

penetrating as this work. Raphael includes the effects of bereavement on children and the effects of the death of children on parents, both important topics which, in turn, enlighten our understanding of other types of bereavement. The book by Osterweis *et al* is a multi-author volume which matches the Stroebe's in scientific respects and, in addition, gives a more detailed account of services for the bereaved in the USA but it suffers from being written by a committee.

All in all, Wolfgang and Margaret Stroebe are to be congratulated on writing an important text book which must be read and kept for reference by every serious student of bereavement.

COLIN MURRAY PARKES  
MD, FRC, Psych  
Consultant Psychiatrist,  
London Hospital Medical College

**THE PITCH OF GRIEF**  
Video cassette US\$350. Fanlight  
Productions, 47 Halifax Street,  
Boston, Mass. 02130 USA.

This 28 minute video allows four articulate Americans to talk about their experience of bereavement. A young widow, a young mother who has lost a child and an older widow and widower describe simply and directly what they went through, what helped and what did not help.

The accounts are inter-cut so that we follow the grieving process from its painful beginnings through to a very positive and encouraging outcome in all four cases. There is no attempt to explain or theorise but two hospice co-ordinators add their own comments. I particularly liked one of these: 'You can't lead somebody through grief, all you can do is to try to follow'.

Made by a journalist, Eric Stange, after the death of his wife, "Pitch of Grief" provides a rich material suitable for any training programme for bereavement coun-

sellors. Several of the bereaved people have been helped by attending mutual-help groups and are able to explain how this came about.

My only doubts concern the overall impression given by the film that grief, though painful, is inevitably a beneficial experience. One of the speakers almost seems to be apologising for the fact that, however much she may have gained from her bereavement, she would still prefer to have her child back! This Pollyannish view may be encouraging to bereavement counsellors but should not lead them to imagine that every, or even most grief, will have a happy ending.

Despite the fact that all the participants in the film are Americans the implications are universal and easily intelligible.

The Film of the Year Award of the American Hospice Association was well deserved.

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# Cruse News



## Cruse Bereavement Counselling Courses

### MIDLANDS

The following Midlands Branches will be running courses this autumn, most of which will start in mid/late September:

**Birmingham** (contact Cruse, Office 5, Carrs Lane Church Centre, Birmingham B2 7SX. Tel. 021-643 4822.)

**Leicester** (Winifred Thomson, 140 Knighton Church Road, Leicester LE2 3JJ. Tel. 0533 705863.)

**Mansfield** (Jim Stocks, Millbrook Unit, Kings Mill Hospital, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts NG17 4JL. Tel. 0623 22515 ext. 3458.)

**Newark** (Ann McKenzie, Kinder Lodge, Trent Close, North Muskham, Newark. Tel. 0636 71869.)

**Redditch** (Richard Burrows, 34 Broadway Close, Church Hill, Redditch. Tel. 0527 61869.)

**Shrewsbury** (Joan Kynaston, 13 Old Cop-pice, Lyth Hill, Bayston Hill, Shrewsbury SY3 0BP. Tel. 0743 72 2648.)

**Wolverhampton** (Wendy Gould, 5 Larkswood Drive, Penn, Wolverhampton. Tel. 0902 895 904.)

### NORTHERN ENGLAND

**Blackpool.** A Training Course will start on 19th September 1988. Contact Mr. Bernie Kirk, Community Health Council, Queen Street, Blackpool.

**Isle of Man.** A Bereavement Care training course will start on 3rd August 1988. Contact Barbara Larkin, tel. 0624 73357.

**Selby.** A Training Course will be held in autumn 1988. Contact Julie Gouding, tel. Selby 706762.

**Warrington.** A Training Course will start in mid-September. Contact Mrs. Sue Dennis,

17 Whitefield Road, Stockton Heath, Warrington.

### SCOTLAND

Autumn courses are being arranged in **Elgin, Galashiels and Peebles, and Inverness.** For further details please contact Mrs. Ruth Hampton, Scottish Area Organiser, 138 McDonald Road, Edinburgh EH7 4NL. Tel. 031-556 4489.

### SOUTH EAST

**North West Surrey Branch** are running their sixth course for those interested in becoming Cruse counsellors, as well as those who want to study different aspects of bereavement and mourning. The course will run on Tuesday evenings from 27th September to 6th December. Fee £29. Closing date for applications 18th July. Apply to Miss Jean Connel, tel. 0932 848796 (home) or 0932 840000 (work).

### WALES

A Bereavement Care course followed by a Counselling course will be held in the autumn in **Newport, Powys.** For details of this and any other Welsh courses, please contact Mrs. Sheelagh Burton, Welsh Organiser, Yew Tree Cottage, West End, Magor, Newport, Gwent NP6 3HT. Tel. 0633 881380.

### SOUTH WEST

**Weston-super-Mare Branch** will be holding a course beginning on 5th October 1988. Enquiries to Mrs. Tricia Rawlingson Plant, South West Area Organiser, Trendle Farm, Tower Hill, Bruton, Somerset, tel. 0749 812307.

These courses are not normally considered suitable for those who have been bereaved for less than two years.

### Welsh Area Conference

The Cruse Welsh Area Conference will be held on 29th October 1988 at Cambrian House, Newport. Enquiries to Mrs. Sheelagh Burton, Welsh Organiser, Yew Tree Cottage, West End, Magor, Newport, Gwent NP6 3HT. Tel. 0633 881380.

### Correction—Bereavement Training Course for Professional Workers

Certain details of the Bereavement Counselling Course for Professional Workers (course director Lyn Franchino)

**Cruse Director:** Derek Nuttall

**Training Officer:** Nicholas Tyndall

**Information Officer:** Wendy Wilson

Cruse House, 126 Sheen Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1UR. Tel. 01-940 4818.

BEREAVEMENT CARE is published for all Cruse workers 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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### Subscriptions:

1988 subscription UK: £4.65 (incl. post-  
age). Cruse workers: £3.65. Library rate:  
£9.65. Overseas: £4.00 + £1.50 postage  
(Europe), £2.50 by airmail outside Europe.  
Overseas Library rate: £9.00 + £1.50 post-  
age (Europe), £2.50 by airmail outside  
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### New Branches

Since our last issue, new Cruse Branches have opened at: Coventry East, East Kilbride, Huntingdonshire, Leven and South Warwickshire.

### Steering Committees

New Steering Committees working towards the opening of a Branch have been set up in: Bridlington, Coventry East, Foyle (Northern Ireland), Harrogate, Isle of Man, Kettering, Leicester, Mansfield, Rushden, Tunbridge Wells, Waltham Abbey and Weston-super-Mare.

published in the Spring Issue of Bereavement Care were incorrect. Please note that the course will be held this autumn on Thursday evenings from 29th September-8th December at The Hale Clinic, 7 Park Crescent, London. Applications should be made to Nick Tyndall, Training Officer, Cruse, 126 Sheen Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1UR (tel. 01-940 4818) by 31st July.