

Guidelines for Contributors to History Workshop

The articles that we publish are **accessible, diverse, radical, relevant** and **rigorous**.

Accessible: Our articles are designed to make historical knowledge and ideas accessible to a broad international and public audience beyond academia. Our commitment to accessibility goes beyond 'Open Access' – it means using a structure, language and style that engages a diversity of readers. We encourage experimentation with format – for instance, multi-media articles including visual, video or audio content.

Diverse: Democratising history means involving the greatest range of voices in the production of history and expanding which stories are told. At History Workshop, we are committed to working to challenge long-standing structural inequalities within academic history – which are particularly stark in relation to ethnicity. We believe that diverse perspectives and experiences enrich historical knowledge. We seek to provide a platform for history making and telling in the multiple forms in which it takes place in society, including a wide range of methodological positions and diverse places, periods, and perspectives

Radical: History Workshop is a politically pluralistic platform and publishes a wide spectrum of progressive radical opinion. Your article might be radical in its subject, approach, perspective or form. We do not publish articles that are implicitly or explicitly discriminatory.

Relevant: Many of the articles that we publish speak to urgent debates in today's world and highlight how the past can enrich our understanding of problems in the present. There are many ways in which links can be drawn between past and present. Moving beyond straightforward parallels or lessons, we encourage nuance and an awareness that the past does not repeat itself, even if it sometimes 'rhymes' with the present.

Rigorous: Work submitted to History Workshop should be historically driven. This means that there should be a core of original historical research or practice underpinning your article. Your article could be grounded in archival sources or offer reflections on the practice of public history or methods of history teaching / writing / research.

Submitting an article or propose a podcast

You can submit either a paragraph-long pitch or a full-length article (1,500 words maximum) to hwoeditors@historyworkshop.org.uk.

We are unable to agree to publication based on a pitch, but we can give you some initial feedback and guidance that may help you to tailor your submission for our platform.

Our podcast is an ideal space for interviews and conversations, often bringing academics into dialogue with practitioners, artists or activists. Please get in touch if you would like to pitch an idea for a podcast or a podcast series.

Guidance for writing your article

We advise new contributors to [explore our archive](#) to get a sense of what a published History Workshop article looks like. You can use the search bar to see what we have published in your subject area in the past.

- **Title:** Avoid long academic titles.
- **Word length:** We publish articles of no more than 1,500 words in length. In exceptional circumstances, we will consider submissions of Long Reads, but these should be discussed and agreed with editors in advance of submission.
- **Argument:** The core argument or 'point' of your article should be made clear in the opening paragraph, including its relevance to any present-day issues or debates.
- **Language:** Tone should be informal and accessible. Jargon should be avoided, and specialist concepts should be clearly explained.
- **Context:** Do not assume knowledge – make sure you offer historical context to our non-expert audience.
- **References:** We do not use footnotes. We encourage hyperlinks to relevant blogs, websites and articles or to resources that explain more specialised concepts.
- **Format:** please submit your article as a Word Document or in another

Accompanying material:

- **Images:** Articles should be submitted with at least one relevant image. Please ensure that images are public domain, belong to the author or that permission has been granted by the archive or photographer for their use on our platform. All images should be submitted as separate files, rather than embedded in the article document.
- **About you:** Please submit a short author bio and author photograph (or other preferred image) with your article.

Conventions:

- We use single quotation marks which close before the full stop, unless the quotation is a complete sentence.
- We use UK spelling – e.g. neighbour, stylise, capitalisation.

The editorial process

We will try to respond to your submission within two weeks. However, editors are paid to work just 3 hours a week, so during busy times there can be delays.

We will let you know whether:

- we are able to accept the article for publication with minor changes
- we would like to suggest more substantive changes
- we are not able to publish your article

If your article is accepted, you will work with a HW editor to get it ready for publication. The editor will help to make sure your article is as accessible and relevant as possible for a broad public and international audience.

Normally articles will go through several rounds of edits. These might include clarifying questions, suggestions about structure or argument, and requests for more information or analysis, as well as copy edits to the text for grammar and clarity.

Once your article is nearly ready to publish, we will find a date for publication.

Publishing with History Workshop is much quicker than publishing via an academic journal. If your article is particularly timely, we can sometimes turn around articles within a week or two. Occasionally, our schedule is very busy and it may take several months before we can find a slot in our publication schedule. If this is the case, the editor will let you know this and tell you when your article will be published.

FAQ for Contributors

What is History Workshop?

Established in 2010, History Workshop is a digital magazine of radical history. It seeks to deepen understandings of the past, cast fresh light on the present and agitate for change in the world we live in now.

We continue the democratising spirit of the History Workshop movement and expand the ongoing work of *History Workshop Journal*. You can [read more about us here](#).

Who reads History Workshop?

Our platform makes cutting-edge research and work-in-progress visible to cross-disciplinary audiences within and beyond academia.

Our articles reach a broad public audience through our popular social media channels, with 20,000 followers on X (Twitter) and over 3,300 followers across Instagram and Facebook. 330,000 people visit our website each year and 11,000 listen to our podcasts.

We are UK-based, but our audiences are strongly international in scope, including readers in the US, Sweden, Sri Lanka and Australia.

Supported by an advisory board of editors at *History Workshop Journal*, we enjoy a strong academic reputation.

Who can write for History Workshop?

Individual contributors

We publish articles by academics, including those in disciplines beyond history and ranging from postgraduates to professors.

We also publish historically-engaged work by archivists, activists, family historians, heritage practitioners, museum curators, illustrators, novelists and teachers, amongst others.

We are also happy to publish collectively authored articles.

Projects

We often work in collaboration with academic projects and community groups; recent examples include [Windrush Strikes Back](#), the Wellcome Trust-funded [SHaME project](#) at Birkbeck and the AHRC network [Connected Curricula](#).

If you are running a funded academic project and would be interested in developing a formal collaboration with History Workshop to publish outputs, please get in touch as soon as possible – ideally, while developing your application for funding.

Series

Every year, we commission several thematic series. You can also submit an article to one of our ongoing series:

- **Historians' Watch:** In a period of global uncertainty and instability, this series asks how the past can help us grasp the present and think constructively about the future.
- **Radical Objects:** Whether letters, food or ephemera, material objects have acted as radical agents in history. This series unpacks stories of solidarity and everyday lives.
- **Radical Books:** This series centres subversive and seismic texts that have provoked controversy in their time or sparked social change.

Can you pay contributors?

Unfortunately, we are not currently in a financial position to pay contributors. We understand that this may make it difficult for some to write for History Workshop.

We are funded on a shoestring and prioritise paying our editorial fellows: early career historians who gain important experience and training in public history across their two-year fellowship.

Our editors work closely with contributors to offer structured and constructive feedback, guidance on how to transform research into public history, and a platform for their research.

I have access needs. What support do you offer?

We aim to provide a space for the widest range of voices. If you face access barriers related to a disability or caring responsibilities, please let us know when submitting your article.

Examples of support we can offer include: additional editorial support related to dyslexia; flexible timelines around caring responsibilities or chronic illness; communication via phone instead of email.

We can also offer additional editorial support if English is not your first language, although we do not have the resources to translate articles from a different language into English.

Do you publish book reviews?

We do not publish book reviews, but we welcome article submissions by authors based on their recently published book.

Likewise, we do not publish conference reports, but are happy to consider articles that reflect more broadly on themes and questions raised at a recent conference.

How does History Workshop relate to *History Workshop Journal*?

While History Workshop is supported by *History Workshop Journal*, financially and intellectually, we are an editorially independent entity.

Authors who publish with History Workshop often go on to submit journal-length research articles to *History Workshop Journal*, where they are anonymously reviewed. Find out more about [submitting to *History Workshop Journal* here](#).

All authors whose work is published with *History Workshop Journal* are invited to write a short, public-facing 'companion piece' for History Workshop, promoting their academic work to a wider audience.