

Contact our HS2 Helpdesk team on **08081 434 434**

HS2 Update

Chiltern Tunnel | Winter 2022

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain. The tunnel boring machines digging the Chiltern Tunnel have now passed beneath the village centre of Chalfont St Giles and are heading towards the third ventilation shaft in Amersham.

Tunnelling progress update

Florence and Cecilia, the two tunnel boring machines (TBMs), have now passed beneath our second ventilation shaft at Bottom House Farm Lane, Chalfont St Giles, where they stopped briefly for maintenance in late summer. Their cutterheads, more commonly known as “teeth”, were changed manually by hand, by highly skilled operatives. This took approximately two weeks to complete and once finished, the TBMs set off again, and are tunnelling to our third ventilation shaft in Amersham, where we expect them to arrive in early 2023.

The fourth ventilation shaft, off the A413 at Little Missenden, is being prepared to receive TBMs in summer 2023, followed by the final intervention shaft off Chesham Road near Hyde Heath at the end of 2023. The final stop for Florence and Cecilia will be the North Portal, South Heath near Great Missenden. This is where the twin-bore Chiltern Tunnel emerges, and the railway line will continue in a cutting across the valley towards Wendover. The TBMs are due to arrive here in early 2024.

You can follow the progress of the TBMs on the HS2 website by going to the ‘In Your Area’ map.



Diesel-free sites

AlignJV is pleased to confirm that seven construction sites in the Chilterns and Colne Valley have eliminated diesel from their operation – generators, welfare facilities, crawler cranes and piling rigs.

These construction sites have achieved 100 per cent diesel-free status. The project continues to reduce its carbon emissions.



Vent shaft site updates

What have we done so far

We have now fully waterproofed all our ventilation shafts at Chalfont St Peter, Chalfont St Giles, Amersham, Little Missenden and Chesham Road. We are now constructing the basements of the buildings which will sit above each shaft. You can see what the finished head houses will look like at: <https://www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/local-community-webpages/hs2-in-buckinghamshire-and-oxfordshire>.

The picture opposite shows a bird's eye view of the **Chalfont St Peter** site. The depth of the shaft is an impressive 66.5 metres. Internal works within the shaft are well underway and include the fitting of a staircase and waterproofing of the basement.

Works on the internal shaft structure at **Chalfont St Giles** are progressing as the TBMs have passed. Basement works will include the creation of shallow reinforced concrete slabs and walls.

At **Amersham** our focus is the arrival of the TBMs in early spring in 2023. Once they have passed through the shaft, we will finish the inner shaft wall.

At **Little Missenden** (pictured to the right) we are 'steel fixing' a capping beam which ties everything together on top of the shaft.

Main works at the intervention shaft at **Chesham Road** consist of constructing the building basement.

Finally, at the **North Portal** the 96 barrettes required to strengthen the ground around the future Chiltern Tunnel portals have now finished. Works for the next few months consist of constructing internal roads and drainage installation.



Supporting our communities

How have we been helping

Align continues to work with local community groups, schools and parish councils along our line of route. Please get in touch with us by email to communityengagement@alignjv.com if you think we can help a project near you:

- AlignJV and Queenswood Engagement, recently sponsored and supported Silver Sunday, a national event which brings older people together to enjoy each other's company and to make new friends. In October, over 200 residents from Denham Garden Village, Buckinghamshire enjoyed two days of celebrations attended by guests of honour, including the Mayor of Beaconsfield. For info about Silver Sunday please visit www.silversunday.org.uk
- AlignJV focussed fundraising on three chosen charities during National Inclusion Week. Donations were shared between Action for Children, the Epilepsy Society and Hillingdon Food Bank.



Christmas working hours

All Align vent shaft sites will close from 12pm on 23 December 2022 for the festive break. Security and maintenance teams will be present throughout the festive season and are permitted to carry out emergency works if required, however all main works activities will stop.

Sites will reopen on Tuesday 3 January 2023.

The main works site at the South Portal, near West Hyde, Rickmansworth will be open until the afternoon of 24 December 2022 but the TBMs last shift of this year will finish on 21 December and will restart on 4 January 2023.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year.



Keeping you informed

We are committed to keeping you informed about work on HS2. This includes ensuring you know what to expect and when to expect it, as well as how we can help you.

The Residents' Commissioner

The independent Residents' Commissioner oversees and monitors our commitments to you.

The commissioner's reports and our responses can be found at www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-ltd-residents-commissioner

The Residents' Commissioner makes sure we fulfil the commitments in the HS2 Community Engagement Strategy (<https://bit.ly/3oOA25j>).

The Residents' Commissioner can be contacted on: residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk

Construction Commissioner

The independent Construction Commissioner regularly meets our Chief Executive Officer to raise any concerns or emerging trends across HS2.

The Construction Commissioner's role has been developed to monitor the way we manage and respond to construction complaints.

The commissioner mediates on disputes about construction, involving individuals and organisations, that we can't resolve. The commissioner advises members of the public about how to make a complaint about construction.

The Construction Commissioner can be contacted on: complaints@hs2-cc.org.uk

Property and compensation

You can find out about HS2 and properties along the route by visiting:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-property

Find out if you can claim compensation at:

www.gov.uk/claim-compensation-if-affected-by-hs2

Holding us to account

If you are unhappy for any reason you can make a complaint by contacting the HS2 Helpdesk. For more details on our complaints process, please visit:

www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/contact-us/how-to-complain/

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High Speed Two (HS2) Limited, registered in England and Wales.


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Contact us

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 Freephone **08081 434 434**

 Minicom **08081 456 472**

 Email **HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk**

Write to:

FREEPOST

HS2 Community Engagement

Website **www.hs2.org.uk**

To keep up to date with what is happening in your local area, visit:
www.HS2inyourarea.co.uk

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