

Volunteering Charity, Fundraising

Mission statement:

I am a committed people's person advocating "all are born equal like the teeth of a comb", striving for a fair, free, and tolerant society, were "the need of the one is as important as the need of the many", respecting civilisations, cultures and diverse realities, striving to engage humanity, harmonising and building human bridges between real people, thriving communities, neighbouring countries, while celebrating inclusiveness today, for a promising tomorrow.

Qassim Afzal



Muslim Education Council & Eid Showcase



1995-96 Lord Mayoress Joyce Keller, invited by Qassim Afzal, here with 2yrs old son Hamza Afzal guest of MEC, & Eid

Chief Super Intendant Mike Downs with Chairman Qassim Afzal at the first EID Showcase festive in the UK, amongst thousands of people from all the communities and faiths celebrating the whole month of Eid on Euro's biggest Road the Curry Mile Wilmslow Road in Rusholm Manchester Gorton, with media coverage for [BBC TV](#), [BBC Radio Roger Bolton Productions](#) and many more.

1st Largest Muslim Eid Festival in the UK 1996



OPEN-AIR party ... crowds throng Wilmslow Road, Rusholme, where the traffic was stopped to allow the festival to take place in safety

Fun on the menu in street-party sizzler



IT WAS carnival time in Rusholme as thousands of people poured into the area for the biggest Muslim street festival ever staged in Manchester.

A three-quarter-mile stretch of the normally bustling Wilmslow Road was cordoned off from traffic last night to allow the party to go ahead safely.

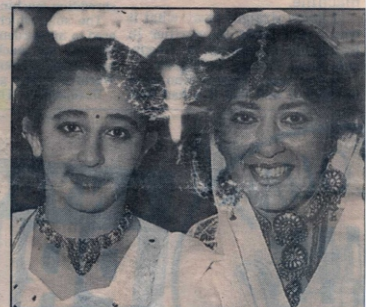
Visitors came from as far afield as Liverpool, Newcastle, Preston and Leeds for the Festival of Eid, marking the end of Ramadan, the holy month of fasting.

And as a symbol of the cross-cultural nature of the festival, one of the main features was a typically English funfair.

Event chairman Qassim Afzal said: "This was the first celebration of its kind held in the UK by Muslims, but we did not want it to be a solely Muslim occasion."

"We wanted to open it up to all sections of the community."

The "Golden Mile" of



FUN time ... for Nasreen Jassim and daughter Samilla

By Don Frame

restaurants lining Wilmslow Road were all doing thriving business as crowds thronged outside in the temporarily pedestrianised roadway.

Families with toddlers joined teenagers and grandparents to celebrate the occasion. Police were on hand but kept a low profile and organisers praised the good behav-

our of the crowds. Attractions included a towering video screen showing film clips, rari groups, other music and fireworks. There were also readings from religious texts.

The event was planned in a month, and it is hoped next year an even bigger festival can be staged in the area.

Qassim Afzal said: "We believe we have done something to promote community and race relations in Manchester."



Muslim Education Council/Eid Festival team of Executives: Steven, Dr Iskander, DR Karim, Sheik MH Bohdin, DR Abdul Aziz, Qassim Afzal Chair