

A LINK WITH IONA

Gosberton would not seem to have much in common with the historic Isle of Iona — the first Christian settlement in Scotland. But there is a connection through the vicar, the Rev Arthur Sangster.

For the past 23 years, Mr Sangster has been vicar at Gosberton, and since 1969 he has also been chaplain on the Isle of Iona. Mr Sangster and his wife Edna visit the Isle, burial ground of Scottish kings, every year at the invitation of the Bishop of Argyll.

Earlier this year, however, Mr Sangster had to retire from his duties at Gosberton because of illness.

And he was recently presented with a colour television as a retirement gift from villagers. "I have enjoyed my time at Gosberton, there has been a lot of work to do but it has been worth it," said Mr Sangster.

Before he came to Gosberton, Mr Sangster was at Wellingborough, Aberdeen, Frampton and Holland Fen.

Two years after he arrived he started work on the Lady Chapel, and went on to do restoration work on the roof and floor of the church.

In 1976, he started a fund for storm-damage repair which raised £700. Mr Sangster also ran the church choir an started the Dorcas League, which looks after the church linen.

In our picture: Mr Sangster receives his retirement gift — a 22-inch colour television. From left are Mr Ted Chapman, Mr Sangster, Mr Fred Taylor, Mrs Edna Sangster and churchwarden Mr Antony Proctor.