

QEGS
BLACKBURN



VE DAY
75TH ANNIVERSARY
A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION
8 - 10 MAY 2020

Friday 8th May marks the 75th Anniversary of the end of the Second World War in Europe, or VE Day.

There had been plans to mark this anniversary with a series of national commemorations and a Bank Holiday. However, events have conspired to make this next to impossible.

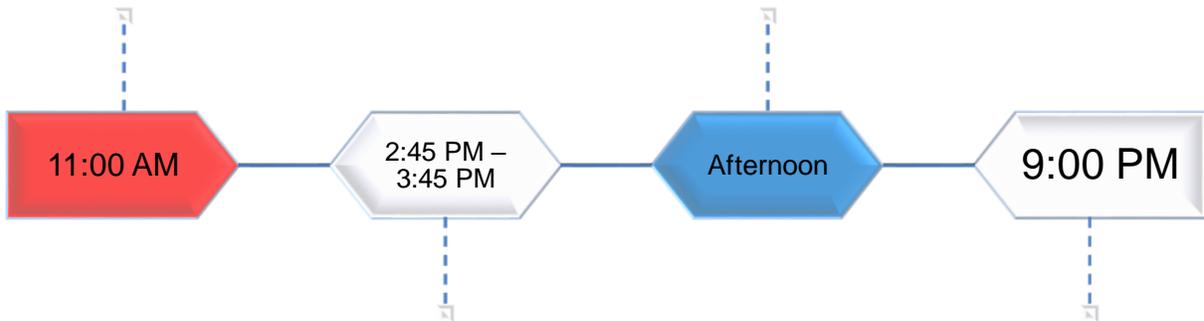
However, we feel that it is important to recognise the generation that stood up to and defeated the forces of tyranny, prejudice, hate and intolerance. A generation that in recent weeks has become symbolised by the actions of one 100 year old man walking the length of his garden. Captain Tom's generation, whether pilots, soldiers, sailors, land girls, factory workers, air raid wardens or evacuees were all heroes who faced up to the Nazi onslaught.

But, they were also the generation that rebuilt from the ashes - who helped create our National Health Service with the ideal of building a land fit for heroes. Maybe it is even more fitting than ever, in our present situation, that we remember the deeds of our forebears. When this crisis is over, we, in our turn, might take some inspiration from the past and build our own land fit for our heroes; people sacrificing their own safety to work in the NHS, keep our supermarkets open, deliver the post or collect our rubbish.

With that in mind, stay safe, stay strong, until We Meet Again

VE DAY OFFICIAL TIMETABLE

Two-minute national silence to remember the declaration of victory and the end of the Second World War in Europe.



Britons encouraged to hold 1940s-style afternoon tea parties at home rather than street parties, including homemade bunting and recipes from the era.

The first of two special BBC One programmes to mark VE75, including extract from Sir Winston Churchill's victory speech delivered at 3pm on VE Day.

Address by the Queen followed by a national doorstep rendition of Dame Vera Lynn's "We'll Meet Again".

HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT -

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

HERO IN THE WINDOW

People in lockdown are being urged to commemorate the occasion from home displaying a specially designed image of a Second World War soldier, factory worker or evacuee in their windows. We feel that it would be fitting to do this and put them alongside images of those who have sacrificed their own safety in the present crisis.



The armed forces charity Royal British Legion Industries (RBLI), which also organises the Poppy Appeal, has launched the [“Tommy in the window”](#) campaign, producing specially designed figures of British Troops.



DISCOVER YOUR FAMILY'S WWII STORY

Access the Ancestry website is free over the weekend - there are some online guides to follow and it might be interesting to see what your family did during World War II. To see what you can find out go to: [Discover your family WWII story.](#)

MAKE YOUR OWN BUNTING

The BBC's Make A Difference campaign has joined the official calls for the nation to put up Union Jack bunting, with the population asked to show off their displays on social media using the hashtags #GreatBritishBunting and #VEDay75.

You'll need some materials on hand, but these can be anything from paper, cereal boxes, string, ribbon, sweet wrappers, felt pens, poster paint or whatever you can find.

The BBC says: "You can decorate your bunting with pictures of whatever inspires you, whether it's those who fought on the frontline or worked hard on the Homefront, or whether it's a celebration of enduring peace or your own personal hero."

To get involved, you can download the bunting template pack can be downloaded at [Great British Bunting](#) or [Colouring Heroes](#)



HOLD A VE DAY TEA PARTY.

Residents in Blackburn with Darwen are being invited to join in with a 'stay at home street party'. Leader of the council, Councillor Mohammed Khan, hopes you all will celebrate at home with bunting, afternoon tea and a doorstep sing-a-long!

"Blackburn with Darwen is bursting with community spirit and at times like these we're used to seeing whole streets decked out and big street parties planned. We're also a patriotic bunch and so we're inviting all of our residents to join in with a stay at home street party.

We'd love to see homemade bunting and people enjoying afternoon tea with their households in

their gardens or yards. There's a national sing-a-long on Friday evening of Vera Lynn's 'We'll Meet Again' and I'm sure the residents of Blackburn with Darwen will be in fine voice! We know this is a very different way to commemorate the 75th anniversary than we had planned, but we're good at making the best of a situation.

We're facing the toughest of times since the Second World War and the important thing is to keep safe as we face the worst public health crisis in a generation. Having said that, now more than ever is a real time for reflection and coming together to show our appreciation for the sacrifices others are making every single day. Those young men who went to war to fight for our freedom, many paying the ultimate sacrifice, and their efforts, and those of all involved, deserve to be commemorated."



Councillor Mohammed Khan

You might even like to try out some of these wartime treats...

Potato Scones

6 oz flour
4 oz mashed potato
1 teaspoonful baking powder
½ teaspoonful salt
1 oz fat
4-5 tablespoonfuls milk

Mix the flour and salt. Add the baking powder and work into the mashed potato. Rub in the fat. Blend to a soft dough with milk. Roll out to ¼ inch thickness. Cut into rounds. Brush the tops with milk. Bake on greased baking sheets for 15 minutes in a hot oven. For a sweet scone add 1 oz sugar.

Vegetables with Cheese Crust

½ cup cooked spinach
½ cup cooked broad bean
½ cup cooked diced carrots
1 onion (or leek)
½ cup chopped cooked potatoes
½ cup cooked peas
1 cup gravy
½oz cooking fat
¼oz grated cheese
Shortcrust (made from 1lb wholewheat flour and 4oz. cooking fat)

Chop up the onion and fry in cooking fat until brown. Add to all the other vegetables and stir in gravy. Put into a pie dish. Mix grated cheese into pastry with a knife. Roll out and cover vegetables with the crust. Bake in fairly quick oven until pastry is cooked and brown.

Egg Fricassee

4 eggs boiled for six minutes
1 teacup vegetable stock
2 chopped onions
1 teacup milk (household milk or all vegetable stock)
1 tablespoon cooking fat
1 tablespoon wholewheat flour
Minced parsley

Melt fat, add chopped onions and cook very gently, not to brown. When tender, add flour and cook. Then add milk and stock and boil gently for five minutes. Cut eggs in quarters lengthwise, add to sauce and heat through, taking care not to break up the eggs. Serve on a hot dish garnished with a sprinkling of minced parsley

Prune Sponge

8 oz flour
1 oz fat
1 tablespoon syrup
½ teaspoon mixed spice
½ teaspoon nutmeg
½ teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
Salt
Water or milk to mix
8-12 prunes

Rub the fat into the dry ingredients and mix to a soft consistency with syrup and milk or water. Place the soaked stoned prunes in the bottom of a greased basin, and pile the pudding mixture on top. Cover with a greased paper and steam for 1 ½-2 hours. Use the prune juice thickened with cornflour or custard powder as a sauce.

WE'LL MEET AGAIN SING - A - LONG

9PM

Made famous during the war by Dame Vera Lynn, the words have developed a significance during the current crisis and The Queen used them in her recent address to the nation. Join us sing once again to We'll Meet Again

We'll meet again
Don't know where
Don't know when
But I know we'll meet again some
sunny day Keep smiling through

Just like you always do
'Till the blue skies drive the dark
clouds far away

So will you please say hello To
the folks that I know Tell them I
won't be long They'll be happy to
know That as you saw me go

I was singing this song

We'll meet again
Don't know where
Don't know when
But I know we'll meet again some
sunny day We'll meet again

Don't know where
Don't know when
But I know we'll meet again some
sunny day

Keep smiling through
Just like you always do
'Til the blue skies
Drive the dark clouds far away

So will you please say hello To the folks
that I know Tell them it won't be long They'll be happy
to know That as you saw me go

I was singin' this song

We'll meet again
Don't know where
Don't know when
But I know we'll meet again some sunny day



Whatever you decide to do to mark this event - we really enjoy seeing what you got up to - please send back stories of what your family did in the war or pictures of your bunting, or efforts at cooking, or tea parties, or simply singing along with Vera to

gavery@qegsblackburn.com

UNTIL WE MEET

AGAIN,

STAY STRONG,

STAY SAFE