

Cruse News

Cruse and its work

Cruse was founded in 1959 as the national organisation for widows. It offers a counselling service of emotional and practical help to the widowed and their children. At its Annual General Meeting in 1986 Cruse took the decision to set as a goal the provision of services to all those bereaved by death, in close co-operation with other organisations. As ability and resources allow, this wider work is being undertaken. As a consequence of that decision consideration was given at this year's AGM to the organisation's title and it was agreed it should be **Cruse—Bereavement Care**. From now on this is how the organisation will be known.

Branch Network

There are now 136 Branches of Cruse throughout Great Britain, and national membership serves those living beyond the reach of a Branch.

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Newly published: GOOD GRIEF, a teaching pack for schools

Learning about loss and death, talking and thinking about it, can be said to be a necessary part of education as a preparation for life and a contribution to psychological growth. Even so, the idea of death as a classroom topic may not appeal to many teachers. Why introduce it in school?

Death has become less familiar to young people over the generations, so that it is now associated with old age, relatively rare misfortune, television fantasy or remote news happenings. For many the reality of death close to them is unthinkable, unmentionable, isolating. But without experience, and without understanding about lesser losses, how can we be prepared for great loss? A time of bereavement is not the best time for objective consideration.

This pack is intended to help children of different abilities in secondary and further education to face the topic openly, to encourage them to share in an exploration of a human experience which must touch all of us at some time. It is hoped that it will also help teachers to prepare themselves for classwork on the subject or for a bereavement experienced within the school.

GOOD GRIEF School Pack, Edited by Barbara Ward & Jamie Houghton, in association with Cruse. 1987. Price £15 + £1.50 p. & p. (UK) from Cruse, 126 Sheen Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1UR.



BEREAVEMENT CARE is published by Cruse for all counsellors and others who wish to deepen their understanding of bereavement. It is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be lent, re-sold, reproduced in part or in entirety, hired out or otherwise circulated without the publisher's consent.

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