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THERE were hats galore on show in Sedlescombe on Saturday for a special garden party.

The event marked the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Sedlescombe branch of the Royal British Legion, and the 60th anniversary of the end of World War Two.

The branch's standard was paraded to music from Pipe Major Hamilton Bracken and a special pennant to mark the anniversary was presented to the standard bearer and chairman, Ernest Burgess by parish council chair Valerie Wright.

The young winners of a special 'Time Line' contest - Keira Spray in the seven-and-under class and Endora Miles Watson for the over-sevens class - were also pre-

## Garden party marks Legion anniversary

sented with their prizes.

There was a Certificate of Commendation for the retiring Poppy Appeal organiser, Pam Sansom and another for the most 'mature collector', Noreen Hipwell, who was given a Poppy Brooch as a mark of appreciation. Then it was the turn of the veteran members who had all served in the armed forces during World War Two. As well as their badges, they were all

presented with an award by Staff Sgt Matt Baker, the newest and one of the youngest branch members who was recently on active service in Iraq.

Framed certificates of appreciation for their service during World War 2 were presented to: Ernest Burgess (ex-Royal Irish Fusiliers); David Carter (ex-RAF); Ted Cornford (ex-RAF); John Durnford (ex-Green Howards); Bob Harris (ex-Royal Engineers); David Hopkins (ex-Para Reg't - Indian Army); Jim Norman (ex-RAF); Branch President - George Taylor (ex-REME).

Several others not attending will also have their awards forwarded to them (Mr F Pestell, Mr H Wise, Mrs E Crook and Mr P Crook).

● Pictures, clockwise from top left: Pauline Fisher, Ernest Burgess and Valerie Wright (H26507c); Ernest Burgess, Ken Ferguson and George Taylor (H26507c); Sgt Matt Baker with youngsters Katy, Emily and Jonathon (H26507b); and, left, Colin and Pauline Raymond with Paula and David Fisher (H26507d).

