



WEST
HIGHLAND
MUSEUM
AN GEARASDAN
FORT WILLIAM



“For here, I believe, in the highlands, one learns to understand the meaning of history.”

John Cameron of Lochiel

I SWEAR AS I SHALL ANSWER
GOD AT THE GREAT DAY OF
JUDGEMENT, I HAVE NOT AND
I ALL NOT HAVE IN MY POSSESSION
ANY GUN, SWORD OR ARMED
WHATSOEVER, & NEVER USED
ARTAN, PLAID OR ANY PART OF
HIGHLAND GARB, AND IF I DO
MAY I BE ACCURSED IN M



*"To be free is not necessarily to cast off the chains of one's past
but to treasure and maintain its strength."*

John Cameron of Lochiel

A wide-angle photograph of a rugged, snow-covered mountain range. The mountains are dark blue-grey, with patches of white snow clinging to their slopes. In the distance, a lone hiker in dark clothing and a backpack walks along a path. The sky is a pale yellow-orange, suggesting either sunrise or sunset. The overall atmosphere is serene and majestic.

in Lochaber

DISCOVER

a *ski* centre

a *hidden* lost valley

a *devil's* staircase

an *ancient* volcano

the site of a historic *massacre*

Hollywood movie locations

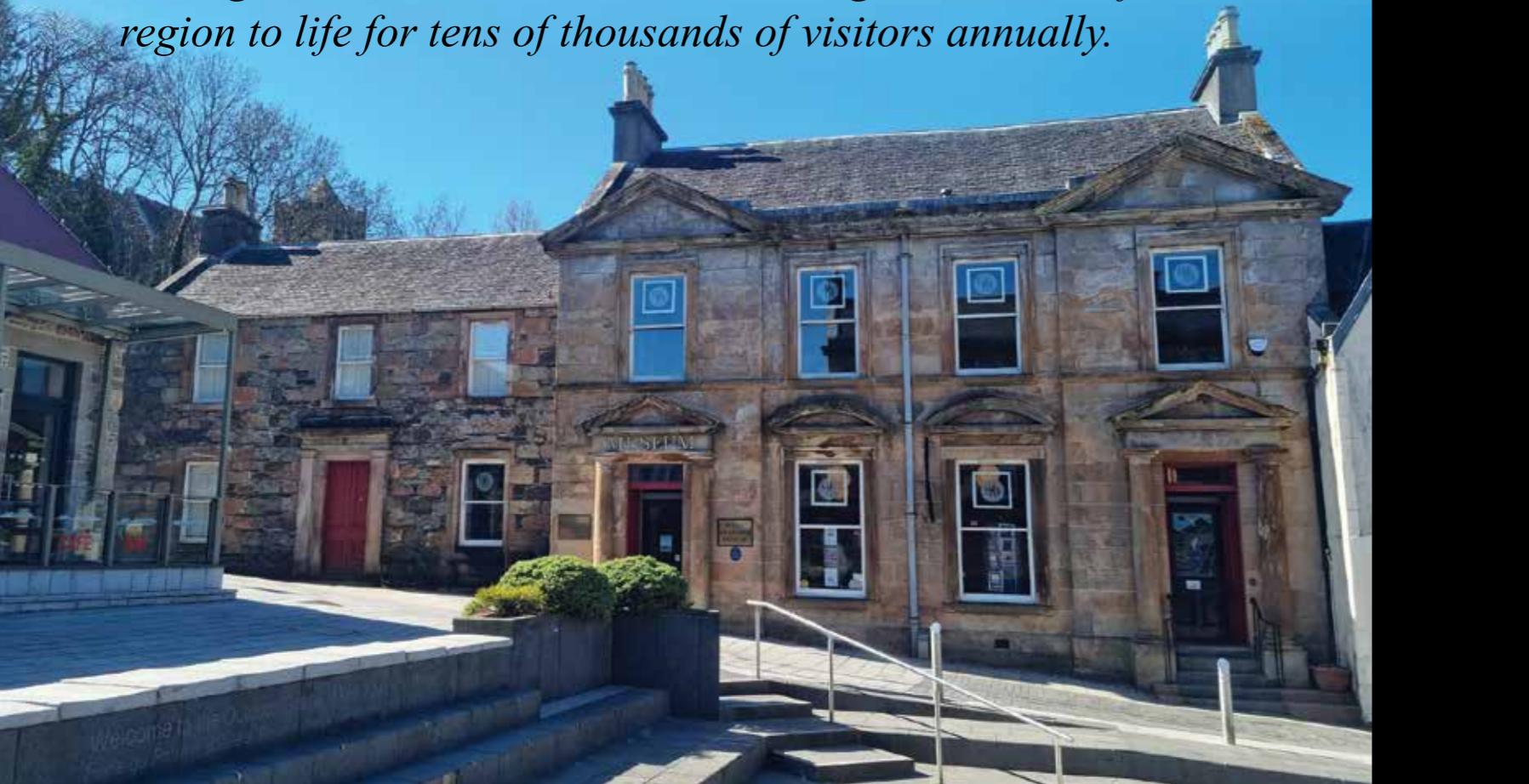
national *nature* reserves

Gaelic culture and language

award winning visitor centres

world class mountaineering and hill walking

the *best* of Scotlands wildlife - eagles to orchids



The West Highland Museum in Fort William, is at the heart of Lochaber and preserves the rich cultural and historical heritage of the Highlands of Scotland.

It is home to remarkable artefacts, including numerous Jacobite relics. Highland history, World War II and the struggle of living and progressing in a harsh environment are all here.

Through its collections the museum brings the stories of the region to life for tens of thousands of visitors annually.

protecting our culture



remembering our history





A Legacy of History and Heritage

For over 100 years, the West Highland Museum has been a guardian of the Highlands' remarkable history. From the Mesolithic era, to Jacobite uprisings and on to the WWII Commando Training Centre, the museum's collections capture the dramatic and storied past of this unique region.

The museum plays a vital role in connecting the community to its roots and in sharing the Highlands' history with a global audience. Through exhibitions, learning programs, and outreach activities the West Highland Museum ensures that this heritage is passed down to future generations.

Many Highland families emigrated to the United States, and their legacy continues to thrive across the Atlantic. For our American friends, this is an opportunity to reconnect with their ancestral heritage and support a museum that preserves the stories and traditions of their forebears.



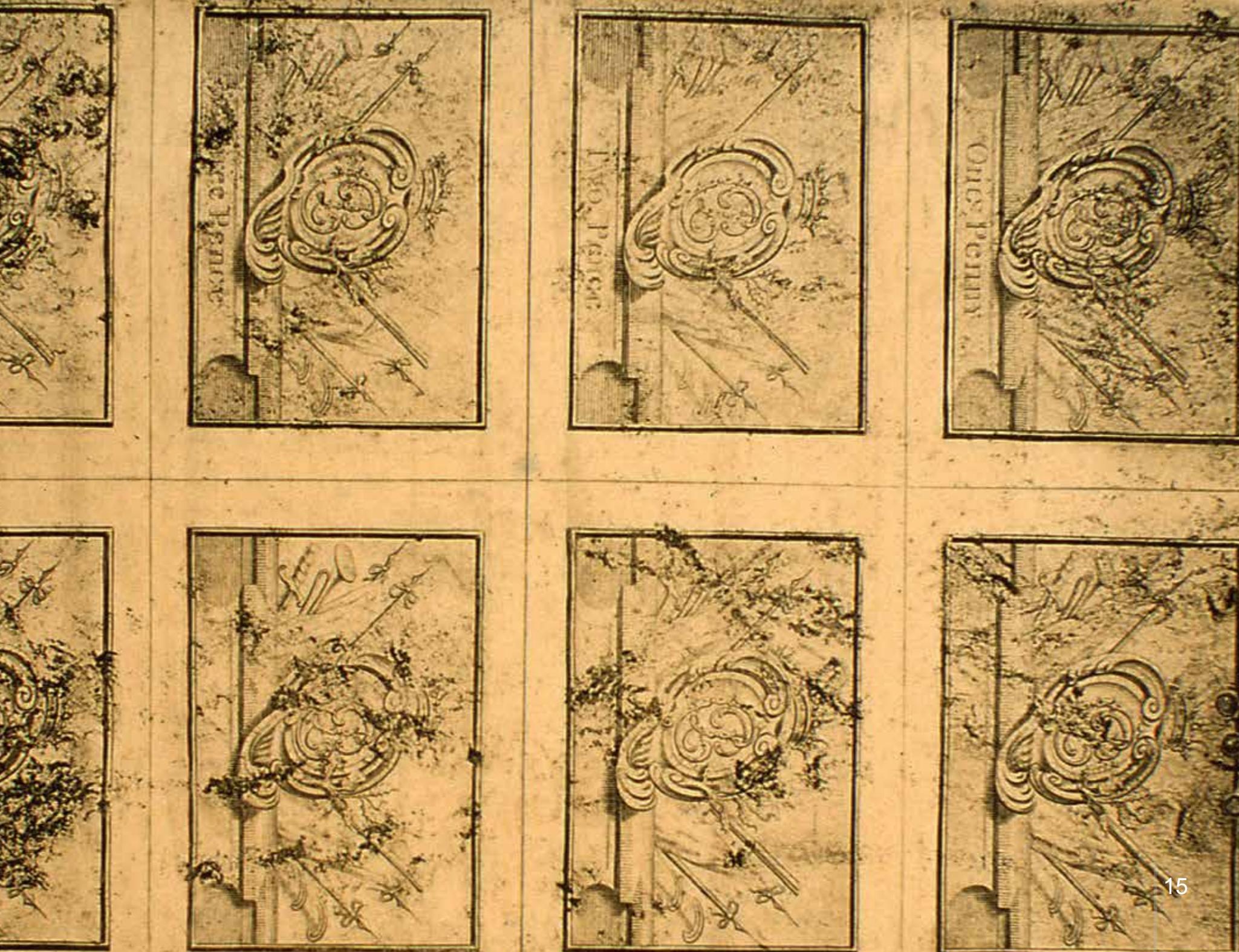
*visitors can marvel at the smoothness of a neolithic axe head
look a golden eagle in the eye
and explore the 'Secret Portrait' of Bonnie Prince Charlie*



The museum has many unique artefacts such as this rare copper plate which was used during the Jacobite rebellion to print currency to support the uprising.



14



15

on-line resources
holiday activities outreach



Our collections form the basis of our programme of learning activities.

handling sessions fun !

workshops school visits
life-long learning



These are based in the museum and at other sites in the highlands.

special events virtual tours

A Bold Vision for the Future





Our ambitious £6.2 million redevelopment will expand gallery spaces, improve accessibility, and introduce cutting-edge environmental controls to ensure our priceless collections are preserved for the future.

These changes will allow us to:

Showcase more of our collection: Expanded galleries will invite deeper engagement with the rich history of the area.

Open doors to all visitors: Improved accessibility will ensure everyone can enjoy the museum, regardless of mobility.

Safeguard the treasures: Modern environmental controls will protect our artefacts for generations to come.

This transformation will enhance the museum's role as a cultural, educational and community resource for locals and visitors alike. The museum will be a space where history and the stories of the Highlands can be celebrated and shared.



Becoming a Patron of the Museum

To support the long-term future of the museum, we have launched the West Highland Museum Patrons Scheme, offering an opportunity for our most committed supporters to make a lasting impact. The Patrons Scheme invites individuals to engage more deeply with our mission and become a part of the museum's future success.

The scheme offers three tiers of patronage as follows

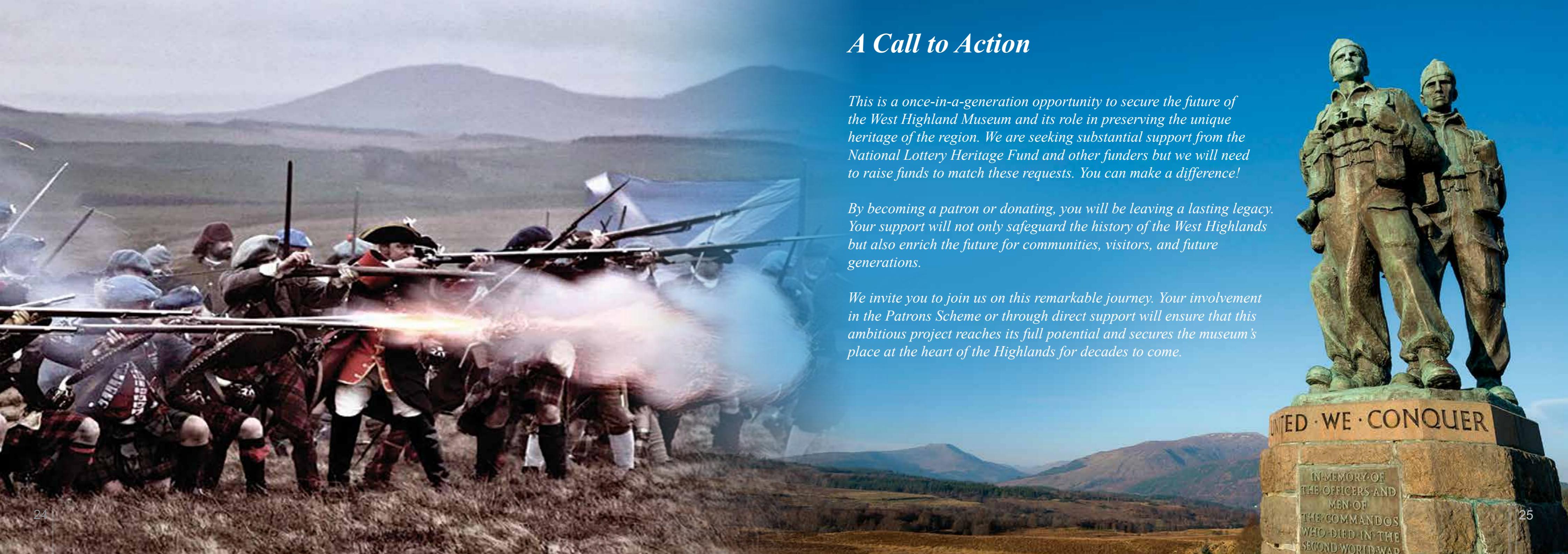
- £2,200 Silver Patron - £200 subscription, £2,000 donation*
- £2,900 Gold Patron - £500 subscription, £2,400 donation*
- £4,400 Platinum Patron - £800 subscription, £3,600 donation*

Each tier offers unique opportunities to connect with the museum, from exclusive events and behind-the-scenes tours to personal recognition in our spaces and publications. By joining the Patrons Scheme, you can help to secure the museum's long-term sustainability and ensure that our vital work continues for generations to come.

In compliance with HMRC guidance, we use a split subscription/payment method for our Patrons. The subscription element covers all benefits associated with our scheme enabling us to apply gift aid to the donation element, should you wish to gift aid your donation.

If you would like to become a Patron or make a donation please email us at fundraising@westhighlandmuseum.org.uk



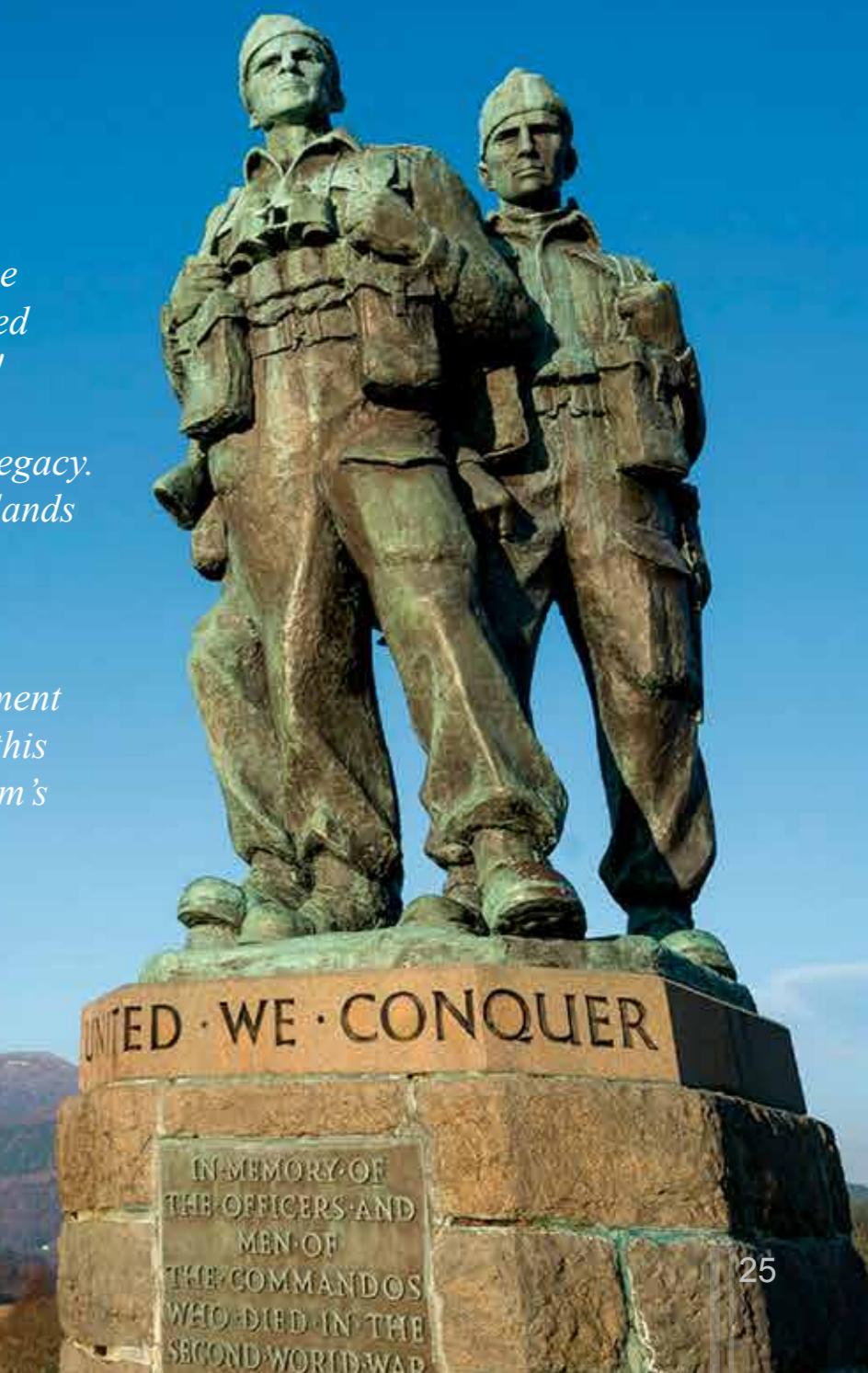


A Call to Action

This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to secure the future of the West Highland Museum and its role in preserving the unique heritage of the region. We are seeking substantial support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and other funders but we will need to raise funds to match these requests. You can make a difference!

By becoming a patron or donating, you will be leaving a lasting legacy. Your support will not only safeguard the history of the West Highlands but also enrich the future for communities, visitors, and future generations.

We invite you to join us on this remarkable journey. Your involvement in the Patrons Scheme or through direct support will ensure that this ambitious project reaches its full potential and secures the museum's place at the heart of the Highlands for decades to come.





Contact Us

Your investment in this transformative project will help create a space where the stories of the past inspire future generations. Together, we can ensure that the legacy of the West Highlands lives on.

If you would like to become a Patron or make a donation please email us at:

fundraising@westhighlandmuseum.org.uk



