



**VE
DAY
80**



VE DAY[®]

80TH ANNIVERSARY

A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION

8 MAY 2025

How do you think the people are feeling?



What could be making them feel this way?

What do you notice about the car and the clothes people are wearing?

8th May 1945 – People celebrating VE Day in London.



VE stands for Victory in Europe

On this day the Allied armies accepted the unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany's armed forces – ending the Second World War in Europe.

The Second World War started in 1939 and ended in 1945 - six years later.

Millions of people around the world died - more than in any other war. Thousands of them were from Britain.



Bombs were dropped on towns and cities. In Britain the worst bombing was between 1940 and 1941 during the blitz.



The Allies and the Axis Countries

The war was fought on two sides

The Allies

Britain
France
United States of
America (USA)
Soviet Union (USSR)

Many other
countries were
also involved on
one side or the
other.

Some countries
were neutral.

The Axis

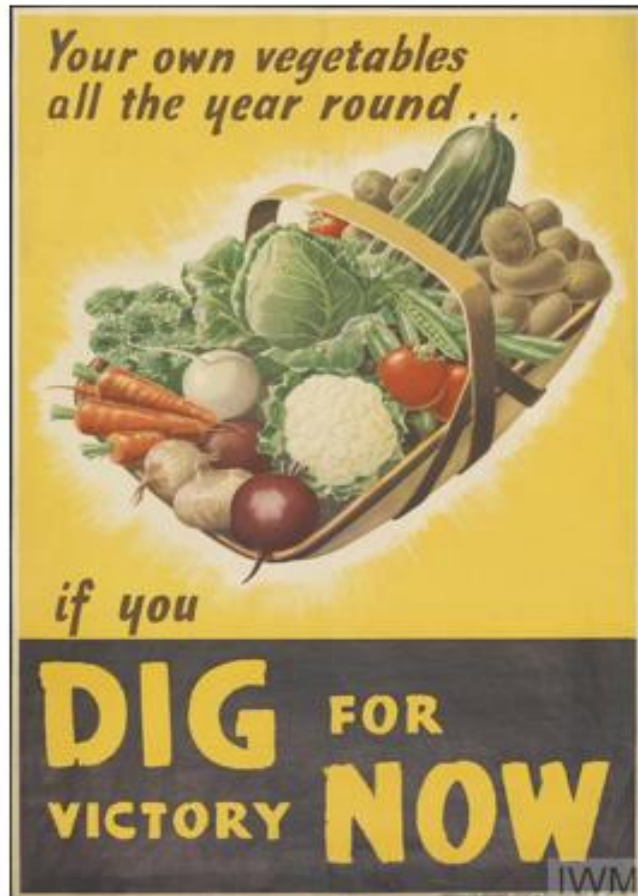
Nazi
Germany
Italy
Japan



During the War, over a million children and mothers with babies, living in cities, were sent to live with host families in the countryside.

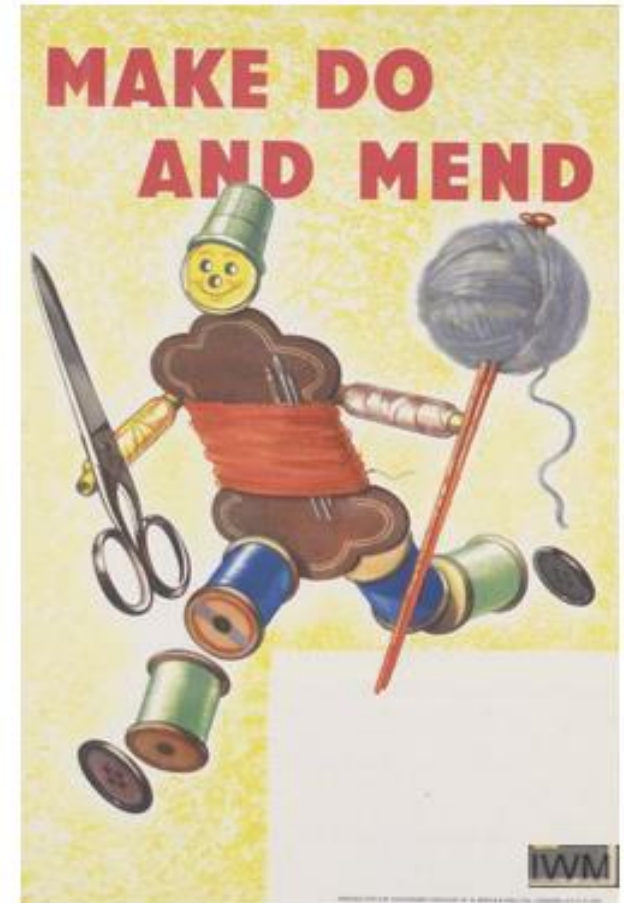
Why do you think this might have been?

What do you think these posters are about?



During the war it was very difficult to import food from other countries, so people were encouraged to grow their own vegetables. Some food was rationed, so everyone had a fair share.

There was also a shortage of clothing materials, so people were encouraged to repair clothes and recycle fabric.



Do you recognise this man?



For most of the Second World War, the Prime Minister of Britain was **Winston Churchill**.

He was a very popular leader and was well known for making speeches



Adolf Hitler was the leader
of the German Nazi Party
from 1933 -1945

VE day – Victory in Europe



On 8th May 1945 Hitler and the Nazis surrendered.

That means they agreed to stop fighting and to end the war.

The terrible war was over in Europe.

This became known in Britain as VE day – Victory in Europe.

How did people celebrate?



Winston Churchill declared a public holiday.

Thousands of people travelled to London to celebrate.

What sign is Winston Churchill making with his hand? What does it mean?



Lots of people cheered as King George VI and his family, including Princess Elizabeth (later queen) and Princess Margaret, came out onto the balcony to greet everybody. Princess Elizabeth and her sister were allowed to leave the palace and celebrate with crowds outside, although they had to do it secretly.

How did people celebrate?






Where is this celebration taking place?



May 1945 VE Day Street
Party Long Hill Rise,
Hucknall (DD1868-1)

All over the country (including Hucknall) people came together to celebrate the end of the war.

Remember V.E day was 8th May 1945

An orange square with a thin blue border, positioned to the left of the text.

This year on the 8th May 2025 we will be celebrating the anniversary of this day.

A time for us to celebrate too and to remember those who sacrificed so much.





"In order to commemorate the peace and freedom given to us through the bravery and ultimate sacrifice of so many thousands involved in the D-Day landings, and throughout the whole of WWII, beacons and Lamp Lights of Peace will be lit across the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK Overseas Territories

The flames represent the "light of Peace" that emerges from the dreadful darkness of war.

Beacons

- Beacons were lit at strategic sites across the UK as a means of signalling. A lit beacon could mean enemy troops were advancing or a sign of danger.



Lanterns were used too.



Have you been sledging on Misk Hills?



The highest hill on Misk is called Beacon Hill. This is because it was the sight of a beacon. Had the enemies invaded during the war a fire would have been lit on the top of the hill.

Why do you think this sight was chosen?

You are invited to Beardall's Beacon of Peace Light up!

- This will take place at 11:00pm on the playground.
- Please bring with you a thought or a wish to add to our lamp light of peace. This could be a picture, a few sentences, a poem, a letter from a soldier
- We would like it if each class could have one child read something out
- Each class will be invited in turn to place their thoughts in our beacon.
- Bring your flags, badges, work and anything to join in the celebration.