



Peter Halford 13/06/1947 - 13/12/2025

## Horningsea Herald

Issue #206 January 2026

For further information on Horningsea visit our village website at:

[www.horningsea.net](http://www.horningsea.net)

To contribute to the Herald, please contact the editor by the 25th of the month at:

[horningseanews@googlemail.com](mailto:horningseanews@googlemail.com)

## Events

### Horningsea Residents Association

#### ***A very Happy New Year from the Horningsea Residents Association***

We have lots of social events planned for 2026 and our first event has gone all Italian. But before that join us for our AGM at 19:00 on Monday 26th January in the Village Hall.

#### ***HRA Annual General Meeting***

**Monday 26th January, 19:00, Village Hall.**

We're the social heart of our village, and we need YOU! Find out more about how we bring the community together with fun events like Village Day, International Night and the Fabulous Easter Egg Bingo. Come along to the AGM and share your thoughts!

We're always keen to welcome new committee members. Plus all residents are welcome. See you there!

<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/5997>

**INTERNATIONAL NIGHT GOES ITALIAN**

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7, 2026  
18:30PM | VILLAGE HALL

A super sociable evening. International Night this year has gone ITALIAN!!

BRING AND SHARE a dish of Italian themed food, sweet or savoury.

Please bring your own drinks and glasses. Plates and cutlery will be provided.  
Entrance: free when you bring a dish.  
Without a dish: £7 adults, £2 children.

A HRA EVENT

## ***HRA Italian Evening***

**Saturday 7th February, 18.30, Village Hall.**

We invite you to join us for Italian International night. This is always a really fun way to spend an evening with friends and neighbours. It's a great way to spend time together, try new foods and enjoy our wonderful community.

- **Where** - in the village hall
- **When** - Saturday 7th February at 18.30
- **What to bring** - an Italian dish sweet or savoury that you have cooked ( or bought) to share. Please bring your own drinks and glasses.

Entry is free when you bring a dish, if you don't feel like cooking entry is only £7 for adults and £2 for children

Come along and enjoy some good food and company.

<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/5988>

## ***HRA Dates for Diary 2026***

- Monday 26th January 2026 **HRA AGM** – 19:00
- Saturday 7th February 2026 **International Evening**
- Saturday 4th July 2026 **Village Day**

## **St Peter's Church**

### ***Church services for January***

- Sunday 11 January 16.00 Village Service
- Sunday 18 January 10.30 Holy Communion
- Wednesday 21 January 20.30 Late night service of Compline

<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/5962>

## ***Work to the Church Tower and Floor in 2026***

The church has plans for extensive work to be carried out to the floor in the north part of the church - where the floor and joists have collapsed. This will involve the pews being taken out so that a special damp proof membrane can be put down, the base of the pillars can be treated for damp, the Victorian tiles will be lifted, there will be some excavation of the 10th Century tomb lids .... And then it will all be put back! At the same time work will be carried out to make access to the Tower safer, and to replace broken and missing louvres. Once the work starts it is expected to take about three months to complete.

We can't start until we have the money - the total cost will be about £140,000. We have applied for a grant from the Heritage Lottery fund and also from the Ely Diocesan bellringers in respect of the Tower access. The Friends of Horningsea Church will make a significant contribution. The church has managed to raise some funds from various

concerts and events over the last year or so. If you would be prepared to make a donation to this work the PCC would be extremely grateful. Any donation can be gift aided. Please contact the treasurer on [horningsea@michaelandjane.org.uk](mailto:horningsea@michaelandjane.org.uk) ...or contact one of the churchwardens - Jennie or Lindsay.

Thank you in advance! The church will be open all the time the work is underway so services will continue as usual.

### ***Viking reenactment!***

Once the work is complete we plan to celebrate by holding a Saxon and Viking event - linked to the 10 Century tomb lids. Current thinking includes inviting Regina Anglorum to hold a Viking reenactment event, a talk about the Saxon Minster which is the base of the church, inviting the schools to come and do some Saxon and Viking workshops ... we hope that the HRA and all the village will get involved. Once access to the Tower is safe we may be able to organise a Teddy Bear parachute jump event! Hopefully all of these can take place in the summer.

### ***Victorian Harmonium***

Is anyone interested in taking on the Victorian Harmonium which has to be moved for the work to be carried out? If you are interested - or know anyone else who might be ... please pop into the church to play it and speak to Jennie or Lindsay.

### ***Bell Ringing at St Peter's Church***

Practice sessions start again on Wednesday 14 January at 19.00 - and will continue on the second Wednesday of each month until work starts on the Tower. New year, new challenge, new hobby ... why not come along and learn how to ring - or revive an old hobby! You can contact Barbara for more information on [blegallez@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:blegallez@yahoo.co.uk)

## **The Crown and Punchbowl**

### ***School Pub quiz***

Join us for our next school pub quiz on 21st January, kicking off at 19:00 at the Crown and Punchbowl! Every penny raised supports our local Fen Ditton Community primary school. Tables are already filling up — yes, even the teachers have entered!

Book online:

<https://thecrownandpunchbowl.co.uk>

**Quiz night**  
Wednesday 21 January

The Crown & Punchbowl 7PM | £2.50 PER PERSON | MAX SIX PER TEAM  
PRIZES AND RAFFLE | BOOK YOUR TEAM IN HERE >>>  
FUNDRAISING FOR FEN DITTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

## **The Plough and Fleece**

### ***10% discount on pub classics throughout January***

Throughout January there's a 10% discount on all "Pub Classics" on our menu. The full menu is on the pub website. But it includes beer battered fish and chips, rib steak burger and chips, chicken burger and fries, sweet potato, spinach and feta pie, chicken and ham pie and Cumberland sausage and mash.

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

To make a booking please call or email:

[bookings@ploughandfleece.co.uk](mailto:bookings@ploughandfleece.co.uk) - 01223 860795

## **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/>

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***

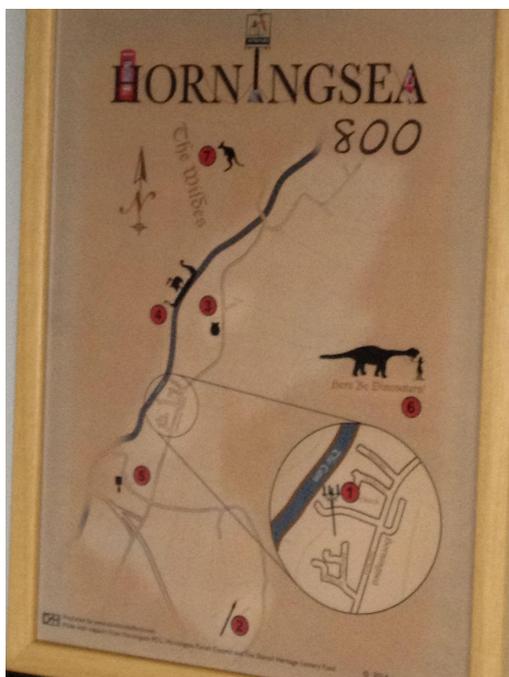
For the latest County and District Councillors' reports, please visit the news section of the Parish Council website.

[www.horningsea-pc.gov.uk/news](http://www.horningsea-pc.gov.uk/news)

### **Peter Halford 13/06/1947 - 13/12/2025**

Peter and Lynn moved to live in the Square in the 1970's when the houses were newly built. Over the years Peter has made enormous contributions to the village, as I list some of them I realise quite how significant these contributions have been.

He was a designer and teacher, later moving to work at the education department at Duxford. He used his skills to design the village sign, the village flag, the logo which appears on so many Horningsea things - including the Coronation mugs. He, (with Alan) photographed everyone in the village for the Coronation Day compilation photograph that is in the village hall. His photograph can also be seen in the hall when he was DJ for the 1940's disco for VE Day, his photographs of the wildlife at Honey Hill were used to support the Save Honey Hill campaign. He designed and had made the candlesticks in the choir in the church, based on designs on the Victorian oil lamps and candelabras. He worked with John Wilson to design the plaque remembering the American Serviceman who crashed on Quy Fen 80 years ago. His son Dominic made the [Horningsea 800](#) film with support and input from Peter, Lynn and Daniel. His wildlife photographs at Honey Hill were used as part of the campaign to save Honey Hill.



Once they acquired Bertie, as a puppy, Peter and Lynn would be seen out dog walking around the village a couple of times a day - always stopping to chat to other dog walkers or parents pushing buggies. Latterly Peter had regularly attended the Monday warm hub, and made cards for special events. I was recently reminded of his involvement at Denny Abbey when the Farming Museum moved in - he was responsible for taking wartime items from the Vicarage which the old vicar, Rev Paul Smyth had "saved" in his pantry!

Peter and Lynn were devout Christians, and very involved in St Andrews the Great church in Cambridge, where they volunteered one day a week to welcome visitors.

Within the village they would be seen walking Bertie, the dog, a couple of times a day, always stopping to chat to the other dog walkers or parents pushing buggies.

In between all of this he was a dedicated family man - regularly looking after the grandchildren, getting them to build dens in the woods and sharing his creativity.

It was so sad that he became unwell at the beginning of November when it was found that he had untreatable cancer that spread so rapidly leading to his untimely death just before Christmas.

Everyone's thoughts will be with Lynn and the boys as they come to terms with their loss. His legacy will live on in Horningsea and we should give thanks that he shared his creative talents with us all.



### ***Service of Thanksgiving - Peter Halford***

***13/06/1947 - 13/12/2025***

There will be a service of thanksgiving for the life of Peter on 6th January at 1pm, St Andrew the Great Church, St Andrews Street, Cambridge, CB2 3AX. All would be most welcome.

If you are unable to attend the Service of Thanksgiving for Peter but would still like to participate, there will be a live stream available:

<https://youtube.com/live/MdZq5fMoqc4>

## *Horningsea Advent Windows Photos 2025*





<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/5967>

## ***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.

Articles in the Herald will also generally be posted on the village website [horningsea.net](http://horningsea.net)