

**SOME EXAMPLES OF WORK THAT HAS BEEN DONE IN RECENT MONTHS TO REPAIR THE FABRIC OF THE BUILDING,  
 AFTER YEARS OF DECAY HAVE LEFT IT VULNERABLE**

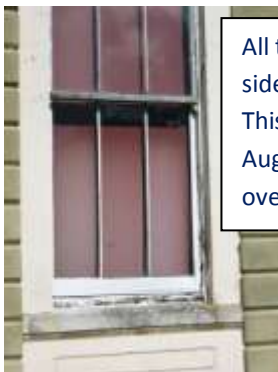
When the Trustees took over in the summer of 2010, they were notified by the Isle of Wight Council that repairs were needed to the roof. On investigation, this was indeed the case, as you can see ...



Water was getting in and more damage was being caused. The Trustees put repairs in train and the roof was repaired as a matter of urgency ... but at a cost.



However, this was in the early days, before the extent of the damage and deterioration was fully clear – and the amount of work, time and money that would be needed to put it right. Fortunately, many volunteers have come forward and used their skills and expertise to carry out other, equally urgent repairs. Here is just one example:



All the sash windows in the House need attention, but those on the south side of the Ballroom, Drawing Room and Morning Room are particularly bad. This is the easternmost window on that side of the Ballroom, pictured in August 2010. As you can see, the frame is rotten; it has been patched up over the years but never properly repaired.



Now, thanks to the hard work and dedication of one of our volunteers, Pete Gordon, the worst parts of the frame have been repaired and the window can once again face the elements. One down, 70 to go ...



However, some repairs are beyond volunteer skills. Expert professionals are needed, and we must comply with English Heritage requirements. Their most important message was ‘keep the water out and the gullies clear’ which has been our main focus – but that does cost money. So far, repairs to the roof have cost in the region of £12,000. Hopefully the worst of the winter will soon be over, but that doesn’t mean damage isn’t still occurring – only recently in the frost a large piece of rendering fell off one of the walls of the Rotunda and punctured the roof, meaning that another repair must be done urgently.