



## **FIRST XV FIXTURES**

## 2022 - 2023

2022	2			2023				
Sep	3	ASHFORD	AWAY	Jan	7	OLD ALLEYNIANS		
	24	DEAL & BETTESHANGER	HOME	1	4	BROMLEY		
0ct	1	OLD ALLEYNIANS	AWAY	2	!1	BECCEHAMIAN		
	15	BROMLEY	HOME	2	:8	CHARLTON PARK		
	22	BECCEHAMIAN	AWAY	Feb	4	CRANBROOK England v Scotland	4	
	29	CHARLTON PARK	HOME			Lingiana v oodiana		
Nov	5	FOLKESTONE	AWAY	1	1	FOLKESTONE England v Italy		
	6	England v Argentina		1	8	CROWBOROUGH		
	12	CROWBOROUGH England v Japan	AWAY	2	25	HEATHFIELD & WALDRON Wales v England	ا 4	
	19	England v New Zealand		Mar	4	AYLESFORD BULLS		
	26	AYLESFORD BULLS England v South Africa	HOME	1	1	ASHFORD		
Dec	3	CRANBROOK	AWAY			England v France	4	
***********	10	HEATHFIELD & WALDRON	HOME	1	8	Ireland v England	5	
	17	DEAL & BETTESHANGER	AWAY	Apr	7	Easter Good Friday		

Fixtures in BLOCK Type are Counties 1 Kent League dates

HOME

**AWAY** 

HOME

**AWAY** 

HOME

HOME

HOME

**AWAY** 

**AWAY** 

HOME

4.45pm k.o.

4.45pm k.o.

5.00pm k.o.

4.45pm k.o.





## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Good afternoon and welcome to today's visitors from Cranbrook RFC and to all Wanderers who have invested in a programme today. Today's match was due to be played on the 10th of September but had to be postponed due to the rock-hard pitches. Today was scheduled as a 'rest' day' although also as a replacement day in case of cancellations and now there will be matches on all of the first ten Saturdays in 2023 taking us to 10th March, before the Papa Johns cup is then wheeled out. It's good to welcome back Peter Ruranski who is the programme's compiler and editor. After a long wait, Peter finally had a successful operation a couple of weeks ago and has since been recovering at home. We wish you a speedy total recovery. Peter.

Cranbrook is known as the capital of the Weald, a title that stems from medieval times when the town was a major centre in the cloth industry. It's a charming and welcoming town to visit should you be that way with some time to spare. We found a good welcome too when we visited the rugby club for our league match in early December.

The Cranbrook club has enjoyed regular successes during recent seasons. After knocking on the promotion door from 2016 onwards, promotion to the London Leagues was achieved by finishing second in Kent One in the 19/20 season. In the 2017/18 season. Beccehamian were the runaway Kent One League Champions and look at them now: in second place in the new Kent One league and leading the pack chasing the ambitious leaders, Old Alleynians, who are now nine points ahead. Promotion to the regional league certainly looks probable for them at the moment and Beccehamian would appear to be a good bet to go up with them. Cranbrook meanwhile finally achieved their promotion to the new Kent League One at the end of the 2021/22 season when they finished third in the top four who were well clear of the rest in London league 3 SE. Three of the four have prospered in their new league, Bromley (4th), Heathfield and Waldron(5th) and today's visitors Cranbrook who are in seventh place have all made auspicious starts. However, the fourth club to be

promoted, Aylesford, are struggling at the moment and have yet to register a win but there is clearly plenty of ability within their squad.

Cranbrook dished out the second biggest walloping in the Counties One Kent league this season when they defeated Charlton Park by 72-0 (The biggest defeat by 76-0 was by Alleynians against Deal and Betts in November). Injuries and non-availabilities have caused some unexpected results in our league this vear. Our game against Charlton last Saturday was a great battle fought out in a good spirit. Wanderers came back strongly in the second half and were very unlucky to leave with Null Points. Regardless of how more kindly the rugby gods could be dealing with us, we remain in the uncomfortable position of being tenth in our league, two points behind Folkestone who picked up a losing bonus point last Saturday, to edge two points ahead of us. Last season we accumulated 13 bonus points which were an important help in securing a decent league position, whereas this year we have obtained just two in a total of 18! The players and their coaches have set an ambitious target of four wins from their remaining six matches which it is estimated should be enough to secure our place in this league for next season. Certainly, if we can field a reasonably consistent team and play with the spirit and maintain the intensity shown in the Charlton Park and Alleynians games, it is achievable. Could we start with a win today? We had an early lead in the away fixture before Cranbrook scored a late try to make it 12 points each at halftime. The home side raised their game in the second half, as we tired on the sticky surface, and scored 25 points without reply for a convincing bonus point win. Their season's average points per game is 26 with 9 wins whilst we have averaged just 11 pts per game with four wins. The statistical omens don't augur well then but hope springs eternal. Please respect today's referee Ben Johnston; I hope for a competitive and injury-free match and as ever. C'mon Wanderers.

**Colin Whiteley** 





## FROM THE HEAD COACH

We welcome Cranbrook to St. Peters today it what will hopefully be a hotly contested league game. After a very strong start to their campaign, they have tailed off recently winning just two of their last 8 games. In fact having missed two matches to the pre-Christmas frozen pitches, Cranbrook have only played four matches since we last met them on the 3rd December.

I have never loved the month of January, for many reasons but mostly the Christmas hangover, the cold dark nights and the toughest of New Year resolutions, dry January!! Designed only for those with the will power to go 31 days without a sip and amazingly this year I managed to complete it. Two away bus trips watching the lads enjoy their post match rehydration programs was tough. I must admit, had we got the win away at Charlton Park that the lads so deserved, I may have been tempted to fall spectacularly off my creaking wagon. Alas a missed conversion and a last play converted try to the home team from a mistake at the base of our own scrum, saw Charlton Park finish the afternoon 8 points clear to take the win and leave us without even a losing bonus point. So having lost to nil the previous two Saturdays and after the opening weekend defeat to the league leaders, as Januarys go, this one really didn't leave me feeling great!!! Maybe not great, but certainly more positive as seeing the lads perform better against the top four teams in January, the run in for the rest of the season should see us get the points we need to remain in Counties One as we rebuild this young team into a growing force. With four home games and two away, most importantly against the three teams around us at the bottom, I am confident with the heart and commitment shown against the top teams these last four weeks, they could well go 6 from 6!!

The Six Nations Championship starts today and this always disrupts availability for all teams as players

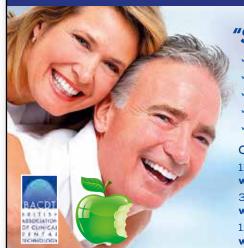
choose to go and see the game played at the highest level. For the first time I can think of, watching these games next season could well be a different type of rugby to what we play at community level. How weird will it be to see chest high tackles being rewarded with applause at international level but potentially being red carded on a Saturday afternoon at St Peters. The RFU seem determined to introduce new below waist tackle laws next season from level 3 down. As we play at level 7, a tackle above the waist line next season would be penalised and possibly sanctioned. An absolute nightmare for referees, who without the assistance from touch judges and TMO's, will have their work cut out spotting every contact above the waist. The ultimate aim is to reduce concussion and make the game safer, which is obviously a good thing, but I fear the way they are going about this will be to the detriment of the game and players enjoyment of it. Rant over!!

Our thoughts go out to this season's unluckiest player. Harry Clemo managed 2 games at the start of the season before realising the knee injury he had put up with all last season was going to need a three month break to get right. In his last training session before his return match against Deal just before Christmas, he tore his hamstring chasing Maz in a game of touch. I didn't even realise props had hamstrings!! So another 6 weeks off and a second return to play last weekend at Charlton Park. Just 20 minutes in and the maul that he was involved in collapsed with him at the bottom, squashing two ribs and forcing him to leave the pitch. At the time of writing we were waiting to hear if this season has finished if the rib is fractured or a 3 week break waiting for damage to his inter-costal muscles to recover. Hopefully he'll be back in time to get one or two more games in before the season ends, as he is a tremendous talent that we have really missed this season.

### Mike Pond



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## **LIONS TOUR - A STORY WORTH THE WAIT**

With an ever changing landscape one of the game's most iconic institutions seems under threat.

"Lions...., Lions...., Lions...", echoed around the Loftus Versfeld stadium in Pretoria. The atmosphere was white hot on this particular South African Winter's day in 2009. The world champion Springboks were 1-0 up against Paul O'Connell's tourists after the "Beast" deconstructed the British & Irish Lions with a scrumming masterclass the week before in Durban. The Lions had come into the series with questions hanging over their future viability after some substandard results from previous tours, this tour thankfully ended that conversation for good.

The second Test was officially the greatest live game I have ever watched. I have been very fortunate to attend some outstanding Test matches from a World Cup Final to the Springboks v The All Blacks, Tri-Nations games, Scotland v England, Six Nations games, Barbarians matches as well as many provincial and club finals and none of these could match that day. This particular Test was as brutal as you would ever see - perfectly summed up in the infamous Rossouw & O'Driscoll collision where nobody was giving an inch and the bone-crunching impact seemed to be felt by all watching. There were tries, some great running rugby and huge collisions, all being played out in this cauldron of a sold-out stadium, all the ingredients for a classic Test match. Both sides played outstanding rugby with a dramatic late penalty by Morne Stevn sealing a Springbok win and series victory. It was an absolute privilege to be in attendance.

There is something extremely special about the British & Irish Lions. Whether it is their history and tradition, or the fact that four countries come together to combine as one, after previously knocking lumps out of each other year after year, or is it the rarity of the event that only occurs every four years against a rugby calendar which seems to be much of the same? It could just be the plain fact that it is the last great rugby tour that still remains, but whatever the attraction this is a tradition and tour that needs to be conserved. It has to be.

The Test series is key and let's be honest, Test rugby is normally all about the results. However, with the Lions there seems to be more to it than just that. A Lions tour cannot only be judged on Tests. In some ways it equates to a good book – the actual story is so important, not just the ending. Whether it is unlikely heroes like Jeremy Davidson or Tom Smith on the 1997 tour, a fresh-faced O'Driscoll carving through the Wallaby backline in 2001.

the 99 Call by arguably the greatest Test side of all time on the unbeaten 1974 tour to South Africa, or the classic controversial 2017 drawn series with the All Blacks, there are so many great memorable rugby moments involving this iconic side.

There are many threads to the Lions story. The mid-week or dirt tracker games is one, where local players get a chance to face an international side by representing their provincial teams such as the Free State Cheetahs, the Hurricanes and Waratahs. Or teams like the Maori All Blacks or SA "A" who provide a "fourth or unofficial" Test on tour. It is well documented that the true rugby fan still longs for the traditional tours. However, these have become less likely due to professionalism coming into the game, but this has not stopped the demand for these types of tours.

A vital cog that contributes to the success of a Lions tour is the fans. Arguably, without exception, there are no better fans than Lions fans. The "sea of red" usually means away games feel like home games for the tourists as these vocal supporters, sometimes in their local club jerseys, or replica red shirts or fancy dress outfits make the tour an unforgettable experience. The mixing of home and away fans is so special, whether this occurs in and around the stadiums over a pint. in fan parks with a song or two, with banter at local rugby clubs or at organised lunches and events. Some of my great memories include chatting to Fergus Slattery, Scott Hastings, Jason Leonard among other legends down at my local rugby club on the 1997 tour. Stories are shared and access to legends of the game create lifetime memories, the locals share their knowledge of where to eat and drink and where to visit as well as giving their opinion on their side and why they will win the series. No matter which team you support, friendships that last a lifetime are forged while experiencing the beauty of the host nation and at the same time this adds revenue to the greater rugby system and for the host nation.

The fact that the last tour was reduced by two games from ten games to eight is far from ideal and should certainly be reviewed for the next tour. The Lions need sufficient preparation time to make the games fair contests. However, that is a conversation for another day as there are currently bigger challenges at play.

No points for the Wanderers against Beccehamian who are second in the league.

Mike Morris returned to the tight-head berth with Kurt Pearson as hooker and Lennie Brown started at number eight. Henry Mirams and Louis Marshall were back in the three-quarters where Adam Harrison made his first-team debut at inside centre.

Wanderers kicked off down the slope on a lovely afternoon for rugby. Tom Walton set two good early field positions with big clearances. When Wanderers strayed offside, Becc's attempt at three points failed. However, with twelve minutes played, incessant pressure from the visitors was rewarded with a try under the posts which was converted for a 7-0 lead. The referee had warned Thanet and after four penalties were conceded in the red zone, Marius Thompson was shown a yellow card for a high tackle. Five minutes later today's referee Mr Oliver Smith, was again reaching for the card and a Beccehamian was also shown yellow. After twentyseven minutes play, Wanderers were slow to react to a quick tap penalty and the visitors were away and clear to score a second converted try and lead 14-0. The visitors continued to press but Wanderers were equal to the challenge with some excellent defence and closed the half on the attack.

Danny Clement took a break at the start of the second half; Mike Whitehead replaced him. Louis Marshall showed strongly early in the second period with a fine break and offload. Beccs knocked on as they went for a quick penalty. Thompson took a break; Harrison Quittenden came off the bench as full-back in his stead. When Wanderers were penalised for not releasing, Beccs kicker increased their lead to 17-0. Thanet were increasingly gaining the upper hand in the battle up front but after a dominant scrum, the kick ahead was just

too strong for the chasers. Both teams were regularly penalised and it was difficult to build any momentum. Warren Riddell-Bloomfield and Adam Harrison were now replaced by Thompson and Steve Jones. Time was running out when Walton was obstructed by the remaining defender as he chased his kick ahead with just a penalty the sanction. Beccs hit back with a third try that was not converted as the visitors raised their game. The home defence did well to deny Beccs a bonus point try in the remaining minutes but the game had already been lost 22-0.

Coaches will be disappointed by the high number of penalties conceded that made for a stop-start game which didn't make it a good spectacle. Wanderers will certainly aim to reduce their number in the games ahead. There were promising features to build on with a strong defensive performance in the centre from Henry Mirams and newcomer Adam Harrison but another game without scoring any points will be a major concern for Thanet's coaches. The pack did well to contain their opponents and no one did more than lock forward Jack Startin to help Wanderers recover the initiative in the tight which was backed with a fine defensive display. He was the Wanderers' man of the match.

Next week Wanderers will travel to Charlton Park in South London. They are currently in third place, so another tough game is in prospect (Kick Off at 2 PM)

SQUAD: Danny Clement, Kurt Pearson, Mike Morris, Jack Startin, Andy Letts, Warren Riddell-Bloomfield, Noah Dann, Lennie Brown, Tom Walton, Nick Herbert (c), Louis Marshall, Adam Harrison, Henry Mirams, Andrew Dolan, Marius Thompson. SUBS Mike Whitehead, Steve Jones, Harrison Quittenden.

### **Colin Whiteley**





















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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 pratice 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



### Thanet Wanderers Ladies XV 22 vs Folkestone 7

Thanet Ladies maintained their 100% league victory with a resounding 22-7 victory over Folkestone Ladies at St. Peter's Recreation Ground on Sunday 22nd January 2023.

With the slope in their favour, Thanet used their trusted structure to get winger Jess Anderson over in the corner who got round under the posts for a try converted by Sophie Richardson. The try was quickly followed by a typical powerhouse run from number 8, Milly Thurman-Newell and Thanet let 12-0.

Thanet like to use their powerhouse forwards to draw in defenders before releasing their nippy backs and after good work from fly half - and back of the match, Leonie Bish to put her sister Megan Bish over in the corner twice. In between those tries came an impressive length of the field converted try from Folkestone's winger.

Leonie Bish combined well with forward of the match, Keira Leigh Gallup who ran hard all game. Most of Thanet's tries came through Gallup's gallops, creating spaces for Bish to put the backs away.

Folkestone had started with 13 players which Thanet matched but had lost a few in the first half so the clubs agreed that the league fixture would end there at 22-7.

In the second half, Thanet leant 4 players to their opposition to allow the game to finish 11 a side and both teams scored tries. Folkestone's winger got her second before Georgia Elks got over. And then 17 year old, Tilia Elliston making her debut got over for her 5 pointer.

Thanet now have a week's rest before a run of 9 matches in 11 weekends starting with an Inner Warrior return match on Feb 5th at Faversham.

Scorers: Anderson, Thurman-Newell M, Bish M 2.
Con: Richardson

lan Lodge















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## **Thanet Wanderers**

Home teamcolours: blue, black and gold hoops

- 1 Mike Morris
  Postition sponsored by: Peter Hawkins
- 2 Kurt Pearson
  Postition sponsored by: Bill Hurley
- 3 Joe Carlier
  Postition sponsored by: Ernie Blakemore
- 4 Andrew Letts
  Postition sponsored by: Mark O' Riordan
- 5 Jack Startin
  Postition sponsored by: Barry Winson
- 6 Warren Riddell-Broomfield
- 7 Noah Dann
  Postition sponsored by: Chris Marson
- 8 Connor Brown
  Postition sponsored by: Malcolm Sinclair

**Head Coach** 

### Mike Pond

Postition sponsored by: Colin Whiteley

**Forwards Coach** 

### **Elliot Blackmore**

Postition sponsored by: Andy Buli

**Fitness Coach** 

### **Gareth Redmond**

Postition sponsored by: Pegasus Storage Solutions Ltd

Team Manager

### Michelle McLean

Postition sponsored by: Carmen Glover

- 9 Callum Doody
  Postition sponsored by: Jeremy Ward
- 10 Marius Thompson
  Postition sponsored by: Neil Armstrong
- 11 Louis Marshall
  Postition sponsored by: Paul Glover
- 12 Adam Harrison
  Postition sponsored by: Jason Deacon
- 13 Henry Mirams
  Postition sponsored by: John Keohane
- 14 Andrew Dolan
  Postition sponsored by: Peter Tierney/Ray Roby
- 15 Harrison Quittenden
  Postition sponsored by: Geoff Redmond

## Replacements:

- 16 Mike Whitehead Postition sponsored by: Dave Brown
- 17 Kieran Wright
  Postition sponsored by: Four Candles Alehouse
- 18 Tom Stevens
  Postition sponsored by: Terry Tutte

Referee

**Ben Johnston** 

**Touch Judge** 

**Clive Lewis** 

Postition sponsored by: Pegasus Storage Solutions

## Cranbrook

Away team colours:

- 1 David Lock
- 2 Josh Pankhurst
- 3 Kenny Magsico
- 4 Josh Parkes
- 5 Tom Hamplett
- 6 Tom Humphreys
- 7 Hamish Gillanders
- 8 Jack Lamb

D.O.R.

**Not Supplied** 

**Head Coach** 

**Not Supplied** 

**Assistant Coach** 

**Not Supplied** 

**Team Manager** 

Not Supplied

Physic

**Not Supplied** 

- 9 George Robertson
- 10 Alex Cornwallis
- 11 Elliot Barbour
- 12 Josh Curtis (Capt)
- 13 Rory Goodger
- 14 Beau Archer
- 15 Theo Rimmer

Replacements:

- 16 Will Humphreys
- 17 Darrell Houghton-Judge
- 18 Lochlan Mcclean



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## A POINT OF VIEW FROM A

## **PKSF TRUSTEE**

### Two big goals for March 11th.

You ask for some big exciting initiative and goals to rally around for March 11th and I think keeping to the core focus of engaging and enthusing children to get into rugby/sports via coaching, supporting schools is the key aim and continues to resonate...we are onto something here!

Anyway, you did ask for bold initiatives, eye catching qoals, so here you go!

- First initiative: We aim to have 75% of Thanet's primary, secondary & special needs schools actively involved and benefiting from the PKSF/Thanet Wanderers Community programme in the next 18-24 months and benchmark where we are now (I think from Google search there are 23 secondary and 56 secondary schools in Thanet?)
- Goal is 60 schools involved and touched regularly by programme by end of 2025... now that would be impressive and involving thousands of children!
- Second initiative: WE INSPIRE: we know the challenges in some of these schools that's all well documented and I think we should think about setting up a PKSF/Thanet Wanderers leaders/mentor group this will basically, be club members/people/trades people/professionals across all lines of work who can go into schools, classes and talk about trades, business to pupils a form of mentoring group who can inspire and talk about the world beyond schools and the opportunities, challenges and learnings.
- The club has factory owners, builders, plumbers, architects, restaurant/pub owners/hoteliers, teachers/professors, lawyers/judges, estate agents, dentists, management consultants, ex-military people, IT professionals, software developers, graphic designers, finance specialists, people who work in travel, insurance business owners, jewellers, property developers, ex-professional sports people - we are sat on an A-Z goldmine of knowledge, life experience and skills and should be harnessing this to show dis-advantaged children, especially, that the sky is the limit and ambition is good....naturally, we would involve our sponsors and fits nicely into that work, we allow them reach into local schools or run careers days and co-spnsor them (Joking apart we also have people who have made some bad choices in life who could be involved!)
- Goal: We set a programme up announce it on March 11th – call it a snappy name – PKSF/Wanderers champions group and ask people to be prepared, if required to support a session in a school – what a great thing to be able to offer head teachers in addition to the coaching

I recognise in all this, we would need to get a lazar focus on achieving these two goals, so administration would be a larger overhead but I would see these two goals as bold, exciting, achievable and broadening the programme to a real community initiative aimed at helping kids to "get" the wider benefits of engaging in sport and hopefully, inspiring them!

John Keohane



### Charlton Park RFC 21 - 13 Thanet Wanderers RUFC

It was close but the Wanderers are edged out by thirdplaced Charlton Park.

The Wanderers made five changes to the side that started last Saturday. Danny Clement was a late withdrawal due to illness; he was replaced by Harry Clemo and in a new front row Mike Whitehead was the hooker with Joe Carlier at tight-head. Harrison Quittenden started at fullback and Tom Stevens was on the right wing in a reshuffled back line with Drew Dolan on the bench.

Competition between these two teams has a long history and the early exchanges were pacey and fullblooded. Quittenden found a good long touch before Callum Doody and Louis Marshall broke through on the short side of a scrum to test the home defence and Jack Startin covered metres to make an important tackle. Wanderers were attacking well but were penalised for not rolling. Warren Riddell-Broomfield was forced off with a shoulder injury, and Regan Doody replaced him. His brother, Callum, who was on the left wing, put in some crunching tackles against much larger opponents. With 15 minutes played, Tom Walton kicked an excellent penalty from near the home ten-metre line to give Wanderers a 3-0 lead. The hosts camped near Thanet's line and Wanderers conceded three penalties in three minutes before Thompson broke down the left touchline only to be called back to halfway for a Thanet penalty. Connor Brown was doing what he does very well consistently punching holes in the home defence, he was a constant threat with the ball in hand. Wanderers defended their narrow lead with great commitment before the hosts found their way through for a try near the left touchline which was well converted. Stevens picked up a knock and withdrew to be replaced by Dolan. A penalty attempt for Park was missed while Brown and Thompson combined to make good metres. Deep in injury time for the first half, a penalty to Park set them near Wanderers' 22-metre line and a home forward galloped through a gap in Thanet's defence to make the half-time score 14-3.

The score did not fully reflect the first forty minutes but Thanet's spirits remained high. Mike Morris had carried strongly and Louis Marshall regularly stretched the home defence with his midfield bursts to bolster hopes for the second period. Tom Walton has worked

hard on his kicking and early in the new half he made another great clearance from near his own line to halfway. Five minutes into the half Mike Whitehead was forced off and the injury-defying, Warren, raced back to join the fray. Andy Letts had spent the previous evening at the presentation dinner for rugby's Wooden Spoon charity and perhaps that inspired him to a fine performance in this match. His bustling run into the heart of the home defence set a good position before Nick Herbert's crosskick was caught by Thompson who couldn't get the touchdown. The award of a penalty to Park brought a comment from a Wanderer and Park's kicker moved forward ten metres. The referee then indicated that further comments to him, from other than the captains, would be sanctioned. Tom Walton now took a knock and had to withdraw, Callum Doody replaced him at scrum half and Stevens returned to the wing whilst Carlier returned for Clemo who had put in a good shift on his return from injury. Wanderers had spent a long spell in their opponents' half but could not get the breakthrough. At last, on seventy minutes, pressure from Thanet forced a hacked clearance. Letts' smart catch and run back from 15 metres led to his touchdown in the left-hand corner. Thompson could not make the difficult conversion but at 14-8. Wanderers' tails were up and five minutes later as good handling, with Brown and Thompson prominent, took the ball left before switching back for Harrison Quittenden to touch down 15 metres to the right of the posts for his debut try in the senior side. The conversion attempt, which would have given Wanderers the lead, was missed. However, the referee indicated eight minutes remained so at 14-13 Wanderers were well placed. Sadly, as they aimed to attack out of their own half, a ball went loose and was gratefully grabbed by a Park winger, who raced over under the posts. The conversion was good, the score was 21-13 and that was the game over.

This was a much better all-round performance from Wanderers who will rue their missed chances but they will be in good spirits for the run in to the season's end. The were many candidates with another top performance from Noah Dann, Harrison Quittenden gave another assured performance and scored his first try but today. Andy Letts was Thanet's man of the match. His try ignited the Wanderers' final minutes of

hope and his overall performance belied his official Veteran status.

Head Coach Mike Pond commented, "The run-in of 4 home games and 2 away should mean that we remain in Counties One for next season. We have to play Folkestone, Crowborough and Aylesford the 3 other teams at the bottom with us and 3 wins against them should guarantee our survival but with them targeting us as must-win games, it won't be an easy task. The games against the comfortable mid-table teams like

Cranbrook, Heathfield and Ashford could well prove to be easier games for us, 2 of which are at home. With the tremendous team spirit in the squad and their determination to stay up, we have set ourselves a target of 4 wins from the last 6 games."

The next three fixtures are at home, with Cranbrook first up next Saturday for kick-off at 2.30. Please support the Wanderers as they battle to stay in Counties One Kent League.

**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
Old Alleynians	16	14	0	2	553	203	350	11	1	68	0
Beccehamian	16	12	0	4	449	246	203	9	2	59	0
Charlton Park	16	12	0	4	400	313	87	7	0	55	0
Bromley	15	11	0	4	365	216	149	8	0	52	0
Heathfield & Waldron	15	10	0	5	331	301	30	6	2	48	0
Ashford	16	10	0	6	336	277	59	3	2	45	0
Cranbrook	15	9	0	6	397	301	96	7	1	44	0
Deal & Betteshanger	16	7	0	9	326	369	-43	4	3	36	0
Folkestone	17	3	0	14	278	508	-230	4	4	20	0
Thanet Wanderers	16	4	0	12	181	439	-258	2	0	18	0
Crowborough	15	2	0	13	227	466	-239	3	0	6	-5
Aylesford Bulls	15	0	0	15	224	428	-204	2	4	6	0

## **COUNTIES 1 KENT FIXTURES**

Saturday 4th February 2023

Aylesford Bulls v Ashford	Charlton Park v Deal & Betteshanger
Beccehamian v Old Alleynians	Heathfield & Waldron v Crowborough
Bromley v Folkestone	Thanet Wanderers v Cranbrook





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## THANET WANDERERS RUFC LTD

DOCITION

## CONTACTS

POSITION	NAME	CONTACT DETAILS
PRESIDENT	Colin Whiteley	colin.whiteley@thanetwanderers.co.uk 07842-559943
CHAIRMAN	Chris Panteli	chris.panteli@thanetwanderers.co.uk 07368-136839
SECRETARY	Peter Hawkins	peter.hawkins@thanetwanderers.co.uk 07967-086232
DIRECTOR OF RUGBY (seniors)	Neil Roby	neil.roby@thanetwanderers.co.uk 07790-610084
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE	Kelly Smith	kelly.smith@thanetwanderers.co.uk 07368-969558
CLUB DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR	Andy Bull	andy.bull@thanetwanderers.co.uk 07710-456225
DIRECTOR OF RUGBY (ladies)	Vicky Diamantis	vicky.diamantis@thanetwanderers.co.uk 07751-821651
DIRECTOR OF RUGBY (juniors)	Annemarie Carfoot	annemarie.carfoot@thanetwanderers.co.uk 07968-541302
HEAD OF FACILITIES	Gerry Doyle	gerry.doyle@thanetwanderers.co.uk 07943-500197
HEAD OF SPONSORSHIP	Peter Ruranski	peter.ruranski@thanetwanderers.co.uk 07740-274163
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER	Annemarie Carfoot	annemarie.carfoot@thanetwanderers.co.uk 07968-541302
FIXTURE SECRETARY	Peter Hawkins	peter.hawkins@thanetwanderers.co.uk 07967-086232
HEAD COACH	Mike Pond	mikepond@aol.com 07957-891857
1ST TEAM MANAGER	Michelle McClean	michellefmcclean@yahoo.co.uk 07890-663168



## **RESULTS FROM OTHER CLUB GAMES**

### Saturday 21st January 2023

Thanet Wanderers 2nd XV 17-26 Dover 2nd XV (Kent Rural A League)

Whitstable 2nd XV 0-27 **Thanet Wanderers** 3rd XV (Kent Rural C East League)

### Sunday 22nd January 2023

Thanet Wanderers Ladies XV 22-7 Folkestone Ladies XV (League)

Thanet Wanderers U12s 10-9 Deal & Betteshanger U12s

### Saturday 28th January 2023

Thanet Wanderers 2nd XV 57-3 Ash (Kent Rural A League)

Thanet Wanderers 3rd XV 18-17 Canterbury 5XV Zingari (Kent Rural C Eat League)

### **Sunday 29th January**

Thanet Wanderers Colts (Blue) 60-0 Dartford Valley U 17s Colts





## **RESULTS GRID COUNTIES 1 KENT LEAGUE**

Away Team ▶	Ash	Aylesfo	Вессе	Bro	Charlt	Cran	Crowb	De Bettes	Folke	Heathfield Waldron	Old All	TWI
Home Team <b>▼</b>	Ashford	Aylesford Bulls	Beccehamian	Bromley	Chariton Park	Cranbrook	Crowborough	Deal & Betteshanger	Folkestone	field & dron	Old Alleynians	TWRUFC
Ashford		22-8	12-5			39-5	14-5	27-12	45-15	13-15	17-10	13-3
Aylesford Bulls				10-31	14-36	13-17	36-40	20-33	19-28	14-19	7-32	
Beccehamian		33-15		48-10	22-12	25-12	29-5	5-34	39-7			69-3
Bromley	17-13	33-17			18-0		57-15			33-0	12-37	27-0
Charlton Park	37-21		23-21	13-5			43-0		30-15	52-19	15-46	21-13
Cranbrook	31-19			10-22	72-0		34-17	24-14	51-12	26-38		37-12
Crowborough	18-32		26-34					AW0		17-29	10-37	35-10
Deal & Bettes	35-8		25-32	13-27	9-29	27-26	38-8		45-24	15-19		16-21
Folkestone	21-22	29-24	14-29	3-26	14-45	15-20	32-24			17-21	12-17	5-19
Heathfield & Waldron		27-8	40-15		17-21	15-21			32-15		22-34	
Old Alleynians	40-19	17-8	8-21	27-13		33-11	41-7	76-0				63-5
TWRUFC		31-11	0-22	10-34	7-23			23-10		0-18	24-35	

## **RESULTS FROM COUNTIES 1 KENT LEAGUE**

# Saturday 21st January 2023 Ashford 27-12 Deal & Betteshanger Beccehamian 29-5 Crowborough Aylesford Bulls 7-32 Old Alleynians Bromley 33-17 Aylesford Bulls Charlton Park 30-15 Folkestone Charlton Park 21-13 Thanet Wanderers Cranbrook 26-38 Heathfield & Waldron Deal & Betteshanger 27-26 Cranbrook Crowborough P Bromley Folkestone 17-21 Heathfield & Waldron Thanet Wanderers 0-22 Beccehamian Old Alleynians 40-19 Ashford P = Postponed



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## SUPPORT THE CLUB

## THE 450 CLUB

For only £5.00 per month –that's a pint of beer a monthyou get the chance to win at least £45 or even £450 EVERY MONTH with a big prize of £5000 drawn once a year EVERY FEBRUARY.

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  $\mathfrak{LLL}$ . 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.

The prize draws carry on throughout the year so there's always the possibility of a rugby surprise even in the cricket season.

So go on give it a go, your support could be well rewarded!!!

Promotor Kelly Smith. Email: kelbutton@yahoo.co.uk Telephone 07881-956887





### **Thanet Wanderers Colts v Dartford Valley Colts**

Sunday the 29th January 2023 saw Thanet Colts Blue squad play their first

proper competitive game of the year against a side from Dartford Valley who had brought down their under 17s Colts side. Thanet had selected a squad of 22 players and gave all their older lads the weekend off apart from those who had played for Wanderers' first and second team senior sides the previous day.

The game kicked off and for the first 10 minutes
Thanet flexed their attacking muscles, but were unable
to get through a strong Valley defence. Thanet lad
Owen Read, who was playing for the opposition to
make up their numbers, showed some great defensive
touches, while Wanderers front three in the scrum, Ben
Couldridge, Shaheer khan and Dominick Springer were
being tested by the very sizeable Dartford Valley pack.

In the 10th minute of the game Thanet made the break through they deserved. After some great rucking by Finn Hickmott and Isaac Divine, which continued throughout the game, Henry Carruthers's broke free and scored and Charlie Panteli converted the try to put the home side 7-0 up.

Ben Couldridge sustained an injury to his ankle and was replaced on the field by squad captain Max Anderson while new lads Mustafa Bugren and Jake Croft showed no first game nerves and got stuck in. The match was 17 minutes old when Thanet speed demon Stanley Ball got his first chance of the game and he took it running in to score with Panteli adding the two extra points. Wanderers then picked up another injury, this time to Mustafa Bugren whose match was cut short and he was replaced by Archie Kujawinski.

A few minutes later, after some brilliant play by both Ollie Jordan Smith and Tom O'Callaghan, Jake Croft received the ball and he had the determination to get in at the corner for a debut try.

Josh McCulley, playing in the second row for Thanet, made some good runs with the ball gaining important metres for the team, while Wanderers scrum half Sam Stevenson was as ever a terror in defence and brilliant in attack and at the centre of most of the good things that the team did well. With three minutes to the half time whistle, Jordan Smith made a great individual break which resulted in him scoring a try which Charlie Panteli duly converted.

At the end of the first half the score was Thanet Wanderers Colts 26 Dartford Valley 0. Thanet had played well, but the lads knew they could improve and did not want to take their foot off the gas.

At the start of the second half Jake Croft went over to play for the opposition, with Owen Read returning to the Wanderers line up. Thanet made other changes with Fred O'Halloran, Joseph Near, Hugo Evans and debutante Lucas Norwood coming on as replacements.

Thanet continued where they had left off at the end of the first half mounting attack after attack while not letting up on their defensive duties. Both Owen Read and Fred O'Halloran made an immediate impact with some great territory gaining runs with the ball. With five minutes of the half gone, Thanet were awarded a scrum which the home side won and Hugo Evans, Wanderers number 8, picked up the ball and went for the line. The play opened up for him enabling him to score, with Ollie Jordan Smith making the conversion.

Two minutes later the ball was spread wide and Joseph Near found himself out on the wing with the ball and he showed a clean pair of heels to all the chasing defenders to score, which Jordan Smith converted. A few minutes later and Stan Ball got his chance to stretch his legs again to run in his second try to put Wanderers 45-0 up.

Lucas Norwood, out on the wing, showed some great handling skills and no nerves, while Max Anderson kept the pack tight and made big yardage himself. In the 14th minute, after some great work at the ruck, Gil Smith cut a great line and carved up the Dartford defence to run in the eighth Thanet try.

The final scores came from Henry Carruthers's who ran in two more tries to complete his hat trick, the last a brilliant jinking run down the wing. Towards the end of the game Dartford had picked up so many injuries that they were short of players and so Wanderers Panteli, Khan and McCulley joined the Dartford side, but with Thanet having amassed such a big score it was decided to finish the game just over 10 minutes early.

The final result was Thanet Wanderers Colts Blue 60 Dartford Valley 0. Both teams played some good rugby at times but Thanet just had that extra bit of quality across the team.

Thanet Wanderers Colts: Finn Hickmott, Gil Smith, Isaac Divine, Henry Carruthers, Ollie Jordan Smith, Stan Ball, Charlie Panteli, Shaheer Khan, Hugo Evans, Tom O'Callaghan, Fred O'Halloran, Josh McCulley, Ben

Couldridge, Lucas Norwood, Dominick Springer, Joseph Near, Jake Croft, Archie Kujawinski, Mustafa Bugren, Owen Read, Sam Stevenson, Max Anderson. **Matthew Hickmott.** 



## **RIP ANDY CLEMENT**

It is with the deepest regret that we must inform you of the passing of Andy Clement who died on the 15th January. Andy was well known within the club where his son Danny plays and his younger son Antony learnt his rugby. We send our heartfelt condolences to Andy's wife Sue, Danny and his new bride Monique and Antony and the wider family.

The funeral service will take place at Thanet Crematorium on Friday the 24th February at 12.15pm, followed by a wake at Thanet Wanderers Rugby Club. The family have expressed Andy's wish for donations to be made to Cancer Research UK and Pilgrims Hospice in lieu of flowers.

c/o Twyman and Holmes Funeral Directors, 42 King Street, Ramsgate CT11 8NT.





