



Mary Wood – Life Membership

Mary started coaching 45 years ago in Townsville when she met Ken Wood, who had replaced Lawrie Lawrence upon Lawrie's move to Brisbane. Mary looked after learn to swim and junior squads while Ken coached the senior swimmers.

In 1984 Mary moved to Brisbane and began coaching at the St Bernadette's Club at Redcliffe with Ken. The club thrived under the new coaching and became very prominent in the Brisbane and Queensland competitions.

Mary, who is of the same ilk as legendary development coaches Peter Diamond and Jan King, has instilled the basic skills of the stroke into countless young swimmers. She has the innate ability to communicate with the swimmers she coaches, one of whom was Olympic gold medallist, Kylie Palmer. Mary has been a mother figure to many swimmers who came from other parts of the state to train at Redcliffe. Geoff Heugill was one of those swimmers.

In more than 30 years in and around Brisbane Mary has coached at a number of different clubs, and is presently practising her trade at the Redcliffe Leagues Swimming Club.

Mary's happy-go-lucky personality, indomitable spirit and absolute commitment to our sport have earned her the respect of her fellow coaches and all associated with her.

