



Hailsham
TOWN COUNCIL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Hailsham Festival Goers Invited to Mayor's Concert

4 September 2019

The Town Mayor will be getting into the festival spirit when he joins in the celebrations of Hailsham Festival's 'Mayor's Concert', which will be held at Hailsham Parish Church on Saturday 14th September, from 2pm to 3.15pm.

Members of the public are encouraged to come along to this free event, which will be introduced by the Mayor of Hailsham, Cllr Paul Holbrook, before performances by Hailsham Choral Society, organist Roger Tipping and professional singer Abbie Marsden.

Hailsham Choral society will perform a programme of short pieces giving an insight into the breadth of their repertoire. This year, the music will include sacred music and songs from operas and musicals.

Roger Tipping, organist at Hailsham Parish Church, will be performing music on the recently installed digital three manual instrument and professional mezzo-soprano Abbie Marsden, known locally as the founder and director of choir group Hailsham Voices, will sing a selection of songs from the musical theatre repertoire.

There will be refreshments available at the end of the concert in aid of the Parish Church and a retiring collection to help support Hailsham Festival.

"Hailsham has such amazingly rich groups of choristers and it is an honour for me to be part of this year's Hailsham Festival by hosting this special concert," said Town Mayor Cllr Paul Holbrook.

"I am very grateful to the Hailsham Choral Society, Roger Tipping, Abbie Marsden and, of course, the Festival Committee for organising what is guaranteed to be an amazing concert and I look forward to an afternoon of entertainment for us all on 14th September."

The Mayor's Concert makes up part of the Hailsham Festival's Town Centre Open Saturday, the festival itself being one of the highlights of the town's events calendar and attracting a cross-section of artists and performers from the South East and further afield.

The 17-day series of events will take place at various locations in and around Hailsham from Friday 6th September to Sunday 22nd September and is being organised by the Hailsham Festival Committee and the team at Gallery North.

There will be performances of *Entertaining Angels* at Summerheath Hall (Thursday 19th – Saturday 21st September), presented by Hailsham Theatres, as well as a *Folk in the Yard* event at the King's Head Cacklebury (Saturday 14th September, 3pm) – sure to be a crowd-pleaser – and there will be choir performances from Hailsham Voices, The South Downs Singers and Bourne to Sing at Hailsham Parish Church (Thursday 19th September, 7.30pm).

Other highlights of this year's festival include a 60s Tribute Night in aid of Demelza Hospice Care for Children (Monday 9th September - Hailsham Parish Church, 8pm), a book signing event with poet, novelist and broadcaster Michael Rosen (Thursday 12th September - Hailsham Pavilion, 5pm), Circus Skills Showtime (Saturday 14th September - Vicarage Field, 10am) and Opera Mayhem's *Figaro Pie!* (Sunday 22nd September - Hailsham Pavilion, 7.30pm).

For more information, visit www.hailshamfestival.uk.

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