

Chef News

History

Gifted

VE 75 Victory in Europe Celebrations!
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The newspaper which keeps you one step ahead!

Exclusive News Today

Victory in Europe 75 Years



The poppy flower is a symbol of remembrance.

By Michaela Wright

Victory in Europe Day/ VE Day took place on May 8th 1945. It was a public holiday and day of celebration to mark the defeat of Germany by the Allied forces in World War 2.

- **VE Day stands for Victory in Europe. On 8th May 1945, the Second World War ended in Europe.**



On May 7th 1945, in the presence of senior officers from Britain, America, Russia and France, Germany surrendered unconditionally. At last, there was peace in Europe.

Who is Tommy?



A Tommy was a name for a British soldier. No one is sure where the name comes from; however, it is thought to refer to army slang for 'Tommy Atkins', which goes back at least as far as 1815. It became common in the First World War for people to refer to a British soldier as a Tommy.



Victory in Europe Celebrations ...

After suffering so many bombing raids, London was the place to be on VE Day and anyone who could reach the city did so. The centre of London was full of people wearing red, white and blue, waving flags, dancing and singing. Fireworks filled the sky with flashes of light.

On VE Day, everyone, both in London and at home sitting by their wireless sets, wanted to hear just one man: Winston Churchill. At 3pm the Prime Minister broadcast to the nation: the war was over. Crowds gathered in Trafalgar Square and up The Mall, waiting for Winston Churchill and King George VI to make an appearance on the balcony of Buckingham Palace. Shortly after Churchill's speech, King George VI, Queen Elizabeth and the two princesses came out onto the balcony at Buckingham Palace. It was to be the first of eight appearances by the King and Queen on VE Day. When the doors onto the balcony were opened again at 5.30pm, the Royal Family stepped out accompanied by the man of the hour, Churchill. Churchill later told the crowds: "This is your victory!" Later that evening, Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret slipped out of Buckingham Palace to experience the celebrations for themselves. They stood amongst the joyful crowds below the royal balcony.

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HM Queen Elizabeth II recalled in 1985:

"... my sister and I realised we couldn't see what the crowds were enjoying ... so we asked my parents if we could go out and see for ourselves ... After crossing Green Park we stood outside and shouted, 'We want the King', and were successful in seeing my parents on the balcony. I think it was one of the most memorable nights of my life."





VICTORIA SPONGE CAKE

The Victoria sponge or Victoria sandwich cake was named after Queen Victoria, who was known to enjoy a slice of the sponge cake with her afternoon tea. It is often referred to simply as Victoria Sponge Cake. A typical Victoria sponge consists of raspberry jam and whipped double cream or vanilla cream. The jam and cream are sandwiched between two sponge cakes; the top of the cake is not iced or decorated apart from a dusting of icing sugar. See separate sheet for recipe & instructions.



What are Victory Gardens?

In War Time many school and park grounds were used to grow vegetables and fruit. This was because there was a national food shortage and Great Britain needed to grow food for themselves. As we could not get it from other countries because of the war. Children were asked to help with gardening chores like watering, planting seeds, and weeding.



OTHER WARTIME RECIPES...

Eggless Chocolate Cake, Carrot Scones, Vegetable Stew were familiar dishes on tables during the war. Luxuries like chocolate was rationed and so were eggs if families could make these foods go a little further they would. Carrots were used to sweeten scones instead of sugar as this was also rationed. Vegetable Stew was often eaten as meat was also rationed so families would use things like lentils, split peas or barley as extra protein in soups.