**STONEHENGE MANIFESTO 2018**

Copyright Sid Hope

****

Inspired by the original ‘Stonehenge campaign’ based @ Torriano Avenue & formed in Aug 2011 this current campaign emerged from the new age thinkers, travellers, Rasta rebels, & acid evangelists of the ohm house community squat in Stockwell, Street London.

The campaign exists to raise awareness, lobby, and protest, attend meetings, maintain links with interested parties and re-establish 'the people’s free festival' @ or near Stonehenge. We produce a free quarterly newsletter & an annual summer solstice info/ helpline to advise & direct folk to the nearest free festival site from Stonehenge at the time of summer solstice. We meet @ the equinox & winter solstice gatherings @ Stonehenge -the campaign provides info, welfare, site clearance, a roots reggae sound system, plus free live bands. Summer solstice June 2017 saw a successful free festival gathering established opposite the sacred Woodhenge site & only 2 miles from Stonehenge - the first time amplified music, a stage & live bands had appeared near the stones since 1988.

There were no hassles from the police, no arrests, the site was left clean, & everybody left on time. In the aftermath there were no complaints either from the local community or the authorities - and all this after the campaign had worked long & hard preparing & submitting an entertainment license application that was rejected for the same Woodhenge site in 2015. Proof all along that we're capable & responsible enough to maintain & supervise a safe & friendly environment for all @ summer solstice. Stonehenge custodians English heritage, with whom we meet regularly, claim they have no land available for a festival site & promote the Stonehenge landscape as inappropriate for amplified music - in 2014 the campaign championed & influenced the setting up of 'sangers' acoustic stage in the 'monument' field. The first stage to appear @ the summer solstice celebrations @ Stonehenge since the enforced demise of the original free festival held between 1974 - 1985 - although at present & for the foreseeable future, doesn't include a P.A. system or amplified music.

The campaign has led the way when it comes to locating & earmarking possible suitable sites near the stones, as well as contacting private landowners who might be sympathetic to our needs. the campaign recently celebrated '5 years of subversion & organization @ Stonehenge' [http://bit.ly/sfc5bash](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fbit.ly%2FSFC5Bash&h=ATPdDBbty1YkrTlAIBMzGO3GRdDpC2AUuBS0zQLVIgqtvFzfpa3kDPOjIInVTcw_ohsCIwHpOoE6FUa0qLYABcB1ig6xeHT87bs_w0SYkdmqL-Y7Jw) one of a number of fundraising benefit gigs that help promote bands & acts loyal to highlighting the campaign over the years - 'Stonehenge, a celebration' is a double ltd edition fundraising CD available via the campaign w-site - press release @ [www.efestivals.co.uk/news/15/150409e.shtml](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2FWWW.EFESTIVALS.CO.UK%2FNEWS%2F15%2F150409E.SHTML&h=ATPdDBbty1YkrTlAIBMzGO3GRdDpC2AUuBS0zQLVIgqtvFzfpa3kDPOjIInVTcw_ohsCIwHpOoE6FUa0qLYABcB1ig6xeHT87bs_w0SYkdmqL-Y7Jw) - press officer: c.j stone - campaign info & annual summer solstice helpline: 079854 10448 - email: festivalcampaign2012@hotmail.co.uk