

The Online Memorial and Museum of Prisoners of War charity is grateful to VE Day 80 for highlighting that, by VE Day 8th May 1945, most British, Commonwealth and Allied prisoners held in Europe had been liberated.

It encourages the Nation to take part in VE Day 80 activities in tribute to those who endured dreadful conditions and suffered so much in the German Prisoners of War Camps.

All across Europe, behind gates such as these, over 350,000 service personnel were held as Prisoners of War, existing on the most basic of rations in crowded, unsanitary and barely tolerable conditions for up to 5 years.

For some repatriation came early due to serious medical reasons or non-combatant status, whilst others were liberated directly from their camps by advancing allied armies. For most, however, freedom came only after forced marches of up to 800 km, starting in 1945, during the harshest winter on record at the time; across open hostile countryside and often at risk of friendly fire.

This plaque honours those who survived, and those who did not return.

Never to be forgotten.





Best Wishes for a Happy Return Home
from :-

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS
BRITISH RED CROSS & ST. JOHN
CANADIAN RED CROSS
INDIAN RED CROSS & ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION
JOINT COUNCIL OF ST. JOHN AND RED CROSS OF NEW ZEALAND
SOUTH AFRICAN RED CROSS

We Salute You and wish you the very
Best of Luck.

Find out more:

<https://www.prisonersofwarmuseum.com/>


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