



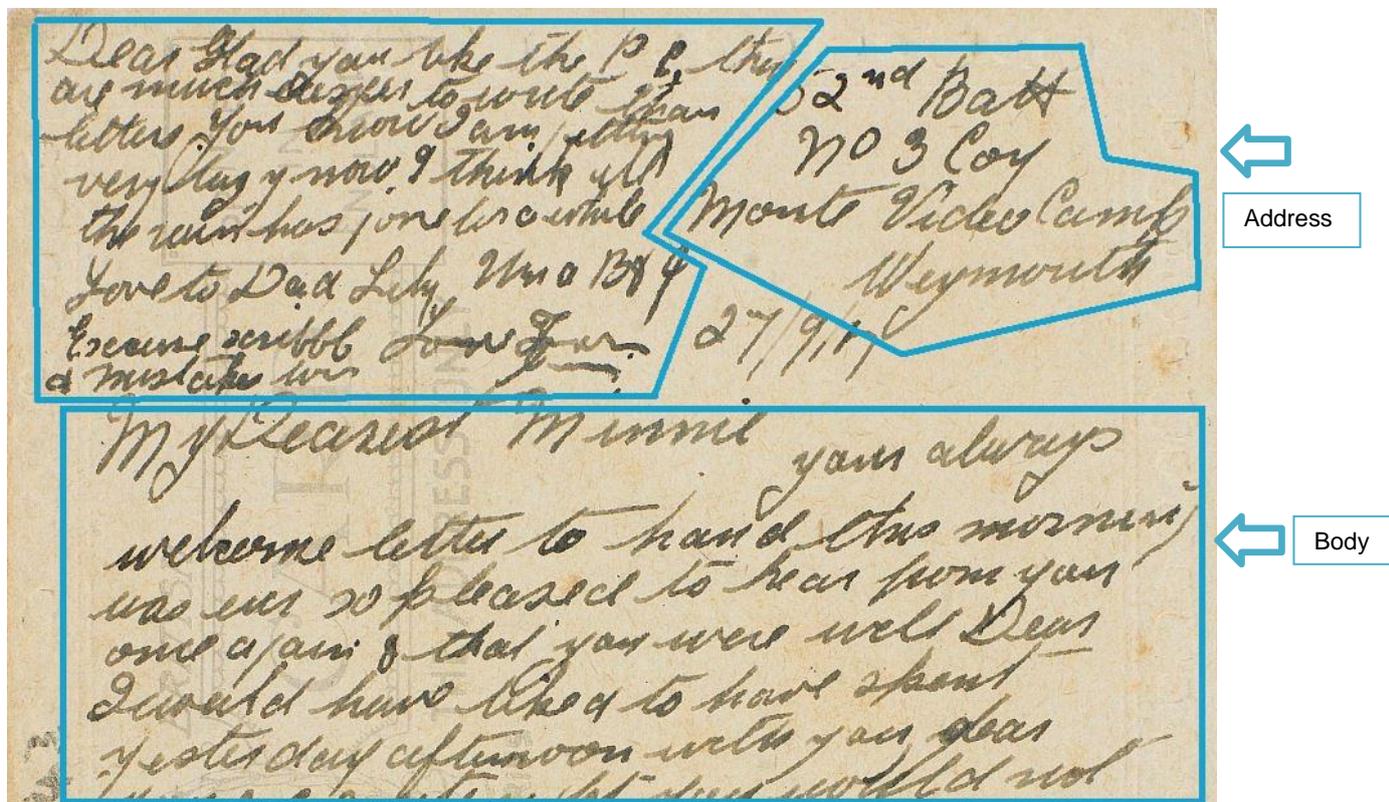
Transcription tutorial: Frederic James Bassett WW1 Postcards

There are 44 postcards in this series, 43 written by Jim from various locations he was stationed at during his service and 1 from Minnie to Jim. The postcards from 1916 are from Codford Military Camp in Wiltshire, England. The postcards written in 1917 are from France; Portland and Weymouth in England; and one from Cape Town on his way back to Australia, with the final post card sent after his discharge, from Amby, a small town in Western Queensland.

The postcards are densely written, with a lot of text on the card as Jim tried to fit as much in as he could on each one. As a result there is often an address, a short message, and then the beginning of the text condensed into the top of the postcard. *You only need to transcribe the handwritten text of the postcards.*

Important: When transcribing any postcard in this collection, the address needs to go at the top of the verbatim text field, then any short message, then the body of the postcard text.

The excerpt of a postcard like this:



Is to be transcribed like this:

52nd Batt
No 3 Coy
Monte Video Camp
Weymouth

*Dear Glad you like the PC, they
are much easier to write than
letters. You know I am getting very lazy now. I think all
the rain has gone for a while
Love to Dad Lily [...]
Excuse scribble
& mistakes here [?]
Love From Jim*

27/9/17

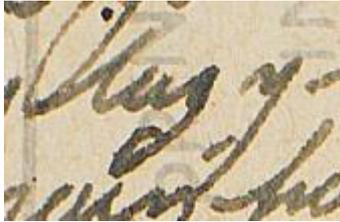
My Dearest Minnie

*your always welcome letter to hand this morning
was so pleased to hear from you
once again and that you were well Dear
I would have liked to have spent
yesterday afternoon with you dear...*

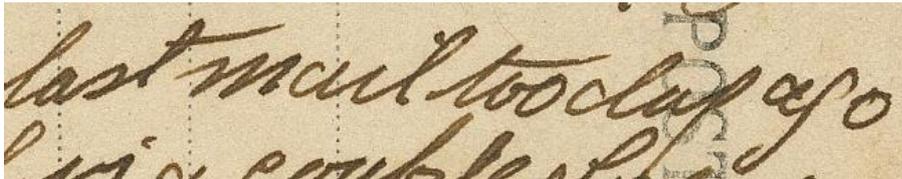
Deciphering Jim's handwriting

Jim's handwriting is cursive with a right leaning slant. Some of the postcards are quite faded and the writing is now faint but as you get familiar with his handwriting it does become much easier and quicker to decipher the words. If you come across something that you are unsure about to use the [...], or give it your best guess and use [?] after it and move on (refer to our tutorial [WW1 State Library of Queensland - Letters and diaries](#) for more detail). Don't spend too long trying to decipher the odd difficult word here or there.

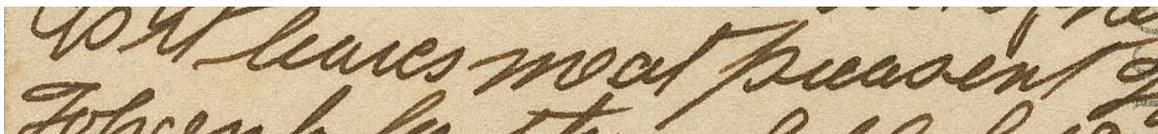
- At times words appear to run together and at times letters of one word can be separated e.g. the word below is lazy but written like laz y:



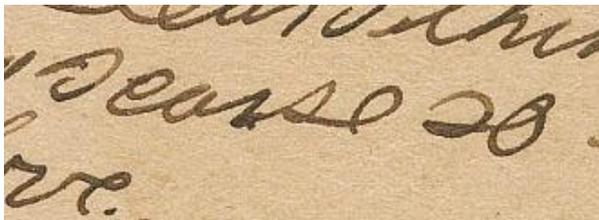
- You might come across errors in Jim's spelling and grammar. Any errors are to be kept in the transcription process to maintain the integrity of the original.
e.g. the use of **too** instead of **two**:



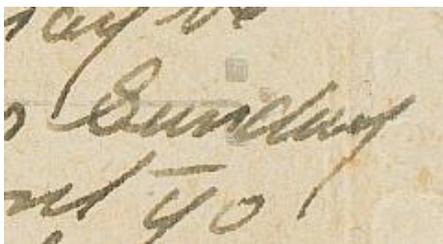
- And **preasant** instead of **present**:



- A letter may be written differently depending on its position in the word. In the example given the letter 's' in 'scarse' [scarce] is written differently to the letter 's' at the beginning of 'so':



- Capital letters have different forms to non-capital letters, like the 'S' in 'Sunday':



- You will find that Jim often writes the letter 'g' as a straight line:

'good'

'gone'

to / ood
a / not for

to / one
o /