

New insights into Scottish Deathways, 24-25 April 2025

Provisional Programme

Day 1 – Thursday 24th April 2025	
09:30 – 09:40	<p>Welcome to conference Arnar Árnason, Susan Buckham, Vikki Entwistle</p>
09:40 – 10:40	<p>Keynote paper 1 'Narrating the Aberdeen Poltergeist of 1920' Professor Michael Brown</p>
10:40 – 11:00	Break
11:00 – 12:00	<p>Oral Presentations 1: Gravestones, monuments and interpretations of death</p> <p>Lord Mar's Monument: aristocratic death and burial in Scotland in 1733 Ms Margaret Stewart</p> <p>Death and resurrection: the service gravestone in Stirling Professor Michael Bath</p>
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch break
13:00 - 14:00	<p>Oral Presentations 2: Interment sites and practices – linking old and new</p> <p>The Fingask Barrow – a monument to prehistoric deathways? Dr Kenny Brophy</p> <p>Sharing a sense of purpose: the principles of sustainable multi-functional use of historic burial grounds in Scotland Dr Susan Buckham</p>
14:00 – 14:10	Short break
14:10 – 15:00	<p>Oral Presentations 3: Law, death and burial</p> <p>Aberdeen Research Project: Rethinking Death in Law and Society Dr Patricia Živković, Dr Nevena Jevremovic and Dr Euan West</p> <p>How will historic graveyards fit into the new regulation of Scottish Burial Grounds? (Short presentation) Dr Susan Buckham</p>
15:00 – 15:20	Short break
15:20 – 16:00	<p>Reflections: learning across presentations and perspectives An invitation for all participants to contribute to a conversation about the connections seen, ideas sparked, and potential recognised by listening to the various papers presented today. This chaired conversation will also start to open up a discussion (to be continued tomorrow) about the idea of Scottish Deathways and scope to enhance networking and collaboration to support agenda setting and further research relating to death and Scotland.</p>
16:00	Close of day 1

Day 2 – Friday 25th April 2025

09:30 – 10:30	<p>Keynote paper 2 Assisted dying: a new dying aesthetic Dr. Naomi Richards</p>
10:30 – 10:40	Break
10:40 – 11:40	<p>Oral Presentations 4: Regulation and good practice in end-of-life and post-mortem care</p> <p>Planning for end-of-life: can ethical and legal principles provide clarity in practice? Dr Sarah Sivers</p> <p>Ensuing good standards among funeral directors? Professor Vikki Entwistle and Dr Arnar Árnason</p>
11:40 – 11:50	Break
11:50 – 12:50	<p>Oral Presentations 4: Action and meaning around death and grief</p> <p>Runforever: humanising responses to grief and loss in a prison environment Dr Paolo Maccagno</p> <p>Am I Being Ludic(rous)? Exploring the ludic in contemporary British death and dying Dr Jennifer Riley</p>
12:50 – 13:30	Lunch break
13:30 – 14:45	<p>Oral Presentations 6: Considering religion and preference in contemporary funeral provision</p> <p>Well-being impacts of knowing the deceased’s wishes for their funeral Ms Ruth Bickerton</p> <p>Recognising and interrogating the personal in religious funerals Dr Jennifer Riley, Dr Arnar Árnason and Professor Vikki Entwistle</p> <p>Jewish Deathways in Scotland (Short presentation) Dr Heather Munro</p>
14:45 – 14:55	Break
14:55 – 15:55	<p>Reflections: learning across presentations and perspectives An invitation for all participants to contribute to a conversation about the connections seen, ideas sparked, and potential recognised by listening to the various papers presented today (and yesterday). This chaired conversation will also develop consideration of the value of the idea of ‘Scottish Deathways’, and of scope to enhance networking and collaboration to support agenda setting and further research relating to death and Scotland.</p>
15:55 – 16:00	Thanks and brief closing remarks
16:00	Conference close