

In the name of Allah, the most beneficent, the most Merciful

**Al-Barakah Welfare Trust Australia
Annual General Meeting 2020
Secretary's Report**

Dear brothers and sisters in Islam,
Assalamualaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh.
Praise be to Allah, we seek His help, forgiveness. We seek refuge with Allah from the evil of our own souls and from our bad deeds.

It is my great pleasure and honor to speak in front of you today at the Annual General Meeting of the Al-Barakah Welfare Trust Australia. On behalf of the Board of Trustees I would like to thank all of you for participating in the meeting. Your participation makes this meeting meaningful.

Now I would like to briefly outline various activities of last year:

Membership: Membership of Al-Barakah Welfare Trust was offered in 2011 and as it stands today our total number of active members are 172. In complying with The Deed of Trust as amended through the Deed of Variation on 22 March 2019 all active members will be required to pay your future Annual Subscriptions between 1 July to 30 September every year to continue your membership. No new membership will be accepted after 30 September every year until completion of Annual General Meeting. Any new membership after the Annual General Meeting will take effect from 1 July of following year. I would like to thank everyone who paid their annual subscription for 2020.

Website, Facebook, YouTube and Muslim Hub app: Our website site provides enough information for members and public in relation to prayer and Jamaat times, Quran classes, Eid prayers and other important activities which are of significance to the Muslim community particularly living in our neighboring areas. A Facebook page of Quakers Hill Masjid is maintained regularly. All major events are updated regularly and valuable information are shared on our Facebook page. Video of most of our programs are shared on Facebooks page and YouTube channel. Quakers Hill Masjid is included on Muslim Hub app. It provides Iqamah times and other important information of our Masjid. In the last few months during this COVID-19 Pandemic the limited number of brothers were facilitated with online registration process via our website. As the NSW Health restriction eased down we organized 3 separate Jumuah congregations via online registration process which has been a great facilitation to our muslim community.

Digital Development: As a part of our recent construction and renovation project we implemented a few digital facilities to provide our brothers and sisters with more informative conveniences. An electronic digital notification/signage board, two new motorized projector screens, projectors with google chrome cast, 1 large and 4 mid size LED TVs and 11 security cameras are all part of this development. All these devices are used in Jumuah and Eid kutbah, in Friday and weekend lectures and in every day notification purpose.

Quakers Hill Arabic School: Alhamdulillah the Quran and Arabic classes for children have been expanded and a new 'Quakers Hill Arabic School' has been established in 2016 to fulfill the ever-increasing demand. New curriculum and methodology was introduced and venue for the classes was relocated to NIRIMBA TAFE campus. A website, and a Facebook page has been developed in recent year which facilitated parents with better communication and significant information regarding the school. In the last 5 years we were able to provide authentic and effective Islamic education to around 450 students with an average of 100 students in each term. At the moment we have 10 dedicated teachers and 2 administrative persons for the school. During the last AGM in June we mentioned that we were asked by the TAFE authorities to execute a rental agreement for the part of premise that we use for our Sunday school. The

contract has been initialized and a deposit has been paid. The total rental expense for the coming year will \$9,280.50. So please spread the good words of our school and donate generously so that we can continue to do this good deeds to benefit our community and above all to please ALLAH[swt.].

Islamic lecture: Islamic lectures on Friday evenings are also a regular program of our Masjid. Most of our regular devotees and many others eagerly wait for Friday evenings to listen to the lectures by our Imam Sheikh Youssef Hasan and other visiting sheikh/Imam. Since this year Feb-2020 we have updated the format of this Friday program to include the active participation by various renowned Imam/Sheikhs of Sydney. Currently we are conducting "Arabic of the Quran" series on Wednesday for our youngstres and on Sunday for adults brothers and sisters to understand the words of ALLAH in a more adaptable way. Sister Dr. Maha runs a free Quran class for adult sisters of our neighboring area. For more information on these programs please do not hesitatate to contact any of the board of directors.A deatiled excel file is kept and circulated among the board of directors to refect the expense of this event.

Muslim lawn at Kempes Creek Cemetery & Crematorium: In association with Riverstone cemetery board our mosque was able to acquire a good number of graveyard plots at Kempes Creek Cemetery for our muslim brothers and sisters in our community. This project received a overwhelming response and we ended up getting another 2 rows of plots to facilitate our local muslim community. For more details on this project please contact me or any of the board of directors.

Open day: Alhamdulillah we have been participating in National Mosque Open day continuously since 2016. Due to COVID-19 Pandemic we did not arrange any open day this year. We hope to organize in a better fashion in coming year in sah Allah.

Meetings with Voluteers: Since Last AGM in June 2020 we had no formal volunteer meetings as such. But we had an informal meeting with members who wanted to propose an SGM with some of their concerns in regards to current trust deed. Alhamdulillah it was fruitful and the outcome was statisfactory.

Ramadan & Eid: This year in 2020 during this pandemic situation we couldn't arrange regular tarawee and Iftar due to severe restriction by NSW Govt. Alhamdulillah we still continued our regular Quran recitation via Facebook page by Sheih Aslam and beneficial reminders by Sheikh Youssef during the month of Ramadan. Towards the end of Ramadan we were allowed to have a gathering 10 people and with the help of our online registration process we could facilitate last 9 nights of tarawee with khatmul quran dua. We also arranged 6 Eid jamats of 10 people in the same way. The prayers for Eid ul Adha were also organized in such way.

Clothing bins: Clothing Bins for donations have been installed at Masjid premises. It appears that there is lots of demand for this service. We increased the number of bins to three and added notification on them to reduce any kind of overflow or discomfort.

Human appeal and Community Service: We contributed an amount of \$5000 to NSW Fire service in early 2020 during the destruvtive Bush fire that hit a big part NSW. We also organized COVID-19 support food pack and distributed among people in need.

Finally, I would like to thank you all once again for your continued support. We appreciate your time and request you to remain in touch by giving us your feedback always. We are contactable 24/7 via our website, email and phone. Needless to mention that best way to be in touch is to visit the house of Allah regularly.

Thanks again for your time.

Mohammad Azom
Secretary | Al-Barakah Welfare Trust Australia