

Sandra Howard

Sandra may appear to have had a charmed life, setting out as a model as Sandra Paul in the 60s with two Vogue covers to her credit, and later enjoying the trappings of high political office as Mrs Michael Howard (now Lord & Lady Howard), but her literary career has entirely been the product of self taught hard work, much of it in her far flung attic study.

She has three novels to her credit, all best sellers, and a fourth being developed, which could be the raciest yet.

She has been a great supporter of the Wells Festival, and is most eager to encourage new talent to emulate her.

Website: www.sandrahoward.co.uk

Stewart Ross

Stewart is a prolific writer, especially of prize winning children's stories, and is a popular and sought after speaker at educational workshops and on cruise ships.

He lives near Canterbury with his wife, four children and sheepdog Chess, escaping from them all, just like Wells, to write in a garden refuge.

Like Sandra he is an occasional journalist,.

Website: www.stewartross.com

Peter Sissons

Peter is a veteran BBC & ITV newsreader and Question Time host, and well remembered for his parliamentary election night coverage.

He is a Liverpoolian, and amazingly was at school with Jimmy Tarbuck, John Lennon, George Harrison and Paul McCartney, then raced ahead to the ancient University College, Oxford, alma mater of Beveridge, Atlee and Harold Wilson. He controversially wore a burgundy red tie when announcing the death of the Queen Mother; now Sevenoaks based. He has lately entered the authorial stakes with his autobiography, 'When One Door Closes', described as a 'must read' by Sir Paul McCartney.

2010 Winners



Catalina Pearce, 19, from Folkestone wins the £1000 prize in the under 25s category for her story called **Life, Death and Love**.

Michael John Dnes, 25, from London was the runner up in the under 25s category with his story called **Gresham's Law**.



Mary Bryden, 56, from Caldicot Monmouthshire, Wales, wins the £250 prize in the over 25s category for her story **Cross Purposes**.

Michele Sheldon was the runner up in the over 25s category with her story **Centring of Olives**.



Peter Murrells, 16, from Folkestone wins one of Ann Nevill's two £100 prizes in the under 25s category for his story called **Time to Think**.

Amy Seager, 17, wins the other Ann Nevill £100 prize in the under 25s category for her story called **The Metamorphosis of Tom Wire**

These stories can be read on www.WellsFestival.com

H.G. WELLS ~ FESTIVAL ~



FOLKESTONE 2011

At The Grand, The Leas



Peter Sissons & Sandra Howard



Presentation to last year's winner



Stewart Ross



HG Wells



The Grand, The Leas, Folkestone CT20 2XL Tel: 01 303 222 222
www.grand-uk.com

£1450 MUST BE WON!

ENTRANTS

Anyone who has the urge to write - as did H G Wells, a self-taught writer, who made himself and the Folkestone area famous when he lived at Sandgate 110 years ago. Entrants were invited to write a short story or article of between 2000 and 5000 words with a topical theme. Like Wells's writings, the work should give readers in a hundred years time a vivid picture of how life was lived in the 21st Century. The local donors seek to raise and encourage standards of literacy - both reading and writing.

PRIZES

The four of them are generous, aimed primarily at students at Kent's Universities, academies and schools. The Main prize of £1000 is restricted to those aged 25 or less (and was won in 2009 by an entrant aged 13). The Senior Prize of £250 offered by The Grand, is for those aged 26 and above. There are two Nevill prizes of £100 each, to be awarded by the judges to promising young local writers. The Sandgate Society's Lola Lachlan prize of £50 for residents of Folkestone and Sandgate aged 10 or under is being announced later.

ANNOUNCING THE AWARDS

The judges, who knew only the ages of entrants, published a list of Nominations for the prizes at a Literary Tea Party at The Grand on Friday, 23rd September with Sandra Howard. Nominees are invited to a buffet lunch on Sunday, 23rd October, with Final Awards being presented by our VIP guests at 3pm. Relatives and others are encouraged to buy tickets for these events.

JUNIOR NOMINATIONS

Andrew Barr, 21 - "Tempuus"

Rachel White, 22, - "Switch"

Sarah Unsworth, 24 - "The Transition to Adulthood"

SENIOR NOMINATIONS

Helen Derry, 71 - "The Price of Silence"

Michael Dnes, 26 - "CAI"

Grant Gibson, 57 - "An Education"

Bryan Rylands, 46 - "My First Dictionary"
"The Human Element"

Karol Steele, 49 - "Do You Take This Man..."

Programme

Sponsored by The Sandgate Society & The Grand

Saturday 22nd October

10am Assemble at The Grand for morning coffee and optional rambling drive around the district to see buildings of literary interest, finishing at a renowned pub for a bite to eat - pay for your own food and drink. **£5**

10am to 4pm Browse at the annual Antiquarian Book Fair in The Grand's historic reception rooms. **£2**

7.30 for 8pm Gala Dinner (Black Tie or Lounge suit) with VIP Guest Stewart Ross, best-selling author and cruise ship lecturer, with an astonishing 230 published titles to his credit. He will tell us "How it is done". As well as the public, all past and present competitors are urged to attend. Tickets for the seven-course gala dinner with drinks included, may be ordered from The Grand - 01303 222 222 **£40**

Sunday, 23rd October - Awards Day

10am Morning coffee in the The Grand's Palm Court, with optional Literary History Walk led by Michael Stainer, donor of The Grand's £250 prize for senior writers. **£5**

12 for 12.30 pm Buffet lunch, with VIP guests Peter & Sylvia Sissons, Stewart and Lucy Ross and Sandra, Lady Howard, and nominated entrants as guests invited to discuss and read extracts from their entries. Other competitors and the public warmly invited to attend. Tickets available in advance or at the door - to include tea after presentation of the awards. **£15**

3pm Final awards to be announced and presented by Stewart Ross with Peter Sissons and Sandra Howard. All others are encouraged to attend, and may socialise afterwards with our guests at a buffet tea. Tea for those not at the buffet lunch **£5**

All events are at The Grand, where tickets are available in advance or, except for the Gala Dinner, at the door. The Organisers are deeply indebted to the VIPs mentioned above, the donors of the cash prizes (Reg Turnill, Michael Stainer and Ann Nevill), and the committee all of whom have freely given their time to making these events possible. The events are funded in their entirety by the entry fees.

Committee 2011

Irene Costello
Matthew Dickens
Liz Joyce
Stuart MacIntyre
Marianne Roberts
Graham Turnill
Margaret Turnill
Reg Turnill

Host: Michael Stainer
info@wellsfestival.com