

INDIVIDUAL HISTORY

BRISTOL M.1C (REPRODUCTION) C4994/G-BLWM
MUSEUM ACCESSION NUMBER 1988/0209/A

1983-1987 Built by Don Cashmore at his Nottinghamshire workshop to original manufacturers' drawings. Fitted with a 165hp Warner Scarab 7 cylinder radial engine. Constructor's number PFA/112-10892.

12 Mar 85 Registration G-BLWM issued. Construction virtually complete by the end of 1986.

Sun 21 Jun 87 First flight of 10 minutes by Rolls-Royce test and display pilot John Lewis, from Hucknall airfield near Nottingham. Made at least two further flights from Hucknall of 20 minutes and 30 minutes duration. Flew with the serial number C4912, which originally belonged to an M.1C serving with No.150 Squadron at Salonika in 1918. Photo: Aeroplane Monthly Aug 87 p.394.

Retired soon after this and Scarab engine removed. Aircraft sold to RAF Museum. Don Cashmore had always intended to test fly the aircraft and then dispose of it.

12 Aug 87 CoA expired. Sold to RAF Museum the following week.

Feb 88 To RAF Museum RC&RC Cardington for reworking by this date. Given original 110hp Le Rhone rotary engine from Museum stock and given serial and Red Dragon insignia of an instructor flying RFC Training School aircraft C4994 in 1917-18. New spinner made and fitted at Cardington. Photo: Aeroplane Monthly Nov 89 p.647; Wingspan Apr 87 p.12. Photos of original aircraft - Windsock Data File 52 (027808) p.22; Windsock International Vol.8 No.3 p.15; Action Stations Vol.9 p.126.

12 May 88 Registration cancelled by Civil Aviation Authority.

12 Dec 89 Delivered to RAF Museum Hendon. Photo: FlyPast Feb 90 p. 28.

Displayed in main aircraft hall until 2003. Photos: Windsock International Vol.8 No.3 p.15 and rear cover; Scale Models International May 1990 p.214; W.W.I Aero Nov 2000pp.56-57.

18 Mar 03 Moved to newly resited Grahame White Factory building for public display from December 2003. Photo - Flypast March 2004 p.11.

The only original Bristol M.1C left is VH-UQI, at the Harry Butler Memorial, Minlaton, South Australia - the former RAF C5001/G-AUCH, which flew until 1938 with a 98hp Gipsy engine.

TEXT - ANDREW SIMPSON