

Chitterne



R.A.F Pilot and Passenger Killed

Pilot Officer Roy Francis See, 22, and Aircraftman Harold George Gray, both of No. 13 (Army Cooperation) Squadron, R.A.F., Old Sarum, were killed when their aeroplane crashed during camera-gun practice near Codford, Wiltshire, yesterday. Pilot Officer See came from London and Aircraftman Gray's home was in Dorset.

(*The Times*, Thursday 5th November, 1936)

Two Dead in R.A.F. Crash

Two R.A.F. men – a pilot and his passenger – were killed in a crash near Codford, Wiltshire, yesterday during camera-gun practice.

An official communiqué stated :- "The Air Ministry regrets to announce that Pilot Officer Roy Francis See and Aircraftman (First Class) Harold George Gray lost their lives in an accident which occurred near Codford, Wiltshire, yesterday to an aircraft of No. 15 Army Co-operation Squadron, Old Sarum." It is understood that See was a London man and that Gray's home was in Dorsetshire.

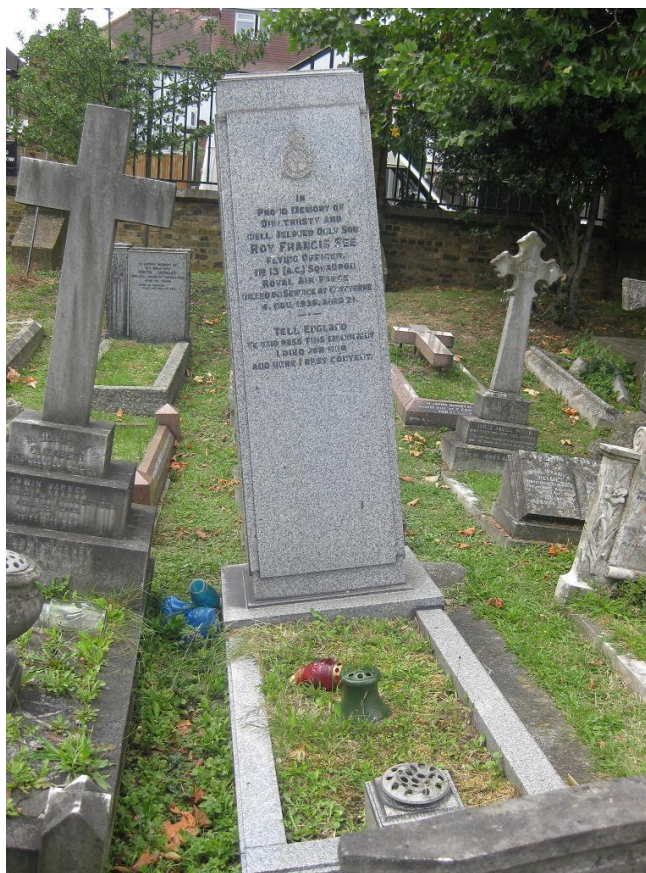
(*The Glasgow Herald*, 5th November, 1936)



70 years ago this month on 4th November 1936 an aeroplane crashed on the outskirts of Chitterne and two airmen were killed. P/O Roy Francis See and AC1 Harold George Gray were flying the Hawker Audax from 13 Squadron based at Old Sarum on camera gun practice, when they crashed avoiding a windmill. The windmill was a 'Woodcock' Windpump, made by the John Wallis Titt company and installed in 1905 on Charlie Collins' Manor Farm land to the left of the road to Tilshead. Several village children were told off for going to see the crash site when they should have been at school!

Photo from the collection of the late Bert Bailey.

The above article appeared in "Chit-Chat", the parish newsletter for the residents of Chitterne, Wiltshire (No.14 – Nov 2006) *(used with permission of the editor)*



Flying Officer Roy Francis See is buried at Acton Cemetery, Middlesex, England

(Photo by [julia&keld](#) July, 2009)

*In
Proud Memory of
Our Trusty and
Well Beloved Only Son
ROY FRANCIS SEE
Flying Officer no. 13 (A.C.) Squadron
Royal Air Force
Killed on Service at Chitterne
4. Nov. 1936. Aged 21*

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*Tell England
Ye Who Pass this Monument*

*I Died for Her
And Here I Rest Content*
