



Dear Woolf Friends,

My journey to the Woolf Institute began in theory in 2017, when I was taking a course on Jewish-Christian relations at the faculty of Religious Studies (Bursa Uludağ University, Turkey) and Ed Kessler's book *An Introduction to Jewish-Christian Relations* was on our reading list. While researching the author, I learned about the Institute and started following it. Later on, one of my friends, Pinar, joined the Institute as a visiting scholar, and after she was back, she always talked about the Institute with lovely memories. During the pandemic, I took the online course, *Religion is...* and I really enjoyed it.

I had funding for research abroad, and I had enough reasons to visit the Woolf Institute and it was always one of my plans for the future. Now, here in the library of the Woolf Institute, writing these words feels quite unreal.

From the very first moment I arrived here, I came across the friendly and smiling faces of the people in the Institute. Especially I will never forget Dr Emma Harris' warm welcome and genuine kindness towards me. And I was lucky that last Tuesday, I had the pleasure of attending the Garden Party hosted by the Institute. I enjoyed helping out and meeting new people during the event.

The Institute has a very welcoming atmosphere; you feel it from the very beginning. The quiet room alone reflects the interfaith and diverse nature of the community. And the library... It has a beautiful view of Westminster College and dozens of books on my research interests, and it fills me with excitement to be surrounded by such a wealth of knowledge.



Upcoming Events

4 July

25 years on:
Reflections on peace
in Northern Ireland
and beyond



10 - 21 July

Woolf Institute
Summer School



11 October

Leicester Patrons'
Tour



Although I am still new here, and feeling like a fish out of water has not totally faded away, I am adapting more every day and getting used to my new experience of being abroad alone. The Institute has been a supportive environment as I adapt to my new surroundings.

Each day brings opportunities for me to learn and grow. I am so grateful and always will be for all the opportunities the Institute provides. The Woolf Institute has become a place where I can understand and embrace diversity and expand my horizons. As I continue my journey here, I look forward to discovering and learning more and I am so excited for the rest of my days at the Institute.

Best wishes,

Büşra Elmas
Intern at Woolf Institute
PhD Student at Bursa Uludağ University



Freedom of Religion and Freedom of Speech The Right Honourable Baroness Hale

Watch on  YouTube | Woolf Institute | Cambridge

GARDEN PARTY & LADY HALE LECTURE

The signature Woolf cake returned for our annual garden party earlier this month. We were honoured to have Lady Hale deliver a lecture on freedom of religion & freedom of speech to mark the occasion. Thank you to friends and colleagues who joined us to celebrate the year so far.

[CLICK HERE TO REWATCH THE LECTURE](#)



25 years on from the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement – what lessons can we learn?

Tuesday 4 July 2023 @17:30



On 4th July, the Woolf Institute is privileged to be hosting a lecture by Professor, the Lord Alderdice, entitled *25 years on from the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement – what lessons can we learn?*

Twenty-five years ago, on 10th April 1998, the Good Friday Agreement was signed. The process that led to this historic document ended, for the most part, the decades of brutal, ethno-nationalist conflict, known as 'The Troubles'. By a remarkable coincidence in that same year, the Woolf Institute was founded.

Lord Alderdice, former leader of the Alliance Party, recently appeared in a Naked Reflections podcast, **Reflecting on the Good Friday agreement**, hosted by Dr Ed Kessler, our Founder Director. In this episode, he discussed with the historian Niamh Gallagher, what finally made the Agreement in Northern Ireland work and should we think of peace as a continuing process rather than a goal. You can listen to them reflecting on this complex situation [here](#).

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE LECTURE](#)



SUMMER SCHOOL

10 – 21 July 2023

Religion and Society:
From the Medieval to the Modern



There are still a few places left on our 2023 Summer School!

Join us in July to explore religion & society. You'll meet expert researchers, interact with faith practitioners and visit famous Cambridge sights.

[Click here to hear from last year's students about why you should join us](#)

[CONTACT FLORA MOFFIE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

Naked Reflections Podcast x The Woolf Institute

THE UK ASYLUM SYSTEM IS BROKEN. THE
WOOLF INSTITUTE COMMISSION ON THE
INTEGRATION OF REFUGEES AIMS TO HELP
FIX IT...



PODCAST: REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

The UK asylum system is broken. The Woolf Institute Commission on the Integration of Refugees aims to help fix it...

The system for those seeking asylum in the UK is not working, with damaging effects across society and for refugees. That's why the Woolf Institute has just launched its Commission on the Integration of Refugees with an aim to improve the refugee and asylum system for everyone, including refugees. Two of the Commissioners, Janice Lopatkin and Jehangir Malik share their thoughts.

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)

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Woolf Institute | Madingley Road, Cambridge, CB30UB United Kingdom

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