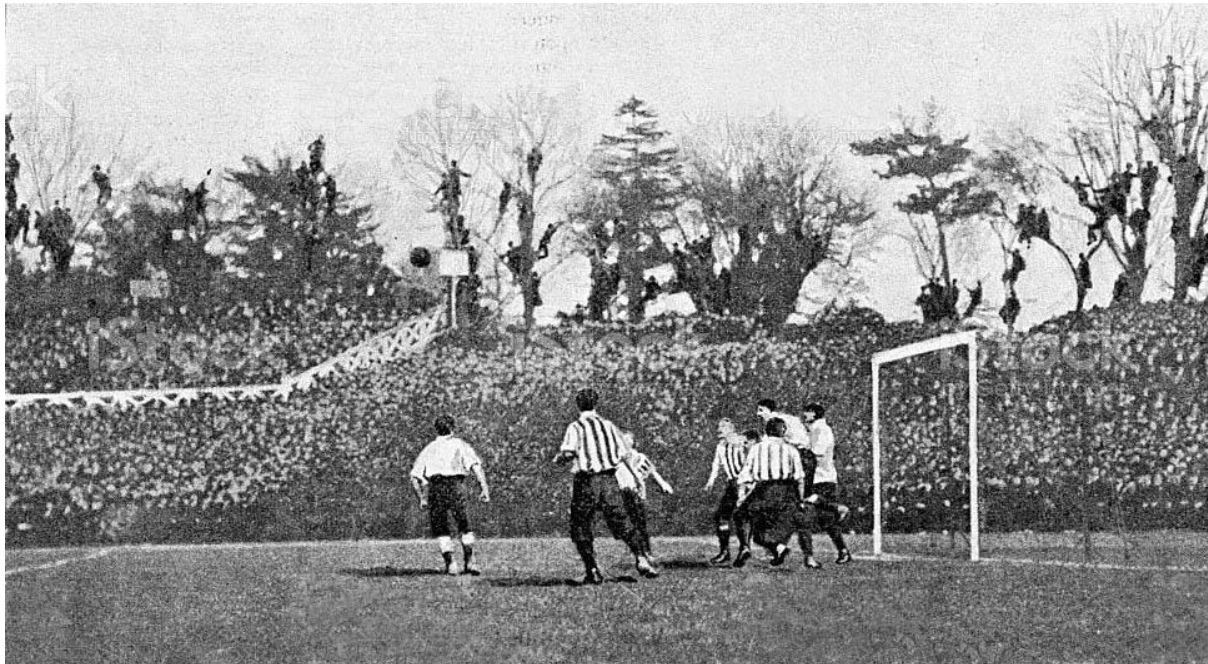




## English Challenge (FA) Cup 1898-99



1899 FA Cup Final

**Winners:** Sheffield United  
**Runner-Up:** Derby County

No less than 7 Leicestershire clubs- Barwell Swifts, Coalville Albion, Coalville Town, Hinckley Town, Hugglescote Robin Hoods, Leicester Fosse, and Loughborough - entered the 1898-99 FA Cup competition. Both Coalville clubs, who received first qualifying round byes, were beaten 4-1 away from home – Albion at Stapleford Town and Town by Burton Swifts, who had eliminated Hugglescote Robin Hood by the same score in the first qualifying round.

Barwell Swift's first FA Cup game, at home against Kimberly, ended 4-4. The replay was a one-sided affair, with Barwell being slaughtered 7-0.

Loughborough who overcame Mansfield Town and Rothwell Town Swifts in the first two qualifying rounds, scoring 11 and conceding none, met Wellingborough in the third qualifying round. Wellingborough had managed to get to this stage by winning a replayed match by 6-1 after sustaining a protest against Northampton, who won the first encounter. The game between Loughborough and Wellingborough at the Athletic Ground ended in a goal-less draw. The replay two weeks later resulted in an easy win for the Luffs.

Fosse entered the competition at the final qualifying round and were drawn away at Rushden. But for monetary considerations, the game was staged at Leicester, witnessed by 6,000 spectators. Galbraith opened the scoring for the Fosse and McMillan added a second before Rushden clawed one back through Hingerty. For the third time in the final stage of the qualifying rounds, Kettering, of the Midland Counties League, who had conquered Loughborough, claimed their second Football League scalp, by beating the Fosse 2-1 after a replay.

The 1899 FA Cup final between Derby County and Sheffield United on Saturday, 15 April 1899 at the Crystal Palace stadium in south London. It was the final match of the 1898-99 FA Cup, the 28th edition of the world's oldest football knockout competition, and England's primary cup competition, the Football Association Challenge Cup, better known as the FA Cup. Sheffield United were appearing in their first final and Derby County, who had been the 1898 runners-up, in their second. As members of the Football League

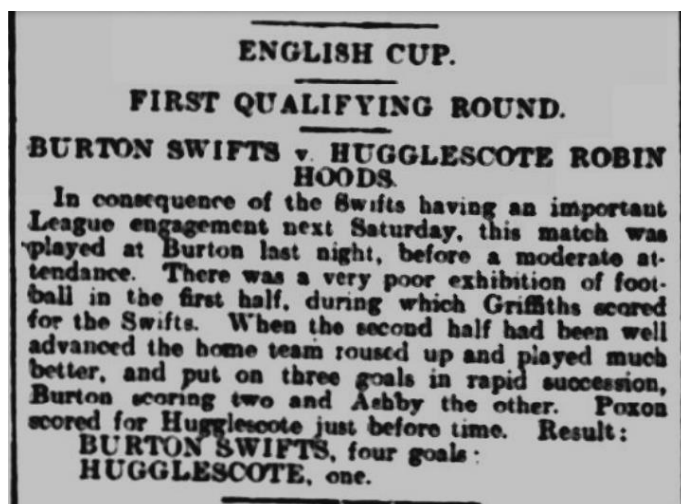
First Division, they were both exempt from the competition's qualifying phase and joined it in the first round proper, progressing through four rounds to the final. The final was watched by a crowd of 73,833 and Sheffield United, after being 0–1 down at half-time, dominated the second half of the match to win 4–1 with goals by Walter Bennett, Billy Beer, Jack Almond and Fred Priest after John Boag had scored a first-half opener for Derby. Sheffield United have won the cup four times in all, their next victory being in 1902. Derby County have won it once, in 1946.

## Results and Match Details

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
1QR	28.9.1898	Burton Swifts Griffiths Burton (2) Ashby	4	1	Hugglescote Robin Hood Poxon	Hugglescote's first-were FA Cup match. Burton were fined 1 guinea by the FA for playing on a date other than one fixed without asking permission. Moderate attendance. Poor exhibition of football.
1QR	1.10.1898	Hinckley Town Haward	1 (0)	2 (1)	Northampton Town AN Other (pen) Clipstone	Holywell ground 2,000 spectators. Both teams were at full strength.
1QR	1.10.1898	Loughborough Bosworth Pike Pegg	4 (4)	0 (0)	Mansfield Town	Athletic Grounds, Loughborough 2,000 spectators – Manfield – who were unbeaten all season – brought a god following.
2QR	13(?).10.1898	Loughborough Roulston Tuthill (2) og (2) Pegg (3)	7	0	Rothwell Town Swifts	Athletic Grounds, Loughborough. Good football weather. 1,500 spectators – lower than expected, probably owing to the attractions of the Leicester Fair.
2QR	15.10.1898	Barwell Swifts "City" Harris (2) Slaney	4 (1)	4 (2)	Kimberley Drury Slaney Rowbotham (2)	Moderate gate. Barwell's first-ever FA Cup match. Both teams had secured 1QR byes.
2QR	15.10.1898	Burton Swifts Gray (pen) Lavery Leigh Griffiths	4	1	Coalville Town AN Other	Buron's League fixture with Lincoln City was postponed. Fairly large gate. Play started at 3.30 pm
2QR	15.10.1898	Stapleford Town Wiggington (2) AN Other Smedley	4	1	Coalville Albion Earl	Half-time score 1-1.
2QRRep	19.10.1898	Kimberley	7	0	Barwell Swifts	
3QR	29.10.1898	Leicester Fosse King (4) Watkins (2) Brown Swift	9	0	Kimberley	2,000 spectators Fosse scored 7 goals in the first half
3QR	29.10.1898	Loughborough AFC	0	0	Wellingborough Town	Athletic Grounds, Loughborough Good crowd (c.6,000). Well-contested.
3QRRep	31.10.1898	Wellingborough Town Scriven	1 (1)	3 (1)	Loughborough AFC AN Other Nichol Roulston	At Wellingborough. Loughborough opened the scoring after 6 mins from a scrimmage. Wellingborough had a goal disallowed for offside in the second half.
4QR	19.11,1898	Kettering Town Pell	2 (0)	1 (0)	Loughborough AFC Pike	At Kettering.

		Heskin				6,000 spectators. In the last couple of minutes. Pike scored
4QR	19.11.1898	Leicester Fosse Galbraith (32 min) McMillan (40 min)	2	1	Rushden Town AN Other	At Walnut-Street, Leicester. Rushden were down at home, but for monetary considerations journeyed to their rivals ground to play the match. 3,000 spectators at the start which increased to between 5,000 and 6,000 start of the second half.
5QR	10.12.1898	Kettering Town Panter	1 (1)	1 (0)	Leicester Fosse Fulwood	At Kettering. Strong wind. 7,000 spectators.
5QR	15.12.1898	Leicester Fosse Eaton	1	2	Kettering Town Beaver Draper	5,000 spectators. For the third time in the final stage of the qualifying rounds of the Cup competition, Kettering defeated the Fosse. It was not until 2 mins from time that the issue was decided, when Draper scored.

## Match Reports



*Leicester Daily Post – 29 September 1898*

#### **NORTHAMPTON v HINCKLEY**

On the Holywell Ground, before two thousand spectators. Both teams were at full strength. Hinckley won the toss, and played up hill, the visitors pressing. Play became exciting from the start, and the home custodian had several times to save. The visitors scored from a penalty, and Hinckley took up the attack, but showed a weakness in front of goal. The home backs had plenty to do, but the Northampton custodian was rarely called upon to save. Northampton showed some nice play. Half-time:

**NORTHAMPTON, one goal;**

**HINCKLEY, none**

In the second moiety, playing down the hill, Hinckley pressed, the visitors having plenty to do to keep their goal intact. Northampton played considerably on the defensive. Some desultory play followed, both teams going down in combination. The visitors took up the attack, but failed at scoring, although some good shots were sent in. After thirty-seven minutes' play, Haward scored a magnificent goal for Hinckley. Clipstone immediately replied for the visitors. Result:

**NORTHAMPTON, two goals;**

**HINCKLEY, one.**

## ENGLISH CUP.

QUALIFYING COMPETITION—1st ROUND.

### LOUGHBOROUGH V. MANSFIELD.

There was a fairly large crowd at Loughborough to witness this match. Mansfield brought a good following, and came to Loughborough with an unbeaten record so far this season, only four goals having been scored against them. Loughborough's eleven included Nichols as centre forward, for the first time, but Hardy was an absentee, Ball taking the back position, and Moore, of the reserves, finding a place in the premier eleven, at half-back, for the first time.

The teams lined up as follows:—

Mansfield: Webb, goal; Harper and Hunt, backs; J. Hill, P. Gabbitan, and A. Baker, half-backs; A. Cooke, England, Richardson, Chappel, and Walkerdine, forwards.

Loughborough: Mumford, goal; Ball and Hardy, backs; Moore, Hodgkin, and Tuthill, half-backs; Bosworth, Roulstone, Nicholls, Pegg, and Pike, forwards.

Loughborough won the toss, and defended the entrance goal. Immediately upon the ball being set in motion, Hodgkin crossed to Bosworth, who shot hard at goal, the leather glancing off one of the backs into the net ere a minute had elapsed. Loughborough bore down again, the backs relieving by big kicks, but then Mansfield came away, and secured a corner, from which they shot over. Pike sprinted, and got in a header, which Webb cleared, but a subsequent effort resulted in his gaining a corner, which was of no avail. Mansfield played a very determined game, but were overmatched by Loughborough, whose defence resisted their attacks without much effort. Chappel and Walkerdine

made a good attempt to score, but Mumford ran out, and cleared. Loughborough had a couple of "frees," and a corner on each wing, without result. Mansfield raced off, and had an unsuccessful corner, Mumford fisting away, and then from a grand clearance-kick by Ball the Loughborough forwards got off in fine style, Roulstone passing to Pegg, who headed for goal, Webb fisting away. Pike brought the ball in again quickly, and Bosworth shot sharply into the net, scoring the second goal after 20 minutes' play. Mansfield had another look in at the home goal, but their shooting was miserable. The visitors had several frees given against them, but Loughborough did not improve upon them. Still Loughborough had a deal the better of matters notwithstanding the visitors' vigorous play. Bosworth raced along the wing in grand style, and shot splendidly for goal, Webb clearing against the posts. The ball did not, however, travel far before Pike had transferred it into the net for the third goal. Bosworth and Roulstone did nearly all the aggressive work for Loughborough, and all but increased the score. They forced a corner without effect, and directly afterwards Bosworth headed out. Walkerdine and Cooke made a spirited attack on the Loughborough goal, but Ball cleared. Then, for a few minutes, Loughborough pressed the Mansfield defence, and Pike forced a corner, which was got away, though Webb had a couple of shots to deal with directly after. Bosworth was going grandly for goal when he was roughly rolled over, and the referee awarded Loughborough a penalty. Pegg was entrusted with the kick, and shot the ball into the net for the fourth time, the interval coming directly afterwards with the score:—

**LOUGHBOROUGH, four goals;**  
**MANSFIELD, none.**

Mumford re-started with considerable dash, and scarcely had a couple of minutes elapsed when Moore tripped Cooke inside the twelve yards line, and the referee gave a penalty against Loughborough. Chappel took the kick, and sent the ball straight at Mumford,

the return chx sending it over the bar. Loughborough gradually forced their way into the Mansfield half, but both Roulstone and Pike steered the ball wide of the goal. Pegg forced a corner without result. Play was not nearly so fast as in the opening portion, Loughborough showing a disposition to rest content with their good lead. Pike and Pegg made a capital effort, and Harper headed away twice. Mansfield played for all they were worth, and Ball being rather faulty at times in his kicking, the visitors had several openings, but their aim was far out of range. Mansfield changed their team about so much that it was impossible to name the players with accuracy. Loughborough had a free, which was well placed by Moore, Pike shooting on the side of the net. The goal kick was quickly returned and Bosworth dropped the ball on to the top of the net with a screw shot. Loughborough played a more aggressive game, and from a centre by Bosworth the Mansfield goal narrowly escaped defeat. Still Mansfield did not give up, and sprinting off, a good chance to score presented itself, but they da'lied considerably, and lost it. Ball then rolled England over as he shot in, the ball being cleared. The referee cautioned one of the Mansfield players, awarding Loughborough a free kick, from which Bosworth forced a corner. Then the Castle Donington winger placed nicely, and Pegg missed a glorious opening by shooting high over the bar from very close range. Mansfield secured a free for a foul throw in, a corner falling to them. This was cleared, and Bosworth raced away with a clear field. Harper, however, beat him, and kicked out for a corner. Loughborough were again placed in a good position for scoring, but they muddled, and Hill, who had gone centre forward from right half, made a great effort to get through for Mansfield, and was only just baulked by Ball. With ten minutes to play Loughborough forced the game, but Pike was given offside. Tuthill brought the ball in, and Bosworth made a good though unsuccessful effort to break through. Webb cleared a long shot, and as play was

proceeding near the visitors' goal, Pike sustained injury, but resumed play. Ball made another bad kick, conceding the Notts men a corner, which was, however, placed behind. Result:

**LOUGHBOROUGH**, four goals;  
**MANSFIELD**, none.



Played at Barwell, with a strong wind across the field. Play commenced fairly regular, Barwell exhibiting slightly superior play. Both sides showed marked weakness in front of goal, chance after chance being missed. Ten minutes from the start Kimberley's half-back, Drury, scored with a high shot, and, in quick succession, Sleaney added a second. A few minutes later Smith scored for Barwell with a most magnificent shot. Barwell continued to press vigorously, and Kimberley only broke away spasmodically and when they did it was totally ineffectual, their forward play being poor. Good opportunities were freely treated. A foul for tripping against Barwell near the goal was dangerous, the ball hitting the bar. The wind gradually changed in favour of Kimberley, and, toward the finish of the half, they pressed. At the interval the score was—Kimberley two goals, Barwell one. Resuming, Barwell immediately called on Kimberley's custodian, a wretchedly weak shot preventing an equaliser. Barwell maintained a continuous bombardment, which ended in Jones equalising within seven minutes. Three minutes later Chambers gave Kimberley the lead from a rush. Play now became more even. Several instances of rough play were shown on both sides, due more to excitement than intent. After seventy minutes' play Kimberley led by the close difference of three goals to two. Result:—

**Result : —**

[illegible]

**BURTON SWIFTS v. COALVILLE TOWN.**

Both sides were fully represented in the first half. The Swifts, who really monopolised the play, scored from a penalty, Gray shooting through. Gray allowed a soft goal to Coalville in the first minute of the second half, but the Swifts continued to have the best of the game, and Lavery, Leigh, and Griffiths put on goals in the last ten minutes. Result:—

**Result :—**

Swifts	4
Coalville	1

Nottingham Journal - 17 October 1898



**LOUGHBOROUGH v. ROTHWELL TOWN  
SWIFTS**

Loughborough: Mumford, goal; Ward and Hardy, backs; Ball, Hodgkin, and Tuthill, half-backs; Bosworth, Roulston, Pegg, Moore, and Tebbe, forwards.

Rothwell Town Swifts: A. J. Brampton, goal; L. Denton and G. Panter, backs; G. Willis, G. Shortland, and H. Stapleton, half-backs; A. Coulson, J. Rowlatt, T. Gibson, J. Starr, and W. Robinson, forwards.

Referee: Mr. A. G. Kingscott, Derby.

In good football weather this match was played at Loughborough on Saturday, Loughborough having passed through the previous round by beating Mansfield four to nil. Loughborough were deprived of the services of Nichols—through a family bereavement—and Pike—through illness—and these vacancies were filled by Moore and Tebbe from the reserves, Pegg being deputed to fill the centre-forward position. The ground was in good condition, but the gate was scarcely so large as expected, probably owing to the attractions of Leicester Fair. There were barely a thousand spectators on the ground.

The opening exchanges were slightly in favour of the visitors, who made one or two vigorous attacks on the home goal. Then Roulston placed wide. Loughborough were now pressing up better, and Pegg dodging a back got in a shot a trifle wide of the mark. Bosworth got right away with a pass from Hodgkin and sent in a warm shot, which Brampton fisted cleverly. A spell of pressure by Loughborough was smartly repelled by the visiting backs. At length Loughborough had a free kick close in and Hardy took it without result. Coulson brought it up for Rothwell, and Mumford nullified Gibson's attempt. Loughborough immediately resumed hostilities and showed themselves to be much the stronger team, their opportunities to shoot either came seldom or were not promptly taken.

advantage of. Brampton handled several times, but the shots were not of a telling character. Rothwell got up dangerously, and after Ball had intercepted a shot from the centre, Robinson forced a corner off Mumford. Bosworth immediately got away with the leather and Roulston opened the scoring after half an hour's play, the visiting custodian being completely beaten. Brampton a second later ran out and kicked clear, but Tebbs got right through by himself and struck the goal-keeper's hand and the crossbar, Pegg rushing up to settle all disputes. The second goal was scored a minute after the first. Mumford was then called upon by Gibson. One of the visiting forwards fell over Hardy and Mr. Kingscott awarded a free kick inside the penalty line, the visitors demanding a penalty kick. The incident produced nothing tangible, and Loughborough resumed hostilities, Tebbs sending in a lightning shot from the wing, which Brampton put away with masterly skill. A "free" was met by Hodgkin and Roulston had a good opening but kicked weakly. Bosworth made a better attempt, but was given offside. Receiving from Tebbs, Moore had real hard lines when he rattled the cross-bar. Denton gave a corner to Loughborough, from which Coulson got right away, but Hardy cleverly overhauled him, and sent the ball back into the visitors' quarters, where a free was awarded to Loughborough. A scrimmage followed, and Bosworth put right across the goal-mouth. The ball speedily came back again, and Brampton stopped two dangerous shots. Just before the interval Rothwell made a vain effort. Half-time: Loughborough, two; Rothwell, none. Soon after the resumption Bosworth got a centre in and Hodgkin had a couple of shots charged down, a third being tipped over the bar by the Rothwell custodian. The corner was futile, but a little later Roulston just cleared the bar. Loughborough pressed almost continuously. Hodgkin just missed with a flying shot. Rothwell broke away and gained a corner, from which Coulson sent in a stiff shot for Mumford

to handle. Tebbs then raced away but the back cleared. Another good bit of work by Tebbs came to nought, as after a capital centre by the left-winger, Bosworth sent the ball whizzing over the bar. Bosworth was off-side when he sent in a good shot. Coulson was also off-side, but went on his journey unchecked, Mumford saving at close quarters. From a centre by Bosworth, Denton nearly placed in his own goal, Brampton being in the nick of time to direct for a corner. Centre after centre was repelled by the backs. Brampton made another smart save, and Hodgkin had a good chance and kicked high. Another breakaway by Rothwell resulted in Starr sending in a splendid shot which struck the crossbar. Bosworth went away like the wind, and Pegg scored a lovely goal right along the ground into the corner of the net. Bosworth centred again, and Brampton fisted a nasty dropper from Tuthill. Rothwell had another corner, and receiving from Pegg Bosworth flew away again and centred splendidly. The ball bounced from one player to another in the goal mouth, and Pegg applied the final impetus to the fourth goal. Bosworth was soon in evidence again by this time. Brampton stepped out and fisted the ball into the air, one of the backs clearing rather luckily. Tebbs made the next run but without success, and Tuthill made the next endeavour by kicking over the bar. Loughborough were bombarding the goal which had a very narrow escape when Tebbs got by Denton and kicked from a few yards. Brampton met it luckily, and Tuthill got his foot under the return and lifted over the goal. Immediately after, however, Tuthill scored the fifth goal with a good shot right in the corner. Brampton again made a capital save to Bosworth. Rothwell were completely disorganised and the local forwards had almost entirely their own way. Tuthill scored another ten minutes from time, and the final score was:—

Loughborough	7
Rothwell	0

Nottingham Journal - 17 October 1898

#### LOUGHBOROUGH v. WELLINGBOROUGH.

Loughborough: Mumford, goal; Ward and Hardy, backs; Ball, Hodgkin, and Tuthill, half-backs; Bosworth, Roulston, Nicholls, Pegg, and Pike, forwards.

Wellingborough: Shawley, goal; Bennett and Robson, backs; Murrell, Martin, and Davies, half-backs; Walker, Williams, Scriven, Raby, and Hyde, forwards.

Referee: Mr. P. J. Cropper, Nottingham.

This match was played at Loughborough before about 2,000 spectators, and as the home team were expected to win, considerable enthusiasm prevailed. Loughborough had triumphed in two preceding rounds by eleven goals to nil in the two matches, and Wellingborough had managed to climb to this stage by winning a replayed match by 6-1 after sustaining a protest against Northampton, who won at the first encounter. The game was well contested, but the result was a draw:—

Loughborough	0
Wellingborough	0

### THIRD QUALIFYING ROUND.

#### REPLAYED TIE.

#### WELLINGBOROUGH v. LOUGHBOROUGH.

Replayed at Wellingborough yesterday, before 2,000 spectators. Loughborough played the same team as on Saturday, but Wellingborough put Waker in the place of Hall at outside right. The visitors had advantage of the wind during the first half, and they soon began to make the pace. After an unsuccessful corner, Loughborough scrimmaged the ball through the Wellingborough goal, six minutes from the start. Play continued in favour of Loughborough for some time, but as the interval drew near matters became more even, and a neat run on the part of the home forwards terminated in Scriven beating Mumford, who failed to clear from a stinging shot sent in just previously by Raby. Each side in turn had a corner, but without result, and the visitors then warmly attacked, the home goalkeeper luckily clearing a brilliant shot from Nichol. Two corners proved fruitless, halftime arriving with the score—Wellingborough, one, Loughborough one. In the second half Loughborough early attacked, and within five minutes Nichol put them ahead once more. Raby then got one through, but it was disallowed for off-side. From this stage Wellingborough fell off considerably, and Roulston scored a third goal for the visitors. Towards the finish the home team rallied, but the Loughborough backs were equal to the occasion, and at the end the score was—

Loughborough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Wellingborough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

# STAPLEFORD TOWN v. COALVILLE 'ALBION.

The homesters lacked off against a strong wind, and Allen sent outside. The ball was put through the visitors' goal, but Wakefield was adjudged off-side. Smedley sent in a feeble shot, but Wigginton scored a good goal a minute after. The home team still pressed. The visitors then had a spell, and nearly scored. Carrington again saved. At half-time the score stood—one goal each. The wind favouring the Albion, they continued to have the best of matters, Briers making some good centres. Dawson and Wakefield relieved, and the home team came with a rush, but Brookes relieved with a big kick. Wigginton put in a weak shot. A corner for Coalville next occurred, but Mason shot high over the bar from the flag kick. A foul against Dawson was followed by the ball being taken to Carrington. He cleared, however, and once more taken to the Albion quarters, and a goal all but accrued. Bullivant cleared a dangerous run. A good centre by Allen was spoiled by Dawson kicking out. Coalville returned, and Sheffield scored with a good shot. Allen transferred play and sent in a splendid shot. The Albion again attacked, but the whistle blew for half-time with the score one goal each. Upon resuming the home team were the first to assume the aggressive, and the visitors' goal narrowly escaped on two occasions. An off-side spoiled the Albion chance, and the homesters again pressed, and Wakefield just missed. Result:—

Stapleford Town ... ..	4
Coalville Albion ... ..	1

Nottingham Journal - 17 October 1898

# A MIDLAND COUNTIES' LEAGUE CLUB BEAT A SECOND DIVISION CLUB.

## KETTERING TOWN v. LOUGHBOROUGH TOWN.

This match, at Kettering, was witnessed by 6,000 people. The opening stages of the game were fast and exciting, and as the clubs are keen rivals there was much cheering at the various phases were noticeable. The visitors had the wind, an important factor, to assist them in the opening half, and despite this fact they were unable to penetrate the sound defence presented, and as Kettering did not score the teams crossed over none all. The next period was of an exciting character, as Kettering scored through Pell, whilst a second point was immediately obtained by Heskin, and a further dash almost ended disastrously for Loughborough. However, close on time Pike shot a goal for Loughborough, but nothing more being done by either side Kettering won by two goals to Loughborough one. Teams:—

KETTERING.—Baldry (goal), Raynor and Draper (backs), Pell, Farren, and Dainty (half-backs), H. Winterhalder, Heskin, Pantor, Miller, and Beaver.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—Mumford (goal), Ward and Hardy (backs), Moore, Hodgkin, and Tutill (half-backs), Bosworth, Roulston, Pegg, Nichol, and Pike.

Sporting Life - 21 November 1898

#### RUSHDEN TOWN v. LEICESTER FOSSE.

The Rushden team, for monetary considerations, journeyed to their rivals' ground on Saturday, and the fact of their changing the venue appears to have ended in their defeat, if one may take it that a team is always a goal better on their own territory. There would be 6,000 people when the teams lined up. The opening stages of the game were favourable to the Fosse, and Galbraith added a fine goal for them. Pressure by Rushden was soon counteracted, and then M'Millan popped a second point on for the home team. In the next half Rushden played up in a remarkable manner, and Hingerty put on a neat goal for Rushden. The game from this period to the close was keenly fought, but Leicester held their own, and won in the end by two goals to Rushden's one. Referee, Mr. Ward, Nottingham. Teams:—

LEICESTER FOSSE.—G. L. Beardsley (goal), J. Walker and G. Swift (backs), A. Ball, J. Brown, and R. Jones (half-backs), T. Galbraith, S. Eaton, R. King, A. Watkins, and J. M'Millan.

RUSHDEN.—Daw (goal), Athey and Lilley (backs), Suggett, Bailey, and Groves (half-backs), C. Denton, F. Dunkley, Hingerty, Pendered, and Mellor.

*Sporting Life - 21 November 1898*

#### KETTERING v. LEICESTER FOSSE.

Some seven thousand spectators watched this tie at Kettering, and a good game was played. Leicester won the toss, and decided to play up the hill with the wind. Leicester were the first to attack, Baldrey having to save for Walker, Swift just afterwards landing the ball on the top of the net. Three fouls against Leicester enabled Kettering to get close in, Pett shooting by. Two corners were forced by Kettering, but Beardsley saved well. Then Jones, at the other end, must have scored had not Farren intervened. The game was being fought at a tremendous rate, and was still very even, but after twenty-eight minutes' play Heskin passed to Panter, who, watching his opportunity, turned the ball cleverly into the strings, and thus gave Kettering the lead. Kettering attacked hotly, and although the ball was often round the Leicester goal, there was no more scoring before the interval. Half-time: Kettering, one; Fosse, nil. The visitors went off at a smart pace after the change over, but Kettering soon were on the aggressive again. Good defensive play was shown by each pair of backs, neither goal-keeper being troubled much. The home team, if anything, had most of the play, but a quarter of an hour from time Fulwood sent in a terrific shot which hit the cross-bars and rebounded into the strings, thus making the score "one all." Kettering tried hard to regain their lead, and although they got close in several times, there was no further alteration, the final score being—Kettering, one; Fosse, nil. Referee, Mr. Bye (Sheffield). The teams will meet again at Leicester next Thursday.

*Sporting Life - 12 December 1898*

#### LEICESTER FOSSE v. KETTERING.

For the third time in the final stage of the qualifying rounds of the Cup competition Kettering defeated the Leicester Fosse, at Leicester, yesterday by two goals to one. Last Saturday's game at Kettering ended in a draw of one goal each. But playing on their own ground yesterday, the issue was considered pretty safe for the home club, who by consistent form had reached third position in the Second League. Miller, for Heskin (inside right) was the only change in the Kettering side, but the Fosse were without their custodian, Beardsley, and Fulwood, Howes taking the goal position and M'Millan outside right. The game started before five thousand spectators, and shortly after the opening exchanges Galbraith went down on the right wing, and centered smartly to Eaton for the latter to score. A spate of give-and-take play followed before a foul against Walker resulted in Beaver equalising. The sides crossed over with the scores level, and Kettering going down with a rattle, threatened danger before Walker cleared. The Fosse afterwards had much the best of the play, M'Millan once having an open goal, but shooting inches wide. A lot of kicking out was seen on both sides, and further attacks came from the Fosse, who, however, failed to penetrate the Kettering defence at the other end. Peel sent in good shots, which went over, and Howes saved from Winterhalder. It was not until within two minutes of time that the issue was decided, another foul against Walker enabling Draper to score. Result:—Kettering, two goals; Fosse, one. Referee, Mr. Kingscott (Derby). Teams:—

KETTERING.—Baldry (goal), Wallis and Draper (backs), Pell, Farren, and Dainty (half-backs), Winterhalder, Miller, Panter, Beaver, and Dexter.

FOSSE.—Howes (goal), Swift and Walker (backs), Jones, Ball, and Robinson (half-backs), M'Millan, Walker, King, Eaton, and Galbraith.

*Sporting Life - 16 December 1898*