

# TWRUFC v FOLKESTONE RFC



OFFICIAL MATCH DAY PROGRAMME



**Thanet** RFLC  
Wanderers



**SAT 23 NOV 2024 | KO 14:00**

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# PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

*Today we welcome Folkestone to St Peters who are 8th in the League with 18 points. Thanet are positioned 2nd with 40 points, this after both teams have played 9 games. Folkestone beat Maidstone last week by an impressive 34 points to 22, a turn around of fortunes after losing to Vigo the previous week.*

Last week 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. We will have to look out for both of these players and see if their names appear on this week's team sheet.

In recent years Thanet have only fielded one international as I recollect, Marius Thompson who represented Norway. Not forgetting ladies players Vicky Flower and Rachel Austerberry who played for the Wooden Spoon British and Irish Lions Veterans team during a tour of Caen and Ouisterham.

I would like to welcome all the guests and visitors to this week's luncheon which doubles up as a celebration of my 60th Birthday and I thank you all for attending and supporting the Club.

More Good News! Its not over till we say its over. Congratulations to the men's 1st team with an unbeaten run so far this season. Last week we picked up a bonus point win against Westcombe Park 2nd XV and the previous week witnessed one of the miracles of St Peters! It must have been the biggest comeback since Elvis!!!

Playing against Aylesford Bulls, Wanderers conceded two tries within 7 minutes and were down 14-0 down. Half-time saw Thanet losing 24-5.

Wanderers' coaching team were quick to respond to a half where the team's lack of energy and ideas had led to their worst session of the season. Notable changes saw James Crompton on in the pack and the Doody brothers Callum and Leon take over at half back.

Within minutes of the restart Wanderers were 27-5 down. 5 tries later and the final score was 34-27. I cannot tell you how entertaining that game was and Aylesford Bulls were good company in the Clubhouse afterwards with songs and games.

Next week may I remind you of the following events:

- Le Crunch Chatham House v St Lawrence KO 7.00pm (preceded by an U15s game at 5.00pm)
- Brad Teall's Rugby Day, meet at the Club at 12.30pm, see the website for more details

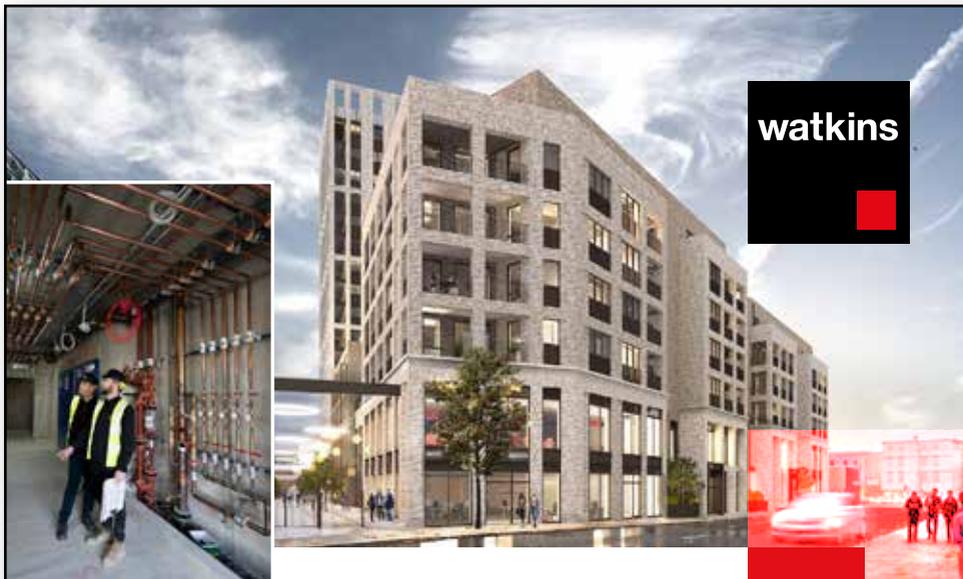
We welcome Richie McIver-Hall who is the man in charge today and we look forward to a good, flowing, injury free game this afternoon, a game that reflects the the competitive nature of the sport and upholds the true values of the game.

It is proposed that we kick off the December 7th away game at Old Elthamians with a coach for supporters. This should be an excellent away day with a bit of a theme, so please let either me or Kelly know if you want to book your seat.

November! What's not to like, there's plenty of Rugby, Food and Drink to be found at St Peters.

**CLIVE LEWIS**  
Club President





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# FROM THE HEAD COACH

*Here we go again.*

Another game at home against good opposition. The last time we played Folkestone was in a joint training session, hosted by Folkestone in what was a very useful session.

We welcome them today, as they sit a respectable 8th in the league having scored an impressive win over Maidstone and played a close game against Vigo and we look forward to a great game.

Today is a big day at our club, Clive's 60th birthday and we are hoping to continue our winning ways.

We have so much to be proud of as a high number of our current players have transitioned from colts to adult rugby. Something we can only be thankful for and thank the coaches and parents who have put so much time and effort

into developing our players of the future.

Today we will call on you all again, our 16th man. I don't think you all realise how proud we are to wear the badge and represent our club and its history. History is in the past and we are sculpting the future. We are developing a team and the spirit within the boys is excellent, but our success is defined by players; players training, players smiling and enjoying their rugby.

So come with us on this journey and enjoy every moment as I know the players are. all through the club. We are building something special, but we always need your help.

"No one wins, afraid of losing" Chris Stapleton.

**ELLIOT BLACKMORE**  
Head Coach



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# FIRST XV. COUNTIES 2 KENT LEAGUE FIXTURES FOR THE 2024 -25

## 2024

### September

7	GILLINGHAM ANCHORIANS	<b>HOME</b>
14	VIGO	AWAY
21	MAIDSTONE	<b>HOME</b>
28	SIDCUP 2NDS	<b>HOME</b>

### October

12	DARTFORD VALLEY	AWAY
19	MEDWAY 2NDS	<b>HOME</b>
26	OLD ALLEYNIA NS 2NDS	AWAY

### November

9	AYLESFORD BULLS	<b>HOME</b>
16	WESTCOMBE PARK 2NDS	AWAY
23	FOLKESTONE	<b>HOME</b>

### December

7	OLD ELTHAMIANS	AWAY
14	VIGO	<b>HOME</b>
21	MAIDSTONE	AWAY

## 2025

### January

4	SIDCUP 2NDS	AWAY
11	DARTFORD VALLEY	<b>HOME</b>
18	MEDWAY 2NDS	AWAY

### February

1	OLD ALLEYNIA NS	<b>HOME</b>
15	AYLESFORD BULLS	AWAY

### March

1	WESTCOMBE PARK 2NDS	<b>HOME</b>
8	FOLKESTONE	AWAY
22	OLD ELTHAMIANS	<b>HOME</b>

### April

5	GILLINGHAM ANCHORIANS	AWAY
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Fixtures in BLOCK TYPE are COUNTIES 2 KENT LEAGUE matches

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## KENT COUNTIES LEAGUE 2 2024-25

TEAM	P	W	D	L	P/F	P/A	P/D	T/B	L/B	PTS	ADJ
OLD ELTHAMIANS	9	8	0	1	337	113	.224	8	1	41	
THANET WANDERERS	9	8	1	0	235	149	86	6	0	40	
GILLINGHAM ANCHORIANS	9	6	0	3	242	157	85	4	2	30	
OLD ALLEYNANS 2ND XV	9	5	0	4	280	263	17	8	2	30	
SIDCUP 2ND XV	9	6	0	3	265	183	82	4	0	28	
AYLESFORD BULLS	9	5	0	4	304	195	109	6	2	28	
MEDWAY 2ND XV	9	5	0	4	221	198	23	5	1	26	
FOLKESTONE	9	3	0	6	233	247	-14	4	2	18	
WESTCOMBE PARK 2ND XV	9	3	0	6	193	312	-119	4	0	16	
DARTFORD VALLEY	9	1	1	7	152	272	-120	4	2	12	
MAIDSTONE	9	2	0	7	132	354	-222	2	0	10	
VIGO	9	1	0	8	152	303	-151	2	3	9	

## KENT COUNTIES LEAGUE 2 FIXTURES

Saturday 23th November 2024

Dartford Valley v Westcombe Park 2nd XV

Maidstone v Old Elthamians

Medway 2nd XV v Aylesford Bulls

Old Alleynians 2nd XV v Sidcup 2nds

THANET WANDERERS v Folkestone

Vigo v Gillingham Anchorians

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# MATCH REPORT

## THANET WANDERERS RFC 34 – 27 AYLESFORD BULLS RFC

A sensational Second Half comeback earns maximum points for the Wanderers.

After a week's break, Thanet returned to Kent League 2 action against Aylesford at St Peters. The visitors were in fifth place in the league and unbeaten Wanderers in second at Kick Off. Wanderers regular number 10 and joint vice-captain, Adam Harrison, was unavailable. The team was indebted to Charlie Panteli and half-back partner Tom O'Callaghan who travelled from University to play in this match.

Aylesford kicked off down the slope on a dull November afternoon and were soon brightening the day for their supporters with a nicely worked try that was well converted for a 7-0 lead after five minutes. This became 14-0 seven minutes later when Aylesford were alert as a ball squirted loose and some simple handling put them in behind the Wanderers' defence to finish under the posts. A penalty took the visitors three points further clear before, with about ten minutes of the half remaining, Thanet got on the board. Callum Doody, who started the game on the left wing, gained good field position and the forwards took Wanderers close to the line. Lenny Brown who had just replaced the injured Dominick Springer in the front-row claimed the unconverted try. Loosehead Michael Whitehead switched to the tighthead berth. Wanderers were building well in the closing minutes of the half when a well telegraphed pass was grabbed by the Bulls' scrum half who outpaced the pursuers from just inside his own half to touch down under the posts. At half-time, minutes later, the visitors led 24-5.

Wanderers' coaching team were quick to respond to a half where the team's lack of energy and ideas had led to their worst session of the season. Notable changes saw James Crompton on in the pack and the Doody brothers Callum and Leon take over at half back.

Wanderers competed well in early exchanges but conceded a penalty after three minutes and Aylesford stretched their lead to 27-5. It

took until the 15th minute of the half before Wanderers' building pressure was rewarded. Downer's long penalty into the Bulls' 22 set the line-out and the pack went close before the ball was spun to Crompton whose determination and pace saw him crash over close to the posts. Downer's conversion made the score 27-12. The hosts were looking more like their usual selves. O'Callaghan was now playing on the wing and his good chase deserved a better outcome. A bouncing ball could have fallen for either side but the visitors were favoured by Lady Luck. Was it going to be that sort of day? Not if No 8 Ben Cannon had his way. First, a quality line-out set a series of forward drives and it was Cannon who made no mistake from close range. Downer's conversion attempt looked good but was not given. Thanet were getting closer and a series of strong drives had the Bulls on the back foot. A Bulls knockdown brought a clear penalty and from five metres out Cannon was unstoppable as he claimed a quick-fire brace. Downer's conversion was good so Wanderers now trailed 24-27. The Wanderers were flying and three minutes later a good line-out on the right led to a lovely flowing movement with Downer scything through before handing on to Harrison Quittenden who finished at pace near the left corner. No conversion but Thanet led for the first time, 29-27. Three minutes later a movement that started in the home half, flowed down the left wing through Cannon and Hickmott. Desperate Bulls defence closed that door but the ball was well recycled across the pitch before Callum Doody handed on to Quittenden whose well-timed pass sent O'Callaghan over in the right corner. No conversion but Wanderers led 34-27 with just enough time left for Wanderers to add to their supporters' grey hairs before today's referee, Lee Walker, blew the final whistle.

In an essentially young team, Veteran Andy Letts won the coaches' accolade as Wanderers' man of the match. Andy's experience and

tenacity were invaluable today in the most challenging circumstances faced so far this season. Congratulations to him and the coaching team whose changes changed the direction of the game. The RFU website shows Wanderers

are now top of Counties League 2 Kent as the only unbeaten side

**COLIN WHITELEY**



# WOMEN'S NC2 SOUTH EAST (EAST) LEAGUE 2024-25

TEAM	P	W	D	L	P/F	P/A	P/D	T/B	L/B	PTS	ADJ
THANET WANDERERS WOMEN	5	5	0	0	265	17	248	0	0	24	
AYLESFORD BULLS LADIES	4	4	0	0	204	0	204	0	0	20	
ASHFORD LADIES	4	2	0	2	71	125	-54	0	0	14	
BECEHAMIAN LADIES	4	1	0	3	53	123	-70	0	0	11	
LORDSWOOD VALKYRIES LADIES	4	1	0	3	45	167	-122	0	0	11	
GRAVESEND LADIES	3	1	0	2	59	172	-113	0	0	9	
BECKENHAM LADIES 2ND XV	4	0	0	4	47	140	-93	0	0	7	

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

Sunday 10th November 2024

Aylesford Bulls Ladies 31-0 Beckenham Ladies 2nd XV

THANET WANDERERS Women 84-0 Gravesend Ladies

Beccehamian Ladies 48-5 Lordswood Valkyries Ladies

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# WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN, A RUGBY WORLD LEAGUE

A while back, World Rugby proposed a World League that would consist of twelve teams: all Six Nations teams, the four major southern hemisphere sides plus Japan and the U.S.A. The International Rugby Players Council voiced its concern at the proposal, with some of the world's leading players expressing their views that some of the concerns they had raised had not been listened to and that to them the suggestion was unacceptable.

World Rugby responded by reiterating their commitment to player welfare and stating that a structured annual competition would make fans and new audiences more likely to watch, attend and engage with international rugby, exposing the sport to new fans worldwide. They also claimed that a structured annual international competition would yield significantly greater long-term global media revenue for investment in the global game with the project having at its heart long-term growth and stability, not short-term gains and that includes greater opportunities for players.

However, this proposal was embarrassing for a sport which claims to be based on the core values of "Integrity", "Solidarity" and "Respect" and it entrenched existing inequalities and marginalised those rugby nations that needed most support. So what would be the advantages and disadvantages of such a proposal?

## Advantages

The main advantage would be the perceived potential to grow the game in emerging rugby markets. This idea seemed likely to appeal to a U.S. audience. The possibility of the U.S. Eagles playing regular fixtures against top opposition was sure to stimulate interest and help develop participation and revenue. Similarly, Japan's involvement would capitalise on earlier World Cup successes. Both of these "Tier 2" rugby nations had booming sports markets which could be tapped into as a result in participation in a World League and the proposed year long competition was likely to engage more "casual" rugby fans. It was argued that such a model

should also appeal to broadcasters who could market all the fixtures as a package. Bringing increased revenue into the game could grow it more generally allowing World Rugby to reinvest more into the sport's development.

## Disadvantages

One large drawback of the "World League" proposal was the exclusion of the Pacific Nations. This would have been a betrayal of the region's historic contribution to international rugby, in particular the on-field success of Fiji and the exclusion of the incredible natural talent these small countries produce. To exclude Fiji who in rugby terms ranked above Italy, the U.S.A. and Japan would have been entirely at odds with everything the sport is about. Georgia too would have needed consideration for inclusion in a "World League". Sport, particularly international sport must be a meritocracy if it is to retain its integrity. The very essence of sport is fair and open competition; "may the best team win" In the case of the proposed "World League" it seemed to be "may the best rich team win", so it was not really a sporting competition, but an elite club, a cartel.

World Rugby Bye-Law 3(d) states that the objectives and functions of World Rugby include: "To regulate and co-ordinate arrangements to ensure that there is a fair and equitable programme of matches, tours and tournaments for Senior National Representative Teams of all Council Member Unions".

This clearly did not hold for Fiji who are a Council Member. The fact that the proposal was for a twelve year deal would effectively have locked them out of top flight international competition for twelve years which would mean that in Tier 2 rugby nations the game would be more likely to die than thrive in those countries. If players from these countries were unable to play in the biggest games and there was a lack of commercial security they were more likely to move away and seek to qualify for other nations through residency.

## Player Welfare

Another issue flagged up by the IRPC was that of the toll the proposal would put on top players. It would see the best two teams play 13 matches in a calendar year including five on consecutive weekends in the autumn. This gruelling schedule, which would also conflict with the Northern Hemisphere club season, did not have the players' best interests at heart. Perhaps of greater concern was the long distance travel the proposal would entail. This was a recipe for player burnout, under-performance and perhaps even injury.

## Rugby Concerns

Having an annual competition featuring twelve teams seemed ludicrous. Rugby World Cups are special because they occur every four years and are a rare meeting of teams from across the globe competing for the ultimate crown of being the best in the world. The "World League" would have totally devalued such a prize and the charm of the RWC. Also, how would the Lions tours have fitted in with the proposal? These are a unique feature of international rugby which should be preserved as far as possible.

## The Fans

Fans don't want to watch tired players playing low quality test matches. Furthermore under the twelve year deal the fixtures would have been the same every year. No touring would also have been a disappointment for travelling fans. Groups of supporters often make the trip out to one of the Southern Hemisphere rugby playing nations to follow their team for a series of games, but under the proposal such fans would have to have been able to afford to travel to not one country, but three, so travelling support was likely to be negligible, impacting the atmosphere at the matches. Given the sums of money that were mentioned it was almost inevitable that matches would have been broadcast behind a pay wall. This would have cut off the very fans that Rugby World was trying to reach with their new format. In the end all that World Rugby and the chosen unions would have been left with would have been a large sum of money from broadcasting, which perhaps reflects where World Rugby's priorities really were.

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# MATCH REPORT

## DEAL U14S 17-48 THANET WANDERERS U14S

After a loss against Deal at the end of last season, Thanet were determined to prove themselves.

Thanet started the game brilliantly with a well worked try from Ethan Gregory who broke the Deal defence under the posts which was well converted by George Kight to put the pressure on Deal. 5 minutes later Thanet extended their lead to 12-0 with a try from Chase Jones. Deal then answered back to Thanet's early tries with one of their own to make it 12-5. After a contested 10 minutes of play in the centre of the field Thanet broke through with Ethan's second of the match and George's second as well. Thanet couldn't stop scoring with his third of the match Ethan scored with a conversion from George to make it 26-5. Deal kicked off after our fourth try but with a brilliant catch from Chase he ran half the pitch to get his second try and make it 31-5. Just before haltime George got his first try of the match to make it 36-5 going into the break

After haltime the game was with Thanet with Chase scoring his third try of the match and a great kick from Ethan to make it 43-5. The game then was dominated by lineouts for both teams with Deal getting 2 tries from Deal to make it 43-17. More lineouts for both teams and a well worked try from the training ground which had both forwards and backs working together to

get Ethan his fourth of the match. Towards the end of the match Thanet kept pushing for more tries with Finley Raines almost getting one of his own and Jack Storey with a close call. The game got heated with Deal getting a man sent off and a few injures for both teams. Full time 48-17

After the match I spoke with Oliver Dyer who said " We were all over them and kept putting the pressure on ... The team worked brilliantly together between the forward and the backs" George said "As a team we put in massive tackles which showed in the score" The forwards have been working on there lineouts at training and Will Morris and Harrison Green told me " We have been working on our lineouts and that showed in the match with a try from a set piece". Man of the match was Chase with a great performance. The Backs player of the match was our Scrum half Finley 'Turbo' Andrassy who had a great game linking the forwards and the backs together and George, who got Forwards player of the match

Next week the boys are going for another away win against Tonbridge Juddians

**Tries** Chase Jones 3, Ethan Gregory 4, George Kight. **Conversions** George Kight  $\frac{3}{5}$ , Ethan Gregory  $\frac{1}{3}$ . **Penalties** None. **Drop Goals** None.

**OSCAR MIDDLETON**



# THANET WANDERERS

HOME TEAM COLOURS: blue, black and gold hoops

**1 LENNY BROWN**

*Postition sponsored by: Peter Hawkins*

**2 WARREN RIDDELL-BROOMFIELD (C)**

*Postition sponsored by: Mike Beaumont*

**3 MICHAEL WHITEHEAD**

*Postition sponsored by: Ernie Blakemore*

**4 CHARLIE BAILEY**

*Postition sponsored by: Mark O' Riordan*

**5 DENNIS DAVIES**

*Postition sponsored by: Dave Brown*

**6 JAMES CROMPTON**

*Postition sponsored by: Michelle McClean*

**7 BRETT SCOTT**

*Postition sponsored by: Chris Marson*

**8 BEN CANNON**

*Postition sponsored by: Terry Tutte*

*Head Coach*

**ELLIOT BLACKMORE**

*Postition sponsored by: Colin Whiteley*

*Defence Coach*

**KIERAN HOPPER**

*Postition sponsored by:*

*Team Manager*

**MICHELLE MCLEAN**

*Postition sponsored by: Carmen Glover*

**9 LEON DOODY**

*Postition sponsored by: Jeremy Ward*

**10 ADAM HARRISON**

*Postition sponsored by: Ray Roby/Peter Tierney*

**11 JAKE WHITTLESEA**

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**12 LEWIS DOWNER**

*Postition sponsored by: Bill Hurley*

**13 HENRY MIRAMS**

*Postition sponsored by: Andy Bull*

**14 ANDREW DOLAN**

*Postition sponsored by: Paul Glover*

**15 HARRISON QUITTENDEN**

*Postition sponsored by: Geoff Redmond*

*Replacements:*

**16 DOM SPRINGER**

**17 ANDREW LETTS**

**18 FINLAY HICKMOTT**

*Referee*

**RICHIE MCIVER-HALL**

*Touch Judge*

**TBC**

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# FOLKESTONE RFC

AWAY TEAM COLOURS:

**1 MASON COLCHESTER-LONG**

**2 JAMES COUSENS**

**3 HARRY ILLMAN**

**4 JAMES STEWART**

**5 JACK BAKER**

**6 JOHN MORTON**

**7 OWEN CHAPMAN**

**8 ALEX PRICE**

**9 GREG WOOD**

**10 OLLIE-JORDAN SMITH**

**11 HARRY DEAN**

**12 CALLUM PALMERIE (CAPT)**

**13 CHARLIE WATSON**

**14 SEYHAN FELL**

**15 JACK HOBBS**

*Replacements:*

**16 BEN STRINGER**

**17 LOUIE WATSON**

**18 JACK HINES**

*Head Coach*

**ROB DENGATE**

*Assistant Coach*

**MATTHEW ROOTS**

*Assistant Coach*

**LIAM TRINDER**

*Team Manager*

**KEITH WOODWARD**





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# MATCH REPORT

## WESTCOMBE PARK RFC 14 – 35 THANET WANDERERS RFC

Wanderers' winning run continues after a sparkling performance in Orpington

A strong Wanderers side travelled to take on the Tigers of Westcombe Park. Andy Letts was at Twickenham but vice captains Adam Harrison at number ten and outside centre Henry Mirams returned after missing the Aylesford match. Lenny Brown retained his loosehead spot after last week's strong performance and Callum Doody resumed at scrum-half after last week's outing in the ten shirt.

Wanderers kicked off on a typically dull November afternoon and quickly established themselves in the opposition half. After only four minutes Lewis Downer converted a penalty opportunity from twenty-two metres and just left of the posts for an early 3-0 lead. A succession of penalties made it difficult for both sides to settle. Penalty attempts for the hosts on twelve minutes and five minutes later for the Wanderers both rebounded from a post but did not go to hand. Thanet went for a tap penalty from a kickable position but were unable to cross the line. The hosts were giving Thanet's defence a thorough examination but they could find no way through. As the half-hour mark neared, Wanderers launched a series of spirited attacks but were finally held up. The dropout was caught by Thanet's number Six James Crompton who raced back at pace dodging defenders for a superb individual try finishing just left of the posts to ease Downer's conversion. Wanderers led 10-0. It had been a close half and the Tigers now used their extra weight to test Thanet's defence again. They too passed on an easy three points and used a penalty to set a line out five metres out. A well-worked catch and drive and the hosts had a try. A difficult conversion was good and it was 10-7 to the Wanderers at halftime.

Wanderers coaches brought on Skip Lube and Cornell Fredericks from the bench for the second half. The two South Africans, who are

on an exchange visit at Wanderers sponsor St Lawrence College in Ramsgate added their welcome attributes to the team. Dennis Davies and Andrew Dolan took a break. Harrison's penalty in the first minute of the second half set a good attacking position. The attacks built with good handling between Brett Scott and Crompton before a penalty, close to the posts, was again run and Skip Lube crashed through to open his debut in style. Downer's conversion gave Wanderers a 17-7 lead. The try scorer caught the restart and counter-attacked powerfully making 30 metres and sent Brett Scott away to initiate the attack that ended with winger Louis Marshall touching down close to the touchline. The game had just restarted when Wanderers Ben Cannon was shown yellow for a high tackle. The Tigers added a converted try during his enforced absence to narrow the gap to 22-14. Lenny Brown had another fine game and he was now at the heart of the move that saw Scott and Crompton make metres before Crompton claimed his double and the try bonus point. No conversion, but Thanet were ahead 27-14. Wanderers were offered another penalty opportunity and this time Downer took the three-point option for a 30-14 lead. A storming finish showed great fitness from the Wanderers. Cornel Fredericks was involved in the early build-up before the pack took over and a series of great forward drives followed before Michael Whitehead was on hand to end an overwhelming final push for the line and claim the touchdown. Downer's conversion attempt dropped just short before the referee signalled time with Wanderers the winners by 35-14.

This was a hard-earned win against the Tigers who are the second string of the side who play in National League 2. Wanderers' defence was superb and a willingness to attack from anywhere tested the opposition's defence throughout the match. Thanet have a good level of fitness and their game management today was top quality. Head Coach, Elliot

Blackmore thanked Skip and Cornell for their help and complimented young lock forward, Charlie Bailey on an excellent performance. Double try scorer James Crompton had another

superb game and he was the coaches' choice as Wanderers' man of the match.

**COLIN WHITELEY**



# KENT RURAL A LEAGUE 2024-25

TEAM	P	W	D	L	P/F	P/A	P/D	T/B	L/B	PTS	ADJ
EDENBRIDGE	9	6	1	2	229	116	113	0	1	30	
SNOWDOWN CW	8	6	1	1	262	126	136	0	0	28	
TUNBRIDGE WELLS 3RD XV	8	6	0	2	236	109	127	0	2	28	
THANET WANDERERS 2ND XV	7	5	0	2	179	127	52	0	0	22	
DOVER 2ND XV	7	4	0	3	214	122	92	0	0	19	
AYLESFORD BULLS 2ND XV	8	4	0	4	176	240	-64	0	0	19	
CRANBROOK 2ND XV	8	3	0	5	105	188	-83	0	1	17	
ASH	8	2	0	6	142	199	-57	0	1	15	
WEAVING WARRIORS	8	3	0	5	182	238	-56	0	0	14	
MEDWAY 4TH XV	7	2	0	5	155	218	-63	0	0	13	
FOLKESTONE 2ND XV	8	1	0	7	87	284	-197	0	0	8	
FOLKESTONE 2ND XV	1	0	0	1	0	40	-40	0	0	0	

# KENT RURAL A LEAGUE RESULTS

## Saturday 9th November 2024

Edenbridge 22-22 Snowdown CW

Folkestone 2nd XV 17-29 Cranbrook 2nd XV

THANET WANDERERS 2nd XV 14-36 Aylesford Bulls 2nd XV

Tunbridge Wells 3rd XV HWO Weaving Warriors

## Saturday 16th November 2024

Cranbrook 2nd XV 0-20 Edenbridge

Medway 4th XV 28-26 Tunbridge Wells 3rd

Snowdown CV 31-7 Dover 2nd XV

THANET WANDERERS 2nd XV 40-0 Ash

Weaving Warriors 37-17 Aylesford Bulls 2nd XV

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## KENT RURAL B LEAGUE 2024-25

TEAM	P	W	D	L	P/F	P/A	P/D	T/B	L/B	PTS	ADJ
ASHFORD BARBARIANS	8	7	0	1	231	87	144	0	0	29	
DEAL & BETTESHANGER 2ND XV	8	6	0	2	274	112	162	0	0	26	
GRAVESEND 3RD XV	7	5	0	2	205	108	97	0	0	22	
MAIDSTONE MUSTANGS 2ND XV	7	5	0	2	204	128	76	0	0	22	
SITTINGBOURNE 2ND XV	7	3	0	4	198	178	20	0	1	17	
THANET WANDERERS 3RD XV	7	3	0	4	166	180	-14	0	0	15	
VIGO 2ND XV	8	2	0	6	148	242	-94	0	1	13	
CANTERBURY 4TH XV DEACONS	8	2	0	6	158	340	-182	0	0	12	
LEIGH (KENT)	7	2	0	5	152	211	-59	0	0	11	
SHEPPEY 2ND XV	7	2	0	5	95	245	-150	0	0	11	
DOVER 3RD XV	5	2	0	3	78	130	-52	0	0	8	

## RESULTS FROM KENT RURAL B LEAGUE

### Saturday 9th November 2024

Ashford Barbarians HWO THANET WANDERERS 3rd XV

Canterbury 4th XV Deacons 21-60 Sittingbourne 2nd XV

Deal & Betteshanger 2nd XV 12-22 Maidstone Mustangs 2nd XV

Gravesend 3rd XV HWO Leigh (Kent)

Sheppey 2nd XV 12-39 Vigo 2nd XV

### Saturday 16th November 2024

Maidstone Mustangs 2nd XV HWO Sheppey 2nd XV

Sittingbourne 2nd XV 17-22 Ashford Barbarians

THANET WANDERERS 3rd XV 12-40 Deal & Betteshanger 2nd XV

Vigo 2nd XV AWO Leigh (Kent)

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Cornel Fredericks on the left and Skip Lubbe on the right

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# MATCH REPORT

## THANET WANDERERS U15S VS TONBRIDGE JUDDIANS U15S

10th November at Thanet Wanderers RUFC

Sunday the 10th brought perfect conditions for Thanet U15s to host TJs, the first meetings of these two teams for many years. Currently TJs are one league above Thanet and are currently unbeaten in their league fixtures to date. A tough day at the office was envisaged and before the game the coaches challenged the squad to carry on their excellent recent form and start the game as they had finished the last.

Rising to the challenge the team played one of their best halves of rugby to date, building on the confidence from their recent victories and immediately putting TJs under immense pressure. The midweek Wednesday sessions have been about building structure and encouraging the team to play what they see in front of them with speed and determination. It seems that in every fixture we play we give up a lot in size and weight but make up for it in the speed that the game is played and with excellent fitness levels. This game was no exception.

Almost from the start TJs were under pressure. A deft kick over the top from No 10 Finlay Smith almost resulted in a try but Milo Whitehead was just unable to collect the ball and a knock on resulted in a TJs scrum 5 meters from their posts. A big shove from the much smaller Thanet pack had the scrum won against the head and after a series of pick and goes Ben Morris picked up from the back of the ruck and charged over for the first of his tries. Ben's recent progress, alongside Noah Manga and Ethan Morgan, have shown the results of the hard work put in by the forward coaches. The celebrations after the try were enough to see that the confidence was there for the team to push on. The trusty boot of Finlay Smith slotted the conversion and Thanet were leading 7-0 within a few minutes of kick off.

On the 10-minute mark a fluid backs move saw Jamie Barbara joining the line from 15 and the TJs defence was penalised for not rolling

away. Finlay Smith lined up the kick from just inside the 22, it hit the post, bounced down onto the bar and over and the lead grew to 10-0. The confidence in the backs has been a testament to the time and effort put in by the backs coach Tim Sperryn who has got them playing with huge amounts of flair and confidence.

A well worked restart from TJs saw them regain possession but the speed of the Thanet defence saw TJs losing ground. The breakdown was an area Thanet were excelling in and a penalty for holding on went to Thanet just inside the TJs half. Finlay Smith looked to kick to touch but instead took a quick tap and chipped over the TJs defence. The ball took an awkward bounce and Finlay and the TJs 15 battled for the ball which ended up with the ball breaking free allowing Milo Whitehead to touch down to put Thanet 15-0 ahead. Another successful conversion increased the lead to 17-0.

From the restart Thanet were on the attack again. Great work from the impressive Jamie Barbara at 15 saw him rip the ball from a TJs player's hands and Noah Manga went surging through to within 5 meters of the line. A penalty to Thanet for entering the ruck from the side saw Ben Williams take a quick tap and dive over the line. The conversion was missed, and Thanet were now 22-0 up.

From the restart the ball found its way back into the TJs 22 via some good interplay between the forwards and backs and a resultant penalty to Thanet saw Finally launch a high kick deep into the TJs 22 which they failed to deal with. A strong run from Gab Petrauskas punched a hole in the TJs defence and Ben Morris was fed by the Thanet 9, Jack Sperryn, to drive over for his second try. Finlay's faithful boot put the score to 29-0 with under 10 minutes to go in the half.

The next 5 minutes saw TJs have a good spell of possession in the Thanet half. The pressure was released when from a ruck the ball was

moved very quickly through the backs to Isaac Rowland-Day who was able to show his lightning speed and ran from one 22 to the other. A missed kick to touch from TJs had the ball in Finlay Smith's hands and the resultant backs move saw Andrew Bull step inside the TJs 15 and then with the conversion the score at Half Time was 36-0.

Half time saw all those at the club coming together on the 1st XV pitch to take part in the minutes silence.

Such a lead at half time actually was more of a hinderance than a help as a spot of complacency set in and some slack passing in the first few minutes saw an excellent interception by the TJs outside centre who raced away from the half way line and bought the score back to 36-7.

TJs started to find some fluency and the next 10 minutes was a much more even contest. With the other age groups finishing their training sessions the crowd was slowly growing, and they were treated to a highly competitive third quarter albeit with Thanet still in the ascendancy. A TJs lineout on their

5-metre line saw their jumper drop the ball straight into Gabs Petrauskas hands and he quickly took advantage and dived over the line to increase the score to 41-7.

Harry Knowles came on to replace Isaac Rowland-Day on the wing and it wasn't long before his pace saw him touch down after Thanet won back position on the TJs 22. Another exceptional kick from Finlay Smith from wide out on the 22 saw the final score of 48-7 to Thanet.

To say that was a surprise result would be an understatement. The biggest compliment came from their coaches who thought our performance was worthy not only of a team in their division but probably of a team in Division 1.

The next few weeks sees a rest from competitive matches until 'Le Petit Crunch' which sees many of the squad pitched against each other in the CCGS and St Lawrence squads.

Well done to Harry Davies and Jamie Barbara who were nominated as the teams forward ad back of the match.

**ANDY BULL**



# RESULTS GRID COUNTIES 2 KENT LEAGUE

AWAY TEAM ▶	AYLESFORD BULLS	DARTFORD VALLEY	FOLKESTONE	GILLINGHAM ANCHORS	MAIDSTONE	MEDWAY 2s	OLD ALLEYNANS 2s	OLD ELTHAMIANS	SIDCUP 2s	TWRUFC	VIGO	WESTCOMBE PARK 2s
HOME TEAM ▼	AYLESFORD BULLS	DARTFORD VALLEY	FOLKESTONE	GILLINGHAM ANCHORS	MAIDSTONE	MEDWAY 2s	OLD ALLEYNANS 2s	OLD ELTHAMIANS	SIDCUP 2s	TWRUFC	VIGO	WESTCOMBE PARK 2s
AYLESFORD BULLS		65-0	43-28	15-25	53-6							
DARTFORD VALLEY							27-34	31-50	7-12	12-12	31-7	
FOLKESTONE				15-22	34-22		38-31					61-26
GILLINGHAM ANCHORS		25-5					48-33	17-27				38-5
MAIDSTONE		34-24					14-44		10-72		30-25	0-43
MEDWAY 2s		33-15	26-19	10-27	22-5				37-15			
OLD ALLEYNANS 2s						34-27		0-35		24-25	34-18	46-31
OLD ELTHAMIANS	31-12		34-14			43-14						
SIDCUP 2s	28-24		25-14	35-34				7-31				63-6
TWRUFC	34-27			12-6	37-12	30-20			21-8			
VIGO	27-29		18-10			10-32				26-29		
WESTCOMBE PARK 2s	17-36							18-12		14-35	34-21	

# RESULTS FROM KENT COUNTIES LEAGUE 2

## Friday 8th November 2024

Dartford Valley 27-34 Old Alleynians 2nd XV

## Saturday 9th November 2024

Gillingham Anchorians 17-27 Old Elthamians

Maidstone 0-43 Westcombe Park 2nd XV

Medway 2nd XV 37-15 Sidcup 2nd XV

THANET WANDERERS 34-27 Aylesford Bulls

Vigo 18-10 Folkestone

## Saturday 16th November 2024

Aylesford Bulls 65-0 Dartford Valley

Folkestone 34-22 Maidstone

Old Alleynians 2nd XV 34-27 Medway 2nd XV

Old Elthamians 74-0 Vigo

Sidcup 2nd XV 35-34 Gillingham Anchorians

Westcombe Park 2nd XV 14-35 THANET WANDERERS



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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  
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**Encourage** your child to improve his/her skills through coaching  
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