

Johnny Wells was from Norfolk - the seaside town of Sheringham. He joined 609 on 12th May 1942 and almost a year later scored 609's 100th victory against trains, raking the length of one consisting of covered goods wagons at Middlewijk in Holland. Wells had joined the RAF in 1936 as a Leading Aircraftsman. He commanded the squadron from 29th December 1943 until 30th June 1944. Later, he took command of No. 198 Squadron, 609's sister unit and finished the war as a Group Captain, with 3 enemy aircraft confirmed destroyed solo, 2 shared and 1 Damaged to his credit and the ribbon of the Distinguished Flying Cross on his chest.

WELLS, John Christopher, joined 609 Squadron in 1942, flying Typhoons. On 22nd December he damaged a Ju88 and on 16th February 1943 destroyed a Bf109G. On 1st June he shot down two Fw190's, and was awarded a DFC, being a flight commander by this time. He left the squadron, but returned late in the year as Commanding Officer. On 30th January 1944 he shared in destroying a Ju88 on the ground, and on 29th February shared two Ju188s with several pilots. Late in the year he was awarded a Bar to his DFC, having brought his score to 6. He had been promoted to Group Captain by the end of the war.

WELLS, John Christopher, S/L, DFC (45883) - Croix de Guerre, Belgian - awarded as per London Gazette dated 15 June 1945.

1<sup>st</sup> June 1943

At approximately 13:10 hours, 1<sup>st</sup> June 1943, 609 Squadron Typhoons intercepted 12 Fw190s of Skg.10 during a low – level attack on Margate and Broadstairs in Kent. Flt. Lt. Johnny Wells and F/O. Idwal Davies claimed 5 enemy aircraft, one falling just outside Manston (Fw190A – 5, WerkNummer 52529, Unteroffizier O. Zugenrucker).