



# FOURTH SUPPLEMENT TO The London Gazette OF FRIDAY, 2nd OCTOBER, 1953

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## CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.*

*6th October, 1953.*

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to make the undermentioned award:—

### GEORGE CROSS.

David BROADFOOT (deceased), Radio Officer, m.v. "Princess Victoria". (Stranraer.)

"Princess Victoria" left Stranraer on the morning of 31st January, 1953, carrying 127 passengers for Larne. After leaving Loch Ryan she encountered north-westerly gales and squalls of sleet and snow. A heavy sea struck the ship and burst open the stern doors and sea water flooded the space on the car deck causing a list to starboard of about 10°. Attempts were made to secure the stern doors but without success. The Master tried to turn his ship back to Loch Ryan but the conditions were of such severity that the manoeuvre failed. Some of the ship's cargo shifted from the port to the starboard side and this increased the list as the crippled vessel endeavoured to make her way across the Irish Sea.

From the moment when "Princess Victoria" first got into difficulties, Radio Officer Broadfoot constantly sent out wireless messages giving the ship's position and asking for assistance. The severe list which the vessel had taken, and which was gradually increasing, rendered his task even more difficult. Despite the difficulties and danger he steadfastly continued his work at the transmitting set, repeatedly sending signals to the coast radio station to enable them to ascertain the ship's exact position.

When "Princess Victoria" finally stopped in sight of the Irish Coast her list

had increased to 45°. The vessel was practically on her beam ends and the order to abandon ship was given. Thinking only of saving the lives of passengers and crew, Radio Officer Broadfoot remained in the W/T cabin, receiving and sending messages although he must have known that if he did this he had no chance of surviving. The ship finally foundered and Radio Officer Broadfoot went down with her. He had deliberately sacrificed his own life in an attempt to save others.

## CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.*

*6th October, 1953.*

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for the following awards of the George Medal and of the British Empire Medal, and for the publication in the London Gazette of the names of those specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation.

*To be Additional Members of the Civil Division  
of the Most Excellent Order of the British  
Empire:—*

Captain James Alexander BELL, Master, "Lairdsmoor". (Portavogie, Co. Down.)

David BREWSTER, Skipper of fishing trawler "Eastcotes". (North Fleetwood.)

Captain James KELLY, Master, "Pass of Drumochter". (Carnlough, Co. Antrim.)

Captain Hugh Angus MATHESON, Master, "Orchy". (Glasgow.)