

Samuel Henry Allen, (Killed in Action, JUNE 1944)¹



Samuel Harry Allan is recorded erroneously on the Tewkesbury War Memorial as *A. Allan*,² and so we are immensely grateful that his brother, **Bill**, has been able to correct the record. Samuel was born on 23 April 1924, the son of William & Eunice Allen, of Victoria Cottages, Oldbury Road. He attended the Council School in Chance Street and left at 14 to work for *Beckford Sand and Gravel*.

However aged 23, Harry joined the army in 1942, just after his brother. Photographs suggest that he served in N. Africa before being sent to Italy where he was killed. The last time the two brothers met was during leave together in Birmingham in 1944. A member of the 4th Reconnaissance Unit of the Royal Armoured Corps, there is also some disagreement whether he was killed on the 24 or 30 April 1944 as the Allies tried to push north after seizing Rome in early June.³ Harry was buried at the *Assisi War Cemetery*, north east of Rome.



Harry serving (behind the officer) in the *Home Guard* before joining up



Harry during training
(3rd row from front; 4th from left)

¹ Information kindly supplied by his brother, **Bill Allen**, himself a veteran of the Royal Engineers, who served from Normandy to the end of the war in Schleswig-Holstein.

² The CWGC website records *Alfred Henry Allen*.

³ *Tewkesbury Register*: 15/07/1944 + 22/07/1944



Harry (middle rear) with comrades



This must be in North Africa?
(Harry back right)



His temporary grave



His CWGC grave at Assisi