

Seffrid Guild

Conservation and Repair

There are some wonderful textiles in the Cathedral and in Churches in the Diocese and it is a principle of the Seffrid Guild that these should be cared for and preserved to be used and enjoyed for years to come.

The Seffrid Guild is pleased to help embroiderers working in their own churches. This provides opportunities to develop and share skills within groups in local congregations. We will visit and discuss the project being undertaken and discuss the extent of advice and support that can be offered.

Any church in the Diocese is invited to contact the Seffrid Guild if they have a textile that they wish to discuss. We will visit and discuss the item's condition and options for conservation and repair and storage.

Occasionally the Guild will be able to undertake work for a church in the Diocese. No charge is made for any work undertaken in this way but the church is asked to pay for any materials used and invited to make a donation to support the work of the Guild.

Work undertaken by the Seffrid Guild

Before embarking on any work we would wish to be assured of the support and involvement of the PCC. If any work is being undertaken it is good to maintain contact and we would invite people from the church to come and see what we are doing. It is useful if someone, preferably a member of the PCC, can be identified as a point of contact.

Once the item has been delivered to the Cathedral, we will assess it and prepare a report on its condition, options for conservation and repair, and preliminary estimated costs. This can only be a preliminary estimate because it may be necessary to amend it as it is taken to pieces when a fuller assessment can be made.

We will agree a valuation for the item and while it is in the position of the Seffrid Guild it will be stored in the Royal Chantry and covered under the Property Damage section of the Cathedral's insurance policy. There is no extra charge for this. There is no specific limit for risks such as fire or malicious damage, but effectively a limit is provided by the provision in the policy which states that the basis of cover is the cost of repair/conservation in the event of partial damage or the provision of a worthy modern replacement in the event of total loss or destruction. This does not, however, include accidental damage caused by the process of cleaning, dyeing, repair or restoration. Once the work is completed we will prepare a final report summarising the initial condition of the item and the work undertaken. This will also give an indication of the hours spent working on it.