Chapter Nine

Route of R.101’s Final Flight

R.101 left from the Royal Airship Works at 18:36 GMT on October 4, 1930. As it departed, the winds increased in strength.

As the airship crossed the Channel, it encountered winds so fierce that it often traveled at a ground speed of only thirty miles per hour.

At a few minutes past 02:00 GMT on October 5th, R.101 crashed in a field to the west of the small town of Beauvais. Of the fifty-four people aboard, eight survived the crash. Two of those survivors were badly burned and died a few days later.