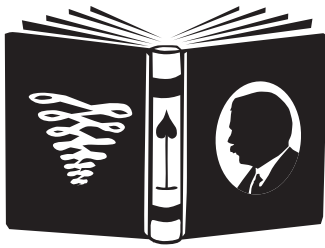

H.G. WELLS
~ FESTIVAL ~



FOLKESTONE
19 & 20 SEPTEMBER 2009

The Sandgate
Society



Folkestone
Creative

Origins of the Festival

*“Isn't it time that we had an H G Wells festival?
After all, it was in Folkestone and Sandgate, where
H G Wells lived 100 years ago, that he wrote many
of his most famous books.”*

Sentiments such as these were often voiced around the town, but it was not until the end of last year that a group of people, meeting at The Chimaera Gallery, Tontine Street, as part of the Literary Festival Fringe, decided to DO something. Wendy van Halderen-Moss, Chair of Folkestone Artists Co-operative, Reg Turnill, President of Sandgate Society, and Nicholas Reed, Editor of Folkestone Creative, called a further meeting on 8 December 2008, kindly hosted by Michael Stainer at The Grand.

The room was packed (see the Founding Group list) and a Steering Committee formed plus (as is the way with committees) a Sub-committee as well to push on with the action. Wendy van Halderen-Moss agreed to be the Acting Chair and Mary Mather the Acting Secretary.

Central to this initiative was the amazingly generous offer, by Reg Turnill, of an **ANNUAL award of £1000 for a short story in the style of H G Wells**. This has already stimulated much interest and animated discussion (see the Entry Form below). The closing date for entries is 20th July, with the best authors to be nominated and their stories read as the culmination of the Festival Weekend 19/20th September 2009. It is then that the award winner will be announced and the presentation made.

A grant from Folkestone Town Council has been applied for, and other funding bids are in the pipeline. But of course we are relying for the main part on voluntary contributions of work, time and materials for a whole series of H G Wells related events; in fact we are already being inundated with exciting offers, plans and ideas!

Watch this space!

www.wellsfestival.com