

## Jimmy Britton

I started my playing career at Thornliebank primary school in Glasgow Scotland at the age of 10. I captained the school team for my last 2 years at primary and was player of the year both years.



When I went up to secondary school I was made captain of the school team at 14 which made a lot of older

players not to happy with me, but I was the leading goal scorer which helped us win 2 Glasgow school boy titles, which made most of them happy.

At 15 I got picked for the Glasgow under 16 rep side, which then made me very unpopular with my school soccer coach, because the rep games clashed sometimes with the school games. I also was picked for the Scottish school boy side and actually played at Wembley stadium against the English school boy team before the main game which was Scotland v England, probably the most nerve wracking and exciting game I ever played. From that game I was asked to sign for Leeds United on S forms, which means school boy forms, but I could not sign as I had nowhere to stay and my parents did not want me to leave school early.

I then played a few games for Glasgow Rangers under 18 squad, but that did not work out, due to a few stupid things that I did. Then I signed for

Troon Juniors in the Scottish 2 division and eventually signed with Ayr United in the Scottish 1 division, and to cut a long story short I then played in South Africa before coming to Australia.

I was asked to play for Croatia and Apia, but because I lived on the North Shore of Sydney with my cousin it was too much traveling for me, as at that time I had no car. I was then contacted by a friend of mine Roy Pack who was an ex Arsenal player who I had played with in his 5 a side team in Sydney, at that time he was coaching Manly Warringah in the National Soccer league. He convinced me to come down for trials for them and in my first game scored 3 goals and that then was me playing for them for 2 years. The money was no good and we were never paid on time, so I went back to a real working job which was my trade as an electronic technician and playing with my mates in the north shore 1st division.

I then moved to Myocum Downs outside Mullumbimby and played and coached with several 1st division clubs up here over the years. I then tore my cartilage in my right knee playing touch football in the off season which then ended my soccer playing days for good.

I then moved to Ballina and I took up coaching kids at Ballina soccer club. Then a chance Flyer came through to the club from John Galletly and Paul Connellan about walking football getting started in this area. My club Ballina agreed to let us play there which resulted in Ballina Walking Football, which then resulted in me through Alan Templeton at the ripe old age of 68 playing for Australia in the World Championships in Florence Italy.