



Centre for Death & Society

Newsletter

April 2020

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Director's Note

April 2020

Well. It feels like last month's Director's Note was in a different reality in a different universe in a different time. And in many ways it was all those things. Let's do this.

We've created a designated CDAS monthly newsletter section for COVID-19 Coronavirus Pandemic information, events, and updates. Please send items to cdas@bath.ac.uk and we'll include them. Events are moving quickly, so we will do our best to keep up. Please also tweet things to @cendeathsociety.



Here are some links that CDAS sent out over the past two weeks:

- [Cruse Bereavement Care: Coronavirus – dealing with bereavement and grief](#)
- [Considerations related to the safe handling of bodies of deceased persons with suspected or confirmed COVID-19](#) via the UK Association of Anatomical Pathology Technology and the European Centre for Disease Prevention & Control
- [Quaker Social Action: Coronavirus: organising a meaningful funeral](#)
- [The UK Deceased Management Advisory Group](#) [liaising with the Government]
- [Coronavirus has made death a fact of life again – we should embrace it](#) by Kate Woodthorpe in The Independent

CDAS COVID-19 Announcements

CDAS 2020 Conference

CDAS is moving its June 2020 conference to June 2021. The dates will be June 11/12, 2021 and we'll re-confirm everything later in 2020. The CDAS office will also contact everyone who submitted an abstract later in the year about attending the 2021 conference.

Beatrice Godwin Memorial Lecture

The Beatrice Godwin Memorial Lecture scheduled for May 13, 2020 is cancelled. We're looking at possibly rescheduling the talk for Autumn 2020 but will likely move it to May 2021. Some good news – we can announce that Professor Fiona Poland at East Anglia University will deliver the Memorial Lecture. The title of her talk is: "Researching on the edge: Beatrice Godwin's contribution to recognizing, retrieving and how people may deploy their senses of self when living with later stage dementia."

Technologies of the Human Corpse

And a certain glimmer of hope (maybe?) My new book [Technologies of the Human Corpse](#) (MIT Press) is out on April 28, 2020.

The Guardian newspaper recently published an excerpt of the book's Preface. Give it a read if you have second: ['I was completely unprepared': confronting my sister's death.](#)

Thank you!

And let's all take a minute (or more) to THANK the death world workers we know – funeral directors, celebrants, pathologists and pathology techs, crematorium operators, cemetery managers, gravediggers, hospice care teams, grief and bereavement counselors, and all the people I missed and thank them for doing what they do and doing it because it's what we all do – we look after the dead and the dying alongside those left behind.

Wash you hands! Don't touch your face!

CDAS NEWS

New Policy Brief – End of life care in the UK ad Japan

In the past 12 months, [Dr Chao Fang](#) from the Centre for Death and Society and [Ms Miho Tanaka](#) from Japan Medical Associate Research Institute have been involved in an ERSC funded project 'End of life care in the United Kingdom and Japan - intersections in culture, practice and policy' ([the Mitor Project](#)). Both researchers have worked jointly to explore policy discourses regarding end of life care between England and Japan. The policy brief can be read [here](#).

England and Japan are confronted with unprecedented challenges and opportunities in the face of population ageing and changing expectations about death and dying, which place heavy demands on health and social care systems. An in-depth analysis has been undertaken to compare a set of key policy documents and legislation implemented and enacted in both countries. This policy

brief summarises key findings from the analysis to report the commonalities and differences of end of life care, decision-making and bereavement support. Four key messages have been identified:

- 1) emphasising individualised care and support
- 2) improving care access and inclusion
- 3) supporting informal carers and family members
- 4) promoting integrated and holistic approaches

The policy brief aims to be valuable for academics, policy-makers, practitioners, as well as the general public. It paints a comparative picture of end of life care policies and laws between the two post-industrial and rapidly ageing societies. This comparison enables mutual understanding, aiming to inform and reshape future policy-making and legislation in both countries. Please contact Dr Chao Fang C.Fang@bath.ac.uk or Ms Miho Tanaka mipomipo-tky@umin.ac.jp for enquires.

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

Death in the Modern World – a new book by Tony Walters, CDAS

Death comes to all humans, but how death is managed, symbolised and experienced varies widely, not only between individuals but also between groups. What then shapes how a society manages death, dying and bereavement today? Are all modern countries similar? How important are culture, the physical environment, national histories, national laws and institutions, and globalization? This is the first book to look at how all these different factors shape death and dying in the modern world.

Written by an internationally renowned scholar in death studies, and drawing on examples from around the world, including the UK, USA, China and Japan, The Netherlands, Scandinavia and Eastern Europe. This book investigates how key

factors such as money, communication technologies, the family, religion, and war, interact in complex ways to shape people's experiences of dying and grief, The book is available to purchase [here](#).

Events

Compassionate Communities Week 2020 (Formerly Good Death Week)

27 April – 3 May 2020

In the light of the coronavirus outbreak, the Good Death Week previously advertised has been rearranged and refocused and will now be called Compassionate Communities Week. It has also been brought forward to 27 April - 3 May 2020.

The week will be used to acknowledge, share and grow the compassion and innovation that so many communities are showing in response to COVID-19. Find out more [here](#).

Dying Matters Awareness Week 2020 – Dying to be Heard

11 – 13 May 2020

This event is still going ahead in some form. However, there will be changes to the original format and programme. Please visit the website [here](#) for more information.

Cremation and Burial Communication Education (CBCE)

29 June – 1 July 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/>

Active Grief Weekend

25 – 27 September 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/>

Quaker Social Action - Funeral training for end of life professionals

Funeral funding, costs and legalities, a professional's guide – 10th September 2020

A day course that will enable you to better support clients to avoid the debt and distress of high funeral costs. A collaboration with the National Bereavement

Service, who will bring their expertise of the legalities around a death such as wills, executors, probate and legal representation. [Find out more >](#)

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>



May & July dates cancelled due to Covid-19.

Limited availability for September and November 2020 in Manchester

PABBS evidence-based and evaluated suicide bereavement training, has been informed by a three-year study, conducted by Dr. Sharon McDonnell and her team, at the University of Manchester, funded (£243K) by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) and the first of its kind internationally.

This training will help those implementing:

- the suicide prevention strategy (locally, regionally and nationally);
- developing postvention services;
- NICE postvention guidelines in the community and custodial settings; and
- key objectives in the NHS Long term plan etc

Available dates for PABBS one day training:

- 15th September 2020
- 17th November 2020

The research team have recently published three papers, which are directly associated with the PABBS training and are noted below (please click [on blue text](#) to take you to the article).

1. [GPs' Experiences](#) - GP's experiences responding to parents bereaved by suicide. This paper was used as evidence in NICE guidelines (NICE, 2018)
- 2 [Parents' Experiences](#) - Parents bereaved by suicide experiences of support received from primary care
3. [Evaluation](#) - Evaluation of PABBS Suicide Bereavement Training

Our fourth PABBS paper, focuses on ambulance staff perspective of responding to suicide, and will be published later this year.

Cost: £299 +VAT per person

Over 150 testimonials: <https://suicidebereavementuk.com/testimonials>

Please note, we also deliver in-house training across the UK.

To book a place, contact Paul Higham, on 07850 710555 or email paul.higham@suicidebereavementuk.com and visit: <https://suicidebereavementuk.com/pabbs-training> for more information.

[**Palliative Care, Women's Health and Gynecology – Building Patient Care for Prolonging the Life Span of Individuals**](#)

Rome, Italy – November 23-25, 2020

The Conference will be organized around the theme "Building Patient Care for Prolonging the Life Span of Individuals" Palliative Care 2020 anticipates more than 500 participants around the globe to experience thought provoking Keynote lectures, Oral & Poster presentations. This year conference will offer ample opportunities for all stakeholders working on Palliative Care to expose their research work. Our conference aims to gather the Researchers, principal investigators, experts, Professors and researchers working on Palliative Care from both academia and health care industry, Business Delegates, Scientists and students across the globe to provide an international forum for the dissemination of original research results, new ideas and practical development experiences.

Goals

- The conference program emphasizes evidence-based practice, educational innovation, practical application, and peer to peer networking and collaboration.
- The goals of the conference is to provide a transformative professional development experience through

- Bringing together the world's scientific experts to catalyze and advance scientific knowledge about Palliative Care to present the most recent research findings, and promote and enhance scientific collaborations around the world.
- Bringing together community leaders, scientists, and policy leaders to promote and enhance programmatic collaborations to more effectively address Palliative Care Research and Quality in Healthcare and overcome barriers that limit access to care and services.

Objectives

After participating in this meeting, attendees should be able to

- Discuss emerging issues in Palliative Care;
- Discuss and apply recent research findings related to Palliative Care;
- Disseminate the diverse voices of breakthrough innovators with visionary and practical solutions.

For more information please visit: <https://palliative.alliedacademies.com/>

Call for Papers

Public Health Research in Palliative Care: Towards Solutions for Global Challenges, 2nd International Seminar of the European Association for Palliative Care (EAPC) Research Network and the EAPC Reference Group on Public Health and Palliative Care

15-16 October 2020

This research seminar will take place in the Titanic Hotel, Belfast, Northern Ireland. It is organised by All Ireland Institute of Hospice and Palliative Care (AIIHPC), the EAPC Research Network and the EAPC Reference Group on Public Health and Palliative Care.

The call for abstracts is open until Monday 1 June 2020. Please visit www.professionalpalliativehub.com/research/events/seminar2020 for further information including the seminar's research themes and guidance on submitting abstracts. Please note the early bird rate for registration is available until 4 September 2020.

This international seminar will bring together an audience of researchers, policy makers and clinicians from academic institutions, hospice and palliative care providers, government and health agencies and people with palliative care needs and their family carers; all focused on developing solutions to inform and improve the delivery of palliative care globally.

The invited speakers for the research seminar include:

Mark Hazelwood, Chief Executive, Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care

- Rebecca Patterson, Director of Good Life, Good Death, Good Grief, Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care
- Prof Sonja McIlpatrick, Head of School of Nursing and Professor of Nursing and Palliative Care, Ulster University
- Sally Paul, Lecturer in the School of Social Work and Social Policy, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow
- Prof Samar Aoun, Professor of Palliative Care, La Trobe University, Australia
- Prof Joachim Cohen, Professor of Public Health and Palliative Care, End-of-Life Care Research Group of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel and Ghent University

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

Contact us

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