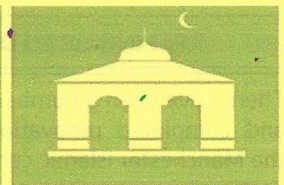


MANCHESTER ISLAMIC CENTRE AND DIDSBURY MOSQUE



April 2018 - 1439AH

Newsletter 001

MANCHESTER
ISLAMIC CENTRE

MESSAGE FROM THE IMAM

Bismillah-ir- Rahman-ir-Raheem

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful. Today is an exciting day for all of us at The Manchester Islamic Centre and Didsbury Mosque as we are pleased to announce the launch of our monthly newsletter.

It has long been a goal of ours to create our own newsletter. In fact, we have had a form to subscribe on our website for years. Yet, we have never once sent out an official Manchester Islamic Centre newsletter!

During this time however, we often wrestled with creating valuable content that readers of our newsletter would appreciate. As we regularly receive large amounts of communication and feedback from the community, we never just wanted to contribute to the noise.

Our goal with this newsletter is to create something that is candid, genuine and beneficial to our readers. We chose a monthly schedule to ensure that our correspondence is never overwhelming and that the content delivered is relevant.

We are excited to evaluate how our readers will engage with our content as we go along. Thus, we will welcome any feedback and will seek to continually improve with each issue.

RAMADAN 1439

As the holy month of Ramadan approaches, most of us anxiously await its arrival so that we can get on with the process of praying and gaining blessings, mercy and forgiveness from Allah.

The Sahaba (RadhiAllahu Anhum) would prepare for Ramadan six months in advance as well as asking Allah (SWT) six months after Ramadan to accept their fasting.

Their whole year was full of supplication and worship!

Therefore, an objective of Ramadan is to make us transit life in remembrance of our creator and waste not any of its precious moments.

There is no better guide to how we can prepare for the holy month than that prescribed by the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). It is reported in a Hadith that The Prophet (PBUH) gave a sermon in the Hadith reported by Salman Al-Farisi about Ramadan to a gathering that met towards the end of Sha'ban.

He said "...O People, a great and a blessed month is approaching you. In this month, there is a night that is better than one thousand months. Allah has made fasting obligatory and prayers at night commendable during this month. Whosoever will do a voluntary good deed during this month, it is as if he performed an obligatory good deed at another time and whosoever will perform an obligatory good deed, it is as if he performed seventy obligatory good deeds at another time. This is the month of patience and the reward of patience is Paradise. This is the month of kindness. In this month the believer's provision is increased. Whosoever will give food to a fasting person in this month, it will bring forgiveness for his sins, will save him from the hellfire and he shall have his reward while the fasting person will not lose any of his reward."

Thus in preparation for Ramadan,

- **We must have the right intentions:** You must really intend to make the most out of Ramadan. Only then will you be able to enjoy and gain the blessings it offers
- **Get Into The Habit Of Tasbeeh:** Tasbeeh is a verbal praise of Allah Almighty which a Muslim does by either reading phrases or words of praise of Allah (SWT).
- **Be keen on being in the company of the righteous** to make *dhikr* (remembrance of Allah) together
- The Prophet (PBUH), would fast, not continuously, but periodically, throughout the year. **Fasting is another act of worship**, and its reward is one promised by Allah (SWT)

- **Keep on offering supererogatory acts of worship.** Do what you are most inclined to and can do regularly, even if it is little. The Prophet (PBUH) said, *"O people! Do only those good deeds which you can do, for Allah does not get tired (of giving reward) till you get tired, and the best deeds to Allah are the incessant ones, even though they may be few."*
- **Quran recitation brings blessings and reward from Allah (SWT).** However, in order to read Quran, it is imperative that a Muslim has sufficient time. Therefore, in order to make the most out of Quran reading in Ramadan, a Muslim should start reading The Holy Quran before Ramadan so that he or she knows that how much they can read in a particular time and when do they have time for it. This way, when Ramadan comes, they already know when to read and how much to read. **For Muslims, who are naive to reading Quran in Arabic, it is the perfect time to start learning to read Quran as the reward of learning In Ramadan is 70 times higher than learning in any other month!**

May Allah (SWT) grant us the ability to plan and utilize this blessed month to achieve the highest reward (and forgiveness). Ameen.

CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEWSLETTER

Our monthly newsletter will contain a broad range of news about events and activities at the centre, articles on the Islamic faith, the community and more.

If you would like to contribute an article, news item or event notice for our newsletter please email us with the title "NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTOR" to admin@didsburymosque.com or telephone 0161 434 4544.

Otherwise if you would like to provide us with any feedback, you can also contact us via the aforementioned mediums.

KEEPING UP TO DATE

There have been a number of ongoing and completed renovation works at the Manchester Islamic centre over the past year.

1. EXTENSION PROJECT



The Manchester Islamic Centre (MIC) gives highest priority to providing the best facilities and services to Muslims who come for their daily prayers, and to non-Muslims who visit the Centre frequently to learn about Islam.

The MIC has become among the first destinations for all Muslims of all nationalities who wish to practice their faith in an appropriate atmosphere.

However, since the Muslim community is on the increase, the MIC has experienced shortages in space, storage and facilities. Therefore, a decision was made to add a washing facility, storage space and a secure playground for children.

Both projects have already commenced and are almost due completion.

2. AIR CONDITIONING PROJECT



During Ramadan 1438, thanks to the generous donations in support of the house of Allah, funds were secured for the installation of Air Conditioning Units for the Men's Prayer hall and the Sister's Prayer area in order to provide efficient cooling, heating and ventilation during the busy month of

Ramadan and at winter and summer extremes. Following the Tender process, GDI Air conditioning LTD was contracted to complete the project and are now in the process of installing;

- In the Men's Prayer Hall, 7 Heat Pump Inverter Wall Mounted Style Air Conditioning Units (offering heating and cooling capacities
- And, 1 Heat Pump Inverter Wall Mounted Style Air Conditioning Units (also offering heating and cooling capacities.

Both installations are for an estimate of £23,790.41+VAT and £2,967.68+VAT respectively.

3. WAQF FOR DIDSBUY MOSQUE



We now have a children's section in the library thanks to a generous donation of a range of books to the mosque. Because the books are voluntarily donated, the mosque intends to put them out there for the community's benefit.

We want children to love coming to the mosque. To know that there is a place there just for them where they are most welcome and can be themselves and grow to love Islam.

So we welcome you to visit the Library with your child (or by themselves!) and feel free to browse through these collections of books.

4. FRONT ENTRANCE CANOPIES PROJECT

Subject to council approval, the mosque is looking to install canopies at men and women's front door entrances.

The entrance canopy will make a useful and addition to the centre by not only improving the aesthetics of the building but effectively highlight the location of the entrance, which is particularly handy because of the building's multiple external doors.

ACTIVITIES AT MIC

Numerous daily educational, social and sports activities are held in the centre, catering for both children and adults. The centre offers as well special programs and events for new Muslims and non Muslim visitors.

Qur'an School: Teaching the proper reading of The Qur'an according to Tajweed rules by capable and qualified teachers, basic Arabic language studies as well as Islamic studies.

Al-Manhal for Qur'an studies: Courses include Tajweed for new Muslims, Tafsir, Arabic & English Classes and Noorani Qa'idah.

Mosque Open Day every Sunday from 4:00PM to 6:00PM offers the opportunity to meet new people and ask questions about Islam, guided mosque tours provided etc.

A New Muslim circle for men and women every Monday from 7:00PM to 9:00PM offers attendees the opportunity to learn about Islam and practice it whilst meeting other people who are on the same journey.

Faith and its Branches: A personal development course based on the Hadith "Faith has some sixty or seventy branches..." for ladies aged 13 and over.

Circle for New Muslim Sisters every Sunday from 1:00PM to 3:00PM

Fitness classes for women led by a professional trainer every Tuesday from 7:00PM to 9:00PM

Mother and Toddler play group every Wednesday from 10:00AM to 12:00PM running for 6 weeks from the 18th of April 2018. Activities include story reading groups and fun activities for the kids.

Lessons in Sirah is a Didsbury Youth-led class for sisters every Thursdays from 7:00PM to 9:00PM

ADVERTISE IN OUR NEWSLETTER

We are happy to help you advertise your business in our newsletter*. Request an advertising form from the reception, which should provide you with all the information you need to submit an ad.

Contents of ad's are verified before publishing.