

Benefice Profile

Benefice of
Hanbury with Draycott in the Clay
Newborough
Rangemore

Bringing God's Love and Hope to the whole community
in a delightful rural East Staffordshire setting

Our congregations are determined to reach out to the wider local community by developing church-based activities. We are looking for a House for Duty Priest who can work with our PCCs to build on the solid foundations that exist within the parishes. Our location is a great place to live.

Background Information

The Benefice of Hanbury with Draycott in the Clay, Newborough and Rangemore comprises three parishes located in the beautiful rural landscape of East Staffordshire. The housing provision within the Benefice of Hanbury, Newborough and Rangemore is situated around the northern edges of the ancient 'Royal Forest of Needwood'. The farmland is mostly owned by large estates such as the Duchy of Lancaster and the Rangemore Estate (descendants of the Bass Brewing Family). The arable and dairy farms are mainly tenanted.

The benefice population is of above national average age and there are comparatively few children. Most people commute to Birmingham, Derby, Nottingham, Burton Upon Trent and Uttoxeter or are retired. Hanbury comprises two villages (Hanbury and Draycott), each with its own church and thriving pub restaurants. Newborough is centred around its church, pub restaurant and primary school, and Rangemore is divided into four communities which coalesce around the church, primary school, games field and social club. In total, despite a large land area, there are less than 2500 people residing in the benefice.

There are three retirement homes around Hanbury that occupy houses originally built by the brewery barons. The Victorian Brewery Barons from Burton Upon Trent had a major effect on the development of the villages.

Churches

The three main churches are very different in architectural character and aim to have services every Sunday. The 'Tin Tabernacle' in Draycott in the Clay is a delightful relic from the aftermath of the first world war. A Mandated Ministry Team of Vicar, OLM, Lay Reader, and Pastoral Care/Spiritual Director has been reduced following the death of the incumbent and retirement of the OLM.

- Hanbury (500 parish residents) is a beautiful ancient church, founded in the 12th century that has a highly decorated Victorian Chancel and 1980's narthex and meeting room.
- Draycott (950 parish residents), within the parish of Hanbury, is a small church which was acquired after the first world war from the battle front where it served as a mobile church for the troops.
- Newborough (450 parish residents) was rebuilt in the 1890s and has comparatively recently added a narthex.
- Rangemore (340 parish residents) was built by the Bass family in the 1860s on a money no object basis. It has an outstanding organ. The PCC is currently developing the side aisle, built in the 1880s, as a community space.



There is a strong association between the individual churches and their congregations with few parishioners travelling to other churches when there are benefice services.

The Vicarage

The vicarage is a 1970s spacious four bedroomed house located next to the mediaeval church in Hanbury village. It stands in approximately half an acre of land and has a magnificent view overlooking the River Dove valley from within its grounds. Oil fired central heating and a log burner heat the property and the village is fibre enabled for broadband access.



Hanbury has a dynamic welcoming village community with an independent self-supporting village hall. There are many community activities catering for a variety of tastes.

Transport Links

The benefice has easy access to the nation's motorway system and rail connections via Burton and Lichfield can get you directly to most parts of Britain. The local private airfield is owned by the Duchy of Lancaster and is regularly used by the royal family, particularly when visiting the National Arboretum nearby. The holiday airports of East Midlands and Birmingham are 40 minutes away and Manchester can be reached directly by a train from Tutbury, a few minutes travel from the benefice. The rural location means that bus services are sparse and cars are a necessity.

Schools

There are three Church of England primary schools in the benefice, all rated as outstanding by OFSTED and SIAMS. They are located in Draycott in the Clay, Newborough and Rangemore. Their excellence is in no small part due to the inputs from previous priests. The secondary John Taylor Academy in Barton under Needwood is one of the best schools in Staffordshire and for all three schools, children travel for miles to benefit from the outstanding education. John Taylor Academy Trust comprises a large and expanding group of secondary and primary schools that rate as offering some of the highest quality education in the County of Staffordshire with good links with the Diocese Board of Education.

There is a school bus to take children from Hanbury to Newborough Primary School and school buses transport all secondary children in the benefice to the John Taylor Academy in Barton under Needwood, although Draycott transfer to Uttoxeter at 9 years of age.

School alumni who were originally from a wide catchment area do return to their school based churches for weddings as the churches are beautiful and this is the only church that they know.

Other Facilities

The Football Association national training centre, St George's Park, abuts the benefice and the outstanding gymnasium, pool and health centre at the Hilton Hotel on the complex offer membership for local residents.

The National Memorial Arboretum is less than 15 minutes way in Alrewas and the Peak District National Park is just to the north. The benefice is situated on local gypsum hills and escarpment with magnificent local walks. There are a variety of eating places nearby ranging from gourmet to fish and chips, with several Asian food establishments offering variety. The local pubs all serve good food and, being near Burton, naturally serve outstanding beer.

All of the villages have community recreational areas for children and run local events for all ages.

Parish Community Orientations within the Benefice

The communities within the benefice look outwards towards different centres of population. Hanbury is oriented towards Tutbury, Newborough looks toward Uttoxeter, Burton and Lichfield whereas Rangemore has affinities with Barton under Needwood. The nearest large town is Burton upon Trent. There is good access to Birmingham, Derby, Nottingham, Stafford and Stoke on Trent.

Communications and Web Sites

There is an excellent benefice magazine distributed monthly.

Hanbury :	https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4297/ https://www.hanburyvillagestaffs.co.uk/hanbury-parish-church
Draycott :	https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4298/
Newborough :	https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/16688/ www.newboroughvillage.co.uk
Rangemore	https://www.churchnearyou.com/church/4300/ http://www.rangemorechurch.co.uk

The Challenges

Across the benefice, our challenges are to:

- Further develop and adapt the existing very high standards of ministry in our schools.
- Reach out to the whole community by integrating with the well-established community activities and by engaging with the network of long established families in the area, whilst being inclusive of incoming younger families.
- Encouraging all the PCCs and congregations in the benefice to act as cohesive bodies.
- Encouraging people in the parishes to develop their Christianity through Baptism, Confirmation, Lent groups, Bible study, Worship Leaders, Readers and Ordained Ministry as appropriate.
- Increasing the use of our historic buildings in ways that are appropriate to modern community life.

We can only meet these challenges by a partnership at parish level between the clergy team and our existing enthusiastic cohorts of parishioners. These parishioners comprise volunteers from the PCC and Friends who drive the village based community initiatives.

There is little serious poverty in our communities and the benefice is the least deprived in Staffordshire. There are a considerable number of people working from home and there are a significant number of people who are elderly, lonely and isolated because of the lack of public transportation. There are however significant pockets of poverty in the local town of Burton upon Trent and there are people in the parish who help other parishes in Tutbury deanery.

Current Worship Style

Almost all Sunday services within the benefice offer communion with hymns provided by our two organists and are of a comparatively low church style. Baptisms are normally incorporated into such services, but separate baptism services can be offered. All graveyards are open and well maintained. The benefice has encouraged confirmation where the majority of people coming forward are pupils and staff at the local schools. There are facilities for young children available in the churches during services. Worship pattern has been Draycott 9 a.m. every second Sunday, Hanbury and Newborough 10 a.m. and Rangemore 11.15 a.m. allowing time to travel between locations which are 10 minutes apart.

The primary schools would normally have two services per term devoted to children and their parents. There are special services at Easter, Christmas, Harvest and Remembrance Day.

The congregations would welcome more modern forms of service that might attract additional members, but these should be planned with sensitivity to current worshippers.

What We Are Looking For

We are seeking a House for Duty Priest who has the leadership and administrative ability to inspire, coordinate, work with and energise the small groups of people actively accomplishing projects within our parishes. We expect our incumbent to actively support Bishop Michael's vision by following in the footsteps of St Chad (the founder of Lichfield Cathedral) through the implementation of initiatives in Discipleship, Vocation and Evangelism.



Our priest should be outgoing and confident in their ministry, evangelising through example. Any incumbent should be able to deliver sermons and services that can be understood and are relevant to their congregations, but this is only in line with their priestly training.

We would welcome applications from candidates who can offer several of the following core competences:

- **Spiritual Leader who will enable us to grow in faith and community**
- **Executive and Managerial Skills**
- **Interpersonal Skills**
- **Financial Skills**
- **IT and Social Media Skills**
- **Driving Licence**

We are looking for the following abilities from the successful candidate:

- **Encouraging all to grow in Discipleship**
- **Revitalising the Ministry Team and lay participation in worship**
- **Building Upon** the established traditions of working with our primary schools to maintain outstanding Christian based education
- **Welcoming** the challenges of introducing attractive new forms of community activities that will revitalise the churches
- **Communicating** well with individual people and groups of all ages
- **Vision and Diplomacy** to provide a clear vision of what will be achieved, whilst ensuring the PCCs and congregations act as cohesive bodies to help achieve this
- Working most Sundays and two days in the week

We see the future as a partnership between priest, active members of the PCCs and congregations, to build local communities in line with Christian ideals. In particular, the priest should be involved and take some responsibility for developing the finances of the churches.

We offer a delightful environment to live in, where the population is largely based upon successful professionals. It is desirable for the Priest to have the ability to work with all people, whatever their faith or no faith.

Congregations

The PCCs are actively trying to attract younger members to their congregations. Like most rural parishes, the congregations are loyal and participative, but have been small, elderly and declining. We intend to reverse this trend by creating active and vibrant parish based Christian communities. Most services in all the churches use mainstream liturgy.

Finances

Even through the recent challenges caused by Covid, all the parishes have paid their parish shares in full in recent years. All churches have reserves of between £10,000 and £40,000. There are members of each PCC that have the ability to manage the day to day operations through extra mural activities, but capital expenditure remains a challenge.

Deanery and Diocese

We are in one of the two rural benefices (large geographic area low population density) in Tutbury Deanery. Tutbury Deanery is bounded by the Rivers Trent and Dove and is dominated by Burton Upon Trent.

The benefice is within the Diocese of Lichfield, which is one of the largest in the country. It extends from the Welsh Border around the north of the Black Country and includes Stoke on Trent and Shrewsbury. It has large rural areas such as the Staffordshire Moorlands (Peak District) and the Welsh Marches but includes some areas such as Wolverhampton and Stoke.

The Deanery of Tutbury

The deanery is the easternmost in the Diocese of Lichfield. With Uttoxeter Deanery it is in the Borough of East Staffordshire. It contains the part of the town of Burton upon Trent to the north of the river. The largest villages are Tutbury, Barton-under-Needwood and Rolleston-on-Dove. Hanbury, Rangemore, Newborough and Draycott in the Clay are among the smaller places where people live. Urban, village and rural settings bring their own dynamics to church life.

There are 19 churches, with various parish and benefice groupings.

The clergy chapter is a supportive body, well attended by clergy in the various categories – incumbents, stipendiary curates, self-supporting ministers, clergy with permission to officiate and a hospital chaplain. Before the pandemic the ‘full time equivalent’ allocation for parish ministry in the deanery was 6.4. This may be reduced to 5.6 at some point in 2023.

Tutbury Deanery Synod meets four times a year.

The deanery has participated fully in the diocese’s *Shaping for Mission* process. A group of four church members, two clerical and two lay, is coordinating future action, keeping synod and parishes focussed.

The Rural Dean, Michael Freeman, has been in that post since 2010, and in the deanery from 2001.

Video

We have produced a video to give you a dynamic representation of the Benefice

<http://www.enterpriseknowledge.co.uk/beneficevideo.mp4>

Hanbury Parish

Hanbury parish comprises the villages of Hanbury and Draycott in the Clay and Hamlets. It lies on the gypsum hill escarpment dropping down to the Rive Dove valley.

Hanbury

St. Werburgh is a delightful church set high on a scarp slope overlooking the Dove Valley. Hanbury means 'high fort'. It comprises a splendid mixture of the various styles of English architecture and houses some excellent monuments.



St. Werburgh was said to be the daughter of King Wulfhere of Mercia. She founded various nunneries, including Hanbury. She died in 699. St Werburgh instructed that she was to be buried in Hanbury however the nuns of Threckingham (Trentham) refused to give up the body of St Werburgh until those of Hanbury took the body to the tomb in Hanbury. In 708 the body of St Werburgh was exhumed because of the many miracles associated with her. This was done in the presence of her brother, King Coenred of Mercia and his council. They found her body to be incorrupt and as it was when it had been laid to rest, and Hanbury became a place of pilgrimage. In 875 the body was moved to Chester for fear of Danish Viking raids.

The church is used as a community post office one day a week, has an efficient and fairly modern central heating system, audio system with microphones, kitchen and toilet facilities. Until the pandemic, it was open 365 days a year from dawn until dusk.

Hanbury is an idyllic rural village with a great community spirit. The village centre is at the top of a gypsum escarpment but the parish extends to the river Dove which is also the county boundary. Fibre broadband facilities are available facilitating modern communications.

Gypsum is still mined at the Fauld mine in the parish but this generates very little disturbance to the population. There is a significant recent history involving the Fauld explosion when a bomb storage unit in the gypsum mines blew up creating the largest non-nuclear explosion in the second world war. Because of the people who died, there are still close ties to the local Italian community who are descended from Italian prisoners of war and the Royal Air Force. There is an annual memorial service. The explosion created a huge crater which is now a memorial to the 70 dead and caused damage to many local buildings including the local pub. A new large pub was built in the 1950s to replace the old building and now hosts an outstanding restaurant.

The village has an independent village hall run by a local committee. Traditional village activities include the Windmill club, bowls club, cricket club, badminton club, gardening club and the WI. There are two retirement homes in the village with close links to the Christian community. There are no shops in the village.

There are over 50 members on the Electoral Roll.

Draycott in the Clay

Draycott lies on the busy A515 between Lichfield and Ashbourne. It has a small church, a village hall (which used to be the village school) and a purpose built Church of England primary school came into being in the 1970s which is part of the Staffordshire University Academies Trust. Pupils from the school normally go on to middle and secondary schools in Uttoxeter from the age of 9. There is an active Methodist church which works closely with St Augustine's Church.



The village has an outstanding general store with a post office. The village community runs a Village show once a year. There are two village pubs offering meals and there is an Indian restaurant. There is a care home in the village.

Hamlets

There are three hamlets the parish comprising groups of dwellings:- Hanbury Woodend, Fauld and Coton in the Clay. Fauld and Coton are at the bottom of the escarpment on the road between Marchington and Tutbury.

Newborough Parish

Newborough is a small rural village lying in a steep sided valley through which flows the local brook, grandly entitled the River Swarbourn. The village is focussed around its church, school, period-themed coffee shop and pub. These are all closely located at the centre of the village where the roads from Burton upon Trent, Abbots Bromley, Yoxall and Draycott in the Clay converge. Apart from housing built around the village centre, there are individual dwellings scattered throughout the parish with smaller concentrations of housing three-quarters of a mile to the north and south of the village centre at Hollybush and Newborough End.



There have been three churches at the present site. The first acted as a chapel of ease to Hanbury in the reign of Edward II. It was replaced by a second church in the 17th century. This building became structurally unsound and the current church, All Saint's, was constructed as a replacement between 1899 and 1901. The strikingly unusual clock tower has an octagonal cross-section with tall spire and is a major local landmark. Over the last twenty years, significant work has been done to secure the stability of the tower, to create a community space narthex in the Nave with kitchen and toilet facilities, as well as complete re-decoration of the interior, and modernisation of the P.A., heating and electrical systems. The existing bells that had not been pealed for some 25 years, because of concerns about the stability of the tower when the bells swung, have recently been converted to electronic striking. Now, the sound of our church bells can be heard again in the village. All of this work has been funded by a combination of community fund raising, diocesan grants and bequests. We are now commencing upon work to secure the roof.

The village has its own Parish Council, which meets in the church. There is an outstanding primary school, Needwood School that has close links with Rangemore School (they share a Head Teacher and is part of the broader John Taylor academy. However, it should be noted that over 50% of the pupils come from out of catchment. The major community activity centres on the well- dressing festival. The village has a cricket team, that plays matches on a field just to the north of the village, and a toddler group, as well as children's play area (Riverside Park). Eland Lodge equestrian centre is situated about one mile to the north of the village centre.

Plans have been passed for the conversion of former holiday accommodation near to the village centre into a Children's Home.

The Red Lion pub has a restaurant with a good reputation. There is also a popular café open during the day, also highly recommended.

There are 20 members on the Electoral Role.

Rangemore Parish

Rangemore ecclesiastical parish was created around the estate of the Bass brewing family in the 1880s. Much of the land was originally the Royal Forest of Needwood and the deer parks that provided the animals for hunting. The current parish of Rangemore is largely agricultural but there are four major dormitory areas which have attracted affluent commuters. Only Tatenhill Common existed before 1860. St George's Park, the English football training centre, is partially located in the parish.

There is a mini-supermarket at the Shell petrol station in the north-west corner of the parish.

Rangemore Village

The original village cottages were designed by the famous Victorian architect Butterfield. After the second world war, a number of council houses were built, and three or four houses were added in the 1960s. There has been little building since then and there are approximately 50 houses in total. The church and associated primary school were part of the original



development funded by the Bass family. The Rangemore Club (pub) was added twenty years later. Many of the houses are rental properties owned and managed by the Rangemore Estate (Bass family). There are a number of privately owned cottages sold in the 1970s to pay for estate death duties. There is also a large playing field that hosts football and cricket.

Tatenhill Common

The area comprises widely spread-out houses that once housed agricultural workers. They are now highly desirable private dwellings that have mostly been extended. A few new houses have been added.

Rangemore Hall

The original hall and stables have been converted to some 50 luxury and smaller dwellings. Of note is the King Edward VII wing which was built to house the king on his official and unofficial visits as a friend of Lord Burton. After the second world war, Rangemore Hall was the location of a pioneering school for the hard of hearing and past pupils still visit from time to time.



Wilmore Lane

The development was created from the Byrkley Lodge estate and originally housed a very successful racing stable in addition to a farm and estate management buildings. It is now a community of private residences.

Rangemore All Saints Church

The original building was designed by Butterfield and benefits from outstanding acoustics. It housed approximately 120 worshippers in a poly-chromatic brick architectural style. An aisle was added in the 1880s and in late 1890s, a new chancel was added. Lord Burton decreed that the internal style should be changed to a stone clad design and accomplished this with the help of the architect Bodley. The alabaster and rood screen carvings are outstanding. The whole building reeks of a money-no-object approach that includes a beautiful pipe organ.

In the last 6 months there has been a substantial change within the PCC and half are now under the age of 40. Numerous projects have evolved, even during the pandemic, including messy church, painting classes, 'Saturday Singing', Onion Festival, mums meeting group, ladies afternoon tea, gardening group, church cleaning group, churchyard group. There is an active Friends of Rangemore Church that has organised a hugely successful barn dance, history exhibition and concerts. The Friends are currently tackling the restoration of the clock and chimes. The delight has been that people from across the age range have come together to create hugely successful events. The school will also use the space to enhance their education experiences.

The facilities available are limited and there are major plans to introduce toilets, a ground source heat pump, kitchen facilities. It will require stackable chairs and tables that can integrate into the architecture.

Rangemore Club

The club was founded as a bar and reading room. The reading room has morphed into a snooker room. The facilities are entirely complementary to the facilities that are being

created in the church. The old business model was where a steward was employed and turnover, mostly from people outside the village, was important. It has now refocused to be a volunteer organisation devoted to the needs of the local people.

Rangemore All Saints Primary School

The school has been outstandingly successful and attracts pupils from a very wide catchment area. The Church of England school has a high level of Christian educational distinctiveness that has been developed in conjunction with the benefice clergy team. The school has been assessed by OFSTED as outstanding.

Communications

The Christian community has traditionally been introverted in nature and there was little effort to reach out to the local community. Recent developments within the PCC have emphasised communications as essential to reinvigoration of the parish. This started with leafleting but has been expanded by creating a web site (www.rangemorechurch.co.uk) and a Facebook presence is being developed.

The church electoral role numbers had deteriorated to 12 participants but an ongoing campaign of knocking on doors is increasing numbers past 50 (out of 320 people in the parish). One important result has been the collation of an email list that, each month, enables the parish to send out information about services and other church activities.