

Dereham Blues Festival

2019 Dereham Blues Festival Will Be Bigger And Better Than Ever

Planning is well underway for the 2019 Dereham Blues Festival and it will be bigger and better than ever this year. The major change for 2019 is an extra day being added to the festival, which will now span five days from Wednesday 10th July through to Sunday 14th July.

The opening concert will headline a true up and coming star of Texas blues Hamilton Loomis [<http://www.hamiltonloomis.com>] from the USA. It is testament to how far the Dereham Blues festival has come in six years, that it can attract such a new high impact star all the way from across the Atlantic.

Born and raised in Galveston, Texas, Loomis is the son of musician parents who listened to blues, rock and soul. Music ran in his veins and, with instruments readily available around the house, he picked up drums, piano, guitar and harmonica, honing his multi-instrumental talent in addition to performing regularly as part of his family's doo-wop group.

The fabulous local bluesman Ron Sayer Jr. is providing support for this concert backed by local favourites The Shunters band.

The festival opening concert organised by the Friends of The Dereham Memorial Hall, will be held at the Dereham Memorial Hall on Wednesday 10th July. Tickets are on sale from January 31st either via the festival website <http://www.derehambluesfestival.org.uk> or via <https://www.ticket-source.co.uk/date/594723> .

Then there will follow another four days of hot blues music filling the pubs, bars, restaurants and other Dereham town centre venues with more bands playing with more chances for blues lovers to hear top blues bands and artists drawn from the region and across the UK.

The Dereham Blues Festival website is being re-vamped and modernised to meet the demands for this new expanded festival next year. All festival information on the venues, the bands and the program will be posted on the website <http://www.derehambluesfestival.org.uk> . Keep heading to the website for all the latest news.

There are more chances for blues bands and acts to play at this year's festival. So if you "wanna play", get your interest in early to the organisers via the festival's website at <http://www.derehambluesfestival.org.uk/wanna-play-2019.html> . So, get your applications in straight away, don't wait as they close next month.

The Dereham Blues Festival continues to grow and as ever is a whole lot more than "12 bars o' blues".

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Further information

Carolyn Coleman email: carolyn_selby@btinternet.com, tel. 01362 695084
Jim Niven email: rednef59@hotmail.co.uk; tel. 07528492288



NOTES TO EDITORS

This 2019 Dereham Blues Festival will run from Wednesday July 10th to Sunday July 14th.

For full info, biography, music and media kit on Hamilton Loomis, the opening act for this year's 2019 Dereham Blues Festival please see <http://www.hamiltonloomis.com> .

The Dereham Blues Festival started in 2013 and in its first year attracted 500 people to the market town. More information: <http://www.derehambluesfestival.org.uk>. By attracting over 2000 music fans from across the country the festival is quickly becoming one of the go-to events on the Blues calendar. Email: derehambluesfestival.org.uk/contact.html

Dereham Blues Festival is now a not for profit company under its chairman Harry Collins who leads the devoted team of Blues volunteers, most of whom are themselves active gigging musicians. The founding members were Doreen and Stewart Aitken and ran the festival in the early years since the first event back in 2013.

Some 50 acts perform in the festival, drawn from "local grown" talent from Norfolk and East Anglia and from all over the rest of the UK.

The festival kicks off each year with a well known national / international blues act. Previous years have seen Paul Jones (Manfred Mann and The Blues Band) in 2014, in 2015 Mud Morganfield, in 2016 Dr. Feelgood and Andy Fairweather Low in 2017. Last year's 2018 festival opening gig featured Georgie Fame and attracted a sell-out crowd and rave reviews.

For more information about the Dereham Memorial Hall, events and the work the Friends of Dereham Memorial hall do please see their website <http://derehammemorialhall.co.uk> .

The market town of Dereham in Norfolk has seen significant growth over the past few years and the town's blues festival reflects and supports this continued social and economic development.

The estimated 2000 or so festival visitors provide a real economic boost to the town as well as bringing the place alive throughout the festival weekend in July.

The Dereham Blues Festival continues to be a growing success story in the region thanks to its two lead organisers, Norfolk Blues Society founders Doreen and Stewart Aitken. As founding members, they remain fully involved and are determined that the blues festival has a long future.

The festival is run by an entirely volunteer group of eight local Norfolk blues enthusiasts and is supported by the Norfolk Blues Society - <http://www.norfolkbluessociety.org.uk> .

We are proud to be associated with following sponsors of the Festival and we thank them for their support; Stephenson Smart (Main Sponsor), East Bilney Garage (Headline Sponsor) and Orchard Caravans (Business Sponsor).

The 2019 Dereham Blues Festival will take place from 10th to 14th July 2019. Applications from bands wanting to play are now being accepted via the website www.derehambluesfestival.org.uk

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We are delighted to support the Dereham Blues Festival in their efforts to organise such quality entertainment in the community.

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Stephenson Smart



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