

# GILL Edwin Ernest

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**Name:** Edwin Ernest Gill

**Born:** 12 August 1912

**Rank:** Driver

**Service Number:** T/88402

**Regiment:** Royal Army Service  
Corps

**Died:** 25 February 1991



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## Pre-War:

Ernie, as he was known, was born in Manchester. When he was sent away to war, he left behind, Eva, his wife who was pregnant with his daughter (who was named Margaret) and Alan, his son.

## Wartime experience:

Ernie was captured at the fall of Singapore and held in Changi POW Camp. He left there on 3 November 1942 as part of 'O' Party under the command of Lt-Col F I N McOstrich, destined for the Thai/Burma Railway. The first camp he would have passed through, and is not on his questionnaire is Ban Pong, the transit camp at the start of the Railway.

Ernie was allocated to 'Work Group 4', the largest Work Group on the Railway, consisting of 11,200 men in 31 Work Battalions.

He was in the following Camps:

Changi, Singapore	-	from 15/2/42 to 2/11/42
Tha Sao	-	from 13/11/42 to 19/7/43
Kanchanaburi Hospital	-	from 20/7/43 to 11/43
Chungkai	-	from 11/43 to 11/8/44
Tha Muang	-	from 11/8/44 to 6/45
Takli	-	from 6/45 to 22/9/45

Ernie was sent to Takli with other POWs where they built an airfield, several men arrived in the camp from a long march with smallpox, hence the September release date. It is more than probable that he was flown to Rangoon from there.

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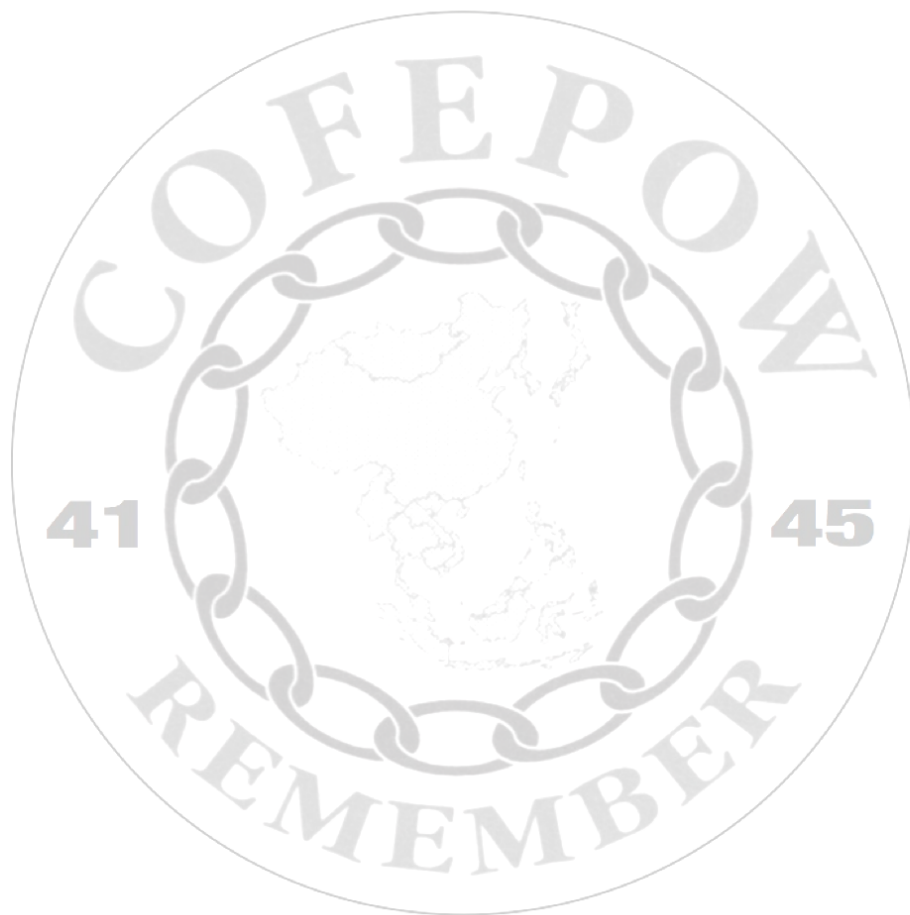
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## **Civilian life after return:**

When Ernie returned from the war he went to work as an Export Clerk for Arnold Clayton, textile importers, in Manchester. He and Eva went on to have a third child, a son who they called Geoff – names after Ernie's good friend Geoffrey Basil Price, who he met in the camps.

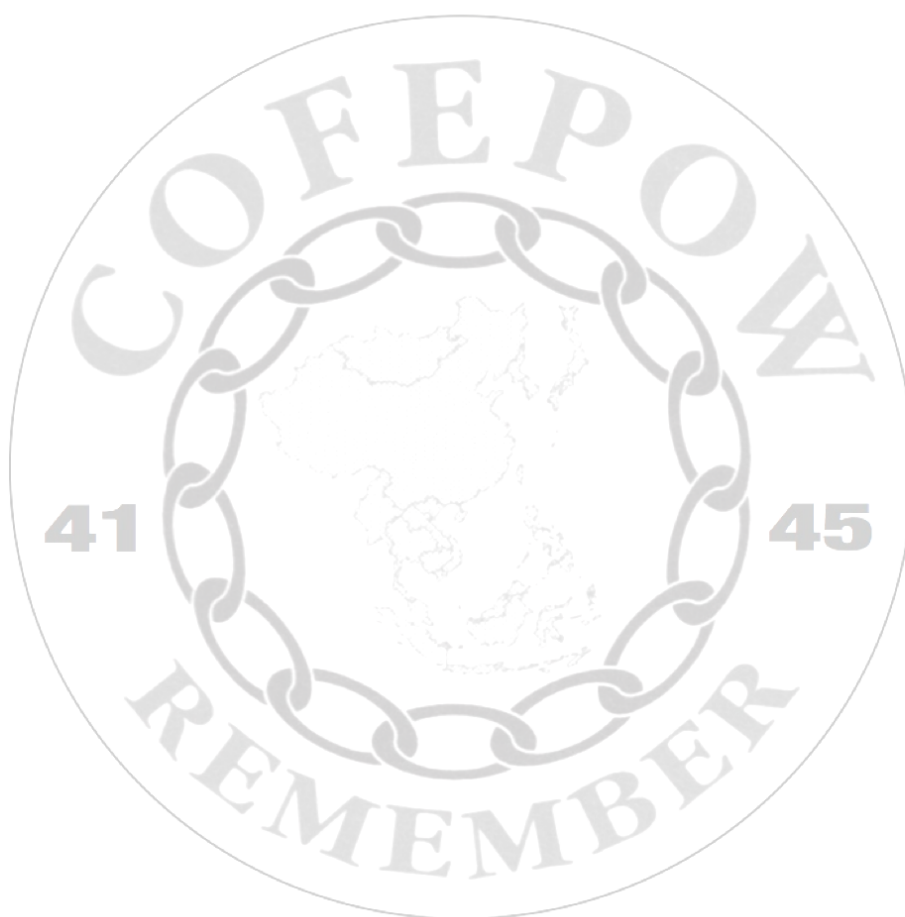
Sadley, Ernie passed away on 25 February 1991 at the age of 78.

*The above information has been provided by Amanda Heathcote-Gill (Granddaughter) and Keith Andrews (COFEPOW, Head of Research)*



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