

To all Liverymen & Freemen of the Company

Dear Liverymen & Freemen,

Shakespeare & the Lawyers - A virtual tour

Thursday 25th February, 6pm to 7.30pm.

Through the magic of Zoom, solicitor and City of London tour guide (& Freeman of our Company), Ian Fagelson, will take us back 400 years to the places where William Shakespeare lived and worked. Leaving his wife and children in Stratford, the young Shakespeare started a new life in London.

Rising from obscurity to superstar, he cut a swath through London society, attracting admirers, lawsuits and the odd begging letter. As a young actor, he lived in rented accommodation and got into trouble for not paying his taxes. By the end of his life, he owned property in fashionable Blackfriars.

We will visit some of the most beautiful sites in London, taking in two of Shakespeare's London homes, the venue of the trial that inspired *The Merchant of Venice*, Stationers' Hall where the publishers of the First Folio grappled with early copyright law, the site where kidnapped boys were forced to perform by unscrupulous playhouse managers until a City lawyer put a stop to their machinations and the magnificent dining hall where Shakespeare & Co performed before an audience of lawyers and law students.

Along the way we will uncover some of Shakespeare's interactions with the legal profession, coming away with a new understanding of his perception of "the law's delay" – if not of his imperative "let's kill all the lawyers!".

To register please use the link below, after registering you will receive a confirmation email.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vcOqsqj8iGd3E1ELw-6Cly3rhHDFY02I>

Cost

Ian is providing his services free of charge to the Company, in order that the entire charge for this event can go to our Charitable Fund. We are charging £10 per signed in screen (but you can donate more). Please pay "The City of London Solicitors' Company Charitable Fund". Sort code: 40-52-40. Account: 00001062.

Thursday evening social gatherings

Thursday 4th February –

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUzd--gqjkjHNLm4IDo4FgRHxgB5ISakHo9>

Thursday 11th February –

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0scu2pqD8tG92SuTaG_35yHrmgJnKuVj7g

Thursday 18th February –

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEvcu2rrzoiHdfR1aHhUUQspr3LHZBKN6oY>

These small online groups meet at 6pm for about 45 mins and are an ideal way of getting to know a few members of the Company while we are unable to meet in person. These informal chats are usually hosted by a member of the Court with conversation ranging from

crime fiction and who's watching what on Netflix to how we're coping with working from home and home-schooling children. Click on the link above to register for the date which best suits you.

I do hope to see you all again when government guidelines allow, in the meantime – take care, stay safe and stay well.

Kind regards
Linzi James
Clerk