The need
Through the wet winter of 2013/14 the masonry of the south-east transept was leaking considerable amounts of water into the building. Repairs were needed to weathering features including hood moulds, string courses and offsets. These significantly protect the fabric below, and were in poor condition. The work was part of the cathedral’s 28-year Major Repair Programme, a systematic conservation programme for the exterior of the building, which was launched in 1986 with an appeal for repairs to the Spire, and is now nearing completion.

Outcomes
The repair work was needed urgently and will now require routine items of maintenance. The project enabled them to engage with the public about the work that was taking place and has supported fundraising efforts. Having the funding secured has also helped them to leverage funding through other grant applications.

Economic and social impact
The cathedrals in-house works department undertook all the stone repair projects and the project supported jobs for 13 people including an apprentice. The cathedral offered the public the opportunity to sponsor stones and have their name carved into them. This enabled them to fundraise for window repairs. The works department offers stone carving courses for the public.

Works completed and timescale
The works comprised of stone conservation, in line with the established cathedral policy, inspection and mitigation of decay to the parapet, replacement of Purbeck marble as needed to the corbel table, repair to window mouldings at high level, and reinstatement of features such as carved decoration and carved capitals.

The Cathedral
Salisbury is the only medieval cathedral to be almost entirely of one build period, erected between 1220 and 1266. It has the tallest stone spire of the middle ages and is almost entirely purely Early English in design and detail. The cloisters are the largest in England, and the impressive octagonal Chapter House has latterly been used to house the cathedral’s Magna Carta.
Salisbury Cathedral: External Repairs (2 of 3 projects funded)
Awarded £150,000 in March 2015

The need
This project followed on from the previous one. Through the wet winter of 2013/14 the masonry of the south-east transept was leaking considerable amounts of water into the building. Repairs were needed to weathering features including hood moulds, string courses and offsets. These significantly protect the fabric below, and were in poor condition. The work was part of the cathedral’s 28-year Major Repair Programme, a systematic conservation programme for the exterior of the building, which was launched in 1986 with an appeal for repairs to the Spire, and is now nearing completion.

Outcomes
The repaired areas will now require only routine maintenance. The project enabled the cathedral team to engage with the public about the work that was taking place and has supported fundraising efforts. Having the First World War grant secured also helped them to leverage additional funding through other grant applications.

Economic and social impact
The cathedrals in-house works department undertook all the stone repair projects and the project supported jobs for 13 people including an apprentice. The cathedral offered the public the opportunity to sponsor stones and have their name carved into them. This enabled them to fundraise for window repairs. The works department offers stone carving courses for the public.

Works completed and timescale
Following on from the previous project, the work focused on stonework repairs (masonry replacement and repair, and shelter coating) on the south presbytery aisle and the east aisle of the south-east transept.

The Cathedral
Salisbury is the only medieval cathedral to be almost entirely of one build period, erected between 1220 and 1266. It has the tallest stone spire of the middle ages and is almost entirely purely Early English in design and detail. The cloisters are the largest in England, and the impressive octagonal Chapter House has latterly been used to house the cathedral's Magna Carta.

Soot crusts beneath the parapet string courses caused severe sulphate damage locally. Photo credit: St Ann’s Gate Architects.
The need
The Trinity Chapel forms the east end of the cathedral. Consecrated in 1225, it was the first section of the building to be finished. Frequent falls of stone meant that the area had been roped off externally in recent years to protect people from falling masonry, and the condition of the beautiful interior was starting to be affected by leaks of rain which was not being adequately thrown off the building due to the poor condition of the stone and pointing.

Outcomes
The repairs to the Trinity Chapel stonework, scheduled for completion for the centenary of the end of the First World War in 2018, will complete the cathedral’s Major Repair Programme for 50-100 years and enable the scaffolding which has been around the cathedral for decades to be taken down. The repaired areas will now require only routine maintenance. The project enabled the cathedral team to engage with the public about the work that was taking place and has supported fundraising efforts: having the First World War grant secured helped them to leverage additional funding through other grant applications towards raising the remaining £600,000.

Economic and social impact
The cathedrals in-house works department undertook all the stone repair projects and the project supported jobs for 13 people including an apprentice. The cathedral offered the public the opportunity to sponsor stones and have their name carved into them. This enabled them to fundraise for window repairs. The works department offers stone carving courses for the public.

Works completed and timescale
Masonry, conservation and leadwork repairs took place between 2016 and 2017.

Cathedral quote
We are immensely grateful for the valuable funding that we have already received from the First World War Centenary Cathedral Repairs Fund. The commemoration of that significant centenary is at the heart of our programme in the coming year as we play our part in honouring this national anniversary... this further support will enable us to sustain our commitment to the huge task of the Major Repair Programme of Salisbury Cathedral, one of our nation’s much-loved treasures, as we serve our local communities throughout the World War One commemorations. (June Osbourne, Dean, 2016).

The Cathedral
See previous project summaries.