



### Police Country Watch

Hampshire constabulary is setting up Country Watch, an initiative which takes existing rural projects, such as Horse Watch, Farm Watch and River Watch, and places them under a one team approach. Country Watch Officers will assist, manage and investigate rural and wildlife incidents. They will provide regular updates to rural communities with newsletters and e-mail updates, and are currently seeking new members.

If you are interested in becoming involved, contact PC 20023 Scott Graham, Country Watch Police Constable, mobile: 07766 423174, phone: 101 ext. 675326, or e-mail [scott.graham@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:scott.graham@hampshire.pnn.police.uk).

### Lost cat - can you help?

Lost: a young black cat named Will, with a tiny amount of white on his tummy (he has been chipped).

If you have any information about Will, please contact Rachel Fowler on 340877.

### From the Editors

Last night, we did something we have never done before: we blew a lot of money at a casino. Well, OK, it wasn't real money, and it wasn't a swanky city casino - it was in the village hall! So what was going on?

Well, it was a party to say farewell (and we hope it's au revoir) to Emma and Charlie Taylor, who after around twelve years in the village are leaving and heading to Bath.

We would like to say a particular thank you to Emma, who has been the proof reader of the *Acorn* for over three years. Little got past Emma's keen eye, so we set ourselves a challenge: to send her a proof that she could not find anything wrong with. Finally, after nearly three years of trying, we succeeded!

We'll be e-mailing copies of the *Acorn* to them in Bath, and we hope Emma doesn't find the standards slide too badly... (by the way, if you know someone who would like a copy of the *Acorn* e-mailed to them, please let us know. It's easy, and it's free!)

Julia and Peter

### MOTTISFONT & DUNBRIDGE W.I.



We were pleased to welcome three visitors to our very interesting talk by local resident

Katy England on "Living in the Stone Age". She brought with her a reproduction wooden spear as used by the first humans over half a million years ago; also flint tools as used by Neanderthal man 60,000 years ago, and a tiny bone needle, with thread made from the gut of a reindeer. Katy described how this was dried and hammered to produce very strong thread. Altogether, a very informative and enjoyable evening, and much enjoyed by our members.

We have a variety of speakers and outings arranged for the coming year, including a guided



walk round Southampton Walls, and a trip to the Spinnaker Tower - with others in the pipeline.

The Spring Group Meeting is on Monday, 29th March, in Mottisfont Village Hall at 7pm, with a talk by a New Forest Verderer.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, 9th March, and we welcome Margaret Fraser of Southampton University, who will be talking on "Food for Thought".

Why not join us?

Audrey Atchison 301156

The next edition of the *Acorn* will be in April. Information for the April edition must be submitted by 16th March.

Our e-mail is [acornnews@mandercom.co.uk](mailto:acornnews@mandercom.co.uk).

## PARISH COUNCIL

**Adopting a telephone kiosk** The Parish Council is interested to know if anyone would like to adopt the red telephone kiosk at the bottom of Barley Hill, Dunbridge, from BT for a cost of £1. Essentially this would mean that BT would remove the telephone, and ownership of the kiosk structure would be transferred to you. As a matter of interest, just ten calls were made in the last twelve months. If you have any thoughts or are interested, then please get in touch with the Parish Council.

The ongoing cost of insurance and electricity must be considered and full details of the scheme can be seen at the following link:

[http://www.payphones.bt.com/adopt\\_a\\_kiosk/HTML/payphone/faq.htm](http://www.payphones.bt.com/adopt_a_kiosk/HTML/payphone/faq.htm)

The ongoing maintenance, including volunteers to commit to undertake this work in the future is another key factor in considering whether the box should be adopted.

If you would be interested in helping with the ongoing maintenance, have ideas for the use of the box and feel that the costs would be worthwhile, please contact us so that we can gauge interest in order to make a decision.

**Roads** At the January Parish Council meeting, Cllr. Simmonds reported that there was currently no

further news on the B3084 speed limit review. The Council is however pleased that potholes in the roads are being repaired very quickly. Unfortunately, due to the poor weather conditions over the winter, a number of our ongoing issues for road improvement have been delayed. However, we are pleased to see that the repairs by the station, which should reduce any flooding in the future, are under way.

**Cycle paths** Alison Evans of the National Trust set out proposals to create a network of off-road cycle paths, mainly in and around Spearywell Wood. The Council raised issues about car parking and the capacity of the paths to take both cyclists and pedestrians. The Trust will be developing their proposals and consulting further.

**Budget** The budget for 2010 /11 was agreed at the January meeting, and the Parish Council voted in favour of a small increase to the precept, in line with inflation.

**Annual Parish Meeting** Plans are being made for our Annual Parish Meeting on 14th April at 7.30pm in the village hall. Please make a note in your diaries, and come along to join us.

**Next meeting** The date of the next meeting is 31st March. Everyone will be welcome.

## NATIONAL TRUST

### Village admission Card to Mottisfont Abbey - new arrangements

From 1st March, 2010, there will be new arrangements for free entry to Mottisfont Abbey, replacing the previous one which gave unlimited entry to all residents of Dunbridge and Mottisfont. From now on, we wish to be involved in the wider local community via organised groups using the Abbey gardens without charge, and by offering free access to everyone on several designated days every year, the first of which is on Saturday evening, 24th July, 2010.

I realise that this new arrangement will not be popular with people who took advantage of the free entry last year, but the level of use was low and mainly by tenants of the Trust cottages. Access on open days will remain in place for Trust tenants, who will be receiving notification of the revised arrangements shortly.

I have been told on several occasions by residents that Mrs Russell, the owner of Mottisfont Abbey until 1957, had stipulated that the local parishioners were to have access to the Abbey in perpetuity but this, unfortunately, is not the case.

I hope that residents will come to the Abbey on one of the free open days, or support the organisers of the events using the Abbey for their social or fund-raising activities, such as St. Andrew's Church, the Parish Lunch or the Football & Cricket Club duck race.

Alison Evans  
General Manager, Mottisfont Abbey

### NEW FOR 2010 at Mottisfont Abbey

The Angel's Ice Cream Parlour, situated in the stable block, next to the national Trust shop at Mottisfont Abbey.

Selling a New Forest Scoop ice cream, ice cream sundaes, milkshakes and delicious coffee.

Come along and indulge in memories of yesteryear!

- o o o -

### Tenants Association of the National Trust

#### AGM

9th May, 10.30 for 11.00,  
(late buffet) at the Mottisfont  
and Dunbridge Village Hall

Further information from  
Alan Lawrence on 341312

## Mottisfont Village Hall Committee

### Village Supper at the Hall

Friday, 14th May, 2010  
7.30pm for 8pm

Come and spend an evening with neighbours  
and friends and enjoy a  
**3 course meal followed by tea/coffee.**

£16 per person – Please bring your own wine.

Choose from:

Tomato & Basil Soup  
Prawn Cocktail



Coq au Vin  
Steak & Kidney Pie  
Aubergine and Vegetable Crumble

(All served with a selection of vegetables)



Raspberry Pavlova  
Austrian Coffee Cake  
Sticky Toffee Pudding



Book early with your choice from the above.

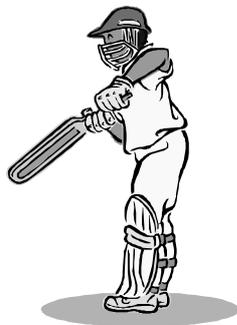
Please contact Margaret on 341922

## Mottisfont Cricket Club

We are looking for people interested in playing  
cricket within our village for  
the forthcoming season which  
starts in May.

We play in the Hampshire  
County Regional Division 1  
North on Saturdays, which  
covers quite a lot of  
Hampshire. On Tuesday  
evenings, we play in the  
Border League, and there are  
about five friendlies played on Sundays.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact  
Tony Stamp on 340398.



## Broughton Amateur Dramatic Group

Presents

### How the Other Half Loves

A Comedy  
by Alan Ayckbourn

Broughton Village Hall  
Thursday 29 April\*  
Friday 30 April  
Saturday 1 May  
at 7.30 p.m.

Box Office Open  
9.30 - 11am, Saturday 10th & Saturday 17th  
April,  
Broughton Village Hall

Thereafter from Nick Jones (301136)

Tickets £7.50\*  
\*Concessions £4.50

## Forest Forge presents: Free Folk by Gary Owen

Forest Forge brings you the world premiere of a  
new play by the award-winning playwright Gary  
Owen. Free Folk is a comedy about living in a  
free country and never being able to do what you  
really want to!



A joyful and witty exploration of what it is to live in  
the rural Britain of today.

Mottisfont Village Hall at 7.30 pm on  
Wednesday, 10th March.  
Tickets from Jon & Heather on 340740.  
Adults £7.50, Concessions £6.00.

Dear Friends,



March is with us and with it the longing for spring and Easter, which falls on April 4th this year. It has been a long, cold and hard winter, and one that has taken its toll on our pockets with the heating bills, but most especially on the more vulnerable and our elderly folk.

Seeing the bulbs push through the ground and the wonderful signs of new life encourages us all that there is much better yet to come. Indeed the name Easter is a Christianised term of the ancient word of Eostre, the Anglo-Saxon goddess of the dawn, who was associated with the growing light and spring.

As Christians, we can celebrate the renewal of the earth as the Anglo Saxons did, but we can add to that the enormous joy of Christ's Resurrection. But first we need to engage with Lent, which is so important because it does provide for 40 days a change of mood. Forty days when we can take up something for our spiritual benefit. Lent is about change, change within us and change for the better. It is about a longing to grow deeper with God, and it is about continuing on the pilgrimage of the Christian Faith, expecting joys, difficulties and dangers.

Please come along to the Wednesday Evening Meditations as published in the magazine.

I pray that you may have a very fruitful and happy Lent, which will lead you to a deeper knowledge of the Resurrection at Easter.

With Blessings,

Ron Corne, Rector

### CHURCH OF ENGLAND SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

	<b>7 March LENT 3</b>	<b>14 March Mothering Sunday</b>	<b>21 March LENT5</b>	<b>28 March Palm Sunday</b>
<b>8am</b>	Broughton HC CW	Broughton HC BCP		
<b>9.30am</b>	Bossington HC BCP	Broughton Family Service ----- Houghton HC CW	Mottisfont HC BCP ----- Broughton Sunday Club	Broughton HC CW A Family Communion ----- Broughton Sunday Club
<b>11am</b>	Mottisfont Matins		Broughton HC CW and Coffee Club	Mottisfont Family Communion
<b>6pm</b>	Houghton Evensong		Houghton Evensong	Houghton HC BCP

**Wednesdays: 9.30am Broughton HC BCP**

**(HC: Holy Communion, BCP: Book of Common Prayer, CW: Common Worship)**

## Churches in Broughton, Houghton, Bossington and Mottisfont

### Special events to note in March

**Lenten meditations** continue on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm as follows:

- ◆ 3rd March: St. Andrew's, Mottisfont
- ◆ 10th March: St. Mary's, Broughton
- ◆ 17th March: St. James', Bossington

**Confirmation** If you are considering confirmation this year, on Advent Sunday, 28th November, Bishop Michael will be coming to our benefice for a service of Confirmation.

We already have one candidate from Kings Somborne who wishes to join us, and on Monday, 15th March, at 7.30pm in St Mary's Church room, we shall meet to plan dates and the arrangements for a pre-confirmation course. If you are thinking about being confirmed this year, please join us, or if you are unable to come on that day, please contact the Rector (301287) or Gina Livermore (388433) for further information.

**EASTER EGG HUNT** on Palm Sunday, 28th March, from 4.30pm onwards. Families with young children are invited to Houghton Lodge by kind invitation of Capt. and Mrs. Martin Busk, for an Easter Egg Hunt, which will take place in the walled garden. Afterwards we can enjoy a delicious tea. You are all welcome to join us for this lovely annual event. For more details please contact Gina on 01794 388433.

#### Advance notice about Easter services

As Easter falls at the very beginning of April, we thought that it might be helpful to include in this month's newsletter the arrangements for the many services taking place over Easter. This information will also appear in the April newsletters.

April 1st, Maundy Thursday: 7.30pm at St. Mary's, Broughton: Eucharist of the Last Supper  
April 2nd, Good Friday: 10.00am at All Saints, Houghton: Holy Week trail  
2.00pm at St. Mary's, Broughton: Meditation on the Cross  
April 4th, Easter Sunday: 6.30am at Nutley Farm, Salisbury Road, Broughton: Holy Communion  
9.15am at All Saints, Houghton: Holy Communion  
9.30am at St. James', Bossington: Holy Communion  
11.00am at St. Mary's, Broughton: Holy Communion  
11.00am at St. Andrew's, Mottisfont: Holy communion

#### **BROUGHTON BRIGHT HOUR:**

Thursdays at 2.30 pm in the New Room at St. Mary's Church, Broughton.

##### **March meetings**

4th March: Mrs. Liz Trasler  
11th March: Mrs. Linda Milburn  
18th March: Members Meeting  
25th March: Revd. Sue Percey

##### **Advance Notice**

We will be visiting the Mission to Seafarers at Southampton on 8th April. There will be a few seats available on the Village Bus if anyone would like to join us. Any donations of men's unworn hats, gloves, scarves and jumpers would be gratefully received. Also any spare toiletries would be most welcome.

Barbara Perry, Booking Secretary, 301466

#### **A Good Spot for Snowdrops**

You will already know that snowdrop time came during February as a welcome promise of Spring. If you haven't already been there, you might like to go to the Cemetery at the bottom of Church Lane, where there are now plenty.

This is due to the hard work of various people in recent years, reclaiming areas of ground and cutting back trees and grass. It certainly looks a lot better than it used to.

Valda White

#### **Women's World Day of Prayer 2010**

The Women's World Day of Prayer is on 5th March. This year the service has been prepared by Christian Women of Cameroon, and will be in St. Mary's Church at 2pm. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available afterwards.

Ann Ridout. 01980 862232.

## Whist Drives

The following are our dates for monthly Whist Drives in Mottisfont Village Hall: 26th March, 30th April.

We play to the rules, but without taking things too seriously. We like to think we play social whist with the emphasis on good company, good prizes and good refreshments.

If you would like a little tuition or practice, please phone Gordon Wood on 340129, or John Jenkins on 301614.

## Film Night

Awbridge Village Hall on Thursday, 25th March

**FROST/NIXON (15)**, starring Michael Sheen, Sam Rockwell, Kevin Bacon, Rebecca Hall.

A dramatic retelling of the post-Watergate television interviews between British talk-show host David Frost and former president Richard Nixon

Tickets will be £5, doors open at 7:30pm, and the film will start at 8:00pm.

Please contact Philippa Luckhurst on 323456 or Julie Bundy on 342457 for further information.

## Gardening Club

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, 16th March, at 7.30 in the Village Hall. The speaker will be Shirley Lawson, with an illustrated talk on the Kennet and Avon canal.



All are very welcome. Entrance is £2.00.

### Programme for the rest of the year

- ◆ Tuesday, 20th April: "Scenes from a Hampshire Childhood" by Gerald Ponting
- ◆ Tuesday, 18th May: "Wandering in West Wales" Brian Fletcher
- ◆ Tuesday, 15th June: American Supper at Michael and Jackie's, 4 Mill Rise, Dunbridge, 7pm
- ◆ Saturday, 17th July: Trip to The Hawk Conservancy, cost £19.50 including coach and entrance.
- ◆ Tuesday, 20th July: B.B.Q. at Jackie Millns' house.
- ◆ Tuesday, 21st September: "Hidden Churches of Hampshire, part 2" John Perry. Plus Autumn Display competition.
- ◆ Tuesday, 19th October: "Kimbridge Estate" with Peter Wilkins
- ◆ Tuesday, 16th November: TBA
- ◆ Tuesday, 7th December: "The Digital World of Dennis Bright" followed by our Christmas Buffet – bring your own food and drinks to share.

## WALKING GROUP

Our next scheduled walks are:

- ◆ Friday, 12th March. Meet at the station at 9.50am for the 9.57 train to Dean. The walk will take about 3-4 hours.
- ◆ Friday, 9th April. 10 am. - to be decided



There may be times when we could have a walk on a Saturday or Sunday, perhaps including a pub lunch. If this sounds interesting, please let me know.

Gordon 340129

## The Thomas Dowse Trust

The Thomas Dowse Trust was created to provide people up to the age of 25 years with financial assistance towards educational requirements. The Trust meets four times a year (March, June, September and November) to award grants to those who show a need for financial assistance towards their education, whether it be for Pre-School, School, College or University.

The next Trust meeting will be held in March. All applications for the March meeting must be submitted to the Secretary, Mrs Christine Hoskins, The Old Thatch, High Street, Broughton, no later than the end of February. Any application received after this date will be carried forward to the next meeting in June 2010.

If you live in the Benefice of Bossington and Mottisfont and would like to apply for a grant, application forms can be obtained from the church, the village hall or the Secretary.

## Awbridge Primary School News



### Recent Events

The children have been involved in some exciting learning so far this term, both in and out of school. Children in Class 1 (our youngest children) were treated to the visit of a professional storyteller, who led them through a magical 'bear hunt' alongside parents and their younger siblings. All thoroughly enjoyed the

experience, and our thanks go to Romsey Extended Services for organising the event.

Class 3 have been learning about different faiths

as part of their religious education, and have been visited by Rev'd. Tim Sledge, the vicar of Romsey Abbey, and of Mr. Abdul Ansar from Medina Mosque in Southampton.

Class 5 visited the British Museum to help them find out more about Ancient Greece, as they are involved in helping an estate agent promote Greece as a tourist destination.

"We found out that the Greeks liked to decorate their pots with pictures of animals and myths. I never knew that the Greeks were so talented. They made amazing jewellery and statues."

We have a range of Friday afternoon 'golden time' activities running this term, so that children across the school can take part in activities from gardening to cross-stitch, and from drama to rock band. These are proving popular, and give the older children time to work alongside those younger. On this theme, we have also started reading buddy sessions, where older children buddy up with a younger child to help them in their reading.

## From our Northern Correspondent

Gillian Frances, living in Shetland, has been studying the vernacular, and recently sent us this wonderful extract from the Shetland Times: "Hit's been most horrid cauld, hit truly haes. Dey'r sayin at hit's been da cauldest twa month athin Scotlan fae afore records began in 1914. Anyit da govirmint says we hae tae cut dis windefil CO2 emissions tae try an hinder da global waarmin fae gyttin oot o hand. Soh it's nae winder at every time at dey say hit's gyaan tae gyit warmer, at hit actually gytis caalder, an noo dis da cauldest hit's been fir a hunder year."

## What's on at the Mill Arms



**MURDER ON THE MENU** - an amusing & entertaining murder mystery with 3 course dinner on Sunday, 21st March. The local bank manager, BOB PENNY attended a birthday celebration in a top class pub. After the main course he slumped across the table and was pronounced dead. Come to the party and help CATCH THE KILLER (First clue – it was not the food!!!!)

Drinks – 7pm    Dinner 7.30 prompt    Concludes 10.30pm    £26.50pp

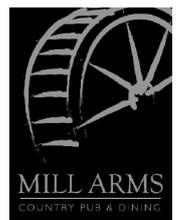
Book a table of 10 & receive a complimentary bottle of wine.

**Live Theatre & Dinner** – Sunday, 11th and 25th April - £28pp – This time it is a Black Comedy called 'Dumb Show' by Joe Penhall - same actors as previously. Tickets sell incredibly fast for these productions

If you would like to reserve for any (or all!) of these events please phone 340401 or email millarms@btconnect.com.

### VACANCY

We are looking for a full time waiter or waitress, 18yrs+ (so you can serve alcohol) for the Mill Arms. If you are interested in this position, please e-mail your CV to millarms@btconnect.com or phone Josh Nicholson, the manager.



## MOTTISFONT SOCIAL CLUB

Mottisfont Social Club are hosting a 'Race Night' on Saturday 6th March. Please come along, place your bets and watch the races on the big screen. We are also having a Disco Night on Saturday, 3rd April, so put on your dancing shoes and let your hair down.

## GOLDEN SYRUP SUET PUDDING

100g self-raising flour      50g shredded suet  
50g sugar                      1 medium egg, beaten  
90ml milk                      4-5 tbsp Golden Syrup

### METHOD

1. Mix together the dry ingredients, add the beaten egg and stir in the milk. Mix well.
2. Grease a 1-litre microwave-proof basin, and spoon the golden syrup into the bottom.
3. Place the pudding mixture on top of the syrup. Cover with cling film and pierce the top several times.
4. Cook on full power for 4 minutes\*. Leave to rest for 4 minutes.
5. Invert basin on to a serving dish. Serve with custard, or fresh cream.

\*Note – Based on 850w microwave oven.

This is an extremely quick and delicious pudding - waistlines beware! A variation would be to add 50g of sultanas to the pudding mixture, and omit the syrup.

Tina Groves

## The Maternity Baby Lounge

As many of you are aware, I recently joined the Motherhood Society. Emmie is now 14 weeks old, and I am loving every minute of being with her. I have started to get to grips with reality again now though, and in my search for adult conversation I have attended a few baby and toddler groups. The one I have found to be most suited to us hasn't been in Romsey or the surrounding area, it's in Mottisfont.

The Maternity Baby Lounge runs on Wednesdays 10am - 4pm at the village hall. It costs £4 and I can't rave about it enough. The main hall is transformed in to what can only be described as a baby's paradise full of colourful lights, balls, bouncers, swings and beanbags. There are delicious cakes, sandwiches and biscuits, and I don't think that there is a tea that isn't available, from regular to herbal. You can learn baby massage and a range of other skills from the guests that regularly attend, and chat to other mums who are going through the same experiences as yourself. The other room is a mother's idea of heaven - a beauty therapy room that has been set up to take you away from the stresses of everyday life. You can have anything from massage to waxing, and there are also hairdressing appointments available.

I think that The Maternity Baby Lounge has thought of just about everything you could possibly want from a day out with other mums, and I congratulate Annie on her new business - well done, and welcome to Mottisfont!

Tracy Holmes

## Who's Who, What's What and Where's Where in Mottisfont and Dunbridge

<b>Acorn</b>	Editors	Peter & Julia Barnett	340793	<b>Social Club</b>	Chairman	Peter Simmonds	340891
<b>Art Group</b>		Gordon Wood	340129		Secretary	Jackie Appleby	
<b>Cricket Club</b>	Secretary	Tony Stemp	340398		Steward	Linda Taggart	340521
<b>History Group</b>		Michael Horne	340105	<b>Test Valley Councillor</b>		Andrew Gibson	01264 861138
<b>Horticultural Society</b>		Michael Horne	340105	<b>Village Bus</b>	Secretary	George Vaughan	301045
<b>First Responders</b>	Coordinator	Marion Gray	341370		Bookings	Pam Dawkins	301203
<b>Football Club</b>	Secretary	John Fryer	512695		Private Hire	Julie Smith	301470
<b>Member of Parliament</b>	Constituency Office	Sandra Gidley	511900		Operations	Mike Howe	301723
<b>Mill Arms</b>		Andrea and Ian Bentall	340401	<b>Village Hall</b>	Chairman	Lynn Young	340134
<b>Mottisfont Abbey</b>	Est. Manager		340757	(Reg.Charity No 291629)	Village Hall	Jon & Heather Butler	340740
<b>Neighbourhood Watch</b>	Mottisfont Dunbridge	Alan Earthrowl Cliff Astur	341799 341922		Entertainments	Alan Groves	341301
<b>Parish Council</b>	Clerk	Sue Holder	340130	<b>W.I.</b>	Secretary	Cathie Wood	340129
	Chairman	John Millns	340347		Bookings	Cathie Wood	340129
	Councillors	Jeff Channing	340555	<b>Police</b>	Secretary	Audrey Aitchison	301156
		Alan Earthrowl	341799		Press reporter	PC John Viney	0845 045 45 45
		Jacquie Horne	340105		Village		0845 045 45 45
		Stuart Miller	340903		Romsey		
<b>St. Andrew's Church</b>	Rector	Andrew Simmonds					
	Reader	Revd. Ron Corne	301287				
	Wardens	Gina Livermore	388433				
		Trish Armstrong					
		Susan Clutterbuck	340475				

Mottisfont & Dunbridge *Acorn* is edited and published by Peter & Julia Barnett, Dunelm House, Barley Hill, Dunbridge, Romsey, SO51 0LF, telephone: 01794 340793, acornnews@mandercom.co.uk, with assistance from The Mill Arms, Dunbridge, and Mottisfont Parish Council.

Opinions expressed in The *Acorn* are not necessarily those of the editorial team. We do our best to ensure the accuracy of items in The *Acorn*, but we will not be responsible for the consequences of errors or omissions. You should check with organisers of events in case there are last minute changes.

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