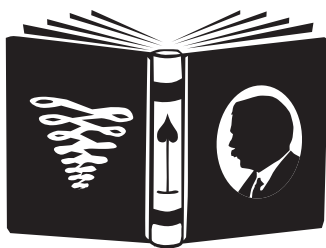


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H.G. WELLS  
~ FESTIVAL ~



FOLKESTONE  
19 & 20 SEPTEMBER 2009

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The Sandgate  
Society



Folkestone  
Creative

# H.G. WELLS FESTIVAL

## Press Release

Sponsored by The Sandgate Society, Folkestone Artists Co-operative and Folkestone Creative

At 5.45 pm on **FRIDAY, MARCH 20th**, at The Grand on The Leas, we will be launching an annual H G Wells Festival in Folkestone. There will be a number of events leading up to the **weekend of 19/20 September** – commemorating Wells' birthday on the 21st September in 1866.

The **centre-piece** of the festival is an **annual Short Story Competition** with a **prize of £1,000** for an original story in the style of H G Wells. Anybody in full or part-time education is eligible to compete. The closing date for entries is 20th July and the best will be nominated to appear at the award ceremony on 20th September when the finalist will be announced.

In addition to his most frequently-filmed works such as *War of the Worlds* and *First Men in the Moon*, **Wells wrote** short stories, and **novels such as Kipps**, which were **located in the streets and shops of Folkestone**. An exciting project initiated by Zach Cooke of Folkestone Film Factory is to make a **short film** based on one of Wells' Folkestone-based stories. Our **local libraries and bookshops** will be mounting a display of Wells' books, and other exhibitions/ events are envisaged. Among these are **Writing Workshops** to encourage and help develop the hidden talents of those who may be hesitant to enter the competition.

**Guided Walks** and longer **Coach Tours** are planned. These will include Spade House built by Wells in Sandgate and other sites where he and his contemporaries met, talked and romanced - Joseph Conrad at Postling, Edith Nesbit (*The Railway Children*) on Romney Marsh & Henry James at Rye.

**H.G. Wells Festival at The Grand, Folkestone**  
**Saturday & Sunday 19-20 September 2009**