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Nature & Outdoors

History

Religion & Ethics

Arts & Culture

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TV & Radio

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[Weather](#)
[Travel](#)

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Spitfire, built in Ripon, goes up for auction



The plane was built by the Ripon branch of the Royal British Legion

A Second World War spitfire could raise over £50,000 for the Royal British Legion when it goes up for auction in September.

The aircraft has been used at a variety of events including the 70th birthday of RAF Leeming events.

The auction takes place on September 17.

The aircraft, number W3850, which was flown by Pilot Officer Atkinson, now Sir Joe Atkinson, over France on 13th October 1941 in an attempt to protect Blenheim bombers attacking port installations.

Atkinson, in formation with other aircraft from 609 Squadron Royal Auxiliary Airforce (West Riding of Yorkshire), engaged and damaged a number of German Messerschmitt 109s during this flight. He was later awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Stuart Gendall from the Royal British Legion said: "The Spitfire is a wonderful machine. The proceeds from its sale will go towards a very good cause.

"Providing a wide range of care and support services for Armed Forces personnel, their families and veterans."

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