



LOAGHTAN BOOKS NEWS



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BUSY TIMES

***Déjà vu* - two MORE new books!**

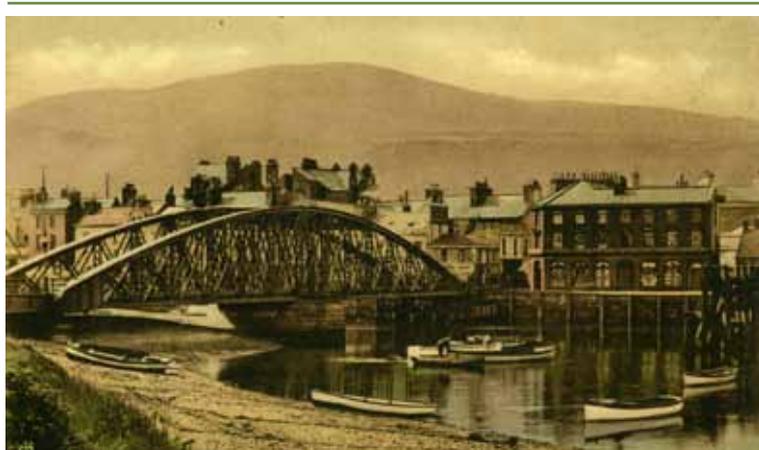
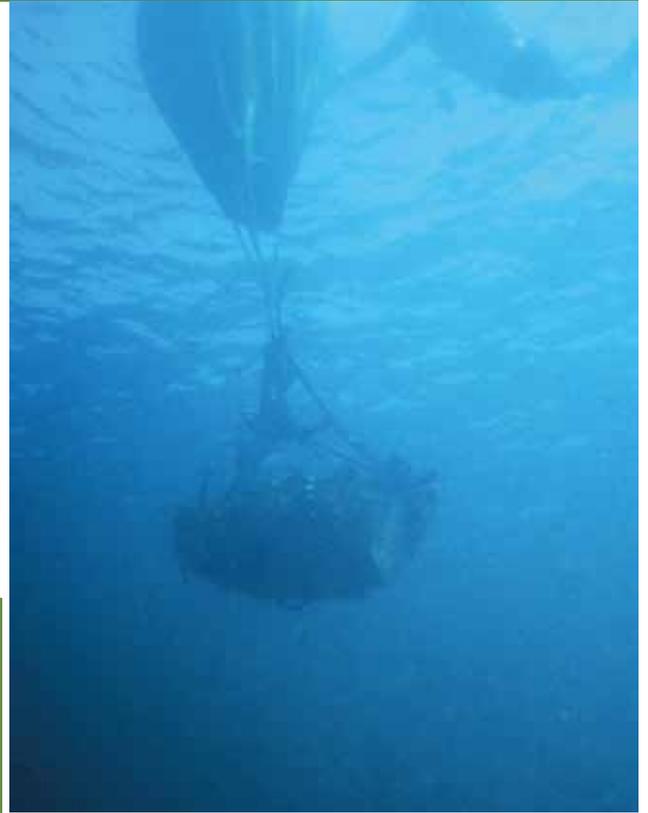
As we said in the last newsletter, we don't usually publish two books close together but we're trying to catch up with ourselves. So...

The Wreck of the Racehorse

HM sloop of war *Racehorse* wrecked on the coast of the Isle of Man on 14 December 1822. Official enquiries decided, bluntly, that she came to grief because her pilot was incompetent. The loss of *Racehorse* was one of the two shipwrecks which prompted William Hillary to found what became the RNLI.

For 150 years *Racehorse* lay semi-forgotten among the rocks which had destroyed her. Then a team from the Isle of Man Sub-Aqua Club discovered the ship and set about the careful work of excavation. The photograph on the right shows the divers moving large rocks out of the way by means of an air bag.

Published to mark the 200th anniversary of the loss of *Racehorse*, and written by the leader of the diving team, who, fifty years later is still involved in investigating the old ship, *The Wreck of the Racehorse* not only uncovers a hugely important part of maritime history, it is also Brian King's life's work.



Ramsey past & present

The fourth in our past and present series featuring Manx towns, *Ramsey past & present* joins Port Erin, Peel and Castletown, or at least will do later this month. The photograph (left) was one we *didn't* use, but shows Ramsey's famous Victorian swing bridge.

Change and continuity

The Demonstration Anti-Aircraft Battery which toured America during the Second World War was taken to an American football match. Author Clifford Cole writes: 'For our part, we paraded at the half and Lieutenant Dix led the men with their usual precision and received tumultuous applause. The highlight was when the rooters [cheerleaders], by means of coloured cards, flashed up a huge Union Jack while the band played *God save the King*. A tribute to another country that was more than just another ally. It was touching.' (Page 96, *Invading America*, 1943)

Since our last newsletter, the world has lost the magnificent lady who was Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Lord of Mann. We at Loaghtan Books are only a tiny and insignificant part of our new sovereign's realm, but we wish the new Lord of Mann, King Charles III, every success as he takes up his new and arduous duties.

Don't forget to look at our blog!
Best wishes Sara

Quote of the day

Eric solved the problem by placing a wooden plank along the top of the machine [motorbike]. We all sat astride it; three of us reasonably secure but the fourth passenger dangling in mid-air over the back wheel. Each time we hit a bump in the road and the plank dipped, he sent sparks flying as the soles of his boots bounced off the tarmac.

Page 89, *I Never Wanted a Pub...*