

# Australian Postcard Society Inc.

**Meetings:** 7.45p.m. — 4th Thursday of the month  
except December (11 meetings only per year)

**Where** SAPHIL House, 22 Gray Court, Adelaide

**Who** Anybody interested in postcards

**Costs** Gold coin donation to cover supper costs.

**Auction held each meeting—Forms available from Secretary**

## Syllabus for 2017

Date	Invited Displays-
26th January	Australia Day—Everyone please bring an 'Australian' Postcard
23rd February	Alma Downes One Framers
23rd March	Trading Night
27th April	Betty Cornish Trophy 6 Page Competition -Theme - Children
6-7th May	<b>POSTCARD EXHIBITION &amp; Congress, Drill Hall, Adelaide</b>
25th May	From Bonoparte to Napoleon – Michel Roland
27th June	Isle of Wight—Linda Welden
27th July	A.G.M. Empire Trophy 8 Page Competition - Theme - British Colonies
24th August	Roberts Surprise
28th September	Riverboats—Ron Harriss
26th October	Japan Maximum Cards
23rd November	Christmas Supper - Bring a plate of food to share and A Christmas postcard to Display

# Australian Postcard Society Inc.



## BULLETIN

May 2017

Quarterly Issue No. 33

WEBSITE ADDRESS: [australian-postcard-society.com](http://australian-postcard-society.com)

75 year Remembrance of the Darwin Post Office Bombing 19th February 1942  
killing nine people including Telegraph Staff, the Postmaster and his Family.

2017 Australian Postcard Society  
Exhibition and Congress Souvenir  
75 year Remembrance of Darwin  
Post Office Bombing in 1942  
**Postcard \$5 (only 50 printed)**  
**Cover \$2**

**2017 Postcard**

Australian Postcard Society  
Exhibition & Congress

On May 6-7  
At Drill Hall,  
Towers Parade Ground,  
Victoria Drive,  
Adelaide, South Australia.

1943 Darwin Telegraph  
Postmark

**2017**

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**This Bulletin Contents**

Page 2	Club Committee
Page 3	Editor Notes
Page 4	Donald McGill
&Page 5	and
&Page 6	his postcards
Page 7	S T Gill
&Page 8	and
&Page 9	his works
&Page 10	" "
Page 11	Forster, NSW
Page 12	Anthony Raftopoulos
&Page 13	Aka Tony Raffy
&Page 14	" "
Page 15	Postcard Collecting
&Page 16	and eBay
&Page 17	" "
Page 18	Member Buy & Sell
Page 19	Business Adverts
Page 20	Club Program

**ELECTED COMMITTEE:**

President	Robert Halliday
Vice-President	John Bodnar
Treasurer	David Figg
Secretary	Linda Welden
Librarian	Robert Halliday
Publicity	Glen Northcott
Auction Superintendent	George Turner
Magazine Editor	Claire Thomas
SAPC Delegates	Claire Thomas
	Glen Northcott
Raffle Organiser	Glen Northcott
PATRON	Phil Sunman
Website Managers	Jeff Trinidad
Auditor	Andy Kovaleff

**Any questions or matters of interest contact**

The Secretary,  
Linda Welden,  
PO Box 281,  
Edwardstown,  
South Australia, 5039.

email: [lindawelden35@gmail.com](mailto:lindawelden35@gmail.com)  
Phone: 0421 367 665

**Membership Fees—1st July-30th June**

SINGLE	\$20.00
JUNIOR up to 16	\$ 6.00
FAMILY	\$30.00
OVERSEAS	AUS\$35.00
Paypal available	

BULLETIN BACK ISSUES

If you have missed out on back issues of the Bulletin they are available at \$5 plus postage. Or I can email you a pdf

BECOME INVOLVED

Bring any interesting items for "Show and Tell".

Members can bring their items for sale to meetings.

Bring auction lots to meetings.

ARTICLES FOR THE BULLETIN

Bring in a postcard... or as many as you want.

If you are from interstate/overseas scan it and email. Or send the postcard registered mail it will be scanned and returned asap registered post.

With **each** postcard a write-up will be needed - about half page or more. Either hand written or typed.

Add your name if you wish or not if you are worried about the safety of your collection.

Keep them coming they will be added as space permits.



**Beechey's Postcard History - a web site**

A reference to the history of Tasmanian Postcards

Frequently updated with new postcard images and new publishers

<http://beecheypostcardhistory.org.au>



**BUYING - SELLING**

**Old Books, Postcards, Trade Cards,  
Cigarette Cards, Ephemera,  
Autographs, Sheet Music, Anything Printed.**

**ABRA CARD ABRA ROYCROFT**

**680 High Street, East Kew, 3102, Victoria**

**Phone/Fax (03) 9859 4215**

## **MEMBERS ADVERTISEMENTS:**

### **WANTED TO BUY:**

**For Sale** Radio Active Newspaper Published by the ABC August 1970 Series 2, Volume 6 #8 Fair Condition—offers, Souvenir Special 200 years of Australia's First Newspaper Fair Condition—offers Contact John 0416 944 236

**Australian Comic Postcards.** Collector and researcher looking for singles, groups, duplicates, hoards, large/small collections. Anything considered. Contact Gary Davies, PO Box 107, Magnetic Island, Queensland, 4819. email: ccbnq@optusnet.com.au

**New Zealand** Postcards Contact Linda Welden 0421 367 665 lindaw3456@gmail.com

**Postcards of Kalamunda** (West Australia), Goa (India), Lord Howe Island & Magnetic Bay (Queensland) and Norfolk Islands Email: pk@bankofideas.com.au or Call Peter Kenyon on: 62931848

**Murray Bridge Postcards and items wanted** Please contact Robert Halliday 0419 800 497

**Members if you want to advertise your buys and sells etc let me know.**

## *Business Advertising*

Per Bulletin prices

\$30 per full page

\$15 half page

\$7.50 1/4 page

**Our Bulletins go world wide**

## **From The Editor—**

Hi Folks,

A huge thank you for anyone who contributes items to The Bulletin. For every page published, you get \$1 from your next years subscription fees.

For Members who do use Facebook we do have a club page.

Members of the public are invited to donate any unwanted postcards to our club.

*Claire Thomas*

"If you don't ask, you don't find out"

If you ever need/want to contact me  
Mobile phone 0426 253 276—I am always happy to ring you back

## **Letters to the Editor**

### GOOD NEWS

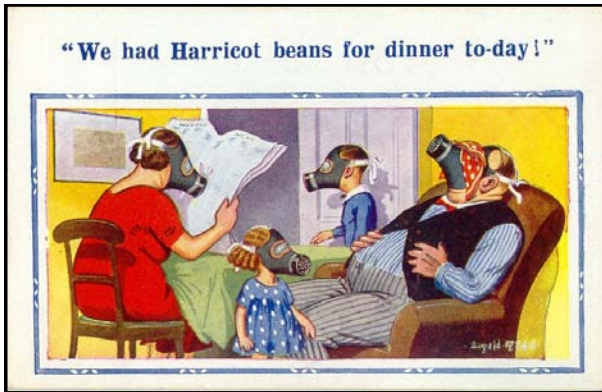
**Postcards Online** new website [www.postcardsonline.com.au](http://www.postcardsonline.com.au) and on eBay <http://stores.ebay.com.au/Postcards Online> on Delcampe [http://www.delcampe.com.au/seller\\_sales.php?language=E&nickname=postcards-online](http://www.delcampe.com.au/seller_sales.php?language=E&nickname=postcards-online) Sell Club postcards and for various clients. Anybody interested in Postcards Online selling your postcards, contact Claire for relevant fees and charges.

### COMING EVENTS 2017:

If anybody knows of events that may interest members please advise the committee so that it can be included in the Bulletin.

## Donald McGill and his postcards

**Donald Fraser Gould McGill** (28 January 1875 – 13 October 1962) was an English graphic artist whose name has become synonymous with the genre of saucy seaside postcards that were sold mostly in small shops in British coastal towns. The cards feature an array of attractive young women, fat old ladies, drunken middle aged men, honeymoon couples and vicars. He has been called 'the king of the saucy postcard', and his work is collected and appreciated for his artistic skill, its power of social observation and earthy sense of humour. Even at the height of his fame he only earned



three guineas a design, but today his original artwork can fetch thousands of pounds.

McGill was born in London in 1875. He lost a foot in a school rugby accident, and, having studied at Blackheath Proprietary School where his best friend was Campbell Richard Hone, a future Bishop of Wakefield, spent most of his

life in the Blackheath area of south-east London, living at 5 Bennett Park, SE3 – a blue plaque location. He was a naval draughtsman until his career in postcards began accidentally in 1904 when an in-law encouraged him after seeing an illustrated get-well card he had made for a sick nephew. Within a year it was his full-time occupation. He studied art and married the daughter of the owner of Crowder's Music Hall in Greenwich.

McGill spent virtually the whole of his career creating the distinctive colour-washed drawings which were then reproduced as postcards. He ranked his output according to their vulgarity as mild, medium and strong, with strong being much the best sellers. His family,

three guineas a design, but today his original artwork can fetch thousands of pounds.

McGill was born in London in 1875. He lost a foot in a school rugby accident, and, having studied at Blackheath Proprietary School where his best friend was Campbell Richard Hone, a future Bishop of Wakefield, spent most of his



overcome, but an adjustment to search parameters will temporarily solve some. Using the eBay advance search method you can exclude a particular seller, but unfortunately you can only exclude one at a time. You can also exclude some words from your search, so if you exclude "historical" and "large", this will remove most of the reproduction photos. Using both of these techniques together will sometimes cut down the volume of items returned by more than half.

I did a check on the numbers of postcards listed on eBay and found that there were around 2.7 million depending on which eBay site you use. Rival Delcampe lists 40 million plus! Perhaps the answer to overcoming some of the gripes will be to look elsewhere, but no doubt some of the problems on eBay are replicated on Delcampe. Indeed some items are listed on both sites and some are also listed on other sites.

All of this leads me to ask a question which I have been pondering for some time. Have we seen the end of the Golden Age of the internet auction for postcard sales? I believe that the combination of overhyped and overpriced listings and high postage costs probably means we have. We might also be seeing the beginning of the end of the second golden age of postcard collecting generally, as the closure of fairs and clubs gathers momentum partly due to the generally increasing age of collectors but certainly exacerbated by the internet.

Having said all this. I must be slightly fair-minded and admit that without the internet, my collection would be much the poorer and my knowledge of cards would be much less. In the early days I did pick up some lovely cards at which seem bargain prices now. Admittedly prices must increase to keep up with inflation, so prices of 15 years ago seem cheap now anyway.

As always, there is no such thing as a free lunch, so perhaps the day of reckoning had to come.

I just wish that it would come later !

Small topographical plain-back photographs from packets by such publishers as Murray Views, Syd Hughes and Rose are listed under postcards and sometimes described as mini postcards. Although often having the same views as postcards by these publishers, the cards are not postcards, mini or otherwise. In my opinion they should not be described as such and should not be listed under postcards. Some of them are equally as interesting as postcards and with the right location and the right price I might buy some—but they are **not** mini-postcards!

Another recent gripe is eBay's introductions of the "Global Shipping Programme" where the buyer is quoted a delivery fee which included postage and any customs duty they may be liable for. This suddenly increased the postage for one postcard from the UK from around £2-3 to around £11. Naturally this means that buying a relatively low-priced card cannot possibly be justified. Currently, I do not require this service for anything I buy from either the USA or the UK and after I have contacted sellers most of them have removed it, although have simply not responded. One seller in the USA insisted it was against eBay rules to remove it and refused to do so. I would be very interested to hear from others who have dealt with this problem. I believe it might be an eBay listing default, but I am not sure as I have never been a seller. In any event I don't think the seller actually sees any of the increased cost, as the system apparently required the item sold to be sent to a central system run by eBay from where it is mailed to the buyer.

Normal postage costs are generally on the rise of course and this is further exacerbated by the insistence of some buyers that they will send only by "international signed for" (another eBay rule?) Over the 15 or more years I have been buying items from overseas I think I have lost 3 items, so the "signed for" option seems unnecessary for items sent here, especially for lowly priced items. Australia Post has just recently eliminated a weight step for international postage, so that the charges are now \$2.75 up to 50g and \$7.40 for 250g. Further increased by Australia Post are in the pipeline, so this is not going to get better. In fact, as I write this I have just received official advice that a normal regular letter will cost \$1 from 4 January 2016, and a "priority" letter (i.e. the old regular service) will be \$1.50. Rates for larger letters will presumably increase in line. Just to add the extra postage charges, soon we might also be in a position where GST is imposed on all purchases from overseas at the rate of 10% - or soon perhaps 15% - and that could be on the landed cost—that is invoice cost plus postage etc.

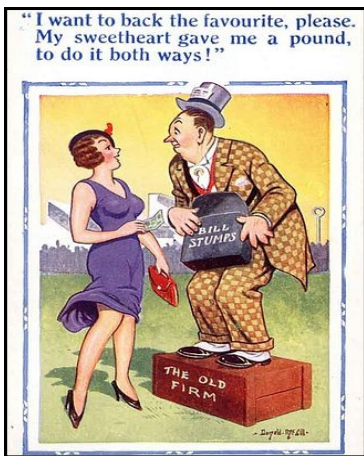
So what are the answers to these gripes? Not all of them are able to be



however, was steadfastly respectable. He said of his two daughters, "They ran like stags whenever they passed a comic postcard shop". During the First World War he produced anti-German propaganda in the form of humorous postcards. They reflected on the war from the opinion, as he saw it, of the men serving, and the realities facing their families at home. Cards dealing with the so-called "home front" covered issues such as rationing, home service, war profiteers, spy scares and interned aliens. Recruitment and "slackers" were other topics covered. Many cards were designed to appeal to the soldier who wished to send a card home to his sweetheart and these cards showed couples. Cards showed soldiers in training, and there were many light-hearted jokes about the Scottish soldier and his kilt. A few cards showed images of nursing sisters, and at least one showed three female munitions workers. There were relatively few cards depicting a soldier in action, and some depicted men in the Navy. Only a few of the military-themed cards were serious, such as one showing a British Red Cross medic caring for a wounded German soldier.



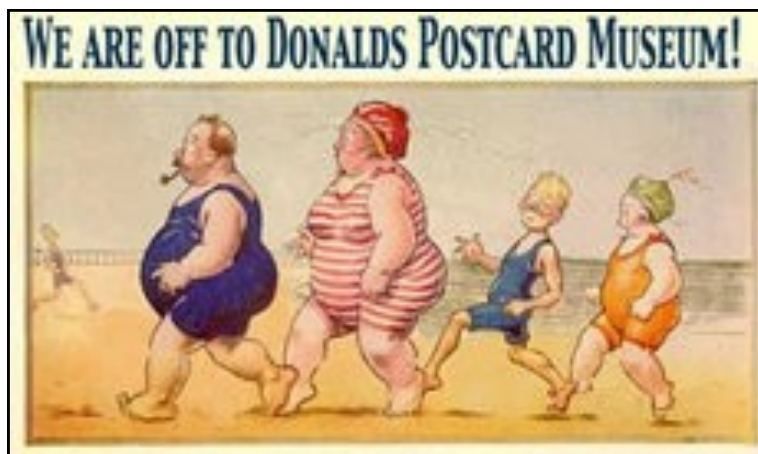
In 1941, author George Orwell wrote an essay on McGill's work entitled "The Art of Donald McGill". Orwell stated that he was not sure if McGill was a real person or simply a trade name but concluded that in spite of the vulgarity and the artistic merits of the cards, he would be sorry to see them go. Approaching 80, McGill fell foul of several local censorship committees which culminated in a major trial in Lincoln on 15 July 1954 for breaking the Obscene Publications Act 1857. He was found guilty and fined £50 with £25 costs. The wider result was a devastating blow to the saucy postcard industry. Many postcards were destroyed as a result and retailers cancelled orders. Several of the smaller companies were made bankrupt as they survived on very small margins. In the late 1950s, the level of censorship eased



One of the cards used in evidence against McGill in 1954

off and the market recovered. In 1957, McGill gave evidence before a House of Commons Select Committee set up to amend the 1857 Act. McGill produced an estimated 12,000 designs, of which 200 million copies are estimated to have been printed. He died in 1962 with all his designs for the 1963 season already prepared. He was buried in Streatham Park Cemetery in an unmarked grave. Despite their wide circulation, McGill earned no royalties from his designs; in his will, his estate was valued at just £735. One of his postcards, featuring a bookish man and an embarrassed pretty woman sitting under a tree, with the caption: "Do you like Kipling?" / "I don't know, you naughty boy, I've never kiplled!", holds the world record for selling the most copies, at over 6 million.

On 10 July 2010, McGill's grandson Patrick Tumber opened the Donald McGill Postcard Museum, created by James Bissell-Thomas in Ryde, Isle of Wight. In 1953, Ryde had witnessed police raids on five shops in the town and the seizure of over 5,000 postcards, the majority by McGill.



## Postcard Collecting and eBay

By Alan McNaughton

Around 1999, when I first started looking in eBay for postcard it seemed like a friendly place. It had some advantages then; there were not too many people on it, prices were reasonable and there was no automatic sniping. There was sniping, of course, but you had to be actually sitting in front of your computer to do it. Also the bidding was more transparent and you could see who was bidding against you and make some guesses as to who they were. In many cases, you certainly knew.

Recent developments have made it much less friendly, much less pleasant to browse, much less likely to get a bargain and much more expensive to get your purchases home.

My gripe relates to the site being cluttered up with bulk listings overpriced cards (from both overseas and Australian sellers), multiple listings of modern photos with the postcard listings, items described as postcards when they are clearly not, failure to identify reproductions, 'careless' scans which do not show the edges of the card thus making it impossible to judge condition accurately, postage costs which seem unduly high and 'new' listings which are just old listings rolling over.

A few specifics—without mentioning any names of course.

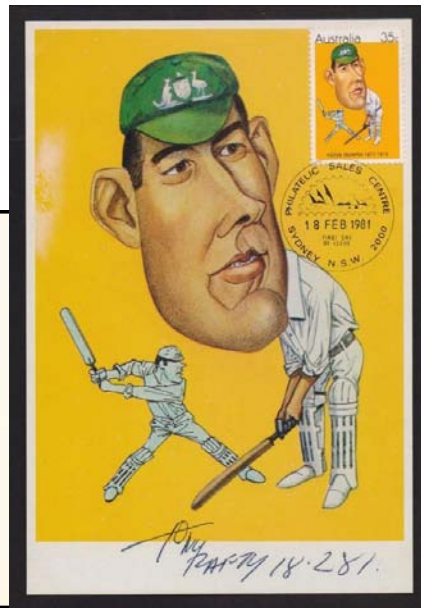
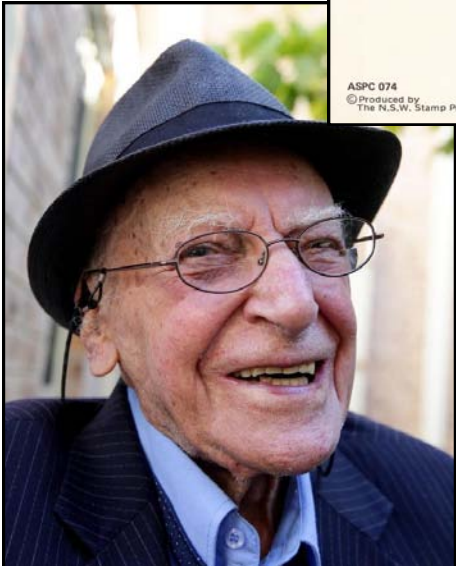
One seller with thousands of listings regularly lists 1980's modern Australian postcards at \$20 and over. He/she has a 'best offer' option, but somehow I don't think my best offers would be at all appreciated. One unfortunate spin-off from this is that there are now several other sellers who have got the idea that modern postcards must be worth lots of lolly, and it is not uncommon to see other listings of 1980s cards of Brisbane at \$10 to \$12. I am encouraged to note that the sell rate is usually not much more than 1% over a two week period and a recent check on one seller revealed that not one of 1000 'ended' listings had sold. This restores my faith in at least one side of the hobby. (as an aside, if anyone out there want to pay \$12 or more for a 1980s Brisbane card, have I got a deal for you .... Several, in fact.)

One dealer lists thousands of reproduced photos described as historical. Of course, the dealer can list millions of these if he likes, I just wish that he would not list them as postcards. There are a number of sellers listing photo reproductions of postcards now, and some of them make no bones about the fact that the image is of a postcard they have already sold.

within a social context that he creates subjects which have a life of their own."

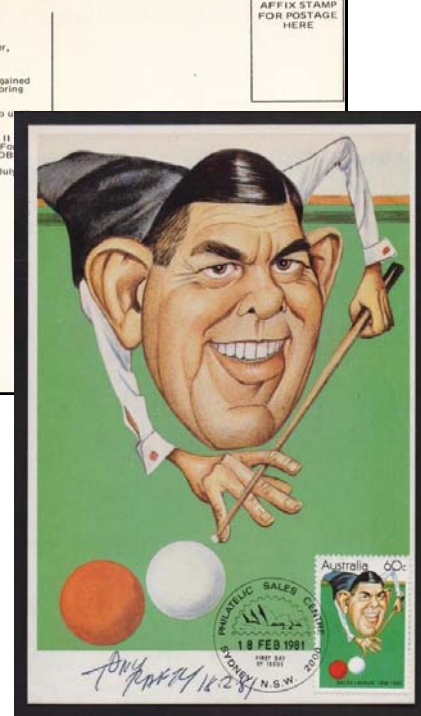
Rafty was married to Shirley Morey for 66 years, the daughter of the New South Wales Labor politician Tom Morey. Shirley died in 2012. They had five children.

In 2005 Rafty celebrated his 90th birthday. He died in an Eastern Suburbs hospital in Sydney, NSW from complications of pneumonia, three days before his 100th birthday.



**AUSTRALIAN SPORTING PERSONALITIES**  
**VICTOR TRUMPER (1877-1915)**  
 Described by M.A. Noble as the world's greatest batsman, Attended Crown St. (Sydney) school where he showed great promise. Toured England first in 1899. In 1902 tour on poor wickets in England he scored 2970 runs from 53 innings without a single not out, at an average of 46.89.  
 In first class cricket he scored 16968 runs. His health declined in 1914 and a year later he died on 28 June, 1915.  
 Illustration: Original art work by Courtesy of AUSTRALIA POST.  
 Designer: Tony Rafty, Sydney.  
 Printed by: Cambec Press, Melbourne  
 ASPC 072  
 © Produced by The N.S.W. Stamp Promotion Council

**AUSTRALIAN SPORTING PERSONALITIES**  
**WALTER LINDRUM (1898-1960)**  
 Son of Frederick, a skilful English billiards player, he was born Kalgoorlie (W.A.) but educated at St. Francis' Boys' School, Darlinghurst (Sydney).  
 Went to England in 1929 and for next five years gained fame as skilful player noted for his speed in scoring and the high scoring breaks he made.  
 Became world champion in 1932 and remained so until he retired in 1950 as undefeated champion.  
 Received MBE for his charity work in World War II raising many hundreds of thousands of dollars. For his continued charity work he later received the OBE.  
 He died at Surfers Paradise, Queensland on 30 Jun 1960.  
 Illustration: Original art work by Courtesy of AUSTRALIA POST.  
 Designer: Tony Rafty, Sydney  
 Printed by: Cambec Press, Melbourne  
 ASPC 074  
 © Produced by The N.S.W. Stamp Promotion Council

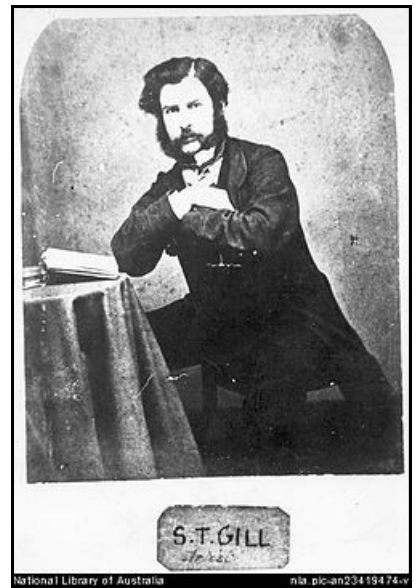


AFFIX STAMP FOR POSTAGE HERE

## Samuel Thomas Gill (or S.T. Gill) history

**S. T. (Samuel Thomas) Gill** (18 May 1818 – 27 October 1880), also known by his signature **S.T.G.**, was an English-born Australian artist.

Gill was born in Periton, Minehead, Somerset, England, son of the Reverend Samuel Gill, a Baptist minister, and his first wife, Winifred Oke. Rev. Gill became the headmaster of a school at Plymouth, where the son was first educated, then he continued to Dr Seabrook's Academy, Plymouth. Having moved to London, Gill was employed as a draughtsman and watercolour painter by the Hubard Profile Gallery, before departing for the colony of South Australia in 1839 with his parents, arriving December 17.



"For three quarters of a century, until Donald Friend, Sidney Nolan and Brett Whiteley, ST Gill had the sharpest in the South. He recorded with sprightly directness the social activities of the Colony"



**Rundle Street, Adelaide, 1845**

Samuel Thomas Gill (or S.T. Gill) arrived in Adelaide, aged 21 and established a studio in 1840, and called for those 'desirous of obtaining a correct likeness' of themselves and their families, friends, animals and residences to contact him. His activities soon expanded to include street scenes and public

events, including the newly discovered copper mines at Burra Burra as well as the departure of Charles Sturt's expedition for the interior on 8 October 1844. His sketching tours of the districts surrounding Adelaide, produced a number of watercolours.

Gill was one of the inhabitants in Melbourne to take interest in photography - ordering a daguerreotype camera and the other necessary equipment in 1846, setting up as a professional photographer. With public interest in the new medium not forthcoming, Gill sold his camera to Robert Hall prior to his departure with John Horrocks' expedition northwards to the Flinders Ranges later in 1846. Horrocks, the first settler of South Australia's Clare Valley, mounted a small expedition to search for suitable farming land in the country northwest of Mount Arden in the southern Flinders Ranges. Gill's watercolours and pencil sketches provide a narrative of this fateful trip, which saw Horrocks die after being accidentally shot. In January 1847 Gill raffled some sketches made by him on the journey, and in February an exhibition of pictures was held in Adelaide of which he appears to have been the organizer. In 1849 he published *Heads of the People*, 12 lithographic sketches of South Australian colonists.

In 1852, following a series of personal tragedies including bankruptcy and ill health, Gill joined a large group of South Australians heading for the Mount Alexander gold fields, Victoria.

Originally intending to turn his hand to digging for gold, he soon returned to portraying images of everyday life, depicting life on the gold fields and the emergence of substantial towns like those



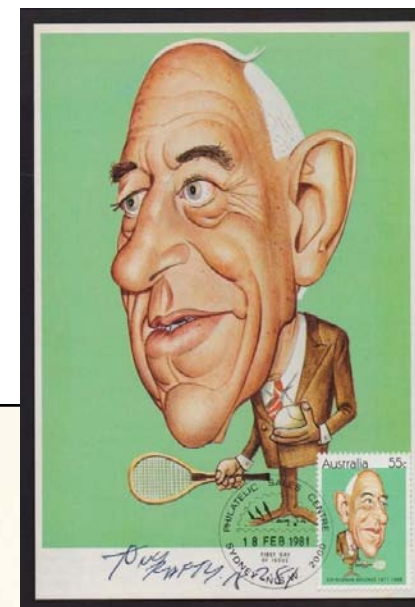
**Old Port Adelaide Canal  
Port Adelaide 1847**

of Ballarat and Bendigo.

Late in 1852 Gill moved to Melbourne where he began recording the impressive growth of that city, although he continued to take periodic sketching trips to the gold fields and other parts of Victoria. Gill's skill as a

President; he also served the Australian War Correspondents' Association, and for many years, led the Australian War Correspondents Society veterans at the Anzac Day march.

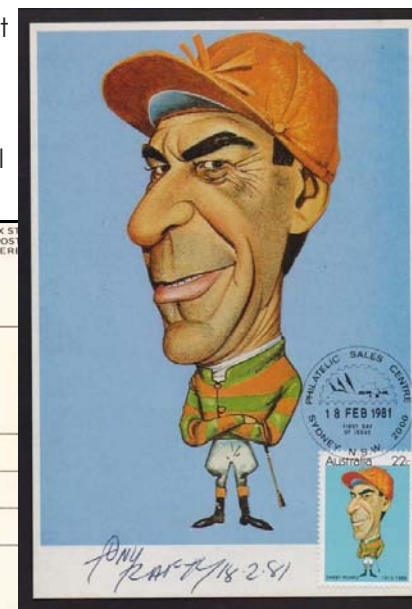
In 1985, Raffy was awarded the Gold Cross of Mount Athos, one of Greece's highest honours, and in 1991 he was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for services to the media.



**AUSTRALIAN SPORTING PERSONALITIES**  
**SIR NORMAN BROOKES (1877-1968)**  
 Born Melbourne 1877, attended Melbourne Grammar School. Entered father's business - Melbourne Paper Mills. In 1896 played interstate tennis, later went to Wimbledon, (England) where in 1906 he won Singles title. In 1907 he won all three titles, singles, doubles and mixed doubles.  
 In 1907 in association with Arthur Wilding of N.Z. won the Davis Cup for Australasia.  
 Next only a noted tennis player but a great golfer he won many Victorian golf Championships.  
 Became first President of Lawn Tennis Association of Australia which position he held from 1926 to 1935. Knighted in 1939, he was also a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour. He died on 28 September, 1968.  
 Illustration: Original art work by Courtesy of AUSTRALIA POST.  
 Designer: Tony Raffy, Sydney.  
 Printed by Cambec Press, Melbourne.

ASPC 073  
 © Produced by  
 The N.S.W. Stamp Promotion Council

Sir William Dargie, an Australian artist, eight time winner of the Archibald Prize, and war artist with Raffy in World War II commented: "Tony Raffy is simply splendid. He not only brings an intellectual quality to his work, but he does it so well



**AUSTRALIAN SPORTING PERSONALITIES**  
**David Hugh MUNRO (1913-1966)**  
 One of Australia's most famous jockeys, born at Glenhuntley (Vic.) in 1913.  
 Rode first winner at age of 14 years.  
 Won Melbourne Cup on three occasions - Peter Pan (1934), Sirius (1944) and Russia (1946).  
 Highlights of riding career: 3 Sydney Cups, 5 AJC Derbys and 5 Victorian Derbys.  
 In 1955 took up training until his death in April, 1966.  
 Nicknamed "Darby" he was also known as "The Demon" to the racing fraternity on account of forceful riding tactics.  
 Illustration: Original Artwork by Courtesy of AUSTRALIA POST.  
 Designed by: Tony Raffy, Sydney  
 Printed by: Cambec Press, Melbourne.

ASPC 071  
 © Produced by  
 The N.S.W. Stamp Promotion Council



## Anthony Raftopoulos Aka Tony Raffy



**Tony Raffy** OAM (born **Anthony Raftopoulos**; 12 October 1915 – 9 October 2015) was a Greek-Australian artist.

He specialised in drawing caricatures. Raffy was born in Paddington, New South Wales into a family of Greek origin. As a boy he first started drawing caricatures whilst caddying during the Depression.

During World War II, Raffy served as a war artist and journalist for the Australian Army, serving in New Guinea, Borneo and Singapore.

He sketched the surrender of the Japanese in Singapore, and covered the release of POWs from prison camps, including Batu Lintang camp in Kuching, Sarawak. He completed many sketches of war action

including a memorable one of Lord Louis Mountbatten. A few years later he covered the Indonesian War of Independence, and befriended President Sukarno of Indonesia. His considerable number of works from that era are housed in the National Library and the Australian War Memorial in Canberra, with others held at the Imperial War Museum in London.

Raffy caricatured politicians, sportspeople, and entertainers. He sketched sportsmen and women at every Olympic Games from 1948 (in London) to 1996 (in Atlanta).

His work has been exhibited worldwide and over 15,000 of his caricatures have been featured in newspapers and magazines. In 1981 Raffy became the world's first caricaturist to have subjects appear on national stamps, with caricatures of sportsmen Victor Trumper, Walter Lindrum, Sir Norman Brookes and Darby Munro appearing on stamps issued by Australian Post.

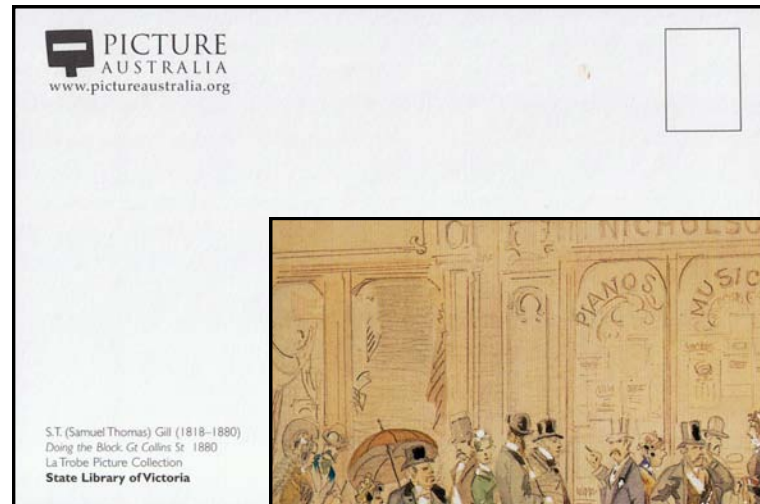
He also provided courtroom sketches for news bulletins on the Seven Network. Raffy was one of the founding members of the Australian Black and White Artists Club and served as its President; for 23 years he was on the Board of Directors of the Sydney Journalists Club, where he also held the position of



**Hindley Street, Adelaide, looking west from King William Street, 1845**

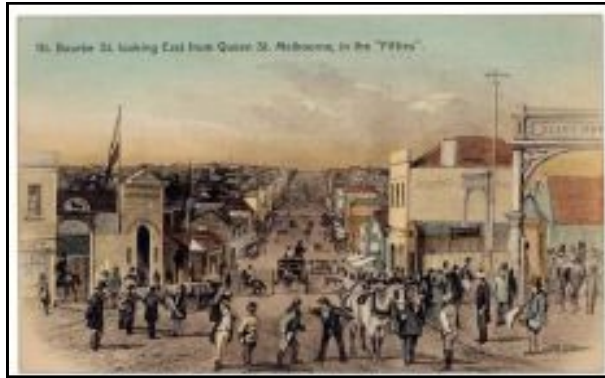
including *Victorian Gold Diggers as They Are*, *The Diggers and Diggings of Victoria As They Are 1855*, and *Sketches of Victoria*. It is largely from these works, a number of which were reproduced in England

and Germany, that his reputation as "artist of the goldfields" was formed.



**Doing the Block  
1880  
Picture Australia  
Postcard**

Gill moved to Sydney in 1856, but was unable to repeat his earlier success, and returned to Melbourne in 1862. The Melbourne that Gill returned to had developed considerably during his absence, and his works had been largely forgotten. He did, however, procure one major commission from the Trustees of the Melbourne Public Library in 1869, to produce 40 watercolours of life on the Victorian goldfields.

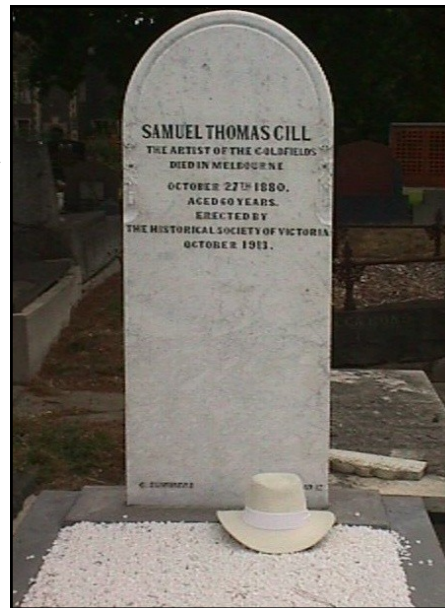


**Melbourne in the fifties**

At the same time as the Melbourne Public Library commission, Gill prepared a largely identical set of 53 watercolours under the title drawing of *The Goldfields of Victoria During 1852-53 Comprising Fifty Sketches of Life and Character Primitive (sic) Operations etc, etc., By S.T. Gill Melbourne, 1872.*

But these were not published before his rather undignified death in 1880. His health and personal finances by this time were broken through drink and syphilis, and when he collapsed and died on the steps of the Melbourne Post Office in 1880 he was buried in a pauper's grave.

Gill's body was eventually moved to a private grave in 1913, thanks to a subscription raised by the Historical Society of Victoria which also arranged for a headstone to be placed there.



## Forster New South Wales

**Forster** is a coastal town in the Mid North Coast region of New South Wales, Australia, about 308 km north-north-east of Sydney. The usual local pronunciation of the name is "Foster". The local population is predominantly made up of retirees.

Forster is named after William Forster, who was briefly Premier of New South Wales and who later served as Agent-General in London.

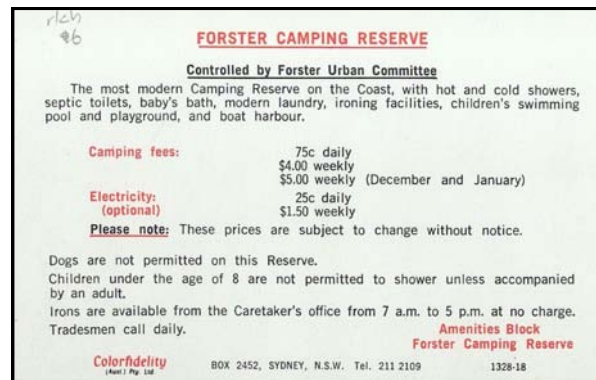
The first post office in Forster opened on 1 October 1872, with John Wyllie Breckenridge as postmaster at a salary of £10 a year .

Because of its close proximity to Sydney, just under 4 hours drive, Forster has established itself as a popular summer holiday destination; in the hotter months the population increases considerably.



**This postcard recently sold online for over \$50 of Forster Camping Reserve and with Camping Prices**

The school holidays in the



colder months also bring a considerable number of holidaymakers. Forster is predominantly a family holiday location with large lakes and white sandy beaches. Notable nearby attractions the Bicentennial Trail, Cape Hawke, and Booti Booti National Park.

The most popular beaches are Forster Main Beach and One Mile Beach, serviced by Forster and Cape Hawke Surf Lifesaving Clubs respectively. Pebbly Beach is popular with local surfers. The relatively small Forster SLSC achieved national recognition in 1996 when their under-18 beach sprint relay team won gold at the Australian Championships.