

<u>Identify Hazard</u>	<u>Severity</u>	<u>Probability</u>	<u>Risk Factor</u>	<u>Minimise Risk by</u>	<u>Residual Risk</u>
Non ringers gaining access to the bells and ropes - major injuries from accidentally pulling ropes or moving bells whilst up.	1	3	3	Bells are secured out of reach via the rope and "spider". Vestry to be kept locked at all times when unoccupied and the bell ringers are not present. Action: Church wardens	slight
Getting caught up in moving ropes.	2	2	4	Non-ringers instructed to keep away from the bell ropes. Non-ringers in the ringing chamber to be instructed not to walk near bell ropes whilst ringing is taking place. Action: Tower Captain	slight
Ropes breaking near the sally and flailing around.	1	1	1	Ropes are checked on a regular basis as part of the regular tower maintenance. Mats used to minimise wear on the tail ends. Tower captain to carry out regular maintenance checks. Action: Tower Captain	minimal
Stay breaking or similar mechanical failure. The ringer could be lifted off their feet as the bell 'goes over' and then dropped to the ground causing various injuries including major ones.	2	1	2	Ringers to be properly trained to avoid 'over pulling'. Learners to have experienced trainer "on hand". Tower captain ensures all equipment around the bells is checked as part of the tower maintenance	minimal
Power cut whilst in the process of ringing.	1	2	2	Emergency lighting fitted in the ringing chamber and on the stairs up to the ringing chamber Emergency lighting to be on annual checks list by church electrician. Emergency lighting to be fitted above the ringing chamber in the event of a power cut whilst working in the bell chamber Action: Church wardens	slight
Supervision of children who ring.	1	3	3	Parents or parent nominated responsible person present at all times. Register kept of all those present during Sunday and Wednesday ringing. Make available parental permission forms for children who may come to ring without parents. Signed Forms to be kept by bell ringer's secretary. Blank forms in the locked safety box in the ringing chamber Action: Bell ringing secretary	minimal
Animals in the ringing chamber	1	2	2	Animals are not allowed in the ringing chamber or on the stairs leading to the ringing chamber, with the possible exception of service animals if accompanying a disabled ringer. Tower captain to make an ad hoc assessment as and when such a situation arises Notices to this effect displayed on the door at the bottom of the stairs and on the ringing chamber door.	minimal

Safe guarding for any children or vulnerable adults.	1	3	3	Tower Captain and deputy are CRB/DBS cleared and the tower captain maintains that list.	slight
Injury to learners from fingers, arms or other body parts caught in bell ropes.	1	2	2	Only experienced trainers to teach new learners.	minimal
Injury from lose items of clothing, jewellery, scarves etc.	2	1	2	Ringers advised.	minimal
Heavy spider that could fall and cause injury/serious injury.	1	2	2	Spider operator to ensure that no-one is directly under the spider when the mechanism is being operated.	slight
Clock hammers could interfere with ringing and cause damage.	1	1	1	Tower captain or deputy to ensure that clock hammers are disengaged before ringing commences.	minimal
Bell rope is not the correct length (too long or too short) and becomes out of control.	2	1	2	Tower captain and deputy observe potential issues and rectify before problem occurs.	minimal
Incorrect position of any box used while ringing could lead to falls or ropes catching.	1	1	1	All ringers to ensure correct positioning of box before ringing is started. Ringing parents (where present) to check for their own children.	minimal
Visiting bands unfamiliar with BPC ringing environment.	1	1	1	All ringers to ensure correct positioning of box before ringing is started. Ringing parents (where present) to check for their own children.	minimal
Fire in main Church building	1	3	3	The main door into the church nearest to the entrance to the ringing chamber opens from the inside with bolts and does not have a lock. Keys to the door into the church are in the possession of the tower captain and tower secretary	An "In/Out" indicator is now in use so anyone in the main body of the church will know that the bell tower is in use
Unauthorised Access to bell chamber could lead to injury.	1	3	3	Warning notice bell chamber door. Bell chamber key restricted to bell ringers, church wardens and incumbent.	Church wardens and Incumbent to ensure no one has access without express approval of one of the authorised bell ringers Action: Church wardens and Incumbent. Church

					wardens and Incumbent to ensure no one has access without express approval of one of the authorised bell ringers Action: Church wardens and Incumbent
Risk to injury of children in bell chamber and passage ways to the bell chamber	1	3	3	Children only allowed if written permission of parents and accompanied by at least two of the authorised persons (or a parent).	
Adequate supervision of groups visiting the bell chamber.	1	3	3	At least one authorised person for each group of 3 people, and no more than 6 people in total.	
Condition and lighting of stairwell to the bell chamber could cause tripping hazard.	2	3	6	There is lighting which can be turned on via a switch at the foot of the stairs to the ringing chamber and beyond this as far as the top of the roof	Lighting to be checked frequently and bulbs replaced as and when necessary. Action: Church wardens. Lighting to be checked frequently and bulbs replaced as and when necessary. Action: Church wardens
Fire on ground level, blocking access from bell chamber.	1	3	3	Regular electrical inspections to minimise the risk.	Fire evacuation procedure to be provided

					to Tower Captain. Action: Church wardens
Falling on stairs up to ringing chamber	1	3	3	Steps are wide, level and in good repair	slight
Power cut whilst working in the bell chamber	1	1	1	Torches available on the wall at the entrance to the ringing chamber. Torch must be taken up to the bell chamber.	Ensure that batteries are replaced immediately in the torches when they start to drain. Action: Tower Captain / Deputy Ensure that batteries are replaced immediately in the torches when they start to drain. Action: Tower Captain / Deputy
Falling in the bell chamber	1	2	2	Walking along the main beams between the bells must only be done by experienced ringers and only when the bells are down	Tower Captain to decide who is allowed to enter the bell chamber
Getting caught up with moving bells, wheels etc. could result in multiple injuries or even fatalities.	1	3	3	Warning notice on bell chamber door. Bell chamber key restricted to bell ringers and church wardens.	Church wardens to ensure no one has access without express approval of
Accidentally dislodging bells whilst up could result in multiple injuries or even fatalities.	1	3	3	Warning notice on bell chamber door. Bell chamber key restricted to bell ringers, incumbent and church wardens.	

					<p>one of the authorised bell ringers (see notice on the vestry stairs door). Action: Church wardens. Church wardens to ensure no one has access without express approval of one of the authorised bell ringers (see notice on the vestry stairs door). Action: Church wardens</p>
<p>Falling from frame into pit whilst carrying out maintenance, muffling bells etc.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Avoid accessing area via frame as far as practical, ensure bells are down.</p>	<p>Any one working amongst the bells has had a safety briefing and is only allowed with permission of the Tower Captain Action: Tower Captain. Any one working amongst the bells has had a safety</p>

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Noise from ringing bells whilst in the bell chamber.	1	2	2	If access is required, ear defenders are available and must be worn whilst in the bell chamber.	Ear defenders to be provided for use by anyone accessing the bell chamber. Action: Church Wardens
Any accident involving anyone working on their own could result in any injuries becoming significantly worse through lack of immediate attention.	1	3	3	Working alone is not permitted and should be avoided whenever possible. If working alone is necessary, ensure that someone else knows your start and predicted finish time AND you have a working mobile phone.	slight
Structural defects could affect anyone in the tower, but especially those carrying out maintenance in areas not normally accessed, resulting in major injuries.	1	3	3	Informal communication only.	Tower captain and ringers to be made aware in writing of any defects identified in the Quinquennial Report that could affect them. Action: Church wardens
Risk of injury when working on the bells.	1	3	3	Only work on the bells if they are in the "down" position. Access to a bell must be through a route where all the bells are down.	slight