

## Thame Remembers

## Lance Corporal Albert Henry Pollicott

Oxf & Bucks dig in near Caen

Albert Henry Pollicott was born in Thame on 17<sup>th</sup> May 1915 to William Henry and Florence Mary Pollicott of Thame. William was butcher of Moor End Lane in the town. He married Ellen Caddo in Aylesbury in 1939.

During WW2 Albert enlisted in the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry (220078 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion). The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion took part in operations to capture Caen. They entered the town on 9<sup>th</sup> July 1944 but found much of it already destroyed. Albert died on 16<sup>th</sup> July 1944 during the Battle for Hill 112 which had begun on the 10<sup>th</sup> July. British troops were gripped in a bitter struggle with the SS Panzer Divisions to seize the high ground on the battlefield outside Caen and casualties were high on both sides.

The capture of Caen was seen as key to Allied success in Normandy and beyond. The Germans also believed that Caen was a very important city to hold and many battle hardened German units were tied up in and around the city and held heavily defended positions three miles to the south of Caen at Verrières Ridge.

Albert is buried in the Brouay War Cemetery, Calvados, France, and is remembered in Thame on the War Memorial and on St Mary's War Memorial Board.



The Thame Remembers
Cross was delivered
to his grave on
6 April 2015
by Verity Platek



CW Apr 15