

2024
MAY-AUG

GUILDHALL LIBRARY

The Library of London History

EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS



Tuesday 21 May, 2-3pm

**THE GREEN MAN:
THE CARVINGS
AND THE DEBATE**



Wednesday 12 June, 2-4pm

THE CITY IN PRINT



Wednesday 7 August, 2-3pm

**LONDON'S LARDERS:
THE MARKETS OF THE
CITY OF LONDON**



Guildhall Library

Aldermanbury, London EC2V 7HH

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EVENTS ARE FREE UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED AND WILL BE TAKING PLACE EITHER ONLINE, ONSITE OR BOTH (HYBRID); EXCEPT WALKS. BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL AND WE CANNOT ENSURE A PLACE WITHOUT A TICKET. DETAILS OF HOW TO BOOK CAN BE FOUND ON THE BACK PAGE.

EVENTS

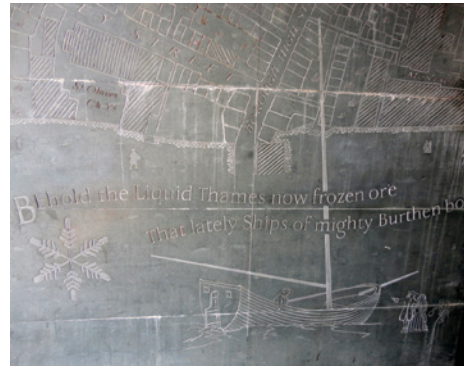
Wednesday 1 May, 2-3pm ART AND LITERATURE

The link between art and literature is crucial to an understanding of much of the art of the past. For centuries the Bible, Greek and Latin writers provided the main inspiration. The closer art was to literature the greater the art. Later artists could be inspired by more recent great literature, such as the works of Dante and Shakespeare and, especially in England, Milton and the Romantic Poets. Join Val Woodgate Arts Society Lecturer to find out more.



Thursday 2 May, 2-3pm THE BIRD IN ART

From prehistory to the present day, in Egyptian tomb decorations and as Christian symbols, birds are to be found in many of the world's greatest works of art. Paintings by artists as diverse as Dürer and Picasso and sculptures by Brancusi and Elisabeth Frink, amongst others, show birds of many different shapes and sizes, as both hunters and the hunted. Join Frank Woodgate, Arts Society Lecturer to learn more.



Wednesday 8 May, 2-3pm CITY LIMITS: SOUTHWARK

Southwark can still surprise. In this talk by Pete Smith, you will encounter a sailing ship that has circled the globe and a famous food market. Join us to find out more.

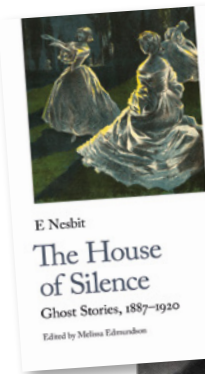


Thursday 9 May, 2-4pm WALK: OVER THE BRIDGE

Southwark is much more than the City of London's neighbour on "the wrong side of the river". Its story goes back to the earliest settlement of London by the Romans, and its development has involved Viking invaders, Elizabethan actors, a great hospital, Bridget Jones and more than one poet. Join Pete Smith on this walk which starts between the spike and the City dragon at the south end of London Bridge.
£10 plus booking fee
Meet between the spike and the City dragon at the south end of London Bridge.

Tuesday 14 May, 2-3pm ONLINE ONLY THE GHOST STORIES OF E NESBIT

Join Kate Macdonald of Handheld Press to celebrate the publication of the tenth Handheld Weird: *The House of Silence*, *Ghost stories 1887-1920* by E Nesbit. E Nesbit is one of the most famous British Edwardian storytellers for children, but few remember that she was an acclaimed writer of scary short fiction for the adult market.

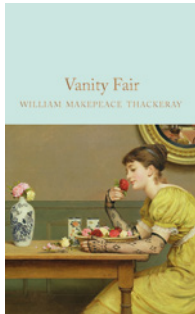


Thursday 16 May, 2-3pm A VIRTUAL TOUR OF ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

Take a Virtual Tour of St Paul's with City of London Guide & Lecturer and St Paul's Cathedral Guide Jill Finch. The tour covers the history of the iconic building on Ludgate Hill, some of the many memorials, Wren (of course) and his Dome. The beautiful 19th century mosaics are also included - enjoy the glories of St Paul's from the comfort of your home.

Monday 20 May, 7-8pm ONLINE ONLY BOOK CLUB: VANITY FAIR BY WILLIAM THACKERAY

Guildhall Library book club facilitated by Assistant Librarian Isabelle Chevallot. We will discuss William Thackeray's 1845 masterpiece *Vanity Fair*.
£7 plus booking fee



EVENTS



Tuesday 21 May, 2-3pm THE GREEN MAN: THE CARVINGS AND THE DEBATE

This once obscure carving - half-man, half-greenery - is found abundantly in medieval churches, but has recently risen to prominence because it symbolically reflects the ecological movement. A review of the many theories that attempt to explain his origin and meaning. Join City Guide Robert Stephenson to find out more.

Tuesday 28 May, 2-3pm ONLINE ONLY KINGS AND QUEENS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM

The British Museum was founded when George II gave Royal Assent to the Act of Parliament in 1753. He donated the Royal Library to the Museum and ever since monarchs have been generous patrons to the museum. We will examine how that generosity added to the collection but also see how objects belonging to

British Monarchs or inspired by British Monarchs have become part of the collection. Join Dr William Sterling to find out more.



Wednesday 29 May, 2-3pm RENOIR AND IMPRESSIONISM

Pierre-August Renoir (1841-1919) is one of the best-known and most popular artists of the Impressionist group and has been described as "the master of dappled light". After a visit to Italy in 1881 he moved away from Impressionism and towards a neo-classical style known by some as his 'Ingres period'. This lecture will contain examples of Renoir's work throughout his life and compare and contrast it with other major Impressionists, particularly his close friend Monet, after whose 'Impression Sunrise' of 1873 the movement was named. Join Frank Woodgate Arts Society Lecturer to find out more.



Monday 3 June, 2-3pm HISTORY AND TREASURES OF GUILDHALL LIBRARY

Join our librarians to learn about the history of Guildhall Library, and view some of the library's amazing treasures. Limited places available



Tuesday 4 June, 2-3pm CITY SCRIBBLERS

From Geoffrey Chaucer to Hilary Mantel, London has housed and inspired a wide spectrum of writers. "City Scribblers" examines the often eccentric contributions to literature and the life of the Square Mile made by a number of them. Join City Guide Pete Smith to learn more.

Thursday 6 June, 11am-1pm WALK: CITY OF ANGELS

From seraphim to cherubim to archangels and fallen angels, these celestial heralds have long captured hearts and imaginations. Discover angels as public art, as monument and as memorial within the historic churches, beautiful gardens and hidden corners of the unique square mile with Alexandra Epps, City of London Guide and Arts Society Lecturer. Angels are all around us - we just need to know where to look! £25 plus booking fee (Includes hire of headset) Meeting point by the London Troops War Memorial outside The Royal Exchange EC3V 3LL.



EVENTS



Tuesday 11 June, 2-3pm **ONLINE ONLY**

THE LOST NOVELS OF A FORGOTTEN WOMAN AUTHOR: FAITH COMPTON MACKENZIE

Join Kate Macdonald of Handheld Press to celebrate the publication of a new edition of Faith Compton Mackenzie's first and last books: *Tatting and Mandolinata*. Faith was the first wife of celebrated author Compton Mackenzie, but her own achievements have been submerged under the weight of his fame and his colossal literary output. Rediscover a forgotten woman author who knew the most scandalous artists of the early 20th century.



Wednesday 12 June, 2-4pm

WALK: THE CITY IN PRINT

Pete Smith will introduce you to what was until recently London's Street of Ink. Be prepared to meet: a printer's devil, a literary cat, Dennis the Menace, a millionaire who once sold newspapers on a street corner, and a memorial to cremated books. £10 plus booking fee
Meet at Panyer Alley next to the cathedral exit of St Paul's Underground Station.



Friday 7 June, 2-4pm

WALK: POETS, PLAYWRIGHTS AND PUBLISHERS

On this walk with Pete Smith, you will discover: the street with no chaste maids; the place where Mr Pickwick stood trial and a modern novelist vowed to spend £20,000.00 on booze; the bank where a children's writer was nearly gunned down; and the church that unites a 17th century poet, a 20th century Poet Laureate and a Belgian fictional detective. £10 plus booking fee
Meet outside Guildhall Art Gallery in Guildhall Yard EC2V 7HH.

Monday 17 June, 11am-1pm

WALK: THE CITY CHURCHES OF CHRISTOPHER WREN

The aftermath of the Great Fire of London provided an opportunity for a young architect to redesign the religious look of the City. Christopher Wren did not just build a new cathedral and a few churches; he created a Skyline – a City of Spires. This walk with City of London Guide Jill Finch looks at some of the churches rebuilt by The Office of Wren in the 17th century Square Mile. £10 plus booking fee
Meet at outside Caffe Nero by St Paul's tube station (take exit 3).



Monday 24 June 7-8pm **ONLINE ONLY**

BOOK CLUB: BLEAK HOUSE

Guildhall Library book club facilitated by Assistant Librarian Isabelle Chevallot. We will discuss *Bleak House*, by Charles Dickens, published serially in 1852-53 and in book form in 1853 and considered to be among the author's best work. £7 plus booking fee

Tuesday 18 June, 2-3pm

AN ARTIST'S BEST FRIEND – THE DOG IN ART

Dogs are man's most loyal and forgiving friend and have provided inspiration, solace and companionship throughout a variety of artistic lives. From the poignancy of Landseer, Queen Victoria's favourite animal painter, to Picasso's obsession with a dachshund called Lump to the whippets of Freud and so many more, discover the role dogs have played in an artist's life and many of the masterpieces they have inspired. Join Alexandra Epps Arts Society Lecturer to find out more.



EVENTS



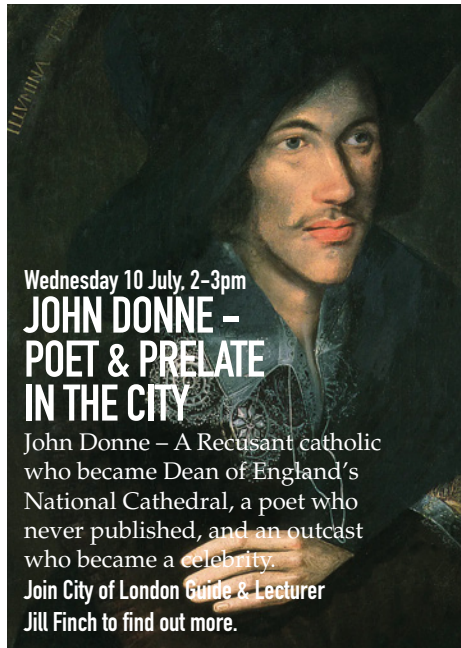
Tuesday 25 June, 2-3pm **BOMBS & BRAVERY: ST PAUL'S IN WARTIME**

Christopher Wren's Cathedral rose like a Phoenix from the flames of the Great Fire of 1666. The constant bombing of the City during World War II was sometimes called 'The Second Great Fire of London'. So much was destroyed, so much disappeared. But St Paul's still stands. This talk by City of London Guide & Lecturer and Cathedral Guide Jill Finch is about the bravery and commitment of those who defended St Paul's throughout the war, preserving Wren's baroque masterpiece on Ludgate Hill.



Wednesday 3 July, 2-3pm **'CRATER LONDON'**

The City is reflected in a wealth of features named throughout the Solar System. Robert Hooke has been described as the father of lunar geology. Shakespeare and Wren craters nightly pass across the firmament and named asteroids abound. Careful and subtle thought can be identified in naming along with a sense of humour. Who decides? Have names stood the test of time? Lester Hillman charts the City beyond Earthly bounds.



Wednesday 10 July, 2-3pm **JOHN DONNE – POET & PRELATE IN THE CITY**

John Donne – A Recusant catholic who became Dean of England's National Cathedral, a poet who never published, and an outcast who became a celebrity. Join City of London Guide & Lecturer Jill Finch to find out more.

Thursday 11 July, 2-3pm **GLORIOUS WARTIME ROMANCE FROM SYLVIA THOMPSON**

Join Kate Macdonald of Handheld Press and Professor Faye Hammill of Glasgow University for a special in-person talk at the Guildhall Library to celebrate the rediscovery of acclaimed interwar novelist Sylvia Thompson, and the new edition of her swooningly romantic pre-war romance, *The Gulls Fly Inland*, between a young Frenchwoman and the handsome brother of her American best friend, and the machinations others put in place to keep them apart.



Tuesday 16 July, 2-3pm **ONLINE ONLY** **THE SEVEN WONDERS OF THE WORLD AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM**

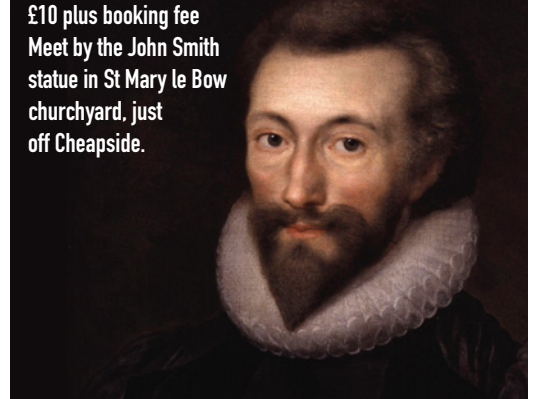
The British Museum contains the best-preserved sculptures from two of the Seven Wonders of the World, the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus and the Temple of Artemis at Ephesus. No other museum is so fortunate. The museum also has objects associated with each of the other Seven Wonders. Using these objects we will examine how the

Wednesday 17 July, 11am-1pm

WALK: **JOHN DONNE – POET & PRELATE IN THE CITY**

Donne was born in Bread Street in the City of London, within the sound of Bow Bells and very near St Paul's Cathedral where he became Dean. His geographical journey was quite short; his spiritual one a bit more complex. Join City of London Guide & Lecturer Jill Finch to follow in Donne's footsteps through the dangerous streets of 16th and 17th century London.

£10 plus booking fee
Meet by the John Smith statue in St Mary le Bow churchyard, just off Cheapside.



list started over 2000 years ago and how it evolved over time reflecting our continuing fascination with Wonder. Join Dr William Sterling to find out more.

EVENTS



Thursday 18 July, 2-3pm LONDON'S VILLAGES: BERMONDSEY AND ROTHERHITHE

Once one of the busiest stretches of the Thames, this area has more than its share of curious features. Join Pete Smith to learn more about: a saintly doctor, a bunch of pirates, a prince from a Pacific island, a shipful of nonconformists bound for the Americas and many more strange stories of these riverside villages.

Friday 19 July, 2-4pm

WALK: ON FOOT THROUGH DARKEST BERMONDSEY

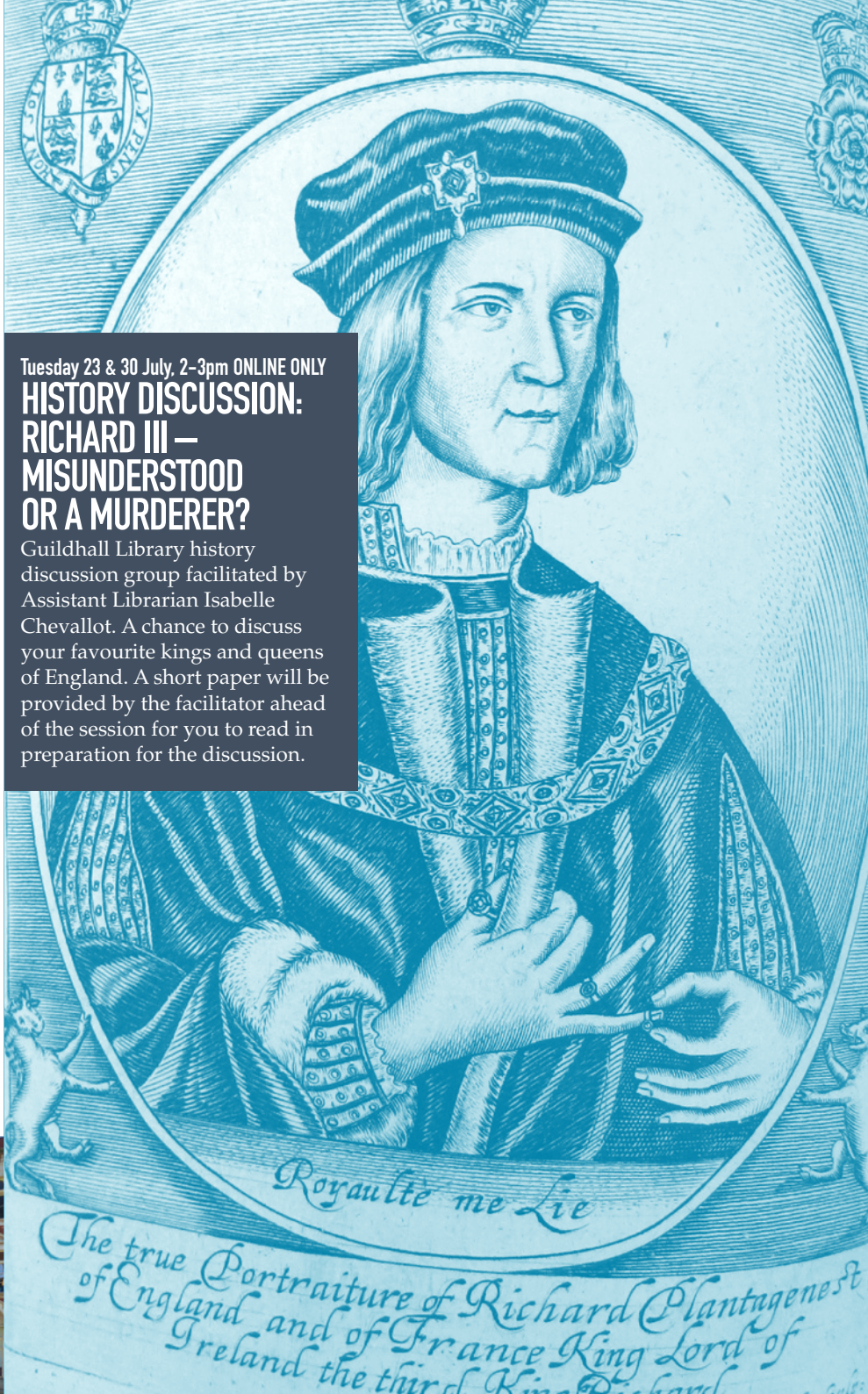
The route of this walk by Pete Smith will reveal some of the variety of this historic quarter of London. Along the way, you will learn: the uses of the devil's neckerchief, the advantages of a night market where very dubious goods might be on sale, why some hatters could well have been 'mad', and why the parish church needed a watch house.

£10 plus booking fee
Meet opposite Platforms
10 and 11 of London
Bridge Mainline Station.



Tuesday 23 & 30 July, 2-3pm ONLINE ONLY HISTORY DISCUSSION: RICHARD III — MISUNDERSTOOD OR A MURDERER?

Guildhall Library history discussion group facilitated by Assistant Librarian Isabelle Chevallot. A chance to discuss your favourite kings and queens of England. A short paper will be provided by the facilitator ahead of the session for you to read in preparation for the discussion.



Wednesday 24 July, 2-4pm

WALK: ROTHERHITHE TO LONDON BRIDGE

Meet Pete Smith outside Rotherhithe Overground Station for a two-hour walk with spectacular riverside views. The route takes us from the southern end of Marc Brunel's tunnel under the Thames to the two most famous bridges over it. On the way, you will discover a prince's tomb, the site of a king's forgotten palace, a pub that flies the Stars and Stripes, an execution site and a fish called Wanda.

£10 plus booking fee

Meet outside Rotherhithe Overground Station.

EVENTS

Thursday 1 August, 2-3pm

CINDERS IN THE DRIPPING PAN: COOKING IN THE GEORGIAN KITCHEN

Cooking in a Georgian kitchen required immense skill as cooks struggled to control the temperature of an open range, refined sugar, kept the ale-yeast alive, fed the bread oven, churned ice-cream in salt and ice, mixed, pureed, sieved, juiced, rolled, chopped, baked, roasted and boiled without any electricity or gas and virtually no mechanical aids.

Discover through prints, paintings, book illustrations and surviving Georgian kitchens and equipment, how a cook used the myriad of tools, moulds, boards and pots to store, prepare and cook a remarkably diverse menu of dishes. But we will also discover that not everyone had the skills to achieve the hoped for results and some would have committed the ultimate sin of letting the cinders from the range fall into the dripping pan. Join Dr Peter Ross Art Society Lecturer to learn more.



Wednesday 7 August, 2-3pm

LONDON'S LARDERS: THE MARKETS OF THE CITY OF LONDON

Feeding the capital has always been a priority. In this talk, Pete Smith tells the story of the City's markets and how they have developed over the centuries, coping through war, fire and pestilence to sustain an ever-growing population. The main focus will be on the growth of the great markets of the City.



Thursday 8 August, 2-4.30pm

WALK: BLOOD, BLACK HEARTS AND BOOZE

The vicinity of Smithfield Market has been associated with bloodshed and butchery (human as well as animal!) for a thousand years, but butchery and beer have long been close companions, and this area is also the City's "pub heaven". On this walk, which starts from outside Farringdon Station, we shall be discovering what Londoners blamed the Great Fire on, what fair became so scandalous that the Victorians closed it down, which pub became the "Court of Dusty Feet" and how many ghosts drink in a single City tavern. Because we shall be calling at two or more outstanding pubs, this walk will last between two and two-and-a-half hours.

£10 plus booking fee

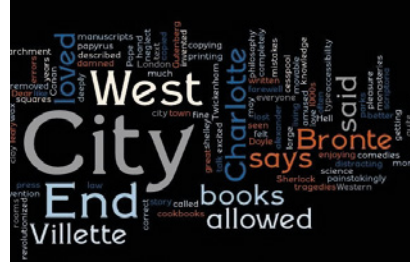
Meet outside

Farringdon
Station.

EVENTS

Tuesday 13 August, 2-3pm FROM FIELDS TO FOCACCIA - THE CHANGING FACE OF KENTISH TOWN

Poor cousin to sophisticated nearby Hampstead and Highgate. Eclipsed in modern popular culture by 'edgy' Camden Town down the road. But Kentish Town has had an important role in London's development from the medieval period to today. This virtual stroll will be taking in origins, industry, retail, transport, class, immigration and public figures. And where does the 'Kentish' come from? We might have a good stab at an answer. Join Tour Guide and Historian Colin Davey to learn more.



Wednesday 14 August, 11am-1pm WALK: CITY BY THE BOOK

The City is well known as the Financial District. Sharp suits, glass towers, the rush of money and power. But, if you look beneath all of this, the written word runs through the Square Mile and the echoes of poets and authors are round every corner. Take a walk with City of London Guide and Lecturer Jill Finch through streets where the word was once mightier than the hedge fund. £10 plus booking fee Meet at outside Caffe Nero by St Paul's tube station (take exit 3).

Wednesday 21 August, 2-3pm HISTORY AND TREASURES OF GUILDHALL LIBRARY

Join our librarians to learn about the history of Guildhall Library, and view some of the library's amazing treasures. Limited places available.

EXHIBITION

Extended until Thursday 2 May 2024 FOLIO 400: SHAKESPEARE IN PRINT

Drawing on Guildhall Library's remarkable Shakespeare collections, this exhibition examines the history of the printing of William Shakespeare's plays, from the small 'Quartos' of the late 16th century and the Folios of the 17th century, to the reworking of the text in the 18th century and the rediscovery of the original texts in the 19th century.

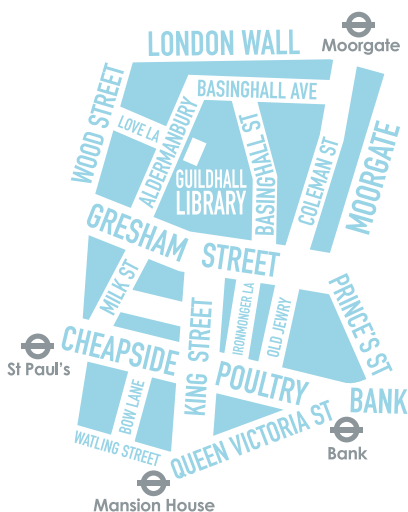


GUILDHALL LIBRARY EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS

The Library of London History

**GUILDHALL LIBRARY
IS OPEN 10AM-4PM,
MONDAY TO THURSDAY**

Guildhall Library has reduced numbers of staff at the moment and so if you would like to undertake research at the Library we would encourage you to book a place and let us know ahead of your visit what you would like to consult. If you do visit without an appointment, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to produce the material you require – however, as usual, we will do our best!



For further information and details of how to make a booking, please visit www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/services/libraries/guildhall-library

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