

Name (please print)

Address.....

Postcode..... Telephone.....

Email.....

I am over 18 and I have read and agreed to abide by the membership criteria and bye-laws

By signing this form I consent to the Irregular Writers Collective holding and processing my data as above for the purpose of the activities of the Collective. You can opt out at any time by resigning your membership.

Signed.....

Please indicate why you would like to join and what you can offer to the Collective.

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Annual membership fee: £15

Membership Criteria:

Who can join? Membership is open to all writers who live in the Tunbridge Wells area and who are willing to participate in the Collective. All Members are asked to contribute some of their time (according to their situation) to support other writers and each other. Our aim is to help writers write and get published and have fun along the way. **If you would like to come to one of our meetings before joining as a member, just contact us to receive an invitation.**

Benefits of membership: Annual membership supports the Collective's work, including our guidance and links to services, advice on writing, editing, publishing and information about events. Members can send information about their published books to include on our website. Members have free entry to 'members only' social events, which give opportunities for socialising, meeting and networking.

How to become a Member: Contact the IWC

Membership Bye-Laws

These are the provisions that concern membership of the Irregular Writers Collective (“the Collective”).

1. There are the following categories of membership:
 - **Full members:** pay the full membership fee and have a vote at the AGM.
 - **Associates:** will have all the rights of Full Members except that they will not participate in our regular meetings and will not have a vote at the AGM. They will not pay a membership fee.
 - **Honorary members:** members who help the collective to pursue its aims through providing advice and support and in return are classified as full members and do not pay a membership fee.
 - The Collective is administered by a **Committee**, which is elected by the full members in accordance with the Constitution of the Collective.
2. **All membership is managed by the Membership Secretary.** To apply for membership simply fill out the membership application form and send to the Collective c/o the Membership Secretary with, if applicable, a cheque for the relevant fee. Membership to those under 18 years of age and to those not local to the Tunbridge Wells area is at the discretion of the Committee.
3. **The Irregular Writers Collective is a collective.** Its purpose is to provide a forum where writers and others in the book publishing process can help each other to write and to publish. Therefore every member should contribute an amount of time or information to help the collective in every year they are a member, this contribution does not need to be large.
4. **Members are encouraged to get in touch with each other.** In doing this, all members should treat each other with the respect they would in turn like to receive. Members should report any unwelcome, abusive, obscene, threatening or defamatory language or behaviour to the Membership Secretary.
5. **The Collective is reliant on a good brand image** to help its members make good contacts within the publishing industry. Therefore all advice and support provided by members to each other should be carefully considered and of high and professional quality.
6. **The Committee will only refuse an application for membership** if they consider it to be in the best interests of the collective.
7. **The Committee may decide at their discretion to rescind a member’s membership** without refund of their fee if:
 - A member has not paid their due membership fee
 - They believe the member has behaved in a disrespectful or threatening way to another member or in a way that may bring the collective into disrepute
 - They believe that the member has committed an illegal act
 - They have used the name of the Irregular Writers Collective inappropriately and without permission

The member concerned has the right to be heard by the Committee before a final decision is made.

8. **Contribution is at the heart of the collective.** If a member decides not to contribute the Committee may decide not to renew their membership when it comes up for renewal. However, extenuating circumstances such as illness will be taken into account.

9. **Membership will not be withheld or rescinded unreasonably**, and the member has the right to appeal in writing to the Committee.

10. **Membership is not transferable to anyone else.**

11. **If a dispute arises between members** and it cannot be resolved by agreement, to protect the Collective and the rest of its members against any undeserved and negative publicity, all parties must first in good faith attempt to settle the dispute by mediation before resorting to litigation.

12. **All other provisions** relevant to the operation of the Collective can be found in the Irregular Writers Collective’s Constitution. A copy of the constitution is available to any member on request.