

CHURCH

HISTORY

The fellowship of the Blacktown Baptist Church commenced on April 18th, 1928 and became affiliated with the Baptist Union on October 31, 1931. The fellowship was commenced by Mr & Mrs Alfred McLean who felt there was a need for Baptist witness in the Blacktown area.

Mr & Mrs Arthur English donated the land on which a Baptist witness should commence; the first Sunday School commenced on the veranda of their home. Mr English was to be the first Church Secretary serving the Church in this capacity for over 30 years.

Over the years there were many pastors and lay people in church leadership. Geoff Parish, Albert Dube, Alan Tinsley (who went on to start Windsor Baptist), Mr and Mrs Don Cameron who started the Girls Brigade, Graham Eldridge who started Toongabbie Baptist, Mr Longman and Ron Davies who worked at Doonside, Windsor, Penrith and St Mary's were established along with open air Sunday Schools at Lalor Park.

Rev Stan Butchard was the first ordained minister and is the longest serving Pastor, serving for more than nine years. In 1960 his appointment led to building the current Church building.

The original timber church hall was built in the early 1930's, then extended to meet the church's needs in the 1950's.

The current brick Church building was opened in 1963 it had timber pews and could seat over 150 people. While many parts of the church still have their original features the church is continuing to change and be developed to meet the needs of the growing community. The old wooden pews have been replaced with padded chairs and air conditioning installed. Office and meeting rooms have also been built.

The Church building is used by many different groups throughout the week including a Korean, Sri Lankan and Chinese church, along with other groups.

Located less than 1 km from the CBD and train station, with a bus stop right outside the front door, the property is located at a strategically important location within the suburb, wider city of Blacktown and Western Sydney.

On any given Sunday there could be 70+ people from a variety of age groups, and BBC presently has 45 people in membership which is regularly reviewed. Ethnically diverse, the congregation is made up of Sudanese, Filipino, Iranian, Indian, Bangladeshi, Libyan Pakistani as well as Anglo Australian.