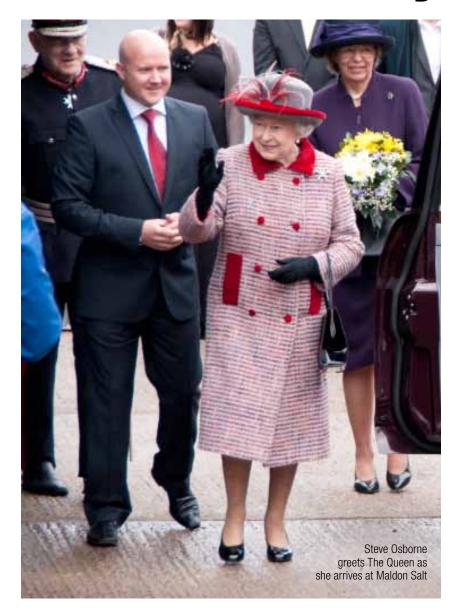


Her Royal Majesty The Queen visits Maldon Crystal Salt Co.



On a bright and sunny 28th October 2010, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II paid a visit to the ancient port of Maldon, Essex, first incorporated in 1171. Attended by many local dignitaries, the Queen was welcomed by the Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Lord Petrie. Only one Maldon company was selected for a personal visit by the Queen, the world famous Maldon Crystal Salt Company. In the hands of the fourth generation of the Osborne family, the company still operates from the same traditional buildings on the banks of the River Blackwater, as they did back in 1882.

Steve Osborne, Managing Director of Maldon Salt, welcomed Her Majesty to the premises, where she met other family members and toured the facilities.

Of particular interest, was the gathering of the brilliant white salt crystals. They are hand harvested on a daily basis using traditional long handled rakes in a process known as "Drawing the Pans".

Harvested from the river Blackwater since before Roman times, the characteristic pyramid shaped crystals of Maldon salt are unique and recognised internationally as the world's finest. An essential ingredient with chefs around the globe, Maldon Salt is currently exported to over 50 countries.

The Queen signed the company register and stepped outside to receive a bouquet of flowers from local children. Steve Osborne and his family thanked Her Majesty for visiting the Maldon Crystal Salt Company and accompanied her back to her car. The Queen continued with her visit to the town of Maldon, whilst all the staff at Maldon Salt were left to reflect on a momentous day in the history of their company.

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The Queen meets the Osborne family



The Queen watches with interest as the salt crystals are harvested



Steve conducts a Royal tour of the manufacturing facility