

The Newsletter is sponsored for you by Thorpe on the Hill Parish Council

The **next edition will be** at the beginning of **February** and any contributions are welcome. Cut off date for **submissions will be Friday**, **23rd January** Anyone who would like to contribute to the magazine please do so through viewfromthehillpub@gmail.com or, if you wish to place an advert, then email Chris.abrahams@btinternet.co.uk.

From the Editor

Welcome to edition 155 and an early Happy Christmas and NewYear to all.

Welcome to edition 155 and an early Happy Christmas and NewYear to all.

Unfortunately Craft and Natter meetings are no longer running. All the other events are dated and most have covering articles in the magazine. Please also check

Page 14,15 for the update from North Kesteven re food waste recycling, and collection dates over Christmas holidays

Please, if you are a pensioner, check pages 22 and 23, for information and form completion for the Upshalls Lunch on Friday 16th January.

Finally a huge thank you to the villager who has created the wonderful post box decorations. They have become a landmark of the village.

I was informed that somebody in the village asked how the village hall was named the Oliver Roper Centre. I am aware that there are probably lots of our older village members who already have this knowledge but I decided to make my own investigation and also get a view of how the village once was, which is backed up by some of the historic photographs now on display in the Oliver Roper Centre. I gained my information from Patsy whose grandfather moved to Thorpe on the Hill in 1934 with Patsy's mother, and Patsy has lived in her home all her life. Patsy's parents married in 1942 and moved to the village after the war. Patsy was born in 1948.

The village was made up of the land of a number of farms, including Topliss, Johnsons, Hutchinson, Tiptree. Tiptree farm was owned by Oliver Roper, although he lived in London. Patsy's grandfather was the tenant of the farm, and was eventually able to buy his home for a nominal fee. The rest of Tiptree farm was eventually sold for building and gravelling, by his sons, when Oliver Roper died, for gravelling...hence Whisby Nature Park. The land on which Oliver Roper is set was called St Margaret's farm. It was given for the use

The land on which Oliver Roper is set was called St Margaret's farm. It was given for the use of the "young and old", hence the bowls, playground and tennis courts. Eventually the parish decided to build the hall, for t he use of the parish, and named it Oliver Roper.

Sylvia

Harriet has the big chop booked for Tuesday!

Harriet has been growing her hair so it can be cut for The Little Princess Trust. Over the past few months Harriet has been fundraising, as a wig costs £700 to make. She has been selling fruit and vegetables from our garden, plants and organised an afternoon tea in the village. So far she has raised £891. We'd love to raise over £1,000.

The Little Princess Trust provides real hair wigs, free of charge, to children and young people who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment or to other conditions such as Alopecia.

The charity is also one of the largest funders of childhood cancer research in the UK.

The Little Princess Trust relies solely on the generosity of its wonderful supporters who help the charity give Hair and Hope to so many children and young people with cancer each year.

Just point your smart phone camera at the code on the right to donate





SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2025 4PM

CHRISTMAS Carol Concert

St Michael & All Angels, Thorpe on the Hill Followed by mulled wine & mince pies



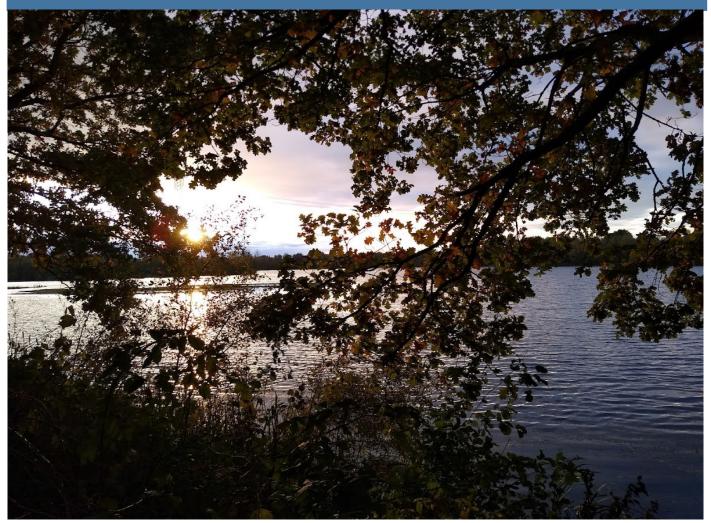
Come along to sing your favourite carols, with Christingles provided by St Michaels Primary School. We will be collecting toys for the Salvation Army Christmas Present Appeal.



Village Carol Singing- Tuesday 16th December from 5.30pm Festive Afternoon Tea- Wednesday 17th December from 2.30pm Carols around the Christmas Tree - Christmas Eve 10.30am

Christmas Eve Service 9pm

Stillness



All is calm, all is bright the carol goes. Chinese five element philosophy has much to say about winter; it gives rest, peace and calm to the cycle of life. We need growth as well as this quiet time to balance life. This viewpoint says that winter is a time to take in and allow the activity of the year to grow and develop by allowing it to penetrate our depths; draw deeper inside and contemplate the mysteries of life as we guard our reserves and keep warm and well-nourished in the shorter days.

One thing I love about taichiqigong is that it is infinitely adaptable to the folk who are learning it. The group in the care home where I run a class have their very own set of movements which can be done seated and reflect the birds they can see outside their windows. Visitors and staff join in too and despite the activity going on around us, for an hour, we are in our own oasis of peace and birdsong! I have also taught a group of "dementia adventurers" the Lincoln Imp form, using the story of the Imp to help remember the sequence.

Self-care Saturday January 31st 2026

We will be focusing on the back and how to rest and restore yourself day to day. If you are feeling ragged and exhausted this couple of hours is for you!!

Please bring a mat and blanket. All the movements can be done seated.

Weekly classes continue at the Oliver Roper on Monday mornings until December 15th and resume after Christmas on January 5th 2026

Barbara Bond bbshiatsu@gmail.com 077333898691



Umbrellas
Community
Café
On the first Friday
of the month
At

09:30



A huge thankyou to all those running the Umbrellas Community Cafe at the Oliver Roper Centre.





Next meetings: 5th December & 9th January

88888888

Love your Parish - ThReds Walking Group

The Trent Valley Way from Clifton Church Walk 73

(Wednesday, 12th November, 2025)

Clifton Church, progressed along

returned North through Clifton to the church.

We joined the river opposite the site of the old High

We left the river south of Dunham Bridge and climbed out of the valley to the plateau above. From here we could see the cathedral in spite of the gloomy Our walk of 4.3 miles started from St weather. As you can see from the smiling George the Martyr North and South faces on the team photo, it was an a eniovable walk, and rain free, even meandering section of the Trent and though the weather forecast suggested otherwise.

> A dozen of us followed up the walk with an enjoyable lunch at the Railway. The fish pie was popular.

Marnham power Although station. generating the structures have demolished. been still the pylons radiate out from the site. Almost immediately after

reaching the Trent Valley Way we walked under the impressive Fledburgh viaduct with its 59 arches.

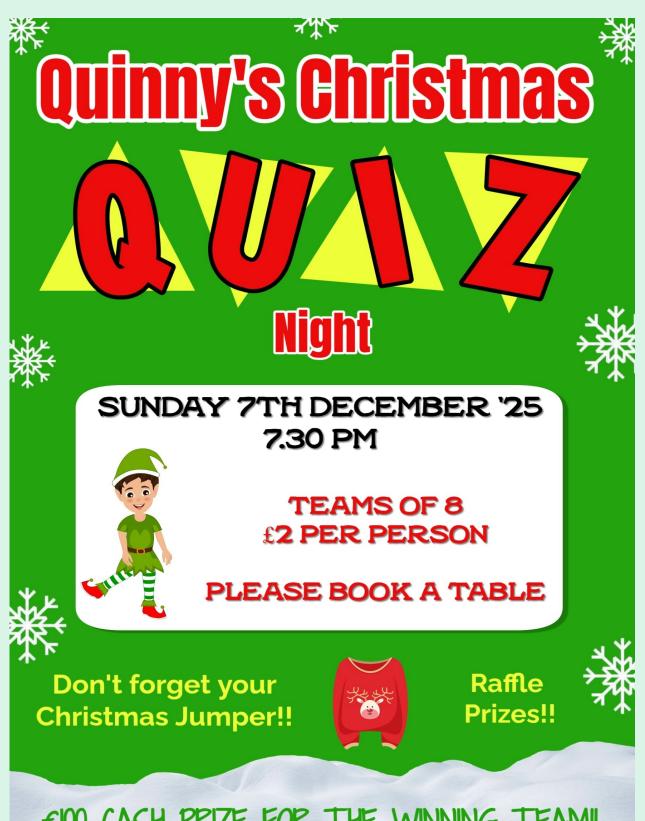
I hope to arrange the next walk for early in the New Year. For more information contact me at <u>tonymagri949@btinternet.com</u>

Tony Magri





Season's Greetings from us all at The Railway Inn



£100 CASH PRIZE FOR THE WINNING TEAM!!

® THE RAILWAY INN, STATION ROAD, THORPE ON THE HILL, LINCOLN, LN6 9BS

Dave and Mike would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support during 2025





The Railway Inn



STARTERS

Leek and Potato Soup, warmed sourdough & butter GFA £6.50
Classic Prawn Cocktail, bread & butter GFA £8.25
Pork Belly Bites infused with orange and star anise, apple sauce & rocket GF £7.95
Duck and Pork Terrine with cranberries and pistachios, chiccory & walnut salad, port gel GF £8.25
Breaded Brie Wedges, cranberry glaze and mixed leaf salad £7.50

MAIN DISHES

Roast Turkey Crown, roast and mashed potato, seasonal veg, roasted parsnips, apricot & chestnut stuffing, pigs in blankets, Yorkshire pudding and meat gravy GFA £19.95
Blade of Beef Bourguignon, horseradish mash, roasted vegetables GF £20.50
Slow Roasted Belly Pork, roast potatoes, creamed sprouts with bacon and chestnut GF £19.95
Roasted Salmon Fillet, herb and caper potato cake, spinach, hollandaise GF £19.95
Beetroot Wellington, herb mashed potato, seasonal vegetables, redcurrant jus £18.95

DESSERTS

GF options available on request

White Chocolate and Pistachio Cheesecake, vanilla ice cream £7.95
Apple and Cinnamon Crumble, ice cream, cream or custard £7.50
Classic Christmas Pudding, brandy sauce £7.50
Mulled Wine Infused Trifle £7.95
Dark Chocolate and Orange Sponge, ice cream, cream or custard £7.95
Mince Pies £3

Available 3rd ~ 24th December '25

Wednesday to Saturday (Afternoons and Evenings)

£10 per head non-refundable deposit on parties of 10 and over

The Railway Inn, Station Road, Thorpe on the Hill, Lincoln, LN6 9BS www.railwayinnthorpe.co.uk | 01522 681499



A New Week, A New Moment for You — Yoga After the School Run

Life can feel full before the day has even begun, the morning rush, the school run, the constant balancing act of everyday responsibilities. It's easy to move from one thing to the next without ever catching your breath. Yoga offers a much-needed pause: a chance to move gently, breathe deeply, If daytime doesn't work, I offer an evening class in the and reset your mind before the week sweeps you beautiful St Michaels and all angels Church in candle away again.

That's why I teach a class right after the school run because just one intentional hour can shift your To book: whole week. It's a space to release tension, build Scan here strength, and find calm, even when life feels chaotic.

Yoga has supported me through busy seasons, grief, and the natural ups and downs of life. Now I'm passionate about creating a welcoming, peaceful space for anyone who needs the same, a place to ground yourself, reconnect, and feel a little more like you.

If even one person walks out feeling lighter, clearer or more hopeful, then I know the world will be a slightly better place that day.

Yoga for All Stages of Life

Although this class is perfectly timed for busy mums, the door is open to anyone looking to move, breathe, and feel better in their body, including those with more spacious mornings, those entering a new chapter of life, or those simply wanting to stay mobile, strong, and connected.

People who come to class often find yoga helps them:

- stay strong and mobile
- improve balance and stability
- ease stiffness in the joints
- support bone and muscle health
- build confidence in movement
- reduce stress and tension
- enjoy a peaceful hour in a friendly, supportive environment

No matter your age, experience, or background, yoga meets you exactly where you are.

An Hour That's Truly Yours

Come straight from the school gates. Come easing into a slower morning. Come tired, hopeful, overwhelmed, curious or simply ready to breathe. Just come as you are.

Leave feeling grounded, nourished, uplifted, and ready to take on the week with a steadier mind and a more open heart.

Yoga for All Stages of Life — After the School Run

- Tuesday 9:30 in school term time.
- The Oliver Roper Centre.
- Beginners warmly welcome
- Injury-friendly & fully adaptable

light Thursday's 7:30pm





Email: peaceandpurposeyoga@gmail.com

Visit My socials and drop me a message: @peaceandpurposeyoga



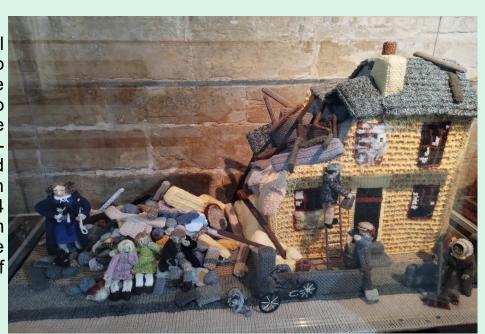
The Longest Yarn - Knit and Natter

In September this amazing exhibition came to Southwell. I went along with Zoe Olleranshaw and other members of the Knit and Natter went too. We were all bowled over!

The Longest Yarn is a global community of makers united in commemorating pivotal moments of World War II through large-scale, hand-crafted textile installations.

Their second major project, Britain at War, is now on tour across Great Britain and Northern Ireland, running through to the end of 2027. It is powerful 80-meter installation exploring the social history of the Second World War — how ordinary people coped, endured, and adapted during years of wartime hardship and change.

In summer 2026, it will be coming Peterborough, where they are planning to include The Peterborough Drop cascade of knitted and crochet flowers which will drop down in 4 cascades 100 foot from the interior tower close to where Catherine of Aragon is laid to rest.



Our Thorpe Knit and Natterers are signed up to contribute to this and Zoe has agreed to look into a coach trip down to see the exhibition (dates are not yet confirmed)

It feels very homely and welcoming to be chatting with a cuppa whilst also making something. Do come along - a warm welcome awaits you. Bring a friend or come along and meet a new one.

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month, 1.30 -3.30 in the Church December 9th, January 13 and February 10th

contact Sally Crust 07854 802576 or Barbara Bond 07733 396891

Mini St Michael's - A Christmas Update

happy buzz of children exploring, learning and much, and we can't wait to see the children shine. growing in confidence. It's a real privilege to see our little ones develop new skills while friendships form around them, both for the children and the grown-ups who join us.



This year brings something extra special: our very first Nativity Play. We are so excited to share this moment with our families and with the wider church community. A heartfelt thank you goes to Sue, who has lovingly created our beautiful Nativity costumes. Her time, care and creativity have made this project possible, and we're so grateful.

What a wonderfully busy and joyful term it has We'd also like to extend a big thank you to all the been at Mini St Michael's! Each week our Church families who have agreed to take part in the has been filled with laughter, crafts, music and the Nativity. Your enthusiasm and support mean so

> We have been kindly invited to join the Carol Service at St Michael and all Angels Church on Saturday 14th December, where the children will have the chance to sing. We'd love you to come along and be part of this special moment in our community's Christmas celebrations.

> If you're new to the village, are thinking of joining, or know someone who might appreciate a warm and welcoming space, we would absolutely love to meet you. Mini St Michael's runs every Monday morning, 9:30-11am during term time, and is a friendly group where children can play freely, enjoy crafts and stories, and where parents, grandparents and carers can find support, connection and a cup of tea.



You can keep up to date with news, photos and upcoming events on our **Facebook** page: @ministmichaels.

Wishing you all a peaceful and joy-filled Christmas season.

Katie x

Change to our Bin Collection

Lincolnshire is to benefit from a new weekly food waste collection service from Spring 2026, with North Kesteven District Council collecting it in our District.

As part of national 'Simpler Recycling' changes introduced by the Government (under the Environment Act 2021), all households in Lincolnshire will be able to recycle their food waste separately from general waste.

Instead of going to our Energy from Waste facility (along with all other black bin waste), your separately-collected food waste will be taken to an anaerobic digestion plant north of Lincoln. This will maximise the potential within our food waste, generating clean energy and creating fertiliser for local farms.

To help residents get started, all households will receive (from late January):

- A small 5-litre kitchen caddy to collect food waste in
- An initial roll of liners to line the kitchen caddy
- A 23-litre outdoor food waste caddy

An instruction leaflet explaining what goes in and how to use the service

How it works:

Just use the kitchen caddy to collect your food waste, like peelings, plate scrapings, and tea bags. When it's full, tie the liner and place it into your outdoor caddy, which you should then put out for collection <u>every week</u>. It will be collected on the same day that your usual bin goes out, but in a different vehicle.

This service will collect any kind of food, including that which you wouldn't normally compost at home – including raw and cooked meat, vegetables and fruit; bread, cakes and pastries; tea bags and coffee grounds; pet food and expired or mouldy foods. There's a full list on the council website at https://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/foodwaste.

Some frequently asked questions include:

- Do I need to buy special bags? No, you can use any bags and there's no need to buy special compostable or biodegradable ones. We encourage you to use recycled bags such as bread bags, carrier bags, or even online shopping delivery bags!
- Won't it smell? Lined and emptied regularly, there's little smell from your kitchen caddy. And being collected every week, there's less time for smells or pests to develop.
- I don't have room for another wheelie bin. There's no wheelie bin, it's a much smaller caddy.

For further information visit: www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/foodwaste.

email: customer services@n-kesteven.gov.uk or call: 01529 414155







Christmas Collections

Waste collections will change for everyone so please check

Normal collection days:	Collection day CHANGED to:
Monday 22nd December	Saturday 20th December
Tuesday 23rd December	Monday 22nd December
Wednesday 24th December	Tuesday 23rd December
Thursday 25th December	Wednesday 24th December
Friday 26th December	Saturday 27th December
Monday 29th December	NO CHANGE
Tuesday 30th December	NO CHANGE
Wednesday 31st December	NO CHANGE
Thursday 1st January	Friday 2nd January
Friday 2nd January	Saturday 3rd January

Find your bin day anytime at www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/findmybinday

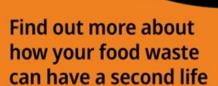
Any extra waste or recycling that won't fit in your bin should be taken to a Household Waste Recycling Centre. Opening times are at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/recycling-waste







Caddies will be delivered to your doorstep from late January – information about delivery will be available on our website www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/foodwaste











Jamie's Legacy – our visit to Uganda

This summer we travelled with some friends to Uganda to represent Jamie's Legacy at the official opening of the new boarding school. Our journey to Kampala didn't initially go as planned with a missed connection requiring a layover in Kigali however it opened our eyes to what a very clean & interesting country Rwanda appears to be.

Onto Kampala without hitch enabled our group of 11 to spend time with Ronald & his team of Cefovid volunteers who run a small community & children's charity supporting vulnerable families in the slums of Uganda's capital city Kampala.





Our group included our eldest son Sam & Sally, who many will know as our previous village postwoman. Our first few days involved visiting the slums that families & children endure. Spending time with the Cefovid volunteers became a tough reality check on living conditions as complete families live in single room dwellings that are exposed to flooding, mosquitoes, no fresh water, sanitation or luxuries like windows, electricity, beds etc. We supported activities such as donated grocery deliveries & hosting a breakfast club for children unable to attend school due to their families' financial struggles.

When you look at these pictures of the slums, it is easy to fall into lazy thinking - the inhabitants must be feckless, dirty, criminals - or any combination. It's simply not true though. Many people run small business or have low-paying jobs; it's just not enough to lift them out of poverty. The tiny shacks where families live are not free; rent still needs to be paid & eviction notices get served if not. If a breadwinner is sick, the family can starve, children can't go to school & their home is at risk. There is no safety net of social security.





What struck us most was how friendly, welcoming & generous the people are. Children that are lucky enough to go to school look immaculate, despite all the difficulties. We honestly don't know how parents have the mental fortitude to cope with having to raise their children in such an environment. Our tour continued visiting a local primary school to enable the group to appreciate the joy, health & wellbeing of children who are fortunate to be attending school & receiving nutritional meals. The comparison was hard hitting ... these children had life & joy in their faces where the less fortunate appear distant.

Then came two very special days that will live with us for ever. Boarding school located approximately 30miles north of Kampala for the official opening. Let's just say, in Uganda they love a ceremony & speech. The first day had all the dignitaries from the area inc. politicians, churches, etc. We were also joined by representatives from Helping Uganda Schools (Hugs) & the Mulchand Foundation, 2 small charitable organisations based in the UK that approached Jamie's Legacy to partner on the new school project. The children were all present & very well behaved considering the lengthy ceremony which was followed with the opportunity for us to visit 'Jamie's Library' which had been lovingly named in our Jamie's memory. Jamie's Legacy has provided significant funds to

We visited the SEVA Junior



help the school build plus equipment, carpets etc. It was a very emotional & proud moment to also unveil the signage



& photo of Jamie.

The school has plantations of maize, cassava, sweet potato & coffee.

This is used as a

This is used as a source of revenue, in addition to the school fees, to ensure sustainability. The following day we returned to the

school to host a party for the children - just our group of 11. It was a wonderful time to spend with the children.



Our group then spent time at Victoria Lake & took in a short safari. Uganda is such a beautiful lush green country...nothing like the Bob Geldolf's images of Ethiopia. It is important to experience both sides of Uganda if you can & not simply return having seen slums & poverty. There are plenty of diverse work opportunities for young adults but only if they have been fortunate to have gained an education.

Jamie's Legacy supports 120 children with educational sponsorships, 15 of which by kind residents from TOTH, inc. St Michael's Church. Educational sponsorships cost £200 a year to provide a child this opportunity...food, education & most importantly a healthy childhood with friends & siblings away from the associated risks of the slums. This is not an insignificant amount of money, but when compared to the cost of a swanky meal in the UK, it certainly puts things in perspective.

Jamie lives on in our lives & most

importantly he is putting a smile on so many young faces. Thank you to everyone who has supported us with Jamie's Legacy.



If you are interested in becoming a supporter, there are numerous ways that individuals & businesses can assist. In the first instance, contact either Julie or Alec (15 Fosse Lane) on 07921 582828





Public Consultation on Future Extension Plans for Whisby Quarry

residents on proposals for a southern be the Eagle Hall extension. Whisby Quarry integrate the current site with important source of proposed extension. been an construction materials for Lincolnshire since the 1980s. With existing reserves expected to run out by the end of 2029, About our consultation this extension would allow the quarry to continue supplying sand and gravel for approximately 15 to 20 more years.

About the proposed extension

- south of the current site.
- It would be worked in five phases, restored once with each area extraction is finished so that only a any one time.
- The restoration plans include new waterbodies, reedbeds, grassland, woodland and areas of agricultural land, helping to increase biodiversity and create a landscape that can be enjoyed long after quarrying has ended.
- The existing plant site and access another opportunity to comment. road would be retained, meaning no new entrance is required and HGV in place.
- Sand and gravel would be moved by an extended conveyor system across the site to the plant.

Alongside the main planning application, We are currently consulting with local three linked Section 73 applications will submitted to update extension to Whisby Quarry, known as restoration plans at the quarry and to

Our consultation began on Monday 24 November 2025. We've held two public exhibitions at Eagle Village Hall and Whisby Nature Park, as well as an online webinar for those unable to attend in person. These events have given people The proposed extension covers a chance to view the plans, speak around 91 hectares of land to the directly with the project team and share views on what matters most to them.

How to take part

limited part of the land is in use at The consultation runs until Sunday 7 December 2025, so there is still time to take part. All materials are available on the consultation website. and hard copies can be provided on request. The feedback we receive will help shape our planning application before submitted to Lincolnshire County Council early next year. The Council will then run its own statutory consultation, giving you

movement restrictions would remain To view the plans, provide feedback or request hard copies of the materials, visit whisbyquarry.tarmac.com. questions, contact the consultation team at che@egcommunications.co.uk or 020 3617 6359.

^{© 2025} EQ Communications Ltd. 251114 Tarmac Whisby Quarry November Magazine article

Love your Parish



Eric East Lake

Preparing for Grass Cutting

Before the final grass cut can take free to place, any fallen branches have to be removed to avoid damage to the materials machinery. Two of us set off to do this but unfortunately, early in this process, we disturbed a hornet's nest and they came for us! We both suffered a sting but I had a bad reaction and ended up in A&E.

Surprisingly perhaps, hornets are what to usually more docile than other wasps the hotobut the rotting tree trunk we lifted off the be four grass and dropped out of the way looking probably contained the nest. This what's a disruption really upset them!



(Photo from the Woodland Trust website)

Bug Hotels

The second bug hotel has now had several habitats added. We enlisted the support of two of the grandchildren who enthusiastically added fir cones, coir, acorns and twigs. We all had an enjoyable time.

Getting young people involved is a way of encouraging them to

recognise the importance of the natural world and to take an interest in it.

Please feel add free to to either bua hotel and to enlist the help children of and grandchildren. Guidance on are what to add to the hotels can be found by at



This what's already there.



We collected the fir cones on the footpath which forms the parish boundary on the edge of Tunman Wood. They looked very photogenic in the tray.

Orchard 1

This area has been strimmed and tidied up. Tenby daffodil bulbs have been planted and wild flower seeds have been sown. We look forward to spring.



Love your Parish



Orchard 2

I was successful in my bid for 5 more fruit trees. They will be planted between Resilience of the Trees the wood pile and the first orchard. At You may the time of writing, I'm still waiting to recall that hear about delivery.

Bird Life

The herons have returned to the lake. Two grey herons, a great white egret and two little egrets have been around the area over recent weeks. This photograph is a bit grainy but they don't let you get close!



Cormorant numbers were high on the day I took this photograph, which also contains a great white egret. The fishing club have started stocking the lake with bigger fish so that the cormorants leave them alone. You may be lucky enough to see these bigger fish jumping out of the lake, probably after flying insects.



Elsewhere in the Parish

after the very dry spring and summer many trees were showing signs of autumn as early as August.



Remarkably, once the regular. sometimes heavy autumn rain started to fall the trees seemed to have a new lease of life and we now have spectacular autumn colours. The photograph was taken at Whisby Nature Park



Storm Damage

We have had some very windy weather this autumn, including Storm Amy. This photograph shows a damaged oak tree at Whisby.

If you would like more information about volunteering at the Eric East Lake please contact me at tonymagri949@btinternet.com

EAGLE CP SCHOOL



Are you looking for a Reception place for your child for September 2026?



To book a tour and see what we have to offer please contact us:



01522 868354



enquiries@eagle.lincs.sch.uk www.eagleprimary.org.uk



Scarle Lane, Eagle, Lincs, LN6 9EJ



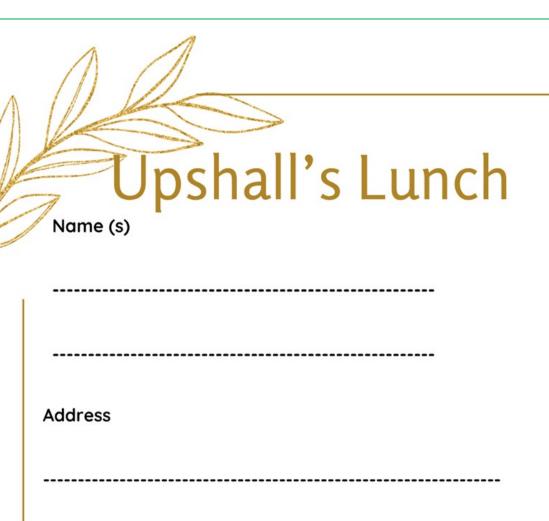


The Railway Inn
Station Road
Thorpe on the
Hill

Friday 16th January 2026 at 1pm

To be eligible for the lunch, you need to be in receipt of the state pension and be a resident of Thorpe on the Hill

All you need to do to secure your place is complete and return the slip on the next page to the post box at the village hall and then we will see you there. If you have any questions please contact Kerrie on 07828 259300



Contact number -----

If you have any dietary requirements please tell us here.

Including if you would like to select a vegetarian option.

If you have any problems completing or retuning this form to the Oliver Roper Centre, or you need assistance with transport, please email:

tothparish@gmail.com

St Michael's Church of England Primary School

It is always a busy time at this time of year sorting the garden out for winter and tidying! Lots of children have been helping re-organise our award-winning garden and are redesigning different elements to make it better for all! We have a gardening club at lunchtime, organised by year 6, who are tidying, tidying and tidying the garden! Our 'Helping Hands' club are restoring our outside story telling area as well as litter picking around the village.

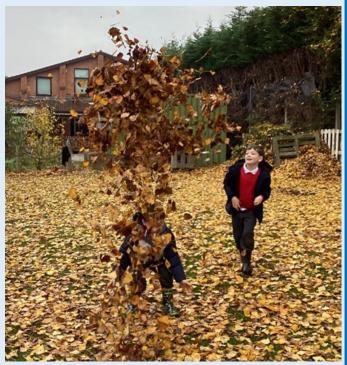
This term we have ensured that older children buddy up with younger children and support them in work and play – this has proved very popular with our Year 6 and Reception children. There has also been lots of orienteering going on – we have a designated orienteering course in school. All children get the chance to use iPads in school and the Year 4, 5 and 6 classes each have individual iPads to support them with their learning!

Year 5 and 6 had a great trip to Magna where we learnt about forces in action as well as about the elements of the earth. We also celebrated Bonfire Night by making guys and burning them – we obviously had to have s'mores!

We have thought a lot about remembrance and have visited the church as well as held a service in the village. Year 6 have sold poppies which has proved very popular. Things on the horizon include anti-bullying week, a whole school trip to the panto and plenty of Christmas action with nativities and dinners as well as Christmas jumper day – more news next time!

It is that time of year again when prospective Reception parents need to begin to look for the September 2026 intake and we would love to welcome you to our school. Our Reception class have at least three fulltime adults, an enclosed large covered outside space and there is access to Breakfast Club every day from 7.30am and after-school care until 5.30pm – all of our children love Breakfast and After-School Club!

We hope that prospective parents can see what we are all about at St Michael's and we welcome you to have a look around. Please contact school on 01522 681923 or enquiries@stmichaels.lincs.sch.uk and we will be happy to help you. We have spaces in some year groups, so why not get in touch and come and see what makes St Michael's such a special place to grow and learn!

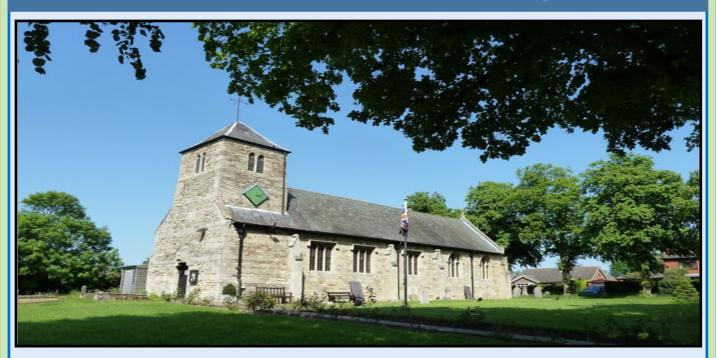


St Michael's Church of England Primary School





St Michael and all Angels



Dear Friends,

I suppose there is a child in all of us, who gets a lift from Christmas. Whether it's the gifts that are shared, the time spent with friends and family or the colours of decorated homes. I know for those of us who see shopping as a chore there is a downside, but it is never dimmed by the sense of celebration.

The story of Christmas is one of our humanity, and the physical world being seen as precious to God. In the story of Jesus God inhabited the world, and was revealed in the ways of human love lived out by Jesus.

This reminds me every day that all people are to see the world around them as simply "worth it". Our physical nature is of value, it is not a disposable commodity but a vehicle of love.

So this Christmas celebrate how precious those around you are, and those whose lives you know nothing of, and let it help you see that ALL humanity is of value.

At our Carol services we will be collecting gifts to be distributed to those who need support. At Thorpe and Swinderby we will be collecting new toys and games for children, to be distributed by the Christmas Present scheme run by churches in the greater Lincoln area. At Eagle and North Scarle we will be collecting hats, scarves and gloves for Project Compass who work with the street homeless in the area.

You will find details of all the different services across the area elsewhere, everyone is welcome to join us, whatever your experience of faith is.

With that, I wish you all a joy filled, loving Christmas.

As ever

Andrew

St Michael and all Angels - Patrick Bond

History of a changing church – <u>Dates at a glance</u>

- **1086** Wooden church recorded in Domesday Book
- Date of earliest surviving stonework. Built of pale Jurassic limestone blocks, roof was thatched. Original width only 4.5 metres, with an even smaller sanctuary.
- 1239 Ralph de Stokes was the first rector (previous priests came from Westminster)
- Money donated by Thomas Snell for "ye middyne [mending] of ye foresed churche"; more donations for repairs recorded in 1578 and 1631
- 1602 Church and chancel reported as "well repaired & kept in decencie" but the English Civil war (1642-51) led to many churches being neglected
- **Tower collapsed**. The limestone blocks had been built up without mortar, and the tower walls eventually bulged outwards and gave way completely.
- 1717 Tower rebuilt by "Thomas Lund, joiner, of Lincoln". The builders incorporated a Norman "keyhole" window, and the octagonal bowl of the original font, rescued from the rubble. Both are visible from the outside.
- 1722 Carved just to right of the doorway: "AC 1722". This may be the date of the rededication of the church.
- **1865** Slate roof repaired
- 1868 Hot water pipes installed (coal-fired boiler was situated in the tower, to the right of the door as you come in).
- 1874 Church re-decorated by Martin & Sims (Lincoln). New seats fitted in the chancel.
- 1909 Official survey of the church indicated a dangerous state of repair, with walls out of alignment, major cracks, and rotting timbers in the roof.
- 1912 Church demolished (apart from the tower) and completely re-built. North aisle and vestry added, making the church much wider. A few ancient features were kept: the medieval Priest's Door, only visible from outside, on the north face of the tower, surrounded by part of the medieval nave walls. Also the medieval "piscina", which is set into the wall to the right of the altar. The new church is 11 metres wide, including the north aisle; previously it was only 4.5 metres wide. It is 24 metres long, previously 14 metres.

The Church Now

The church has transformed itself repeatedly over the centuries. It now forms a space of quiet prayer, silence, and services of worship. A faithful group of volunteers and well-wishers from the village work hard to keep it and the churchyard in good shape. The chairs can be moved to create a flexible and accessible space in the nave, and this is used by many groups during the week. Our intention is to make it a welcoming and available hub for the community.

St Michael and all Angels

Our Church Wardens

Felicity Jenkinson on 07949654855 and Bob Sheldon on 685810

Our Treasurer

Chris Abrahams on 698208

We are now pleased to say that all administration for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals is being dealt with at North Hykeham.

Please contact:

Sally Long, Parish Office (Monday to Friday 9am - 12pm) North Hykeham, Lincoln. LN69AB Tel: 883100 Tel: 883100 or email: sallylong@nhallsaints.co.uk

Bell Practice

Tues Evening Bell ringing lessons 7.30pm - 9pm Please contact: Sandra Underwood on 07710 762458

We look forward to welcoming you to any of these services irrespective of which village you live in.

7th December- Group Holy Communion	1030	North Scarle before Advent Lunch
14th December	0930 1100 1600	Holy Communion – Swinderby Morning Prayer – Eagle Carol Service - Thorpe on the Hill
15th December	1830	Carol Service - Swinderby
21st December	0930 1100 1600	Holy Communion – Thorpe on the Hill Morning Prayer – North Scarle Carol Service - Eagle
22nd December	1830	Carol Service - North Scarle
24th December	0915 1030 1930 2100	Christmas Eve Communion – North Scarle Crib Service – Thorpe on the Hill First Communion of Christmas – Eagle First Communion of Christmas – Thorpe on the Hill
25th December	1030	Christmas Family Communion – Swinderby
28th December	1100	Holy Communion – Eagle

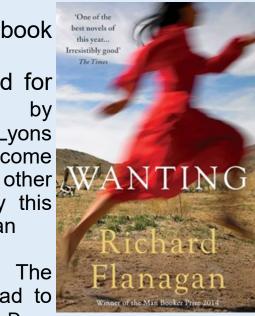
Love your Parish - ThReds Book Club

ThReds Book Club Book 67

Wanting by Richard Flanagan (scores ranged from 3 to 8 with an average of 6/10)

Friday, 30th September, 2025

This book was proposed for reading by Nick Lyons who had come across books by this **Tasmanian** author. including The Long Road to the Deep



North. He had been impressed by the interweaving of the history of the native population in Van Dieman's Land including Mathinna the daughter of the indigenous tribal leader; the life of its Governor Sir John Franklin Lincolnshire man and explorer of the North West Passage: and Charles play Dickens staging of a about Franklin's last journey. Plenty there for everyone!

Members found this an interesting read but some felt the different strands became disjointed and felt forced perhaps we were looking for stronger connections. They also struggled to connect with the characters - the Pastor and his grisly treatment of a corpse, the Governor and his wife going from being feted to known as 'His Bulkiness and His Interfering Wife', others empathised with the unsympathetic portrayal of Charles Dickens who became obsessed with the young actress Ellen.

In fact, whilst there was strength to the theme of 'wanting' - Lady Jane wanting her husband's expedition to be seen as a success, Dickens wanting of the young actress, Lady Jane's wanting of a child to love - we found it was the characters themselves who were found to be wanting with no redeeming qualities at all.

Whilst the book gave voice to the Tasmanian Aborigines, it also shone a light on their treatment by the colonialists who described them as 'savages' needing to be saved with British standards and were oblivious to how they were seen.

'Not a book to enjoy', 'I was left with no redeeming hope or happiness' - especially for Mathinna who suffered greatly when abandoned back to the orphanage. One member commented -

'a book about violence and squalor' with inclusion of unnecessary detail which we agreed could well be a feature of Flanagan's books. However, it did spark interest from members - most went on to research the North West life Passage exploration, the of Mathinna and the **Tasmanian** Aborigines, and perhaps this is the mark of a good Book Group read.

Thanks to Zoe for this Book Club piece.

For more information contact me at tonymagri949@btinternet.com

Love your Parish - ThReds Book Club

ThReds Book Club
Book 68
The Silence in Between by Josie
Ferguson
(scores ranged from 7 to 9 with an average of 7.7)
Friday, 14th November, 2025

Shirley chose this book for discussion at our 68th meeting. She was drawn to the idea of a story about the Berlin Wall written from a German perspective. The group felt that the book was well paced and structured with well developed, although not very engaging, characters. On the down side, it couldn't be described as a literary classic.

Summary

Lisette is in hospital in Germany with her baby boy, Axel, who is unwell. The doctors tell her to go home to rest. When she wakes on the 13th August, 1961, the border between East and West Berlin has been closed with Lisette in the East and Axel in the West. Border guards have orders to shoot anyone who tries to cross. Lisette's teenage daughter Elly develops a daring plan to escape East Berlin, and find and bring her brother back to his family.

The book is very well researched, which makes the implausible story believable, although creditability is stretched on occasions. It was generally agreed that it was a good story but often harrowing, particularly when reading about the treatment of the women of Berlin by Russian soldiers and the separation of a baby from his family. The book appealed on an emotional level.

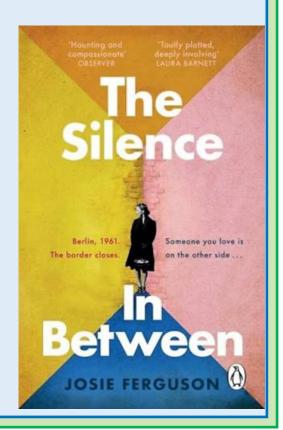
The history of Berlin at the end of the war and its division by the Berlin Wall in 1961 were informative, even bringing back memories, as all of the group could remember the start of the demolition of the wall in 1989 and several could recall the building of the wall.

Thank you to Shirley for being an excellent host for the meeting and for the imaginative, book themed refreshments. The book encouraged a lot of lively discussion which concluded with some excellent German style cakes (and tea, of course.). It was another very enjoyable meeting - they always are.

The next book is 'Slow Horses' by Mick Herron.

For more information about the Book Club contact me at tonymagri949@btinternet.com

Tony Magri









CHRISTMAS OPENING

SATURDAY 20TH UNTIL 23RD DECEMBER

OPEN 10.00-15.30

Festive Brunch served until 14.30

CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY CLOSED

BOXING DAY - WEDNESDAY 30TH DECEMBER

OPEN 10.00 - 15.30

Festive Brunch served until 14.30

NEW YEARS EVE

10.00 - 13.30

Festive Brunch served until 13.00

NEW YEARS DAY

10.00 - 15.30

Festive Brunch served until 14.30

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CENTRE CLOSES 30 MINUTES AFTER THE CAFE

NORMAL OPENING HOURS RESUME MONDAY 5TH JANUARY 2026









Autumn at Whisby Nature Park

After a very dry summer, with Whisby, along with the rest of Lincolnshire suffering drought conditions, it's a relief to see some much-needed rain and notice the first signs of Autumn as the temperatures start to cool down and the days get shorter. Autumn is a spectacular season at Whisby, an incredible display of fungi this year, and an abundance of berries, rosehips and nuts that the wildlife are busily feeding on in preparation for Winter.

Out on the reserve, the Warden team have been busy finishing off mowing the meadows and grasslands, and are now starting the Autumn and Winter seasonal work of maintaining our hedges, scrub and woodland areas. We'll also be out and about mowing the path verges and making sure all the view points and hides are looked after.

As we cut back some of the scrub in parts of the reserve, you might notice we create large habitat piles in places from the leftover brash. These habitat piles are fantastic places for Hedgehogs and other small mammals, reptiles and invertebrates to over winter in, and can support many hundreds of species as they gradually break down over time.

If you are tidying up your own garden and getting ready for winter, you can also help the local wildlife in your back yard by leaving at least a corner "wild", you never know what might decide to call it home!

Autumn is also when many of our summer bird visitors have headed back out on migration to warmer climes, and we may see an influx of winter

Fly Agaric mushrooms (Amanita muscaria)

passage birds arriving from places like Scandinavia and colder areas of Europe, to spend the winter here in a (relatively) warmer climate!

In particular, look out for large numbers of geese flying overhead, or touching down for a rest and a feed on one of the large water bodies at Whisby. You might also spot small flocks of Starlings coming in to roost from nearby fields. In past years, Whisby has occasionally been graced in December with spectacular Starling murmurations. We can never guarantee they will happen, but worth watching out for as the sun sets!

We also look to the onset of winter and there will be plenty happening at Whisby over the 2025/26 winter period. Our usual roster of monthly clubs for kids and young people will be running; Nature Tots (under 5s), Wildlife Watch (5-11 years), Junior Wardens (11-18 years) and our Home Ed Club for home educated kids (5-12 years).

For those young people undertaking their Duke of Edinburgh's Award, we now offer a monthly DofE work party on the 3rd weekend of each month. This gives them the opportunity to volunteer their time and learn new skills in nature conservation. You can visit our Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust website to find out more.

While the last of our workshops for adults for 2025 are fully booked, our workshop programme will be back for 2026, starting with a practical Hedge Laying workshop on Sat 24th Jan. For details

on how to book onto this or any of our other workshops, you can follow the link below or visit our website.

Have a lovely autumn and we'll see you in winter.

Stay wild,

Whisby Team,





Thorpe on the Hill - Parish Council

PC Minutes 22nd October 2025 – Summary of key points

Public time:

- The PC thanked Paul Smith for his time, effort, and loan of historical photographs which are now on display in the village hall.
- The Scouts thanks the PC for the pulley for the Union Flag and it was agreed that they can
 install two foldable hooks so they can display photographs at their meetings

District/County Council Updates

- TOTH has been selected by Cllr Woodruff for this year's Cllr Volunteer Scheme to clean and paint the village entrance gates and wheels.
- PC Coaches has now amended their timetables, and 2 new bus stops have been approved.
 Little Thorpe Lane side of the current bus stop will have a pole installed next to the path
 with a flag sign and timetable. Opposite will have the same but with the inclusion of some
 hardstanding for passengers.
- Sempers Close has been repaired and options for Blacksmiths Lane are being sought.
- A ward round for Thorpe with the local highways officer is being planned, hopefully early in November with a date to be confirmed.
- Cllr Overton advised that he has recently met with residents of Sempers Close regarding inconsiderate parking of vehicles. In response the PC agreed to explore extra signage for the village hall car park to promoted its use

Formal PC Meeting

- A copy of the minutes of the previous meeting was approved and signed.
- The Financial Report was agreed and signed.
- After a discussion on the leaking water tank used by the Bowl's Club it was agreed:
 - To replace the existing water butt with a cylindrical plastic tank with the supportive structure and fittings needed and install a water meter
 - 2. Not to apply for a grant for an irrigation system based upon the guotes supplied.
 - 3. To consider a more economical proposal for an irrigation scheme if the Bowls Club still wish to explore this option.
- Traffic Calming: 2 meetings have taken place recently regarding traffic calming measures.
 One with the Head of Highways and the second with Balfour Beatty (BB) who are the contractors employed for the new bypass. The following points emerged:
 - 1. BB proposed temporary measures during the construction of the new bypass
 - The Parish Clerk added that the traffic calming meetings were instigated following residents' concerns regarding issues in the village now and we should aim to introduce practical measures in advance of the construction of the Hykeham Relief Road
 - 3. It was agreed that the clerk would feedback the support from the Parish Council to highways for the implementation of temporary measures and determine a timescale

The PC agreed the following:

- Adoption of a recommended IT policy and to undertake appropriate training to support implementation
- To grant a village hall booking request for permission to apply for a temporary event notice with the intention of selling alcohol
- To purchase additional Christmas décor for the outside of the village hall

The Lakeside Butcher

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2 - 4.30pm



2025 DATES

6th / 20th Nov 4th / 11th Dec

2026 DATES

8th / 22nd Jan 5th / 19th Feb

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Friday & Saturday 12pm - 11pm (restaurant 12-9pm)

Sunday 12pm - 10.30pm (restaurant 12-4pm)

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27th Lincoln Scouts has been active in Thorpe-on-the-hill for 20 years. We started with a dozen children... there are now nearly 100 over 4 sections.

Unfortunately our current treasurer is moving on and we need to find a replacement to manage the financial health of our group

Full support from current treasurer during handover period.

No previous financial experince needed Assist with management of group finances Help with annual budgets and financial reports Great opportunity to build skills and make a real impact



27th Lincoln Thorpe-on-the-Hill For further information please email:

Oliver Chapple - oliver@27thlincolnscouts.org.uk Ray Twell - ray@27thlincolnscouts.org.uk

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06:53	07:53	09:08	09:12	09:42	10:07	11:07	12:07

48	49	49	49	49	48	49	49	49
12:12	13:00	14:07	15:07	16:07	16:42	17:07	18:07	19:05

Bus from Lincoln Bus Station to Thorpe on the Hill

48	49	49	49	49	48	49	49
06:45	07:00	07:50	08:50	09:50	10:30	10:50	11:50

49	48	49	49	49	49	49	48
12:50	13:30	13:50	14:50	15:50	16:50	17:50	18:00

Only on School Days

Only on Saturdays and School Holidays













WORCESTER



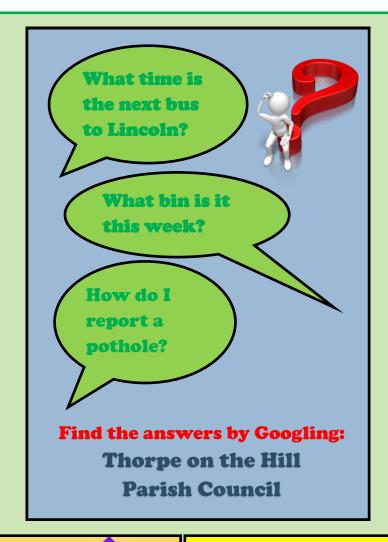
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Chris Abrahams

01522 698208

chris.abrahams@btinternet.com

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There is a £5 surcharge for bookings continuing after 10pm.

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Bassingham Surgery 01522 788250

Bassingham Pharmacy 01522 789307

NHS Dental Helpline 01522 515386

Lincoln County Hospital 01522 512512

NSPCC Helpline 0800 800 5000

NKDC Environmental Health 01522 699699

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18th December 16th January 13th February 13th March

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