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**To:** > Test First Name

Test pitting and Christmas party

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# Caistor Clarion

## Reminder for the Christmas Get Together

Don't forget the Christmas party. This will be in the upstairs rooms of the Turkish cafe Aslan's Den. This is behind Primark and next to Holland and Barrett at 23 White Lion Street in the city centre. They will do us a buffet at £13 a head. Beer, wine and soft drinks will be available to buy.

Date: Wednesday 3 December Time: 7.00 onwards. Partners welcome.

Will is hoping to be there and we will have some seasonal remarks by him and the other trustees about past, present and most importantly the future. We hope you will be able to attend and you are welcome to bring your partner or friend.

Please indicate if you will be coming as soon as possible by contacting Chrissy on [brilix@icloud.com](mailto:brilix@icloud.com). Then send a cheque made payable to Chrissy Sullivan at 31 Meadowbrook Close, NR1 2HJ.

## From the trustees - developing the project

The trustees met recently to consider a number of issues, the most important being the ongoing transition of the project from being under the wing of Nottingham University to one rooted in the local community, as a community archaeology project.

As we operate more independently, we have to tighten up our administration and strengthen our finances. Arising from this, we need to identify a number of roles and responsibilities of the trustees more clearly, as follows:

Chairman – Alan Pask  
Projects Manager – Mike Pinner  
Operations/Depot – Chrissy Sullivan  
Technology/GIS/Website – Wendy Shanks  
Treasurer/Clarion – Andrew Ray  
Will Bowden remains as Director/Advisor

We also intend to hold an annual meeting open to all members to account for the year's activities and to discuss future projects and issues.

To help stabilise our finances, a system of annual membership fees needs to be introduced from 1 January 2015. These will be set at £20 for 'active' members (able to join digs and other research activities, with discounts where charges are made for workshops and other

educational events) and £10 for 'Friends' (who will receive the Clarion and have access to workshops and other events, trips, meetings etc). Details are shown on the membership form, downloadable from [caistorromanproject.org/forms/CRP\\_membership.pdf](http://caistorromanproject.org/forms/CRP_membership.pdf) and you are encouraged to sign up now.

This will help to provide a fund to ensure we can cover the annual fixed costs, such as the barn rent, utilities and insurance amounting to nearly £3000. We shall continue to make bids for financial support for our research and excavation activities, along the lines of this year's HLF funding.

The trustees are convinced that we have to improve our administration and finances by these means. There will, of course be several opportunities to discuss progress over the coming months, at a briefing/fundraiser to be held at Caistor Hall Hotel (see below), an end of HLF project meeting around Easter, and particularly at the annual meeting, likely to be in April/May.

## Vacancy

As a result of all these ideas there is now a need for a membership/social secretary. It could be quite an interesting job as you would pretty soon get to know who's who. If you are interested please make contact with any of the trustees.

## Two dates for your diary....

On **26 February 2015** Caistor Hall Hotel will be hosting a briefing/fundraising evening for us from 6pm to 8pm, with the hotel providing us with refreshments. A great opportunity to hear about some of the key results from the 2014 season of test pitting and to raise some much needed funds via a raffle – some great prizes on the way! All volunteers and local villagers will be invited. More details in the New Year.

And on **23 May 2015** South Norfolk Council will hold an open day. No details yet but we assume it will be similar to the one two years ago. There will be opportunities for volunteers on the day.

## .... and two bits of fun

For gezunders, magpies and the ubiquitous archaeological cakes have a look at [digventures.com](http://digventures.com). Then for the less frivolous try <http://www.wikihow.com/Cook-Like-a-Roman>

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