

Human remains are found under pulpit



Builders' foreman Kevin Stopper hands the skull found on Wednesday morning to workmate Ron Arnold. Five minutes later both skull and bones were being re-committed.

BUILDERS investigating a subsidence underneath the site of a pulpit in Gosberton Baptist Church got a chilly surprise on Wednesday when they discovered human remains.

Digging down, the builders first came across a decayed coffin, which disappeared at just a touch, and then found bones and a skull.

Once their work was completed the remains were re-

committed in the same spot with a short service by the Rev Tom Gillies.

He told *The Standard*: "We felt that as the digging had had to be done in order to make sure no further subsidence occurred the best thing to do was to carefully collect the bones in a polythene bag and put them back where they were found."

The bones could well have been those of a preacher or

deacon, he suggested, because years ago anyone of reasonable importance could choose to be buried in the church itself. Unfortunately the church's early records were destroyed by fire.

The builders were doing restoration work on Gosberton Baptist Church, which was built in 1666 and extended in 1866. So dem dry bones could be well over 200 years old.