**Stepping Stones for Home Educators**

**Contributors’ Guidelines**

*Stepping Stones for Home Educators* supports, encourages and informs Australian home educators. It is a members’ magazine, which means that first preference goes to publishing contributions from HEA members and Australian home educating authors, prior to sourcing content from overseas authors.

Articles published in *Stepping Stones for Home Educators* reflect the varying home educating styles and approaches of individual home educators. As far as possible, the editorial team strives to balance the content in any one issue to be representative of the diversity within the HEA Inc. membership.

The editor will consider original articles and items on any topic of interest to home educators. You don’t have to be an experienced or published writer. If you have something important to share, but feel that your writing skills aren’t adequate, we are happy to assist you to polish your writing to publication standard. See below for a list of the Departments within the magazine.

To get a ‘feel’ for what we publish please read the last few issues. Back issues can be read online in the members’ area of the HEA website at [www.hea.edu.au](http://www.hea.edu.au).

**Send contributions** as attachments to magazines@hea.edu.au. Include only high quality resolution images suitable for printing. Permissions to use images from copyright owner must be included.

Unless specifically requested not to, we will publish both first names and surnames with all contributions. Our readers appreciate knowing children’s ages, though this isn’t necessary. Pseudonyms are acceptable, provided real names and contact details are provided.

**Deadlines:** Items will be commissioned for future and current issues. Issues are published seasonally on the 1st March, 1st June, 1st September, 1st December. Deadlines are mid-December (Autumn), mid-March (Winter), mid-June (Spring), and mid-September (Summer).

**Payment:** *Stepping Stones for Home Educators* magazine is produced by volunteer members of the Home Education Association Inc., a not-for-profit organisation supporting and promoting home education in Australia. Although we are unable to pay for contributions, we are happy to send, upon request, a complimentary link to a copy of the issue in which your item is published.

The Editor reserves the right to edit, alter and make changes as is reasonably necessary to fulfil legal, policy or general editing requirements. Any significant changes, other than spelling, grammar and punctuation, will be checked with you before publication. Publication in the magazine is at the discretion of the Editor. The editor will select the most appropriate department in which to place your contribution, however, a stated preference will be considered.

**Children’s Contributions:** We welcome contributions from children for any of the sections in the magazine. In general, children’s work will not be edited. Children are encouraged to write about homeschooling life, what and how they are learning, any issues that are important to them, as well as send in pictures, poems and stories, etc. Children’s contributions are not separated from other contributions within the magazine. Unless specifically requested first names and age only will be published. Permissions to use images of all children in photographs from their parents must be included.

**Article length** depends on the type and placement of articles and items within the magazine. They can be from a few words to 1500 words. Items longer than this may be serialised over several issues at the discretion of the editor.

Authors and contributors are expected to thoroughly check their work for spelling, grammatical and typographical errors before submission. An easy way to proof read your work for grammatical errors is to read it aloud.

**Please format using** Arial or Helvetica font; font size 10 points; no indent for paragraphs; line between paragraphs; fully justified; bold sub-headings; references, titles and quotes in italics; use endnotes instead of footnotes; . Include brief biographical information and links if required (short paragraph only).

Send original images and photographs as separate JPEG, BMP, or TIFF files. Do not embed images within word documents.
DEPARTMENTS

The Post Office
connecting with fellow home educators
- Letters to the Editor
- Pen Pals

Village TLC
sharing tips for nurturing health and wellbeing
- News & Resources
- Articles & Reviews
- ‘How to’ items, Tips
- Unit Studies / Lesson Plans

The Village Square
a place to meet and share ideas, curriculum reviews, home ed organising and motivation tips
- News & Resources
- Articles & Reviews
- ‘How to’ items, Tips
- Unit Studies / Lesson Plans

Pathways
homeschooling families sharing their journey
- Articles
- Why we homeschool
- How we homeschool

Around the BBQ
where home ed dads gather
- News & Resources
- Articles & Reviews
- ‘How to’ items, Tips
- Unit Studies / Lesson Plans

The Town Hall
community events
- Coming Events
- Reviews of past events

The Village Market Place
buying, selling & swapping
- Classified ads

The Bakery
a place to share tasty treats and learning in the kitchen
- Recipes & Tips
- ‘How to’ items
- Nutrition, Health & Safety

The Discovery Centre
exploring science together
- News & Resources
- Articles & Reviews
- ‘How to’ items
- Experiments & Lesson Plans

The Library
all things literary
- News & Resources
- Articles & Reviews
- ‘How to’ items
- Unit Studies / Lesson Plans

Sandpit
early childhood pages
- News & Resources
- Articles & Reviews
- ‘How to’ items, Tips
- Unit Studies / Lesson Plans

Tree House
interviews with homeschool students and graduates
- News
- Resources
- Articles & Reviews

Giggle Pot
humorous quotes, jokes and stories
- Quotes
- Jokes, Riddles and Stories
- Cartoons

The Internet Café
wandering the world wide web
- News & Resources
- Articles & Reviews
- ‘How to’ items, Tips
- Unit Studies / Lesson Plans

The Art Gallery
art lessons and masterpieces
- News & Resources
- Articles & Reviews
- ‘How to’ items
- Unit Studies / Lesson Plans

The Museum
exploring history and the world around us
- News & Resources
- Articles & Reviews
- ‘How to’ items, Tips
- Unit Studies / Lesson Plans

The Farm
gardening, animals, pets and nature
- News & Resources
- Articles & Reviews
- ‘How to’ items, Tips
- Unit Studies / Lesson Plans

Theatre
celebrating performance arts
- News & Resources
- Articles & Reviews
- ‘How to’ items, Tips
- Unit Studies / Lesson Plans

Loft
craft pages
- News & Resources
- Articles & Reviews
- ‘How to’ items, Tips
- Unit Studies / Lesson Plans

The Tool Shed
making and building projects
- News & Resources
- Articles & Reviews
- ‘How to’ items, Tips
- Unit Studies / Lesson Plans

Playing Field
sport and outdoor activities
- News & Resources
- Articles & Reviews
- ‘How to’ items, Tips
- Unit Studies / Lesson Plans