

From: Andrew Ray aeiray@virginmedia.com
Subject: [Test] Caistor Clarion 150318 Digging at Easter
Date: 24 June 2015 15:05
To: > Test First Name

Digging at Easter and more

[View this email in your browser](#)



Caistor Clarion

Contents this time:

Digging at Easter, from Chrissy and Mike
The good news and the challenge - Foyle funding
Trip to Flag Fen
Open Evening/Report Back on 26 February
Geology workshop
Roman pottery conference
NAHRG event

Digging at Easter, from Chrissy

I hope by now everyone knows we will be hard at it in Wymer Field over Easter, working from Thursday 2 April to Tuesday 7 April starting at 8.30 each day and clearing up at 15.30.

Caistor Hall Hotel is giving us storage space for our tools and will also offer a lunch package which will enable use of the hotel loos. I am still waiting to hear from a few members if they will be joining us at some time over Easter. So if you have not given me your available dates please let me know on brilix@icloud.com as soon as possible.

You will need to be a full member of the project so if you have not taken out full membership yet join up by completing the membership form downloadable from caistorromanproject.org/forms/CRP_membership.pdf.

On Friday 1 April Will is doing a walk and talk of the Roman town. This is open to local residents and hotel guests. The walk will take about 1 hour and 20 minutes. Meet at the hotel for a short introduction at 11.00.

And a note from Mike:

Wymer Field - our name recognising the owner - lies to the north east of the walled town and was subject to a magnetometry survey last year. The outer ditch that surrounds the town cuts through the field. Last year we dug four test pits in the field and revealed much evidence of Roman occupation during the first to third centuries. We unearthed signs of industrial working as well as the signs of general occupation that we have come to expect in the area.

We are looking to extend our knowledge by digging further metre square test pits which will develop and refine last year's findings. Investigation and explanation of how this area fits into our overall understanding of the town is an important and exciting part of our current work. Do come and join us!

The good news and the challenge - Foyle funding

Just recently we received some excellent news - and a challenge to go with it. About Christmas time we applied for almost £10,000 funding from the Foyle Foundation. This was to cover the cost of an array of equipment and training as well as securing the barn for another year. The week of the open evening we heard that we had been successful in obtaining £5000 funding on the condition that we find other funding to match that fairly quickly. Many of the activities we have undertaken recently qualify - these include the fund-raising efforts at that report back and also some smaller grants we have had from other organisations. However, we still need to raise around £2500 to obtain the full benefit of the Foyle promise. The trustees have been searching for suitable grant-giving bodies and have made several applications, for all of which there will be a nail-biting wait to hear the result. Any ideas will be gratefully received. Just hit 'reply' on this email.

Trip to Flag Fen

We plan a trip to Flag Fen Archaeology Park near Peterborough on Wednesday 13 May.

Flag Fen comprises over 20 acres of park. Visitors can view a preserved section of the ritual causeway and a museum housing a selection of the artefacts discovered during excavations. Alongside weapons, tools and jewellery, there is the oldest example of a wooden wheel found in England and even a pair of perfectly-preserved bronze shears, complete with their wooden box. The outdoor areas recreate a prehistoric landscape, complete with reconstructed roundhouses from the Bronze Age and Iron Age.

Attractions on site include:

- Bronze Age and Iron Age roundhouses.
NB due to weather damage, the interiors of the roundhouses are not accessible.
- Museum with objects found on site
- Visitor Centre including books, gifts and a café
- Roman Herb Garden
- Lakeside walk
- Soay sheep, an ancient breed

More information at <http://www.vivacity-peterborough.com/museums-and-heritage/flag-fen/>

Included in the price is a guided tour and viewing of the Must Farm boats. These eight prehistoric log boats are undergoing conservation by a team of world-class experts.

Cost: £17.50 members and £22.50 for non-members covering both entry and transport

If you are interested in joining this trip please contact Vicky at vixter437@tiscali.co.uk so we can gauge numbers. We will put an application form which you can print out and send with your cheque on the website as soon as possible.

The Open Evening/Report Back on 26 February

100 members of the public and Caistor volunteers met at the Caistor Hall Hotel on 26 February to hear about the last year's developments and to fund-raise for the future.

The project is indebted to the hotel for their ongoing support and for providing facilities for the event.

Volunteers were on hand to explain how this year's work has progressed and to show finds from recent test pitting. Members explained how support from the Heritage Lottery Fund had been a key element in supporting two developments, these being continuation of

fieldwork already undertaken by Will under the auspices of the University of Nottingham and the building of a strong local community group which is learning archaeological technique from professionals. The group is aiming for the highest standards in archaeological process and the first report on recent test pitting has just been completed and passed to the Heritage Environment Record at Gressenhall which houses a database for all finds in the county.

We have undertaken the digging and processing of 20 test pits within the village of Caistor St Edmund with the kind co-operation of landowners and householders, many of whom were present at the meeting.

It was pointed out that future work will be dependent on funding and that membership of the group will be a vital constituent in ensuring that work continues. The intensive work needed both pre- and post-excavation to ensure proper recording was highlighted and the debt that the project owes to continuing support offered by both professionals and property owners.

Will reinforced the efforts of members by saying how delighted he was with what had been achieved and explaining how current undertakings were adding to our knowledge of the Roman town and earlier and later development of the village.

Geology workshop

Jenny Gladstone ran a very successful workshop on geology, focussing on the types we are likely to encounter around Caistor and further afield around the county. We now know why the local flint was not used for tools and that are used came from Grimes Graves where the conditions for its formation were much more favourable to making the harder type needed. We also know more about distinguishing natural rock from what has been worked or accidentally fired. A big thank you to Jenny who is running a second workshop this Saturday which is unfortunately full.

T-



And the t-shirt competition rides again. New trustee Val in Japan last autumn.



But Amos from Malawi still has his - Christmas 2014

Roman pottery conference

Alice Lyons would like you to know about a conference on Roman pottery taking place in Norwich from Friday 12 June to Sunday 14 June. Look at http://romanpotterystudy.org/conference/Norwich_conference_2015.pdf for more information and the booking form. Please contact Alice Lyons (alice.lyons1@ntlworld.com) if you want to know more.

NAHRG event

The Norfolk Archaeological & Historical Research Group (NAHRG) is holding its 25th Anniversary Conference in association with the Centre of East Anglian Studies at UEA on Saturday 16 May 2015 at 10.00 a.m. until late afternoon in Lecture Theatre 3.02, Julian Study Centre, UEA. The subject is Anglo-Saxon East Anglia and it is open to non-members for £22.00 including refreshments and a buffet lunch.

The speakers will be :

Tim Pestell (Senior Curator of Archaeology, Norfolk Museums & Archaeology Service)
Helen Geake (formerly of Time Team; Finds Adviser, Portable Antiquities Scheme)
Tom Licence (CEAS Director and Senior Lecturer in Medieval History, UEA)
Jude Plouviez (Senior Archaeological Officer, Suffolk Archaeology)
Tom Williamson (Professor of History, UEA)

For more information please email Tony Bradstreet at enquiries@nahrg.org.uk.

Dates for your diary

2-7 April, test pitting at Wymer Field

3 April, Will's walk and talk for residents and hotel guests

14 April, 18.00 Rendlesham rediscovered - an East Anglian royal settlement of the time of Sutton Hoo - UEA

16 May, NAHRG annual conference on Anglo-Saxon East Anglia

(enquiries@nahrg.org.uk)

18 May, 19.00 CRP AGM and project briefing, open to all members - Caistor Hall Hotel

12-14 June, Roman pottery conference (alice.lyons1@ntlworld.com)

For more on UEA events go to www.uea.ac.uk/events. All in UEA Lecture Theatre 1

Copyright © 2015 Caistor Roman Project, All rights reserved.

You are on this list as a key post holder

Our mailing address is:

Caistor Roman Project
41 Beechbank, Norwich, United Kingdom
Norwich, NR2 2AL
United Kingdom

[Add us to your address book](#)

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

MailChimp