

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION CUP

History

The Royal British Legion Cup is a silver plate cup with two handles and a black wooden plinth. It stands 438mm high and weighs 2.5kg. The inscription reads: "Presented to Brig-General O C Herbert, CMG., MC. by the Members of the British Legion Hartley Wintney Branch January 22/25". A bound list of the names of the 200 plus persons who contributed to the gift also records: "From the Members of the British Legion, to Brig-General O C Herbert CMG, MC. in recognition of his untiring energy and interest in the Hartley Wintney Branch of the British Legion since its formation".

The Cup, plinth and a list of donors were handed to Colonel Davies, Branch Chairman, in January 2000 by Mrs Margaret Lewington, a branch member. Mrs Lewington said that the Cup was handed back to the Branch by the family of Brig-General Herbert following his death. Admiral Weston, Branch Chairman at the time, fearful as to the future of the Branch, asked Bill Lewington, the Branch Standard Bearer and a Committee Member, to look after it. Mr Lewington believed that the Cup should be on display and asked Hartley Wintney Football Club to keep it in its trophy cabinet.

When the Football Club Pavilion was burnt down around 1983, the Cup was rescued by Mr Tom Walton, a retired local dentist, who stored it in his attic. Some years after Mr. Walton's death, Mrs Lewington recovered the Cup and returned it to the Branch in January 2000.

In 2001 the Hartley Wintney Branch, Royal British Legion, passed the Cup - now known as the 'Royal British Legion Cup' - to Hartley Wintney Parish Council 'for annual presentation to a local organisation or individual selected by Hartley Wintney Parish Council for their contribution to the life of the village'.

The recipients of the Royal British Legion Cup are as follows:

- 2020**- Helping Hands Charity Shop
- 2019** – Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
- 2018** – Royal British Legion (Hartley Wintney Branch)
- 2017** - Forget Me Not Cafe
- 2016** - Hartley Wintney Fire Station Co-Responder team
- 2015** – Bumps and Babies Group
- 2014** – Village History WWI Group
- 2013** – Hartley Wintney Christmas Day Lunch
- 2012** – Village History Exhibition Group
- 2011** – 4th Bramshill Scout Group
- 2010** – Hartley Wintney District Guides
- 2009** – Hartley Wintney Preservation Society
- 2008** – Patrick Vaughan – Parish Clerk
- 2007** – The Contact Magazine Team
- 2006** – Hartley Wintney Voluntary Care Group
- 2005** – Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service Hartley Wintney
- 2004** – The Women's Institute
- 2003** – Rosie Minibus
- 2002** – Rotary Club of Hart