



# WFA Mitre Trophy 1973-74

**Winners:** Fodens  
**Runner-Up:** Southampton  
**No. of entries:** 91 entries were split into 8 regional groups.

The 91 teams were divided into 8 regional groups. The winners of the regional finals entered the draw for the quarter-finals.

Leicestershire were represented by two teams – Emgals and Leicester City Supporters LFC.

Emgals reached the quarter-finals but they were well-beaten by Westthorn United from Scotland.

*Group 1:* Dundee Strikers, Edinburgh Dynamo, Harmony Row, Lee's, Motherwell A.E.I., Westthorn United,

*Group 2:* Ashton, Barrow, Blackpool Seabirds, Buxted Chicks, E.R.F. Sandbach, Fleece Fillies, Fodens, Halton, Liverpool, Macclesfield, Prestatyn, Preston Dolphins, Preston North End, Southport, Wallsend,

*Group 3:* Boston Budgies, Carr Fastener, County Canaries, EMGALS, Fishtoft, Forest, Leicester City Supporters Club, Notts County, Notts Rangers, Polesworth, Taverners Pilgrims,

*Group 4:* Beccles, East Harling, Junior High School, Lowestoft, Pye, Rushden, Suffolk Bluebirds, Watney Mann, Woodbridge American,

*Group 5:* Bedworth, Birmingham City, Chelles Belles, Coventry Bantams, Evesham North End, G.E.C. / A.E.I., Holbrooks Athletic, Kays, Luton Daytel, Milton Keynes, Red Star Rangers, Town & County, Trent Valley Angels, Wanderers (Nuneaton),

*Group 6:* Ashford Town, Barnfield United, Brighton G.P.O., Dartford College, Guildford United, Hellingly Hospital, Herne Bay Ladybirds, Maidstone, Portsedale, West Sussex, White Wanderers (Hamstreet),

*Group 7:* Amersham Angels, Crystal Palace, Fulham, Gallaher, Queens Park Rangers, Southampton, Southend, Spurs, Swaythling, Thame, Totten United,

*Group 8:* Avon County Rangers, Bath City, Bracknell Bullets, Bristol, Bristol Bluebirds, Compton Wanderers, Cope Chat, Devizes Moonrakers, Eastville, Farnborough, Johnson Rangers, Swindon Spitfires, Warminster Town, West End Wanderers.

## Round 1

### Group 7

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
7.10.1973	Amersham Angels	5	1	Thame	
7.10.1973	Southend	0	3	Fulham	

### Group 8

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
7.10.1973	Eastville			Bath City	
7.10.1973	West End Wanderers			Farnborough	

Bye: Compton Wanderers

## Round 2

### Group 2

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
2.2.1973	Fodens	8	1	Southport	

### Group 4

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
9.12.1973	East Harling	2	8	Suffolk Bluebirds	
9.12.1973	Lowestoft	4	1	Beccles	

### Group 5

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
16.12.1973	Chelles Belles			Nuneaton Wanderers	
9.12.1973	Nuneaton Wanderers	3	3	Chelles Belles	

### Group 6

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
9.12.1973	Maidstone	1	2	Ashford Town	
9.12.1973	Portsmouth	2	0	Ladybirds	

### Group 7

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
2.12.1973	Fulham	10	1	Gallaher	
2.12.1973	QPR	3	4	Amersham Angels	

## Round 3

### Group 1

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
13.1.1974	Westthorn United	11	1	Edinburgh Dynamo	

### Group 2

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
13.1.1974	Fodens	3	0	Prestatyn	
13.1.1974	Preston North End	6	1	Liverpool	

### Group 3

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
13.1.1974	Notts Rangers			Taverners Pilgrims	
20.1.1974	Taverners Pilgrims	4	2	Notts Rangers	

### Group 4

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
13.1.1974	Suffolk Bluebird	7	2	East Harling	
9.12.1973	Watney Mann	0	13	Lowestoft	

### Group 5

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
13.1.1974	Coventry Bantams			Evesham North End	
13.1.1974	GEC/AEI			Chelles Belles	

### Replay

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
20.1.1974	Chelles Belles	2	1	GEC/AEI	

20.1.1977	Evesham North End	2	1	Coventry Bantams	
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#### Group 6

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
6.1.1974	Ashford Town	2	1	Hellingly Hospital	
13.1.1974	Brighton GPO	2	1	Portsdale	

#### Group 7

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
13.1.1974	Amersham Angels	2	0	Fulham	
13.1.1974	Cope Chat	10	0	Avon County Rangers	
13.1.1974	Southampton	3	0	Crystal Palace	

#### Group 8

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
13.1.1974	Swindon Spitfires	6	1	Devizes Moonrakers	

#### Regional Finals (Groups 1-8)

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
3.2.1974	Westthorn	8	0	Harmony Row	
3.2.1974	Fodens	3	0	Preston NorthEnd	
3.2.1974	Taverners Pilgrims	1	7	Emgals	
3.2.1974	Lowestoft	3	4	Suffolk Bluebirds	
3.2.1974	Evesham North End	2	3	Chelles Belles	
3.2.1974	Brighton GPO	6	5	Ashford Town	
3.2.1974	Southampton	6	1	Amersham Angels	

#### Quarter Finals

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
3.3.1974	Emgals	0	8	Westthorn United	
3.3.1974	Southampton	7	1	Chelles Belles	
3.3.1974	Suffolk Bluebirds	2	9	Fodens	
3.3.1974	Swindon Spitfires	1	0	Brighton GPO	

#### Semi-Finals

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
31.3.1974	Swindon Spitfires	0	2	Fodens	
31.3.1974	Westthorn United	0	2	Southampton	

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Play-Off

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
28.4.1974	Swindon Spitfires	0	5	Westthorn United	

#### Final

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
28.4.1974	Fodens Leatherbarrow (2)	2	1	Southampton Davies	



## Final – Southampton v Fodens

### *Line-Ups*

Fodens: Hazel Bancroft, Elaine Brown, Sue Carter, Sue Shenton, Shellia Parker (capt), Carol Aikin, Alison Leatherbarrow, Sylvia Gore, Pat Firth, Jeanne Allott, Lesley Caldwell. Subs: Jill Jodrell, Paula McDevitt.

Manager: Eric Aldersay

Southampton: Sue Buckett (capt), Beverley Gain, Pauline Dickie, Linda Coffin, Jill Long, Maggie Kirkland, Lynda Hale, Sue Lopez, Pat Davies, Pat Chapman,, Shirley O'Callaghan. Subs: Ann Rice, Grace Cesareo.

Manager: Noel Coffin

Referee: DG Martin

Linesmen: R A Morgan and B Bellamy

Southampton suffered their first defeat in the competition after 4 years. In the closest final to date, Alison Leatherbarrow's winner for Fodens coming 4 minutes from time.

Foden Ladies were founded in the 1950s out of the lorry manufacturing company, Fodens Ltd, based in Sandbach, Cheshire.

Prior to the final, Fodens had made a name for themselves in the Butlin's Cup, a series of tournament (not sanctioned by the WFA) that were held at holiday camps round Britain. They beat Southampton 5-1 in the 1969 Butlin's Cup Final in Minehead, and held on to their title in Greencock the following year with a 1-0 win over Westthorn United. Hat victory over the Scots led some to referring to the Fodens as British champions.

Fodens went into the WFA Final unbeaten all season. Meanwhile, Southampton strengthened their position as England's leading club. At the start of the season they had been granted the use of Hampshire League men's side Totton United's ground, which aided their development.

For the second consecutive year, Bedford FC's Queens Park, staged the final. Fodens took the lead through a stunning 20 yard effort from Leatherbarrow which curled into the top corner. Southampton, in their white shirts and black shorts, equalised with as sharp left-footed shot from Pat Davies which flew into the net from 12 yards. With the match heading for extra time, Leatherbarrow struck the winner for Foden with a 6 yard tap in 4 minutes from time.