



# VE Day

8<sup>th</sup> May 1945

Victory in Europe Day/VE Day took place on May 8<sup>th</sup> 1945. It was a public holiday and day of celebration to mark the defeat of Germany by the Allied forces in Second World War.

VE Day marked the formal conclusion of the war with Germany and brought to an end six years of suffering, courage and endurance across the world.

# Time to Celebrate!

- People ran out on to the streets, hanging bunting and banners and dancing.
- Church bells pealed across the country to share the news: peace in Europe!
- Everyone brought out food to share at street parties.
- Tuesday May 8<sup>th</sup> was to be a national day of celebration: Victory in Europe Day.

# Time to Celebrate!

- The capital city, London, was the place to be on VE Day.
- Anyone who could reach the city did so.
- The centre of London was full of people wearing red, white and blue, waving flags, dancing and singing.
- Fireworks filled the sky with flashes of light.



# “The German war is therefore at an end.”

- On VE Day, everyone, both in London and at home sitting by their wireless sets, wanted to hear just one man: Winston Churchill.
- At 3pm the Prime Minister broadcast to the nation: the war was over.



# “The German war is therefore at an end.”

- Crowds gathered in Trafalgar Square and up The Mall.
- They were waiting for Winston Churchill and King George VI to make an appearance on the balcony of Buckingham Palace.



# “This is your victory!”

- Shortly after Churchill's speech, King George VI, Queen Elizabeth and the two princesses came out onto the balcony at Buckingham Palace.
- Churchill told the crowds: “This is your victory!”



Here are some photos of people celebrating  
the end of WW2...

























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# Daily Mail

**WORLD**  
**EDITION**

**TUESDAY**  
**FIELD-DAY**

NO. 10000 THE NEWSPAPER FOR KING AND EMPIRE THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1945

**3-Power Announcement to-day; but Britain knew last night**

## VE-DAY—IT'S ALL OVER

All quiet till 9 p.m.—then the London crowds went mad in the West End



**By Day & By Night**

*PM put off the big speech*

**UNTIL TODAY**  
 BY [Name]  
**Q**UINCEY [Name] announced...  
 The announcement in the...  
 will be the official...  
 of...  
 will give the...  
 of the...  
 in the...

**CHECK YOUR**  
**"MACH GUNNERS"**  
 THE...  
**TERRACE NEARLY**  
**CUT IN TWO**



*The picture that tells it all: Churchill in the midst of the people*

# THIS WAS THEIR FINEST DAY



*And Monty gives  
final message—*

*Well done:  
Good luck  
to you all*

**F**IELD-MARSHAL SIR BERNARD MONTGOMERY and General Eisenhower last night gave their personal thanks as man to man to the troops who fought under them and won the war in Europe.

Monty said: Let us embark on what lies ahead full of joy and optimism. We have won the German war, let us now win the peace. Good luck to you all, wherever you may be.

The Supreme Commander wrote: The crusade on which we embarked in the early summer of 1944 has reached its glorious conclusion. Every man, every woman, of every nation represented in this

1 a.m. LATEST



# Get Creative!

- Make some celebration bunting. Use the template provided on the website of create your very own!
- Make a flag. In the photos, many people are waving the Union Jack flag. Have a go at making your own.
- Make a street party celebration poster.
- Design an invitation for a street party.
- Make a party hat.
- Have a go at making some of the wartime recipes provided on the website.
- Design and make your own war medal (see website for examples and instructions).
- Have a go at making your own Spitfire war plane.