

THE NATION SINGS 'I Vow To Thee My Country'

at 9.30pm on 8th May 2025

"I am deeply honoured and immensely proud to accept the invitation from Bruno Peek CVO OBE OPR, Pageantmaster of VE Day 80 - 8th May 2025, to lead our great Nation and its diverse communities in singing I Vow to Thee, My Country at 9:30 pm on 8th May 2025. This special moment coincides with the lighting of the Beacons and Lamps of Peace, marking the 80th Anniversary of VE Day. It is a heartfelt tribute to those, both at home and abroad, who contributed to the freedoms we cherish today. I warmly encourage individuals, families, communities, organisations, those in care homes and hospitals with their dedicated doctors and nurses, as well as patrons of pubs, clubs, and beyond, to join me in this unique celebration of unity and peace. Let us lift our voices together and make this a truly unforgettable occasion."

*Chelsea Pensioner
Colin Thackery
Formerly a WO2 in The Royal Artillery
and a winner of Britain's Got Talent*

*I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above
Entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love
The love that asks no question, the love that stands the test
That lays upon the altar, the dearest and the best
The love that never falters, the love that pays the price
The love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice*

*And there's another country, I've heard of long ago
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know
We may not count her armies, we may not see her king
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering
And soul by soul, and silently her shining bounds increase
And her ways are ways of gentleness, and all her paths are peace*

Words and Music by Gustav Holst and Cecil Spring

