

Mr Angelo Anestis - A great man to be remembered

I believe that most people might know the Angelo Anestis Aquatic Centre in Bexley. It was opened on Australia Day, Thursday 26th of January 2017. In my opinion, it's the best place to be in our local area for people who would like to do the daily workout and for kids who would like to learn the swimming or have the water fun. It includes an outdoor 50m pool with covered grandstand, an indoor 25m pool with ramp access, a Children's splash pad water feature area, a gym and also a Cafe. I go there once a week for my swimming lesson. Some people even go there every day for exercise!

Angelo Anestis Aquatic Centre is well known in the local community but do you know why it is called Angelo Anestis and who is Angelo Anestis?

Mr Anestis is a Councillor who served the First Ward of Rockdale City Council for 8 years from April 2004 until September 2012. It was Councillor Angelo Anestis, at a council meeting on Wednesday 19th of November 2008, who moved the Notice of Motion to improve the Bexley Swimming Pool that ultimately led to the construction of the Rockdale City Aquatic Centre¹.

Mr Anestis migrated from the small island of Kos in Greece in 1960 to start a new life in Australia, setting in Bardwell Park which was his home for 30 years. He initially worked for General Motors Holden in Pagewood for 10 years and then went to work for the Greek Consulate in Sydney for 4 years. He then worked at Telecom as a line layer supervisor until retirement.

Mr Anestis started to served the First Ward as a Councillor from 2004 after his retirement. He was one of the oldest Councillors to have served Rockdale City and one of the most hardworking Councillor. His friend and upper house member Shaoquett Moselmane described him as the hero of the fight for a new Bexley pool, which was finally approved². The Mayer of Rockdale City Council said in a small party to celebrating Mr Anestis's 80th birthday, "Councillor Anestis is one of the oldest Councillors to have served the City of Rockdale, yet he has the energy and tenacity of a Councillor 40 years his junior. As a close friend and colleague, it has been a privilege to work with such a dedicated and visible Councillor lie Angelo."³

As a Greek immigrant and a member of various Greek organisations, Mr Anestis also spent a lot of time to help Greek community in their cultural, charitable, educational, and social needs.

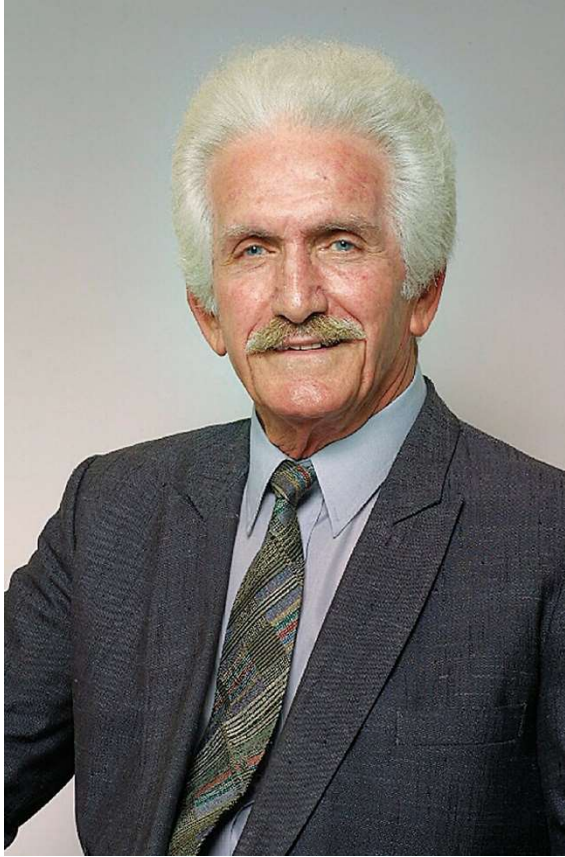
Mr Anestis passed away at age of 85 on 30th of November 2015.

The Rockdale City Aquatic Centre has been renamed to Angelo Anestis Aquatic Centre in honour of Councillor Angelo Anestis.

¹ Rockdale Review, December 2015/January 2016

² St George & Sutherland Shire Leader, 3 December 2015, P4

³ Rockdale Review, July 2010



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4 <https://www.theleader.com.au/story/3707048/pool-renamed-in-memory-of-former-rockdale-councillor/>

5 <https://twitter.com/RockdaleCityNSW/status/671124624994934784?s=20&t=ZNvuZYaIG3P55tnc-MEE3w>