

MASON, R. P.

Reginald Palmer Mason was born in Melbourne to 1894 to Robert and Esther (née Palmer) Mason. The family, including older brother Arthur and sister Eileen, lived at 465 Rathdowne Street, Carlton for some years. His father was an ironmonger, Arthur a bootmaker.

Reginald volunteered for the Naval and Military Expeditionary Force, which had been hastily formed in 1914 in response to the outbreak of war. He was sent to New Guinea on a special assignment as a mechanic with the Flying Corps. Subsequently he joined the 2nd Australian Flying Squadron, and married Sarah (Sadie) Hines in 1916 before being posted to Europe as an 'air mechanic'.

He returned to Australia in 1919 to join his wife in Richmond and worked as a patternmaker. He died in St Vincent's Hospital, Darlinghurst, Sydney in 1929 after a long illness. Reginald Palmer is the only member of the Flying Corps on the St Jude's Honour Roll.

AIF Project Entry

Reginald Palmer MASON

Regimental number	1354
Place of birth	Melbourne Victoria
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Air mechanic
Address	44A Stanley Street, Richmond, Victoria.
Marital status	Married
Age at embarkation	22
Next of kin	Wife, Mrs Sarah Mason, 44A Stanley Street, Richmond, Victoria.
Enlistment date	29 August 1916
Rank on enlistment	2nd Air Mechanic
Unit name	2nd Australian Flying Squadron, 4th Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	8/5/2
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board HMAT A67 <i>Orsova</i> on 6 December 1916.
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	Australian Flying Corps
Fate	Returned to Australia 8 September 1919.

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NAA: B2455 MASON R P SERN 1354.