

# **PRESS RELEASE**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

# UK Climate Choir to sing at Riversong at Ross to celebrate the life that the River Wye brings to us all and launch its water pollution campaign

**Ross-on-Wye**: More than a hundred members of the <u>Climate Choir Movement</u> are planning to sing at <u>Riversong at Ross</u>: A Celebration of the River Wye on Saturday 24th May.

During this joyful day of community celebration, Climate Choir members from across the UK will gather along the banks of the River Wye singing four specially composed water songs: Why Wye Wye, Dirty Water, Flow Wandering River, and Will You Be the Change?

This will be the launch event for three months of campaigning to protest river pollution. All seventeen climate choirs will focus on their local water pollution hotspots and, with other campaign groups, use these songs and others in a series of singing protests aimed at celebrating the nation's rivers.

Save the Wye campaigner Rachel Bomford said

"We were thrilled when Jo Flanagan, from the Climate Choir Movement, contacted us last autumn and offered to come and sing at one of our public events. "The poor state of our rivers is now common knowledge and the causes, including the damage caused by climate change, are well documented.

"RIVERSONG will be a day of song, ceremony and celebration giving thanks to our rivers and all the amazing people who are working tirelessly behind the scenes to protect our precious rivers."

Climate Choir Movement Co-founder Jo Flanagan added,

"We're honoured to bring the Climate Choir's voice to Riversong at Ross - a celebration of community, nature, and the urgent need to protect our precious waterways. Clean rivers and oceans are not just environmental issues, they are the veins of our living landscape. Through song, we hope to inspire action and reconnect people to the rhythms of the natural world that sustain us all."

ENDS -

### **NOTES FOR EDITORS**

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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SOCIAL MEDIA #SaveTheWye #ClimateChoirs

### **ABOUT SAVE THE WYE**

Save the Wye is a grassroots coalition of local groups and concerned citizens from both sides of the Welsh border, united by a shared commitment to protect the River Wye and its tributaries. Today, the river faces an ecological crisis: pollution, driven by a toxic cocktail of sewage (22%), microplastics, superbugs and excessive agricultural nutrients (over 70%), triggering algal blooms that suffocate the river's fish, plants and invertebrates, and collapsing its once-vibrant web of life. Working alongside a network of partner organisations across the region, Save the Wye is fighting for urgent government action to end all pollution, restore the river's health, and ensure the Wye remains a clean, thriving river for generations to come. <a href="https://savethewye.org">https://savethewye.org</a>

### ABOUT THE CLIMATE CHOIR MOVEMENT

Founded in 2022, the growing Climate Choir Movement is comprised of 900 singers in different choirs across the UK - Ballycastle, Bath, Bristol, Cambridge, Derbyshire, Exeter, Forest of Dean, Guildford, Hay-on-Wye, London, Oxford, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Sheffield, Southampton, Wyre Forest - and in Zimbabwe. It uses musical performance to highlight the climate crisis. <u>https://climatechoirmovement.org</u>

Join us for a joyful day of sunshine, song, ceremony and celebration!

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Let's celebrate our beautiful river Wye and give special thanks to all of the river guardians, activists, campaigners and supporters, who work tirelessly behind the scenes, to protect her health and wellbeing. Where **The Hope & Anchor Pub** Ross On Wye HR9 7BU

> Everybody welcome! Free, family friendly event. Beautiful riverside venue, stage performance area & plenty of outdoor seating!



100+ singers from the **Mass Climate Choir** with songs for the river

Ceremony & blessings with The Goddess & Lady Wye

Social activities & Information Hut come & talk to us!

savethewye.org