

ROUND THE CHURCHES

Drawing: HMC

93: Hollywood Methodist Church

Text: Brian Maxwell



Following a somewhat hesitant start, when Hollywood Methodists worshipped in rented or borrowed premises, a small Methodist building was erected in 1838 in the town's High

Street. Our 'mother' church was Donegall Square, Belfast.

By 1867 Conference had constituted Hollywood as a circuit, and three years later the foundation stones of the present church building were laid in Church Road.

In 1899 a pipe organ was installed. Centrally located in the town, our church has enjoyed very good relations with sister churches. In recent years this has undoubtedly been a stabilising influence in the town and area.

The church has, of course, undertaken building work to cope with the demands of its expanding witness and ministry. In 1971 the Centenary Hall was built, followed by another scheme in 1989.

Currently, the merits of undertaking another major building project are being considered, the aim being to integrate and renew the premises, and also provide additional much needed facilities.

Features of recent church life have included a Lay Witness weekend and follow-up led by Bishop Harold Miller, and Alpha and Christianity Explored courses.

A Girls' Brigade company and the Baby and Toddler's Group, together with other aspects of youth work, are indications of the outworking of our mission statement: 'To know God's love. To grow in God's love. To show God's love'.