

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, GRIMSARGH

March 2024 70p



# LENT

Time  
to Pray

Time  
to heal

Time  
To  
watch

Time  
to  
reflect

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- VICAR: Rev. Andy Williams Tel: 793391  
Mbl: 07472 663279  
Email [revandy.gsm@gmail.com](mailto:revandy.gsm@gmail.com)
- CHURCHWARDENS: Mr. Anthony Cowell  
Three Mile Cross Farm, Grimsargh Tel: 654509  
Mr. Mark Lamberty  
Ashleigh, Preston Road, Grimsargh Tel: 798017
- DAY SCHOOL Headteacher  
Mr Stuart Booth Tel: 653600
- VERGER Mr Tom Jones  
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- CHURCH FLOWERS Miss Eileen Parker Tel: 653774
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- JIGSAW CLUB 10.00am from Church 2nd and 4th Sunday (Term time only)  
For more information please contact the Vicar.
- SERVICES 10:00am Morning Worship every 1st and 5th Sunday  
Holy Communion every 2nd and 4th Sunday  
Family Service every 3rd Sunday  
11:00am Holy Communion every 3rd Thursday of the month
- MOTHERS' UNION Every third Wednesday in the month at 7.30pm  
In the school. Contact N Cowell Tel: 651772  
or M Mackley Tel: 653940
- GUIDES 1st Grimsargh Every Monday at 7.00pm In the Village Hall
- BROWNIES 2nd Grimsargh Every Wednesday at 5.30pm in the Village Hall
- RAINBOWS 1st Grimsargh Every Monday at 5.45pm in the Village Hall  
Please register your interest on [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)
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# PARISH LETTER

## Lent - a new start?

By the time you read this we will be part way through the Church's season of Lent. It did seem a strange combination when Ash Wednesday, Valentine's Day and my birthday fell on the same day.

How are we to approach Lent this year? It is traditionally a time of more solemn worship, no Gloria at Communion, and no flowers in church buildings. All of which strikes me as a bit odd when Sunday is always a day when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and flowers are beginning to pop their heads up in gardens and parks.

Maybe we need to approach Lent differently and use our personal Bible reading and prayer during the week to open ourselves up to God so that we can be prepared to worship each week and see the things He would have us change in our lives.

Of course that all sounds a bit scary and challenging but in the early Church it was the time of preparation and instruction for potential new Christians to get ready for their baptism - often on Easter Day. One of the key parts of this preparation and learning was having other, more mature, Christians to walk alongside the new converts. Their baptism marked a new start in life as they turned from their sins and evil, died to their old way of life by being dunked under the water, and then being raised to a new life of faith and hope as they were raised up out of the water, trusting in Jesus as Lord and Saviour.

So what about us? Maybe we can mark Easter as a time of renewed faith and life. Maybe you can join with me in reading the Diocesan lent booklet. Maybe as we listen to the readings and comments we will hear the challenge of the Holy Spirit to change and be renewed.

Of course we don't do all this on our own. We have our brothers and sisters in Christ to support us on our journey. Why not have a chat with someone about what you've learned (you don't have to go into all the personal challenges if you don't want to). I'm always happy to talk to you about what's happening in your life of faith and encourage you.

Worry less about not eating chocolate and cakes etc. - unless that's a challenge you hear from our Lord. Concentrate on deepening your faith and knowing Jesus more.

On Easter Day as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus and give thanks for the new life He gives there will be a possibility to affirm our baptism promises and mark that using water from our font. Let's explore our faith and life and put off what holds us back as we rejoice in the new start, and new life, that God offers.

Let's listen to Him, hear and respond to His call, and rejoice in His new life.

Blessings, Andy



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## **Confirmation**

Andy is looking forward to hear from anyone who would like to be confirmed later this year. (Confirmation is where those old enough take on their baptism promises for themselves and can also receive Holy Communion) Year 6 parents will be contacted after half term. There will be 6 sessions for both children and adults, 3 before and 3 after Easter to help those wishing to be confirmed understand the promises they will be making. Please have a chat with Andy if you want to know more..

## **Mothering Sunday and Mother Church. 10<sup>th</sup> March**

The Fourth Sunday in Lent was called ‘Mid-Lent’ or ‘Refreshment Sunday’, when the rigours of Lent were relaxed more than was normal for a feast day. It is called Mothering Sunday as a reference to the Epistle reading for the Day (Galatians 4:21-31). The Lenten Epistles follow from each other with teaching about our life as Christians and how we are to follow Christ.

On Mid-Lent Sunday the Epistle talks of bondage and freedom; the bondage of the Law and the Old Covenant as compared to the freedom in Christ, “the promised one”, and the New Covenant. Verse 26 reads “But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.” We gain our freedom from Christ and, as it was seen before the Reformation, the Church.

Thus, Mothering Sunday is about the freedom that we gain through the promise of Jesus Christ delivered through our Mother the Church. People were encouraged to go to their ‘Mother Church’ (their home church or their home Cathedral) to worship and give thanks. Hence apprentices, and others, went home for the weekend and often brought gifts (or accumulated pay) home to their family.

On the other hand, Mother’s Day is a secular festival invented in 1904 and is celebrated on the 2nd Sunday in May in most countries in the world. The UK seems to be the exception. In recent years Mothering Sunday has been hijacked to take the place of a special, secular day to give thanks for our mothers.

## **News From FAF**

**“History of Grimsargh” a talk by David Hindle**

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 7pm.**

Make sure that you put a note in your diaries for David’s fascinating talk on the history of our village. David is a well-known local historian and a long-time member of our congregation. The talk promises to be both informative and entertaining.

Please pay on the door – entry £5.00, including light refreshments.

## **Easter Egg Drawing Competition**

Just a reminder that, in conjunction with St. Michael’s School, we are launching a new competition for Easter. Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 children will be invited to draw an Easter Egg depicting a scene from the Easter Story. All entries will be

displayed in church on Easter Sunday and all children entering the competition will receive a creme egg just for entering! There will also be a prize for the winner of each age group so make sure that you write your name on the back of your drawing. Miss Smith will collect entries in school; if you don't attend St. Michael's School, you can leave your drawing in a basket at the back of church. The winners will be announced on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March, Easter Sunday.

### **Good Friday Walk, Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March**

Following the 11am Good Friday Service, there will be a short walk, approximately one hour. Come prepared with boots and waterproofs, as we stride out on one of Ruth's local walks. Don't forget your packed lunch – we will share lunch and a brew following the walk back at church.

### **Tea Towel Artists – Calling all artists out there...**

Already we are delighted to have received several black and white drawings of local landmarks around Grimsargh for our new tea towel – but we would like more! Remember the sketches could be of The Plough, Grimsargh Green, the Church or anywhere that you think is a significant feature in Grimsargh.

Closing date for submissions is Easter Sunday, giving us time to produce the tea towel for summer events. Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee that every submission will be used but we will try to use most of them!

Please see Andy, Nellie or Jayne, if you would like to submit your art work.

### **The Parish Meal, 12 noon for 12.30pm, Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April, The Cross Keys, Whitechapel**

Please put your name down on the list at the back of church if you would like to come to the Parish Meal. The food is delicious and locally sourced and you will be assured of a very warm welcome. There are two courses and coffee - a children's menu is also available. The Parish Meal provides the whole church with the opportunity to get together and enjoy a time of fun and friendship. If you have any queries, please see Jayne 07749 934 208 or Nellie 01772 651772.

### **Brownie Leader**

Following the imminent departure of the current Brownie Leader, Grimsargh Brownies are looking for a new leader, aged over 18 years. This is a great opportunity to support girls (age 7 to 9 years old) to learn through having fun. Just 1.25 hours a week! These girls need you to keep this unit open. If interested, please either contact Sandra on 07592 458 431 and leave a message or go to [Girlguiding.org.uk](http://Girlguiding.org.uk) and register your interest. Thank you

### **Decorating church for Easter**

We will be decorating church for Easter on Saturday March 30<sup>th</sup> from 9.00am. Help and flowers would be greatly appreciated. There will be a box at the back of church during March if anyone would like to make a donation towards the Easter flowers.

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## Coffee Morning

Nothing to do on a Friday morning? Nipping to the Post Office in Grimsargh Club? Why not join us for a cup of tea or coffee plus a biscuit or possibly scone and cake. The coffee morning is open from 9.30 to 11.30 most Friday mornings.



## A Ramble round Rome (continued)

The poet Horatius Flaccus, more commonly known as Horace, lived in the later period of the Roman Republic and was initially a supporter of the anti Caesar faction. Following their defeat he took advantage of the amnesty offered by Augustus and aligned himself with the new imperial regime. Maecenas, the prominent Augustan politician whom I mentioned last month, sponsored Horace not only by moral support but also by giving him a farm in the country, so that his poetic work has been somewhat tainted by his being regarded as a lackey for the empire. He stepped round this by putting himself in a modest light as a lowly ordinary Joe with only a passing interest in the great political issues of the day, affecting to be more interested in his local affairs than who was “putting fear into Tigranes”, an obscure king who was a client of Rome on its eastern frontier.

His most famous quote is “Carpe diem”, seize the day, still often quoted today; the rest of the quote is “quam minimum credula postero,” trusting as little as possible in tomorrow. The parallel quote in English literature to express the same sentiment is the 17<sup>th</sup> century poet Robert Herrick’s, “Gather ye rose buds while ye may...” Horace was also something of a snob; “Odi profanum vulgus, et arceo”, I despise the common people, and keep them at bay. He preferred a quiet life outside Rome and away from the crowds, and is none the worse for that.

Mark

## St James the Least of All

### On why pews SHOULD be uncomfortable

The Rectory

St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

Visits from your parishioners to our church are always welcome. But I did not expect them to return to you complaining because our pews are uncomfortable.

Pews are *meant* to be uncomfortable. The unshakeable belief of our congregation is that the more uncomfortable the pew, the holier the worship must be. By the same token, an 8am Service is more fervent than one at 11am, since it is much



more socially inconvenient. If you add on enduring sub-zero temperatures and damp, then sainthood clearly beckons. Your people may be used to lolling in upholstered chairs in tropical temperatures, but I am sure such comfort places their souls in grave peril.

Our pews were built 500 years ago, when people were several inches shorter and many pounds lighter, and so could accommodate themselves on them perfectly adequately. The fact that a twenty-first century body is in constant danger of sliding off the seat and requires knees to be folded somewhere near ears at least helps to keep minds focused – apart from Colonel Wainwright, who still manages to sleep peacefully throughout Matins every Sunday.

I could point out that your chairs make kneeling almost impossible – although I suspect that posture is not encouraged in your church, as people would then be unable to read the words on your overhead projector or wave their arms about quite as easily during the hymns. While the majority of our congregation find the Anglican crouch perfectly adequate, you can see those who flop to their knees on hearing “let us pray” from the clouds of dust sent up from suddenly compressed hassocks, which were purchased to commemorate Queen Victoria’s Accession.

I may also point out that our box pews are very useful for modern times. Once a family is seated, with the door firmly shut, then any toddler is penned in and unable to use the aisles as a racing circuit. Medieval carpenters were clearly forward-thinking people. Admittedly, box pew doors do tend to stick, and few manage to look dignified while they wait for step ladders to be brought before they can climb out.

If only you would remove your chairs and substitute benches without backs, turn off all heating and replace carpets with slate slabs, I am sure your congregation’s religious zeal would soar.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

## **MOTHERS’ UNION**

At the February meeting we had the opportunity to meet Andy & Louise, our new vicar & his wife and find out a little more about them, their past and their hopes for the future of St. Michael’s church! They shared with us their roller-coaster life, its ups and downs and how they can see God’s hand behind these experiences, so equipping them better to be able to relate to people in the parish and so help them. They felt that they had ‘come home’ when they arrived in Grimsargh! We are looking forward to many great things, for St. Michael’s church congregation and for the people of Grimsargh through their ministry here.! Andy finished by saying that the hymn we sung ‘Father, I place into Your hands’ very much summarises their lives.

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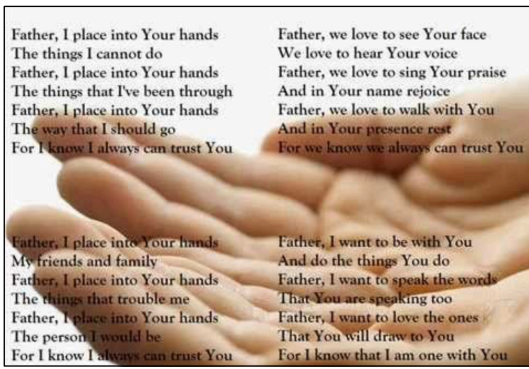
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**For your diaries**

**World Day of Prayer**

March 1st at Christ Church, Berry Lane, Longridge 11.00am.

Lead by members of local churches. Berry Lane school children will joining the service to led the singing. A light lunch will be served following the service.

**Next Meeting March 20th in school**

Peter & Liz Emmott ‘Kuching and Back again’

**Good Friday Walk March 29th following 10.00 service**

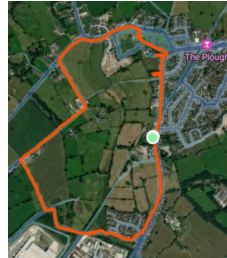
1 hour

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Grimsargh Mothers’ Union - Calendar for 2024

- Feb 21st Andy Williams - Getting to know you plus Literature Stall – in **School**
- March 20th Peter and Liz Emmott - Kuching and back again - in **School**
- April 17th Keiran and Rachael – Longridge Community Action - in **School**
- May 9th Ascension Day – MU 93rd Birthday Party at the Ribchester Arms 12 noon for 12.30  
(Thurs.) Service at 7:30pm - in **Church**
- June 19th Dave Guest – journalist and until Oct 2020 chief reporter and occasional presenter for BBC Northwest Tonight. This is an **open meeting** please invite guests - in **School**
- July 17th Stella Holt – God will provide - in **School**
- August NO MEETING
- Sept 18th Opening Service in **Church**
- Oct 16th Wave of Prayer plus Literature Stall in **School**
- Nov 20th Christmas Meal
- Dec 18th Holy Communion followed by Refreshments - in **Church**



# SCHOOL REPORT

## WORSHIP

This week, year 2 prepared and delivered our whole school worship, focusing on Shrove Tuesday. Shrove Tuesday is otherwise known as 'Pancake Day' and Christians traditionally use this day to eat up the starchy foods in their cupboards so they can be reminded of the time Jesus spent in the desert for 40 days and 40 nights without food or water. A time which Christians now call Lent.

As we celebrated Shrove Tuesday, during half term, our year 2 children wanted to spread the word about why we celebrate Shrove Tuesday, not just in the UK but around the globe. The children shared information about how Christians around the world prepare for Shrove Tuesday and the meaning behind this important day in the Christian calendar.

Some of the year 2 children also interviewed KS2 children to find out what they know about Shrove Tuesday and our staff team also shared their favourite pancake toppings on a video which was played as part of the worship.

As Shrove Tuesday focuses on preparing for the period of Lent, year 2 have set the school a challenge for Lent. Year 2 have asked the children to think about 'turning over a positive leaf' during Lent and focusing on pledging a positive act to complete or work on during Lent.



## BOOK NIGHT

On Tuesday, over 60 of our Key Stage 2 children enjoyed the much-anticipated evening at our Harry Potter Book Night! We played games like Quidditch pong, pin the scar on Harry and Harry Potter bingo! We made our own dragon eggs, tasted Bertie Botts Every-Flavour Beans, tried a mystery box challenge and made wands. We hope all the children enjoyed this memorable event and that it has sparked a magical love of reading for all. Thank you to Miss Cross for organising this event and to the staff who helped set up and stay behind to help run the evening.

## PLANETARIUM WONDER DOME

The children had a great time visiting the Wonder Dome this week. They learnt about the Solar System, the first Moon Landings and also saw images of what it would be like to live on the Moon! It was an immersive and mesmerising experience which will hopefully inspire some future Astronauts! Thank you to Mrs Coupe for organising this experience.



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*Chartered Accountant ~ No Job too small*



## SPORTS

We have continued to enter all events on the sporting calendar.

Our multi-skills team took part in an inter-school competition. They competed in 6 events, which tested their throwing accuracy, kicking accuracy, speed, throwing for distance and team work. We are still awaiting the results. Our team were enthusiastic and showed great determination.

Our year 3 football team played a friendly match against Queens Drive. Queens Drive came runners-up in the inter-school tournament last year and so are one of the best teams in the Preston area at this age. However, our boys played some fantastic football, showing real determination and positivity, and winning one of the quarters 1-0.

Five of our year 4 children represented school in the Preston Schools' Gymnastics Competition. They had to remember and complete a floor routine and the vault. The children performed incredibly well and showed amazing behaviour throughout. Of the schools in our league, we achieved the 4th highest score, which is a great result and one we are proud of. A particular mention for Quinn T, who scored the highest combined floor and vault score of all gymnasts and to Ben W for scoring the 3rd highest of all male gymnasts



We look forward to the competitions during the remainder of the spring term.

## PTFA

The PTFA ran a non-uniform day on Friday 2nd February. Our pupils had the opportunity to wear whatever makes them happy- in support of Children's Mental Health Week. The Yogi Group also led mindfulness activities throughout the day. The PTFA also sold donuts after school.

## SAFEGUARDING

We have continued to share the very useful Safeguarding guides with our parents and carers. We have shared the 'What Parents and carers need to know about MyLoL' and 'What Parents and carers need to know about Monkey'.

Search '[grimsarghstmichaels](#)' on Instagram, '[GrimSargh St Michael's C of E Primary School](#)' on Facebook and '[GSMPrimaryArtDT](#)' to see a snapshot of some of the things our children have been doing.

On behalf of our school staff, I wish everyone within our Grimsargh community well and hope you all continue to support each other and stay safe.

Mr Stuart Booth  
Headteacher

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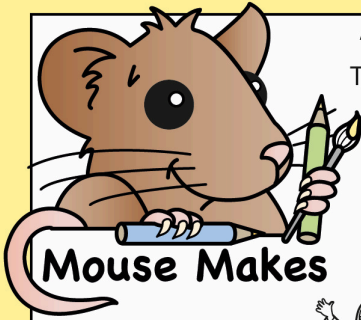
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# Mouse Makes

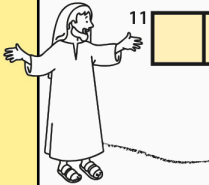
Matthew 21:1-11

1. Which city did Jesus ride into?
2. What did he ride on?
3. What did the crowd shout?
4. What did clothes did they put down?
7. What did they cut down to spread on the road?



Matthew 26:17-29

15. What feast did Jesus celebrate?
12. Who did he celebrate it with?
11. What did Jesus break to eat?



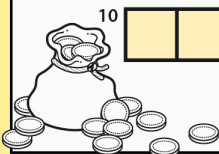
Matthew 26:36-75

6. What did Jesus go to do at Gethsemane?
18. Who denied Jesus?



Matthew 26:14-16

- 8d. Who betrayed Jesus?
10. How many silver pieces was he paid?



"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live even though they die."

John 1:25



READ the Bible passages to find the answers to the crossword clues

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8d

9

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19









8a

10

K

S

A

Matthew 27:27-61

17. What was Jesus' crown made of?
9. What was Jesus crucified on?
14. Who's tomb was Jesus buried in?
13. What did they wrap Jesus' body in?
16. What did they roll in front of the tomb?

Matthew 28:1-10

5. Who descended from heaven?
19. What had happened to Jesus?
- 8a. Mary was full of fear and ...?





With God, all things are possible. *Mathew 19:26*

# JIGSAW CLUB

For the children of St Michael's, Grimsargh.



When?



2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month!  
(term time only)

What?

Children aged 3 -11

Who?

Fun games, music and activities.

St Michael's Church and then  
the Jigsaw Club hut!

Where?

Everyone  
Welcome!

Optional  
speaking in  
Church!

A great way  
to make new  
friends!

Jesus  
Is  
Great  
Special  
And  
Wonderful

Meeting in church for the first hymn at 10.00am  
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Jan	28th	£241.11
Feb	4th	£216.69
Feb	11th	£124.64
Feb	15th	£235.00
Feb	18th	£151.00

### FLOWER ROTA

March	3rd	No
March	10th	Flowers
March	17th	During
March	24th	Lent
March	31st	Dawn Desai

### SIDESPERSONS, READERS AND COFFEE ROTAS

	8.30am	10.00am	Communion Assistant	Readers	Coffee
March 3rd		K Thompson		S Cowell L Williams	
March 10th		N Maudsley	M Lamberty	B Mackley L Wood	
March 17th		James Cowell		J Lander	
March 24th		John Cowell	N Cowell	D Rusling B Holt	
March 31st		R Woollam		J Eccles N Cowell	

### FRIDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

	Leader	Duty		Welcome
March 1st	Marlene	Eileen	Helen	Janet
March 8th	Jean	Maureen	Nellie	Linda
March 15th	Marlene	Christine	Eileen	Janet
March 22th	Nellie	Kate	Helen	Jean
March 29th	Jean	Christine	Maureen	Janet

### Funeral

Jan 24th

**'I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord.'**

Edward (Ted) Sweetman, 87 years



## ST MICHAEL'S DIARY DATES FOR MARCH

- 1st** 9:30am - 11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club  
11.00am World Day of Prayer at Christ Church, Longridge
- 3rd** **3rd Sunday of Lent**  
10.00am Morning Worship
- 8th** 9:30am - 11.30 Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 10th** **4th Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday**  
10.00am Holy Communion and Jigsaw Club  
Enrolling new members of Mothers Union during the service
- 11th** 7.30pm PCC meeting in school
- 15th** 9:30am - 11.30 Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 17th** **5th Sunday of Lent St Patrick's Day**  
10.00am Family Service  
6.30pm Churches Together Service with Longridge at Alston Lane
- 18th** 7.30pm FAF meeting at Jayne Woollam's, 204 Preston Road
- 20th** 7.30pm Mothers Union in school  
Peter and Liz Emmott - Kuching and back again
- 22nd** 9:30am - 11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 24th** **Palm Sunday**  
10.00am Holy Communion and Jigsaw Club  
6.30pm Service with Alston Lane here at St Michael's
- 28th** **Maundy Thursday**  
7.30pm Holy Communion with Washing of Feet
- 29th** **Good Friday**  
11.00am Good Friday Service "Words from the Cross"  
followed by a walk and packed lunch
- 30th** 9.00am Decorating church for Easter
- 31st** **Easter Day**  
10.00am Easter Service of Holy Communion

**DEADLINE for the April magazine is 15<sup>th</sup> March.  
Articles to be sent to Mrs Cowell ([pandncowell@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pandncowell@hotmail.co.uk))  
and/or B Mackley ([bjmackley@aol.com](mailto:bjmackley@aol.com))**



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