



The Wonthaggi Woody



www.wonthaggiwoodcrafters.com.au

Wonthaggi Woodcrafters
 P. O. Box 477 Wonthaggi 3995
 Jean Melzer Centre
 239 White Road
 Wonthaggi 3995



COMMITTEE:

PRESIDENT:

Syd Gordon - 0434 614 573

VICE PRESIDENT:

Peter Myers - 0413 122 103

SECRETARY:

Michael Bladen - 0428 270 850

TREASURER:

Frank Kisvarda - 0418 177 505

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Neil Lenne - 0417 343 112

Alan Hurst - 0427 393 234

Tina Kalivas - 0425 701 629

Hartley Tobin - 0400 359 976

Amanda Robbins - 0423 054 756

David Carlos - 0423 623 138

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Secretary

woodiessec@gmail.com

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DIARY 2024

November 4th - Committee Meeting

November 1st - Set-up at Newhaven

Nov. 2nd - 5th - Cup weekend Sales Event at Newhaven

November 11th - Final 2024 Members' Meeting

November 29th - Christmas Shop set up

November 29th - Last turning workshop 2024

December 2nd - Final 2024 Committee Meeting

December 2nd - Christmas Shop Opens

December 5th - Christmas function @ Wonthaggi Workman's Club

December 5th - Last Workshop sessions 2024

December 24th - Christmas Shop Closes

January 6th - Club workshops re-start

WOODIES WORKSHOP SESSIONS

WOODTURNING: Regular Sessions

Monday 9 am to 12 noon - Hartley Tobin: 0400 359 976

Neil Lenne: 0417 343 112

Neil Bateman: 5672 3229

Monday 1pm to 4pm Michael Bladen 0428 270 850

Time for this session will vary on first two Mondays each month

Monday 5 pm to 8 pm - John DiStefano: 0482 173 799

Wednesday 1pm to 4pm - Lionel Wood: 0409 695 950

Friday 9 am to 12 noon - Hartley Tobin: 0400 359 976

Neil Lenne: 0417 343 112

Neil Bateman: 5672 3229

SEGMENTED TURNING: Regular Sessions

Friday 9am to 12 noon - Grant Crocker 0418 121 592

TOY GROUP: Regular Sessions

Tuesday 9am to 4pm - Peter Myers 0413 122 103

PYROGRAPHY: Regular Sessions

Friday 1pm to 4 pm - Michael Bladen: 0428 270 850

SCROLL SAWING: Regular Sessions

Wednesday 9am to 12 noon - Lionel Wood: 0490 695 950

Syd Gordon: 0434 614 573

JOINERY: Regular Sessions

Thursday 9am to 12 noon - Syd Gordon 0434 614 573

Thursday 1pm to 4pm - Tina Kalivas, Peter Myers and David

Carlos - refer Syd Gordon

CARVING: Regular Sessions

Friday 9am to 12 noon - Harry Smith: 5674 8078

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello all and welcome to the October newsletter. Recently we had a working bee to clean up the clubrooms. Ten members attended with all workshops being cleaned and vacuumed, including the meeting room/kitchen. The milling bandsaw was fixed and tuned, the Kapex saw was realigned and the two bandsaws and the table saws in the machine shed were retuned.

The work wasn't restricted to just the inside areas - all the cobwebs/dirt under the eaves and gutters were cleaned. A big thanks to those who gave up their time. Also, special thanks to Neil Lenne for cleaning the tops of all the extractor ducts in the machine shop - it wasn't an easy task going up and down the ladder all morning.

On Saturday 5th October, we had our social luncheon and get together. Around thirty members attended and a good time was had by all. There were plenty of goodies, hot and cold, to go around. It was difficult to choose what to eat - the solution was not to choose, just try everything! I know I ate too much! How did the rest of you go?

A big thanks to Lynn and Neil for organising the event and for their tireless dedication to the food preparation. Also, thanks to Hazel (Lynn's Mother) for the huge sponge cake, Tina for the cheesecake, Sandra for the eggs used in the baked products and Rhonda for the delightful scones.

Cont. P.2

from page 1 -

A reminder to all that there are rosters on the noticeboard for the following two events -

1. The Cup Weekend at Newhaven, Friday 1st Nov is set-up day – bring your sale items to the club with your completed sales sheets and sales cards attached to each item. The event runs from Sat 2nd Nov – Tue 5th Nov.
 2. The Bunnings BBQ is on Sat 9th Nov. Consider putting your name down for a morning or afternoon shift – it isn't hard work and is usually quite a fun social event. Stay safe everyone.
- Cheers, *Syd Gordon*

CURRENT NEWS

Members' Meetings - The October meeting was attended by 22 members. The meeting began with a presentation by John DiStefano of his new software, as also outlined in last month's Newsletter. Called "Woodturning Design Helper", it is available on his website (johndistefano.com.au) or have a chat to John about how to use the program. In November we have Grant, an Audiologist from ABC Hearing in Wonthaggi and Cowes coming to do a presentation.

First Aid Courses - Two courses were conducted on 24th and 25th September with 18 Woodies members successfully participating. As two people had to drop out due to illness, we now have two positions for future BCAL courses available. If any member wishes to do a course, let Michael Bladen know and you may be slotted into an upcoming program.

Membership News - We're still regularly welcoming new members. Our current membership stands at 106. There are also other potential new members who are in the process, have visited or requested information.

Changes to workshop sessions - Due to demand for Joinery, an additional session has been initiated for Thursday afternoons. However this session is only for more experienced and advanced Woodies. It will be facilitated by Tina Kalivas, Peter Myers and David Carlos. It is not suitable for newbies or those who need support. Speak to Syd Gordon to determine if this session is right for you. Further sessions may also be required to support Carving which has become very popular. This is under consideration.

Coughs, Colds, Flu and Covid - it's Winter - We have recently had a few members come down with Covid, flu and colds. We all know the symptoms, so if you're feeling unwell, have a cough, sneeze or whatever, look after yourself, test, medicate and stay at home until you are completely well again.

Workshops/meeting room clean-up - Thanks to the 10 members who came along and did a great job on a

CURRENT NEWS cont.

range of much needed tidying and cleaning activities.

Club Luncheon 5th October - 30 Members attended. Huge thanks to Lynne and Neil Lenne for the organising, cooking and management of an outstanding Club event. Photos later in this newsletter.

New Bank Account details - Please ensure you have now made necessary alterations for our new bank account. The old account is now officially closed, however will remain active until the end of October. Our new account details are:

BENDIGO BANK

BSB 633 000

AC No 221 237 910

Please remember to update your address book.

Wearing of Club badges - The Committee is asking all members to wear their badges when at the Club if possible. This applies especially to Members' Meeting and other functions. However, as we are getting increasing numbers of new members, it's important make yourself known at other times as well.

Table for Country Universities Centre Bass Coast - (a local not-for-profit). Michael and Syd are negotiating the finer details, but would welcome assistance when the time comes for the build. Bunnings have generously provided most of the materials. To find out more about this organisation go to <http://www.cucbasscoast.edu.au/>

CLUB AWARDS - In the turmoil of AGM, changes to Committee and various end of year activities, it has become difficult to get the Annual Awards arranged. Committee has agreed that the Awards 2024 timeline will be extended to the following - 1. submissions to be in by end of January; 2. Judging in February; 3. presentation at a club function in March. These dates are currently nominal and can be adjusted depending on responses, etc.

Award categories - There are 4 Woodies Annual Club Awards, each with a perpetual trophy and monetary and/or other prize. These are:- 1. The President's Award; 2. The Okke Huitema Excellence Award; 3. The George Hill Most Improved Award; 4. The Harry Oates Encouragement Award.

Further details will be provided before the end of the year.

Bandsaw blades - Neil Bateman is about to submit an order for bandsaw blades for the Club. If any member would like to take advantage of post free and good prices for quality blades from McDiven Saws, please contact Neil with details. Payment will also need to be made prior to the order being placed.

MEMBER PROFILE



Mike Tesch

My German parents emigrated to Australia in 1956. I tell people that I was keen to get out of Germany as soon as I was old enough to walk! I was 2 years old. My father was a diesel mechanic so he already had work lined up by the time we had berthed at station pier

in Melbourne. My father's first memories of Australia were going to a couple of Olympic events. My mother, who considered herself as quite stylish, was aghast at the appalling fashions in clothing available in the department stores. My earliest memories were of Fruit Tingles, Polly Waffles and Twisties at the local milk bar in Footscray where we lived.

Within a few years my parents scrimped and saved and bought a house in the suburban wilderness of Doncaster East. We lived there for the next 20 years. Meanwhile my father had bought his first semi-trailer, marking the beginning of a long career as an interstate truckie. On school holidays I would go with him to Brisbane, Adelaide, Sydney and Wollongong. It surely fostered my love of travel, both within Australia and overseas, which would define much of my life. At the age of 16, I hitch-hiked with a mate to the Gold Coast and the following year hitched rides to my first rock festival near Gosford. When we ran out of money, I was able to bludge meals at roadhouses on the Hume Highway where my father ate and I put it on his tab, before paying him back later. In 1972, I started a university degree in Melbourne, but I was too restless and was a poor student. In late 1973, I took advantage of cheap flights to South America and flew to Peru. From there, without a word of Spanish, I hitch-hiked around finding myself in Chile a couple of months after the coup. The country was under martial law with no tourists. There were night curfews and it was definitely no place for a long-haired (yes, I had hair then!) 19 year old. I evaded the police and military to make it back to catch my flight home. That gave me a taste for Latin America and over the next decade my girl-friend Leone (now my wife) and I, spent years travelling through the Americas. Although I did finish my degree, I was not destined to work in an office.

I had always loved bush-walking and increasingly became interested in plants. To finance my travels I fell into nursery work, which became my career. I worked in retail nurseries and by the time I was 40 was managing a large and successful retail nursery in Hawthorn. By this stage Leone and I had our daughter Anna and were living in Brunswick, where we lived for the next 35 years. I had had enough of retail (plants are easy, people are hard!) and instead worked in wholesale nurseries growing advanced trees. Once we had gotten our mortgage under control, Leone and I were able to again travel overseas to all sorts of

exotic places: Cuba, Borneo, Africa and Europe, where we walked 800 Km across Spain.

Most of the time however, I have enjoyed camping in National parks around Australia. Now that I am getting older and "softer" we are doing so in greater comfort in our pop-up caravan. I was first introduced to South Gippsland in 1966, when my parents bought land and built a holiday house in undeveloped Cape Paterson. It became the focus of holidays and long weekends all through my teenage years. I was even a life-saver at Cape Paterson Surf Life Saving Club for 2 years in the early 70's until the "Wanderlust" got the better of me.

By the 80's my parents had retired to Cape and in 1999 we bought and built a holiday house there as well. The family tradition continued when Leone and I also retired to Cape Paterson in 2017. I have always maintained that the key to a successful retirement is to have two and a half passions. Cape Paterson and Wonthaggi easily provided these. I had always loved the ocean and Cape has magnificent beaches for surfing, ocean swimming and diving, all of which I do regularly. I am now the co-ordinator for the annual Great Victorian Fish Count (the largest citizen science project in Victoria) on the Bunurong coast. We snorkel in groups of 30 or so at Shack Bay and Harmers Haven and count fish for research!

Secondly, I have been able to continue my involvement with plants by joining the Wonthaggi Seed Bank Nursery. We collect seed and propagate up to 40,000 plants for revegetation projects within Bass Coast.

For my half a passion (watching day-time TV doesn't qualify!) I wanted to do something creative. My brother is a ceramicist and my sister was quite an accomplished wood turner, but I had never really made anything as a hobby. I ran into the Woodies group about 8 years ago selling wooden items in the Wonthaggi Mall and having always appreciated the beauty of timber, I thought I would try it when I lived down here full time. I initially tried wood turning for a couple of years, but having little room in my garage for a lathe and the fact that I prefer quieter hand tools, I decided to switch to wood carving – I mean, I can make a B- grade spoon just as well as turn a B- grade bowl! I instantly loved the camaraderie of the club and the experience and know-how of the co-ordinators and teachers who have shown infinite patience with my wood-working inadequacies. The tea room banter is always lots of fun as everyone jostles for the last Iced Vo-Vo!

Now that I am slowly mastering making timber spoons, trivets and scoops, I might even move on to something more ambitious like a large bowl, if for no other reason but to get up the noses of the turners!



WOODIES @ WORK

Below: Woodies member Wayne Dragic works on one of his large toy trucks with support from Paul during a toy group workshop session.



Above: Toy group supervisor Peter Myers together with Amanda Robbins, Bob King and Stephen Rosendale are hard at work creating toys to donate to the Wonthaggi Hospital fete and the Club's sales event which is conducted jointly with the Phillip Island Patchworkers on Melbourne Cup weekend.

When I was 5 years old, my mother always told me that happiness was the key to life. When I went to school, they asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up. I wrote down happy. They told me I didn't understand the assignment, and I told them they didn't understand life. ~ John Lennon

***Time may be a great healer,
but it's a lousy beautician.***

~Author Unknown~

WOODIES @ WORK

The chair below belongs to Bernie and Barbara Bambling. It's a chair that has strong family ties. An accident recently resulted in the chair being substantially (and some may have said irreparably) damaged, as it was broken into numerous pieces. Even biscuit joints were split and splintered. However Neil Lenne has managed to resurrect it to its former beauty. He even used his French Polishing skills to finish it off. The Bamlings were extremely grateful and the chair continues to take pride of place at their home. Well done Neil.



The box **above** has been made by Tina Kalivas using Kumiko techniques. Kumiko panels slot together and remain in place through pressure alone. That pressure is achieved through meticulously calculating, cutting, and arranging interweaving joints. Traditionally it is made with hand-tools only. The technique was developed in Japan in the Asuka Era (600-700 AD). Tina, Syd, Grant and other members are now enjoying the skills and challenges of this technique. The box pictured is made from Blackwood, with an Oak interior and the front panel made from Huon Pine.

SHOW & TELL

The pictures below and to the right were of items presented at our Members Meeting on 14th October. The zippered vase has been created by Johan Vaessen from Silky Oak and finished with Aussie Oil. Hartley Tobin quickly made a Christmas Tree in the morning turning session and shows here the ease with which a variety of Christmas items can be made. The segmented bowl with the star centre was made by John DiStefano. The woods used are Redgum and Tassie Oak. **At right:** The unusual shaped ply construction is steam bent using special plywood of 5mm or 8mm. It is bent over a form and screwed together. It is a book case and is quite practical - made by David Carlos. The open bowl was also made by Johan from Banksia and finished with beeswax and Aussie Oil. The shadow shape of a couple was scrollsawn by Alan Hurst from a 30cm Huon Pine slice.



SHOW & TELL



SHOW AND TELL

Below is a blue tongue lizard beautifully carved from Silky Oak and then stained by Ron Snooks. It is based on the real -life lizard that resides in his garden. There are also three 'weed pots' with glass tube inserts made by Alan Hurst. They are made from a natural Banksia branch, Redgum and Silky Oak. Also pictured is a spinning wheel bobbin made by Gordon Garbutt from Cypress with a cylinder centre of Mountain Ash. On the right is a nut bowl made by Steve Edge, using John DiStefano's new software, from Redgum and using a 2 part Rustin's plastic finish. John also used the software to design the segmented Golden elm and Spotted Gum vase/bowl below which has been augmented with 3 eggs made from Golden Elm and Japanese Gum. Finally, at the bottom is a large segmented vase (a work in progress) made by Steve Edge from Banksia and Blackwood.

SHOW AND TELL



VISIT TO SRI LANKA -

I had a recent holiday in Sri Lanka. It is a spectacular place but sadly, very poor.

The cost structures are such that it is still viable for hand crafts to be commercially competitive. Some artisans can make a living hand carving timber.

I was fortunate enough to visit a work shop. Though I suspect that nowadays they make a very substantial proportion of their income from tourists, rather than the sale of art goods.

The items created varied from simple coconut face carvings (where the fibre was left to simulate hair), to bass relief wall boards, to large and/or complex sculptures, as shown in the photos below.

Ric Fallu



Our own Wonthaggi Woodies 'artisans' are also creating some wonderful masterpieces as evidenced by the photo below of the ongoing carving work by John Harmer. He's now into developing the piece into more 3D form - the fence and trees are components that John has begun developing. It's an on-going project, which we'll follow.



I know, you've heard it all before. But once more in a simple and comprehensive form won't hurt - WILL IT!!

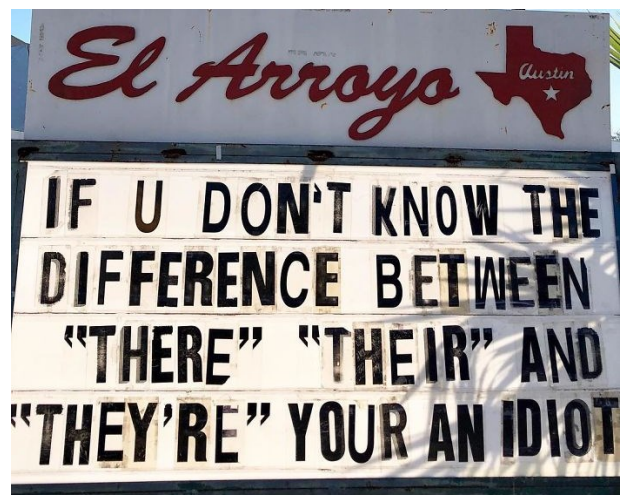
We know that woodworking can be done safely, but it is very dangerous if not done properly.

Here's a video that reminds us of all the issues that may affect our safety in woodworking workshops. It's only 20 minutes, but may be 20 minutes well spent.

The voice is a little monotonous, but the messages are clear - do yourself a favour and have a look.

The definitive guide to woodworking safety. BACK TO BASICS - Steve Ramsay.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tKWs5tcvIII>



WOODIES @ PLAY

As mentioned in the President's report, the Woodies hosted a very successful social event/luncheon at the Club on Saturday 5th October. It was attended by 30 members and partners and everyone enjoyed the convivial atmosphere and the wonderful food. What an incredible spread of hot and cold options made substantially by Lynn Lenne, with support from Hazel, Tina, Rhonda and Sandra. Thanks to Lynn and Neil and everyone else who supported the event. **Below** are photos of everyone socialising, eating and being merry at the event.



WOODIES @ PLAY

Below: President Syd Gordon presenting Lynn Lenne with a bunch of Proteas (thanks to Hartley and Meryl) in appreciation of all the time and effort she put into making the luncheon so successful. Neil looks surprised as he's caught out doing the dishes - he's been well trained! But wife Rhonda and Jan are enjoying the occasion together. *Ed. note: Neil was happy for the photo to appear. ☺*



SOME WORTHWHILE HACKS

I thought that this may be of interest for Woodies members.

The Wonthaggi library have recently got in a new woodworking book, *Mid Century Woodworking*. The book that was written in the 1960's with a focus on joinery projects. This latest edition now includes imperial and metric measurements to support the projects.

More details and an image of the book can be found here -

<https://www.amazon.com.au/Mid-Century-Woodworking-Projects-Make-Hand/dp/1849948445>

David Carlos

What's more natural and authentic than cracks in wood?

The alternatives - fill or repair it, use resin, or toss it? The latter seems to be the choice of some. But what about the challenge, what about making use of our valuable timber - what about just being creative??? The fixes in the pics below aren't terribly difficult and can be attractive, highlighting the natural flaw rather than covering it up. The turning needs to be done carefully though.



LINKS & WEBSITES TO EXPLORE

<https://www.woodworkersjournal.com/ten-principles-of-clean-cutting/>

An excellent article.

<https://www.woodmagazine.com/materials-guide/finishes/filling-grain-for-perfect-finishing>

Filling Wood Grain for Perfect Finishing

<https://www.instructables.com/Helix-Wind-Spinner/>

Ever tried one of these spinners? I have, they're quite easy and they work well.

<https://lathehub.com/woods-for-lathe-turning/>

Best Woods For Lathe Turning

<https://www.turningforprofit.com/how-to-maintain-your-wood-lathe/>

A mix of info., but worth the read

<https://sawsonskates.com/clean-saw-blades/>

Details of why and how to clean saw blades

<https://www.christofix.com/drill-press-speed-chart/>

What drill speed should I use?



For those who don't want Alexa listening in on your conversations, they're making a male version.....it doesn't listen to anything.

WHAT TOOL IS THIS?

Last Month's Mystery Tool



Clue: Made by RECORD, but it's not a plane.

Vintage Record No 618 Cropper, AKA Record 618 EC Clippit 3/8" Bolt Cutters (Bolt Cropper) circa 100 year age. For cutting bolts up to 3/8" diameter.

This Month's Mystery Tool



Oh, it's just another plane you say?? Yep, but this one fetched US\$18,600 at auction recently! Why?

SAVINGS ON EXPENDABLES

NEW STOCK HAS NOW ARRIVED IN BULK, SO PRICES ARE MINIMISED: Shellawax, Glow, EEE, super glue and sandpaper. All items are on-sold at cost price. We also have basic earmuffs, safety glasses and Covid-safe masks if you'd like to wear one. If you are interested in purchasing any of these items, see your session supervisor for prices and availability. *If you have any thoughts about other items the Club could purchase in bulk for resale, speak to a Supervisor or to Woodies purchasing officer - Neil Bateman.*

MEMBER PROFILES: For those who like to read the regular *Member Profiles* in the Newsletter, I've not got around to asking all members to see if they would be willing to contribute. I would especially love to hear from newer members who would be happy to tell their story, or perhaps some who may have done a Profile 'many moons' ago and would like to revise, as life has moved on. Please let me know, as the Member Profile in each newsletter allows everyone to get to know each other better and is eagerly anticipated by many members.



A very *happy birthday* to the following Members –

Peter Campbell

Craig Charles

Jan Fattohi

Wayne Taylor

There are still a few birthdays not on our records. If we've missed you, please let Alan Hurst know or email - woodiesnews@gmail.com

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Wonthaggi Woodies would like to warmly welcome the following new members.

247 David Smith

246 Margaret Place

We hope you enjoy being part of our Club. Please don't be afraid to ask if there is something we can help or support you with.



"How are you"?

How often each day do you get asked this??

And your answer *"Yeah, pretty good"*.

Here's 75 other options for your response. Spice it up and get some surprised looks. It's American and there're a few ads, but some will take your fancy.

<https://boxofpuns.com/funny-responses-how-are-you/>

*** CAN YOU HELP ***

Please send any relevant articles, photos of interest or your latest project, items to buy or sell, woodworking tips, tricks and jigs, or just any general suggestions for the Newsletter to -

woodiesnews@gmail.com

CONTRIBUTIONS TO NEWSLETTER SEGMENTS?

If you have any funny stories, articles, *Tips, Tricks & Jigs*, favourite gadgets, items to sell or buy, interesting websites, pictures of things you've created or work in progress, send them to - woodiesnews@gmail.com
Articles must be received no later than the 16th of the month please, to be included in the next Newsletter.

WOODIES CLASSIFIEDS

There are two categories; 'For Sale' if you have any tools or equipment you want to liquidate, and "Wanted" for those of you who are looking for preloved tools or equipment that other members may be willing to part with. There is no cost.

All you need to do to get an advert in, is write a short description (including contact details) of the item that you are selling, or wish to buy and send it to woodiesnews@gmail.com along with any photographs where appropriate.

Entries must be received by 16th of the month to be included in the next newsletter. Items will appear in two consecutive newsletters unless sold or otherwise requested.

THANKS TO WONTHAGGI WOODIES' SPONSORS

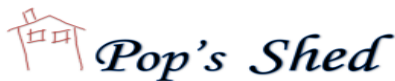
***** *They support us, please support them* *****



Cnr. White Road & McKenzie St, Wonthaggi
Ph: 5671 4000



33 -35 Murray Street, Wonthaggi
 (directly opposite Woolworths Supermarket)
 & 2460 Bass Hwy, Bass (in the Service Centre)



10b/286-288 Maroondah Hwy,
 Chirside Park
Ph: 9727 0611



Address 2/5-7 Korumburra Road
 Wonthaggi, Wonthaggi, VIC
 3995
Phone (03) 5672 5522



80-82 Osborne
 Ave Springvale Victoria 3171
(03) 8549 9999



72-90 Bilson Street
 Wonthaggi, 3995, Victoria Australia
Phone: 03 5632 3920



U6/3b Newlands Road
 Reservoir, VIC 3073
Phone: 03 9448 8300



Unit 2, 10-14 Capital Drive, Grovedale
Ph: 03 5243 0522



THE WONTHAGGI WOODY is the monthly
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