

**Caroline Louisa Henrietta MANSSEN & William PAGE**  
(Weblink Caroline Louisa Henrietta Manssen & William Page)

**William PAGE**

B 17 April 1840 Leicestershire England  
D 01 October 1906 Wakapuaka Nelson  
M 04 April 1865 Wakapuaka Nelson

**Caroline Louisa Henrietta MANSSEN**

B about 1842 Hamburg Germany  
D 01 January 1927 Nelson

Children:

1. Caroline Mary PAGE born 19 February 1866 Wakapuaka Nelson
2. Amy Elizabeth PAGE born 11 July 1868 Wakapuaka Nelson
3. Charles PAGE born 25 January 1871 Wakapuaka Nelson
4. Lilian Ida PAGE born 12 August 1872 Wakapuaka Nelson
5. Edith PAGE born 27 June 1874 Wakapuaka Nelson
6. Bertha PAGE born 19 May 1876 Wakapuaka Nelson
7. Albert William PAGE born 21 February 1878 Wakapuaka Nelson
8. Florence PAGE born 28 July 1879 Wakapuaka Nelson
9. Ethel PAGE born 09 December 1880 Wakapuaka Nelson
10. Catherine Alice PAGE born 14 July 1882 Wakapuaka Nelson
11. Annie Amelia PAGE born 16 September 1884 Wakapuaka Nelson
12. Alfred Edgar PAGE born 30 April 1886 Wakapuaka Nelson

The family history of  
William PAGE and Caroline Louisa Henrietta MANSSEN

Caroline Louisa Henrietta MANSSEN was born about 1842 in Hamburg Germany. Her parents were George Henrich Conrad MASSNE and Johanna Catherine Elisabeth formerly LISAHL.

When Caroline was one year old she accompanied her parents and half brother Johann, on the "St Pauli" to Nelson. Little is known of her childhood, but while gathering information on her family's first years in Nelson, I have made a few conclusions about her life. Remember some of this story is supposition on my part and not fact.

Caroline was known affectionately as Lena. When she was aged about five years and living in Nelson Township, there was an addition to the family, her brother Charles. I believe Caroline attended the old brick schoolhouse in Nelson that was built by the New Zealand Company for the children of all denominations. This was followed by some teaching by the Lutheran Ministers who had been their neighbours while living in Upper Moutere.

In the 1849 census taken at Nelson, her family's records details that a female (Caroline) aged between 7-14 years, as being able to read only. Caroline would have been seven years old at this time. The following year her sister, Mary was born.

In 1853 Caroline was aged 11 years when she moved with her parents to Wakapuaka. It was in Wakapuaka that her youngest sister Eliza was born and then one year later, tragically died. It must have been very hard for Caroline, as I believe she would have blamed herself for her sister's death by drowning. She had to live with the fact that she had not gone to look

for her sister, when first asked by her mother. There are more details on Eliza's short life further on in the book.

Although I found records of Charles and Mary MANSSSEN attending Clifton Terrace School, I found not records of Caroline. Her father, George was on the Education Board for the area around the time. Caroline was probably needed to help out around the farm and assist her mother in the household duties. To enable the families on the farm to survive children's education took second place and many left school at an early age.

In the 1863 agreement between Caroline's parents, a William PAGE was recorded as the trustee for Johanna MANSSSEN, her mother. This would lead me to believe that Caroline was engaged to William PAGE. William and his family moved to Wakapuaka around the same time as Caroline's family. Caroline and William would have lived in the same area together for at least 13 years. They could have been childhood sweethearts.

On the 04 April 1865, at the Lower School House (Clifton Terrace) Suburban North, Caroline Louisa Henrietta MANSSAEN age 23 years married William PAGE age 24 years occupation Bricklayer. The witnesses at the wedding were Mary Elizabeth MANSSSEN (Caroline's sister), Thomas GILBERT the Schoolmaster of Suburban North and Johann Andreas Christian SEXTUS a Gardener of Nelson. Johann SEXTUS had accompanied his mother and stepfather to Nelson on the same ship as Caroline and her family. The Anglican minister Rev G H JOHNSTONE took the service.

Where did they start their married life? Did they live with Caroline's parents or with William's parents? The 1866 Electoral Roll had William PAGE living on part of section 7, Suburban North. This was the home of William's parents. Their first child a daughter was born in 1866. The birth was registered by Caroline's mother, which would lead me to believe they were now living with her.

In 1868 when a second daughter was born an entry in the Nelson Colonists reads:  
*On 11<sup>th</sup> July 1868 at Greendale Wakapuaka, Mrs W. Page a daughter.*

"Greendale" was the name of the house that I am now sure was owned by Johanna and George MANSSSEN.

From 1870 until 1879 the Electoral Rolls recorded William as living on part of section 20 Suburban North – The MANSSSEN section. All other Electoral Rolls just read "living in Suburban North" with no more details.

William PAGE made his mark (x) on the 1863 agreement, as he could not write. Later when he married he made the same mark. William registered the births of his children born in 1868, 1872, 1874, and 1876 and again made his mark with a cross, but on the birth registration of his son Albert William in 1878 he signed his name. William could now write. Caroline could write as she signed their marriage registration. She may have taught her husband to write.

Caroline and William had 12 children, nine girls and three boys all born in Wakapuaka Nelson.

In the early Suburban North Committee of Education register, I found many entries concerning William PAGE. The first record was on 02 April 1860 a payment of £3.04s.0d had been passed to Mr PAGE for rebuilding the chimney at Clifton Terrace School. (This

could have been William Page's father before he passed away in 1864). After this date the entries belong to our William PAGE.

On the 24 December 1864 the committee passed payment to William PAGE for building a chimney and fixing a stove for the Education Board. April 1866 William rebuilt the Hillside School chimney and raised the chimney at the schoolmaster's residence. A month later a stove was purchased and William was asked to install it but he was unable to do so and a Mr DOUGHTY completed the contract. October 1868, William rebuilt the chimney at Hillside School for £5 then August 1873 William built an oven for the Education Board. The register ended in 1877.

The 1866 birth registration of their youngest child a son Alfred recorded the father's occupation as Plasterer but on the Nelson Electoral Roll starting from 1881 onwards his occupation was recorded as Farmer.

William had the contract for the Suburban North mail in 1876 and was paid £46 a year (ref: Early Tide to Wakapuaka by P V Wastney). The facts show that William would turn his hand to any type of employment to provide for his large family.

A few relatives state that Caroline and William had a farm in Cheviot, but there is no trace of William living in Cheviot and it is only after the death of William that Caroline lived there in 1919. She later returned to Nelson where she lived until her death.

On the 01 October 1906 William PAGE passed away at Wakapuaka aged 66 years. He died from Cerebral Thrombosis and had been in a coma for three weeks. He was buried at the Nelson Cemetery (Wakapuaka) on the 03 October. The Church of England Minister Rev W.S. LUCAS took the service. William left a widow, Caroline and their 12 children.

Caroline continued to live at Wakapuaka until about 1919 then moved to Cheviot, where some of her married children were already living. The Nelson Electoral Roll later recorded Caroline living in Brightwater. I wonder if she went to live with other members of her family as some of her daughters lived in the area. Stories handed down say that she lived with her son Charles after the death of William. The 1925 Electoral Roll stated that Caroline was living in Richmond.

On the 01 January 1927 Caroline Louisa Henrietta PAGE passed away in Nelson Public Hospital at the age of 85 years. The death registration stated that her usual residence was Richmond. The cause of death was exhaustion and Caroline suffered carcinoma of the breast for three years. Rev John R DART and Anglican Minister took the service and Caroline was buried on 04 January alongside of her husband William at the Wakapuaka Cemetery. Caroline left behind her 12 children, 47 grandchildren and over 20 great grandchildren to mourn her passing.

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### Caroline and William PAGE their children and descendants

**1- Caroline Mary PAGE** born 19 February 1866 Wakapuaka Nelson NZ died 09 February 1930 married **Daniel BARNES**

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**2- Amy Elizabeth PAGE** born 11 July 1868 Wakapuaka Nelson NZ died 10 June 1937 married William **Thomas FROST**

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**3- Charles PAGE** born 25 January 1871 Wakapuaka Nelson NZ died 13 November 1953  
married **Olive Gertrude WRATTEN**

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**4- Lilian Ida PAGE** born 12 August 1872 Wakapuaka Nelson NZ died 21 July 1956 married  
**John Thomas BARNES**

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**5- Edith PAGE** born 27 June 1874 Wakapuaka Nelson NZ died 25 December 1953 married  
**Alfred John SLOSS**

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**6- Bertha PAGE** born 19 May 1876 Wakapuaka Nelson NZ died 09 March 1955 married  
**Frederick James LILEY**

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**7- Albert William PAGE** born 21 February 1878 Wakapuaka Nelson NZ died 12 April 1943  
married **Flora Alice BARNES**

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**8- Florence PAGE** born 28 July 1879 Wakapuaka Nelson NZ died 28 July 1954 married  
**Thomas George FLOWER**

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**9- Ethel PAGE** born 09 December 1880 Wakapuaka Nelson NZ died 06 August 1960  
married **Archibald SIMPSON**

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**10- Catherine Alice PAGE** born 14 July 1882 Wakapuaka Nelson NZ died 26 September  
1964 married **Herbert Samuel CLOSE**

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**11- Annie Amelia PAGE** born 16 September 1884 Wakapuaka Nelson NZ died 29 July  
1976 married **Edward READ**

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**12- Alfred Edgar PAGE** born 30 April 1886 Wakapuaka Nelson NZ died 20 November 1957  
married **Ruby Florence MOWATT**

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