



Brighton & Hove Albion Football Club

PAUL MCCARTHY



Paul McCarthy
Image by: The Argus

The club has paid tribute to the life of a former Albion defender.

Brighton & Hove Albion is saddened by the news that former player Paul McCarthy has passed away aged 45.

McCarthy, who played for the club between 1988 and 1996, died suddenly on Sunday.

Born in Cork, Republic of Ireland, McCarthy grew up playing football with close friend Roy Keane. Paul arrived at Albion as a trainee in July 1988 from his local side Rockmount.

He signed a full professional contract with the Seagulls in April 1989, making his first-team debut against Bradford City in March 1990, where he created the winning goal in a 2-1 victory.

The defender represented his country at youth-team level up to the under-21s, where he was appointed captain in November 1992. He was named the Republic of Ireland Under-21 Player of the Year in November 1993, and came third in the Albion Player of the Season award for 1993/94.

He took over the captaincy from Steve Foster in the 1995/96 season, as Albion battled in vain to avoid relegation into the old Division Three.

The Irishman left the south coast at the end of that season for Wycombe Wanderers, and was part of the Chairboys squad that reached the FA Cup semi-finals in 2001.

He later served Oxford United, Hornchurch, Ebbsfleet United and Crowborough Athletic, and lived in the East Sussex town.

The thoughts of everyone at the club are with Paul's family and friends at this sad time.