

N|T|S|G

**NATIONAL
TREE
SAFETY
GROUP**

Fatal accidents to members of the public caused by falling or fallen trees

| 1997–2025



Since the start of 1997 to the end of December 2025, 139 fatalities have been recorded, averaging about 4.8 per year. These fatalities occurred across 126 separate incidents. The incident count is lower because some events involved multiple deaths.

To view fatalities for a **specific year**, click that year in the table.

Year	Fatalities
1997	5
1998	1
1999	3
2000	3
2001	4
2002	13
2003	6
2004	6
2005	2
2006	2
2007	8
2008	6
2009	4
2010	3
2011	5
2012	4
2013	4
2014	4
2015	3
2016	3
2017	4
2018	3
2019	8
2020	5
2021	4
2022	5
2023	4
2024	10
2025	7
Total to end 2025	139

Sources

This version of the database includes tree species, as far as it is possible to identify; plus details from subsequent inquests and any other information considered relevant. This was originally compiled in 2021 for the National Tree Safety Group (NTSG).

In earlier years, it often proved impossible to find any evidence to identify tree species. Often, this information came to light in reporting of the inquest. For some of the latest reports, the inquest has not yet taken place and information is lacking. The accuracy of the information is very much dependent on the accuracy of the original media reports.

As far as possible, key details are based on corroboration, but it often appears that one reporter's information is simply copied by other sources. In some cases, inclusion of photos may help in identification – although this would need an arboriculturalist to source the photo from the links available and identify the species if possible.

Additional information could have been derived in some cases from reports in the Times, Daily Telegraph or Horticulture Weekly, but these are protected by paywall and unavailable without incurring significant costs.

Species	Number of incidents
Oak	19
Beech	17
Poplar	7
Ash	7
Horse Chestnut	5
Willow	3
Pine	2
Maple	2
Cypress	2
Cedar	2
Birch	1
Cherry	1
Leylandii	1
Lime	1
Plane	1
Unspecified conifer	1
Unknown species	54
Total	126

Date	Place	Deceased	Description and links	Tree	Legal	Other
1997						
24/12/1997	Merseyside	Woman, 32	Large tree crashed onto car <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBC News 			
24/12/1997	M53, Merseyside	1 person dead	Multiple pile-up on motorway caused by tree falling onto road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBC News 			
26/12/1997	Pengam, nr Blackwood, Gwent	Gerald Ross Ruth Ross David White	60' tree fell onto car as they drove along High Street <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBC News 			
1998						
26/12/1998	Eglwys Cross, N Wales	Mark Huxley, 5	Child died after his mother's car swerved to avoid fallen branches and was in collision with another vehicle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBC News 			Gale force winds
1999						
03/12/1999	Kings Heath, Birmingham	Kenneth Davis, 56, Ellen Davis, 79, Alan Poole, 59	Diseased tree toppled onto cars on main road. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBC News #1 BBC News #2 	Ash	Inquest August 2001 – verdict of accidental death on all 3 victims. In August 2001, HSE served Improvement Notice on Birmingham City Council. In July 2002, HSE prosecuted the Council for a breach of HSWA, section 3(1) – it was fined £150,000 after guilty plea	High winds
2000						
29/10/2000	Hindhead, Surrey	1 dead, 2 seriously injured	Tree hit 2 cars on A3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBC News Telegraph 	Oak		
29/10/2000		1 dead	Car struck tree blown onto motorway			

Date	Place	Deceased	Description and links	Tree	Legal	Other
30/10/2000	Wrantage, near Taunton, Somerset	Gary Phillips, 44	Motorcyclist killed when he was hit by a falling tree on the A378 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 			
2001						
31/10/2001	Weston, Staffordshire	David Richards, Robert Jones, David Newman, Barbara Loverock	Van and car collided head-on after van hit branch which had fallen from oak tree onto them <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Free Library 	Oak		
2002						
28/01/2002	Hilton Dunkeld Hotel, Dunkeld, Perth and Kinross	John Speirs, 42 Kathleen Nash, 42 (died in hospital)	Tree fell on top of them in grounds of hotel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News 			
01/02/2002	Berry Brow, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire	Geoffrey Wood, 75; Jeffrey Hainsworth, 60	Tree fell onto car. Tree had been uprooted in adverse weather <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examiner Live 	Beech	Tree was privately owned and not on Council land	Windy and wet
14/03/2002	Sevenoaks, Kent	Richard King, 20	Lorry driver's passenger, parked in lay-by, killed by falling tree. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kent Online #1 • Kent Online #2 • Corporate Accountability 	Oak (a later report states beech)	Inquest September 2003 – verdict of accidental death. In June 2005 a judge ruled Sevenoaks District and Kent County Councils could not be held criminally liable where no civil liability existed – HSE failed to establish that highway authority had a duty of care in the particular circumstances	

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27/10/2002	Costessey, nr Norwich	Christopher Vince, 12	Died pushing brother clear as tree was toppled by high winds. Walking with dog (also killed) in woodland near home. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Independent 	Beech	Inquest March 2003	
27/10/2002	Felixstowe, Suffolk	Benjamin Davey, 3	Tree fell on child in pushchair at The Grove during storm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • Ipswich Star #1 • BBC News #2 • Ipswich Start #2 	Ash 23 metre high. Tree was suffering from honey fungus	Site owned and managed by Suffolk Coastal DC. In November 2002, HSE served a Prohibition Notice on Suffolk Coastal District Council. Inquest April 2003, verdict of accidental death.	
27/10/2002	Oxford	Angela Regoczy, 22	Diseased tree fell onto parked car in city centre, crushing roof. 3 other family members injured. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Mail • Oxford Mail 	Horse chestnut 24 ton tree	Council admitted liability 2004. Inquest August 2006 – death by misadventure but evidence of disease and decay in 1999, although tree not felled. HSE decided not to prosecute March 2008.	Storm conditions
27/10/2002	Whittington, nr Downham Market, Norfolk	Eric White, 50	Killed by falling tree while walking in village near his home <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ipswich Star 	Beech		
27/10/2002	Tern Hill, Shropshire	Cherry Bloor, 11	Tree branch fell onto car on A41; girl was a passenger; 2 others injured <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News 	Oak 100 year old tree, healthy and vigorous	Inquest March 2003 – verdict of accidental death	
27/10/2002	Bwlch, nr Brecon, Wales	Reginald Pugh, 66	Large branch fell onto car on A40 in storms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 			Little information found
10/12/2002	Wandsworth SW London	Man (30s) and woman (20s) killed	Gust of wind caused part of tree to fall onto car which then caught fire <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News 	15' section of tree		Little information found

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2003						
28/01/2003	Hadley High-stone, Barnet, N London	Matthew Warden, 32	Driver crushed by falling tree blown down from private garden in a gust of wind <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watford Observer 	Ash Mature tree with <i>Perenniporia fraxinea</i> root decay fungi	Inquest at Hornsey Coroners Court, verdict of accidental death	
30/01/2003	West Ashtead Primary School, Ashtead, Surrey	Rianna Davenport, 8	Gust of wind caused tree to fall on children queuing for lunch in playground; other children injured. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 • BBC News #3 	Corsican pine 50'	Inquest September 2003 – verdict of accidental death. HSE served Improvement Notice on Surrey CC for several failings in system for tree management, but decided not to prosecute (Jan 2004) on basis that tree was healthy when it fell.	
09/02/2003	Bangor, Co. Down,	Man, 22; Neil Carson, 18	Large tree branch fell in front of or on top of car in Belfast Road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News 			Very little information found
09/02/2003	A4 between Dungannon and Ballygawley, Co Tyrone	1 dead (male)	Branch fell off tree onto or in front of car <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News 			Very little information found
06/05/2003	Richmond Park, London	Nathan Louis, 12	Struck by falling branch in park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Standard 	Oak 400 year old tree, 7 metre branch	Inquest October 2004 – verdict of accidental death. Evidence from HSE and Jeremy Barrell. Tree had been identified in 2002 as needing pruning, but work was not carried out as tree was not deemed to be a safety risk.	

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2004						
31/01/2004	B4202 Kidderminster, Worcestershire	Roy Godsall, 67	Motorcyclist died after he hit tree which had fallen across road			High winds. Very little information found
20/03/2004	Blundeston, Lowestoft, Suffolk	Man and woman killed	Tree (in good condition prior to toppling) fell onto car on A12 during gales <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News 	Beech		
20/03/2004	Strelley, Nottingham	Marie Hunter, 51	Tree fell on car in high winds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access my Library 			Very little information found
31/08/2004	Caterham, Surrey	1 dead (male)	Motorcyclist came off bike after swerving to avoid part of tree on A22 Caterham bypass			Very little information found
29/10/2004	Corfe Castle, Dorset	Pamela Hudson, 57	Tree split and fell during tornado. Coroner described accident as “act of God”. Freak tornado left a five-mile trail of damage in its wake. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 	Pine	Inquest December 2004 – verdict of accidental death	
2005						
01/01/2005	Dunham Massey Park, Cheshire	Timothy Sutton, 8	Boy walking with 12 members of his family in Dunham Massey Park (National Trust), near Altrincham, Greater Manchester, when he was hit by a falling tree. His mother, elder brother and younger sister were also hurt. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telegraph and others 	Beech	Inquest July 2006 – narrative verdict. Lengthy HSE investigation ending with decision against prosecution March 2009	Sudden strong winds associated with cold front – possible tornado
13/10/2005	Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham	Daisy Hill, 92	Elderly woman crushed by falling tree whilst sat on park bench. Carer also injured. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Birmingham Mail • Irwin Mitchell 	Beech 60’ tree, 100 years old	Inquest December 2006 – verdict of accidental death July 2009 – carer received £23,000 in out-of-court civil settlement. HSE considered prosecution	

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2006						
04/08/2006	A385 between Totnes and Dartington	Grace Turner, 16	<p>Girl died in hospital a few days after sustaining head injuries after a tree branch fell onto the roof of the car in which she was travelling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 	Oak 27m high; 6m branch	Inquest December 2008 and March 2009 – verdict of accidental death	
30/12/2006	Hales Hall caravan park, Cheadle, Staffordshire	Rebecca Ann Smith, 18	<p>Tree uprooted during 50 mph winds – young woman died at the scene.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • Standard 	Beech 60'		Strong winds
2007						
11/01/2007	Blackdown Hills, Somerset	Mark Fensome, 48	<p>Driver died when he crashed into a fallen tree on a minor road in the Blackdown Hills.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 • Somerset County Gazette 		Inquest May 2007 – verdict of accidental death. Tree identified for felling by Forestry Commission but came down in high winds before felling was scheduled	High winds battered the SW. No information found on tree species
18/01/2007	Byley, Middlewich, Cheshire	Derek Barley, 60	<p>Man working on a construction site when hit by falling tree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crew Chronicle 		Inquest October 2007 – verdict of accidental death. Deceased was an electrical engineer at work, but tree fall was unrelated to work	No information found on tree species
18/01/2007	Streatley, Berkshire	Stephen Christian, 36	<p>Passenger in car killed by a falling tree; driver seriously injured</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Newbury Today 			No information found on inquest or tree species
19/01/2007	B4373 Bridgnorth, Shropshire	Richard Heard, 49	<p>Man killed when a tree branch of a fallen tree went through his car window.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • The Guardian • Shropshire Star 	Ash	Inquest April 2007 – verdict of accidental death. Tree fell because of high winds and rotten roots	High winds

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19/03/2007	Lapworth, Warwickshire	Neil Curtiss, 47	Man killed when tree toppled onto the top of his truck in the village of Lapworth. Tree to be examined for possible root damage. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Coventry Telegraph 	Oak 60' high		No information found on subsequent inquest
28/06/2007	Felbrigg, Norfolk	Daniel Mullinger, 11	Boy died on school trip to outdoor activity centre. An 11-year-old boy was killed and three other children were injured when a bough from a beech tree fell on them during an outdoor activity trip in the wood on the Felbrigg estate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telegraph and many others • Baillii 	Beech	Accident investigated by N Norfolk DC with HSE assistance. Inquest June 2008 – verdict of accidental death. Lengthy civil case – Bowen v National Trust, ended in 2011 with a judgment that NT was not negligent or in breach of its duty of care.	
13/07/2007	Great Saling, nr Saffron Walden, Essex	Paul Delahay, 41	Motor cyclist killed by falling branch causing head injuries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Dunmow Broadcast 			No information found on tree species
12/08/2007	Near Windsor Great Park, Surrey	Christopher Imison, 53 (died 19/08/07)	Man crushed by large falling tree branch while unloading bikes from car on public road near Great Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get reading • BBC News 	Oak Branch 15m long x 40cm wide. Evidence of fungus was not visible	Inquest January 2008 – verdict of accidental death. Appeal July 2011 Micklewright v Surrey CC failed when Court of Appeal upheld earlier judgement	

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2008						
10/01/2008	Bodiam, East Sussex	Claire Bolton, 26	Woman driving, struck by falling tree (afternoon, in daylight) on B2244; baby in car uninjured. No other vehicle involved. DP was police forensic worker. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • When Trees Attack 	Ash 50'	Inquest Sep 2008 – verdict of accidental death	Gale force winds
22/02/2008	Whitburn, West Lothian	Alexander MacDonald, 25	Van driver trapped by falling tree on A705. Tree within wood owned by Woodland Trust <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scotsman #1 • Daily record • Scotsman #2 	Beech 50' high, evidence of <i>meripilus</i> in roots	Prosecution of Woodland Trust (WT) by HSE announced August 2011, concluded May 2012, WT acquitted – no case to answer	High winds
20/05/2008	Tower Bridge, London	Emily Diamond, 23	Bus struck by falling tree. Woman walking close by struck by falling branch. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Mail • BBC News 	Plane	Inquest Nov 2008 – narrative verdict	
26/05/2008	Huddersfield, West Yorkshire	Alice Kelly, 13	Girl struck by falling limb that sheared away from tree in public park in Oakes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Daily Mail • Examiner Live 	Maple	Inquest June 2009 – verdict of accidental death	Strong winds
13/08/2008	Clapham, South London	Maurice Keogh, 67	Workman in van killed by falling tree near Clapham Common. 2 other men in van seriously injured. Car also crushed in same incident but driver unhurt. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Standard 	Horse Chestnut		Species identified from post on UKTC archive
05/09/2008	Scotch Corner, North Yorkshire	John Perrett, 42	Motor cyclist died on A66 when his bike hit a branch that had fallen into the road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darlington and Stockton Times • BBC News 			No inquest details or tree species found

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2009						
17/01/2009	Downpatrick, Co Down	Mairead Teresa Shields, 35	Woman killed while driving by falling tree brought down by storm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belfast Telegraph #1 • Belfast Telegraph #2 • Belfast Telegraph #3 	Beech	Inquest June 2010 heard evidence of decay in tree and criticisms of landowner (Dunleith Estates) inspection regime	Heavy rain, strong winds
11/09/2009	Popjoy Woods, Chailey, East Sussex	Nicholas Wharton, 30	Runner killed by large branch falling from tree <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Argus • Daily Mail 	Oak		
14/11/2009	Barnehurst, Bexley, Kent	Pam Davey, 53	Woman killed by falling tree whilst walking on public footpath near golf course <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Mail 	Poplar		Strong winds
23/11/2009	Woodman-cote, Henfield, Sussex	Justin Carmichael Price, 39	Van driver killed when falling tree struck vehicle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News 			No inquest details or tree species found
2010						
15/07/2010	Stoke Hammond, Bucks (Grand Union Canal)	Wendy Brennan, 61	Tree fell onto narrow boat under way on canal, woman knocked off boat into water, died in hospital 3 days later. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telegraph 	Willow		
20/10/2010	Fetcham, Surrey	Isobel Hearne, 10	Girl killed by falling tree in own garden <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Mail • Get Surrey 	Silver birch	Inquest April 2011. Tree had internal rot – girl was playing on swing attached to tree when it failed	
10/11/2010	Wakefield, West Yorkshire	Elaine Davison, 55	Woman passenger died after car struck by falling branch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yorkshire Evening Post • Wakefield Express • BBC News 	Horse chestnut	Inquest June 2017 – narrative verdict. Branch came through windscreen and impaled victim. Expert criticised Council's tree management regime but Coroner found no individual or systemic failings.	

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2011						
04/02/2011	Stourton, Staffordshire	Stephen Cutler, 51	Car driver killed when tree fell onto A458 in strong winds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Shropshire Star • Stourbridge News 		Inquest August 2011 - few details available	50 mph winds. Accident occurred late at night
23/05/2011	Corchester Lane, Corbridge, Northumberland	Emma Newton, 18	Woman was in car struck by falling tree in high winds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Google has a link to an article on the inquest in Nov 2011 at The Journal, but paper has been discontinued and the link is no longer available 	30 tonne tree uprooted	Inquest October 2011	Severe gales, gusting to 80 mph. Many articles about Emma Newton Fund set up in her memory
23/05/2011	Mollanbowie Rd., Balloch, W Dumbar-tonshire	Andrew Speirs, 36	Man was in van struck by falling tree in high winds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Lennox Herald • Daily Record 	Oak 50' tree	Fatal accident inquiry October 2012	Very strong winds
30/06/2011	Yaxley, Cambridge-shire	Sophie Howard, 13	Girl struck by falling trunk of poplar tree whilst sat on bench in parish council recreation park; fatal head injuries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 <p>There are very many links to this accident at its main stages – the incident, the inquest and the civil case – here are links to the most informative accounts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #2 • BBC News #3 • BBC News #4 <p>Case mentioned in contribution to UKTC archive in 2014, questioning the causal attribution of summer branch drop - Tree Care</p>	Black poplar 1' thick trunk or branch (reports vary), 20' long, fell 50'	HSE served Improvement Notice on Yaxley Parish Council 12.07.11 citing lack of an effective system for managing trees; complied with by Oct 2011. Tree subsequently removed and others pruned. No record of any prosecution on HSE database. Inquest Dec 2011. Tree consultant appointed by the Coroner told the inquest that there were signs of fractures associated with 'summer branch drop'. Coroner recorded a narrative verdict. In Nov 2012, Yaxley Parish Council agreed to pay family an out-of-court settlement	Prior to incident, tree was pollarded Autumn 2010 on the basis of safety concerns

Date	Place	Deceased	Description and links	Tree	Legal	Other
12/09/2011	Staindrop, Durham	George Brown, 68	Volunteer hospice driver killed, passenger injured, when overhanding bough fell onto their vehicle on A688 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • The Northern Echo 	Ash Tree had fungal infection (Ash Heart Rot)	Inquest April 2012. Verdict of accidental death. The Northern Echo	High winds
2012						
03/01/2012	Tunbridge Wells, Kent	Christopher Hayes, 51	Van driver killed by falling tree whilst parked in town – high winds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Kent Online 	Oak (BBC News, Jan 2012) Beech (Report on inquest KentOnline and others) Allegedly rotten.	Inquest April 2012, verdict of misadventure. Coroner accepted that owner would have had no knowledge of the problem with the tree and there was no need for an examination prior to the event	Strong winds. Passenger in van unhurt. Identified as an oak tree in early reports, later several reports changed to beech
23/09/2012	Kew Gardens, London	Erena Wilson, 31	NZ visitor killed by falling branch in gusty winds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News Inquest June 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hortweek #1 • Hortweek #2 • BBC News • Hortweek #3 • The Guardian 	Lebanese Cedar	Inquest June 2014, extensive media coverage. Verdict of accidental death; conflicting arguments on causation – lawyers for family attributed cause to summer branch drop, lawyers for Kew emphasising heavy rain immediately before branch fall. Jury found insufficient evidence to establish cause. No prevention of future deaths report issued by Coroner	Heavy rain prior to branch fall
05/10/2012	Windsor Road (A332), Ascot, Surrey	Michael Warren, 64	Car driver sustained serious head injuries when large branch fell from mature tree; died in hospital shortly after. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Chronicle • Hortweek (July 2014 inquest) • Proarb Magazine (July 2014 inquest) 	Oak	Inquest July 2014, Reg 28 Coroner's report in relation to drive-by highway tree inspections. Narrative verdict: Barrell Tree Care	Accident and inquest verdict discussed in 2018 article by Jeremy Barrell on highway tree inspections: Barrell Tree Care

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24/11/2012	Exeter, Devon	Michelle Conroy, 21	Homeless woman killed when a large conifer fell, also bringing down a brick wall onto her tent during the night <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is Exeter #1 • This is Exeter #2 • This is Exeter #3 • The Guardian 	Monterey Cypress (Spruce in earlier reports) 300 year old, 10 tonne tree	Inquest March 2014, verdict of accidental death	Strong winds and heavy rain
2013						
03/04/2013	Sundon Park, Luton	Rodney Samuels, 73	Man collecting firewood in Luton Council park when hit by falling tree. Police stated that deceased was trying to fell tree. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 			
28/10/2013	Hever, Kent	Bethany Freeman, 17	Tree fell onto caravan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 	Leylandii 30' height	Inquest March 2014 – verdict of death by misadventure	Severe gale. Girl living in caravan while renovating adjacent house
28/10/2013	Watford, Hertfordshire	Donal Drohan, 51	Man killed whilst driving when tree fell onto his car <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • Harrow Times • BBC News #2 • Watford Observer 	Lombardy Poplar 40' high; evidence of fungal decay but not visually obvious	Inquest April 2014. Verdict of accidental death. Ownership of tree not clarified until after incident, tree not subject to usual County Council inspections	High winds
05/12/2013	King's Park, Retford, Notts	John White, 83	Man on mobility scooter struck by falling tree in local park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Retford Times 			High winds

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2014						
12/02/2014	Caethro, Caernarfon	Robert Thomas, 77	Man died in hospital after being struck by falling branch in own garden during storm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 	Conifer , species unknown	Storm conditions	
12/06/2014	Willesden Green, NW London	Rambai Senghani, 56	Woman waiting at bus stop killed by falling tree branch. Man also seriously injured. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard #1 • Mirror • Standard #2 	Black poplar 60-80 years old, 20' branch		Inquest April 2016
06/08/2014	Southampton Common	Clive Denton, 85	Man found beneath fallen tree branch, died later in hospital. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • Hortweek • BBC News #2 	Oak		Inquest October 2014. Verdict of accidental death. HSE investigation.
21/10/2014	Kensington, London	Teresita Sison, 58	Woman killed by falling tree/collapsed wall in London street in high winds - tree was only partially cordoned off by police after storm damage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Guardian • Standard • BBC News 	Poplar Tree severely decayed, about 80 years old	Inquest January 2017. Verdict of accidental death. Police criticised for inadequate assessment of danger to pedestrians and failing to cordon off partially fallen tree. Private owner criticised for inadequate maintenance of tree	
2015						
15/01/2015	Lisburn, Co Antrim	David William Bell, 56	Man killed when mature tree fell on catering van <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Belfast Telegraph 	Oak	Gale force winds	
28/03/2015	Armagh, Co Armagh	Geoffrey Robb, 56	Driver killed when large tree fell across road and struck minibus; passenger seriously injured. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Portadown Times • Irish News 	Beech Est. age 160. Shallow roots, no evidence of disease, good condition		Inquest August 2015 - concerns expressed by Coroner.

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09/06/2015	Low Hall, Waltham-stow	Lukasz Costazzo, 30	Man killed by falling tree in Low Hall conservation area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Guardian Proarb Magazine The London Press BBC News 	Willow		HSE served notice June 2015 on Waltham Forest Council. 2022 article suggested prosecution still being considered, eventual decision of no realistic possibility of conviction. Inquest May 2023.
2016						
10/07/2016	A320 Chertsey, Surrey	Man, 26	Several motorists or passengers injured when large tree fell on busy road; 4 taken to hospital. Man subsequently died (14/7) of injuries; girl critical. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get Surrey BBC News 	Described as 'massive'		Extensive search failed to discover name of deceased, inquest details or tree species
06/08/2016	Miller Row, Edinburgh	Man, 45	Homeless man camping in woodland killed by falling tree while asleep in tent. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBC News Hortweek Sunday Post 			Extensive search failed to discover name of deceased, inquest details or tree species
10/11/2016	Arrowe Park Road, Wirral	Lucia Jayne Stear (unborn baby, 36 weeks)	Woman struck by falling branch whilst driving. Unborn baby delivered in hospital next day but did not survive. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBC News #1 Liverpool Echo BBC News #2 IOSH Magazine 	Horse Chestnut	Reg 28 Report to prevent future deaths submitted by Coroner Sept 2019. HSE prosecuted Wirral Borough Council in July 2020 for breach of HSW s3(1); council fined £100,000 plus costs of over £49,000.	

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2017						
23/02/2017	Church Stretton, Shropshire	Alan Green, 85	Man was front seat passenger in car struck by falling tree on A49 during Storm Doris, died in hospital 3 days later <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 • Shropshire Star 	Poplar	Inquest June 2017, verdict accidental death. Expert witness David Dowson – tree decay would have been visible but not from a drive-by inspection – no inspection since 2013	High winds
06/06/2017	Crondall, Hampshire	David Hoyle, 48	Driver killed by falling tree on A287 during bad weather <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Mail • Local Government Lawyer • Bailii 	Cherry	Inquest August 2017. Verdict accidental death. Tree inspected twice by Hampshire CC in 2016 with no concerns. Heavy rain caused root heave. Civil case heard April 2022, Jeremy Barrell acting for the claimant. Judge found Hampshire CC not in breach of its duty of care nor negligent	Strong winds
06/06/2017	Gilmerton, Perth and Kinross	Scott Pankhurst, 42	Driver killed by falling tree on A85 during flood disruption and bad weather <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News 			Heavy rain, strong winds. Extensive search failed to discover inquest details or tree species
14/09/2017	Romsey, Hampshire	Jake Podesta, 28	Motor cyclist killed by falling horse chestnut tree (rotten) on land adjacent to the highway <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Hampshire Chronicle 	Horse Chestnut Tree was dead, fractured part way up trunk	Inquest January 2018 had details of land ownership (private land owner, Test Valley Trout Ltd) and County Council inspections	

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2018						
13/08/2018	Tehidy Country Park, Camborne, Cornwall	Ryan O'Carroll, 25	Holidaymaker from Southampton wild camping in woodland when struck by falling tree, sustained fatal head injuries. Park managed by Cornwall Council. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • Telegraph • BBC News #2 • Mirror 	Ash 30 years old; allegedly rotten	Inquest May 2019. Verdict accidental death. Tree located in a park in an area not designated for camping. Hammock tent suspended 9' above ground between 3 trees, one of which failed. Tree known to be dead but deemed low risk by Council.	
19/09/2018	Slieve Gullion Forest Park, Co Armagh	Matthew Campbell, 24	Electrician employed by Lagan Construction Ltd. killed by falling tree whilst at work (not on trees). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction Ireland • Belfast Telegraph • ITV • BBC News 	Beech	HSENI laid charges Nov 2022. Prosec-ution of NI council and construction firm scheduled for Nov 2023 following 'not guilty' plea June 2023. Council changed plea Dec 2023, trial of construction firm scheduled for January 2024, fines imposed March 2024.	
29/11/2018	Compton Chamberlayne, Wiltshire	Margaret Ann Cryer, 75	Woman passenger in car killed when tree and power cables fell on car on A30; woman driver suffered serious injuries. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Spire FM • Dorset Echo 	Copper beech 85' high, c 200 years old. Tree was rotten and due to be cut down. Branch fell first, then remainder of tree	Inquest October 2021, Coroner recorded narrative verdict. Felling of tree had been delayed for various reasons, including need to obtain necessary permissions. Expert Simon Cox.	Strong winds during Storm Diana

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2019						
08/02/2019	Buckfast-leigh, Devon	Nicholas Marino, 50	Man killed and woman injured by falling tree which hit two separate cars on main A384. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 • Devon Online 	Oak c 200 years old - extensive decay in base	Inquest March 2021 – verdict of accidental death. Tree for felling in 2013 but human error in Devon CC wrongly assigned responsibility for the tree with an unknown landowner	Strong winds, heavy rain, Storm Erik
08/02/2019	Near Llannon, Carmarthen-shire	Darren Davies, 46	Driver killed when tree fell onto van on B4306 road between Pontyberem and Llannon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 • Wales Online 			Search failed to discover inquest details or tree species
17/02/2019	A308 Egham, Surrey	Saxon Bowes-Crick, 46	Car passenger died when tree fell onto vehicle. 4 others with minor injuries. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 • Surrey Comet • Standard 	Oak	No inquest details found	
03/10/2019	Isabel Trail, Eccleshall Road, Stafford	Neville Scattergood, 58	Man walking on footpath struck by falling limb of oak tree, died of cardiac arrest. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 • BBC News #3 	Oak	Inquest June 2021, verdict of accidental death. HSE prosecuted local authority December 2021; Staffordshire CC fined £300,000, with costs over £13,000: HSE	
02/11/2019	Verwood, Dorset	Flora Walsh, 69	Woman killed when tree fell on her car. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 • BBC News #3 • Dorset Echo 	Oak	Inquest May 2021 – verdict accidental death. Tree inspected previous year and deemed healthy. Coroner noted recent adjacent felling of conifers had removed shelter, and criticised communication between Dorset CC and Forestry England	Strong winds

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21/11/2019	Stanway Hill, Gloucestershire	Elaine Reason, 56, Grace Reason, 16	Mother and daughter in car on B4077 struck by falling tree in wet weather. Tree was on Stanway Estate, owned by Earl of Wemyss <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • Mirror • BBC News #2 	Beech Tree fell from root decay	Inquest June 2022, verdict accidental death. Tree inspected 2017, recommendation for subsequent annual inspections not followed through	Wet
18/12/2019	Moy, Co. Tyrone	Noel Sweeney, 57	Man killed in road traffic collision involving 2 other vehicles and fallen tree <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belfast Telegraph 		Conflicting reports on sequence of events – tree branch may have fallen onto van	No inquest details found
2020						
09/02/2020	Micheldever, Hampshire	Kenneth Macartney, 58	Driver killed by falling tree in high winds on main A33 road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • Hampshire Chronicle • Belfast Telegraph 	Oak	Inquest July 2020 – verdict of accidental death. No evidence from media reports about the tree's ownership or safety	Heavy rain, gusty winds
11/02/2020	Black Woods, Woolton, Liverpool	Donald Baxter, 67	Man walking dog in woods during Storm Ciara, struck by falling tree limb <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 • Liverpool Echo • The Free Library 	Beech Branch c 2.5 tonnes; beech tree had co-dominant stem with decay between two limbs	HSE investigation ongoing; woodland managed by Liverpool City Council Inquest May 2022, verdict accidental death. Tree specialist gave opinion that Council's tree inspection regime was adequate	High winds. Wood only reopened in April 2021
21/08/2020	Bobbing, Sittingbourne, Kent	Maisy Mayne, 8	Child died and another seriously injured on a field footpath in rural Kent when branch fell <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • Mirror • BBC News #2 • Examiner Live 		Inquest November 2020 – verdict of accidental death. Inquest heard that children went to investigate a fallen tree when a branch fell from it. Tree species not identified.	High winds

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28/08/2020	The Carrs, Wilmslow, Cheshire	Christopher Hall, 48	Man sustained serious injuries when struck by a falling mature lime tree while walking in a local park, died shortly after <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knutsford Guardian • Wilmslow • HSE 	Lime Mature, 22 metres	HSE prosecuted Cheshire East Council 08.11.24. Guilty plea, fined £500,000, costs of over £7,000.	
25/09/2020	Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne	Ella Henderson, 6	Child injured by falling tree in school grounds, died the following day in hospital <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • Chronicle Live • BBC News #2 • BBC News #3 • The Guardian • IOSH Magazine 	Willow Tree rotten. Inspected Feb 2018 but scheduled further examination did not take place	HSE investigation in progress (Sept 2021); prosecution announced Nov 2022; HSE prosecuted Newcastle City Council 10.01.23 for breach of HSW s3(1) – guilty plea, fine of £280,000, costs of over £8,000.	
2021						
02/01/2021	Sailor's Creek, Falmouth, Cornwall	Paul Welch, 53	Man crushed when large tree fell down embankment onto his houseboat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Falmouth Packet • Daily Mail • BBC News 	Oak Apparently healthy but heavy rain may have caused small landslide and tree to fall	Inquest June 2022, accidental death verdict. Trees in that area had been omitted in error from estate tree survey but this was not considered a causal factor as tree was healthy. Coroner issued Prevention Future Deaths report	Heavy rain
26/11/2021	Dublin Road, Co. Antrim	Francis Lagan, 40	Man travelling in car with family killed by falling tree <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Derry Now • Antrim Guardian 	Poplar	Inquest March 2023. Evidence of inadequate inspection and maintenance of roadside poplars with evidence of previous failure. Coroner made recommendations	Storm Arwen
26/11/2021	B977 Dyce to Hatton of Fintry road, Aberdeenshire	David Lapage, 35	Man killed when overhanging tree branch struck his vehicle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 			Storm Arwen

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26/11/2021	Vicarage Road, Ambleside, Cumbria	Robert Powell, 40	Man struck by falling tree near town centre <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Westmorland Gazette • The Mail • Cumbria Crack 		Storm Arwen	
2022						
29/01/2022	Devoran Road, Aberdeen	Sandra Clark, 60	Woman killed by falling tree during Storm Malik <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • ITV 			Strong winds in Storm Malik
29/01/2022	Tean, Staffordshire	Jacob Gallon, 9	Boy killed and 72 year old man injured by falling branch during a pheasant shooting party on the Heath House estate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Staffordshire Live • Stoke Sentinel 	Branch split from trunk	Inquest March 2022. Verdict of accidental death but no reference to tree species.	Strong winds in Storm Malik
18/02/2022	Haringey, N London	Juliana Murilo, 37	Passenger in car killed by falling tree on Muswell Hill Road during Storm Eunice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Daily Mail 			Strong winds in Storm Eunice
18/02/2022	Alton, Hampshire	Jack Bristow, 23	Man in flat-bed truck killed when vehicle struck by falling 40' tree on Old Odiham Road during Storm Eunice. He was collecting traffic management equipment but work was unrelated to trees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Independent 	18 tonne tree	No reference in HSE fatalities record 2021-22. Inquest October 2022, accidental death but no mention of tree species	Strong winds in Storm Eunice
06/10/2022	Darley Street, Sale, Manchester	Darnell Cordingley, 26	Man killed by falling tree whilst at work as traffic warden, second man seriously injured <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Manchester Evening News #1 • Manchester Evening News #2 • Manchester Evening News #3 	Norway Maple	Pre-inquest review Feb 2023, full inquest August 2024. Tree had been inspected a few months prior to its fall. Under investigation by HSE.	

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2023						
11/03/2023	Whitchurch on Thames, Oxfordshire	Shannon Owen, 22	Woman sat on log in private woodland near Thames Path when struck by large tree branch falling from rotten tree. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oxford Mail 	No mention in inquest reports	Inquest July 2023, verdict of accidental death	Strong winds in Storm Malik
09/07/2023	Between Styal Road and King's Road, Wilmslow, Cheshire	Kamil Pawlowski, 35	Man died when large branch fell as he walked on public footpath. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ITV • Knutsford Guardian 		Full inquest March 2024. Verdict of accidental death – severe head injury. Note also separate accident in adjacent park on 28.08.20	
18/08/2023	Botley Road, Oxford	Alexander Kippax, 19	Man killed by falling tree while walking in playing fields, causing severe head injury. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Oxford Mail 		Pre-inquest review September 2024. HSE investigation under way: Oxford Mail	
19/10/2023	Forfar, Angus	John Gillan, 56	Man died after his van was struck by a falling tree during Storm Babet. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News 			
2024						
02/01/2024	A433 near Kemble, Gloucestershire	Man, 50s	Driver killed by falling tree in strong winds and heavy rain during Storm Henk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News 			
02/01/2024	B4526, Cray's Pond, Oxfordshire	Doreen Godley, 87	Woman killed when she hit a tree which had fallen during Storm Henk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • This is Oxfordshire • Henley Standard 		Inquest June 2024	
21/01/2024	Limavady, Co Londonderry	Peter Kirk, 60s	Driver involved in crash with fallen tree and another vehicle during Storm Isha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News 			

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21/01/2024	Grange-mouth, Stirlingshire	James Johnstone, 84	Man was passenger in car which collided with fallen tree during Storm Isha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 			
05/06/2024	Ashcombe Park, Weston-super-Mare	Carol Spearing, 75	Woman struck by falling branch while walking with friends, sustained head injury and fractures; died in hospital 30 June <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News 	Monterey Cypress	Inquest 29 August 2025, accidental death but as a consequence of her injuries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LBC 	
20/08/2024	Low Haygarth, nr Sedburgh	James Lowe, 57	Driver killed by falling tree on A683 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News 			
09/11/2024	Banstead, Surrey	Brooke Etherington, 12	Young girl struck and killed by falling tree branch - no adverse weather <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News 			
23/11/2024	Kings Worthy, Hampshire	Kevin Pringle, 61	Male driver killed by falling tree on A34 near Winchester during Storm Bert <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News • Hampshire Chronicle 			
07/12/2024	Longton, Preston, Lancashire	Paul Fiddler, 41	Man killed when tree fell onto his van on A59 during Storm Darragh <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News 			
07/12/2024	Erdington, Birmingham	Kahir Shahin Hussain, 56	Male driver killed by falling tree during Storm Darragh <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News 			
2025						
24/01/2025	Maughline, Ayrshire	Calum Carmichael, 19	Driver on B743 killed by falling tree uprooted during Storm Eowyn <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News 			
28/06/2025	Chalkwell Park, Southend-on-Sea	Leonna Ruka, 7	Child killed by falling cedar branch; another 6 year old child critically injured (stable condition 27 Aug) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC News #1 • BBC News #2 	Cedar		

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11/08/2025	Witton Country Park, Blackburn	Madia Kauser, 32	Woman saves her child but is killed by falling branch of beech tree <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBC News 	Beech	HSE served Improvement Notice on Blackburn with Darwen BC 02.10.25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBC News 	
30/08/2025	Didsbury, Manchester	Jennifer Higgins, 49	Woman killed by falling branch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBC News 			
03/09/2025	Cranworth, nr Watton, Norfolk	Ellis Preston, 22	Motor cyclist on trail bike died after colliding with fallen tree <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBC News 			
15/09/2025	Revoe Park, Blackpool	Man, 40s	Rough sleeper killed by falling branch which fell on his tent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBC News 			
05/10/2025	Upper Cumberworth, West Yorkshire	Paul Whitehead	Conservation volunteer killed by falling branch. Branch fall appears unrelated to any work taking place. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBC News Examiner Live 			