



Carols by Candlelight is on the 14th

Horningsea Herald

Issue #205 December 2025

For further information on Horningsea visit our village website at:
www.horningsea.net

To contribute to the Herald, please contact the editor by the 25th of the month at:
horningseanews@googlemail.com

Events

CHRISTMAS IS A-COMING!

Sunday 30th November 2025 at 17:30 Jubilee Gardens

Kick off the Horningsea Christmas in the traditional way. Enjoy a glass of mulled wine and Mincepies at the Christmas Tree Lighting.

<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/5883>

Christmas in Horningsea

All Horningsea Christmas events are listed on the village website including church services, pub events and more.

<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/5889>

Advent Windows in Horningsea

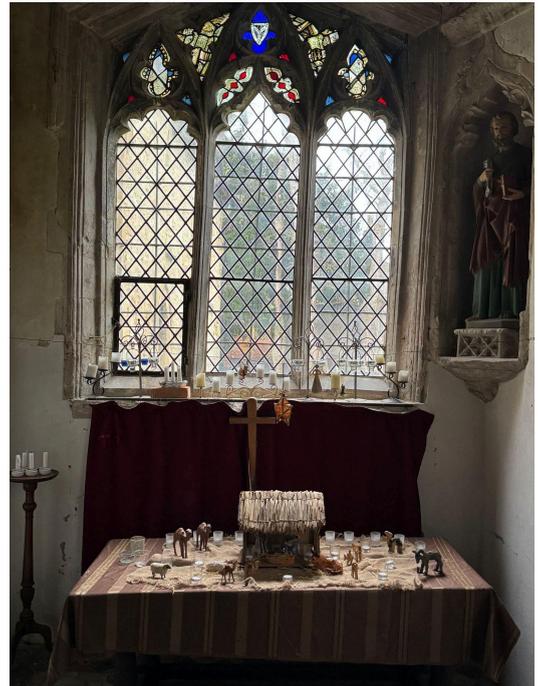
From 1st December until Christmas Eve you will find the Advent Windows of Horningsea. Go for a walk around the village and see if you can spot the new window each day... they will each be unique, illustrating a different aspect of Christmas. Spoiler alert ... you will find the window for Christmas Eve in the Church porch! This year we also have an interactive map showing the locations of each window.

<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/5886>

Candlelit Carol Service at St Peter's Church

Sunday 14th December at 18.00, St Peter's Church

The annual service Carols by Candlelight will be on Sunday 14 December at 18.00. Working parties will have been decorating the church with hundreds of candles which will be lit, alongside the oil lamps. The Carol service is very traditional ... children will sing the first verse of Once in Royal David's City, the Horningsea Young Persons Orchestra will play a specially adapted piece, Fen Edge singers will sing a lesser known carol and the congregation will sing well known and favourite carols. In between the singing the story of Christmas will be read in the traditional readings and children will carry lanterns to the crib for a blessing. Come early to help light the candles and to get a seat, wear something warm as the church is always chilly! After the service there will be mince pies and mulled apple juice or mulled wine - contributions of mince pies always welcome!



Cambridge Vocal Consort in Concert

Friday 19th December 19:00, St Peter's Church

This splendid small choir will present a concert of Christmas music on the Friday evening of 19 December. Entry will be by donation. Take time out of this busy weekend to sit, listen and contemplate beautiful music!

A Very Short Nativity

Sunday 21st December at 10.30, St Peter's Church

Children of all ages and their families are invited to come and join in a Very Short Nativity on Sunday 21 December. The Christmas story will be read as children dress up and take part. No one has to learn any lines. We will need one grumpy innkeeper, one Mary and Joseph but as many shepherds, angels, Wise People as we can muster. The whole event will only last about 15 minutes or so.

There will be refreshments at the end.

Then, at about 12 noon, there will be a short service of Holy Communion for anyone who would like to stay on.

[St Peter's Church](#)

Church services for December

- Sunday 7th December, 10.30 - **Holy Communion**
- Sunday 14th December, 18.00 - **Carols by Candlelight**
- Wednesday 17th December, 20.30 - late night service of **Compline**
- Sunday 21st December, 10.30 - **A Very Short Nativity** followed at about 12 noon by Holy Communion
- Sunday 11th January, 16.00 - **Village Service**

<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/5889>

[The Plough and Fleece - Events for December](#)

Festive Outfit Night - Friday 19th, 19:00 onwards- Come on down in your best Christmas outfits and enjoy a Free Glass of Mulled Wine and Mince Pies.

Christmas Day Drinks - Join us for drinks 12:00 until 14:00.

Festive Rock and Roll Bingo - New Year's Eve. Looking for something fun to do on New Year's Eve? Then why not join us for Rock Bingo? A wonderful way to celebrate into the new year! 20:00. Pub open till late.

Full details of all these events on the attached flyer.

To make a booking for these please call or email:

bookings@ploughandfleece.co.uk - 01223 860795

Following the Star

Wednesday 17th December 2025 at 20:00, St Giles' Church

A programme of Carols for Choir and Audience by the New Cambridge Singers.

One of the City's foremost chamber choirs, the New Cambridge Singers under their conductor James Potter present a carol concert offering the perfect way to start the Festive season. They follow the journey of the enigmatic Wise Men - the Magi, seeing the star and travelling from distant lands to worship the Child in Bethlehem. Well-loved music and modern classics by Handel, Dove, Poulenc, Willcocks & more, plus the chance to join in with favourite carols.

St Giles' Church, Castle Street, Cambridge CB3 0AQ

Tickets £18, Students £8, under-18s free

Retiring collection in aid of Shelter

www.ticketsource.co.uk/new-cambridge-singers

Upcoming Events

HRA Dates for Diary 2025

- 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>

Horningsea Parish Council News

Stay Connected with Horningsea Parish Council

We'd like to remind all residents to keep an eye on the Horningsea Parish Council website, where we regularly share important news, updates, and information about our village. From community notices to upcoming events and council decisions, the website is the best place to stay informed about what's happening locally.

<https://www.horningsea-pc.gov.uk/>

Watch this space as we progress with the Net Zero Grant works in the Jubilee Garden, an exciting project aimed at improving sustainability and enhancing our shared community spaces. We also expect to launch the Village Cargo Bike soon, providing a new, eco-friendly transport option for residents to enjoy.

We're always keen to hear your ideas, suggestions, or concerns. Please feel free to speak to any Parish Council member or email us directly at clerk@horningsea-pc.gov.uk.

Additionally, we are always happy to welcome new members who would like to get involved and help shape the future of our community. If you're interested in joining or simply want to learn more, we'd love to hear from you.

Horningsea Parish Council meetings

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

Councillors' Reports

For the latest County and District Councillors' reports, please visit the news section of the Parish Council website: www.horningsea-pc.gov.uk/news

Notes

Carols by Candlelight - preparation

Many thanks to everybody who gave up their Saturday morning to help prepare the church for the carol service on Sunday the 14th. The church looks wonderful!



Horningsea Parish Charities (The Poores Land : 201124)

L.Davies, Will Neale, Canon Nick Moir, John Wilson: Trustees

The Parish Charities were established about 250 years ago to give grants to anyone in Horningsea who may be in need of help. The Trustees will meet at the beginning of December to consider how the income can be distributed this year. In the past we have made grants to the elderly, those who are unwell, families with young children, people in the village who are having a hard time. We have contributed to Fen Ditton school to enable Horningsea children to attend educational activities. Last year with the help of Emily Kitt, for her DoE project, we provided hampers to a number of people in the

village. If you know anyone who you think would benefit from a grant this December ... or at any time of the year please let the Trustees know by emailing horningsea@ParishCharities.co.uk or ring 07855 282020

If you would like to make a donation to the charities, it would be gratefully received. Please contact the charity using the above details.

Work to the Church Tower and Floor in 2026

It is hoped that in early 2026 work will begin to make access to the Church Tower safer than it is now and to replace the floor in the north side of the church. The total cost of the work will be over £130,000. We have applied for a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund and we hope the balance will be met from the Friends of Horningsea Church, smaller grant bodies (including the Diocesan Bell Ringers) and the Church itself. If you would like to contribute to the cost of the work we would be really grateful! Please contact one of the churchwardens, Jennie or Lindsay on churchwardenhorningsea@gmail.com

Regular bulletins on the progress of the work will be published!

Reports

Horningsea Bonfire and Fireworks - Report

Horningsea village green was glowing on Sunday 2nd November as families, friends and neighbours gathered for this year's Bonfire Night and Firework celebration hosted by Horningsea Residents Association.

The evening kicked off at 17.30 with music on the green with long queues all evening for the ever-popular hotdogs and hot chocolate.

At 18.30 the fireworks were set off with a bang drawing ooh's and aah's from the crowd. Lighting of the bonfire followed, sending a warm glow across the green. A single guy sat on top of the fire



(more photos on the village website - <https://www.horningsea.net/archives/5939>)

Visitors commented on the family friendly atmosphere, great food, how well the event was organised and the hard work of the committee and other volunteers from the village who helped on the night.

All of the profit made from the night will go towards funding Horningsea's social events throughout the next year.

A special thanks go to Scotsdales for opening up their car park allowing cars to park for free. Scotsdales staff also very kindly gave up their time to safely man the car park. With people also arriving by bus the High Street, apart from resident's cars remained clear all evening.

Thanks to the careful planning of organisers and volunteers the evening ran smoothly and safely.

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!

Make sure you're protected this winter

NHS Cambridgeshire & Peterborough urging anyone eligible for their COVID-19, flu, RSV or pneumococcal vaccines to make sure they've had them this winter. Each vaccine has a slightly different eligibility criteria:

RSV vaccine – for anyone who is pregnant, aged 75-79, or anyone who turned 80 years old from 1 September 2024.

Pneumococcal vaccine – for anyone 65 or over (only one dose is needed).

Flu vaccine – for anyone aged 65 or over (including those who will be 65 by 31 March 2025); have certain long-term health conditions; are pregnant; live in a care home; are the main carer for an older or disabled person, or receive a carer's allowance; or live with someone who has a weakened immune system.

COVID-19 vaccine – for anyone aged 75+; those aged between six months and 74 years and have a weakened immune system because of a health condition or treatment; and people who live in a care home for older adults.

For some people who have got used to have their COVID-19 and flu vaccine together in winter, this might mean a change for them as the COVID-19 vaccine age criteria has changed from people over 65 to people over 75.

To find out more about these vaccines, and how to book them, or find a walk-in clinic, please visit The Vaccinators website <https://www.cpics.org.uk/the-vaccinators>

New funding launched to help young Cambridgeshire entrepreneurs turn business dreams into reality

Cambridgeshire Community Foundation has partnered with SWEF to offer grants of up to £2,000 for aspiring business owners aged 18-30.

Cambridgeshire Community Foundation is proud to announce the launch of SWEF grants in Cambridgeshire, offering vital funding to help young people from disadvantaged backgrounds start and grow their own businesses.

Research shows that 79% of young people from disadvantaged backgrounds cite lack of funding as the biggest barrier to starting a business. SWEF exists to tackle this challenge, providing grants of up to £2,000 to young entrepreneurs aged 18-30 who are taking their first steps in business.

Since its launch, SWEF has awarded over 1,000 grants nationally, with an impressive success rate – 9 out of 10 applicants who reach the interview stage receive funding. Now, young people across Cambridgeshire will have access to this life-changing opportunity.

Two grant types are available:

- Start-up grants (up to £500) are designed for those in the pre-revenue stage or just starting to trade, covering essential equipment, marketing materials, set-up costs and training.
- Business grants (up to £2,000) support established businesses trading for less than 2 years and generating £500+ per month, funding equipment, marketing and expansion costs that will transform and grow the business.

Michael O'Toole, CEO of Cambridgeshire Community Foundation, commented:

"We're thrilled to bring SWEF funding to Cambridgeshire. Young entrepreneurs face significant barriers to accessing finance, and this partnership will help remove those obstacles for talented, driven individuals across our county. Whether someone is launching a creative venture, a trades business, or a tech start-up, SWEF can provide the crucial funding they need at a pivotal moment."

Nick Robinson, Director at SWEF, said:

"Our vision is a society where every young person has a fair chance to start or grow a business – regardless of background or income. We're delighted to partner with Cambridgeshire Community Foundation to extend our reach and support more young entrepreneurs to achieve their potential."

Young people interested in applying should visit www.cambscf.org.uk/funds/swef to find out more about eligibility and how to apply.

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.

Articles in the Herald will also generally be posted on the village website horningsea.net