Guidance for Authors

Articles
Notes and Records of the Royal Society appears in January, May and September, and publishes original papers on the history of the Royal Society and its Fellowship, and of the science, medicine and technology associated with it. The Editor welcomes contributions on these subjects from scientists and historians.

Submitted papers must be the author’s own and original work, and must not have been published previously, nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere.

Contributions should normally not exceed 5000 words and may be shorter; relevant illustrations are welcome. Line drawings should be in waterproof black ink on fine board or tracing paper, and photographs for half-tone reproduction should be in the form of highly glazed prints. Authors are responsible for obtaining permission to reproduce artwork for which they do not hold copyright.

A descriptive title should head the paper, followed by the author’s name and address. Honours and degrees are not shown.

A summary (maximum of 100 words) and 3–6 keywords should be included under the title.

Notes should be typed separately from the main body of the manuscript. The Notes are printed at the end of each paper in numerical order, reference being made in the text by the use of superscript numbers.

Reference to books should include the author’s name and initials, title (abbreviated according to common practice and underlined to indicate italics), then in brackets, town of origin and publisher (where appropriate for recent publications) and year of publication. Reference to papers in journals should include the author’s name and initials, title of the paper, title of the journal (abbreviated according to common practice and underlined to indicate italics), volume number, the numbers of the first and last pages and the year of publication (in brackets). Examples are:


After a paper has been accepted, authors will receive a set of page proofs with a form quoting prices for extra offprints beyond those they receive gratis. Substantial changes in a paper at proof stage must be avoided.

Electronic submission details
Authors should prepare papers in accordance with our Instructions to Authors (see http://publishing.royalsoc.ac.uk) and submit them electronically via the Internet. Visit our website for guidance on preparation. Please note that only PDF will be used for the peer-review process.

Cover image: Canadian Eclipse Party, 1869, taken in Jefferson, Iowa, where they set up their temporary observatory to watch the eclipse. (Photograph by Commander E. D. Ashe; source: The Proceedings of the Canadian Eclipse Party, 1870, p. 8.)