



Graham Haynes - outstanding contribution to village life



[Horningsea Residents Association](#)

Horningsea Village Day

Saturday 4th July, 15:00 onwards, Village Green

Join the Horningsea Residents Association for this year's Village Day on Saturday 4th July from 15:00

Get ready for an action packed day of fun for all on the Village Green with line dancing, music and traditional village favourites with an American twist!



- Vee's tea and cake served from 15:00
- Delicious gluten free doughnuts from Fen Family Kitchen
- American style hot dogs
- Live music throughout the afternoon
- Vintage American Hot Rod car show
- Bouncy castle for the little ones
- Inflatable assault course for the bigger ones
- Art stall, coconut shy & Tombola



- Stocks & sponges
- Knobbly knees & welly wanging competitions
- Line dancing from 19:00

The BBQ will be lit for you to cook your own food or bring a picnic.

Live Country music during the afternoon from Tom Donaldson and also the 'Sure can play boys' band and if you still have the energy after the line dancing has finished they'll be a disco.

Whether you're trying your hand at line dancing, tackling the assault course, admiring the vintage cars, enjoying gluten free doughnuts or relaxing with tea and homemade cake there's something for everyone!

Full details in the attached flyer and on the village website.

<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/6094>

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.

- **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/6054>

St Peter's Church

Services while building work is underway

- Sunday 28th June at 10.30 - Patronal Festival service in Horningsea Village Hall with exhibition celebrating "**1766 and all that!**".

<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/6064>

Progress report on the work to St Peter's Church

The contractors excavated under the floor where the pews have been temporarily removed and uncovered a wall which at one time would have been the outside of the church. It is underneath a 12th Century pillar so that gives some idea of its age. It is about 4ft wide which means it is probably Norman (after 1066) or possibly Saxon (after 700). It has been measured, photographed and plotted on a plan for future generations to re-discover! The excavations have been filled with damp proofing/ insulating material and a covering of limecrete (breathable type concrete) has been poured over the top. It is taking 4 weeks for the limecrete to set. The next step will be for pammments to be laid on the limecrete. These are 9 inch square buff coloured tiles hand made to order in Burwell. They will match the pammments that the Victorians put down at the back of the church. There may be a delay for the pammments to be ready as they take 3 months to make.



Meanwhile the unsafe access ladder to the tower has been replaced and handholds, balustrades and clamps have been fitted to make access safe. The contractors will refit the mesh to the open "windows" in the tower to stop birds getting in but allowing bats to access their roosts. New louvres need to be made as well.

The 15th Century pews which have been removed for the work to be done to the floor, have rotten wood that needs to be replaced – after 500 years we can hardly complain! Some Victorian pews also have wood that needs replacing – a mere 150 years old.

Specially cured oak has to be used.



The work appears to be on target to be finished in late August but sadly two weddings that were planned this summer will have to take place in Fen Ditton church instead of Horningsea.

<https://www.horningsea.net/archives/6078>

1766 and all that!

Sunday 28th June all day in the Village Hall

As the Church is out of action there will be a special joint three parishes service in Horningsea Village Hall at 10.30am on Sunday 28 June- our St Peter's Day Service.

As part of the Lottery grant we are asked to arrange heritage events to encourage the community to find out about the history of the village so on the same day we will be celebrating 1766 and all that! The church has an altar cloth that was embroidered in 1766 so we have used that year to investigate what life was like in Horningsea in the latter part of the 18th Century. Who lived here? Who was baptised, married or buried? What work did people do? Were there any scandals? Which houses date from about that time? The church archives have produced all sorts of information. The Lord of the Manor of Eye Hall, Thomas Panton was Master of the King's Wardrobe which meant he was responsible for King George III's racehorses. He has a connection with Panton

Street and Gwydir Street in Cambridge. The church wardens accounts show that they paid children to bring them hedgehogs, pole cats, rooks and sparrows so this year we will pay anyone who brings a picture or model of one of these creatures (please don't bring live ones....) in old pennies, ha'pennies or farthings. The church wardens also gave "a man from America" a shilling (presumably to go away).

There will be photographs of the oldest houses in the village and between about 2.30 and 4pm a number of residents will tell us the story of their house- Kings Acre and Farm, St Johns farm house, The Priory, Kings Thatch, the cottages in St Johns Lane and Dock Lane ...

The exhibition will be open from about 11.30 until 4.30pm with refreshments being served all day.

Thanks to the Heritage Lottery Fund, The Friends of Horningsea Church and the Village Hall Trust for supporting this event. Thank you also to all those who have taken part.

- Patronal Church Service at 10.30
- Exhibition opens 11.30
- House History Short Talks between 14.30 and 16:00.
- Refreshments all day

Reverend Sharon Byrne is leaving

Most of you will have met Sharon over the last three years while she has been a curate in our three parishes. We offer her our congratulations as she has been appointed Priest in charge of her own parish in Buckden, near St Neots. Sharon's last day will be 7 June when there will be a bring and share picnic in Fen Ditton and presentation to her. If you would like to make a donation for a present for Sharon please contact Jennie Pratt or Lindsay.

The Vikings are coming

On 12th and 13th September the Vikings are coming up the river by longboat to camp on the Church End Field. There will be Living History activities – maybe axe throwing, archery, weaving, calligraphy, cooking, eel catching ... maybe a Viking burial and culminating in attack on St Peter's church, copying the Viking raid on the Saxon Minster in the year 870. Details of the timetable and how you can get involved will be publicised nearer the time but write the date in your calendar now!

On Tuesday 15 September in the church there will be an event in the style of BBC radio 4's "In Our Time" with Reverend Nick Moir moderating a discussion between three professors – all experts in the Saxons and the Minster and the Viking raids of 870. Another event not to be missed!

The Plough and Fleece

Surf n Turf night - 9th June

This event is by booking only with a special menu (attached to this email). Pre-order only. There is no normal menu for this special evening but kids meals will be available as usual.

Garden Party - 1st August

The Plough and Fleece are also looking for anyone who wants to have a stall at our garden party August 1st. Stalls available for small businesses or charities

For booking: 01223 860795 - ploughandfleece26@outlook.com

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

Events

Horningsea Parish Council News

Speed Data From Our Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs Now Available Online

As many of you will know, Horningsea has three Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs -- known as MVAS units -- positioned at key points around the village: at the north and south entrances, and near Manor Farm. Since their installation, these units have been quietly collecting data on vehicle speeds passing through our community.

We are pleased to announce that this data has now been extracted and analysed, and presented in what we hope is a clear and easy-to-understand format. A dedicated page has been added to the Parish Council website where you can view the information directly:

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

We intend to update this page periodically so that, over time, we can build up a meaningful picture of vehicle speeds and behaviour on our roads. We must be candid: some of the speeds being recorded are genuinely alarming. The Parish Council takes road safety extremely seriously and will continue to pursue every avenue available to bring forward speed reduction measures in the village. If you have suggestions, concerns or proposals on road safety or any other matter affecting village life, we would warmly encourage you to get involved.

Keep Waterbeach Railway Station Open

Many residents will be aware that Waterbeach Railway Station is under threat. The Department for Transport and Network Rail are consulting on its potential closure, with a new station planned for Waterbeach New Town approximately 1.5 miles to the north.

Waterbeach station has served the area since 1845 and now sees over 370,000 trips per year -- a figure that has grown significantly following recent platform upgrades. Residents of Horningsea and surrounding villages rely on it for travel to Cambridge, London, Ely and beyond. Closure would inevitably push more journeys onto already busy roads, increasing congestion and reducing safety in our area.

A petition calling for both the existing and new stations to remain open has been started by local Waterbeach resident John Cattermole and has already gathered over 2,300 signatures. The campaign has the support of the Fenline Users' Association, Railfuture East Anglia, and local District and County Councillors. There is clear precedent for two stations of this proximity to coexist -- Foxton and Shepreth are a comparable distance apart.

If you agree that both stations should remain open, please sign and share the petition:

<https://www.change.org/p/keep-waterbeach-railway-station-open>

East West Rail -- Briefing Recording and Consultation Deadline

For those who were unable to attend the East West Rail Parish Council and Residents' Association Briefing on 20 May, a recording of the event is now available, along with slides presented by both GCSP and EWR:

<https://youtu.be/HqJaX56GdBI>

The East West Rail consultation is open until 9 June 2026. We would strongly encourage all residents to submit their feedback -- this is an important opportunity to have your say on a project that will significantly affect the area.

You can respond via the EWR website (East West Rail | Consultation 2026) or by emailing: consultation@eastwestrail.co.uk

If you have further questions for the GCSP NSIP team, please send them to: [\[NSIPS@GreaterCambridgePlanning.org\]](mailto:NSIPS@GreaterCambridgePlanning.org)

Community Award -- Graham Haynes

Horningsea Parish Council is delighted to recognise Graham Haynes for his outstanding contribution to village life through his role as Chair of the Horningsea Residents' Association.

This award acknowledges Graham's continued dedication to maintaining and growing the vibrant programme of community events that bring our village together. Through his leadership and tireless efforts, many of Horningsea's much-loved traditions continue to thrive -- including the annual firework display, Village Day, and the ever-popular Fish and Chip Bingo evenings, alongside many other social activities throughout the year.

These events require significant time, organisation and dedication. Graham's willingness to give his time so generously, often behind the scenes, has been

instrumental in keeping these traditions alive. Without his ongoing commitment, Horningsea would not enjoy the same rich and active social life that makes our village such a special place to live.

On behalf of the Parish Council and the wider community, we extend our sincere thanks to Graham for everything he continues to do for Horningsea.

Annual Parish Meeting -- Reports Now Available

Our Annual Parish Meeting took place on Tuesday, 19 May. A full pack of reports from the meeting is available to [download](#) from the Parish Council website:

<https://www.horningsea-pc.gov.uk/the-council/minutes-agendas/>

Could You Be a Councillor?

Horningsea Parish Council is running low on members, and we need residents to step forward. Without new councillors joining us, our village risks losing its independent voice to South Cambridgeshire District Council -- something none of us wants to see.

Being a councillor is more straightforward than you might think. There are just six formal meetings a year, and no prior experience is required. What matters most is a genuine interest in our village and a willingness to get involved. Any extra involvement beyond the formal meetings is entirely up to you.

The Council has recently been active on a number of fronts: securing funding for new playground equipment, pushing for safer roads through a 20mph application, speed signs and buffer zones, restoring the village phone box, and commenting on local planning applications. This is your chance to have a direct say in the future of Horningsea.

To find out more, speak to a current councillor or come along to the next meeting or email clerk@horningsea-pc.gov.uk

Next Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 16th June, 7.30 pm

The next meeting of Horningsea Parish Council will take place on Tuesday, 16 June 2026, at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. All residents are welcome to attend.

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

clerk@horningsea-pc.gov.uk

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

Councillors' Reports

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

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

Events

Horningsea Village Show

Saturday 11th July, Horningsea Village Hall

Now is a great time to start planning your entries for this year's Horningsea Horticultural Show!

By now, schedules should have been delivered around the village. If you haven't seen yours yet, or would like another copy, you can also find the full schedule and entry forms online here:

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

One of the joys of the show is that there really is something for everyone. Whether you enjoy baking, gardening, photography, flower arranging, crafts, preserves, art, or growing vegetables, there are lots of ways to take part.

We're especially excited about some updates to the Arts & Crafts section this year, including:

- A dedicated Art judge
- A new Calligraphy class
- Expanded possibilities for 3D art, models and sculpture
- Separate Sewing and Yarn Craft categories
- Now is the perfect moment to:
 - decide which classes you might enter
 - plan your planting and baking
 - encourage children and grandchildren to join in
 - dust off those craft projects and photographs

You absolutely do not need to be an expert to enter. The show is one of the friendliest and most enjoyable events in the village calendar, and we love welcoming both new and returning entrants every year.

Park Yoga

Park yoga will be running 9.30 on the village green every Saturday during the summer, weather permitting, until September. Led by Johanna from Waterbeach. More info at:

<https://bookwhen.com/sasyana>

June 2026 Calendar

<i>Event</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>
<i>Surf n Turf night</i>	9th June	<i>The Plough and Fleece</i>
<i>Horningsea PC meeting</i>	Tuesday, 16 June 2026, 19.30	<i>Village Hall</i>
<i>Patronal Festival</i>	Sunday 28 June at 10.30	<i>Village Hall</i>
<u><i>Advance events</i></u>		
<i>HRA Village Day</i>	Saturday 4th July 2026	<i>Village Green</i>
<i>Village Show</i>	Saturday 11th July	<i>Village Hall</i>
<i>Garden Party</i>	Saturday 1st August	<i>The Plough and Fleece</i>
<i>The Vikings are coming</i>	12th/13th September	

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