

# Emergency repairs to Tudor causeway

A UNIQUE 16th century causeway is closed to the public for essential repair work to be carried out.

The grade two listed structure at Carew Castle and tidal mill is part of the only remaining tidal mill and causeway in Wales, dating back to 1541.

As the causeway is a public footpath, it has been closed so that work involving drilling into the causeway and sluice and pressure-grouting the voids.

The repair involving the sluice, auxiliary spillway and area next to the basement steps at the side of the mill is being carried out by Llanelli-based contractor Quantum Geotechnical. The sluice gates to the mill pond will also be removed, repaired and replaced.

This year's annual inspection of the mill pond, under the Reservoirs Act 1975, revealed urgent action was needed as voids had opened up in the causeway due to the continual scouring of the tidal waters through the structure.

The castle, mill and causeway are leased and managed by the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority.

**By Medi George**

Andrew Muskett, the authority's building projects officer said: "The causeway at Carew is unique; it's an ancient structure which needs constant care and attention.

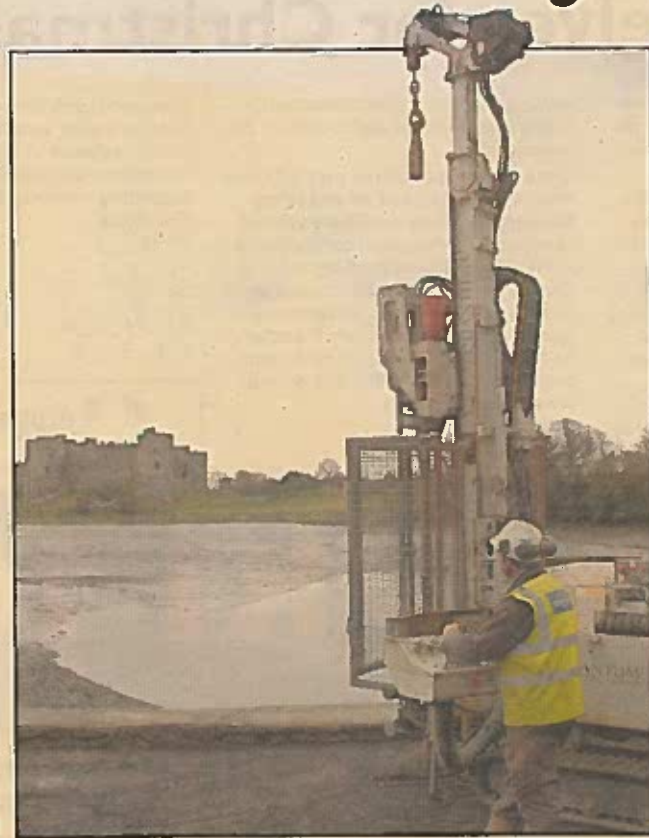
"It has to endure an aggressive environment – not only is it trodden by walkers every day of the year but it is also subject to daily wear and tear from the tidal waters of the mill pond.

"Over time that will take its toll and this year our consultant engineers, Atkins, highlighted areas of concern and a major inspection then revealed damage that was deemed to need emergency repair."

As the work is expected to take five weeks and as the causeway is part of a popular walking route, if work is not completed by Christmas it will be reopened and closed again for work to be completed in the new year.

For more information about the work, contact Andrew Muskett on 0845 345 7275.

medi.george@westerntelegraph.co.uk



**CAUSE FOR CONCERN:** Work has already begun on the 16th century listed causeway at Carew Castle and tidal mill.