

WASA DAILY



Eeva Kontiokaris New Book Page 6



LOCAL NEWS

VAASA

From Passion to Business! Vaasa Opens New Doors for Young Creative Entrepreneurs



Could a love of art, design, gaming or social media become more than just a hobby?

Page 3

EDITORIAL

We Live in Interesting Times

America's midterm elections could deliver a crushing defeat for Trump—or a stunning Republican victory. But the real test may come when the president has to face the result.

On November 3, Americans will head to the polls in a contest that could reshape Donald Trump's final two years in the White House. All 435 seats in the House of Representatives and 35 of the Senate's 100 seats are up for election. Trump himself is not on the ballot, but his presidency is very much at stake.

The political winds currently favour the Democrats. Polls suggest they have a strong chance of retaking the House, although the battle for the Senate is much tighter. Rising living costs, economic anxiety and the war with Iran are weighing on Republican prospects. A Democratic landslide is possible—but far from guaranteed. Sources: Reuters, October 20 and 26, 2026; Chatham House, September 29, 2026.

But what if the opposite happens? A sweeping Republican victory would allow Trump to claim that voters had endorsed his agenda. His opponents could then face an even tougher struggle to restrain his power.

The more consequential question is what happens if he loses. Will Trump accept the verdict of the voters? Or will he once again claim that the

election was rigged, without credible evidence to support such allegations?

There is also concern that the war with Iran, or a declaration of national emergency, could be used to create political confusion. Yet the president cannot simply cancel a midterm election or suspend the Constitution by declaring an emergency. Election dates and procedures are governed by law, and presidential emergency powers do not provide a legal shortcut to taking control of elections.

What comes next? A Democratic majority in the House could launch investigations, scrutinise the administration and block parts of Trump's legislative agenda. But Trump would remain president until his term ends, and the Senate would continue to wield considerable power.

Is American democracy in danger? It is at risk whenever trust in elections is systematically undermined and constitutional checks and balances are weakened. Yet its future is not predetermined. Courts, state authorities, independent media and citizens still have a vital role in defending democratic institutions.

The decisive question is not simply who wins. It is whether the loser respects the result.

We certainly live in interesting times. But democracy depends, above all, on accountability, facts and respect for the people's vote.

WÄRTSILÄ

Wärtsilä gets new energy job in Australia – five engines to deliver 59 megawatts



Finnish technology to modernise gas fields on the other side of the globe

Wärtsilä is strengthening its position in the Australian energy market. The Finnish technology company has been selected to supply engines for a major modernisation of the energy infrastructure at Moomba in the state of South

Australia.

The project involves the expansion of a power plant with an output of 59 megawatts. Five gas-fired Wärtsilä 31SG engine generators will produce the electricity needed to operate a new, centralised compressor station.

Today, gas-powered compressors are used at seven separate stations. By repla-

cing them with a common electrically powered plant, the operator wants to modernise older infrastructure and streamline gas production.

The engines will be powered by gas from the local gas fields. Wärtsilä highlights the high efficiency of the technology and the ability to keep energy costs under control.

“Flexible engine technology can also create future opportunities to use sustainable fuels and integrate renewable energy,” says Kari Punnonen, Wärtsilä Energy's head of operations in Australasia.

The order was booked in the third quarter of 2026. Deliveries of the engines are planned for mid-2027. Wärtsilä will also provide technical advice.

No contract value has been disclosed, and the customer has not been named in the press release.

An important export market

The deal shows how Finnish engine technology can contribute to the renewal of energy plants internationally. At the same time, the project will continue to focus on gas production – the possibilities for the future use of sustainable fuels have not yet been decided on a concrete transition.

Source: Wärtsilä, press release 22.10.2026 at 10.00 a.m. (EEST).

Caption: Wärtsilä will supply engines for an expansion of a 59 MW power plant in Moomba, South Australia. The power plant will be powered by five Wärtsilä 31SG engine generator units. © Wärtsilä

STT

End of an Era: STT Set to Close News Agency Operations After 139 Years



One of Finland's most influential media institutions is approaching a historic turning point. The Finnish News Agency STT has decided to wind down its news and photo agency operations, bringing an end to a tradition that has shaped Finnish journalism for nearly 140 years.

The decision follows completed change negotiations announced this autumn.

According to STT, the negotiations covered 95 permanent employees. Current estimates indicate that 89 positions will be eliminated, including 68 journalism roles. In addition, around 30 fixed-term employment contracts and framework agreements will end. News and photo services will nevertheless continue to operate normally for customers until

the end of March 2027.

The company says the decision is rooted in long-term financial losses and the inability to secure a sufficiently broad and committed ownership base for future development. Previous cost-cutting measures were not enough to restore sustainable operating conditions.

The issue has also attracted attention in Brussels. Finnish Member of the European Parliament Mika Aaltola and Austrian MEP Lukas Mandl have submitted a written question to the European Commission concerning measures to safeguard the future of news agencies. The initiative has been signed by 14 Members of the European Parliament from four political groups.

Aaltola argues that news agencies are a vital part of national resilience, comparable to key infrastructure. He warns that the decline of STT would weaken Finland's information security and the structures that support reliable, fact-based journalism.

While the news agency operations are set to end, STT's communications services business will continue unchanged. The company is also exploring ways to make commercial use of its archives and emerging technologies in the future.

For Finland's media industry, the announcement represents more than the closure of a business unit. It marks a defining moment in the history of Finnish journalism and raises broader questions about the future of trusted news production in the digital age.

Sources: STT press release (29 October 2026); MEP Mika Aaltola press release (28 October 2026).

Photo Supplement



WELLBEING AREA

THL

€27 Billion for Healthcare – Finland Considers a Major Funding Shake-up



Health authorities want to reconsider the role of medical diagnoses in distributing public funds. The aim is a fairer system and more predictable budgets.

How should Finland distribute €27 billion a year in public funding for health and social care? The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) says the country should examine whether medical diagnoses and sickness statistics should carry less weight when allocating money to its wellbeing services counties.

Under the current system, funding partly depends on recorded illnesses and other information collected in THL and Social Insurance Institution of Finland (Kela) registers.

However, the model has significant weaknesses. When diagnoses have a major influence on funding, counties may face undesirable incentives to record more diagnoses in order to secure additional money. There are also substantial differences in how effectively counties supply the necessary information to national registers.

Age and social factors could count for more

A new THL assessment suggests that models based on population characteristics—including age, sex, education and employment—can estimate healthcare needs reasonably well. Such models rely less on sickness statistics than the present funding system.

But medical information cannot simply be discarded. Demographic data alone

do not adequately predict demand for elderly care and social services. Health-related information will therefore remain necessary, although it could be used more selectively.

Unpredictable funding creates problems

The current system has also produced considerable year-to-year fluctuations in funding. Because the distribution operates partly as a zero-sum game, an increase for one county can mean a smaller share for another. Changes in the underlying data add to the uncertainty, making long-term planning difficult.

THL believes the funding model should be reformed during the next government term. Parliament has called for a comprehensive reform by 2030.

The central principle would remain unchanged: public money should follow people's actual need for services. The challenge is to create a simpler, more transparent and predictable system that distributes resources fairly and helps maintain reliable health and social care throughout Finland.

Sources: Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL), 29 October 2026;

WELLBEING AREA

New Beginning for Newborns – December Babies to Arrive in Modern Maternity Facilities

A major upgrade is transforming maternity care in Vaasa. From November, the delivery unit and the maternity and gynaecology ward at Vaasa Central Hospital will move into newly renovated facilities, meaning babies born in December will be among the first to experience the new environment.

The extensive renovation of the hospital's T-building is nearing completion, bringing modern facilities designed to improve comfort, safety and flexibility for families. Although the number of delivery rooms remains unchanged at five, the services available to mothers will expand considerably. The number of

birthing pools will increase from one to three, supporting both pain relief and water births. Some delivery rooms will also feature ceiling-mounted yoga supports and projectors capable of displaying calming images or videos.

Safety has been a key focus of the redesign. The new location allows faster access to operating theatres in urgent situations, while the number of observation rooms will increase from two to three. Every patient room will also have its own bathroom and shower, offering greater privacy and convenience.

Partners and family members have not been forgotten. Convertible armchairs that can be turned into beds

will be available in delivery and observation rooms, and can also be used in single-patient rooms after birth. A new multi-purpose room will host antenatal classes and other family-related activities.

The project also includes new facilities for the Serä Support Centre. Hospital leaders believe the new environment will make childbirth more personal, comfortable and reassuring for growing families across Ostrobothnia.

Source: Joulukuun vauvat syntyvät jo uusissa tiloissa / Senast i december föds bebisarna i nya utrymmen, Wellbeing Services County of Ostrobothnia, 21 October 2026

NEWS

LOCAL NEWS



MALAX

Who deserves to be Malax's Guiding Star of 2026? Have your say!

Three candidates are competing for this year's award, which celebrates people and organisations making a real difference in the lives of people with disabilities. Now it's time for local residents to vote!

Who has done the most to make Malax a more inclusive and accessible community? Residents now have an opportunity to recognise outstanding contributions through the municipality's annual Guiding Star Award.

The award honours an individual or organisation whose positive efforts have improved the everyday lives and opportunities of people with disabilities.

This year's three nominees are:

Tina Holms is a dedicated community volunteer who treats everyone with warmth and respect. She actively promotes the rights of people with disabilities, including through her involvement with FDUV, an organisation working for the rights and interests of people with intellectual disabilities and their families.

Lisbeth "Libbi" Bäck is a caring support person who brings extra joy and meaning to everyday life. She organises activities and helps the people she supports take part in events and social gatherings, creating opportunities for friendship, experiences and inclusion.

Malaxnejdens Sportfiskeförening r.f., the local sport fishing association, has worked to improve accessibility around the Kolnebacken sport fishing lake. Its efforts aim to ensure that the area can also be enjoyed by people who use wheelchairs.

Residents can cast their votes using the municipality's online voting form, at local libraries or at the municipal office (kommungården).

Voting closes on 10 November 2026. The award will be presented on 3 December 2026.

The award is a reminder that inclusion is built through practical actions, commitment and people who care. A single vote is an opportunity to say thank you to those who help make the community better for everyone.

Source: Municipality of Malax, Ledstjärna 2026, 21 October 2026.

VAASA

From Passion to Business! Vaasa Opens New Doors for Young Creative Entrepreneurs



Could a love of art, design, gaming or social media become more than just a hobby? Young people in Vaasa are being offered a chance to discover how creativity can turn into a profession – and perhaps even their own business.

A new bilingual lecture series on entrepreneurship in the creative industries will begin in Vaasa in November. The four-part programme is aimed particularly at young people interested in creative careers, business opportunities and the possibility of turning their personal interests into a source of income. No previous business experience or knowledge is required.

The opening event, entitled How to Start Your Own Business, will take place on Tuesday, 10 November 2026, from 6 pm to 7.30 pm. The venue is the main hall of the Alma Adult Education Centre, Kirkkopuistikko 15, Vaasa. In Finnish and Swedish

The lecture will be delivered and moderated by Johanna Stenback, a producer at Moomin Characters Oy Ltd.

A panel discussion will feature three professionals from different creative fields: artist and interior architect Jennifer Lipkin, social media influencer Sandra Holmäng of VogaStyling, and Jussi Loukiainen, CEO and founder of the game studio Platonic Partnership.

The speakers will share their personal experiences, successes and challenges, offering practical insights into what it takes to build a business around creative skills and ideas.

The series will continue with three further topics: building your own brand in December 2026, financing, grants and business support in January 2027, and marketing and sales in February 2027.

The programme is organised by the City of Vaasa's educational institutes: Alma, TaiKon and Kuula Institute. It is made possible through the Skapa i Vasaregionen project, funded by the Swedish Cultural Foundation.

Admission is free. Registration: <https://uusi.opistopalvelut.fi/vaasa/fi/course/160777/>
Source: City of Vaasa, press release, 30 October 2026.

WASA DAILY

Nearly everythin You need to know on 16 pages - vpress.fi

NEWS

YLE

When the news takes the stage – Yle Live comes to Vaasa

Bilingual shows i Vaasa on Nov 10



What really makes a story news? Who decides what the public should hear about? And where is the line between a passionate football fan and a hooligan?

These are some of the questions Yle will explore when several of its young journalists and content creators leave the newsroom and step onto the stage this November.

The Yle Live tour will visit five Finnish cities as part of Yle's 100th-anniversary celebrations. The tour stops in Vaasa, Seinäjoki, Jyväskylä, Lahti and Lappeenranta, combining journalism with theatre, sound, images, lighting and live performance.

For Vaasa, the big day is 10 November, when Yle Live arrives at Ritz. There will be two performances, at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m., and the Vaasa show will be bilingual. The programme is aimed par-

ticularly at young people aged 15 to 19, but the format is designed to be much more than a traditional news programme.

Among those appearing on stage are YleX's Aino "Aikku" Silkelä, Mikael Salmelainen from the Menny pahaks podcast, Pyry Vaismaa from Yle Mix, Jenni Matikainen from Yle Kioski, Charlotte "Challe" Lindberg from Yle Watt and Saku Manneh from Yle Galax. Yle's US correspondent Ilmari Reunamäki will also take part.

Each city will also have at least one journalist from Yle's regional newsroom on stage.

The audience will get a behind-the-scenes look at journalism and the questions journalists face every day. Topics include the difference between a football fanatic and a hooligan, what a working day inside Donald Trump's White House might look like,

and the fundamental question of who has the power to define what becomes news.

Radio will also be brought directly to the audience. YleX afternoon hosts Aikku and Mellu will take their radio studio on the road, allowing visitors to watch their live broadcast from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The daytime performances are being offered free of charge to local upper-secondary and vocational students. Evening performances are open to everyone, with tickets priced at 10 euros.

After Vaasa, the tour continues to Seinäjoki on 11 November, Jyväskylä on 12–13 November, Lahti on 16 November and Lappeenranta on 17–18 November.

The Lahti performance will be recorded and later shown on Yle Areena on 22 December, as well as on Yle TV2 during December.

For Vaasa, the combination of journalism and live entertainment offers a rare chance to see familiar media personalities outside the usual screen – and to discover how news is made from the inside.

Vaasa, Ritz, 10 November: 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. The performance is bilingual.

Source: Yle, 5.10.2026.

Image: Johanna Kannasmaa / Yle

WINTER SWIMMING

The ice bath season is now opening in Vaasa – free cold shock awaits in the Inner Harbour



saarenkatu offers heated changing rooms, lighting, camera surveillance and a wake open with pump technology.

For those who dare to take the step into the cold water, there is both a ladder and stairs with heating elements that keep the ice away. In addition, everything is free.

Perhaps the city's cheapest wellness project – and possibly the coldest.

Source: City of Vaasa, 22.10.2026. [vaasa.fi]22.10.2026. [vaasa.fi]

Winter swimmers can start warming up. The popular ice swimming area in Vaasa Inner Har-

bour will reopen on 6 November and is open daily from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. The facility at Hieta-

ÅBO AKADEMI

Medicine Made Just for You? New Finnish Technology Could Transform Patient Care

What if your medicine could be produced specifically for your body and your exact medical needs? A new Finnish research project suggests that vision may soon move much closer to reality.

Research conducted at Åbo Akademi University has explored a technology inspired by 3D printing that could make personalised medicines more accurate and widely available. Researcher Mahsa Bahman investigated how the method could improve dosing precision and help healthcare professionals tailor treatments to individual patients.

Today, most medicines are manufactured in standard doses, even though patients often require different amounts of medication. The challenge is particularly important for children, older adults and people with rare diseases, who may need doses that are not commercially available. In many cases, tablets must be split or otherwise modified, making precise dosing more difficult.

The technology studied uses a manufacturing process inspired by 3D printing. Carefully measured amounts of a gel-like drug formulation are dispensed to create medicines tailored to the needs of a specific patient. According to the research, the approach can maintain consistent quality while delivering highly accurate doses.

Potential applications are broad. The technology could support paediatric care, treatment of elderly patients, rare disease therapies and hospital environments where medication doses often need adjustment. It may also prove useful during medicine shortages that affect access to commercially available products.

The project is noteworthy for another reason: it was carried out entirely within industry. Mahsa Bahman worked as an industrial doctoral researcher at CurifyLabs, a Finnish health technology company and spin-off from Åbo Akademi. The work highlights how cooperation between academia and industry can turn sci-



entific advances into practical healthcare solutions.

While further implementation lies ahead, the research points toward a future in which medicines may be

produced not for the average patient, but for the individual person who needs them.

Source: Åbo Akademi press release, 8 October 2026

WASA TEATER

Christmas Magic Returns to Vaasa: 'Snöfall' Is Back After Two-Year Break



Temporarily living with her strict neighbour Rut, Selma struggles to believe in Father Christmas. Yet she writes down her greatest wish in a letter. Through mysterious magical forces, the letter finds its way to Snöfall, a fantastical kingdom associated with Father Christmas.

Ordinary people cannot simply visit this extraordinary realm. But Selma soon finds herself there — and her arrival sets dramatic events in motion.

Who is Selma really? And what dark forces threaten the kingdom just as Christmas approaches?

Behind the fantasy lies a deeply human story about belonging, friendship, love and the search for a safe place in the world. The production combines the excitement of a fairy tale with an emotional message that can resonate with children and adults alike.

Twelve young stars take centre stage

This year's production features 12 children from Swedish-speaking Finland, bringing fresh energy to the familiar story.

The young performers are

Oskar Moberg,
Ian Rönnlund,
Elvin Rajala,
Iivari Saarenheimo,
Hugo Nordberg,
Annika Hellén,
Adina Bonäs,
Selma Stenback, Alva Bergvik,
Otto Isoniemi,
Saga Tuuri
Tilda Pinilla Johansson.

Director and choreographer Agneta Lindroos leads the production, which builds on a story that has already captured hearts in Norway.

Snöfall originated as a Norwegian Christmas television advent calendar produced by NRK Super. It was subsequently adapted for the stage and produced by Oslo Nye Teater, where it played over several Christmas seasons before reaching audiences elsewhere.

Mark the date: Christmas begins in November

Wasa Teater's new production opens on November 14, 2026, and is scheduled to run until January 2, 2027, on the theatre's Main Stage. The performance is in Swedish, with subtitles available in Finnish, English and Swedish. It is intended for children aged six and above, as well as adults.

After its previous success, the return of Snöfall promises a welcome dose of warmth and wonder as the Christmas season approaches.

Source: and Image: Wasa Teater, official production information: <https://www.wasateater.fi/>

A runaway success, a mysterious Christmas kingdom and 12 young performers are ready to bring festive magic back to the stage.

Christmas magic is returning to Vaasa! After selling out during its previous run and winning enthusiastic praise from audiences, Snö-fall is making a much-anticipated comeback at Wasa Teater. The heartwarming production returns after a two-year break, offering theatre lovers another chance to experience a Christmas adventure filled with wonder, suspense and emotion.

The previous production left a strong impression on audiences, with one enthusiastic description calling it "everything one could wish for in a Christmas play". Now, those who missed out on tickets last time will have another opportunity to discover the story — while returning fans can once again enter its magical world.

A lonely girl, a mysterious letter and a kingdom in danger

At the centre of Snöfall is Selma, a 12-year-old orphan longing for something many children take for granted: a family of her own.



NEW POETRY

A Finnish Poet Smuggles Sunshine into the Autumn Darkness – Eeva Kontiokari's 29th Book Celebrates Warmth, Humour and the Wisdom of Life

Can you hide a little piece of summer between the covers of a book? Finnish poet Eeva Kontiokari from Vaasa believes you can. Her new collection offers sunshine, humour and thoughtful insights into everyday life.

Autumn darkness is settling in, the days are getting shorter, and the warmth of summer is already becoming a distant memory. This is precisely when Eeva Kontiokari wants to do something special: smuggle a little sunshine into people's lives.

Published in October 2026, *Salakuljetan aurinkoa* (Smuggling Sunshine) is Kontiokari's 29th book. The collection brings together poems and reflections that explore life with warmth, wisdom and a twinkle in the eye.

In the book's foreword, Kontiokari recalls writing new poems during the summer of 2025 and selecting pieces for her forthcoming collection. At the same time, she wondered how readers might experience her poems during the dark winter season, when the days are long and daylight is scarce.

The title came to her on a summer day.

"We pass light and warmth from one person to another, even without realising it, as we walk in the sunshine of grace," she writes in her message to readers.

Little girls grow up to become wonderful grandmothers

Kontiokari's humour shines through in a poem in which summer produces not only flowers and strawberries, but also little girls. In time, these girls grow into little, wonderful grandmothers.

The short poem brings a smile to the reader's face while offering a tender reflection on the cycle of life.

Her collection of aphorisms is equally rich in everyday wisdom. A friend, she writes, is like a wall warmed by the sun, a comforting place to lean against. The knot of friendship holds firm without becoming too tight.

Time also receives its share of attention. Everyone has the same time on the clock, yet we all move at our own pace. And fortunately, time is not for sale.

Twenty-nine books and a lifelong love of words
Born in Alajärvi in 1940, Kontiokari published her first book, *Lasilintu*, in 1996. Since then, she has written poetry, reflections and texts in the South Ostrobothnian dialect. Her other works include *Mitakaavamuutoksia*, *Piree ja paree* and *Tänään syntyy kesä*. Two of her poetry collections have received awards in the Möllärimestari competition organised by the Pääntalo Institute.

Her long writing career reflects both perseverance and a deep affection for language. In her new book, Kontiokari reminds us that joy does not necessarily



depend on extraordinary events. Sometimes, all it takes is the support of a friend, a humorous phrase or a memory of a summer day.

Salakuljetan aurinkoa is a warm literary journey through human relationships, friendship and the small wonders of life. Its message feels especially welcome during the dark days of autumn and winter.

Perhaps sunshine really can be smuggled into our lives – one poem, one smile and one warm thought at a time.

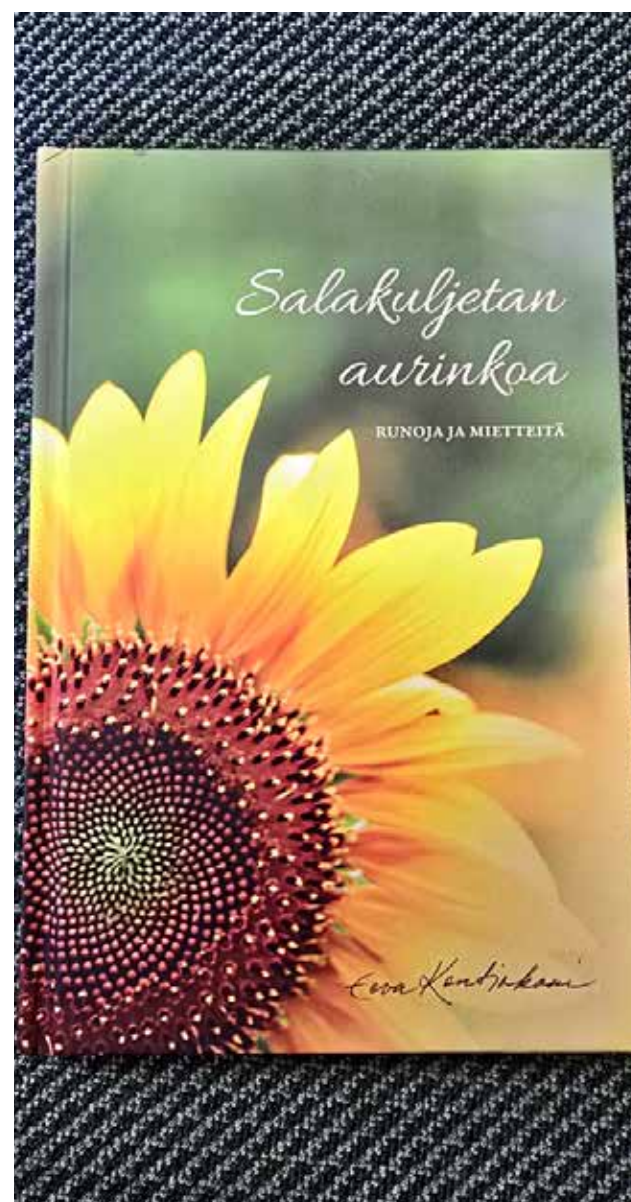
Sources: Interview on Oct 27, 2026, Eeva Kontiokari, *Salakuljetan aurinkoa* (2026); Kirjasampo; Ilkka-Pohjalainen, "Runot syntyvät rakkaudesta sanoihin" ("Poems are born from a love of words").

Tässä esimerkki runosta:

"Kesä kasvattaa
kukkia mansikoita ha
pieniä ihania tyttöjä.
Aikanaan pienistä tytöistä
kasvaa pieniä ihania mummoja."

ja tässä muutama hänen mietelause:

"Ystävä on kuin auringon lämmittämä seinä,
siihen on hyvä nojata."
"Ystävyysvetosolmu pitää,
muttei kiristä."
"Aika on kuin tyhjä huonetoila,
sen haluaa täyttää."
"Onneksi aika ei ole kaupan."
"Kellonaika on kaikille sama,



HISTORY

THE END OF THE WAR

As Nazi Germany Collapsed, the Strange Drama Continued



Svenja Falk takes readers into the final, turbulent days of the Third Reich As Hitler's thousand-year Reich crumbled, one of the strangest final chapters of the Second World War unfolded in Flensburg, a small city in northern Germany, close to the Danish border. For a few weeks in May 1945, it became the centre of what remained of the Nazi regime. Svenja Falk visited Helsinki during the Bok Fair and presented her book.

In her book *Diktaturens sista dagar: Spioner, intrigmakare och Tredje rikets fall* (The Last Days of the Dictatorship: Spies, Intriguers and the Fall of the Third Reich), Svenja Falk explores the dramatic events surrounding the regime's final days. Her story combines power struggles, secret plans, political manoeuvring and the desperate efforts of people trying to save themselves as the system they had served collapsed around them.

Hitler's successor tried to keep the regime alive

After Hitler's suicide on 30 April 1945, Grand Admiral Karl Dönitz became his designated successor under Hitler's political testament. Dönitz established his government in Flensburg, where the remnants of the Nazi state apparatus attempted to continue functioning even though Germany had effectively lost the war.

Flensburg did not formally become Germany's new capital. Instead, it served as a temporary centre of power for a regime that had already lost control over most of the country.

On 23 May 1945, the Allies brought this final attempt to an end. Dönitz and members of his government were arrested. At the Nuremberg trials, Dönitz was sentenced in 1946 to ten years in prison, which he served at Spandau Prison in Berlin.

A poisonous legacy beneath the Baltic Sea

The end of the war did not mean that all its dangers disappeared. After the Second World War, vast quantities of chemical munitions were dumped in the Baltic Sea. According to the Helsinki Commission, HELCOM, approximately 40,000 tonnes of chemical munitions were dumped in the sea, containing an estimated 15,000 tonnes of chemical warfare agents.

Flensburg was also connected to this disturbing legacy. HELCOM has documented that around 200 artillery shells containing mustard gas were dumped individually in the waters between Flensburg Harbour and the Kalkgrund lighthouse during the final phase of the war.

It is an unsettling reminder that the consequences of war can persist long after the guns have fallen silent.

Churchill was already planning for another war

Even before the post-war settlement had taken shape, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill was looking towards a possible new conflict. After Germany's defeat, he commissioned the secret

plan known as Operation Unthinkable, which examined the possibility of a military attack on the Soviet Union.

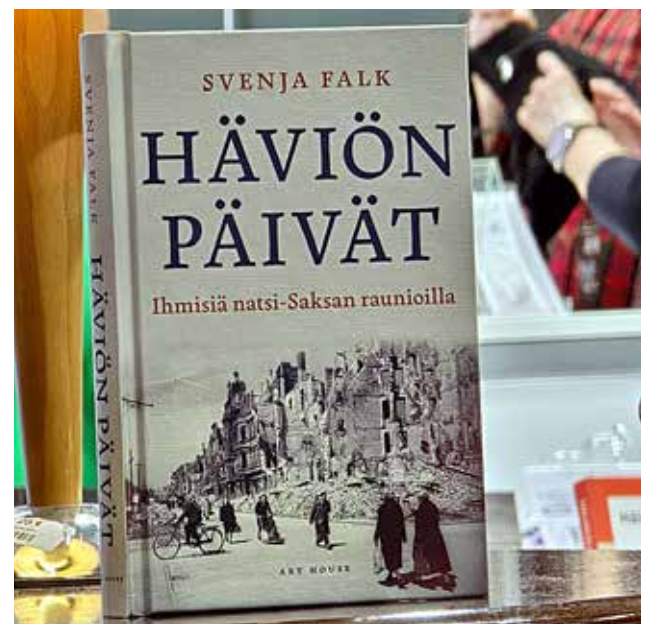
The plan was never implemented. In July 1945, Churchill also lost the British general election and was replaced as prime minister by Clement Attlee. Europe was entering a new political era in which cooperation between the victorious powers would soon give way to growing mistrust and confrontation.

A dramatic epilogue to the Second World War

Svenja Falk's book opens a window onto a fascinating and often overlooked period: the weeks between Hitler's death and the final dissolution of the Nazi regime. Spies, political schemers and ambitious power brokers appear against the backdrop of a collapsing dictatorship and a new world order taking shape.

For readers interested in the Second World War, political intrigue and the unexpected turns of history, *The Last Days of the Dictatorship* offers a compelling journey into the final chapter of the Third Reich.

Sources: Boktugg, *Diktaturens sista dagar*; Germany's Federal Agency for Civic Education (bpb); NDR; HELCOM reports on chemical munitions dumped in the Baltic Sea.



Karl Dönitz, Alfred Jodl and Albert Speer were arrested in Flensburg in the summer of 1945

RUSSIA

“They Killed Us”: Nobel-winning Novaya Gazeta to go dark after 30 years



Moscow, 30 October 2026. On 9 November the editors of Novaya Gazeta say they will switch off the lights in the office they have called home for three decades, shut down the servers and walk out. Their statement, published today, opens with two words: “They killed us.”

The squeeze, step by step

The editors say Russian authorities and security services forced the closure. Their account reads like a countdown: blocked websites, a seized printing house, a revoked media licence, a hours-long search of the newsroom and of the editor-in-chief's flat. In September the whole editorial team, more than 100 people, was branded “foreign agents”. The final blow came with an eviction letter. The reader-donation system was cut off at the same moment, which left

the paper without income. The banks cite internal rules, but the editors point to the FSB.

A heavy price

The paper remembers colleagues murdered over the years: Igor Domnikov, Yuri Shchekochikhin, Anna Politkovskaya, Stas Markelov, Anastasia Baburova and Natalya Estemirova. Editor-in-chief Dmitry Muratov, who shared the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize, was attacked and nearly lost his eyesight. No criminal case followed, although the culprits are known. Reporter Elena Milashina was beaten in Chechnya, and senior editor Oleg Roldugin faces trial for, the paper says, simply working as a journalist.

The constitution question

Here the statement hits hardest. Article 29

of the Russian Constitution states plainly: “Censorship shall be prohibited.” The editors say that sentence now provokes sarcasm and laughter, even among judges. They describe the constitution as beaten, gagged and jailed, and argue that real treason is a state betraying its own constitution. They reject the idea that today's repression is merely “digital”: people, not numbers, die in cells.

The legacy

Founded in 1993, partly with Mikhail Gorbachev's Nobel money, the paper outlived colleagues' murders and years of siege. There is one more reason for a brave smile: the final issue will still be printed. As readers say goodbye, the editors thank everyone who listened.

Source: Novaya Gazeta editorial statement, 30 October 2026 (novayagazeta.ru/

CLIMATE CHANGE

CLIMATE CHANGE

Urban Heat Makes Towns Uncomfortable – and Unhealthy



As our cities grow, so too does a hidden threat: urban heat. This phenomenon is more than just the usual summer discomfort; it intensifies temperatures to levels that impact health, productivity, and our environment.

From vast expanses of concrete that trap the sun's heat to air conditioning units that push warm air back into the streets, urban heat is driven by human development patterns and, ironically, our efforts to cool down. The effects are felt widely, particularly during heatwaves, when these areas can be several degrees warmer than their rural surroundings—a phenomenon known as the “urban heat island” effect. Fortunately, there are several strategies that cities can adopt to address this escalating problem.

The Problem of Urban Heat

The urban heat island effect is caused primarily by materials like asphalt, concrete, and metal that absorb, trap, and radiate heat. Unlike natural landscapes that retain moisture and provide shade, these urban surfaces have limited capacity to cool down, creating a layer of hot air that lingers in cities. High-rise buildings that block air flow further intensify the heat, and as populations continue to grow in urban areas, air conditioning use has become essential. Ironically, air conditioning units also emit waste heat, further warming the outdoor environment.

This compounded heat exposure doesn't just make urban living uncomfortable—it makes it dangerous. Excessive heat can lead to dehydration, heat exhaustion, and even deadly heatstroke, especially for vulnerable groups such as the elderly, children, and those with pre-existing health conditions. Additionally, high temperatures exacerbate air pollution, as ground-level ozone, a component of smog, forms more readily in the heat. Thus, for people with respiratory issues, hot urban environments can be particularly harmful.

Solutions for Cooling Urban Spaces

Addressing urban heat requires a combination of nature-based solutions, innovative urban planning, and community action. By creating cooler, greener, and more shaded spaces, cities can improve both the comfort and health of their residents. Some effective solutions include:

1. Increasing Green Spaces and Urban Trees

Parks, green roofs, and urban trees are among the most effective ways to mitigate urban heat. Green spaces provide shade and release moisture through a process called evapotranspiration, which cools the surrounding air. Trees in particular offer several benefits: they absorb carbon dioxide, filter pollutants, and reduce surface temperatures by providing shade. Research shows that neighborhoods with abundant greenery can be up to five degrees cooler than surrounding areas without green cover. Moreover, adding parks and green spaces offers social and recreational benefits, improving the overall quality of life.

2. Using Reflective and Permeable Materials

The materials used in urban infrastructure play a key role in managing heat. Using reflective materials in buildings, roofs, and sidewalks can help reduce the amount of heat absorbed by surfaces. White or light-colored materials reflect more sunlight than dark ones, preventing the surfaces from heating up as much. Cool roofs—those covered with materials designed to reflect more sunlight—can be particularly effective. Permeable materials, such as porous pavement, can help reduce heat by allowing rainwater to filter through, cooling the surface and preventing excess runoff.

3. Green Roofs and Walls

Green roofs, covered with vegetation, not only help insulate buildings but also provide additional green space that mitigates heat. By adding layers of soil and plants to building rooftops, they reduce surface temperature and absorb rainwater, alleviating pressure on urban drainage systems. Similarly, green walls—vertical gardens on the sides of buildings—can help shade structures, cool the surrounding air, and improve air quality. These green surfaces also offer a pleasant aesthetic appeal, integrating natural beauty into urban settings.

4. Designing for Natural Ventilation

Urban planning and architectural design that prioritize airflow can greatly reduce heat retention in cities. Narrow streets and closely packed buildings limit ventilation and create “heat canyons,” trapping hot air between structures. By planning open spaces, wider streets, and breezeways that facilitate airflow, cities can reduce trapped heat. Building orientation and materials can also play a role; for example, positioning windows and vents to take advantage of prevailing winds can encourage natural cooling within buildings, decreasing the need for air conditioning.

5. Community Action and Awareness

Community-driven initiatives can help raise awareness and foster collaboration in tackling urban heat. Neighborhood groups and local councils can organize tree-planting campaigns, encourage the installation of cool roofs, and provide residents with information on coping with heat during peak summer months. Public cooling centers, shaded transit stops, and hydration stations can also offer relief during extreme heatwaves, ensuring that people, especially those who are vulnerable, have a safe space to cool down.

6. Using Technology to Monitor and Mitigate Urban Heat

Innovative technology can play a role in combating urban heat. Cities are increasingly using thermal imaging and sensors to identify “hot spots” where temperatures are highest. With this data, municipalities can prioritize high-impact areas for interventions like tree planting, reflective materials, or public cooling stations. Additionally, smart city technology, such as adaptive street lighting and energy-efficient building systems, can reduce heat emissions by decreasing overall energy demand.

The urban heat island effect is caused primarily by materials like asphalt, concrete, and metal that absorb, trap, and radiate heat.

The Future of Cooler Cities

While it's clear that urban heat poses a serious challenge, it's also an opportunity to rethink our approach to city planning and development. Integrating natural solutions, building more resilient infrastructure, and promoting climate-conscious designs can create cities that are both cooler and healthier. Cities like Singapore and Los Angeles have already taken major strides, introducing large-scale green roofing programs, expanding tree canopies, and experimenting with cool pavements. Their success serves as a model, demonstrating how urban areas can create a sustainable balance between human needs and environmental resilience.

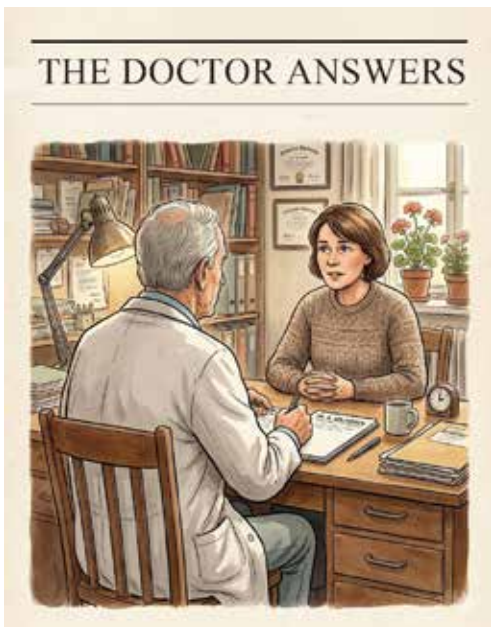
Mitigating urban heat will not happen overnight, but by making targeted improvements, cities can make meaningful strides toward a more livable future. For residents, cooler cities mean more comfortable, enjoyable outdoor spaces. For vulnerable populations, these changes can mean the difference between safety and risk during a heatwave. Addressing urban heat may be challenging, but with a combined effort, towns and cities worldwide can rise to meet this test, creating urban areas that are not just more comfortable but ultimately more resilient and sustainable.

Images: Lexica art

HEALTH

THE DOCTOR ANSWERS

Stroke: Every Minute Counts – Do You Know the Warning Signs?



Question: *World Stroke Day was observed last Thursday. What should we know about stroke? How can we tell if a loved one is showing symptoms of a stroke? Why does every minute count?*

Answer: Sudden slurred speech, a drooping corner of the mouth or an arm that will not obey. A stroke can strike without warning. Recognising the symptoms and calling emergency services immediately can save a life and reduce the risk of permanent disability.

Thursday, 29 October, marked World Stroke Day. The message from the World Stroke Organization is clear: every minute counts.

Around 12 million people worldwide experience a stroke each year. International estimates suggest that approximately one in four adults over the age of 25 will have a stroke at some point in their lifetime.

A stroke occurs when the blood supply to part of the brain is suddenly disrupted. Most strokes are caused by a blood clot blocking a blood vessel, but a stroke can also result from bleeding in the brain. Brain cells deprived of oxygen can become damaged very quickly.

Learn to recognise the warning signs

How can you tell if a family member or friend may be having a stroke? Remember these simple checks:

Face: Ask the person to smile. Does one side of the mouth droop?

Arms: Ask them to raise both arms. Does one arm drift down, or can they not lift it?

Speech: Ask them to repeat a simple sentence. Is their speech slurred, or are they struggling to find words?

Time: If you suspect a stroke, call 112 immediately.

Sudden vision problems, numbness or weakness on one side of the body, and difficulty understanding speech are also possible warning signs.

Why does every minute matter?

The longer the brain is deprived of its normal blood supply, the greater the potential damage. Rapid hospital treatment allows doctors to assess whether the patient could benefit from medication to dissolve a clot or a catheter-based procedure to remove it. These treatments can improve the chances of recovery, but they are not suitable for every patient.

Never wait to see whether the symptoms disappear. Even symptoms that resolve quickly may indicate a transient ischaemic attack (TIA), sometimes called a mini-stroke. A TIA is a warning sign that requires urgent medical assessment.

A stroke can have serious consequences, but prompt treatment and individually tailored rehabilitation can make a substantial difference to recovery.

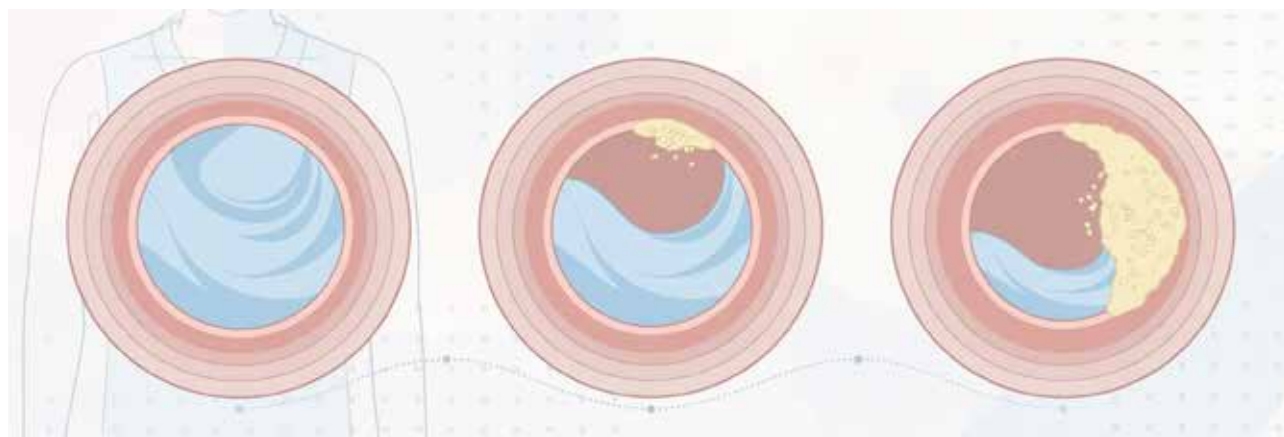
The most important thing you can do for someone close to you is to recognise the warning signs and act without delay.

If you suspect a stroke, call 112. Every minute counts.

Sources: World Stroke Organization, World Stroke Day 2026; Strokeförbundet; Kainuun Aivoyhdistys.

BLOOD VESSELS

Calcifications in the blood vessels appear as early as the age of 20 It pays to live a healthy life already at a young age



Many people associate atherosclerosis with pensioners and heart patients. But new research shows that the process can begin much earlier than most people think. Even among seemingly healthy young adults in their 20s, signs of the disease can be detected, without the person feeling any symptoms at all.

The international REACT study, presented at the European Congress of Cardiology (ESC Congress 2026) in Munich on August 29, 2026 and published simultaneously in the prestigious medical journal *The New England Journal of Medicine*, included over 16,800 people aged 18 to 70 from Denmark and Spain. The researchers used advanced imaging to examine the blood vessels of people who had no known cardiovascular disease. [cnic.es]

The results also surprised the experts. About one in thirteen people between the ages of 18 and 29 already had atherosclerosis in at least one artery. With increasing age, the incidence increased sharply, and among people aged 60 to 70, about nine out of ten had signs of the disease.

The silent illness

Atherosclerosis, or atherosclerosis, develops slowly when fat, cholesterol and other substances are stored in the walls of the vessels. For decades, the process can go on without any warning signs. Only later can it lead to heart attack, stroke or other serious vascular diseases.

The researchers describe the results as a possible paradigm shift. Instead of only es-

timating the risk based on blood pressure, cholesterol levels and smoking, the disease could be detected directly through examinations of the blood vessels as early as adulthood.

Lifestyle plays a bigger role than many people think

The research results do not mean that young people need to worry about suffering a heart attack in the near future. On the other hand, they do show that the foundation for future cardiovascular health is laid early in life.

Doctors have long emphasized the importance of regular exercise, a healthy diet, a normal weight, non-smoking, and good control of blood pressure and blood lipids. The new study provides further arguments that such habits are not just investments for old age, but can affect vascular health from a young age.

The researchers also saw clear differences between women and men. In men, development began earlier, while women showed the sharpest increase between the ages of 40 and 60, a period that often coincides with menopause.

The message from the researchers is clear: cardiovascular diseases often start long before they are noticed. The earlier healthy habits are established, the greater the chance that the blood vessels will stay healthy throughout life.

Sources: The REACT study published in *The New England Journal of Medicine* (August 29, 2026), presented at ESC Congress 2026 in Munich, and information from the Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Cardiovasculares

AUDIOBOOKS



AUDIOBOOKS

Finns are the world's most enthusiastic audiobook people – and books can be borrowed for free from the library!

Audiobooks have taken over the everyday lives of Finns. More than any other nation in the world, we listen to books – at work, while washing dishes, while jogging and on the bus. But where did this revolution start, and how much does it cost?

From cassettes to cloud services – the long history of audiobooks

Audiobooks have a surprisingly long history. In the United States, the first recorded books were created as early as the 1930s, when the Library of Congress began producing "talking books" for the blind and visually impaired. After the Second World War, cassette books became more common, and in the 1970s and 80s, audiobooks found their way to the popularity of motorists and those traveling on long trips.

In the Nordic countries, audiobooks have particularly strong roots. In Sweden, audiobooks reached a wide audience as early as the 1980s – among other things, the boom in crime fiction accelerated the development. Storytel was founded in Sweden in 2005 and was one of the first pioneers of digital audiobooks in the world.

In Finland, the digital audiobook era really started in the mid-2010s. BookBeat started in Finland in 2016, and since then, the growth has been dizzying.

Finns at the top of the world

Reading has not increased – but listening

has. This is the essence of the audiobook phenomenon: a book finds its reader when the hands are elsewhere.

More than 6 per cent of the Finnish population are committed BookBeat users – a proportion that places Finns at the top of the world when it comes to listening to audiobooks. In Finland, BookBeat has more than 350,000 users, and the service continues to grow.

In 2025, BookBeat's global revenue rose to EUR 146 million – an increase of 13 per cent. The most listened to book in Finland in 2025 was Kati Pukki and Janne Lehtonen's Special Forces – The Story of Janne Lehtonen.

The Big Three – and a few others

In Finland, the market is dominated by three Nordic players:

BookBeat is a service belonging to the Bonnier Group and the most popular audiobook service in Finland, with a selection of more than 900,000 books.

Storytel is the largest audiobook service in the Nordic countries, known especially for its own Storytel Original content and children's Kids Mode.

Nextory is a Swedish challenger with a selection that has grown to 1.4 million books in 2026 – and is the most affordable option for families.

What about Amazon? The American giant owns the Audible service, which also operates in Finland. Audible differs from its Nordic competitors: it pays with credits for individual books instead of a fixed monthly price. The selection focuses on English-language content, and there is less Finnish-language content than domestic services.

Do you want it for free? The library is here to help!

Äänikirjoja ei tarvitse välttämättä ostaa tai tilata. Suomalaiset kirjastot tarjoavat äänikirjoja lainattavaksi ilmaiseksi E-kirjasto-palvelun kautta – tarvitset vain kirjastokortin ja PIN-koodin. Ke-väestä 2024 lähtien olet voinut lainata kaikista palveluun liittyneistä kirjastoista, kunhan kotikuntasi kirjasto on mukana palvelussa.

Äänikirjoja löytyy myös Yle Areenasta maksutta, ja lukemisestesi Celia tarjoaa ilmaisen palvelun.

Mitä se maksaa?

Nextory on halvin, alkaen 8,99 €/kk. Storytel alkaa 9,99 €/kk, ja BookBeat 10,99 €/kk. Kaikki kolme tarjoavat ilmaisen kokeilujakson – pisimmillään 90 päivää.

Toimittajan kommentti:

Äänikirjavallankumous on yksi positiivisimmista kulttuurisista muutoksista viime vuosikymmenellä. Se ei ole vienyt lukijoita pois kirjoista – se on tuonut kirjat ihmisille, joilla ei ennen ollut aikaa lukea. Tiskien pesu, aamuinen lenkki tai pitkä automatka muuttuvat kirjastuksi. Parasta on se, että kirjaston kautta tämä kaikki onnistuu täysin ilmaiseksi – aivan kuten perinteinen kirjailaaminenkin.

Lähteet: BookBeat (mynewsdesk.com/fi/bookbeat), vertaaparas.fi, aanikirjavinkit.fi, vertailut.com, Yle.fi

THE CONTENT OF OUR MAGAZINE IS PRODUCED RESPONSIBLY.
WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE JOURNALIST GUIDELINES.
<https://jsn.fi/en/journalists-guidelines/>

EVENTS

TODAY

SUNDAY WALK TODAY

Vaasa Walks Together – The Feel-Good Sunday Sensation Is Back!

Lace up, Vaasa! This Sunday, Oct 11th, 10:00-13:00, the beloved Sunday Walk returns at Kauppatori, by the statue. Join the 10km community stroll through the city's best autumn spots – you set the pace, no one walks alone, and a shorter route is always okay. Afterwards, enjoy a cozy coffee together, self-paid. It's free, friendly and open to all. Same time also on Oct 11, 18, 25 and Nov 1.

Source: Event Sunnuntaikävely, organizer Vaasan Kävelyklubi ry, Huovinkuja 9 D 2, Vaasa.

OCTOBER

RITZ

Krista and Mark celebrate Finland-Swedish life at the Ritz on 29 and 30.10.26

Krista Siegfriids and Mark Levengood bring the show "How Lovely the Song Sounds" to the Ritz stage. The performances are on Thursday 29 October and Friday 30 October 2026 at 7 pm. Tickets 49,90 euros.

The show is Finlandssvensk fest on stage: Lucia crowns, crayfish parties, dialects, songs, laughter and maybe a little tear in the corner of your eye. The duo celebrates their roots, nostalgia and everything that Finland-Swedes living abroad miss. The evening will be a warm-hearted and humorous experience, where mosquitoes are not needed, but schnapps can be part of the thing. Reference information: netticket.fi.

NOVEMBER

YLE

Yle Live comes to Vaasa on Nov 10

Yle's lively new stage show arrives at Ritz in Vaasa on 10 November. The bilingual event combines journalism, humour, music, theatre and behind-the-scenes stories from the world of news. The show is especially aimed at 15–19-year-olds. Performances take place at 1 pm and 7 pm. Evening tickets cost €10.

LITTFEST

VAASA LITERATURE FESTIVAL LITTFEST 12-14.11.2026

The literature festival that will be held in November, 12–14.11.2026, will once again bring together well-known writers in Vaasa. LittFest will be attended by Monika Fagerholm, Kjell Westö, Kirsti Manninen

(Enni Mustonen), Axel Åhman, Emmi Itäranta, Jessikka Aro and Tuomas Enbuske. In the autumn, book circles are also promised before the festival.

VAASA CITY THEATRE

Vierailu: Elämälle kiitos! Marion Rung 80v Juhlakiertue Nov 13 at 19

VAASABAROQUE

BLÄNDAD AV DÖD OCH KÄRLEK 13-15.11.2026

When the Baroque dances tango – strong emotions on stage
Italian early baroque meets Argentine tango and contemporary dance in the choreographic total work Dazzled by Death and Love. Vaasa Baroque and Carl Knif Company will perform the performance in Helsinki on 13–14 November and in Vaasa on Sunday 15 November at 17:00 at the Ritz.

Choreography and direction by Carl Knif, musical design by Kajsa Dahlbäck. On stage are singers Kajsa Dahlbäck and Erica Back, musicians with violin, bandoneón, lute, viola da gamba and harpsichord, and dancers Jonna Aaltonen, Carl Knif and Terhi Vaimala. Music by Claudio Monteverdi, Barbara Strozzi and Astor Piazzolla interacts with the bodies' expressions of existence, passion and transience.

pe / Fri 13.11 klo / 19.00 Tanssin talo, Helsinki / Dance House, Helsinki (Liput / tickets: tanssintalo.fi)

Sat / Sat 14.11 klo / 15.00 Tanssin talo, Helsinki / Dance House, Helsinki (Liput / tickets: tanssintalo.fi)

Su / Sun 15.11 klo / kl. 17.00 @ Ritz, Vaasa / Vaasa

The performance lasts about 70 minutes and is followed by an artist discussion. Tickets for the Vasa performance via netticket.fi/vaasa-baroque-syksy-host-26, to Helsinki via tanssintalo.fi.

Source: vaasabaroque.com

WASA TEATER

"Snöfall"-premiere on November 14, 2026



The magic of Christmas returns to Vaasa. A lonely child, a mysterious letter and a world where the elves need help. When the Christmas favourite "Snowfall" returns to Wasa Theatre, a colourful family show awaits – but behind the glitter there is also a story about something very human. It starts with a wish.

Photo: Wasa Teater

VAASA CITY THEATRE

Viirun ja Pesosen joulu

SCIENCE AND ART

AI, Fake News and Democracy: Who Can We Trust in the Digital Age? Event in Vaasa in Finnish on Nov 12



Vaasa event explores the growing battle over truth and information

Can we make democratic decisions together if we no longer receive the same information? That question will take centre stage at a public discussion organised by the Finnish Cultural Foundation in Vaasa on 12 November.

Artificial intelligence, social media and algorithms are changing how news spreads and how political opinions are shaped. At the same time, it is becoming harder

to tell whether a text, image or video is genuine or artificially generated to mislead us. How can we recognise reliable information and identify attempts to manipulate public opinion? And how can society maintain constructive debate when people seem to inhabit entirely different versions of reality?

The discussion will feature writer Marko Jäntti, postdoctoral researcher Ville-Pekka Niskanen of the University of Vaasa and Jenni Räikkönen of the University of Helsinki, and Professor

Tanja Sihvonen of the University of Vaasa. Journalist Alma Onali will moderate the event.

Democracy is the shared theme of the Cultural Foundation's Tiede & Taide evenings this autumn. The events bring researchers, artists and public figures together to examine major issues facing society.

When: Thursday, 12 November 2026, 5–7 p.m.
Where: Ritz, Kirkkopuistikko 22 A, Vaasa, Finland
Admission: Free



Viirus and Pesonen's Christmas

From 19.11.2026, Julia Stage will feature Viiru and Pesonen's Christmas. The show, directed by Seppo Välinen, brings the beloved characters to a shared experience for the whole family.

Premiere on Nov 19, 2026

RITZ

ABBA frenzy takes over the Ritz with the Dancing Queen show 21.11.26

The ABBA Dancing Queen tribute show brings the legendary band's hits to the Ritz stage. Shows seen in previous performances (e.g. 13.12.2025) have offered brilliant singers, dancers and circus acts. The performance will feature Mamma Mia, Dancing Queen, Fernando, Waterloo and many others. The glamorous costume, choreography and strong interpretations draw the audience into the Abba frenzy. This is closer to the original live experience than many other tributes. If you are interested in disco pop and the glitter

of the 70s, the Ritz hall offers a suitable setting. Check the current dates at the ticket office. References: ritz.fi

400TH ANNIVERSARY

Three 400th anniversaries celebrated with Nordic Baroque splendor 25 – 28.11.2026

Vasa Baroque, Pirkanmaan Baroque and Drottningholm's Baroque Ensemble join forces to celebrate three 400th anniversaries: Vörå Church, Queen Kristina and the House of Nobility in Stockholm. The concert series is called Jubileum. The programme offers music from the Stockholm court, from Queen Kristina's time in Rome and local Ostrobothnian music. Stockholm, Tampere and Ostrobothnian musicians play together in a festive Nordic collaboration. The concert lasts about 75 minutes.

ke / Wed 25.11 klo / 18.00 Riddarhuset, Stockholm (Liput / Tickets: Drottningholm Baroque Ensemble)

Thu 26.11 klo 19.00 Raatihuone, Tampere / Tampere (Liput / Tickets: Pirkanmaan baroque)

pe / Fri 27.11 klo / 19.00 / Kristiinankaupungin kirkko / Kristinestad church

UKRAINE PRESIDENT

We Expect to Be Able to Move Forward in November With the Formats That Have Been Discussed for So Long – Address by the President



30 October 2026 - 20:08

Dear Ukrainians!

All day today, energy crews and specialists from the State Emergency Service of Ukraine have been working in Dnipro, in Kyiv and the region, as well as in our other cities and communities, dealing with the aftermath of Russian strikes and restoring power. Every day, unfortunately, they hit our energy infrastructure, causing extensive damage. Russia's operation against our power generation, our energy grids, and our energy interconnections continues. We are shooting down a significant number of Russian "shaheds," but, unfortunately, not all of them. And ballistic missiles are more difficult to deal with. Seventeen ballistic missiles were launched overnight. A tough challenge, especially when Patriot missiles are in such short supply. I am

grateful to every man and woman in the repair crews and to everyone involved in the restoration work. I want to thank all of you for your professionalism and courage. The work continues nonstop, except during air raid alerts, and new threats and new strikes keep coming. That is why restoration takes time. Unfortunately, Dnipro came under repeated strikes throughout the day, including again this evening. The energy infrastructure was hit, and the railway station was hit again as well. Unfortunately, additional emergency power outages have been introduced. We have the personnel and equipment needed for restoration. In Kyiv and the region, in the Chernihiv region, Zaporizhzhia, Kharkiv and Sumy regions – restoration work must proceed promptly everywhere. Today, Russian ballistic missiles also struck the Poltava region. Kremenchuk. Our oil refining in-

frastructure was targeted. The Russians have not taken a single step toward energy de-escalation. They continue to carry out terrorist strikes against our cities. We will also act accordingly and entirely justly.

We continue working with all our partners on air defense and F-16 ammunition. We're preparing new decisions in the near future. I thank everyone who's really helping. Important negotiations will take place in Türkiye. We're also working to make the most of every diplomatic opportunity available to us. We expect to be able to move forward in November with the formats that have been discussed for so long.

A few more things.

Read more: <https://www.president.gov.ua/en>

COPYRIGHT: The Presidential Office of Ukraine. All materials featured on this site are licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International. The use of any materials posted on the website is permitted provided you link to www.president.gov.ua regardless of full or partial use of materials.

ART EXPERIENCE OF THE WEEK



Magnus Enckell
9.11.1870, Hamina
27.11.1925, Tukholma
Arne Cederholm with a Model, 1905
Photo: Finnish National Gallery / Jenni Nurminen

George Orwell
1984
Part 51

Again Winston's heart stirred painfully. It was inconceivable that this was anything other than a reference to Syme. But Syme was not only dead, he was abolished, an unperson. Any identifiable reference to him would have been mortally dangerous. O'Brien's remark must obviously have been intended as a signal, a codeword. By sharing a small act of thoughtcrime he had turned the two of them into accomplices. They had continued to stroll slowly down the corridor, but now O'Brien halted. With the curious, disarming friendliness that he always managed to put in to the gesture he resettled his spectacles on his nose. Then he went on:

'What I had really intended to say was that in your article I noticed you had used two words which have become obsolete. But they have only become so very recently. Have you seen the tenth edition of the Newspeak Dictionary?'

'No,' said Winston. 'I didn't think it had been issued yet. We are still using the ninth in the Records Department.'

'The tenth edition is not due to appear for some months, I believe. But a few advance copies have been circulated. I have one myself. It might interest you to look at it, perhaps?'

'Very much so,' said Winston, immediately seeing where this tended.

'Some of the new developments are most ingenious. The reduction in the number of verbs--that is the point that will appeal to you, I think. Let me see, shall I send a messenger to you with the dictionary? But I am

afraid I invariably forget anything of that kind. Perhaps you could pick it up at my flat at some time that suited you? Wait. Let me give you my address.'

They were standing in front of a telescreen. Somewhat absent-mindedly O'Brien felt two of his pockets and then produced a small leather-covered notebook and a gold ink-pencil. Immediately beneath the telescreen, in such a position that anyone who was watching at the other end of the instrument could read what he was writing, he scribbled an address, tore out the page and handed it to Winston.

'I am usually at home in the evenings,' he said. 'If not, my servant will give you the dictionary.'

He was gone, leaving Winston holding the scrap of paper, which this time there was no need to conceal. Nevertheless he carefully memorized what was written on it, and some hours later dropped it into the memory hole along with a mass of other papers.

They had been talking to one another for a couple of minutes at the most. There was only one meaning that the episode could possibly have. It had been contrived as a way of letting Winston know O'Brien's address. This was necessary, because except by direct enquiry it was never possible to discover where anyone lived. There were no directories of any kind. 'If you ever want to see me, this is where I can be found,' was what O'Brien had been saying to him. Perhaps there would even be a message concealed somewhere in the dictionary. But at any rate, one thing was certain. The conspiracy that he had dreamed of did exist, and he had reached the outer edges of it.

He knew that sooner or later he would obey O'Brien's summons. Perhaps tomorrow, perhaps after a long delay--he was not certain. What was happening was only the working-out of a process that had started years ago. The first step had been a secret, involuntary thought, the second



had been the opening of the diary. He had moved from thoughts to words, and now from words to actions. The last step was something that would happen in the Ministry of Love. He had accepted it. The end was contained in the beginning. But it was frightening: or, more exactly, it was like a foretaste of death, like being a little less alive. Even while he was speaking to O'Brien, when the meaning of the words had sunk in, a chilly shuddering feeling had taken possession of his body. He had the sensation of stepping into the dampness of a grave, and it was not much better because he had always known that the grave was there and waiting for him.

Chapter 7

Winston had woken up with his eyes full of tears. Julia rolled sleepily against him, murmuring something that might have been 'What's the matter?'

'I dreamt--' he began, and stopped short. It was too complex to be put into words. There was the dream itself, and there was a memory connected with it that had swum into his mind in the few seconds after waking.

He lay back with his eyes shut, still sodden in the atmosphere of the dream. It was a vast, luminous dream in which his whole life seemed to stretch out before him like a landscape on a summer evening after rain. It had all occurred inside the glass paperweight, but the surface of the glass was the dome of the sky, and inside the dome everything was flooded with clear soft light in which one could see into interminable distances. The dream had also been comprehended by--indeed, in some sense it had consisted in--a gesture of the arm made by his mother, and made again thirty years later by the Jewish woman he had seen on the news film, trying to shelter the small boy from the bullets, before the helicopter blew them both to pieces.

'Do you know,' he said, 'that until this moment I believed I had murdered my mother?'

'Why did you murder her?' said Julia, almost asleep.

'I didn't murder her. Not physically.'

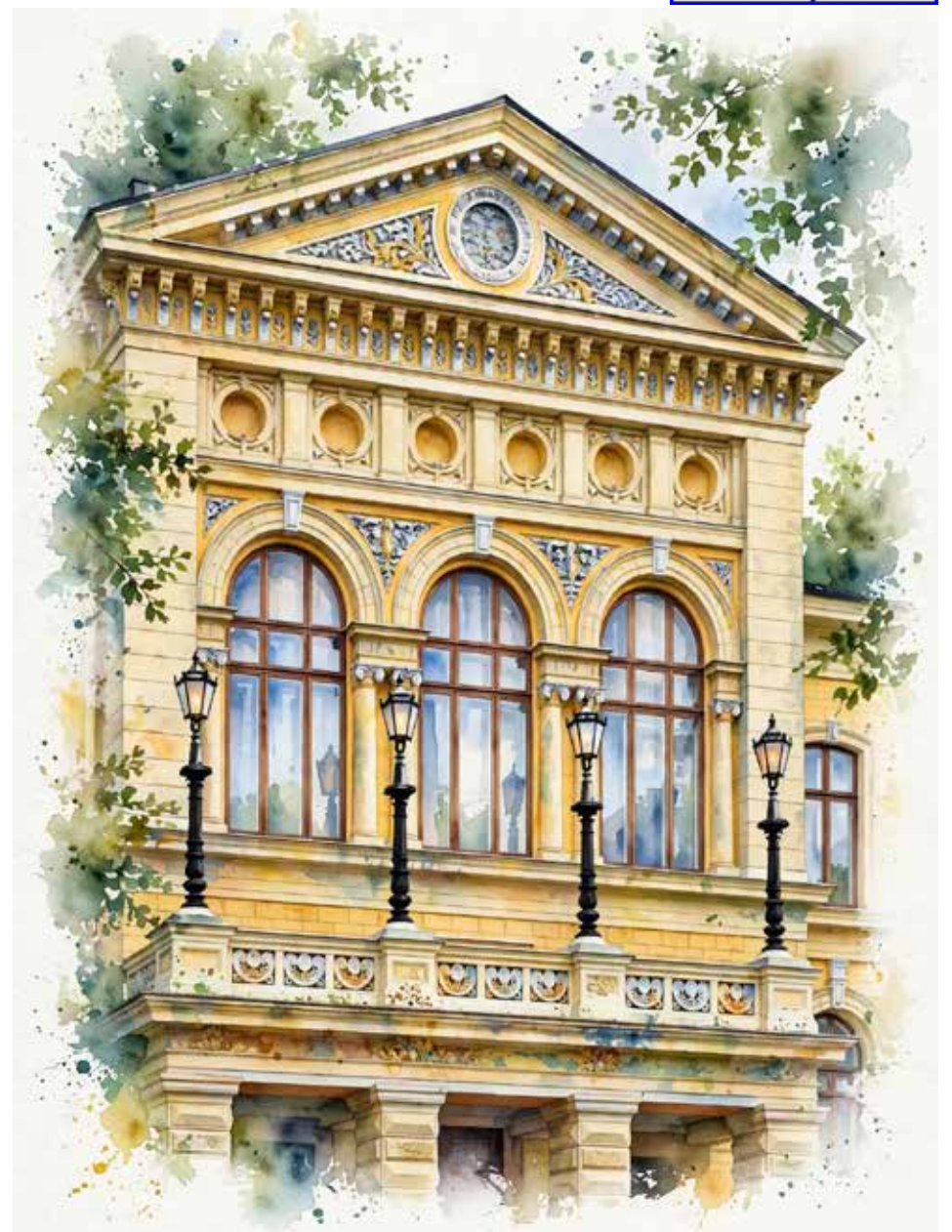
Images from Vaasa



Images from Vaasa



META
based on a photo by
Hans Björklén



HUMOUR ONE HUND-RED YEARS AGO



LOTS OF HATS

Customer: Is it true that you have received 1,500 new hats from Paris?
Assistant: Yes!
Customer: Oh, how delightful. I must try them on immediately!



CONGRATULATIONS:

—Congratulations. I am married!
—I don't know your wife, so I can't congratulate you and I know you, so I can't congratulate your wife.

Astronomic picture of the week:



Glowing stellar nurseries

Colour composite image of RCW120. It reveals how an expanding bubble of ionised gas about ten light-years across is causing the surrounding material to collapse into dense clumps where new stars are then formed. The 870-micron submillimetre-wavelength data were taken with the LABOCA camera on the 12-m Atacama Pathfinder Experiment (APEX) telescope. Here, the submillimetre emission is shown as the blue clouds surrounding the reddish glow of the ionised gas (shown with data from the SuperCosmos H-alpha survey). The image also contains data from the Second Generation Digitized Sky Survey (I-band shown in blue, R-band shown in red). Credit: ESO/APEX/DSS2/ SuperCosmos/ Deharveng(LAM)/ Zavagno(LAM) Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License

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, Toimen linja 9 B 36, 00530 Helsinki. Phone +358-40-5462455. 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

ADVERTISE

Being among the first to advertise in this historic and hyper-modern daily may have some PR value. Send ads to wasadagblad@gmail.com

WASA DAILY

wasadagblad@gmail.com

A MOROCCAN TALE.

An Arab whose turban had been stolen did not set out to search for it; instead, he went straight to the cemetery and settled down to wait patiently. When asked what he was waiting for, he replied: — The thief will eventually end up here.

IN SCHOOL

- Was it you, Hans, who wrote on the board: "The teacher is a donkey".
- Yes it was.
- Well, it pleases me in any case that you stick to the truth.

THE WEATHER GAME.

The Sensitive Lady:
— I always feel it when it rains, in my legs and back.
The sensitive gentleman:
— I also feel all the changes in the weather. The other night I woke up to the barometer falling'
— They're not possible!

IN TEN YEARS

Affectionate husband (sitting on bench, counting): My lady weighs 80 kilos; every summer She travels to MariEHAMN to bathe and loses 8 kilos; in ten years I will be free of HER!

HOROSCOPE FOR NOVEMBER 2026

November Horoscope: What's Written in the Stars?

Aries (March 21–April 19): Your enthusiasm will hit an all-time high this month, Aries! But beware: not everyone is ready for your energy before their third cup of coffee. Channel that passion into something productive, like reorganizing your sock drawer. Hey, it's the little victories!

Taurus (April 20–May 20): November brings you a cozy vibe, Taurus. You'll feel an irresistible urge to cocoon yourself in blankets and binge-watch your favorite shows. Productivity? Overrated. Comfort? Essential. Don't let anyone tell you otherwise.

Gemini (May 21–June 20): You'll be juggling more tasks than a circus performer this month, Gemini. Multitasking is your superpower, but remember: responding to emails while doing yoga is how things get weird. Take a breath—or five.

Cancer (June 21–July 22): This November, your emotions will be as unpredictable as the weather. One moment you're ready to hibernate, the next you're planning a spontaneous road trip. The good news? Your friends already know they're in for a rollercoaster—so just

Leo (July 23–August 22): You're feeling extra fabulous this month, Leo! Strut your stuff like every sidewalk is a runway, but don't be surprised if you trip over your own feet once in a while. It's all part of the charm. Just remember, confidence can get you out of almost anything!

Virgo (August 23–September 22): November is all about organizing, Virgo. You'll get a kick out of color-coding your life down to the last detail. But don't go overboard—your friends may not appreciate it when you start alphabetizing their kitchen spices.

Libra (September 23–October 22): You'll be the diplomat of the group this month, Libra. Everyone will turn to you to settle disputes, from dinner plans to who gets the last slice of pizza. Just don't overdo it—you deserve that pizza slice, too!

Scorpio (October 23–November 21): It's your season, Scorpio, and you're feeling mysterious and magnetic. You might be tempted to brood a little, but don't forget: even you need to laugh sometimes. Embrace your inner comedian—you're funnier than you think!

Sagittarius (November 22–December 21):

enjoy the ride.

Adventure calls, Sagittarius! But before you go booking a last-minute trip to a distant land, maybe start with cleaning out your fridge. That expired yogurt won't survive until your return, but your wanderlust will!

Capricorn (December 22–January 19): You're in work mode, Capricorn, but don't let the grind get you down. Remember, even superheroes take breaks (and look good doing it). So grab a cup of tea, put your feet up, and let the world handle itself for a few minutes.

Aquarius (January 20–February 18): You're brimming with ideas this month, Aquarius, and your genius will be hard to contain. Just make sure your friends are ready for your next big invention—it might involve more cardboard and glitter than they anticipated.

Pisces (February 19–March 20): Dreamy and creative as always, Pisces, you'll find yourself drifting into daydreams mid-conversation. Don't worry if you forget what someone was saying—you were probably coming up with your next masterpiece. Just nod and smile; it works every time!

Happy November!