**Devil’s Porridge**

**Talk by John Anstey**

Devil’s Porridge Museum Volunteer, Trustee, Eastriggs & Gretna Heritage Group

**Thursday 16th May 11:00**

Shap Wells Hotel, Shap, Nr Penrith, CA10 3QU [Welcome- The Shap Wells Hotel](http://www.shapwells.com/)

Early in 1915, in response to a growing shortage of munitions, the government commissioned a huge new cordite factory on the Anglo-Scottish border together with 2 new Garden Townships to house the 8,000 managers and 12,000, mostly women, workers coming to “stir the Devil’s Porridge”.

The talk will cover the use of cordite, the building of the factory and of Eastriggs and Gretna, the role of women in the production process and the government response to perceived excessive drinking by workers at the factory.

Parking and disabled facilities are provided, and tea/coffee will be available on arrival from 10.30am with the talk commencing at 11.00 am. This will be followed by an optional 3‑course lunch, costing £25. All members, their partners and guests, are very welcome.

Prior booking is essential, (form below) whether staying for lunch or not, as space is limited. Early application is strongly advised.

**2023/24 Programme Overleaf**

**BOOKING FORM**

**Please note we are transitioning to electronic banking and would prefer, if you can, bookings by email and payment by Bank Transfer. Cheques still acceptable!**

Business Current Account: Friends of IET Lancs & Cumbria.

Account number: 20812353 Sort code: 01-00-61 Reference – Your surname and date of event

Please send your application by 6th May 2024 to  
Dr Mansel Jones, [mansel.jones587@gmail.com](mailto:mansel.jones587@gmail.com) Tudor Vale, The Oaks, Poulton le Fylde FY6 7HG 01253 886749

Any queries to Mansel above. Applications will be confirmed by email or post.

Please reserve………........ places for the talk & lunch/talk only (please delete as applicable) at The Shap Wells Hotel, Shap, Nr Penrith, CA10 3QU on 16th May 2024

The optional lunch is £25 per person. I have paid by Bank Transfer/enclose a cheque payable to ‘Friends of the IET, Lancs & Cumbria’ (delete that which not applicable). I attach a receipt for my electronic payment (if applicable).

for £……………........….

Please give forenames and surnames of all those applied for, and please STATE any special dietary requirements such as VEGAN, VEGETARIAN etc

Name(s)……………………………………………………………………………………...……………...…

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Special dietary requirements: ……………………………………………………………………………….

Contact details, Phone, Email address, or address, that we can use to send acknowledgement. Please indicate if you wish us to send you directions

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**Programme 2023/24**

**All meetings are 10.30 for 11.00am**

19th October 2023 CANCELLED

30th November 2023 B4RN (Broadband for Rural Networks) by Martyn Welch at Netherwood

22nd February 2024 Concorde by Gordon Bartley at The Villa

16th May 2024 Devil’s Porridge by John Anstey at Shap Wells