

Official match day programme of **Thanet Wanderers Rugby Union Football Club**

THANET

WANDERERS

v Dartfordians RFC Saturday 4th November 2023. Kick off 2.30pm



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THANET WANDERERS 1st XV



THANET WANDERERS RUFC

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PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

The last time the 1st XV had a home game, the Club hosted a past players lunch and what a success it was. Thank you to all past and present players who attended, with attendees from Australia, France and Newcastle. We aim to have another in the New Year. It was also a cause for celebration as the 1XV scored their first win of the Season.

The hangover of the Rugby World Cup has reduced to a memory where the only Englishman in the final was Wayne Barnes (a friend of Gareth Redmond), but if you told me 8 weeks ago that England would reach the Semi Finals as the only Northern Hemisphere side and undefeated, well, I would have taken the bet. As Ireland went into the World Cup as favourites, their route to success was prevented by one of the eventual finalists the "All Blacks" who just grew throughout the Tournament.

This afternoon we extend a big welcome to Dartfordians RFC, we hope you initially enjoy the afternoon and our hospitality and then experience some attractive rugby. Today's opposition are 4th in the Counties 1 Kent League, having won 4 of their 6 games whilst Thanet Wanderers have 1 win in 6 and are placed 11th with the two teams below them not having the cumulative points of TWRUFC.

Earlier on in the season Darts lost to the current top of the table side Canterbury 11's by 57-7, whereas TWRUFC lost by a slightly smaller margin, 28-25. It's a funny OI Game! Scoring 25 points and still losing. Today anything can happen, and I hope the weather doesn't become the focus of the game. Dartfordians, who confusingly play in Bexley, have only won 1 or their away games this season against Dover RUFC, so let's hope the home advantage works in our favour.

Dartfordians take their name from the Dartford Grammar School, which was founded in 1573, but it wasn't until 1924 that the Formation of an old boys Rugby Club was formalised, therefore today's opposition are about to embark on their 100th Anniversary season. Congratulations on this fantastic milestone. I'm sure Peter Hawkins will regale stories of their inauguration meeting.

Dartfordians play at The Memorial Ground. As we approach Remembrance Sunday may their Facilities remain a fitting memorial to those Old Boys and Staff who lost their lives in the World Wars along with all the

others who have been victims of conflict in the past. Royal British Legion collection boxes will be on the bar and please deposit your loose change in these to make a difference to someone's life, someone who was prepared to make a difference to yours.

Today's match official is Ross Alexander, we welcome him to St Peters and hope for a clean, fast paced game evenly competed and without injury. With a name like Ross Alexander I can only assume there is a Scottish connection so I had better mention Scotland's spirited brave hearted defeat to the eventual Rugby World Cup winners South Africa 18-3 in the Group stages.

The Thanet Wanderers Ladies 1st XV remain on a roll with a victory over Cranbrook Ladies on the 14th October, 58-10. Their dominance of the National Challenge 2 League may be challenged soon with Away games until the New Year taking them to Gravesend, Thurrock, Westcliff and Southend. We wish them all the best in these matches.

Tomorrow, weather permitting, the Juniors have four games at home and one away. The Colts game against Medway is due to kick off at 11am. Last week the Colts won their game against Dover convincingly 55-5 with Dover making the effort and travelling short of players to enable the game to be played. TWRUFC lent players so that the game was even sided, so credit to Dover for turning up, many others wouldn't.

READY, SET, MOW.

We are now in the month of November, and this has become the month for growing moustaches in the name of charity, the charities that are being supported are; Suicide Prevention, Prostate Cancer, and Testicular Cancer. Now we all know someone who has been affected by this although it may not be common knowledge or even known to you, but they walk amongst us so please dig deep for a worthy cause.

You can donate via a link on the TWRUFC Facebook page, take a look at the progress of "CRIMEWATCH" facial hair and see who you can recognise, bless them!

Please respect today's referees; I hope for a competitive and injury-free match and as ever, we are Wanderers, mighty, mighty Wanderers.

Clive Lewis
Club President

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FROM THE HEAD COACH

What a ride it's been so far! Our last two home games have been really positive and we are so proud of the players. Our last game against Heathfield and Waldron was a difficult day, but the players worked so hard and gave it their all. I was really satisfied with their performance.

Today, we welcome back Dartfordians, after they have had a stint in the league above. Since I have been involved at Thanet we have always put in a good performance against them. We welcome you back today.

At training we are starting to see some of our young guns really developing, specifically Dennis and also Charlie P. It's really good to see our youth players progressing into our club and it's something we should be very proud of, because not all clubs have this.

You may have seen some decoration changes throughout the club and these are adding a lot of value to our home.

Today I expect a good performance, it will be tough, but nothing is too much of a stretch for the boys that pull on the shirt. The last time we played Darts at our ground was a thrilling 12-12 draw.

We love playing at home, let's make that balcony rock!

"It's not over until we say it's over.

Elliot Blackmore



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MATCH REPORT

Thanet Wanderers RUFC 39-31 Cranbrook RFC

Wanderers overcome a poor start to win an incident-packed match.

Last week's double try scorer, Noah Dann, was not available but there was a welcome return for James Hamilton at eight and centre Adam Harrison. The newcomers at Bromley, Chris Gregory and Leon Doody retained their places and joint skipper Nick Herbert was back after missing that game due to a family event. Cranbrook were bottom of the twelve team Counties, Kent One league with Wanderers in eleventh place after the opening four games.

The match was preceded by a league match for Wanderers Ladies against Cranbrook Ladies that gave the day a great start as it was won 58-10. At the same time, some of Wanderers' past players were enjoying an excellent lunch in the clubhouse before adding their voices in support of the Wanderers teams. Great to see you, thanks to club president Clive Lewis for organising the gathering.

Cranbrook kicked off with the advantage of the slope and a strong breeze that was blowing towards the corner. Wanderers made an unusually tentative start, conceding two early penalties and four minutes into the match some slack defence eased the visitors' path to the line for a touch down under the posts, to give them a 0-7 lead. A penalty to Thanet from just inside Cranbrook's ten metre line was safely slotted by Tom Walton and Louis Marshall's tackle halted an opposition attack. Wanderers tight-head prop Gully Goodall ran in at pace from near the 22 with Hamilton and Sam Taylor involved in the build up to touch down Wanderers' first try and give them an 8-7 lead after ten minutes. Cranbrook hit back and Wanderers received a team warning followed by a yellow card for hooker Warren Riddell-Bloomfield. Kurt Pearson was the front row replacement with Hamilton taking the yellow card enforced ten minutes break. Cranbrook chose to scrummage the subsequent penalty and went over under the posts to lead 14-8. Walton's penalty attempt was wide before the visitors added another try that went unconverted. Wanderers returned to their full complement as the yellow card expired but a couple of minutes later Cranbrook were celebrating their bonus point fourth try scored within the first thirty minutes. Tom Walton, who was playing

at fullback, limped off with the recurrence of an ankle injury. Danny Clement's long throw at a line-out was well taken by Hamilton who started a move that led to Thanet's second try. Joint Captains, Nick Herbert and Sam Taylor, with Max Rogers, were central to the defence cracking move that ended with Taylor touching down. The conversion from wide right was first class with Marius Thompson kicking. At half-time it was 26-15 to the visitors.

The break revitalised the Wanderers and Thompson led the way when he was on hand to finish some impressive handling to score Wanderers' third try after five minutes following good pressure from Thanet's pack. Thompson converted his own try to narrow the deficit to just four points. Thanet were on a roll and Henry Mirams was unlucky to be penalised for not rolling away when pinned down but more fine handling ended with some close passing between the forwards before Goodall scored his second try that gave Wanderers the lead 27-26. This was extended to 32-26 five minutes later when Herbert's excellent break sliced through the visitors' defence before he was hauled down and more neat handling was required before Taylor touched down wide left for 32-26. It was still anyone's game and after fifteen hotly contested minutes, Cranbrook exploited some uncertainty in defence to cut the home lead to 32-31. A kickable penalty attempt for Wanderers went wide before a further penalty set a line-out and the resulting forward pressure saw the pack drive over with a richly deserved touch down for lock forward Andy Letts. Thompson made an excellent conversion and Wanderers led 39-31. Cranbrook fought hard to gain a further bonus point but Referee Lewis Frank's whistle sounded, after another good shift from the official, and Wanderers had their first win of the season.

This was an important win for the Wanderers founded on a strong second half performance. There was some excellent handling throughout the team and fitness levels were good with the match being played at a lively pace throughout. Gully Goodall at tighthead prop had another outstanding game with his powerful scrummaging and strong carries and there was great commitment throughout the team to register their first win.

Colin Whiteley





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Thanet Wanderers are blessed to be so well supported by our loyal and incredibly generous sponsors. As a token of our appreciation for their continued support we will be holding the Sponsors Lunch on the 18th November and would encourage as many of you as possible to join them.

This year the club would also like to invite all of its Vice Presidents to attend the lunch as a token of our thanks for their support.

£25.00 per guests and other club members

There will be a 4 course menu and a vegetarian option available if pre-ordered. Wine is included.

Followed by the 1st XV game against Dover



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MATCH REPORT

Thanet Wanderers RUFC ladies XV continued their unbeaten run at the top of National Challenge 2 with a convincing victory over Cranbrook RFC by 58-10.

Playing on a Saturday as part of the club's double header - the men would later beat Cranbrook 39-31 - the ladies were buoyed by a large crowd of ex-players viewing from the sidelines and the balcony. Dominant starts have quickly become a feature of Thanet's game and this was to be no different and after a scrum on the right, swift hands from the backs saw full back Jess Anderson ghost into the space and go over from 30 metres out. It was to be the first of 4 tries for Anderson in an impressive performance in her new position at full back.

The forwards were doing what they do by making dents in the Cranbrook defence and allowing the space to appear out wide when centre, Rachael Austerberry escaped some weak tackling in midfield and scored her 7th try in 3 games.

The Cranbrook forwards were strong and when in possession were making holes in Thanet's defence but there always seemed to be some cover defence which would keep them scoreless at least until half time.

Pack leader, Milly Thurman-Newell broke the line and hobbled over from 30 metres out before leaving the game with a hamstring injury. Léonie Bish stepping in for Alex White at fly half marshalled her resources

with aplomb and after Jess Anderson had completed her hat-trick and winger Amy Coster had got her first, Bish added a couple of conversions to open her scoring account for the season. Austerberry then added her second, Coster got her second and the first half ended with Thanet 44-0 ahead.

The second half saw the introduction of more 1st XV debutant players in the form of Tia Perkins and Justine Mackintosh which is a demonstration of how this Thanet Ladies squad is growing. Both applied themselves in the back row and will put their hand up for 1st XV selection again.

With the wind and slope elements in their favour in the second half, Cranbrook came back into the game and having camped themselves in the bottom end of the park twice, came away with 2 tries. But the final word went to Wanderers with Anderson getting her fourth before Kent second row, Georgia Elks got over for the final try, converted by Bish.

The next outing for the Thanet Ladies is a midweek floodlit game at the club on Wednesday 25th October 2023 against Christchurch University before they travel to Ashford for the next round of the Junior Cup at Ashford RFC the following Sunday 29th October 2023.

Ian Lodge
Head Coach, Ladies Section



Photos by Ade Davies Photography



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INCLUSION @ THE WANDERERS



As a club Thanet Wanderers is committed to improving all aspects of equality, inclusion and diversity within the club. I'm sure most of you will have seen the re-emergence of our ladies team after an absence of nearly 20 years. The girls section is growing steadily with the help of a strong team of volunteers, coaches and sponsors. During lockdown we were one of a handful of clubs to receive large grants for a capital project to renovate our back changing rooms and showers primarily for female use. We have also been one of the first clubs in the South East to introduce a SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability) group and this has been amazingly well received. Our Schools and Community Programme has been marching forward with coaches going into local schools to introduce children to rugby that might not normally get the chance to play the game and experience the TREDs ethos (Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship) that lies at the heart of rugby. We have a mental health first aider who is available to listen and support anyone if they feel they need help.

This is only the beginning of the club's journey and we hope that everyone at the club, whether as a player, coach, parent or spectator will get behind us and help make Thanet Wanderers a welcoming place for ALL.

With this in mind we are introducing some new codes of conduct that you will see highlighted around the club and the grounds. These will explain what is considered good practice and what will not be tolerated. They will also give details of who you can contact if you have any concerns, issues or need help or support.

We live in a constantly changing society and if we want to play a positive, relevant and meaningful part in our community, both local and our rugby community, we need to adapt and be more accepting of the diverse society that we are all a part of.

Please work with us to make Thanet Wanderers a club where everyone is welcomed and made to feel part of something special.

Safeguarding Officer
Thanet Wanderers RUFC

MATCH REPORT

Thanet Ladies 2nd team v Canterbury Christchurch University Ladies

With the focus over the past few weeks being on Thanet Ladies 1st XV, the midweek floodlit match against the visiting Canterbury Christchurch University was a great opportunity to get game time for some of the less experienced players.

With most of the team with less than 6 games of rugby under their belt, the team took to the field in a 12-a-side match. The team were sporting the new kit which will become standard throughout the club starting in season 2024/25.

CCCU fielded a strong side with 3 Kent players and 4 guest players from Canterbury RFC and the battle commenced with both sides going hard at each other in midfield. Both teams had similar game plans by concentrating defence before moving the ball into exploited space.

It was CCCU who started early and two early tries gave them a 12 point lead before the first quarter water break. Thanet came back into the game when a well worked move saw Fleur Moat use her trademark swerve running to crash under the post for a try converted by fly half Kirsty Burns. The half back pairing of Burns

and 18-year-old Sophie West was formidable and they marshalled their troops around the park with control and direction.

CCCU extended their lead out to 22-7 before the most popular score of the evening saw winger Daisy Osborne get on the end of a sweet move to dot down in the corner, again converted by Burns. 22-14.

Once again CCCU extended their lead out to 30-14 with a well struck penalty and another try in the corner.

With only a few minutes left there was just enough time to trade one more try each, firstly when Lucy Challenger scampered over under the post before CCCU completed the scoring for a well deserved 37-21 victory.

The game was a valuable exercise for all players from each side. Many CCCU players were playing their first games to allow them to hit their BUCS season running and many of the Thanet ladies gained valuable experience, most putting their hand up for 1st XV selection on the coming weeks.

Ian Lodge

Head Coach, Ladies Section



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Thanet Wanderers

Home team colours: blue, black and gold hoops

1 Daniel Clement

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2 Gabe Hayden

Postition sponsored by: Bill Hurley

3 Gulliver Goodall

Postition sponsored by: Ernie Blakemore

4 Andrew Letts

Postition sponsored by: Mark O' Riordan

5 Lenny Brown

Postition sponsored by: The Four Candles

6 Warren Riddell-Broomfield

Postition sponsored by: Michelle McClean

7 Sam Taylor (Capt)

Postition sponsored by: Chris Marson

8 Brett Scott

Postition sponsored by: Dave Brown

Head Coach

Elliot Blackmore

Postition sponsored by: Colin Whiteley

Assistant Coach

Kieran Hopper

Postition sponsored by: Andy Buli

Team Manager

Michelle McClean

Postition sponsored by: Carmen Glover

9 Leon Doody

Postition sponsored by: Jeremy Ward

10 Charlie Panteli

Postition sponsored by: Ray Roby/Peter Tierney

11 Louis Marshall

Postition sponsored by: Pegasus Storage Solutions

12 Nick Herbert (Capt)

Postition sponsored by: John Keohane

13 Henry Mirams

Postition sponsored by: Paul Glover

14 Ant Theo

Postition sponsored by: Terry Tutte

15 Harrison Quittenden

Postition sponsored by: Geoff Redmond

Replacements:

16 Regan Doody

Postition sponsored by:

17 Dennis Davies

Postition sponsored by:

18 Marius Thompson

Postition sponsored by:

Referee

Ross Alexander

Touch Judge

Postition sponsored by:

Dartfordians RFC

Away team colours:

1 Will Tuffley

2 Jack Hooban

3 Louis Chapman

4 Joe Williams

5 Lewis Potter

6 James Garvey

7 Kieran Clark

8 Luke Golding

D.O.R.

Not Supplied

Head Coach

Not Supplied

Assistant Coach

Not Supplied

Team Manager

Not Supplied

9 Miles Taylor

10 Jonny Regnier

11 Chapell

12 Harvey Whyte

13 Jake Taylor

14 Eliot Soler-Gomez

15 Alex Cappuccio

Replacements:

16 Steve Garrett

17 Dan Sweeney

18 Mike Briggs



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FIRST XV FIXTURES

2023 – 2024

2023

Sep	16	ASHFORD	AWAY
	23	CANTERBURY 2nds	HOME
	30	BECCEHAMIAN	AWAY
Oct	7	BROMLEY	AWAY
	14	CRANBROOK	HOME
	21	HEATHFIELD & WALDRON	AWAY
Nov	4	DARTFORDIANS	HOME
	11	DEAL & BETTES	AWAY
	18	DOVER	HOME
Dec	2	CHARLTON PARK	AWAY
	9	CROWBOROUGH	HOME
	Fri 15	CANTERBURY 2nds	AWAY (7.45pm k.o.)

2024

Jan	6	BECCEHAMIAN	HOME
	13	CRANBROOK	AWAY
	20	BROMLEY	HOME
	27	HEATHFIELD & WALDRON	HOME
Feb	3	DARTFORDIANS	AWAY
	17	DEAL & BETTES	HOME
Mar	2	DOVER	AWAY
	16	CHARLTON PARK	HOME
	23	CROWBOROUGH	AWAY
Apr	6	ASHFORD	HOME

Fixtures in BLOCK Type are Counties 1 Kent League dates



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MATCH REPORT

Heathfield and Waldron RFC 31 – 19 Thanet Wanderers RUFC

Wanderers have nothing to show for a spirited display in difficult conditions.

There were two new faces in the Thanet squad with a debut for Luke Browning after good performances for the 2s and for Hoani (Aitch) French whose debut was delayed by injury after he moved to the Thanet area. Tom Walton and Marius Thompson were excluded by injury and props Danny Clement and Gully Goodall with lock forward Chris Gregory and three-quarters Louis Thompson and Max Rogers had family commitments. The two debutants brought the total of players who have represented the first XV in the first six games of the season to thirty-six which is not helpful to coaches trying to build continuity within the side or to the 2s who lose players to the senior side.

The playing surface was saturated but just playable although the heavy rain continued to fall during the first half. Mid Sussex based, Heathfield and Waldron (H&W) were quickly into their stride and after a penalty set good field position, opened the scoring under the posts for a 7-0 lead after two minutes. A promising Wanderers attack ended with a penalty conceded for holding on. Number eight, Brett Scott made good metres with a powerful carry and Mike Whitehead was making light of the conditions with good line-out throws. 22 minutes had been played when a well judged interception for H&W gave the catcher an easy run in under the posts from his own half to make the score 14-0 to the hosts. Andy Dolan suffered the recurrence of an injury and was replaced on the wing by Cam Pond. Wanderers mounted some good drives and were playing with an advantage when recalled for a penalty that saw them set a line-out close to the opposition line. The throw in was good and a well managed catch and drive ended with a try for joint-captain Sam Taylor. Charlie Panteli's conversion attempt was well struck but went wide and Thanet were on the board, after 30 minutes 14-5. Both sides' attacking instincts were undone by the teeming rain but Thanet's lock forward, Lenny Brown revelled in the rain and

pinched an opposition line-out to set a good break. Tom Stevens' tackle forced a knock on and stopped imminent danger but there was no further score for either side before half-time.

Recently a Wanderers Colt, Dennis Davies had played well in his favoured back row position: he took a break at the beginning of the second half and Aitch French joined the mud fest. The rain had relented as the second half began and the hosts leapt high to catch an attempted Thanet clearance before touching down within the first minute of the half. There was no conversion but H&W led 19-5. Six minutes later another interception led to the fourth try and a bonus point for the host side. French was showing good energy in the back row and appeared to have scored but the referee had seen a double movement before touchdown and H&W cleared their lines. Around the hour mark, a brilliantly controlled drive from Thanet's pack ended with a second try for Taylor. Panteli made an excellent conversion for Thanet to trail 26-12. Minutes later more excellent work from the pack saw Mike Whitehead touch down for his maiden first XV try. Another quality conversion from Panteli made the score 26-19. Oskar Wallace came on from the bench but French was shown yellow for a deliberate knock-down and with both props injured, Wanderers had to opt for uncontested scrums. Thanet conceded a final try when a defensive slip helped the hosts to touch down an unconverted try and lead 31-19. Wanderers fought hard for a further try but could not cross the line and there was no further score.

Thanet's pack put in a fine performance today in difficult conditions. Joint Captain, Nick Herbert paid tribute particularly the front five. Warren Riddell-Bloomfield played well, out of position, at hooker and Andy Letts' consistency in the engine room is astounding. The conditions were difficult for the ball handlers of the team but the depleted team put in a performance to be proud of.

Colin Whiteley



WOMEN'S NC2 SOUTH EAST (EAST) LEAGUE 2022-23

Team	P	W	D	L	P/F	P/A	P/D	T/B	L/B	PTS
Thanet Wanderers Ladies	3	3	0	0	175	30	145	0	0	14
Thurrock Ladies 2nds	3	3	0	0	110	30	80	0	0	13
Ashford Ladies	3	2	0	1	40	91	-51	0	0	11
Lordswood Valkyries Ladies	3	1	0	2	56	84	-28	0	0	8
Westcliff Ladies	2	1	0	1	111	33	78	0	0	7
Southend Saints Ladies	2	1	0	1	74	53	21	0	0	7
Gravesend Ladies	3	0	0	3	5	121	-116	0	0	6
Cranbrook Ladies	2	0	0	2	10	139	-129	0	0	2

WOMEN'S NC2 SOUTH EAST (EAST) LEAGUE FIXTURES

Saturday 14th October

Thanet Wanderers Ladies 58-10 Cranbrook Ladies

Sunday 22nd October

Cranbrook Ladies-P- Southend Saints Ladies

Thurrock Ladies 2nds HWO Gravesend Ladies

Sunday 15th October

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PROUD SPONSOR OF WOMEN & GIRLS RUBY AT THANET WANDERERS

MATCH REPORT

Wanderer's comeback is too late in a Kent Shield first-round fixture.

Tom Stevens captained a good mix of youth and experience who took on near neighbours Dover in the first round of the Kent RFU Shield trophy.

Dover kicked off and were quickly on the attack but too many penalties punctuated the first quarter of the match as the hosts took time to settle. It was thirty minutes before Dover opened the scoring with a well-struck penalty from around 30 metres. The last kick of the half saw them double their advantage to 6-0 with a second penalty.

Four minutes into the second half, the visitors went over for a try which was converted. Charlie Panteli knocked over a penalty from distance four minutes later to open the Wanderers' account and make it 13-3. Dover were handling well and an unconverted second try followed five minutes later, near the left touchline. Big tackles from Harrison Quittenden and Tom Stevens stopped the deficit from widening further, but first Jake McGee and four minutes later, Stevens, were shown yellow cards reducing Wanderers to thirteen players. Quittenden then seized on a loose ball, deep in his own half, and evaded all attempted tackles to touch down under the posts for a fine individual try. Panteli converted to make the score 18-10. His long-range penalty attempt then fell just short. James Whowell

raised a cheer as he caught well and tore back at the opposition but the visitors were undaunted and hit back with an unconverted try. Finally, back to full strength, Wanderers showed some top-quality handling before Stevens touched down for Panteli to convert. Thank you to referee Lewis Franks for his usual calm officiating of a potentially fiery encounter: but now, his whistle soon sounded for full-time and snuffed out any hope for Thanet who had lost 23-17.

It was good to see Antony Theodosiou approaching a return to full fitness as he repeatedly broke the opposition line and Harrison Quittenden celebrated his return to competition with a nice try and a solid all-round performance. Reagan Doody did well in his first game of the season and Warren Riddell-Bloomfield put in another good performance in the unfamiliar role of hooker. Good luck to Dover for the next round of the Shield, Wanderers will now be in the plate competition.

SQUAD: James Whowell, Warren Riddell Bloomfield, Mike Whitehead, Reagan Doody, Jake McGee, Kurt Pearson, Beau Teall, Chris Hood, Owen Jordan, Charlie Panteli, Tom Stevens (C) Hoani French, Sam Elliot, Antony Theodosiou, Harrison Quittenden. **SUBS:** Jim Oliver, Tom Welsh, Dennis Davies, Ewan Maclean.

Colin Whiteley



COUNTIES 1 KENT LEAGUE 2022-23

Team	P	W	D	L	P/F	P/A	P/D	T/B	L/B	PTS	ADJ
Canterbury 2nds	6	6	0	0	252	94	158	6	0	30	0
Crowborough	6	5	1	0	183	107	76	4	0	26	0
Bromley	6	5	0	1	142	100	42	3	0	24	0
Dartfordians	6	4	0	2	176	134	42	4	1	21	0
Beccehamian	6	4	0	2	175	116	59	3	1	20	0
Deal & Betteshanger	6	3	0	3	160	167	-7	3	1	16	0
Ashford	6	3	0	3	130	138	-8	3	0	15	0
Dover	6	2	0	4	132	157	-25	1	1	10	0
Heathfield & Waldron	6	1	1	4	111	138	-27	2	2	10	0
Thanet Wanderers	6	1	0	5	118	222	-104	1	1	6	0
Cranbrook	6	0	0	6	103	242	-139	1	2	3	0
Charlton Park	6	1	0	5	92	159	-67	1	1	1	-5

COUNTIES 1 KENT FIXTURES

Saturday 4th November 2023

Ashford v Charlton Park

Cranbrook v Heathfield & Waldron

Beccehamian v Deal & Betteshanger

Crowborough v Bromley

Canterbury 2nds v Dover

Thanet Wanderers v Dartfordians

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RESULTS GRID COUNTIES 1 KENT LEAGUE

Away Team ▶	Ashford	Aylesford Bulls	Beccehamian	Bromley	Charlton Park	Cranbrook	Crowborough	Deal & Betteshanger	Folkestone	Heathfield & Waldron	Old Alleynians	TWRUFC
Home Team ▼												
Ashford									14-26		21-17	28-10
Beccehamian											36-31	57-7
Bromley		10-20				33-28						47-18
Canterbury 2nds		30-23				76-0		52-7				
Charlton Park							16-31		29-25		25-11	
Cranbrook	20-27	5-26										
Crowborough						41-19		21-19		34-15		
Dartfordians	37-26	33-13			96-10							
Deal & Bettes			16-19	21-32			35-53			27-20		
Dover	28-14		18-33		34-17			17-32				
Heathfield & Waldron				18-34			3-3					31-19
TWRUFC				25-28		39-31						

RESULTS FROM COUNTIES 1 KENT LEAGUE

Saturday 14th October 2023

Ashford 14-26 Deal & Betteshanger

Beccehamian 36-31 Heathfield & Waldron

Canterbury 2nds 52-7 Dartfordians

Charlton Park AWO Bromley

Crowborough 34-15 Dover

Thanet Wanderers 39-31 Cranbrook

Saturday 21st October 2023

Bromley 33-28 Cranbrook

Charlton Park 16-31 Crowborough

Dartfordians 33-13 Beccehamian

Deal & Betteshanger 21-32 Canterbury 2nds

Dover 28-14 Ashford

Heathfield & Waldron 31-19 Thanet Wanderers

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FRESH & TASTY - FROM THE EAST KENT COAST

MATCH REPORT

Thanet Wanderers 22 v Cranbrook 12

On Sunday the 22nd October TWRUFC Colts headed up to Cranbrook with a mixed development team on a sunny autumnal day. This reporter back from journalistic exile with the hope the club and older opposition player's mothers will take feedback on their precious babies. Twenty players made the hour-long journey along pleasant English country roads with the same number of coaches and supporters all hoping that finding the 'key to success' against Cranbrook will be easier than actually finding the clubhouse.

Thanet won the toss and elected to kick off with Isaac Devine at flyhalf sending the ball skyward into the Cranbrook half of the field. Thanet started well and were moving the ball fluidly through the backs as the pack set up quality fast ball. Passes down the line allowed a bit of space for the full back Noah Osgood to glide through and he linked well with Ewan Maclean, the tenacious in form winger (fresh from his heroics with the senior second team the day before).

Not to be outdone Zac, back on the wing, was choosing the more direct route of bulldozing through his opposite number rather than going around him. All the boys showed some deft hand and off lays presumably learned from "the Fiji touch".

Continued pressure from Thanet led to a quick tap penalty that Cranbrook tried to clear but the ball went straight to Toby then to Zach who gave a lovely backhand pass back to Fred who scored under the posts. Conversion successful, Wanderers 7-0 up.

Thanet were having all the possession and territory but seemed unable to break the final line. No further scores were gained and the half time whistle blew with many supporters fearful we would have a repeat of the world cup semi-final where England had 65 % of the game but ultimately lost.

The second half opened up more and it seemed inevitable that Thanet would score more tries. A very nice steal from Josh led to a Thanet drive and push towards the line, but somehow tenacious Cranbrook tackling and a turnover led to them taking possession.

The kick from Cranbrook for touch was stopped by Jem Harris who tapped it back into field for Noah Osgood to pick up and run into centre field. There followed ball movement through the forwards and backs with Ewan having a lovely run down the line before just being driven over the touchline. The proceeding lineout was won by Thanet and led to them finally crossing the try line with Fred O'Halloran scoring (12-0).

This seemed to galvanize Cranbrook and with their first foray into the Thanet 22 it led to their big boys pummeling the line and running in a try under the posts (12-7).

Thanet immediately struck back by not being greedy and really using the ball to create overlaps and space. It was finally Ewan's turn to get over the try line with a characteristic run (17-7).

Thanet were now roaming free to the frustration of Cranbrook. Another Thanet break and a basic try saving tackle by Cranbrook right on the line, led to them celebrating like they had won the World Cup! This led to some 'afters' that saw a player sent off from either side.

The final try for Thanet was a coaches' nightmare as Vinnie Perkins who had looked dangerous all game made a great break and took a sideways tour before straightening down the touchline to score (22-7).

With the game well and truly won it was disappointing to concede a late consolation try to Cranbrook to finish the game (22-14).

This was a solid performance and win from Thanet with lots of things learnt about moving the ball into space but there was no criticism from the coaches on the commitment and clear ability of the team.

The confidence of the squad continues to grow as the players develop as one team rather than two teams stuck together.

Colts Squad: 1 Finn T 2 Fred O 3 Dom S 4 Josh M 5 Mustafa B 6 Joseph K-M 7 Finn H 8 Ellis P 9 Raz W 10 Issac D 11 Zach (Zohan) 12 Toby H 13 Vinnie P 14 Ewan M 15 Noah O 16 Ollie P 17 Owen L 18 Charlie P 19 Dillon S 20 Jem H

Simon Harris





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