



1. Our Aim



- to preserve 20 Northmoor Road, Oxford as the former home of JRR Tolkien and where *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings* were written;
- to advance the public knowledge and appreciation of the life, faith and works of JRR Tolkien and the Inklings;
- to advance education in the arts and crafts including the arts of literature and language.

2. Why this Centre?



20 Northmoor Road is a listed period house, largely unchanged since it was built in 1924. It has a large garden, which has huge potential to be restored to its former glory, providing further beautiful spaces and outdoor retreats. Attracted by the history, a new generation will be invited to come and draw inspiration from their surroundings. Funding will be raised to bring students from deprived areas to enjoy the benefits of a short stay in Oxford.

There is no centre dedicated to the appreciation of Tolkien's work anywhere in the world, remarkable in the face of his ongoing relevance to culture. This house is uniquely fitted to fulfil that role.

3. Feasibility

The Centre will function as a charity. A warden would be in residence to ensure smooth running and maintain the house as a home.

The work of the Centre will be augmented with a lively and thoughtful online presence to extend the conversation to those who cannot get to Oxford and so draw them into the community life built around the house.

The house itself is easy to reach (only 90 minutes from Heathrow, an hour from London). The house has six large bedrooms upstairs, ample space for twin or double beds, and one disabled access bedroom on the ground floor with an accessible bathroom. The Centre will also have overflow arrangements locally for additional participants on larger programmes.

Activities to include:

- *Creative writing courses.*
- *Spiritual retreats.*
- *Literary study weeks. These will be open to those wishing to find out more about Oxford writers.*
- *Bursaries for those who could not otherwise afford to come.*

4. Who are we?

Project Northmoor was set up by a wife and husband team, residents of Oxford.

Julia Golding, multi-award-winning novelist and screenwriter, author of over sixty novels for children and adults. She is an experienced teacher of creative writing and has a doctorate in English Literature from Oxford University. <http://goldinggateway.com>

Joss Saunders, an experienced and well-known charity lawyer with a background in publishing law.

5. What is required

At least £4.5 million to purchase the property and establish the Centre. The largest portion is required to secure the property (estimated £4 million) and the remainder for the necessary renovation to comply with building regulations and start-up costs. Additional funds will go towards developing the programme, including a bursary scheme. The Centre will be financially self-sustaining once established.

Project Northmoor is the working name of Project Northmoor Limited, registered charity number 1192314 and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England 13002586