



Dear Friends and Supporters,

It's August and we're still savouring the good news that the Labour Government cancelled the Stonehenge road scheme last month (photos below). It's also been a good time to drill down through our archives and learn lessons from the past with a view to putting a stop to major road development through our best preserved prehistoric landscape. But that will be a theme for a future email.

For now, we are thinking about groups less fortunate than ours, who face damaging road schemes that deserve to be cancelled outright, but whose landscapes, heritage and wildlife areas are not as famous as Stonehenge. Our allies, **Transport Action Network** (without whom we would not have got as far as we have), are urgently appealing for help to get the last government's national roads programme scrapped. Here's the nub of their appeal:

- **TAN** thinks the roads programme is economically weak and the proposals way out of date. By scrapping it Labour could save £16bns towards reducing the deficit, fill potholes and invest in public transport.
- **Transport Secretary, Louise Haigh**, is currently reviewing the previous government's road schemes and moving quickly to meet the Chancellor's budget in October. It is *the ideal* opportunity to change the narrative around road building and protect our precious heritage and environment.

See also today's report on the Westminster Forum last week in [Highways Magazine](#) in which Chris Todd, Director of TAN, quotes the Stonehenge road project as a prime example of avoiding wasted money.

TAN has given us years of amazing practical support and sharing their many years of campaign experience. So they'd hugely appreciate any support you can give them. Below are a couple of actions you might like to consider:

1. TAN has composed a good letter asking Louise Haigh to get unaffordable roads scrapped. Could you sign, edit as you see fit, and send?

Write to Louise Haigh

2. Would you like to make a one off donation so that TAN can continue to help others?

Make a one off donation to TAN

We'll be in touch again when we've heard from the Court of Appeal - probably next month.

Very best wishes for the rest of the holiday season,

The Stonehenge Alliance team



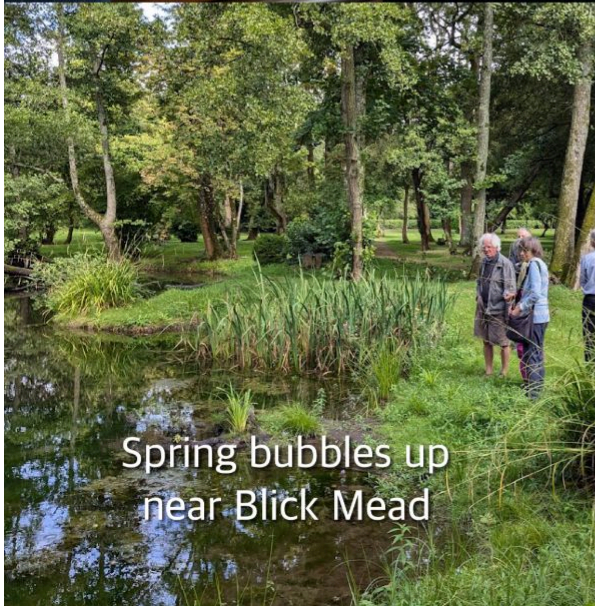
Above: The team of Stonehenge Alliance activists minus a couple of colleagues at a celebratory picnic by the River Avon, adjacent to Stonehenge World Heritage Site, enjoying a break after an intense, but ultimately successful, campaign. Below: A walk to the neighbouring archaeological site of Blick Mead where Mesolithic remains have been spared the risk of changes to water levels from construction of an adjacent flyover and tunnel.



The Stonehenge tapestry above memento of Kate Fielden



Walk to Blick Mead, site of dig, with friends & relatives. A303 immediately behind the trees.



Spring bubbles up near Blick Mead



Andy Rhind-Tutt welcomes everyone with colourful stories about the site.

[ABOUT THE STONEHENGE ALLIANCE](#)



[The Stonehenge Alliance](#) was set up in 2002 to protect the Stonehenge World Heritage Site from further damage. It has campaigned against the current road scheme since its inception in 2014. It is appalled by the last Government's decision to go ahead with the short tunnel and road widening project in the face of:

- *strong advice from its Planning Inspectorate not to proceed,*
- *UNESCO's World Heritage Committee's condemnation, and*
- *the High Court's quashing of the scheme in 2021.*

The Labour Government cancelled the scheme on 29 July 2024 on grounds of "low value and unaffordable commitment". It was always expected that cancellation would be on grounds of high costs, but it is disappointing that (a) damage to world heritage was not been included, and (b) there is no local or regional scheme review. We await the decision of the Court of Appeal, expected this autumn, before taking further action.

The Stonehenge Alliance is run by a small team of volunteers and 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 in the UK and worldwide.

~ Follow us on social media ~



Copyright © 2024 The Stonehenge Alliance, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.

