



**THE
CLIMATE CHOIR
MOVEMENT**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday 23rd June 2026

Climate Choir Movement Sings Outside Lambeth Palace and Westminster Abbey Calling for Church Land Rewilding

Hundreds of singers to urge General Synod members and Church leaders to back landmark motion for nature restoration across Church-owned land

London: Saturday 27th June, 2:10pm: Around 100 members of the Climate Choir Movement will gather outside Lambeth Palace to perform songs calling on Church leaders and members of the Church of England's General Synod to support a landmark motion to restore nature on Church-owned land.

The musical action takes place just weeks before the Church of England's General Synod meets in York this July, where members will debate and vote on a Private Members' Motion submitted by the Revd Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, Valerie Plumb. The motion calls on the Church to support the restoration of nature on 30% of Church land by 2030, in line with the international "30x30" target and "the scale and urgency of the climate and biodiversity crises." [1]

The motion has already secured the support of more than 100 clergy and Synod members, meaning it must now be formally debated and voted on.

The action outside Lambeth Palace - where Archbishop of Canterbury Sarah Mullally is in residence - aims to warmly encourage clergy and Synod members to support the motion through music, conversation, and the distribution of letters explaining the environmental and financial case for rewilding Church land.

At 2.45pm, the choir will process singing over Lambeth Bridge and through Dean's Yard before gathering outside Westminster Abbey from 3.30-4pm for a further musical performance and conversations with clergy and members of the public.

The London event is the third major singing action organised this month by the Climate Choir Movement and rewilding campaign group Wild Card, following performances at Norwich Cathedral and Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.

The Church of England is one of the UK's largest landowners, with an estate of more than 100,000 acres managed by the Church Commissioners. Campaigners argue that the Church therefore has a historic opportunity to demonstrate leadership in responding to the climate and biodiversity crises through the stewardship of its land.

Wild Card - a grassroots rewilding campaign supported by broadcaster and naturalist Chris Packham - has been urging the Church Commissioners to dedicate 30% of Church land to nature restoration and rewilding projects. Last year, members of the Climate Choir Movement occupied St Paul's Cathedral in support of the campaign.

In the [Getting Back to the Garden](#) report commissioned by Wild Card, campaigners argue that protecting 30% of Church land for nature restoration could be cost-neutral and potentially profitable, demonstrating that ambitious environmental action can also represent responsible long-term stewardship.

“We have just had the hottest week in June on record,” said Kai Honey, Musical Director of the Climate Choir Movement. “The Church has an extraordinary opportunity to lead with courage and imagination at a time of climate and ecological crisis. Through song, we hope to encourage Synod members and Church leaders to embrace this vision for restoring nature, using rewilding as climate resilience and carbon capture, and creating a living legacy of hope.”

Wild Card Co-founder Hazel Draper added: “Rewilding Church land could become one of the most inspiring environmental commitments made by any major institution in the UK. The Church already showed moral leadership through fossil fuel divestment. This motion offers another chance to demonstrate that leadership by protecting biodiversity, restoring ecosystems, and responding meaningfully to the climate emergency.”

Organisers say the action is intended as a positive and encouraging appeal to General Synod members ahead of the July vote.



The Climate Choir Movement and Wild Card in St Paul's Cathedral London March 2025

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NOTES TO EDITORS

[1]<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/governance/general-synod/special-agendas/private-members-motions#na>

- Around 100 members of the Climate Choir Movement will gather outside Lambeth Palace from 2.10pm on Saturday 27th June.
- At 2.45pm the choir will process singing over Lambeth Bridge and through Dean's Yard.
- The choir will sing again outside Westminster Abbey from 3.30–4pm.
- The action calls on Church General Synod members to support a motion on protecting and restoring nature on Church Commissioners' land.
- The Private Members' Motion submitted by Revd Canon Valerie Plumb has received more than 100 signatures and will therefore be debated and voted on at the General Synod in York this July.
- The Church of England is one of the UK's largest landowners, with an estate of at least 100,000 acres.
- The Climate Choir Movement uses music and public performance to communicate climate and environmental issues through peaceful creative action.
- Wild Card is a grassroots nature campaign advocating for large-scale ecosystem restoration and wildlife protection across Britain.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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SOCIAL MEDIA #RewildTheChurch #ChurchOfEngland #ClimateChoirs #LambethPalace #WestminsterAbbey

VISUALS

Images and videos will be available [here](#) from 4pm Saturday 27th June.

ABOUT THE CLIMATE CHOIR MOVEMENT

Founded in 2022, the growing Climate Choir Movement is comprised of 900 singers in 17 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 Kentucky, Kenya and Zimbabwe. It uses musical performance to highlight the climate crisis. www.climatechoirmovement.org

ABOUT WILD CARD

Further details about the Rewild the Church campaign can be found [here](#). Wild Card is a citizens' movement campaigning for the UK's biggest landowners to urgently rewild their lands in response to the climate and nature emergency. With over 250,000 people supporting their campaigns to date they have already claimed successes in persuading the royal estates and other landowners to begin ambitious nature restoration schemes. www.wildcard.land