Last call for entries for Ian Bell New Writing Award

Ian Bell New Writing Award: get your entries in by 30 November

Ian Bell, the radical journalist and author who died in December 2015, is being commemorated by a new award for young writers, launched in September by the National Union of Journalists Edinburgh Branch and Ian Bell's family.

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Hilary Horrocks of Edinburgh NUJ said: "We are delighted to have received some excellent entries that show the energy and imagination there is out there among aspiring writers.

"But we're also sure there's a lot more out there — so don't forget to send in your entries by midnight on 30 November 2017, to hilaryhorrocks@btinternet.com."

Entrants should be aged 30 or under at 30 November 2017, and living, working or studying in Scotland.

Submissions, which should be unpublished, should be in the critical spirit of Ian Bell and written in a style — taut, provocative but thoughtful — suitable for online and newspaper publication.

The subject can be drawn from politics, culture, modern society, history, international affairs, Scotland, or related topics.

Each entrant may submit up to two entries, each of between 1,500 and 2,000 words, together with their name, date of birth and place of work/study (if any).

The judges are Iain Macwhirter, author and political commentator, *The Herald* and *The Sunday Herald*; Melanie Reid, writer and columnist, *The Times*; and Michael Gray, former reporter for *CommonSpace*.

The winner will be announced in early February, and will receive a prize of £500 and publication in *Scottish Review of Books*.