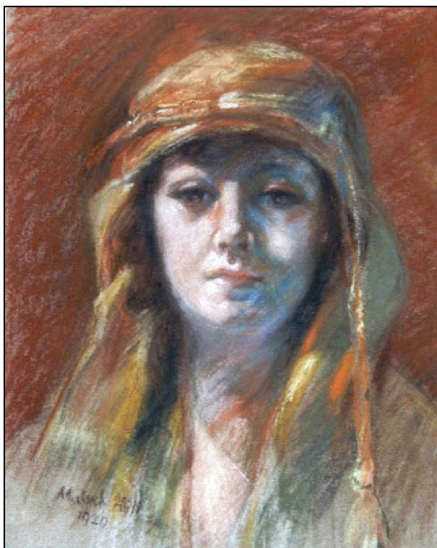


Printer, artist & Club archivist

* Founding member; Life Member 66; President 47-50,52-5,58-61; NZ President 47-8; Property Manager 36-70; Club Teams 49, recorder of Club history.

John was the oldest of three sons and a daughter of John McIndoe Sr., printer of Dunedin and Mabel Hill (1872-1955), a singer and water-colourist & sister of Alfred Hill, the Australian composer. John was educated at OBHS and when his father died in 1916 he was sent to Australia for training in the printing industry. He returned in 1919 and in 1922 married Olga McConnachie (a sister of Florence Siedeberg, wife of an Otago & N.Z. cricketer). He took over the management of the family firm in 1924 and immediately purchased colour printing machines, some of the first in New Zealand which enabled him to produce much of the printing needed for the New Zealand & South Seas International Exhibition - a world trade fair - held on newly-reclaimed land at Logan Park, Dunedin in 1925-6.

John was a man of many parts: foundation member of the Otago Aero Club, member of the Otago Art Society and a committee member of the Public Art Gallery, president & patron of the Otago Surf Lifesaving Club and Otago



Olga McConnachie, who married John McIndoe in 1922, painted by John's mother, artist Mabel Hill in 1920. Mabel taught art at Archerfield School, Dunedin (see *p.44-5*)
Olga was c. 20 at the time.



John McIndoe at Glenlea, Mapua, Nelson as a 90-yr old



John McIndoe as he will be remembered from the 1960s /70s
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Swimming
Centre and a
Dunedin City
Councillor
1932-5. His
interest in

painting was first kindled by a visit to Tahiti in 1927 with his mother. He enlisted with the Royal Army Service Corps in 1939 but was captured in Crete in 1941 and held as a POW for four years, during which time he painted 300 landscapes, portraits and sketches of fellow prisoners (see *p.160*) and taught himself German.

His works were exhibited at Simpson's, Piccadilly in 1945 and aroused much interest. John returned to New Zealand to continue management of the firm but he retired in 1961 rekindling his passion for painting, mostly C. Otago landscapes. In 1973 he and his wife moved to their holiday home at Glenlea, Mapua near Nelson. He spent a good deal of his time mowing his golf course, tending his sheep, managing his saltwater swimming pool and papering the walls of most of the rooms with his enormous collection of photographs.

John had a wiry frame, weathered face but a splendid show of enamel amid bushy moustache & beard which he jaunted upwards to interrogate with his blue eyes and partly-open mouth. He looked a little like a former gold miner and possessed a strong independent, sometimes contrary streak something that helped him, no doubt, get through those POW years in Germany. His contribution to the Bridge Club has been enormous and without his records the history of the Club would have been threadbare. (See also *p.160 :POW yrs.*)

Source: Southern People. Ed. Jane Thomson. Longacre in association with DCC, 1998; personal recollections