

**Dani Schreier from the University of Zurich, Switzerland: Semester
2 2018**

Where have you come from and what do you teach?

I am based at the University of Zurich, Switzerland, where I teach courses on synchronic English linguistics. My area of specialisation is language variation and change, the diffusion of English varieties around the world and the sociolinguistics of English as a world language. I have compiled the largest database on New Zealand English, containing the speech of hundreds of New Zealanders born between the late 1850s (literally off the boat) and the early 21st century. This gives linguists a fantastic opportunity to analyse new dialect formation and ongoing language change over a period of more than 150 years and has been instrumental in modelling complex contact-based change mechanisms. There is also a personal dimension: I spent my post-doc here, working on the Origins of New Zealand English project, so have been in contact