

SALLY BROCK is the Bridge Columnist for *The Sunday Times*, and a multiple world champion, having won the Venice Cup twice (in 1981 and 1985, representing Great Britain, in tandem with Sandra Landy) and the Women Series at the World Bridge Games also twice (in 2008 and 2012, representing England, with Nicola Smith). She also has a collection of bronze, silver and gold medals from other European and world championships. Sally was pregnant with her first son, Ben, when she won her first Lady Milne in 1976, but took a break from international bridge from 1993 to 2000, while bringing up her younger children, Briony and Toby.



doesn't leave time for much. But I like entertaining, holidays, and eating and drinking. I go to the gym three times a week. I read, and occasionally go to the theatre/cinema.

Bridge books: which one(s), if any, did you find useful?

I have a clear memory of staying up all night to read *Right Through the Pack* by Robert Darvas.

What do you like about bridge?

I think the best thing about bridge is that it is a little world all on its own. If you play bridge, you never need be lonely, whether you just want to play socially, evening duplicates, bridge holidays, weekend tournaments or internationally, either at top level or just in overseas tournaments. If your job posts you abroad, you can just look up your nearest bridge club and immediately make contact with like-minded people. It also gets you off your backside and away from the television!

What's the bridge success (so far) closest to your heart?

That's quite a difficult one to answer. I know most bridge players claim to be very competitive but not me really. Of course it's nice to win but I'm happiest when (and it doesn't happen often) I feel I've played well. Perhaps the first is best. I certainly enjoyed winning my first Lady Milne in 1976. □

When did you start playing bridge?

My Mum and Dad taught me when I was 14. We had to be competent at whist, then solo and then were allowed to progress to bridge.

How often / where do you play?

It varies. But I guess generally a couple of times a week. I've been playing more since I've got together with Barry Myers – we play weekends sometimes, and in county leagues, knockouts etc.

Do you always play with the same partners / team-mates? What do you expect of them?

I mostly partner Barry or Nicola Smith but sometimes play with other people: Simon Cope, Richard Bowdery, Ed Scerri.

What do you do for a living?

I have two distinct livelihoods. First, I have my own desktop publishing business, mostly typesetting travel guides to exotic locations. Second, I teach (online on BBO), play and write about bridge professionally.

What are your hobbies?

Bringing up two teenagers on my own

PREMIER LEAGUE FINAL RESULTS



AFTER SEVEN days of tough combat, spread over three weekends, the Premier League (2012) has just been completed. The top two teams earn automatic rights to selection for certain Home Internationals in 2013, while the top two teams in Division 2 replace the bottom two teams in Division 1 next season. Full report: next issue.

Division 1

- 1 HINDEN 123 VPs**
Frances Hinden, Graham Osborne, Jeffrey Allerton, Chris Jagger
- 2 ALLFREY 118 VPs**
Tony Forrester, David Gold, Alexander Allfrey, Andrew Robson, Derek Patterson, Peter Crouch
- 3 EWART 112 VPs**
Cameron Small, Phil King, Jason Hackett, Justin Hackett, David Ewart, Gunnar Hallberg
- 4 MOSSOP 111 VPs**
Andrew McIntosh, David Mossop, David Bakhshi, Tom Townsend, David Price, Colin Simpson
- 5 FEGARTY 106 VPs**
Jonathan Mestel, David Kendrick, Catherine Curtis, Paul Fegarty, Jon Cooke
- 6 DE BOTTON 96 VPs**
Norman Selway, Espen Erichsen, Janet De Botton, Artur Malinowski, Nick Sandqvist, David Burn
- 7 SINCLAIR 87 VPs**
Ben Green, John Holland, Anita Sinclair, Fredrik Bjornlund, Joe Fawcett, Glyn Liggins
- 8 COPE 80 VPs**
Dan McIntosh, Chris Cooper, Andrew Murphy, Simon Cope, John Howard, Andy Bowles

Division 2

- 1 ROSEN 146 VPs**
Neil Rosen, Martin Jones, Michael Byrne, Duncan Happer
- 2 PENFOLD 144 VPs**
Sandra Penfold, Brian Senior, Nevena Senior, Alex Hydes
- 3 BELL 118 VPs**
Mike Bell, Simon Creasey, Paul Gipson, Alex Gipson
- 4 DHONDY 115 VPs**
Jeremy Dhondy, Alan Kay, Heather Dhondy, Brian Callaghan
- 5 BOWDERY 96 VPs**
Richard Bowdery, Steve Root, Ian Draper, Jeremy Willans, Andrew Southwell, Ian Lancaster
- 7 PRYOR 93 VPs**
Malcolm Pryor, Marc Smith, Malcolm Lewis, Steve Auchterlonie, Alan Wilson, Nick Smith
- 7 SEALE 84 VPs**
Catherine Seale, Jerry Stamatov, Anne Rosen, Ian Pagan, Lyn Fry
- 8 HARRIS 26 VPs**
Jonathan Harris, Steve Capal, Barry Murray, Martin Pope, Andrew Sobell, Jill Feldman