

Public are asked to help decide whom to immortalise on Dundee Waterfront

Which famous Dundonians should be the first to be immortalized in bronze on the city's huge new waterfront development?

That's the question being posed by a public consultation exercise launched today to help choose the first plaques for the new "Discovery Walk" project.

Discovery Walk, which is supported by the Dundee Waterfront Project, will celebrate Dundee's contribution to science and society with specially commissioned bronze plaques.

The plaques will be set into the pavement in the open space area of the newly-named Slessor Gardens at the heart of the Waterfront development.

The plaques will give clues to the fascinating stories of individuals whose discoveries and inventions have made many important and exciting contributions to modern life.

The group behind Discovery Walk has identified 14 nominees who could be commemorated, and is asking the public to help choose the first nine that will be commissioned and installed later this year.

The group has set up an online poll linked from the [Dundee One City Many Discoveries Facebook page](#) for people to record their preferences or alternatively or by email to: discovery.walk@dundeecity.co.uk

Among the nominees are inventors, scientists, philanthropists, engineers, and artists from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. Some of them are not well known to the public and have not been widely recognised for their work in the city - this project aims to show as wide a range of Dundee's contributions to science as possible.

The criteria for selection were that the nominees must be deceased, and must have been born or spent much of their lives in Dundee. They must have made a notable or influential discovery either in Dundee or clearly linked to the city.

Discovery Walk is the brainchild of Kelly Marr, an Australian who has made Dundee her home.

Kelly commented: "I was inspired by the famous Writers' Walk around Sydney Harbour celebrating more than 50 writers either from or associated with Australia in some way.

"During the last 20 years I would hear about some of the great innovations that were made in Dundee, and I always felt that it was a great shame that such achievements were not celebrated publicly. Discovery Walk will ensure that this part of the city's heritage is never forgotten, and it will mean the city can take an enormous pride in the people that are celebrated."

Dundee-based artist and illustrator Suzanne Scott, who works under the name WhimSicAL LuSH, has been commissioned to design the first nine plaques. Suzanne has exhibited all over

Scotland and her unique illustrations have featured in widely sold prints, stationary, mugs and jewellery.

Suzanne said: ""I am beyond delighted to have been asked to be a part of this exciting and interesting project. To have my work be part of the Dundee Waterfront is such an honour. I was born in Dundee and came back to live here 15 years ago. I never left as it is a beautiful and inspiring city, which I am proud to live in."

The Discovery Walk project is being steered by a group comprising representatives of Dundee City Council, Abertay Historical Society, Abertay University, University of Dundee, Dundee Science Centre and Axis Shield Diagnostics.