



St Alkmund's

Duffield Parish Magazine



September 2019

Picture: Kieran Harrod

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The Vicar's Letter

JAMES HUGHES



Dear Friends,

Welcome to our reinvigorated parish magazine! I am sure you have noticed some of the differences already—the colour photo on the front is a bit of a giveaway, and the magazine is a few pages longer. You may also have received this magazine through the door for the first time, as we are expanding our distribution through the village. We're aiming for the magazine to be bigger, brighter, better, and available to more people. My thanks go to Jeff Taplin and others for all the work they have put into this relaunch.

So what is different apart from the colour? Well, there are some new regular features. Our **2 Minute New Testament** is back, after a long break (if you want to catch up on the first five books of the New Testament, see our website), and we're looking at Romans. The idea of the article is to give you a bit of a sense of the book, all in an article than can be read in 2 minutes (or thereabouts).

Look out for **Where's the Bear**, as Alkmund the Bear makes his way around the village—you'll have to find him each month. No prizes I'm afraid,

but we've given you a pretty easy one to start with. They might get a bit more difficult as the months go by. And you can also catch up on some of the **history** of the church and the village in a new regular article from Derek and Marion Taulbut.

We have also included more information about what is coming up at St Alkmund's over the next month and beyond, like our **harvest service**, our **First Sunday Specials**, and our **Mini-Mission**. You will also find information here about the new **4.30pm** service at Little Eaton, which begins on the 15th September.

Finally, each month we will have a number of other articles reflecting on what has been happening at Church and in the Parish, and to give us all food for thought. In this issue, our Youth Worker Helen Hawley reflects back on an exciting year in our Youth and Children's ministry, and from James Rollin you might find out about a Jerry Lee Lewis album you have never heard of...

I hope you enjoy our reinvigorated magazine. Feedback is always welcome.

I look forward to seeing you.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'James'.



St Alkmund's
Duffield Parish Church

First Sunday Specials

Autumn 2019

Meeting the Real Jesus

1st September - Can we believe in a virgin birth?

6th October - Just a wise man from Galilee?

3rd November - Why did Jesus die on a cross?

1st December - Did Jesus rise from the dead?

Join us for a cafe style service in the church hall.

A relaxed atmosphere with refreshments.

Opportunity to ask questions after the talk.

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Facebook: St Alkmund's Church Duffield. Twitter: @StAlksDuffield

Office: 01332 840536 Monday to Friday 9.30am-3pm

Where's the Bear?

There's someone we'd really like you to meet, a new addition to our staff team here at St Alkmund's Church: Alkmund the Bear! (also known as "Alky" to close friends and his bear family).



Alkmund is a very friendly bear. His hobbies include relaxing, baking, reading and rock climbing. He's also partial to a pot of chocolate spread and you can often find him with chocolate covered paws! However, Alkmund's most favourite hobby is going on adventures. He's been adventuring this month actually, we wonder if you can work out where he is?



Let us know your guesses on our Facebook page and find out the answer in next month's issue!

www.facebook.com/StAlksDuffield/

September Services & Events



2019

SUNDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER

- 8.00 am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints' Chapel
10.00 am **JOINT HOLIDAY CLUB SERVICE**
6.30 pm **FIRST SUNDAY SPECIAL:** in the Church Hall
"Can we believe in a virgin birth"



MONDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER

- 2.00 pm **SONGS OF PRAISE**
Half-hour service, followed by tea/coffee/cake

SUNDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER

- 10.00 am **MORNING SERVICE**
4.30 pm **AFTERNOON SERVICE AT ST PAUL'S** (with refreshments from 4.00pm)
6.30 pm **HOLY COMMUNION**



SUNDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER

- 8.00 am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints' Chapel
10.00 am **HOLY COMMUNION**
4.30 pm **AFTERNOON SERVICE AT ST PAUL'S** (with refreshments from 4.00pm)
6.30 pm **EVENING SERVICE**



SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER

- 10.00 am **MORNING SERVICE;** Invitation Service following Mission Week
4.30 pm **AFTERNOON SERVICE AT ST PAUL'S** (with refreshments from 4.00pm)
Invitation Service following Mission Week
6.30 pm **HOLY COMMUNION**



SUNDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER

8.00 am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints' Chapel



10.00 am **FAMILY SERVICE—HARVEST FESTIVAL**

(Food and toiletries collected in aid of Centenary House, Derby. Fresh fruit and veg auctioned in aid of DCC Homelessness Group)

4.30 pm **AFTERNOON SERVICE AT ST PAUL'S** (with refreshments from 4.00pm)

6.30 pm **EVENING SERVICE**

Regular Events:

SALT CAFÉ—Sunday 1st, in the Church Hall at 5.30pm. (For young people in school years 7–13)

MORNING PRAYER—Tuesdays (3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th) at 9.15am. Held in church for around half an hour.

MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING—Wednesday 4th, 8.00pm in the hall.

BABES & BOUNCERS—Mondays (9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th), 9.30–11.15am in the hall.

MEN'S 5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL (at Ecclesbourne School)—Tuesdays (10th, 17th & 24th), at 8.00pm.

LADIES' BIBLE STUDY & LUNCH—Wednesdays (11th & 25th) at 10.00am in the hall.



GROWTH GROUPS—Normally Wednesdays (11th & 25th) at 8.00pm, at various locations (*see leaders for details*).

JOINT IMPACT & IGNITION SOCIAL—Tuesday 10th, at 7.00pm.

TEA, CAKE & CHAT—Monday 16th, 2.00–3.30pm in the hall.

IMPACT (school years 7–9)—Mondays (16th, 23rd & 30th), 7.00–8.30pm in the hall.

IGNITION (school years 10–13)—Tuesdays (17th & 24th), 7.30–9.00pm in the hall.



EMMA'S LUNCHTIME CONCERT IN CHURCH—Wednesday 18th at 1.00pm.

Special Events:

LAUNCH OF MISSION WEEK—Sunday 15th September.

COME & SEE, SONGS AND STORIES (Mini-Mission Event)—Wednesday 18th at 7.30pm at St Alkmund's.

COME & SEE, MEAL AND STORIES (Mini-Mission Event)—Friday 20th, at 7.30pm at St Paul's.

COME & SEE, MEAL AND STORIES (Mini-Mission Event)—Saturday 21st, at 7.30pm at St Alkmund's.

WEDDING OF HARRY BRAY AND JOAN RUSCOE—Saturday 28th, at 12.30pm in church.



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HAVE you ever wondered about something ... but not known how to find out about it?

While there might be many trivial things in life that we're quite happy not really knowing about, the important things in life matter. Everyone, at some level, is searching for real love, real happiness, real hope and real life. We don't want to live life and miss what most matters.

As Christians we believe Jesus offers all those things in relationship with him. Real and lasting love, happiness, hope and life. So we're inviting you to **come** along and **see** for yourself. We're organising two meals with after-dinner talks from the Bible, and two special services for you to do just that.

We'd also love for you to hear from people in our churches who have found that Jesus is worth trusting because they've come to see that Jesus really does give us what we most long for. Please feel free to come along to any or all of our events and services—there's no charge. We'd love to see you.

Come and See Real Love—A meal followed by a short talk from the Bible.

- Friday 20th September in Little Eaton Church Hall at 7.30pm.

Come and See Real Happiness—A meal followed by a short talk from the Bible.

- Saturday 21st September at St Alkmund's Duffield at 7.30pm.

Come and See Real Hope—A special service at St Alkmund's to hear more about what difference hope makes to life.

- Sunday 22nd September at St Alkmund's Duffield at 10.00am.

Come and see Real Life—A special service at St Paul's Little Eaton to come and see the life Jesus offers.

- Sunday 22nd September at St Paul's Little Eaton at 4.30pm.

A short history of Duffield Parish Church

The Parish Church of Duffield is found a mile south of the village in a rural setting on the west bank of the River Derwent, and close to the confluence with the river Ecclesbourne. Its dedication is to Alkmund the Northumbrian prince and Mercian martyr and is one of only six churches so named in England. Alkmund was murdered in AD800 in Mercia at Northworthy (Derby) by bodyguards sent by the usurping King Eardulf of Northumbria, who feared the prince would attempt to gain the throne of his father. Alkmund was soon canonised at the request of King Kenwulf of Mercia and his remains placed in a stone church in Northworthy in a sarcophagus now in Derby Museum.

Duffield church is recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086 as a church and resident priest but there is no trace of them now. Building in local stone of the present church by the river was begun by the Normans in the twelfth century as a chancel and nave, with additions of chapels and aisles and, most obviously, the tower in the fifteenth century and spire somewhat later when the tower had stabilised. Of note in the church are the alabaster Mynors Tomb from 1536 and the Bradshaw Memorial from 1600. Anthonie Bradshaw was



The Bradshaw Memorial

Deputy Steward of Duffield Frith and great uncle of Judge John Bradshaw, President of the Regicide Court which judged Charles I. There are some interesting memorials in the churchyard, amongst them an example of the 'Blacksmith's epitaph' and a slate memorial with a hole through it which is said to relate to the story of the Exasperated Second Wife.

The original church was the focus of an extensive parish, reaching from Heage through Belper to Turnditch and down to Duffield at its most southern point. The old bridge over the Derwent meant

people could reach the church from all directions, though floods were frequent and disabling. By the end of the nineteenth century the parish had shrunk, with chapels of ease in Belper and the outlying villages being given their own parochial status.

The present set of interior furnishings were directed by J Oldrid Scott in 1896. Some pews have since been removed to make more circulation space and the chancel screen has been moved to the north transept arch. This was enabled

by a hearing of the Court of Arches which took place in the church in 2012, and now reveals the Kempe windows in the chancel depicting the events leading to the Crucifixion.

To the mediaeval man, building on this scale was a duty and a proper way to spend resources. The building was then and is now to the glory of God and a community asset. We are fortunate to have the benefit of our ancestors' investment.

Marion & Derek Taulbut



Above: The Mynors Tomb

Photo by WR Bland, by courtesy of Mr Geoffrey Bland.

Taken from *New Light on Duffield Church* by TL Tudor, published in 1939.

Above left: slate memorial

with a hole through it, which is said to relate to the story of the Exasperated Second Wife.

Left: 'Blacksmith's Epitaph'



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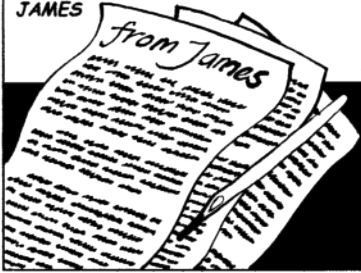
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The Epistle of James

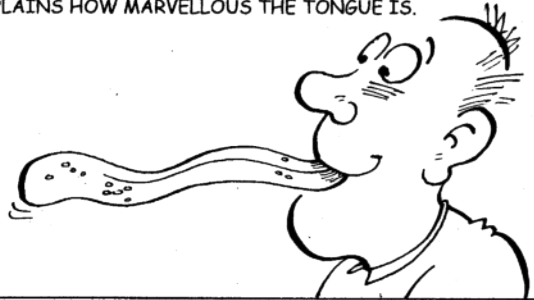
FOUR "BOOKS" IN THE NEW TESTAMENT TELL OF THE LIFE OF JESUS. THESE ARE CALLED THE 'GOSPELS'. MOST OF THE REST OF THE NEW TESTAMENT IS A COLLECTION OF LETTERS WRITTEN TO DIFFERENT CHURCHES, OR INDIVIDUALS, IN ORDER TO HELP THEM LIVE BETTER LIVES.



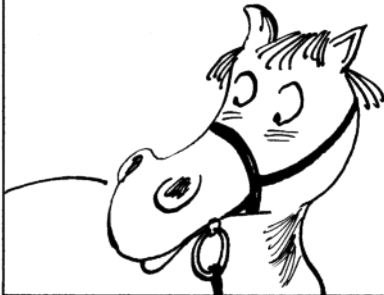
ONE LETTER - FULL OF PRACTICAL ADVICE - IS THE LETTER FROM JAMES



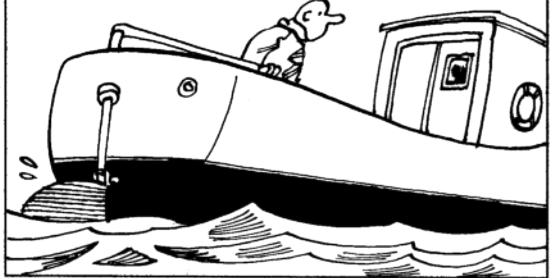
IN THIS LETTER JAMES (AMONGST OTHER THINGS) EXPLAINS HOW MARVELLOUS THE TONGUE IS.



"IT'S A BIT LIKE A HORSE'S BRIDLE..."



"...OR THE RUDDER ON A LARGE SHIP. IT IS VERY SMALL, BUT IT CAN HAVE A HUGE IMPACT."



"IT'S EVEN LIKE A SMALL SPARK OR A TINY FLAME..."



"...WHICH CAN SET A WHOLE FOREST ABLAZE!"

"SO TAKE CARE WITH ALL THAT YOU SAY. DON'T LET YOUR RATTLING TONGUE GET YOU INTO TROUBLE!"



see James 3.1-12

Youth and Children

As we begin a new academic year, it's always good to reflect on the past year before launching straight into the next one. With this in mind, I'd like to share with you a few of my personal highlights from the year as a Youth and Children's worker, so that you can get a bit of a taste of what we've been up to!

At Christmas our children took part in a nativity service that was ... not *entirely* historically accurate, but a lot of fun nevertheless. One of the great things I've learnt from working with children is that they really are full of surprises and know how to keep you on your toes! One of these such surprises was this year when I discovered that we had two children dressed and ready to play Mary on the morning of our nativity service. However, my biggest surprise followed in seeing how kind these two girls were to each other who hadn't met until that morning. They seemed delighted at sharing the role of Mary, as they escorted Joseph and his donkey around the church to the stable where our two baby Jesuses were born. The thing is, it was a great reminder to me of how Christ wants his church to be, full of compassion and grace for one another. In a moment where they could have got upset about having to share their role, these girls showed that there is room for us all in the family of God. Here there should be no wrestling for personal recognition or glory, but instead we walk side by side, with our eyes focused on the one who is truly deserving of all our glory and praise: Our Lord Jesus. I know those two little girls had no idea about the lesson they were teaching me in that moment, they were just enjoying a new friendship! but sometimes it takes a child to show us what really matters in life, and I think that is why Jesus so often used children as examples in his teaching. But of course, no nativity goes that well for long, and human nature was soon back on display! All was tranquil until an angel decided they wanted to hold one of the baby Jesuses and a little tug-of-war commenced, with a wise man joining in and another deciding he wanted the present back that he had given to Jesus. A little intervention was required. But that's the marvel of the Christian story! Jesus came into our world because we needed him to intervene for us. Without him we are lost from a beautiful and joyous relationship with our creator and father God. So that's why our nativity was a highlight this year for me; it was a little lesson on the gospel, within the story of the gospel!

Another highlight had to be the absolute joy of watching seven young people from our churches get confirmed in October (*see below*), and another get baptised later in June. It's so exciting knowing that these young people have a lifetime ahead of getting to know Jesus more deeply as their friend and saviour.



In March we took our youth on a weekend away to Edale where we had a lot of fun and fellowship whilst we learnt about Jesus from the gospel of John. I've been struck this year by how much there is a need for deeper, authentic, personal relationships amongst our young people as they are constantly bombarded by so much information and pressures from all over the place. Taking a weekend out to rest and talk was really important for us all.

Finally, I've greatly enjoyed getting better acquainted with our local schools. The children there are so welcoming and keen to learn! It's also been a blessing to have those from higher education return home for the holidays and share their stories of living for Jesus.

Well, there is so much more I could tell you about, but I'm sure you're tired of listening to me prattle on, so instead I would love to invite you to come on down to church to come and see for yourself what great things our God is doing here in Duffield! And perhaps, who knows, you might find him working in your life too.

Helen Hawley

New **SUNDAYS**
service **4.30pm**
time **with refreshments**
from 4.00pm

From Sunday 15th September the 10.00am service at St Paul's Little Eaton is moving to a new afternoon time. There will be groups for children aged 0-11. For more info, visit us online at our website or Facebook page.



www.littleeatonchurch.co.uk



St Paul's
Little Eaton Church

The Derwent Singers

Directed by Richard Roddis

Saturday 28th September 2019
9.30am-4.30pm

Come and Sing

The Derwent Singers invite you to join them for the day at their next Come and Sing event. Following the success of their 2017 Come and Sing event, they will be returning to the Strutts Centre in Belper for a full day rehearsal and performance. Further information regarding repertoire and ticket prices will be available nearer the time.

Strutts Centre, Derby Road, Belper, DE56 1UU

See the Derwent Singers website for further information and ticket prices.

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2 Minute NT—Romans



If you had to introduce yourselves to some people who you didn't know that well, and at the same time needed to ask for their help with a project, but also needed to tell them about some things they needed to change about how they did things—how would you go about it?

No, this isn't a scenario in a management seminar, or an interview question from *The Apprentice*. This is the situation the Apostle Paul faced when he wrote his longest, and probably most famous letter, **Romans**. In it he does three things:

First, he reminds the Romans of the gospel that they share. Gospel is a word we use a lot to describe the heart of the Christian message. This is the message that Paul has been preaching around the Mediterranean world, and wants to carry on preaching even as far as Spain—so he needs the help of those in Rome. Gospel means good news—specifically, the good news about Jesus. Why is it good news? Well, to get to that, Paul needs to explain the bad news in chapters 1–3. The bad news is, that no one is good enough to deserve anything from God. We have all sinned, done wrong things, and don't deserve anything good from God. Rather, we deserve judgement and death. Paul summarises our problem in chapter 3 verses 9–18—no one is righteous. But the good news is this:

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction:

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus (Romans chapter 3 verses 21 to 24)

No one can be saved by law keeping. But we can be saved through trusting in what Jesus has done. Notice that this is a free gift, it is grace, not something we can earn. When Jesus came and lived among us and died on the cross, he took the punishment we deserve. So that if we trust in Him, we can have a restored relationship with God. That is the gospel: the bad news of our sin, and the good news of Jesus' death for us. In the rest of Romans 4–8, Paul explores what this gospel means for how we live now.

Second, Paul teaches them about God's continuing plan for his people, The Jews. One of the issues that Paul, a Jew himself, faced himself in the first century was—why haven't more Jews come to know Jesus? After all, He is the messiah, long promised by God to his people, the son of David. In Romans 9–11, Paul explains this mystery. Or rather, he explains what he can, because he does not claim to fully understand it. But he does trust in God and his purposes, and so he ends this section of the letter with a hymn of praise to God (Romans 11:33–36). You get a flavour of it from verse 33:

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! (Romans chapter 11 verse 33)

Third, Paul encourages them to live as the people that they are. And so, in chapters 12 to 16 of the letter, he teaches them about how they are to live before God, and with one another, in the light of all that God has done for them. They are not to be conformed to the world, but transformed (Romans chapter 12, verse 2): in every generation, being a Christian means standing out from the world where the world is going against God's Word. They are to look after each other's interests, after the example of Christ who gave himself for them (Chapters 14 and 15). They are to be the people they are called to be.

Two thousand years later, this letter continues to remind us of the good news, and challenges us to live for Jesus.

James Hughes

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St Alkmund's Duffield Parish Church

Join us for our

Harvest Festival

Sunday 29th September 10am
at St Alkmund's Church

Food and toiletries collected in aid of
Centenary house, Derby
Fresh fruit and veg auctioned
in aid of DCC Homelessness Group

For more information see www.stalkmundsduffield.co.uk

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Office: 01332 840536 Monday to Friday 9.30am-3pm

Jerry Lee Lewis's "Old Time Religion"

—a quite unique live album—

It was a brief exchange of text messages with my eldest cousin Paul that led me to discover this unusual live recording by Jerry Lee Lewis. A keen guitarist like me, Paul was due to perform an evening of acoustic roots music at his church in Portsmouth and he asked me if I could think of any classic old Gospel numbers which he might include. I suggested one or two songs to investigate (such as "Just a Closer Walk with Thee"), also adding that I was fairly sure Jerry Lee Lewis had sung Gospel music at some point. I subsequently decided to explore further and—thanks to the wonders of Google and Amazon—I turned up this album.

Like many musicians born and raised in the Deep South "Bible Belt" of the USA, Jerry Lee grew up singing and playing in church, and *Old Time Religion* features various classic hymns that clearly held great significance for Jerry Lee in one way or another. The album includes "Amazing Grace", "The Old Rugged Cross", "I'll Fly Away" and many others; some 20 numbers in total, over 65 minutes.

Captured at an unspecified church venue, the live recording was made on Sunday 13th December 1970 (it must've made for quite an Advent service!). Located just south of the city of Memphis, Tennessee, and led by a Brother Davis, the unknown church in question was the fellowship that Jerry Lee's then-wife Myra Gale Lewis regularly attended.

As he alludes to during the live album, it appears that sometime around the end of 1970 Jerry Lee had some kind of 'road to Damascus'-style conversion experience. Publicly proclaiming his newfound Christian faith, Jerry Lee subsequently made this live recording at his wife's church and he also renounced performing any kind of secular music for a short time afterwards.

Perhaps not surprisingly, at the time his record label simply didn't know what to make of the recording, and it subsequently went unissued for many years. The album really is a proverbial 'hidden gem', though—and when we sadly lost my Mum to cancer back in 2015, it also proved to be an unexpected source of comfort, too. Virtually all of the songs speak of the great future hope of heaven Mum had in Christ as a Christian.

If one were to look up on YouTube almost all of the hymns Jerry Lee performs on this album, pretty much any other version is essentially sung by dungaree- and-lumberjack-shirt-wearing Hillbillies. Performances by musicians such as those—with straw in their hair, fingers in their ears and whining pedal-steel guitars, make the songs sound—unless one happens to be a Life Member of the Bluegrass Appreciation Society—frankly rather awful.

But, in the hands of "The Killer", all of the numbers become something else entirely.

As only he can, Jerry Lee positively tears his way through one high-energy, rousing rendition after another, in his trademark style that got him expelled from Bible College as a young man. He even manages at one point to fling a right boot-heel onto the church's piano, much to the Pastor's considerable chagrin!

Notwithstanding his great enthusiasm displayed on this album, Jerry Lee's self-imposed exile from secular music didn't last for long, however. Both in terms of music and lifestyle, he was soon back to his former rock'n'roll ways, which might lead one to question as to whether his 1970 conversion was, in fact, genuine. We'll never know for sure, although

matters of Christian faith have clearly stayed with him throughout his life, from right back when he first recorded his famous rock'n'roll numbers at Sun Records in the Fifties (studio outtakes reveal a memorably heated exchange with producer Sam Phillips over concerns about playing "the Devil's music").

What we can say with certainty, though, is that at the time he recorded *Old Time Religion*, Jerry Lee definitely sang it like he truly meant it. Do check the album out if you're a fan of either Jerry Lee Lewis or old-time Gospel music. Or both. Just put the banjo away first.

James Rollin

1. Looking For A City 3:44
2. I'm Longing For Home 4:44
3. Life's Railway To Heaven 3:57
4. Someone Who Cares For You 4:13
5. If We Never Meet Again/
I'm Gonna Meet You In The Morning 4:32
6. On The Sawdust Trail 2:15
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