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#### **News from CDAS**

**CDAS Conference: Social Death** 

07-08 June 2014

**Bath Royal Scientific and Literary Institution, Bath** 

Social death can refer to the extinction of an individual's social or legal identity/agency, either before or sometime after physical death, and may be self or other inflicted; it can also refer to the death of a social group or culture. Before physical death, it can mean being treated as a thing or commodity, disintegration of social networks, extreme isolation, or forced removal of individuals/groups from their group/land of origin/belonging. After physical death, the deceased's social identity and even possibly agency can be kept alive in a number of ways. The term 'social death', often meaning rather different things, has been developed independently by researchers in a range of fields, including gerontology, dementia, psychology and death studies, but also mental health, the history of slavery, and genocide studies.

The conference papers apply the concept of social death to a range of human situations. We hope over the weekend to find out how useful the concept is: what, if anything, does it add to existing concepts such as stigma or disenfranchisement? Does it illuminate post-mortem identities? Does it sharpen questions of policy? If social (unlike physical) death can be partial or reversible, is 'social <u>death</u>' the right term? We look forward to two intellectually stimulating days!

Each CDAS conference is tightly focused on a theme, so typically half the delegates have never been before. The conference is small and friendly and great for networking, everyone is welcome whether you are giving a paper or not.

Places are still available for the weekend, or you can just come along to a single day. Further details of the conference, a link to the booking site and a draft programme are all available on our website: <a href="http://www.bath.ac.uk/cdas/events/news">http://www.bath.ac.uk/cdas/events/news</a> 0010.html

### Dying Matters Week a great success Renske Visser, PhD student at the University of Bath

For Dying Matters Week 2014, I collaborated with the Centre of Death and Society (CDAS) to organise some events. What started out with the idea that we should do 'something' ended up as a week filled with happenings both at the University of Bath and in the City.

For two days we had a stand at the University where both students and staff wrote down their wishes, picked their favourite funeral song and took a 'selfie' with our cardboard coffin. We arranged a funeral workshop, led by independent funeral celebrant Su Chard; the 'Bread, Print and Roses' collective offered a 'death walk' around Bath to places related to death and dying; and we held two panels with a wide range of experts to which people could ask 'anything they had ever wanted to about death, but didn't know who or how to ask'. Since talking about personal death is a difficult issue, we were

anxious to see whether people would show up for our events, but looking back I can say the week has been rather a success! You can listen again to a radio documentary we coproduced for the week with the University of Bath student radio station 1449AMURB, 'Grave Expectations' <a href="http://www.mixcloud.com/1449amurb/urb-documentary-grave-expectations/">http://www.mixcloud.com/1449amurb/urb-documentary-grave-expectations/</a>

#### CDAS welcomes a new member of staff

CDAS are pleased to welcome Amy Brickhill to the team this May. Amy will be working with Dr Christine Valentine, Lorna Templeton and a team of others from the Universities of Bath and Stirling, on a 3 year ESRC funded qualitative research study which will consider the experiences and needs of family members affected by the substance misuse related bereavement of a relative.

Amy is a full time Research Support Administrator for the Department of Social and Policy Sciences and will be supporting specific projects which have built in administrative support to their budgets across the department.

#### **Death & Dying in the Media, Print and Internet**

#### 'Grave Expectations' - CDAS radio documentary

Members of the Centre for Death & Society have appeared on the <u>Students' Union</u> <u>campus radio station 1449AMURB</u> to discuss their work as part of the national Dying Matters Awareness Week.

Members, associates and PhD students of the centre took part in the broadcast entitled, Grave Expectations, led by PhD student Renske Visser. Discussions covered include:

- Tony Walter how he became interested in researching death and dying
- Su Chard (MSc student and independent funeral celebrant ) the emerging trends in funeral arrangements
- Kate Woodthorpe funeral poverty
- Jana Kralova social death
- John Troyer future death
- Wendy Moncur digital death

All six nominated the music they would like played at their funeral and URB students have contributed their thoughts to the remainder of the playlist.

You can <u>listen again</u> to the programme online at 1449AMURB.

#### 'I see Dead People'

Each year the University of Bath hold an 'images of research' competition which asks academics to encapsulate their research in a single image and accompanying narrative.

This year CDAS' John Troyer has won the category for 'best narrative' for his image, which shows a neon 'day of the dead' skull in a tattoo parlour in Austin, Texas, USA where he was taking part in a South by South-West Technology Conference. His narrative highlights the importance of talking about death and dying, how people are usually keen to explore the subject once they it is introduced, and introduces innovative ways in which to do this, including the use of technology.

The images are currently being exhibited as part of the Fringe Arts Bath Festival (FAB14) and can be seen at 35-36 Stall Street, Bath until 8<sup>th</sup> June where the public are being encouraged to vote for their favourite.

<u>View all the images of research 2014</u> <u>More on the Fringe Arts Bath exhibition</u>, Bath Chronicle, 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2014

#### **Events, seminars, symposia and conferences**

#### Tours by day and night – Arnos Vale Cemetery, Bristol

Explore 45 acres of rich heritage and diverse wildlife on your doorstep with a tour of Arnos Vale Cemetery this summer – at least one tour running each week! There's something for everyone, from after-dark Crypt trips, new accessible tours, family walks and unique events for BIG Green Week.

#### **Weekend Tours**

Most Saturdays, 1.30pm - £5.00 per person

Our rolling programme of seasonal tours offers a rich menu of heritage and wildlife tours which changes weekly. If time is short, take a whistle-stop Taster Tour introducing Arnos Vale's history and varied landscape

#### **Accessible Tours**

Selected Saturdays, 1.30pm - £5.00 per person

Due to its historic nature Arnos Vale is not a fully accessible site. It contains uneven paths, steep slopes and steps which can prove a challenge to some visitors, which is why we now offer two accessible tours on selected dates through the summer.

#### **After-hours Tours**

Selected Friday evenings (times vary) - £8.40 per person

Start your weekend with a relaxed Summer Evening exploration of Arnos Vale introducing beautiful vistas, interesting people and hidden paths. Join a dusk-to-dask adventure Bat Walk in search of these amazing nocturnal creatures, explore the graves, folk customs and Victorian funeral etiquette in a Night at the Cemetery - includes a trip to the Crypt.

#### School Holiday Tours especially for kids and families

May and July School Holidays - £ Tickets vary

Find out more at <a href="https://www.arnosvale.org.uk/public-quided-tours-listings">www.arnosvale.org.uk/public-quided-tours-listings</a>

#### **BxNU Symposium: Cloudscape**

06 June 2014, 10.30-20.30 BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead

In response to Lorna Simpson's relationship with memory, trauma and the body, this symposium will bring together eminent practitioners, artists and theoreticians in this field. Emerging from the research, practice and interests of three artists based at Northumbria University: Jane Arnfield, Christine Borland, and Sandra Johnston, and working with GemArts, a leading diversity arts organisation based in the North East, the symposium connects disciplines of visual, live and performing arts. This dynamic event will foreground new and critically acclaimed performances alongside presentations and panel discussion, interfusing live experience with critical dialogue, to consider ethical questions of representation and responsibility in histories re-told.

Pre-symposium Programme: Thursday 5 June 2014 / 19:30

HeLa: Performance + Discussion

On the evening before the symposium, a performance and discussion takes place at BALTIC, Gateshead. Tickets available separately or as a bundle with the symposium ticket.

HeLa, written and performed by Adura Onashile takes as its inspiration the true life story of Henrietta Lacks and the extraordinary life of the HeLa cell line.

#### For further information please visit:

https://www.balticmill.com/whats-on/symposia-forums/bxnu-symposium-cloudscape

## "Do Not Attempt Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (DNACPR) orders: current practice and problems – and a possible solution " The Sue Ryder Care Centre for the Study of Supportive, Palliative and End of Life Care

12<sup>th</sup> June 2014, 12.30 – 14.30 Room C1071, QMC, University of Nottingham

#### Presentation convenor:

Zoe Fritz, Consultant Physician Cambridge University Hospitals and Wellcome Fellow in Bioethics

Do Not Attempt Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation orders are common, with around 80% of those who die in hospital dying with one in place. They are, however, associated with several problems: they are completed on an 'ad hoc' basis; there are national and regional variations in their use and remit; neither doctors nor patients like initiating conversations about resuscitation decisions; DNACPR orders are often misunderstood to

mean that other treatments should be withheld; patients with DNACPR orders often get fewer potentially beneficial treatments than those without them.

In this seminar, I will review the literature associated with DNACPR orders, and discuss the development and evaluation of an alternative approach, the Universal Form of Treatment Options (UFTO).

We will start with light refreshments at 12:30, presentation will commence at 13:00. The event is free of charge but please express your interest in attending the lecture via e-mail: julie.corden@nottingham.ac.uk, or telephone: 0115 8230878

#### Rituals for Our Lives - A Rites of Passage Autumn School

29th September – 3rd October 2014 Halsway Manor near Taunton

It takes courage to mark key moments of change in our lives, especially if they are associated with difficulty or loss. Consciously celebrating these transitions helps us to let go of the past and move forward but it can be hard to draw attention to ourselves or to know exactly what to do. This intensive course offers answers to some of these dilemmas through an exploration of the rituals of our everyday lives. Together we can build the confidence and skills necessary to create our own distinctive and appropriate ceremonies.

We have the extensive grounds of Halsway Manor as a resource, enabling us to work in the landscape as well as indoors.

The course is both theoretical and creative with: hands-on making; writing for ceremony; choosing music, poetry and visual imagery; using symbolic objects and working with the elements. We also focus on professional development and the competences necessary to become an independent celebrant.

It is intended for those working in the arts, in community, healing and complementary therapies and mental health settings, as well as face to face with families. Participants are likely to share a desire to find new relevance and contexts for their work.

The workshop will begin at 4pm on Monday 29th September and finish after lunch on Friday, October 3rd. This is our first fully residential autumn school and is longer than recent workshops.

Gilly Adams and Sue Gill have been working together for many years and bring their own particular brand of humour and insight to the task of sharing their practical experience of secular celebrancy.

To book a place contact SUE GILL foxandgill@btinternet.com www.deadgoodguides.com

#### Call for papers

Taboo Conference II - TaCo2014

Grey College, Durham University (United Kingdom) 08-09 September 2014

Confirmed keynote speakers:

- Emeritus Professor Keith Allan (Monash University, Australia)
- Professor Phil Hubbard (University of Kent, UK)
- Professor Don Kulick (University of Chicago, USA)

Western societies' politics of inclusion and respect for ethnic, religious, cultural, and sexual Others is often juxtaposed with a fascination for or experimentation with the breaking of existing taboos; these apparently conflicting stances provide a stimulating backdrop for research across a wide range of academic fields. Thus, the examination of taboo reinforcement/debasement is fundamental in forward-looking, multicultural societies governed by institutions such as political correctness and cultural and personal civility.

The Centre for Intercultural Mediation, Durham University and the Department of Interpreting and Translation, Alma mater studiorum, University of Bologna jointly organize this interdisciplinary conference that seeks to explore questions related to taboos as diverse as sex, sexuality and nudity to disability, sickness and death, among others, and to showcase research into linguistic, cultural and societal taboos and their reinforcement/debasement from both an intra- and inter-cultural perspective.

We welcome individual proposals or pre-organised panels from different disciplines engaging with the following thematic areas or other areas pertaining to taboo of any form:

- Sex and sexuality
- Nudity
- Death and the afterlife
- Sickness and disability
- Scatology/bodily fluids
- Deformity/otherness
- Blasphemy
- Altered states/drug culture
- Body modifications
- Fat
- Prostitution

The working language for the conference is English. Each paper presentation should be scheduled for 20 minutes followed by 10 minutes for questions.

Abstracts should be submitted online at <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PNWYPBS">https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PNWYPBS</a> by 31 May 2014 and should include the title of your paper, a 250 word abstract, 6 keywords, professional affiliation, email address and 150 words of bio-notes.

If you are interested in submitting a panel of three speakers, please contact Denise Filmer (<u>d.a.filmer@durham.ac.uk</u>) and Callum Walker (<u>c.m.walker@durham.ac.uk</u>) by the same deadline providing the information required above for each panellist and paper.

Notification of acceptance for both abstracts and panels will be given by 10 June 2014.

Questions and queries about the event can be addressed for the attention of the conference convenors Ms Denise Filmer and Mr Callum Walker to the above email addresses. Please use "TACO2014" in the subject field.

https://www.dur.ac.uk/cim/events/taco/ for more details.

#### **Making Sense of Dying and Death**

01-03 November 2014 Prague, Czech Republic

Call for Presentations

This inter- and multi-disciplinary conference explores dying and death and the ways culture impacts care for the dying, the overall experience of dying, and how the dead are remembered. Over the past four decades, scholarship in thanatology has increased dramatically. This particular conference seeks a broad array of perspectives that explore, analyse, and/or interpret the myriad interrelations and interactions that exist between death and culture. Culture not only presents and portrays ideas about "a good death" and norms that seek to achieve it, culture also operates as both a vehicle and medium through which meaning about death is communicated and understood. Sadly, too, culture sometimes facilitates death through violence.

Today, many people around the world maintain an increasingly passive role in caring for the dying, and supporting those who grieve a loss. Given that death, serving the dying, and caring for the bereaved has always been such an essential and unavoidable feature of life in traditional societies, a key emphasis in this year's conference will involve an exploration of the connections between contemporary technologies, social media hubs, and modern health care delivery systems and the ways they impact current end-of-life issues and decisions, including the experience of bereavement and grief. This conference welcomes submissions that specifically assess how these factors are altering our contemporary attitudes toward death, and how patients, staff, and survivors intersect amidst newly emerging care settings and sites of memorialization.

Furthermore, this conference welcomes submissions discussing changes in policy, protocol, and/or legislation regarding aid-in-dying, active/passive euthanasia, and assisted suicide. Given the many recent alterations of law involving these topics in several European countries, submissions exploring such issues will be embraced especially.

We also welcome submissions that produce conversations engaging historical, ethnographic, normative, literary, anthropological, philosophical, artistic, political or other terms that elaborate a relationship between death and culture.

Proposals in the form of presentations, performances, workshops and pre-formed panels are invited on any of the following additional core conference themes listed below:

Health Care Systems: Patients, Staff, and Institutions The Caregiver-Patient Relationship End-of-Life Issues and Decisions Relationships Between Death and Culture

300 word abstracts should be submitted by Friday 27th June 2014. If an abstract is accepted for the conference, a full draft paper should be submitted by Friday 19th September 2014.

For further information:

http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/probing-the-boundaries/making-sense-of/dying-and-death/call-for-papers/

#### Jobs and study opportunities

#### Lecturer (Assistant Professor) of Sociology, University of Bath

This position is intended to make a significant contribution to research and teaching in sociology at Bath. This is an opportunity to join one of the top universities in the UK and one of the country's leading group of sociologists.

The successful candidate will be joining an ambitious and expanding team working to enhance its profile, reputation and impact. To achieve this, we wish to recruit the best research talent able to produce high quality publications; attract research grant income; carry out impactful research; and deliver innovative and high-quality teaching.

Candidates are encouraged to visit the department's website <a href="http://www.bath.ac.uk/sps">http://www.bath.ac.uk/sps</a> to find out more about our research priorities and strengths, as well as the work of the other academic groups in the department.

We are open to applications from academics who can offer theoretical and methodological expertise in areas which will enhance the department's research profile in sociology. These include, but are not restricted to, poverty; criminology; ageing and the life course; childhood; work and employment; media and communications.

Proposed start date: 1 September 2014

Informal enquiries about the post can be made to the Head of Department, Dr Joe Devine (<u>J.Devine@bath.ac.uk</u> or on +44(0)1225 383539); or to the Head of Group, Professor Tess Ridge (<u>T.M.Ridge@bath.ac.uk</u> or on +44(0)1225 3858238).

#### Marie Curie Incoming Fellowships 2014, University of Bath

The European Commission Horizon 2020, through their Excellent Science scheme, invites proposals for its <u>Marie Sklodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships call</u>. Two types of

fellowships are available. These are the European Fellowships and the Global Fellowships.

Centre for Death & Society members Kate Woodthorpe and John Troyer have both proposed research projects for which the University of Bath is now recruiting incoming fellows for these schemes. Please contact them with any enquiries as soon as possible.

Kate Woodthorpe: <u>k.v.woodthorpe@bath.ac.uk</u>

John Troyer: <a href="mailto:j.troyer@bath.ac.uk">j.troyer@bath.ac.uk</a>

#### **Diploma and Postgraduate Certificate in Childhood Bereavement**

There is only one month left to apply for the Diploma and Postgraduate Certificate in Childhood Bereavement Programme 2014/15 run by Help the Hospices and the Candle Project at St Christopher's. The closing date for receiving applications is 20 June. These two programmes offer a qualification for people working with bereaved children, young people and their families and are validated by Middlesex University. The 2014/15 course starts on 25 September 2014.

For more information visit <u>Help the Hospices website</u> or contact Amber Morgan at <u>a.morgan@helpthehospices.org.uk</u>

#### **Events Calendar**

Date	Event	Location	Contact/Information
06 Jun 2014	The Glory and the Gore of Death and Horror Through the Ages	University of Wales, Bangor	http://www.medievalists.net/
06 Jun 2014	BxNU Symposium Cloudscape	Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead	https://www.balticmill.com/what s-on/symposia-forums/bxnu- symposium-cloudscape
06-08 Jun 2014	Exploring changing human beliefs about death, mortality and the human body	Durham University	https://www.dur.ac.uk/archaeology/conferences/current/invisibledead/ □
07-08 Jun 2014	CDAS Conference 2014: Social Death	BRLSI, Bath	http://www.bath.ac.uk/cdas/eve nts/index.html
09 Jun 2014	Sage & Thyme Foundation level workshop	The Rowans Hospice, Waterlooville	http://www.rowanshospice.co.uk /index.php?id=94

11-14 Jun	10 <sup>th</sup> International Conference on	The University of Hong Kong	http://www.socsc.hku.hk/icgb20 14/index.html
2014	Grief & Bereavement in Contemporary Society		
12 Jun	Do Not Attempt Cardiopulmonary	University of Nottingham	Julie.corden@nottingham.ac.uk
2014	Resuscitation (DNACPR) orders: current practice and problems – and a possible solution	Nottingnam	
19-22 June 2014	Designing Death: Fashioning end of life and beyond	Edinburgh	http://www.nomadit.co.uk/asa/a sa2014/panels.php5?PanelID=2 758
01-02	The Cost of	Leeds Trinity	http://www.absco.org.uk/Defaul
July 2014	Bereavement: is your service fit	University	t.aspx?pageId=1810895&eventI d=698091&EventViewMode=Eve
2014	for purpose?		ntDetails
07-09	Cremation &	Holiday Inn,	http://www.cbce.org.uk/callforp
July	Burial Conference	Stratford-upon-	<u>apers.html</u>
2014	& Exhibition	Avon	
08 Jul	Suicide – the	Buckingham	http://www.childbereavementuk
2014	impact on families		<pre>.org/Training/Ourcourses/Suicid eTheimpactonfamilies</pre>
16 Jul	Annual IJPN and	Manchester	www.IJPN-
2014	Macmillan Conference		macmillanconference.co.uk
20-23	Corpses,	Buenos Aires,	http://www.4sonline.org/meetin
Aug 2014	technologies and cultures	Argentina	g
27.20	Minumetandof	Madvid Coais	http://www.insignature
27-29 Aug	Migrant end-of- life care and	Madrid, Spain	http://www.imiscoeconferences.
2014	ritual practices		<u>5.9/</u>
04-06	The Seventh	Albu Iulia,	www.death-studies.ro
Sep 2014	Edition of Dying & Death in 18 <sup>th</sup> -	Romania	
2017	21 <sup>st</sup> Century		
	Europe		
	International Conference		
07-09	Taboo	Grey College,	https://www.dur.ac.uk/cim/even
Sep 2014	Conference II	Durham	ts/taco/
2014 20 Sep	Reflections of a	University High Wycombe	Mike Muller (01628 662372)
2014	Grief Educator	3, 3323	(32320 002072)

23 Sep 2014	Dark Tourism Symposium	University of Central Lancashire	http://www.uclan.ac.uk/researc h/environment/groups/institute for dark tourism research.php
24-26 Sept 2014	5 <sup>th</sup> Global Conference; Digital Memories	Mansfield College, Oxford	http://www.inter- disciplinary.net/critical- issues/cyber/digital- memories/call-for-papers/
29 Sep - 3 Oct 2014	Rituals for our Lives	Halsway Manor, Somerset	foxandgill@btinternet.com www.deadgoodguides.com
01-04 Oct 2014	A matter of lifedeath	University of Manitoba, Canada	www.umanitoba.ca/mosaic
22-24 Oct 2014	Images of Afterlife	University of Turku, Finland	http://imagesofafterlife.wordpress.com
01-03 Nov 2014	Making Sense of Dying and Death	Prague, Czech Republic	http://www.inter- disciplinary.net/probing-the- boundaries/making-sense- of/dying-and-death/call-for- papers/
20-22 Nov 2014	International Association for the Philosophy of Death & Dying Conference	California State Polytechnic University	http://www.philosophyofdeath.o rg/call-for-abstracts/
03-07 Dec 2014	The Many Lives of Death: Imagining death and dying through space and time	Washington DC, USA. AAA Conference panel	elucitt@ucla.edu
02-05 Sept 2015	Death, Dying and the Disposal of the Body (DDD12)	"1 December 1918" University of Alba Iulia, Romania	http://death- studies.ro/?page_id=292

Please do let us know of any events you think would be of interest to other subscribers. You can find more details on all of these events, and events featured in previous newsletters, on the CDAS web pages

www.bath.ac.uk/cdas