

## **Private William Johnston<sup>©</sup>** **Regimental number: Unknown**

Unfortunately, despite the best efforts of volunteer genealogists as part of this project, without the regimental number or even the regiment's name it was not possible to identify conclusively this William Johnston in order to be able to tell his personal story. That the chaplain's entry is incomplete is not altogether surprising: during the period 7 July 1917 to 13 July 1917, when this soldier was likely admitted, No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station admitted a total of 1790 wounded, as many as 653 on one day.<sup>1</sup>

As this name did not appear in the burial records of the Adinkerke Churchyard Extension<sup>2</sup> where others who died around the same time were buried, it is possible that William survived. Regardless, his contribution to the war effort should be recognized and valued.

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<sup>1</sup> "War Diaries of the First World War: 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station 1914/08/13-1919/03/31," *Library and Archives Canada* ([http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/lac-bac/results/images?module=images&SortSpec=score+desc&Language=eng&ShowForm=hide&SearchIn\\_1=ikanNumber&SearchInText\\_1=2005082&Operator\\_1=AND&SearchIn\\_2=&SearchInText\\_2=&Operator\\_2=AND&SearchIn\\_3=&SearchInText\\_3=&Level=&MaterialDateOperator=after&MaterialDate=&DigitalImages=1&Source=&ResultCount=10](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/lac-bac/results/images?module=images&SortSpec=score+desc&Language=eng&ShowForm=hide&SearchIn_1=ikanNumber&SearchInText_1=2005082&Operator_1=AND&SearchIn_2=&SearchInText_2=&Operator_2=AND&SearchIn_3=&SearchInText_3=&Level=&MaterialDateOperator=after&MaterialDate=&DigitalImages=1&Source=&ResultCount=10); accessed 1 March 2023)

<sup>2</sup> "Adinkerke Churchyard Extension," *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* ([www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org); accessed 7 March 2023)