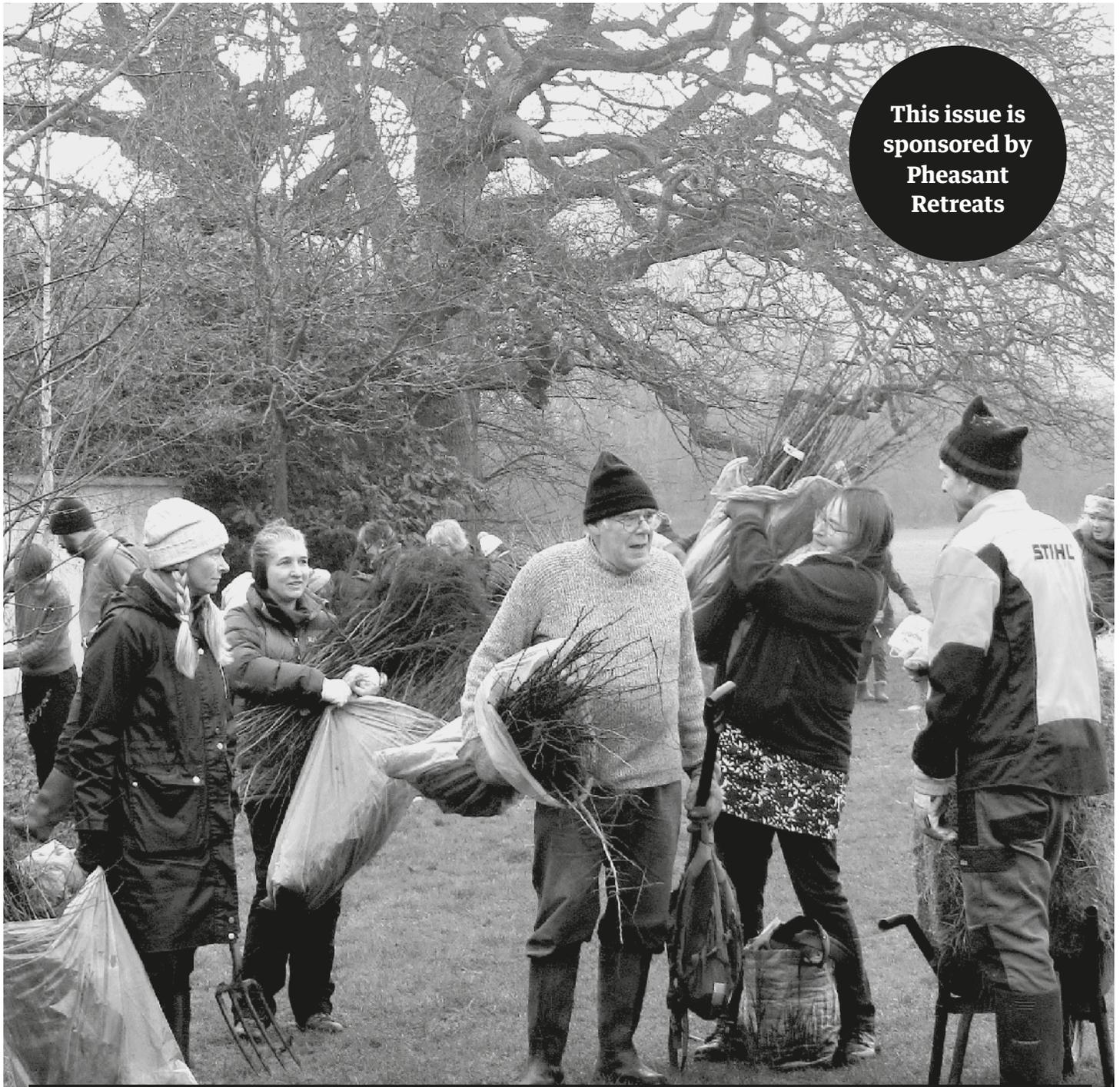


Eynsham News



This issue is
sponsored by
Pheasant
Retreats



On a rather misty Saturday morning, villagers got their spades out to restore the Carnival Meadow hedge with young hazel, dog rose and hawthorn. The Nature Recovery Network organised the planting as part of their work to strengthen the connection with wildlife in local villages—read more about what they're up to on page 2.

Village Buzz

Community Minibus is Go!

The new community minibuses linking Eynsham and neighbouring villages began running at the beginning of January. New bus route 411/418 runs from Hanborough station to Standlake via Freeland, Eynsham, Stanton Harcourt, Northmoor and Bablock Hythe every two hours each weekday.

The service operates as the 411 to Eynsham, where it links to regular S1, S2 and H2 routes; then as the 418 to/ from Standlake. Extra provision for Bartholomew students includes season tickets valid to 22 April. Full details are on their website: firstandlastmile.org.uk.

You may have already seen the white First & Last Mile minibuses around the village. Look for the new logo, designed by Bartholomew student Bethan Trenchard, in the windows, and the timetable layout designed by another Eynsham teenager on bus stops.

There is always room for more volunteer drivers, with the possibility of paid employment on a temporary basis for some longer shifts. If you're interested, please contact David Miles on 0758 492 7050 or email info@firstandlastmile@gmail.com.



Warmest congratulations to the First & Last Mile team who have worked so hard to make this service a reality.

Art Goes Wild!

Our local artists are joining forces with local ecologists to create Wild Arts as a creative contribution to the growing Nature Recovery Network (NRN). There will be Wild Art workshops led by local artists in collaboration with local field specialists that draw inspiration, reference and material directly from local ecology.

The first workshop was led by Alison Holmans and Bob Cowley in January and was all about getting creative with

mud and clay. There's still time to sign up for the second workshop on Saturday 12 February led by Alice Walker and Toby Swift which will be all about Winter Trees. Details and registration form are here: bit.ly/3nb3oK1.



Whatever your age or artistic medium, enjoy adopting a piece of nature and watching it change through the seasons by creating a creative nature diary. All submissions will be entered into a competition with the opportunity to win prizes and have your artwork printed on cards, and calendars. Sign up here: bit.ly/3Fores1.

Schools Initiative

Eynsham Partnership Academy (EPA) which runs eight local schools is contributing to the Nature Recovery Network by creating a nature recovery network across its sites. A timely grant acquired from Natural England has enabled the EPA and NRN to respond to demands made by students at their recent climate summit, and to be ahead of the game in creating a National Education Nature Park, just requested by the Department for Education.

The Schools Nature Recovery Network connects teachers across the EPA schools with each other, with local experts and with parents and community groups who are coming together to help nature recover in our local villages. If you are a local ecologist, experienced community member or parent and would like to get involved please get in touch. eynsham-pc.gov.uk/org.aspx?n=Eynshams-Nature-Recovery-Network

Planting Thanks

We would like to thank all the NRN members and friends who came together on 15th of January in Carnival

Meadow to fill 500m of gaps in the hedgerows there. We planted hawthorn, blackthorn, dog rose, dogwood, guelder rose and hazel. Given that a 40m of hedgerow can accommodate 2,000 species, this recovery work has the potential to make a big difference.

This project is part of a wider initiative to create a mosaic of habitats for which hedgerows constitute the critical connective highways. Eynsham, Cumnor, Standlake and other local villages have come together to connect hedgerows, and begin to restore nature at the landscape scale. We would like to thank Wild Oxfordshire for supporting us with hedgerow trees and know-how as part of our Oxfordshire Hedgerow Heroes Project. Do watch their webinar series at bit.ly/3qXtf9c. NRN's next hedge planting is on Feb 12—see www.nature-recovery-network.org.

Take a look at Nigel Pierce's poem on p6, inspired by the importance of hedgerows...

A Very Merry Christmas

from Laura Stringer, Eynsham Heroes Christmas Campaign Co-ordinator
Back in December, each of the 50 local households regularly supported by Eynsham Community Larder received a goody bag crammed with edible treats and enough Eynsham Vouchers and Amazon Kids' Gift Cards to make sure that everyone (68 adults and 65 children) could get a good meal and some stocking fillers for Christmas.

Thanks so much to every single person, business and organisation that contributed to this year's Christmas boxes campaign. Together we raised £4135, plus food donations. Surplus funds will go back into the larder's weekly food fund. Thanks to our gang of packing elves (including 3 from Eynsham Rotary); our all-year-round Mr & Mrs Claus, Bob and Pam Thiele; and the team of weekly volunteer drivers from Eynsham Community Larder for being our reindeers. Simon Ridler from Foremost Print kindly printed Eynsham Vouchers again, and Andy Goodwin helped get our brilliant local businesses on board to accept Eynsham vouchers. A great community effort!

Sponsor's Feature

As we move into the new year, we've all got hopes that 2022 will be brighter than recent times and for many people this will mean finding a new home or taking that first step to turning a property into an investment. We sat down with Lynda Woodcock, Managing Director of local letting company, Pheasant Retreats, for a cup of tea and chat about what it's like running a thriving local lettings company during the pandemic.

Pheasant Retreats

Has the pandemic changed the way you do things?

It's mainly been about keeping people safe, especially when we're doing viewings or property visits; we make sure we follow government guidelines, maintain social distancing and wear masks. It's the same in the office too - we want to make sure our clients and our staff stay safe and well. As for the business side of things, that's still going strong, landlords still have properties they'd like managed and there are plenty of prospective tenants looking for a new home.

What kind of properties do you look after?

We specialise in residential lettings, so somewhere you might call home. We manage all kinds of properties from a studio flat to a five-bed detached house.

Is there anything in particular that tenants are looking for at the moment?

Since the first lockdown, we have all come to value our outdoor space - properties with gardens are particularly sought after.

What sets Pheasant Retreats apart from other letting agents?

We are a small, personable company and all of our members of staff have stayed with us for a number of years;

it's not like the fast turnover of employees you get in big companies. This means we're able to give a more personal service to our customers, we even offer personal fees to suit your circumstances, not just a set pricelist.

We are always friendly and happy to help - you're guaranteed to be greeted with a smile! We are here to answer landlord and tenant questions with the office open six days a week, and all maintenance is done by our in-house team.

Describe the Pheasant Retreats team in three words?

Approachable, happy & professional.

What do you enjoy the most about working in the lettings industry?

I love meeting lots of different people and the fast pace of industry. It's really rewarding to feel that landlords are able to trust us to look after their property and that we're able to find the perfect property for tenants that's more than just a house, it's a home.

What advice would you give someone thinking of letting out their property?

Go for it! If you've got an empty property, it's better to have someone managing and maintaining it for you, than to leave it lying empty and you'll be surprised by the returns it could bring you.



Lynda Woodcock

Get in contact with us and we can talk you through the process and give you any reassurance you need. Pheasant Retreats will give you the best service at a good price that fits your circumstance - and you'll always be greeted with a smile!

You'll find Pheasant Retreats on Corn Street in Witney and you can contact by phone on 01993 772555 or by email on enquiries@pheasantretreats.co.uk For more information, take a look at their website: pheasantretreats.co.uk

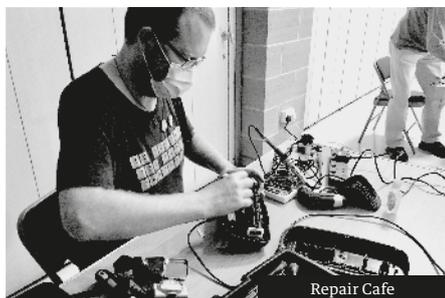
From around the village

We Need You!

Gareth Hammond, Chairman, Bartholomew Players writes:

Following on from the huge success of our November production of Von Ribbentrop's Watch (reviews at bartholomewplayers.co.uk) we are now in the process of choosing the play for our May production (save the dates! 18-21 May 2022).

If you have ever considered getting involved with your local amateur dramatic group, on or off stage, now is the time to step forward—we particularly need male actors, so all you budding thespians, please come along! We meet every Wednesday evening from 7.30-10 pm at Eynsham Village Hall. From March until the show in May we also meet on Mondays. Please drop us an email if you are interested at bart.players@gmail.com. We look forward to welcoming you.



Throw it away? No way!

Repair Cafe's next event is on Saturday 26 February, 2-4.30pm in Eynsham Village Hall. Bring items to be repaired, learn how to fix things yourself or simply come along and see! Tea and cakes available while you wait, see our Eynsham Online page for more event info.

Handy at fixing things yourself? We'd love to hear from you, especially if you are skilled at mechanical, leather or jewellery repairs, are able to sharpen tools or interested in Portable Appliance Testing. Email repaircafeeynsham@gmail.com

Young Leaders Opportunity

Housing association, Cottsway, is offering young people aged 14-21,

living in their homes, the chance to take part in the next Oxfordshire Youth Young Leaders Programme for free! They will join 16 other young people from Oxfordshire on the programme to help them develop new skills and improve their career prospects, while having fun.

Successful applicants will take part in activities such as rock climbing or orienteering while learning leadership skills, which they will then be able to put in to use in their community, school, college or youth group. The next Young Leaders Programme starts in March and successful applicants will attend an induction evening, weekend residential course and a follow up study session in Oxford—a bursary of up to £50 will be available to support with travel costs.

The deadline for applications is Monday 7 February. For more information, and to apply, visit: cottsway.co.uk/youngleaders

New-lands on the Moon

The recent interest in plans for the Newlands Inn prompted a dig into the Eynsham archives.

While touring the county for the Oxford Times in 1969, Don Chapman found that the Newlands' sign depicted a moon landing and a rocket branded with the stars and stripes. By remarkable foresight, it had been put up some 14 years before that very week's US lunar landing. The current sign, installed in 1989, depicts Mayflower pilgrims or the like on arrival in another 'new land'.

You'll find a quantity of memories from other pubs and shops in the Eynsham Image Archive, at bit.ly/3qSpz8F

And if you can lay hands on a decent photo of the original STAR Inn sign, please contact Joan Stonham: online@eynsham-pc.gov.uk

New 'Forest Food Garden'

Following approval by the Council in June, the new 'food forest garden' for the Old Witney Road play area has been making fast progress, with a first planting session attended by many local families before Christmas.

Unlike an allotment, the plants in the forest food garden are perennials and won't need re-planting or lots of watering.

The project has been months in planning and preparation, including visits to Eynsham Community Primary School to generate some ideas from the children and school staff. Mr Reeves, the school's Head, and Mrs Howell, chair of the school council, have been particularly supportive and raised awareness across the student body.

Cllr Milly Chen says: "around 30 parents and children from the primary school came to help. It was absolutely heart-warming to see how involved the children were—and I think even their own parents were surprised and thrilled at their enthusiasm!"

There will be another planting day in the spring, with plans to sow wildflower seeds alongside adding new plants to the beds. The date will be confirmed in the new year. All are welcome to join the session and help bring the new food forest garden to life.

Pick That Up!

Eynsham Litter Pickers will be meeting on Sunday 30 January and hopefully on Sunday the 27 February in the Baptist Church hall at 1.45pm to collect equipment and arrange routes. Please come complete with masks. Newcomers are very welcome—any enquiries to Pam Breeze 0797 1174434.

Eynsham Garden Club

We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall in Back Lane. Membership is £12 a year, visitors are always welcome at our meetings for an entrance fee of £2 per meeting.

On 9 February, Neil Clennell will give a talk on The Work of the Wychwood Project and on 9 March, Heather Goddard-Key will give a talk on Pelargoniums with a demonstration and plants for sale.

Football In Mind

Join the free football sessions for men aged 18-plus, indoors at Bartholomew Sports Hall. These sessions will run

every Friday from 7-9pm and are focussed on socialising, meeting new people and wellbeing. All abilities are welcome. If you would like any further information, please call 01865 731090 or email Will James: william.james@gll.org



Pre-School Popularity

Winter term is such a magical time for Pre-School age children. We have explored the sudden drop in temperature; playing with snow, frost and ice. This was followed by Christmas preparations; decorating trees, singing, writing cards and making gifts. Term ended with a spectacular Christmas party—many thanks to The Rotary Club for making it extra special with a visit from Santa. The children's smiles were incredible!

Our fundraising efforts have been greatly supported by the community with a fully booked wreath-making workshop and a donation from Eynsham Morris. We really appreciate all your generosity and look forward to purchasing some new sensory equipment for the children.

The Pre-School has a growing waiting list and our Trustees are considering how best to meet the growing demands of the local area whilst continuing to offer the excellent education, care and support that we are proud to provide. The Trustees have proposed to join Eynsham Partnership Academy Trust by merging with Eynsham Community Primary School. This is subject to consultation and you can find full details in the consultation documents on our website eynshampreschool.co.uk. We welcome any feedback and ask that questions and comments are submitted via email to committee@eynshampreschool.org

Grants Available

The Eynsham Charities invite applications for educational grants, or grants for the relief of need, hardship or distress, for consideration at their next meeting (28 Feb).

Applications should be sent to the Clerk, Robin Mitchell, at 20 High Street Eynsham OX29 4HB, or by email at eynshamcharities@gmail.com. Applications are treated absolutely confidentially.

That Stinks!

Did you know that untreated sewage is regularly dumped in the River Evenlode? According to the River Trust, it was done 141 times in 2020 and it's currently totally legal. Lidia Arciszewska is a former parish-councillor from Church Hanborough and she has set up a petition to stop the practise that she wants to share with us in Eynsham. If you'd like to read more about the problem or to sign the petition, you can find it here: <https://bit.ly/3ty7wYy>

Up The Villa!

North Leigh Roman Villa had some good news recently when they found out they were one of four English Heritage sites who will be sharing the benefits of a £1million donation. The money they receive will go towards the repair of the rusting tin roof over the mosaics, the cleaning of the Roman mosaics, and converting the 19th-century custodian cottage into an education and interpretation space.

Churchill Talk

Streaming from the Soldiers of Oxfordshire (SOFO) Museum website live from 7pm, Tuesday 1 February 2022 is Churchill in Oxfordshire, the latest in the museum's series of popular online talks.

Watch the online talk with two acclaimed Churchill authors, to find out how big a part his Oxfordshire background and military career played in his political career and decision making.

The event will be available to view both live and in a 'Catch Up' version free from the SOFO Museum website,

but donations will be encouraged to support the work of the museum: bit.ly/3r7DHex.

Acre End Closure

A section of Acre End Street will be closed from 7-11 February because of the installation of a new gas supply. You can see a map of the closure on Eynsham Online, but it is roughly between the Jolly Sportsman and Acre End Close. Limited access will remain in place for residents and emergency services. The suggested diversion will run along Station Road, B4449 and Oxford Road.

Omicron keeping you at home?

Eynsham Heroes and Eynsham Good Neighbour Network are still here to help, and working together to make sure everyone has support if they're self-isolating, lying low, or finding it hard to get out. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you need anything, or would like to volunteer:

- E-mail Eynsham Heroes at eynshamhelp@gmail.com
- For help with shopping, prescriptions, or errands (or call the Eynsham Good Neighbourhood Network on 07443 564516)
- To join your local neighbourhood WhatsApp group to connect with people on your street or ask for support e-mail eynshamhelp@gmail.com to recruit volunteers for your community project
- For support with food call Bob Thiele at Eynsham Community Larder on 07738 063083
- For transport to medical appointments call 07469 764174 (volunteers urgently required!)
- Donate to the Larder collection baskets at Co-op, Spar, The Market Garden and Tesco.

Even More Eynsham News!

The Eynsham Bulletin is a frills-free email round-up of local headlines and events run by our friends at Eynsham Online and picks up where the Eynsham News leaves off. Find the latest issue and sign up for the next at bit.ly/3q59NrP.



Arches in the Millenium Wood

Nigel Pearce was inspired by the recent (and not so recent) happenings at the Garden Village site, to write this poem...

Note: Hooper's Law states that when a hedge is known to be old, the number of certain tree species it contains in each of a series of samples of 30-metre stretches, averaged out, will indicate its age reasonably accurately—up to 100 years for each species. (Bramble, ivy and nettles would not count in the dating calculation.)

An Overlooked Hedge

They seem to prefer the taller hedges, fieldfares, like the one with the apple tree whose bulbous windfalls have been hollowed out to leak a fleshy fragrance from the ground. This lower hedgerow they seldom frequent:

once, it barred the household cow from common pasture and commoner from the furlong, unearthing fault-lines between the classes as starkly as it split the open fields; now, the developer's tree specialist

has described it as well managed (meaning it is repeatedly flayed and splintered by machinery in the wrong season) and minimally as hawthorn (meaning it is species-poor and expendable).

Not only hawthorn, but elder and ash, elm suckers, blackthorn, wild apple and rose, bramble, ivy and nettles, all manner of shelter, nutrition and residents—two centuries or more of Hooper's Law.

Advertisement

muniqueyogatherapy.com

Hello, I'm Muna and I've recently qualified as a yoga therapist, as well as being a yoga teacher with many years of personal practice and a variety of yoga teacher training. I have been teaching yin yoga in Eynsham for a few years and I am now starting to offer additional yoga classes and yoga therapy courses in the village, as well as 1-2-1 yoga therapy.

So what is the difference between yoga classes and yoga therapy?

Rather than focusing on teaching a set sequence of poses like in a class, yoga therapy focuses more on specific mental and physical health disorders, either in a small group setting or 1-2-1 sessions. It incorporates the principles of neuroscience (knowledge of our nervous system and how to re-balance it), physiology (how our bodies work),

psychotherapy (to provide a safe therapeutic relationship) and the tools and techniques of traditional yoga (which may incorporate yoga philosophy, breathwork and postures) and mindfulness.

What do I offer in Eynsham?

I will be offering weekly classes, suitable for all abilities, in:

- Chair yoga
- Somatics and yoga
- Yin yoga

I'll also be offering the following courses:

- **Yoga for the Mind: 8 week Course for Stress, Depression and Anxiety**
- **Yoga for Insomnia and Sleep Recovery™ 5 week course**
- **Mindfulness for chronic pain 8 week course**



To find out more, why not check out my website muniqueyogatherapy.com

I look forward to meeting you soon!

Events Preview

Saturday 19th March, 10am-4pm

By Martin Flatman

There's an awful lot of history in Eynsham, but much of it is underground or hidden in local houses, or in the Oxfordshire County Council's Museum Store in Standlake. That's why a group, led by the Curator of Archaeology for the County's Museum Service, have planned a day when a lot more of that history can be made visible.

Heritage Day will include an exhibition on the two floors of the refurbished Bartholomew Room in the Square. There you will be able to see many of the things that were dug up during the Eynsham Abbey Archaeological Dig that took place some 30 years ago, when they first definitively identified the site of the

Eynsham's prehistoric past.

The other Tour will be round the village pointing out some of the archaeological stonework from the Abbey that can be found built into the older houses and walls, for the Abbey ruins were a great source of stone after the Abbey was dissolved in the 16th Century. Exact details of the times of these Tours will be on our posters round the village by the beginning of March and on the Eynsham Community Facebook Page.

On Heritage Day, we also hope to have an event for children, as well as some medieval pottery that they can touch and hold, and an I-Spy Family Quiz. Perhaps you have dug up some artifacts in your garden in the village? To help with this, we will have an expert on hand to run a kind of Eynsham Heritage Archaeological Roadshow to help you identify your own archaeological discovery. The British Museum's Portable Antiquities



Medieval lead plaque of Thomas Becket

Eynsham Heritage Day

Abbey in what are now the Cemeteries of the Anglican and Catholic Churches.

Items on display will include a fascinating medieval lead plaque depicting Thomas Becket that was probably brought back as a souvenir by some of the monks on their Pilgrimage to Canterbury, and a little bronze flask that may have been used for storing and administering one of the Holy Oils. You will also be able to see some archaeological stonework from the dig as well as other finds and coins that people have found in various places in the village over the years.

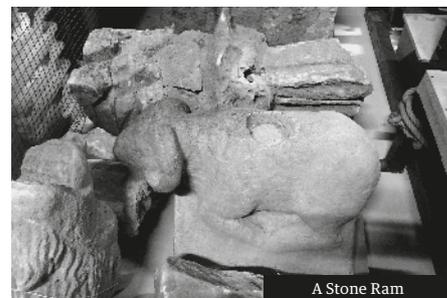
During the day there will be at least two guided tours in the morning and two in the afternoon. Each time, one will be of the Abbey site where you can try to estimate how large the buildings were, even though nothing now remains above ground; above ground there is one stone from

Scheme Liaison Officer will be on hand to look at anything you've found in your gardens, or when walking across fields, or metal detecting. There will also be a Historical Tour of St Leonard's Church.

Heritage Day is part of a pilot project funded by the Oxford University's Gardens, Libraries and Museums and is delivered by the Oxfordshire Museums Service. Its aim is to explore ways to encourage communities to develop their interaction with the County's archaeological collection. The Curator of Archaeology commented recently "The Museum Service has really landed on its feet working with a dedicated group of volunteers from Eynsham on this project, using the superb archaeology collection from Eynsham as a springboard of ideas and events culminating with the Day." So put Saturday 19th March in your diary please.



Village finds



A Stone Ram



Plans for 2022

With the new budget finalised, we explain our priorities for the year ahead.

Tax rises fund improvements

Each year we consider and scrutinise the amount of tax (the precept) we ask residents to pay. This is calculated on ongoing commitments, new activities/projects that require investment and pays staff salaries—our Councillors are unpaid.

The new precept (totalling £167,053) equates to a small increase of £6.16 per year for a Band D household; that’s just 12p per week extra. This brings the total each household will contribute to the Parish Council up to £77.84, which continues to reflect value for money in comparison with many other local Parish Councils. We know that times are tough financially for some, but we’re confident you will appreciate the benefits that this investment will bring to our area.

Projects planned for 2022

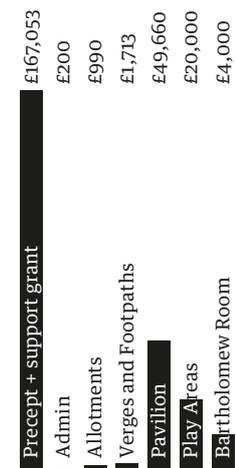
The budget will help us deal with the various major planning issues we face (West Eynsham, Salt Cross, A40 and Park and Ride) and support a programme of change already underway at the Parish Council. With a new Strategic Plan and a new focus, we have taken on two extra part-time

staff and are determined to become more efficient and effective. We also have some expensive upgrading work. With the Bartholomew Room refurbishment complete (at a cost of almost £200,000, paid for with a loan), we will look to restore The Cross in Market Square and pursue the new Sports Pavilion. On a smaller scale, we’re investing more in our maintenance of shared spaces and exploring options for preserving our green spaces.

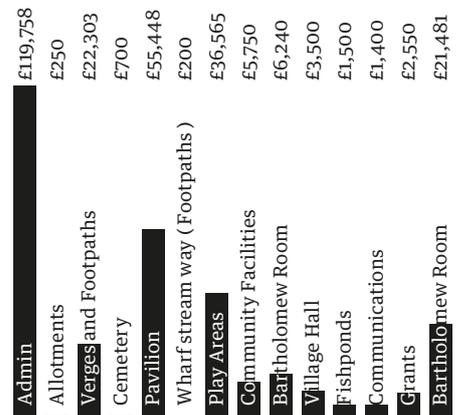
Community activity to look out for

A comprehensive list of priority projects can be found in our new Strategic Plan (available online). This was created with input from the community and includes a Green Wheel circular path around the village, a review of our Climate Change Policy and designating the Fishponds as a Local Nature Reserve.

There will also be lots of activity from our local groups, funded by our 2022 grant scheme. There were many great applications for these—thank you to everyone who applied. Details of the successful applicants will be shared on the website soon. It’s going to be a busy year!



2022/23 Budget Income



2022/23 Budget Expenditure



Preserving our green spaces

A Note from the Chair



Last year, the Parish Council responded to proposals to change the use of the Newlands Inn from business (a pub) to residential (a house). We objected strongly to this, as did many in the community. Ultimately, West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC) rejected the plan.

This episode made us consider the value that buildings like the Newlands Inn have to our parish. Do they matter? Would we mind if we lost them? The answer is often yes.

We can help to protect such buildings by getting them declared 'Assets of Community Value' on a register held by WODC. Once buildings have this status, we gain a 'Community Right to Bid'. This means that if one of these listed assets comes up for sale, there will be a delay in the sale process to provide the local community with the time to decide whether to bid to buy the asset. In the case of the Newlands Inn, getting the pub listed would allow a community group to consider purchasing it—and running it—when it goes up for sale.

But the Newlands Inn isn't the only 'asset' we have in Eynsham. Which other buildings would you be unhappy to see sold or turned from businesses into homes? We're creating a list of our local assets and we'd like your suggestions. These would be included in the revised Neighbourhood Plan, due later in 2022. Send suggestions via email to the Parish Council on epc.clerk@eynsham-pc.gov.uk or by post to 91 Brize Norton Road, Minster Lovell, Witney, Oxford OX29 0SG.

Dates for your Diary

1 Feb, 7.30pm Full Council Meeting
15 Feb, 7.30pm Planning Committee
1 Mar, 7.30pm Full Council Meeting
8 Mar, 7.30pm Annual Parish Meeting
29 Mar, 7.30pm Planning Committee

All subject to change, please check our Facebook page.

From the Clerk's Desk



What a year 2021 was! Over the 12 months, the Council considered 55 planning applications and held 34 Council meetings. We have 13 Councillors (unpaid volunteers) and four paid staff. Together we look after two buildings, four play areas, playing fields and Fishponds. We maintain the grass verges and look after 426 trees. Incidentally, we also have two Parish Councillor vacancies - please email the Clerk (epc.clerk@eynsham-pc.gov.uk) if you are interested in joining us.

At the time of writing, work has started on The Cross in Market Square to fix damage and straighten the structure. The subsequent stage, for which we plan to obtain a grant, will be to repair the base as the stonework is in a very poor condition.

The 20mph Pilot Scheme is taking shape and will be considered at the next Council meeting. Oxfordshire County Council has indicated support for lowering the speed limit of the B4449 to 40mph; the Cassington Road (from the B4449/Cassington Road roundabout) to 30mph and the B4044 Oxford Road (Oxford Road roundabout to Toll Bridge) to 40mph. Watch this space for details of the formal consultation.

Curtin & Co recently held two consultation events for the West Eynsham Strategic Development Area Masterplan. Hopefully you were able to take part. The details can be found at <https://www.masterplan4westeynsham.co.uk/masterplan>

The Council's aim is to always 'ACT' in an Approachable, Collaborative and Transparent manner. As part of this commitment, we have invested in new technology to enable the recording/ live streaming of our meetings, helping us to engage with you in a way that better reflects our digital (and post-Covid!) age. Details to follow.



David Knight

Meet a Councillor: David Knight

How well do you know the councillors on your Parish Council? Read on to find out more about David Knight in our quick Q&A:

When did you join the council?

I joined in December 2020 when we could only meet online. It would be another five months before I was able to meet my fellow councillors face-to-face (or mask-to-mask!).

Why did you want to join?

I am passionate about the democratic process and the US Presidential election showed me how fragile democracy can be. Joining the Parish Council to help our local community seemed like a small but important commitment to local democracy.

What cause is a priority for you?

The biggest issue of our time is the climate emergency. It's something that we can influence in our own patch, notably by calling for changes to policies around net biodiversity gain and zero carbon emissions.

What is your favourite community activity?

Several years ago, I helped to organise a worm charming competition at Fishponds Nature Reserve. That was great fun! I'm a professional worm charmer but I couldn't possibly tell you the secret.

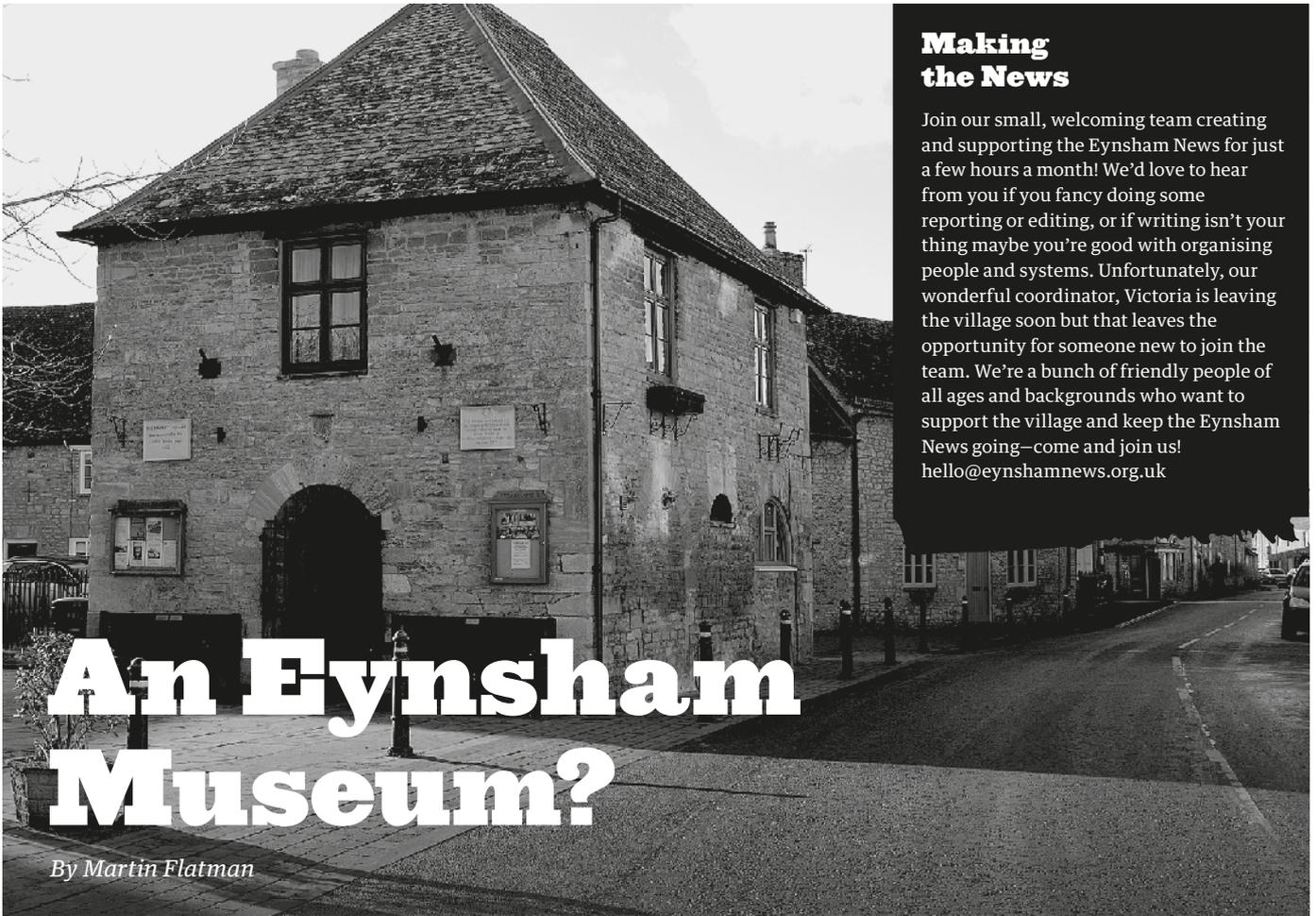
What is your profession?

I previously worked in Higher Education Management but made a change a few years ago: I'm now a green woodworker. I run courses and try to get people excited about linking heritage crafts to the management of our outdoor spaces.

david.knight@eynsham-pc.gov.uk.

Making the News

Join our small, welcoming team creating and supporting the Eynsham News for just a few hours a month! We'd love to hear from you if you fancy doing some reporting or editing, or if writing isn't your thing maybe you're good with organising people and systems. Unfortunately, our wonderful coordinator, Victoria is leaving the village soon but that leaves the opportunity for someone new to join the team. We're a bunch of friendly people of all ages and backgrounds who want to support the village and keep the Eynsham News going—come and join us! hello@eynshamnews.org.uk



An Eynsham Museum?

By Martin Flatman

By the time the Heritage Day (p7) takes place, it was hoped that the permanent Eynsham Museum would be up and running in the upstairs part of the refurbished Bartholomew Room, so that some of the treasures of our village's history could be displayed.

This project has now officially been declared a charity, but we have still to await the completion of the lease with the Parish Council. However, on Heritage Day, March 19th, the temporary exhibition in the Bartholomew Room will display many of the things that will eventually form part of the permanent Museum.

What is there 'historic' about Eynsham?

Well, Eynsham's recorded history goes back to Saxon times and Eynsham's river crossing was a major landmark for travelling west from Oxford. Eynsham Abbey (sadly no more) was founded in 1005, and 92 listed structures still survive in the parish.

Eynsham Abbey was a very important centre of life not just for the village but also for the English nation. In 1186, King Henry II held a week-long

Council here, riding over every day from his Palace in Woodstock. This included the appointment of the holy Carthusian monk Hugh, who was based in Witham in Somerset, as Bishop of Lincoln. It was he who, after his death, became St Hugh of Lincoln. Way before that, in 1005, another monk that you might have heard of, called Aelfric, was the first abbot of Eynsham's Benedictine Abbey and we are pretty certain he still lies buried in the churchyard, though a grave has never been found.

How to support Eynsham Museum and Heritage Centre

Anyone who would be able to contribute to the setting up/running of the Eynsham Museum should email Steve Parrinder on steve_parrinder@hotmail.com

Financial support is also always welcome and this can be done by either writing a cheque to the 'Eynsham Museum and Heritage Centre' and posting/delivering to Steve Parrinder at 7 Abbey Farm Barns or sending payment direct to Nat West bank: Sort Code 51-70-15, Account No. 85709344.



Dog-watch

by Andrew Dilger

Omicron blues? Still stuck at home? Owners of pandemic puppies, like myself, have come to appreciate how good it is to get out. Two dog-walks a day is a big commitment, but I always finish in a better frame of mind than when I start.

Putting in the miles has also kept me fit and helped me to see Eynsham—and more—from a fresh perspective. So, each morning and evening I head out, accompanied by Astra the whippet. In winter, it's more about pacing dark streets than roaming across fields. Astra leads the way with her LED collar lit-up like a doggy halo. A torch or phone is also useful to spotlight her business for easy bagging.

Events Diary

See more at Eynsham Online

Eynsham Community Cinema

28 Jan, 7.30pm, Eynsham Village Hall

No Time to Die (12A)

Feat. Daniel Craig

Full details at countryscreens.co.uk

Eynsham Choral Society

Rehearsals:

1 & 8 February 7.30-9.30pm

Primary School Hall

New members welcome—please come along and enjoy a singing workout.

Choral workshop:

12 February 12-6pm

St Leonard's Church

Local Transport Webinar

7 Feb 7-8.15pm, Online

OCC's draft Local Transport and Connectivity Plan. Register to attend by completing the booking form at bit.ly/33iVW8X

Hedgelaying for Beginners

8 Feb 10am-4pm

Long Mead

<https://eynsham-pc.gov.uk/org.aspx?n=Eynshams-Nature-Recovery-Network>. Free to NRN members (membership costs £10).

Bring gloves, stout boots and suitable clothes bit.ly/33FnJ2U

Eynsham Women's Institute

8 Feb 7.30-9.30pm, Village Hall

Speaker: Emma Hamer, a farmer from Banbury. Competition—an item beginning with Q. Please do not attend if you have any symptoms of Covid-19.

Eynsham Garden Club

Monthly meeting

9 Feb 7.30-9pm, Village Hall

Blood Donor Sessions

11 Feb 1.15-3.30pm and 4.15-7.30pm

Village Hall

Contact Centre 0300 123 23 23

Winter Trees Workshop

12 Feb 10am-3pm, Long Mead

Learn to identify common local trees by their bark, buds, shape followed

by an opportunity to create some of your own tree inspired art. £10 (non-members) NRN Members Free Register: <https://bit.ly/3rqJtHZ>

Gatehouse volunteers

13 Feb 9am-1pm

Eynsham Community Cinema

25 Feb 7.30-9pm, Village Hall

The film is Spencer (12A)

Feat. Kirsten Stewart

Full details at countryscreens.co.uk

Eynsham Repair Cafe

26 Feb 2-4.30pm, Village Hall

Fixes available at this event: Electrical, Sewing, Darning and Bikes. Tea and cakes available while you wait.

Eynsham Consolidated Charity Trustees' Quarterly Meeting

28 Feb 7.15-8pm, Sports Pavilion

Applications invited for grants (p5)

Eynsham Women's Institute 99th Birthday Party

8 Mar 7-9.30pm, Village Hall

You Can Run Course

Eynsham Roadrunners

16 Mar 6-7pm, Sports Pavilion

'Couch to 5k' programme designed especially for new and returning runners. A confidence-building ten-week course to prove you can run five kilometres. Register: eynshamrr@googlemail.com

Eynsham Heritage Day

19 Mar 10am-4pm

Exhibition in Bartholomew Room and tours of the Abbey site and the village, plus other events.

Eynsham Library Opening Hours

30 Mill St, Eynsham OX29 4JS
01865 880525

Monday: 9.30am-1pm, 2-5pm

Tuesday: Closed

Wednesday: 1-5pm

Thursday: 1-5pm

Friday: 1-7pm

Saturday: 9.30am-1pm

Sunday: Closed

Eynsham Churches Regular Sunday services

St Peter's Catholic Church

Mass on Saturdays at 5pm and on Sundays at 10am

stpeterseynsham.org.uk

01865 881613

Eynsham Baptist Church

Sunday morning service at 10.30am

eynshambaptistchurch.co.uk

01865 882203

St Leonards Parish Church

Sunday morning service 10.30am

stleonardseynsham.org.uk

01865 883325

There are many other events during the week, and all three churches have halls for hire. Check for up to date information.

Details of all events were correct at the time of going to press but may change. Please check with the organisers' social media before going. Send your events news for our February/March edition (about 70 words long) to editor@eynshamnews.org.uk before 6 March 2022

Please send in items for our next issue by 6 March 2022

Eynsham News is published by a local, not-for-profit voluntary group, set up solely to produce a community newsletter of broad general appeal. Free delivery to every household is arranged by volunteers.

Local stories, snaps and snippets are always welcome—and corrections! Items submitted may or may not be included and edited.

Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the News Group. Inclusion of an advertisement does not imply endorsement of the product, service or event.

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Printing: Holywell Press
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This newsletter is 100% recyclable in your normal recycling bin. It is printed on Carbon Capture paper which contributes to the Woodland Trust's tree planting programme.



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Alan @ Eynsham Chiropractic Clinic

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01865 882992. alan.chiro@gmail.com

Bartholomew Sports Centre

offers a wide range of activities and facilities to suit everyone including a fully equipped gym, a range of fitness classes, 4-court sports hall and AstroTurf pitches. *Find out more at better.org.uk*

Visit Body Talk Salon

for all your hair & beauty needs. Established over 20 years, the professional & friendly staff wish you a warm welcome. *Find us at 37 Mill Street or call 01865 880820*

Breathing Class

Improve your breathing, develop control, enhance the connection through weekly sessions. Classes on Tuesdays, 7-8pm at The Music Room, Queen St, Eynsham. *Info and bookings: Darrin 07717803235 Gemma 07971529242 gemmaferrier77@gmail.com*

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01865 987781

Cosy Homes Oxfordshire

A one-stop retrofit service helping homeowners reduce energy use, reducing bills and carbon emissions.
cosyhomesoxfordshire.org
0300 303 1269

Evenlode DIY Eynsham's Tardis

29 High St., Eynsham OX29 4HE
01865 881392. Glass, timber, keys cut, tool sharpening, paint mixed, hardware, ironmongery, decorating materials, garden and pet supplies.

Eynsham Cellars

Award winning wine, beer, spirit and cider retailer. Carefully chosen selection. Free delivery. Sale or return & free glass hire for parties. 43 Mill Street. 01865 884405 eynshamcellars.com

Freeland Pre-school

We provide high quality education for 2-5 year olds. Friendly environment, with large garden and Outdoor Explorer sessions in local woods.
Contact us on: 01993 882945 or freelandpg@hotmail.co.uk

Greens Funeral Services

Established in 1866, Independent Funeral Directors. 01865 880837
mail@greensfunerals.co.uk

Grimebusters

Eynsham's local carpet, rug and upholstery cleaners. Specialists in low moisture carpet cleaning. Unbeatable results, most carpets dry within the hour.
01865 726983 / 01993 868924 / 07778 298312 grimebusters.co.uk

Beech Court Nursing Home

"A home from home" for your elderly relations. 37 Newland Street, Eynsham, OX29 4LB. Tel: 01865 883611

Massage for Sport, Work and Life's Aches, Pains and Injuries

Holistic Massage for Stress, Tension and Emotional Holding. *Contact Denise Witchalls 07771 642600*

Monkey Music classes

Witney Burwell Hall: Tues
Eynsham Scout Headquarters: Thurs
Classes available for 3 months to 3 years old. FREE first class.
www.monkeymusic.co.uk/area/bicester-bloxham-chipping-norton-kidlington-witney

Paton Financial Planning

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01865 884400 / pellmans.co.uk
Business, Employment, Property, Wills, Probate, Trusts, Tax, Powers of Attorney.

Rotary Club of Eynsham

is a friendly group who are determined to contribute to both local and international wellbeing. If you'd like to do more for your community, please come and join us. *Contact terryglossop@hotmail.co.uk*

SweDraw Creative

I draw graphite portraits, paint children's art, print children's blankets and clothes, paint mugs etc. To see my work/ to order, please visit Swedrawcreative.com or email Helena@swedrawcreative.com

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The White Hart

Tracey and Ian would like to welcome you for a drink and a chat with some great beers at great prices. We have a function room for hire, and watch this space as we have three letting rooms being refurbished, we'll keep you posted.

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