



Hinckley Charity Cup 1896-97

Winner: Coalville Albion
Runner-Up: Barwell Swifts
No. of entries: 10

Ten teams entered – two from Coalville, two from Earl Shilton, two from Hinckley, two from out of the county (Tamworth Athletic and Nuneaton Town), with the remaining three being from Barrow, Barwell and Ibstock.

Coalville Albion beat Barwell Swifts in the final staged at the Holwell ground, Hinckley, witnessed by an “almost” record gate.

Round 1

	Date	Home			Away	
1	3.10.1896	Barrow Rising Star	2	0	Hinckley Town	
2	3.10.1896	Barwell Swifts	0	0	Hinckley Granville	
3	3.10.1896	Earl Shilton Town	2	5	Coalville Albion	
4	3.10.1896	Nuneaton Town	12 (7)	0 (0)	Earl Shilton Excelsior	500 spectators.
5	3.10.1896	Tamworth Athletic T Lycett Yates Bird	3 (0)	1 (0)	Coalville Town Kenrick	

Round 1 Replay

	Date	Home			Away	
6	10.10.1896	Hinckley Granville	0 (0)	6 (5)	Barwell Swifts	

Round 2

	Date	Home			Away	
7	7.11.1896	Tamworth Athletic	2	0	Nuneaton Town	Due to the sodden state of pitch, friendly game played instead of a cup tie.
8	14.11.1896	Ibstock Albion	0	2	Barwell Swifts	Hastings-road Ground, Ibstock.

Barrow Rising Star and Coalville Albion, byes

Round 2 Replay

	Date	Home			Away	
9	28.11.1896	Tamworth Athletic Bird AN Other Carris AN Other	4 (1)	2 (2)	Nuneaton Town Gretton (2)	200 spectators.

Semi-Finals

	Date	Home			Away	
10	20.2.1897	Coalville Albion	3	0	Tamworth Athletic	At Barwell.
11	27.2.1897	Barwell Swifts	2	1	Barrow Rising Star	

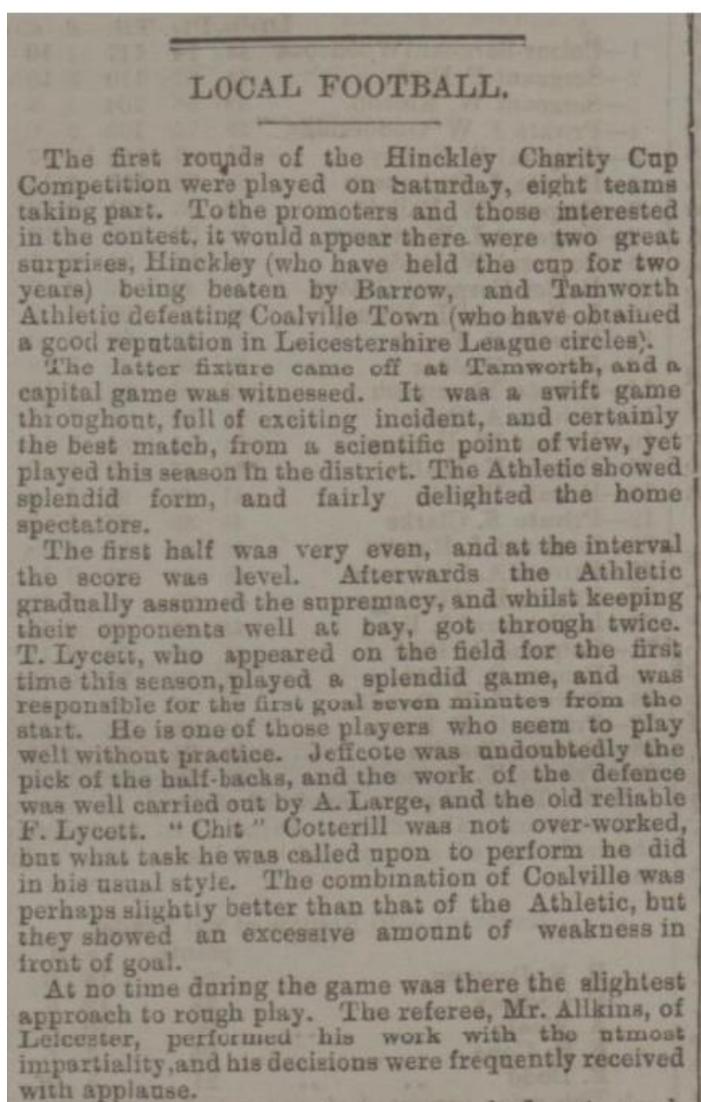
Final

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
12	10.4.1897	Barwell Swifts	0	2	Coalville Albion	Holywell Ground, Hinckley.

					Moore (40 min) Gourley	<p>"Almost" a record gate between these two sides. Beautiful weather. Amid great excitement, Mr McLaren, MP, kicked off. Mrs McLaren presented the cup to King, the Coalville captain, and medals to both teams.</p> <p>"A band escorted the victors back to Coalville, where the townspeople received them with great rejoicing."</p>
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Match Reports

A selection of published match reports.



Tamworth Herald - 10 October 1896

HINCKLEY CHARITY CUP

FIRST ROUND

#4 NUNEATON TOWN v EARL SHILTON

At Nuneaton before 500 spectators. In the first half play was all in favour of Nuneaton, who scored seven goals before the interval. Afterwards five more goals were added. The visitors failed to score. Result:

NUNEATON TOWN, 12 goals.

Earl Shilton, 0 goal.

Sheffield Daily Telegraph - 15 October 1896

HINCKLEY HOSPITAL CUP

REPLAYED TIE

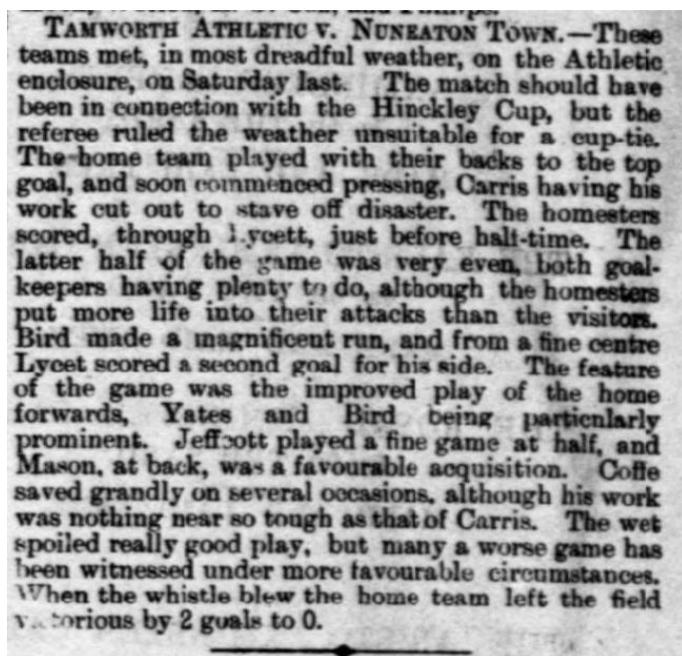
#6 BARWELL SWIFTS v HINCKLEY GRANVILLE

At Hinckley, before a good attendance. Barwell won the toss and kicked uphill. During the first half Barwell played well and scored five goals to Hinckley Granville nil. During the second half Hinckley played up well, but had hard lines in not scoring, but Barwell added another to their score. Result:

BARWELL, six goals;

HINCKLEY GRANVILLE, none.

Leicester Daily Post - 12 October 1896



TAMWORTH ATHLETIC v. NUNEATON TOWN.—These teams met, in most dreadful weather, on the Athletic enclosure, on Saturday last. The match should have been in connection with the Hinckley Cup, but the referee ruled the weather unsuitable for a cup-tie. The home team played with their backs to the top goal, and soon commenced pressing, Carris having his work cut out to stave off disaster. The homesters scored, through Lycett, just before half-time. The latter half of the game was very even, both goal-keepers having plenty to do, although the homesters put more life into their attacks than the visitors. Bird made a magnificent run, and from a fine centre Lycett scored a second goal for his side. The feature of the game was the improved play of the home forwards, Yates and Bird being particularly prominent. Jeffcott played a fine game at half, and Mason, at back, was a favourable acquisition. Coffe saved grandly on several occasions, although his work was nothing near so tough as that of Carris. The wet spoiled really good play, but many a worse game has been witnessed under more favourable circumstances. When the whistle blew the home team left the field victorious by 2 goals to 0.

Lichfield Mercury - 13 November 1896

HINCKLEY CHARITY CUP - 2nd ROUND

#8 IBSTOCK ALBION v BARWELL SWIFTS

The above teams met at Ibstock on Saturday, on the Hastings Hotel ground, before a good gate.

Swifts, 2

Albion, 0

Burton Chronicle - 12 November 1896

#10

HINCKLEY CHARITY CUP.

SEMI-FINAL.

COALVILLE ALBION v. TAMWORTH.

Played at Barwell, before a good gate. Tamworth kicked off, and the exchanges were of a very even character, but after a time the splendid passing of the Albion forwards took them to the Tamworth goal, without result, the backs playing a splendid game. Tamworth looked extremely dangerous from a breakaway, but Underwood saved in time, and the Albion had another spell of attacking. Gourley scored with a splendid shot after half-an-hour's play. Albion continued to have the best of matters, though Tamworth eventually got away, and Underwood was visited several times. Coalville, however, were the next to score, through Matthews, just before half-time, when the score was—Coalville, two goals; Tamworth, one. Tamworth were first to attack on resuming, but were kept out by good defensive play, and again the Albion pressed, but a stubborn defence kept them out for 20 minutes. Then the Albion netted the ball for the third time from a corner. Tamworth, following this, worked very hard, and put in some good shots, but Underwood, Ridgard, and Noon were a trio of defenders not to be beaten, and a fast game ended:

COALVILLE ALBION, three goals;

TAMWORTH, none.

Coalville Albion will have to meet the winners of the Barrow and Barwell match in the final, at Hinckley.

THE HINCKLEY HOSPITAL CUP.

SEMI-FINAL AT BARWELL.

If half-a-dozen reports were written by independent persons about the semi-final match at Barwell on Saturday, when Coalville Albions met Tamworth Athletic, there is no doubt that half-a-dozen versions of the tussle would be forthcoming, but after watching the game very closely throughout, I formed an opinion in all probability at variance with the views of the majority of the spectators. But to prepare my report, I should say that Barwell hasn't presented such a lively aspect for many a day. Everywhere one saw men and boys and even girls and women wearing the gay favours of the Albion team meeting the eye at every turn. The Albions won the toss, and Tamworth had to kick up-hill against a strong head wind. For the first half-hour the game was very fast, and Tamworth had hard lines indeed in not scoring. Over and over again the sphere either just went over the cross-bar or touched the outside of the goal posts, the right and left wings putting in some wonderfully good work. The Albions scored after half-an-hour's play. On resumption, after half-time, Tamworth made a stubborn resistance, but their play fell off dreadfully after the Albions secured the second goal after twenty minutes' play. The Albions scored another goal, but both teams played very loosely towards the end. The Albions, in my opinion, were the luckiest of winners. They are the heaviest team, but given equal conditions and a fair ground, I should stand Tamworth. Result :—

Coalville	3
Tamworth	0

Afterwards several members of the Hospital Cup Committee, with Mr. Bailey Ridgway (chairman), assembled at the "Three Crowns," where the medals were selected.

Hinckley Times - 27 February 1897

HINCKLEY CHARITY CUP

FINAL

#12 BARWELL SWIFTS v COALVILLE ALBION

In beautiful spring-like weather, the final for the Hinckley Hospital Cup was played at Hinckley, before almost a record gate, between these teams. Amid great excitement, Mr McLaren, MP, kicked off, and both ends were visited in turn, but after forty minutes play Moore scored for Coalville from a free kick. The ball for the remainder of the first half was kept dangerously near the Barwell goal, but a splendid defence prevailed, and at the interval the score was:

Coalville	1
Swifts	0

On resumption some very good play was witnessed, and for a long time the Barwell team kept the ball in their opponent's territory, their passing being very neat, but they missed several very good chances which should have readily have been taken advantage of, Coalville, however, showed splendid combination, and ten minutes before time Gourley and Grewcock raced to the Barwell goal. Gourley got the best of the run, and scored a second time for Coalville. Result.

COALVILLE	2
SWIFT	0

Mrs McLaren afterwards presented the cup to King, the Coalville captain, and medals to both teams, congratulating them upon the excellent play shown. A band escorted the victors back to Coalville, where the townspeople received them with great rejoicing.

Leicester Chronicle -15 April 1897