



## 12th Annual Garden City Mosque Open Day & International Food Festival

Held on Saturday, 21 June 2025, the Garden City Mosque hosted its 12th Annual Open Day and International Food Festival. With record-breaking attendance and vibrant participation from across the Toowoomba community, the event was a remarkable success. The Islamic Society of Toowoomba extends its sincere thanks to all coordinators, stall holders, volunteers, and guests for their contributions.



This flagship community event featured a rich variety of international cuisines, children's games, a hand-written Qur'an display, and engaging activities for women and families. A key highlight of the day was the line-up of distinguished guest speakers, including:

- Hon. Fiona Simpson MP, Minister for Women & Women's Economic Security, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Minister for Multiculturalism, Queensland
- Cr Geoff McDonald, Mayor of Toowoomba Regional Council
- Hon. Trevor Watts MP, State Member for Toowoomba North
- Dr. Rateb Jneid, President, Australian Federation of Islamic Councils
- Ms. Christine Castley, CEO, Multicultural Australia
- Mr Rouz Fard, Associate Director (Industry & Community Partnerships), University of Southern Queensland
- Imam Dr. Mohammad Aminul Islam, Garden City Mosque
- Emeritus Professor Shahjahan Khan, Founding President, Islamic Society of Toowoomba



A highlight of the Open Day was the architectural replica of the Garden City Mosque created by young community member Isaac Palliparambil.

The event was officially opened by Assoc. Prof. Mainul Islam, President of the Islamic Society of Toowoomba, who welcomed guests and acknowledged the vital role of community in fostering peace and understanding. Supported by the Queensland Government, this open day continues to build bridges across cultures and faiths, celebrating Toowoomba's diversity and reinforcing the Garden City Mosque's commitment to inclusivity and mutual respect

## Salat in Jama'ah Youth Competition

Between 17 and 26 May 2025, the Islamic Society of Toowoomba held a special "Salat in Jama'ah Youth Competition" aimed at encouraging youth aged 10 to 22 to perform Fajr and Isha prayers in congregation. Participants who successfully completed 10 days of Jama'ah attendance were awarded a \$150 gift card.

**Winners:** Sayed Owais, Sayed Zaki, Xander Love, Xavier Love, Noraiz Mudassir, Heiraff Asif, Meerain Asif, Ahmad Ahsan Ahmad Atiq, Ahmad Ihsan Ahmad Atiq

We congratulate all participants for their dedication to congregational prayer and commitment to spiritual growth.

## Ramadan Competitions

During the blessed month of Ramadan, the Islamic Society of Toowoomba hosted two spiritual competitions to enhance community learning and engagement:

- ♣ **Ramadan Quiz Competition** (22 March 2025): Participants of all ages were tested on Duas recited during Salah.
  - 🏆 Winner: **Brother Jack Abdullah and Khalid Saifullah Patrick**
- ♣ **8th IPDC Ramadan Qur'an Competition:** Organised by IPDC and held during Ramadan 2025, this event invited young participants to demonstrate their Qur'an recitation skills.
  - 🏆 Congratulations to Toowoomba's winners: **Hiba, Ahsan and Doha**

These initiatives reflect our community's commitment to nurturing Islamic knowledge and devotion in young hearts.

## Visit by Hon Tony Burke MP

On 4 March 2025, the Garden City Mosque was honoured to welcome the Hon Tony Burke MP, Minister for Home Affairs, Leader of the House, and Federal Member for Watson. Minister Burke was warmly received by the Islamic Society of Toowoomba's President Assoc. Prof. Mainul Islam and Imam Dr Mohammad Aminul Islam Azhari, along with community members.



During the visit, Minister Burke became the first official guest to sign the mosque's newly commissioned guestbook, which chronicles the history of Muslims in Toowoomba. He also unveiled a commemorative plaque and was presented with a special rededication coin minted in 2023 to mark the rebuilding of the mosque following the arson attacks in 2015. The visit was a symbol of continued government engagement and mutual respect.

## Fundraising Iftar Dinner

On 15 March 2025, the Islamic Society of Toowoomba held a remarkable fundraising iftar dinner that brought together the local Muslim community in a beautiful spirit of unity and generosity. The event exceeded expectations, raising \$136,361.55, surpassing the original goal of \$120,000.

The Society extends heartfelt gratitude to all who attended, contributed, and supported the evening, as well as the dedicated volunteers who made it a success. May Allah SWT reward your efforts abundantly.



## Support for Gaza

In response to the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza, the Islamic Society of Toowoomba launched a special fundraising campaign to support children affected by war and hardship. With your generous donations, a total of \$5,720 was collected and transferred through Islamic Relief Australia. We continue to make dua for the people of Gaza and stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in need around the world.

## Ramadan Bazaar

On 30 March 2025, the Garden City Islamic Centre organised its first Ramadan Bazaar to raise funds for the Centre's Madrassah programs. The event featured henna art, food stalls, and merchandise sales.

Thanks to your enthusiastic support and generosity, the Bazaar raised \$762, which will directly support Islamic education for our young learners. We look forward to building on this initiative in future Ramadan seasons.

## Community Highlights

### ■ Ongoing Mosque Cleaning Initiative

Our heartfelt thanks to the dedicated community members—including our Imam—who have been volunteering their time for regular cleaning and upkeep of the mosque. Their efforts help maintain the mosque as a clean and welcoming place of worship. Those interested in joining the cleaning roster are encouraged to contact Dr Khalid Saifullah Rana.

### ■ Short Tafsir Sessions After Fajr

Throughout Ramadan, Imam Dr Mohammad Aminul Islam had been delivering brief tafsir sessions following Fajr prayer. These insightful reflections helped worshippers deepen their understanding of the Qur'anic verses recited during nightly Taraweeh prayers.

### ■ Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The Islamic Society of Toowoomba held its Annual General Meeting on 9 February 2025. The meeting provided an opportunity to review past achievements, discuss future plans, and strengthen community collaboration.

### ■ Community Dinner in Honour of Founding President

On 1 February 2025, a special community dinner was held at the Garden City Mosque to honour Emeritus Professor Shahjahan Khan, the Founding President of the Islamic Society of Toowoomba. The gathering was a heartwarming tribute to his vision and longstanding contributions to the community.



### ▪ Farewell to Brother Hasanur Rahman

On 2 April 2025, the Garden City Mosque community bid a fond farewell to Brother Hasanur Rahman, one of its most dedicated and long-serving volunteers. Brother Hasanur has relocated to Gladstone, Queensland, for professional reasons after many years of heartfelt service and support to the mosque and its programs. He leaves behind a legacy of commitment and kindness that will be remembered by all. We wish him continued success and barakah in his new journey.

May Allah SWT bless him with a prosperous and fulfilling life both in this world and the hereafter. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone for their continued support and prayers. 🍀

MOSQUE  
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FOR CONCERNS, INCIDENT REPORTS,  
OR MAINTENANCE NOTIFICATIONS

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WE'RE HERE TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY!



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## Regular Programs

### ✓ Madrasa

- Islam and Basic Arabic classes for kids and youth
- When: Monday to Thursday, after Maghrib prayers until Esha prayers (60-minute session).
- Contact: Imam Dr. Mohammad Aminul Islam or Br. Syed Saad Hamid

### ✓ Monthly Sisters-Only Islamic Discussion: Qalbun Saleem (Pure Heart)

- Led by Sr. Rafiza, focusing on spiritual growth and community.
- For updates, check the Mosque WhatsApp Group or contact Sr. Rafiza.

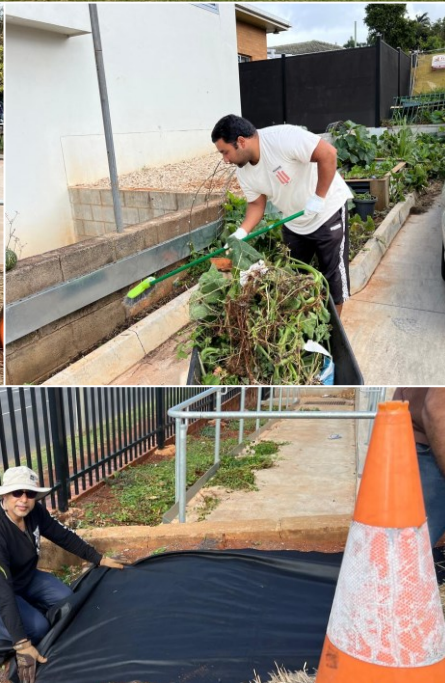
### ✓ Weekly Quran Learning Session for Brothers

- When: Every Sunday after Maghrib.
- Coordinator: Br. Montasir Rahman.
- A chance to deepen your understanding of the Quran in a supportive environment. §

### Acknowledgement of Country:

ISOT and Toowoomba Mosque acknowledge the Traditional Owners and recognises their valuable contributions to Australian and global society.

## Photo Gallery



## Youth activities





## Spotlight on Muslim Businesses in Toowoomba

Khan & Khan Family Trust is offering Halal meat home delivery to regional Muslim communities, including Toowoomba. For more information, contact Faraaz Feroz Khan at [khanfamilytrust4@gmail.com](mailto:khanfamilytrust4@gmail.com). 🍀

## Call for Information on Muslim Businesses in Toowoomba

We are excited to announce our plan to publish a comprehensive directory of Muslim businesses in Toowoomba. This initiative aims to empower and benefit our community by fostering connections and promoting local enterprises.

To achieve this, we are conducting a brief survey to gather the necessary information. We kindly request your participation in this survey to help the community connect with your business.

**[Click here to Participate in the Survey.](#)**

Your cooperation and support are greatly appreciated. Together, we can build a stronger and more connected community. 🍀



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