

Wanganui District Library

Wanganui Portrait Collection

Most of the portraits in the collection were taken by photographer Thomas Tuffin.

Tuffin arrived in Wanganui from New Plymouth in 1860, operating his business in partnership with David Thompson from Church Place, until he left for Auckland in 1878.

Another early Wanganui photographer, William Harding, occasionally hired out his studio to other photographers. Tuffin used Harding's studio to take carte-de-visite portraits of early Wanganui settlers.

These visiting card-sized portraits were very popular in the 1860s and 70s. The brief craze for collecting albums of cards, particularly of prominent people, was known as 'cardomania'.

In 1966 Tom Barrett presented a collection of almost one hundred carte-de-visite portraits from his great-grandfather, Thomas Tuffin, to the Wanganui Branch of the New Zealand Founders Society

Tom Barrett had earlier asked Ewen Campbell (born 1843, Wanganui) to identify the people in the photographs and seventy of the portraits were able to be named.

Randal Springer reviewed the collection in 2003 and attempted to link the names to the Alexander Heritage & Research Library's Biographical Index entries

In 2005 the library began a project to fully catalogue the images. Many appear to have been cut from an album or scrapbook, with named images on one side and partial, unidentified images on the reverse.

The Alexander Heritage & Research Library welcomes information about the people and photographers featured in the portrait collection.



Title	Photographer	Reference Number
Unidentified woman	Hemus & Hanna Photographers, Auckland	NZC14.1.01
Unidentified woman	Not known	NZC14.1.02
Unidentified man	Not known	NZC14.1.03
Unidentified woman	Not known	NZC14.1.04
Unidentified woman	Not known	NZC14.1.05
Allison, Miss and Gilfillan, Miss	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.06
Allison, Mrs	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.07
Bell, Mrs David	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.08A
Unidentified woman	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.08B
Bayly, Mrs	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.09A
Unidentified woman	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.09B
Braithwaite, Mr G.F.	Not known	NZC14.1.10
Bridge, Mrs James	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.11
Buller, Sir Walter	Not known	NZC14.1.12
Burnett, Mrs M. and daughter	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.13A
Medley, Captain	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.13B
Campbell, Mrs J.	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.14
Campbell, Captain Moses	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.15A
Campbell, Mrs and Miss	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.15B
Unidentified man	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.15C
Mrs Campbell	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.16
Case, Mr and Mrs George	Dalton, Sydney, Australia	NZC14.1.17
Churton, Miss	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.18A
Unidentified man	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.18B
Collins, Mr and Mrs	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.19A
Unidentified man	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.19B

Title	Photographer	Reference Number
Cummins, Mr Snr.	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.20A
Cummins, Mrs	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.20B
Unidentified woman	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.20C
Duke of Edinburgh	D.. Thompson, Wanganui	NZC14.1.21
Durie, Miss	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.22A
Unidentified man	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.22B
Earle, Mrs	Thompson & Daley, Wanganui	NZC14.1.23
Elmslie, Rev J.	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.24A
Unidentified girl	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.24B
Field, Mr and Mrs H.C.	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.25A
Unidentified man	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.25B
Findlater, Mr	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.26
Fitchett, Rev A.R.	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.27A
Porter, Mr D.	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.27B
Foreman, Stephen	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.28A
Unidentified woman	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.28B
Garrett, Mr	Cater's Royal Fine Art Photographic Galleries, Auckland	NZC14.1.29
Garett, Mrs, nee Campbell	Not known	NZC14.1.30
Gibson, Mr George	Not known	NZC14.1.31
Gilfillan, Mr jnr.	W J Harding, Wanganui	NZC14.1.32
Gilfillan, Mr J.A. and Miss	Batchelder & O'Neill, Melbourne	NZC14.1.33
Godwin, Mrs	Not known	NZC14.1.34
Grey, Sir George	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.35
Hasted, Mr	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.36A
Unidentified woman	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.36B
Hazzard, Captain	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.37

Title	Photographer	Reference Number
Hewett, Miss	Not known	NZC14.1.38
Hewett, Mrs	Not known	NZC14.1.39
Higgie, Mrs	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.40A
A Fox Terrier dog and a white cat, both seated on a chair	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.40B
Hunter, Major	Possibly D Thompson, Wanganui	NZC14.1.41
Jones, Mr H.I.	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.42A
Unidentified woman	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.42B
Kells, Captain	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.43
Kershaw, Mr J.	Not known	NZC14.1.44
Unidentified woman	J Kirkwood, Wanganui	NZC14.1.45
Unidentified man & woman	J Kirkwood, Wanganui	NZC14.1.46
Lewis, Edward [full length portrait]	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.47
Lewis, Edward [head & shoulders portrait]	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.48
Linklater, Captain	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.49
Logan, Major	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.50A
Earle, Mrs	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.50B
McDonnah, Mrs	Not known	NZC14.1.51
McGregor, Mrs D.	Not known	NZC14.1.52A
Peake, Henry	Not known	NZC14.1.52B
McLean, Sir Donald	B. Peyman, Wanganui	NZC14.1.53
McWilliam, Mr	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.54A
Unidentified woman	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.54B
Menzies, Mrs	Not known	NZC14.1.55A
Unidentified woman	Not known	NZC14.1.55B
Kawana, Paipai of Putiki	B. Peyman, Wanganui	NZC14.1.56
Nicholls, Pastor C.H.S.	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.57A

Title	Photographer	Reference Number
Unidentified man	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.57B
Nicholls, Mrs	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.58A
Dr Peter Wilson	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.58B
Nixon, Major [holding a carved taurapa]	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.59A
Unidentified woman	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.59B
Peake, Henry	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.60A
Unidentified man	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.60B
Peake, Mr and Mrs Henry	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.61
Peake, Mr and Mrs Henry	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.62A
Unidentified girl	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.62B
Peake, Mr J	Not known	NZC14.1.63
Peake, Mrs J	Not known	NZC14.1.64
Perham, Mr H.J.	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.65
Unidentified man	B. Peyman, Wanganui	NZC14.1.66
Rawson, Mr H.R.	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.67
Reid, Mr T.	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.68A
Two unidentified women	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.68B
Ross, Frederick	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.69
Ross, Mr Hugh, solicitor	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.70A
Shields, Mrs	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.70B
Ross, Mr Hugh, solicitor	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.71
Russell, Sergeant and son	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.72A
Unidentified woman	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.72B
Sharpe, Mrs Captain,	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.73A
Unidentified family	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.73B
Shield, Mrs	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.74

Title	Photographer	Reference Number
Shield, Mrs	Not known	NZC14.1.75
Shields, Mr	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.76A
Unidentified man	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.76B
Sim, Mrs	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.77
Sim, Mr P.L.	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.78
Small, Mary Ann	Isaacs, Nelson	NZC14.1.79
Small, William	Not known	NZC14.1.80
Harper, Mr H.	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.81A
Napoleon III	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.81B
Harper, Mr Thomas	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.82A
Unidentified girl	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.82B
Howe, Mrs E.	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.83A
Unidentified man	Not known	NZC14.1.83B
Unidentified woman	Not known	NZC14.1.83C
Taylor, Rev. Richard	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.84A
Todd, Mrs Andrew	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.84B
Mrs Taylor	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.85A
Unidentified woman and child	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.85B
Miss Taylor	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.86A
Cunnabel, Mr & Mrs	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.86B
Thomas, Mr C.	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.87A
Unidentified woman	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.87B
Thompson, Mr D	D Thompson, Wanganui	NZC14.1.88
Unidentified boy	D Thompson, Wanganui	NZC14.1.89
Watkin, Rev. W.J.	Not known	NZC14.1.90
Watt, Mrs W.H.	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.91A

Title	Photographer	Reference Number
Cummin, Mr	Thomas Tuffin, Wanganui	NZC14.1.91B
Wicksteed, Arthur	Not known	NZC14.1.92
Wicksteed, Mrs John T.	Not known	NZC14.1.93
Wicksteed, Mrs John T. and Garrett, Mrs	Not known	NZC14.1.94
Wicksteed, John Tylston jnr.	Not known	NZC14.1.95
Wilson, Dr Peter	H Webster, Auckland	NZC14.1.96