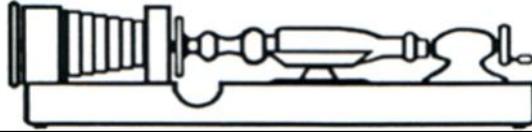


# Shavings & Ravings



NEWSLETTER 136

**NORTH SHORE WOODTURNERS GUILD**

January 2009

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 EDITOR: Pierre Bonny 478 0163  
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## End of Term 4 2008 'Anything Goes'

- Winners & a few others



1st Prize Beginners  
Sue Pritchard



2nd Beginners  
Lee Riding



3rd Intermediate  
Murray Reid



1st Intermediate  
Kevin Hodder  
(loco & guardsvan only shown)



3rd Beginners  
Michael Harrison



3rd Experienced  
Peter Williams



1st Experienced & Overall  
Pierre Bonny



2nd Experienced  
Pepi Waite



Murray Reid



Murray Speer



Mike Durbin



Jack Renwick



David Browne



Trefor Roberts

## November 1st and 2nd

Shane Hewitt was down again from Whangarei for a weekend of training for classes of 8 members or so each day.

Saturday was platter day—looking at using the 3mm gouge to give fine details from rosette dovetails that enhance the base, to fine beads at changes of direction, to stepping the outside of the piece. Plus the use of the Sorby texturing tool and staining. While many pieces turned out on



the day looked very similar, the concepts learnt were further explored later by attendees. See David Browne's and Trefor Roberts's bowls on the front page, and the silky oak bowl below .



Sunday's class had everyone making goblets. Which again many of those who attended the class practised and further developed at home later.

To those who had something else on — you missed a beauty.

One of the really pleasing aspects of the class was noticing how Shane managed to help people become confident to push their own technical boundaries. Some thought they hadn't really done it themselves, on the day, but repeated their new skills at home later. And at the worst we have fun making shavings and small pieces of firewood. A great weekend—

# Turning Tools Ltd Open Day 2009

**Where:** South Auckland Woodturners Clubrooms  
Tavern Lane, Papatoetoe, South Auckland

**When:** Saturday 28 February 2009 9.00am - 4.00pm

**Bring:** An enthusiastic money spending state of mind, cash, cheque book, Visa / Mastercard, Lunch, Tools for the sharpening clinic, Exhibition piece, Stuff for the auction, and a Trailer to take home all your goodies.  
Endless tea and coffee will be provided.

## What's Happening?

I've got **Shane Hewitt** and **Robbie Graham** demonstrating. They'll each do a demo of about one and a half hours. Two very different styles and interests. Shane was here last year and following all your enthusiastic responses to him I just had to have him back. Robbie is an exceptionally talented artistic turner and frequent prize winner.

Bring along your best piece of recent work. I'm keen to have an **Instant Gallery** of attendees' work with a lucky number prize for entrants. Prize is a *Turning Tools Ltd* voucher for goods to the value of \$100.

There's going to be a **Silent Auction** - , Full proceeds to go to the South Auckland Club. Dick will organize - thanks Dick. Please bring along anything you'd like to donate for this fundraiser. - - tools, wood, books, magazines, food, preserves, safety gear, anything you think somebody else might like. Let's make this a real boomer.

Please, please think about this now, sort out what you'd like to contribute, bring it along on the club night of Feb 25 or on the Open Day Saturday 28.

## Tools Sharpening Clinic

Here to help solve your tool sharpening problems. So bring your gouges etc and we'll try to show you how to achieve that perfect edge.

## Shops

*Turning Tools Ltd* will be there with a full range of Teknatool, Munro and Woodcut products. Probably even some specials.

*Treeworkx* will be there with tools, abrasives, turning blanks, finishing products.

**Entry fee** is only \$10 for the whole day.

Numbers are limited to 100 so please register now. Last time we had a capacity crowd so don't delay.

Registration forms available from Ian Fish, ipfish@extra.co.nz, Ph 418 1312 or at Guild Hall

thanks Shane.



This issue is once again a team effort, with Kevin Hodder providing much input and Chris Seiberhagen and Pepi Waite reporting on events. Thanks guys.

Any offers to photograph and/or write up any woodturning activities gratefully accepted - Ed.

### Tref's Say

Welcome back - Happy New Year to everyone and I am looking forward to a challenging 2009.

Looking back at 2008 I felt it was a very successful year for the guild with the new lathes, fundraising and all our demonstrators - a big thanks to everyone who helped. I particularly liked Dave Anderson's demonstration with the spindle turning and am making an effort to get him to come back and do some more magic.

I hope you had a very pleasant break. I was lucky enough to go sailing to Coromandel and even managed to bump into Ian Fish. Unfortunately Ian was one of the few fish I saw over the holiday!!! I was however very lucky to have the Christmas present of any woodturner's dreams - a new lathe.

Currently it has just been assembled and has not been christened yet.

Looking forward this year you will see from the programme some interesting top woodturners are giving demonstrations. It's really important to support these evenings and gives us all an excellent opportunity to upskill.

If there are any particular aspects of woodturning you would like to see demonstrated in the future, please don't hesitate to contact me at anytime and let me know.

We are always looking for new members, so if any friends would like to come and see what we are about, please feel free to invite them along.

I look forward to seeing you for our first night on 3rd Feb.

**Tref**

### Kev's Safe Bets

Now I know as well as you do that this Shavings & Ravings newsletter is all about woodturning and that is the way that it should be. But we have to acknowledge that woodturning is done by wood turners and wood turners are people and people have health problems. Not necessarily directly caused by the process of woodturning but there is no doubt that some aspects of woodturning can be said to roughly have the same positive effect upon ones health as say for example Joseph Stalin had upon democratic freedom in Eastern Europe. Not very beneficial.

In deciding to write this series I was unsure just how to go about it. Should I go for the vertical breakdown starting say at the head and ending at the feet. Or perhaps the reverse, beginning with proper footwear and working up to safety helmets. On the other hand there is something to be said for a horizontal progression - beginning at the hairs which cover most of our body and steadily going inwards through the skin, circulation, gut, finishing say at the heart? Suffice to say I settled for the former as really that is where our knowledge of ourselves begins.

#### 1 - EYES

There are things that you need to protect no matter what and the word to say as you step towards the lathe is FEARFUL. This stands for FACE, EARS, FEET and LUNGS.

There are some wood turners who approach the lathe looking for all the world like Neil Armstrong about to set foot on the moon. Don't smile, they may be right to protect themselves in this way. So let us begin with the head. Sure, the average eye blink takes 300-400 milliseconds and our eyes are programmed to do this to protect the eye. The problem is that for this automatic response to take place you need to actually 'see' the approaching object and this you will not do if you are focussed on another object. If you have to wear optical glasses then either have the lenses made from toughened glass or have plastic lenses. Even then, standard glasses are not really the answer owing to their shape. It is all too easy for small slivers of wood to get behind the glasses and lodge themselves in your eye. Unseen and unfelt until later when the mechanism of the eye is trying to eject the 'foreign body'. If it is large enough to be seen and felt and even to become embedded then we are looking (no pun intended) at quite a different scenario. One of the disadvantages of wood is that it is organic and not metallic and therefore can carry bacteria and infection. Also, the swarf from a metal lathe can often be removed from the eye by use of strong

magnets. This is not an option for wood which will require either washing or physical removal.

Most safety glasses are sufficiently voluminous to permit the wearing of optical glasses at the same time. Failing that, get a proper face shield/mask. They are not expensive - especially when compared to the impact of eye damage. Don't even think of approaching the lathe without adequate eye protection. Many accidents result from just going back to take just 'a small shaving off' and neglecting to take precautions because after all, the job was really finished and it was just a touch up that was required. Make sure your eyes are not 'gone in the blink of an eye'.



Kevin Hodder eyeing up our resident Scotsman, while suspecting some Viking input to the Renwick gene pool

## October 14th

When I read from the program that Dick Veitch was going to show us his tubes I was not too sure what to expect. After all, this is a family show and I did not particularly want to see Dick embarrass himself. However, I should have known better. There he was resplendent in his SAWG liveries and his white beard. Looking for all the world like Father Christmas but the tubes he showed were wonderful examples of what can be achieved with skill and lateral thinking. Dick produced from his box finely crafted wooden tubes ranging in size from 200 – 400mm tall and 35 to 50mm in diameter. Hollow tubes made from lateral grain banksia, macrocarpa, gum, pine. All filled with character, twisted, bent, curved and straight.



Dick firstly spoke of the importance of having the equipment that can be used on the lathe close to hand as proximity equates to use and use equates to familiarity and competence. The example given was the vacuum chuck. If you have to go and get out the vacuum and connect it all up to be able to use the vacuum chuck then there is a good chance that you will either not use it and thus get a less than satisfactory result, or because you use it so rarely you will not be able to make the most of the opportunity it offers.

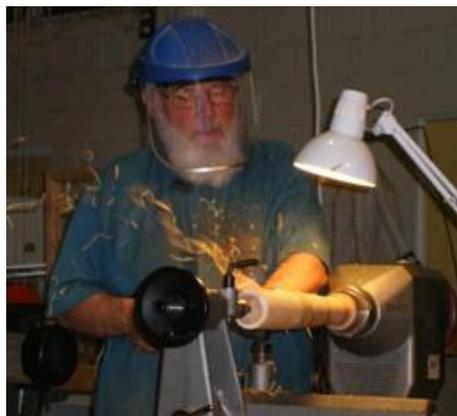
He began his demo by using a simple double Morse taper gadget (ex Ian Fish) to ensure that the lathe's head and tail stock were in perfect alignment. Then produced a green Poplar blank. Lateral grain, 100sq. and 400 long. Took the corners off to produce a cylinder with a foot for mounting the blank into a chuck. Once this was done Dick added an extension to the

tail stock handle to provide greater purchase and drive force to drill a 54mm hole through the centre of the cylinder. Used a drill extension, slowed the lathe right down to 500rpm and allowed the 54mm Forstner bit to do what it does best. As a result of carefully marking the drill extension and only drilling in increments of 50mm he managed to stop the drill from overheating and also to stop drilling just a few millimetres short of going through the bottom of the



cylinder. Just before we move any further lets recap what Dick has accomplished. He has a green Poplar, lateral grain cylinder 400mm long, 90mm diameter, with a 54mm hole virtually right through it and with a wall thickness of 18mm.

Now this is where we see just how clever Dick Veitch really is. He produces from his bag a 54mm x 400mm long hardwood mandrel. This



is mounted into the chuck and the hollowed cylinder gently pushed on as far as it will go. Then the tail stock is brought into play and further pressure applied to get the cylinder further along the mandrel until further movement is impossible. Dick then commenced to turn down the cylinder using gouges and skew chisel to achieve a final thickness of 2 or 3 mm. Like the professional he is coping along the way with the vagaries of green, wet, lateral grain wood and design opportunities appearing out of the blue. Once completed to his satisfaction the finished cylinder was removed from the mandrel and held aloft for all to see. So elegant and thin that it was translucent. A remarkable achievement! [Kevin Hodder]



## October 21st

Ian Fish was down to show and talk hollowing tools, and we were certainly showed quite a collection from nasty looking old scrapery ones from the seventies and eighties of last century, to the latest Woodcut response to the Baby Munro, the latter also being shown. Certainly the modern tools make a cleaner job, with the current generation big Woodcut doing it much faster too than the old timers.

## October 28th

Was AGM night. Trefor is taking the reins for another year, and it's great to welcome Julie Gannaway and Les Whitty to the committee. I think there are now more of us full time workers on the committee than retirees—so



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Trefor is looking for other members to step up and give a hand with projects. Don't be surprised if you are tapped on the shoulder.

After the formal part of the evening, Jack Renwick showed us how he makes apples and pears.

### November 4th

Most of us practice woodturning as a hobby, and some as a part-time money spinner, and none but the likes of Shane Hewitt and Robbie Graham (in my limited experience) do it for a living. That was until I met Dave Anderson – the first industrial wood turner I've met,



and one of only two indentured turners in New Zealand. With an 8000 hour apprenticeship under the belt and more than 19 years turning for Woodcroft Industries, it is not surprising that Dave deftly whizzes through projects that would take me and you hours to complete.

It almost looked as if he wasn't really paying attention to what he was doing – his attention seemed to be on us as he talked about the basics of duplicating while his hands seemed to perform the tasks all on their own. In the relatively short time available he not only showed us the quick and easy way to duplicate spindle work, but interjected the demonstration with clever hints and tips: use the heel of the skew chisel to round beads; use two calipers so you don't have to keep adjusting one; use lopsided beads to create an optical illusion of symmetry; under-cut the shoulder to

ensure a gapless fit – the supply endless and each one as useful as the next. Working on one of my classic cars the other day, a friend (and fellow petrolhead) remarked that it would be the ultimate dream to do it for a living. Our conversation turned to the pros and cons and eventually we decided that if you have to work to deadlines and are under pressure to produce, it



could take the fun out of something which you would normally enjoy doing. I don't think mass producing woodturned products is something everybody would enjoy doing, and I'm glad that Dave still seems to enjoy what he does after all these years.

Dave's doing mostly villa restoration these days and spending more time with his family. Thank you for sharing your knowledge and experience with us. [Chris Seiberhagen]

### November 11th

Michael Bernard from the South Auckland Guild was asked to demonstrate his award winning offset turned wave bowl. Michael turns his smaller pieces without the use of waste wood or counter weights, although he did suggest that those of us with a weaker constitution might be better starting with waste wood glued around the final piece, removing it later at the



finishing stage. Michael started with an oblong piece of wood. He then marked out a square at one end for the bowl and using a

worm screw he mounted it on the lathe. To prevent any nasty surprises a good safety tip was to use insulation tape on the tool rest so that you could see where the edge of the wood would spin round.

With the lathe on 300rpm Michael started by turning a spigot to hold the piece once he turned it around. The next stage was to draw the wave on the edge of the wood and start cutting from the outside edge towards the spigot. Once the bowl shape started to form he cut downwards from the spigot. The next stage was to start cutting the undulations. As it is not easy to see what you are doing he suggests that you stop and start the lathe often checking your work as you go.

Once the base is complete Michael would finish it completely by power sanding, lacquering and waxing. To save time these steps were explained, not demonstrated. When sanding he suggests that you tilt the sanding mandrill back so that it does not get



caught by the spinning wood. He then marked the centre of the spigot so that it can be lined up and supported with the tailstock when turned over. A time saving tip was to cut away waste wood on the band saw before remounting. Before he started shaping the top side of the wave he placed two pieces of tape on the tool-rest to mark his start point and the end of the wood. He then shaped the wave before finishing off the bowl. Lastly he

removed the spigot using a jam-chuck. An excellent demonstration thanks Michael, even I might be brave enough to have a go. [Pepi Waite]



**November 16th**

This was actually a Sunday—the day of the Glenfield Santa parade, and the Guild again had a display down at Marlborough Reserve to show our wares, prospect for new members, and make a few bob. \$450 odd was added to our coffers selling articles being check out by Les in the pic below. Thanks to those who made things



to sell and all who ran the stand.

**November 18th**

I was away this week, but Trefor was down to do some Fire Equipment Training. As the Guild hall was still standing afterwards, showed no signs of damage, just a few brown patches on the grass outside—I guess the test fires must have been efficiently extinguished.

**November 25th**

A number of practical activities took place. How Mike Lewis had made mushrooms from small logwood a few years ago challenged me, but my merry group managed to make a few, and I wrecked one. We discussed a new

improved approach, which I suspect was previously discussed during Mikes last demo, before being forgotten with all the other un-recorded history! Just as well Brett was involved, he's got no excuse for short term memory loss.



**December 2nd**

Ian Fish brought along all his Turning Tools goodies, and talked about a few of the newer ones. I didn't need anything but just in case got spare 10 and 12mm tips I might need while Ian's away sailing at Xmas. Must remember to check my drawer for spare tips before buying any more, as I haven't used them yet.

**December 9th**

The good people from the Salvation Army came and collected the toys



members had made for our annual "Operation Pinochio". It was a good collection they took away in their van, hopefully they provided a little cheer for some less fortunate kids at Xmas.



**December 16th**

The last Tuesday night meeting of the year saw a good collection of entries for the "Anything Goes" term 4 competition, and a good crowd to appreciate and judge the work. The pieces judged best are shown on the front page, along with other entries, plus a few more are shown opposite.

As is usual at our end of year sessions quite a number of wives, husbands, partners and friends of members came along to participate in the evening's activities. Thanks to them all for showing interest in our hobby, and especially for doing the baking of all the plates of goodies that accompanied

## Members Available to Assist New Members

Colin Crann	17 Rambler Cres, Beachhaven	483 6012
Mike Lewis	31 Davies Rd, Wellsford	09 423 8894
Jack Renwick	169 Chivalry Rd, Glenfield	444 6228
Pierre Bonny	1 Agathis Ave, Mairangi Bay	478 0163
René Baxalle	48 Stott Ave, Birkdale	483 3799

# Some of the Weekly Guild Night Activities



Mike Lewis  
(above and below)



you to the night.

As well as the better-half visitors, Mayor Andrew Williams and Councillor Heather Brown attended and kindly showed their support for our activities. Heather has encouraged the Guild's efforts ever since we first requested use of the present Guild Hall from the Glenfield Community Board back in late 2006. And of course many of us know her from that time, and from other Guild functions she has attended since.

Joan Fairhall from Special Olympics North Harbour was another visitor, and told us a little about her work using sport to make a positive difference to the lives of those with intellectual disabilities. Trefor donated a box of toys made by our members for Joan and her team to pass on to some of the youngsters they help.



It was also interesting to hear from Andrew about his own enjoyment of building and working with wood, and it's nice to know we have his support too. I'm sure Fishy would love to fit Andrew into a lathe when he retires and has more time on his hands to more fully enjoy working with wood!

And last but not least—the Carbatec crew had a table setup with all kinds of their woodturning goodies. An especially nice goody is the 13mm Jacobs chuck and Morse taper adaptor they very generously gifted to the Guild. Thanks for coming all the way from East Tamaki at rush hour guys!!



Les Whitty



Den Pain



Vincent Lardeux



Colin Crann



Kevin Hodder



Four steel chucks  
 Three rounds of wood  
 Two parting tools  
 And a wonderful wood turning lathe.

On the ninth day of Christmas,  
 my true love sent to me  
 Nine spindle gouges  
 Eight band saw blades  
 Seven wood turning books  
 Six big size scrapers  
**FIVE PEN SETS**  
 Four steel chucks  
 Three rounds of wood  
 Two parting tools  
 And a wonderful wood turning lathe.

On the tenth day of Christmas,  
 my true love gave to me  
 Ten large bowl blanks  
 Nine spindle gouges  
 Eight saw blades  
 Seven wood turning books  
 Six big size scrapers  
**FIVE PEN SETS**  
 Four steel chucks  
 Three rounds of wood  
 Two parting tools  
 And a wonderful wood turning lathe.

On the eleventh day of Christmas,  
 my true love YELLED at me  
 When will I see something for all the  
 money that I've spent on the:  
 Ten large bowl blanks  
 Nine spindle gouges  
 Eight band saw blades  
 Seven wood turning books  
 Six big size scrapers  
**FIVE PEN SETS**  
 Four steel chucks  
 Three rounds of wood  
 Two parting tools  
 And that damn wood turning lathe.

On the twelfth day of Christmas,  
 the dump truck came  
 in went the  
 Ten large bowl blanks  
 Nine spindle gouges  
 Eight saw blades  
 Seven wood turning books  
 Six big size scrapers  
**FIVE PEN SETS**  
 Four steel chucks  
 Three rounds of wood  
 Two parting tools  
 And the wonderful wood turning lathe.

Anything for peace don't you know!

## New Handbook

While Dave Edwards is leaving our Guild and moving to the Cambridge area, he has still managed to complete the editing of our new Members Handbook. This documents lots of useful information about the Guild and our activities, as well as some history. I will email it out to members in the next few days, and we will be including it in our new members kit from here on in. Thanks for your efforts with this Dave and everything else you've helped with around the Guild over all your years here. And I hope you have time for a little woodturning along with setting up in your new place.

## Twisted Grain ?

Our resident scribe Kevin Hodder penned his own words to an old favourite for Xmas.

On the first day of Christmas  
 my true love gave to me  
 A wonderful wood turning lathe

On the second day of Christmas,  
 my true love gave to me  
 Two parting tools  
 And a wonderful wood turning lathe.

On the third day of Christmas,  
 my true love gave to me  
 Three rounds of wood  
 Two parting tools  
 And a wonderful wood turning lathe.

On the fourth day of Christmas,  
 my true love gave to me  
 Four steel chucks  
 Three rounds of wood  
 Two parting tools  
 And a wonderful wood turning lathe.

On the fifth day of Christmas,  
 my true love gave to me  
**FIVE PEN SETS**  
 Four steel chucks  
 Three rounds of wood  
 Two parting tools  
 And a wonderful wood turning lathe.

On the sixth day of Christmas,  
 my true love gave to me  
 Six big size scrapers  
**FIVE PEN SETS**  
 Four steel chucks  
 Three rounds of wood  
 Two parting tools  
 And a wonderful wood turning lathe.

On the seventh day of Christmas,  
 my true love gave to me  
 Seven wood turning books  
 Six big size scrapers  
**FIVE PEN SETS**  
 Three rounds of wood  
 Two parting tools  
 And a wonderful wood turning lathe.

On the eighth day of Christmas,  
 my true love gave to me  
 Eight band saw blades  
 Seven wood turning books  
 Six big size scrapers  
**FIVE PEN SETS**

## This Term's Project— Drinking Vessels.

Day	Date	Activity
Tuesday	February 3	Ian Fish – Basic Turning – Question and Answers
Saturday	February 7	Upskill day
Tuesday	February 10	Jack Renwick Demonstration
Tuesday	February 17	Dick Veitch Demonstration – Bowl saver
Saturday	February 21	Working Bee
Tuesday	February 24	Peter Williams Demonstration – Interlocking Circles in a bowl
Tuesday	March 3	Terry Scott Demonstration
Saturday	March 7	Upskill Day
Tuesday	March 10	Practical Night
Tuesday	March 17	Mike Lewis Demonstration – Drinking Vessel
Saturday	March 21	Working Bee
Tuesday	March 24	Gordon Pembridge – Airbrushing
Saturday	March 28	Working Bee
Tuesday	March 31	Practical Night
Saturday	April 4	Upskill Day
Tuesday	April 7	End of Term Competition
Tuesday	April 28	Start 2 <sup>nd</sup> Term

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All the above events are at the Guild Hall, Agincourt Reserve, Agincourt Road, Glenfield. Tuesday meetings start at 7pm.

**Committee Meetings**—1st. Wednesday of each month

**Upskill Saturdays**— 1st Saturday of month during term.

**Working Bees**—3rd Saturday of month during term.

Keep an eye on what's happening around the country. Checkout [www.naw.org.nz](http://www.naw.org.nz)

**New to the Guild and don't know what NAW is?** The National Association of Woodworkers is funded by clubs and individual members, and provides country wide coordination of demonstrations, and much more.

## Other Special Events coming up

February 27	Woodcraft at the Royal Easter Show. Competition entries close Today
March 13 - 15th	Taupo Jamboree. Lake Taupo Woodworkers Guild.
April 9 - 13	Woodcraft at the Royal Easter Show. Woodturning competition, work for sale
September 11 - 13	National Woodskills Festival, Kawerau

For a full listing of events in NZ—check out <http://www.naw.org.nz/whatson.htm>



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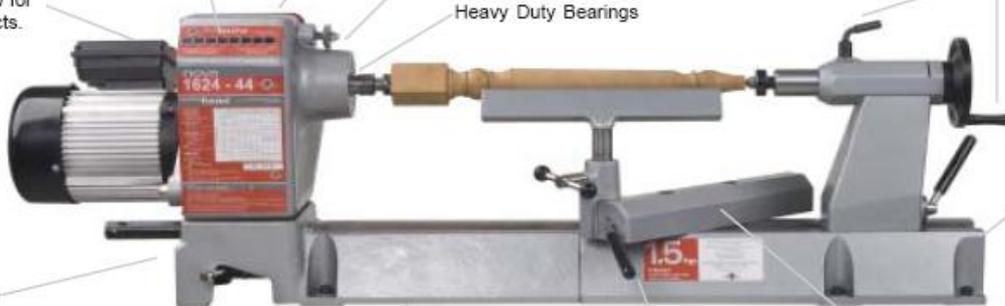
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