



Major Repair Programme

Case for Support





'There is no doubt in my mind
that Salisbury Cathedral is the
**single most
beautiful
structure
in England**
and the Close around
it the most beautiful space...'

Bill Bryson, Notes from a Small Island

Salisbury Cathedral, and the Close which surrounds it, is an internationally recognised icon in the British landscape famed for its aesthetic quality and distinguishing features. In terms of superlatives the Cathedral has the tallest spire in the United Kingdom, the only remaining one of its period built of stone, the largest Close, the best preserved exemplar of the original Magna Carta, a Works Department which preserves now rare craft skills and the first girls' choir in an English Cathedral. It is arguably the finest early gothic cathedral in England, with the main body built in only 38 years from 1220–1258 (most other cathedrals having been enlarged or changed over time).

Salisbury Cathedral is not only a building – it is a sacred space. The Cathedral exists to make real the glory of God and as a sign of His kingdom in the world. Every day, week in week out, for century after century, God has been worshipped here. It is a centre of pilgrimage for over 200,000 visitors every year, but above all it is a place of prayer. Today, as for previous generations, Salisbury Cathedral stands as a symbol of the Christian faith, a place to honour the past and engage with the spiritual values in our lives.

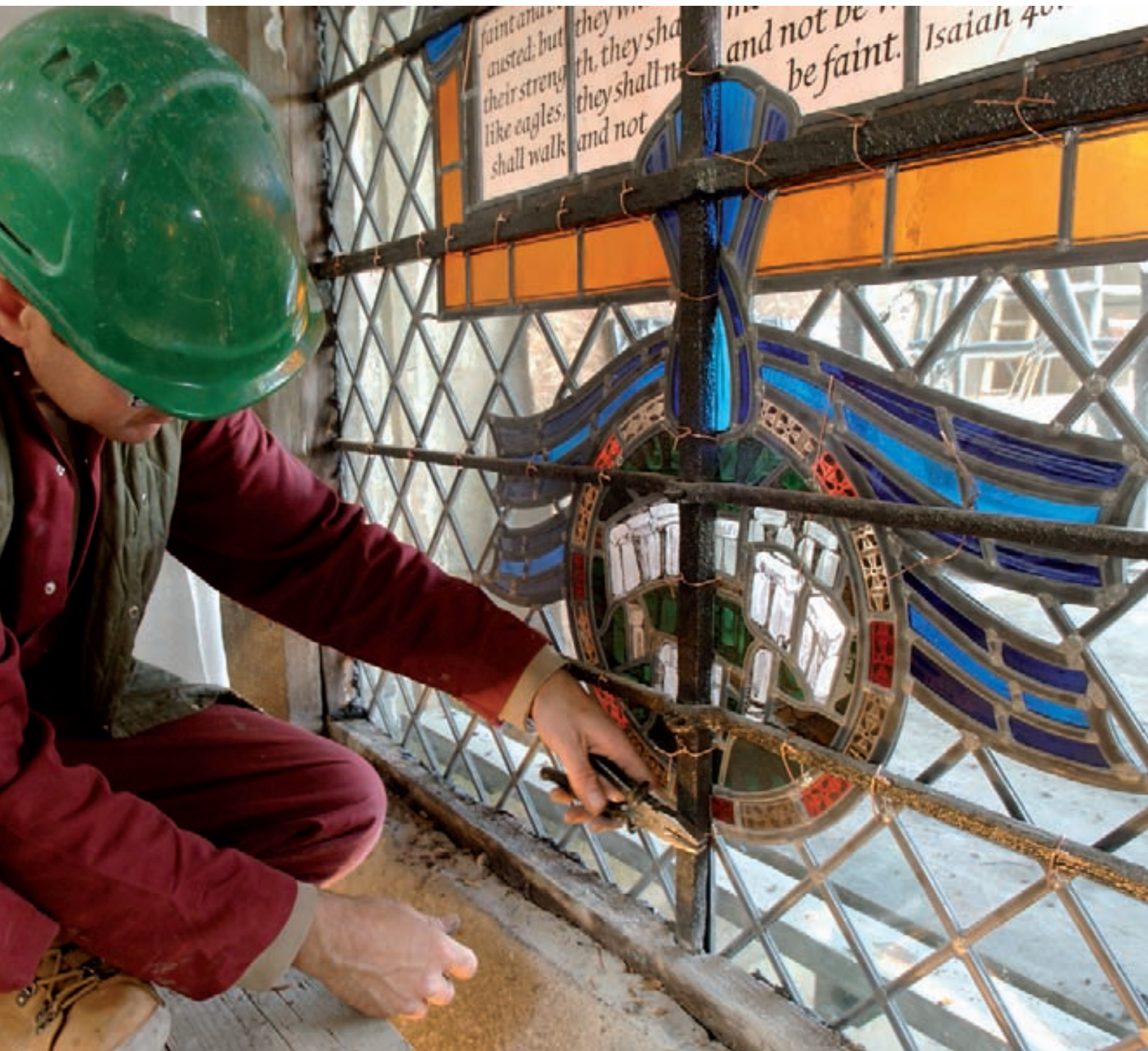
The building itself is a remarkable testament to the faith and practical skills of those who erected it. It was the largest building project of its time in England, and responsible for the formation of the 'new town' of Salisbury. Without the Cathedral, the city would not exist today. The landscape of the Close, rivers and surrounding views play their part to produce a sense of place complete in its setting.

Our Vision

To bring innovation to the tradition that is Salisbury Cathedral

We manage this sacred place with integrity, driven by vision and values, and seeking to be principled and innovative rather than waylaid by only functional responses. We are working to discover coherent and integrated solutions for the whole Cathedral and Close environment which will commend themselves to all who care about the Cathedral's historic mission.

In 2008 Salisbury celebrated the 750th anniversary of the consecration of the completed Cathedral in 1258. Our aim for the future is to give the widest possible access to the beauty of the Cathedral and to strengthen what is timeless in our life.



Background to the Major Repair Programme (MRP)

It would be a mistake to think of the Cathedral as being untouched for 750 years. The reality is that successive generations have cared for the stone and glazing as best as they could, undertaking repairs as and when necessary. The last major work was undertaken in the early 19th century and the building has continued to suffer from the ravages of time, weather and pollution. The stone used in the Cathedral will perish if not cared for. It weathers in different ways, leading one piece of stone to become badly weakened whilst its neighbour remains strong.

The Major Repair Programme stems from a detailed survey undertaken in the 1960s, by the Cathedral Architect and Clerk of Works concerned about the effects of weathering on the stone and glazing. They presented a report in 1966 advising comprehensive fabric repairs to the entire Cathedral. Given the critical state of the spire and tower it was decided that work should focus on these areas first, and then move on to the other areas in worst condition, namely the West Front and Roofs.

Work on the spire commenced in 1986 funded by an appeal by the Cathedral Trust (an associated registered charity) under the patronage of HRH The Prince of Wales, which raised more than £7 million towards the project. The spire work was completed in 1992 and was followed by conservation and repairs on the Tower and West Front which were completed in 2001. The last major area of work to be completed was that of the roofs in 2005, which involved 90% replacement/recycling of the lead and structural repair of the timbers.

The early stages of the MRP were only possible due to the generosity of the people of Salisbury and beyond who responded en masse when asked for support, and more recently The Wolfson Foundation and English Heritage, whose essential support has enabled us to conserve and restore some of the most damaged parts of the Cathedral. We now seek to build on the experience of our skilled craftsmen and women to complete the Major Repair Programme, conserving this architectural jewel for future generations.



An example of how weathering affects different stones. Despite its poor appearance, this stone is still structurally sound and will be left in place. Careful monitoring means it can be resurfaced and mortared or replaced if required in the future.

The Major Repair Programme – the future

The Major Repair Programme is methodically working its way around the whole Cathedral. We have completed around 60% of the work, but 16 stages remain to be undertaken sequentially until the estimated completion date of 2018. In general terms each stage requires initial scaffolding, a detailed survey to identify the work to be undertaken and an application to the Cathedrals Fabric Commission to gain approval for the work. The process takes about 12 months before any artisan work is started.

The next major stage of the MRP is work on the North Transept. It is apparent from the ground that some of the stone is badly damaged and we also know that the glazing will need to be fully removed for treatment.

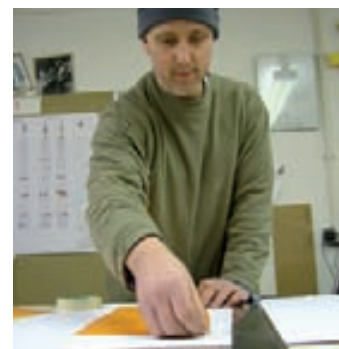
Stonemasonry

The stonemasons are led by Chris Sampson; a mason with over 21 years' experience. Chris has qualifications in carving, sculpture, archaeology and the conservation of buildings in addition to being a Master Stonemason. He has been with the Cathedral since 1998, and he was employed by Winchester Cathedral before he joined us so he has a great wealth of experience.

Chris works very closely with the Cathedral Architect who has a responsibility under the Care of Cathedrals Measure to monitor and approve structural work. Together they decide whether individual stones should be conserved in-situ, or be removed and replaced. Replacement is a complicated task because no two stones are the same. A mason will make a template of the stone to be replaced which is handed to the sawyer who will select an appropriate block to work on. The stone will be cut to size before it is handed to a team of stonemasons who will carry out the detailed work required prior to fixing.

If a stone needs attention but does not need to be replaced, the conservators will strengthen and repair the existing material as sympathetically as possible principally using lime-mortar. Conservators can only prolong the life of the stone which as a natural material will continue to rot and decay. The North Transept is particularly damaged due to its exposure to wind and rain and because it receives very little light

The decision to conserve or replace stone is not straightforward and must take into account the location of the stone in addition to its condition. For instance, stone at lower levels could be conserved rather than replaced in the first instance because it is more readily accessible for future work. Stonework at higher levels will not be easily accessible without hugely expensive scaffolding which must be taken into consideration.



Producing a template for the stone which the sawyers will use.



Work to remove
leading from
the glazing.

Glazing

The Cathedral glaziers are highly skilled craftspeople, led by Sam Kelly, a glazier with over 30 years of experience. Sam was apprenticed at the Cathedral in 1977 and has been managing the department since 2000. He is an Institute of Conservation accredited conservator and an Associate Member of the British Society of Master Glass Painters, like his senior glazier. Two further glaziers have worked in the department for eight and two and a half years respectively; the former was apprenticed here and the latter is on her third year of a four year apprenticeship.

The department works not only on the Cathedral but also for churches and private customers in the surrounding area, giving them an unparalleled range of experience and expertise on both historical and modern glazing.

The work required on each window will depend largely on its condition and previous work undertaken. For instance, the glazing in the Hemming Window in the North Transept (photographs overleaf) will be removed entirely to the glazing workshop for conservation. The glazing panels will be photographed and rubbings will be made of each. The glass will be stripped from the old lead work and cleaned with de-ionised water and cotton swabs to remove general dirt and grime. The glass is re-leaded in the same visible profile as the original (the lead is produced in our own lead mill) and waterproofed with traditional lead light cement. Finished panels are photographed before being carefully re-fixed into their timber frames and a full conservation report will be produced on the work carried out.



Above: close up of grisaille painted detail.
Left: The Hemming Window in the North Transept, North Elevation.



The Hemming Window is a late Victorian representation of an early medieval window and therefore relatively modern. It is a memorial to Eleanor, widow of Dean Hamilton, and was commissioned in 1895. The general appearance of the glazing gives the effect of late thirteenth century glass similar in pattern and colouring to some of the original Cathedral glass. It was designed by A.O. Hemming of Cavendish Square, London. It is such a realistic and fine example that it has fooled a number of interested people in the past, including those with glazing knowledge!

The Financial Need

The costs of the Major Repair Programme since 1986 total some £18,416,984. The budget for the remaining work is estimated at £14 million. It is important to stress that budgeting for conservation work of this magnitude on a building of this age is not easy. Outline costs cannot be decided until each individual bit of stone and glass is studied and the exact cost is not apparent until the work has been completed. We set a budget by estimating the costs advised by MRP experience elsewhere on the building with our Works Department, but it is impossible to cost the work exactly until the scaffolding has been erected and the condition of the individual elements examined.

The MRP is scheduled to be completed by 2018 and the work is split into Major Repair Areas (MRA). Each MRA covers a portion of the Cathedral exterior. Within each MRA there are smaller projects, including specific glazing work and the conservation of individual elements such as spirelets and gablets. There are also elements such as scaffolding which are included within the whole MRA cost but which can be split for donors interested in certain elements.

The remaining stages of the project are outlined below. They are not listed in any order of priority and it should be noted that work can/will be conducted on more than one area at a time.

MRA Stage	Description	Total £	Timeframe
17	South Side Nave Aisle	1,517,803.63	2014–2017
CL2	Cloisters Phase II	1,069,814.60	2009/10, 2012–2014
14	North Nave Aisle	25,659.29	2009–2010
	North Porch Interior	264,030.32	2012–2014
13	West Side North Transept	401,578.91	2009–2010
12	North Face North Transept	737,552.00	2009–2011
10	North East Transept	1,076,569.45	2010–2012
3	East Side South East Transept	989,228.83	2014–2016
4	East Face Choir Gable	745,275.62	2013–2015
5	South Face Trinity Chapel	347,559.15	2012–2014
6	East Face Trinity Chapel	486,556.47	2012–2014
7	North Side Trinity Chapel	390,855.25	2012–2014
8	North Side Presbytry	319,296.19	2011–2013
9	East Side North East Transept	801,942.10	2009–2012
20	Sacristy	910,272.88	2016–2018
21	Chapter House	1,439,798.72	2015–2017
	Glazing	767,741.11	2009–2018
	<i>Additional Works</i>		
	Close wall repairs	275,000.00	
	High Street gate repairs	330,000.00	
	Harnham Gate repairs	55,000.00	
	DDA works	66,000.00	
	Specialist window work	220,000.00	
	Close CCTV System	110,000.00	
	Cloister Garth re-surfacing/landscaping	165,000.00	
	New Strainer Arch staircases	88,000.00	
	Road and footpath repairs	385,000.00	
	Total	13,985,534.53	



This photograph shows the damaged stonework on one of the gables on the north side of the Cathedral. Note how the block stonework has weathered and how the pinnacle of the gable no longer has detailed carving.

How can you support the project?

There are many ways you can support this major undertaking. Donations to the overall Major Repair Programme are very welcome, but we can break the work down into smaller projects if you would like to be the sole funder of a particular element or section. We would be happy to discuss the most effective way for you to support us, whether it is with a one-off cash donation in £ sterling or another currency, a substantial donation spread over more than one year, shares or a future gift in your Will.

With more than 200,000 visitors to the Cathedral every year we have the opportunity to offer sponsorship benefits to suitable companies.



What will the Cathedral offer its donors?

The Cathedral is well placed to offer a number of unique benefits to our donors. We can provide some very special memories for our supporters, and we would be very happy to tailor a benefits package for you. We can offer everything from your own gargoyle carved out of Cathedral stone, to private tours and receptions, to a dinner for your guests in the nave of the Cathedral. If you are musically inclined, we can offer a private concert by our choir for you and your guests, or you might want to have a lesson on our famous organ with our Director of Music. Alternatively, if you are interested in the physical work on the Cathedral, we could arrange for you to spend time with the Glazing or Stonemasonry departments actually working on the fabric of the Cathedral.

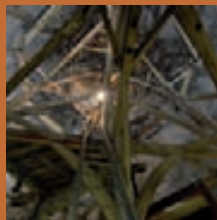
In addition to the benefits we can offer, we have a comprehensive ethical strategy which details exactly how we will treat our supporters. We would be happy to share this with you – just ask for a copy.

Why should you support Salisbury Cathedral?

The Cathedral belongs not only to the people of Salisbury and Wiltshire, but to the people of the UK and beyond. We are the current caretakers of its treasures, its architecture, its music and its secrets. We have to conserve this wonderful building for future generations and are working responsibly now to avoid passing on significant financial liability.

Our plans to take this historic and magnificent institution into the twenty second century and beyond can only succeed with your support. Please help us to save this unique building by making a donation.

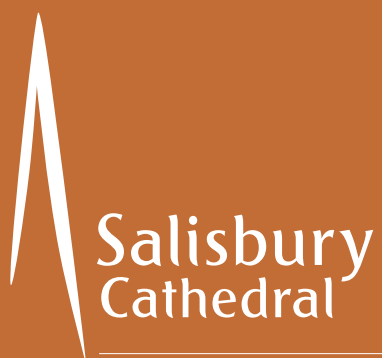
For further details of the project, or to discuss your requirements prior to making a donation, please call Claire House-Norman, Development Director, on 01722 555122 or email at c.house-norman@salcath.co.uk



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Salisbury Cathedral is an ecclesiastical corporation established for charitable purposes.



www.salisburycathedral.org.uk