



**A BATTLE OF WILLS: SHAKESPEARE AND
THE FIGHT FOR NEW PLACE, STRATFORD**

Dr Dan Gosling

**THE MARY WALLACE THEATRE
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RICHMOND SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY PRESENTS

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In his 1642 will, Thomas Nash – the husband of Elizabeth, William Shakespeare’s granddaughter – left New Place in Stratford-upon-Avon to his cousin Edward Nash. There was only one problem. New Place, the former Shakespeare family home, where Shakespeare had died in 1616, wasn’t Thomas Nash’s to bequeath. Shakespeare had left New Place to his daughter Susanna Hall, who was still living at the time of Thomas Nash’s death in 1647.

What followed was a property dispute for New Place in the Court of Chancery between Edward Nash, who had been promised the property by his cousin Thomas, and Elizabeth Nash, Thomas’ executrix and the rightful owner of the property along with her mother Susanna.

The dispute centred on Shakespeare’s will and the 1642 will of Thomas Nash, which Dr Daniel Gosling discovered in an unlisted box of Chancery deeds. In this fascinating talk, Dr Gosling examines the property dispute in detail, utilising many other original records held at The National Archives, and explaining how the wills fit into the fight for New Place.

27 April 2026

7.45pm (Doors open 7.00pm)

TICKETS | £7

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