

Hastings
Independent

Your Pull-Out Guide
to What's Happening
in Hastings

Friday 17 to Thursday 30 July 2026

The HIP List

sponsored by



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The HIP List

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CARPETS • RUGS • VINYL • WOOD LAMINATES

MUSIC

Friday 17 July
BeatWave Day 1
5.00pm - The Pig, 37 White Rock
LIVE 60's Surf, Beat, Rock 'n' Roll and Garage bands and DJs til 2am!
Millie's Nightclub
7.00pm - White Rock Theatre, White Rock
A nightclub for adults (18+) with disabilities.
Caboose - Pirate Festival
8.00pm - The Jenny Lind Inn, 69 High St
Folk and country group

Saturday 18 July
Beatwave Day 2
1.00pm - The Pig, 37 White Rock
Even more Surf, Garage and RnR bands and DJs 1pm til 2am
Roots Reggae Gathering
2.00pm - The Compound, 161 Bexhill Rd
Free entry, BYO food and drink.
Amy Scott Samuel
3.00pm - Tough Love St Leonards, 8 London Rd
Folk/blues instore show
Castle Sundowner x CatchMyDrift?
5.00pm - Hastings Castle, Castle Hill Rd
DJs, drinks and BBQ food on the castle. Tickets hastingscastle.org.uk
Official Hastings Pirate Ball
7.00pm - East Hastings Sea Angling Association and Social Club, The Stade Shanties and sea songs from Ragati String Band, Viral Antics & Groggy
The Gulls
7.30pm - French's, Robertson St
Brighton funk rock
The Total Stone Roses
8.00pm - White Rock Theatre, White Rock
The UK's best Stone Roses tribute

Sunday 19 July
Beatwave Final day
12.00pm - The Pig, 37 White Rock
Vintage market and DJs, with notorious gameshow at 2pm
Wreckers!
4.00pm - The Jenny Lind
Rowdy squeezebox shanties to see off a weekend of piracy
The Coverups
7.00pm - The Lord Nelson, 1 E Bourne St
Admiral Finns
7.00pm - The Carlisle, 24 Pelham St

Thursday 23 July
Inspirial Carpets
7.30pm - The Piper, 1 Norman Rd
90s Manchester psych

Friday 24 July
Coven Club
7.30pm - The Carlisle, 24 Pelham St
Kindred Spirit Band, Deity & Devilry and Key Change play

Saturday 25 July
Talent Accelerator Summer Sessions
2.00pm - De La Warr Pavilion, Marina, Bexhill
Free event. Chilled summer afternoon sounds.
Haystingers
3.00pm - Greyskull Coffee, St Andrews Mews
Hillbilly boogie and western swing
Tough Love 4th Anniversary
5.00pm - Tough Love St Leonards, 8 London Rd
With Troy the Band & Inner Dog. Free entry
Equatorial Group
7.00pm - The Jenny Lind Inn, 69 High St
Atmospheric roots rock from Eastbourne
The Proclaimers
7.30pm - De La Warr Pavilion, Marina, Bexhill
Sonny Flint's Beano Bluesbreakers
7.30pm - The Piper, 1 Norman Rd
Tribute to the classic Bluesbreakers
Oasiz - Knebworth 30th Anniversary
8.00pm - White Rock Theatre, White Rock
One of the UK's most authentic tribute bands

Sunday 26 July
Poor Performer
3.00pm - De La Warr Pavilion, Marina, Bexhill
FREE. songs of joy, melancholy and biting satire from his new album
Gabriel Moreno & Richard Moore
5.00pm - Noah's Goat Wine, 68 George St
Alt Folk & Americana

Thursday 30 July
Coldplace
8.00pm - White Rock Theatre, White Rock
Recreating the magic of a Coldplay show with lasers, confetti, and the famous LED wristbands.

REPEATING EVENTS

Sundays
Circuit Sundays
6.30pm - The Seadog, 32 Station Rd

Sunday evening sessions featuring rotating local musicians and bands.
BYO Vinyl Night
7.00pm - The Jenny Lind Inn, 69 High St

Mondays
The Jam on the Hill
8.00pm - The Plough Inn, 49 Priory Rd
Bring your instrument and voice and join in!
Twitten Revellers Open Session
8.30pm - The Bull Inn Battle, 27 High St
Monthly open folk session, every 3rd Monday

Tuesdays
Sounds at the Hound Open Mic
7.00pm - Cactus Hound Bar, 33-35 Western Rd
Weekly Open Mic Night, hosted by Steve Didge
Open Mic
7.00pm - Barnaby's Lounge, 46 Robertson St
Every second Tuesday, hosted by NZ songwriter Konnaruchi
Iron Men of The Sea - Last Tuesday Sessions
7.30pm - The Jenny Lind Inn, 69 High St
Hypnotic folk psychedelia
Trad Folk Session
8.00pm - Royal Standard, E Beach St
Folk Night
8.00pm - Stag Inn
Singing and music, all welcome
Albion Skiffle Sessions
8.30pm - Albion Hastings, 33 George St
Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month

Wednesdays
Open Mic
7.00pm - The Piper, 1 Norman Rd
Weekly. Hosted by Steve Didge
The Circuit x The Stag
7.30pm - Stag Inn, 14 All Saints' St
Weekly live acoustic music curated by The Circuit, featuring local acoustic artists. Free entry.
The Other Band
8.00pm - The Dolphin Inn, 11-12 Rock-A-Nore Rd
4th Wednesday a month. Classic Blues, R&B and Americana

Thursdays
Open Mic Night
7.00pm - The Pig, 37 White Rock
The Jazz Organisation
8.00pm - NUR Restaurant & Lounge, 13 Robertson St
Shanty Night
8.30pm - The Jenny Lind Inn, 69 High St
Weekly sea Shanty Night,

Fridays
McNiff's Folk Sundowner
5.00pm - The Jenny Lind Inn, 69 High St
Weekly acoustic strand with a different guest featured every Friday

Saturdays
The Coffee House Sessions
5.30pm - Hanushka Coffee, Robertson St
Free entry. Jason McNiff and friends present
Punk Night
8.30pm - The Carlisle, 24 Pelham St
Monthly on last Saturday, check Punk Rock at the Carlisle for updates on bands

PERFORMANCE

Friday 17 July
An Evening with Ida Barr
7.30pm - Crown House, Marina
£15. makershousehastings.co.uk/allevents
Murder on the Nile
7.30pm - The Stables Theatre, The Bourne

Saturday 18 July
Hastings Philharmonic Choir: ORFF Carmina Burana
7.00pm - Christ Church St Leonards on Sea, Silchester Rd
FREE EVENT. Hastings Philharmonic Choir & Percussion Ensemble of London. STRAVINSKY Symphony of Psalms, ORFF Carmina Burana.
Murder on the Nile
7.30pm - The Stables Theatre, The Bourne
The Piano Show - Alistair McGowan
7.30pm - Battle Memorial Hall, 81 High St
battlefestival.co.uk
Forbidden Fruit Cabaret: Shar Cooterie
9.30pm - The Forbidden Fruit, 22 Grand Parade

Sunday 19 July
Coffee Concert: Aysen Ulucan (violin) & Evgenia Startseva (piano)
11.00am - Kino-Teatr, 43-49 Norman Rd
Murder on the Nile
2.30pm - The Stables Theatre, The Bourne
Tea Concert: Schubert Quintet
3.00pm - Battle Abbey, Butter Cross, High St
battlefestival.co.uk

Monday 20 July
High School Hamlet
2.30pm, again at 7.30pm - The Stables Theatre, The Bourne

Tuesday 21 July
Hastings Philharmonic Orchestra: Under the Stars
8.00pm - Battle Abbey, Butter Cross, High St
FREE EVENT. Holst: The Planets

Wednesday 22 July
The Big Ukulele Gig - B.U.G.S.
2.00pm - Battle Memorial Hall, 81 High St
battlefestival.co.uk
It's Not a Game - Award-Winning Illusionists Jay and Joss
7.30pm - White Rock Theatre, White Rock
Play with magic and escape reality with illusionists Jay and Joss seen on BGT and Penn & Teller.

Thursday 23 July
Creative Learning Showcase
7.00pm - White Rock Theatre, White Rock
Showcasing White Rock community groups, with performances inspired by the worlds of folklore, fairy tales, myths and magical sea stories.
Hastings Philharmonic Orchestra: Wine and Song
7.30pm - Christ Church St Leonards on Sea, Silchester Rd
FREE EVENT. Ravel, Poulenc, Schubert

Saturday 25 July
Classical Guitar Recital with Kianush Robeson
11.30am - Battle Baptist Church, 5 Mount St
battlefestival.co.uk
The Bluestockings Brigade
7.30pm - Battle Memorial Hall, 81 High St
A programme of words and music which delves into the fascinating story of the original bluestockings – the formidable 18th century women who championed women's rights. battlefestival.co.uk
Forbidden Fruit Cabaret: Drag with No Name
9.30pm - The Forbidden Fruit, 22 Grand Parade

Sunday 26 July
Coffee Concert: Holly Cullen-Davies - piano
11.00am - Kino-Teatr, 43-49 Norman Rd
The Yarn - stories of belonging
6.30pm - Hastings Castle, Castle Hill Rd
An evening of local storytellers.
Piano Recital in Battle Abbey with Gabriele Sutkutė
7.30pm - Battle Abbey, Butter Cross, High St

battlefestival.co.uk
Monday 27 July
The Parkin Songsters Summer Concert
3.00pm - St John's Hollington, Upper Church Rd
With guest singer Gary Marriott. Free admission.

Wednesday 29 July
Comedy: Sami Abu Wardeh Hates You
7.30pm - The Printworks Ltd, 14 Claremont
Award winning Palestinian/Irish comedian picked as one to look out for by the Guardian for 2026! £8, pay more if you can. jokepit.com/comedy-in/hastings/sami-abu-wardeh-hates-you/67943

Thursday 30 July
Norman's Ark
7.30pm - The Stables Theatre, The Bourne

WEEKLY PERFORMANCE

Tuesdays
Open Mic Night
7.00pm - HOT TAP Theatre, St Andrews Mews
Murder on the Nile
7.30pm - The Stables Theatre, The Bourne

Wednesdays
Murder on the Nile
7.30pm - The Stables Theatre, The Bourne
A&O In the Round
7.30pm - 74 Norman Rd

Thursdays
Murder on the Nile
7.30pm - The Stables Theatre, The Bourne

Fridays
Murder on the Nile
7.30pm - The Stables Theatre, The Bourne
Late Night Karaoke
11.00pm - Barnaby's Lounge, 46 Robertson St

Saturdays
Murder on the Nile
7.30pm - The Stables Theatre, The Bourne

CINEMA

Friday 17 July
Documentary Week: The Art of a True Story Seven Up! + 7 Plus Seven
3.00pm, then again at 7.30pm - Kino-Teatr, 43-49 Norman Rd
Fright Night: Cronos (4K)
7.30pm - Electric Palace, 39A High St

Crossword Solution No 306:

Across: Across: 1. Trusts 3. (Li)Ke Bab s(said) 4. Ribald (anagram)

Down: Down: 1. Tanker 2. SuSSed



Saturday 18 July
Rose of Nevada (re-laxed screening)
3.00pm - Electric Palace, 39A High St
Be Here to Love Me: A Film About Townes van Zandt + Short Film, Late Bar & DJ
7.30pm - Electric Palace, 39A High St

Sunday 19 July
Outrider
11.00am - Electric Palace, 39A High St
Documentary Week: The Art of a True Story Melt It! - The Film of The Iceman + Producer/Director Q&A
2.00pm - Kino-Teatr, 43-49 Norman Rd
The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert
3.00pm - Electric Palace, 39A High St

Thursday 23 July
If I Had Legs I'd Kick You
11.00am - Electric Palace, 39A High St
European Film Club: Ivan the Terrible - Part 1
3.00pm - Kino-Teatr, 43-49 Norman Rd
Tuner
7.30pm - Kino-Teatr, 43-49 Norman Rd
Familiar Touch
7.30pm - Electric Palace, 39A High St

Friday 24 July
Tuner
3.00pm - Kino-Teatr, 43-49 Norman Rd
You're Gonna Miss Me: A Film About Roky Erickson + DJ + Late Bar
7.30pm - Electric Palace, 39A High St
Disclosure Day
7.30pm - Kino-Teatr, 43-49 Norman Rd

Saturday 25 July
Disclosure Day
3.00pm, again at 7.30pm - Kino-Teatr, 43-49 Norman Rd
Theatre of Horrors: The Sordid Story of Paris' Grand Guignol + Intro
7.30pm - Electric Palace, 39A High St

Sunday 26 July
Leonora in the Morning Light
2.00pm - Kino-Teatr, 43-49 Norman Rd
Thunderbirds 60th Anniversary Double Bill:
3.00pm - Electric Palace, 39A High St
B Movie Fan Club: Black Sunday
7.30pm - Electric Palace, 39A High St

Thursday 30 July
The Stranger (with subtitles)
11.00am - Electric Palace,

39A High St
If I Had Legs I'd Kick You
7.30pm - Electric Palace, 39A High St

WEEKLY CINEMA

Wednesdays
Battle Community Cinema Movie Screening
7.30pm - Battle Memorial Hall, 81 High St



ART

Anna Bachene
Until 25 July
Zoom Arts Gallery, Warrior Square Station
Luke Bebb
21 July until 15 August
Project Art Works, Claremont
The Big Picture Show (Exhibition of large artworks)
Until 2 August
Hastings Arts Forum, Marine Court
Ruth Bullock @ Thonett Gallery
Ongoing
Thonett Gallery, St Andrews Mews
Bill Greenhead: The History of Gull Culture
Until 19 July
Hastings Arts Forum, Marine Court
Adrienne Hunter - There She Goes My Beautiful World
Until 5 September
Taproom Gallery, Beeching Rd, Bexhill
Lemons, Laws and Secret Doors: A Hastings Queer History Collective Exhibition
Until 30 August
Hastings Museum and Art Gallery, Bohemia Rd
Moore/Freud
Until 13 September
Hastings Contemporary, The Stade
Sam le Mort
Until 25 July
Stables Theatre Art Gallery, The Bourne
Dennis Morris - Bob Marley Music + Life
Until 18 July
Lucy Bell Gallery, Norman Rd
Tawfik Naas - Manifestations for an Eternal Spring
Until 16 August
Flatland Projects, Unit 20 Beeching Rd, Bexhill
Ben Newman - Once Upon a Ponytail
Until 31 July
Colorville, 130 Queens Rd
Outside the Lines Group Show (Home Educated Artists)

Until 4 October
Hastings Museum and Art Gallery, Bohemia Rd
Ade Peachment
Until 25 July
1200 Postcards, Queens Rd
Kim John Porritt - Photographic Exhibition
Until 2 August
Cake Room, Robertson St
Alexandra Richardson - Love in Fleurescence
Until 30 August
St Leonards Pub, London Rd
Miguel Rothschild - Undercurrents
Until 13 September
Hastings Contemporary, The Stade
Mark Spelman - You Weren't There
Until 25 July
Project 78 Gallery, Norman Rd
Summer Exhibition '26
Until 30 August
Bus Stop Studios, London Rd
Sustenance (Open Call Show)
Until 30 July
The Crown, All Saints St
Textile Junction
18 until 26 July
Electro Studios Project Space, Sea Rd
Janaina Tschäpe - Conversations with the Sea
Until 13 September
Hastings Contemporary, The Stade
Unhung Heroes Group Show
Until 29 August
Barnaby's Lounge, Robertson St
Annie Whiles - Doorway Guardians
Until 16 August
Flatland Projects, Unit 20 Beeching Rd, Bexhill
To Improvise A Mountain: Lynette Yiadom - Boakye Curates
Until 13 September
De La Warr Pavilion



SPORT

Saturday 18 July
Tennis: Amherst Mixed v Amherst Mixed 2 - Wealden League
Saturday 18 July - Amherst Lawn Tennis Club, Amherst Rd

Saturday 25 July
Cricket: Hastings & St Leonards Priory v Haywards Heath
11.30am - Horntye Park



ACTIVE SPORT

Sundays
Free Tennis session in the park

10.00am - Alexandra Park Tennis Courts
To book: clubspark.lta.org.uk/breakpointtennis
AlexandraPark/FreeParks

Mondays
Hastings Blister Sisters Slow Jogging Group
7.00am - Alexandra Park, St Helen's Rd
Details: blistersisters.co.uk
Badminton
9.30am - Summerfields Leisure Centre, Bohemia Rd
Adult class £5.60, hosted by Cathy Bargh Booking freedom-leisure.co.uk
Walking Football
1.30pm - Summerfields Leisure Centre, Bohemia Rd
Voluntary donation £3 To book: eequ.org/experience/9252
Disability Cricket with Sussex Cricket
5.00pm - Horntye Park Sports Complex, Bohemia Rd
sussexcricket.co.uk/super-1s-hub
Active Hastings Walking Football
6.00pm - TN34 2LD, Lower Park Rd
Alexandra Park Multi-Use Games Area £2 Adults 50+ Booking eequ.org/experience/6144
Eclipse Netball Club
7.00pm - The Hastings Academy, Rye Rd
First session free then £5. To book: 07754 105836 eclipsenetballhastings@gmail.com. Age 14+.
Badminton
8.00pm - Summerfields Leisure Centre, Bohemia Rd
£5.60 Adults Booking freedom-leisure.co.uk
Hastings YMCA Badminton Club
8.15pm - The Y Centre, 26 St Paul's Rd
Adult club, limited spaces for juniors. Booking essential £5.50 hastingsymcabadmintonclub.co.uk
Tuesdays
Hastings Active Fit
11.00am - West St Leonards Community Centre and Social Club, 130 Bexhill Rd
Contact weststleonardsca@gmail.com for details
Table Tennis
1.45pm - Isabel Blackman Centre, Winding St
Register at : isabelblackmancentre.co.uk
Badminton
6.00pm - Summerfields Leisure Centre, Bohemia Rd
£5.60 or £4.70 with a Leisure Pass. Booking: 01424 457691
Judo with Hollington

Judo Club
6.15pm - Hollington Community Centre, 1 Wishing Tree Rd N
£3.50 from reception to year 6. Contact Neil Chalcraft 07858 412184
PB Runner
6.15pm - Various locations.
Group effort running sessions £2. For info: slinklater65@gmail.com
Judo with Hollington Judo Club
7.00pm - Hollington Community Centre, 1 Wishing Tree Rd N
For children in years 7-11 contact Neil Chalcraft 07858 412184
Hastings Women's Indoor Rounders
7.30pm - The St Leonard's Academy, Edinburgh Rd
info: hastingsrounders@gmail.com. In the Sports Hall. Booking: eequ.org/experience/4956
Judo with Hollington Judo Club
8.00pm - Hollington Community Centre, 1 Wishing Tree Rd N
£5 Adults. Contact Neil Chalcraft
Hastings YMCA Badminton Club
8.30pm - Bexhill Leisure Centre, Down Rd, Bexhill
Adult club, limited spaces for juniors. Booking essential £5.50 hastingsymcabadmintonclub.co.uk

Wednesdays
Hastings Blister Sisters Slow Jogging Group
7.00am - Alexandra Park, St Helen's Rd
Details: blistersisters.co.uk
Badminton
9.30am - Summerfields Leisure Centre, Bohemia Rd
£5.60. Adults. 18 places available for 3 courts usage. Booking: freedom-leisure.co.uk
LTA Walking Tennis
11.00am - Alexandra Park Tennis Courts
£3 per session. Older people with long term health conditions. Tennis at your pace! Book: clubspark.lta.org.uk
Pickleball
3.00pm - Summerfields Leisure Centre, Bohemia Rd
£3 for all ages and abilities. Booking freedom-leisure.co.uk
Hastings Pirates Baseball Club
7.00pm - Claremont Preparatory School, Ebden's Hill, Westfield
Free for your first session (£6 per session after that) hastingsbaseball.co.uk
Badminton

7.00pm - Summerfields Leisure Centre, Bohemia Rd
Adults £5.60 Booking freedom-leisure.co.uk
Hastings YMCA Badminton Club
7.30pm - The Y Centre, 26 St Paul's Rd
Adult club, limited spaces for juniors. Booking essential £5.50 hastingsymcabadmintonclub.co.uk

Thursdays
Hastings Active Fit
10.30am - Contact weststleonardsca@gmail.com for details.
Short Mat Bowling
2.00pm - West Hill Community Centre, Croft Rd
£3 per session including refreshments, all equipment and instruction provided, all welcome including complete beginners.
Hastings Mixed Indoor Rounders
7.00pm - Horntye Park Sports Complex, Bohemia Rd
info: hastingsrounders@gmail.com. In the Sports Hall downstairs. Booking: eequ.org/experience/6227
Mixed Darts League
7.00pm - West St Leonards Community Centre and Social Club, 130 Bexhill Rd
Bar open for the duration. Contact weststleonardsca@gmail.com for details
Heart and Sole Runners
7.00pm - Grosvenor Gardens
Badminton
8.00pm - Summerfields Leisure Centre, Bohemia Rd
£5.60. Adults. 18 places available for 3 courts usage. Booking: freedom-leisure.co.uk

Fridays
Hastings Blister Sisters Slow Jogging Group
7.00am - Alexandra Park, St Helen's Rd
Details: blistersisters.co.uk
Adults Badminton
9.30am - Summerfields Leisure Centre, Bohemia Rd
£5.60 Details and booking: freedom-leisure.co.uk
Table Tennis
1.45pm - Isabel Blackman Centre, Winding St
Register at: isabelblackmancentre.co.uk
Squad Girls' Football
6.00pm - TN34 2AY, The Byeway
FREE. For girls' aged 12 to 14, at The Firs. To book eequ.org/experience/25158.
Barbarian Swimmers
6.00pm - Summerfields Leisure Centre, Bohemia Rd
Urban Football

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7.00pm - TN34 2AY, The Byeway
FREE. Ages 12-17. To book: eequ.org/experience/15576



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Friday 17 July
Notes of Summer: Writing Circle, Supper, Sound Bath & Meditation
3.00pm - 45 St Leonards Rd, Bexhill
Booking: nicky@diamond-minds.co.uk/Vegan/gluten free available.
The Grove Theatre Eastbourne Presents: Murder Mystery Supper
7.30pm - Battle Memorial Hall, 81 High St
battlefestival.co.uk

Saturday 18 July
Meet the Haestingas
Saturday 18 July - Hastings Museum & Art Gallery, John's Place, Bohemia Rd
FREE event. Join the Haestingas on the museum lawns for the weekend as they display the sights, sounds and smells that would have been familiar to the early medieval people who founded Hastings.
Sidley Saturday Sale
10.00am - All Saints Church, Bexhill, All Saints Ln, Sidley, Bexhill
Wonderful home-made cakes, raffles, games, books with coffee/teas.
Summer Makers' Market
11.00am - Neighbourhood Pottery Studio, 73-74 Queens Rd
Browse work from over 25 makers. Try throwing with a FREE mini lesson on the wheel. Get a free spin on our tiny pottery gumball machine with every purchase!
Frimley's Summer Fair @ Hastings and Bexhill Mencap
11.00am - Hastings & Bexhill Mencap, 64 London Rd
Raffle, tombola, games, refreshments.
Pirates of the West
12.00pm - Discovery Centre, Freshfields
Treasure trail, walk the plank and crafts for Pirate Day
Bongo's Bingo
6.00pm - White Rock Theatre, White Rock
Tickets available through bongosbingo.co.uk

Sunday 19 July
Family Pirate Fest
1.30pm - Hastings Castle, Castle Hill Rd
Pirate storytellers, Crafts + Treasure Hunt. Tickets:

hastingscastle.org.uk
Family Pirate Fest
1.30pm - Hastings Castle, Castle Hill Rd
Pirate activities, crafts and festivities.
FIFA Men's World Cup Final 2026
7.00pm - Electric Palace, 39A High St
Watch the final in air-conditioned comfort!

Wednesday 22 July
Fernando Po: Special Operations Executive's Secret 'Operation Postmaster'
7.30pm - Battle Memorial Hall, 81 High St
£5battlefestival.co.uk

Thursday 23 July
NHSLGBTQIA+ Network Charity Quiz
6.30pm - The Forbidden Fruit, 22 Grand Parade
Pay what you can on entry. Fundraiser for Sussex Beacon.
I Know That Tune: Trials and Tribulations of Writing Music for TV
7.30pm - Battle Memorial Hall, 81 High St
With Lester Barnes.
battlefestival.co.uk

Saturday 25 July
Batty Bingo - 90s Party!
1.00pm - The Forbidden Fruit, 22 Grand Parade
£20 per person. Bingo, silly games, singalongs!
The Sound Apothecary: Sea Witch - A Ritual of Sea & Sound
7.00pm - Stade Hall, The Stade
Tickets: seawitch.eventbrite.co.uk/

Sunday 26 July
The Yarn Storytelling
6.30pm - Hastings Castle, Castle Hill Rd
A magical summer's evening of brilliant local storytellers with remarkable stories inspired by the theme of 'Belonging'. Tickets: hastingscastle.org.uk

Wednesday 29 July
New Event
9.00am -
New Event
9.00am -
The Winds of Time: The Milling Past of Hastings
3.00pm - Hastings Museum & Art Gallery, John's Place, Bohemia Rd
£4. Bob Wilcock presents a talk exploring the milling history of Hastings and East Sussex.

Thursday 30 July
Makers' House Supper Club: A Summer Supper
7.30pm - Makers' House

Hastings, 15 Tower Rd W
£35 makershousehastings.co.uk/allevnts

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sundays
Hastings Beach Meditation
9.00am - Hastings Motor Boat & Yacht Club, Rock-A-Nore Parade
40mins quiet meditation on beach opposite. Check Hastings Beach Meditation on Facebook
Brunch at the Beacon
10.30am - The Beacon, 67-68 St Mary's Terrace
Homeground Kitchen's cosy, hearty food and delicious cocktails. The first 3 Sundays of the month. Book at hgkhastings@gmail.com
Pokemon League
1.00pm - Table Flip, 201 Queens Rd
Play packs for entry and prizes to be given.
Social Sundays at The Nest
2.00pm - The Nest, The Old Town Hall
A relaxed weekly social space for neurodivergent adults (16+) Come along for chats, games, optional creative activities or just a quiet cuppa in a calm, friendly space.

Mondays
Writing Hour
7.30am - 7 Trinity St
Writers can come together to write at the workshops hastings-writersworkshop.com
Monday Coffee Club + Free Play Session (Toddlers/Young Children)
9.30am - play., St Andrews Mews
Free play session for toddlers and young children with any food or drink purchased.
Dementia Carer Support Group (carers only)
10.00am - Robsack Centre, Bodiam Dr
Come for a chat and

support, refreshments incl. Donations welcome. Every 3rd Monday dementiasupport.org
Volunteering: Hidden Eden Wellbeing Garden
10.15am - 27 Parsons Cl
Craig's Cabin asks for volunteers to turn this green community space into a sensory garden craigs-cabin87@hotmail.com
Health Walk Old Town
2.00pm - The Stade, Rock-A-Nore Rd
Free one hour walk, just pop along tcv.org.uk/southeast/sussex
Backgammon Club
6.30pm - The Horse & Groom, 4 Mercatoria
All abilities welcome
Overeaters Anonymous
7.30pm - Clifton Centre, 1 and 2 Stainsby St
The Hastings and St Leonards Model Railway Club
8.00pm - Baldslow Memorial Hall, 216 Harrow Ln
New members welcome hastingsmrc.org.uk
Monday Night Quiz
8.00pm - Noah's Goat Hastings, 68 George St
Teams of up to 6, £2 p/p entry fee and prizes for winning and losing teams. Message/call if you'd like a table 01424 438791.

Tuesdays
Tuesday Tales
10.30am - Hastings Museum & Art Gallery, John's Place, Bohemia Rd
Every Tues through the summer, five magical family storytelling sessions with Kevin Graal. hmag.org.uk
Storytime@Ore Community Library
11.00am - Ore Community Library, 467 Old London Rd
Stories, rhymes, singing and craft. Weekly themes. Free to members and non members.
Health Walk St Leonards Seafront
11.00am -
Meet at the clock on prom

- free one hour walk, just pop along tcv.org.uk/southeast/sussex
Original OHPS Old Town Walks
2.30pm - The West Hill Cafe, Castle Hill Rd
Walking tour of the Old Town £6 ohps.org.uk/walks
Sew It's Tuesday
7.00pm - 161 Bexhill Rd
Share your crafting sewing, crochet, knitting or anything in-between sewitstuesday@outlook.com
Sound Waves Community Choir
7.30pm - Salvation Army, 26 St Andrew's Square
Free taster session. No auditions. admin@soundwaveschoir.org.uk
Bingo Night
7.30pm - The Dolphin Inn, 11-12 Rock-A-Nore Rd
Booking advised: 01424 434326
Ruxley's Crew Morris
8.15pm - West Hill Community Centre, Croft Rd
Morris dancing - with a Hastings pirate twist! Contact: crewruyleys@gmail.com

Wednesdays
Writing Hour
7.30am - 7 Trinity St
Writers can come together to write at the workshops hastings-writersworkshop.com
Green Gym at Hastings Centre
10.00am - The Hastings Centre, The Ridge
Horticultural volunteering for health, carrie.edmonds@tcv.org.uk/07764 655609
Health Walk Alexandra Park
10.30am - Alexandra Park, St Helen's Rd
From Ranger's Office - free one hour walk, just pop along tcv.org.uk/southeast/sussex
Community Open House
11.00am - Afri-Co-Lab, 3, Marine Court
Make Afri-Co-Lab your

home, work space, chill-out lounge and studio for the day! afri-co-lab.org
European Film Club
3.00pm - Kino-Teatr, 43-49 Norman Rd
Tickets £10/£7 Members
BASH Networking Event
6.00pm - Barnaby's Lounge, 46 Robertson St
For local businesses. £7.50 ticket pp
All Sorts Auction
6.30pm - West St Leonards Community Centre and Social Club, 130 Bexhill Rd
Auction items accepted from 9am-1pm. Contact weststleonardsca@gmail.com to confirm. Bar open until late
Men's Walk and Talk
7.00pm - Azur, Marina Pavillion, 44-37 Marina
Meet at Azur for a leisurely walk along the seafront with time to chat. For info or to book: Hannah Richards hannah.richards@mindcharity.co.uk or 07510927978.
The Class Choir
7.00pm - The Unitarian Church
Friendly, fun, uplifting Women's choir. Free taster sessions, no music reading or auditions. thechoir@gmail.com
Argentine Tango Social Night
8.00pm - The White Rock Hotel, 1-10 White Rock
£8 entry fee. Call Phoebe on 07947 440502
Forbidden Fruit Quiz Night
8.00pm - The Forbidden Fruit, 22 Grand Parade

Thursdays
Hastings Tech Forum
9.00am - Observer Building, 53 Cambridge Rd
Monthly meetup for local tech professionals
Free energy advice community drop-in
10.00am - Hastings Community Info Hub, Queens Rd
Green Gym at

CROSSWORD CORNER

- Across**
- Fiduciary arrangements and foundational reliances (6)
 - Like Bab said some grilled meat dishes go here (6)
 - Bird Al made playfully vulgar (6)
- Down**
- Miliary vehicle queen used to carry gas (6)
 - Took legal action around SS when figured out (6)

Crossword Solution: Answers on page 3 of The HIP List

1					2
3					
4					

Church Wood
10.00am - Church Wood Conservation volunteering for health, contact carrie.edmonds@tcv.org.uk / 07764 655609

Cozy Crypt
10.00am - London Rd Share Conversation, Access Support, In Partnership with Citizens Advice 1066

Open Tech Thursdays
10.00am - Observer Building, 53 Cambridge Rd Free community led technology meetup

Plant Sale at Alexandra Park Greenhouse
2.00pm - Alexandra Park Greenhouse, St Helen's Rd

Bingo
2.00pm - West St Leonards Community Centre and Social Club, 130 Bexhill Rd Contact weststleonardsca@gmail.com for details

The Barbarian Wolf Chess Club
5.15pm - The Horse & Groom, 4 Mercatoria Weekly chess

Pumphouse Late Plates
6.30pm - Pumphouse Cafe and Deli, Pumphouse, Alexandra Park, St Helen's Rd Every alternate Thursday

War Games
7.00pm - West St Leonards Community Centre and Social Club, 130 Bexhill Rd Bar open for the duration. Contact weststleonardsca@gmail.com for details

Hastings Town Singers
7.00pm - Ark Castledown Primary Academy,

Priory Rd
A friendly non-auditioning community choir. Free taster sessions. hastingtonsingingsingers.co.uk

Pub Quiz
7.30pm - The Dolphin Inn, 11-12 Rock-A-Nore Rd Free entry plus prize money to be won!! Booking recommended 01424 434326

Fridays Writing Hour
7.30am - 7 Trinity St Writers can come together to write at the workshops hastingswritersworkshop.com

Singing Down Memory Lane
10.30am - St Augustine's Church Hall, St Augustine's Close, Cooden Dr, Bexhill A free singing group for people living with Dementia and their carers in Bexhill. Every 1st and 3rd Friday. discdementiasupport.org

Health Walk Church Wood St Leonards
10.30am - Church Wood Meet at Nature reserve car park, free one hour walk, just pop along tcv.org.uk/southeast/sussex

The Damascus Runners
11.00am - Bonjour Café, 13 Grand Parade Social walking group, meet on the seafront opposite

Hastings Library of Things + Make and Mend Fixing Fridays
11.00am - Maslow House, 5 Harold Place

Borrow tools and useful items, from bolt cutters to sewing machines, from tents to trombones. Find out more: umbrellasussex.org.uk.

Broomgrove Youth Club Sessions
4.30pm - Broomgrove Community Centre, 85 Chiltern Dr sarah.adams@freshvisions.org.uk Bev 07732 823800

Saturdays Monthly Fayre
10.00am - Isabel Blackman Centre, Winding St

Weekly Indoor Market
10.00am - Saint Leonards Church Market, London Rd Weekly market: clothes, bits, food, tarot. Stalls still available loveamarket.co.uk

St Michael's Hospice St Leonards Open Gardens
10.30am - St Michael's Hospice (Hastings and Rother), 25 Upper Maze Hill For all garden details and ticket info: Open Gardens 2026 - St Michael's Hospice

Plant Sale at Alexandra Park Greenhouse
10.30am - Alexandra Park Greenhouse, St Helen's Rd

Thai Food at the Albert
2.00pm - The Royal Albert, 293 Battle Rd

Gravity & Grace
2.30pm - Clifton Centre, 1 and 2 Stainsby St Taking care of mind, body & soul with the Alexander

Technique. Introductory talks/workshops. Booking not required, Suggested donation £5. For further details contact Chris livingtenderly@yahoo.co.uk



CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Saturday 18 July Young Artists Workshop: 'Inspired by Nature'
2.00pm - Rye Harbour Discovery Centre, Harbour Rd, Rye Harbour eventbrite.co.uk 420337035

Tuesday 28 July A Summer of Theatre Making Fun
10.00am - Makers' House Hastings, 15 Tower Rd W Offering both beginner and experienced performers the opportunity to engage in a summer of theatre-making fun. £15. makershousehastings.co.uk/allevvents

Wednesday 29 July A Summer of Theatre Making Fun
10.00am - Makers' House Hastings, 15 Tower Rd W Offering both beginner and experienced performers the opportunity to engage in a summer of theatre-making fun. £15. makershousehastings.co.uk/allevvents

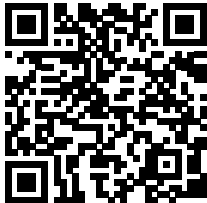
Intro to Mahjong
7.00pm - Makers' House

Hastings, 15 Tower Rd W £10 makershousehastings.co.uk/allevvents

Thursday 30 July A Summer of Theatre Making Fun
10.00am - Makers' House Hastings, 15 Tower Rd W Offering both beginner and experienced performers the opportunity to engage in a summer of theatre-making fun. £15. makershousehastings.co.uk/allevvents

WEEKLY CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

For regular classes and workshops visit: hastingsindependentpress.co.uk/classes-and-workshops



HEALTH & WELLBEING

Sunday 19 July Tai Chi Walking
9.30am - War Memorial, Alexandra Park, St Helen's Rd £25. Contact Sigrid at

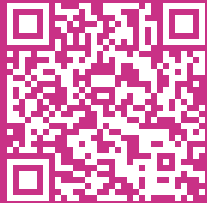
qigongsigrid@gmail.com or WhatsApp 07492 209190

WEEKLY HEALTH & WELLBEING

for regular health and wellbeing listings visit: hastingsindependentpress.co.uk/health-and-well-being-listings



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Previous experience would be an asset but we're happy to support novices.

Editorial guidelines from and proposals to: info@yourhip.co.uk

Bexhill Art Weekender

A special weekend returns for 2026: a Town-Wide Celebration of Art, Performance, Film and Community

Bexhill Art Weekender returns on Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 August 2026, featuring artists' open studios, drop-in workshops, a Bexhill Day concert, experimental music experiences, exhibitions, film screenings, ceramic sales and a celebration of sculpture and 3D art. For a weekend, Bexhill-on-Sea will be transformed into a vibrant, town-wide celebration of contemporary art, performance, music and creativity.

The Weekender brings together artists, cultural organisations, community groups and independent businesses to present a programme of exhibitions, performances, screenings, workshops, talks and open studios. *Entirely free* to attend, the festival invites residents and visitors to discover Bexhill's rich cultural ecology, and to experience the town as a place of collective imagination.

Bringing together cultural institutions, artist-focused organisations, community groups, heritage organisations, youth initiatives and independent businesses, the festival offers a snapshot of a cultural infrastructure that is far greater than the sum of its parts. In doing so, it reveals part of Bexhill's emerging plan and its UK 'Town of Culture' ambition: the town's greatest cultural asset is its capacity for collaboration and continuing cultural evolution.

THE EXHIBITIONS

Alongside their Summer exhibitions programme, Tawfik Naas' *Manifestations for an Eternal Spring* and Annie Whiles' *Door Way Guardians*, Flatland Projects will present CEREMONIA, an evening of performances celebrating the radical potential of the analogue in a digital age. Bringing together experimental music, movement and collective gathering, the programme features Bionic Step by Canadian-British artist Nina Davies (whose work centres around dance and popular culture) and Ed Baxter's Statue of Liberty 'anti-fascist' big band that offers collective, inclusive, diverse improvisatory performance.

The De La Warr Pavilion, in partnership with artist collective ZEROH, will present MASS, a one-day celebration of sculpture and 3D art, bringing together local and regional artists. Other highlights include a sunset screening of *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial*, the *Revolver Record Fair* in the auditorium, the launch of new collaborative projects with young people from Bexhill, and the Pavilion's summer exhibition (reviewed in our last issue).

Common Clay opens its studios for exhibitions, a ceramic sale and Queer Clay Club by resident artists Nick Kidd and Camara Pinnock, whilst hosting a round-table discussion exploring class, making and



Weekender 2025: Open studios and drop-in workshop at Common Clay, a ceramics studio in Beeching Road studios, Bexhill.

access to ceramic practice. The weekend will also see artist Agata Bogacka invite artists and residents to take part in a Harvest Procession, a playful and participatory parade of handmade bread sculptures through the town.

Elsewhere, Do Your Ideas presents an exhibition by Anna Maria Nabirye, *Letter Press Works*, to ac-

company her residency at Written In Print Imprenta, a new letterpress print studio in Bexhill.

Bexhill Museum presents Sovereign Shoals with artists Yasmin Ornsby and Mary Hooper (curator of the fishermen's exhibition at Hastings Contemporary), a new project developed with members of the Hastings Fishermen's Protection Society.

Bexhill Heritage joins the programme with a free Bexhill Day concert featuring live performances from local music and theatre groups, celebrating the town's rich cultural traditions and civic life. Meanwhile, Living Communities will present *Run to Chase Your Dreams*, a series of creative drop-in workshops for all ages, inviting participants to make, create and imagine together through accessible activities designed to encourage participation, connection and aspiration. Visitors will also discover, throughout the weekend, exhibitions and activities presented by Bexhill Artrium, Love Art By Sea, Living Communities, Heart of Sidley Community Association, RePublic, Peter Marlow Foundation, The Refugee Buddy Project, Talent Accelerator and many others, alongside open studios at Beeching Road Studios and across the town.

Through collaboration and collective participation, the Weekender seeks to tell new civic stories about the town, celebrating Bexhill as a place of quiet but continual cultural revolution that uses the power of culture to connect communities.

Ben Urban, Director of Flatland Projects and Chair of Bexhill Cultural Network, said: "One of the most powerful lessons from our bid to become the 2028 UK Town of Culture has been discovering just how deeply culture is woven into Bexhill's sense of itself. There is an enduring futurism here, a feeling that the town is always in the process of becoming."



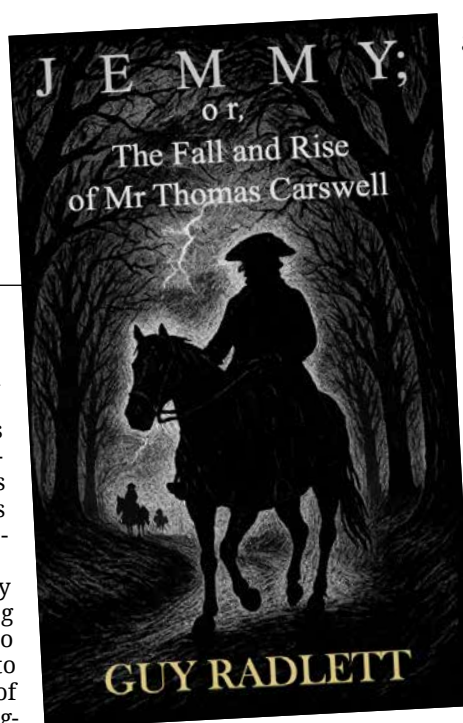
Bexhill Art Weekender 2026
Saturday 15
– Sunday 16 August
2026 Free admission Full programme and information: bexhillartweekender.com. Social Media: [@bexhillartweekender](https://twitter.com/bexhillartweekender)

Not Lost but Gone Before

KENT BARKER

There is endless fascination in using real historical figures as the inspiration for works of fiction. Hilary Mantel's Thomas Cromwell and Maggie O'Farrell's *Hamnet* are just two distinguished recent examples.

Hastings certainly has plenty of characters in its past, fighting for resurrection. A number who are apparently determined to make their way on to the pages of a modern novel are from the smug-



gling days of the early Georgian period - the first half of the 18th century.

Robertsbridge author Guy Radlett credits a review in this paper, of a biography I wrote some years ago as the inspiration for his new work *Jemmy*. James Collier - Jemmy - was the son of John Collier, one of the town's most prominent citizens, and mayor in 1719, 1722 and 1730. Historically Jemmy studied law at Cambridge and practised in London before his early death in 1747, aged just 26. Fictitiously, Radlett has him infatuated with an Italian dancer at Covent Garden Theatre before disappearing, to the consternation of his family.

Alongside Jemmy's story, the author pens what he describes as a 'non-linear narrative' of the 'Fall and rise of Mr Thomas Carswell'. The actual Carswell was a Riding Officer with the revenue services, combatting

smuggling in Sussex and Kent. He was shot and killed in 1740, after a notorious altercation with members of the Hawkhurst gang at Silverhill near Hurst Green. He was generally considered an upright citizen of Hastings, mayor in 1734 and a friend of John Collier. The beginning of Radlett's new novel has him as a disgraced drunkard propping up the bar of the Stag Inn.

There is, of course, nothing wrong in a historical novel with a fictional fleshing out of the sparse biographies of those who have gone before. Indeed, it's perhaps inevitable that a writer will wonder at the unrecorded, fuller life of those from the past. The danger is that, if you do know something of them, you may feel the modern author has taken undue liberties with those known facts.

This, I rather felt, was the case with the otherwise excellent recent novel *Winchelsea* by Alex Preston. Here he used another character I had

researched, the smuggler Gabriel Tompkins, but radically altered the recorded facts about his life and death. One was left wondering why he had not simply created an entirely fictional character in the first place? Radlett's work, on the other hand, seems more rooted in fact and provides detailed expositions of the political climate of the time.

The upside of this intermingling of historical fact and modern fiction is that it may entice the reader into a world they knew little or nothing about. And for those who have put in many dusty hours in the archives, any fresh interest in those about whom we have become so passionate can only be a good thing.

Jemmy; or the Rise and Fall of Mr Thomas Carswell by Guy Radlett is available at viajcw@protonmail.com. *Mr Hastings, a biography of John Collier* by Kent Barker is available from the Hastings Local History Group.

ST LEONARDS FESTIVAL PHOTOS BY TOBY COLLINS





Violin lesson in Gaza

Singing in the Rubble

FELICITY LAURENCE

As a music educator, I have been honoured to help a little from afar in the current work of the Edward Said National Conservatory of Music (ESNCM), which has campuses around the West Bank and in Gaza. Their building in Gaza is now rubble, and most of the instruments smashed. But the children still have their voices, and the yearning to sing together is so strong that choirs are now springing up in the ruins, the tents, the rubble.

One of the musical leaders has been displaced more than fifteen times. Every time he is forced to move yet again, the families of the children move with him so that their children can keep on singing. Gaza's pied piper.

At the core of this music-making is the resistance to the dehumanisation which accompanies the attempted erasure of a people and their entire culture; music enables the children instead to proclaim their essential humanity in a process of re-humanisation, and to say: "This is who we are."



FOUAD, ESNCM TEACHER IN GAZA, RECENTLY WROTE:

The very fact that we insist on singing, playing, and teaching our children means that we are affirming our existence and preserving our humanity – the very things they are trying to erase. Every note played under bombing is an assertion of human existence. When children sing together in danger, they create a sonic community that resists the silence imposed by violence.

There is nothing more powerful than a child singing under bombardment.

A few days ago I asked whether any of the music leaders in Gaza might like to send a short message for me to share with my parliamentary representative. The very next day, I received three eloquent expressions of grief, of hope, of an urgent desire to reach out and to be heard. One came from Al Mawasi, the place formally linked in friendship with Hastings.

HERE THEY ARE, FROM SHIREEN, ISMAIL AND ASHRAF:

Peace be upon you... I am Shireen, the one who holds onto the strings of melodies so

that the sky does not fall upon the heads of her little ones.

Here in Gaza, which has become an open wound on the face of time, we wake up every morning to a heavy question: Will we live to see tomorrow? Or will the bombardment be our appointment with the unknown?

We groan and suffer under the weight of an unending genocide and the burden of displacement that has uprooted us from our roots. Our homes are no longer made of stone; they are memories buried beneath the rubble, and our families have lost leaves that will never return. Yet, despite everything, we refuse to remain silent. We continue our mission, slipping through the cracks of war, running after our students in tents and destroyed schools, searching for their innocent faces so that we may offer them a moment of sincerity.

For us, music is not merely notes played in concert halls. It is a breathing soul; it is a space of light in a dark tunnel; it is a warm embrace for children exhausted by bombs. When we see a child forget, even for a moment, the sound of warplanes while improvising a melody on a broken oud, we feel that life still insists on surviving. In that moment, we believe that hope is not a slogan; hope is a choice. We chose to continue the journey...

But hearts alone are not enough. Our instruments are shattered like our homes, our safe places have turned into rubble, and our students move between fear and exhaustion, while our teachers try to teach musical notes with fingers trembling from fear and pain.

The battle is twofold: the battle for survival and the battle to preserve this last refuge.

Our message to you is the cry of a voiceless soul: carry our heartbeat to the world. Defend the right of Gaza's children to dream, to knock on the walls of the world's silence with their melodies. Our music programs are not merely lessons; they are the testament of childhood and proof that we have not died yet, and that Gaza is still singing.

And in the end –

Hope is not a melody we hear; hope is to keep playing upon the wound, even if the instruments are broken and our breaths run out, because there is still a melody alive here... the melody of life.

ISMAIL, ACADEMIC DIRECTOR OF ESNCM IN GAZA:

We teach the children music to restore the sense of joy that they have lost. We strive to create moments of happiness and hope for them – things they have been deprived of throughout this devastating war.

Our conditions are harsh: living in tents, losing safety and security, hope, access to clean water, education; we endure continuous displacement; we are not safe in our homes, in the streets, anywhere.

We hope that the voices of our children will reach the world with one message: we love peace, we long for freedom, and we wish to live like all other peoples of the world – in safety, security, and stability. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for your compassion, solidarity, and support in helping us reclaim the beautiful lives we have lost."

ASHRAF, VIOLIN TEACHER AND ESNCM ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR IN AL-MAWASI:

I teach in different places across Gaza. Travelling anywhere is extremely difficult. The weather is intensely hot, and there is always the threat of ongoing attacks. But this constant has not prevented us from continuing to spread hope in the hearts of children. We have not abandoned our responsibility.

The children love their lessons, and they eagerly await their classes; music is their safe haven.

We give children feelings of joy, even though we ourselves are exhausted. We sing and play for hope, but we ourselves are so tired of waiting and searching for those who will embrace and support us amid this deadly silence that comes from the world. These children have the right for the world to listen to their music and to understand what they feel; and to an environment filled with peace, tranquillity, and stability.

We still dream of seeing music in every home, every tent, and every street in Gaza and Palestine, and we hope that we may all live in safety and peace.

FINALLY, A VOICE FROM THE CHILDREN. A LITTLE WHILE AGO I WAS SENT THIS FROM AYA (14). SHE WROTE:

When I sing or listen to music with my friends, I feel as if we are escaping together from the noise and chaos of the world into a small space we shape with our voices and dreams. Music becomes a warm embrace we turn to – we sing and laugh, we sing and cry – and every melody seems to heal something broken within us. These are indescribable moments; we sing not to perfect our voices, but to feel alive – together, stronger than any pain."

Felicity Laurence is a member of Hastings Jews For Justice.