



Crescents Community News (CCN)

Fostering a healthy Brisbane lifestyle through sport, entertainment, education and culture

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THE EID POSTMORTEM EDITION

Assalaamu-alaikum

Editorial

The death of print has been predicted since the Internet started to flourish around 1994. Increasingly we see our "digital generation" getting constantly online and hardly ever picking up a newspaper. That you are reading this newsletter in this form is a testimony to this very fact. Twenty, thirty, at the outside forty years from now, we will look back on the print media the way we look back on travel by horse and carriage, or by wind-powered ship. If we had to draw an analogy with the development of the automobile then we are really only at the Model T Ford stage in this evolutionary process. With increasing broadband access and cheaper and more ergonomically designed hardware the possibilities are limitless.

But the frightening prospect of all of this is that just about anyone with a smidgen of technical ability and a modicum of literary talent can exploit this selfsame technology to produce a newsletter of questionable merit for an innocent and unsuspecting virtual community, and on just a shoestring budget to boot.

Many might well argue that CCN and its editorial staff are the case that proves this assertion in every respect! We live in the eternal hope that history will judge us less harshly!

Condolences

On behalf of the Brisbane community, CCN wishes to offer its sympathies to Moonira Bassa (wife of Yacoob Bassa) on the loss of her father, on Eid Day. May Allah (SWT) grant him *janat-ul-firdous* and give her and her family *Sabr, inshaAllah*.

Brisbane Eid-Ghah



(Click [here](#) for more photos)

The Islamic School of Brisbane was the venue for the largest Eid Salaah in Queensland. Over 3000 men, women and children from all parts of our city were in attendance. Imaam Abdul Quddoos Al-Azhari delivered a well received and thought-provoking speech touching on two broad issues, both of which confront us on a daily basis. The first part of his speech dealt with the many challenges facing our youth today and the responsibility of parents, community leaders, the

Footnote: Our *Man-on-the-Mussalaah* (one of those intrepid roving reporters we alluded to in a previous issue who does the rounds of masjids and religious functions for CCN) had these observations to make about the day:

1. Dear respected ICQ, try as hard as we could, it was impossible to make the Saafs straight, and no amount of exhortation and threats of eternal damnation seemed to help us get it right. The problem was simply that there were not enough mats laid out. Many did have the foresight to bring along their own, but they came in such a variety of shapes and sizes (I am sure the one next to mine came straight out of a linen cupboard) that a better part of the two minutes allotted for this exercise was spent in shuffling, adjustment, and re-alignment. The end result of this seemingly endless iterative process would have made San Francisco's "crookedest street in the world" look straighter than the stretch of road on the bypass between Gatton and Toowoomba. Surely more mats, and ones already pre-marked out with lines, would be the answer to our salvation!
2. It was quiet evident from the gestures of agitation that the organisers were desperate to

Imams and the society at large to nurture their potential and channel their energies in the right direction. The second part of his speech argued that those who purport to fight wars against terrorism should reflect on the consequences of their actions when they seek to impose *their* idea of “justice” on the rest of the world and its peoples.

keep to the scheduled programme and that is most commendable, but a little more latitude given to Imaam Quddoos would have been less of a distraction to the rest of the congregation who wanted to hear his speech to the end.

3. Why can't all our Ramadaans and Eids be celebrated as smoothly and without controversy as this one was? For once there was a general agreement on the days, thereby avoiding the divisiveness, tension and confusion that over the years seemed to become almost an integral, obligatory part of our lives. It was heartening to see people of different cultures and ideologies come together as one. It was truly a joyous day!

The Voice of Unity

CCN wishes to congratulate the producers of **Queensland Muslim Times** (QMT) on the launch of their paper last week. Promoting unity and harmony amongst all sections of the Muslim community is indeed a noble cause and a challenging task and we wish them every success in their endeavours.

QMT also offers a downloadable PDF version of their newspaper from their web site

www.queenslandmuslimtimes.org.

South Africa's New Indian Son



Did you know that there are more people of Indian descent living in KwaZulu-Natal than in any other population outside the Indian sub-continent? No fewer than five of the province's squad are Indian-South Africans.

And one member, 20-year-old **Hashim Amla**, is already being seen as a future national captain. Brought up in Tongaat, a town 40km north of Durban with a 90% Indian population, Hashim played in all-Indian cricket teams until the age of 13. Once at Durban High School he went through the various schoolboy ranks until, early last year, he captained South Africa at the Under-19 World Cup in New Zealand. "I consider myself to be South African but I am also proud of my Indian roots," Hashim says. "My parents were also born here but my grandparents were born in Surat, western India, and I speak a bit of Gujarati.

"I am a devout Muslim - strictly no alcohol or pork - which helps me with my cricket. "It brings stability to an unstable game."

Hashim's elder brother Ahmed is also in the KwaZulu-Natal squad, along with Goolam Bodi, Imraan Khan, Rivash Gobind and Ashraf Mall, none of whom is over 24. Having also represented South Africa A a number of times, he has scored centuries at provincial level and for the Rest of South Africa side against the A team - all before his 19th birthday. (Source: [BBC sport](http://BBCsport))

He is in phenomenal form this season with an unfinished aggregate of 641 runs in 6 games with centuries against New Zealand A and the provincial teams. One gets a feeling that the fans of South African cricket will expect Hashim to carry this prolific scoring and consistency on his cricket kit-bag to India for the upcoming tour.

Besides being a religious cricketer, Hashim also comes across as a devout Muslim. His long beard may well remind us of Saeed Anwar, but for him its been the secret of his success.

His firm beliefs have caused a major sponsor to review its insistence on players sporting beer brand logos. If reports are to be believed, Hashim would not be sporting the alcohol logo (Castle Lager) on his cricketing gear, and this is for sure a testament to the fact that religion comes first for him. (Source: cricketfundas.com)

Amla's everyday speech is peppered with "Insha-Allah's" and "Alhamdo-lillah's". "Alhamdo-lillah, praying daily and support from my parents have led to this," he said. During Ramadan, Amla and his elder brother Ahmed have been playing while fasting.

The Quotable (?) Quotes Corner

The answer to the author of the quote in our last issue of CCN (Newsletter 0003) was **John Laws** of 4BC in his co-authored book "There's Always More to the Story".

At the Movies



Veer-Zaara, “one of the most anticipated movies of 2004” is currently showing at the Regent 167 Queen St. on the Mall.

Director **Yash Chopra** uses an Indo-Pakistani theme to try to further cement relations between the two countries. Saamiya Siddiqui (**Rani Mukherjee**) is a Pakistani lawyer whose mission in life is to pave the path for women's empowerment. Squadron Leader Veer Pratap Singh (**Shahrukh Khan**) is a rescue pilot with the Indian Air Force. Being a rescue pilot is not a job but a way of life for him.

Zaara Hayaat Khan (**Preity Zinta**) is the carefree, sprightly, daughter of a Pakistani politician. She is adventurous, impulsive, always lives for the moment and does not think of the past or the future. She believes that she will get married to the person her parents select and live her life in the manner her mother has.

“Veer-Zaara is not an ordinary story - it's a Love Legend. Veer and Zaara's love legend. This is a saga of love, separation, courage and sacrifice. A love that is divine, a love that is whole-hearted, a love that is completely consuming, a love that grows with separation, deepens with sacrifice.

A love that is an inspiration... and will remain a legend forever..... “

Remember, you first read this preview right here at CCN where, when it comes to Bollywood movies, we make a solemn pledge never to allow the prospect of an erudite, objective or balanced review get in the way of our ability to string together an endless stream of soppy, sugar coated mixed metaphors and superlatives for your reading pleasure. ☺

Postscript: One of the best promotional movie sites around has to be the one for this movie. Visit <http://www1.yashrajfilms.com/> and feast your eyes on how some of that home-grown Indian IT talent is being put to use.

Down Memory Lane

Feeling a bit nostalgic about **CresWalk2004**? Then fret not. The Crescents of Brisbane web site www.nazimahansa.com/crescents has been redesigned to give you easy access to the details of the event as well as the 200-odd photographs taken on the day.

You will also find PDF archive copies of all past CCN newsletters here for downloading.

The wheels are in motion to establish a permanent home for Crescents of Brisbane which, from the outset of its resurgence, has been squatting with impunity at www.nazimahansa.com. Anyone wishing to lubricate a wheel or two is most welcome to contact CCN.

Letters to the Editor

Commendations for the excellent Investigative and Entrepreneurial work undertaken by your intrepid team of journalists in compiling the informative CCN newsletter. In order to increase the interactive nature of the newsletter, perhaps consideration should be given to polling Crescent e-mail recipients on a variety of issues (as is commonly practiced by, for example, many on-line newspapers) [Feisal Paruk]

Editor: There is no truth in the suggestion that Mr Paruk's kind words are a blatantly sycophantic ruse to win for himself a second Crescents of Brisbane cap.

Slumz 2 uncle Moose its me (mc)

ok i will also be a reporter

i will also search up new articals in the paper and on the net ok jazakala [MC, 9]

Editor: Evidence, once again, of the endless depth and quality of journalistic talent on tap inside the CCN sweatshop.



Get Fit and Fab-u-less

The inaugural **CresFit4Life** session at Kangaroo Point this Sunday will be an induction and orientation one. You will be guided along the route and shown the 1km points that have been marked out (so that you can determine your own distances each week). Our resident GP will take your BP and calculate your BMI and body fat for you to record and monitor regularly in your very own **CresFit4Life Personal Exercise Diary**. (No, there is no need to bring along your Medicare card!). You will also record your times and distances covered into the **CresFit4Life Diary** each week. Studies have shown that recording progress encourages you to keep up an exercise routine.

During the weeks there will be prizes and trophies at various stages of the program.

Join **CresFit4Life** and get **fit** and **fabulous** in little to no time!

So be there or be square!
Sunday 21st at 7.30am

Click [here](#) for more route map and other details on the CresFit4Life programme

A Word from CCN's Sponsors



Opening soon **Nando's** in UNDERWOOD for Portuguese flame-grilled chicken where *"all their chicks are Halaal"*



Global Convenience for all your Indian, Pakistani and South African spices and groceries. Shop No. 5, Kuraby Square, 1307 Beenleigh Rd, KURABY.

Contact CCN

If you have any news that you think might be of benefit to the Crescents Community then please e-mail the team at crescents@nazimahansa.com.

If there is someone you know who would like to subscribe to CCN please encourage them to send us an e-mail at crescents@nazimahansa.com with the words "Subscribe Me" in the subject line.