



Dear Woolf Friends,

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement. Signed on the 10th April 1998 during Holy Week it ended, for the most part, the violence of The Troubles in Northern Ireland. If you look back 30 years ago, there were a number of global conflicts but the three most widely reported were South Africa, Israel/Palestine and Northern Ireland. Most of the analysts of the day were heralding the move to the end of apartheid and were also optimistic that the Oslo Accords would begin a move to peace in Israel/Palestine. Northern Ireland's conflict seemed intractable. It had reached what scholars term 'a mutually hurting stalemate'. Yet, despite this, 5 years later, Northern Ireland was able to achieve peace.

The Good Friday Agreement was built around three key strands: the reform of policing; the decommissioning of paramilitaries and, most controversially, the release of all political prisoners. Having had the privilege of spending time with victims' and survivors' groups in Northern Ireland, the enormous sacrifice they made should never be forgotten. For them, the price of peace was watching the killers of their children, husbands and friends walk free. This sacrifice is highlighted even more given the religious significance of the date of the agreement, Good Friday. As the world reflects on the successes of the agreement, the issue that haunts the present in Northern Ireland is how to create the architecture to deal with the past. The challenge was and still is how to move forward so that the generation born after the conflict is not saddled with the toxic legacy of the past.

With best wishes,

Dr Katherine O'Lone
Research Fellow, Woolf Institute



Upcoming Events

27 April

Woolf Institute in
New York



3 May

Kessler Celebration



9 May

14th Century Authors
as Readers north and
south of the
Mediterranean



6 June


Woolf Institute
Garden Party



10 - 21 July

Woolf Institute
Summer School



WOOLF INSTITUTE KESSLER CELEBRATION

Join us to celebrate the 25 year legacy of our Founder President Dr Edward Kessler MBE on the occasion of his birthday



MAY

3

14:00-17:00

JOIN US FOR:

- Celebratory birthday cake and bubbles
- 'Leading Women': a panel discussion of shifts in women's leadership in the Abrahamic faiths
- Formal unveiling of our renamed building


KESSLER CELEBRATION

Join us at the Woolf Institute for our Kessler Celebration on 3 May 2023. We will be celebrating the legacy of our Founder President, Dr Edward Kessler MBE, on the occasions of his birthday and the Institute's 25th anniversary.

The celebration begins at 14:00 and will include:

- Birthday cake and presentations
- 'Leading Women': a panel discussion on the shifts in women's leadership in the Abrahamic faiths over the past 25 years
- Formal unveiling of our newly renamed building

Events will conclude at 17:00. We look forward to celebrating together with Woolf Institute alumni and friends.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Woolf Institute In New York

27 April 2023



THE WOOLF INSTITUTE IS GOING TO NEW YORK

At the end of April, The Woolf Institute will be visiting New York. We will be meeting alumni and friends, and Dr Katherine O'Lone will be giving a talk entitled '*Belfast; Have the Ghosts Left?*' based on her research. This will take place at the Cambridge in America premises at 1120 Avenue of the Americas.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Good Friday

Agreement. In this talk, Dr Katherine O'Lone will explore the psychological and moral landscape of post-conflict Northern Ireland. Dr O'Lone argues that we can better understand peace by exploring the patterns surrounding how people think about reconciliation, forgiveness and justice in the aftermath of violent conflict. In Northern Ireland, despite the passage of twenty-five years since the GFA, the scars of 'The Troubles' continue to influence how people reason and think about moral issues, such as fairness, harm and justice. The conflict has ended but this talk suggests the ghosts are still there.

The talk will be followed by questions and discussion, and a reception to which all are welcome.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

[FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT FLORA MOFFIE](#)

TURNING THE OTHER CHEEK

Naked Reflections Podcast x The Woolf Institute

TELL THE UKRAINIANS TO TURN THE OTHER
CHEEK AND YOU'D PROBABLY GET SHORT
SHRIFT. SO WHAT DOES THIS ADVICE
REALLY MEAN?



PODCAST: TURNING THE OTHER CHEEK

In the blue corner: National Anthems and military marches; in the red corner: protest songs. Politics and music often coincide.

How practical is Jesus's advice to turn the other cheek? Some see it as an example of the excessive passivity of Christianity. Others think it's the only way to get out of an endless spiral of violence. Meryem Kalayci and Tim Stevens discuss the matter without coming to blows

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)

COMING SOON

Naked Reflections Podcast x The Woolf Institute

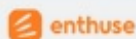
LOVE THE OTHER

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