

The Swan

January Edition.

All of us at Swanley RFC wish you a very Happy New Year

2017 Round Up

A few words from Coach George Morris ...

We are now half way through the season and our results have been far better than expected as we are in 2nd place in the league and only 2 points off the top club Sevenoaks. The success has been due to a number of reasons:

- Players commitment to training and games has been great, and we need to keep it going to the end of the season. Even storm Eleanor couldn't dampen the spirits on our return to training last night.



Wet wimps!

- Our supporters have been outstanding cheering the guys on from the side-lines at both home and away games. May your numbers continue to grow as you are a massive asset to the whole club.
- Those on the committee who do a sterling job in the shadows working hard to get us the kit and equipment along with facilities, sponsorship, meetings with local MPs so that we can grow as a club.
- Our sponsors without whom none of this would have been possible.

2018 and Looking Forward

The pressure is on. Everyone knows us now and we have the return fixtures to play. We also have a run of 5 away games including the cup tie against Greenwich. So with the holiday excesses behind us, now is the time to get focused and hunt down Sevenoaks whilst consolidating our position. It's a lot to ask but let's aim high.

Match Centre

Match Centre is short and sweet this month. Short because there is only one match to report on and sweet because we won. **December 16th** saw us at home to Aylesford 3s.

Aylesford Bulls struggled to contain the Swanley pack, number 8 Ben Bates broke off the back of scrum to break the deadlock. Captain Ant Sumbler added to their woes with a well-executed rolling maul. Not much later Stuart Tate, deputising at scrum half spotted a gap at the break down, touched down and converted the try to close out the half. Just before the whistle, the Bulls came close to scoring themselves however the winger fumbled the ball just before the try line.

The Bulls resumed the game well and put Swanley under some considerable pressure out wide. Any ideas of a comeback were quickly snuffed out when James Yates stepped his opposite man and crashed over to reassert the Swanley dominance. Stuart struck again after picking at the base of a scrum taking a few Aylesford defenders with him. The remainder of the game was all Aylesford as they relentlessly battered the Swanley defence. Unfortunately for the Bulls, the Swanley defence has been very difficult to breach this year and despite two sin bins late on they still couldn't break through. A solid win for the Swans who are closing in on top spot, which was well celebrated at the Red Lion Christmas bash. Man of the Match went to Ant Pittock who made his first starting appearance for Swanley and duly delivered. **Final score 31 – 0.**



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January Fixtures

Jan 6th – 14.00pm - Maidstone 3s – Away

Jan 20th – 14.00pm - Tun. Wells IV – Away

Jan 27th – 14.00pm – New Ash Green 2 - Away

Full match reports are available at:

<http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/swanleyrfc/>

League Table

#	Team	Pl	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
1	Sevenoaks IV	11	10	0	1	408	85	323	42
2	Swanley I	12	10	0	2	353	193	160	42
3	Edenbridge I	12	9	0	3	416	231	185	39
4	Old Gravesendians II	12	7	0	5	176	248	-72	30
5	Sheppey II	10	6	0	4	289	225	64	28
6	Gravesend IV	12	6	0	6	323	299	24	28
7	Gillingham II	10	6	0	4	297	166	131	27
8	Vigo III	10	4	0	6	236	246	-10	22
9	New Ash Green II	10	3	1	6	134	264	-130	20
10	Aylesford III	11	2	0	9	138	347	-209	15
11	Maidstone III	11	1	1	9	135	375	-240	11
12	Tunbridge Wells IV	9	0	0	9	83	309	-226	8

Club News & Events

Arrangements are well in hand for our very first club tour. We shall be blessing Bath with our presence and playing a friendly against Bath Saracens RFC.

The hotel is booked and the trip advisor reviews debated. A few comments about noise late at night have been duly noted. Well they aint heard nothing yet! (I assume Stuart will be there).

Sponsors Corner



When we took over our clubroom there was a fairly urgent need to update and replace the kitchen. We don't do a lot of catering and the kitchen doubles as a bar at the moment.

Howdens of Swanley came to our aid and provided a range of cupboards, worktops, sinks and taps enabling us to rip out the old and replace it as seen in the picture below.



We still have some way to go but nothing splashing some paint around wouldn't cure. The kitchen is a significant improvement and without their help this would have been a long way down the priority list.

Howdens Joinery is the UK's largest manufacturer and supplier of fitted kitchens, appliances and joinery products from local stock.

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