



THE CARLISLE DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

Patron: The Lord Bishop of Carlisle

Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment – for the relevant activity under consideration – <<following points are intended as an aide memoire you would need to change parts of the documents to suit your particular situation <<delete / edit highlighted sections as appropriate>>

Venue name:	St... (plus address for Emergency Services if needs be)	Activity:	Type here
Assessor:	Assessor name here	Assessment Date:	dd/mm/20yy
Location of first aid or other relevant equipment:		Type here	

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What is being done already?	What further action necessary?	Action by who?	Action by when?	Date completed
<i>Access to the Tower/Church</i>						
Security of the tower/church	Non-ringers gaining access during/after Training Day and injuring themselves or damaging something					
Condition and lighting of external areas (path/steps)	Ringers accessing the towers - slips/trips/falls					
Condition of internal stairs.	Ringers accessing the towers - slips/trips/falls					
<i>Within the Ringing Room</i>						
Getting caught in moving ropes	Ringers/visitors – minor hand injuries through to major injury (broken bones due to fall if taken up with rope)					



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Ropes breaking during ringing.	Ringers through loss of control of their bell – minor injuries from flailing ropes					
Stay breaking or other mechanical failure	Ringers through loss of control of their bell – minor hand injuries through to major injury (broken bones due to fall if taken up with rope)					
Power cut during ringing – sudden transition to darkness / loss of visibility	Ringers through loss of control of bell – possible injuries as per taken up with ropes					
Poorly stored items / items on the floor	Ringers and visitors through slips/trips/falls					
Portable electrical equipment	Ringers and visitors due to:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire. • Electric shocks • Slips/trips/falls over cables 					



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Portable heating systems (e.g. gas fires) also see below - asphyxiant gasses	Ringers and visitors due to:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire. • Asphyxiation 					
<i>Within the Clock Room</i>						
Getting caught in the ropes	Personnel within the clock room – injuries from moving ropes.					
<i>Within the belfry</i>						
Getting caught up with moving parts of bells etc	Steeplekeeper or other personnel in the belfry – minor injuries through to major ones (broken bones).					
Accidental dislodging bells whilst 'up'.	Steeplekeeper or other personnel in the belfry – minor injuries through to fatal ones (due to potential energy in heaviest bells for impact to the person).					
Falling from frame whilst undertaking maintenance.	Steeplekeeper or other personnel in the belfry – minor injuries through to major ones (broken bones).					



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Loud noise from ringing bells.	Steeplekeeper or other personnel in the belfry – permanent hearing damage. (note: noise could also cause falls/getting caught up as identified above too)					
<i>Fire</i>						
Ignition source and flammable materials inside church or tower.	Ringers/visitors – fire could break out trapping people leading to serious injury / eventual death					
<i>General considerations</i>						
Lone working	Ringers/visitors – any accident that occurs could have more severe consequences.					
Asbestos	Steeplekeeper or other personnel involved in maintenance – asbestos fibres very dangerous to health (lungs & respiratory systems).					



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Structural defects	Ringers/visitors – minor to major injuries due to either being hit with falling objects or falling through structural areas (e.g. floors / walkways)					
Carbon monoxide / poisonous gases	Ringers/visitors – asphyxiation and subsequent possible major injury.					
<i>Safeguarding</i>						
Safeguarding	Children / vulnerable adults – various types of injury including mental					
Inability to contact appropriate person following an incident	Children / vulnerable adults – consequences of any incident could be more severe.					
Travelling to the venues	Car drivers and passengers					
<i>Other activities undertaken as part of the event</i>						
Furniture in the church hall	Ringers/visitors – minor injuries due to strains associated with moving furniture and other objects. Ringers and visitors through slips/trips/falls					



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Kitchen operations within the hall	Ringers/visitors – minor injuries due to spillages of hot liquids Ringers and visitors through slips/trips/falls					

Signatures:

Assessor: _____

Date: _____

Tower Captain: _____

Date: _____

Group Leader (if appropriate) _____

Date: _____

Next due for review (date): _____

Copies to be kept in the Ringing Chamber and Church Health and Safety file. <<edit location dependent on event – for example during the Training Day the RA should be in the Tower then returned to the Guild Health and Safety file.>>