

CONTENTS

EDITORIAL

Dora Black

- 2 **Editorial**
Dora Black
- 3 **Young people and bereavement counselling**
What influences the decision to access professional help?
Janet Brown
- 7 **The landscape of loss**
Linda Machin
- 11 **Webwatch**
Bereaved by homicide
Amanda Aitken
- 12 **'Forgotten victims?'**
Adults look back on their childhood bereavement by homicide
Alison Oldham
Carol Nourse
- 15 **The Woodland Trust – UK**
Ioan Reed-Aspley
- 20 **Valediction**
Sheila Hodges and John Bush
- 6 **Reviews**
6-19
- 18 **Events**
- 9-20 **Abstracts**
Cover: Janet Brown (p3) looks at the some of the factors that get in the way of young people accessing professional help after a bereavement, and encourages us not to give up on this vulnerable group.
Photo by Rosie Dalzell

OUR BEST FRIEND COLLAPSED and died whilst making a toast to my husband and me at our golden wedding celebrations recently. Of course it could happen to any of us 'seniors'. Fortunately no one knew he had died instantly (the competent staff at our venue carried him out of the room and tried to resuscitate), another friend leapt to his feet to complete the toast and the musicians, scheduled to play music special to us, rallied themselves and played, despite their shock. We learned later that our friend had been trying to decide whether to have a recommended heart operation. Amid our sadness at the loss of a valued friend, we took comfort from the fact that he was clearly enjoying himself at the time and that his wife (but not his children) had been aware of the fragile state of his heart and had been able to do some anticipatory grief work, which we know helps us all to cope with the death of loved ones. It was the younger generations who were hit hardest. I was encouraged to learn that the school attended by one of the grandchildren immediately produced the book, *Badger's Parting Gifts**. She, all of six years old, said, on its being read to her, 'It's about granddad isn't it?'

Where it is possible, those of us who are in the danger years, should be preparing our younger relations for our eventual demise. We should not keep them in the dark about our life-threatening medical conditions and we should obtain some books suitable for our grandchildren that help them to understand death and the cycle of life and read to them **beforehand**. Some of the older grandchildren came to the funeral, and it seemed to help them to share in the rituals. Memorials, such as those provided by the Woodland Trust (reported on p15 of this issue), can aid in the understanding of life, death and regeneration. Above all, bereaved grandchildren need to feel that there is someone who will answer their questions and help them understand what has happened. They need to experience the grief that their parent feels at the death of their grandparent, but also learn that one can come through a period of mourning. *Bereavement Care* will continue to offer guidance in the choice of books for children and parents.

*Varley S. London: Andersen Press, 1984

Editors

Colin Murray Parkes

OBE MD DPM FRCPsych

Dora Black

MB FRCPsych FRCPCH DPM

Martin Newman

MB ChB MRCPsych

Anne Viney

BA CQSW MBA

David Trickey

BSc MA CPsychol DipFamTh

Marilyn Relf

BA PhD

Advisory editors

Dr Ofra Ayalon PhD, Israel**Prof Anthony Clare** MD FRCP FRCPI
FRCPsych, Ireland**Dr Tom Lundin** MD PhD, Sweden**Prof Robert Pynoos** MD MPH, USA**Prof Henk Schut** PhD, The Netherlands**Prof Lars Welsaeth** MD PhD FNPA,
Norway**Prof Robert Weiss** PhD, USA

Managing editor

Rosie Dalzell BSc CertEd

Published by

Cruse Bereavement Care
126 Sheen Road
Richmond, Surrey TW9 1UR, UK

Telephone: +44 [0] 20 8939 9530

Fax: +44 [0] 20 8940 7638

Email: info@cruse.org.uk

Subscription rates

2006 prices listed on the back cover.

Bereavement Care is published three times a year in Spring, Summer and Winter. All prices are inclusive of airmail postage. Payment may be made by cheque/money order, or by credit/debit card: Delta/Maestro/MasterCard/Visa.

Bereavement Care is sold subject to the condition it shall not be lent, resold, reproduced, hired out or otherwise circulated without the publisher's consent.

The editors welcome advertisements and inserts, but do not necessarily associate themselves with the views of advertisers or books advertised.

Most back numbers are available at £4.00 plus postage (UK postage: 35p).

BEST OF BEREAVEMENT CARE

Packs of selected articles from past issues grouped in themes are available from the publishers at prices from £4.25 to £6.80.



COPYRIGHT © Cruse
Bereavement Care 2006
ISSN 0268-2621
Designed by Creation
Design, Bristol BS9 4PQ
Printed by Doppler Press,
Brentwood, Essex CM15 9TB