



Hinckley Charity Cup 1898-99

Winner: Hinckley Town
Runner-Up: Nuneaton Town
No. of entries: 17 entries

The clubs were divided into three divisions – Coalville, Hinckley, and Nuneaton – for the first round. The second round, consisted of just one tie, to reduce the number of teams to 8 in Round 3.

Cup holders, Nuneaton Town reached the final where they were beaten by arch-rivals Hinckley Town.

Round 1

Hinckley Division

	Date	Home			Away	Details
1	1.10.1898	Burbage United	2	2	Earl Shilton Town	
2	1.10.1898	Earl Shilton Victor	0	0	Barwell Swifts	
3	15.10.1898	Hinckley Granville Bolesworth AN Other	2	8	Hinckley Town Willis Heward (2) Beadsworth (3) AN Others	The tie was held at Holywell; Granville having accepted a £5 offer from the Town to switch venues. Weather conditions were miserably cold; consequently, the gate suffered, particularly with a large number of the Town's supporters visiting the Leicester fair. Granville fielded their strongest lineup, but Hinckley were without Whitehead, Fluck, and Orton. The match marked the debut of Dent, newly professionalized by the English Association. It was Granville who scored first.

Coalville Division

	Date	Home			Away	Details
4	1.10.1898	Ibstock Wanderers	0	0	Ibstock Albion	
5	1.10.1898	Shepshed Town Grain Wilson	2 (0)	0 (0)	Coalville Albion	

Nuneaton Division

	Date	Home			Away	Details
6	1.10.1898	Coventry Progress	0 (0)	3 (1)	Nuneaton Town [Holders] Griffiths AN Other Gretton	Red House ground, Foleshill 600 spectators. Game commenced at 3.35 pm. Game was ordered to be replayed – reason currently not known.
7	1.10.1898	Lord-street (Coventry)		W	Stockingford	Lord Street were removed from the competition after the Cup committee investigated a protest made by Stockingford,
8	1.10.1898	Tamworth Athletic	0	0	Fazeley Swifts	At Tamworth. 1,000 spectators. "Splendid game."

Tamworth Volunteers, bye

Round 1 Replays

	Date	Home	Away		Details	
9	1.11.1898	Earl Shilton Victor	3	1	Barwell Swifts	
10	15.10.1898	Earl Shilton Town AN Others	3 (1)	2 (1)	Burbage United P Smith (2)	Smith's second goal was scored from the half-way line. Burbage protested against ineligible men.
11	29.10.1898	Nuneaton Town Gretton (3) Tomlinson Griffiths Carris	6	1	Coventry Progress	At Hinckley. Coventry scored in the first minute. "Ball was very noticeable for rough play, a Progress man having to leave the field."
12	15.10.1898	Tamworth Athletic	3 (3)	3 (2)	Fazeley Swifts	
		Ibstock Albion	W		Ibstock Wanderers	

Round 1 Replays (2nd)

	Date	Home	Away		Details	
13		Fazeley Swifts	D	D	Tamworth Athletic	

Round 1 Replays (3rd)

	Date	Home	Away		Details	
14	29.10.1898	Tamworth Athletic	2	6	Fazeley Swifts	

Round 2

	Date	Home	Away		Details	
15	5.11.1898	Hinckley Town Heward Dent Lines	3 (2)	0 (0)	Tamworth Volunteers	Hinckley played without Cowley and Matthews, both of whom were serving suspensions for breaching club disciplinary rules. Start delayed until 3 pm owing to the late arrival of the referee and 4 players. Hinckley reportedly had more than 50 shots at goal.

Byes awarded to Earl Shilton Town, Earl Shilton Victor, Fazeley Swifts, Ibstock Albion, Nuneaton Town, Shepshed Town, Stockingford

Round 3

	Date	Home	Away		Details	
17	10.12.1898	Earl Shilton Victor	2	0	Fazeley Swifts	
18	26.11.1898	Nuneaton Town	8 (5)	0 (0)	Shepshed Town	500 spectators. Nuneaton awarded two penalties - both scored by Griffiths (late of Hinckley).
19	3.12.1898	Hinckley Town Scr (2) Hitchcock	3 (0)	1 (0)	Stockingford Stringer	Bumper gate. Much more interest was taken in this match than another this season. Stockingford had been doing 'wonders lately' in the football world' and would that heir vigorous style of play would easily undo the 'fancy play' of Hinckley. "T'was, rough and ready, and plenty of excitement to keep the players in hand". Referee Frank Gardner had to be busy. "Little Edkin was sent off for disputing the referee's decision and an occasional swear, and to finish up with

						he gave his wrong name. He thoroughly deserves 'rock'. His play throughout was dirty."
20	24.12.1898	Ibstock Albion	W		Earl Shilton Town	

Semi-Final

	Date	Home			Away	Details
21	1.4.1899	Hinckley Town	5	1	Ibstock Albion	Good Friday. Holywell ground, Hinckley. The game became rougher as the game proceeded. Heward was 'cowardly injured' and had to retire - "It was a dastard action on the part of the Ibstock man, and I should not be sorry for him if he got a jolly good hiding before he get out of town."
22	11.2.1899	Nuneaton Town	4	1	Earl Shilton Victor	Holy Well Ground, Hinckley.

Final

	Date	Home			Away	Details
23	8.4.1899	Hinckley Town AN Others Beadsworth (pen)	3	1	Nuneaton Town AN Other	Holy Well ground, Hinckley. 2,000 spectators. Wild and wet weather. £26 gate. Col. Worsley Worswick J P kicked off. Mrs Worswick presented the cups and medals.

Match Reports

A selection of published match reports.

#1 BURBAGE UNITED v EARL SHILTON

At Burbage result:

BURBAGE, two goals;
EARL SHILTON, two goals.

Leicester Daily Post - 17 October 1898

#2 EARL SHILTON VICTOR v BARWELL SWIFTS

At Earl Shilton. Result:

EARL SHILTON, none
BARWELL, none.

Leicester Daily Post - 17 October 1898

#3 Hinckley Granville have been knocked out very unceremoniously in the first stage of the Hinckley Cup competition, result: Hinckley Town 8, Granville 2. The visitors started finely, and were first to score, but their freshness wore down considerably as the game went on. Dent, the old Nuneaton half-back, played for the town on this occasion. Surely this is not in order with the rules of football?

Nuneaton Observer -21 October 1898

#4 IBSTOCK WANDERERS v IBSTOCK ALBION

At Ibstock. Result:

ALBION, none;
WANDERERS, none.

Coalville Times - 7 October 1898

#5 SHEPSHED TOWN v COALVILL ALBION

At Shepshed. Shepshed lost the toss and the visitors pressed, but Wortley and Iliffe defended well, and at half-time there was no score. Restarting Shepshed but could not score until after about twenty three minutes play. Grain scored, Wilson adding another a quarter of an hour before time. The Reds continued to press, but there was no more scoring. Result:

SHEPSHED, two goals;
COALVILLE, none.

Coalville Times - 7 October 1898

#9 FOOTBALL – On Monday the Victor FC met Barwell Swifts in the Hinckley Challenge Charity Cup at Shilton, when the result was Victor, three goals; Barwell one goal.

Leicester Chronicle - 5 November 1898

#10 The BURBAGE FC having made a draw at Burbage in the Hinckley Cottage Hospital Cup competition, visited Earl Shilton last Saturday. A few minutes from the start P Smith headed a nice goal from a corner. The game was of a very fast nature right up to half-time, Shilton also scoring from a corner. Half-time, one goal each. On resuming the fast pace was kept up and Smith, for Burbage, after a grand individual effort from the half way line scored another goal. After this Shilton seemed to wear his opponents down and scored two more goals in spite of the fine goalkeeping by Taylor. The result was Shilton3, Burbage 3. Burbage have protested a supposed ineligible man.

Leicester Journal - 21 October 1898

#11 HINCKLEY GRANVILLE v HINCKLEY TOWN

Before a good sprinkling of spectators. The Town won the toss and eventually Willis scored. Then Heward scored for the Town finely and repeated the performance two minutes later. Then Beadsworth scored, but Granville played splendidly. Hitchcock and Lanes were deservedly applauded. Beadsworth added two goals and Granville scored through Bolesworth. Result:

HINCKLEY TOWN, eight goals;
HINCKLEY GRANVILLE, two goals

Leicester Daily Post - 17 October 1898

#12 TAMWORTH ATHLETIC v FAZELEY SWIFTS

Result:

A DRAW - THREE GOALS EACH

Leicester Daily Post - 17 October 1898

#14 NUNEATON v COVENTRY PROGRESS

At Hinckley. Nuneaton won the toss, and the progress scored in the first minute. Then Nuneaton scored by Gretton, and again from a scrimmage ten minutes later. Ball was very noticeable for rough play, a Progress man having to leave the field. Half-time: Nuneaton, two; Progress, one. Resuming, Tomlinson and Gretton increased Nuneaton's lead. The game became one-sided, Griffiths and B Carris scoring. Result:

NUNEATON, six goals
PROGRESS, one.

Leicester Daily Post - 31 October 1898

#18 NUNEATON TOWN v SHEPSHED TOWN

The Shepshed senior club journeyed to Nuneaton on Saturday to try conclusions with the Nuneaton Town Club in the above competition. Only once previously had a Shepshed eleven met a Nuneaton team, and the result at that time was in favour of the last-named club by a very small margin. This was in the palmy days of the "mountain-peckers", and they left an impression of Leicestershire pluck on their Warwickshire opponents which they (the latter) did not notice far forget as to play the return match. The Shepshed supporters were greatly disappointed that they were not successful in getting the match drawn at Shepshed, but ipso facto, they had to bow to the inevitable and make the journey. The following team was selected for duty for Shepshed:

A Beresford, goal; G Jordan and R Iliffe, backs; Vickers, Wilson and Newbold, half backs; Walker, Tugby, Morre, Grain and Davis, forwards.

The team was undoubtedly a good one, and notwithstanding past reverses it was hope they would give a good account of themselves. Fortunately, the wind was not so boisterous on the previous day, had assumed a more lamb-like demeanour.

Nuneaton won the toss and kicked with a strong breeze, the reds forcing the game, but the defence of Nuneaton was sound. The home team opened the score after about twenty minutes play, Nuneaton were awarded two penalties, Griffiths (late of Hinckley) taking them. Half-time:

NUNEATON, five goals;

SHEPSHED, none.

The second half was fast, the home side adding three goals. Shepshed were pressing when the whistle blew. Result:

NUNEATON, eight goals;

SHEPSHED, none.

Leicester Daily Post - 5 December 1898

#19 HINCKLEY TOWN v STOCKINGFORD

At Hinckley. The home team was without Fxxk and Mathews, but during the first half pressed continuously. Stockingford being penned in their own half. Smith saved a stinging shot from the home left, and try as they would, the homesters could not score. Resuming, Stockingford scored, and Hinckley followed suit two minutes later, the home team scored twice more. Result

HINCKLEY, three goals

STOCKINGFORD, one goal.

Leicester Daily Post - 5 December 1898

#21

HINCKLEY CHARITY CUP.

SEMI-FINAL.

HINCKLEY v. IBSTOCK ALBION.

These teams met on the Holy Well Ground, on Saturday, to decide who should meet Nuneaton Town in the final round to-morrow. Ibstock were strongly represented, but the Town took the field without Swift, Lines taking his place. There was a fair gate. Teams:

Hinckley—Goal, Adcock; backs, Whitehead and Worthington; half-backs, Cowley, Baxter and Hood; forwards, Hitchcock and Lines, right wing; Barnett, centre; Beadsworth and Heward, left wing.

Ibstock—Goal, Woodward; backs, E. Hallam and Gibson; half-backs, H. Hallam, Storer and Wright; forwards, Deeming, Price, Black, Ball and Foster.

Ibstock started the play towards the top goal, but the lower end was quickly the scene of operations. Hitchcock, who occupied his old position at outside right, soon distinguished himself by a fine run and centre, but Beadsworth shot over. Heward sent well across and Hitchcock screwed into the goal, E. Hallam clearing. Cowley passed nicely to Hitchcock who again centred, and Lines and Barnett rushed the leather into the net. Heward was badly kicked by E. Hallam soon after, and although he pluckily stayed on the field he was of little use. Ibstock broke away on the left wing, but the leather was returned by Whitehead, and Woodward effected a fine save from Beadsworth. Adcock cleared a good low shot, and then Baxter and Hood were prominent. Beadsworth and Hitchcock did good work at the lower goal, following which Foster was left with a clear opening in front of Adcock. He sent in a terrific shot which the custodian tipped over the bar in fine style. Just before the interval, Beadsworth found the net with a fine shot and ends were changed with the score

Hinckley	2
Ibstock Albion	0

Resuming, Hinckley still held the upper hand, the Ibstock defenders having plenty of work to do. The home right wing showed good play, and from a fine centre by Hitchcock, Beadsworth ran through and scored. E. Hallam cleared a further attack, and then Storer did good work at half-back. Heward left the field and Hinckley continued with ten men. The Ibstock left wing got down, but Whitehead kicked away, and then Barnett contributed a fine oblique shot which just grazed the bar. Adcock brought off a splendid save from a corner, after which Hitchcock ran up and forced a corner. Lines obtained the fourth goal for his side, and then Ibstock scored from a free-kick. Beadsworth again got through, and the final score was

Hinckley Town	5
Ibstock Albion	1

#22

There was not the least hope for Earl Shilton Victors in their encounter with Nuneaton Town in the Hinckley Charity Cup semi-final. They withdrew from the field of battle very much vanquished. The score was: Nuneaton four goals, Victors nil.

Midland Counties Tribune - 18 February 1899

#23 HINCKLEY COTTAGE CHARITY CUP

FINAL

NUNEATION v HINCKLEY

There were upwards of 2,000 spectators. Col. Worsley Worswick JP kicked off. Nuneaton winning the toss kicked with a strong wind. Half-time, Nuneaton, one; Hinckley, none. Resuming, Hinckley pressed, and after some rough play were allowed a penalty, from which Beardsworth scored. Result:

HINCKLEY, three goals;

NUNEATION, one

After the match, Mrs Worswick presented the cup and medals, as a result of the gate the Cottage Hospital benefits to the amount of £26.

Leicester Daily Post - 10 April 1899

HINCKLEY CHARITY CUP.

FINAL TIE.

HINCKLEY v. NUNEATON.

The fight for possession of the above trophy took place on the Holy Well Ground on Saturday between these teams. The weather was stormy and there was a very strong wind, these conditions interfering considerably with the game. However, there was a good attendance, the stand being packed. Col. and Mrs. Worswick, of Normanton, were present (the former to kick-off and the latter to present the cup and medals) together with the Matron of the Hospital (Miss Edgington) when the teams lined up as follows :

Hinckley—Goal, Adcock; backs, Whitehead and Worthington; half-backs, Cowley, Baxter and Hood; forwards, Swift and Hitchcock, right wing; Barnett, centre; Beadsworth and Barrows, left wing.

Nuneaton—Goal, F. Carris; backs, Cooper and Holt; half-backs, Richards, Ball, and Holmes; forwards, Elsworth, Walton, Gretton, B. Carris and Griffiths.

Carris was successful in the spin of the coin, and Hinckley were set to face a very strong wind, Col. Worswick starting the ball towards the work-house goal. Despite this the forwards were soon at work, and Hitchcock passed out well to the left wing, Cooper kicking out. The Nuneaton goal had a marvellous escape the next minute, the leather being almost through before it could be cleared, and Swift soon followed with a fine centre, Holt kicking away. Richards fed Elsworth nicely and play was carried to the railway goal, but a goal-kick was the only result. The right winger put in a good centre immediately after, but Walton shot badly when he had an opening. Worthington cleared a free-kick, and then Cowley

sent well into the Nuneaton goal, where Carris had some difficulty in clearing a shot from Beadsworth. Swift placed wide after a centre from the left wing, and Cooper headed out a dangerous fast shot from the foot of Beadsworth. Swift forced the first corner soon after, and this being finely placed by Cowley, Beadsworth headed just over the bar. Worthington cleared an attack with a splendid kick, and then Whitehead kicked away from the left wing. Hitchcock and Swift ran up, and the latter sent in a really magnificent shot which appeared to score, but the ball was got away after a struggle, the Hinckley forwards being very slow. Barnett shot over after a goal-kick, and Beadsworth was going strongly when he was badly fouled, the free being cleared by Holmes. Nuneaton now had a short spell, Adcock saving a good shot by Ball, but Hinckley very soon returned, a grand centre from Swift being spoiled by Beadsworth shooting wide. Whitehead proved too good for the left wing, while at the other end Carris effected another fine save from Swift. After good work by Hood, Beadsworth forced a corner, which was kicked away by Holt, following which the ball was carried to the other end by B. Carris and Gretton. After a throw-in near the corner flag, Adcock made a fine save from Gretton, and a corner was forced, but was placed behind. Barnett ran well up, but was selfish and lost the leather when close to the goal, and Swift followed with a fine centre right across, but Beadsworth and Barrows both missed the ball when close in. Hinckley continued to have the best of the game, Carris distinguishing himself in saving from Barrows, and Beadsworth sent across, but Holt was in the way. Hood fed the left wing, and Beadsworth forced a corner after good play by Barrow. B. Carris got well away and passed to Griffiths, but the old Hinckley man was offside. Holmes was prominent, but Hitchcock used splendid judgment and Cooper cleared well from a foul. Walton and Elsworth ran down, but Baxter returned the latter's centre with a fine kick. Nuneaton now pressed for a time, but Walton was again weak when he had an opening, and then Adcock saved

twice in quick succession once at the expense of a corner, which was placed behind. Whitehead robbed B. Carris, but Ball returned, and a corner was forced. A scrimmage followed the kick, and almost on the point of half-time Nuneaton scored what proved to be their only goal. Interval:

Nuneaton..... 1
 Hinckley 0

With the wind behind them Hinckley quickly assumed the aggressive, and it was soon evident that they meant business. Holt kicked away a good grounder from Barrows, and the same player showed splendid kicking powers during the next few minutes. Elsworth got clear away, and for a moment it looked as though the visitors would increase their score, but Adcock saved well. Beadsworth returned to the lower goal, where he tested Carris, and then the custodian saved a grand shot from Swift high up in the corner. Following a free-kick the goal had a narrow escape, and Hitchcock shot over. Another free was cleared by Holt, and then Swift got well down, but was tripped near the goal-line when about to centre. The referee, after consulting the linesman, awarded a penalty, and from this Beadsworth equalised the scores. There was loud cheering at this, and the game became fast and exciting. Hitchcock looked certain to give his side the lead soon after, but the goal was saved at the expense of a corner. A scrimmage followed, Barnett shooting just wide. Two frees fell to Nuneaton, but both proved useless, Cowley sending back to the lower goal. Barrow got in a good centre, Holt clearing with a grand kick, the same player saving from Barnett at the expense of a corner. Barrows contributed another good shot, which Holt returned, but Baxter pounced on the leather and beat Carris with a fine low shot. This practically settled the result, for the Hinckley men were playing splendidly. The Nuneaton right wing got away, but Worthington returned with a fine kick and Barnett grazed the post with a fast shot. Swift placed in splendidly from the line, a corner resulting, and this being well placed by Cowley, Swift headed into the net amid loud applause. B. Carris ran up from the re-start,

but Whitehead robbed him. Griffiths was close by, however, and sent well across, but Worthington sent to his forwards, and Holt headed away from Barrows, Cowley shooting wide. Baxter returned again from B. Carris, and Swift forced a corner, but B. Carris once more got away, only to see the leather taken by Hood. The Hinckley men were now having all the play, Nuneaton being fairly beaten. Beadsworth sent in a grand oblique shot, and the ball appeared to go quite a foot over the line, but Carris threw out and the referee refused to allow the appeal for a goal. Cooper saved from a good attempt by Hood, and Ball repelled a further attack. Elsworth caused a diversion by means of a fine break-away, but he shot into the side of the net. Nuneaton forced an unproductive corner, and then a fine run by Beadsworth was spoiled by Holt. Carris saved grandly from a corner, and Beadsworth put a fast shot over the bar. Another shot by the same player was cleared by Holt, and then the whistle sounded, leaving Hinckley possessors of the trophy the score being

Hinckley Town 3
 Nuneaton Town..... 1

The Cup was afterwards presented by Mrs. Worswick amidst great enthusiasm, Capt. Cowley receiving it and making a capital speech. The medals were then presented, and the proceedings closed with votes of thanks to Col. and Mrs. Worswick for their kindness in attending.