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website: [www.barrowuponsoarmethodistchurch.co.uk](http://www.barrowuponsoarmethodistchurch.co.uk)**BARROW UPON SOAR METHODIST CHURCH**Website: [www.barrowuponsoarmethodistchurch.co.uk](http://www.barrowuponsoarmethodistchurch.co.uk)**Minister: Rev John Pugh**

Telephone: 0116 2304689 or 07964402152

Circuit Office - Telephone: 01509 807441

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday &amp; Friday

10.00 am until 2.00 pm

Email: [loughboroughmethodist@gmail.com](mailto:loughboroughmethodist@gmail.com)

# BUSMC - KEEPING CONNECTED

## Week 44

### NOTICES FOR SUNDAY 17th JANUARY 2021

#### Weekly Diary

Monday 18 January 2021	8.45 am to 1.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup meet in the Rear Hall
Tuesday 19 January	8.45 am to 4.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup
Wednesday 20 January	8.45 am to 1.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup
Thursday 21 January	8.45 am to 4.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup
Friday 22 January	8.45 am to 1.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup

Churches in the Loughborough Methodist Circuit have agreed that, for the safety of everyone, no public worship will take place in our buildings until the end of this lockdown period.

**Sunday worship will continue on the Facebook page of Trinity Methodist Church Centre, Loughborough at 10.45 am every week**

But please remember the Church building may be closed, but the Church is still very much here for you - if you require the services of a Minister, please contact our Minister on Telephone: 0116 2304689



We pray for those recently bereaved, for Angela Riches (nee Perry) and her son Daniel on the sudden death of a dear husband and father, Kevan last week. For Jean and Keith Perry on the loss of their son in law. Angela grew up in our Sunday School and we shared with the family when she married Kevan here at Barrow upon Soar - both are nurses within the NHS. Our love and prayers are with all the family

August 2021 is the move and "standing down" of Rev John Pugh. Please pray for John and his family as they consider the next phase of their ministry and a new home from August.

It was announced at the Circuit meeting that, subject to Conference, Rev Sandra Marshall will join us from Sept 2021. More information will be available from the Circuit Stewards in due course.

**WORSHIP OPTIONS DURING CLOSURES:** A message from Adrian

At our Preachers and Worship Leaders meeting on Wednesday (on Zoom) we talked about the possibilities for worship when we cannot meet in our own churches. Throughout the pandemic we have been able to join in worship on-line on Facebook from Trinity and the "12<sup>th</sup> Church" is now well established with Andrew

and several local preachers leading the services. It was also mentioned that some churches are trying "Zoom" services, which gives opportunities for worshippers to join in from their own home and to share conversation after the short service over coffee. *(For those who do not know, "Zoom" is a way of people sharing together using computer, tablet or i-pad in which they cannot only just watch but also join in.)*

Whilst Andrew is making The Plan for March through to May it is clear that he is unable to provide a preacher for every Sunday and alternate Sundays will not have an appointed preacher, even if/when we are able to open the building again. The Circuit is committed to the "12<sup>th</sup> Church" which will continue and develop in our digital age, even when the present crisis is over.

This leads me, as a Local Preacher and individual member of Barrow upon Soar Methodist Church, to ask the following questions:

1. Do you watch the "12<sup>th</sup> Church" service on Facebook?
2. Do you find the "12<sup>th</sup> Church" service meets your needs?
3. Would you be interested in a service from Barrow that we could share via Zoom?

If you could respond to these questions via email [speight4748@gmail.com](mailto:speight4748@gmail.com) or a phone call then I would be most grateful. If there is interest in worship by Zoom, I would be very happy to explore the practical possibilities of setting this up.

### THANK YOU (1)

#### COLLECTION ENVELOPES:

I have the new envelopes for 2021 and everyone who uses them should now have received their set. I have not sent them to those of you who contribute by bank standing order because you don't usually need them, but if you or anyone else would like a set please give me a ring on 01509 413085 as I have plenty more.

Thanks to you all for your regular contributions to the running of the church, the system works well, so please continue. While church services are temporarily suspended, the bills still have to be paid, and thank you for making this possible - Peter Yates

### THANK YOU (2)

Pauline Ranson would like to thank all who supported her in the Santa Run in December when she walked from Barrow upon Soar to Loughborough and raised £270 for the Well Being Café project in Loughborough. If you didn't sponsor her before, there is still time at <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/PaulineRanson>. Here is Pauline standing at the end of the walk outside the café in Wards End.



### FUNDRAISING

All Fund raising has ceased due to Covid but Yvonne goes every Saturday to Kathryn's on Highfields and helps with the garden and whilst there she has set up a stall outside, with books, jigsaws, pickled onions etc and on some Tuesdays outside Joan T's. Passers-by have found these invaluable in finding that book or jigsaw that will keep them occupied during this time or the pickle that will enhance their sandwich!! This impromptu fundraising has now made over £600 which will be shared between ourselves and the Charnwood Toy Project. Our grateful thanks go to Yvonne for all her efforts on our behalf.

**There is information on page 5 regarding the delivery of the Covid – 19 vaccination – this may help anyone who is waiting and wondering when they will be called.**

If you have news of friends that you can share, then please let me know at [janetmthompson13@gmail.com](mailto:janetmthompson13@gmail.com) or 01509 413810. Don't forget you can also view our newsletter at [www.barrowuponsoarmethodistchurch.co.uk](http://www.barrowuponsoarmethodistchurch.co.uk)



*It's not what*  
 you do, it's  
 how you do it.  
 It's not what  
 you see, it's  
 how you look  
 at it. It's  
 not how your  
 life is, it's  
*how you live it.*

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## FROM THE METHODIST CHURCH WEBSITE

**Today's Reading from the Old Testament:** Psalm 139. 1-10

<sup>1</sup>You have searched me, LORD, and you know me. <sup>2</sup>You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. <sup>3</sup>You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it completely. <sup>4</sup>You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. <sup>5</sup>Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. <sup>6</sup>Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? <sup>7</sup>If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. <sup>8</sup>If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, <sup>9</sup>even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

**Today's Gospel Reading:** John 1.43-51

Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael

<sup>43</sup>The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me." <sup>44</sup>Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. <sup>45</sup>Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." <sup>46</sup>"Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathanael asked. "Come and see," said Philip. <sup>47</sup>When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit." <sup>48</sup>"How do you know me?" Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you." <sup>49</sup>Then Nathanael declared, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel." <sup>50</sup>Jesus said, "You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that." <sup>51</sup>He then added, "Very truly I tell you, you will see 'heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on' <sup>14</sup> the Son of Man."

## TIME TO REFLECT

Original Materials by Rev Dr Christine Jones

The first encounter Nathanael had with Jesus must have been a disconcerting one. They had never met before, but immediately

Jesus commends him for his faith and his integrity. Nathanael's response shows his confusion as he asks Jesus, 'How do you know me?' Jesus explains he has seen him sitting under his fig-tree, indicating he knew Nathanael was a man of prayer. In rabbinic thought the fig tree was the place one sat to study the scriptures and so, in this initial conversation, Jesus was affirming he knew that he was meeting a man who spent time with, and who was devoted to God.

Meeting someone who we feel can 'see through' us can provoke different responses. When someone says the same thing as us at the same time, it can just be something to smile or laugh at and we pass it off without thinking too much about it.

But, for Nathanael, the thought of Jesus knowing so much about him was disconcerting, as it was for the Psalmist who speaks of his inability to escape from God: 'where shall I go from your Spirit or where can I flee from your presence?' In the same way we can feel uncomfortable if we think someone knows too much about us. We may consider it an invasion of our privacy or make us feel anxious. One way of responding is to put up barriers so that person, that friend, maybe even God, can't get too close to challenge our comfort. But there is a different way of dealing with that discomfort. It appears that Nathanael, despite that strange introduction, did not turn away (John 21.2) but stayed with Jesus. The Psalmist too, although he asks where he can go to escape from God, is also positive about the closeness of God's presence. He could affirm that wherever he was God's hand would guide him and hold him safe.

In a year when life has been so difficult, and when maybe we dreamed of escaping somewhere, the Psalmists words still ring true, that wherever we are, in whatever circumstances, we can be assured of God's guidance and love and the conviction of God's inescapable presence.

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### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Creator God, in our island home you have given us an abundance of beauty. The sea that surrounds us, the hills and the glens, all of this is your gift to us. Help us to be good stewards of all that you have provided.

May we be a gift to the communities in which you have placed us as we witness to the truth that every place and every time is yours. In an age of change, help us to see what we can do to make a difference in your world. In a world where people are fearful, help us to spread your message of hope and never forget that the earth is yours. Amen.

Richard Hall, Isle of Man District Chair

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The Methodist Church has compiled a simple email with a list of resources to help nourish your spiritual life on a daily and weekly basis.

#### **Spiritual sustenance when isolated:**

**Daily:** Pray our daily prayer from the Methodist Prayer Handbook

Join online Morning Prayer from Wesley's Chapel 10.00 – 10.15 am

Pray for others on our Prayer Wall and post your own intercessory prayer

Take part in our daily Bible Study

#### **Weekly**

**Any day of the week – Free** phone lines for prayers, reflections and news from the Methodist Church

Dial a Prayer – free telephone lines where you can listen to prayer or Methodist News.

Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514

Listen to a pastoral message from the President and Vice President: 0808 281 2695

Listen to our Podcast: 0808 281 2478

Every Tuesday: Take part in the 15-minute year of prayer service at 12.45 pm either register to join on Zoom or watch live on the Methodist Church Facebook page

Every Sunday: Take part in a live online Sunday service from Methodist Central Hall Westminster at 10.00 am

Read aloud the specially prepared Epiphany O Antiphons for 2021

All this can be found on the Methodist Church website [www.methodist.org.uk](http://www.methodist.org.uk)

If anyone would like the email forwarded to them then please let me know,

**12<sup>th</sup> Church - 10.45 am on Trinity Methodist Church Facebook page**

**Sunday 17th January 2021 at 10.45am.**

**Liz and Rob Newton**

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**I know that some of our friends have already received their Covid vaccination but this latest information from our village Health Centre may help those who are still waiting to hear:**

**USEFUL INFORMATION FROM BARROW UPON SOAR HEALTH CENTRE REGARDING THE DELIVERY OF THE COVID-19 VACCINATION (Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January)**

Barrow Health Centre is working collaboratively with 21 GP practices in the Charnwood area to deliver the covid vaccination.

Charnwood Borough Council Offices on Southfield Road in Loughborough is our vaccination centre for the delivery of the COVID-19 vaccination to the population of Charnwood. Patients from all 21 surgeries will use this centre.

We will contact you when it is your turn for an appointment - this may be by phone in the first instance but we also will use email, SMS or letter where possible

Please note: You must have an appointment to get your vaccine; you cannot just turn up; you will be turned away.

We can only offer the vaccine to our patient population over the age of 80 at the moment and frontline health & social care workers. Please do not assume that everyone in your household will be vaccinated at the same time as you

It will take time for practices to work through their 80+ age group, as with all the others, so do not worry if you don't hear from us immediately, you will not be forgotten and we are working as quickly as possible to book patients in.

The vaccine will be given by a trained healthcare professional but probably not your usual doctor or nurse

Your appointment will be approx. 30-35 minutes from start to finish

We cannot provide transport to the vaccination centre; patients must get themselves there. If you are unable to get there yourself, please ask a member of your family, a friend, community transport or book a taxi to take you. Otherwise, you will have to wait until we are able to either offer a more local vaccination centre or we are able to provide the vaccine in the surgery, like we do with the flu jab.

If a friend or relative takes you for your vaccine, they must wait outside unless you require assistance to mobilise through the vaccination centre. Face coverings must be worn at all times, by all persons attending.

You cannot have your COVID-19 vaccine at the practice right now because the vaccine requires specialised transportation and management. We simply do not have the facilities to store or administer the vaccine safely & securely in the practice, due to its specialised requirements. The Oxford/Astrazenica jab is currently being rolled out for use in care homes as it easier to transport and store, this may also be made available for local use in individual GP practices in the future but we await guidance on this.

All patients who are not in the over 80's cohort will be contacted in the coming weeks/months. The situation is changing all the time and we therefore cannot give definite information or a timescale as to when each cohort will be called for their vaccine

We will vaccinate patients strictly according to the order outlined by the government. As soon as we are able to move on to a new group, we will advise our patients via our website and Facebook page. We will contact you

If you are genuinely housebound - i.e., medical/physical reasons prevent you from leaving home for anything - plans are being made to provide the vaccine in your home. We await further clarification on this.

The situation is changing daily and it is often difficult to keep up with all the news and developments. Please go to <https://www.nhs.uk/.../coronavirus.../coronavirus-vaccine/> for the most up to date information.

Finally, if you have decided that you do not want to have the vaccine, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can take you off the list and then not contact you again. You can, of course, change your mind at any time in the future

**REV JOHN PUGH WRITES:**

**MY TIME BEHIND BARS**

It's not very often you will hear a Christian Minister admit to spending time behind bars – OK there are a few! They are men who have turned from a life of crime after discovering Jesus Christ as their saviour.

Yet some of us choose to share life behind bars as part of the job of being a Methodist Minister. I spent five years, part-time, being part of the Chaplaincy team at what was HMP Acklington and HMYOI Castington in Northumberland. After I left, they combined, in 2011, to form one prison now known as HMP Northumberland.

It is classed as a Category C prison, the men there not yet trusted to be part of a Category D (that's the official term for an "Open" Prison). It is located on what the site for RAF Acklington, beginning its life in 1970.



During my time there I worked 50% of my time in Circuit (South East Northumberland Ecumenical Area) and 50% at the prisons. Once a month I would lead a multi-denominational Christian service where some 40 or so men would gather for worship. Obviously favourite hymns spoke of prisoners being freed or "chains falling off" (no prize for spotting the hymn there). A select 15-20 would come together once a week in the early evening for a Fellowship group. It was a time for prayer, Bible reading, testimony, and, again, a lot of singing especially worship songs. Popular ones especially which spoke of prisoners being free were often requested and sung with gusto. This group brought hope and support to those who attended and many letters of appreciation were received after these men were released home.

As to weekday duties there were several – each prisoner as they were sent to the 18 prisons received an initial visit from a Chaplain. He or she would explain what help was available and what services were held, where and when. Any non-Christian prisoner could receive a visit from an Imam, a local Rabbi, or a local faith leader including Sikh who was acceptable to the Authorities.

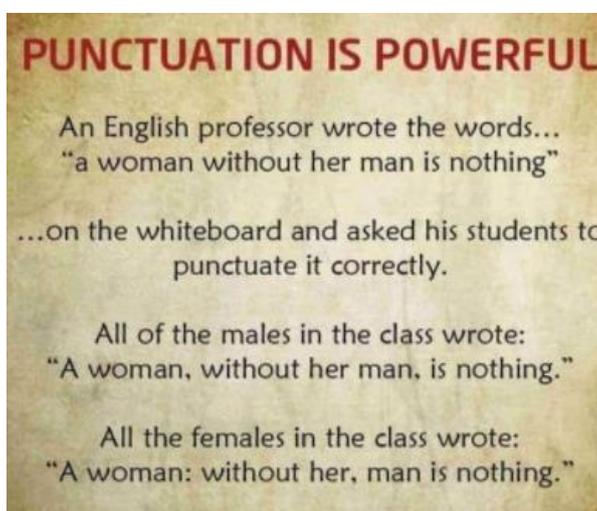
Observation of all religious occasions were recognised as a right and rite whatever faith was entailed. Routine visits were made to Wings, and Workshops made up a large slice of a Chaplain's day as we had responsibilities towards Staff, both uniformed and non-uniformed alike, as well as prisoners. Like many governmental departments daily reports had to be written, telephone calls made and received. Calls received about prisoners' families, severe illness or death, had to be checked – which meant further calls to GPs or hospitals or Funeral Directors to verify them. Security could be breached because a coded message inadvertently passed on through that sort of message. Daily visits to the Segregationally Unit where prisoners were held in isolation, separated sometimes for their own protection but usually as a punishment for breaking prison rules. Each prisoner was entitled to a visit from a Chaplain but they weren't always accepted.

Please pray for all in the Criminal Justice system, especially Prison Officers, Chaplains and prisoners and their families alike.

Matthew Henry, a minister, met a young woman of the nobility who was also wealthy, and they fell in love. She went to ask her father if she could marry him and he said, "He's got no background, you don't know where he's come from."

She replied, "yes, I know, but I do know where he's going and I want to go with him."

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#### A MESSAGE FROM SUE:

I'm sure all of us are saddened by the continued closure of our Church, but see the sense in it. We need to look after ourselves and those around us and I'm sure we are with each other in our thoughts and prayers.

We are reminded that although we are not meeting for services in our church building, we are still **The Church – God’s people in Barrow upon Soar and in our world.**

With this in mind I felt that Hymn 39, which we shared in our Circuit’s Face Book Worship on Sunday morning, was particularly appropriate and wanted to share it with readers of this week’s Keeping Connected.

1 O breath of life, come sweeping through us,  
revive your Church with life and power;  
O breath of life, come, cleanse, renew us,  
and fit your Church to meet this hour.

2 O wind of God, come, bend us, break us,  
still humbly we confess our need;  
then in your tenderness remake us,  
revive, restore; for this we plead.

3 O breath of love, come, breathe within us,  
renewing thought and will and heart;  
come, love of Christ, afresh to win us,  
revive your Church in every part.

Elizabeth Ann Head, (Bessie Porter Head - 1850–1936)

You might like to use this as a prayer replacing ‘us’ and ‘our’ with ‘me’ and ‘my’

**Following on from this hymn which seems very much for the Church of today,  
I have made the theme for THIS WEEK’S QUIZ**

### **THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH - FROM THE 1<sup>st</sup> TO THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY**

1.	What command did Jesus give to his friends before his Ascension	
2.	Who stood and watched as Stephen was stoned by the crowd for declaring his faith in Jesus	
3.	After his conversion Paul travelled around the known world, preaching about Jesus. How many Journeys?	
4.	To the church in which city did Paul write “.....if I have no love, I am nothing.....?”	
5.	Which Saint, one of Jesus’ disciples, is usually depicted holding the keys of Heaven?	
6.	Which Roman Emperor declared that all his land should become Christian and appointed Clement as Pope?	
7.	St Patrick, travelled from Ireland as a missionary spreading the Gospel..... in which Country was he born?	
8.	Christian converts built communities to share worship and evangelism... such as Iona and Lindesfarne, in which century were the first of these founded?	
9.	St Hilda was the Abbess of which Monastery in a Yorkshire coastal town?	
10.	A bit nearer home. In which century was Barrow upon Soar Parish Church built?	
11.	Born in Barrow upon Soar in 1736, in the street which now bears his name, he became Bishop of St Asaph.	
12.	To which Saint is Leicester Cathedral dedicated?	
13.	What do Cathedrals in Liverpool, Coventry and Guilford have in common?	

14.	With their emphasis on quiet, meditative and unplanned worship meetings, the Society of Friends are also known by which nickname?	
15.	Renowned for their brass bands and singing on street corners ... best for their uniforms – who founded the Salvation Army?	
16.	A group of young men at an Oxford college studied religion methodically –what was their nickname?	
17.	John Wesley travelled all over the country preaching. What was his main mode of Transport?	
18.	Until he died in 1998, a Methodist preacher famous for his preaching from a soap box..... at Speakers Corner in London, who was he?	
19.	Originally there were two Methodist Chapels in Barrow upon Soar High Street. What is the other one now used as?	
20.	How old will the North street chapel be this year	

\*Go therefore to all nations and made them my disciples; baptize them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.....

*I will be with you always, to the end of time Matt 28v19-20*

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## ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S FRUIT AND VEGETABLE QUIZ

A special request that questions as well as answers be given

1	Which salad fruit is also known as a love apple	Tomato
2	Which winter root vegetable sounds as if it comes from Scandinavia	Swede
3	Which Green leaves gave Popeye his strength	Spinach
4	Which small fruit which shares its name with a bird was originally called a Chinese Gooseberry	Kiwi Fruit
5	What is the main ingredient of a coleslaw salad	Raw Cabbage
6	Which fruit is normally used to make the desserts Amber and Charlotte	Apples
7	Mange tout, little marvel and sugar snap are varieties of which vegetable	Peas
8	What is the difference between a Peach and a Nectarine	Peach is hairy Nectarine is smooth skinned
9	Which vitamin in carrots helps to improve one's night vision	A
10	The fruit of a bush we danced round as children	Mulberry
11	A main ingredient of Moussaka this fruit is called Egg Plant in America	Aubergine
12	Grown in a vineyard this fruit is delicious raw but some people prefer it from a bottle	Grapes
13	What is the difference between a Globe Artichoke and a Jerusalem Artichoke	Globes grow above ground- Jerusalem under the ground
14	Garlic, onions, leeks and chives are all member of which plant family-	Allium
15	Where would you find the Rhubarb Triangle	West Yorkshire
16	Baked, mashed, roasted or chipped are ways of preparing which root vegetable	Potatoes
17	An unwanted companion around a couple who would rather be alone is sometimes called this	Gooseberry

18	Which salad vegetable is best when it has been <i>blanched</i> by raising the soil level around it to cut out the light	Celery
19	Along with the usual deep purple colour, which root vegetable can also be grown in shades of red and yellow	Beetroot
20	Bamboo shoots, water chestnuts and beansprouts are typical ingredients of which take-away cuisine	Chinese
21	How many portions of Fruit and Veg are recommended for a healthy lifestyle	5

A pastor fell out with his church. After bitter arguments, he was forced to leave and take up a job as a prison chaplain. He preached his last sermon at the church on John 14 verse 1 "I go to prepare a place for you."

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A man in a hot air balloon realised he was lost. He reduced altitude and spotted a woman below. He descended a bit more and shouted "Excuse me, can you help me? I promised a friend I would meet him an hour ago but I don't know where I am."

The woman below replied, "you are in a hot air balloon hovering approximately 30 feet above the ground. You are between 40 and 42 degrees north latitude and between 59 and 60 degrees longitude.

"you must be an engineer," said the balloonist.

"I am," said the woman. "How did you know?" "Well," answered the balloonist, "everything you told me is technically correct, but I have no idea what to make of your information, and the fact is I am still lost. Frankly, you've not been much help so far."

The woman below responded, "You must be in management." "I am," replied the balloonist, "but how did you know?"

"Well, said the woman. "you don't know where you are or where you are going. You have risen to where you are, due to a large quantity of hot air. You made a promise which you have no idea how to keep, and you expect people beneath you to solve your problems. The fact is you are in exactly the same position you were in before we met, but now, somehow, it's my fault!"



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