



Kettering & District Charity Cup 1894-95

Winner: Burton Wanderers
Runner-Up: Leicester Fosse
No. of entries: 8

The committee managing the Kettering and District Charity Cup heightened the importance of the competition by confining entries in 1894-5 to clubs of a much higher standard than previously. The eight clubs that entered the competition were divided into two divisions, the winners of which played each other in the final. The semi-finals and final were all played at Kettering's North Park ground.

Gordon scored a hat-trick as the Fosse easily overcame Kettering, setting up a semi-final against Loughborough who travelled to Northamptonshire to beat Rushden.

Special excursions transported spectators to Kettering to watch the eagerly anticipated encounter between Leicestershire's arch-rivals. Fosse scored midway through the first half after the ball cannoned off a player from a free kick. Scarcely a couple of minutes afterwards the Loughborough were awarded a penalty as Smith handled to stop a certain goal. Thraves stopped Owen's penalty, but dazzled by the sun, he lost possession and Owen rushing in to equalise. The ball burst and the game was delayed as another was found. Both sides created and missed golden opportunities to score. As proceedings were being conducted in semi-darkness, the Fosse took charge. Just five minutes from the end Gallacher managed to get a centre close to goal and Skea or McArthur finished the movement in style securing an "extremely pretty goal." Loughborough made a final attack and Gallacher found an opportunity to race away, passing Loughborough backs and sprinting the whole length of the field to score "one of the best goals imaginable." The final whistle blew as Loughborough kicked off.

Fosse's opponents in the final were Burton Wanderers. In the first round they travelled to Lincolnshire where they beat Grantham Rovers by 2 goals to 0, and in the semi-final, faced Burton Swifts at Kettering, when they were again victorious, the score being 4 goals to 1.

The final for the Kettering Charity Cup took place on Monday afternoon at Kettering Town's ground. The Fosse team and supporters left Leicester by the 2.25 pm train. Kick-off was timed for 4-30, and Mr. Kingscott of Derby, was the referee. There was fully 4,000 spectators when he lined the men up. The first half was even until about half a minute before the whistle went, the Wanderers' forwards went down a line, and, the ball being put nicely to Brown, that player had a good opening and made no mistake, he kept the ball well on the floor and sent it flying past Thraves amidst ringing cheers. For a time in the second half the Fosse had the best of the exchanges, hitting the crossbar, and Watts saving two shots amidst tremendous cheers. Threading their way through, and gradually wearing down the Fosse; Wanderers stuck to their work gallantly, Brown skimming the cross-bar, and then a centre. Burton's backs averted the danger by working the leather to the other side of the field, and Ben centred magnificently into the front of the goal, where no less than four of the Wanderers players missed their kicks when within a few yards of Thraves, Brown (Fosse) eventually coming to the rescue and kicking down the field. As time was drawing to the close Leicester tried their very utmost to draw level, while the spectators frantically shouted to the Wanderers to keep it up for a few minutes longer. Wanderers' victory was enthusiastically greeted by their army of supporters.

The Chairman of the Kettering Charity Cup Committee presented the cup to the Wanderers captain [Adrian Capes] at Peel Croft's grandstand. Burton's players were cheered all the way from the ground to Kettering railway station, arriving in Burton just before ten o'clock, where they were cheered by their "most ardent supporters on the platform." On reaching the street they were surrounded by thousands of supporters, who cheered and shouted themselves hoarse, and as the players took up their places in a brake [horse drawn wagon] provided for them they were greeted with "shouts, cheers and the waving of hats." A band in another brake played "See the conquering heroes come" as they paraded by torchlight to the Derby Turn, the headquarters of the club. Here the players were hoisted on the shoulders of supporters and drank champagne from the cup.

Round 1

Division 1

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
1	11.2.1895	Leicester Fosse [Holders] Gordon (3) Miller Gallacher Mablestone	6 (1)	1 (1)	Kettering AN Other	Filbert-street, Leicester. 300-400 - including a "good number" from Kettering.
2	18.2.1895	Rushden	0	3	Loughborough	At Rushen. 1,000 spectators.

Division 2

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
3	20.2.1895	Burton Swifts	7	2	Notts Forest	Forest sent a weakened team.
4	3.1.1895	Grantham	1	2	Burton Wanderers	At Grantham. 600 spectators.

Semi-Finals

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
5	11.3.1895	Leicester Fosse	3	1	Loughborough	North Park, Kettering. 4.30 pm kick off - beautifully fine weather 1000 spectators - a fair number of supporters travelled from Leicester,
6	25.3.1895	Burton Wanderers	4 (2)	1 (0)	Burton Swifts	North Park, Kettering. Tame affair. Dreary weather.

Final

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
7	8.4.1895	Burton Wanderers	1 (1)	0 (0)	Leicester Fosse	North Park, Kettering. 4,000 spectators. Fose were weakened by the absence of Henry's and Hughes, "The game was fought out purely cup-tie lines, rendering it necessary for the referee to be in good whistling form, for fouls were very numerous."

Match Reports

#1 KETTERING CHARITY CUP

Played at Leicester on Monday. The ground covered with snow, and the atmosphere extremely keen.

Fosse, six goals; Kettering, one.

Northampton Mercury - 15 February 1895

#2 LOUGHBOROUGH v RUSHDEN

These teams met at Rushden on Monday in the above competition, before fully 1,000 spectators. They had met on two occasions previously this season, Loughborough winning on each occasion by six goals to one, and then seven one, respectively, so that Rushden hardly expected to win the match under notice. The game, however, resulted: Loughborough three goals; Rushden nil.

Northampton Mercury - 22 February 1895

#3 KETTERING CUP FIRST ROUND BURTON SWIFTS v NOTTS FOREST

Played at Burton-on-Trent, the visitors had a very weak team and were consequently outplayed at every point. They, however, managed to open the scoring, but the Swifts put on here before the interval. in the

second half the Swifts continued to hold the upper hand and Cairns, Bogie, Willocks and West each scored for the Swifts, while Notts added another. Result:

BURTON SWIFTS	7 goals
NOTTS FOREST	2 goals

Sheffield Independent – 12 February 1895

#4 GRANTHAM ROVERS v BURTON WANDERERS – These teams met yesterday week at Grantham, before 600 spectators, to contest their tie in the first round of the Kettering Cup. The game ended – Burton Wanderer two goals, Grantham Rovers none.

Stamford Mercury – 4 January 1895

#5 KETTERING CHARITY CUP SEMI-FINAL

(A) LEICESTER FOSSE v. LOUGHBOROUGH - played at Kettering yesterday, in the presence of 2,000 spectators. Seven minutes after the start Brown from free kick scored for the Fosse and two minutes later Owen put Loughborough on a level. In the second half each team made splendid attempts to get the lead, Fosse obtaining two goals just on the call of time. Score: - Leicester Fosse 3 goals, Loughborough 1 goal.

Northampton Mercury – 15 March 1895

#6 KETTERING CHARITY CUP – At Kettering the semi-final tie yesterday was won by the Burton Wanderers over the Burton Swifts by four goals to one.

Morning Post – 26 March 1895

#7 Leicester Fosse made the journey to North Park Ground, Kettering on Monday, with the intention, if possible of retaining the Charity Cup for another twelve months. Their opponents were Burton Wanderers and although they suffered great disadvantages with regard to their players they were hopeful of capturing the “pot”. The game was fought out on purely cup tie lines, rendering it necessary for the referee to be in good whistling form, for fouls were very numerous. There was little to choose between the clubs but had the Fossils been credited with the same amount of luck as their opponents, the verdict would, in all probability have been 2-1 in their favour, instead of against them. However, Fosse have only to await the decision of the Bass Cup to bring about a reversal of form.

Leicester Chronicle – 13 April 1895

KETTERING CHARITY CUP.
FINAL TIE.
LEICESTER FOSSE v. BURTON WANDERERS.
Played at Kettering, in beautiful weather. Leicester, who played two reserve half-backs and kicked off against the wind, had to defend the greater part of the first half, Arthur Capes giving the Wanderers the lead just before the interval. The second half was more evenly contested. Fosse made some good attempts to score, but the Wanderers defence was too good, the Wanderers winning by one goal to nil. Result:—
BURTON WANDERERS 1 goal.
LEICESTER FOSSE..... 0 goal.

Sheffield Independent - 9 April 1895

FOOTBALL.

ASSOCIATION.

KETTERING CHARITY CUP.

FINAL TIE.

FO SSE (HOLDERS) v. BURTON WANDERERS.

The period of possession by the Fosse of the Kettering Charity Cup having expired, they were called upon on Monday to make good their claims, if possible, to retain the trophy for another twelve months. Last year, it will be remembered, the competition was a comparatively unimportant one, and embraced no clubs of better standing than the Midland League. For the present season, however, entries were received from clubs of much higher merit, and it was therefore a task of some difficulty to qualify for the final. Fosse ran through the preliminary stages all right, and passed the semi-final by beating Loughborough after an evenly-fought game by three goals to one. With Burton Wanderers, who were the opponents of the Fosse in the match on the North Park ground, Kettering, on Monday, the work was somewhat harder, for they had rather stiff matches to get over before beating the Swifts of the same town in the semi-final by four goals to one. As the League matches between the Fosse and the Wanderers had both provided exceptionally keen games, this final was looked forward to as probably being productive of another hard struggle, but unfortunately the even chances of the Fosse were considerably discounted by the absence of Henrys and Hughes from the half-back line. Their places were very difficult to fill, but after much cogitation, the committee decided to put Lord at the post usually filled by Henrys, and Miller at centre-half. It was evidently thought that Gordon was more effective among the forwards than in the intermediate line,

while Miller's trickiness might prove useful. Last Saturday the Wanderers played to a highly creditable draw with Wolverhampton Wanderers in the final of the Staffordshire Cup, while Fosse barely managed to beat Lincoln City—performances, that admit of little comparison. The kick-off was arranged to take place at half-past four, and the team and supporters left Leicester by the 2.25 train. Mr. A. Kingscott, of Derby, was referee, and neutral linesmen were chosen. The respective elevens appeared in the following order:—

Fosse: Thraves, goal; Smith, and Bailey, backs; Lord, Miller, and Brown (captain), half-backs; Hill, McArthur, Gordon, Skea, and Gallacher, forwards.

Burton: Watts, goal; Cunningham and Draper, backs; Draycott, Ward, and Lowe, half-backs; Moore, Brown, Adrian Capes, Arthur Capes, and Garfield, forwards.

With the exception of Moore in place of Rose, the Wanderers had their full team. The weather was beautifully fine, and the attendance numbered over a thousand at the commencement. Burton won the toss, and had the advantage of a slope and slight wind. Fosse made the opening move, but Gallacher's pass was taken by Draper. Then the Wanderers, by nice combination, got down, and Thraves had to fist away from Moore. A. Capes just afterwards shooting over. The game still went in favour of Burton, until relief came through a couple of free kicks, the last of which was finely repulsed by Arthur Capes. The Burton right wing got down again, for Ward to kick wildly out. Gallacher and Skea eased matters a bit for the Fosse, and Gordon ran further down, but Hill's centre was a bad one, though Gordon and Skea managed to pass the Wanderers' halves, Gordon running the ball out. A strong rush by the Wanderers' right was nicely checked by Brown, and then Draper did a similar service for Burton, but a foul against McArthur drove the Fosse right back to their own goal, Draycott kicking too hard, and sending the ball wide. Another chance was lost to Burton, a centre from the left wing being too hard. Bailey and Gordon stopped a further onslaught resulting from a free for hands against Brown. By means of

extremely pretty play the Fosse forwards made towards the opposite goal, and again Gordon, Gallacher, and Hill were conspicuous, but Miller shot a few feet wide. Now for a few minutes the Wanderers had the best of matters, and as the result of a centre, a scrimmage ensued in the Fosse goal, from which Moore put the ball into the net just out of the reach of Thraves. The whistle, however, had gone for a foul by the Fosse close in, and Garfield, taking the kick, placed the ball on the net. A couple of free kicks assisted the Fosse in keeping their opponents at bay, but Skea infringed at the centre, and with a free kick, Cunningham sent the ball over the goal-line. Garfield, when apparently offside, was allowed to put in a splendid centre, but the opposite wing were not in a position to take advantage of it. A foul against Ward let down the Leicester men, and Brown headed finely towards goal. Lord met the leather on its return from a Burton back and kicked over. Another spell of aggressive play on the part of Burton was next witnessed, in the course of which Smith forced Garfield to run the ball out. Then Hill, McArthur, and Gordon put in a very fine piece of work, as the result of which McArthur got the ball past Draper, and had a clear oblique shot at goal, but placed the ball across the front of Watts' charge. Again the hard-working Wanderers went to the front, and Lord nearly gave the show away by heading into the Fosse goal. Thraves, however, lay at hand, and fisted away smartly. Following mid-field play, Fosse were once more severely pressed, and Miller once did good service by intercepting a centre from the Wanderers' right wing, which was very dangerous. Smith, Lord, and Brown each repulsed strong attacks by the Wanderers, and Arthur Capes once narrowly missed scoring, the ball travelling a little wide. Gallacher was badly supported in a breakaway, and a corner taken by Moore having been sent behind, Miller spoilt another run up the field by a foul, and just afterwards the referee found occasion to speak a few words to Garfield, the work on this wing being of quite a

cup-tie order. As the game progressed matters were more even, Fosse playing what under the circumstances was a surprisingly good game, considering that they were now facing a dazzling sun. Another foul against Garfield was brought to notice, and the next noteworthy item, after a lot of even play, was a useful long touch kick by Bailey, which placed Fosse in an advantageous position, and work by Skea and Miller close in goal resulted in Watts kicking out, but a foul by Arthur Capes on McArthur threatened further danger, Brown, however, putting the ball over the goal. The ensuing play went in favour of the Wanderers, who were making the most of the advantage derived from sun and wind. They were assisted by a free against Fosse, but on the whole the Leicester defence was quite equal to the attack, the Fosse players closing into goal most effectively. Garfield headed wide from a capital kick towards Thraves, but half a minute before half-time a combined rush by the Wanderers' forwards ended in Arthur Capes scoring a grand goal. At the interval the score stood:—

WANDERERS, one goal;

FOSSE, none.

Considering the adverse circumstances under which Fosse had worked in the first instance, it was thought that notwithstanding the minority in which they stood they had still a fairly even chance. The opening play, however, was in favour of Burton, an attempt to make the game open by Mr Arthur, Skea, and Gordon being unsuccessful. Both Smith and Bailey put in a lot of useful play, but from the wing Garfield got in a splendid shot, which went straight to Thraves, who saved well. This was followed by an equally good shot from Hill, who sent at Watts with some force, the Wanderers custodian saving beautifully. Bailey repulsed nicely from Brown (Burton), and Gordon, at the other end, put a long low shot at Watts, who had no trouble to stop the ball. With a free against Burton the Fosse maintained their advantage, and Gallacher receiving an accurate centre from Hill sent a few inches over, when he had a beautiful opportunity for a score.

Burton were then decidedly lucky in averting a score as the outcome of a shot from Skea, the ball travelling up in front of Watts and striking the crossbar on the outside. Bailey put an end to the career of the Burton left and centre, and Fosse went on with their attacking movements. A couple of long shots were sent out, and Gordon receiving luckily from a mistake by a Burton back, caused the ball to rise towards the goal, but sent it a couple of inches over. In some midfield play that ensued Brown was especially prominent for his ubiquitous style of play, but to get rid of a centre from Garfield he was obliged to give a corner, from which Gordon headed away. At the other end Skea forced a corner, and in the scrimmage that ensued round the goal Lord was badly fouled. He took the free kick himself, and struck the post with some force, Bailey ending this movement by kicking out. Moore tried to break away, but spoilt his effort by a foul, and the next item was a grand combined run by Adrian Capes and Brown, which caused the game to proceed to the Fosse quarters, where a free for a foul well in goal was got away all right. Next came a terrific shot from Skea, which went straight for goal, but accidentally struck a Burton back on the head, and went far over the goal for a corner. This, too, was unproductive, and then Burton made another onslaught, which once more brought forth the fine defensive qualities of Brown, who was doing a tremendous amount of work. Fosse having eased again, a further spell of attack was indulged in, in which Hill shot over, and Gallacher gave Watts some trouble to clear away a capital centre. As the game wore on the visits of the Burton men to the Fosse end became more frequent, Fosse falling off a little. A foul by Gordon

on Draper put an end to a run down by the Fosse, and Arthur Capes cleverly followed up a long kick and beat Smith for possession, but again Brown sprinted back, and was instrumental in clearing when the goal stood in great danger. Fouls to each side followed, Gordon being unfairly charged as he was passing forward, while a further free well in the Wanderers' goal gave Leicester another chance, but Lord's kick was cleverly headed out. The Burton players were just now being severely pressed, but the defence offered was very safe. Near the end Garfield beat Smith, and appeared to have a capital chance of running through for a score, but Smith, recovering, stopped him, and no one was up to receive the centre he was just able to put in. Cunningham kicked out to prevent Gallacher from cutting, and a foul by Skea sent the game to midfield again. Time was now not far off, and right up to the end the game was of an even nature. The endeavours of the Fosse to get on even terms were always effectively frustrated, and in the end the Leicester men had to acknowledge defeat by the smallest possible margin, the final being—

WANDERERS, one goal;

FOSSE, none.

At the conclusion of the match the cup, which had been exhibited on the stand, was presented to the winning team by Mr. G. W. Lane, a prominent member of the Competition Committee. Its receipt was duly acknowledged by an official of the Burton Club and by Adrian Capes.—On behalf of the Fosse Mr. J. J. Curtis, chairman of the executive, admitted that the team had been fairly beaten on the day's play, but hoped that if the clubs met on a similar occasion in twelve months' time Fosse would not have to fight, as they had then done, under disadvantageous circumstances, and would once more regain possession of the trophy.

COMMENTS.

From a Leicester standpoint so even a game ought not to have been won in the manner in which Burton claimed to have possession of the cup. So closely were the teams matched that the Wanderers were on the lucky side in being able to announce themselves victors, and in more ways than one Fosse are to be commiserated with. Want of victory on the part of the Ancients must be put down simply and solely to the weakened forces at command. With all respect to Lord and Miller they could not be expected to adequately fill the places vacated by Hughes and Seymour. Still, with the men as a body just a little stale from their unusual exertions of the past three weeks or so, such a hard fight as they made must be regarded as fairly satisfactory, though this feeling will not by any means compensate for the loss of the cup and medals. As an exhibition of football the match does not rank very high when the type ordinarily adopted by the respective teams is taken into account. It was purely a cup-tie game, and if the vigour introduced was not sufficient to call for the decisive intervention of the referee, fouls were more numerous than lovers of the game as a game would wish to see. In this respect Garfield was singled out amongst the crowd, and Miller and Smith had plenty to do to keep him in hand. Again, a scientific exposition was rendered difficult by the sun and wind that were so much in evidence. From these causes Burton had much the best of the game in the first half, and Fosse much the best in the second. The difference was that Burton got through with a good goal, while Fosse were not sufficiently favoured, though two or three times they were very near it. Once, for instance, Sken, with a shot that would in all probability have been out of the power of any ordinary goalkeeper, nearly knocked off the head of a Burton player who was standing in the way, and again Charlie Watts was exceedingly fortunate in clearing from the same Fossil. How-

ever, Burton must not be grudged their victory, which, while it was nothing to be proud of, was enough to give them temporary possession of the trophy that had previously ornamented President Ashwell's drawing-room. Brown for the Fosse was really the best man on the field. Serviceable as the Fosse captain has been in the past, it is doubtful whether he has ever played a finer game in the Fosse colours, for he was untiring in his efforts to assist the backs when needed, and did much to cover the deficiencies of the Fosse second line. Miller performed an amount of useful work, and Lord, as usual, tried hard; but Fosse will not be the same until the regular trio is performing together again. Seymour is reported to have "stayed the course" all right at Finedon, and may soon be expected back in the first team. The Fosse forwards were a level lot, but might have been steadier in front of goal. With them, however, as with the Burton forwards, sterling back play made itself felt, and thus adequately accounted for the low scoring. Judging from their experiences of Monday, Fosse have little to be afraid of when the final for the Bass Vase is played, and with the share of luck that is only due to them should obtain a reversal of yesterday's verdict.