

## **Ladies take their place in the final**

*From the archive, first published Wednesday 12th Apr 2006.*

WINSFORD Ladies secured their place in the final of the Challenge Cup for the second year running with a tough 3-2 win over Fletcher Moss Blues on Sunday.

Winsford were without two key midfield players for the game which gave Sarah Lamb an opportunity to start on left wing.

The Blues started well and spurned three good opportunities in the first five minutes.

But their good work was undone after 15 minutes when the defence failed to clear a corner and the Moss striker pounced to open the scoring.

After the goal Winsford started to impose themselves on the game, but a combination of poor finishing and good goalkeeping kept Moss in front.

At the other end the Fletcher Moss strikers proved a handful and it took two world class saves from Winsford keeper Lucy Presland to keep the score at 0-1.

The Winsford breakthrough came on 40 minutes when a superb through ball from Sarah Lee found Hannah Hewitson one on one with the keeper and she made no mistake from close range.

Winsford began the second half strongly and with five minutes played, a superb free-kick from Lee found Sharon Tidd, who timed her run to perfection, before despatching a left foot volley past the keeper.

It was then all one way traffic as Winsford pressed for another goal, but the Fletcher Moss custodian kept the home team in the game with a string of fine saves from Lee, Hewitson and Lamb.

Moss took hope from their defensive solidity and hit Winsford with a sucker punch four minutes from time.

A speculative long ball found the Fletcher Moss striker in space and her deflected shot beat the keeper and rebounded off Lee into the net.

But Winsford showed the character, belief and desire to win as the game headed into injury time.

Lee won a free-kick on the edge of the box and stepped up to take the kick herself.

Her effort flew over the wall and was well saved by the keeper, but she could only parry the ball and following in was substitute Laura Renshaw who scored from three yards.