

## **Social Aspects of Death, Dying and Bereavement (DDB) study group Annual Report 2010**

**1. Established:** 1991

**2. Current Membership Figure:** 140

**Mixture of BSA members and non BSA members**

### **3. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**

**Income :** £1005.00

**Expenditure:** £121.70

### **4. Aim/s of SG:**

The aim of this study group is to provide a simultaneously stimulating and safe space to share ideas related to death, dying and bereavement. It encourages postgraduate students and early career researchers especially to contribute at the annual symposium.

### **5. Review of Year:**

The principle activity of the study group is the annual symposium held in November each year. In 2010, the symposium was held jointly with the Media Study Group at the London Meeting Room.

An edited collection originating from the 2006 symposium was also published in August 2010:

Hockey, J., Komaromy, C. and Woodthorpe, K. (eds) (2010) *The Matter of Death: space, place and materiality* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan).

### **6. Key Activities during year 2010**

The symposium this year 'Death and the Media' was co-organised between this study group and the BSA Media Study Group. It was held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November in the BSA London Meeting Room, and was attended by 31 people. Owing to the collaborative focus, the audience came from a range of backgrounds, including media studies, cultural studies, religious studies,

anthropology, disaster management, death and dying, and medical sociology. Papers came from academics around the UK and Denmark. One presenter from Belgium was due to attend but had to cancel due to the weather.

The convenor also interviewed US-based academic, Professor Linda Layne, on her work on pregnancy loss. The interview was published in Network in 2010.

Finally, as noted above, an edited collection from a previous symposium was published in August.

### **7. Concluding Remarks:**

The academic study of death and dying continues to grow and DDB plays a significant role in its development. Owing to the success of the symposium this year, the convenor will be actively seeking opportunities for collaborative events in the future.

Planning is about to start for symposium that will mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the group in 2011, including potential publications from the event.

### **8. Convenor/s Name/s:**

Kate Woodthorpe

### **9. Contact E-mail:**

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### **10. SG weblink: <http://www.britsoc.co.uk/specialisms/DDB.htm>**