**Date:** Saturday 16th March, 1872  
**Venue:** Kennington Oval  
**Attendance:** 2,000  
**Toss:** Wanderers  
**End chosen:** Harleyford Road  
**Kick-off:** 3.05 pm  
**Youngest player:** Vidal 18 years 195 days  
**Oldest player:** Bowen 35 years 352 days  
**Average ages:** Wanderers 23 years 294 days; Royal Engineers 24 years 108 days; joint 24 years 19 days

**Wanderers 1**  
(Bets 15)  
Goal 1 RC Welch  
Full-back 2 E Lubbock  
Half-back 3 AC Thompson  
Forwards 4 CW Alcock  
5 EE Bowen  
6 AG Bonsor  
7 MP Betts  
8 WP Crake  
9 TC Hooman  
10 RWS Vidal  
11 CHR Wollaston

**Royal Engineers 0**  
Goal Capt. W Merriman  
Full-backs †Capt. FA Marindin  
Half-back Lieut. AG Goodwyn  
Forwards Lieut. H Mitchell  
7 Lieut. EW Creswell  
8 Lieut. HW Renny-Tailour  
9 Lieut. HB Rich  
10 Lieut. HH Muirhead  
11 Lieut. EW Cotter  
12 Lieut. A Bogle

**Referee:** A Stair (Upton Park)  
**Umpires:** JH Giffard (Civil Service) for Royal Engineers; J Kirkpatrick (Civil Service) for Wanderers

**Injuries:** Creswell broke his collar-bone in a charge after ten minutes play but, despite severe pain, refused to leave the field and completed the match.

**Other comments:** M.P. Betts played under the pseudonym A.H. Chequer. The Engineers, who were favourites, began the match with the wind and sun in their faces. Alcock had a goal disallowed after 20 minutes because of a handling offence by Wollaston; The Wanderers also hit a post; Royal Engineers had only two chances; a fine run by Muirhead brought the ball within a few yards of the centre of the Wanderers' posts. The admirable and faultless kicking of Lubbock and Thompson repulsed all of the attacks by the Engineers; the admirable way they worked together was the great feature of the match.

It was ‘the fastest and hardest match that has ever been seen at The Oval ... some of the best play on their [Wanderers] part, individually and collectively, that has ever been shown in an Association game.’ *The Field.*

The Cup was presented by the President of the F.A., Mr E.C. Morley, at the annual dinner of the Wanderers at the Pall Mall Restaurant, Charing Cross, on 11th April. The F.A. also gave each player in the winning team a silken badge commemorating the victory and they also received an inscribed gold medal from the committee of the Wanderers.

**PATHS TO THE FINAL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Wanderers</strong></th>
<th><strong>Royal Engineers</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R1 Harrow Chequers (scratched)</td>
<td>Reigate Priory (scratched)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R2 16/12/71 v Clapham Rovers 3-1</td>
<td>10/1/72 v Hitchin 5-0†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R3 20/1/72 v Crystal Palace 0-0*</td>
<td>27/1/72 v Hampstead Heathens 3-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF 5/3/72 v Queen’s Park 0-0</td>
<td>17/2/72 v Crystal Palace 0-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>replay Queen’s Park (scratched)</td>
<td>9/3/72 v Crystal Palace 3-0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Both teams allowed through under rule 8.  
†Only 50 minutes played; result stood
1872-73

Date: Saturday 29th March, 1873
Venue: Amateur Athletic Club grounds, Lillie Bridge, West Brompton
Attendance: 3,000
Toss: Wanderers
End chosen: not found
Kick-off: 11.30 am
Youngest player: Vidal 19 years 207 days
Oldest player: Bowen 36 years 364 days
Average ages: Wanderers 25 years 44 days; Oxford University 21 years 300 days; joint 23 years 172 days

Wanderers 2 Oxford University 0
(Kinnaird 27, Wollaston 8o)

Goal 1 RC Welch
Full-back 2 LS Howell
Half-back 3 EE Bowen
Forwards 4 CHR Wollaston
5 RK Kingsford
6 AG Bonsor
7 Capt. WS Kenyon-Slaney
8 CM Thompson
9 JR Sturgis
10 †Hon. AF Kinnaird
11 Rev. HH Stewart
Goal AJ Leach
Full-back CC Mackarness
Half-back FH Birley
Forwards CJ Longman
†AK Smith
RWS Vidal
FB Maddison
CJ Ottaway
HB Dixon
WB Paton
JRE Sumner

Referee: A Stair (Upton Park)
Umpires: JH Clark (Maidenhead) for Wanderers; JR Dasent (Gitanos) for Oxford University

Comments: The morning kick-off was arranged in order for spectators to be able to watch the Boat Race later. Oxford were below full strength as their regular goalkeeper, C.E.B. Nepean, could not play. The Wanderers had to play without the half-backs, A.C. Thompson or F.H. Wilson, and the forwards, W.P. Crake and T.C. Hooman.

Early on, Smith made a series of brilliant runs for Oxford; Kenyon-Slaney had a goal disallowed when both umpires agreed an offside offence; an Oxford corner kick was foiled by Howell; after about 40 minutes Oxford moved their goalkeeper, Leach, into the attack and left the goal unattended. The second goal was blamed on this move; Oxford had several chances to score but tried to force their way through the middle and failed each time. Kinnaird showed the best form of the match with extreme brilliance in dribbling.

PATHS TO THE FINAL

Wanderers Exempt until final under rule 9
R1 19/10/72 v Crystal Palace 3-2
R2 23/11/72 v Clapham Rovers 3-0
R3 9/12/72 v Royal Engineers 1-0
R4 3/2/73 v Maidenhead 4-0
SF Queen’s Park (scratched)

Oxford University

R1 19/10/72 v Crystal Palace 3-2
R2 23/11/72 v Clapham Rovers 3-0
R3 9/12/72 v Royal Engineers 1-0
R4 3/2/73 v Maidenhead 4-0
SF Queen’s Park (scratched)
1873-74

**Date:** Saturday 14th March, 1874  
**Venue:** Kennington Oval  
**Attendance:** 2,000  
**Toss:** Oxford University  
**End chosen:** Harleyford Road  
**Kick-off:** 3.15 pm

**Youngest player:** W.S. Rawson 19 years 151 days  
**Oldest player:** Merriman 35 years 346 days  
**Average ages:** Oxford University 23 years 146 days; Royal Engineers 25 years 86 days; joint 24 years 116 days

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oxford University 2</th>
<th>Royal Engineers 0</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goal 1 CEB Nepean</td>
<td>Goal Capt. W Merriman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-back 2 CC Mackarness</td>
<td>Full-back †Major FA Marindin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half-backs 3 FH Birley</td>
<td>Half-backs Lieut. GW Addison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 FT Green</td>
<td>Right side Lieut. GCP Onslow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forwards 5 RH Benson</td>
<td>Centres Lieut. JE Blackburn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 FB Maddison</td>
<td>Left side Lieut. HW Renny-Tailyour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 WS Rawson</td>
<td>8 'GJ Ottaway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Rev. AH Johnson</td>
<td>10 RWS Vidal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 FJ Patton</td>
<td>11 Lieut. T Digby</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Referee:** A Stair (Upton Park)  
**Umpires:** A Morten (Crystal Palace) for Royal Engineers; CHR Wollaston (Wanderers) for Oxford University

**Comments:** The Rawsons were brothers in opposition; it was Birley's 24th birthday. The Engineers had spent the previous fortnight in special training for the match. They were without their best back, A.G. Goodwyn, who had been posted to India at the start of 1874; unknown to the players at the time, Goodwyn actually died in India on the day this final was played from injuries suffered in a riding accident.

A threatening run by Ottaway and Vidal was stopped by von Donop who then dribbled along the right wing as far as the Oxford back; Renny-Tailyour struck a post; a free-kick from the corner flag went between the posts of the Engineers' goal but no claim was made nor was there an appeal so the incident was ignored; late assaults by the Engineers were frustrated by the activity of Nepean.

**PATHS TO THE FINAL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oxford University</th>
<th>Royal Engineers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R1 29/10/73 v Upton Park 4-0</td>
<td>R1 11/10/73 v Brondesbury 5-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R2 22/11/73 v Barnes 2-0</td>
<td>R2 26/11/73 v Uxbridge 2-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R3 6/12/73 v Wanderers 1-1</td>
<td>R3 10/12/73 v Maidenhead 7-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>replay 31/1/74 v Wanderers 1-0</td>
<td>SF 28/2/74 v Clapham Rovers 1-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF 28/2/74 v Clapham Rovers 1-0</td>
<td>SF 28/1/74 v Swifts 2-0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>