

Mslexia welcomes previously unpublished submissions from women writers for every part of the magazine. For more information including examples of the range of material we publish, what we pay and up-to-date deadlines, plus competitions, workshops and *Mslexia* news visit www.mslexia.co.uk/submit, phone **0191 233 3860** or email postbag@mslexia.co.uk.

Send submissions to submissions@mslexia.co.uk or **Mslexia, PO Box 656, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE99 1PZ**

THEMED POETRY AND PROSE

New Writing is a substantial section of new poetry and/or prose in the magazine, written by published and unpublished authors, selected and introduced by our New Writing Guest Editor or Competition Judge. Previous Mystery Guests and Judges include Fay Weldon, Carol Ann Duffy, Michèle Roberts, Helen Simpson, Wendy Cope, Jackie Kay and Val McDermid. We publish two magazines a year of themed new writing, and two containing the winners of our annual writing competitions.

For issue 54 we are inviting submissions to our **Women's Short Story Competition**. Send stories of up to 2,200 words on any topic. Judge: Tessa Hadley. 1st prize: £2,000 plus a week's writing retreat at Chawton House Library and a day with a Virago editor; 2nd prize: £500; 3rd prize: £250; Three other finalists win £100 each. All winning stories will be published in *Mslexia*. Entry fee: £10 per story. There is also a critiquing service available for stories entered into the competition. www.mslexia.co.uk/shortstory
Closing date: 19 March 2012

For issue 55, we will be inviting entries to our annual **Women's Poetry Competition**. Full details will be announced early 2012. Closing date: 18 June 2012

OTHER SUBMISSIONS

Guest bloggers If you have a writing project you're involved in, or an unusual take on (or experience in) the writing process, that you think *Mslexia* would be inspired by, apply for a three-month 'residency' on the *Mslexia* blog. Send a 100-word pitch plus a link to your blog and any other blogs you've appeared on.

Feature articles Ideas for one-off features are welcome, as a 200-word proposal plus a brief CV and a published or unpublished example of your writing.

Poetry and short story reviews We now commission these reviews. If you would like to be considered as a *Mslexia* reviewer, please send a 200-word description of what you would like to review for us and why, plus a brief writing CV and a published or unpublished sample of your writing.

Monologue for writers of script, send up to 200 words on any topic in a single character's voice – for issue 54 we're looking for monologues in the voice of a dog.

Four Lines that Rhyme ABAB, AAAA, AABB, ABCA, any combination, serious or flippant, we don't mind; but no more than 40 words, please.

Pen Portrait Convey a character in second or third person – and in no more than 120 words. For issue 54 we're looking for a pen portrait of a fat man.

A Week of Tweets Monday through Sunday, tell us about your writing – and your life – in seven flavour-packed slices of up to 140 characters apiece.

Rants and Raves Send up to 80 words about something literary or womanly that irritates or enrages you; or something or someone you enjoy or admire.

How I Did It Back due to popular demand! Send us 200 words on how you achieved publication of your book with the subtitles 'The Book', 'The Long Haul' and 'The Advice' (roughly 65 words in each section).

Writing group In 200 words, please explain how you run your meetings, and describe a recent exercise for other groups to follow.

Reading group If you belong to a reading group and would like to review a book for us, get in touch – and get the books for free!

SUBMITTING YOUR WORK

We aim to email a response within three months of any deadline (not including competitions). If posting, you need only enclose an SAE if you want an acknowledgement.

If emailing OTHER SUBMISSIONS, please put 'Rants', 'Tweets', 'Writing Group', etc. in the subject line, as appropriate, and send to submissions@mslexia.co.uk. If you're submitting work to multiple topics, (e.g. a monologue and a rave) please send each one in a separate email. We also need your land address and telephone number. Any submissions received after the deadline will be considered for the next issue (except themed entries).

Deadline for possible inclusion in ISSUE 54:
16 April 2012

We pay for submissions printed in the magazine. For a full list of what we pay, visit the website at www.mslexia.co.uk/submit