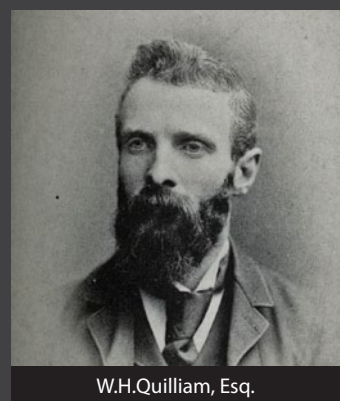


# Restore England's First Mosque

Help to refurbish the mosque founded by Abdullah Quilliam 1887



Inside of England's first Mosque 1889



W.H.Quilliam, Esq.

## About Abdullah Quilliam

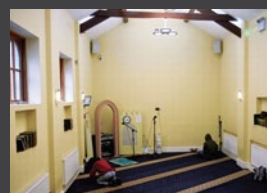
William Henry Quilliam, a local Liverpool solicitor and resident embraced Islam in 1887... [Page 2](#)

## About the Abdullah Quilliam Society

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## Donating to restore England's First Mosque

"Whosoever builds for Allah a masjid,  
Allah will reward him similar to it in paradise." ... [Page 4](#)



Abdullah Quilliam Society  
8-10 Brougham Terrace  
Liverpool, L6 1AE  
Charity No: 1086228



Abdullah Quilliam Society

[www.abdullahquilliam.org](http://www.abdullahquilliam.org)

[info@abdullahquilliam.org](mailto:info@abdullahquilliam.org)

AbdullahQuilliamSociety

(Br.Mumin) 07949921692  
0151 260 3986



# Foreward by the Chair



"Abdullah Quilliam Society was formed with the aim to re-open England's First Mosque and create an Islamic Heritage Centre in the birthplace of Islam in Victorian Britain. It took us 15 years to finally reopen the original mosque in June 2014. The long struggle and was made possible due to the continued support received from the British Muslim Community.

The interest generated by the local congregation and new visitors coming to the Mosque motivated us to embark on the next stage of development. Work on Islamic education, developing links with Victorian Islamic heritage, inter-faith works, health and wellbeing activities required development of the rest of the Brougham Terraces.

We also felt the need to make this Centre financially more sustainable by creating income streams with the provision of residential accommodations second and attic floors. Our proposed plans are presented in this leaflet.



Galib Khan  
Chair of Abdullah Quilliam Society

A major portion of the works are being financed by Quard-e-Hasna (about £175,000) from local Muslims and Halal organisations in UK.

The Abdullah Quilliam Mosque is open to non-Muslims. We have also had a few new converts who took the Shahada in this mosque.

During the Open Mosque Day recently, we had over 100 non-Muslim families visit us.

Welcome to England's First Mosque which was established in 1889 and re-opened after 106 years of closure. Your support and donations would be a Sadqa-e-Zaria. May Allah reward us all in the hereafter."

## Our Supporters



The Rt Revd James Jones  
Former Bishop of Liverpool  
[bishopslodge@liverpool.anglican.org](mailto:bishopslodge@liverpool.anglican.org)

"I am pleased to give my warm and wholehearted support to the development of the Abdullah Quilliam Heritage Centre. This is a very exciting and innovative project and I believe it can play a valuable part in promoting harmony and understanding between those of different faiths.

I believe that only as those of different faiths begin to speak and to work together can there be hope for peace in the world."



Liverpool City Council



Bishop of Liverpool



Duchy of Lancaster



Euro Quality Charitable Trust



Comtechsa



Muslim Council of Britain



Muslim Association of Britain

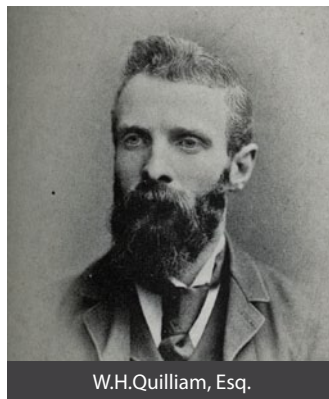


Islamic Foundation



MEDS

# About Abdullah Quilliam



W.H.Quilliam, Esq.

William Henry Quilliam, a local Liverpool solicitor and resident embraced Islam in 1887 (aged 31), after returning from a visit to Morocco, and took on the name Abdullah. He claimed that he was the first native Englishman to embrace Islam. His conversion led to a remarkable story of the growth of Islam in Victorian Britain. This history is now beginning to emerge and has important lessons for Muslims in Britain and around the world.

After embracing Islam, Quilliam began a campaign of Dawah, which in the circumstances of Victorian England, has to be described as the most effective in the UK

to date. He became an Alim, an Imam and the most passionate advocate of Islam in the Western world. In 1894 Sultan Abdul Hamid II, the last Ottoman Caliph, appointed him Sheikh-ul-Islam of the British Isles.

The Emir of Afghanistan recognised him as the Sheikh of Muslims in Britain. He was also appointed as the Persian Vice Counsel to Liverpool by the Shah. He became a prominent spokesman for Islam in the media and was recognised by Muslims around the world. He is the only Muslim in Britain to have officially held the position of Sheikh Ul Islam of Britain. He issued many Fatwas in his capacity as appointed Leader of Muslims in Britain. These fatwas are relevant even today.



Inside of England's first Mosque 1889

He established the Mosque and Liverpool Muslim Institute at No. 8 Brougham Terrace and later purchased the remainder of the terrace, and opened a boarding school for boys and a day school for girls. He also opened an orphanage (Medina House) for non-Muslim children whose parents could not look after them, and agreed to for them to be raised in the values of Islam.

In 1893 the Institute published a weekly magazine, named 'The Crescent', and later added the monthly 'Islamic World', which was printed on the Institute's own press and distributed to over 20 countries. The Crescent was published every week from 1893-1908 (nearly 800 editions), and was effectively a dairy and record of Islam in Britain and around the world. There are hundreds of archive copies of these magazines in the British Library. Without this unique weekly record we would not know of the existence of this native Muslim community of around 200 people in Liverpool, and many other parts of Britain. These offer the first attempt at Muslim journalism in the UK and offer a unique insight into a British Muslims view of events and issues in Liverpool, the UK and the Muslim world, at a crucial period of Muslims living under colonial rule.

He also wrote and published a number of books. In particular his "Faith of Islam" had three editions translated into thirteen different languages, and was so popular that Queen Victoria ordered a copy and then re-ordered copies for her children. The Institute grew, and at the turn of the century held a membership of 200 predominantly English Muslim men, women and children from across the local community. Quilliam's dawah led to around 600 people in the UK embracing Islam, many of them very educated and prominent individuals in British Society, as well as ordinary men and women. His efforts also led to the first Japanese man embracing Islam.

Quilliam eventually had to leave England after facing hostility and persecution, the first Muslim experience of "Islamophobia" in the UK. He eventually returned to the UK and adopted the name Haroun Mustapha Leon, and passed away in 1932 near Woking, and was buried in Brookfield Cemetery where Abdullah Yusuf Ali, Marmaduke Pickthall and Lord Headly are also buried.

# History of the Abdullah Quilliam Society (AQS)

The Abdullah Quilliam Society (AQS) is a UK registered charity founded in 1998 by a small group of Liverpool Muslims, including Dr. Muhammad Akbar Ali, Galib Khan, Zia Choudhri, Mrs. Abassi, Somaya and Rashid Macteer. They became aware of a unique heritage of Islam in Victorian Britain, in the city of Liverpool. This history was located in the Liverpool City Council registry office for births, deaths and marriages. This building was once the site of the historic first UK Mosque, Muslim community Institutions and Dawah activities of Sheikh Abdullah Quilliam from 1889-1908. Staff at the registry office would often refer to the room where all the files of births, deaths and marriages were stored as "the little Mosque" without realising the significance or history behind it. So by an amazing coincidence of history, almost every Liverpool resident for a decade has visited this historic building and many have had their marriage ceremony performed in it.



The late Dr. Muhammad Akbar Ali MBE - AQS Founder

AQS first objective was to obtain possession of the building and restore it back to the original historic mosque. In the year 2000 Liverpool City Council vacated the property and handed it to the AQS and Muslim community to look after and develop. It was handed over in poor condition and in need of renovation. Once the AQS has funds to renovate the building, Liverpool Council will transfer ownership to the Society.

Over the years AQS has given numerous talks on this important history and hosted many visitors and media. The Society has now completely renovated the roof, which was decaying and leaking. The Mosque and remainder of the building still need renovation. The Society has kept this unique history alive through many talks, visits and media interviews. It has also encouraged people to further research this heritage. Last year, a new book was published, "Islam in Victorian Britain: The Life and Times of Abdullah Quilliam" by Professor Ron Geaves. This book gives a unique insight into the building, the life of Sheikh Quilliam and the first established Muslim Community in Britain.

The Society has exciting plans to renovate the building and re-create the first Institutions of Islam in Britain. It also has exciting plans to further research, exhibit and bring to life the stories of the 600 first native Britons to embrace Islam. Our plans to recreate this building and history are important to Muslims in Europe, America, Japan, and the Muslim world.

## What the AQS is doing presently

The Abdullah Quilliam Mosque was re-opened in June 2014 with the help of Muslim brothers and sisters in UK. Regular congregational daily and Jumah prayers are held in the mosque and the Brougham Terraces is now fully functional as originally started by Abdullah Quilliam in 1889. The madrassah and dawah services are continuing on a limited scale due to shortage of teaching spaces available in the buildings. Muslim and non-Muslim visitors work on a regular basis to visit this historic site. They are currently being shown work in progress. The limited space refurbished is inadequate to serve the number of worshippers, students and visitors. Therefore expanding the usable area in this building is our priority now.



Visit by The Lord Lieutenants of the North West Region

Phase 3 refurbishment and development works are in progress. The basement is being developed to provide separate ablution facilities for ladies and gents. Also included in the basement is a fitness centre, kitchen facilities for a cafe on the ground floor and connected by a dumb waiter. One room in the basement will also be reinstated as a Victorian cast iron kitchen as originally built.

On the ground floor there will be a visitors centre reception, a cafe and a dedicated womens suite and the mosque. The first floor will include, class rooms, a library, and a media/AV room. To make the centre financially sustainable, the second and attic floors are planned as residential accommodation for students and visitors.

Proposed plans of the development are available in our website link:  
[www.abdullahquilliam.org/new-proposed-plans](http://www.abdullahquilliam.org/new-proposed-plans)



Feed the homeless - Christmas Day 2015



Visit My Mosque Day - 7th February 2016

## The future plans of the AQS

The principal purpose of this project is to re-create and develop the First Mosque and the Liverpool Muslim Institute fit for the 21st Century needs in Europe.

The Phase III proposals of this project proposes development and usage as follows:

**Ground Floor:** Mosque and Heritage Centre including Café and Display Area.

**First Floor:** Educational, Training and Inter Faith Zone.

**Second Floor:** Residential Accommodations

**Attic Floor:** Residential Accommodations

**Basement Floor:** Health, Fitness and Service Area.

**Rear Garden Area:** Garden and Children's Area.

The residential accommodation included in this project make the centre financially sustainable and vibrant as well as bringing back accommodation facilities that existed for young people during the time of Abdullah Quilliam.



Proposed view of back yard of mosque



## The Abdullah Mosque & Heritage Centre

UK Charity Reg No: 1086228

[www.abdullahquilliam.org](http://www.abdullahquilliam.org)

“

...Protect our  
Heritage  
Don't Lose It  
Preserve It...

”

### Donate and save our Heritage

The AQS wants to restore the historic Mosque and its original features. We wish to recreate a library, museum, lecture hall, residences, school and dawah centre. We will create a visitor centre where Muslims and non-Muslims can come to see this historic site and learn about Islam and Muslim history in the UK and Europe.

*"Whosoever builds for Allah a masjid, Allah will reward him similar to it in paradise."* {Bukhari}



#### DIRECT

Account Name: Abdullah Quilliam Society

**Bank:** HSBC Bank Plc, 99-101 Lord Street, Liverpool L2 6PG.

**Account No:** 01158945

**Sort Code:** 40-29-28

**IBAN:** GB59MIDL40292801158945

**Branch Identifier:** MIDLGB2139A

HSBC 



#### CREDIT/DEBIT CARD

Donate 100% securely on-line using the  
PayPal online secure platform:

[www.abdullahquilliam.org/donate](http://www.abdullahquilliam.org/donate)



£5  
monthly

£10  
monthly

£20  
monthly

£50  
monthly



#### CHEQUE

**Account Name:** Abdullah Quilliam Society

**Address:** Abdullah Quilliam Society

8-10 Brougham Terrace, Liverpool, L6 1AE



#### STANDING ORDER

A Standing Order enables you to make regular donations to The Abdullah Quilliam Society. A standing order form can be obtained from our website:

[www.abdullahquilliam.org/donate](http://www.abdullahquilliam.org/donate)

Abdullah Quilliam Society

8-10 Brougham Terrace, Liverpool, L6 1AE

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