

# Allan Langer

Allan Langer 'The little General', and commonly known as 'Alf' or 'Alfie', is best known as the Brisbane Broncos Captain who represented Queensland and Australia as a half back through the 1980's and 1990's. Winner of the Clive Churchill and Dally M Medal's add to his impressive record 5-time club player of the year for the Broncos. One of the most capped State of Origin players in the history of the game.

Born and raised in Ipswich, Queensland, Langer grew up playing football alongside brothers and future Brisbane Broncos (as well as Queensland Maroons and Australian Kangaroos) team mates Kevin and Kerrod Walters. This combination of players was known famously as "The Ipswich Connection". He was selected as an Australian schoolboy representative in 1982. Coached by former champion Australian half-back Tommy Raudonikis, Langer became a key player for the Ipswich Jets when he was only 17 and was playing first grade for the club by 1986. He played his first Test for Australia in 1988.

Langer made his State of Origin debut in 1987, and his superb performance saw him signed on with the newly-established Brisbane Broncos in 1988. He captained the side to back to back premierships in 1992 and 1993.

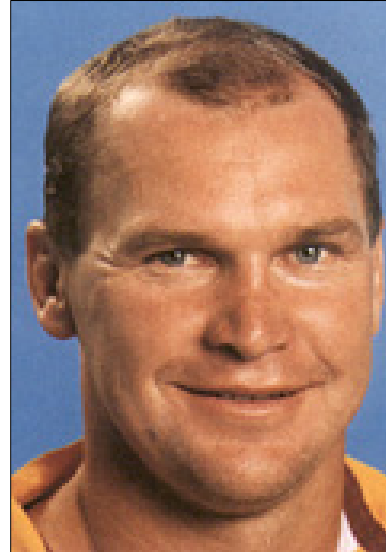
He lost his position in the test squad to Ricky Stuart after an opening loss to England in the Ashes series in the 1994 Kangaroo tour. In 1995, Langer, along with many other Broncos players, lost their representative positions because they had signed contracts to play for Super League (Australia). In 1996, Langer returned to State of Origin, however Queensland still lost the series in a 3-0 whitewash.

In 2000, whilst playing for the Warrington Wolves, Langer was honoured as a Member of the Order of Australia "for service to Rugby League football as a player at national and international levels, and as a supporter of charities, particularly those raising funds for cancer research". Later that year he was also awarded the Australian Sports Medal.



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# RUGBY LEAGUE



Langer was later lured back to the Broncos for one final season in 2002 where, despite his good form, the team was unable to win the Premiership. At the time of his retirement, he had made the most appearances as captain for the Broncos and was one of only two players to have been the man-of-the-match in a State of Origin game more than three times (the other being Wally Lewis) and the oldest player to play State of Origin football.

