

SCOTLAND CELEBRATES: PEACE AT LAST!

Millions of people join the party that's been six long years in coming.

Reported by Mary Macdonald

Yesterday, the 8th of May, celebrations were held up and down the country by the people of Scotland to mark the end of the war in Europe. Victory in Europe Day, or VE Day, saw a day of rejoicing in Scotland's cities, towns and villages that was quite unprecedented.



Churchill waves to the crowds.

On the evening of Monday, 7th May, the Ministry of Information announced that Germany had surrendered and the war would be over. They said it was to be treated as Victory in Europe Day and would be regarded as a public holiday. Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, made a historic radio announcement to the nation on Tuesday the 8th May.

On Tuesday morning, crowds gathered together in cities around the country. Flags and bunting were hung up to mark the momentous occasion. In Glasgow, the celebrations centered on George Square. People arrived in the morning and stayed there all day, with some staying

well into the early hours. A policeman on duty at George Square said, "The noise, laughter and music are a joy to hear after so many years of hardship!"

In Edinburgh, crowds gathered in Princes Street and street parties were held around the city.

In Aberdeen, bonfires were lit, fireworks were set off and dances were held around the city.

All around Scotland church bells rang, fancy dress parades were held and as darkness fell buildings were lit up for the first time in six years. There was no black out last night! People are so relieved that finally the war is over.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill spoke to the nation yesterday and in his broadcast, he praised the British spirit and reminded the listeners that this was a victory of the great British nation as a whole.

Crowds also gathered at Trafalgar Square and on The Mall in London, to see Winston Churchill, King George VI and his family make an appearance on the balcony of Buckingham Palace.

People will always remember where they were or what they did on VE Day!