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bff **Bromyard**
FOLK festival

**9th -11th
September 2011**

Top international names in folk lined up for an entertaining weekend of music and dance at Bromyard Folk Festival

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Irish stars Dervish and guitar wizard Martin Simpson among the guests for September 9-11
Ticket prices at discount until May 31
Internationally acclaimed Irish band *Dervish* and award-winning guitarist *Martin Simpson* are among the big names lined up for this year's Bromyard Folk Festival on the weekend of September 9th, 10th and 11th.
One of the longest standing UK festivals, this year's event offers a packed and lively 170 hour programme of music, song and dance to appeal to all ages.

Dervish's 17-year career has seen them sharing the billing with names as James Brown, Sting and Oasis and the 6-piece line up was the first Irish band to perform at the world-renowned Rock in Rio Festival in front of an

estimate audience of two hundred and forty thousand people.
Simpson has been nominated an astounding 23 times in the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards including nine consecutive years as nomi-



Dervish

nee for Musician of The Year, which he has won twice. Widely acknowledged as one of the finest acoustic and slide guitar players in the world, he comes to Bromyard with a 5-piece band of leading folk musicians.

The weekend also offers a rare chance to enjoy the combined talents of three members of the popular BBC Transatlantic Sessions, flute and pipes wizard Mike McGoldrick, fiddle virtuoso John McCusker and gifted guitarist John Doyle. Other Bromyard guests include last year's winner of the Festival's Fred Jordan Memorial Competition, 21-year-old singer Kirsty Bromley. The annual competition is open to singers under 25 years of age and past winners have included established folk stars Jim Moray, Maz O'Connor and Niamh Boadle.

Sponsored by Wye Valley Brewery & The Co-Op the Festival features hundreds of singers, musicians and dancers from across the UK. The main Festival site is just outside the picturesque Herefordshire town of Bromyard but there will also be plenty of music and dancing in the streets and pubs of the town centre. The Festival also boasts some spectacular morris dancing, workshops, children's entertainment, craft fair, real ale bars and food. Festival Director, Dick Dixon, is delighted that the Bromyard is popular with music fans of all ages, with many young performers and audiences keeping traditional music alive and relevant to today's tastes. He says, 'Many people, young and old have told us how much they enjoy this Festival. We always try to offer a programme that combines top international names with the high standard of local acts in a friendly rural atmosphere.'

Weekend and day tickets are available with discounts for families, NUS card holders, juniors and young adults. All tickets are currently offered at a reduced early-bird rate until May 31. Enquiries and requests for information updates can be made on 07935 747 904 or by visiting the new Festival website on www.bromyardfolkfestival.co.uk



Martin Simpson