education Advice sent EO a copy of their Newsletter. It outlines the major changes in law between the 1981 and 1993 Acts. There is also an article on the code and Tribunal. While mainly relevant to school situations it is a useful reference for people involved with SEN. If you want to know more about IPSEA send a S.A.E. to IPSEA 22 Warren Hill Road - Woodbridge - Suffolk IP12 4DU.

The ACE Bulletin No. 63 Jan/Feb 1995 also includes articles on SEN. The National Autistic Society report "Autism: The invisible disability" called for autism to be included as a specific category in the Code - better training for professionals - and increased research into child protection - bullying and development strategies for those with Asperger syndrome.

The same Bulletin also included the second of a three part information sheet on exclusion from school. This part gave practical advice about ways parents can be involved in their child's school in the case of fixed term and permanent exclusions. The third part will deal with appeals and what happens when a child has been permanently excluded.

*Susan Long,
154 Long Brandocks, Writtle,
Chelmsford. CMI 3JR*

わたしはうちでやっていきたいの!

In July last year Tokyo Shure, a Japanese free school organisation that also offers support to home educating families, invited EO to send a delegate to Tokyo to be one of the three keynote speakers at the first ever symposium in Japan on home education.

Japan is probably one of the last places in the world that you would expect to have a growing home school movement. The Japanese education system is envied throughout the world as nearly all Japanese school children attain very high academic standards, at very low cost per pupil. Also, where you go to school, and how well you do there, very much determine what kind of job you get. One final factor is that the Japanese are brought up to act as members of a group, rather than as individuals, and you could suppose that this would make the individualistic approach of home education unappealing. However, as you will have read in Lesley Barson's article elsewhere in this newsletter, families in Japan have paid a high price for this success and interest in less pressured forms of education is growing.

As a family we had hoped that one day we would be able to visit Japan and had even begun learning Japanese so imagine my surprise and delight when I was asked to be EO's representative at the symposium. Keiko Okuchi and Kageki Asakura of Tokyo Shure visited the UK to discuss the symposium and find out all they could about EO and home education here. And then on a wet and humid September Sunday my ten year old daughter Olivia and I found ourselves in front of nearly 900 people and the cameras of Japanese TV in a crowded hall in Ginza, Tokyo. My fellow speakers were Keiko Okuchi, who founded Tokyo Shure and Pat Montgomery from Clonlara School in the USA. We delivered our speeches and were then joined on stage by a lawyer, a member of the Japanese Diet, an educational social worker, a journalist and a successful home educated Japanese film director. They all contributed excellent speeches, especially the film director who described her experience of being home educated by her well known and highly respected family. After lunch we all returned to the stage to hear comments from the audience and to take part in the most productive part of the symposium, the question and answer session.

More than 300 people filled in questionnaires on the day and the symposium got a lot of coverage on national TV that evening. From feedback we have received since the symposium it seems to have been a success. As well as the symposium I spent three days taking part in question and answer sessions with Tokyo Shure staff members, parents, pupils and free school organisations. Olivia attended a Japanese school for a day and thoroughly enjoyed her celebrity status! Since the symposium we have done all we can to support Kyoko Aizowa of Otherwise Japan in her campaign to establish the right in law to home educate in Japan.

There are many people to thank for making our stay in Japan such a memorable experience: Hiroyuki, Mine, Sachiko and Akiko Nishida for sharing their home with us and making our stay in Japan such fun; Keiko and Kageki for inviting us; Minako Hagiwara of Tokyo Shure who made sure we didn't get lost; Kyoko Okazaki for translating and last but not least EO Charitable Trust, who helped make it possible for me to take Olivia on the home education trip of a lifetime! Paul Bentley

Educating Your Children Out of School In Japan

My children, Louis (age 11) and Lily (age 5) and myself, Leslie, went to Japan for a 6 month trip in June, 1994. We arrived in Tokyo and spent 2 wonderful HOT months there doing as much as we could. It is very safe so you never have to worry about being lost. This was a great weight off our shoulders. There is lots to do as in any major city and the Japanese love children. We met Kyoko while in Japan and saw her about twice a week. I spoke at her monthly meetings about all of you, what we do as a family and my impressions of home education. We also met up in parks and museums. But many Japanese are worried to come during school hours due to the uncertainty about the law and home schooling and due to social pressures. Kyoko's son, Yuusuke-kun, has been yelled at in a local park and Kyoko too when she defended him.

As well as the monthly meeting, Kyoko produces a newsletter, sits endlessly on the telephone consoling people and making suggestions, puts people in contact with one another, translates articles from GWS and our EO newsletter into Japanese to circulate, works with a top children's human rights lawyer in Japan to fight for the legality of education out of school and home educates her son!

In late August we went on a three week journey around Japan. We moved everyday and due to the fantastic fast and efficient train system we could travel distances that would be impossible elsewhere. In Nagasaki we met a home educating family. Mr Nohtomi has tried for many years to organise home educators but with no luck. He told me though, that for many thousands of years there have been families home educating in secret. Due to the strict Japanese exam system you really need to study for many years, just what the exam is about. As things now stand, it is impossible to drop out of the system and join again later. Many Japanese join correspondence courses to try to get back into some system. The system must change as it is geared to training company employees and these jobs are not directly under threat.

Meanwhile

After travelling we settled in Himeji in 2 home stays. There we met the woman who organises home educators in Himeji and puts out a useful newsletter. There we met The Global School started by The Kojima Family. Mr Kojima saw a television programme as a young man about children placed in mental hospitals because they would not go to school (still a common practice). He was so enraged he decided to try to find a better way. He spent time in America at alternative schools and is very inspired by Mr. Seery at Grassroots School, Florida. His school has 5 students, some borders who are in control of everything, money and time. After we moved to Kyoto in October, they came to visit us a few times with some training teachers from Kobe (where the earthquake was).

While staying in Himeji we went back to Tokyo for the weekend to attend the first International Conference on Home Schooling run by an alternative school in Tokyo. It was attended by over 800 people and was on the national news twice. It became clear though that by home education most of the organisers meant school refusers. Kyoko managed to redress this at the question time and through the conference she and I wrote articles for a Japanese education magazine about real home education.

In Kyoto we contacted The Planet School, run by Keiko Yamashita. She also spent time travelling in America with her children and was shaken about their schooling. There are some home educators in Kyoto that come to her school sometimes. It has a very loose structure and we had a good time there.

Through Mr. Kojima I met Mr. Okinaka who is



Hiroyuki-kun, Lily and Louis in Nagasaki

a high school teacher of English. He proposed I speak to the high school (1200 children!) about home education. It was very far from their experience so we felt they found it difficult to understand, but even seeing foreigners in western Japan is something so we certainly were an interesting sight!

When anyone talks about Japan often one of the main points is the School system and rightly so. But there is also another point they should be talking about. The astonishing number of school refusers. Two to three percent of all schoolgoers from five to fifteen drop out of school every year. A great breeding ground for home-schoolers you might think? But most of those concerned, have up until now been put back in to the school system or in extreme



Minagi-chan and Lily in Tokyo.

cases, drugged and put into mental hospitals. And the ones who don't, most probably don't even know about home-schooling. But now one person (Kyoko Aizawa) has teamed up with one of the most famous childrens rights lawyers (Akira Nakagawa) in Japan to try and fight for children to be able to home-school without fear of going out in daytime.

Now I think I will tell you something about the school system. The school system is one of the most strict systems in the world. For example a girl arrived late for school, just as the gate was closing. She tried to slip through, but she was too late, so the teacher shut the gate on her crushing her to death. The bullying is also very bad. There have been several accounts of death by bullying. And if not death thousands of cases



*Our going home party, Tokoyo,
Nov. 1995*

of trauma in later life. But I think that the worst thing is the government have only now even thought, that anyone would not want to go to school, so that means so do parents. So to have the choice would be a blessing for Japan.

But before it can be proved legal they need a test case which they think they have, but still have yet to prove. So Home-schooling still has quite a while to go before it can be proved legal. I am going back in the summer to see some Home-schoolers and I hope that the test case will have been won and that Home-schooling will be legal, but until then I hope that you enjoyed this article and that maybe you will go and see for yourself one day.

We had the most marvellous time and were treated like royalty for our whole journey. Everywhere we went we spoke to people and many were really interested and willing to listen. This experience also made us realise how lucky we are in England for the relative ease vis-a-vis the law and home education. The education of children out of school is coming in Japan. How easy or difficult its birth pangs are is yet to be seen. We must help and support them any way we can. Would you like a pen-friend?? Or could you send a letter of support to them?? You can write directly to

Otherwise Japan, 3-14-14 Kugayama,
Suginami-Ku, Tokyo, Japan.

Or if you prefer write to me: Leslie Barson, 1 Croxley Road, London W9 3HH Tel: 081-969-0893. Please contact me for Otherwise Japans Internet address.

Letters



the 102 newsletter.

Yolanda Muckle's letter was brilliant. What a weight off my mind! You've made a lot of us parents feel a lot easier. Thanks Yolanda!

Lynne Fox's letter really touched a nerve. I think the great thing about her story is that she has decided to relax and trust her child. I came to the same conclusion about 9 months ago. The battles, resentment and defiance broke me, and I gave up. And it was the best thing that could have happened. My 3 boys and I do so much and I still try with the school-type work, but in a take it or leave it way, if you know what I mean. Anyway Lynne, thanks for sharing your experience.

I also enjoyed Marit Tamlit's letter. I love the idea of the flow chart. Maybe I can impress my inspector with one when next he calls! There was just one point I'd like to pick up. Those home educators who have had good experiences with their LEAs shouldn't get carried away with the idea that inspectors will only be difficult if the Eo'ers are either not genuine or couldn't be bothered. There's an awful lot of class snobbery to deal with and speaking as a working-class, lone parent, living in a council flat on a council estate, without the benefit of higher education, I had a lot of hurdles to overcome. Those hurdles had nothing to do with my confidence and ability to educate my children. The hurdles were made by others' prejudice; an attitude of she should know her place.

It is important for people in my situation to realise that home education is there for anyone who wants it. You don't need to be a 2 parent family, you don't need a house with garden, you don't need to have teaching experience or even a good education, and you don't need money. Of course, all those things are desirable but what you do need is time and love for your children and the enthusiasm, ideas and education will happen.

Good luck to everyone. I think we are all doing a great job.

*Frances Inglis,
32 Farr Avenue,
Thames View,
Barking, Essex*

At the time the advisors visited we lived in Leeds in an inner-city terrace. My daughter Anna was then 6, my other children 3 and 2. The visit itself, made by two advisors, was

Hello from Paula Turner, the new west Midlands coordinator. I am a 31 year old mother of 4 girls, aged 8, 6, 3, 1. My husband Barrie and I are Christians home educating all our children. Unfortunately our details were missed out of the contact list, so if you need to contact me please write or ring. I am looking forward to re-vitalising the areas support group with your help. I need to hear from members young and old, new and established. If you have any ideas comments or suggestions, please write. Any members wanting a regional events newsletter (still in the pipeline) please enclose a S.A.E.



*Paula Turner,
79 Kingshurst Way, Kingshurst,
Birmingham. B37 6EB
Tel: 0121 603 8673*

Dear EO,

My name is Veronica, I am 34 and educate our 3 children, Beth 14, John 13 & Rebecca 11, at home. We are new to both EO and home educating, but would like to contact other EO families with children of the same age. I would especially like to hear from anyone who has children who have or are, currently working for GCSE and also anyone whose child is dyslexic or stated to share ideas and support.

We would welcome responses from anywhere in the world, but especially UK, USA, and Germany.

Beth would be interested in staying with a German speaking family for a few months in the summer - perhaps it could work as an exchange (she will be 15 in April) - whereby someone stayed with us for a similar period. If anyone out there is interested or knows of a way this could be safely arranged please get in touch.

*Mrs Veronica Cottam-McConnachie,
8 Chester Close,
Garstang,
Lancs. PR3 1EN*



Dear EO,

I just had to write to say how much I enjoyed

DIRECTORS' MEETING

Hatfield : 28 Jan '95

11 of E.O.'s Directors met prior to the EGM. They heard a report from EO's Treasurer, Paul Bentley, on the state of finances. Excellent progress had been made on computerisation - to make management easier - but generally EO's finances were in a very difficult state. With the reduction in size of the Newsletter and the increase in membership fees, he reported that he would hope for some more positive news at the next meeting.

Membership of EO stood at around 2,250.

The Child Protection Group reported that they were seeking information about child sexual abuse, other organisations' policies and how to teach children to stay safe. Members with information which may be of value are asked to write in to the EO central address, marking the envelope "CPiG".

Eric Foggitt Vice Chair, E.O.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Hatfield : 28 Jan '95

After a number of preliminary comments and queries arising out of the previous EGM at Newcastle, the meeting settled down to the main business - that of discussing changes to EO's constitution in order to apply for charitable status.

The acting Chair, Eric Foggitt, outlining the proposed procedure: that the meeting agree to forward the draft constitution to the Charities Commission, as drawn up by Paul Bentley. The previous EGM had given him this responsibility.

A number of dissentient voices were raised, questioning this procedure. Doubts were raised about the value of passing a draft constitution which would need amendment later. One member suggested that it was wiser to get it right from the start. The acting Chair explained that this was to expedite the whole business: what Paul had prepared was a constitution known to be agreeable to the Charities Commission and therefore likely to be passed relatively quickly. With the financial situation being so serious, speed was of the essence, since charitable status would open up a number of possible sources of finance. The meeting then went through the proposed Draft, noting items which would need further discussion.

After considerable discussion, the proposed Draft was voted on: by a large majority it was rejected. An alternative proposal was then agreed: to send EO's existing constitution to the Charities Commission, to find out in what ways it needed to be changed. This was agreed, as was a formal resolution supporting the application for charitable status.

The meeting approved new co-ordinators for six areas.

The meeting discussed the appointment of Newsletter Coordinators, and agreed to re-appoint Sue Hutchin with effect from the issue after next.

(Chairman's note: this requires ratification by Directors, as these appointments are Directors' responsibility)

The enquiries group gave a positive report, suggesting that the numbers of enquiries required more help from volunteers. There remains a problem staffing the Helpline.

The next meeting we provisionally agreed as 25th March in Taunton. The meeting was reminded was reminded that there were insufficient bookings for the 3-day event, and the General Secretary would be advised to cancel unless considerably more bookings were made.

The question of a Steering Committee was raised, and various arrangements made.

(Chairman's note: this requires ratification by Directors, as these appointment are Directors' responsibility)

Eric Foggitt Vice Chair, E.O.

Report of Director's Meeting of Education Otherwise Association Limited held on March 11th 1995 at 11am.

Chaired by Pien Maltz-Klaar.

A meeting was called by Sue Clare, General Secretary of EO, in response to a request from several directors who were concerned about the legal implications of EO's financial crisis not appearing to be addressed/acknowledged by some Directors, and also questioning the commitment of a few directors who seemed reluctant to take up the responsibilities of the role, and the future implications of this attitude carrying over into trusteeship in the event of EO obtaining Charitable Status.

A paper was produced by Eric Foggitt explaining both proxy procedure and re-stating, without the legal jargon, the duties and responsibilities of directors. It was hoped by the directors who called the meeting that a confirmation of individual Directors belief in the duties and responsibilities as a necessary requirement of directorship, would enable us all to work together as a united group, and to progress in the best interests of the organisation. Four hours later a greatly reduced proposal was put forward and accepted by all the Directors present.

"As Directors of E.O. we accept responsibility to deal with the day to day running of Education Otherwise Association Limited"

Paul Bentley then outlined his view, as Treasurer, of the present financial situation, i.e. having been able to pay the printer up to date, partly because of the newsletter reduction in size, he still had grave concerns about the future financial stability, and was in contact with the auditor about the possibility of insolvency of the organisation.

He also intends to wind down his involvement and on completing the end of year accounts will resign his post.

Sue Clare informed the meeting of her intention to resign because of the inability of the group to progress amidst such dissent. Anne Wade agreed to be acting General Secretary and was co-opted as a Director.

Susan Todd also announced her imminent resignation at this meeting, but will finish editing the next newsletter.

In light of the need for a new PO Box Eleanor Stapleton agreed to organise a rota of people to attend to the mail.

Pien asked that the committee try to build up respect and trust for each other, she felt that it was impossible to run an organisation based on emotions.

Anyone requiring the minutes of this meeting can obtain a copy by sending a SAE to Anne Wade acting General Secretary. (Address at the back of the newsletter)

IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ THIS - IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ THIS - IMPORTANT
A Statement from the outgoing Directors of Education Otherwise Association Ltd.

10 out of EO's 15 directors have resigned or are resigning shortly: (Pien Maltz-Klaar is abroad and is not available for comment).

| Resigned | Resigning |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Sue Clare | Paul Bentley |
| Susan Long | Sandie Cottee |
| Charles Moore | Brenda Holliday |
| Gill Murley | Jane Lowe |
| Susan Todd | Eric Foggitt |

At the beginning of 1990 EO had £11,000 in the bank. These resources have been progressively eroded until by January 1995 we had a negative balance of nearly £200 when all the bills had been taken into account. We have done our best to rescue EO from this financial crisis. Our actions included the tough decisions last November to increase the subscriptions and to reduce temporarily the size of the newsletter. By November, 1994, we were over £2000 in arrears with the newsletter which we had no hope of paying. As a result of the cuts this debt was cleared by February.

A directors' meeting was called to discuss 1) the duties and responsibilities of directors/trustees; 2) the financial situation; and 3) charitable status. After a prolonged discussion on item (1) it was evident that the directors had such varying interpretations of their responsibilities that it was impossible for them to function in EO's interests.

The protracted discussion of the first agenda item meant that the meeting was held back and the very important subject of charitable status - a matter vital to the financial viability of EO - was not discussed. For the same reason other imminent practical problems, including the Central Address telephone and the printing and stationery situation, were also not addressed.

This is the second meeting at which it has not been possible to make reasonable progress on EO's charitable status and in the opinion of the directors named above, this delay, together with the inability to agree what constitutes a director's responsibility, is untenable.

It is therefore with regret that the above directors have decided to resign rather than to be party to what they would interpret as negligent behaviour.

EO DIRECTORS: APRIL 1995

| | | |
|---------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Jude | ASHLEY-WALKER | |
| Gwen | BALDOCK | |
| Paul | BENTLEY | treasurer |
| Isobel | BOGUCKI | coordinators secretary |
| Sandie | COTTEE | |
| Dineke | de JONG | membership |
| Eric | FOGGITT | vice chair |
| Maxine | GRIFFITH | |
| Sue | HUTCHIN | newsletter coordinator |
| Jane | LOWE | |
| Pien | MALTZ | chair |
| Eleanor | STAPLETON | |
| Anne | WADE | acting general secretary |

Lucy Charlton and Bruce Hancock have agreed to be coopted until the AGM, and the directors are being circulated. Please let me have names of other people to replace resigning directors.

For a copy of a four page article, *What's going on in EO?*, please send an address label and two first class stamps for photocopying and postage to: Anne Wade, 19, Perkin Close, Wembley, Middx HA0 2LY
(For a large print copy please send an extra stamp)

Everything you always wanted to know about proxies (but were afraid to ask)

When you join E.O., you become an ordinary member of the organisation. By accepting some limited liability for the company (max £10) you can become a "signed-up member". You do this by signing a slip to say that you accept limited liability for the affairs of E.O. You can get these slips from the General Secretary, and from many Co-ordinators (who also stock proxy vote slips - see below).

E.O. has an annual general meeting (usually in the Autumn), various "extraordinary" general meetings, and Directors' meetings. For those who can't manage to get there, proxy votes permit "signed-up" members of the Association to have a voice at these meetings.

The proxy vote is made out in favour of a member planning to attend the meeting. It's valid **only** for that meeting, but the person holding your proxy may use it for **any** or all votes as s/he sees fit. The law doesn't allow to specify what topics you allow her/him to vote for, but this doesn't prevent you coming to some informal agreement.

Clearly, you need to be able to trust the person to whom you give your vote. You are of course at liberty to contact him/her after the meeting, in order to find out how votes went and of course to discover how s/he used your vote. That may determine how willing you are to do so again!

Eric Foggitt Vice Chair, E.O.

How E.O. works

1. Education Otherwise is a limited company established under Company Law, with a constitution that goes along with this. It has "paid-up" members", who accept limited liability for the company, and it has Directors, who have certain legal obligations - such as the day-to-day running of the organisation. If all members were involved in this process, it would be too cumbersome.
2. Directors' authority to act for the company comes from the fact of their election by members. Responsibility and power are given together. Nevertheless, certain powers are retained by members: for instance, removal of Directors, passing of special resolutions. Directors may appoint Committees for certain purposes, but they must report to the Directors concerning any decisions.
3. One third of all Directors must stand down (and may be re-elected) at each A.G.M. Those retiring must be taken from the longest-serving Directors. Only signed-up members may be Directors, and only signed-up members may elect them. This election provides members with the opportunity to express their approval (or otherwise) of Directors' past performance, in much the same way that M.P.s are elected in a democracy. A signed-up member is one who has signed a slip to say that s/he accepts limited liability for the affairs of E.O.
4. Directors are expected to act *with reasonable care* to ensure that the Company's business is carried out lawfully. Directors have a "fiduciary duty" - i.e. akin to that of a Trustee: this involves acting in good faith *for the good of the whole company* and not favouring sectional or partisan interests, nor allowing personal interests to conflict with those of the company.

(These notes are for guidance only. They have no legal status)

Eric Foggitt Vice Chair, E.O.

affable enough and they made no criticisms, though they referred frequently to the National Curriculum. Four months later (during which time I heard nothing and so assumed all was well) I was summonsed urgently by the Chief Welfare Officer and threatened with court action if my daughter was not immediately returned to school. Only then did I see the advisors report, which I had asked to read at the start of this meeting.

I was taken aback by the snobbery of the report. Our house was described as an unsuitable learning environment. Most of her work appears to be done at the kitchen table. (and not in a separate, designated room?) It made me question the extent to which the outward signs of being middle-class are connected with the idea of successful education in the minds of mainly middle-class advisors.

We borrowed regularly from the library in preference to buying all of our books, yet none of the library books we had listed on the LEAs form, prior to the visit, appeared in the advisors report. On this pre-visit form we had meticulously collated what Anna had done; all this information was disregarded in the report. Also omitted was the reading one of the advisors had asked Anna to do during the visit.

So much for the house, the materials, the National Curriculum ... that leaves us. My husband and I were patronisingly described as caring, well-intentioned parents. Anna was said to be articulate, confident, happy, a bright child ... who should be in school. (Can you win?)

Apart from other areas, Anna could read and count at least as well as most children her age, but we had not neatly packaged her achievements. The advisors did not seem able to recognise evidence of successful learning that did not conform in presentation to what they were familiar with (from schools). This raises the issue of how much time and energy one should spend on recording, not for ones own benefit, but solely for the LEA.

I would uphold the right of everyone to present themselves as they wish. I wonder, however, if those whose presentation meets the advisors expectations may make such an advisor less tolerant of those who present themselves otherwise. COPYRIGHT RETAINED.

*Pauline Mackay,
63 High Street, Earlsferry,
Leven, FIFE
KY9 1AF*

Letters from Abroad



We are a home schooled family and we want to write to other home schooled families. My husband and I both teach our three children aged, 13, 10 & 5 years. We live in a small town not far from Idaho's capital Boise. We have home schooled for several years and we thought if we could write to other countries we could share ideas, cultures and learn from others.

Anyone interested in writing to us may do so, we'd love to hear from any and all. Thank you.



*Weitensteiner Family,
1457 Edgemont Road,
Emmett, Idaho 83617
U.S.A.*

**"Better
Educated
Otherwise"**

As a teacher in F.E., and ex Vice-Chairman of School Governors I would like to reassure many parents that by educating their children otherwise they are almost certainly giving them a better quality of learning than can be achieved in many classrooms.

Increasingly students enrol at Colleges with limited literacy and numeracy skills, many of them resentful of the way they have been treated by both teachers and other pupils, large numbers with tales of harassment, bullying and lessons which were at best boring and at worst a total waste of time.

Some children do well at school, but I suggest many of those would succeed anyway and do so in spite of the system and not because of it. Resources are woefully inadequate, teachers are increasingly hard-pressed, vast numbers of children are being failed by the system and even worse, - for many pupils schooldays are the unhappiest of their lives.

My 10 year old daughter, Zoraya, learned much at school - she learned all about Freddie Kruger and Candyman's night time exploits; about how I should wear skirts and make-up and am not like other mums because I don't shout at her a lot. She worried about her Dad because he doesn't like football and was very concerned about Xarius, her little brother, because he can't fight and stick up for himself yet. She did however learn that she was careless, clumsy and stupid, but she coped by becoming as good at swearing as the other kids. She rarely wrote anything and didn't do much maths because you shouldn't ask stupid questions and its difficult to do work when you can't ask about things you dont understand.

Since leaving school her self-confidence has returned and she sleeps at nights. She is visibly happier and daily is growing in self esteem. Socially, she mixes more than ever before by going to clubs of her own choice, e.g. Red Cross, Guides.

The girl who wouldn't put pen to paper has written more in 2 months at home than in 2 years at school - NO EXAGGERATION.

Nearly everyone who know Zoraya has commented on how much more grown-up, self-reliant, relaxed and happy she is these days. Her literacy and numeracy skills have improved beyond recognition. Indeed, all things considered, presently she is much better educated, otherwise

*Rosella Davenport,
32 Little Oxcroft,
Laindon,
Basildon, Essex.*

Reading

If youve ever seen the great lengths an illiterate or semi-literate adult goes to, to hide his or her disability, you will understand why we were shocked to meet, at an EO National Gathering, parents with teenagers who could not read or write - and who didn't seem to think it was all that important. Although it went against our experience of how A. learnt at home, meeting these Eo'ers had the opposite effect from what

they presumably intended and made us very anxious that A. should read as soon as possible. Various reading schemes were tried, particularly Ladybird books and the Puddle Lane series. Compared with the books we usually read and the stories we made up, most of these were slow and boring, and even the ones which were not, A. hated, because of course he sensed our anxiety and resisted. Eventually we realised we would have to relax and go back to offering plenty of unpressurised opportunities through games and other fun things to encourage his desire to read.

Around this time my sister-in-law decided to keep her computer at our house as her student hostel was suffering a spate of burglaries. Terrified our kids would become computer junkies I did my best to keep the room locked and the kids out until Johnson found a game called Word Rescue. This has all the ingredients of a mindless arcade game which the kids love, plus the need to find the letters to rescue the words the gruzzles have stolen before you can get to the next level, which might be in a castle dungeon or the slime factory ... A. loved this so much he didn't even realise he was learning to read. (A sister game Maths Rescue is doing the same for his basic maths skills)

The next step in his reading came when Granny gave him and his sister two lovely, funny books - In a minute by Tony Bradman & Eileen Browne (Big Mammoth) and Happy Christmas Gemma by Sarah Hayes & Jan Ormerod (Walker Books). We all enjoyed these two books and read them over and over again to the point where we knew them by heart. A. started taking the books and pretending to read them to his younger sister - and soon found that he wasn't just reciting the story from memory but was also reading the words. A joke book completed the journey - he was so eager to tell us all the jokes in the book without us having to help him read the answers that within a short space of time he became an excellent reader.

All this happened last winter. Now 6 1/2, he reads silently, loves looking things up in the childrens encyclopaedia at the library, and of course can read in the paper when Captain Scarlet, Superman and Batman are on telly ... perhaps there are advantages to having illiterate kids after all!

*Marit Tam Lit,
Hall Garth Farm,
Leavening, Malton,
North Yorks*

Regional Diary

AVON: Acting co-ordinators Chris & Jean Smith, 0934 414166 workshop info from Kathy Nott - 0272 668265

BATH: Jean Edmiston 0225 334820

BEDFORDSHIRE: Phone if you want to know more: June McDonald on Bedford (0234) 341375, or Joyce Moore on Bucks (0908) 562451. Open house in Luton phone Cliff on 0582 508499.

BERKSHIRE: Ice skating, Mondays. also German Conversation Group - Details from Pat Connor - 0734 662123.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE: Joyce Moore - 0908 562451. Local newsletter from Caroline Cooke, 41 Main Road, Drayton Parslow, Milton Keynes 40p + SAE.

CUMBRIA: Contact Jane Gregory on 05395 67344.

DERBYSHIRE/NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: Kerry Meak - 01322 662596 or Mary Wells 0115 9794590. For diary sheet send SAE to Mary Wells - 10 Rosslyn Drive, Aspley, Notts NG8 5PU

SOUTH DEVON- Totnes area. Monthly newsletter £3.50 for 6 copies contact Belinda & Alan Ried, The Old House, 13 Station Road, Buckfastleigh, South Devon. TQ11 0BY Tel: 01364 643343. Other info from Sammy & Nick Vidal-Hall - Tel: 01548 830716

DORSET Members meet at least once/month. Please send 4 SAE's to Rosemary Newton, 6 Yeatman's Close, Enmore Green, Shaftesbury, Dorset SP7 8LU, for details of events.

HERTFORDSHIRE Local EO newsletter and events list phone Glyn - 0707 335428 or Jane - 0707 335825. Activities for older children (10+) phone Lynne Fox - 0707 271594, Margaret Moore - 0992 551744 or Donna Maskell - 0707 328635.

KENT: Sue or Keith Burchett 0732 870344 or Amanda MacKenzie 0634 402154. Open house phone Cath Cooper 0634 715389

LEICESTERSHIRE: Weekly meetings contact Frances Ryan 0533 302504 for details. Other info available by sending an SAE to Gill Fisher, 92 Howard Road, Leicester 0533 701735.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE: Weekly meetings and outings, including activity days, at homes, and parents' meetings. Contact Jenny

Summerfield - 673 818405

LONDON: London listing - Toni Cushman, 17 Crosby Road, Forest Gate, London. E7 9HU

EAST LONDON. Please phone Jackie Mason, 081 981 1213, or Judith Harrison, 081 556 1706 for more details.

NORTH LONDON. Please ring Jo Jenkins, 081 883 8052.

SOUTH EAST LONDON: A new fortnightly meeting from Wednesday April 12th - Contact Agnes, 081 778 3261. Deptford Under 7's playgroup April 6th onwards - Contact Dawn 081 319 2290

WEST MIDLANDS: April 24th - Birmingham Central Library - Contact Paula Turner 0121 603 8673

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: Joyce - 0908 562451.

OXFORDSHIRE Please ring 0869 277391 to check events. Philosophy for children please contact Suki Pay - 0865 53339.

WEST YORKSHIRE. We have weekly meetings for parents & children on the last Tues. of every month - Contact Diane Green, 0484 84694 for meetings & trips

SURREY Now meeting fortnightly for walks centered around Guildford Please phone Lynn Ryan, 01483 503971, or Penny Meader, 01483 481882, for further details.

WEST SUSSEX. Contact Isobel Bogucki, 0403 261178, for more details, or subscribe to the newsletter by contacting Lyndon Pugh.

WARWICKSHIRE. April - Geography field day - Philip McKenzie 0208 543801. May - Guide Dogs for the blind - Mandy Stratton 0203 544562. June - Wellesbourne Water Mill - Mandy rogers - 0926 641729. Open meetings at the Archers, 0203 422575, on the 3rd Weds. of each month from 1.00pm.



Educating Archie BY SEB

MRS G AND ARCHIE CALL IN FOR THE RESULTS OF HIS PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS. IS HE NORMAL, READER?



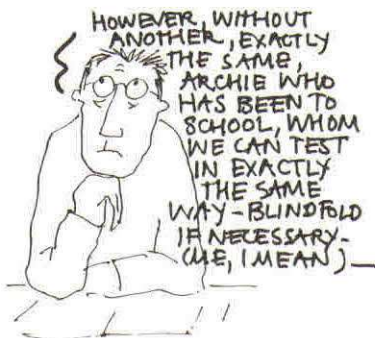
THAT HOME EDUCATED LOT ARE HERE, DOCTOR



AH YES. SHOW THEM IN, MISS TAKES



NOW, WE'RE CONCERNED THAT ARCHIE'S SCORE ON THE KRANK ASSESSMENT SCALE SHOWED A DISCOVERY-ORIENTED, INDIVIDUAL LEARNING STYLE IN THE "LIVED" EXPERIENCE, WITH RATHER TOO MUCH COGNITIVE ABILITY... AND IT'S YOUR FAULT, MRS G



HOWEVER, WITHOUT ANOTHER, EXACTLY THE SAME, ARCHIE WHO HAS BEEN TO SCHOOL, WHOM WE CAN TEST IN EXACTLY THE SAME WAY - BLINDFOLD IF NECESSARY - (ME, I MEAN) -



OR A THIRD, CONTROL SPECIMEN ARCHIE WHO IS UTTERLY RANDOM - I'M NOT SURE HOW STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT ARCHIE IS, IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, I'M AFRAID I HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO RECOMMEND



A NICE LONG HOLIDAY FOR MYSELF

© SEB 15

Situations Vacant

Following recent resignations of 10 Directors there are many vacancies to fill including:

Research Secretary,
General Secretary,
Vice Chair,
Treasurer,
Publicity Officer,
Publications Director - still vacant
Special Needs - still vacant
Enquiries and Membership Secretaries,
Enquiries Secretaries Coordinator.

There are also vacancies for Directors.

Anyone interested in any of these positions, should contact Anne Wade the Acting General Secretary for further information. Anyone interested in becoming a Director should ask Anne for a copy of the duties and responsibilities of Directors.

Acting General Secretary: Anne Wade, 19 Perkin Close, Wembley, Middlesex, LONDON. HA0 2LY or phone: 0181 904 7155.

Enquiries Secretaries

The Enquiries Secretaries Group still needs more help. Thanks to those who have already volunteered but Two or three people are needed to handle telephone enquiries. One for Wales, one or two for London and the South East. We could also do with a few more willing pen pushers or computers with printer operators, i.e. people who enjoy writing letters.

Enquiries need to be dealt with fully and promptly. Back-up support is available from the rest of the Enquiries Group.

If you are interested please contact the Acting General Secretary, Anne Wade on 0181 904 7155.

Coordinators Update

The following areas need a coordinator:

Northampton, Tayside, South Manchester, North Devon, Strathclyde, Gloucestershire, Norfolk and Northumberland.

The following have put their names forward to become Acting coordinators:

Mike Robson - Humberside, Paula Turner - West Midlands, Mark Hinton - W Midlands, Coventry, Carol Murphy - Merseyside, Wirral, Karen Gunn - Borders.

During the next few months Isobel will be visiting around the country, if you would like to meet up with her and air your views, do get in touch with her.

Les Enfants D'Abord

The next issue of LES ENFANTS D'ABORD will be held in south-centre France (20Km south of Millau, nest to the A75/N9 road between Clermont Ferrand and Montpellier)

100 camping places plus 30 beds indoors.

Fees = 40 FF (£5) /person/night and day period indoors

35 FF (£4.40) /person/ night and day period camping

15 FF (£1.90) /person/day only

(Free for under 5 years old)

Everybody to bring their own food (we'll cook it together and share) and own sleeping bags (including tents if you choose camping).

If you speak French, please contact Sylvie Gervais, Gratefoup 12400 St Affrique FRANCE (ph 65 49 34 70)

If not, contact Shosha, 4 rue de Lergue, 34800 Brignac, FRANCE (ph 67 96 90 44) as soon as possible if you wish to book.

If you wish to contact LES ENFANTS D'ABORD (LEDA), please contact Shosha at the address above

Notices & Adverts

Wise Owl Software



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ITALY May June. Sheep shearing/cheesemaking course and meditation/healing course on friendly farm. Childcare during sessions. Write: Etain Addey, Pratale, Scritto, Pg. Italy.

For Sale

"Millstream's Weekly National Curriculum lesson by lesson guide for the parents of a 9 year old child" (Cost £30 new). In perfect condition. Will accept offers. 01237-441780

COMFORTABLE CARAVAN on organic smallholding in beautiful Co. Clare. Farm produce, peaceful countryside. Contact Terri Shoosmith, Faha, Dromindoora, Caher, Co. Clare. Tel 010 353 619 25139

H. E. S. PD. Educational and games disks available for Amiga and Atari. Disks 50 pence each. S.A.E. for list to: A. Wolter, 108 Tockholes Road, Darwen, Lancs BB3 1LL.

St Albans. Primary Teacher with special interest in reading development, looking for tutoring work. Home Educating own children. Tel. 01727 848836



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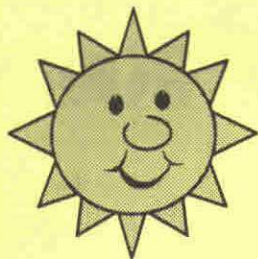
Usborne books by post at 10% discount to all E.O. members. Postage extra. For details of latest products phone 01344 53575 or write to Mrs. Jill Bambridge, 108 Vandyke, Great Hollands, Bracknell, Berks. RG12 8UT

Montessori Sandpaper Letters and Sound Boxes, also various Ginn Maths Teachers Books. Offers? - 0117 969 9454.

Pencarnan Farm Caravan And Camping Site

Fully equipped new caravans situated on the Pembrokeshire coastline overlooking clean secluded beach. £240 per week in high season, 50% discount to home educating families during non-school holiday periods.
Contact - Sian & Alan Richardson, Pencarnan Farm, St Davids, Pembro, SA62 6PY. 01437 720324

Services and Products advertised in this newsletter have not been endorsed by Education Otherwise.



5th EO Camp In Kent



Thursday 1st June to
Sunday 4th June

Come to the Kent countryside (Headcorn) for a memorable weekend. 4 acre field, compost and flushing loo, hot shower, communal tipi.

At least 2 activities daily from Friday to Sunday including candle dipping, kite making, dancing, sing-a-longs, field games, and bonfire supper.

EVERYONE WELCOME

Approx. 2 1/2 miles from mainline station.

For further details send SAE to Sue & Keith Burchett,
2 Easterfield Cottages, East Malling, Kent. ME19 6BE

Advertising Rates

Small Ads are 10p a word to members and should be limited to 30 words.

Box Ads will be included if there is space and the rates are as follows:

| | Members | Non Members |
|--------------|---------|-------------|
| Half Page | £50 | £100 |
| Quarter Page | £25 | £50 |
| Eighth Page | £12.50 | £25 |

Copy for Box Ads should be sent ready for printing, as a fraction of an A4 page (this is then reduced to A5). All adverts should be sent with a cheque made out to 'Education Otherwise' to the Editor. Deadline for the next issue 1st April, 1995.

Book Review



by Susie Jenkin-Pearce and Julia Malim.

It is a magic story about a little boy and a rabbit. This is a picture book with some words, a good book for children, especially young children. The illustrations, by Julia Malim, are very good.

Published by The Bodley Head, London 1993.
Price £8.99 Hb, paperback 1995.

From Jason Long, Chelmsford, Essex.

Education Otherwise Officers

General Enquiries:

Send S.A.E. for membership and other details address (bottom of next column). For recorded telephone message phone (0926) 886828.

Chair:

Pien Maltz-Klaar, 39 Landrock Road, London N8 9HR.
Tel: 081 348 0653

Vice Chair: VACANT

General Secretary: VACANT

Anne Wade is Acting until a replacement can be found for Sue Clare. 19 Perkin Close, Wembley, Middlesex, London. HA0 2LY. Tel: 081 904 7155

Treasurer: VACANT

Publicity Officer: VACANT

Publications Director: VACANT

Newsletter Coordinator:

Sue Hutchin Acting Newsletter Coordinator - this stills requires ratification by the Directors.

Single Parent Family Contact:

Sarah Martin, Rose Cottage, Three Holes Bridge, Norfolk. PE14 9JR. Tel: 0945 772336

Special Needs: VACANT

Coordinator's Secretary:

Isobel Bogucki, 20 Rusper Road, Horsham, West Sussex. RH12 4BD. Tel: 0403 261178

School Phobia Young People's Support:

Angela White, 30a Field View Close, Coventry, West Midlands. CV7 8BJ

Subscription Renewals:

Marc Cottee, 17 South View Road, Rettendon Common, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 8DX. Tel: 0268 733259

Research Secretary: VACANT

Education Otherwise

Education Otherwise is a membership organisation which provides support and information for families whose children are being educated outside school, and for those who wish to uphold the freedom of families to take proper responsibility for the education of their children.

Our principal aims are to:

- * encourage learning outside the school system,
- * reaffirm that parents have the primary responsibility for their children's education and that they have the right to exercise this responsibility by educating them out of school,
- * establish the primary right of children to have full consideration given to their wishes and feelings about their education.

In the absence of a new Central Address, requests for any further information should be accompanied by an A5 S.A.E. and forwarded to the Acting General Secretary:

Anne Wade, 19 Perkin Close, Wembley, Middlesex, LONDON. HA0 2LY

Printed by: Argraffdy Arfon, Penygroes, Caernarfon.
Tel (0286) 880322

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