



# THE BANSFIELD BENEFICE

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## CHURCH NEWS



Volume 7, Issue 8



We support

Traidcraft

September 2006

**D**ear friends,

When Jesus approached the city of Jerusalem he wept openly. He could 'see' what was going to happen to that beautiful city. Like every faithful Jew, Jesus knew that the Holy City was the dwelling place of God in the midst of His people. But also that the city was more than a historic site, far more than a centre of religion, far more than a living symbol of faith. It was literally the Tabernacle of God amongst people.

There was nothing quite like the buildings of the temple in Jerusalem in all the ancient world. Built by Herod, they were reputed to be marvellous in white marble, with towers, colonnades, courtyards. All this filled the nation with pride.

So how bitter it was then for Jesus to see a vision of all this wonderful construction reduced to rubble, burned to the ground. This terrible vision was only in His mind's eye, but He knew that the reality could not be far off. But Jesus' sorrowful words and tears were the result not of special 'crystal ball gazing' powers but like any other intelligent, well informed person of His time Jesus could see what was inevitable following the resistance and rebellion of the Jewish people to the harshness of Roman occupation and

rule. It was obvious to Jesus and no doubt to many others of His day that the immovable object (the Jewish Nation) and the irresistible force (The Roman Empire) were once again, and for a final time, on a collision course. Indeed Jesus was proved right when the Romans did ransack and destroy the Holy City in AD70, dispersing the surviving Jews all around the Mediterranean area and beyond.

Some, like Jesus could see the inevitability of what was happening. The majority of people could not or would not accept this and closed their eyes and ears to the truth.

Is it possible that although times have changed people still are blind to interpreting the events happening all around them and not heeding the voices of those who can see the inevitable?

Global warming is starting to alter our environment. Many of us are only beginning to take notice of the voices of those who have been speaking out for many years warning of the consequences of what we are doing to our world. Will it be too late, are the changes we are being warned about now inevitable because we have not acted earlier?

The way the richer countries have been

treating the poorer nations of the world has been appalling in many ways. There have been those who have been warning the western nations that there would be a backlash. Only now are we seeing the resulting desperation of many to get themselves heard in resorting to violence and terrorism.

Closer to home, our villages are becoming places where only the rich and privileged can live because of the astronomical rise in house prices and the forcing out of the young with no affordable houses to buy or rent. We want shops and other facilities in our villages for our convenience and yet we choose to spend most of our money in the towns. We want the churches to remain as centres of community but unless we find it convenient to use the church for a Baptism, wedding, funeral or Carol service we do not support the upkeep of the building. Shops, pubs, schools, churches will be lost if we do not support them

Our villages, our communities, our country, our world, and our lives, are in for some drastic changes if we do not listen to those who can see, like Jesus, into the near future and the inevitability of what will happen if we do not change our ways.

**Rev. Ian Finn**

### CHURCH & VILLAGE EVENTS : September 2006

Saturday 2nd	10.00am	Traidcraft Coffee morning and stall in the Benefice Hall
Monday 4th	7.30pm	Monday evening group begins Autumn Term (Benefice Hall)
Tuesday 5th	7.30pm	Wickhambrook Church PCC meeting
Wednesday 13th	7.30pm	Benefice Ministry team meeting at the Vicarage
Sunday 17th	6.30pm	Stradishall Church HARVEST songs and supper in Church
Tuesday 19th	7.30pm	Benefice Committee meeting in Benefice Hall
Friday 22nd	7.00pm	Cowlinge church HARVEST songs and supper in Church
Sunday 24th	5.00pm	Stansfield Church HARVEST songs of Praise in Church
Sunday 1st October		HARVEST at Wickhambrook & at Ousden churches



## Benefice Services for September 2006

September 2006	St. Nicholas DENSTON	All Saints STANSFIELD	St. Margaret STRADISHALL	All Saints WICKHAMBROOK	St. Margaret COWLINGE	St. Mary LIDGATE	St. Peter OUSDEN
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> TRINITY 12	10.30am Matins BCP Fiona Evans	9.30am Matins BCP John Dennis		9.30am HC CW IMF	11.00am HC CW + Baptism IMF	9.30am Matins BCP David Stoneham	
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am HC						
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>					10.00am HC		
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> TRINITY 13		10.00am Benefice HC CW IMF					
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>			10.00am HC				
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>							10.00am HC
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> TRINITY 14	9.30am HC BCP IMF		6.30pm HARVEST SOP IMF	9.30pm Family Paul Bevan	9.30am Morning Prayer Angela Finn	11.00am HC CW IMF	11.00am HC ext BCP Philip Draycott
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>						10.00am HC	
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>		10.00am HC					
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>					7.00pm HARVEST		
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> TRINITY 15		5.00pm HARVEST SOP IMF		10.00am Benefice HC CW IMF			
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am HC						
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>					10.00am HC		

*In aid of*

St Margaret's Church  
Cowlinge

# Farm Walk Bansteads Farm Kirtling

**16th September**



**£10** (including lunch)

**10.30 Coffee**

**Morning walk 1½ hrs**

**Lunch**

**Afternoon walk 1 hr approx**

**Afternoon tea on return**

No dogs please

Bookings for lunch/walk please ring 01440 783286



### HARVEST CELEBRATIONS September

Sunday 17th 6.30pm **Stradishall** church

Songs of Praise & Supper

Friday 22nd 7.00pm **Cowlinge** Church

Songs of Praise & Supper

Sunday 24th 5.00pm **Stansfield** church

Songs of Praise & Baptism

### October

Sunday 1st 9.30am **Wickhambrook** Church

Holy Communion & Jam Club

11.00am **Ousden** Church

Songs of Praise

Sunday 8th 10.00am **Denston** Church

6.00pm **Lidgate** Church

(supper on Fri. 6th)



**Traidcraftshop**

**BANSFIELD  
BENEFICE**

**Saturday 2nd September 2006**

10.00am—12 noon

In the Benefice Hall, Wickhambrook.

A full range of Traidcraft produce for sale.

Coffee morning too!