

# PURCHON Harold Goldsborough

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**Name:** Harold Goldsborough  
Purchon

**Born:** 20 April 1915

**Rank:** Gunner

**Service Number:** 1090124

**Unit/Regiment:** 148<sup>th</sup> Field  
Regiment (Bedfordshire  
Yeomanry) Royal Artillery



**Died:** 18 December 1987

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## Pre-War:

Harold was born in Thorpe, Audlin, Pontefract, Yorkshire to Albert and Irene Purchon. He was a lorry driver living in Doncaster before he joined the Territorial Army in November 1940.

## Wartime experience:

It is thought that Harold would have left Liverpool on 30 October 1941 on the SS Andes as part of Convoy CT5 – destined for Halifax, Nova Scotia. From there he would have boarded the USS Wakefield, which became part of Convoy WS12X, calling into Capetown and Bombay. In Bombay he would have been on part of the Convoy BM11, which departed 19 January 1942 and arrived in Singapore on 29 January 1942.

Harold was captured on 15 February 1942, at the Fall of Singapore, and would have been held, initially, in Changi POW Camp – possibly, the 18<sup>th</sup> Division Area. From the information provided on his Japanese Prison Card and other documents, it appeared he did not leave Singapore for the duration of the war. The liberation date is for Singapore and was the date the camp closed when it was liberated on 2 September 1945.

He would have left Singapore on 22 September arriving back in Southampton on 22 October 1945 on the HMS Maloja.

## Civilian life after return:

Harold Married and had six children.

Sadly, he died on 18 December 1987 at the age of 72.

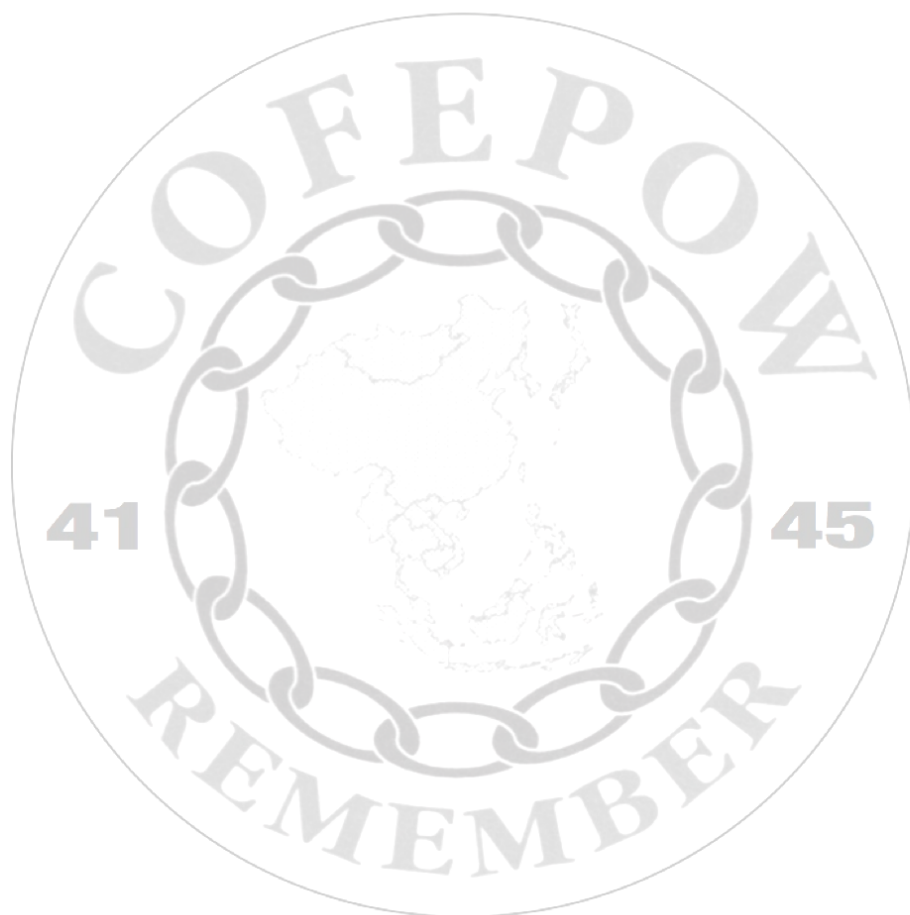
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*'He always worked hard to support all our family, he was a wonderful man - I miss him every single day.'* Sue Jenkins

*The above information has been provided by Sue Jenkins (daughter)  
with additional information provided by Keith Andrews, COFEPOW Head of Research.*



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