



BOX OFFICE 01732 866114
www.heverfestival.co.uk



SUMMER FESTIVAL 2017

A Perfect Summer's Evening



"Thought it was brilliant... and what a beautiful setting! Idyllic!"

The
Festival Theatre
at HEVER CASTLE

Email - theatre@heverfestival.co.uk

Book online at www.heverfestival-tickets.co.uk



VENUE INFORMATION

Some useful information to help you get the most out of your visit to the Theatre

The Festival Theatre is an open air venue set in a magical location in the award winning gardens of Hever Castle in Edenbridge, Kent. The stage is fully covered and the seating is tiered with the vast majority of seats under seating canopies, which means if the sun doesn't shine, the audience can still enjoy the spectacular setting with protection from the weather.

“Very professional and a lovely setting on a summer’s evening, the pavilion restaurant was open and many people were enjoying a picnic before the show on the grass... all in all to be recommended!”

FOOD AND DRINK

Audiences are welcome to picnic in the Castle grounds before evening, and after matinée performances; either in the idyllic lakeside setting or on the Theatre lawn itself surrounded by stunning flower beds.

Pre-theatre suppers are available on the evening of performances in the Guthrie Pavilion Restaurant with earlier access to the grounds for those who have booked suppers in advance. A snack food counter and bar are also available before the performance and during the interval. **Cream Teas** are served in the Guthrie Pavilion following the matinée performances of the two plays. To make a reservation please call the Box Office.

A Pizza Van will be parked on the Theatre Lawn during cinema week and for other selected performances.

For detailed information on How to Book Tickets see page 11

LOCATION AND PARKING

The Theatre is located in the grounds of Hever Castle, which is situated 3 miles south east of Edenbridge off the B2026 between Sevenoaks and East Grinstead. It can be reached via junction 10 of the M23, and is signposted from junctions 5 & 6 of the M25 and the Hildenborough exit of the A21.

There is free parking available for cars and coaches near the Theatre. Please do not arrive before the gates open at 6.30pm, once Castle day visitors have exited the grounds, as there is very limited waiting space.

Satellite Navigation Users:
Postcode TN8 7NG.

ACCESS

The Festival Theatre aims to provide good access for all our visitors. There is disabled parking available closer to the entrance to the Theatre, the route to the auditorium is mainly paved, without steps, and Assistance Dogs are permitted into the Theatre Auditorium. All visitors should be aware that we are an open-air venue situated in a Grade 1 listed Garden, so certain restrictions may exist. For individual requirements please contact the Theatre Box Office.

ACCOMMODATION

There is luxury B&B offered in the Astor Wing of Hever Castle. For more information visit www.hevercastle.co.uk or call The Astor Wing on 01732 861800.

WELCOME

To The Festival Theatre



"I enjoyed it immensely and full credit to you for creating and sustaining such an inspirational venue."



"Great venue, brilliant act"



A Perfect Summer's Evening

We are delighted to present this year's Summer Festival season, and we are looking forward to welcoming you to our magical open-air venue in the coming months.

Whether you like a party night out or enjoy authentic musical celebrations of classic artists, we are confident you will find something in the programme to suit you. Perhaps jazz or swing is more your thing, you are looking for an entertaining play, or want a fantastic family show to delight your children? If so, we have worked hard to book a wide selection of high quality shows for your entertainment.

Highlights this year include high energy musical entertainment from **Soul Legends** and **80s Mania**; new productions of G&S classics **HMS Pinafore** and **The Pirates of Penzance**; **Shakespeare, Ayckbourn** and the rip-roaring **Nell Gwynn**; the music of **The Carpenters** and **Kate Bush**; dinosaurs in **The Lost World**; and celebrations of bygone eras with **The Rat Pack**, **Swinging at the Cotton Club** and **The Ronnie Scott's All Stars**. All this and much more including **Cinema Under the Stars** in the last week of August.

We hope you will enjoy looking through the programme and do visit our website www.heverfestival.co.uk for more information on all the shows and our venue.

See you in the summer!

The Festival Theatre Team



FAMILY SHOWS

Ticket Price: Adult - £16.50; Child - £15; Family Ticket (2A&2C/1A&3C) - £54
Performances start at 2.30pm; Gates open at 1.45pm; Exit 6pm

ILLYRIA presents

The Emperor's New Clothes

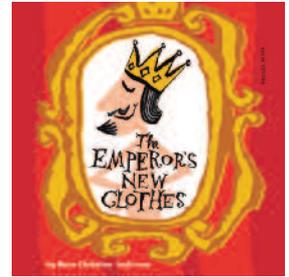
By Hans Christian Andersen

Weds 31st May & Thurs 1st June

The Emperor is a lovely man but he is surrounded by idiots! His greatest joy is the monthly Grand Parade at which he always wears his newest outfit. But when two swindlers offer him the ability to identify fools by making him clothes which only the wise can see, will he end up losing his crown jewels? All will be revealed in Illyria's cheekiest ever show!

Winner of the critic's choice award at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, this production attracted multiple five star reviews on its first sell-out UK tour in 2000. Illyria bring their unique brand of imaginative theatre to bear on Hans Christian Andersen's much loved tale about a hapless Emperor and his suit of new clothes.

(There is no nudity in this production, although one of the actors may be a little chilly!)



*"...amazing as usual.
Loved every minute..."*

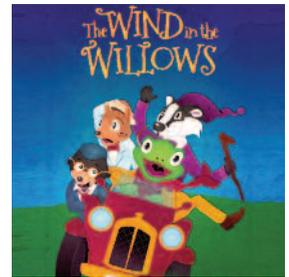
Immersion Theatre presents

The Wind in the Willows

Thursday 3rd August

Join the boat-loving Ratty, the sensible yet curious Mole, wise old Badger and the fantastically irrepressible Toad as they embark on the adventure of a lifetime culminating in a colourful battle with the sly weasel to save Toad Hall!

Eye-catching costumes, toe-tapping music and larger than life characters promise to capture the imagination of the youngest of audience members whilst the sheer nostalgic charm of this beloved story is guaranteed to take older generations on a glorious trip down the riverbank onto memory lane. The perfect summer treat for all the family from the company that brought you last year's smash hit, The Wizard of Oz!



*"...we really enjoyed
spending time in the
grounds afterwards."*

ILLYRIA presents

The Lost World

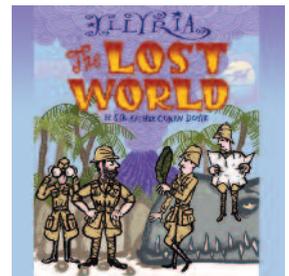
By Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Wednesday 9th August

In Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's thumping adventure, intrepid explorers travel to an uncharted plateau and find flora and fauna beyond their wildest dreams. But how will they make anyone believe the wonders they have seen actually exist? Unless, of course, they bring something back...

The story that inspired the likes of King Kong, Godzilla, Indiana Jones, Alien and a host of others has now been adapted by award winning theatre company Illyria, and promises prehistoric thrills, monster laughs & life-size DINOSAURS in the must-see show of the summer!

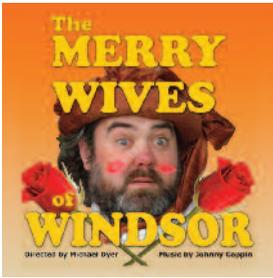
A classic adventure recommended for older children (5+) and their families.



PLAYS



Ticket Price: Sat - £18; Midweek - £16.50; Matinée - £15
Performances start at 8:00pm; Gates open at 6:30pm



The Festival Players Theatre Company presents

The Merry Wives of Windsor

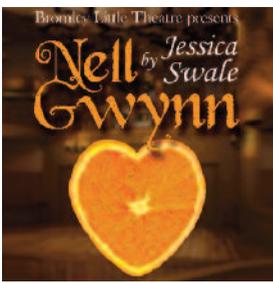
By William Shakespeare

Tuesday 18th July

The roguish and foolish Knight, Falstaff, schemes to woo two married women to get his hands on their husbands' money. However, the wily Wives of Windsor are more than a match for him! The Festival Players present their all-male, fast paced, hilarious and colourful production of this comedy, offering a summer feast of farce!

"As with all the best open-air Shakespeare, the spirit of sheer enjoyment is equally shared between the actors and audience." The Stage

"An absolute treat.
A bawdy, witty and
engaging romp"



Bromley Little Theatre presents

Nell Gwynn

By Jessica Swale

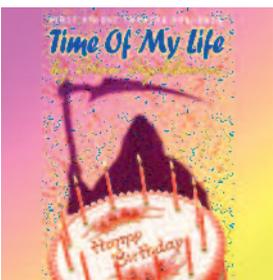
Thurs 27th - Sat 29th July

Matinée Performance at 2.30pm on Friday 28th July

Bromley Little Theatre returns to the Festival Theatre following last year's highly acclaimed *One Man, Two Guvvors* with another rip-roaring production. When she catches the eye of actor Charles Hart, Nell Gwynn begins a life-changing journey from lowly orange seller to true leading lady as Britain's most celebrated actress. Her fortunes change again when she catches another more prestigious eye, that of the King, Charles the Second, and the real adventure begins! Fighting to find her place in a world of men, are her wit and pluck enough to see Nell through?

Described as *"an unending delight"* by the Evening Standard, Jessica Swale's exhilarating take on the heady world of Restoration Theatre premiered at Shakespeare's Globe in 2015 before transferring to the West End and winning an Olivier Award for Best New Comedy.

"...the acting was equal
to that put on any
London stage."



First Knight Theatre presents

Time of My Life

A Comedy by Alan Ayckbourn

Thurs 17th - Sat 19th August

Matinée Performance at 2.30pm on Friday 18th August

We all love our mums and our dads, don't we? And our children - we love them - unconditionally, don't we?

It's Laura's birthday, and she and her husband Gerry with their two sons Glyn and Adam are celebrating at a family run Mediterranean restaurant which has definitely seen better days. Glyn and his wife Stephanie have been re-united after the most recent of Glyn's many affairs, and Adam has brought along the latest of his usually unsuitable (says his mum) girlfriends, Maureen. As the evening wears on assisted by copious alcoholic lubrication, in typical Ayckbourn style, family skeletons come hurtling out of long locked cupboards and the happy family illusion collapses with catastrophic consequences.

Email - theatre@heverfestival.co.uk
Book online at www.heverfestival-tickets.co.uk



MUSICAL ENT

Performances start at 8.00pm; Gates open at 6.30pm
Ticket prices are adjacent to each show

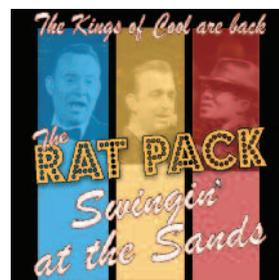
The Rat Pack - Swingin' at the Sands

Saturday 27th May

Following their sell out show in 2013, **The Rat Pack** are back with another fantastic tribute to the 'Kings of Cool'. This fully choreographed, vibrant and stylish show features stars of the hit West End show *'The Rat Pack, Live From Las Vegas'* and plays tribute to some of the greatest performers and songs in musical history. Favourites such as **I've Got You Under My Skin** and **Mr. Bojangles**, and classics **New York, New York**, **That's Life** and of course **My Way** are sure to have everyone singing along.

Faithfully recreating the style, panache and wonderful vocals of these all-time greats, these talented West End singers also bring their own brand of comedy, rousing camaraderie and audience participation to ensure the evening goes off with a swing and a bang!

Reserved Covered Seating £25, Grass Areas £16



The Feel Good Show
of the Year!

Soul Legends

Friday 2nd June

Whether you are a **Soul Man** or **A Natural Woman**, the smash-hit spectacular **Soul Legends** will wow you on a journey from Sixties origins to the present day via all the classic Seventies and Eighties floor fillers. With stunning costumes and jaw-dropping choreography, a cast of talented singers and musicians bring to life hits by **Earth Wind & Fire**, **Barry White**, **George Benson**, **Michael Jackson**, **Aretha Franklin**, **James Brown**, **Tina Turner**, **Lionel Richie**, **Wilson Pickett**, **Sam & Dave** and more in "soul-sational" style!

Relive your favourite soul anthems: **Respect**, **Ain't Nobody**, **Knock On Wood**, **Midnight Hour**, **Proud Mary**, **You're My First My Last My Everything**, **Best Of My Love**, **River Deep Mountain High**, **Ain't No Stopping Us Now**, **Beat It**, **I Feel Good**... the hits just keep on coming!

Reserved Covered Seating £29, Grass Areas £18



"A very accurate and
faithful portrayal,"
Richard Carpenter

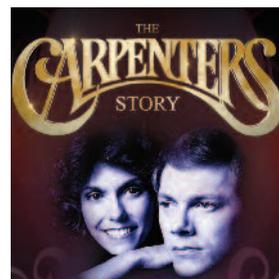
The Carpenters Story

Saturday 22nd July

The award-winning **Carpenters Story** celebrates the music of one of the most successful pop duos in music history, Richard & Karen Carpenter. The show features all the timeless hits including **(They Long To Be) Close To You**, **We've Only Just Begun**, **Superstar**, **Yesterday Once More**, **Top of the World**, **Please Mr Postman** and many more.

The stunning vocals of international star Claire Furley and lavish musical arrangements from live musicians will take you on an incredible journey through the uniqueness that truly was The Carpenters.

Reserved Covered Seating £27, Grass Areas £17



ENTERTAINMENT

Performances start at 8.00pm; Gates open at 6.30pm
Ticket prices are adjacent to each show



"Absolutely,
surreally brilliant"

Cloudbusting

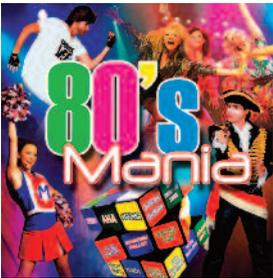
The Music of Kate Bush

Sunday 6th August

Cloudbusting's remarkable stage show brings the magical music of **Kate Bush** to spectacular life, recreating her distinctive sound with live musicians and authentic musical arrangements.

Mandy Watson's sublime vocals capture every nuance of Kate's wide vocal range with uncanny precision in a dazzling selection of hits such as **Wuthering Heights**, **Babooshka** and **This Woman's Work**. Bringing Kate's music to a new live audience, the uninitiated will fall under the spell of familiar songs they never knew were written by Kate, and long-time fans will hear favourite album tracks played live for the very first time.

Reserved Covered Seating £25, Grass Areas, £16



"One of the best night's
out ever!"

80s Mania

Friday 11th August

It's time to dig out your 80s fashions and party! Europe's Official 1980's multi-tribute music extravaganza features 25 chart topping pop icons authentically recreated with a live band and amazing dancers. Performing over 35 chart topping smash-hits live, with tributes to **Duran Duran**, **The Human League**, **Kim Wilde**, **Culture Club**, **Madonna**, **Wham!**, **Nena**, **Toni Basil**, **Frankie Goes to Hollywood**, **Bananarama**, **Dead or Alive**, **Madness** and many more, this is an unmissable treat for all 80s fans!

"It's like *Top of the Pops* meets *Live Aid*" Mike Read, Ex-Radio1 and Top of the Pops presenter.

Reserved Covered Seating £27, Grass Areas £17

Swinging at the Cotton Club

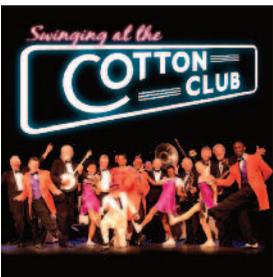
Featuring the Lindy Hop Dance Company &
The Harry Strutters Hot Rhythm Orchestra

Saturday 26th August

Take a step back into 1920s & '30s New York City and through the doors of Harlem's hottest nightclub, 'The Cotton Club'! Performances by **Duke Ellington**, **Louis Armstrong**, **Cab Calloway**, **Billie Holiday**, **Ella Fitzgerald**, and **Fats Waller** would have had the club swinging - whilst dancers such as **Bojangles Robinson** and the **Nicholas Brothers** lit-up the stage with their breath-taking routines.

In this show, the exhilarating dance and music of the famous Cotton Club is recreated by the fabulous Lindy Hop Dance Company and the show's special guest tap-dancer, alongside The Harry Strutters Hot Rhythm Orchestra, featuring American vocalist Marlene Hill and compere/vocalist Megs Etherington.

Reserved Covered Seating £27, Grass Areas £17





CLASSICAL, OP

Performances start at 8:00pm; Gates open at 6:30pm
Ticket prices are adjacent to each show

Last Night of the Hever Proms

The Brandenburg Sinfonia

Sunday 27th August

The ever-popular classical finale to the Summer Festival this year includes **Adagio for Strings** by Samuel Barber, Mozart's **Horn Concerto No.4** and Strauss' **Cuckoo Polka** and **Radetzky March**; alongside all the last night favourites **Jerusalem**, **Fantasia on British Sea Songs** and the **March of Pomp and Circumstance**.

Pack a picnic, wave a flag and take your seats to enjoy a fantastic celebration of music and the climax to our summer season.

Early booking is recommended.

Reserved Covered Seating £29, Grass Areas £18



Opera Brava return to Hever with a fabulous cast of young, exciting and talented singers mixed with international artists who perform in major opera houses including Covent Garden and the Royal Opera House. Their operas are fully staged and costumed, sung in English and accompanied by a piano and chamber ensemble.



The Impresario by W.A. Mozart

with Candlelit Opera Gala

Friday 4th August

The first half presents **The Impresario** by Mozart, a fully costumed 18th century comic opera sparkling with wit and humour, as well as powdered wigs and period costumes!

After the interval, enjoy a selection of well-known arias, duets, trios and ensembles from operas and musicals, ranging from Mozart to Sondheim, interspersed with informative and comic anecdotes. A delightful evening of inspiring music that includes classics such as **The Pearl Fishers Duet** and **The Flower Duet**.

Reserved Covered Seating £26.50



La Bohème

by Giacomo Puccini

Saturday 5th August

Set in Paris in the 1830s amongst a group of impoverished Bohemians, the opera centres around the tragic love affair between the seamstress, Mimi, and Rodolfo, a poet. Frivolity, joy, tenderness and sorrow are all expressed in the wonderful music of this most treasured of operas.

La Bohème is a masterpiece and the sensational cast in this production succeed in bringing out the real heart of Puccini's finest score.

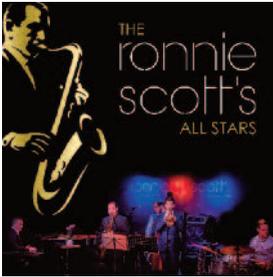
Reserved Covered Seating £29.50



PERA and JAZZ



Performances start at 8:00pm; Gates open at 6:30pm
Ticket prices are adjacent to each show



The Ronnie Scott's All Stars presents

The Ronnie Scott's Soho Songbook

Sunday 20th August

Direct from London's world-famous jazz club, the award-winning **Ronnie Scott's All Stars** are back with a brand new show for 2017, combining world-class live jazz and narration for a unique evening's entertainment. Since its humble beginnings as a basement music bar where musicians would jam, through to the internationally acclaimed music venue it is today, the Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club has showcased the music of some of the world's greatest and most influential artists of all time. A glimpse into this unique world and its incredible history, and a must for all music fans.
Reserved Covered Seating £29, Grass Areas £18



Opera Anywhere was founded in 2000, driven by a passion to produce accessible, innovative & entertaining opera for all ages. The Company specialises in performing in new and unusual venues throughout the country and are currently on tour with several Gilbert & Sullivan productions.



HMS Pinafore

by Gilbert & Sullivan

Saturday 12th August

Hip hip hooray! Opera Anywhere present the infectious comic operetta HMS Pinafore. Also known as The Lass that Loved a Sailor, this timeless classic with a twist tells of mismatched love across different social classes. Josephine is the captain's daughter and has fallen for lowly sailor Ralph. Yet her father has other ideas – he has promised her to Sir Joseph Porter, the First Lord of the Admiralty. Will love prevail? Climb aboard to find out and enjoy a feast of fun and merriment along the way.
Reserved Covered Seating £24

The Pirates of Penzance

by Gilbert & Sullivan

Sunday 13th August

The Pirates Of Penzance is one of Gilbert and Sullivan's most popular operettas. A swashbuckling farce of brilliant humour and razor sharp wit it is chock full of memorable melodies including the famous tongue twisting patter song from the Major-General. Set sail with this classic comedy, featuring sentimental pirates, bumbling policemen, dim-witted young lovers and an eccentric Major-General.
"A smart, sharp, witty and quite spiffing production. Every aspect of this show is quality and not to be missed"
Reserved Covered Seating £24





COMEDY and CINEMA

Performances start at 8:00pm; Gates open at 6:30pm
Ticket prices are adjacent to each show

Off the Kerb Productions presents

Andy Parsons Thursday 20th July

Worried about your job? Worried about your family? Worried about yourself? Worried about the health service? Education? Climate change? World War 3? Worried about worrying? Sod it! Come and have a laugh about it. It's one of the things we do best. Or is it? Was it something we did best but like everything else has now gone West. Or South. Or East. Ah - go on. Take a risk. Put on your lucky pants and your party shoes - and get yourself on a night out. Or maybe come out dressed in a binbag, top hat and clogs. We could all use a laugh.

As seen on **Mock the Week**, **Live at the Apollo**, **Q.I.** etc. and repeated on **Dave!**

"Potent live performer... can nail a nonsense with beautiful economy of words" The Times

Reserved Covered Seating £15

14+ (Parental Guidance)



"Brilliantly funny and insightful" Metro

Cinema Under the Stars

Tues 22nd – Fri 25th August

There is something special about watching movies on a big screen in the open air, and in our magical setting with tiered seating and the shade of our large canopy you can enjoy blockbusters under the stars earlier in the evening than other outdoor cinemas.

This year enjoy three vintage classic films, and a popular girls Friday night out favourite.

Singin' in the Rain	Tuesday 22nd August	Cert U
La La Land	Wednesday 23rd August	Cert 12A
Breakfast at Tiffany's	Thursday 24th August	Cert PG
Bridget Jones's Baby	Friday 25th August	Cert 15

Pizza Van

We are delighted to announce that we will have a pizza van on the Theatre lawn during film week this year, offering a selection of freshly cooked pizzas. Audiences will be able to purchase on the evening or you can book in advance our **Special Combo Deal**, and available only for the films.

A perfect accompaniment to your evening under the stars!



Two cinema tickets and one 10 inch pizza with toppings of your choice for just £38.



BOOKING INFORMATION



Evenings: Gates open at 6.30pm, Performances start at 8pm
Matinées: Gates open at 1.45pm, Performances start at 2.30pm, Exit by 6pm

How To Book Tickets

ONLINE

www.heverfestival-tickets.co.uk

For secure online booking for all Festival shows, available 24 hours a day, visit our website. Choose to receive tickets by post, or print Etickets. Please note we are unable to accept Etickets presented on handheld devices at the Theatre, the tickets must be printed.

BY PHONE

Theatre Box Office 01732 866114

Telephone bookings are accepted Monday – Friday, 9.30am-5pm.

IN PERSON (Performance evenings only)

The Ticket Office located by the Theatre is open on performance days for ticket collections and sales. It opens from 6.30pm for evening performances, and from 1.45pm for matinees. However we do advise checking availability of tickets before arriving at the venue.

BOOKING FEES

There is a total booking fee of £3 per order placed by telephone through the Theatre Box Office. There is an online booking fee of 7% of the total order value for tickets booked online.

GROUP BOOKING

There is a discount of 10% for groups booking 20 seats or more for a single performance. Group tickets must be booked by telephone through the Theatre Box Office.

CHILDREN

For family shows a child ticket is valid for children between the ages of 18 months and 15 years. Children under the age of 7 are not permitted to evening performances that start at 8pm.

REFUNDS & EXCHANGES

Tickets can be exchanged up to 3 days before the performance. There is a £5 administration fee & the original tickets must be returned to the Theatre Box Office. Ticket exchange is free for Festival Friends.

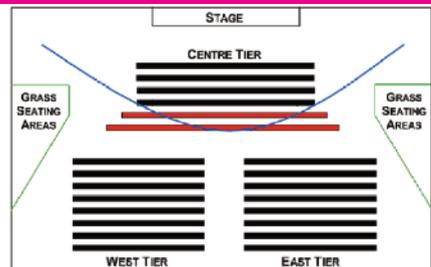
All tickets are sold subject to the Theatre's Terms and Conditions which are available from the box office or can be viewed on our website.

All tickets are non-refundable.

SEATING INFORMATION

❖ There are 3 reserved seating areas, the Centre Tier on the ground closest to the stage, and the East and West seating stands. All the seats in these areas are tiered with two rows on each level in the Centre, and one row on each level in the East and West. All seats are covered with the exception of two rows at the back of the Centre Tier. These uncovered seats are available for £1 less than the covered seating price.

❖ Grass Areas either side of the stage are available for Classical, Jazz and Musical Entertainment, shows. Audience can bring their own chairs and rugs to sit in these areas which are uncovered and unreserved. The view may be restricted.



■ Covered Reserved Seating ■ Uncovered Seating
■ Indication of the Stage Canopy



PERFORMANCE DATES

Summer Festival 2017

Saturday 27th May	The Rat Pack - Swingin' at the Sands	8:00pm
Weds 31 May & Thurs 1 June	The Emperor's New Clothes by Hans Christian Andersen <i>Matinées</i>	2:30pm
Friday 2nd June	Soul Legends	8:00pm
Tuesday 18th July	The Merry Wives of Windsor by William Shakespeare	8:00pm
Thursday 20th July	Comedy: Andy Parsons	8:00pm
Saturday 22nd July	The Carpenters Story	8:00pm
Thurs 27 to Sat 29 July	Nell Gwynn by Jessica Swale <i>Matinée Friday 28th July</i>	8:00pm Mat 2:30pm
Thurs 3rd August	The Wind in the Willows <i>Matinée</i>	2:30pm
Friday 4th August	The Impresario by WA Mozart with Candlelit Opera Gala	8:00pm
Saturday 5th August	La Bohème by Giacomo Puccini	8:00pm
Sunday 6th August	Cloudbusting - The Music of Kate Bush	8:00pm
Weds 9th August	The Lost World by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle <i>Matinée</i>	2:30pm
Friday 11th August	80's Mania	8:00pm
Saturday 12th August	HMS Pinafore by Gilbert and Sullivan	8:00pm
Sunday 13th August	The Pirates of Penzance by Gilbert and Sullivan	8:00pm
Thurs 17 to Sat 19 Aug	Time of My Life by Alan Ayckbourn <i>Matinée Friday 18th August</i>	8:00pm Mat 2:30pm
Sunday 20th August	The Ronnie Scott's All Stars: The Ronnie Scott's Soho Songbook	8:00pm
Tues 22 to Fri 25 August	Cinema Under the Stars: Film Week	8:00pm
Saturday 26th August	Swinging at the Cotton Club	8:00pm
Sunday 27th August	Last Night of the Hever Proms	8:00pm

*"This was a superb show... Lively and professional it provided a great evening's entertainment.
Excellent value for money!"*

No performance is guaranteed. In the event of bad weather a decision to cancel a performance would not normally be made until the time the performance is due to start. The possibility of delaying the start or pausing a production will always be explored.

Open Air Theatre – Warm clothing is advised.

The Festival Theatre at Hever Castle, Edenbridge, Kent, TN8 7NG