

1959



The 1959 Centenary Team to Sydney.
From left (Back row) G. McLeod, (Australian Board of Control), N. Kelly, J. Foreman, E. Kennedy (visitor), G. Parcell, P. Piers, J. Reardon (visitor).
(Second row) L. Furness (trainer), J. Paterson, D. Meehan, T. McDonald, E. Rasmussen, D. Beattie, J. Baker, C. Churchill (coach).
(Front row) E. E. Elwing (manager), B. Walsh, R. Boden, (vice-capt), R. Banks (capt), M. Shannon, J. Kelly, A. Bishop (manager).
(In front) W. Lewis, B. Muir, R. Cook, (absent - C. Weir)

Game 1

Wednesday, May 27
Brisbane Exhibition Ground
Crowd 35,261
QLD 17 - NSW 15

Game 2

Saturday, May 30
Lang Park
Crowd 31,258
NSW 24 - QLD 14

Game 3

Wednesday, August 19
Sydney Sports Ground
Crowd 11,292
QLD 23 - NSW 11

Game 4

Saturday, August 22
Sydney Cricket Ground
Crowd 22,550
QLD 18 - NSW 14

INTERSTATE RUGBY LEAGUE

New South Wales dominated interstate rugby league with Queensland's last series win prior to the birth of State Of Origin (1980) stretching back to 1959. Steve Ricketts takes a look at how the memorable series unfolded...

Game 1

QUEENSLAND went into the 1959 inter-state campaign very much the underdogs, given the Maroons last win had come three years earlier against New South Wales at the Sydney Showgrounds.

But the local fans had not given up on their heroes, and a crowd of 35,261 was on hand for the first match of the '59 series at the Brisbane Exhibition Ground.

They were not to be disappointed with Queensland recording a memorable 17-15 win,

although the Blues had a chance to draw level on fulltime after winger, Don Parish scored a try in the corner.

Parish, whose son Matt has been part of the Blues coaching staff in recent Origin campaigns, was wide with the conversion shot.

Queensland's forwards were magnificent and took full advantage of the glut of possession which came their way from hooker, Noel Kelly, who got the better of Blues ace, Ian Walsh 20-9 in the scrums, which were full-on contests in those days.

Lock, Don Meehan scored the try of the match, breaking free of the ruck and then fending off a



QLD Fullback for Game 1 - Frank Drake

cover defender before swerving around fullback, Brian Graham.

Behind the pack, new halfback, Barry Muir gave a polished display, with his long, accurate passes giving his outside men plenty of room in which to move against their speedy rivals, among them Reg Gasnier in his State debut.

Game 2

New South Wales squared the 1959 series with a 24-14 win over Queensland at Lang Park, but the Maroons did not lose any friends after a hard tackling affair.

The attendance of 31,258 was the biggest at Lang Park at that time, and the fans witnessed a fiery encounter, with referee, Col Pearce sending off NSW second rower, Brian Hambly after he felled Qld forward, Dud Beattie with a savage punch to the back of the neck.

The Courier-Mail's Jack Reardon rated Beattie the pick of the Qld pack.

Game 3

Big Toowoomba forward, Elton Rasmussen was outstanding as the Maroons took a 2-1 lead in the series with a 23-11 win at the Sydney Sports Ground (now Allianz Stadium), the Maroons scoring five tries to one, two by five eighth, Bobby Banks.

Gary Parcell and Noel Kelly were in the thick of things in the ruck for the Queenslanders, but it was Rasmussen who stood tall with a dazzling running game, and he was rewarded with a try.

Queensland fullback, Mick Shannon played an important part in two of Qld's tries, and tackled securely.

Game 4

The final match was played at the Sydney Cricket Ground and NSW were supremely confident of victory.

It looked like a Blues win with three minutes left on the clock and Queensland behind 14-13.

But a magnificent team try by Qld fullback, Mick Shannon and a conversion by winger, Paul Pyers gave Qld a 18-14 win and a 3-1 series result.

Shannon's try started from deep inside Qld territory with lock, Don Meehan beating two men before finding five eighth, Banks in support.

"This lanky, wiry Ipswich forward improves with every match," Reardon wrote. "He stands up to the hard stuff and still is there to tackle and get the ball clear."

Halfback, Barry Muir had another outstanding game for Queensland and showed courage in returning to the field after taking a head knock mid-way through the second half.

Centres, Paul Pyers and John Kelly were magnificent in attack, with Pyers showing neat footwork to beat Reg Gasnier and then short kicking for winger, Des Hendry to score in the corner.

Queensland Test stars, Barry Muir and Jim Paterson had a pleasant surprise waiting for them when they arrived at their Sydney hotel prior to the match.

Muir and Paterson had their Test jumpers stolen after their debut games against the Kiwis earlier in the year, and they were resigned to never seeing them again.

But hotel manager, Ted Odgers and former Australian lock, Albert Paul had done a bit of detective work and tracked the jerseys to Newcastle.

When Paul told the culprits he was aware of their wrong doing, and the police would be the next to know, the jerseys were quickly returned.

Banks switched the ball back inside to Pyers who threw the final pass to Shannon, who beat opposing fullback, Keith Barnes and five eighth, Tony Brown before scoring near the posts.

It was Qld's first series win since 1951 and the Maroons players were in great spirits as skipper, Banks received the Buck Finn Memorial Trophy from NSW Governor, Sir Eric Woodward.

Banks later received the J G Stephenson Memorial Trophy as Queensland's player of the series.

Centre, Col Weir made his state debut for Qld

The Courier-Mail's Jack Reardon, a former Kangaroo tourist, said Qld should have had a minimum of 10 players in the squad and rated five eighth, Bobby Banks and winger, Paul Pyers the glaring omissions.

"I cannot understand how (NSW five eighth) Tony Brown was preferred to Banks," Reardon wrote.

"Obviously the arbiter, Henry Porter, must have been called in frequently to give his casting vote and I would think he gave his casting vote to a New South Wales player on every occasion.

"Every Queensland chosen earned his selection the hard way."

The Queenslanders chosen were Dud Beattie,

Q'LAND IS DUE FOR A THRASHING

IT took the five Queensland Rugby League selectors about 50 minutes yesterday to pick the State team to play N.S.W. at the Exhibition Ground next Wednesday night.

History stands for a compulsory qualifying subject for State selector aspirants—and recent history at that.

N.S.W. has won the last nine games played, and since the war has won 20-0, one drawn, and scored 1285 to 731 points.

And this same N.S.W. is Grandfather young, fresh blood into its team every season. Helman, O'Brien, Hawick, Wells, Henry, Bull, Muir, Adams, Kite, Dismore, we've seen late Brian Davies, all the great stars of several seasons are being dismissed by the latest new-boys of that best maternity school for footballers, the professional school.

Tough and all as it may be to argue it, the selection of players like Banks and Holloway (ex-Sydney) both a rising 23, and such a State rep. of many years standing, may only be inviting trouble and N.S.W. will certainly sell it to us.

Each has been a great player in his position, but it remains to be seen whether this pair will still measure up when the big

southern whips start crackling. On the whole, the selectors have otherwise gone for youth, and from the moderate material on offer have done a fair job of presentable patching to present to the tropical June public on Wednesday.

Two of the 13 are 22 years of age or under. The shock omission of all is that of old-half Bobby Cook.

This ex-Wynnum-Manlyite, now at Ayr, is only 22, and has that touch of wizardry in attack that made McCaffery famous. The selectors stated that he was not considered because of injury.

Poppcock! Cook's shoulder injury was of a minor nature and he could have been as fit as a Stradivarius fiddle for Wednesday's game.

Full-back? Well, we've selected to see 20-year-old Frank Drake (Toowoomba), and ex-Balmain got the job. Mick Shannon has been tried and found wanting—in defence. Remember that, Drake, if you don't want the blues to make ducks and drakes of your debut!

Winger? Well, out of the half-dozen on show a half-pick wouldn't have been better, or worse.

Pyers goes in because he's a fair goal-kicker. We'd have had colored winger Morgan, because like Cook, he can bring a dash of the unexpected in his play, and Queensland could sure do with some of that.

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By
GEORGE LONG
"Truth's" Rugby
League Writer



NOEL KELLY

When the selectors, in a brilliant "ambrosia attack" he and Kelly defend soundly. Kelly is never in a situation where he often evades his winger by going alone.

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BARRY MUIR

Six feet or over, Kelly and Paterson such a brilliant pair would be to show.

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Kangaroo Tour Selection

The Queensland team was shocked into silence when the Kangaroo team to tour England and France was announced in the NSW Leagues Club Ballroom after the fourth match of the 1959 series.

Despite winning the series 3-1, Queensland gained only seven places in the squad of 26, with Brisbane based New South Welshman, Clive Churchill to coach the side. Churchill was player coach of Norths Devils in '59.

Qld team manager, Albert Bishop said he had difficulty restraining some of the players from taking justice into their own hands as the names were read out.

Noel Kelly, Gary Parcell (an all Ipswich front row); Elton Rasmussen, Ron Boden (Toowoomba), Jim Paterson (North Qld) and Barry Muir (Brisbane Wests).

Great Britain won the Ashes series 2-1 in England, but the Kangaroos won all three Tests against France despite two shock losses to French club sides.

1959 Queensland Players



Mick Shannon

Fullback. Brisbane Brothers, Herbert River. 6 matches for Qld.

Shannon sidestepped two opponents to score a try and snatch a 18-14 victory over NSW in the last three minutes of the fourth and final inter-state match at the SCG in 1959. He had made his Qld debut the following year when he played against the Blues and also the Great Britain touring side. In a match for Brisbane against the '58 British side, Shannon instigated the try of the match for winger, Mel Hansen, and scored a try of his own, although the tourists won 34-29. Shannon captained Brothers in 1959, and also had the honour of leading Brisbane in the Bulimba Cup inter-city competition the same year.



Frank Drake

Fullback. Balmain, Brisbane Souths, Toowoomba All Whites, Brisbane Easts. 21 matches for Qld. 2 Tests for Australia.

Drake played for Balmain before moving to Qld. The Courier-Mail's Jack Reardon described Drake as "another Churchill" after his performance for Toowoomba against Brisbane in a Bulimba Cup match at Lang Park in 1959. Drake featured in one of the great news stories of '59, dashing back from Sydney after his father's funeral to play a starring role in Toowoomba's 10-7 win over Ipswich in the Bulimba Cup final at North Ipswich Reserve. Drake was met at Brisbane Airport by Sunday-Mail staff photographer, Eric Donnelly and a Toowoomba League official, and arrived at the ground just 10 minutes before kick-off. Originally Drake had made himself unavailable and Len Lewis had been brought in as his replacement. Drake wore white running boots when he played first grade for Balmain, and also had to wear the tag of being a 'lair', because everyone wore 'traditional' black boots in those days. Drake was the first fullback to score a Test try against Great Britain, that honour coming his way in the 1962 home series.



Trevor McDonald

Wing. Innisfail, Toowoomba. 5 matches for Qld. 1 Test for Australia.

A former professional sprinter, McDonald played in the First Test of the 1959 series against New Zealand, a match which Australia won 9-8 in muddy conditions, with the Maroons' ace given few chances to shine. He was subsequently dropped for the next Test with St George (Sydney) star, Eddie Lumsden getting his spot. McDonald played three of the four inter-state games in 1959. He coached Easts in Warwick towards the end of his career. In 1958, playing for Toowoomba against the touring British side, he scored a fine try in one of the most entertaining matches of the Lions' tour.



Ron Boden

Utility back. Toowoomba Valleys, Parramatta. 6 games for Qld. 3 Tests for Australia.

Boden was equally at home at wing, centre and five eighth. He played for Western Division against France at Parkes in 1955 in his first rep match, and the following season moved to Qld to play under the coaching of the legendary Duncan Thompson at Toowoomba Valleys. After touring Britain and France with the 1959-60 Kangaroos, Boden joined Parramatta where he played four seasons, including a stint as captain-coach in 1961. He also coached with success in NSW Country, particularly at Taree in the Manning District.



Paul 'Pappy' Pyers

Utility back. Sydney Easts, Brisbane Easts, Wynnum-Manly, Parramatta, Mackay, Cairns, Murwillumbah Old Boys. 11 matches for Qld.

Pyers, a product of Grafton rugby league in the Clarence Valley of NSW, played for Mackay in '59, one his highlights a last minute try for victory over Rockhampton in an inter-city clash. In North Qld's 36-17 win over Brisbane the same year, Pyers had a field day, scoring three tries and kicking six goals. He was a real larrikin, once taking a rubber snake on to the field in a match against Townsville and dropping it into a scrum, much to the horror of both packs. In 1970 he played first grade for Wynnum-Manly with his son, Paul Jnr.



Jim Kelly

Centre. Townsville, Stanthorpe, West Wyalong, Temora. 3 matches for Qld.

Originally from Temora in NSW, he played trials with Balmain before accepting an offer to move to Townsville in 1959, despite a last ditch bid by Balmain to keep him in Sydney. Kelly, who also had a season at Stanthorpe, scored a hat-trick of tries in Combined Country's 31-21 win over South Qld on May 13, '59. He had been a reserve for the North Qld selection trial at Bowen in '59 and only got a game when another centre dropped out. Kelly moved back to New South Wales in 1961 and played one match for the Blues.



Des Hendry

Wing/centre. Ayr, Brisbane Souths. 3 matches for Qld.

A noted beach sprinter, few people could catch the bandy legged Hendry once he was in the clear. Played with Ayr in '59, signing a lucrative deal despite Brisbane Souths' efforts to keep him following an impressive '58 season in which he played centre. In 1960 he played for North Queensland against the touring French side. Hendry burst onto the scene as a 19-year-old in 1958, scoring four tries for Brisbane against Country at the Exhibition Ground.



Bobby Cook

Five eighth. Wynnum-Manly, Toowoomba Souths, Eacham, Ayr, Quilpie, Gold Coast Tigers.

A crowd favourite because of his speed off the mark and clever ball work. Cook grew up at Wynnum, but played his football at a variety of centres around the state. He was one of the stars of the Southport based Tigers outfit which helped kick-start rugby league on the Gold Coast in the late 1960s after a period in the doldrums. In 1958 Wynnum-Manly star, Cook and Wests halfback, Barry Muir tied for 'The Courier-Mail' Best and Fairest award and shared the \$100 bonus. Cook, then 21, was a type writer mechanic in those days (before computers).



Bobby Banks

Five eighth. Cunnamulla, Toowoomba Newtown, Brisbane Norths, Cairns Souths, Tully. 33 matches for Qld. 15 Tests for Australia.

Banks was the Wally Lewis of his era because of his ability to put support players into space. Banks played his 15 Tests for Australia between 1953 and 1962 and was something of a Mr Fix-it for the Kangaroos when things were not going well. His punishing defence and tactical awareness set him apart from most other five eighths of the time. Banks was at his peak on the 1956-57 Kangaroo tour of Britain and France when he played all six Test matches. He captained Queensland in 1959 and 1960. Born at Tumut in southern NSW, he grew up in Newcastle and was signed by Sydney Easts in 1950. The following year he moved to Queensland. Such was his impact on the Darling Downs he was named five eighth in the Toowoomba Team of the Century in 2008. In 2000 he was awarded an Australian Sports Medal for his service to the code.



Col Weir

Centre. Brisbane Wests. 4 matches for Qld.

After representing Brisbane in the Bulimba Cup in 1958, Weir made a splendid inter-state debut in game four of the '59 series, despite a nervous start in defence. Weir broke his ankle early in '59, ruling him out contention for the start of the inter-state series. A Wests junior, he won the club's best and fairest award in 1964.



Barry Muir

Halfback. Tweed Heads Seagulls, Brisbane Wests, Ayr Hornets. 26 matches for Qld. 25 Tests for Australia.

One of Australia's greatest ever halfbacks, and a fiery character to boot with the Tweed Seagulls product getting into strife with referees wherever he played. Muir, who attended school at Coolangatta, first wore the Maroon jumper as a Qld Primary Schools rep. Seven years later the young carpenter represented Brisbane and a year later forced his way into the Australian side at the expense of the great Keith Holman. Muir remained Australia's number one halfback until 1964, playing against Great Britain, France, New Zealand, South Africa and Italy during that time. Upon his retirement he took up coaching and achieved a place in Australian sporting folklore when he called the 'southerners' cockroaches. In 1975 he took Qld to a rare win over NSW and the Maroons were beaten by one point in the deciding match of that series. At club level he took Redcliffe from second last in 1972 to the grand final 12 months later. Muir coached Brisbane Norths in the 1980s. Barry Muir football boots were big sellers in the 1960s.



Don Meehan

Lock. Ipswich Railways, Herbert River, Sydney Wests, Ayr, Mackay. 9 matches for Qld.

Represented Ipswich in the Bulimba Cup and led Mackay (1959) and Herbert River (1965) to Foley Shield titles. In the 1959 final Mackay defeated Cairns 29-13 with Paul Pyers scoring three tries for Mackay. Cairns were led by Ted Verrenkamp, who would go on to coach Queensland in 1960. Meehan was the only regular member of the '59 Qld pack not to play for Australia, but on form deserved national honours. A non-playing reserve for Qld in 1955, Meehan played 10 first grade matches for Sydney Wests in 1956 before returning to Queensland. In 2008 he was named in the Herbert River Team of the Century.



Gary Parcell

Prop/second rower. Ipswich Brothers. 14 matches for Qld. 8 Tests for Australia.

A one club man, Gary Parcell is a legend at Ipswich and in the Lockyer Valley where the Parcell names is revered. Garry's father, Perc played seven times for Qld in the 1920s, including one match against Victoria. Garry's son, Steve toured France with the 1989 Queensland Residents side, which included future Origin utility player, Terry Cook. Steve's son, Matt is now making a big impression with Ipswich in the Intrust Super Cup. Parcell was as tough as they come in an era when only the strongest survived. But he was also mobile for a big man and proved a headache for the best defensive sides. One of Parcell's finest displays came in the First Test of the 1959 tour of Great Britain at Swinton when he tore into the British pack in Australia's memorable 22-14 win in front of a parochial crowd of 35,141. It was the work of the likes of Parcell, Brian Hambly and Billy Wilson which laid the platform for the Kangaroos speedy backline, with young centre, Reg Gasnier scoring three tries.



Jim Paterson

Prop/second rower. Rockhampton, Townsville, Innisfail, Herbert River, Toowoomba Valleys. 24 matches for Qld. 8 Tests for Australia.

A non stop player, his style was often compared to Qld League great and inaugural State of Origin team manager, Duncan Hall. Paterson led North Queensland to an historic win over Great Britain in 1966. A Townsville Souths junior, he spent two seasons in Toowoomba to benefit from the coaching of the legendary Duncan Thompson. In 1960 he was captain-coach of Innisfail's Foley Shield side.



Noel Kelly

Hooker/prop. Goodna, Ipswich Brothers, Ayr, Sydney Wests, Wollongong. 7 matches for Qld. 28 Tests for Australia.

In game one of the '59 series Kelly won the scrums 20-9 over Blues rival, Ian Walsh, giving the Maroons the biggest share of possession ever enjoyed by a Qld side since inter-state games resumed after World War II. Kelly was named hooker in the Team of the Century in 2008, but was just at home as a front rower. Kelly went on three Kangaroo tours to Britain and France, his fiery play often getting him into trouble with referees. It was said that when he heard the postman's whistle he automatically headed for a shower. In a 1967 Test against New Zealand at Lang Park he was sent off after just 90 seconds for decking Kiwi prop, Robin Orchard after he felled Australian five eighth, Johnny Gleeson with a high shot. When Orchard recovered, he also was dismissed. A product of the Goodna club in the Ipswich competition, Kelly also played at Ayr in North Qld before being signed by Wests in Sydney, the club known at the time as the game's 'millionaires'. He finished as captain-coach of Wests and later went on to coach North Sydney Bears.



Neville Callaghan

Hooker. Rockhampton. 1 match for Qld.

Callaghan was a late replacement for Noel Kelly for game two of the 1959 series and broke even 9-9 with NSW rival, Ian Walsh. Earlier that year Callaghan was part of a Rockhampton representative side which beat Combined Brisbane 28-23 in Rockhampton, with Cyril Connell scoring two tries for 'Rocky'.



Dud Beattie

Prop/second rower. Ipswich Railways. 19 matches for Qld. 15 Tests for Australia.

Beattie first played league with Ipswich Railways under-18s and went on to represent Ipswich in the Bulimba Cup in 1956. He toured Britain and France in 1959-60 and returned to Europe for the 1960 World Cup, playing for the Rest of the World against champions, Great Britain at the end of the tournament. His last tour was to New Zealand in 1961, but he played all three Tests against the touring British side in '62. A classic example of Beattie's toughness came in the Third Test in '62 when he dislocated his shoulder, but refused to leave the field, given there were no replacements in those days. When he realised he could not carry on, Beattie provoked British forward, Derek 'Rocky' Turner into a fight and referee, Darcy Lawler sent both men off. Australia went on to win 18-17 with both sides down to 12 men. Beattie went on to become a Queensland and Australian selector.



Elton Rasmussen

Second rower. Mackay, Toowoomba All Whites, St George (Sydney), Brisbane Souths. 15 matches for Qld. 18 Tests for Australia.

Rasmussen was one of the quiet achievers of the game, a bit like the Gold Coast Titans Ashley Harrison. Rasmussen made his Qld debut at the age of 21 in 1959. Originally from Mackay, Rasmussen took some time to get used to the cold weather when he moved to Toowoomba in '58. He earned the

nickname the 'frozen flyer' because he was always reluctant to take off his overcoat when he turned up for training on the Downs. His consistent displays for Qld earned him a contract with Sydney glamour club, St George in 1962 and he played in five grand final triumphs for the Dragons. His last international series was the 1968 World Cup and he played a starring role in Australia's 20-2 win over France in the final at the SCG. Rasmussen died in 1978 aged just 43.



Henry Holloway

Second rower, Newtown (Sydney), Brisbane Souths, Ayr, Townsville, Redcliffe. 3 matches for Qld. 3 Tests for Australia.

'Big H' as he was known, played all three Tests for Australia against the series winning French side of 1955, after playing a starring role for Sydney in an early tour match. At that stage the rugged Holloway was playing for Sydney club, Newtown, although he was a Newcastle product. Holloway played league in Japan when he was stationed there with the Australian Army. He moved to Queensland where he played for Souths, Ayr and Townsville before captain-coaching Redcliffe to their maiden Brisbane premiership in 1965 when one of the stars was Arthur Beetson, who would become Queensland's inaugural Origin captain. Holloway later coached Valleys and Wynnum-Manly, as well as Queensland Country. A controversial character, he always spoke his mind.



Joe Baker

Lock forward. Warwick, Brisbane Easts. 2 matches for Qld.

Easts skipper, Baker's debut for Qld came against the '59 Kiwi touring side, and although the Maroons were belted 34-19, he was close to best on field. Baker scored a try from a scrum base move with halfback, Barry Muir, and also shone in defence. "His cover defence was equal to anything Test lock, Johnny Raper has done this year," wrote The Courier-Mail's Jack Reardon. "Some of his heavy tackling of the Kiwi outside backs saved certain tries." Baker coached North Qld to a win over Brisbane for the State title in 1971. One of Australia's top marine scientists, Professor Joe Baker founded the University Rugby League Club in Townsville and the club's playing fields at James Cook University were named in his honour.



Brian 'Tiger' Walsh

Centre/wing. Ipswich, Herbert River. 2 matches for Queensland.

Walsh was one of the stars of Ipswich's win over Toowoomba in the 1958 Bulimba Cup final at Ipswich. "Walsh, given more attacking opportunities than I have seen him get before, was the outstanding winger of the match," wrote The Courier-Mail's Jack Reardon. Walsh was a reserve for Qld in the second match of the 1959 series and started in Game 3. He showed tremendous grit to return to the field after suffering a leg injury in the first half, although he switched from centre to wing, swapping with Ron Boden.



William (Billy) Lewis

Halfback, Herbert River, Ayr. 1 match for Qld.

A talented halfback, Lewis played for Parramatta before moving to Queensland, joining Ayr at the same time as State and Test reserve halfback, Brian Jones from Toowoomba, Bobby Cook from Wynnum-Manly and Des Hendry from Brisbane Souths. Lewis got his chance in the '59 series when Barry Muir withdrew through injury for Game 3 at the Sydney Sports Ground. Jack Reardon wrote that the Queensland backs were disorganised. "But sharp penetration by little halfback, Bill Lewis and five eighth, Bobby Banks overcame much of the difficulty," Reardon reported.



Coach: Clive Churchill

'The little Master' was one of the greats of Australian sport. They even named a grandstand after him at the Sydney Cricket Ground. He was the complete footballer, a devastating tackler who could relieve pressure on his side with long, accurate kicks. He also had an uncanny knack of chiming into the backline at the right time. Churchill was the first man to captain Australia in three series against Great Britain and also was the first in 30 years to skipper an Ashes winning side - in 1950. He was captain-coach of Norths in Brisbane in 1959, but was non-playing coach on the 1959-60 Kangaroo tour of Britain and France. He returned to NSW in 1960, playing for Moree before hanging up the boots to concentrate on coaching. He took Souths to Sydney premierships in 1967, '68 and '71, with the win over St George in '71 the last time the Rabbitohs won the title.

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