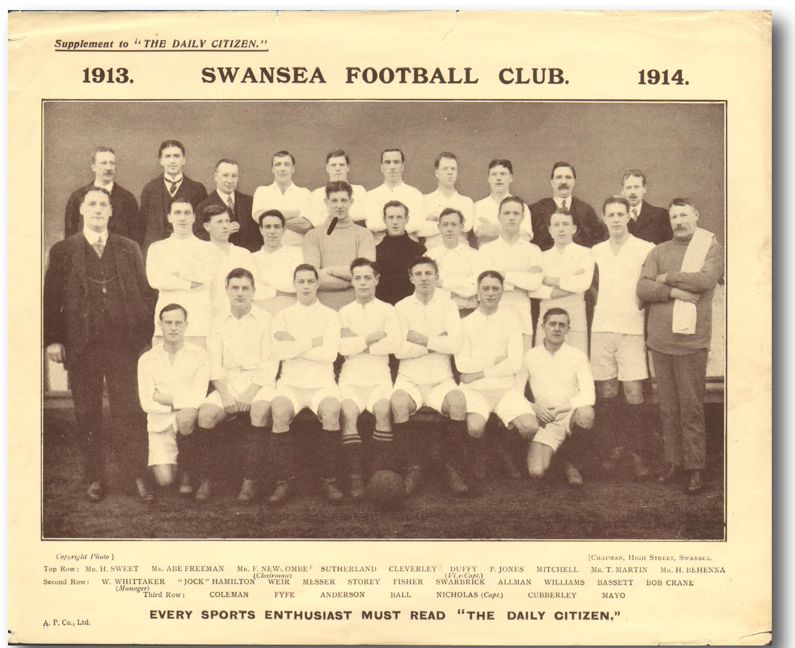
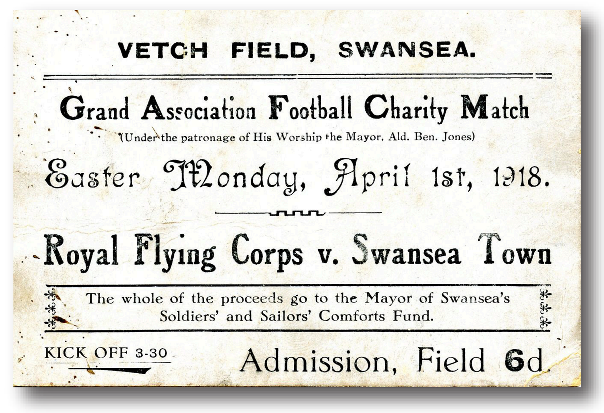
Y Blynyddoedd Cynnar





Goat mascot presented to 6th Battalion, Welsh Regiment, by Swansea Town Fo
6th Battalion was composed of TA reservists from Swansea

Gem gyfartal 1-1 â Dinas Caerdydd ar gae'r Vetch oedd gornest broffesiynol gyntaf Tref Abertawe. Cafodd Abertawe dymor cyntaf llwyddiannus gan ddod yn drydydd yn Ail Adran Cynghrair y De, ac ennill Cynghrair a Chwpan Cymru.

Timau o Gymru oedd y rhan fwyaf o wrthwynebwyr cynnar Abertawe ond daeth cyfle i chwarae rhai o dimau enwocaf Lloegr yng Nghwpan yr FA. Ym 1914 Abertawe oedd y tîm cyntaf o Gymru i gyrraedd ail rownd y Cwpan, gan golli ar y Vetch i Queen's Park Rangers o 2-1. Aeth y clwb gam ymhellach ym 1915 wrth guro Blackburn.

Dechreuodd y Rhyfel Byd Cyntaf ychydig fisoedd wedi dechrau tymor 1914-1915. Er nad oedd gwasanaeth milwrol eto'n orfodol, roedd nifer o'r farn na ddylai dynion ifanc, iach fod yn chwarae pêl-droed ac y dylent fod yn gwasanaethu eu gwlad. Gyda phwysau cyhoeddus yn cynyddu, gohiriwyd cystadlaethau'r FA. Fel nifer fawr o dimau, collodd Abertawe chwaraewyr yn y rhyfel:

* Ted Mitchell: Magnelwyr Brenhinol. Bu farw 6 Ionawr 1915.
* Frank Mortimer: Gwarchodlu'r Grenadwyr. Anafwyd ym 1916. Treuliodd 8 mis yn yr ysbyty. Ni chwaraeodd yn broffesiynol eto.
* Spencer Bassett: Magnelwyr y Garsiwn Brenhinol. Bu farw 11 Ebrill 1917
* Joe Bulcock: 9fed Catrawd Bataliwn Cymreig. Bu farw 9 Ebrill 1918

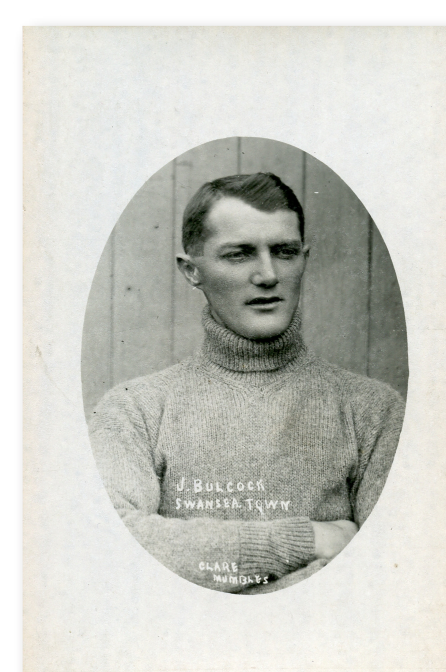
Early Years

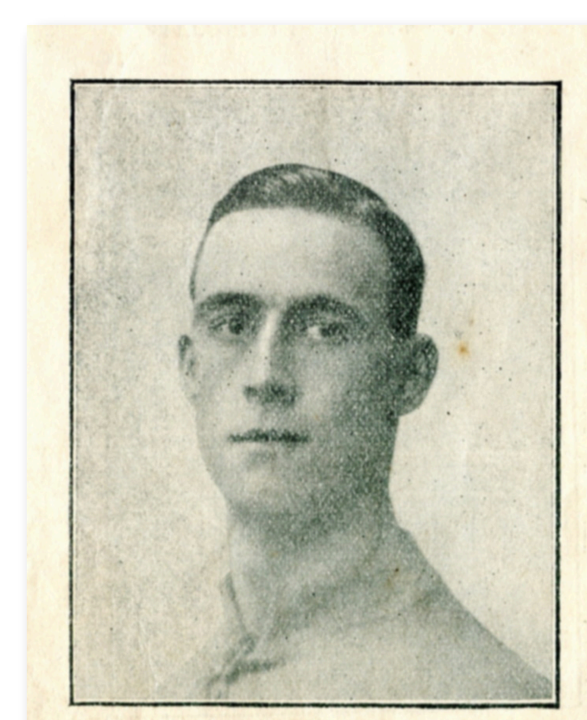
Swansea Town's first professional match was a 1-1 draw against Cardiff City at the Vetch Field. Swansea performed well in their debut season, coming third in the Southern League Second Division, and winning the Welsh League and Cup.

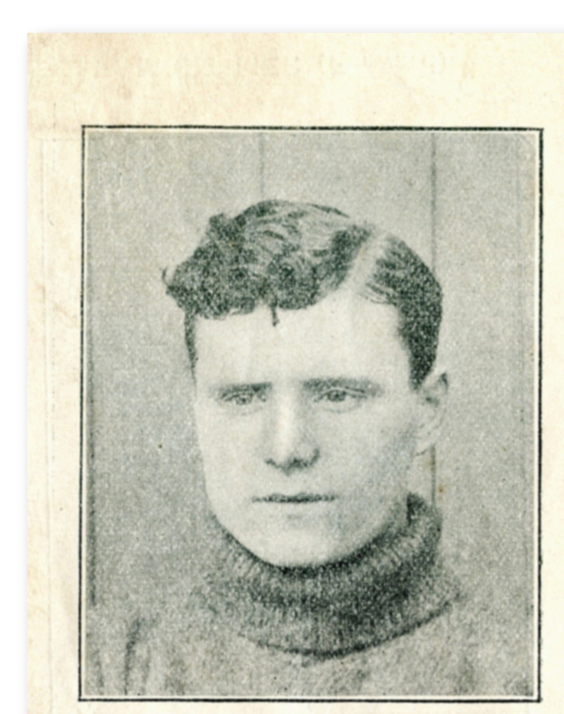
Most of Swansea's early opponents were Welsh. Chances to play the more famous English teams came in the FA Cup. In 1914 Swansea became the first Welsh club to reach the second round proper of the Cup, losing 2-1 to Queens Park Rangers at the Vetch. This was bettered in 1915 when Blackburn were defeated.

The First World War started soon after the 1914-15 season began. Although conscription had not yet been introduced, many people thought it was wrong that fit young men should be playing football and not serving their country. Under mounting public pressure official FA competitions were suspended. Like so many teams, Swansea Town lost players to the fighting:

* Ted Mitchell: Royal Artillery. Died 6 January 1915.
* Frank Mortimer: Grenadier Guards. Wounded in 1916. Spent 8 months in hospital. Did not return to professional football.
* Spencer Bassett: Royal Garrison Artillery. Died 11 April 1917
* Joe Bulcock: 9th Battalion Welsh Regiment. Died 9 April 1918.




F. MORTIMER (Forward).


MITCHELL (Half-back).

Amgueddfa Genedlaethol y Glannau
National Waterfront Museum
Swansea Museum Amgueddfa Abertawe
Swansea University Prifysgol Abertawe
heritage lottery fund / LOTTERY FUNDED ARIENNIR GAN Y LOTERI
City and County of Swansea Dinas a Sir Abertawe