

VE Day 8 May

Friday 8 May 2020 marks the seventy-fifth anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day.

VE Day was when the fighting stopped across mainland Europe and brought an end to nearly six years of loss and devastation.

The war continued however in the Pacific region until August, but VE Day provided a brief opportunity the country to celebrate.

From VE Day onwards attentions turned from fighting to relief work and rebuilding the shattered continent to become the mostly peaceful and cooperative community that we have lived in ever since.

The modern world will always have a debt to the contribution of the wartime generation.

Learn about wartime Scouting

Learn about wartime Scouting. – After the horrors of World War I, Baden Powell was keen that Scouting would always be a movement for peace.

Scouting continued through the Second World War helping with civil operations and relief work.

Find out more:

[Scouts Heritage: Second World War](#)

[BBC People's War: The Boy Scout Blitz Volunteers](#)

Marking VE Day

A national day of celebration was planned for Friday 8 May which is a Bank Holiday.

Many of the events have had to be cancelled because of social distancing.

However it is still possible to get involved from home.

Two-minute silence

There will be two minutes of silence at 11:00 to mark a national moment of remembrance.

The Queen

Her Majesty the Queen, our patron, will speak to the national at 21:00 on BBC One.

This will be exactly 75 years from her father King George VI's VE Day radio address

Royal British Legion

Norfolk Scouts is affiliated with the Norfolk Branch of the Royal British Legion (RBL)

The RBL are organising ways that people from home can get involved including:

[Facebook Livestream 11:15](#) – to share stories and memories of VE Day

[Singalong 21:00](#) – following the Queen there will be a singalong led by famous singers. Everyone is encouraged to join in for a UK-wide rendition of 'We'll meet again' from their doorsteps.

[The words are available on the RBL Website.](#) Why not join in with your mobile around the (virtual) campfire?

The RBL have also produced a number of educational resources for VE Day including home learning packs. [These could support virtual meetings.](#)

The Scouts

Check out the Scouts' [VE prepared](#) programme part of 'The Great Indoors' on [Scouts.org.uk](#)

Other home programme resources

[History Hit](#) – at 16:00 on Monday 4, Wednesday 6 and Friday 8 May, Historian Dan Snow will be [presenting history lessons for Children on YouTube](#).

[Ancestry.co.uk](#) – All UK records will be free for the public from Monday 4 May to Sunday 10 May to allow people to uncover the roles their families parted in the Second World War.

[English Heritage](#) have produced 'Nine things you should know about VE Day' and also published some iconic photographs of the day on their website.

Have a tea party at home

Government

The Department of Culture, Media and Sport have produced a [guide to holding a tea party](#) while observing social distancing.

This includes recipes and music ideas.

English Heritage

English Heritage have also produced a [VE Day at home pack](#) that includes recipes, dance instructions and song lyrics.

Decorating the house

Wartime decorations were homemade (and recycled!)

Encourage young people to decorate their house to help mark VE Day

BBC Local Radio have launched '[Great British Bunting](#)' with resources to make the classic decoration.

The Department of Culture, Media and Sport have produced [a toolkit to decorate your home](#).

Of course there's a badge!

The Scout Store are selling blanket badges to commemorate VE Day.

50% of the proceeds will be donated to the Royal British Legion

[Visit the Scout Store website](#).



Stay safe and share your day

How ever you and your sections get involved make sure you stay safe and apply Government advice on social distancing.

We'd love to see pictures, why not post them on our social media – Facebook, Instagram or Twitter @NorfolkScouts