



Dear Woolf Friends,

This year, my wonderful parents passed away within ten weeks of each other. I grieve for them every day but I have to acknowledge how lucky I was to be with both of them as they slipped peacefully out of this world and into the next. I am comforted too that they are together again after such a short time apart.

When my father was given the end of life prognosis by the hospital's senior oncology consultant, I was sitting by his bedside and immediately sprang into action, despite the shocking news. (He had been due to start a month-long radiotherapy and immunotherapy schedule the following week.) I did not want him to stay in hospital (as my mother had had to do) but wanted to move him to either the local hospice (I am in awe of their incredible work) or a recommended care home. It meant that my father's last week on earth was tranquil with beautiful birdsong filtering through his garden view window in the care home. (There were no beds available at the hospice and I was unwilling to wait.)

Since 2018, I have been involved in the Institute's Diversity in End of Life Care programme, from oversight of the creation and publication of our insightful *Diversity in End of Life Care: A Handbook on Caring for Jewish, Christian and Muslim Patients* (pub. 2019) and of the research based on religious concerns during the pandemic to the introduction of new sessions for medical practitioners, chaplains and volunteers. For the team working on the programme, it has made us more knowledgeable and perceptive of our own faith traditions and given us greater appreciation for others. But can we really

## Upcoming Events

11 October

Reading Group:  
Qur'an and Bible



13 - 15 October

Musicians and  
Artists in Exile:  
Preserving, Creating  
or Eulogizing Syrian  
Culture?



14 October

Public Lecture &  
Concert



18 October

Mobility, Belonging  
and Community in  
the Mediterranean  
City

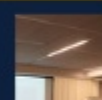


19 October

@18:00  
The Islamic  
Movement in Israel  
by Tilde Rosmer



15 - 16  
November



be prepared for that critical moment?

How could I have known that this work would have such an impact on my own life! Ordinarily, I am quite shy and reticent to voice my concerns or other matters to strangers, but the Institute's Diversity in End of Life Care programme had, somehow, given me inner strength to speak up about our faith and what lay ahead; from a conversation about Jewish dietary laws (*Kashrut*) to a discussion about the final moments and the role of the *chevra kadisha* (members of the Jewish community who prepare the body for burial). The care home staff were understanding and supportive despite knowing very little – if anything – about Judaism and the rules and regulations we abide by over the treatment of the deceased. The programme had taught me about honouring the dead, treating the body with respect and care, and reminded me about the need for an expedient burial. I felt empowered to engage with the staff to enable them to support me and my father when we needed them the most. I did not need emotional care from them – although I did receive it – but I required something far more important to me – their support for our faith traditions.

Hospice Care Week takes place this coming week. These five days give us an opportunity to appreciate the value of support and care, and what matters to us as individuals at the end of life when we need it most. Many of us have a story to tell about end of life – possibly about a family member, a close friend or colleague, or a story heard or read about. Everyone's experience is different; some find it hard to share.

As I tell my story, I hope that the Diversity in End of Life Care programme will continue to provide participants with the knowledge they need to support patients, families and colleagues at such a critical time of life. I am confident that medical practitioners, chaplains, volunteers and anyone facing similar circumstances can feel empowered through the programme and Handbook.

Best wishes,

Dr Emma Harris  
Director of Studies, Woolf Institute

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Woolf Institute  
Conference



16 November  
Woolf Institute  
Research Afternoon



17 November  
Living in Harmony  
Teachers' Seminar



23 November  
Interfaith Mixer



1 December  
William Kessler  
Essay Prize  
Competition



6 June  
Woolf Institute  
Garden Party



# Diversity in End of Life Care

A handbook on caring for Jewish, Christian and Muslim patients



Since the publication of the Woolf Institute's Diversity in End of Life Care: A Handbook on Caring for Jewish, Christian and Muslim Patients, the landscape of end of life care has changed dramatically with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. To capture the effect this momentous event has had on religious practices surrounding end of life care, the Woolf Institute conducted a series of interviews with healthcare professionals and chaplains involved in end of life care. Their experiences and reflections provide crucial narratives for standalone training session(s) for practitioners on how to deal with the reality of end of life care in the post-COVID world.

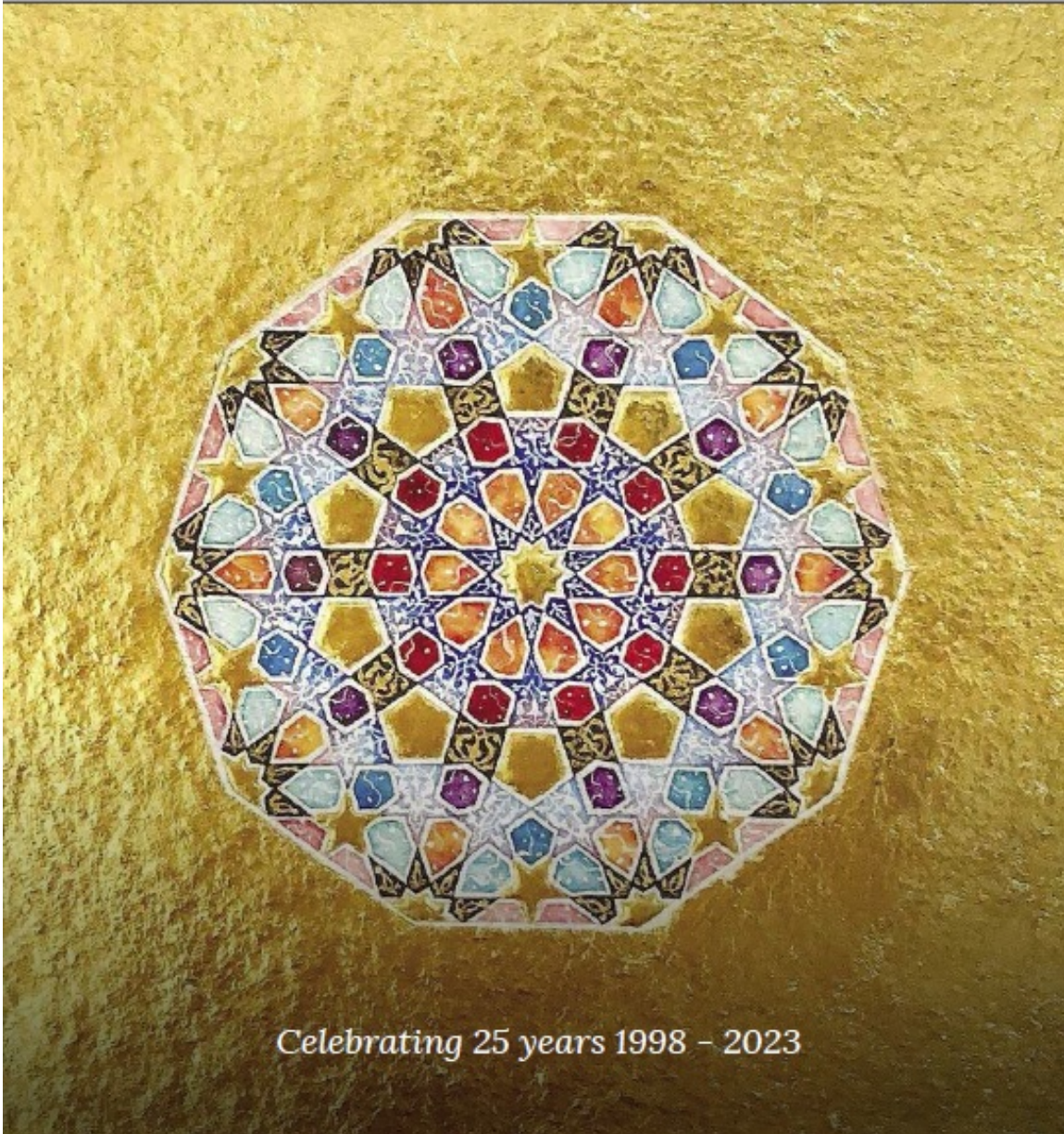
[CLICK HERE TO READ THE HANDBOOK](#)

[BLOG: WHEN DEATH BECOMES US](#)

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## Woolf Institute 2022/23 Annual Publication



The Woolf Institute Annual Publication 2022/23 is now available to download. This publication is full of information about current research, teaching, public education and forthcoming events.

We hope you enjoy reading and look forward to welcoming you to in-person and virtual events during this academic year.

[CLICK HERE TO READ TO ANNUAL PUBLICATION](#)

**WEBINAR 18 OCTOBER @17:00**

Woolf Institute and the Society for the Medieval  
Mediterranean present:

## **Mobility, Belonging and Community in the Mediterranean City**



The Woolf Institute together with the Society for the Medieval Mediterranean invite you to their webinar series.

This session offers a parallel analysis on the processes of community-building, social advancement and agency in the late medieval Mediterranean. It focuses on three cities that will take us from one shore of the Mediterranean to the other. The urban contexts of Barcelona, Venice and Constantinople allow us to delve into the different ways that individuals and groups strove to improve their position within the fabric of the late medieval city. Consequently, the papers in this session will consider issues such as the importance of sociability in the creation of belonging, the role of profession in the establishment of urban hierarchies and the agency of foreign communities in the shaping of urban life.

Speakers: Lisa Dallavalle, Özden Mercan, Carolina Obradors-Suazo

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

**BOOK LAUNCH 19 OCTOBER @17:00**

## **THE ISLAMIC MOVEMENT IN ISRAEL**

**TILDE ROSMER**



The Woolf Institute invites you to a talk on the occasion of the launch of *The Islamic Movement in Israel* by Tilde Rosmer.

Tilde Rosmer's research on collective identity formation and religious-political movements with a particular focus on Israel-Palestine is published in peer-reviewed journals such as the *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*; *Journal of Palestine Studies*; *Die Welt des Islams*; *Journal of Islamic Studies and Cultural Dynamics*. Rosmer's book on *The Islamic Movement in Israel* was published in March 2022 by University of Texas Press. Currently her research in the emerging field of Environmental Humanities focuses on awareness and knowledge of sustainability among Emirati youth.



This event will be chaired by Dr Julian Hargreaves.

[CLICK HERE IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND IN PERSON](#)

[CLICK HERE IF YOU WANT TO JOIN VIA ZOOM](#)

## LIVING IN HARMONY TEACHERS' SEMINAR

17 NOVEMBER 2022



The Living in Harmony team has created a dynamic outreach programme based on research from the project to teach students across England about faith communities and coexistence through music. Currently, we offer fun and engaging workshops that provide students with a unique experience of Middle Eastern music, religion and history. We are now also providing training for teachers who are interested in expanding their knowledge of interfaith relations and acquiring new tools and lesson plans for the classroom.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

## The Woolf:

*Within Living Memory* 

### CALLING ALL ALUMNI OF THE WOOLF INSTITUTE

Were you a student at the Woolf? What was it like? Did it change your life? We are collecting memories from our alumni about their experiences of studying in Cambridge at the Woolf Institute, particularly those who studied here in the early days of the Institute. Please tell us where you came from, what you studied, what your first impressions of Cambridge were and how your research at the Woolf affected you and the decisions you took afterwards. What are you

doing now? Have you kept in touch with people you met back then? Do you come back to Cambridge?

We would love to hear from you. If you would like to contribute a short piece of around 300 words, please send it to Liz Winter at [ejw39@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ejw39@cam.ac.uk), together with any relevant photos you have.

We look forward to hearing from you.

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## FEEDING BODY AND SOUL

*Naked Reflections Podcast x The Woolf Institute*

IN A WORLD OF THREATENED RESOURCES  
AND GROWING POPULATION, HOW SHOULD  
WE EAT SUSTAINABLY AND RESPONSIBLY?



It would be an exaggeration to say that there are as many beliefs about what and how we should eat as there are beliefs about religion but sometimes it feels that way. And like religious adherents, advocates of different dietary regimes often tussle to claim the moral high ground. David Clough and Lutfi Radwan consider the issues...

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)

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## COMING SOON

*Naked Reflections Podcast x The Woolf Institute*

# HATE

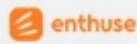
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