FO Standish Cecil Mottram 36164 RAF

Standish was born on 14 June 1916 in St Pancras, London, the son of Dr James Cecil Mottram and Rhoda Mottram nee Pritchard.

Educated at Marlborough Prep School, Reading and King Edward VI School, Stratford upon Avon, Standish entered St Catherine's College Cambridge in 1935. After graduating with a BA in Engineering Studies, Standish joined the RAF and was commissioned as a Pilot in October 1938.

Prior to his posting to 101 Sqn at RAF West Raynham, Norfolk in January 1940, Standish was based at RAF Wyton, Cambridgeshire where he was a flying instructor.

On 7 March 1940, Standish and his crew departed RAF West Raynham, Norfolk in Blenheim IV N6165 (SR-S) tasked with a training flight over Wainfleet Sands on the Lincolnshire Coast. The flight was part of a programme of air firing, local altitude and photography, and wireless transmitter range tests on low power.

Whilst low flying South West of Diss, Norfolk near the village of Botesdale, the aircraft struck a line of high tension cables, taking down two telegraph poles and a high chimney. At 14:45 the aircraft crashed into a garden behind the White Horse Public House in Rickinghall Superior, Suffolk, killing Standish and the Observer.

Also killed : Sgt Alfred Ellis Mawdsley (Observer)

Standish is buried in Highgate Cemetery, London

Standish is commemorated on Wall Panel 216