

INDIVIDUAL HISTORY

WESTLAND DRAGONFLY HR 3 WP495/ 'G-AJOV'
MUSEUM ACCESSION NUMBER 84/A/1174

- 1953 Built at Yeovil, Somerset for service with the Fleet Air Arm. Constructor's number WA/H/80. Serials batch WP493 - WP504; one of 58 Dragonfly H.R.3 aircraft built, the most numerous of all Dragonfly variants.
- 1974 With the Combined Cadet Force at the King's School, Wimbledon, bearing the code 915.
- c.1976 Warnham, West Sussex where the Surrey Aircraft Preservation Society established the Warnham War Museum at Doffold Hill, open daily.
- c.1978 Banstead, Surrey with the Surrey and Sussex Aircraft Preservation Society, still coded 915.
- Early 1979 Front portion to Biggin Hill, Kent in poor condition for the British Airways Collection; rear portion with accessories stored at Banstead.
- 1980 Aerospace Museum, RAF Cosford, Salop, on loan to RAF Museum from the Surrey and Sussex Aviation Society.
- Restored and painted to represent the original BEA Sikorsky S-51 trials aircraft G-AJOV which on 1st June 1950 began the first ever sustained regular scheduled passenger helicopter service, between Liverpool (Speke) and Cardiff (Pengham Moor).
- Photo on display - Aircraft Illustrated July 1980 p.331.
- Still on display at the Royal Air Force Museum Cosford.

TEXT; ANDREW SIMPSON

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