

Centre for
Death & Society
(CDAS)



UNIVERSITY OF
BATH

Centre for Death & Society

Newsletter

May 2019

[Director's Note](#) - [DDD14](#) - [CDAS News](#) - [CDAS](#)

[Community News](#) - [Events](#) - [Call for Papers](#) -

Director's Note

May 2019

And it's May already. September is right around the corner.

Tick-tock-tick-tock goes the DDD14 countdown clock and CDAS is looking forward to hosting the next DDD conference for the Association for the Study of Death and Society (ASDS).



I want to take a minute and say a few words about ASDS in this month's Directors note.

ASDS was founded in June 2009 by a group of academics from across the Death Studies world. We collectively agreed that an organization representing the broad, and heterogeneous Death Studies community was needed for the future. I was lucky enough to participate in the founding and said something during one of the meetings about this new organization needing a domain name for a website, at which point I became (and remain) the website manager for ASDS. www.deathandsociety.org.

At September's DDD14 conference we will celebrate ASDS's tenth-birthday and I look forward to singing Happy Birthday while blowing out the candles.

Team CDAS will continue to roll out DDD14 information in the coming weeks and over the summer. We're really excited by the sheer number of colleagues who want to attend the conference and working as fast as we can to make the conference as accessible as possible.

A further enormous note of thanks to Emma Ford who despite my best efforts at causing chaos, keeps all things DDD14 moving along.

Remember to start Tweeting about the conference at #DDD14.

The Delta Delta Delta Sorority Sisters will **definitely** never forget our tweets. Special ASDS Birthday Bash Prize to any former Tri-Delt Sisters who attend the conference!

THE 14TH
INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON THE
SOCIAL CONTEXT OF

DEATH, DYING & DISPOSAL

WED 04 – SAT 07 SEPTEMBER 2019
UNIVERSITY OF BATH, UK

THEME:
**ENGAGEMENT &
EDUCATION**



Programme of Events

We are now in the process of creating the programme for the DDD which should be available in the next few weeks. We are hoping to have over 150 speakers presentations and masterclasses as well as our keynote speakers:

- Professor Dame Sue Black, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Engagement), Lancaster University
- Professor Havi Carel, Professor of Philosophy, University of Bristol
- Dr Peter Bazira, Director of the Centre for anatomical and Human Sciences, Hull York Medical School
- Simon Cox, Head of Insight and External Affairs, Dignity Funerals Ltd

In addition to our programme of speakers and masterclasses we are also organising an exciting **social programme** which includes:

- Opening night conference drinks reception, sponsored by 'Mortality'
- Opening night conference dinner
- Drinks reception at the world famous Roman Baths, sponsored by Dignity Funerals Ltd
- Tour of Arnos Vale, a spectacular Victorian Garden Cemetery located in the heart of Bristol, with dinner and disco (places limited)
- 'Preserving the Memory of the Dead', a unique underfloor tour of Bath Abbey

Exhibitor Opportunities

We are now able to take bookings for exhibitors. The exhibitor rates include ONE full delegate pass as well as an exhibitor space and a listing in the Conference programme. Early Bird rates available until 30 April so book your space soon! To find out more and apply for a space please click [here](#).

Sponsorship Opportunities

We are still seeking sponsors in order to support attendance by Early Career Researchers and PhD students, so please contact us at infoddd@bath.ac.uk if you or an organization you work with are interested in financially backing DDD14 activities. Any sponsorships of any size are welcome.

CDAS NEWS

Early Careers Visiting Fellowship

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

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

CDAS Community News

Eryn London is a US Rabbi who works in end of life care. He is moving to the UK from the US in September, and is looking for work either in Oxfordshire or London. He has been training as a multi-faith hospital chaplain for the past two years, most recently working in palliative care. He received smicha (rabbinic ordination) from Yeshivat Maharat in 2017, and have experience teaching in adult community settings around the globe, as well as experience working in theatre and as a recreation therapist in senior living facilities. I am most interested in work that is either in hospitals, hospice or nursing homes, either as a multi-faith chaplain or rabbi/Jewish chaplain. He is also open to hearing other ideas or opportunities that might be available. Please contact him at eryn.n.london@gmail.com.

Events

Dying Matters 2019: Are We Ready?

The Dying Matters Awareness Week 2019 runs 13 – 19 May.

This year's Dying Matters Awareness Week will ask: **Are We Ready?** It's a question that challenges each of us on several levels. Are We Ready for our own deaths, or the deaths of those we care about? This is a practical question – wills, funeral planning and more – but of course it's also emotional, even spiritual for some of us. For many of us, the answer will not be 'yes'. We know from the research we've done that most people haven't taken care of the practical aspects, which include deciding on organ donation, and planning our future care. And even for those that have, the emotional aspect of being ready for death is challenging. Who is ever really ready to die?

Such questions are best faced with the help of others, which is why we're asking 'Are We Ready?' To face death and dying is a challenge greater than any one of us can face alone, and it is all of our responsibility. We're in this life together, so our question is asking much more of us than you might think. More information on Dying Awareness Week can be found [here](#).

Events this week:

Conversations with writers about death and dying

18 May, 10.30 – 12.30, hosted by Family Tree Funeral Company at their premises on 1 Middle Street, Stroud GL5 1DZ

Pop-up Death Café

18 May, 2.00 – 3.30, hosted by Family Tree Funeral Company at their premises on 1 Middle Street, Stroud GL5 1DZ

Beatrice Godwin Memorial Lecture: “It ain’t what you do, but the way that you do it”: memory, awareness and threat in dementia

15 May 2019, University of Bath, at the BRLSI, Bath. Presented by Richard Cheston, Professor of Dementia Research at the University of West of England.

FREE to all. For further details and to register please click [here](#).

In this inaugural Beatrice Godwin Memorial lecture Richard Cheston looks at how traditional approaches to memory and cognition in psychology emphasise the impact of neurological processes in reducing capacity. The memory of people living with dementia is therefore framed in terms of the deficits affecting both short-term memory and autobiographical memory.

However, while autobiographical memories may be diminished with reminiscences containing conflated or factually incorrect material, nevertheless these memories are clearly highly valued and important. This may be because recalling the past is an important way of adapting to the present: more specifically, memory acts to enhance self-continuity, restore self-esteem and provide life with meaning and purpose.

In this way, the recounting of autobiographical memories functions to protect the self from threat. This talk will draw on evidence from quantitative, laboratory based research and qualitative analysis of narratives from clinical research to argue that nostalgic autobiographical memories play an important part in protecting people with dementia from the existential distress of living with this dreadful condition.

PABBS Suicide Bereavement Training

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

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

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

Forthcoming dates: 15 May 2019; 4 June 2019; 9 July 2019; 10 September 2019; 25 September 2019; 1 and 8 Oct 2019. Further information is available here: <https://suicidebereavementuk.com/pabbs-training>.

Cemeteries Colloquium

Friday 17 May 2019, University of York

The Cemeteries Colloquium is the annual event for academics across all disciplines to meet and discuss new emerging research on the places of burial.

The call for papers is now open. Abstracts of no more than 250 words should be submitted to Julie.rugg@york.ac.uk by 15 April 2019.

International Summit on Aging and Gerontology, 2019

27-28 May, 2019, Rome, Italy

The main theme for this conference is "Understanding Mechanisms & Compressing Morbidity in Aging Humans". For further information please click [here](#).

Objects & Death: On the trail of grave goods

Friday 31 May 2019, British Museum, London

The Grave Goods project (funded by the AHRC) is pleased to announce a day conference on 'Objects and death: on the trail of grave goods' at the British Museum on Friday 31 May 2019. The conference will explore how people have confronted, explained and come to terms with death through objects across time and around the world.

Our exciting programme will touch on past, present and future societies. Speakers include artists, anthropologists, Egyptologists and archaeologists: Paul Pettitt (University of Durham), Richard Osgood (Ministry of Defence), Gaye Sculthorpe (British Museum), Lib Taylor and Lucy Jeffery (University of Reading), Helen Strudwick (Fitzwilliam Museum), Julie-Marie Strange (University of Manchester), and the artists Rob Heard and Julian Stair, along with the project team. The discussant is Dr Karina Croucher (University of Bradford, 'Continuing Bonds' project).

The registration fee is £10 (£7.50 members/concessions), including coffee and tea. Further details and booking information can be found on the British Museum conference webpage: <https://tinyurl.com/objectsdeathconf>.

Raising Money and reducing costs for the bereaved

4 Jun 2019, 9.30 – 16.30, Quaker Social Action, Bethnal Green E2 9PJ

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

For further information please visit [here](#).

Circles of Impact: funerals, bereavement and communities

7 & 8 June 2019, National Funeral Exhibition, NAEC Stoneleigh, Warwickshire

This Church of England conference, offered over two days, draws on the expertise and experience of a wide-range of practitioners to help us think about how churches are there for those who are affected by a death, whether recent or long ago.

Topics include:

- Schools grieving
 - The impact of tragedy
 - Graveyards and grief
 - Death in rural communities
-
- Communication, connection and presence

Cost (excluding VAT): £60 or £105 for both days (please arrange your own overnight accommodation)

Early bird rate of £50 for one day or £90 for both days if booked before 20th May

Further information can be found [here](#).

[Mastering the Social Fund Funeral Expenses Payment](#)

11 Jun 2019, 10.00 – 12.30, Quaker Social Action, Bethnal Green E2 9PJ

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

For further information please visit [here](#).

[Death & dying in an age of denial](#)

13 June 2019, Anglican Chapel, Arnos Vale Cemetery, Bristol BS4 3EW

The University of Bristol Palliative and End of Life Care Research Group presents this public lecture by Dr Kathryn Mannix, followed by group discussion and introduction to the Centre's research.

Kathryn Mannix's first book, 'With the End in Mind', was published in 2017 to critical acclaim. Shortlisted for the Wellcome Prize in 2018, it has become widely recognised text for aiding our understanding of death.

This event is FREE to attend. Please sign up [here](#).

[Giving Voice to Suffering: a multidisciplinary inquiry](#)

Thursday 13 June 2019, Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole St, Marlyebone, London W1G 0LZ

Please join us for an engaging event that will listen to the voices of patients, their advocates and distinguished academics who have delved deeply into the meaning and many aspects of suffering. Visiting speakers include Deborah Bowman MBE FRSA, Professor of Ethics and Law at St George's, University of London.

To find out more please visit the event page [here](#), with full event agenda and other speaker names.

[Night of Grief & Mystery](#)

13 June 2019, St George's Bristol

This unique performance — and the larger project from which it emerges — is an endeavour to engage space and conversation around mortality — doing so in a way which

allows us to touch upon the majesty, mystery and wonder of existence. This work is an outgrowth of the philosophy of Stephen Jenkinson and his Orphan Wisdom School (<https://orphanwisdom.com>).

About Stephen Jenkinson: Stephen is a cultural activist, teacher, and author, with Master's degrees from Harvard University (Theology) and the University of Toronto (Social Work). His work strives to reframe understandings around grief and dying — by redefining what it means to live, and die well. He is former programme director for a major Canadian hospital, former assistant professor in a prominent Canadian medical school, consultant to palliative care and hospice organizations, and educator and advocate in the helping professions. Stephen teaches internationally and is the creator and principal instructor for the Orphan Wisdom School, founded in 2010.

As performative event, the "Night of Grief & Mystery" expands through Stephen's readings, the music of Gregory Hoskins and collaborators keyboard/vocalist Lisa Hodgson and bass/vocalist Colleen Hodgson -- and through the participation of those who gather with them to create such 'nights'. Tickets for the Night are now available: <https://www.facebook.com/events/253973125484338/>.

[Social Prescribing and Compassionate Communities](#)

20 June 2019, 9.30am – 4.00pm, Tipton. Cost £70

This workshop will provide the opportunity to explore how community development approaches reduce isolation and loneliness within Compassionate Communities.

For further information please click [here](#).

[Memento Mori: What the Romans can tell us about old age and death](#)

Mon 24 June, 15.30 – 16.30, Chalke Valley History Festival, near Salisbury

Romans inhabited a world where man, knowing nothing about hygiene let alone disease, had no defences against nature. Death was everywhere. In a revealing and entertaining guide to how the Romans confronted their own mortality, Peter Jones will show us that all the problems associated with old age and death that so transfix us today were already dealt with by our ancient ancestors two thousand years ago.

For further information please click [here](#).

[Alexa? Tell us a Dad joke](#)

Friday 21 June 2019, 8pm, Alchemy 198, Bristol BS7 8NU, Cost: £5

After the sudden loss of her father in 2018, Alexa started writing jokes. She then found she couldn't stop. Join her in a preview of her debut show, "Alexa? Tell us a Dad joke?", a one woman show using stand up as a vehicle to tell a story of grief, loss and love.

"Absolutely fantastic.. A perfect mixture of all of the emotions. Going from tearing up, nodding my head enthusiastically in agreement and then howling with laughter."

[Cremation & Burial Communication & Education \(CBCE\) 2019](#)

1 – 3 July 2019, Hilton at the Ageas Bowl, Southampton

The Cremation and Burial Communication and Education (CBCE) event is the national forum which brings together local councils and Private companies from across the UK. Bookings now open! For further information and to book your space please visit www.cbce.org.uk.

Cruse Bereavement Care – Conference 2019

“Bereavement Care – Past, Present and Future: Celebrating 60 years of Cruse”

4- 5 July 2019 - Birmingham

Celebrate our 60th anniversary with us by attending our two-day grief and bereavement conference. This special event will feature keynote speeches from world-class speakers, as well as seminars, workshops and networking opportunities.

Speakers include:

- **Robert A Neimeyer:** ‘Intervening in meaning - New directions in grief therapy’
- **Chris Hall:** ‘Technology and bereavement care: Opportunities and challenges of providing a telehealth bereavement service’
- **Carl Becker:** ‘Death, dying, bereavement, and end of life care: Measurement, counselling, and experiential grounding’
- **Henk Schut:** ‘Practitioners and researchers working together in an intervention efficacy study’
- **Caroline Lloyd:** ‘The Lloyd & McGuckin multidimensional theory of bereavement’

Tickets are now on sale here: <https://www.cruse.org.uk/conference-2019>

Early bird discount of 15% is available until 31 May 2019.

We look forward to celebrating with you in July.

[Whose voice is it anyway? An approach to end of life care for people with learning disabilities \(LD\)](#)

18th July 2019, 9.30 – 4 , £100, Dorothy House, Winsley, Bradford-on-Avon

This course has been designed specifically for front line LD staff as an introduction to the principles and practice of end of life care to support their service users and service users’ families.

Suitability - All health & social care professionals with responsibility for individual service users with a learning disability.

Further information is available [here](#).

End of Life and People with Intellectual Disabilities: How to manage the discussion

5 August 2019, International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disability (IASSIDD) Academy on Education, Teaching and Research, in Glasgow, Scotland.

This workshop will feature the online resource [Talking End of Life with People with Intellectual Disability \(TEL\)](#). Further information can be found at the IASSIDD 2019 Pre-Congress Academy Workshops site: <http://www.iassidd2019.com/academy-workshop/> (please scroll down to workshop 8).

2019 Celebrants Convention and National Celebrant Awards Gala Dinner

15 August 2019, Highgate House, Creaton, Northamptonshire

All details on www.celebrantsconvention.co.uk

A full day of speakers, workshops, demonstrations plus exhibition.

The awards for the winners in the National Celebrant Awards will be presented at a gala dinner in the evening. Entries are free, see details on the convention website or call 01480 276080.

Pushing Up the Daisies, a Festival of Death & Dying

12 & 13 October 2019, Frome

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

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

20 – 22 November 2019, ACC Liverpool

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

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

Call for Papers

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

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

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

- challenges of grieving in a digital age
- old and contemporary meanings of the 'good' death
- ageing well, dying well and their reverses
- death, dying and the postmodern search for meaning
- the great equaliser and the socioeconomic inequalities in dying
- death and dying within the entertainment industry
- dreaming, theorising and designing immortality today
- the rise of the undead in movies and game industry
- the art and rituals of photographing the dead nowadays
- (not so) changing attitudes towards death
- new theories and ideologies of death
- cultural memory and the landscapes of death
- death anxiety and the promises of new age movement
- the dying brain: mind, identity, agency
- medicalization and de-medicalization of death
- suicide and capital punishment in times of 'happiology'
- enduring ethical challenges of organ donation
- personal narratives of death and dying

Those interested are invited to submit a proposal of roughly 250-300 words, followed by 3-5 key-words, no later than August 1, 2019 to both mrotar2000@yahoo.com and adriana.teodorescu@gmail.com. Please include also a short bio of yourself, indicating your academic title/affiliation, research interests, significant publications etc. Authors will be notified of the abstract acceptance by August 10, 2019.

Special Issue "Chronic Illness and Death in Childhood" for 'Children'

Death and dying have often been treated as experiences distant from childhood, both in policy and practice. Often, in conversations and policy documents, death appears to be a subject pertinent to older age or chronic illness, specifically cancer. However, this Special Issue contributes to a different discourse, which suggests that children may also be confronted with death, not simply as grievers but also dying themselves.

Public debates have only engaged with child death since the 2000s, but with vast differences across nations. This Special Issue seeks to acknowledge such discussions, both empirical and theoretical, and bring together current knowledge about the following areas, without being restrictive: childhood death, sibling death, impact of child death, migration and child death, chronic illness in children, terminal stages of illnesses and death, family bereavement following child death, and the professional response to child death. This Special Issue seeks to engage various disciplines, offering a wider view of the subject that

will benefit a wider audience. Hence, authors from disciplines like medicine, social care, the social sciences and more are invited to submit manuscripts.

Manuscripts should be submitted online at www.mdpi.com by registering and logging in to this [website](#). Once you are registered, click [here](#) to go to the submission form.

The deadline for submissions is 31 August 2019.

[Histories of Death: An International Symposium](#)

19 – 21 February 2020, University of Turku, Finland

Deadline for submissions is 15 August 2019

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

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

- the social and everyday histories of death
- histories of death in the context of migration(s)
- narratives and/or life writing of death and mourning
- histories of emotion and mourning
- sensory and corporeal histories of death and mourning
- childhood and family histories of death
- health, gerontological, and palliative care histories
- art and craftwork in histories of death
- methods and ethics for the study of death in history.

Proposals across times and places are welcome. Though the focus is on death and mourning in historical contexts, the symposium is particularly interested in exploring inter/transdisciplinary approaches, and scholars from all backgrounds are welcome to participate.

Please email abstracts of 250 words, indicating whether you are proposing a paper presentation, poster presentations, or creative work, together with a max. 150-word bio, including name, institutional affiliation and position, and email address, to

historiesofdeath@gmail.com by August 15, 2019. Information about registration, plenary speakers, travel, and accommodation will be posted shortly to the Symposium website.

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

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

Contact us

Email: cdas@bath.ac.uk

Web: www.bath.ac.uk/cdas

Tel: 01225 386949 (Mon-Wed only)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/centrefordeath

Twitter: @cendeathsociety

To unsubscribe, please email cdas@bath.ac.uk