

AN ANTHOLOGY OF LEITH WRITING AND ILLUSTRATIONS: 100 YEARS LATER

There are plans to produce an anthology of Leith-focussed writing in 2020 to celebrate the centenary of the amalgamation of Leith and Edinburgh in 1920. There is to be central civic event in Edinburgh on 2 November, the anniversary day, hosted by the Lord Provost, with events on nearby dates in areas now within the city that were included in the Edinburgh Boundaries Extension and Tramways Act 1920. We aim to produce this anthology to mark the Leith event.

We are setting up an editorial team to explore publisher, format, design and costs. Depending on funding and/or sponsorship the publication could be free or for sale. If it is for sale, proceeds will be in support of some chosen cause or to offset production costs and put towards future editions. There may be advertising.

If it is successful – and why shouldn't it be? – it could be the first of an annual publication: the serial number could be 100, and next year 101, and so on. It could be the inauguration of a new Leith tradition.

At this stage we are inviting contributions in order to have the content ready in good time.

CRITERIA

We are looking for creative writing that somehow reflects on the centenary or celebrates or comments on present-day Leith. This could be retrospective or futuristic: a look at 2020 from 2120, for example. It may certainly have a political edge, but there should be no pointed party politics. Straightforward fiction set in some aspect of Leith is certainly looked for. Poetry is included.

There will probably be room for some non-fiction. We are **not** looking for nostalgia or reminiscence unless it is part of a piece with a creative angle.

We don't want to be prescriptive about length except a maximum: anything from a haiku to about 3,000 words.

Previously published work is acceptable, but the author must secure and show permission to reproduce the work in this publication. Authors must give the administrators of this publication permission to publish their work. The permission must be explicit, and incorporated into submissions.

Depending on various factors, there may be four or five texts in the anthology, or a dozen.

We are expecting that text will be interspersed with illustrations.

No payment will be made to authors or illustrators.

PROCESS

Closing date for entries: 31 July 2020. Text entry (entries) should be in a Word doc. and illustrations in pdf. Please send to me at mail@leithwalks.co.uk in two forms:

1. Your text or illustration, with heading/title.
2. Your text or illustration, with heading/title PLUS this statement: **I [author/creator] of the text/illustration titled [title of text/illustration submitted] give permission to publish this work in the forthcoming Leith Anthology 2020. [Name, date].**

If your work has been previously published, please take note of the requirement in paragraph 4 under CRITERIA (above).

A small group (yet to be identified) will make the final selection based on quality of writing and in search of an appropriate balance within the anthology. I will acknowledge receipt.

Tim Bell, on behalf of a small and as yet informal group.