BSA Death and Relationships

Social Aspects of Death, Dying and Bereavement Study Group Symposium, 5th December 2019, University of Sheffield

Plenary: Jane Harris and Jimmy Edmonds, The Good Grief Project

This plenary session is based on Jane and Jimmy's latest documentary <u>A Love That Never Dies</u> and it will focus on relationships, Continuing Bonds and the work of <u>The Good Grief Project</u>.

About the speakers and their work

The Good Grief Project supports families grieving after the untimely death of a loved one, particularly the death of a son or daughter as well as promoting an understanding of what it means to grieve in a society that often has difficulty talking openly about death, dying and bereavement. Grief is the form love takes when somebody dies - the film A Love that Never Dies gives a voice to that grief.

The film is a personal journey by two bereaved parents Jane Harris and Jimmy Edmonds and a love letter to their son Josh. Their son died in a road accident in South East Asia eight years ago and they now honour him with their own journeys: to Vietnam the place where he died, to Varanasi, India and a road trip across the USA, where they meet with other families who have also lost a child, all of whom have found grief variously isolating, transformative yet ultimately life enhancing.

"This film will change the way the world sees grief. It lifts the veil on something that impacts us all, in one way or another, throughout our lives." **Scarlett Lewis** (Mother of Sandy Hook victim)

"Tender and uplifting. Raw and real" **Kathryn Mannix** (author With The End in Mind)

"Fearless in its exploration of grief and loss" **Eleanor McConnell** (Dying Matters/Hospice UK)



"Masterful – essential viewing for anyone trying to rebuild their lives after tragedy" **Prof Robert Neimeyer** (Dept. Psychology, University of Memphis)



Jane Harris and Jimmy Edmonds met at Film School in the 80s.

When Josh was born in 1988 Jane started her training as a psychological therapist working in the education sector, the NHS and in private practise as a bereavement specialist and supervisor with a special interest in family relations.

Jimmy is a BAFTA award winning documentary filmmaker with over 100 TV credits. He is a Winston Churchill Fellow, photographer and has a passion for cold water swimming.

Jane and Jimmy continue to make films together.