

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:

2023 – Hartley Wintney Community Lunch
2022 - Bumps and Babies
2020/2021 - 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