



EWELL PARISH NEWS

The monthly newspaper of St Mary the Virgin

No.440

September 2009

60p



Sharing the Love of Christ, the Light of the World, with the people of Ewell



EWELL VILLAGE FAIR 2009

We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to those who have organised, run and supported our Village fair down the years. This year was no exception. The tradition was continued.

Saturday 18th July saw over 1800 people enjoy what was an excellent Village Fair, organised, for the first time, by Rachel Gunton.

The Mayor, Councillor Jan Mason, opened proceedings a little later than planned as the High Street hadn't been closed to traffic. Thus, the Ewell St Mary Morris Men and their visitors had an unusually dangerous journey from the "Green Man" to Ewell Castle School! Wasn't it wonderful to see the Mayor still there late into the afternoon obviously thoroughly enjoying the occasion.

The usual array of stalls was there and the start of the Fair resembled the time when Harrods open their doors for their sale with people dashing to various stalls to see what 'goodies' were on offer. In a departure from previous policy, the Barbeque was run by Ken Eve (our village Master Butcher) with his son, Chris, doing the cooking. This was a resounding success as we have often run out of things to cook in the past but a quick 'phone call to the shop saw a further supply being run down to replenish the stocks – and we even ran out of that by the end. We also allowed stalls in for a pitch fee if what was being sold

didn't affect anything we were trying to sell.

The Surrey Police and the Fire Brigade were there ready for a quick getaway if they 'got the call' and our other attractions in the arena were all also much appreciated especially the wonderful dogs. One of the best sights was seeing them happily lying down after their display with children petting them.

It was noticeable this year that young families were prepared to come for the day and had a picnic sitting on blankets – excellent!

The best news of all was that, despite the credit crunch, we netted just over £10,000 which is truly a fantastic figure, given the circumstances. So thank you to:

- All our wonderful helpers and stall holders
- Everyone who came and bought
- Rachel for producing a miracle (makes next year harder, though!!)

Discussions are under way with Ewell Castle School regarding the date for 2010 and this will be published at the earliest opportunity and we look forward to your support once more.

Thank you, again!

A Reader writes

Way back in the March EPN Dr Miller wrote about the calling of each individual. One thing we have in common is that we are all called to care for one another – to love our neighbours. This can sometimes involve visiting; generally being neighbourly; praying for them; inviting them to come to church with you... and many other things.

As someone who has long felt called to the pastoral side of ministry the interregnum has provided me with plenty of opportunity to engage in pastoral care of various kinds.

I have had the privilege of being closely involved with the small but regular Tuesday at 1000 congregation and have taken Holy Communion to the housebound as well as Priory Court and the Elders.

For some years now Holy Communion has been taken, once every four to six weeks, to members of the congregation who are unable to attend services at St. Mary's through illness or disability. If you are unable to get to church and would like to receive Holy Communion at home or would like a visit from Dr. Miller or from anyone else, please don't hesitate to make it known to us.

The Internal Affairs committee has recently been considering the question of parish visiting. This is something which has been discussed on many previous occasions. A lot of caring for one another goes on but we've never succeeded in co-ordinating it officially, with the result that sometimes an individual can feel that no one cares. If this is something you would love to do, but you're a bit nervous, basic training can be provided.

Home visits are made by our baptism visitors, Kathie Burgess and Ruth Stockwell. Parents who bring their children for baptism are visited a week or so before the service. This provides an opportunity to go through the service, so any questions or concerns can be aired. Kathie or Ruth will usually welcome the families when they arrive at the church for the service. If you feel called to become a baptism visitor and would like to know more, please have a word with Kathie, Ruth, or me.

Since late January this year I've officiated at quite a number of funerals. Once the time and place of the service has been agreed with the funeral director, the next step is to arrange to meet the next of kin or person arranging the funeral. Sometimes we meet in the Church Office, but in most cases I make a home visit. It is a privilege to be alongside individuals at a time in their life when they are at such a low point, and to know that you have been able to offer some kind of comfort and hope within the context of a Christian funeral service.

This year for the first time, Churches Together in Ewell had a prayer tent at the Ewell Village Fair. People who attended the fair, as well as stallholders, helpers and participants, were invited to write a short prayer on a paper leaf and attach it to a prayer tree – these prayer requests were then taken back to member churches to be included in their intercessions. There was also the opportunity for individuals to

St Mary the Virgin EWELL PARISH CHURCH

020 8393 2643

Website: www.stmarysewell.com

CLERGY

Vicar designate:

The Reverend Russell Dewhurst MPhys BTh

The Reverend Patrick Miller MA PhD (Honorary)

READERS

Mr Reginald Saunders MA MEd 020 8393 5550

Mrs Wendy Varney 020 8393 5212

CHURCHWARDENS AND SEQUESTRATORS

Mr David Crick 07850 709461

Mr Jonathan Gocher 020 8224 5942

SUNDAY AT ST MARY'S

0800 HOLY COMMUNION

0930 SUNG EUCHARIST

The Wayfarers and the Sunday School meet in conjunction with this service, and there is a Creche provided in church.

There is coffee in the church hall between the Eucharist and Mattins on Sunday mornings, and a chance for members of the congregation to meet or visitors to be welcomed to St Mary's.

1100 MATTINS

(Third Sunday in each month SUNG EUCHARIST to the Book of Common Prayer Rite)

EVENING WORSHIP

1730 - Choral Evensong (2nd Sunday in the month)

Details are on the Notice Board or on the Weekly Notes.

Occasionally there are variations from this pattern; details are given in this paper, on the Notice Board or on the Weekly Notes available on Sundays.

ON WEEKDAYS

The Eucharist is normally celebrated at present on Tuesdays at 1000, and at other times as printed on the Weekly Notes. Most of the Weekday services take place in the Parish Room (entry through the door on the Church Street side of the Church).

THE PARISH OFFICE

Administrator:

Mrs Lynne Yuille 020 8393 2643 (Office)

Office email: parishoffice@stmarysewell.com

St Mary's Church is in London Road, Ewell, and the Parish Office is in the Sacristy on the south side of the church.

The Office hours are normally 9.30-13.00 Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri, but please check before visiting as appointments are usually needed.

The postal address is:

C/O Ewell Vicarage, Church Street, Ewell KT17 2AQ.

CHURCHWARDEN'S SURGERIES

The churchwardens normally hold two surgeries each month. Please see the calendar on the back page for details.

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speaking to and pray with a member of the prayer-team. One way of sharing the love of God with the people of Ewell.

By the time this edition of EPN is circulated the choir will be back in evidence, and we will be getting back into our more regular pattern of services, following our quieter holiday period.

As usual, September promises to be a busy time at St. Mary's. The first Sunday in September is the Dedication Festival. This year we will not be having a choral evening service for St. Mary's Day, but the (said) Tuesday morning service will have a special focus on our Patron Saint. We have the outing to Christchurch on Thursday 10th and the Patronal Festival organ recital by Jonathan Holmes on Saturday 12th. Our Archdeacon will be officiating at the 0800 and 0930 Patronal Festival services on Sunday 13th. This is also the occasion for the choristers' reunion and there will be choral evensong at 1730. We round off the celebrations with a garden party on Saturday 19th.

Our Harvest festival services on 27th provide us all with the opportunity of giving thanks to God for all he has given to us and sharing some of our plenty with those less fortunate. We will again be supporting the Waterloo Christian Centre and Vaughan House in Guildford (details elsewhere in EPN).

Following the Harvest services, flowers are taken to our housebound congregation and also to widows or widowers who have been bereaved during the last year. An invitation to our All Souls' service is included with the flowers sent to the bereaved individuals. If you would like to help with the distribution of flowers I'll be pleased to hear from you. (I'm sure the External Affairs Committee would also welcome help with sorting the Harvest goods.)

Why not encourage your friends and neighbours to join you at one of the Harvest services or at Dr. Miller's next question and answer session at the 0930 service on 4th October.

We can all help to "share the love of Christ, the light of the world, with the people of Ewell".

Wendy Varney

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN EWELL
Annual General Meeting
&
Worship Event
 Everyone is very welcome to this Harvest themed event
Wednesday 23 September
at 8 p.m.
at St Clements Church, Ewell

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NEWS FROM THE BELFRY

In June of last year, whilst doing a routine check in the bell chamber (where the bells are) that the bolts were all done up tight, we noticed that most of the ropes had become quite frayed in their upper parts, not visible from down in the ringing chamber (where we stand). The ropes had already had several repairs, splicing together the good bits from several ropes - fortunately the previous tower captain had also been a Scout leader - so the time had come for new ropes.

The church was prompt in approving the expenditure, but unfortunately there were only two people left in the country still making bell ropes, and the lead time for obtaining new ropes was given as nine months.

In May of this year matters were getting quite desperate, as four of the ropes broke. Eventually the new ropes arrived at the beginning of June and they were quickly fitted. The problem with brand new ropes though is that they are very springy, a bit like ringing on the end of long elastic bands, so it will be a few months before they've stretched and we are back to our usual impeccable (ho hum) standard of ringing.

This wasn't the end of our problems though, as the stay - a 3' stick of wood used to park a bell in the upside down position - broke on the treble (lightest) bell. This was replaced by a previously repaired stay, but whilst doing so we noticed that two of the spokes of the wheel were also damaged.

In July we found that the rope used to ring the sanctus bell (the three Bongs after "in remembrance of me") from downstairs had worn down to its last few strands so we had to cut out the bad part. We also ordered a couple more stays. A good thing too as the stay on the treble broke again, so we are currently down to seven bells.

So if anyone has been wondering why I've been even later than usual coming downstairs on a Sunday to join the service, it's been because there's usually been something to repair!

Jeff Cousins



PARISH PROFILE: REG SAUNDERS



Like David Copperfield I was born, but unlike him I had a happy childhood at Shanklin, Isle of Wight and at my school in Sandown 2 miles away. But there were snags; I suffered from asthma until I was about 13 and had to spend time with my school friends hiding under desks during Air Raids. I was also shot at with a friend at Ventnor when a German 'plane flew in from the French coast.

We were on the beach resting after a swim. At 14 we thought this an adventure; today I should be petrified. The war cast a long shadow and at Cambridge we needed Ration Books. My friend, previously mentioned, went up to Oxford and became ordained. I spent a fourth year in the Education Department at Cambridge for the Certificate required by teachers in State Schools. As it happened I was appointed to two Public Schools before becoming Head of Modern Languages and a Housemaster at Churcher's College, Petersfield, then a Voluntary Aided Grammar School, now Independent, Co-educational. I go each year to Reunions; all my pupils now look like their own fathers, or are sometimes unrecognisable.

This is similar to my visits to Ewell Castle School where I was appointed Headmaster in 1968. An Old Boy gave me a copy of the magazine for that year, and I was reminded of the task set by the Governors to face a large scale inspection from the Department of Education. I am glad to say all went well and the staff were supportive of the the changes required. Incidentally, in retirement I keep in touch and attend Old Ewellian Reunions. Here the Old Boys are more recognisable although I have been retired for 26 years.

My link with St. Mary's began in 1968. While at Churcher's I had become a Reader in the Diocese of Portsmouth. St. Mary's accepted me when I moved to Ewell and EPN readers know the present situation. It was a great pleasure for me to become "Ruby Reg" in a grand dinner for my 40th anniversary a few years ago.

This all seems a little one-sided but I do have other interests. Steam trains, music, foreign travel (particularly French/German speaking countries), motoring, churches, cathedrals, TV Miss Marple-type programmes and Films of the '30s and '40s. I am a member of the Burgon Society (story of Academic Dress of all Universities), Rowing (I took part in a Regatta at Amsterdam in 1947 when Cambridge sent boats from 5 colleges). At 26 I was engaged to Kay Foster who had a Radio Programme called "Time and Tune". (We parted amicably because she wanted me as her professional manager and I wanted a career in schools).

I think I should stop now as too much nostalgia is unhealthy - thanks for your patience.

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SUGGESTED PRAYERS

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Dearest Lord, may I see you today and every day in the person of your sick, and, whilst nursing them, minister unto you.

Though you hide yourself behind the unattractive disguise of the irritable, the exacting, the unreasonable, may I still recognize you, and say: 'Jesus, my patient, how sweet it is to serve you.'

Lord, give me this seeing faith, then my work will never be monotonous. I will ever find joy in humouring the fancies and gratifying the wishes of all poor sufferers.

O beloved sick, how doubly dear you are to me, when you personify Christ; and what a privilege is mine to be allowed to tend you.

Sweetest Lord, make me appreciative of the dignity of my high vocation, and its many responsibilities. Never permit me to disgrace it by giving way to coldness, unkindness, or impatience.

And O God, while you are Jesus my patient, deign also to be to me a patient Jesus, bearing with my faults, looking only to my intention, which is to love and serve you in the person of each one of your sick.

Lord, increase my faith, bless my efforts and work, now and for evermore, Amen.

Mother Teresa

O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgement, and light riseth up in the darkness for the godly; grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what Thou wouldst have us do; that the Spirit of Wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in thy light we may see light, and in thy straight path may not stumble, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ancient Collects 1861 (William Bright)

Forgive me my sins, O Lord, forgive me the sins of my youth and the sins of mine age, the sins of my soul, and the sins of my body, my secret and my whispering sins, my presumptuous and my crying sins, the sins that I have done to please myself, and the sins that I have done to please others. Forgive me those sins which I know, and those sins which I know not; forgive them, O Lord, forgive them all, of thy great goodness.

Bishop Cosin, 1594-1672

PATRICK - A MIDSUMMER CELEBRATION

St Mary's privilege is to share in the celebration of people's major life events. Some, like a baptism or marriage, look forward to the future. Others celebrate landmarks in life and one such was Patrick Miller's commemoration, on 14 June, of the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.

Patrick had invited family and friends to join him at the 9.30 Parish Communion, followed by light refreshments in church for the congregation and then a lunch in the Church Hall for his family and other visitors. That morning, one had come from Bridport by taxi, while others arrived from Newbury, Worthing and London. The day before saw arrivals from San Francisco, Malaga, Copenhagen and Scotland.

The preacher was his Cambridge contemporary Canon Keith Pound, formally Chaplain General, and Archdeacon, to H.M. Prison Service.

Over recent years, St Mary's has come to know Patrick for his increasing involvement in church life. Since Canon Richard retired in January, Patrick as an Honorary Assistant Priest, has played a busy role in maintaining the church's work during the interregnum. We had already come to value especially his series of ecumenical Lent Lectures.

Patrick was born in India and during National Service in the Royal Navy, learnt Russian and served in the Korean War. It was at this time that he felt the call to ordination. He read Theology at Cambridge and trained for the priesthood at Oxford. The constant theme that runs through his years in the ministry is "education" in its widest sense – that of drawing out and developing the individuals'



abilities and talents. After curacies in Portsmouth and Great St Mary's, Cambridge, where he was closely involved in the Student Christian Movement and the Samaritans, he – in his words – "left the Church's payroll" to teach Religious Studies and Russian for six years in a new post at Manchester Grammar School. From 1969 to 1972 he was a Residency Canon at Southwark Cathedral and adviser on church secondary schools. In 1972 he made the radical move to a new Sixth Form College in Basingstoke as Director of Social Studies and then became Principal in succession of two Sixth Form Colleges at Sunbury (1979-80) and Esher (1980-1998). As Canon Pound succinctly told us in his sermon, "In all these posts, he has brought his special combination of gifts – energy, enthusiasm, love for people and a passion for intellectual rigour" – gifts which we have come to appreciate at St Mary's.

Patrick had designed his own service within the framework of Common Worship. Before the service we were treated to a 1920's medley on the organ. The hymns were clearly chosen with care – the bold "Praise my Soul the King of Heaven" to get us going, the thoughtful "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind" before the Gospel (there is more to this hymn than meets the eye but that is a story for another day!), the modern "Lord Jesus Christ"....Living Lord" at the offertory and the confident "Thy Hand O Lord has Guided" to see us out with the re-assuring (and ecumenical) "One Church, One Faith, One Lord" at the end of each verse.

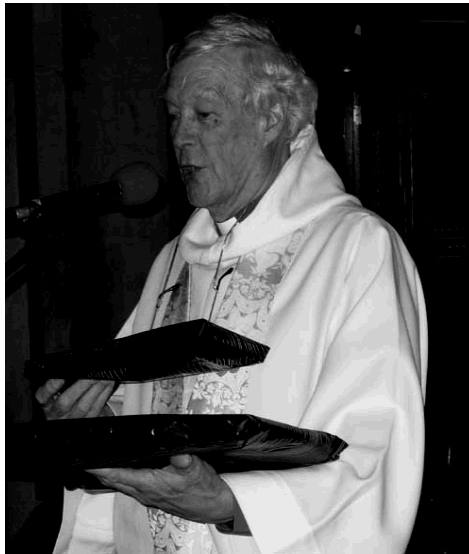
The opening readings were a family affair on the theme of "love". Patrick's grandson, Jon Miller, had flown in from America the previous day and read from the First Letter of John "Dear Friends let us love one

FOR OUR PRIEST, PASTOR AND FRIEND

another for love comes from God” in a clear and confident manner with no sign of jet-lag! Then Patrick’s daughter, Dr. Louise Miller Guron, read from the Lady Julian of Norwich’s “The Revelation of Divine Love.” For the Gospel Reading we had the Beatitudes from St Matthews’s Gospel.

Canon Pound, resplendent in scarlet cassock, then gave us a short, witty, polished and thoughtful sermon. It started with a brief and amusing pen-picture of Patrick – for example – “There is only twelve days difference in our age: he is of course the senior!” he then moved, as already indicated, to a warm appreciation of Patrick’s 50 years of ministry – but it was not pure adulation; after the summary already quoted, there followed “Of course with such a paean of praise I don’t want you to think we are dealing with a person who is faultless and who should immediately be beatified alongside Mother Teresa and Cardinal Newman. We all have those little faults and foibles – you know the kind of thing – the little blemishes and weaknesses which make a person all the more loveable. Well Patrick has plenty of those.”

Canon Pound concluded by addressing the congregation more directly about Christian education: to quote briefly from one key passage – “So what does thinking about Patrick as a teacher have to say to us?... First



I think we all have to help one another in the search for truth.....Christian education is a growth into wholeness of body, mind and spirit. In John’s Gospel the good Lord says “I have come that men may have life and may have it in all its fullness”. The Christian faith is life-enhancing, not life-denying. And if we seek for each person’s unique self and wholeness then there will always be diversity in the Christian church. Vive les differences, if you will pardon my French.”



Patrick and Keith discuss a knotty problem with Patrick’s youngest grandchild

(What both Canon Pound and Patrick left us to find out for ourselves was that the scarlet cassock was the mark of a Chaplain to the Queen. After the Archbishop of Canterbury in January was this another ‘first’ for St Mary’s in 2009?)

As the final “One Church, One Faith, One Lord” ended, the choir left, the organist played a toccata by Widor, and the congregation assembled in the Welcome Area to toast Patrick and Susanne. The parson in the pulpit is supposed to be “six feet above contradiction” but there was no question of dissent when Churchwarden Jonathon Gocher – for once elevated to that level – expressed on behalf of us all our thanks to Patrick for all he is to St Mary’s and presented him with a gift of a white cassock-alb and a purple stole. We are fortunate that his various experiences over 50 years have now brought him to us. He still sails and is Chaplain to the London Flotilla so we can wish him most warmly a fair wind for the future. *NMH*

HARVEST AT ST MARY'S

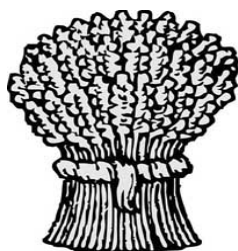
Sunday, 27 September

Supporting Waterloo Christian Centre (which provides cooked breakfasts, clothes and other support to the homeless in London) & Vaughan House, Guildford (a rehabilitation hostel for homeless people).

Gifts of non-perishable foodstuffs and certain other items may be brought on Sunday 27 September to the Sung Eucharist at 0930 or to the Christian Family Praise service at 1100, or handed in at the Church Office during the previous week (mornings, not Thursday or Saturday).

Please note that Waterloo Christian Centre have specifically said **NO CEREALS OR SOUP** this year, although Vaughan House can take most non-perishables, provided they do not contain any alcohol.

Further details may be found on the church notice boards.



FUTURE ORGAN RECITALS 2009

Sept 12 Patronal Festival Organ Recital

Jonathan Holmes (Director of Music, Ewell Parish Church)

Oct 10 "Jonah Man Jazz" - St Mary's Choir with local schools

Nov 14 Handel's "Messiah" - St Mary's Choir

All recitals are on Saturdays and start at 7.30 pm with the exception of that on 10 October which has a 7.00 pm start. Further details can be obtained from the church website

([www.stmarysewell.com/music events.html](http://www.stmarysewell.com/music%20events.html))



Congratulations to Elaine and Russell Dewhurst married on 15 August. We look forward to welcoming them in October as our new Vicar and his wife.

C FEE MORNINGS

**WE MEET EVERY WEDNESDAY
FROM 10.30 am – 12 noon
IN THE CHURCH HALL**

DO COME AND JOIN US

A FEAST FOR THE SOUL

Some seats are still available on the coach to the Flower Gala at Guildford cathedral on Thursday 1 October - Price £10 each (entry to the Cathedral £5.50 payable on arrival)

Don't miss the opportunity to see the Cathedral transformed by over 700 spectacular displays of flowers including "A Summer Afternoon" by Sybil, Alison and Sue.

The coach will depart from outside the Church Hall 9.15 for 9.30 sharp and return 1400 from the Cathedral.

For further details and to book seats on the coach, please contact Joan Boulden or Lynne Yuille ASAP.

Coffee Morning Wednesday 30 September

Table Top sale

Fruit - Flowers - Fancy Goods

Perhaps some fruit from your garden, even "windfalls" or some autumn flowers to sell/or buy to brighten the table?

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 31 July Joyce Gladys Hendrie, aged 82



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Calendar for September



- T 1 1000 Holy Communion (said) in the Parish Room
- Th 3 2000 Management Team meeting (Parish Room)
- S 6 DEDICATION FESTIVAL**
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Sung Eucharist
1100 Choral Mattins
- M 7 0930 Communion taken to the Housebound
2000 Finance Committee Meeting
- T 8 1000 Holy Communion (said) in the Parish Room
1100 Communion taken to "The Elders"
1430 Meeting of External Affairs Committee
- Th10 0930 - 1830 Coffee Morning Outing to Chichester
- S 12 1400 - 1700 Church open for Heritage Day
1930 Patronal Festival Organ Recital by Jonathan Holmes
- S 13 PATRONAL FESTIVAL**
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Sung Eucharist
1100 Mattins (*congregational*)
1730 Choral Evensong and Choristers' Reunion
- T 15 1000 Holy Communion (said) in the Parish Room
- S 19 0930 Churchwarden's Surgery at "The Larder"
1430 -1630 St Mary's Garden Party at 46A Ewell Downs Road
- S 20 TRINITY 15**
0715 Mattins
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Sung Eucharist
1100 Sung Eucharist (1662)
- M 21 2000 Children's Support Group meeting
- T 22 1000 Holy Communion (said) in the Parish Room
- S 27 TRINITY 16
HARVEST THANKSGIVING**
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Sung Eucharist
1100 Christian Family Praise
- T 29 1000 Holy Communion (said) in the Parish Room

EPSOM

Mental Health Week
4-10 October 2009

PROMOTING WELL BEING
IN THE COMMUNITY

Time to live - laugh - listen - learn

Further information

Drama, creative activities, workshops, events, etc

See the website:

www.epsommentalhealthweek.org.uk

email: info@epsommentalhealthweek.org.uk

phone: 01372 721518

Love me

Love my mind

St Barnabas Epsom

St Mary the Virgin, Ewell Parish Church

*Garden Party
Saturday 19 September 2009*



Time: 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.

Venue:

46a Ewell Downs Road

**Tickets £4 after services on Sundays
and from the Parish Office**

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