

# A History of Finchley Park Presbyterian Church



In 1960 land was purchased at the corner of Arthur & Fourth Streets and building commenced in December of that year. The foundation stone was laid on 26<sup>th</sup> February 1961 and the first official service was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1961. The following Sunday the Sunday School commenced with 15 children and within five years peaked with 115 enrolled however in 1978 it closed when only 3 children were enrolled. An indication of the vibrancy of the church can be found in the fact that there were 68 baptisms from May 1961 to November 1974.

Deaconess Lisa Walkley, was appointed to Finchley Park Home Mission in 1960 and visited many people in the area who expressed a desire to build a church. She also taught Religious Education in schools in the district. In 1974 Deaconess Walkley was farewelled after 14 years service at Finchley Park in which she was involved in the teaching, organisation and fellowship activities of the church. A triptych by Lisa Walkley of The Last Supper styled from Justin O'Brien's prize winning Blake prize for religious art now hangs in Morialta Uniting Church at Magill. It was constructed from torn coloured paper and took 6-7 years to complete.

With the formation of Morialta Uniting Church, Finchley Park closed and a thanksgiving service was celebrated on 25<sup>th</sup> November 1990. The property was purchased by Spicer Cottages Trust and five cottages constructed on the site now known as Edward Spicer Court.