

Barrie
The Laurels
Sand Rd
Wedmore
Somerset
BS28 4BY

1/3/2016

Dear Tower Contacts,

Safeguarding

Please would you make sure that this letter is seen by all your Tower Captains and Deputy Tower Captains.

Last November I published a "Safeguarding Position Paper" on the Association website which suggested several routes for action that the Association should take. One of these recognised that the last general information given to Tower Captains was in 2004 and publicised the Central Council booklet "Protecting Young Ringers". That booklet is still current but will, I suspect, have long since disappeared from Belfry notice boards and the Tower Captains of 2004 will in many cases have changed. You can download a copy of the booklet at www.cccbr.org.uk/towerstewardship/.

In order for us to find out the current state of knowledge in the Association it would be very helpful if you would answer the questions below. This will help us to plan the way ahead in terms of how the Association provides help to those who may need it.

You can **either print** this letter, write in your answers and return by post to the above address or type in your answers and **forward** to barriehen@aol.com.

1. What is your tower ?
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2. Are you aware of the name of the person appointed by your Parochial Church Council to look after Parish Child Protection? YES/NO

3. Is that name posted on the ringing room Notice Board for all to see or displayed in another manner?
..... YES/NO

4. Do you currently have any ringers including learners who are aged under 18? YES/NO

5. Is it your intention to teach any under 18 year olds in the next 5 years? YES/NO

6. Do you have under 18 year olds visiting your tower as members of visiting bands, as visitors to your own band, or for any other reason? YES/NO

7. Have you or your deputy applied for a Criminal Records Check.... now known as the De Barring Service (DBS.....) within the last 5 years? YES/NO

8. Would you or your deputy consider attending a half day course on Safeguarding run by the Diocese? YES/NO

To book yourself on to a Safeguarding Course please contact Helen Humphries on 01749 685103. Courses are being run from 10am to 1.00pm on 5th March; 5th April; at the Old Deanery, Wells; on 20th April at Crewkerne, , 11th May at St Francis Church Keynsham and 3rd August at St Nicholas Lighthouse, Portishead; 27th October at the Mission Church, Street. There are 2 evening courses 7.30 to 9.30pm On 3rd May at Bath Abbey and 7.00 to 9.00pm at the Old Deanery, Wells.

9 **Please would you tell me by eMail when you have attended a course.**

— Some of you have raised with me what we do about "vulnerable adults" in the Belfry. Please note that our duties at present are seen as applying only to Children but the Church of England are pressing towards an inclusion of other persons at risk and have said " *This only currently applies to children and we are keen moving forward to look to update the wider Council's Guidance Note 3 "Child protection in Bell Towers" and incorporate adults at risk of abuse and neglect.*". If you have an issue with an adult at risk please deal with this via the parish appointed person.

Your help in this is much appreciated!

Yours sincerely

Barrie Hendry
Association Safeguarding Officer