

Press Release: from Treberfedd Farm, Ceredigion, Wales.

Immediate Release.

A fundraising project at Treberfedd Farm to re-thatch a Grade II listed, last of its kind, Welsh vernacular farmhouse.

1st April 2024

Raising The Roof

A small farm in Ceredigion have launched a fundraising campaign to restore the roof on an important Welsh heritage listed farmhouse.

Owner of the small organic farm, Jack Cockburn, is inviting people to pledge support by buying vouchers for a future holiday in The Thatched Cottage at Treberfedd in Ceredigion, West Wales.

For money donated, each person will receive a voucher for the equivalent amount towards a holiday or short break at the farm which offers holiday accommodation all year round.

The fundraising target is £25,000.

The funds raised will go towards the employment of a Welsh master thatcher to completely re-roof the cottage using traditional skills and water reed harvested in Wales. The master thatcher will also be teaching the time honoured traditional thatching skills to apprentices as he works.

“We’re inviting people to have a part in restoring an important piece of Welsh heritage and receive a voucher to stay in this charming cottage for a holiday once the work is complete” said Jack, farmer at Treberfedd.



Picture 1 caption: The Thatched Cottage at Treberfedd Farm is in desperate need of some TLC, 23 years on from its last restoration, the roof has seen better days and it's time to be replaced.

Why is the original farmhouse at Treberfedd important?

The thatched cottage is a Grade II listed Georgian Farmhouse (one of the last of its kind!) and even features original authentic wall paintings from the 1700s.

It has been described by Cadw, who look after the historic buildings of Wales, as “an unusually complete late Georgian vernacular farmhouse, an extremely rare survival of this regional building type with its character retained. Well-preserved mid/late C19 additions, the whole a highly attractive group.”

Becky Wood, who is employed at Treberfedd Farm said:

“Guests who come to stay here say it’s like stepping back in time. The Thatched Cottage is a very important part of the history of our farm and because of this, we are very keen to continue to use natural & sustainable materials and traditional methods to re-thatch it back to it’s former glory.”

Your donation will purchase a voucher for a holiday in this picture-perfect cottage.

“Each voucher bought will aid in the restoration of Welsh heritage & support traditional country skills, ensuring that this beautiful building will be preserved for generations to come” said Jack.



Picture 2 caption: Our fundraiser ‘Raising the Roof’ will bring the Thatched Cottage back to its former glory.

Picture 3 caption: The farmhouse features original wall paintings from the 1700s. The paintings were a surprise find during the restoration in 2000.



Picture 4 caption: Farmer, Jack, is leading the restoration project of the thatched cottage. The small team who work at Treberfedd and look after the holiday accommodation are gathering support for the restoration project.

How can I pledge money & receive my voucher?

We have a crowdfunder page www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/raising-the-roof-at-treberfedd where you can pledge donations from £50 - £500. Participants can opt to receive a holiday voucher or simply leave money as a donation.

Once a donation is made, a holiday voucher of the equivalent amount will be issued to use against a holiday in The Thatched Cottage. The vouchers will be valid for five years.

When you're ready to book, visit www.treberfedd.co.uk and use the code in your voucher to apply your discount.

When do we hope to complete the project?

Our Crowdfunder will go live Monday 1st April and we hope to complete the fundraising project before the next winter!

About Treberfedd Farm – a recent history

Farmer Jack's family has been at Treberfedd for over 20 years. Since 1999 the farm has been a popular holiday destination with two converted barns, the original thatched cottage, and a modern farmhouse plus eco cabins and glamping.

In 1999 the thatched cottage was dilapidated and had been abandoned by the previous owner. In the year 2000 Jack's father Jim employed a local builder, Euros Lewis and architect, Huw Davies, to restore it back to its former glory, saving an important piece of Welsh farming heritage.

Treberfedd Farm holiday cottages and eco cabins lie at the heart of west Wales, just fifteen minutes from Cardigan Bay's fabulous sandy beaches and small harbour towns like Aberaeron and New Quay. The farm has panoramic views from its hilltop setting over-looking the Aeron Valley and Cambrian Mountains.

Sustainability & Nature

The holiday cottages and cabins at Treberfedd are surrounded by organic meadows and woodland. The farm has been certified organic for 18 years meaning no chemical pesticides or fertilisers are used on the land. Jack's family have planted over 19,000 broadleaf trees on the farm and created nature walks for visitors to enjoy. The holiday accommodation is partly powered by the farm's own wind turbine and solar panels. The farmland is home to many species of wildlife and is open for guests staying at the farm to explore. The farm also plays a part in the conservation of rare breeds by keeping a rare local breed of sheep, the 'LLanwenog' and traditional Hereford cows.

More about the history of this special Welsh farmhouse

The Thatched Cottage that stands at Treberfedd today was built sometime before or during the 1600s.

In 1802 the single storey cottage was extended and improved, creating a larger space with a beautifully modelled Georgian frontage, symmetrical chimneys, and the same thatched roof that we have today.

It was listed Grade II in 1996 as an unusually complete Georgian Vernacular Farmhouse, an extremely rare survival of this regional building type with its character retained, probably one of the last of its kind.

Restoration work on the house in 2002 uncovered some wall paintings dating back to around 1650. The murals were painted using plant-derived pigments in a floral motif style which was very fashionable in the 17th century.

There are similar examples dating back to the same period on church walls in and around the South and East of England. The murals may well have been created by a travelling artist passing through Aeron's Vale, who could be hired to paint the interior walls of people's homes. The wall paintings are now a very rare survival, particularly in South West Wales.

Contact Details

Please email info@treberfedd.co.uk or call Jack on 07970081432 for more information.

Pictures – larger file sizes available on request.