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## **News from CDAS**

### **CDAS Conference 2013**

#### **New Economies of Death:**

#### **The Commodification of Dying, the Dead Body, and Bereavement**

29-30 June 2013, Bath Royal Literary & Scientific Institute, Bath

The 2013 CDAS conference, *New Economies of Death: The Commodification of Dying, the Dead Body, and Bereavement*, critically explores the constantly evolving relationship between commodification and human death. The papers and presentations examine the commodity values (real, speculative, historical, and contemporary) attached to: Organs & Body Parts, Dying, Digital Death, Memorialisation, Dark Tourism, Funeral Practices, Funeral Costs, Bereavement, and Graves & Cemeteries. The conference aims to bring together, perhaps for the first time, the often fragmented research and knowledge on commodification in these areas and to examine links between commodification in these areas and elsewhere in society. This international gathering will include social scientists; death studies researchers; scholars of culture, media and literature; bioethicists; economists; health and care professionals; consumer advocates; funeral directors; and theologians.

Please join us June 29-30 at the Bath Royal Literary & Scientific Institute in Bath for this innovative international event.

For more information and to book: [http://www.bath.ac.uk/cdas/events/news\\_0003.html](http://www.bath.ac.uk/cdas/events/news_0003.html)

### **Dead & Buried: Engaging young people with death and natural burial**

The AHRC funded Dead & Buried Project which has been running for the past 3 months within SPS and CDAS has just come to an end. This project connected an academic researcher, Dr Hannah Rumble, with Charlotte Chapman of Kumiko Community Arts, and together they worked with 10 young people (NEETS) to explore their responses to death and natural burial.

The project culminated in a successful week-long exhibition at Centrespace Gallery in Bristol and a short film which premièred at a private screening in Bristol's Watershed, and is now on Vimeo: <http://vimeo.com/64890983>.

Please have a look at the film if you get a chance; it is a really excellent example of how we can work with artists and film-makers in our research.

Read more about the project at

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/cdas/research/engaging-young-people-death-natural-burial/>

## **Dr John Troyer in Jordan Baseman's 'Deadness' exhibition**

29 May-21 July 2013

Matt's Gallery, Copperfield Road, London

Deadness is an exhibition of three parts: multiple 35mm slide projections with sound, the film *The Last Walk* (2011) and February 09 2013, a series of new photographic works.

Deadness is derived from Baseman's creative non-fiction and interview-based practice, exploring the historical, cultural and sociological relationship between photographic portraiture and embalming, a theme investigated by Dr John Troyer, sociologist and Deputy Director of the Centre for Death and Society at the University of Bath.

Dr Troyer grew up around funeral homes prior to his academic engagement with the subject of embalming, witnessing first-hand from a young age through his father's work as a Funeral Director. Deadness presents his professional and personal connection to embalming combined with orphaned images collected through online auctions: casual snap shots and more formal portraits of individuals in their coffins from the early Victorian era to the present day.

Gallery: <http://www.mattsgallery.org/artists/baseman/exhibition-4.php>

Review of the exhibition: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/artanddesign/2013/may/29/jordan-baseman-artist-deadness-interview>

## **Farewell to Nina Jakoby and welcome to Lisa McCormick**

Nina Jakoby is leaving the Centre for Death & Society at the end of May, after a fruitful stay with us. Our next visitor arrives immediately as we welcome Lisa McCormick, a sociologist of music from Haverford College, PA. Lisa attended the CDAS workshop on funeral music last year and is now visiting CDAS to research funeral music in the UK. Lisa formally joins us Monday 3 June 2013, staying until 23 August 2013.

## **Images of Research Exhibition at the Fringe Arts Festival**

01-02 June 2013

Stall Street, Bath

The University's 2013 [Images of Research](#) exhibition is being held in Bath this weekend as part of the [Fringe Arts Bath Festival](#).

The exhibition will be on display on Saturday & Sunday (01-02 June) in the Officers' Club, Stall Street from 11am until 6pm.

Visitors can see a series of eye-catching images which illustrate the breadth of important research taking place at the University and the difference it is making to people's lives. Four members of CDAS have submitted an image – Dr John Troyer, Dr Hannah Rumble, Dr Kate Woodthorpe and PhD student Jana Kralova. Each image has an accompanying narrative explaining the research; some of the researchers whose work is exhibited will be on hand to talk to visitors.

It's the first time the Images of Research exhibition had been part of the Fringe Arts Bath Festival and a fantastic opportunity for visitors to find out more about the research that takes place at the University.

A selection of the images also have the added feature of augmented reality, meaning visitors can use their smart devices, such as mobile phones and tablets, to scan the images and watch videos and other online material.

Anyone can take part by downloading a free [Aurasma](#) app to their mobile devices. The theme of this year's competition is 'Research Matters', with entrants asked to show how their research makes a difference to the world around us locally, nationally and internationally.

Visitors will also have the opportunity to vote for their favourite image. Please come along with your friends and family and support the University this weekend. <http://www.bath.ac.uk/research/about/imagesofresearch/2013/index.html>

## **CDAS at National Funeral Exhibition**

07-09 June 2013

Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire

The Centre for Death & Society will be at the National Funeral Exhibition at Stoneleigh Park this June. With over 200 exhibitors, this year promises to be bigger than ever. We will be showcasing some of our recent research and will be conducting a survey of the industry to gauge interest in a summer school we are planning for 2014. We will also have information available on how we work with business, charities and community groups to conduct our research and consultancy activities.

John, Caron and Trudi will be there to answer any questions you may have, come and chat to us on stand X49 in Hall 2

## **Death & Dying in the Media, Print and Internet**

### **The Information Society: An International Journal**

Special Issue: Death, Afterlife, and the immortality of Bodies and Data

Volume 29, Issue 3, 2013

This special issue poses questions concerning death, afterlife and immortality in the age of the Internet. It extends previous work by examining current and emerging practices of grieving and memorialising supported by new media. It suggests that people's lives today are extended, prolonged, and ultimately transformed through the new circulations, repetitions, and recontextualisations on the Internet and other platforms. It also shows that publics are being formed and connected with in new ways, and new practices and rituals are emerging, as the traditional notions of the body are being challenged. We argue that these developments have implications for how people will be discovered and

conceived of in the future. We consider possible extensions to the research presented here in terms of people, practices, and data.

First, some sections of the population, in particular those who are the dying and populations in developing countries and the Global South, have largely been neglected to date. Second, practices such as (online) suicide and sacrilegious or profane behaviors remain largely uninvestigated. Third, the discussion of the management of the digital self after death has only begun. We conclude by posing further questions concerning the prospect of emerging cities of the dead.

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/utis20/current>

## **Events, seminars, symposia and conferences**

### **5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Ageing and Spirituality**

07-10 July 2013

Edinburgh, Scotland

The programme includes a mixture of Master Classes, workshops, academic papers and presentations on projects.

Keynote Speakers:

- Professor Elizabeth Mackinlay (Charles Sturt University)
- Professor Susan McFadden (University of Wisconsin Oshkosh)
- Professor John Swinton (University of Aberdeen)
- Rabbi Wittenberg (New North London Synagogue)
- John Killick (freelance writer)
- Claire Craig (Occupational Therapist)
- Professor Mary Marshall

Papers will cover a wide range of issues, including:

Finding meaning in later life; Dementia; Spiritual care planning; Reducing social isolation; Geotranscendence; The role of faith communities; Secular approaches; and findings from specific projects working with older people.

Creative Opportunities: Music; Poetry; Art; Quilting; Story telling; and Writing.

The conference will appeal to both those with an academic interest, as well as those with more practical experience through involvement in the care industry or as informal carers. It will be of interest to those coming from a faith based approach and those approaching spirituality from a secular one.

For details of the conference programme, registration, venue & accommodation please visit the website:

[fiop-mha.events-made-easy.com](http://fiop-mha.events-made-easy.com)

## **Cruse Bereavement Care Annual Conference 'Living with Grief'**

09-10 July 2013

Warwick University

Booking is now open for this year's Cruse national conference: 'Living with Grief' which takes place on 09 & 10 July 2013 at Warwick University.

Keynote speakers include Ken Doka, Colin Murray Parkes, Linda Machin and Tony Walters. For full details of the programme and how to book, please see the Cruse website [www.cruse.org.uk/conference](http://www.cruse.org.uk/conference)

Online booking is available for the first time this year through the website.

If you have any queries, please email [conference@cruse.org.uk](mailto:conference@cruse.org.uk)

## **Meeting the Challenges of a New Age: Responding to a Mass Fatalities Scenario**

24-25 July 2013

The Hawkhills, Easingwold, York

This Cabinet Office Emergency Planning College event is a chance to be updated on both national and international policy and practice, hear the views of specialists in the field and share lessons from recent events. There will also be the chance for delegates to discuss their own experiences in this hugely challenging aspect of our emergency preparedness work.

Presentations from:

- Disaster Action
- Home Office
- Foreign and Commonwealth Office
- Department for Communities and Local Government
- UK Aviation Emergency Planning Group
- UK DVI
- International Responders
- Centre for Anatomy and Human Identification, University of Dundee
- Centre for Death and Society, University of Bath

To book and for more information:

<http://www.epcollege.com/epc/news/meeting-the-challenges-of-a-new-age-responding-to/>

## **Medicine and Mortality 1300-1900**

21-22 September 2013

Weald & Downland Open Air Museum

"It is often said that, if you were ever offered the chance to visit the past, you should decline on medical grounds" *Ian Mortimer*

This weekend focuses on domestic rituals around human health, sickness, medicine and the rituals and trappings of death through the ages.

For further information or to make a booking please use the following link:

<http://www.wealddown.co.uk/Events-Information/Medicine-and-Mortality-1300-1900>

or contact us on 01243 811931.

## **Deconstructing Donation: Proposing a Sociology of Donation**

In recent years, there has been increased political and social interest in the donation of organs, gametes, blood and tissue. As a result, the concept of donation and the related activities of procurement and collection, processing and banking, allocation, are emerging as the focus of studies once again. Researchers are challenging existing understanding and long-standing assumptions surrounding the notion of donation, suggesting that a Sociology of Donation is emerging.

Dr Laura Machin, a Lecturer at Lancaster Medical School, explores the social and ethical aspects of donation. She wishes to bring together researchers and teachers interested in exploring the study of donation at a future workshop, likely to be early 2014. Key aims of the interdisciplinary workshop will be to generate interest in a Sociology of Donation, and gather support for a proposal to the British Sociological Association to establish a Study Group on the subject.

If you are interested in attending the workshop, would be willing to support the proposal, or would like to be involved in the organisation of the proposed study group, please contact Laura [l.machin@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:l.machin@lancaster.ac.uk) 01524 594 973.

## **Call for papers**

### **“Ritual and Local Traditions of Funerary in Islam: Historical and Contemporary Issues.”**

Call for Papers: The Journal of the Anthropology of the Contemporary Middle East and Central Eurasia (ACME)

Death ritual is an expression of cultural attitudes, values and ideals passed down by parents, and generations before, which an individual learns as a member of society. Death is painful and emotional time, yet it can be filled with hope and mercy for our departed ones. Many believe that death is the beginning of eternal life, and it is not the end of a person's existence, we ask for our creator's mercy to protect the departed ones and wish for their happiness and peace in their new life and form. The correct performance of the rituals associated with death is of utmost importance, and while the purpose of the rituals and places of the burials continuing to serve the purpose, but many of the rituals themselves have altered in form to adjust to changes in

our respected societies.

Against this background, we are seeking original research papers that can contribute to the themes of funerary rituals from various perspectives such as:

How have funerary practices and notions of death among Muslims been affected by globalization? Iconic and symbolism of Islamic Funerary Architecture/ landscape, memorial gardens.

Suggested themes (not limited to this list) can include:

- The death of Muslim in the west/ Dying in Diaspora Dilemma of where and how to bury the bodies of Muslim men, women, and children, Muslim only burial grounds, contradiction to the religious aspects while meeting mandatory city code regulations.
- Exploring the significance of various symbolic forms of behaviour and practices associated with death
- Muslim Tombs and Ethnic Folklore: Such as Charters for Hui Identity/ or other Muslims living in non-majority Muslim nations or communities.
- Educational text materials /Representation of Death in school textbooks
- Mortuary practices of a specific group(s)
- Obituaries: (both contemporary and historical) textual styles / ways of public announcements
- Cemetery site selection
- Death Registration System
- Grave Stones and other Grave Markings

For information on the journal and guidelines to authors please visit:

<http://www.seankingston.co.uk/Instructionsforauthors.pdf>.

The full call for papers can be found at: <http://h-net.msu.edu/cgi-bin/logbrowse.pl?trx=vx&list=H-Islamart&month=1305&msg=kWtZACLCpJi0miD6Wvsd2w>

The deadline is 31 October 2013.

You should send your original manuscript by email attachment directly to:

Professor Faegheh Shirazi, Editor of this special issue

[fshirazi@uts.cc.utexas.edu](mailto:fshirazi@uts.cc.utexas.edu)

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Forum for Disaster Victim Identification**

04 March 2014

London

This annual networking forum gathers together experts in DVI to discuss current legislation and techniques involved in DVI.

Meeting Chair: Professor Sue Black, Centre for Anatomy and Human Identification, University of Dundee, Scotland.

This event has CPD accreditation and is part of the Forensic Forums 2014 series – [www.forensicforums2014.com](http://www.forensicforums2014.com)

The Deadline for abstract submissions for oral presentation is January 10th 2014. Abstracts for poster presentation only can be submitted up to two weeks before the event. There will be a best poster prize.

You can download the instructions for authors at:

[www.euroscicon.com/AbstractsForOralAndPosterPresentation.pdf](http://www.euroscicon.com/AbstractsForOralAndPosterPresentation.pdf)

## **Events Calendar**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Contact/Information</b>
29 May- 21 Jul 2013	'Deadness'	Matt's Gallery, Copperfield Road, London	<a href="http://www.mattsgallery.org/artists/baseman/exhibition-4.php">http://www.mattsgallery.org/artists/baseman/exhibition-4.php</a>
13-14 June 2013	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy in cancer and palliative care	St Christopher's Hospice, London	<a href="http://www.stchristophers.org.uk/education">www.stchristophers.org.uk/education</a>
17 June 2013	Death Cafe	Hampstead, London	<a href="http://www.deathcafe.com/2013/04/death-cafe-in-hampstead-london-with.html">http://www.deathcafe.com/2013/04/death-cafe-in-hampstead-london-with.html</a>
27 June 2013	Dementia London 2013: a national priority	Central London	<a href="http://www.regonline.co.uk/Register/Checkin.aspx?EventID=1193480&amp;lbrd=1&amp;rtypeid=273988">http://www.regonline.co.uk/Register/Checkin.aspx?EventID=1193480&amp;lbrd=1&amp;rtypeid=273988</a>
27-30 June 2013	Continuity and Changes in Death & Dying	Turku-Abo, Finland	<a href="mailto:Antje.kahl@tu-berlin.de">Antje.kahl@tu-berlin.de</a> <a href="mailto:sachmerda@uni-leipzig.de">sachmerda@uni-leipzig.de</a>
28 June 2013	Compassionate Conversations: Supporting people at a time of loss	The Rowans Hospice, Waterlooville	<a href="http://www.rowanshospice.co.uk">www.rowanshospice.co.uk</a>
29-30 June 2013	CDAS Conference 2013 – New Economies of Death: the commodification of dying, the dead body, and bereavement.	BRLSI, Bath	<a href="http://www.bath.ac.uk/cdas/news/conferences/index.html#cdasconf13">http://www.bath.ac.uk/cdas/news/conferences/index.html#cdasconf13</a>

1 – 3 July 2013	Cremation & Burial Conference & Exhibition 2013	The Holiday Inn, Stratford-upon- Avon	<a href="http://www.cbce.org.uk">www.cbce.org.uk</a>
5 July 2013	Making every moment matter in the classroom: Using creative methods	Sobell Study Centre, Oxford	<a href="http://www.sobell-house.org.uk/Courses%20and%20Bookings.aspx">http://www.sobell-house.org.uk/Courses%20and%20Bookings.aspx</a>
07-10 July 2013	5 <sup>th</sup> International Conference on Ageing and Spirituality	University of Edinburgh	<a href="https://events-made-easy.com/Client_Event_Sites/tes18008/2011-10-105/cgi-bin/php/home.php">https://events-made-easy.com/Client_Event_Sites/tes18008/2011-10-105/cgi-bin/php/home.php</a>
09-10 July 2013	Cruse Bereavement Care Annual Conference 'Living with Grief'	Warwick University	<a href="http://www.cruse.org.uk/conferece">http://www.cruse.org.uk/conferece</a>
09-11 July 2013	Melancholy Minds and Painful Bodies: Genealogy, Geography, Pathogeny	University of Liverpool	<a href="http://embodiments.liv.ac.uk">http://embodiments.liv.ac.uk</a>
18 July 2013	Achieving the Best End of Life care for Patients	Westminster, London	<a href="http://www.westminster-briefing.com/home/health-social-care/event-detail1/newsarticle/acheiving-the-best-end-of-life-care-for-patients/">http://www.westminster-briefing.com/home/health-social-care/event-detail1/newsarticle/acheiving-the-best-end-of-life-care-for-patients/</a>
24-25 July 2013	Meeting the Challenges of a New Age: Responding to a Mass Fatalities Scenario	The HawkHills, Easingwold, York	<a href="http://www.epcollege.com/epc/news/meeting-the-challenges-of-a-new-age-responding-to/">http://www.epcollege.com/epc/news/meeting-the-challenges-of-a-new-age-responding-to/</a>
26-28 July 2013	Facing Loss, Healing Grief	West Cork, Ireland	<a href="http://www.spcare.org/en/edu/events-ireland/289-cj-201310ds.html">http://www.spcare.org/en/edu/events-ireland/289-cj-201310ds.html</a>
05-08 Sept 2013	11 <sup>th</sup> Death, Dying and Disposal Conference	The Open University, Milton Keynes, UK	<a href="http://www8.open.ac.uk/health-and-social-care/main/research/research-events/death-dying-and-disposal-11">http://www8.open.ac.uk/health-and-social-care/main/research/research-events/death-dying-and-disposal-11</a>
06-08 Sept 2013	The Good Funeral Awards	Bournemouth	<a href="http://goodfuneralawards.co.uk/nominate/">http://goodfuneralawards.co.uk/nominate/</a>
12 Sept 2013	Distressing Imagery & Bereavement	St Christopher's Hospice, London	<a href="http://www.stchristophers.org.uk">www.stchristophers.org.uk</a>

14 Sept 2013	Victorian Body Parts	St Bartholomew's Pathology Museum, Clerkenwell, London	<a href="http://victorianbodyparts.wordpress.com/call-for-papers/">http://victorianbodyparts.wordpress.com/call-for-papers/</a>
19-20 Sept 2013	Malady and Mortality: Illness, Disease and Death Literary and Visual Culture Conference	Falmouth University, Cornwall	<a href="http://www.falmouth.ac.uk">www.falmouth.ac.uk</a>
20-22 Sept 2013	Exploring the Extraordinary 5th Conference	York	<a href="http://etenetwork.weebly.com">http://etenetwork.weebly.com</a>
21-22 Sept 2013	Medicine and Mortality 1300-1900	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum	<a href="http://www.wealddown.co.uk/Events-Information/Medicine-and-Mortality-1300-1900">http://www.wealddown.co.uk/Events-Information/Medicine-and-Mortality-1300-1900</a>
24 Sept 2013	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy in cancer and palliative care	St Christopher's Hospice, London	<a href="http://www.stchristophers.org.uk/education">www.stchristophers.org.uk/education</a>
26-28 Sept 2013	Eastern and Western Ways of Death. The Sixth International Conference on Death and Dying in 18th – 21st Century Europe	University of Alba Iulia, Romania	<a href="http://www.death-studies.ro">www.death-studies.ro</a>
21-23 Oct 2013	Help the Hospices Conference	Bournemouth	<a href="http://www.helpthehospices.org.uk/conference2013">www.helpthehospices.org.uk/conference2013</a>
23-27 Oct 2013	IR14: Resistance & Appropriation. Grieving and Bereavement Panel	Denver, Colorado	Ylva Hård af Segerstad <a href="mailto:hardy@chalmers.se">hardy@chalmers.se</a> Mathias Klang <a href="mailto:klangm@chalmers.se">klangm@chalmers.se</a> <a href="http://ir14.aoir.org">http://ir14.aoir.org</a>
1 Nov 2013	Cognitive approaches to working with families	St Christopher's Hospice, London	<a href="http://www.stchristophers.org.uk/education">www.stchristophers.org.uk/education</a>
6-10 Nov 2013	Facing Death and Finding Hope – Spiritual care training for end of life	Rigpa Centre, Berlin	<a href="http://www.spcare.org/en/education/events-germany/270-fdfh-berlin-2011.html">http://www.spcare.org/en/education/events-germany/270-fdfh-berlin-2011.html</a>

7-9 Nov 2013	Making Sense of Death & Dying	Athens, Greece	<a href="http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/probing-the-boundaries/making-sense-of/dying-and-death/call-for-papers/">http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/probing-the-boundaries/making-sense-of/dying-and-death/call-for-papers/</a>
14 Nov 2013	Mindfulness and Bereavement	St Christopher's Hospice, London	<a href="http://www.stchristophers.org.uk">www.stchristophers.org.uk</a>
15 Nov 2013	Children and Death	BSA London Meeting Room	<a href="http://www.britsoc.co.uk/specialisms/DDB.htm#_activity">http://www.britsoc.co.uk/specialisms/DDB.htm#_activity</a>
29 Nov – 1 Dec 2013	Facing Loss, Healing Grief	West Cork, Ireland	<a href="http://www.spcare.org/en/edu/events-ireland/291-flhg-201311-ie.html">http://www.spcare.org/en/edu/events-ireland/291-flhg-201311-ie.html</a>
03-06 Dec 2013	VI International Symposium on Brain Death & Disorders of Consciousness	Havana, Cuba	<a href="http://www.komascience-cuba.com">http://www.komascience-cuba.com</a>
04 Mar 2014	3rd Forum for Disaster Victim Identification	London	<a href="http://www.regonline.co.uk/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1213669">http://www.regonline.co.uk/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1213669</a>
23-26 Apr 2014	European Social Science History Conference 2014	Vienna	<a href="http://Esshc.socialhistory.org">Esshc.socialhistory.org</a>
01-04 Oct 2014	A matter of lifedeath	University of Manitoba, Canada	<a href="http://www.umanitoba.ca/mosaic">www.umanitoba.ca/mosaic</a>

Please do let us know of any events you think would be of interest to other subscribers. You can find more details on all of these events, and events featured in previous newsletters, on the CDAS web pages [www.bath.ac.uk/cdas](http://www.bath.ac.uk/cdas)