



Kim Ellaway

Kim Cooke was first introduced to bridge by her mother in 1974 in Mount Isa. Her father would only allow her to play during the school holidays. In 1976 Kim played in her first congress in Townsville (June Queens Birthday) which is now the Barrier Reef Congress. It took the players from Mount Isa six hours by plane to get there (milk run) however only two hours to get home. She learnt bridge with Judy Zeller who is still playing bridge and is currently the Bundaberg Bridge Club's president. During her time in Mount Isa, Kim held the positions of masterpoint secretary, treasurer and secretary and was on the working committee for the first congress to be held in Mount Isa. She also, with her mother Marion Cooke, won the pairs event that year at the congress.

In 1981 she came to Brisbane and joined QCBC and Toowong. She joined the QBA Council in 1982 as Mount Isa's delegate and when the Mount Isa Bridge Club closed down, she became the delegate for the Noosa Bridge Club. She held the position of secretary of Toowong Bridge Club for several years.

Kim married Ray Ellaway in 1989 and was appointed Manager of the QBA in 1995, a position she has held now for 24 years.

Kim has attended every Gold Coast Congress since 1977 and was on the organising team when the event went to two hotels and then to the magnificent Gold Coast Convention Centre. Kim's most significant bridge administration achievement has been to be on the team of what she considers the best congress in the world. Kim has many, many bridge friends all over the world.

Kim has said that the most influential person in her life, bridge and otherwise, was her mum – Marion Cooke, friend and bridge partner. "She taught me to enjoy my bridge and to be polite to everyone regardless of the situation".

Other interests revolve around family especially the recent grandchild. Future plans and ambitions include purchasing a Mini Van and travelling all over Australia, playing in as many bridge clubs as she can. Then she would like to travel overseas and do the same.

Kim was awarded Life Membership of the QBA in September 2019.

State Representation

Australian National Championships – Queensland Women's Team
2006, 1994, 1992, 1990

Australian National Championships – Queensland Youth Team
1984, 1983

State Titles

2011 Queensland Graded Teams Championship [with Marion Cooke, Lindy Vincent, Richard Ward]
2007 Queensland Graded Teams Championship [with Marion Cooke, Lindy Vincent, Richard Ward]
1997 Queensland Graded Teams Championship [with Marion Cooke, Lindy Vincent, Richard Ward]
1988 Queensland Women's Pairs Championship [with Marion Cooke]

State Titles

2007 Barrier Reef Congress Eric Parsons Open Pairs [with Ray Ellaway]