

OXFORD DOCTOR WHO SOCIETY

MICHAELMAS TERM 2023



Celebrate the return to semi-regular *Doctor Who*, as we close the show's 60th year with some of the old, some of the new, some familiar faces, and, hopefully, some unfamiliar faces! (Yes, we're secretly talking about you under the guise of summarising our programme. Join us!)

Week 1: FRESHER'S DRINKS: *The Stolen Earth/Journey's End* (2008)

7:30pm, Thursday 12th October, St. Peter's College (Miles Room)

Are you new to *Who*? Has it been a while since you thought about the Tenth Doctor and Donna Noble? Do you think about them all the time and simply wish to see them again? Whatever you have in mind, we have *just* the Thursday evening planned out for you. Bring your friends and fellow nerds along for our first event of the year!

The episode: Earth is abruptly snatched out of physical space just as Ten and Donna return to it, and allies of the Doctor from all walks of life gather to stand against a universe-ending threat.

The vibe: meet up with your fellow nerds and enjoy a classic New Who finale, chosen specifically to set up the 60th, so it's kind of like doing your homework if homework was fun. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks will be served, including 'Who-themed cocktail mixes devised by Social Secretaries past and present.

Week 2: *Pyramids of Mars* (1975)

7:30pm, Thursday 19th October, St. Peter's College (Miles Room)

Archaeology goes wrong?! (NOT CLICKBAIT) in early 20th century Egypt, leaving the Fourth Doctor and Sarah Jane Smith to confront an ancient alien (ha) threat plaguing the Great Pyramids. No alcohol this time, but we'll always have snacks and soft drinks!

Week 3: *The Edge of Destruction* (1964) + *Journey to the Centre of the TARDIS* (2013)

7:30pm, Thursday 26th October, St. Peter's College (Miles Room)

A late October double feature in honour of our emotional support sentient spaceship/time machine/reality-warping cosmic horror. *The Edge of Destruction* traps the First Doctor, Susan, Ian, and Barbara together in the TARDIS with an unknown force acting upon their minds. Contains improper use of scissors.

Some time later, *Journey to the Centre of the TARDIS* sees the Eleventh Doctor on a desperate rescue mission as a damaged TARDIS slowly decomposes around Clara Oswald, isolated deep in the heart of the spaceship...

Week 4: VARSITY QUIZ with CAMBRIDGE WHOSOC

Sunday 29th October, Online

We go head-to-head with our hereditary enemies to decide who gets the WhoSoc trivia trophy this year. You can brush up on your trivia beforehand with any number of manuals and compendiums from our library.

Week 4 ctd.: *Flatline* (2014) + *Nikola Tesla's Night of Terror* (2020)

7:30pm, Thursday 2nd November, St. Peter's College (Miles Room)

Another double feature showcasing some more recent 'Who. In *Flatline*, it's the (Twelfth) Doctor's turn to be trapped in a rapidly-shrinking TARDIS, as Clara Oswald takes up the sonic screwdriver and picks out a companion of her own to investigate a threat at the limits of human perception.

Next, *Nikola Tesla's Night of Terror* lands the Thirteenth Doctor and posse in Niagara Falls, 1903, where the eponymous inventor struggles with industrial saboteurs and Martian signals alike at his electric generator plant. Together, they put the *science* in *science fiction*. Thomas Edison is also there.

Week 5: GEEK QUIZ!

8:15pm, Sunday 5th November, Balliol College

Geek Quiz returns with another round of competition, where the nerdiest of the already statistically quite nerdy members of Oxford will compete with each other for the title of highest concentration of nerdery. Let us know if you're interested in contributing a round and we will furnish you with more details!

***Earthshock* (1982) + LECTURE & TERMLY MEAL with David Banks!**

7:30pm, Thursday 9th November, St. John's College (Auditorium)

Adric reaches the apogee of his rebellious teenage phase and palaeontology takes an interesting turn as the Fifth Doctor and company tackle an extraterrestrial threat to 26th-century Earth. A cyber-threat. The threat is Cybermen. Guess why:

David Banks (the Cyber-Leader in various episodes of Classic Who, known Cyberman connoisseur) is coming to WhoSoc! He will be joining us for our termly meal (details to come), and will be giving a speech on Cybermen, emotions, and artificially-augmented life preceding our viewing of the serial.

Week 6: *The Greatest Show in the Galaxy* (1988-89)

7:30pm, Thursday 16th November, St. Peter's College (Miles Room)

A timely meditation on the nature of fandom. The Seventh Doctor and Ace take a trip to the Psychic Circus, which forces its victims to perform for a humourless audience which summarily executes those they find unamusing.

Week 7: *Invasion of the Dinosaurs* (1974)

7:30pm, Thursday 23rd November, St. Peter's College (Miles Room)

The Third Doctor and Sarah Jane return to London, only to find it emptied of people and populated instead by goofy-looking dinosaur puppets. Why are the dinosaurs here, and what do they have to do with so-called "Operation Golden Age?"

Week 8: *The Husbands of River Song (2015)* + **COMMITTEE MEETING**

7:30pm, Thursday 30th November, St. Peter's College (Miles Room)

Close the year with 2015's Christmas Special and watch as the manifold love lives of River Song intersect, at the profound behest of the Twelfth Doctor. It also introduces the best Doctor Who character evaaa!!! (It's Nardole. I love you, Nardole).

Afterwards we'll be voting on our term card for Hilary Term 2024. This is always a riot, so if you have anything you really want to see (whether it be good or bad), get ready to pitch it to the group.

60TH SPECIALS: *The Star Beast* + *Wild Blue Yonder* + *The Giggle*

The 60th anniversary of *Doctor Who* falls on November 23rd, with three anniversary specials (*The Star Beast*, *Wild Blue Yonder*, and *The Giggle*) to mark the occasion. We fully intend to host events for all three broadcasts, and will keep you updated on our plans once the airdate for each special is announced.

YOU CAN FIND US ON:

Our webpage: <https://users.ox.ac.uk/~whosoc/index.html>

Email: whosoc@ox.ac.uk

Facebook: [@OxfordDoctorWho](https://www.facebook.com/OxfordDoctorWho)

Instagram: [@OxfordWhoSoc](https://www.instagram.com/OxfordWhoSoc)

We send out a newsletter via email every Sunday and Wednesday with announcements, reminders, plot synopses, book recommendations, and other information. Join our mailing list - you can ask to be added at an in-person meeting, or you can email or message us at any of the above locations.

Check out the Society's fanzine, **The Tides of Time**, for some insightful *Who* scholarship:
<https://oxforddoctorwho-tidesoftime.blog/>

