

News, Letters and Postcards

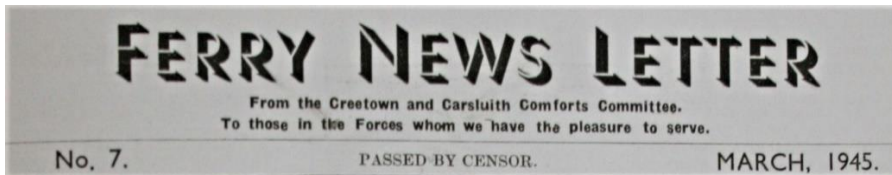
The Galloway News :

Reported some general war news as well as more local news. The Intimations section had a special 'On Active Service' section with deaths and prisoner of war information.

Galloway News 26th February 1944



Creetown produced a series of newsletters called the **Ferry News Letter** between 1943 and 1946 which had more local news. These were also sent out to troops.



The story featured here told the sad story of Jane McDowell who was killed returning home from Gatehouse in September 1942 during a blackout period. Her brother William was killed in action in March 1945.

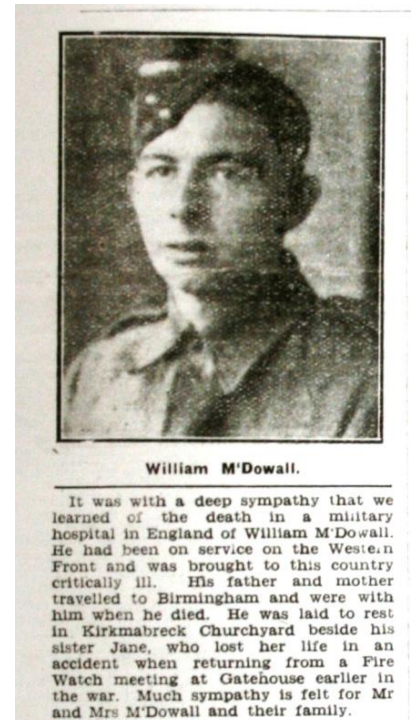
Copies of the Newsletters are now published in a booklet 'Ferry News Letter 75th Anniversary' available from the Creetown Heritage Museum.



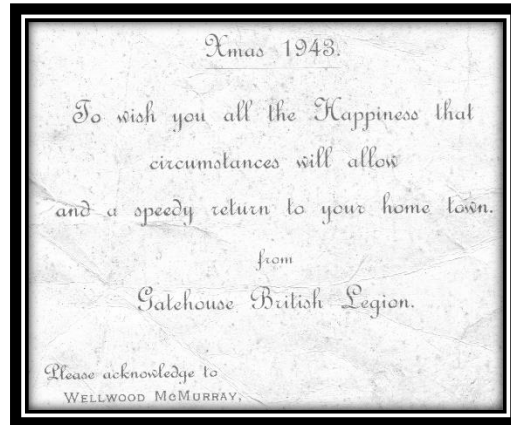
The paper also often included an 'On Active Service' column within the paper which included more details of service men and women who had been killed, injured, taken prisoner of war or had received an award. Unlike the newspaper reports for the First World War there were almost no photographs of those involved.

Galloway News 19th February 1944

The Galloway News was sent abroad to areas where local men were known to be serving.



During the war years the British Legion in Gatehouse sent Christmas cards to members.



Personal letters could be sent to serving men and women although these were censored and were slow to arrive, probably because of censoring.

The following is a series of correspondences involving 2 soldiers from Gatehouse and their families.

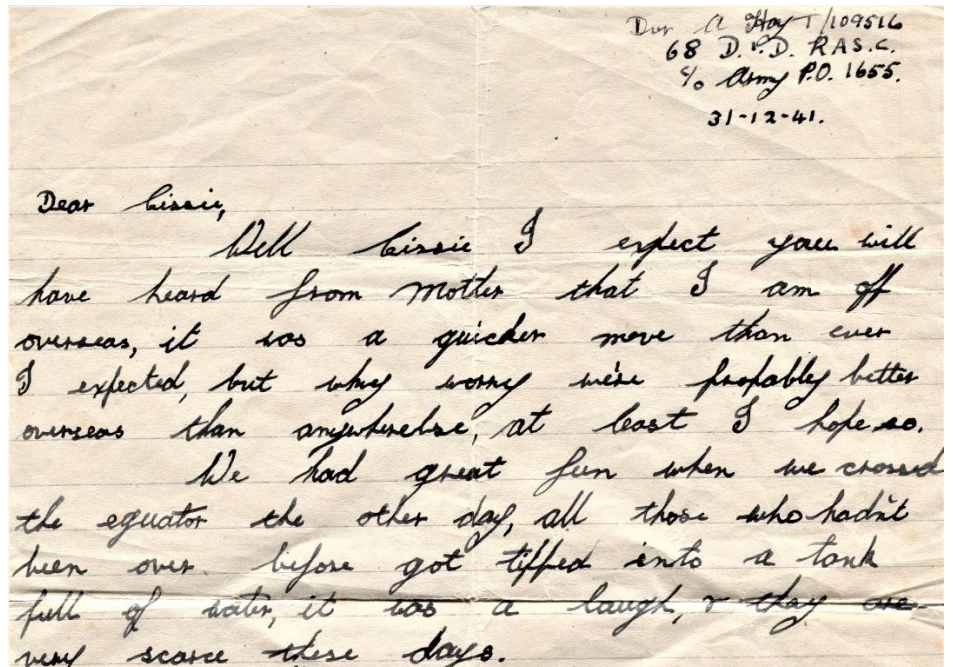
Special thanks to Sheila Wallace for sharing her family's war correspondence.

Transportation of troops

often involved long slow journeys, and servicemen were encouraged to write home as a way of passing the time. Many described the new and unusual sights they saw in Egypt, India and the Far East.

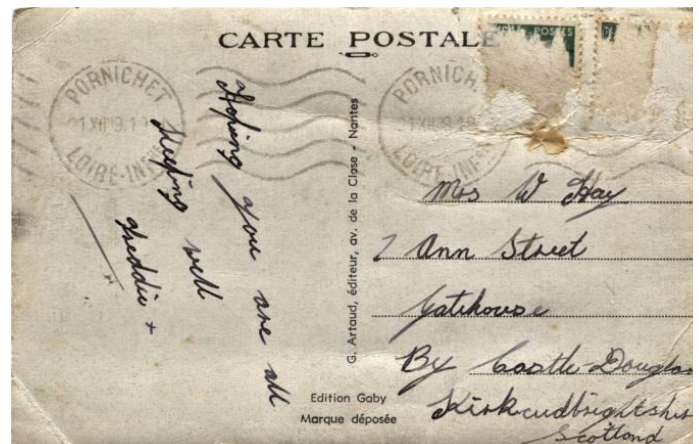
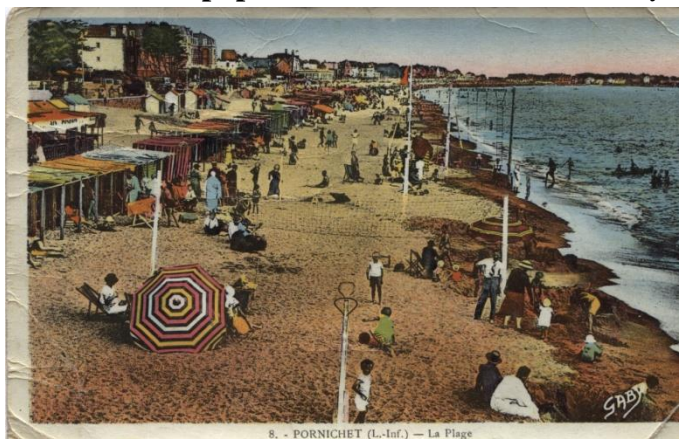


Freddie Hay

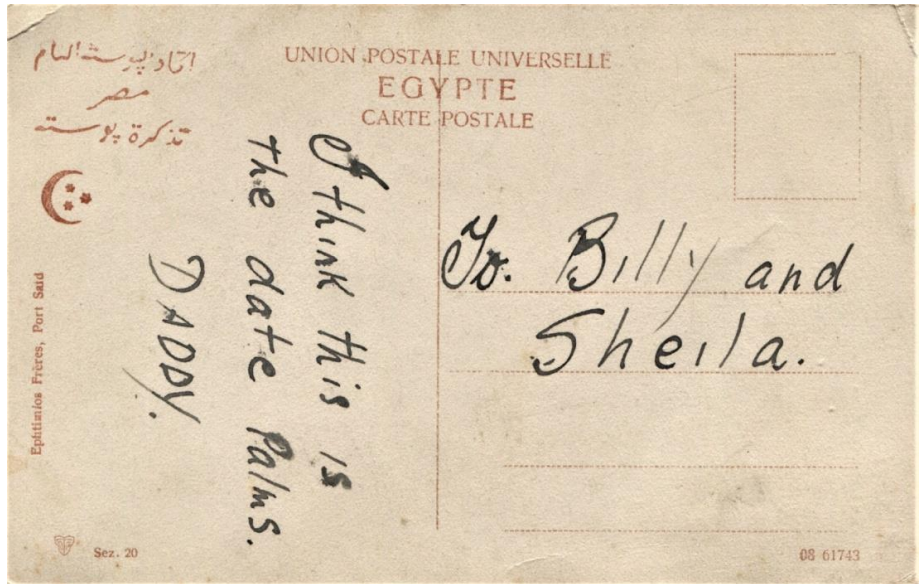


Above is part of a letter from **Freddie Hay** to his sister Cissie in 1941, whilst he was en route to Burma.

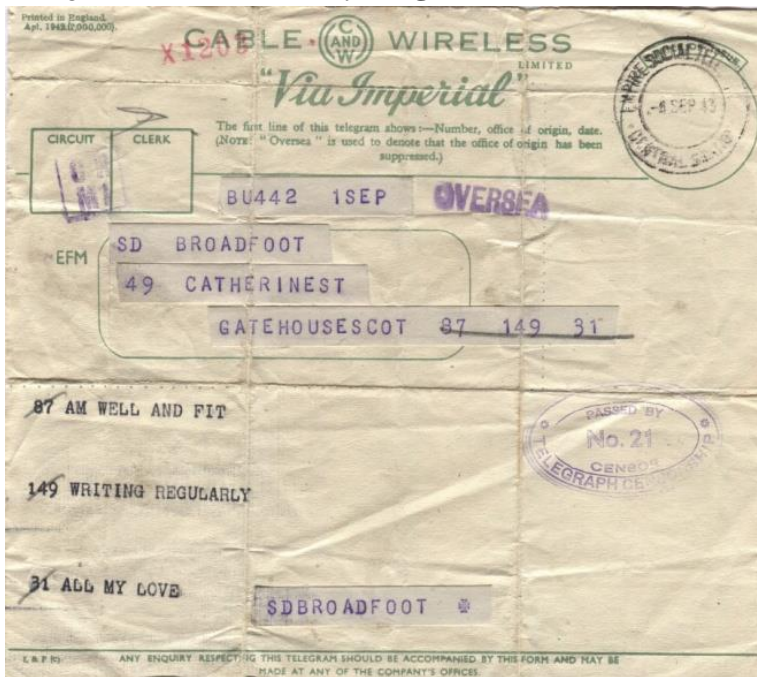
Postcards were popular. Here is one that Freddie Hay sent to his mother from France



Stewart Broadfoot (Freddie Hay's brother-in-law) sent this **Egyptian postcard** to his children Billy and Sheila.



Messages could also be sent by **telegram**.



GREETINGS	
26.	Greetings
27.	Loving greetings
28.	Fondest greetings
29.	Love
30.	Darling
31.	All my love
32.	All my love dearest
33.	All our love
34.	Fondest love
35.	Fondest love darling
36.	Best wishes

MISCELLANEOUS	
131.	What things do you need most urgently
132.	Have done as you asked
133.	Rumour not true
134.	No
135.	Very happy to hear from you dearest am fit and well
136.	Hearing your voice on the wireless gave me a wonderful thrill
137.	Hope to see you soon
138.	Hope
139.	Your telegram not received
140.	Yes

Telegraph transmission costs were kept to a minimum by using number-coded phrases. The sender would simply quote a series of numbers, whilst the receiver would add the text associated with those numbers.

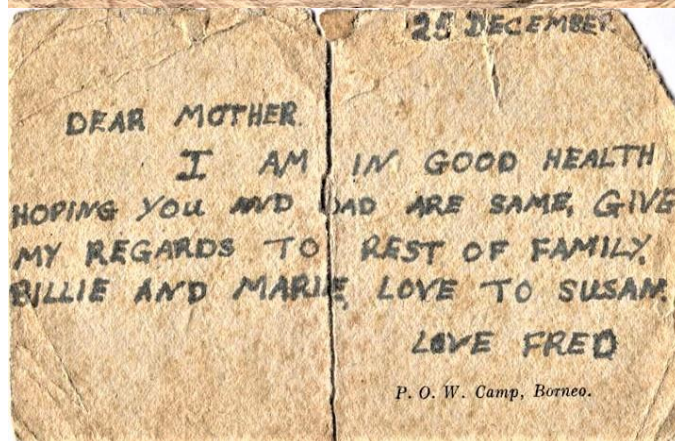
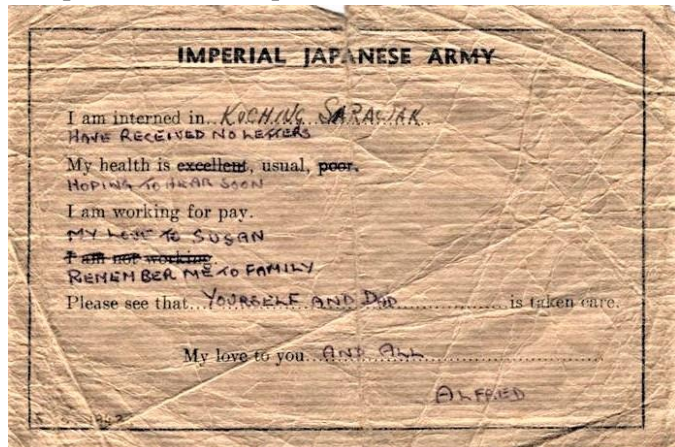
See the example here.

Freddie Hay and his brother-in-law Stewart Broadfoot

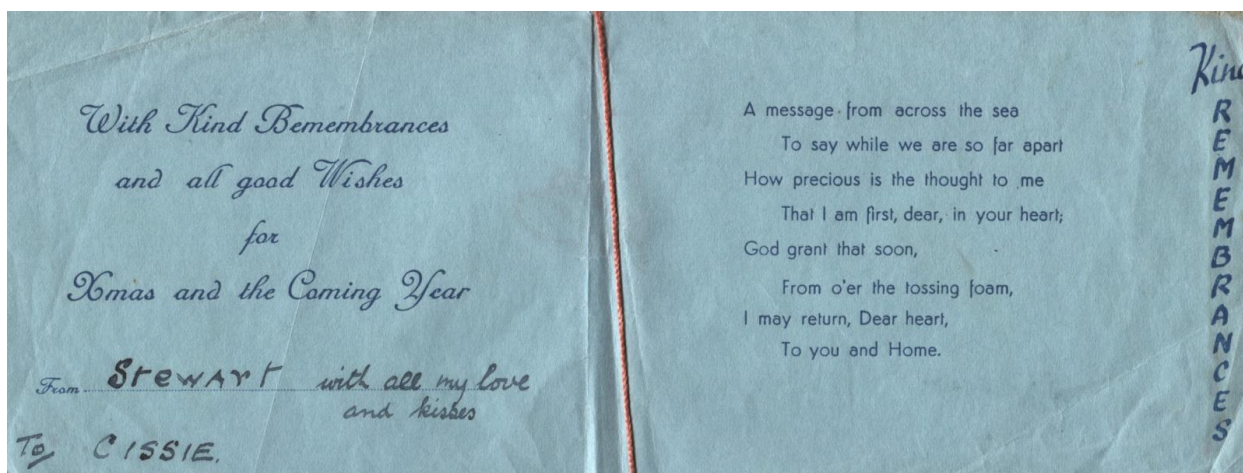


Prisoners of War were permitted to send messages home.

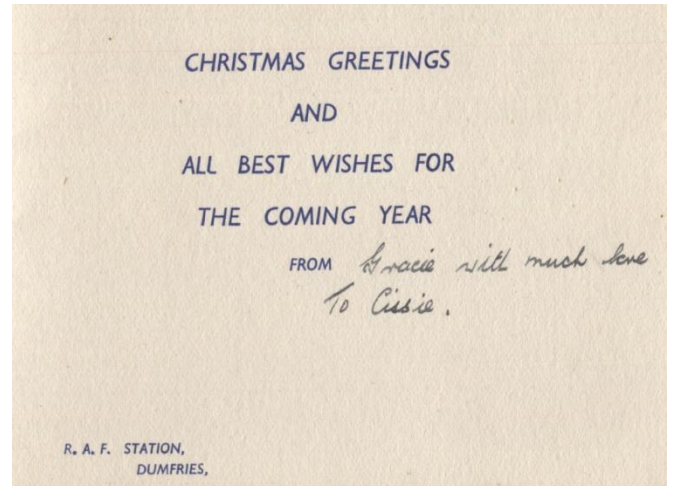
These examples were sent by **Freddie Hay** to his mother from Japanese PoW Camps in **Sarawak and Borneo**.



Special cards were produced by the Forces for troops to send home. **Stewart Broadfoot** sent this card from **Egypt** to his wife Cissie.



Stewart's sister Grace Broadfoot, who was in the WAAF, sent the card below from Dumfries.



Two more Christmas greetings from abroad.

