

CTS Termcard Lent 2025

Pubmoot

Week 0

22 January, 19.30, Castle Inn (on Castle Street)

Another new year begins, of course, with a merry gathering at the pub. Come along to see some friendly faces, old and new, for some chatter with fellow Tolkien fans!

Seasons of Middle-earth

Week 1

29 January, 19.30, St John's College (Boys Smith Room)

Our world has many seasonal holidays, activities and events. What about the different peoples of Middle-earth? The changing of the seasons may be just another blip in the passage of time for elves, or perhaps they have the most intricate seasonal rituals. And who's to say that the residents of Middle-earth have the same perception of seasons as we do?

Rohan – From Eorl the Young to the Fourth Age

Week 2

5 February, 19.30, St John's College (Boys Smith Room)

With *The War of the Rohirrim* having come out not too long ago, it's time for a deep dive into Rohan. From its historical roots and its first king Eorl, to speculation about what happens after the Ring is destroyed, join us for a discussion of this fascinating land and its people.

Mathom Party

Week 3

12 February, 19.30, St John's College (Castlereagh Room)

The Mathom Party is a tradition of CTS, where we meet up and exchange mathoms, which are useless yet delightful trinkets in the Hobbit tradition. We will spend the first half of the meeting trying to foist them upon others and avoiding receiving any, so come along with your own mathom, or just show up to laugh at the hijinks.

Death and the Afterlife

Week 4

19 February, 19.30, online

The theme of mortality runs throughout Tolkien's works, but what happens to the various denizens of Middle-earth after their demise? Of course, we know that the elves go to the Halls of Mandos; there's bound to be some interesting goings-on when you've got (almost) every elf in history there somewhere. Perhaps there's a big hole in the sky somewhere for the hobbits? Join us to talk about what comes after death in Middle-earth.

Games Night

Week 5

26 February, 19.30, St John's College (Boys Smith Room)

As Week 5 arrives, there's no better way to deal with the misery of mid-term than a lighthearted night of games! Come to Games Night for various Tolkien-related games, including Consequences and Taboo, and relax with some silliness and biscuits.

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Media in Middle-earth

Week 6

5 March, 19.30, St John's College (Boys Smith Room)

While there are certainly books and letters in Middle-earth, how else were messages communicated? Were there elf tabloids reporting all the juiciest Fëanorian gossip or underground dwarf forums where they literally left messages on a wall? It's time for a discussion about the media in Middle-earth.

Eagle Debate – Best Podcast Host

Week 7

12 March, 19.30, St John's College (Boys Smith Room)

While we're (somewhat) sure that podcasts as we know them did not exist in Middle-earth, it's nonetheless an intriguing thought - who would climb to the top of the podcast leagues, gathering the most devoted listeners across the lands of Arda? It's time to decide in this term's Eagle Debate!

AGM + Storytelling & Poetry (hybrid)

Week 8

19 March, 19.30, St John's College (Boys Smith Room)

This will be our Annual General Meeting, where you lovely lot get to democratically overthrow the tyrants (us, the committee) and elect new ones! Afterwards will be our usual end-of-term storytelling and poetry night, where we share our favourite bits of pieces of Tolkien's works.

Other dates for your diary:

Varsity Quiz

Week 8

16 March

We'll be hosting the Varsity Quiz against Oxford this year, which is essentially a friendly trivia quiz. More details regarding sign-up for the quiz team will be coming out soon.

Annual Dinner

Week 8

16 March

This will take place after the Varsity Quiz, where hopefully we will get to celebrate (or potentially lament). In any case, it'll be a lovely chance to gather with other Tolkien fans from near and afar. Further details and sign-up to be sent in a later email.

Stash Order

TBC

This term we'll be accepting orders for stash, such as cloaks and t-shirts. More details to come in another email.