

World War 2 Facts

The War started in September 1939.

The Germany leader, Adolf Hitler, had ordered his troops to invade Poland. The British Prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain, then declared war on Germany.

It was a battle between the **Axis powers** and the **Allies**.

The Axis Powers were Germany, Italy and Japan.

The Allies were Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Brazil, Newfoundland and South Africa.

The Soviet Union joined the Allies in June 1941 and the USA joined them in December 1941.

D-Day was 6th June 1944. This was when allied soldiers landed in Normandy to invade Germany. The war ended in 1945. Hitler killed himself and VE (Victory in Europe) Day took place on 8th May 1945.

Some important people



Neville Chamberlain was the British Prime minister from 1937-1940. He was Prime Minister when war broke out.

Adolf Hitler was the leader of Germany from 1934—1945 and the leader of the Nazi party.



Winston Churchill became the British Prime Minister in 1940. He was an inspirational leader and worked hard to keep British morale up.

Pictures used available from Digitise Wales and www.istockphoto.com

The Blitz

The word blitz is the German word for 'lightning'. British newspapers used the word to describe the bombings that occurred in British cities during 1940 and 1941.



Evacuees

The British Government decided that children should be sent to safer areas of Britain during the war. Nearly 3 million children had to leave their parents behind in the big cities.



The Royal Family

Britain's royal family were headed by King George VI. He was Queen Elizabeth II's father. He became the British Monarch in 1937.



Rationing

You had to bring your ration book to the shops with you.



Food rationing began just after war broke out. Some food, that came from abroad, was not available anymore and people had to be careful so there was enough food to go around. Later other things, like clothes, had to be rationed. People were encouraged to grow vegetables and mend their clothes. Some rationing continued in Britain until June 1954.

You had to carry your gas mask with you at all times!

