



Friday 8 May 2020

2020 marks the 75th anniversary of VE Day, the moment that the guns across Europe fell silent and the war with Nazi Germany came to an end.

The war, which had raged for six years, officially ended at one minute after midnight on 8 May 1945. After years of bloodshed on the front lines and destruction, austerity and loss on the home front, the nation erupted into celebration marking Victory in Europe, enshrining 8 May in history as VE Day.

Now 75 years on, the nation, and its allies around the world, will once again celebrate the liberation of Europe from the tyranny of Hitler's Nazi occupation. In order to allow the nation to pay tribute to those who sacrificed so much and celebrate the freedom they gave us, the May Day Bank Holiday has been moved to Friday 8 May.

Whilst original plans for three-days of celebratory events have been postponed due to the COVID-19 outbreak, SSAFA, the Armed Forces charity, will still be honouring the wartime generation on this landmark occasion. So please join us, from the safety of your own homes on 8 May, to celebrate and give thanks to those who gave so much for our freedom.

ssafa | the
Armed Forces
charity

ssafa.org.uk

VE DAY 75

PARTY AT HOME

FRIDAY
8 MAY

11:00

MOMENT OF REMEMBRANCE

A two minute's silence to be held to remember the sacrifices of the wartime generation.

All
Day

VE DAY PARTY AT HOME

Bring the spirit of the VE Day street party into your own home by hosting a VE Day themed party for your household.

14:55

PIPERS & BUGLERS

Buglers will play the Last Post and Reveille from their homes across the nation, followed by pipers playing Battle's O'er and the specially composed tune VE Day 75.

18:00

KATHERINE JENKINS LIVE FROM ROYAL ALBERT HALL

In partnership with Snappin' Turtle, SSAFA, YouTube and the Mayor of London's office, the singer will be performing a concert to be live streamed on YouTube.

15:00

CHURCHILL'S SPEECH

Just as it was in 1945, Sir Winston Churchill's address to the nation declaring peace in Europe will be broadcast across the BBC.

21:00

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN'S MESSAGE TO THE NATION

The Queen will read out a message to the nation at the exact moment her father, King George VI, gave a radio address in 1945.

THE NATION'S TOAST

Join us in raising a toast to the wartime generation following the broadcast of Churchill's victory speech.

21:15

WE'LL MEET AGAIN

The nation are being encouraged to open their doors and join in a global sing-a-long of Dame Vera Lynn's wartime classic from their homes.

SSAFA, the Armed Forces charity, has produced fundraising toolkits, party at home packs, history posters and bunting templates to help you celebrate and commemorate the wartime generation on the 75th anniversary of VE Day. For more information please visit ssafa.org.uk/VEDay75

Pageantmaster Bruno Peek LVO OBE OPR devised the Nation's Toast, and is orchestrating the performances by the pipers and buglers. The official wording for the Nation's Toast, sheet music and certificates of participation can be downloaded for free from his official website www.veday75.org.uk.

Remember to follow, like and tag @VEDay75official on social media to see how others are paying tribute in their homes, and share your stories of the 75th anniversary of VE Day.