

Centre for
Death & Society
(CDAS)



UNIVERSITY OF
BATH

Centre for Death & Society

Newsletter

March 2019

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Director's Note

March 2019

Deluged.

That is the word I'll use to describe the unprecedented number of abstracts we received for September 2019's 14th International Death, Dying, and Disposal Conference (#DDD14).

Well over 220 different paper proposals rolled in from around the world, in addition to workshop, masterclass, and art installation proposals. The excel spreadsheet containing all the submissions is the definition of a sublime terror.



My enormous thanks to everyone who submitted proposals for DDD14, with special thanks to Emma Ford for single-handedly managing the whole submission process.

Now begins the sifting and sorting and we're aiming to send out responses to everyone who submitted something by mid-April.

In the meantime, ticket sales for DDD14 are now open via the University of Bath website and you can view the different ticket options [here](#).

I am also pleased to announce that [Dr. Peter Bazira](#), Director of the Centre for Anatomical and Human Sciences and Programme Director for the MSc in Clinical Anatomy and MSc in Clinical Anatomy and Education, and the Academic Lead for Widening Participation at Hull York Medical School is our third plenary speaker for DDD14.

Per usual, CDAS will keep everyone posted on all things DDD14 as they develop.

In some non-DDD14 news (which seems impossible to imagine) the Centre for Death and Society and our colleagues in the University of Bath's [Centre for Development Studies](#) are co-sponsoring an afternoon seminar called "New Perspectives on Death and Dying in Sub-Saharan Africa" on Monday 8 April 2019 from 2:00pm to 5:00pm. Find out more about this free seminar [here](#).

And finally, the Centre for Death and Society is pleased to announce that [Professor Richard Cheston](#) will deliver the inaugural *Beatrice Godwin Memorial Lecture* on 13 May 2019 in Bath. More information about the event will be announced soon.

Many thanks to one and all for keeping CDAS so busy on these many fronts.

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**



DDD14 TICKETS NOW ON SALE!

Tickets for the DDD are now available. For details and more information about the Conference please visit us [here](#).

Special rates are available for:

- **Early Bird Tickets – available until 30 April 2019**
- Post Graduate Researchers
- ASDS members
- Financial assistance may be available to those without institutional financial support. Please contact infoddd@bath.ac.uk for further information. All applications must be received by 30 April 2019 and applicants will be notified of any available assistance as soon as possible after this date.

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 delighted to have secured several sponsors for the DDD. However, 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

Events

Train to Facilitate others making their end-of-life plans

March, 2019

The Before I Go Academy is now recruiting for the next intake of students for the Before I Go Licensed Training, teaching you to run Before I Go Method® groups in your locality.

If you are passionate about helping to spread the word the importance of talking about dying, death, grief and making your end of life plan, then please visit <https://beforeigosolutions.com/big-training/> for more information.

Bereavement Services Seminar

27 March 2019, Stratford Manor Hotel, Stratford-upon-Avon.

Hosted jointly by the Cremation Society, the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM), the Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities (FBCA) and the Association of Private Cemeteries and Crematoria (APCC). Further details to follow.

The Good Grief Project, Active Grief Weekend

29 – 31 March 2019, Manifold Farm, Derbyshire

Please join us for the Active Grief weekend in Derbyshire. Further information about the event can be found [here](#).

Loss & Resilience: Meaning Making through Illness or Bereavement

30 March 2019, 9.30 – 16.30, University of Suffolk, 19 Neptune Quay, Ipswich

Loss, change and transition challenge us throughout our lives.

As practitioners we support people through many kinds of loss and transition including aging, bereavement, life limiting or chronic illness, disability, divorce, the ending of relationships and unemployment.

The conference will consider how attachment and continuing bonds can help us understand how life transitions involve the making and breaking of bonds. We will explore how to enhance resilience by providing opportunities for meaning making, creating a secure base and mindfulness.

There will be speakers, workshops and final plenary.

Cost £70 including sandwich lunch and refreshments. To purchase a place go to link

<https://onlineshop.ucs.ac.uk/product-catalogue/conferences-and-events/conferences/conference-loss-and-resilience-meaning-making-through-illness-or-bereavement>

[Doulas – Doing Death Differently: A Conference for Professionals & the Public](#)

30 March 2019, St Mary's Church, London W1H 1PQ

How can we normalise death and dying? How can we work towards a death that is a true reflection of our life – not separate from our community but among the people we know and love? This down-to-earth day explores ways to be more at home and comfortable with death – daring to think about dying – how we would want it and where we would want it to be. Inclusive with a pragmatic and compassionate thread all the way through, bringing new perspectives and showcasing pioneering work.

Further information is available [here](#).

[Royal Death and Burial – Reading Abbey in Context](#)

6 April 2019, 9am – 5pm, Reading Town Hall, £10

Further information about this event can be found here:

<https://www.readingmuseum.org.uk/whats-on/conference-royal-death-and-burial-reading-abbey-context?platform=hootsuite>.

[New Perspectives on death and dying in Sub-Saharan Africa](#)

8 April 2019, 2pm – 5pm, University of Bath, Free to all

This afternoon event, hosted by CDAS and the Centre for Development Studies at the University of Bath, will include three talks from researchers who will present on tombstone inscriptions in Nigeria; the funeral industry in townships in South Africa, and the challenges of death and funerals during the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone.

To find out more about this event please click [here](#).

[Psychological Therapy in the Presence of Death](#)

25 April 2019, 9.30 – 4, £100, Dorothy House, Winsley, Bradford-on-Avon

Working with clients who face a life-limiting illness can challenge the boundaries of a therapeutic relationship, and expose the counsellor / psychotherapist to their own vulnerabilities about death and dying. This course explores how the nature of counselling and therapeutic work is challenged and changed by the realities of a client's life limiting illness. We will encourage transparent thinking and discussion about the practical and transformative nature of working with a client who is dying.

Suitability - Registered and trainee counsellors, psychotherapists, psychological practitioners, mental health & social workers.

Further information is available [here](#).

[Oxford Centre for Education and Research in Palliative Care Seminar Series](#)

Culturally Sensitive palliative care: Meeting the needs of gender and sexual minorities, 26 April 2019, Oxford, cost £120. Despite the considerable social change that the UK has witnessed in relation to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) rights, significant evidence indicates that LGBT people face additional challenges when accessing palliative and end-of-life care services. This study day explores the issues and needs of LGBT people, with a specific emphasis on those needing and receiving palliative and end-of-life care. It provides participants with the opportunity to reflect on, and identify ways of providing, culturally sensitive care for LGBT people, their partners and families and within a palliative care context.

For further information on these and other seminars please contact ssc@ouh.nhs.uk

[Unleashing Compassion Conference: Communities innovating and supporting through death, dying and bereavement](#)

2 May 2019

Unleashing Compassion is a national conference being organised by Scottish alliance Good Life Good Death Good Grief to explore how to encourage open and supportive attitudes and behaviours relating to death, dying and bereavement. It takes place at Renfield St Stephen's in Glasgow on 2 May.

Keynote speaker will be Dame Barbara Monroe, who will draw on 40 years' experience as a social worker, and 14 years as Chief Executive of St Christopher's Hospice, to provide a thought-provoking exploration of some of the current issues and challenges facing those wishing to 'unleash' the compassion within themselves and their communities.

There will be opportunities for people to learn from and be motivated by each other, to hear about new initiatives, and to find out about practical ideas and tools that might be of use.

Full details and tickets, priced £40, can be found on the Good Life Good Death Good Grief website:

https://www.goodlifedeathgrief.org.uk/content/compassionate_conference_2019/
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](#).

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, venue TBC. Presented by Richard Cheston, Professor of Dementia Research at the University of West of England. FREE to all.

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

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](#).

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](#).

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.

Bereavement Care – Past, present and future

4 & 5 July 2019, Park Regis Hotel, Birmingham. Celebrating 60 years of Cruse!

A two-day exploration of grief and bereavement featuring world-class speakers alongside a packed programme of seminars, workshops and networking opportunities.

Bereavement theory and Practice is constantly evolving: join the UK's leading bereavement charity to explore the latest developments and enhance your skills in the company of other practitioners and professionals. Further information can be found [here](#).

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.iasidd2019.com/academy-workshop/> (please scroll down to workshop 8).

Call for Papers

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.

Publications

[Death in Modern Theatre, by Adrian Curtin](#)

Death in modern theatre offers a unique account of modern Western theatre, focusing on the ways in which dramatists and theatre-makers have explored historically informed ideas about death and dying in their work. It investigates the opportunities theatre affords to reflect on the end of life in a compelling and socially meaningful fashion. In a series of interrelated, mostly chronological, micronarratives beginning in the late nineteenth century and ending in the early twenty-first century, this book considers how and why death and dying are represented at certain historical moments using dramaturgy and aesthetics that challenge audiences' conceptions, sensibilities, and sense-making faculties. It includes a mix of well-known and lesser-known plays from an international range of dramatists and theatre-makers, and offers original interpretations through close reading and performance analysis.

Available from Manchester University Press, ISBN: 978-1-5261-2470-8,
<http://www.manchesteruniversitypress.co.uk/9781526124708/>.

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

Contact us

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