

A GREAT DAY OUT FOR ALL THE FAMILY

Our new museum has something for everyone. Discover what life was like for soldiers in the **World War One trenches** and for the thousands of Munitions Girls who flocked to work at **HM Factory, Gretna**. Find out more about the remarkable lives of **Local Lads** and **Gretna Girls** in our interactive **touchscreens**.

Explore our new **World War II** exhibition. Find out about local female munitions workers, **RAF fighter pilots**, Munitions Depot workers and the coming of the Cold War and Scotland's Nuclear age. See **new** thematic **displays** featuring oral testimonies, film footage, period costume and **interactive games**.

Children will enjoy our **hands-on interactives**. Don't forget to stamp your special **factory pass** as you go around the museum... you'll receive a reward if you find all the stamps!

Round off your visit by browsing our well-stocked **shop** or treating yourself to some delicious home baking in our **Gretna Girls Cafe**.

And look out for our special **World War One fireless locomotive**, **World War II Anderson Shelter** and **Dig for Victory Garden** Outside the Museum.

The Devil's Porridge Museum is run by volunteers from Eastriggs and Gretna Heritage Group, a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SC031616)



VISITING US



The Devil's Porridge Museum
Stanfield, Annan Road, Eastriggs DG12 6TF
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www.devilsporridge.org.uk

OPENING TIMES

Monday to Saturday	10am - 5pm
Sunday	10am - 4pm


WINTER CLOSURE

11th December 2017 until 8th January 2018

PRICES

Adults	£5.50
Concessions, Over 60s, Children (aged 5-16)	£4.50
Family Ticket (2 adults and up to 3 children)	£13.50
Schools	£2.50 per student

Group bookings by appointment all year

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The Devil's Porridge Museum is grateful for funding and support from



Eastriggs | Dumfries and Galloway



THE DEVIL'S PORRIDGE MUSEUM



New World War Two and Cold War Displays

Discover the remarkable story of the Greatest Munitions Factory on Earth and the extraordinary lives of the Munitions Girls who worked there.

www.devilsporridge.org.uk

World War One



The munitions girls transformed enormous piles of white, crystalline nitre into nitric acid - a core ingredient in the manufacture of cordite.

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There the nitroglycerine on the one side and the gun cotton on the other are kneaded together into a sort of **DEVIL'S PORRIDGE** . . . this is where the **DANGER** comes in. The least generation of heat may cause an explosion. Those **SMILING KHAKI-CLAD GIRLS** who are swirling the stuff round in their hands would be blown to atoms in an instant if certain very small changes occurred.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
Annandale Observer, 1 December 1916

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For centuries, the quiet, rural area around the tiny hamlets of **Gretna Green** and **Dornock** lay undisturbed with only a few farms and small settlements dotted about. Then in **1915**, soon after the start of **World War One**, the men from the **MINISTRY OF MUNITIONS** arrived and everything changed.

Within 12 months the British Government had **transformed** this area into a **hub of wartime activity** through the construction of **HM Factory Gretna**, one of the most **remarkable factories on earth**. Stretching for nine miles, HM Factory Gretna produced RDB Cordite, a new type of munitions propellant.

By **1917**, the factory was producing **1,100 tons of cordite** per week, more than all the other munitions plants in Britain combined. This factory was vital to the provision of much-needed **ammunition for the troops fighting on the front line**.

The “**garden cities**” of **Gretna and Eastriggs** were carefully designed and built to house the **30,000 munitions workers**. These new **townships** offered modern housing, shops, schools, churches and cinemas to meet all the **social needs** of the workforce.



In 1916, 60% of the factory's workforce was aged under 19. For many young girls, HM Factory Gretna was the ultimate war-time experience.



King George V and Queen Mary visited the factory in 1917 in recognition of the workers' remarkable achievements.



The factory offered new opportunities for women, including the chance to join the Women's Police Force.

World War Two



Female Workers inside COD Longtown Munitions Depot in 1944.

During **World War Two** the Solway region was transformed again to serve the war effort. **Local women** produced **cordite** at **Powfoot's ICI Munitions Factory** and handled **munitions** at the **depots** of Eastriggs and Longtown. **The Women's Land Army** worked on local farms with the help of Italian and German **Prisoners of War**. Fighter **aircraft** filled the sky as **RAF pilots** from across the Commonwealth trained for the **D-Day** invasion of occupied Europe in **1944**. Convoys of British and American soldiers travelled through Eastriggs and Gretna, much to the delight of local children.

During the **Cold War**, the region also witnessed the arrival of the **nuclear age** following the construction of Scotland's first power station at **Chapelcross**. These powerful stories can be seen in the Museums **new interactive Solway Military Coast displays**.

From 1942 to 1944 RAF fighter pilots from across the Commonwealth trained at RAF Annan.

