

# **Centre for Death & Society**

# October 2021 Newsletter

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# **Director's Note**

Welcome to this bumper edition of the CDAS Newsletter! There's a lot to share this month, with many CDAS events to sign up to, people and studies to introduce, and publications to promote. As always, please share your good news, research and activities with us via <a href="mailto:cdas@bath.ac.uk">cdas@bath.ac.uk</a>, we're very happy to promote the work of the CDAS network.

Our CDAS events are booming right now, with the following taking place in the next few weeks:

- -- On November 16, CDAS Ph.D. student George Gumisiriza will present an in-person talk on 'Ambiguities, Death and Power: How has Covid-19 pandemic amplified the use of power to legitimize inequalities and dependency among communities?' for the Department of Social and Policy Sciences Postgraduate Student Seminar series. Further details about the presentation are in this month's newsletter and will be sent out before November 16 and posted online.
- -- On November 25, University of Bath Mathematician and frequent media commentator Dr. Kit Yates is doing an online CDAS In Conversation event at 7pm. The title of that event is: 'Data, Deaths, and COVID-19: Why delays in UK Government action led to unnecessary lives lost at the start of the pandemic'. Further details about the presentation are in this month's newsletter and will be sent out before November 25 and posted online.
- -- On November 30, CDAS is running an <u>in-person half-day seminar</u> featuring amazing presentations by CDAS Alum Dr. Renske Visser discussing 'Collaboration with people with lived experience of prison: reflections on researching cancer care in custodial settings', and CDAS Associate Su Chard and poet Emily Willis discussing the 'Written in Stone' project. Earlier that same day, CDAS Ph.D. student Sam Hooker will also present her research in her talk 'Caring for the body at home after death'. Further details about the presentations are in this month's newsletter and will be sent out before November 30 and posted online.
- -- On December 07, CDAS Visiting Fellow Dr. Ori Katz will give an online seminar for the Department of Social and Policy Sciences on 'My Mother Is Not Newsworthy': Framing Missingness in Israel'. Further details about Ori's talk are in this month's newsletter and will be sent out before December 07 and posted online.

We're also really pleased to welcome to CDAS three new Ph.D. students, **Sam Hooker**, **George Gumisiriza**, and **Alastair Comery**. All three students have been awarded prestigious fully funded PhD scholarships from the Southwest Doctoral Training Partnership (SWDTP) after a highly competitive selection process. Their scholarships are a clear sign of their respective ability and potential, and the investment the University of Bath and SWDTP is making in death studies and CDAS. After the events of the last 18 months we expect that this will only continue, so if you're interested in studying for a PhD with CDAS there has never been a better time. If you're interested please contact John and Kate as soon as possible, as the competition for scholarships for 2022/23 entry is about to open any day. In the meantime, welcome Sam, George and Alastair and we hope you have a very happy three years studying for your PhDs with us.

See everyone online and in-person in November, and enjoy the bumper newsletter!

## **Recent Publications**

'My memories of the time we had together are more important': direct cremation and the privatisation of UK funerals', Sociology, Onlinefirst

Woodthorpe, K., Rumble, H., Corden, A., Birrell, J., Schut, H., Stroebe, M., Newsom, C. and Smith. Y.

The qualitative results from the Cremation and Grief project housed in CDAS between 2017-2020 have just been published, with this paper detailing the reasons people chose a direct cremation and how they felt about it afterwards. Authors Kate and Hannah will be promoting the paper and the findings in the next few months. Watch this space.

# **Other News**

# **The Collective for Radical Death Studies**

Throughout October CDAS PhD student George Gumisiriza has been curating a programme for *The Collective for Radical Death Studies* and its #RadDeathReads series. The last two events are this weekend coming, please sign up with the link below:

# WEEK 1 (Oct. 9 & 10):

Contextualizing the terms *home*, *African deathways*, and *change*The Myth of Return and Contemporary Repatriationscapes in African deathways

# WEEK 2 (Oct. 16 & 17):

Cultural Resilience through Death, Spirituality, and Imaginations Connecting to Cultural Death Ontologies in *home*, *death rituals* and *change* 

# WEEK 3 (Oct. 23 & 24):

Meddled African Deathways by Colonialism: Oral traditions versus Written Authorities Change and Dramatization in African Funerals in African Deathways

## WEEK 4 (Oct. 30 & 31):

African Traditional Deathways, Nature, and Interdependence

Register for *The Myth or Promise of Home Return: Changing African Deathways* - https://radicaldeathstudies.com/decolonizing-death/raddeathreads/october-2021/?amp

# Postgraduate Seminar Talk by CDAS Ph.D. student George Gumisiriza (in person)

**Title:** 'Ambiguities, Death and Power: How has Covid-19 pandemic amplified the use of power to legitimize inequalities and dependency among communities?'

Date: November 16

**Time:** 13:00-14:00

**Location:** In Person talk in the Chancellors' Building 4.5 (University of Bath)

**Abstract:** From a Foucauldian perspective, the presentation examines how power framed ontological attitudes regarding the handling of the Covid-19 pandemic in the UK. I explore the narratives at the start of the pandemic highlighting the unclear guidelines, inequalities, dependency, and death. Since Covid-19 is a global pandemic, I draw some examples from other parts of the world. The presentation ends with the view that power may have subdued the past Covid-19 losses, but where is the UK now and is it moving forward?

# **CDAS** In Conversation Event

**Title:** 'Data, Deaths, and COVID-19: Why delays in UK Government action led to unnecessary lives lost at the start of the pandemic'.

Date: November 25th

**Time:** 19:00 BST

**Location: ZOOM** 

To sign up click here

In this next CDAS In Conversation event, Dr. Kit Yates from the University of Bath's Department of Mathematics discusses making sense of the deluge of data surrounding UK mortality rates and COVID-19, how aspects of that data informed (and didn't inform) public health policy, and most importantly why UK Government delays in taking action at the start of the pandemic led to significantly higher numbers of deaths.

Come prepared to ask all your COVID-19 data, modelling, and numbers questions.

### Bio:

Dr. Kit Yates is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Mathematical Sciences and codirector of the Centre for Mathematical Biology at the University of Bath. Alongside his academic position, Kit is also an author and science communicator. His first book, *The Maths* of Life and Death, is about the places where maths can have an impact on our everyday lives without us even realising it.

His research demonstrates that mathematics can be used to describe all sorts of real-world phenomena: from embryo formation to locust swarming and from sleeping sickness to eggshell patterning. He is particularly interested in the role that randomness plays in Biology. His research into Mathematical Biology has been covered by the BBC, the Guardian, the Telegraph, RTE, Scientific American and Reuters amongst others.

# CDAS Seminar: 30<sup>th</sup> November (in person)

Our first CDAS seminar of the year will <u>IN PERSON</u> on the University of Bath campus, and we hope to provide opportunities for learning during the talks and networking at lunchtime and during coffee breaks. We can't wait to see you in person and talk!

If you would like to attend sign up here.

We will send out details about transport, lateral flow testing and meals nearer the time, along with confirming the exact timings. *The times below are provisional*.

Time	Activity	Location
12pm – 1pm	Lunch (provided)	Chancellors Building
		4.5
1pm – 2pm	PhD seminar: Sam Hooker "Caring for the	CB 5.5
	body at home after death"	
2pm – 2.30pm	Coffee break (provided)	CB 4.5
2.30pm –	CDAS seminar: Renske Visser 'Collaboration	CB 4.5
3.30pm	with people with lived experience of prison:	
	reflections on researching cancer care in	
	custodial settings"	
3.30pm –	CDAS Seminar: Su Chard and Emily Willis	CB 4.5
4.30pm	"Written in Stone"	

## **Abstracts**

# Sam Hooker: Caring for the body at home after death

The current response when a person dies tends towards quick removal of the body from the location of death. Few people in the UK now spend any considerable length of time with the body after death has occurred, yet anecdotal evidence suggests spending time with the body could help the bereaved to adjust to and accept the death. In this seminar I will present the findings from my master's research examining professional opinions on the subject and looking at how much information is available to the public on how to care for the body at home.

# Renske Visser: Collaboration with people with lived experience of prison: reflections on researching cancer care in custodial settings

Patient and public involvement is increasingly considered important in health research. This paper reflects on involving people with lived experience in a study exploring cancer care in prison and how by doing this it enriched the research process. Prison research is challenging, but collaboration between lived experience and academic researchers can help to better prepare for the field, to ask more meaningful questions and to create rapport with participants. These types of collaborations can be powerful avenues for skill development for both academic and lived experience researchers, but they require an investment of time and a willingness for shared learning.

# Su Chard and Emily Willis: Written in Stone

Su Chard and Emily Wills spent a year looking at the words brought to and used at Gloucester Crematoria. They recorded their findings in new poetry, photography and by listening to and responding to conversations with staff and visitors. This seminar will cover Su and Emily's experience of that nine months and consider the uses of Crematoria other than just the honouring of the dead and the disposal of bodies. Crematoria are rich, underused sites and the hope is this seminar will cause you to look differently at them.

Emily Wills is a poet and GP in Gloucestershire. Poet in resident at DDD14 University of Bath. Su Chard is an independent funeral celebrant and a CDAS Associate.

# **Department Seminar- 7th December (online)**

CDAS is hosting a Department Research Seminar by CDAS Associate Dr Ori Katz on the 7th of December. The seminar will take place online at 11:00 to 12:30pm BST; to sign up click here.

Dr Ori Katz, CDAS Associate

'My Mother Is Not Newsworthy': Framing Missingness in Israel'

In this talk, I explore the processes of framing civilian (as opposed to military-related) 'missingness' in Israel. In the absence of cultural scripts relating to civilian missingness, I argue, those left behind must use accepted meta-narratives to assert the newsworthiness of these stories. I explore two kinds of framings that are used, both reflecting an acceptance of the life/death dichotomy: a collective framing ('the child of us all'), and an individual one ('it can happen to anyone'). Ultimately, both framings generally fail to achieve wide resonance in Israel. Missingness might then be constructed as a stable category, challenging the distinction between life and death.

# Research project launch

'Voicing Loss: Meanings and Implications of Participation by Bereaved People in Inquests'; A study by the Institute for Crime & Justice Policy Research, Birkbeck, University of London and the Centre for Death & Society, University of Bath

We are delighted to announce the start of a 2.5 year ESRC funded project, working collaboratively with Birkbeck, University of London. We are indebted to Dr Christine Valentine who co-wrote this successful bid, thank you Christine!

CDAS based research Fellows Lorna Templeton and Dr Hannah Rumble are very excited to be working with colleagues at the Institute for Crime & Justice Policy Research, Birkbeck, on an ESRC-funded research project concerning coroners' courts and the coronial process in England and Wales. The project is primarily investigating what it means - in theory and practice - for bereaved people to be 'at the heart of' inquest proceedings, which is a key policy driver of the Criminal Justice Act 2009.

A key strand of the project involves qualitative fieldwork with bereaved people, legal practitioners (including coroners), professional witnesses and members of support organisations. Lorna and Hannah will broadly ask research participants to reflect on their experiences of inquests (and of the wider coronial investigation process of which an inquest is a key part), the role of bereaved people and their experiences of inquests.

The research team plan to conduct fieldwork from early 2022 once they have obtained the necessary University ethics approvals. You can find further information about the research project and the research team members here.

If you could assist us in signposting or recruiting (for interviews) any of these participant groups, then we'd appreciate hearing from you:

- practitioners working in coroners' courts (coroners, coroners' officers, legal practitioners who represent families & those who represent state and other bodies).
- individuals who have given evidence to inquests in a professional capacity, whether as interested persons or simply as witnesses. (E.g. health care practitioners, prison officers, police officers, transport workers, emergency services etc.)
- bereaved individuals who have attended inquests, whether as interested persons or as observers or supporters.

Direct any enquiries and offers of research assistance to me, Dr Hannah Rumble, via email using <a href="https://hrs.nc.uk">hrs.06@bath.ac.uk</a>

# **Introductions**



Welcome to Dr Imogen Jones, who joins CDAS as an Associate. Dr. Jones's research lies at the intersection of law, medicine and death studies. Her most recent project considers the values, attitudes and practices which inform the autopsy stage of unexpected death investigation. This exploratory project, funded by the Leverhulme Trust, involved interviewing coronial pathologists and anatomical pathology technologists about their works. This project complements and builds upon her earlier work with Home Office Registered Forensic Pathologists (about suspicious death investigation). You can find more out about emerging themes from that research, as well as Imogen's other/previous work around law and death here: https://deadbodiesandthelaw.wordpress.com/

Welcome to Dr Lindsay Udall who joins CDAS as an Associate. Dr Udall is a historical archaeologist who graduated with her PhD from the University of Bristol in 2019. She is also an alumnus of the University of Birmingham where she obtained her MA in Landscape Archaeology & Geomatics and her BA Honours in Archaeology.

During her career, Lindsay has worked for the Environment Agency and in architectural c onservation before holding research posts with the Bath Preservation Trust and the Arnos Vale Cemetery Trust. The latter of which, Arnos Vale Cemetery, became the subject of her

AHRC CDA PhD.

Lindsay is now a specialist on the development of the Victorian Garden cemetery, deaths capes and crematoria. She has a range of research interests in death and memory which include, exploring landscape as artefact and technology, the theory and application of genealogical research concerning cemeteries and burials grounds, necro geography, network theory, and microhistory.

Lindsay has previously designed a course on how to research and map churchyards for students and lectured to students and



genealogists. She has also been a trustee for the Ledger Stone Survey of England and Wales. Recently Lindsay co established a research consultancy specialising in the Arts and Heritage sector.

And last but by no means least, welcome to Dr. Helen Frisby, who joins CDAS as an Associate. Dr Frisby obtained her PhD on Victorian funeral customs from the University of Leeds in 2009. She continues actively to research, publish and speak on this and related topics, including appearances on the History Channel and BBC.

Helen's more recent research, conducted with Dr Stuart Prior, investigates the informal occupational culture of frontline cemetery staff. Helen is Secretary of the Association for the Study of Death & Society (ASDS) and a Council Member of the Folklore Society. She has previously taught British and European history at UWE Bristol, and on the University of Bath's Foundation Degree in Funeral Services. Helen is Researcher Development Manager at UWE Bristol, with particular expertise in writing skills, qualitative research methods and PGR identity and wellbeing.

Helen is also hosting 3 different upcoming talks all about different death-related topics; on November 6<sup>th</sup>, December 9<sup>th</sup>, and January 5<sup>th</sup> 2022.

# PhD student news

We are delighted to welcome back PhD student Terumi Okaku, who has had a year out from her studies to start her family. Congratulations on the arrival of your little boy Aki Terumi, and welcome back to CDAS.

Terumi's charity "Live-on" has just launched a new website "Loss and Grief During Covid 19." The website provides resources to support those who have lost someone important during the pandemic - whether or not due to Covid. The information of the website includes "experience loss in the midst ambiguity", "Disenfranchised grief," and many ways for people to take care of themselves. Find out more about the information available here: <a href="https://liveoncorona.studio.site/english">https://liveoncorona.studio.site/english</a>. Please share with interested colleagues.

You can also check out Terumi's work in a very recent television interview with NHK world here. The link is Available until 10th Nov 2021:

https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/news/videos/20211011213521057/

# Past Events

# Insights from the death, funerary practices, and cemeteries

• This is part two of a three-part writeup on the Casnewydd (Newport) Event held on (28/07/21 & 11/08/21) by George Gumisiriza and Sam Hooker, PhD Students. Stay tuned to the next newsletter for more!

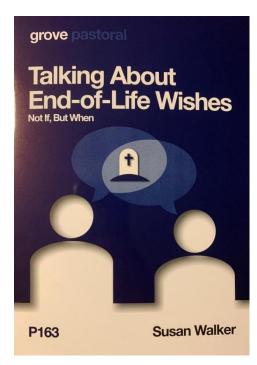
# The "bizarre" death and funeral of Thomas Hardy (1840-1928)

We initiated the conversation in the first session by eliciting some narratives from the participants about the death and funeral of Thomas Hardy before supplying the documented handouts about it. The common idea in the folk narratives was that Hardy's death was "bizarre" with claims a cat ate Hardy's heart when his corpse was opened up. The narratives claimed that it was probably something else, such as a pig carcass that was buried in Dorset instead of Hardy's heart. This was conversation with wit on death, but less intensity. However, after reading the handout on first accounts of Hardy's death and funeral, the conversation became more focused on how fame can be used to defy the wish of the deceased person. Hardy's Will states that he wished to be buried in Stinsford Churchyard in Dorset, near the grave of his parents and probably in his wife Emma's grave, or close to the foot of Emma's grave (Cox, Stevens, 1968). The discussion highlighted that the jealous of Florence Emily Dugdale, Hardy's second wife might have been vindicated by the British government claiming Hardy's body, rather than bury him in the first wife's grave. The participants contemplated on the pressure from the community regarding the removal of Hardy's body West Minster Abbey in London. It was considered that the removal of Hardy's heart labelled his funeral bizarre. However, the discussion pondered whether the involvement of the community would matter nowadays.

# **CDAS COMMUNITY NEWS**

## **Recent Publications**

# BOOK LAUNCH: Talking About End of Life Wishes: Not If, But When?



Growing out of Dr Walker's work as a Christian minister and my PhD research, *Talking About End of Life Wishes: Not If, But When? is a* 28-page booklet published by Grove (grovebooks.co.uk) and is written from a Christian perspective but covers issues around end of life that are entirely relevant to everyone.

### Back of book text:

If death is such a certainty, why do so many of us avoid talking about it? Articulating our wishes about the end of our lives is one way of ensuring that we take care of our leave of this world with hope in our hearts. This booklet encourages us to talk about our own inventible death. Speaking openly about our end-of-life wishes can not only equip our loves ones to carry them out- it could be our last gift to those whom we love.

# BOOK LAUNCH: Narratives of Covid: Stories of Loss Death and Grief

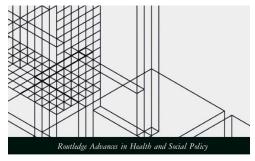
Open University academics Dr Erica Borgstrom and Dr Sharon Mallon have published an edited book entitled *Narratives of Covid: Stories of Loss Death and Grief.* The book was inspired by their longstanding professional interest in experiences of death and loss, and has been driven by a strong desire to ensure individual narratives of loss during Covid-19 were formally documented.

The collection contains 30 contributions, from OU students, staff and alumni. It showcases individual accounts and provides a space to acknowledge and share the profound experiences of loss, grief and death that have taken place during the pandemic so far. It is hoped that the experiences shared in the book will resonate with anyone who reads it. Collectively, it provides an important space for alternative voices and shared grief, while simultaneously allowing readers to process the emotional impact the pandemic has had on so many of us.

The book is suitable for personal reading, teaching, and academic research. In order to ensure it reaches as many people as possible it has been made available as a <u>free eBook from a</u> range of platforms. A print-on-demand paperback is also available via Amazon for £4.99.

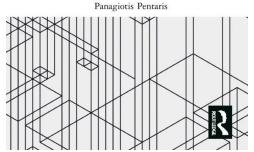
The book has been supported by the Research development fund of the School of Health Wellbeing and Social Care and is supported by the Open Thanatology Research Group at The Open University.

# BOOK LAUNCH: Death, Grief and Loss in the Context of COVID-19



# DEATH, GRIEF AND LOSS IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19

Edited by



This book provides detailed analysis of the manifold ways in which COVID-19 has influenced death, dying and bereavement. Through three parts: Reconsidering Death and Grief in Covid-19; Institutional Care and Covid-19; and the Impact of COVID-19 in Context, the book explores COVID-19 as a reminder of our own and our communities' fragile existence, but also the driving force for discovering new ways of meaning-making, performing rites and rituals, and conceptualising death, grief and life. Contributors include scholars, researchers, policymakers and practitioners, accumulating in a multi-disciplinary, diverse and international set of ideas and perspectives that will help the reader examine closely how Covid-19 has invaded social life and (re)shaped trauma and loss.

More information available here <a href="https://www.routledge.com/Death-Grief-and-Loss-in-the-Context-of-COVID-19/Pentaris/p/book/9780367647322">https://www.routledge.com/Death-Grief-and-Loss-in-the-Context-of-COVID-19/Pentaris/p/book/9780367647322</a>

Join us on 25 November, 2021, from 17:00 to 19:00 (GMT), online, to the book launch of this title. Six of the contributors and the editor of the book will share parts of their work and discuss how this volume was assembled during 2020. The following guests will be with us:

Dr Panagiotis Pentaris (Editor)

Dr Kate Woodthorpe

Dr Jason Schaub

Professor Alisoun Milne

Dr Kami Fletcher

Dr Tamara Waraschinski

Dr Kevin Yuill

For more information and to register click <u>here</u>. The link to join the event will be sent out two days before and on the day of the event, to all who have registered.

# DEATH, GRIEF AND LOSS IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19 Edited by Panagiotis Pentaris August 2021: 6.14 x 9.21: 300pp

3 illustrations

Hb: 978-0-367-64732-2 | £120.00 eBook: 978-1-003-12599-0

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# 20% Discount with this Flyer

# Death, Grief and Loss in the Context of COVID-19

Edited by Panagiotis Pentaris, University of Greenwich,

Series: Routledge Advances in Health and Social Policy

This book provides detailed analysis of the manifold ways in which COVID-19 has influenced death, dying and bereavement. It will be of interest to all scholars and students of death studies, biomedicine, and end of life care as well as those working in sociology, social work, medicine, social policy, cultural studies, anthropology, psychology, counselling and nursing more broadly.

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For more information visit: www.routledge.com/9780367647322

# BOOK LAUNCH: Hodder & Stoughton acquire gripping memoir from UK's top disaster expert in 8-way auction

Hodder & Stoughton will publish the moving and uplifting memoir of disaster expert Lucy Easthope. Non-fiction publisher Kirty Topiwala acquired UK & Commonwealth (excluding Canada) rights from Jo Unwin at JULA in a passionately fought 8-way auction. When the Dust Settles: Stories of Love, Loss and Hope from an Expert in Disaster will be published in March 2022 as Hodder's lead non-fiction title and will be supported by a major PR and marketing campaign.



Professor Lucy Easthope is one of the world's leading authorities on recovering from disaster. She has been an advisor on nearly every major disaster of the past two decades, from the 2004 Tsunami to the 7/7 bombings, the Salisbury poisonings, the Grenfell fire and most recently has been advising the Prime Minister's Office on the Covid- 19 pandemic. When a plane crashes, a bomb explodes, a city floods or a pandemic begins, she's the one they call.

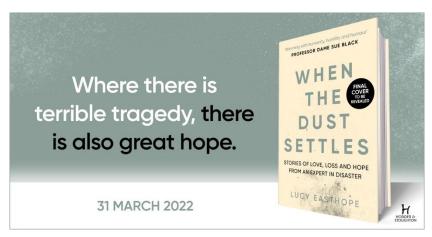
Professor Easthope has travelled across the world in her highly unusual role, seeing the very worst that people have to face and showing that, with care and compassion, we can rebuild from the ashes. She takes us behind the police tape to scenes of destruction and chaos, introducing us to victims and their families, but also to the government briefing rooms and bunkers, where confusion and stale biscuits can reign supreme. She looks back at her own life spent on the edges of disaster – from a Liverpudlian childhood steeped in the Hillsborough tragedy to the many losses and loves of her career. With wisdom, resilience and candour, When the Dust Settles shows us that, where there is terrible tragedy there is also great hope, and that humanity and humour can still be found on the darkest of days.

Professor Easthope grew up in Liverpool and has a degree in law, a PhD in medicine and a Masters in risk, crisis and disaster management. She is a Professor in Practice of Risk and Hazard at the University of Durham and Fellow in Mass Fatalities and Pandemics at the Centre for Death and Society, University of Bath.

Kirty Topiwala said: 'I'm so pleased to be able to finally share the news about Lucy's extraordinary memoir. Lucy's perspective and experience is obviously unique and fascinating, but I was blown away by her writing voice, which is vivid, fierce and frequently hilarious. She finds such humanity and hope in tragedy. Books don't often make me cry(!) but this one has, multiple times."

Professor Easthope said: 'When I started to work with Jo Unwin we talked about a book that covered 25 years of planning for – and recovery from – disasters and pandemics. I had no idea when I started to write how mainstream and relevant my stories would become. I've

poured everything into writing this book and I am thrilled to be working with Hodder and Kirty on bringing these stories out into the world.'



#### PRESS RELEASE

Jo Unwin said: 'Hodder were very clearly the right team to honour this important book and this extraordinary and hugely impressive woman.'

For further information please contact: rebecca.mundy@hodder.co.uk 07810 436 052

For translation rights please contact: translation@cwagency.co.uk

For film and TV rights please contact: jo@jounwin.co.uk

Photo credit: Caitlin Chescoe

## **Other News**

# Online courses available from the Glasgow End of Life Studies Group

Fall recruitment has opened for the fully online programme of <u>postgraduate study</u> in End of Life Studies. There are 3 intakes in total throughout the year (in September, April, and January). Learners can work towards a postgraduate certificate, diploma or MSc, and can be based anywhere in the world as it's fully online.

The fifth run of the free MOOC (Massive Online Open Course) is starting July 12th. It's called End of Life Care: Challenges and Innovations. They currently have learners from 60 countries and the course has been rated as one of the top 100 MOOCs by Class Central. This MOOC runs approximately three times a year.

## **NatCen**

NatCen is an independent, non-profit research organisation – has been awarded funding by UKRI and Arts and Humanities Research Council to explore experiences of bereavement during the Covid-19 pandemic.

This study will explore how the Covid-19 pandemic has affected usual customs and practices surrounding death, bereavement and funerals, and how these changes might alter the type of formal and informal support that individuals may need, as well as implications for funeral practices and public health messaging.

This research will benefit those impacted by the pandemic now and in future by improving people's bereavement journey, as well as benefitting staff who deliver funerary services by providing the right support they need in the context of a pandemic.

We are asking funeral directors or other staff involved in the organisation and delivery of services within the CDAS network who would be interested in being interviewed as part of the study.

This is a valuable opportunity for professionals in the funeral industry to contribute to an important piece of research and have their collective voice heard. At the end of the study we will bring the points these participants have discussed together with information from interviews with bereaved people to produce a report, with key findings presented at a workshop. At the workshop, the research findings will be presented to key stakeholders and industry-specific recommendations will be developed which will form the basis of good practice guidance around funerary processes and bereavement support.

This research has been approved by NatCen's Research Ethics Committee.

If you are interested and want to find out more, please go to the NatCen dedicated page to the study: <a href="https://www.natcen.ac.uk/taking-part/studies-in-field/impact-of-covid-19-on-bereavement-and-grief/impact-of-covid-19-on-bereavement-and-grief-fd/">https://www.natcen.ac.uk/taking-part/studies-in-field/impact-of-covid-19-on-bereavement-and-grief-fd/</a>.

# **Suicide Bereavement**

Suicide Bereavement UK are re-launching PABBS evidence-based and evaluated suicide bereavement training across the UK on the 1st November 2021. Significant revisions have been made to incorporate new concepts, based on research, that will inform and guide professionals caring for those bereaved or affected by suicide.

PABBS suicide bereavement training has been informed by a three year study, conducted by experts in suicide prevention, at the University of Manchester and funded (£243k) by NIHR (Research for Patient Benefit) programme.

Four peer-reviewed articles directly associated with PABBS training have been published and are available on our website.

We also have over 300 testimonials, from various professions, on our website.

NIHR Greater Manchester Patient Safety Translational Research Centre, continue to support the role out of PABBS suicide bereavement training to help address a government priority and to meet a national unmet need.

Please visit <u>our website</u> to book your place at a venue in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland or Wales. We also deliver in-house training.

For more information visit Suicide Bereavement UK's website: suicidebereavementuk.com Or contact:

- For individual bookings admin2@suicidebereavementuk.com
- For in-house bookings: <a href="mailto:paul.higham@suicidebereavementuk.com">paul.higham@suicidebereavementuk.com</a>
  Tel: 01706 827 359

# **Research Opportunity**

Why: Your experience is extremely valuable and will help us to improve the support we give to children and families following the death of a parent.

Who: We would like to speak to parents whose partner has died and their children aged between 10 and 18. Families must live in the UK.

If you think you can help or you would like to find out more, please contact me: alexandra.wray@hyms.ac.uk or phone 07423508088 You can also visit the HYMS website for further information www.hyms.ac.uk

Share your story



What: We would like to invite each of you to take part in an interview to hear about how you were supported during this time. It will take around one hour.

When and where:
Online using Zoom or
the telephone and at
a time that is
convenient for you.



yorkshire cancer

The PhD project has been designed with a group of bereaved children and families. Alex plans to speak to around 30 children (aged 10-18) and 30 parents to explore their experiences of support following a parental death, alongside a systematic review of the literature. These findings will be synthesised, and Alex plans to work with

Alex Wray is a nurse by background

currently undertaking a PhD at Hull York

children and surviving parents can best be

supported following a parental death. Alex

bereavement support group 'Dawn' and is

Medical School seeking to explore how

developed and managed an ICU family support service, is currently working in the

Hull University Teaching Hospitals

chair of the Hull Child Bereavement

Advisory Group.

families and experts to use these findings and together develop a model and resources to support bereaved families.

The project has been granted ethical approval from Hull York Medical School Ethics Committee, beginning the search for participants.

<u>In Facing Death Creatively</u> is a conference that promises to be 'mind and heart expanding', you can explore ways in which creative arts provide support and facilitate meaning at the end of life.

As well as full roster of activities and sessions, hear from our wonderful keynote speaker writer and former Children's Laureate and TV presenter Michael Rosen.

Click on the picture for more information.

1 day conference, 12 November 2021

09:30-17:00 (Registration starts at 09:00)

Discount of £66 for students

St Christopher's Hospice, Sydenham, London



# Down to Earth,

Down to Earth, a project of the charity Quaker Social Action, is the only UK-wide helpline supporting people struggling with funeral costs. During 2014-2018, QSA also ran the Fair Funerals campaign, calling on the Government and funeral industry to improve the affordability of funerals for those on low incomes.

Down to Earth are conducting training sessions in the coming month online for £40.

# Let's talk about funerals | 21 Oct

Some conversations aren't easy, and conversations about funerals can often be challenging, or even actively avoided. But there are ways for us to start having more positive conversations about funerals.

# Raising money for funeral costs | 9 Nov

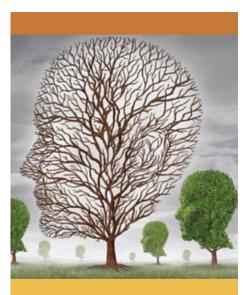
Gain skills and knowledge to better support your clients in this new practical and interactive online workshop from Down to Earth. For those supporting and advising people who have a funeral to arrange, this practical workshop enables you to support your clients better to find funds to meet the cost.

www.downotoearthsupport.org.uk

# **Good Grief in the Workplace**

Providing your team with the right support- CEDAR EDUCATION CIC

A full-day workshop for professionals to improve communications around grief and loss in the workplace. Speaking and listening to someone in the right way at the right time will make a positive difference in the workplace and help employees to support one another in times of distress and loss. But saying the wrong thing, or nothing at all, can set a course for low productivity, increased absenteeism and loss of engagement across a workplace team and their projects.



Date: Wed, 24 November 2021

**Time:** 09:30 – 16:00 GMT

**Location:** Elite Centre for Manufacturing Skills, University of Wolverhampton, Springfield Campus,

Cambridge Street, Wolverhampton, WV10 0JR

Full details and booking here:

https://cedareducation.org.uk/eventbrite-event/

# **CALLS FOR PAPERS**

# All Party Parliamentary Group on Hospice and End of Life Care launch review

The APPG on Hospice and End of Life Care has just launched a review into the lasting impacts of COVID-19 on death, dying and bereavement in England and is inviting people to respond to the APPG's call for written evidence on this subject.

Through this review, the APPG on Hospice and End of Life Care aims to uncover and shine a spotlight on the experiences people have had of death, dying and bereavement during the COVID-19 pandemic and develop an understanding of the lasting impact that the pandemic has had on palliative and end of life care in England. Evidence submitted to this review will inform recommendations the APPG makes to Government and the hospice and end of life care sector to ensure lessons learned during the pandemic lead to improvements in people's experiences of death, dying and bereavement.

The APPG would be very grateful if you could submit evidence to this review and share the attached call for evidence within your networks. In particular, the group would be grateful if you could share this call for evidence with friends and family of those who have died during the pandemic, informal carers of loved ones and frontline workers who provide end of life care to ensure the APPG hears the experiences of these individuals. The deadline to submit written evidence to this review is 16 November 2021.

The first oral evidence session of the review, focused on the experiences people have had of supporting someone at end of life during the pandemic, will take place between 11:30-12:30 on 1 November. If you would like to RSVP to attend this APPG meeting and receive a zoom link please email k.reade@hospiceuk.org.

Do feel free to get in touch if you have any questions or if you would like to RSVP to the oral evidence session on 1 November.

To view the full announcement of review see the end of the newsletter.

# <u>Social Aspects of Death, Dying and Bereavement Study Group Virtual Symposium</u> - Death and Sociology, Thu 2rd Dec 2021

The academic study of death, dying and bereavement has become typically associated with disciplines beyond sociology, such as medicine, psychology and psychiatry. Consequently, knowledge about death, dying and bereavement has often focused more on individuals, symptoms or treatments, and less on a holistic lived experience, the social contexts in which life is lived, and the context(s) in which loss occurs. Yet there is much to be gained from developing a more contextual understanding of DDB. For example, the prevailing assumption that grief is a negative emotion to be addressed can overlook the potential value of this emotion and how death can also mean liberation, economic change and (possibly welcomed) relational shifts. What is more, over the past year with Covid-19 we have been reminded of the limitations of individualistic discourses on death and witnessed the value and meaning of shared experiences of funeral rites and bereavement.

In celebration of the study group entering its third decade, in this year's annual symposium we aim to revisit the group's origins with a focus on what sociology can uniquely offer the study of death, dying and bereavement.

Further details about the group and event can be found here:

https://www.britsoc.co.uk/events/key-bsa-events/bsa-social-aspects-of-death-dying-and-bereavement-study-group-virtual-symposium-death-and-sociology/

# Cultures of Lament, Exile, and Oblivion: A Symposium - Fri 28th Jan 2022

# Call for Papers - Deadline 26th Nov 2021

The Fellows of St John's College, Durham University, in collaboration with the Department of Theology and Religion, warmly invite your interest in this one-day symposium on Cultures of Lament, Exile, and Oblivion. While papers on each theme in relation to specific data, texts, or research questions will structure our proceedings, the Symposium Committee particularly encourages proposals on the nuances and opportunities of their thematic relationship by teasing out expressions of their mutual configuration in the complexity of human lives.

What might lament, exile, or oblivion – and their venerable histories of experience – convey to us today? What are their hermeneutical and ethical implications for our grasp of the human condition? These great themes of existence lie at the heart of our Call for Research and how, across diverse cultures and eras, they are experimentally pursued in the rhyme and reason of ritual-symbolism, narrative, myth, art and architecture, and the dramatic textures of politics and poetry, faith, music, identity, and ethics not least. Why, then, do some human cultures, religious or otherwise, persist in depictions of a world of ultimate oblivion for its mortal inhabitants? What might this declare about our epistemologies, our cultural classifications, our emotional or psychological adjudications of the world into which we are thrown? How might oblivion illuminate discussions in our contemporary age, so often diagnosed with social fracture, amnesia, and malaise, and spring forth the hope of their opposite in belonging, memory, and rootedness?

What kind of truth might exile speak to the human condition at large as well as to the displaced of our own day, the marginalised, those in flight from their homeland? And how or why do these experiences often issue in songs of lament, in ritual weeping, in social action and petition, and in philosophic schemes that bid to reveal or conceal the depth of our vulnerable exposure? In short, how have these brute facts of mortal life aided the pinch or push of intellectual, artistic, architectural, and musical creativity? Wherein lies the longevity of these forms in communicating what so often seems to trouble our words in the throes of lament, exile, or oblivion?

It is, therefore, of particular interest to the Symposium Committee to invite ongoing comment on the definitional and experiential variance of these vast force-fields of thought and practice through a series of worked examples, historical or ethnographic cases, thematic experimentations, or first-hand accounts of personal or professional experience. For they, too, constitute arenas of play and improvisation, challenge, pain, and exhortation – all as part of the ongoing creative challenge of humanity's self-knowing.

### Themes of Interest

We welcome creative interpretations of the following topics in relation to our principal themes (N.B. this is not an exclusive or comprehensive list):

- Identity and/or narratives of belonging and resistance
- Worldviews
- Memory and/or loss
- Tragedy and trauma and/or healing
- Protest and/or prophecy
- Expression/catharsis in literary, artistc, or musical form
- Environmentalism
- Sectarianism
- Ritual-Symbolism
- Diaspora, migration, refugee crisis
- Force
- Therapy and clinical approaches/experiences
- Theories of knowledge
- Escapism
- Desire
- Language, crisis, paradox; meaning making/breaking
- Technology, consumerism, and the periodization of being
- Existential angst/fear, philosophies of extinction
- War and peace; terror and offensive death
- The attention economy
- Qualities of relation, perception, and action
- Networked identities and the opacity of the self
- Mythic genesis and/or rupture
- Traditional-Secular spiritualities
- Scriptural and theological approaches
- Pastoral contexts
- Embodiment and/or emotion
- Time, temporality, tenses, and tonalities
- Altered states of consciousness
- Theories of culture and the human person
- Ethics, pain, suffering; theodicy and threnody
- Death, mortality, and grief
- Tangibility and material culture

We strongly welcome presentations across a range of textual, historical, philosophical, musical, literary, artistic, and social-scientific disciplines as well as experience-led practitioners in the therapeutic and clinical sciences. Cultures of Lament, Exile, and Oblivion is, then, open for presentations seeking to pinpoint one of our themes in particular (perhaps drawing on specific research data or work-in-progress) or to explore their interplay in any number of experimental combinations and directions. The style and format of delivery for those exhibiting musical or artistic creations is flexible. We are very interested in these kinds of 'interactive' proposals, but we stress that consideration should be given to online logistics: a brief statement of intent in your proposals will suffice.

### **Conference Format**

The symposium will be conducted online. We do not wish to exclude scholars and practitioners in the UK or abroad who may not be able to travel due to varying Covid-19 restrictions across the world. We welcome contributions from academic and service-practitioners at any career stage. The hope, then, is that (a) such arrangements might encourage a greater diversity of participation across cultural borders, enriching the conference's measure of the themes at hand; and that (b) an online meeting might prove advantageous to early-career scholars in particular who might otherwise be unable to attend in person owing to financial or logistical challenges. There is no event fee.

Individual presentations of 15 minutes will be followed by 10 minutes of open discussion. Successful applicants are encouraged to see their work as a potential contribution towards a formal publication of our proceedings, subject to further consultation, selection, and review processes.

# **Abstract Proposals**

Please submit your abstract (max. 250 words) to <u>r.n.whitefield@durham.ac.uk</u>. Proposals should be submitted no later than 6pm on Friday 26th November 2021 and the Assessment Panel will notify their decision by mid-December. The Conference Programme will be published on 14th December 2021.

This symposium is convened by the project's Co-Principal Investigator, Ricky Whitefield, an anthropologist and theologian currently serving as Junior Research Fellow at St John's College and part-time Tutor in the Department of Theology and Religion. For all enquiries, or to make any suggestions and provide feedback, please contact <a href="mailto:r.n.whitefield@durham.ac.uk">r.n.whitefield@durham.ac.uk</a>.

To register, follow this link and complete the form here.

# "Open Theology"; "Death and Religion" Issue

**Edited by:** Khyati Tripathi, (UPES, India), Jennifer Moran Stritch (Limerick Institute of Technology, Ireland) and Peter G.A. Versteeg (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands).

"Open Theology" (<a href="https://www.degruyter.com/journal/key/OPTH/html">https://www.degruyter.com/journal/key/OPTH/html</a>) invites submissions for the topical issue "Death and Religion".

## Flyer:

https://www.degruyter.com/publication/journal\_key/OPTH/downloadAsset/OPTH\_CFP Death and Religion.pdf

Death and religion share an interdependent relation. Where death is an event or state that threatens to disintegrate worlds and meaning, religion can be seen as a practice that categorizes, consoles and makes sense of this kind of disintegration. According to Oxford dictionary, death is defined as "end of life", but behind this simple definition, there is a web of complex ideas that could be understood from not just biological but also religious or cultural perspectives. Death has been conceptualized differently in different religious traditions as their texts and practices demonstrate. According to Lifton, religion is 'life power' and dominates death. Similarly, Davies put forth rituals as culture's 'words against death'.

The relationship between death and religion should be seen as a broad scholarly query, which includes philosophical and theological questions, as well as more applied perspectives such as social work. Although death is a clinical process of organs that cease to function, dying and death are events that are surrounded by various sense-making practices, ranging from intricate traditional ceremonies as part of established religious repertoires, to more personal, individualized rituals. Social-cultural context, therefore, is of utmost importance to understand how we interact with dying persons and dead bodies, and why we do it in that particular way.

In theology we see how faith traditions historically account for the reality of death, reflecting upon its existential meaning and thus trying to understand how to deal with the event of death. As such, a theology of death raises both practical (e.g. in spiritual care) and systematical (e.g. in ethics) questions regarding death and dying.

In psychology death anxiety or fear of death invited a great deal of interest starting in the late 1950s with Fiefel's work on death anxiety and religion. Different studies pointed at different relationships between death anxiety and religiousness; some studies found a positive relationship between the two while others found an inverse relationship. Some research argued for a curvilinear relationship between death anxiety and religiousness, explaining that moderately religious participants have more death anxiety than those who are extremely religious or not religious at all. The relationship between religion and death anxiety has been an inconclusive one because of the multidimensional nature of both religion and death anxiety. There is, however, a lack of scholarship on death anxiety and religion in non-western cultures.

In cultural anthropology, death studies have developed into a substantial research niche. There has been ample attention for practices pertaining to e.g. the process of dying, death as transition, as well as to the interaction with the dead body. Important here, too, is the global perspective on death, also in the sense of engaging with ontologies of life and death outside of the established scientific-medical spectrum.

This special issue encourages scholars from different disciplines, not just restricted to the ones we mentioned, to contribute to this debate. Of special interest are situations in which religion becomes overbearing and a burden to carry forward in times of death, or if religious

practices are obstructed, for example, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. How do these crisis situations affect the relationship between religion and death? This special issue aims at invoking curiosity, enquiry and interest in looking at the different facets of this topic.

The special issue on 'Death and Religion' invites empirical (qualitative and quantitative), review/conceptual and analytical papers focusing on the different facets of this relationship from scholars in different disciplines such as: Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology, Theology, Philosophy, Cultural Studies, Thanatology, Health Humanities, Social Care and Social Work.

# Among others, topics or areas of focus might include:

- Death anxiety and religiosity in non-western cultures
- The different perspectives to 'Extrinsic Religiosity'
- Is 'Intrinsic Religiosity' really the reliever of anxiety?
- Psychological/sociological/psychosocial significance of death rituals
- The changing nature of death rituals
- Personal religious beliefs and ideas about death
- Belief in afterlife and death anxiety
- The changing relationship between death and religion due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- The non-religious traditions and death
- Autoethnographic accounts of performing/witnessing death rituals
- Death as latent and religion as evident in Freudian texts
- Religious Literacy and the end of life care
- Extinction as ultimate death and other morbid anxieties of the Anthropocene

# Authors publishing their articles in the topical issue will benefit from:

- transparent, comprehensive and efficient peer review,
- free language assistance for authors from non-English speaking regions.

Because "Open Theology" is published in Open Access, as a rule, **publication costs** should be covered by so called Article Publishing Charges (APC), paid by authors, their affiliated institutions, funders or sponsors.\*\*\*\*

Authors without access to publishing funds are encouraged to discuss potential discounts or waivers with Managing Editor of the journal Katarzyna Tempczyk (<a href="mailto:katarzyna.tempczyk@degruyter.com">katarzyna.tempczyk@degruyter.com</a>) before submitting their manuscripts.

# How to submit:

Submissions will be collected from September 1 to October 31, 2021, via the on-line submission system at <a href="http://www.editorialmanager.com/openth/">http://www.editorialmanager.com/openth/</a>

Choose as article type: "Death and Religion"

Before submission the authors should carefully read over the Instruction for Authors, available

at: <a href="https://www.degruyter.com/publication/journal-key/OPTH/downloadAsset/OPTH-Instruction-for-Authors.pdf">https://www.degruyter.com/publication/journal-key/OPTH/downloadAsset/OPTH-Instruction-for-Authors.pdf</a>

All contributions will undergo critical peer-review before being accepted for publication.

Further questions about this thematic issue can be addressed to Khyati Tripathi at <a href="khyatitripathi27@gmail.com">khyatitripathi27@gmail.com</a>. In case of technical or financial questions, please contact journal Managing Editor Katarzyna Tempczyk at <a href="katarzyna.tempczyk@degruyter.com">katarzyna.tempczyk@degruyter.com</a>

Find us on facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/OpenTheology">https://www.facebook.com/OpenTheology</a>

# **Contact Us**

Visit the CDAS website for more information.

Email: cdas@bath.ac.uk

Web: www.bath.ac.uk/cdas

Facebook: www.facebook.com/centrefordeath

Twitter: <a>@cendeathsociety</a>

To unsubscribe, please email <a href="mailto:cdas@bath.ac.uk">cdas@bath.ac.uk</a>



Announcement of a review by the APPG into the lasting impact of COVID-19 on death, dying and bereavement – 5 October 2021

COVID-19 led to a devastating increase in deaths across the UK. Over a hundred thousand people have died from the virus alone, not including those dying of conditions that worsened, or were left untreated, due to the pandemic. Many more health and care workers, families and friends supported people at end of life than ever before.

The impacts for people receiving, and providing, palliative and end of life care were devastating. Many people who died during the pandemic did not receive the end of life care they deserved, particularly out of hours. Health and social care workers who provided palliative and end of life care, as well as family carers, were under unprecedented pressure. Moreover, the crisis and drop of income from charitable fundraising exposed the financial fragility of the hospice sector.

However, we have also seen incredible resilience among people providing palliative and end of life care as well as innovation, collaboration and new ways of working within this sector. The pandemic has forced individuals and organisations to adapt, for example by providing more care in the community and online.

It is critical that the sector emerges from this crisis aware of, and able to respond to, the significant and lasting changes that have taken place within hospice and end of life care. For this reason, the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Hospice and End of Life Care is launching a review into the lasting impact of COVID-19 on death, dying and bereavement.

The goals of this review are to:

- Uncover changes in the way palliative and end of life care is being, and will need to be, delivered in England following the pandemic.
- Uncover the experiences people have had of death, dying and bereavement during the COVID-19 pandemic and provide a platform for sharing their stories with Government.
- Understand the lasting impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on palliative and end of life care in England, and the resultant changes in care delivery, and identify solutions that cross-sector partners can implement moving forward.
- Explore the impact of the pandemic on out of hours palliative care provision especially in a
- Make recommendations to Government and the hospice and end of life care sector that ensure lessons learned during the pandemic, as well as new challenges, are not forgotten and lead to an improvement in people's experience of death, dying and bereavement.
- Explore whether access and attitudes to palliative care changed for those people who
  previously had little access, such as those in socially deprived areas or where cultural barriers
  existed.

The APPG welcomes submissions of evidence to this review from as wide a range of organisations and respondents as possible. This includes but is not limited to:





- Relatives and friends of people who have died during the pandemic and can speak to their quality and experience of care or their own experiences of bereavement.
- Frontline workers whose work has involved providing palliative and end of life care during the
  pandemic, including staff and volunteers within hospitals, community nursing, care homes
  and domiciliary care. In particular, we welcome responses from those who have been
  operating on the front line, and the option exists for submissions to be treated anonymously.
- Organisational leaders whose work has involved facilitating or managing the provision of palliative and end of life care during the pandemic.
- Unpaid and informal carers of people currently living with a life limiting illness.
- Non-medical organisations that have supported bereaved people and/or staff during the pandemic.
- Academics and think tanks with relevant research or findings.
- Charities, professional and membership bodies, unions and campaign and patient groups.
- Representatives from groups known to have had poor access to palliative care such as some BAME communities.

If you have any personal or professional experience that is related to this review then we would like to hear from you. However, we are particularly interested in submissions answering the following questions:

- 1) What significant changes have you seen in how palliative and end of life care is being delivered as a result of the pandemic that you expect to last into the long-term? Responses to this question could cover:
  - changes to where palliative and end of life care is being delivered, e.g. shifts towards care in the community
  - o the use of technological solutions
  - o impacts on out of hour care provision
  - changes in the provision of generalist and specialist support
- 2) What significant changes have you seen in palliative and end of life care needs as a result of the pandemic that you expect to last into the long-term? Responses to this question could cover:
  - o any increase in demand for bereavement support
  - o changes in the complexity of need and presentation of conditions
  - o shifts in need related to the location of the individual requiring care
- 3) What positive ways of working and innovative approaches to delivering palliative and end of life care have been rolled out during the pandemic that should be supported to grow?
- 4) What shortfalls in the provision of palliative and end of life care have been exposed by the pandemic?
- 5) If you are a frontline worker, what has been your experience of working within the field of palliative and end of life care during the pandemic? What were the key





challenges? How might these experiences shape future care you provide and impact your professional and personal life? Reponses to this question could cover:

- practical, emotional and physical challenges of working within COVID-19 related restrictions and guidance such as PPE, additional infection control and visitor restrictions
- changes to the type of care you are expected to provide and the settings in which you work
- impacts of the pressure of the pandemic, and caring for people who have died during this time, on your mental health and any support you have received
- o any new positive work habits or ways or working
- 6) If you are a manager or leader within an organisation that provides palliative and end of life care, what impact has the pandemic had on the operation of your services and your staff? Reponses to this question could cover:
  - workforce supply, resilience, mental health and capability and any concerns about these factors in the future
  - o long-term adaptions in your organisation's ways of working
  - o changes in out of hours responses to palliative care emergencies
  - o any mental health support you have provided for your workforce
  - o the financial sustainability of your service
  - o the settings in which you provide care and any associated challenges/opportunities
  - o investment in and use of technological solutions
- 7) If you are an informal carer of someone currently living with a life limiting illnesses, what was your experience of providing care during the pandemic? What were the key challenges and what, if any, support did you receive? Reponses to this question could cover:
  - the challenges of providing care at home during the pandemic, both in hours and out of hours
  - o changes in the type of care you were expected to provide and new responsibilities
  - o any support with care you received from the health and care workforce
  - any support for your mental health that you received from Government, the health and care system or your workplace
- 8) If you are a bereaved family member or friend of someone who died during the pandemic, did your loved one receive good palliative and end of life care? What kind of support did you receive as a result of your bereavement? Reponses to this question could cover:
  - o positive and negative experiences your loved one had of end of life care
  - o bereavement support you have received and its quality
- 9) If you are a non-medical organisation, how have you supported people who have been bereaved during the pandemic? Reponses to this question could cover:
  - o support provided by bereavement services
  - mental health and respite support organised by employers for their own staff





- changes in the wellbeing and mental health of staff prompted by the pandemic and their long-term impacts
- 10) If you are a representative organisation of a group known to have had poor access to palliative care, how has the pandemic impacted access to care and are there any specific impacts of the pandemic on the experience people have had of death, dying and bereavement that are disproportionately or solely felt by members of the group you represent?

Please feel free to only respond to questions that are relevant to your experience and/or expertise. We would be particularly grateful for specific examples, evidence, and references, wherever possible.

The APPG will make every effort to hear and record your experience in a way that is comfortable for you. We would therefore be happy to receive evidence anonymously at <a href="mailto:policy@hospiceuk.org">policy@hospiceuk.org</a> or alternatively to arrange a phone/zoom call via the same email address.

The word limit for submissions is 2000 words. Unless your submission is anonymous, please clearly state who the submission is from, i.e. whether from yourself in a personal capacity or sent on behalf of an organisation, and include a brief description of yourself/your organisation. Please do not send us confidential information.

Please email your submission to policy@hospiceuk.org with the subject line "APPG review submission"

The deadline for written submissions is 16 November 2021.

#### About the APPG on Hospice and End of Life Care

The All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Hospice and End of Life Care brings together MPs and Peers from across the political spectrum to campaign for high quality and accessible palliative and end of life care for all.

The group's purpose is to raise awareness and promote the needs of adults and children living with terminal or life-limiting conditions, and their families and carers, in Parliament and promote personcentred, evidence-based policies to improve end of life care in all settings, including hospices, hospitals, care homes, and in people's own homes.

Secretariat support to the APPG is provided by Hospice UK.

