**ROLL OF HONOUR – WX 23289 PTE Henry Alan ROWBOTTAM**

**27th May 1946**



***WX23289 PTE H.A ROWBOTTAM***

(11 May 1927 – 27 May 1946: aged 19 yrs)

Private Henry Alan Rowbottam was born in Dalwallinu, WA on 11 May 1927, the son of Harry Walter and Eileen Marion Rowbottam. Henry was a Storeman prior to enlisting as a General Reinforcement in the AMF on 22 May 1945 at Karrakatta WA. After training in Australia Henry arrived in Kure, Japan on 26 April 1946 posted to 66th Aust Inf Bn.

On 27 May 1946 in Hachihonmatsu, Japan, Henry, age 19, died from a 303-bullet wound to the abdomen from an Accidental discharge whilst on duty. (*There was no misconduct, but evidence exists of negligence*). Henry’s Pl attended his funeral, with members of the Hachihonmatsu detachment his pall bearers. He was the first soldier to be buried in the ground of the temporary British War Cemetery and is now buried in the Yokohama War Cemetery Yokohama, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa, Japan.

**Unit:** 66th Battalion, Australian Infantry, 2nd AIF.

**Fate:** Died accidently in Hachihonmatsu, 27 May 1946

**Cause of Death:** Accidental discharge whilst on duty

**Memorial Details:** Panel 71, Commemorative Area, Australian War Memorial, Canberra, ACT.

From 66 Bn War Dairy:





**INSPECTOR ROWBOTTOM’S LOSS**

**SON KILLED IN JAPAN**

Inspector Rowbottam, in charge of the South-West police and stationed in Bunbury, received a telegram on June 30 from the Minister for the Army advising him that his son Pte Henry Alan Rowbottam (19) had been killed as a result of an accident.

Henry Rowbottam, who will be well remembered in Bunbury, where he was employed at Donaldson's Garage, was a member of the Australian Occupation Forces in Japan when the

tragedy occurred. Beyond the bare announcement of his son’s death, Inspector Rowbottem has so far received no information in regard to the unfortunate occurrence.

Inspector Rowbottam, during the period he has been stationed .in Bunbury, has won wide popularity as a police officer, and all sections of the community will hear of his loss with very great regret, and extend to him a full measure of sympathy.

Henry Rowbottam was in Bunbury on leave last February before being drafted to duty in Japan. Two-other sons returned safely after serving their country with the fighting forces.

*South Western Times (Bunbury, WA Thu 6 Jun 1946*

*‘****Lest we forget’***