

## **Herts at War**

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**Name:** Herbert Catterill  
**Rank:** Gunner  
**Service Number:** 27096  
**Date of Death:** 29<sup>th</sup> June 1917  
**Age:** 32  
**Regiment/Service:** 65th Howitzer Battery,  
Royal Field Artillery



**Award:**

**Grave/Memorial Reference:** II. C. 23.

**Cemetery/Memorial:** ROCLINCOURT MILITARY CEMETERY, PAS DE CALAIS, FRANCE.

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

**Pre War:**

He was born in Hitchin but enlisted in London. His wife lived in Mitcham. He was the second son of Mrs C. Sells of 3, Maxwell Cottages, Bedford Road, Hitchin.

**Wartime Service:**

Herbert was allocated the Regimental Number 27096. He was mobilised in August 1914 and was killed in action in France whilst with the 65th Howitzer Battery. His death was at 3.00pm when the dugout he was in near Roclincourt was struck by a gas shell. He was made unconscious by the gas and efforts to revive him in the fresh air were unsuccessful.

Roclincourt is immediately north of Arras. The 65th Battery was equipped with 4.5" howitzers and was part of the 28th Army Brigade Royal Field Artillery. It was probably in the XIII Corps in the 1st Army the day after the capture of Oppy Wood in the 3rd Battle of the Scarpe.

He was buried in Plot 2, Row C, Grave 23 in the Roclincourt Military Cemetery, France. His gravestone records him to have been in the 'Royal Field Artillery'.

**Additional Information:**

**Acknowledgments:**

Adrian Dunne

David C Baines

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