

New Book Review

A Guide to the Anglo-Zulu Battlefields

Author; Dr Adrian Greaves

Review for Pen & Sword publishers

By Dr David Payne

The purpose of this book is to give the reader a perceptive overview of the causes and battles of the 1879 Anglo-Zulu War which commenced with the British defeat at Isandlwana and the defence of Rorke's Drift. For twenty-five years the author, a close friend of David Rattray, regularly visited the numerous battlefields of Zululand, where he worked as an accredited guide and guest speaker, escorting over 1,000 UK visitors and many corporate groups around the far-flung and fascinating battlefields of Zululand. I had the privilege of accompanying several of his tours while conducting my own research into Lieutenant Harford's role in Zululand. His tours were noted for his professionalism and safely visiting many unique and important 'off the beaten track' locations, for which his hand-drawn maps were invaluable.

This book's maps and illuminating observations are taken from the author's personal on-site lecture maps and notes he used across the battlefields. The maps include many little known details of the fierce and bloody battles that were fought in this short campaign. It was a war that lasted only six months and witnessed two separate British invasions of Zululand and, while volumes have been written on the subject, such illustrative maps were able to give battlefield visitors an even better insight and understanding of many Anglo-Zulu war events.

Dr David Payne

Harford – The Writings, Photographs and Sketches. The Ultimatum Tree Ltd. 2008.

