

Guidance has been provided by Ecclesiastical Insurance which focuses on the use of gas-fuelled beacons. This is available through the link below and provides useful information on what to do before, during and after the use of any beacon for the Jubilee celebrations.

<https://www.ecclesiastical.com/documents/church-beacon-guidance.pdf>



Peter Trimming

Beacon braziers burning solid fuel, along with any bonfire beacons, should be located well away from buildings to avoid the risk of fire spreading to surrounding property.

Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) is a colourless liquid which readily evaporates into a gas and has no smell although an odour is added to help detect leaks. LPG is extremely flammable and it readily combines with air to form an explosive mix. Safety precautions are essential when using any LPG appliances and there are a number of commonsense measures that can be followed to reduce risks.

The beacon does not need to be located on a tower and there are significant hazards in doing so. The beacon must be located on a level, non-combustible surface, suitably fixed by the supplied brackets or sandbags draped over the legs, at least 2 metres from surrounding buildings or structures, which must also be non-combustible. If locating on a tower or other part of the church you will need to seek the advice of the church architect/surveyor and may need to obtain a faculty.

We strongly recommend that the beacon is located at ground level away from buildings.

Â

Â

