



Vee: 1936 - 2025



Events

The Song of the Mass

14th June, 19:30, St Peter's Church.

New Cambridge Singers will be coming to Horningsea on June 14th to give a concert of German Romantic Choral music, entitled *The Song of the Mass*.

The central piece will be Rheinberger's Mass, *Cantus Missae*, one of the most beautiful choral works of the 19th century: elegant, rich and flowing, which should sound wonderful in the lovely acoustic of St Peter's.

The programme also includes lieder and sacred music by Brahms and Mendelssohn, as well as some delightful songs, *Gartenlieder (Garden Songs)* by Mendelssohn's sister, Fanny Hensel. Their memorable, varied melodies and colorful harmonies describing the beauties of nature were possibly inspired by the Mendelssohn's Sunday musicales in the garden cottage on the family estate.

Tickets £14, U18s £7 from the Plough and Fleece or on the door. Enquiries 07804 836516 frank.hopkirk.ncs@btinternet.com

N.B. Two Horningsea residents, Helen and Frank, will be singing.

<http://newcambridgesingers.org.uk/>

Horningsea CIC AGM

24th June, 19:00, Plough and Fleece

The AGM for the Horningsea Community Interest Company (CIC) will be held on the 24th June, 2025 at 19:00. All investors and residents are welcome.

Horningsea CIC is the community owned company that owns and leases out our fabulous village pub, The Plough and Fleece.

<https://ploughandfleece.co.uk/>

PTFA Pub quiz night in support of Fen Ditton Primary school

Thursday, 26th June, From 19:00. The Crown and Punchbowl

Come and join us for a pub quiz on Thursday 26th June at the Crown and Punchbowl. All funds go to our local school, Fen Ditton primary school, to contribute to new playground markings.

There's already a team of six mums and a team of teachers ready to go! Any other takers? Book your table directly with the pub.



Horningsea Village Day is fast approaching!

Saturday 5th July, Village Green

Join us on Saturday 5th July for a traditional village day full of fun, food and festivities.

What's happening!

15:00 **Vee's Teas** with homemade cakes.

16:00 Back by popular demand **Horningsea Pet Show** – see attached poster.

From 16:00 - Freshly cooked pizzas by **Fired Up Pizza** at the special price of £5.

18.30 & 20.30 – returning to play for us again this year are the fabulous band Tripwire. Enjoy a dance or chill out and listen to their music, they really are a brilliant band and there'll be music for everyone to enjoy.

Disco to end the evening, finishing when the last person goes home!

What else is happening

Coconut shy, Plant stall, Wine/bottle stall, Kids tombola, Hook a duck, Splat a rat, Bouncy castle for the little ones, Inflatable assault course for the more energetic, Beer from the pubs, Tug of war, Display of classic cars and bikes

Absolutely not to be missed the hilarious knobbly knees competition!!

So bring the whole family and a picnic if you fancy and enjoy the community spirit.
Cash/ small change for the stalls if possible.

<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/5654>

The Horningsea Residents Association (HRA) are a small but very enthusiastic group of villagers who work hard to organise and run numerous events throughout the year. If you fancy knowing more about what they do or if you can spare an hour or two to help at any event please ask.

St Peter's Church

St Peter's Horningsea Services for June 2025

- **1st June – 10.30 Holy Baptism**
- **8th June – 16.00 Village Service**
- **18th June - 20:30 Compline**
- **29th June - 10:30 United Holy Communion**

<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/5676>

Petertide: Joint Service followed by picnic

Petertide: Joint Service at St Peter's Church.

Petertide: Joint Service at St Peter's Horningsea on 29 June 10.30 followed by a bring and share picnic. The Patronal Festival at St Peter's Church on 29 June at 10.30 will be followed by a bring and share picnic in the churchyard – if the weather is good you can sit in the churchyard and look down towards the river ... if the weather is not good the picnic will be inside!

Brian Hart 1941 - 2025

Brian Hart was born and brought up in Horningsea. His parents Ted and Maud Hart ran the post office and village shop in one of the houses in the High Street. He went to Horningsea school and then to Bottisham. He was always a keen footballer and by 1958 he played for the United Youth Team in a season in which they won every match until the FA Youth Cup Final. He scored over 300 goals. He played for England Youth and in 1959 scored against Republic of Ireland when England won 5-0. Later on he played for West Brom, Nuneaton and Telford. His funeral will be held at St Peter's Church, Horningsea on Tuesday 10th June at 10.30.

For more information about his career look up:

www.cambridgeunited.com/news/brian-hart-1941-2025

Vee: 1936 - 2025

Everyone in the village will be very sad to hear that Vee has died, aged 89. She has been a "fixture" in the village for well over 30 years. When she moved to Horningsea she decided she must "get involved" and so she joined in everything. She was a church warden at St Peter's for many years and still served as a member of the PCC and on the committee of Friends of Horningsea Church. At one time she was chairman of the HRA. She was treasurer of the Horticultural Show. She was a Trustee of the Village Hall and Green. She was a keen member of the WI. She was a committed member of the book club until Covid closed it. Vee's Teas were part of every village event. She had a lovely reading voice and took part in concerts and events - from Wind in the Willows as a rabbit to Shakespeare (always saying "I thought I would read this in a Devon accent!"). She used to attend the Parish Council as a concerned parishioner - always asking questions about the bus service and speeding traffic. Her role as Ambassador for Horningsea was highlighted when she visited Horningsea Park in Sydney, Australia and presented the Mayor of Horningsea Park with a gift from the village. She was a good friend to so many - whether she met them on the bus, in her work or in the village. She will be greatly missed.



Vee on fine form at a Horningsea Residents Association meeting in the Plough and Fleece.

Vee's funeral will be on Friday 13th June - 10.15 at the Cambridge Crematorium for a very short service, followed at 11:15 by a Service of Thanksgiving at St Peter's church, Horningsea. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Plough and Fleece, Horningsea.

Family flowers only but donations in memory of Vee to St Peter's Church, Horningsea.

Happy 90th Birthday!

St Peter's Church wishes Michael Harrison a very Happy 90th Birthday in June. Michael has been a devoted member of the church community since moving the village, attending church in his motorised wheelchair in recent years. He was baptised and confirmed in St Peter's. He was treasurer of the Friends of Horningsea Church for many years. Congratulations Michael!

The Plough and Fleece - Events for June

The Paint club - Thursday 12th June

Jamaican Supper club - Saturday 14th June

Quiz Night - Weds 18th June

Rock & Roll Bingo - Friday 27th (last Friday of the month)

The June Events flyer is attached.

To make a booking for these please call or email:

bookings@ploughandfleece.co.uk - 01223 860795

Upcoming Events

HRA Dates for Diary 2025

- Saturday 5th July **Village Day**
- Saturday 13th July **Horticultural Show**
- Saturday 13th September **Apple Pressing**
- Sunday 2nd November **Bonfire Night**
- Sunday 30th November **Christmas Tree Lighting**
- Monday 26th January 2026 **HRA AGM** – 19:00
- Saturday 7th February 2026 **International Evening**
- Saturday 4th July 2026 **Village Day**

Dates are subject to change. Check the village website for updates.

<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/5469>

There's also the Herald calendar:

<https://goo.gl/4592dL>

The 69th Horticultural show

One of the highlights of the village calendar is the Horticultural Show. The Show Committee completely transform the look of the Village Hall with tables groaning under the weight of all of the exhibits.

TV shows like The Great British Bake off and The Big Allotment Challenge have re-sparked interest in the whimsy of the traditional village show. Our typical entrant now is actually atypical, there are seasoned and newer competitors. There is a good mix of entrants across the board. The children's classes add more fun and colour and all the children receive something for entering.

This year's show is on Saturday 12th July. The full details are on the Horticultural Show page with entry forms. The schedule has been kindly sponsored by Scotsdales Nursery and Garden Centre Ltd and Spectacular Opticians. As well as on the website schedules have been hand delivered to residents.

This year the entry form has been updated as many classes have been updated and simplified.

If you are nervous or on the fence about entering just have a go... you might surprise yourself. Or at the very least, enjoy a pleasant summer morning and some good natured competition with your fellow villagers.

We are also looking for new people to help us to run the show. It's not a huge time commitment and many hands make light work. If you'd like to contribute to Horningsea Village events but don't have a huge amount of time to spare then this is the one for you.

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<https://www.horningsea.net/horningsea-horticultural-show>

<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/5651>

Plaque to commemorate James M Farmer

Saturday 19 July 2025 14.00 - 16.30 at St Peter's Church Horningsea

On the 19th July 2025 a plaque will be unveiled in St Peter's Church, Horningsea dedicated to James M Farmer who tragically lost his life in Quay Fen a mile from the centre of the village of Horningsea on 19th July 1945. The plaque has now been made and a suitable plinth will be made out of mahogany so it can join the war memorials in the village church

The 19th of July will be exactly eighty years since his death. Even though Victory in Europe had been declared on 8th May 1945, the war in the Far East was continuing as VJ Day did not happen until August 1945. There were still a large number of American pilots based in the UK. Captain James Farmer was a distinguished P 51 Pilot with the USAAF based at Duxford on a training flight that day. During his service in the USAAF he had been awarded a number of medals for bravery in action – the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with 8 Oak Leaf Clusters.

John Wilson has been researching James' life and the circumstances under which his plane crashed. His plane went into a spin and he bailed out, but his parachute failed to open properly. Two men from the village were first on the site by Crooked Drain where they were working, however he died before further help arrived. One elderly lady from Horningsea recalls that his body was brought into the church before it was removed back to the Base.

Pete Crosby has written an account of farm workers who told the story of seeing the ghost of an American pilot standing on the very field where the plane crashed.

John has been in touch with the USAAF museum at Duxford and with the curator Hettie Hearn. With her help he has made contact with James' great niece, Barbara, in the States. She is overjoyed that we are remembering him with this tribute.

John has found photographs of part of the crashed plane and has even found remnants of the plane still buried in the Fen.

He has invited various senior members of the USAF to come on 19th July and hopes that at least one representative will be able to attend, possibly with an Honor Guard. He has made contact with an American wartime reenactment group who hopefully will come and do a demonstration in one of the fields in the village. All being well there will be a flypast of three planes including a Mustang over the village at 15:00 on the afternoon of 19th July.

As a number of the "small boys and girls" who remember the plane going down were pupils at Horningsea School it is a good opportunity to hold the Horningsea School reunion at the same time. If you - or your parents or grandparents - went to Horningsea School then come along to meet up with your old school friends and exchange stories of Horningsea when you were growing up.

Put the date in your diary and make a plan to come along to St Peter's Horningsea between 2pm and 4.30pm on Saturday 19th July for the unveiling of the plaque in memory of James M Farmer, to view an exhibition about him and Horningsea in War Time, to meet up with old school friends, listen to the stories and recollections – and enjoy tea and cakes!

As you may be aware we intend to place a plaque in the church on the 19th of July to honour James Farmer a pilot in the USAAF who crashed in Horningsea Fen on this day eighty years ago. Two men from the village were in the field at the time and went to his assistance when his parachute failed to open, but he sadly died. James had a distinguished career and received several military honours for his war service.



The plaque has been cast and is now in the process of being mounted.

Approaches to the HRA Parish Council and village Millennium green trust have been made to cover the cost with good responses. The wooden plaque will be made of very old Brazilian Mahogany, in keeping with present memorials. Contact has been made with living relatives of the family in America who are very moved by our tribute to James. We are currently in contact with the US Air Force for their involvement and also The USAF museum at Duxford who will be represented on the 19th July

There are also other events in the planning for the day in the church.

<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/5667>

<https://www.horningsea.net/history-2/the-fallen-of-horningsea>

Horningsea Parish Council

Horningsea Parish Council meetings for 2025

PC meetings are in the village hall and generally from 19:30 but check the agenda published on the [Parish Council website](#) before.

- 30th July
- 24th September
- 26th November.

Reports

Please send in photos or reports of any village events to horningseanews@gmail.com

HRA 80th VE Day celebrations 8th May 2025 - Report.

Horningsea marked VE Day with the lighting of the beacon on the village green on 8th May. Prosecco was enjoyed as we listened to the ringing of the church bells and music from the 1940's.

Thanks to the Horningsea Residents Association for organising.



<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/5670>

Fen Ditton Community Primary School - news

Term dates

AUTUMN TERM 2024	SPRING TERM 2025	SUMMER TERM 2025
Term Starts – Weds 4 Sept School Ends – Fri 25 Oct Half Term - 28 Oct – 1 Nov School Starts – Tues 5 Nov Term Ends – Fri 20 Dec	Term Starts – Tues 7 Jan School Ends – Fri 14 Feb Half Term - 17 Feb – 21 Feb School Starts – Mon 24 Feb Term Ends – Fri 4 April	Term Starts – Wed 23 April May BH – Mon 5 May School Ends – Friday 23 May Half Term - 26 May – 30 May School Starts – Tues 3 June Term Ends – Wed 23 July

Horningsea Planning

Save Honey Hill update

As you will have undoubtedly seen, the Save Honey Hill group received the Secretary of State's response to our Pre-Action Letter and on the advice of our legal team we have concluded that there is little point in pursuing a Judicial Review any further incurring costs which might lead to a negligible outcome.

We will now spend the next few weeks winding things down from a financial point of view. We will await the invoices from our solicitors and barristers and settle our accounts forthwith.

We would like to assure you that the Save Honey Hill team will continue its duty as per our constitution to engage with Anglian Water, our Parish Councils and all other

stakeholders and do our best to ensure that mitigating the detrimental effects of this project on our communities is at the forefront of their minds at all times.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your support over the last five years, without it we may not have won the argument and had the agreement and support of the Planning Inspectorate in its recommendation to refuse the application.

The full statement is on the Save Honey Hill website.

<https://www.savehoneyhill.org/campaign-update/>

Notes

Darwin Nurseries under threat

Nick Moir

You may be aware that the Darwin Nurseries shop has been closed for the past fortnight under somewhat unclear circumstances, which appear to be related to the presence of animals on the premises. I have spoken with Sandie from the nurseries -- who some of you may recall gave a talk at the Fen Ditton Gardening Club recently -- and she has confirmed that the closure has been ordered by the Foundation Trust.

Sandie has advised that if local residents wish to support efforts to reopen the nurseries, they should contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) at the following:

Telephone: 01223 219444

Email: palsandcomplaints@cpft.nhs.uk

It would be extremely helpful if as many local users as possible could reach out to express how much the nurseries are valued -- not only as a practical facility, but as an important part of our local community and social fabric. If you are a regular visitor or supporter, please do consider getting in touch and urging the Trust to allow the shop to reopen as soon as possible.

With greenhouses currently full of bedding plants ready for our gardens, it would be a great shame if they were not put to use in our community.

Please feel free to share this with anyone who may be interested in supporting the cause.

Bell Ringing in Horningsea Church

Bell Ringing practice will be on the second Wednesday of each month from 19.00 -- 20.30. Email blegallez@yahoo.co.uk and ask Barbara about practice sessions.

Cam Conservancy statement on Baits Bite and Jesus Lock

The Cam Conservancy started work on the lock repair on the 28th May. issued an update on the closure of the locks on the 3rd April:

<https://www.camconservancy.org/general-5>

For any enquiries, please contact the Clerk to the Conservators of the River Cam: Tracy Yarrow clerk@camconservators.org.uk Mob: 07549 018909"

New Life, the Parish Magazine

New Life is the Parish Magazine produced by the churches in Horningsea, Fen Ditton and Teversham. It costs £5 a year to subscribe and ensures you are kept up to date with whatever is going on in the Three Parishes. If you don't already get a copy let one of the Church Wardens know and you can be added to the list!

Public Calendar of Horningsea events

There's a public calendar to share Horningsea events. This is a busy little village and it can be hard to keep track of all the different events.

<https://goo.gl/4592dL>

You can also add it to your own calendar directly using the following link:

<https://goo.gl/MrNWfg>

How to submit news to the Herald

The only guideline for news is for events and articles that are of direct relevance to the inhabitants of Horningsea. The Herald does not accept advertising, but one off "news items" may be used to publicise local businesses. To submit news items email "horningseanews@gmail.com". There is no fee.

All villagers are invited to send in recipes, stories past and present about Horningsea, photos of the village past and present, your hobbies! If it interests the editorial team then it gets published! You must submit by the 4th weekend of the month, the Herald being published before the first and third weekends of the month. Submission of any news items implies consent to any editing and the editorial team's decision is always final. **Always send as plain text via email.** Do NOT send formatted documents. Do NOT send articles as PDF or Word files. Stay under 700 words, preferably less. Attach any photos to the email. If you send in a PDF or image of a poster/flyer then attach a paragraph of text to go into the Herald as well.