

# Shakespeare's *New Place*

Shakespeare  
birthplace trust



Community  
Co-Partnership Project

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Shakespeare's New Place, 22 Chapel Street, Stratford upon Avon, CV37 6EP





## Shakespeare's *New Place*

Shakespeare's New Place was his family home from 1597 until he died in the house in 1616. The house was demolished in 1759, and a registered garden has been designed to commemorate the importance of the site and allow visitors to make their own personal connection with Shakespeare.

When Shakespeare bought New Place he was an established playwright and it is believed that he wrote his later plays here, including *The Tempest*.

We encourage visitors to follow in Shakespeare's footsteps through a new entrance on the site of the original gatehouse and enjoy a contemporary landscape that reveals the footprint of the Shakespeare family home.

The re-imagined site gives an impression of the scale of New Place and its relationship to the surrounding buildings; such as the neighbouring King Edward VI School and Guild Chapel that were once believed to be attended by a young Shakespeare.

Commissioned artworks and displays throughout the site evoke a sense of family life and hint at Shakespeare's major works that were written during the 19 years he owned New Place.

The sunken Knot Garden has been restored in light of the original design by Ernest Law. Elements of the Great Garden, the largest surviving part of Shakespeare's estate, will be conserved and further developed over time.





## Our vision with the community

As part of the Heritage Lottery Funded project, Shakespeare's New Place wants to support local communities and highlight the impact they provide local residents.

The Community Board provides space for groups to display material already produced, or they can put together information, photographs and other things to highlight the group's activities. They are encouraged to draw comparisons to Shakespeare, his home and the local area.



A prime part of this Community Board is to show visitors, from this country and from around the world, a snapshot of the varied and wealth of activities available in our local community in Stratford upon Avon.



The group's involvement is an integral part of the programme of activities organised by the team at Shakespeare's New Place. We encourage the community who display their work as part of the project to perhaps give demonstrations or talks as part of our partnership. It is a chance to highlight the group's activities to local visitors and perhaps even get people involved with a new skill!

The feasibility of this is explored with the group during the early stages of our conversations with the community leader or organiser.



## The Display

Each group exhibits for approximately two months. The Community Board is a static display, supplemented by a photographic board which can be used for a rolling display highlighting additional information about the group.

Practical demonstrations can also form a part of this exhibition; the number and timings of these are discussed with participating groups during the initial meetings about exhibiting at New Place. These demonstrations can really enhance the exhibition and will appeal to our audiences who have a more kinaesthetic learning style.

There are many ways you can exhibit your artworks. We have a board on the upper floor of the exhibition area of New Place.

Because of the flexible nature of the board, we can change displays to try and suit the community group's needs. There can be shelving for objects and poles to hang images or pictures.

## Collections

The Trust's ethos of working with communities at New Place is supported by the Collections Team. We are happy to work with community groups to provide access to relevant archives, books and museum objects as they develop their displays. These collections are held at the Shakespeare Centre on Henley Street where they can be consulted by any member of the public, free of charge.

As well as supporting groups in highlighting their own activities to visitors at New Place, we are also happy to help ensure that those activities are remembered for the long-term - in our archives. Groups may be surprised to learn that we collect material reflecting all people of Stratford and south Warwickshire over time, including but not only William Shakespeare. We are happy to discuss our services with all groups considering a display on the Community Board.

For details of our Collections services, to check our catalogues and to visit our reading room, please see [www.shakespeare.org.uk/explore-shakespeare/collections/](http://www.shakespeare.org.uk/explore-shakespeare/collections/)





## *Interested?*

We would love to engage with new community groups in and around Stratford upon Avon, and New Place provides the perfect opportunity to fulfil this with its accessible interpretation and human focused design.

In order for us to find out a little more about your community group and how you would like to work with us on this project, do complete the ‘Register initial interest’ form overleaf.

We can then get back to you with next steps and any more information you may need.



## About us

The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust is the world’s leading charity in promoting the works, life and times of William Shakespeare.

As an independent charity we receive no public subsidy or direct government funding. We depend entirely on income generated through our supporters; our visitors, volunteers, donors and Friends. Your support with these community projects is greatly valued.

## Contact us

Contact our Volunteer and Community Outreach Officer to find out a little bit more. They will then pass your details onto the New Place team who will be in touch with any potential projects.

Emma Birks

Volunteer and Community Outreach Officer

[Emma.Birks@shakespeare.org.uk](mailto:Emma.Birks@shakespeare.org.uk)

01789 338474

# Register your interest

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Print, complete and return to Emma Birks, emma.birks@shakespeare.org.uk

The Shakespeare Centre, Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, Henley Street, Stratford upon Avon, CV37 6QW

Community group name	
Key contact name	
Key contact telephone	
Key contact email address	
Date group was formed	
Number of members	
Please can you provide an outline of your group's activities?	
What items would you be intending to display?	
Why would you like to be involved with this project?	
What do you hope to achieve during and after this project?	