



Prof. A. Mark Clarfield – Director

פרופ' א מרק קלרפילד - מנהל

December 27, 2017

MSIH students

Dear all,

Were the great author J.R.R. Tolkien alive today, he would have been 127 years old next week.

Tolkien has long been one of my literary heroes, and as such I have read the Lord of the Rings twice, once when I was 17 and the second time when I was 57. Oh, what a difference 40 years can make.

The second time around, I realized that among other things (good vs. evil, past vs. future etc.) the themes of aging, old age, mortality and immortality were central to the books' focus. When I realized this, I got together with a good friend, also a Tolkien freak and geriatrician, and we wrote an article titled "Venerable or vulnerable: ageing and old age in JRR Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*".

In discussion with students several years ago they asked me to give a talk on the subject which I did but have not done so since.

For those who are interested, in celebration of Tolkien's birth week, I will be giving this presentation on Tuesday, January 9th, 13:30-15:00 in room 605 (Internal Medicine building).

All are welcome, and coffee, tea and a few light goodies will be served.

Hope to see you there in celebration of one of the great literary works of the 20th century, with an added dash of some free geriatric instruction.



Yours sincerely,

Prof. A. Mark Clarfield