



# West Moors Town Council

VJ DAY 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY – SPECIAL EDITION ISSUE 10 NEWSLETTER



## VJ DAY August 15<sup>th</sup> 1945 – 75 years

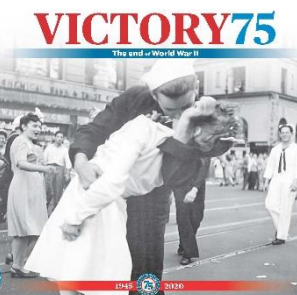
August 15<sup>th</sup> marked Victory over Japan Day – the end of all hostilities in the Second World War. While peace arrived in Europe in May 1945, those fighting in the Far East continued until Japan's surrender in the wake of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombs.

To start the tribute by West Moors Town Council, prayers and introductions were read by Rev Andy Muckle St Mary's Church, West Moors, just before 11am. The National moment of Remembrance with a two-minute silence followed. Vice Chairman of the Council, Cllr Alex Clarke, then laid a commemorative wreath on the War Memorial.

The CRY FOR PEACE AROUND THE WORLD was performed at 11.10am by the West Moors Town Crier, Iain Mitchell.

Disappointingly, the council could not organise a public gathering or service, due to Covid-19.

We hope you all managed to join in with the marking of this date safely whilst following the Government social distancing guidelines.



Left to right: Rev Andy Muckle, Cllr Alex Clarke and Iain Mitchell)

## CRY FOR PEACE AROUND THE WORLD:

OYEZ! OYEZ! OYEZ!  
 VICTORY IN EUROPE  
 WAS ON THE EIGHTH DAY OF MAY.  
 NOW IT'S AUGUST FIFTEENTH,  
 SO WHAT OF THIS DAY?  
 JAPAN'S NOW SURRENDERED,  
 AND TOLD TO "LAY DOWN ITS ARMS.  
 GO BACK TO YOUR FACTORIES,  
 OFFICES AND FARMS."  
 BUT IN SINGAPORE, THAILAND  
 AND BURMA, NO LESS  
 OUR 'FORGOTTEN ARMY'  
 STILL HAD TO CLEAR UP THE MESS.  
 WE MUSTN'T FORGET  
 THE WAR IN THE FAR EAST,  
 OR THE LIVES WHICH WERE LOST,  
 BEFORE THE BATTLES WERE CEASED.  
 THREE QUARTERS OF A CENTURY  
 HAVE PASSED SINCE THOSE DAYS  
 AND LIFE HAS MOVED ON,  
 IN SO MANY WAYS.  
 SO AUGUST FIFTEENTH  
 BECAME A DAY OF CELEBRATION  
 AS JAPAN AGREED  
 TO THE POTSDAM DECLARATION.  
 AND ON SEPTEMBER SECOND,  
 AT LAST IT WAS DONE.  
 THE WORLD WAR WAS OVER,  
 THE BATTLE'S BEEN WON.

### Japanese Emperor Hirohito first ever radio interview:

"Should we have continued to fight, it would not only have resulted in the ultimate collapse and obliteration of the Japanese nation but would lead also to the total extinction of human civilisation."

### V.J. DAY

Is a day to be cherished.  
 When we remember all those  
 who have perished  
 Stand proudly my country  
 Stand proudly with Britain  
 Dwell on this cry  
 So proudly written  
 This Kingdom never gave up  
 And it must NEVER forget!

### GOD SAVE THE QUEEN



### British Prime Minister Clement Atlee 15<sup>th</sup> August 1945 midnight:

"expressed gratitude to Britain's allies, in the Dominions of Australia and New Zealand, India, Burma, all countries occupied by Japan and to the USSR. Special thanks went to the United States "without whose prodigious efforts the war in the East would still have many years to run".



## VJ DAY POEM

On August 10th, an offer was made  
 For Japan to surrender that night.  
 Several days later, terms were agreed  
 It was official, the flags were in flight.  
 Streets of London, Nairobi too,  
 Sri Lanka, Colombo, Ceylon.  
 Men and Women all over the world  
 celebrated now the war was won.  
 Four Nations Parade, took place in Berlin  
 the last of the enemies laid down.  
 Civilisation would soon be once more  
 and Victory could now wear its crown  
 September 2nd, papers were signed  
 The world could start to move on.  
 Years of conflict led to this day,  
 Lest not forget all those now gone.



Hearts  
 were  
 overflowing

Such joy  
 was all  
 around,

fireworks  
 and  
 dancing

relief was  
 so  
 profound

## Contacting Your Councillors


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We're on the Web  
 See us at:  
[www.westmoors-pc.gov.uk](http://www.westmoors-pc.gov.uk)

WEST MOORS TOWN COUNCIL  
 'WORKING FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD'

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Cllr Anthony Willats  
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**DUE TO COVID-19**  
**THE OFFICE IS STILL CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**  
 We hope to reopen in early September  
 Call us on 01202 861044 or 07561 652603  
**We can deliver food waste and dog waste bags (West Moors only)**