



# Leicestershire Senior Cup 1897-98

**Winner:** Coalville Albion  
**Runner-Up:** Coalville Town  
**No. of entries:** 12

Loughborough Athletic did not arrive for their Round 1 encounter with Leicester Fosse Reserves, following a dispute between the two clubs who could not mutually agree a kick off time. After taking evidence from both clubs, Leicestershire Football Association gave the following rulings:

1. That both clubs to be severely censured for not playing the cup tie on the day specified by the association.
2. That the match must be played on Saturday, October 30 (failing a mutual arrangement to play on an earlier date) the kick-off to take place at 3 o'clock, and the match played to a finish, with Mr A Peters of Kettering, as referee.
3. That the expenses incurred on Oct 16, and those incurred in the match now ordered to be played, to be paid by the Fosse club, and the gross gate to be shared by the Loughborough FC.
4. Fosse FC to be required to guarantee a minimum share of £20 to Loughborough.

Fosse won the rearranged game 10-0 – which included a second half hat-trick from McLeod and two own goals by Ward - but were disqualified from the competition for fielding an eligible player.

Eventual winners, Coalville Albion were beaten at Whitwick Albion in Round 2. However, after a protest by Coalville Albion that the cup holders played an eligible player, Whitwick were removed from the competition and the tie was awarded to Coalville.

Short time was played in the cup tie between Ashby Albion and Coalville Town. It was ruled that Ashby were at fault and the game was ordered to be replayed at Ashby. The Albion won the game 2-0. However, Coalville protested against Ashby playing Mason, an ineligible man, which was upheld. Coalville were awarded the match.

The final between Coalville's premier sides – Albion and Town - was played at Hugglescote. A single goal, just 4 minutes before time by Jeffcoat, won the cup for Coalville Albion.

## Round 1

	Date	Home		Away	Match Details	
1	16.10.1897	Anstey Town	2	6	Earl Shilton Town	Good crowd.
2	16.10.1897	Ashby Albion Dennis (3)	3	1	Barwell Swifts Haywood	Fair gate. Dennis hat-trick, the first goal was scored within a minute of the start
3	16.10.1897	Leicester Fosse Reserves	P	P	Loughborough Athletic	Loughborough took umbrage at the arrangements made by the Fosse for this fixture, and failed to turn up. Fosse claimed the match
4	25.9.1897	Shepshed Town	1	2	Coalville Town	

Whitwick Town and Hugglescote Robin Hood, byes

Coalville Albion and Hinckley Town, last season's finalists were both exempt from Round 1.

## Round 1 Replay

	Date	Home		Away	Match Details	
5	26.10.1897	Leicester Fosse Reserves Dorrell Flannagan (2) OGs (Ward) AN Other McMillan	10	0	Loughborough Athletic	A protest was made by Loughborough. They stated that J Brown (Leicester Fosse) was not a registered player as prescribed by the laws of the Association. Fosse did not defend the case and consequently Loughborough were awarded the match.

		McLeod (3)				
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## Round 2

Date		Home	Away		Match Details	
6	13.11.1897	Coalville Town Heward (3) J Smith	4	1	Ashby Albion AN Other	Rain fell all day right up to kick off time. Attendance was poor. Kick off delayed as Ashby waited for their Burton-based players to arrive. Heward (Coalville) scored a hat-trick. Game stopped 13 mins before time owing to bad light. Ashby were to blame, and the Association ordered to game to be replayed. In addition, Ashby were found to have fielded Mason, of Melbourne, under an assumed name. The game was ordered to be replayed. A. Wright who represented Ashby was suspended for the remainder of the season for abusive and evasive conduct. Ashby formally apologised and paid Coalville Town 17 s 6d to cover expenses. Other fines were imposed by Leicestershire Football Association.
7	13.11.1897	Hinckley Town Pollard	1	2	Earl Shilton Town AN Others	Moderate gate.
8	13.11.1897	Loughborough Athletic	1	0	Hugglescote Robin Hood	Athletic Grounds, Loughborough. Game played in drizzling rain before a very poor gate.
9	13.11.1897	Whitwick Albion Whitmore Bevan	2	1	Coalville Albion "Mic"	1,000 spectators despite "unfavourable meteorological conditions" Whitwick's second goal resulted from a weak shot by Bevan which the goal-keeper "unaccountably missed, allowing the ball to pass slowly between his legs. Earl (Coalville) missed a penalty. Tugby (Whitwick) sent off for misconduct. Whitwick were removed from the competition for playing an eligible player, the match awarded to Coalville

Games to kick off no later than 3.00 pm

## Round 2 Replay

Date	Home	Away		Match Details		
10	29.12.1897	Ashby Albion "Al" Gilchrist	2	0	Coalville Town	Holmes Ground, Ashby. Meagre attendance. Coalville were awarded the game after a protest.

## Semi-Finals

Date	Home	Away		Match Details		
11	19.3.1898	Coalville Albion Rose AN Other	2	0	Loughborough Athletic	Played on the Town ground in Coalville despite opposition from Loughborough who wanted the game to be staged at Shepshed. Moderate attendance.
12	19.3.1898	Coalville Town AN Others	5	1	Earl Shilton Town Abbotts	Holywell Ground, Hinckley.

## Final

Date	Home	Away		Match Details		
13	2.4.1898	Coalville Town	0	1	Coalville Albion Jeffcoat	At Hugglescote. The only goal of the game was scored just 4 mins from time

## Match Reports

### #1 ANSTEY TOWN v EARL SHILTON

At Anstey. Result:

Shilton 6

Anstey 2

*Coalville Times - 22 October 1897*

### #2 ANSTEY ALBION v BARWELL SWIFTS

Before a fair gate at Ashby. Dennis scored for the Albion within a minute from the start, the same player adding another immediately after, and a third was headed in at the mouth of the goal. The Swifts were apparently discouraged, but just before half-time Haywood scored for them. The second half was one-sided, Ashby sending in shot after shot. Result:

Albion 3

Swifts 1

*Coalville Times - 22 October 1897*

### #3 Leicestershire Senior Cup

#### FOSSE RESERVES v LOUGHBOROUGH RESERVES

This match was set down for decision at Leicester, but owing to a dispute between the two clubs as to what time the match should be played, Loughborough did not turn up. Fosse have claimed the match, but it is very probably that the match will be referred back to the Association.

*Coalville Times - 22 October 1897*

### #4 LEICESTERSHIRE SENIOR CUP

#### FIRST ROUND

##### SHEPSHED TOWN v COALVILLE

By permission of the Leicestershire Association the date for this match was altered from Oct 16 to Saturday as neither of the above clubs had a fixture. Though taking a keen interest in the game of football nothing like the excitement of years gone by has been experienced at Shepshed during the present week. Shepshed were fortunate so far as the draw was concerned in having the venue fixed for their own ground. Last year the clubs met twice in the League with the result that each team won on their own ground, so that it may be said they meet on this occasion on very equal terms. Whatever advantage there was at the outset must have been in favour of the home team, who had already played three League matches on their own ground. The same team was selected for Shepshed as lost to Hinckley a week previous.

Needham kicked off at 3.35 and Kendrick scored after five minutes play, Smith added a second one minute later. Fifteen minutes later Ford scored for Shepshed. Half-time Coalville two, Shepshed one. In the second half both teams struggled hard without gaining any further advantage, the game ending

COALVILLE two;

SHEPSHED, one.

*Leicester Daily Post - 27 September 1997*

### #5 LEICESTERSHIRE SENIOR CUP

#### FIRST ROUND

##### FOSSE RESERVES v LOUGHBOROUGH RESERVES

The adjourned match between these clubs was played in the Fosse ground yesterday, and under conditions most favourable to good play. Loughborough brought their regular second team, but the Fosse eleven was considerably strengthened by the inclusion of such well-known first team men asking, McMillan, McLeod and Brown so that the match looked a good thing for the Fosse.

Loughborough kicked off and the Fosse at once began to attack, but McMillan sent the ball behind, while a minute later the same player put the ball over the cross-bar. Then King passed the ball in a similar position in attempting to centre. By means of a free kick for a foul, Loughborough succeeded in working their way into the Fosse half, but the change was only momentary, as the Fosse forwards were soon round their opponents' goal again. Twice Thompson was applauded for the clever way in which he stopped the rushes of the Loughborough forwards, and on the second occasion he passed the ball to Dorrell, who put in a good centre from which

Flannagan just failed to head into the net. King was next to trouble Foulds, who had some difficulty in repelling a fast shot from him. Dorrell followed this up by sending in another good centre, and King had a splendid opening, but he over-ran the ball and the chance was lost. At last Dorrell, who was playing a good game had his efforts rewarded. From a pretty pass by Lord, the right-winger ran down the wing, and sent in a fast shot, which Bailey stopped, but the ball rebounded to Dorrell, who instantly banged it into the net, just ten minutes after the start. Fosse continued to have all the best of the game, and King and Dorrell both made laudable attempts to score. The next noteworthy feature was a splendid shot from McLeod, which looked like just curling in under the bar, but Foulds cleverly fisted it away. After some midfield play Dorrell was again conspicuous with another good run and centre, and from the latter Flannagan, taking Foulds unaware, slipped the ball into the net. From the kick off Loughborough got right down to the Fosse goal, but Saer was not called upon, and Thompson and Lord transferred play to the other end, where King just headed the ball over the bar from a centre by Dorrell. A moment later Dorrell himself tried to score, and Foulds ran out to meet the ball, but missed it and Flannagan added a third goal for the Fosse. Loughborough were still kept penned into their own half and Bailey and Ward were obliged to concede a couple of corners in quick succession. From the last of these Lord had rather hard lines in not scoring, the ball just scraping the crossbar McLeod was the next to shoot, and he sent the ball into the goal off Ward's leg, while a minute later Bailey had hard work to kick away a lightning shot from Dorrell. McMillan was the next to show to advantage, and he sprinted down the wing tight up to the goal, where a somewhat curious thing happened. The Loughborough goalkeeper charged McMillan off the ball, and then Ward, in attempting to clear, kicked the ball straight into his own goal. Following this, Loughborough took up the running, and for the first time during the game Saer was asked to defend his charge, which he did by throwing away a fine shot from Turner. Very soon after this the sixth goal was added, and the Fosse continued to press up to half-time, when the score stood:

FOSSE, six goals;

LOUGHBOROUGH, none.

As soon as the game restarted, the Fosse took up their old position in the Loughborough half and forced a corner, but from Dorrell's flag kick Paget got away to the centre. Here he fouled Lord, and from the ensuing free kick the Fosse were again enabled to attack. McMillan gained possession of the ball and darting between Bailey and Ward, got the ball past Foulds for the seventh goal. Loughborough forced their way into the Fosse half, but Dorrell brough the leather back, and passed to McLeod who with along oblique shot, placed the ball just over the cross-bar. The Fosse continued to have the best of the game, and play resolved itself into a continual bombardment of the Loughborough goal. Shot after shot was showered upon Foulds, who managed to clear several times. Bu them McLeod beat him, while another shot struck one of the uprights. At last Loughborough showed a bit of form and Paget, after a good run down the wing sent in a splendid shot, which Saer only saved by throwing himself at the ball just as it was going in at the corner. The game, however, was soon back at the Loughborough end, and after Foulds had once more sorely tried McLeod put the ball on the net with a shot which the goalkeeper had practically no chance of clearing and McMillan was applauded for some pretty work on the wing, and from the latter's centre Bailey was obliged to concede a corner, but it did not prove of much advantage to the Fosse as the ball went behind. As the result of a corner, which was given by Foulds from a shot by King some exciting play was seen round the Loughborough goal and it was only by what was only a miracle that a tenth goal was not registered.it was now getting so foggy that it was with some difficulty that te players could be distinguished, but at last, to the delight of the spectators the score assumed double figures, McMillan brining about this result with a fast low shot which completely beat Foulds. Nothing further occurred and he game ended:

FOSSE, 10 goals,

LOUGHBOROUGH, none

Fosse: Saer, goal; Thompson and Rowell, backs; Jones, Brown and Lord, half-backs; King, McMillan, Flannagan, Mc Leod and Dorell, forwards.

Loughborough: Foulds, goal; Bailey and Ward, backs; Bexon, Viccars and Shickell, half-backs; Paget, Pym, Brailsford, Turner and Brewill, forwards.

*Leicester Daily Post* – 29 October 1897

## **#6 ASHBY v COALVILLE TOWN**

At Ashby, before a moderate attendance. The weather was fine, but the ground was greasy. Play started fast. Ashby, pressing, scored the first goal by Dennis and Heward equalised for Coalville just on half-time. Resuming Heward scored again and Smith immediately added a third for Coalville, who were then playing strong. After a

fourth but doubtful goal had been awarded them, the referee stopped the game thirteen minutes to time through darkness due to unpunctuality in commencing. Result:

COALVILLE, four goals;

ASHBY, one goal.

*Leicester Daily Post -15 November 1897*

#### **#7 HINCKLEY TOWN v EARL SHILTON TOWN**

Played at Hinckley, before a moderate gate. In the first half the game was very ragged. Earl Shilton scored one goal. Play being resumed, Hinckley pressed for a time and eventually Pollard scored. After this the home team pressed more strongly, but from a breakaway Earl Shilton gained the winning goal. Result:

EARL SHILTON, two goals;

HINCKLEY, one goal.

*Leicester Daily Post -15 November 1897*

#### **#8 LEICESTERSHIRE SENIOR CUP**

##### **SECOND ROUND**

##### **LOUGHBOROUGH ATHLETIC v HUGGLESCOTE ROBIN HOOD**

Played on the Athletic Grounds Loughborough, in drizzling rain, and before a very poor gate. The Athletic played with one exception the same eleven as the previous day, Paget changing with Brailsford. Loughborough had the advantage of the toss, and were soon busily attacking, Webster taking a couple of corners without success, while Plackett just shot wide. Loughborough were playing strongly, the Robins seldom getting very far into the home portion. Then Monk took a corner grandly, Plackett heading just over, and from a throw Pym put in a weak effort, which Sales kicked away. Play opened out and Hugglescote forced a corner, which was easily cleared and Loughborough attacking again had a free in a good position through Paget being held. Cooper and Hall played a strong game, but the home defence was safe, and Sales kicking badly. Paget looked like running through, but overran the ball. Play was even for a while, but Loughborough again had the measure of their opponents. Plackett having sent wide, Webster was conspicuous for clever play, Carter having to clear twice. Loughborough pressed strongly but were slow in front of goal and had a splendid chance of scoring off a good shot by Plackett was missed by both Pym and Keighley. At the interval there had been no score. During this half Holmes had no to defend his charge once.

Re-starting Paget played centre forward and Keighley outside left, Ward cleared finely, and Webster got well away, but played selfishly, and the Robins were conceded an unnecessary corner by Bradshaw. This was cleared, but Hugglescote were let in again with a couple of free kicks. Their shooting, however, was of a good description. Neither side were showing the least combination, but after determined efforts by Keightley, Paget was placed in possession right in front of goal, but he only just scraped the ball with his foot, and the chance was lost. Play was very uninteresting, and Holmes had to defend his goal for the first time from Bexon, who all but presented the Robins with a goal. The next thing of note was a splendid shot by Webster which ran along the front of the bar and following this a capital shot by Monk, which Carter just kept out of the corner and the Robins goalkeeper next cleared finely from Keightley. A scrimmage followed, the ball bobbling about for some seconds. From a foul Plackett put in a warm grounder, which one of the backs cleared luckily and Carter was again called upon. Hugglescote made several nice efforts but their shooting was wretched in the extreme. Webster forced another corner which was unsuccessful and a free was also kept out, but a corner on the other wing was capitally placed by Keightley and the ball was headed through. Upon resuming, a long shot was put in at the Loughborough goal, Holmes having to clear for the first time from the Hugglescote attacking line. Carter again had to defend his charge by fisting out a capital shot from Monk. Hugglescote then played a strong game, but their shooting did not improve while Loughborough missed another chance of scoring and the end came with the score:

LOUGHBOROUGH, one goal;

HUGGLESCOTE, none

Loughborough: Hollmes, ward and Bradshaw; Vickers, Plackett and Bexon; Webster, Monk, Pym, Keightley and Paget.

Hugglescote: Carter; Sales and Wollaton; Woodward, Hallam and Hibbert; Swift, Roper, Harris, Cooper and Hall.

*Leicester Daily Post - 15 November 1897*

#### **#9 WHITWICK TOWN v COALVILLE ABION**

At Whitwick. Result:

WHITWICK TOWN, two goals;  
COALVILLE ALBION, one goal.

Leicester Daily Post - 15 November 1897

#10

**SECOND ROUND.**

**COALVILLE TOWN v. ASHBY ALBION.**

The Coalville Town Club went to Ashby on Monday to replay their cup tie with the Albion, this having been ordered by the cup executive on account of the previous match being brought to a conclusion thirteen minutes before time, owing to a bad light. On that occasion Coalville won easily by four goals to one. The eleven on Monday was but a moderate one, as the following will show, viz: Coalville: Goal, Bunting; backs, McGuinness and Chapman; half-backs, J. Kendrick, Eales and Beeson; forwards, T. Kendrick, Bunting, junr., W. Smith, J. Smith and Heward.

Mr. J. E. Carpenter, of Leicester, was the referee.

The match was played on the Holmes Ground before a meagre attendance. The home-ers first played with a wind, having won the toss. For about forty minutes the play was unproductive, but just before the interval Al' opp scored a splendid goal with a long high shot taken from nearly the centre of the field. Coalville pressed hard in the second half but the shooting was wretched and they failed to score. Gilchrist added a second for Ashby, and they were also awarded a penalty, from which Bunting saved splendidly. Ashby, therefore, gained a victory as follows:

Ashby	...	...	...	2
Coalville	..	...	...	0

Coalville Times - 31 December 1897

## LOUGHBOROUGH RESERVE v. COALVILLE ALBION.

This match was played on the Coalville Town ground on Saturday before a moderate attendance.

The teams were:—Coalville: Goal, Stubbs; backs, Berry and Ridgard; half-backs, King, Middleton and Moore; forwards, Sharp, Rose, Bradshaw, Jeffcote and Dicken.

Loughborough: Goal, Foulds; backs, Bailey and Bradshaw; half-backs, York, Vickers and Plackett; forwards, Webster, Turner, Lakin, Wright and Diggle.

Referee, Mr. A. Lovell, Leicester.

Loughborough kicked off towards the road end and the ball was quickly sent over the line. A few minutes from the start, Middleton received an injury to his knee and had to retire. He came on again later, but was unable to remain and the Albion played the match through with ten men. The ball was taken towards the Loughborough goal, and from a nice centre by King, Dicken apparently had a good chance, when the whistle went for offside. Loughborough had a free which was well placed and both Ridgard and Moore saved well. After the Albion had cleared a corner, the forwards went away nicely and Foulds returned the ball from Jeffcote. Coalville had a free close in, and attacked hotly, Bailey and Co. defending well, and then Ridgard was called upon at the other end. The visiting forwards renewed the attack, and Stubbs fisted out a beautiful shot from Diggle. The Albion then had a turn and Jeffcote having received the ball from Rose, missed the goal by a few inches only. The ball was got away from shots by Jeffcote and Dicken, and Sharp again returned it, skimming the crossbar with a fine shot. Both sides forced corners after this, which were useless, and the interval arrived with  
**NO SCORE.**

Soon after the re-start, Foulds disposed of a splendid shot from Moore at the expense of a corner, which was admirably placed by Sharp, and the Loughborough goal narrowly escaped. The visitors played vigorously, and Stubbs brought off three brilliant saves in rapid succession, the last two being good shots by Wright and Lakin respectively. Jeffcote and Dicken ran to the other end, only to be checked, however, by the back, and the Reserve forwards raced away once more. Stubbs again cleared his charge by judiciously running out and kicking the ball from the toe of an opponent about to shoot. The Albion pressed, and a shot from Jeffcote went outside. After the ball had been taken to the centre, Sharp ran past the backs, one of whom, however, caught him again, and a corner resulted. Sharp placed the ball splendidly and Foulds fisted it over the bar. The next corner kick was equally well taken by Sharp, and once more did Foulds fist it away and another attempt by King was also neutralised.

The Albion continued to press, and at length Sharp got in a beautiful high shot, from which Foulds fisted the ball straight in the air, and when it came down again he repeated the performance. Rose, however, got possession the second time and promptly transferred the ball into the net amidst vociferous cheering. The Albion thus scored the first goal when but a quarter of an hour remained for play. Soon after the kick-off, the Albion forced a corner, which was admirably placed by Sharp, and from a group of players the ball was rushed through a second time. Moore, apparently, being responsible for the goal. Foulds saved from Jeffcote and then Loughborough made a great effort. Stubbs saved marvellously three times and though Loughborough continued to press for the remaining few minutes, they found the defence impregnable, and the game ended :

Coalville Albion, two goals ;  
Loughborough, none.

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*Hinckley Free Press - Friday 25 March 1898*



**REPORTS OF MATCHES.**  
**LEICESTERSHIRE SENIOR CUP.**

**SEMI-FINAL.**

**COALVILLE TOWN v. SHILTON TOWN.**

These teams met on Saturday afternoon on the Holywell ground in the semi-final round of the Leicestershire Senior Cup. The atmospherical conditions in the early part of the day and right up to the opening time of the match promised to be anything but pleasant, and when the players lined up rain was falling but this cleared off, and the game was played in fine weather. The ground was in bad condition owing to the recent rains, and play throughout was not very exciting and, at times, not even interesting. Coalville had the best of matters throughout, and played a far superior game to their opponents. A few minutes past the appointed time the teams lined up as follows:—

Coalville:—H. Bunting, goal; Chapman and Beeson, backs; C. Benniston, E. Benniston and Cliff, half-backs; S. Heward and W. Smith, Walker, F. Bunting and Parkes, forwards.

Shilton:—Armson, goal; Freer and Barker, backs; Wileman, Raven and Ladkin, half-backs; Abbotts and Goodman, Coe, Wightman and Wileman, forwards.

Coalville won the toss and elected to play down the hill. In the opening stages of the game compliments were given and exchanged time after time, and the ball travelled from end to end with lightning rapidity. Barker at back made a bad mis-kick which let Coalville get up, but a keen shot was well repulsed by Armson. From a free kick Coalville forced two corners in quick succession but these were cleared in good style. From a throw in at mid-field Shilton got away and Bunting was called upon to save. Heward was ruled offside and Coalville put over. Coe soon after got hold of the leather and looked like business, but was stopped when in dangerous quarters. Coalville sent the ball back and Armson saved a

clinking shot. A foul was given against Bunting for charging the goalkeeper and the Shilton forwards getting up put behind. They forced another corner but this was got safely away. A foul was given against Coalville and Bunting made a grand save. The Shilton forwards seemed at this point to lose their heads, and allowed their opponents to sail by them easily, but the backs were awake and cleared the ball out of danger. Another foul against Shilton resulted in Smith hitting the outside of the net. Shilton then roused themselves to the game and getting possession raced to the other end, but the goalkeeper was one with them and the ball quickly found its way back from whence it came and after a pretty bit of passing Walker scored the first point for Coalville with a low shot. Bunting soon afterwards got very near again but the backs spoiled his game and his efforts were fruitless. The Coalville goalkeeper was again called upon and running out he cleared safely. The Shilton boys were not to be denied, and getting up succeeded in placing the ball in the net. The referee gave the goal offside and of course they had no alternative but to abide by the decision. Coalville secured, and Armson was again beaten by Walker who placed number two between the posts. A corner fell to Coalville, and after Hewitt had hit the crossbar Walker from the rebound shot over. A minute or two after Smith scored the third point for his side with a beauty, half-time arriving with the score

Coalville .....	3
Shilton .....	0

On the change of ends Coalville got up the field, and a foul against Shilton gave Armson work to do, but he proved himself equal to the occasion. Shilton then took up the running and got close in when Coalville fouled, and some discussion arose between referee, linesmen and players as to whether it ought to be a free, penalty, or goal kick. No one seemed to know and a penalty was decided upon. Freer took the kick but Bunting was on the ball before it was fairly played and the referee demanded another. This time Freer landed the ball into the net, but the point was

again disallowed owing to some of the players leaving the line too soon. The third time paid for all; either through nervousness or misjudgement Freer put the sphere right outside the posts amidst the jeers of the onlookers. Armson was soon afterwards called upon and saved a real stinger. Abbotts secured, ran down the whole length of the field in grand style, and passing to Coe that player did the trick neatly, thus scoring the first point for his side, and what was undoubtedly the best goal of the day. Coalville from the kick-off obtained possession, and Bunting soon afterwards notched the fourth point for the colliers. Coalville had the game entirely in their own hands now and Armson saved a shot from Parkes at the expense of a corner. Bunting took the kick but sent the leather behind. A good deal of uninteresting play followed, and after some long kicking Walker again found the net. Coalville were still dangerously near their opponents' goal when the whistle sounded, the result of the game being

Coalville .....	5
Shilton .....	1

The referee was Mr. F. Gardner, of Leicester.

*Hinckley Free Press - Friday 25 March 1898*

### **#13 FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION LEICESTERSHIRE SENIOR CUP**

The fact that the final in the Leicestershire Senior Cup competition was played off on Saturday is a stern reminder that the football season of 1897-98 has almost run its course. Coalville, which has come very much to the front in football in recent years, provided both the final lists, and the Town and Albion therefore met on the Robin Hood's ground at Hugglescote, thereby observing the rule as to neutral ground. Teams were as follows: Coalville Albion: Stubbs, goal; Berry and H Moore, backs; King, Bradshaw and Tivey, half backs; Jeffcoat and Rose, right wing; Blockley, centre; Dickson and Earl, left wing.

Coalville Town: Bunting, goal; Beeson and Chapman, backs; Cliffe, E Beniston and C Beniston, half backs; E Parkes and F Bunting, right wing; Walker, centre; Smith and Haward, left wing.

It will be seen from the above lists that the Town were fully represented, whereas the Albion had five reserves in their eleven, due to the suspension of Sharpe and accidents to and illness the rest. Mr. Carpenter, secretary of the Leicester FA was the referee.

The Albion won the toss. Heward caused Stubbs to handle in the first minute. The Albions got down and Beeson returned, but they got down again, the ball going over the line. The Town attacked, Bunting and Bradshaw charging, and both being laid out for a few minutes. W Smith got up, Berry saving at the expense of a corner, King relieving. The game still continued close to the Albions goal, a long shot by the Town centre just going over. A foul close up for the Albions was sent over. Chapman relieved with a long kick and a free to the Town was spoilt by Smith getting offside. Dickens showed a good bit of play, and the Town got a foul close in, Berry relieving. The Town continued to press, getting another corner. Beeson stopped a good run by the Albions and Earl showed some good play, tricking several Town players. Heward got possession and hit the side of the net. An overhead kick by Smith was well stopped by Stubbs. Berry then cleared from Walker. Fouls to each side were frequent. Hereabouts the Albions got away. Jeffcoat shooting straight at Bunting, who saved beautifully. Dickens had a chance, but shot very wide. Cliff sent well forward from the centre, Parkes then missing an easy chance. The Albions got away again, but were not allowed to become too dangerous. Another corner to the Town was got away and the Albions were awarded one at the other end, Bunting fisting away. Heward was cheered for a run and centre, but Moore relieved. Offside against the Town spoilt what appeared to be a certain chance. Stubbs next saved from Walker, again kicking away from Heward, both being splendid saves. Half-time came with no score.

Resuming, Albions were the first to attack for a time. Then the Town had a turn, and Bunting ran to kick out to save from Rose. Parkes being too eager, shot in the net when offside. Albions now took up the running, but Beeson and Chapman were all there. Bunting had hard work to clear from Earl, throwing himself full length to save. King sent well to Blockley, who just shot over. Bunting having to kick out from Jeffcoat. Berry stopped a combined attack from the Town forwards, and Stubbs saved well from Heward. Beeson missed his kick and Earl run up well, but shot wide when he had the goal at his mercy. Town pressed, Smith sending in a fast shot, which hit the side of the net, Blockley doing the same at the other end. Stubbs saved, but had to follow his ball clear. Beeson kicked out from Blockley, and Stubbs saved well from Heward and Bunting, a really brilliant effort. Albion got away again, but Chapman stopped the rush. E Beniston sent in a long one from centre, Stubbs having no difficulty to clear. Albions got up, and by very good passing by the whole of the forwards Jeffcoat put the finish to it, taking the lead four minutes before time. Town retaliated, but the Albions, playing a saving game, kicking out repeatedly, and winning a well contested match by the following score: Albion, one goal; Town, none.

*Leicester Daily Post - 5 April 1898*