

**Private LESLIE P. BARRETT**

14622483, 2nd Bn., Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry  
who died age 19 on 28 June 1944

Son of Walter and Beatrice E. Barrett, of Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire.  
Remembered with honour at the ASSISI WAR CEMETERY

The Register of 22 July 1944 furnished merely a short report with no photograph.

**KILLED IN ACTION.**

*The news has been received that Private Leslie Phillip Barratt, the youngest son of Mr and Mrs Walter Barrett, of Palace House<sup>1</sup>, Tewkesbury, has been killed in the Central Mediterranean Theatre of War. Private Barratt who was reported wounded in February last, was 19 years of age, and was an old pupil of the C of E School. Before joining the forces he was employed at Ashchurch.*

The CWGC's record of **Assisi War Cemetery** does provide a little contact.

"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 the advance was checked for some months at the German winter defensive position known as the Gustav Line. The line eventually fell in May 1944 and as the Germans withdrew, Rome was taken by the Allies on 3 June. Many of the burials in this cemetery date from June and July 1944, when the Germans were making their first attempts to stop the Allied advance, north of Rome.

It is likely, therefore, that **Pte. Barrett** was killed in this desperate German defensive action.



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<sup>1</sup> The database contains little information upon *Palace House* but one wonders if it refers to the Shenton's former cinema in Oldbury Road.