



# Introduction

Welcome to The Muslim Cemetery Walk.

This walk is centred around the oldest Muslim cemetery in the country, established in 1884 as the Muhammadan Cemetery and now part of the larger series of Muslim burial sites at the Brookwood Cemetery, where many important Muslims are buried.

Brookwood Cemetery is also home to many non-Muslim and military cemeteries. This walk allows visitors to locate the graves of important individuals linked to the Muslim heritage of Britain by leading them on a walk through the green, landscaped, historic grounds of Brookwood.

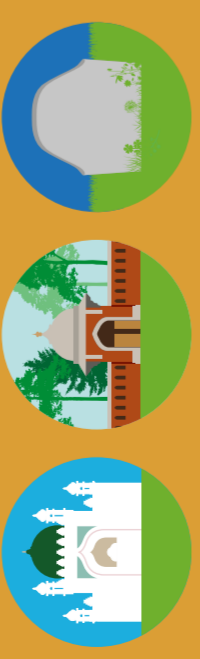
## Orientation

The Brookwood cemetery is split in two either side of Cemetery Pales (A322). The **southern section** is where the cemetery office and main visitors car park is located. The cemetery on this side is known as the **Anglican Section** and only two graves on the trail are located there.

The **northern section** is the **Non-conformist Section** where the original Muhammadan Cemetery is located (M1 on most maps). This is marked by the Kiblah Stone between rows four and five.

All of the historic Muslim burial sites are found in the Non-conformist section of Brookwood Cemetery, with the majority along Pine Avenue.

Visitors should be respectful of the fact that Brookwood is a functioning cemetery and conduct themselves accordingly at all times.



## #2 The Muslim Cemetery Walk

# Britain's Muslim Heritage Trails

**This trail was researched and developed by the Everyday Muslim Heritage & Archive Initiative.**

We would like to thank Trail Project Manager Tharik Hussain and John Clarke, Barry Devonshire, Professor Humayun Ansari, Yaiya Birt and Dr Jamil Sherif, for their help and support in the trail's development. Everyday Muslim would like to also thank the following organisations:

The Shah Jahan Mosque  
Brookwood Cemetery Office  
Brookwood Cemetery Society

**Everyday Muslim**  
Documenting Muslim heritage in the UK  
Everydaymuslim.org

 heritage lottery fund  
LOTTERY FUNDED



# Residents list

## Anglican Section (shown on smaller detailed map)

- Gottlieb Wilhelm Leitner (14 Oct 1840 - 22 March 1899)** - Arabist, linguist, scholar and founder of the Muhammadan Cemetery and the Shah Jahan Mosque.
- Allan Octavian Hume (6 June 1829 - 31 July 1912)** - Political Reformer, Ornithologist, Botanist and founder of the Indian National Congress.

## Non Conformist Section

### Plot M2

- HRH Princess Musbah Haidar el Hashimi (25 Nov 1918 - 13 Jan 1977)** - Princess, Author and direct descendant of the Prophet Muhammad.
- Abdul Majid (7 July 1896 - 1 March 1977)** - Former editor of Islamic Review and founder of the oldest surviving mosque in Germany.

### The Muhammadan Cemetery (M1)

- Dato Amar Di Raja Abdul Rahman Andak (d. 10 Sept 1930)** - Advisor to Sultan Abu Bakr and Sultan Ibrahim of Johor (Modern Malaysian state).
- Ismail De Yorke (d. 9 April 1953)** - Former President of the Muslim Society of Britain and son of an Egyptian Princess.
- Sir Abdullah Charles Edward Archibald Watkin Hamilton (10 Dec 1876 - 18 March 1939)** - 5th and 3rd Baronet, British Knight and Baron.
- Right Honourable, Sir Rowland George Allanson-Winn (19 Jan 1855 - 22 June 1935)** 5th Baron Headley, British Lord, author, President of the British Muslim Society, Chairman and Founder of Woking Muslim Mission Trust and Woking Mosque Trust.
- Iqbalunnisa Hussain (1897 - 22 Oct 1954)** - British-Indian author, feminist and proponent of Muslim women's rights.
- Nawab Syed Saadat Ali Khan (d. 2 Oct 1934)** - Deputy ruler in Hyderabad government and cousin of former Hyderabad Prime Minister, Nawab Salar Jung.
- Abdullah Yusuf Ali (14 April 1872 - 10 December 1953)** - Translator of the Qur'an, British-Indian barrister and scholar.
- Shahab Suhrawardy (12 June 1920 - 2 Feb 1940)** - Founder of Awami League political party and descendant of Iraqi sufi Shihab al Din Suhrawardy.
- Helen Morton Buchanan Hamilton, aka Lady Khalida Buchanan-Hamilton (2 Aug 1856 - 12 Jan 1942)** - Former President of the Muslim Society of Britain and relative of US President James Buchanan.
- Muhammad Marmaduke William Pickthall (7 April 1875 - 19 May 1936)** - Author of first 'native' English translation of the Qur'an, novelist and journalist.
- Um Nizar Al-Malaika (d. 26 June 1957)** - Iraqi anti-colonial poet.
- Abdullah Quilliam (10 April 1856 - 23 April 1932)** - Britain's first Sheikh-ul-Islam, founder of Britain's first mosque and Muslim publication.
- Sepoy Ahmad Khan (d. 4 Nov 1914)** - First British Muslim soldier buried on British soil.
- Moti Ram (d. 14 Aug 1919)** - Hindu Sepoy buried amongst Muslim soldiers.
- Arif Bey (d. 1836)** - Oldest Muslim burial in Britain. Ottoman soldier originally buried at Woolwich barracks moved here in 1962.
- Charles Legai Hasan Eaton, Hassan Abdul Hakim (Jan 1921 - Feb 2010)** - British Academic, writer and diplomat.
- Prince Abu Baker of Johore, Tunku Aris Bendahara (17 Feb 1898 - 1 May 1956)** - Prince of Malaysian state of Johor.
- Dr S M Abdullah (4 Nov 1898 - 19 May 1956)** - Former Imam of Shah Jahan Mosque
- Prince Samy (1885 - 1961) and Princess Samy (1886 - 1963)** - Ottoman Prince and Princess.
- Sirdar Ikbal Ali Shah (1894 - 4th Nov 1969)** - Indian-Afghan author, diplomat, writer and prominent sufi.
- Saira Jamil Elizabeth Luiza Shah, aka Elizabeth Louise Mackenzie and Morag Murray Abdullah (1900 - 15th Aug 1960)** - Travel writer and Mother of Idris Shah and Omar Ali-Shah.
- Hamid Ali Khan (23 March 1909 - 7 July 1987)** - Founding member of Pakistan High Commission, London.
- Idries Shah, aka Sayed Idries el-Hashimi and Arkon Daraul (16 June 1924 - 23 Nov 1996)** - British writer and teacher of Sufism.
- HIH Hayriya Aisha Durr-i-shahvar Sultan, aka Princess of Berar and Begum Sahiba (12 March 1913/26 Jan, 1914 - 7 Feb, 2006)** - Ottoman Princess, daughter of last Ottoman Caliph, Abdulmajid II and wife of last Nizam of Hyderabad.
- Mehisti Hanim (1896 - 1964)** - Fourth wife of last Ottoman Caliph, Abdulmejid II.
- Sultan Said Bin Taimur of Oman (13 August 1910 - 19 Oct 1972)** - Former Sultan of Oman. Body removed and reburied in Oman.
- Idris Tawfiq (d. 17 Feb 2016)** - Author, Humanitarian and former Roman Catholic priest (unmarked).
- Muslim Purwez Salamat (d. 8 Feb 2018)** - Brigadier, author and former Shah Jahan Mosque Trustee.

### Brookwood Military Cemetery

- Youssef Ali (d. 12 May 1947)** - Former 'Lascar' and last Muslim soldier buried at the Woking Muslim War Cemetery.
- Sepoy Mahrup Shah (d. 16 Sept 1915)** - Pakistani (Indian) soldier whose 'death plaque' is at the Surrey History Centre.
- Mohamed Ben Hamou (d. 13 Jan 1941), Mohamed Ben Tahar (d. 17 June 1941) and Ibrahim Yolkoff (d. 5 Aug 1945)** - Muslim soldiers of the Free French Forces originally buried at the Woking Muslim War Cemetery.

### Plot M3

- Prince Sultan Hamid Mirza Qajar, aka Hamid Kadjar and David Drummond (23 April 1918 - 5 May 1988)** - Last Prince and Heir of Qajar dynasty of Iran.
- Naji Salim Hussain al-Ali (1936-1987)** - Palestinian Political Cartoonist and creator of 'Handalah'.
- Mahmoud Kahil (1936 - 11th Feb 2003)** - Lebanese-British Political Editorial Cartoonist
- Ramadan Guney (18 Feb 1932 - 2 Nov 2006)** - Cypriot Politician, founder of VOLKAN and UK Turkish Islamic Trust and former owner of Brookwood Cemetery.

### Plot M4

- Omar Ali-Shah (1922-2005)** - Leader of Sufi movement and author.
- Muhammad Al-Badr, aka Al-Mansur Bi'llah Muhammad Al-Badr bin Al-Nasir-li-dinu'llah Ahmed (Feb 15 1926 - Aug 6 1996)** - Last King of Mutawakkilite Kingdom of Yemen (Arabic script only).

### New Muslim High Ground

- Zaha Hadid (31 Oct 1950 - 31 March 2016)** - Iraqi-British architect and first female winner of the Pritzker Architecture Prize.
- Foulath Mohammed Hadid (7th March 1937 - 29th Sept 2012)** - Iraqi writer.
- Mohammed Hadid (1st Jan 1907 - 3rd Aug 1999)** - Iraqi economist, politician and Social Activist.

### Plot 119 (shown on smaller detailed map)

- Syed Al Razawi Ameer Ali (1846-1928)** - Founder of the Muslim League, first Indian member of the Privy Council and former Chairman of the Woking Mosque Committee.

### Jamaati Plot (shown on smaller detailed map)

- Rahim Mulla Hussein Alarakhia (d. 23 March 1979)** - MBE, Chairman of Zanzibar Broadcasting Corporation, High Court of Zanzibar Registrar.

# Selection of biographies

## No. 1



**Gottlieb Wilhelm Leitner. Alias: Abdu'r Rasheed Sayyah, (14 Oct 1840 - 22 March 1899)** - Arabist, linguist and founder of the **Muhammadan Cemetery and the Shah Jahan Mosque**  
A Hungarian-Jew, Dr Leitner spent his formative years in Istanbul learning Arabic, Turkish and studying Islam. He was appointed Interpreter to the British Commissariat in the Crimea aged 15 and later became Professor of Arabic and Muslim Law at King's College London. Leitner spent many years teaching in India and helped found the University of Punjab. He then returned to England to set up The Oriental Institute in Woking, as part of which in 1884 he established the Muhammadan Cemetery and in 1889 he built the Shah Jahan Mosque. Leitner sometimes assumed the name Abdu'r Rasheed Sayyah and has an islamic epitaph on his headstone.

## No. 3



**HRH Princess Musbah Haidar. Aliases: Musbah Khanum (25 Nov 1918 - 13 Jan 1977)** - Princess, author and direct descendant of the Prophet Muhammad  
HRH Princess Musbah Haidar was the second daughter of the ex-Grand Sherif of Makkah, Amir Ali Haidar of the family of Devi Zeids who claim to be direct descendants of the Prophet Muhammad. Princess Haidar's mother was an 'Englishwoman' called Isabel Dunn, who converted to Islam and became HRH Amira Fatma, the second wife to Amir Ali Haidar. Princess Haidar was born and brought up in Istanbul but following the dissolution of the Ottoman Caliphate, her family was forced to leave Istanbul. She later moved to England and authored the books, *Arabesque: an account of Harem Life*, detailing her life as a Meccan Princess, and *Dawn Beyond the Tamarisks*.

## No. 7



**Sir Abdullah Charles Edward Archibald Watkin Hamilton 5th and 3rd Baronet (10 Dec 1876 - 18 March 1939)** - British Knight and Baron  
Sir Abdullah was the 5th Baronet of Trebushun, Breconshire and 3rd Baronet of Marlborough House, Hampshire. Known as "the only Mohammedan (muslim) baronet", he was related to the English Royal family and served as a Lieutenant in the Royal Defence Corps. He was also President of the Selsey (Sussex) Conservative Association and a member of the British Union of Fascists in the 1930s. Sir Abdullah converted to Islam in 1924 and was reportedly offered the throne of Muslim Albania.

## No. 8



**Right Honourable, Sir Rowland George Allanson-Winn, 5th Baron Headley. Alias: Al-Haj Sheikh Saifurrahman Rahmatullah El-Farooq (19 Jan 1855 - 22 June 1935)**  
British Lord, author, President of the British Muslim Society, Chairman and Founder of Woking Muslim Mission Trust and Woking Mosque Trust. Author of books on combat sports and Islam. Lord Headley converted to Islam in 1913 and helped to found the Woking Muslim Mission at the Shah Jahan Mosque. In 1923, he became the first British Peer to perform the Hajj and was awarded the Order of the Nahdah of Arabia by King Hussein. In 1925 he claimed he was offered the throne of Muslim Albania.

## No. 14



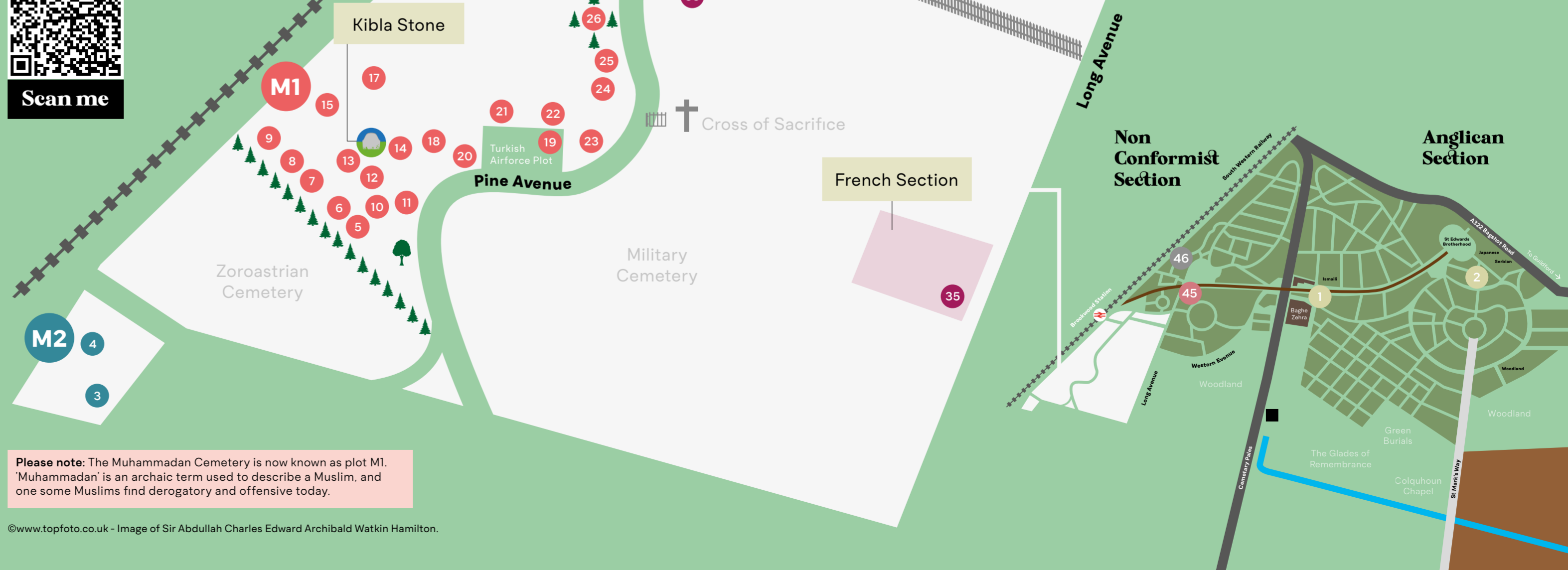
**Muhammad Marmaduke William Pickthall (7 April 1875 - 19 May 1936)** - Author of first 'native' English translation of the Qur'an, English novelist and journalist  
Son of an Anglican priest and friend of British Wartime Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill, Pickthall was a highly regarded novelist who set many of his stories in Arab lands. After his conversion to Islam in November 1927, Pickthall began work on *The Meaning of the Glorious Koran*. Published in 1930, it was the first English translation by a native English-speaking Muslim, and became one of the most influential English translations of all time.

More biographies can be found on our interactive digital map at: **Everydaymuslim.org**

Or you can scan in this code:



Scan me



**Please note:** The Muhammadan Cemetery is now known as plot M1. 'Muhammadan' is an archaic term used to describe a Muslim, and one some Muslims find derogatory and offensive today.

## No. 28



**HIH Hayriya Aisha Durr-i-shahvar Sultan (12 March 1913/26 Jan, 1914 - 7 Feb, 2006)** - Princess of Berar and Begum Sahiba, Ottoman Princess and wife of last Nizam of Hyderabad  
Hayriya Aisha was the daughter of the last Ottoman Caliph, Abdulmecid II Efendi. She married Hymayat Ali Khan Azam Jah, Prince of Berar, heir to the Nizam of Hyderabad. Hayriya Aisha was a keen moderniser and champion of women's rights who helped abolish the practice of purdah. Her son Prince Mukarram Jah went on to be the next Nizam of Hyderabad (in title). Hayriya Aisha reportedly asked not to be buried in Istanbul, because her father was refused burial there.

## No. 33



**Youssef Ali 1873001 LDG Aircraftman (d. 12 May 1947)** - The last Muslim soldier to be buried at the Woking Muslim War Cemetery  
Born in Sylhet, Bangladesh, Youssef Ali regularly travelled aboard merchant ships and came to England in the early 1920s as an Indian Lascar. He married Ethel Emma Wallace in London and settled down to become a Court interpreter for Indian seaman. Ali also worked as a doorman, at the Veeraswamy Restaurant in Piccadilly, London, but was sacked after being photographed with Mahatma Gandhi in 1931. At the outbreak of WWII, Ali enlisted with the British Air Force and served over Germany, Belgium and France where he died in service. He was initially the last to be buried at the Woking Muslim War Cemetery on 12 May 1947 before his remains were moved in 1969 to the current location.

## No. 42



**Dame Zaha Hadid (31 Oct 1950 - 31 March 2016)** - Celebrated Iraqi-British architect and first female winner of the Pritzker Architecture Prize  
Born in Baghdad, Iraq to an influential family, Hadid studied in Beirut and London and became known as the 'Queen of Curve' for her architectural style which earned her global recognition. In 2004 she became the first woman to win the Pritzker Architecture Prize and also won the UK's prestigious Stirling Prize twice in 2010 and 2011. Hadid was made a Dame in 2012 for her services to architecture and in 2015 she was awarded the Royal Gold Medal from the Royal Institute of British Architects - the only time it has been given to a woman.



# No. 16: The Missing Sheikh Abdullah Quilliam

**Britain's first Sheikh-ul-Islam, founder of Britain's first mosque (in Liverpool) and first Muslim publication, The Crescent**

Liverpool-born Quilliam came from a wealthy background and was brought up a Methodist Christian. He went on to become a solicitor and a freemason. Following a period in Morocco, Quilliam converted to Islam in 1887, and founded the Liverpool Moslem Institute, which became Britain's first Islamic Institute, complete with mosque, school, orphanage, museum and research space. Quilliam was given the title of 'Sheikh-ul-Islam' by Ottoman Caliph Abdul Hamid II and was also a prolific writer who published the first Muslim newspaper and journal in Britain, *The Crescent and The Islamic World*.

**Quilliam was buried in grave No. 196788, but the location of this grave is no longer known.**