



**Bournemouth RFC**  
**The English Clubs Rugby Union Championship**  
**National 3 South West**  
**Season 2011/2012**  
**Saturday, 1 October 2011, KO 3 p.m. at Chapel Gate**



**Bournemouth Lions..... 60pts**    **Old Redcliffians ..... 3pts**

**HT:** 26pts  
**Tries:** Connolly 5, Hardcastle 15, Flynn 21 35 49 58 61, Searle 52, Tarrant 69  
**Conversions:** Pollard 5 15 21, Searle 49 52 69  
**Penalties:** Pollard 41

**HT:** 3pts  
**Penalties:** Hall 26

**Bournemouth continue their record start in the league against a lively Bristol side**

**Result:** Bournemouth 60/9t6cp v 3/p Old Redcliffians. **Half-time:** 26/4t3c v 3/p.

**Weather:** A beautiful sunny day with a gentle Southerly breeze that blew straight across the pitch.

**Ground:** The ground was firm under foot with a good covering of grass and looked a treat.

**Kick-off:** Old Redcliffians (Joe Hall) kicked off right to left as viewed from the stand.

**A** well-judged interception by Connolly deep in his own half brought a lively opening by the visitors to an abrupt halt as a forlorn bunch of helplessly-stranded players watched the outside centre walk in under the posts to score. Pollard's conversion of course inevitably added to the misery. Bournemouth were grateful for that slice of fortune because it was clear from those early exchanges that they were facing a tough proposition in the unseasonably hot sun. At the restart Bournemouth were penalized at the tackle but from near the half-way line full back Joe Hall managed to kick the ball 'dead' for a Bournemouth scrum. This formed the platform for another Bournemouth raid but Searle's kick through was 'touched down' for a 22-metre drop-out. An attempt to take a 'quick one' failed to cross the line for a Bournemouth scrum. Old Reds managed to defend the Bournemouth attack but were penalized at their own scrum for Pollard to have a chance for a kick at goal but his effort was wide. From this drop-out, Old Reds took no chances with a long kick down field and were rewarded with a scrum when Searle threw a long pass left and Pollard knocked on a difficult bouncing ball. However Bournemouth destroyed the visitors' scrum and the ever alert Hardcastle picked the ball up in the confusion at the base of the scrum. Typically he was off down the left only to be half tackled in the in-goal area. He shook that off and continued his run to nearer the posts touching down just wide of them as another raider threatened. Pollard completed the score to make it 14-nil with quarter of an hour

gone. Nonetheless Old Reds pressed from the restart but spoilt things with a crooked throw-in just 30 or so metres out. Taking the free kick, Dunkerley linked with Hennings but when Old Reds were penalized in attempting to stop the Bournemouth move, Pollard kicked left to press them back to their own 10-metre line for a Bournemouth throw-in. Try as they might Bournemouth could not crack a determined defence and were eventually penalized for full back Joe Hall to return the earlier compliment when he found touch on the half-way line. From the line-out, Old Reds managed to kick the ball straight out for a Bournemouth line-out but they only managed to crab across the field for another throw-in this time on the right-hand side and just inside their own half. After an initial drive by the forwards from the line-out, which their opposite numbers found hard to contain, the ball was released left and Flynn finished off an excellent run by Searle that saw the full back pass back inside to his wing who scored wide out on the left. Pollard with an excellent kick maximised the score and Bournemouth were 21-nil up in as many minutes. The lively blindside and captain Jed Hooper was on hand on his left to field the Bournemouth kick back from the restart. Hooper chipped the ball back deep into the Bournemouth 22-metre where Pollard did well to scramble back and clear to his right. As Old Reds went right from the line-out Bournemouth managed to retrieve the ball but their kick down field was returned with some interest through strong running backs who were rewarded with a penalty on the Bournemouth 22-metre line when the tackler failed to roll away. Hall, from left of the posts drilled the ball just inside the left upright to get his side on the scoreboard at 3-21 with quarter of an hour of the half to go. Bournemouth pressed in response to the score but, when awarded a penalty, Pollard pulled the kick at goal from 30 or so metres out across the face of the posts. Nonetheless the Bournemouth pressure was intense and Stewart almost got in his corner down that right wing. However the

**Teams**

**Bournemouth:** Robbie Searle/t3c, Ben Stewart, Dan Connolly/t, Scott Chislett (Robert Bruce 48), James Flynn/5t, Dan Pollard/3cp (Chislett 48), Sam Hardcastle/t, Tim Wareham, Frazer Wilford (Joe Tarrant/t 48), Alan Manning/C, Tim Seward, Callum Forrest, Jack Hennings (Dunkerley 48), Anthony Dunkerley (Alex Horne 48), Gavin Hart.

**Coaches:** David Dunn, Tim Collier.

**Physiotherapists:**

Stephen Trapp, Simon Fitch.

**Video Analyst:** Helen Ryan.

**Bournemouth Man of the Match:**

Callum Forrest (presented with the Tony Ebner bottle of champagne).

**Old Reds:** Joe Hall/p, Dave Harris, Simon Mortimore, Craig Owen, Sam Britton, Mike Schropfer, Graham Beveridge, Jason Owen, Sam White, Jamie Roberts, Mike Collins, Ben Chase, Jed Hooper/C, Scott Coster, Dan Fry.

**Substitutes:** Danny Palmer, Anthony Davies, Josh Mortimore.

**Referee:** Phil Watters; Gloucestershire.

**Referee Observer:**

Mel Hillman; Somerset.

**Touch Judges:**

Nigel Brunning; Bournemouth.

Jim Hanks; Old Redcliffians.

**League Points:** Bournemouth 5 (Four points for a win plus one try-scoring bonus point), Old Reds 0.

**League Positions:**

Bournemouth remain 1st on 25 points and two points clear of 2nd place. Old Redcliffians remain 9th on 9 points.

**In All Matches:** James Flynn passes 400 (409) points.

**In the League:** Alan Manning extends his own record of consecutive appearances as captain to 43, which is also the tight-head and forward record. Sam Hardcastle starts his 150th game and extends his own try-scoring record to 104. James Flynn becomes the fourth Bournemouth player to equal the club record of five tries in a game and registers his fourth hat-trick in his league career. Pollard passes 250 (252) points.

Old Reds's defence held firm. They disrupted a Bournemouth 5-metre scrum and Old Reds were able to clear to their left. They found Stewart instead of finding touch and the wing set off infield in typical robust fashion. The ball was recycled from the contact and worked left to Flynn who was too strong to be denied registering his second try wide out on the left. Pollard was unable to add the extra points this time to leave the score 26-3 with five minutes to go to the interval. Old Reds strove valiantly and despite having to replace Hooper, Bournemouth did well to repulse a strong raid down the visitors's right where referee Phil Watters blew to end the half.

Old Reds initially dealt with the restart well but when they moved it left, an over ambitious clearance went straight out and Bournemouth had a platform for an early attack on their right. As the ball went left from the line-out Old Reds were penalized and from just left of the posts Pollard kicked his fourth goal of the afternoon to increase the Bournemouth lead to 29-3 after just a minute's play in the second half. Hardcastle's kick back from the kick-off was cleared to the left for a Bournemouth line-out on the half-way line and on their right, As throughout the afternoon, the Bournemouth jumpers secured the ball and Hardcastle made a typical break down the narrow channel. He passed inside to the support Hart for Pollard to make a half break. However the Old Reds's defence held out. After a stoppage to an injured player the defence induced a knock on under the posts as Flynn came in off his wing looking for the hat-trick score. No 8 Dan Fry made a brave attempt to counter off the back of the 5-metre scrum but support was on hand to put in a more effective clearance kick to the right for a Bournemouth line-out. Coach Dunn took advantage of the natural break to replace fly-half Pollard, hooker Wilford and blindside Hennings with Bruce, Tarrant and Horne respectively. The threes had a minor reshuffle with Chislett taking over the fly-half role and Bruce going to inside centre in his place.

This rearranged Bournemouth side immediately announced themselves with a Flynn score as the ball went first right from the line-out and then back to Flynn's side as he rounded off a flowing move with his hat-trick score. Deputizing for Pollard, Searle kicked an excellent goal to make the score 36-3 less than ten minutes into the second period. With Chislett making all sorts of openings for his runners, full back Searle made that extra man that was finally too much for a stretched Old Reds's defence and he rounded off a quite outstanding three-quarter move by scoring just wide of the left hand post. He made no mistake to convert his own score and Bournemouth were ominously beginning to build an overwhelming total at 43-3 12 minutes into the half. That didn't faze Old Reds who applied enormous pressure from the restart but a resolute Bournemouth defence kept them out as Old Reds couldn't get further than the 5-metre area. A try-saving tackle by Hardcastle as he chased left backed up the enormous effort the forwards put-in in the close quarter stuff as Old Reds probed and probed but to no avail. Then suddenly Chislett broke out and galloped to beyond the half-way line before being brought down. Typically, however, strong in the tackle the substitute fly-half was able to get the ball away to the supporting Bruce and, with Connolly providing the link, Flynn was put into space to round off an outstanding and thrilling 'end to end' move. Old Reds committed the cardinal sin of not kicking the restart 10-metres and from the scrum back, Hardcastle, with a typical sniping run, started to make them pay for the error. The ball was moved left and it was Chislett again who provided the opening when a deft move from out of the back of the hand tight on the left hand side saw the predatory Flynn on hand to take advantage of this gem of a chance and sprint in from the 10-metre line. The only disappointment was despite his best efforts Searle was unable to convert either of these two Flynn tries but Bournemouth had broken the 50-points mark at 53-3. In many respects Old Reds did well to keep the

score to how it finished. Flynn had added those two tries before the half was barely half over as Bournemouth threatened to run riot. In that last quarter Bournemouth only managed a try from stand-in hooker Tarrant, converted by Searle for their efforts. Not that I wish to disparage Tarrant's effort because he did well to finish off some relentless pressure through his fellow forwards as they drove forward. Even then it seemed that the ball had been turned over but the strong Tarrant came up with the ball and he was too strong from a few metres out to be denied. However that last score was with more than ten minutes left in the game. Was Flynn going to get an historic sixth try? With a minute to go he came off his wing with a training park move but the big wing lost the ball in the fierce contact of a determined defence and that was effectively that.

What do we make of that game? I think the scale of our win came as a surprise. Bournemouth it seems to me were lucky with that interception early on when they were under the cosh as the visitors threatened with some strong attacking moves. That put Old Reds undeservedly on the back foot albeit temporarily. What effect it had overall I am uncertain but Old Reds throughout showed great spirit as they tried to stem the flow and countered with their own dangerous runs deep into enemy territory. However, take nothing away from Bournemouth as they played with great purpose and flair and believe me, if you are a Bournemouth supporter (and possibly even if you are not) it is great stuff to watch.

We had our brand new electronic scoreboard in use for the first time and provided Tony Ebner with much amusement as he tried to keep track of the stoppages. We are very grateful to David Errington of Goadsby for his generous sponsorship in making this possible. As we move into the digital age, we retire our analogue version so kindly built for us by apprentices at FRA on the Hurn Airport. Please note, Richard Llewellyn doesn't retire with it!

**Doug Warren.**