

# TWRUFC v FOLKESTONE RFC



## OFFICIAL MATCH DAY PROGRAMME

PHOTO BY: BRIAN CULLINGFORD



**Thanet  
Wanderers** RUFC



**SAT 17 JAN 2026 | KO 14:00**

**MINIMUM DONATION £3**

# PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

*Happy New Year to ALL Club players, members, Vice Presidents, spectators, parents and the wider Thanet Wanderers community, and welcome to the second half of the 2025-2026 season.*

Today we welcome Folkestone RFC, who are 4th in the League with 37 points, to St Peter's. Thanet are positioned 2nd with 45 points, this after both teams have played 11 games. Folkestone beat Medway 2nd XV last week with a close 24-17 win, and Thanet Wanderers beat Vigo last week 27-10 picking up a try bonus point as well as the points for a win.

This is our first home game since 29th November and in that time, Thanet have had mixed fortunes losing to Aylesford Bulls by a 2-point margin, but picking up a bonus point for tries scored, and denying Aylesford the bonus point by losing by no more than a 5-point margin. Beating Medway by 35 points gained us a bonus point with 6 tries scored, Tom Walton scoring a hat trick and an early Christmas present.

The Aylesford Bulls game was a frustrating one. By half time Aylesford were 26-0 up, but had started to incur 4 Yellow cards, Thanet came back with 4 tries, two converted and a penalty, regrettably too little too late, very similar to last year's game. First half misfortunes were repeated at Vigo last week, and it looks like the old Thanet bug of travelling does not suit us. We need to start with more intensity and hopefully that will be executed today.

For those of you who have joined us for the Winter Warmer lunch today I hope you enjoyed your fayre? We are without Colin Whitley (past President) this season as his health has taken a backward step. Over the festive period he was taken into Hospital, and I visited him earlier this week in QEQM and he was in good spirits and still had his sense of humour. Get better soon Colin.

Thank you to Annemarie for organising the Quiz Night on the 12th December and the Christmas

Hamper raffle. Over £800 was raised for Club funds, this on top of the £700 she raised for Bowl Cancer Charity in November.

## Two Internationals

Last year Folkestone fielded two internationals, Seyhan Fell, who has played for Folkestone since he was a youth player has represented Cyprus Rugby on numerous occasions, whilst 18-year-old Cairo Ellis has recently been selected to play

for Jamaica Rugby's U20s. Seyhan Fell is missing from this year's Stones squad but Thanet Wanderers now have their own Cyprus International with Charlie Panteli representing Cyprus in Ayia Nappa against



Malta back in November. This now gives us two current Internationals Charlie and Marius Thompson who has represented Norway.

## Guinness World Record

For those of you who are still getting the Guinness Book of Records in your Christmas stocking, yes it was a thing, you will now be able to look up our own Andy Letts. Lettsy took part in the longest recorded continuous rugby union game in Dublin in June 2025. The record now stands at 34 hours and 48 minutes. This was done in aid of the LooseheadX and Wooden Spoon Charity. This is a charity that gives sporting opportunities to disadvantaged young



people who are less fortunate than many of us. Well done Lettsy and thank you for your contribution to a great cause.

We extend a warm welcome to Martin Croker, who is today's match official, without whose valuable input none of us would be able to play or watch today.

Thank you to Lettsy and Annemarie, the world is a better place because of the both of you and thank you for your contribution to Society.

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

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C'mon Wanders  
**CLIVE LEWIS**  
Club President



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Company owner and founder Chris Wilson says "AvMan sponsors Thanet Wanderers again this year not to gain any commercial advantage but simply to help a great club that puts so much into the local community. "This is why we don't use our company logo on the team shirts but instead present the squadron logo of 29 Squadron RAF, where I served as a mechanic on Lightning aircraft which gave me so much and I wanted to give some recognition back"

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We all wish Thanet Wanderers a great season and look forwards to a long and successful future.

# FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RUGBY

*Happy New Year and welcome back to Thanet Wanderers Rugby Club. I hope everyone connected to the club – players, coaches, volunteers, families and supporters – has had a positive break and is ready for an exciting second half of the season.*

*A warm welcome today to Folkestone RFC. We're delighted to host you here at our ground and look forward to a competitive, respectful and enjoyable afternoon of rugby.*

## **Living Our Values**

Over the past few weeks, I've been working closely with our junior and senior coaches on a values exercise, asking them to reflect on both team goals and coaching goals. The outcomes of this work have been extremely encouraging. Across all sections of the club, there was strong alignment with our core values of family, discipline, skillset and potential.

What stood out most was the shared commitment to creating positive environments, developing people as well as players, and holding high standards while genuinely supporting one another. Seeing this consistency across minis, juniors, colts and seniors is hugely important as we continue to strengthen our identity and long-term player pathway.

## **Colts Transition & Club Pathway**

One of the real highlights of the season so far has been the successful transition of our Colts into adult rugby. This is never an easy step, but the way our young players have embraced the challenge, supported one another and stepped into senior environments has been outstanding. It is a credit to the Colts coaches, senior coaches and the players themselves that this transition has been handled with such care and clarity.

A particularly proud moment for the club came with Kai Redmond making his senior debut against Vigo RFC. This was not only a fantastic achievement for Kai, but a deeply meaningful moment for Thanet Wanderers, as he represents the third generation of the Redmond family to play for the club. Moments like this perfectly capture what Thanet Wanderers is about – tradition, family and opportunity.

## **Player Development Plans (PDPs)**

January also marks the official start of Player Development Plans (PDPs) for our adult men's squads. These PDPs are designed to provide

clarity, honest feedback and clear next steps for every player. They place responsibility and ownership with the individual, while being fully supported by our coaching team.

Alongside this, our Coaches' Corner is now up and running, creating regular opportunities for open, constructive conversations around performance, development and ambition. This approach is about building better communication, stronger relationships and sustained improvement across all squads.

## **Men's Rugby Round-Up**

Across the men's section, there have been strong performances, valuable lessons and clear progress in how we prepare, train and compete. The effort and commitment shown by players week in, week out has been excellent, and there is a clear sense of togetherness across the squads.

As we move into a crucial part of the season, the focus is on consistency, discipline and continuing to build on the foundations already in place.

## **Women's Rugby Round-Up**

Our women's team continues to be a huge source of pride for the club. Their commitment, energy and togetherness have been outstanding, with performances reflecting the hard work being done on the training field. Results have been positive, but just as importantly, the squad continues to grow in confidence, depth and identity.

The women's programme is a vital part of the future of Thanet Wanderers, and the momentum around the team is incredibly exciting.

## **Looking Ahead**

As we move into the New Year, the direction of travel across the club is clear. Strong values, clear development pathways and a genuine sense of community sit at the heart of

everything we do. Thank you to everyone who gives their time, energy and support to the club – it truly makes a difference.

Enjoy the rugby today, get behind the teams, and once again, welcome to Thanet Wanderers RFC.

## **Head Coach's Match Day Notes – 1XV**

It's great to be back at the club and into the second half of the season, with plenty still to play for.

From a 1XV perspective, the first part of the campaign has been a real mix of challenge, growth and learning. Results have reflected a group that is developing and evolving. When we've been accurate in the basics, disciplined in our decision-making and connected defensively, we've shown exactly what we're capable of. Where we've fallen short, it has often been about consistency rather than ability.

That's encouraging, because consistency is something we can coach, train and improve together.

## **1XV Performance Review**

There have been strong performances and important lessons taken from every game. We've competed well for long periods, created opportunities and shown real fight as a group. The challenge now is turning those positive passages into full 80-minute performances and making sure our standards don't drop under pressure.

The attitude of the squad has been excellent. Players have responded positively to feedback, taken responsibility for their roles and continued to work hard, even when results haven't gone our way.

## **Player Development in Action**

A major focus this season has been putting clear, meaningful player development structures in place for the 1XV.

We've now launched Player Development Plans (PDPs) across the squad. These are honest, individual conversations that give players clarity on where they are, what they need to improve and how that links directly to team performance. Importantly, they place ownership with the player, supported by the coaching team.

Alongside this, our Coaches' Corner provides a regular opportunity for players to speak openly with coaches outside of training. This has already improved communication, trust and alignment across the squad.

Our training environment has also been refined to better reflect match-day demands. Sessions are competitive, purposeful and focused on decision-making under pressure, ensuring players are prepared for the physical and mental challenges of league rugby.

## **The Road Ahead**

As we move through the second half of the season, the focus is on building momentum, improving consistency and continuing to develop as individuals and as a team. We want players to be confident, accountable and fully committed to the standards we set together.

There is a strong belief within this group, and with the right structures now in place, I'm confident performances and results will continue to move in the right direction.

Thank you for your continued support of the players and the club – it genuinely makes a difference.

Enjoy the game.

## **ELLIOT BLACKMORE**

Director of Rugby and Head Coach

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# MATCH REPORT

## THANET WANDERERS V OLD ALLEYNIANS 2ND XV

29-11-2025

This was not the best start to a game at St Peter's for Thanet as the rain poured down at kick off. Thanet's team were a man down within three minutes of the start as Giotto McCourt-Welsh was shown a yellow card after a number of home side infringements. The visitors did not score from the resulting penalty and were then also deemed to be offside just before they grounded the ball. Wanderers' first real inroad into the opposition half saw Gil Smith score the game's opening try from a lineout move. The conversion from Tom Walton gave Thanet an early 7-0 lead.

Just as Thanet were restored to a full complement, Ben Cannon was shown a yellow card for dangerous play. Old Alleynians' were unable to take advantage of the extra player and it was Thanet who extended their lead with a penalty from Tom Walton. Thanet were then pinned back in their own half, but from a clearance kick Thompson and Marshall forced Old Alleynians to give away a penalty. From the resulting maul the pack drove forward and Callum Doody was released to score extending

the home sides' lead to 15-0 after just 23 minutes of the match. One of the Old Alleynians' flankers was shown a yellow card and unlike the opposition Wanderers took advantage of the extra man. Thanet had the upper hand in the scrums and after several sets Lenny Brown scored a try which was converted. Thanet now had a commanding 22-0 lead, but as the half came to an end the visitors did cross the line to reduce the deficit to 22-5.

Old Alleynians started the second half on the front foot after that score and made a further inroad into Thanet's lead with a converted try taking the score to 22-12. For much of this half neither side was able to take control of the game primarily due to the weather and resulting pitch condition. As the game came to a close Lenny Brown scored his second try of the game which also gave Wanderers a bonus point. A final Walton conversion resulted in a final score of 29-12 to Thanet.

CARMEN GLOVER



PHOTOS BY: BRIAN CULLINGFORD

# FIRST XV. COUNTIES 2 KENT LEAGUE

## FIXTURES FOR THE 2025-26

### 2025

#### September

6 SIDCUP 2nds

**HOME**

13 VIGO

**HOME**

#### October

4 FOLKESTONE

**AWAY**

11 BECKENHAM 2nds

**HOME**

18 TONBRIDGE JUDDIANS 2nds

**AWAY**

#### November

8 WESTCOMBE PARK 2nds

**HOME**

22 MAIDSTONE

**AWAY**

29 OLD ALLEYIANS 2nds

**HOME**

#### December

6 AYLESFORD BULLS

**AWAY**

20 MEDWAY 2nds

**AWAY**

Fixtures in BLOCK TYPE are COUNTIES 2 KENT LEAGUE matches

### 2026

#### January

10 VIGO

**AWAY**

17 FOLKESTONE

**HOME**

24 BECKENHAM 2nds

**AWAY**

#### February

14 TONBRIDGE JUDDIANS 2nds

**HOME**

28 WESTCOMBE PARK 2nds

**AWAY**

#### March

7 MAIDSTONE

**HOME**

21 OLD ALLEYIANS 2nds

**AWAY**

28 AYLESFORD BULLS

**HOME**

#### April

18 MEDWAY 2nds

**HOME**

25 SIDCUP 2nds

**AWAY**

## THANET WANDERERS BUSINESS NETWORKING

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## MONTHLY MEETINGS

6pm - 7.30pm

2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

14th October | 11th November | 9th December



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# MATCH REPORT

## AYLESFORD BULLS 29 THANET WANDERERS 27

Thanet will consider this a bad loss despite gaining two bonus points to remain third in the league table. Neither side started well swapping a number of penalties early on, but unable to create any positive field positions. The home side were reduced to fourteen men after 18 minutes when their prop was shown a yellow card for a number of high tackle offences. Bulls defended well keeping Thanet playing in the midfield and an interception on halfway saw the home side score the opening try under the posts, with the conversion taking them to a 7-0 lead. Spurred on, Aylesford were soon on the attack again and scored their second converted try three minutes later, on the half hour to take the score to 14-0. From the kick off Thanet created space to move the ball up the field. Wanderers were rewarded with a penalty and a lineout five metres from the opposition line. Again the Bulls were able to disrupt the play to regain the ball and return up the field over the halfway line. A number of unforced errors had Thanet on the back foot and as the half came to a close a third converted try saw the teams turn around with Thanet trailing 21-0.

Within a minute of the start of the second half Tom Walton slotted a penalty for Thanet's first score of the game. Ten minutes into the half Aylesford scored their fourth try leaving Thanet trailing 26-3 and not looking as if there would be a response to cut the deficit. This proved to be false as a passage of play and good support work

by the pack enabled Gil Smith to ground the ball, Thanet now trailed by 26-8. The hosts were again a man down after a number of penalties awarded against them led to a second yellow card, but did not concede points during this period of play. Bulls responded with a penalty to go out to a 29-8 lead. Thanet now started to put together good attacking passages of play and Giotto- McCourt-Welsh scored the team's second try. Walton's conversion left the score standing at 29-15 with less than 15 minute to play. Again the play was mainly in the midfield with both teams gaining territory, but unable to set up any scoring opportunities. Aylesford received their third yellow card of the game with only four minutes of the match remaining. This time Wanderers took advantage of the field position with Callum Doody scoring to take Thanet to 29-20. Aylesford would have like to put the game to bed after the kick off, but Thanet had a different idea. As the hosts were unable to stop a number of breaks from the backline Thanet were metres short and after recycling the ball Louis Marshall scored their fourth and important bonus point try. Another conversion by Walton meant the final score was 29-27.

Thanet upped their game in the last fifteen minutes of this match, but should have used their numerical advantage better.

### CARMEN GLOVER



PHOTOS BY: BRIAN CULLINGFORD

# KENT COUNTIES LEAGUE 2 2025-26

TEAM	P	W	D	L	P/F	P/A	P/D	T/B	L/B	PTS	ADJ
TONBRIDGE JUDDIANS 2ND XV	10	10	0	0	408	142	.266.	10	0	50	
THANET WANDERERS	11	8	0	3	368	198	170	11	2	45	
WESTCOMBE PARK 2ND XV	11	8	0	3	356	243	113	8	1	41	
FOLKESTONE	11	7	0	4	386	201	185	7	2	37	
AYLESFORD BULLS	10	6	0	4	329	269	60	7	1	32	
OLD ALLEYNIANS 2ND XV	11	6	0	5	341	305	36	7	0	32	
MAIDSTONE	11	5	0	6	313	308	5	8	4	32	
SIDCUP 2ND XV	11	4	0	7	302	355	-53	4	1	21	
MEDWAY 2ND XV	11	2	0	9	171	403	-232	2	1	11	
BECKENHAM 2ND XV	10	2	0	8	169	420	-251	1	1	10	
VIGO	11	1	0	10	109	408	-299	1	1	1	-5

# KENT COUNTIES LEAGUE 2 FIXTURES

17th January 2026

Aylesford Bulls v Westcombe Park 2nd XV

Sidcup 2nd XV v Vigo

Medway 2nd XV v Beckenham 2nd XV

THANET WANDERERS v Folkestone

Old Alleynians 2nd XV v Maidstone

# KENT COUNTIES LEAGUE 2 RESULTS

Saturday 6th December 2025

Aylesford Bulls 29-27 THANET WANDERERS

Maidstone 22-29 Folkestone

Old Alleynians 2nd XV HWO Vigo

Tonbridge Juddians 2nd XV 43-17 Sidcup 2nd XV

Westcombe Park 2nd XV 44-5 Beckenham

2nd XV

Westcombe Park 2nd XV 12-25 Sidcup 2nd XV

Saturday 13th December 2025

Beckenham 2nd XV 29-24 Maidstone

Folkestone 40-21 Old Alleynians 2nd XV

Sidcup 2nd XV 32-21 Medway 2nd XV

Tonbridge Juddians 2nd XV 44-14

Westcombe Park 2nd XV

Vigo 5-66 Aylesford Bulls

Saturday 20th December 2025

Aylesford Bulls 20-17 Folkestone

Maidstone 0-52 Tonbridge Juddians 2nd XV

Medway 2nd XV 3-38 THANET WANDERERS

Old Alleynians 2nd XV 60-19 Beckenham

2nd XV

Westcombe Park 2nd XV 12-25 Sidcup 2nd XV

Saturday 10th January 2026

Folkestone 24-17 Medway 2nd XV

Maidstone 34-19 Sidcup 2nd XV

Tonbridge Juddians 2nd XV P-P Aylesford Bulls

Vigo 0-27 THANET WANDERERS

Westcombe Park 2nd XV 38-41 Old

Alleynians 2nd XV

# RESULTS GRID COUNTIES 2 KENT LEAGUE

AWAY TEAM ▶	AYLESFORD BULLS	BECKENHAM 2NDS	FOLKESTONE	MAIDSTONE	MEDWAY 2NDS	OLD ALLEYNIANS 2NDS	SIDCUP 2NDS	TWRUFC	TONBRIDGE JUDDS 2NDS	WESTCOMBE PARK 2NDS
HOME TEAM ▼										
AYLESFORD BULLS			20-17	36-31				29-27	13-50	
BECKENHAM 2NDS	24-15			29-24	12-17		17-51		19-46	24-33
FOLKESTONE		99-10			24-17	40-21	58-19	12-20		10-12
MAIDSTONE			22-29			38-20	34-19	28-36	0-52	
MEDWAY 2NDS	8-48			12-30				3-38	21-43	
OLD ALLEYNIANS 2NDS	50-29	60-19	24-63		54-19					HWO 26-38
SIDCUP 2NDS	19-41			40-42	32-21	19-38				
TWRUFC		31-10				29-12	34-18		76-0	28-33
TONBRIDGE JUDDS 2NDS			29-10			36-19	43-17	43-22		44-14
BECKENHAM	5-66		7-24	5-38	24-26		15-43	10-27	7-22	
WESTCOMBE PARK 2NDS	38-32	44-5		30-26	35-3	38-41	12-25			62-3

## LADIES 1ST XV NC2 LEAGUE FIXTURES FOR 2025 -26

### 2025

September

21 ASHFORD

AWAY

October

5 LORDSWOOD

HOME

19 BECKENHAM 2ND XV

AWAY

November

9 FOLKESTONE

HOME

23 BECCEHAMIANS

AWAY

### 2026

January

11 SEVENOAKS

HOME

18 LORDSWOOD

AWAY

February

8 BECKENHAM 2ND XV

HOME

22 FOLKESTONE

AWAY

March

8 BECCEHAMIANS

HOME

29 SEVENOAKS

AWAY

April

26 ASHFORD

HOME



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16

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17

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# MATCH REPORT

## MEDWAY 3 - THANET WANDERERS 38

Wanderers travelled to Medway for the last away game of 2025 and a six try haul saw them end the year in second place in the league. Play early on saw Thanet penalised a number of times and an early penalty saw the home side take the lead after 8 minutes with a kick in front of the posts. Thanet responded soon afterwards, retaining possession from a lineout eight metres out the pack drove the opposition back and Finley Hickmott grounded the ball for the first try of the game. The next few passages of play saw both teams setup good opportunities to score but both sides were unable to complete the final pass. Thanet then went through a number of phases in midfield without advancing far until on 27 minutes Ben Cannon broke a number of attempted home side tackles to score Thanet's second try. Tom Walton kicked the conversion for a 12-3 lead.

The home side were a man down five minutes before half time as their number 8 was shown a yellow card for a deliberate knock on. Thanet moved up field and were awarded a scrum about 7 metres from the try line. A solid scrum enabled Cannon to pick up from the base and score his second try of the game. As the half came to an end the hosts were again penalised for a deliberate knock on and saw another player sent to the bin. There was still time for Wanderers to extend their lead as Tom Walton took advantage

of a loose lineout by Medway and he gathered the ball to score and then convert the try. Thanet had secured a try bonus point before half time with the lead now standing at 24-3.

The second half started with a flurry from Medway but they failed to cross the tryline. On 48 minutes Cannon was shown a red card for foul play. Medway were deep in Thanet's half for the next ten minutes of the game but staunch defence by Thanet and good discipline ensured that they did not score. Instead, an interception, by Walton, saw the field open for him to score his second try of the game. This he converted to extend the lead to 31-3. On the hour Thanet were down to 13 men as Louis Marshall was shown a yellow for dangerous play. Despite this Thanet maintained the upper hand in the game, having the majority of the possession but they were unfortunate not to score, whilst still disrupting Medway's attempts to gain further scoring opportunities. As the game came to a close Walton scored his hat trick try and with the conversion the final score was 38-3.

Despite playing the majority of the second half at least a player down Thanet maintained their shape throughout the game. Their overall defence during the game ensured Medway were unable to gain any meaningful scoring chances.

## CARMEN GLOVER



PHOTOS BY: BRIAN CULLINGFORD

# THANET WANDERERS

HOME TEAM COLOURS: Royal blue, gold and black

## 1 DOMINIC SPRINGER

Position sponsored by: Peter Hawkins

## 2 GIL SMITH

Position sponsored by: Mike Beaumont (The Four Candles)

## 3 GIOTTO MCCOURT-WELSH

Position sponsored by: Ernie Blakemore

## 4 ANDREW LETTS

Position sponsored by: Mark O' Riordan

## 5 LENNY BROWN

Position sponsored by: Dave Brown

## 6 OWEN LONG

Position sponsored by: Michelle McClean

## 7 FINLEY HICKMOTT

Position sponsored by: Chris Marson

## 8 CHARLIE BAILEY

Position sponsored by: Terry Tutte

## 9 TOM WALTON

Position sponsored by: Jeremy Ward

## 10 ADAM HARRISON

Position sponsored by: Ray Roby/Peter Tierney

## 11 HARRISON QUITTENDEN

Position sponsored by: Sue Holges (Holges Holiday Homes)

## 12 CALLUM DOODY

Position sponsored by: Bill Hurley

## 13 NICK HERBERT

Position sponsored by: Andy Bull

## 14 TIM WILLIAMS

Position sponsored by: Paul Glover/Marc Harris

## 15 HENRY MIRAMS

Position sponsored by: Geoff Redmond/ /Marc Harris

### Replacements:

## 16 DANIEL CLEMENT

## 17 FINNLEY GROUNDS

## 18 MARIUS THOMPSON

## TR

### Director of Rugby:

## ELLIOT BLACKMORE

Position sponsored by: Colin Whiteley

### Defence Coach:

## KIERAN HOPPER

Position sponsored by: Ian Rutherford

### Forwards Coaches:

## RON CONNELL

## CRAIG SMITH

## WILLIAM WALLACE

## LENNY BROWN

### Backs Coaches:

## OLLIE CACKET

## ADAM MIRAMS

### Team Manager:

## MICHELLE MCLEAN

Position sponsored by: Carmen Glover

### Team Physio:

## IAIN WARD

### Referee:

## MARTIN CROKER

### Touch Judge:

## CLIVE LEWIS

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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](mailto:kelbutton@yahoo.co.uk)  
Telephone: 07881-956887

# 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.

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# MATCH REPORT

## THANET WANDERERS LADIES VS BECCEHAMIANS LADIES

League Fixture Saturday 22 November KO:2pm

It was a cold, wet afternoon as the Ladies travelled to Becchamians, and the challenging conditions made handling difficult from the very first kick-off. Becchamians struck early within the opening ten minutes, grounding the ball over the dead-ball line, but with the referee allowing the score to stand and only advising them to "make sure it's down in-goal next time," Thanet were left rattled and on the back foot.

With players covering unfamiliar positions in the backline and both sides struggling to control the slippery ball, mistakes crept in. Becchamians crossed again soon after, but the Wanderers refused to fold. The forwards began to take control of the set piece, and Thanet's scrum in particular looked the stronger unit.

The breakthrough came when Gee Cordell, who was outstanding all afternoon, produced a powerful solo run to score and bring Thanet back into the game. That effort sent the team into half-time trailing just 10-5, very much still in the fight.

The second half became a real battle of attrition, with both teams cancelling each other out. With around ten minutes left, Gee Cordell once again burst through from halfway and looked certain to score before being brought down by a high tackle less than 10 metres from

the line. The infringement resulted in a yellow card for Becchamians, but unfortunately Thanet couldn't convert the pressure into points.

There was one final surge for the line when Rebecca Dixon was bundled into touch right on the try-line, but the hosts held firm.

**Final Score:** Becchamians 10 – Thanet Wanderers 5

Despite the loss, the performance showed huge heart, physicality, and determination. Some inconsistent decisions at the breakdown and ruck made the challenge harder, but the team fought until the very last play.

**Forward of the Match:** Ella Thurman-Newell -carried hard all game and worked tirelessly in contact.

**Back of the Match:** Shannon Cook - cut sharp lines and brought real attacking threat.

A special shoutout also goes to Sorcha Maddison, who played her final game for the Wanderers. Her energy, commitment, and positivity have been a huge part of the squad, and she leaves with the love and thanks of the whole team. Once a Wanderer, always a Wanderer.

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# LADIES NC2 SOUTH EAST (EAST) LEAGUE 2025-26

TEAM	P	W	D	L	P/F	P/A	P/D	T/B	L/B	PTS	ADJ
LORDSWOOD VALKYRIES LADIES	6	5	0	1	176	88	88	0	0	26	
FOLKESTONE LADIES	6	5	0	1	187	46	141	0	0	25	
SEVENOAKS WOMEN	6	4	0	2	201	65	136	0	0	23	
THANET WANDERERS WOMEN	6	3	0	3	135	109	26	0	0	20	
ASHFORD LADIES	6	2	0	4	76	257	-181	0	0	16	
BECKENHAM LADIES 2ND XV	6	1	0	5	139	197	-58	0	0	15	
BECCEHAMIAN LADIES	6	1	0	5	49	201	-152	0	0	14	

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

Sunday 14th December 2025

Ashford Ladies 0-72 Folkestone Ladies

Lordswood Valkyries Ladies 48-28

Beckenham Ladies 2nd XV

Sevenoaks Women 48-12 Beccehamian  
Ladies

Saturday 10th January 2026

Beccehamian Ladies 7-33 Ashford Ladies

Sunday 11th January 2026

Folkestone Ladies 24-0 Lordswood  
Valkyries Ladies

THANET WANDERERS Women 12-31 Sevenoaks  
Women

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# KENT RURAL A LEAGUE 2025-26

TEAM	P	W	D	L	P/F	P/A	P/D	T/B	L/B	PTS	ADJ
ASH	11	9	0	2	315	139	176	0	1	39	
DOVER 2ND XV	10	9	0	1	311	179	132	0	0	37	
SNOWDOWN CW	10	7	0	3	377	175	202	0	3	34	
THANET WANDERERS 2ND XV	10	6	1	3	206	147	59	0	1	30	
WEAVERING WARRIOR	9	6	0	3	272	192	80	0	1	28	
AYLESFORD BULLS 2ND XVB	10	5	0	5	267	198	69	0	3	28	
SWANLEY	10	4	0	6	232	265	-33	0	1	21	
TUNBRIDGE WELLS 3RD XV	9	3	1	5	206	259	-33	0	1	21	
ASHFORD 2ND XV	10	4	0	6	156	303	-147	0	0	20	
ASHFORD BARBARIANS	10	1	0	9	86	297	-211	0	2	13	
CRANBROOK 2ND XV	11	0	0	11	103	397	-294	0	2	10	

## KENT RURAL A LEAGUE RESULTS

### Friday 6th December 2025

Ashford Barbarians 10-14 Ash  
 Aylesford Bulls 2nd XV 12-17 THANET WANDERERS 2nd XV  
 Dover 2nd XV HWO Ashford 2nd XV  
 Snowdown CW HWO Cranbrook 2nd XV

### Saturday 13th December 2025

Ash HWO Swanley  
 Ashford 2nd XV 24-15 THANET WANDERERS 2nd XV  
 Aylesford Bulls 2nd XV HWO Ashford Barbarians  
 Cranbrook 2nd XV 12-52 Weavering Warriors  
 Dover 2nd XV 29-14 Tunbridge Wells 3rd XV

### Saturday 20th December 2025

Ashford 2nd XV 17-10 Ashford Barbarians  
 Snowdown CW 47-19 Ash  
 Swanley 14-41 Aylesford Bulls 2nd XV  
 THANET WANDERERS 2nd XV 45-5 Dover 2nd XV  
 Tunbridge Wells 3rd XV HWO Cranbrook 2nd XV

### Saturday 10th January 2026

Ash 59-29 Cranbrook 2nd XV



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## A XV (SECOND XV) KENT RURAL DIVISION A LEAGUE FIXTURES FOR THE 2025 -26

2025

September

13 ASHFORD BARBARIANS  
20 TUNBRIDGE WELLS 3rd XV

October

4 SWANLEY  
11 SNOWDOWN CW  
18 WEAVERING

November

8 CRANBROOK 2nds  
29 ASH

December

6 AYLESFORD BULLS 2nds  
13 ASHFORD 2nds  
20 DOVER 2nds

2026

January

10 ASHFORD BARBARIANS  
17 SWANLEY

**HOME**  
**AWAY**

February

14 WEAVERING  
28 CRANBROOK 2nds

**HOME**  
**AWAY**

March

21 ASH  
28 AYLESFORD BULLS 2nds

**HOME**  
**AWAY**

April

11 ASHFORD 2nds  
18 DOVER 2nds  
25 TUNBRIDGE WELLS 3rds

**HOME**  
**AWAY**  
**HOME**

# MATCH REPORT

### THANET WANDERERS LADIES VS SEVENOAKS

Sunday 11th January. After a final pitch inspection, the 1st XV pitch was declared fit, allowing Thanet Wanderers Ladies 1XV to play their first home game of 2026 on a cold but welcome Sunday afternoon.

Sevenoaks kicked off, but Thanet wasted no time making their intentions clear. Strong early pressure forced an opposition infringement, giving Thanet a penalty. From the tap-and-go, slick hands and excellent support play moved the ball wide before Neave Evans broke through the gain line and powered her way from over halfway to score under the posts. The conversion kick was successful giving Thanet the perfect start.

Sevenoaks responded with sustained pressure, working hard through multiple phases and eventually finding space out wide to score and level the contest. The visitors continued to test Thanet's defence, and despite strong tackling and some key turnovers, they managed to cross again before the break, including a score in the corner. With conversions added, Sevenoaks went into halftime 26 - 7 ahead.

Thanet made several changes at the interval and came out with renewed energy in the second half. A dominant spell of possession followed, with excellent work at the breakdown and quick penalties keeping the momentum alive. The pressure paid off when Neave Evans finished brilliantly in the corner after a flowing move involving multiple phases and strong carries

from the forwards. The conversion attempt narrowly missed, but Thanet were back in the game at 26 - 12.

The match remained intense and physical, with both sides trading territory and possession. Thanet continued to show resilience, particularly in defence, with standout tackles and determined efforts to halt Sevenoaks' attacking momentum. Despite this, the visitors capitalised on penalties and overlaps late in the game, adding further tries to extend their lead.

The match ended with a 31-12 win for Sevenoaks, but there were many positives to take for Thanet Wanderers Ladies, particularly in their attacking intent, work rate, and commitment across the full 80 minutes.

**Forward of the Match:** Helen Hollinsworth – a huge performance, loud and vocal from the warm-up through to the final whistle.

**Back of the Match:** Maria Castellina – tireless throughout, controlling the game and putting in a real shift.

**Debuts:** Lila Ovington, Flo Smith and Kate Johnson – congratulations on earning your first caps in Thanet colours.

A challenging fixture against strong opposition, but a proud home performance to build on as the season continues.

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# KENT RURAL C LEAGUE 2025-26

TEAM	P	W	D	L	P/F	P/A	P/D	T/B	L/B	PTS	ADJ
CANTERBURY 5TH XV ZINGARI	9	7	0	2	363	131	232	0	1	31	
DARTFORD VALLEY 2ND XV	8	7	0	1	302	74	228	0	1	30	
THANET WANDERERS 3RD XV	8	4	1	3	205	191	14	0	0	22	
VIGO 2ND XV	8	5	0	3	225	201	24	0	0	20	
GRAVESEND 4TH XV	8	4	0	4	205	195	10	0	1	18	
SHEPPEY 2ND XV	7	3	0	4	182	247	-65	0	0	16	
LORDSWOOD 2ND XV	8	3	0	5	156	239	-83	0	0	15	
OLD GRAVESENDIANS 2ND XV	8	1	2	5	92	218	-126	0	1	14	
NEW ASH GREEN 2ND XV	8	0	1	7	68	302	-234	0	1	8	

## KENT RURAL C LEAGUE RESULTS

### Saturday 29th November 2025

Canterbury 5th XV Zingari HWO Old Gravesendians 2nd XV  
New Ash Green AWO Dartford Valley 2nd XV  
Sheppey 2nd XV 34-10 THANET WANDERERS 3rd XV

### Saturday 6th December 2025

Gravesend 4th XV 46-7 Sheppey 2nd XV  
Old Gravesendians 2nd XV AWO Dartford Valley 2nd XV  
THANET WANDERERS 3rd XV 42-40 Canterbury 5th XV Zingari

### Saturday 13th December 2025

Dartford Valley 2nd XV 52-19 THANET WANDERERS 3rd XV

Gravesend 4th XV AWO Canterbury 5th XV

Zingari  
Vigo 2nd XV HWO Lordswood 2nd XV

### Saturday 20th December 2025

Gravesend 4th XV AWO Dartford Valley 2nd XV  
New Ash Green 2nd XV 5-45 Vigo 2nd XV

### Saturday 3rd January 2026

THANET WANDERERS 3rd XV 20-36 Gravesend 4th XV

### Saturday 10th January 2026

Lordswood 2nd XV 19-34 Canterbury 5th XV Zingari

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# MATCH REPORT

## VIGO 10 - THANET WANDERERS 27

A try with the last play of the game gave Thanet a bonus point win in their first game of rugby after the Christmas break. The game did not start well for Wanderers as from the kick off they gave away a number of penalties which gave Vigo the upper hand. The home side took full advantage of these infringements after just three minutes to score an unconverted try and lead 5-0. Thanet responded well and within a few minutes took the lead after being awarded a penalty. Tom Walton took a quick tap and scored and then converted his own try to give Thanet a 5-7 advantage. A kick from Thanet's fly-half near the halfway line was charged down after fifteen minutes by one of Vigo's players who recovered the ball and sprinted to the line to score their second try of the game and regain the lead at 10-7. Neither side were able to make further scoring opportunities during the half with both teams giving away penalties allowing them to clear their lines.

Thanet were quick off their marks at the beginning of the second half, again taking advantage of Vigo giving away penalties. Five minutes after the break, Callum Doody scored Wanderers' second try to restore their lead to 10-12. The home side were then reduced to

14 men after one of their forwards was given a yellow card for not rolling away. Vigo were soon down another man with a yellow card being shown for a late tackle. Walton kicked the penalty to extend Thanet's lead to 15-10. Thanet were tested during this period and the home side looked the more likely to score, but strong and determined defence by Thanet denied any scoring opportunity. As Vigo hesitated, believing they should have been awarded a penalty, Adam Harrison scored Thanet's third try giving Wanderers a healthy 20-10 cushion with minutes of the game left. The home side were to finish the game with fourteen men as one of their locks was shown a red card for allegedly punching a Thanet player. Thanet broke away as the game came to a close and Walton scored his second try after breaking down the far touch line. The successful conversion made the final score 27-10 to Wanderers.

This was a bonus point win with a very different scoreline from the 76-0 home win Thanet had achieved against Vigo earlier in the season, but Thanet stuck to their game to take the points.

CARMEN GLOVER



PHOTOS BY: BRIAN CULLINGFORD

## EXTRA A XV (THIRD XV) KENT RURAL DIVISION C LEAGUE FIXTURES FOR THE 2025 -26

2025	2026
<b>September</b>	<b>January</b>
13 VIGO 2nds	<b>HOME</b> 10 VIGO 2nds
<b>October</b>	AWAY 17 NEW ASH GREEN 2nd XV
4 NEW ASH GREEN 2nds	<b>HOME</b> 24 OLD GRAVESENDIANS 2nds
11 OLD GRAVESENDIANS 2nds	AWAY
18 LORDSWOOD 2nds	<b>HOME</b> <b>February</b>
	AWAY 14 LORDSWOOD 2nds
	28 GRAVESEND 4ths
<b>November</b>	<b>March</b>
8 GRAVESEND 4ths	<b>HOME</b>
29 SHEPPEY 2nds	AWAY 21 SHEPPEY 2nds
<b>December</b>	AWAY 28 CANTERBURY 5ths
6 CANTERBURY 5ths	<b>HOME</b> <b>April</b>
13 DARTFORD VALLEY 2nds	AWAY 11 DARTFORD Valley 2nds
20 DEAL & BETTES 3rds	<b>HOME</b> 18 DEAL & BETTES 3rds
	AWAY



An advertisement for Kent workwear. It features a group of people in various workwear items like jackets, shirts, and trousers. The Kent workwear logo is in the bottom left, and there are several smaller images of different products like hats, shirts, and shoes. Text at the bottom includes 'But not just workwear For directions just scan the code' with a QR code, and 'Proud Sponsors of' with a small logo.

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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.

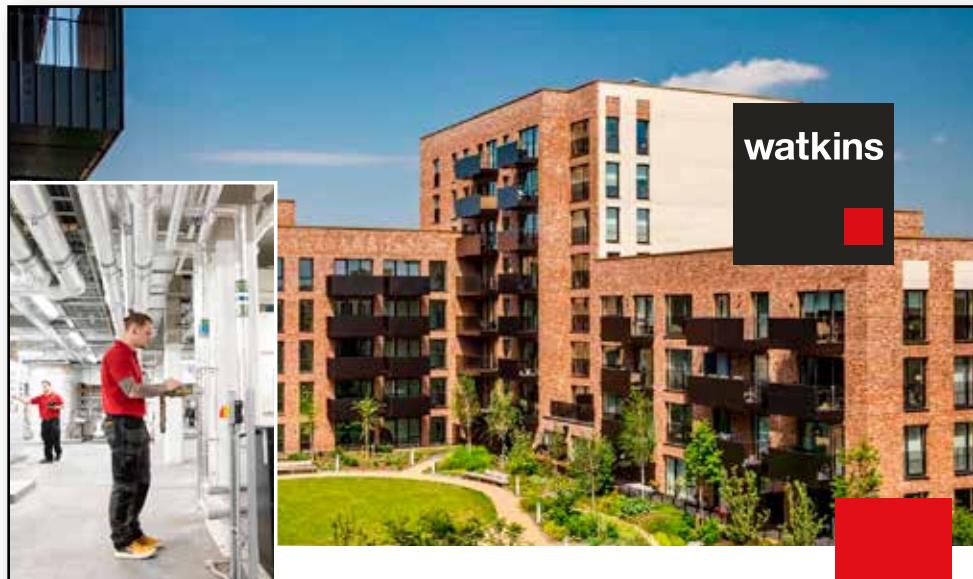
This is only the beginning of the club's journey and we hope that everyone at the club, whether as a player, coach, parent or spectator will get behind us and help make Thanet Wanderers a welcoming place for ALL.

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.

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