

The story of one village's eleven month campaign to save its Post Office against a backdrop of misrepresentation, financial dexterity and overarching and wanton bullying by the Post Office Management.

Sales points:

This is the complete story.

- * This has been written by the people who were there. It could have been written by any community anywhere suffering the closure of a major facility in their location.
- * The author is a campaigner but this was a campaign with a huge difference, it galvanised a community.
- * Some of the strategies adopted were amusing, amazing, astounding. Most of them were well covered by the media. Nearly all of that coverage is encompassed in this book.
- * Original letters, email strings, accounts, Committee notes, Select Committee notes and reports from the Public Accounts Committee are all here; just compare them; that is amusing in itself.
- * Yet it is not all blah blah. There is some rah-rah here as well. And some belly laughs.

Description

In August 2007 the Post Office announced the closure of 2,500 Post Offices around the country. The Post Office campaign was well thought out, slick, divisive and based upon very dubious financial data and a report by very expensive Consultants. 'The Fight for Our Post Office' is the story of a village in Lincolnshire; but could be a community anywhere, that took the bull by the horns and pulled the mass media with them. In this book are reports from the Financial Mail on Sunday, The Sunday Express, The Daily Telegraph, The Sunday Telegraph, The Sunday Times, a huge article by The Guardian plus comments from radio and television which highlighted the breadth and depth of feeling about the Post Office closure programme.

The Fight for Our Post Office

Paperback

Publication 8th September, 2010

Date

Price £14.95

ISBN-13 978-1-904980-04-9

Format 297 x 210 mm

Pages 104

Category Modern History/Politics

Illustrations

37 Black & White. 57

Colour

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The book contains the letters, the 2004 accounts and the 2006/2007 Previous titles and publication dates: accounts and some of the simple analysis that was carried out by villagers in order to impress Members of Parliament, the Bishop of Lincoln, the Select Committee and others, with that huge media support, that something was radically wrong with the strategy that the Post Office was adopting.

Terence O'Halloran is not new to writing. He is an author of a number of technical books and in the year 2000 wrote "If Only Politicians Had Brains;" not inferring that Politicians did not have brains or intelligence but rather more, as the Post Office fight illustrated, they felt they were the only ones with brains which often proved to be a myth in the execution of any particular activity. 'The Fight for Our Post Office' illustrates that in huge quantity.

This is a book that should be read by anyone in any community where they are going to lose a major facility or have bureaucracy thrust upon them, because, it illustrates just what a few people can do with the backing of the community to make a difference. They did save one Post Office, not their own, they did make a mark, an indelible one, and in the stories and the illustrations, the colour, the elation and the despondency, the emotion and the audacity of the exploits outlined in this book, you will gain a knowledge of community which perhaps you did not understand exists. The modern world is not dead from the neck up; it is alive and kicking.

The target market of course is social historians but for anyone who is interested in community, real life, drama and a will to get things done, 'The Fight For Our Post Office' is a 'MUST READ'.

T P O'Halloran B.Sc, FCII AIFP

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