

POST CODE: B63 2UL

ADDRESS: Churchyard, St Peter's Church, Church Road, Cradley

GPS Location: N. 52.46421196 W. -2.08714502

Memorial Location: Section J, Row 2, Grave No 25

NEALE, THOMAS HENRY

Private Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, Number 5113698, Died 17/04/1944 aged 24 years.

Thomas Henry Neale was the son of Fred and Lily May Neale of Cradley.

On 3 September 1943 the Allies invaded the Italian mainland, the invasion coinciding with an armistice made with the Italians who then re-entered the war on the Allied side.

Progress through southern Italy was rapid despite stiff resistance, but by the end of October, the Allies were facing the German winter defensive position known as the Gustav Line, which stretched from the river Garigliano in the west to the Sangro in the east. Initial attempts to breach the western end of the line were unsuccessful. Operations in January 1944 landed troops behind the German lines at Anzio, but defences were well organised, and a breakthrough was not actually achieved until 18 May, when Cassino was finally taken.

*IN LOVING MEMORY OF
DEAR WIFE AND MOTHER
LILLEY MAY NEALE
WHO PASSED AWAY
28TH SEPT 1964, AGED 66 YEARS
ALSO DEAR HUSBAND AND FATHER
FREDERICK
WHO PASSED AWAY
8TH MAY 1966, AGED 76 YEARS
MEMORIES OF DEAR SON AND BROTHER
TOM
KILLED IN ACTION 17TH APRIL 1944,
AGED 24 YEARS
REST IN PEACE*

