

The Family History - Summary

The origins of the family had simple beginnings and the following summary has been pieced together based on the below Almanac, information and the records compiled by the various descendants of Richard and Jane.

Richard Carpenter was born in London, England, was an errand boy charged with stealing a shirt and sentenced to 7 years transportation as a convict to NSW in 1837. Jane Whittle was from Glasgow, Scotland, was a child's maid, charged with house breaking, and sentenced to 10 years transportation as a convict to NSW in 1839.

Extensive research has yet to establish any definite family links to England and Scotland. Unfortunately Richard's UK trial records were lost in a fire in the late 1800's and with that the possibility of easily identifying his family links where lost.

Richard and Jane were married in Newcastle in 1845. This was the start of a large family of over 3,400 known individual, with over 2,260 direct descendants that now extends to 8 generations. The number of known individuals is estimated to be over 90% of the total likely descendants of Richard and Jane.

It's noted that on their convict records that both Richard's and Jane's complexion was described as "dark and freckled" and "dark ruby and freckled". This is the most likely reason that accounts for the dark complexion that has occurred in subsequent generations, in particular those that have frequent exposure to sun. There has been some conjecture from examination of Jane's portrait, and portraits of some of her children, which suggests "Romany gypsy", "Spanish" and even "American Indian" in the family bloodline. While such suggestion is plausible, considering early 1800 English history, there is no current evidence to confirm or disprove such a claim. The only clue we have is the oral history passed down to the current generations.

In late 1848 or early 1849 the Carpenter family (Richard, Jane, Richard jnr, Samuel, Thomas and most likely the infants Joseph and Henry Sewell) appear to have moved from the Newcastle region to the New England. In 1849 it is recorded that Richard was a carrier on the 'Terrible Vale' run and Jane was the midwife at the birth on 15 August of Frederick George Taylor, the fifth child of the property lease holder William Tydd and Margaretta Lucy Taylor. Frederick was the first of the Taylor children to be born at 'Terrible Vale' as prior children were born at 'Oakville' and 'Thrumster' near Port Macquarie.

It is plausible, because of Richard's vocation and Jane's presence at Frederick's birth, that there was a prior and a long-term business association between the Carpenter and Taylor families. Richard and Jane's son Job was born at 'Terrible Vale' in 1857, with two prior children (Harriet 1849 and Jane 1851) born in the district, while the family were at Tia (near Walcha) and 'Tiara'. There is no known record of Richard and Jane being on the payroll or roster of 'Terrible Vale' employees and therefore it has to be assumed that Richard was a contractor.

The wages of employees on rural properties in those times were meagre, but it is noted that in the 1850's 'Terrible Vale' paid 24 shillings per bail of wool for carriage to Morpeth (near Maitland). With the cartage of around 20 bails per bullock dray, plus the return trip with supplies, and other carrier work resulting from the discovery of gold at Rocky Creek (Uralla) in the mid 1850's, a carrier could make a good living. This is the likely means that Richard was able to accumulate funds to take up the selections of land at 'London Valley', 'Big Ridge' and others north east of Uralla.

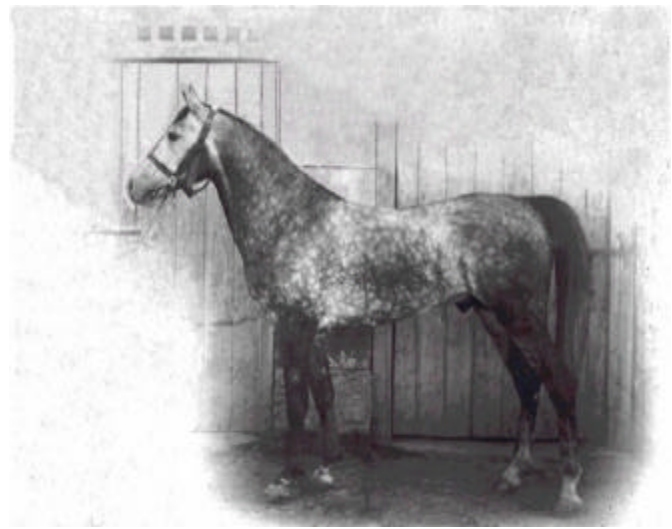
From the early 1860's and for the next 3 decades there are records of births, marriages and deaths that shows the Carpenter family lived and work at 'Bald Nobs', 'London Valley', 'Big Ridge' and

'Dangers' as shown by the following Almanac. The extended family appears to have worked the properties, farmed and continued with the 'carrier' business.

Because of the association of the Taylor family, Carpenter and Sewell families at 'Terrible Vale' in the years 1849-1857, the book by Elizabeth Gardiner titled "*Terrible Vale – No time like the past*" has been an informative reference to develop this likely family story.

The Carpenter and Sewell family appear to have had a longer association from the mid 1840's in Newcastle, in the later 1850's at 'Terrible Vale' and to the marriage of Henry at 'Big Ridge' in 1872

Richard Carpenter was charged with illegal insolvency in 1873 and after length hearings before a Police Magistrate, an enquiry by a Coroner and after a jury trial he was imprisoned for 4 years. The cases were extensively reported in the Armidale Express newspaper and a summary is included on the following pages.



"Butler" – The race horse owned by Richard

The family's affinity with horses appears to have started with Richard, being a carrier and owning a racehorse, then passed on to subsequent generation and family lines. As examples of this affinity, Richard's son Job was a racehorse owner; his grandsons Job, Thomas and Ernest John were owners and even were involved with harness racing (trotting). Richard's grandchildren, Ernest Cecil "Sticky" and Levina "Vena" were successful horse riders, drivers or show and rodeo riders. Vena's riding history extended over 50 years and included the "International Cowgirl Buck Jumping Champion" at the 1940 Royal Easter Show. A current generation descendant is a full time racehorse trainer and throughout the various sections it is apparent that horses have played a bit in many families lives. In actual fact, horses were the cause of a dispute within the family that labelled one of Richard's sons a "horse thief" (see Section 9).

A chart showing the extended Carpenter family, covering the first 3 generations, is provide in following pages. The vast majority of the current generations live within of NSW and Queensland; in the regions between Sydney to Moree, Moree to Brisbane, then back down the coast back to Sydney.

This family history is the product of research by several dedicated family members. The research has been a labour of love for them; with some at it for over two decades. Ongoing research will continue to find those elusive relatives.

Revised 26 May 2005

The descendants of Joseph Sewell & Jane Whittle

30 September 2004

	NSW Register of BD&M		
	Birth	Marriage	Death
1. Joseph SEWELL (b.1807 d.1844)			
sp: Jean / Jane WHITTLE (b.1822 m.1840 d.1889)		V1840583 24B/1840	V1844887 29/1844 12951/1889
-2. Joseph SEWELL (b.1842)	V18421596 26A/1842		
-2. Henry SEWELL (b.1844 d.1882)	V18442384 28/1844	1459/1872	
sp: Mary Ann CLUTTERBUCK (b.1953 m.1872)			
-3. Richard Henry SEWELL (b.1873 d.1940)	6304/1873		3283/1940
sp: Louisa Julia GRIFFIN nee Cox (b.1866 m.1895 d.1953)	8142/1866	5078/1895	
-4. Ivy SEWELL (b.1897 d.1897)	980/1897		428/1897
-4. Angeline Ivy SEWELL (b.1898)	9833/1898	3413/1916	
sp: Clarence George WORRELL (m.1916)			
-5 Cyril Stanley WORRELL (b.1916)	31899/1916	2971/1936	
sp: Beryl May COLES (b.1916 m.1936)	47766/1916		
-6 Avon Herbert WORRELL (d.1938)		-	20727/1938
-4. Aaron D SEWELL (b.1900)	34705/1900	7744/1923	
sp: Vera A JOBSON (b.1906 m.1923)	18845/1906		
-4. Miriam SEWELL (b.1904)	6465/1904	6354/1925	
sp: Robert K LOWE (b.1905 m.1925)	8407/1905		
-4. Thelma Juanita Louisa SEWELL (b.1908)	27027/1908	5982/1928	
sp: Fredrick Charles STANLEY (b.1899 m.1928)	25814/1889		
-5 Athol Pelham STANLEY (d.1938)		-	25771/1938
-4. Vincent H SEWELL (b.1911)	6616/1911	14859/1935	
sp: Bonnie J FLEMING (b.1917 m.1935)	40426/1917		
-4. Zena SEWELL (b.1914)	34149/1914	11257/1932	
sp: Kenneth F BATTERSBY (m.1932)	1001/1912		
-3. William Wallace SEWELL (b.1874)	6568/1874	10225/1931	
sp: Florence Elizabeth HINITT (b.1910 m.1931)	44116/1910		
-4. Laurence William SEWELL (d.1937)		-	7507/1937
-3. Edward SEWELL (b.1878)	7733/1878	18776/1934	
sp: Elsie A BARKER (b.1910 m.1934)	20583/1910		
-3. Thomas SEWELL (b.1880)	9080/1880		
-3. Henry SEWELL (b.1882)	24911/1882		1185/1882

The above research, completed by Noelene Deas, Frank Jones and Rod Carpenter, is based purely on the NSW Register of BDM. At this time, we do not have a family contact that may be able to confirm or correct the data presented