

Date: 14 April 2018  
 Opposition: Bournemouth  
 Competition: League

	Sunday Times	Independent	Echo
	Sun Telegraph	Mirror	Daily Echo
	Guardian	Mail	BBC

15 April 2018

**THE**  **TIMES**

**the guardian**

Mohamed Salah takes his tally to 30 in Liverpool win over Bournemouth. The bad news for Harry Kane is that Mohamed Salah is not standing still waiting to be caught. The Liverpool forward became the first player to reach 30 league goals with a delightful second-half header, leaving him one goal short of the record for a 38-match season, with four games to play.

In all competitions Salah has 40 for the season, enough to join the ranks of Liverpool royalty. Only Roger Hunt and Ian Rush have managed that feat before. One more league goal and Salah joins Alan Shearer, Cristiano Ronaldo and Luis Suárez as joint top scorers for a 38-game Premier League season, although the chances are he will go out in front. He may even reach or pass the 34 goals Shearer scored in the original 42-fixture Premier League, though for the moment Liverpool are sufficiently impressed with the Rush connection.

"Thirty-one years since Ian Rush scored 40?" Jürgen Klopp asked in mock disbelief. "He doesn't look that old. Was he 14 years old at the time? Mo knows the way we play suits him. Perhaps the boys were searching for him a bit too much, but it is a win-win situation. He wants us to be successful and we would love him to get the Golden Boot."

Salah had already had a couple of chances by the time Liverpool took the lead on seven minutes. Jordan Henderson sent a diagonal cross into the box and though Asmir Begovic kept out Sadio Mané's initial header from close to the penalty spot he could not keep hold of the ball, and the Senegal forward lost no time in tucking away the rebound.

Though Jordan Ibe did try to hit back against his former club with a speculative drive that flew a couple of feet over Loris Karius's crossbar, once Liverpool had taken such an early lead there was more interest in whether or not Salah would get on to the scoresheet than the outcome of the game.

Apparently piqued by Kane's nerve in bulking up his total with a disputed goal, Salah made it clear from the outset he was keen to find the target. He brought a save from Begovic midway through the first half when it might have been more rewarding to pass to a colleague than shoot, and when a stray Simon Francis pass gave him a chance to run at the Bournemouth defence a few moments later he again showed little inclination to part with the ball, even though he must have known he had a slim chance of scoring with a rising shot from the edge of the area.

The second half began in a fashion that was actually quite tedious. The fact that Liverpool only had one attacking effort of note for a quarter of an hour might give some indication of how tedious. Roberto Firmino ran offside on a couple of occasions but that was about it for excitement. A 50-yard break by Trent Alexander-Arnold did bring Salah back into the game just after the hour mark, though by his standards the eventual shot was tame and straight at the goalkeeper.

The danger with just one goal separating the teams was that Bournemouth might sneak back into the game and share the points with a single effective attack, yet at the mid-point of the second half a couple of Salah-related incidents brought the stadium to life.

First he went flying in the penalty area claiming a push in the back from Nathan Aké. It was in some ways similar to the Juventus foul Michael Oliver did so well to spot in midweek, though Chris Kavanagh was having none of it and replays proved him right. Aké did raise his hands, unwisely, and Salah may have felt the contact, though there was not even a hint of a shove.

Less than a minute later Salah had his revenge, drifting in behind Aké to get his head to Alexander-Anold's cross and put Liverpool two in front. That barely does his 30th league goal of the season justice, for Salah still had to apply the right amount of power and precision to get the ball above and beyond a 6ft 5in goalkeeper. In effect he lobbed Begovic while facing away from goal, showing the sort of instinctive finishing that has become his trademark. He made a difficult chance look easy. No wonder Kane is worried.

Karius had to make a stop from Dan Gosling after that but Liverpool were never seriously threatened. Firmino could have made it 3-0 a few minutes before he scored, though after missing one good chance through over-elaborating in front of the Kop he made sure he buried his next one.

"Liverpool have really improved in the last year," Eddie Howe said, when reminded his team took a point from Anfield last season. "They are tough to play against at the moment."

Date: 14 April 2018 Opposition: Bournemouth Competition: League	Sunday Times	Independent	Echo	15 April 2018
	Sun Telegraph	Mirror	Daily Echo	
	Guardian	Mail	BBC	

# The Mail

Roberto Firmino, Mohamed Salah and Sadio Mane net as Jurgen Klopp's side continue brilliant form

Mo Salah became the first Liverpool player since Ian Rush to score 40 goals in a season as Jurgen Klopp's side preserved the Premier League's only unbeaten home record this season. Sadio Mane got the Champions League semi-finalists off to a perfect start with an early opening goal before Salah set all kinds of milestones with a brilliant header to seal the points after 69 minutes. Roberto Firmino capped Liverpool's fine week with a late third. Salah's effort was the Egyptian's 30th Premier League goal of the campaign and his overall tally puts him in an exclusive 40-club at Anfield with Roger Hunt and Rush, who achieved the feat most recently in 1987. Liverpool are now only one point behind second-placed Manchester United and two more wins in their remaining four League games will confirm a top-four finish. More records could fall to Salah in the coming weeks, including the highest goals total in a Premier League season — 34 shared by Alan Shearer and Andy Cole — and the 47 scored in all competitions by Rush for Liverpool in 1983-84. After Anfield had shown its respect to the 96 Liverpool fans who died at Hillsborough 29 years ago on Sunday, Klopp's side hit their strides quickly. He made only one change from the line-up that won at Manchester City to clinch a Champions League semi-final place in midweek, a clear signal he was not expecting any hangover, and the players justified his faith with a rattling fast start. Salah had already threatened Bournemouth twice — denied by an excellent block from Steve Cook, then prodding a shot wide — when the home side took the lead after seven minutes. Mane has often been the poor relation in Liverpool's dazzling front three this season but licensed to operate more centrally, he struck early. Jordan Henderson's curved cross bypassed the visitors' defence and though Asmir Begovic parried Mane's close-range header, the goalkeeper was powerless as the ball dropped back to the Senegal forward who dispatched the rebound with glee. It was his 17th goal of the season. Damage limitation seemed to be the name of the game for Eddie Howe's Bournemouth with a five-man defence and lone striker Jermain Defoe withdrawn so deep the visitors had every player back in their own half.

Salah seemed especially frustrated as he tried to put more pressure on Harry Kane in what is becoming a spiky race for the Premier League's Golden Boot, a prize the Tottenham man has won for the past two seasons.

Nathan Ake was alert to get the final touch when Firmino threatened to play in Salah and the Egyptian's frustration was clear when he elected to shoot midway through the half instead of passing to a better placed team-mate, his effort rising over the crossbar. Trent Alexander-Arnold was the surprising free-kick taker when Henderson was fouled just outside the box and his on-target effort was scrambled away by Begovic. Salah had one other effort before half-time that tested Begovic but Mane looked the more dangerous customer, snapping a decent first-time shot just wide when played in by Gini Wijnaldum. Bournemouth were doing a passable impression of how Roma might try to stifle Liverpool in their Champions League semi-final first leg at Anfield a week on Tuesday. Wing-backs Ryan Fraser and Charlie Daniels prioritised defending over bombing forward.

Their only threats to Liverpool came from a couple of well delivered corners and a long-range shot from their former Liverpool winger Jordon Ibe that fizzed over. A header from Josh King soon after the restart caused Liverpool's defence more problems than anything previously as it drifted past the post with Loris Karius beaten. Virgil van Dijk, tried to take matters into his own hands, but his fierce strike from distance was just a little too high to trouble Begovic.

Howe made his first change after 57 minutes, withdrawing Ibe for Lys Mousset. King dropped into Ibe's old position on the left which allowed Defoe the chance to play in his favoured centre-forward's berth. At the other end Salah, who had scored in his previous six games at Anfield, ran through the defence but when it was time to pull the trigger, his final effort was too tame to beat Begovic. The watchable Salah-Ake contest took a twist when the Bournemouth defender appeared to nudge his opponent in the box. Salah went tumbling in spectacular fashion and threw his arms out in exasperation when no penalty was awarded. In the next Liverpool attack, Alexander-Arnold swung over a cross from the right-hand side midway in Bournemouth's half. Salah isn't noted in particular for his power in the air but he peeled off the back of Ake and guided a clever header over the despairing Begovic.

Firmino should have added a third goal after 74 minutes when put clean through by Henderson, but Ake cleared off the line.

No matter, the Brazilian put away the third from Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain's pass.

#### PLAYER RATINGS, LEAGUE TABLE AND MATCH ZONE

Liverpool (4-3-3): Karius 6.5; Alexander-Arnold 8, Lovren 6 (Klaven 83), Van Dijk 6.5, Robertson 7; Henderson 6.5; Oxlade-Chamberlain 6, Wijnaldum 6.5; Salah 7, Firmino 6.5 (Solanke 90), Mane 7 (Milner 77 6)

Subs: Mignolet (Gk), Moreno, Ings, Woodburn

Goal: Mane 7, Salah 69, Firmino 90

Booked: Oxlade-Chamberlain

Bournemouth (5-4-1): Begovic 6.5; Fraser 6.5, Francis 6, S Cook 7, Ake 7.5, Daniels 6; Defoe 5.5 (Wilson 70 6), L Cook 6 (Surman 73 6), Gosling 6, Ibe 6 (Mousset 58 5.5); King 6

Subs: Boruc (Gk), Pugh, Smith, Simpson

Booking: Ake

Referee: Chris Kavanagh 7

# The Daily Telegraph

Date: 14 April 2018  
 Opposition: Bournemouth  
 Competition: League

	Sunday Times	Independent	Echo
	Sun Telegraph	Mirror	Daily Echo
	Guardian	Mail	BBC

15 April 2018

## THE INDEPENDENT

The magic of the Champions League may have been missing but Liverpool showed their maturity to down Bournemouth

We did not have one of those unique welcomes to greet Eddie Howe and his gentlemen of the south coast. We did not have enormous crowds on the surrounding roads behind segregation barriers. We did not have Bournemouth sending for another carriage to take them home. After this game, we probably will not have Peter Moore, the chief executive, proudly retweeting posts from independent surveys which reveal Liverpool supporters as being the loudest in the land.

A spring evening made it feel like a moment for Pimms and lemonade on the boundaries of a village green. The buses displaying town names from many areas of the country snaked all the way around Stanley Park and out into Walton. Only a few had come from Bournemouth. Families from those other places held hands as they practically skipped across the fields wearing replica shirts. If Manchester City felt like a religious festival, this was more like a church fete. From the bandstand behind the Kop, a singer with a beard whistled out Wheatus's version of Little Respect. Had babies cried in the quieter moments inside the stadium, you'd have heard them.

Different days of the week. Different kick off times. Opposite atmospheres. Same venue. Same outcome. Same scoreline. It is often said that Liverpool will need the atmosphere at Anfield to consistently be more febrile if the club is to win another championship. It is surely Liverpool's six home draws this season that has cost them a genuine shot at challenging City, after all. Yet Liverpool are also now 19 unbeaten – the only team in the [Premier League](#) to go undefeated at home. It feels like Jürgen Klopp is gradually fashioning a squad that can get by when all is it not quite as lively around them, as well as one that thrives in the hostility of any environment.

The star of the Klopp era is this well-oiled team. In normal seasons, Roberto Firmino, James Milner, Andy Robertson and Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain would be candidates for the player of the season award, even though three of them have only really emerged in the second half of the campaign. It changes things that Mohamed Salah has been there throughout, of course, whose commitment towards goalscoring throughout has been puritanical. Here, his arcing header from Trent Alexander-Arnold's second gorgeous cross of the day ensured he became only the third forward in Liverpool's history to score 40 times in a campaign. Salah's company is legendary. The other two? Roger Hunt and Ian Rush.

Liverpool's lead had been established in the seventh minute, though it could have been established earlier had Salah's accuracy not abandoned him from the first of those Gerrard-esque Alexander-Arnold deliveries. Instead, the advantage followed from another cross – this time from Jordan Henderson. Henderson's creative output feels like it has improved since the signing of Virgil van Dijk because he knows as the holding midfielder, he can drive further up the pitch and hold there, with the enormous Dutchman marshalling behind him. His curving pass came from a right of centre position. In converting at the second opportunity, Sadio Mané ensured that for only the third time since 1990/1991 Liverpool's top three league scorers have reached double figures for the campaign.

Mané's confidence is returning at just the right time. Confidence is coursing through the veins of this Liverpool side and it will be difficult to stop from this position, where the momentum is with them. You know this is a fact when you see Alexander-Arnold, the 19-year-old right back, seizing the opportunity to take a direct free-kick at the expense of Salah, who was brushed away even though he will become a Golden Boot winner if he carries on scoring.

Salah was having an off-day, his touch not as tight as usual, his shots sometimes rushed. Players do this when they are at the very top level, though: they still score. In truth, the rest of his team-mates were sharper and this defined Liverpool's absolute control of the event. Their dominance was truly reflected when Firmino – outstanding again – made Asmir Begovic think he was going to shoot one way but fired in the other direction to make it 3-0.

Chelsea have Liverpool to play at Stamford Bridge and they can still overhaul them. But for that to happen, Liverpool's form will have to collapse while Chelsea will have to deliver perfection every game. Because of their goal difference, Liverpool will probably need to take only five points from the remaining twelve available to ensure back-to-back Champions League campaigns for the first time in a decade. But then, Liverpool have a European semi-final against Roma in ten days' time. They might still yet have to go to Kiev as well. The possibilities are mouth-watering.

## DAILY MIRROR

MY GREATEST WISSSSHHH - Salah left lost for words as he chases Champions League glory ahead of more goalscoring records  
 LIVERPOOL 3

Mane 7, Salah 69, Firmino 90

BOURNEMOUTH 0

RECORD-BREAKING Mo Salah would swap every one of his 40 goals for a Champions League triumph.

The Egyptian star produced another stunning finish, to become only the third Liverpool player in history to reach 40 in a season, matching Roger Hunt and Ian Rush.

And he became only the eighth striker to hit the 30-goal mark in a Premier League campaign, and the eighth different forward to achieve that feat for Liverpool in their 126-year existence.

Yet for Salah, all the accolades, all the awards will mean nothing if Liverpool end the season without a trophy.

"To win the Champions League is huge for everyone.

I don't care about the rest," he explained. Salah was almost lost for words as he tried to describe what lifting Europe's premier trophy would mean. In the end, he resorted to a series of awed noises!

"To win the Champions League is 'whisssssshhh'," he said with a longing sigh. "I can't say, just 'woahhh'," he tried again, gesturing towards the sky.

Salah is leading the race for the Premier League Golden Boot, five ahead of Harry Kane, while he is also fifth in the table of assists.

Equally stunning, is the fact he is ahead of the likes of Messi and Ronaldo in the race to win the Golden Shoe in Europe's biggest leagues. Only Benfica's Jonas has more, with 33 in the Primeira Liga.

Salah became the fastest player in Liverpool's history to get to 40 goals, and the second -quickest to 30 league goals, and he needs just two more to beat the Premier League highest total of 31 in a 38- game season.

The all-time league record is 34, set by Alan Shearer and Andy Cole, in a 42-game season. If he gets to 32 he will pass Luis Suarez's total from 2013-14, and match the most in a single league season even Rush ever scored.

He has torn up the record books as he is tearing up the season, and Salah admitted it is beyond his wildest dreams. Even Rush's all-time record of 47 goals in all competitions in a season is in his sights.

"It's also very close, it's just seven goals. But let's see!" he said.

"I don't know how many games there is to go, but we have the Premier League and semi-finals of the Champions League. I try to score every game to help the team. So each goal for me, or for anyone else, is to help the team."

With four league games remaining Salah is the overwhelming favourite to land the Golden Boot, even if Kane resorted to appealing a goal originally credited to Christian Eriksen at Stoke.

Salah tweeted: "Woooooow really?" when Kane was given that goal days later, but even though he admitted he is gunning for the Golden Boot, he refused to condemn Kane for chasing that phantom goal, which the Spurs striker claimed brushed his shoulder.

"Of course it is in my mind. But you can see today with the team everyone tries to pass the ball to me to help me," added Salah. "I am also sure Tottenham's players try to help Harry Kane. But in the end we play as a team."

Salah's goal came between an early strike from Sadio Mane and a last-minute one for Roberto Firmino.

His dream though, is not lifting an individual honour. It is simple: "To win the Champions League."

Date: 14 April 2018  
 Opposition: Bournemouth  
 Competition: League

	Sunday Times	Independent	Echo
	Sun Telegraph	Mirror	Daily Echo
	Guardian	Mail	BBC

15 April 2018



Jürgen Klopp's side show they are much more than just record breaking Mohamed Salah

It had, for more than an hour, seemed as though Anfield was bearing witness to that most rare of occurrences. [Mohamed Salah](#) was having something of an off day. Chances, and good ones at that, were being spurned, passes going astray, and his single-minded pursuit of a goal had prompted murmurs among the increasingly twitchy home crowd that, well, the Egyptian was being a little greedy. Then came a clear push from Bournemouth centre-back Nathan Ake on Salah inside the area that went unpunished by referee Chris Kavanagh and his officials. It just wasn't happening. Then, moments later in the 69th minute, it did. And how. Trent Alexander-Arnold, as he had done all evening, whipped in another deep cross from the right flank into the danger area towards Salah, who leapt highest to loop a header over Asmir Begovic and into the Kop goal. For somebody for whom headed goals are as [rare as a Virgil van Dijk sliding tackle](#), it was a remarkable finish. In the context of the game, it eased nerves inside Anfield with [Liverpool](#), while not exactly under any threat, struggling to build on Sadio Mane's early opener. But for Salah, of course, it meant something more, a landmark 40th goal of an outrageously profitable debut campaign. Not since May 9 1987, when Ian Rush scored in a 3-3 draw at Chelsea on the final day of the Division One season, [had a Liverpool player scored so many times in a single season](#). Roger Hunt is the only other Liverpool player to reach 40 goals in a season. That Salah has done it in just 45 games having been at Anfield less than a year underlines the extent of his achievement. The PFA Player of the Year award, for which he was revealed among the nominations earlier in the day, surely beckons. So too the Golden Boot as the Premier League's top goalscorer, no matter how hard Tottenham Hotspur's Harry Kane pushes. And the Egyptian is now one goal away from equalling Alan Shearer, Cristiano Ronaldo and Luis Suarez's joint Premier League record of 31 goals in a 38-game season. But this latest win wasn't all about Salah. Instead, it highlighted how Liverpool's thrilling forward line is sharing the goalscoring burden. With Roberto Firmino notching his 25th of the campaign during injury time, between them he, Salah and Mane have scored 82 times, the first time Liverpool's three leading scorers have managed that many goals combined during a single season. Liverpool deserve credit for this professional performance against an obdurate Bournemouth who, for the most part, defended well but, a late flurry apart, were negated going forward. A drop off in energy levels would have been understandable given the efforts in eliminating Manchester City from the Champions League in midweek. But Chelsea's comeback victory at Southampton earlier in the day would have focused minds and banished any thoughts the Reds were cruising to a top-four berth. Complacency was never an issue here. That was reflected in Jürgen Klopp's strong team selection, with the only change from midweek seeing Jordan Henderson replaced James Milner. Henderson, more than anyone, [felt he had a point to prove](#) after missing out at the Etihad through suspension, and was the stellar performer, driving Liverpool forward and leading by example. The Reds skipper will be desperate to feature in the Champions League semi-final against Roma later this month. So too Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain, also impressive here. And that competition for places has helped move Liverpool to within two wins of sealing a top-four berth and their place at Europe's top table next season. Fortress Anfield continues to be fortified, with the Reds extending their unbeaten home record to almost an entire calendar year. But having helped Liverpool to an eighth clean sheet in 12 games, Dejan Lovren limping off towards the end cast a shadow. Klopp will have his fingers crossed. Salah's inclusion from the start raised a few eyebrows but, with Kane breathing down his neck – presuming the Tottenham Hotspur striker hasn't already claimed it as his own – the Egyptian wants every opportunity to keep scoring. And he should have inside the opening moments, first denied by a sliding challenge from Bournemouth defender Steve Cook and then surprisingly wasteful with a sidefoot finish from a matter of yards having been found by Alexander-Arnold's fine pass. The Egyptian, though, played his part in the opener after seven minutes, keeping the ball well on the right before playing back to Henderson, who swept a fine cross into the area towards Mane. Having seen his initial header parried by Bournemouth goalkeeper Asmir Begovic, Mane responded quickest to slam home the rebound. It made him the highest-scoring Senegalese in Premier League in history, his tally of 44 surpassing the previous best of Demba Ba. Liverpool then dominated the half. What was missing, though, was a second goal. Bournemouth kept themselves in the game, and their propensity for snatching late goals in recent times meant the longer the game progressed with the Reds still only one ahead, the more the atmosphere grew tense. Salah's strike changed all that. Nevertheless, the visitors started to press – Loris Karius making a good save from Dan Gosling – but that gave Liverpool more space, Mane shooting wide before Firmino was guilty of trying to walk the ball into the net when sent clear by Oxlade-Chamberlain. The Brazilian made amends in injury time when, having been found by the same colleague, he slotted home inside the near post. Salah will again dominate the headlines. But this latest win at the end of a fine week further demonstrated how Liverpool are maturing as a team.

## DAILY ECHO

Jürgen Klopp's Reds too good for Cherries as Mo Salah hits 40 goals for the season  
 GOALS from Sadio Mane, Mo Salah, his 40th of the season in all competitions, and Roberto Firmino condemned [Cherries](#) to a 3-0 defeat on an emotional day at Anfield.  
 Ahead of kick-off, supporters from both teams held a minute's applause in memory of the 96 fans who had lost their lives in the Hillsborough disaster 29 years ago this weekend.  
 Mane made the breakthrough for the hosts after just seven minutes before Cherries were forced to defend in numbers as Liverpool swarmed forward for much of the first half.  
 And although [Eddie Howe](#)'s men came into the game more after the break, Salah's header knocked the wind out of their sails as he doubled Liverpool's lead after 69 minutes before Firmino added a third late on.  
 Joshua King and Liverpool old boy Jordan Ibe returned to the Cherries starting line-up as boss Howe made two changes from the 2-2 draw with Crystal Palace. King, who came off the bench to score against the Eagles, replaced Callum Wilson, while Ibe was preferred ahead of Marc Pugh. Both Wilson and Pugh were named among the substitutes.  
 Salah, who netted in Liverpool's win over Manchester City in the Champions League in midweek, started up front for the Reds and Jordan Henderson returned from suspension.  
 Salah was denied the first shooting chance of the contest after Steve Cook had timed perfectly his tackle on the Premier League's leading goalscorer.  
 And just seconds later, the Egyptian went close to drawing first blood when he poked narrowly wide following a low cross from the right from Trent Alexander-Arnold.  
 Mane opened the scoring in the seventh minute when he reacted quickly after Cherries goalkeeper Asmir Begovic had parried his initial header.  
 The Senegalese international was on hand to net the loose ball from close range to register his 17th goal in all competitions this season.  
 It also saw the former Southampton man become the highest-scoring Senegalese player in Premier League history with 44 goals, surpassing Demba Ba's total.  
 Cherries, roared on by 1,800 travelling supporters, looked for an instant response but Ibe's 25-yarder sailed over the crossbar.  
 Begovic had to get down smartly to push away Alexander-Arnold's free-kick after Nathan Ake had been booked for bringing down Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain 20 yards out.  
 Salah drew another save from Begovic after turning Steve Cook on the edge of the box before Jermain Defoe's effort following a well-worked corner routine was ruled out for offside.  
 Simon Francis cheaply squandered possession to Salah and was relieved to see him clip his shot over the crossbar after 26 minutes.  
 Salah lifted another opportunity over the top before Oxlade-Chamberlain's rasping strike was deflected past the post for a corner, which was punched clear by Begovic.  
 Virgil van Dijk fashioned the first shooting chance of the second half, the Dutchman's effort from around 35 yards clearing the crossbar.  
 Lys Mousset was thrust into the action as a 57th-minute substitute, the Frenchman replacing Ibe, who received warm applause from Liverpool fans as he left the pitch.  
 A swift Liverpool counter-attack, started by Alexander-Arnold, ended with Salah's feeble shot being saved comfortably by Begovic.  
 Cherries survival a loud penalty appeal after Salah had gone to ground under an Ake challenge on 67 minutes, the striker going down far too easily.  
 Salah stayed on his feet to double Liverpool's lead with a flicked header from Alexander-Arnold's cross after 69 minutes, his effort looping over a stranded Begovic.  
 Firmino should have added a third just minutes later but saw his effort cleared off the line after he had raced clear.  
 Dan Gosling seized on the loose ball after Loris Karius had saved from Mousset, the Liverpool goalkeeper parrying the midfielder's shot which had looked destined to halve the deficit.  
 And as Cherries continued to create chances, Callum Wilson's shot from an acute angle bounced past the far post eight minutes from time.  
 Firmino added further salt to Cherries' wounds when he fired home late on following a neat pass from Oxlade-Chamberlain.  
 Liverpool: Karius, Alexander-Arnold, van Dijk, Lovren (Klavan, 83), Robertson, Wijnaldum, Henderson, Oxlade-Chamberlain, Salah, Firmino (Solanke, 90), Mane (Milner, 76).  
 Unused subs: Moreno, Ings, Woodburn, Mignolet (g/k).  
 Booked: Oxlade-Chamberlain.  
 Cherries: Begovic, Francis, Ake, S Cook, Daniels, Fraser, L Cook, Gosling, Ibe (Mousset, 57), King, Defoe (Wilson, 69).  
 Unused subs: Pugh, B Smith, Simpson, Boruc (g/k).  
 Booked: Ake.  
 Referee: Chris Kavanagh.  
 Attendance: 52,959.

Date: 14 April 2018 Opposition: Bournemouth Competition: League	Sunday Times	Independent	Echo	15 April 2018
	Sun Telegraph	Mirror	Daily Echo	
	Guardian	Mail	BBC	



## The Sunday Telegraph

Champions League the aim for Salah over Golden Boot  
 Liverpool 3 Mane 7, Salah 69, Firmino 90 Bournemouth 0 Att: 52,959 Mohamed Salah's interviews have been significantly less abundant than his goals for Liverpool this season, but just one sentence epitomised where his priorities lay, despite his record-breaking individual achievements.

"To win the Champions League," Salah said. "I don't care about the rest." This was the first time Salah had spoken to the UK's written press. Other than a handful of broadcasters, the publicity-shy "Egyptian King" has been reticent to grant an audience.

Salah may be a man of few words, but the humble 25-year-old proved to be a man of it, as he made good a promise to talk after he reached the milestone of 40 goals in all competitions against Bournemouth. "Lucky," a jocular Virgil van Dijk shouted at Salah as his Liverpool team-mate spoke to reporters deep in the bowels of Anfield's new main stand. The corner of Salah's mouth almost turned into a smile, but otherwise the Egyptian barely flinched as he delivered his words with the same seamless efficiency he shows on the pitch.

Pointedly Salah was definitive in his answers when it was put to him whether he would prefer to help Liverpool to a sixth European Cup or win a raft of personal accolades.

"To win the Champions League," Salah said, with Liverpool's twolegged semi-final against his former club Roma on the horizon.

"If you had a choice between the Champions League and [individual honours like the Golden Boot] then of course the Champions League.

"To win the Champions League is - I can't say [how good]. To win the Champions League is huge."

Salah scored Liverpool's second against Bournemouth with a rare headed goal, as he deftly glanced the ball over Asmir Begovic from Trent Alexander-Arnold's searching ball from deep. Either side of it, Sadio Mane and Roberto Firmino - the other two maestros in Liverpool's attacking triumvirate - found the net with clinical finishes.

This has been an individual season in which Salah has had Liverpool statistician Ged Rea working overtime, however the word "team" was the pre-eminent theme in his replies.

Salah had said "it means a lot" to reach 40 goals in a season and it is a "great feeling" as he became only the third Liverpool player alongside Ian Rush and Roger Hunt to accomplish the milestone. He is now closing in on Rush's record tally of 47 goals in one campaign, achieved in the 1983-84 season.

Rush completed the feat in 65 games, but Salah would have a maximum of 52 matches.

"It's also very close; it's just seven goals. But let's see!" Salah explained.

"I don't know how many games there is to go, but we have the Premier League and semi-finals of the Champions League to play."

Salah laughed loudly when questioned about his "Woooooow really?" tweet in reference to Spurs striker Harry Kane's appeal to have a goal against Stoke City credited to him in the battle to finish as the league's top scorer.

"I don't want to say anything!" Salah added. "In the end, they said it's his goal, so it's finished for me.

"Of course it [the Premier League Golden Boot] is in my mind. I cannot lie - it is in my mind."

Bournemouth centre-back Nathan Ake gave an insight into the struggle opposition defenders face in trying to contain the quicksilver Salah. "It's really, really difficult," Ake said. "If there is no pressure on the ball, then he can make incredible movement in behind you."

Van Dijk must have had some sympathy with fellow Dutchman Ake. Despite the Liverpool defender's joke afterwards, he knows there is nothing fortunate about Salah's brilliance.

Date: 14 April 2018 Opposition: Bournemouth Competition: League	Sunday Times	Independent	Echo	15 April 2018
	Sun Telegraph	Mirror	Daily Echo	
	Guardian	Mail	BBC	



## THE SUNDAY TIMES

Klopp: I want clean sheets, not fun  
Liverpool 3

Mané 7, Salah 69, Firmino 90  
Bournemouth 0

Referee C Kavanagh Attendance 52,959

For the first time in recent weeks there was a goalscoring milestone that did not belong to Mohamed Salah. While an instinctive header gave him his 40th strike of an exceptional campaign, it was when Roberto Firmino completed the scoring that another significant landmark was reached.

His neat finish at Asmir Begovic's near post gave Liverpool their 300th goal under Jürgen Klopp, a feat achieved in just 148 matches and in a little over two-and-a-half years since his appointment as their manager.

Those numbers fit with the image that Klopp brought with him as the exponent of full-throttle football, although the club's careful transformation means that he craves something more than that now.

"I love watching that kind of football, but I don't want to be the entertainer or whatever and it is like, 'Oh, we had fun but we didn't win anything,'" Klopp said. "It's about winning football games. It's about creating moments and knowing how to use them. That's the thing. We scored a lot of goals before but nobody was really happy about not having clean sheets because it makes winning quite difficult.

"We had the set-piece issue. It's not always easy, especially with stats being kind of, I don't have the word, but it is like fixed that you have a set-piece problem and it's difficult to start new in the middle of the season. But all these things we sorted step by step."

Bournemouth stand as a barometer of how balance lies at the heart of Klopp's vision. Last season Liverpool capitulated on the south coast, leading 3-1 with 14 minutes remaining only to lose 4-3, while in the reverse fixture at Anfield a year ago Eddie Howe's side scrambled a late point having caused havoc in the home defence from a long throw-in.

Here, the outcome felt inevitable once Sadio Mané opened the scoring in the seventh minute. A ninth clean sheet in 14 matches followed, while they have not conceded a goal after the 24th minute in any of their past nine games. The attacking triumvirate of Salah, Firmino and Mané commands attention, contributing 82 of those 300 goals since August, but Georginio Wijnaldum boasted a 100 per cent pass completion, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain combines forward bursts with defensive diligence and Jordan Henderson patrolled the rest of midfield to set the standard to which Bournemouth's England hopeful Lewis Cook must aspire.

This is the new improved Liverpool. The one that needs two wins to cement a top-four finish for the second successive season for the first time since 2008-09. The team that Roma must tame, and breach, in the Champions League semi-finals. Should defeat be avoided in their remaining home games against Stoke City and Brighton and Hove Albion, it will be only the second time since 1987-88 that Liverpool have gone through a home league campaign unbeaten. And it is not just within Anfield's corridors that the feeling something is stirring emanates.

"I think the players who were here last season have all grown and improved," Howe, the Bournemouth manager, said. "The new signings have made a big difference too.

"I see them improving again. It is going to be an exciting time here."

RATINGS Liverpool (4-3-3): L Karius 7 — T Alexander-Arnold 8, D Lovren 7 (sub: R Klavan 83min), V van Dijk 7, A Robertson 7 — A Oxlade-Chamberlain 8, J Henderson 7, G Wijnaldum 7 — M Salah 7, R Firmino 7 (sub: D Solanke 90+1), S Mané 7 (sub: J Milner 77). Substitutes not used S Mignolet, A Moreno, D Ings, B Woodburn Booked Oxlade-Chamberlain.

Bournemouth (5-4-1): A Begovic 6 — R Fraser 5, S Francis 5, S Cook 5, N Aké 6, C Daniels 5 — J Ibe 5 (sub: L Mousset 58, 5), L Cook 5 (sub: A Surman 73), D Gosling 5, J King 6 — J Defoe 5 (sub: C Wilson 69, 6). Substitutes not used A Boruc, M Pugh, B Smith, J Simpson. Booked Aké.

# The Observer

Date: 14 April 2018  
 Opposition: Bournemouth  
 Competition: League

	Sunday Times	Independent	Echo
	Sun Telegraph	Mirror	Daily Echo
	Guardian	Mail	BBC

15 April 2018



Manager Jurgen Klopp said it is "crazy" the amount of goals Liverpool have scored this season after an "exceptional" 3-0 victory over Bournemouth took their tally up to 121 in all competitions.

He added that their display ended an "outstanding week" as Mohamed Salah scored his 30th Premier League goal to help Liverpool move to within a point of second-placed Manchester United.

The hosts made the perfect start when Sadio Mane followed up his own header to prod the ball past Cherries keeper Asmir Begovic.

Salah then nonchalantly headed Trent Alexander-Arnold's pass over Begovic in the 69th minute for his 40th goal of the season in all competitions - the first player to achieve that figure for Liverpool since Ian Rush in 1986-87.

Klopp, who described his team as playing "like lions", said any initial reservations over Salah - a £34m signing from Roma last summer - had been dispelled.

"When you saw him playing in Rome there was this last question around him: if you don't play in England, you can't say yes because it is more physical.

"But there was a moment when we said: 'Yes, he is kind of smart and he doesn't need to look like a bodybuilder.'"

Roberto Firmino confirmed a fifth win in six games for the Reds with his 15th league goal of the campaign, prompting Klopp to describe their goalscoring record as "impressive".

Liverpool's front three of Salah, Mane and Firmino have scored 82 goals this season, while the Reds have managed 300 goals in 148 games under Klopp.

"What a number. Wow! That's really good but we have to carry on - there are a few games to come," Klopp said.

The Reds beat Premier League leaders Manchester City 5-1 on aggregate to reach the Champions League semi-finals on Tuesday, and the hosts were quickly into a rhythm and intensity that Bournemouth struggled to match on Saturday.

During a dominant first half, the hosts created 10 goalscoring opportunities to Bournemouth's one, and by full-time Liverpool had made 618 passes to the visitors' 375.

The only downside of an otherwise trouble-free match for the Reds was an injury to Croatia defender Dejan Lovren, who limped off in the 83rd minute.

Bournemouth, who did not test Liverpool goalkeeper Loris Karius until Andrew Surman's late shot, remain 11th on 38 points.

"We played a very good team today - one of the best in Europe - and they are showing that," said Cherries manager Eddie Howe.

Salah closes on Rush record

Before Saturday, Julian Dicks was the last Liverpool player to score at Anfield on the day of a Grand National, in 1994, but Salah's appearance on the scoresheet against Bournemouth had an air of inevitability about it.

The Egypt forward has now netted eight goals in his past five games and is closing in on Liverpool's record of 47, set by Rush in 1983-84.

However, while it took Rush 65 games to reach his total, Salah has currently played 20 fewer games.

The 25-year-old's goals and assists have earned Liverpool 15 points this term - more than any other Premier League player - and he is regarded as a strong contender for the Professional Footballers' Association Players' Player of the Year award.

Cook's calmness

While Bournemouth were overrun by a Liverpool performance brimming with energy, Lewis Cook's showing was one bright spot for the visitors.

Cook, who made his England debut in the 1-1 draw against Italy in March, exuded calmness in midfield, a sign of his growing maturity since joining the Cherries from Leeds as a 19-year-old in 2016.

Bournemouth have earned 18 points from losing positions this season - more than any other team in the Premier League - but not even Cook's best efforts could rally his team-mates into a recovery on Saturday.

However, at the time of his 73rd-minute substitution, he had covered 9.16km - the second-biggest distance of any visiting player at Anfield in 2017-18.

Man of the match - Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain (Liverpool)

'We have to stay angry' - what they said

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp on BBC Sport: "A good performance - and a very, very, very important one after an outstanding week.

"Today it felt like a parade with people in their cars using the horn - wow. But we have to stay angry.

"We played Bournemouth, the rest was a few days ago and I said a few times our whole lives is Champions League qualification, so these games are all so important.

"We scored one but had chance after chance with really good football against a side full of confidence - good footballers, quick on the counter-attack - which makes your life really uncomfortable."

Liverpool 3-0 Bournemouth: Jurgen Klopp impressed by 'exceptional' Reds

Former England and Arsenal striker Ian Wright on Match of the Day: "The two games against Manchester City were arguably the biggest of Trent Alexander-Arnold's career and how he dealt with Leroy Sane has given him the confidence to move on.

"I didn't realise his distribution was as good as it is. It reminds me of when Rob Jones came on the scene.

"He put some great balls in. Brilliant awareness. You can see he and Mo Salah work together in training."

Bournemouth manager Eddie Howe on BBC Sport: "At half-time we were in the game but their second goal came out of the blue - the ball from Trent Alexander-Arnold and Mohamed Salah's header were unbelievable.

"We were kicking ourselves really because we always believed we could come back if there was one goal in it.

"That is the individual quality they possess. You won't see a better goal than that this weekend, a real team goal. It gave us a mountain to climb.

"We had chances after that, didn't take them and the third goal was unfair on us.

"We wanted to stay in the game and have a go at them late in the match - at 2-0 that is a lot more difficult. I was pleased there were signs we could compete but it came too late."

First African to score 30 Premier League goals - the stats

Liverpool are unbeaten in their past 19 Premier League home games, the longest current run in the division, and the Reds' longest run since August 2009 (31 games).

Bournemouth have enjoyed just one win in their past 11 Premier League away games, drawing six and losing four.

Mane is now the outright top scoring Senegalese player in Premier League history, netting 44 goals in the competition and eclipsing Demba Ba (43).

Of players to have hit 10 or more goals in all of their Premier League seasons, only Sergio Agüero (seven) and Eric Cantona (five) have done it more often than Mane (four).

Salah is the eighth different player to score 30 or more goals in a single Premier League season - he is also the first African to do so.

Salah is also only the third different player in Liverpool history to score 40 or more goals in all competitions in a single season, after Roger Hunt (1961-62) and Ian Rush (1983-84 and 1986-87).

Firmino has had a hand in five goals in his past five Premier League games against Bournemouth (three goals, two assists).

What's next?

Liverpool travel to the Hawthorns to face West Bromwich Albion next Saturday, 21 April (12:30 BST) while Bournemouth host Manchester United on Wednesday, 18 April (19:45 BST).

Date: 14 April 2018  
 Opposition: Bournemouth  
 Competition: League

	Sunday Times	Independent	Echo
	Sun Telegraph	Mirror	Daily Echo
	Guardian	Mail	BBC

15 April 2018



Match ends, Liverpool 3, Bournemouth 0.  
 90'+4' Second Half ends, Liverpool 3, Bournemouth 0.  
 90'+2' Attempt missed. Andrew Robertson (Liverpool left footed shot from the left side of the box is high and wide to the left. Assisted by Mohamed Salah.  
 90'+1' Substitution, Liverpool. Dominic Solanke replaces Roberto Firmino.  
 90' Goal! Liverpool 3, Bournemouth 0. Roberto Firmino (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box to the bottom left corner. Assisted by Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain.  
 89' Attempt missed. Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is close, but misses to the left. Assisted by Georginio Wijnaldum.  
 88' Roberto Firmino (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.  
 88' Foul by Steve Cook (Bournemouth).  
 87' Virgil van Dijk (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
 87' Foul by Callum Wilson (Bournemouth).  
 85' Attempt blocked. Joshua King (Bournemouth right footed shot from the left side of the box is blocked. Assisted by Charlie Daniels.  
 84' Attempt missed. Callum Wilson (Bournemouth left footed shot from the left side of the box is close, but misses to the right. Assisted by Joshua King.  
 83' Substitution, Liverpool. Ragnar Klavan replaces Dejan Lovren because of an injury.  
 83' Offside, Liverpool. Mohamed Salah tries a through ball, but Roberto Firmino is caught offside.  
 82' Attempt blocked. Joshua King (Bournemouth right footed shot from the left side of the box is blocked. Assisted by Ryan Fraser with a cross.  
 82' Corner, Bournemouth. Conceded by Trent Alexander-Arnold.  
 82' Attempt blocked. Joshua King (Bournemouth right footed shot from the left side of the box is blocked. Assisted by Simon Francis with a cross.  
 82' Attempt saved. Dan Gosling (Bournemouth right footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the bottom right corner.  
 80' Attempt missed. Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is high and wide to the right. Assisted by Georginio Wijnaldum.  
 79' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Steve Cook.  
 78' Corner, Bournemouth. Conceded by Dejan Lovren.  
 77' Substitution, Liverpool. James Milner replaces Sadio Mané.  
 76' Offside, Bournemouth. Andrew Surman tries a through ball, but Joshua King is caught offside.  
 76' Corner, Bournemouth. Conceded by Jordan Henderson.  
 74' Attempt blocked. Roberto Firmino (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain with a through ball.  
 73' Substitution, Bournemouth. Andrew Surman replaces Lewis Cook.  
 70' Attempt missed. Sadio Mané (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is close, but misses to the left. Assisted by Mohamed Salah.  
 70' Substitution, Bournemouth. Callum Wilson replaces Jermain Defoe.  
 69' Goal! Liverpool 2, Bournemouth 0. Mohamed Salah (Liverpool header from the centre of the box to the bottom left corner. Assisted by Trent Alexander-Arnold.  
 66' Foul by Roberto Firmino (Liverpool).  
 66' Ryan Fraser (Bournemouth wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
 65' Sadio Mané (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.  
 65' Foul by Lewis Cook (Bournemouth).  
 64' Attempt blocked. Mohamed Salah (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by Roberto Firmino.  
 63' Offside, Liverpool. Dejan Lovren tries a through ball, but Roberto Firmino is caught offside.  
 62' Attempt saved. Mohamed Salah (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Trent Alexander-Arnold.  
 61' Offside, Liverpool. Sadio Mané tries a through ball, but Roberto Firmino is caught offside.  
 58' Substitution, Bournemouth. Lys Mousset replaces Jordon Ibe.  
 56' Attempt missed. Virgil van Dijk (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is too high. Assisted by Georginio Wijnaldum.  
 54' Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain (Liverpool is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.  
 54' Foul by Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain (Liverpool).  
 54' Jordon Ibe (Bournemouth wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
 51' Foul by Jordan Henderson (Liverpool).  
 51' Jermain Defoe (Bournemouth wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
 49' Offside, Bournemouth. Charlie Daniels tries a through ball, but Joshua King is caught offside.  
 48' Foul by Roberto Firmino (Liverpool).  
 48' Dan Gosling (Bournemouth wins a free kick on the left wing.  
 48' Foul by Jordan Henderson (Liverpool).  
 48' Dan Gosling (Bournemouth wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
 47' Dangerous play by Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain (Liverpool).  
 47' Charlie Daniels (Bournemouth wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
 Second Half begins Liverpool 1, Bournemouth 0.  
 45'+2' First Half ends, Liverpool 1, Bournemouth 0.  
 45' Attempt missed. Sadio Mané (Liverpool header from the centre of the box misses to the right. Assisted by Dejan Lovren.  
 41' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Ryan Fraser.  
 41' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Nathan Aké.  
 40' Georginio Wijnaldum (Liverpool wins a free kick on the right wing.  
 40' Foul by Joshua King (Bournemouth).  
 39' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Nathan Aké.  
 38' Offside, Bournemouth. Dan Gosling tries a through ball, but Jermain Defoe is caught offside.  
 35' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Steve Cook.  
 35' Attempt blocked. Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Sadio Mané.

31' Mohamed Salah (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
 31' Foul by Dan Gosling (Bournemouth).  
 28' Jordan Henderson (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.  
 28' Foul by Lewis Cook (Bournemouth).  
 26' Attempt missed. Mohamed Salah (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is too high.  
 24' Foul by Roberto Firmino (Liverpool).  
 24' Steve Cook (Bournemouth wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
 24' Offside, Bournemouth. Charlie Daniels tries a through ball, but Ryan Fraser is caught offside.  
 23' Corner, Bournemouth. Conceded by Andrew Robertson.  
 22' Attempt missed. Sadio Mané (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box misses to the left. Assisted by Georginio Wijnaldum.  
 21' Attempt blocked. Sadio Mané (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by Jordan Henderson.  
 21' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Simon Francis.  
 21' Sadio Mané (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
 21' Foul by Jordon Ibe (Bournemouth).  
 20' Corner, Bournemouth. Conceded by Dejan Lovren.  
 20' Foul by Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain (Liverpool).  
 20' Jordon Ibe (Bournemouth wins a free kick in the attacking half.  
 18' Attempt saved. Mohamed Salah (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Trent Alexander-Arnold.  
 16' Attempt missed. Trent Alexander-Arnold (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is close, but misses to the left from a direct free kick.  
 15' Nathan Aké (Bournemouth is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.  
 15' Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.  
 15' Foul by Nathan Aké (Bournemouth).  
 13' Offside, Liverpool. Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain tries a through ball, but Sadio Mané is caught offside.  
 10' Hand ball by Roberto Firmino (Liverpool).  
 10' Hand ball by Dan Gosling (Bournemouth).  
 8' Attempt missed. Jordon Ibe (Bournemouth right footed shot from outside the box is too high. Assisted by Joshua King with a headed pass.  
 7' Goal! Liverpool 1, Bournemouth 0. Sadio Mané (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box to the bottom left corner.  
 7' Attempt saved. Sadio Mané (Liverpool header from the centre of the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Jordan Henderson.  
 6' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Nathan Aké.  
 3' Attempt missed. Mohamed Salah (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box is close, but misses to the right. Assisted by Trent Alexander-Arnold with a cross.  
 First Half begins.  
 Lineups are announced and players are warming up.