

Records of Dedworth Green Baptist Church, Clewer, 1927-2000.
(31 vols, 22 bdls, 4 files, 17 docs)

Deposited in October 2004 (acc. 7503); July 2006 (acc. 7859); April 2008
(acc. 8206)

Cat : LS 11/2004; 7/2006; 5/2008

Introduction

Fifield Village Mission began working in Dedworth in 1869, at a tin chapel in Dedworth Road. The Mission abandoned Dedworth in 1919, but leased the chapel to the Free Churches of Windsor (Wesleyan, Congregational and Baptist), who managed it as an undenominational mission.

In 1939 the work was taken over by Windsor Baptist Church. The lease of the tin chapel expired in 1956, and services were held at Dedworth Community Centre while a new church was built on a site in Smiths Lane, which had been purchased in 1947. The new church opened in 1959, and in 1960 was named Dedworth Green Baptist Free Church (later changed to Dedworth Green Baptist Church).

In 1962 a minister was appointed with sole responsibility for the church. During the 1960s it became more independent from Windsor Baptist Church, becoming completely separate in January 1967. The building was extended in 1970.

From 1981 the ministry was again shared with Victoria Street Baptist Church, Windsor.

The entire archive of the church was severely damaged by a fire which destroyed the church building in 2000. Many items are too fragile for consultation.

Schedule of accessions

Acc. 7503 : 1/2/1-4; 1/3/1-2; 1/4/1; 2/1/1-5; 2/2/1-3; 4/1/1-8; 5/1/1-4;
5/2/1-3; 6/3/1-5; 6/4/1; 6/5/1; 7/1/1-5; 7/2/1-3; 7/3/1;
7/4/1-6; 8/3/1; 9/2/1-2; 9/3/1-2; 10/1; 12/1/1-3; 12/2/1-2;
13/1/1; 13/2/1; 13/3/1; 14/1-4

Acc. 7859 : 1/2/5; 2/1/6

Acc. 8206 : 1/2/6; 2/1/7

Summary

CHURCH ADMINISTRATION: church meeting minutes, 1964-1997; correspondence, 1963-1965, 1986-1989.

DEACONS: minutes, 1967-1997.

COMMITTEES: Dedworth Mission Committee minutes, 1927-1939; Dedworth (Workers) Committee minutes, 1939-1966; minutes of committee investigating independence, 1965-1966; Missionary Committee minutes, 1942-1966 (incomplete).

TREASURER: cash book, 1940-1947; accounts, 1967-1977; annual statements, 1928-1981 (incomplete).

PROPERTY: fabric papers, 1932-1990; building loans accounts, 1966-1975.

CHURCH ORGANISATIONS: Sunday School minutes, 1940-1979 (incomplete), and accounts, 1967-1971; Young People's Fellowship minutes, 1964-1966, and accounts, 1964-1970 (incomplete); Youth Club subscription accounts, 1965-1967; Women's Own/Baptist Women's League minutes, 1961-1966, and accounts, 1941-1970 (incomplete).

REGISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP: membership certificate, c.1960s-70s.

SERVICE OF THE CHURCH: special orders of service, 1963, 1970; workers' plan, 1936; constitution, 1967-1969.

MINISTER: church profile, 1991.

PUBLICATIONS: Windsor Baptist Church newsletters, 1939, 1963-1964 (very incomplete); yearbook, 1964; history of the church, 2000.

OTHER BODIES: circular letter from Victoria Street Baptist Church, Windsor, 1982; application for support from Baptist Union, 1974; statistical returns to the Berkshire Baptist Association, 1984-1993.

MISCELLANEOUS: entries relating to chapel from Fifield Village Mission minutes (1869-1921); papers relating to exchange with a church in the USA, 1989-1990.

Records in other collections

Fifield Village Mission records	D/N 27
Annual statement of accounts, 1931	D/N 27/5/2/3
Lease of land for chapel, 1890	D/N 27/6/2/1
Property records, 1906, 1932	D/N 27/6/3/2-3

1	CHURCH ADMINISTRATION		
1/2	<u>Church meeting minutes</u>		
	[Before the establishment of a church meeting, decisions relating to the administration of the church were made by the committee (<i>see</i> section 4) or by Windsor Baptist Church. For minutes of 'church meetings', 1960, <i>see</i> D/N 48/4/1/4. The minutes include approval or refusal of requests for baptism.]		
1/2/1	Minutes of church members [proto-church meetings], January 1964-December 1966.	1 vol	1964-1966
1/2/2	Minutes of church meetings, March 1967-December 1977. (Indexed.) [Not to be produced.]	1 vol	1967-1977 Closed until 2008
1/2/3	Minutes of church meetings, January 1978-December 1983. (Includes minutes of joint meetings with Victoria Street Baptist Church, Windsor, June and July 1981, and January 1983; and secretary's annual report, 1981.) [Not to be produced.]	1 vol	1978-1983 Closed until 2014
1/2/4	Minutes of church meetings, January 1984-November 1991.	1 bdl	1984-1991 Closed until 2022
1/2/5	Minutes of church meetings, January 1992-November 1995. (Includes annual reports, 1991/2-1994, and annual statements of accounts, 1992-1994.)	1 file	1992-1995 Closed until 2026
1/2/6	Minutes of church meetings, January 1996-November 1997.	1 file	1996-1997 Closed until 2028
1/3	<u>General correspondence and administrative files</u>		
1/3/1/1-111	General correspondence. (Subjects include the call of a minister, 1963; the transfer and resignation of members; property matters etc.)	1 bdl	1963-1965 Closed until 2016
1/3/2	General correspondence.	1 bdl	1986-1989 Closed until 2020

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DEDWORTH GREEN BAPTIST CHURCH RECORDS

D/N 48

1 CHURCH ADMINISTRATION

1/4/1 Papers presented to church meetings

1/4/1/1-97 Reports and papers presented to church meetings. 1 bdl 1964-1981
**Closed
until 2012**

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2	DEACONS			
2/1	<u>Minutes</u>			
2/1/1	Minutes of deacons' meetings, March 1967-November 1979. Not to be produced	1 vol	1967-1979 Closed until 2010	
2/1/2	Minutes of deacons' meetings, January 1980-September 1984. (Includes list of deacons elected, 1968-1979, 1981-1984; draft statement of accounts, 1980; and minutes of joint meeting with the deacons of Victoria Street Baptist Church, Windsor, September 1981.)	1 vol	1980-1984 Closed until 2015	
2/1/3	Minutes of deacons' meetings, October 1984-July 1986.	1 vol	1984-1986 Closed until 2017	
2/1/4/1-131	Minutes of deacons' meetings, August 1986-December 1991. (Includes draft statement of accounts, 1989.)	1 bdl	1986-1991 Closed until 2022	
2/1/5/1-7	Minutes of joint meetings of deacons of Dedworth Green and Victoria Street Baptist Church, Windsor, January 1981-January 1983.	1 bdl	1981-1983 Closed until 2014	
2/1/6	Minutes of deacons' meetings, January 1992-November 1995.	1 file	1992-1995 Closed until 2026	
2/1/7	Minutes of deacons' meetings, January 1996-November 1997.	1 file	1996-1997 Closed until 2028	
2/2	<u>Miscellaneous</u>			
2/2/1/1-59	Papers presented to deacons' meetings.	1 bdl	1967-1979 Closed until 2010	
2/2/2	List of deacons.	1 doc	1984-1993	
2/2/3/1-9	Reports to deacons' meetings.	1 bdl	1980-1985 Closed until 2016	

4	COMMITTEES		
4/1	<u>Minutes</u>		
	[Before the church became independent, it was managed by a committee of Windsor Free Churches, and then of Windsor Baptist Church.]		
4/1/1	Minutes of Dedworth Mission Committee [of Windsor Free Churches], December 1927-March 1939.	1 vol	1927-1939
4/1/2	Minutes of Dedworth Committee [of Victoria Street Baptist Church, Windsor], April 1939-September 1943.	1 vol	1939-1943
4/1/3	Minutes of Dedworth Workers Committee [of Victoria Street Baptist Church, Windsor], May 1947-September 1959. [Not to be produced.]	1 vol	1947-1959
4/1/4	Minutes of Dedworth Committee [of Victoria Street Baptist Church, Windsor], November 1960-October 1963. (Includes minutes of "church meetings", January-September 1960.)	1 vol	1960-1963
4/1/5	Minutes of Dedworth Committee [of Victoria Street Baptist Church, Windsor], January 1960-October 1963, and (reversed) minutes of Executive Committee, February 1964-December 1966.	1 vol	1960-1966
4/1/6	Minutes of committee looking into the matter of the forthcoming independence of the members [of Victoria Street Baptist Church, Windsor] worshipping at Dedworth, May 1965-March 1966. (Includes drafts of proposed rules.) [Not to be produced.]	1 vol	1965-1966
4/1/7	Minutes of Missionary Committee meetings, [c. September 1942]-November 1952. [Not to be produced.]	1 vol	1942-1952
4/1/8	Minutes of Missionary Committee meetings, April 1961-December 1966.	1 vol	1961-1966

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D/N 48

5	TREASURER		
5/1	<u>Accounts</u>		
5/1/1	Treasurer's cash book, April 1940 – October 1947. (Includes, at end, rebuilding extension fund accounts, n.d. [1947?].) [Not to be produced.]	1 vol	1940-1947
5/1/2	Accounts (receipts and payments), January 1967-February 1971. [Not to be produced.]	1 vol	1967-1971
5/1/3	Accounts (receipts), January 1971-August 1976. [Early entries copied from D/N 48/5/1/2.]	1 vol	1971-1976
5/1/4	Accounts (payments), January 1971-July 1977. [Early entries copied from D/N 48/5/1/2.]	1 vol	1971-1977 Closed until 2008
5/2	<u>Statements of accounts</u>		
5/2/1	Annual and interim statements of accounts.	1 bdl	1928-1938
5/2/2	Statements of accounts.	1 bdl	1939-1957
5/2/3/1-24	Annual statement of accounts, 1967-1971, 1975, 1976, 1980, 1981.	1 bdl	1968-1982

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6	PROPERTY RECORDS			
6/3	<u>Fabric papers</u>			
6/3/1/1-2	Copy letter concerning proposal to provide WCs, a sink and water at the chapel.	1 bdl	1932	
6/3/2/1-129	Papers relating to the purchase of a site and building of a new church. (Includes sales particulars and draft conveyance of the site, 1947; and plan and elevation of proposed church building, n.d. [c.1959].)	1 bdl	1946-1960	
6/3/3/1-4	Fire insurance policies on the chapel. (Transferred in 1957 to the canteen room at Dedworth Primary School.)	1 bdl	1949-1957	
6/3/4	Papers relating to a temporary prefabricated building adjoining the church (used for youth work).	1 bdl	1964-1990	
6/3/5	Estimate for interior repairs and redecoration.	1 doc	1939	
6/4	<u>Accounts</u>			
6/4/1	Building loans accounts.	1 vol	1966-1975	
6/5	<u>Miscellaneous</u>			
6/5/1	Building fund appeal leaflet.	1 doc	n.d. [1960s]	

7	CHURCH ORGANISATIONS		
7/1	<u>Sunday School</u>		
7/1/1	Minutes of Sunday School committee and teachers' meetings, September 1940-November 1947. [Not to be produced.]	1 vol	1940-1947
7/1/2	Minutes of Sunday School committee and (later executive) and teachers' meetings, November 1957-December 1966.	1 vol	1957-1966
7/1/3	Minutes of Sunday School executive meetings, January 1967-January 1979.	1 vol	1967-1979 Closed until 2010
7/1/4	Sunday School accounts.	1 vol	1967-1971
7/1/5/1-11	Lists of Sunday School teachers.	1 bdl	1967-1978
7/2	<u>Young People's Fellowship</u>		
7/2/1	Minutes of Young People's Fellowship committee meetings, [May] 1964-December 1966. [Not to be produced.]	1 doc	1964-1966
7/2/2	Young People's Fellowship accounts. [Not to be produced.]	1 vol	1964-1966
7/2/3	Young People's Fellowship accounts.	1 vol	1970
7/3	<u>Youth Club</u>		
7/3/1	Youth Club subscription accounts, September 1965-June 1967.	1 vol	1964-1967
7/4	<u>Women's meeting</u>		
7/4/1	Minutes of Women's Own (Baptist Women's League from c.1963) committee and annual general meetings, October 1961-November 1966.	1 vol	1961-1966
7/4/2	Women's meeting accounts. [Not to be produced.]	1 vol	1941-1954
7/4/3	Women's Own (Baptist Women's League from c.1963) accounts, January 1962-April 1966.	1 doc	1962-1966
7/4/4	Baptist Women's League accounts, April-December 1966.	1 doc	1966

7 CHURCH ORGANISATIONS

7/4 Women's meeting (cont)

7/4/5 Women's meeting subscription accounts, May 1950-November 1956. 1 vol 1950-1956

7/4/6 Baptist Women's League annual statement of accounts, 1969. 1 doc 1970

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8 REGISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP

8/3 Miscellaneous

8/3/1 Membership certificate (unused). 1 doc n.d.
[c.1960s-
1970s]

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9	SERVICE OF THE CHURCH			
9/2	<u>Orders of service</u>			
9/2/1	Order of service of induction of the Revd John F Allen.	1 doc		1963
9/2/2	Order of service at the opening of the church's new extension.	1 doc		1970
9/3	<u>Miscellaneous</u>			
9/3/1	Workers' plan, April-June 1936. (Lists preachers, organists, speakers at women's meetings, etc.)	1 doc		1936
9/3/2	Rules (constitution) of the church, 1967 (annotated with amendment, 1969).	1 doc		1967-1969

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10 MINISTER

10/1/1-11 Church profile for the guidance of prospective ministers, and associated papers. 1 bdl 1991
**Closed
until 2022**

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12 PUBLICATIONS

12/1 Magazines

12/1/1 Windsor Baptist Church *Quarterly Messenger*, July 1939 (includes Dedworth Chapel). 1 doc 1939

12/1/2/1-2 Windsor Baptist Church newsletters, October and November 1963 (includes Dedworth Green). 1 bdl 1963

12/1/3/1-5 Windsor Baptist Church newsletter, January-May 1964 (includes Dedworth Green). 1 bdl 1964

12/2 Miscellaneous

12/2/1 Windsor Baptist Church and Dedworth Green year book and blotter. 1 doc 1964

12/2/2 *Far More Abundantly: A Short History of Dedworth Green Baptist Church, Windsor, 1869-1974*, by the Revd John Allen. 1 doc 2000
(Written in 1975 and published to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the formation of the church.)

13	OTHER BODIES		
13/1	<u>Victoria Street Baptist Church, Windsor</u>		
13/1/1/1-2	Circular letter from Victoria Street Baptist Church to its members concerning the church's future (proposals including amalgamation with Dedworth Green).	1 bdl	1982
13/2	<u>Baptist Union</u>		
13/2/1	Copy of Dedworth Green's application to the Baptist Union Home Mission Fund for financial support.	1 doc	1974
13/3	<u>Berkshire Baptist Association</u>		
13/3/1/1-10	Copies of statistical returns by the church to the Berkshire Baptist Association (incomplete).	1 bdl	1984-1993 Closed until 2024

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14	MISCELLANEOUS		
14/1	Abstracts of entries relating to Dedworth Mission Chapel extracted from the minutes of Fifield Village Mission (1869-1921).	1 vol	n.d. [20 cent.]
14/2	Fair copy of D/N 48/14/1 (entries to 1908 only).	1 vol	n.d. [20 cent.]
14/3	Typescript copy of D/N 48/14/1.	1 doc	n.d. [20 cent.]
14/4/1-16	Papers relating to Partnership Mission exchange with a Baptist church in Powdersville, South Carolina, USA, in 1989.	1 bdl	1989-1990