



Kettering & District Challenge Cup 1891-92

Winner: Grantham Rovers
Runner-Up: Kettering
No. of entries: 24

Leicestershire were represented by Leicester Fosse and Shepshed. Fosse overcame Wellingborough 6-1 at home, but were eliminated in the following round by the eventual runners-up, Kettering Town. Shepshed had a bye in the first round, but having been drawn against Kettering Anchor in the next round, withdrew from the competition – reason unknown.

Several other teams were also scratched from the tournament during the early rounds.

The game between Newark and Boston in the second round of the Kettering Cup was long remembered. A blinding snowstorm, drenching rain, and a biting north-easterly wind was sufficient to test the enthusiasm of the most earnest devotee of the winter sport. Players and spectators encountered it to the full, for there was no protecting pavilion on the London-road Ground. Three of the Bostonians had had enough at half-time and six more retired twenty minutes afterwards. Yet two of the Lincolnshire lads would not say die, and faced the foe together, though deserted by their comrades, with nine goals against them. The game ended Newark ten, Boston none. A protest was lodged by the Boston players, but at meeting of the cup committee the following week at Kettering, it was not sustained.

In a remarkable encounter at Rushden in the third round, the home team came back from 4-0 down against Finedon to draw level, only to lose 5-4.

Finedon were to have met Kettering on Saturday 20 February, in the semi-final of the Kettering Charity Cup, but they refused to play. The Kettering team appeared on the field at 2.30 pm, kicked a goal, and claimed the match, the singular incident being witnessed by a large crowd. The reason for Finedon's refusal to play was on account of the death of one of their best players, Tom Rowe, a half-back, who was "well-known in Peterborough". Mr Rowe had been working at Mr. Nelson's ironworks, when he slipped beneath the wheels of some wagons he was uncoupling, sustaining severe injuries. He was taken to Northampton Infirmary but died the following day. The was to have been played the next day. This sad event was deeply regretted in Northamptonshire football circles, the deceased being a gentlemanly player.

Grantham retained the trophy after beating Kettering Town in front of 7,000 spectators at Kettering, many travelling on a special train from the Lincolnshire town. The local committee had made excellent arrangements for the Cup and medals to be presented to players from the stand in the field immediately after the match.

Round 1

Division 1

#	Date	Home		Away	Match Details	
1	21.11.1891	Banbury Harriers	6	1	Luton Berry Park	Neither team was fully represented. Two of the Buryites found it impossible almost at the last moment to accompany their team. A protest was lodged on account of the size of the ground. It seems that the game was ordered to be replayed since both clubs appeared in the draw for the second round. Banbury eventually went through.
2	21.11.1891	Luton Town	W		Bedford	Bedford scratched.

Luton Montrose and Hitchin, byes

Division 2

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
3	?	Cambridge Granta		W	Huntingdon	Cambridge Granta scratched.
4	21.11.1891	Cambridge Rovers	1	2	Finedon	

Wisbech and Rushden, byes

Division 3

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
5	21.11.1891	Kettering Anchor	2	0	Northampton	
6	14.11.1891	Leicester Fosse Webb (4) Atter og	6 (5)	1 (1)	Wellingborough Rowson (og)	Walnut-street Ground, Leicester. Good number of spectators Fosse played a full-strength side. Webb scored 4 in the first half.

Shepshed and Kettering Town, byes

Division 4

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
7	7.11.1891	Newark	2	1	Derby County Reserve	Muskham-road Ground, Newark.
8		Gresley Rovers	W		Grantham Town	Grantham scratched to Gresley Rovers – stating that the railway journey was too expensive.

Boston and Grantham Rovers, byes

Round 2*Division 1*

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
9	12.12.1891	Hitchin AN Others	3 (1)	5 (0)	Luton Montrose King (3) Little AN Other	Cricket Ground, Hitchin. Hitchin lodged a protest on account of the darkness which set in before the game ended.
10	?	Luton Town	W		Banbury Harriers	Luton Town walk over; Banbury scratched.

Division 2

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
11	12.12.1891	Rushden	W		Huntingdon	Huntingdon scratched.
12	12.12.1891	Wisbech Webber (2) Stanley	3 (0)	4 (3)	Finedon Moore Elson (3)	Flint House field, Wisbech Moderate attendance Game commenced at 2.20 pm.

Division 3

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
13	5.12.1891	Kettering Anchor	W		Shepshed Town	Kettering Anchor walkover, Shepshed withdrew.
14	5.12.1891	Kettering Town Freeman (2) Panter Starr Dixon	5 (2)	0 (0)	Leicester Fosse	Kettering 1,500 spectators Wretched weather. Blinding snowstorm and raging rain throughout the whole game

Division 4

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
15	12.12.1891	Grantham Rovers Southwell Fisher	2 (0)	0 (0)	Gresley Rovers	Harlaxton-road Ground., Grantham. Wet weather/blinding snowstorms. Ground was in "fearful condition."
16	12.12.1891	Newark Wood (2) Suman (3)	10 (4)	0 (0)	Boston	London-road, Newark. Afternoon was wet, ground slippery. Rain and snow and rain fell heavily throughout the game.

		AN Others				Boston lodged a protest on the account of the state of the ground and left the field 35 mins before time.
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Round 3

Division 1

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
17	16.1.1892	Luton Town Wright Frank Taylor Deacon	4 (1)	1 (0)	Luton Montrose King	700 spectators Game commenced 30 mins late

Division 2

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
18	16.1.1892	Finedon	P	P	Rushden	Ground covered in snow and ice.

Replay

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
19	23.1.1892	Finedon	5 (2)	4 (0)	Rushden	The Finedon team included the Light Blue, A. G. Henfrey "who occasionally condescends to play for them." Finedon led 4-0 before Rushden fought back to 4-4a fight before the home team scored the winning goal.

Division 3

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
20	23.1.1892	Kettering Town	P	P	Kettering Anchor	Postponed as the ground was under 2-3 inches of water.

Replay

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
21	25.1.1892	Kettering Town	12	0	Kettering Anchor	Fair number of spectators

Division 4

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
22	23.1.1892	Newark	0 (0)	2 (0)	Grantham Rovers Flinders Mulvey	Muskham-road, Newark. A special train from Grantham brought a large number of Rovers supporters, and the Newark contingent was both numerous and enthusiastic. Following a recent thaw, the ground was slippery and dangerous.

Semi-Finals

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
23	5.3.1892	Grantham Rovers Flinders (2) AN Other Pulling	4	1	Luton Town Cheshire	At Kettering 5,000-6,000 spectators. 600 Luton supporters travelled on a special train that left Luton at 1.30. The Luton team travelled on the 11.56 train
24	20.2.1892	Kettering Town	P	P	Finedon Revellers	Postponed on account of a fatal accident to Thomas Rose [Finedon half-back]. Finedon retired from the competition.

Final

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
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25	26.3.1892	Kettering Town Peters	1 (0)	1 (1)	Grantham Rovers Mulvey	At Kettering. Admission price raised to 1s and 6d owing to the un-played semi-final between Finedon and Grantham Rovers. 5,000 spectators.
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Final - Replay

#	Date	Home	Away		Match Details
26	23.4.1892	Kettering Town	0 (0)	1 (1)	Grantham Rovers Pullen At Kettering "More than 4,000 enthusiasts lined the ropes." Beautifully fine weather.

Match Reports

Selected published match reports.

Round 1

RESULT OF THE FIRST ROUND.	
<p>DIVISION 1.—Banbury Harriers six goals, Luton Bury Park one goal; Luton Town, Bedford scratched. Luton Montrose and Hitchin had byes.</p> <p>DIVISION 2.—Finedon two goals, Cambridge Rovers one goal; Huntingdon, Cambridge Grants scratched. Rushden and Wisbech had byes.</p> <p>DIVISION 3.—Leicester Fosse six goals, Wellingborough one goal; Kettering Anchors two goals, Northampton none. Shepshed and Kettering had byes.</p> <p>DIVISION 4.—Newark two goals, Derby County one goal; Gresley Rovers, Grantham Town scratched. Boston and Grantham Rovers had byes.</p> <p>The draw for the second round was made with the following result:—</p> <p>DIVISION 1.—Hitchin v. Luton Montrose; Luton Town v. Banbury Harriers or Luton Bury Park.</p> <p>DIVISION 2.—Wisbech St. Augustine's v. Finedon; Rushden v. Huntingdon Town.</p> <p>DIVISION 3.—Kettering v. Leicester Fosse; Kettering Anchors v. Shepshed.</p> <p>DIVISION 4.—Grantham Rovers v. Gresley Rovers; Newark Town v. Boston.</p> <p>First-named club in each division has choice of ground. The date fixed for the ties to be played off in this round is Saturday, December 12, 1891. The draw for third round will be made as soon as the second is played off. Date for third round, January 23, 1892. Semi-finals, February 20, March 5, 1892; final, March 26, 1892.</p> <p>In all drawn games an extra half-hour must be played. Clubs must arrange the time of kick-off so as to allow of this being done before dark. The committee will appoint efficient referees.</p>	

FOOTBALL KETTERING CUP COMPETITION

#1 BANBURY HARRIERS v LUTON BURY PARK—This match was played at Banbury on Saturday, and resulted, after a very evenly contested game, in a win for the home team by six goals to one. Neither team was fully represented. Two of the Buryites found it impossible almost at the last moment to accompany their team. A protest has been lodged on account of the size of the ground.

Luton Reporter - 28 November 1891

KETTERING CUP FIRST ROUND

#6 LEICESTER FOSSE v WELLINGBOROUGH TOWN

These teams met on the Walnut-street ground in the presence of a good number of spectators. The visitors brought over a fairly representative team, but they were said to be rather weaker than usual. The Leicester favourites played a good strength, Bailey and Bennett being the only absentees from their full force. The game was one-sided throughout, the Fosse thoroughly out-playing their opponents, and they won easily by six goals to one goal. Wellingborough kicked off and the Fossils at once went down and speedily secured two corners. A fine shot from the centre struck the cross bar, and

a few minutes later Webb scored the first goal for the home team. Wellingborough got down into the home ground, and free kick for hands gave them a chance, but the ball was shot high over the bar. After play at both ends, a tricky shot by Webb compelled Macksley to use his hands. The ball was taken down to the other end where Old saved well. Atter got off from the goal kick, and centring neatly made matters exciting. Macksley saved and the attack was renewed without result. The visitors took the ball along their left, whence it proceeded to the centre. A warm piece of play ensued before the home goal, and the ball went

through off Rowson. From the kick off the Fosse left got straight away and rushed well up and from Johnson's pass Webb sent in a splendid shot, which completely defeated Macksley. Again, rushing down from the kick off, Fosse pressed heavily and Mouel centred Webb shot in and Macksley stopped the leather but before he could clear it away Webb ran in and finished the job, making the third goal for the home team. From a good centre by Atter, Wood kicked the ball clean out of the ground. A second corner followed, which was put behind. Nuttall placed Atter in possession, and he dropped it neatly before the goal, and Webb headed it through over the goalkeeper's head. Shortly after the visitors left got away and Shortland centred but Cole slipped. Bradley ran in, but Rowson cleared splendidly. One of Atter's runs following, ending with a straight shot at goal. Wood endeavoured to head it through, but missed and Macksley, being busy with Webb, could not stop the ball from rolling through. The home team continued to press throughout the remainder of the half. A stoppage was caused for a few minutes through suspicious play on the part of Johnson. He was cautioned by the referee and half-time was called directly afterwards. Score:

FOSSE, five goals;

WELLINGBOROUGH, one goal.

A pretty bit of dodgy play by Atter took the ball into the visitors' ground and several shots were out in, the leather eventually going over the bar. A brilliant "Atterian" run was witnessed directly after, but his shot just missed. Mouel then did good work on his wing, finishing up with a fine shot into goal, but Macksley made a fine save, and the ball was cleared. Old was then called on to save, and did so cleverly. The ground gained by Wellingborough was not kept long, and they were soon driven back again. Hufton kicked forward and Johnson, who was close in The ball passing through off one of the visitors' backs. Directly afterwards, a hot shot was put in from the Fosse right, and a grand mix took place in goal. Macksley and, others went down in a heap, but in spite of this a clearance was effected and the ball taken well awa. Cooper and Bradley worked their way into the home territory and the ball was crossed. Shortland saved at expense of a corner. A similar penalty followed on the other side of the goal, and a third corner kick looked threatening. Davis headed out and Old saved he return shot, and the attempt was well defeated. The visitors subsequently made another worthy effort to improve their position, but ineffectually, Cole heading over the bar. Macksley made two good saves and a corner which followed resulted in the ball travelling to the other end. Atter got away again and shot in, but Herrod spoilt the chance by putting the ball over the bar. A corner was obtained at each end, but nothing further was scored.

Result:

LEICESTER FOSSE, six goals

WELLINGBOROUGH, one goal.

Players: Fosse: G Old, goal; S Rowson and W Davis, backs; J. Lord, S. Hutton and E. A. Nuttall, half-backs; Mouel and J. Herrod, right wing; H. Webb, centre, E. Johnson, and J Atter, left wing, forwards.

Wellingborough: J. Macksley, goal; F. Wood and J. Langton, backs; F. Maycock, J. Mundon, and Norton, half-backs; G. Cooper and A. Bradley, right wing; F. Cole, centre; W. Shortland and W. Deiton. Left wing; forwards. Referee, Mr T Maycock, Kettering.

Leicester post- 16 November 1891

#4 FINEDON V. CAMBRIDGE ROVERS —Played at Cambridge and ended in the defeat of the homesters by two goals to one.

Luton Reporter - 28 November 1891

#2 LUTON TOWN v BEDFORD – Bedford were scratched.

Luton Reporter - 28 November 1891

Round 2

FOOTBALL THE KETTERING CUP

The matches in the second round of this competition were played on Saturday, with the following results:-

#10 LUTON TOWN walked over, Banbury Harriers scratching.

Luton reporter - 19 December 1891

#9 HITCHIN v. MONTROSE —Played on the Cricket Ground, Hitchin on Saturday last. Teams: Hitchin: Little, goal; English and Jones, backs; Lewis, Spencer, and Vizard, half backs; Perks and Chadley (right), Ellison

(centre), Williams and Salt (left), forwards. Montrose: A. Tearle, goal; E. Davis and W. King, backs; W. Goodliffe, W. Bird. and F. Moody, ball backs; F. Biggs and F. Hey (right), R. Fuller (centre), C. Colling and G. King (left), forwards. The Luton linesman was Mr. H. Wilkinson, while Mr. A. Smith (Bedford) acted as referee. Hitchin won the toss and Fuller kicked off. For a considerable period, the game was uneventful, but at length the home forwards managed to force a scrummage in front of goal and the ball went through. Nothing further occurred before half time and the teams crossed over with the score standing one to nil in favour of Hitchin. On the re-start the Montrose immediately pressed but English relieved, and a "corner" for the Montrose ended in the ball going behind. Biggs soon afterwards took the ball down the right wing and finished with a splendid centre which King converted into a goal. Little time had elapsed when after some combined play Biggs put in a shot which beat Little and peered the second goal for the Montrose. The leather remained in midfield for some time, but the Montrose forwards again obtained possession and by some good passing took the ball down. Little ran out and kicked away, but before he could get back King sent a splendid shot just under the crossbar. The Montrose continued to press and shortly afterwards King moored the fourth point from a pass by Biggs. Nothing else was scored for a space, but the Montrose had the best of the play. Then darkness set in, and the Hitchin forwards broke away and scored. From the kick off the Hitchin forwards took the ball up soil immediately scored their third goal. The Montrose retaliated and time was called with the score starling: Montrose five, Hitchin three. Hitchin have lodged a protest on account of the darkness which set in before the game was finished.

Luton reporter - 19 December 1891

#12 WISBECH St AUGUSTINE'S v FINEDON —Played at Wisbech and ended in a win for the visitors by four goals to three.

Luton reporter - 19 December 1891

#12 FINEDON v WISBECH

AT Wellingborough

RESULT:

FINEDON, four goals;

WISBECH, three goals.

Football News (Nottingham) - 22 December 1891

#11 RUSHDEN walked over, Huntingdon scratching.

Luton reporter - 19 December 1891

#13 KETTERING ANCHOR walked over, Shepshed withdrawing.

#14 KETTERING TOWN v LEICESTER FOSSE - Played at Kettering, in the presence of about 1,500 spectators. The weather was wretched, a blinding storm of snow and rain raging during the whole of the game. This made scientific play impossible, although both teams played a good game. Kettering went off with a rush and quickly scored two goals. Play then became rather more even and Leicester pressed for a few minutes, but the Kettering defence was exceptionally strong and could not be broken through. Kettering thereafter again assumed the upper hand, and had several clear chances of scoring, but half time arrived without any further addition to the total. During the second half Kettering had nearly the whole of the play and quickly added three more goals, besides having one disallowed for off-side. The Leicester team during the second portion was outplayed at every point. The Kettering forwards played a dashing game and were much too quick for their opponents. As the Leicester team had beaten Kettering on the Kettering ground by two goals to none a few weeks back great interest was centred in this match and a much closer game was expected.

Luton reporter - 19 December 1891

#14 KETTERING v LEICESTER FOSSE - At Kettering, In miserable weather. The Fosse kicked off, Kettering attacking and pressing, and Freeman scored, Panter following suit. The home team kept up the pressure, Evans just missing the mark. "Hands" helped them again, but they did could not score. Attar tried his best, but was continually stopped by Draper and Davis. A foul for Kettering in front of the Leicester goal was given, and the ball went through, but no point was allowed. Then the Fosse played up desperately, and made a sharp attack on the Kettering goal, during which Lilley saved wonderfully. Leicester could not score before change of ends, the state of the game at half-time being Kettering two goals, Leicester none. On

resuming the Fosse pressed a little, but the attack was repulsed, and the home team took up the game. Freeman banged another through for Kettering, and they took two corners afterwards, but could get through. The Fosse goal was bombarded, Kettering having the hardest of lines. During a breakaway however, the Fosse nearly scored, Davis saving grandly. Then Starr scored a fourth from a centre by Sunman, and Dixon put on a fifth. Kettering still pleased, the ball being put through again, but a goal was not allowed. Result :—Kettering, five; Leicester, none. The visitors were outplayed throughout the game.
Football News (Nottingham) – 22 December 1891

#15 GRANTHAM ROVERS (HOLDERS) v GRESLEY ROVERS— Played at Grantham in wet weather. The home team set the ball rolling, and the visitors pressed, but could not score, although several fouls were given against their opponents in front of goal, well as corners. The home team made spirited runs and Southwell missed several chances. At half-time no goals had been scored. To this time the home team had been playing against strong wind. The home team did all the pressing in the second half, the wind having dropped slightly. Southwell got the first goal from a pass by Mills. After several corners Fisher, with a long shot, registered the second for the home team. Several more corners fell to the Grantham team, but they did not take avail of them, and the result was— Grantham Rovers 2, Gresley Rovers 0.
Football News (Nottingham) – 12 December 1891

#15 GRANTHAM ROVERS v GRESLEY ROVERS – played at Grantham in a blinding snow-storm and ended in a win for the first named by two to nil.
Luton reporter – 19 December 1891

#16 NEWARK v BOSTON - Played on the London-road ground, Newark in a blinding snowstorm. Boston won the toss, and kicked with the wind. Newark pressed from the beginning, and had matters their own way. Wood scored the first goal, and immediately added a second. Sunman put a third, and then a fourth goal. A corner next fell to the home team, but was abortive, and at half-time Newark led by four goals to none. The ground was in a sodden state, and the visitors could not act at all in the mud. The home team was weakened by the absence of Grewcock and Mabbott. NEWARK.—Smith, goal; Morley and Foster, backs; Hadsworth, Oswald and Sunman, half-backs; Harker, Cope, Buck. Wood, and Ferguson, forwards.
Referee: Mr. Ashmole.
Football News (Nottingham) – 12 December 1891

#16 NEWARK v BOSTON – Played at Newark and resulted in a victory for the home eleven by 10 to nothing. Boston lodged a protest on account of the state of the ground and left the field 35 minutes before time arrived.
Luton reporter – 19 December 1891

THE KETTERING CUP.

#17 LUTON TOWN v LUTON MONTROSE. - Played on the Luton Town Ground on Saturday, before 700 spectators. During the first period of the game Montrose men played well, while, on the other hand, the town representatives were decidedly off colour, and only succeeded in scoring once. Crossing over they had matters all their own way and though they only added three points against one the Montrose, they certainly deserved to have had several more goals. The capital play goal-keeper alone saved the Montrose from crushing defeat. The referee was Mr. J. Smith, of Bedford. Teams: LUTON TOWN —J. Burley (goal). B. Sanders and A. Hoy (backs). J. Wright, H. Paul, and A. H. Taylor (half-backs). F. Whitby and G. Deacon (right), H. W. Oxxx (centre), W. Cheshire end H. Whitby (left). LUTON MONTROSE .—Tearle (goal), Rowe and Stickles (backs), Goodliffe. W. Bird, and W. (half-backs), F. Digits and Q King (right), F. Hoy (centre), H. Hurcombe and C. Colling (left).
Sporting life – 27 January 1892

#19 One of the most remarkable matches played in this district for some time at was that at Rushden in November 1892, when the home team met Finedon in third round of the Kettering Charity Cup Competition. Finedon turned up with a strong combination, including the Light Blue, A. G. Henfrey, who, fortunately for Finedon, is a native of that place, and who occasionally condescends to play for them. During the first part of the game Rushden seemed altogether “off” and circumstances pointed to their utter defeat. Half-time arrived with Finedon leading by two goals to none, and after the interval they continued

to pile them on until they had totalled four, and here Rusden, presumably waking to the fact that their chances were becoming somewhat gloomy, exhibited a little dash, and very quickly they scored goal number one. This success encouraged them to further smart play, and if they had but prevented Finedon putting on another they might have made a draw of it, as before the call of time they had scored four times. As it was, Finedon were awarded the victory by five goals to four.

Football News(Nottingham) - 30 January 1892

#20 KETTERING TOWN v KETTERING ANCHOR

The above-named teams should have competed in the third round of the Charity Cup Competition on Saturday afternoon, but in consequence of the "soppy" state of the ground the game was postponed until Monday. The event was duly brought off on the last-named day in the presence of a fair number of spectators, but the play was too one-sided to arouse much interest, the positions at the finish being—Town 12 goals to Anchor nil.

Northampton Chronicle and echo - 27 January 1892

#22 KETTERING CUP. Newark v. Grantham Rovers. —These two teams met today (Saturday), on the Muskham-road ground, in the third round of the above cup. A match between these teams always secures large gate, and to-day's contest was no exception to the rule. A special train from Grantham brought large number of the Rovers' supporters, and the Newark contingent was both numerous and enthusiastic. The ground having been frozen and covered with snow for some time, the thaw of the last week rendered it extremely slippery and dangerous, but this did 'not prevent some fine play being shown. Both teams were well represented. The game opened with midfield play. Newark were the first to press, but Tucker and Brittain defended well. Several grand shots were made by the visitors' left, two by Chamberlain just grazing the bar. The game was fast throughout, the ball travelling quickly from end to end. The passing of both teams was good, but half-time neither side had scored. On resuming after the interval, the visitors were first to get away. Sandy cleared, and a shot from Palmer was only just saved at the expense a corner. The home forwards] slackened down somewhat, and a magnificent run down the left ended in Flinders scoring the first goal for Grantham. Mulvey added a second about ten minutes before time, and on the whistle sounding the Rovers were returned victorious two goals to none. Platers:-Newark. Smith (goal), Morley, Ferguson (backs), Wadsworth, Oswald, Foster (half-backs). Palmer, fright wing), Wood (centre), gunman, and Grocock (left wing). Referee : Mr. H. Shelton.

Nottingham Evening Post - 23 January 1892

#23 KETTERING CHARITY CUP. SEMI-FINAL.

Grantham Rovers v. Luton Town - At Kettering. Grantham attacked, and Flinders immediately scored. Burley grandly fisted out from Mulvey, but Flinders scored again. Even play followed. Then Broadbent collided with the Luton centre half-back, and was injured. Flinders again scored, and Southwell followed his example from a corner kick. A good run was made by Southwell, who hit one of the posts with a shot. After half-time each goal was attacked, the Grantham backs being conspicuous. Cheshire, for Luton, scored, and Southwell put through from Mulvey. Result :-Grantham, four goals, one.

Nottingham Evening Post - 5 March 1892

#24 KETTERING CHARITY CUP, SEMI-FINAL KETTERING v FINEDON

This match was to have been played at Kettering on Saturday, but the Finedon team did not arrive. Kettering kicked a goal and claimed the game. The ground was scarcely in a playable condition. It has since transpired that Finedon's principal reason for not playing was out of respect to the memory of an old and much respected player in Thomas Henry Rowe, who died at the Northampton Infirmary on Friday as the result of a distressing accident at the ironworks earlier in the week. Finedon offered to give another date.

Northampton Chronicle and Echo - 22 February 1892

#25 KETTERING CHARITY CUP FINAL

GRANTHAM ROVERS v KETTERING —This match at Kettering in the Kettering Charity Cup final between the Grantham Rovers (the Cup holders) and Kettering, created considerable interest, and it was not surprising

that large numbers of people travelled to the town. The local committee had made excellent arrangements for the Cup and medals to be presented to players from the stand in the field immediately after the match. There were 7,000 spectators. The visitors attacked, and Lilley fisted away twice. Play was exciting, Draper and Kettering making a capital run. He centred well, and Ball kicked over. Mabbott missed a chance, and a combined effort by the left wing transferred the sphere. A corner was conceded to the visitors but was not improved upon. The Rovers continued their pressure, but with good defence, and Hand relieved the visitors' goal when the ball was in dangerous proximity. A corner kick was well placed by Draper, but the ball was got away by Hollingsworth. Mulvey scored from a combined rush, and at half-time the score was—Rovers, one goal Kettering, none. Play was even on changing ends; each goal being attacked in quick succession. A corner was conceded to the visitors, but proved fruitless. Kettering pressed, and the visitors' custodian saved splendidly. Kettering swarmed round the goal and equalised. Play was now very fast, and hands were given twice against Grantham. The ball struck the post, and after two corners the ball was kicked over. "Hands" in front goal was followed by "hands" Kettering, but the danger was relieved. After a good run on the left-wing Dixon put through off Starr, but the goal was not allowed on account offside. The backs defended well. Result:—Kettering, one ; Grantham Rovers, one. Players Kettering.-Lilley (goal), Davis, McBirnie, Panter, Peters, Mablestone (half-backs), Draper, Starr (right wing), Mabbott (centre) Dixon and Freeman (left wing).

Grantham Rovers.—Broadbent (goal), Tucker, Brittain (backs). Fisher, Hollingsworth, Archer (half-backs), Southwell, Pullen (right wing), Flinders (centre), Cockman, and Mulvey (left wing).

Nottingham Evening Post -26 March 1892#

#26 KETTERING CHARITY CUP

FINAL TIE [Replay]

GRANTHAM ROVERS v. KETTERING -Played at Kettering. The home side started facing the sun, and attacked. Two corners to them were not improved upon. Evans kicked over. Mid-field play was followed by hands in front of the Kettering goal. The Kettering backs showed good defensive play. Draper and Freeman broke away, and the visitors' custodian saved admirably thrice. The visitors pressed. Lilley fisted out twice, but the Rovers continued to have the best of the game. Pullen scored for them, and Draper for Kettering shot wide. A ball from Evans struck the post. Half-time: Grantham Rovers, one goal; Kettering none. The game in the second half was pursued amid great excitement. Each goal was furiously attacked in turn, but every instance defence prevailed, and the game ended: - Grantham Rovers, one goal Kettering, none.

Nottingham Evening Post - 23 April 1892