

Frank Wootton was attached 609 (WR) Squadron in 1940-41 based at Biggin Hill, Kent and later at Middle Wallop in Hampshire

Frank Wootton (1914-1998) was born in Milford, Hampshire. As an art student, he studied at Eastbourne College of Art, 1928-30 under Eric Ravilious and Reeve-Fowkes gaining a Travelling Scholarship and Gold Medal. He worked as a commercial artist and received a commission to paint the then new De Havilland Minor Moth, his first aeroplane. During the war Wootton volunteered for the Royal Air Force, but was invited by the commander-in-chief of the Allied Air Forces to accept a special duty commission as official war artist to the R.A.F. and Royal Canadian Air Force. During the war years, he painted the conflict from the front lines of France to remote airstrips in Southeast Asia. His aerial scenes brilliantly depict the menace of enemy fire, the split-second manoeuvres of fighter planes and the triumph of victory. After the end of World War II he exhibited at the RA, the ROI and many galleries throughout the world. He travelled the world executing commissions including many for Royalty. He was the Founding President of the Guild of Aviation Artists and in 1995 was awarded the OBE. In 1983 many of his paintings were exhibited at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. Since his death, Wootton's reputation has soared to even greater heights and his work graces many private collections throughout the world. He remains one the aviation's most widely esteemed artists.

Frank Wootton. OBE as a war time RAF artist he travelled throughout the Ear East and then, after D Day, in Europe sketching the RAF in action. A long serving member of 609s squadron association he depicted 609 in action on several of his superb paintings.