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McMaster, Allan

A West Australian railway employee killed while on military service for their country



Memorial at Railway Workshops Midland (D.Graham/panoramio)

Rail employment information

Employer:	Western Australian Government Railways & Tramways
Branch:	Tramways
Designation:	Track repairer

Rail employment notes: Born 21/12/1897. Joined Tramways 19/7/1937 aged 39 as Points Oiler & Cleaner, Perth. Appointed Track Repairer 1/1/1939.
(The tramways of Perth and adjoining suburbs were compulsorily purchased by the WA Government in 1913 and were placed in the management and responsibility of the WA Government Railways. The records of employees, including honour rolls after the war, reflected this combined operation.)

Enlisted in RAAF 27/4/1942. Died 19/11/1943.

Military service information:

Conflict:	Second World War 1939-1945
Service:	Royal Australian Air |Force
Military unit:	Operational Base, Albany
Service number:	80349
Date of death:	19 November 1943
Age:	45
Place of death:	Perth, Western Australia
Rank:	Leading Aircraftman

Burial/commemoration: Perth War Cemetery and Annex, Perth, Western Australia, Australia

Allan McMaster enlisted on 28 April 1942 in Perth into the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF). He nominated his wife Edna McMaster as his next of kin and said he lvied then in Victoria Park. At times he was posted to No.4 Stores Depot Perth and to the RAAF Operational Base at Albany.

An RAAF casualty list published on 20 December 1943 in the *Daily News* simply stated “Died of illness: leading aircraftsman A.McMaster, Victoria Park.”

He is buried in the Perth War Cemetery at Karrakatta, Perth.

Additional/personal information:

Allan McMaster was born in Northam 1897, a son of Duncan McMaster and Phoebe Rose (nee Smith) McMaster. In 1935 he married Edna May Davis (BDM 406/1934). The couple do not appear to have had any children, however Allan had several siblings.

> McMASTER, Allan (LAC, RAAF), passed away, suddenly, on November 19, 1943; devoted husband of Edna (20 McMaster street, Victoria Park). So long, my pal.
>
> McMASTER Allan (RAAF), died suddenly, November 19; brother of Jack McMaster (Post Office, Turkey Creek). Will always remember you smiling.

McMASTER, Allan (RAAF).—On Novemher 19, brother of Rose Hamblin, uncle of Ted (RAAF). Keith and Cliff. So long, Allan. All *The West Australian* 22/11/1943p1

Further information and/or photos may be added as available. Information may also be found on the Australian War Memorial website: *https://www.awm.gov.au/advanced-search/people*

Abbreviations: WAGR= Western Australian Government Railways (& Tramways at some periods); MRWA= Midland Railway of Western Australia; BDM=Western Australian Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages website; AWM=Australian War Memorial (Canberra and website); CWGC= Commonwealth War Graves Commission (including website). DVA=Department of Veterans' Affairs (including website)

Acknowledgements: Rail employment notes from WAGR Honour Roll and WAGR records held by State Records Office, Perth, transcribed by J.Austin 2019. Military information researched by Dr G.M.Galvin. Family information and collation by G.Higham.

----------Lest we forget----------