

Centre for  
Death & Society  
(CDAS)



UNIVERSITY OF  
**BATH**

## Centre for Death & Society

### May 2022 Newsletter

[Director's Note](#)

[CDAS](#)

[News](#)

[Events](#)

[CDAS Community](#)

[News](#)

[Events](#)

[Call for Papers](#)

[Contact Us](#)

## Directors' Note

Welcome to the May 2022 edition of the CDAS newsletter, where we find ourselves somewhat surprised by how quickly June and the 2022 CDAS Conference is approaching! Taking place all online we have a bumper two days of papers, interactive sessions and film screenings on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> June lined up for you at this year's Conference on 'Institutions and Death', with more details and links to book tickets on the following page. We are committed to CDAS being as inclusive as possible so if you have any issue with purchasing a ticket please contact us directly and we will see what we can do.

In exciting news, if you can't make the conference you can join us FOR FREE on the evening of the first day of the conference (Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June, BST) to watch one of two brilliant films and attend a Q&A with the respective filmmakers. We hope you can join us for those sessions and the discussions afterwards. Sign up details are overleaf.

And our events don't stop there, with a CDAS sponsored in person conference at the University of Bath on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> June on 'Dying in Custody' organised by our colleagues in the [Centre for Prisons Research](#). In early July we're delighted to host an InConversation between CDAS Visiting Fellow Tamarin Norwood and CDAS alum Renske Visser on 'Life-Writing and Death Studies'. On July 19<sup>th</sup> we have an in person CDAS research seminar as part of a 'Researcher Wellbeing Day', so if you are an active researcher or are interested in developing your research practice, please sign up, come to Bath, and get to meet your peers. Full details of all events are at the end of the newsletter.

We're also very pleased to let you know about recent CDAS PhD student successes, with soon-to-graduate Dr Diana Teggi delivering the Beatrice Godwin Memorial Lecture as part of Dying Matters Awareness Week, George Gumsiriza launching Pilgrim Hospice's Dying Matters Awareness Week activities with an excellent blog post, and Chenyang Guo joining a research project in Mongolia. If you are a working professional then this is a good time of the academic year to consider whether a professional doctorate might be for you, and we share details of the programme we offer at Bath in this month's newsletter. Professional doctorates are done part time, involve more structured teaching and learning, and are intended to enable you to gain insight and feed back into the workplace while you gain your own doctorate. Please don't hesitate to contact us to talk through project ideas if this is of interest, as you probably know we are very keen here in CDAS to bridge academia and practice.

Finally, the CDAS Community Survey runs until June so please let us know what you think about the centre and what we do. Thank you to those who have completed it so far.

Enjoy the newsletter this month and we look forward to seeing you at the Conference and film screenings in a few weeks.

Kate and John

### ***2022 CDAS Conference ‘Death and Institutions’***

It’s not too late to sign up for the CDAS Conference! Taking place online on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> June, we’ve tried to create an interactive conference that allows for lots of discussion and debate, so please join us for what promises to be a stimulating two days.

Full conference programme details, schedule, and link to ticket booking are [here](#). Paper sessions will be recorded and made accessible to all ticket holders.

### ***CDAS Film Screenings***

We’re also delighted to make the two film screenings and Q&A with the filmmakers on Thursday evening of the conference (BST) FREE to all, whether you are attending the conference or not. Sign up below to get the Zoom link for the respective film screening.

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 7pm – 8.30pm (BST)

[The Last Ecstatic Days](#) film screening and Q&A with filmmaker, [Eventbrite link here](#).

[Prison Terminal](#) film screening and Q&A with filmmaker, [Eventbrite link here](#).

### ***Upcoming CDAS events***

#### ***In Conversation***

***CDAS Visiting Fellow Tamarin Norwood and CDAS alum Renske Visser***

#### ***Life-Writing and Death Studies***

***19:00 BST Tuesday 5 July***

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/348619830297>

In our next InConversation Renske Visser and Tamarin Norwood discuss aspects of life-writing in the context of death and bereavement. So-called ‘grief memoirs’ are increasingly popular and Tamarin and Renske will reflect on strategies for building upon academic research on death and dying within these types of creative works. Should death academics

take better care in engaging in creative research outputs? And in what way? Renske will reflect on starting her blog [Dead Good Reading](#), in which she reviews books on death and dying, and being a co-host of the Death Studies Podcast. As the podcast episodes focus on individual death researchers, this can be seen as a spoken form of autobiography and a pertinent way in which the general public will not only 'meet' theories around death and dying, but also the researcher behind those studies. Tamarin will reflect upon the process of writing a memoir of the brief life of her baby son, and upon the process of contextualizing extracts of this memoir for academic contexts of diverse disciplines, including her essay '[Something Good Enough](#)' which was awarded The Lancet's Wakley Essay Prize in 2021. She will consider the impact of such writing - for the writer, the reader, and the 'written' alike - across academic and non-academic contexts, and ask what is the nature of insight gained through this kind of writing.

### ***CDAS Research Seminar: Researcher Wellbeing***

*Day long seminar Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July*

*University of Bath campus*

Full details of the day are at the end of this newsletter, with the Eventbrite link to follow. The talks are:

Dr Jo Batey, University of Winchester: *"I Just Need a Break. I Just Want to Chill Out. I Don't Wanna Hear About Any More Deaths."* A Research Teams' Reflections on Conducting Emotionally Demanding Research with the Bereaved.

Dr Tina Skinner, University of Bath: Minimising the potential for secondary trauma in research: a protocol to build researcher wellbeing into the research process

Dr Kate Woodthorpe, University of Bath: Working with external partners and stakeholders: being relevant and responsive

#### **\*Save the date\* future CDAS online events:**

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October: InConversation with CDAS Visiting Fellow Imogen Jones with Anatomical Technology Pathologists

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November: Research Seminar with Dr Lorraine Hansford, Exeter University on Poverty and Death

If you would like to take part in a research seminar or InConversation to promote your research or work, please let us know via [cdas@bath.ac.uk](mailto:cdas@bath.ac.uk).

## ***CDAS Ph.D. student Chenyang Guo joins a research project in Mongolia!***

Ph.D. student Chenyang Guo recently joined a project team led by physician Dr. Nagongbilige who is the founder of Mongolian Mind-Body Interactive Psychotherapy. The project is called Mongolian Mind-Body Interactive Psychotherapy for Palliative Care of Cancer Patients. This project is funded by the Health Commission of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. The funding is 150000 RMB (£18090). Mongolian medical mind-body interaction therapy is environmentally friendly and inexpensive. The project aims to reduce medical costs, cover more people, and better reflect the public welfare and inclusiveness of palliative care in mainland China.

## ***CDAS Survey***

Thank you to everyone who has so far taken the time to let us know what they think about the Centre.

We want to learn more about the CDAS community and what the research centre could be doing to facilitate, educate, support and develop. Please take five minutes to complete [this survey](#), which is completely anonymous and will help us inform the focus of our activities for the next year and beyond. The survey will be close the week after the CDAS Conference so please get your response in before mid June. Thank you!

## ***CDAS 'Meet the Members'***

*Click the image to open the video!*



## *Publications and Outputs Papers*

### *An African Way to Die*

We are delighted to share a blog piece written by CDAS member George Gumsiriza!

Mid-last month Pilgrim Hospice, a charity based in Kent approached George with a question: 'What does it mean to be in a 'good place' to die?' George decided to draw on his own experience and research to write a blog piece. Pilgrim Hospice appreciated his blog and decided to use it to launch their Dying Matters Awareness Week. Great work George. To read the blog, click [here](#).

***Fang, C., Tanaka, M. (2022) An exploration of person-centred approach in end-of-life care policies in England and Japan. BMC Palliative Care 21, 68. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12904-022-00965-w>***

**Description:** this article is part of the ESRC funded [Mitori project](#) exploring intersections between policy, practice and culture for death, dying and bereavement in the UK and Japan. Drawing on a critical policy analysis lens, this article examines and compares the person-centred approach to end of life care in key policy and legal documents released between 2000 and 2019 in England and Japan. This analysis finds that the person-centre approach is mobilised in policy discourses primarily through three interconnected dimensions: individual, relational and existential. While acknowledging that both countries have developed varied policy and legal mechanisms to emphasise holistic and integrated care with respect to these these three dimensions, we also identified significant gaps in the policies both within and between England and Japan. They include ambiguity in defining patients' best interests, fragmented support for social and family care and the neglect of existential needs.

## *Opportunities*

### [Professional Doctorate with CDAS and the Institute for Policy Research @Bath](#)

Have you ever thought about doing a professional doctorate? This is where you take some courses and produce a PhD thesis based on publications and outputs. The University of Bath offers a Professional Doctorate in the Institute for Policy Research, which is aimed at working professionals who take the qualification part time. Please speak to us in CDAS if you're interested to learn more and to see if we could support your supervision.

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## **CDAS EVENTS**

### *Dying in Custody Conference*

*University of Bath*

*Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022*

CDAS are very pleased to be sponsoring this event organised by our colleagues in the Prison Research Centre here at the University of Bath. This is an in person conference. Confirmed speakers include: Professor Alison Lieblich (University of Cambridge), Sue McAllister (Prison and Probation Ombudsman), Deborah Coles (Inquest), Dr Carol Robinson (University of York), Dr Colette Barry (University of Ulster) and Dr Kate Gooch (University of Bath).

Full conference programme and ticket details [here](#). Hear DiC conference organiser Dr Kate Gooch give the first keynote at the 2022 CDAS Conference on 9<sup>th</sup> June.

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## **EXTERNAL CDAS ACTIVITIES**

### *Cremation and Burial Communication and Education 2022*

The programme for the annual CBCE event, this year in Southampton, is now available and CDAS colleagues Kate Woodthorpe and Lucy Easthope will be speaking on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June. One of the premier events in the UK for practitioners working on the frontline of the deathcare industry, along with talks from esteemed professionals and Prof Douglas Davies from the Centre for Life and Death Studies at Durham University, it promises to be an enlightening and informative event. Programme and sign up details can be found here: <https://cbce.org.uk/2022/programme>

## Calls for Contributions

### *Call for proposals: Total pain in the 21st century*

The recent [Lancet Commission into the Value of Death](#) reports endemic suffering at the end of life in both global North and South countries and calls for the further expansion of holistic philosophies and practices of end of life care. Here at the End of Life Studies Group (University of Glasgow), we believe that one way to do so it by foregrounding and debating the continued relevance of the concept of total pain in hospice and palliative care, as well as by extending it to new considerations and sites of care. We are therefore organizing [a Special Issue on total pain](#), in collaboration with the open access journal *Frontiers in Sociology*. This Special Issue will also be published in book form.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- What is its relevance to emerging care challenges such as assisted dying or dementia care?
- What might a politics of total pain look like in the 21st century?
- What can sociological approaches such as organization, embodiment, or affect theories bring to understanding and addressing total pain?
- Is total pain useful for thinking more generally about complex experiences of pain or imminent death?
- How can total pain articulate health inequalities or community responses to dying and suffering?
- How might total pain offer new ways of thinking about non-human suffering or the climate emergency?

You can learn more and submit your abstract [here](#). Abstract deadline July 1, 2022.

Please direct any questions to [Marian.Krawczyk@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:Marian.Krawczyk@glasgow.ac.uk)

- Dr Marian Krawczyk, University of Glasgow
- Dr Naomi Richards, University of Glasgow
- Dr Lisbeth Thoresen, University of Oslo
- Dr Joe Wood, King's College London

## ***Call for abstracts:***

### ***‘All things reimagined’: Creative and aesthetic strategies of grief***

“Grief is all things reimagined through the ever emerging wounds of the world.” (Nick Cave, The Red Hand Files, Issue #95, May 2020)

When facing a significant loss, we are not (only) passive recipients of grief. We are also active subjects, producing strategies of grief - of commemoration and transformation; of sharing and shaping communities; and of (re)shaping our identities with and without our deceased. This academic anthology explores creative and aesthetic strategies of grief and it takes as its point of departure and exemplar the grief of musician Nick Cave following the 2015 death of his son Arthur, with studio albums *Skeleton Tree* and *Ghosteen* (2016 & 2019, Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds) and subsequent tours; documentary film *One More Time with Feeling* (2016, dir. Andrew Dominik); Cave’s audience engagement via blog *The Red Hand Files*; and media appearances since Arthur’s death, exemplifying the possibility for imagination, engagement, connection and even beauty within profound grief.

We cordially invite contributions that illuminate the possibility for people to grieve by cutting creative paths set into their lives, relationships and settings, and where the sculpting of our griefs may in itself be aesthetic. Curious about how grief might be, rather than confirming pre-formed ideas, and wishing to push against continued efforts to squeeze grief into templates and expectations (to follow grief stages, to grieve alone and for set times, or to continue bonds with the dead), our purpose here is to offer a meditation on grief as a ground where creative, even artful responses, beyond formula or prediction, are possible.

**Deadline:** June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**[Link to the full call for abstracts, time schedule and procedure.](#)**

Associate Professor Dorthe Refslund Christensen, Aarhus University Denmark  
[nordrc@cc.au.dk](mailto:nordrc@cc.au.dk) & Research Fellow Mórna O’Connor, University of Nottingham, UK  
[morna.oconnor@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:morna.oconnor@nottingham.ac.uk) (editors)

## Opportunities

### ***Research Invitation: Voicing Loss: Meanings and Implications of Participation by Bereaved People in Inquests***

The Institute for Crime & Justice Policy Research (Birkbeck, University of London) and the Centre for Death & Society (University of Bath) are conducting research into bereaved people's experiences of inquests across England and Wales. We are interested in finding out to what extent, and in what ways, bereaved people feel able to participate in inquests and the wider process of coronial investigation. You can find out more about the project [here](#).

The research team would like to talk to bereaved people who have attended an inquest since 2013; people who work in coroners' courts (including coroners, coroners' officers and legal practitioners); and people who have given evidence at an inquest in a professional capacity since 2013. Participants will be asked to reflect on their experiences of inquests and the role of bereaved people in the coronial process. Bereaved people can be involved by taking part in an interview or by providing a written account of their experiences.

This is an independent study, funded by the Economic & Social Research Council, and with research ethics approval from Birkbeck University of London and the University of Bath.

Please contact Dr Hannah Rumble ([hr306@bath.ac.uk](mailto:hr306@bath.ac.uk)) or Professor Jessica Jacobson ([j.jacobson@bbk.ac.uk](mailto:j.jacobson@bbk.ac.uk)) to ask about getting involved or to receive more information.

### ***Course: Before I Go Solutions® Certified and Licensed End of Life Plan Facilitators Programme***

Applications from every country are invited for the tenth intake of our reputed End of Life Plan Facilitators Programme, the only training in the UK that trains, equips and supports you to become an End of Life Plan Facilitator, and help others to get their end of life plan done.

New research led by Cardiff University's Marie Curie Palliative Care Research Centre shows that 90% of people think end of life planning is essential, but only 14% actually had done anything formal about it. Hence the need for this very valuable service.

Divided into 4 parts, you begin with creating your own end of life plan. Part 2 covers the practicals of doing death differently, part 3, the practicing of facilitating in this arena, both 1:1 and in groups, and offline and online. Part 4 is about the promoting of your service in a culture where the topic is still somewhat taboo.

It will be primarily of interest to health professionals, counsellors, coaches, educators, celebrants or others interested in helping people to prepare well for a good end of life, no matter how it happens, and to take this planning beyond the conversation stage to getting decisions taken and written down.

By the end of the course, graduates will be able to successfully support others in creating their own plans. Ongoing mentoring and support resources are then available.

For more information, including a free Information Session, visit:

<https://beforeigosolutions.com/end-of-life-facilitator-programme/>

### ***Research Fund: Marie Curie Research Impact Fund***

At Marie Curie we believe that supporting the development of evidence-informed policy and practice in palliative and end of life care is key to our strategic goal of achieving the best possible end of life experience for everyone.

We are delighted to announce the launch of our new Research Impact Fund to provide support for well-planned, high-quality, targeted activities that will facilitate the uptake of existing palliative and end of life care research into policy or practice to benefit people affected by dying, death and bereavement.

The fund will be open to applications from 4 May to 29 June 2022, with decisions expected by the end of July 2022. A total of £100,000 is available for this round of the Impact Fund. We anticipate providing support in the region of £5,000–£10,000 per impact project through this scheme, but are happy for applicants who have proposals that fall outside of this range to make contact with us to discuss.

The application form, including guidance for applicants, is provided below. If you would like to discuss the scheme and any planned applications with a member of the Marie Curie Research Management Team, please email [research.grants@mariecurie.org.uk](mailto:research.grants@mariecurie.org.uk).

### ***Scholarship opportunities***

The Faculty of Arts and Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies (both at the University of Groningen, NL) offer a four year studentship to complete a PhD within a joint interdisciplinary project led by Prof. Daan Raemaekers (<https://www.rug.nl/staff/d.c.m.raemaekers/>) and Dr. Brenda Mathijssen (<https://www.rug.nl/staff/brenda.mathijssen/>). The proposed PhD research plan will be

embedded in the Groningen Institute of Archaeology (GIA) at the Faculty of Arts and the Department of Comparative Study of Religion the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies.

The PhD candidate will analyse various present-day ritual activities that take place at the megalithic tombs in the Netherlands (hunebedden). Examples of such rituals include commemorative practices, pilgrimage journeys, the disposition of cremated remains, and druidic ceremonies. How can we understand these emerging practices in the socio-cultural context of the Netherlands and Western Europe? And what is the significance of the materiality and temporality of the megalithic tombs? The PhD student will analyse these questions by employing qualitative research methods and by engaging with theory from the field of ritual studies. For example the notion of “ritualisation” and the theoretical concept of “ritual framing”, indicating that rituals and ritualisations are devices that enable people to frame and deframe their experiences and realities.

**Deadline:** 8 June 11:59pm / before 9 June 2022 Dutch local time (CET)

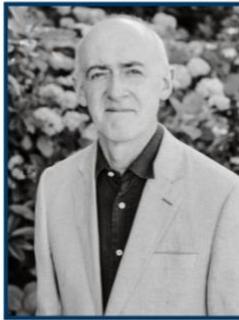
For more information on qualifications and how to apply, click [here](#).

# CDAS COMMUNITY EVENTS



## Bringing Death Back into Life

*Why is dying so difficult in the 21st century?*



Please join us for a public talk by  
**Dr Seamus O'Mahony**  
who will be reflecting on the findings of the  
*Lancet Commission on the Value of Death*

Seamus O'Mahony is a doctor and prize-winning author of books such as:  
*The Way We Die Now*  
and  
*Can Medicine Be Cured?*

Please join us for this early evening talk,  
sponsored by the  
**Glasgow End of Life Studies Group**

### *Public Talk: Bringing the Value of Death Back into Life, with Dr Seamus O'Mahony*

Does death have value? That's the question framing the recent [Lancet Commission Report on the 'Value of Death'](#), and which will be discussed at a free public event at the Crichton Campus in Dumfries, June 7<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-6:00pm. The conversation will be led by [Dr Seamus O'Mahony](#), a prize-winning writer and one of the primary authors of the report. We hope to see you there.

**Tuesday, 7 June 2022**

**16.00 - 18.00**

*with drinks reception and refreshments to follow*

R127, Rutherford McCowan Building  
School of Interdisciplinary Studies  
Crichton University Campus, Bankend Road  
Dumfries, DG1 4ZL

## Open Thanatology at the Open University Inaugural Events: 16 & 17 June 2022

The Open Thanatology Research Group at the Open university are hosting two inaugural events in June – a face-to-face event on campus in Milton Keynes on 16 June, and an online event on 17 June. Both events are free to attend.

Open Thanatology is the Open University's interdisciplinary research group for the study and education of death, dying, loss and grief across the life course. Death, dying and bereavement has been a major research and teaching theme at the Open University for over 20 years. Our research covers theoretical and practice-related dimensions across end-of-life care and death, including reproductive and neonatal loss, bereavement, and memorialisation. Our work is theoretically driven and aims to inform both theory and practice spanning the arts and social sciences, professional practice, caring, and education.

The campus event on 16 June will include a keynote speech by Dr Libby Sallnow - the first author of the new Lancet Commission on the Value of death: bringing death back into life – and a short film screening and presentations about Open Thanatology's work. The online event on 17 June will include a keynote by Dr Neil Thompson – author of Manifesto for Making a Difference – and six presentations by Open Thanatology members about their research.

Please register for the events below:

- [Face-to-face event on campus in Milton Keynes on 16 June](#)
- [Online event on 17 June](#)

For further information, please contact Dr Joseph De Lappe: [joseph.de-lappe@open.ac.uk](mailto:joseph.de-lappe@open.ac.uk)

## Conferences

### *Cremation & Burial Communication & Education 2022*

**Date:** Monday 20th, Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd June 2022

**Location:** Hilton at the Ageas Bowl, Southampton

Whilst the cremation and burial sector faced many challenges raised by the COVID-19 pandemic, significant changes impacting the sector were already simmering away in the background, and these issues have not gone away. CBCE 2022 will bring together inspirational and relevant speakers, including CDAS Co-Director Kate Woodthorpe, to discuss some of the key developments that the sector will have to contend with, in the short to medium term.

CBCE 2022 provides the ideal opportunity to not only reflect on some of the experiences during the pandemic but also to tackle the many changes and challenges that have been developing in the background.

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

CBCE 2022 takes place at the Hilton at the Ageas Bowl, Southampton from Monday 20th to Wednesday 22nd June 2022. Click here to [register](#)!

## ***2022 International Death, Grief and Bereavement Conference***

**Pre-conference:** June 5<sup>th</sup>

**Conference:** June 6<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup>

*Individual, Collective and Global Loss: How Do We Best Support the Grieving?*

Loss is a universal experience, so it's essential to understand the variety of ways to cope with grief.

- What are the best practices for working with those who are grieving?
- How do we address personal, collective and global grief?
- How do we transform grief and incorporate loss into daily life?
- How do we support one another?

We'll explore these questions and more at our 2022 conference.

We are excited to see you—**in person**—at the beautiful UW-La Crosse campus as we:

- Connect professionally and personally
- Seek deeper understanding
- Recharge
- Gain skills to help those we serve

For more information and to register click [here](#).

## ***European Grief Conference 2022***

In partnership with the Danish National Centre for Grief, Aarhus University and the Irish Hospice Foundation, the Bereavement Network Europe (BNE) will host the first European Grief Conference called "*Bereavement and Grief in Europe – Emerging Perspectives & Collaborations*".

**Location:** Copenhagen, Denmark, September 21st – 23rd, 2022.

For further information click [here](#).

# CALL FOR PAPERS

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*The aim of Bereavement: journal of grief and responses to death is to improve understanding of grief, bereavement, and responses to death in all their aspects and to enhance the quality of support provided to bereaved people.*

These calls for papers aim to invite submissions that explore:

- The effects of bereavement and grief on mental health, with particular emphasis on implications for practice
- Bereavement support needs and experiences in relation to all aspects of equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI)
- Post-Covid grief, lessons that can be learned, and experiences
- Grief and bereavement work with under-represented groups in the bereavement field
- The social contexts of bereavement and the aftermath of death

As well as original research and literature reviews (up to 8000 words) we welcome shorter pieces (1000-2000 words) on issues affecting bereavement care practice, policy, research and the support of bereaved people. These are designed to discuss and reflect on a topic of contemporary relevance in bereavement research, practice or policy and are written in a discursive style.

We also welcome proposals for themed sections edited by guest editors. If interested in guest editing a themed section of Bereavement on one of the above topics or another topic of interest please submit a proposal to the editorial office.

Please see <https://bereavementjournal.org/index.php/bcj/instructions> for guidance on preparing your manuscript.

Deadline for submissions for publication in the 2023 Issue is 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

Articles are submitted online via the online submission system:  
<https://bereavementjournal.org/index.php/bcj/about/submissions>

For informal queries please contact [edwina.rowling@cruse.org.uk](mailto:edwina.rowling@cruse.org.uk).

## ***Mortality***

*Mortality* are open to applications for Special Issues for 2025 and onwards. The deadline for proposals is the second Friday in October (14 October 2022). Proposals and any queries can be sent to [mortalityjournal@gmail.com](mailto:mortalityjournal@gmail.com) and full information is on our website and below.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/journals/cmrt20/special-issues#siProp>

### Special issue information

The journal usually publishes one special issue a year. The guest editor(s) are responsible for editing the papers and following a schedule agreed in advance with the editorial office. The entire process can take 18-24 months from the time of acceptance. Special issues are very popular, and we usually have a waiting list.

The editorial board meets in November every year, and this is the point at which we consider applications and make a final decision. However, depending on the issue, a working group with relevant expertise will make recommendations to the board. Therefore, you should aim to submit your proposal no later than the second Friday in October in any calendar year.

Key criteria for acceptance will include:

- A coherent theme that connects the papers - this might be an event, anniversary or topics of interest;
- accessibility to a multidisciplinary readership;
- clearly articulated and transparent theory(ies).

Ideally, special issues should include international perspectives and a mix of disciplines although we recognise this might not be possible.

If you are interested in submitting a special issue proposal please note the process:

We require a 4-5 page outline of the special issue, to include:

1. Rationale for the special issue

2. Outline of proposed papers (normally the equivalent of an abstract, between 250 and 500 words). The total budget for each issue of the journal is 104 pages, which equates to approximately 52,000 words. It is the responsibility of the guest editor(s) to determine how to make use of the word count. Most often a special issue consists of 5-7 original papers plus an introduction. Book reviews will make up the remainder of the budget.
3. Proposed timeline for drafting (in light of timeline indicated above).

All proposals will be considered by the editorial board in November. Any feedback and approval will be sent by the end of the calendar year.

Once approved guest editors will be asked to circulate to contributors the instructions for authors on Mortality's writing style. The guest editors will be responsible for the review process, which is double-masked peer review. Editors will be given a ScholarOne login and guidance on using ScholarOne for the submission and review process. Authors will submit via the journal's Submission Portal.

Guest editors will be expected to report to the editorial office on a regular basis. In the event of any serious problems that might jeopardise or seriously delay the final handover, the guest editors must contact the editorial office.

If you have any questions about submitting a special issue proposal, or to submit your proposal, please email the editorial team at: [mortalityjournal@gmail.com](mailto:mortalityjournal@gmail.com)

### ***Call for Papers: Dead Women and Gendered Death in Visual Culture***

The guest editors (Dr Devaleena Kundu, Dr Bethan Michael-Fox and Dr Khyati Tripathi) of an upcoming focus issue of MAI: Feminism and Visual Culture seek papers offering critical and creative insights into representations of dead women, the dead female body and gendered death in visual culture. The deadline for proposals is 30 November 2022.

For full details please see the Call for Papers at: <https://maifeminism.com/cfp-dead-womenhttps://maifeminism.com/cfp-dead-women-and-gendered-death-in-visual-culture/and-gendered-death-in-visual-culture/>

## ***2022 AGS Conference***

The Association for Gravestone Studies requests paper submissions for its 2022 hybrid conference! The conference will be held virtually from June 9th through June 11th for all attendees, with an on-site option from June 15th through June 19th at Endicott College in Beverly, Massachusetts. For those who will only be attending virtually, webcasting will be available for much of the on-site events so you, too, can participate June 15th through 19th.

Research on all aspects of the study of gravestones, cemeteries, or closely related topics is eligible: preservation and management issues, carver studies, marker styles and motifs, interpretative programming, burial practices, historic surveys, cemetery histories, etc. Previous presenters have come from art, art history, architecture, folklore, conservation, genealogy, anthropology, historic preservation, popular culture, and other allied fields.

This conference is an opportunity to have extended conversations with conservators, cemeterians, historians, advocates, preservationists, and academics from around the world who practice, research, and promote gravestone studies. Please submit the application form with all required materials to [AGSConfProposals@gmail.com](mailto:AGSConfProposals@gmail.com) by April 15, 2022.

## ***Redesigning Deathcare Conference***

**Format:** In person and online, The University of Melbourne, Australia

**Date:** October 27-29, 2022

**Deadline:** EOIs close 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022, full submissions close 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022.

**Website:** [www.redesigningdeathcare.org](http://www.redesigningdeathcare.org)

The Redesigning Deathcare Conference aims to bridge the divide between research and practice at the end of life and death, through dynamic conversations about the challenges facing deathcare and how to build a better system.

The acute threat posed by COVID-19 over the last two years compounds more long-term threats to contemporary models of deathcare, including climate change and an ageing population. People today are presented with ever-expanding individual choice around the end-of-life, but are also forced to navigate complex, fragmented systems of care that fail to provide equitable and meaningful outcomes. As it stands, deathcare is artificially separated into silos, organised around different stages (dying, death, commemoration, etc.), different professions (medical clinicians, funeral directors, counsellors, etc.), and academic disciplines (medicine, anthropology, law, etc.).

*Redesigning Deathcare* invites contributions from diverse backgrounds to collectively imagine and build a holistic system of deathcare. The conference asks delegates to consider:

- How do we remake our deathcare system so that it better meets community needs, not just today, but for future generations?
- How do we bridge long-standing divides in how we imagine and manage the end-of-life?
- How might contested views of the future be productively and equitably debated and resolved?
- How are the future of the planet and the future of deathcare intertwined?

We seek contributions from diverse disciplinary perspectives, including (but not limited to) anthropology, death studies, history, palliative medicine, public health, taphonomy & forensic sciences, and philosophy. Sessions that incorporate different stages of death, different professional backgrounds, and disciplines are encouraged. There are several submission formats, including presentations or ‘papers’, roundtables, posters, and artistic/non-traditional outputs.

Submission is a two-step process. Expressions of Interest (a call for panels and roundtables) close 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022. Organisers will curate the program on the basis of EOIs and call for individual submissions within each session. Full submissions close 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022.

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## Contact Us

Visit the CDAS [website](#) for more information.

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*To unsubscribe, please email [cdas@bath.ac.uk](mailto:cdas@bath.ac.uk)*



## 19<sup>th</sup> July 2022: Researcher Wellbeing Day

All timings TBC

Eventbrite link to follow

Led by the Centre for Death and Society this is a departmental research day with the aim to come together, learn from one another and to recognise the demands of conducting academic research on the researcher themselves. It includes a CDAS department seminar with an external speaker, followed by lunch and then two presentations from SPS colleagues, one on methodology and one on working with external partners and stakeholders.

We hope that if the weather is nice we can have lunch on the grass outside the department along with a social drink after work if you can make it to celebrate the end of the academic year.

We hope you can join us for what promises to be an enlightening and supportive day of professional development.

11am – 12pm

### CDAS Department Seminar

*"I Just Need a Break. I Just Want to Chill Out. I Don't Wanna Hear About Any More Deaths."* A Research Teams' Reflections on Conducting Emotionally Demanding Research with the Bereaved.

Dr Jo Batey, University of Winchester

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**Twitter:** @DrJoBatey

**Abstract:** A small but growing body of work has explored the impact of conducting emotionally demanding research on the researcher. Historically, much of this work has been confined to clinical and helping professions. However, as sport-based research begins to adopt more creative qualitative approaches and explore the darker side of sport participation it is incumbent upon us to consider the vulnerability of researchers working in these domains and how such vulnerability might impact the research process.

As such this paper explores the findings from interviews conducted with a research team (n=6) who attended a 4-day conference organised by the Concussion Legacy Foundation in the USA. Researchers interviewed delegates who had lost a relative due to a traumatic brain injury caused by playing contact sport. Several of the research team also conducted online interviews with bereaved family members upon returning to the UK. Results were thematically analysed, and five themes were constructed which provided an overall story of the data.

Findings suggest a collective vulnerability amongst researchers who reported being unprepared for the impact of listening to traumatic stories. The personal cost to researchers was multifaceted and enduring. Specifically, the research team reported experiences which denoted high levels of

emotional labour and exposure to vicarious trauma and compassion fatigue. These vulnerabilities were perceived to be exacerbated by the immersive research environment and inhabiting dual roles. Some reflected on how these experiences influenced their behaviours and competencies as researchers and their relationships with participants.

Several strategies for managing researcher vulnerability were also identified. Generally online interviews were less emotionally demanding for researchers and fewer examples of researcher vulnerability were evident. Researchers reported an ability to remain more detached but perceived that the development of rapport was impeded and that this negatively affected the quality of the data. These findings are considered in light of how vulnerability was experienced by the researchers; how these experiences might have impacted the data collection process; how researchers might be better prepared for feeling vulnerable; and how online interviews might mitigate against researcher vulnerability and at what cost.

12 pm – 12.45pm

**Lunch** (provided)

12.45pm – 1.45pm

### **Professional Development Seminar 1**

Minimising the potential for secondary trauma in research: a protocol to build researcher wellbeing into the research process

Dr Tina Skinner, Department of Social and Policy Sciences

**Abstract:** Research ethics procedures have substantially improved over the last three decades, such that university ethics committees now adopt independent peer review and guidance as well as standardized template documentation (e.g. consent forms). Despite this, researchers' wellbeing is often overlooked. In this paper I draw on our forthcoming publication, written with researchers I have worked with over the last 20 years in the field of gender-based violence, to: discuss what secondary trauma linked to research is and how it might arise, talk candidly about our own experience and needs as researchers/supervisors, and develop a protocol (*not* one-size-fits-all) for moving forward ethically to help maintain researcher wellbeing.

### Reference

Skinner, T., Bloomfield-Utting, J, Geoghegan-Fittall, S., Roberts (ne Ballantyne), N., Smith, O., Sweetland, S. and Taylor, H. (forthcoming) A focus on ethics and researcher wellbeing, In Forester-Jones, R. (Ed) *Research Handbook on Ethics in Social Research*, Edward Elgar Publishing.

1.45pm – 2pm: break

2pm – 3pm

## **Professional Development Seminar 2**

Working with external partners and stakeholders: being relevant and responsive

Dr Kate Woodthorpe, Department of Social and Policy Sciences

Abstract: In this talk I will draw on my pocket mentoring book for early career academics 'Survive and Thrive in Academia' (2018) to explore how academics can look outward to external organisations to ensure their work has resonance and relevance, and how to handle their own wellbeing while doing so. I'll consider how and when to network, what self promotion means in HE, and by the end of the session together we will come up with some top tips about working with partners and looking after yourself to share across the department and faculty.