



# LOAGHTAN BOOKS NEWS



www.loaghtanbooks.com

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## *Tempus fugit or Traa dy liooar?*

It's almost exactly one year since we first saw our new office premises. *Tempus fugit* is 'time flies' in Latin; *traa dy liooar* is 'time enough' in Manx. Which is true? Perhaps both!



### **Lift off!**

As regular readers of the Loaghtan Books' newsletter will know, we launched our new book *Sites & Stories in Presence of Mann* on 22 March.

Housed in the Laxey Woollen Mill, the gift shop is sister to the CraftTea Weaver tea room which is upstairs and which offers proper tea in pots (with cosies) and seriously good cake. Drooling is not only permitted, it's mandatory. It seemed a particularly appropriate venue as the gift shop, woollen mill and tea room all feature in the new book, the latter appropriately enough as a supplier of cake. Thanks should go to Suzanne Cubbon and her colleagues for allowing us to disrupt their work and for organising the launch so splendidly.

The customers in the picture are Nicky and Andrew Pattinson who kindly popped in to support us. They run a local B&B and Nicky is a truly superb cook.

We seem to be a bit food orientated here, but the launch did go very well. (Did I mention the cake?)

### **The things people say... (again!)**

We were delivering to a bookshop when one of their customers commented loudly 'I never read; don't have time – and there's always the television.' Each to her own, but why was she in a bookshop?

In wartime books offered both entertainment and escape: '*This afternoon Ray I packed you a little parcel with a couple of books in and some odd things but nothing to eat I'm afraid! I hope you'll like the books its awkward buying books for anyone even the people you know best but I hope you'll get time to read them, and like them.*'

Part of a letter from Kay Hibberd to her husband serving abroad, 10 December 1944, page 102 *Dear Ray*

### **Making waves**

As part of the publicity for the new book George and I were interviewed for a radio broadcast. We found it much more nervewracking than Clifford Cole obviously did:

'The following day, I experienced my first American broadcast. About twenty officers and men were taking part in an extremely popular mid-Sunday broadcast, *The Army Hour*. We were guest artists and at 1030 hours were handed scripts. We were to portray, with real background fire from our heavy guns, a mock "Battle of Britain" for the benefit of American listeners. The script, written by the American press officers attached to the Battery was frankly the greatest piece of bilge I'd read for some time and anything but descriptive of the real Battle of Britain...' Page 32, *Invading America*, 1943

### **STOP PRESS**

After the third rise in postal charges in three years, we're reluctantly going to have to put up our shipping costs for overseas customers. We're sorry they appear so high but they're actually less than we have to pay.

We're still working out how small a rise we can afford, so order now if you want to take advantage of the 'old' price.

Best wishes, Sara

### **Quote of the day**

'I asked him a few questions on some of the points to be considered in writing a manual on DPs [displaced persons, i.e. refugees]; for instance on the methods of getting supplies, on ration categories, on the disposal of property, legal rights of stateless DPs, illegitimate children, and the policing of camps. To these he replied, "Crikey, I hadn't thought of that!"

Page 8, *A Cog in the Wheel*