

Dates for Your Diary

The Salt Tellers

A Community Play

Tuesday 5th to Saturday 9th July 2005

Two plays - Two sites

The plays are open air, promenade performances and will take place whatever the weather. Come dressed for the occasion.

5th, 7th & 9th July 2005

The Works

Performance at the Lion Salt Works

7.30pm

6th, 8th & 9th July 2005

The River

Performance at Anderton Boat Lift

7.30pm

Saturday 9th July 2005

Both performances on the same day:

1.30pm The Works - Lion Salt Works

7.00pm The River - Anderton Boat Lift

Tickets: £6.00 and £4.00 for each performance. Available from the DAN office and the Lion Salt Works.

Script: Robert Meadows

Director: Jim Johnson

A 'Book of the Play' is being produced for sale at each performance.

OPENING TIMES

The Lion Salt Works is open each afternoon 1.30pm to 4.30pm. May be closed Friday and Saturday. Donations welcomed: £1 per adult, 50p per child. Booked parties by arrangement. For further information call 01606-41823. Web site address - <http://lionsaltworkstrust.co.uk>

Help interpret your local heritage to others. The Trust still requires additional volunteers to assist with maintenance and to open the exhibition centre especially on Saturday afternoons.

SALT & SODA

at the Lion Salt Works



The Lion Salt Works shop continues to offer unique ceramics made by the best salt and soda glaze potters in the country. Recent additions are shown here. Alistair Young (above) is based in Gloucestershire and makes classic shaped jugs and mugs and has made superb replicas of Doulton Lambeth wares. Lisa Hammond (pots illustrated below) has a studio at Maize Hill Railway Station, London where she produces richly coloured, highly textured soda glazed ceramics.



THE MUNDLING STICK by post

If you would like to have a regular copy of The Mundling Stick sent to you by post please send your name and address to The Lion Salt Works Trust, Ollershaw Lane, Marston, Northwich CW9 6ES or telephone/fax 01606 - 41823. Newsletters are currently sent free of charge. Cheques for donations should be made out to THE LION SALT WORKS TRUST. If you would like to provide long term support for the Trust please ask for a Gift Aid form. The Lion Salt Works Trust is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity No. 1020258. VAT registration No. 628998076. The Mundling Stick is written by the Lion Salt Works Project Director and is kindly designed and printed by Vale Royal Borough Council

The MUNDLING STICK

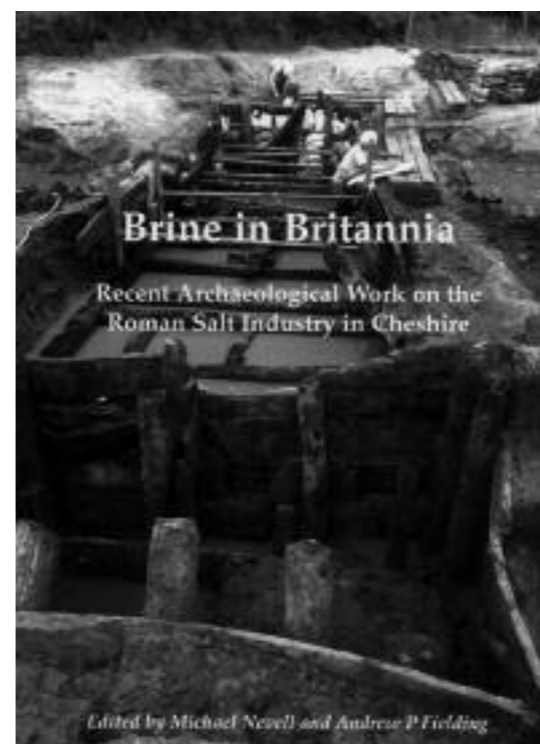


the LION Salt Works TRUST

Newsletter of the Lion Salt Works Trust SPRING 2005

VOLUME 11 No.1

NEW PUBLICATIONS

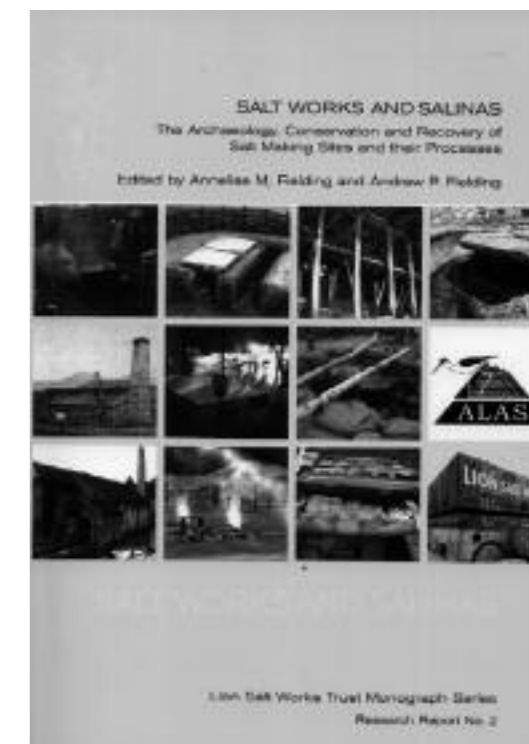


BRINE IN BRITANNIA is the publication of lectures given at the CBA- NW Salt Conference held at Northwich in September, 2002. The 81 pages with 60 illustrations cover sites in Nantwich and Middlewich, with comparisons to sea salt making sites in Lincolnshire. There is also a chapter on Latin inscriptions on lead salt pans found in Cheshire and a summary of practical salt making experiments carried out with lead salt pans at the Lion Salt Works. The book is dedicated to the memory of Stephen Penney, the late curator at the Salt Museum, Northwich who died in 1999.



Price £10.00 ISBN 0-19527813-4-4

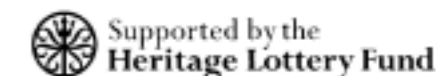
Jointly published by the CBA-NW, Manchester Archaeology Unit and the Lion Salt Works Trust.



SALT WORKS AND SALINAS is the proceedings of the Trust's international salt conference held in September, 2003. The 108 pages contain 147 black and white illustrations describing projects to restore salt works and salinas in Germany, France, Spain, Denmark, Portugal, the Mediterranean and the USA. The book is supplied with a free DVD produced with the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund featuring a digital reconstruction of Roman salt making with live action inserts. Also included is a short movie based on the point cloud from a laser-scan survey of the Lion Salt Works funded by English Heritage. In addition many illustrations from the book are included as a colour slide show.

Price £9.50 ISBN 0-953852-2-6

This is the Lion Salt Works Trust, Research Report No.2.



Comberbach Primary School Presentation to Lion Salt Works



In April, Councillor Ann Hooker, a Trustee and Mayor of Vale Royal (2004-5) received a presentation of scientific equipment from the prefects of Comberbach Primary School.

The Prefects' fundraising efforts to help the Lion Salt Works were reported in our last newsletter. They raised £190.00, which we have spent on scientific equipment to help provide a different view of salt to general visitors and for other schools.

Class 6 were shown the two microscopes and the hand lenses purchased by the Trust and all children had an opportunity to look at the six salt samples described on page 3. The hydrometer was demonstrated, but it was perhaps more interesting to see how the strength of brine could be gauged by floating an egg in different brine solutions - a process known for hundreds of years.

Andrew Fielding and Cllr Hooker had an excellent time at Comberbach where they were also entertained by the school choir who gave a great performance of Moonriver.

IDENTIFYING SALT CRYSTALS

During the visit to Comberbach School, Project Director, Andrew Fielding took along different salt samples to show the class what they looked like through the two microscopes bought with their donation. One is a binocular microscope, which provides a three-dimensional view of the salt crystals. The other is a monocular microscope. This gives a different view and has the additional benefit of having a scanner to replace the eye-piece which can send live pictures to a computer. This can enable more people to see the image at any one time, but can also capture the image as a picture file.

Examples of six different types of salt crystals can be seen on page three.

The pyramidal form of Maldon Crystal Salt (A), made from sea water is very distinctive even with the naked eye.

Vacuum salt crystals can be a precise cube, or by agitation in the vacuum chamber become spherical (B). This example was from a brand sold as 'Alpine Salt'.

Imported sea salt can be fine or coarse. Picture (C) is a fine sea salt crystal packed and sold by Supreme Salt.

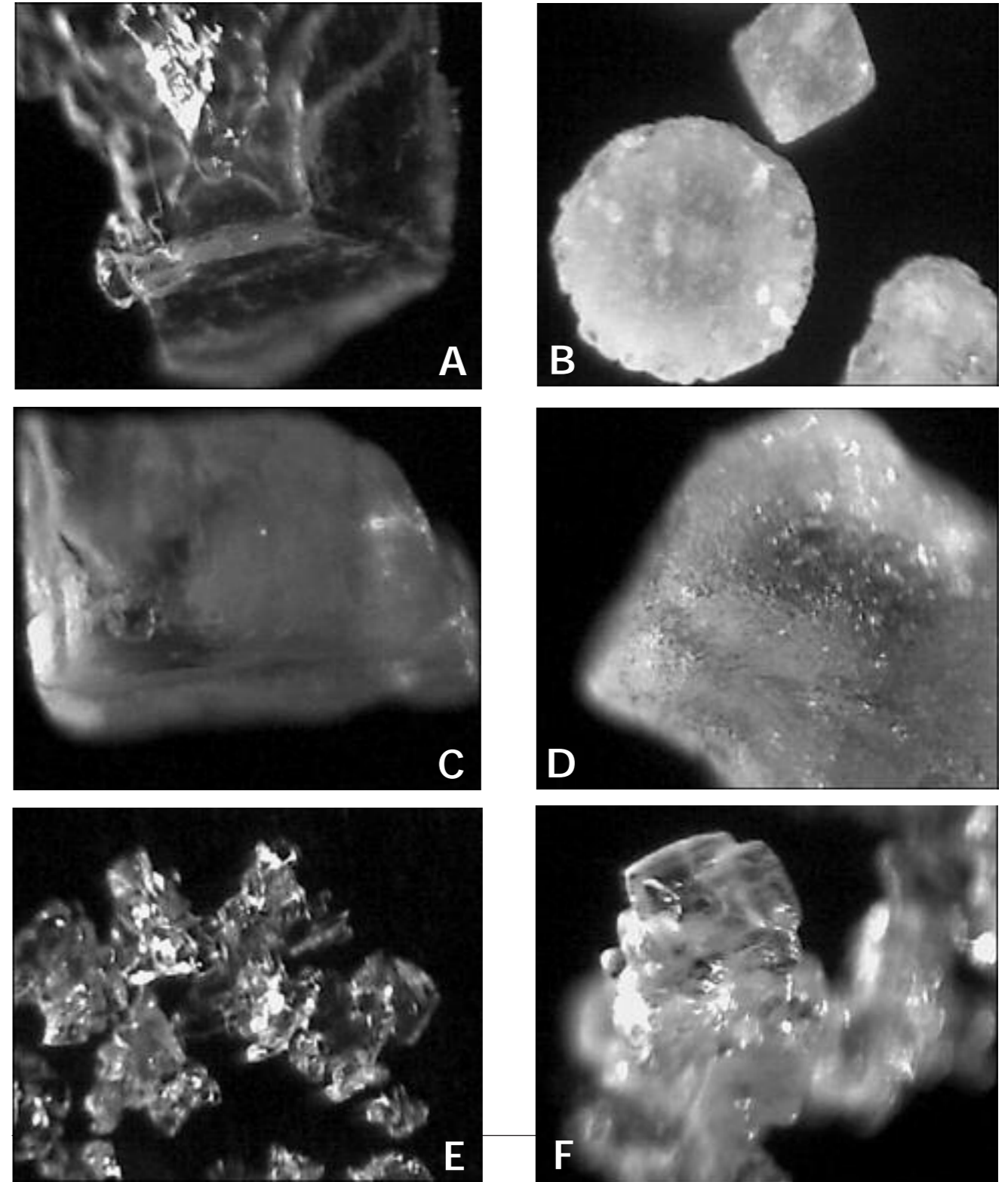
'Sel Marin' (D) is a French sea salt grey in colour because the crystals incorporate grey clay from the floor of the solar evaporation pans.

Salt made during our demonstration days (E) can have many different characteristics dependent on the temperature we evaporate the brine at and how we add fresh brine to the pans. These crystals have been chosen to compare with crystals (F) made by Henry Lloyd Thompson before the works closed in 1986.

APPLICATION TO HLF FOR HERITAGE GRANT READY FOR SUBMISSION

It has taken a huge effort to prepare all the information to submit an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund but at last the scheme is ready. It comprises a Conservation Plan for restoring the surviving buildings together with a Business Plan and plans for Learning and Access and Audience Development at the site. A summary will appear in the summer newsletter but the full submission runs to thousands of pages. The focus of the application has to be the preservation and restoration of the scheduled monument. We will produce a popular summary of the Conservation Plan as a Lion Salt Works Trust Research Report.

As the reports are packaged ready for submission letters of support are being added demonstrating the wide support we have for the restoration plans. If you have the time please send us a letter of support.



- A. Maldon Crystal Salt
- B. Vacuum salt crystals (Alpine Salt)
- C. Sea Salt
- D. Sea Salt
- E. Lion Salt Works Trust
- F. Henry Thompson, Lion Salt Works

All crystals are magnified to the same scale