

**Maidstone Vets 36  
Gravesend Moles 0**

**Sat 27<sup>th</sup> October 2012**

The vets took on the challenge of facing what seemed like the entire membership of Gravesend - actually a cast of many from the Moles - up in the park and maintained their recent run of good form extending their winning "streak" to three consecutive matches. In arguably their best performance for many a day the vets ran out comfortable winners racking up 34 unanswered points in an excellent all round display.

Despite "handbags" on the half time whistle Maidstone were able to maintain their concentration on rugby, rather than be drawn into minor vendettas, with second half tries from Costello and O'Mahoney (converted by prop Pete Gray) adding to the first half tries of Costello, Clark (Snr) and Gray. With Walker converting one of the tries an 18 point half time lead did not necessarily lead to any thoughts of the match being won at that stage especially as Gravesend were proving a competitive outfit.

The addition of Clark (Jnr) and Bishop (Jnr) allowed father and son representation for the second week running, following in the footsteps of the Coomber clan, and both "youngsters" contributed much, particularly to the second half that, bar re-starts, did not see Gravesend enter Maidstone's half of the pitch. As well as Costello's star turn hat-trick (even if he had not scored the third he would have been facing the purchase of much Guinness for jug avoidance) there were excellent performances from Newman, Richards and Gray up front, Walker and Ellesmere at half back and Clark (Snr) in the backs. However, all of the vets players can take great credit for their contributions to a satisfying victory. It is pleasing to record that, despite Gravesend's rucking strength, Maidstone were able to more than hold their own up front, especially at scrum time, providing, on many occasions, quick, clean ball that their backs were able to use productively and, on the whole, with much skill.

If the positives of the Gravesend victory can be carried forward into next Saturday then the trip to Canterbury 5ths should prove less daunting than the vets last visit to the cathedral city for the match against the Cardinals.