

Mollie Day remembers

Hertford was an exhilarating stimulating time as the V E Day was announced. The overnight sensational, overwhelming preparations by all families acting together even with all the shortages and rations. Many streets pavements were decorated painted in 'red, white and blue'. Many flags were also strewn across the roads and many flowers in garlands were also part of decorations on the pavements. I particularly remember Villiers and Townshend Streets. I had friends who lived in those roads.



It was a very exciting time. I was 12 years old. I lived in Foxholes Avenue and many flags, streamers and banners were displayed on the trees and in the road. At the top of the road was a field where late in the evening we danced round a bonfire. Before that, tables and chairs were brought out; us children were asked to sit down and had a lavish tea together. We were given ice cream, which we had not eaten since the war started. We were very excited, thinking of welcoming our

boys back and peace at last. I think our street party was the day after V E Day.



I say this because my dad had served as a Grenadier Guard during World War 1 and my parents, my cousin Ken and I went to London for the celebrations on V E Day up there. We went by Green Line coach from Hertford to Oxford Circus and then walked to a place where the victory parade would come along. It was a great experience. We saw the King and the Queen on the balcony of Buckingham Palace. In addition, we were lucky enough to see Winston Churchill standing up in an open car giving his famous victory sign.

We left London, highly elated. It proved to be a very memorable and exciting time. After 6 years of war we were excited at the prospect of peace and harmony again. Also, the eventual return of my brother, after him serving his country in the Essex Yeomanry. We were very much looking forward to much happier times. We were not disappointed.