



## Centre for Death & Society

### Newsletter

September 2020

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# Director's Note

September 2020

And it's September.

The September newsletter usually welcomes everyone back from their summer holidays and jumps right in with what CDAS is doing for the coming year. But the first thing I want to say is that I'm actually back in the UK! After six-months stateside, suddenly living with my parents in small-town Wisconsin I finally flew back on September 2.

I had not lived with my parents for any extended period of time since 1991, and I genuinely enjoyed the time we spent together given all their recent health concerns and the pandemic in general.



Back to September....

In the coming months CDAS will experiment with the new-normal ways to deliver seminars. We'll be moving events online and announce those events far and wide. As it stands right now, CDAS has a number of Early Career and Visiting Fellows alongside our Postgrads and Core Members, all ready and willing to presents their work and reflect on the recent(ish) COVID-19 experiences.

The CDAS 2021 annual conference is also still planned for June 11-12 and will be the cancelled 2020 conference. As I type this, I'm hoping that the conference might actually be a mix of both in-person and online talks. I will keep everyone updated as we continue to develop the 2021 conference.

CDAS's new Postgraduate students are also starting their studies this Autumn and we will properly introduce all of them in the October newsletter. Speaking of CDAS Postgrads, here is a fantastic recent piece by CDAS's own Diana Teggi on for the LSE's blog: Care homes as hospices: the problem with long-term care provision towards the end of life in England

Finally, my enormous thanks to Research Manager Rachel Willis for working on this month's newsletter and for keeping all things CDAS rolling along.

And remember to check-out the CDAS COVID-19 information and resources page.

Let's all make it to October!

# **CDAS COVID-19 Resources, Events and Updates**

Our [Centre for Death and Society \(CDAS\) team members](#) curate a monthly collection of resources relating to the effects of Covid-19 on death and society.

We include guidance relating to Covid-19 for:

- grief and bereavement support;
- funeral practices;
- social policy implications.

These resources are both written work produced by CDAS staff and general information on Covid-19 from other organisations. All the resources will be listed on our website [here](#).

## **September 2020 Covid-19 Information**

### ***Publications***

Frisby, H., [When circumstances allow ...': funerals in the time of Covid-19](#)

Hanson, L., [We Will All Be Changed: Palliative Care Transformation in the Time of COVID-19](#)

Troyer, J., [In the time of aids in the age of covid-19](#)

Fang, C., Wilson, J., & Smith, P., [End of life care and bereavement support amid COVID-19](#)

Troyer, J., [Five Lessons that Dead Bodies can Teach Us](#)

Vicente da Silva, A., [Funerals during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

Teggi, D., [Care homes as hospices: the problem with long-term care provision towards the end of life in England](#)

### ***Event Information***

#### **FutureLearn Free Courses**

FutureLearn is offering a number of free online courses in themes related to Covid-19. Visit their [website](#) to find out more.

## [#BeforeTheirTime](#)

COVID-19 is going to mean some people dying before their time, or funerals taking place without the usual opportunities to say goodbye. It's going to affect us in ways we're only just starting to understand, but we know it's more important than ever that everyone makes their plans.



To acknowledge this, Dying Matters have launched the **#BeforeTheirTime** campaign. As well as the hashtag, we will also be using the sunflower image shown, which [you can download if you wish here](#). You can use the sunflower emoji on your phone if you are posting messages from there or want to send messages of solidarity. Please do follow along and contribute on social media.

These are unprecedented times and we want to hear from people their advice and suggestions about how to cope with difficult situations, such as not being able to say a proper goodbye to someone you cared about. If you have anything you wouldn't mind sharing, please contact [Stephanie](#).

## [Suicide Bereavement UK's 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference and Unique Opportunity to attend a half day Covid-19 Seminar](#)

Date: Wednesday November 18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> 2020.

Now, more than ever, we need to come together, recharge our batteries, learn from each other, in preparation for what might be ahead during the next few months.

I am also mindful that many friendships are made at this annual event and you all look forward to meeting up. We will be your lighthouse, shining brightly and excited to welcome you all to Manchester.

This year we are also hosting a Covid-19 seminar the following day (Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020) at the same venue <https://suicidebereavementuk.com/covid-19-seminar>.

We expect high demand for this event and have limited places. Therefore, those attending Suicide Bereavement UK's conference (Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020) will be given priority to attend the Covid-19 seminar along with a 25% discount, to thank you for attending.

We have a fantastic line up of speakers for the conference, covering diverse issues, so please take a look at the conference flyer on our website, where you will be able to book a place <https://suicidebereavementuk.com/suicide-bereavement-conference>.

We know some of you might be apprehensive about attending. However, please be reassured that if the government guidelines restrict us from hosting the

conference, you will be offered either a full refund or an automatic place on Suicide Bereavement UK's 2021 conference.

For more information contact: Paul Higham  
Email: paul.higham@suicidebereavementuk.com  
Tel: 01706 827359  
Mob: 07850710 555

### ***Call for Papers, Information & Funding Proposals***

#### **Morality Special Issue: Pandemics**

Guest editors: Prof Sara Knox, Dr Julie Rugg, and Prof Michael Ashby

Mortality is calling for papers on the subject of pandemics for a special issue to be published in 2022. The special issue will consider the ways in which recent events might broaden our understanding of how societies deal with dying, death, the dead, bereavement and commemoration. Find out more in our 'Call for Papers' section on page 17.

#### **Social Aspects of Death, Dying and Bereavement Study Group Virtual Symposium - Transitions and Transformations**

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020

The Social Aspects of Death, Dying and Bereavement Study Group is holding a virtual symposium on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020. Prompted by the ongoing global pandemic, they are creating space for researchers to reflect on recent transitions and transformations that have impacted upon understandings of, and approaches to, death, dying and bereavement, including Covid-19. A call for papers for the symposium has a deadline of 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020. Find out more in our 'Call for Papers' section on page 17.

#### **Death and Mourning Processes in the Times of the Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19)**

Frontiers in Psychiatry has launched a new research topic: Death and Mourning Processes in the Times of the Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19). As a leading expert in your field, they would like you to participate by submitting your research. Find out more in our 'Call for Papers' section on page 17.

#### **Death in a time of Corona: Call for Contributions**

Do you work in the deathcare sector? Have you recently experienced a death? Help us understand how COVID-19 is changing deathcare, funerals, and memorialisation worldwide by contributing to this collaborative, open research platform. For full information please see the main Call for Papers section on page 17.

### [Bereavement Network Europe call for information on dealing with bereavement during the Covid-19 pandemic](#)

The Bereavement Network Europe (BNE) sees that the Coronavirus epidemic requires an immediate and continuous response, and we would like to call on you for your support. We have started gathering resources regarding Covid-19 and bereavement and we will update the [BNE website](#) with resources as we receive them.

**If you have any information for the bereaved or health professionals on how to deal with bereavement in the current situation from your European country, please do let us know by providing a link to it.** All different languages are welcome. Please send it to the following two addresses: [info@bereavement.eu](mailto:info@bereavement.eu) and [tgo@sorgcenter.dk](mailto:tgo@sorgcenter.dk)

### [AHRC funding call – research & innovative ideas to address Covid-19](#)

UK Research and Innovation recently launched an open call for research addressing the COVID-19 pandemic. AHRC is now inviting proposals through this call for arts and humanities approaches in the COVID-19 research response.

Full details about the call can be found [here](#).

### [National Bereavement Network](#)

The current crisis is rightly stimulating a lot of interest in – and plans for – bereavement research in the UK. The pandemic has highlighted crucial research questions that are directly related to COVID-19 and the impact of lockdown on all bereaved adults and children. There are also opportunities to develop broader projects to fill some of the longstanding gaps in knowledge. At the National Bereavement Alliance and the Childhood Bereavement Network, we have been approached by a number of research teams over the last three months, and are aware of several studies underway and others planned. We are keen to do what we can to help with networking and collaboration, to minimise the risk of duplication and maximise the relevance and robustness of research that comes out of this difficult time. Inspired by the work of the NIHR cross-ARC Palliative and End of Life Care collaboration co-chaired by Professor Irene Higginson and Professor Stephen Barclay, at which bereavement emerged as a key theme at the most recent meeting, we have:

- Set up a [public database](#) for bereavement researchers to list current studies or those that are planned (whether COVID-19 specific or broader) – please

do upload details of your current or planned studies here if you are happy for these to be publicly available;

- Published a [discussion paper](#) summarising findings from three projects that have explored bereavement research gaps and priorities in the UK. It's not exhaustive, but we hope it will be a useful prompt for further discussion.

## CDAS NEWS

### **Recent publications**

Fang, C., [Dynamics of Chinese Shidu Parents' Vulnerability in Old Age –A Qualitative Study](#). Population Ageing

Teggi, D., [Care homes as hospices for the prevalent form of dying: An analysis of long-term care provision towards the end of life in England](#)

### 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](mailto:cdas@bath.ac.uk).

## CDAS Community News

### Online courses available from the Glasgow End of Life Studies Group

Recruitment has opened for the new [fully online programme of postgraduate study in End of Life Studies](#). The first intake is January 2021, but there will be 3 intakes in total throughout the year (in April and September). Learners can work towards a postgraduate certificate, diploma or MSc, and can be based anywhere in the world as it's fully online.

The third run of the free MOOC (Massive Online Open Course) is now completed. It's called [End of Life Care: Challenges and Innovations](#) and on this run there were 1431 learners enrolled from 99 countries! This MOOC will keep running at intervals throughout 2020.

## [New publications by Dr Julian Abel](#)

### **The Compassion Project: A Case for Hope and Human kindness from the Town that Beat Loneliness**

Dr Julian Abel, an international expert in compassionate communities, and Lindsay Clarke, Whitbread prize winning author, have joined forces to write The Compassion Project, which tells the story of how the market town of Frome in Somerset transformed both its community and its healthcare through using the transformative impact of compassion. The book looks at the transformative power of compassion for health and wellbeing, including many examples from end of life care. [More information is available here.](#)

### **Interview with Professor Allan Kellehear – The basic principles of public health palliative care**

Dr Julian Abel also has [a new podcast available](#), where he talks to Professor Allan Kellehear about the basic principles of public health palliative care.

## [Interview on Death, Mysticism and Modernity](#)

Rico Sneller, author of Perspectives on Synchronicity, Inspiration, and the Soul, has a [new interview on Death, Mysticism, and Modernity](#) available.

## [Care After Death: Guidance for staff responsible for care after death](#)

Hospice UK have released their fully revised 3rd Edition guidance to ensure that the deceased and their family/key contacts are kept at the centre focus of care with clear standards of care and their privacy and dignity maintained. It shows how this can be achieved whilst ensuring that sensitive issues such as tissue donation, coroner's requirements, and the health and safety of all staff in the light of Covid are addressed. It includes reference to the new Medical Examiner process.

You can access the guidance at: <https://www.hospiceuk.org/what-we-offer/clinical-and-care-support/clinical-resources>

## [Christians Working with the Bereaved](#)

Transform Work UK are pleased to announce a new sector group: Christians Working With the Bereaved The group is for Christians who are funeral directors, funeral celebrants, grief counsellors and others who work with bereaved people to support each other in prayer and fellowship. If you would like to join the group, please contact Andrew Drury at [office@transformworkuk.org](mailto:office@transformworkuk.org)



# Events

## Quaker Social Action - Funeral training for end of life professionals

### **Making charity applications for individuals**

24 September 2020

There are hundreds of charities giving grants to individuals, but it can be hard to know who to apply to and whether your claim will be worthwhile. Learn about who to approach, how to find them, and what makes a successful application. [Find our more here.](#)

## Death and Dying: Medical, Cultural and Environmental Perspectives

25-26 September 2020, Online

An international conference organized by the Department of Philosophy and Bioethics, Institute of Health Sciences and Pain and Palliative Care Clinic, Faculty of Medicine, Jagiellonian University Medical College. More information about the event and abstract submission guidelines can be found on the [conference website](#).

## 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 our [website](#).

## Before I Go Intensive Training in End of Life Plan Facilitation

Applications from every country are invited for the next intake of this online course to become a licensed facilitator, beginning 1st October.

As a result of Covid-19, this accredited course has been re-organised and is now available in an Intensive format, over 3 months. Divided into 3 parts, you begin with creating your own end of life plan. Part 2 covers the practicals of doing death differently, and part 3, the practicing of facilitating others in both an offline and online setting.

It will be primarily of interest to health professionals, counsellors, coaches, educators, celebrants or others interested in helping people to prepare well for a good end of life, no matter how it happens, and to take this planning beyond the conversation stage to getting decisions taken and written down.

By the end of the course, graduates will be able to successfully support others in creating their own plans. Ongoing mentoring and support resources are then available.

For more information [visit the website](#).



### **Diversity and Inclusion for Funeral Professionals**

The funeral profession prides itself on a reputation for tradition, respect and dignity, but in the light of Black Lives Matter, Progress Pride, the drive to improve disability rights, remove the stigma of mental health and see equality for all, is the funeral profession ensuring that they are inclusive and equitable? The online conference has been created to make sure that we are keeping up to date with all of the changes that have been happening.

The super conference is composed of 3 weekend conferences in October 2020, January and April 2021 covering gender, race, sexual orientation, disability, mental health and addiction with an extended programme over eight months offering discussion groups, book clubs, networking and an exclusive online community. Emma Curtis is joined in seminars and discussions by experts with lived experience in each field of diversity, many of whom have working experience within the funeral industry.

The NHS, Department of Education, Armed Forces and Emergency Services all have well publicised declarations of allyship guided by the Equalities Act ensuring that everyone is treated equally with dignity and respect, but there has been no similar move in the funeral industry until now. This conference will be exploring why there has been no visible move to promote inclusion and equity in the funeral industry and will discuss what we can do to change this. Promoting change, we aim to make planning and attending a funeral a far more inclusive and equitable process that embraces diversity.  
<https://ceremonymatters.org/super-conference/>



### **Postvention Assisting those Bereaved By Suicide**

Dates released for September, November and December 2020 in Manchester

Postvention Assisting those Bereaved By Suicide (PABBS), one day training is evidence-based and evaluated suicide bereavement training and 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

**Dates released for PABBS one day training:**

- 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020
- 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020
- 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020

The research team have recently published four papers, which are directly associated with the PABBS training and can be viewed at <https://suicidebereavementuk.com/pabbs-training> and are noted below:

1. GPs' Experiences - GP's experiences responding to and dealing with parents bereaved by suicide
2. Parents' Experiences - Parents bereaved by suicide experiences and perceived support from primary care
3. Evaluation - An evaluation of PABBS evidence-based suicide bereavement training
4. Ambulance - Ambulance staff experience in responding to a (suspected) suicide and the bereaved family.

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

**Cost:** £299 +VAT per person

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

For more information or to register contact: Paul Higham  
Email: [paul.higham@suicidebereavementuk.com](mailto:paul.higham@suicidebereavementuk.com), Tel: [01706 827359](tel:01706827359)



**[Suicide Bereavement UK's 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference and Unique Opportunity to attend a half day Covid-19 Seminar](#)**

18<sup>th</sup> November 2020

After much deliberation we decided that we will host this event and the date has now been changed to **Wednesday November 18<sup>th</sup> 2020.**

Now, more than ever, we need to come together, recharge our batteries, learn from each other, in preparation for what might be ahead during the next few months.

I am also mindful that many friendships are made at this annual event and you all look forward to meeting up. We will be your lighthouse, shining brightly and excited to welcome you all to Manchester.

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We have a fantastic line up of speakers for the conference, covering diverse issues, so please take a look at the conference flyer on our website, where you will be able to book a place <https://suicidebereavementuk.com/suicide-bereavement-conference>.

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Tel: [01706 827359](tel:01706827359)  
Mob: [07850 710 555](tel:07850710555)



## [Covid-19: Exploring Resilience, Recovery and Lessons Learnt Internationally](#)

Date: November 19<sup>th</sup> 2020

Choice of TWO sessions

1. 09:00hrs to 12:00hrs OR
2. 13:00hrs to 16:00hrs

Unique Opportunity to attend a half day Covid-19 Seminar. The seminar will focus on the impact on the following:

- Front line staff who worked during the Covid-19 pandemic;
- Patients who were hospitalised from Covid-19 and survived;
- Those who lost 'significant others' including colleagues to Covid-19; and
- Bereavement and rituals during a time of uncertainty and high risk.

Learning outcomes:

- International good practice associated with covid-19 response;
- Incident management (techniques to help stabilise the workforce, specifically management of staff and their well-being);
- Post Intensive Care Syndrome PICS (impact on the patient and their family); and
- Impact on staff (coping and managing risk, ethical dilemmas, and moral injury etc).

Who should attend this seminar?

- NHS management and policy makers
- Medical and mental health staff
- First responders
- Social workers
- Those working in care homes etc.

**Cost per person:**

£59.99 +VAT (for those attending the Suicide Bereavement UK (SBUK) conference); and  
£79.99 +VAT for those who do not attend the SBUK conference.

For more information <https://suicidebereavementuk.com/covid-19-seminar>

**Paul Higham**

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Tel: [01706 827359](tel:01706827359)

Mob: [07850 710 555](tel:07850710555)

**[Public Health Research in Palliative Care: Towards Solutions for Global Challenges](#)**

Online, 17 and 18 November 2020

Registration fee: €55

The Scientific Committee for the European Association for Palliative Care (EAPC) Public Health and Palliative Care Research Seminar planned for October in Belfast, has decided to postpone the event to **17 and 18 November 2020** and to hold this important event online.

The online programme, focussing on public health palliative care research, will be delivered at various time slots on Tuesday 17 November and Wednesday 18 November 2020, rather than two full days online. It will aim to ensure that the identity of the conference is maintained and that there will be plenty of opportunities for exchange, and for learning from each other.

More details on the conference can be found [here](#).

We are looking forward to welcoming you to this important international event. It will be an opportunity for 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, to come together, who are focused on developing solutions to inform and improve the delivery of palliative care globally.

### **Palliative Care, Women's Health and Gynaecology – 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/>



## **Attention all active' first responders** **Launch of Emergency Services Postvention Response (ESPR) Training**

26 November 2020

Andrea Walraven-Thissen and Dr Sharon McDonnell, from Suicide Bereavement UK have now launched an exciting and new evidence-based Emergency Services Postvention Response (ESPR) training. This training is evidence-based, theory-driven one day workshop and has been informed by research, which explored the perceived needs of first responders responding to suicide, in several European countries.

An international study was specifically designed to inform the development of the ESPR training and ESPR is first of its kind internationally.

### **Aims of the training**

- To provide 'active' first responders with knowledge and skills to respond effectively after a (suspected) suicide;
- To assist first responders in effective incident management;
- To empower and enable/promote resilience, when responding after suicide; and
- Improve the quality of both psychosocial and peer support services.

### **Target audience**

- Only 'active duty' first responders are permitted to attend (e.g. police, ambulance, fire, air sea and rescue etc).

**Training date:** November 26th 2020

**Cost per person:** £299 + VAT

**Venue:** Royal Exchange Theatre, St Ann's Square, Manchester, M2 7DH

<https://suicidebereavementuk.com/emergency-services-postvention-response>

ESPR in-house training is delivered upon request.

For more information or to register contact: Paul Higham

Email: [paul.higham@suicidebereavementuk.com](mailto:paul.higham@suicidebereavementuk.com)

Tel: [01706 827359](tel:01706827359)

Mob: [07850 710 555](tel:07850710555)

### **Good Grief - A Virtual Festival of Love + Loss**

A new free online festival exploring the many faces of grief taking place in Bristol from 30th October to 1st November, reaching thousands of people all over the UK. Broadcast from a studio in Bristol, Good Grief will bring over 100 speakers together to help people to better understand and process grief and loss at this time of global crisis.



The festival programme will include panel discussions, talks and workshops with speakers including Robert Webb (Peep Show, That Mitchell + Webb Look), Cariad Lloyd (GriefCast), Julia Samuels (This Too Shall Pass, Grief Works), chef and food writer Valentine Warner (The Consolation of Food), best-selling author Nikesh Shukla (The Good Immigrant, Brown Baby), BBC anthropologist Alice Roberts, illustrator Gary Andrews (Doodle-A-Day) and palliative care doctors Rachel Clarke (Dear Life: A Doctor's Story of Love and Loss) and Kathryn Mannix (With the End in Mind).

Funded by the Wellcome Trust, the festival is a collaboration between the University of Bristol and national charities and bereavement services. Good Grief online events are all free to attend.

To join a session, register in advance [here](#), you'll then be notified as the events open for booking. To find out more visit [www.goodgrieffest.com](http://www.goodgrieffest.com).

### **Death Dying and Disposal Conference comes to Manchester Met**



The 15th International Conference on the Social Context of Death, Dying and Disposal will be held at Manchester Metropolitan University 1st – 4th September 2021. Hosted on behalf of the Association for the Study of Death and Society (ASDS), this prestigious event will be held for its 15th iteration on a timely theme of 'Diversity and

Decolonisation'. Inviting speakers from wide range of academic, practitioner and death professional backgrounds and from more than 30 countries, this conference will engage with the most pressing issues facing human society as it relates to death and dying in the 21st century. A call for papers will follow later in 2020, with



the full conference programme release in spring 2021. For further information please email [DDD15@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:DDD15@mmu.ac.uk)

## Call for Papers

### TRACEY: Call for journal papers

**Guest Editor:** Dr Tamarin Norwood

Drawing is typically imagined as an additive, connective and creative process. Adding marks to paper sets up a mimetic lineage connecting object to hand to page to eye, creating a new and lasting image captured on the storage medium of the page. Or does it? A strand of art historical thought from Pliny to Derrida emphasises what is lost in drawing, exploring the drawing process as a phenomenon that begins from a point of blindness or looking away and proceeds from a perspective of extreme myopia. Implicit in the myopic movement of the stylus is loss of perspective, direction, intention or foresight, such that drawing can be imagined to proceed in a state of not knowing. This changed perspective can result in the conceptual loss or retreat of the thing being drawn, as it is objectified and even dissected—literally or metaphorically—by the person drawing, who might themselves feel alienated from their object by this process. Finally, the work of paper conservation shows us that the storage medium of the page is anything but stable, and far from storing an image, can suffer damage and loss of its own without monitoring and periodic intervention in the archive.

This special issue aims to reflect upon the dynamic relationship between drawing and loss, taking a multidisciplinary approach to integrate otherwise heterogeneous connections to this often neglected aspect of drawing. Potential contributors might arrive at the subject through fine art, philosophy, conservation, the study of death or memorialisation, taking a theoretical, historical or practice-based approach to such issues as:

- The losses and gains brought about by the myopic quality of the drawing process;
- How drawings or drawing processes might mitigate against loss, by memorializing or standing in for the deceased or departed;
- The effect of a drawing upon its object, or the dynamic between the life of the drawing (in process, and once completed) and the life of its object;
- The material, affective or ethical dynamics of learning to draw in the anatomy class or the life class;
- How material loss and damage is approached in conservation, and how this might nuance our understanding of the drawing as a memorial, or of the page as a storage medium.

TRACEY would like to invite the following submissions in response to the theme:

**Full academic papers between 4500-5000** words to be submitted through TRACEY's online submission portal:

<https://ojs.lboro.ac.uk/TRACEY/about/submissions>

**Deadline for all submissions: Friday 30th October 2020**

<https://blog.lboro.ac.uk/tracey/drawing-and-loss/>

**Morality Special Issue: Pandemics**

Guest editors: Prof Sara Knox, Dr Julie Rugg, and Prof Michael Ashby

The Covid-19 pandemic is the first 21st century global event in which the medical and social modes of mortality takes a central place. Death scholarship is uniquely able to offer studied, robust and rich perspectives on this still-unfolding global event in the broader context of the challenge to the dying experience, and to death and mourning practices, of modern pandemics. Acknowledging the urgency of the present moment, and its historical resonance, Mortality is calling for papers on the subject of pandemics for a special issue to be published in 2022. The special issue will consider the ways in which recent events might broaden our understanding of how societies deal with dying, death, the dead, bereavement and commemoration.

The collection will explore the phenomenon of the modern pandemic, framed across disciplines and across cultures, with an emphasis on research that is theoretically supported, and that has a clearly framed research method. The special issue will focus on pandemics more broadly and is not limited to discussions of Covid-19.

Possible subjects for exploration are:

- historic reflections: whether we learn (or not) from past epidemics on how to deal with death and the dying;
- the disruption and reinvention of death ritual;
- death and the media;
- the digital cultures of contemporary pandemic death, dying and mourning
- the thanatopolitics of pandemic;
- the strategic management of non-medical interventions in pandemic situations: the invisible 'front line' of funeral directors and cemetery/crematorium managers;
- coping with fear and dread in institutional settings;
- marginalised deaths in pandemic situations: where does a 'normal' death sit when there's an emergency?
- the deathly spaces of quarantine / places of isolation (i.e. cruise ships, quarantine islands, isolation facilities);
- pandemics and the metaphor of war: the rhetoric of heroic sacrifice;
- social justice, global inequalities and mortality;
- defining risk: popular and expert knowledge;

- delivering palliative care in emergency situations: what principles prevail when deaths overwhelm resources;
- medical staff managing their own/their family's fear of contagion and death
- the mortal costs of isolation and lockdown (suicide, human-animal interdependence and the impact of pet death, crisis dying in aged care).

We will be running a two-stage abstract process, to allow contributors to reflect the on-going nature of the crisis and recognising that many research projects may not yet have started/have not yet resolved early findings.

Initial abstracts should be up to 250 words and include all author names and 4-5 keywords. Please indicate if your abstract is based on a new, ongoing or finished project. Authors will be informed of the outcome of their abstract in October 2020, and if selected, will be invited to submit a revised abstract in January 2021 after which a final selection will be made.

**Indicative timescale and deadlines:**

- 11 September 2020 – submission of initial abstracts deadline
- October 2020 – outcome of selection communicated to all authors
- 7 January 2021 – deadline for revised abstracts for invited authors
- Early June 2021 – full-length articles due for invited authors

All enquires and abstracts should be submitted to Prof Sara Knox ([S.Knox@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:S.Knox@westernsydney.edu.au)) and Dr Julie Rugg ([julie.rugg@york.ac.uk](mailto:julie.rugg@york.ac.uk)). More information about the journal Mortality can be found here: <https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cmrt20/current>

**[Social Aspects of Death, Dying and Bereavement Study Group Virtual Symposium - Transitions and Transformations](#)**

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020

2020 has been a year of unprecedented transitions. During the past few months, many will have made fundamental shifts in their thinking about life and death; some will have confronted their mortality for the first time, whilst others will have experienced transformative losses. Even those who are used to thinking about these raw emotional states, cannot fail to acknowledge the disruptive impact of these events. In recent memory, death, dying and bereavement have rarely been more publicly observed or discussed phenomena. We have been reminded of the fragility of life in media coverage that included images of temporary mortuaries, and regular briefings that focused on daily death tallies. In addition, the politics of death have arguably become simultaneously more visible and invisible, as the manipulation of death statistics and discussion of 'excess death rates' have emerged into mainstream popular media.

Transitions require an acknowledgement that there is a shift from one state to another. Yet, taking COVID-19 as an example, there is much that is yet unclear about the legacy of this experience. Questions remain about the transformative effects of powerful emotions stirred up by the crisis, whilst those that are likely to emerge for those who have been bereaved are yet to be fully explored. In addition, new and ongoing academic activity has been, and will continue to be, shaped by restrictions on movement and social distancing measures.

Prompted by the ongoing global pandemic, we are creating space for researchers to reflect on recent transitions and transformations that have impacted upon understandings of, and approaches to, death, dying and bereavement. In this one-day conference, we invite researchers and practitioners to submit abstracts on this theme. Topics can include, but are not limited to:

- COVID-19
- Brexit
- Changes in law/policy e.g. Parental Bereavement Act
- Migration/globalisation
- Approaches to research/research methods
- Popular culture
- Professional practices Submission

Please submit abstracts of up to 250 words by Midnight (GMT) on Monday 14th September 2020 to [BSADDB@gmail.com](mailto:BSADDB@gmail.com).

Presentations will be 20 minutes long with additional time for questions. The symposium will be held virtually on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020. An online access link will be sent via email to all registered attendees.

More details about the study group can be found here. For more information, contact [BSADDB@gmail.com](mailto:BSADDB@gmail.com).

### **[Death in a time of Corona: Call for Contributions](#)**

Do you work in the deathcare sector? Have you recently experienced a death? Help us understand how COVID-19 is changing deathcare, funerals, and memorialisation worldwide by contributing to this collaborative, open research platform.

We have established a platform to share accounts of how the COVID-19 pandemic is changing deathcare, including end-of-life and mortuary care, arranging funerals, and ongoing memorialisation. This information is of interest to us as part of research into death and technology in the 21st century led by the DeathTech Research Team at The University of Melbourne. We'd like to know what you are

experiencing now – e.g. how are funerals happening, how are bodies being handled, what is different?

Please upload your reflections to the interactive map [here](https://padlet.com/hannahgould/deathduringcorona). (<https://padlet.com/hannahgould/deathduringcorona>). To add a reflection, click on the large plus sign, select a location, and then add your text. You can also email [deathtech-research@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:deathtech-research@unimelb.edu.au) if you would prefer that we upload your contribution.

We're particularly interested in first-person accounts, reflections on new technologies being use and new rituals, and the emotional, professional, and social impact of these changes. You can include links to news articles, images, or videos. The researchers will also add published articles about death during COVID-19 to the map.

You can choose to upload anonymously if you wish. You can also choose to identify yourself and/or your company in the post. The location you set for the post can be as specific or general as you wish.

### **[The 5th International Symposium of the Death Online Research Network](#)**

Copenhagen, Denmark, April 21st - 23th, 2021  
(postponed from May 2020 due to Covid-19)

DORS#5 will take place at The IT University of Copenhagen, Denmark. The symposium will provide opportunities for the discussion of ongoing and new orientations in the academic and interdisciplinary field of death online. The meeting will explore methods, challenges and interdisciplinary convergences in Death Online research and practice. We warmly welcome new members to the network as well as old friends.

#### **Confirmed Keynote Speakers**

Professor Jayne Wallace, Northumbria University, UK.

Associate Professor Carsten Stage, Aarhus University, Denmark.

#### **Themes and perspectives**

We invite abstracts for oral presentations of new, recently completed, or ongoing research, and/or new ideas relating to methods, challenges and interdisciplinary convergences on death related online practices. We welcome presentations that explore how qualitative, quantitative and practice-based research expands our understanding of the current and future trends in death online from a variety of disciplines and perspectives. The abstracts can expand on the symposium theme in relation to any of the following areas:

- Digitally mediated dying and narrative
- Digitally mediated grieving and memorialising
- Digital afterlife, post-mortem identity and digital legacy

- Technological developments in the death care industry
- Digital immortality
- Sensitive research data challenges
- Theorising online life and death
- Ethical challenges for studying death online.

The symposium will host a special workshop for participating Post Graduate students and early career researchers. We particularly welcome submissions from these groups. All submissions will be peer-reviewed, and we envisage publication of selected full papers in a special issue of an academic journal as well as a collection of writing from the symposium in an open-access online platform.

More info on the symposium blog: <https://blogit.itu.dk/dors2020/>

Submission format: 300 word abstract (incl. title, excl. biography)

Submission deadline: October 1st, 2020

Submission feedback: November 1st, 2020

Registration open: November 1st, 2020

Registration fee: DDK 1800 / EURO 240

Registration fee, PhDs and Post Graduates: DDK 1500 / EURO 200

If your abstract was accepted for DORS 2020, please indicate it at the top of your submission. You can re-submit the same abstract or a revised one.

All submissions and enquiries should be submitted to Dr Stine Gotved: [gotved@itu.dk](mailto:gotved@itu.dk) marked "DORS#5" in the subject field. Abstracts should be in Words format. Please include a separate attachment with full contact info (author name, institutional affiliation and position, email address) in the submission. Submissions will be anonymised by the organisers before review.

### **[Death and the Screen - Call for Papers for Special Issue](#)**

Guest Editors Dr Bethan Michael-Fox (@bethmichaelfox) and Dr Renske Visser (@Renske\_Visser)

Revenant ([www.revenantjournal.com](http://www.revenantjournal.com)) is now accepting abstracts for critical articles, creative writing pieces, and book, film, music, or event reviews for a themed issue on Death and the Screen, examining how screens, in the broad sense of the word, have shaped and continue to shape the way we witness, experience and reflect on death and dying.

Numerous and complex relationships between death and the screen have already been charted. The dead come back in film, on television and online. Screens let us not only see the dead but hear them too. As Penfold-Mounce has emphasised, in a technology saturated world of mass media, 'the dead no longer remain silent

as the grave' (2018, p.36). Whilst relationships between screens and digital media more broadly have gained attention, so have the dynamics of death and individual screen media. While some argue that television is one way in which death is brought into the home, others have examined the ways in which the representation of dying on television might be problematic or harmful to audiences.

In terms of 'real' death, it is possible to witness death, dying and trauma on mobile phones, tablets and laptops simply by scrolling through social media. Autoplay and 'live' features in apps have been critiqued for the ways they expose people to these images without warning. When the recent death of George Floyd at the hands of US police officers was recorded some people sought this video out, while others have shared their experiences of deciding not to watch it.

Many people don't shy away from death and the gory on screen. To what extent is this a form of escapism and to what extent is it an extension of their everyday life? And how can you 'escape' death on the screen when death and dying is at the centre of the daily news and a theme in almost any film, television show and now also in advertisements? How do screen deaths relate to 'real' deaths in people's lives and can such a distinction even be made?

As screen media become more ubiquitous, these complex and multifaceted relationships continue to warrant further critical attention. In keeping with *Revenant's* positioning as an inter-disciplinary journal encouraging discussion about the supernatural, uncanny or the weird, we welcome proposals for submissions that engage with these ideas. However, *Revenant* also emphasises that the 'natural' is part of the super-natural and as such academic and/or creative engagement with 'natural' death and/on the screen, or which complicates the notion of a 'natural' death, is also welcome.

We believe a range of different methodological and theoretical approaches will enrich this special issue and as such urge you not to feel limited. We encourage proposals for academic articles or creative responses, which might be poetry, fiction, fanfiction, art, comics, audio or film that might stand alone or be accompanied by critical reflections, as well as autoethnographic and/or personal responses. Submissions that blur the boundaries of these categories are also welcomed.

Topics or areas of focus might include:

- Making sense of death and dying through the screen
- Haunting and/in screen cultures
- Weird screen deaths
- The ethics of screen deaths
- Death and the supernatural on screen

- Documentary engagement with death and dying
- Adaptation of death (from literature or elsewhere) to the screen
- Death and the uncanny in screen cultures
- Death, social media and any of Revenant's themes: the uncanny, the supernatural, the weird or haunting
- Personal and/or creative responses to death and the/on the screen
- Crises (climate, pandemic, other crises), death and screens
- Non-human death and/on the screen
- Death in screen gaming

Please submit extended abstracts of 500 words by 5 October 2020 with a short bio via the Google Form:

([https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeRQXuCAuB-OgpOFml41u6lzJ3jvI4\\_YyFgE8xeXf2DHbP4zw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeRQXuCAuB-OgpOFml41u6lzJ3jvI4_YyFgE8xeXf2DHbP4zw/viewform)) or send to: [deathandthescreen@gmail.com](mailto:deathandthescreen@gmail.com)

For creative or innovative submissions please also feel welcome to get in touch via email on [deathandthescreen@gmail.com](mailto:deathandthescreen@gmail.com) to discuss your ideas or propose your work in a different way.

Reviews of books, films, games, events, and art related to the death and the screen will be considered (800-1,000 words in length).

If your abstract is accepted, the full submission will be due in April 2021 with a view to publish in late Winter 2021.

Inquiries are welcome and should be directed to [deathandthescreen@gmail.com](mailto:deathandthescreen@gmail.com)

### [Death and Mourning Processes in the Times of the Coronavirus Pandemic \(COVID-19\)](#)

Frontiers in Psychiatry has launched a new research topic: Death and Mourning Processes in the Times of the Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19). As a leading expert in your field, they would like you to participate by submitting your research.

This is a great opportunity to have your research published in Frontiers in Psychiatry, the fifth most cited open access journal in its field with an Impact Factor of 3.161. Led by Professor Stefan Borgward, it brings a 'bench-to-bedside' approach to communicate translational progress and innovations to clinicians, scholars and research scientists. The submission deadline is **7 November 2020**. To participate [please visit the website](#).

As a contributing author, you will benefit from:

- high visibility with a freely downloadable e-book
- rigorous, transparent and fast peer review



- advanced impact metrics
- collaboration with other leading researchers around the world.

### [The Sustainable Dead](#)

Call for book chapter submissions for The Sustainable Dead by Ruth McManus, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Canterbury, New Zealand. Ruth is happy to have an informal chat with anybody interested in submitting a chapter to this collection – email [ruth.mcmanus@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:ruth.mcmanus@canterbury.ac.nz)

#### **Abstract**

While eco-lightbulbs, tiny homes and bans on single use plastic bags nibble at the edges of our profligate ways, ecological and social sustainability is beginning to profoundly challenge long-standing conventions in end-of-life care, grieving, bodily disposal and memorialisation. This collection brings together scholarship on the different ways that all the aspects of dying, death, and memorialisation are influencing and being influenced by the global turn to ecological and social sustainability.

**About the Editor** - Ruth McManus is Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand. She researches on social aspects of death and dying, and is inaugural President of the New Zealand Society for Death Studies. Her current projects include disaster memorialisation and new technologies for body disposal. Her books include *Death in a Global Age* (2012), *Death Down Under* (Cambridge Scholars 2019), and *Exploring Society* (2019).

#### **Keywords**

global crisis; ecological sustainability; social sustainability; cadaver disposal; memorialisation; end of life care; green cemeteries; eco-funerals

#### **Chapter submission form**

[http://cambridgescholars.com/edited\\_collections/sustainable-dead-chapter-submission.docx](http://cambridgescholars.com/edited_collections/sustainable-dead-chapter-submission.docx)

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

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