



Fazeley Charity Cup 1896-97

Winner: Chasetown
Runner-up: Tamworth Athletic
No. of entries: 20

Fazeley is located on the outskirts of Tamworth, Staffordshire.

The inaugural Fazeley Charity Cup competition, founded by Dr Buxton in 1896, had 20 entries.

Senior clubs were deliberately exempted from the competition, giving "lesser ones a preliminary canter among themselves."

The draw for the first round took place at the White Lion Hotel on 14 October. Ties had to be played on or before 5 December.

For the first round they were divided into two Divisions. Leicestershire were represented by Measham Wanderers, who were in Division I. They had a walk over in round 1, and a bye in round 2. In the third round, they travelled to Tamworth, where they were eliminated by the Athletic who were themselves beaten by Chasetown in the final.

The silver trophy which weighed more than 120 oz, was an "eye-opener," and "was not made in Sheffield." The proceeds of the semi-finals accounted to £32 and the final gate realised £18 10s 11d. The money was devoted to "assisting patients generally in the Fazeley area."

Round 1

Division I

Date	Home			Away	Details	
1	Amington			Kingsbury		
2	Baddesley Stags			Fazeley Swifts	Ratcliffe-road ground. Good number of spectators	
3	5.12.1896	Coleshill	0 (0)	6 (5)	Tamworth Volunteers	
4	5.12.1896	Dordon Albion	1 (0)	5 (3)	Atherstone Town Martin (3) Nicholls (2)	Ratcliffe-road ground. Good number of
5	5.12.1896	Measham Wanderers	W		Hurley Old Boys	Visitors failed to put in an appearance. Measham claimed the game.
6	12.12.1896	Tamworth Athletic	5	4	Two Gates Wanderers	Game stopped 6 mins before time due to bad light. Game was ordered to be replayed.
7	5.12.1896	Tamworth Town Swifts Robinson T Smith (2) Sketchley	4	1	Glascote Rangers AN Other	Lamb Inn ground, Kettlebrook Rangers fielded only 10 men.

Division II

Date	Home			Away	Details	
8	Chasetown			Alrewas		
9	5.12.1896	Five Ways Strollers Gee AN Others	3	0	Brownhills Albion	
10	28.11.1896	Whittingham	0	15	Lichfield Leomansley	

R1 Replay

Date	Home			Away	Details	
11	16.1.1897	Tamworth Athletic	1	0	Two Gates Wanderers	

Round 2

Date	Home			Away	Details	
12	30.1.1897	Chasetown	9	0	Amington Rovers	
13	9.1.1897	Lichfield Leomansley	4	2	Tamworth Volunteers	G Keen of the Volunteers and Horton of Leomansley were ordered off the field by the referee for fighting.
14	9.1.1897	Whittingham Barracks	9	1	Tamworth St George's	Several Tamworth players failed to put in an appearance. "The soldiers are a heavy lot, and fairly revelled in the deep snow."

Tamworth Swifts, Tamworth Athletic or Two Gates, Five Way Strollers, Atherstone, Fazeley and Measham, byes

Round 3

Date	Home			Away	Details	
15	13.3.1897	Atherstone Town	W		Fazeley Swifts	
16	13.3.1897	Chasetown Yates Pratt	2 (2)	0 (0)	Lichfield Leomansley	At Chasetown. Fair number of spectators
17	30.1.1897	Tamworth Athletic Lycett (3) Betteridge Yates	5 (4)	1 (0)	Measham AN Other	At Tamworth.
18	2.1.1897	Tamworth Swifts	2	0	Five Way Strollers	Several hundred spectators.

Semi-Finals

Date	Home			Away	Details	
19	27.3.1897	Tamworth Athletic	1	1	Atherstone Town	
20	17.4.1897	Tamworth Town Swifts	0	4	Chasetown Cartwright (2) Yates Baxter	At Fazeley.

Semi-Final Replay

Date	Home			Away	Details	
21	3.4.1897	Tamworth Athletic Yates (2)	2 (2)	1 (1)	Atherstone Town Nichols (5 mins)	At Fazeley (Drayton-road ground) 1500 spectators. The appointed referee was unable to attend. Kick off was delayed till nearly 5 pm – as a referee who had been doing his duty in another match in the neighbourhood agreed to officiate.

Final

Date	Home			Away	Details	
22	17.4.1897	Tamworth Athletic	0 (0)	3 (1)	Chasetown	At Fazeley. 1500 spectators. The cup was presented to the winning captain by Dr Buxton, who then hospitably entertained both teams and officials at his residence. First cup won by Chasetown.

Match Reports

A selection of published match reports.

#4 Atherstone Town 5, Dordon Albion 1 . .

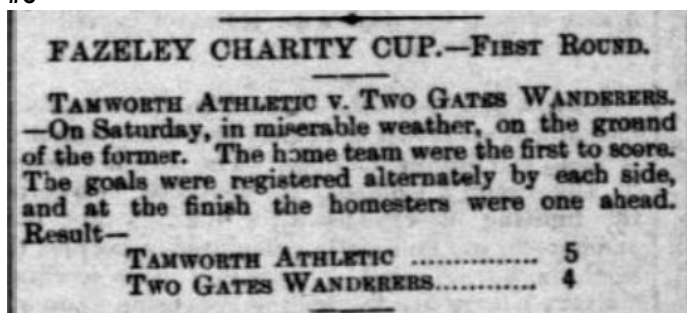
Tamworth Herald - 12 December 1896

#5 MEASHAM WANDERERS v HURLEY OLD BOYS

This match should have been played at Marston, but the visitors failed to put in an appearance, and the game was claimed by the home team.

Leicester Daily Post - 7 December 1896

#6

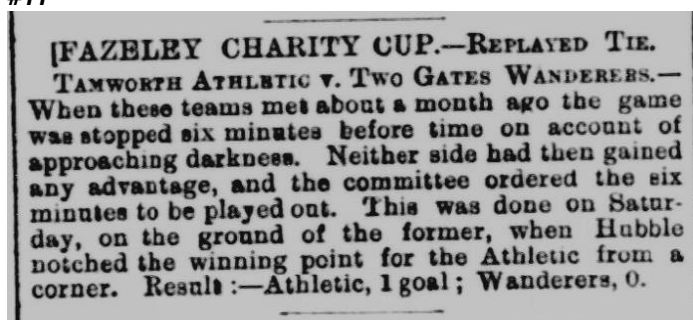


Lichfield Mercury - 18 December 1896

#7 FAZELEY CHARITY CUP First Round

TAMWORTH TOWN- SWIFTS v. GLASCOTE RANGERS — The Rangers commenced with ten men. The Swift kicked with the wind, and Robinson scored after ten minutes' play. Shortly afterwards T. Smith score a second goal, and Glascote responded almost immediately. A fine effort by A. Brown was converted into a goal by Sketchley. After the interval the Swifts played finely and scored off-side goals, Nothing daunted, however, they pegged away, Robinson scoring fourth from T. Smith's centre. Final—Tamworth Town Swifts 4, Glascote Rangers 1.

#11



Tamworth Herald - Saturday 23 January 1897

#12 CHASETOWN v. AMINGTON ROVERS

At Chasetown. The Chase completely outplayed their opponents, and the result was:- Chasetown, 9 goals; Amington Rovers, 0.

Tamworth Herald - 6 February 1897

#16

FAZELEY CHARITY CUP.—1st ROUND.

TAMWORTH TOWN SWIFTS v. FIVE WAYS STROLLERS.

—On the ground of the former before several hundred onlookers. The homesters attacked, but Hill drove them back, Hooper at the other end being called upon to cover Vernon. A few fast and exciting exchanges took place in midfield, and then Jones made a fine run; Hill missed his kick and Sketchley put the ball into the net. In the second half each team pressed in turn, but the home team were always the more dangerous, and would have scored but for the visitors' sturdy defence. Archer, Hunt, and Jones made a pretty combined run, from which a goal kick only resulted. Archer met the ball and dribbling close in, scored the second goal for the Swifts. The visitors tried ineffectually to equalise, and the home team ran out winners by 2 goals to 0. The Swifts' play showed great improvement, and the victory was well deserved.

Tamworth Herald - 9 January 1897

#17 TAMWORTH ATHLETIC v. MEASHAM —At Tamworth Lycett drew first blood for the Athletic, and then repeated the dose. Betteridge put on a third and T. Lycett made up the quartet. The visitors had not scored at half time. Upon changing ends Measham scored from a corner. They pressed persistently for some time, but were unable to again break through. The Athletic got away and the goalkeeper missing his kick. Yates headed the fifth point before time. Result:—Tamworth Athletic, 5; Measham, 1.

Tamworth Herald - 6 February 1897

#20 FAZELEY CHARITY CUP — Semi Final

Tamworth Town Swifts v Chasetown.—At Fazeley, on Saturday. Chasetown had the advantage the strong wind the first half and scored twice. Within ten minutes of changing ends Chasetown notched their third goal, and almost directly afterwards put the leather through again, Vernon, the Swifts' custodian, falling trying to save. The names of the goal-getters were Yates, Baxter, and Cartwright (2) Result ;—Chasetown 4 goals, Tamworth Town Swifts 0.

Tamworth Herald - 24 April 1897

#21 FAZELEY CHARITY CUP - Replayed Semi-final

TAMWORTH ATHLETIC v ATHERSTONE TOWN - At Fazeley before 1,500 spectators. Last week these teams made a draw of 1 goal each in the same competition. The Athletic were slightly favoured by the wind in the first half. Nichols scored for Atherstone from a pass by Martin within five minutes, and Yates equalised. Upon crossing over each team pressed in turn. Atherstone sent the ball into the net from a foul, but the point was disallowed for off-side. From a foul at the other end and Yates cleverly headed the winning goal for the Athletic after 25 minutes' play. Result: Tamworth Athletic 2 goals; Atherstone Town, 1.

Tamworth Herald - 10 April 1897

#22 FOOTBALL

About 1500 persons attended the final match of the Cup between Tamworth Athletic and Chasetown. The work of the Athletic during the week told its own tale, and their display was of a very disappointing character. The Chase players on the other hand showed better form than on their previous visit to Fazeley, and thoroughly deserved the victory. Chasetown immediately became aggressive, and within four minutes an excellent goal was scored by Yates (centre). Even play followed, and the interval arrived with Chasetown leading. Chasetown continued the pressure in the second half and obtained two further points, although the first was a very shady one, the ball having been touched before being shot in. The Athletic, in vain, made desperate effort to score, and the game ended, Chasetown 3, Tamworth 0. —The cup, which was presented by Dr. Buxton, who has been more than any other gentleman, responsible for the establishment of the charity competition, is the first ever won by the Chasetown club. The team played a thoroughly sportsmanlike and gentlemanly game — characteristics not always seen in teams from some parts of the Chase—and obtained the approbation of a necessarily prejudiced crowd. The forwards played well

together—Yates was far superior to his sonfreres—and were most dangerous when within speaking distance. In their passing they also kept the ball well down. Although beaten the Athletic have no occasion to take serious notice of the defeat. They have many achievements this season which entitle them the hearty congratulation of the local football community. They are the only team in the district who have obtained cup outright - they have won two, and are again the local League champions. After leaving the field the players and officials were hospitably entertained by Dr. Buxton his residence. The teams in the semi-finals were similarly entertained. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Dr. Buxton, whose health was drunk with musical honours, and the doctor replied, giving some practical advice to the players.

The proceeds of the semi-finals amounted to £32 and the final gate realised £18/19/11. The money will be devoted to assisting patients generally in Fazeley.

A benefit match for the relatives of the late Mr. J. Harris, who was fatally injured Tamworth on Good Friday, will take place this (Friday) evening. The teams are the Burton Swifts and one representing the pick of the district. Capt. Eadie has subscribed £1 to the Fund.

Tamworth Herald - 1 May 1897

Additional Information

DRAW FOR THE SECOND AND THIRD ROUNDS.

The draw for the second and third rounds took place at Fazeley on Monday evening, and resulted as follows:—Second Round: Amington v. Chasetown (referee, Mr. F. Whitehouse); Lichfield Leomansley v. Tamworth Volunteers (referee, Mr. A. W. West). The following have byes:—Tamworth Swifts, Five Ways, Atherstone, Fazeley, Tamworth Athletic or Two Gates, and Measham. To be played off on or before January 23rd, 1897.—Third Round: Amington or Chasetown v. Lichfield Leomansley or Tamworth Volunteers, Tamworth Swifts v. Five Ways Strollers, Atherstone Town v. Fazeley Swifts, Tamworth Athletic or Two Gates Wanderers v. Measham. To be played off on or before February 20th, 1897.

Lichfield Mercury - 18 December 1896