



## *Petersfield Remembers*

### **80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Britain**

A very small but poignant service with a two minute silence observed took place at the Petersfield War Memorial at 10.45 am – 11.00 am on 15 September 2020 in commemoration of the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain.

The Battle of Britain was fought in the air from July 1940 to September 1940. It was on Sunday, 15 September 1940, 80 years ago that enemy aircraft launched the largest and most concentrated aerial attack against London in the hope of drawing out the RAF into a battle of annihilation. Around 1,500 aircraft took part in the air battles which lasted until dusk. The action was the climax of the Battle of Britain.

The Service was conducted by the Rev Cannon Will Hughes and the Wreath Layers were David Lloyd of the Royal Air Force Association (RAFA) and on behalf of the Community by Town Mayor Councillor Mrs Lesley Farrow with the inscription:-

*“Do not despair for Johnny-head-in-air. He sleeps as sound Johnny underground.*

*Fetch out no shroud for Johnny-in-the-cloud. And keep your tears for him in after years.*

*Better by far for Johnny-the-bright-star, to keep your head and see his children fed.”*

(“For Johnny” by John Pudney: 1909-1977)

*We the Many will Remember the Few for So Much*