

GET INVOLVED IN OUR CAMPAIGN

There are lots of ways to help the Battle Trust's campaign for protection and interpretation of the famous battle site.

Become a Supporter

The easiest way is to **register as a supporter of the campaign**. The more people that sign up, the stronger our case becomes. To register, either log onto the battle website at www.battleofprestonpans1745.org or call the Battle Trust on 01875 819922.

Financial contributions are welcome, but not mandatory, and regular news bulletins keep supporters informed of campaign developments.

Become a Volunteer

Volunteers are always welcome and there is a variety of opportunities on offer:

- ✓ Become an Alan Breck Regimental re-enactor
- ✓ Get training to conduct tours of the battle site
- ✓ Help drive or man the mobile information centre
- ✓ Provide admin support
- ✓ Get involved in the archaeological investigation

To find out more or sign up as a volunteer, e-mail kcunningham@blueyonder.co.uk or call the Battle Trust on 01875 819922.

Lobby Parliament

The Battle Trust is also actively campaigning for new legislation to protect all important battle sites in Scotland including neighbours Pinkie [1547] and Dunbar [1650].

Currently no laws exist to prevent development of such sites and many historically significant battle fields have already been lost for all time.

To make sure that more are not destroyed without in-depth consideration at a national level, the Battle Trust wants to see a system of Listing introduced, similar to that which protects important buildings.

To become part of that campaign, register on the Battle Trust website www.battleofprestonpans1745.org or lobby your own MSP.

And last but not least, join in with our many events and celebrations ... details at the website or phone 01875 819922



NEWSLETTER

BATTLE OF PRESTONPANS (1745) HERITAGE TRUST

www.battleofprestonpans1745.org

Prestonpans is proud of its long and varied heritage. The town's Heritage Museum and its Murals Trail stand testament to the many industries which characterised the area over the centuries, but there is very little evidence of the Battle of Prestonpans – one of the most important events of the 1745 Jacobite uprising.

In 2006 local people got together to campaign for proper protection, interpretation and presentation of the site and they formed The Battle of Prestonpans Heritage Trust.

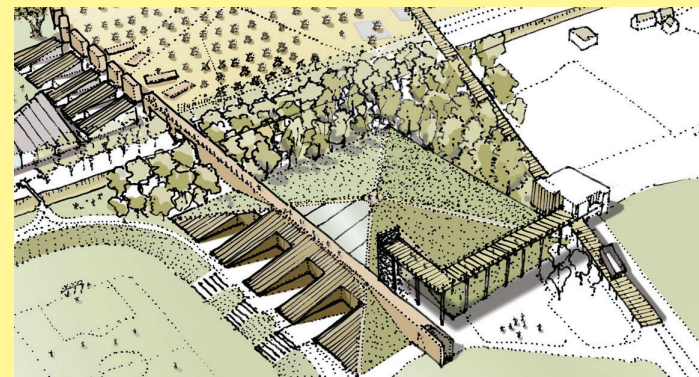
Its aim is bold and ambitious – just like the Prince's campaign all those years ago. That by September 2011 there should be a state-of-the-art visitor centre close to the site which will provide a focus for the community and visitors alike.

Local architect and founding trustee Gareth Jones has produced outline plans of what the centre might look like. His vision is for a facility created out of the pyramid-shaped bing at Meadowmill, immediately to the south of the battlefield.

From here, visitors will have a panoramic view of the whole area of conflict, from the Prince's initial approach route and the encampment of Cope's army, to the secret night-time route of the Highlanders and the eventual battle site.

The very latest digital technology will allow visitors to see the area as it was in 1745 and to re-live the momentous hours of both armies.

But this centre will be much more than just another visitor attraction focused on one event in history. The battle inspired an explosion of creativity – in literature, visual arts and music – which the centre will explore and develop on a continuing basis.





ANNUAL RE-ENACTMENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

In 2007 the Battle Trust staged a weekend of re-enactments, lectures and celebrations which captured the imagination of the community and a host of visitors.

For 2008 an even more ambitious anniversary is planned, re-creating many key moments in the conflict with re-enactors from all over the UK and beyond.

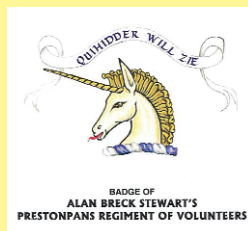
A two day conference and arts festival on 18 and 19 September will extend our understanding of the battle and celebrate the creativity it inspired. Saturday 20 September will see a packed programme of events, with aspects of the battle re-enacted in different parts of the town throughout the day.

For up-to-date information on the programme, go to www.battleofprestonpans1745.org

THE ALAN BRECK VOLUNTEER REGIMENT

The success of the 2007 re-enactments inspired the town to form its own regiment of local re-enactors – the Alan Breck Prestonpans Volunteer Regiment.

Named after the fictional hero of Robert Louis Stevenson's *Kidnapped*, the Regiment will play a key role in the annual re-enactments and take part in other events throughout the year.



BATTLE BUS HITS THE ROAD

Over the winter the Battle Trust acquired an ex-mobile library which has been converted into a mobile information centre dedicated to the Battle of Prestonpans.

Bedecked with original artwork by local artist Andrew Crummy, it will tour East Lothian, spreading the word on the battle and the Trust's campaign, until such time as the permanent centre becomes a reality in 2011.

BATTLE OF POTS AND PANS

Well-known local actor and playwright Andrew Dallmeyer, with musical input from local folk group the *Laverocks*, has produced a play specifically to back the Battle Trust campaign.

As the play opens, two actors discuss the day's Old Firm match as they wait for the director and fellow performers to arrive to rehearse the production they are staging – a pageant in honour of the Battle of Prestonpans.

As it unfolds, the play provides humour and poignancy as it explores the parallels between modern sectarianism and the divided loyalties and prejudices which abounded in the days of Bonnie Prince Charlie.

The Battle of Pots and Pans was premiered last year and has since been performed, to critical acclaim, at a variety of venues in East Lothian. It is also being staged at this year's Edinburgh Festival Fringe in St Cuthbert's.



ARCHAEOLOGY AND INTERPRETATION

A funding boost of £50,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund will help pay for the first ever detailed archaeological investigation of the battle, starting in September 2008. It will also fund new interpretation markers on the site, training of local guides and a major conference and arts festival.

The far end of the battlefield now lies under a housing development and archaeologists will involve residents and local schools in the metal detector survey of their back gardens. The archaeological project will be led by Dr Tony Pollard, head of Glasgow University's Centre for Battlefield Archaeology and well known as the co-presenter of the BBC's *Two Men in a Trench*.

