

# About the making of the CD



Jean Jeggo

Val says:

‘Like so many interesting occupations in life, the business of putting this CD together dropped upon each of us without our having any idea at the time of how it was going to take us over.’

The photographs of each Register page had been made by Terry Burchall, and all that was needed was for them to be put on a CD —  
— which shouldn’t be too difficult.



Val Fiddian

Jean says:

‘As a Family Historian who had contributed to Val’s website, I was asked what I thought about such a disk, would I buy it and how much it ought to cost, and I suggested that a translation of the old handwriting might be a good idea.

Val suggested I might like to look at ‘a few pages’. Without intending to, I became addicted.’

We both know that our qualifications to undertake such a work as this has turned out to be, are slim. Val has experience of website designing but no leanings towards old handwriting at all; Jean, though she has had the experience of transcribing 18th-century letters where the writing was ‘crossed’, has not been saturated in the rigid rules of professional palaeography. However, with the detailed encouragement and inspiration of John Algar in Swansea — who in his own words ‘had been taught and had practised specific methodology over a 20+ year period’ and who found it ‘very hard to consider alternatives’ — a final set of rules was adopted, listed and carefully followed. In addition to this we have made use of the note facility, which Adobe Acrobat provides, to draw attention to debateable items that crop up in the ancient handwriting without, we hope, annoying those who are not interested or those who know it all already!

This disk is an adventure, and we don’t believe anything quite like it has been done before. We hope that it will be as much an enjoyable experience to those who explore it, as it has been to us in the making of it.

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