

Centre for
Death & Society
(CDAS)



UNIVERSITY OF
BATH

Centre for Death & Society

Newsletter

January 2020

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Director's Note

January 2020

Happy 2020!

It seems impossible that Team CDAS is already gearing up for its June 26-27, 2020 conference but it's all happening.

I'm really excited about this year's conference and encourage everyone to submit an abstract by February 28.



More information about the conference is below, inside the newsletter, and on the CDAS website: <https://www.bath.ac.uk/announcements/the-centre-for-death-and-society-announces-its-2020-conference-theme-mortality-and-technology/>

We are still working on the conference fee levels and costings and will release that information as soon as we can.

I look forward to seeing many friends and colleagues here in Bath in June.

In the Year 2020: Death, Dying, Technology and Human Mortality

In a world... where over the last twenty-years, first world popular culture's interest in human mortality significantly expanded and death and dying achieved new levels of media attention. What has the last twenty-years of death, dying, and technology produced for human mortality?

And what might the next twenty-years hold?

What role does technology now play in the everyday experiences of human mortality?

The June 2020 Centre for Death and Society Annual Conference will focus on Death, Dying, Technology and Human Mortality and what the discovery and re-discovery of human technology means for power, sovereignty, bioethics, the rule of law, and most importantly – death and dying.

The full conference CFP can be viewed [here](#).

Please send a 300 Word abstract to cdas@bath.ac.uk by 28 February 2020.

CDAS NEWS

Early Careers Visiting Fellowship

Applications have been coming in for the NEW CDAS Early Career Visiting Fellow's Programme. This opportunity extends our programme of welcoming visiting scholars from around the world. Applicants must be an ECR in Death Studies (broadly defined) **without permanent employment** in a University.

To apply please send a one-page research proposal (no more) and a current CV to cdas@bath.ac.uk.

CDAS Community News

Good Death Week 2020

Good Death Week runs each year in May across Scotland. Led by [Good Life, Good Death, Good Grief](#) the week gives individuals and organisations the opportunity to promote the positives of living in a society where people can be open about dying, death and bereavement.

In 2020 it runs May 11-17. More information can be found here: <https://www.goodlifedeathgrief.org.uk/content/awareness-week/>

Events

Before I Go - Accredited Training in End of Life Care Plan Facilitation

January 2020

Applications from every country are invited for the next intake of this online course, beginning end January 2020.

Primarily of interest to health professionals, counsellors, coaches, educators, celebrants or others interested in enabling others to create good end of life plans.

The course is spread over 7 months, and graduates will be licensed to facilitate Before I Go Method® courses and individual sessions with those wishing to take

care of their end of life matters, but who are not getting round to it (that is 80% of everyone who say they are interested in doing something!)

For further information please visit: <https://beforeigosolutions.com/big-training/>

[Paying for Child and Baby Funerals](#)

16 January 2020

An Educational Seminar providing details of funding from the Childrens' Funeral Fund, charities and other funding sources.

A full day of talks and discussions with exhibition. £35 fee includes: All talks, workshops, refreshments and lunch and car parking

The day will examine what is now available in detail and answer questions around fees and payments. Speaker's details will be posted on the Child Funeral Charity website.

Who is this event for? Any professional working with families who have lost a child, including: crematorium staff, registrars, hospice staff, funeral directors, hospital bereavement officers, bereavement counsellors, charity staff, celebrants, faith representatives, bereavement midwives, researchers and many other professionals.

To book your place, complete and send the booking form on www.childfuneralcharity.org.uk or call 01480 276088

[PABBS evidence-based suicide bereavement training](#)

22 January and 10 March 2020

PABBS training was informed by a three year study, conducted at the University of Manchester, funded (£243k) by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), led by Dr. Sharon McDonnell and her team and first of its kind internationally. This training is a one day highly interactive workshop, delivered by two trainers, who have considerable experience working with those bereaved by suicide. There is no role-play during the training. Lunch and refreshments are provided.

If you would like further information please visit <https://suicidebereavementuk.com/pabbs-training> or if you wish to enrol, please contact Paul Higham 07850 710555 email: paul.higham@suicidebereavementuk.com

Histories of Death: An International Symposium

19 – 21 February 2020, University of Turku, Finland

Our understandings of death come with long and complex histories, shaped by culture, place, time, power, and identities. Historical analysis allows us to better understand the paths that have led to the recent move toward “death positivity,” and the popularity of death doulas, “death cafes,” alternative and ecological burial solutions, and new understandings of grief. The interdisciplinary and rapidly growing field of Death Studies raises awareness about how we die and mourn, and the ways social factors – class, migrant background, and gender, among them – can result in unequal access to “good death” in many countries and communities today. This International Symposium seeks to delve into the many varied and interwoven Histories of Death to further explore the traditions, ideologies, and institutions that shape our experiences with death.

Death sets people into action, caring for the dying, the deceased, and the grieving in ways that range from the intimate to the professional. The Histories of Death Symposium invites researchers to share their work and engage in dialogue about the different ways people have approached dying, death, and mourning from everyday, cultural, and structural perspectives.

The Symposium is hosted by the John Morton Center for North American Studies at the University of Turku’s Department of Philosophy, Political Science, and Contemporary History. The Symposium is funded by the Academy of Finland.

More information here: <https://sites.utu.fi/jmc/histories-of-death/>

Awareness of Trauma & Dissociation Continued Professional Development (CPD) Course

28 March 2020

The day will cover:

The link between trauma, attachment & dissociation

- Understanding the spectrum of dissociation & dissociative disorders (incl. Dissociative Identity Disorder)
- Identifying & responding to dissociation when it happens in the room
- Working with trauma related-dissociation
- Understanding the perspective of someone who experiences dissociation/DID
- How we can help in counselling

For who: Counsellors/therapists & other mental health practitioners who want to develop their understanding of trauma & dissociation & how to work most effectively with people affected by it. When: March 28th 2020 10 am – 4 pm

Where: All CPD courses are held at GCS, Alma House, Stroud, Glos, GL5 1AP * We require proof of your volunteer work & role at application stage.

Fees: Trainee/Volunteer*: £60, GCS staff: £70, External: £110, Groups of 3 or more: £95 per delegate

For more information visit: www.gloscounselling.org.uk/product/cpd-workshops-and-short-courses

Dying Matters Awareness Week 2020 – Dying to be Heard

11 – 17 May 2020

The 2020 theme of **Dying To Be Heard** will focus on how to help by listening. How many people want to talk about death, but feel they have no one to talk to about it? How many people are Dying To Be Heard?

We'll have some tips on active listening, and reassure people that you don't need to be an expert on wills, funerals or advance care planning: the Dying Matters website has signposts to all the relevant information.

Active Grief Weekend

15 – 17 May 2020, Manifold Farm, Derbyshire

Registrations for our next ACTIVE GRIEF WEEKEND are now open.

Run by and for the bereaved, these retreats are available to all who have suffered the death of a child of any age, from any cause and no matter how long ago. They are also extremely popular and we recommend early booking.

For more information, please visit: <https://thegoodgriefproject.co.uk/active/>

Cremation and Burial Communication Education (CBCE)

29 June 2020

The Cremation and Burial Communication and Education (CBCE) event is the national forum which brings together local councils and Private companies from across the UK. CBCE is jointly organised by The Cremation Society of Great Britain and the Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities.

As the bereavement sector continues to grow, this key annual event provides a unique opportunity to acquire the most up-to-date and relevant information. Keynote speakers will equip you with insights into the issues facing your services, exhibitors will show you the latest services and products available and networking opportunities will provide the space to engage with fellow professionals.

Who should attend?

- Managers and staff of local authority cemeteries and crematoria.
- Owners and operators of private sector cemeteries and crematoria.
- Funeral directors, bereavement related charities and representatives from other kindred organisations wishing to have a better understanding of the services provided at cemeteries and crematoria.

Why should you attend?

- **Learn** - Hear about new legislation that will bring about **Death Certification** changes and amendments to the **Cremation Regulations** that are to be introduced. These legislative changes will impact upon all local authority service providers and the private sector and we want you to be fully prepared.
- **Connect** - Network with industry-leading practitioners, share views with the most experienced service providers in the UK to learn from their insights and forge new partnerships.
- **Discover** - Explore the most effective way of providing your service by seeing and discussing the most up-to-date technology and tools available within the sector
- **Professional Development** - The Cremation and Burial Communication and Education 2018 Event offered all attendees evidence of **Continuous Professional Development**, with certificates from the CPD Certification Service awarded to all attendees.

For more information, please visit: <http://cbce.org.uk/>

[12th International Conference on Grief and Bereavement in Contemporary Society](#)

13-17 July 2020

Every three years, the International Conference on Grief and Bereavement in Contemporary Society acts to foster international and multidisciplinary collaboration in research and clinical and community practice, across cultural and geographical boundaries. In July 2020, the conference will be hosted in Melbourne, Australia and will offer an opportunity to share the latest developments in grief, research, clinical and community work.

More information at www.icgb2020.com

[Suicide Bereavement UK's 9th International Conference 'Suicide Bereavement: Using Our Collective Voice'](#)

24 September 2020, Manchester

Suicide Bereavement UK and Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust are collaborating for the 9th year running to host Suicide Bereavement UK's International Conference. This conference will focus on vulnerable subgroups amongst those bereaved by suicide and taboo issues directly associated with such deaths. Please note, over 400 people from 9 countries usually attend this annual event and it is always over-subscribed.

Registration is now open for the 2020 Conference. Programme and Speakers: TBC

Cost - £140 + Booking Fee + VAT – To book, please visit

<https://suicidebereavementuk.com/suicide-bereavement-conference>

[Call for Papers](#)

[1st International Conference Death Experience](#)

20 – 21 March 2020, University of Latvia, Riga

Ars Moriendi, first festival dedicated to death will be held in Riga, Latvia on 20 - 21st March 2020, it will include an academic conference and detailed cultural programme. The conference, Death Experiences, will cover such areas of death studies as ethics and morals, celebration of death, impact on environment, social history of death, and erasing the dead.

In Latvian cultural environment death and its rituals have a significant role both within Latvian life perception and philosophy and within the context of religious notions. Until now there are little to very few studies on nations attitudes towards death. The main purpose of the conference Death Experiences is to popularise death studies within Latvian and Baltic academic environment and highlight specific Latvian death related traditions, dying and forming of nations cultural memory. As example in Latvian cultural space we can discuss changing but persistent traditions of taking care of cemeteries during the centuries. They reflect both the relation to people's religious practices and notions of living after death, and the secular respect towards the dead and their memory. Death Experiences will provide a comprehensive study of Latvian special attitudes towards death, dying and tradition of cemetery care, marking Latvia in thanatology, science and culture map of Europe.

Death festival is organised by Faculty of Theology of University of Latvia in cooperation with partners.

Researchers are invited to submit their papers in the following sections of the academic conference:

- Death morality & ethics
- Death experiences
- Law and death
- Death and environmental impact
- Celebrated death
- Death of cultures
- Death from social view point
- Erasing the dead

Time for presentation 20 minutes. Please submit your abstracts (max 300 words) and short curriculum vitae (max 200 words) all in one file electronically to deathexperiences@yahoo.com by 15th January 2020. Please ensure the paper is communicated clearly as the conference is multi-disciplinary. The cost of conference is €100, this will include participation, a meal and culture events.

In the Year 2020: Death, Dying, Technology and Human Mortality CDAS Conference 2020. Call for Papers

26-27 June 2020, University of Bath

We are delighted to announce that we are now inviting abstracts for oral and poster presentations for next year's CDAS conference to be held at the University of Bath, on Friday 26 and Saturday 27 June 2020.

In a world... where over the last twenty-years, first world popular culture's interest in human mortality significantly expanded and death and dying achieved new levels of media attention.

What has the last twenty-years of death, dying, and technology produced for human mortality? And what might the next twenty-years hold? What role does technology now play in the everyday experiences of human mortality?

The June 2020 Centre for Death and Society Annual Conference will focus on Death, Dying, Technology and Human Mortality and what the discovery and re-discovery of human technology means for power, sovereignty, bioethics, the rule of law, and most importantly-- death and dying.

Possible topics could include:

- Assisted dying
- Activism and death politics
- Science and Technology Studies of Death and Dying
- Death Technologies across time
- Feminist critiques of death politics across time
- The history of death focussed activism (e.g., AIDS and ACT-UP, Black Lives Matter, etc.)
- Power relationships between the state and the individual
- The economics of death and poverty
- Future Technologies for Death and Dying Past/Present/Future Dead
- Body Disposal Technologies
- The politics of death nostalgia
- Death and social class
- Debates around life and death and personhood
- State ordered executions and capital punishment
- Death technologies of power, control, discipline, and preservation
- Cultural appropriation and commodification
- Isolation at the end of life
- The commodification of death experiences
- Political protests and dead political leaders
- (Neo)colonialism and death politics
- The politics of post-mortem evidence in policy making and with policy makers
- Human Rights Law and genocide
- Urban planning and deathscapes

Please send a 300 Word abstract to cdas@bath.ac.uk by 28 February 2020.

[Deconstructing Donation Study Group Conference](#)

19 June 2020, City, University of London

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Dr Laura Machin is inviting abstract submissions for this interdisciplinary conference which aims to deconstruct 'donation'. Presentations that provide insight into the relationships that donation produce, with people, technology, body parts, fluids and tissue are particularly welcomed. Theoretical, methodological, and empirical papers will all be considered. Presentations can draw on the concepts and theories within the social sciences and/or humanities and can refer to all types of bodily, tissue, and fluid donations for a variety of purposes such as education, treatment, art, and research. The conference will have a number of themed sessions, which we invite potential speakers to consider.

THEMED SESSIONS

Contextualising Donation We are inviting contributions which critically address the contexts, politics and practices which both construct and transform donation. Donation does not happen in a social vacuum and contributors are asked to consider how various forms of donation are shaped, maintained and developed in particular contexts and at particular times, through, for example, considerations of political, economic, socio-cultural and policy concerns.

Researching Donation: Methodological Considerations and Contingencies We are interested in papers which address the particular methodological and ethical approaches and challenges to researching donation. Contributors may wish to consider the particular issues involved in gaining access to and studying donation in the 'field', and the research relationships that shape and make these activities possible.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Please email abstracts of up to 300 words by 27th March 2020 to the Deconstructing Donation Study Group Convenor, Dr Laura Machin: l.machin@lancaster.ac.uk . You will be notified out of the outcome of your submission by 24th April 2020. In the abstract, please include your name, institution, title of presentation, and email address. Abstracts significantly over the word count will not be accepted. Abstracts significantly over the word count will not be accepted. Abstracts will be reviewed, taking into account the suitability of the topic, the stage of research process (if appropriate), and the significance of the findings or arguments proposed to the Group.

PLENARY SPEAKER AND PANEL EVENT

The plenary speaker for the fourth Deconstructing Donation conference will be Rosamund Scott, Professor of Medical Law and Ethics at the Dickinson Poon School of Law, Kings College, London. Rosamund's research centres on ethical, legal and policy issues in reproduction, with an emphasis on new reproductive technologies.

We will also be hosting a panel event with speakers working on donation from diverse perspectives. The panel will be addressing the question: 'What does donation mean to you?' Confirmed Panel Members include:

- Rachael Buchanan: Science and health journalist at BBC News
- Alexa Wright: Artist who has produced works on the psycho-social effects of heart transplantation
- Katie Morley: Lead nurse – Recipient coordinator at NHS Blood and Transplant

CONFERENCE DETAILS

The conference will take place in the Tait Building at City, University of London, Northampton Square, Clerkenwell, EC1V 0HB and is being hosted by Dr Jessie Cooper, Lecturer in the Sociology of Health.

Delegates and speakers will be welcome to join Laura and Jessie for drinks and/or dinner at a local restaurant on Thursday, 18 and/or Friday, 19 June. Details will be sent out nearer the time.

Nearby accommodation within walking distance of the conference is available at: Travelodge London Farringdon

REGISTRATION FEES

- Student BSA Member: £35
- Student Non-BSA Member: £40
- BSA Member: £45
- Non-BSA Member: £50

Visit the [CDAS website](#) to view a full calendar of events

Contact us

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