



Kettering & District Charity Cup 1890-91

Winner: Grantham Rovers
Runner-up: Rushden
No. of entries: 25

The 25 teams were divided into four divisions.

Leicestershire were represented by Leicester Fosse and Shepshed.

Leicester Fosse were in Division 3 along with all the Northamptonshire teams – Finedon Revellers, Kettering Hawks, Kettering Town, Irlingborough and Wellingborough.

Shepshed were in Division 3 with Newark and three teams from Lincolnshire.

Finedon knocked out Leicester Fosse in R1 after playing much of the game with 10 men after Atter had to leave the field injured.

Considerable satisfaction was expressed at Shepshed when it became known by telegraph on Saturday evening that Shepshed FC had successfully lowered the colours of Grantham Town in the first round. This was the second year that Shepshed had entered the Kettering, but owing to a lack of enthusiasm last year “consequent upon the action of the Leicestershire Football Association the previous year “they were knocked out in the first round – by arch rivals – Leicester Fosse. In the second round Shepshed travelled again to Lincolnshire where they were humiliated 17-1 by Grantham Rovers, the eventual winners of the trophy.

Out of the proceeds of the gate money in the 1890-91 semi-final and final ties, after paying all management expenses and placing £30 to a reserve fund for the purchase of a new cup when necessary, the cost of medal for winners and runners-up (£14), expenses of teams (£15) and teas for ditto (£12) , paid £50 to the Northampton General Infirmary and £50 to the Kettering Dispensary. This left a balance in the bank of over £60.

Round 1

Division 1

Date	Home	Away		Match Details
13.11.1890	Luton Town Lomax (2)	2 (1)	2 (1)	Wolverton Lawless Banton
	Newport Pagnell	W		Banbury

Northampton Association and Rushden, byes.

Round 1 Replays

Date	Home	Away		Match Details
6.12.1890	Wolverton	2	1	Luton Town
17.1.1890	Luton Town	1	2	Wolverton

Division 2

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
?	Bedford Association	2	0	Huntingdon Town	
?	Cambridge Rovers	3	3	Cambridge Granta	

Wisbech St Augustine's, bye

Round 1 Replay

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
?	Cambridge Granta	0	5	Cambridge Rovers	

Division 3

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
22.11.1890	Finedon Revellers	1	0	Leicester Fosse	Game commenced at 3 pm. All business in Finedon was suspended for the duration of the game. Atter [Leicester] had to retire in the first half.
22.11.1890	Wellingborough Town	4	2	Kettering Hawks	Cold and cheerless weather. Small crowd.

Irthlingborough Town and Kettering Town, byes

Division 4

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
	Boston North End	W		Grantham Rangers	Grantham Rangers scratched to Boston
1.12.1890	Grantham Rovers Southwell (3) Freeman (2)	5 (3)	0 (0)	Newark	Harlaxton-road ground. Ground was cleared of snow. Game commenced just after 2.30 pm.
15.11.1890	Grantham Town	2 (2)	3 (1)	Shepshed	

Gresley Rovers, a bye

Round 2*Division 1*

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
2.2.1891	Northampton	0	2	Wolverton L&NWR	
2.2.1891	Newport Pagnell	2	6	Rusden	

Division 2

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
2.2.1891	Bedford Association	1	0	Wisbech St Augustine's	Bedford's 12 th win in 13 games.
	Hitchin Town			Cambridge Rovers	

Division 3

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
2.2.1891	Kettering Town	2	3	Finedon Revellers	Kettering. 5,000 spectators.
	Wellingborough	W		Irthlingborough	Irthlingborough dismissed from the competition.

Division 4

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
2.1.1891	Boston North End	1	0	Gresley Rovers	Exciting game, but several stoppages occurred, one owing to the ball bursting, causing a 15 min delay. Rovers protested

					on the following grounds – lateness in starting, which caused the game to be played at dusk, the unfitness of the ball. The game was ordered to be replayed. Boston failed to play off the tie and were dismissed from the competition
26.12.1890	Grantham Rovers Flinders (5) L freeman (5) Salew (4) Cockman Southwell	17 (8)	1 (0)	Shepshed	Boxing Day. The ground was covered with snow and a thick fog prevailed.

All ties in Round 2 had to be played off on or before Saturday , 27 December, the time for kick-off being fixed early enough to allow an extra 30 mins to be played in case of a drawn game.

Round 3

Division 1

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
23.2.1891	Rushden	W		Wolverton L&NWR	Wolverton were unable to turn up. Match scratched. Rushden were awarded the game.

Division 2

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
14.2.1891	Bedford	2	0	Cambridge Rovers	

Division 3

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
16.2.1891	Finedon Revellers	3	1	Wellingborough	

Division 4

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
7?.2.1891	Grantham Rovers L Freeman Chamberlain Cook AN Others	5 (3)	2 (0)	Gresley Rovers AN Other	

R3 ties had t be completed by 17 January.

Semi-Finals

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
28.2.1891	Finedon Revellers	1	2	Rushden	At Kettering. 4,000 spectators
14.3.1891	Bedford Town Jones	1	3 (3)	Grantham Rovers Southwell Flinders Cockman	At Kettering. 2,000 spectators Dull and drizzling rain Bedford's first defeat of the season. Gate money £36

Final

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
11.4.1891	Grantham Rovers	0	0	Rushden	At Kettering. 4,000 spectators 350 supporters travelled down by train with the Grantham players

Final-Replay

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
25.4.1891	Grantham Rovers	2 (2)	1 (1)	Rushden	At Kettering. 6,000 spectators – a record gate for Northamptonshire football – majority of the crowd having travelled from Grantham. Grantham's second victory in the competition.

Match Reports

A selection of published match reports.

The result of the first round, leaving aside the drawn games between Luton and Wolverton, is as follows:—
 Division 1: Banbury Harriers scratched to Newport Pagnell; Luton Town drawn with Wolverton L. and N. W. Division 2: Cambridge Rovers beat Cambridge Granta by five goals to nil, after a drawn game of three goals each; Bedford defeated Huntingdon by two goals to one. Division 3: Wellingborough Town vanquished Kettering Hawks by four goals to three; Finedon Revellers beat Lincoln Fosse by one to nil. Division 4: Grantham Rangers scratched to Boston North End; Shepshed beat Grantham Town by three to two; Grantham Rovers vanquished Newark by five to none. The draw for the second round was made last week and resulted as follows:—Division 1: Northampton v. Luton or Wolverton L. and N. W. R.; Newport Pagnell v. Rushden. Division 2: Hitchin v. Cambridge Rovers; Bedford v. Wisbech St. Augustine's. Division 3: Kettering v. Finedon Revellers; Wellingborough v. Irthlingborough. Division 4: Grantham Rovers v. Shepshed; Boston North End v. Gresley Rovers. The first-named club in each case has choice of ground. All ties in this round must be played off on or before Saturday, December 27th, the time of kick-off being fixed early enough to allow of the extra half-hour being played in case of a drawn game. January 17th next has been fixed as the date upon which the third round must be completed; the first semi-final will be played on January 31st, the second semi-final on February 28th, and the final on March 14th.

Luton Reporter – 13 December 1890

GRANTHAM TOWN v SHEPSHED. —Kettering Charity Cup: First Round —These clubs met in the first round above competition on the London-road ground, Grantham, on Saturday. In the first half the home team had the best matters, and at the interval by two goals to one. In the second portion of the game, however, they fell away, and allowed their opponents score twice, and Shepshed won most unexpectedly three goals to two. Teams: Grantham: Broadbent (goal). Tucker, Mitchell (backs), Offord, Fisher, Freeman (half-backs), Slator, (right wing), C. Mabbott (centre), Watson, and Barter (left wing, umpire: Mr. C. Freeman. Shepshed: Newbold (goal), Colton, Waring (backs), Wortley, Waldron (half-backs), Savage, Smith, West, and Bennett (forwards). Umpire: Mr. T. Mattock. Referee: Mr. W. H. Proctor, Nottingham.

Stamford Mercury – 21 November 1890

FOOTBALL

FOSSÉ v FINEDON - The Fosse sent a team to Finedon to play in the first round of the Kettering Charity Cup competition. The game was started at three o'clock, when the Finedon men at once forced the game, hard kicking and rushing being their chief tactics, the Fosse forwards being quite outplayed regards any combination. Atter had a splendid run up, but was severely charged and laid low, being of no more service to his side. Up to half-time neither side had scored, the Fates backs having all their work cat o'at to repel the repeated long shots pot in by the Finedon backs and half-backs. The Finedon team now scored the first goal

from a long shot rushed through by the forwards, Walker leaving his charge. The game was still minus any combination on either side, long kicking and charging being conspicuous. Captain Johnson now had to lay level, being charged in the wind. The game was very exciting, the Fosse having hard lines in not scoring, but the forwards were lost with hard kicking, Flint and Murdoch's absence being very much to the disadvantage of the team. It was quite a holiday at Finedon, all business being suspended for the match. Finedon thus won a hard game, the Fosse being losers by one goal to nothing. Fosse: C. Walker, goal; S. Rowson and W. Davis, backs; J. Johnson, R. Perry, and E. Nuttall, half-backs; West, Lomas, Webb, N. Johnson, and J. Atter, forwards. Umpire, Mr. Cooper. Referee, Mr. Claridge (Rushden).

Leicester Daily Post – 25 November 1890

GRANTHAM ROVERS v. SHEPSHED. Yesterday afternoon, the Grantham Rovers met in the Kettering Cup Competition, the match coming off on the Harlaxton-road ground. There was a very good muster of spectators, and on this score it is a pity the Rovers had not more worthy opponents. On November 15th, Shepshed met the Grantham Town FC the same competition, and, to everyone's surprise, Shepshed went back the winners. Whether they came under the impression that they were going repeat the performance at the Rovers' expense is not clear, but certain it is that they met with little surprise, for when the whistle blew the call of time, the score (which had to kept somewhat cricket-like) was 17 goals to 1 in favour of the home team. The scoring for the Rovers was done by Flinders (5), L. Freeman (5), Salew (4), Cockman and Southwell, and one of the Shepshed players was kind enough to give them one. The game was never exciting, but there was what the spectators evidently appreciated—fun. The teams were:—Grantham Rovers: Bennett, goal; Britain and Hollinsworth, backs; Jenkinson, Smith, and Mableston, half-backs; Flinders and Salew, left wing; Southwell, centre; Freeman and Cockman, left wing. Umpire, Mr. G. Wright. Shepshed: Newbold, goal; Wortley and Cotton, backs; West, Waldron, and Kidger, half-backs; Smith and Waring, light wing; Olive, centre; Moor and Savage, left wing. Umpire, Mr. T. Matlock. Referee, Mr. W. Proctor, sen., Nottingham.

Grantham Journal – 27 December 1890

KETTERING CHARITY CUP—SECOND ROUND

GRANTHAM ROVERS v. SHEPSHED. Played at Grantham this afternoon. The Rovers kicked off, and pressed continuously. Flinders opened their account, Cockman made a second, Flinders third, Southwell fourth, and a fifth was shot through the visitors themselves. Salew scored the seventh and eighth goals, and half-time the Rovers were leading by eight goals to none. The ground was covered with snow, and a thick fog prevailed. Result : Grantham Rovers, 17; Shepshed, 1.

Nottingham Evening Post – 26 December 1899

KETTERING CHARITY CUP COMPETITION

The Final

A DRAWN GAME.

About 4,000 persons lined the ropes on the Kettering enclosure on Saturday, the occasion being the final Kettering and District Cup Competition. As neither side scored, the match ended in a draw. Teams;—Rushden.—F. Ellis (goal), J. Owen and F. Ambridge (backs), A. Bailey, C. Claridge. and C. Church (half-backs), G. H. Claridge and H. Lewis (right wing), H. Sargent (centre), C. Pendered and T. Litchfield (left wing). Grantham. —J. C. Bennett (goal); Brittain and L. Freeman (backs); A. Archer, F. Smith, and W. Mableston (half-backs), T. Southwell and W. Salem (right wing). T. Flinders (centre), J. Chamberlain and R. Cockman (left wing).

Umpires, Mr. W. H. Porker and Mr. T. Maycock; referee, Mr. W.H. Procter (Nottingham).

It had been arranged that the trophy and medals should be afterwards presented, but this, of course, will take place when the teams again meet.

Sporting Life – 15 April 1891

THE KETTERING CHARITY CUP

For the second season succession the Grantham Rovers have won the Kettering Charity Cup. Last evening they returned home from Kettering about 11 o'clock, after having beaten Rushden in the final by two goals to one. The team was met at the station by the Borough Band, and headed by a torchlight procession, they

were drawn in a waggon decorated with flags for the occasion their club house, the Blue Man Inn. On arriving there the cup was filled several times, and congratulatory speeches were made, and the hope was expressed that the Rovers might win the cup next season, that it would then be their own property. Mr. A Lincoln (the chairman) announced that it was intended to hold an archery tournament shortly wipe off the debt standing against the club. There were several thousands of people present at the station, and great enthusiasm prevailed.

Nottingham Evening Post - 28 April 1891

Other Information

MIDLAND RAILWAY. 285
FOOTBALL MATCH AT KETTERING.
RUSHDEN v. GRANTHAM.
FINAL TIE FOR KETTERING AND DISTRICT
CHARITY CUP.
ON SATURDAY, APRIL 11, a Cheap Special Train
for KETTERING, at Excursion Fares will
leave NORTHAMPTON, 1.40 p.m., returning at 7.15
p.m. same day.
For fares and further particulars see Hand bills,
to be had at the Stations.
JOHN NOBLE,
General Manager.
Derby, April 1891.

Northampton Mercury - 3 April 1891

MIDLAND RAILWAY.
FOOTBALL MATCH AT KETTERING.
RUSHDEN v. GRANTHAM.
FINAL TIE FOR THE KETTERING
CHARITY CUP.
ON SATURDAY, APRIL 11, a Cheap Special Train
for KETTERING, at Excursion Fares, will
leave BEDFORD 1.35 p.m., returning at 7.15 p.m.
same day.
For fares and further particulars see handbills, to
be had at the Stations.
JOHN NOBLE, General Manager.
Derby, March, 1891.

Bedfordshire Mercury - 11 April 1891