



## Kettering & District Charity 1893-94

**Winner:** Leicester Fosse  
**Runner-up:** Wolverton LNWR  
**No. of entries:** 16



*Kettering Charity Cup 1893-94 winners, Leicester Fosse with the trophy.*

Sixteen clubs entered the competition. The cup committee decided that the clubs should be formed into four divisions of four clubs each, the clubs in each division played each other until only one club was left.

Division I: Grantham Rover, Gresley Rovers, Leicester YMCA and Notts Forest Swifts.

Division II: Kettering Crusaders, Kettering Town and Leicester Fosse.

Division III: Banbury, Luton Montrose, Rushden and Wolverton LNWR,

Division IV: Bedford Town Swifts, Hitchin, Cambridge Town and Wisbech Town

Grantham Rovers, Gresley Rovers, Leicester YMCA, Notts Forest Swifts, Kettering Town, Leicester Fosse, Wolverton LNWR and Rusden were exempt from taking part in the first round.

Wolverton LNWR, based in Buckinghamshire had a number of different names during its history (1887-92), and at one time held the record for the longest club name in English football: "Newport Pagnell & Wolverton London & North Western Railway Amalgamated Association Football Club" (1889-90).

Leicester YMCA were knocked out by Notts Forest Swifts in Round 2 after a replay.

Fosse received byes in the first and second rounds; slaughtered Kettering 8-0 in round 3 and overcame Grantham Rovers (3-0) to reach the final where they beat Wolverton 3-1 to win the Cup.

Many of the Fosse team who played in the final had taken part in 9 games in 16 days.

Fosse were presented with the Cup and the players with medals at the Cross Keys Coffee Tavern by Dr Dryland, president of the Kettering Charity Cup Committee.

A great crowd had assembled at Leicester railway station to greet the Fosse players. The trophy was "exhibited" amongst enthusiasm, before being taken to Mr Ashwell's house.

For a variety of causes the money raised for Kettering Hospital was lower than in previous seasons. Dryland stated this was due to two reasons, the first being that the new Kettering ground was much further away

from the town than the old one, and secondly that there were so many cup competitions in that neighbourhood that many of the better class clubs were tempted away.

## Round 1

*Division I: - no ties*

*Division II*

Date	Home			Away	
18.11.1893	Kettering Hawks Martin Viccars Shortland	3	1	Kettering Crusaders AN Other	Good number of spectators.

*Division III*

Date	Home			Away	
	Banbury Harriers	W		Luton Montrose	Luton scratched. Tie awarded to Banbury.

*Division IV*

Date	Home			Away	
18.11.1893	Bedford Town Swifts	1	3	<a href="#">Hitchin</a>	London-road Ground, Bedford A special train was run by the Midland Company on their branch line on the guarantee of 100 passengers by the Hitchin club. Weather was very bad. Much of the game was played in a blinding snowstorm.
18.11.1893	Cambridge Town	0 (0)	5 (2)	Wisbech Town Hart Webber (2) Beckbessinger Hines	Leys Ground Cambridge. Stormy weather. First time that Wisbech had reached R2 in this competition.

## Round 2

*Division I*

Date	Home			Away	
9.12.1893	Leicester YMCA Henfry Jones	2 (2)	2 (2)	Notts Forest Swifts Judd AN Other	Belgrave-road Ground, Leicester. Game commenced at 2.40pm
9.12.1893	<a href="#">Grantham Rovers</a>	2 (1)	1 (1)	<a href="#">Gresley Rovers</a>	Harlaxton-road ground, Grantham. Grantham were 2 <sup>nd</sup> in the Midland League and Gresley topped the Burton League. Good attendance,

## Round 2 Replay

Date	Home			Away	
23.12.1893	Notts Forest Swifts	1	0	Leicester YMCA	

*Division II*

Date	Home			Away	
2.12.1893	Kettering Hawks	0	6	Kettering Town	North Park, Kettering.

Leicester Fosse, a bye

*Division III*

Date	Home			Away	
9.12.1893	Banbury Harriers	4 (2)	5 (1)	<a href="#">Wolverton LNWR</a>	Good number of spectators. Game commenced at 2.25 pm Wolverton had to play their reserve team as the first team was engaged at home in a Berks and Bucks Competition. Reserves were weakened owing to the prevailing epidemic - they had to field their trainer and a committee member. Game ended 4-4. Wolverton winning aet.

Rushden, a bye.

*Division IV*

Hitchin and Wisbech, a bye.

**Round 3**

*Division I*

Date	Home			Away	
13.1.1893	Grantham Rovers Burke AN Other	2 (0)	1 (0)	Notts Forest Swifts Hancock	Harlaxton-road Ground, Grantham. Rovers played much of the second half with 10 men.

*Division II*

Date	Home			Away	
23.12.1893	Leicester Fosse Brown (4) Miller (2) Edwards Dorrell	8	0	Kettering Town	Walnut-street Ground, Leicester. 4,000 spectators

*Division III*

Date	Home			Away	
6.1.1894	Wolverton LNWR Goddis Poole AN Others	5 (3)	3 (2)	Rushden AN Others Lichfield	Large and excited crowd,

*Division IV*

Date	Home			Away	
	Wisbech			Hitchin	

**Semi-Finals**

Date	Home			Away	
17.2.1893	Leicester Fosse	3	0	Grantham Rovers	At Kettering. Wretched weather. Meagre attendance.
10.3.1893	Wolverton LNWR Sharpe (2 mins) Roddis	2 (1)	1 (1)	Wisbech AN Other	Large gate. Prior to the match the Kettering Town Band paraded the principal streets of the town to North Park.

**Final**

Date	Home			Away	
7.4.1894	Leicester Fosse	3	1	Wolverton LNWR	North Park, Kettering. Large gate.

	Miller (2) Dorrell	(0)	(0)		Referee, Mr Chris Squires of London arrived 20 mins late.
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## Match Reports

A selection of published match reports.

### **KETTERING AND DISTRICT CHARITY CUP**

#### **SECOND ROUND**

#### **KETTERING LEAGUE TEAM v KETTERING HAWKS**

In connection with the second round of the above competition, these teams met on the North Park, Kettering on Monday afternoon, in the presence of a fair number of spectators. The Town won by six goals to nil.

*Northampton Mercury – 8 December 1893*

### **KETTERING CHARITY CUP**

#### **SECOND ROUND**

#### **NOTTS FOREST SWIFTS v LEICESTER YMCA**

Played on the Belgrave-road Ground. The Forest did not bring a strong team, but the YMCA had a powerful representation. On 25 November, at Nottingham, the Young Men's beat to-days' opponents by three goals to nil, with a most moderate combination, but they were anything but sanguine of repeating that effort. The weather was somewhat sticky, and made football rather hard work. There was a very poor "gate."

Judd kicked off at 2.40 for Notts, but the home forwards got away, and M. Tyler and Emms went splendidly along the wing, and Hooton and Bullock were caused a lot of work. Keeping the pressure up, the home forwards, by pretty combination, worked the ball right into the mouth of their opponents' goal, and Henfry beat Allsopp with a capital shot not many minutes after the commencement of play. From the mid-field kick another fine race-away was witnessed between the YMCA forwards, one of them hitting the cross-bar, and still further trouble was enforced upon Hooton and Bullock, the opposing backs, who returned some capital shots in good manner. Forcing a corner, Bailey took the flag kick, and Jones headed a second goal for the Young Men, who, up to now, were playing a fine game to a man. Becoming more precise in their passing the Forest men got down to the Christians' land and Jeacock and Goater were instrumental in the storming of the home goal, and a corner was given to the Forest, from which, however, ease came to the home side. A quick change of matters was brought about, Allsopp fisting out a grand shot from Tyler, and the former player added still further two shots to deal with the game was taken to midfield. A return by McAlpin put Tyler in possession, and that player executed a couple of grand runs on the wing, each time teasing Allsopp. A moment later Henfrey kicked the ball into the Notts net, but was given offside, and play became very open, the home side having the best of the exchanges. Tyler took the ball again capitally down the right wing, but shot badly, and from Hooton's return kick Hancock and Browne travelled towards the Young Men's end in a rapid manner, the former finishing with a good shot at goal, which Picken saved at the expense of a corner. There was a god deal of life in the play from the beginning, but this gradually became warmer and warmer, and rough knocks were not altogether scarce. The Forest were given a penalty kick for some fault in the home back division, and a smart kick brought the score two- one in favour of the YMCA. From Henfrey's kick of Jeacock and Goater made a pretty run, the latter centring splendidly, and Judd brought the score level by a fine "header". Soon after half-time came, with the score:

LEICESTER YMCA, two goals;

NOTTS FOREST, two goals.

Judd opened the second half, but the Notts forwards were robbed of the ball, and Brown, Henfrey, and M. Tyler combined in a run, and Allsopp had to handle away. This was followed by some hot work round the home goal, Hancock and Browne being most conspicuous on the aggressive side. Taken altogether, though, the Forest shooting was poor, and his accounted in a great measure for their not passing the score of their opponents early in the second stage of the game. H. Tyler, who throughout had played a consistently good game, dribbling and shooting most praiseworthily, followed the onslaught of the Notts side by giving his division plenty of chances, and Allsopp had a rosy time of it, but seemed equal to anything, and handed out repeated shots. Morris Tyler, when going splendidly for the Notts goal was robbed by Pike who then transferred to Hancock, who kicked to Judd, and the ball was then transferred to Hancock, who kicked to

the wing again, but on being returned for a final shooting McAlpin stepped in, and sent to his forwards, the whole string going away, Allsop soon made some marvellous saves, while Bullock and Hooton were kept hard on for a considerable period. Some pretty passing between Jeacock and Goater changed the venue of the play, and Smithson did well to stave off the former, who was within a very little distance of the home goal. This he did effectively, and Herbert Tyler was once more conspicuous, and a shot he sent in appeared doubtful to the spectators as to whether or not it was a scoring point, until Allsopp (Notts goal-keeper) took a kick from goal. Fast as ever the game went on, and the home forwards getting away from the mid-field, did some good work in Notts' territory, and Henfrey sent in a stinger, which Allsopp fell down in saving, and an appeal as to whether or not he was under the goalpost was given against the YMCA. His throw-away put Jeacock in possession, and making good headway, he forced a corner, which went behind, and for some minutes exchange play became the order. Darkness sent in towards the finish, and when the referee blew his whistle neither side had scored a victory, the result being:

YMCA, two goals;

NOTTS FOREST, two

The teams were:

Notts Forest: Allsopp, goal; Hooton and Bullock, backs; Smith, Pike and Beales, half-backs; Hancock, Browne, Judd, Jeacock and Goater, forwards.

YMCA: Picken, goal; McAlpin and Smithson, backs; S. Bailey, Rowntree and Jones, half-backs; H. Tyler, T. Brown, W. Henfrey, M. Tyler and C. Emms, forwards.

Referee, Mr Maycock, Kettering.

*Leicester Daily Post - 11 December 1893*

The Leicester YMCA met Notts Forest Swifts at Nottingham, in the second round of the Kettering Charity Cup, and after a strongly contested game, the Foresters won by a goal to nothing.

*Football News (Nottingham) - 23 December 1893*

#### **KETTERING CHARITY CUP**

##### **LEICESTER FOSSE v KETTERING**

At Leicester, before 4,000 people. The game was a very one-sided nature. The Fosse bombarded the Kettering goal during most of the first half, and out of a number of shots beat Pack four times. The second half was also greatly in favour of the Fosse and the result was Leicester scoring eight goals, Kettering none. Brown scored four times, Miller twice and Edwards and Dorrell once each.

*Nottingham Evening Post - Saturday 30 December 1893*

**GRANTHAM ROVERS v FOSSE** - The first semi-final in the Kettering Charity Cup competition was played at Kettering on Saturday. Owing to the wretched weather there was but a meagre attendance. The match resulted in favour of Leicester by three goals to nil.

*Stamford Mercury - 23 February 1894*

The Grantham Rovers and Leicester Fosse met on Saturday on the New Town Ground, Kettering, in the first semi-final of the Kettering Cup. Neither clubs placed a very strong team in the field, and what with this and the miserable state of the clouds, the game was not the most enjoyable. The ground was sloppy, but the referee gave it that it was not too far gone for play, and the teams faced each other shortly after the advertised time before a moderate number of spectators.

The Rovers faced the rain when the game opened, and had plenty to do in repelling the strong attacks of the home team. The Fosse backs played well, and Underwood had a comparatively easy time; the first goal being put on from a centre by Priestman for the homesters. Nothing more was done up to half-time, the ground being in a wretched condition. After the change of ends the Leicester men managed to gain two more points, and as the Rovers were altogether unsuccessful the game ended with the score: Fosse 3, Grantham 0.

The teams were:

ROVERS RESERVES - Wortley, goal; Hardy and Clough, backs; Roe, Dawsett, and Hardy, half-backs; Wilkinson and Sexton, left wing; Pulling, centre; Moulsher and Collishaw, right wing.

FOSSE RESERVE- W S Underwood, goal; H Taylor and W Davis, backs; A N Other, A Cornell and T Sweeney, half-backs; H Gawnthorpe and J Bailey, right wing; A Slack, centre; J Priestman and A Bradsworth, left-wing.

*Retford and Worksop Herald and Norths Notts Advertiser - 24 February 1894*

**KETTERING CHARITY CUP**  
**FINAL TIE**  
**LEICESTER FOSSE v WOLVERTON**  
**VICTORY OF THE FOSSE**

Interest in present season of Association football is rapidly waning and with the fulfilment of the various cup ties which is invariably form the strongest attraction of the dying season it becomes increasingly difficult to rouse any considerable degree of excitement in the various matches which fill up time to the end of April. Almost the last flutter of interest in the doings of the Fosse Club was around on Saturday, when Fosse played Wolverton in the final of the Kettering Cup, a trophy well worth fighting for. Fosse had not taken any very active share in the competition so far as it had then progressed, their participation amounting to only one match that with Kettering on the Saturday before Christmas on the Walnut-street Ground, won by the Fosse by eight goals to nil. The present game was the last of a hard series for many of the Fosse players, who had taken part in no fewer than nine matches in 16 days, but there was plenty of determination among them that at least one tangible proof of their powers should be forthcoming in recognition of their efforts during the past season, and whether stale or not, the eleven good men and true who entered the Kettering enclosure on Saturday as representatives of Leicester were bent on securing the medals given to the winners of the cup – with what result will be gleaned from a perusal of the details rendered below. Fosse had a full team up, Edwards making his re-appearance after a few weeks rest after an accident, and a good fight for possession of the handsome vase offered for competition was assured. A goodly number of supporters were found willing to accompany team.

The meteorological conditions were very favourable and a large crowd congregated on the North Park ground. The referee, Mr Chas Squires of London was twenty minutes late in arriving. Wolverton won the toss, and had the benefit of the wind, but the sun was against them. Wolverton first pressed, but Henrys stopped them; then Worrall transferred play to the other end, where the latter received a pass while standing off-side. Seymour, Edwards and Hill played well together, but the latter's splendid centre was not taken advantage of. The Wolves forwards suddenly rushed off, and a corner was given from Sharpe's centre. Henrys heading away cleverly. The game went on spiritedly in the Fosse ground. Worker stopped a sprint by Hill, but the Wolverton halves failed to cope with the Fosse rushes, the Leicester forwards showing good combination. Hill was especially brilliant, and from his centre Miller shot for goal, Turner kicking away. Brown shot erratically, and then through a miskick by Smith, Poole and Gosson had a grand opening, but Thraves effected an extraordinary save right from their feet. At the other end Henrys sent in a lovely shot, forcing a corner, but Wesley, with a nice run up the wing, took the play to the Fosse territory, where a foul against Brown and two huge kicks by Timbrell threatened danger. Fosse attacked again, Hill and Brown sent outside, and the Leicester men found a stiff defence opposed to them. Wolverton broke away, Bailey being well beaten by Poole, who put in a splendid centre, Thraves again saving well. A couple of goal kicks only rewarded Wolverton for the further attack, and Fosse retaliating, Miller spoilt the movement by bad shooting, Smith having recovered himself after another mis-kick. Fosse made a determined onslaught, and the Wolverton goal had narrow escapes, Turner two or three times saving grandly. The game proceeded in the keenest possible manner, play being of a hard typical cup tie character. Brown missed an easy opening, but Henrys again shot capitally. Play was fairly even at half-time:

**NO SCORE**

During the interval selections were given by the Kettering Rifle Band. After mid-field play, Brown was prominent by deserving efforts, while Worker nearly let the Fosse in with a bad kick and xxx headed on to the bar. Fosse now pressed heavily, and from a well-placed corner by Dorrell Hill kicked over. Offside against Brown brought slight relief, but Fosse returned and from a centre by Hill Miller scored high in the corner the goal, the ball going completely out of Turner's reach. Dorrell quickly followed with a second, scoring with a grand low shot, less than three minutes elapsing between the two points. Wolverton returned, and Sharpe barely missed the Fosse goal, Poole afterwards kicking high over the goal. From a sudden break-away Wesley directed the ball towards the Fosse goal, and Gosson rushing in scored Wolverton's first goal, Thraves being knocked over. Sudden scoring like this added even greater zest to the movements of the players and interest was kept at high pitch. The Fosse forwards effected a beautiful passing run, but had their combination broke up by Kirby, who was extremely energetic, and in turn the Wolves forwards by their determined rushes caused the Fosse defence much anxiety. After the Fosse had given a couple of corners, Leicester bore down and Hill took a flag kick, but the wind carried the ball over the goal. Sharpe retired from the field for a few minutes with an injury to his leg, the Wolves in the

meantime playing ten men. The game was carried to midfield by a free against the Fosse, Dorrell returning by running down and shooting outside. Brown forced Timbrell to give another corner, but Hill played the ball behind, while Edwards also sent the leather over the bar. Play now became rather tame, but Fosse always held the whip head, their scientific play telling its inevitable tale compared with the headstrong rushes and knocking out play of Wolverton. Edwards with a grand attempt just missed the goal by an inch or two, but Miller increased the Fosse lead with a splendid low ground shot from some distance in the field. As the game progressed Fosse simply made rings round their opponents, whose defence was severely taxed. Miller almost scored on two or three occasions, while Dorrell struck the post with a terrific shot, numerous others going outside. Having fairly obtained the measure of their opponents, Fosse took matters pretty easy, and Wolverton being completely beaten, proceedings became tame.

Final:

FOSSE, three goals;

WOLVERTON, one.

The players and officials were:

Leicester Fosse: Thraves, goal; Smith and Bailey, backs; Seymour, Henrys and Lord, half-backs; Hill, Edwards, Brown, Miller and Dorrell. Forwards.

Wolverton LNWR: Turner, goal; Timbrell and Worker, backs; Bull, French and Kirkby, half-backs; Sharpe, Poole, Gosson, Roddis and Wesley, forwards.

Referee: Mr Chas. Squires, London Association.

Linesmen, Messrs T. W. Maycock and W. H. Parker.

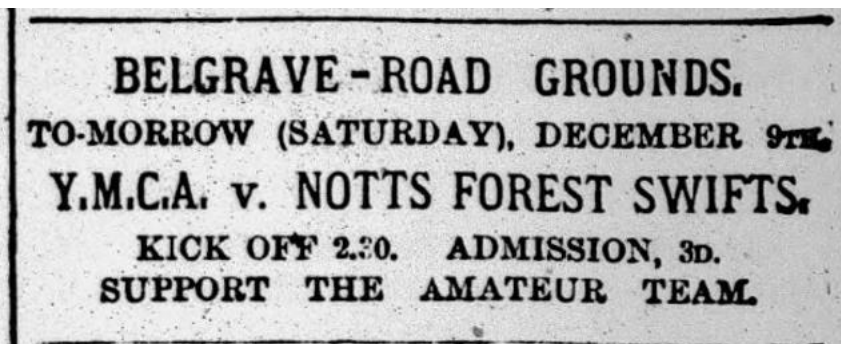
#### **PRESENTATION OF THE CUP**

In the evening the teams partook of tea together at the Cross keys Coffee Tavern and subsequently the presentation of the cup and medals was made. Dt J. W. Dryland, president of the committee presented the Cup to the captain of the Fosse Henrys amidst great cheers.

For a variety of causes the money raised was lower than in previous seasons. Dryland stated this was due to two reasons, the first being that the new Kettering ground was much further away from the town than the old one, and secondly that there were so many cup competitions in that neighbourhood that many of the better class clubs were tempted away.

*Leicester Daily Post - 9 April 1894*

#### **Additional Information**



*Leicester Daily Mercury - 8 December 1893*

#### THE FOSSE CLUB AND THE KETTERING CUP.

—In celebration of the Fosse victory over Wolverton in the final tie of the Kettering Cup Competition a "convivial evening" was spent on Monday evening at the headquarters of the club, the Freeman's Hotel, Welford-road. The majority of the players and a number of prominent supporters of the club assembled, and an enjoyable evening was spent. During a portion of the time Mr. Ashwell, president of the club, occupied the chair, and later Mr. J. J. Curtis conducted the proceedings. A few toasts were honoured, and speeches were made extolling the club in general and the players in particular, hopes being expressed that in seasons to come the club would be successful in competitions of greater importance than the Kettering Cup. The handsome trophy won by the Fosse last Saturday was strongly in evidence, and the "flowing bowl" conduced in no small measure to the enjoyable character of the evening.

*Leicester Chronicle - 14 April 1894*