Gresley & District Charity Cup 1897-98

Winner: Burton Swifts
Runners-Up: Gresley Rovers
No. of entries: ?

Little information has been found about the first round/s of this competition.

Round 1

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
22.1.1898	Burton Swifts Reserve	W		Stanton	
22.1.1898	Gresley Rovers	5	0	Woodville Town	
22.1.1898	Moira Rovers	1	4	Swadlincote Town	

Semi-Finals

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
12.3.1898	Burton Swifts Reserves	1 (1)	4 (1)	Swadlincote Town	Gresley's largest gate of the season. Game commenced at 3.25 pm.
5.3.1898	Gresley Rovers Lyons (2) Robinson Fearn	4 (3)	2 (0)	Newhall Pickering Rowe	Gresley Lyons scored twice in the first 8 mins. "Capital" gate

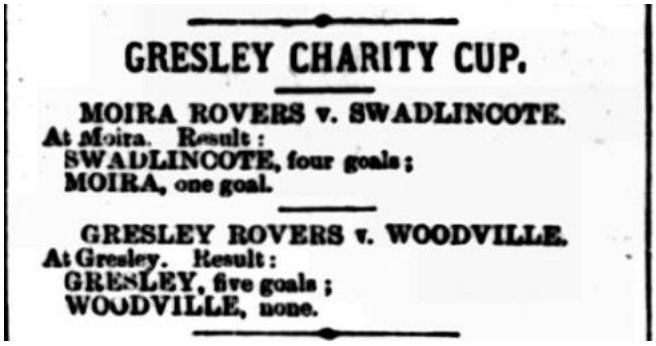
Final

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
2.4.1898	Gresley Rovers	1	1	Burton Swifts	

Final-Replay

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
23.4.1898	Gresley Rovers Blackie Lyons	2	4	Burton Swifts Yardley (2) Goodchild AN Other	At Gresley. Game commenced at 5 pm

Match Reports



GRESLEY CHARITY CUP.

MOIRA ROVERS v. SWADLINCOTE.
At Moira. Result:
SWADLINCOTE, four goals;
MOIRA, one goal.

GRESLEY ROVERS v. WOODVILLE.
At Gresley. Result:
GRESLEY, five goals;
WOODVILLE, none.

Leicester Daily Post – 24 January 1898

GRESLEY CHARITY CUP
SEMI-FINAL
BURTON SWIFTS RES. v SWADLINCOTE
The above match took place at Gresley on Saturday last, to decide who should meet Gresley Rovers in the final round on April 2nd and, as anticipated, there was a splendid "gate" - the largest seen on the Gresley

ground this season – the neck and neck trace between the two clubs in the Burton Junior League being an additional attraction. Mr J. Lowles (Derby) was the referee, and Messrs J. Holbrook (Moira) and J. L. Brown (Woodville) linesmen, the following being the teams: Burton Swifts' Reserve – Henson (goal), Southern, and Lawrence (backs), Goodchild, Blackie, Yardley, Soloman and Bladen (forwards); Swadlincote – Campion (goal), A. Jones and Kinson (backs), H. Pickering, Orgill and street (half-backs), Cooke, Simpson, Brealey, Harrison and Parker (forwards).

It was 3-25 when the Swifts having lost the toss, kicked off against the sun, and immediately they forced a corner, from which the ball was placed wide, and a second attack just at a dangerous moment was nullified by illegal "attentions" to the Swadlincote custodian. The Swadlincote forwards essayed an attack, and Lawrence was compelled to kick out to clear offside, putting an end to further Swadlincote advantage. Jones pulled the Burton left up in grand style twice, and good work by the "Blues" transferred, but Simpson centred erratically, and Southern cleared without difficulty. Following a throw-in Brealey shot wide of the Swifts' fortress and from a foul against the Burtonians. Brealey had a nice opening, but could not get his shot in before Wyllie robbed him and gave the left a chance of getting away, Yardley shooting just over the with a terrific shot. In two further attacks the Swadlincote defence prevailed, and their left wing were just getting up well when Parker – in good position – fell. Just afterwards the same player put in a grand try which Henson only negotiated at the cost of a corner, that brought no advantage. Joned was applauded for pulling up the Burton vanguard single-handed and following a good centre by Cooke, Brealey headed over. The visitors, who were playing the more finished football, once again got through, and from Blackie's pass Soloman headed into the net, but was ruled offside. Goodchild with a capital shot just hit the wrong side of the net, and after a somewhat lucky save by the home backs the Burton right forced a corner, which proved barren. A further corner to the Swifts caused an exciting struggle in front of the Swadlincote goal, but the defence got the best of it and Cooke getting away, tested Henson with a long shot that was saved easily. A mistake by the Swadlincote backs let the Burton right in, and from Goodchild's centre Soloman scored the first goal for the Reserves, after twenty-five minutes' play. The cheering had scarcely died away, however, before the game was made equal from a scrimmage in the Burton goal, the Burton players making the mistake of appealing for offside whist their defence was penetrated. From now till the interval Swadlincote had rather the best of it, Henson having to deal with three good shots; but the interval arrived with the game standing one goal each.

Swadlincote started the second half by bombarding the Swifts' goal, Brealey missing a capital opening, and the Burton left then attacked, Soloman sending in a shot which Campion fisted at, but it bounced into the net (2 to 1 in the Swifts favour). The reverse took a lot out of the blue, who were kept pretty hard on the defensive Burton had an unproductive corner, and then Campion missed a shot from the right, but Pickering just stepped in and cleared luckily. After Cooke had forced a flag kick at the other end, Burton returned to the attack, and Campion had to run out to clear; and then a shot from Blackie was muffed by Kinson and Campion, who, between them, put it into the net, making the third point to the Swifts. Swadlincote were now well beaten, and hen Goodchield beat Kinson and effected a splendid run, which produced goal No.4 the Swadlincote players stood still and watched him compxxx his sprint. Northing further was registered, and the game ended –

RESERVE	4
SWADLINCOTE	1

Burton Chronicle – 17 March 1898

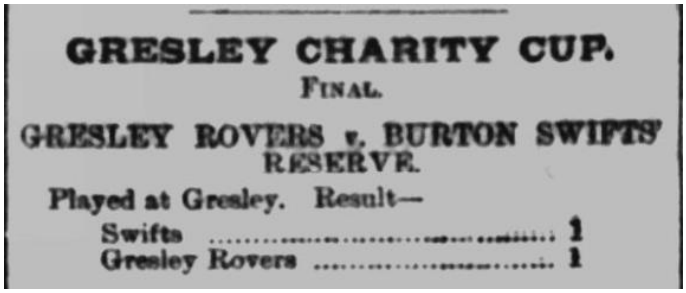
GRESLEY CHARITY CUP
SEMI-FINAL
GRESLEY ROVERS v NEWHALL

The first of the semi-finals of the above competition was decided at Gresley on Saturday afternoon in the presence of a capital gate. Newhall kicked off, and the home team at once made an onslaught on the goal, Lyons from a very difficult position, registering the first goal for the Rovers within a couple of minutes of the start. A mistake on the part of the Newhall defence gave Lyons an opening of which he made good use scoring goal No.2 within eight minutes of the start. A foul against the Rovers helped Newhall to clear, a further foul against Fox enabling the visitor's right to force a corner, from which Staley with a terrific shot sent the ball across the goal mouth, no one being able to utilise the pass. At the other end Ward forced a corner off the goal-keeper, but it brought no advantage and the Rovers custodian was xxx xxx xxx to deal with a couple of attacks, saving the second – at close quarters – splendidly. After Lyons had sent in a stinger which luckily for Newhall caught one of their backs and prevented an apparently certain goal. Pickering at

the other end, shot in grandly, Cotton only just tipping the ball over. Just on the interval the Rovers attacked and Robinson got another point for them, the score at half-time being – Gresley 3, Newhall 0. In the opening exchanges of the second half Newhall showed up strongly, and found the home defence plenty of work for a while. "Hands" relieved and Lyons caused Parker to handle, which he did successfully, and then Richards and J Jones forced a corner, from which Fearn registered a fourth goal for the Rovers. The visitors, after this further reverse, played up strongly, and very soon Pickering scored with a capital shot that Cotton touched but could not stop. Gresley just now kept pretty heavily on the defensive. Cotton negotiated two attacks, and then a miskick by Thompson let Rowe through and he had not the slightest difficulty in putting on a second goal for the visitors, Cotton having no possible chances with the shot. Newhall made strenuous efforts to score again, but without effect, the final result being:

Gresley	4
Newhall	2

Leicester Chronicle – 10 March 1898



GRESLEY CHARITY CUP.

FINAL.

GRESLEY ROVERS v. BURTON SWIFTS' RESERVE.

Played at Gresley. Result—

Swifts	1
Gresley Rovers	1

GRESLEY CHARITY CUP
REPLAYED FINAL TIE
BURTON SWIFTS RESERVES v GRESLEY ROVERS

A drawn game necessitated this match being replayed at Gresley. Burton were the better team and in the first quarter of an hour scored twice through Yardley and Goodchild put on a third. In the second half, Blackie and Lyons scored for their respective teams. Gresley added another. Result:

BURTON SWIFTS RESERVES, four goals;
GRESLEY ROVERS, two.

Leicester Daily Post – 25 April 1898