EAST LOTHIAN BATTLE WEEKEND
PRESTONPANS 1745
15-16 SEPTEMBER 2018

Bonnie Prince Charlie’s first and finest victory brought to life before your eyes.
A programme of great events for all the family!
THE JACOBITE CLANS

The Jacobite Army was born on 19 August 1745 when the Standard was raised at Glenfinnan. Over the following weeks Prince Charles Edward Stuart and his supporters worked hard to build an army which was capable of challenging the professional soldiers of King George II. They were remarkably successful in doing so. Unlike at the later battles of the ‘45, the army at Prestonpans was almost totally Highland in composition, made up of clans gathered along the march. Smaller clans were often brigaded together or with larger partners to create regiments. At Prestonpans the army was divided into three divisions.

The Duke of Perth’s Division (Front Right in the battleline)

This mainly comprised the three Clan Donald Regiments, which included the MacDonalds of Clanranald, Keppoch and Glencoe, along with the MacDonells of Glengarry and a few other smaller groups. In total this Division numbered almost one thousand men. They formed the right wing at Prestonpans, the traditional place of honour in battle and one which the Mac-Donals claimed was theirs by ancient right.

Lord George Murray’s Division (Front Left in the battleline)

This contained the largest single regiment in the army, the 600 Camerons under Donald Cameron of Lochiel. Beside them was the Appin Regiment, mainly Stewarts. They were supported by the Duke of Perth’s Regiment, a mixed unit which included a large contingent of MacGregors. In total, around one thousand men filled these regiments.

The Prince’s Division (Second Line)

The second line was dominated by the Atholl Brigade, supported by the Robertson of Struan and the MacLachlans.

There was also a small cavalry reserve, Strathallan’s Perthshire Horse, who were based in Tranent for the main battle but aided with scouting and taking in prisoners.

THE REDCOAT REGIMENTS

George II’s forces in Scotland were part of the official British Army, which was already on a war footing in 1745 on account of a major European conflict. This meant that whilst the Government was actively recruiting and training more soldiers, many of the most experienced were already engaged overseas. Those who remained were scattered around Scotland in small garrisons and rarely had the chance to train together as a large unit. Lt-General Sir John Cope was an experienced and able officer who assembled his field army at Stirling just as the Prince was raising the Standard in the north.

The Cavalry (Front Right and Left wings, with two squadrons in reserve)

There were two regiments of dragoons, Gardiner’s 13th and Hamilton’s 14th. Both had been stationed in Ireland until recently. In total there were over 600 mounted men available to Cope compared to 36 Jacobite horsemen.

The Infantry (Single front line, three men deep)

The red-coated foot-soldiers were trained to fire disciplined volleys to stop the enemy’s onslaught with steady fire. There were 10 companies of Murray’s Regiment, 8 of Lascelles’, 2 of Guise’s Regiment (the most experienced), and 5 companies of Lee’s. One company of the Black Watch and 3 of Loudoun’s understrength Highland companies guarded the baggage at Cockenzie.

The Artillery (Front Right)

There were 6 light field cannon and 6 mortars, but their crews were improvised and unreliable. Because of this the guns were clustered together and not dispersed in support of the infantry. In the event the guns fired once and then were easily overrun by the Camerons.

The British Army’s successor regiments to those at Prestonpans are: the Light Dragoons, the King’s Royal Hussars, the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, the Duke of Lancaster’s Regiment, the Royal Anglian Regiment, the Rifles, and the Royal Regiment of Scotland.
PRESTONPANS ONE-TO-ONE: PAPER SOLDIERS EXHIBITION

Saturday 8 September – Sunday 23 September

Thomas Nelson Suite
Prestoungrange Gothenburg,
227 High St, Prestonpans, EH32 9BE

Tues 12-3pm;
Wed-Thur 12-3pm & 5-8pm;
Friday 12-8pm; Sat-Sun 12-6pm

See the Battle of Prestonpans as you’ve never seen it before - in over 5,000 miniature paper models designed by Peter Dennis! Every soldier of every company, every clan and every regiment, will be hand crafted to create a unique 1:1 ratio model of the rival armies at Prestonpans. Also on display will be dramatic paintings of the battle by Andrew Hillhouse.

THE PRESTONPANS TAPESTRY

Saturday 1 September – Sunday 23 September

Cockenzie House
22 Edinburgh Road
Cockenzie, EH32 0HY

Daily, 10am-4pm
Suggested donation: £3

See the story of the campaign unfold in 105m of beautiful embroidery, designed by local artist Andrew Crummy and stitched by hundreds of hands across Scotland. Don’t miss the Tapestry’s only full exhibition of 2018!

EXPLORE PRESTONPANS BATTLEFIELD & Bankton Doocot Micro-Museum

For details of what to see on the site, visit:

www.prestonpans1745.info

EAST LOTHIAN BATTLE WEEKEND 2018: PRESTONPANS

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT’S ON

East Lothian is Scotland’s Battle County, boasting a rich battlefield heritage which narrates the martial story of Scotland across the centuries, from the birthplace of the Saltire to the aerial warfare of the Second World War. Each year the Scottish Battlefields Trust holds a major event at one of the county’s three main battlefields, all of which were fought in September: Dunbar (1650), Pinkie Cleugh (1547) and Prestonpans (1745). This year the annual East Lothian Battle Weekend returns to Prestonpans, where the cycle began.

The two armies which faced each other at Prestonpans in 1745 could hardly have been more different. On the one hand, the official army of the British state, loyal to the Hanoverian king George II. It was uniformed, paid and trained. In its ranks were Scots, English and Irish soldiers, resplendent in their scarlet coats and reliant upon disciplined firepower.

Against them stood an army which had existed for barely a month, mostly Gaelic speaking Highlanders from the north-west of Scotland. Many of those with muskets knew little of how to use them, whilst others relied upon their skill with the broadsword or Lochaber axe. They were here for exiled Stuart king James, and his son Charles who had come to lead them.

It took four weeks of campaigning and long marches across Scotland to bring the two forces together at Prestonpans. After a day of manoeuvres, the battle itself was swift and brutal. Against all odds, the Jacobite Highlanders swept to victory.

In September 2018 these dramatic events will be remembered, commemorated and recreated in a series of exhibitions and events. The main events take place over the weekend of 15-16 September, with the exhibitions running either side of that so you have plenty of time to see everything! From embroidery to wargaming, from fascinating historical camps to dramatic battles, and from children’s crafts to historical talks, there is something for the whole family to enjoy. And this year there will be some great new additions, including tasty food and drink options and even a reproduction 18th century printing press!
GRAND COMMEMORATIVE PARADE
Saturday 15 September

Hosted by the Battle of Prestonpans (1745) Heritage Trust

10:00 Parade departs Meadowmill Sports Centre car park (EH33 1LZ).
Proceeds to Greenhills, past streets with names associated with the battle.*
10:45 Commemoration ceremony at Greenhills.

BATTLE OF PRESTONPANS RE-ENACTMENT WEEKEND
Saturday 15 September & Sunday 16 September

At Greenhills, Prestonpans. Hosted by the Scottish Battlefields Trust

11:00 Living history camps, craft activities, stalls and caterers all open!!
11:30 “Glenfinnan” - a recreation of the Raising of the Standard
12:00 Junior Jacobites - youngsters join the ranks for a Highland Charge!
12:30 General Cope’s War Council - the redcoat officers plan their strategy.
13:00 Cavalry Display - find out more about the horsemen of the battle.
13:30 Redcoat Manoeuvres - Cope puts his soldiers through their paces.
14:00 Prince Charlie’s War Council - the Prince meets his officers for a meal.
14:30 Pipe Band - the bagpipes fill the air in anticipation of the coming battle.
15:00 THE BATTLE OF PRESTONPANS - spectacular re-enactment!
16:00 History talk & book launch in the main tent.
17:00 Encampments close.

*These include: Gardiner Road/Crescent, Throntree Crescent, Cameron Way, MacGregor Pend, Keppoch Crescent, Glengarry Terrace, Claranald Avenue, Perth’s View, Glencoe Path, Atholl View, Straun Wynd, Robertson Avenue. If you live on these roads, be sure to come out and cheer on “your” clansmen or regiment! Parade route follows from Miners' Memorial down Schaw Road and Appin Drive to Greenhills.

** Half-price Early-bird tickets: 11am-12pm
Entry: £6 adult, £3 child

www.eastlothianbattles.com