# Thomas WESTWOOD and Sarah Lisette BLY Chart 28-29

(Weblink BE Westwood Bly 1887 New Zealand) (Weblink to Thomas's parents BE Westwood Smith about 1863 England chart 56-57) (Weblink to Sarah's parents BE Bly Cook about 1863 England chart 58-59)

#### **Thomas WESTWOOD**

B about 1864 Staffordshire England D 21 May 1928 New Zealand M 01 March 1887 Fielding New Zealand

## Sarah Lisette (Hettie) BLY

B 19 December 1867 Castleacre Norfolk Lancashire England D 10 or 01 September 1941 Mt. Eden Auckland New Zealand

#### Children

- 1. John William (Jack) WESTWOOD born 1887 New Zealand
- George Edward Bertram (Bert) WESTWOOD born 11 March 1889 Foxton New Zealand
- 3. Elizabeth Eva WESTWOOD born 05 January 1891 Foxton New Zealand
- 4. Thomas Henry WESTWOOD born 1892 Foxton New Zealand
- 5. Ruby May WESTWOOD born 1893 Foxton New Zealand
- 6. Wilfred Edgar WESTWOOD born 1897 Foxton New Zealand
- 7. Loyis Lisette WESTWOOD born 09 February 1900 Foxton New Zealand

# The family history of Thomas WESTWOOD and Sarah Lisette BLY

Thomas WESTWOOD was born about 1864 in Staffordshire England. His parents were Elizabeth SMITH and Edward WESTWOOD.

**ORDER** (Reference RGO UK birth registration 1863 December quarter West Bromwich Shropshire Staffordshire Warwickshire Worcestershire England volume 6b page 635) NOTE - There are numerous Thomas Westwood's born around 1864 in Staffordshire. As the family left England in June then the birth registration would have to be June quarter or earlier.

Daily Southern Cross 11 October 1864

The 'Columbus' departed Downs London England on 24<sup>th</sup> June 1864 arrived Auckland 10 October 1864. The steerage passengers listed were <u>Edward</u>, Elizabeth and Sarah WESTWOOD.

Note - Thomas was not recorded in the newspaper article so perhaps he was born just before they left England or on the voyage to New Zealand.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Daily Southern Cross 11 October 1864 page 4)

Ship 'Columbus' arrived Auckland New Zealand 11 October 1864 Auckland Provincial Government Immigration Department Letter Book 1859-1864 Register of applications for passages 1859-1872

• Edward, Elizabeth and Sarah WESTWOOD (Reference Dawn Chambers website source Archives NZ Wellington agency AP series 9 record 3 Repro 1615)

Nominated Immigrants Auckland - Approved applications for assisted passage - Reference line 61 - Date May 22<sup>nd</sup> 1865 - Obligates Benjamin LOWE, **Edward WESTWOOD** and James JONES - Names & addresses of proposed to Immigrants – George Milnes [sic] 45, shoemaker, Esther Milnes 40, Nathan 16, Thomas 14, George 6, Sarah 4, Mary Ann Milnes 2 of Pearce Lane Wednesbury [sic] Staffordshire England - Statute Adults keeper for 5½ - When said by what ship arrived – January 5<sup>th</sup> 1865 "Ballmott" - Statute Adults arrived 5½ - Amount of bond £88

NOTE: the writing was hard to read especially in the middle of the adjoining pages

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington Nominated Immigrants Auckland agency AP series 9 record 3 Repro 1615)

I believe the WESTWOOD family came to New Zealand on the "Columbus" and the above recording 'Ballmott' was a reference to George Milnes and his family.

I was informed that Thomas WESTWOOD arrived about 1865 in Auckland New Zealand on the 'Ballmott' along with his parents Edward & Elizabeth and older sister Sarah Ann. I do not think this is correct. To prove or disprove will take further research of the Ballmott. **SEARCH** (Reference Archives NZ Wellington shipping records

Sarah Lisette (Hettie) BLYTH was born 19 December 1867 in Castleacre, Norfolk, England. Her parents were Susanna formerly COOK and William BLYTH occupation Gamekeeper. The informant was mother Susanna BLYTH Castleacre. (Reference RGO England 1868 March quarter Freebridge Lynn Volume 4b page 345)

Sarah's grandmother Mrs Frances COOKE late of Southacre England was age ninety five when she died 1910 in Oxwick England. A New Zealand newspaper article recording Frances death states that Sarah WESTWOOD (formerly BLY) was her granddaughter.

#### **1871 Census** April

- William BLYTH head age 28 Ag Labourer born Norfolk North Pickenham
- Susanna BLYTH wife age 25 born Castle Acre England
- Emma Frances BLYTH daughter age 7 Scholar born Norfolk North Pickenham
- William BLYTH son age 4 born Salhouse
- Sarah Lissette BLYTH daughter age 3 born Castle Acre England
- Mary Ann BLYTH daughter age 1 born North Pickenham England (Reference National Library of NZ Ancestry 1871 census and RG 10,236 Census 1871)

Sarah Lisette BLY along with her parents and siblings sailed on 01 September 1874 from London on the ship "Assaye" arriving at Auckland New Zealand on 16 December 1874. **SEARCH** (Reference Archives of NZ Wellington Passenger list IM 15/159 "ASSAYE")

Daily Southern Cross newspaper 28 December 1874

Arrival of the Assaye - The fine iron ship Assaye under charter to the New Zealand Shipping Company arrived in harbour Saturday afternoon last from London bring a full general cargo and 417 Government passengers. The ship has made a somewhat long passage but this is attributable to the unusually light winds fallen in with on her voyage. In working down the tings the wind proving particularly light and unfavourable. The ship has the appearance of being able to give a good account if herself with an ordinary breeze. Shortly after the vessel's entrance into our harbour she was boarded by the Health Officer and the Government Immigration agent. Her passengers were found to be in excellent health and the ship at once received a clean bill of health and she came up harbour and anchored off the Queen Street wharf. During the passage two deaths and two births occurred. On November 17 Precilla Ackroyd age 19 died, and on December 18 Hamel Colbourne aged 30 died. On December 20, the wife of Ben Birt gave birth to girl, and on Christmas Eve the wife of Daniel Heady presented her husband with a Christmas box in the shape of a boy. Both mothers and children are doing well. The immigrants are under the charge of Dr Young Captain McRitchie has kindly supplied us with the following particulars of her passage- Left London on September 3, and was off Start Point (after having anchored in the Downs) on the 12th landed pilot. Took the N.E. trade on the 20th on which day we sighted Madeira Island. Carried the trades to 14N. They proved very light. Fell in with the S E trades in 4 N. Crossed the equator on October 10, in 25 W. The S.E. trades were carried to 25 S they having open very indifferent. Rounded the Cape of Good Hope on November 6. From thence moderate winds and fine weather prevailed. Ran down the eastings in 45 S. Rounded Tasmania on December 12, and from thence did making the North Cape on the 21st instant, at 5 p.m had a continuation of light airs and calms. Down the coast light westerly winds and calms. The Assaye will be berthed alongside the outer T of the Queen Street wharf during the present week, for the purpose of discharging her London Cargo. Her immigrants are to be landed this morning. – Families (various names including) William and Susannah Bly and 5 children - Summary Male adults 173 female adults 133 male children 46 female children 44 infants 23 total 419 equal to 351 statute adults - Nationality English 282 Scotch 4 Irish 117 Welsh 1 Channel Islanders 6 Hanoverian 1 Norwegian 1 Prussians 7 total 419.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Daily Southern Cross newspaper 28 December 1874 page 2)

Intention to marry application 01 March 1887 Fielding district New Zealand Thomas WESTWOOD age 24 bachelor occupation Storeman dwelling Fielding 3 days. Sarah Lisette BLY aged 19 years spinster dwelling place Fielding 12 years. Father William BLY gave consent for the minor to marry. Date of certificate 01 March 1887 Minister Rev Henry Clark Presbyterian Methodist. Intend to marry in the House of employer [sic] by William BLY Marton Road [sic].

(Reference National Archives of NZ Wellington BDM 20/32 page 115-202 1871 Fielding District)

Thomas WESTWOOD aged 23 years bachelor occupation Storeman married Sarah Lissette BLY aged 19 years on 1 March 1887 in the house of Mr William BLY Makino Road, Fielding New Zealand. Thomas's was recorded as born Staffordshire, England and parents Elizabeth formerly SMITH and Edward WESTWOOD occupation Settler. Sarah's was recorded as born Norfolk, England and parents Susanna formerly COOK and William BLY occupation Settler. The minister was Henry CLARK and the witnesses were J WESTWOOD, Blacksmith from Palmerston North and Mary Ann BLY (Sarah's sister) from Fielding. Both the couples signed their names on the marriage registration. (Reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1887 folio 253 Fielding district)

Thomas and Sarah had a son John William (Jack) WESTWOOD who was born 1887 New Zealand

**ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1887 folio website 1887/5630 parents Sarah Lizette and Thomas Westwood)

Thomas and Sarah had a son George Edward Bertram WESTWOOD who was born 1889 New Zealand

**ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1889 folio website 1889/4599 parents Sarah Lisotte and Thomas Westwood)

Thomas and Sarah had a daughter Elizabeth Eva WESTWOOD who was born on 05 January 1891 in Foxton. Her parents were recorded as Sarah Lisette nee BLY aged 23 years born Lancashire England and Thomas WESTWOOD aged 27 born Staffordshire England occupation Store-man. The registration states that the parents were married on 02 March 1887 in Fielding. The birth was registered by Geo. Patter agent of Father duly authorised in writing at Foxton on 03 March 1891. P Curtis was the registrar. (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1891 folio Foxton district website 1891/4387 parents Sarah Lisette and Thomas Westwood)

Thomas and Sarah had a son Thomas Henry WESTWOOD who was born 1892 New Zealand

**ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1892 folio website 1892/15372 parents Sarah Lisette and Thomas Westwood)

Thomas and Sarah had a son Ruby May WESTWOOD who was born 1893 New Zealand

**ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1893 folio website 1893/16319 parents Sarah Lisette and Thomas Westwood)

#### 1893 Otaki Electoral Roll

- Thomas WESTWOOD Storeman Foxton residential record number 2798
- Sarah Lisette WESTWOOD Home duties residence Foxton residential record number 3767

(Reference National Library of NZ Wellington Microfiche of New Zealand Electoral Rolls)

#### Manawatu Herald newspaper 05 June 1894

Dissolution of Partnership – Notice is hereby given that the partnership lately subsisting between the undersigned Philip Joseph Hennessy and Thomas Westwood in the business of General Storekeepers trading under the style of Hennessy, Westwood and Company in the township of Foxton had this day been dissolved by mutual consent. The said Philip Joseph Hennessy will for the future carry on the business on his own account and will receive all debts due to and pay all debts owning by the said late firm. - As witness our hands this 30<sup>th</sup> May 1894 – Philip Joseph Hennessy – Thos. Westwood – Witness to signature of both parties – Edmund Osborne Storekeeper Foxton

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Manawatu Herald newspaper 05 June 1894 page 3)

Thomas operated the grocery shop named "The Red House" Co-Op Store in the main street of Foxton from 1894. He continued in the business for 5 years and sold it in 1899.

Manawatu Herald newspaper 23, 25, 28, 30 August & 01, 04 September 1894
The Red House "Co-Op" Stores - Good Table Potatoes 4s 6s per sack - Also
Derwent Picked Seed, grown from last year's Canterbury Imported Seed - a
special sample 6s 6d per sack - See we are still selling Crockery, China and
Glassware at the well-known low prices - THOMAS WESTWOOD & CO.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Manawatu Herald newspaper 25 August 1894 page 2)

### Manawatu Herald newspaper 25 September 1894

Foxton Borough Council - Election of Councillors - Extraordinary Vacancies - Notice is hereby given that an Election of three Councillors for the Borough of Foxton in the place of Robert Austin, George Hughes, and Thomas Westwood, whose election to the office of Councillors was, on Friday. 21st September, 1894, declared void by the Stipendiary Magistrate, will be held at the Public Library, Foxton, on Monday the 15th day of October 1894. Nominations of Candidates will be received by the undersigned at 12 o'clock Noon, of Monday the 1st day of October, 1894, at the Borough Council Office, Foxton. T F GIBSON returning Officer

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Manawatu Herald newspaper 25 September 1894 page 3)

# Manawatu Herald newspaper 16 October 1894

Foxton Borough Council - Election of Councillors - Extraordinary Vacancy. I hereby give notice that the number of votes received by each Candidate for the Office of Councillors for the Borough of Foxton is as follows

BRADCOCK, HENRY 81

AUSTIN, ROBERT 73 WESTWOOD, THOMAS 57

DUDSON, PHILLIP 55

ALDRIDGE, HENRY 44

And I hereby declare Henry Bradcock, Robert Austin, and Thomas Westwood to be duly elected to such office.

T F GIBSON Returning Officer for Foxton Borough. Foxton 16th October 1894 (Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Manawatu Herald newspaper 16 October 1894 page 3)

Manawatu Herald 08 October 1895

Proposed by Cr Walsh seconded by Cr Westwood, That the name Sarah Lisette Westwood be placed on roll for section 31 in place of Thomas Westwood.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Manawatu Herald newspaper 08 October 1895 page 2)

#### 1896 Manawatu Electoral Roll

- Thomas WESTWOOD Storeman Foxton residential
- Sarah Lisette WESTWOOD Home duties residence Foxton residential (Reference National Library of NZ Wellington Microfiche of New Zealand Electoral Rolls record 2805 & 2803)

#### Manawatu Herald newspaper 27, 29 August & 03 September 1896

Foxton Borough Council – Election of Councillors - Notice is hereby given that an Election of Councillors for the Borough of Foxton in the place of Henry Bradoock, <u>Thomas Westwood</u> and John William Walsh, who retire by rotation, will be held in the Public Library Buildings, Foxton, on Thursday, the 10th day of September, 1896. Nomination of Candidates will be received by the Undersigned up to 12 o'clock Noon on Friday, the 4th day of September, at the Borough Council Office, Foxton, THOS, F. GIBSON Returning Officer August 26th, 1896

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past Manawatu Herald newspaper 03 September 1896 page 3)

## Manawatu Herald newspaper 12 September 1896

Foxton Borough Council - Election of Councillors

I hereby give notice that the number of votes received by each Candidate for the Office of Councillor is as follows

WESTWOOD, Thomas 56

WALSH, John William 51

COLEY, Henry 44

HAMER, William 85

And I hereby declare Thomas Westwood, John William Walsh, and Henry Coley duly elected to such office.

THOS. F. GIBSON Returning Officer. Foxton, Sept. 10tht 1896

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past Manawatu Herald newspaper 12 September 1896 page 3)

#### Manawatu Herald newspaper 10 December 1896

The Methodist Bazaar - Mr Thomas Westwood had charge of the shooting gallery. (Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Manawatu Herald newspaper 10 December 1896 page 2)

Thomas and Sarah had a son Wilfred Edgar WESTWOOD who was born 1897 New Zealand

**ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1897 folio website 1897/9531 parents Sarah Lisette and Thomas Westwood)

Thomas and Sarah children Ruby and Wilfred were very large and as they grew so did people's interest in their lives. The children were exhibited around New Zealand as 'New Zealand largest children'.

#### Manawatu Herald newspaper 16 September 1897

Messrs Thomas Westwood and Co have on view and on sale at their shop some patent Venetian blinds. They are very well made and very lights the laths being made of corrugated paper. Springs are attached to let the blind spring up to the desired height. We understand that they are considerably cheaper and wear better than the old fashioned wooden blinds.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Manawatu Herald newspaper 16 September 1897 page2)

# Manawatu Herald newspaper 21 December 1897

THOMAS WESTWOOD & Co.

The Red House is still to the fore and amongst its attractions for this season is a large stock of crockery of the nasturtium and pansy pattern in desert services, fruit and meat plates, cheese stands and wedge stands. To those who enjoy a cup of tea this firm has on hand a cup, the "Jumbo," which should satisfy the biggest tea

drinker, as it must hold over a quart. A novelty in this establishment are the sixpenny and shilling tables, the articles on which comprise balls, hand mirrors, picture and photo, frames and pipes, as well as on the shilling table, dolls, cake plates, dusters and almanacs. The Xmas fruits will be found of first class quality, such as figs, muscatels, raisins, and currants which are cleaned, ready for use, by machinery. An item to arrive will be a consignment of wooden toys manufactured in Feilding.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Manawatu Herald newspaper 21 December 1897 page 2)

## Manawatu Herald newspaper 02 June 1898

Yesterday at a meeting of the Primitive Methodist Church Mr Thomas Westwood was appointed Circuit Steward and Messrs M Walker, E Osborne and S Howan Society Stewards.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Manawatu Herald newspaper 02 June 1898 page 2)

### Manawatu Herald newspaper 05 July 1898

Thomas WESTWOOD

Main Street Foxton

Fruiterer Greengrocer &c.

Fresh Fruit always on hand

German Sausages Saveloys White and Black Pudding and

Brawn always in stock

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Manawatu Herald newspaper 05 July 1898 page 3)

In 1898 Thomas WESTWOOD was a Councillor for the Foxton Borough Council

#### Manawatu Herald 10 September 1898

Foxton Borough Council – Election of Councillors – Notice is hereby given that the number of votes received by each candidate for the office of Councillor is as follows:- Easton August Spencer 80, Purcell William 64, Westwood Thomas 58, Walsh John William 51 Spelman Bernard 48 – I hereby declare that Augustus Spencer Easton, William Purcell and Thomas Westwood have been duly elected to such office – J McQueen – Returning Officer – Foxton 8<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1898

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Manawatu Herald 10 September 1898 page 3)

## Manawatu Herald newspaper 24 September 1898

A requisition is in course of signature asking Mr Thomas Westwood to allow himself to be nominated to the office of Mayor

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Manawatu Herald 24 September 1898 page 2)

#### Manawatu Herald newspaper 14 March 1899

THE INQUEST - An inquest was held at the Hospital yesterday morning on the body of Fred Walker, before the District coroner, Mr G M Snelson, and the following jury Henry Fuller, John Meyers, George Graham, Patrick Kennedy, John Ayers, and John Aitcheson (Foreman). After the jury had viewed the body, Horace Brown was called, and deposed that he was a scutcher employed at Yanko's flax mill at Carnarvon. Walker and witness were working together, and at 3 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, Walker caught hold of the driving belt to prevent it going round the shaft. Witness went to the engineer to get him to stop the engine which he did. On his return the engineer told witness that Fred's leg was broken. It was not the rule in the mill to attempt to put on belts before the engine was stopped. To a juryman - When the belt came off the pully it fell on to the shaft, and not on to the ground, and Walker caught hold of it to prevent it going round the shaft. Robert Nimmo scutcher, deposed that he was at work on Saturday afternoon with Walker. He remembered the belt coming off the driving wheel of the scutcher. Witness sent Brown round to the engine, and in the meantime Walker was interfering with the belt, and witness told him to leave it alone, but the words were scarce out of his mouth before the belt caught deceased and dragged him round the shaft twice. The belt then broke and fell to the ground and witness caught hold of deceased, and found blood on his trousers, and the bone of the leg protruding through the flesh. Witness gave the necessary instructions to have the leg bandaged up, and he went himself for the doctor. Witness had been about eleven years in flax mills, and the rule was to stop the engine before any attempt is made to put a belt on a pulley. So far as he knew, deceased had been in mills about two years and as far as witness knew he was a competent workman. The belt in question was much the same as most scutching belts, and in the ordinary course of their work the men were not required to go near it. Archibald L Meares, M.D. at Foxton, deposed that on being called to Yanko's mill at Carnarvon on Saturday he found Walker to have a compound fracture of the left thigh, and he advised the removal of the patient to the Palmerston Hospital as he was bleeding internally, and losing blood. Everything that could be done for him at the Hospital was done. The treatment Walker received before witness arrival at the mill was also most admirable. Walker died about seven o'clock from shock to the system and internal injuries. George Wilson, M.D., who examined the body since death, deposed that in his opinion the cause of death was shock from internal haemorrhage. Deceased also had a compound fracture of his left thigh, and from his blanched appearance, and the absence of external haemorrhage he had no doubt that death was due to that cause.

Thomas Westwood, owner of the mill, deposed that the Government Inspector had passed the arrangement of the machinery and belting in the mill in November last. The engineer was one of the most experienced men amongst flax raillers in the colony, deceased was also a steady, industrious man. The men were not cautioned against touching running belts. To the foreman he did not think the engine driver held a certificate, as it was not necessary, and there was no contrivance now in use at the mill to communicate with the engine room in case of accident. Without, retiring the jury brought in a verdict that deceased met his death by an accident, for which there was no blame attachable to anyone. Sergeant Wilson conducted the enquiry on behalf of the police.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Manawatu Herald newspaper 14 March 1899 page 2)

T WESTWOOD Marine Department Report **SEARCH** (Reference Archives NZ Wellington AJHR 1899 section H15 page 9)

Thomas WESTWOOD sold "The Red House" Co-Op store on 27 July 1899.

Manawatu Herald newspaper 27 July & 30 September & 26 October & 02 December 1899

A new departure in business takes place to-day, when Messrs Thos. Westwood & Co., whose name has been as familiar as household words for the past five years as caterers to the public wants in all that, is connected with a general store business, hands over the concern to Mr M. H. Walker. It is a distinct change in one way, but in another it is easy to see that the wheels will go round almost as usual as Mr Walker has been the manager of the late firm. We trust that good success will follow Mr Walker who we feel sure will do his best to give every satisfaction to those who give him a trial

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Manawatu Herald newspaper 27 July 1899 page 2)

Manawatu Herald newspaper 29 July & 05, 08, 10, 12, 15, 17, 19, 22, 24, 26, 29 August & 02, 05, 07, 09, 12, 14, 16, 19, 26, 28 September & 03, 05, 07, 10, 14, 17, 19, 24, 28, 31 October & 04, 09, 14, 21, 28, 30 November & 05, 07 December 1899

The Red House – Foxton – M H WALKER - Desires to acquaint the public with the fact that he has purchased the Business from Mr Thomas Westwood known as <a href="The Red House">The Red House</a> and would ask the inhabitants of Foxton and district to favour him with a Trail Order - It will be the ambition of M.H.W. to serve his Customers well, and execute all orders with dispatch. Hoping to receive the patronage accorded

to my predecessor and assuring Customers of every civility and attention. I beg to remain, yours obediently, M. H. WALKER. In connection with the above, I desire to thank all the residents of Foxton for their patronage accorded to us during the past five years, and ask for a continuance of the same to our successor who was so well and favourably known as our Manager during the past term.

27th July 1899 THOS. WESTWOOD & CO

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Manawatu Herald newspaper 19 October 1899 page 3)

T WESTWOOD 09 September 1899 of WESTWOOD BROS flaxmillers, Bulls – NSW a/c 09 September 1899 (E & T WESTWOOD) = **SEARCH** further

Thomas WESTWOOD – WESTWOOD & CO – see Bulls Fibre Coy (Thomas & Edward Westwood & G M Chuck) = **SEARCH** further

Thomas and Sarah had a daughter Loyis Lisette WESTWOOD who was born 1900 New Zealand

**ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1900 folio website 1900/3373 parents Sarah Lisetta and Thomas Westwood)

#### 1900 Manawatu Electoral Roll Wanganui

- Thomas WESTWOOD storeman residential Foxton
- Sarah Lisette WESTWOOD home duties residential Foxton (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls record 3208 & 3207)

## Manawatu Herald 20 September 1900

There was a special meeting of the Borough Council yesterday at noon when the new Councillors made the usual declaration. An auctioneer's license was granted to Thomas Westwood.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Manawatu Herald 20 September 1900 page 2)

Thomas WESTWOOD ran an auctioneering business with a partner J E BRAHAM from premises known as McMillan's Auction Rooms Foxton

Manawatu Herald newspaper 25, September & 06, 09, 16, 18, 25 October 1900

Westwood & Barham Auctioneers

Valuers, Land & Commission Agents

Auction Rooms at the premises known as McMillan's Auction Rooms

Auction Sales conducted in any part of the town or district

Sales at our Rooms every Saturday

Other Sales as required

Horse Sales Monthly

Prompt Account Sales will be a special feature of the business

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Manawatu Herald newspaper 06 October 1900 page 3)

#### Wanganui Herald Newspaper 17 November 1900

The two largest children in the world are to be exhibited at the Wanganui A and P Show next week. They are Ruby and Wilfred Westwood, children of well-known residents of Foxton. The former is 7 years of age, and weighs over 13 stone and the latter in 3 years of age and weighs 7 stone. These remarkable children are healthy, attractive and intelligent, and of happy dispositions. In the Strand Magazine of last year was an illustrate on of what was supposed to be the biggest girl in the world, whereas at that time Ruby Westwood, though younger, was the heavier, and it is significant that Wilfred 13 heavier than his sister was at his age. Mr Westwood has had many tempting offers to exhibit his children, including one of £1000 to show them at the Paris Exhibition. This was declined, and the offer was subsequently increased, but up to till quite recently the parents have not entertained the idea of exhibiting the progeny. Mr Westwood has now determined

to make a tour of the world, and the children were shown for the first time at the Palmerston Show, where an admiring crowd of nearly 3000 paid for admission. (Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Wanganui Herald newspaper 17 November 1900 page 2)

# Otago Witness newspaper 19 December 1900

The Two Biggest Children in the World - Natives of New Zealand. (See photos in illustrated sheet) - These two remarkable children were born at Foxton (Manawatu district, N.I.), 104 miles from Wellington. The boy, Wilfred, is three years of age, 7st in weight, chest measurement of 40in, and calf 14in. In Foxton he is known to everyone as Dick Seddon. The girl, Ruby, is seven years of age, 4ft 51/2in in height, and a fortnight back, when a Witness representative visited them at Hawera, topped the scale at 13st 51b. The children display extraordinary intelligence for their age, are perfect in every degree, the picture of good health never having had a day's illness. There is nothing out of the ordinary about their parents, who are both natives of England. The father, Mr Thomas Westwood, is 37 years of age, 5ft 7in in height, and weighs 13st while the mother is 33, and weighs but 6st 4lb. Mr and Mrs Westwood have resided for 25 years in Foxton, where seven years ago the former was principal of a firm who were agents for the Otago Witness. Mr Westwood is an ex-councillor of the Foxton borough, where he was also an aspirant for mayoral honours against the present popular town clerk, Mr Alf Fraser. Amongst managerial offers was one of £1000 and expenses from Messrs Fitzgerald Bros., of circus fame, to take the children to the Paris Exhibition. Dunedin people will have an opportunity of seeing these remarkable children early next month.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Otago Witness newspaper 19 December 1900 page 55)

### Star newspaper 03 January 1901

Magisterial – Lyttleton Thursday January 03 – Alleged Damage to Property – Thomas Clark and George Haydon charged with having wilfully damaged a Ferris wheel belonging to James Stewart and a marquee the property of Thomas Westwood were remanded to next day bail being refused.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Star newspaper 03 January 1901 page 3)

#### Auckland Star newspaper 13 August 1901

In the Foresters' Hall on Friday and Saturday evenings next the giant children of Mr Thomas Westwood, of Foxton, will be exhibited. Wilfred, who will be four years of age tomorrow, weighs eight stone, a stone more than his mother, while his chest measurement is 35½ inches. He is described as the largest child in the world. The girl, Ruby, who will reach her eighth birthday on Sunday next, weighs fifteen stone, and is 4ft 7in high, while her chest measurement is 47 inches. The father, Mr Westwood, is an ex-Councillor of Foxton, and as a child lived in Auckland and at the Thames. Both he and the mother are of normal build, while an elder brother, 13 years of age, are also normally built. The children are perfectly healthy and active, and both are of a pleasant type of countenance.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Auckland Star newspaper 13 August 1901 page 4)

Thomas travelled to Sydney Australia with his children Ruby and Wilfred around July-August 1901

### Thames Star newspaper 21 August 1901

A Novel Exhibition - Two Giant Children - Next Friday evening there will be a novel exhibition, when two most wonderful children will be shown by their parents. Wilfred, a boy of four years of age, weighs 8st, being one stone heavier than his mother, chest measurement 35½ inches and 3ft 9½in high, a modern young Sandow. Ruby, 8 years of age, weighs 15st 3st heavier than her father, chest measurement 47in and 4ft 6½in high. They are the children of Mr Thomas Westwood, who when a boy lived in Grahamstown with his parents, but left here some years ago, and has since resided in Foxton, the West coast of this Island,

where these wonderful children were born. In the cities of Dunedin and Sydney the Medical Association at a conference examined the children, and declared them to be perfectly healthy, but of stupendous growth. They are not ordinary fat children but perfect young giants, being fairly active for their great size, and of remarkable intelligence for their age. The children are described as being two pleasant faced children of tremendous growth. The parents are now returning home from Sydney, but are visiting the Thames to see their friends and renew acquaintances of years ago. The exhibition opens on Friday night

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Thames Star newspaper 21 August 1901 page 2)

Manawatu Standard newspaper 19 February 1902 & Wanganui Herald newspaper 20 February 1902

The Foxton Herald says – It is not often with the police protection n we have that any breaking into occurs but on Saturday night last or in the early morning of Sunday someone entered the premises of Messrs Thomas Westwood and Co. and removed the whole of his stock of jewellery valued at nearly £70. The watchmaker a few doors off also reports that his premises were entered and some valuables removed

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Manawatu Standard newspaper 19 February 1902 page 2 & Wanganui Herald newspaper 20 February 1902 page 2)

# Manawatu Times newspaper 07 April 1903

Foxton last night - Mr Thomas Westwood, the successful tenderer for the supply of rations to the Volunteers at the Encampment, is erecting a substantial temporary store and canteen on the reserve close to the racecourse. The cook houses for the camp will be erected in a snug corner, close to the railway reservoir, which is supplied with water by a large American windmill. Preparations are going on apace to make the camp a success.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Manawatu Times newspaper 07 April 1903 page 2)

Thomas became Mayor of Foxton around May 1903 when the current Mayor resigned.

# Manawatu Times 16 May 1903

Mr P J Hennessy recently elected Mayor of Foxton has resigned owning to pressure of business and Mr Thomas Westwood a councillor who has had considerable experience in municipal matters has been unanimously elected to succeed him

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Manawatu Times 16 May 1903 page 2)

Thomas WESTWOOD Flaxmiller Auckland bankruptcy files 1905 High Court Auckland Department of Justice

**ORDER** (Reference Archives NZ Auckland Office agency BBAE series 5628 box 13 record B6/1905)

### Thames Star newspaper 07 April 1905

Suspicious Bankruptcy Case - Auckland – April 7 – At a meeting of the creditors of Thomas Westwood of the flax milling firm Westwood and Buckman Whangarei a committee was appointed to confer with the assignee in the disposal of the assets. The assignee said he was not satisfied with the statement regarding the estate and would place the matter before his solicitor.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Thames Star newspaper 07 April 1905 page 3)

## 1905-1906 Manawatu Electoral Roll Wanganui

• Sarah WESTWOOD housewife 19 Daniel Street Bulls (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls record 048)

#### 1905-1906 Auckland West Electoral Roll Auckland

- Thomas WESTWOOD storekeeper St Mary's Road
- Sarah Lisette WESTWOOD married St Mary's Road

(Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls record 3224 & 3225)

### Poverty Bay Herald newspaper 21 October 1905

The famous Westwood family from Foxton arrived in Gisborne this morning and will give an exhibition at the Theatre Royal this evening. The family include Wilfred, aged eight years, and weighing 16st 51b Ruby aged eight years, 15st 101b the father and mother and another son. Wilfred is claimed to be not only the biggest boy in the world, but the largest child who has ever lived to that age. The children are said to be exceedingly active for their weight. The parents are of ordinary stature and physique as are also their other seven children.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Poverty Bay Herald newspaper 21 October 1905 page 2)

## Colonist newspaper 09, 15 January 1906

Nelson Carnival - Meeting of Committee

From Thomas Westwood father of two giant children asking for permission to hold side show – Resolved to inform writer that the Committee could not undertake the management of the display but giving information as to available sites.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Colonist newspaper 15 January 1906 page 1)

## Fielding Star newspaper 06 February 1906

The public who attend the A and P Show to-morrow on the Fielding Race course should not fail to visit the Foxton Westwood Family and see the famous Giant Children. The proceeds are for the benefit of the children.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Fielding Star newspaper 06 February 1906 page 2)

## Nelson Evening Mail 05 February 1906 & Grey River Argus 09 February 1906

The young Foxton "giantess" Ruby Westwood who was being exhibited in Nelson during Carnival week had a very narrow escape from drowning on Saturday. She and her brother had gone to bath in the Matai near Kingdon's. Tough not in very deep water the girl overbalanced. Her body floated her off her feet and she lay on her back in the stream with her head under water. Screams from some children on the bank attracted the attention of the girl's father and Mr W Coleman who happened to be in the vicinity. The father plunged into the river and rescued the girl and Mr Coleman assisted him to take the sufferer to the hotel where the family were staying. Beyond shock the little giantess was not much the worse for her somewhat starting experience.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Nelson Evening Mail newspaper 05 February 1906 page 2 & Grey River Argus newspaper 09 February 1906 page 2)

Marlborough Express 07 February 1906 & Wanganui Herald 09 February 1906 & Poverty Bay Herald 10 February 1906 & Wanganui Chronicle 10 February 1906 page 4

On Saturday morning Ruby Westwood" one of the giant children who has been on exhibition' at Nelson during the past week, had a narrow escape from drowning. She was bathing in the Maitai River when-she overbalanced herself, and failed to regain her feet. The timely arrival of her father who pulled her out saved her from her perilous position.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Marlborough Express newspaper 07 February 1906 page 2 Wanganui Herald newspaper 09 February 1906 page 5 Poverty Bay Herald newspaper 10 February 1906 page 2 & Wanganui Chronicle newspaper 10 February 1906 page 4)

### Star newspaper 08 December 1906

The Westwood Family – The Westwood Family are still on view in their hall on the Exhibition Grounds and are attracting considerable attention. There are seven children in the family all whom are very slight excepting Ruby and Wilfred who are considered to be the two biggest children in the world. Wilfred is nine years of age and weighs 18 stone 12lb is 5 feet 1in in height. Ruby is thirteen years of age weighs 16 stone 4lb.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Star newspaper 08 December 1906 page 7)

Press newspaper 17 December 1906

The Giant Family - The Westwood Giant Family were well patronised on Saturday. Wilfred, aged 9, weighs 18st 121b, and is said to be the tallest, heaviest, and strongest boy in the world. His sister Ruby weighs 16st 4lb and is only 13 years of age. They will be on view again to-day.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Press newspaper 17 December 1906 page 8)

## Press newspaper 20 & 27 December 1906

The Giant Family - The two New Zealand giant children, Ruby and Wilfred Westwood who are housed near "The Pike" at the Exhibition, continue to attract the attention and wonder of visitors. Despite the fact that they are the largest children in the world, they are wonder fully active and intelligent. Though nineteen stone, Wilfred rides a bicycle and Ruby plays the piano. The other members of the family, who are normal in size, are also present, and the contrast between sisters and brothers is the amazement of visitors from all parts of the world.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Press newspaper 27 December 1906 page 8)

#### Press newspaper 05 January 1907

The Giant Family - Those wonderful children, Ruby and Wilfred Westwood, natives of Foxton, New Zealand, and who are undoubted the largest children in the world, attract a great deal of attention at then house near the "Pike" at the Exhibition. Though of enormous size and weight, they are wonderful intelligent and healthy, ride bicycles, play the piano, converse with their visitors, and are delightfully entertaining. They should be seen by all visitors, as they are the most interesting people in the whole Exhibition.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Press newspaper 05 January 1907 page 10)

# Star newspaper 16 February 1907

Giant Baby Show - Every evening, from 4 till 9 at the Exhibition the Westwood Family, including their two Giant Children are on exhibition. Wilfred is now 9 years of age and weighs 19st 61b, and is 5ft 2in tall. He is taller than his mother and heavier than his father and mother both put together. He has gained 11lb since opening of Exhibition, and he has gained 2st every year since three years of age, and still rides his bike. Ruby, his sister, is aged thirteen years and weighs 16st 71b. See this remarkable family

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Star newspaper 16 February 1907 page 7)

## Press newspaper 26 & 28 February 1907

Exhibition Business Notices – (Published by Arrangements) – Giant Baby Show – Every evening at the Exhibition the Westwood Family. Wilfred age 9 years weighs 19st 6lb has gained 11lb since opening of Exhibition. Ruby age 13 weighs 16st 4lb. Wonderful as babies and growing every day. Father, mother and 7 children. Wilfred rides a bike, Ruby plays the piano. See the New Zealand Wonders.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Press newspaper 26 February 1907 page 8)

### Press newspaper 15 March 1907

Giantland - At the Exhibition the Westwood Family are attracting a lot of attention. Wilfred, 9 years of age, weighs 19st 61b, is the tallest, heaviest, and most beautifully proportioned boy in the world, and rides a bike. Ruby is 13 years, and weighs 16st 71b. The children's growth has been one long surprise to their parents since their birth. Must be seen to be believed.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Press newspaper 15 March 1907 page 8)

Thomas and Sarah WESTWOOD and five their children left New Zealand around April 1907 and travelled to London England. Their sons George and Thomas junior remained in New Zealand.

### Wanganui Herald newspaper 17 April 1907

Sailing Vessels - The Athenic is to sail from Wellington to-morrow week for London

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Wanganui Herald newspaper 17 April 1907 page 4)

R.M.S. 'Athenic' Shaw Savil Line ship departed 1907 Wellington New Zealand ports of voyage Montevideo port arrived 07 June 1907 London England Captain C.H. KEMPSON RNR

- Thos WESTWOOD age 43 born about 1864 occupation storekeeper
- Sarah WESTWOOD age 38 occupation Domestic
- Ruby WESTWOOD age 13 daughter born New Zealand
- Wilfred WESTWOOD age 9 son born New Zealand
- Loyis WESTWOOD age 7 daughter born New Zealand
- John WESTWOOD age 19 son born New Zealand
- Eva WESTWOOD age 16 occupation nil born New Zealand

(Reference Ancestry website UK Incoming Passenger Lists 1878-1960 official number 115239)

## Bush Advocate newspaper 10 June 1907

Shipping – London June 7 - Arrived – Athenic from Wellington (Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Bush Advocate newspaper 10 June 1907 page 2)

The WESTWOOD family visited Wednesbury, Staffordshire and Norfolk England while travelling around England with their children. Ruby and Wilfred created interest where ever they went due to their size. I was informed that they children travelled around England in a caravan and were exhibited in circuses.

## Wanganui Herald newspaper 15 June 1907

Westwood children (better known as the Foxton giants) have arrived in Dublin.

They will be exhibited by their parents at a show in that city.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Wanganui Herald newspaper 15 June 1907 page 4)

#### Taranaki Herald & Marlborough Newspaper 31 August 1907

According to a number of London papers New Zealand has put up another "record" – not altogether an enviable one. The colony is credited with possessing the "biggest children in the world". These two children are now in England on a visit. They are accompanies by their parents and the whole family are now in Wednesbury the native town of Mr Westwood. Portraits of these children Ruby Westwood aged 13 and Wilfred Westwood aged 11 are given in nearly all the London newspapers some of the pictures showing these two plying with children of their own ages but of normal proportions. The girl is credited with a weight of 17st 7lb and the boy with 20st 4lb. The former is 5ft 2½in in height and the latter 5ft 3in

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Taranaki Herald & Marlborough newspaper 31 August 1907 page 2 & 3)

#### Nelson Evening Mail newspaper 07 September 1907

From Wednesbury I hear that the Westwood family are visiting there, having come on a visit from your country where they settled thirty years ago. The family consists of Mr and Mrs Westwood and seven children. One of the children is creating quite a sensation. This is Wilfred a giant boy of 11. He weighs more than his father and mother put together. He is five feet three inches in height and weighs 20st 41bs and his sister Ruby is five feet 2½ in height. The other measurements of the boy are chest 52 inches; calf, 25 inches. They are both the picture of good health.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Nelson Evening Mail newspaper 07 September 1907 page 1)

#### Otago Witness newspaper 30 October 1907

In those days, too, the colonies were not looked at so kindly as now, but now one of the chief attractions was the New Zealand Westwood Family with the two heaviest children in the world. In patriotism I could not but patronise their show at the very beginning. Do our rulers realise what a fine advertisement for Prime Canterbury they are neglecting here? But seriously such an exhibition is painful,

for the children cannot be entirely healthy, and a caravan life must soon pall. But so far everything seems to have gone happily. Ruby could not restrain a giggle when some wags insinuated that a badly behaved lamp had gone out because she breathed on it, and when her father threatened to send Wilfred after them he braced up with quite a humorous twinkle in his eye. Neither seemed tired or overworked and Mr Westwood told me that they were keeping in splendid spirits and health. I was not the only New Zealander they had spoken to that day for the fair had attracted a fellow townsman from Foxton. Is not the world small?

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Otago Witness newspaper 30 October 1907 page 89)

#### Wairarapa Daily Times newspaper 07 May 1910

The following interesting paragraph regarding the death of an old woman with two hundred and eighty three descendants, some of whom are in New Zealand appears in the Lowestoft Journal of March 12th - Mrs Frances Cooke (late of Southacre) has recently passed away at Oxwick at the age of ninety five. She claimed to have two hundred and eighty three descendants four of whom belong to the fifth generation. For the past nineteen years she has lived with her daughter Mrs Greef of Oxwick. She had two other daughters living in Norfolk one in Lancashire and one in New Zealand also three sons living at Saffron Walden in South Wales and New Zealand. She was left a widow thirty five years ago, her husband being gamekeeper for many years in the employ of the late Mr Andrew Fountaine of Narford Hall, a daughter of whom kindly allowed the old lady a pension of 5s per week for thirty four years, until she became entitled to the State old age pension. She was grandmother to Mrs Westwood of the 'Westwood Family' from New Zealand, who visited this country last year with five of their family. One of the sons named Wilfred aged twelve years, weighed 21st 6lb and one of their daughters Ruby weighed 171/2st. An exhibition was held at King's Lynn, Norwich, and other places last summer.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Wairarapa Daily Times newspaper 07 May 1910 page 4)

The WESTWOOD family left England and travelled to America.

Ship 'Lake Erie' departed Liverpool England arrived 13 March 1910 Saint John New Brunswick Canadian passenger lists

- Thomas WESTWOOD age 46 gone to USA birth English race English Tourists going to New Zealand
- Sarah WESTWOOD age 41 gone to USA birth English race English Tourists going to New Zealand
- Jack WESTWOOD age 22 gone to USA birth New Zealand race English Tourists going to New Zealand
- Eva WESTWOOD age 18 gone to USA birth New Zealand race English Tourists going to New Zealand
- Ruby WESTWOOD age 15 gone to USA birth New Zealand race English Tourists going to New Zealand
- Wilfred WESTWOOD age 12 gone to USA birth New Zealand race English Tourists going to New Zealand
- Loyis WESTWOOD age 9 gone to USA birth New Zealand race English Tourists going to New Zealand

(Reference Ancestry website Ship 'Lake Erie' departed Liverpool England arrived 13 March 1910 Saint John New Brunswick Canadian passenger lists 1965-1935 roll T-4821 page 16 record 128730)

Shipping C.P.R. (Atlantic) line SS Co. from Canada to US arrived October 1910 St Albans Vermont United States of America

 Thomas WESTWOOD age 47 born about 1863 sex male married occupation Showman read & write yes nationality New Zealand race English residence Foxton New Zealand nearest relative son Bert Westwood Foxton New Zealand final destination Foxton New Zealand

- Sarah WESTWOOD age 42 wife read & write yes New Zealand English NZ Foxton son Bert Westwood Foxton New Zealand Foxton New Zealand
- Eva WESTWOOD age 18 female single actor read & write yes New Zealand English NZ Foxton brother Bert Westwood Foxton New Zealand Foxton New Zealand
- Ruby WESTWOOD age 17 female single actor read & write yes New Zealand English NZ Foxton brother Bert Westwood Foxton New Zealand Foxton New Zealand
- Wilfred WESTWOOD age 16 male single actor read & write yes New Zealand English NZ Foxton brother Bert Westwood Foxton New Zealand Foxton New Zealand
- Loyis WESTWOOD age 9 female single actor read & write yes New Zealand English NZ Foxton brother Bert Westwood Foxton New Zealand Foxton New Zealand

(Reference Ancestry website Border crossing & passports from Canada to United States 1895-1956 List or manifest of Alien passengers applying for admission transit number 5-10)

Thomas bought a section in San Francisco near to where Hollywood is now situated. He built a film studio and made a children's film. The movie was not successful and soon after Thomas became bankrupt.

Wairarapa Daily Times newspaper 01 May 1911

Recently the spectacle was seen on the Palmerston station of a desperate effort being made to push a fat boy through an ordinary platform to a railway carriage and he could only be got on an extra wide one. It proved to be "Baby Bliss," aged eighteen, weight 42st 8ibs. Now the manager of "Baby Bliss" states that the fat boy took the shine out of all the other exhibits at the Royal Sydney Show. "Baby Bliss" is an American, but it seems that he has a rival "fat head" from Foxton, Wilfred Westwood, now showing with his sister, Ruby, in California. Baby Bliss and Wilfred Westwood are said to be very much alike, and the former in Australia had to travel in Luggage vans, because the ordinary carriage doors were not wide enough.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Wairarapa Daily Times newspaper 01 May 1911 page 8)

Sarah and Thomas' daughter Ruby May WESTWOOD died on 24 October 1912 in America from blood poisoning. The family had lived in America for 2 years.

Poverty Bay Herald newspaper 23 November 1912 & Ashburton Guardian newspaper 25 November 1912 & Fielding Star newspaper 25 November 1912 & Press newspaper 25 November 1912 & Hawera and Normanby Star newspaper 27 November 1912 & Marlborough Express newspaper 28 November 1912 & Evening Post newspaper 30 November 1912 page 11 & Northern Advocate newspaper 02 December 1912

News reached Auckland by the San Francisco mail of the death of Ruby Westwood. She and her brother Wilfred were the two biggest children ever born in New Zealand perhaps the biggest in the world. At the age of eight Ruby weighed 14st. She grew proportionately and at the time of her death when she was about 19 she weighed over 14st. Her brother Wilfred is several years younger and now weighs about 3ost. These two giants were born at Foxton and resided in Auckland up to the time of the Christchurch Exhibition. Since then they have been traveling at Home and in America. The cause of death was blood poisoning contracted by a thorn in the finger from picking flowers. Nothing serious was anticipated from the scratch but shortly afterwards it was found necessary to amputate the finger. This was of no avail as the poison spread, and the unfortunate girl died within an hour of being admitted into the San Francisco hospital.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Poverty Bay Herald newspaper 23 November 1912 page 4 & Ashburton Guardian newspaper 25 November 1912 page 4 & Fielding Star newspaper 25 November 1912 page 2 & Press newspaper 25 November 1912 page 6 Hawera and Normanby Star newspaper 27 November 1912 page 4 & Marlborough Express newspaper 28 November 1912 page 3 & Evening Post newspaper 30 November 1912 page 11 & Northern Advocate newspaper 02 December 1912 page 4)

Wairarapa Daily Times newspaper 23 November 1912

News reached New Zealand by the San Francisco mail of the death of Ruby Westwood. She and her brother Wilfred were the two biggest children ever born in New Zealand, perhaps the biggest in the world. At the age of eight Ruby weighed 14st. She grew proportionately and at the time of her death when she was about 19 she weighed over 20st.

(Reference National Library NZ Papers past website Wairarapa Daily Times newspaper 23 November 1912 page 4)

I was informed that the WESTWOOD children left America and returned to Auckland New Zealand around 1915. Thomas and Sarah remained in America so Thomas could work off his debts and eventually they returned to New Zealand penniless.

A letter to the Editor of the Press newspaper in 1915 from a Thomas WESTWOOD does not belong to our Thomas but another man with the same name dwelling in Greendale Canterbury Southland Island New Zealand. There is also another article recording the same man in the Ashburton Guardian newspaper on 28 March 1908 (Reference National Library NZ Papers past website Press newspaper 19 January 1915 page 8 & Ashburton Guardian newspaper 28 March 1908 page 4)

Hawera & Normanby Star newspaper 30 June 1917

Special Advertisements - Hawera Show Attraction - Direct from America - Per S.S. Niagara - Master Wilfred Westwood will present to Show visitors all next week, his new and industrial novelty - Fancy Glass Blowing - He will make before your eyes some exquisite articles from ordinary glass. See him and get one of these Souvenirs. Master Wilfred is also a show in himself being only 17 years of age and weighing over 23 stone. He is in perfect health and still increasing in weight. (Reference National Library NZ Papers past newspaper Hawera & Normanby Star newspaper 30 June 1917 page 1)

I believe the WESTWOOD family arrived in New Zealand around 1917 not 1915.

### 1919 Grey Lynn Electoral Roll Auckland

- Thomas WESTWOOD grocer 14 New Bond Street
- Sarah Lisette WESTWOOD married 14 New Bond Street
- Eva Elizabeth WESTWOOD spinster 14 New Bond Street
- Thomas Henry WESTWOOD printer 14 New Bond Street
- Wilfred Edgar WESTWOOD glass blower 14 New Bond Street (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls record 8998 to 9002)

Sarah and Thomas' son Thomas Henry WESTWOOD age 29 died on 30 April 1922 and was buried at Waikaraka Cemetery Onehunga Auckland New Zealand

Thomas WESTWOOD age 64 died 21 May 1928 New Zealand and was buried at Waikaraka Cemetery Onehunga Auckland New Zealand ORDER (Reference RGO NZ death registration 1928 folio website 1928/778 age 64 born about 1864)

Thomas WESTWOOD age 65 residence Edendale was buried at Waikaraka cemetery Auckland the undertaker was W Sibun & Sons

# 1928 Eden Electoral Roll Auckland

• Sarah Lisette WESTWOOD married 25 Kenneth Avenue (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Roll record 12206)

## 1935 & 1938 Eden Electoral Roll Auckland

• Sarah Lisette WESTWOOD widow 136 Sandringham Road SW1 (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Roll record 15126 & 13740)

## 1938 Eden Supplementary Electoral Roll Auckland

Sarah Lisette WESTWOOD widow 48 King Edward Street S2

• Wilfred WESTWOOD glass blower 48 King Edward Street S2 (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Roll record 18496 & 18497)

Sarah and the late Thomas' son Wilfred Edgar WESTWOOD died on 28 September 1939 aged 42 years and buried at Waikaraka Cemetery Onehunga Auckland NZ.

Sarah Lisette WESTWWOD aged 73 years born Norfolk England widow died on 10 September 1941 at 79 Burnley Terrace Dominion Road Mt Eden Auckland. Cause of death cerebral haemorrhage suddenly, heart failure. Her parents were recorded as Susan formerly COOK and William BLY occupation farmer. She was buried on 12 September 1941 Waikaraka by Methodist minister N.K. Brown. Sarah had dwelled in NZ for 67 years (arrived about 1874). She married aged 19 years at Pahiatua to Thomas WESTWOOD. Her living issue were recorded as 2 males aged 54 & 52 and 2 females aged 50 & 41 years.

(Reference RGO NZ death registration 1941 folio 2408 Auckland district website 1941/22417 age 73 born about 1868)

Sarah Lisette WESTWOOD was buried at Waikaraka cemetery Auckland by the undertaker W Sibun & Sons.

Sarah Lisette WESTWOOD place Auckland occupation Widow Court Wellington, filed date 03 October 1941 type Intestate (letters of Administration)

**ORDER** (Reference Archives of NZ Wellington Probate agency AAOM series 6030 box 59 record 4477 Wellington)

Waikaraka Cemetery, Onehunga, Auckland - Headstone Inscriptions

### **WESTWOOD**

ILMO Ruby May, died 24 October 1912, aged 19 years, Thomas Henry died 30 April 1922, aged 29 years, **Thomas** died 21 May 1928 aged 64 years, Wilfred Edgar died 28 September 1939 aged 42 years, **Sarah Lisette**, died 10 September 1941 aged 73 years.

(Reference National Library of NZ microfiche of NZ cemetery transcripts)

## Thomas & Sarah WESTWOOD their children and descendants

**1- John William (Jack) WESTWOOD** was born 14 July 1887 Foxton New Zealand died 21 January 1945 Ranwick New South Wales Australia (never married)

John William (Jack) WESTWOOD was born 1887 Foxton New Zealand **ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1887 folio website 1887/5630 parents Sarah Lizette and Thomas Westwood)

R.M.S. 'Athenic' Shaw Savil Line ship departed 1907 Wellington New Zealand ports of voyage Montevideo port arrived 07 June 1907 London England Captain C.H. KEMPSON RNR

• John WESTWOOD age 19 son born New Zealand (Reference Ancestry website UK Incoming Passenger Lists 1878-1960 official number 115239)

John also known as Jack left England and settled in America via Canada

Ship 'Lake Erie' departed Liverpool England arrived 13 March 1910 Saint John New Brunswick Canadian passenger lists

 Jack WESTWOOD age 22 gone to USA birth New Zealand race English Tourists going to New Zealand

(Reference Ancestry website Ship 'Lake Erie' departed Liverpool England arrived 13 March 1910 Saint John New Brunswick Canadian passenger lists 1965-1935 roll T-4821 page 16 record 128730)

World War One Registration card San Francisco California 31 May 1917

 John William WESTWOOD age 29 and alien born 14 July 1887 Foxton Wellington New Zealand English occupation Clerk employed by Foley & Burk at Red Bluff Tehama Co California Single race Caucasian previous military service none claim from draft No height short medium build eyes brown hair dark brown bald no (Reference Ancestry website roll number 1543846)

16 January 1920 United States Federal Census Northam House El Centro Imperial State California USA

John W WESTWOOD male race white age 32 single immigration year 1911 read & write yes born about 1888 New Zealand father born England mother born England speaks English occupation Clerk work Northam house [sic] employed wage (Reference Ancestry website 1920 USA census record number 22994)

John left America and settled in Australia

1933 East Sydney Glenmore New South Wales Australia

- John William WESTWOOD salesman male Talamar Josephson Street
- Wilfred Edgar WESTWOOD salesman male 144 Flinders Street (Reference Ancestry website Australian Electoral Rolls 1903-1980 record 7443 & 7444)

1936 & 1937 & 1943 Werriwa Waterfall Sanatorium New South Wales Australia

• John William WESTWOOD salesman male Waterfall Sanatorium (Reference Ancestry website Australian Electoral Rolls 1903-1980 record 464 & 505 & 391)

John William WESTWOOD died 21 January 1945 Randwick New South Wales Australia. I was informed that he died from illness which I believe could have been Tuberculosis. **ORDER** (Reference RGO Australia death registration 1945 Randwick New South Wales Australia registration number 5097)

2- George Edward Bertram (Bert) WESTWOOD born 11 March 1889 Foxton New Zealand died 25 December 1965 Te Awamutu New Zealand married 17 March 1910 Christchurch New Zealand Rose Ellen (Nell) LEWIS refer chart 14-15 (3 Issue)

- 3- Elizabeth Eva WESTWOOD born 05 January 1891 Foxton New Zealand died 08 July 1974 Auckland New Zealand married 1921 New Zealand Reginald HOWARD born 17 March 1894 died 1979 Auckland New Zealand
- 3-1- Colin Reginald HOWARD born 07 October 1922 New Zealand died 1974 Auckland New Zealand married 1949 New Zealand June Audrey DWYER #Colin Reginald HOWARD married 1949 New Zealand June Audrey DYWER reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1949 folio 00635 #Colin Reginald Howard died 1974 New Zealand reference RGO NZ death registration 1974 folio website 1974/41815 born 07 October 1922 #Colin Reginald Howard age 52 residence 1 Edison Place Kohimarama cremated 16 December 1974 Purewa cemetery Auckland buried Purewa cemetery Auckland block X row 001 plot 017 registration 27566 #Colin Reginald Howard place Auckland occupation Public Accountant filed date 31 January 1975 type Will reference Archives NZ Auckland probate agency BBAE series 1570 item 0257/75 Auckland
- 3-2- Jack Wilfred HOWARD born 12 December 1924 New Zealand died 1999 New Zealand married 1948 New Zealand Pauleen Elizabeth BARRETT

#Jack Wilfrid HOWARD married 1948 New Zealand Pauleen Elizabeth BARRETT reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1948 folio 12976 #Jack Wilfrid HOWARD died 1999 New Zealand reference RGO NZ death registration 1999 folio website 1999/25521 born 12 December 1924

Elizabeth Eva WESTWOOD who was born on 05 January 1891 in Foxton. Her parents were recorded as Sarah Lisette nee BLY aged 23 years born Lancashire England and Thomas WESTWOOD aged 27 born Staffordshire England occupation Store-man. The registration states that the parents were married on 02 March 1887 in Fielding. The birth was registered by Geo. Patter agent of Father duly authorised in writing at Foxton on 03 March 1891. P Curtis was the registrar.

(Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1891 folio Foxton district website 1891/4387 parents Sarah Lisette and Thomas Westwood)

R.M.S. 'Athenic' Shaw Savil Line ship departed 1907 Wellington New Zealand ports of voyage Montevideo port arrived 07 June 1907 London England Captain C.H. KEMPSON RNR

• Eva WESTWOOD age 16 occupation nil born New Zealand (Reference Ancestry website UK Incoming Passenger Lists 1878-1960 official number 115239)

Ship 'Lake Erie' departed Liverpool England arrived 13 March 1910 Saint John New Brunswick Canadian passenger lists

 Eva WESTWOOD age 18 gone to USA birth New Zealand race English Tourists going to New Zealand

(Reference Ancestry website Ship 'Lake Erie' departed Liverpool England arrived 13 March 1910 Saint John New Brunswick Canadian passenger lists 1965-1935 roll T-4821 page 16 record 128730)

Shipping C.P.R. (Atlantic) line SS Co. from Canada to US arrived October 1910 St Albans Vermont United States of America

 Eva WESTWOOD age 18 female single actor read & write yes New Zealand English NZ Foxton brother Bert Westwood Foxton New Zealand Foxton New Zealand
 (Reference Ancestry website Border crossing & passports from Canada to United States 1895-1956 List or manifest of Alien passengers applying for admission transit number 5-10)

#### 1919 Grey Lynn Electoral Roll Auckland

• Eva Elizabeth WESTWOOD spinster 14 New Bond Street (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Roll record 8998)

#### 1919 Auckland West Electoral Roll Auckland

• Reginald WESTWOOD Cabinet maker 32 Hepburn Street (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Roll record 11880)

Elizabeth Eva WESTWOOD married 1921 New Zealand Reginald HOWARD **ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1921 folio 08768 website 1921/3601)

Elizabeth and Reginald had a son Colin Reginald HOWARD who was born 07 October 1922 New Zealand

Elizabeth and Reginald had a son Jack Wilfred HOWARD who was born 12 December 1924 New Zealand

#### 1928 & 1935 & 1938 Eden Electoral Roll Auckland

- Elizabeth Eva HOWARD married 87 Paice Avenue
- Reginald HOWARD furniture manufacturer 87 Paice Avenue SW1 (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls)

#### 1946 Mt Albert Electoral Roll Auckland

- Elizabeth Eva HOWARD married 87 Paice Avenue SW1 (E)
- Reginald HOWARD furniture manufacturer 87 Paice Avenue SW1 (E)

(Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls)

#### 1949 Mt Albert Electoral Roll Auckland

- Elizabeth Eva HOWARD married 87 Paice Avenue SW1 (E)
- Reginald HOWARD furniture manufacturer 87 Paice Avenue SW1 (E)
- Colin Reginald HOWARD accountant 87 Paice Avenue SW1 (E)

(Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls)

#### 1954 Mt Albert Electoral Roll Auckland

- Elizabeth Eva HOWARD married 87 Paice Avenue SW1 (E)
- Reginald HOWARD furniture manufacturer 87 Paice Avenue SW1 (E)
- Colin Reginald HOWARD accountant 357 Richardson Road S3 (R)
- June Audrey HOWARD married 357 Richardson Road S3 (R)

(Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls)

#### 1957 & 1963 Mt Albert Electoral Roll Auckland

- Elizabeth Eva HOWARD married 87 Paice Avenue SW1 (E)
- Reginald HOWARD cabinet maker 87 Paice Avenue SW1 (E)

(Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls)

#### 1969 & 1972 Mt Albert Electoral Roll Auckland

- Elizabeth E HOWARD married 87 Paice Avenue (E)
- Reginald HOWARD retired 87 Paice Avenue (E)

(Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls)

Elizabeth Eva HOWARD died about 1974 Auckland New Zealand of Parkinson disease **ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ death registration 1974 folio website 1974/37682 born 05 January 1891)

Elizabeth Eva HOWARD last residence 87 Paice Avenue, Sandringham Mt Eden Auckland was cremated 10 July 1974 at Purewa Auckland

#### 1978 Mt Albert Electoral Roll Auckland

• Reginald HOWARD retired 87 Paice Avenue (E) (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls)

Reginald HOWARD died 1979 Auckland New Zealand.

**ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ death registration 1979 folio website 1979/33007 born 17 March 1894)

Reginald HOWARD last residence 87 Paice Avenue, Sandringham Auckland was cremated 21 June 1979 at Purewa Auckland

Reginald HOWARD place Auckland occupation Furniture manufacturer court Auckland filed date 24 July 1979 type Will

**ORDER** (Reference Archives Auckland Probate agency BBAE series 1570 item 2041/79 Auckland)

**4- Thomas Henry WESTWOOD** born about 1892 Foxton New Zealand died 30 April 1922 Auckland New Zealand married 1919 New Zealand Ellen CROSBY born about 1896 died 1964 New Zealand (no Issue)

Thomas Henry WESTWOOD was born 1892 Foxton New Zealand **ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1892 folio website 1892/15372 parents Sarah Lisette and Thomas Westwood)

#### 1914 Eden Electoral Roll Auckland

• Thomas Henry WESTWOOD printer 10 Kowai Street Kingsland (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls record 11208)

Thomas H WESTWOOD 26 December 1917 CTF34650 Auckland New Zealand

World War One 1914-1918 NZ Gazette 1917 page 2224 Thomas Henry WESTWOOD place 14 New Bond Street Kingsland Auckland occupation Printer military call up

#### 1919 Grey Lynn Electoral Roll Auckland

• Thomas Henry WESTWOOD printer 14 New Bond Street (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls record 9002)

Thomas Henry WESTWOOD married 1919 New Zealand Ellen CROSBY **ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1919 folio 2574 website 1919/2693)

### 1919 Roskill Electoral Roll Auckland

- Thomas Henry WESTWOOD letterpress printer 37 Reimers Avenue
- Ellen WESTWOOD married 37 Reimers Avenue Kingsland (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls record 13340 & 13339)

Thomas Henry WESTWOOD age 29 died on 30 April 1922 and was buried at Waikaraka Cemetery Onehunga Auckland New Zealand

**ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ death registration 1922 folio website 1922/2680 age 29 born about 1893)

Thomas Henry WESTWOOD age 29 residence Kingsland died 30 April 1922 undertaker W Sibun & Sons buried Waikaraka cemetery Auckland.

Thomas Henry WESTWOOD place Auckland occupation painter court Wellington filed date 23 May 1922 type Intestate (letter of administration)

**ORDER** (Reference Archives NZ Wellington probate agency AAOM series 6029 item 32261 Wellington)

Waikaraka Cemetery Onehunga Auckland - Headstone Inscriptions

### WESTWOOD

ILMO Ruby May, died 24 October 1912, aged 19 years, **Thomas Henry died 30 April 1922, aged 29 years**, Thomas died 21 May 1928 aged 64 years, Wilfred Edgar died 28 September 1939 aged 42 years, Sarah Lisette, died 10 September 1941 aged 73 years.

(Reference National Library of NZ microfiche of NZ cemetery transcripts)

Ellen WESTWOOD (widow) married 1925 New Zealand Daniel Robertson HIGGS **ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1925 folio 03429 website 1925/2677)

Daniel Robertson HIGGS Private service number 67980 Army 37<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements 1NZEF occupation Tailor's Presser last address 42 Collingwood Street Auckland enlisted 23 October 1917 with no overseas service. Served in New Zealand with the E Coy C1 – F Coy 35<sup>th</sup> & B Coy 37<sup>th</sup> and was granted leave without pay 07 March 1918. Examined 13 September 1917 at Auckland age 24 height 5 feet 2 inches eyes Blue complexion fair hair dark brown religion Methodist. Discharged 07 August 1919

Born 08 September 1893 Lefroy Tasmania father Thomas Edward HIGGS deceased born Bristol England mother Mrs Agnes C R PEARCE born Ballarat England [sic] resident of New Zealand 10 years.

1928 & 1935 Auckland Suburbs Electoral Roll Auckland

- Ellen HIGGS married Willerton Avenue New Lynn
- Daniel Robertson HIGGS presser Willerton Avenue New Lynn (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls record 4048 4047 & 4077 4076)

Daniel Robertson HIGGS age 45 died 1938 New Zealand and was buried in Waikumete cemetery Auckland New Zealand

**ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ death registration 1938 folio website 1938/3154 age 44 born about 1894)

#### 1938 Eden Electoral Roll Auckland

• Ellen HIGGS widow 9 Horoeka Avenue S1 (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls)

Ellen HIGGS (widow) married 1941 New Zealand Francis John PETCHELL **ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1941 folio 05666)

Francis John PETCHELL Gunner served in the Boer War service number SA 2398 5<sup>th</sup> Contingent & SA 5443 8<sup>th</sup> Contingent next of kin at time of enlistment brother William Jepherson Petchell Station Road Otahuhu Auckland served before with the No 1 Victoria Rifles Auckland. Medals and decorations 2<sup>nd</sup> Boer War Cape Colony Transvaal Rhodesia service aboard 1 year 186 days with the 5<sup>th</sup> Contingent description age 22 5 feet 10 inches occupation student eyes grey complexion fair hair brown (dark). Enlisted in the 8<sup>th</sup> Contingent on 03 January 1902 at Trentham bur did not see overseas duty with the 8<sup>th</sup> Contingent. Born Pukekohe Auckland and died 14 February 1962 Te Awamutu at time of death next of kin was Mrs E Petchell 8 Raikes Avenue

## 1946 Bay of Plenty Electoral Roll

- Ellen PETCHELL married State Mill Rotorua
- Francis John PETCHELL engineer State Mill Rotorua (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Roll)

## 1949 Bay of Plenty Electoral Roll

- Ellen PETCHELL married State Mill Whakarewarewa
- Francis John PETCHELL engineer State Mill Whakarewarewa (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Roll)

# 1949 Waikato Electoral Roll

- Ellen PETCHELL married 8 Raikes Avenue Te Awamutu
- Francis John PETCHELL retired 8 Raikes Avenue Te Awamutu (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Roll)

## 1954 & 1957 Waipa Electoral Roll Waikato

- Ellen PETCHELL married 8 Raikes Avenue Te Awamutu
- Francis John PETCHELL retired 8 Raikes Avenue Te Awamutu (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Roll)

Francis John PERCHELL died 14 February 1962 New Zealand **ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ death registration 1962 folio website 1962/28876 age 80 born about 1882)

Francis John PETCHELL Engineer Te Awamutu Hamilton probates 1962 Hamilton High Court

**ORDER** (Reference Archives NZ Auckland 1962 probate agency BCDG series 4421 box 183 record 129/1962)

## Ellen PETCHELL died 1964 New Zealand

**ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ death registration 1964 folio website 1964/37564 age 68 born about 1896)

Ellen PETCHELL widow Te Awamutu 1964 Hamilton probates Hamilton High Court **ORDER** (Reference Archives NZ Auckland 1964 Probate agency BCDG series 4421 box 246 record 492/164)

**5- Ruby May WESTWOOD** born 1893 Foxton New Zealand died 24 October 1912 America (never married)

Ruby May WESTWOOD was born 1893 Foxton New Zealand. **ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1893 folio website 1893/16319 parents Sarah Lisette and Thomas Westwood)

Wanganui Herald Newspaper 17 November 1900

The two largest children in the world are to be exhibited at the Wanganui A and P Show next week. They are Ruby and Wilfred Westwood, children of well-known residents of Foxton. The former is 7 years of age, and weighs over 13 stone and the latter in 3 years of age and weighs 7 stone. These remarkable children are healthy, attractive and intelligent, and of happy dispositions. In the Strand Magazine of last year was an illustrate on of what was supposed to be the biggest girl in the world, whereas at that time Ruby Westwood, though younger, was the heavier, and it is significant that Wilfred 13 heavier than his sister was at his age. Mr Westwood has had many tempting offers to exhibit his children, including one of £1000 to show them at the Paris Exhibition. This was declined, and the offer was subsequently increased, but up to till quite recently the parents have not entertained the idea of exhibiting the progeny. Mr Westwood has now determined to make a tour of the world, and the children were shown for the first time at the Palmerston Show, where an admiring crowd of nearly 3000 paid for admission. (Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Wanganui Herald newspaper 17 November 1900 page 2)

Otago Witness newspaper 19 December 1900

The Two Biggest Children in the World - Natives of New Zealand. (See photos in illustrated sheet) - These two remarkable children were born at Foxton (Manawatu district, N.I.), 104 miles from Wellington. The boy, Wilfred, is three years of age, 7st in weight, chest measurement of 40in, and calf 14in. In Foxton he is known to everyone as Dick Seddon. The girl, Ruby, is seven years of age, 4ft 51/2in in height, and a fortnight back, when a Witness representative visited them at Hawera, topped the scale at 13st 51b. The children display extraordinary intelligence for their age, are perfect in every degree, the picture of good health never having had a day's illness. There is nothing out of the ordinary about their parents, who are both natives of England. The father, Mr Thomas Westwood, is 37 years of age, 5ft 7in in height, and weighs 13st while the mother is 33, and weighs but 6st 4lb. Mr and Mrs Westwood have resided for 25 years in Foxton, where seven years ago the former was principal of a firm who were agents for the Otago Witness. Mr Westwood is an ex-councillor of the Foxton borough, where he was also an aspirant for mayoral honours against the present popular town clerk, Mr Alf Fraser. Amongst managerial offers was one of £1000 and expenses from Messrs Fitzgerald Bros., of circus fame, to take the children to the Paris Exhibition. Dunedin people will have an opportunity of seeing these remarkable children early next month.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Otago Witness newspaper 19 December 1900 page 55)

Thomas travelled to Sydney Australia with his children Ruby and Wilfred around July-August 1901

Thames Star newspaper 21 August 1901

A Novel Exhibition - Two Giant Children - Next Friday evening there will be a novel exhibition, when two most wonderful children will be shown by their parents. Wilfred, a boy of four years of age, weighs 8st, being one stone heavier than his mother, chest measurement 351/2 inches and 3ft 91/2 in high, a modern young Sandow. Ruby, 8 years of age, weighs 15st 3st heavier than her father, chest measurement 47in and 4ft 6½in high. They are the children of Mr Thomas Westwood, who when a boy lived in Grahamstown with his parents, but left here some years ago, and has since resided in Foxton, the West coast of this Island. where these wonderful children were born. In the cities of Dunedin and Sydney the Medical Association at a conference examined the children, and declared them to be perfectly healthy, but of stupendous growth. They are not ordinary fat children but perfect young giants, being fairly active for their great size, and of remarkable intelligence for their age. The children are described as being two pleasant faced children of tremendous growth. The parents are now returning home from Sydney, but are visiting the Thames to see their friends and renew acquaintances of years ago. The exhibition opens on Friday night

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Thames Star newspaper 21 August 1901 page 2)

### Poverty Bay Herald newspaper 21 October 1905

The famous Westwood family from Foxton arrived in Gisborne this morning and will give an exhibition at the Theatre Royal this evening. The family include Wilfred, aged eight years, and weighing 16st 51b Ruby aged eight years, 15st 101b the father and mother and another son. Wilfred is claimed to be not only the biggest boy in the world, but the largest child who has ever lived to that age. The children are said to be exceedingly active for their weight. The parents are of ordinary stature and physique as are also their other seven children.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Poverty Bay Herald newspaper 21 October 1905 page 2)

## Fielding Star newspaper 06 February 1906

The public who attend the A and P Show to-morrow on the Fielding Race course should not fail to visit the Foxton Westwood Family and see the famous Giant Children. The proceeds are for the benefit of the children.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Fielding Star newspaper 06 February 1906 page 2)

#### Nelson Evening Mail 05 February 1906 & Grey River Argus 09 February 1906

The young Foxton "giantess" Ruby Westwood who was being exhibited in Nelson during Carnival week had a very narrow escape from drowning on Saturday. She and her brother had gone to bath in the Matai near Kingdon's. Tough not in very deep water the girl overbalanced. Her body floated her off her feet and she lay on her back in the stream with her head under water. Screams from some children on the bank attracted the attention of the girl's father and Mr W Coleman who happened to be in the vicinity. The father plunged into the river and rescued the girl and Mr Coleman assisted him to take the sufferer to the hotel where the family were staying. Beyond shock the little giantess was not much the worse for her somewhat starting experience.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Nelson Evening Mail newspaper 05 February 1906 page 2 & Grey River Argus newspaper 09 February 1906 page 2)

Marlborough Express 07 February 1906 & Wanganui Herald 09 February 1906 & Poverty Bay Herald 10 February 1906 & Wanganui Chronicle 10 February 1906 page 4

On Saturday morning Ruby Westwood" one of the giant children who has been on exhibition at Nelson during the past week, had a narrow escape from drowning. She was bathing in the Maitai River when-she overbalanced herself, and failed to regain her feet. The timely arrival of her father who pulled her out saved her from her perilous position.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Marlborough Express newspaper 07 February 1906 page 2 Wanganui Herald newspaper 09 February 1906 page 5 Poverty Bay Herald newspaper 10 February 1906 page 2 & Wanganui Chronicle newspaper 10 February 1906 page 4)

#### Star newspaper 08 December 1906

The Westwood Family – The Westwood Family are still on view in their hall on the Exhibition Grounds and are attracting considerable attention. There are seven children in the family all whom are very slight excepting Ruby and Wilfred who are considered to be the two biggest children in the world. Wilfred is nine years of age and weighs 18 stone 12lb is 5 feet 1in in height. Ruby is thirteen years of age weighs 16 stone 4lb.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Star newspaper 08 December 1906 page 7)

#### Press newspaper 17 December 1906

The Giant Family - The Westwood Giant Family were well patronised on Saturday. Wilfred, aged 9, weighs 18st 121b, and is said to be the tallest, heaviest, and strongest boy in the world. His sister Ruby weighs 16st 4lb and is only 13 years of age. They will be on view again to-day.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Press newspaper 17 December 1906 page 8)

## Press newspaper 20 & 27 December 1906

The Giant Family - The two New Zealand giant children, Ruby and Wilfred Westwood who are housed near "The Pike" at the Exhibition, continue to attract the attention and wonder of visitors. Despite the fact that they are the largest children in the world, they are wonder fully active and intelligent. Though nineteen stone, Wilfred rides a bicycle and Ruby plays the piano. The other members of the family, who are normal in size, are also present, and the contrast between sisters and brothers is the amazement of visitors from all parts of the world.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Press newspaper 27 December 1906 page 8)

#### Press newspaper 05 January 1907

The Giant Family - Those wonderful children, Ruby and Wilfred Westwood, natives of Foxton, New Zealand, and who are undoubted the largest children in the world, attract a great deal of attention at then house near the "Pike" at the Exhibition. Though of enormous size and weight, they are wonderful intelligent and healthy, ride bicycles, play the piano, converse with their visitors, and are delightfully entertaining. They should be seen by all visitors, as they are the most interesting people in the whole Exhibition.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Press newspaper 05 January 1907 page 10)

## Star newspaper 16 February 1907

Giant Baby Show - Every evening, from 4 till 9 at the Exhibition the Westwood Family, including their two Giant Children are on exhibition. Wilfred is now 9 years of age and weighs 19st 61b, and is 5ft 2in tall. He is taller than his mother and heavier than his father and mother both put together. He has gained 11lb since opening of Exhibition, and he has gained 2st every year since three years of age, and still rides his bike. Ruby, his sister, is aged thirteen years and weighs 16st 71b. See this remarkable family

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Star newspaper 16 February 1907 page 7)

### Press newspaper 26 & 28 February 1907

Exhibition Business Notices – (Published by Arrangements) – Giant Baby Show – Every evening at the Exhibition the Westwood Family. Wilfred age 9 years weighs 19st 6lb has gained 11lb since opening of Exhibition. Ruby age 13 weighs 16st 4lb. Wonderful as babies and growing every day. Father, mother and 7 children. Wilfred rides a bike, Ruby plays the piano. See the New Zealand Wonders.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Press newspaper 26 February 1907 page 8)

### Press newspaper 15 March 1907

Giantland - At the Exhibition the Westwood Family are attracting a lot of attention. Wilfred, 9 years of age, weighs 19st 61b, is the tallest, heaviest, and most beautifully proportioned boy in the world, and rides a bike. Ruby is 13 years, and

weighs 16st 71b. The children's growth has been one long surprise to their parents since their birth. Must be seen to be believed.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Press newspaper 15 March 1907 page 8)

R.M.S. 'Athenic' Shaw Savil Line ship departed 1907 Wellington New Zealand ports of voyage Montevideo port arrived 07 June 1907 London England Captain C.H. KEMPSON RNR

• Ruby WESTWOOD age 13 daughter born New Zealand (Reference Ancestry website UK Incoming Passenger Lists 1878-1960 official number 115239)

## Wanganui Herald newspaper 15 June 1907

Westwood children (better known as the Foxton giants) have arrived in Dublin. They will be exhibited by their parents at a show in that city.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Wanganui Herald newspaper 15 June 1907 page 4)

## Taranaki Herald & Marlborough Newspaper 31 August 1907

According to a number of London papers New Zealand has put up another "record" – not altogether an enviable one. The colony is credited with possessing the "biggest children in the world". These two children are now in England on a visit. They are accompanies by their parents and the whole family are now in Wednesbury the native town of Mr Westwood. Portraits of these children Ruby Westwood aged 13 and Wilfred Westwood aged 11 are given in nearly all the London newspapers some of the pictures showing these two plying with children of their own ages but of normal proportions. The girl is credited with a weight of 17st 7lb and the boy with 20st 4lb. The former is 5ft 2½in in height and the latter 5ft 3in.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Taranaki Herald & Marlborough newspaper 31 August 1907 page 2 & 3)

#### Nelson Evening Mail newspaper 07 September 1907

From Wednesbury I hear that the Westwood family are visiting there, having come on a visit from your country where they settled thirty years ago. The family consists of Mr and Mrs Westwood and seven children. One of the children is creating quite a sensation. This is Wilfred a giant boy of 11. He weighs more than his father and mother put together. He is five feet three inches in height and weighs 20st 41bs and his sister Ruby is five feet 2½ in height. The other measurements of the boy are chest 52 inches; calf, 25 inches. They are both the picture of good health.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Nelson Evening Mail newspaper 07 September 1907 page 1)

#### Otago Witness newspaper 30 October 1907

In those days, too, the colonies were not looked at so kindly as now, but now one of the chief attractions was the New Zealand Westwood Family with the two heaviest children in the world. In patriotism I could not but patronise their show at the very beginning. Do our rulers realise what a fine advertisement for Prime Canterbury they are neglecting here? But seriously such an exhibition is painful, for the children cannot be entirely healthy, and a caravan life must soon pall. But so far everything seems to have gone happily. Ruby could not restrain a giggle when some wags insinuated that a badly behaved lamp had gone out because she breathed on it, and when her father threatened to send Wilfred after them he braced up with quite a humorous twinkle in his eye. Neither seemed tired or overworked and Mr Westwood told me that they were keeping in splendid spirits and health. I was not the only New Zealander they had spoken to that day for the fair had attracted a fellow townsman from Foxton. Is not the world small?

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Otago Witness newspaper 30 October 1907 page 89)

Ship 'Lake Erie' departed Liverpool England arrived 13 March 1910 Saint John New Brunswick Canadian passenger lists

 Ruby WESTWOOD age 15 gone to USA birth New Zealand race English Tourists going to New Zealand

(Reference Ancestry website Ship 'Lake Erie' departed Liverpool England arrived 13 March 1910 Saint John New Brunswick Canadian passenger lists 1965-1935 roll T-4821 page 16 record 128730)

Shipping C.P.R. (Atlantic) line SS Co. from Canada to US arrived October 1910 St Albans Vermont United States of America

 Ruby WESTWOOD age 17 female single actor read & write yes New Zealand English NZ Foxton brother Bert Westwood Foxton New Zealand Foxton New Zealand (Reference Ancestry website Border crossing & passports from Canada to United States 1895-1956 List or manifest of Alien passengers applying for admission transit number 5-10)

Ruby May WESTWOOD died on 24 October 1912 in America from blood poisoning **SEARCH** (Reference RGO America death registration

Ruby May WESTWOOD died on 24 October 1912 in America and her name is recorded on a headstone at Waikaraka Cemetery Onehunga Auckland New Zealand. **SEARCH** (Reference RGO NZ death registration 1912

Poverty Bay Herald newspaper 23 November 1912 & Ashburton Guardian newspaper 25 November 1912 & Fielding Star newspaper 25 November 1912 & Press newspaper 25 November 1912 & Hawera and Normanby Star newspaper 27 November 1912 & Marlborough Express newspaper 28 November 1912 & Evening Post newspaper 30 November 1912 page 11 & Northern Advocate newspaper 02 December 1912

News reached Auckland by the San Francisco mail of the death of Ruby Westwood. She and her brother Wilfred were the two biggest children ever born in New Zealand perhaps the biggest in the world. At the age of eight Ruby weighed 14st. She grew proportionately and at the time of her death when she was about 19 she weighed over 14st. Her brother Wilfred is several years younger and now weighs about 3ost. These two giants were born at Foxton and resided in Auckland up to the time of the Christchurch Exhibition. Since then they have been traveling at Home and in America. The cause of death was blood poisoning contracted by a thorn in the finger from picking flowers. Nothing serious was anticipated from the scratch but shortly afterwards it was found necessary to amputate the finger. This was of no avail as the poison spread, and the unfortunate girl died within an hour of being admitted into the San Francisco hospital.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Poverty Bay Herald newspaper 23 November 1912 page 4 & Ashburton Guardian newspaper 25 November 1912 page 4 & Fielding Star newspaper 25 November 1912 page 2 & Press newspaper 25 November 1912 page 6 Hawera and Normanby Star newspaper 27 November 1912 page 4 & Marlborough Express newspaper 28 November 1912 page 3 & Evening Post newspaper 30 November 1912 page 11 & Northern Advocate newspaper 02 December 1912 page 4)

Wairarapa Daily Times newspaper 23 November 1912

News reached New Zealand by the San Francisco mail of the death of Ruby Westwood. She and her brother Wilfred were the two biggest children ever born in New Zealand, perhaps the biggest in the world. At the age of eight Ruby weighed 14st. She grew proportionately and at the time of her death when she was about 19 she weighed over 20st.

(Reference National Library NZ Papers past website Wairarapa Daily Times newspaper 23 November 1912 page 4)

Waikaraka Cemetery, Onehunga, Auckland - Headstone Inscriptions

# WESTWOOD

ILMO **Ruby May, died 24 October 1912, aged 19 years**, Thomas Henry died 30 April 1922, aged 29 years, Thomas died 21 May 1928 aged 64 years, Wilfred Edgar died 28 September 1939 aged 42 years, Sarah Lisette, died 10 September 1941 aged 73 years.

(Reference National Library of NZ microfiche of NZ cemetery transcripts)

**6- Wilfred Edgar WESTWOOD** born 1897 Foxton New Zealand died 28 September 1939 Auckland New Zealand (never married)

Wilfred Edgar WESTWOOD was born 1897 Foxton New Zealand **ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1897 folio website 1897/9531 parents Sarah Lisette and Thomas Westwood)

Wanganui Herald Newspaper 17 November 1900

The two largest children in the world are to be exhibited at the Wanganui A and P Show next week. They are Ruby and Wilfred Westwood, children of well-known residents of Foxton. The former is 7 years of age, and weighs over 13 stone and the latter in 3 years of age and weighs 7 stone. These remarkable children are healthy, attractive and intelligent, and of happy dispositions. In the Strand Magazine of last year was an illustrate on of what was supposed to be the biggest girl in the world, whereas at that time Ruby Westwood, though younger, was the heavier, and it is significant that Wilfred 13 heavier than his sister was at his age. Mr Westwood has had many tempting offers to exhibit his children, including one of £1000 to show them at the Paris Exhibition. This was declined, and the offer was subsequently increased, but up to till quite recently the parents have not entertained the idea of exhibiting the progeny. Mr Westwood has now determined to make a tour of the world, and the children were shown for the first time at the Palmerston Show, where an admiring crowd of nearly 3000 paid for admission.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Wanganui Herald newspaper 17 November 1900 page 2)

## Otago Witness newspaper 19 December 1900

The Two Biggest Children in the World - Natives of New Zealand. (See photos in illustrated sheet) - These two remarkable children were born at Foxton (Manawatu district, N.I.), 104 miles from Wellington. The boy, Wilfred, is three years of age, 7st in weight, chest measurement of 40in, and calf 14in. In Foxton he is known to everyone as Dick Seddon. The girl, Ruby, is seven years of age, 4ft 51/2 in in height, and a fortnight back, when a Witness representative visited them at Hawera, topped the scale at 13st 51b. The children display extraordinary intelligence for their age, are perfect in every degree, the picture of good health never having had a day's illness. There is nothing out of the ordinary about their parents, who are both natives of England. The father, Mr Thomas Westwood, is 37 years of age, 5ft 7in in height, and weighs 13st while the mother is 33, and weighs but 6st 4lb. Mr and Mrs Westwood have resided for 25 years in Foxton, where seven years ago the former was principal of a firm who were agents for the Otago Witness. Mr Westwood is an ex-councillor of the Foxton borough, where he was also an aspirant for mayoral honours against the present popular town clerk, Mr Alf Fraser. Amongst managerial offers was one of £1000 and expenses from Messrs Fitzgerald Bros., of circus fame, to take the children to the Paris Exhibition. Dunedin people will have an opportunity of seeing these remarkable children early next month.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Otago Witness newspaper 19 December 1900 page 55)

Thomas travelled to Sydney Australia with his children Ruby and Wilfred around July-August 1901

#### Thames Star newspaper 21 August 1901

A Novel Exhibition - Two Giant Children - Next Friday evening there will be a novel exhibition, when two most wonderful children will be shown by their parents. Wilfred, a boy of four years of age, weighs 8st, being one stone heavier than his mother, chest measurement 35½ inches and 3ft 9½in high, a modern young Sandow. Ruby, 8 years of age, weighs 15st 3st heavier than her father, chest measurement 47in and 4ft 6½in high. They are the children of Mr Thomas

Westwood, who when a boy lived in Grahamstown with his parents, but left here some years ago, and has since resided in Foxton, the West coast of this Island, where these wonderful children were born. In the cities of Dunedin and Sydney the Medical Association at a conference examined the children, and declared them to be perfectly healthy, but of stupendous growth. They are not ordinary fat children but perfect young giants, being fairly active for their great size, and of remarkable intelligence for their age. The children are described as being two pleasant faced children of tremendous growth. The parents are now returning home from Sydney, but are visiting the Thames to see their friends and renew acquaintances of years ago. The exhibition opens on Friday night

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Thames Star newspaper 21 August 1901 page 2)

## Poverty Bay Herald newspaper 21 October 1905

The famous Westwood family from Foxton arrived in Gisborne this morning and will give an exhibition at the Theatre Royal this evening. The family include Wilfred, aged eight years, and weighing 16st 51b Ruby aged eight years, 15st 101b the father and mother and another son. Wilfred is claimed to be not only the biggest boy in the world, but the largest child who has ever lived to that age. The children are said to be exceedingly active for their weight. The parents are of ordinary stature and physique as are also their other seven children.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Poverty Bay Herald newspaper 21 October 1905 page 2)

### Fielding Star newspaper 06 February 1906

The public who attend the A and P Show to-morrow on the Fielding Race course should not fail to visit the Foxton Westwood Family and see the famous Giant Children. The proceeds are for the benefit of the children.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Fielding Star newspaper 06 February 1906 page 2)

## Nelson Evening Mail 05 February 1906 & Grey River Argus 09 February 1906

The young Foxton "giantess" Ruby Westwood who was being exhibited in Nelson during Carnival week had a very narrow escape from drowning on Saturday. She and her brother had gone to bath in the Matai near Kingdon's. Tough not in very deep water the girl overbalanced. Her body floated her off her feet and she lay on her back in the stream with her head under water. Screams from some children on the bank attracted the attention of the girl's father and Mr W Coleman who happened to be in the vicinity. The father plunged into the river and rescued the girl and Mr Coleman assisted him to take the sufferer to the hotel where the family were staying. Beyond shock the little giantess was not much the worse for her somewhat starting experience.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Nelson Evening Mail newspaper 05 February 1906 page 2 & Grey River Argus newspaper 09 February 1906 page 2)

Marlborough Express 07 February 1906 & Wanganui Herald 09 February 1906 & Poverty Bay Herald 10 February 1906 & Wanganui Chronicle 10 February 1906 page 4

On Saturday morning Ruby Westwood" one of the giant children who has been on exhibition at Nelson during the past week, had a narrow escape from drowning. She was bathing in the Maitai River when-she overbalanced herself, and failed to regain her feet. The timely arrival of her father who pulled her out saved her from her perilous position.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Marlborough Express newspaper 07 February 1906 page 2 Wanganui Herald newspaper 09 February 1906 page 5 Poverty Bay Herald newspaper 10 February 1906 page 2 & Wanganui Chronicle newspaper 10 February 1906 page 4)

#### Star newspaper 08 December 1906

The Westwood Family – The Westwood Family are still on view in their hall on the Exhibition Grounds and are attracting considerable attention. There are seven children in the family all whom are very slight excepting Ruby and Wilfred who are considered to be the two biggest children in the world. Wilfred is nine years of

age and weighs 18 stone 12lb is 5 feet 1in in height. Ruby is thirteen years of age weighs 16 stone 4lb.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Star newspaper 08 December 1906 page 7)

## Press newspaper 17 December 1906

The Giant Family - The Westwood Giant Family were well patronised on Saturday. Wilfred, aged 9, weighs 18st 121b, and is said to be the tallest, heaviest, and strongest boy in the world. His sister Ruby weighs 16st 4lb and is only 13 years of age. They will be on view again to-day.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Press newspaper 17 December 1906 page 8)

#### Press newspaper 20 & 27 December 1906

The Giant Family - The two New Zealand giant children, Ruby and Wilfred Westwood who are housed near "The Pike" at the Exhibition, continue to attract the attention and wonder of visitors. Despite the fact that they are the largest children in the world, they are wonder fully active and intelligent. Though nineteen stone, Wilfred rides a bicycle and Ruby plays the piano. The other members of the family, who are normal in size, are also present, and the contrast between sisters and brothers is the amazement of visitors from all parts of the world.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Press newspaper 27 December 1906 page 8)

### Press newspaper 05 January 1907

The Giant Family - Those wonderful children, Ruby and Wilfred Westwood, natives of Foxton, New Zealand, and who are undoubted the largest children in the world, attract a great deal of attention at then house near the "Pike" at the Exhibition. Though of enormous size and weight, they are wonderful intelligent and healthy, ride bicycles, play the piano, converse with their visitors, and are delightfully entertaining. They should be seen by all visitors, as they are the most interesting people in the whole Exhibition.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Press newspaper 05 January 1907 page 10)

#### Star newspaper 16 February 1907

Giant Baby Show - Every evening, from 4 till 9 at the Exhibition the Westwood Family, including their two Giant Children are on exhibition. Wilfred is now 9 years of age and weighs 19st 61b, and is 5ft 2in tall. He is taller than his mother and heavier than his father and mother both put together. He has gained 11lb since opening of Exhibition, and he has gained 2st every year since three years of age, and still rides his bike. Ruby, his sister, is aged thirteen years and weighs 16st 71b. See this remarkable family

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Star newspaper 16 February 1907 page 7)

#### Press newspaper 26 & 28 February 1907

Exhibition Business Notices – (Published by Arrangements) – Giant Baby Show – Every evening at the Exhibition the Westwood Family. Wilfred age 9 years weighs 19st 6lb has gained 11lb since opening of Exhibition. Ruby age 13 weighs 16st 4lb. Wonderful as babies and growing every day. Father, mother and 7 children. Wilfred rides a bike, Ruby plays the piano. See the New Zealand Wonders.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Press newspaper 26 February 1907 page 8)

# Press newspaper 15 March 1907

Giantland - At the Exhibition the Westwood Family are attracting a lot of attention. Wilfred, 9 years of age, weighs 19st 61b, is the tallest, heaviest, and most beautifully proportioned boy in the world, and rides a bike. Ruby is 13 years, and weighs 16st 71b. The children's growth has been one long surprise to their parents since their birth. Must be seen to be believed.

(Reference National Library of NZ papers past website Press newspaper 15 March 1907 page 8)

R.M.S. 'Athenic' Shaw Savil Line ship departed 1907 Wellington New Zealand ports of voyage Montevideo port arrived 07 June 1907 London England Captain C.H. KEMPSON RNR

• Wilfred WESTWOOD age 9 son born New Zealand (Reference Ancestry website UK Incoming Passenger Lists 1878-1960 official number 115239)

### Wanganui Herald newspaper 15 June 1907

Westwood children (better known as the Foxton giants) have arrived in Dublin.

They will be exhibited by their parents at a show in that city.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Wanganui Herald newspaper 15 June 1907 page 4)

## Taranaki Herald & Marlborough Newspaper 31 August 1907

According to a number of London papers New Zealand has put up another "record" – not altogether an enviable one. The colony is credited with possessing the "biggest children in the world". These two children are now in England on a visit. They are accompanies by their parents and the whole family are now in Wednesbury the native town of Mr Westwood. Portraits of these children Ruby Westwood aged 13 and Wilfred Westwood aged 11 are given in nearly all the London newspapers some of the pictures showing these two plying with children of their own ages but of normal proportions. The girl is credited with a weight of 17st 7lb and the boy with 20st 4lb. The former is 5ft 2½in in height and the latter 5ft 3in.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Taranaki Herald & Marlborough newspaper 31 August 1907 page 2 & 3)

### Nelson Evening Mail newspaper 07 September 1907

From Wednesbury I hear that the Westwood family are visiting there, having come on a visit from your country where they settled thirty years ago. The family consists of Mr and Mrs Westwood and seven children. One of the children is creating quite a sensation. This is Wilfred a giant boy of 11. He weighs more than his father and mother put together. He is five feet three inches in height and weighs 20st 41bs and his sister Ruby is five feet 2½ in height. The other measurements of the boy are chest 52 inches; calf, 25 inches. They are both the picture of good health.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Nelson Evening Mail newspaper 07 September 1907 page 1)

## Otago Witness newspaper 30 October 1907

In those days, too, the colonies were not looked at so kindly as now, but now one of the chief attractions was the New Zealand Westwood Family with the two heaviest children in the world. In patriotism I could not but patronise their show at the very beginning. Do our rulers realise what a fine advertisement for Prime Canterbury they are neglecting here? But seriously such an exhibition is painful, for the children cannot be entirely healthy, and a caravan life must soon pall. But so far everything seems to have gone happily. Ruby could not restrain a giggle when some wags insinuated that a badly behaved lamp had gone out because she breathed on it, and when her father threatened to send Wilfred after them he braced up with quite a humorous twinkle in his eye. Neither seemed tired or overworked and Mr Westwood told me that they were keeping in splendid spirits and health. I was not the only New Zealander they had spoken to that day for the fair had attracted a fellow townsman from Foxton. Is not the world small?

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Otago Witness newspaper 30 October 1907 page 89)

Ship 'Lake Erie' departed Liverpool England arrived 13 March 1910 Saint John New Brunswick Canadian passenger lists

 Wilfred WESTWOOD age 12 gone to USA birth New Zealand race English Tourists going to New Zealand

(Reference Ancestry website Ship 'Lake Erie' departed Liverpool England arrived 13 March 1910 Saint John New Brunswick Canadian passenger lists 1965-1935 roll T-4821 page 16 record 128730)

Shipping C.P.R. (Atlantic) line SS Co. from Canada to US arrived October 1910 St Albans Vermont United States of America

 Wilfred WESTWOOD age 16 male single actor read & write yes New Zealand English NZ Foxton brother Bert Westwood Foxton New Zealand Foxton New Zealand
 (Reference Ancestry website Border crossing & passports from Canada to United States 1895-1956 List or manifest of Alien passengers applying for admission transit number 5-10)

# Hawera & Normanby Star newspaper 30 June 1917

Special Advertisements - Hawera Show Attraction - Direct from America - Per S.S. Niagara - Master Wilfred Westwood will present to Show visitors all next week, his new and industrial novelty - Fancy Glass Blowing - He will make before your eyes some exquisite articles from ordinary glass. See him and get one of these Souvenirs. Master Wilfred is also a show in himself being only 17 years of age and weighing over 23 stone. He is in perfect health and still increasing in weight. (Reference National Library NZ Papers past newspaper Hawera & Mormanby Star newspaper 30 June 1917 page 1)

I was told that around 1917 Wilfred travelled from American on the "S S Niagara" apparently selling his glass blowing items.

I was told that on 04 November 1919 Wilfred was on the passenger list of the "Talune" which travelled between Suva and Auckland.

I was told that on 04 October 1920 Wilfred was on the passenger list of the "Atua" which travelled between Suva and Auckland.

#### 1919 Grey Lynn Electoral Roll Auckland

• Wilfred Edgar WESTWOOD glass blower 14 New Bond Street (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls 1853-1981 record 9002)

Wilfred learnt glassblowing and travelled around selling his wares around New Zealand and overseas.

Ship S S "Makura" sailing from Sydney New South Wales Australia 16 March 1922 arrived 08 April 1922 Seattle Washington Vancouver British Columbia Canada

 Wilfred E WESTWOOD age 24 male single occupation glass blower read & write yes speaks English nationality New Zealand last residence Auckland New Zealand relative father Mr T Westwood 38 Bright Avenue Auckland final destination NZ Auckland born about 1898 New Zealand Port of departure Auckland New Zealand then Sydney Australia Port of arrival Seattle Washington 08 April 1922

(Reference Ancestry website Seattle passenger and Crew lists 1882-1957 line 7 microfilm roll M1383\_68 record 7/8388)

#### S S Wilhelimena Passenger and Crew Lists 1900-1959 Honolulu Hawaii 1927

 Wilfred E WESTWOOD age 29 years 6 months male single occupation glass blower read & write yes speaks English born New Zealand British nationality last place Forton [sic] (Foxton) New Zealand relative Mr T Westwood 15 Kenneth Avenue Auckland New Zealand destination Sydney Australia

(Reference Ancestry website Honolulu Hawaii 1927 passenger and crew Lists 1900-1959 record 4)

# 1933 East Sydney Glenmore New South Wales Australia

- Wilfred Edgar WESTWOOD salesman male 144 Flinders Street
- John William WESTWOOD salesman male Talamar Josephson Street (Reference Ancestry website Australian Electoral Rolls 1903-1980 record 7444 & 7443)

#### 1938 Eden Electoral Roll Auckland

• Wilfred Edgar WESTWOOD glass blower 48 King Edward Street S2 (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Roll record 18497)

Wilfred Edgar WESTWOOD aged 42 years died on 28 September 1939 from a motor accident in Auckland. He was buried at Waikaraka Cemetery Onehunga Auckland New Zealand

SEARCH (Reference RGO NZ death registration 1939 and Cemetery transcripts

SEARCH Newspaper article regarding 28 September 1939 motor accident Auckland

Wilfred Edgar WESTWOOD age 42 (born about 1898) residence Sandringham 28 September 1939 Undertaker W Sibun & Sons buried Waikaraka cemetery Auckland.

Wilfred Edgar WESTWOOD place Auckland occupation showman court Wellington filed date 20 October 1939 type Intestate (letters of administration)

**ORDER** (Reference Archives NZ Wellington Probate agency AAOM series 6029 item 66472 Wellington under Wilfrid)

Waikaraka Cemetery, Onehunga, Auckland - Headstone Inscriptions

#### **WESTWOOD**

ILMO Ruby May, died 24 October 1912, aged 19 years, Thomas Henry died 30 April 1922, aged 29 years, Thomas died 21 May 1928 aged 64 years, **Wilfred Edgar died 28 September 1939 aged 42 years**, Sarah Lisette, died 10 September 1941 aged 73 years.

(Reference National Library of NZ microfiche of NZ cemetery transcripts)

- **7- Loyis Lisette WESTWOOD** born 09 February 1900 Foxton New Zealand died 18 August 1977 New Zealand married 1924 New Zealand Arthur Frederick HICKS born 1895 New Zealand died 17 January 1968 New Zealand
- 7-1- Male living HICKS born New Zealand married female living
- 7-2- Male living HICKS born New Zealand married female living
- 7-2-1- Female Living HICKS
- 7-3- Male living HICKS born New Zealand married female living
- 7-4- Female living HICKS born New Zealand and Male living BESANT

Loyis Lisette WESTWOOD was born 09 February 1900 Foxton New Zealand **ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1900 folio website 1900/3373 parents Sarah Lisetta and Thomas Westwood)

Ship R.M.S. 'Athenic' Shaw Savil Line ship departed 1907 Wellington New Zealand ports of voyage Montevideo port arrived 07 June 1907 London England Captain C.H. KEMPSON RNR

• Loyis WESTWOOD age 7 daughter born New Zealand (Reference Ancestry website UK Incoming Passenger Lists 1878-1960 official number 115239)

Ship 'Lake Erie' departed Liverpool England arrived 13 March 1910 Saint John New Brunswick Canadian passenger lists

 Loyis WESTWOOD age 9 gone to USA birth New Zealand race English Tourists going to New Zealand

(Reference Ancestry website Ship 'Lake Erie' departed Liverpool England arrived 13 March 1910 Saint John New Brunswick Canadian passenger lists 1965-1935 roll T-4821 page 16 record 128730)

Ship C.P.R. (Atlantic) line SS Co. from Canada to US arrived October 1910 St Albans Vermont United States of America

 Loyis WESTWOOD age 9 female single actor read & write yes New Zealand English NZ Foxton brother Bert Westwood Foxton New Zealand Foxton New Zealand (Reference Ancestry website Border crossing & passports from Canada to United States 1895-1956 List or manifest

(Reference Ancestry website Border crossing & passports from Canada to United States 1895-1956 List of manifest of Alien passengers applying for admission transit number 5-10) Arthur Frederick HICKS was born 1895 New Zealand. His parents were Emma and John Hubert HICKS.

**ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1895 folio website 1895/724 parents Emma and John Hubert Hicks)

Arthur Frederick HOCKS service number 48502World War One 1914-1918 **ORDER** (Reference Archives NZ Wellington agency AABK series 18805 accession W5539 box 119 record 0054320)

Intention to marry application 1924 **SEARCH** (Reference Archives NZ Wellington Intention to marry application 1924

Loyis Lisette WESTWOOD married 1924 New Zealand Arthur Frederick HICKS **ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1924 folio 07965 website 1924/6058)

#### 1928 Roskill Electoral Roll Auckland

- Loyis Lisette HICKS married 11 Warwick Street
- Arthur Frederick HICKS carpenter 11 Warwick Street (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Roll)

#### 1935 Manukau Electoral Roll Auckland

- Loyis Lisette HICKS married 7 Matai Road Green Lane
- Arthur Frederick HICKS carrier 7 Matai Road Green Lane (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Roll)

### 1938 Onehunga Electoral Roll Auckland

- Loyis Lisette HICKS married 7 Matai Road Green Lane
- Arthur Frederick HICKS carrier 7 Matai Road Green Lane (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Roll)

#### 1949 Remuera Electoral Roll Auckland

- Lovis Lisette HICKS married 7 Matai Road SE4
- Arthur Frederick HICKS carrier 7 Matai Road SE4 (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Roll)

# 1954 Onehunga Electoral Roll Auckland

- Loyis Lisette HICKS married 7 Matai Road SE4
- Arthur Frederick HICKS carrier 7 Matai Road SE4 (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Roll)

#### 1957 Remuera Electoral Roll Auckland

- Lovis Lisette HICKS married 7 Matai Road SE4
- Arthur Frederick HICKS carpenter 7 Matai Road SE4
- Bernard Jack HICKS machinist 7 Matai Road SE4 (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Roll)

#### 1963 Grey Lynn Electoral Roll Auckland

- Loyis Lisette HICKS married 67a Alford Street SW3
- Arthur Frederick HICKS aged benefit 67a Alford Street SW3 (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Roll)

Arthur Frederick HICKS died 17 January 1968 New Zealand **ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ death registration 1968 folio website 1968/25566 age 72 born about 1896)

Arthur Frederick HICKS age 72 years died 17 January 1968 was buried 1968 area 5 block D lot number 216 Waikaraka cemetery Onehunga Auckland New Zealand funeral director Watney Sibun & Sons record number 37

#### 1972 Eden Electoral Roll Auckland

• Loyis L HICKS widow 6 St Albans Avenue (E) (Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Roll)

Loyis Lisette HICKS died 1977 New Zealand

**ORDER** (Reference RGO NZ death registration 1977 folio website 1977/43181 born 09 February 1900)

Loyis Lisette HICKS age 77 years died 18 August 1977 was buried 1977 area 5 block D lot number 216 Waikaraka cemetery Onehunga Auckland New Zealand funeral director Watney Sibun & Sons record number 108

**SEARCH** (Reference National Library of NZ Wellington microfiche of New Zealand cemetery transcripts)

## WESTWOOD and BLY miscellaneous information

Image of the Westwood family are as follows left to right = Thomas WESTWOOD senior, Ruby, Thomas junior, Loyis (living HICKS grandmother), Eva, Wilfred, George (living BELL grandfather) and Sarah Lisette WESTWOOD formerly BLY.

I was informed that the eldest son of the eldest son in the WESTWOOD family is traditionally given the first name "Garnet" (Usually shortened to Garney).

SEARCH New Zealand records for Christian and Surname Garnet or Garney WESTWOOD.

The only WESTWOOD with a Garnett Christian name is listed below.

- Charles Percival WESTWOOD born 1905 New Zealand reference RGO NZ death registration 1905 folio website 1905/3441 parents Maria and John Westwood
- Charles's parents were John WESTWOOD married 1892 New Zealand Maria CLARKE reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1892 folio website 1892/2481
- Charles father was the brother of Thomas WESTWOOD
- Charles Percival <u>Garnet WESTWOOD</u> flax worker Purcell Street Foxton 1928 Manawatu Electoral Roll
- Charles Percival <u>Garnett</u> WESTWOOD died 1961 New Zealand reference RGO NZ death registration 1961 folio website 1961/34955 age 57 born about 1904

I located a Garnet Westwood MOORE who served in the 1NZEF 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Service number 33198 and was killed in the Field of Belgium 29 November 1917. Enlisted 26 August 1916 occupation Law Clerk employer James Park address Fitzherbert Street Hokitika next of kin mother Mrs S Moore address Fitzherbert Street Hokitika religion Presbyterian born 13 June 1984 Hokitika New Zealand parents.

- Garnet Westwood MOORE was born 1884 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1884 folio website 1884/20317 parents Susanna and James Moore
- Garnet's parents James MOORE married 1880 New Zealand Susan (Susanna)
   ATKINSON reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1880 folio website 1880/653
- Susanna MOORE died 1945 New Zealand reference RGO NZ death registration 1945 folio website 1945/29449 age 86 born about 1859
- James MOORE died 1898 New Zealand reference RGO NZ death registration 1898 folio website 1898/574 age 56 born about 1842
- James MOORE died 13 October 1898 and Susan / Susanna MOORE died 23 March 1945 their children Minnie Madeleine BOYD died 05 July 1962, Dorothy Marquerite DORREEN died 10 November 1966, Westwood MOORE died 1983, Wybert Marmion MOORE died 1971, Ernest PARTRIDGE died 19 May 1984 and Marion Elizabeth

PARTRIDGE 31 August 1984 and there is a headstone bearing all their names at Hokitika cemetery

Arthur Bibra HERROLD occupation Sugar Planter aged about 69 years born Balcutta India died on 08 February 1943 at Bassett Road, Remuera from Fiji. Cause of death was Coronary Occlusion minutes, Coronary thrombosis years, Asterioscerrous years, Nephritis years as certified by A M Ross who saw him last on 01 February 1943. He had only dwelled in NZ for 3 weeks. His parents were Helen formerly BIBRA and John William HERROLD occupation Mariner. He was Cremated on 10 February Waikamete by Anglican minister J L LITT. He married 1<sup>st</sup> Jessie WRIGHT in Fiji and 2<sup>nd</sup> **Winifred WESTWOOD** in Fiji when he was aged 55. He left his widow Winifred HERROLD formerly WESTWOOD aged 45 years to morn in passing. There were no details recorded for living issue. The death was registered on 09 February 1943 by A Davidson authorised in writing by Undertaker Auckland.

(Reference NZSG Certificate Collection & RGO NZ 1943 Folio 53 Auckland District)

Thomas Darfield WESTWOOD occupation Contractor died 8 September 1954 Darfield wife Mary Ann WESTWOOD

**ORDER** (Reference National Archives of NZ Christchurch Office Dept of Justice CH 4989/1954)

New Zealand marriage registrations

- Sarah WESTWOOD married Alfred PRIOR reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1898 folio 0967 website 1898/811
- Thomas WESTWOOD married Mary Anne MANGIN/MONGIN reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1898 folio 1994 website 1898/1772
- Thomas WESTWOOD married Margaret Maud O'HALLORAN/O'HALLARAN reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1907 folio 4021 website 1907/4658