



# Flying The Flag

## British victories over our European partners

By John Taylor QC

**From 1340 - 1945**

*Flying the Flag - British Victories Over Our European Partners from 1340 - 1945* spends over 600 pages recounting the naval, military and air victories won. Over 100 battles are described in all. The book is not a chronological history, but recites the victories calendar-month upon calendar month, so that each victory can be read alone on the day of the month upon which it was won.

The battles are told relating the exploits of people who took part - such as the gunner on Resolution at the Battle of the Saints in 1782, who packed his gun with his foot which had been severed by a cannonball, before firing it, and declared "Now no one can say that I was not the first to set foot on the French flagship," and General Freyberg, V.C, nine

times wounded, leading his New Zealand Brigade at Ypres in 1918 against the German trenches on an ugly white horse until it was shot under him.

The book is introduced by a preface on Patriotism, the Battles and the Wars somewhat scathingly described by a reader of the book "as the George Bernard Shaw bit". Shaw said of his prefaces that the desire was to give his customers good value for their money by eking out a 'pennorth of play with a pound of preface'. Rest assured that the reverse is true of *Flying the Flag* and the weight us in the history, hopefully stimulating those who have houses with their own flagpoles to raise their flag.

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