

# **STRAWBERRY HILL OVERSEAS AND COMMUNITY CONCERN**

**Annual Report of the Trustees  
For the year ending 31st December 2016**

**Charity registration number 1120787**

The Trustees present their report together with the accounts for the charity for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016. This report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS102) on 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities', and the Update Bulletin as have the accounts which have been drawn up on the accounting policies set out in Note 1 of the Financial Statements.

## Trustees

Mrs Elizabeth Byrne Hill  
Dr Kevin Cook (Chair)  
Mrs Valerie Cunningham  
Sr. Amicia Eyston (Resigned 16.11.2016)  
Rev. Fr. Gerard Devlin (Resigned 30.06.2016)  
Dr Caroline Healy  
Mr David Leen (Resigned 30.06.2016)  
Mrs Lin McGarry  
Mr Michael Murnane  
Ms. Gwen O'Leary (Resigned 16.11.2016)  
Ms Sally-Ann Richards

## Principal Office

St Mary's University, Strawberry Hill, TWICKENHAM. Middlesex. TW1 4SX  
020 8240 4000  
<https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/strawberry-hill-overseas-community-concern/shocc.aspx>

## Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc, PO BOX 1000, BX1 1LT

## Objectives

Within the overall object of ***the relief of disadvantage in the UK and overseas*** as set out in the Strawberry Hill Overseas and Community Concern Trust Deed our agreed objectives are:

- To advance the education of pupils in schools overseas by providing and assisting in the provision of facilities for education
- To advance the Roman Catholic faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the statements of belief of the Roman Catholic doctrine

- To develop the capacity and skills of members of socially disadvantaged communities in the UK and overseas so that they may be better able to identify and help meet their needs and to participate more fully in society
- To promote and protect the physical and mental health of HIV/AIDS sufferers through the provision of financial assistance, support, education and practical advice.

## **Background and approach**

Strawberry Hill Overseas and Community Concern (S.H.O.C.C.) is a UK charity working with disadvantaged people in many parts of the world. The charity was founded in September 2007, replacing its predecessor Strawberry Hill Overseas Concern (SHOC). Strawberry Hill Overseas Concern (S.H.O.C) was founded in 1971 by a group of staff and students who wished to explore the idea of establishing a link with educational institutions in the Global South. Several staff had experience of teaching overseas and they were aware both of the educational and personal needs of individuals and communities overseas and of the potential of such links to St Mary's. Together they wished to devise ways of bringing the needs of the Global South to the attention of the university community. Within a year, SHOC had become a recognised feature of college life.

In 2007, the name of the charity was changed to reflect its local, national and international dimensions. Whilst not giving up its overseas work, the new charity sought to bring together the many aspects of voluntary work of a more local nature being carried out by the university. Charitable status was obtained and trustees appointed.

S.H.O.C. was always very much a shared staff-student experience and the new charity has attempted to continue this tradition. For some this means working as a volunteer locally or overseas; for others it has involved corresponding with students or helping with fund raising initiatives. A strong, positive feature of SHOC and SHOCC is that they both involve present and past members of the college community.

S.H.O.C.C. concentrates on three main areas of activity. These are Projects, Fund-raising and Publicity. Projects that might receive financial support are submitted for consideration to the

Trustees. Projects need to have a link with the university such as through a member of staff, student or alumni and there should be some benefit to the charity and the institution. Trustees seek funds to meet these needs and are responsible for making bids to funding bodies. They also encourage staff and students to raise funds through a range of activities both within and outside the institution. Trustees are also responsible for placing the work and success of the charity in the public domain. They do this through newsletters, maintaining the charity web site, by using social media such as Facebook and other means.

While S.H.O.C.C. often provides the main funding contribution, our projects typically feature contributions from the beneficiary communities themselves.

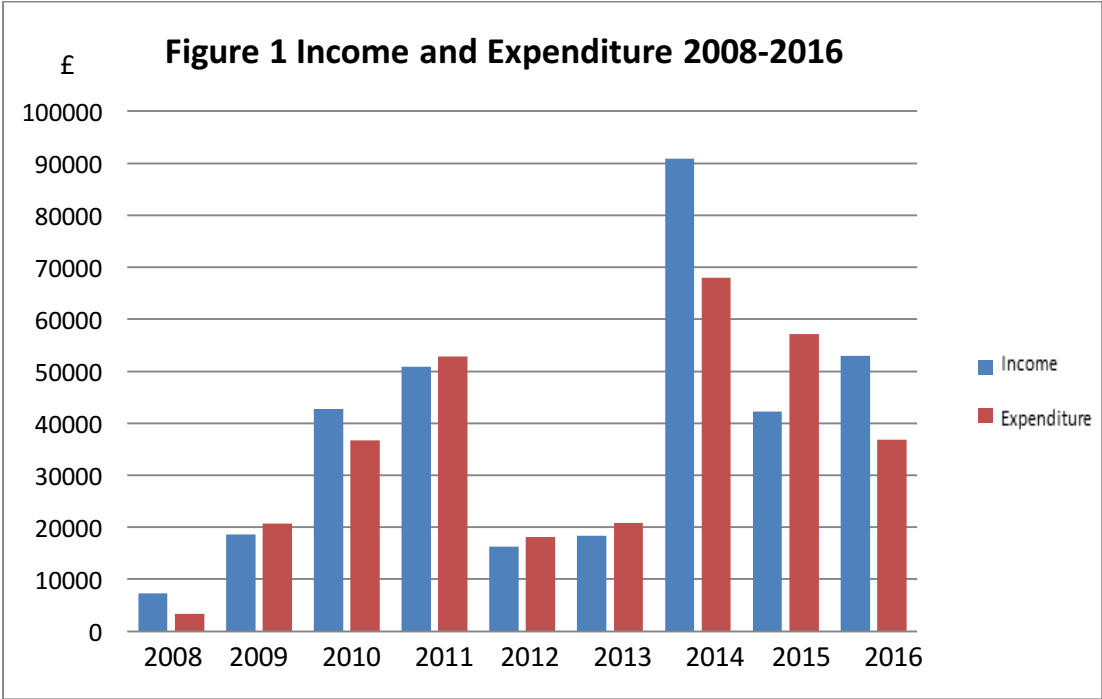
Since 1971 several hundred staff and students have committed themselves to a period of work overseas or have worked on a voluntary basis with local disadvantaged groups. Whilst it is difficult to be precise about the amounts of funding raised, it is estimated that staff and students, both past and present, have, since 1971, been linked to over 125 projects and have raised nearly a million pounds.

## **Achievements and performance**

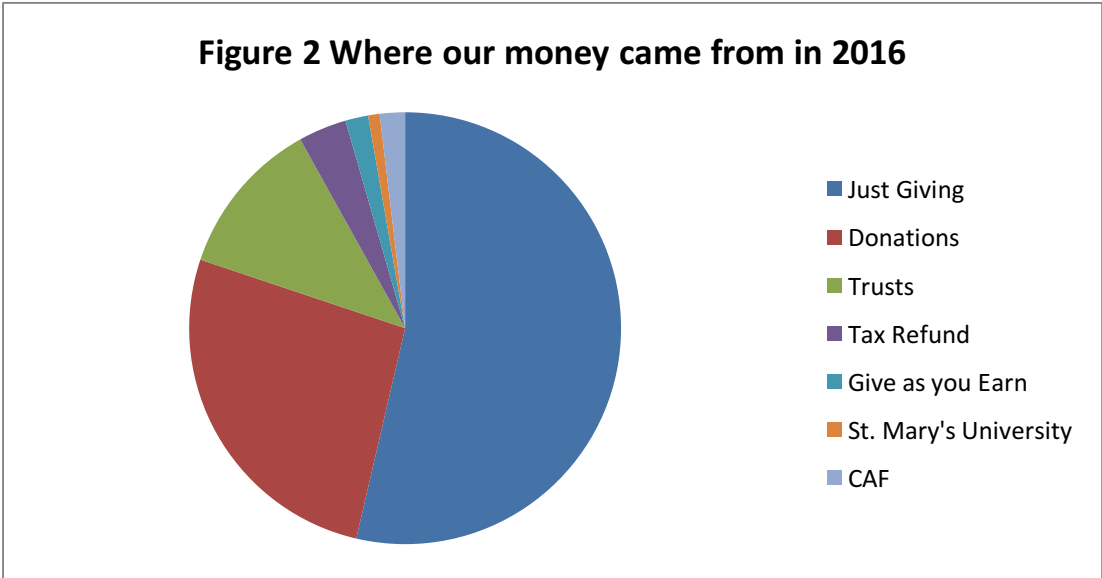
SHOCC continued to work with a range of partners both in the Global South and nearer to home in the Twickenham area. As in past years, costs were kept to the minimum and over 99% of our income went directly to projects.

The total funds raised during the year amounted to £53, 015 with over half (£28,435) being paid into our Just Giving site. Most of this was what the Charity Commission terms 'restricted funds' in that they were donated for specific projects such as the £11,740 given by 35 families in Northamptonshire for orphans at Outspan primary and secondary schools in Uganda. A further £9,026 was donated to support the work of Grassroots Tanzania (see details for the new classroom below). Unrestricted donations were used to fund our new project school at Kisaki in Tanzania (£3,500), to help develop the music in the parish of Mto wa Mbu in Tanzania (£3,250) and we sent a further £4,826 in total to St Kevin's and St Paul's schools at Marigat Kenya. We were also delighted to be able to continue supporting St Paul's Youth Club in Putney (£1,800).

As well as the Just Giving donations which attracted Gift Aid, we also received £6,250 from Trusts and £6,784 from individual donations. Our Lent jam jar collection and sponsored walk raised £1,126 and Give as you Earn a further £905.



As figure 2 shows, just over half of our income (£28,435) came from our Just Giving sites and especially from those providing restricted funding for Outspan School Uganda (£11,740) and Grassroots Tanzania (£9,026). We received a donation of £6,250 from a Trust for projects in Tanzania and the tax refund on gift aided donations added a further £1,915 to our funds.



## The projects we supported in 2016

During 2016 SHOCC was able to help 10 projects most of which were overseas. A brief summary of what our funding helped to achieve is provided below.

### Outspan – A star from the film ‘Queen of Katwe’ visits the school



**Phiona Mutesi, one of the stars of the Disney film *Queen of Katwe*, joined pupils at Outspan to watch a showing of the film**

A number of families and schools in Northamptonshire support the Outspan project in Uganda. A university student, 10 secondary pupils and 25 primary children are being sponsored, up from 33 pupils in 2015. Since we started supporting Outspan in 2011, we have sent £52,548 to the schools and have been able to obtain over £10,000 in Gift Aid for them.

A recent highlight was the showing one evening of the Disney film, *Queen of Katwe*, to a packed school. A star of the film, Phiona Mutesi, turned up unannounced and joined the pupils, much to their delight. Chess is to be taught at the school and a SHOCC donor has provided funds to purchase locally made sets and pieces. Follow Outspan at: <https://www.facebook.com/OutspanSchool/photos/a.993664570680149.1073741829.247217265324887/1406542879392314/?type=3>

### Proyecto Vida – funding obtained to take eco-farm ideas into villages



One of our longest running projects, the Proyecto Vida HIV/AIDS hospice and clinic at Coatepeque, Guatemala run by Simmarian Dee Smith MBE, has been awarded major funding by an International NGO to expand the eco-farm project. This will enable Dee to develop her vermiculture, natural pesticides and medicinal plants work with HIV+ families on their

**Dee receives her MBE in recognition of 40 years voluntary service for the poor in the Global South from the British High Commissioner to Guatemala.**

SHOCC provided funding to enable Dee to purchase 5 acres of land that has become the hospice farm. Honey production continues apace and she harvested 500 litres in March. The waste coffee husks project continues to produce excellent 'worm tea' and work is continuing to dig the SHOCC funded new well that will make the hospice and farm water-secure.

Trustee Dr Kevin Cook is visiting the project in June 2017 and will report back on his visit.

Follow SHOCC at: [www.facebook.com/SimmiesSHOCC](https://www.facebook.com/SimmiesSHOCC)

To keep up to date with Dee's work see: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/Proyecto-Vida-764124167021745/posts/>

### **Grassroots Tanzania – the classrooms have a new roof**



**Workmen in front of the newly roofed classrooms and office block at Itumba Hill Primary School, Tanzania. SHOCC has provided funding to enable this excellent project to move towards completion.**

SHOCC has been supporting the work of Grassroots Tanzania since it began in 2013 and we are delighted with the progress achieved with the new Itumba Primary school. The village of Itumba Hill, home to over 400 youngsters of school age, is located in one of the most remote regions of Tanzania. The villagers tried to raise the money to build the minimum two classrooms but attempts always failed to meet strict government regulations. Itumba is a part of the country that is 'off grid' with no basic amenities like electricity or running water

and boys from the age of 12 herd cattle and the girls are married. Grassroots Tanzania decided to help and the roofing of the excellent classrooms is a wonderful achievement. For more information about the work of Grassroots Tanzania see:

<http://www.grassrootstz.org/education/>

### **Mto wa Mbu – Preparations for Cleveland scouts' 2017 visit to construct classrooms**

2017 will be an important year in the life of Spiritan missionary Fr Peter Kway and St Jude's parish of Mto wa Mbu in Tanzania. Every four years scouts from Cleveland in the north of the UK spend a month in a Global South location. In 2013 they visited Marigat and built a classroom and kitchen block at St Paul's School, a long-standing SHOCC project. In 2016, the team of leaders visited the SHOCC project to carry out the necessary risk assessments and prepare for the 2107 visit. SHOCC recommended the school for development and is delighted to continue to support its work and that of the community at Engaruka a few miles away. Trustees Kevin Cook and Elizabeth Byrne Hill will be visiting in July 2017 and will report on progress via the SHOCC Facebook page.

[www.facebook.com/SimmiesSHOCC](http://www.facebook.com/SimmiesSHOCC)

### **Muthetheni Girls – excellent exam results and memorial plaques**

#### **The Amy Hemmings Laboratories**



Amy Hemmings  
1930 – 2013

#### **The Antony Kenney Biology Laboratory**



Antony Kenney  
1931-2014

Teacher, Biologist and Author

**Plaques presented to Muthetheni Girls' School**

In 2014 SHOCC was able to provide the funding to renovate three science laboratories at Muthetheni Secondary Girls' School north of Machakos in Kenya. We were able to do so having received two generous donations from the estate of Amy Hemmings and Antony Kenney, both past members of staff at the university. In November 2016 we received the results of the girls' examination results in the Kenyan secondary examinations. Marking was felt to be particularly severe this year as the government attempted to reduce cheating. Overall, the school slipped slightly from a score in the 14 subject curriculum of 7.249 (B-) achieved



in 2015 to 6.89 (C+) in 2016. In the sciences, however, the overall score showed an upward trend with physics improving from 8.36 (B-) to 9.393 (B) (the best result of any subject in the school) and biology showing a marked improvement from 5.87 (C) to 6.826 (C+). Chemistry declined from 5.87 (C) to 4.503 (C-).

### **INS Twickenham**

In 2008 when we established our own, independent charity, we added another 'C' to our name to reflect the projects we supported in our local community. In November 2016 we received a request from the Twickenham based Integrated Neurological Services for a small amount of funding. The funding bid came from a past sports science student employed by INS as a rehabilitation officer and was to be used to support patients with long-term neurological problems. We could see an obvious link with the university and were delighted to be able to help; if only in a very small way.

### **Molly's Smile – a new assisted learning suite for the university**



**Molly's tree on the University campus in February 2017 ready for another awareness raising and fun day in aid of Molly's Smile**

On July 1<sup>st</sup> 2015, Molly Burdett, a student at St Mary's, died after a short illness. Diagnosed at the age of 15 with dyslexia, Molly's family have ensured that her memory lives on by setting up Molly's Smile. They are raising the £21,000 required to develop an assisted learning suite at the University and are over half way to achieving their target. SHOCC was asked to help and we are providing a link through the project Just Giving site. We are covering all the JG costs and will be able to add a further 20% of Gift Aid to all donations.

For more information on this project see:

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/mollysmilefund/about/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/mollysmilefund/about/?ref=page_internal)

### **St Paul's Youth Club Putney**



**Children at the centre enjoy the cakes they have made during a session**

SHOCC has supported the Putney based St Paul's Youth Club for several years since Robert Hyland, a member of St Mary's staff, and Cassandra Evans reported the loss of crucial funding following Local Authority cuts. There was a danger that the weekly safe-haven for visually impaired, severely disabled or mentally challenged young people between the ages of 11 and 19 would have to close.

St Paul's is the only youth club in the area catering for these severely disadvantaged young people. SHOCC was able to support Robert's work with a grant of £1,800 this year. This paid for the rent, insurance and this year, has funded the purchase of music equipment, drinks and snacks. It also enabled the youth club to establish a tuck shop where the children can purchase sweets with the small profit made going back into the project.

### **St Kevin's infant and primary school Marigat Kenya**



**A Tuyapei mother and child – a future pupil at the school?**

On Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2013 Fr Peter Kway, Parish Priest at Marigat in the north of Kenya's Rift Valley officially opened St Kevin's infant school at Tuyapei, a few miles outside Marigat. The 50 or so children who started their educational journey that day were aged between two and three and a half. Most have since 'graduated' and moved on to the infant section and a moving ceremony was held in late 2016 to celebrate their achievements. SHOCC provided funding (£2,288) for the kitchen and toilet block and has supported the school with donations from its annual Lent jam jar collection sponsored walk. This has provided nutritious lunches of githeri (maize and beans) for the whole school for three months.

## **Plans for the future**

The main objectives set for the year 2017 are:

- To continue to support financially and spiritually our projects such as those at Chekereni, Orkilili and Itumba Hill in Tanzania, Marigat, Machakos and Kawangware in Kenya, Outspan in Uganda and Proyecto Vida Guatemala.
- To seek to widen our links with local charities and provide funding to meet their needs especially where they have a strong connection to the university.
- To continue to expand our donor base through Give as you Earn, Charities Aid Giving and our Just Giving web sites and to investigate the opportunities for obtaining funding from a wider range of Trust Funds.
- To continue to raise funds through sponsored events in and around the University.
- To raise an income for the year of at least £40,000 from a diverse funding base.

## **Structure, governance and management**

SHOCC was founded in September 2007 and has been governed as a Charity since that date. It replaced the existing charity, Strawberry Hill Overseas Concern (SHOC) founded in 1971. It took the opportunity to widen its remit to take in local as well as international projects but its mission remains essentially the same. It continues to be the recognised charity of St Mary's University.

## **Trustees**

Trustees are selected by the existing Trustees in accordance with our Trust Deed and according to the skills and experience required for the charity to function well. New Trustees are inducted into their roles under the guidance of the existing Trustees and with the help of the relevant publications of the Charity Commission. As well as becoming familiar with the charity's objectives, values and ways of working, Trustees are encouraged to visit projects whenever possible to see at first hand the work of the charity.

During the year to 31st December 2016, SHOCC had eight Trustees. Sister Amicia, resigned through ill health, David Leen moved to a new post and Gwen O'Leary resigned. We have accepted David's kind offer to act as financial advisor to the charity, to validate our annual accounts and provide advice when required. We wish him every success in his new position. We also said goodbye to the Chaplain, Fr Gerry Devlin, who has moved to a new post. We

were grateful to the university's Assistant Chaplain, Caroline Stanton, who provided us with considerable support in many ways.

The Trustees hold regular meetings to review the work of the charity, to agree forward plans and budgets and to determine other matters of general policy. There is frequent contact among the Trustees and between Trustees and staff outside these meetings. The charity has a large supporter base made up of representatives from areas of the university. These supporters are invited to attend some of our meetings.

The work of the charity is managed under the headings of Project Funding, Finance, Fundraising and Publicity. Individual Trustees take a leading role in relation to each of these areas and additional inputs are provided by supporters.

### **The operation of the charity**

Strawberry Hill Overseas and Community Concern (SHOCC) currently does not make use of office space and has no overheads of this kind. Its day to day management is in the hands of the Chair of Trustees. Its meetings are usually held in the Chaplaincy at the University.

Trustees and the supporter group, operating from the university, make a wide range of valuable contributions, such as organising sales and events to raise funds. Regular donations are received from annual events such as the university carol singing in London, from chapel collections, from sponsored events and from individual donations through Give as you Earn or to the charity's Just Giving sites on the web. Contributions to the charity's work are also received from past students.

### **Public benefit**

In exercising their powers and duties, the Trustees have due regard for the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission. The charity's activities, therefore, give rise to identifiable public benefits, both in the UK and overseas.

Strawberry Hill Overseas and Community Concern's focus is on the disadvantaged in its local community and overseas. For them, the benefits are clear. Providing sums of money for classroom construction or for the building of an HIV/AIDS hospice can be the starting point for wider development. Wherever possible, we encourage the local community to help meet

the costs of projects as this gives them ownership and helps to make the projects sustainable. Their contribution often takes the form of providing the labour required to carry out construction work. Our funds can never meet all the costs of a school and input from the local community during and after construction is essential. As an example we required Muthetheni Girls' School to provide 10% of the overall costs of the laboratory project and they did so. This has given them 'ownership' of the project.

## **Risk management**

As a grant-awarding charity, the main area of risk is the extent of our commitments in relation to the funding of our projects. The charity seeks to limit commitments to a level which can be met out of funds available to it. Funds cannot be provided unless they are available and projects are made aware of the time it may take to meet a commitment in full given that SHOCC is a relatively small charity.

All projects must have a distinct and recognizable link with the university and funding is not provided for applications that do not meet this criterion. For large projects such as that at Muthetheni, a local project manager is appointed and a legal contract negotiated between SHOCC, the project and the contractor. Three quotations are required for projects of this size and a separate bank account is mandatory. SHOCC agrees a timetable for the work and regular tranches of funding are only delivered on the successful completion of stages of the work. A proportion of the funding (usually 5%) is retained and is only paid to the contractor six months after the completion of the project subject to it being signed off at this time.

In assessing individual projects, the Trustees consider the following aspects of each proposal for funding:

- The significance and importance of the project in relation to the aims of SHOCC and the mission and values of St Mary's University,
- The need for and benefit/impact of the project on the community in which the project is based,
- The viability/sustainability of the project in the medium/longer term i.e. will it require future investment or will it be self-sustaining,
- The likelihood of the project proceeding to completion and achieving its aims,

- The value for money of the project taking into account the funds that are being requested in light of the potential benefit/impact of the project and the likelihood of accessing related/other funding if required.

Project applications are submitted using a standard format that requires applicants to provide information under the following headings:

Name, address, and contact details

Project title

Links with the University

Detailed costs

Other support/funding

Referees

The risks inherent in each project are assessed. In particular, the following aspects are considered:

- The capability of the partner organisation to carry out the project and the effectiveness of its operations;
- The commitment of the beneficiary community to the project;
- The technical soundness of the proposed works and their sustainability after completion;
- The validity of the budgeted costs and the timescale proposed for the project.

The Trustees keep the organisation of the charity under review and seek to ensure that it is adequately structured and resourced to meet the needs of its operations.

## **Financial review**

The annual accounts show a total income for the financial year ending 31st December 2016 of £53,178 (2015 £42,243). The total expenditure by the charity on its project programmes was £36,826 (2015 £57,145). The charity had no project support, fundraising or governance costs. The majority of this expenditure went to school building projects in Kenya and Tanzania and to providing school fees for children at a school in Uganda. A small amount

was provided for local Twickenham needs. Details of some of these projects are provided above.

The financial performance of the charity is monitored against agreed budgets, with the Trustees receiving regular statements of Income, expenditure and reserves held.

The level of reserves is kept under regular review. The Trustees have agreed to keep this figure as low as possible as the charity has no overheads, wishing to distribute its income to projects as quickly as possible. Nevertheless, on no account can the charity be allowed to manage a negative overall budget and projects are only supported when funds are available.

Reference is made in the financial statement to those funds received for specific projects (restricted funds). These are held for the purposes agreed with the donors and are expended to the relevant programmes. In the accounts for 2016 restricted funds accounted for 82% of total income; an increase on the 72% in 2015. Cash reserves at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 were £25,923.

I declare, in my capacity as a Trustee, that the Trustees have approved this Report and have authorised me to sign it on their behalf.

Signed	Kevin L Cook	Full name	DR KEVIN LAURENCE COOK
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Position	Trustee	Date	8 <sup>th</sup> June 2017
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