

# St. Agnes Church, Cawston

## Annual Report for 2003

### ***Background***

St. Agnes PCC has the responsibility of co-ordinating with the incumbent, Revd Tom Harris, in promoting the ecclesiastical parish with the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church building in the centre of Cawston village.

### ***PCC Membership***

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

<i>Incumbent:</i>	The Revd Tom Harris
<i>Wardens:</i>	Mr Simon Court ( <i>also Child Protection Officer</i> ) Mr Brian Seager
<i>Representatives on Deanery Synod:</i>	Mrs Iris Bramble Mr Peter Heaton ( <i>resigned August 2003</i> )
<i>Elected members:</i>	Mr Graham Alford Mrs Betty Brunt Mr Andrew Cameron-Heffer ( <i>PCC Secretary</i> ) Mrs Jane Court ( <i>PCC Lay Vice-Chairman</i> ) Mrs Lyn Fairchild Mrs June Hopper Mrs Grace Seager
<i>Co-opted member:</i>	Mr Alex Young (FOSTA representative)
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Mrs Rita Mead

### ***Reports***

#### ***Churchwardens Report***

This has been a year of consolidation. While the numbers in the congregation remain steady it is a nice thought that if everyone turned up we would have a probably have a problem seating them all.

All the major events and services saw an increased attendance. Many commented how much they enjoyed these services; we must bring our minds to bear on attracting them on a regular basis. Perhaps a form to fill out during the service (sermon?) asking what they would expect. There is a happy, fulfilling feel to the services and that is down to you all. The choir, resplendent in their new robes, led by Kate continue to give us a lift and sense of occasion every Sunday. The Sunday School continues to prosper under difficult conditions, their laughter as they come in tells me the teachers are doing a very good job. To my mind the 10.15 start is not working. This limits the teachers' time to get the subjects across - suggestions please.

St Agnes has been represented at most of the spiritual courses throughout the year.

As we approach Easter we remember the pilgrims. The service and Passover supper was a truly Christian occasion and gave us a wonderful start to Easter. We look forward to welcoming them once again. Finally, on behalf of Simon and myself, we would like to thank Tom, and everyone who attends, our team who do all the necessary jobs.

Five services are held in the church monthly, three Holy Communion, one Family Communion and one Family Service. On average 32 adults and 11 children attend, with many more on major festivals and events.

The Church electoral at the date of this report stands at 36, unchanged from last year. Two of this number reside outside the parish.

***Mr Brian Seager***

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### ***Fabric Report***

Our church building attracts visitors from all over the world. The quality of architecture, decoration and sheer size make St Agnes one of Norfolk's most significant church buildings.

Mediaeval architects did not include efficient heating or kitchen and toilet facilities in their designs. Through this year the PCC has been working to develop modern facilities to make this fine building meet the needs of the congregation and local community.

The PCC with the aid of FOSTA has now secured the funding to go ahead with the belfry louvres project. It is hoped to make a start on replacing and repairing the slats soon. The bells, which were at risk of falling, have been made secure and will be re-hung as part of the louvres project.

We are in the process of appointing a new architect to supervise the work on the belfry and help us move forward with re-ordering the church. The previous architect Michael Swash resigned at the end of 2003. One of the first tasks for the new architect will be to complete the quinquennial survey of the condition of the building. The survey will form the basis of our new maintenance plan for St Agnes' building.

Throughout the year many members of the congregation have undertaken numerous maintenance tasks. Keeping the gutters clear has reduced the leaks to the aisle roofs but water still gets in occasionally on the south side.

Thanks must go to the many people who give so freely of their time and energy to regular cleaning and maintenance jobs that help keep the building fit for worship.

*Mr Simon Court*

### ***Choir Report***

Cawston Church Choir in 2003 was...

- Bigger (13 members)
- Better (an all-member commitment to 1½ hour rehearsal every Monday)
- Busier (attendance every Sunday of the year)

and in demand (for weddings and funerals). Fees for the latter enabled the choir to buy a complete set of new robes, which were worn for the first time on Christmas Eve.

Cawston Church Choir in 2004 will...

- Improve its' musicality
- Work to expand the range of congregational music
- Build up a repertoire of choir anthems
- Forge links with other choirs in the deanery

*Mrs Kate Harris*

### ***Friends of St Agnes (FOSTA) Report***

FOSTA held two major events in the past year.

In July we enjoyed a very successful Pudding Event in the Church. Many delicious puddings were donated (and eaten!) on a glorious summer's evening with the setting sun shining through the open West Door.

In October we held a Quiz Night at the Bowls Club. Between the food and drink there were some challenging questions on all sorts of subjects. It was a very enjoyable evening in good and competitive company.

During the year, by popular demand, we also launched the reprint of the Cawston Cookbook.

Our thanks go to Mick Kelly and David Dawber, our Chairman, for running the Norwich Half-Marathon in June. This again, due to their efforts and sponsorship, raised the most money for us during the year.

*Mr Alex Young*

### ***Bookstall Report***

The bookstall made a small increase of £89 for 2003. A display stand was purchased, along with tea towels in brown and burgundy. We now have various greetings cards available. The Cawston Cook Book (priced £5.00) together with Church guides, Cawston Guide and postcards are selling very well to visitors.

*Mrs Iris Bramble*

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### ***Deanery Synod Report***

Deanery Synod held four meetings during 2003. Various subjects were discussed including:

- *Springboard* (an initiative on Mission and Evangelism)
- *Marriage in Church after Divorce*
- *Parish Share*

together with reports from Diocesan and General Synod.

***Mrs Iris Bramble***

### ***Parish Magazine Report***

The magazine is again well received by most people, and goes far afield in the benefice and in the country. I'm told that it is sent to Scotland, Cumbria and Kent, for far away relatives and old friends.

We have been lucky to receive quite a lot of subscriptions; donations and all advertisements have been paid up to date, this year.

Grateful thanks are always offered to the many kind people who send articles, poems, news and views. We are always pleased to receive stories and poems from Cawston School children and they are pleased to see their work in print.

The magazine account has been very healthy during the past few years and has also helped towards other church expenses, and charities.

Thelma Durrant does all the hard slog, type setting and lay out on her home computer, often before leaving for school in the mornings, and again in the evenings. Our most grateful thanks are offered to Thelma, and we both offer our apologies for the occasional mistake.

***Mrs June Hooper***

### ***Treasurers Report***

The PCC was able to pay all its expenses including the Parish Share of £8,676. A letter of gratitude and appreciation was sent to the PCC for making a **full contribution** of our Parish Share in 2003. The Parish Share for 2004 is £9,601 (an increase of £925 on the 2003 figure).

The total of Expendable Receipts was £5,800 more than the previous year. There had been an increase in planned giving and collections of £3,400. £1,892 was recovered from Income Tax (an increase of £818 on the previous year). The PCC benefited from the successful Flower Festival, which brought in £1,692.

The balance at the end of the year was £3,818.

The balance in the ***Fabric Fund*** increased by just over £1000 to £7,340.

The ***Organ Fund*** increased by £115 during the year, with no expenditure. The year-end balance was £3,235.

Income into the ***Magazine*** account covered the year's expenditure, plus donating £550 to the PCC account (£200 to help with the Parish Share and £350 towards new choir robes). The balance at the end of the year was £3,399.

The ***War Memorial Fund*** increased to £1,487 with Interest and Dividends being added to the account. £50 had been withdrawn during the year for flowers

The ***Flower Fund*** balance at the end of the year was £52. During the year £274 had been spent on items to decorate the church.

The ***Building Project*** received interest of £13 and with no expenditure during the year finished with a balance of £391. It is anticipated that this fund will go towards the maintenance of the boundary wall between the church hut and 31 New Street.

The ***Book Stall*** balance rose by £89 during the year to £1,968. There had been expenditure for booklets, leaflets and the purchase of tea towels.

***Booton Churchyard*** account saw no movement during the year and remained at £312. This sum will be given Booton Parish Meeting as soon as possible.

***FOSTA*** had another successful year of fund raising which, with subscriptions, gave a total income of £1,798. With a large expenditure for a re-print of the Cookbook costing £1,341 the balance at the end of the year was £13,185.

***Mrs. Rita Mead***

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### ST AGNES CHURCH, CAWSTON

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2003

	Balance at 1st Jan 2003	Receipts	Payments	Balance at 31st Dec 2003
P.C.C. General		collections and tax recovered miscellaneous transfers in restricted	parish share running exp. charities ex.ord restricted	
	3,228	11,864 3,118 2,022 1,912 <hr style="width: 100%;"/>	8,676 5,663 420 1,143 2,424 <hr style="width: 100%;"/>	3,818
Fabric	6,274	4,187	3,121	7,340
Organ	3,120	115	0	3,235
Magazine	2,892	4,767	4,260	3,399
War Memorial	1,378	159	50	1,487
Flower Fund	83	243	274	52
Building Project	378	13	0	391
Book Stall	1,879	948	859	1,968
Booton Churchyard	312	0	0	312
FOSTA	12,752	1,798	1,365	13,185
	<hr style="width: 100%;"/> <b>32,296</b> <hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/> <b>+ 31,146</b> <hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/> <b>- 28,255 =</b> <hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/> <b>35,187</b> <hr style="width: 100%;"/>

Debtors Nil

Other assets 250 shares in Alliance & Leicester - free allocation on Alliance & Leicester going public (War Memorial Fund).

Liabilities Nil

Non-monetary assets Nil

### ***Church Website***

The church now has an Internet site at <http://www.cawston.churchnorfolk.com>.

Details of forthcoming services and events are shown on the site, together with agendas and minutes of PCC meetings. It is hoped to add additional content to the site including a photo gallery.

*Mr Andrew Cameron-Heffer*