

LINTHWAITE LEADBOILERS

A Story for Modern Times



A Time of Civil War

Great Britain was besieged by a Civil War during the mid 1600's, between The Royalists and the partnership of English Parliamentarians and Scottish Covenanters. The city of York was a desired strong-hold for both camps and The Battle of Marston Moor in 1644 became a watershed moment for the rise of Commander Oliver Cromwell of the Parliamentarians who defeated the Royalists and sent them backtracking south.

The Musketeers

Musketeer soldiers used to roam the Pennine Hills, guarding the King's land and livestock in the Colne Valley Hills. They used lead shot in their muskets, which was similar in size to peas.

The Linfitters

Linfitters were peasant farm workers who struggled to make ends meet and largely lived in fear of the Royalist or Cromwell's guards, raiding the villages looking for conscripts for their armies.

The Booty

Linfitters scoured the hills for spent musket lead shot so they could make ends meet and sell the lead to feed their families. They no doubt got it wherever they could.

The Cauldron

Resources were scarce but most of the villagers had access to Cauldron's for cooking.

The Boiling

Linfitters had no idea about how to melt the lead shot down. They presumed that because the balls were the size of peas, they could be melted down in boiling water and thus the Leadboiler name was born.

A Hard Life

Life was hard for Linfitters. The Land was poor for cultivation and only sheep could be grazed with a few livestock. Many made their livelihood from scouring wool and there were few homes, with many families often living in small places.

The Honour

For Linfitters, they did what they could to survive. Very much like Robin Hood, they took from the land (and the armies) what they needed in order to provide for their families.

Our Modern Day Tribute

Life in Colne Valley is very different today. Linthwaite is a good place to live and its people generally enjoy a decent standard of living. And if you look past the drama of widely circulated negative news, there remains a strong sense of community in the village where people want to do good.

Our district is not without its challenges and there are many parts of Huddersfield where children still live in poverty and some people still struggle to make ends meet.

Pride In Linthwaite and The Leadboilers Festival is paying tribute to the Leadboilers and we are looking to gather resources for the Huddersfield Foodbank – the Welcome Centre.

Get involved and join in.

See www.prideinlinthwaite.com for details.

The successful Leadboilers Festival is a celebration of all things Linthwaite and we invite you to join in and be a part of our tribute to the Leadboilers.



Linthwaite Green
Near The Sair
1pm to 9.30pm
www.Leadboilers.com

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How to get Involved?

Act a short play

You could get a few friends together or talk to your school teacher about whether you could write and produce a short play about the Leadboilers and then perform it at the festival.

Write a poem

You could write a poem about the Leadboilers.

Do something artistic

You could paint a picture or make a sculpture for display about the Leadboilers.

Host a food collection

You could organise a food collection to help us meet our Leadboiler Cauldron Challenge for The Welcome Centre in Huddersfield.

Create a competition

You could create a small competition such as fill a jar with lead balls and have people guess how many are in it!

Bake some food

You could make or bake some food that pays tribute to the Leadboilers.

The possibilities are endless. You decide how you would like to contribute and be sure to email prideinlinthwaite@outlook.com, just to let us know what your plans are and so we can plan them in to the festival itinerary.



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