

The MUNDLING STICK



the LION
Salt Works
TRUST

Newsletter of the Lion Salt Works Trust: **SUMMER 2004**

VOLUME 10 No.2

LION SALT WORKS 'RESTORATION' Northern Region RUNNERS UP

Lionel now says "thank you" to all who supported the Lion Salt Works and voted for us in the BBC 2 TV series 'Restoration'.

This edition of our newsletter shows the coverage we have received through participating in the programme. The Trust would like to extend our thanks to all of you whom we have met and for the strong encouragement and warm welcome we have been given on our campaign trail.

The Lion Salt works received 32,000 votes in the regional programme, only 5,000 less than Gayle Mill, North Yorkshire who went on to come third in the series final on 8th August.

We have also received many messages following the programme, including old photographs of the salt works when it was in operation as well as making contact with former workers. All this will be tremendously important for our future exhibitions and archive material.

Many local businesses and organisations have asked to hear more about our plans or have offered to help in our future fundraising operations.

We will provide further details of all these connections later in the year.

1st Castle Brownies helped deliver leaflets in Northwich High Street to support the Lion Salt Works Restoration.

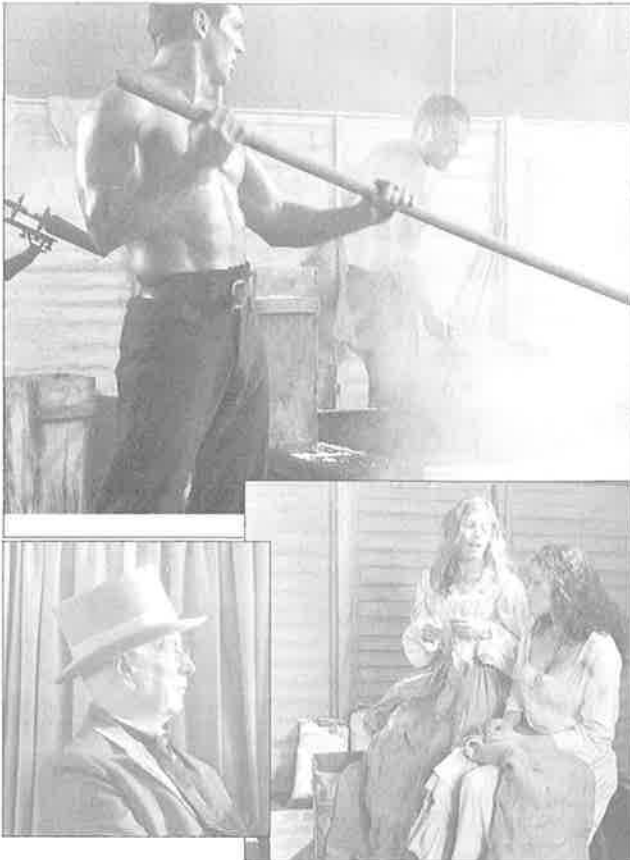


Lionel
said . . .



Gryf Rhys Jones interviewed the Project Director, Andrew Fielding, 60ft up in a crane basket looking down on the rooftops of the salt works.

mundling stick n.~tool used to pack salt crystals into the wooden tubs when making lump salt. This newsletter will likewise try to cram in all the latest information about the conservation and restoration of the Lion Salt Works.



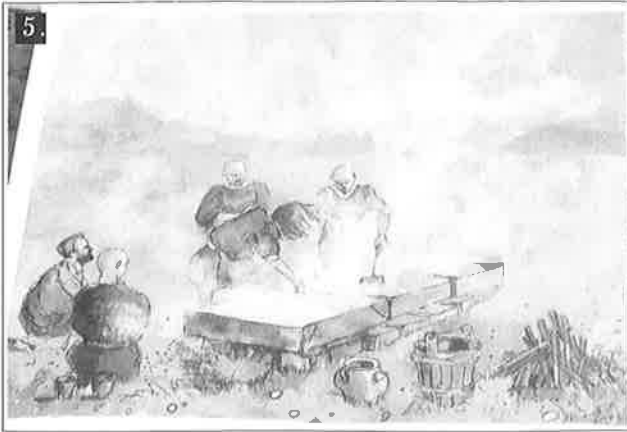
Filming for 'Restoration' at the salt works took place from Easter in four sessions. One section included an 'historic reconstruction' of a C19th factory inspector visiting a salt works where there were concerns about men and women working together in the hot and steamy conditions where they wore little clothing! This was specially shot at a sound stage in Pinewood Studios. The scene was based on a painting displayed in Salford City Art Gallery painted in 1881 by Philip Homan Miller. Curator Peter Ogilvey, was given a gift of bread and salt by Roman Tours soldier, Guy Storey, as part of our NW tour to promote the Lion Salt Works.



1. Roman Tours soldier, Paul Harston presented a gift of bread and salt to the Sheriff of Chester, representing the staples of life.
2. Mark Edwardson interviews Tatton MP George Osborne who laid down at Early Day Motion in Parliament, which was supported by over 30 MPs.



3. Lionel, our mascot, visited the RHS Tatton Flower Show as a guest of the BBC buses for Radio Lancashire and Radio GMR. They kindly allowed us to join them at Fleetwood and Morecambe and broadcasted live from the salt works. At Tatton Lionel met one of the Manchester Cows from the Cow Parade.
4. Whilst at Fleetwood Mr Ashton brought along a family heirloom, a model ship, which had been dipped in brine to give it a frosted appearance.



5. *Our Salt Making Demonstration Day was recorded in acrylics by local artist Richard Carman who will be featured in the October 'Big Draw' event at the Lion Salt Works.*

6. *Andrew Fielding, Project Director and Paul Harston, Roman Tours Ltd, Chester visited Bank Hall, Chorley as part of the NW Tour. Bank Hall also came second in the NW Regional programme of the first series of 'Restoration' but have now secured funding from the HLF to help start their repair work.*

7. *The Friends of Ellesmere Port Boat Museum visited the site with 'Bonny' pulling a horse drawn narrow boat. Pupils from Wincham School came in Victorian costume and were shown the special harness used.*

8. *The Mayor of Vale Royal held a special campaign evening at the Norwich Memorial Hall to encourage local people and businesses to support the vote campaign.*

Cllr Ann Hooker has worked overtime in the last few weeks to encourage support for the Lion Salt Works, for not only is she a Trustee but she is also Mayor of Vale Royal this year.

Cllr Hooker is shown here with Lionel, Chairman of Trustees Richard Hamlett and Project Director Andrew Fielding.

9. *Colin Buckley has provided valuable back-up in the Salt Works office and acted as 'Lionel' during promotional displays.*



St. Nicholas Catholic High School Projects Support the Campaign

Leonie Giles at St Nicholas worked with Year 8 to produce campaign literature to support the Lion Salt Works. There were a variety of pieces from web sites, posters and Powerpoint presentations. The .ppt pieces were transposed to DVD by Julian Baum of Take 27 for use around the area. The Roy Townsend, Nordis television shops in Northwich, Winsford and Crewe hooked the DVD's up in their shop windows to promote the campaign.

Dates for Your Diary

Saturday, 25th September
Roman Market
Salt Making Demonstration
10am to 4.30pm

We anticipate using replica ceramic salt pans to show the process used prior to the adoption of lead salt pans. An event held as part of the 2004 Northwich Roman Festival.

Saturday, 16th October
The Big Draw Day
10am to 4pm

Part of a national campaign to encourage people to take up drawing.

Come along and have a go. Artist materials will be provided for you try out different media and materials and to talk with professional artists.

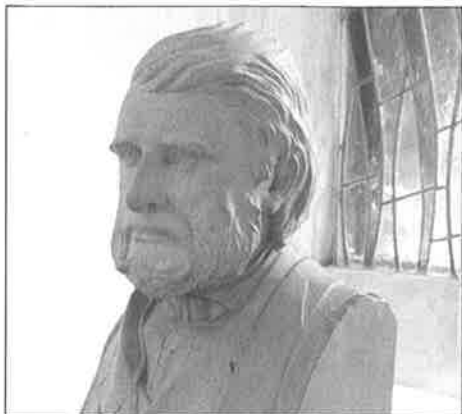
Guidance and advice from local artists Richard Carman and Julia Midgely.

Richard has appeared on the Channel 4 series 'Watercolour Challenge' and more recently had a five part series 'A Brush with the Mersey' on Granada TV in July.

Julia is currently making an artistic record of the archaeological excavations being carried out at the Roman amphitheatre in Chester. www.abrushwiththemersey.homestead.co.uk
www.juliamidgely.co.uk

The Big Draw is promoted by the Guild of St George, established by John Ruskin to encourage people to take up artistic activities.

Ruskin was known by the Thompson family who owned the Lion Salt Works. Jabez Thompson made a series of terracotta busts of Ruskin in 1881. Copies are held at Ruskin's home, Brantwood overlooking Conniston Water and at the Arts and Crafts house, 'Blackwell' (illustrated below) at Bowness-on-Windermere, managed by the Museum of Lakeland Life.



Mural artist Chris Bennett produced a 'sea-side' panel for visitors to have their photographs taken as 'salt workers'.



BBC Philharmonic jazz quartet (above) and the Short-cuts entertained visitors during the open day.



August 1st
OPEN
DAY

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.

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.

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