

“Merthyr Express” 12 June 1886 Band Concert The Board decided to allow Vochriw Fife Band the use of the Vochriw school for a band concert upon the recommendation of the managers of the place.

“Merthyr Express” 8 July 1893 Brass Band Contest at Merthyr On Monday last, the third annual contest under the auspices of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Brass Band Association was held in delightful weather at Penydarren Park. The second section was proceeded with first, the test piece being “L’Elizir D’Amore,” Donizetti (arranged H. Round), the prizes being:- 1st - £12; 2nd - £7; 3rd - £4; 4th - £2. The competitors were: - Trebanos, Pontyberem, Pontardawe, Fochriw, Tillery Colliery Band. Fochriw were second prize winners. The Fochriw Band:- (conductor, Mr A. R. Seddon, Derby; bandmaster, Mr W. S. L. Berry); C. Shankland, Jenkin Pugh, David Jones, A. Berry, William Mantle, William Evans, Edward Jones, D. J. James, William Lewis, T. S. Powell, D. Rowlands, T. J. Jenkins, W. J. Powell, David Jenkins, A. Walters, T. J. Mantle, George Jones, David Jenkins, T. Shankland, T. Edwards, William Thomas, William Taylor, W. Williams, T. J. Jenkins and W. Sayman.

“Merthyr Express” 28 April 1894 Performance On Saturday evening, a party from Noddfa, Fochriw, played the popular drama “Jack, y bachgen drwg,” to a crowded audience at the Board School. The performance was opened by the Fochriw Brass Band. The parts were played by C. Williams, R. Thomas, T. Morgan, Mrs. Williams, A. Thomas, A. Evans, T. Evans, S. A. Davies, S. Evans, Wm. Davies, J. Davies, E. Davies, T. Evans, J. Evans, J. Beavan, M. J. Davies. Between the acts songs were given by Mr. T. Evans and Miss M. J. Davies. The proceeds of the evening will be given in aid of the brass band, who are making rapid strides in the brass band world.

“Merthyr Express” 7 July 1894 Brass Band Success On Monday last, the Fochriw Brass Band journeyed to the Bridgend eisteddfod. They took second prize with a silver medal. The competition was incomparably the largest held in South Wales, with 16 bands competing. Since securing the services of Mr. R. Dawson, the present conductor, the band has made rapid strides forward. This is the second success under Mr. Dawson, having previously taken first prize at Caerphilly on Whit Monday. We wish the band and their young conductor every success.

“Merthyr Express” 18 May 1895 Fochriw Brass Band Annual Concert The concert was held at the Board School on Thursday se’nnight. An excellent array of artistes appeared, all from Dowlais. Due to the very full programme, no encores were allowed. Mr. James Williams (timekeeper), and Mr. John Beavan, manager, were responsible for the arrangements.

“Merthyr Express” 22 June 1895 Our Brass Band at Welshpool The Fochriw Brass Band competed at the Eisteddfod held at Powis Castle Park, Welshpool on June 13th and 14th, and on Wednesday evening, June 12th. Through the generosity of Mr. Harris, stationmaster, a special saloon carriage was provided for them, and amidst the shouts and well-wishings of the inhabitants, the journey North began under the most favourable conditions and buoyant spirits. On reaching Brecon, their destination for that night, the band played a lively march through the town, and afterwards had some good practice. Next morning there was a further practice before leaving Brecon on the 7.45 a.m. train. At Newtown, they were joined by the celebrated "Newtown Prize Silver Band," who were destined for the same field of action. In the contest, seven bands competed, one, St. Mary's Prize Silver Band, coming from England, as well as five well-known bands from North Wales, and Fochriw. The prizes were: 1st - £20; 2nd - £10; 3rd - £5. The first prize on the

"March" went to Oak Alyn of Wrexham, with Newtown second. Fochriw though unsuccessful on the March were strong favourites. In the "Selection," Oak Alyn were again first, with the second prize divided between Fochriw and Wrexham Borough. The return journey was especially pleasant. Having received permission to break their journey at Builth, they spent Friday night there, playing on the "Grove" in the evening to a good audience. Leaving Builth on Saturday morning, a short stay was made at Brecon. The next stop was Dolygaer, where the Fochriw teachers and their friends, and also the members of the Rising Sun Money Club, had their outings. The band joined them, and after a most enjoyable afternoon, the whole party returned home, where the band had an enthusiastic reception.

"Merthyr Express" 8 February 1896 Brass Band On Monday last the band succeeded in winning two prizes at Merthyr: 1st prize for the selection, and half prize for the march. The competing bands were Pontlottyn, Blaenavon, and Abercanaid. During the past two months, the band has carried away seven prizes, six of which were first prizes. Heartiest congratulations to the band and its able conductor on the splendid successes which have crowned their efforts.

"Merthyr Express" 30 October 1897 Concert On Thursday week, a grand concert was given at the Board Schools under the auspices of the Fochriw Brass Band, when the following took part: soprano, Miss Gertrude Wedlake, Cardiff; contralto, Miss Mary Richards, Rhymney; tenor, Mr. Alf Evans, Aberdare; bass, Mr. J. H. Howells (Ap Hywel Cynon), Aberaman; accompanist, Mr. E. T. Davies, Dowlais. With such an array of talent engaged, it was no surprise to get a crowded house, and the audience was very enthusiastic. All the artistes appeared to be in best form, and the general opinion was given freely, that it was the finest concert held here for some time.

"Merthyr Express" 14 March 1903 Brass Band Mr. W. Powell has been appointed conductor of the Fochriw Brass Band, and we are glad to see the "Old Firm" already showing glimpses of a return to its form of a few years ago. The band is now practising hard for the Abergavenny and Senghenydd contests.

"Merthyr Express" 25 April 1903 Brass Band Two prizes were secured by the Fochriw Brass Band at Abergavenny on Easter Monday. Out of the nine bands in the first section, the local band secured third prize, and in the second section, from amongst twelve competitors, fourth prize. In the first section, the band was opposed by all the leading bands of South Wales and Monmouthshire, and consequently, the achievement is even more creditable. The Whitsuntide contests will now be awaited with confidence, and we extend to the bandsmen, and their conductor, Mr. W. Powell, our heartiest wishes for a repetition of the Easter performances.

"Merthyr Express" 3 October 1903 Brass Band The Brass Band has brought to an end their season's competitions, and have been remarkably successful all along. Prizes have been taken this season at Cardiff, Abergavenny (2), Senghenydd, Rhymney, Pentre, Mountain Ash, New Tredegar (2), Merthyr Vale, Pontlottyn, and Caerphilly. The band has lowered the colours of the best bands in South Wales. Although classified as "C," the band has taken prizes in Classes A, B, and C. The band has been fortunate in securing the services of Mr. William Powell as conductor, and during the season, the services of the following renowned trainers were obtained at intervals: Mr. W. Halliwell of Wigan; Mr. R. Fletcher, Bolton; Mr. J. E. Fiddler, Northampton. Medals were won this season by Messrs. Powell, Edwin Davies, and W. Mantle (2).

"Merthyr Express" 26 March 1904 Presentation Through the departure of Mr. David Jones for Rhymney, the Fochriw Brass Band has lost a most capable

secretary. About two years ago, the Band was on the point of being disbanded. Then Mr. Jones was prevailed upon to undertake the duties of secretary, and so ably did he discharge his work that band was again, in a very short time, on a sound basis. Indeed, more contests were attended during the season, than in many other similar periods of the band's existence, and the numerous prizes captured have placed the band once more in an honourable position. A few weeks ago, a presentation committee was formed with Mr. Charles Payne as chairman, Mr. Daniel Jenkins as treasurer, and Mr. J. Pugh as secretary. On Friday evening last, a smoker was held, at which Mr. Jones was made the recipient of a handsome marble clock supplied by Messrs. Mappin and Webb. It bore the following inscription: "Presented to Mr. David Jones by the committee and members of the Fochriw Brass Band for services rendered as secretary, March 18th, 1904." The chair was taken by Mr. J. H. Jones, M.E., the genial president of the band. After a rousing song by Mr. Charles Payne, Councillor Thomas, in the course of an able speech, attributed the success of the past season largely to the interest taken in his work by the secretary. Two capital songs having been rendered by Messrs. W. S. Williams and T. Davies, the chairman, in a witty speech, made the presentation. Mr Jones suitably responded. Mr. W. J. Powell, the popular conductor, then spoke in eulogistic terms of Mr. Jones' services, and he was followed by Councillor Jones. A splendid programme of songs was now contributed to by Messrs. T. Shankland, J. Payne, J. Edwards, D. Jones, and W. S. Williams, whilst stirring speeches were delivered by Messrs. H. Evans, Brook House, and T. Roberts. Among the former officials of the band present were Messrs. James Evans, Howell Thomas and Jacob Jones. After the usual votes of thanks, a very enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the singing of "He's a jolly good fellow. "

[All 'Merthyr Express']

27 June 1908 Band Parade The Fochriw Brass Band, under the conductorship of Mr. William Powell, paraded the streets of the villages of Fochriw, Pentwyn, and Penybanc on Saturday afternoon last.

26 December 1908 Brass Band The Brass Band, under their conductor Mr. Wm. Powell, paraded the streets of Fochriw, Pentwyn and Penybanc on Thursday and Friday nights last, playing appropriate Christmas music, which was much appreciated by the inhabitants.

2 January 1909 Brass Band The Fochriw Brass Band under the conductorship of Mr. William Mantle (in the absence of Mr. William Powell, who was engaged with his Deri Band), played excellent selections of Christmas music in the streets of Fochriw, Pentwyn and Penybanc on Christmas Day, and was much appreciated by the villagers.

"Merthyr Express" 19 November 1910

Band The Aberaman Silver Band visited the district on Saturday last, and sought alms on behalf of the those suffering as a result of the strike in the Aberdare valley.

11 February 1911 Appointment: Bandmaster The numerous friends of Mr. William Mantle, Pentwyn, will be pleased to hear of his appointment as bandmaster of Pontlottyn Brass Band. He joined the Fochriw Prize Band in 1891, and has been an enthusiastic bandsman ever since. His first contest was at Cardiff, and his second at Blaina (this contest being the first ever held under the Association rules), when the Fochriw band won the first prize. He has played with the old Fochriw band in all their contests, and thereby helped to win all their prizes. He was appointed solo cornet player for Fochriw, within the first eighteen months of his career, and

continued in this capacity to 1900, when he was appointed solo euphonium player for the Lewis-Merthyr band. In a contest with this band at Pontypridd, he was awarded a medal for the best soloist by Mr. J. Orde Hume, the adjudicator. There were nine competitors. Mr. Mantle has also won medals and money prizes under Mr. S. Radcliffe. In addition to his duties as bandmaster at Pontlottyn, he is also solo euphonium player for the Rhymney band.

15 June 1912 Bandsmen at Church The Pontlottyn Silver Band under the conductorship of Mr. Wm. Mantle, attended Pentwyn Church on Sunday morning. Mr. J. C. Payne preached an appropriate sermon, taking as his text Psalm 98, v.6 - 'With trumpets and sound of cornet make a joyful noise before the Lord.' The hymns were accompanied by the band. The responses were intoned by the organ played by Mr. H. Brown. Mr. John Wood conducted the singing. Appropriate music was played by the band en route to and from the Church.

2 October 1915 Band Parade On Saturday afternoon, the Fochriw Brass Band, under the conductorship of Mr. W. J. Powell, paraded the streets of Fochriw and Pentwyn, playing appropriate music en route. It seemed like old times at Fochriw to hear the strains of the band again. There is now a strong committee formed to look after the interests of the band.

8 April 1916 Band Parade The Fochriw Brass Band parade the village on Tuesday afternoon playing appropriate music under Bandmaster W. Powell.

29 July 1916 Brass Band On Tuesday, the Band, under the conductorship of Mr. W. J. Powell, played a fine programme of dance music etc., on the green before a large crowd, their playing being greatly appreciated.

30 June 1917 Concert An open air concert was given by the Fochriw Brass Band under their conductor Mr. W. J. Powell, when an excellent programme of music was greatly appreciated by the large number present. During the evening, a collection was made on behalf of the Fochriw Soldiers' and Sailors' Fund, and a goodly sum was realised.

29 December 1917 Band The Fochriw Prize Brass Band played appropriate Christmas music throughout the village on Christmas Day, the playing being greatly admired. The sum of £2-8-0 was handed to the treasurer of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Welcome Home Fund.

8 May 1920 Band Parade On Sunday last, the Fochriw Brass Band, under the conductorship of Mr. W. J. Powell, together with members of the Discharged Soldiers and Sailors, St. John Ambulance Brigade, members of the Royal and Ancient Order of Buffaloes, and other public bodies, paraded the streets of the village, afterwards visiting St. Mary's Church for a service. The Rev. Samuel Evans, Vicar, took the service, and the Rev. Edward Fowler, Deri, preached the sermon. The hymns were effectively played by the Band.

7 May 1921 Band Parade On Sunday evening last, the members of the Fochriw Brass Band held a band Parade, playing en route to St. Mary's Church, under the conductorship of Mr. Coombes. At the Church, a service was conducted, the Band blending beautifully with the organ in the playing of hymns. The Vicar preached very edifying sermons. The organist was Mr. Richards.

14 May 1921 Band The Fochriw Brass Band gave open air concert on Thursday evening under the conductorship of Bandmaster G. Coombes. A fine selection of music was played and much appreciated, and there was dancing on the green.

28 May 1921 Band The members of the Fochriw Brass Band went on a week's playing tour last week around Brecon and Builth and had a very pleasant holiday. Their playing was admired all along the road, and they received kindness at every

place they went to. They returned home looking in the best of condition, after a very enjoyable time. The conductor during the tour was Mr. Albert Mantle.

25 June 1921 Concert An open air concert was given on Monday evening last by members of the Fochriw Brass Band, under the conductorship of Mr. Coombes. The station yard had been put at the disposal of the concert party, thanks to the kindness of Mr. Lewis, station master. Councillor M. Morgan kindly lent the piano. There was a large crowd present. The chairman was Mr. Charles Payne. The following was the programme: Brass Band; Three Duds; Mrs. Matthews; Mr. Coombes; Mr. Fred Richards; Mr. H. Thomas; Mr. Haydn Hughes. The proceeds were for the Local Distress Fund. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded tour all took part.

2 January 1926 Band The Fochriw Brass Band under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Mantle, played a very pleasant programme of Xmas music throughout the village on Xmas Day, which was much appreciated.

23 November 1929 Band There seems to be a strong feeling in the village in favour of organising the one-time famous band. Such an event will delight all music lovers in the district. The old-time glory of the Fochriw Band, under the conductorship of Messrs. Robert Dawson and William Powell, when they carried all before them in the competitive world, are still fresh in the memory of the residents.

4 July 1931 Brass Band The villagers were delighted to hear the strains once again of the Brass Band, which has been reformed, and commenced practice under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Mantle, who is well-known as a musician of repute, and as a fine solo cornet player. Several young players have been enrolled, and a hearty invitation is extended to any older players to rally to the cause, and give a helping hand.

19 September 1931 Brass Band Splendid progress has been made with the brass band under their conductor Mr. Albert Mantle, who has, in a few months, built up a very efficient body of players. It is proposed, in a few weeks, to parade the village playing marches and selections, and it is hoped the public will give every encouragement. The energetic secretary is Mr. Arthur Coggan.

10 October 1931 Brass Band On Friday evening, the Fochriw Brass Band, under the conductorship of the Mr. Albert Mantle, paraded the streets of the village. The Band played appropriate selections of music to the great delight of the inhabitants. It is a long time since Fochriw possessed a brass band and listeners thoughts turned to the good old days when the band was at its pinnacle of fame.

21 November 1931 Brass Band The Fochriw Brass Band, under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Mantle, headed the Armistice Parade at Pontlottyn on Sunday, and created a favourable impression.

12 December 1931 Brass Band Mr. William Price presided over a meeting in connection with the band on Friday evening. Mr. Arthur Coggan, secretary, gave a report of the Christmas drawing, and other work accomplished. The band, under their conductor Mr. Albert Mantle, are busy with their Christmas programme.

26 December 1931 Brass Band The strains of the Brass Band revived memories of the old Christmastide enjoyed by the inhabitants of long ago.

2 January 1932 Musical Tour The Fochriw Brass Band, under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Mantle, made a tour of the village on Christmas Day, and played a programme of seasonable music which was greatly appreciated.

20 February 1932 Concert At Noddfa Vestry on Sunday, a concert was held under the auspices of the Fochriw Brass Band. The Band, which was reorganised about nine months ago with Mr. Albert Mantle as band-master, delighted everyone. The band was assisted by the following: soprano, Mrs. Hannah Cole Davies; tenor,

Mr. Willie Angell Davies; baritone, Mr. John Williams; accompanist, Mr. Tom Walters. The programme was as follows: hymn, "Lead Kindly Light" - Band, and audience joining in; march, the Band; soprano solo; tenor solo; selection by the Band - "The dawn of Spring;" baritone solo; cornet solo, Mr. Bob Rees and Band; tenor solo; march, the Band "Sons of the Soil;" baritone solo; soprano solo; final hymn, "Abide with me," accompanied by the Band. A vote of thanks to all was proposed by Mr. W. J. Payne. He appealed to the public to give their wholehearted support to the Band. Mr. D. J. Davies seconded.

2 April 1932 Concert On Sunday evening, at Siloh Chapel, Penybank, the Fochriw Brass Band, under bandmaster Albert Mantle, gave a pleasing programme of music assisted by the following artistes: Miss Mary Lewis, soprano; Madame Hannah Cole Davies, contralto; Mr. Willie Angell Davies, tenor; Mr. Tom Lewis, bass. Mr. Willie Williams occupied the chair. The accompanist was Mr. Wyndham Lawrence.

23 April 1932 Brass Band The band is making splendid progress. The great need is a new set of instruments, as the present ones have served the band of 40 years. At a general meeting, it was decided to appeal to the public for weekly financial help.

7 May 1932 Brass Band The Brass Band, under the conductorship of Mr. Mantle, held a parade on Sunday. The Band was joined by the band officials, British Legion, St. John Ambulance Brigade, Cadets and Fire Brigade. They paraded the streets playing appropriate music and proceeded to the Parish Church where the Rev. J. L. White preached a powerful sermon.

21 May 1932 Band Supper A very pleasant time was spent at the Bandroom of the Rising Sun Hotel on Saturday evening, when about fifty sat down to a sumptuous feast prepared by the genial host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Jones. The happy gathering included bandsmen, officials and committee. Mr. W. J. Payne presided, and complemented Mr. Albert Mantle on the rapid strides the band has made in just 10 months. Their beautiful playing has been praised by all who have been privileged to hear them. Mr. Mantle stated that he hoped the time was not far distant when the band would have a new set of silver instruments. Mr. J. J. Lewis gave a spirited address, and Mr. John Phillips and Mr. D. J. Davies also spoke. The musical programme was then opened, Mr. W. Price, chairman of the band, presiding. The following artistes took part: Messrs. W. J. Angel, D. M. Thomas, J. J. Lewis, Percy Mantle, D. Griffiths. A very pleasant function was also performed, when a life-like, enlarged photo was hung up in the room of the late Mr. Thomas Jones, known to all as "Tommy Dean."

25 June 1932 Band The Band, under their conductor Bandmaster Albert Mantle, played an open air programme of music on the green on Wednesday evening to the delight of the large number attracted by the music. There was dancing on the green, and everyone enjoyed an open-air musical treat in glorious weather.

2 July 1932 Brass Band On Thursday evening, the Brass Band gave an excellent programme of music on the green. There was dancing, and a large number were present. Musical chairs and waltzing competitions were held, and a most enjoyable time was spent.

11 June 1932 Band Mr. William Price presided over a meeting of the band Committee at the Rising Sun Hotel on Tuesday, when the question of purchasing a new set of instruments was under discussion. Mr. Rollingson, London, the representative of Messrs. Boozey and Hawkes, was present, and gave a report, and explained in detail, the prices of various sets of instruments, and terms of purchase. The present set of instruments has been in use for 40 years. A new set will cost

from £400 to £500. The Secretary is Mr. Arthur Coggan, who will be pleased to give any information.

9 July 1932 Brass Band Mr. Wm. Price presided over the meeting of the band committee at the Bandroom of the Rising Sun Hotel on Tuesday evening. The secretary, Mr. Arthur Coggan, dealt with the correspondence, and the collector, Mr. Seaborne Williams, gave his monthly report. The bandmaster, Mr. Albert Mantle, commented upon some helpful suggestions for the welfare of the Band. Several important engagements have been filled during the last few months, and a splendid impression has been created. It has been decided to get another set of instruments, and it is hoped the public will rally and give wholehearted support.

6 August 1932 Brass Band The Fochriw Band has received a set of silver instruments to replace their old ones. Mr. T. Jones, Rising Sun Inn, has placed a room at their disposal

13 August 1932 Band Mr. William Price presided at a meeting of the Fochriw Silver Band on Tuesday. The bandmaster reported on the silver instruments just received, and spoke very highly of their quality of tone. The committee agreed to organise a community singing open-air concert in aid of Merthyr General Hospital.

17 September 1932 Band The monthly meeting of the Fochriw Silver Band was held at the Rising Sun Hotel on Tuesday, presided over by Mr. Wm. Price, chairman. Mr. Seaborne Williams gave his report of the weekly collections, and it is still felt that better support should be given if a first class band is to be retained. About 20 young recruits have joined the band and are being taught the rudiments of music by Bandmaster Albert Mantle.

31 December 1932 Silver Band On Christmas Day, the Fochriw Silver Band, under Bandmaster Albert Mantle, paraded the streets playing very appropriate music, which delighted the villagers and added to of the festive spirit.

28 January 1933 Silver Band Mr. William Price presided over the meeting at the Bandroom on Tuesday, when important items came up for discussion. Mr. Gibbon, representatives of Beeson & Co., London, was present in connection with purchasing a set of instruments. After discussion, it was decided to purchase, and figures were agreed upon which seemed very fair. A short while ago, a canvas was made of the village, and a large percentage of the village has decided to contribute 1d. per week towards maintaining an efficient band in the locality.

18 February 1933 Concert A concert was held at Penybank Chapel on Sunday under the auspices of the Fochriw Silver Band. Mr. W. Price presided. Programme: Band, "Lead, Kindly Light," solo, Miss Dilys Uzzell, Deri; solo, Master Harry Oliver, Deri; Band, "Friendship; recitation, Miss Dorothy Cook; duet, Miss Uzzell and Master Oliver.

18 February 1933 Band The annual meeting in of the Fochriw Silver Band took place on Thursday, Mr. William Price in the chair. The junior bandsmen are making good progress under the care of Mr. Albert Mantle. A set of new instruments has been purchased, and it is hoped that the general public will again respond so that the cost of the same can be defrayed. Sergeant W. Howells was appointed chairman; Mr. William Price vice-chairman; Mr. Emrys Lewis assistant conductor to Mr. Mantle. The committee were re-elected with Mr. Minhinnick as chairman. Mr. Arthur Coggan is the energetic secretary.

4 March 1933 Concert On Sunday evening, at Noddfa Vestry, the Fochriw Silver Band, under Mr. Albert Mantle, Bandmaster, gave a concert. Mr. W. Price presided. They were supported by Madame H. Cole Davies, whose beautiful, rich voice delighted the audience. Mr. David J. Davies proposed a vote of thanks and

this was seconded by Mr. Joseph Shankland. The Mr. Wyndham Lawrence was the accompanist.

8 April 1933 Band Mr. William Price presided over a meeting in connection with the Fochriw Silver Band on Monday evening. A report of the monthly collections was given, which showed a welcome increase in view of the need to pay for the new instruments. The good wishes of the band were sent to P.S. Wm. Howell, chairman of the Band, who is very ill at a Cardiff nursing home.

15 April 1933 Band The Fochriw Silver Band, under Bandmaster Albert Mantle, played a programme of music at the rugby match between Glamorgan and Monmouthshire Police in aid of the Rhymney Hospital.

20 May 1933 Parade On Sunday, a parade was organised, and the weather being fine, large numbers attended. The procession was formed at the Square, and headed by the Fochriw Silver Band, under Mr. Albert Mantle, paraded the principal streets of the district. After the parade, members returned to St. Mary's Church where the Rev. J. L. White conducted an impressive service. Suitable hymns were sung under the conductorship of Mr. Berkley Angell, with Mr. Octavius Richards at the organ.

10 June 1933 Band Fochriw Silver Band, under Mr. Albert Mantle, headed the large procession of Sunday School treats at Pontlottyn on Monday.

17 June 1933 Band A meeting of the Committee of the Fochriw Silver Band has held at the Bandroom on Tuesday, presided over by a Mr. J. Williams. The secretary, Mr. A. Coggan, dealt with some important correspondence in connection with the welfare of the band. The band will play for the community singing on 25th June at 8:00p.m. in aid of the hospital.

26 August 1933 Band Mr. William Price presided over a meeting of the Fochriw Silver Band Committee on Tuesday at the Rising Sun Inn. Amongst other items under discussion was the resignation of Mr. Arthur Coggan, secretary. The resignation was accepted with regret. Mr. Coggan has been secretary for a number of years and was thanked for his excellent services. Mr. Emrys Lewis is the new secretary.

30 December 1933 Band The Fochriw Silver Band, under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Mantle, played a fine programme of Christmas music throughout the village on Christmas Day, which added to the festive spirit.

24 February 1934 Band The annual meeting of the Fochriw Silver Band was held at the bandroom on Friday, when Police Constable Sansom presided. The auditor's report was given by Mr. Tom Mantle, and showed a balance on the right side. Thanks were accorded the general public who had contributed towards the purchase of instruments, and also to the officers and committee. The following officers were elected for the coming year: president, Mr. A. T. Minhinnick; vice-presidents, Messrs. T. J. Jones, R. Slimmons, Inspector Davies (Pontlottyn), Mr. W. J. Williams; chairman, P.C. Sansom; vice-chairman, Mr. David Griffiths; treasurers, Messrs. W. J. Payne and W. Price; secretary, Mr. Bob Rees. Mr. Albert Mantle was appointed Bandmaster, with Mr. Bob Rees as his deputy. Committee: Messrs. John Phillips, David Rees Jones, D. M. Thomas, James Tewksbury, Job Saunders, W. S. Llewellyn, Willie A. Thomas, James J. Lewis, R. Evans, E. Lewis; trustees, Messrs. Seaborne Williams, T. Jones, P. Mantle; auditors, Messrs. G. Mantle and T. H. Jones.

3 March 1934 Band Mr. W. J. Payne presided over a meeting of the Fochriw Silver Band on Tuesday. A promising season is anticipated.

17 March 1934 Band A public meeting in connection with the Fochriw Silver Band was held at the Old Library, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding. The chairman said the past year had been one of progress, and he wished to thank the bandsmen for their loyalty, the general public who had subscribed for the clearing of the debt on the instruments, and the officers and committee for their good work. The secretary's statement showed that £99 8s. has been paid for instruments; public subscriptions amounted to £43 15s 9½d ; band members collections, £23 15s 4d ; engagement money, £41 0s 10d. The auditors were Mr. Tom Mantle and Mr. Tom Baldwin. A vote of condolence was passed with Mr. T. Jones and family in their bereavement.

7 April 1934 Silver Band A meeting was held at the bandroom on Tuesday, presided over by P.C. Samson. The secretary, Mr. Bob Rees, stated that the band had been engaged for the Merthyr General Hospital fete on Whit Tuesday. A vote of condolence was passed with Mr. John Phillips in the loss of his brother.

12 May 1934 Silver Band The Fochriw Silver Band, conductor Mr. Albert Mantle, paraded the streets on May Day and played a fine selection of music.

26 May 1934 Silver Band The Band played a fine programme of music at the Merthyr General Hospital Fete and Gala on Whit Tuesday, and also at the Pontllytyn Church Tea on Whit Monday. The bandsmen are chiefly young men.

26 May 1934 Band Concert The large audience that filled the New Hall on Sunday evening was entertained to a rich musical treat, when a first class concert was given under the auspices of the Fochriw Silver Band, conductor Mr. Albert Mantle. The chairman was Mr. T. J. Jones. The band was assisted by local artistes and Mr. Wyndham Lawrence was the accompanist.

9 June 1934 Silver Band P.C. Sansom presided over a meeting of the Band on Tuesday. A vote of condolence was passed with Mr. Robert Slimmons on the death of his wife.

16 June 1934 Silver Band P.C. Sansom presided at a Band meeting on Monday. An application from the Women's Section of the British Legion for the services of the band for a concert for the Children's Welfare Fund was agreed to.

14 July 1934 Silver Band A meeting was held on Tuesday presided over by Mr. David Griffiths. Regret was expressed at the loss to the Band by the departure of P.C. Sansom. Mr. W. Payne was appointed chairman.

21 July 1934 Silver Band Mr. W. J. Payne presided at a meeting of the Band on Thursday evening last. The secretary, Mr. Bob Rees, dealt with the correspondence, and a discussion took place on the question of equipping bandsmen with uniforms. It was decided to invite a representative from a well-known firm to visit Fochriw to discuss the matter.

28 July 1934 Uniforms For Band Mr. T. J. Jones presided at a meeting of the Fochriw Silver Band. A representative from Messrs. Boosey and Hawkes attended. It was decided to purchase uniforms.

11 August 1934 Concert A concert was held at the New Hall on Sunday evening under the auspices of the Fochriw Silver Band. The bandsmen appeared in their new uniforms. The chairman was Mr. Willie Adams Jones. The Band, under their conductor Mr. Albert Mantle, played the following selections: "The Typhoon," "Dawn of Spring," "Country Life," "Echoes of Spring," "Royal Artillery," "Eventide." The band was assisted by Mrs. Marjory Humphreys, Pontllytyn, soprano; Mr. James John Lewis, Fochriw, tenor; Miss Megan Jones, Pontllytyn, elocutionist; accompanist, Mr. Thomas Walters. Mr. William Price moved a vote of thanks to the artistes, chairman and band.

11 August 1934 Silver Band Mr. W. J. Payne presided over Thursday's meeting. Mr. Bob Rees reported on the new uniforms.

18 August 1934 Band The band paraded the village on Wednesday for the first time in their new uniforms. A meeting of the band was held on Tuesday, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding. The band-master reported that the band intended competing at Rhymney on 1st September.

8 September 1934 Band's Success The Fochriw Silver Band, under Bandmaster A. Mantle, entered their first competition on Saturday last, and gave an excellent account of themselves. They were awarded third prize.

22 September 1934 Silver Band At the New Hall last Friday, a dance was held under the auspices of the Fochriw Silver Band. The band provided the music. The M.C. was Mr. D. J. Davies.

29 September 1934 Silver Band At the New Hall on Monday, a dance was held under the auspices of the Fochriw Silver Band, the M.C. being Dr. D. J. Davies.

13 October 1934 Band Mr. W. J. Payne presided at a meeting on Thursday. The Bandmaster gave his report. The financial position was given by Mr. John Phillips and Mr. Bob Rees.

3 November 1934 Band Meeting The monthly meeting of the band took place at the band headquarters on Thursday evening last, Mr. W. J. Payne, chairman, presiding. Arrangements were made for the parades on Armistice Sunday and for the band tea and social. The host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. T. Jones were thanked for their interest in the band.

17 November 1934 Band's Busy Day The Fochriw Silver Band led the Armistice parades at Rhymney, Fochriw and Pontlottyn.

8 December 1934 Tea and Social On Thursday last, at the New Hall, a tea and social, under the auspices of the Fochriw Silver Band, took place to celebrate the occasion of the royal wedding. In the afternoon, a tea was held, and in the evening a musical programme was given by the band under Mr. Albert Mantle. Messrs. D. John Davies and Elwyn Lewis were the M.Cs. The programme opened by playing "God Save the King." The winner of the prize cake, given by the Royal Stores, was Mr. Windsor Rees. The chairman thanked all who helped in making the event such an outstanding success.

15 December 1934 Silver Band Mr. W. J. Payne presided over a meeting of the band on Thursday. Arrangements were made for the Christmas engagement. Mr. Bob Rees, secretary, reported that the "Princess Marina Dance" proved a success. The Bandmaster presented a satisfactory report.

29 December 1934 Silver Band The band, under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Mantle, played throughout the district of Christmas Day.

9 February 1935 Silver Band Meeting Fochriw Silver Band held their annual meeting on Thursday evening last week presided over by Mr. W. J. Payne, chairman. He reviewed the work of the past year. The band had purchased a new set of uniforms that were a great asset. The committee and officers were thanked for their services. The auditor's report was given by the Mr. Tom Mantle, which revealed a satisfactory state of affairs. The following officers were elected: president, Mr. A. T. Minhinnick, M.E.; vice-presidents, Messrs. R. Slimmon, W. Williams, T. J. Jones, Inspector Davies (Pontlottyn) and Mr. Clavin (Ogilvie); chairman, Mr. W. J. Payne; vice-chairman, Mr. David Griffiths; secretary, Mr. J. J. Lewis; bandmaster, Mr. Albert Mantle; deputy bandmaster, Mr. Bob Rees; joint treasurers, Messrs. William Price and W. J. Payne; Committee, Messrs. D. R. Jones,

J. Tewkesbury, J. Saunders, J. Phillips, E. Lewis. Mr. Bob Rees, resigned from his position as secretary, and was thanked for his splendid services.

16 February 1935 Band Meeting A meeting was held at the band-room on Thursday, Mr. D. Griffiths presiding. Mr. J. J. Lewis, secretary, dealt with the arrangements made for concerts at Deri and Fochriw.

23 March 1935 Band Meeting Mr. W. J. Payne presided at a meeting on Thursday. Mr. J.J. Lewis, secretary, dealt with the arrangements for the coming dance and concert. The band master gave a report of the band's activities.

18 May 1935 Band Meeting A meeting was held on Thursday evening, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding. The Band has been engaged for the Merthyr General Hospital Fete and Gala. A report on the concert was given by the Secretary and it proved a financial success.

15 June 1935 Silver Band The Silver Band headed the procession Pontlottyn Church tea on Monday. On Tuesday, they were engaged in connection with the Merthyr Hospital Fete.

22 June 1935 Band Meeting A meeting was held at the band-room last week, presided over by Mr. W. J. Payne, supported by the secretary, Mr. J. J. Lewis, and the treasurer, Mr. William Price. Applications for future engagements were dealt with. Regret was expressed with the Merthyr General Hospital Fete and Gala Committee with their ill-luck owing to weather conditions on Whit Tuesday.

13 July 1935 Band Meeting A meeting was held at the band room on Thursday week, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding. Discussion took place concerning the band contest at Rhymney. Mr. Albert Mantle, band-master, gave his report. A deputation was received from Pontlottyn representatives of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, asking for the services of the band at the Church Parade at St. Tyfaelog's Church, Pontlottyn, on 14th July in the aid of a comforts depot. The request was granted.

20 July 1935 Town Band The Fochriw Silver played a pleasing programme of music on the Green on Monday. On Sunday, they headed the Church Parade at Pontlottyn.

3 August 1935 Band Meeting Mr. W J. Payne presided over the meeting on Friday. The Secretary dealt with the correspondence, and the band-master gave his report. Arrangements were made for the Bank Holiday engagements, and the competition at Rhymney. The auditor's report was given by Mr. J. H. Evans and Mr. Emrys Evans. They said there had been a substantial reduction in the debt on the uniforms, and with the splendid co-operation prevailing, the band could look forward to a very successful time. The auditors were thanked.

10 August 1935 Band Success The Fochriw Silver Band, under their conductor Mr. Albert Mantle, gave a good account of themselves at the Band competition at Rhymney on Saturday, in aid of the Rhymney Hospital, being placed second in the march. On Monday, they played a fine programme of music at Pant in connection with the Olde Village Fayre.

14 September 1935 Band Meeting Mr. W. J. Payne presided over a meeting on Wednesday. The Secretary here dealt with the correspondence, and a committee was received from the Library Committee concerning the services of the band. The financial statement was given by the treasurer and the bandmaster's report was received. Several new members were accepted into the band. It was decided to hold the annual social and dance at the end of November.

12 October 1935 Band Meeting A meeting was held on Monday, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding, supported by Mr. David Griffiths (vice-chairman), Mr. J. J. Lewis (secretary), and Mr. William Price (treasurer). The Band will lead the Armistice

Parade on Nov. 10th. A letter was received from the Darran Choral Society offering their services to give a performance at Fochriw in aid of Band funds. A vote of condolence was passed with the family of the late Mr. David Gittens.

16 November 1935 Silver Band The Band, under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Mantle, attended the Remembrance Sunday parade at Rhymney and Pontlottyn.

28 December 1935 Silver Band A meeting in connection with the band was held at the band-room on Thursday evening, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding. The Secretary dealt with the correspondence and gave a statement of accounts of the Marina Dance. Arrangements were made for the band to play their usual Christmas programme on Christmas Day. Mr. William Price gave the financial report, and it was decided to pay a further instalment off the uniform debt. The bandmaster gave his report which was quite satisfactory.

4 January 1936 Silver Band The Fochriw Silver Band under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Mantle, made a tour of the district on Christmas Day playing a programme of Christmas music.

8 February 1936 Band Meeting The band met at the Rising Sun Inn on Friday, Mr. William Price presiding. The bandmaster gave his report and said that they had made good progress.

15 February 1936 Band Meeting A meeting was held at the bandroom on Monday, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding. A vote of sympathy was passed with Mr. John Phillips, a committee member, on the death of his sister-in-law, Mrs. Ann Jones. Arrangements were made for the annual meeting and the forthcoming concert.

22 February 1936 Band Concert On Sunday, at the New Hall, the Silver Band, wearing their new uniforms, provided a musical treat. They were assisted by the boy soprano, Master Cliff Bumford, Aberfan, with Mr. Wyndham Lawrence as the accompanist. Mr. W. J. Payne presided.

29 February 1936 Silver Band The annual meeting took place on Friday, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding. The chairman said the band had made splendid headway under the conductorship of Bandmaster Mantle, with Mr. Bob Rees as assistant. There was still a heavy debt, but with co-operation, it would soon be wiped out. The auditor's report was given by Messrs. D. Lewis and J. H. Evans. Officers elected were: President, Mr. W. Knibbs; vice-presidents, Messrs. T. J. Jones, E. Pritchard, R. Slimmons, J. Evans, E. I. Griffiths and Police Inspector Hamens, Pontlottyn; chairman, Mr. W. J. Payne; vice chairman, Mr. D. Griffiths; treasurer, Mr. W. Price; secretary, Mr. J. J. Lewis; contribution secretary, Mr. J. Phillips.

7 March 1936 Band Meeting The Silver Band elected the following committee: Messrs. J. Saunders, R. Slimmon, D. Griffiths, J. H. Evans, J. Phillips, D. R. Jones, B. Rees, E. Lewis, R. Morgan; auditors, Messrs. J. H. Evans and E. Lewis, with the officers and bandmaster.

11 April 1936 Band's President Mr. W. H. Knibbs, M.E., manager of Ogilvie Colliery, has accepted the presidency of Fochriw Silver Band.

9 May 1936 Silver Band Mr. Bob Rees presided over the meeting last week. Mr. J. J. Lewis stated that engagements had been accepted for Merthyr, Pontlottyn and Bedlinog. It was proposed to enter competitions during the summer.

23 May 1936 Band Meeting Mr. W. J. Payne presided over a meeting last week. Mr. J. J. Lewis, secretary, gave his report, and arrangements were completed for a busy programme of engagements during Whitsun week.

6 June 1936 Silver Band The Silver Band, under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Mantle, had a busy time over Whitsuntide. On Sunday evening they played at

Cyfarthfa Park in aid of Merthyr General Hospital; on Monday, at Pontlottyn; and on Tuesday at Cyfarthfa Park again for the Fate and Gala in aid of the hospital.

27 June 1936 Silver Band A meeting was held at the New Hall on Thursday, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding. The Secretary dealt with the correspondence, and Mr. Emrys Lewis give a report of the Brass Band Association meeting at Cardiff. The treasurer gave the financial report. Arrangements were made for engagements at Bedlinog and Fochriw. The band-master gave his report on the progress of the band.

18 July 1936 Silver Band The band give a concert before a large crowd at the Welfare ground last week.

15 August 1936 Silver Band Mr. William Price presided over a meeting on Thursday. A vote of condolence was passed with the bandmaster Mr. Albert Mantle in the death of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Edwards.

29 August 1936 Silver Band's Progress A meeting was held at the New Hall on Friday, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding. The secretary dealt the correspondence, and the auditor's report was given by Messrs. J. H. Evans and E. Lewis. The financial position was satisfactory, and it was decided pay a further instalment of the debt on the instruments. The band, under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Mantle, and comprising chiefly young players, has made splendid progress.

19 September 1936 Band Meeting Held at the New Hall on Friday, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding. It was decided to compete at the Hirwaun Band Contest on Saturday.

26 September 1936 Silver Band The Band competed at Hirwaun on Saturday. Although not among the prize-winners, they were prominent in the march and selection.

10 October 1936 Silver Band A meeting was held at the New Hall on Tuesday, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding. A vote of condolence past with Mr. J. Saunders, committee member, on the loss of his brother. The bandmaster reported on the progress of the band.

14 November 1936 Band At Parade The Silver Band played at the parade at Rhymney in the morning, and at Pontlottyn in the afternoon on Remembrance Sunday.

19 December 1936 Silver Band Quartette Competition An instrumental quartette competition was held at the Old Library on Saturday. The competition was very keen. The adjudicator war Mr. Thomas Walters. The test piece was "Clouds and Sunshine" (Wright and Round). The winning quartettes comprised Messrs. Bob Rees, D. J. Davies, Tom Mantle and Tudor Evans, and Messrs. A. Mantle, Bryn Rees, Alf Gwyn and T. Mantle.

30 January 1937 Silver Band: Debt to be Reduced At the library on Friday, a meeting in connection with the band took place, presided over by Mr. W. J. Payne. The treasurer, Mr. W. Price, gave the financial report. It was decided to pay another instalment of £10 off the uniform debt. The annual meeting will be held on February 5th.

13 February 1937 Silver Band The annual meeting was held on Friday, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding, supported by Mr. David Griffiths, vice-chairman, Mr. William Price, treasurer, and Mr. J. J. Lewis, secretary. Mr. Payne said that the work of the past year had been very successful. He complemented the bandmaster and members for their loyalty. The debt on the uniforms had been reduced. The auditor's report was given by Mr. Emlyn Evans. Officers elected were: chairman, Mr. W. J. Payne; vice-chairman, Mr. Dan James; secretary, Mr. Mervyn Evans; treasurer, Mr. William Price; contribution secretary, Mr. John Phillips; President, Mr. W. H.

Knibbs; vice-president, Messrs. T. J. Jones, Robert Slimmons, Josiah Evans, and Edgar Pritchard; Committee: Messrs. D. R. Jones, David Griffiths, J. J. Lewis, R. Slimmons, J. Saunders, T. J. Jones, Bert and Emlyn Evans, E. Pritchard, R. Thomas, T. Walters, C. Edwards, J. H. Evans, D. James, B. Rees, T. Evans, A. Gwynne; bandmaster, Mr. Albert Mantle; deputy, Mr. Bob Rees, trustees, Mr. P. Mantle, Mr. B. Evans and Mr. S. Williams.

13 March 1937 Secretary Welcomed A meeting of the Fochriw Silver Band was held at the library on Friday, when Mr. W. J. Payne, who presided, welcomed the new secretary, Mr. Mervyn Evans. A vote of condolence was passed with Mr. J. H. Evans, committee-man, on the death of his father, Mr. John Mostyn Evans. Good wishes were extended to Mr. Dan James (vice-chairman), who is recovering from an accident received at his work.

27 March 1937 Presentation At the Old Library on Friday, Mr. John Phillips, contribution secretary of the Fochriw Silver Band, was presented with a silver cigarette case, suitably inscribed, given by the members in appreciation of his services. Mr. W. J. Payne, chairman, said that Mr. Phillips had recently retired from the services of Messrs. Guest, Keen and Nettlefolds, after having worked under them for 60 years. During this time he had not lost a day's work. The bandsmen were honouring one who had served them faithfully. Mr. Payne wished him a long and happy retirement from the collieries, but hoped to have his company in the band room for many years. Mr. D. R. Jones then spoke in Welsh, followed by the late secretary, Mr. J. J. Lewis, and Messrs. H. Wood, W. Price, C. Edwards and E. Lewis. The bandmaster, Mr. Albert Mantle, made the presentation.

3 April 1937 Band Presentation The name of Mr. Bob Rees, who paid a splendid tribute to Mr. John Phillips, was omitted from last week's report.

24 April 1937 Band Meeting A meeting was held at the Old Library on Friday, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding. It was decided to accept a Pontlloftyn engagement on Whit Monday, and also the Fochriw Coronation engagements.

19 June 1937 Band Meeting Mr. W. J. Payne presided over the meeting at the library on Thursday. It was decided that the band should play at the community singing at Pantywaun. A discussion took place with the object of finding ways and means of wiping off the debt on their uniforms.

31 July 1937 Silver Band Mr. W. J. Payne presided over a meeting at the New Hall on Wednesday. Mr. Mervyn Evans, secretary, reported that several applications had been received for engagements. The band will compete at the contest at Rhymney on Saturday in aid of the Rhymney Hospital, and will fulfil an engagement at Pant on Bank Holiday Monday.

18 September 1937 Silver Band A meeting was held last Thursday at the New Hall, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding. A report of the progress of the band was given by the bandmaster.

13 November 1937 Silver Band Mr. W. J. Payne presided at the meeting at the New Hall on Wednesday. The secretary, Mr. Mervyn Evans, reported that several instruments had been sent away for repairs. Applications had been received for engagements during November. These had been refused until the instruments are returned. It was decided to invite applications for a few new playing members for the band. An entertainments committee appointed to arrange a concert in aid of funds comprised the following: Messrs. Bob Rees, H. Wood, John Mantle, Glyn Burrows, Elwyn Lewis and J. Saunders. The band-master gave his report.

18 December 1937 Silver Band Mr. W. J. Payne presided at a meeting at the New Hall on Monday. It was reported that the instruments and drum had been

returned after repair, and were inspected by Mr. Mantle. Mr. Mantle reported progress with the band.

1 January 1938 Silver Band Under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Mantle, the Band paraded the streets of the village on Christmas Day playing a number of carols.

15 January 1938 Uniform Fund A concert was held at the New Hall on Tuesday evening in aid of the Fochriw Silver Band uniform fund. The concert was given by the Aberdare Blind Minstrels, who delighted the large audience with their programme.

19 March 1938 Silver Band The annual meeting was held at the New Hall, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding. He said that the band had passed through another successful year, and that the uniform debt had been greatly reduced. He complimented the conductor, Mr. Albert Mantle, who had made every effort during the year to maintain the standards of the band. He had been well supported by the Deputy Bandmaster Mr. Bob Rees. The auditor's report was given by Mr. Emrys Lewis, and was accepted. It was decided to tender for the Merthyr General Hospital Fete and Gala on Whit Tuesday. The following officers were elected: chairman, Mr. W. J. Payne; treasurer, Mr. Emrys Lewis; secretary, Mr. James J. Lewis; conductor, Mr. Albert Mantle; deputy conductor, Mr. E. Lewis; contribution secretary, Mr. John Phillips.

7 May 1938 Silver Band A meeting was held at the New Hall on Friday evening, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding. He appealed to some of the members to be more faithful in their attendance at the practices, and to encourage the bandmaster to maintain the high standards of the band. Reference was made to the death of Mr. J. Tewkesbury, Maesteg, who had been a real friend to the band during his many years at Fochriw, and the members stood in silence as a tribute. Mr. James J. Lewis, secretary, dealt with the coming engagements of the band, and it was decided to accept the Merthyr hospital engagement on Whit Monday. Four new young members were accepted as members of the band, and Mr. Mantle said he would endeavour to do his best to train them. The secretary made an appeal to make 1938 a record one and this was endorsed by the treasurer Mr. Emrys Lewis.

21 May 1938 Silver Band A meeting was held at the New Hall on Friday, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding. Mr. Bob Rees presented a statement of accounts for a concert in aid of the band, and this was accepted with thanks, and all workers were thanked. Mr. H. Wood was appointed vice-chairman.

11 June 1938 Silver Band The band gave a bright programme of music at the special variety attractions near the Lake at the Merthyr General Hospital Fete on Monday.

2 July 1938 Silver Band Mr. W. J. Payne presided over a meeting at the New Hall on Thursday. Correspondence was discussed and the bandmaster gave his report.

30 July 1938 Silver Band Mr. W. J. Payne presided at a meeting on Thursday at the New Hall. A vote of sympathy with the family of Mr. William Griffiths, Maesycod, was recorded. The Bandmaster reported on the progress of the band.

20 August 1938 Silver Band Mr. W. J. Payne presided at a meeting at the New Hall on Thursday evening. The chairman made reference to the death of Mr. Edward Gittens, the father of two of the bandsmen. It was decided to accept an engagement at Bedwas on Saturday next.

27 August 1938 Band at Flower Show The Silver Band, under their conductor Mr. Albert Mantle, played a programme of music at the first annual flower and vegetables show at Bedwas on Saturday.

22 October 1938 Silver Band Mr. W. J. Payne presided over a meeting at the New Hall on Friday. Mr. Albert Mantle reported on the progress of the band. The secretary, Mr. James J. Lewis, dealt with the correspondence, and engagements for the Armistice parade were considered.

31 December 1938 Silver Band The Fochriw Silver Band, under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Mantle, played a programme of Christmas music throughout the village on Christmas Day.

25 February 1939 Silver Band The annual meeting was held at the New Hall on Friday evening, presided over by Mr. W. J. Payne, supported by Mr. Hartwell Wood (vice-chairman), Mr. Emrys Lewis (treasurer), and Mr. J. J. Lewis (secretary). The chairman complemented the band-master and band members on another year of progress. He was pleased to record that the bandmaster had been busy training some young men, and they were now ready to take their places in the ring with the older members. All that was required now was regular attendance at practice. The Secretary read the minutes, which were adopted. The auditors' report was given Messrs. T. Mantle and B. Rees. The Bandmaster gave his report, which was very encouraging. The officers for the year were elected as follows: President, Mr. W. Knibbs, M.E.; vice-presidents, Messrs. E. Morgan, M.E., T. J. Jones, Josiah Evans, Edgar Pritchard; chairman, Mr. W. J. Payne; vice-chairman, Mr. H. Wood; treasurer, Mr. E. Evans; secretary, Mr. J. J. Lewis; contributions secretary, Mr. John Phillips; committee, Messrs. D. Rees Jones, David Griffiths, Dan James, Bert Evans, William Price, Windsor Rees, R. Morgan, Bryn Rees, Iorwerth Williams, D. J. Davies, Elwyn Lewis.

4 March 1939 Band Officials At the annual meeting, Mr. Albert Mantle was re-elected bandmaster, and Mr. Emrys Lewis, deputy-bandmaster.

18 March 1939 Silver Band A meeting was held at New Hall on Friday. Mr. W. J. Payne presided. The secretary dealt with the correspondence, which included applications to join the band, and it was decided to grant permission. The bandmaster reported that several new pieces of music had arrived, and the young players were making progress. It was hoped to turn out for a parade shortly. A letter was received from the widow of Mr. Richard Morgan thanking the band for its sympathy and for attending the funeral.

27 May 1939 Silver Band A meeting was held on Tuesday, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding. The chairman remarked that it was very pleasing to see the band on Friday evening, when they paraded the village. Mr. J. J. Lewis, secretary, also commented on the parade and the smart deportment of the men. The band will play for the tea at St. Tyfaelog's, Pontlloyn on Whit Monday. Other coming engagements were discussed.

10 June 1939 Silver Band A meeting was held at the New Hall on Friday. Mr. W. J. Payne presided. The Secretary dealt with the correspondence, and it was decided to accept an engagement to play at the Corpus Christi to be held at Cardiff on Sunday. The bandmaster gave the monthly report.

17 June 1939 Silver Band Under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Mantle, the Band played a fine selection of music in the Corpus Christi procession at Cardiff on Sunday last.

24 June 1939 Silver Band Councillor W. J. Payne presided over a meeting at the New Hall on Friday. He referred to the death of Mrs. M. A. Mantle, widow of Mr. William Mantle, who had been a solo cornet player and conductor of the Fochriw band in its old days. Mrs. Mantle was also sister-in-law to the present bandmaster. The Secretary dealt with correspondence that included discussion of several

engagements. The secretary reported that they would be playing for the parade at the celebration of Corpus Christi at St. Peter's Church, Bargoed, on Sunday.

19 August 1939 Silver Band Mr. W. J. Payne presided over a meeting at the New Hall on Wednesday. Mr. J. J. Lewis dealt with the correspondence. Mr. H. Wood and Mr. T. Mantle, auditors, gave their report. Mr. Emrys Lewis, treasurer, gave the financial report. The bandmaster reported on the progress of the band. It was decided to discontinue practice during the building of the new hall.

23 September 1939 Silver Band The Silver Band attended the funeral of an old bandsman, Mr. Walters, Rhymney. They played the "Dead March" as the cortege proceeded to the Rhymney Cemetery. Mr. Walters had given his services to help the band on many occasions.

2 March 1940 Band Meeting Members of the Silver Band met at the New Hall on Friday, Mr. W. J. Payne presiding. He suggested that the band be re-established, and Mr. J. J. Lewis, secretary, endorsed the remarks.

6 July 1940 Silver Band A meeting was held last week presided over by Mr. W. J. Payne. The band has been disbanded now for several months. In his report, the Secretary said that he had received many letters for engagements but had to decline owing to the situation. A deputation from Deri appealed for the services of the band to lead a Church Parade of Local Defence Volunteers and other organisations on Sunday. The chairman said he saw no reason why the band could not get together for an occasion of that sort. Several members spoke on the matter, and it was decided to call a practice and to go to Deri to lead the parade. As a result, the band was reformed, and led the parade of about 200 people.

19 September 1942 The Band Fochriw Silver Band has been reformed. It has a fine tradition for over 50 years. In its balmy days it was one of the leading prize bands in Wales, and after an impass of two years, it has been reformed. The present band comprises a number of promising players with a sprinkling of older members. With Mr. Albert Mantle as conductor and regular attendances at practices, a bright future is in store. At a meeting in the Hall last week, the following officers were appointed: chairman, Coun. W.J. Payne; vice chairman, Mr. H. Ward; secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis; treasurer, Mr. Emrys Lewis; registrar, Mr. D.J. Davies; conductor, Mr. A. Mantle; deputy conductor, Mr. E. Lewis.

10 October 1942 Silver Band Coun. W.J. Payne presided over a meeting at the Hall. The chairman welcomed the new committee. It was decided to invite applications for membership of the band.

21 November 1942 Silver Band A meeting took place at the Hall on Wednesday presided over by Coun. W.J. Payne. The secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis, reported that he had received twelve applications for membership of the band, which were accepted. The bandmaster, Mr. A. Mantle, reported on the progress of the band.

27 November 1942 Band Coun. W.J. Payne presided at a Band meeting at the Hall on Monday. Arrangements were made for a dramatic performance. The Secretary reported that the 14 new members would commence their training this week. It was agreed that the Band prepare a programme of Christmas music to play throughout the village during Christmastide. A parade will also take place before Christmas. The Treasurer gave the financial report. Mr. Bob Rees gave a report on the drama performance.

5 December 1942 Silver Band Benefit The Bedlinog Dramatic Society (producer Mr. R. Heath), gave a performance of the comedy, "Too Young To Marry," to a large audience at the New Hall on Thursday evening. The proceeds were in aid of the Fochriw Silver Band which has been reformed. At the close of the performance,

Mr. H. Wood thanked the company and all who had assisted and this was seconded by Mr. Bob Rees. The chairman was Coun. W.J. Payne.

26 December 1942 Band Play Carols On Sunday, the Fochriw Silver Band conducted by Mr. A. Mantle, played carols and other appropriate music, much appreciated by the villagers.

2 January 1943 Silver Band Fochriw Silver Band, conducted by Mr. A. Mantle, played Christmas music throughout the village on Christmas Day.

16 January 1943 Band A meeting of the Fochriw Silver Band took place at the Hall on Thursday. Coun. W.J. Payne presided, and said that he was pleased to hear such good reports of their playing throughout the district in the Christmas season. Mr. J.J. Lewis supported Mr. Payne's remarks and also dealt with the correspondence. Reports were given on the progress of the young members who had joined. It was decided to ask the Band to give another dance as soon as possible. Mr. Emrys Lewis gave the financial report, and Mr. Bob Rees reported on the drama.

13 February 1943 Band Meeting The annual meeting of the Fochriw Silver Band took place in the New Hall on Wednesday. In the absence of the chairman, Coun. W.J. Payne, the chair was taken by Mr. A. Mantle, supported by Mr. J.J. Lewis, secretary, Mr. Emrys Lewis, treasurer, Mr. D.J. Davies, registrar, and the auditors, Mr. H. Wood and Mr. Bernard Brown. The secretary reviewed the year and said they had much to be pleased with. The band had made good progress, and the prospects for the coming year were good. The chairman said that the 14 young members who had recently joined were making good progress, and some were now playing "around the ring" with the older members. Mr. H. Wood gave the auditors report and complimented the officials on the way the books were kept. The financial position was satisfactory. The election of officers took place as follows: President, Mr. Edgar Pritchard; vice presidents, Messrs. W. Farley, E.I. Griffiths, D. Jenkins & P.C. W. Cox; chairman, Coun. W.J. Payne; vice chairman, Mr. H. Wood; secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis; treasurer, Mr. Emrys Lewis; registrar, Mr. D.J. Davies; trustees, Mr. D.R. Jones, Coun. W.J. Payne, Mr. Wm. Evans; bandmaster, Mr. A. Mantle. The committee was re-elected, with the addition of Mr. J.E. Edwards.

22 May 1943 Silver Band Coun. W.J. Payne presided over a Band meeting on Wednesday. He was supported by Mr. H. Wood, vice chairman, and Mr. J.J. Lewis, secretary. The correspondence was dealt with, including a number of applications for the services of the band. The purchase of new instruments was also considered. It was decided that the Band would parade the village on Saturday evening next. On Sunday, at Bargoed, the band conducted by Mr. A. Mantle, headed the parade of the Home Guard.

29 May 1943 Band The Fochriw Silver Band, conducted by Mr. A. Mantle, paraded the village on Saturday. At a meeting in the Hall presided over by Mr. H. Wood, secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis reported that he had received a number of applications for the services of the Band.

5 June 1943 Silver Band The Band, conducted by Mr. A. Mantle, were busy playing over the weekend in "Wings for Victory" parades at Llanbradach, Bargoed and Pontlottyn.

19 June 1943 Band Engagements The Fochriw Silver Band, conducted by Mr. A. Mantle, played a programme of music at the annual Church tea parade at Pontlottyn on Monday and for dancing in the evening. On Tuesday, they played at the carnival at Deri.

26 June 1943 Silver Band A meeting was held at the New Hall on Monday, Coun. W.J. Payne presiding. The chairman complimented the bandmaster on the efficient way they had carried out their engagements during the past few weeks. Their playing and smartness on the road had evoked much praise. Mr. J.J. Lewis, secretary, gave his report as did the treasurer, Mr. Emrys Lewis. The bandmaster reported that he was well pleased with the progress of the Band. The chairman referred to the death of Mrs. Lloyd Jones, mother-in-law of Mrs. Farley, who is a vice-president, and the members stood in silence. It was decided to send their best wishes to Mr. Crad Shankland, one of the bandsmen, who is a patient at Merthyr General Hospital.

24 July 1943 Silver Band Coun. W.J. Payne presided over a meeting of the Band held at the New Hall on Monday, supported by the vice chairman, secretary and bandmaster. Correspondence included applications for the services of the Band at various functions, and it was decided to accept engagements during Fochriw "Stay-at-home" week. The treasurer gave a satisfactory report.

11 September 1943 Silver Band A meeting in connection with Fochriw Silver Band was held at the Hall on Thursday evening last, Coun. W.J. Payne presiding, and supported by Mr. H. Wood, vice chairman, Mr. J.J. Lewis, secretary, and Mr. Emrys Lewis, treasurer. A deputation was received from Deri, representing the Deri Welcome Home Fund, asking for the services of the band for a concert at Deri in aid of the fund. This was agreed to - details to be arranged. The treasurer gave his report. Applications for membership of the band were also considered.

23 October 1943 Silver Band A meeting was held at the Hall on Thursday when Coun. W.J. Payne presided, supported by Mr. J.J. Lewis, secretary, and Mr. Albert Mantle, bandmaster. The secretary gave his report. A report on the concert was also given. Several engagements for the band were considered.

1 January 1944 Xmas Music Fochriw Silver Band, under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Mantle, played a programme of music throughout the village on Christmas morning.

15 January 1944 Silver Band Coun. W.J. Payne presided over a Band meeting last week. An application from the Pentwyn Comforts Fund for the services of the Band for a dance was agreed to. The chairman referred to the death of Mr. Joseph Shankland whose sons and grandsons are members of the band. The bandmaster, Mr. Albert Mantle, said that he had been connected with the band for 41 years, and during that time there had always been a Shankland in the band. The members stood in silence as a token of respect.

29 January 1944 Silver Band Coun. W.J. Payne presided over a meeting of the Band committee at the New Hall on Friday. The secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis, dealt with the correspondence. A letter was read from the secretary of the Merthyr General Hospital thanking the band for their services at the recent dance in aid of the hospital.

26 February 1944 Silver Band The annual meeting of the Band took place at the New Hall on Thursday. The Band has had a successful year and its services have been given freely to all deserving causes in the village. Credit is due to the bandmaster, Mr. A. Mantle, and members of the band, who have maintained a high standard of efficiency, supported by a splendid body of officials and committee members. The auditors report was given by Mr. H. Wood, senior auditor, who paid a high compliment to the secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis, and the treasurer, Mr. Emrys Lewis, on the way the accounts had been kept. The receipts for the year were £112 9s 5d, and the expenditure £69 5s 4d, leaving a balance at the bank of £43 4s 1d.

Mr. J.J. Lewis, who has completed ten years as secretary, was praised by several members, as was the treasurer. It was decided to give an honorarium of £5 to the secretary and £3 to the treasurer in appreciation of their services. Thanks were expressed. Donations were received from Mr. E.T. Pritchard and Mr. E.I. Griffiths. The following officials were elected: President, Mr. E.T. Pritchard; vice-presidents, Mr. E.I. Griffiths, P.C. Cox, Mr. Farley; chairman, Coun. W.J. Payne; vice-chairman, Mr. H. Wood; secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis; treasurer, Mr. E. Lewis; registrar, Mr. D.J. Davies; bandmaster, Mr. A. Mantle; deputy bandmaster, Mr. Emrys Lewis. The committee was re-elected, with Mr. Crad Shankland in place of Mr. Brown.

13 May 1944 Silver Band A meeting of the Band committee was held at the Hall on Friday. Coun. W.J. Payne presided, supported by Mr. H. Wood, vice chairman, Mr. Emrys Lewis, treasurer, Mr. J.J. Lewis, secretary, and Mr. Albert Mantle, bandmaster. Correspondence was dealt with. The band gave their services in the "Salute the Soldier" parade at Bargoed and Deri on Sunday last. The Band is always available for events in the village. It was decided to purchase a stock of music and some new instruments.

24 June 1944 Silver Band On Sunday, under the conductorship of Mr. A. Mantle, the Band played a selection of music at the Corpus Christi procession at Bargoed.

1 July 1944 Silver Band Coun. W.J. Payne presided over a meeting at the New Hall on Thursday, supported by Mr. H. Wood, vice chairman, Mr. J.J. Lewis, secretary, and Mr. Emrys Lewis, treasurer. The secretary dealt with the correspondence which included a number of applications for the services of the Band. The secretary also reported upon correspondence regarding new instruments. The treasurer gave the financial report. The chairman referred to the death of Mr. Wm. Powell, late bandmaster of Fochriw and Deri Bands, who was held in great esteem for his untiring services. Bandmaster Mantle also paid tribute to the sterling qualities of the late bandmaster and the secretary also added his tribute. Members stood in silence as a tribute.

19 August 1944 Silver Band At the Band Room last Friday, the Secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis, reported that Mr. Stan Williams had consented to become one of its vice-presidents. Coun. Payne introduced Mr. Williams to the band members, saying that he felt Mr. Williams would be an asset to them. Other speakers were Mr. A. Mantle, bandmaster, and Mr. H. Wood. Mr. Williams replied.

23 September 1944 Silver Band At the Bandroom on Friday, Coun. Payne presided over a band meeting. The secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis read a letter from the Old Age Pensioners asking for the services of the Band for a dance, It was decided to give their services free of charge.

4 November 1944 Silver Band A meeting was held at the New Hall on Thursday, Coun. W.J. Payne presiding, supported by Mr. H. Wood, vice chairman, Mr. J.J. Lewis, secretary, and Mr. Emrys Lewis, treasurer. The chairman referred to Mr. A. Mantle, bandmaster, who is in hospital, but is improving. A vote of condolence was passed with Mr. Stan Williams, vice president, in his recent bereavement. The question of new members joining the band was discussed. The request of the Women's Section of the British Legion for the services of the band for a dance was granted.

18 November 1944 Silver Band A meeting of the Band was held on Thursday last at the New Hall, Coun. W.J. Payne presiding, Mr. J.J. Lewis dealt with the correspondence, and a letter was read from Mr. Albert Mantle, bandmaster, who is a

patient at Merthyr General Hospital, expressing thanks for the kindness shown by the bandmen.

23 December 1944 Silver Band The Band, conducted by Mr. Emrys Lewis, deputy conductor, played a programme of Christmas music in the village on Sunday. The bandmaster, Mr. A. Mantle, is still a patient at Merthyr General Hospital.

30 December 1944 Silver Band A programme of Christmas music was played by the Band throughout the village on Christmas Day under the conductorship of Mr. Emrys Lewis.

24 February 1945 Band's Best Year The annual meeting took place at the New Hall on Wednesday, presided over by Coun. W.J. Payne, supported by Mr. H. Wood, vice chairman, Mr. J.J. Lewis, secretary and Mr. Emrys Lewis, treasurer. In reviewing the past year, the Chairman said it was one of the best in the history of the band. The financial position was very sound. The band had fulfilled a large number of engagements, and their playing had reached a high standard. They regretted the accident to their bandmaster, Mr. A. Mantle, which had kept him in hospital for the last few months. All joined in wishing him a speedy recovery. The deputy bandmaster, Mr. Emrys Lewis, was thanked for his services during Mr. Mantle's absence. During the past year, the band had lost one of its vice-presidents, Mr. E.I. Griffiths. Another committee-man, Mr. D.T. Davies, was also in hospital. Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Stan Williams and Mr. Farley (vice-presidents). The auditors report was given by Mr. Wm. Thomas and Mr. A.H. Wood, and revealed a splendid year's working. The following officials were appointed: president, Mr. E.T. Pritchard; vice presidents, Messrs. Stan Williams, W. Farley, Emlyn Evans and P.C. Cox; chairman, Coun. W.J. Payne; vice chairman, Mr. A.H. Wood; bandmaster, Mr. A. Mantle; deputy bandmaster, Mr. Emrys Lewis; secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis; treasurer, Mr. Emrys Lewis; registrar, Mr. D.J. Davies; committee, Messrs. D.R. Jones, Dan James, J.E. Edwards, W. Evans, D.T. Davies, E. Lewis, C. Shankland, M. Shankland, D.M. Thomas, Rev. E.A. Evans, Rev. E. Jones.

2 June 1945 Silver Band Meeting Mr. A.H. Wood presided over a meeting of the Band on Thursday. Mr. J.J. Lewis, secretary, read the correspondence, and the treasurer, Mr. E. Lewis, gave the financial report. The Band, under Mr. A. Mantle, played at Deri on Sunday in connection with the Holidays-At-Home week.

18 August 1945 Silver Band A meeting was held at the New Hall on Monday. Coun. Payne presided, supported by Mr. A.H. Wood, vice-chairman, Mr. J.J. Lewis, secretary, Mr. Emrys Lewis, treasurer, and Mr. A. Mantle, bandmaster. The secretary reported on the correspondence, including applications for the services of the band. It was agreed to play at Deri on one of the Victory days and also at Pontlottyn in September. It was decided that the band enter the competition at Caerphilly.

8 September 1945 Band's Third Prize Fochriw Silver Band won third prize at Caerphilly band contest under their conductor, Mr. A. Mantle. In the old days the band had a record that was the envy of all bands in the country. It is hoped that spirit will show itself in the present young members who have the making of an excellent band.

20 October 1945 Silver Band Coun. Payne presided at a band meeting at the hall on Monday. As the result of a protest by one of the bands at the recent Caerphilly contest resulting in the disqualification of the winning band, Fochriw won second prize. Mr. David Griffiths was elected a member of the band committee.

10 November 1945 Silver Band A meeting of the Band was held at the Old Reading Room on Monday, Coun. Payne presiding. Mr. B. Angell was appointed a member of the committee. The Band has now purchased a set of instruments. Under the conductorship of Mr. Emrys Lewis, the Band played a programme of music throughout the village on Friday. The Bandmaster, Mr. A. Mantle, is recuperating at the Rehabilitation Centre.

24 November 1945 Silver Band Coun. Payne presided at a Band Meeting on Monday. Arrangements were made for distributing new instruments to the players. Two playing members were accepted into the Band and a band concert was discussed.

22 December 1945 Silver Band Coun. Payne presided at a band meeting at the New Hall on Thursday. Engagements and a programme of Christmas music were discussed

29 December 1945 Christmas Music Fochriw Silver Band under the conductorship of Mr. Emrys Lewis, made a tour of the district on Christmas Day and played an excellent programme of music.

19 January 1946 Silver Band A meeting was held at the Old Reading Room on Thursday, presided over by Coun. W.J. Payne. Mr. J.J. Lewis, secretary, dealt with the correspondence, and reported on the last financial effort to obtain instruments, and said it was a successful venture. The Chairman pointed out the amount of work this had entailed, and it was decided to place on record their appreciation of the Secretary's work. The financial statement was provided by the treasurer, Mr. Emrys Lewis, and the bandmaster, Mr. Albert Mantle, reported on the progress of the band. Mr. Edgar Mantle was accepted as a member of the band. It was decided to organise a series of dances and a concert.

2 February 1946 Silver Band Meeting Coun. W.J. Payne presided at the meeting at the Old Reading Room on Thursday. The secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis, reported on forthcoming engagements. The Bandmaster reported on the efficiency of the Band, and commented on the coming concert at Bedlinog. A concert was also arranged for Fochriw, and it was decided to invite Mr. David Hughes, M.E., Cardiff. Capt. Catterson was appointed a vice-president. Messrs. Tom & B. Lewis and D. Kelly were appointed members of the committee. The treasurer, Mr. Emrys Lewis, gave the financial report.

2 March 1946 Band Concert At the New Hall on Wednesday, the Silver Band, under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Mantle, provided a programme that delighted a large audience. The artistes were Mr. Haydn Thomas and Mr. Wilfred Jones, Bedlinog, with Mr. W.P. Lawrence, Mus. Bac. as pianist. Councillor W.J. Payne presided. He said that he was pleased to see such a large gathering. The band had made good progress under Mr. Mantle, and they were pleased to see he had made good progress after his accident. During Mr. Mantle's stay in hospital, Mr. Emrys Lewis had proved a very capable deputy. The band possessed a fine set of instruments, and had reached a standard equal to anything that had been seen in Fochriw previously. During the interval, the chairman presented Mr. David Hughes, M.E., Cardiff, with a walking stick on behalf of the bands-men, officers and committee, as a token of appreciation of the kindness he has shown in bringing about the purchase of the new instruments. Mr. Hughes responded, and said he was delighted with the playing of the band. Mr. A.H. Wood moved a vote of thanks to all who had assisted, seconded by Mr. J.J. Lewis, secretary.

16 March 1946 Coming Event A Victory Dance will be held at the New Hall on June 7 in aid of the Fochriw Silver Band.

16 March 1946 The Band Coun. Payne presided at a band meeting at the Old Library. Mr. J.J. Lewis, secretary, gave a report on the Band Association meeting he attended at Cardiff with the treasurer. It was agreed that the band enter the Association contest in June, and a joint meeting was arranged with the ladies' committee. Mr. Crad Shankland was appointed on the committee.

30 March 1946 Silver Band The Band played a programme of music on the field at Pontlottyn on Monday, during a football match between Pontlottyn and Merthyr.

13 April 1946 For Band Fund In aid of the Band Instruments Fund, a dance was held at the New Hall on Wednesday. Music was provided by the Silver Band under Mr. A. Mantle. On Saturday, the Band played a programme of music at Rhydney Football Field.

4 May 1946 Silver Band Under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Mantle, the Band competed in the Band Festival at the Cory Hall, Cardiff, on Saturday. Although not successful, they gave a good account of themselves. Arrangements were made by the secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis.

18 May 1946 Silver Band On Friday, a meeting was held in the Band-room, Mr. J.J. Lewis presiding. The correspondence contained a number of requests for the services of the Band. The Bandmaster reported on the individual competition at Tonypany, at which two of their young members competed. Idris and George Shankland gave an excellent performance. The Bandmaster also reported on the sale of some of the old instruments.

29 June 1946 Silver Band Mr. Dan James presided at a Band Meeting. The treasurer gave the financial report.

3 August 1946 Band News Coun. Payne presided at a meeting at the band-room on Friday. The treasurer reported that they were now in a position to pay back the loan and wipe off the debt on the new instruments. It was decided to pay off the loan at a celebration function.

14 September 1946 No Debts Now Coun. W.J. Payne presided at a meeting on Thursday. The chairman complimented all concerned on disposing of the debt incurred in the purchase of new instruments, and paid tribute to the bandmaster for the part he had played in the sale of the old instruments. It was decided to compete in the forthcoming contest at Blaina. The secretary dealt with the correspondence and the treasurer gave the financial report.

28 September 1946 Silver Band The Band competed at the contest at Blaina on Saturday and gave a good performance both in the march and selection competition.

12 October 1946 Silver Band Mr. H. Wood presided at a Band meeting on Monday. Mr. J.J. Lewis reported on several applications for engagements. Mr. Emrys Lewis gave a financial statement.

7 December 1946 Bandsmen Meet Coun. Payne presided at a Band meeting at the band room last week. The Secretary's report was followed by a report of the Association meeting at Cardiff, given by Mr. Emrys Lewis. The Bandmaster also gave a report on progress.

28 December 1946 Silver Band On Christmas morning, the Band played a programme of Christmas music around the village. Mr. Emrys Lewis conducted. Mr. Mantle, bandmaster, was unable to be present.

15 February 1947 Silver Band Coun. Payne presided over a Band meeting at the New Hall last week. The secretary dealt with the correspondence and the treasurer gave the financial position. A vote of condolence was passed with Mr.

John Mantle and family in their recent bereavement. The annual meeting was fixed for Feb. 21.

15 March 1947 Silver Band The annual meeting was held on Friday. Mr. A.H. Wood presided, who gave a review of the year's progress. Officers appointed were: president, Mr. E.T. Pritchard; chairman, Mr. A.H. Wood; vice chairman, Coun. W.J. Payne; secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis; treasurer, Mr. Allen Davies; bandmaster, Mr. A. Mantle; deputy bandmaster, Mr. Emrys Lewis; vice presidents, Mr. S.C. Farley, W. Fox, R. Williams, E. Evans, Capt. Catterson; with a representative committee.

26 April 1947 Silver Band A meeting was held at the Old Library on Friday. Mr. A.H. Wood presided. It was decided to accept some engagements for which applications had been received.

17 May 1947 Silver Band The Silver Band, conductor Mr. Albert Mantle, headed the May Day procession at Bargoed on Saturday, playing a selection of suitable music.

30 August 1947 Carrying On Fochriw Silver Band is practising under the conductorship of Mr. Emrys Lewis, in the absence of Mr. Albert Mantle, who is in hospital. The Band has accepted several engagements. Wishes for a speedy recovery have been extended to Mr. Mantle.

1 November 1947 Silver Band Mr. A.H. Wood presided at a band meeting last week. The band is now under the conductorship of Mr. Emrys Lewis as Mr. Mantle is ill. There are vacancies in the Band, and applications should be made to the secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis.

10 January 1948 Fochriw Silver Band The Band, conducted by Mr. Emrys Lewis, carried out their annual programme of Christmas music by playing throughout the village.

24 January 1948 Band Dance The Fochriw Silver Band held a dance at the New Hall on Thursday. Music was supplied by the band under the conductorship of Mr. Emrys Lewis, and the M.Cs. were Messrs. Gomer Davies and Cadfan Cumpstone. The secretary is Mr. J.J. Lewis and the chairman Mr. A.H. Wood.

31 January 1948 Silver Band Under the auspices of the Silver Band, a dance was held at the New Hall last Thursday, the Band supplying the music. It is intended to continue with a series of dances. M.Cs. were Messrs. G. Davies and G. Cumpstone. Spot prize winners were Mr. & Mrs. Elwyn Lewis, Rhymney. A cake, given by Edwards Bros., Bargoed, was won by Mrs. Beryl Davies. Spot prizes were given by Mrs. Evans, Post Office, and Mr. J. Morgan, Manager, Morgan-Harris. Refreshments were served by Mesdames Pollock and Davies. On behalf of the Band, the secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis, wishes to thank all for their support.

7 February 1948 Bandmaster Resigns Mr. A.H. Wood presided over a band meeting on Friday, when the resignation of the bandmaster, Mr. A. Mantle, was accepted with regret after 43 years as player and bandmaster. This step was brought about on medical advice after a long illness, but Mr. Mantle's health is improving, and it is the hope of all bandsmen in the district that he will maintain his connections with the band. Members present paid tribute to his fine qualities both as a musician and conductor, and expressed the hope of an early recovery. The secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis, has worked in harmony with him for 13 years. The band is now under the conductorship of Mr. Emrys Lewis. The following are the officers: chairman, Mr. A.H. Wood; vice-chairman, Coun. W.J. Payne; secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis; treasurer, Mr. A. Davies; president, Mr. E.T. Pritchard.

28 February 1948 Silver Band The annual meeting was held at the Band-room recently. The audited accounts were presented by Mr. J.J. Lewis, secretary, and Mr.

Allen Davies, treasurer, and were accepted. During the past year, Mr. Albert Mantle has tendered his resignation, owing to ill-health, after 45 years as a bands-man and conductor. Appreciation of his services to the band was recorded. His place as band-master will be taken by Mr. Emrys Lewis, deputy band-master, who has been most faithful during Mr. Mantle's illness. Mr. Tom Mantle, son of the retired bandmaster, has been appointed deputy bandmaster. The retiring bandmaster was appointed to the committee. The secretary read correspondence from the Brass Band Association, and from the Llanelly Competition committee, at which it was decided to compete in July. Officers elected were: president, Mr. E.T. Pritchard; chairman, Coun. W.J. Payne; vice-chairman, Mr. D.M. Thomas, secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis; treasurer, Mr. Allen Davies; registrar, Mr. Desmond Pritchard; vice-presidents, Mr. S.C. Farley, Mr. W. Cox, Mr. E. Evans, Post Office.

3 April 1948 Silver Band A meeting was held at the Band-room last Friday, Coun. Payne presiding. The Bandmaster reported on the progress of the Band.

15 May 1948 Conductor Resigns Mr. Wm. Thomas presided at a meeting of the Silver Band at the Band-room on Friday. The secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis, and the treasurer, Mr. Alan Davies, were also present. The meeting was called to receive the resignation of Mr. Emrys Lewis, bandmaster. This they did with regret. Mr. Lewis had given much to the training of young members who had made fine progress. A deputation was appointed to wait on Mr. A. Mantle, late bandmaster, appealing to him to take over the band again. Owing to a long illness, he resigned sometime ago. Mr. Mantle has agreed to give it a trial for one month, with the first practice on Friday evening. It is hoped all members will be present.

12 June 1948 Silver Band A meeting was held at the Band-room on Friday, Coun. Payne presiding. The late bandmaster, Mr. A. Mantle, had undertaken the conducting of the band for the last month. A special appeal is being made to all members to attend practices. It was decided that Mr. A.H. Wood would take over the training of young members.

21 May 1949 Silver Band When are we going to hear the music of the famous Silver Band again? A fine set of instruments has been lying idle for many months, and there is no lack of bandsmen or conductors in the village. If the band were re-formed it would enjoy strong public support.

20 May 1950 Band Revival There is feeling among bandsmen in the village to revive once more the Silver Band. It is hoped that all bandsmen in the village will rally at the meeting that is being called by Mr. J.J. Lewis, secretary. Now bandsmen, what about the "National" – right in our midst this year?

27 May 1950 Silver Band Coun. W. J. Payne presided at the Old Reading Room on Thursday over a meeting called to consider the revival of the Silver Band. The chairman called on the old members to come together again and revive the glories of the past, when Fochriw Band was a power in the band world. A number of young players were "ready for the ring," thanks to the fine coaching they had received before disbanding. Mr. J.J. Lewis, secretary, also made an earnest appeal, as did Mr. A.H. Wood and others. It was decided to call a practice on Thursday. A welcome is extended to all bandsmen.

9 June 1951 Silver Band Again? All committees are working well to make the festivities a success. A fine one-day programme is drawn up for Festival Week. There are also good prospects of re-forming the Fochriw Silver Band and this would add greatly to the event. The secretary and treasurer are very busy.

29 September 1951 Silver Band On Friday at the Hall, a meeting was held with the object of "re-building" the Fochriw Silver Band. Coun. W.J. Payne presided. The

Band, which was recently re-formed, gives promise of developing into a fine band. Mr. Albert Mantle, bandmaster, Mr. J.J. Lewis and Mr. A.H. Wood, also spoke. Several schemes were discussed to place the band in a sound financial position. The officers appointed were: President, Mr. E.T. Pritchard; vice-presidents, Messrs. Emlyn Evans (Post Office), Stan Williams and S. Farley; bandmaster, Mr. A. Mantle; chairman, Coun. W.J. Payne; vice-chairman, Mr. A.H. Wood; secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis; assistant secretary, Mr. D.J. Thomas; treasurer, Mr. Frank Jenkins; librarian, Mr. Will Edwards; with a very representative committee.

10 November 1951 Silver Band A meeting was held at the New Hall on Friday, Coun. Payne presiding. It was reported that some young musicians were anxious to join the band. It was decided to hold a dance on Dec. 6 at the New Hall.

5 January 1952 Christmas Music Yuletide spirit radiated through the village on Christmas Day, when the Fochriw Silver Band under the conductorship of Mr. A. Mantle and Mr. A. H. Wood, toured the district and played a fine programme of Christmas music.

4 July 1953 Band Re-formed Coun. W.J. Payne presided over a meeting of the recently re-formed Fochriw Silver Band at the New Hall on Monday. Great enthusiasm was shown. The playing of the Band at the Coronation festivities at Fochriw and Deri was praised. Several persons are anxious to join, and arrangements will be made later for their entry. Regret was expressed at the resignation of the veteran secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis, owing to ill-health. Mr. Lewis has been secretary since 1935. It was decided to make Mr. Lewis an honorary member of the Band. Several ways were discussed to raise funds to keep the band going. It was decided to ask the Fochriw Motor Cycling Club to organise the first event. The officers elected were: president, Mr. E.T. Pritchard; vice-presidents, Messrs. J.P. Llewellyn, S. Farley, E. Maggs, M.E., S. Evans, M.E., and P.C. Perryman; chairman, Coun. W.J. Payne; vice chairman, Mr. Desmond Kelly; bandmaster, Mr. A. Mantle; deputy bandmaster, Mr. Emrys Lewis; secretary, Mr. D.J. Thomas; treasurer, Mr. Frank Jenkins; librarian, Mr. W. Edwards; assistant, Mr. R. Shankland; contribution secretary, Mr. Roy Shankland; committee, Messrs. Emlyn Evans, Jack Jones, B. Angell, J. Davies, Bob Rees, W. Pearce, I. Shankland, E. Jones, P.C. W. Evans.

12 December 1953 Silver Band The Band is making good progress with a loyal number of bandsmen.

2 January 1954 Band On Christmas Eve, the Band played selections of Christmas hymns and carols around the Christmas tree that had been lit.