# CucheSubscriptMagazineISSUE 216 | AUGUST 2021<br/>FREE EVERY MONTH



CULCHETH • CROFT • GLAZEBURY • BIRCHWOOD AND SURROUNDING AREAS

### Coptoin fontosticl Page 9

All the latest news: www.culchethlife.com



#### www.culchethlife.com



HOPEFULLY, ongoing flooding issues in the Culcheth area will be eased with news that  $\pounds305,000$  Government funding is heading to the area for work on the Culcheth Culvert.

This should be of particular benefit to the Churchill Avenue area

according to local Cllrs. But like many areas up and down the country, I fear flooding is going to be an ongoing issue due to the changing weather patterns which are being attributed to global

warming. It is certainly more important than ever that the authorities ensure gullies are kept clear as heavy rains recently again saw many roads in the village flooded for the second time this year.

Nationally the Government is investing £5.2 billion in flood defences, with the money earmarked for Culcheth hopefully making a big difference.

While the flooding has been distressing for many it was good to see the community spirit as local residents and councillors rallied to tackle the problem.

Well done to all those who turned

Well done to all those who turned out to help those in need. During the recent monsoon conditions, many areas of Warrington were impacted by flooding, with thunder, lightning and hailstones in the middle of our summer.

If global warming continues at this pace I fear weather scenes like those recently witnessed will become more frequent, adding to flooding problems, especially as more and more homes are built, putting added pressure on our drainage systems.

Meanwhile, the schedule of work for Churchill Avenue has not been confirmed for the culvert yet but is expected to start later this year.

#### Deadline for the September issue of Culcheth Life is August 24





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# Major works get underway to replace ageing gas pipes

#### MAJOR engineering work has started to upgrade ageing underground gas pipes at Lowton that help sately deliver gas to thousands of homes.

Teams from Cadent, which manages the North West's 21,000mile gas distribution network, operating in Stone Cross Lane South, Lowton.

The worksite is near the junction with the A580 East Lancashire Road so, for the six-week duration, there will be no access to or from Stone Cross Lane South here.

Access to properties along Stone Cross Lane South will be via the Newton Road end only. Cadent has liaised with Wigan Council and informed the occupants.

This work has been deliberately scheduled to a window that minimises disruption – with schools

finished for summer. It's part of an £800m, five-year North West investment programme to ensure safety and reliability of gas distribution in the local area.

Modernising the network like

this also helps get it ready for the introduction of hydrogen, which is essential to local and national targets to achieve net zero carbon emissions [hydrogen emits zero carbon at point of use]. Phil Hendrick, Customer

Operations Area Manager, Cadent, said: "This is essential work in a challenging location, just off the busy East Lancashire Road.

"We do not foresee any impact to the 'East Lancs' but we want to give warning that you will not be able to turn off here to Stone Cross

Lane South. "Please follow the diversion route via the next roundabout and through to Newton Road."

There should be no interruption

to gas supply. If you smell gas during this work, nearby or anywhere, always ring the national gas emergency service immediately, day or night, on 0800 111 999\*. Do not delay, or assume it's related to this work. It may not be and must be checked.



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" 'A caring environment in which pupils flourish', parents are 'overwhelmingly supportive of the school' and are 'delighted with the quality of education that their children are receiving' Ofsted June 2017



#### Warrington School of the Year 2019

Warrington Sports Award for 'The school that goes the extra mile'

# Campaigners turn out to voice opposition to HS2 and Western Leg

DESPITE concerns a HS2 consultation event taking place in Culcheth had not been well publicised, local campaigners and Cllrs. turned out to voice their opposition.

HS2 held a drop-in consultation and information event at Culcheth Sports Club to highlight the impact of its route on the local community prior to the presentation of a 'hybrid bill' before parliament early

in 2022. This bill is intended to approve the 'Western Leg' of HS2 connecting the high-speed line with the West Coast mainline south of Wigan. It will also take in the government's Integrated Rail Plan which will recommend the way

forward with a new east-west rail link – 'Northern Powerhouse Rail' and other proposed rail investments across the north.

Warrington Stop HS2 and Stop HS2 (North) were in evidence outside the club with their Stop HS2 table, keeping visitors informed about the opposition that they and many local residents have to the HS2 Western Link, which is also opposed by Warrington North MP, Charlotte Nichols.

Croft Parish Councillors Norman



Partington and Gary Farnsworth attended the event to check out the implications for Croft both of the route and its construction phase and are pictured left at the Warrington Stop HS2 and Stop HS2 (North) table.

Gary said "The construction of the spur would detrimentally impact our local communities and local environmentally sensitive areas.

It would provide no benefit to local people as there is no convenient station planned." Norman added: "The Golborne

Spur will cost billions, but delivers

All three Culcheth Glazebury & Croft Conservative Borough Councillors also attended the public consultation hosted by HS2 at Culcheth Sparts Club at Culcheth Sports Club.

Cllr Wendy Maisey OBE said "I've opposed the Golborne Spur from day one. In fact it was my opposition and campaigning against it that brought me into politics in part. It will have a devastating impact on our communities and rip through the villages. The wildlife and green villages. The wildlife and green belt up at Partridge lakes will be decimated, we really do owe it to future generations to ensure this

does not go ahead. "We will continue to lobby the Secretary of State and will push for it to be removed from the plan. I'm clear about HS2, whilst I would like

INSULATION

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to see it stopped all together, as a minimum compromise the Golborne

Spur to be must be scrapped. Labour Parish Councillors also attended the HS2 Phase 2b Crewe to Manchester route update at the Culcheth Sports Club to engage in information sharing and discussion with representatives of HS2. Parish Councillors and members of the public were able to view information boards and maps which could also be taken as hard

copies. Cllr Janet Seddon explained: "The issue of the Golborne Spur has blighted the area since it was proposed in 2013. The adverse effects of construction on the environment, business, and the local communities of Croft, Culcheth and Glazebury will not be mitigated by the carbon offsetting

plans in place. " Cllr Chris Smith said: "Traffic vehicles and road closures will have serious detrimental impacts on families, businesses and wildlife in the area. The recent gains made In the drea. The recent gains made in reducing heavy goods vehicles through the villages will be for nothing if this goes through." Cllr Neill Johnson added: "Labour Parish Councillors in Culcheth, Glazebury and Croft intend to continue to comparing and

intend to continue to campaign and organise to get rid of the Golborne link



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### Plans to upgrade and modernise explosives depot

PLANS to upgrade and modernise facilities at the Orica munitions factory at Glazebury have been submitted to Warrington Borough Council.

The site, in Wilton Lane, has been an explosives depot since the early part of the 20th century and Orica are believed to be the world's largest manufacturer of commercial explosives.

Occupying some 63 hectares, the site in the Green Belt and is surrounded by farmland. It is Orica's main site in the UK.

Because of the nature of the facility, it is essential it is in an isolated position, well away from other property.

The development will involve the demolition of an existing storage building, at the rear of the company's administration block and construction of a new manual mixing building within a secure compound.

Planning chiefs have been told the depot has been storing explosives for many years without incident and that the new facility will make it even safer.



#### The wait goes on for Help Save the Raven Inn campaigners

WHILST the Help Save the Raven group continues to wait for a decision on the latest planning application to demolish the Raven, the campaign group continues to plan for the future.

Campaign group spokesperson Peter Sturman said "There are so many positive possibilities for the Raven.

"In a survey of our local community, 98.1% backed the Raven becoming a community pub/hub and additional ideas were proposed, such as pop-up restaurants, a dog-friendly place, a hub for classes/lessons/groups

etc." "One of the consequences of the pandemic has been to bring people closer together. That certainly

applies to our community, and we believe that the Raven really can play a huge part in maintaining and building upon that community spirit. "The threat of demolition has already galvanised hundreds of

people to submit objections. There are so many reasons to keep the Raven. We have shown there is a will and determination to make it an inspiring facility. "If it were to be demolished it

The Help Save the Raven group has engaged a specialist, with 21 years experience, who has submitted a 39-page document that lists a number of substantive objections, any one of which, it is argued, should provide grounds for refusal of the current planning

application for a small housing development. have previously Campaigners been successful in having the pub

listed as a community asset and offered to buy it off the owners to run it as a community interest company.

### Urgent roof repairs needed at Newchurch Old Rectory

A NUMBER of roof leaks have been discovered at Newchurch Old Rectory, on Warrington Road, Culcheth. Repairs are urgently needed – but before they can be carried out, Listed Building consent must be obtained. An application for permission to carry out the work has been made to Warrington Borough Council. The building is Grade 2 Listed. Roofing contractors have made a number of recommendations for

Roofing contractors have made a number of recommendations for carrying out the repairs.

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CULCHETH

### **Open Evening**

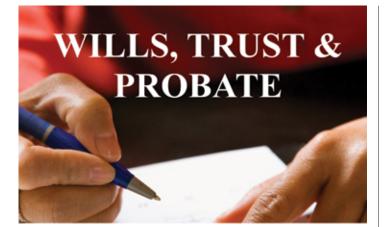
Thursday 7th October 2021 at 5pm

Keep an eye on our website for updates on the format of the event.

Warrington Road, Culcheth, WA3 5HH Phone: 01925 767587 Ofsted www.culchethhigh.org.uk

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### Croft villagers show tr what should have been t

#### VILLAGERS at Croft didn't let a pandemic and rain dampen their community spirit on what should have been their annual carnival day.

Caped crusaders and superheroes took to the streets on their bikes, while members of Thelwall Morris travelled to the village to put on a morris dancing show.

Village scarecrows were also out in force while some residents even set up stalls in their front gardens to help raise funds for good causes. Croft Parish Council Chairman

Cllr. Keith Bland said: "As

Chairman of Croft Parish Council can I say a BIG thank you to the residents of Croft on what should of been Croft Carnival.

Talk about community spirit.. some residents had put stalls on in their front gardens, raising funds for various groups. "There was street decorations,

"There was street decorations, morris dancing, even the scarecrows showed up! "Well done to all involved!"







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### ue community spirit on heir annual carnival day









### The Gardening Guide



Continue to feed and water tomatoes regularly, making sure that the plants are evenly moist.

Simon Bax, Plant Area Specialist

- Dahlias will be at their best now and will need feeding, watering and dead heading to keep them performing for as long as possible
- Keep the pond well oxygenated when the weather is hot by running water features or spraying the surface with a hose
- Animals are starting to prepare for the winter so ensure you are offering a wide range of food
- Stop feeding roses now as you will encourage them to produce soft sappy growth which will be more prone to winter damage or disease and dieback

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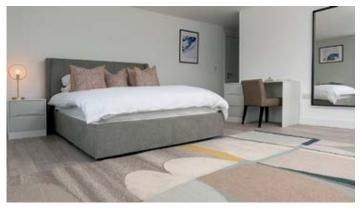
This is where a new concept in housing from local developers Emerald Bay fits in. Their stylish new properties tick every box on the rental wish list; a well-maintained designer pad; your own front door; your own ensuite bedroom and lounge and kitchenette, parking, bike storage and a convenient allinclusive price.

And when tenants want to unleash their creativity and cook or bake they can enjoy the spacious fully fitted dining kitchen. Shared

with just one other tenant and with a cleaner to keep on top of everything, it is the best of both worlds, occasional company and privacy with sound proofing throughout its your own relaxing haven.

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areas to reassure tenants of their





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safety. Property expert Gerry Mason-Rolls from multi award winning James Peacock Property the responsible for managing the apartments. She believes that this new concept will take off quickly in Culcheth following a very popular similar development in Stockton Heath.

"It's not just the quality of the apartments that is appealing, location wise it is a winner. The apartments are in the heart of the

village close to restaurants, bars and shops, and with generous parking and good access to the highway network, and all bills (including wifi and cleaning) included it's an easy low maintenance move!"

If you'd like to discover more about this exciting opportunity, please contact Gerry on 01925 243366

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#### Residents rally as heavy rain leads to more flooding at Culcheth



**RESIDENTS** rallied and showed true community spirit as heavy rain resulted in more flooding issues at Culcheth.

Using buckets and brushes residents were joined by local councillors to tackle the flooding on Therese Paed is the village

councillors to tackle the flooding on Thames Road in the village. Local ClIr Wendy Maisey said: "I had a call from Parish ClIr Paul Campbell just before 7:30pm advising of flooding on Thames Road Culcheth and went up

immediately. "It was fantastic to see the community pulling together with buckets and brushes to clear away the surface water.

"Two 2 or 3 houses had suffered water damage and another one had the electrics fuse due to water. "Warrington Borough Council

was informed and confirmed they were due to arrive on the scene

"Fortunately some of the nearby drains had been cleared recently

and we were able to dispose of the water there.

"Some however weren't functioning well in Bollin and Shaw Street which added to the flooding and excess surface water.

"Before I left with Cllr Carol Benson we did a welfare check to ensure the residents were ok for the evening and passed our contact details to them.

"Thanks to the effort and help from the community in clearing up the residents were able to stay at home."

There have been ongoing flooding issues in the area due to poor drainage and blocked drains and gullies.

Meanwhile, firefighters from Birchwood were called to a house affected by flood water in Brookfield Road, Culcheth.

The crew isolated the electrics and used a small pump to remove the flood water from the house.

# Captain fantastic as golfer produces best round of his life!

LOCAL golfer Callum Morgan managed to choose his moment to produce the best round of his life at Leigh Golf Club as he won the Captain's 36 hole final by three shots with a round of 127.

To make the occasion extra special his girlfriend Laura Holfcroft won the Ladies Cpatian's prize, while mum Erica came runner up.

Dad Malcolm was also present to witness the remarkable achievement.

Commenting on the eventful day Callum said: "What a weekend it was, Captain's weekend at Leigh Golf Club and I've managed to pull the best round of my life out of the bag!

bag! "I shot 66 & 61 for 127 nett to win the competition by three shots.

"I played some of my best golf I've ever done today while playing alongside my dad Malcolm Morgan!"

To add to the occasion Callum's girlfriend Laura Holcroft won the ladies prize while his mum Erica Morgan came second!

"I was a great day all round!

Callum is pictured with Allan Wain, Leigh Golf Club Captain 2021.

Full Results from Sat/Sun 24th/25th July;

CAPTAIN'S 36 HOLE FINAL 1st Callum Morgan 127 nett 2nd Andrew Bough 130 nett (cpo) 3rd Robert Wood 132 nett

Best Gross Saturday Chris Harrison: 68

Best Gross Sunday Stewart Tinsley: 66

Saturday Nett Prize Winners 1st Paul Faid jnr 64 nett Div 1 2nd John Taylor 65 nett Div 2 3rd Neil Pashley 66 nett Div 1

Sunday Nett Prize Winners 1st Sean Low 63 nett Div2 2nd Andy Shaw 64 nett Div1 3rd Jason Ainsworth 67 nett Div1

6-Day Winner 1st Daimon Edwards 70 nett

CAPTAIN'S PRIZE TO THE LADIES 1st Laura Holcroft 68 nett 2nd Erica Jane Morgan 69 nett 3rd Joanne Lennox-Warburton 69 nett

Best Gross Nicola Martin: 78 Nearest Pin Gents: Carl Ritchie Nearest Pin Ladies: Barbara Taylor



#### Daughters "overwhelmed" by support after raising £5,500 for Motor Neurone Disease research

THE daughters of former Warrington Wolves' player and coach Paul Darbyshire have been "overwhelmed" by the support they received running 10k a day for ten days, to mark the 10th anniversary of their dad's death from Motor Neurone Disease.

Ella and Georgia Darbyshire from Winwick, Warrington, completed the charity challenge raising £5,500 for The Motor Neurone Disease Association (MNDA).

They said: "We would like to say a massive thank you to everyone that has supported us and donated to our just giving page. "We are so overwhelmed by

"We are so overwhelmed by everyone's generosity which has helped us raise an amazing £5500 for Motor Neurone Disease Association along with vital awareness.

"We would also like to thank the Halliwell Jones Stadium and their staff for allowing us to cross the finish line there, a really fitting tribute to both our Dad and Grandad.

90.

"This money raised will be used to help people affected by MND and promote research into this disease, in the hope that one day we will see a cure and no one else will have to go through this."

Ella and Georgia also lost their lovely Grandad John to the dreadful disease.

Paul, who died aged just 41, played rugby league for the Wolves for 10 years and stayed with the club in a coaching capacity after his retirement in 1997, before committing to Munster as head of strength and conditioning.

strength and conditioning. If anyone would like to still sponsor Ella & Georgia donations can be made on their just giving page as follows:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising /ellaandgeorgia-darbyshire



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#### PARISH NEWS

HS<sub>2</sub>

HS2 Parish Councillors attended the HS2 Phase 2b Crewe to Manchester route update at the Culcheth Sports Club to engage in information sharing and discussion with representatives of HS2 on Friday 9th July 2021. Members of the public were able to view information boards and maps which could also be taken as hard copies. Parish Councillor's put forward their reasons for being strongly against the Golborne spur specifically, and the HS2 project generally. Copies of the most recent maps of route 2b (which includes the Golborne Link or Spur) can be found on the internet by searching for HS2b Western Leg Community area map book MA05: Risley to Bamfurlong or MA04 Broomedge to Glazebrook. The maps are also available in Culcheth library for local people to view. local people to view.

#### The Play Area on Culcheth Green

Ihe Play Area on Culcheth Green Funding has been allocated for the replacement of the play area on the village green and preliminary work started to identify the equipment available within the £100K budget and to take on board ideas given by local children. The play area has served the local children well for many years but is now reaching the end of its usable life. It is hoped the funding allocated will cover additional areas for use by older children and adults. A site visit with an officer of Warrington Borough Council is planned in early August August.

Law and Order There have been some criminal incidents recently, this could be due to more people venturing out and using the night time economy (Pubs and restaurants). TRUCAM continues to be used throughout the villages enforcing speed limits, this enforcement program will continue. Shaw Street Car Park has been identified as needing attention. Working with Warrington Borough Council and local Police it is intended that late night visitors are discouraged, many who come from outside of our villages, who cause noise and upset to residents. It is important that if you witness any antiocide of the tot you report them witness any antisocial or criminal incidents that you report them to the Police via the telephone number 101.

**Christmas Lights switch on** As the Christmas Market has been cancelled due to ongoing uncertainty about COVID restrictions in the Winter months it has been decided to return to making the Christmas lights switch on a simpler event. This could include Christmas carols round the Millennium Clock and light refreshments in the Parish Hall rottrictions allowing. restrictions allowing.

Traffic in our Villages The introduction of the HGV weight restriction on the roads in Culcheth and Glazebury came into force on Monday 3rd May and the signs are now installed on local roads. Residents of Glazebury have been logging and reporting back to those companies whose HGV vehicles have been ignoring the restrictions. Many of those reported have had legitimate reasons to be in the villages, most local companies are now aware of the restrictions and there has been a noticeable reduction in the volume of HGVs.

#### Next Parish Council is on September 14th 7:30pm at the Culcheth Centre

#### **Publication of Information**

The Parish Council has adopted a publication of information scheme. Details of who we are, what we do and on the public can access information is published on the main notice boards, Common Lane, Culcheth and Culcheth Library and on our website:



#### www.culchethandglazebury-pc.org.uk



### Home extensions approved

PLANS for two-storey side а extension and single-storey front and rear extensions at a semi-detached house in Wigshaw Lane, Culcheth have been approved by borough planners.

There were no objections from neighbours, although one indicated they would be opposed to the removal of greenery or foliage close to the house.

Officers decided the principle of development was acceptable and there would be no unacceptable impacts on the character of the area nor the amenity of neighbouring residents.

#### House extension plan withdrawn

PLANS for front, rear and side extensions at a house in Derwent Close, Culcheth, following the demolition of an existing conservatory and garage, have been withdrawn.

The application was not opposed by Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Council but did attract an objection from a neighbour

#### School car park plan splits villagers

PLANS to improve car parking arrangements at Winwick CE Primary School have been given the green light – despite sharply divided opinion among villagers.

Twelve people lodged objections to the scheme put forward by the school governors – but 11 supported it. The scheme involves vehicle barriers, gates and fencing and resurfacing

and re-marking the car park. Part of the school dates from the mid-19th century and is listed as a

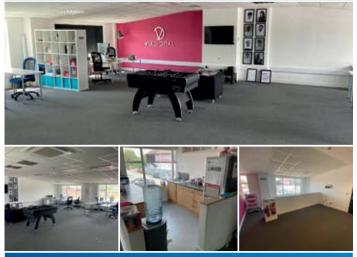
building of historic interest, but the development does not affect this section of the school.

Objectors say the development will block access to nearby shops and Winwick Leisure Centre, cause traffic to back up on Myddleton Lane.and involve the loss of "green" land and trees. Supporters argue it will improve road safety, particularly for children, ease congestion at a problematic location and stop anti-social behaviour.

Planning approval is subject to a condition that no trees are removed.

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#### **CLEANING SERVICES**



#### COMPUTERS

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WHY TRY TO BE A PAYE EXPERT? Watkinson Black can provide a cost effective payroll service, releasing you to concentrate on your business. For further details please phone: 01925 413210 or e-mail: info@warringtonaccountants.co.uk

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# Discover what's on offer at your local college!



Each September we see people of all ages joining our adult courses. With so many to choose from, why not see if there is something for you?

Often adult students join us as they would like to change careers but need to return to education to access their chosen field. Other times people are keen to learn new skills to help them in their current role, secure a promotion, or upskill themselves to strengthen their value to their employer.

Over the last 18 months we have all faced challenges and changes that we wouldn't have expected to come our way this time last year. So, in this rapidly changing world, the need to contribute additional skills to your CV has never been so important.

### Join us to study accredited qualifications in:

#### Access to HE

Health Professionals, Health & Social Care Professions, Nursing & Midwifery and Social Sciences. Plus, we offer a Pre Access to HE Diploma.

#### **Higher Education**

Art (Applied Art & Fine Art), Computing, Construction, Creative Media, Early Childhood Education & Care, Electrical & Electronic Engineering, General Engineering, Games Development, Graphic Design, Healthcare, Professional Dance Practises, Professional Theatre Practices, Public Services, Sport and Sport & Exercise Science.

#### Professional Courses

Leadership & Management (ILM), Human Resources (CIPD), Accountancy (AAT), Digital Marketing, Counselling, Education & Training and Supported Teaching & Learning.

We also offer a number of online distance learning courses which can be studied in the workplace or from the comfort of your own home. These courses are great for filling those gaps in your knowledge or experience.



#### Looking to just learn something new for fun?

Short courses are designed to teach new skills in a fun and relaxed environment. You could pick up some culinary, floristry or hairdressing skills. Learn a new language ready for you next holiday, with introduction and advanced short courses in French, Italian and Spanish. Or if you have a keen eye for art perhaps you would like to learn some of the basics such as watercolours, drawing and sketching or ceramics?

#### View our summer course guide at: wvr.ac.uk/summer

#### **SCHOOL LEAVERS** You can still apply for September 2021!



With a huge range of courses and dedicated college bus routes throughout the region, Warrington & Vale Royal College is the perfect choice, whatever your career path.

#### Don't worry if you haven't applied before

**GCSE results day on the 12<sup>th</sup> August!** You can call in, speak to our tutors and enrol on the same day.

#### What do our students say about us?

100%	believe that their opinions about their course are valued by college staff
<b>99%</b>	agree that tutors have high expectations of students and encourage them to work hard
<b>98%</b>	said they feel safe at college
<b>98%</b>	said they are happy on their course.
	*May 2021 student survey results.
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