

PRESS RELEASE

The George Hotel

South Molton

The Victorian Farmer's Year in Song

John Kirkpatrick

Friday 11 November

8.30, Tickets £9

www.wegotickets.com/event/133774

Followers of the hugely successful TV series Victorian Farm, many people will already be familiar with the face and musical talents of John Kirkpatrick, who performs at The George Hotel, South Molton (www.britnett-carver.co.uk/georgehotel) on Friday 11th November. Appearing regularly on Victorian Farm, John contributed folk songs, squeezebox tunes, dances, and information about folklore and customs. At The George he will again use such traditional material to take audiences on a journey through the four seasons, illustrating the highs and lows of each and giving an authentic voice to past times, as he did in the TV series.

John, who was the BBC's Radio Folk Musician of the Year in 2010, made such an impact on Victorian Farm, that he even earned a spot on Harry Hill's TV Burp, where he was memorably attacked mid-song by the comedian with a pig under his arm!

He is widely regarded as one of the most committed champions of traditional English folk song, dance, and music. His passion for his subject comes across in the boundless energy with which he presents his material. John fills a room with his sparkling squeezebox playing, and delivers the songs with a voice of great power, depth, and range. His remarkable skill with accordion, concertina and melodeon has taken him from folk dancing to experimental rock music and a wide range of international recording collaborations. He has been a member of the Albion Country Band, Steeleye Span, Magic Lantern, The Richard Thompson Band, Umps and Dumps, Brass Monkey, and Band of Hope. And as featured artiste, band member, or session player, his music can be heard on over 200 different commercial recordings. Now John combines this experience into powerful solo performances and also works extensively in theatre. As songwriter, composer, choreographer, and musical director, he has contributed to over sixty plays.

John has lived in Shropshire since 1973, where he had four sons by his first marriage. Happily re-married, he still dances with all four sons in the Morris team he founded in 1975, The Shropshire Bedlams. It is very appropriate, given his love of dancing, that the evening at The George will be opened by local morris side – Borderline Morris.

Cathy Doel, proprietor of The George says:

“Bringing John Kirkpatrick and The Victorian Farmer's Year has allowed us to stage another top quality act to The George. In a rural area such as ours, we expect this to be a night with very special resonance for our

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audience. The older generation will be able to reminisce while others, following the television series, will once again be able to enjoy the music and charm of times past. With John's infectious energy, passion and knowledge, we will be given a glimpse into a 'Larkrise to Candleford' age, when life was not easier but in many ways simpler, so leave your mobile phones at home and enjoy a traditional evening's entertainment".

"Kirkpatrick's buoyant presence and lust for this music sounds more rampant than ever."
Colin Irwin - fRoots 2009.

JK "delivers all the boisterous bonhomie and seasonal good cheer anyone could want."
Joan Crump - English Dance & Song.

MAKE IT AN EVENING TO REMEMBER...

Pre Show Dinner Specials are also available for event nights. At £14.95 for two or £17.95 for a three courses, these are exceptionally good value.

Stay over for the night (especially good if you are travelling some distance or just want to make it a really special occasion) and receive a 10% discount on accommodation. Take up this offer in combination with the Pre Show Dinner, and we'll reserve you great seats for the performance, and organise interval drinks too!

Book online at <http://www.wegotickets.com>, visit The George at 1 Broad Street, South Molton, EX36 3AB or ring 01769 572514.

Editor's Info:

- For further information or to discuss free press tickets, please contact Cathy Doel on 01769 572514.
- *The George's* Autumn/Winter 2011 programme includes comedians such as Pat Monahan – recently seen winning ITV's Show Me The Funny- Scott Capurro, Diane Spencer, and the return of Boothby Graffoe. Musical artistes include scintillating guitar from Clive Carroll – a giant of the traditional song - John Kirkpatrick, electronic folk music from Solarference, Scottish and Irish traditional music from North Sea Gas and Craobh Rua, and the inimitable Dave Swarbrick.
- The George Hotel holds regular live music and comedy events throughout the year and is notable for attracting well known performers in the folk, blues and bluegrass genres such as Peggy Seeger, Dave Swarbrick, and Julie Felix, as well as household names in stand up comedy as well as Lucy Porter, Micky Flanagan, Russell Howard, Andrew Lawrence and Mitch Benn.

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