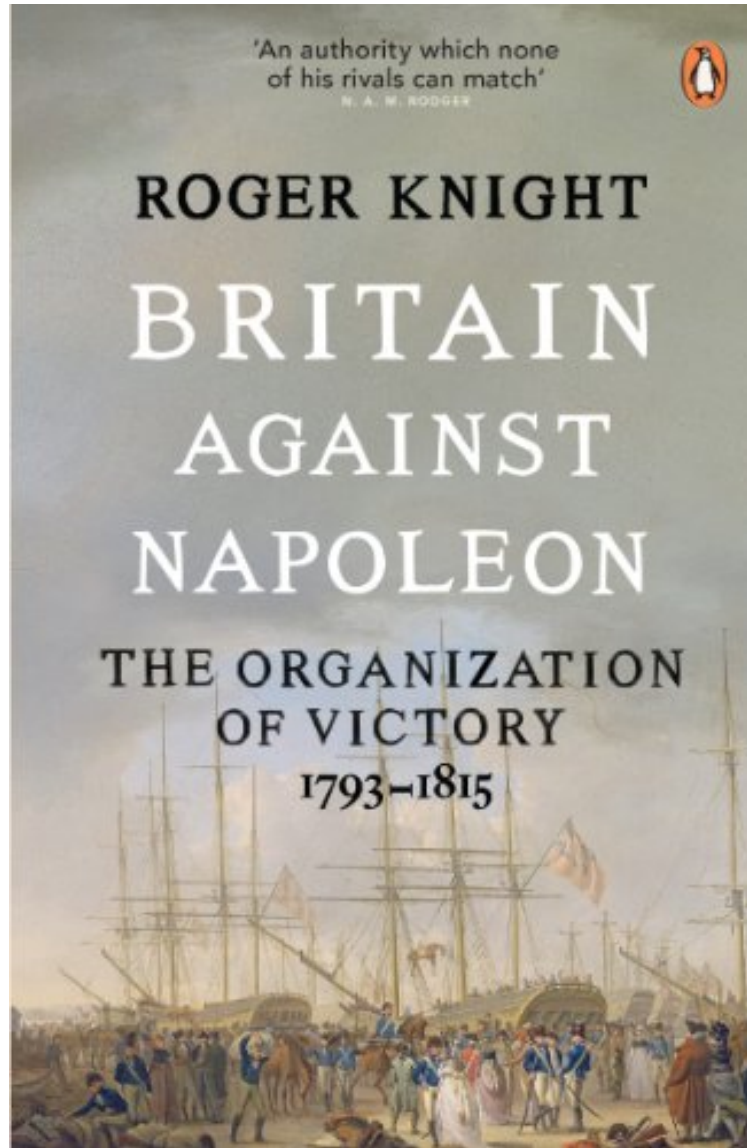


[Download pdf] Britain Against Napoleon: The Organization Of Victory; 1793-1815

## Britain Against Napoleon: The Organization Of Victory; 1793-1815

*Roger Knight*

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**Roger Knight : Britain Against Napoleon: The Organization Of Victory; 1793-1815** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Britain Against Napoleon: The Organization Of Victory; 1793-1815:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An amazing story of success under pressureBy CustomerFirst class. Holistic look at the personalities, process models, cultural, class, technologies and successful modus operandi which evolved very quickly when Britain's basic survival was at least as endangered as right after Dunkirk. An amazing story

of success under pressure. The writing is acceptable, the research astounding, but the soaring breadth sets it apart from the usual niche history books being written today. 9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. For Patrick O'Brian readers

By Robert G. Ryan  
Of the cottage industry that has grown up around the Patrick O'Brian Master and Commander series, this book, though maybe not intended to be so, is the best I've seen. It's a little dry and technical at times, but if you want to stand on the quarterdeck with Captain Aubrey and Steve Maturin and see the world as they saw it, this book will get you there. For anyone impressed with the gigantic American mobilization effort in WW2, as in Maury Klein's "A Call To Arms", the British faced an even bigger existential threat from Napoleon. Where the Americans simply outproduced everyone, the British had to invent from scratch the ways and means to defeat an enemy much more powerful than themselves. The book is a behind the scenes look at how the British managed to accomplish this, and by doing so, create the template for the modern world.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. very detailed, concise and very readable

By Betty Smith  
the book presents the extraordinary efforts made by the British to defeat Napoleon in conjunction with its on/off allies. The book's value lies in the description not of campaigns and battles but in the politics, economics and finances needed to support the Navy and the various armies. It clearly indicates the folly of attacking Russia leading to Napoleon's defeat in Europe.

From Roger Knight, established by the multi-award winning *The Pursuit of Victory* as 'an authority ... none of his rivals can match' (N.A.M. Rodger), *Britain Against Napoleon* is the first book to explain how the British state successfully organised itself to overcome Napoleon - and how very close it came to defeat. For more than twenty years after 1793, the French army was supreme in continental Europe. How was it that despite multiple changes of government and the assassination of a Prime Minister, Britain survived and eventually won a generation-long war against a regime which at its peak in 1807 commanded many times the resources and manpower? This book looks beyond the familiar exploits (and bravery) of the army and navy during the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars. It shows the degree to which, because of the magnitude and intensity of hostilities, the capacities of the whole British population were involved: industrialists, farmers, shipbuilders, gunsmiths and gunpowder manufacturers. The intelligence war was also central; but no participants were more important, Knight argues, than the bankers and international traders of the City of London, without whom the armies of Britain's allies could not have taken the field.

ROGER KNIGHT was Deputy Director of the National Maritime Museum until 2000, and now teaches at the Greenwich Maritime Institute at the University of Greenwich. In 2005 he published, with Allen Lane/Penguin, *The Pursuit of Victory: the life and achievement of Horatio Nelson*, which won the Duke of Westminster's Medal for Military History, the Mountbatten Award and the Anderson Medal of the Society for Nautical Research. The present book is a culmination of his life-long interest in the workings of the late eighteenth-century British state. 'Superb' - Spectator

A wonderfully disorienting read ... for [Knight] the real heroes of the struggle against Napoleon are not Wellington or Nelson or Collingwood or Cochrane but the clerks and administrators and 'silent men of business' who put Britain's armies in the field and kept her ships at sea and her allies in funds and ultimately won the war ... there is scarcely a wasted sentence here, not a duff page, not a chapter ... that does not bring you very close to the realities of a total war -- David Crane \* Spectator

\*About the Author  
Roger Knight was Deputy Director of the National Maritime Museum until 2000, and now teaches at the Greenwich Maritime Institute at the University of Greenwich. His previous books for Allen Lane/Penguin are *The Pursuit of Victory: The Life and Achievement of Horatio Nelson*, which won the Duke of Westminster's Medal for Military History, the Mountbatten Award and the Anderson Medal of the Society for Nautical Research, and *Britain Against Napoleon: The Organization of Victory, 1793-1815*.