

The 1930s and World War Two

The Swans faced frequent fights against relegation during the 1930s, avoiding the drop on the last day of the season in 1931 and 1938. The club played its 500th League match in 1932.

A period of economic depression and high unemployment contributed to the club's financial difficulties. In the Summer of 1935 there was an appeal to fans to raise money to 'save the club from decline'. The Evening Post started a Shilling Fund. Creative attempts were made to raise funds by staging alternative events, such as boxing matches, at the Vetch.

In contrast to the first team's achievements, the Swansea Schoolboys team reached spectacular heights by becoming the first Welsh team to win the English Schools Shield in 1939. 20,000 spectators at the Vetch saw the young Swans' 2-1 victory in the final over Chesterfield. This was the first nationally-contested cup won by any Swansea team.

At the end of the 1930s professional football was suspended immediately after the outbreak of World War II. The vetch was requisitioned, to host an anti-aircraft gun battery. Friendlies and charity games, often with guest players on leave from the armed forces, were again a staple of the war years.

Y 1930au a'r Ail Ryfel Byd

Roedd y Swans yn wynebu brwydrau cyson yn erbyn diraddiad yn ystod y 1930au, gan ei osgoi ar ddiwrnod olaf y tymor ym 1931 a 1938. Chwaraeodd y clwb ei 500fed gêm Gynghrair ym 1932.

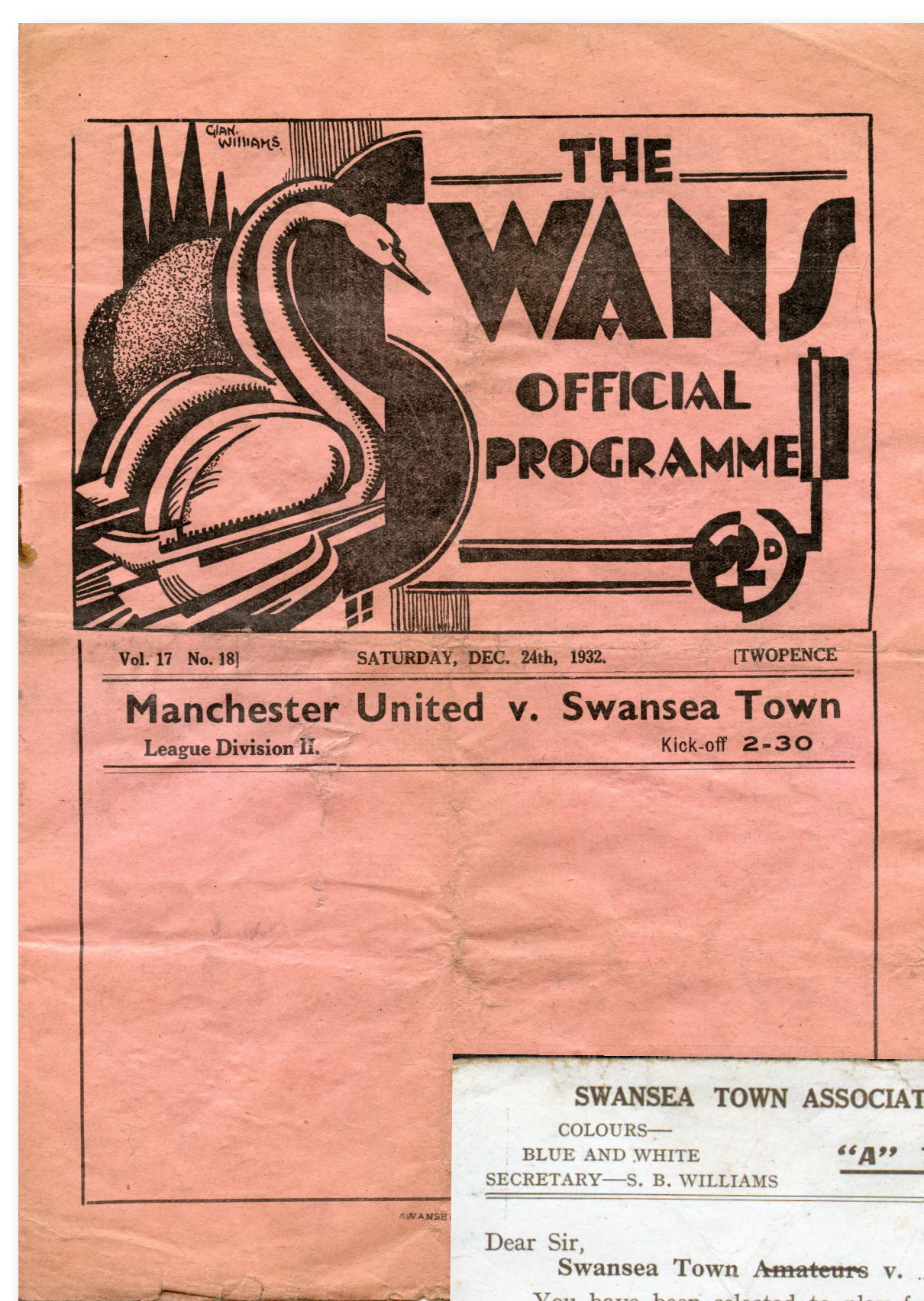
Roedd cyfnod o ddirwasgiad economaidd a diweithdra uchel wedi cyfrannu at anawsterau ariannol y clwb. Yn haf 1935, cafwyd apel i gefnogwyr godi arian i 'achub y clwb rhag dirywio'. Dechreuwyd Cronfa Sylltau gan yr Evening Post. Ceisiwyd codi arian drwy gynnal digwyddiadau gwahanol, megis gornestau paffio, yn y Vetch.

I'r gwrthwyneb i gyflawniadau'r tîm cyntaf, cyrhaeddodd Bechgyn Ysgol Abertawe uchafbwynt mawr drwy fod y tîm cyntaf o Gymru i ennill Tarian Ysgolion Lloegr ym 1939. Roedd 20,000 o gefnogwyr yn y Vetch wedi gweld Swans yn ennill 2-1 yn y rownd derfynol yn erbyn Chesterfield. Dyma oedd y cwpan cenedlaethol cyntaf a enillwyd gan dîm o Abertawe

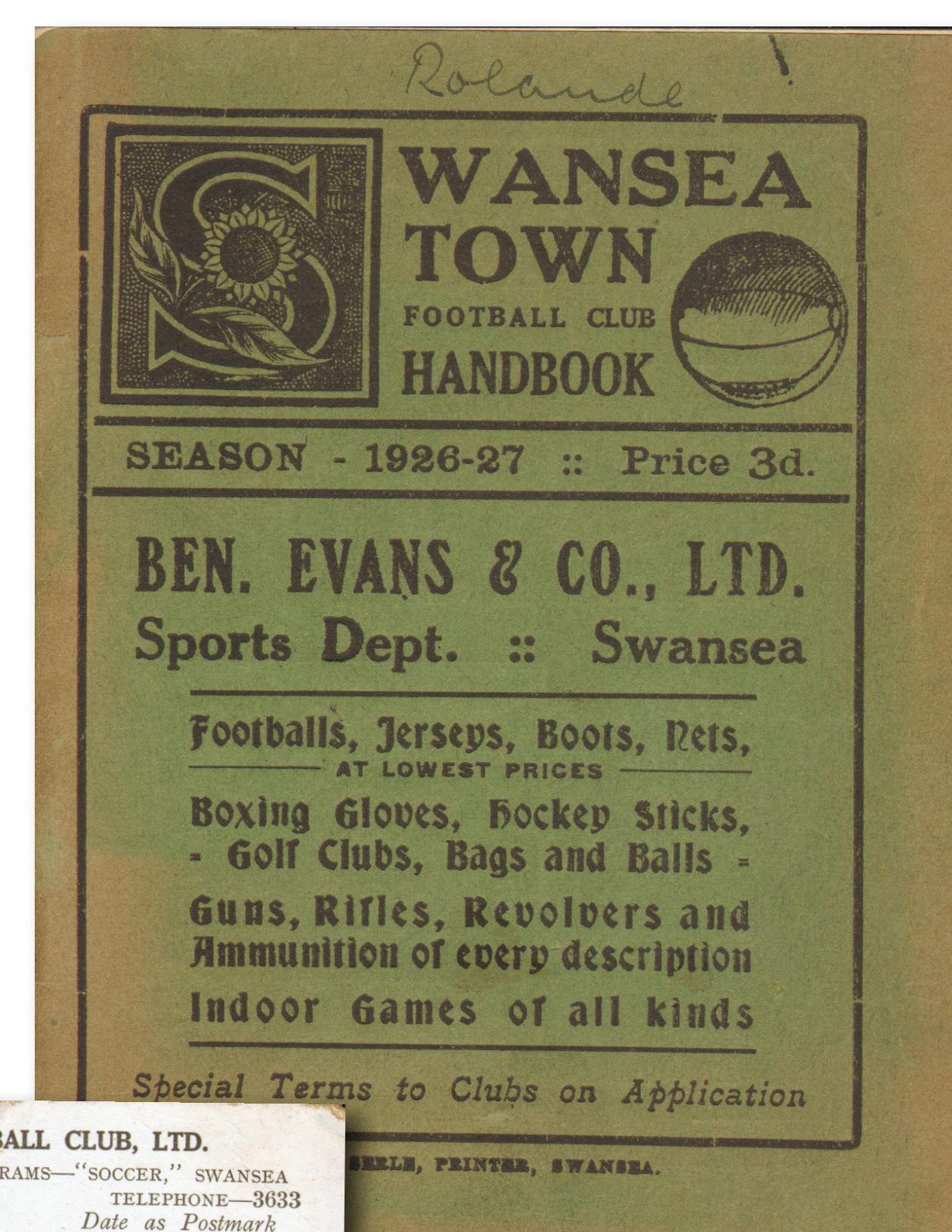
Ar ddiwedd y 1930au gohiriwyd pêl-droed proffesiynol yn syth ar ôl dechrau'r Ail Ryfel Byd. Atafaelwyd y Vetch i gadw magnelfa gynnu gwrthawyrennol. Roedd gemau cyfeillgar ac elusennol, yn aml gyda chwaraewyr gwadd ar seibiant o'r lluoedd arfog, unwaith eto'n boblogaidd yn ystod blynyddoedd y rhyfel.



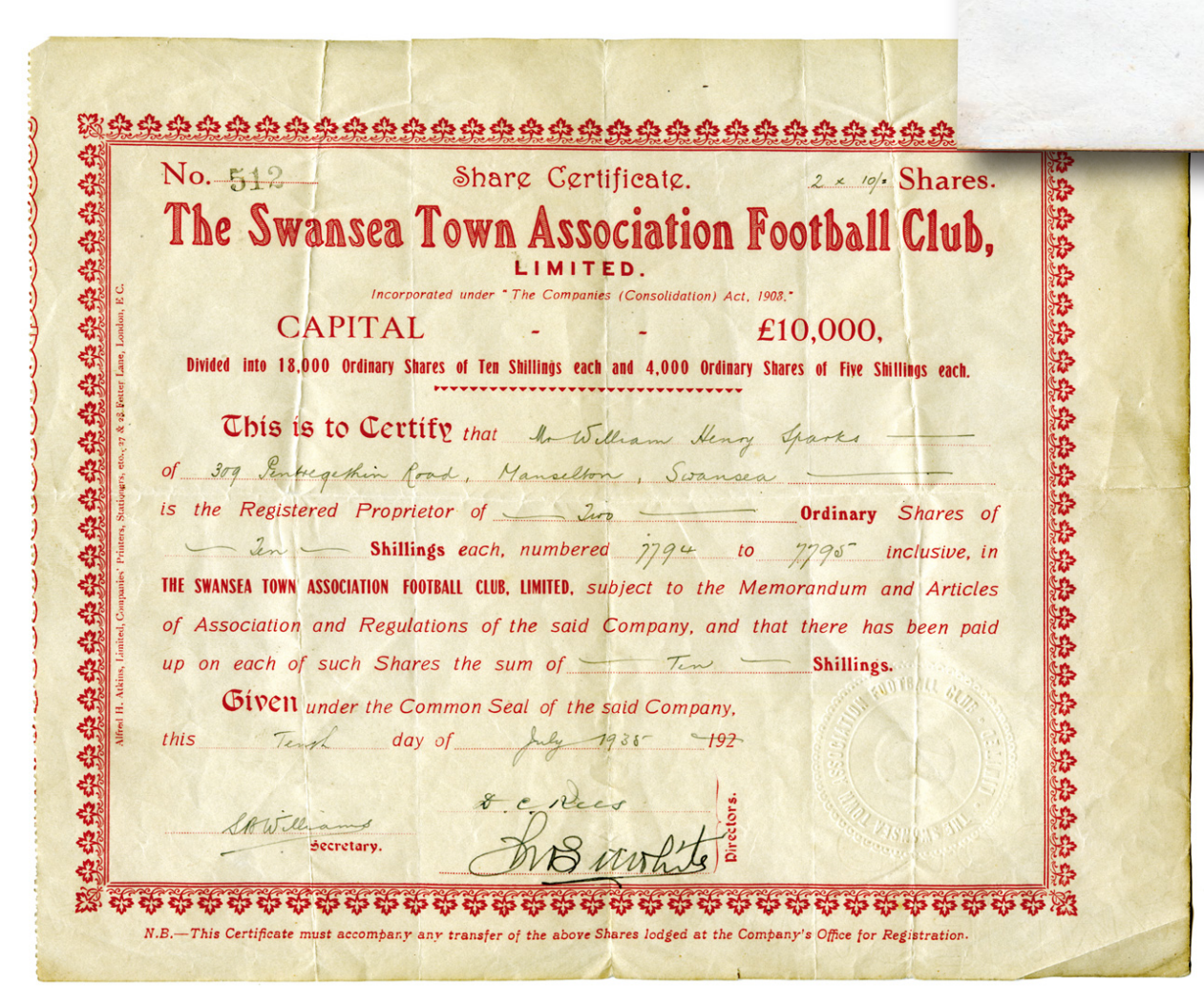
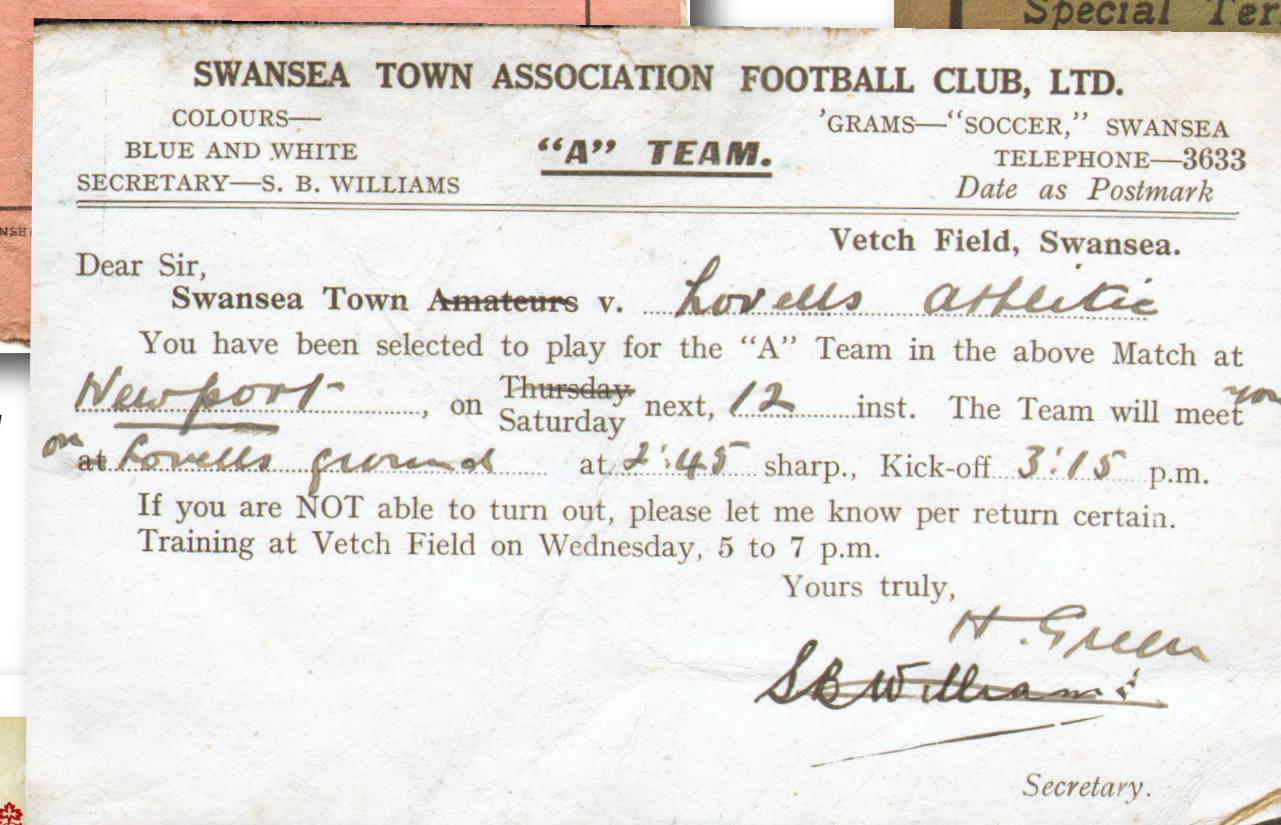
1932-33 Swansea Schoolboys team.
Tim bechgyn Abertawe 1932-33



Swans v Manchester United programme, 1932.
Y Swans erbyn Manceinion Unedig, 1932.



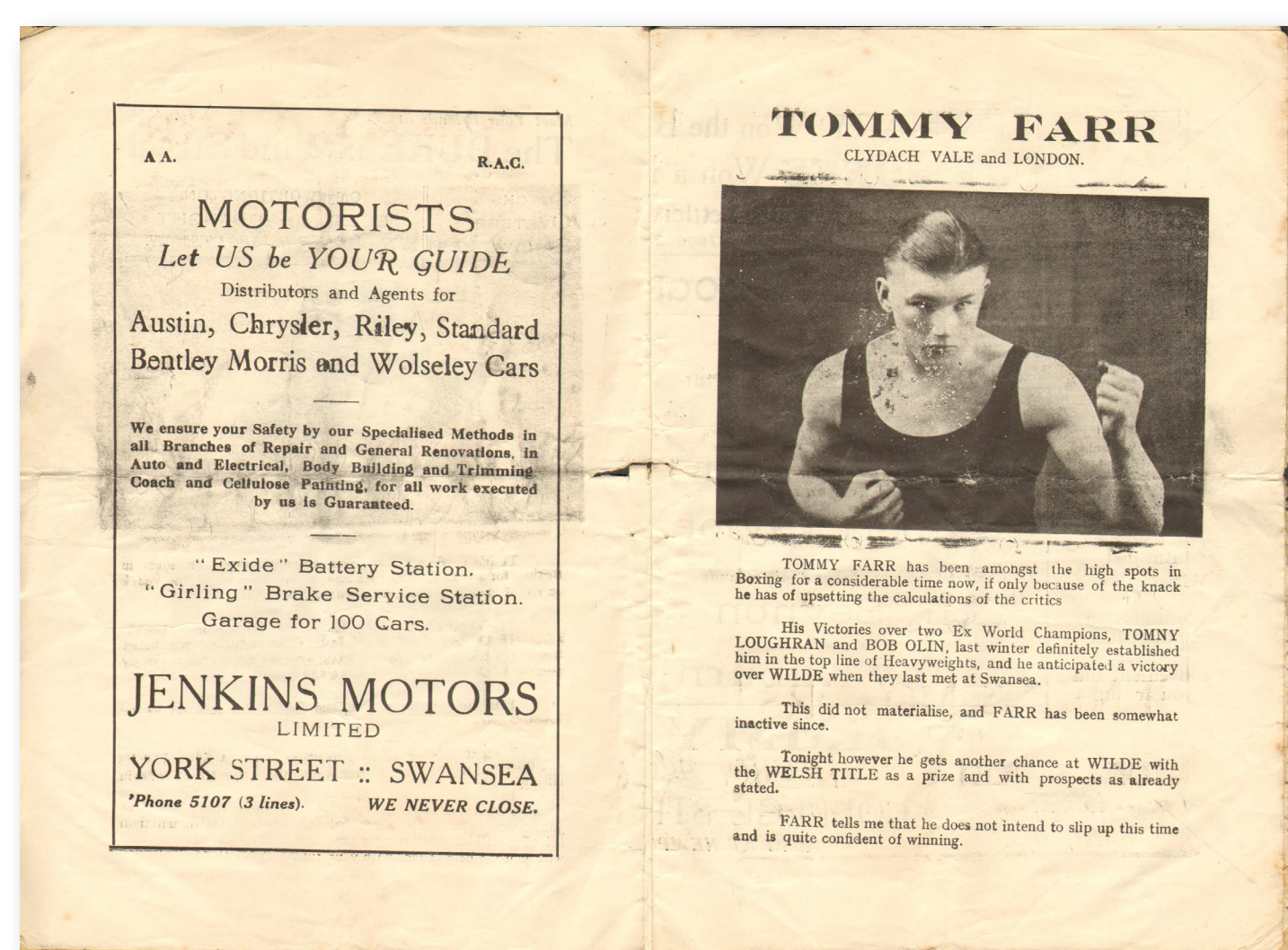
Swansea Town Handbook 1926-27.
Llawlyfr Tref Abertawe 1926-7.
Letter to player (1940s).
Llythyr i chwaraewr (1940au)



Shares certificate 1938.
Tystysgrif cyfranddaliadau 1938.



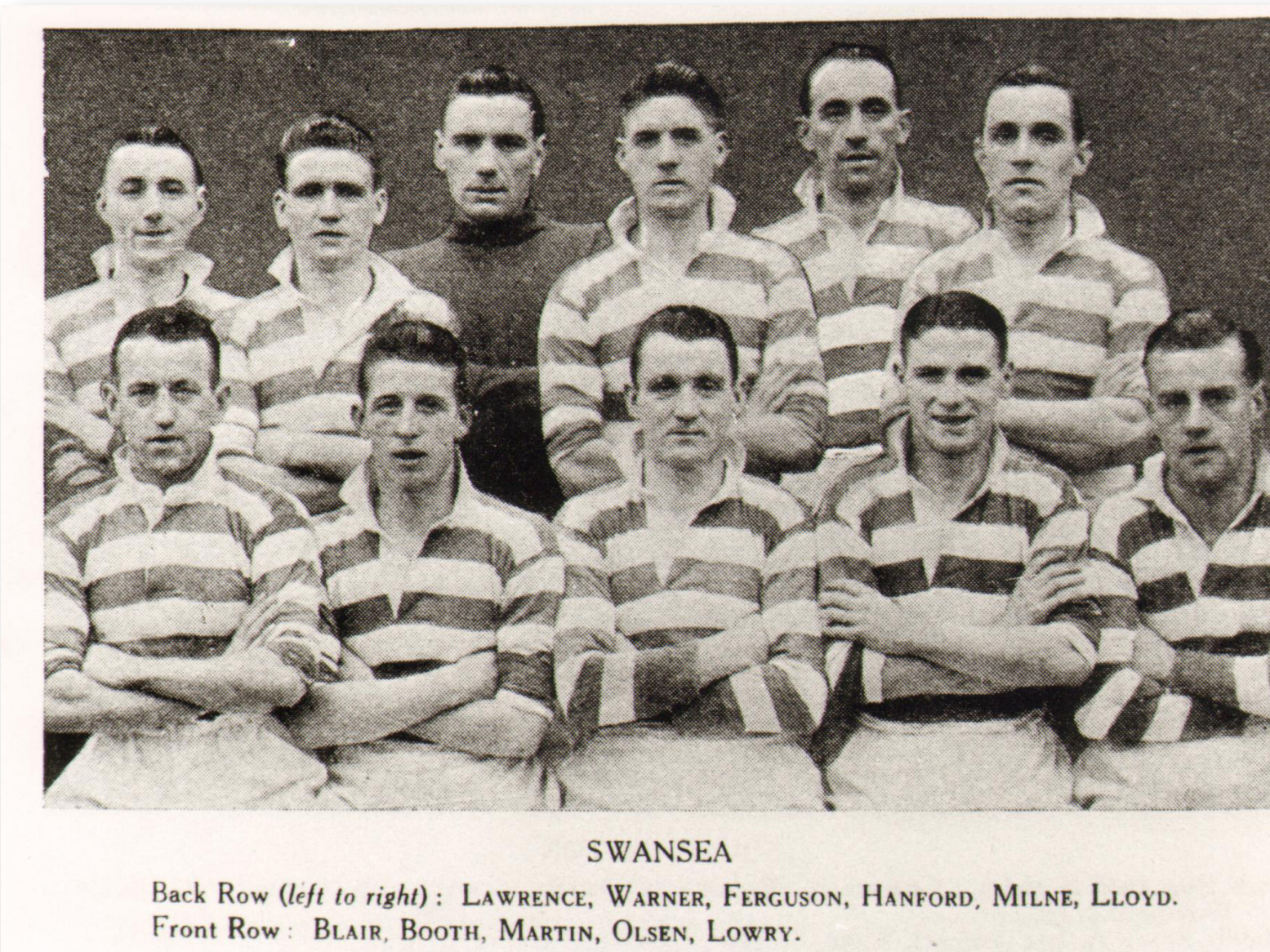
1941 - Wartime football at St. Helen's, Swansea Town v The University College of Wales.
1941 - Pêl-droed yn ystod y rhyfel yn San Helen, Tref Abertawe yn erbyn Coleg Prifysgol Cymru



Programme - Tommy Farr boxing at The Vetch.
Rhaglen - Tommy Farr yn bocio yn Y Vetch.



Team 1937-38.
Tîm 1937-38.



Team in away strip 1934-35.
Tîm mewn strîbed oddi cartref 1934-35.