



Open University Shakespeare Society

OUSS Open Study Day

with speakers **Viv Thomas** and **Nick Wilkes**

Saturday May 20th 2017 at The Methodist Church Hall, Stratford-Upon-Avon CV37 6BG
(map overleaf)

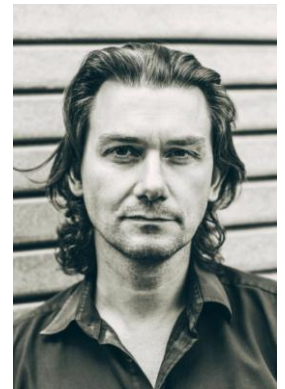


◀ **Dr. Vivian Thomas** followed a career in economics with post-graduate study in Renaissance Drama at New College, Oxford, before becoming lecturer in English Literature at the University of Birmingham. He has been Visiting Lecturer at the New University of Lisbon, the universities of Cologne, Gdansk and Valenciennes, and Phillips Exeter Academy, New England. Now a freelance lecturer he has lectured for the University of Warwick, The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust and Sovereign Education. A specialist in Shakespeare Studies, he is the Academic Patron of the Open University Shakespeare Society, and has published numerous works on Shakespeare's plays.

Nick Wilkes trained at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School and has worked extensively in the theatre over the past two decades. He has appeared in over seventy productions both in the UK and overseas.

Nick is Writer in Residence at Malvern Theatres and has written and produced twenty new plays to date, produced through his own theatre company Malvernbard and played in many venues around the country. In Autumn 2017 Malvernbard have been invited to Stratford-upon-Avon to produce one of Nick's plays at the Royal Shakespeare Company as part of the Autumn Season at The Other Place.

As well as being an actor and writer Nick is a freelance Director and teacher of drama. He is also an Associate Member of the Guild of Drama Adjudicators (GODA), and Principal of the Swan Theatre School in Worcester.



Programme

9.00am -9.30 Coffee and registration

Morning Session

10.00 *Julius Caesar - Shakespeare's Roman Worlds* Viv Thomas explores the historical pressures and state of flux that permeate the play. There will be a break for refreshments mid-morning.

12.30 Lunch (not included)

1.00 -2.00pm OUSS AGM - all OUSS members are cordially invited to join us for the Society's AGM if they wish.

Afternoon Session

2.00 pm - 4.30 pm *King John: Commodity* Nick Wilkes leads an interactive workshop based around a critical speech from the play, including interpretation of text and directorial options. There will be a chance to take part in the session, so please bring your text. There will be a break for refreshments mid-afternoon.

Booking instructions overleaf...

Cost OUSS Members.....£17..... Non-members.....£20.....

Please copy and complete the following booking form and send off by post with payment, or book by email at the address below. Please book by 1st May latest.

✂.....
I wish to attend the OUSS Study Day on Saturday 20th May 2017.

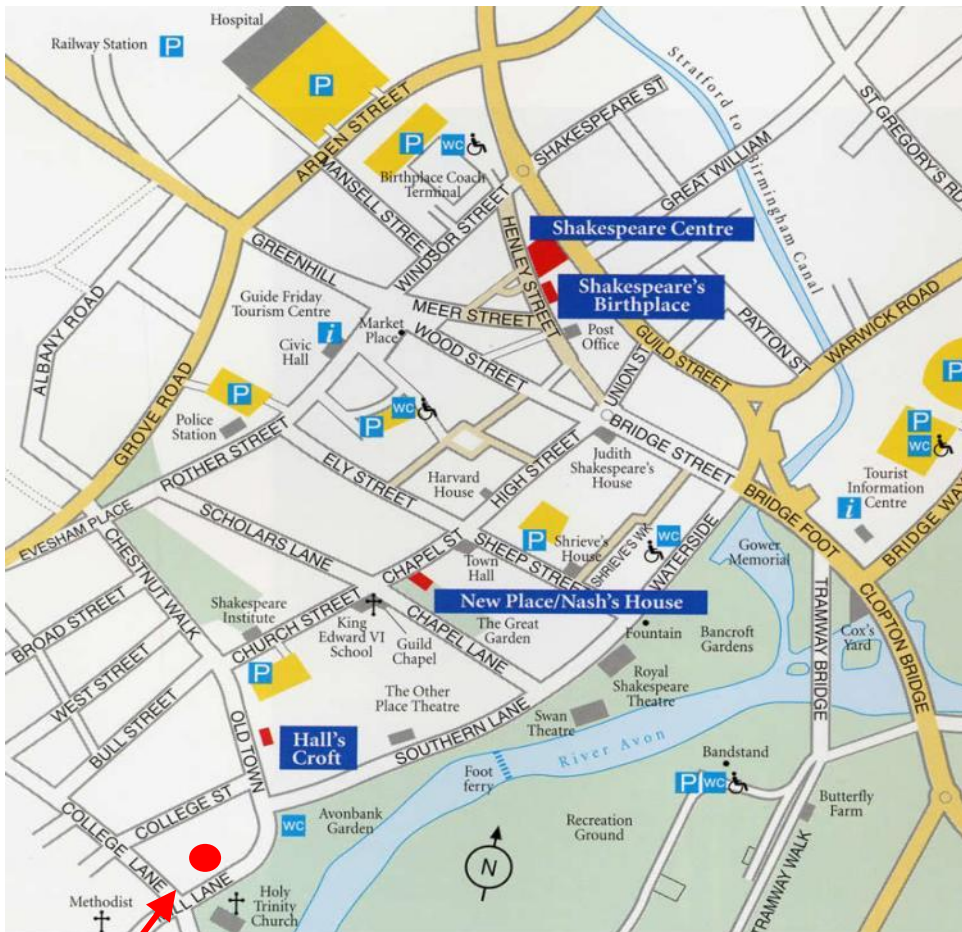
Name

Address.....
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Contact details (phone/e-mail)

Please send booking tear-off form and cheque payable to 'OUSS' to: Julie Hancocks, 43 Climsland Road, Paignton, Devon TQ4 5LY or email julie.hancocks@virgin.net and use BACS details below to pay:

Santander Bank Sort code: 090127 Account no: 74416604



The Methodist Hall is located in Mill Lane, almost opposite Holy Trinity Church shown bottom left of the map. Limited parking is available in the car park, or pay and display along Mill Lane/Southern lane. Postcode is CV37 6BG but this leads to the general area only.

We suggest you bring a packed lunch, although there are several reasonable cafes/snack shops in the town, about a 10-minute walk from the hall. And of course there is an opportunity to book a play over the weekend as well at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre! See www.rsc.org.uk for this year's programme.