

LFA Women's Football News Stories 1895 to 1945

Headline	Newspaper
Football for Women	<i>Leicester Chronicle - 16 February 1895</i>
Westcotes Bowling Club football match	<i>Leicester Evening Mail - 24 December 1912</i>
Kirby Muxloe Ladies at football	<i>Leicester Evening Mail - 7 April 1920</i>
Comic ladies and gentlemen football match - advert	<i>Midland Mail - 28 September 1917</i>
Dick Kerr's Ladies International team at Leicester - photograph	<i>Leicester Chronicle - Saturday 20 November 1920</i>
Ladies Football - Dick Kerr's Ladies v St Helen's Ladies	<i>Leicester Daily Mercury - Saturday 20 November 1920</i>
Preview to Dick Kerr's Ladies v St Helen's match	<i>Leicester Evening Mail - 25 November 1920</i>
Ladies' Football Match - letter to the Editor	<i>Leicester Evening Mail - 25 November 1920</i>
Ladies Football Match at Filbert Street Ground - Advertisement	<i>Leicester Evening Mail - 25 November 1920</i>
Proposal to Forma Club in Leicester	<i>Leicester Evening Mail - 25 September 1921</i>
"No Worse Than Women Astride a Horse"	<i>Leicester Evening Mail - 27 December 1921</i>
Ladies at Football - Novel Match for Leicester - Dick Kerr's	<i>Leicester Evening Mail - 3 September 1927</i>
Ladies at Football - Kenny Campbell Against It - Dick Kerr's Replay	<i>Leicester Evening Mail - 7 September 1927</i>
Women Can Play Football	<i>Leicester Daily Mercury - 9 September 1927</i>
"Football is not a game suitable for women"	<i>Leicester Evening Mail - 9 September 1927</i>
Bosworth Wright's ladies football team [Anstey] challenge	<i>Leicester Daily Mercury - 11 December 1940</i>
Eva Poxon - goalkeeper for Foister, Clay and Ward - photo	<i>Leicester Daily Mercury - 1 May 1936</i>
Comic Football Match at Kibworth Beauchamp	<i>Market Harborough Advertise and Midand Mail - 31 May 1937</i>
Soccer Amazon - member of Bozeat women's football team - photo.	<i>Leicester Evening Mail - 15 April 1938</i>
Kegworth Ladies and Bozeat (Northants) - photo	<i>Leicester Daily Mercury - 19 April 1938</i>
Mrs. J S Symons kicks off at a women's charity football match at Loughborough between earls Barton and Bozeat, Northamptonshire	<i>Leicester Evening Mail - 11 April 1939</i>
Women's Football at Coalville	<i>Leicester Evening Mail - 23 June 1939</i>
Duchess of Rutland greeting players of the women's football arranged in aid of the Red Cross Funds by employes of Imperial Typewriter Co. Ltd	<i>Leicester Evening Mail - 18 December 1939</i>
Anstey charity match photo with Tom Bromilow-LCFC manager	<i>Leicester Evening Mail - 31 August 1940</i>
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Women's football - Anstey	<i>Leicester Evening Mail - 16 September 1940</i>
Messrs. Pollard and Wain's women footballers	<i>Leicester Evening Mail - 4 November 1940</i>
Taylorcraft No. 7 works ladies football team photo	<i>Leicester Chronicle - 8 April 1944</i>

FOOTBALL FOR WOMEN.

BY LADY FLORENCE DIXIE IN THE
"PALL MALL GAZETTE."

There is no reason why football should not be played by women, and played well, too, provided they dress rationally and relegate to limbo the straight-jacket attire in which fashion delights to clothe them. For, for women to attempt any kind of free movement in fashion's dress means the making of themselves ridiculous, even as men would so make themselves did they play cricket or football arrayed in skirts and their attendant flummeries. I cannot conceive a game more calculated to improve the physique of women than that of football. I refer, of course, to the Association game, which to my mind is the only legitimate representation of this most excellent sport, for I have never been able to see any justification for the word football as applied to the Rugby method of play, which would be better represented by the application "harum-scarum scrummage." In Association football a player must be light and swift of foot, agile, wiry, and in good condition; and are not these physical requisites just the very characteristics of good health most to be desired for women. To lack them is a misfortune, to attain them an ambition, which all lacking them should have; and certainly football is the surest way of securing them. In that school of the future, which, looking ahead, I see arising on the golden hilltops of progress above the mists of prejudice, football will be considered as natural a game for girls as for boys, as will also cricket, athletics, and all national games in pursuit of which the hideous fashions which crush women with their barbarous and unnatural rule will receive their severest checks and final dethronement. It was, therefore, with pleasure, that I accepted the presidency of the British Ladies' Football Club,

when I was approached and asked to do so. I stipulated, of course, that if my name was to be associated therewith, the principles of the club must coincide with my publicly-expressed ideas and well-known advocacy of rational dress for women. The members of the club do not play in fashion's dress, but in knickers and blouses. They actually allow the calves of their legs to be seen, and wear caps and football boots. Terrible! is it not? "Quite too shocking!" as an old society dame remarked to me with a shudder, adding squeakily, "And I certainly should never allow dear Mynie to so demean herself!" I looked at her and "dear Mynie," whom she was chaperoning to the ball, and said nothing, though I said a good deal. And amidst my thoughts I wondered which looked most decent, my lithe, agile football teams, in their dark-blue knickers and cardinal and pale-blue blouses, and this old slave of fashion and her unnaturally-attired charge, with her naked grotesque and arms, pinched in waist, high-heeled shoes, and grotesque balloon-like shoulders, hunched and blown out for all the world like huge tumours? I could only come to one conclusion, and that one may be readily guessed. If the British public will only give encouragement to the idea, which is now being put into practice, of football for women it would soon take a firm hold and become an approved custom. I am in hopes that the British Ladies' Football Club will be able to furnish teams to travel about the country and endeavour to popularise the sport by playing some matches in different localities, which a little encouragement of a practical character will enable them to do. Let women, therefore go in for this excellent game, and earn for themselves that improved physique which will not only improve their appearance, but their health as well, and act as an incentive to the rising generation to go and do likewise. "Hunting," said Mr. Jorrocks, "is the sport of kings, the image of war." "Football," says the president of the British Ladies' Football Club, "is the sport for women, the pastime of all others which will ensure health, and assist in destroying that hydra-headed monster, the present dress of women." May it live and prosper is my fervent hope and wish.

WESTCOTES BOWLING CLUB.

Novel Competition at Annual Social.

The Westcotes Bowling Club's annual social and prize distribution took place at the club last evening with a record crowd present. The competition, which had been going on during the last five weeks, came out a brilliant success, and to make the evening a success, a novel sports programme had been arranged, which included a ladies' Rugby football match on the billiard table, played under Association rules, which caused heaps of laughter. It was one of the most novel games seen at the club for some time. The sides consisted of four married ladies and four single, and it would be only fair to the married ladies to say that they showed superiority throughout. It might have been a first-class football match, for the shouts that went up when any score took place were simply deafening. The game resulted in an easy victory for the married by four goals to nil.

The other competitions were as follows:— Ladies' egg and spoon race, won by Mrs. Scotton and Mrs. Coxmore; ladies' potatoe race, won by Mrs. Coxmore and Mrs. Scotton; gentlemen's potatoe race, won by Mr. Rotshaw and Mr. Copley; gentlemen's egg and spoon race, won by Mr. Crowther and Mr. Castleman; ladies' skittle tournament, won by Mrs. Croshaw.

The 67 prizes in the skittle tournament consisted of a marble clock, overcoat, turkeys, geese, pheasants, hares, ducks, pork pies, walking sticks, hosiery, barrel of beer, etc., and the novelty of the competition was the 3rd prize, which consisted of a set of false teeth, to measure, given by Mr. Cox Moore and won by the Ex-Captain T. Bassford.

The principal prize donors were Councillor F. C. Shardlow, Mr. W. H. Thompson, Mr. G. Cox Moore, Mr. G. M. Egan, Mr. A. Burton, Mr. A. E. Squires, Mr. H. Johnson, Mr. C. Cubley, and Mr. H. Jones.

Leicester Evening Mail - 24 December 1912

ANOTHER GOOD DAY FOR MARKET HARBOUROUGH.—SATURDAY, OCT. 6th, a COMIC LADIES' and GENTLEMEN'S FOOTBALL MATCH, in the Cricket Field. Kick-off 3 o'clock. Admission 4d. To be followed by a FANCY DRESS DANCE in Messrs. R. and W. H. Symington and Co.'s Clubroom. The proceeds will be given to the Market Harborough Territorial Christmas Fund.—(Advt.)

Midland Mail - 28 September 1917

Ladies' v. Gentlemen's Football Match at Market Harborough.



THE TEAMS IN THE COMIC FOOTBALL MATCH.

In aid of the Town Fund for sending Christmas presents to Market Harborough soldiers and sailors a comic football match and a fancy dress dance took place on Saturday last, arranged by the social committee of Messrs. R. and W. H. Symington's factory, in conjunction with the Town Committee.

The football match was between teams of ladies and gentlemen, and was played on the Town Cricket Ground, which was kindly lent by Mr. E. E. Ploeman. There was a good attendance of spectators when the teams turned out, and the weather was fine.

The ladies' team was composed of the Misses A. Foster, Garfield, A. Lee, B. Gardiner (captain), A. Wells, E. Swinton, A. Stubbs, F. Simmonds, M. Simmonds, E. Smith, E. Patchett. Miss M. Penn was the trainer, and Miss E. Payne the linesman.

The gentlemen's team consisted of Granger and Haddon; Tilley, "Mrs." Kelly, and Potter; G. Scampton, Groom, Lawrence, Clark, and Smith.

The ladies wore the green and white colours of the Harborough Town team, and very smart and businesslike they looked too. The men were attired in all the colours of the rainbow—picture hats and skirts that were pictures. Each man was handicapped, too, by having his right arm tied up. Master and Miss Cox, in a most effective get up as "Darby and Joan," kicked off, and the game at once became fast and furious. The gentlemen's team included some old stalwarts at the game—there was Joe Lawrence, who used to be a star performer in the Town team twenty or more years ago, and George Scampton, whose serious football days are also getting a long way behind him, and there were players of more recent note in Kelly, Granger, Haddon, and some of the rest, but the Town team was never arrayed like these, and the effects produced were weird and wonderful. The ladies were out for goals, and they scored four, Miss Stubbs kicking two and Miss Patchett and Miss Coales one each. The men guessed only twice, and so were well beaten. Mr.

Bernard O'Brien refereed the match with great good humour and tact. The match was rare good fun for the spectators, who thoroughly enjoyed it from start to finish. Incidentally we might say that although this was a comic match, the ladies' team showed that with a bit of practice and coaching they could play a rattling good game, and now that ladies' football seems to be coming into vogue we may hear of them again.

The Territorial Band played selections of music during the afternoon.

FANCY DRESS DANCE.

In the evening there was a very large attendance at a fancy dress dance in the spacious deb room at Messrs. R. and W. H. Symington's factory, and the event certainly ranks as one of the best of its kind ever held in the town. A large proportion of the dancers were in fancy dress, and the dresses were splendid, many of them reaching a high point of artistic merit. When the dancing was in full swing in the prettily decorated room the scene was a most picturesque one. The parade at "half-time" was led by two well-known members of the Factory Gymnastic Class, Misses Falkner and Lee, who manoeuvred the dancers so successfully that the parade was perfectly carried out, and deserved all the applause which the spectators so heartily bestowed upon it. The company included the staff and the soldiers from the V.A.D. Hospital, who were there as very welcome guests. The refreshments, which were all given by well-wishers of the fund, and had been got together by a small committee of ladies, were served in the girls' cloak room, a number of ladies most efficiently helping in this department. The music was supplied by the Harborough Orchestra, and the M.C.s were Messrs. G. Scampton, T. Sharpe, and W. N. Gonnell.

The net proceeds of the day, for the Town Fund, amounted to about £30, a very handsome result, and one upon which everybody concerned with the organization of the affair is to be congratulated.

KIRBY MUXLOE LADIES AT FOOTBALL.

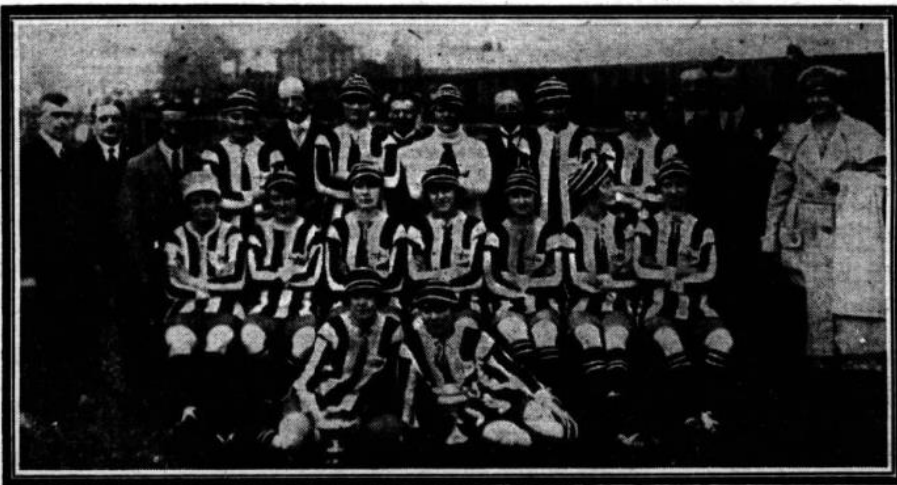
Probably one of the greatest indications of the boom in football is the enormous increase in the number of spectators from the fair sex.

It looks also as if the ladies are determined to add to the numbers of those of their sex who actually play the game as well. Some time ago we gave particulars of a match played between ladies' teams from Burnley and Liverpool.

Leicestershire, however, is not immune from the football infection. A party of young ladies from Kirby Muxloe decided a little time ago to form themselves into a football team. Where and when they indulged in training and practice is not known, but they at any rate throw out a challenge to the ladies of Botcheston. The challenge was accepted and the ladies' teams met at Botcheston yesterday. We have been favoured with a brief report only of the game, but it appears that the Kirby Muxloe ladies were markedly proficient in the art of goal-scoring, and they won by a substantial margin. It is believed that the Kirby Muxloe ladies, flushed with success, are inclined to tackle any team of the gentle sex that can be formed in Leicester.

Leiceser Evening Mail - 7 April 1920

LADIES' INTERNATIONAL TEAM AT LEICESTER.



Dick Kerrs' (Preston), the most successful team of lady footballers in England, who are to play a match with St. Helens Ladies on the City Ground, Filbert-street, to-day (Saturday) in aid of the Leicester Unemployment Fund. The team, who recently returned from a tour in France, have not been beaten this season. They have raised £8,600 for charity. (Photo by "Daily News," Manchester)

Leicester Chronicle - 20 November 1920

LADIES' FOOTBALL.

Dick Kerr's Ladies v. St. Helens Ladies.

Those who had any doubt about the possibilities of ladies' football not being popular in Leicester must have been pleasantly surprised at the size of the crowd that turned up at Filbert-street this afternoon, when the International Ladies' Team, Dick Kerr's (Preston), who recently toured in France, met the St. Helens Ladies XI. on the ground of the Leicester City Club. The proceeds, without any deduction for expenses, which were defrayed by the City Club, were on behalf of the Leicester Unemployment Fund, a good 10,000 people were present at the start.

The teams were:—

Dick Kerr's XI.: Hastie; Kell (captain) and Parr; Woods, Wainwright and Hulme; Haslam, Mills, Redford, Harris and Clayton.

St. Helen's: Bragg; M. Johnson and Wain; Cornally, Willets and Ransom; Whatley, Britch, N. Johnson, Gleeson and Hayes.

Referee, Mr. J. H. Linthwaite.

Dick Kerr's having won the toss, the Mayor (Councillor G. Hilton) who was accompanied by the Deputy Mayor (Ald. J. Chaplin) kicked off. Both sides took the game seriously for the start, and although play was not of a forceful character it was distinctly creditable. The International team were quite good in combined movements, and it was quite obvious that they were not novices at the game. Harris, of Dick Kerr's side, playing at inside left, was soon the centre of attraction. She dribbled like an expert, leaving the St. Helen's defence completely non-plussed time after time. It was this lady who had the honour of opening the score, the ball rolling into the net, following a pass from Redford. Dick Kerr's had several after this, but St. Helen's managed to keep their lines clear. Other features of the game up to this point were the well placed corner kicks taken by Haslam, and the strong kicking of both the Dick Kerr's backs.

Saturday's Attraction at Filbert Street.

By all appearances the football match at Filbert Street on Saturday next between Dick Kerr's Ladies' International team from Preston and St. Helens Ladies is exciting much enthusiasm in Leicester.

A surprisingly eager demand for seating accommodation on the grand stand is being made. All pay for this game, which is in aid of Ald. Chaplin's fund for the Leicester unemployed, and reserved season ticket holders at Filbert Street, who are desirous of retaining their seats for the ladies' match, are requested to apply for same before 9 a.m. on Friday, enclosing remittance (2s. 6d. each seat) to Mr. Peter Hodge, at the Filbert Street ground.

A new football will be used in each half and at the close of the game each ball, duly autographed by all the players, will be offered at auction by Alderman Chaplin, the whole proceeds of the sale to go to the unemployed

Leicester Evening Mail - 25 November 1920

LADIES' FOOTBALL MATCH.

(To the Editor of the "Leicester Mail.")

Sir,—Permit me to thank you for the great help you rendered to me in making the Ladies' football match last Saturday such a huge success.

I do not know whether the amount obtained is a record for Leicester for any charitable cause (other than subscriptions), but certainly it must be a record for the length of time it occupied to arrange, as it was only the Monday prior to the match that definite arrangements were made for same, so that in the short space of five days such a success would have been hopeless and impossible without the daily announcements through your valued paper.—Yours faithfully,

W. A. JENNINGS.

Chairman of the Leicester City Football Club.

Leicester Evening Mail - 25 November 1920

LEICESTER CITY F.C., LTD.

LADIES' FOOTBALL MATCH

at
FILBERT STREET GROUND,

on
SATURDAY, 20th NOVEMBER.

Reserved Season Ticket Holders who are desirous of retaining their seats for the above match are requested to make application with remittance enclosed before Friday morning, 9 a.m., to
Mr. PETER HODGE, Secretary.
 Filbert Street Ground.

Leicester Evening Mail - 25 November 1920

LADIES AND FOOTBALL.

Proposal to Form a Club in Leicester.

Should ladies play football? Some Leicester girls are decidedly of opinion that they should, and are anxious to meet other enthusiasts with a view to forming a club. There is some opposition to the scheme, however, on the ground that the game is not suitable for the fair sex.

This interesting subject is keenly discussed in to-night's "Football Mail," which contains many other articles on sports topics of the day. The "Football Mail" contains all the results, and the reports of matches are written by men who know.

Leicester Evening Mail - 25 September 1921

"No Worse Than Women Astride a Horse."

The Rev. Joseph Degen, speaking at Coalville, on Saturday, said: "If football is unsuitable to the gentle sex, it will die a natural death in feminine circles. Women never have attempted to play the game as strenuously as men. Left to their own devices, they will probably introduce modifications such as a smaller ball and the elimination of charging, heading, and high kicking. For all that the mere male knows, they might prefer to have the goal-posts further apart and supply the goalkeeper with an assistant for a companion. If a lady footballer in shorts is an unseemly spectacle, she is no worse a sight than a woman astride on a horse or a motor-cycle. The side-saddle is graceful, and lady footballers would undoubtedly look less bold and brazen in long stockings and an athletic skirt."

THE WHIRLWIND OF LOVE.

Speaking on Sunday on Love, Father Degen said: "Why didn't you seek advice?" is poor consolation to offer to hearts broken and lives blighted in the fierce ardour of youthful passion. Love often comes to an adolescent with the suddenness and energy of a whirlwind. It is not to be treated as a joke, but as the most serious business in life; it is a vital force which is more liable to explosion than nitro-glycerine or a charge of dry gun-cotton. Parents ought not to launch their children upon the sea of life without advising them about love, marriage, and the control of passion. The advice should be given long before it is sought and in a kindly sympathetic manner."

LADIES AT FOOTBALL!

Novel Match for Leicester.

DICK KERR'S.

A real novelty in football attractions will be seen in Leicester on Thursday of next week in the visit of the famous Dick Kerr's Ladies' football team from Preston.

They will play a match on the Agricultural Show Ground, Aylestone Road, against Blackpool Ladies' team, and the game should prove a great draw. The kick-off will be at 6.30, and admission 6d. and 2s. 6d. (stands).

Dick Kerr's have been well-known for their prowess as a ladies' football team for years, and have played practically all over the world, including France, U.S.A., Canada, and the British Isles.

They have averaged gates of about 20,000 in England, and the record attendance was on the Everton F.C. ground, where 50,000 people put in an appearance.

Easily the Best.

Although there are a large number of ladies' football teams in England Dick Kerr's are acknowledged by all the leading critics as being easily the best.

They have been formed exactly ten years next month and have played about 150 matches. They have lost less than twelve of that number and won well over a hundred. By their efforts for charity over £70,000 has been raised for ex-Service men, hospitals and poor children.

Some "Stars."

The majority of the "stars" of the team are expected to visit Leicester, including Miss Florrie Rodford, centre-half and captain; Miss Lily Parr, a remarkably nubile and speedy performer at outside-left; and Miss Jennie Harris, inside right and a wonderful dribbler.

All the players keep in strict training, like men footballers, and there is nothing farcical about the play. It is real hard endeavour all the time.

They practice regularly in their spare time with the ball and put in hours at boxing and sprinting, and all the Leicester people who go to see them will be surprised by their speed and clever control of the ball.

LADIES AT FOOTBALL.

Kenny Campbell Against it.

DICK KERR'S REPLY.

"It is all against the laws of nature. I certainly cannot say I agree with ladies playing football."

These were the sentiments expressed by Kenny Campbell, the Leicester City F.C. goalkeeper, after refereeing the ladies' football match between Dick Kerr's (Preston) and Blackpool, in Leicester last night.



Kenny further opined that the risk of injury to a lady whilst playing, had to be viewed with a much graver eye than in the case of a man because the consequences would almost invariably be of a more serious nature.

Mr. Wm. Orr, the Leicester City manager, said:—

"I will not say anything. They might think we were jealous!"

The Ladies' Reply.

Miss Florrie Redford, the captain of Dick Kerr's, asked what she thought of the game for women, said that she did not think, if women were playing women, it was any more strenuous than hockey.

She herself, and many others of the team who had been playing the game since 1917, had never had a day's illness, apart from one or two cases of mild influenza, in all that time. The training kept them in excellent physical condition.

The girls, she said, did not mind at all playing in front of a crowd. It spurred them on to play a better game.

The objection that some people might take to the team wearing the same kind of attire—shorts and jerseys—for the game, as men, was met by Miss Redford with the retort that it was just the most suitable form of dress. Skirts stopped the ball and spoilt the game.

Miss Redford, with several other members of the team, is a nurse. She is a pretty brunette, with blue eyes, and has a healthy clear skin, and an interesting, intelligent face. She speaks French as well as English, and has been in France, teaching the game over there.

Doctors Agree.

An official of Dick Kerr's team said that in consequence of the controversy that had been aroused they invited 25 medical men to view one of their matches some time ago and asked for their concerted opinion on its suitability for women.

All the doctors, without exception, agreed that it could have no harmful physical effect, and, in fact, would improve their health.

WOMEN CAN PLAY FOOTBALL.

*'Stars' on the Aylestone Show Ground: Brilliant
Left Winger: London To
Brighton Walk.*

EVERYONE who went to the Leicestershire Agricultural Show Ground last night to watch the daughters of Eve playing football, came away with one big impression. And that was that they had seen an outside-left who, if she had been a man, would have gained international honours.

She really was extraordinarily good, taking the ball in her stride, tricking her opponents, and then finishing with a centre or a shot that was just about ideal. And what amazed me was that this player seemed to find it as simple to get the ball into the net as she did to centre. She scored five of her

but they could, even then, score only once from the spot. This was when they entrusted the kick to the right full-back, who certainly knew how to boot a ball in the right way, for she had a powerful kick, and placed the ball well, too.

The other Blackpool goal was scored by the centre-forward, Miss Field, while the goals for Dick Kerr's were netted by L. Parr (five), L. Buxton (three), N. Shaw (two), J. Harris (one). The teams were:

Dick Kerrs: J. Frankland; P. Scott, L. Ashcroft; E. Buxton, F. Redford, E. Latham; H. Parkinson, J. Harris, L. Buxton, H. Shaw and L. Parr.
Blackpool: A. Derbyshire; E. Yates, A. Yates; J. Henderson, Collinson, A. Cullen; N. Yates, E. Snow, Field, Ashcroft and E. Davies.
Referee: Mr. Kenneth Campbell (Leicester).
Linesmen: Mr. Sidney Bishop and Mr. John Duncan (Filbert-street).

side's eleven goals, and if she had been extended more—the opposition was not good enough—she would probably have scored another half-dozen.

Stylists.

You should have seen Mr. Orr's eyes sparkle when he saw this winger get the ball into the net so easily. It made wing play look absurdly simple, and there is no doubt that this girl has a natural ability for the game. Her one big regret must be that she was born a girl.

The Dick, Kerr's eleven was far too good for the Blackpool girls, for whom the Blaby recruit, Miss E. Snow, showed promising form. Whoever has coached the Dick, Kerr's team has done his work well, for they displayed a knowledge of the game and revealed skill that was surprising.

The way in which the right wing combined, passing and re-passing in a style worthy of the City's famous pair, was a revelation. The way the forwards took up their positions, too, was good, for whether the pass that was meant for them reached them or not, they were always there to receive it if it did come along.

The girls were not afraid to use their heads, either, and the length of their kicks was as good as many men who are in the game.

No Harm to Girls.

Watching the girls running about, kicking heftily, and heading the ball, one was forced to reflect, "Well, and what sort of mark will this leave on the girls? Will it affect their health? Will they, later on, wish that they had never indulged in this sport that has for so long been man's own pastime?"

But apparently the game does not harm the girls at all. When the F.A. banned the women from playing on their grounds, several years ago now, one of their chief objections was that they did not think that football was suitable for women. So the management of the Dick, Kerr's team had all their players examined by twenty-five separate doctors, and each medical man returned a separate report.

Not one condemned the sport. They said they found the game had no ill effects whatever on the girls, and, in fact, it did them a great deal of good. Naturally, a girl must be robust to start with, but granted that she is in a perfect state of health, the game would not harm her in the slightest. At any rate this was the doctors' opinion.

City Players There.

The Dick, Kerr's team won by 11-2. Blackpool had three penalties—I think Kenny Campbell, who refereed the match, had a weak spot for Blackpool—

Leicester Daily Mercury - 9 September 1927

AFTER seeing the women's football match on the Agricultural Show ground last night, I have come to the conclusion that football is not a game suitable to women.

It was clear from the antics of some of the players and from the way they controlled and kicked the ball that they have a good idea of the science of the game, but it is not a pleasant spectacle to see women charging each other off the ball, taking kicks (accidental, of course) and being mixed up in "a rough and tumble."

Leicester Evening Mail - 9 September 1927



Eva Poxon, the goalkeeper for Foister, Clay and Ward, tips one round the post in the women's football match at Kegworth.

Leicester Daily Mercury - 1 May 1936

Comic Football Match was Highlight at Kibworth Beauchamp.

The high light of Kibworth Beauchamp's celebrations was a ladies' comic football match, arranged by Nurse Harris. Played in real cup-tie style, several players found the pace too hot, and had to receive attention from the trainer. Fouls were numerous, but ladies don't care for referees. The match caused much amusement, especially the stretcher incident. Coronation Day began with a united service in the church and at noon lunch was served to about 400 men. A fancy dress parade through the streets opened the afternoon programme, and children's sports followed. At 3.30 p.m. approximately 700 ladies and children sat down to tea. Through the rain the adult' sports were postponed, and will take place about the middle of June. At night there was dancing in the Village Hall. Sports results were as follows:—

Market Harborough Advertiser and Midland Mail -31 May 1937



"SOCCER AMAZON."—A member of the Bozeat (Northants) women's football team that played in a charity match at Loughborough during the recent holidays.

Leicester Evening Mail -15 April 1938



MRS. J. S. SYMONS kicks off at the women's charity football match which was played at Loughborough yesterday by teams from Earls Barton and Bozeat, Northamptonshire.

Leicester Evening Mail - 11 April 1939



Lady Desford

Miss Mildred Storer, who was chosen as Lady Desford at a dance at the Miners' Welfare Institute, Desford, in aid of the Leicester Royal Infirmary.

Hughie Refs Ladies' Soccer

Ladies' football match at Brown's-lane, Loughborough, between Kegworth Ladies (left) and Bozeat (Northants) Ladies (right). In the centre is Hughie Adcock, who acted as referee.

Leicester Daily Mercury - 19 April 1938

Women's Football at Coalville

In connection with the Coalville Hospital carnival a women's football match took place on the Central ground at Coalville last night. The teams were Loughborough Blue Diamond and Loughborough Premier, who met at the carnival when the match resulted in a 1-1 draw, and the replay last night was to decide the holders of the silver cup. The teams were evenly matched and the score stood at one each at the interval. Blue Diamond eventually won by two goals to one and were presented with the cup by Dr. A. Segerdal, of Coalville.

Leicester Evening Mail - 23 June 1939



THE DUCHESS OF RUTLAND greeting some of the players at the women's football match arranged in aid of the British Red Cross Funds by employees of the Imperial Typewriter Co., Ltd., Leicester.

Leicester Evening Mail - 18 December 1939



MR. TOM BROMILOW, the City F.C. manager, who refereed, shaking hands with the rival captains at a women's football charity game at Anstey last night. The opposing teams represented Bosworth Wright, Ltd., and G. H. Palmer and Co.

Leicester Evening Mail - 31 August 1940



Leicester Daily Mercury - 31 August 1940

For Anstey Comforts

It is estimated that the Anstey Soldiers' Comforts Fund will benefit by about £10 as the result of a women's football match arranged by the employees of Messrs. G. H. Palmer and Messrs. Bosworth, Wright and Co., which was won by the former side by 3 goals to 2. E. Wallace (captain) (2) and Jean Jackson (1) were the scorers for Palmers, and Dorothy Partner and Peggy North scored for Bosworth, Wright.

Leicester Daily Mercury - 9 September 1940

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

On behalf of the Anstey soldiers' comforts fund a second women's football match attracted a large crowd on the Methodists' ground.

The opposing teams were the employees of Messrs. G. H. Palmer and Messrs. Pollard and Wain. Mr. Johnny Duncan officiated as referee. The scorers for Palmers, who won 4-2, were Edith Hardy 3, and Peggy Toon.

For Pollard and Wain the scorers were Jean Jackson and Edna Wallace.

The previous match, Messrs. Bosworth Wright and Co. and Messrs. Palmers, realised just over £20.

Leicester Evening Mail - 16 September 1940

WOMEN FOOTBALLERS

Messrs. Pollard and Wain's women footballers, with Mr. Frank Hancock as secretary and organiser have, so far this season, raised £60 for charities. Three matches have been played and won:— Messrs. G. H. Palmer's 2-0; Bosworth Wright and Co. 2-0; and Ellistown Ladies 3-2.

They are open to meet any team, home or away.

Leicester Evening Mail - 4 November 1940

A novel offer of help has come from Anstey. Bosworth Wright's ladies' football team are willing to play any other ladies' team on Christmas Day or Boxing Day—the whole of the proceeds to go to the relief funds. Will anyone accept the challenge?

Leicester Daily Mercury - 11 December 1940



Women employees of Taylorcraft No. 7 Works decided they would like to make a contribution to the works Red Cross effort. A ladies' football match was played during the lunch hour period, and £3 14s. 8d. was collected and handed over to Mr. S. S. Moore, the secretary. This was added to other contributions raised throughout the works, which totalled £30.

Leicester Chronicle - 8 April 1944