

# A Common Thread

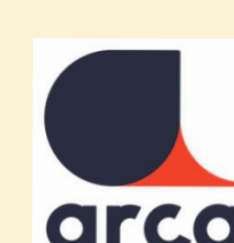
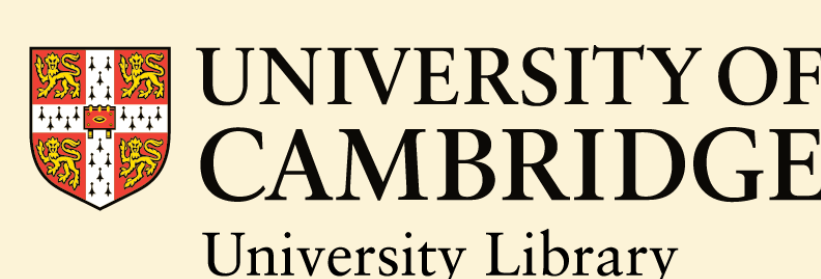
*The Textiles in Libraries Network – Bringing together book & textile conservators to discuss multi-media objects found in library collections*



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Project poster for AIC conference, 29 April – 2 May 2026

Alice Evans, Book Conservator, Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford



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The Textiles in Libraries Network is an informal interdisciplinary group, made up of a wide variety of professionals all interested in the ways books and textiles appear in library, archive & museum collections.

Members include conservators from across specialisms (book, paper, textiles, objects, preventive), as well as curators, librarians, researchers, tutors and students.

Hosted by the conservation team at the Bodleian Libraries, the global group has been meeting online twice a year since 2022, growing from 25 members to now over 100 people on the mailing list.

The common thread linking all members is their interest in and work with objects that combine both books and textiles, such as all the ways textiles can be found as part of a book, or when textile objects pop up in a library collection.



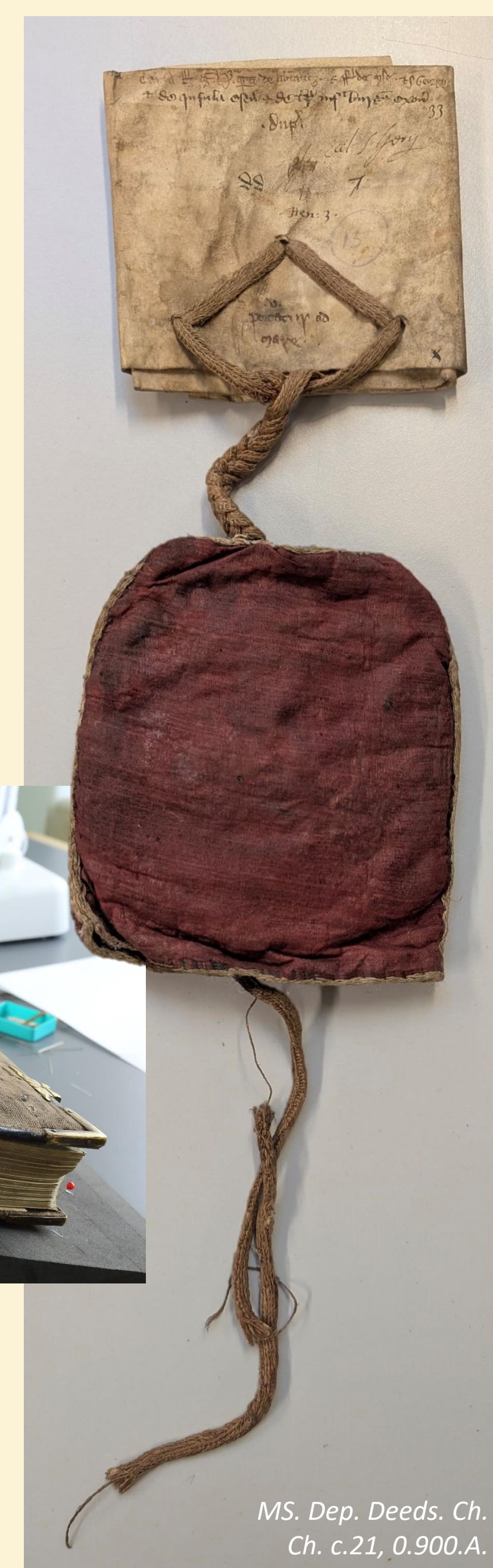
Watch the Textiles In Libraries lecture series here:



LIBRARY  
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The agenda for every meeting is different, with members sharing objects, treatments and projects to ask for advice and prompt general discussion. Some topics discussed at recent meetings have included:

- Advice on specific treatments e.g. adhesive options book conservators could use to repair textile covers and stabilize embroidery threads
- Case studies of colleagues of different conservation disciplines working collaboratively
  - Options for the housing and handling of embroidered bindings
- Ideas for supporting textile cords and bags attaching seals to archival documents
- How to approach non-book textile objects in library and archive contexts, particularly housing and how to handle them in a library reading room



Ideas for the housing and handling of fragile ties and ribbons have come up many times...

We'd love to hear any different approaches you may have!

Images used here are of Bodleian examples for copyright reasons.



With thanks to all the Bodleian colleagues who have supported this project and work, and to everyone who has joined the Network and contributed to the meetings over the past four years.



Please get in touch! If you would like to find out more and join the next meeting drop me an email at [alice.evans@bodleian.ox.ac.uk](mailto:alice.evans@bodleian.ox.ac.uk)