

**The National Waterways Museum at Stoke Bruerne  
Risk Assessment**

**Site Location: Stoke Bruerne, Northamptonshire, NN12 7SE**

**Date of Last Assessment: 25<sup>th</sup> February 2009**

**Date of Next Assessment: February 2010**

Persons at Risk		Potential Outcome	Numerical Value	Likelihood/ Probability	Numerical Value	Risk Rating	
T	Teacher	Minor injury	1	Unlikely	1	1-5	Low
H	Helper	Injury needing medical attention	2	Low possibility	2	6-11	Medium
Y	Young People	Injury – off work/school 5 days	3	Possible	3	12+	High
S	Staff	Serious injury/long term sickness	4	Probable	4		
V	Volunteer	Fatality	5	Near certainty	5		
PV	Public/Visitor						

**Arrival on Site**

*Typical Activities Arrive in/depart from coach parking within the Museum car park. Proceed on foot to Museum entrance.*

Hazards Identified	Persons At Risk	Potential Outcome	Likelihood/ Probability	Risk Rating	Risk L/M/H	Controls
Traffic	T, H, Y, PV	1, 2	1	1-5	Low	Teachers/helpers to supervise exit from coach and movement to Museum entrance
Slips, trips and Falls	T, H, Y, PV	1, 2, 3	1, 2	6-11	Medium	Ensure children walk and do not run and are supervised at all Times
Falling into canal	T, H, Y, PV	3, 4	3, 4	12+	High	Children should be supervised at all times by an adult. Avoid over crowding near the waters edge. Children should be briefed/warned of the dangers both before and on arrival at the site. Training in basic rescue procedures is advisable. Rescue aids Available in Museum shop (next to front door), and next to British Waterways public information board beside the locks on opposite side of the canal from the Museum.

## Towpath and Boats/Locks

*Typical Activities Looking at boats on the canal, walks to the Blisworth Tunnel, Stoke Bruerne Nature Reserve or following Audio Tour.*

<b>Hazards</b>	<b>Persons At Risk</b>	<b>Potential Outcome</b>	<b>Likelihood/ Probability</b>	<b>Risk rating</b>	<b>Risk L/M/H</b>	<b>Controls</b>
Falling into Canal from Towpath (see above)	T, H, Y, S, V, P/V	3, 4	3, 4	12+	High	Audio Tour users should stay stationary whilst listening to the Audio Guide Commentary. Adults are advised to walk the path between the children and the canal's edge. Children should be supervised at all times by an adult.
Trapping legs or arms or Falling onto moored boats	T, H, Y, S, V, P/V	2, 3, 4	2, 3	6-11	Medium	Children to avoid going near boats and not to put arms or legs between boats and the bank. Adult supervision at all times.
Locks & lock mechanism – Risk of trapping fingers and falling in.	T, H, Y, S, V, P/V	3, 4	3, 4	12+	High	Children to be accompanied at all times when near locks. Footbridge MUST be used to cross the canal and NOT the Lock gates.

## Buildings

*Typical activities visit to Museum on two floors, toilets and Education Rooms*

<b>Hazards</b>	<b>Persons At Risk</b>	<b>Potential Outcome</b>	<b>Likelihood/ Probability</b>	<b>Risk rating</b>	<b>Risk L/M/H</b>	<b>Controls</b>
Slips, trips and falls	T, H, Y, P/V	1, 2	1, 2	1-5	Low	Level floors. Wide stairs between floors with handrails. Good lighting levels. Warning signs of hazard
Glass	T, H, Y, P/V	1, 2	1, 2	1-5	Low	Safety glass or Perspex on all displays and windows and doors.
Falling objects	T, H, Y, P/V	1, 2	1, 2	1-5	Low	Displays are fixed where required
Moving machinery displays	T, H, Y, P/V	1, 2	1, 2	1-5	Low	Mechanical exhibits are cased in.
Fire	T, H, Y, S, V, P/V	1, 2, 3	1, 2	1-5	Low	Building has smoke detectors fitted to alarm system. All equipment regularly tested. Fire drills carried out.

## Boat Visit

*Typical Activities* visit to narrowboat 'Sculptor' (moored alongside towpath) under guidance from Museum staff

<b>Hazards</b>	<b>Persons At Risk</b>	<b>Potential Outcome</b>	<b>Likelihood/ Probability</b>	<b>Risk rating</b>	<b>Risk L/M/H</b>	<b>Controls</b>
Slips, trips and falls on Towpath or on boat	T, H, Y, S, V, P/V	1, 2, 3	2, 3	6-11	Medium	Supervision of children. Safe maintenance of boat by crew.
Falling Overboard	T, H, Y, P/V	2, 3, 4	2, 3, 4	1-11	Low/Med	All visits are supervised by Museum staff and volunteers working to an established Safe System of Work.