

Celebrating 175 years of Manchester Unity in New Zealand

The rest of the original nine members ...

Brother Eli Cropper was a Mason. He was murdered at the Wairau Massacre on the 17th June 1843. There is a tall, white monument in the cemetery up on the hill above Tua Marina (on the way to Picton) which names all those killed in the massacre. His death led to the formation of the Widow and Orphans' Fund.

Brother Alexander McGee was a shoe maker and was initiated into Loyal Benevolent Lodge, Hyde District, England, on the 8th June 1829. He died on the 16th October 1855, aged 55 years, and is buried in a family plot at Fairfield Cemetery, upper Trafalgar Street, Nelson.

Brother Joshua Sigley was a carpenter, and he died in 1873 after leaving the Order. After many hours of searching the old section of the Wakapuaka Cemetery, Nelson, his gravestone was finally found, cleaned, and photographed recently for the booklet. His great grand-nephew, Brother Ray Sigley, was the Nelson District Treasurer from 1961 - 63, and District Secretary from 1963 - 71.

Brother Andrew Paterson was a joiner and he left the Province for Marlborough in 1854. He died in Canterbury in 1871. His burial site is unknown.

The remaining two of the original nine members, Brothers Enoch Nichol and John Hanley, moved to Australia in the late 1840's and their final resting places are unknown.

To be continued ...

**Excerpts from the Booklet "Trials and Triumphs" -
1842 to 2017**

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