

## **Tolkien studies postgraduate symposium, 17 Aug 2012, Loughborough University, UK**

As part of the larger 'Return of the Ring' conference at Loughborough University, UK (16-20 August 2012), The Tolkien Society are hosting a dedicated postgraduate symposium on Tolkien studies on Friday 17th August 2012.

The interdisciplinary symposium is the first of its kind and serves to map current scholarship inspired by Tolkien by bringing together emerging scholars across disciplines of art, cultural studies, linguistics, medieval studies, fan studies, literature, film and media studies etc. Post-doctoral or other early career stages scholars are also welcome. It is hoped that a selection of papers will be published as an edited collection following the symposium.

The symposium is led by an internationally renowned team of academics including Professor Martin Barker (International Lord of the Rings audience survey), Dr Dimitra Fimi (Tolkien, Race and Cultural History) and Professor Corey Olsen ('the Tolkien Professor').

The format of the symposium is based around panels of postgraduate papers and so presents a unique opportunity to hear and be heard by peers across the full range of Tolkien-related study. A networking lunch and an interactive group session, led by the academic team, complement the interdisciplinary approach and attendees will also have the opportunity to attend the keynote speech by Tom Shippey that evening.

We currently seek proposals for papers (20 mins) on any aspect of Tolkien related research. Please submit an abstract (max 300 words) and short biography paragraph to:

[symposium@returnofthering.org](mailto:symposium@returnofthering.org)

Closing date for abstracts 1st February 2012

For conference and symposium booking information please see [www.returnofthering.org](http://www.returnofthering.org)