

Castle Green House under cover



Castle Green House is now protected from the elements by a cocoon. This will protect the house for the next five years until enough money can be raised to renovate the whole structure.

According to Project Manager David Maynard some of the roof trusses have collapsed so rain is getting into the building, rotting the wooden floors and causing plaster and ceilings to fall in. The cocoon will help to stem the rate of decay.

It is expected that the roof can be rebuilt first so the temporary roof can be removed. The lower sections of the scaffolding can then be used as a platform for renewing the walls.

The roof of the cocoon is constructed from 'profile sheeting' while the side panels are 'debris sheeting' - an open mesh material that will cut the wind speed down and allow the surface of the building to breathe. The structure has taken 10 months to complete and was designed by a specialist engineer. It was erected by a local company—Teifside Scaffolding.

As Castle Green House is a Grade II* listed building special permission had to be obtained from Cadw, who also awarded the 50% grant. The rest of the cost is being met by match funding from Ceredigion County Council, some of which will be recoverable when reconstruction is finished.

Welcome to the first **Castle News**. We hope you like it. You will still be able to read major items of interest in the Teifside Advertiser but your newsletter will keep you in touch with ongoing issues, volunteer events, etc. **Castle News** will be sent out four times a year but if you do not require further copies please return the envelope to the address below.

Volunteers have been out at weekends clearing the castle of weeds. They have discovered a footpath previously hidden under years of growth and as more of the stonework is uncovered clues are provided as to some of the alterations that have occurred during the site's long history. The area must be kept as clear as possible for access while investigations are in progress. Willing hands are working every fortnight on Saturday mornings from 10.00. If you would like to help, the next dates are 22 April and 6 May.

History courses have been underway during March. Participants have been learning about local history while sorting out photographs and documents. They were also treated to a first hand update on the castle's development. It is hoped that more courses will be held in the future so watch this space.