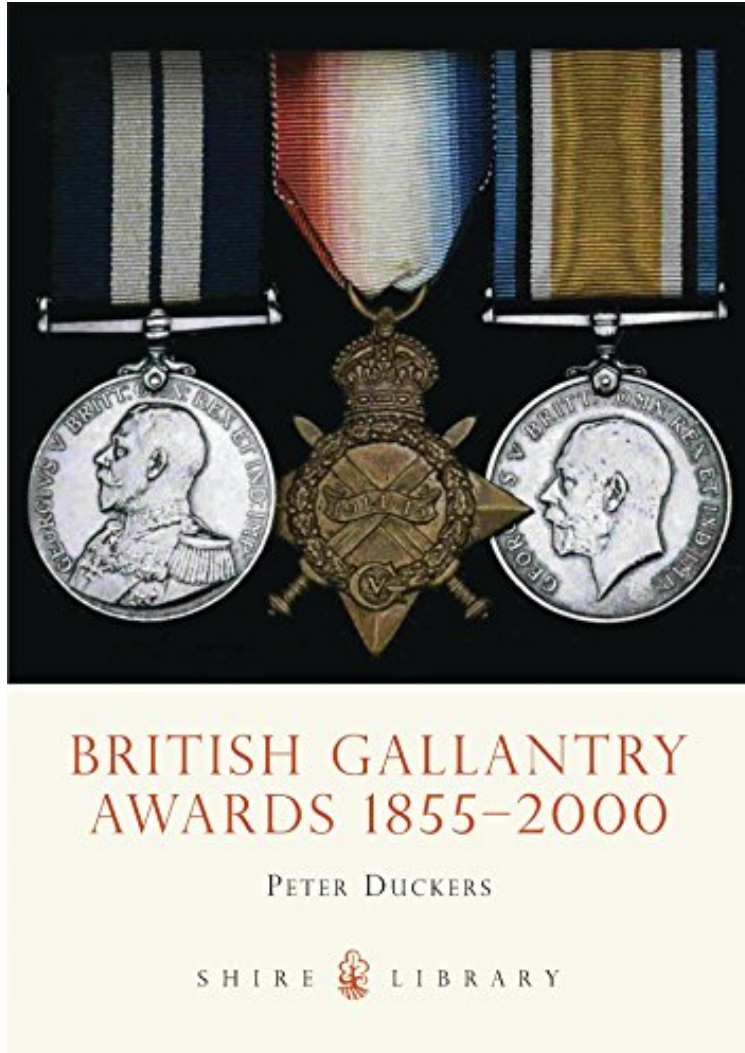


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British Gallantry Awards, 1855-2000 (Shire Library)

Peter Duckers

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Since the ancient times soldiers have been honoured for gallantry in battle, and since the 1850s specific acts of bravery

'in the face of the enemy' by British and Imperial forces have been recognized by the award of a range of wearable decorations. These provide a visual indication both of the bravery of the recipient of its recognition by the government and nation. Collecting awards for gallantry and researching them and their recipients has become a significant hobby within the world of militaria and numismatics: it provides enthusiasts with a feeling of real contact with those who experienced the dangers and excitement of the great events of military history, and it helps to keep alive the memory of brave men and women who served their country around the world. This book surveys these British decorations and medals from their origins in the Crimean War of 1854-6 up to the twentieth century.

About the Author Peter Duckers has been a collector of British campaign and gallantry medals for many years, and now specializes in awards to the Indian Army. He has written numerous magazine and journal articles about medals and collecting and is a member of the Orders and Medals Research Society. He is a Curator of the Shropshire Regimental Museum in Shrewsbury Castle.