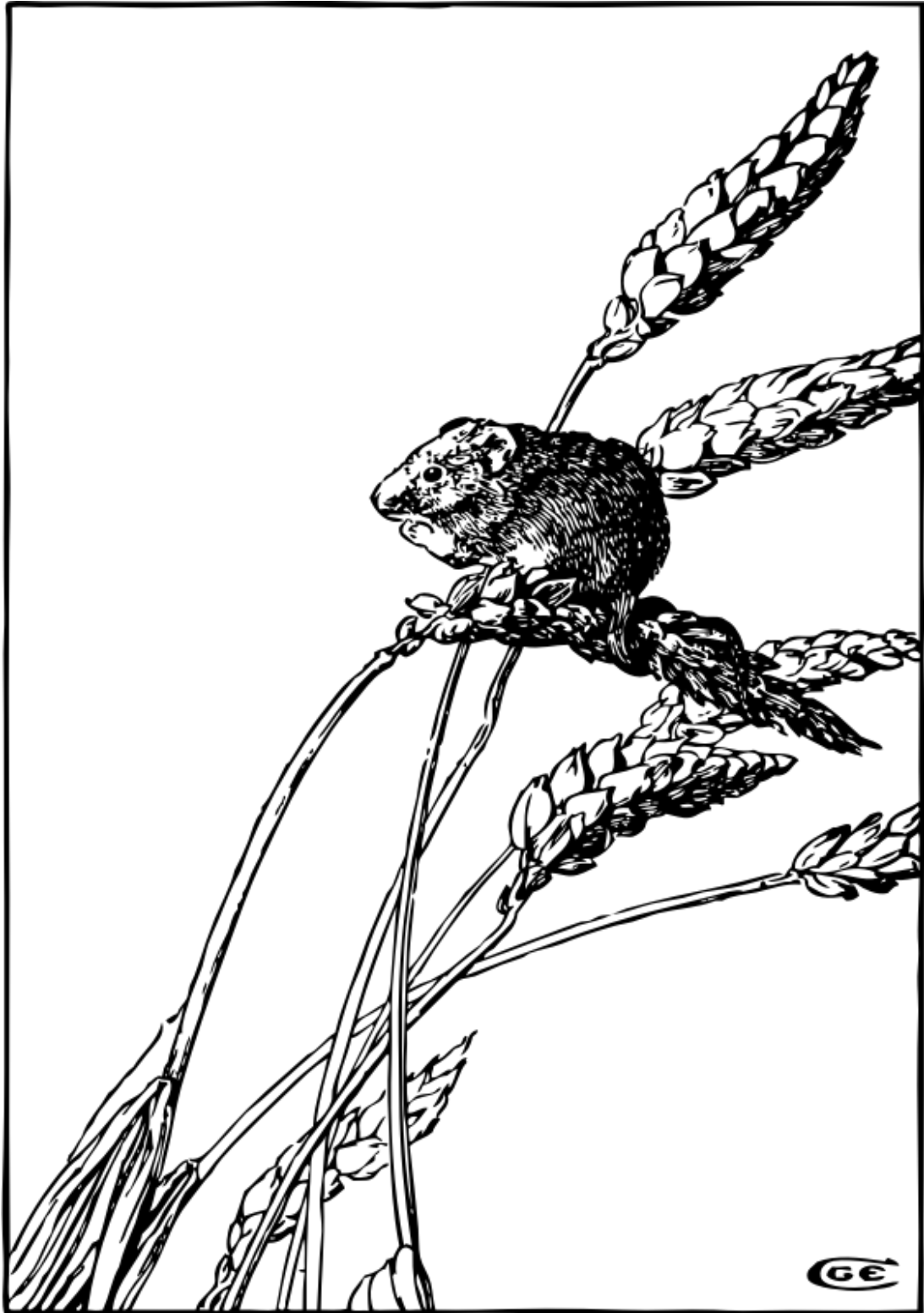


education otherwise



Newsletter Autumn 2015

SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE

Please mark material **'for publication'** and include your name, address, phone number and email, as we may need to contact you to discuss your contribution (though details may be withheld from publication on request). Email contributions will be acknowledged within a few days.

If you require a postal acknowledgement please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. If no acknowledgement is received, or in case of queries, please contact the Publications Secretary (see inside back page). *Please also ensure your EO membership is up to date before submission.*

Deadline for the Winter issue is 1st November 2015

Please send contributions via Section Editors or Newsletter Co-ordinator:

Anne Rix (Acting) eonl@educationotherwise.org

[Postal contributions to: EONL Co-ord, PO Box 63, Swaffham, PE37 9AT]

[NOTE NEW PO BOX NUMBER]

~~~~~ N.B. postal system subject to forwarding delays ~~~~~

Section Editors

REVIEWS: *Tammy Dolling:* bookreviews@educationotherwise.org

or EO Reviews, PO Box 63, PE37 9AT *[***NOTE NEW PO BOX NUMBER***]*

Got an idea for a section you'd like to edit? Contact Publications Secretary (inside back page)

DISCLAIMER

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

All contributions have been accepted in good faith. Inclusion does not imply endorsement by Education Otherwise Association Ltd., which cannot be held responsible for the information, goods or services provided, or any consequences arising from them.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Submission does not guarantee publication. EO reserves the right to edit or reject contributions in line with editorial policy.

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OR IF YOUR NEWSLETTER DOES NOT ARRIVE***

please notify us by email: membership@educationotherwise.org, or by

post: Membership Secretary, Education Otherwise, PO Box 63, Swaffham, PE37 9AT

**** NOTE NEW PO BOX NUMBER ****

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Please note especially in this issue:

- 1 – AGM Details – centre pages
- 2 – EO Local Group Insurance ... renewal due!

~~~~~

### *In your Diary?*

## **EO AGM 17<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

At a family-friendly venue in Coventry: meeting at the Herbert Art Gallery/Museum. The Coventry Transport Museum is very close and also free to visit. Have a look at what's on offer at these attractions (as well as the meeting):

[www.theherbert.org](http://www.theherbert.org)

[www.transport-museum.com](http://www.transport-museum.com)

We do want you to attend the meeting, please! – AGM at about 1:45 pm; arrivals from 11 am (refreshments provided) and informal discussion before and following the formal meeting. See EO business p. 9-12, or website.

*N.B. EO postholders may claim travel expenses*

## **Co-ordinatorial**

I'm still here. Still hoping Someone will step up to the Co-ordinator job so that I can spend more time on EO trustee work ... but after this autumn I have only one more year as a trustee. EO needs new trustees able to share some of the work, and there are other jobs for which you don't need to be a trustee ...

*Anne, September 2015*

## **EO VOLUNTEER VACANCIES**

### **Trustees (Council Members)**

Could you consider becoming a trustee?  
For more details, see page 10 ...

### **Local Contacts and Helpline Volunteers**

Always needed! If you've had support from EO in the past and want to give something back; or you now have enough experience of home education to share with others and want to experience the 'glow' you can get from supporting new home educators, please get in touch to find out more.

Contact: [e.theunissen@educationotherwise.org](mailto:e.theunissen@educationotherwise.org)

### **Revising Website Pages**

Do you have expertise in a particular section? Notice anything out of date (there's probably lots!)? Do tell us – but please, if possible, offer also to revise and update the section or article. Contact: [publications@educationotherwise.org](mailto:publications@educationotherwise.org)

### **Newsletter Co-ordinator**

To liaise with other members of NL team, prepare copy and ensure it is delivered to printer on time ... further details of what actually happens in practice and FAQs available from Anne Rix <[arix@educationotherwise.org](mailto:arix@educationotherwise.org)> Or Contact: [eonl@educationotherwise.org](mailto:eonl@educationotherwise.org)

### **Reader Contributions**

Many thanks to our regular contributors – Corrinna, Tammy, 'Frazzled Mummy', SEND crew and to those who surprise us with something new (Habiba, Rose, Iris ...)

Members often tell us how much they enjoy reading other home educators' experiences and ideas – but often these are written on blogs, email lists, facebook, etc. and can easily be lost.

Please consider also sending your thoughts to the newsletter, to share in a more permanent form and provide inspiration for others. Short or long(ish!) letters, articles, ideas for activities, how home education works for you ... anything HE-related is interesting for other families.

And we'd love some children's drawings for the cover .....

Please send to: [eonl@educationotherwise.org](mailto:eonl@educationotherwise.org)

## EO STALLS AT EVENTS, FAIRS & FESTIVALS

The following article appeared in the newsletter 7 years ago. I have tweaked it slightly. Perhaps it will benefit from another airing, in case it may inspire any of you out there.

I am a long-time member of EO though over the years have not been prolific in writing for the newsletter. My name is Habiba Willow. I have 'always' (since summer 1968 anyway) been a regular attender of Fairs and Festivals. I think it was in the summer of 1980 that I was at one of the many East Anglian fairs. I already knew about EO and had two children then, Melanie age 9 and Jack one. We (then-partner and I) knew we intended to home-educate Jack and any other offspring (Grace and Alice as it turned out).

At this fair we came upon Sarah G of Educating Archie fame (where is he??) [*see end - Anne*]. Sarah was running an information stall with leaflets and books relating to EO and home education. We had a good chat, we joined EO and I came away with the idea that we could do that, i.e. run a stall at fairs & gatherings. Of course part of me said 'Really? Could you do a good job of that?'

I didn't give this voice too much attention, and by the next summer the Willow family were 'on the road', taking EO information out to lots of people at many diverse events. Our pattern for some years was to leave home (then in East Anglia) in May and stay away till autumn. It was a most enjoyable lifestyle being outdoors all the time, first in an old and leaky bell tent and later (luxury) in a twelve foot caravan. As well as providing EO information, we gradually started to sell a few second-hand clothes and then hand-knitted hats, scarves, jumpers and wool, which meant that we were receiving some income as we travelled. In between events we would sometimes stay with other EO families, or just find a place to park up.

What prompts me to write this, is to ask you to consider if you would like to do this. Not necessarily all summer, I realise; but you could consider providing EO info at your local fair or event. It is easy, inspiring and fun. You don't need to feel that you have all the answers. Hand them a flyer and/or direct them to the website, encourage them to join EO if they are seriously considering doing it.

At the present time I am still out there on the summer festival circuit, providing information and encouragement to all those who want to home educate but just need a bit of a nudge and reassurance that they are not alone, EO is here to support them, and the chances are they will have a local group fairly nearby.

I often suggest to people who are not sure whether to go for it, that they give it a try – i.e. don't send the kids to school when they are 'due to go' but carry on as they are already doing and see how it goes (rather than putting the kids in school and then taking them out later). I also remind them to take stock of the situation as they are going along, and to remember that the kids can go to school later if appropriate... and that they should not be worrying about how to cope with GCSEs when their offspring is two or three years old!

There are still many people out there who have no idea that it is legal to home educate, and a wonderfully rich experience for the whole family. I still find it hugely rewarding to help people become aware of their right to home educate, and to tell them how much freedom they actually have in this country in this respect.

I am now of pensionable age (64) and still active and enthusiastic. Frequently I am met with "You've been doing this for years"! I am rewarded several times a year by adults and grown up children coming up and saying "Thanks, we did it because of your encouragement and it has been great!"

So - And - I can't cover the entire country! And I may not be doing this for ever! If you think you would like some encouragement to run an EO stall, email me at [habibawillow@gmail.com](mailto:habibawillow@gmail.com). Include a phone number so I can call you if you would like a chat. The more the merrier!

LASTLY AND RATHER IMPORTANTLY ... A PLEA FOR PRACTICAL HELP

→ *next page!*

If any computer literate member could offer help, some laminated info sheets on my display boards are weather damaged and need to be re-done. Please get in touch as soon as possible if you can help to clean up the stall!

Habiba, Stroud [habibawillow@gmail.com]

[Sadly, Habiba's article didn't arrive in time for the Summer NL - maybe next year? Anne]

And here's a sample of 'Archie' from Archives - many years ago! (reprinted with permission from SEG):



## HE Around the World – Russia

*By Corinna Spellerberg*

It may come as a little bit of a surprise, but home education is in fact legal in Russia, and has in fact been so since 1992, as stated in Article 10, paragraph 1 of the federal education law (N. 3266-1, "On Education"). It is called "family education" there, and the HSDLA estimates that there are currently as many as 70,000 homeschoolers, though other sources claim even larger numbers, showing an upward trend. But bear in mind: This is a vast country, which also makes socialising, meeting up with like-minded parents/carers and organising any support a big problem.

In 2010, an interregional organization "for family rights" was launched to support families all over Russia, offering support and help in the fight for recognition. It seems like an unnecessary measure, but despite home education being lawful, the respective law is not always actually made legal and sometimes downright ignored, depending on the regional government. The mentioned organisation also has local offices in Moscow, St. Petersburg, the Murmansk and Tver Regions, offering a broader approach that extends to all family legal matters.

According to Wikipedia, "Russian homeschoolers are attached to an educational institution where they have the right to access textbooks and teacher support, and where they pass periodic appraisals of their work. The State is obliged to pay the parents cash equal to the cost of educating the child at the municipal school." (source see below).

There are some looming fears of future large-scale educational reforms threatening home education in the country, which has already been the case several times in past years. Nothing is ever set in stone, as we all know.

Links:

- General overview: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homeschooling\\_international\\_status\\_and\\_statistics](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homeschooling_international_status_and_statistics)
- HSDLA, (Christian) home ed law support organisation: <http://www.hslda.org/hs/international/Russia/default.asp>
- Interregional organisation for family legal affairs, started in 2010 (in Russian, but Google translate may help): <http://blog.profamilia.ru/>
- Russian EO equivalent (Russian, use Google Translate): <http://www.hom-edu.ru/> (resources, local club information, blogs about education)
- Old and established website, with forums (use Google Translate): <http://www.familyeducation.ru/>
- Corresponding Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/familyeducat/>

### **Musings of a Permanently Frazzled Mummy - Less is more....?**

It's nearing the end of August, we recently arrived home from our camping trip, the mountain of dirty holiday washing has been conquered, and already our social calendar for the Autumn looks to be pretty busy. Well, it would do if we were intending joining in with everything that's going on.

Not-back-to-school events are in the offing, sports and craft groups are starting up again, there are numerous exciting day trips being offered, and the traffic on the local forum is increasing dramatically. Don't get me wrong: I'm thrilled that there's so much going on, particularly for newer families who are still finding their feet and building friendships; but for me, I can already feel my stress levels rising as I try to calculate how much fuel each trip would cost, which combinations of trips I can afford on my monthly budget, and more importantly, which ones will have something to offer all four of my offspring (not easy with two of each, and an age range spanning four to twelve).

I'm currently feeling like being a real party-pooper, and just staying home! Not that I don't want to go out and catch up with friends, and 'socialise' my kids (so that I can confidently tick that box off my list of

aims for their education), but sometimes, I feel it's actually healthier for all of us to do less, and conserve our time and energy for just being a family....

We've spent a wonderful twelve nights staying at Baconsthorpe Meadows near Holt, where we were warmly greeted like members of the family rather than paying campers (it's our fourth consecutive year there), where we were without all the technological trappings of modern-day life: no internet, no TV, very haphazard mobile phone signal and very limited means of charging said mobile phone, so our mobiles were only been checked for emergency calls briefly each evening.

And during that whole time, there was not one cross word between any of our gang. Ok, so maybe they weren't exactly total angels, but they were wonderfully sunny little souls, who received many compliments about their behaviour, both on the campsite, and when we were out on day trips. On arriving home, the TV was switched on, and they sunk onto the sofas in a lethargic daze, mindlessly flicking between channels, finding little of any worth to watch, but insisting that was how they wanted to spend their time anyway. I would have assumed it was just a coincidence, as I'm sure many of you are thinking right now, but our happy, tanned little campers became grouchy; snarling at each other, and making demands that we hadn't heard for nearly two weeks. They'd gone from playing contentedly on the site, with each other and new friends they'd made, often till it was dark and head-torches had become necessary, to refusing to co-operate or help each other out, snapping at each other if there was a disagreement, and becoming more and more vocal about what they each wanted to be doing, regardless of what the rest of the family needed or wanted. This got hubby and I thinking.

We'd spent our holiday enjoying life's simple pleasures: picnics and long walks in country parks; jumping the waves and body-boarding at our favourite beaches; geocaching with some new-found friends; toasting marshmallows over an open fire each evening (home-made by hubby without using matchsticks – watch out, Bear Grylls!); sharing hot chocolate (and sometimes something stronger!) with said new friends ... nothing particularly expensive or glam, just stuff that is within reach of most people's holiday budget.

It was about day three when tiredness began to set in, and my energy levels began to dip, and as a result, I got rather grumpy with poor hubby. This always happens, so hubby knows to be prepared and have faith that it won't last long, which it never does. This year, however, I also had an attack of the "poor old me"s added into my grumpalump. "Why can't we afford to take the kids abroad? Why can we only afford camping? Why am I the only one sorting out any meals/clothes/activities" kind of thing. Poor hubby, once he's managed to erect the tent, tends to be pretty useless for the rest of the holiday due to having rheumatoid arthritis. He really does have reduced energy levels, daily pain and discomfort, and an over-riding lethargy that you wouldn't really expect someone of his age to have. I am sympathetic, or at least I try to be sympathetic, but when it means that I have to get on and do everything I usually do at home, but without all the mod cons to help me, it's hard to keep smiling. But then it struck me, during yet another mammoth washing up session over at the communal sinks, that I'd be missing out on the camaraderie of it all if we were in a hotel, or a rented villa, or even just in a caravan rather than under canvas. I think there's something special about sharing a little bit of yourself, exchanging stories, with a person you've only just met, who you've just lent your Fairy liquid to.

I got to thinking: perhaps the easier life is, the more we take each other for granted? The less we appreciate what we're blessed with? The less we try to be positive and the more we grumble?

So, I'm thinking of a September where we, as a family, go back to basics. I'm thinking of a screen-free September.

Just one month when the gang are forced to find something more interactive, and preferably outdoors, to spend their time doing. Where they don't just assume that they can while away the hours playing a computer game. Where the default position of all four of them isn't to turn on the TV because they can't be bothered to be creative and resourceful about entertaining themselves, just like when we were away

camping. Even though we already limit screen-time in our home, we're finding that we've developed an easy reliance on the shiny screens, particularly when I'm trying to cook a meal, hubby is late back from work, and the kids are getting grouchy with each other. I think I've become lazy about dealing with their petulant whining tone, their dramatically heavy sighs (not entirely sure why I'm paying for drama lesson – all four are suitable dramatic already!) when they're asked to lay the table, write a 'thank you' note, check whether any of the animals need feeding... and you should hear the indignant protests when the TV is turned off and they're summoned to the table to eat tea together...

Ok, so perhaps we won't go for a total ban on screen-time. Perhaps they're allowed to keep their 6am until 8am kiddie TV time, otherwise I've got to drag myself out of bed at the crack of dawn to ensure they don't wake our lovely new neighbours with their noise. I think this, perhaps, would push me over the edge of the near mini-breakdown I seem to be frequently hovering close to. That might be just a step too far for us all, particularly for me. But I think it's time to re-address how we spend our time, how we communicate with each other, what our priorities are.

I'm perhaps the biggest culprit: the laptop is permanently on my email screen, my mobile is on 24-7, and I find that if I've got work or chores to do, I give in far too easily to their plaintive pleas to 'just put a film on' or 'just go on the Wii', rather than encourage more active pursuits. I'm hoping that if myself and the gang metaphorically 'pull our finger out' and put an end to our fixation with the screen, then perhaps, just perhaps, our little family will return to the positivity and simplicity of the campsite. Perhaps we'll find that doing less with technology could actually be rather beneficial for each of us.

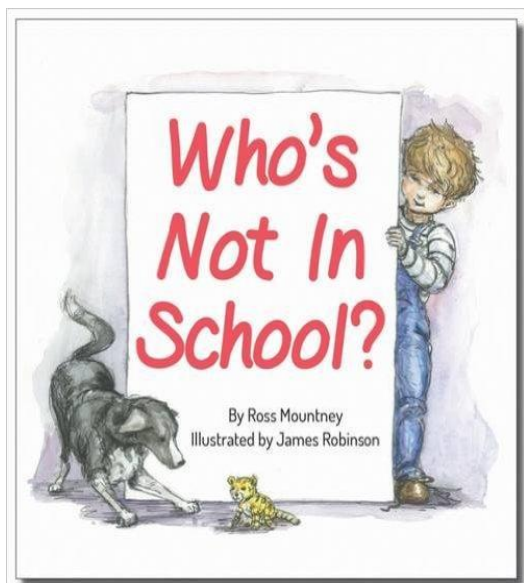
Or perhaps I'll find that my previous idea of doing an eight week sugar detox would have been the more preferable option....

*[name and address supplied]*

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## **Book Reviews**

We have some great books for you this issue, and a giveaway. A big thank you to Josef for his review of The Wildlife Photography Workshop; it's nice to have a review from one of our readers. We love getting book reviews from our readers so please consider submitting a review of a book that you or your children have enjoyed. The email address is: [bookreviews@educationotherwise.org](mailto:bookreviews@educationotherwise.org).



Title: Who's not in School Author: Ross Mountney  
Illustrator: James Robinson  
ISBN:978-0-9932614-0-4 Price: £7.99

One of the many challenges facing home educating parents is finding children's books that feature home educated children. This is especially true when it comes to picture books. There are lots of books that parents can read to their children to prepare them for going to school but very few that help children understand what it means to be home educated.

Ross Mountney, a veteran home educator and author, has written just such a book. It is about a home educating family and how they fill their days – particularly the youngest child, Harry, who is always off on adventures. It is a lovely book that does a good job of showing what it means to be home educated from a child's perspective. It is beautifully illustrated and is sure to captivate younger children.

We have one copy to give away, if you would like to win it please email your details by 1<sup>st</sup> October, to [bookreviews@educationotherwise.org](mailto:bookreviews@educationotherwise.org)

Title: The Wildlife Photography Workshop Author: Ross Hoddinott & Ben Hall

Publisher: Jonathan Bailey Reviewed by: Josef

Original Price: £16.99 Best Price: £10.07 from Wordery.com

Ross Hoddinott was home educated in North Cornwall where he spent a lot of time outside learning about nature. He is now one of the UK's best outdoor photographers having won many awards, including the British Wildlife Photographer of Year in 2009 and the International Wildlife Photographer of the Year multiple times.

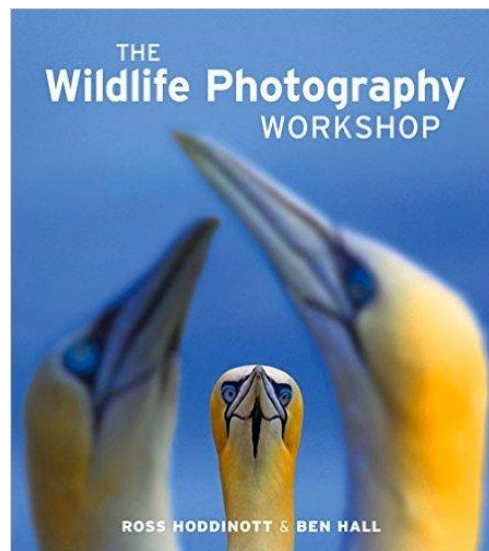
Of his six published books my favourite is 'The Wildlife Photography Workshop'. It is suitable for any level of photographer and by the end of it your wildlife photographs will have improved a lot!

The book is focused around the fact that you work with nature and do everything you can not to damage it. It has ten chapters, each of which explains the key terms and techniques using simple language.

The chapters are: Equipment, Exposure, Composition, Lighting, Close-Up Photography, Birds, Mammals, Plant Life, Post Processing & Creative Assignments. The layout is attractive with many beautiful photographs that illustrate the described techniques. Unlike many photography books, this one considers those without lots of money and gives budget options.

If you were to learn all of the information by taking courses you would have to pay hundreds of pounds, or you can buy this book and learn just as much. So if you have just started photography or have even been doing it for years, this is guaranteed a worthwhile expenditure.

*Josef, aged 14*



Title: School – No place for Children: A wake up Call

Author: David Adelman Ebook: £6.58 from Amazon

School – No place for Children, is an interesting and thought provoking read that sets out to challenge the reader's ideas about the value of mainstream education for all children. Based on the author's own life experiences as well as stories and testimonials from parents, teachers and children, this book exposes the flaws in our current education system and maintains that it can do more harm than good for some children.

The author is very much in favour of home education and sees it as a viable alternative to mainstream schooling. The author has a lot of interesting ideas that really made me stop and think about the education system, the purpose of education and what I want for my sons. Had I not already been home educating them, this book would have certainly made me question whether school was the right place for my children. All in all a very interesting read.

~~~~~  
Do you or your children have a favourite book – either an old friend or a new discovery?
Why not share your delight with other EO members, by writing a review?

Send to: bookreviews@educationotherwise.org

AGM NOTICE & AGENDA

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

will be held at **2.00 pm** on **Saturday 17th October 2015**
at the Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Jordan Well, Coventry, CV1 5QP

The ordinary business of the AGM is to consider the accounts for year ended 30th June 2015,
to appoint auditors/independent examiners and
to elect members (trustees/directors) to the Council of Management

At the time of writing there are 11 Council members in post, and our M&As require that one-third (i.e. 4) must stand down but may seek re-election (unless they have already served for 6 years). Lei Ashe has been a trustee since 2009 so will be one of those standing down. Hanna Newton will stand down and is not standing for re-election. Fe Mukwamba-Sendall and Kathleen Thompson (both first elected in 2012) will stand down and stand for re-election. Council may recommend other candidates.

Signed-Up Members (i.e. guarantors) of EO may also nominate/propose candidates. In this case, written notice from the proposer and signed consent from the candidate/nominee (who must also be a SUM / guarantor) must both reach the
EO Trustees, Bridgend, Meadow Lane, Swaffham, PE37 8LE
no later than Tuesday 13th October 2015.

Names of retiring trustees, and those standing for election, will be posted in the 'Member Home' area of the EO website as available, with candidates' statements.

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

~~~~~

### **Agenda for AGM:**

1. Minutes of the previous AGM (18<sup>th</sup> November 2014)
2. Consideration of the accounts for y/e 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015
3. Auditor/Independent Examiner's Remuneration
4. Appointment of Auditor/Independent Examiner
5. Election of new Council Members (Trustees)

~~~~~

Please arrive by 1.30 pm as the AGM will start promptly at 2.00 pm.
Forms of proxy MUST be registered by Noon

SUM, Proxy and Nomination/Acceptance forms are available on the 'member home' area of the EO website and on following pages of this newsletter

Two EO members (18+) per family may become SUMs (and so entitled to vote or to appoint a proxy) by completion of a SUM form each

EO Trustees <trustees@educationotherwise.org>

~~~~~

N.B. 12 noon: Registration + brief open trustee business meeting + meet trustees (till 1pm)  
Open Council/Trustee meeting approx 2:45 (following AGM) to 3:45 pm  
All EO Members are welcome to attend and contribute to discussion.

# PROXY FORM

## Education otherwise Association Limited – Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at 2:00 pm at the Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry, CV1 5QP

### 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 Proxy, Bridgend, Meadow Lane, Swaffham, PE37 8LE** to arrive by **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October** if by post.

If your proxy is bringing it to the meeting, the form must be registered by NOON (see notes 3 & 4)

*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 named adult (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 17<sup>th</sup> October 2015 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).

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

Election of Trustees: (see note 2)

Please indicate your desired vote individually for each trustee by writing in names and placing an 'X' in the appropriate box. (*Names – **which must be received by Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October** - will be posted in the Member Home area of the EO website as received, and Chair of Meeting will confirm eligibility on the day*)

YES      NO

| <u>Name of proposed trustee</u> | YES | NO |
|---------------------------------|-----|----|
| Fe Mukwamba-Sendall             |     |    |
| Kathleen Thompson               |     |    |
|                                 |     |    |
|                                 |     |    |

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

Signature: .....

Date: .....

## Notes and instructions for Proxy form:

### Note 1

- *If you wish the chair of the meeting to act as your proxy, leave these lines blank.*
- *If you wish to appoint a different 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”.*

### Note 2

- *If you wish your proxy to be able to vote as they see fit, taking account of any instructions you may have given, leave this section blank.*
- *If you wish to instruct your proxy (or the Chair) how to vote, you may EITHER **write** in the names and place an ‘X’ in the appropriate box, **OR** provide your proxy with a separate, signed statement of your wishes.*
- *Names of other candidates will be posted in the ‘member home’ area of the EO website as received.*

### Note 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 Signed Up Members wishing to attend the meeting in order to vote must arrive at the venue **by Noon** in order for the registration process to be completed.*

### Note 4

*You must have returned a completed SUM (Signed Up Members) form to :*

***EO SUMs, Bridgend, Meadow Lane, Swaffham, PE37 8LE by Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October if by post, or if in person by Noon on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October at the meeting.***

### **Could YOU consider becoming a trustee?**

It can be as much or as little work as you decide. The main thing to consider about it is taking a share in the legal responsibility for decision making in EO. Council members (trustees) make sure that the decisions taken help to fulfil our official aims, are within our ethos and within our legal parameters as a charitable company.

Some trustees also do a lot of actual EO jobs (which would be welcome!); others just meet the above responsibility, which is fine.

The qualities you need are a commitment to the freedom to home educate, honesty, patience, the capacity for clear thinking and hearing different views; and it helps if you have the knack of making a molehill out of a mountain!

If you think that's you, and you value the existence of EO as a mutual support network, then it's recommended! *You can learn a lot too* – after a term on the council and having home educated your children you can do anything!

# TRUSTEE PROPOSAL/ACCEPTANCE FORM

## Education Otherwise Association Limited

Annual General Meeting (AGM) 17<sup>th</sup> October 2015, Herbert Museum, Coventry

Signed-Up Members (i.e. guarantors) of EO may propose a candidate (who must also be SUM/guarantor) for election as a Trustee.

Written notice from the proposer, signed consent from the candidate  
And statement of EO and other experience from candidate  
must **all** reach

**EO Trustees, Bridgend, Meadow Lane, Swaffham, PE37 8LE no later than Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

Name of Proposing Member (please print clearly): .....

Address.....

.....

Email: ..... Memb No\*:.....

I, being a Signed Up member of Education Otherwise Association Limited, hereby propose

Name of Candidate (please print clearly): .....

who is also a Signed up Member of EO Assoc. Ltd

of address .....

.....

for election as a Trustee of Education Otherwise Association Ltd.

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

===== *section below for completion by candidate*=====

(can be on separate form)

I hereby confirm that I am a Signed Up Member of Education Otherwise Association Ltd.

I accept the nomination and am willing to stand as a Trustee.

Name of Candidate (please print clearly): .....

Address.....

.

.....

Email: ..... Memb No\*:.....

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

*\*N.B. EO Membership Number is printed on address label of newsletter*

**Return form to: EO Trustees, Bridgend, Meadow Lane, Swaffham, PE37 8LE by 13<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

# SIGNED-UP MEMBER (SUM) FORM / GUARANTOR DECLARATION

## EDUCATION OTHERWISE ASSOCIATION LIMITED

### 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.

*N.B. Please Complete Form in BLOCK CAPITALS and sign both sections*

I (FULL NAME) .....Membership Number: .....

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 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 (please print clearly): .....

Signed: .....

Date .....

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, at EO's Registered Office Address (check current with website).

Please return this form as soon as possible to: EO SUMs, Bridgend, Meadow Lane, Swaffham, PE37 8LE

## AGM VENUE

Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Jordan Well, Coventry, CV1 5QP. [www.theherbert.org](http://www.theherbert.org)

The Herbert is open from 10am – 4pm, with extensive and wide ranging exhibits under four headings:

- Visual Arts
- Social and Industrial History
- Archaeology
- Natural History

([www.theherbert.org/collections](http://www.theherbert.org/collections)) so there should be something to interest all the family. Coventry Cathedral and the Coventry Transport Museum (<http://www.transport-museum.com>) are close by.

For detailed travel information see the museum websites; but there are bus stops close to both Museums, and both are within a 15 minute walk of Coventry railway station. There are several pay and display car parks within a short walk.

The meeting room at the Herbert is ‘Learning Space 2’ – a large room with ground floor access, plenty of room for children, buggies, etc., and close to baby changing facilities and toilets.

The café has a good choice of snacks and meals at reasonable prices.

EO will arrange free coffee/tea/soft drinks for members around 11 am – but please let us know if you are coming so we can give the venue a good estimate of numbers.

**11– 11:30 am:** Refreshments, meeting and greeting other members and trustees. Registration at Noon.

**Noon:** Brief formal trustee meeting (members welcome to attend!) to ratify decisions made since the previous meeting (in May). Introductions to prospective trustees.

**1:00 pm** Lunch break.

**2:00 pm** \_AGM: See Agenda on page 8. (Usually takes ½ to ¾ hour). Please be prompt!

**2:45 pm** ‘Open Council Meeting’ – All EO members welcome to attend – which will take the form of open discussion on whatever aspects of EO members present wish to talk about. Please come and use this opportunity to influence your organisation! Finish about 3:45 pm



### **EO SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) – a History**

*Dyslexia and how it may have helped to create the home education community that we have today.*

Going back in time to when home education was not a legal option, a mother’s instinct about her daughter not being able to cope with school was about to be confirmed. The first morning her daughter came home from school saying that something was puzzling her: “At assembly we were told something about giving a person another cheek if they hit us but when I told the teacher at break that ..... had hit me, she said ‘Hit her back’”.

More complexities were soon to follow for Iris and her daughter. On the second day, her daughter mentioned that there had been a speech regarding mouth hygiene. As she had helped pack the chairs away, she was given a sweet as a reward. Iris was also mystified by the double standards and it seemed from that day on, respect for the school evaporated for both mother and daughter.

After six weeks at school, Iris found herself talking to her daughter when she came into her bed one morning and was shocked to find that she was not responding to her. “I was lying next to my child who was now completely deaf”. And so began the year of one long nightmare, intermittent deafness, changed personality, destructiveness and above all, just no one to turn to who understood the problem. Our beautiful, lively little girl had turned into something resembling Dracula – she began to wet her bed, pack her things during the night to run away.

After a year, Iris telephoned the Local Education Authority telling them that she was removing her daughter from school; and so began visits and letters from the LEA. The family was not in a state to fight

any legal battle at that time and whenever any threat came, they took a train to Scotland until it seemed things had cooled for them to return home.

With the birth of the youngest of her four children, the flights from Cheltenham finished. Iris was pressured to return both the older children to school, with a promise from the LEA that she could get help should any problems become too great. She agreed; but within two or three days of returning to school, the disturbed pattern returned. Iris's nights became busier than her days, as the girls started soiling and wetting their beds – which meant she was up several times showering them and changing bed linen, and also feeding her breast fed baby. Iris asked for the promised help and was told “Mrs H-----, you are the one with the problems, not the children”. She said “OK, then I have a problem and am asking for help” and was told that there was no help for people like her.

The girls had an itchy rash and fever, and Iris's doctor friend was with her when an educational welfare officer called at the house telling her that if her daughters were not in school the next day, even with their fever and rash, then a school attendance order would be placed on them; the family were shortly threatened with care orders on the four children, including the baby. Legal disputes and different investigations went on from there, which eventually (following a court ruling) led to Iris being able to home educate her children legally and also – most impressively – to help other families do the same. Together with some like minded parents, Education Otherwise was born in 1977.

All the children had Dyslexia; but Iris never sat down to help them learn reading and writing in any way. In the early days, she and the children would lie on the sitting room floor in the sun at the French windows and Iris would read an on-going story to them. At an early age, her daughter was ordering seeds for the garden and this entailed her having to read a seed catalogue and writing down what she had ordered. With the boys it was always from making things in the workshop. Progress came without the need to force it.

*Dyslexia Action refers to the main points of the condition as:*

- It affects the ability to learn to read and spell.
- It involves difficulties in dealing with the sounds of words, which makes it especially hard to learn to use phonics to read words.
- It can affect short-term memory and speed of recalling names.
- Other kinds of difficulties, for example with maths or with co-ordination, sometimes go alongside dyslexia, but they do not always.
- Dyslexia is not the same for everyone:
  - it can be mild or severe;
  - it varies depending on other strengths, or difficulties;
  - it varies depending on kind of support and encouragement given at school, at home and at work.

*According to the statistics, 6.3 million of us in the UK are Dyslexic (1 out of 10 people). Dyslexia has had a formal definition and been recognised by the Department for Education since 2009.*

*Contributions for this article came from Iris Harrison.*

References:

Opting out and the history of Iris Harrison and Education Otherwise:

<http://www.theguardian.com/education/2002/aug/27/schools.uk2>

Dyslexia Action: <http://www.dyslexiaaction.org.uk/page/about-dyslexia-0>

Definition of Dyslexia agreed upon by the DFE 2009: (close gap in link)

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130401151715/http://www.education.gov.uk/publications/eOrderingDownload/00659-2009DOM-EN.pdf>

Feel free to contact us if you would like to get involved with EO SEND:

[e.theunissen@educationotherwise.org](mailto:e.theunissen@educationotherwise.org)

# LOCAL HOME EDUCATION GROUP ORGANISERS

*Make sure you renew your*

## PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE TO 31ST AUGUST 2016

This benefit for Local Groups run by EO members continues this year, and the cost has been held at £10 per year **or part year** from 1<sup>st</sup> September. This is excellent value compared with insurance arranged by individual HE groups. As it is subsidised from EO funds (which means from the subscriptions EO members pay) there are some terms and conditions – for example, we ask for 3 EO family members to sign up to take responsibility for the group and to keep in contact with us.

Please note that your group must comply with the description agreed with the insurance company, in accordance with the general understanding of a Home Education Group, i.e.:

- *A group of home educating families providing mutual support, sharing information and resources, and meeting for social and educational activities and/or outings.*
- *Activities are free (or at small contribution to cover costs) i.e. non profit making.*
- *Parents attend with their children, who are of mixed ages.*
- *Usually, activities take place at a variety of venues, are organised by different parents and open to all local HE families.*

Also, EO insurance cannot act as an ‘umbrella’ for other formally incorporated organisations. For example, if your group is a charity in its own right, you will need to take out separate insurance.

Please don't leave it till the last minute to look at the policy documents and guidance for the EO insurance. We have found that groups take some time to digest the information, and then may have queries. Getting the required three EO member signatures also seems to cause delays.

Detailed guidance and application and renewal forms are available to download from the Member Home area of the EO website. To minimise work for volunteers, we would prefer members to obtain these from the website, but in case of difficulty you may request details by email from the Local Groups Insurance Co-ordinator, who will also answer any queries you may have (Anne is still acting):

<[lgic@educationotherwise.org](mailto:lgic@educationotherwise.org)>

Please also drop me an email when you post off your form and cheque; this helps me keep up with the administration. *Anne* Local Groups Insurance Co-ordinator [lgic@educationotherwise.org](mailto:lgic@educationotherwise.org)

***N.B. please note the new PO Box address – PO Box 63, SWAFFHAM, PE37 9AT***

### BLAST FROM THE PAST

Sent in by: *Iris, Worcester*

"Is it going to be possible to adjust traditional school education to satisfy the pupils – or should we think about replacing it with something altogether different?" ...

" The true learning society we all seek will require a new breed of teachers – more like guides than instructors, more part-time than full-time, more philosophers than pedagogues"

*Sir Christopher Ball, Director of learning, Royal Society of Arts, in R S A Journal, December 1995*

So even 20 years ago people were thinking like this! If anything we've gone backwards with all the interference from politicians who know nothing about education, child development, psychology of learning or anything else relevant to education. Well, come to think of it, those thoughts were around a good deal before 1995 – when I did my teacher training in the '60s it was all about being child-centred, starting with where the learner was, using what they were interested in ... sigh!

*Anne, Norfolk*

## LOCAL HOME EDUCATION GROUPS

**HE families** – Please contact the group organiser for full details and to check that activities are ongoing. Note also that not all groups are run by EO members. Further information on the groups listed below is available via the Local HE Groups area of the EO website. If you know of a group that's not listed, please ask the organiser to enter it at [www.educationotherwise.net](http://www.educationotherwise.net)

**Group organisers** – please remember when giving details of events, that this list (both in Newsletter and on main area of website) may be seen by people who are not members of Education Otherwise, and adjust your information accordingly.

Please also notify us promptly of contact & other changes via the Local Groups Co-ordinator: [eolg@educationotherwise.org](mailto:eolg@educationotherwise.org)

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### England

#### Bedfordshire

**BedHed** – An informal group of home educating families in and around Bedford <http://bedhed.org.uk>

**Busy B-Hes** – Weekly drop-in offering chats and support; activities. Pauline 01234 720819 / 07976 026167 [p.curl28@btinternet.com](mailto:p.curl28@btinternet.com).

**Christian Home Ed** – Scott and Rachel, [scottandrachel@ntlworld.com](mailto:scottandrachel@ntlworld.com)

#### Berkshire

**Berkshire Home Educators** – for HE families in & adjoining Berkshire

<http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/groups/berkshirehomeeducators/>  
**Expanding Horizons:** trips, activities, regular meet ups and information for other Local groups.

[www.expandinghorizonsuk.com](http://www.expandinghorizonsuk.com) Contact Rebecca: 01494 882484, [expandinghorizonsuk@gmail.com](mailto:expandinghorizonsuk@gmail.com)

**Heroes-HE** - weekly Home Education Club at animal farm, with workshops, etc. [www.heroesberkshire.co.uk/homeeducators.html](http://www.heroesberkshire.co.uk/homeeducators.html)

#### Bristol

**Bristol Home Education** – A local support group Bristol area. [www.bristolhomeeducation.moonfruit.com](http://www.bristolhomeeducation.moonfruit.com)

**Bristol Home Education Learn Place (HELP)** Contact Catherine: [catewhyte@hotmail.com](mailto:catewhyte@hotmail.com)

**Bristol Home Education Co-op** – contact point for HE activities in Bristol, including FREE weekly Co-op meet up with crafts, activities & socialising. Yahoo group for event details, information & support: Contact: [BristolHEC-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:BristolHEC-owner@yahoogroups.com) Or 0117 9553582

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BristolHEC/>

**Home Education in Bristol and the South West** – local website with information and links for groups, events and activities in Bristol and the surrounding areas + national info & resources. Contact: Therese, [alternativeeducation.bristol@gmail.com](mailto:alternativeeducation.bristol@gmail.com)  
<http://alternative-education-bristol.moonfruit.com/>

#### Buckinghamshire

**Free Range Education** – range of educational events and activities in Milton Keynes & North Bucks Sarah: 07725 039981 [www.freerangeeducation.org](http://www.freerangeeducation.org)

**High Wycombe home ed group** – Friendly weekly group meet up with activities. Contact: [cm2002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cm2002@yahoo.co.uk)

**Home Education Milton Keynes** – informal non-hierarchical group for HERS in Milton Keynes & surrounding areas. <http://www.he-mk.org.uk>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MadCows-MK/join>

**Milton Keynes Home Educators Network (MKHEN)** – Educational and social activities and events, online support groups, mentoring and an active relationship with the LA. <http://www.mkhen.org.uk>  
Georgeanne 01908 662256 [sienna-swift7@powernet.co.uk](mailto:sienna-swift7@powernet.co.uk)

**MK-CHEF** – HE support group for Milton Keynes. Affiliated to Home Service but you do not need to be a Christian to join. <http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/mk-chef>

**South Bucks Home Educators** – (& surrounding areas) Contact Taryn: [tarynearley@googlemail.com](mailto:tarynearley@googlemail.com)

<http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/southbuckshomeed>

**Expanding Horizons** (see Berkshire).

#### Cambridgeshire

**Cambridge Home Educating Community Activity List** – summary of sessions and regular groups in Cambridge. Karen: 01223 573220 [www.educationchoice.org.uk](http://www.educationchoice.org.uk) [karen@karenrodgers.co.uk](mailto:karen@karenrodgers.co.uk)

**Cambridge Home Educating Families (CHEF)** – for parents/carers who HE or considering HE. Morag: [morag2000@hotmail.com](mailto:morag2000@hotmail.com) 01223 464918 <http://www.cambridgehomeeducators.org.uk/>

**Cambridgeshire Home Educators** – Website all about HE-ing in Cambridgeshire including local groups and how to contact them. [www.cambshomeed.co.uk](http://www.cambshomeed.co.uk) Jane: [cambshomeed@gmail.com](mailto:cambshomeed@gmail.com)

#### Cheshire

**Mid Cheshire Home Educators** – Bi-monthly meetings and regular outings. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mche>

**South Cheshire Home Educators** – Jacqui, [southcheshirehe@gmail.com](mailto:southcheshirehe@gmail.com)  
<http://www.southcheshirehe.btck.co.uk/>

#### Cornwall

**Home Grown** – S E Cornwall HE Group - Alternate Mondays in Liskeard: classes in drawing & draughtsmanship/drama for ages 8-15. £6 per session. Contact Kath; 01579 340591

**Lostwithiel area HE group** – Started 2013 – range of HE activities, all welcome! Contact Samantha: [samsawinna@hotmail.com](mailto:samsawinna@hotmail.com)

#### Cumbria

**West Cumbria Home Education Group** – friendly group, members from all over W.Cumbria, structured or free range – All welcome!

[www.facebook.com/groups/WestCumbriaHE/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/WestCumbriaHE/)  
Contact Tallie: [metallienat@aol.com](mailto:metallienat@aol.com)

**West Cumbria Home Educators** – (including Keswick). Mutual support for HERS in West Cumbria: [WestCumbriaHomeEd@gmail.com](mailto:WestCumbriaHomeEd@gmail.com)

#### Derbyshire

**Chesterfield Home Education Grop (CHEG)** – weekly meetings and days out for all ages: Contact Sandy: [sandymariott@gmail.com](mailto:sandymariott@gmail.com)

**Derby Home Education Group (DHEG)** – Weekly. Gym Club at sports centre with instructor. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/derbyhe/>

**Home Ed Buxton Area** – Local meetings/activities for HERS and those considering HE <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/homeedbuxtonarea>

#### Devon

**Buckfastleigh Wildspace** – Nature study and gardening group based at Buckfastleigh Town hall. Welcomes HE families.

[www.hogco-devonrcc.org.uk/index.asp?pageid=279900](http://www.hogco-devonrcc.org.uk/index.asp?pageid=279900)

**Dartmoor and SW Home Education Group**. Based in S. Dartmoor, local and area groups & resources, plus promotion of your groups. <http://dartmoor-sw-he-group.yolasite.com/>

Contact: [dartmoor.sw.he.group@gmail.com](mailto:dartmoor.sw.he.group@gmail.com)

**Dart Valley Home Ed Network** – Out and about visits: natural history, history, photography and more. Members-only internet group. Hannah and Gordon 01803 762788 [lindnich@tesco.net](mailto:lindnich@tesco.net)  
**Exeter Home Education Community** Wednesday drop-in; GCSE; green woodwork, permaculture, pottery & more. [nbedford@btinternet.com](mailto:nbedford@btinternet.com) Neil 01363 82314

<http://exeterhomeeducationcommunity.co.uk>

**FLAGS Home Education Group** – Exeter, every Friday. Friendly group for children of all ages. Contact: Lisa 07969299543 or Sue su.gold777@yahoo.co.uk

**Freedom Fields EHE** – Weekly social group for families [http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/PlymouthUK\\_HomeEd/](http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/PlymouthUK_HomeEd/)

**NDHE (North Devon Home Educators)** – Meeting up for local trips and activities. Contact: [ndhomeed@gmail.com](mailto:ndhomeed@gmail.com)

**South Devon Home Education Group** – <http://www.southdevonhomeeducation.co.uk/> Contact Helen: 01803 390639 [helenlloyd-hoare@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:helenlloyd-hoare@blueyonder.co.uk)

**Stover HE Group** – Informal educational and social meets in local and surrounding areas. [stoverhegroup@gmail.com](mailto:stoverhegroup@gmail.com)

## Dorset

**Bournemouth HEED** – Weekly Monday meetings. Contact Carol: 01202 677066 [carolstone@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:carolstone@yahoo.co.uk)

**Bournemouth & Poole Home Educators** – Bournemouth/Poole area for play dates and visits to places of interest/museums/etc. [http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/Bournemouth\\_and\\_PooleHomeEducators/?yguid=419936795](http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/Bournemouth_and_PooleHomeEducators/?yguid=419936795). Contact Emma: [bmth.home.ed@gmail.com](mailto:bmth.home.ed@gmail.com)

**HEoND (Home Educators of North Dorset)** – Friendly group meeting regularly in Sturminster Newton. Contact June: [bugchick@mac.com](mailto:bugchick@mac.com)

[www.facebook.com/groups/NorthDorsetHomeEducation](http://www.facebook.com/groups/NorthDorsetHomeEducation)

**HERA** – friendly group meets weekly in Poole. Provides support for HE families/prospective HE. Contact Tracie: [scallieuk@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:scallieuk@hotmail.co.uk)

## Durham

**County Durham Home Educators** - contact, information, activities, get togethers and trips.

<https://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/durham-home-educators> . Contact: Emma, [emmadfisk@gmail.com](mailto:emmadfisk@gmail.com)

**Durham HE** – Yahoo group. Get-togethers arranged in various areas of County <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/County-durham-homeed>

## Essex

**Essex Home Education Yahoo Group** - Members organise HE events and meetings in Essex, and offer support, advice and encouragement to other Home Educators. Contact Lou: [louise.thorn@googlemail.com](mailto:louise.thorn@googlemail.com)

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/essex-he-e-group/info>

**Haverhill HE group** – Covering South Suffolk/North Essex. Eve 01440 788228 or 07768 763913 [wixde@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:wixde@yahoo.co.uk)

**Southeast HE Group** – Meets weekly. Lots of outings and activities. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/southeasthomeeducation/> or [southeasthomeeducation@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:southeasthomeeducation@yahoo.co.uk)

**WIGWAM Epping Forest** – A weekly informal drop-in group. Eleanor Stapleton 07866 701442 [elmajose2@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:elmajose2@yahoo.co.uk)

## Gloucestershire

**Cirencester and Cotswold group** – Meetings plus will answer HE queries. Pam 01285 721008 [pamela.perryman@gmail.com](mailto:pamela.perryman@gmail.com)

**Forest of Dean HE group** – Bridge and dam building, river clearance, fire building, woodland walks etc. Contact Roxy: [cdsnhf@googlemail.com](mailto:cdsnhf@googlemail.com)

**GlosHE.org.uk** – HE links and local resources in and around Gloucestershire. [www.gloshe.org.uk/](http://www.gloshe.org.uk/)

**Glos Otherwise Club** Fiona 01684 290087 [brookesfam@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:brookesfam@tiscali.co.uk)

**Stroud email list** Nick: 01453 840036 [nick.weir@localfood.org.uk](mailto:nick.weir@localfood.org.uk)

## Hampshire

**ActiveEO** – HE group based in West Sussex and Hampshire. Contact Julie: 01243 552168 [bevsmats@btinternet.com](mailto:bevsmats@btinternet.com)

**East Hampshire Home Education Group (EHHE)** Social activities mainly for 5-11 yr but all ages welcome. Fields & playground. Contact Alison: [a.johns@btinternet.com](mailto:a.johns@btinternet.com)

**FAREGOS Home Education Group** – HE group/email list for Fareham Gosport and South Hants.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FareGosHE/>

**Hampshire FRHEBES (Free Range & Home Educated Bees)** – West Hampshire area and borders to arrange meet ups and activities. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FRHEBees/> Contact Karen: 01425 652721

**North Hampshire HE Group** – Regular activities and meetings organised suitable for all ages [jakimparsons@gmail.com](mailto:jakimparsons@gmail.com) <http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/NH-HE/> Jaki 07731 805323

**Portsmouth Home Education Group** – HE or interested in HE <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/portsmouthhomeed/>  
**SEEDS** – Meets every term time afternoon for sports/play + weekly full day activity. Southampton.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/seeds1/>

**South Hants Home Ed** – A support group for home educators <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/southhantshomeed/>

**Whitchurch HE Network**. Based RG28), member families across Hampshire and Wiltshire. Contact: [when\\_ac@yahoo.com](mailto:when_ac@yahoo.com)

## Herefordshire

**Hereford Home Education** – Indoor and outdoor facilities ages 3-15. [herefordhe@gmail.com](mailto:herefordhe@gmail.com)

**Monmouth and Herefordshire Home Educators** – Local meets and events Yahoo! group. Roxy 07765 058 777

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HerefordshireHE/>

## Hertfordshire

**Herts Home Educators** – Yahoo! group for Hertfordshire home educators. [newhomeeducators@gmail.com](mailto:newhomeeducators@gmail.com)

**Learning Begins In Wonder**. Free and subsidised events, resources and support to HE families in Hertfordshire and surrounding counties. Contact Mandy: [mandy.ansell@aol.co.uk](mailto:mandy.ansell@aol.co.uk)

## Isle of Wight

**Isle of Wight Learning Zone** – A network of HE families <http://www.iwlearningzone.co.uk/>

**IW Home Ed** - Facebook group & yahoo group for any and all home educators on IoW. Karen: [Karen@curvespace.com](mailto:Karen@curvespace.com) or 01983 568516 <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IWHomeEd/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/IWHomeEd/>

## Kent

**Dragonfly Kidz HE Group** – (Canterbury & Thanet) social & learning activities, swimming, bowling, days out etc. Wide range of locations around Canterbury/Thanet/Whitstable. All Welcome! Steph: [stephgater@rocketmail.com](mailto:stephgater@rocketmail.com) 01304 814362.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dragonflykidzhomeeducationgroup/>

**Kent ASD Home Ed** – For parents/carers of ASD/Aspergers children who are educating them ‘otherwise’.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/asd-home-ed-medway>

**Medway and Maidstone HE activity group - HE OMEGA** – A group of home educating families in Medway and Kent.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HE-omega/> Contact Esther: [e.selhi@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:e.selhi@yahoo.co.uk)

**Rochester HE Group** – weekly meetings Tuesday afternoon. Contact Sally: [sally\\_wilton@lineone.net](mailto:sally_wilton@lineone.net)

**SATHE (Supporting Autism Through Home Education)** – West Kent group open to all parents/carers HE/flexi-schooling or considering HE for children with autism/ sensitivities or learning difficulties. Contact Denice 07554 386844

[S-A-T-H-E@yahoogroups.co.uk](mailto:S-A-T-H-E@yahoogroups.co.uk)

<http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/S-A-T-H-E/>

**South East Home Educators** – (Kent/Sussex) Meet regularly for trips, hall meets, swimming etc. To join Yahoo! group email: [southeasthomeeducators-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:southeasthomeeducators-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Or contact Lesley: 07828193668 [lesley294@aol.com](mailto:lesley294@aol.com)

<http://www.southeast-home-educators.co.uk>

**Wealden Home Educators' Network** – active network of home educating families in SE England. We offer help and support, information, activities, events and camps for home educators.  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wealdenhomeeducatorsnetwork>

## Lancashire

**Boneheds** – Help support advice and friendship to all families who are home educating (or considering HE) in Bolton Lancashire and surrounding districts. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/boneheds/>

**Home Ed Leyland** – Friendship, support and advice for all families who are home-educating (or considering HE) in Leyland and surrounding districts. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/he-l-lo/>  
**LEAD Home Education** – swap ideas, share stories and arrange local social gatherings. [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lead\\_he/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lead_he/)

## Leicestershire

**HE-AL message board** – details of HE Events in Leicestershire. Site run by local HE groups, but open to all HErs in the Leicestershire area <http://he-al.weebly.com/index.html>

**Leicestershire Christian Home Educators** – monthly meet up every 3rd Tuesday. Free play opportunity in a safe and fun place. HE Off-Peak Pass available: £1.50 per child £5 per family, free drinks. All welcome! Contact Anne-Marie Marshall: [mrsamarshall@googlemail.com](mailto:mrsamarshall@googlemail.com)

**Loughborough Home Ed** – meet for various regular/one off groups, including French and maths in Loughborough. Contact: [nicky-ed@co.asd.me.uk](mailto:nicky-ed@co.asd.me.uk)

**Stoneygate** – Weekly play session, £3.50 per family, including drinks. Large, safe, grassy area. Contact Cat: [catbellinger@gmail.com](mailto:catbellinger@gmail.com)  
[www.facebook.com/groups/homeedleicestershire/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/homeedleicestershire/)

## Lincolnshire

**Home Ed Lincs** – Yahoo newsgroup coordinating HE activities in Lincolnshire. [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/home\\_ed\\_lincs/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/home_ed_lincs/)

**Homeschool Lincolnshire** – active and supportive group, 40+ families incl. plenty of teenagers. Monthly events and activities list. Contact Elaine: 01507 328688  
[homeschool.lincolnshire@outlook.com](mailto:homeschool.lincolnshire@outlook.com)

**Lincolnshire HE** – [www.home-ed.ukf.net/index.htm](http://www.home-ed.ukf.net/index.htm)

**North Hykeham HE Group** – Weekly meetings, primarily for toddlers. 07870 787328 [debi-crow@googlemail.com](mailto:debi-crow@googlemail.com)

## London

**Adventures with Education (Hackney)** – A home education group based in Hackney London. <http://awe.gn.apc.org/>

**Brandram Roaders** – Weekly meetings in term time. [rubyradburn@hotmail.com](mailto:rubyradburn@hotmail.com)

**Home Study Groups** – small group of HE families pooling resources for tutored home study groups. Ingie 0203 566 8706  
[iberritt@gmail.com](mailto:iberritt@gmail.com)

**Magpie Home Educators (East London)** – Phil 0208 500 1053

**The Otherwise Club (NW)** – A community centre for HE families. Leslie 0208 969 0893

**WIGWAM** Jubilee Park N9 . Informal drop-in group for families with children of any age. Contact Eleanor: 07866 701442  
[elmajose2@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:elmajose2@yahoo.co.uk)

## Norfolk

**Home Educationg in Norfolk (HENs)** – A group for HE families in Norfolk. Those on the borders also welcome.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/homeeducatorsnorfolk/>

**The Barefoot Learners** – Games and activities for all ages. Contact Be Coffin: 07814 592 290 or 01263 73 99 83

**West Norfolk Home Educators** – Meeting place for HErs and families interested in home educating. Lots of activities!  
<http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/WestNorfolkHomeEducators/>

## Northamptonshire

**iFlow** – weekly HE community group in NW Northants. Support and friendships; parent-led and professionally-led educational activities. Wide range of resources, large community space, sports facilities and outdoor play. [www.iflow-he.org](http://www.iflow-he.org) Email: [welcomelflow@gmail.com](mailto:welcomelflow@gmail.com)

**Northants HE** – Informal group meets regularly for various activities <http://www.northantshe.org.uk/>

## Nottinghamshire

**Notts Sheep Special** – Online support group for HE parents of special needs/differently-abled children in Nottinghamshire & bordering counties.  
[http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/Notts\\_Sheep-Special/](http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/Notts_Sheep-Special/)

## Oxfordshire

**Expanding Horizons** (See Berkshire).

**OHED** – Website with information about HE in Oxfordshire  
[www.ohed.org.uk](http://www.ohed.org.uk) Louisa: [louisa.southey@gmail.com](mailto:louisa.southey@gmail.com) or 01865 735705

**Oxfordshire Home Educators** – A group for all home educators living in Oxfordshire and neighbouring counties; all welcome.  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/OxonHE/>

## Shropshire

**Inspire HE Group**. Educational activities in Shropshire. Families from Shropshire and surrounding areas welcome to find out more. Contact Alison: [fellows-weir@megmog.plus.com](mailto:fellows-weir@megmog.plus.com)

**Otherwise Engaged** – Online diary of group activities, cultural events, workshops, resources and projects for Shrops and West Mids based HE families. <http://www.otherwise-engaged.org.uk/home-education.html>

**Rushbury/Stretton HE Group** – Parent and child-led activities as well as people from the wider community. Contact Beverley: 01743 718429

**Shropshire Home Education** – For HErs in Shropshire area to chat arrange meets etc. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/shed>

**Telford area HE** – Activities incl. skating football and drama sessions. For times and dates contact Denise: 07866 888879

## Somerset

**Bath HE Yahoo! Group** –

<http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/BathHomeEducation/>

**HEY Yeovil** – All HE families welcome. Contact Lyn: 01963 23669  
[heyeovil@hotmail.com](mailto:heyeovil@hotmail.com)

**North Somerset HE Group** – Weekly children's gym walks outings etc. Yahoo! group for members. Contact Vicky: 01275 848425  
[victoria.preston@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:victoria.preston@yahoo.co.uk)

**Taunton Home Education Group** – Free play, arts & crafts, games, etc. <http://tauntonhomeed.blogspot.com/>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/tauntonhomeeducation/>

**Wells and Mendip Home Education Group (Wam)** – meet weekly for home educated 'school age' kids, run by parents; variety of projects and activities. Contact: 01749 675176

**Wiveliscombe/Taunton** – Monthly meetings and regular outings. Contact Maggie: 01984 624651

## Staffordshire

**Mercia Education Group** – Regular, structured meetings, various venues in Lichfield and surrounding area. Academic base, many activities, wide age range .  
<http://merciaeducationgroup.yolasite.com/>

## Suffolk

**Haverhill HE group** – South Suffolk/North Essex. Contact Eve: 01440 788228 or 07768 763913 [wixde@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:wixde@yahoo.co.uk)

**Ipswich HE Wednesdays** – Shared lunch and activities. Contact Emma: [emma@nattyem.co.uk](mailto:emma@nattyem.co.uk)

**Ipswich town centre group + Book Club** – regular meetings. Contact Lisa : 07538 102322 [llw\\_llg@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:llw_llg@yahoo.co.uk)

**Tostock HE Group** – All families welcome to this very friendly group. Contact Jan: 01359 251184 [angusto@btinternet.com](mailto:angusto@btinternet.com)

## Surrey

**Dorking Home Educators** – meet fortnightly. Social and pre-booked activities, outings & trips. Amanda: [schrodingerscat81@hotmail.com](mailto:schrodingerscat81@hotmail.com)

<http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/DorkingHomeEducators/>

**Home Educators Learning Project (HELP)** – educational support, outings. <http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/HELearningProject/>

**Leatherhead Home Education Group** – Leatherhead and surrounding area regular day trips and activities. Chrissie : 07840285703 [christabelthorpe@hotmail.com](mailto:christabelthorpe@hotmail.com)

**Surbiton Home Ed Group (SHed)** – occasional field trips, picnics, workshops, etc. Contact Ingrid: [ingrid.meaker@mac.com](mailto:ingrid.meaker@mac.com)

**Sutton/Epsom HE group** – Meets weekly and also monthly for outings. Contact Neia: [neia.glynn@btinternet.com](mailto:neia.glynn@btinternet.com)

**SW Surrey Home Ed** –. Group for HE families based in SW Surrey and surrounding area. Weekly gatherings Farnham or Godalming. <http://www.swsurrey-home-ed.co.uk/index.php>

## Sussex

**ActivEO** – HE Group W Sussex and Hants (see Hampshire)

**Brighton and Hove Home Educators** – Information on HE events and groups in the area. <http://bhhe.wordpress.com/>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bhhe/>

**Eastbourne EO Group** – Regular gatherings & activities.

<http://www.shinies.org.uk/>

**Forest Row HE Group** – regular monthly meetings + many other fun & learning

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/forestrowhomeeducators>

**Hastings & Rother Home Educators (HARHE)** – small number of families; activities include Forest School, cycling, daytrips, bowling and swimming. Check website and us or come along to an activity [www.harhe.btck.co.uk](http://www.harhe.btck.co.uk) Catherine: 01424 812213

**HEDGE Home Ed Group** – Hastings/St. Leonards weekly social meetings + trips etc. [www.hedge-education.btck.co.uk](http://www.hedge-education.btck.co.uk) Beshlie: 01424 812870

**JIGSAW** – social events, educational group excursions, curriculum support, etc. Contact: [leliot@gmail.com](mailto:leliot@gmail.com)

**South Eastern Home Educators** – (Kent/Sussex) see Kent

**Wealden Home Educators' Network (WHEN)** (SE England) see Kent.

## Warwickshire

**Creative Youth Adventure Club (Coventry)** – monthly HE Group for all ages, activities and social get together. Also Arts Awards. Contact Sarah: [sarah@nellyb.co.uk](mailto:sarah@nellyb.co.uk)

**Warwick District HE** – Warwick/Leamington. Primarily for 0-11 but all welcome. Weekly meet for play etc. + trips etc. Contact Alison: 07782 299181

<http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/warwickhe>

## Wiltshire

**Chapmanslade H E group** – for anyone Home Educating (or considering it) in town and surrounding area. Meetings twice monthly. Contact Maria: [maria@trivialbusiness.co.uk](mailto:maria@trivialbusiness.co.uk)

**FRHEBees** – Salisbury & West Hampshire (New Forest). Warm, friendly welcoming group. Contact Sonia: 01722 711666

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FRHEBees/>

**Salisbury Plain Home Education Circle** – Parents who use the National Curriculum as guidance, but believe that best education comes from experience. Contact Dee: [dee.dilloway@yahoo.com](mailto:dee.dilloway@yahoo.com) 07753 260317

## Worcestershire

**Bewdley HE Group** – Weekly meetings, social/activities etc. all welcome. Sophie 01299 405669, [sophiebutcher29@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sophiebutcher29@yahoo.co.uk)

**Worcester Home Educators** – Meetings usually at least weekly throughout term time at various locations round the county.

[www.worcestershire-home-educators.co.uk/](http://www.worcestershire-home-educators.co.uk/)

**Worcestershire Home Ed** – Yahoo Group Email list for Worcs HERS <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/worcestershirehome-ed/>

## Yorkshire

**DHE Doncaster home educators** Yahoo group for families in the Doncaster and surrounding areas. Contact Cheryl: 07825 914340 [cheryl0407@aol.com](mailto:cheryl0407@aol.com) <http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/DHE/>

**HENNEY (Home Education Network North East Yorkshire)** Regular meet ups around Scarborough and East coast area. Contact Lisa: [lisa\\_riley@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:lisa_riley@tiscali.co.uk)

[henney-owner@yahoo.com](mailto:henney-owner@yahoo.com)

**Huddersfield Art Workshops** – Monthly 8 yrs plus. Jane: 01484 645034

**Huddersfield Book Group** – Monthly Marsden library. Jane 01484 645034

**Huddersfield Home Educators** – Monthly themed meetings. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wyhec/> Contact Mandy: 01484 460026 [meandchi7@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:meandchi7@yahoo.co.uk)

**NYHEC (group for HE parents)** – for parents HEing in North Yorkshire. [nyhecowner@yahoo.com](mailto:nyhecowner@yahoo.com)

**North + West HE Group** – Meets Skipton monthly and Bradford Gym Club weekly. Regular meetings and outings. Judith: 01756 791356

**Rotherham Home Education** – friendly informal group for HERS in & around S.Yorkshire. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RothHE/> Contact Pauline: 077764 06409 [collicandydog123@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:collicandydog123@yahoo.co.uk)

**SYHEC – Yahoo!** group for parents HEing in South Yorkshire. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/syhec/>

**Wakefield District Home Education Group** – Bowling, Ice skating, visits etc. Contact Tracey: [wakefieldHE-owner@yahoo.com](mailto:wakefieldHE-owner@yahoo.com)

**Wildlings** – Meet weekly for in & outdoor fun, friendship, crafts, Montessori materials. HE Group for children under 8. Huddersfield. [www.wildforlearning.org.uk](http://www.wildforlearning.org.uk)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/wildlings.home.ed/>

**Yorkshire Home Edders Yahoo! group** – Friendly & active group with visits & workshops for children 8-16.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/yorkshirehomedders/>

## Regional Groups

**East of England – East Anglian Home Ed Network**

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/East-Anglian-Home-Ed-Network/>

**East Midlands – East Midlands HE Forum** – inform & support HE families in E.Midlands. <http://groups.yahoo.com/oup/emhe>

## South East

**FLAGS (Kent/Surrey/Sussex)** –. Active group (Kent/Surrey/Sussex) meeting weekly during term time <http://www.flags-education.org> Karen 01732 864524 [karenlow@uwclub.net](mailto:karenlow@uwclub.net)

**ActivEO** – HE Group based in West Sussex and Hampshire Contact number 01243 552168 [bevmats@btinternet.com](mailto:bevmats@btinternet.com)

**Home-EASE (Home Education for all South East)** – Group of HE families in SE England. 0753 1677 083 [homeeducatingmum@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:homeeducatingmum@yahoo.co.uk)

**South East Home Educators** – (Kent/Sussex) See Kent for details.

**Wealden Home Educators' Network (WHEN)** (see Kent).

## South West

**Home Education Centre (Devon/Dorset/Somerset)** – Meets two days a week. Workshops, sports activities and support.

<http://www.homeeducationcentre.org.uk>

**HERs and Events SW** – network to support new HERS or those new to the area. New input welcomed. [southdevonlc@gmail.com](mailto:southdevonlc@gmail.com)

<http://hecontactssandeventssw.yolasite.com>

**HE in Bristol and SW** – see Bristol

## West Midlands

**Birmingham Home Ed (& W.Mids)** – meetings and events for HE families. <http://www.homeeducationbirmingham.org.uk>

**HELM** – home education group located mainly within the Birmingham, West Midlands area. Any and all home-educating parents welcome.

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HELM\\_home\\_ed/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HELM_home_ed/)

## Isle of Man

**Home Educating Network - Isle of Man** – informal group of parents HEing on the Isle of Man. Yvonne, [isleofmanlc@educationotherwise.org](mailto:isleofmanlc@educationotherwise.org)

<http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/hen-iom/>

**Home Education on the Isle Of Man** – Contact: Dawn, [sewellbunch@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sewellbunch@yahoo.co.uk)

## Wales

**Cardiganshire** – group meets on one afternoon per week near Lampeter. Social with occasional activities. Contact: 01558 685521 [thislittlelightofmine@phonecoop.coop](mailto:thislittlelightofmine@phonecoop.coop)

### Carmarthenshire

**Camarthen HE Group** – Regular meetings in Johnstown Carmarthen [caroline.milburn@yahoo.com](mailto:caroline.milburn@yahoo.com)

**Carmarthen Home Ed** – Social group meeting weekly for play and chat, indoor and outdoor activities for all ages. Contact: Sarah, [birdgirlvintage@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:birdgirlvintage@yahoo.co.uk)

### Conwy

**PLANT Conwy** – Weekly get togethers in the village of Conwy for Home edders - all welcome. Contact: [lily@ogge.co.uk](mailto:lily@ogge.co.uk)

### Denbighshire

**Froncysyllte HE group** – Fortnightly group meets 10-4pm. Social play and chat. [vivodsam@gmail.com](mailto:vivodsam@gmail.com)

### Flintshire

**Flintshire Home Education** – Regular meet ups activities & support. [flintshirehomeeducation@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:flintshirehomeeducation@yahoo.co.uk)

### Glamorgan

**Bridgend Home Educators** – free play, GCSE classes, Arts Award, outside speakers, activities, etc.

[www.bridgendhomeeducators.org](http://www.bridgendhomeeducators.org) or email

[info@bridgendhomeeducators.org](mailto:info@bridgendhomeeducators.org)

**Cardiff Home Education Group** – Meets Mondays during term time, in Pontcanna. Social group children all ages, everyone welcome. Contact Sarah :

[cardiffhomeeducationgroup@gmail.com](mailto:cardiffhomeeducationgroup@gmail.com)

[www.cardiffhomeeducationgroup.wordpress.com](http://www.cardiffhomeeducationgroup.wordpress.com)

**New Foundations HE** – Meets Cardiff Thursdays 10-4. All activities free. <http://www.newfoundationshe.com> 07913 955583

[newfoundationshe@virginmedia.com](mailto:newfoundationshe@virginmedia.com)

### Gwynedd

**Creative Learning and Support** – Now meet every Wed. pm in Bangor. Contact Julie on 01286 678181 or Sarah on 01248 355182 <http://www.creativelearningandsupport.co.uk>

**Langower HE Group** – Weekly meetings.

[rowenna73@hotmail.com](mailto:rowenna73@hotmail.com)

### Monmouthshire

**Monmouth Home Educators** – Meet weekly for fun and friendship, arts, crafts, games and sports. All ages welcome. Check for dates and times. Contact Roxy: 07765 058 777

**Usk Home Education** – Monthly (Thurs) meet other HERS in the area for fun and games and cups of tea. Contact Roxy:

[cdsnhf@gmail.com](mailto:cdsnhf@gmail.com) or 01989 768 128

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HerefordshireHE/>

## Neath Port Talbot

**Wise Up Community HE Group** (Port Talbot) – Support and information for home educating families and those considering home education. <http://www.zoneseven.co.uk>

[ianna.violet@hotmail.com](mailto:ianna.violet@hotmail.com)

## Powys

**New Leaf HE Group** (Newtown) – Occasional meetings for varied activities all ages. [siouxcatsy@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:siouxcatsy@yahoo.co.uk)

**Shiny Happy Children** – Regular meetings in Llanfyllin and surrounding areas. Katie [llanfyllinHE@gmail.com](mailto:llanfyllinHE@gmail.com)

## Regional Groups (Wales)

**Elective Home Education Wales** – Linking HE families across Wales. <http://www.ehew.co.uk>

**Monmouth/Hereford/Gloucester** – for information about group activities in the Monmouth/Hereford/Gloucester area local EO member Roxy 01989 768128 [cdsnhf@googlemail.com](mailto:cdsnhf@googlemail.com)

**New Foundations** – HE group and charity offering social & educational activities and support in Cardiff and South Wales. Every Mon 10am - 3pm. All HE families welcome.

[www.newfoundationshe.com](http://www.newfoundationshe.com)

Jayne: [newfoundationshe@virginmedia.com](mailto:newfoundationshe@virginmedia.com) Or 07913 955583

**South Wales Home Educators Network** – Email list for Home Educators in and around S Wales to arrange get-togethers/events, share ideas & news and offer support.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/swhen/>

## Channel Islands

**Home Education Jersey** – Home education group. Contact Jess: [homeeducationjersey@gmail.com](mailto:homeeducationjersey@gmail.com)

**Guernsey Home Educators** – Group of home educators and those sympathetic to home education in Guernsey. Contact Yvonne: 01481 264776 or [Atplir@hotmail.com](mailto:Atplir@hotmail.com)

## Northern Ireland

**HEdNI (Home Education Northern Ireland)**. Umbrella group for the whole of Northern Ireland; where a diverse community of smaller local groups and individual home educators can come together for peer support & information, to advertise and find events, and make connections. Contact Sarah: [sarah@hedni.org](mailto:sarah@hedni.org)

## International (UK based)

**HE-DS (Home Educating a child with Down's syndrome)** – Linking families who are home educating a child with Down's syndrome.

<http://www.oakwellbarns.co.uk> Yahoo group (private, by invitation) Contact Anita: 01686 413502

[anitakolaczynska@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:anitakolaczynska@yahoo.co.uk)

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### Please Note ....

**HE families** – Please contact the group organiser for full details and to check that activities are ongoing. Note also that not all groups are run by EO members. Further information on the groups listed below is available via the Local HE Groups area of the EO website. If you know of a group that's not listed, please ask the organiser to enter it at [www.educationotherwise.net](http://www.educationotherwise.net)

**Group organisers** – please remember when giving details of events, that this list (both in Newsletter and on main area of website) may be seen by people who are not members of Education Otherwise, and adjust your information accordingly. Please also notify us promptly of contact & other changes via the Local Groups Co-ordinator: [eolg@educationotherwise.org](mailto:eolg@educationotherwise.org)

## Who does What in EO

### Current Trustees [Council Members]

**Jonathan Adams**

*jadams@educationotherwise.org*

**Julie Arnold** (Treasurer)

*jarnold@educationotherwise.org*

**Lei Ashe** (Local Contacts Co-ordinator)

*lashe@educationotherwise.org*

**Shena Deuchars** (Membership Secretary)

*sdeuchars@educationotherwise.org*

*membership@educationotherwise.org*

**Vicki Hon**

*vhon@educationotherwise.org*

**Jill Ingle**

*jingle@educationotherwise.org*

**Hanna Newton**

*hnewton@educationotherwise.org*

**Fe Mukwamba-Sendall**

*fsendall@educationotherwise.org*

**Anne Rix** (Chair, Publications Sec., Acting Co. Secretary, Acting NL Co-ord, Buckstopper-General!)

*arix@educationotherwise.org*

**Edwina Theunissen** (Enquiries Secretary)

*e.theunissen@educationotherwise.org*

**Kathleen Thompson**

*kthompson@educationotherwise.org*

N.B. Email to:

***trustees@educationotherwise.org***

goes to all trustees

Address for general correspondence by letter:

**Education Otherwise** [insert Dept. If known]

**P.O. Box 63, SWAFFHAM, PE37 9AT**

**\*\*\* NOTE NEW PO BOX NUMBER \*\*\***

**WEBSITE:** [www.educationotherwise.net](http://www.educationotherwise.net)

**Webmaster:** Tom

*webmaster@educationotherwise.org*

## Membership

Membership enquiries, address changes, membership cards, new member admin: please contact the Membership Secretary:

*membership@educationotherwise.org*

or by post to:

**EO Membership, PO Box 63, Swaffham, PE37 9AT**

**\*\*\* N.B. NEW PO BOX \*\*\***

## Other Useful Contacts

**Anti-Bullying Contact:** Kathleen Thompson

01942 89 77 79

**GCSEs at Home:** Louise 08445 003 688

**GCSE/Exams email list:**

*http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HE-Exams-GCSE-A\_AS\_Levels-OU-Others/*

**HE Exams Wiki:** [www.home-education-exams.org.uk](http://www.home-education-exams.org.uk)

**Exam Centres list:** *http://he-*

*exams.wikia.com/wiki/Finding\_an\_exam\_centre*

**Concessions Contact:** Lynsey Scott

*concessions@educationotherwise.org*

**Concessions Co-ordinator:** Cornelia Theunissen

*c.theunissen@educationotherwise.org*

**Dylexia Contact:** Iris Harrison

*Irisharrison6@aol.com*

**Enquiries Secretary:** Edwina Theunissen 01978

661882 *e.theunissen@educationotherwise.org*

**EO Stalls:** Habiba Willow *habibawillow@gmail.com*

**Flexi-schooling:** VACANT

**Local Contacts Co-ordinator:** Lei Ashe

*lcco-ordinator@educationotherwise.org*

(or via Enquiries Secretary)

**Local Group Insurance:** Anne Rix

*lgic@educationotherwise.org*

**Local Groups Listings:** Kennell Family

*eolg@educationotherwise.org*

**Newsletter Coordinator:** VACANT (Anne Rix Acting)

*eonl@educationotherwise.org*

**Publications Secretary:** Anne Rix

*arix@educationotherwise.org*

*publications@educationotherwise.org*

**School Anxiety Support:** VACANT

**Single Parent Contact:** Sam Kruger 08445 003794

*singleparent@educationotherwise.org*

**Special Needs:** Alisa: 01458 835569 / 07707 060973

*send@educationotherwise.org*

**SEND email list via:** *http://www.he-special.org.uk/*

**Treasurer:** Julie Arnold

*treasurer@educationotherwise.org*

**Volunteer Co-ordinator:** Wendy Knight

*vol-coordinator@educationotherwise.org*

# 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 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;
- promote knowledge, understanding and acceptance of education otherwise than at school in the world at large.

Education Otherwise Association Ltd.

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*\*\*\* NOTE NEW PO BOX NUMBER \*\*\**

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