

The  
Magazine of the  
Church of England in  
Great Ayton with  
Easby & Newton  
under Roseberry  
Parishes

# Spire

MAY 2014



Photo courtesy of Jim Miller



**Be a Beacon of Love  
For Christian Aid Week**

[www.christchurchgreatayton.org.uk](http://www.christchurchgreatayton.org.uk)

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**60p**

# MAY

- 1     Thurs   Wedding at Saint Oswald's at 2pm**
- 3     Sat     Wedding** in Christ Church at 11.30am. Holy Baptism at Christ Church at 2pm.: Organ Recital at 7.30pm. Free admission with retiring collection.
- 4     Sun     Easter 3** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion; **11am Holy Communion at Saint Oswald's.**
- 7     Wed     Standing Committee** at 7.30pm in Upper Room.
- 10    Sat     Wedding at Saint Oswald's at 1pm. York City Gospel Choir Concert** in Christ Church at 7.30pm.
- 11    Sun     Easter 4** - 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion: 11am Come & Praise: 4pm Christian Aid Alternative.
- 15    Thurs   Archdeacon's Visitation** at Northallerton Church at 7.30pm
- 16    Fri     Christ Church Visitors** meet at 1.45pm in Upper Room.
- 18    Sun     Easter 5** (Foodbank Sunday) 8am Holy Communion; **11am Holy Communion at Newton**; 12.15pm Holy Baptism at Christ Church; 3pm Praise & Party.
- 21    Wed     PCC Meeting** at 7.30pm in Upper Room.
- 25    Sun     Easter 6** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion;
- 29    Thurs   Ascension Day.** 7am Holy Communion

***Regular activities on back page***

Items in Magenta all take place at St Oswald's Church at Newton, and the remainder at Christ Church, unless otherwise stated.

## Holy Communion at Hollygarth

Please note that there is no Service in May, as the first Monday is Bank Holiday and residents are on a trip on the second Monday. Join us for Praise and Party instead on Sunday 18 May at 3pm in Christ Church. Details inside.



## A Christian Nation?

Our Prime Minister has stoked controversy by declaring that we are a Christian Nation. Fifty “liberals & humanists” have written a letter to the Telegraph to protest, and to claim such claims are outdated and divisive - but are they?

Surely no one can question the Christian Heritage in our Country. Walk down the main street of any village, town or city and you are likely to come across Churches of various denominations and magnificent Cathedrals in our cities. Indeed the majority of this country's Listed buildings are Christian Religious buildings.

Look to education and you will see many schools of a Religious foundation and there are still many distinctive Church of England schools in our vicinity - including our own Parish, in addition to many Roman Catholic Schools across the country.

Our Law has been built upon Christian principles of justice, and until very recently people still swore their oaths on the Bible.

On the very flag that represents us as a Country are the three crosses of the United Kingdom - St George, St Andrew & St Patrick.

Our Constitution is Christian, with a Monarch who is Defender Of The Faith (A title granted Henry VIII by the Pope) and also Supreme Governor of the Church of England. Sessions of Parliament in the Commons still start with prayers led by the Christian Chaplain, and several Bishops of the Church of England sit in the Lords. Indeed, it was only a few years ago when Councillor John Fletcher was Chairman of Hambleton District Council that I was his Chaplain and began Hambleton Council Meetings with prayers, as well as hosting their Civic Service here.

Look to the world of Charities, and the Christian principles of loving your neighbour have been behind the formation of many of our National Charities. Some like Oxfam - founded by Quakers - and The (Church of England's) Children's Society keep a more secular profile now, to fit in with the present age, but Christians founded them as indeed Methodists were leading lights in the formation of the Trade Union Movement.

Abolition of Slavery, Prison Reform, Child Labour Reform, Relief Organisations... I feel a bit like the scene from The Life of Brian - What have the Romans ever done for us?

Without labouring the point further, our Christian Heritage and identity is there for all to see, and shouldn't be denied. It has helped make us all what we are today.

But are we still a Christian Nation today? Without doubt things have changed. There has been a rise of a sometimes aggressive Secularism alongside many other religions growing within this Nation. Because of our injunction to Love one another, other Faiths have by and large found welcome here when Christians in their home countries struggle. On State religious occasions you will now see representatives of other Faiths present in Westminster Abbey. Having a faith doesn't mean that you are being divisive. It can be the motivation to be good, loving, welcoming and working for justice.

There is a secular agenda that we need to be wary of. I experienced it recently. Our village Funeral Director mentioned a meeting at Teesside Crematorium where the new system of videos, slideshows and Internet links was being launched - all at great cost. (We do it free here, but that's another story.) I was amazed to find just one Methodist minister and the Hospital Chaplain present besides myself - and yet there were many Civil Celebrants there who had been invited. On checking with colleagues I was the only one who knew about it, despite the number of funerals we take.

Church attendances in general are not what they used to be, but the 300 people who came to Church here on Easter Day all chose to do so and were not coerced or forced in any way.

Our country and identity has gained much from the Christian faith, and we still benefit from its residual effects, though these are weakening with the years. Will we be better off without the Christian faith? There are some school Governors and Teachers in Birmingham who know that alternatives are not always as benign, as they have been driven out by hard line Islamists. I doubt our 50 liberals would have the same voice if they tried to be critical of the Islamic faith in many Muslim countries today.

The world is not becoming more irreligious, the opposite is the case. At present 75% of the world professes a religious faith, but by 2050 this is projected to be 80%. The Daily Telegraph has also reported the huge growth in the Chinese Church that is forecast to be the world's most Christian nation within 15 years.

Faith isn't dead or irrelevant, but more important in the world than ever, so be proud of our Christian heritage that has fostered so much good and tolerance, and stand up for it.

**Paul**

# Chasing Monkeys

What do chasing a monkey, waiting for the kingfisher and W. B Yeats poem "The Lake Isle of Innisfree" have in common?

All (and so much more) can be found in a box of surprises opened by Father Kevin from Ampleforth Priory when he acts as a guide to help open a door into a time of quiet prayer.

On Thursday June 26 from 9.30am – 1.00pm Father Kevin will be at St. Margaret's R.C. church to guide a morning on contemplative prayer. There will be more details about the morning later but if you are interested please put the date in your diary now.



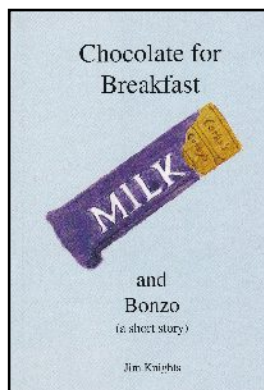
**Enid Sedgwick**

**easyfundraising**  
.org.uk

**Have you enrolled  
in "easyfundraising.com" yet?**

14 Church members have already raised nearly £40 for Christ Church when they made their on-line purchases through this site. It costs you nothing! For more details contact Ken Taylor on [ek.recess@talktalk.net](mailto:ek.recess@talktalk.net) or telephone 01642 722400

## Chocolate for Breakfast



A new book of poems and a delightful short story from local poet and writer, Jim Knights. Jim is requesting donations from £3 - £4 for the book which will go to Ar-

thritis Research UK.

Available from the village Coffee Shops

## Five Marks of Growing Churches



I asked five members of the Church to give a short five minute talk on one of the Five Marks of Growing Churches, asking them to give me their own personal viewpoint. This provoked an inspiring set of talks for us on our Friday mornings in Lent, but they are still available to listen to on our Church website. in the [Audio Section](#).

### The Talks are

**Christ-likeness** by Enid Sedgwick

**Commitment** by Rosemary Wheway

**Influence** by Nick Land

**Numbers** by Ken Taylor

**Partnership** by Rob Pepper

## The Haunted Through Lounge and Recessed Dining Nook at Farndale Castle

*A Comedy by David McGillivray & Walter Zerlin Jnr*

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May, Thursday  
15<sup>th</sup>, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> & Saturday  
17<sup>th</sup> May**

**Christ Church Hall  
Guisborough Road, Great Ayton  
at 7:30pm**

**Tickets £6.00 and £5.00 concessions from  
Thompson's Hardware or The Co-op  
Box office 01642 722096**



# Thank you

from Jane Robson – Trainee Reader



I have now completed my three months placement at Great Ayton and Newton under Roseberry. I would like to take the opportunity to say a very big thank you to everyone for the warm welcome you have given me and the opportunities you offered to let me learn and try some of the things which are quite different to practice in my home church. And when I say everyone – I mean everyone. I have received encouragement and support from the whole of both churches – from the clergy and Readers,

the PCC members, those in different serving roles and 'ordinary' members of the congregation. Thank you all, especially to those brave souls who had the courage to offer constructive criticism as well as praise; I pray that I will be able to take your comments on board and do things better next time. And one final big thank you to Paul for agreeing to host me on my placement and helping me to gain the experience I needed at this stage in my training.

You have all made me feel a part of the church and I will be sad to leave you; Dianne Colbert was right when she told me I would enjoy being with you, but as I will be just the other side of the Eston Hills I hope I will see some of you again. It is now time for me to return 'home' to Eston with Normanby as I complete my studies and prepare for ministry as a Reader after my licensing in York Minster in November. I pray God will bless you and the work you are doing to serve him and the people in the community.



**Jane Robson**



## May 18<sup>th</sup> – A Different Service!

There will be no 9.15am Service on Sunday May 18<sup>th</sup>. In its place we are hoping that as many people as possible will attend a service of Praise and Party (which will include the choir and Sunday School) at 3pm, followed by Afternoon Tea in the Hall.

We will particularly welcome those who find an early morning service difficult to attend and hopefully can, on this occasion, provide transport for everyone who needs it. **Please phone Geoff (01642 722979) if you need a lift or can offer one for this service only**

There will be a list at the back of the church to sign if you can provide small sandwiches or little cakes for the Afternoon Tea.

Please give your support to this service which is much appreciated by those who often cannot be regular attenders.



## THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The recent Soup Lunch at the end of March was very busy and successful - £651 was raised on the day, which is very commendable.

The next event on the agenda is the "Cake Bake" on the morning of Saturday, 10 May, near the Arcade on High Green. Any baked donations will be extremely welcome



**Jancie Brown**



## Mothers' Union News

What an entertainer in Bill Masters! He certainly knows his Gilbert and Sullivan. We had to sing for our tea also! A good, entertaining afternoon was enjoyed by all.

Next month, May 6th, it is Arm Chair Exercises with Ann Coppwick. So I hope all are feeling fit. There will be no Communion Service at 1:30 this time as Paul is unavailable.



The Village Fete is on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June this year. The MU will be holding the usual 50p children's stall so any donations worth no less than 50p please will be gratefully accepted for our stall. (i.e. sweets, bubbles, games, books etc.)

Lynda Walker

## CHRIST CHURCH MEN

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May at 7ish in the Royal Oak.**

I'm really pleased to be able to tell you that **Peter Warry, our Diocesan Secretary**, has agreed to join us for our meeting on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May**.

Those of us who have heard Peter speak in a professional capacity (as York Diocesan Secretary) will be aware of his depth of faith and commitment to Christ.

**Peter will be speaking to us in a personal capacity about his Journey of Faith**; how his faith has affected his life and work; how he has decided to respond to God's grace.



It promises to be a great evening, please put it in your diaries today (and if there's already a competing engagement perhaps you could change it?)

**Geoff Jaques**

# New Custodian for All Saints Church



We are delighted to announce that Robin Hazell has kindly accepted our invitation to become the next Custodian of All Saints Church, following the retirement of Roger Arkell.

Some of you may recognise Robin from his role singing at The Alternative Service and others will know him already as one of All Saints Church Guides.

Great Ayton is unusual - although not unique - in having two Parish Churches, with one of them being both Grade I Listing and a visitor attraction that brings people from across the world because of the Captain Cook connection.

The Custodian role has been a great benefit to the Churchwardens, who are still legally responsible, in having a person interested in helping maintain both the fabric and witness of All Saints. We wish Robin well in his new Role.

Our retiring Custodian, Roger Arkell, was presented with a print of All Saints Church dated 1850, as a small memento by Ken Taylor, Church Treasurer.



The covers and cloths in All Saints Church have also been renewed, thanks to two of our Guides, Mary Rogers and Colleen Skerry, who organised it.



The needlework was generously done free of charge for All Saints by local dressmaker, Sylvia Thurbron.

Our thanks to all three ladies who appear by the new Altar cover in the order mentioned in dispatches.

# Our Churchwardens



On Easter Day our new Churchwardens, recently elected at the Annual Church Meetings in both Great Ayton with Easby and Newton under Roseberry, were received into Office in Church.

We do this to celebrate this role in Church and to acknowledge what they do before the whole congregations. The Churchwardens are officially

sworn in at the Archdeacon's Visitation in May.

At Christ Church we welcomed Vicki Nath as our new Churchwarden alongside Martin Simmons, who is returning for his second year of Office.

We thanked retiring Churchwarden, Rosemary Wheway, with flowers and book tokens, as she will need something to do in all her spare time!



At Saint Oswald's in Newton under Roseberry we welcomed back our existing Churchwardens, Maureen Rider and Paul Carter, who were presented by Jancie Brown, Parish Treasurer.

Our thanks to them all for taking the work and the responsibility. We are most fortunate in the calibre of people we have filling these roles.



Would you like to meet with others in a small group to learn more about our Christian Faith?

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***If so, Pilgrim could be for you.***

*You may have read about the experiences of 10 different members of Christ Church who met together last year; men & women of different ages and Christian background (their stories were in the March & April 2 editions of Spire).*

***Whether you've been a Christian for many years or are just taking the first steps, the Pilgrim Course offers everybody the opportunity to grow in faith. This major new teaching and discipleship resource from the Church of England is sponsored by our 2 Archbishops.***

**It starts at the very beginning; focuses on Jesus Christ; flows from the Scriptures; draws deeply from the Christian tradition; honours the Anglican way and its many streams**

*We are all on a journey of faith, come and explore with us in a friendly open environment.*

*Our first group will start in June, if you're interested please get in touch, we'd be happy to answer any questions.*

**Margaret Lewis (01642 722628) or Geoff Jaques (0788 7573086)**



## **MIDSUMMER MUSIC**

**St Oswald's Church  
Newton under Roseberry**

**Thursday 19th June 2014**

**At 7.30pm**

***With the amazing piano of  
Martin Dack & Friends***

**Tickets £10** *(Includes a glass of wine)*

**Raffle**

*Proceeds to Church Funds*

## **Summer Serenade**

With

**Tees Valley Youth Orchestra**

**Saturday 28th June 2014**

**From 2pm - 4pm**

Vicarage garden, Great Ayton

Sit and enjoy some beautiful music  
with a glass of Bucks Fizz & Straw-  
berries & Cream.

**Tickets £10**

*Proceeds for Orchestra Funds*

## **Charity Quiz Night**

**Sunday 18th May at 7.30pm**

Conservative Club, Low Green

**Tickets £6** includes Pie & Peas

Available from

Mike Myers 01642 722637

Sue Mason 01642 723870

*Supporting Herriot Hospice Homecare*

## **Great Ayton Open Gardens**

**Saturday 28th &**

**Sunday 29th June**

**1pm - 5pm**

Admission £5 adult - children free

Available from Thompson's Hard-  
ware, or Phone 01609 777 413, or  
obtain from Marquee on Low  
Green on day.

*Supporting Herriot Hospice Homecare*





York City Gospel Choir are returning to Christ Church on Saturday 10th May at 7.30pm, with light refreshments served in the interval.

All proceeds will be to support the Stokesley School Christian Youth Worker Project. YCGC will have CDs for sale.

Ticket Prices: Adults £8, Students £5, Families £20 (2 adults and up to 3 children)

Tickets are widely available - if in doubt ask Geoff Jaques

## **YORKSHIRE CANCER RESEARCH**

### **Great Ayton & District Committee**

#### **FUTURE EVENTS**

On Wednesday 25th June, ladies from the Community Bakery at Bedale will give a talk and bring samples of bread for us to taste and enjoy. The evening will start at 7pm and after the talk, coffee and cakes will be served. More details to follow.

The annual Coffee Morning at the home of Mrs Sylvia Tanfield will be held on Wednesday 6th August.

The Kildale Coffee Morning is booked for 7th October 10 -12 noon. "Not a Lunch" will be held in the Parochial Hall on Wednesday 19th November.

We hope to see you at our future events, thank you for all your generous support.



**Margaret Stevens**

# The Stork That Brought the Crowds Out

A newspaper report of November 12, 1938, recalls how the visit of a stranger to the village caused crowds to gather - and large numbers of schoolchildren to be late for school.

"For some days," says the report, "a stork has made its headquarters at Aireyholme Farm, but now it has apparently settled at Tile Sheds Farm. Undisturbed by the passing traffic, the bird fraternises with the farmyard poultry, crows, rooks and sparrows, in the company of which it feeds.



"Every day large crowds of observers may be seen peering over the hedge and dozens of films have been exposed. By night it roosts on one leg on the roof of a Dutch barn.

"Interest is not encouraged by the farmer, whose fences suffer from the depredations of the stork stalkers. Nor by teachers. It is rumoured that on a recent day, no fewer than 40 were walloped for being late to school as a result of their interest in the stork"

One wonders how long the stork remained at the farm – and whether any of the many photographs obviously taken of it still exist. And are any of those who were "walloped" for being late to school still around ?

## Preparing for War

On September 30, 1938, it was reported that "a large number of ARP volunteers were kept busy until a late hour in the British School, Great Ayton, in the assembling of gas masks.

"The work was carried out under the direction of Mr Noel Kitching, superintendent of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. The enthusiastic response to the appeal for workers was evidenced by the fact that workers ranged from Mr George Johnstone, who saw action in the Boer War, to young boys just over school leaving age. A number of women workers were also present. The distribution of masks will be completed within the next day or two."

**Malcolm Race**



# War tears lives apart

## Love can help piece them back together



'The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer... in whom I take refuge.'  
2 Samuel 22:2-3

For a growing number of people across the world, the horror of war is a part of daily life. Right now, fuelled by the devastating violence in both Syria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the numbers of people driven from their homes by war is on the rise.

It stands at 42 million people – an appalling statistic and a stain on the conscience of humanity. We can't turn our backs. We must act now.

The good news is that your church can make a real difference.

### Could you provide the gift of hope?

**£15** could provide blankets for refugee children to protect them from bitter night-time temperatures.

**£40** could provide enough good quality and nutritious food for two refugee children for a month.

**£150** could help us provide specialist emotional support for a child deeply traumatised by the horror of war that they've witnessed or experienced.

### Be an instrument of God's peace.

**Give, act and pray this Christian Aid Week.**



*Many people fleeing the violence in Syria have ended up in Lebanon, where Christian Aid is supporting partners to provide emergency care and assistance to families in need.*

**Christian Aid/Sarah Malian**

# Wedding Gallery



Sharron Brooks & Richard Davey married at Christ Church on 28<sup>th</sup> March



Natasha Reed & Dean Reynolds married at Christ Church on 29<sup>th</sup> March



Jamie Gallagher & Jessica List married at Christ Church on 5<sup>th</sup> April



Guy Fernie & Rebecca Wilson married at St Oswald's on 19<sup>th</sup> April



I wouldn't have thought it possible if I hadn't seen it myself - a stretch limousine down Church Lane outside Saint Oswald's. The driver had to reverse out after dropping off the bridesmaids and then reverse all the way back again. Some driving!

# From the Registers

## Holy Baptism

6<sup>th</sup> April

Archie-Steven Robert Slater

12<sup>th</sup> April

Preston Kian Brand

## Holy Matrimony

28<sup>th</sup> March

Richard Davey & Sharron Brooks

29<sup>th</sup> March

Dean Reynolds & Natasha Reed

5<sup>th</sup> April

Jamie Gallagher & Jessica List

19<sup>th</sup> April

Guy Fernie & Rebecca Wilson

## Christian Burial and Cremation

7<sup>th</sup> April

Margaret Hodgson

9<sup>th</sup> April

Peter Watson

11<sup>th</sup> April

Gill Steele

Services in Magenta at St Oswald's, Newton under Roseberry

**Parish website**

[www.christchurchgreatayton.org.uk](http://www.christchurchgreatayton.org.uk)

**Church Office e-mail**

[greatayton.parishoffice@virgin.net](mailto:greatayton.parishoffice@virgin.net)

**Diocese of York**

[www.dioceseofyork.org.uk](http://www.dioceseofyork.org.uk)

**Stokesley Deanery**

[www.stokesleydeanery.org.uk](http://www.stokesleydeanery.org.uk)

**A Church Near You**

[www.acny.org.uk](http://www.acny.org.uk)

## The Last Laugh

A very cranky old woman was arrested for shoplifting at a grocery store.

She gave everyone a hard time, from the store manager to the security guard to the arresting officer who took her away, complaining and criticizing throughout the process.

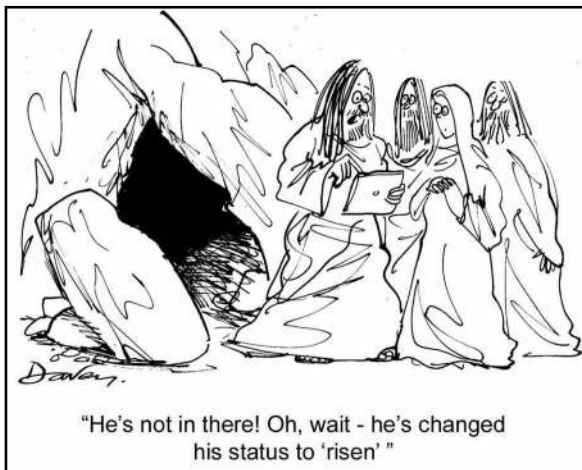
When she appeared before the judge, the judge asked what she had stolen from the store. The lady defiantly replied, "Just a stupid can of peaches."

The judge then asked why she had done it. She replied, "I was hungry and forgot to bring any cash to the store."

The judge asked how many peaches were in the can. She replied, "Nine, but what do you care about that?"

The judge patiently said, "Well, ma'am, because I'm going to give you nine days in jail -- one day for each peach."

As the judge was about to drop his gavel, the lady's long suffering husband raised his hand and asked if he might speak.



The judge said, "Yes, what do you have to add?"

The husband said, "Your Honour, she also stole a can of peas...."

**Editor of Spire**

**Paul Peverell**

[revpev@btinternet.com](mailto:revpev@btinternet.com)

# The Parishes of Great Ayton with Easby and Newton under Roseberry

## Services

### Christ Church, Great Ayton

<b>Sunday</b>	8.00am Holy Communion
	9.15am Parish Communion with Sunday School
	11.00am Come & Praise (2nd Sunday of month)
	Evening Worship - as announced in the Diary
<b>Tuesday</b>	9.30am Little Fishes Carer & Toddler Group
<b>Wednesday</b>	10.00am Holy Communion - in Christ Church

### At St Oswald's, Newton under Roseberry

**Sunday** 11.00am Services on 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month only  
1<sup>st</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Holy Communion; 3<sup>rd</sup> All Age Worship

*Baptisms, Banns and Weddings can be arranged in person at Christ Church Vestry on **Fridays from 6pm - 7pm** where the clergy are present. Or make an initial contact by emailing the Vicar, Paul Peverell at [revpev@btinternet.com](mailto:revpev@btinternet.com)*



Vicar	Rev'd Paul Peverell	The Vicarage, Low Green	722333
	Rev'd Geoff Jaques		722979
	Rev'd Jon Dean		722649
Readers	Mrs Margaret Lewis		722628
	Mr Peter Titchmarsh		724153
Churchwardens	Dr Vicki Nath		722501
	Dr Martin Simmons		723148
Organist	Dr Craig Cartwright		07554422779
PCC Secretary	Mrs Julie Bourke		724508
PCC Treasurer	Mr Ken Taylor		722400
Child Protection	Mrs Gail Jukes		723504
Gift Aid Sec.	Mrs Sheila Levett		723034

### Church Hall Office

For **Church Hall bookings**, please contact the Church Office **Tel 01642 722665** on **Monday, Thursday or Friday 9 am - 12 noon, or leave a message.**

Email: [greatayton.parishoffice@virgin.net](mailto:greatayton.parishoffice@virgin.net)

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