

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

THANET

# WANDERERS

v Deal & Betteshanger RFC Saturday 17th February 2024. Kick off 2.30pm

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THANET WANDERERS  
1ST XV



THANET WANDERERS RUFC

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## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

We extend a warm welcome to our closest rugby neighbours (in Geographical terms), Deal & Betteshanger RFC and we hope you initially enjoy the afternoon and our hospitality and then experience some attractive Rugby.

Today's Counties 1 Kent League game has Deal & Betteshanger placed 4 positions above us in 8th position, with 6 wins out of 16. Our last encounter with them in November (away) saw a 25-7 defeat for Thanet. On that day there were six changes to Thanet's starting XV compared to those who started the previous week's game. Veterans Danny Clement and Andy Letts were missing due to illness or injury and Marius Thompson was on international duty for Norway in Latvia. Cam Pond came in for Henry Mirams in the centre and it was good to see Antony Theodosiou back on the wing after missing a couple of seasons through injury, Luke Browning and Reagan Doody were back on front-row duty. Minutes of the game remained when Wanderers young scrum-half, Leon Doody, who had only made his debut the previous month, suffered a head injury and had to leave the field. This narrative has dogged Thanet all season with injuries and availability which has seen in excess of 50 players play so far for the 1st Team. Although a problem for stability it does show the willingness and determination of Wanderers to play and compete and I have witnessed a renewed vigour from the 1st Team in 2024.

Today's match official is Simon Bingham, who is a regular visitor to St Peters and we extend a warm welcome to him and hope for a clean, fast paced game evenly competed and without injury.

Last week on Sunday the Ladies 1st XV played in the last 16 of the National Junior Cup against Hammersmith & Fulham (an internet-based Rugby Club!) and Thanet Wanderers RUFC Ladies reached the quarter finals of the national RFU Junior Cup by the skin of their teeth after a 10-10 draw away at Hammersmith & Fulham. And that was after substitute winger Amy Coster scampered into the corner in the last move of the match to tie the scores!

Controversy!!! RFU rules state that if a game is tied, the and the number of tries are equal and the number of conversions are equal then the away side progresses to the next round. Thanet now progress to a quarter final tie away at Thurrock on Sunday the 3rd of March 2024.

Last week also saw the 2nd XV in Cup action in the quarter finals of the Kent Plate against Maidstone.

Wanderers were captained by tight-head prop Joe Carlier in the absence of their regular captain, Tom Stevens who was injured. Thanet found themselves 12-0 down at halftime.

Thanet started the second half a lot stronger and scrum-half Ben Price scored a breakaway try in the opening minutes of the half. That was followed five minutes later by fly-half Jake Whittlesea who scored a try under the posts which was converted by Ollie Greene-Taylor to level the scores at 12-12. Thanet then went into the lead as Maidstone's defence became fatigued when Matt Jacobs scored under the posts. This was followed by man of the match, Ben Price, scoring his second try in the corner to make the final score 22-12. What did Captain Joe Carlier say to the team at half time to inspire such a comeback?

The result puts the Wanderers through to the semi-finals of the Kent Plate.

How Times Have Changed

The last time I took to the field at Deal & Betteshanger was 5 years ago. Thanet 3rds were playing Deal & Betteshanger 3rds and Kent RFU couldn't supply a referee and the game was going to be cancelled. Peter Hawkins our Club Secretary, and all-round jolly nice chap and club stalwart came up with a proposal, he would "pimp" me out as the referee, Deal & Betteshanger accepted!

I wasn't looking forward to this as I remember playing there in the early 90's when Betteshanger would put out 5 senior teams and they would be beating you by 30, or 40 points and would still want to fight, gouge, and stamp all over you just for fun. My first mistake was to accept a lift from Geoff Redmond, another Jolly nice chap and club stalwart who with hindsight should have set off early Thursday morning. After he stopped twice to check his tyre pressures and again to get the stones out of the tread and check the oil I arrived at the ground even more anxious.

Well, I was met by a representative, shown to the changing area, given a cup of tea (or "wet" as some may know it in Deal) and made to feel most welcome.

*Continued over*

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*Continued from over*

I addressed both teams on my application of the "advantage" and the breakdown. In the last throws of the game Deal & Bettes were 6 points up and were embedded in Thanet's 22 when suddenly they played a knock-on. Most players stood up looking for a well earned rest and expecting a scrum, Thanet exploited the situation, I played advantage, Thanet picked up the ball and played on, running the full length of the pitch to score a converted try and lead the game with minutes to go. I was expecting some negative feedback, and I could hear the Deal & Bettes Captain shouting from where the knock-on took place (60 metres away). At the restart I need not have worried as he was remonstrating with his own players for not playing the

advantage. Thanet won that day and the hospitality shown by Deal & Betteshanger was fantastic.

I took the opportunity not to come back with Geoff Redmond but with a local builder (5 pints in) as it was safer!

Please respect today's referees; I hope for competitive and injury-free matches.

TEAMWORK RESPECT ENJOYMENT DISCIPLINE SPORTSMANSHIP.

**Clive Lewis**  
Club President

Today you'll see me running touch!

## FROM THE HEAD COACH

Today we welcome Deal and Bettshanger to our home, which is bound to be an exciting game. Deal sit a comfortable 8th in the league table, we sit 11th, however our motto is: "it's not over until we say it's over" and we haven't said that yet! A wounded team is a dangerous team, it's like a wounded animal, they're fighting for their last breath.

Each game we are seeing improvements and our young and largely inexperienced squad is starting to find its flow. The score last time we met was 25-7 to Deal, but our intention this week is to win.

The game against Dartfordians was a positive one and the Heathfield and Waldron game was a game we should have won. Things are changing. We need your support - having our 16th man on the balcony makes a huge difference, so support the boys they are giving everything that they have.

**Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much.**

**Elliot Blackmore**

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Half of the money received is paid out in prizes with the remaining half going to support major projects within the Club helping to maintain and improve facilities. What a great way to help the Club for a modest outlay each month and the chance to win £££s. The prize structure is based on the number of members. Should the membership exceed 450 then the prize structure will be increased accordingly. A schedule of prizes in operation at any one time is available from the promoter.

Membership is not restricted to members of Thanet Wanderers Rugby Union Football Club and supporters are welcome to participate. Members will be notified by email of the winning numbers each month and monies won will be paid directly into the winners bank accounts.

Please contact either Andy Bull (07710-456225) or Kelly Smith at the clubhouse if you need further details or fill in a direct debit form available either at the clubhouse or from Kelly.

If you are already a member of the 450 Club why not double up and have twice the chance of winning!!! Now there’s a thought.

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## CODES OF CONDUCT

### PLAYERS CODE: Play by the Rules and Laws of the Game **DO NOT SWEAR**

Play for fun Be a good sport Improve your skills Never give up Be fair  
Do not be selfish Do not show off Control your temper  
*Do not argue with the referee Do not use non-prescribed controlled drugs*

### COACHES’ CODE: Teach players to play by the Rules and Laws of the Game

Get the right equipment and facilities Be reasonable Avoid mismatches Be generous with praise  
Do not favour your best players Being a coach should be fun too Never condemn  
Give your voice a rest Good coaching–running with the ball Doctor /Physio knows best  
*It’s the players who matter most not their won/lost record*

### PARENT’S AND SPECTATORS CODE:

Never force a child to play rugby especially if he/she feels unwell  
Always remember children play rugby for their enjoyment not yours  
Encourage your child to play by the Rules and Laws of the Game  
Teach your child that victory isn’t everything Never yell at a player for making a mistake  
Encourage your child to improve his/her skills through coaching  
Applaud good play by either team Stay off the pitch!

### **DO NOT ABUSE ANYONE (ESPECIALLY THE REFEREE)**

**Thanet Wanderers does not tolerate bad behaviour by any player or spectator and asks everyone to abide by the above codes**

# MATCH REPORT

## Thanet Wanderers RFC 20 – 21 Heathfield and Waldron RFC

It couldn't have been closer but it's Wanderers who miss out after an exciting contest.

Heathfield and Waldron (H&W) won the away fixture by 31-19 in the autumn against a depleted Wanderers side and in better weather conditions for the return match, hopes were high for a reversed result at home. Lenny Brown started for Wanderers in the second row and Tom Walton and Louis Marshall returned, after injury, for Thanet but the side had a more settled feel than has usually been the case this season. Joint captain, Nick Herbert, hopes to be available for selection again for the fixture after next following his injury and Connor Brown is back in training.

Playing conditions were ideal as the visitors kicked off down the slope but it was Wanderers who set the pace as the forwards posted an early marker. Two penalties took them near and a dominating drive was finished off by Walton close to the left touchline. His conversion attempt went agonisingly close to the wrong side of the upright but Thanet had a 5-0 lead after four minutes. Minutes later a penalty for the visitors was advanced ten metres after some unnecessary comment was passed to the referee but the visitors' kicker could not convert from just inside the Thanet half. Thanet enjoyed some good minutes of possession but the points did not follow before H&W cleared their lines with a penalty. With 23 minutes played Charlie Panteli converted a penalty from in front and around 30 metres out to extend Thanet's lead to 8-0. There were signs that the visitors' attack was revving up and Andy Letts was prominent in Thanet's resolute defence. Mike Whitehead had to go off with a knock and was replaced by Luke Browning. However, in the ten minutes running up to half time, H&W's attack really got into gear with their big ball carriers grabbing the initiative and finding gaps in the home defence to run in three good tries. All were converted, so at the break, Wanderers trailed 21-8.

From the restart, there was renewed energy from the Wanderers as they battled to wrest the momentum from the visitors. Gully Goodall and captain Sam Taylor led aggressive drives and took play deep into their opponents' half. Wanderers outside centre, Harrison Quittenden, will count himself a little hard done by when shown yellow for taking a tackle over the horizontal early in the half. Two minutes later a penalty for Wanderers set a good field

position and Marshall's burst for the line took Wanderers close before Walton grabbed his second try of the afternoon for Panteli to add the extras and bring Thanet back into contention at 21-15. Dennis Davies was on from the bench to partner Andy Letts in the second row and the two now combined well to snuff out a developing H&W attack with a big tackle. Centre Max Rogers took a knock and had to retire with Leon Doody on in a reshuffled back line. Thanet were attacking on all fronts with fullback Andrew Dolan and winger Lewis Downer making many metres as they attacked from deep. The pack was dominant and a succession of strong drives with Goodall and Taylor again leading were halted only by impatience and an excess of enthusiasm that conceded penalties. Taylor's back row partners Warren Riddell-Bloomfield and Number Eight, Brett Scott, combined to maintain the pressure and were to the fore as another drive drew a further penalty. Referee, Ross Alexander, enjoyed a good afternoon and now warned the visitors that another scrum penalty would bring a penalty try. One of the visiting props had really been struggling and declared himself unable to contest the next scrum, leading to uncontested scrums. From the second of these, Louis Marshall who had an excellent afternoon, zoomed in at pace, low to the ground, to touch down 10-15 metres left of the posts and leave Wanderers just a point behind with the conversion attempt to follow. Teenager Charlie Panteli would hope to convert 99 per cent of kicks from that situation but unfortunately, this was the one per cent that got away and the ball rebounded from a post to make the score 21-20 to the visitors. A few minutes of play remained but there was no further score and Wanderers had just a losing bonus point that lifted them off bottom place in the league above Cranbrook.

This was a very entertaining game to watch and played with great sportsmanship. Wanderers as ever, were much indebted to the efforts of their Veterans with great shifts from Danny Clement, and the engine room pair of Lenny Brown and Andy Letts. Tom Walton took his two tries in style and Wanderers are pleased to see him back. Some terrific defence from the visitors and a little naivety in attack from Wanderers meant there was only a marginal improvement in Wanderers' league fortunes but the improvement in performance is clear.

**Colin Whiteley**





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# MATCH REPORT

## Thanet Ladies v Hammersmith & Fulham

Thanet Wanderers RUFC Ladies reached the quarter finals of the national RFU Junior Cup by the skin of their teeth on Sunday after a 10-10 draw at Hammersmith & Fulham.

And that was after substitute winger Amy Coster scampered into the corner in the last move of the match to tie the scores.

RFU rules state that if a game is tied, the number of tries are equal and the number of conversions are equal then the away side progresses to the next round.

Hammersmith had started the stronger side and 3 quick line breaks were snuffed by the tough tackling full back, Jess Anderson. Anderson, a member of the Great Britain American Football team is better known for her attacking prowess but she kept the Thanet team in the game early in that first half.

Much of the game was played in the middle of the park but with dominant attacking and defence plays most notably from hooker Louise Rubens, number 8 Milly Thurman-Newell and centre Izzy Lodge, Thanet were getting the upper edge.

Alex White now growing into a composed fly half was directing the play and after Coster nearly got in on the left edge, the ball went through any number of hands for Megan Bish to feed Anderson to open up the scoring and take the visitors into a narrow 5-0 lead.

The first part of the second half saw Thanet display poorly. Defensive line speed was lacking and a number of tight decisions going against them saw Hammersmith dominate territory and possession. Two quick unconverted scores saw the home side edge into a 10-5 lead.

But the last 20 minutes saw a side to the Thanet Ladies that had not been seen before. Grit and pure determination saw the visitors on top, most notably at scrum time where the second row pairing of Georgia Elks and Emily Cornwell were gaining easy possession on the Thanet put-in and turnover penalties on the Hammersmith put-in.

And it was to be one of these scrums that eventually tilted the tie in Thanet's favour. A scrum 20 metres out saw number 8 Milly Thurman-Newell draw the last two defenders, pop a ball over the top to Coster whose raw pace and ball carrying ability got her into the corner in the final play.

The referee blew for final time. Thanet knew the competition rules but celebrations were cut short when the referee felt it fair to check. But after a nervous 5 minutes the result was confirmed and it is to be Thanet who progress to a quarter final tie away at Thurrock on Sunday 3rd March 2023.

**Ian Lodge**



## 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	BROMLEY	HOME
20	CRANBROOK	AWAY
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

## Dover Sharks RFC Veterans 19 – 3 Thanet Wanderers RUFC Veterans

A competitive and entertaining match ends in victory for the Sharks.

This was the first game that the Wanderers have played in the qualifying round of fixtures for this year's Spitfire Gold Trophy competition for Kent Over 35s teams. Their two other scheduled fixtures, against Canterbury and Ashford, will count as wins after both of those sides could not fulfil their fixtures. Last year's fixture between Wanderers and the Sharks ended in a narrow win for Thanet after an excellent contest at St Peters, so a good crowd of supporters had gathered at Dover's Crabble ground for this year's match.

The promised heavy rain had not arrived as the hosts kicked off into the stiff breeze. Wanderers were quickly into their stride and were soon driving towards the home line. In the face of good defence from Dover, the threatening series of attacks was ended when a penalty was conceded. Timmy Williams, in the centre for Thanet, was tackling strongly as was Jonty Stevens on the left wing. It took nearly a quarter of an hour for the Sharks to mount an attack in the Wanderers' half. However, their first try came from a move that originated in their own half. The powerful home centre, Luke Armstrong, burst through several tackles as he galloped in under the posts for Connor McCarthy to add the extras. Wanderers continued to play some spells of flowing rugby. The second-row pairing of Andy Letts and Tom Harvey combined well with Number Eight, Lenny Brown but the move broke down short of Dover's red zone. Tom Longden, playing today at scrum half, made a great charge down and Captain Peter Macaulay's tackle saved an almost certain try but the next try came from the Sharks with a touchdown for McCarthy and a conversion from Armstrong. The half-time whistle soon sounded with Dover leading 14-0 after a very competitive half of rugby.

Wanderers were unchanged for the second period as the hosts made the most of their full bench. Now with the wind behind them and the advantage of the slight slope the Sharks exerted some serious early pressure but great defence from Wanderers kept their line intact and when the Sharks offended, Longden converted the penalty to make it 14-3. A Sharks penalty set them up at a line-out seven metres from Wanderers' line but Brown grabbed

the ball and counter-attacked through the Sharks' attack to clear the immediate danger. Dover were not to be denied however and after 20 second-half minutes, front-row forward Mike Keohane crossed for an unconverted try after strong pressure against a tiring Thanet XV to give the Sharks a 19-3 lead. Vinny Ganley, Wanderers' sole replacement now joined the fray replacing Elliott Stokes on the wing giving him a well-earned break. Neil Roby's penalty, following a high tackle, set good field position and he and centre Rupert Syred linked to gain useful metres. Longden ghosted through the defence and linked with Ganley who was bundled into touch after a good dash. Thanet's flankers, Greg Shingles and Ed Plori worked hard throughout the seventy testing minutes to keep their line intact in a pack that put in a fine defensive shift. The front row of props Danny Clement and James Whowell, with hooker Bill Wallace, deserves a medal for playing the full seventy minutes, particularly so for Bill who turned sixty earlier in the week. The game perhaps slowed a little during the closing minutes but continued to entertain before the evening's excellent referee, Mark Waterstone, blew for full time with neither side able to register any more points.

It was a well-deserved victory for the Sharks who made the most of their opportunities. Wanderers were handicapped by a shortage of replacements but put in a competitive performance against good opposition. Both teams will progress in the competition, Dover as a result of winning the group and Wanderers following their two victories by default.

### Colin Whiteley



# Thanet Wanderers

Home team colours: blue, black and gold hoops

## 1 Daniel Clement

Position sponsored by: Peter Hawkins

## 2 Gabe Hayden

Position sponsored by: Bill Hurley

## 3 Michael Whitehead

Position sponsored by: Ernie Blakemore

## 4 Dennis Davies

Position sponsored by: Mark O' Riordan

## 5 Andrew Letts

Position sponsored by: The Four Candles

## 6 Warren Riddell-Broomfield

Position sponsored by: Michelle McClean

## 7 Sam Taylor (Co-Capt)

Position sponsored by: Chris Marson

## 8 Brett Scott

Position sponsored by: Dave Brown

## 9 Tom Walton

Position sponsored by: Jeremy Ward

## 10 Charlie Panteli

Position sponsored by: Ray Roby/Peter Tierney

## 11 Harrison Quittenden

Position sponsored by: Pegasus Storage Solutions

## 12 Nick Herbert (Co-Capt)

Position sponsored by: John Keohane

## 13 Henry Mirams

Position sponsored by: Paul Glover

## 14 Lewis Downer

Position sponsored by: Terry Tuttle

## 15 Marius Thompson

Position sponsored by: Geoff Redmond

## Replacements:

## 16 Luke Browning

## 17 Connor Brown

## 18 Louie Marshall

### Head Coach

## Elliot Blackmore

Position sponsored by: Colin Whiteley

### Assistant Coach

## Kieran Hopper

Position sponsored by: Andy Buli

### Team Manager

## Michelle McLean

Position sponsored by: Carmen Glover

### Referee

## Simon Bingham

### Touch Judge

## Not Supplied

Ball and match sponsor is **The Bike Shed**



## 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

## Dartfordians v TWRUFC 3-2-2024

Wanderers cannot build on a competitive first-half performance against third-placed Dartfordians.

There were two changes to the Wanderers pack compared to that which started the previous week with a debut for Liam Matla at tighthead prop and Luke Browning was back at loosehead. There was also a debutant in the back five with a start for Ellis Taylor. Callum and Leon Doody returned to the first XV three-quarter line alongside Henry Mirams with Louis Vroninks in at full-back. Harry Clemo made a first appearance of the season on the bench with fellow finishers, Chris Hood and Lewis Downer. Bexley-based, Dartfordians were relegated from the regional league last season and have been in the promotion mix for most of this season in Kent One and are currently third.

Wanderers kicked off with a strengthening breeze behind them but it was Darts who were first to build pressure and it was no surprise when they crossed for a try after just three minutes. Captain Sam Taylor led the counterattack from the restart brushing off defenders before touching down near the left touchline for a brilliant solo try. There was no conversion but the scores were level at 5-5. Thirteen minutes into the half, a Darts attack dragged the Thanet defence out of shape and led to a second try wide right. Matla took a break after half an hour and Clemo replaced him. Vroninks broke well and when hauled down bounced back to make a good clearance. Two more unconverted tries gave the hosts the lead by 22-5 but Wanderers hit back hard after a good drive into the Darts' half. Walton combined well with Callum Doody who changed the point of attack and when a chip ahead was not quickly dealt with in defence Mirams grabbed the opportunity and touched down just left of the posts. Charlie Panteli, received a warm round of applause after a routine conversion removed any demons that may have been lurking. Wanderers' tails

were up and a series of driving pick-and-goes ended with Walton crossing for an unconverted try after a delicate chip-and-go. There was no change to the 22-17 score before halftime.

Mike Whitehead took a break at the start of the second half as Matla returned. Darts, now aided by the wind, pressed but two penalties for Thanet and an excellent cover tackle from Vroninks contained the early threat. After ten minutes of the new half Darts scored with a number 8 try after a well-controlled drive. Two minutes later a wide-ranging attack outflanked Wanderers' defence before a try was scored wide left although, there was no conversion. Walton, Wanderers' inspirational scrum-half, was off with a back injury that meant he missed the rest of the match. Darts' number seven was now shown yellow but Wanderers could not take advantage of the extra man. It was the home side who scored during his absence and although the conversion attempt rattled a post, it didn't go over. Wanderers battled hard but could not recapture the momentum from the end of the first half. A line out, resulting from a penalty, was lost and a well-judged interception from Mirams was quickly contained. Second row forward, Lenny Brown, joined the three-quarters and carried well before being tackled and minutes later found himself on the touchline after a high tackle brought him a yellow card. A last unconverted try made the final score 42-17 to the Darts as Wanderers could not register a fourth try to claim a losing bonus point.

There was a top performance from inspirational captain, Sam Taylor, who was superb in defence and attack today. Young Louic Veroninks had his best game for Wanderers so far and thanks are due to Liam Matla for travelling to make his debut.

**Golin Whiteley**



# WOMEN'S NC2 SOUTH EAST (EAST) LEAGUE

# 2023-24

Team	P	W	D	L	P/F	P/A	P/D	T/B	L/B	PTS	ADJ
Thanet Wanderers Women	8	6	0	2	293	120	173	0	0	34	
Thurrock Ladies 2nds	7	7	0	0	426	52	374	0	0	33	
Westcliff Ladies	7	5	0	2	190	111	79	0	0	29	
Southend Saints Ladies	8	4	0	4	184	148	36	0	0	28	
Gravesend Ladies	8	2	0	6	94	324	-230	0	0	22	
Ashford Ladies	8	2	0	6	62	319	-257	0	0	22	
Lordswood Valkyries Ladies	8	1	0	7	111	286	-175	0	0	18	

## WOMEN'S NC2 SOUTH EAST (EAST) LEAGUE RESULTS

Sunday 27th January 2024

Lordswood Valkyries Ladies 0-59 Thurrock Ladies 2nd XV

Southend Saints Ladies 15-19 Westcliff Ladies

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# MATCH REPORT

## Thanet Wanderers RFC Ladies 2nd XV 54 Sevenoaks RFC Ladies 10

In their second game in 3 weeks, Thanet Wanderers RFC's second string produced the best performance of their season so far to reverse their defeat in the fixture at Sevenoaks earlier in the year.

Sevenoaks had made the long trip down with only 10 players - including former England Lioness Claire Rafferty - and with the game being played under Game On rules, Thanet dropped to 10 and the game took place on the smaller 3rd XV pitch.

A good early start from fly half Kirsty Burns saw her pull the strings and release her forwards - in the shape of Brioni Reah, Emily Williams and player of the match, Tia Perkins - as well as her lively backs including the Bish twins, Megan and Léonie.

Even though the teams were playing with reduced numbers, the smaller pitch size definitely turned the battle into a defensive one and the game remained scoreless for the first 15 minutes.

The first score came after Sorcha Maddison, playing in the centre for the first time, put away full back, Léonie who weaved and danced her way to the tryline for the opening score.

Sevenoaks reduced the deficit to 2 points when Rafferty slotted a penalty before Burns converted her own try and Sevenoaks got a well deserved converted try to go into the break trailing 12-10.

The second half was to be a different affair with the experience, pace and class of the Thanet backs shining through. Although this was a pure second team, some of the ladies have inevitably gained some valuable

experience in the 1st XV and it was Bish twin number 2, Megan who got the next try after a smart break from Burns saw her lift the ball to her to score under the posts.

Thanet had 4 subs and that undoubtedly had an effect on the score as players were rotated and we saw Sian Boyce, Vicky Flower and the returning Fleur Moat and Charlotte Ildge enter the fray and make dents in the tiring Sevenoaks defence.

18 year old Lia Armstrong, playing only her second senior game was next cab off the rank to score. A combination of her power and pace saw her dominate her opposite number and go over from the half way line and she will be one to watch over the coming weeks and months.

Then after a trademark powerful run from winger Izzy Lodge saw her thunder over, Burns then added her second try, both of which were converted. Ellie Hunt who had started at scrum half but now back in her familiar role of left wing then outstripped the cover defence and the score was out to 47-10.

Megan Bish then scored her second try after more top support work and the final act was left to Burns to convert and take her personal points tally to an impressive 24 points.

The Wanderers 2nd XV are next in action on Sunday 10th March 2024 but you can see the 1st XV tomorrow - Sunday 18th February 2024 - as they welcome Thurrock T-Birds to St Peter's as 1st meets 2nd in the NC2 league.

**Ian Lodge**



# COUNTIES 1 KENT LEAGUE 2023-24

Team	P	W	D	L	P/F	P/A	P/D	T/B	L/B	PTS	ADJ
Canterbury 2nds	17	17	0	0	723	293	430	16	0	84	
Beccehamian	16	13	1	2	611	232	379	12	1	67	
Dartfordians	17	13	0	4	539	361	178	14	1	67	
Bromley	17	12	0	5	486	311	175	10	2	61	
Crowborough	17	11	2	4	421	374	47	7	0	55	
Dover	17	7	1	9	398	405	-7	8	3	41	
Heathfield & Waldron	16	5	2	9	363	365	-2	5	5	34	
Deal & Betteshanger	16	6	0	10	292	457	-165	5	2	31	
Ashford	17	6	0	11	264	400	-136	3	0	27	
Charlton Park	16	3	0	13	272	484	-212	3	3	13	-5
<b>Thanet Wanderers</b>	16	1	1	14	260	572	-312	3	3	12	
Cranbrook	16	1	1	14	251	-626	-375	1	4	11	

## COUNTIES 1 KENT FIXTURES

17th February 2024

Ashford v Crowborough

Beccehamian v Dover

Canterbury 2nds v Charlton Park

Cranbrook v Dartfordians

Heathfield & Waldron v Bromley

**Thanet Wanderers** v Deal & Betteshanger



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# KENT RURAL A LEAGUE 2023-24

Team	P	W	D	L	P/F	P/A	P/D	T/B	L/B	PTS
Rye	13	12	0	1	490	161	329	0	1	50
Dover 2nd XV	11	10	0	1	414	99	315	0	0	41
East Peckham & Paddock Wood	12	7	0	5	310	233	77	0	2	33
Folkestone 2nd XV	13	6	0	7	326	296	30	0	2	33
<b>Thanet Wanderers</b> 2nd XV	12	6	0	6	205	294	-89	0	1	31
Ash	11	5	0	6	230	248	-18	0	1	27
Snowdown CW	12	4	1	7	216	313	-97	0	1	26
Medway 4th XV	14	3	1	10	295	496	-201	0	2	26
Aylesford Bulls 2nd XV	11	3	0	8	246	385	-139	0	0	20
Canterbury 4th XV Deacons	11	3	0	8	140	347	-207	0	1	19

## RESULTS FROM KENT RURAL A LEAGUE

### Saturday 27th January 2024

Dover 2nd XV 40-0 Snowdown CW

Folkestone 2nd XV 7-39 Rye

East Peckham & Paddock Wood HWO Canterbury 4th xv Deacons

Medway 4th XV 24-26 **Thanet Wanderers** 2nd XV

### Saturday 3rd February 2024

Ashford Bulls 2nd XV 26-33 Ash

Rye 40-0 Medway 4th XV

Canterbury 4ths Deacons 7-41 Snowdown CW

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# KENT RURAL B LEAGUE 2023-24

Team	P	W	D	L	P/F	P/A	P/D	T/B	L/B	PTS
Edenbridge	16	11	1	4	484	188	296	0	0	51
Tunbridge Wells 3rd XV	14	10	1	3	504	274	230	0	2	48
Weaving Warriors	15	9	0	6	422	269	153	0	1	41
Sittingbourne 2nd XV	15	9	0	6	402	335	67	0	1	41
Vigo 2nd XV	15	9	0	6	357	265	92	0	1	40
Canterbury 5th XV Zingari	15	7	1	7	297	457	-160	0	0	36
Deal & Betteshanger 2nd XV	13	7	0	6	340	356	-16	0	0	33
Ashford Barbarians	14	5	0	9	232	376	-144	0	1	27
Maidstone Mustangs 2nd XV	13	3	1	9	225	319	-94	0	2	26
<b>Thanet Wanderers</b> 3rd XV	13	4	0	8	228	438	-210	0	0	21
Leigh (Kent)	13	2	0	11	141	355	-214	0	0	17

## RESULTS FROM KENT RURAL B LEAGUE

### Saturday 27th January 2024

Edenbridge 40-0 Canterbury 5th xv Zingari

**Thanet Wanderers** 3rd XV 48-24 Sittingbourne 2nd XV

Tunbridge Wells 3rd XV 36-10 Leigh

Weaving Warriors 5-40 Vigo 2nd XV

### Saturday 3rd February 2024

Edenbridge HWO Weaving Warriors

Leigh 29-37 Deal & Betteshanger 2nd XV

Maidstone Mustangs 5-5 Canterbury 5th XV Zingari

**Thanet Wanderers** 3rd XV 19-59 Tunbridge Wells 3rd XV

Vigo 2nd XV 34-17 Sittingbourne 2nd XV

Ashford Bulls 2nd XV 26-33 Ash

Canterbury 4ths Deacons 7-41 Snowdown CW

Rye 40-0 Medway 4th XV

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## RESULTS GRID COUNTIES 1 KENT LEAGUE

Away Team ▶	Ashford	Beccehamian	Bromley	Canterbury 2nds	Charlton Park	Cranbrook	Crowborough	Dartfordians	Deal & Bettes	Dover	Heathfield & Waldron	TWRUFC
Home Team ▼	Ashford	Beccehamian	Bromley	Canterbury 2nds	Charlton Park	Cranbrook	Crowborough	Dartfordians	Deal & Bettes	Dover	Heathfield & Waldron	TWRUFC
Ashford			19-32	0-19	AB	21-7		7-31	14-26	10-22	21-17	28-10
Beccehamian	33-12		46-0		32-14	65-20		46-12	58-3		36-31	57-7
Bromley		10-20			69-14	33-28	38-12	22-26		39-17	45-5	47-18
Canterbury 2nds		30-23	36-10			76-0	43-10	52-7	38-17	43-14	45-22	60-24
Charlton Park	19-22			16-50			16-31	21-22	29-25	10-25	25-11	41-17
Cranbrook	20-27	5-26	15-46	19-43	19-24				17-10		15-15	
Crowborough	28-8	20-20	14-10		49-17	41-19		21-19	17-5	34-15	31-27	
Dartfordians	37-26	33-13		36-51	96-10	74-14	38-17		29-7			42-17
Deal & Bettes	22-8	6-57	16-19	21-32			35-53			27-20	32-25	25-7
Dover	28-14	24-26	18-33	31-43	34-17	22-17	48-21	17-32	34-5			
Heathfield & Waldron	46-7			18-34		64-5	3-3	15-20		12-7		31-19
TWRUFC		5-53	7-33	25-28		39-31	13-19	10-33		22-22	20-21	

## RESULTS FROM COUNTIES 1 KENT LEAGUE

### Saturday 27th January 2024

Ashford 10-22 Dover

Beccehamian 46-12 Dartfordians

Canterbury 2nds 38-17 Deal & Betteshanger

Cranbrook 15-46 Bromley

Crowborough 49-17 Charlton Park

**Thanet Wanderers** 20-21 Heathfield & Waldron

### Saturday 3rd February 2024

Bromley 38-12 Crowborough

Charlton Park 19-22 Ashford

Dartfordians 42-17 **Thanet Wanderers**

Deal & Betteshanger 6-57 Beccehamian

Dover 31-43 Canterbury 2nds

Heathfield & Waldron 64-5 Crowborough

### Saturday 10th February 2024

Bromley 69-14 Charlton Park

Dartfordians 36-51 Canterbury 2nds

Dover 48-21 Crowborough

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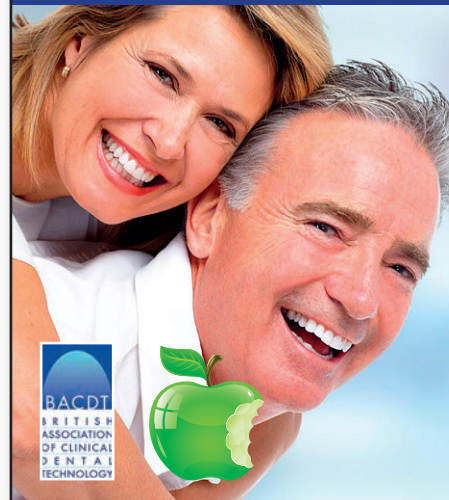
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