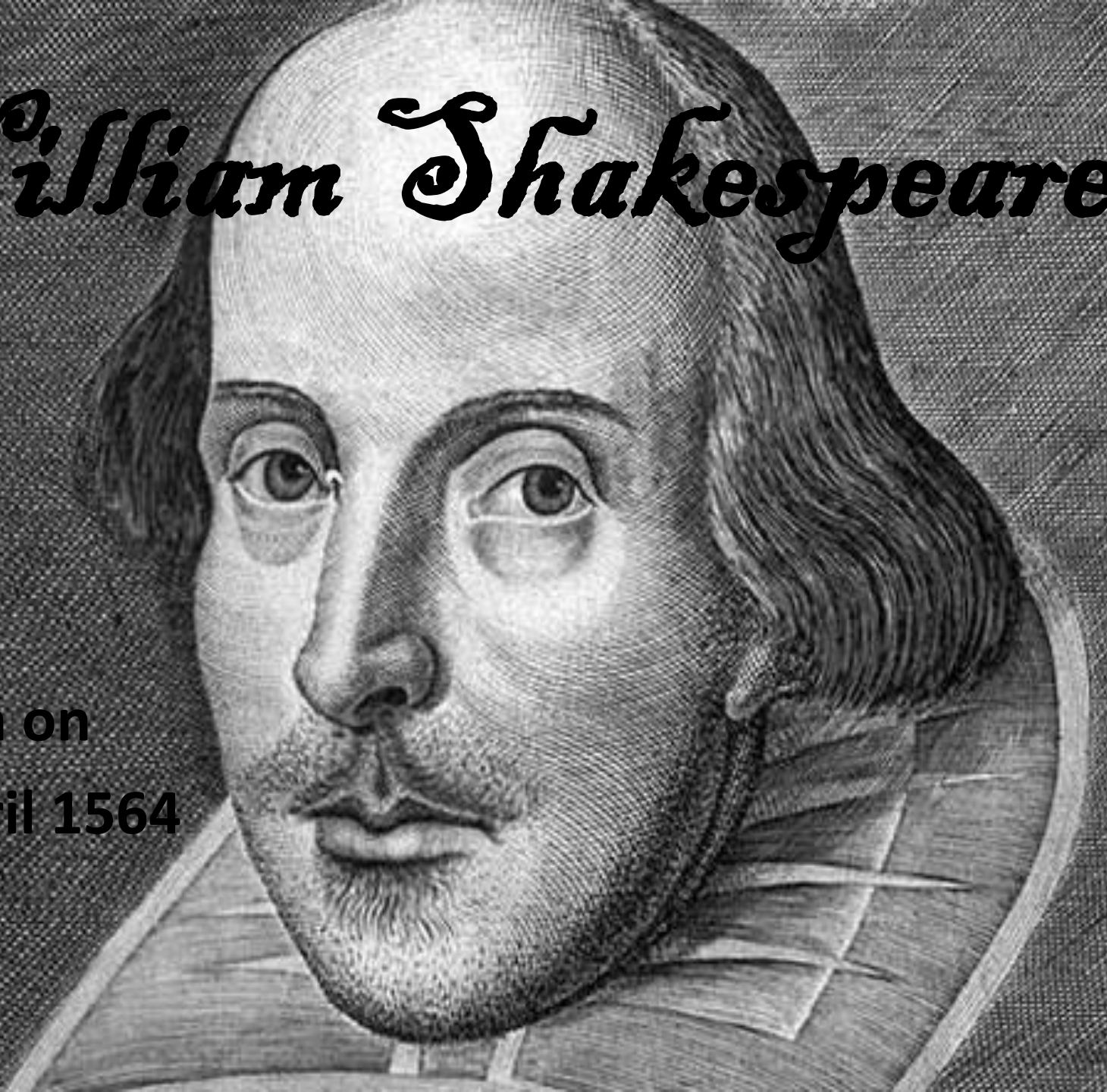


# *William Shakespeare*

Born on  
23<sup>rd</sup> April 1564



# William Shakespeare is the most famous English writer –possibly in the whole world.

- He lived **over 400** years ago ... but visitors come to our country from all over the world to see where he was born.



Does anyone know where this is?





Why has this building got RSC on the window?

- There are lots of places to see in Stratford – like the school he went to and the church he was buried in.
- And they also come to watch actors perform his famous plays at the new

## Royal Shakespeare Theatre.

- The actors are called a company.



# When William was born his parents were happy...but worried.

- Babies sometimes died very young that long ago –
- Can you think why?
- There was a horrible disease called **THE PLAGUE.**
- Luckily William and his 5 brothers and sisters survived.

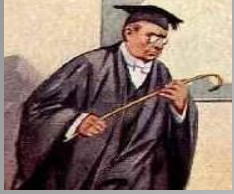


Why are you  
looking at me?  
What did I do?

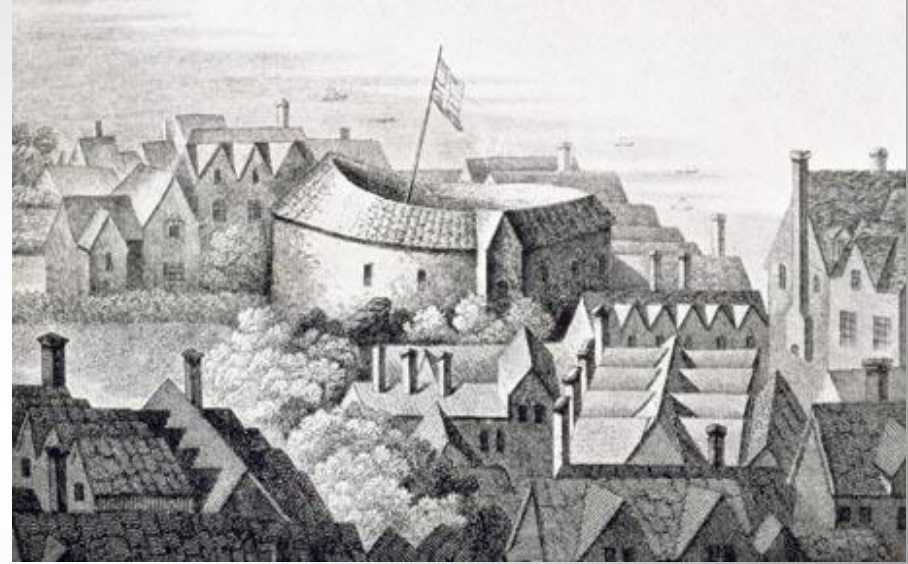




# School was only for boys – what do you think of that girls?



- William had to work hard or the teacher might \_ \_ \_ \_ him!!!!



- One good thing was that the very first theatre opened when William was a boy – though no one knew how much he would love it later.

# At age 2x9 William fell in love



- He married Anne Hathaway – they had 3 children ... and they all lived together with Williams parents .
- What do you think it would be like?



**CROWDED !!!**

# William became an actor

- But he also helped to write some plays. And he found he was very good at it.



**Everyone loved  
his plays.....**







# *Even Queen Elizabeth 1 loved his plays*



In those days they didn't have cars so the queen was carried in something called a sedan chair.

*Would this be so nice on a windy, wet day do you think?*



# William Shakespeare even built his own theatre in London.



- It was called THE GLOBE- can you see why?
- It had no roof and most people had to stand.

They paid a penny to watch.

Shakespeare wrote a total of 37 plays. This made William a wealthy man.

Can you see whose face is on the penny?





# Some of Shakespeare's plays were very sad.

- They were called Tragedies. His greatest tragedy play is called MACBETH.
- In it three witches say these words....

Double, double,  
toil and trouble...

Fire burn  
and cauldron  
bubble....

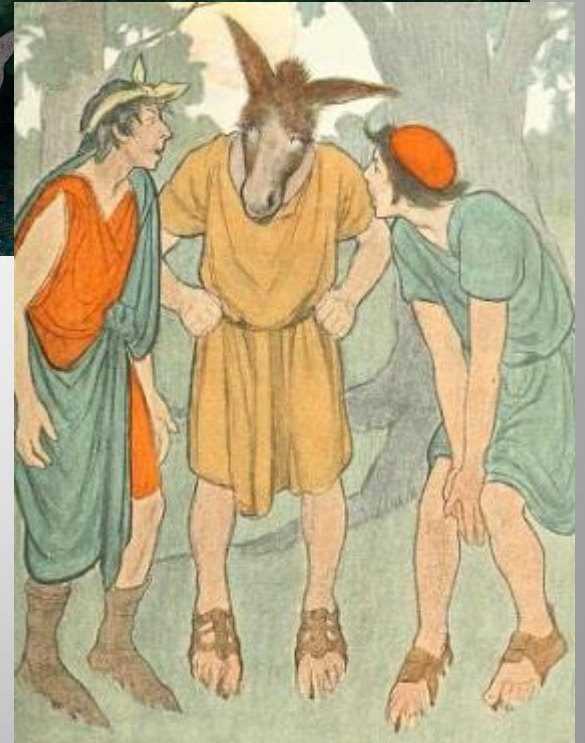


Eye of  
newts?  
Toe of frog?  
Wool of bat  
and tongue  
of dog?



But many of his plays were very funny...They are called comedies.

- In A Midsummer Night's Dream one silly man called Nick Bottom has his head turned into a donkey's head by a fairy helper. And then magic makes the queen fall in love with him!



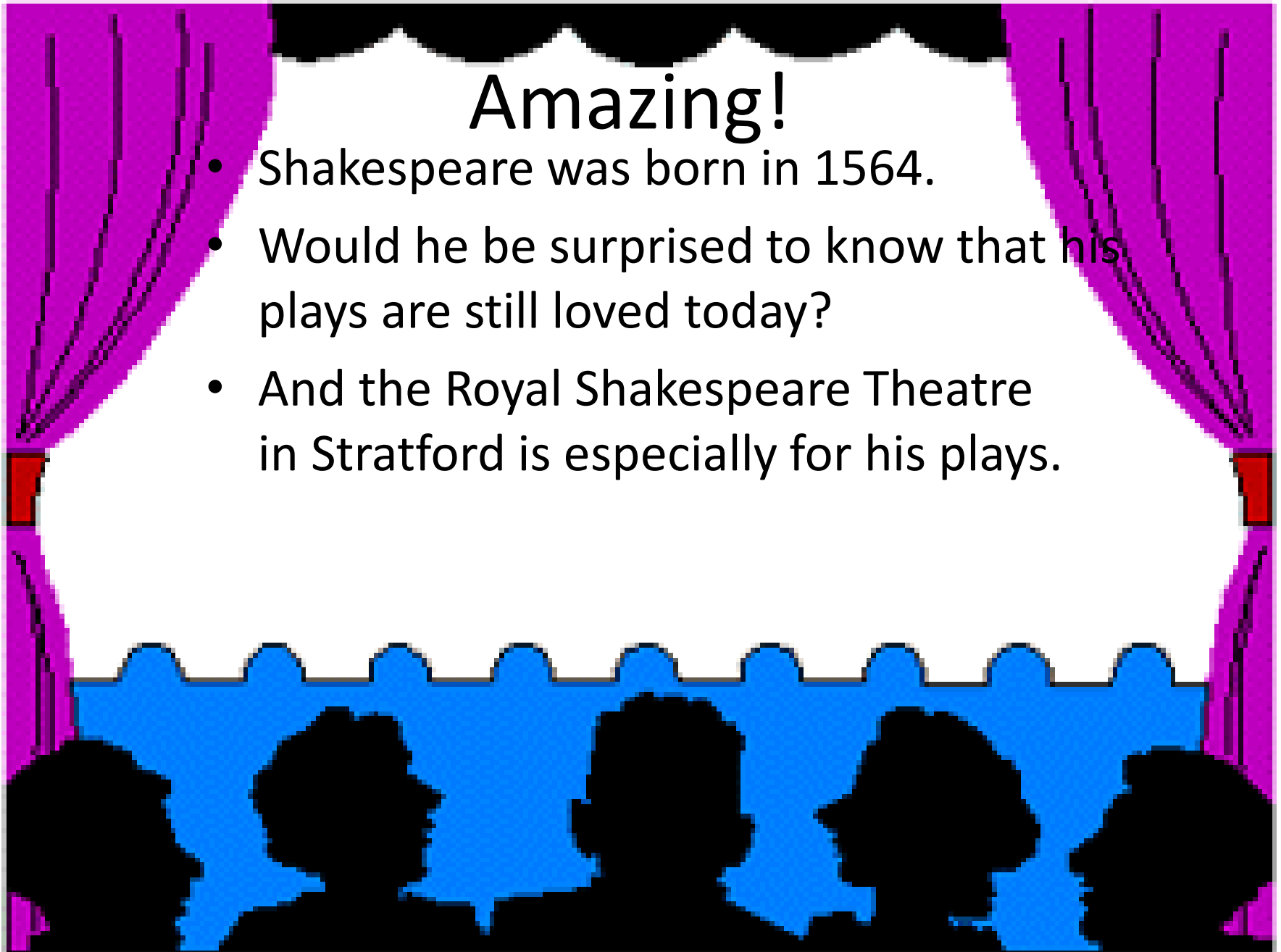
# Back to Stratford

- William Shakespeare went back to live in his house in Stratford when he was **5 x 10** years old.
- He died 2 years later.
- He was famous in his own time...and he is still famous today.
- A statue was put in the church he is buried in. You can still see it there today.



# Amazing!

- Shakespeare was born in 1564.
- Would he be surprised to know that his plays are still loved today?
- And the Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford is especially for his plays.





*Thank you  
for  
listening.*



# Quick Quiz

- 1. How old would William Shakespeare be on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021?
- 2. Where was he born?
- 3. How did THE PLAGUE spread?
- 4. What was his wife's first name?
- 5. How much did it cost to watch one of his plays in the Globe Theatre?
- 6. How many witches perform in Macbeth?
- 7. What was Nick's surname in Midsummer Nights Dream?
- 8. How many plays did William Shakespeare write?

# Quick Quiz answers

- 1. How old would William Shakespeare be on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021? 457
- 2. Where was he born? Stratford
- 3. How did THE PLAGUE spread? By the rats
- 4. What was his wife's first name? Anne
- 5. How much did it cost to watch one of his plays in the Globe Theatre? One penny / 1p
- 6. How many witches perform in Macbeth? 3
- 7. What was Nick's surname in Midsummer Nights Dream? Bottom
- 8. How many plays did Shakespeare write? 37