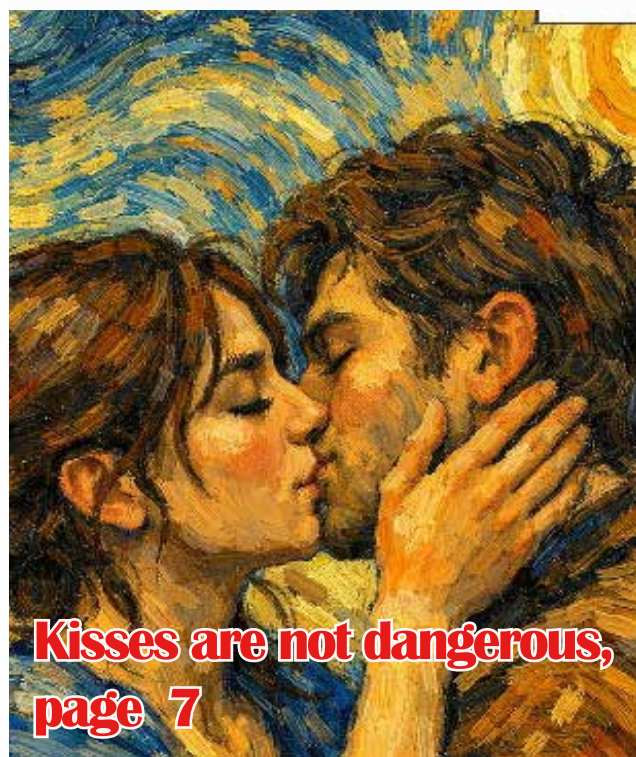


WASA DAILY



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LOCAL NEWS

RAINBOW SERVICE TODAY **Rainbow Mass in Vaasa** **welcomes everyone**



On Sunday, July 5 at 1 p.m., a rainbow mass will be held in the Trinity Church in Vaasa. The service wants to highlight everyone's equal value and create an open meeting place where people, regardless of background, identity or life situation, feel welcome. Rainbow masses have become increasingly common within the Evangelical Lutheran Church and serve as an expression of inclusion and respect. For many participants, the day is as much about fellowship as it is about worship.

The church hopes that the threshold will be low – the only dress code is to come as you are. And no, you don't have to wear rainbow-colored socks, although no one will complain if you do.

Time and place: Sunday 5 July at 13.00, Trinity Church, Vaasa

MALAX

Enthusiasts celebrated in Malax – youth award to local history enthusiast



During the festivities in Malax, the municipality awarded its prizes and scholarships for the year 2025 to people who have made significant contributions to the area.

Among those who received attention was Alexia

EDITORIAL

Good to Keep in Mind During Hot Summer Days

Climate change is bringing increasingly hotter summers to Finland as well. Whereas heatwaves used to be occasional, they now can last for weeks, with temperatures rising above 30°C for several days in a row.

In Southern Europe, the summer of 2025 saw record-breaking temperatures of 46°C. While we may not experience such extreme heat here, high temperatures do affect our health, energy levels, and daily routines. Here are some key things to keep in mind during hot days.

Staying hydrated is essential
Hot weather causes the body to lose more fluids through sweat and breathing. That's why it's important to drink water regularly throughout the day – even if you don't feel thirsty. Thirst is not always a reliable indicator of hydration, especially for the elderly.

Children, older adults, and people with chronic illnesses are particularly vulnerable to dehydration. Older individuals may have a reduced sense of thirst, and children's bodies contain less fluid. It's important to offer them water frequently and monitor their condition carefully.

Protect yourself from the

sun
Direct sunlight can cause sunburn and increase the risk of heatstroke. Wearing light, loose-fitting, and pale-colored clothing helps keep the body cooler. A hat or cap is recommended, and sunscreen is essential to protect the skin. Try to avoid being outdoors during the hottest hours of the day, typically between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Indoors, you can keep temperatures down by closing blinds and windows during the day, and opening them in the evening or at night when it's cooler. If possible, spend time in the shade or in air-conditioned spaces.

Heat affects sleep and energy levels
Many people have trouble sleeping in hot weather because it's harder for the body to cool down for rest. A cool shower before bed, a light evening meal, and proper ventilation can all help improve sleep. Avoid strenuous exercise and heavy meals just before bedtime, as they raise body temperature further.

During the day, try to take it easier if you can. Avoid strenuous physical activity or intense exercise during peak heat. The body tires more quickly in the heat, and sweating causes you to lose both fluids and salts, which can lead to dizziness and headaches.

Pets and hot weather

Pets are also affected by the heat. Avoid walking dogs during the hottest part of the day, and never leave animals alone in a hot car – not even for a short time. Make sure they have access to plenty of water, and cool them with a damp towel or let them rest in a cool room.

Follow public health advice
When a heatwave hits, the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL), the Finnish Meteorological Institute, and emergency services issue current recommendations and alerts. It's important to take these seriously – they are based on research and expert knowledge. A heat warning isn't just a formality; it means that the heat can cause health

issues and dangerous situations, especially for those in risk groups.

Community matters
On hot days, it's also good to check in on others. Ask how neighbors, relatives, and friends are doing – especially if they're elderly or unwell. Looking out for one another helps us all get through the heat more safely.

While heat can bring a summery and pleasant feeling, it also comes with real health risks. With some preparation and common sense, you can stay safe and still enjoy the best of summer – even when the temperature rises.

Blomqvist, who was named Youth of the Year for her long-term commitment to the Petalax local history association. The municipality's culture and sports awards were also awarded to people and associations that contributed to an active cultural life and a strong association spirit: The Veteran Tractor Association is awarded the Culture Award of the Year on the grounds that the annual tractor exhibition. This year's sports scholarships were: Malva Björndahl (football) Elizabeth Fogde (athletics) Frida Hagner (football) Elin Nyfors (athletics) Axel Nisula (Athletics) The award ceremony was one of the highlights of the day and reminded that it is often the volunteer forces that keep a local community alive. Source: Malax municipality.

MALAX
Road works in Malax – Emausvägen will be resurfaced

Motorists in Malax can expect temporary disruptions when the improvement and asphaltting work on Emausvägen is now carried out. The work began in week 26 and includes both road improvements and new pavement to increase traffic safety and give the road a longer life. The municipality urges road users to follow the temporary signs and reduce their speed when passing the work area. There may be delays, but the goal is to ensure that the work can be carried out as smoothly as possible. A little patience now can thus provide many years of much more pleasant car journeys – and hopefully fewer shaky coffee cups in the car. Source: Malax municipality.

LILLIPUTTI
Popular Lilliputti train rolls through Vaasa again –

summer classics are back

The small city train Lilliputti has restarted operating in Vaasa's beach and harbour areas and is expected to be one of the summer's most appreciated features for both tourists and Vaasa residents. From 29 June, the train will run daily between the Market Square, Vaskiluoto and Tropiclandia, as well as Top Camping, where passengers can experience the city's seaside environment at a leisurely pace



During the approximately 20-minute journey from the square to the camping area, the train passes several of Vaasa's most popular summer views. Traffic will continue every day until 2 August, and the last trip to the campsite will depart so that the service ends there at 18.20.

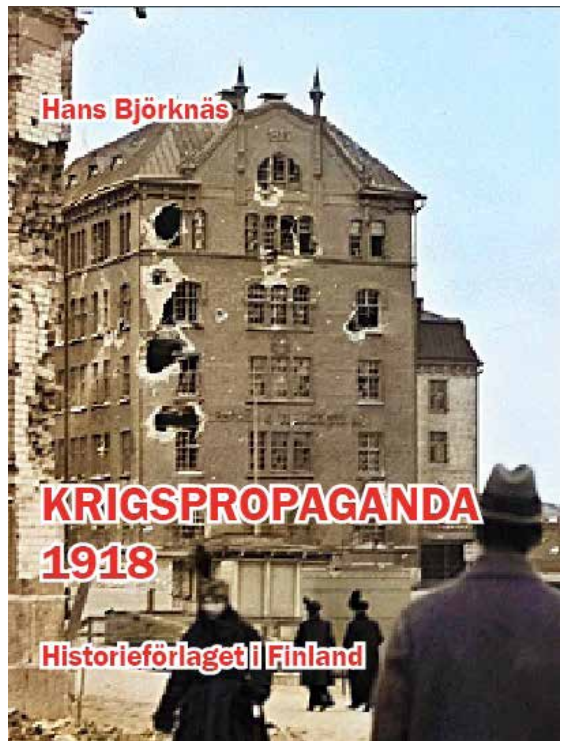
Lilliputti is especially popular with families with children, but is also used by visitors who want to get comfortably between the city centre and the swimming and camping area without a car. Outside the regular timetable, the train can also be rented for private groups, such as pensioners' associations, school classes and companies. For many years, the train has become a natural part of the summer scene in Vaasa and helps to strengthen the city's attractiveness as a tourist destination by the sea. Source: Tropiclandia/Lilliputti, City of Vaasa.

KVEVLAX
Asphalt slows down traffic on Highway 8 in Kevlax

Anyone driving through Kevlax on Highway 8 should be prepared for lower speeds and temporary traffic arrangements. The reason is ongoing asphaltting work that improves the condition of the roadway. The work will affect traffic periodically and road users are encouraged to follow the signs and instructions from the traffic direction. The aim is to improve driving comfort and increase traffic safety on one of Ostrobothnia's most important transport routes. For the impatient motorist, the wait can feel long – but a newly paved road usually quickly puts even the most stressed driver in a better mood. Source: Mustasaari Municipality

KORSHOLM
Mustasaari raises the rainbow flag for equality

Photo Supplement



WELLBEING AREAS

THE WELLBEING SERVICES

Fewer sexually transmitted diseases in Ostrobothnia – at the same time more people dare to talk about sex



There is good news from the Wellbeing Services County of Ostrobothnia. The number of cases of multiple sexually transmitted infections has decreased, while residents are increasingly seeking advice and help on sexual health.

According to the wellbeing services county, a good sex life is not only about preventing diseases, but also about well-being, relationships and quality of life. That is why health care is investing in easily accessible advice, testing and information for people of all ages.

Experts emphasize that regular testing is still important in the case of unprotected sex or changing partners. The condom is still one of the most effective protection against sexually transmitted diseases.

The message is simple: a better sex life starts with knowledge, openness and consideration – and sometimes with a visit to the health centre.

Source: Wellbeing Services

THE WELLBEING SERVICES

Breathing space for the economy – wellbeing services counties will get an extra two years

Finland's wellbeing services counties will have more time to bring their economies into balance. The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health has decided to extend the deadline for covering the deficit until the end of 2028.

The background is that many wellbeing services counties are still facing major financial challenges after the comprehensive health and social services reform. The Government believes that a longer deadline will provide better opportunities to implement the necessary changes without jeopardising residents' health and social care.

The decision does not provide for additio-

nal funding, but it gives the wellbeing services counties more room for manoeuvre to adapt their operations and improve their finances step by step.

For the CFOs, the decision is likely to mean a somewhat calmer summer – even if the spreadsheets hardly go on vacation.

Source: Ministry of Social Affairs and Health

THE WELLBEING SERVICES

New AI interpreter helps patients and healthcare professionals in Ostrobothnia

Language barriers should no longer have to stand in the way of good care. The Wellbeing Services County of Ostrobothnia has introduced a new AI-based interpreting service that can translate conversations between patients and healthcare professionals in real time.

The new technology is intended to complement traditional interpreters, especially in situations where rapid assistance is needed or when a human interpreter is not available. The aim is to improve patient safety, reduce misunderstandings and make healthcare visits smoother.

Ostrobothnia is one of Finland's most multilingual areas, and the healthcare services meet patients with many different mother tongues on a daily basis. The new solution is therefore expected to be a valuable tool in the daily work.



Technology does not replace humans – but it can sometimes be the fastest way to understand each other.

Source: Wellbeing Services County

WASA DAILY
Nearly everything You need
to know on 12 pages
vpress.fi

NEWS



During the period 1–6 July, the municipality of Mustasaari will fly the rainbow flag to draw attention to everyone's equal value and the right to live openly and safely.

The flag is a symbolic marker of equality, diversity and human rights. The municipality wants to show that Korsholm should be a place where people are treated with respect regardless of gender, gender identity or sexual orientation. The rainbow flag has become an international symbol of inclusion and is used by an increasing number of municipalities, authorities and organisations. In Mustasaari, it can be seen on a few summer days – but the message is meant to apply all year round.

Time: 1–6 July 2026.

Source: Mustasaari Municipality.

HOUSING INVESTMENTS

Vaasa among the country's ten hottest cities for housing investors



The Ostrobothnian housing market continues to attract investors. In a recent comparison, Vaasa ranks among Finland's ten most attractive cities for housing investment, while Kokkola climbs all the way to fifth place. The success is based on a stable labour market, several higher education institutions and a steady demand for rental housing. Vaasa also has a strong industrial sector with many international companies, which means that the city attracts both students and workers from other places.

For those who are considering buying a rental apartment, the development indicates that Ostrobothnia is still a region to be reckoned with. The fact that the Helsinki Metropolitan Area no longer alone dominates

SATELLITES IN THE SKY

A million satellites threaten the night sky – scientists warn: "We risk losing the stars"

It sounds like a joke, but it's bloody serious: scientists at the European Southern Observatory (ESO) are now warning that humanity is destroying the night sky. A new study shows that plans to send more than 1.7 million satellites and mirrors into orbit could have catastrophic consequences for astronomy – and for all of us.



Since 2019, the number of satellites has increased explosively to over 14,000, mainly thanks to SpaceX's Starlink. Now the company plans to send up another million to create space-based data centers. At the same time, the American Reflect Orbital wants to deploy 50,000 mirror-like satellites that will reflect sunlight down onto the Earth – as a kind of night light from space.

The result? A sky where hundreds to thousands of satellites are visible

every night, as bright as Venus or even four times brighter than the full moon. From light-polluted cities, these would become the only "stars" we see. ESO astronomer Olivier Hainaut, who led the study, warns that this not only destroys images from telescopes such as the VLT in Chile – where up to 28% of observations can be lost – but also brightens the entire sky. The diffuse light from the satellites spreads in the atmosphere, creating a constant glow that hides faint galaxies, exoplanets and even asteroids that could threaten Earth. But the consequences go far beyond astronomy. Light pollution affects the human biological clock, the rhythms of animal life and the balance of ecosystems. In addition, thousands of rocket launches and satellite burndowns mean increased air pollution. "We are turning space into a flashing billboard," says Hainaut. "If nothing is done, future generations will never be able to see a real starry sky." ESO is now calling for the number of satellites to be limited to a maximum of 100 000, and for them to be so faint that they cannot be seen with the naked eye. According to the researchers, this is

the only way to save our cosmic outlook – and our ability to understand the universe. So the next time you look up at the sky and see a streak of light, think about it: it may not be a star falling – but man's own future flickering away. Reference: European Southern Observatory (ESO), 1 July 2026. Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License, Image: One hour of satellites over the northern Atacama Desert in Chile (October 2025) (Credit: F. Kamphues, ESO/M. Kornmesser)

the interest of investors shows that smaller cities can also offer good returns. Source: STT Info, Vertailu: Suomen vuokranantajat.

VAASA 420 YEARS

Vaasa is in bloom for its 420th anniversary – the city's name has been given a summer costume



Anyone who walks through the centre of Vaasa will be greeted by an unusually colourful greeting this summer. The city's well-known VAASA letters have been decorated with flower arrangements to mark Vaasa's 420th anniversary. The flowers are part of the anniversary celebrations and will give both residents and visitors an extra reason to stop, photograph and enjoy the summer city. In addition, a number of cultural and family events will be organised around the city during the anniversary year. The blooming letters are expected to become a popular motif on social media. Of course, there is a risk that the flowers will be the city's most photographed residents this summer. Location: Vaasa city centre. Source: City of Vaasa.

BEACHES

Ready for a swim – Vaasa's beaches passed the water tests

This summer's water test gives the green light for swimmers in Vaasa. The city's official beaches meet quality requirements and the bathing water maintains a good hygienic standard according to the latest analyses. Samples are taken regularly during the bathing season to check bacteria levels and ensure that the bathing water is safe for the public. If the quality deteriorates, the city will quickly inform about any bathing recommendations. Even if the water quality is good, bathers are advised to use common sense. Heavy rainfall or algal blooms can temporarily affect the



De kallade varandra "slaktargardister" och "röda vilddjur". De mördade, brände och plundrade – övertygade om att de kämpade för en rättfärdig sak.

Två röda, flera vita. Gemensamt för dem alla var att de en gång var vanliga människor – arbetare, bönder, unga män med drömmar. Men inom loppet av några månader blev de kapabla till grymheter de aldrig tidigare kunnat föreställa sig. Vad hände? Svaret stavas propaganda.

Denna bok gräver ner sig i tidningspressen under finska inbördeskriget 1918 och avslöjar hur båda sidor systematiskt använde hatretorik, demonisering och medvetna lögnen för att mobilisera sina anhängare. Du får läsa originalcitater som får blodet att isas – och se mönster som känns obehagligt igen.

Men frågan är: har något förändrats?
En nödvändig bok för alla som vill förstå dåtidens krig – och försvara sig mot framtidens desinformation.

HISTORIEFÖRLAGET I FINLAND

AI

Europeans now allowed to use Fable 5 – Anthropic’s most powerful AI is back



After three weeks of unexpected stop, Anthropic’s most capable AI models are available to users in Europe again. Here’s everything you need to know about what’s going on – and what you’ll actually have access to.

On July 1, 2026, Anthropic announced that the export barriers for Fable 5 and Mythos 5 have been lifted, and that as of Wednesday, July 1, Fable 5 will be available globally on Claude Platform, Claude.ai, Claude Code, and Claude Cowork.

This is welcome news for Finnish users who have experienced the simply disappearance of their most powerful AI tools for three weeks.

What is Fable 5 – and what makes it so special?

Fable 5 is Anthropic’s most capable model made widely available. It is top-notch on almost all tested AI benchmarks, with exceptional performance in programming, knowledge work, ima-

ge analysis, scientific research, and many other areas. The longer and more complex the tasks, the bigger the Fable 5’s lead over previous models.

For the average Finnish user, the difference is tangible: complex text analyzers such as faster and deeper, long documents – up to a million tokens, about 750,000 words – are managed in a single context, and the programming support is significantly better than in previous versions.

Mythos 5, which shares the same underlying model but with fewer security filters, is positioned as the world’s most advanced AI for programming and agent-based AI – that is, systems that can autonomously perform complex tasks. However, Mythos 5 is not available, but only to selected organizations within the American security program Project Glasswing.

Why were the models banned?

On June 12, 2026, Anthropic received a

directive from the US government and was forced to shut down Fable 5 and Mythos 5 globally. The reason was that Amazon researchers had found a way to bypass Fable 5’s security filters – models had identified software flaws and, in one case, produced code that showed how a vulnerable could be exploited.

However, Anthropic’s tests confirmed that many less capable models – including Claude Opus 4.8, GPT-5.5, and Kimi K2.7 – were able to identify the same vulnerable devices. And when it came to demonstrating how the vulnerability could be exploited, each tested model was able to produce the same results. In other words: the stop was not proportionate. Anthropic quickly trained and improved security classifiers that block the reported behavior.

In Europe, the stop provoked strong reactions. Austria’s State Secretary for Digitalisation, Alexander Pröll, sent a formal letter to European Commission Executive Vice-Presi-

dent Henna Virkkunen, urging EU countries to explore the possibility of giving Anthropic a European home – citing the US restrictions as the direct reason.

What does it cost – and who does well with Opus?

Fable 5 and Mythos 5 are priced at \$10 per million tokens entered and \$50 per million tokens output via the API.

For Pro, Max, Team, and some Enterprise plans, Fable 5 includes up to 50 per cent of the weekly usage limits until 7 July, after which models will become available via paid credits.

Anyone who handles common tasks – email writing, simple text summaries, basic questions and answers – can do just fine with Claude Opus 4.8 at a significantly lower cost. Fable 5 is above all worth the price for demanding, lengthy and technically complex tasks where the difference in quality is actually visible.

Source: Anthropic, Claude Platform Docs, AI Tools Review

bathing water.



For those who have hesitated before the first swim of the year, there is good news – it is probably the temperature, not the water quality, that will be the biggest challenge. Source: City of Vaasa.

KUNTSI

Kuntsi’s terrace comes to life – new entrepreneur invests in summer meeting place



Since Midsummer the terrace of the Kuntsi Museum of Modern Art in Vaasa will be filled with life and movement again. A new entrepreneur is taking over the business and wants to make the terrace a pleasant meeting place for both Vaasa residents and tourists during the summer. Visitors can look forward to café service, light food, refreshments and various summer events. The location by the scenic inner harbor makes the terrace one of the city’s most attractive viewpoints, close to promenades, museums and the marina. The investment is part of the city’s ambition to create a vibrant cultural quarter around the harbour, where art, food and the marine environment meet. The hope is that the terrace will attract visitors well into late summer. Source: City of Vaasa.

LIFTI

Now you can rent the municipality’s electric car even in the middle of the day

DIALECTS

NÄRPES DIALECT

Hande or honde? Närpes residents reveal that the dialect is changing



In Närpes, a three-year-old can distinguish between masculine and feminine

How do one really know if a hand is "he" or "she"? In Närpes, the issue is not at all as crazy as it sounds – it is actually the subject of new linguistic research.

In a recent master's thesis at Åbo Akademi University, Laura Prinsén has investigated how today's residents of Närpes use the dialect's old tregen system. While standard Swedish is content with two grammatical genders, the Närpes dialect has long stuck to three: masculine, feminine and neuter. But now the linguistic order is slowly starting to shake at the seams.

The Princes asked 467 people with ties to Närpes to answer an extensive survey about how they inflect words and

what pronouns they use in everyday life. The results show that more and more feminine words are taking on masculine forms. Linguists call the phenomenon gender vacillation – and it is not about speakers forgetting their dialect, but about the language changing naturally.

Perhaps the biggest surprise is that the change is mainly visible in younger people and in those who move a lot outside Närpes. Those who study, commute or work in other places encounter more language variants and are unconsciously influenced by standard Swedish, where the old division between masculine and feminine words has long since disappeared.

At the same time, there is good news for all dialect friends. Compared to many other Finland-Swedish dialects,

Närpes has still preserved its traditional gender system unusually well. According to Prinsén, this is partly due to the geographical location – Närpes is relatively far from major cities – and partly because of the residents' strong pride in their dialect. Many people see the dialect as an important part of their identity and like to use it in everyday life.

Language changes often evoke emotions. Some worry that the dialect is disappearing, while others believe that a living language is always evolving. Perhaps the truth is that the dialect does exactly what humans do: it keeps up with the times, but does not forget where it comes from.

And if someone happens to say "hande dialect" instead of "honde dialect" in the future, it does not necessarily mean that the

person is speaking wrong. It can simply be a small piece of living language history – in the middle of an ordinary conversation over the coffee table.

And of course all of us who are home from this area know that this my dad is "hitje ji men dad" and this is my mom is "hitje ji mein mamm".

Source: Laura Prinsén: "Hande dialektin" or "honde dialect"? A survey study of masculine and feminine gender in the Närpes dialect, master's thesis, Åbo Akademi University, 2026. The thesis can be found here: https://www.doria.fi/bitstream/handle/10024/194866/prinsen_laura.pdf?sequence=2&isAllowed=y

In Närpes, a three-year-old can distinguish between masculine and feminine

CITY ORCHESTRA

Free Music by the Sea – Strömsö to Host Two Summer Concerts



Summer evenings in Vaasa are about to get even more memorable. The Vaasa City Orchestra will perform two free outdoor concerts at Strömsö, offering audiences a chance to enjoy live music

in one of the region's most picturesque seaside settings.

The concerts will take place on July 14 and July 16, 2026, at Strömsö in Vaasa. Audiences can expect a varied programme featuring classical music, tango, folk melodies and beloved popular tunes. The performances will be given by smaller ensembles from the city orchestra, creating an intimate atmosphere close to the audience. With free admission and a beautiful waterfront backdrop, the concerts are expected to attract both local residents and summer visitors. Organisers hope the events will become a highlight of Vaasa's cultural summer season.

Venue: Strömsö, Vaasa, Finland

Dates: July 14 and July 16, 2026

Admission: Free

Source: City of Vaasa / Vaasa City Orchestra

NEWS



Driving an electric car no longer has to mean owning your own. During the summer, the City of Vaasa will make it much easier to try electric driving when the city's Mini-Lifti cars will be available to the public even during office hours.

Normally, the cars are used by the city's staff during the working day, but between 29 June and 2 August, when many employees are on holiday, the booking system is also opened to residents. The temporary solution gives more people the opportunity to rent a modern electric car for excursions, shopping or other errands, for example.

The investment is part of the city's work to promote sustainable transport and better utilise the municipality's vehicle fleet. Instead of the cars being parked for large parts of the summer, they can now be used by residents, which both reduces the environmental impact and increases the benefit of the city's investments.

Mini-Lifti is a digital car pool where booking, unlocking and payment are done via a mobile application. Anyone who wants to rent the car needs to register in the service and have a valid driver's license.

Similar solutions have become increasingly common in Finland and are seen as a way to reduce the need for private car ownership, especially in urban areas where many journeys are short.

Time: 29 June–2 August 2026.

Location: Vaasa. Booking is done via the Mini-Lifti app.



KORSHOLM

The municipality's electric cars will be available to everyone – smart summer investment in Mustasaari

Anyone who wants to try driving an electric car this summer now has a new opportunity in Mustasaari. During the holiday season, the municipality will open its own car pool to the public, which means that residents and visi-

HEALTH

COELIAC DISEASE

A Relief for Everyone with Coeliac Disease - Kissing is Not Dangerous



For years, people with coeliac disease have faced a dilemma more nerve-wracking than a gluten-filled buffet: To kiss or not to kiss?

After all, what if your partner just devoured a pizza, a croissant, or—heaven forbid—a whole loaf of garlic bread? Would a romantic smooch turn into a gluten grenade?

Thankfully, science has swooped in like a hero in a lab coat. A new study presented at Digestive Disease Week® 2025 confirms what hopeful romantics everywhere have been waiting for: Kissing is (mostly) safe. Even if your partner has just polished off a stack of saltine crackers, the gluten transfer is so minimal that it won't trigger your coeliac disease.

The study, led by Dr. Anne Lee at Columbia University, recruited 10 brave couples—each with one gluten-eating partner and one coeliac sufferer—to test the risks of post-snack kissing. The non-coeliac partners ate 10 crackers (because nothing says romance like dry, crumbly saltines) and then locked lips with their gluten-free sweethearts for 10 seconds.

In one scenario, they waited five minutes before kissing. In the other, they chugged

a glass of water first—because nothing kills the mood like “Hold on, honey, I need to hydrate for science.”

The results? Gluten levels in the coeliac partners' saliva were so low they wouldn't even register as a threat. In fact, the amounts were less than 20 parts per million—the same safety threshold used for gluten-free foods.

So, what does this mean for coeliac sufferers? Well, unless your partner is actively chewing a bagel mid-smooch, you're probably safe. But if you really want to be cautious, Dr. Lee suggests a simple solution: “Have them drink water first.” Because nothing says “I love you” like “Here's a glass of water—rinse out the gluten, please.”

The study is a game-changer for coeliac patients who've been stressing over every kiss. No more interrogating partners—“What did you eat today? Was it gluten? Show me your grocery receipts!” No more panic after a surprise peck. And most importantly, no more avoiding romantic moments just because your date had a beer.

So go forth, coeliac warriors, and pucker up without fear. Just maybe keep a water bottle handy—for safety and hydration. After all, love should be the only thing making your heart race, not gluten anxiety.

NEWS

tors can rent the municipality's electric cars even during the day. Normally, the vehicles are used by the municipality's employees in their work, but when operations are at a low speed during the summer, many cars are unused. Instead of leaving them parked, the municipality wants to give them new life by offering them to the residents. The initiative runs between 29 June and 2 August 2026.

The cars are booked via the digital service Mini-Lifti, where the user registers, books the car with their mobile phone and unlocks it directly via the app. The electric cars can be used for everything from shopping trips and family outings to visits to family and friends. The municipality hopes that the project will get more people to discover the benefits of electric cars and the sharing economy. By using the same car by several people, the need for private cars is reduced, while the municipality's vehicles are used significantly more efficiently.

Electric cars are also an environmentally friendly alternative that contributes to lower emissions and less noise. Similar carpools have grown rapidly around Finland, and experience shows that many people choose to continue using sharing services even after they have tried them for the first time.

For Korsholm, the initiative is also a way to show how municipal resources can benefit residents even outside of regular activities. Time: 29 June–2 August 2026.

Reference: Mustasaari Municipality (korsholm.fi).

MICROSOFT

Microsoft reserves huge land area – could pave the way for new billion-dollar investment

A new step towards a possible giant investment has been taken in the Vaasa region. Microsoft has reserved about 190 hectares of land in Mustasaari and Vaasa to investigate the possibilities for future establishments.

The land reservation does not yet imply a final investment decision, but shows that the region continues to attract international interest. The area offers good access to electricity, modern infrastructure and proximity to the leading energy technology clusters in the Nordic region.

Data centers and AI infrastructure require large amounts of electricity and advanced grid solutions – something that the Vaasa region has good conditions to offer. If the project goes ahead, it could mean significant investments, new jobs and a strengthened international profile for the entire region.

Source: Mustasaari Municipality.

ELLY SIGFRIDS SQUARE

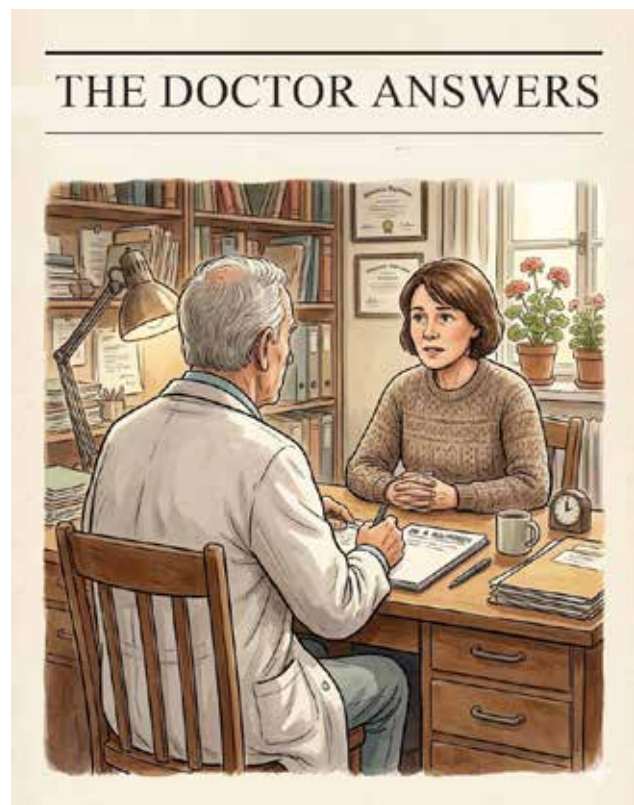
The Summer Market is back – every Thursday Smedsby is filled with life

The summer will once again be full of market atmosphere at Elly Sigfrid's square in Smedsby. From 4 June to 13 August 2026, a summer market will be held every Thursday, where local entrepreneurs, food artisans and associations gather to meet visitors.

HEALTH

THE DOCTOR ANSWERS

Drugs and sun



I belong to the generation that uses several different drugs, including for high cholesterol, diabetes and high blood pressure. I have heard that some medications can make the skin significantly more sensitive to sunlight, so that you burn the skin more easily and have skin reactions. Is this true, and what types of medicines mean that you should be extra careful about being in the sun during the summer?

You take your pills every morning without thinking about the fact that many medications increase the skin's sensitivity to sunlight. Several of the most common medications for cholesterol, high blood pressure and sugar can make your skin very sensitive to the sun's rays? Here's what you need to know – and what you should avoid.

The phenomenon is called photosensitivity or drug-induced sun sensitivity. This means that a drug chemically alters your skin's response to ultraviolet light – with the result that you can burn yourself in a fraction of the time it would normally take. Sometimes allergic reactions also occur with itching, redness and blisters on sun-exposed skin.

These medications require extra caution in the sun

Blood pressure medications are among the most common culprits. A registry study at Lund University shows a probable but small increase in the risk of basal cell carcinoma, a type of skin cancer, with certain blood pressure medication. This is especially true of thiazide diuretics (such as hydrochlorothiazide, one of the most common blood pressure drugs) that are included in many combination drugs.

Cholesterol-lowering statins – such as simvastatin, atorvas-

tatin and rosuvastatin – can also increase sun sensitivity, although the effect is generally more moderate than that of diuretics.

Diabetes medications of the sulphonylureas type (older diabetes tablets such as glipizide and glibenclamide) are classic photosensitisers. Newer drugs such as metformin and SGLT inhibitors have a significantly lower risk.

Antibiotics – especially tetracyclines and quinolones (such as ciprofloxacin) – are strong photosensitisations and can cause severe skin inflammation with blistering

Painkillers and anti-inflammatory drugs such as ibuprofen and naproxen can also increase sun sensitivity with regular use.

St. John's wort is sometimes used to treat mild depression. It increases the skin's sensitivity to sunlight.

What should you do?

It is good if a doctor informs you that extra sun protection may be needed when prescribing a new medication – but unfortunately this happens far too rarely. The package leaflets may contain information, but they are difficult to read with small text.

The advice is simple but important:

Always use sunscreen with a high SPF (at least 30-50) on exposed skin

Avoid intense sunbathing between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. – but the sun's UVA radiation can also be strong at other times

Remember that clothes are the best sun protection

Be extra careful in the first few weeks when starting a new medicine

The most important thing: never stop taking your medications on your own because you're afraid of the sun. The risk of untreated high blood pressure or cholesterol is infinitely greater than the risk of sun damage – which can be prevented with simple measures.

If you are unsure about your particular medications, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

NEWS

The square offers locally produced food, handicrafts, flowers and other local products. At the same time, the square will be a natural meeting place with music, activities and a vibrant street life that attracts both municipal residents and summer guests.

The summer market has become a cherished tradition in Mustasaari and is an important part of the municipality's work to strengthen local commerce and create life in the city centre during the summer months.

Time: Every Thursday 4 June–13 August 2026.

Location: Elly Sigfrids torg, Smedsby, Mustasaari.

Source: Mustasaari Municipality.

CITY ORCHESTRA

Free Music by the Sea – Strömsö to Host Two Summer Concerts



Summer evenings in Vaasa are about to get even more memorable. The Vaasa City Orchestra will perform two free outdoor concerts at Strömsö, offering audiences a chance to enjoy live music in one of the region's most picturesque seaside settings.

The concerts will take place on July 14 and July 16, 2026, at Strömsö in Vaasa. Audiences can expect a varied programme featuring classical music, tango, folk melodies and beloved popular tunes. The performances will be given by smaller ensembles from the city orchestra, creating an intimate atmosphere close to the audience.

With free admission and a beautiful waterfront backdrop, the concerts are expected to attract both local residents and summer visitors. Organisers hope the events will become a highlight of Vaasa's cultural summer season.

Venue: Strömsö, Vaasa, Finland

Dates: July 14 and July 16, 2026

Admission: Free

Source: City of Vaasa / Vaasa City Orchestra

UNIVERSITIES

UNIVERSITY OF VAASA

New Professor Says the Green Transition Needs More Than Good Intentions

Recycling, clean energy and the circular economy have become some of the biggest buzzwords of the decade. But according to the University of Vaasa's newest Professor of Automation Technology, slogans alone will not build a sustainable future.

Dr. Pekka Suominen, who began his professorship in June 2026, believes the real heroes of the green transition are not catchy climate campaigns but intelligent machines, advanced sensors, robotics and artificial intelligence. His message is straightforward: if valuable materials cannot be identified, sorted and recovered efficiently, they will continue to end up as waste.

"The circular economy cannot run on good intentions alone," Suominen says.

His research focuses on smart automation, industrial measurement systems, AI and robotics—technologies that help factories operate more efficiently while reducing emissions and recovering valuable raw materials. One practical example is the development of automated systems capable of identifying used batteries entering recycling facilities. Such technologies are becoming increasingly important as electric vehicles and renewable energy storage continue to expand worldwide.



Suominen brings an unusually broad background to Vaasa. Before joining the university, he worked in research, industry and international science, including at CERN, the European particle physics laboratory in Switzerland. He has also founded technology companies and holds several patents.

At the University of Vaasa, he will lead the Master's Programme in Automation and Robotics, delivered in cooperation with Satakunta University of Applied Sciences in Pori. The programme combines engineering, artificial intelligence, energy technology and business, reflecting the growing demand for multidisciplinary expertise in modern industry.

Vaasa is already recognised as one of the Nordic region's leading energy technology hubs, with global companies developing solutions for cleaner power generation and smarter industrial systems. Suominen believes automation will play an increasingly central role as Europe seeks greater energy security, higher resource efficiency and lower carbon emissions.

His message is both optimistic and practical: technology can solve many environmental challenges—but only if it is actually put to work. After all, even the best recycling bin cannot sort itself... at least not yet.

Image: Professor of Automation Technology Pekka Suominen. Photo: Pekka Suominen. Image freely available.

Source: University of Vaasa

CLIMATE CHANGE

CLIMATE CHANGE

CLIMATE CHANGE

Earth's heat imbalance reaches record levels – scientists warn of faster climate change

The Earth's climate is changing at a rapid pace, and one of the clearest signals is the growing imbalance in the planet's energy system. This is shown by new research published within the framework of the Copernicus Climate Change Service. The Earth's energy balance describes the difference between the energy that comes from the sun and the energy that leaves the Earth back into space. According to the researchers, this balance should be close to zero if the climate was not affected by human activity. Instead, the amount of heat stored in the climate system has increased steadily since the 1970s.

According to Piers Forster, who led the work behind the report, the imbalance has now reached the highest level measured so far. In recent decades, it has also doubled.

The increasing amount of heat contributes to rising global temperatures and affects both the oceans, atmosphere and land surfaces. The effects are felt through more and more powerful heat waves, an increased risk of drought and more extreme precipitation events in different parts of the world.

The report is published at the same time as several countries in southern Europe are experiencing very high summer temperatures. In parts of Spain, the temperature during the summer has reached around 40 degrees.

The researchers' conclusion is that the development shows how fast the climate continues to change and how important it is to closely monitor the changes in the Earth's energy balance.

Source: Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S)

VASABLADET July 3, .26

Björn Nyberg: Climate change is worse than war

In recent days, it has come close to us again, the biggest problem on earth. Climate change shot up the temperature to record highs in half of Europe's 850 largest cities for a few days. People and sheep died, schools closed, electricity consumption rose and transport came to a standstill. In London, due to the heat, a conference on how society can cope with a warmer climate had to be cancelled. And yes, heat waves have always existed, they are natural. But just over twenty years ago, this heat wave would have been two degrees



cooler because climate change had not reached that far then. Perhaps the only positive thing about this latest heat is that it hopefully puts climate change back on the agenda. For the past four years, it has been war and threats to democracy that have acted as enemy number one. That is wrong, if climate change continues, democracy will ultimately have no society to take care of.

...

So it is important to be alert and do what we can for the climate. Climate change is worse than war, and if it has not already led to war, it will.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Finland's emissions are falling – but the climate target is still a long way off

Finland's Annual Climate Change Report for 2026, published in Helsinki on 27 June, shows that the country's net emissions decreased by six per cent compared to the previous year. The reduction is mainly due to lower emissions in the energy sector and industry, as well as continued strong uptake of carbon dioxide in forests.

Despite the improvement, the distance to

the goal of carbon neutrality by 2035 is still great. The Government notes that emissions must be reduced much faster, especially in transport, agriculture and heating. This year's report also points out that the carbon sink of forests is more uncertain than before, which makes the climate target even more challenging.

The Annual Climate Report is part of the Government's statutory monitoring and is presented annually to Parliament. It serves as a steering document for future climate action and clearly shows that Finland needs tighter policy instruments and a faster transition to stay on course towards 2035.

Reference: Government

CLIMATE CHANGE

Helsingin Sanomat on June 27

One of the biggest points of disagreement in international climate negotiations concerns funding for climate adaptation. Wealthy countries, including those in Europe, should finance adaptation measures in poorer and more vulnerable countries.

Even within Europe, too little has been invested in climate adaptation. Fittingly, Europe's largest independent climate event, London Climate Week, was held in the United Kingdom this week. An event where climate experts were supposed to discuss how the world can adapt to extreme heat had to be cancelled because of extreme heat.

It is both absurd and short-sighted that, at the same time, Finland is discussing how its tourism industry could benefit from the rest of Europe becoming increasingly scorched. According to climate scientists, temperatures exceeding 40°C will eventually become a reality in the Nordic countries as well.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Yesterday, Denmark has been the hottest ever

Denmark has written climate history. On Saturday, the country's highest temperature was measured since official measurements began in 1874. In Aarhus, the temperature rose to around 37 degrees, which means a new national heat record.

The previous record was broken earlier in the day in the area of Odense, where 36.6 degrees were recorded. But the heat continued to rise and during the afternoon, the Danish Meteorological Institute confirmed that the historic 37-degree limit had been passed.

The extreme heat wave is affecting large parts of Europe. Several countries have introduced warnings for high temperatures, and records have also been recorded in the UK, France and southern Sweden, among others. Meteorologists link the unusually intense heat to a prolonged high pressure that brings in very warm air from southern Europe and North Africa. At the same time, climate scientists warn that extreme heat waves are becoming both more common and more intense in line with global warming. Very high temperatures are also expected in the Nordic countries

The means to slow global warming are already known, but policymakers must put them into practice. Greenhouse gas emissions must be reduced rapidly, and carbon sinks that absorb carbon dioxide must no longer be allowed to diminish.

EVENTS

TODAY

RAINBOW

Rainbow Service in Vaasa welcomes everyone



On Sunday, July 5 at 1 p.m., a rainbow mass will be held in the Trinity Church in Vaasa. The service wants to highlight everyone's equal value and create an open meeting place where people, regardless of background, identity or life situation, feel welcome. Rainbow masses have become increasingly common within the Evangelical Lutheran Church and serve as an expression of inclusion and respect. For many participants, the day is as much about fellowship as it is about worship.

The church hopes that the threshold will be low – the only dress code is to come as you are. And no, you don't have to wear rainbow-colored socks, although no one will complain if you do.

Time and place: Sunday 5 July at 13.00, Trinity Church, Vaasa.
Source: Vaasa Swedish parish

KORPHOLMEN

The leper colony opens its gates – a rare glimpse into a forgotten chapter of history



This Sunday, Korpholmen leprosy hospital in Kronoby opens to the public from 1 to 5 PM. Visitors can explore the hospital buildings, the church, and an exhibition hall featuring summer art by Auli-Maritta Ruuskanen. The event is free and organised by the Kronoby local history society. Don't miss this chance to step into one of Ostrobothnia's most evocative historical sites – where patients once lived out their lives in isolation.
Source: <http://kronoby.hembygd.fi>

METEORIIHI

When space struck Earth – Meteorian open today



Dive into the story of a crater formed over 520 million years ago – from the meteorite impact to today's farmland and Natura 2000 area. Explore rare meteorites, old farming machinery, an astronomical observatory, and a bird tower in one of Finland's most important crane resting sites. A solar system model and crater scale model bring the cosmos down to earth. Don't miss this journey through deep time!
Source: <http://www.meteorio.fi>

JULY

EVENING MUSIC

50 years of free evening music in Vaasa – stars take over Vaasa Church



June – 14 August 2026
– Every Wednesday at 7.30 pm, completely free. The evening music at the Trinity Church has been a summer classic for 50 years. And This year it is being celebrated in earnest. The organ has its place, of course – it is, after all, one of the finest churches in Finland. But the singing, violin, piano, clarinet and cello also shine. The artists? Well-known Finnish musicians and international guest performers. High-quality, free and open to all. So simple, so good. Bring a friend and enjoy the bright June evenings until mid-August.
Source: Bothnia Classic

BIG DAY FESTIVAL JULY 10-11.7.2026

Alan Walker heading to Vaasa – Big Day Festival promises huge summer crowds

Big Day Festival 2026 is preparing for one of the biggest music weekends of the summer as international stars and Nordic favorites arrive in Vaasa this July.

The festival takes place on July 10–11, 2026, at the seaside university area in Vaasa, Universitetsstranden 7. Major acts include Alan Walker, Miriam Bryant and Mirella, alongside several Finnish and Scandinavian artists.

Organizers describe Big Day as one of Finland's largest bilingual festivals, attracting thousands of visitors every year with live music, food areas and summer atmosphere by the sea. The festival is open to all ages, while separate 18+ and VIP sections will also be available.

Ticket sales are already underway, and more artist announcements are expected before the festival weekend arrives.
Source: Big Day Festival

KORSHOLM MUSIC FESTIVAL

Korsholm Music Festival turns 40+ – stars take over the clear nights of the west coast

22–31 July 2026

Warm summer evenings. Clear nights. And top-notch music. Since 1983, Korsholm Music Festival has been a chamber music festival unlike any other. The founder, cellist Seppo Kimanen, would be proud. Since 2023, cellist Jan-Erik Gustafs-son has led the festival, which attracts the cream of Finnish and international art musicians.

Experience the unique surroundings of the west coast as dusk falls. Bring a picnic basket – and a handkerchief. It can be so beautiful that it hurts.
Source: Bothnia Classic

KAAOS FESTIVAL

The metal storm returns to Vaasa – Kaaos Festival gears up for a new invasion

After last year's success, Kaaos Festival is making a comeback in Vaasa – and the organizers promise even heavier names and a larger audience in the summer of 2026. The festival will be held in Vaskiluoto on 24–25 July 2026 in the old Wasalandia area, which will be transformed into a massive festival area for hard rock and metal fans from all over the Nordic region. Last year's debut attracted audiences far beyond Ostrobothnia and brought Vaasa international attention in the metal scene. Now the organizers are hoping for an even greater impact. The festival is marketed as one of the most intense metal experiences of the summer in Finland, with both international and Finnish bands on the program.

Hotel bookings in Vaasa are already expected to increase ahead of the festival weekend.
Source: Kaaos Festival – <https://kaaosfestival.fi/>

UUSIKAUPUNKI

Crusell Week blows in with French elegance. The Vaasa Philharmonic Orchestra participates

Uusikaupunki will be transformed into the capital of music from 27 July to 2 August 2026 when Crusell Week takes over the city's squares, churches and auditoriums. The festival opens with Avajaispuhallus on the square (27.7 at 12 noon), and the week offers everything from the children's concert Freija to the grand Grand Concert Festif in the New Church (30.7 at 6 pm) with the Vaasa Philharmonic Orchestra and Helena Juntunen as soloist. The evenings end with lantern concerts and French tunes under the stars. Source: crusell.fi/konsertit-2026

VASA FESTIVAL

A star-studded party by the water

Vaasa Festival opens its doors for the eleventh year in a row – and offers a cavalcade of artists that will make your mouth water. We have already seen names like Robin Packalen, Isac Elliot and Nordman. Three days of music, food and a great atmosphere in the inner harbor. Remember that the VIP area has its own entrance, toilets and the best view of the stage. Age limit 18 years.

• When: July 30 – August 1, 2026
• Where: Vaasa city center, inner harbora

AUGUST

VAASAN MARSSI

7-9.8.2026

42 kilometres, sea views and no stopwatch – Vaasa prepares for massive walking event

The city of Vaasa will once again become a hub for endurance walkers when the international Vaasan Marssi takes place from 7 to 9 August 2026. The three-day event begins daily from Market Square at Hovioikeudenpuistikko 15a and attracts participants from across Finland and abroad.

Walkers can choose routes ranging from 10 kilometres to a demanding 42-kilometre challenge. The event features scenic routes through Strömsö, Old Vaasa and the UNESCO World Heritage archipelago area. Organisers stress that the event is not a race – there is no timekeeping – but the physical challenge is still significant, especially for those attempting several days in a row. Vaasan Marssi is also Finland's only IML-recognised walking event.

VASA FUTURE FESTIVAL

The future is here – and it is the New Nordic



Vaasa will once again become a center for future optimists when the Wasa Future Festival kicks off. For ten days, companies, decision-makers, researchers and artists will gather to build a better tomorrow under the theme "New Nordic". You will come here to network, be inspired and make a real difference. Expect both serious and crazy ideas – all on the same stage.
• When: 10–15 August 2026
• Where: Wasa Innovation Center & Bock's Village, Vaasa

NIGHT OF ART AUG 13

Night of Art: The whole of Vaasa becomes a big stage

UKRAINE PRESIDENT

The President Refuted Russian Claims of Having Captured Kostiantynivka during a Call with the Federal Chancellor of Germany



4 July 2026 - 12:58 held a phone call with
President of Ukraine Federal Chancellor
Volodymyr Zelenskyy of Germany Friedrich
Merz.

The Head of State expressed gratitude for the support and assistance provided to our people and our country. The President noted that Germany is one of the global leaders in defending human life, and Ukraine values this greatly.

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ne, as it has no other capacity left to prolong the war.

Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Friedrich Merz also discussed the situation on the frontline. The President informed the Chancellor about current developments and results. The Head of State noted that on the eve of the United States' Independence Day, the Russian ruler chose to lie to the world and to the President of the United States about the situation on the frontline, falsely claiming that Russian forces had captured Kostiantynivka in Donbas.

“Of course, that is not true. It is just another Russian lie, an attempt to generate some kind of a news story. If Kostiantynivka were under Russian control, then perhaps Putin would have no problem meeting me there to find a diplomatic way to finally end this war. But the fact is, he won't cross the front line – reality is very different from Putin's words,” the President stressed.

The Head of State thanked Ukrainian warriors for defending the country and everyone who continues to support Ukraine.

ART EXPERIENCE OF THE WEEK



Ferdinand von Wright
19.3.1822, Haminalahti
31.7.1906, Haminalahti
An Eagle-Owl Seizes a Hare, 1860
Finnish National Gallery Collection / Ateneum Art Museum
Photo: Finnish National Gallery / Museoinage

George Orwell

1984

Part 34

His heart bumped in his breast with frightening loudness. Fortunately the piece of work he was engaged on was mere routine, the rectification of a long list of figures, not needing close attention.

Whatever was written on the paper, it must have some kind of political meaning. So far as he could see there were two possibilities. One, much the more likely, was that the girl was an agent of the Thought Police, just as he had feared. He did not know why the Thought Police should choose to deliver their messages in such a fashion, but perhaps they had their reasons. The thing that was written on the paper might be a threat, a summons, an order to commit suicide, a trap of some description. But there was another, wilder possibility that kept raising its head, though he tried vainly to suppress it. This was, that the message did not come from the Thought Police at all, but from some kind of underground organization. Perhaps the Brotherhood existed after all! Perhaps the girl was part of it! No doubt the idea was absurd, but it had sprung into his mind in the very instant of feeling the scrap of paper in his hand. It was not till a couple of minutes later that the other, more probable explanation had occurred to him. And even now, though his intellect told him that the message probably meant death--still, that was not what he believed, and the unreasonable hope persisted, and his heart banged, and it was with difficulty that he kept his voice from trembling as he murmured his figures into the speakwrite.

He rolled up the completed bundle of work and slid it into the pneumatic tube. Eight minutes had gone by. He re-adjusted his spectacles on his nose, sighed, and drew the next batch of work towards him, with the scrap of paper on top of it. He flattened it out. On it was written, in a large unformed handwriting:

I LOVE YOU.

For several seconds he was too stunned even to throw the incriminating thing into the memory hole. When he did so, although he knew very well the danger of showing too much interest, he could not resist reading it once again, just to make sure that the words were really there.

For the rest of the morning it was very difficult to work. What was even worse than having to focus his mind on a series of niggling jobs was the need to conceal his agitation from the telescreen. He felt as though a fire were burning in his belly. Lunch in the hot, crowded, noise-filled canteen was torment. He had hoped to be alone for a little while during the lunch hour, but as bad luck would have it the imbecile Parsons flopped down beside him, the tang of his sweat almost defeating the tinny smell of stew, and kept up a stream of talk about the preparations for Hate Week. He was particularly enthusiastic about a papier-mache model of Big Brother's head, two metres wide, which was being made for the occasion by his daughter's troop of Spies. The irritating thing was that in the racket of voices Winston could hardly hear what Parsons was saying, and was constantly having to ask for some fatuous remark to be repeated. Just once he caught a glimpse of the girl, at a table with two other girls at the far end of the room. She appeared not to have seen him, and he did not look in that direction again.

The afternoon was more bearable. Immediately after lunch there arrived a delicate, difficult piece of work which would take several hours and necessitated putting everything else aside. It consisted in falsifying a series of production reports of two years ago, in such a way as to cast discredit on a prominent member of the Inner Party, who was now under a cloud. This was the kind of thing that Winston was good at, and for more than two hours he succeeded in shutting the girl out of his mind altogether. Then the memory of her face came back, and with it a raging, intolerable desire to be alone. Until he could be alone it was impossible



to think this new development out. Tonight was one of his nights at the Community Centre. He wolfed another tasteless meal in the canteen, hurried off to the Centre, took part in the solemn foolery of a 'discussion group', played two games of table tennis, swallowed several glasses of gin, and sat for half an hour through a lecture entitled 'Ingosc in relation to chess'. His soul writhed with boredom, but for once he had had no impulse to shirk his evening at the Centre. At the sight of the words I LOVE YOU the desire to stay alive had welled up in him, and the taking of minor risks suddenly seemed stupid. It was not till twenty-three hours, when he was home and in bed--in the darkness, where you were safe even from the telescreen so long as you kept silent--that he was able to think continuously.

It was a physical problem that had to be solved: how to get in touch with the girl and arrange a meeting. He did not consider any longer the possibility that she might be laying some kind of trap for him. He knew that it was not so, because of her unmistakable agitation when she handed him the note. Obviously she had been frightened out of her wits, as well she might be. Nor did the idea of refusing her advances even cross his mind. Only five nights ago he had contemplated smashing her skull in with a cobblestone, but that was of no importance. He thought of her naked, youthful body, as he had seen it in his dream. He had imagined her a fool like all the rest of them, her head stuffed with lies and hatred, her belly full of ice. A kind of fever seized him at the thought that he might lose her, the white youthful body might slip away from him! What he feared more than anything else was that she would simply change her mind if he did not get in touch with her quickly. But the physical difficulty of meeting was enormous. It was like trying to make a move at chess when you were already mated. Whichever way you turned, the telescreen faced you. Actually, all the possible ways of communicating with her had occurred to him within five minutes of reading the note; but now, with time to think, he went over them one by one, as though laying out a row of instruments on a table.

Obviously the kind of encounter that had happened this morning could not be repeated. If she had worked in the Records Department it might have been comparatively simple, but he had only a very dim idea whereabouts in the building the Fiction Department lay, and he had no pretext for going there. If he had known where she lived, and at what time she left work, he could have contrived to meet her somewhere on her way home; but to try to follow her home was not safe, because it would mean loitering about outside the Ministry, which was bound to be noticed.

HUMOUR ONE HUND- RED YEARS AGO

Some typicak jokes from the United States

The Prohibition Pivot

First Dry: "Why don't they pass a constitutional amendment prohibiting anybody from learning anything?"

Second Dry: "Why on earth would they do that?"

First Dry: "Well, if it works as well as Prohibition does, in five years Americans would be the smartest race of people on Earth!"

The Unfortunate Consequence

She: "Did you know that money carries a terrible amount of disease and germs?"

He: "No wonder I'm always feeling so healthy."

The Newfangled Student

Teacher: "Bert, you should have been here at nine o'clock this morning!"

Bert: "Why, teacher? What happened?"

The Driver's License

Standard Examiner: "And what is the very first thing you should do if you find your brakes have completely failed while driving down a steep hill?"

Applicant: "Make sure to hit something cheap!"

Flapper Philosophy

Rosie: "You're looking absolutely swell today, Dick."

Dick: "Thanks, old top. Sorry I can't say the same about you."

Rosie: "Oh, you could—if you lied as beautifully as I just did."

The College Telegram

Son (wiring from university): "No mon, no fun, your son."

Father (wiring back): "How sad, too bad, your dad."

The Marriage Modernization

He: "To be sure, there are some pleasant things about a bachelor's life, but then there are times when one longs to possess a loyal being who he can care for, and whom he can truly call his own."

She: "Say, if you feel that way, why don't you just go buy a dog?"

The Alibi Artist

First Woman: "Whom do you consider the greatest inventor of our modern

times?"

Second Woman: "Oh, my husband, proudly! You really ought to hear the spectacular excuses he invents for coming home at two o'clock in the morning."

The Golden Rule of Investing

Investor: "I truly wish I was a professional acrobat."

Broker: "Why is that?"

Investor: "So I could finally stand on my head and watch my stocks go UP!"

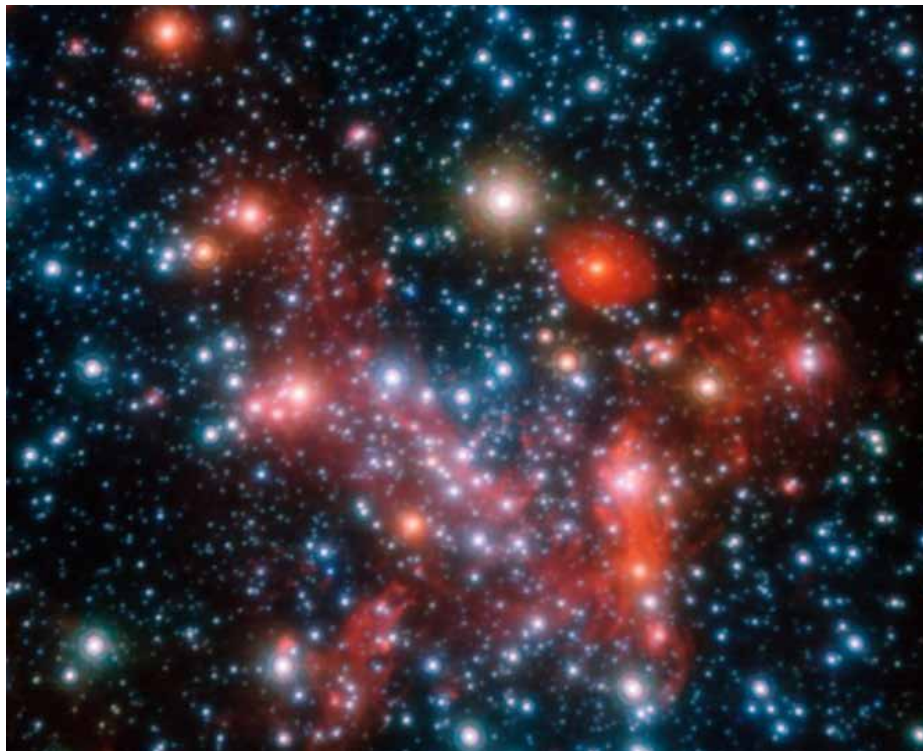
The Real Estate Trap

Suburbanite: "I bought a house in the suburbs, and the agent promised me that in five years, it would be worth twice what I paid for it."

Friend: "And is it?"

Suburbanite: "Well, it took me five years just to find the place, so I suppose he was right about the time frame!"

Astronomic picture of the week:



The Milky Way

The central parts of our Galaxy, the Milky Way, as observed in the near-infrared with the NACO instrument on ESO's Very Large Telescope. By following the motions of the most central stars over more than 16 years, astronomers were able to determine the mass of the supermassive black hole that lurks there.

Credit:

ESO/S. Gillessen et al.

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BLOG WRITERS

Join Wasa Daily as a Blog Writer!

Are you passionate about sharing your thoughts, stories, or expertise with the community? Wasa Daily is looking for enthusiastic blog writers to contribute engaging content for our readers.

Whether you love writing about local events, culture, lifestyle, business, or personal experiences, we welcome your voice!

Writing for Wasa Daily is a great opportunity to reach a wider audience, connect with fellow locals, and showcase your creativity. No prior experience is needed—just bring your ideas and enthusiasm! We value diverse perspectives and fresh voices that reflect the vibrant spirit of our community.

Interested? Send us your blog pitch or a short sample, and let's get your words published! Join us in making Wasa Daily a platform for meaningful conversations and inspiring stories.

Contact us at wasadagblad@gmail.com for more details. We can't wait to hear from you!

WASA DAILY

A modern newspaper with a layout with features of the press of the 1870s. Back then, newspapers had only 4-8 pages. Lots of text, but no images at all, so there's a lot to read on a few pages. Our paper is one of the very few newspapers in English serving English-speaking inhabitants in the Osthrobotnia region

The magazine contains quotations from old daily newspapers taken from the National Archives (digi.kansalliskirjasto.fi). GPT3, Gemini, Aria and Monica do some of the routine editing work, such as translation, corrector reading, and short notice writing. All texts have been checked by journalists and the editorial staff is responsible for all the content of the texts.

Wasa Daily is a daily newspaper type publication, so far it is published on Sunday mornings. But our goal is for it to come out every morning in the future. The magazine is available online for free.

Editor-in-chief Hans Björknäs.

Readers' writings are welcome!

The magazine is locally owned and will remain so. For ever!

Editorial office: Wasa Daily, Koulukatu 37 B 7, 65100 Vaasa, tel. +358-40-5462455.

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Email: wasadagblad@gmail.com

FROM OUR READERS

We very much welcome submissions from our readers. Comments, stories, memories, debate, news from home. Probably this will be the most important part of this spring paper. But space is limited, so please write as short as possible! So please send posts to: wasadagblad@gmail.com

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WASA DAILY

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HOROSCOPE FOR JULY 2026

July Horoscope – The Stars Are Mumbling (And Maybe Making Some Sense)

Aries (March 21 – April 19)
You're ready to conquer the world – just remember to put on real pants first. June brings you adventure (or at least a new brand of toothpaste). Romance is on the horizon, possibly involving someone who thinks your sweaty gym look is "natural and compelling."

Taurus (April 20 – May 20)
You crave stability, snacks, and soft blankets – and not necessarily in that order. In June, you may feel a strong urge to impulse-buy a cactus. Do it. Financially, you're fine as long as you don't walk past any store that sells vintage mugs.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20)
This month your mouth works faster than your brain. Great for party banter, less great for job interviews. Love is playful and possibly confusing. Is it flirting, or just a shared obsession with crosswords? Time will tell. Or not.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22)
Home is where your heart – and probably your laundry – is. In June, feelings run deep. You may cry at an

ad for breakfast cereal. That's okay. Your emotional radar is strong; use it to sniff out both love and passive-aggressive neighbors.

Leo (July 23 – August 22)
June puts you center stage, even if the audience is just your cat. You radiate charm. Someone falls for you this month – possibly a barista who accidentally writes your name right. Fortune favors the bold, so dare to try karaoke again.

Virgo (August 23 – September 22)
You've got lists for your lists, and that's great – until you accidentally alphabetize your sock drawer. This month urges you to loosen up. Take a walk without counting steps. Eat a cookie without Googling the ingredients. You might enjoy the chaos.

Libra (September 23 – October 22)
Balance is your thing, but June throws in a few wobbly surprises. You'll face a dilemma involving brunch and loyalty to your favorite café. Love could blossom – or at least send you a weird emoji. Watch for signs. Or just interpret all signs creatively.

Scorpio (October 23 – November 21)
Mysterious? Always. Brooding? Maybe. Overthinking a five-word text? Definitely. June turns up the heat, romantically and otherwise. Let people in – not everyone wants to steal your secrets. Some just want to know your Wi-Fi password.

Sagittarius (November 22 – December 21)
You're itching to travel – even if it's just to the fancy supermarket across town. A spontaneous decision this month could lead to greatness. Or minor confusion. Either way, exciting! Love may come from a foreign land. Or a friend-of-a-friend's dog walker.

Capricorn (December 22 – January 19)
You work hard, dream big, and sometimes forget to blink. This month, remember: even empires need coffee breaks. Someone sees your potential – probably someone in HR. Love's possible if you stop trying to impress people with Excel spreadsheets.

Aquarius (January 20 – February 18)
You're five steps ahead, which explains why no one knows what you're talking about. In June, weird is your superpower. Embrace it. Someone special may finally "get" you. Or at least pretend convincingly. That counts.

Pisces (February 19 – March 20)
You're dreaming of far-off lands and deep conversations with your houseplants. June is rich in imagination, slightly short on practicality. That's okay. Channel your magic into a new hobby – interpretive dance, perhaps? The universe approves.