



Annual
review
2009/10

British
Acupuncture
Council



Our future in our own hands

Statutory regulation, once the primary focus of our efforts, has become more than ever like a mirage in the desert that fades the closer you get. The announcement from the outgoing health minister in April 2010 about possible regulation under the Complementary and Natural Healthcare Council was a new and unexpected twist, aimed primarily at preserving herbal medicine but drawing professional acupuncture into the same federal and voluntary self-regulation picture. Even now, the eventual outcome for our formal regulation is far from clear.

For many professional associations this would lead to everything being put on hold until the decisions were made and target dates set. Not so for the BAaC! The past year has seen the beginning of a wholesale overhaul of all our systems and materials, and statutory regulation or not, the emerging BAaC is leaner, more efficient and more responsive than ever.

The main impetus for this activity has been the Petition for a Royal Charter. This moved swiftly in late 2008 from being just a good idea to being the subject of two membership-wide votes and a concerted effort to produce all the high quality documentation necessary to petition for a charter. Re-writing the rules and procedures for the charter process led to a highly productive examination of how we run our affairs. New chartered body or not, we will have a new Governing Board with an almost

equal number of lay and practitioner members, and the committees which have served the BAaC well are already being re-defined as slightly more arms-length advisory groups. The staff team, going from strength to strength both in expertise and experience, is taking on the mantle of responsibility for most of the BAaC's work, both practical and strategic.

In order to support this new structure we have invested in a major overhaul of our internal finance and computer systems, the first major review for over 15 years. This has improved our day-to-day control of our finances and membership systems, as well as allowing us to build in new facilities like a regular e-newsletter to members and better cross-referencing within the office to respond to member queries and requests.



The past year has seen the beginning of a wholesale overhaul of all our systems and materials, and the emerging BAAC is leaner, more efficient and more responsive than ever.

The new website and e-news are the result of a major new investment in marketing and PR. The BAAC has recognised for many years that excellence in the arts and skills of acupuncture is not in itself enough. In a modern and competitive business world, especially in times of recession and financial constraint, members need help in becoming efficient promoters of their practices. With a dedicated marketing manager, new materials, greater support and better networking, members, and especially more recent entrants, are better prepared for the challenge of the market place.

Indeed, it's not only members who are benefiting. For several years the BAAC has had a student services co-ordinator and invested in materials to prepare graduates for the professional world they are about to enter. This has been developed and extended in 2009/10, and will culminate in the creation of a student membership category which will offer resources and a sense of belonging while people are still in training.

More promotion and marketing, however, has not been at the expense of standards. Our commitment to excellence is no better exemplified than in the re-writing of the Education Guidelines and the updated version of the Standards of Practice for Acupuncture, both already good but through the work of expert committees now even better. The same applies to the Code and Guide to Safe Practice, re-written to move with the times and soon to be published. Along with increased financial support for the now mandatory CPD programme, the BAAC remains as committed as ever to maintaining its exemplary standards.

There is still much to be done. Our attention is turning next to research and a complete review of resources and our support for research projects initiated by members. With so many of the current political and regulatory mechanisms relying on evidence-based medicine, the challenge lies with us not simply to assert that current methods are wrong for traditional acupuncture: we need to develop methods which are effective and accepted. The obvious enthusiasm for such a task at this year's ARRC symposium is cause for great hope.

The conference too has been the subject of some highly focused introspection. A combination of unexpected costs plus lower than anticipated take-up meant that we had to underwrite a loss last year after the small profits of previous years. The event itself was very successful, and the aim this year has been to replicate the successes but within a tighter budget. All current signs are that we have managed to do just this.



All in all, 2009/10 has been a very productive and exciting year. The Royal Charter process is near to completion but even without it, this is a year to celebrate changes and developments whose enormous value will soon be realised.

SUSAN THORNE
Chairman

Treasurer's report

I wish to draw attention to the Statutory Audit Report and Opinions of the Auditor H L Barnes and Sons. The Report and Opinions are comforting to the members and the public in that they approve the accounts without qualification.

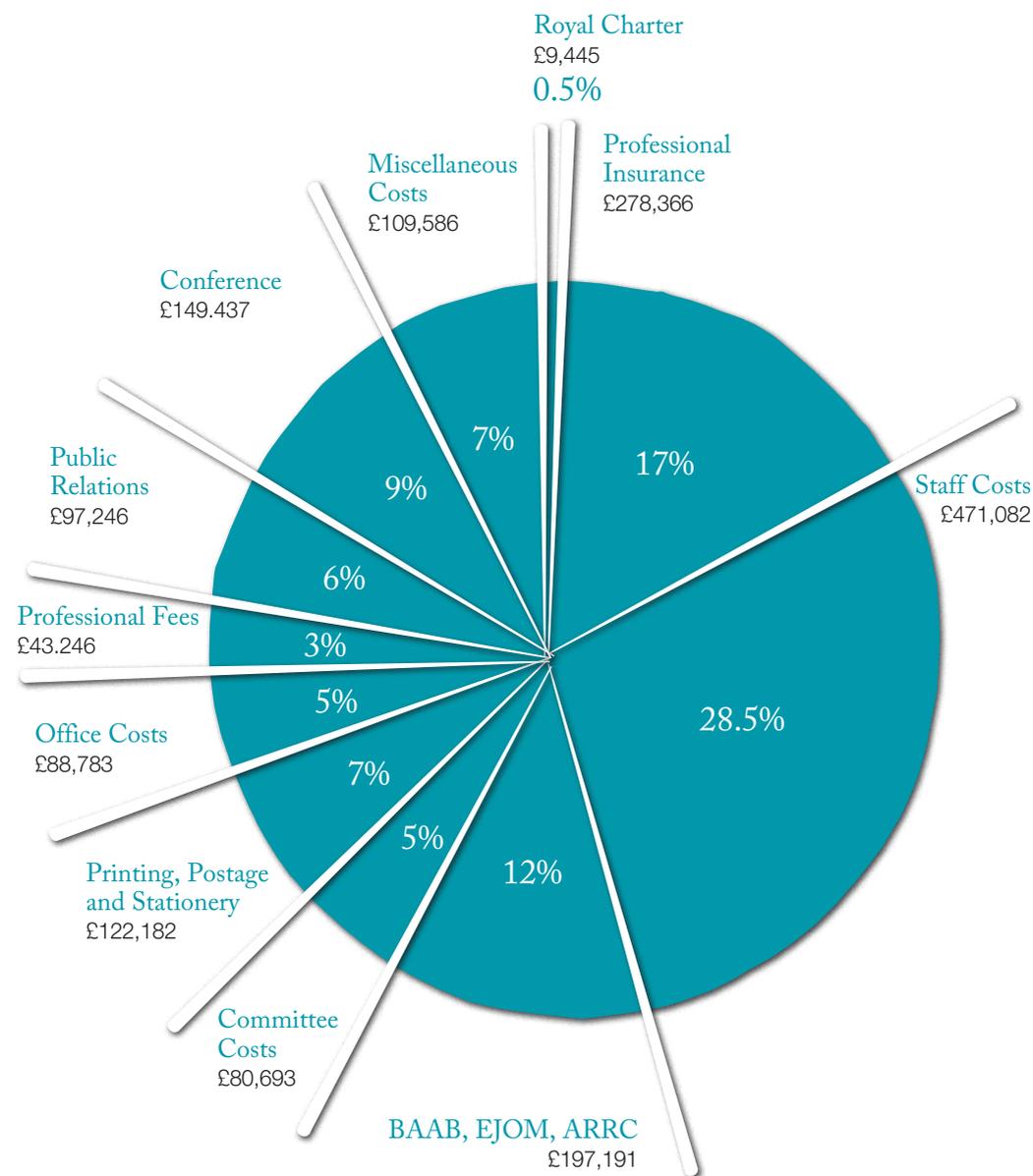
The accounts indicate a year of financial stability. A new item of expenditure in the year related to the Petition for the Royal Charter: this amounted to £9,445. Overall, a small deficit was therefore recorded of £2,778, on an income of £1,645,910. The carried forward reserves were £483,136.

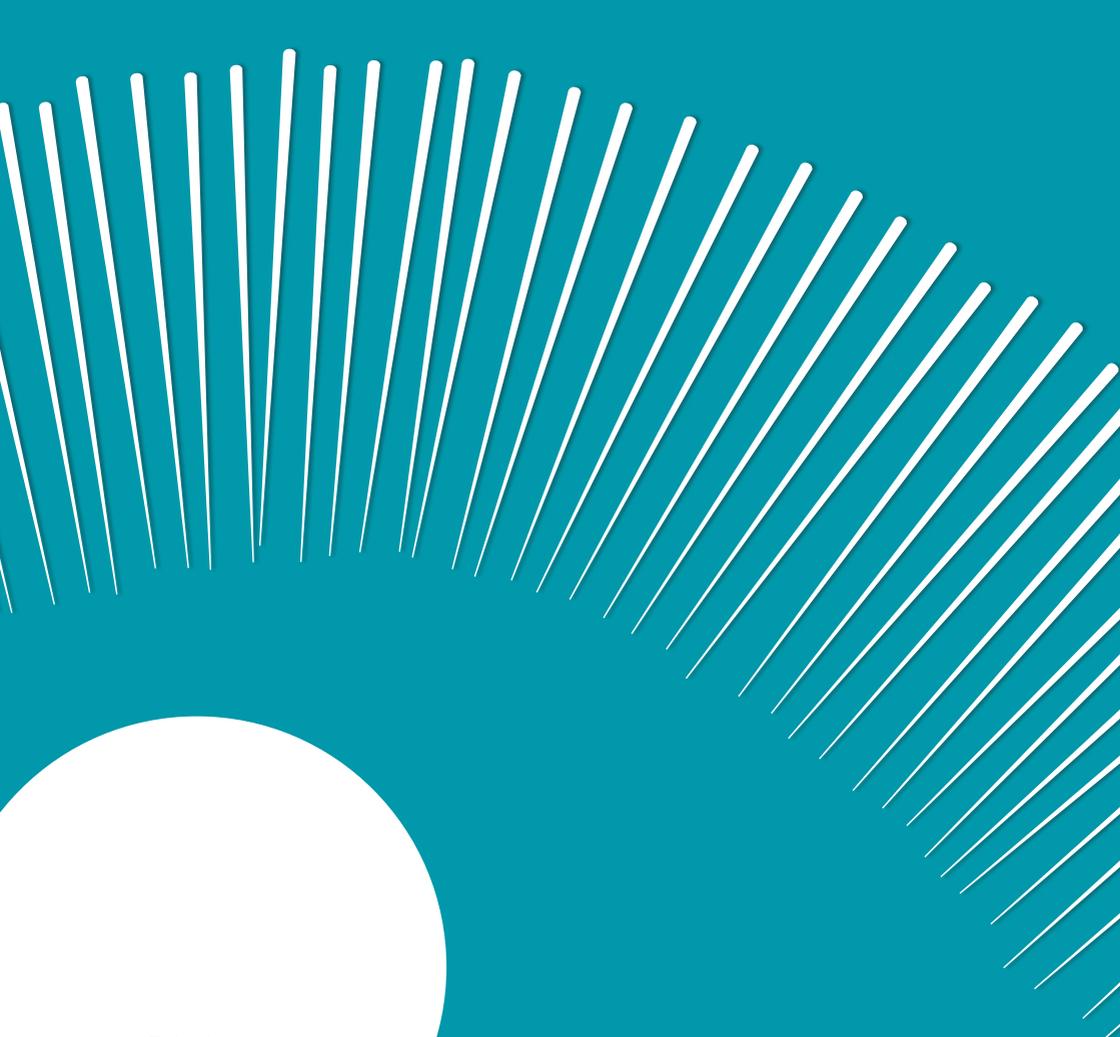
The balance sheet at 31 December 2009 shows cash in hand of £568,650 against creditors falling due within one year of £215,209, thus indicating a healthy cash position.

Subscription proposals
Based on the projections that the Finance Committee has considered I am proposing to the AGM that the UK membership subscription for 2011 rises to £580. This will be the first increase in real terms for two years and reflects the inflation rate over that period. The subscription for Non-Practising members will remain at £75. For Overseas members the subscription remains at £100, which is payable in euros or US dollars.

The current sliding fee scale for new members graduating from BAAB accredited institutions will remain unchanged.

DAN REGAN
Treasurer





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Report and
accounts
2009/10

British
Acupuncture
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The financial information presented in this Annual Review does not comprise the statutory financial statements of the British Acupuncture Council for the financial year ended 31 December 2008 issued on 24 May 2009, but represents extracts from them. These extracts cannot be expected to provide as full an understanding of the financial performance, financial position and financing and investment activities of the company as a reading of the complete financial statements.

The statutory financial statements have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies and the auditors have reported on them; their report was unqualified and did not contain statements under section 237(2) or (3) of the Companies Act 1985. The complete financial statements, including the auditors' report, can be obtained, free of charge, on request to the company at the company's offices.

British Acupuncture Council
Income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 December 2009

	Notes	2009 £	2008 £
INCOME			
Subscriptions	1(b)	1,521,529	1,487,613
Conference income		100,998	110,483
Sales of membership publications		18,164	20,083
Bank interest received		5,094	19,465
Sundry income		125	750
		<u>1,645,910</u>	<u>1,638,394</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Audit and accountancy		7,737	7,044
Bank charges		6,016	3,918
Conference expenses	149,437	149,437	105,937
Contributions	197,191	197,191	211,650
Cost of membership publications	5,036	5,036	5,314
Committees :			
Executive	- attendance and travelling	3,440	28,028
	- other expenses	5,172	22,692
Sub-committee	- attendance and travelling	42,307	46,610
	- other expenses	29,774	29,315
Regional groups expenses		9,713	1,105
Depreciation	3	36,081	12,125
First aid		3,604	2,584
Legal and professional charges		35,509	28,013
Maintenance of equipment		4,768	3,921
Members' professional insurance	278,366	278,366	355,090
Miscellaneous expenses	36,148	36,148	26,833
Office insurance	2,305	2,305	6,287
Office rent and rates	39,233	39,233	31,147
Other office costs	47,425	47,425	47,095
Pension costs	1,648	1,648	1,646
Printing, postage, stationery and advertising	122,183	122,183	124,934
Public relations costs	97,426	97,426	71,268
Royal Charter expenses	9,445	9,445	-
Secretarial and administrative costs	469,434	469,434	442,600
Telephone	8,220	8,220	6,840
		<u>1,647,618</u>	<u>1,621,996</u>
(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	2	(1,708)	16,398
Tax on bank interest received gross		<u>1,070</u>	<u>4,040</u>
(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR		(2,778)	12,358
Accumulated reserves brought forward		<u>485,914</u>	<u>473,556</u>
ACCUMULATED RESERVES CARRIED FORWARD		<u>£483,136</u>	<u>£485,914</u>

The notes on pages 4 to 5 form part of these accounts.

British Acupuncture Council
Balance sheet
31 December 2009

	Notes	2009 £	2008 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	3	96,288	28,731
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock		5,605	2,133
Debtors	4	27,802	30,548
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>568,650</u>	<u>609,993</u>
		<u>602,057</u>	<u>642,674</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year			
Corporation tax		1,070	4,040
Other taxes and social security costs		14,905	14,266
Accruals and deferred income		<u>199,234</u>	<u>167,185</u>
		<u>215,209</u>	<u>185,491</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>386,848</u>	<u>457,183</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>£483,136</u>	<u>£485,914</u>
RESERVES			
Accumulated reserves		<u>£483,136</u>	<u>£485,914</u>

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

Approved by the Board on 22 April 2010 and signed on its behalf by:


R BISHOP
Director


S THORNE
Director

The notes on pages 4 and 5 form part of these accounts.

British Acupuncture Council
Notes for income and expenditure account
for the year ended 31 December 2009

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with :

- i) the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008); and
- ii) the provisions of the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act

2006.

b) Subscriptions

The subscription year coincides with the accounting year. Subscriptions received in advance are treated as deferred income and released to the income and expenditure account in the year to which they relate.

c) Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets in use at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:-

- Computers and accessories
 - 25% straight line basis
- Office furniture, fittings and equipment
 - 25% reducing balance basis

d) Pensions

The company operates a stakeholder pension scheme covering all of its employees. The company's contributions are charged against surplus in the year in which contributions are made.

e) Foreign exchange

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate ruling on the date of the transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the net outgoing resources.

2. (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

	2009	2008
	£	£

This is stated after charging :

Auditors' remuneration	£2,708	£2,478
Operating lease rentals	<u>£34,332</u>	<u>£34,250</u>

3. TANGIBLE ASSETS

	Computers and accessories	Office furniture, fittings and equipment	Total
	£	£	£

COST :

1 January 2009	99,584	68,546	168,130
Additions	99,805	3,833	103,638
31 December 2009	<u>199,389</u>	<u>72,379</u>	<u>271,768</u>

DEPRECIATION :

1 January 2009	80,280	59,119	139,399
Provision for year	32,766	3,315	36,081
31 December 2009	<u>113,046</u>	<u>62,434</u>	<u>175,480</u>

NET BOOK VALUES :

31 December 2009	£86,343	£9,945	£96,288
31 December 2008	<u>£19,304</u>	<u>£9,427</u>	<u>£28,731</u>

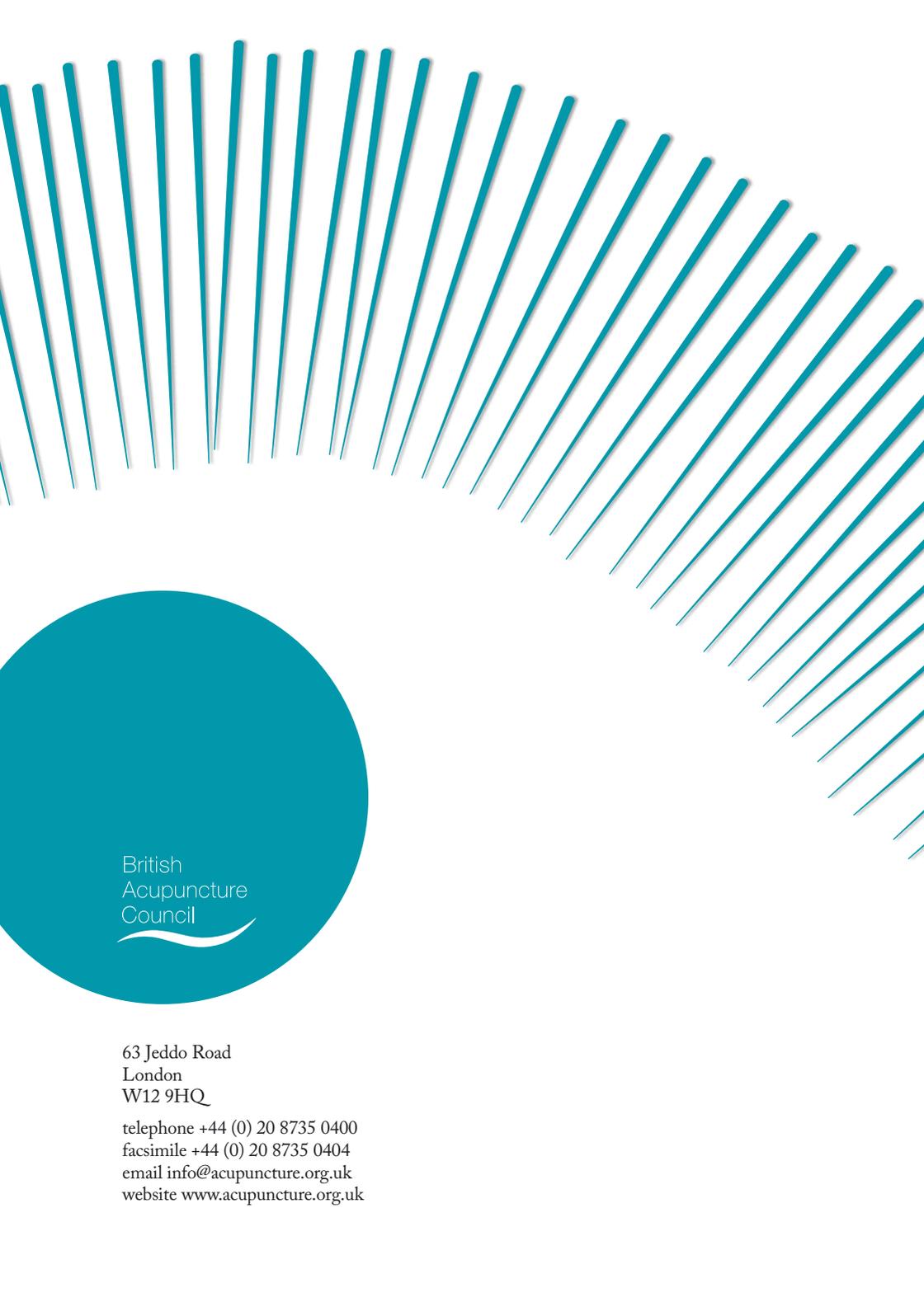
4. DEBTORS

	2009	2008
	£	£
Other debtors	4,335	8,320
Prepayments	<u>23,467</u>	<u>22,228</u>
	<u>£27,802</u>	<u>£30,548</u>

5. GUARANTEE

The company is incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 and not having a share capital is limited by guarantee. The guarantee given by each member is limited to a maximum of £5 and is for a maximum period of twelve months after ceasing to be a member. The position at the year end concerning members giving a guarantee was as follows:-

	2009	2008
Number of members	2,934	2,877
Total members' guarantees	<u>£14,670</u>	<u>£14,385</u>



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