

Centre for
Death & Society
(CDAS)



UNIVERSITY OF
BATH

Centre for Death & Society

Newsletter

November 2019

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Director's Note

November 2019

It's November, which means it is time to highlight CDAS 2019 and 2020 events.

Two key upcoming events will interest everyone who reads the CDAS Monthly Newsletter.

First and foremost is the CDAS Seminar on ***New Research on Death and Dying Trends in Asia*** being held on November 27 here on campus.

CDAS Visiting Scholars Dr Qian Liu, Dr Ryosuke Morooka and Aki Miyazawa will present on:



The Features of End of Life Care Policies and Practice in China: Illustrated with field work in the Hospice Ward in a Beijing Hospital, Dr Qian Liu, Institute of Anthropology, Renming University, China

End-of-life experiences in the social and historical context of Japan, Dr Ryosuke Morooka, Institute of Education, Shimane University, Japan

Japanese tree burial and its social context: cemetery management issues in contemporary Japan, Aki Miyazawa, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Tsukuba, Japan

You can find more details about seminar in this month's newsletter.

Next, the Call-for-Papers for the CDAS 2020 Conference, held June 26-27 here at the University of Bath is now open.

This year's conference theme is:

In the Year 2020: Death, Dying, Technology and Human Mortality

In a world... where over the last twenty-years, first world popular culture's interest in human mortality significantly expanded and death and dying achieved new levels of media attention.

What has the last twenty-years of death, dying, and technology produced for human mortality? And what might the next twenty-years hold? What role does technology now play in the everyday experiences of human mortality?

The June 2020 Centre for Death and Society Annual Conference will focus on Death, Dying, Technology and Human Mortality and what the discovery and re-discovery of human technology means for power, sovereignty, bioethics, the rule of law, and most importantly-- death and dying.

Please send a 300 Word abstract to cdas@bath.ac.uk by 28 February 2020.

One final thing – enormous thanks to Emma Ford who took over as Research Manager for CDAS in July 2018. Emma has now accepted a new job and is sadly no longer working with CDAS and will be sorely missed. I can say without any hesitation that she accomplished many amazing things for CDAS during her tenure. The also amazing Tara Jessop has stepped in to cover Emma's work while we look for a replacement. Many thanks to them both.

CDAS NEWS

Message from a CDAS Visiting Research Fellow

"My name is Aki and I am a Researcher at the University of Tsukuba in Japan.

I am currently a CDAS Visiting Research Fellow, where I am extending my studies to examine natural burial in the local area. Now I am exploring how people in the UK regard natural burial. I am keen to speak with professionals who are involved in the natural burial or funeral industry. I am writing this to see if I could have an interview about your thoughts on natural burial practices and perceptions based on your experience.

If you are keen to participate to this research project or you would like to know more about it, please do not hesitate to contact me. This research is approved by the Research Ethics Committee at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Tsukuba, Japan. Please be assured that anything you say to me during the interview will be strictly confidential and anonymized.

My contact details are: s1430001@u.tsukuba.ac.jp

Many thanks in advance for any help you may be able to provide."

Aki Miyazawa

School of Humanities and Social Sciences,

University of Tsukuba, Japan

Visiting Research Fellow at Centre for Death & Society, University of Bath

[You can meet Aki Miyazawa at the CDAS Seminar on 27 November. Details [here](#).]

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.

Free membership to Mausolea & Monuments Trust (MMT) for Students

The Mausolea and Monuments Trust (MMT) is offering free membership to students studying in a relevant field. To apply, visit <http://www.mmtrust.org.uk/membership> for more details. This offer is reserved to the first 20 students who apply, so don't delay!

CDAS Community News

New Report: 'Experts by experience: what matters to them?'

A qualitative research project, co-lead by Dr Julie Rugg (University of York) and Dr Sarah Jones (Full Circle Funerals), highlights five "funeral factors" consistent reported as important by people arranging and attending funerals in the UK. These findings suggest that ritualised funeral activities happen over a much longer timescale than is often discussed and the report has implications for health and social care professionals, researchers, funeral care professionals, trainers and regulators.

The report is available to download here: <https://fullcirclefunerals.co.uk/about-us/research/>

GoSimply Funerals Wins Industry Award

Congratulations to GoSimply Funerals for winning 'National Green Funeral Director of the Year' at the Good Funeral Awards. The award recognised their input into education and engagement with the public. GoSimply Funerals kindly sponsored the 14th International Conference on the Social Context of Death, Dying and Disposal (DDD14) which CDAS hosted at the University of Bath in September 2019.

Events

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 visit: <https://www.hospiceuk.org/what-we-offer/courses-conferences-and-learning-events/conferences/hospice-uk-national-conf/programme>

CDAS Seminar: New Research on Death and Dying Trends in Asia

27 November 2019, University of Bath

CDAS visiting scholars Dr Qian Liu, Dr Ryosuke Morooka and Akia Miyazawa will present on:

The Features of End of Life Care Policies and Practice in China: Illustrated with field work in the Hospice Ward in a Beijing Hospital, Dr Qian Liu, Institute of Anthropology, Renming University, China

End-of-life experiences in the social and historical context of Japan, Dr Ryosuke Morooka, Institute of Education, Shimane University, Japan

Japanese tree burial and its social context: cemetery management issues in contemporary Japan, Aki Miyazawa, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Tsukuba, Japan

Further information on this event can be found here:

<https://www.bath.ac.uk/events/new-research-on-death-and-dying-trends-in-asia/>

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.

The programme includes:

Plenary: A Love that Never Dies, Jane Harris and Jimmy Edmonds, The Good Grief Project

Session 1: Placing death and dying: On the work of relationships in making place at the end of life, Annelieke Driessen(1), Erica Borgstrom(2) and Simon Cohn(1), (1)LSHTM, (2)The Open University; Ending before it truly begins – the continuing relationship between bereaved parents and their baby as facilitated by a children's hospice, Rosa Mendizabal, UCL and Jayne Price, Kingston University London; Caring out of love?: Older, frail spouses' experiences of looking after their partner at end-of-life, Tessa Morgan, University of Cambridge.

Session 2: 'We're treating that person as that person, not as that illness': The Relationality of Suffering in Palliative Care work, Natalie Richardson, University of Sheffield; Relationship between HORFP and the deceased body, Imogen Jones, University of Leeds; Nurses' early and ongoing encounters with the dying and the dead: A scoping review of the international literature, Jan Draper and Kerry Jones, The Open University.

Session 3: 'Sticky' Relationships with the Dead: An Adaptation of Continuing Bonds, Laura Towers, University of Sheffield; A relative absence: exploring professional experiences of funerals without a congregation, Nicola Turner, University of Nottingham; Still caring, still faithful: relating life and death in pet cemeteries and crematoria, Fenella Eason, University of Exeter.

Click here for Registration info: <https://www.britsoc.co.uk/events/key-bsa-events/death-and-relationships-bsa-social-aspects-of-death-dying-and-bereavement-study-group-annual-symposium/>.

Before I go Accredited Training in End of Life Care Plan Facilitation

January 2020

Applications from every country are invited for the next intake of this online course, beginning end January 2020.

Primarily of interest to health professionals, counsellors, coaches, educators, celebrants or others interested in enabling others to create good end of life plans.

The course is spread over 7 months, and graduates will be licensed to facilitate Before I Go Method® courses and individual sessions with those wishing to take care of their end of life matters, but who are not getting round to it (that is 80% of everyone who say they are interested in doing something!)

For further information please visit: <https://beforeigosolutions.com/big-training/>

PABBS evidence-based suicide bereavement training

21 January and 10 March 2020

PABBS training was informed by a three year study, conducted at the University of Manchester, funded (£243k) by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), led by Dr. Sharon McDonnell and her team and first of its kind internationally. This training is a one day highly interactive workshop, delivered by two trainers, who have considerable experience working with those bereaved by suicide. There is no role-play during the training. Lunch and refreshments are provided.

If you would like further information please visit <https://suicidebereavementuk.com/pabbs-training> or if you wish to enrol, please contact Paul Higham 07850 710555 email: paul.higham@suicidebereavementuk.com

Histories of Death: An International Symposium

19 – 21 February 2020, University of Turku, Finland

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 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.

More information here: <https://sites.utu.fi/jmc/histories-of-death/>

Awareness of Trauma & Dissociation Continued Professional Development (CPD) Course

28 March 2020

The day will cover:

The link between trauma, attachment & dissociation

- Understanding the spectrum of dissociation & dissociative disorders (incl. Dissociative Identity Disorder)
- Identifying & responding to dissociation when it happens in the room
- Working with trauma related-dissociation
- Understanding the perspective of someone who experiences dissociation/DID
- How we can help in counselling

For who: Counsellors/therapists & other mental health practitioners who want to develop their understanding of trauma & dissociation & how to work most effectively with people affected by it. When: March 28th 2020 10 am – 4 pm

Where: All CPD courses are held at GCS, Alma House, Stroud, Glos, GL5 1AP * We require proof of your volunteer work & role at application stage.

Fees: Trainee/Volunteer*: £60, GCS staff: £70, External: £110, Groups of 3 or more: £95 per delegate

For more information visit: www.gloscounselling.org.uk/product/cpd-workshops-and-short-courses

Dying Matters Awareness Week 2020 – Dying to be heard

11 – 17 May 2020

The 2020 theme of **Dying To Be Heard** will focus on how to help by listening. How many people want to talk about death, but feel they have no one to talk to about

it? How many people are Dying To Be Heard?

We'll have some tips on active listening, and reassure people that you don't need to be an expert on wills, funerals or advance care planning: [the Dying Matters website](#) has signposts to all the relevant information.

Active Grief Weekend

15 – 17 May 2020, Manifold Farm, Derbyshire

Registrations for our next ACTIVE GRIEF WEEKEND are now open.

Run by and for the bereaved, these retreats are available to all who have suffered the death of a child of any age, from any cause and no matter how long ago. They are also extremely popular and we recommend early booking.

For more information, please visit: <https://thegoodgriefproject.co.uk/active/>

Cremation and Burial Communication Education (CBCE)

29 June 2020

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. CBCE is jointly organised by The Cremation Society of Great Britain and the Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities.

As the bereavement sector continues to grow, 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 your services, exhibitors will show you the latest services and products available and networking opportunities will provide the space to engage with fellow professionals.

Who should attend?

- Managers and staff of local authority cemeteries and crematoria.
- Owners and operators of private sector cemeteries and crematoria.
- Funeral directors, bereavement related charities and representatives from other kindred organisations wishing to have a better understanding of the services provided at cemeteries and crematoria.

Why should you attend?

- **Learn** - Hear about new legislation that will bring about **Death Certification** changes and amendments to the **Cremation Regulations** that are to be introduced. These legislative changes will impact upon all local authority service providers and the private sector and we want you to be fully prepared.
- **Connect** - Network with industry-leading practitioners, share views with the most experienced service providers in the UK to learn from their insights and forge new partnerships.
- **Discover** - Explore the most effective way of providing your service by seeing and discussing the most up-to-date technology and tools available within the sector
- **Professional Development** - The Cremation and Burial Communication and Education 2018 Event offered all attendees evidence of **Continuous Professional Development**, with certificates from the CPD Certification Service awarded to all attendees.

For more information, please visit: <http://cbce.org.uk/>

12th International Conference on Grief and Bereavement in Contemporary Society

13-17 July 2020

Every three years, the International Conference on Grief and Bereavement in Contemporary Society acts to foster international and multidisciplinary collaboration in research and clinical and community practice, across cultural and geographical boundaries. In July 2020, the conference will be hosted in Melbourne, Australia and will offer an opportunity to share the latest developments in grief, research, clinical and community work.

More information at www.icgb2020.com

Suicide Bereavement UK's 9th International Conference 'Suicide Bereavement: Using Our Collective Voice'

24 September 2020, Manchester

Suicide Bereavement UK and Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust are collaborating for the 9th 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. Please note, over 400 people from 9 countries usually attend this annual event and it is always over-subscribed.

Registration is now open for the 2020 Conference. Programme and Speakers: TBC

Cost - £140 + Booking Fee + VAT – To book, please visit

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

Call for Papers

Interdisciplinary Conference: "How Do we Tell the Children?"

Thursday to Saturday, 30 January to 1 February 2020 and Thursday to Saturday, 27 to 29 February 2020, Bishop Grosseteste University, Lincoln. Submission deadline 30 November 2020

This event, open to all irrespective of religious affiliation and to those who have none, will bring together members of the public, practitioners, creative artists and scholars working across the arts, humanities, sciences and theology, whose work, research and working/creative practices relate to death and dying.

Proposals for 20-minute talks and workshops (up to 3 hours) are invited from participants working in any discipline, and at all career stages or professions. All sessions are intended as starting points for interdisciplinary exchange and discussion, which is why the academic components need to be short and informal.

Our audience is fellow academics, practitioners, pastors and artists as well as students and the general public.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- Theological Reflections on Death, Dying, the Pastoral Care of the Dying and Funereal Practices
- Literature written for Children
- Creative Writing (for Children)
- Death, Children and the Gothic
- Death, Children and Art
- Death, Children and Spirituality
- Therapeutic and religious approaches to working with Children
- Neuro-Diversity / Disability Studies, Children and Grief
- Wellbeing and Grief for Children
- Grief in Children's Education
- Children's Understanding and Experience of Grief
- Children's Grief in the Media and Popular Culture
- Death, Grief and Diversity in Children's Lives

If you would like to participate, please submit a short bio (50 words) and a brief (max. 200 word) abstract by 30 November 2019 to sibylle.erle@bishopg.ac.uk and peter.green@bishopg.ac.uk, indicating what your academic or creative approach to death, dying, loss and grief.

More information here: <https://deathconference.wordpress.com/2020-conference/>

1st International Conference Death Experience

20 – 21 March 2020, University of Latvia, Riga

Ars Moriendi, first festival dedicated to death will be held in Riga, Latvia on 20 - 21st March 2020, it will include an academic conference and detailed cultural programme. The conference, Death Experiences, will cover such areas of death studies as ethics and morals, celebration of death, impact on environment, social history of death, and erasing the dead.

In Latvian cultural environment death and its rituals have a significant role both within Latvian life perception and philosophy and within the context of religious notions. Until now there are little to very few studies on nations attitudes towards death. The main purpose of the conference Death Experiences is to popularise death studies within Latvian and Baltic academic environment and highlight specific Latvian death related traditions, dying and forming of nations cultural memory. As example in Latvian cultural space we can discuss changing but persistent traditions of taking care of cemeteries during the centuries. They reflect both the relation to people's religious practices and notions of living after death, and the secular respect towards the dead and their memory. Death Experiences will provide a comprehensive study of Latvian special attitudes towards death, dying and tradition of cemetery care, marking Latvia in thanatology, science and culture map of Europe.

Death festival is organised by Faculty of Theology of University of Latvia in cooperation with partners.

Researchers are invited to submit their papers in the following sections of the academic conference:

- Death morality & ethics
- Death experiences
- Law and death
- Death and environmental impact
- Celebrated death
- Death of cultures
- Death from social view point
- Erasing the dead

Time for presentation 20 minutes. Please submit your abstracts (max 300 words) and short curriculum vitae (max 200 words) all in one file electronically to deathexperiences@yahoo.com by 15th January 2020. Please ensure the paper is communicated clearly as the conference is multi-disciplinary. The cost of conference is €100, this will include participation, a meal and culture events.

Deconstructing Donation Study Group Conference

19 June 2020, City, University of London

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Dr Laura Machin is inviting abstract submissions for this interdisciplinary conference which aims to deconstruct 'donation'. Presentations that provide insight into the relationships that donation produce, with people, technology, body parts, fluids and tissue are particularly welcomed. Theoretical, methodological, and empirical papers will all be considered. Presentations can draw on the concepts and theories within the social sciences and/or humanities and can refer to all types of bodily, tissue, and fluid donations for a variety of purposes such as education, treatment, art, and research. The conference will have a number of themed sessions, which we invite potential speakers to consider.

THEMED SESSIONS

Contextualising Donation We are inviting contributions which critically address the contexts, politics and practices which both construct and transform donation. Donation does not happen in a social vacuum and contributors are asked to consider how various forms of donation are shaped, maintained and developed in particular contexts and at particular times, through, for example, considerations of political, economic, socio-cultural and policy concerns.

Researching Donation: Methodological Considerations and Contingencies We are interested in papers which address the particular methodological and ethical approaches and challenges to researching donation. Contributors may wish to consider the particular issues involved in gaining access to and studying donation in the 'field', and the research relationships that shape and make these activities possible.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Please email abstracts of up to 300 words by 27th March 2020 to the Deconstructing Donation Study Group Convenor, Dr Laura Machin: l.machin@lancaster.ac.uk. You will be notified out of the outcome of your submission by 24th April 2020. In the abstract, please include your name, institution, title of presentation, and email address. Abstracts significantly over the word count will not be accepted. Abstracts will be reviewed, taking into account the suitability of the topic, the stage of research process (if appropriate), and the significance of the findings or arguments proposed to the Group.

PLENARY SPEAKER AND PANEL EVENT

The plenary speaker for the fourth Deconstructing Donation conference will be Rosamund Scott, Professor of Medical Law and Ethics at the Dickinson Poon School of Law, Kings College, London. Rosamund's research centres on ethical, legal and policy issues in reproduction, with an emphasis on new reproductive technologies.

We will also be hosting a panel event with speakers working on donation from diverse perspectives. The panel will be addressing the question: 'What does donation mean to you?' Confirmed Panel Members include:

- Rachael Buchanan: Science and health journalist at BBC News
- Alexa Wright: Artist who has produced works on the psycho-social effects of heart transplantation
- Katie Morley: Lead nurse – Recipient coordinator at NHS Blood and Transplant
-

CONFERENCE DETAILS

The conference will take place in the Tait Building at City, University of London, Northampton Square, Clerkenwell, EC1V 0HB and is being hosted by Dr Jessie Cooper, Lecturer in the Sociology of Health.

Delegates and speakers will be welcome to join Laura and Jessie for drinks and/or dinner at a local restaurant on Thursday, 18 and/or Friday, 19 June. Details will be sent out nearer the time.

Nearby accommodation within walking distance of the conference is available at: Travelodge London Farringdon

REGISTRATION FEES

- Student BSA Member: £35
- Student Non-BSA Member: £40
- BSA Member: £45
- Non-BSA Member: £50

[In the Year 2020: Death, Dying, Technology and Human Mortality](#) [CDAS Conference 2020. Call for Papers](#)

26-27 June 2020, University of Bath

We are delighted to announce that we are now inviting abstracts for oral and poster presentations for next year's CDAS conference to be held at the University of Bath, on Friday 26 and Saturday 27 June 2020.

In a world... where over the last twenty-years, first world popular culture's interest in human mortality significantly expanded and death and dying achieved new levels of media attention.

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The June 2020 Centre for Death and Society Annual Conference will focus on Death, Dying, Technology and Human Mortality and what the discovery and re-discovery of human technology means for power, sovereignty, bioethics, the rule of law, and most importantly-- death and dying.

Possible topics could include:

Assisted dying

Activism and death politics

Science and Technology Studies of Death and Dying

Death Technologies across time

Feminist critiques of death politics across time

The history of death focussed activism (e.g., AIDS and ACT-UP, Black Lives Matter, etc.)

Power relationships between the state and the individual

The economics of death and poverty

Future Technologies for Death and Dying Past/Present/Future Dead Body

Disposal Technologies

The politics of death nostalgia

Death and social class

Debates around life and death and personhood

State ordered executions and capital punishment

Death technologies of power, control, discipline, and preservation

Cultural appropriation and commodification

Isolation at the end of life

The commodification of death experiences

Political protests and dead political leaders

(Neo)colonialism and death politics

The politics of post-mortem evidence in policy making and with policy makers

Human Rights Law and genocide

Urban planning and deathscapes

Please send a 300 Word abstract to cdas@bath.ac.uk by 28 February 2020.

Visit the [CDAS website](https://www.bath.ac.uk/centrefordeath/) 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

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