



# Coalville & District Challenge Cup 1893-94

**Winner:** Swadlincote Town  
**Runner-up:** Coalville Town  
**No. of entries:** 9

Game #1: Whitwick protested about the state of the pitch. The appeal was upheld, and the game was ordered to be replayed.

Swadlincote retained the cup, beating Coalville Town 2-1 in a repeat of the 1892-93 final.

## Round 1

	Date	Home	Away		Match Details
#1	18.11.1893	Whitwick Town	1 (0)	3 (2)	Burton Corinthians At Whitwick. Rugh weather. Game was ordered to be replayed
#2	2.12.1893	Gresley Rovers	6	0	Coalville East End

Byes: Hugglescote Robin Hood, Coalville Town, Woodville, Shepshed Town, Swadlincote Town and Newhall Swifts

## Round 1 Replay

No.	Date	Home	Away		Match Details
#3	9.12.1893	Burton Corinthians Geary J Heald	2 (2)	1 (0)	Whitwick Town AN Other Whitwick's first defeat of the season.

## Round 2

	Date	Home	Away		Match Details
#4	30.12.1893	Burton Corinthians	1 (0)	5 (1)	Coalville Town Derby Turn enclosure. Corinthians had won all 10 matches in the Burton Minor League. Coalville were 4 <sup>th</sup> in Burton Junior League.
#5	30.12.1893	Gresley Rovers	7	0	Hugglescote Robin Hoods One of the Hugglescote men broke his leg.
#6	30.12.1893	Swadlincote Town Cliff (2) AN Other	3	1	Newhall Swifts AN Other
#7	6.1.1894	Woodville	0	4	Shepshed Town Unfavourable weather.

## Semi-Finals

	Date	Home	Away		Match Details
#8	24.2.1894	Coalville Town W Smith	1 (0)	1 (0)	Gresley Rovers AN Other Fox & Goose Grounds, Coalville Attendance - 1,000
#9	17.3.1893	Swadlincote Town	6 (2)	1 (1)	Shepshed Town Waggon & Horses Ground, Coalville. Large gate, c. 1,500. Many making the journey from Swadlincote and Shepshed, a special train ran from the former location.

## Semi-Final Replay

No.	Date	Home	Away		Match Details
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#10	31.3.1894	Gresley Rovers AN Other	1	2	Coalville Town Benistone (2)	Attendance – 800. Beautiful summer weather.
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### Final

No.	Date	Home	Away		Match Details
#11	14.4.1894	Coalville Town	1 (0)	3 (2)	Swadlincote Town Sports ground, Coalville. Attendance: 2,000. Admission 6d and 3d. Game commenced at 3.30 pm.

## Match Reports

### #1 COALVILLE CHARITY CUP

#### FIRST ROUND

#### BURTON CORINTHIANS v WHITWICK

This match was played on the ground of the latter, in rough weather, before a good number of spectators. The home team won the toss and chose to play with the gale at their backs, but the visitors made it warm for them and showed them that they mean business, for in less than two minutes, they had put the ball through the allotted space, thus chalking No.1 to their credit. The game continued, and both goalkeepers had to keep alive to save the downfall of their citadel. Notwithstanding the strong wind they had to face, the visitors scored again before half-time – Corinthians 2, Whitwick 0. Commencing again, the home team worked the ball well up and managed to score their first and only goal. The visitors pressed hard after this, but could not score, the game ending-

CORINTHIANS 3  
WHITWICK 1

*Burton Chronicle – 23 November 1893*

### #2 COALVILLE CHARITY CUP

#### FIRST ROUND

#### COALVILLW v GRESLEY ROVERS

GRESLEY ROVERS, six goals;  
COALVILLE, none.

*Leicester Daily Post – 4 December 1893*

### #3 COALVILLE CHARITY CUP

#### BURTON CORINTHIANS v WHIWICK

This match had been ordered by the Coalville committee to be replayed, the Corinthians to have the choice of ground, but having no private ground of their own, they took a substantial guarantee to play the match at Whitwick. The home team had strengthened their eleven by three new men, including O'Connor, late of West Bromwich, while the visitors took the strongest team available. The home team won the toss and had the wind at their backs, but before the game was five minutes old W Geary scored the first goal. On restarting the home team began to play rough, an Mt Waring had all his work cut out to stop them, owing chiefly to the spectators, which incited the Whitwick players to do what they perhaps would not have done; but the visitors kept pegging away, and J Heald scored a grand goal. After this the home team livened up, and if the Corinthians' defence had not been good would have scored on several occasions. The visitors seemed to have fallen off, but the goalkeeper was there when wanted, and saved several good shots in first class style. Half-time arrived with the score:

Corinthians 2  
Whitwick 0

On resuming the visitors, with the wind, began to press, and the ball was rushed through, but the goal was packed behind with a lot of supporters, and the ball striking one after it had been through and coming into play again was knocked out. On an appeal for a goal, the referee ordered the ball to be thrown up, from which they cleared, and, racing off to the other end scored with a long shot. This put new life into the home team, and for about twenty minutes the visitors' defence was severely tried, but they came out with flying colours. The Corinthian forwards now made the best run of the day, passing to each other like "old hands",

R Bennett, putting in a splendid shot, which was rushed through by H Geary, but the referee disallowed it – hard lines – as the `goalkeeper played the ball to him. The game ended –

CORINTHIANS	2
WHITWICK	1

*Burton Chronicle - 14 December 1893*

### **#3 WHITWICK**

A match was played at Whitwick on Saturday, between the Town and Burton Corinthians, in the first round of the Coalville Charity Cup. The game was very even. Whitwick, however, had luck against them, and were defeated by two goals to one. This is the first time the Town have been defeated this season. Ten matches have been played, with the following result: Won 7, drawn 2 lost 1; goals, for 39, against 9.

*Leicester Chronicle – 16 December 1893*

### **#4 COALVILLE CHARITY CUP**

#### **SECOND ROUND**

#### **BURTON CORINTHIANS v COALVILLE**

The meeting of these two clubs on the Derby Turn enclosure (kindly lent) for the second round of the Coalville Charity Cup, caused a lot of interest amongst junior footballers, not only from the fact of the cup tie; but that, while the Corinthians have played ten matches in the Minor' League and won them all, Coalville have worked themselves into fourth position in the Junior League, that it really a test of strength between the two Burton Leagues, but the results showed that Coalville were for superior to the Corinthians, who were defeated for the first time this season. Teams: Corinthians—Swindell (goal), Hodgkin, Wyatt (backs), Tunncliffe. Walker, Bennett (half-backs), H, Port, W. Geary. H. Geary, and Port (forwards); Coalville—Massey (goal), Brownlow, Nickles (backs), Horton, Beadman, Eales (half-backs), Bill, Dudley, Benistone, J. Smith and W. Smith (forwards).

Referee—Mr J. Sharpe (Gresley)

Coalville won the toss and kicked towards Derby Road. In the opening exchanges the country team had considerably the best of the game, and after five minutes' play a good ran down the left wing, and a good centre, enabled the visitors to notch the first point, while directly after W. Smith shot outside when he had a good chance scoring. Still the villagers played up, and a corner fell to their lot, which was safely cleared. Another followed, which shared a like fate. Then the Geary brothers broke away, and for some time had the best of the game, two or three shots being in, but the beck division of Coalville was too good, and drove them back. They returned to the attack and for a few minutes it looked as though they would equalize. After a bit of midfield play the ball was worked into the Corinthians' quarters, where another corner was conceded, but this was also cleared, and a similar point met with a like result a few seconds after. Both sides missed a ridiculously easy chance of scoring, and then a corner fell to Coalville, which was cleared, and the ball taken into midfield, where some severe tussles took place, Coalville coming off best, and two more corners fell to their lot. Neither was improved upon, and half-time arrived with the score:

Coalville	1
Corinthians	0

On restarting the Corinthians had the best of the game for the first ten minutes, and then, by good passing, the Coalville men got the ball again, and a splendid bit of play in front of goal enabled the visitors to add No.2. Not satisfied with this, they returned with renewed vigour, and within a few minutes the right wing added No.3. After this the Burton team played up a little better, but were no match for their opponents, who drove them back again, and for some time gave the homesters plenty to do. The latter then livened up, and a good centre from the left was well put through with a fast shot by Poxon. Encouraged by this the Burton men played up in improved style, and a corner fell to their lot, the final shot, however, going outside. The Corinthians were now having the best of the game, another corner being given; but at last the visitors broke away and Bills added No.4. Tunncliffe then ran the leather down, but his centre was only converted into a corner, which was easily cleared, and two more followed, both being got safely away. After this Coalville played a deal better game, and a well-executed run ended in Swindell being beaten for the fifth time. From now till the close Coalville had much the best of the play, and the game ended:-

COALVILLE	5
CORINTHIANS	1

*Burton Chronicle – 4 January 1894*

#### **#5 GRESLEY ROVERS v HUGGLESCOTE ROBIN HOODS**

This match was played at Gresley on Saturday. An unfortunate accident happened, one of the Hugglescote men having his leg broken. Score:

GRESLEY	7
HUGGLESCOTE	0

*Burton Chronicle – 4 January 1894*

#### **#6 SWADLINCOTE v NEWHALL**

This match was played at Swadlincote on Saturday, on the ground of the former, before a good attendance of spectators. From the commencement Swadlincote meant business, as, after some midfield, Cliff and his mates went off, and dodging round their opponents, Cliff scored No. 1 for the homesters. Even play was then the order of the day, and half-time arrived with no alteration to the score. After the interval Swadlincote got away well, and Jackson added the second point. This seemed to rouse the Newhalls, one or two of them playing somewhat too vigorously, and they were duly cautioned by the referee. They played with great determination, but the Swadlincote defence was very safe, Kinson especially tackling and kicking well. After a spell of give-and-take play, the Swadlincote forwards went away again, and Cliff notched No.3 for the "Blues". Play was now very one-sided, the visitors scarcely having a look in, but no more scoring was done, the game ending as below:

SWADLINCOTE	3
NEWHALL	1

*Burton Chronicle – 4 January 1894*

#### **#7 SHEPSHED**

**CHARITY CUP** – On Saturday, despite the very unfavourable weather, the Shepshed team journeyed to Woodville to meet the latter in the second round of the Coalville Charity Cup. A well contested game resulted – Shepshed four goals; Woodville one goal.

*Leicester Chronicle – 13 January 1894*

#### **COALVILLE CHARITY CUP**

##### **SEMI-FINAL**

##### **COALVILLE TOWN v GRESLEY ROVERS**

Coalville team: Massey, goal; Tomlinson and Nicholls, backs; Orson, Beadman and Brownlow, half-backs; W Smith and Dooley, right wing; Benistone, centre; C Eales and Smith, left wing.

Played at Coalville on Saturday, on the Fox and Goose round, before about 1,000 spectators, Benistone started the ball for Coalville, but the pass was fouled by Dooley, and Gresley got down, but W Smith getting possession made a good run up the right wing, and centred. Benistone fouled, and the Gresley left wing made tracks for the home goal, but Benistone relieved. Gresley forced a corner, but nothing resulted. After a brief visit to the other end, the home team had again to defend. Two good shots were sent at Massey, but he saved in good form. The Rovers still pressed, and four corners fell to them in quick succession, but were all safely got away. Nicholls and Tomlinson had a lot of work to do, and they defied all the efforts of the Gresley men to score, while Massey stopped several shots. Half-time score:

Rovers	0
Coalville	0

Resuming, each goal in turn was attacked, but without result, until the Rovers got away and centred, a good goal being the result. Gresley continued to press, but the Town halves played splendidly, and repeatedly stopped them. A corner fell to the home team, and was fouled right in goal, and from the kick W Smith equalised for Coalville amidst loud cheers. After this the game was very exciting, both teams making strenuous efforts to score, but without any result, and when the whistle blew the score was:

ROVERS	1
COALVILLE	1

*Burton Chronicle – 1 March 1894*

#### **#9 COALVILLE CHARITY CUP**

##### **SEMI-FINAL**

##### **Swadlincote v Shepshed Town**

These teams met on the Wagon and Horses ground, Coalville on Saturday to fight for the honour of entering the final round of the above competition. Here was a gate of about 1,500, a large number of spectators making the journey from Swadlincote and Shepshed, a special train being run from the former place. Swadlincote started and, after the opening exchanges the Shepshed forwards got away, but were repulsed. The Reds, however displaying pretty combination, got away again, and a good shot from the right beat Simkin, Shepshed thus drawing first blood amidst loud cheers. The game continued fairly even for a time, and then Heywood and Allman in the Swadlincote right beat the opposing backs, and a good centre resulted in the score being equalised. Shepshed repeatedly visited their opponents quarters, but the backs visited their opponents quarters, but the backs were too good for them. Simkin, however, had to deal with one or two good shots. Just before half-time Swadlincote put on another goal, the score at the interval being:

Swadlincote	2 goals
Shepshed	1 goal

On resuming, the Swadlincote men put a lot of vigour into their play, and pressed the Reds hard. Needham, and Wortley kept the forwards out for a time, but displaying capital combination, the blues forced the game, and soon increased their lead by another point, Shepshed were now entirely outplayed, and the forwards seldom got beyond the half-way lines. Jones the Swad, centre half, played a grand game, and gave his front rank plenty of chances. The Swad. men by their excellent passing, completely beat their opponents, and when the whistle blew for time, three more goals had been scored, the result being:

Swadlincote	6 goals
Shepshed	1 goal

Referee, Mr F Garner, Leicester  
*Coalville Times - 23 March 1894*

## **#10 Coalville Charity Cup**

### **RE-PLAYED SEMI-FINAL**

#### **Coalville Town v Gresley Rovers**

It will be remembered that these two met four or five weeks ago in the above Cup Competition, when a hard-fought game ended in a draw of one goal each. The Association ordered the tie to be replayed on Saturday last, and the match took in beautiful summer-like weather, and before 800 spectators. Coalville won the toss, and Robinson kicked off for Gresley, who had to face a brilliant sun, there being little wind stirring. The ball went over the touch line, and from the throw in, the Town forwards worked down, but Topliss relieved. Rovers got into their opponents quarters, but Eales returned, and the ball went out at the other end. A free fell to Coalville, and from the kick Lowe had a good chance but muffed it. Gresley right-wing went away, and were getting dangerous when Robinson fouled, and the leather went back to the other end where Langford threw away a shot by Smith. Play did not remain long in the Rover's quarters, their right wing rushing up and forcing a corner. The ball was nicely placed, and Massey had to give another corner in saving, but it was safely got away. A minute later Yale had to head out a good shot, whilst one of the Gresley forwards soon after kicked wide. W. Smith changed the venue by a good run down the left, one of the opposing backs giving a corner, but nothing came of it. Both ends were visited in turn, and then Lowe put in a lovely centre but Benestone was not up, and the chance was missed. A foul fell to the Villians in front of the Gresley goal and Benestone shot through amidst cheers, but the referee disallowed the goal on the ground that only one man touched the ball, whereas the Town contended that Smith played to Benestone before the latter shot. Coalville now having the best of matters, and attacked strongly, but the Gresley backs were very safe. At last Benestone secured possession right in front of the goal, and shot past Langford, thus drawing first blood for Coalville. Proceeding, the game continued in the Gresley quarters, and Eales struck the cross-bar from a free kick. Massey then had to deal with a shot at the other end, which he did easily, and half-time arrived with the score:-

Coalville	1 goal
Gresley	0

On resuming, W. Smith at once sprinted up the left but kicked out, and from the goal-kick, the Rover's forwards went down, but were stopped by Eales who was playing a grand game. Smith again ran up and centred, and Langford fisted out a sharp shot, and he also successfully dealt with another from Dooley who transferred to Lowe. The latter centred grandly, but Dooley shot over the bar. Brownlow and Orton were conspicuous for fine half-back play, but the Rovers were trying hard, and getting down to goal some smart play took place, and a long dropping shot from the right beat Massey, the score thus being equalised. Coalville pressed, and Langford had to clear a shot from W. Smith, whilst on the other wing Lowe troubled

the backs with some capital centers. A corner fell to the Town, and Lowe placing the ball grandly, Benestone headed through amidst cheers. The visitors had a look in, but the Town halves worked indefatigably, and broke up the Rover's combination time after time. Nevertheless, Gresley forced a fruitless corner, and of their forwards shot just over. Towards the finish the Town had the best of matters, but no further scoring took place, the result being:

Coalville Town ... 2 goals

Gresley Rovers ... 1

*Coalville Times - 6 April 1894*

#### #11 COALVILLE CHARITY CUP FINAL

##### Coalville Town v Swadlincote



*Coalville Times - 6 April 1894*

Since the commencement of the Coalville Cup Competition four years ago, interest in local football has greatly increased, and on Saturday there would a gate of about 2,000 people to witness the final tie between the above town teams on the sports ground. The cup was won for the first time in 1890 by Coalville Town, who were opposed by Shepshed Town in the final. The following year Gresley Rovers carried off the trophy, having beaten Coalville Town and last year it will be remembered that Swadlincote defeated the unlucky Villians in the final by six goals to two. It was fated that be same two teams should fight again for possession of the Cup this year, and the game was expected to be a close one, as both teams have been showing good form of late. Mr Rollins, of Walsall, was the referee.

Simpson kicked off for Coalville against the wind, but Swad got away, Nicholls returned, and the ball went out. Swad right ran down and got very dangerous when a foul brought relief. With the wind at their backs, Swad had not much difficulty in keeping the ball in the

home half. A shot was sent in which Nicholls stopped, and shortly after Massey had to fist out. A corner fell to Swad, but the kick was too strong and the ball went out. The home team made a spurt, but the visitors backs stopped them with good kicking. Shortly after, Massey again stopped a good shot. Coalville broke away, but Simpson fouled and the ball was again taken back. Coalville again got away, Dooley and Lowe being conspicuous and a foul by the visitors gave them further help, but one of the homester's team fouled right in front of goal. Play was quickly transferred by means of the Swad right to the home half, but the ball went over the line. Several shots were sent at Massey, who, however, successfully dealt with them, and in one case the ball hit the cross bar and went out. The home team made two good attempts to break away, but in both instances the ball was fouled. The home halves were playing a splendid defensive game, and the backs were well supporting them. From a free kick close to away, the ball was speedily taken back, W. Smith making a good attempt to score. The visitors were again getting away, but Beadman stopped them and passed to Smith who put in a good shot which the back cleared at the expense of a corner, the latter, however, proving fruitier. Play now proceeded in the visitors half, and a foul fell to Coalville, but was got away, the opposing backs playing a very good game. Swad right broke away and got well down, but the ball was knocked out. Returning from a scrimmage round the goal they added a third to the great delight of their supporters. Coalville immediately went away, and after some vain attempts to score, forced a corner which was safely got away. Swad got down but Brownlow, and Beadman relieved, and the ball went out. Swad again got down but Nicholls relieved and the ball was sent back, but Dooley fouled. A corner fell to Coalville, but was fruitless. Swad got away and ran right down, and Heywood put in a shot which Massey stopped. Play then proceeded in the visitor's half for a time, but the homesters could not score, and the ball was taken back. Heywood tricking Hales, had the goal at his mercy, but shot outside. The Town tried hard right up to the finish to put on another point, the two Smiths and troubling the Swad backs, but no other goals were scored, time game ending:—

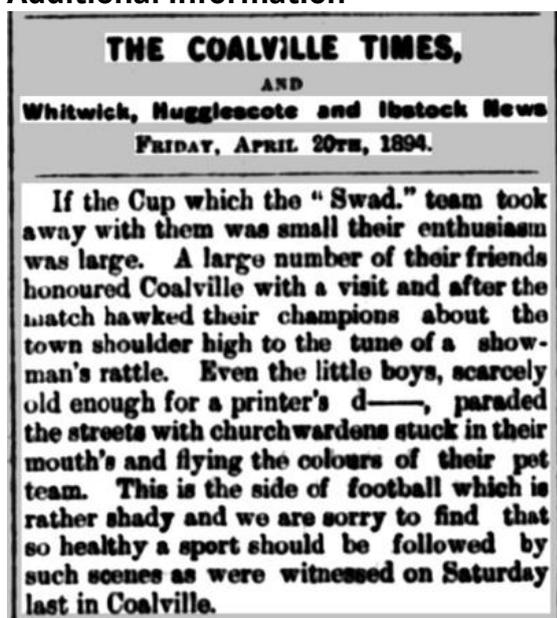
Swadlincote... 3 goals

Coalville ..... I

At the close of the match, an enthusiastic crowd of the Swadlincote supporters, with many of the other spectators, gathered round the pavilion where Dr. J. C. Burkitt (a Vice-president of the Association) presented the Cup to the Swadlincote captain. The appearance of the doctor at the door of the pavilion was the signal for loud cheering. He said he had great pleasure in presenting the cup to the Swadlincote Club for the second year in succession (cheers). They had won it fairly, and had proved themselves to be the best team. He must say that Coalville had played a better game than last year when they lost by six goals to two—(hear, hear) - as they had only been beaten this time by a majority of two goals. He might inform them that it was the intention of the Charity Association to increase the value of the Cup to £50 before next season if possible (cheers). The cup was then handed the Swadlincote captain, the crowd cheering very enthusiastically. A number at the Swadlincote Committee thanked Dr. Burkitt, and it had given them great satisfaction to again win the Cup. He hoped would win the new cup next year (cheers).

*Coalville Times - 20 April 1894*

### Additional Information



*Coalville Times - 20 April 1894*

I got up with the intention of going to see the cup tie [Whitwick Town v Burton Corinthians], but I gave one glance outside and another at the glorious fire by which I had been sitting and that was enough - I decided for the fire, a man must have been very, very fond of football who would stand on the unsheltered football field for an hour and a half in such weather as it was on Saturday. Whitwick lost by a goal, but it must have been simply a farce trying to play in such weather. They protested against the match being reckoned as a Cup tie, and, as the referee is in their favour, I suppose they will win.

*Coalville Times - 24 November 1893*