

The Listener Historical Archive 1929-1991

This new digital collection from Gale offers researchers and students access to the complete, fully searchable facsimile archive of *The Listener*, the BBC periodical published between 1929-1991.

ABOUT THE LISTENER

Regarded as the premier cultural studies magazine of the mid-20th century, *The Listener* was a weekly periodical established by the BBC under its first Director-General Lord Reith in January 1929. Developed as the medium for reproducing broadcast talks – initially on radio and later on television - *The Listener* provides present day researchers with one of the few means of accessing the content of many rare early BBC broadcasts. As well as commenting on and expanding on the broadcasts of the week, *The Listener* also dedicated pages to major literary and musical programmes and regularly reviewed new books and films, providing researchers with valuable insights into the critical reception of 20th century contemporary and popular culture. As a source for revealing how the wider British public responded to books, politics and the arts through the course of the 20th century, *The Listener* is without peer.

STUDY AND RESEARCH

The Listener Historical Archive, 1929-1991 opens up a vast area of research and teaching in the study of 20th century society and culture, particularly in the post-1945 period. The online archive consists of the complete 62 year run of the paper, allowing users to search across 140,000 pages - all newly digitised from originals in full colour. Time-saving features such as multiple search paths, browse options and limiters allow users to pinpoint results quickly. With its multi-disciplinary appeal, academics and students working in Media/Journalism, Communication and Cultural Studies as well as History, Literature, Arts and Politics can mine topics as diverse as daily life during World War II, 20th century poetry, the final days of the British Empire and science broadcasting in the 20th century.



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CONTRIBUTORS

Key contributors to *The Listener* include:

- E. M. Forster
- George Orwell
- T.S Eliot
- Bertrand Russell
- George Bernard Shaw
- Virginia Woolf

The magazine also provided a platform for new writers and poets:

- W. H. Auden
- Sylvia Plath
- Christopher Isherwood
- Stephen Spender
- Philip Larkin

ARTICLES

Users will find a diverse range of essays and articles including:

- The death of King George V
- Essays accompanying Sir Kenneth Clark's art history programme *Civilization*
- Interviews with famous 20th century authors such as Vladimir Nabokov
- Anthony Burgess writing on the assassination of President Kennedy

TRANSCRIPTS

The archive provides a wealth of transcripts from broadcasts including:

- AJP Taylor's TV lectures
- Royal Institute Christmas lectures
- *Panorama*, BBC One's flagship current affairs programme
- Alistair Cooke's *Letter from America* and *From Our Own Correspondent*

The rise of broadcast media transformed 20th century society. As our main record of the first decades of broadcasting – including transcripts of programmes - *The Listener Historical Archive* is an indispensable research and teaching tool.

GALE HISTORICAL NEWSPAPERS

The Listener Historical Archive belongs to the Gale Historical Newspapers Collection, including:

- *Times Literary Supplement Historical Archive*
- *The Times Digital Archive*
- *Illustrated London News Historical Archive*
- *The Economist Historical Archive*
- *Financial Times Historical Archive*

Each collection is cross-searchable on the *Gale NewsVault* platform allowing users to view the past from multiple perspectives.

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