

PATSY MATHESON

A Little Piece of England Tour

Oct 3, 08-Jan 30, 09

Waking the Witch singer-songwriter steps out on her own

"Beautiful and haunting – a real poet and musician at work" – **Halifax Courier**



Just months after the farewell tour of the acclaimed, all-female band she founded, Waking the Witch's Patsy **Matheson** is embarking on a UK tour showcasing her stunning solo acoustic album, *A Little Piece of England* - her first solo recording in 11 years.

Accompanied by the album's multi-instrumental producer **Sam Bartholomew**, Patsy will kick off her tour at **Cambridge Folk Club** on Oct 3, followed by gigs in **Manningtree, Essex; Budleigh Salterton, Devon; Torquay, Cornwall; Lowdham, near Nottingham; Rotherham, Hartlepool, Halifax, York** and **Leeds** in her home county of Yorkshire; **Birmingham; Battle** in **Sussex, Barton-upon-Humber** in **Lincolnshire, Ulverston, Cumbria** and **London's famous Half Moon, Putney**. The pair will play vintage American guitars.

Critics and fans alike were surprised and dismayed when the award-winning Waking the Witch announced they were calling it a day after three albums and five successful years on the road. Yorkshire-based Patsy, Jools Parker, Rachel Goodwin and Becky Mills, whose enviable song writing skills and harmonies had been likened to a female Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, had decided it was time to pursue other avenues.



Patsy, who plays a trademark mandolin as well as guitars, had been a successful solo artist for some time before Waking the Witch was formed. She had already released two albums, performed solo at Glastonbury and supported the likes of Al Stewart, Christy Moore, John Martyn, Gordon Giltrap, Dick Gaughan, Glenn Tilbrook and The Saw Doctors.

Now re-affirming her strength as a genre-hopping solo artist, Patsy, who penned some of Waking the Witch's best loved numbers, has written a new collection of 10 diverse songs - some fragile and folk-inflected; others strident and more rocky; some vintage Matheson and others striking off in a bold new protest song direction - all will be played on tour.

"Most of the songs evolved from my observations on things that are quite English", she says. The album references **Yorkshire** where Patsy has lived for many years, **Surrey** where she grew up, the **Lake District** which she loves and **Wroxham** in **Norfolk** where her grandparents lived in a riverside cottage. Songs range from the mellow *Sunday Morning Song* to the rootsy *Ulverston Gypsy*, the haunting Amy Winehouse-inspired *Lamb to Slaughter* and her take on the Iraqi war in *Precious Little Soldier*. Of the moving title track, which closes the album, Patsy says: "That was written about my home, which is a little piece of **Fulneck, Yorkshire**, with a totally marvellous English view!"

**** For interviews with Patsy Matheson, copies of *A Little Piece of England* for airplay or review, hi res images, biography or gig review tickets please contact Jane Brace Music PR on (01243) 789554 or j.brace@virgin.net or email info@wakingthewitch.co.uk**

What they are saying about "A Little Piece of England"

"This is not only a musically glorious album – it's also a statement that Patsy Matheson, solo performer, is back and better than ever" – www.womensradio.com

"One quarter of now defunct acoustic darlings Waking the Witch, Matheson's new collection of songs; distinctive, often plaintive guitar sound and honeycomb vocals single her out as a talent demanding to be heard in her own right" – **Halifax Courier**

"A bunch of great new songs in a gently intricate sound world – experiences and feelings common to all of us are rarely voiced with such percipient sensitivity and powerful honesty as here" - **Netrhythms**

A Little Piece of England Tour 2008

Fri 3 rd Oct	Cambridge , Folk Club @ the Golden Hind www.cambridgefolkclub.org 01638 603986
Sat 4 th Oct	Manningtree , Red Lion 01206 395 052 mikecsteer@yahoo.co.uk
Thurs 9 th Oct	East Devon , Budleigh Salterton, Otterton Mill www.ottertonmill.com 01395 568521
Fri 10 th Oct	Torquay , Blue Walnut Café www.bluewalnutcafe.com 01803 605995
Sat 11 th Oct	Nottingham , Lowdham Village Hall (as special guest of Deborah Bonham) www.warthogpromotions.co.uk 0115 9663596
Wed 29 th Oct	Rotherham , Wentworth, Manor Barn www.myspace.com/classicrocksociety 01663 745080



Fri 14th Nov **Hartlepool**, The Studio
www.studiohartlepool.com **01429 424440**

Thurs 20th Nov **Leeds**, New Roscoe
www.liveinleeds.com **0113 2455570**

Fri 21st Nov **Birmingham**, Cotteridge, Tower of Song
www.towerofsong.co.uk/index.htm **0121 486 1300**

Sat 22nd Nov **Hastings** - Battle, 'Autumn Chill 2' Festival at Crowhurst Park
www.mrsyarringtons.com/AutumnChill.htm **01424 773344**

Fri 28th Nov- **Barton-upon-Humber**, The Ropewalk
www.carnivalinn.co.uk **01652 660380**

Sat 29th Nov **York**, The Winning Post **07525 751 219.**

Sun 30th Nov **London** - Putney, Half Moon
www.halfmoon.co.uk **0208 780 9383**

Sat 10th Jan **Halifax**, Square Chapel Arts Centre
www.squarechapel.co.uk/events/index.htm
01422 349422

Fri 30th Jan **South Lakes**, Ulverston Sports Club
www.simp.btinternet.co.uk **07743 555227**
