

Charles Edward Baldock

*183, Hunts Cyclist Battalion, 153307, 22nd London Regiment, Machine Gun Corps.
Died 30th September 1918, aged 19*

Charlie was baptised in Warboys 16 July 1898, fifth of ten children of John Baldock, a farmer, and Sarah Ann (nee Whitsey) of Shelton Farm, Warboys. He enlisted at Warboys, with several other young men of the village, into the Hunts Cyclist Battalion on 2 November 1915.

After training at Scarborough, Charlie joined the 22nd London Regiment, Machine Gun Corps.

Very few machine guns were in use at the outbreak of war but it was quickly realised that many more were needed and a specialised unit was formed to use them. One in every twelve men was killed in the corps earning it the name of "the suicide club".



Charlie was killed 30 September 1918 during the Battle of the St Quentin Canal, an assault on the German's Hindenberg Line which was eventually successful for the allied troops. He is buried at Bellicourt British Cemetery, Aisne, France.

His cousins **George and Richard Baldock** had also been killed in action in 1916.

His father John died in May 1921 and Charlie's death is commemorated on his father's grave in Warboys cemetery. "**Also for our dear boy Charles Edward Baldock, killed in action in France September 30th 1918, aged 19 years**". His mother lived until 1935.