

Angus Payne



Angus was born in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, in 1946 and played for a small football club, Churchill United. He also played for a team at Stranmillis Teachers College in Belfast, whilst studying there to become a physical education and mathematics teacher. Angus, and his wife Dorothy, with whom this interview was conducted, emigrated to Australia in May 1972 and as was often customary in those days stayed a short time in Ningana Migrant Hostel in Annandale.

Some time later the N.S.W. Department of Education sent Angus to The Entrance High School as a physical education teacher, where he stayed a couple of years before transferring to Wyong High School as a maths teacher. Angus remained at Wyong High for 16 years and in that time made many firm friends of fellow teachers and students.

Angus first played football on the Central Coast for The Entrance Soccer Club in 1972 at Jubilee Oval. He played and coached first grade and was soon appointed coach of reserve grade and third grade too. Angus also played with Adamstown Rosebuds in Newcastle.

In addition to The Entrance, Angus also coached at Wyong Soccer Club, Gosford City and East Gosford.

In 1985, he was appointed as the first Director of Coaching for the Central Coast Soccer Association

and made an important contribution to the development of junior players at representative, and club level, and to the selection process for the representative teams.

Angus also introduced mini pitches for junior players aged seven, eight and nine years of age for the Central Coast Soccer Association. This was a great success as it ensured that the players got more touches of the football on a smaller pitch.

Angus resigned from his position as Coaching Director after three years and concentrated on putting on coaching clinics with David Lee who was then Coaching Director for N.S.W. Soccer Federation.

When asked what Angus had thought about the Central Coast having it's own 'A' League team, Dorothy said that he had thought it a great entity which provided an excellent pathway for talented junior players, and with a stadium and pitch that was a credit to the Central Coast.

Angus tragically died from a heart attack on April 13, 2006 and whilst he was no longer involved in football at that time, his legacy will never be forgotten.