VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

NOVEMBER 2014 ISSUE 139

VILLAGE DIARY

- Sat 1 Farmers Market. 9.00 12.00 Linton Village College
- Sun 2 Harvest Festival. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Tue 4 Blue & green wheeled bin collection
- Wed 5 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Thur 6 Monthly walk, to Withersfield. Meet at Maypole Croft at 10.30
- Sun 9 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church Remembrance Day Service. 12.00, Wratting Common MemorialCommon
- Mon 10 Local History Club. 1914 & beyond:

 Village life in the 1st World War. Talk

 By Janet Morris. 7.30pm, Village Hall
- Tue 11 Black wheeled bin collection
- Wed 12 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Sun 16 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church

Deadline for items for the December issue of the Village Voice

- Mon 17 Gardening Club. The waterlilies of
 Latour Marliac that inspired Monet. Talk
 by Caroline Holmes. 7.30pm, Village
 Hall
- Tue 18 Blue & green wheeled bin collection
- Wed 19 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Sun 23 Family Service. 9.30, St Mary's Church
- Tue 25 Black wheeled bin collection
- Wed 26 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Sat 29 Daisy Chains Pre-School Christmas Fair. 2-4pm, Village Hall
- Sun 30 United Advent service, 10.00, West Wratting Church

Daisy Chains Pre-School meets Monday to Friday 9.30 – 12.30 in the Village Hall

THE VILLAGE HALL

is available to hire at the rates below, it also offers the following equipment: Badminton, Short Tennis and 3 Table Tennis tables.

Village Hall rates (for Village use):

Sport Hire day or evening £5.00 per hour.

Meeting Room day (9.00 – 19.00) £5.00 per hour.

evening £7.00 per hour.

Main Room day (9.00 - 19.00) £7.00 per hour

evening £10.00 per hour.

Complete Hall day (9.00 - 19.00) £12.00 per hour

evening £18.00 per hour

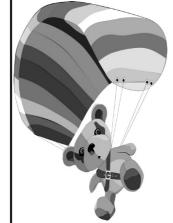
Children's party £30.00 daytime

£43.00 evening

Adult's party/disco £60.00 Wedding reception £150.00

To book the Village Hall contact Louise Salter T: 01223 291226

or visit www.westwickham.org



PLEASE COME TO HARVEST FESTIVAL

and to

give thanks for our new toilet and kitchen facilities

at

St.Mary's Church 9:15 am Sunday 2 November

Bring your teddies ready to parachute from the church tower after the service.

RAF WRATTING COMMON REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 9 NOVEMBER

There will be a short Service at the Memorial on Sunday 9 November at 12 noon. The Memorial is situated at Weston Woods Farm. A few of the Veterans will be attending and Cadets from 1451 (Haverhill) Squadron of the Air Training Corps will be on parade. Wreaths will be laid in memory of all those who served here and throughout the world, especially those who gave their lives in the cause of freedom.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

All are welcome to attend.

Dan Heath. Friends of Wratting Common. T: 07736 737174, Email dmh@dmh247.co.uk

OVERHANGING HEDGING & SHRUBS

Would any resident who has hedging or shrubs overlooking the pavement/road please check whether it is impeding pedestrians or overhanging the road causing large vehicles, e.g. tractors or grain lorries having to drive down the centre of the road, which could be considered hazardous. If you have a problem but are unable to deal with the cutting back yourselves Thurlow Estate are prepared to come and cut back hedging overhanging the road. Please either deal with the problem or let a Parish Councillor know that you would be happy for Thurlow Estate to deal with it.

Jennifer Richards, Parish Clerk

COME WALKING

November's walk will be on Thursday 6 November to Withersfield, lunching at the White Horse. Join us there at about 12 noon for lunch and the walk back, or at Maypole Croft at 10.30am.

Di Licence. T: 290434

The Village Voice is sponsored by West Wickham Parish Council and delivered free to all households in West Wickham and Streetly End. The views expressed herein are those of the contributors.

FROM THE VICARAGE

Imagine revisiting the place where something good happened. Going back reawakens the memories, and in the remembering the experience may be heightened, the weather becomes sunnier, the scene more beautiful as we polish out the reality of the mixture of joy and anxiety that usually accompanies a significant moment. Whenever we look back on any experience we see it differently because of the layers of other experience, reflections and insights which have occurred in the interval. And each of us looks back from our own vantage point and it is worth pausing to note that other people may see things differently.

This month we will recollect memories of the world wars of the last century particularly focusing on the First World War in this centenary year. When I was 21, I used to visit an octogenarian called Mr Smith who was a soldier in the First World War. He told me that he had lost his faith during his time in France. The experience of trauma that he encountered, the horror of watching friends die, continued to haunt his dreams sixty years later and he was still suffering. The worst memories can be an intrusion that we would like to forget. There are people in our villages who have endured Post Traumatic Stress Disorder because of an experience of war, violence, abuse or trauma.

I recently heard Rowan Williams talking about painful memories. He talked about the way that personal or collective memories of horror can permeate our consciousness and take away our hope. His contention was that we need to find a way not to be owned by the past, not to be defined by the horror. For him this means freeing the memory from just being about 'my story' at that moment. Often there are other voices to be heard, and ultimately God's telling of 'my story' might be different to the way that I tell it too. He suggested that a painful memory can be retold in the light of God's love, and capacity for compassion, God's comfort and desire for transformation. This can help us to move towards hope and free us from being paralysed by the bad memories. God's telling of our story doesn't stop at the trauma, but helps us to rise and find good ways to act and live which can override the painful memories with a greater sense of purpose. He said, 'God's

DAISY CHAINS PRESCHOOL

A big thank you to all of you who supported our bingo night on 26 Sept. A good time seemed to be had by all and the Preschool are now better off by approximately £690 which goes a long way to help us in keeping the Preschool 'alive and kicking'.

Sue Harrow, Preschool Leader

SAVE THE CHILDREN

Linton & District Branch

Coffee Morning Friday 7 November 11, Fox Road, Balsham 11am – 12.30pm

Christmas cards & wrapping paper Raffle £1.00 entry telling might allow for healing to happen'.

We will be moved again when we hear the names being read out on Remembrance Sunday. We will hold the memories of both courage and of grief. As we remember we can be thankful that our children play and live in peace, also mindful of the fact that others do not. We will stand together with those who find faith helps, and those, like Mr Smith, who despair of God. At the same time it might be possible for us to be determined not to be defined by bad memories but to find new purpose in serving the common good. It may be possible for us to bring the gift of creating good memories for those around us.

Rev Julie Norris

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Thursday 13 November, 7.30pm, at West Wratting Village Hall. Health Awareness Event, 'Children's health, from common childhood illnesses to allergies,' with Dr Fiona Clark, Dr Fiona Clark, is a local GP with specialist interest in Paediatrics and Child Health. There will also be other local GPs and a member of the Child and Family Team (Heath Visitor) on hand to answer questions. These events have proved to be very informative. They are open to everyone and this one will be particularly useful to parents, grandparents, teachers and carers who spend time with children and babies.

Sunday 16 November, 6pm at St Mary's Church, Weston Colville. 'Within Our Darkest Night', writings, poems and music from World War One. A Special Service to commemorate World War One will take place at which the Joint Churches Choir will be singing. This includes people from West Wickham. Please come to remember

Sunday 30 November, 10am at St Andrew's Church, West Wratting. United Service. All six parishes will meet to worship together and to hear Paul Evans (Diocesan Secretary) speak about the future strategy for the Diocese of Ely. This could help us as we think about how these churches can plan for the future.

CAMPING AND CARAVAN SITE – PLANNING APPLICATION REFUSED

Anybody who was planning a caravan holiday in Burton End will now have to think again as the Planning Application for a Camping and Caravan site has finally been refused by South Cambs District Council after, some would say, keeping us waiting for an inordinately long time!

I would think most people in the village are mightily relieved that there is no longer a possibility of caravans trundling up and down the High Street or any of the other unfortunate consequences of such a proposal going ahead.

Indeed there were so many reasons why this application should have been refused, with a virtually unanimous objection from West Wickham, that we always thought that this decision was inevitable. It was just a surprise that it took so long.

Peter Grieve

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At the meeting held on 29 September the following news was selected from items discussed at the meeting.

Village Sign: This will shortly be put in place.

White Horse LDC appeal: Council was informed by Dist.Cllr. Barrett that the application had been approved by SCDC and therefore the White Horse was now a private residence. The Parish Clerk was asked to write to SCDC asking for an apology for the way the case had been handled.

Dean Road: The gulleys had still not been cleared out and Cllr. Hickford said he would look further into this matter.

Allotments: The allotment vacated by Len Ling has been divided between Mark Cooper and Tony O'Mara.

Internet access: James Cowell told the Council that he was able to get 30mps broadband through Cambswireless, who have a radio transmitter at Hadstock. The installation and annual fee was approx. £40 per month. The fibre optic cabling being laid by BT should be available before September 2015.

Planning;

S/2492/13 – Caravan site application has been refused by SCDC.

Tree work, 39 Streetly End: Recommended for approval by Parish Council tree officer, Cllr. Hall.

Finance:

Authorised payments:

£100.00 WWVH re hire for Neighbourhood Planning meeting.

£690.00 CGM Grass cutting

£364.32 Mrs J Richards Aug. & Sept. salary £103.02 A Morris for Village Voice expenses

£136.60 HM Inland Revenue 2nd quarter.

£ 15.00 A Morris for allotment keys for new holders. *Monies received:*

£ 5,250.00 SCDC 2nd tranche of Precept.

Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr. Hall reported that 330 forms had been delivered and 224 received back with 32 people declining to take part in the survey. He was pleased with the response. He will be writing to local businesses to get their support. SCDC have produced a consultation document showing how it would like neighbourhood plans done. Cllr. Hall felt this was wrong and it should be the village making decisions.

Telephone kiosk (High Street): Perla Arteaga told the Council that she, her husband and the Winston family would like to refurbish the box. Once done a decision as to how it would be used needed to be made. Some of her suggestions were a mini art gallery, mini library, defibrillator station. The box has to be adopted first for £1.00 and the Parish Clerk will put this in motion.

Traffic issues: Following an accident at Burton End the Chairman had spoken to Thurlow Estate. They would like to see overhanging hedging and shrubs cut back so that the tractors and grain lorries can keep to the side of the road and would be prepared to come and do the job. Hedging from 89-101 High Street and Maypole Croft needs cutting back. Cllr. Licence complained about the speed that the No.19 bus comes through the village and CC.Cllr. Hickford said he would look into this.

Report by Dist.Cllr. Barrett:

SCDC magazine is again not being delivered in various places, if you have not received yours please contact him. There will be no refuse collection at Christmas and the

green bins will only be collected once a month between November and January (see below).

Report by County Cllr. Hickford:

Waste recycling centres are likely to be cut in numbers. Gritting will be carried out to a bare minimum but this had not been finalised.

Street lighting may well be dimmed in residential areas and possibly turned off between 11pm & 5am.

Libraries – the smaller ones may well have to be run by the community. Linton Library will not be affected.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 1 December, to which all are welcome. The above information is a extract from the draft Minutes which have been posted on the Parish Council noticeboard.

Jennifer Richards, Parish Clerk. T: 01223 665260

Important bin collection changes

Green bin collections

Green bin collections will be moving to a monthly collection during the winter months when

far less garden waste is put out by residents. The change is being made for December, January and February collections only, with fortnightly collections remaining in place for the rest of the year.

Christmas collections

We're asking residents to make an early note of Christmas bin collections as changes this year will affect all residents, with some collections moving forward as well as back. Collections will be made up until 27 December, break until 4 January and return to normal on 5 January.

- Please ensure bins are put out by 6am on the day of collection
- You can recycle all your Christmas cards and wrapping paper in the blue bin
- You can compost all leftover food (cooked and raw) and real Christmas trees (cut up) in the green bin
- Excess blue bin material will routinely be collected when placed alongside the blue bin in a returnable container or cardboard box
- Excess black bin waste will be collected if placed alongside the bin on the first scheduled black bin collection after the New Year only.

Want to know more?

For more information and to see the collection calendar:

- Visit www.scambs.gov.uk/bin-changes
- See the latest edition of the South Cambs Magazine
- Call 03450 450 063



WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

On Monday 20 October the Club invited John Walker to give a talk on "the Humble Spud". If anyone was expecting a lecture on how to grow potatoes they would have been surprised and pleased to find that John's talk encompassed all plants belonging to the genus Solinacea. His excellent pictures included garden weeds such as the deadly and woody nightshades, frost tender Brugmansia and Daturas, and shrubs. All of the genus are poisonous to some extent and as John wryly pointed out, can be eaten at least once. The audience enjoyed his amusing anecdotes and we learned a great deal about a genus we had not realised contained so many well loved garden plants.

Next month, on 17 November we are delighted to welcome Caroline Holmes who will be talking on " the Waterlilies of Latour- Marliac Nursery that inspired Monet". Due to adverse weather conditions Caroline was unable to come when last booked so I am grateful to her for fitting us into her busy schedule. I have visited the Nursery at Latour-Marliac, just south of Bergerac, loved the pools of lilies, the croaking of the enormous frogs and the wonderful lunch under the trees (no, not frog's legs I hasten to add). Caroline is an experienced speaker, author, and broadcaster, so we can be sure of an informative and entertaining evening.

I really hope to see you all there and will welcome any visitors who wish to come along—7.30 at West Wickham Village Hall.

Rosemary Yallop. T: 01799584262



FLU JABS - HAVE YOU HAD YOURS YET?

Flu vaccination is recommended for everyone aged 65 and over and for those in clinical at risk groups, such as those with diabetes, heart disease, chronic respiratory disease, chronic liver disease, chronic kidney disease, coeliac disease. and people who are immunosuppressed. Pregnant women are also advised to have both a flu jab and vaccination against pertussis.

Shingles vaccination is also available to those born between 2/9/1943 and 1/9/1944 and 2/9/1934 and 1/9/1936. This is a one-off vaccine that can be given at the same time as the flu jab.

This year, children born between 2/9/09 and 1/9/12 are eligible to receive flu vaccination. The vaccine is administered by a nasal spray rather than an injection for this group of patients.

We had over 2,500 patients to vaccinate and we would like to thank all our staff for giving up their Saturday mornings in October to run our 4 Saturday flu clinics. It has certainly enabled us to vaccinate the majority of our eligible patients without impacting too much on our normal week day appointments. If you are eligible, and haven't had your flu jab yet, then do please give us a call to make an appointment.

Dr Wheeler & Partners, Linton Health Centre

WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY CLUB

We have now finalised all the paperwork for our Big Village Dig project. The Heritage Lottery Fund required us to store our digital record (ie photographs) on the historypin website. Apart from completing the captioning, you can now find the 'story' of our project at

www.historypin.org/channels/view/58829

Andrew and I did not find this website very user friendly and the quality of the entries of some of the other projects is quite poor, particularly as these are supposed to be a historical record. Do have a look and let me know what you think so that we can provide the HLF with feedback.

Plans for West Wickham Dig2 are under way. I am looking for grant money to buy some tools and there may be the possibility of doing a geophysical survey with which you will be able to help. Please let me know if you would like to take part in the next stage in discovering the origins of our village.

Our next talk on Monday 10 November (7.30pm in the Village Hall, all welcome) will be about village life in the First World War. Those on the home front seem to have been even more reticent to record their experiences than those in the armed services. If you remember being told anything about this period by grandparents or older residents in our village or other villages in the area, please get in touch so that these can be recorded.

Janet Morris, 21 High Street Tel: 290863 Email: jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com

NATURE NOTES

Di has the most uplifting story this month. "We have been fortunate recently to have had the pleasure of three small hedgehogs staying in our greenhouse. Each the size of a small orange, Tom found them huddled on a drive and brought them home. We gave them a box full of hay and dry oak leaves and three meals a day. They ate hungrily and were a delight to watch as they discovered the nooks and crannies in the greenhouse, exploring behind the grow bags. Often we would find them curled up, on their backs, with



their tiny feet tucked in, looking like something from a Beatrix Potter story. We left the door open after a while and they have left us. Hopefully they will stay and hibernate somewhere in the garden." I had been hoping to hear some good news about hedgehogs, because as we know, they have seriously declined in recent years. On top of Di's story, Sue's Mum found a hedgehog under a pile of leaves – possibly already hibernating, although it still seems rather warm for that.

At this time of year, some birds are moving in or out, while others are changing their behaviour. Both Di and I have heard and seen chiffchaffs in our gardens, and we saw a blackcap in the woods at Gog Magog Down. Both of these warblers normally migrate south, although small numbers do stay for the winter. House sparrow numbers seem to have increased this year – Di comments on their jostling for a place on the seed feeder, and they were creating a tremendous din in our garden the other day. Everything went silent when I walked out of the back door.

Still in the gardens, sparrowhawks are fairly regular visitors. Vivienne Henderson has had one in her garden, but sadly found it one day under an apple tree with a broken neck... did it crash into the tree trunk whilst chasing down its prey? Sparrowhawks are notoriously reckless so a head-on collision is always a risk. We have seen a female in our garden several times in the last week or so and the speed of flight from a standing start is impressive. Di and her neighbours have been wondering about goldfinches, and how few had been seen recently. We don't see many in our garden either despite having niger seeds on offer. Some people however see them frequently. I think they may have a preference for particular gardens, maybe without predators nearby.

Out in the fields, Di comments that "the smaller finches are beginning to join together in flocks, linnets, skylarks, chaffinches and yellowhammers feeding on the unploughed corn fields." Lucy Cameron spotted "a large flock or scribble (a splendid collective noun) of yellowhammers along the hedge line near the Roman Road in Streetly End and has also commented on the large number of skylarks in a fallow field beyond Marks Grave. Her most exciting sighting has been a kingfisher checking out the ditches near the Roman Road, and earlier in the year a reed bunting was nesting there. We don't notice reed buntings so much at this time of year as the male's distinctive black head fades somewhat and they probably mix in with other buntings and finches.

As usual in autumn we are privileged to play host to a big group of golden plovers on migration. Di describes their "beautiful plaintive call, and their habit of swirling in huge flocks. If you catch them in the sunlight, they are gold one minute and white the next as they 'duck and dive' in the sky." They can also be seen around Weston Colville and will always be welcome visitors.

Peter Grieve. T: 290503, Email: mail@petergrieve.co.uk

Care Network Cambridgeshire

Helping people at risk of isolation and loneliness to feel supported in their local community and stay healthy, happy and independent for longer. Could you volunteer to support someone by finding information, or helping with small jobs around the home?

We'd love to hear from you if you need support or would like to volunteer!

Need help at Home?

Help at Home: is a FREE service offering short-term practical and emotional help during an illness or after a hospital stay. We can help by collecting prescriptions, shopping or calling in to make sure you are ok. We can also help with one-off tasks to help you remain independent at home. Contact 01223 714433.

Need Information?

Community Navigators: are a network of local volunteers and professionals ready to help you access services and activities. We provide FREE information for you to choose how best to maintain your independence. Contact 01954 212100.

Want to help others?

Community Development:
Can help you to set up groups for older people in your community: including social groups, car schemes, choirs and many others.



01954 211919

admin@care-network.org.uk www.care-network.org.uk Charity No. 1120693





RAINFALL FIGURES - SEPTEMBER

Possibly the driest September on record - we had as much rain in one day in October as fell in the whole of September! Met Office statistics show the September average rainfall in Cambridgeshire as 53.5mm.

	2014	2013
High Street	30.25mm	55.75mm
Streetly End	28.5mm	48mm
Streetly Hall Farm	24mm	53mm

MEADOW SCHOOL NEWS

They say time flies when you are having fun, and the past few months at school have flown by! The new Foundation Stage children have settled so well. The rest of the school have quickly got back down to work and within two weeks the walls were all covered in fantastic displays celebrating the learning that is happening. This term the Infants are studying 'Spectacular, Spectacular!' a topic linked to celebrations, special occasions, the circus and of course in December, Chris**** (it's too early to say the word just yet!). They have already held a circus skills day and are building up to their end of term production. Years 3 and 4 are studying 'From Bean to Bar'. A topic related to one of my favourite things, chocolate. Their studies have related so far to Aztec life, rainforests and of course tasting chocolate and making truffles. Our oldest children in Years 5 and 6 started the year with a mini 2 week topic called 'Stand Up For Your Rights'. This was linked to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The final outcome was the children running their own election campaigns and the whole school voting to elect our new school councillors for the year. They have now started a topic for the remainder of the term called 'Keep Calm and Carry On' linked to World War 2. The children have already had a very exciting trip to London to the Imperial War Museum where they learnt about bombs and transport used and got to meet war veterans.

At the end of September if you were driving through Balsham you may have spotted many of our Year 6 children out on their bikes. They were all invited to train with the 'Bikeability' crew to earn their level 1 or level 2 cycling award. The children all did remarkably well and all passed, Thank you to everyone who slowed down when they saw our children out on the road and gave them time and space to complete their rides.

It is not just the children who have been working very hard lately. You may have spotted over the past 4 months the school has been covered in scaffolding. The roofers, electricians and scaffolders have now finished. The scaffolding is down and we now have a brand new roof and skylights across the whole building. It was a great feeling recently that when the heavy rain started to fall we no longer needed to send out the bucket to catch all of the leaks. One of the children even came to see me as he was very concerned that something was wrong, the corridor roof wasn't leaking and it was raining!. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our neighbours who have put up with the disruption to their peace and quiet that our roof works may have caused.

Celebrations continued when we received a letter from the Department for Education congratulating us on our impressive and greatly improved Key Stage 2 results. This was followed by a letter from Nick Gibb MP. Minister of State for the Department for Education, congratulating us on our 100% pass rate for the Year 1 phonics test. We are now in the top 2% of the country with this score.

Finally, a huge thank you to everyone from the local community who came to our 25th annual craft fair. We had just under 1000 people visit over the two days and welcomed many new stall holders too. The weekend was a great success, raising over £5000 which means we can complete the final stage of the outdoor area and hopefully have a little bit of money left to put towards our next set of iPads.

Nicola Connor, Headteacher

LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE NEWS

Recently a parent commented that my articles and the College newsletter tend to contain only the positive news about the College. This is without doubt true....the nature of a publication like the newsletter is that Tony Kelly, the Editor, uses the format to celebrate achievement and I think our parents enjoy seeing photographs of their children doing fantastic things. The truth is that because the College enjoys considerable success there is always a huge amount of material to draw on. This month, therefore, instead of telling you about the recent victories of the rugby teams or the fact that our last Year 11 scored more attainment points at GCSE than any other state school in Cambridgeshire, I will share some less glorious moments with you.

Let me tell you about the recent Dalek invasion. We have been experiencing real problems with our telephones. Sometimes they have not worked at all, sometimes we have experienced intermittent faults which never reveal themselves when an engineer looks into the matter and sometimes they appear to be working from our end but those ringing in to us have been listening to some very strange voices emanating from our offices. Apparently we have sounded like Daleks....for most of September. I wouldn't mind so much if someone had felt able to tell me that I sounded like a Dalek. What alarms me is that either people were too frightened to or they thought that what they were hearing was my normal speaking voice. Headteachers can be figures of fear....but accepting a stair-phobic, exterminating alien as your local school leader may be taking the 'figure of authority' thing too far.

I apologise if the phone situation inconvenienced, annoyed or, indeed, frightened you. Normal service has now resumed. No need to call in Peter Capaldi quite yet.

Caroline Derbyshire, Principal

LINTON LADIES NETBALL CLUB

Linton Ladies Netball club are a group of ladies and girls of all ages and abilities who meet on a Monday (term time only) 7.15-8.30pm on the outside netball courts at Linton Village College. We enter both a winter and a summer league but there is no obligation for anyone to play. We have a coach who comes along fortnightly to improve our techniques and game play.

We always welcome new players regardless of age, ability or fitness level. This season we are extending our club to include girls from the age of 14.

If you and/or your daughter are interested in playing matches or just want to get fit and have some fun doing so then either contact Bridget on 07972598668 or Angela on 07729879300 or just turn up on a Monday night

PRESS DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 16 November

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