

NEWS JUST IN!!!

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/remembrance/remembrance-events/ve-day-75>

I wanted to draw your attention to the special remembrance events taking part to commemorate VE Day. Would you be able to share this with your members, if you haven't been alerted to this, as the **good news is that child evacuees are eligible to take part.**

I would be interested to hear from any of your members who have family members who have been supported by the Legion and who have interesting stories of where they were on the day itself. (How they felt, how they celebrated and how family members responded and reacted, that sort of thing). We would love to share their stories with the media.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch.
All the best

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75th Anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE 75)

In 2020 we will be asking the nation to remember the impact that leaving, missing and returning home has on service men and women & their loved ones – then and now. The commemorations for both VE and VJ Day will be the central part of our national remembrance and will bring home the scale of service and sacrifice made by men and women of the Second World War generation.

A special programme of events marking VE 75 will take place over the Early May Bank Holiday 2020 in Central London and has been designed to be of particular interest to all from the Second World War generation who served at home and overseas across the European theatre. Similar commemorations are expected to be reflected in communities across the nation.

We are particularly pleased to announce that we plan to host 750 Second World War generation from across the UK, each accompanied by a nominated companion, to attend the VE 75 events programme in Central London over the period 8-9 May 2020. Our invitation includes a fully funded plan for transport, meals and accommodation; travel to London will

be courtesy of the National Rail Group on Thursday 7 May 2020 and returning home on Sunday 10 May 2020.

We encourage applications from all of those who contributed to victory in Europe 75 years ago, including spouses and civilians from reserved occupations across the UK and Commonwealth.

Please call us on **0203 053 7627** to speak to a member of our team.

Those who we define as Second World War generation eligible for the programme include:

- Service personnel who served under the Crown, this includes Dominion and Empire (now Commonwealth) forces, as well as foreign forces under British command such as the Polish Army of the West and the French Resistance.
- Service must have been in the European theatre between 1939 and 1945, this will include the Mediterranean, North and East African, and Middle East theatres.
- The spouses of service personnel who served in the above theatres
- **People who were child evacuees during the war.**
- Those who served on the Home Front, for example as Land Girls, Bevin Boys, Home Guard, Women's Timber Corps, and the like, either as civilians in reserved occupations or with the Armed Forces.
- Men and women who served in the emergency services.

Please complete the online application form to apply for a place, alternatively give them a ring on **0203 053 7627 for more information**

Please note that the deadline for entries is 17 February 2020.

If you attend, please take some photographs, write an account of your experiences and send them to the office, for possible publication in 'The Evacuee'.