

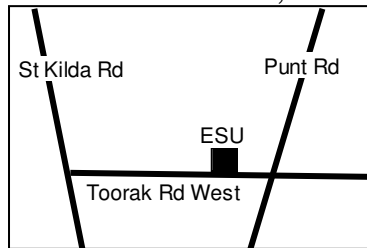
Readings

The Society's Reading Group performs **readings** of the complete plays of William Shakespeare, in a basic chronological order. In 2007 the group began a third reading of the complete Canon over five years.

Readings are held at 1 o' clock on the second Saturday of each month (except January) in the Ballroom of the **English Speaking Union (ESU)**, 146W Toorak Road West, South Yarra (between Punt and St Kilda Roads, Melway 2L-D4 / 58-B2).

Public transport access is via the Toorak Road tram #8 from the city, stop 27; or the Punt Road bus; or the South Yarra station, a few blocks from the ESU.

Reading Venue
146W Toorak Road West, South Yarra



Associated Readings

Associated Readings of plays that illuminate the Shakespearean Canon are interspersed, usually three times a year, with the readings of Shakespeare's plays.

Associated Readings include classical drama (eg *Thyestes* by Seneca), works by other 16th-17thC dramatists (eg *The Jew of Malta* by Marlowe), and modern plays for which Shakespeare is an essential reference point (eg *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* by Tom Stoppard).

Readings Convener: Paul Roebuck (9525 4541)

Meetings

Meetings of the Society are usually held at 2 o' clock on the fourth Saturday of each month (except January). Occasionally the date is changed at Christmas or for other events.

The venue is the **St Francis Pastoral Centre**, at the corner of Elizabeth and Lonsdale Streets, Melbourne, in the Monastery Hall or other meeting rooms at the Centre.

Most meetings feature a guest or member speaker on a Shakespearean topic, with an emphasis on upcoming play readings. Occasional features are a debating forum or presentation of a longer poem.

Meetings also include cameo performances, musical items, short talks, book reviews, sonnet readings, and reports of Shakespeare related events.

**NB: Apr 2009 Reading - third Saturday
Dec 2009 Meeting - third Saturday**

Committee

President – Judith Rodriguez
Vice-President – Paul Roebuck
Secretary – Wilfred Last
Treasurer – Don Linforth
Editor / Archivist – Barbara Sharpe
Publicity – Janna Hilbrink

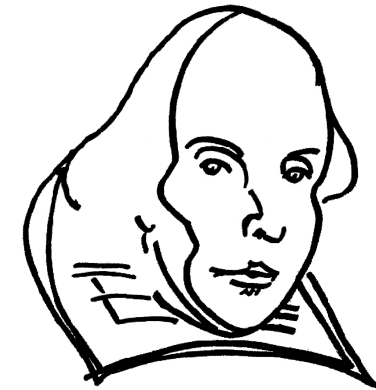
Membership

New Member	\$25.00
Renewal	\$20.00
Meetings & Readings (inc. Afternoon Tea)	
Members	\$8.00
Non-Members	\$9.00
Rehearsals	\$5.00

Contact & Programme Details

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~bard>
PO Box 231 Mont Albert VIC 3127
Telephone (03) 9525 4541

The Melbourne Shakespeare Society



2009

Celebrating 125 years

Guests and new members
are always welcome

Founded 1884
Inc A0039301Y

The Melbourne Shakespeare Society

The Society is one of the oldest literary societies in Australia, having been in continuous existence since 1884. It has an active programme that includes monthly meetings, monthly readings of Shakespeare's works and associated plays, and a quarterly newsletter *The Melbourne Shakespearean*.

Aims

1. To foster an appreciation of the works of William Shakespeare in the community.
2. To conduct public meetings for the discussion of the poet's life, works, and times; and to provide a venue for play and poetry readings and performance.
3. To support public performance of the plays by professional and amateur theatrical companies.
4. To encourage the study of Shakespeare's works in schools and by young people generally.
5. To liaise and coöperate with other literary societies in matters of mutual interest.
6. To accept responsibility for the archives and the recording of the ongoing history of the society.



PROGRAMME

February to December 2009

February	7	12.30 pm	Rehearsal	} Christopher Marlowe: <i>The Jew of Malta</i> (Associated Reading)
	14	1.00 pm	Reading	
	28	2.00 pm	Meeting	
March	7	12.30 pm	Rehearsal	} <i>Henry IV</i> Part 1
	14	1.00 pm	Reading	
	28	2.00 pm	Meeting	
April	4	12.30 pm	Rehearsal	} <i>Henry IV</i> Part 2 (reading on 3 rd Saturday)
	18	1.00 pm	Reading	
	25	2.00 pm	Meeting	
May	2	12.30 pm	Rehearsal	} <i>Henry V</i>
	9	1.00 pm	Reading	
	23	2.00 pm	Meeting	
June	6	12.30 pm	Rehearsal	} <i>The Merry Wives of Windsor</i>
	13	1.00 pm	Reading	
	27	2.00 pm	Meeting	
July	4	12.30 pm	Rehearsal	} <i>As You Like It</i>
	11	1.00 pm	Reading	
	25	12.30 pm	AGM	
		2.00 pm	Meeting	
August	1	12.30 pm	Rehearsal	} <i>Julius Caesar</i>
	8	1.00 pm	Reading	
	22	2.00 pm	Meeting	
September	5	12.30 pm	Rehearsal	} George Chapman: <i>Caesar and Pompey</i> (Associated Reading)
	12	1.00 pm	Reading	
	26	2.00 pm	Meeting	
October	3	12.30 pm	Rehearsal	} <i>Twelfth Night</i>
	10	1.00 pm	Reading	
	24	2.00 pm	Meeting	
November	7	12.30 pm	Rehearsal	} <i>Hamlet</i>
	14	1.00 pm	Reading	
	28	2.00 pm	Meeting	
December	5	12.30 pm	Rehearsal	} <i>The Rape of Lucrece</i>
	12	1.00 pm	Reading	
	19	2.00 pm	Meeting	

Rehearsals are usually on the first Saturday of the month at Collingwood Library; the Readings Convener will advise of any changes.

Readings: Our 2007 – 2011 third cycle of reading the Canon includes *Sir Thomas More* and *Edward III*. Each year has several Associated Readings, chosen from Shakespeare's sources (eg Plautus' *Menaechmi*), his contemporaries (eg Jonson's *Alchemist*), and relevant later plays (eg Ionesco's *Macbett*). Shakespeare's poems (eg *The Rape of Lucrece*) may be programmed in either Readings or Meetings.

Meetings: Titles of short talks, book reviews and other feature items will be advised as they are scheduled.

The President's Meeting (December): Miracle or radio play? Music, masque or members' day? Who can say? – our President may!