



# Bass Charity Vase 1893-94

**Winner:** Aston Villa  
**Runner-up:** Stoke  
**No. of entries:** 9

The Bass Charity Vase, a competition used raise funds for medical and hospital charities in Burton upon Trent began in 1889. The trophy was donated by Lord Burton and Hamar Bass the great-grandsons of William Bass, the founder of the Bass Brewery. Made from gold and inscribed with the names of all previous winners, it is reputed to be one of the most valuable trophies in English football.

Both Leicester Fosse and Loughborough were invited to take part in the Bass Vase Cup for the first time in 1893-94, along with the cream of Midlands' football – Aston Villa (First Division Champions 1893-94), Burton Wanderers (Midland League Champions 1893-94), Notts County (FA Cup winners 1893-94), West Bromwich Albion (First Division) and Wolverhampton Wanderers (First Division) . Unfortunately, both were eliminated in the first round. Fosse were trounced 5-1 by Aston Villa at Perry Barr, whilst Loughborough lost by the same score at home to Burton Swifts.

Villa easily beat Stoke in the final.

## Preliminary Round

#	Date	Home	Away		Match Details
1	5.4.1894	Notts County Donnelly AN Other	2	0	Wolverhampton Wanderers Castle ground, Nottingham. 3,000 spectators. Notts scored in the last minute.

## Round 1

#	Date	Home	Away		Match Details
2	2.4.1894	Aston Villa Chatt Devey (3) Smith	5	1	Leicester Fosse Miller Perry Barr, Birmingham. He first time the Fosse had played the Villa first team away from home.
3	21.3.1894	Burton Swifts	4	2	West Bromwich Albion
4	1.4.1894	Loughborough Carnelly	1 (1)	5 (1)	Burton Wanderers Capes Garfield AN Others Storer, the Loughborough custodian made a poor show in the second half and let in 3 easy shots.
5	12.4.1894	Stoke Christie Dickson	2 (1)	0 (0)	Notts County At Stoke. 1,000 spectators. Stoke fielded a full strength side but the Notts team only included a couple of Cup finalists.

## Semi-Finals

#	Date	Home	Away		Match Details
6	11.4.1894	Aston Villa	5	2	West Bromwich Albion Aston Lower Ground, Birmingham. Albion played 10 men in the second half, McLeod retired injured.
7	18.4.1894	Burton Wanderers A Capes Capes	2 (0)	2 (0)	Stoke Dickson Robinson

## Semi-Final Replay

#	Date	Home	Away		Match Details
8	22.4.1894	Burton Wanderers	1	5	Stoke

		Cannes	(1)	(1)	Robertson Dickson McReddie AN Others	
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### Final

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
9	25.4.1894	Aston Villa Chatt Smith Devey Hodgetts	4 (1)	0 (0)	Stoke	At Burton. The Major of Burton kicked off. Villa played their full strength, but Stoke sent their reserve, much to the disgust of the spectators.

### Match Reports

#### #1 BASS CHARITY

**Notts v Wolverhampton** – At Nottingham yesterday, in fine but windy weather, before three thousand spectators. Notts were without Logan, the Wolves wanting Edge. Playing with the wind, the Wolves had the best of matters at first, but Notts scored in twenty minutes by Donnelly afterwards having the best of the play. Notts had all best of the play in the second half, but Hassall defended splendidly. Notts just scrambled a second through in the last minute. Score:- Notts, 2; Wolves, nil.

*Evening Press – 6 April 1894*

#### #2

**ASSOCIATION.**

**BASS CHARITY CUP.**

**LEICESTER FOSSE v. ASTON VILLA.**

To be invited to take part in a competition confined to the best clubs of the Midland district is an honour which a rising organisation like the Fosse may justly be proud of, and, to proceed a step further, to be drawn in that competition against what is undoubtedly the most consistent team in the land must be regarded as a piece of luck, calculated to greatly enhance the position of the club. The Fosse team visited Perry Barr on Monday, with, naturally, but little hope of achieving victory. Still they had the splendid example of Loughborough set prominently before them, and they were hopeful of making a decent fight with the League champions. The team chosen to meet the Villans was the same as that which did duty against Loughborough last Saturday, Langhan, again taking the place of Edwards. The weather was simply perfect when the members of the team, with a few supporters, left Leicester at 11.25, and Fosse made their debut on the famous Perry Barr ground under the happiest auspices.

Rickus took the place of Langham in the Fosse team, while the Villa were as on Saturday, and the referee, Mr. Rollings. Villa lost the toss, and played against the sun in the first half. Fosse at once ran down, but Baird cleared. A couple of foul kicks against Fosse carried play to their half, but a foul against Cowan brought relief, and Fosse attacked, Rickus, Hill, and Seymour being prominent. After seven minutes' play Hill crossed right over to Dorrell, who transferred to Miller, the latter scoring with a good low shot. Villa next worked their way up, Reynolds shooting fruitlessly. Next Dunning had to save from Miller. Athersmith tricked Bailey, and centred, but Henrys cleverly headed away. Dorrell ran down, but Miller spoilt the centre, as also did Hill. Play was for some time confined to the home half, the Villa taking matters rather calmly, but at length they beset themselves, Thraves having to save from Athersmith. Fosse retaliated, and Brown grazed the cross-bar. Athersmith centred beautifully. Thraves and Smith headed away splendidly from the mouth of goal after Dorrell had been given off-side. Villa, with grand combination, attacked, Thraves stopping a lightning shot from Devey. A mis-kick by Bailey from Smith's centre gave Villa a corner, which Athersmith placed behind. Again Villa pressed through Grovea, Smith, and Devey, but Fosse occasionally broke away. Attacking again, Thraves saved first from Devey, but Chatt caught the ball, and equalised after 37 minutes' play—a very pretty goal. Resuming, the Villa showed greatly improved form, and attacked with earnestness. Both Chatt and Devey shot in accurately for goal, and Cowan also put in a beautiful shot, which Thraves threw away, but Lord, robbing Athersmith, gave to Dorrell, who was playing finely with Miller. The two gained Villa territory, but, through dallying too long with the ball, broke up the pace of the rush, and were easily dispossessed. Half-time:

FOSSE, one goal;

ASTON VILLA, one.

Resuming, the Villa forwards executed a pretty passing run, and reached the vicinity of the Fosse goal. Smith kicked out, and from the throw-in the ball went to Devey, who scored, in the corner of the net, in less than two minutes from the restart. Still pressing, the Villa forced a corner, which Athersmith placed well, and Devey and Reynolds headed in, Thraves and Bailey saving. After a short visit to the Villa end, the home men scored a third goal in the nicest manner imaginable. Athersmith crossed over to Smith, who returned to Devey, the latter standing a few feet from goal and passing Thraves easily. The Villa, displaying something of their best form, raided the Fosse lines, and a free kick was given against the Fosse near the penalty radius, Reynolds only being kept out at the expense of a corner. Smith added a fourth goal, and Devey a fifth, the Villa winning easily. Result:

ASTON VILLA, five goals;

FOSSE, one.

*Leicester Daily Post - Tuesday 03 April 1894*

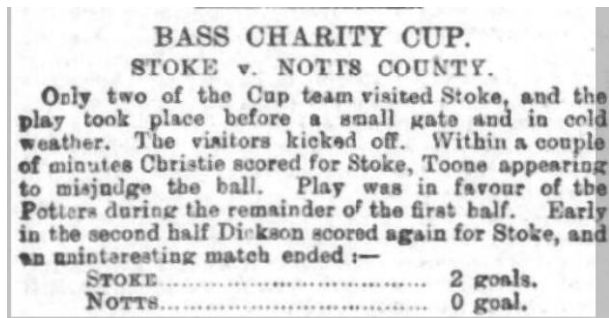
**#3 BURTON SWIFTS v WEST BROMWICH ALBION** – In the Bass Charity Vase competition at Burton yesterday. The Albion left out Bassett, Nicholson, and Pearson. The game resulted in a win for the Albions by four goals to one.

*Edinburgh Evening News – 22 March 1894*

**#4 Loughborough Town v. Burton Wanderers** — This tie in connection with the Bass Charity Cup competition was witnessed by 2000 spectators at Loughborough yesterday. The first half was well contested, and each side scored once. Afterwards. Storer, the home custodian, missed some " soft" shots, and Burton won by five goals to one.

*London Evening Standard - 29 March 1894*

**#5**



*Sheffield Independent - 13 April 1894*

**BASS CHARITY CUP**

**SEMI-FINAL TIE**

**#6 ASTON VILLA v WEST BROMWICH ALBION**

Despite a heavy fall of rain 1,000 people witnessed this semi-final for the Bass Charity Cup at Aston Lower grounds last evening. Albion played ten men in the second half, McLeod retiring injured. Result:

ASTON VILLA     5 goals.  
 ALBION             2 goals.

*Sheffield Daily Telegraph - 12 April 1894*

**BASS CHARITY CUP**

**#7 STOKE v BURTON WANDERERS**

Played at Burton, before 2,000 spectators, in miserable weather. In the first half play was even, neither side scoring. In the second portion Wanderers had considerably the best of the game, and Stoke scored first, but the Wanderers scored two quickly, and then Stoke equalised, the goals for Stoke were kicked by Dickson and Robinson, while the Wanderers score was by Arthur Capes and his brother, Result:

A DRAW - 2 goals each.

*Leicester Daily Post - 19 April 1894*

**#8 BASS CHARITY CUP- SEMI-FINAL  
 BURTON WANDERERS v STOKE**

Played at Burton before a few spectators, in miserable weather. The first half was evenly contested, each side scoring a goal. The second portion was rough and uninteresting, but Stoke held the upper hand. Several players got hurt, in particular Brentnall, the Wanderers goalkeeper, who was of little use. Cannes scored for Burton and Robertson, Dickson and McReddie for Stoke. Result:

STOKE             5 goals.  
 WANDERERS     1

*Sheffield Independent - 24 April 1894*

**#9 BASS CHARITY CUP— FINAL TIE** — Aston Villa and Stoke met at Burton last evening in the final for this Cup. The Mayor of Burton kicked off. Villa did most of the pressing in the first half, but it was not until near half-time that they scored through Chatt. After crossing over, the Villa had considerably the best of the exchanges, and goals were put on by Smith, Devey, and Hodgett, Stoke being beaten by 4 to 0. The Cup was afterwards presented to the winning team.

*London Evening Standard - 26 April 1894*