

# DEREHAM BLUES FESTIVAL

## NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2025

Dear 'Blues' Fans, I can't believe this is the last newsletter to go out before the festival begins, after months of planning and preparations...The countdown is on!

The Dereham Blues Festival is just around the corner, and excitement is growing across the town. From the big Opening Concert at Dereham Memorial Hall to foot-stomping gigs in local venues, this year's festival promises to be one of our best yet and don't forget apart from the opening concert all of the gigs are free of charge!

Our volunteer teams have been working tirelessly behind the scenes to keep everything running smoothly — now all we need is you, the fans, to bring the energy and love for live blues music. Get ready for five unforgettable days of rhythm, soul, and community spirit!

**Dereham Blues Festival  
2025**

**9th - 13th July**

The Dereham Blues Festival Programmes are now widely available across Dereham and surrounding villages but don't worry if you haven't got your hands on one yet, the full programme is available on the website and also during the festival.



DEREHAM BLUES FESTIVAL  
Wednesday 9 July  
Dereham Memorial Hall  
International world renown rhythm and blues boogie woogie keyboard legend and vocalist  
**Mike Sanchez**  
and his six piece band  
Direct from the 100 Club - only 9 UK dates in 2025  
Tickets from Ticketsource /Whats on Dereham  
Followed by four days of free wall to wall blues all hosted in Dereham's finest pubs and clubs  
For more information visit [www.derehamb bluesfestival.org.uk](http://www.derehamb bluesfestival.org.uk)  
Support us - become Friend and of Dereham Blues Festival and buy a wristband  
More sponsor information soon

A performance not to be missed!

### Introducing Mike Sanchez!

Tickets for the Opening Concert are selling well, please avoid the last minute rush and get yours now to avoid disappointment.

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/fodmh/t-pqdxnkz>

Once described as “the finest, most exciting, most entertaining artist in British rhythm and blues”, Part Latin gigolo, part rockabilly hellcat” Sanchez left Britain for Spain and the continental festival circuit years ago. His pulsating boogie-woogie piano has taken him round and round the world. Mike's high energy, theatrical personality, characterised by big hair and flamboyant stage suits earned him the title 'Bossman of Boogie', whilst his supreme technique made him three times British Blues Keyboard Player of the Year.

Expect explosive piano, hot vocals and phenomenal support from guitar, trumpet, saxophone, stand up bass and drums, in Mike's classic rock 'n' roll, rhythm 'n' blues and rockabilly six piece line up.

Some of the Dereham Blues Festival Management Teams came together on Sunday in the sunshine to update our festival banners with the brand new dates and we couldn't be more excited!

It was hot, it was bright but we were thankful for the pleasant breeze as we got one step closer to bringing the blues back to Dereham.

A big thank you to our amazing team for sweating it out and keeping the blues spirit alive and kickin'!



## Love Dereham Blues Festival?

Want to know more about it than anyone else? Want to support but think you can't? Yes you can! For the first time ever you can become a Friend of Dereham Blues Festival. Joining this year for just £5 annual membership can help keep the festival live and thriving whilst you get inside advance news and a growing number of benefits.

Check it out here  
<https://friends.derehamb bluesfestival.org.uk>



Want to help keep the festival alive and kicking? You can support us by playing the Breckland Lottery, a fun and easy way to give back, with a chance to win while helping us bring the blues to Dereham year after year. Every ticket you buy helps us keep the music playing! Click link to sign up.



Win a Nintendo Switch 2 bundle  
Win a Nintendo Switch 2 gaming bundle in our June Super Draw  
Our Breckland Lottery

### RAFFLE WINNER ANNOUNCEMENT!

We're excited to announce the winner of our Dereham Day raffle prize for two premier seat tickets to the Opening Concert at the Dereham Blues Festival 2025

Dave Froom from Toftwood!

Dave is absolutely thrilled to have won and in a heartwarming twist, he has chosen to gift the tickets to his son and daughter-in-law who will be visiting from London as he and his wife have already secured their own!

What a fantastic gesture of sharing the blues spirit Dave!

Dave is now retired and has taken up playing his guitar as he loves the sound and has been teaching his great nephew who is beginning to perform.

Dave has attended every single Dereham Blues Festival since they began in 2013 missing only one hour in 2016!

Now That's dedication!

Dave says " In my opinion the Dereham Blues Festival is the best thing that has ever happened in Dereham!

Congratulations again, and we can't wait to see the whole family at the festival!

#DerehamBluesFestival #BluesFamily

#RaffleWinner #sharingthemusic

Photo: Co-founder Stewart Aitken with prize winner Dave Froom outside Dereham Memorial Hall 🎵🎶



### A Huge Thank You to Our Festival Sponsors!

The Dereham Blues Festival wouldn't be possible without the incredible support of our sponsors.

Their generosity and community spirit help us bring the magic of live blues music to the heart of Dereham year after year.

We'd like to extend our heartfelt thanks to:

**Salus Mortgage Solutions**  
**Stephenson Smart**  
**Camtrak**  
**Minors & Brady**  
**Norfolk Blues Society**  
**and the**

**Friends of Dereham Memorial Hall.**

Your support not only helps us host amazing artists and events, but also keeps the festival vibrant, accessible, and rooted in the local community. Thank you for being a vital part of the Dereham Blues Festival family!

WINNER



For all general enquiries please contact

[info@derehamb bluesfestival.org.uk](mailto:info@derehamb bluesfestival.org.uk)



See you there!

Tess