**“Who Cares?” New song for NHS nurses backs strikes, released on 6 February 2023**

For immediate release – 5.2.23

A songwriter based in the South West of England is releasing a new song backing the NHS strikes.

Annie Baylis wants her song, “Who Cares”, released on 6 February 2023, to be heard by as many nurses, and other workers taking strike action, as possible so they know they still have backing from the wider population.

60% of the UK population recently said they supported workers taking industrial action.

This song aims to keep support from the wider population for the strikes high, by bringing the plight of the nurses and others taking strike action into peoples’ minds in a creative way.

Annie Baylis, songwriter, said:

“The song is for and must be heard by the nurses and workers taking action, to show we care, and to offer solidarity and support for the industrial action.

I wrote it also for my mum, a nurse, and all nurses, and all those forced to strike to have their pay and conditions kept fair. My Mum has given her life to the NHS as a nurse, and I want this to be my gift to her, to recognise how she has given her life to give others a chance in life.

I want to make sure as many people as possible keep supporting the nurses, and all workers who are striking for fair pay and conditions. It’s written for the nurses – to say thank you – keep going – we understand, are with you, and care for you”.

Lou Gray, NHS Nurse Midwife, said:

“To have lived a life serving my community, has been the greatest privilege, an honour and at times a challenging journey. The treasured institution of this nation is our NHS, our access to free health care from ‘the cradle to the grave’, we all love it, we all need it and it belongs to us, we own it, it is **our** National Health Service”.

Ends

**Notes to editors**

The song is being released with a short film.

This will be available from Monday 6th February 2023 on through Annie’s website, also Youtube, will be available to download for free on Bandcamp (accessed directly on Bandcamp <https://anniebaylis.bandcamp.com> or through Annie’s website [www.anniebaylismusic.com](http://www.anniebaylismusic.com)).

The song will be available free, and if you enjoy it, you can donate to the [RCN Strike Fund page](https://www.rcn.org.uk/magazines/News/uk-rcn-launches-public-donations-to-strike-fund-071222) to “protect nursing staff from the financial impacts of this fight. Striking staff whose pay is docked can receive a £50 payment (RCN Strike Benefit) for every day of official action they join”.

60% of the UK population support industrial action - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-62134314>

About Annie Baylis - With an ethereal voice, captivating strings, and haunting harmonium, Annie offers a collection of timeless songs, with melodies and stories beyond her years. Musically diverse, but with a passion for all things folk and a strong Scottish Heritage. Annie has played in several nationally acclaimed, album-charting bands, including Kola, Gareth Lee & Annie Baylis, The Changing Room, Hireth, and most recently the Harbottle & Jonas Trio. During time touring with these bands, appearances of note include performances at Cecil Sharp House, on BBC Radio 3, and at Glastonbury Festival. Darkest Horse is Annie’s debut record as a songwriter.

To keep in touch with the song’s release, follow Annie on Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/anniebaylismusic> or Twitter: @BaylisAnnie

Find out more about the song and Annie at her website <https://www.anniebaylismusic.com/>

View the film at: <https://youtu.be/bGMsq0Pg3Fo>

Annie Baylis and Lou Gray are available for interview.

For more details on this press release, or to arrange an interview, contact Laura at 07760 383641 or [alcockferguson@gmail.com](mailto:alcockferguson@gmail.com)