

## **Herts at War**

([www.hertsatwar.co.uk](http://www.hertsatwar.co.uk))

**Name:** Edward Henry Briston  
**Rank:** Corporal  
**Service Number:** 37591  
**Date of Death:** 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1918  
**Age:** 20  
**Regiment/Service:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment



### **Award:**

**Grave/Memorial Reference:** II. C. 9.

**Cemetery/Memorial:** PERNOIS BRITISH CEMETERY, HALLOY-LES-PERNOIS, FRANCE.

**UK Cemetery/Memorial:** Hitchin War Memorial, St Mary's Church, Panel A  
St Mary's Church Memorial Book, Hitchin (*not confirmed*)

### **Pre War:**

He was the eldest son of Mr R.H. and Ellen Briston of 57, Hitchin Hill, Hitchin. He was born in Hitchin and attended Hitchin Boys British School in Hitchin. He was resident in Hitchin when he enlisted in Bedford. Before joining up he was a Sunday school teacher at St. John's Church in Hitchin and he was also a Scoutmaster with the St. Mary's Church Scout Troop.

### **Wartime Service:**

He joined up on the 27th January 1917 and was posted to the 2nd Battalion of the Bedfords with the Regimental Number 37591 and went to France on the 6th June 1917. He died of wounds in No. 41 Casualty Clearing Station having been badly wounded the same morning. He was buried in the Military Cemetery adjoining the hospital.

He was probably in 'D' Company during an attack by the Germans on the northern outskirts of Albert. It was a quiet day until 9.25pm when the enemy, after a two-hour bombardment in which a large portion of the trench system was blown in and two Lewis-gun teams were knocked out, attacked and despite magnificent resistance by the Battalion, recaptured their former front line.

He was buried in Plot 2, Row C, Grave 9 at the Pernois British Cemetery in France.

### **Additional Information:**

Son of R. H. and Ellen Briston, of Hitchin, Herts.

### **Acknowledgments:**

Adrian Dunne

David C Baines

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