



# The Blitz | Evacuation | Prisoners of War | Rationing

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Editorial Choice:

off

Media type:

Book

BfK Rating:

0

Life in Britain in the Second World War is an increasingly well-documented period of history for young readers, but conjuring up the essence of that era is not always easy.

Few families remained unaffected by the conflict and these attractively presented titles, each focusing on a particular aspect of the Home Front, provide a very readable account of the hardships and emotional turmoil experienced by many of them.

Each book has a brief introduction which helpfully places the topic in its historical context - for example food shortages in the First World War which led to detailed plans for rationing in the Second. This is followed by an objective, balanced narrative which not only mentions how Germany faced similar problems, but also tackles controversial issues - such as the interning of 'enemy aliens' by the British authorities.

Fiona Reynoldson's crisp, almost clinical, style is often chillingly effective - 'The bombers came the next night and the next. They came for fifty-seven nights in a row' (**The Blitz**). She also uses contemporary eye-witness accounts, personal recollections and extracts from reports to evoke a strong period flavour. The text is illustrated by a wealth of carefully chosen photographs together with government posters, cigarette cards and other memorabilia.

Appended is a glossary, ideas for projects and a further reading list which is divided into books for younger readers and older readers (including some adult titles). Disappointingly, there is no fiction amongst them.

Running Order:

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