



Thame Remembers

Sergeant Henry William Little



Henry William Little was the son of George Little, a farm labourer and Emma (nee Tolley). He was born in Oakley, Chinnor in the summer of 1913 and entered Lord Williams's Grammar School in 1924, a free place scholar. He left in 1929 with a 3rd class honours school certificate.

Henry was living in Watlington when, at the start of the WW2, he enlisted in the Royal Air Force. He married Margaret Isabel Patman at Dewsbury in Yorkshire in early 1941, before embarking on the armed merchant cruiser HMS Ranpura to Halifax, Nova Scotia in August '41, from where he travelled to the US Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Florida, for aircrew training.

After returning to England he was posted to 70 Squadron at RAF Kabrit in Egypt. On the night of 22/23 March 1943, Sergeant Little was navigator in Vickers Wellington Mk III (DF 698), being flown by Fg Off Arthur Bebbington MM. The aircraft took off shortly after 21:00 hours and nothing further was heard of them. After six months the crew were officially posted as missing, killed in action.

The crew have no known grave and are remembered on the Alamein Memorial in Egypt. Sergeant Little is also remembered on the War Memorials at Chapel en le Frith, Derbyshire and Watlington, Oxon. In Thame he is remembered on Lord Williams's School Memorial Board.



**The
Thame Remembers Cross
was delivered
to his memorial on
19 February 2018
by
David Bretherton**

