



The Bolton Council of Mosques has been proudly serving the Muslim community in Bolton for nearly 20 years.

We represent 28 mosques and 30,000 Muslims. Our goal is to ensure that all Muslims have the opportunity to take an active part in building a better society.

A dedicated team of volunteers work within Bolton to ensure our community has everything it needs via an impressive range of services.

We make it our job to further the interests of the Muslim community and the wider Bolton family – and we've had an exciting summer.

Read on to find out what we've been up to.

Noor Ul Islam Triumphs in Inter-Madrassa Football Competition

One of our biggest annual get-togethers is an inter-madrassa football tournament. On the 16th of July teams from 15 mosques competed to raise money for the Bolton Hospice. The budding footballers were aged 8-13 and the winners took home trophies kindly donated by Atlantic Travel. Teams were split by age group and Noor Ul Islam mosque, based on Halliwell Road, took home the most trophies with its Year 3, 5 and 6 teams winning their heats. Bolton Darul Uloom mosque performed strongly in the upper age bracket, overcoming stiff opposition from

Deane-based teams Ashrafia Masjid and Masjid Towfiq, to win for Years 7 and 8/9. "Hundreds of children and their parents enjoyed a good day while raising money for Bolton Hospice," said BCoM's Imteyaz Ali, Secretary. "Everyone played in good spirits and we hope to organise more such activities for the boys."



Cooking with the BCoM Boys

We recently invited the young men in our communities to learn cookery from the professionals.

The first course (no pun intended) for males under 25 was a great success and participants learned how to rustle up a very tasty, not to mention healthy, chicken pilau rice dish.

Why not give it a try yourself, using the recipe below? Thanks to the great response we've had, a full schedule of cookery classes is being planned.

Contact us using the phone number or email at the bottom of this newsletter to reserve your place.



Chicken Pilau Rice

INGREDIENTS

- 1 CUP BASMATI RICE**
- 2 CHICKEN BREASTS, CUT INTO SMALL PIECES**
- 2 CM FRESH GINGER, PEELED & GRATED**
- 2 CLOVES OF GARLIC, CRUSHED**
- 1 SMALL ONION, FINELY CHOPPED**
- 1/2 TSP CUMIN SEEDS**
- 1/2 TSP CORIANDER SEEDS**
- 1 TSP SALT**
- 1 KAFFIR LIME LEAF**
- 1/4 TSP BLACK PEPPER**
- 1/4 TSP GROUND CINNAMON**
- 1 CARDAMOM POD**
- 2-3 BLACK CLOVES**
- 3-4 TBSP COOKING OIL**

METHOD

- 1.** Wash the rice and soak it for about an hour. Fry the onions until translucent and beginning to brown, before adding your chicken pieces.
- 2.** Cook until golden brown and then add the fresh ginger, garlic and remaining spices.
- 3.** Add the rice and boiling water [equal amounts] and cook over a high heat for 3 minutes before turning it down and letting the pot simmer until all the water has evaporated.
- 4.** Then place the pan in a pre-heated oven (gas mark 4/350°F/180°C) for 10-20 minutes.

Bringing Eid Joy to Children's Ward

We might have been celebrating the auspicious occasions of Eid ul Fitr and Eid al Adha lately, but the children who are patients at the Royal Bolton Hospital and the Royal Oldham hospital were never far from our thoughts. We included them in our Eid celebrations by bringing them gifts.

More than 100 children, most of whom were unable to leave hospital to join the festivities, received five presents, including cuddly toys, toy cars, footballs and bubble sticks. We are extremely grateful to the Al Khair Foundation in Bolton whose generosity made this possible. Aslam Atcha, from the Al-Khair Foundation, said: "We wanted to celebrate Eid but also have thoughts for those children who are recovering from illnesses or accidents. We hope it will bring a bit of extra joy into their lives."



Child Protection Training

We've trained our resident counsellors and psychotherapists to train madrassa staff on child protection. If you'd like to invite one of our child protection specialists into your mosque to give a presentation on this important part of our work, please get in touch. Topics under discussion will also

OUR STORIES

Walking for Unity

We held our very first community unity walk and were amazed that more than 70 people joined us from across Bolton. It was an opportunity to explore different faiths and celebrate Bolton's incredible diversity as well as to get some exercise and to know one-another.

The walk took us to Bolton Parish church, Zakariyya mosque, Krishna temple and the Buddhist centre. After trudging across the city and doing as much talking as walking, we finished with some much-needed light refreshments at the Quaker Friends Meeting House on Silverwell Street

Mosque Visits

We are pleased to report that we've been welcoming increasing numbers of visitors into Bolton mosques. There has been huge demand for open days, particularly from schools and local businesses.

Our members have been using the opportunity to talk to visitors about the five pillars of Islam, Islamic practices and the key features of mosques.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

include bullying, hate crime, Islamophobia. We are offering this training free to madrassas throughout Bolton. Contact using the phone number or email at the bottom of this newsletter to book.

Current timetable + services

We offer a full range of services to the wider Bolton community. We have supported hundreds of thousands of adults and young people in the past two decades.

You can access affordable English and further reading lessons, find convenient childcare and great opportunities for making local friends and socialising.

We also offer other services, including free counselling, circumcision for baby boys up to the age of 18 months, vaccinations for anyone planning to go on the Hajj or Umrah, as well as DBS checks. Call or email us for further information.

Contact Us

Get in touch with Bolton Council of Mosques to find out more about what we do and the services you can make the most of.

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 Bolton Council of Mosques

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www.thebcom.org

Timetable

BIDAS DROP-IN

FRIDAY 10.00–12.00

MEN'S OVER 40s DROP-IN LUNCH & LEISURE CLUB

WEDNESDAY 10.00–13.00

ESOL CLASSES

TUESDAY 9.30–12.30 &

WEDNESDAY 9.30 –12.30

TALK ENGLISH (WOMEN ONLY)

TUESDAY 10.00 –12.00

ANNA SUKON WOMEN'S DROP-IN

TUESDAY 10.00–14.00

BOLTON SHARED CARE READING GROUP

THURSDAY 17.00–19.00

KHIDMA WOMEN'S GROUP

THURSDAY 11.00–15.00

GIRLS' YOUTH CLUB (5–19 YEARS)

SATURDAY 11.00–13.00

BOYS' YOUTH ZONE (12–18 YEARS)

SATURDAY 16.00 – 18.00

WOMAN'S KEEP FIT

WEDNESDAY 17.30–18.30

COOKERY FOR BOYS

VARIES – RING FOR FURTHER DETAILS

FOSTERING GROUP

THURSDAY 12.30 – 14.00

