

CTS Termcard: Lent 2014

A stewardly welcome to 2014!

Congratulations to all of you on surviving the hard winter months, scrabbling around for a few scraps of cram in the bitter wind (and Valinorean attempts to sink parts of the country again!) Hopefully you all had a festive Yuletide and are ready for the action packed Lent termcard of the Tolkien Society! As always, all our regular meetings are scheduled on here, but keep an eye on your emails in case of venue/date changes and more importantly to get the details for the Annual Dinner, Varsity Quiz, and AGM when they come out. More events will also be announced by email – innmoots, possibly a Hobbit trip if there's still interest, etc. Looking forward to seeing you all again this term!

22 January: The Desolation of Peter Jackson

We've had film discussions before, but this one goes to eleven. Everything that got missed out of Jackson's work, every wrong thing that got put in – Bombadil, the Scouring of the Shire, you name it, we're going there.

Time: 19:15

Place: N1A, Pembroke College

29 January: Presentations of Race

The controversial topic for this term is race - race has haunted Tolkien's work for decades, from the explicit links between Dwarfs and Jews to the portrayal of the south and east of Middle-Earth as essentially evil. But how bad is Tolkien's portrayal of race, did it mirror his actual views, and does it still cause any issues today?

Time: 19:15

Place: N1A, Pembroke College

5 February: The Languages of Middle-Earth

Mae govannen! From Sindarin and Westron to Khuzdul and Rohirric, Tolkien's languages have always underpinned his work as a scholar and a writer. In this session we take a look at Tolkien's construction of languages, how they affected the history of Middle-Earth, and their links to the modern and medieval languages that he was familiar with. Also we might have a go at learning some...

Time: 19:15

Place: N1A, Pembroke College

12 February: The Art of Middle-Earth

Middle-earth has from its roots with Tolkien himself often been portrayed in pictorial form, be it paint, drawing, or even sculpture. Here we'll look at a variety of approaches, from Tolkien's own paintings to Alan Lee's illustrations and Cor Blok's book of artwork – and possibly even do some doodles of our own if there's interest!

Time: Approx. 19:15 but to be confirmed

Place: N1A, Pembroke College

19 February: Games Night

Games nights are one of our most regular traditions with the CTS, and this term will be no exception. Word games tend to be the main focus, though computers and tabletops may well sneak in round the edges as well! A fun break to cheer you up when Week Five casts its great shadow over you all.

Time: 19:15

Place: N1A, Pembroke College

26 February: On Rhovanion and Rhûn

Far to the east, over ranges and rivers, lies not just Erebor but the vast plains of Rhovanion, the “land of wines” Dorwinion, and Rhûn, the east, with its great inland sea. Join us as the CTS goes on a voyage of literary exploration to these strange and uncharted territories as we look at their history, languages, culture, and their importance in Middle-Earth.

Time: 19:15

Place: N1A, Pembroke College

5 March: Scholarship and Learning

Our last discussion of Lent focusses on the arts, sciences, and stories of Tolkien's world. What learning filtered down through the dark years – how was it transferred, and who knew what about what? How would the tales of the First Age have been known to a Buckland hobbit of the later Third? All this and more as we delve into much that has been lost and forgotten...

Time: 19:15

Place: N1A, Pembroke College

12 March: Eagle Debate – Most Hopeless Hero

Whose noble deeds always end in catastrophe? Who tries really, really hard to be the good guy but ends up stabbing everyone they know and love? How does that shape up against being sent to save the world from ultimate evil and spending one's life cuddling fluffy baby mice instead? We debate who is the very worst hero in Middle-Earth and beyond!

Time: 19:15

Place: N1A, Pembroke College

Date TBA: AGM

The AGM is where we elect our committee each year, and censure just about everyone present, and suggest amendments to the constitution. Please turn up, volunteer for things, and vote for next year's committee! Time & date TBC.

Time: To Be Confirmed

Place: N1A, Pembroke College

Date TBA: Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner is our largest social event for the term – time, place, format, food, etc all to be confirmed, so watch your emails!

Time: To Be Confirmed

Place: To Be Confirmed

Date TBA: Varsity Quiz

The Varsity quiz pits CTS against Taruithorn, our evil doppelganger counterparts from Oxen-ford, in a bid to see which society has the most comprehensive knowledge of the works of Tolkien! Spectators welcome, it's Oxford's turn to host so bus seems likely.

Time: To Be Confirmed

Place: Somewhere in the mysterious realms of Oxenford...

Directions

To N1A, Pembroke:

Go to the main gate, head straight on, going through the building in front of you and passing the hall doors on your right. Go straight across the courtyard on the other side, through the arch, and keep going until you come to a doorway on your left marked "N." Go through this door, straight ahead and through the set of doors immediately in front of you, and turn right through some more doors. You should then get to a wide staircase: from there, head up through the building and follow signs to N1A.

