

Gazastock keeps the festival trend alive with 'best one yet'



PARTY BABY: One member of the audience at the festival enjoys the show

FACE PAINT: Right, three Gazastock attendees get their faces painted amid the music and partying



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ARTS AND CRAFTS: Gazastock held in Weald on the Gaza trading estate in aid of Hospice in the Weald even had an area for children

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DRESSED UP: Above, one singer plays to the crowd on the Gaza trading estate

SINGING: Right, A performer at Gazastock sings for the crowds



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WITH the hedonism of Glastonbury now just a distant memory, Weald has done its bit to keep the festival fire burning.

More than 25 bands featured on the bill of Gazastock between Friday and Sunday.

Acts included up and coming local band Seven Story Down and, fresh from their appearance at Glastonbury, The Mighty Peas.

But Adam Childs, one of the organisers, said the show had been stolen by '80s retro act Skatronics.

He said: "The marquee was absolutely full to bursting. For me that was the highlight of the weekend."

"They produced the biggest reaction from everybody, but all the acts went down really well."

The festival is now in its seventh year

and Mr Childs said the weekend's revelries had been one of the best yet.

"One of the things we're trying to do is to introduce music to as many new people as we possibly can," he said.

"Feedback has been absolutely marvellous."

Mr Childs hit upon the idea of a festival with Martin Lucas, who co-owns Weald timber company Gaza Timber, with his brother Simon, after their friend and former drummer in their band John Gaster died of cancer at the Hospice in the Weald in 2001.

The duo wanted to pay a lasting tribute to him and help raise funds for the Pembury-based care home for cancer sufferers.

To date they have raised £74,000. Money raised from this year's event is still being counted, but Mr Childs hopes it will top last year's figure of £25,000.

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ON STAGE: One performer gets into the festival spirit at Gazastock

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ONLOOKERS: Two festival-goers enjoy the show at Gazastock and watch the various bands that performed throughout the weekend



SUPERBAND: Brian Maydon play to the crowd at Gazastock and entertain the crowds



RELAXING: Watching the bands and having a rest at the party in the field



INTO THE SPIRIT: Playing at Gazastock held in Weald on the Gaza trading estate in aid of Hospice in the Weald

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