



England want to end Scotland 'hurt' - Mitchell



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England are intent on ending their four-year "hurt" against Scotland when the old rivals meet in the Six Nations, says scrum-half Alex Mitchell. Scotland have won the last four Calcutta Cup matches and Mitchell says English motivation is high to deny Gregor Townsend's side a record fifth consecutive victory.

England will welcome Scotland to the Allianz Stadium on 22 February in high spirits following their last-gasp win over France, which curtailed a run of seven defeats against Tier One nations. We are hurting for the last four years at not getting a result. Mitchell was influential in England's late recovery against Les Bleus, moving the attack from a wearied rolling maul at the line-out to a buoyant midfield, where Elliot Daly glided through the French defence to score the winning try.

The Northampton Saints scrum-half, 27, says he noticed an opportunity amid the forwards arm-wrestle, which Daly exploited. The France defence was changing the whole time," Mitchell added. "They had two defenders and then one as [Damian] Penaud was doing a really good job behind the maul covering both sides.

"We noticed a mismatch in the open so we shot that way and scored. You have a split second to try and make the right decision and luckily we did."