



*"The Derby game, which gave rise to the term "local derby", meaning a contest between neighbouring sides, was played by two teams of unlimited numbers whose object it was to impel the ball towards their opponents' goal. Glover, in his History of Derbyshire, describes the action thus - 'the struggle to obtain the ball, which is carried in the arms of those who have possessed themselves of it, is then violent and the motion of human tide heaving to and fro without the least regard to consequences, is tremendous. Broken shins, broken heads, torn coats and lost hats are among the minor accidents of this fearful contest, and it frequently happens that persons fall, owing to the intensity of the pressure, fainting and bleeding beneath the feet of the surrounding mob.'"*

— An extract from 'Rugby', by Chris Rea

