

Ditchcrawler



Victory in Europe

**Celebrating VE Day and the purchase of
North Cheshire Cruising Club**



**VE Day Celebrations
North Cheshire Cruising Club**

**A Message from our Commodore
Ian Jewell NB Candi**

Weren't we lucky with the weather.

Many many thanks to everybody for their hard work in the setting up, running and subsequent taking down of the bar, BBQ and decorations. And also to Bet Stonard for the original VE Day flag that we had on the flag pole.

Also to all of those members that decorated their boats, I was really impressed with the number of boats that were decorated and the effort that was made. As not everyone was present when I announced the winner (my fault a bit late), the result was a tie between NB Hakuna Matata and NB Gowker Lilly, the owners of both boats have won a free week on the slipway in 2026.

Hope everybody who came and soaked up the sun and the sounds enjoyed themselves.

North Cheshire Cruising Club

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Your Editorial Team

Heather Stanley (NB Royal Oscar)

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TheNorthCheshireCruisingClub

What is VE Day

(Victory in Europe Day)

Victory in Europe Day or VE Day as it is now abbreviated to is the day celebrating the formal acceptance by the Allies who served in World War II of the unconditional surrender of Germany's Armed Forces on Tuesday 8 May, 1945. This date marks the day the German Military Operations officially surrendered.

Some other countries, including some former Soviet countries also celebrate on 9 May as the unconditional surrender of Germany's Forces came into force at 23.01 on 8 May which is central European summer time which also corresponds to 00.01 on 9 May Moscow Time.

Many Countries observe this as a public holiday on the day each year. Other wording for this special date are:

- ◆ Victory Over Fascism Day
- ◆ Liberation Day or
- ◆ Victory Day

In the United Kingdom, it has often been called VE Day. The term started as early as September 1944 in anticipation of the impending victory.



Front Page Image :Free Images.com

Set Up Day 1

On Sunday 4 May, Nige Stanley, David Mason and Heth Stanley decided to start the set up for the following weekend, by putting up all the flags around the fencing, gates, boat shed, outside of the club





Outside Bar Build

With the weather potentially looking good for next weekend, Nigel Stanley and David Mason started to build the outside bar. The cage which used to be in the workshop, and has been allocated for another task outside, was used to start the build.





During the week, the BBQ was moved outside, on the corner next to the bar. It was checked, cleaned and put in place ready for Sunday. Pam Russell got the burgers, and sausages, and any sauces we may need.

The grass was all mowed ready on the Saturday as part of the work party,

Pam Russell sorted out the onions ready for the barbeque. After the work party ended, and the board meeting had taken place, Ian Jewell, Mike Hodgkinson and Nigel Stanley put up the gazebos ready for tomorrow.

On the Saturday afternoon prior to the VE Day event, David Mason who also does the flower demonstrations and wreath making events that take place later in the year (both events are a must to go to), had been doing a flower arranging course. This had been on for the past couple of weeks, and were a great success.

Whilst continuing with the classes David did a display to be put in the reception of the Foyer of the club house. It looks so lovely with flowers on the display unit.

Thank you David



Sunday 11 May - VE Day Event & Club Purchase Celebration

The day has arrived, and the weather was fantastic. Clear blue skies. The day started early with quite a few of the members who were assisting on the day staying over on their boats.



Bill Jewsbury arrived to set up the quartermaster stall which was set up next to the bar. Bill was assisted by Tim Smith

Looking after the stall was Gill Jewsbury(Bills Wife on the left), and Chris Lamb.

David Mason and Nigel Stanley started to bring all the drinks to the bar. No optics on the outside bar, but plenty of bottled/cans of lager, cider, wine by the glass and other beverages, and not forgetting the cask of Stout that Ian Jewell bought for the event.



Heather Stanley helped the BBQ assistants Gill Ling, Mo and Ian Spooner bring down the items from the kitchen for the BBQ Kings (Jim Ling and Bill Wilkinson), Once the gates opened it stayed busy throughout the day.

Heather went off to take pictures of all the decorated boats on the arm. As David was busy with the bar, Heather took Rosie with her for a walk (this is David's dog). Such a good girl and got lots of fuss of members on the arm, and only barked when she saw a balloon on Mo Spooners boat.



Best Dressed Boat

Who do you think had the best dressed boat? I would not have liked to be in the Commodore's shoes. What a hard decision he had.



Cruiser Lazy Days



NB Gowker Lily



Cruiser Free Spirit



NB Meandering On



NB Aalin



NB Meredith Rose



Cruiser Fleur Denise



Cruiser Shropshire Lass



NB Hakuna Matata



NB Bliss



Cruiser Zig Zag



NB Knot a Clue



NB Polarlys

Time to
Decide

Our first artist of the day was the Union Chapel Jazz Band. A brilliant session of jazz music including a 40s session. One of our members John Suggitt is a member of the band. Look forward to seeing them again in October for the Laying Up Supper.

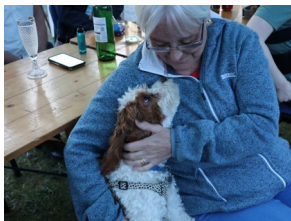


Our second artist of the day was Berkenhoff (or half off) A brilliant acoustic session Berkenhoff joined us in April for the Fitting Out Supper, and we were delighted for them to join us again.



An afternoon and evening of great music

A montage of images that were taken
by Heth Stanley



A montage of images that were taken
by Mike Robison



**A montage of images that were taken
by Heather Rowley Dixon**



Comments Received about the Purchase of North Cheshire Cruising Club Premises

I wish to thank Ruth Smith, Sheila Barlow and Heather Stanley and especially Mike Robison for all the hard work that he did to buy the club. After many many phone calls and searching for the documentation needed, we achieved the ownership of the club at 4.22pm on Friday 28 March 2025. We now need your support more than ever to ensure the success of the club.

Thank you - Eric Robets



To Mike & the Team - Congratulations on the successful purchase of the club site. All your hard work has paid off and I'm sure it's a great relief.

Well done, Kind regards, Ian & Pam Wakefield



John and I would like to say a massive "Thank you" to Mike Robison for all the behind the scenes work, phone calls and running (not literally) backward and forwards he has had to do to secure the buying of the club. We all now need to support the club as much as we can by coming to club nights and club functions.

Thanks again Mike - John Fenton and Pam Russell



Well done Mike, and everyone involved in the purchase of our cruising club. Thank you for all your hard work and vision for our future. Thank you all again. Ronnie Price, Jim and Trish Kemp

Nigel and Heather have been honoured to be part of the team behind the purchasing of NCCC. I know Heather assisted Mike with many things behind the scenes. We both would like to thank Mike for all his extremely hard work in achieving this fantastic piece of history. Also our fellow board members, and all those members who pledged money to assist with the purchase.

Without the support of the board and the membership supporting Mike, this may not have happened.

Congratulations



Fantastic. Congratulations to all.
Mike and val



Congratulations to everyone!
The Gay Lady (Jim and Pam)

**A Comment to Ian Jewell Commodore
About the event**

**If Heineken did VE Day Commodore Events
Yours would be up there**

**Great day and night really enjoyed being part of it and
glad we had a great turnout**

Nige

