



VE DAY

75TH ANNIVERSARY

A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION

8 - 10 MAY 2020

A message from Cossall Parish Council

As you can imagine, the planned commemoration events and gatherings for **VE Day 75 Years**, are of course cancelled due to the Covid - 19 emergency and recent government instructions.

It is right and proper that people should be kept safe and healthy. For those of you who were looking forward to local commemorations, Cossall Parish Council and Cossall Community Chest has put together this leaflet featuring some material from the lead website veday75.org. This will ensure this significant date does not pass us by without an opportunity to reflect on the enormous sacrifice, courage and determination of people from all walks of life who saw us through the dark and terrifying period of **World War II**.

Since we cannot join together to commemorate this important occasion at least we can individually display our appreciation of the huge effort of those who worked on the home front, who fought on land, at sea or in the air and for those who sacrificed their lives for our future.

So please display the **VE Day 75 poster** on the front page of this leaflet in your front window from the 8th - 10th May, for all to see and reflect upon **VE Day 75 Years** : a momentous point in our history.

We understand that the organisers of the VE Day commemorations are hoping to be able to move planned commemorations to 15th – 16th August which will be VJ Day; Cossall Parish Council expect to be able to prepare suitable events to include both VE Day and VJ Day.

Best wishes from Cossall Parish Council



Cossall Parish Council and parishioners led by Cossall Parish Council Chairman **Mr William Bostock**, on their way to St Catherine's Church to commemorate the names of the men who died in WWII being added to the war memorial; C. 1953.
Supplied by Roger and Jean Bostock.

“We shall defend our island, whatever the cost may be...” Winston Churchill, June 1940

As part of our planned commemoration we intended to produce a series of posters featuring the men who are listed on the war memorial in St Catherine's churchyard, you may well recognise it from the photograph below. Since we are not able to do this at the moment we have listed the names and details of all those who died in WWII. We believe this to be accurate but please do get in touch if you have more information or to correct any errors that you think we have made.

In addition to the names listed below are the following three men for who we cannot find any information; again, if you know of these men and can supply us with some details, please get in touch.

D.E. Sisson W.M. Trueman R. Witts



James Vincent Cave

1700347 Gunner – Royal Artillery – 78th Battery - 35th Light Anti-aircraft Regiment

Born: 27th July, 1909
Captured: 9th March, 1942 – Borneo POW Camp
Died: 19th January, 1945 Whilst Prisoner of War
Buried: Labuan War Cemetery, Malaysia
Parents: James and Lily Cave
Wife: Possibly Gladys Cave

“My dear friends, this is your finest hour.”

Winston Churchill on VE Day 8th May 1945

William Edward Gregory

4983988 Private – 1st Btn. Lincolnshire Regiment

Born: 25th September, 1913
Died: 5th May, 1944 aged 30 years
Commemorated: Taukkyan War Cemetery, Burma (Myanmar)
Parents: Anthony and Mary Jane Gregory
1939 Register: Living at 65 Newtons Lane
Wife: Ada Gladys Gregory
Occupation: Shop Assistant, Outfitting dept

Ronald Hitt

P/JX 393808 Able Seaman HMS Trumpeter and HMMC Isle of Jersey

Born: 13th January, 1923
Died: 7th December, 1944 aged 22 years from TB/Cardiac failure
Buried: St Catherine's Church, Cossall
Parents: John Henry and Elizabeth Hitt
Wife: Phylis Hitt

Hezekiah Instone

5052637 South Staffordshire Regiment

Born: 18th August, 1916
Died: 9th July, 1943
Commemorated: Cassino Memorial, Provincia di Frosinone, Lazio, Italy.
Parents: William Instone - Widower in 1939
1939 Register: Living at 20 Newtons Lane
Occupation: Builders Labourer

Derrick Mallett

I 177899 Flight Sargent/Pilot 269 Squadron, RAF Volunteer Reserve

Born: About 1919
Died: 29th January, 1943
Buried: Fossvogur Cemetery, Reykjavik, Iceland.
Inscription: Loved and remembered always by Father and Mother
Parents: William and Hilda Mallett

Earnest Martin

5887232 1st Btn. Northants Regiment

Born: About 1913
Died: 19th January, 1944 aged 31
Commemorated: Rangoon Memorial, Burma (Myanmar)
Parents: Isaac Walter and Edith Martin

Published as a joint initiative by
Cossall Parish Council and Cossall Community Chest
Working side by side for our parish

James William Mumford

PO/X100281 Marine RM Siege Regiment

Born: 28th August, 1912
Died: 10th December, 1940 aged 28 years
Place of death: Martin Mill Military Railway, Near Dover.
Wife: Avis Mumford

Arthur Sheldon

I 700115 144 Battery 35ct Anti-aircraft Regiment Royal Artillery

Born: About 1916
Died: 5th March, 1943 aged 27 years
Parents: Arthur and Mary Sheldon
Wife: Possibly Nora Sheldon

William Leslie Smith

P/JX 191739 Ordinary Seaman - HMS Kelly - Royal Navy

Born: About 1921
Died: 23rd May, 1941 aged 21 years
Commemorated: Naval Memorial, Portsmouth
Parents: Beatrice Smith

James Fredrick Straw

5887688 Private 2nd Btn Northants Regiment

Born: About 1920
Died: 13th March, 1944 aged 24 years. Killed in action
Buried: Beach Head War Cemetery, Lazio, Italy
Parents: Jacob and Beatrice Straw

Luther Walters

D/JX 238745 Able Seaman Gunner HMS President III Royal Navy

Born: 2nd July, 1911
Died: 26th January, 1942 Lost at sea on SS Traveller
Parents: Henry and Frances Amelia Walters of Cossall
Wife: Eileen Walters of Cossall

Get in touch and stay in touch

Cossall Parish Council web site - www.cossallparishcouncil.co.uk

Cossall Community Chest - Facebook and Twitter

We are Cossall

Don't forget, we are here to help



*The Nation's Toast
to the Heroes of World War 11*

*“To those who gave so much”
“We thank You”*



Bruno Peck

Bruno Peck LVO OBE OPR
Originator & Pageantmaster
VE Day 75th Anniversary
A shared moment of celebration
8-10 May 2020

