



LYN ANDREWS

Spring Newsletter 2015

Hello Everyone,

I hope you have all been enjoying the heatwave which unfortunately never quite made it to the Isle of Man!

In fact a few weeks ago I was all set to go to visit my daughter but my flight was cancelled due to 'Manannan's Cloak' – a very thick sea mist! Disappointing for all concerned but that's the British summer!

We had a wonderful trip on Queen Mary 2 in May. It was part of the celebrations for the 175th anniversary of the Cunard Line and we got a fantastic welcome in every port we visited.

In Greenock we were woken by a pipe band which remained alongside the ship until 10 pm that evening! We were given a "wee dram" by the lovely ladies from the Tourist Board as we disembarked (we needed it, it was cold) and the cheering crowds, fireworks and the pipes playing 'Will ye no come back again' when we left were amazing.

In Liverpool the whole event was spectacular, with more fireworks and a stunning light show projected onto the buildings of the Three Graces.

It's estimated that 1.2 million people lined both banks of the Mersey on what was a grey and very chilly Bank Holiday Monday as the three Queens sailed up the river and then executed a 180 degree turn in unison opposite the Echo Arena, formed an 'arrowhead' and finally sailed 'line

abreast' (I think that's the correct nautical term!) to the Cunard Building where they sounded the 175 salute on their whistles, with Queen Mary sounding the 1, Queen Victoria the 7 and Queen Elizabeth the 5, whilst the Red Arrows flew overhead.

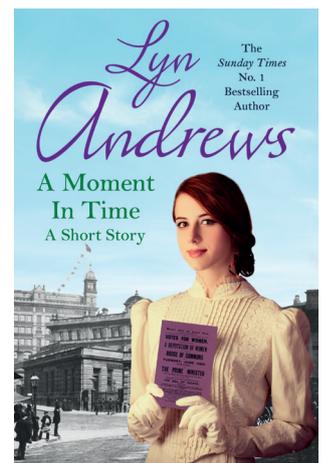
It was rather noisy (Queen Mary's whistle can be heard for 10 miles) but emotional too. As a scouser I have to admit that I had tears in my eyes as we left and I wasn't the only one – Liverpool certainly did us proud and the ship was given the Freedom of the City!

Cunard made the occasion very special, and we were given lapel badges, a Gala Dinner with champagne, embossed souvenir menus and a beautiful hardback book entitled Queens of the Mersey.

Although I was sailing as a passenger and not a lecturer, I did two signing sessions on board which went very well - one American lady bought nine books for all her great nieces!

So, now we are back on the island and I've finished the final 'tweaks' to my new novel, HEART AND HOME, and am looking forward to the paperback publication of FROM LIVERPOOL WITH LOVE at the end of August.

I have also written A MOMENT IN TIME, a short story which ties in with FROM LIVERPOOL WITH LOVE and which can be downloaded free from Amazon Kindle at the end of July. It tells the early story of Ellen, one of the characters in FROM LIVERPOOL WITH LOVE, showing her as a young girl, rather than the careworn mother she is in the novel. I do hope you'll enjoy it.



My Next Saga

I'm delighted to say I've got the glimmer of an idea for my next saga.

For some strange reason one afternoon I suddenly remembered my great aunt Rosie, my grandmother's step-sister.

Rose Gorry was a suffragette who actually

went to jail - to the absolute horror of her family, particularly her social climbing, self-made businessman father.

I recalled the fact that she had a stepmother who was only a few years older than herself – an interesting scenario I think, and one I shall be thinking about over the next few months!

I'm also looking forward to the arrival of the family in a couple of weeks, it will be a hectic time but a very enjoyable one – I just hope the weather improves!

Do enjoy your summer and I'll be back in the autumn with more news,

Sincerely,
Lyn