

# BOURNEMOUTH SATURDAY SENIOR CUP FINAL

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2019

at Hurn Bridge, Christchurch

**BOURNEMOUTH POPPIES 1 HYTHE & DIBDEN 0**



**Bournemouth Poppies are winners of the BOURNEMOUTH SENIOR CUP for the fifth time in their history after River Smith's 52<sup>nd</sup> minute strike clinched a 1-0 victory over Hythe & Dibden in Thursday night's final at Hurn Bridge.**

The Poppies striker had a lot to do when he collected the ball just inside the opposition's half but he accelerated past the Hythe & Dibden defenders and let fly with a fierce, low drive from the edge of the penalty area, straight at Hythe & Dibden 'keeper Ellis Grant. The young goalkeeper, who had been outstanding up until then, looked to have it covered but the ball slipped from his grasp and finished in the back of the net.

Hythe & Dibden had despatched Brockenhurst, Christchurch, and Hamworthy United in addition to Poole Town's Development squad on their way to the final and the Wessex League Division One side once again showed that they could hold their own against Premier Division opposition in an evenly contested first half.

Hythe & Dibden left back Rhys Crooks put an excellent ball through for Fillippos Terzidas in the 16<sup>th</sup> minute but Poppies goalkeeper Sam Jones was out quickly to block the shot while, at the other end, Ellis Grant narrowed the angle well to deny Harry Cooper.

Robbie Pitman headed the ball on for Liam Goulding to break through the middle in the 25<sup>th</sup> minute but, with the Poppies defence closing in on him, the Hythe & Dibden winger had to get his shot off quickly and Sam Jones was able to make a comfortable save.



The best move of the match so far came in the 30<sup>th</sup> minute when Steve Flynn and River Smith combined brilliantly to create an opening and Flynn's 20 yard blast was destined for the top corner of the Hythe & Dibden net until Ellis Grant somehow managed to get a hand to it and turn it behind.

Grant was in action again five minutes later, saving well from River Smith at the foot of the post.

There was some good approach play from Hythe & Dibden as the first half drew to a close resulting in a shot from Wayne O'Dell which was deflected behind for a corner.



Then a superb run by Phillipos Terzidas set up a chance for Matt Smith who sliced his shot wide of the target. The Hythe & Dibden striker was closer in first half stoppage time though, with a curling effort from just outside the penalty area which sailed over Sam Jones and clipped the top of the crossbar.

**River Smith** broke the deadlock seven minutes into the second half and the Poppies almost doubled their lead in the 65<sup>th</sup> minute when Harry Cooper produced a neat turn before forcing an excellent diving save from Ellis Grant.

Hythe & Dibden put a good move together in the 77<sup>th</sup> minute to create an opening for substitute Harrison Fay at the far post but goalkeeper Sam Jones dived bravely at his feet to block the shot.

Hythe & Dibden came forward again with man of the match Phillipos Terzidas making another impressive run before threading a promising ball through.

Ellis Grant made an excellent flying save at the other end then Steve Flynn put Dom Falco through but the Poppies substitute's shot across the face of the goal went just wide of the far post.

Hythe & Dibden had one last chance to get on terms in stoppage time when they hoisted a free kick into a crowded goalmouth. Sam Jones threw himself into the crowd of bodies in an attempt to punch the ball away but it was heading for the Poppies goal until central defender Harvey Elsom came to the rescue with a timely goal line clearance.



STEVE@BDFAIMAGES.CO.UK

**Bournemouth Poppies** : Sam Jones, Manny Ohameje (Charlie Langston 52mins), Aziz Aldhayan, Chris Spears, Harvey Elsom, Ron Frost, Chia Khider (Dom Falco 57 mins), Harry Cooper, River Smith (Sami Garcia 86 mins), Steve Flynn, Al Zintany.



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**Hythe & Dibden** : Ellis Grant, Dave Wyatt (George Pooley 66 mins), Rhys Crooks, Jo Tessem, Ryan Hayter, Dan Steer, Robbie Pitman (Ben Slade 75 mins), Fillipos Terzidas, Wayne O'Dell, Matt Smith (Cain Prentice 68 mins), Liam Goulding (Harrison Fay 68 mins).