

▶ Timothy puts law library in your hand

THE son of the managing partner of a Manchester law firm has created a new app for the iPhone that lets you search every piece of legislation or parliamentary Act ever passed in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Timothy Leigh, who is studying the legal practice course at the Manchester College of Law, developed the "iLegal" app in his spare time with the help of Leeds-based **Engine Room**.

Mr Leigh, the son of Graham Leigh of **GLP Solicitors**, claims it is the first such app for UK law.

Lawyer Steve's book shows value of dissent

A PARTNER at the Manchester office of law firm **Beachcroft** has published a book on the social and political history of Altrincham that has taken five years to write and research.

Stephen Birchall's book, *Dissent in Altrincham: Religion, Politics and a Touch of Scandal 1870-1905*, looks at the key social and political issues of the time by telling the stories of individuals living in the area.

Stephen said: "If you live in or know south west Manchester, you will love the book as it is packed with photographs and interesting stories."

All the proceeds from the book, which is available on Amazon, Tesco.com and bookshops in the town, will go to charity.



HISTORY MAN Beachcroft's Stephen Birchall with his book

DEALS

■ **CHRISTIAN** Mancier led a team at Stockport-based solicitors **Gorvins** who advised Mike Smith, owner of Manchester gallery **Mooch Art**, on his acquisition of the art gallery and art materials business of **H Blyth & Co**. He plans to add canvas-making and picture framing to Manchester-based **H Blyth & Co** and to expand its retail operation into other cities and online.

■ **CAROLINE** Hanratty, a partner in the real estate and finance team at Manchester law firm **George Davies**, advised restaurant chain **Tampopo** on

its 15-year lease of a unit in The Oracle, Reading. The site, which is due to open in July, will be the seventh for noodle bar chain **Tampopo**, which is based in Chorlton, Manchester. **George Davies** partner **Paul Bibby** advised **The Waste Exchange**, a sister company of the Eccles-based **White Group**, on a new multi-million pound plant which will convert waste into fuel.

■ **MANCHESTER** advisers played key roles in a £525m refinancing deal by Skelmersdale-based discount retailer **Matalan**. Advisers included **DLA**

Piper lawyers **Martin Hallam**, **Matt Christmas**, **Stephen Devlin**, **Nick Roome** and **Carolyn Blanchard**, and **Jodi Birkett**, **James Bracewell** and **Natalie Ward**, of **Deloitte's** transaction services team. **Matt** and colleagues **Hans Scheiwiller** and **Liz Sweeney** clocked up deals with a total value of £1.4bn in the first quarter of 2010. As well as advising on **Matalan**, they acted for **Pilkington Glass** owner **NSG UK Enterprises** on three refinancing projects, and for **Royal Bank of Scotland** and **HSBC** on a refinancing deal with property giant **Bruntwood**.