

Tower Ravens safety protocols.

Following a zoom call on 15th March 2021, prompted by the recent events involving violence against women, the team came up with a number of actions for keeping each other safe when out dancing. While some of these are not altogether new behaviours for us, it felt necessary to make everyone aware of them and give us an opportunity for discussion. Some of these involve awareness or action from everyone in the team and some are personal choices.

- Create a document with our emergency contacts. Keep on the G-drive.
- Create a document for those happy to be a point of call for our partners/families/friends. Keep on the G-drive.
- Use "Angela" as a safe word for members of the team. Other team members will come to the aid of any Raven who says Angela. Any Raven can check on another Raven, who they suspect might be in an uncomfortable situation, by using the word Angela. E.g. "Do you have 5 minutes to speak to Angela?" This gives them an easy escape if needed.
- Crawl organisers to sign off the pre-crawl email with their contact number and a reminder of the safe word.
- When bringing a non-Raven to a crawl be sure to introduce them to at least the crawl organiser/foreperson/dance decider.
- Any issues with non-Ravens can be made to the foreperson or any Raven you feel comfortable with who will escalate it to the foreperson if necessary.
- Nominate one person per crawl to help the organiser to make sure no one is left behind in a pub: a backstop.
- Buddy system. Choose another member of the team to send an "I'm home" text to after a crawl.
- Make an effort to say goodbye to at least one member of the team when leaving a crawl. Or/and put a goodbye message on the group whatsapp.
- Make use of whatsapp's 'share my location' feature when traveling home, if you feel you need to.
- Be aware of your phone's SOS system.
- Update the new starter information with safety protocols.
- Have a yearly reminder of the above points, where additions, updates and issues can be discussed.