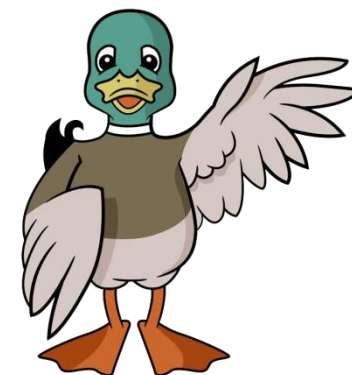




A message to our
visitors and friends from....
Bill the Duck!



Hello! 🖐️

I'm back again to give you an update for what we've been posting from May 4 to May 10, 2020.

This week we celebrated the 75th Anniversary of VE Day from home on May 8th. Celebrating at home means we missed our traditional May Day celebrations, but you can catch up with them all on the posts from May 4th!

We also had a cheeky visitor from a galaxy far, far away, learned about some toys, and launched our new Pinterest page, which has mini-curated exhibitions including Jane McAdam Freud's! Check it out here:

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/HeadstoneMMuseum/>

Enjoy!!

Monday, May 4th 2020

Post #1

At Headstone Manor & Museum, May is our favourite month. And May Day is our biggest event of the year! Sadly this year won't be quite the same, but follow along and reminisce with us over May Days of years gone by.

[#MayDay](#) [#HistoricHarrow](#)

[#MuseumFromHome](#)

[#HeadstoneAtHome](#)



MAY DAY AT THE MANOR A HISTORY



At Headstone Manor & Museum May is our favourite month. Blossom fills the trees, the gardens are blooming and baby ducks and geese splash about on our moat. The first Monday of May is our biggest and happiest event, May Day! We've celebrated every year since we opened in 1985.



2020 was going to be different, as May Day was moved to a Friday to coincide with the 75th anniversary of VE day. Sadly, due to Covid -19, our celebrations have had to move online, but we're taking this opportunity to reminisce about May Day and its traditions.

Monday, May 4th 2020

Post #2

Throwback to May Day 1987! Take a look at this film from the London's Screen Archives and see how we celebrated May Day over 30 years ago (May Day from 8mins in)!



LONDONSSCREENARCHIVES.ORG.UK

Harrow Scrapbook 1987

Harrow marathon; unveiling 'Katie', May Day Headstone Manor; Harrow festival & indoor dancing; Glass by David.

To check out the video above click here:

<https://www.londonsscreenarchives.org.uk/title/20080>

Monday, May 4th 2020

Post #3

What's May Day without May Pole Dancing? Have you ever danced around the May Pole at Headstone Manor? Share your photos with us in the comments!

WATCH: A number of girls perform a May Pole celebration dance and ceremony at St George's church, Harrow 1956

<https://buff.ly/3aVjcr2>

[#MayDay](#) [#HistoricHarrow](#)

[#MuseumFromHome](#)

[#HeadstoneAtHome](#)

H HEADSTONE
MANOR &
MUSEUM

THE MAY POLE



Headstone Manor is one of the only places in London in which you can join in and dance around the May Pole! The May Pole is one of the oldest May Day traditions. It's great fun to get involved in or just watch!



The May Pole Dance is an expression of joy at the coming of new growth in the land. Unlike formal dances, there is no right or wrong way of taking part, it's the symbolism that counts!

Monday, May 4th 2020

Post #4

Ever tried your hand at playing the accordion? May Day just isn't the same without the familiar sounds of the bells and sticks of the Morris Dancers!

[#MayDay](#) [#HistoricHarrow](#)

[#MuseumFromHome](#)

[#HeadstoneAtHome](#)

H HEADSTONE
MANOR &
MUSEUM



MERRY MORRIS



Morris Dancing is an old English Tradition that stretched back hundreds of years. Dancers usually have bells on their legs and dance with either sticks or handkerchiefs!

Our local team of Morris Dancers, the MerryDowners, are another essential part of the May Day experience. We are looking forward to raising a cheer for them at May Day 2021!



Monday, May 4th 2020

Post #5

That's all from us folks!

You can find out more about May Day, its origins and traditions here:

<https://buff.ly/3fasiUo!>

Don't forget to share your photos of past May Days at Headstone Manor in the comments!

This video by Husain Akhtar shows May Day 2019

<https://buff.ly/2xotPFc>

[#MayDay](#) [#HistoricHarrow](#)

[#MuseumFromHome](#)

[#HeadstoneAtHome](#)

H HEADSTONE
MANOR &
MUSEUM

SHARE WITH US!

Have you spent a May Day with us at Headstone Manor before? We'd love to see your photos! Share them in the comments below.



Are you missing May Day this year? Check out this video from May Day 2019, cinematography by Husain Akhtar (link also in description).

<https://youtu.be/RxyEBoV9804>

Want to find out more about the history of May Day?

<https://bit.ly/2ySTIgX>

Monday, May 4th 2020

Post #6

Seems one of our staff's [#MindfulForMuseums](#) creations has developed a mind of his own - Bill spotted Baby Yoda getting in on the May Day celebrations at the Museum earlier!

[#MayTheFourthBeWithYou](#)

Get creative and then send us pics of your Mindful For Museums creations!

[#HeadstoneAtHome](#) [#MuseumFromHome](#)

To watch the video click here:

<https://www.facebook.com/HeadstoneManor/videos/530528957822708/>



Today Bill's taking us into the Industry and WWI room! Can you spot anything you recognise?

[#TimeTravellingThroughHarrow](#)

[#HeadstoneAtHome](#)

[#HistoricHarrow](#)

[#MuseumFromHome](#)



A message from....
Bill the Duck!



Heya! 🖐️ The room we're in today used to be a bedroom when the Manor House was lived in. The floor used to be so wonky they must have always felt seasick! Luckily they fixed it in the restoration in 2016. It might have been a children's room, so there's lots of toys in here on display, do you recognise any of them? Some of them might have even been made in Harrow, as there used to be so many factories here!

This room is now the Industry & World War 1 room and has lots of cool things in it! The industries of Harrow were well known, and included Kodak, Winsor and Newton, Hamilton Brush Works, and of course Whitefriars. Lots of people who live in Harrow now used to work in these factories but they are all closed now. 😞 Do you know someone who worked in a Harrow factory?



Welcome to the
Industry &
WWI room.







Wednesday, May 6th 2020

Post #1

[Headstone Manor & Museum](#) added an [event](#).

 **Headstone Manor & Museum** added an event.
6 May at 12:40 · 🌐

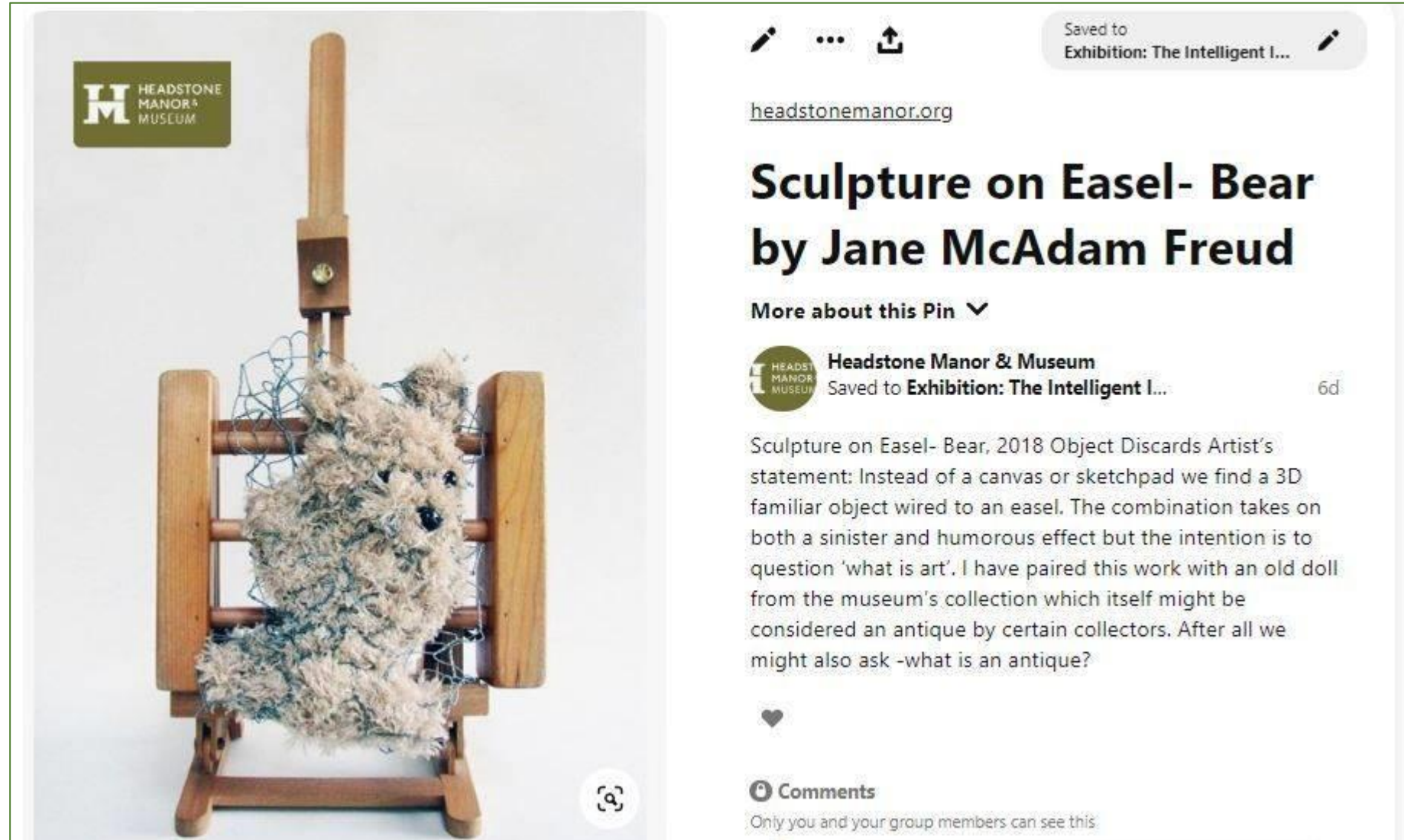


HAPPENING NOW
VE Day with Headstone Manor & Museum
Headstone Manor & Museum · Harrow

✓ Going ▼

To see the event page click here:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/3308473802712143/>



We're excited to announce @JaneMcAdamFreud current exhibition at the Museum has gone virtual!
Discover Jane's exhibition via our new Pinterest page <https://buff.ly/2zfOj3w>

Can you spot St Marys Church spire from your house?

Harrow Hill can be seen from almost all-over North-West London and at the top of the Hill is St Marys Church! Have you ever been up to the top and looked out from the viewpoint? You can see all of Harrow. From the top of the tower you can even see all the way into central London!

The church has been there for a long time (nearly 1000 years!). A skeleton was found under the floor in the aisle which helped us find out that there had been a church on the same spot since the Saxons.

Religious buildings are central to lots of different communities and St Marys is the site that the borough of Harrow grew around. The name Harrow even comes from the Saxon name for the hill, Gumeninga Hergae. If the walls could talk, what kind of stories do you think they would tell us?

Stained glass windows in Churches often tell a story. Can you tell a story in pictures? Have a look at this video of an author drawing some comic characters! <https://buff.ly/2SFPa4h>

Then try making your own comic using the template here!

[#MuseumFromHome](#) [#HeadstoneAtHome](#) [#HeadstoneHistoryDetectives](#)

(see next page for picture for this post)



(see previous page for text for this post)

Thursday, May 7th 2020
Post #1 (page 3 of 3)

TITLE:	
ONE DAY..	
	BUT THEN..
FORTUNATELY..	
THE END!	

(see previous page for text for this post)

Thursday, May 7th 2020

Post #2

Tomorrow is the [#75thVEDay](#)!

Join us all day as we celebrate and bring you aspects of our VE Day Virtual Exhibition! You can expect:

- 🇬🇧 Special videos
- 🇬🇧 Memories from Harrow
- 🇬🇧 Family activities

+ SO MUCH MORE!

Can't wait till then?

You can visit our dedicated VE Page here:

<https://buff.ly/2L2aHjF>

Or view our virtual exhibition on Pinterest:

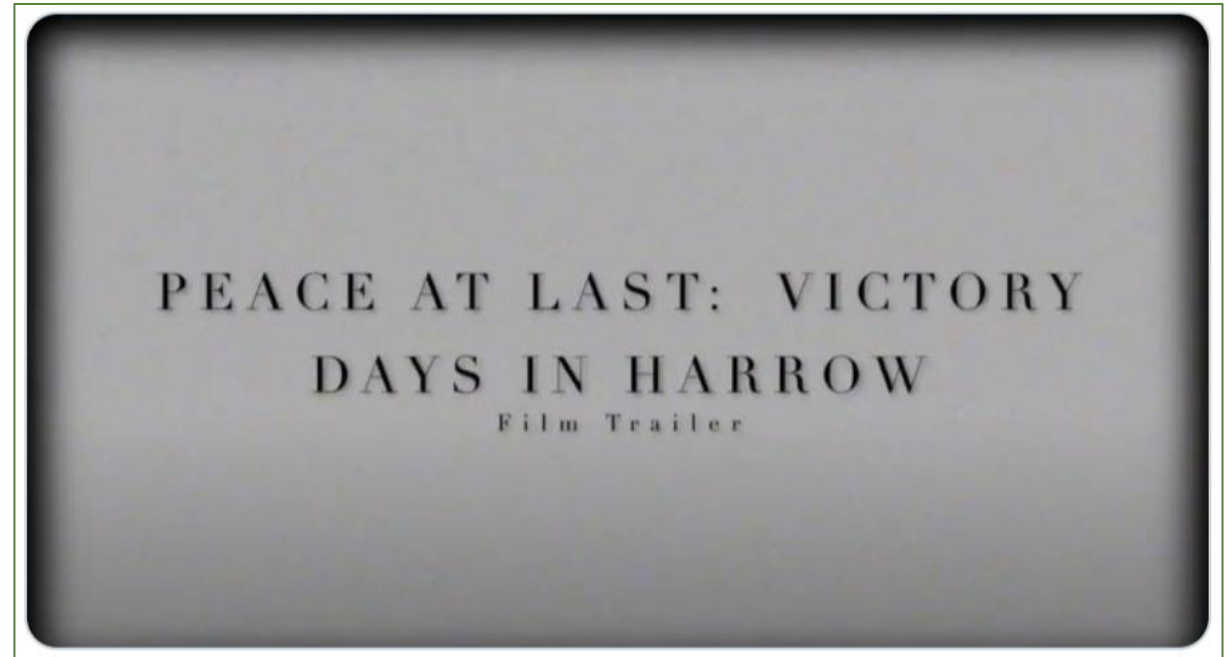
<https://buff.ly/3dfXCz8>



Friday, May 8th 2020 

Post #1

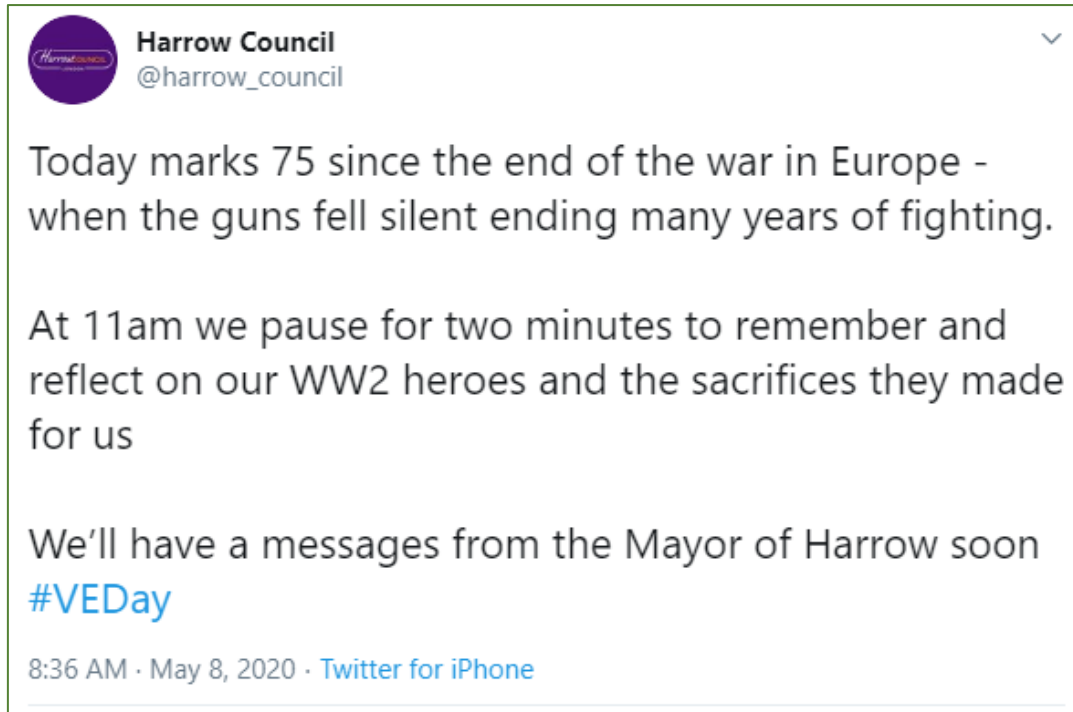
To kick off our [#VEDAY75](#) celebrations, we are super excited to share the trailer for our VE Day exhibition: 'Peace at Last: Victory Days in Harrow'! The full feature film will be released in July 2020 when our exhibition opens at the Museum (hopefully)!
More here: <https://buff.ly/2L2aHjF>



To view the trailer, click here: https://youtu.be/k_vSbM7tVg8

Friday, May 8th 2020 

Post #2



To view the videos, click here:
https://twitter.com/harrow_council/status/1258661950608809984



Friday, May 8th 2020 🇬🇧

Post #3

Get the entire family involved with your [#VEDAY75](https://headstonemanor.org/ve-day/) celebrations with our FREE Family Activities! We have a Make Your Own Bunting competition, a WWII Word Search and a Dig For Victory garden activity! Explore more here: <https://headstonemanor.org/ve-day/>

We also have 50 FREE Make Your Own Bunting kits to give away!
Email education@headstonemanor.org for more details!



Friday, May 8th 2020 🇬🇧

Post #4

Achieve the ultimate [#VEDay](#) inspired look with a make up and hair tutorial by JoannaSophiaMUA. Join her as she takes you through the look step by step...

Make Up: <https://buff.ly/2zjLdLK>

Hair: <https://buff.ly/2WbVpzf>

Explore more: <https://buff.ly/2L27pgl>



Friday, May 8th 2020 🇬🇧

Post #5

Get in the swing of things this [#VEDAY75](#) with some [#WWII](#) Music from Harrow!

Check out our virtual exhibition on Pinterest where you'll find WWII song sheets as well as music from Harrow's own Tonic Choir! <https://buff.ly/2YExHNr>



Discover the memories of [#VEDay](#) from the Harrow residents who celebrated 75 years ago! Our Postcards From The Past series documents their experiences. More here:

<https://buff.ly/2L2aHjF>
[#VEDayinHarrow](#)



Kindly loaned by Claire Palmer

ME - AGE 6 1/2 "VE DAY" POSTER



Postcards from the Past

Memories from Claire Palmer, aged 6 in 1945



"VE Day caused great celebration, store cupboards were raided so that the children had a great tea party in the street on trestle tables. Afterwards a fancy dress parade for boys and girls. I won as Britannia, a boy won as Churchill."

Discover the memories of [#VEDay](https://buff.ly/2L2aHjF) from the Harrow residents who celebrated 75 years ago! Our Postcards From The Past series documents their experiences. More here:
<https://buff.ly/2L2aHjF>
[#VEDayinHarrow](https://buff.ly/2L2aHjF)



Kindly loaned by Michael Pearce



Postcards from the Past

Memories from Michael Pearce, aged 7



“VE day made us all feel full of joy
The street parties, where we celebrated with
neighbours, were great fun with banners
and tables laden with all sorts of goodies
that were usually only served on birthdays.
A special entertainment afternoon was also
held at a pub on Field End Road called The
Clay Pigeon with lots of party food and
entertainers.”

Friday, May 8th 2020 🇬🇧

Post #7 (page 1 of 2)

We are delighted to announce that we have commissioned a new book titled 'Peace at Last' which highlights local stories of [#VEDay](#) and [#WWII](#) in Harrow. The full book will be available from July but to mark [#VEDAY75](#), here is a little preview!

Explore more here:
<https://buff.ly/2L2aHjF>

Peace at Last

WWII & Victory Day Memories from Harrow.

Celebrating the 75th Anniversary



H HEADSTONE
MANOR
MUSEUM

"We experienced the Doodlebugs and the rockets which took us up to 1944. And they were so awful my mother decided we would be evacuated; by which time she had my brother who was a baby so she was allowed to come with us. So that's when Harrow Council took the last children and we were sent to Anglesey in North Wales and so we were only there for several months of the last part of the war. But while we there, Harrow Council realised some children would be due to take the 11+ exam so they sent examination papers to Wales, but Wales didn't quite understand. The school we went to only had three classes. They let all the children in the age group I was in to take the exam whether you were of the right age or not. I was only 10..."

THELMA INWOOD



THELMA INWOOD WITH DAD (PRIVATE WILLIAM HUMPHREY), MUM AND BROTHERS
PETER & BRUCE, 1939

"I went to Pinner Park School which I remember quite well. There were air raid shelters at the back of the school where there are now allotments and we used do lessons when the alert went off. We'd adjourn to these sort of tunnel like structures and have our lessons and we also had our rather revolting school dinners there as well. And then when the all clear went we came out and went home or went back to class ... I remember school dinners which were incredibly greasy"



HEATHER CONSTANCE LOUISE MOODIE

"At Christmas, Sopers [2] always had Santa's Grotto where parents and children would queue for ages to be seen by Santa and receive a small gift. Despite the War, Christmas was always a wonderful time for family celebration and whilst presents were few, they were very much cherished."



"[...] The Granada Cinema at the junction of Sheepcote Road and Station Road was the largest and most central cinema in Harrow and its architecture was impressive. It was a venue where children from all Harrow schools "

MICHAEL PEARCE

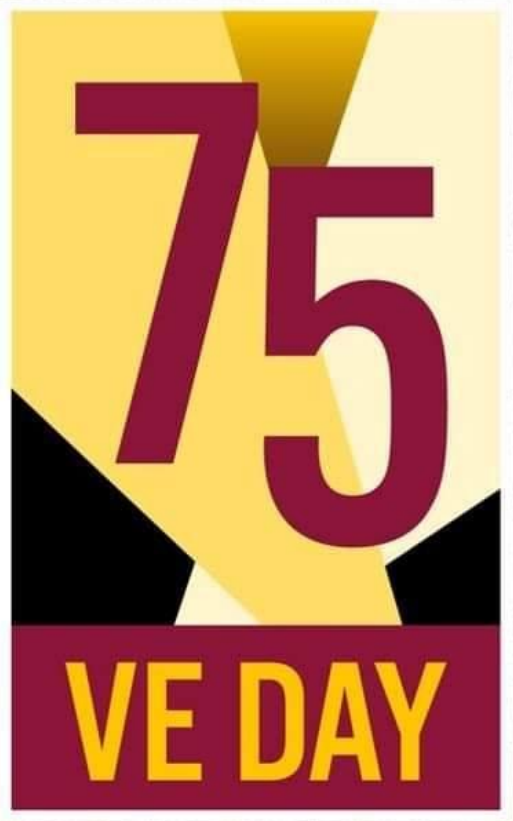

"It was hard. Like thousands of others of families, my father was lucky, he had a good job on the railway. We ate well, and my mother and everything family wise was great until the war broke out. And then our family was smashed to pieces with the bombing. My mother and my elder sister died, and my young sister, she was only three years old."

FRANCIS JOWERS

[2] Sopers Ltd. was a department store at Station Road in Harrow, Middlesex. The original store was established in 1888.

Friday, May 8th 2020 🇬🇧

Post #8



Are you celebrating the 75th Anniversary of VE Day on May 8 2020, at home?

If so, we would love to see your pictures! We are seeking to add to the Museum's digital collection!

Get in touch via:
Email: collections@headstonemanor.org
Tweet Us: @HeadstoneManor1
Facebook Us: @HeadstoneManor
Use #VEDAYHARROW

If you make any banners, decorations or artwork for VE Day this year we would love to know about it too – we may consider it for our upcoming exhibition. Keep them safe but let us know about them now.

Enjoy celebrating VE Day at home and remember those who served during WWII and are still serving for Britain today.

<https://headstonemanor.org/ve-day/>

🇬🇧 Thanks for joining us on this special [#VEDAY75](https://headstonemanor.org/ve-day/) 🇬🇧
Our online resources will remain online so you can continue to explore and learn more: <https://headstonemanor.org/ve-day/>!
And remember, our official VE Day Exhibition will open (hopefully) in July! But for now, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Did you know? Our Young Curators made an exhibition around music in Harrow 🎵 They found out about lots of different kinds of music. Did you visit it? Here's a photo of one of the exhibition cases, what can you see?

One very famous musician from Harrow is Elton John. Have you ever heard of him? He grew up in Pinner. Have a look at the photo of the high street in Pinner in the 1971 (the year he moved away)! Does it look very different from now?

Elton John wrote loads of songs including some of the songs for Disney's The Lion King 🦁 have a listen to this one! <https://buff.ly/3caPUX4>

What is your favourite song? Can you make your own musical band? Use things from around your house like saucepans and boxes. Try making a guitar with a box and some elastic bands, or a shaker from a bottle and stones 🎸 🥁 Put on a performance for your family!

[#MuseumFromHome](#) [#HeadstoneHistoryDetectives](#) [#HeadstoneAtHome](#)

(see next page for picture for this post)



© London Borough of Harrow

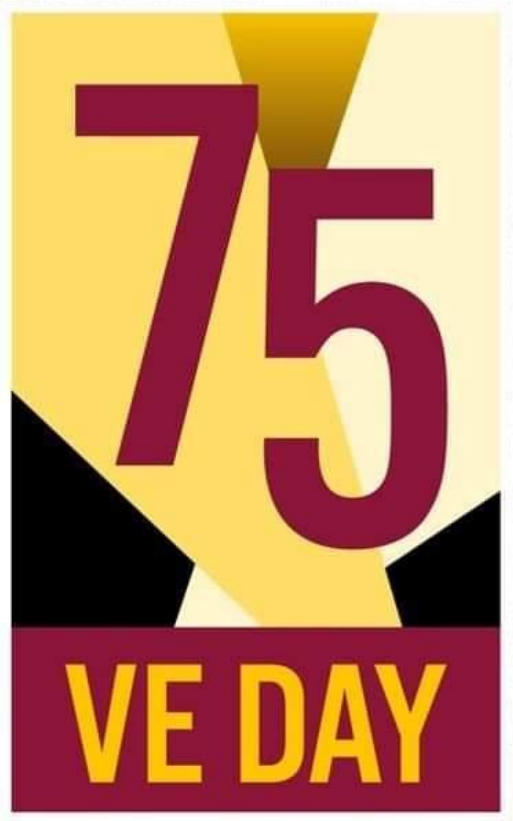

(see previous page for text for this post)



(see previous page for text for this post)

Saturday, May 9th 2020

Post #2



Are you celebrating the 75th Anniversary of VE Day on May 8 2020, at home?

If so, we would love to see your pictures! We are seeking to add to the Museum's digital collection!

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Use #VEDAYHARROW

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Enjoy celebrating VE Day at home and remember those who served during WWII and are still serving for Britain today.

<https://headstonemanor.org/ve-day/>

We hope you enjoyed marking [#VEDayAtHome](#) yesterday!

Don't forget you can still access our virtual exhibition on Pinterest <https://buff.ly/2YExHNr> and our resources including activities for families and adults via our website <https://buff.ly/2L2aHjF>. If you celebrated with street parties or marked the event in other ways, we want to see your pictures so please share them with us! [#MuseumFromHome](#)

Sunday, May 10th 2020

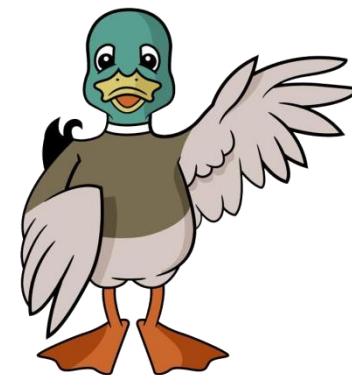
Post #1

This blustery weather is a good time to stay in and do something creative! This incredible lino cut by Paul C Plausin shows Headstone Manor - when the lino cut is inked and paper pressed over it, it forms a print! Find out more about lino printing with the [Museums Sheffield](https://buff.ly/2xO9GZI) here: <https://buff.ly/2xO9GZI>





A message to our
visitors and friends from....
Bill the Duck!



That's all for this week folks! 🙌 Keep an eye out for the next social media update newsletter!

If you have social media, you can follow us on Facebook (Headstone Manor & Museum), Twitter (HeadstoneManor 1), and now Pinterest (HeadstoneMMuseum), too!

Keep an eye on our Online Learning page for new activities: <https://headstonemanor.org/learning/online-learning/>

And please get in touch with us if you have material for our Covid-19 in Harrow or VE Day 75 callouts.

Catch you next week – I better shake a tail feather and get back to organising my tour!

Love,
Bill the Duck