



● WITH the retirement gifts: from left - Miss Mollie Gay, Colin Pearson, Pinchbeck Baptist Church member Sheila Flomen, the Rev Arderne Gillies, Gosberton Baptist Church member Eileen Baxter, and the Rev Tom Gillies. (J614/35A)

WIFE SUCCEEDS RETIRING MINISTER

MEMBERS of the Pinchbeck, Gosberton and Sutterton Fellowship of Baptist Churches gathered for a retirement party for their minister, the Rev Tom Gillies, on Saturday.

He was presented with gifts from members of the churches, as well as schools he has been involved with, old people's homes and other individuals.

About 80 people were at the party at Pinchbeck Baptist Church. It included a buffet supper, and representatives of all three churches gave a speech about Tom.

Fellowship secretary and 2nd Pinchbeck Girls' Brigade captain Miss Mollie Gay presented the gifts, which included two photographic floodlights and a set of glasses engraved with Tom's name and dates of his ministry.

Votes of thanks and speeches were given by Colin Pearson (representing Sutterton), Mr Michael Smith (Gosberton) and Miss Joyce Brown and Mrs Eva Hewitt (Pinchbeck).

Retired Spalding Baptist minister the Rev John Hance also spoke.

Tom's wife Arderne, who has now taken over as full-time minister of the group of churches, said: "Tom is going to continue to serve the churches in a semi-retired capacity."

He was photographed with some of his gifts at the parade service held the next day at Pinchbeck Baptist Church, which was attended by members of each of the churches as well as parents.