

Centre for
Death & Society
(CDAS)



UNIVERSITY OF
BATH

Centre for Death & Society
Newsletter
September 2019

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Director's Note

September 2019

DDD14. And scene.

After all the planning and e-mailing and meetings and then more planning and e-mailing plus several more meetings, I am pleased to say that the 14th International Death, Dying, and Disposal conference went brilliantly well.

Indeed, the entire conference exceeded the organizing team's expectations and then some.

But for the entire organizing team, DDD14 would have never worked so well. I want to personally thank everyone on the organizing team:

Kate Woodthorpe (who co-led the team with me)

Janine Marriott

Su Chard

Lorna Templeton

Renske Visser

Hannah Rumble

Diana Teggi

Chao Fang

And, of course, Emma Ford and Tara Jessop.

I want to also extend my thanks to everyone who came up to me during DDD14 to talk about my younger sister Julie's death from brain cancer in July 2018. The outpouring of support from people in what I generically call Death World was/is/remains quite moving. Julie would love knowing that DDD14 collectively raised several hundred pounds to support the Rainbow Trust Children's Charity. She always joked with me about how finding all the other death nerds probably saved my life, and she was right.

The upcoming CDAS newsletters will be packed full of exciting announcements and events for the coming months, so stay tuned.



#DDD14 Raffle News

As those of you who attended #DDD14 know, co-organisers Kate and John have had recent personal experiences with the end of life. In 2018 Kate's second child was born with a life threatening condition and John's sister died from brain cancer. At the conference they held a raffle in aid of the Rainbow Trust Children's Charity, which supports Kate's family and others with children in receipt of palliative care.

We are delighted to say that the raffle raised £500 for the Rainbow Trust. Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket or donated, we are very grateful.

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

Introducing Sue Brayne

Sue Brayne's new book, *Living Fully, Dying Consciously: the path to spiritual wellbeing* is due for release in January 2020 (White Crow Books). 'Many of us, especially in the West, are being called to break through centuries of entrenched social, political, colonial and religious programming so we can choose a different way of being. A way of being that really cares about how we live and how we die.' Sue is also the author of *The D-Word: talking about dying and Nearing the End of Life: a guide for relatives, friends and carers*, which she co-authored with Dr Peter Fenwick.

Book inspirational speaker Sue Brayne for your conference, forum, convention, spiritual festival or literary festival. Email sue.brayne@gmail.com

Events

Festival of Fiction

20-22 September 2019

This day school explores the ways in which writers, poets and artists address grief and bereavement in their art. We will be reading and discussing extracts from memoir, fiction, poetry and visual art in order to understand how such authors and artists engage with the processes of mourning, the commemoration of the dead, and theoretical models of grief. Authors studied may include Milton, Hardy, Tennyson, Don DeLillo, Anne Carson, Carol Muske-Dukes, C.S. Lewis, Janet Paisley and Douglas Dunn.

Further details and booking can be found here: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/english/study/part-time/short-courses/festival-of-fiction/>

PABBS Suicide Bereavement Training

Forthcoming dates: 25 September 2019; 1 and 8 Oct 2019.

Essential training for those who come into contact with or responsible for the care of those bereaved or affected by suicide, in a professional capacity.

The training is also key to those who are responsible for addressing the key objectives in the following:

- National and local Suicide Prevention Strategies;
- Self-harm and Suicide Prevention Competence Framework (NHS Health Education England, 2018);
- NICE suicide prevention guidelines in the community and custodial settings (NICE 2018);
- The NHS Long Term Plan (DH, 2019)

Suicide Bereavement UK's 8th International Conference

25 September 2019, Manchester

We are thrilled to announce that Suicide Bereavement UK and Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust are collaborating for the 8th 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.

The University of Manchester in collaboration with support after suicide partnership will launch the national suicide bereavement survey report at this event. Findings will be of national and international importance. Please note, over 400 people from 9 countries usually attend this annual event and it is always over-subscribed. However, due to the launch of the above mentioned report, we envisage that demand will be even greater. We therefore advise you to register early to avoid disappointment. **Cost - £120 + Booking Fee + VAT**

Details of speakers and registration via our website -
<https://suicidebereavementuk.com/suicide-bereavement-conference>

Dying and Death in 18th – 21st Century Europe, International Conference (ABDD11)

26 – 28 September 2019, "1 Decembrie 1918" University of Alba Iulia, Romania

With its unique friendly atmosphere, our interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary conference offers an excellent opportunity for academics, experts and practitioners from diverse fields such as history, sociology, anthropology, psychology, medicine, literary studies, theology, or architecture to network and to share knowledge, experiences and research findings on a variety of themes concerning death and dying.

Mastering the Social Fund Funeral Payment

Upcoming 2019 dates: 12th October

Help your clients successfully apply for the Social Fund Funeral Expenses Payment to help them pay for a funeral.

2½ hour workshop - £40

[Book online](#)

Further information is available here: <https://suicidebereavementuk.com/pabbs-training>.

Pushing Up the Daisies, a Festival of Death & Dying

12 & 13 October 2019, Frome

Working with the RUH Bereavement Centre and the Frome Medical Practice this Festival of Death & Dying will feature music, theatre, art, talks, lectures and information. There will be live discussions on subjects such as Assisted Dying, Death and Creativity, Kevin Toolis talking about his book, the local crematorium showing what really happens behind the scenes and palliative care. For further information visit here:

www.pushingupthedaisies.co.uk.

Marie Curie annual research conference

Monday 14th October 2019, Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London W1G 0AE

"Future directions of hospice care: IPU or ITU?" In this joint meeting between the Royal Society of Medicine and Marie Curie our focus is on the inpatient unit. We still ask people if they would like to die in a hospice, but is this a realistic or false choice, and is it fair?

Should we view the palliative care/hospice inpatient unit more as an 'intensive care unit', admitting only those whose needs cannot be met elsewhere, and can we learn from the evolution of the acute hospital ITU to modern hospices?

For more information and registration please visit the [Royal Society of Medicine's website](#)

Raising money and reducing costs for the bereaved

Upcoming 2019 dates: 12th November

Gain skills and knowledge to better support your clients in this practical and interactive workshop.

½ day course – from £70

[Book online](#)

Dying for Change: Evolution and Revolution in Palliative Care, Hospice UK Conference

20 – 22 November 2019, ACC Liverpool

Hospice UK's National Conference is back in Liverpool, 20-22 November 2019 and brings together more than 800 hospice and palliative care professionals from across the sector. Nothing about this year's Conference is similar to previous year's – we have a big, bold, dynamic theme and a delegate programme that will provide the opportunity to deconstruct what we do, look at where we are headed, and devise a bold new strategy to meet the many challenges we face.

The call for sponsors and exhibitors is now open. For further information please click [here](#).

BSA Death, Dying and Bereavement Annual Symposium 'Death & Relationships'

5 December 2019, University of Sheffield

While physical death occurs to the embodied individual, those who die and those who knew the deceased are embedded within a wider network of relationships. As such, a developing body of sociological literature recognises the value of looking beyond the individual in the context of death and dying. Applying relational perspectives to the end of life can develop our understanding of both the living and the deceased, as well as the connection between the two. Yet it is important to acknowledge that relationships extend beyond human interaction and can include bonds with a variety of non-human 'others' such as pets, projects, places and material objects. These connections play a significant role in everyday life, be it positive or negative, but their salience in death, and dying in particular, requires further sociological exploration. The chosen topic for this year's symposium is therefore an inclusive one and we welcome abstracts which interpret the theme of 'relationships' at the end of life broadly. The aim is to highlight research and practice that contributes to and extends thinking in this area.

Follow this link to register: <https://www.britsoc.co.uk/events/key-bsa-events/death-and-relationships-bsa-social-aspects-of-death-dying-and-bereavement-study-group-annual-symposium/>

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.

[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.

Click [here](#) for more information.

Call for Papers

[The 5th International Symposium of the Death Online Research Network](#)

Copenhagen, Denmark, May 27th - 29th, 2020. Submission deadline 1 October 2019

We invite abstracts for oral presentations of new, recently completed, or ongoing research, and/or new ideas relating to methods, challenges and interdisciplinary convergences on death related online practices. We welcome presentations that explore how qualitative, quantitative and practice based research expands our understanding of the current and future trends in death online from a variety of disciplines and perspectives. The abstracts can expand on the symposium theme in relation to any of the following areas:

□ Digitally mediated dying and narrative □ Digitally mediated grieving and memorialising □ Digital afterlife, post-mortem identity and digital legacy □ Technological developments in the death care industry □ Digital immortality □ Sensitive research data challenges □ Theorising online life and death □ Ethical challenges for studying death online.

The symposium will host a special workshop for participating Post Graduate students and early career researchers. We particularly welcome submissions from these groups. All submissions will be peer-reviewed, and we envisage publication of selected full papers in a special issue of an academic journal as well as a collection of writing from the symposium in an open-access online platform.

Important information Submission format: 300 word abstract Submission deadline: October 1st, 2019 Submission feedback: November 1st, 2019 Registration open: December 1st, 2019 Registration fee: DDK 1500 / EURO 200 / GBP 180 Registration fee, PhDs and Post Graduates: DDK 1200 / EURO 160 / GBP 150

All submissions and enquiries should be submitted to Dr Stine Gotved: gotved@itu.dk marked "DORS#5 Submission" in the subject field. Abstracts should be no longer than 300 words. Please include a separate page with full contact info (author name, institutional affiliation and position, email address) in the submission. Submissions will be anonymised by the organisers before review.

Interdisciplinary Conference: "How Do we Tell the Children?"

Thursday to Saturday, 30 January to 1 February 2020 and Thursday to Saturday, 27 to 29 February 2020, Bishop Grosseteste University, Lincoln. Submission deadline 30 November 2020

This event, open to all irrespective of religious affiliation and to those who have none, will bring together members of the public, practitioners, creative artists and scholars working across the arts, humanities, sciences and theology, whose work, research and working/creative practices relate to death and dying.

Proposals for 20-minute talks and workshops (up to 3 hours) are invited from participants working in any discipline, and at all career stages or professions. All sessions are intended as starting points for interdisciplinary exchange and discussion, which is why the academic components need to be short and informal. Our audience is fellow academics, practitioners, pastors and artists as well as students and the general public.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- Theological Reflections on Death, Dying, the Pastoral Care of the Dying and Funereal Practices
- Literature written for Children
- Creative Writing (for Children)

- Death, Children and the Gothic
- Death, Children and Art
- Death, Children and Spirituality
- Therapeutic and religious approaches to working with Children
- Neuro-Diversity / Disability Studies, Children and Grief
- Wellbeing and Grief for Children
- Grief in Children's Education
- Children's Understanding and Experience of Grief
- Children's Grief in the Media and Popular Culture
- Death, Grief and Diversity in Children's Lives

If you would like to participate, please submit a short bio (50 words) and a brief (max. 200 word) abstract by 30 November 2019 to sibylle.erle@bishopg.ac.uk and peter.green@bishopg.ac.uk, indicating what your academic or creative approach to death, dying, loss and grief.

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

Contact us

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