

Church News Ireland



**Image of the day – Oxford College choir to visit
The Cathedral on the Hill**

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Oxford College choir to visit the Cathedral on the Hill

Join New College Choir at St Patrick's (C of I) Cathedral in Armagh on the 23rd of July at 7pm, for a concert of choral favourites by Finzi, Wood, Harris, Martin and Byrd. Admission is free.

People and places

Annual Gift Day Appeal at St Patrick's, Dublin

This year's Gift Day Appeal is a fundraising event that will be held in the Cathedral on Saturday 16 July from 11.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.



The 2022 Dean's Gift Day will focus on the conservation and improvement of the windows in the South Porch. This continues the successful conservation work recently carried

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out around the Lady Chapel, and will significantly improve the external appearance of the porch. Find out more on the 'Support' section on the cathedral website at - [<https://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/deans-gift-day>]

Photo - While the Dean thinks of the beautiful things to come, he takes a moment to appreciate the beautiful poppies that add dots of colour to the cathedral grounds



Bushmills Through the Wars exhibition

After a two year break due to restrictions, the 'Bushmills Through the Wars Exhibition' is opening this summer in its customary venue the Dunluce Parish Centre, Bushmills.

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Opening on Wednesday 14th July to Sunday 24th July,
Weekdays-10:30am-5:30pm.
Sundays 2pm-5.30pm.

Entry fee. Adults £3, small children free entry, teenagers £2.
All proceeds go to charity.

Kilkenny clerics on air

Dean Stephen Farrell and Vicar Richard Marsh of Kilkenny Union of Parishes are now presenting the Spirit Alive programme on Community Radio Kilkenny City every second Saturday.

Tune in on July 16th between 10 – 11 a.m. to hear Dean Farrell and on July 30th when Canon Marsh will present.

You can listen back to previous programmes presented by both by scrolling through <https://crkc.ie/tag/spirit-alive/>

From Wisconsin to Cork

On Wednesday evening, 06th July 2022, the Reverend Meghan Farr was licensed as priest-in-charge of the Parish of Saint Anne, Shandon, and as Chaplain to Saint Luke's Home, Cork.

The Bishop of Cork, the Right Reverend Paul Colton, welcomed the Farr family, the Deputy Lord Mayor of Cork Cllr Derry Canty, Cllr Oliver Moran and Cllr Dan Boyle as well as various people from Cork City Council. Ecumenical guests included representatives from the Cork/Kerry



Methodist Circuit, the Unitarian Church, the Society of Friends and the Cathedral of St Mary and St Anne, Cork.

Saint Anne's Church, Shandon was full for the occasion with parishioners, clergy and readers from the Diocese of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, as well as representatives from various community groups. A choir of upper voices from St Fin Barre's Cathedral Cork visited the church for the occasion.

The Rev. Meghan Farr was presented to the Bishop by the Archdeacon, the Venerable Adrian Wilkinson and after the service speeches were given by the Deputy Lord Mayor as well as Jaquie Collier, retired Principal of St Luke's NS and representative of the whole Parish, and by Tony O'Brien, CEO of St Luke's Home, Cork.

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Following the speeches, the Rev. Meghan Farr spoke to the congregation and thanked everyone for their warm welcome. She also reflected upon her first experience of Ireland during her student days and about her strong sense of God's calling to her new place of ministry. Afterwards everyone enjoyed the hospitality of the Parish in the Maldron Hotel next door.



See east Belfast through a new lens

The Gaelic East Belfast Bus Tour will be hitting the road on July 31st. The bus leaves High Street at 12.30 and picks up at the Skainos Centre of the East Belfast Mission at 12.45. Click on the link to book your ticket.

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[<https://www.musicglue.com/east-belfast-mission/events/2022-07-31-gaelic-east-belfast-bus-tour-the-national-grande-cafe>]

Podcast series on addiction discusses impact of Matt Talbot

Episode two of the 'Leave Your Mark' podcast is now available focusing on the issue of addiction. The Irish Bishops' Drugs Initiative (IBDI) launched the 'Leave Your Mark' podcast series in February 2022.

The podcast features profile interviews with sports stars and community leaders telling their stories of how they left their mark on the world and rose above their struggles with addiction.

In episode two, Darren Butler and Michael Murphy discuss the Venerable Matt Talbot, and the impact of the Matt Talbot Addiction Recovery Group from Collon, County Louth. Michael speaks of his alcohol addiction and how Matt Talbot was central to his recovery. Darren is also joined by Deacon John Taaffe to discuss his experience of working with people in addiction and how faith plays a crucial part in recovery.

Speaking about the podcast series, Bishop Michael Router of the IBDI said: "Addiction is a frightening aspect of life in Ireland today. The rise in the abuse of drugs and alcohol is well documented and many parents, families and communities have suffered and are struggling to respond.

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"This series of podcasts and videos produced by the Irish Bishop's Drugs Initiative will help to highlight the problems that exist, and how those who have struggled with addiction have overcome their challenges. It will provide guidance and hope to people that there is a way out of addiction and that there are services to turn to when needed."

Bishop Michael Router is Auxiliary Bishop of Armagh and is liaison bishop for the IBDI. The Initiative is the pastoral response of the Bishops' Conference to assist parish communities in raising awareness and developing an informed outreach to help address the issue of drugs and alcohol at a local level. To achieve its objective, the IBDI provides bespoke information, education and training, as well as offering alternative activities to avoid substance misuse. The IBDI has met the challenges Covid-19 has presented by moving where possible to an online facilitation service. This initiative has seen programmes facilitated directly to schools remotely and recordings sent to those who could not facilitate the online service.

The podcast content is used as a resource for schools and community groups as part of a 'Healthy Life Style' programme offered by the IBDI.

Spotify: https://open.spotify.com/episode/6Z4oa9DddN3XAcBGCTLqcQ?si=NuWux05mQJ-hMp3i_kWzQA

Apple: <https://podcasts.apple.com/ie/podcast/leave-your-mark-podcast/id1610731424?i=1000566943877>

Orangemen set for Rossnowlagh parade; over 50 lodges taking part

It is estimated that over 50 lodges will be taking part this weekend in the only annual Orange parade in the Republic of Ireland.

The Rossnowlagh gathering will bring together brethren from the Republic of Ireland for a 12.30pm start this Saturday, three days before the Twelfth itself (unlike in Northern Ireland, July 12 is not a public holiday in the RoI).

The Orange Order, in a preview notice about the parade, says: “It is expected that upwards of 50 lodges from Donegal, Cavan, Leitrim and Monaghan, as well as visiting Orangemen from Northern Ireland and further afield, will take part in the parade which begins close to St John’s Parish Church at 12.30pm.

“The parade then makes its way down a narrow country road, thronged with onlookers, to the demonstration field, on the edge of the shoreline.

“The annual gathering is renowned for its family-friendly atmosphere and minimal security presence.

“A religious service, only yards from the rolling breakers of the Atlantic, will be held at 3pm.

“The service will be conducted by Rev Brian Russell, Rector of Drumholm Parish.

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“A collection will be held on the day in aid of Orange charities. The return parade will leave the demonstration field at 4.45pm.

“Orangeism remains vibrant in the border counties.

“This year a number of bands and lodges from the Republic of Ireland will be travelling to Canada for the 200th anniversary celebrations in Toronto.”

It will not be the sole example of loyal order drums filling the air of the Irish republic in 2022, however; three months ago the News Letter reported on the inaugural Sir Edward Carson Memorial drumming match, held at a private property in Northumberland Road, Dublin – not far from St Stephen’s Green.

They are hiring

There are a number of exciting job opportunities around the Irish Methodist Connexion.

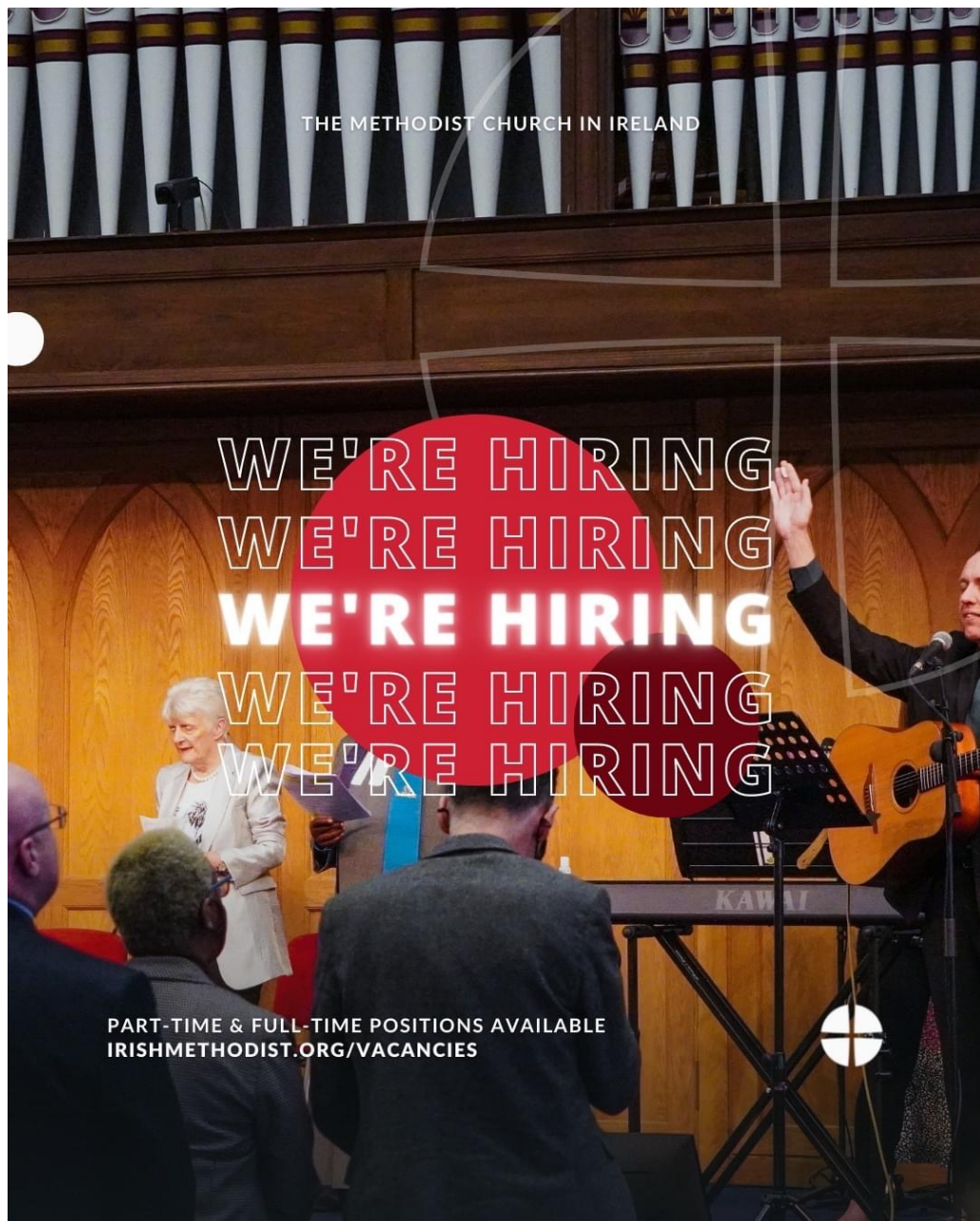
Visit their website for full details:

[bit.ly/3RcWCAA]

Worship Director (Part-time) | Richhill Methodist Church

Youth & Children's Worker (Full-time) | Thomas Street Methodist Church

Children & Family Worker (Part-time) | Dundrum Methodist Church



Office Administrator (Part-time Maternity Cover) | Irish Methodist Youth & Children's Department

Youth Pastor (Part-time) | Edenderry Memorial Methodist Church

The Church's Ministry of Healing-The Mount

The Church's Ministry of Healing: The Mount (CMH:TM) seeks an ADMINISTRATION AND MINISTRY SUPPORT

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ASSISTANT who will be responsible to the Chief Executive Officer Revd Dr Patricia Mollan.

The work base is Cregagh House, 162 Upper Knockbreda Road, Belfast, BT6 9QF and the hours of work is proposed to be 35 hours per week, and salary £10 per hour plus 5% pension contribution.

The successful candidate will undertake administrative responsibilities, including reception, telephone and basic bookkeeping. They will assist the CEO in delivering the strategy and goals of CMH:TM. The post holder will be required to represent and promote the objectives of a dynamic Christian Healing Ministry. Applicants must be in sympathy with the objectives of the ministry and those of the Church of Ireland, however, affiliation to the Church of Ireland is not a requirement. The post-holder will work within the principles of working with children and vulnerable adults.

The closing date for applications will be 12 noon on Friday 29th July 2022. Successful candidates will be called for interview week beginning 8th August 2022

Application forms can be obtained from - Revd Dr Patricia Mollan, The Church's Ministry of Healing-The Mount, 162 Upper Knockbreda Road, Belfast BT6 9QF
Email: healing2020@healing2020.plus.com
Phone 028 9079 5832

CNI

World news



John Wesley's first Methodist chapel to allow same-sex marriage

The Christian LGBTQ community is celebrating after the world's oldest Methodist building announced it will be officiating same-sex marriages.

The New Room in Bristol was the first chapel set up by evangelist and founder of Methodism, John Wesley.

In a Facebook post, the church said: "We are delighted to announce that John Wesley's New Room is now available to host, officiate, and celebrate same-sex weddings!

"John Wesley believed in sharing God's Love with everybody and we hope that this step brings Wesley's message of inclusivity into this century."

Its decision comes after the Methodist Church voted last year to allow same-sex marriage - although local congregations and ministers can decide whether they want to register their building and themselves as an authorised registrar.

Rev Mandy Briggs from New Room described the decision as a "natural step."

"The chapel has been a venue for services organised by Christians at Bristol Pride since 2018 and so this registration feels like the natural next step."

She also said the move was "the latest step in our journey of allyship with the LGBTQIA+ community."

But Rev Gareth Higgs, vice-chair of Methodist Evangelicals Together told Premier Christian News he is saddened by the decision:

"I do think that in the places of such significance for our movement...we don't know what John Wesley would think if he was alive today, but we do know what he thought when he was alive and he affirmed the only pattern of marriage that we find in Scripture, which is that marriage is between one man and one woman... and so to suggest that we don't know what he thought, is wrong.

"I agree that it's complete conjecture, to think if he was around today, what he would think, but we do know historically what he thought and of course, that used to be part of our doctrinal base that the teaching of John Wesley just appears that we're able to be selective when we want to be on certain issues in the Methodist church today," Rev Higgs continued.

The Methodist Church is the second largest denomination in the UK to allow same-sex weddings.

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Same-sex couples who are already married can also have a service of blessing at the church.

Pope to appoint two women to Dicastery of Bishops

Pope Francis has announced his intention to appoint two women to the Dicastery of Bishops, which is involved in the process of choosing new bishops.

In an interview with Philip Pullella from Reuters, who asked about the appointment of women to positions in the Vatican, Pope Francis said he was open should an opportunity arise. He said: ".. two women will be going to the Congregation of Bishops, on the commission to elect bishops. In this way, things open up a little bit."

The Holy Father mentioned that last year he appointed Sister Raffaella Petrini, to the number two position in the Vatican City Governorate, making her the first woman to hold the position.

Pope Francis has appointed more women to key roles usually held by men than any of his predecessors. In January 2020, Pope Francis named Francesca di Giovanni as Undersecretary for the multilateral sector in the Secretariat of State's Section for Relations with States and International Organizations, another first.

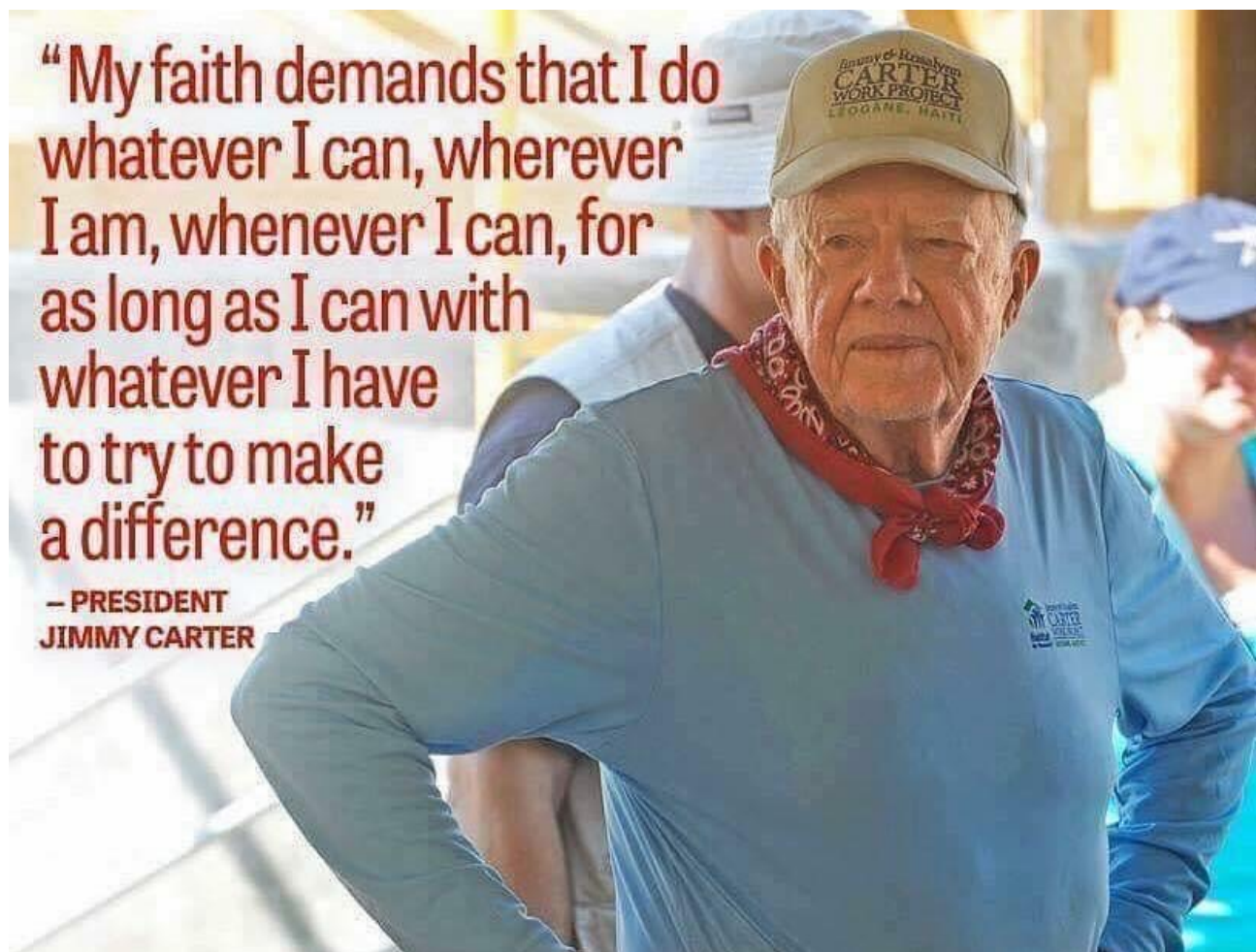
Other notable appointments of women by Pope Francis include Sister Nathalie Becquart, a French member of the Xaviere Missionary Sisters, as under-secretary of the Synod

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of Bishops and Sister Alessandra Smerilli, of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, as Undersecretary of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development.

Several other women now holding high-level positions in the Vatican, include Barbara Jatta, the first female director of the Vatican Museums; Nataša Govekar, Director of the Theological-Pastoral Office of the Dicastery for Communication; and Cristiane Murray, deputy director of the Holy See Press Office, all of whom were appointed by the current Pontiff.

During the interview Pope Francis said that in the future he sees the possibility of lay people being appointed to lead certain Vatican departments such as the Dicastery for the



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Laity, Family and Life, the Dicastery for Culture and Education, or the Vatican Apostolic Library.

Last month, Cardinal Kevin Farrell, prefect of the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life, joked that, with the promulgation of the new Constitution on the Curia, he might be the last cleric to lead that dicastery.

'I'm incredibly proud': Jeremy Hunt on religious freedom and the 'political fragility' of freedom of religion work

More than 600 faith leaders and delegates have flooded to Westminster for the International Conference for Freedom of Religion or Belief.

Jeremy Hunt - who first commissioned the Truro Report to examine how the British Government can better support persecuted people abroad - has shared his "pride" in seeing the conference come to fruition.

The report - which was published three years ago - saw Rev Philip Mounstephen, Bishop of Truro, tasked with finding a solution to the growing issue of religious persecution.

He put forward 22 points, all of which were taken on by the government.

Now, he's praising Bishop Philip for his work.

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On perhaps the busiest day, Westminster has seen in recent years, Hunt chaired a panel of Christian activists and spokespeople to discuss the plight of believers overseas.

He was joined by some of the UK's leading names in the fight against religious persecution; Baroness Cox, The Bishop of Truro and Jim Shannon MP.

Alongside them, Timothy Cho - who found his Christian faith in a Chinese prison after escaping North Korea - shared his heart-breaking testimony with the conference attendees.

Speaking to Premier after the event, Hunt said: "I'm incredibly proud, but I don't take any credit for it.

I was just very lucky to have Rev. Philip Mountstephen, the Bishop of Truro, who did an inspiring piece of work and really made it fly.

"I was actually very conscious of the political fragility at that time, and I wasn't sure how long I'd be foreign secretary.

"So I said to him privately 'let's make sure that we're not wasting time or each other's time with this. Let's try and do something that stands the test of time' and he really delivered."

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Perspective



Honouring the memory of Ukrainian artist, Lyubov Panchenko

Lyubov died in Bucha from hunger and shelling due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine. She was 85 years old.

In 1938, Lyubov Panchenko was born in Bucha, a small village near Ukraine's capital of Kyiv. She painstakingly put herself through art school without her family's support, graduating from the Kyiv School of Applied Arts with a degree in embroidery.

She was persecuted by the Soviet authorities for her works that revived Ukrainian culture.

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The 85-year-old artist did not manage to leave Bucha before Russian occupation and stayed for a month in the occupied town.

She suffered from the lack of food and was saved by the neighbors when a Russian shell targeted her house.

As reported by Bucha mayor Anatolii Fedoruk, Lyubov Panchenko died on April 30 exhausted by the occupation-time suffering.

Tributes to Lyubov Panchenko.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lyubov_Panchenko

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

Church News Ireland

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