

St. Agnes Church, Cawston, Norfolk

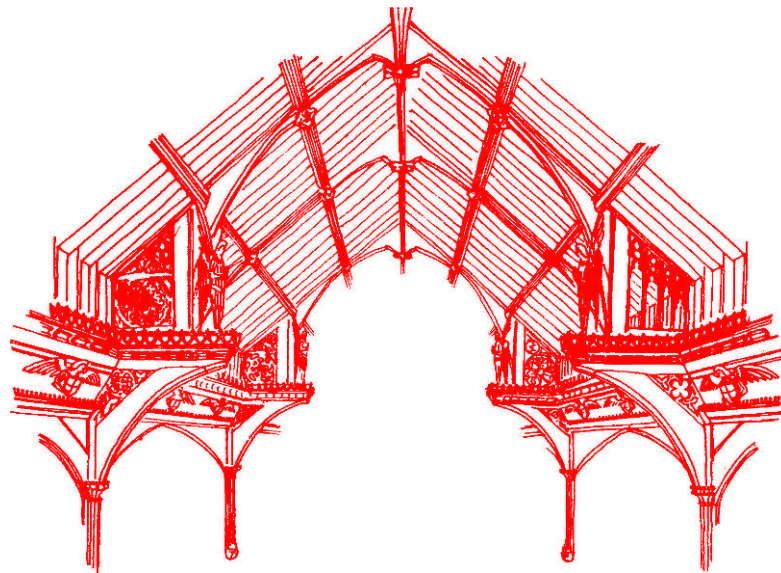
ANNUAL REPORT 2005

Issued by Cawston PCC

March 2006

Special points of interest:

- Average attendance at our Sunday services is now:
34 adults
10 children
- Over 600 people attended our Christmas services and events
- The Christmas services and events raised more than £1,000 for *The Children's Society*
- 2005 Parish Share paid in full and on time!
- 2006 Parish Share will rise by 11% to £12,302
- Church electoral roll membership is 34
- In 2005 £1,868 given to local, national and international charities
- Parish Share is calculated at £363 per person



Saint Agnes Parochial Church Council (the PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, Reverend Tom Harris, in promoting the ecclesiastical parish with the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC has maintenance

responsibilities for the vast church building in the centre of Cawston village.

This report highlights the activities and achievements of the church; including a financial summary; over the past year. Several reports also look forward to 2006 and beyond!!!

Mr. Andrew Cameron-Heffer

CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT

I am sorry to say that attendances are slightly down on 2004. The 46 Sunday services averaged 34 adults and 10 children. There were three Baptisms, which averaged 57 adults and 19 children. At one of these we welcomed Laura Williamson to the fold.

All Souls attendance was down; Remembrance Day practically the same; the Carol Service was up. Christmas was a very busy period for everyone with five services in seven days.

Our first event of 2005 was the well attended St. Agnes Feast, with an Italian theme reflecting St. Agnes' homeland. This was followed by a Passover Supper with a group of Student Cross Pilgrims. This is quite a talking point with the pilgrims in Walsingham. Four of our congregation joined the walkers on their Good Friday pilgrimage to Walsingham.

During July Tom and Kate welcomed us all to a Garden Party. The Carol Concert and Christingle services brought the year to an end showing we need to improve the visual presentation and heating at large events.

The Sunday School (see separate report on page 2) and crèche continue despite trying conditions. I am pleased to report that our congregation continue to worship in good numbers at the joint benefice services.

By the time you read this we will have endured another winter and can look forward to warmer conditions!!

One of the great pleasures of being a churchwarden is meeting you all Sunday by Sunday sharing a spiritual, holy and uplifting time praising God. Thank you all.

Mr. Brian Seager

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CHURCH BUILDING

Following the completion of the belfry louvers project, this year has seen us concentrating on regular maintenance tasks. The PCC are pleased that Mike Graver has offered his professional skills to coordinate routine maintenance of the building.

Contractors have undertaken work to tackle some persistent leaks in the south aisle roof. A broken window behind the organ has been repaired by a specialist following storm damage. Working parties have tackled heavier cleaning tasks and

the higher level work.

St Agnes relies on a dedicated team who prepare the church for worship each week and the PCC are very thankful for their service.

Mr. Simon Court

CHILDREN'S WORK

St. Agnes Sunday school runs on the first three Sundays of each month. On the fourth Sunday the children join in with the congregation for the Family Service.

A typical Sunday School starts at 10.15am in the Scout Hut (much warmer than in Church). We hand over to the children to open the morning's worship with a time of prayer. This is entered into with a great deal of thought and enthusiasm. Everyone wants to contribute; from the youngest (five years old) to the eldest (who is 14). Then we go into a time of Worship. The children thoroughly enjoy and enter into this with lively exuberance. Singing, clapping, guitar playing and very noisy percussion instruments. It's all about making a

joyful noise to praise the Lord! After a time of teaching and creativity, we return to the service in time to take part in the Communion.

During the year we have prepared the older children to take communion. We help children to take an active part in our services with readings and prayers.

For the third year running St. Agnes made it's annual trip to the pantomime; this time to see *Peter Pan*. Young, and perhaps not so young, found themselves entering into the pantomime spirit, proving we are all young at heart. A wonderful time was had by all.

Plans are in progress for a Sunday school outing in 2006. In 2004

there was a traditional seaside trip with sandwiches and chips, finished off with a large ice cream. In 2006 we may do something quite different. At the present we are still in the process of planning a new venture, or should I say adventure.

A big thank you to Mandy and Simon who worked in the Sunday school for three years until the end of November 2005. They handed over a very lively Sunday school to Peggy and Bobbie, who with great enthusiasm took up their duties in December.

The Sunday school is open to all children and extends a very warm welcome to all newcomers.

*Mrs. Peggy Dewing
and Mrs. Bobbie Ward*

CHURCH RE-ORDERING

The PCC is committed to ensuring St Agnes continues in use by future generations as a place of worship in the heart of the community. The lack of basic facilities in the building and our ineffective heaters can make services at St Agnes inaccessible for many in our community.

Making changes to a Grade One listed building such as St Agnes is a complex process. Plans for an effective heating system, raised dais,

meeting rooms, toilet facilities and serving area have been developed in a feasibility study prepared by our architect, Mr. Philip Orchard.

The feasibility study has been supplied for comments to the Council for the Care of Churches, English Heritage, and The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. A meeting with the Norwich Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches took place in St Agnes. Reports have also been commissioned

from a heating engineer and organ specialist.

We received some very positive responses to the feasibility study. A number of concerns emerged in the consultation which are addressed in our application for a Faculty (a form of ecclesiastical planning permission). So starts the next stage of the reordering process.

Mr. Simon Court

THE BOOKSTALL

The Bookstall is hoping to make a good profit in 2006 as we have many new items for sale and plenty of stock.

We purchased more Church Guides (which are still selling for £1.00). A better selection of pens, pencils and badges depicting the St. Agnes lamb are available with 'bugs' for children.

A good display of cards from the *Quidenham Carmelite Monastery* are selling at very reasonable prices.

Cawston Cookbook started to sell well in 2005. We look forward to lots of visitors in 2006

Miss Iris Bramble

Find out the latest news and details of forthcoming events at:

st-agnes.org.uk

View photographs of recent events including the **Passover Supper** and **Garden Party** mentioned in this report. The PCC minutes and this report are also available to download.

Please do take a look soon!

FINANCE

The P.C.C. was able to pay all its expenses including the Parish Share of £11,040. Planned giving and collections were £139 down on the previous year but £2,568 had been recovered from Income Tax (an increase of £304 on the last year). The balance at the end of the year was £5593 which included £987 for the Children's Society. Actual PCC balance was **£4,606**.

**The Parish Share for 2006 is £12,304
(an increase of £1,262 or 11% on the 2005 figure)**

The balance in the **FABRIC FUND** received revenue from the sale of stock in the name of *Mary T. Marsh* amounting to £3,625. New chairs have been purchased

during the year at a cost of £2,039. The balance at the end of the year was £36,985.

The **ORGAN FUND** increased by £44 during the year, with no expenditure. The year end balance was £3,431.

Income into the **MAGAZINE ACCOUNT** covered the years expenditure, plus donating £50 to St. Luke's Hospital for the Clergy. The balance at the end of the year was £3,831.

The **WAR MEMORIAL FUND** increased to £1,819 with interest and dividends being added to the account. During the year £50 had been spent on flowers.

The **FLOWER FUND** had received donations amounting to £75 and during the year £85 had been spent on items to decorate the Church. The balance at the end of the year was £40.

The **BUILDING PROJECT** received interest of £18 and with no expenditure during the year finished with a balance of £425.

The **BOOK STALL** balance at the end of the year was £1,853. Receipts during the year were about the same as the previous year but monies had been spent on items for the stall.

BOOTON CHURCHYARD account saw no movement during the year and remained at £312.

FOSTA received income of £298 from the sale of cook books, subscriptions, donations and bank interest and with no expenditure the year end balance was £713.

Unless we all increase our giving in 2006 the PCC will have a shortfall of over £1,200 by the end of the year.

Mrs. Rita Mead

ST AGNES CHURCH, CAWSTON

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st December 2005

		2004	2005
Monetary assets			
P.C.C.	Current account	1,871	2,929
	B.P. account	<u>3,543</u>	<u>2,664</u>
		5,414	5,593
Fabric Fund	Current account	773	2,307
	B.P. & B.R.T. accounts	10,655	12,380
	PCC A&L account	<u>22,000</u>	<u>22,298</u>
		33,428	36,985
Organ Fund	Current account	173	181
	B.P. account	<u>3,214</u>	<u>3,250</u>
		3,387	3,431
Magazine Fund	Current account	718	900
	B.P. account	<u>2,889</u>	<u>2,931</u>
		3,607	3,831
War Memorial Fund	C.B.F. deposit account	<u>1,664</u>	<u>1,819</u>
		1,664	1,819
Flower Fund	Current account	<u>50</u>	<u>40</u>
		50	40
Building Project	C.B.F. deposit account	<u>407</u>	425
		407	425
Book Stall	Current account		304
	B.P. account	1,943	1,504
	Cash in hand	<u>39</u>	<u>45</u>
		1,982	1,853
Booton Churchyard	Current account	<u>312</u>	<u>312</u>
		312	312
FOSTA	Current account	86	106
	Business Reserve account	315	593
	Cash in hand	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>
		415	713
	Total	<u><u>50,666</u></u>	<u><u>55,002</u></u>
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		
Key:	B.P. Barclays Business Premium B.R.T. Barclays Base Rate Tracker C.B.F. Central Board of Finance A&L Alliance and Leicester		

THE CHOIR

Church choirs are an endangered species! Research into music around the 23 churches of this deanery has revealed that our choir in Cawston is one of only two 'Sunday by Sunday' choirs (Aylsham being the other). As a result, plans for a deanery 'choir' day in 2005 fell rather flat!

Choir membership remains steady (12), commitment to weekly rehearsals is as good as ever and we continue to expand both the repertoire of music for choir performances and the body of music for congregational use.

Significant effort goes into ensuring that we provide a broad spectrum of music for worship, ranging from medieval melodies to 'traditional' 19th and 20th Century hymns and selected worship songs composed in the last decade. This entails a considerable amount of hard work and generosity of spirit amongst choir members, who have accepted that music in worship is, at its best, all-inclusive i.e. relevant to all ages and backgrounds. We hope that you, like us, enjoy old tunes and new. "To God be the glory!"

Mrs. Kate Harris

FAIR TRADE

Inspired by the **Make Poverty History Campaign** the Fair Trade stall operates after services on Sunday morning.

Fairly traded coffee, tea and confectionery are the biggest sellers each week. Sales of Christmas gifts and cards have been very encouraging. The range of Fairly Traded goods continues to expand and catalogues with a wider range of clothes are now available.

Stock for the stall comes from **Traidcraft**, which describes itself as "the UK's leading fair trade organisation helping poor communities work their way out of poverty". The surplus cash generated from our sales will be used to help Indian cotton farmers convert to organic production, giving them a better and more reliable income, and helping the environment too.

Financial Summary

	£	£
Sales		1,109.40
Purchases		<u>1,043.14</u>
Gross Profit		<u>66.26</u>
Banner	5.00	
Stock	193.50	
Cash	<u>119.48</u>	
	312.98	
Less amount owed to Traidcraft	<u>246.72</u>	
		<u>66.26</u>

Congratulations to Alice and Jessica for their work to help disadvantaged people and to promote social justice.

Mr. Simon Court

THE PARISH MAGAZINE

Readers often stop me in the village or phone to say how much our Magazine is appreciated and enjoyed.

New housing and new residents have brought more sales. The Post Office sales have increased and Steve is often 'badgered' when they are late from the Printers!

Although we have lost a few advertising spaces the account is still well heeled.

This being my 21st year as Editor, marks some kind of milestone? And I hope I can get through it, but my husband's health, in recent months has caused much greater concern but I'll do my best to keep 'trucking'!

Mrs. June Hopper

WHO ARE THE PCC?

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:

Incumbent:	The Rev. Tom Harris
Wardens:	Mr. Simon Court (<i>also Child Protection Officer</i>) Mr. Brian Seager
Representatives on Deanery Synod:	Mr. Andrew Cameron-Heffer (<i>also PCC Secretary</i>) Mrs. Jane Court (<i>also PCC Lay Vice-Chairman</i>)
Elected members:	Mr. Peter Boxshall Mrs. Mandy Cameron-Heffer (<i>joined PCC in April 2005</i>) Mrs. Lyn Fairchild (<i>also Deputy Warden</i>) Mrs. Debbie Graver Mrs. June Hopper Mrs. Grace Seager (<i>resigned from PCC in April 2005</i>) Mr. Alex Young

Mrs. Rita Mead served as our treasurer, although not as a PCC member.

Mr. Andrew Cameron-Heffer