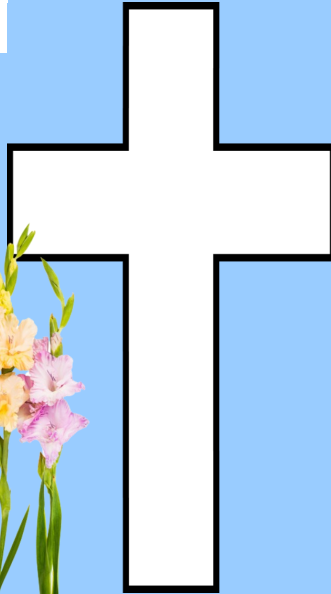




St. Alban's Earsdon

CHURCH VIEWS



**August
2024**



£1.00



St. John's Backworth



**Immaculate Heart of Mary,
Parish of Our Lady Star of the Sea**

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

August 2024

Summertime and the living is easy.’ George Gershwin’s words could be aptly applied to August, when many of us take holidays. It’s a month to focus on summertime (weather permitting!!): family and barbeques; the beach and ice cream; long days with no school! It’s a time to wind down from the hectic pace of normal routine.

However, while summer is a season, it is also a state of mind. We all have periods in life, which are summer-like, when life goes well. How can we walk by faith in the summers or good times of our spiritual lives?

Summer Distinctives: When we go through times of sickness, financial pressure, difficult relationships and other problems, we more easily focus on God. In a spiritual summer season, we can subtly find ourselves enjoying the gifts without acknowledging the Giver. The greatest danger in the summertime season of life is to forget the One who is responsible for the good things we are enjoying.

Summer Distractions: Our normal routine revolves around clocks and calendars, but we can easily get distracted when we break these disciplined routines. In the spiritual summer seasons of life, there is a temptation to miss out on our regular times with God in Bible reading and prayer! Things that make summer seasons enjoyable can also become big distractions.

Summer Directives: How can we make the most of this summer season and keep focused on God? We need to maintain a gratitude attitude: thankful to God for all His blessings: ‘When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the Lord your God for the good land He has given you. Be careful that you do not forget the Lord your God.’ (Deuteronomy 8:10/11).

So let’s stay close and stay grateful to God in this summer season of life.

Canon Paul Hardingham.



None of his training had prepared him for this ...

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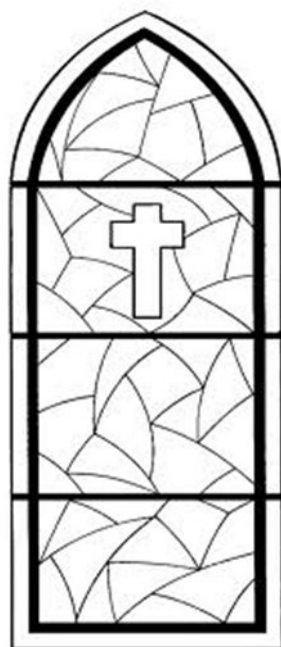
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At St Alban's in Earsdon, there are two people in the congregation who are also members of the Anna Chaplaincy.

Ali Griffiths and Liz York held another of their gatherings at Havelock Place, which cares for older people who have dementia.

Ali writes, "another great visit to the lovely ladies at Havelock Place in Backworth on 12th July, with 9 ladies attending and 5 took communion.

We had some lovely summer flower pictures created - well done ladies!!

Thank you to Sheila Lucas for accommodating us again, and for the tea and biscuits.

Thanks also to Liz York and Janet Sigley for all of you help in making the event run so smoothly. God Bless."





See next page for more pictures.



The Leg of Mutton Allotment Association
and the Earsdon & Wellfield Women's Institute
are delighted to present

**58th Annual
Earsdon & Wellfield
Flower, Vegetable
&
Handicraft Show**

Saturday 31st August 2024
2:00pm – 4:45pm
Cake Sale from 4:00pm
Vegetable & flower Auction from 4:30pm

Earsdon Community Centre

Entry fee: Adults £1.00, Children under 16: Free

Weather for the month of August.

Direct from the Captain's Charts.

The weather outlook covering the end of July to the end of August 2024.

Monday 29th July to Wednesday 7th August 2024.

The end of July and into early August will be dominated by a northwest-southeast split, with northwestern & northeastern areas experiencing light to moderate winds with extensive cloud and occasional, intermittent rain. This is due to weakening Atlantic frontal systems attempting to push eastwards across the UK.

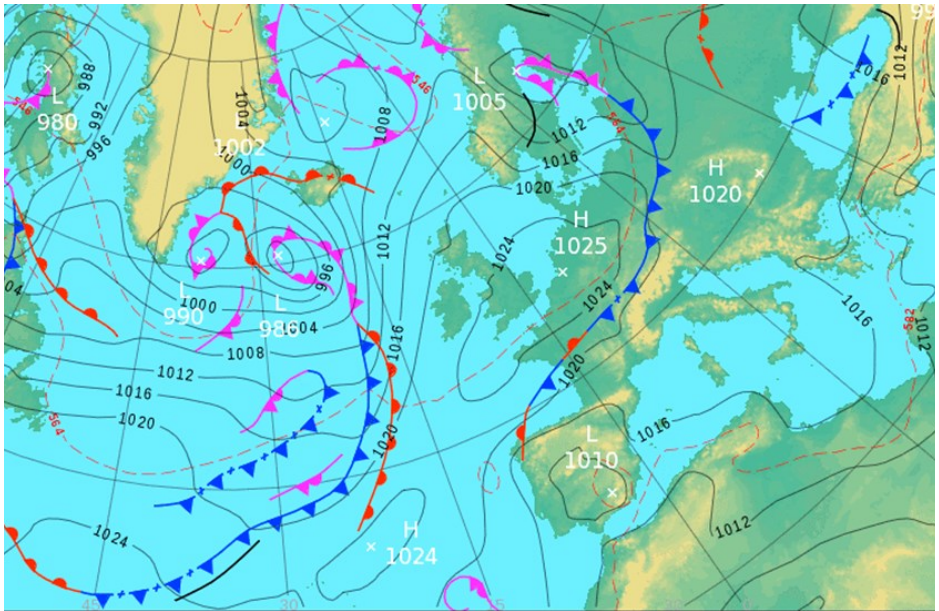
The winds will vary in direction from a south westerly, perhaps becoming cyclonic for a time and veering south easterly with a prolonged northerly direction during the early part of August producing an occasional prolonged chill factor. On average, the temperatures will be normal for the time of year, although occasionally below average during transient wind direction changes and breezier conditions.

For those of you who may be journeying south within the UK for the summer; you will likely find it to be drier and brighter much of the time, especially towards the south and east, however there is also the possibility of some rain, possibly thundery also spreading into the south and southeast from the nearby continent. Temperatures during this period will likely be close to or slightly above average overall, with the chance of some very warm conditions in the south and east at times.

Thursday 8th August - Thursday 31st August 2024.

No single weather type is expected to dominate throughout this period. Some spells of dry, settled weather will likely alternate with wetter, cloudier conditions at times.

The wettest conditions will probably be in the northwest extending across the northeast, with the southeast tending to be driest. During this period in general, warmer than average conditions are possible, perhaps with some short-lived hot spells throughout the UK, including Northumberland.



North Atlantic Surface Pressure Chart Prediction for 12:00 hrs (UTC) on Sunday 28th July 2024.

Please bear in mind the **high** UV levels throughout the day that still prevail during cloudy and overcast days. Always wear high factor sun screen and be aware that normal clothing does not protect you from the effects of UV skin damage, unless it has been designed to do so.

Avoiding exposure to the sun during late morning to early afternoon is advisable.

David Gibson

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CHURCH VIEWS FOR AUGUST 2024 FROM THE PARISH OF OUR LADY, STAR OF THE SEA

A Parish and Family Occasion



Fr Joseph O'Brien celebrated his first Mass after ordination in St Edward's Church, Whitley Bay, pictured here with his parents Michael and Maria, his brother Liam with his wife Grace, and holding their son, Louis.

Ordained by Bishop Wright in St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle, on Saturday 20 July he celebrated his first Mass in his home parish of Our Lady Star of the Sea the following morning in a packed church. He is well-known in the parish, having grown up in Whitley Bay, attending Star of the Sea Primary School and then St Thomas More Academy before beginning his studies for the priesthood at the Venerable English College in Rome in 2018.

Five of his fellow-students returned with him for this celebration, and took part in his first Mass including David Pinder a fine organist. Fr Christopher Warren, Vice Dean of the Venerable English College and also a priest of the Hexham and Newcastle Diocese, was one of

the five who concelebrated with Fr Joseph. At the end of the Mass he presented Fr Joseph with a Papal Blessing and Mgr Faley presented him with a cheque on behalf of the parish. Fr Joseph in turn presented his mother with flowers and his heartfelt thanks for her unwavering support and presented his father with the stole he had worn as a Deacon. A celebratory reception was held in the Dome after Mass.



In a parish of two churches, it could not end there of course, and the following day Fr Joseph celebrated an ‘ordinary’ Monday Mass at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. The congregation may have been smaller but was just as pleased to celebrate with him. After Communion, the traditional Latin chant of the fellow students

who had accompanied him was a joy to hear.

Fr Joseph will now return to Rome for further study before returning to the Diocese to begin his priestly mission. May God bless him in his future service to us.

Gerry Latimer, Parish of Our Lady Star of the Sea

Parish Mass Times

St Edward’s: Sunday 10.00am, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 9.30am

Imaculate Heart of Mary: Saturday 6.00pm, Wednesday, Friday 9.30am

Erdesdon House

The story of my dolls' house. By Helen Jackman

9 - The Garden Room

The Garden Room

Although this is Bill the gardener's domain, it is also the Laundry and becomes a work place where odd jobs are done.

It has a flag stoned floor and the outlook is the same as the kitchen. There is a long garden and Bill has his rake as he has been sweeping up leaves. He keeps the house supplied with fresh vegetables and fruit. You can often see bags of potatoes and baskets of fruit, also the occasional bag of flour stacked against the wall.

The milk is delivered in a churn. Bill has a big work table where he keeps his tools and plant pots and has a lovely set of weighing scales and a set of brass weights.

The most important object in this room is Sophie the mouse plus mousetrap!

There's the Belfast sink with Rinso, green soap and the usual tin bath.

Nora, the maid, is up early to light the Set Pot on wash days. She also has a washboard, poss-tub and a big mangle with large wooden rollers. If the weather is bad, she can put the clothes on a the Pulley-maid to dry which pulls up to the ceiling above the fire.

I'm sorry that this is the last episode and hope you have enjoyed reading it as much as I have writing it. It's been such fun making up the stories!! I'm so glad to be living now but remember those times!!

Helen

Thank you very, very much Helen, for letting us share these delightful glimpses into your very special dolls' house. I have thoroughly enjoyed them and will miss them now that we have seen the last room.



Smile Lines

During the local football game, the coach asked one of his young players: "Do you understand what cooperation is?" The little boy nodded yes. "Do you understand that what matters is winning together as a team?" The little boy nodded yes. "Okay," the coach continued, "do you also understand that when the referee makes a decision, you don't argue or curse or threaten to attack him, right?" Again, the boy nodded vigorously.

"Good," said the coach. "Now go over there and explain all that to your mother."

A very long train with two engines was making its way across America. While crossing the Western mountains, one of the engines broke down. Slowly, the train chugged on. Further along, the other engine broke down, and the train shuddered to a halt in the middle of nowhere. Not to be discouraged, the train driver announced: "Ladies and Gentlemen, I have good news and bad news. The bad news is that both engines have failed, and we will be stuck here for a couple of days until the additional engines arrive. The good news is that we are not making this announcement this on a plane."

A vicar tells the true story of how, when he was a curate, the rector of a nearby parish used to like not only to attend all the parish groups, but also to identify himself with them by belonging to them, so that he could address them as "We Scouts", "We Rotarians," etc. One day he went too far and began: "We mothers..."

My father had a medical condition that meant regular visits to hospital. The local funeral director was a good family friend, and had been very helpful giving dad lifts to and from the hospital.

On one occasion, a few hours before he was due to come home, the ward sister approached my father with a grin. "Your wife is on the phone," she said. "She wants to know what time you will be ready for the undertaker to collect you?"

A notice outside Chichester Cathedral advertised lunchtime concerts with the encouragement that: "Sandwiches may be eaten." Someone had scribbled underneath: "So if you are a sandwich, don't come!"

Earsdon

plants centre



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St Alban's Book Cub.

Summer reads ...

As we have been experiencing somewhat wet weather rather than balmy summer days the chance to read whilst the weeds grew was a happy choice .

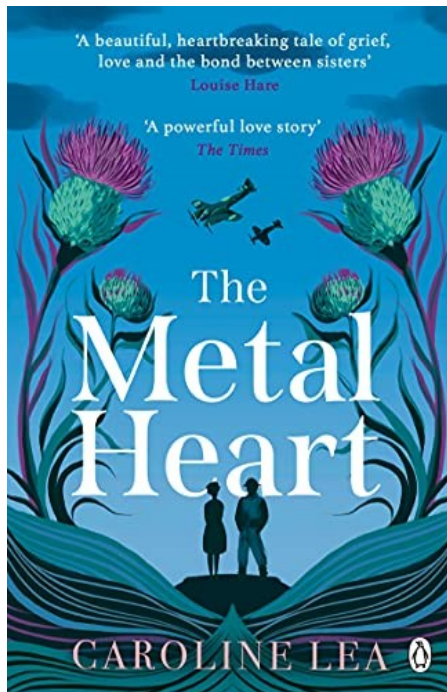
We've had two books, both set in WW2, both with the word "heart" in the title .. both excellent reads, with different "hearts".....

The Metal Heart by Caroline Lea, set in Orkney during WW2, the author tells us about Italian POWs who build the little chapel; how the prisoners' lives intertwined with local residents and the British Army stationed there. Historically we learn about life after the Scapa Flow incident, and the construction of the "Churchill Barriers". The plot tells of love, bravery, trauma and sacrifice. The conclusion is shockingly twisty and unexpected but feels right .

We gave this a 9/10 and thoroughly recommend it.

If anyone has visited the Italian Chapel we would love to hear from you

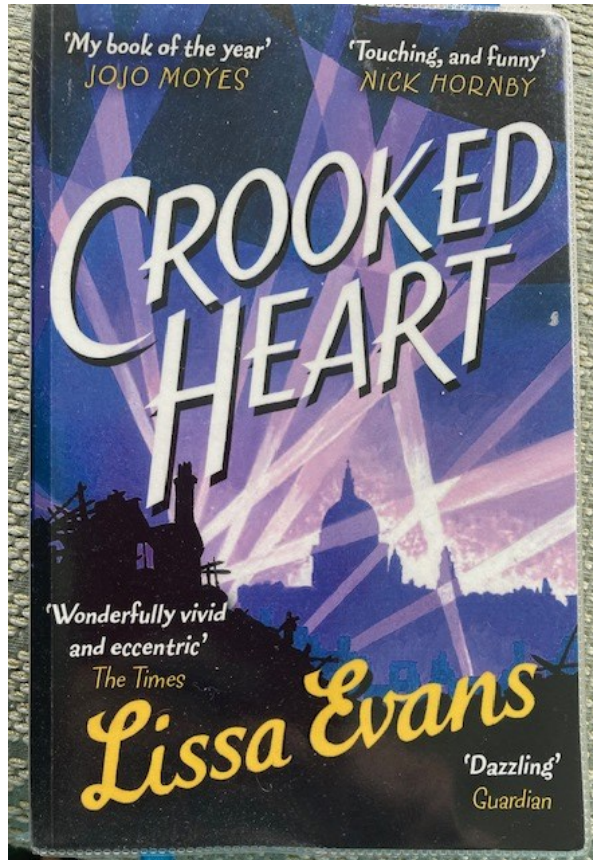
....



Crooked Heart by Lissa Evans. Again a story set in WW2. 1939 in London and the Home Counties during the Blitz. Well, scams on the Home Front were part of survival in those days, for some! The characters' hearts may be crooked but in fact they melt somewhat, when circumstances relating to how learning to give respect to others and developing the right values affect their lives .

The story line has several interesting characters but the main one is ...an orphan boy called Noel who lives with his eccentric Godmother, an intellectual, and former suffragette, who dies in an air raid. Noel is then sent as an evacuee to live with Vee in St Albans ... his life is turned upside down.... but as he meets schemers and scroungers his ability to think "out side the box" leads him on an adventure ...read the book to discover what happens and where. There is humour and comedy in this heart warming story and you'll also learn a few things about petrol rationing scams too!

We gave it 8/10 .



*Thanks go to Dianne Morgan for sending these reviews.
More next month.*

St. Alban's and St. John's Diary Page for August 2024

Sunday	4th	<u>Tenth after Trinity</u>		
		9.00am	Holy Communion	St John's
		10.30am	Holy Communion	St Alban's
Sunday	11th	<u>Eleventh after Trinity</u>		
		9.00am	Holy Communion	St John's
		10.30am	Holy Communion	St Alban's
Sunday	18th	<u>12th after Trinity</u>		
		9.00am	Holy Communion	St John's
		10.30am	Holy Communion	St Alban's
Wednesday	21st	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Alban's
Sunday	25th	<u>Thirteenth after Trinity</u>		
		9.00am	Holy Communion	St John's
		10.30am	Holy Communion	St Alban's
Thursday	29th	9.30am	Holy Communion	St John's

Please note, there are no weekday services until Wednesday 21st .



St. Alban's and St. John's

Sunday Gospel Readings for August 2024

4th

Exodus 16. 2-4, 9-15

John 6. 24-35

11th

1 Kings 19. 1-9

John 6. 35, 41-51

18th

Psalm 34. 8-14

John 6. 51-58

25th

Ephesians 6. 10-20

John 6. 56-69

* If you have any suggestions, comments or requests *
* regarding the magazine, or for anyone thinking of *
* sending in their contribution for publication, please *
* email it to **magazine@StAlbansEarsdon.org.uk** *
* or call **Jean** on **0191 2377273**. *

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Getting along with your neighbours

Summertime outdoor living reminds us just how close we live to our neighbours. How well you live beside them can make a huge impact on your life.

If you are happy with your neighbours, it is hugely beneficial. One behavioural psychologist says: “Even just sharing a kind smile and eye contact with a neighbour is a strong connection.” But, if you do NOT get along with them, it can badly affect every day of your life.

So – here are some tips to consider, concerning those people next door.

Noise -

Out of sight does not mean out of sound. Hedges and fences may give you visual privacy, but laughter and loud talking will be heard. Your wide-open windows and doors may even let your private INDOOR conversations OUT of doors!

Barbecues -

These are great fun, when they are in your garden. But other people’s barbecues can make your life a smoke-filled misery – tainting laundry on the clothesline and ruining a peaceful afternoon. Barbecues situated far from boundary fences are always best.

Music -

If you want to play music at an event, warn your neighbours in advance, say what time you will turn the music off, and *stick to it*. On the night, don’t deafen the entire neighbourhood, and remember that the general rule for ALL noise is to be quiet between 11pm and 7am.

Noisy dogs and children -

We love dogs and children and are ferocious in defending them - unless they belong to other people, and are driving us crazy! If you need to talk to your neighbours about problems with either, choose a time when you are both calm and controlled, and try to remain objective. (Eg: Don’t say YOUR dog, say THE dog – it sounds less accusatory.)

Parking -

No one has the right to ‘claim’ and protect the space right outside their house, if it is on a public road. No one has the right to block your access to your own parking space, or make it difficult for you to get in.

Hedges and boundaries -

There are quite specific laws on what is and what is not allowed – Citizens Advice can help you with the details.

SUDOKU

Complete the 9x9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3x3 blocks contains all of the digits from 1 to 9.

		7	3					
		4			6		3	9
	9			7				4
5		9		2				
						4		2
2				6			1	
1	3		5			2		
					4	5		

Please note - all material for next month's magazine (September) will need to be in before Wednesday 28th August. Thank you.

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All in the Month of August

It was:

250 years ago, on 1st August 1774 that oxygen was discovered by British chemist Joseph Priestley. He was the first scientist to publish his findings on the discovery.

125 years ago, on 13th August 1899 that Alfred Hitchcock was born. This British-born American film director, producer and screenwriter was known as the Master of Suspense. Known for his films *The 39 Steps*, *Dial M for Murder*, *Rear Window*, *Vertigo*, *Psycho*, *The Birds*, and many more.

90 years ago, on 19th August 1934 in a referendum in Germany, voters approved the creation of the position of 'Führer', which combined the roles of Chancellor and President into one and gave Adolf Hitler sole power.

80 years ago, on 1st August 1944 that 15-year-old Jewish diarist Anne Frank made the final entry in her diary while hiding from the Nazis in Amsterdam. On 4th August her hiding place was raided by Nazi police following a tip-off. She and her family were taken to Auschwitz concentration camp, and she was transferred to Belsen in October. She died in February 1945.

75 years ago, on 24th August 1949 that the North Atlantic Treaty came into effect, establishing NATO.

65 years ago, on 21st August 1959 that Hawaii became the 50th state of the USA.

50 years ago, on 8th August 1974 that US President Richard Nixon announced his resignation, effective from noon the following day. He was facing impeachment over the Watergate scandal.

30 years ago, on 28th August 1994 that Sunday trading was legalised in England and Wales.

Also 30 years ago, on 31st August 1994 that the IRA agreed to a complete ceasefire after 25 years.

25 years ago, on 16th August 1999 that Vladimir Putin became Prime Minister of Russia. He became President in May 2000.

15 years ago, on 20th August 2009 that Libyan intelligence officer Abdelbaset al-Megrahi, who was convicted of the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 which crashed onto Lockerbie, Scotland in December 1988, was released from prison on compassionate grounds after being diagnosed with terminal cancer. He died in May 2012.

WORDSEARCH

August 2024

Remembering **John Bunyan**

After the Bible, John Bunyan's Christian allegory, the *Pilgrim's Progress*, is one of the most celebrated and widely read books in the English language. It has been translated into more than 100 languages around the world and is a Christian classic. Names of people and places from its pages are known wherever English is spoken: Mr Great-Heart, Mr Valiant-for-Truth, Giant Despair, Madame Bubble, the Slough of Despond, Vanity Fair, the Delectable Mountains, the Hill Difficulty and the Celestial City. Bunyan was a popular preacher of Baptist conviction, but because of his opposition to the Established Church and because he did not have a Church of England preaching licence, he was imprisoned in 1661. It was in prison that he wrote *Pilgrim's Progress*. He is remembered by the worldwide Church on 30th August.

John
Bunyan
Pilgrims
Progress
Great
Heart
Valiant
Truth
Giant
Despair
Madame
Bubble
Slough
Despond
Vanity
Fair
Delectable
Mountains
Hill
Difficulty
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Church Contacts

St. Alban's Earsdon:

Vicar

Rev'd. Tim Mayfield, 5 Front Street, Earsdon, Whitley Bay NE25 9JU
Tel: 07414 601 351

Church wardens

Mr Ali Griffiths, 2B Coquet Avenue, Whitley Bay NE26 1EF.
Mobile: 0772 9805957

Mr R Gowdy, 82 Chipchase Court, New Hartley, Northumberland NE25 0SR

Tel: 07841 986 019

PCC Secretary

Mrs Jo McEvedy, 31 Front Street, Earsdon, Whitley Bay NE25 9JX.
Mobile 07855 405605

PCC Treasurer

Mr R Swindells, 81 St Mary's Avenue, Whitley Bay NE26 3TS. Tel 252 3919

St. John's Backworth:

Vicar

Rev'd. Tim Mayfield, 5 Front Street, Earsdon, Whitley Bay NE25 9JU
Tel: 07414 601 351

Church warden

Mr Ali Griffiths, 2B Coquet Avenue, Whitley Bay NE26 1EF.
Mobile: 0772 9805957

Treasurer & Assistant Church Warden

Mrs M Oliver 10 Melrose Avenue, Backworth, Newcastle NE27 0JD Tel: 268 4334

Our Lady, Star of the Sea :

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