

## Harry Rodley



**Rank:** - Driver

**Number:** - 2368568

**Regiment:** - Royal Corps of Signals, Malaya Command Signals, HQ

**Died:** - Died of enteritis 15 November 1943 Age: 29 years

**Cemetery:** - Kanchanaburi War Cemetery, Thailand 4. C. 63.

Batley News, 6 Nov 1943

Harry was born on 14 January 1914 the son of David and Sarah Emma Rodley nee Booth who had married on 12 June 1911 at Holy Trinity Church, Batley Carr. Joseph William was born in 1912, Harry, Annie and Sam 1916, Sarah Emma 1919. His mother died shortly after the birth of Sarah Emma and his father married Eliza Jane Woolley in 1919.

David was in business as a chimney sweep and Harry and Joseph continued with this becoming well known in the Batley area. His father died in January 1940 and

later that year he married Mary Furniss who lived at 69, Huddersfield Road, Birstall. They had a daughter in 1941 who he never saw,

The Malaya Command was a formation of the British Army formed in the 1920s for the coordination of the defences of British Malaya which comprised the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States and the Unfederated Malay States. It consisted mainly of small garrison forces

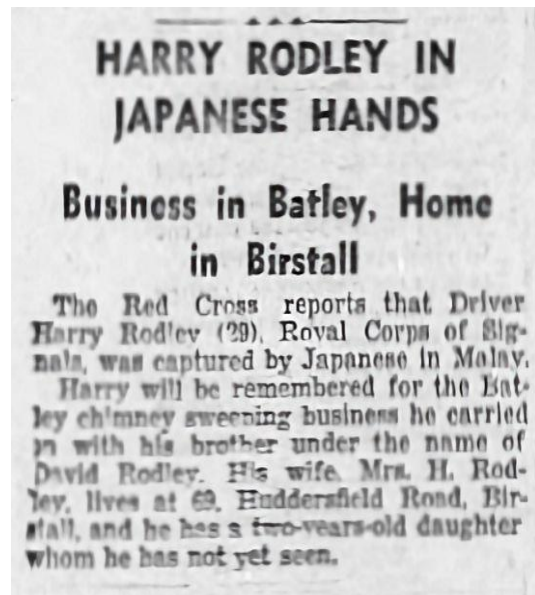
in Kuala Lumpur, Penang, Taiping, Seremban and Singapore. With the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939, the command reinforced its strength in anticipation of an attack. With the bulk of British forces being tied down in the war in Europe and the Near East the command was mainly augmented by units from India.

Harry was taken prisoner and died of enteritis whilst in Malai 3 POW camp, Thailand.

Kanchanaburi War Cemetery is only a short distance from the site of the former "Kanburi," the prisoner of war base camp through which most of the prisoners passed on their way to other camps.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF ONE WHO WILL BE ALWAYS DEAR TO US.  
MARY AND CHRISTINE

Harry is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial and was awarded the 1939-45 Star; 1939-1945 War Medal.



Researched by members of  
Batley History Group