

**The Battle of Prestonpans 1745 Heritage Trust**  
Our Campaign and Our Prospectus for the Nation

# Contents

Foreword	3
Engaging a Community	4
The Work of the Trust	
Celebrating the Battle	5
Understanding the Battle	8
Preserving and Interpreting the Battlefield	9
The Vision for the Future	12
Beyond 2010	13
Acknowledging Our Supporters	14

*Front cover:  
Redcoat soldiers fire once but have no time to reload, Anne Dickson, Liz Neilson and Lynn Fraser.*

The Battle of Prestonpans is a jewel amongst our community's rich heritage in The Pans. Across the past thousand years we have been among the most significant contributors to the nation's industrial achievements, especially in pottery, salt, soap, sulphuric acid, brick making, brewing and coalmining, not to mention the fruits of the sea such as Pandores oysters. But the Victory achieved on September 21st 1745 by a 25-year old Bonnie Prince Charlie, and his supporters from the Highland Clans, was absolutely unique. It stunned Great Britain. For six heady weeks it broke the Union, shaking the Hanoverian government to its foundations.

As such, our local community has approached its stewardship of this legacy with deep respect but with the greatest determination. We wish to see what the Prince and the Highlanders accomplished between July 23rd and September 21st 1745 conserved and interpreted. The Battle should be presented to our nation and its visitors as it truly was – the triumph of the Prince's youthful Hope and Ambition, drawing on the loyalty and support of the Scottish Clans.

Since 2000 our community has been drawn together: firstly, to better understand the Prince's story; and secondly, to present our case to the nation for the creation of a world-class Living History Centre in Prestonpans. As the pages that follow show, we have deliberately 'built' the case on the grounds that, if the nation makes the requisite capital investment, the end result will be sustainable. We are convinced such a world-class facility can expect to attract well over 100,000 visitors each year - not just international tourists and day-visitors from across Scotland, but schools and community groups coming to learn about this most significant time in Scotland's history. In presenting ourselves in this way we have used the arts in all their manifestations, perhaps most spectacularly of late by embroidering the world's longest tapestry at 104 metres. More than 200 volunteers across the nation and beyond have contributed their craft and their skill to the

cause we espouse. Telling as it so beautifully does of the Prince's campaign from Eriskay to Prestonpans, it will inescapably become one of the key attractions for the thousands of visitors to our Living History Centre.

We now, hereby, formally lay our case before the nation. In partnership with East Lothian Council and Historic Scotland for the Minister of Culture, we the Trustees of the Battle of Prestonpans 1745 Heritage Trust, working at all times with Prestonpans Community Council and all they represent, the 1745 Association and Prestoungrange Arts Festival, now formally ask for the nation's support. We need the requisite capital expenditure to build what we know we can sustain for this and future generations. We do not expect or wish to 'jump' any proper national queue, but we do ask to be placed firmly and proudly in the national schedules, and to be addressed as circumstances wisely permit.

**Dr Gordon Prestoungrange**  
*Chairman*

The Battle of Prestonpans  
1745 Heritage Trust

August 2010



*Portrait of Charles Edward Stuart by Kate Hunter, specially commissioned by the Trust in 2010.*

# Engaging a Community

## – Nurturing Local Involvement

The battlefield of Prestonpans is a huge part of the town's history and is a source of local pride for the community. Yet, at the beginning of the twenty-first century, the actual site of this decisive battle was incorrectly marked and faced increasing pressure from housing development. There was virtually nothing to interpret or present the battle to determined visitors who managed to find their way there. Although practically everyone living in Prestonpans knows the significance of 21st September 1745 to their community, many were not sure precisely what took place that day.

Peter MacKenzie, a local history teacher and presently Cabinet Councillor for Education in East Lothian, was determined to remedy this situation.

Beginning in 2000 he started his annual Battlefield Walks, an excellent way of engaging the public with the landscape's history first hand. His efforts inspired the community to accept responsibility for this important aspect of Scotland's heritage and the determination has grown that it must be better preserved and interpreted.

Ad hoc contributions have been made over the years to mark aspects of the battle, such as the memorial cairn and the monument to the Hanoverian hero Colonel Gardiner – both in need of proper presentation and maintenance. Previous anniversaries were commemorated mainly by

historians, but the 250th anniversary was spectacularly celebrated across the community. This involved re-enactments and the creation of a collection of artefacts at Bankton House Doocot. These were subsequently rarely on display and the memory of the 250th anniversary celebrations quickly faded. Clearly something permanent and appropriate to the significance of the victory needed to be done. Prestonpans Community Council joined forces with the Prestoungrange Arts Festival to take a grassroots initiative. The Battle of Prestonpans 1745 Heritage Trust was formed to harness the ideas of the community and bring this dream to the attention of the nation.



*Walking the Riggonhead Defile at 4am is re-enacted every year.*

# Celebrating the Battle

Since its foundation in 2006, the Trust has been leading a varied programme of events to celebrate the Battle of Prestonpans. This has included heritage activities that bring the past back to life, including the annual battle re-enactments, battlefield walks and the formation of the local regiment. The legacy of the long-standing Prestoungrange Arts Festival has been a catalyst for creativity with the arts flourishing locally – from plays and storytelling to murals, poetry, novels and, most recently, a sensational tapestry. The Trust’s own mobile BattleBus [formerly a Mobile Library] has brought the celebrations and information by DVD and face to face presentations to locations across the country.

## 2006



### August

Andrew Crummy and more than sixteen local artists come together to paint Europe’s first Mural-in-a-Day. The participants are aided by Californian Art Mortimer, one of the world’s leading muralists, John Pugh and Wei Luan. The mural depicts Sir John Cope’s famous flight from Prestonpans after the Highlanders’ routing of his army. This was especially appropriate since Prestonpans is already recognised as ‘Scotland’s Mural Capital’ with more than 40 murals telling the industrial and social heritage of the community.



### December

The Mayor of City of Derby invites the Trust to relive the Derby Moment, 261 years after the invading Highlanders were there. Derby’s re-enactment begins at Swarkestone Bridge, the southernmost point reached by the Prince’s army. Bonnie Prince Charlie is portrayed by Arran Johnston of Derby’s Charles Edward Stuart Society.



Just as he did in 1745, the Prince then convenes his Council in the Panelled Room of the Earl of Exeter’s home – now preserved in the City Museum. Here the Trustees recreate the fateful moment when their forebears decided to turn back to Scotland rather than press on further; and reverse the conclusion! The campaign is to go forward in Prestonpans.

# Celebrating the Battle

## 2007



### June

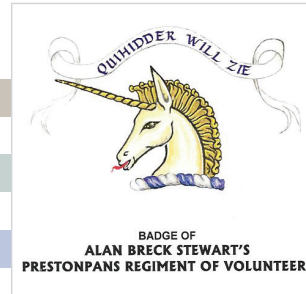
*The Battle of Pots 'n' Pans*, a new Pageant written by Aberlady-born Andrew Dallmeyer, is premiered. The play is performed on June 8th at Prestongrange Church. The audience included Helen Crummy MBE – the renowned community arts leader from Craigmillar, members of the Royal Society of Arts and many more. The play then tours East Lothian Churches and goes to The Fringe.



### September

The Battle of Prestonpans is re-enacted on its 262nd anniversary. Visiting re-enactors come from as far afield as the Czech Republic and the Forth Yacht Club rescue escaping redcoat from Morrison's Haven.

## 2008



A new local regiment, Alan Breck's Prestonpans Volunteers, is formed to enable everyone to take part in Living History events. The regiment takes its name from the famous character in Robert Louis Stevenson's *Kidnapped* – a Redcoat who switches sides to the Prince at the Battle of Prestonpans. The re-enactors dine at the Palace of Holyroodhouse.



### April

The Trust converts the former East Lothian Mobile Library into the BattleBus, which promotes the Trust's vision across the county.

### September

The 1st Biennial Battlefield Conference & Symposium convenes in Prestonpans exploring not only the significance of Prestonpans but also the initiative to protect important battlefields. Extensive re-enactments include walking the Riggonhead Defile at 4am as the Highlanders did 263 years before. Bankton House is the scene of fierce fighting and the re-enactors face one another across the Waggonway. Cockenzie House is captured.

# Celebrating the Battle

## 2009



### July

*Colonel Gardiner: Vice and Virtue*, written by Andrew Dallmeyer, is staged at the Prestoungrange Gothenburg as part of the Homecoming celebrations, along with the Prince's Loyal Clans exhibition and events programme. The Camerons occupy Tranent churchyard in a re-enactment for visiting Camerons from New Zealand.



### September

2009 sees perhaps the finest re-enactments staged in The Pans since the 250th anniversary. For the first time all re-enactors are invited to camp in Cuthill Park and visitors were welcomed and able to share in yarning about long-ago Jacobite and Redcoat times. Re-enacting the actual battle scene, the Camerons charge and capture twelve artillery, Cope's baggage train is seized at Cockenzie House and Redcoats escape from the beach to Pittenweem. The Riggonhead Defile is walked once again at 4am and the re-enactments conclude with a Ceilidh.

## 2010



### July

The Prestonpans Tapestry is paraded across Scotland, on the precise dates that the Prince visited each location in 1745, rising to the crescendo of the 2010 re-enactment in September. The journey the 25-year old Bonnie Prince Charlie made from France then through the Scottish Highlands to Victory at Prestonpans is depicted in 104 metre wide embroidered panels. Each has been created by volunteers along the route and from across the world.

*Above: The Prince embarks at St Nazaire aboard du Teillay, Jenny Unwin.*

# Understanding the Battle – Research and Challenges

The Trust has been instrumental in expanding our knowledge of the Battle in 1745. This has included publishing short histories of the battle by scholars Dr Christopher Duffy and Stuart McHardy, and formally appointing Martin Margulies, author of *Battle of Prestonpans 1745*, as the Trust's official historian. Glasgow University's Centre for Battlefield Archaeology, with Dr Tony Pollard as Chief Archaeologist, was commissioned by the Trust to investigate the site – pinpointing the exact site of the battle in anticipation of the creation of the National Inventory by the Scottish Government. As well as scholarly activities, the Trust is particularly keen to educate and inspire people of all ages to learn more through a range of activities – from battlegaming to storytelling. To assist in achieving this objective, Fiona Campbell has developed online resources for groups visiting The Prestonpans Tapestry.

## 2008



### September

Gordon Veitch gives the public their first chance to play the Battle Game he has developed for the Trust. The Game is played on 10' x 8' board that incorporates local topography and scale models of buildings. The Game allows adults and young people to learn more about the history of the battle through play.

## 2010



### January

The Battle of Prestonpans Heritage Trust has been concerned for some time that the teaching of Scottish history has become less and less of a priority in schools. With lottery funding of nearly £10,000 from Awards for All, the Trust makes visits to some 32 schools in the area, free of charge. This pilot programme will continue into the future and expand beyond East Lothian.



Dr Tony Pollard and the Centre for Battlefield Archaeology at Glasgow University present their findings following the completion of a major community archaeology programme. As well as involving the local community in field work, an excavation open day was held in June 2009 and highly popular artefact workshops were held at local schools. The location of the initial clash in the battle is pinpointed close by Seton Farm East.



# Preserving and Interpreting the Battlefield – a National Exemplar

The Trust's vision is based around a sincere belief in the local, national and international importance of Scotland's battlefield sites. These sites deserve to be preserved and protected from insensitive development. As archaeological sites they offer us a wealth of uncovered knowledge, but their importance as sites of memory is even greater. As such battlefields need to be interpreted and communicated through a many-tiered approach – through literature, symposia, cairns and battlemarkers, and a world-class living history centre. It is hoped that Prestonpans will be a pioneer example for community driven battle sites across the country.

## 2008



### June

In 2008 Historic Scotland sought the nation's views through a Consultation Document that outlined what they felt should be done to protect Scotland's Battlefields. The Trust considered the document at an Open Consultation. The overwhelming opinion was that the document came nowhere near to meeting the challenges or the opportunities. The Trust argued that battlefields have a vital educational message to share and they are highly important for the identity and personality of their local communities. These comments were tabled and submitted to Historic Scotland as well as forwarded to the First Minister and the Minister of Culture.



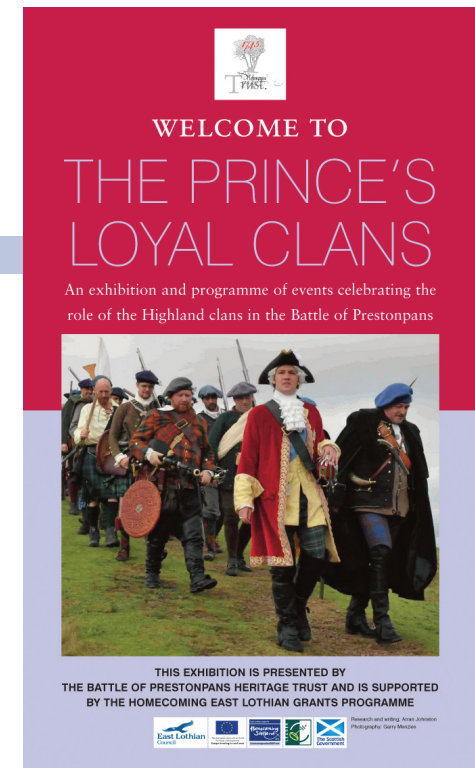
### September

The 1st Scottish Biennial Battlefield Conference & Symposium convened over two days, bringing the local community together with archaeologists, historians, heritage officers and storytellers. The Symposium took place on the 18th, with a lecture programme and discussion devoted to the history of the battle and its significance for the regeneration of the local community. The Arts Festival was held the next day, with arts and education workshops taking their inspiration from the battle and a performance of *The Battle of Pots 'n' Pans*.

## 2009

### July

The Prince's Loyal Clans Exhibition – part of The Homecoming - takes place between 18 and 31 July. Most events are at the Gothenburg on the High Street in Prestonpans, but there are storytelling walks of the battle site and re-enactments at Tranent Churchyard for visiting Camerons from New Zealand.



WELCOME TO  
**THE PRINCE'S  
LOYAL CLANS**

An exhibition and programme of events celebrating the role of the Highland clans in the Battle of Prestonpans

THIS EXHIBITION IS PRESENTED BY  
THE BATTLE OF PRESTONPANS HERITAGE TRUST AND IS SUPPORTED  
BY THE HOMECOMING EAST LOTHIAN GRANTS PROGRAMME

East Lothian Council | European Union | Scottish Government | The Scottish Parliament | The Scottish Environment & Heritage | The Scottish Natural Heritage | Research and writing: Anne Johnson | Photographer: Sara Meehan

# Preserving and Interpreting the Battlefield – a National Exemplar

2010



## January

The Trust and Prestonpans Community Council lodge a petition with East Lothian Council exhorting action to improve the battle site. The Petitions Committee supports the Trust's goals and agrees to explore how Blindwells new ecotown can honour the Riggonhead Defile's significance in the Prince's Victory.

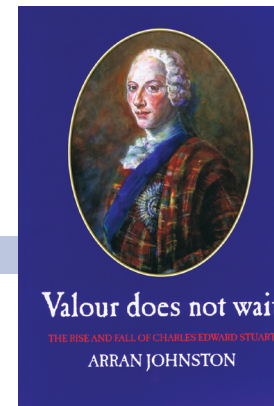


## June

The 2nd Biennial Scottish Battlefields Conference & Symposium attracts some 200 participants and takes place over three days. It includes the unveiling of the Trust's own portrait of The Prince by Kate Hunter, serious presentations and debate in the Town Hall, and a Clan Exhibition at the Museum Power House. The event concludes with an historical encampment by the Alan Brecks and Glenbuckets with an associated funday across the Museum site for young people.

## July

*Valour Does Not Wait*, a detailed study of Charles Edward Stuart by Arran Johnston, is published. This follows Johnston's 2008 anthology of literature on the battle, *Rebellious Scots to Crush*. Robert Cadell's 1898 work, *Sir John Cope and the Rebellion of 1745*, was republished in the same year. The battle also continues to be a rich resource for works of fiction. 2008 saw the publication of the first two novels under the Cuthill Press fiction imprint, *A Backward Glance* by Sharon Dabell and *The White Rose and the Thorn Tree* by Roy Pugh. In 2009 a third followed from Gordon Prestoungrange, *A Baron's Tale*.



## August

The Trust continues its ongoing work developing onsite interpretation. Two new interpretive panels at the key entry points to the Bing area orientate visitors, introduce the Trust and provide historical background. Battlefield Markers on the site of the battle itself are positioned to be visible from the Bing and Waggonway and to illustrate the key areas of battle movement, engagement and aftermath.

# The Vision for the Future

Since its foundation the Trust and partners have been working to promote the battle itself, alongside Prestonpans as a cultural centre, and the idea of creating a living history centre in the town at a time when it needs a new future. The Battle of Prestonpans was one of the most significant events in Scottish history, and this campaign aims to create a legacy that is appropriate to its importance. The vision is to create a Living History place that speaks to the Scottish people of Victory, Hope, and Ambition – and that uses the internationally significant battle and its legacy to pass on that message to generations of visitors.

## 2006



## September

The Trust's campaign was launched with the publication of the Dream of the People of Prestonpans. This vision was based on extensive consultation since 2003 and a Royal Society of Arts 'Coffee House Challenge'. The Dream envisages imaginative development at Meadowmill bing which overlooks the entire battle sequence and the A1.

## 2008

### September

Haley Sharpe Design present their interim concept for the Battlefield Centre experience.



## 2008



### September

To imagine how the Battle Centre could deliver its experience, the Trustees commission the team at Haley Sharpe Design to work during the summer of 2008. They present their own emergent ideas to MSPs at Holyrood Parliament. East Lothian MSP Iain Gray voices his unreserved support at this event.

## 2009



### April

Minister of Culture Michael Russell MSP visits the Trustees and formally agrees at their meeting to 'assist the Trust in the next stage of its campaign to create a national living history centre focused on the battle in 1745'.

## 2010



### January

The Trust begins to explore alternative locations for the Living History Centre. A Living History Centre located at the Heritage Museum close by Morrison's Haven is less well situated for the battle site but such an alternative venue provides the opportunity for all the other significant parts of Prestonpans heritage to be told as well. Visitor numbers and repeat visitors under this alternative plan could be expected to reach towards 150,000 each year.



### June

East Lothian Council agrees to explore with the Battle Trust the comprehensive development of Prestongrange Heritage Museum with the Battle's Living History Centre as 'anchor attraction' - the whole to include the 'permanent' home for the 104 metre Prestonpans Tapestry.

*Above: Prince awaits responses to his letters, Ann Fraser.*

# Beyond 2010

## – Implementing Our Prospectus to The Nation

As already indicated, this is Our Prospectus to The Nation - seeking the nation's support for the creation of a Living History Centre in The Pans. As that ambition progresses, the Trustees are of course committed to continue as they are best able. They will pursue several strategic directions to achieve both short-and long-term goals. In particular they shall continue the ongoing celebrations of the battle, and the engagement of communities locally, nationally and worldwide. The Trust has a proposed combined budget of £6 million to implement the proposals for Seton Farm East, the Meadowmill Bing, the Heritage Museum and the Tapestry pavilion.

### The following are the priority action lines for the Trust:

- **Touring of the Battle of Prestonpans Tapestry:** This will be a major touring exhibition to reach as many communities across the nation as possible, continuing what has already begun in summer 2010. The Trust is already developing educational outreach services that build on the tapestry's visual excitement.
- **Seton Farm East:** Working with the owners of the farm and farm shop to develop a satellite interpretation centre at this location, which has been proven by Glasgow University's research to be the main initial area of action during the battle.
- **Prestongrange Heritage Museum:** Exploration of the potential partnership with East Lothian Council to develop the site's total comprehensive offer, incorporating living history and the local area's battle heritage on the site in a way that assists in the overall revival of the fortunes of this important industrial heritage site - interpreting the iconic Beam Engine, Pottery Kilns, Glassworks and much more. At the heart of Prestongrange stands its largest structure - the 1950s brick mine office and bath house complex. At present the Bath House is used for storage of the Museum's extensive railway collection but it is not well suited to its current role. It is this building that the Trust is now seeking to develop as a centre for the interpretation of the Battle.  
The Bath House can be developed to house the facilities at the heart of the Trust's ambitions. These would include interpretation of the battle, library and study facilities, related small-scale theatre and arts spaces, and improved visitor facilities. All of these uses can be incorporated within the existing structure, while sections of the baths and stores can also be restored to enhance the existing interpretation of the mining industry. The water tower can be refurbished in order to recreate its glass façade and introduce further facilities, including a rooftop café.
- **Pans 'Home' for the Tapestry:** The Trust is searching for funds specifically to create a bespoke circular pavilion to house and display the Tapestry, to serve as its permanent home in Prestonpans and act as a major attraction.
- **Continuing Animation and Interpretation of the Battle:** This will be achieved through the continued arts and re-enactment programme, living history days and extensive use of the BattleBus. The Trust will also seek to conserve and present the ancient coal waggonway across which the battle raged and which has its own significant heritage.
- **Schools Learning:** Our schools learning programme will continue in local and national schools, alongside storytelling and Battle gaming activities including an annual inter-schools competition. This will build on the exceptional programme already in action which reaches over thirty local school groups.
- **The Riggonhead Defile:** The Trust will continue to contribute to the creation of a 'sense of place' for the future residents of the new eco-community at Blindwells. This will be achieved through annual re-enactments of the 4am Defile Walk and extensive interpretation through sculpture, library/exhibition facilities and street names in partnership with the developers.
- **ELC Petitions Committee Working Group Follow-up:** The Trustees will continue to pursue the issues tabled at and agreed with the Petitions Committee of East Lothian Council e.g. presentation of monuments, maintenance of the bing as a vantage viewpoint and effective signposting for visitors locally and on the A1.
- **Bankton House Doocot:** The Trust will seek to ensure the artefacts from the Bankton House Doocot are appropriately displayed, along with the Trust's own accumulating library, murals, new literary works, the fragment of Gardiner's thorn tree, new portraiture and 19th century etchings.

# Acknowledging Our Supporters

As well as backing from the local community, Prestonpans Community Council, Prestoungrange Arts Festival, East Lothian Council, the Lord Lyon King of Arms, The Lord MacDonald of Sleat, successive East Lothian MSPs John Home-Robertson and Iain Gray, successive Scottish Ministers of Culture Patricia Ferguson, Linda Fabiani & Michael Russell, the Royal Stuart Society and the 1745 Association, a Committee of High Patronage was formed in 2006 which includes many of the heirs of Clan Chiefs and Hanoverians engaged in the battle in 1745.

## The Founding Committee of High Patronage comprises:

Rt Hon The Earl of Airlie  
His Grace the Duke of Atholl  
Donald Cameron of Lochiel  
Ranald MacDonald of Clanranald  
Colin MacDonald of Glencoe  
Ranald McDonnell of Glengarry  
Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor  
Rt Hon The Earl of Perth  
Brian Cox - Actor & Celebrity Patron  
Sir Patrick Grant of Dalvey (representer for Sir John Cope)  
Sir John Hay of Park  
Rt Hon The Earl of Home

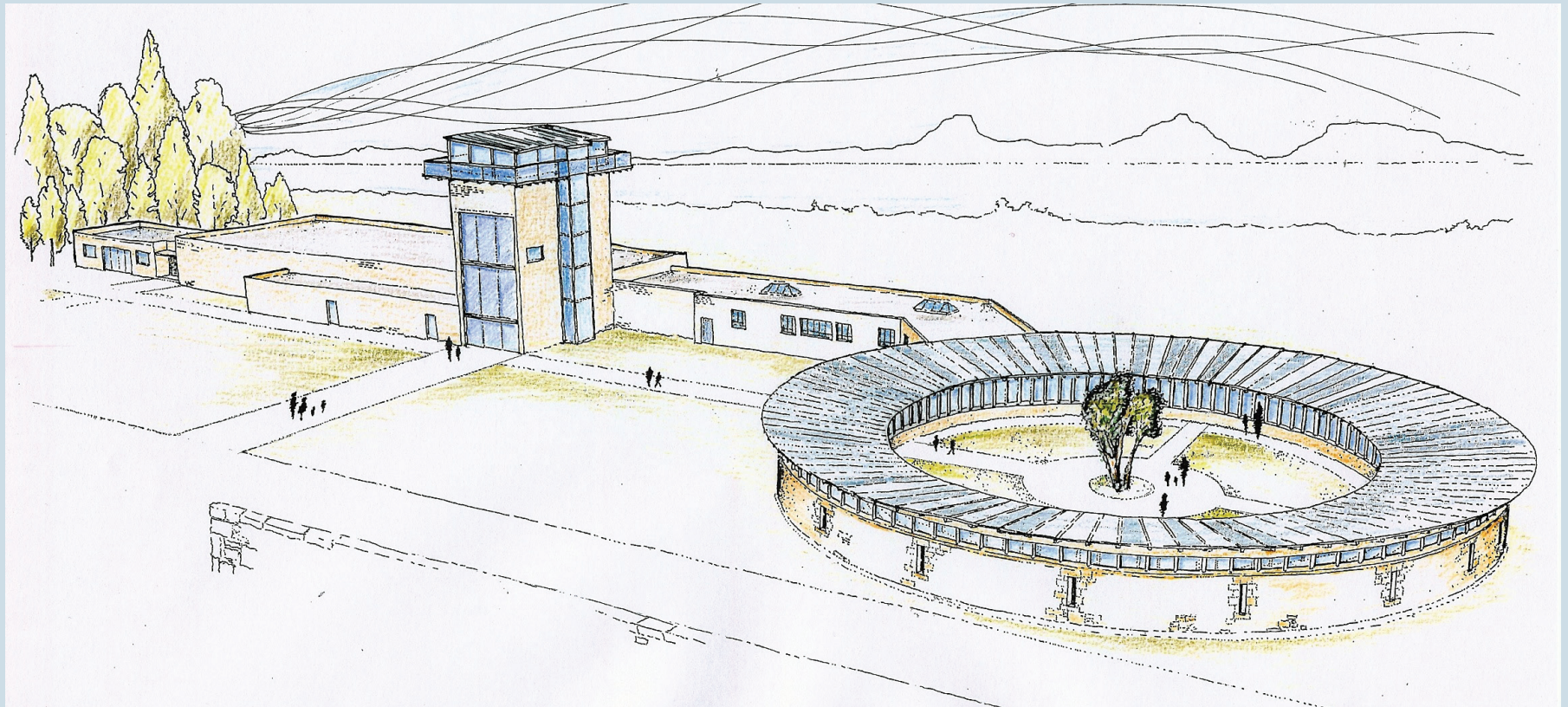
## The Trustees are:

Gareth Bryn-Jones – Vice Chairman  
Herbert Coutts MBE KM, Bailie of Dolphinstoun – retired Director of Culture and Leisure for the City of Edinburgh  
Kristine Cunningham – Executive Trustee: PR and Interpretation  
Pauline Jaffray – PJ Design and East Lothian Life  
Arran Johnston – Executive Trustee: History and Re-enactments  
Peter MacKenzie – ELC Councillor & pioneer of The Battlefield ‘Annual Walks’  
Richard MacKenzie – formerly Bankton House Residents’ Association  
Sir Garth Morrison KT CBE – Lord Lieutenant of East Lothian  
Pat O’Brien OBE – formerly Provost of East Lothian  
Dr Gordon Prestoungrange, Baron of Lochnaw, Bailie of Prestoungrange – Chairman  
Malcolm Scott – Entrepreneur  
Avril Wills – Lady of Lochnaw  
Mathew Wills of Prestoungrange ACA – Baron of Prestoungrange - Treasurer  
Dr Julian Wills – Baron of Dolphinstoun  
Sylvia Burgess – Trust Secretary

An extensive website has been developed since 2006 which holds all Trust documents, Minutes, a photo / DVD library and disseminates regular NewsNet items.

Supporters are invited to register. It is available @ [www.battleofprestonpans1745.org](http://www.battleofprestonpans1745.org) with email @ [waukin@battleofprestonpans1745.org](mailto:waukin@battleofprestonpans1745.org)

The Prestonpans Tapestry has its own dedicated website @ [www.prestonpanstapestry.org](http://www.prestonpanstapestry.org)



*Proposed development of Battle Living History Centre at Prestongrange Heritage Museum, to include the Prestonpans Tapestry Pavilion.*

*Back cover: The Prince calls a halt to the battle and insists all prisoners must be helped, Mary Richardson.*



▶ THE PRINCE CALLS A HALT TO THE BATTLE AND INSISTS ALL PRISONERS MUST BE HELPED