



The 2015 Lady Milne Trophy



**Holiday Inn Birmingham Airport
Coventry Road
Birmingham
17th-19th April 2015**



The 2015 Lady Milne Trophy

presented by

Warwickshire Contract Bridge Association

and the English Bridge Union

Welcome to Birmingham

Bridge Great Britain, the Warwickshire Contract Bridge Association and the English Bridge Union extend a warm welcome to you all to the 2015 Lady Milne Trophy.

The venue is the Holiday Inn Hotel, situated in the City of Birmingham, close to the National Exhibition Centre and Birmingham Airport. As well as having good playing facilities, the hotel has a fine range of leisure facilities. There is a Vugraph theatre for spectators to watch the action live, whilst listening to expert and instructive commentary.

Refreshments

Meal timings for players and officials are as follows:-

Friday – Buffet at 5.30pm

Saturday – Light lunch at 2.35pm, dinner at 8.30pm

Sunday – Light lunch at 2.35pm, dinner and prize-giving at 8.30pm.

Timings

Friday

17.00	Hurricane	Captains' meeting		
17.30	Restaurant	Buffet meal		
19.00–21.10	Harrier 1 & 3	EBU v England	Northern Ireland v Scotland	Wales v Ireland
21.25–23.35	Harrier 1 & 3	EBU v England	Northern Ireland v Scotland	Wales v Ireland

Saturday

10.00–12.10	Harrier 1 & 3	Ireland v Northern Ireland	Wales v EBU	England v Scotland
12.25–14.35	Harrier 1 & 3	Ireland v Northern Ireland	Wales v EBU	England v Scotland
15.20–17.30	Harrier 1 & 3	Scotland v Ireland	England v Wales	Northern Ireland v EBU
17.45–19.55	Harrier 1 & 3	Scotland v Ireland	England v Wales	Northern Ireland v EBU
20.30	Restaurant	Dinner		

Sunday

10.00–12.10	Harrier 1 & 3	Wales v Northern Ireland	Ireland v England	Scotland v EBU
12.25–14.35	Harrier 1 & 3	Wales v Northern Ireland	Ireland v England	Scotland v EBU
	Harrier Foyer	Lunch		
15.20–17.30	Harrier 1 & 3	England v Northern Ireland	Scotland v Wales	EBU v Ireland
17.45–19.55	Harrier 1 & 3	England v Northern Ireland	Scotland v Wales	EBU v Ireland
20.30	Lancaster Suite	Reception & Prize-Giving Dinner		
	Harrier 2	Officials		
	Hurricane	Players Lounge		
	Armstrong	VuGraph Theatre		

The Teams

England



Gillian FAWCETT

Jane MOORE

Catherine JAGGER

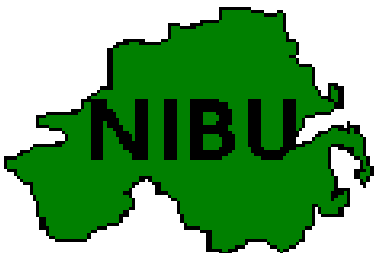
Sarah TESHOME

Sally BROCK

Anita SINCLAIR

NPC: David BURN

Northern Ireland



Ciara BURNS

Ruth CONNOLLY

Heather HILL

Clare WATSON

Dymphna FRIEL

Toni SPROULE

NPC: Alan HILL

Ireland



Joan KENNY

Teresa RIGNEY

Mary FINN

Jill KULCHYCKY

Hilary MCDONAGH

Gilda PENDER

NPC: Gay KEAVENEY

English Bridge Union



Sarah O'CONNOR

Anne ROSEN

Hannah CORNFIELD

Kath STYNES

Marietta ANDREE

Janet CAHM

NPC: Simon COCHEMÉ

Scotland



Paula LESLIE

Sam PUNCH

Helen KANE

Anne SYMONS

Michele GLADSTONE

Liz MCGOWAN

NPC: Alan GOODMAN

Wales



Aida ARIS

Susan INGHAM

Gilly CLENCH

Maggie PIERCE

Liz COMMINS

Diane KURBALIJA

NPC: Linda GREENLAND

Profiles of all the players are on pages 9 - 20

Officials

<i>Match Manager</i>	Darren Evetts
<i>Assistant Match Manager</i>	Dawn Mertens
<i>Tournament Directors</i>	Mike Amos and Sarah Amos
<i>Chairman of Appeals</i>	Chris Dixon
<i>Host</i>	Stephanie Galvin

Vugraph Team

Roger Bryant (Co-ordinator) Roger Flood, Toby Griffiths, David Kenward, Adrian Knight, Mike Meakin, Malcolm Oliver, Stephen Peterkin, Simon Stokes.

Acknowledgements

The English Bridge Union is very grateful to everyone who has assisted in the staging of the event.

The Lady Milne Trophy

Format

The Lady Milne Trophy comprises six teams, the sixth team being fielded in rotation by the country hosting the event. In 2015 England fields two teams, one as 'England' the other as 'English Bridge Union'.

Five head-to-head matches of 32 boards, in 16-board stanzas, will be played over the weekend. The two teams from England will play against each other in the first match.

Teams consist of a maximum of 6 players.

The draw for 2015 is as follows:

- Team A: Ireland
- Team B: Wales
- Team C: Northern Ireland
- Team D: English Bridge Union
- Team E: Scotland
- Team F: England

The team printed first in the schedule sits North-South in the Open Room and East-West in the Closed Room throughout the match.

Seating rights alternate between the two teams. In the first stanza the Captain of the second-named team nominates his pairs first; in the second stanza the first-named Captain nominates first.

Line-ups must be submitted at least five minutes before a stanza is due to begin.

Systems and Conventions

The Lady Milne Series is considered to be a Category 2 event, as defined within the WBF Systems Policy. Systems permitted in the Lady Milne Trophy are laid out in the Bridge Great Britain regulations.

Public Presentation

In any one session three matches are in progress, and they will all be Vugraphed on Bridge Base Online (BBO). BBO coverage of the Closed Room of one of these matches will be shown in the Vugraph Theatre, with expert and amusing commentary from various volunteers. Results from the Open Room of the same match, and from both rooms of the other matches, will also be available in the Vugraph Theatre.

The other option for spectators is to watch live in the Open Room, where one table from each match is in play. Spectators are subject to the regulations set out below. The Vugraph Theatre is on the first floor, along the corridor from the playing rooms. Entry to the Closed Room is prohibited.

Regulations for Open Room Spectators

Spectators may watch the players live in the Open Room provided they observe the following rules:

1. During play in the Open Room spectators must refrain from mannerisms or remarks, and must not converse with a player, or display any reaction to bidding or play.
2. Spectators must only observe the cards of one player.
3. Spectators must be seated behind that player and may not get up to walk round the table, or seek to look at the cards of any other player.
4. Spectators must not draw attention to any irregularity or mistake, or speak on any question, except at the request of the Director.

5. Non-playing members of a team are not allowed to watch their teammates playing at the tables.
6. A player is responsible for the actions of any spectator who is associated with her (as distinct from a spectator casually attracted to the table by her presence there).
7. The Director in Charge and/or the Match Manager is empowered to control the presence of spectators, individually or collectively.

Smoking and Alcohol

Smoking, including the use of electronic cigarettes, in the playing area is prohibited. No player may leave the playing area before completion of play in a session in order to smoke. A violation of this regulation will incur an automatic 2VP penalty for the team.

The consumption of alcoholic beverages of any nature in the playing area is prohibited. No player may leave the playing area in order to consume alcohol before completion of play in a session.

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones and electronic devices capable of communication must be switched off in the playing area and be visible at the table at all times. Any player leaving the playing table prior to completion of the session must leave her mobile phone and electronic devices at the table.

Any player, captain, or coach breaching this regulation will cause her/his team to be fined an automatic 2VP penalty.

Team profiles



Gillian Fawcett and Jane Moore

Gillian started playing bridge when 'studying' for A levels, and continued to play whilst at university in London, when she joined the Young Chelsea Bridge Club and benefited from playing with a number of far better players. She first played in the Lady Milne in 1990, with Kay Preddy, and played 3 further times with Ann Rosen. This is her fifth outing in the Lady Milne with her current partner, Jane Moore.

Gillian works in the Early Years sector, lives in Devon and is married to Joe. They have two teenage children, two cats and the cutest chocolate Labrador. Gillian spends most weekends supporting the best rugby team ever, the Exeter Chiefs.

Jane was born in London in 1951 but moved eight years later to the Suffolk/NE Essex borders where she has lived ever since. Jane first played bridge about 35 years ago having, been dragged along to the Young Chelsea Bridge Club to try 'a simple form of whist'. She was quickly bitten by the bug and, after some very necessary lessons, was lucky enough to play at Young Chelsea with some of the best players around at the time.

Jane has played four times before in the Lady Milne with Gillian and three times with Chris Duckworth (with whom she played for many years).

Catherine Jagger and Sarah Teshome

Cath first played in the Lady Milne in 2003, and 2015 will be her eighth appearance, and sixth with partner Sarah Teshome. Cath became England's youngest female Grand Master at the age of 26, and won a Bronze Medal at the 2006 European teams.

In and around looking after her three-year-old son, Tim, she is an editor for a small publishing company that specialises in current affairs and reference and travel books. Since Tim's birth, there has been little time for her and her husband Chris to indulge their other main pastime of Latin American Formation Dancing, but they have kept up their exotic travel, including trips to see bears salmon-fishing in Alaska, the Flaming Cliffs of the Gobi, and the crumbling walls of Jericho. And yes, of course, Tim comes too!

Sarah works for EY as a chartered accountant, heading up the Transfer Pricing team in the north. She is married to former England International Richard Winter and they have two children. Their daughter Sophie describes herself as a squib in a wizarding family (a reference that only works if you have read or watched Harry Potter). Their son Daniel has recently been selected to play in the England U15 team. Sarah's interests outside bridge are books, theatre, travel and walking her dog.

In terms of bridge achievements domestically, Sarah has featured many times in the finals of all the majors. Her highest place in Crockfords is 2nd, in the Spring Fours is the last undefeated team, the Gold Cup is the quarter finals, and the Four Stars is 2nd. She has won the second division of the Premier League and finished above average in the first division. Apart from the majors, she has won many national events in England, Scotland and Wales, including the National Teams, the Easter pairs, the Harrogate pairs, the Scottish Fours, Llangollen teams and pairs, the Brighton Bowl, the Ladies Teams and the Lady Milne. Sarah has now retired from county events but it is worth noting that she has won all the major county events many times and represented Yorkshire in the Tollemache for 22 years in succession. Internationally she has won medals in Ladies pairs and teams events and also Mixed events.

Sally Brock and Anita Sinclair

Sally started playing bridge with her parents when she was 14 and continued when she went to Nottingham University. She is one of England's most successful international bridge players, having played for England and Great Britain in 23 World and European teams events, winning numerous medals including eight Golds.

Sally played in her first Lady Milne in 1976, when heavily pregnant, and this will be her eleventh appearance in the event. She has also played in the Camrose Trophy five times. She has been equally successful in domestic competitions and has won the prestigious Gold Cup on three occasions, and the Crockfords Cup, England's premier knockout teams competition, four times.

She has three children, and makes a living partly by typesetting travel guides, and partly through professional bridge, including writing (she is the columnist for the Sunday Times), playing and teaching online.

Anita has been one of the most successful female bridge players of the last few years, winning a number of domestic competitions - the 2014 Schapiro Spring Foursomes, 2013/14 NICKO, and the teams event at the 2015 Easter Festival in

London - and taking the Gold Medal in the Mixed Teams at the 2014 World Bridge Series in Sanya, China.

She worked as a video game developer with her company, Magnetic Scrolls, being a pioneer of the text adventure games genre and one of the two largest and most acclaimed interactive fiction developers of the 1980s.

David Burn (NPC)

David was born in 1956 in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. He was educated at Dulwich College and Caius, Cambridge, and is an IT consultant.

He has played for England in 7 Camrose matches, 1 European and 1 Olympiad. He coached Britain to Bermuda Bowl Silver Medal (1987) and victory in the European Championships (1991), has coached the highly successful England Women's team over recent years, and aided the Senior team in their victory in the 2015 European Championships. He has also acted as NPC for recent Lady Milne teams.

David is divorced with no children or pets, and lives in London. He is a popular bridge journalist, writing his own columns and often ghost writing for Zia Mahmood. His other interests include reading, classical music, going to the theatre, and enjoying beer and curry.



ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION

Sarah O'Connor and Anne Rosen

Sarah & Anne have been playing together for about a year. Both live in London with their bridge playing other halves Mike and Neil who can always be relied on to give them critical input on their system and bidding!

This is Sarah's first Lady Milne. She has recently finished a long career in the England U25 and U25 Women's teams and hopes to one day play for the Women's team proper. In 'real life' she is a chemistry teacher, and also runs the fledgling England U15 squad.

Over the years Anne has had considerable success in Ladies events, and other national competitions including more recently winning the NICKO and the Hubert Phillips three times. Internationally Anne has played Ladies representative bridge with Val Curran, Gillian Fawcett, Catherine Draper and Catherine Seale, and has played in 6 Lady Milnes, winning five times, and is

looking forward to playing her seventh Lady Milne with Sarah. Anne was also part of the team that won the Mind Sport Games in Beijing in 2008. Away from the table Anne's life is a constant balancing act between looking after (being a taxi service for) Nikki and Andy now 17 and 12, and working as a senior manager at the Bank of England. Relaxation often involves a large G&T, reading, or going out with the rugby mums!

Hannah Cornfield & Kath Stynes

Hannah grew up in North Wales, Chester and continues to do so in London. She is well into her second decade of teaching computers to trade on stock exchanges around the world and her fourth of playing bridge. There appears to be a tipping point where bridge skills overtake rowing prowess and this somewhat sad milestone has now been reached. At some point there will be a proficiency vector for gardening and knitting but more happily these have yet to encroach on her free time.

Kath Stynes is originally from Ireland, but has lived in London for more years than she hasn't. She designs online services and currently works for a financial trading company. Kath learned to play bridge nearly 7 years ago. She started with a 'Learn Bridge in a Weekend' course taught by Ned Paul and followed this up with far too many late nights at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club. She now plays in various leagues and tournaments with Hannah, Ned and others. She is also on the London (LMBA) committee and helps to organise bridge events for the county.

Marietta Andree & Janet Cahm

Marietta was born in Sri Lanka but has spent a large part of her life in the UK. She started playing bridge about 18 years ago. She took early retirement from United Biscuits and became manager of Richmond Bridge Club – the perfect job for a keen bridge player. Richmond has grown to become the EBU's top affiliated club. Marietta started to play with Janet some 7 years ago and they play together two or three times a week.

Janet started to play bridge 50 years ago, at the tender age of 6. Her grandfather's brother was a keen whist and rubber bridge player and played for a ha'penny a hundred. He played Goren and would never open with less than 18 HCP. Janet was soon his favourite partner because he firmly believed she was blessed with all the AKQs and would never lose his money. She is divorced with two kids and now plays all her bridge at Richmond Bridge Club.

Simon Cochemé (NPC)

Simon is an enthusiastic but moderate (his choice of word: it was either that or mediocre) player and, after working for IBM for 37 years, is devoting some of his retirement years to various aspects of the game. He was on the London Committee for five years and was vice-chairman of the EBU Selection Committee for six years. He has been NPC of the England Senior team four times, winning Gold at 2015 European Championships, and of a Lady Milne team once. The Lady Milne is his first such experience with women.

Simon had two books, co-authored with David Bird, another ex-IBMer, published in the '90s, and now writes an informative (he says) and entertaining (he hopes) column for English Bridge.



NORTHERN IRELAND

Ciara Burns and Ruth Connelly

Ciara Burns is a solicitor specialising in litigation. She is currently President of the Irish Bridge Union and Development officer of the NIBU. She has played in the Northern Ireland lady Milne team since 1993, although this is her first appearance in partnership with Ruth.

Ciara is also a frequent Camrose player, in partnership with the long suffering John Murchan. She has also played in the Irish Women's team in 3 European Championships, on two occasions with Mary Finn, who represents the Republic of Ireland in this event. Away from bridge, Ciara has no time for hobbies because playing bridge and bridge administration work are a full time occupation, alongside her full time job.

Ruth, (the baby of the team) started playing bridge at school 15 years ago and has recently retired from the Northern Irish Junior Squad. This is her first proper outing at the Lady Milne, partnering Ciara, however this partnership would probably have never existed had Daddy Murchan just agreed to wear a pair of heels for the weekend!

Ruth is a full-time Civil Servant working in Belfast. When she is not busy saving lives or playing bridge she is generally crazy about movies, sport and red wine.

Heather Hill and Clare Watson

Heather is a retired maths teacher who keeps her hand in by working for the local examination board in several capacities. She is playing in her third Lady Milne - each time with a different partner. She enjoys travelling - in particular to visit her four grandchildren in Boise, Idaho and Newcastle upon Tyne. Time is also spent knitting creatively for them - at present a cardigan with a horse's head on the back!

Clare has played in the Lady Milne team before with 4 different partners. She and Heather are a new partnership this year. Clare worked in education and is now happily retired. She enjoys swimming, reading and walking. Her family keeps her busy the rest of the time.

Dymphna Friel and Toni Sproule

Dymphna is a civil servant, married to John, with two daughters Mary and Anna. This is her 5th time playing in the Lady Milne.

Toni first fell in love with husband and bridge (better in that order) way way way ago in Uganda in the days of that self named and styled despot Dada Idi Amin, when curfews were the order of the day, so long nights would be spent playing, amongst other pastimes, bridge. This is her second outing with Dymphna whom she is fortunate enough to have as a partner.

Alan Hill (NPC)

Alan is a retired university lecturer. This is the fourth time he has been NPC of the Lady Milne team. However, his association with Home Internationals goes back to the days when he acted as referee for Northern Ireland home matches and he still spends more time directing than playing. For once he will be wearing the trousers this weekend, as his wife, Heather, is on the team.



IRELAND

Joan Kenny and Teresa Rigney

Joan is a retired maths teacher from Ballinrobe who is now hooked on BBO. She would be very happy to 'pull a pint' for any visitors to Galway in the family licensed premises – thus doing her bit for 'The Gathering'. Joan has played in four previous Lady Milne teams, once with Brid Kirby, twice with Emer Joyce and once with Teresa, and on numerous European and World Championship teams.

Teresa has 'hung up her boots' after a long career as a teacher of mathematics at a Dublin Secondary school for young ladies. With retirement has come a greater facility to relax, so detention for those who don't know their system is no longer on the cards! She is a recent convert to things technical, like BBO, where she lets her husband Enda (or anyone else within range) do the setting up for her.

Teresa has played in four previous Lady Milne teams – once with Maureen Pattinson, twice with Heidi Lillis and once with Joan. She has also played in a Lady Milne team with Jill Kulchycky – one of only 2 ladies pairs involved in the Lady Milne in modern times; she also played with Jill in the European Championships in Croatia last June.

Mary Finn and Jill Kulchycky

Mary is another computer whiz who has taken to wandering all over Ireland in the last few years – essentially where the work takes her! Originally from West Cork – where lots of great people started out – she now lives in Sligo. Mary has played in 6 Lady Milnes before this year – once with the late Joan Crowley, four with Ena Cleary and one with Jill.

Jill is recently retired from a career in logistics and lives in Bray. When not playing bridge, Jill enjoys gardening and golf. The claims she has made to enjoy para-gliding in her spare time have been discounted; instead she is President of the Bray Horticultural Society and Secretary of the Bray Golf Club Bridge Section.

Jill has played in 7 previous Lady Milnes, once with Clare Pippet, five with Helen Carroll and once with Mary; she too has the distinction of playing in a recent Lady Milne team with Teresa Rigney.

Both Mary and Jill have made numerous appearances on European and World Championship teams.

Hilary McDonagh & Gilda Pender

Hilary is a psychology lecturer, bridge teacher and worked for the CBAI at National Headquarters before retiring to Ballaghaderreen to raise her family.

She has represented Ireland extensively at Junior level and at numerous European Ladies events. She achieved great success with Rebecca O'Keeffe winning every Irish Ladies title and many open honours. She then developed a strong partnership with Anne-Marie Horan with whom she played in three Lady Milne teams; playing with Gilda, they have played in two European Championships, in Dublin in 2012 and in Croatia in 2015.

Gilda is another computer merchant – more Project Manager style – but she has the distinction of having been admiral of her own fleet – of ATMs!

This is Gilda's third Lady Milne – she previously played with her sister, Noreen, in 2006 and with Hilary in 2015.

Gay Keaveney (NPC)

Gay is a doctor of chemistry in GMIT and is the holder of the highest number of Irish National Points (equivalent of Gold Points). He has played international bridge in many European and World Events with the late Paddy Walsh and Rory Timlin. He achieved European Grand Master level in 1999. Gay was part of the CBAI Lady Milne winning team in 2000 and is reserve for the Irish Seniors team for the D'Orsi Bowl in Chennai later this year – should Ireland be offered a spot! His career as NPC has really taken off in the last few years, ever since his wife Eilis has retired and is happy to accompany him!

Besides being a top class player, Gay has given generously of his time over many years to the promotion of Bridge at Schools level, organising and running annual Pairs and Teams competitions. He recently retired from that activity and was awarded the CBAI President's Award for 2011-2012 for that unselfish contribution to Bridge.



SCOTLAND

Paula Leslie and Sam Punch

Paula started playing bridge at school in Dundee together with Suzanne Cohen (now Sheasby) with whom she has won a number of events over the years. She also has five Bronze Medals from various European events and her ambition is to one day win a Gold or Silver medal. Paula has played in the Lady Milne twice before with Suzanne, with a 50% success rate, but this will be her first time playing with Sam Punch.

Paula moved to London after university, qualified as a chartered accountant and now works as a tax adviser for a commercial property group. Outside of bridge she enjoys pub quizzes, cinema, theatre and travel.

Sam has played in the Scottish Women's team since 2008, winning the Lady Milne four times in the last seven years. Playing with Liz she was

recently in the winning team for the Commonwealth's transnational teams in Glasgow. Paula and Sam are a new partnership so this is their first Lady Milne together. Professor of Sociology at Stirling University, where she is currently supervising a Masters thesis titled: 'Why are men more successful at bridge than women?' If you have any relevant material, she would love to hear from you at s.v.punch@stir.ac.uk

Helen Kane and Anne Symons

Helen started playing bridge in her early 20's when she met her future husband to be, Danny, who was already a keen bridge player. A number of years later, she had made five Lady Milne appearances, partnering the late Eileen Caldwell and then Liz McGowan. Due to increasing work commitments, Helen gave up bridge for a considerable period of time. However, three years ago, after taking early retirement from work as a cytopathologist she renewed her interest in bridge. Helen formed a partnership with Anne Symons in late 2015 and is delighted to be back as part of this year's Lady Milne Team. Aside from bridge, her interests are classical music, playing the piano, and walking, especially in the Scottish countryside and in the Lake District.

Anne has been a regular member of the team for the past 10 years, playing in Europeans, Olympiads and Lady Milnes. Still working full-time as a pharmacist, she is hoping to cut back next year and spend more time on bridge. Recently, Anne has been involved with Junior training, and has been NPC for the Peggy Bayer and Junior Lady Milne teams, and also at the other end of the age spectrum, for the Seniors. In some respects, it's hard to tell the difference! Her partnership with Helen has just begun, and this is their first Lady Milne together.

Michele Gladstone and Liz McGowan

Michele took up bridge when her husband went back to studying and needed some form of escape from two young children. She constantly nagged her bridge playing friends to partner her, as she was pretty rubbish, but was fortunate to play with and against the bridge greats of that time Victor Goldberg, Sam Leckie & Albert Benjamin. You learn pretty quickly!

Her long term partner Ian Howie patiently taught her the finer points of the game and helped her become the player she is today. Two years ago she played for the Scottish Bridge Union team when the Lady Milne was hosted in Scotland. This year, with her new partner Liz McGowan, Michele is excited to be representing Scotland again.

Liz played her first Lady Milne in 1977, and this will be her 31st appearance, and her ninth partner. Liz has won eight times, and would like to reach double figures, but is running out of time.....

Prior to 2000 Liz was a member of the British Women's team, picked up Silver Medals at the 1988 and '92 Olympiads and Gold at the Europeans in '97 and '99. She also won the 1996 World Mixed teams with Heather Dhondy when the two were eliminated from the Venice Cup and, while drowning their sorrows in the bar, 'chatted up' the Icelandic Men who had suffered the same fate in the Bermuda Bowl. Her daily column in 'The Scotsman' has recently been axed, so she is looking for something else to do. Liz lives in Edinburgh with husband Ian, two daughters, and much loved grand-daughter.

Alan Goodman (NPC)

Alan has played European and Olympiad for Scotland's Open and Senior teams and captained a number of different Scottish teams over the last seven years in Europeans, Olympiads and Lady Milne. He really enjoyed captaining the Scottish Bridge Union Lady Milne team in 2013, so is very much looking forward to captaining the Scotland team this year. Having retired, he is now busier than ever as chairman of two Scottish charities and vice captain of the golf club. Married with three grown up girls and one 3 year old grandson - at last somebody who likes to play football with him!



WALES

Aida Aris and Sue Ingham

This is Aida's third time representing Wales in the Lady Milne having played twice before with Linda Greenland. This year she is playing in a new partnership with Sue Ingham. Aida lives in Cardiff with her husband, they have two sons, both working and living in London. In her spare time she enjoys reading bridge books, walking and swimming.

This is Sue's sixth Lady Milne, but her first in partnership with Aida. She lives in Cardiff with her partner, Gwynn, and a mad kitten called Freddie. Sue enjoys reading, playing the piano, dining out and going to the cinema. She was formerly employed at Cardiff Crown Court, but family responsibilities (no, not Freddie!) have led to early retirement. Sue has a 24-year-old daughter

Charlotte, with whom she enjoys a weekly game of bridge at the Cardiff Bridge Club.

Gilly Clench and Maggie Pierce

Gilly has probably played with more partners in the Lady Milne than anyone else in Wales (no one can stand it for too long!) and this is her first appearance with Maggie - though they have played 'for fun' for many years. She was ably taught by the Welsh International, Adrian Thomas, with whom she had a daughter, Melanie, (and a dog Jeremy who was rather more renowned in the bridge world than Gilly) but all his good work went to waste, (Adrian's that is, not the dog) as she merrily developed her own style, usually rather less successful. In the dim and distant past she was an opera singer, a music specialist and now knows far too much about building techniques for her own good, as she is heavily into developing property with her ridiculously young partner, Vas.

Maggie is making a re-appearance after several years – having been persuaded back by Gilly over a glass of wine (but confirmed in the cold light of next day). She has played with several partners over many years – the most successful being 1988 with Jill Casey when Wales won the Lady Milne (Diane Kurbalija was also part of the team). Maggie has also played a couple of Lady Milne matches with Jill. She took early retirement many years ago (from IT support in Education) in order to concentrate on golf, travel, family and food.

Liz Commins and Diane Kurbalija

This is Liz's fifth Lady Milne, her third playing with Diane. Liz spends the majority of her free time playing Bridge and has been very busy lately having recently moved house. She is even considering doing a bit of gardening! Liz also enjoys spending time with her family, especially her grandson Rylee. She has another two grandsons on the way - one to be born in May and one in June so her summer looks like it is going to be extremely busy, but she hopes very enjoyable.

Diane has played in a number of Lady Milne events over the years, including the year in which Wales won many moons ago. She has also represented Wales in the Lady Milne, the Open European teams in Warsaw and Croatia, and in a number of Women's European team events. Since taking early retirement, Diane has travelled to wonderful destinations like Sri Lanka, Vietnam and South Africa. However, Diane loves, more than anything, to be out on the allotment on a sunny, warm day. It beats working and there's no shortage of gratitude that the long, stressful years in education are past.

Linda Greenland (NPC)

Linda is a retired accountant who now spends her time with partner Ken and frenetic Border Collie Dylan. On a sunny day the three of them can frequently be seen walking through the Kentish countryside looking for a pub with a beer garden.

International Match Point Scale

Points difference	IMPs	
0 - 10	=	0
20 - 40	=	1
50 - 80	=	2
90 - 120	=	3
130 - 160	=	4
170 - 210	=	5
220 - 260	=	6
270 - 310	=	7
320 - 360	=	8
370 - 420	=	9
430 - 490	=	10
500 - 590	=	11
600 - 740	=	12

Points difference	IMPs	
750 - 890	=	13
900 - 1090	=	14
1100 - 1290	=	15
1300 - 1490	=	16
1500 - 1740	=	17
1750 - 1990	=	18
2000 - 2240	=	19
2250 - 2490	=	20
2500 - 2990	=	21
3000 - 3490	=	22
3500 - 3990	=	23
4000 and above	=	24

Victory Point Scale

VP Scale (32 boards):

IMPs		VPs	IMPs		VPs	IMPs		VPs
0	10.00	10.00	29	15.10	4.90	58	18.21	1.79
1	10.22	9.78	30	15.24	4.76	59	18.29	1.71
2	10.44	9.56	31	15.37	4.63	60	18.37	1.63
3	10.65	9.35	32	15.50	4.50	61	18.45	1.55
4	10.86	9.14	33	15.63	4.37	62	18.53	1.47
5	11.07	8.93	34	15.76	4.24	63	18.61	1.39
6	11.27	8.73	35	15.88	4.12	64	18.69	1.31
7	11.47	8.53	36	16.00	4.00	65	18.76	1.24
8	11.67	8.33	37	16.12	3.88	66	18.83	1.17
9	11.86	8.14	38	16.24	3.76	67	18.90	1.10
10	12.05	7.95	39	16.35	3.65	68	18.97	1.03
11	12.24	7.76	40	16.46	3.54	69	19.04	0.96
12	12.42	7.58	41	16.57	3.43	70	19.11	0.89
13	12.60	7.40	42	16.68	3.32	71	19.18	0.82
14	12.78	7.22	43	16.79	3.21	72	19.25	0.75
15	12.95	7.05	44	16.90	3.10	73	19.32	0.68
16	13.12	6.88	45	17.01	2.99	74	19.38	0.62
17	13.29	6.71	46	17.11	2.89	75	19.44	0.56
18	13.46	6.54	47	17.21	2.79	76	19.50	0.50
19	13.62	6.38	48	17.31	2.69	77	19.56	0.44
20	13.78	6.22	49	17.41	2.59	78	19.62	0.38
21	13.94	6.06	50	17.51	2.49	79	19.68	0.32
22	14.09	5.91	51	17.60	2.40	80	19.74	0.26
23	14.24	5.76	52	17.69	2.31	81	19.80	0.20
24	14.39	5.61	53	17.78	2.22	82	19.85	0.15
25	14.54	5.46	54	17.87	2.13	83	19.90	0.10
26	14.68	5.32	55	17.96	2.04	84	19.95	0.05
27	14.82	5.18	56	18.05	1.95	85	20.00	0.00
28	14.96	5.04	57	18.13	1.87			

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