

**WIN  
WELLS's CLASSICS**



Penguin Books have generously donated three of their 17-volume sets of H G Wells's books to the Folkestone & Sandgate 2010 Wells Festival. A century on, his writings are still read around the world both for enjoyment and study.

For a **chance to win** one of these sets, worth **£160**, buy a £25 ticket for the Gala Dinner on Saturday 18 September. For a **second chance**, enter the 20Q Quiz, forms available from Friday 17 September. The winner will be announced - or drawn if necessary - at the Sunday Tea Party following the Short Story Award.

Alex & Dominic Wells will be invited to **autograph** some of the third set for presentation to our VIPs and possible auction with space memorabilia at the Tea Party.

**MEET  
THE SHORT STORY WRITERS**

All those nominated are invited to a carvery buffet lunch on Sunday 19 September, and tickets are available for the public.

Book now if you wish to meet the writers and hear them discuss and quote from their entries. Sandra Howard and Dominic Wells announce the final winners in the afternoon.



[www.WellsFestival.com](http://www.WellsFestival.com)



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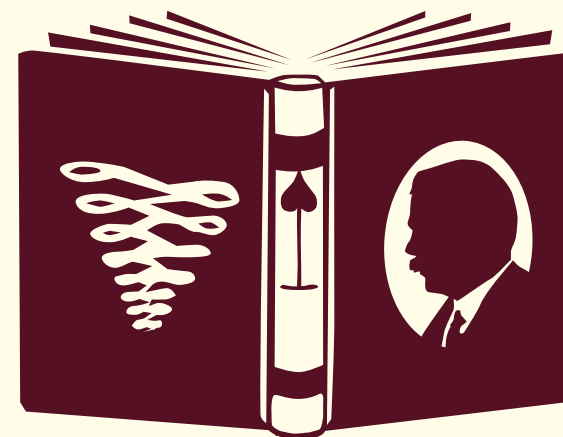


'HG'

**H.G. WELLS  
~ FESTIVAL ~**



Alex Wells



**FOLKESTONE  
17-19 SEPTEMBER 2010  
At The Grand, The Leas**



Peter Sissons

Meet the VIPs



Sandra Howard

Buy your tickets at The Grand

## WHO'S WHO

**PETER SISSONS** spent his entire working life on TV News. As an ITN reporter he worked in friendly competition with BBC's Reg Turnill covering the Concorde saga, then from 1976 became famous hosting ITN and Channel 4 News. Poached by the BBC, he then hosted their main news programmes, including a 4-year stint as Question Time chairman, until he retired in 2003.

**SANDRA HOWARD**, was a famous model for Vogue in the 1960s; now a successful novelist, her latest being a political story, *A Matter of Loyalty*. She has been married for 35 years to Michael Howard, now Lord Howard after retiring as Folkestone's MP. She agreed to be one of five judges of the H G Wells Festival short story competition, and will present The Grand's £250 story award.

**DOMINIC WELLS**, great grandson of H G Wells, will again present the £1000 Short Story Award. Fourth generation scientist, following in the tradition of HG, his sons and grandson, he is now a distinguished Professor at the Royal Veterinary College, London, after appointments in the US and Imperial College, London. His son,

**ALEX WELLS**, a student at Warwick University, will formally open the Festival.

**MICHAEL SHERBORNE** is the author of the latest Wells biography, aptly entitled *Another Kind of Life*. He is Head of English & Humanities at Luton Sixth Form College and has made a lifelong study of Wells's varied work and the impact on it of HG's many mistresses.

**REGINALD TURNILL**, author and broadcaster, as a Fleet Street reporter met Wells and reported Winston Churchill's speeches, then became BBC Aerospace Correspondent and covered all the Apollo moon landings. A Sandgate resident for over 30 years, he has bequeathed the funds to provide the Festival's annual £1000 short story competition prize.

**MICHAEL STAINER**, a chartered accountant and Festival benefactor, bought The Grand nearly 40 years ago when it was derelict. Its restoration is his unaided achievement. He is delighted to be able to host the Wells Festival in such a perfect venue.

**LYN SCAZAFABO & THE COMMITTEE:** Lyn took over the Festival Chair following Mary Mather's sudden death shortly after last year's Festival. Like others on the Festival Committee she is an artist, and a member of FHODS and the Folkestone Artists' Co-operative whose idea it was to start the Wells Festival. Other members include Paul Allen, Ray Duff, Yvonne Hutchcraft, Liz Joyce, Nicholas Reed, Graham Turnill, Margaret Turnill & Neville Pundole.

## SPONSORS

Reg Turnill, President of The Sandgate Society – £1,000 Prize

The Grand – £250 Prize; Premises; Printing & Publicity

Penguin Books | Kent Community Foundation - Grass Roots Fund | H G Wells Society

Roger Joyce Associates, Chartered Architects | Godden Allen Lawn, Chartered Building Surveyors

Folkestone Creative | Marrin's Bookshop | Folkestone Town Council | Sandgate Parish Council

The Hub Cycle Shop & Country Warmth from Sandgate



Sandgate PC

H G Wells Society

## Sunday - Short Story Competition

### Short List

#### NOMINATIONS FOR THE £1000 PRIZE FOR YOUNG WRITERS UP TO THE AGE OF 25:

ALEXANDER JOSHUA SMITH	Folkestone	12	<i>Everyday Karma – the Old Lady &amp; the Youth</i>
JAMES RIORDAN	Seabrook, Hythe	13	<i>Today</i>
TANSEY WICKHAM-PUSEY	Ashford, Kent	16	<i>Daddy</i>
CATALINA PEARCE	Folkestone	19	<i>Life, Death &amp; Love</i>
ELEANOR DEVALL	Lenham, Maidstone	20	<i>The Student &amp; the Bowler Hat</i>
KASIA LADDS	Fulbourn, Cambs	23	<i>Jake's Wolf</i>
MICHAEL JOHN DNES	Kew, London	25	<i>Gresham's Law</i>

#### NOMINATIONS FOR THE GRAND'S £250 PRIZE FOR AGE 26+

MICHELE SHELDEN	Folkestone	43	<i>Centring the Olives</i>
ROSIE UNSWORTH	Folkestone	43	<i>The Stalker</i>
JULIE-ANN DARBISHIRE	Ashford, Kent	50	<i>First Day</i>
MARY BRYDEN	Caldicot, Mon	56	<i>Cross Purposes</i>
DAMIAN DIGNAM	Berkhamsted, Herts	56	<i>The Sacrifice</i>
CHERRY CUCKOO	Herne Bay, Kent	60	<i>The Turn of the Tide</i>
ALAN STOCKWELL	Smarden, Kent	71	<i>A Life in the Day of Eve Sanderson</i>

Reginald Turnill says: "After a slow start, the stories flooded in, and the judges have had a challenging time reading over 100 entries of up to 5000 words for the two awards. I told the judges only whether it was a senior or junior entry, and the first they knew of the writers' identities was when they read this list."

## CHOOSING THE WINNERS

The judges were faced with a massive task – up to half a million words to get through!

Reg Turnill, asked them to give each story marks for Originality, Construction, Presentation, Humour, and Handwriting, with an added 10% left for their own discretion. The other main condition helped to whittle them down: that stories should reflect living conditions today so that, like many of H G Wells's stories, people reading them in 100 years' time would get an idea of what life was like in 2010. What he did NOT want this year was horror stories!

There is also a Special Young Writer Award of £100 which has been donated by local historian Ann Nevill.

## Saturday walk through Sandgate:

Wells's Houses & Inspiration - with Paul Allen of the HG Wells Society

There is no doubt that Sandgate, Folkestone and the surrounding countryside inspired this fast rising literary talent at the turn of the 19th/20th centuries. **H G Wells lived in Sandgate between 1898 and 1909** during one of his most productive phases **occupying three houses** and setting many of his novels and stories in the area.

The **H G Wells Sandgate Walk** therefore takes in not only where the great thinker, writer, physically diminutive but larger than life character lived, but also visits or views some of the locations which inspired him and which he immortalized in his writings of the time.

The walk starts outside the elegant and imposing **Grand**, a hotel built in Wells' time which fronts the remarkable elevated grassy expanse known as the **Folkestone Leas**. It is this wonderful space overlooking the English Channel, very fashionable in Edwardian times, that H G Wells uses to great effect in his story **The New Accelerator**, the tale of a drug that speeds up the metabolism to such an extent that the taker sees the world in extreme slow motion. By this device H G Wells creates an evocative image, cinematic before the age of the cinema, of Edwardian promenaders.

The walk visits all three houses, Beach Cottage, Arnold House and Spade House, taking in scenes from **The First Men in the Moon**, **The Sea Lady** & **The History of Mr Polly**. Spade House was designed for him by the fashionable architect Voysey, and the children's playroom here was where he developed his **Little Wargames**, one of which is to be re-enacted by Class Wargames at the afternoon tea party.

In 1909 it is thought that the breaking scandals of his tumultuous private life caused him to up-root himself and his family to the more anonymous London scene. However, the **Folkestone area** remained vivid in his mind for the rest of his life. Allusions to the area and settings in other books owe much to the inspiration of this uniquely atmospheric corner of England.



Spade House



Lane below to Arnold House

## Saturday afternoon tea party:

Class Wargames

Class Wargames, a collective of academics, presents a recreation of the Battle of Hook's Farm from H.G. Wells' 1913 book 'Little Wars'. As well as showing you how to play this game, we will also be discussing how this entertaining conflict in miniature was Wells' antidote to the Great War between the imperialist powers which he feared was about to bring death and destruction to the peoples of the world... [www.classwargames.net](http://www.classwargames.net)

## FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

FRIDAY 17 SEPTEMBER TO SUNDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

### FRIDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2010

6-8pm Opening Reception with Alex Wells (great great grandson of H G Wells) & the Mayor of Folkestone with Festival introduction by biographer Michael Sherborne **FREE**

### SATURDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

11am - 12.30 History Walk through Sandgate with Paul Allen of the H.G. Wells Society **£5**

2pm onwards Grand Tea Party with Edwardian period entertainment by Company of 12, Tangled Tales' Puppetry and Imaginary Futures Wargames **£8.50**

7.30 for 8pm Festival Dinner & discussion with VIP guests, incl. Peter Sissons and Prof. Dominic Wells Chaired by Reg Turnill **£25**

### SUNDAY 19 SEPTEMBER All-day ticket (save £10.50) **£25**

11am Coffee and meet the VIPs **£5**

12.30pm Carvery Buffet Lunch **£22** with Sandra Howard for Story Writers and ticket holders; Story Readings

3pm **Sandra Howard awards £250 prize Dominic Dominic Wells awards £1000 prize Ann Nevill special award £100 for young writers**

5 - 7pm Grand Tea **£8.50** Auction of Space Artefacts 20Q Quiz answers & prizes 6pm

### THROUGHOUT WEEKEND

- Wells Palm Court Art Show
- Paintings and books for sale
- Arts, Crafts and Marrin's Antiquarian Books



William Jarrett, from Folkestone's Harvey Grammar School, together with his family, collecting his winner's cheque last year for his story, 'The Invaders from Within'. His story, together with those of the runners up may be seen on the festival website, [www.WellsFestival.com](http://www.WellsFestival.com)

## ENJOY THE FESTIVAL !

**Alex Wells**, great great grandson of HG, and **Michael Sherborne** - who, in addition to being a distinguished scholar, is author of the latest well-reviewed biography of Wells, will **open the Festival. Invited guests** include Folkestone's Mayor, Cllr **Tom McNeice**, an avid Wells fan, local leaders, the sponsors, last year's winners and this year's nominated competitors in the Short Story Competition. Attendance at this event is free, but tickets can be bought for Saturday and Sunday. These will entitle buyers to enter a 20Q Quiz, the result of which will be announced at Sunday's Tea Party. For this the Prize will be a set of currently published H G Wells books donated by Penguins.

**Saturday's** events culminate with a **Gala Dinner** at The Grand, with **Peter Sissons**, famous TV personality, as Guest of Honour. Instead of speeches the dinner will be followed by an open discussion. Tickets are available at £25, and we look forward to some lively exchanges covering both HG's work and his 'open love' philosophy. **Reg Turnill** will chair, and participants include **Prof Dominic Wells** and **Alex Wells**, HG's great and great-great grandsons.

**Sunday's** events will climax in the Ballroom with the award at 3pm by **Sandra Howard**, the novelist, of The Grand's **£250 prize** for senior short story writers, followed by **Dominic Wells**, announcing and awarding the **£1000 short story prize**. The short-listed storywriters, from among whom the five judges will have selected the winners, will all receive Certificates. There is also **Ann Nevill's** Special Young Writer **Award of £100**.

The final event will be an Edwardian Tea Party, which will include an auction of some **Apollo** and **Space Shuttle flight plans** and **press kits**. The winner will also be announced of the **20Q Wells Quiz**. A draw will be held if there is a tie.

## WELLS PALM COURT ART SHOW - EXAMPLES



Folkestone Pier £165  
Neville Eldridge



Kipps at work £80  
Yvonne Hutchcraft



Leas Shelter £165  
Anne Wimsett



Kipps £165  
Anne Wimsett

## WHO WINS £1000?

The competition is aimed at preserving our literary heritage and encouraging new talent. This year entrants were asked to write stories up to 5000 words long about life today which – like HG's stories – would give readers in 2110 a picture of life 100 years ago. The £1000 will go to an entrant under 26. Older entrants qualify for The Grand's £250 prize.

## Michael Sherborne

Friday evening speaker



Michael is Head of the English and Humanities department at Luton Sixth Form College. He was awarded a PhD at the University of Nottingham for his thesis on Wells's fiction, which he later adapted into a book, **Macmillan Modern Novelists: H.G. Wells**, published under his original name of Michael Draper. He has been editor of the **Wellsian** and **Chair of the H.G. Wells Society**, and has edited **Wells's Country of the Blind and Other Stories** and **Short History of the World**.

His biography, **H.G. Wells: Another Kind of Life**, was published earlier this year by Peter Owen and **awarded a four star review** by the **Daily Telegraph**.

Michael will be presenting an illustrated talk about Wells following the opening ceremony, attendance at which is free.

## H G Wells Society weekend at Canterbury

Report by Prof Patrick Parrinder, our festivals keynote speaker last year

"Was Wells mad?" was the startling question asked by Brian Aldiss at the start of the "From Kent to Cosmopolis" conference on July 9-11, 2010 in Canterbury. Brian was referring to the period in the mid 1920s when Wells wrote **The Dream** and **Christina Alberta's Father**. During the ensuing panel discussion, Maureen Kincaid Speller spoke of Mr Bedford in **The First Men in the Moon**, who at one point gets cold feet about his imminent departure in the Cavorite sphere and sets off on foot for Canterbury instead. Unlike the 50-odd Wellsian pilgrims who attended our three-day conference, he never gets there.

In the Darwin Conference Centre we heard superb plenaries from Gwyneth Jones on **The Island of Doctor Moreau** and John Huntington on the centenary of **The History of Mr Polly**, together with a long list of fascinating papers. The auction of Wells titles from Michael Foot's library on the opening day raised over £300 for the Society, following the launch of **Michael Sherborne's** Wells biography **Another Kind of Life**. Mike spoke again on the final day, discovering (or was it inventing?) a new 20th-century classic: **Tono-Gatsby**. Finally John Hammond recalled the first 50 years of the H. G. Wells Society and initiated a discussion of our future activities. The happy few with Sunday afternoon to spare took the coach to **Folkestone**, where we scrambled down the cliff path to **Sandgate** for **Paul Allen's** expert commentary on Wells's various houses, **The Sea Lady**, **Mr Polly's** attempt to burn down the High Street, and much else. Finally we struggled back up the cliff to **The Grand** on The Leas for a scrumptious Edwardian Tea.

Wellsians who missed out on the Tea (or who simply want another helping) may **visit The Grand during the Folkestone H. G. Wells Festival** (17-19 September). In the autumn we will be inaugurating a new series of regular London meetings at the Holloway Road campus of London Metropolitan University, when Michael Sherborne will speak at 6.30pm on Thursday 21 October on "How to Read H. G. Wells". May see you there!