



Village church closes after 107 years

A VILLAGE Methodist church has closed after 107 years.

The Rev. Philip Seaton, of Oakdene Avenue, Darlington, this week closed the doors for the last time at the church in Middleton Tyas, near Scotch Corner. The building is to be sold.

Mr Seaton, who has been in charge of the church for the last seven years, said a fall in attendance had closed the church.

He said: "Sadly, the congregation has dwindled over the years, and it was felt that the time was right to close, because the church is in need of structural repairs."

Ironically, Mr Seaton's last sermon at the church was due to have been his final appearance in Middleton Tyas. Next month, he is taking up new duties in Chessington.

● Above, Mr Seaton outside the church.