

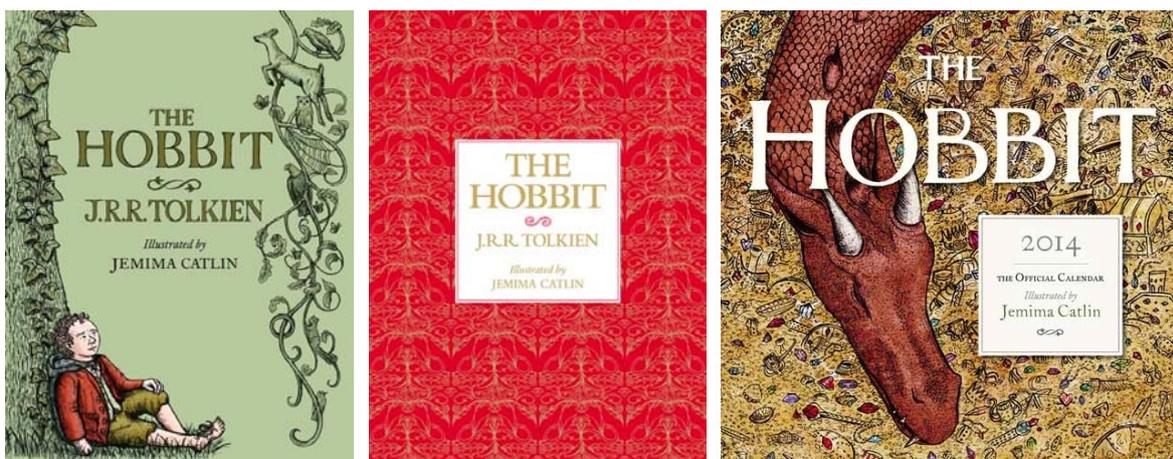
New illustrated edition of *THE HOBBIT* with specially commissioned artwork from illustrator Jemima Catlin

HarperCollins is delighted to announce publication of the first new illustrated edition of J.R.R. Tolkien's *THE HOBBIT* since Alan Lee's iconic illustrations brought the much-loved children's tale to life in 1997.

THE HOBBIT, illustrated by Jemima Catlin, will be published in both hardback and a deluxe foiled slipcase edition on 12 September 2013. Jemima, a graduate of The Arts University, Bournemouth, was discovered by publisher David Brawn when she sent him a Tolkien-inspired project created for her illustration degree course.

David Brawn, Publisher of Estates at HarperCollins, said: 'I wanted to publish an edition of *THE HOBBIT* that pulled it back from the cinematic fantasy of the films and reintroduced that sense of adventure and magic that Tolkien's own children must have felt when he first read them the story. Over the years, *THE HOBBIT*'s distinctiveness as a classic of children's literature has been diminished by the potency of *THE LORD OF THE RINGS*, but Jemima's approach restores some of the innocence to the tale that I hope children and families will really enjoy. I love how Jemima has taken all her cues from the text – simple things like the different coloured beards of the Dwarves that it is so easy not to notice when reading the book. And Bilbo, though clearly middle-aged as he should be, has a twinkle about him that young readers will adore.'

Jemima Catlin, illustrator, said: "I have always loved J.R.R Tolkien's work and *THE HOBBIT* is by far one of my favourite books. Tolkien's detailed descriptions of light and atmosphere really inspired me and encouraged me to experiment with new techniques. He imbues characters with such life and personality that drawing them was an absolute pleasure."



THE HOBBIT, by J.R.R. Tolkien, illustrated by Jemima Catlin will be published in clothbound hardback (£20) and deluxe slipcase edition (£49.99) on 12 September 2013. The book contains 150 newly commissioned colour illustrations.

THE HOBBIT, THE OFFICIAL CALENDAR 2014, illustrated by Jemima Catlin (£9.99) will also be published on 12 September 2013