



Kettering Charity Cup 1892-93

Winner: Rushden
Runner-Up: Wolverton LWNR
No. of entries: 14

Leicestershire were represented by Leicester Fosse.

Derby Town Leicester Fosse, Kettering, Grantham Town, Grantham Rovers, and Rushden were exempt from the first two rounds.

The remaining 8 teams were split into two divisions of 4 for the first two rounds.

It appears that both Round 2 and Round 3 comprised of just two matches. No reports have been found to date of ties involving Derby Town and Grantham Rovers; and therefore, it seems likely that they were scratched.

Rushden became the first Northamptonshire club to win the trophy.

Although a poor spectacle, the final was financially a great success, the takings at the gate amounted to £111 11s 2d.

The Football Association approved the alteration of the competition rules to allow the net proceeds to be devoted to the funds for the proposed Kettering Hospital.

Round 1

Division 1

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
1	5.11.92	Kettering Hawks	2	3	Gresley Rovers	Game was kicked off by Mr W Potter, QC, Conservative candidate for Kettering.
2	12.11.92	Huntingdon W Goodliffe F Goodliffe (3)	4 (3)	2 (2)	Wisbech Hart Webber (2)	Hinchingbrooke Park, Huntingdon. Play did not commence until 3 o'clock, in consequence of the referee missing the train, the result being that of the latter portion of the game was played in dense fog.

Division 2

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
3	12.11.92	Hitchin Williams Wood	2 (1)	2 (1)	Luton Montrose Fuller (2)	Played at Hitchin. 400 spectators. Game commenced at 2.50 pm. It was arranged to play an extra 30 mins, but owing to bad light only 15 mins was played.
4	12.11.92	Wolverton LNWR	W		Banbury	Banbury scratched

Following clubs were exempt from first and second rounds - Derby Town Leicester Fosse, Kettering, Grantham Town, Grantham Rovers and Rushden.

Round 1 Replay

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
	26.11.1892	Luton Montrose og Lewis (pen)	2 (1)	0 (0)	Hitchin	Bury Park, Luton. Played in a downpour of rain. Incidentally the previous Saturday Montrose played Hitchin - this time in the Luton Cup - and won handsomely - 7-2.

Round 2

Division 1

#	Date	Home	Away		Match Details
5	3.12.92	Gresley Rovers	2	1	Huntingdon

Division 2

#	Date	Home	Away		Match Details
6	10.12.92	Wolverton AN Other Poole Gosson (2) Carroll	5 (1)	1 (0)	Luton Montrose G King Recreation Ground, Wolverton. Considerable number of spectators. Frosty ground, "dangerous condition." Wolverton scored 3 goals in 15 min during the second half.

Round 3

#	Date	Home	Away		Match Details
7	14.1.93	Rushden Church Pendered	2	1	Leicester Fosse Mouel Fosse took a weakened side. Ground coated with ice in many places. Large number of spectators (c. 2,000). 1-1 at full-time. Extra time played.
8	14.1.93	Wolverton LNWR Davis Poole AN Other Foster (2) Gosson (2)	7 (3)	1 (1)	Kettering Garfield Recreation ground, Wolverton. Large attendance. Ground was in very bad condition being partly covered with frost, and in some places pools of water, with a slight covering of ice. The worst places and around the goal were covered with sawdust and chaff. Kettering sent their reserve team. Kettering made a protest about the state of the ground.

Semi-Finals

#	Date	Home	Away		Match Details
9	4.3.93	Gresley Rovers	0 (0)	2 (0)	Rushden At Kettering. 2,000 spectators Rushden brought a large contingent of supporters by train. Sympathy of Kettering spectators was with Gresley. Gresley missed a penalty. Scoreless after 90 mins, Rushden scored twice during extra time.
10	11.2.93	Grantham Rovers Flinders	1 (0)	3 (2)	Wolverton LNWR AN Others At Kettering. Cup shock - Grantham Rovers were favourites not just to win the tie but to win the Cup. The Grantham Journal described the defeat as "humiliating for the town." The game was nasty and unpleasant throughout. Wolverton had the wind in their favour in the first half.

Final

#	Date	Home	Away		Match Details
11	18.3.93	Rushden Claridge (5 min) Litchfield (20 min) Groome (75 min)	4 (2)	0 (0)	Wolverton LNWR At Kettering. Big gate. "For an exhibition of football, it was the worst final we have had yet..."

		AN Other (90 min)				<p><i>"Wolverton did well in the field, but when near goal they were very weak, and had they taken full advantage of the chances offered them the score would have read very different. Needless to say the referee Mr Ashmole of Leicester, fully kept his reputation, as being the one of the fairest and finest officials we have." -Football News (Nottingham – 25 March 1893</i></p>
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Match Reports

A selection of published match reports.

#2 KETTERING CHARITY CUP COMPETITION

WISBECH TOWN v HUNTINGDON

This match in the first round was played on Saturday last at Hinchbrooke park, Huntingdon, by kind permission of the Earl of Sandwich. Play did not commence until 3 o'clock, in consequence of the referee missing the train, the result being that of the latter portion of the game was played in dense fog,. Early in the first half Hart and Webber scored for Wisbech, and before changing over W. Goodliffe notched one for Huntingdon and F. Goodliffe two. After the interval the game was stubbornly contested, but F. Goodliffe managed to score again, his brilliant play in the centre being frequently applauded. Both custodians cleverly defended but Webber contributed a brilliant run, and beat Hurst with a shot which was impossible to stop. Nothing further resulted, and when the game ended the score stood: Huntingdon 4, Wisbech 1.

Huntingdon

Goal: Hurst

Backs: B. Goodliffe C. Clarke

Half-backs: F. Bywater, F. Clarke, A. E. Bower

Forwards: H. Hearn, H. Goodliffe, F. Goodliffe, W. Goodliffe, Rev Phillips.

Wisbech

Goal: A, Drysdale

Backs: F. M. Walker, S. May

Half-backs: J. Walker, C.H. Purdy, T. Sneath

Forwards: J. Seaman, C. Hart, H.B. Stanley, H. Webber, C. Beckbeastager

Referee: Mr J. Hutchins, Kettering

Linesmen: Messrs S. Free and Chipps

Lynn Advertiser – 19 November 1892

KETTERING CHARITY CUP.

Monday was expected to be a grand day for football in Huntingdon, but it turned out to be just the reverse. There was to be a contest in Hinchbrook Park between the Gresley Rovers and the Huntingdon Club in the Kettering Charity Cup Competition, but the frost set in, and the Huntingdon men preferred skating to footballing. Telegrams were sent in the early morning to stop the visitors on the plea that the ground was unfit for play because of the hard frost, and then the home team departed in various directions for skating. Meanwhile the visitors arrived, and the referee decided for play. They went to the Park, and waited, but as no opponents arrived they kicked a goal and were declared the winners of the game. Of course they will also claim the £15 promised them to come.

Cambridge Independent Press - 30 December 1892

#7 LEICESTER FOSSE v RUSHDEN

In this match at Rushden this afternoon the Leicester captain did not bring a representative team, and as a result met with defeat, although this was not brought about until extra time had been ordered. The ground was on the hard side. In the first few minutes of play, Mouel for Leicester scored, but as Church equalised, and no further scoring took place, matters were level at the end of the appointed time. Two fifteen minutes more play was then ordered, when Pendered did the needful for Rushden, the scores being:

RUSHDEN, Two goals,

LEICESTER FOSSE, One goal.

Northampton Chronicle and Echo - 14 January 1893

KETTERING CHARITY CUP.

The third round in this competition has been concluded, with the following result:—Rushden beat Leicester Fosse (second eleven) by two goals to one, whilst Wolverton L. and N.W. beat Kettering (second eleven) by seven goals to one. Kettering have lodged an appeal owing to the condition of the ground.

The teams now left in are Grantham Rovers (winners for the last three years), Rushden, Wolverton, and Gresley.

Sporting Life - 18 January 1893

WOLVERTON L. AND N.W. v. KETTERING TOWN.

On Saturday these teams met in the Recreation Ground at Wolverton, in the third round of the Kettering Cup Competition, when the visitors were very decisively beaten by seven goals to one. Kettering lodged a protest at the commencement as to the ground being unplayable, but the Referee (Mr. Styles) decided that the ground was safe, and the game commenced at 2.57 p.m., Kettering kicking off. In less than 15 minutes Wolverton scored twice—once from Davies and once from Poole. Shortly afterwards Kettering scored their only goal from Garfield, who played well throughout. Wolverton's third goal was scored by Gosson, who, after a fine run, made a capital shot, and beat Lilley. Wolverton pressed considerably all through the first half, the score at changing ends being Wolverton three, Kettering one. In the second half also the Wolverton men completely out-classed the visitors, and scored four more goals Foster two and Gosson two. The ground was certainly not in first-class trim, although the Wolverton committee worked hard to make it as safe as possible, and it is gratifying to know that there were no accidents. Kettering was but poorly represented, in consequence of their League match being on at the same time. All the Wolverton men played a brilliant game. Poole in particular deserves mention for his dashing play. The game was fought out pleasantly, the result of course giving the liveliest satisfaction to the Wolverton spectators.

Bucks Advertiser & Aylesbury News - 21 January 1893

#9 KETTERING CHARITY CUP - SECOND SEMI-FINAL

RUSHDEN v GRESLEY ROVERS _ Before 3,000 spectators. Great interest centred in the match, a special train from Rushden bringing a large contingent of supporters of that team. The sympathy of the Kettering spectators, however, was with Gresley. Gresley kicked off with the wind and sun against them. In the first half-hour Rushden did most of the pressing, but for the remainder of the first half Gresley showed up splendidly, nothing, however being scored by either. Changing ends, Gresley maintained the pressure, compelling Allen, in the Rushden goal, to fust out repeatedly. The referee gave a penalty kick to Gresley, one of the Rushden backs handling the ball under the goal line, but Allen luckily saved the kick and Rushden got away. The "Russians" then buckled to with energy, Minny, Allen and Pashler putting in sharp shots, which, however, the Gresley custodian saved finely. Neither team having scored at the end of time as extra half-hour was played. the match subsequently ended in a victory for Rushden by two goals to Gresley Rovers none.

Nottingham Journal - 6 March 1893

#11 KETTERING CHARITY CUP FINAL

RUSHDEN v WOLVERTON

At Kettering. Wolverton kicked off in face of a bright sun, and four minutes from the start Rushden scored from Claridge's shot. A quarter of an hour later Lichfield added Rushden's second point, nothing more being done before the interval. In the last half Rushden played a good defensive game, but fifteen minutes from the finish Groome put on the third goal for Rushden, the fourth being added just as the whistle blew.. result:

RUSHDEN, four goals; WOLVERTON, nil.

Leicester Daily Post - 20 March 1893

Additional Information

Owing to the condition of the ground the match in the third round of the Kettering Cup between Leicester Fosse and Rushden on Saturday was not noticeable for brilliant play, but it was an intensely interesting one, and fully repaid those who went to see it. The Fosse were represented by an eleven which included Owen, late of the Rushden Club. They were stronger than the home team in the forwards, whilst they also procured a first-rate goalkeeper. Scoring in the first five minutes, they held this to their advantage up to within a quarter of an hour of time, when, after numerous but unsuccessful attacks Rushden managed to get on equal terms. Both teams failing to increase extra time was played, and this enabled the Rushdenites to obtain the lead, and get into the semi-final of the competition.

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Nottingham Evening Post - 21 January 1893

My congratulations to Rushden for being the first Northamptonshire team to keep the handsome Kettering Charity Cup in the county. After the brilliant victory of Wolverton L. and N.W. over Grantham Movers in the semi-final of the competition, they were looked upon by some outside Wolverton as likely to prove victorious. The majority, however, favoured the winners, and all looked forward to a good game. This they obtained, despite the fact that the scoring pointed to a different state of things. Had Wolverton's form been equal to that displayed against Grantham they would certainly have caused Rushden some trouble on Saturday, but from the very first it was apparent that they were very considerably off colour, whilst Rushden, on the other hand, had much improved on the form they exhibited in the "semi" against Gresley Movers. The match once more gave point to the fact that at no place in the county can so large a football gate be obtained as at Kettering. Between four and five thousand spectators paid for admission on Saturday, both Rushden and Wolverton contributing largely.

Northampton Chronicle & Echo - 21 March 1893