

History is:
the study of the past
so that

we can better understand the present



Timeline for step 1



Where do your friends or family go on this timeline?

What other events could you add to the timeline?

Child's living memory

Adult living memory

Grandparents, older adults living memory

VE Day 1945

- We every passing year there are fewer people who were alive when the actual event took place.
- As historians, how can we ensure we keep these memories alive?
- Yes, we use historical **sources** are what we use to find out information about the past.

Source Examples

- Newspapers
- Word of Mouth
- Photographs
- Diary entries
- Artefacts
- Letters
- Television
- Internet
- Radio

*Which ones are we
more likely to use to
learn about VE Day?
Why?*

Historical Sources

When looking at sources it is useful to think about the 3 R's.

- Is it **rich**? (How much does it tell us?)
- Is it **reliable**? (Can we trust it?)
- Is it **relevant**? (Does it help us answer what we are trying to find out?)

VE Day 2025 Nottinghamshire During the War

- Look at the following sources of evidence of Nottinghamshire celebrating VE Day in 1945.
- Today we are trying to find out:
- ‘What happened on VE Day in 1945?’
- Consider the 3 Rs when looking at these sources.

VE Day 1945



A street party in Reading

VE Day 1945



Market Square, Nottingham 1945

VE Day 1945



Street Party, Carlton, Nottingham 1945

VE Day 1945



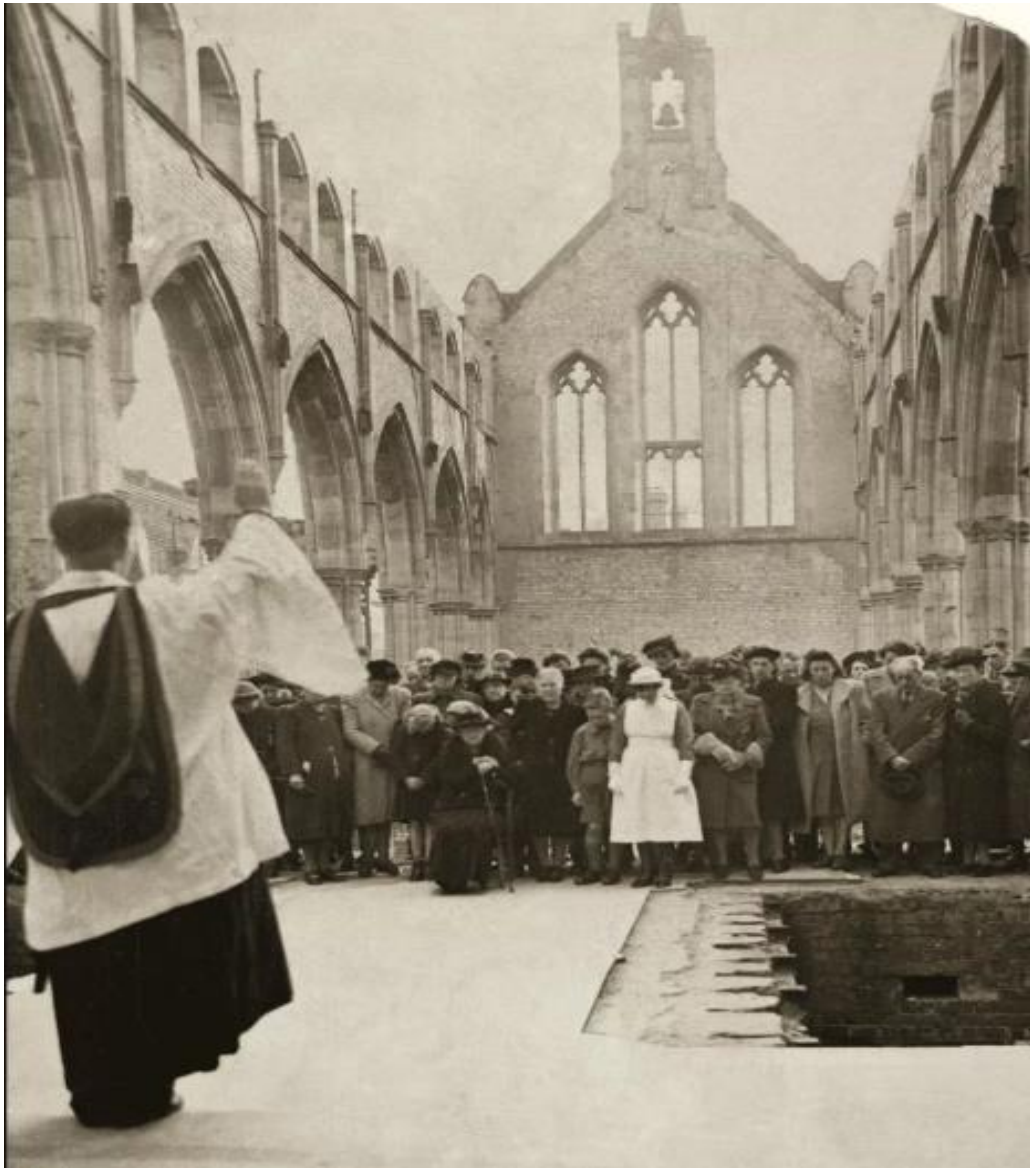
Papers being bought, Nottingham 1945

VE Day 1945



Recognise this?

VE Day 1945



Memorial service in a bombed out church in Sneinton

VE Day 1945



Street Party, Long Hill Rise, Hucknall

VE Day 1945

For...
**BROADCASTING
PROGRAMMES**
See Page Six

No. 27,750.

UNREGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION
IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Nottingham Guardian

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 1945.

6 PAGES

DO 1168/2312/19

GUARDIAN
Title Corner Space
at 25/- per day

THE WORLD ACCLAIMS VICTORY



The huge crowd in Nottingham's Old Market-square listening to the Prime Minister's speech yesterday afternoon.

**PAUSE FOR THANKSGIVING,
KING TELLS EMPIRE**

**"WE TURN, FORTIFIED BY SUCCESS,
TO DEAL WITH LAST FOE"**

THE KING, in his V-Day broadcast, thanked the peoples of the Empire who, "armed or unarmed, men or women, have fought and striven and endured to the utmost" to overthrow the Nazi tyranny.

After a pause for thanksgiving, he said, we must turn, fortified by success, to deal with our last remaining foe, Japan. We must face the future, with

**Warm & Thundery
Again To-day**

The weather forecast is back again. Here is the Air Ministry forecast for to-day: A large depression between Ireland and the Azores is almost stationary, and small disturbances are moving northward over the British Isles. Weather will continue warm and thundery, with bright intervals in most districts.

Midlands: Wind slight or moderate, occasional thunderstorms or thundery rain, bright intervals, warm or very warm.

Weather outlook: Little change.

**CITY CROWD'S LAUGHTER
AND TEARS**

IN Old Market-square, Nottingham, at 9 o'clock last night, there followed laughter when nearly 10,000 people, stood in silence listening to the King. Both men and women were seen to wipe their eyes surreptitiously as the solemnity of the occasion became apparent. Just before the speech the crowd, laughing and dancing to the strains of popular music played by the N.P.S. Band, were suddenly silenced as the strains of the National Anthem came through the loudspeakers. The shouting crowd stopped still and straightened up to attention, their faces all lit up.

people in the square, and the streets immediately adjoining it. Just before the Lord Mayor (Cous. J. Harvey), accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, stood on the balcony and watched the dancing. From 11.30 to midnight the number of merry-makers increased to between 25,000 and 30,000. A policeman was wounded in a merry jig and a girl wore his helmet. Cheers, popping cracker and other spectacular fireworks were discharged during the revels.

The Guildhall and Nottingham Castle were among the buildings illuminated. Thousands of people visited the Arboretum, where a brilliant water was projected by forty lights, as lamps in the trees, and a flood in fountain.

**THIRD REICH HAS
ENDED.**

**GERMANY IS UNDER
ALLIED CONTROL.**

At midnight last night, with the formal "Cease Fire" on all fronts, the German Third Reich ended its legal existence and its Government ceased to function.

Germany, says Röntgen, is now a disarmed and occupied country without further independent existence, and her Government, her military leaders, and her armed forces are totally in the

Nottinghamshire Newspaper VE Day 1945

VE Day 1945



What happened on VE Day in 1945?

- What did these sources tell us?
- Were they reliable?
- Were they rich?
- Were they relevant?
- What are the limitations of these sources?
- What other sources could we look at to find out more?

How did people celebrate on VE Day?

- Food and drink

How did people celebrate on VE Day?

Food had to be rationed during the war and people had to get their ration book stamped by the shopkeeper. Why do you think this was?



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/articles/zbgby9q>

Rationing

Rationing

Supermarkets didn't exist in the 1940s. People had to go to different shops and ask the shopkeeper for the thing that they wanted. Why do you think they had to register with these shops?

This woman is in a grocer's shop. Can you spot the box of dried eggs?



Rationing

This woman is buying her weekly ration of chocolate. Each person was only allowed 90g each!

What if she had wanted more?

How would she have got more?



Rationed Meals for a Family of Four (You would have to make this last all week!)

Butter – 200g	Bacon – 400g	Margarine – 400g
Sugar – 900g	Meat – 500g	Milk – 8 pints (2200ml)
Cheese - 200g	4 fresh eggs	Tea – 200g
Jam - 225g	Dried eggs – 400g	Sweets – 350g

Why Celebrate?

Part of the reason for celebrating on VE day was that people had saved up ingredients over a long period of time to enjoy the celebration.

There was plenty of food, drink and bunting so everyone was very happy indeed.

Think how you would feel if you were able to have your favourite food having not had it for months and months – imagine the joy!

How else did people celebrate on VE Day?

- Games
- Dancing
- Singing

You have this opportunity today during your Field of Games time!