

STONEHENGE ALLIANCE CAMPAIGN UPDATE



Dear supporters,

A small delegation caught an early Eurostar to Paris to make UNESCO aware of the global opposition to the Government's damaging road building plans through the Stonehenge World Heritage Site and present a copy of our international petition with its **225,000 signatures from 147 countries**.

Alliance Chairman, John Adams and Chris Todd, Director of Transport Action Network and committee member, were cordially welcomed by senior members of staff from UNESCO's World Heritage Centre: the Centre's Deputy Director, Jyoti Hosagrahar, the Head of Europe and North America Unit, Berta de Sancristobal and Stefanie Grüssinger, a professional officer for the Unit.

The pair impressed on the Centre that **the only thing standing between the World Heritage Site and the bulldozers was the legal challenge**.

UNESCO's continuing firm line to protect Stonehenge WHS is warmly welcomed, but John and Chris explained that the UK Government had **no intention of considering less damaging alternatives** despite the strong advice from the World Heritage Committee, who have threatened the World Heritage status of the site if the scheme were to go ahead in its present form.

“We urge UNESCO to remain strong in the face of the UK Government’s indifference to this iconic British heritage site.”

Only three UNESCO properties have ever had their world heritage status deleted:

- Dresden Elbe Valley in Germany (delisted in 2009);
- Arabian Oryx Sanctuary in Oman (delisted in 2007);
- Liverpool Maritime Mercantile City (delisted in 2021).

It would be an international embarrassment and dishonour if the UK were to lose a **second WHS badge** under this government.

We agreed to keep the Centre informed of any developments and await the outcome of the World Heritage Committee meeting in Riyadh later this month. We hope to be allowed to make a statement.



Mission accomplished!

Top L-R: Chris Todd and John Adams set off on their day return; John Adams displays our placard at UNESCO; the delegation returns from Paris.

Bottom: [International petition](#), scroll with 225,000 signatures and list of 147 countries (and growing). Click on image to enlarge.

Update on the legal challenge

[The challenge](#) has been submitted by Save Stonehenge WHS Ltd, but the legal team is not expecting to hear anything from the courts for a month. As soon as we have further news, we will let you know.

The good news is that over £50,000 has been raised thanks to your brilliant support. **Thank you for helping us reach that initial target!**

The appeal, however, is reaching its next stage and needs to raise the full £80,000 in order to bring the action. Can you help spread the word?



And many thanks for your continued support.

Best wishes,

The Stonehenge Alliance team

This story was well covered in the:

- [BBC News online](#) – ‘Stonehenge tunnel campaigners take petition to UNESCO’
- [Heritage Journal](#) – ‘Stonehenge Alliance: New challenge launched’
- [New Civil Engineer](#) – ‘Stonehenge campaigners take case against tunnel scheme to Unesco in Paris over World Heritage status delisting concern’
- [Planet Radio](#) – ‘Stonehenge tunnel campaigners handing petition to UNESCO’
- [Salisbury Journal](#) – ‘Stonehenge: Campaigners present UNESCO with petition opposing tunnel’



Thanksgiving Service for Kate Fielden

Kate's family have warmly invited our supporters to attend a thanksgiving service in memory of our much missed Kate Fielden on Thursday, 5th October in Devizes. If you would like us to send you full details please email savestonehenge@gmail.com.



The famous Stonehenge monument stands at the heart of, and is inseparable from, an expanse of chalkland remarkable for its evidence of our distant ancestors: their homes and living spaces, farming, working and ceremonial practices. It is described by UNESCO as a "landscape without parallel". Photo: Kate Fielden

ABOUT THE STONEHENGE ALLIANCE

The Stonehenge Alliance has campaigned against the road scheme for many years and is appalled by the Government's decision in the face of strong advice from its Planning Inspectorate not to proceed, UNESCO's World Heritage Committee condemnation and the High Court's quashing of the scheme.

The Stonehenge Alliance is supported by Ancient Sacred Landscape Network; Campaign to Protect Rural England; Friends of the Earth; Rescue, The British Archaeological Trust; Transport Action Network and many individuals worldwide.

THE INTERNATIONAL PETITION against the road has reached over 250,000 signatures. **You can sign and share it [here](#).**



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