Dearest Sister Alice

Destroy this letter as soon as you have read it. If mama and papa saw it they would be enraged.

The work in the factory is long and hard but because we work shifts we can stay up ‘til midnight. Life with the other girls is so interesting. I am learning all sorts of things that our parents would not consider suitable for a young lady. Some of the girls are a bit uncouth but when you get to know them they can be really kind and they miss their families just as much as I miss you all at home.

Thy have helped me settle in and made me one of their own even allowing me to join them in football training. Can you imagine how father would react to that new?

The management also arrange a dance in our social club some Saturdays and the boys from the town are invited. The girls are very good at telling you the ones you need to steer clear of, if you don’t want to get into trouble. Of course some of the fliberty gibberts make straight for them.

You will love it here. Tell father it is your duty to leave school at 14 and get a job helping our boys at the front. Apparently there is a danger they will run out of shells so there will be no difficulty getting you a start. When you get here we will show those towny sooty girls that country girls know a thing or two. As the stock man says ‘bulls ain’t bred for their loins, well not many country girls are milk maids.

Best wishes
Emmie

P.S I’m learning how to smoke cigarettes.