



## Education Otherwise Bulletin – January 2012

### INTRODUCTION

This Bulletin is normally sent in paper form only to members who have opted to pay the additional fee for paper membership, but on this occasion trustees have decided to send it to all family members, to ensure that you have information regarding the AGM on Saturday 11th February. The AGM will be included within an Open Council Meeting (to start at approximately 10 a.m.) during the EO Gathering from 10th to 13th February (further details below).

**EO's ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** – Saturday 11th February 2012 in Coalbrookdale – will be included within a long weekend's gathering with social activities, workshops, etc. for EO members (details further on). Normally the AGM business takes less than an hour, although the Open Council Meeting may last the best part of the day. Any EO member may attend the AGM and gathering, propose agenda items for the Open Meeting and join in discussion, but only 'Signed Up Members' (Guarantors) may vote (either in person or by proxy – form enclosed) or stand for election as trustees. A quorum for the AGM is 20 members (SUMs) personally present. Family members may convert to SUM status by completing the SUM form included with this Bulletin.

**BECOMING A TRUSTEE** – ideally trustees have held other EO voluntary posts prior to election, and will be well versed in EO operations. Prospective trustees need to be nominated by another SUM (form attached) and to accept the nomination in writing. If prospective trustees are unable to attend the Open Meeting to introduce themselves to members prior to AGM, then please write a brief resume of EO and other relevant experience, that can be read out at the meeting and perhaps posted on the website prior to the AGM, so that SUMs voting in person or by proxy can make an informed decision.

At the time of writing, Trustees standing down are: Tony Putman, Rosemary Stace, Edwina Theunissen, Janet Wilkinson, Anne Rix, Shena Deuchars, Lei Ashe, Beverley Cameron-Young

Trustees willing to stand for re-election: Edwina Theunissen, Anne Rix, Shena Deuchars, Lei Ashe, Beverley Cameron-Young

Trustees co-opted since previous AGM, standing for election: Andrew Kennell, Margaret Wells. (See statement/s below)

There are several potential vacancies. Nomination/acceptance form enclosed with this bulletin.

**Margaret Wells** was co-opted in November 2011. She is unable to attend AGM but says:

I'm Mum to three; my eldest is 8yrs and has never been to school. My husband and I chose the HE route as we felt our son was just too young to be sent off to school when his time came! I also have a 3yr old and 10 month old, both of whom we intend to HE unless they decide otherwise! Juggling HE between the three of them is somewhat of a challenge but well worth the effort!

I co-run a local group in Folkestone for Home Educators and we have a lovely group that is growing in numbers steadily. I also work part time as a paediatric nurse in a Respite unit, caring for children with Autism, Asperger's and life limiting conditions.

I hope to be of use to EO in some way as a Trustee, it was the first point of contact my husband and I had with HE and helped point us in the right direction!!

**Andrew Kennell** was co-opted in September 2011. He says:

I have been helping EO for some time now: a local contact, contributions to the newsletter and recently involved with the EO SEN team and other EO roles.

I also support home education locally, by being involved with local groups and running a regional HE support website. From the beginning with our journey into home education, EO was always there for help and support, in dealing with some very difficult situations involving the education system and making home education work for us. I would like to give back, what we have been given.

## **OPEN COUNCIL MEETING**

Draft Agenda Items so far (Agenda to be finalised on the day by members present)  
Meet Potential Trustees (and/or statements)  
Number of Trustees  
Future Gatherings

Members may send in additional agenda items and brief supporting/explanatory statement by email to [trustees@educationotherwise.org](mailto:trustees@educationotherwise.org) or by post (to arrive by 9th Feb.) to P.O. Box 3761, Swindon, SN2 9GT. Members present will prioritise items for discussion.

## **GATHERING** – EO Coalbrookdale Gathering – 10th to 13th February 2012.

It is 4 years since the last EO Gathering, so newer members might like to know what to expect. Those who remember enjoying previous gatherings are looking forward to meeting new friends, and we hope that as many members as possible will take advantage of this opportunity to meet trustees and other members, make new friends, and join in the decision-making process of the organisation.

## **SO – WHAT HAPPENS AT AN EO GATHERING?**

EO used to hold Gatherings throughout the country as social occasions; families would attend as a way of meeting home educators from across the UK and staying together in a hostel. At a gathering cooking and cleaning is done on a communal basis using a rota (everyone volunteers where they feel most comfortable) and everyone eats together in the dining room. Special diets and allergies are catered for and we will be serving both meat and vegan options. Bedding is provided by the hostel but not towels.

A limited number of cots are available for those who require them. Coalbrookdale has lots of family rooms with ensuite facilities as well as a few eight-bed ensuite rooms for those wishing to share with friends. Parents are responsible for any children they bring while staying at the hostel. There are two disabled access rooms available but they are available on a first come, first served basis. So please book as soon as possible if you require one or both of these rooms.

While no formal activities are arranged there are some funds available for anyone with an interest or craft activity that they would like to share with other families. We're in the Ironbridge area so some families might like to go out for the day and explore the area. Or there is just hanging out in the hostel chatting to new friends, swapping stories, home education information and suggestions, and sections of the weekend papers.

Members may attend for the meeting only, but if staying at the hostel will need to book in advance. Rates are shown below, but please request a booking form as soon as possible if you are interested in attending. Please give as much notice as possible of any special requirements or disabled-access (rooms are limited - first come, first served).

Children under 2 years old are free, if they don't require their own bed. Otherwise costs as follows:

For those staying one night only  
Adult (18+) £25 - Child (11+) £12 - Child (2-10) £8  
Anyone staying two nights or more  
Adult (18+) £17.50 - Child (11+) £12 - Child (2-10) £8  
all price are per night

This includes evening meal when you arrive, breakfast in the morning, lunch on Saturday and Sunday lunch if you are staying the whole weekend. A wide variety of drinks and snacks are available at any time. For booking forms please contact Celia McDonagh <[cmcdonagh@educationotherwise.org](mailto:cmcdonagh@educationotherwise.org)>  
Postal requests (please include stamped SAE) 235 Coed-Y-Gores, Llanedeyrn, Cardiff, CF23 9NL

### ***DIRECTIONS TO VENUE***

Hostel Address: 1 Paradise, Coalbrookdale, Telford, TF8 7NR

Tel: 0845 371 9325 (YHA Coalport)

Driving: From Telford centre or M54 Motorway follow signs to Ironbridge. Pass through Ironbridge centre (passing the bridge on your left) and turn right at the roundabout into Coalbrookdale. The hostel is half a mile up this road on the right hand side (and is sign posted)

Train: Trains to/from Telford Central Station, 6 miles from hostel.

Connections to Coalbrookdale by bus or taxi

Bus: There is a bus stop just outside the hostel gates. Busses to and from Telford Town Centre (phone Traveline 0871 200 22 33 for latest travel times)

More information about the venue can be found at: <http://www.yha.org.uk/find-accommodation/heart-of-england/hostels/Coalbrookdale/index.aspx>

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### ***INSURANCE FOR EO LOCAL GROUP MEETINGS***

EO is pleased to announce we are now able to offer public liability insurance for member groups, with an Indemnity Limit of £5,000,000 in respect of 'hall meets' and associated activities. This facility is offered at a cost of £10.00 per group per annum. For insurance purposes the groups will be referred to as EO affiliated groups within the insurance document – which simply means you are listed with our insurers as a member group for insurance purposes. If you wish to take advantage of this service, please contact me for further details. We will need full details of the group, together with your own EO membership number.

Tracey F <chaggasbug@gmail.com>

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### ***SMALL ADS.***

[although the Newsletter/bulletin does not at present carry commercial advertisements, it is still open to members to send one-off small ads via NL Co-ordinator]

CONQUERMATHS Tutorials Key Stage 3 (ages 11-14) and Key Stage 4 (ages 14-16). Brand new CDs – never used. £75 each or £140 for both [Usual retail price £200 Each!]. 01246 473902.

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### ***NEWSLETTER***

The deadline for contributions to the March Newsletter is 1st February. It would be great to hear from more members about their HE experiences and/or subjects that interest them. Please write to the NL Co-ordinator, Anne Rix <arix@educationotherwise.org> or by post to PO Box 3761, Swindon, SN2 9GT.

The online magazine version of the NL is available in the 'member home' area of the website, for members choosing the reduced 'electronic' membership option; those who have opted to pay the additional fee for paper copies should receive one by post early in the month. Please let us know if your newsletter does not arrive.

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## ***AGM Agenda and Proxy/Nomination/SUM forms follow.***

Please read the following notes and instructions for appointing a Proxy carefully.

Appointing a Proxy - Notes and instructions:

1) If you wish the chair of the meeting to act as your proxy, leave these lines blank.

If you wish to appoint a proxy, insert the name of your proxy (and alternative proxy) in block capitals.

If your proxy (or alternative proxy) is unable to attend the meeting, your proxy reverts to the chair unless you delete the words "the chair of the meeting or".

2) If you wish your proxy to be able to vote as they see fit, taking account of any verbal instructions you may have given, leave this section blank.

If you wish to instruct your proxy (or the Chair) how to vote, place an 'X' in the appropriate box

If you wish your proxy to vote on the motion ONLY as worded, delete "including amendments";

if you wish to enable your proxy to vote on the motion including amendments made during the meeting, delete "as above only".

3) By completing and returning this form you are not prevented from attending the meeting in person if you later decide to do so. However, your attendance revokes the appointment of proxy. Please note that members wishing to attend the meeting in order to vote must arrive at the venue by 10.30 am in order for the registration process to be completed.

4) You must have returned a completed SUM (Signed Up Members) form to the Company by Thursday 9th February (if by post) or 10.30 a.m. on Saturday 11th February at the meeting.

5) If, after returning a duly completed proxy form, you wish to revoke your proxy appointment you must sign and date a notice clearly stating your intention to revoke that proxy appointment and send it to the address overleaf to arrive by Thursday 9th February.

Education otherwise Association Limited  
**Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

To be held on Saturday 11th February 2012 at 11.30 a.m. at Coalbrookdale Hostel, TF8 7NR

**Form of Proxy**

(For Signed Up Members not attending the AGM)

N.B. See the notes and instructions overleaf before completing this form.

Please return this form of proxy as soon as possible to:

**EO Trustees, PO Box 3761, Swindon, SN2 9GT** (to arrive by Thursday 9th February)

If your proxy is bringing it to the meeting, please note that time must be allowed for registration before the meeting (see notes overleaf) - Please note that Proxy Forms CANNOT be sent electronically.

Name of Member: ..... Memb. No. (if known) .....

Address: .....

I, being a Signed Up Member of Education Otherwise Association Limited, hereby appoint [the Chair of the meeting or] [the following named adult] (see notes 1 & 4):

(Name)..... of address:.....  
or failing that the following Signed Up Member of Education Otherwise (see notes 1 & 4):

(Name)..... of address:.....  
(see note 1) as my proxy to vote for me and on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of Education

Otherwise Association Limited to be held on 11th February 2012 and at every adjournment thereof.  
Unless otherwise indicated below, my proxy may exercise their discretion as to how they vote and whether or not they abstain from voting (see note 2).

Please indicate your desired vote individually for each trustee by placing an 'X' in the appropriate box.  
Name of proposed trustee (please write others in spaces below)

	YES	NO		YES	NO
<i>Andrew Kennell</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Shena Deuchars</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Margaret Wells</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Lei Ashe</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Edwina Theunissen</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Beverley Cameron-Young</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Anne Rix</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Signature: ..... Date:.....

### ***The Annual General Meeting of Education Otherwise Association Ltd***

will be held at Coalbrookdale Hostel, TF8 7NR on Saturday 11th February 2012 at 11.30 a.m.

The ordinary business of the AGM is to consider the accounts for year ended 30th June 2011, to receive reports from officers, to elect members to the Council of Management and to appoint auditors/independent examiners.

The number of Council Members (Trustees) is set at between 14 and 19. At February 2012 there are 14 members in post, five of whom must stand down, but may seek re-election. The Council may recommend other candidates for election. Please see further information elsewhere in bulletin.

Signed-Up Members (i.e. guarantors) of EO may also propose candidates.

In this case, written notice from the proposer and signed consent from the candidate (who must also be a SUM / guarantor) must both reach the EO Company Secretary, P.O. Box 3761, Swindon, SN2 9GT no later than Thursday 9th February 2012 if by post, or be brought to the meeting venue by 10.30 am on Saturday 11th February.

In the event of a vote at the AGM, guarantors (SUMs) present at the AGM are entitled to take part, provided that they have paid their EO subscription fee for family membership. If you cannot attend, you may appoint a proxy to vote on your behalf.

If you wish to become a guarantor of EO, please complete the form annexed

#### ***Agenda for AGM:***

1. Minutes of the previous AGM
2. Consideration of the accounts.
3. Auditors Remuneration
4. Appointment of Auditor/Independent Examiner
5. Election of new Council Members

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Please arrive at 10.30 if possible as the AGM will start promptly at 11.30. Members presenting forms of proxy or for nomination of trustees MUST register by 10.30 am.

Lunch and drinks will be provided on the day of the meeting; please let us know numbers attending and if you have any allergies or access requirements at least 48 hours in advance.

Contact: Celia McDonagh <celiamcdonagh2@yahoo.co.uk>

**EDUCATION OTHERWISE ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
**SIGNED-UP MEMBERS (SUM) FORM**

(Guarantor Declaration)

N.B. Please Complete Form in BLOCK CAPITALS

I (FULL NAME) .....

of Home Address (print in full): .....

.....

wish to become a guarantor (Signed-up Member) of Education Otherwise Association Limited ('the Association'). I confirm that I am over the age of 18 and a paid-up family member of the Association. In the event of the Association being wound up I agree to contribute up to £10 in payment of any debts and liabilities it may have incurred.

I understand that the details I give on this form will be entered on to the Association's Register of Members and that under the Companies Act 2006 it is possible for someone to request sight of or a copy of this Register for a proper purpose. The Association may then disclose the details I provide on this form.

I further understand that in the event of my ceasing to be a paid-up family member of Education Otherwise, or if at any time I resign as a SUM by written notification to EO's correspondence address, I will cease to be a guarantor and Signed-Up Member of the Association one year later.

Signed: ..... Date .....

Communications by email

I consent to Education Otherwise sending or supplying any document or information (including any notice) to me using electronic means. My email address for this purpose is:

Email address: .....

Signed: ..... Date .....

Make Sure You Have a Vote at EO General Meetings

Only Signed-up Members are entitled to vote at EO General Meetings. These include Annual General Meetings (AGMs) where Trustees are elected, and Extraordinary General Meetings (EGMs) which may take place between AGMs. Even if you are unable to attend a meeting yourself, you can still have a vote by appointing a proxy to vote on your behalf.

Education Otherwise will continue to send any correspondence related to your Signed-up Membership to the email or postal address given on this SUM form until the Association is advised in writing by the SUM of resignation or that the address on the Register of Members should be changed. Such changes should be notified to: Education Otherwise SUMs, PO Box 3761, Swindon, SN2 9GT

Please return this form to: Education Otherwise SUMs, PO Box 3761, Swindon, SN2 9GT

To: EO Trustees, PO Box 3761, Swindon, SN2 9GT

Please return form by post at least two working days prior to meeting, or bring to meeting at least one hour prior to advertised starting time.

**Education Otherwise Association Limited - Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

**Form of Proposal for Trustee & Acceptance of Nomination:**

Name of Proposing Member:.....

Memb No (if known):.....

Address .....

.....

I, being a Family and Signed Up member of Education Otherwise Association Limited,

hereby propose (Name) .....  
(who is also a Family & Signed up Member of EO Assoc. Ltd).

of address .....

.....

for election as a Trustee of Education Otherwise Association Ltd.

Signed:..... Date:.....

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I hereby confirm that I accept the above nomination and am willing to stand as a Trustee.

Signed:..... Date:.....

Nominee: please provide a brief statement of your EO and other relevant experience (to be circulated to members and/or read out at meeting):