

*Jane Rickard*  
(*alias Jane Algar; uxor Jane Rudderforth*)

POLICE NUMBER 225 <sup>1</sup>	LITERACY read only
TRIAL DATE 26 October 1840	AGE ON EMBARKATION 33
TRIAL PLACE Devon (Plymouth) Quarter Sessions	AGE ON ARRIVAL 34
OFFENCE stealing money from the person	HEIGHT 5' 2¼"
SENTENCE 10 years	COMPLEXION fair
GAOL REPORT addicted to pilfering and drinking, married	HEAD oval
PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS first offence	HAIR black
SURGEON'S REPORT quiet	VISAGE oval
ON THE TOWN no	FOREHEAD wrinkled
MARITAL STATUS widow <sup>2</sup>	EYEBROWS light brown
CHILDREN 0	EYES dark brown
FAMILY	NOSE long
NATIVE PLACE Plymouth, England	MOUTH wide
TRADE ON EMBARKATION bonnet maker	CHIN round
TRADE ON ARRIVAL house servant, straw bonnet maker, wash, plain iron	MARKS black mark on left leg

c1807 **Born** at Plymouth, Devonshire, England.<sup>3</sup>

26 October 1840 Tried at Devon Quarter Sessions, Plymouth, Devonshire, England indicted for larceny in stealing from the person; sentence 10 years transportation.<sup>4</sup>

5 April 1841 Departed Woolwich, England on the *Rajah*.<sup>5</sup>

19 July 1841 Arrived at Hobart on the *Rajah*.<sup>5</sup>

c24 July 1841 Upon arrival at Hobart, assigned to Mr Russell, Davey Street, Hobart.<sup>6</sup>

31 December 1841 Mustered in the service of Mr Russell, Hobart.<sup>7</sup>

27 December 1842<sup>8</sup> Charged at the Police Court, Hobart on complaint of Constable Layton with being drunk and in company with a man last night; in the service of Mrs Russell, New Town; plea guilty; reprimanded and discharged being her first offence and Mrs Russell speaking in her favour.<sup>9</sup>

9 January 1843 Application for permission to marry Joseph Mitchell (free) sent to the Muster Master; under sentence.<sup>10</sup>

11 January 1843 Charged at the Police Court, Hobart on the complaint of her master with misconduct in being absent without leave and returning drunk yesterday; in the service of Mr Russell; plea not guilty; sentence 3 months at the wash tub at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>1</sup> TAHO, CON40/1/8 p.260 No.225 [image 207] (Jane Rickard); TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.245 [image 126] (Jane Rickard); ML, CY 1282 p.152 (Jane Rickard); ML, CY 1197 p.154 (Jane Richard alias Algar); ML, CY 958 p.442 (Jane Rickard alias Jane Algar)

<sup>2</sup> Marital status given as married on Embarkation List (ML, CY 1197 p.154).

<sup>3</sup> TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.245 [image 126] (Jane Rickard)

<sup>4</sup> TAHO, CON40/1/8 p.260 No.225 [image 207] (Jane Rickard)

<sup>5</sup> AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah*

<sup>6</sup> ML, CY 1274 p.261 (Jane Rickard)

<sup>7</sup> AJCP, HO 10/51 p.392 No.225 (Jane Rickard)

<sup>8</sup> There was another charge on Jane's conduct record for this date where she was stated as being absent all night without leave from the service of Abbott and sentenced to 6 days' solitary confinement at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. This charge does not appear in the lower court records (TAHO, AC480/1/1) so it is likely it applies to another convict and was mistakenly recorded on Jane's record as Jane was in service to Mr and Mrs Russell at this time.

<sup>9</sup> TAHO, A 480/1/1, 27 December 1842 (Jane Rickards)

<sup>10</sup> TAHO, CON52/1/2 p.119 (Jane Rickard & Joseph Mitchell)

<sup>11</sup> TAHO, AC480/1/1, 11 January 1843 (Jane Rickard)

This biography supplements our book *Patchwork Prisoners* available from [www.researchtasmania.com.au](http://www.researchtasmania.com.au).

Statement of witness Mr William Russell:

*The prisoner left my house yesterday morning without leave, in about an hour after she returned very drunk, dropped my child on the kitchen, and was then very abusive to Mrs Russell.*<sup>11</sup>

- 16 November 1843 Charged at the Police Court, Hobart by Constable Hawkins with being drunk yesterday; in the service of Mrs Garrett, New Town Road, Hobart; sentence 1 month hard labour at the wash tub at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart.<sup>12</sup>
- 26 February 1844 Application for permission to marry William Rudderforth<sup>13</sup> (free) sent to the Muster Master.<sup>14</sup>
- 13 March 1844 Application for permission to marry William Rudderforth sent to the Secretary; approved.<sup>14</sup>
- 20 March 1844 Notice given of approval for permission to marry William Rudderforth; Jane in assigned service at Hobart; William free.<sup>15</sup>
- 1 April 1844 **Married** William Rudderforth at St David's Anglican Church, Hobart; Jane aged 36, widow, illiterate; William aged 40, blacksmith, bachelor, illiterate; witnesses John Whitton and Mary Porter.<sup>16</sup>
- 11 April 1844 Classified as a 2<sup>nd</sup> class probation pass-holder; gazetted 12 April.<sup>17</sup>
- 30 April 1844 Charged at the Police Court, Hobart by Constable Daley with being drunk last night; in the service of Mr Garrett; sentence 1 month hard labour at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart.<sup>18</sup>
- 8 August 1844 Charged at the Police Court, Hobart by Constable Haynescock with being drunk last night; plea guilty; sentence 10 days in solitary confinement at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart.<sup>19</sup>
- 31 August 1844 Promoted from a 2<sup>nd</sup> class to a 3<sup>rd</sup> class probation pass-holder; gazetted 6 September.<sup>20</sup>
- 26<sup>21</sup> December 1844 Charged at the Police Court, Hobart by Constable Appleby with being drunk yesterday; plea not guilty; sentence 14 days in solitary confinement<sup>22</sup> at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart.<sup>23</sup>
- 26 October 1850 Free by servitude.<sup>4</sup>

## Notes

- Jane and William may be the Mr and Mrs Rudderforth who departed Hobart on 29 March 1860 and arrived at Hobson's Bay, VIC on 2 March 1860 as saloon passengers on board the *City of Hobart*.<sup>24</sup> This is more likely, however, to be Thomas Rudderforth and his wife.

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<sup>12</sup> TAHO, AC480/1/1, 16 November 1843 (Jane Rickards)

<sup>13</sup> There is no William Rudderforth on the index to Tasmanian convicts.

<sup>14</sup> TAHO, CON52/1/2 p.171 (Jane Rickards & Wm Rudderforth)

<sup>15</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 22 March 1844 p.325; 29 March 1844 p.350; 5 April 1844 p.388 (William Rudderforth & Jane Rickard)

<sup>16</sup> TAHO, RGD37/1/3 1844/1178 Hobart (Jane Rickards & William Rudderforth)

<sup>17</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 12 April 1844 p.426 (Jane Rickard)

<sup>18</sup> TAHO, AC480/1/1, 30 April 1844 (Jane Rickards)

<sup>19</sup> TAHO, AC480/1/1, 8 August 1844 (Jane Rickard)

<sup>20</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 6 September 1844 p.1074 (Jane Rickard)

<sup>21</sup> Conduct record has date as 25 December 1844.

<sup>22</sup> Lower court record has sentence as hard labour.

<sup>23</sup> TAHO, AC480/1/1, 26 December 1844 (Jane Rickard)

<sup>24</sup> *Argus*, 5 March 1860 p.4 (Mr. & Mrs. Rudderforth)

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