



LOAGHTAN BOOKS NEWS



www.loaghtanbooks.com

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Back on track

A new year, and we're anticipating several 'firsts'. We're making our first real foray into fiction; we're branching out into a transport section, and we're probably going to publish our first children's book. Last year's publication schedule was interrupted by the move, but this year...



One of the photographs we didn't use in *Sites and Stories*. A bedroom in *The Grove Museum of Victorian Life*

Out in March!

Postponed from 2013, because Loaghtan Books relocated, this publication is one of those rare things; easy to understand but tricky to explain.

Sites and Stories takes a dozen of the many sites worth visiting around the Isle of Man, sets a short story in each of them, and follows the fiction with some factual information about the attraction. Twelve attractions, twelve chapters, twelve stories, twelve sets of information.

So, if you want to know about the oldest working horse tram in the world, the most complete mediaeval castle in Europe, a memorial tower

to a Liverpool safe maker or nine other attractions, then this is the book for you.

Alternatively, if you prefer to read a crime story, romance, ghost story or science fiction then they're here too. *Sites and Stories* is published on 22 March; see our website for more details.

Paging the globe

It's lovely to think that our publications are travelling the world. We've had enquiries from as far afield as Australia, China, Japan and India and have shipped books to such remote places as Nepal and Out Skerries. North America, however, is a fairly major market for us. It's certainly more familiar to us than it was to Clifford Cole in 1943:

'It was a very strange feeling, realising that your destiny, your whole life might in six short months undergo a complete change without your being able to have any say in the matter. Here was I preparing to visit a country I had heard so much of, read so much about, yet knew so little of that I felt a peculiar nervousness as to how I was going to react to it all. If I had been given to nightmares, I felt sure that I should have a nightmare that would have a predominancy of men chewing gum, bootleggers, gangsters, film stars, divorce, skyscrapers, vast machines and vast production, Southern hospitality, tobacco and cotton. I was desperately wanting to shout out to the world "I'm going to America" but couldn't in the interests of security. In any case, I kept telling myself, one fence at a time; you have a whole crowd of German prisoners to escort safely across.' Page 13 *Invading America, 1943*

The things people say...

We're quite used to being contacted by people asking about our books or our service, and welcome their interest, but some enquiries do surprise us. Like the lady who asked whether I could recommend a prayer book to send to her sister. Or the gentleman who enquired whether we offered a free gift-wrapping service and then asked if we would gift wrap all his Christmas presents, none of which he'd bought from us.

I think the best one, however, was the lady from the US who complained about our postal charges. She'd paid our flat rate of ten pounds for us to send the book to the States. She obviously hadn't noticed that it had cost us fifteen pounds to send it...

Happy New Year! Sara

Quote of the day

'Assisting Lieut Farmiloe in trenches at Carnoy. Rat hunt in evening. Shelled by Germans 4 till 5 pm. Drew rations, and bed 10.30.' Thursday 19 August 1915, The Somme. Page 42 *Tim's Wars*