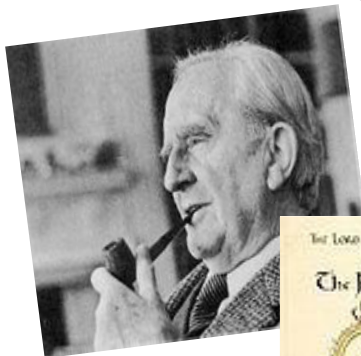


# *St Aiden's Homeschool*



## *J R R Tolkien A Short Biography*

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Tolkien in 1972

Born John Ronald Reuel Tolkien

3 January 1892

Bloemfontein, [Orange Free State](#) , South Africa

Died 2 September 1973 (aged 81)

Bournemouth, England

Occupation

Author, Academic, Philologist Nationality British Genres


Fantasy, High fantasy, Translation, Criticism

Notable work(s)

[The Hobbit](#)

[The Lord of the Rings](#)

[The Silmarillion](#)

Signature 

**John Ronald Reuel Tolkien**, CBE (pronounced /ˈtɒlkiːn/) (3 January 1892 – 2 September 1973) was an English writer, poet, philologist, and university professor, best known as the author of the classic high fantasy works [The Hobbit](#) and [The Lord of the Rings](#).

Tolkien was Rawlinson and Bosworth Professor of Anglo-Saxon at Oxford from 1925 to 1945, and Merton Professor of English Language and Literature from 1945 to 1959. He was a close friend of [C. S. Lewis](#) – they were both members of the informal literary discussion group known as the [Inklings](#). Tolkien was appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II on 28 March 1972.

After his death, Tolkien's son, Christopher, published a series of works based on his father's extensive notes and unpublished manuscripts, including [The Silmarillion](#). These, together with *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*, form a connected body of tales, poems, fictional histories, invented languages, and literary essays about an imagined world called [Arda](#), and [Middle-earth](#) within it. Between 1951 and 1955 Tolkien applied the word [legendarium](#) to the larger part of these writings.

While many other authors had published works of fantasy before Tolkien, the great success of *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings* when they were published in paperback in the United States led directly to a popular resurgence of the genre. This has caused Tolkien to be popularly identified as the "father" of modern fantasy literature—or more precisely, high fantasy. Tolkien's writings have [inspired many other works of fantasy](#) and have had a lasting effect on the entire field. In 2008, *The Times* ranked him sixth on a list of 'The 50 greatest British writers since 1945'.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J.\\_R.\\_R.\\_Tolkien](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._R._R._Tolkien)

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