



Snowdrops in Horningsea

## Horningsea Herald

Issue #207 February 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)

## Horningsea Residents Association

### 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>



# 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 Dates for Diary 2026***

Here's the event calendar for 2026. As ever please do check the website and social media for details closer to the event. Provisional dates for 2027 are also on the website.

- **Italian Evening** - Saturday 7th Feb 16:00 Setup 18:30 Kickoff
- **Fish and Chip Bingo** - 27th March 18:00 for 18:30 Eyes Down.
- **Senior's Lunch** - Wednesday 8th April
- **Village Day** - 4th July 2026
- **Horticultural Show** - 11th July 2026
- **Apple Pressing Day** - 19th September 14:00
- **Bonfire Night** - 1st November
- **Christmas Tree Lighting** - Sunday 29th November

<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/6025>

### ***Fish n Chip Bingo***

**Friday March 27th at 18:00 in the Village Hall.**

The eyes are down and the chips are up! Horningsea Residents Association are delighted to be running what is always a really fun evening of Fish n Chip Bingo.

Doors open at 18.00 for you to buy your books, dabber and place your order for fish & chips, Veggie option available. Find your table ready for eyes down at 18:30. Easter Eggs and alcoholic prizes to be won in every game.

Fish and Chip supper freshly fetched from The Beach Fryer in Waterbeach.

Bring your own ketchup, drinks and glasses and have an eggcellent evening of fun!

Easter eggs and wine to be won in every game. Good fun for all the family!

### **St Peter's Church**

#### ***Church services for February***

- Sunday 8th Feb at 16.00 **Village Service**
- 18th February at 19.30 **Ash Wednesday**, Fen Ditton church
- Sunday 25 Feb at 10.30 **Joint three parishes service**, Horningsea

<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/6030>

#### ***Lent starts on Ash Wednesday 18th February***

There will be special service in Fen Ditton church on 18 February at 19.30 when the ashes of last years palm crosses will be used to mark a cross on the congregations foreheads. During Lent there will be a regular study session on Wednesday evenings at

Fen Ditton rectory when the vicar Nick Moir, will talk about St John's gospel. If you are interested in finding out more, do come along.

### ***Mothering Sunday is Sunday 15 March.***

There will be short family service with distribution of posies at 10.30 - help will be needed to make the posies. All families (of all shapes and sizes) will be welcome!

### ***St Peter's Horningsea: From beneath the floor to the top of the tower.***

This year we will start the project to make the access to the tower safe by replacing the ladder and adding balustrades and hand holds in the tower. We will also replace the whole floor in the north side of the church- where the floorboards and tiles have been damaged by the damp. This is a major project involving removing all the pews in the north side of the church so that the floor can be lifted, specialist damp proofing material can be laid and a new wooden floor can be put down. The Victorian tiles and pampments will be replaced if they are broken or damaged beyond repair and relaid. The pillars which have been affected by the damp will be renovated. In the west end of the aisle there are two 10th C tomb lids which are surrounded by the Victorian tiles. It may be necessary to instruct archaeologists to look at what, if anything is underneath these tomb lids. The whole project will cost about £130,000. The church has some funds, from events that have been organised in the last few years. The Friends of Horningsea Church will be able to make a contribution. The Diocesan Bell Ringers have agreed to make a contribution to replacing the ladder and enhancing the tower access. However the largest sum of money will have to come from grants or loans from various grant giving bodies. We have made an application for a Heritage Lottery grant for £100,000. Once we know the outcome of that application we will have to look at applying to other bodies. Meanwhile we will continue to fundraise and ask for donations. If you are willing or able to make a donation we would be so very grateful. Donations can be made directly to Horningsea PCC, Sort Code 30-91-74, Account Number 00755327. If you make a donation please add your surname and "project" as the reference. Please email the treasurer and confirm if you would like to "Gift Aid" your donation: [horningsea@michaelandjane.org.uk](mailto:horningsea@michaelandjane.org.uk).

You can also make a donation via the Parish Giving Scheme PGS ref: 42837 – ask the treasurer if you need more information about the way the scheme works.

Thank you for reading this and for supporting St Peter's Church. The church will remain open and usable for the three months that the work is expected to take

And then the fun aspects of the project! Once the work is complete there will be various events celebrating the Saxon and Viking history of the church – with a Viking reenactment society coming to lead a fun re-enactment day probably on 12/13 September. They hope to bring a longboat and may travel up the river to their encampment, have displays of living history, arrange a skirmish or two - and reenact the attack on the church which happened in about 870! The HRA are going to support the enactment, helping with publicity. There will be a talk about the Saxon minster, an

exhibition celebrating the 260th anniversary of the embroidered linen altar cloth (which is 10 years older than the United States of America having been embroidered in 1766!), there may be a Teddy Bears parachute jump ... there will be bell ringing open days ... Keep your eyes open for all the planned events as the year moves on.

## ***Memorial Stone in Horningsea Churchyard***

When the weather is better it is planned to ask the stonemason to come and add names to the Memorial Stone in Horningsea Churchyard. If you would like the name of your loved one to be added to the stone please let one of the church wardens know so we can obtain costings from the stone mason.

## ***Churchyard***

Thank you to Michael Gingell for organising the tidying up of the hedgerows in the churchyard. This will make it easier to manage the graves around the boundaries, stop the trees from being smothered by Ivy and allow the hedges to grow and thrive. Thank you too for all the work Michael does in looking after the churchyard.

## **The Plough and Fleece**

- **Valentines Day** 14th February. Three course meal with glass of Prosecco - £40. Menu is attached to the covering email
- **Rock and Roll Bingo** 27th Feb at 19.30

<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**

### ***First Aid Refresher course***

Horningsea Parish Council is considering arranging a First Aid Refresher Course for residents. The proposed date is yet to be confirmed; however, before progressing further, we would like to gauge the level of interest within the village. If you would be interested in attending a First Aid Refresher Course, please indicate your interest by voting in the poll below.

If you are unable to vote via the Facebook poll, please email your expression of interest to: [Clerk@horningsea-pc.gov.uk](mailto:Clerk@horningsea-pc.gov.uk)

Your feedback will help inform whether the Parish Council proceeds with arranging the course and the likely scale required.

## ***Jubilee Gardens -- Access Issue***

We appear to be multiplying bins in Jubilee Gardens!

Unfortunately, the additional bins are now restricting access through the gate.

We have asked that the surplus bins be removed so the entrance remains clear and accessible for all users. We will provide an update once this has been resolved.

Thank you for your patience.

## ***Consultation on Proposed 20 mph Extension -- North Entrance to Horningsea***

Horningsea Parish Council is preparing an updated formal application to extend the existing 20 mph speed limit (building on last year's submission).

The proposal would create a continuous 20 mph zone from the village gates at the north entrance of Horningsea, through to the current 20 mph area at Northgate Farm. It would also include an additional speed-reduction buffer on the approach to the village from Clayhithe, ahead of the village gates.

We believe this extension would improve road safety and enhance the quality of life for residents, pedestrians and all road users. However, it is important that the application reflects the views of the wider community.

### **Have your say**

Whether you support the proposal or have concerns, we would welcome your feedback.

If you are opposed to the extension, please provide your reasons so these can be properly considered.

You can share your views by:

- Commenting on our Facebook page, or
- Emailing the Parish Clerk at: [clerk@horningsea-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@horningsea-pc.gov.uk)

For further background on the 20 mph funding initiative, please see the Cambridgeshire County Council information page:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pat-hways/improving-the-local-highway/20mph-funding>

Your input is important and will help shape our final application.

## ***Councillors' Reports***

The latest District and County Councillors' reports are now available on the Parish Council website:

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

Residents are encouraged to read these updates to stay informed about current issues and activity affecting the parish.

### ***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.

### ***Seven Last Words from the Cross***

**Saturday 21st March, 19.30 Church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs, Hills Road, Cambridge.**

As many will remember, New Cambridge Singers gave us a wonderful concert of German Romantic choral music in St Peter's church in the summer last year, with Rheinberger's dramatic Mass as the main work. This Lent the choir, together with the London Mozart Players, offers us an opportunity to reflect on the suffering and death of Jesus. In *Seven Last Words from the Cross* James MacMillan, one of our most celebrated contemporary composers, brings us close to Jesus in His final hours. MacMillan's music, which springs from his own deep religious faith, places the listener vividly and painfully at the very foot of the cross. It is music to accompany us through the season of Passiontide.

Full details and tickets at <https://www.newcambridgesingers.org.uk/concerts.html>

And to add a practical note -- there is free parking on the side streets around the church in the evenings.

Note: Horningsea residents Helen Skaer and Frank Hopkirk will be singing in the choir.

# February 2026 Calendar

<b><i>Event</i></b>	<b><i>Date</i></b>	<b><i>Location</i></b>
<b><i>HRA Italian Evening</i></b>	<b><i>Saturday 7th Feb, 18.30</i></b>	Village Hall.
<b><i>Village Service</i></b>	<b><i>Sunday 8th Feb, 16.00</i></b>	St Peter's Church
<b><i>Valentines Day</i></b>	<b><i>14th Feb.</i></b>	The Plough and Fleece
<b><i>Ash Wednesday</i></b>	<b><i>18th Feb, 9.30</i></b>	Fen Ditton church
<b><i>Joint three parishes service</i></b>	<b><i>Sunday 25th Feb, 10.30</i></b>	St Peter's Church
<b><i>Rock and Roll Bingo</i></b>	<b><i>27th Feb 19.30</i></b>	The Plough and Fleece
<b><i>Fish n Chip Bingo</i></b>	<b><i>Friday March 27th, 18:00</i></b>	Village Hall.

## ***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)