

Centre for
Death & Society
(CDAS)



UNIVERSITY OF
BATH

Centre for Death & Society

Newsletter

June 2019

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Director's Note

June 2019

[DDD14](#) is soon upon us (September 4-7, 2019 – in case anyone forgets...) so here are some key dates for everyone coming to Bath in September to keep in mind:

- Registrations cancelled by July 4 will be refunded 80% of the registration fees
- Registrations cancelled by August 4 will be refunded 50% of the registration fees
- Registrations cancelled after August 4 will not be eligible for a refund
- Bookings close August 1 so there is still time to register for the conference.



Remember that members of [ASDS receive a discounted rate](#).

I want to flag up just how international DDD14 will be as we welcome delegates from around the world. Here is a quick snapshot (and I am missing some countries, so apologies):

India	Netherlands	Germany
Iran	Italy	Czech Republic
China	Greece	Switzerland
Japan	Russia	Spain
United States	Poland	Serbia
Brazil	Romania	Austria
New Zealand	Finland	Ireland
Australia	Nigeria	Turkey
United Kingdom	Norway	Denmark
Canada	Israel	

Team CDAS is busily putting together the programme and we will send out a DRAFT programme as soon as we can. Fitting everyone from all these countries into the schedule has become a challenge unto itself, but a good challenge.

See everyone in September.

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

The draft Programme for the conference will be available online in the next 10 days. Please check this link for updates to the schedule: <https://www.bath.ac.uk/events/14th-international-conference-on-the-social-context-of-death-dying-and-disposal/>.

In addition to our programme of speakers and masterclasses we have 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 – only a few places left
- 'Preserving the Memory of the Dead', a unique underfloor tour of Bath Abbey, and other tours of Bath

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. She is moving to the UK from the US in September, and is looking for work either in Oxfordshire or London. She has been training as a multi-faith hospital chaplain for the past two years, most recently working in palliative care. She 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. She is most interested in work that is either in hospitals, hospice or nursing homes, either as a multi-faith chaplain or rabbi/Jewish chaplain. She is also open to hearing other ideas or opportunities that might be available. Please contact her at eryn.n.london@gmail.com.

Events

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](#).

Death Affairs: the political and the personal in a digital age

21 June 2019, 17.00 – 19.30, University of Greenwich, FREE

Death never occurs in isolation from social life. It is both defined and defines social life, while its effects are many and on multiple levels, such as personal, social and political. This said, death, regardless our approach to it, is associated with political explanations, but holds its own politics as well. In contemporary societies, this discourse is closely associated with new technologies and social media. He latter often becomes the means that politicises death, while technology, equally, offers a new platform upon which to experience death and grief.

This is a multi-disciplinary panel that aims to examine the tensions between the personal and political aspects of death, via the lens of advanced technology and social media. The panel's intent is twofold. First, to examine the influence of technology and digitalisation on death, grief and mourning. Next, this panel will explore the pertinence of this knowledge in contemporary practice, education and policy.

Chair

[Dr Panagiotis Pentaris](#), University of Greenwich

Panel Members

[Dr Stacey Pitsilides](#), University of Greenwich

[Professor Carla Sofka](#), Siena College

[Dr Maggie Jackson](#), Teesside University

[Dr Korina Giaxoglou](#), The Open University

[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."

[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](#).

[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.

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

Raising money and reducing costs for the bereaved

Upcoming 2019 dates: 16th July | 12th November

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

½ day course – from £70

[Book online](#)

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).

Mastering the Social Fund Funeral Payment

Upcoming 2019 dates: 6th August | 12th October

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

2½ hour workshop - £40

[Book online](#)

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.

Rites of Passage September Summer School

6 – 9 September, East Woodlands Village Hall, Frome BA11 5LQ

For artists, teachers, community activists, arts workers, story tellers and anyone with a creative interest in acquiring the skills to make or lead ritual and ceremony. Most of us have a profound need to mark important events in our lives with some kind of ceremony. Frequently these are the occasions that our culture finds easiest to celebrate, like births, marriages and deaths, yet there are many other significant life experiences that demand attention. In our changing social and cultural environment, where confidence in traditional religion has often diminished, the challenge is to create new and appropriate rites of passage that can be witnessed by family and friends.

This challenge will be the starting point for an intensive 4 day workshop, which will focus on the Hows and Whys of ceremony and celebration in a practical and experiential way. We will investigate how both positive and negative life events can be distilled into myth and poetry and create meaningful rituals to contain them. Crucially, the workshop will be shaped to fulfil the needs and aspirations of participants so there will be plenty of opportunities to learn and practise different aspects of the art of creating both public and private ceremonies, in a safe environment.

Gilly Adams and Sue Gill have been working together for more than twenty years, first as part of Welfare State International and latterly under the banner of Dead Good Guides. They will share their experience of working as independent, secular celebrants, guiding families and individuals to create their own distinctive ceremonies.

For further information please contact Gill Adams, gillyadams1@outlook.com; 02920 552389

Making charity applications for individuals

September 10th 2019

Help your clients make a successful application to a charity for something they need.

2½ hour workshop - £40

[Book online](#)

Suicide Bereavement UK's 8th International Conference

25 September 2019, Manchester

We are thrilled to announce that Suicide Bereavement UK and Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust are collaborating for the 8th year running to host Suicide Bereavement UK's International Conference. This conference will focus on vulnerable subgroups amongst those bereaved by suicide and taboo issues directly associated with such deaths.

The University of Manchester in collaboration with support after suicide partnership will launch the national suicide bereavement survey report at this event. Findings will be of

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

Details of speakers and registration via our website -

<https://suicidebereavementuk.com/suicide-bereavement-conference>

Pushing Up the Daisies, a Festival of Death & Dying

12 & 13 October 2019, Frome

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

www.pushingupthedaisies.co.uk.

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 grievors 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**.

[BSA Death, Dying and Bereavement Annual Symposium 'Death & Relationships'](#)

5 December 2019, University of Sheffield

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

We invite researchers and practitioners to submit abstracts on the theme of relationships and death, dying and bereavement. Topics can include, but are not limited to:

- Sex and intimacy
- Materiality
- Pet death/dying
- Online relationships
- Death care professionals and relationships with patients
- Friendship
- Kinship
- Dying alone
- Continuing bonds

Submission Please submit abstracts of up to 250 words by Midnight (GMT) on **Monday 16th September 2019** to BSADDB@gmail.com. Presentations will be 20 minutes long with additional time for questions.

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

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

19 – 21 February 2020, University of Turku, Finland

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.

Book Contributions

Death and Event: Death, Remembrance, Memorialisation and the Evental.

Despite the wide variety of events studied or addressed by event scholars and event managers, very few consider death from a perspective of event studies or event management. Yet, it is the one event that none of us can evade. How death is articulated through the events around it, how the end of life is marked (whether that be the life of an individual, a group, or a community) through evental structures in diverse cultural, ideological, societal frameworks, is a vastly under-explored domain. From the practicalities around a highly stage-managed event of commemoration or memorialisation, in the details of state funeral or day of remembrance, to the sudden outpourings of grief and unstructured informal societal responses to some events of death around well-known figures, the loss of someone personally close to us or our responses shed light on culturally normative modes of expression, hegemonic power, or an ideological context within which the death occurs and the living act and interact.

Following on from a positive discussion with one of the editorial board of the Emerald Studies in Death and Culture book series we are looking for chapters that would contribute to a proposed book on death, remembrance, memorialisation and the evental. We seek contributors from any discipline and field who are interested in reflecting on death from the perspective of event, event studies, and events management. The work can be conceptual, empirical, practical or provocative. Whether you are a practitioner or

your area of expertise is anthropology, critical event studies, cultural studies, philosophy, psychology, sociology, theology or otherwise, so long as your interest is in the manifestation, mediation and articulation of death from an events perspective, we would love to hear from you. There are no restrictions around conceptual framework, or on the research philosophy/research approach, your work adopts.

Chapters may cover, but not be limited to: Celebrating, commemorating and memorialising death through events Funerals and memorial services Funeral directors as event manager and co-creators of funeral events National or international commemorations of death Deaths of celebrities, royalty, religious or political leaders or iconic figures Formal state responses to death Media influences on death Commercialization of death Cultural significance of death memorials Vigils and responses to terror attacks Faith and non-faith perspectives Informal spontaneous evental responses to death Cultural appropriation of death events Teaching about events of death Conspicuous consumption and death Sustainability and woodland burials Visual media, social media and memorabilia, live streaming of death events (Auto)Ethnographic stories of death events Memorialisation as activist event Theological perspectives on death events A contemporary conceptualization of the funeral as event Rituals of death events Death events as liminal spaces

In the first instance please send us an abstract of 300 words (excluding any references), together with your full name, any affiliation, and lead author contact information 19th July 2019. Our objective is to submit a formal book proposal by the end of July 2019.

Dr Ian R Lamond: i.lamond@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Rev. Ruth Dowson: r.dowson@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

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

Contact us

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