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3 SCOTS BATTALION BUILD ON TRUST PARTNERSHIP WITH DONATION TO THE CULLODEN FIGHTING FUND

- 3 SCOTS has donated to the National Trust for Scotland's Culloden Fighting Fund
- The soldiers completed over 300 hours of manual work on the battlefield during the past year and donated money raised from its Global Charge Initiative
- The Battalion helped with the repair of path networks, improving conditions of the memorial cairn, Leanach Cottage, and Culwhinniac enclosure walls

The National Trust for Scotland and 3 SCOTS have joined forces as part of the army's Global Charge Initiative to promote the well-being of its soldiers while helping to care for Culloden Battlefield.

As part of the Battalion's social responsibility to the local community, the Black Watch, 3rd Battalion, Royal Regiment of Scotland (3 SCOTS), contributed more than 300 hours of manual work on Culloden Battlefield over the past year. Led by Major Paddy Marshall, Officer Commanding Headquarter Company at Fort George, Inverness, the group supported the National Trust for Scotland by assisting with repair and conservation work as a part of the Global Charge Initiative, which aims to secure a better environment for future generations.

Soldiers completed work on Culloden's memorial cairn, improving conditions and restoring its 360-degree views, repaired the entirety of the Campbell path and completed weeding and soft-capping work on Leanach and Culwhinniac Enclosure walls. The Battalion, consisting of over 30 soldiers, also hosted a BBQ on the Culloden events field, raising £300 for Culloden's Fighting Fund.

In addition to the contribution to Culloden Battlefield, 3 SCOTS also took part in a collaborative project with the National Trust for Scotland, Forestry and Land Scotland and The Highland Council to clear over 10km of pathway through a litter picking event at Culloden Battlefield.

Ellen Fogel Walker, Estates and Conservation Manager at Culloden Battlefield, said: "The partnership between Culloden Battlefield and 3 SCOTS has been a wonderful testament to the dedication of service people to engage in their local community. The projects that they have completed on site allow us to see this battlefield as a place of healing and to engage with our past. Through working with volunteer groups, we are ensuring we are actively looking after Culloden's sense of place."

Culloden's Fighting Fund helps protect and conserve the battlefield by allowing direct donations to its care to protect the integrity of one of the most important sites of Scotland's heritage. The fund supports opposition to the threat of development and vital conservation work carried out on the battlefield to protect the landscape and wildlife that call it home.

Gail Cleaver, National Trust for Scotland Operations Manager for the Culloden Cluster, said: "We would like to thank Major Paddy Marshall and 3 SCOTS for their incredible dedication and support over the past year. Their contributions to the repair and improvement of the battlefield have been instrumental in allowing us to continue to care for and protect this historic landscape for the benefit of everyone, now and into the future."

"The battlefield is a powerful and emotive place, with a rare landscape that we ensure is respected and kept intact. The hundreds of hours of manual work completed by 3 SCOTS have been carried out with care and sensitivity, helping us to restore pathways and repair significant historical structures such as the memorial cairn and the Leanach and Culwhinniac Enclosure walls."

"In addition to their continued support with manual work, 3 SCOTS has raised £300 for the Culloden Fighting Fund. Those passionate about protecting Culloden Battlefield can join us in our mission to care for this historical site and make a difference by donating to the fund. Donations support us to protect and conserve the landscape and help us to share this important part of Scottish history. Donating to the fund will help us work towards a collaborative approach to managing the battlefield and protecting the site for future generations."

Marking the spot of the last major battle on British soil, the wild moor at Culloden is the resting place of 1,500 Jacobite and 50 government soldiers who fought and died there in 1746. Today, visitors can walk along the battle lines and see the graves of the soldiers beside the memorial cairn in the centre of the battlefield. The National Trust for Scotland has been acquiring and caring for parts of the battlefield since 1937.

Donations to the National Trust for Scotland's Culloden Battlefield Fighting Fund can be made through the charity's <u>website</u>.

Partnerships with organisations like Royal Regiment of Scotland support the National Trust for Scotland's vision to care for, protect and share Scotland's nature, beauty and heritage for everyone, as outlined in its 10-year strategy, launched in 2022. For more information on the National Trust for Scotland, visit www.nts.org.uk.

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Notes to Editors:

Images: https://www.flickr.com/gp/133918740@N04/RxPP7r833Q

About the National Trust for Scotland

Established in 1931, the National Trust for Scotland is Scotland's largest conservation charity and cares for, shares and speaks up for Scotland's magnificent heritage.

Over the last 90 years the Trust has pioneered public access to and shared ownership of some of the most magnificent buildings, collections and landscapes in Scotland. It cares for more than 100 sites, from ancient houses to battlefields, castles, mills, gardens, coastlines, islands, mountain ranges and the plants and animals which depend upon them.

In March 2022 the National Trust for Scotland launched *Nature, Beauty & Heritage for Everyone*, its ten-year strategy which sets out the ambitions of the charity over the coming decade. From speaking up for Scotland's heritage which doesn't have a voice, to improving the lives and wellbeing of people across the country, and responding to the climate and biodiversity crisis, the Trust will build on its work in recent years to grow its impact and conserve and restore more of Scotland's heritage, as it moves towards its centenary in 2031.

For more information on the National Trust for Scotland visit www.nts.org.uk.

The National Trust for Scotland is a charity registered in Scotland, Charity Number SC 007410.