



FAQs

- **Who should enter?** Anyone who has an urge to write, as did H.G. Wells, a self taught writer who made himself and the Sandgate area next to Folkestone famous just over 100 years ago. You must be resident in the UK as nominees are expected to attend the awards ceremonies on 22nd or 23rd September in Folkestone.
- **What content is expected?** Entrants should submit a fictional story that features the sea in some way. It should be original, entertaining, thought provoking and enjoyable to read. Wells described a summer's night beside the sea in Sandgate thus: *"Across its shimmer a black fishing-smack was gliding out of mystery into mystery. Dungeness shone from the west a pinpoint of red light, and in the east the tireless glare of that great beacon on Griz-nez wheeled athwart the sky and vanished and calm again"*.
- **Do I have to write a sci fi story like H.G. Wells?** No, you don't. The judges are looking for interesting original content centred around a story about the sea.
- **Does my story have to be set locally in Kent?** No. It can be set anywhere.
- **Can I write fewer than 2000 or more than 5000 words?** These limits have been set as they are considered appropriate for this literary genre, so stories outside these guidelines will be penalised.

ENQUIRIES

- The H.G. Wells Festival secretary, **Rosie Unsworth**, will be pleased to answer any questions you may have. She may be contacted on:

Email: rose.unsworth@gmail.com

Telephone: 01 303 264 749



JUDGING

As the competition's aim is to promote literacy, marks will be awarded for the following:

- accurate use of spelling, grammar and punctuation
- imagination
- originality of thought
- entertaining content that is thought provoking, intriguing, moving and, above all, enjoyable
- quality of handwriting.

PRIZES

- **The Grand Prize** of £250 for the winning author aged **26 or more**
- **Turnill Prize** of £1000 for the winning author **under 26**
- **Folkestone Mayor's Prize** of £100 for the best **handwriting** in an entry
- The shortlisted stories will be posted on the Festival website from 21st August 2012, and will be published in an **Anthology** to be launched at the Gala Dinner on 22nd September 2012; the Anthology will be free to shortlisted entrants, with additional copies available at £10.