

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

THANET

# WANDERERS

v **Beccehamian RFC** Saturday 6th January 2024. Kick off 2.00pm

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THANET WANDERERS  
1ST XV



THANET WANDERERS RUFC

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# PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Good afternoon and Happy New year to all

This weekend we start the year (at the time of going to press) with 150 individual players taking to the pitch in a Thanet Wanderers shirt, on top of this there will be substitutes and coaches along with match officials who will all be volunteering their time. Well done to all participants

Today we extend a warm welcome to Beccehamian RFC. who were founded in 1933 and play at Sparrows Den, West Wickham. They are currently 3rd in Counties 1 Kent with 9 wins, 1 draw and 2 losses. Both their losses were away games, and we hope to capitalise on this today.

The First XV had a torrid time at Charlton Park in their first fixture in December but bounced back to run promotion chasing Crowborough very close and earned a losing bonus point (this works if the points difference between the two sides is 7 points or less). A Try Bonus point was also awarded under the lights at the runaway League leaders Canterbury 2's but again another loss. (Bonus point is also awarded if you score 4 or more tries)

This means the 1st XV will start the New Year at the bottom of the league. The Friday night away game at Canterbury was a fantastic evening with a great atmosphere, and it must be pointed out that Thanet Scored 24 points, which is Canterbury's second largest number of points conceded this season in a game, second only to THANET WANDERERS who put 25 against them in September in a thrilling 25-28 game!

This time of the year it's not unusual to make New Years Resolutions and mine is combined with an apology, In October I was cited by a Match Official for what is referred to as Match Official abuse, this was never my intention but I attended a Kent RFU disciplinary

committee, not something I wish to repeat and something I am embarrassed to be associated with and I apologise for bringing TWRUFC under the spot light of Kent RFU. On the whole Thanet Wanderers have a good disciplinary record although we are under probation for a junior section game that dates back two years, this means that if the Club should breach the probation period set by the Kent RFU, then we can be fined quite a sum. Therefore, I request that we resist what some may consider over enthusiastic banter, and maintain the Core values of:

## **RESPECT – ENJOYMENT – DISCIPLINE SPORTSMANSHIP**

I am looking forward to seeing a renewed enthusiasm in training, playing, and engaging with all areas of the club.

We look forward for a good, flowing, injury free, game this afternoon, a game that reflects the competitive nature of the sport and upholds the true values of the game. The scheduled referee is Simon Bingham (at the time of going to press) whose visits we have enjoyed in the past.

There is a full fixture list on Sunday with the U12, U13, and U15 are all at home kicking off at 11.00am, followed by the Under 14's with the Colts training and the Ladies 1st XV kicking off at 2.00pm

If you wish to blow away the festive cobwebs and get some exercise in at the same time it's a win / win for the Club and you, so come and support the Thanet teams this Sunday.

I would like to wish you all a healthy and successful New Year.

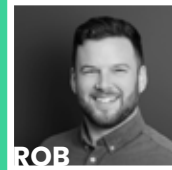
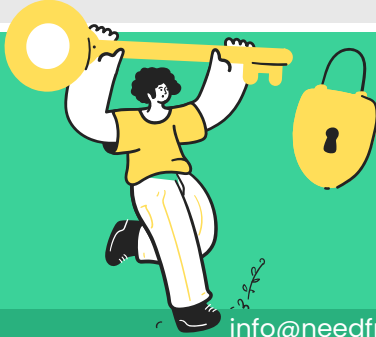
**Clive Lewis**  
Club President

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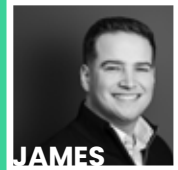


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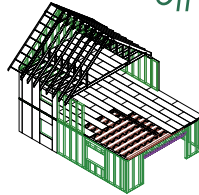
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# CHAIRMANS NEW YEAR MESSAGE

I hope you have had a good Christmas break allowing you and your family to rest and recharge. A new year brings the opportunity for new beginnings and fresh approaches to engaging with our sport.

It is easy to carry on doing the same things, especially if your team is already successful, and achieving the same results. Yet we all need to evolve and grow.

As one of Rugby's Core Values, **TEAMWORK** is key to building on the current season and essential to our sport.

"We welcome all new team members and include all because working as a team enriches our lives. We play selflessly: working for the team, not for ourselves alone, both on and off the field. We take pride in our team, rely on one another and understand that each player has a part to play. We speak out if our team or sport is threatened by inappropriate words or actions."

Know, that every club member is a part of a bigger team that is Thanet Wanderers. Working together as one club, **TEAMWORK** is my theme for 2024. We must raise the bar to get everyone engaged and supporting each other. The more we practice **TEAMWORK** the better our results and together we can achieve success.

That is not to say that we forget the rest of our Core Values:

**RESPECT – ENJOYMENT – DISCIPLINE  
SPORTSMANSHIP**

I am looking forward to seeing a renewed enthusiasm in training, playing and engaging with all areas of the club.

I would like to wish you all a healthy and successful New Year.

**Chris**





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# FROM THE HEAD COACH

2023 is done, now it's time to see what 2024 has in store for the boys.

Firstly, let's welcome Beccehamians, the first team to visit St Peter Recreation Ground in 2024. We met at the beginning of the season and that was an interesting result. Welcome to both your players and supporters to our home today.

Our boys are working really hard on building a team and a culture for the future. We talk a lot in sessions about "Our Thanet DNA".

We are seeing the lads really engage with this and I'm proud of them for doing it. We should start to see a steady flow of our Colts come through now. So we

look forward to many 1st team, 2nd team and 3rd team debuts over the next few weeks.

We have developed some consistency with our first team squad now and this is helping us work towards better outcomes.

The coaching staff and the players would like to thank all our supporters who week in week out follow us and cheer us on. That makes a huge difference and we appreciate it so much.

Let's give it all we have today, I know the players will.

**Elliot Blackmore**  
Head Coach



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# MATCH REPORT

## Thanet Wanderers RUFC 13 – 19 Crowborough RFC

Much improved Wanderers' performance earns them a losing bonus point.

Gabe Haden, returning at tighthead, was the only change to Wanderers pack compared to last week's starting XV. Louis Marshall, Andy Dolan and Harrison Quittenden returned to the backs where Marius Thompson switched from full-back to outside half.

Wanderers kicked off up the slope on a slippery, muddy pitch with a strengthening breeze at their back. Both sides took their time to get accustomed to the testing conditions but after fifteen minutes the visitors set a good position with a penalty and, aided by some weak tackles, opened the scoring with an unconverted try. There was a quick reaction from the Wanderers who utilised good field position to mount a flowing attack with full-back Quittenden joining the line before backing himself to get the touchdown. Tom Walton's attempted conversion went across the face of the posts but Thanet were level at 5-5. Walton's penalty attempt from the halfway line went wide. Wanderers were in the ascendancy but the visitors' defence was sound until Quittenden kept the ball in play and sparked another fine attack. Nick Herbert made good ground before winger Dolan took over and celebrated his return, after four weeks away, with a well-worked try. Wanderers defence needed to be strong in the ten minutes that remained of the half but the break came with Wanderers leading 10-5. The wind was now strong and had become a serious factor for the second period of the game. An early penalty from Crowborough was well judged on the wind and set a line-out deep in Wanderers territory which served as the platform for a sustained series of attacks from the visitors. Wanderers defence was

tigerish and kept their line intact until a Crows attack was held up. The goal line drop out sailed long but straight out and Thanet were pegged back for a 5-metre scrum. The Crows' big pack resumed their pressure and ten minutes into the half, referee Simon Bingham, was running to the posts to award a penalty try that edged the visitors into a 12-10 lead. Wanderers again found themselves in defensive mode for most of the next fifteen minutes as they repelled attack after attack before finally, the visitors claimed a third try close to the left touchline. The conversion was excellent to open a 19-10 lead for Crowborough. It was now time for their defence to be tested as Thanet aimed to get back into at least bonus point territory on the scoreboard. In the game's final minute, Wanderers could not break through despite playing with the advantage but with the last kick of the game, Walton banged over a penalty from in front and close and Wanderers had their bonus point but Crowborough were deserved winners by 19-13.

Wanderers coaches and particularly those supporters who watched the meek submission at Charlton Park seven days previously, will welcome the renewal of Thanet's spirit and refusal to accept defeat without contesting every centimetre of ground.

**SQUAD:** Gully Goodall, Mike Whitehead, Gabe Hayden, Andy Letts, Dennis Davies, Warren Riddell-Bloomfield, Sam Taylor (C), Brett Scott, Tom Walton, Marius Thompson, Louis Marshall, Nick Herbert (C), Henry Mirams, Andy Dolan, Harrison Quittenden, **SUBS**, Danny Clement, Chris Hood, Leon Doody.

**Colin Whiteley**







# JUNIOR XMAS PARTY

A busy afternoon at the club on the 10th December, with the annual Christmas hamper draw and a Christmas quiz for our younger members and their families.

Hampers were won by Colin Whiteley, Kevin Bowerbank and Kelly Smith.

Well done to all our winners and everyone who supported both events. We have raised over £1200, which is absolutely fantastic.

**Annemarie Carfoot**



Xmas hamper winner Kevin Bowerbank receiving his Christmas hamper

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# LADIES RUGBY

Well that is the first full calendar year of rugby completed and 2023 can only be described as a success. And even with a few bumps in the road along the way 2023 saw the two ladies teams go out to play 24 times and boast a record of 17 win and 7 losses.

As a brief recap, the end of 2022/23 saw the team win the Inner Warrior league and cup double and with the growing numbers of ladies - almost 50 ladies playing now - we chose for the 1st XV to be promoted 2 levels to NC2 and start a new 2nd XV to stay in the same league.

You can see all the results, read the match reports on the website but at the 2023/24 season half way point, the 1st XV are sitting in second place in NC2 on points difference and excitingly have reached the last 16 of the Junior Cup with the final at Twickenham in May.

Due to us having to switch a few games, most of the first half of the season was on the road - we all have season tickets for the Dartford Crossing! But that does mean that most Sundays over the next few months you will see one of the ladies teams playing at 2pm on a Sunday afternoon so come and have a look and let us know what you think.

Those games start this Sunday 7th January 2024 at home to Lordswood, a team we beat convincingly in October so we are confident - never complacent - of putting on a good show for you. This will be the first of a run of games where we will be fine-tuning some movement and pairings to get the right team to take on Hammersmith & Fulham in the last 16 of the Junior Cup on Sunday 4th February 2024. There may be room on the coach, so get in touch with me on 07890 426685 if you would to come along at a tenner a ticket.

Finally if you (or anyone you know) is interested in trying out ladies rugby at the club, get in touch with Ian Lodge on 07890 426685. And you don't need any experience at all, just a good attitude and work ethic. We can teach you the rest! The Ladies train every Tuesday evening at the club between 6.30pm and 8.00pm with matches taking place typically on a Sunday with early afternoon KOs during the playing season (from September to April).

## **Ian Lodge**

Head Coach, Ladies Section  
Thanet Wanderers RUFC





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# THANET WANDERERS COLTS 19-12 OLD COLFEIANS COLTS



## FIRST XV FIXTURES

## 2023 – 2024

## 2023

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

## 2024

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

Fixtures in BLOCK Type are Counties 1 Kent League dates





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# Thanet Wanderers

Home teamcolours: blue, black and gold hoops

**1 Luke Browning**

*Postition sponsored by: Peter Hawkins*

**2 Gabriel Hayden**

*Postition sponsored by: Bill Hurley*

**3 Gulliver Goodall**

*Postition sponsored by: Ernie Blakemore*

**4 Andrew Letts**

*Postition sponsored by: Mark O' Riordan*

**5 Dennis Davies**

*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*

**9 Leon Doody**

*Postition sponsored by: Jeremy Ward*

**10 Charlie Panteli**

*Postition sponsored by: Ray Roby/Peter Tierney*

**11 Andrew Dolan**

*Postition sponsored by: Pegasus Storage Solutions*

**12 Max Rogers**

*Postition sponsored by: John Keohane*

**13 Louis Marshall**

*Postition sponsored by: Paul Glover*

**14 Harrison Quittenden**

*Postition sponsored by: Terry Tuttle*

**15 Marius Thompson**

*Postition sponsored by: Geoff Redmond*

*Replacements:*

**16 Kurt Pearson**

*Postition sponsored by:*

**17 Lenny Brown**

*Postition sponsored by:*

**18 Lewis Downer**

*Postition sponsored by:*

**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*

**Referee**

**Simon Bingham**

**Touch Judge**

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# Beccehamian RFC

Away team colours:

**1 T Davey**

**2 T Ottewill**

**3 D Le Bas**

**4 G Tossell**

**5 J Dempsey**

**6 I Keighley**

**7 S Macaulay**

**8 M Crawford**

**9 F Jasper**

**10 F Buckle (Capt)**

**11 C Macaulay**

**12 O Richardson**

**13 T Buckle**

**14 L Mills**

**15 M Entwistle**

*Replacements:*

**16 B Henning**

**17 E Entwistle**

**18 N Aviss**

D.O.R.

**Not Supplied**

Head Coach

**David Sia**

Assistant Coach

**David Watkins**

Physio

**Tristran Storch**



**ke Shed**

# 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
Westcliff Ladies	7	5	0	2	228	79	149	0	0	29	
<b>Thanet Wanderers</b> Women	7	5	0	2	250	125	125	0	0	29	
Thurrock Ladies 2nd XV	5	5	0	0	298	52	246	0	0	24	
Southend Saints Ladies	6	4	0	2	152	105	47	0	0	24	
Ashford Ladies	7	3	0	4	52	226	-174	0	0	23	
Gravesend Ladies	7	2	0	5	56	245	-189	0	0	20	
Lordswood Valkyries Ladies	7	2	0	5	151	207	-56	0	0	19	
Cranbrook Ladies	6	0	0	6	36	184	-148	0	0	-6	-10

## WOMEN'S NC2 SOUTH EAST (EAST)

## LEAGUE RESULTS

**Sunday 17th December 2023**

Ashford Ladies 0-81 Thurrock Ladies 2nds.

Cranbrook Ladies AWO Westcliffe Ladies

Lordswood Valkyries Ladies 30-34 Gravesend Ladies

Southend Saints Ladies 20-0 **Thanet Wanderers** Women



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# THE SCRUM

## THE SCRUM: IS IT A WASTE OF TIME IN THE PROFESSIONAL GAME?

THE SCRUM IS BECOMING AN UNRULY AND TIME WASTING AFFAIR, IS IT TIME THAT WE LOOKED TO CHANGE THE LAWS?

Having watched rugby grow, in the Northern Hemisphere in particular, into a game of large men bashing the living daylight out of each other for 80 minutes, it is no surprise that the scrum has become such a key component of one team's dominance over another. However, with the scrum now often becoming such an unruly and time wasting affair, is it time that we looked to change the laws?

### IS IT TIME TO CHANGE THE SCRUM?

With 16 large forwards essentially attempting to out-muscle each other, is it any surprise that the scrum collapses as often as it does? Can the scrummage really be considered a restart as the line-out is considered such? In the Southern Hemisphere you may be inclined to argue that it is, but in the Northern Hemisphere penalties at scrum time seem to determine the ultimate match winner on many occasions, with scrums taking over a large proportion of game time. Is this always the benefit of a dominant scrum, or is it just a particular referee's interpretation (having normally never played a minute there themselves)?

A team can dominate a line-out throughout the game, especially in club rugby, but as it is a restart you see far less penalties given in that form of set piece. Is that perhaps the way to go? If a scrum has gone to ground,

rather than resetting or dishing out penalties, keep the game flowing with a free-kick?

With the growth of professionalism, players have grown stronger, conditioning has improved, and we find coaching evolving and adapting to these changes in order for teams to get the better of each other. Has this led to the technique of scrummaging - 'the dark arts' as it is often referred to by the Front Row Union - being coached out of the game, with the strongest players expected to out-muscle their opponents, rather than outsmart them? A few years ago, circa Andrew Sheridan et al, it may have been easy to argue this point; however, the change to the calling system has effectively led to the removal of the initial 'hit' at scrum time, which would seem to negate this argument.

However, the scrum still seems to take up a large chunk of playing time during a game. In no way would anyone want to switch to League style lean-on scrummaging, which is just a simple restart; but perhaps stopping the clock until the referee has called set would allow more time for open play? Perhaps adapting the rules to suggest that if a scrum has dropped in the front row, but it isn't immediately dangerous, a call should come from the referee asking the scrum-half to move the ball on - in a similar manner to the 5-second ruling? This probably wouldn't work on a defending team's five metre line where a dominant attacking scrum can power over the line for a try, however.



# THE MAGNET

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# THE CALL FOR EQUALITY

## **RUGBY IS BUILDING TOWARDS A BRIGHTER, MORE INCLUSIVE FUTURE, BUT IT STILL HAS A LONG WAY TO GO.**

If one were to look at rugby from the outside, perhaps the strongest characteristic that runs through all the fans, players, coaches and backroom staff – and this is a big generalisation – is that of an obsession with precision. Was that offside, yes or no? Can I award the try? Why has it taken this long to get Henry Slade into the squad? Was the put-in straight?

It seems odd, therefore, that our sport is so full of ambiguity. The spirit of the game, for one, is a constant source of debate and disagreement. We are, as a sport, self-righteous and often pompous in our assertion that rugby is a great game that brings people together, teaches good values and promotes effort over results – but even these things are ‘up for grabs’.

I have often listened to people saying “Well, if that’s the way you have to play to win then I don’t want to win,” as if somehow winning but not scoring scintillating tries is against the spirit of the game, not what rugby is all about, indeed not even “proper rugby”.

Despite all this, the rugby community agrees that ours is an inclusive sport, with excellent youth programmes, community projects and the freedom for fans to mix before and after a game. We can all get along swimmingly, all be friends and have a pint and curry and have good banter.

And there I make my stand. We do not have good banter. The ‘banter’ culture is a wider problem certainly than just the bar at the local rugby club at half-time, and by no means is ‘banter’ the root of the problem I would like to discuss.

The problem is that sexuality and gender in sport can never be precise things. Banter can never be precisely acceptable or not. All stand-up comedians have to stand up to the offence they may cause in the name of comedy, which they do, to a greater or lesser extent successfully.

Sexuality in rugby is seen in a very strange light by the community. The outside world sees it in a very strange

way as well. When I was younger I became aware of the difficulties faced by LGBT people on a day-to-day basis and as I grew up I handled the whole issue with more maturity. A lot of people there were astounded at my stories of tours and dressing room antics – as well as being moved by my stories of friendships, comradeships and downright courage.

They were astounded because the more they heard the more they convinced themselves of their pre-conceived idea that rugby is inherently homo-erotic – my stories of quite standard tour shenanigans seem to them to be clear examples of repressed young men expressing a hidden sexuality. They were surprised by their new understanding of how close a team can be, how much you are willing to put your body on the line for your mates.

I want to see a time where someone says “England are playing tomorrow,” and is met with “Which team?” – because “England” is no longer synonymous with the English Men’s XV – a time where we have England Men and England Women and total equality. I want to see a time where a male or female rugby player can talk openly about their partner, whatever gender their partner happens to be, without it being a news story.

Unfortunately, until such a time as that, brave men like Gareth Thomas and Nigel Owens will make the news because the precision that rugby demands dictates that rugby is for heterosexual men, and by great kindness some lesbians too.

The women’s game is years ahead of the men’s game. At the Women’s World Cup Final a few years ago at the Stoop there were a huge number of same-sex couples walking hand in hand around the Stoop, enjoying the freedom and the lack of precision and pigeon-holing. I can’t imagine they would feel so free at Twickenham.

The simple fact of the matter is that rugby’s obsession with precision does not extend to intolerance. We, as a sport, are doing good things. We are not evil. We have just created a precise world where even teams must



conform to the way they are meant to be – The French must be creative and inconsistent, Leicester have to be cheating, Saracens have to be boring, Munster must always win everything, Women's rugby isn't as good to watch, girls' sides aren't as good as boys but they try very hard... the list is endless. We don't mind you being gay, or a woman, as long as you

1. Keep quiet about it because we don't know how to banter with an actual, real-life homosexual
2. Know your place

Speaking as the coach of an U18 Girls' side, with a sister playing in the side, I had a centre, a winger and a fly-half who would all have displaced the starters in our club's Academy side in their sleep. Yet the U14 boys are still given the top pitch and we are given a hillside area that smells funny known as "the paddock" for training. That is the natural order. That is the way.

It's not the individuals to blame, it's what we've created. We need to stop 'bantering', we need to start talking about sexuality, and once we've all got it off our chests who and what we find attractive we can all move on with playing the game and trying to beat the All Blacks again. We need to stop feeling like the sport is a heterosexual male, and think of the sport as something we do. Rugby has grown and grown but now we have lost control of its fundamentals.

We cannot let the drunken idiot in the West Stand at half-time making loud homophobic jokes become the norm. We cannot let the Twickenham stands empty when the women come out to play after the men.

We cannot be surprised if Joe Bloggs, number 8 for Suchandsuch RFC in the Premiership has a boyfriend. We cannot sell t-shirts saying "Football's 4 Fairies". We will never throw off the shackles of sexual and gender repression while we continue to mould and cast them.



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**A XV (SECOND XV) KENT & EAST SUSSEX RURAL DIVISION A LEAGUE****2023 – 2024****2023**

<b>Sep</b>	16	SNOWDOWN CW 1sts	<b>HOME</b>
	23	GILLINGHAM 2nds	<b>AWAY</b>
	30	AYLESFORD 2nds	<b>HOME</b>
<b>Oct</b>	7	FOLKESTONE 2nds	<b>HOME</b>
	14	RYE 1sts	<b>AWAY</b>
	21	MEDWAY 4ths	<b>HOME</b>
<b>Nov</b>	11	ASH 1sts	<b>HOME</b>
	18	DOVER 2nds	<b>AWAY</b>
<b>Dec</b>	2	CANTERBURY 4ths	<b>HOME</b>
	9	EAST PECKHAM & PW	<b>AWAY</b>
	16	GILLINGHAM 2nds	<b>HOME</b>

**2024**

<b>Jan</b>	6	AYLESFORD 2nds	<b>AWAY</b>
	13	FOLKESTONE 2nds	<b>AWAY</b>
	20	RYE 1sts	<b>HOME</b>
	27	MEDWAY 4ths	<b>AWAY</b>
<b>Feb</b>	17	ASH 1sts	<b>AWAY</b>
<b>Mar</b>	2	DOVER 2nds	<b>HOME</b>
	16	CANTERBURY 4ths	<b>AWAY</b>
	23	EAST PECKHAM & PW	<b>HOME</b>
<b>Apr</b>	6	SNOWDOWN CW 1sts	<b>AWAY</b>

Fixtures in BLOCK TYPE are KENT & EAST SUSSEX RURAL DIVISION A LEAGUE matches

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## 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	12	12	0	0	503	168	335	11	0	59	0
Dartfordians	12	10	0	2	380	223	157	10	1	51	0
Beccehamian	12	9	1	2	390	189	201	8	1	47	0
Crowborough	12	9	2	1	305	228	77	6	0	46	0
Bromley	12	7	0	5	261	246	15	5	2	36	0
Deal & Betteshanger	12	5	0	7	242	337	-95	5	2	27	0
Dover	12	4	1	7	255	282	-27	4	3	25	0
Ashford	12	5	0	7	210	260	-50	3	0	23	0
Heathfield & Waldron	12	2	2	8	210	288	-78	2	5	20	0
Charlton Park	12	3	0	9	212	319	-107	3	2	12	-5
Cranbrook	12	1	1	10	192	408	-216	1	4	11	0
Thanet Wanderers	12	1	1	10	211	423	-212	1	3	10	0

## COUNTIES 1 KENT FIXTURES

Saturday 6th January 2024

Bromley v Dover

Deal &amp; Betteshanger v Charlton Park

Cranbrook v Canterbury 2nds

Heathfield &amp; Waldron v Ashford

Dartfordians v Crowborough

Thanet Wanderers v Beccehamian



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## RESULTS GRID COUNTIES 1 KENT LEAGUE

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

## RESULTS FROM COUNTIES 1 KENT LEAGUE

## Saturday 9th December 2023

Beccehamian 33-12 Ashford

Canterbury 2nds 36-10 Bromley

Cranbrook 19-24 Charlton Park

Dartfordians 29-7 Deal &amp; Betteshanger

Heathfield &amp; Waldron 12-7 Dover

Thanet Wanderers 13-19 Crowborough

## Saturday 16th December 2023

Ashford 21-7 Cranbrook

Beccehamian 46-0 Bromley

Canterbury 2nds 60-24 Thanet Wanderers

Charlton Park 21-22 Dartfordians

Crowborough 31-27 Heathfield &amp; Waldron

Dover 34-5 Deal &amp; Betteshanger



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# MATCH REPORT

## Canterbury 2s RFC 60 – 24 Thanet Wanderers RUFC

There's a try bonus point for the Wanderers but Canterbury maintain their unbeaten record.

Results from the previous Saturday meant that Thanet were the league's bottom club as they lined up against the runaway league leaders. Danny Clement was back in the front row in an otherwise unchanged pack and Charlie Panteli's return at ten, into a reshuffled backline, meant there were just two changes to the starting fifteen that played against Crowborough last week. Luke Browning and Max Rogers were on the bench with Connor Brown who made a welcome return to the squad for the first time this season. The match was played under floodlights and attracted a good number of supporters for both clubs.

The hosts quickly demonstrated why they are number one in the league as they ran in four tries to gain a bonus point with just a quarter of the game played. Rogers was already on for Marius Thompson who had sustained the recurrence of an injury and Clement also had to take a break with Browning on at loosehead. Harrison Quittenden moved to full-back.

Thanet were competing strongly in the Pilgrims right-hand corner and were playing with a penalty advantage when a cross-kick did not go to hand. The penalty set a Wanderers' line out 15 metres out and the forwards' pressure was rewarded with a third try of the season for veteran lock, Andy Letts. No conversion however Wanderers were on the board but trailing 22-5. The Pilgrims replied with an unconverted try before Tom Walton scored a fine individual try that started in his own half before he kept out of the reach of all pursuers to touch down. He was unable to convert his own try and the score was 27-10 with halftime near. A promising break from Max Rogers was ended by a good defensive

tackle and the half ended with the scores unchanged.

Brown was on for the second half with Dennis Davies taking a break and Thompson returned, replacing Rogers.

An early penalty to the Pilgrims set them for some good phases and a converted try followed four minutes later by another touchdown in the left corner, that could not be converted but still opened up a 39-10 lead. Ten minutes into his first game of the season, Brown showed why he has been missed when he powered over from a line-out. Walton made a quality conversion from close to the touchline to make it 39-17. Good handling from the hosts resulted in another try five minutes later that was converted. Quittenden's tackle saved another near-certain try before an error in Wanderers' defence gifted the hosts their ninth try. Wanderers were intent on securing their fourth try and strong pressure on the home line eventually saw referee Billy Huntley lose patience with Pilgrims' defenders and run to the posts to award Wanderers a penalty try. Thanet Left Winger, Andrew Dolan, now had to limp off and he was replaced by Wanderers joint skipper, wing forward Sam Taylor. The patched-up defence continued to contest everything until the final whistle but could not prevent one last try for the Pilgrims that made the final score 60-24.

Wanderers played Canterbury in their second fixture of the season and lost by three points after a very close match. The city side has gone from strength to strength since, with an unbeaten record and a largely young side. They were deserved winners today but it was good to see Wanderers battle hard throughout the eighty minutes and come away with a try bonus point and with spirits high for the New Year.

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