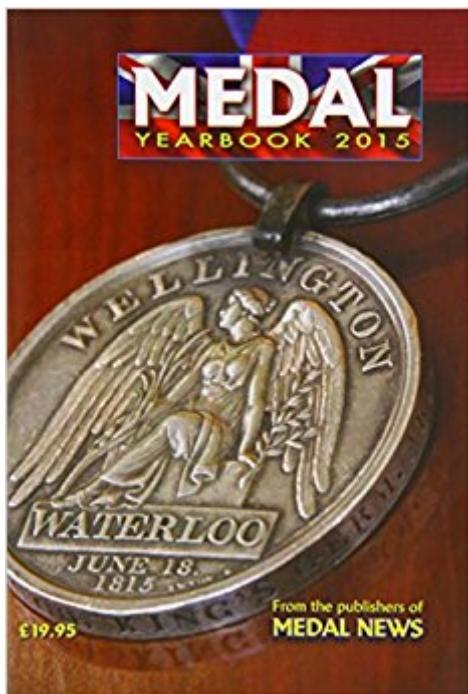


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Medal Yearbook 2015



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Customer Reviews

What can one say? This is THE go to source for serious collectors of British medals & orders, and it grows larger(and heavier!) each year. If you collect these medals to any extent, this book is a must have.

Being ex-military, I have had an abiding interest in British medals for many years and, more recently have written for television on military subjects. In spite of all the information so readily available, it remains quite remarkable how TV and films seem to think that any *ÃƒÂ¢Ã¢â€žÂ¬Ã¢â€žÂœcolour patchÃƒÂ¢Ã¢â€žÂ¬Ã¢â€žÂ¢* which looks like a medal ribbon will add authenticity to whatever character is being portrayed in instances of fact and fiction, when a copy of this book would save so much heartache. This work has been published every year for over 20 years and although I do not need to purchase the latest copy every year, my rather dog-eared 2004 copy eventually became so out-of-date I simply had to purchase the latest edition. What a surprise! Eleven years on and the book is half as thick again (another 100 pages), has all the latest information and is only *Ãƒâ€žÃ¢â€žÂ£2* more expensive! What I now have is a lot more book for just a little more cash containing almost everything you might want to know about British and Commonwealth honours, awards and medals in general. Whereas there are several pages of colour advertisements it must be understood that collectors and historians are the main market for this work and need such information. Nevertheless, those advertisements are not allowed to interfere with the natural flow of

the work itself. Prior to getting down to the specific detail of honours, awards and medals, the book commences with some fascinating sections; Foreword, Market highlights, New world record, Guide to prices, Operational honours (September 2013 and March 2014), Wearing awards, Order of Wear (not quite as confusing as it may seem), Collecting ribbons and, finally Miniature medals and decorations. The main information is then divided into; Orders of Knighthood, Decorations, Mentions and Commendation, Campaign Medals (in order of date instituted), Long and Meritorious service medals, Coronation and Jubilee medals, Miscellaneous medals, Foreign medals found in British groups, Medals of the Irish Republic, Awards of the British Commonwealth (in order; Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa) and Unofficial medals. The work then concludes with; Abbreviations and initials, Current regiments, Research/Books for the collector, Societies, Professional directory (Auctioneers, Dealers, Booksellers and Fairs), Museums and collections, Medal Ribbons in colour and Index. The colour plates showing all the medals ribbons are something I frequently find myself studying whenever I see someone wearing a ribbon I do not immediately recognise. Having found the appropriate ribbon I then match the corresponding number with the appropriate medal. All of which are found in numerical order, and study the detail. This is easily the best book on the subject and, having spoken with the publishers on a couple of occasions, I know they are constantly seeking to update and improve the work. By comparison to the ever-growing content, I have very few observations to make; (1) The South African Order of Mendi for Bravery is not mentioned at all. (2) The separate (specific!) dates for qualification for each NATO and UN medal should be clearly defined in precisely the same way as, for example, the War Medal 1939-45 which is explained as; "28 days between 3 September 1939 and 2 September 1945." Nevertheless, the book is still worth a 5 Star rating and is, therefore, fully recommended. NM British army major (retired)

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