

# Big Ben



Big Ben is the name given to the large bell inside the clock tower of the Palace of Westminster (also known as the Houses of Parliament). The tower was built by Charles Barry after the old one was destroyed by fire in 1834.

**Did you know?**  
The tower is over 96 metres tall!



## Cold hands!

On December 31<sup>st</sup> 1962, the clock slowed down because of the ice and snow on the hands!



**About time!**  
The clock was finished in 1854, but the tower wasn't completed until 1859 so for 5 whole years they had nowhere to put the clock!

The hour hand on the clock is nearly 3 metres long and the minute hand is over 4 metres long! These men are cleaning the clock face.

