

Belfast

**EAST
SIDE
ARTS**

INSPIRING BELFAST



19-22 NOVEMBER

Welcome from the EastSide Arts Board

On behalf of EastSide Arts, it gives me great pleasure to introduce the programme for the third annual C.S. Lewis Festival.

Born Clive Staples but known to his friends as 'Jack', C.S. Lewis is internationally recognised as one of the intellectual giants of the 20th century and arguably the most influential Christian literary figure of his day. His most distinguished and popular accomplishments include *Out of the Silent Planet*, *The Four Loves*, *The Screwtape Letters*, *Mere Christianity* and the widely televised *Chronicles of Narnia*.

Unknown to many, C.S. Lewis was born in Belfast in 1898, was brought up here and returned as often as he could as an adult. Since his death in 1963, he has inspired adults and children alike across the world through his work. Other than being an extraordinary writer, C.S. Lewis fought in the trenches in WW1, held academic positions at both Oxford and Cambridge Universities, and was a close friend of J.R.R Tolkien.

Join us this year as we celebrate the third C.S. Lewis Festival in Belfast and gain a better knowledge and understanding of this extraordinary individual and his inspirations. The programme is packed with workshops, music, poetry, theatre, exhibitions, talks and family fun so come along and enjoy all the delights the Festival has to offer!

David Alderdice

Chairman, EastSide Arts Board

Thursday 19th November

C.S. Lewis Singalong for Seniors

Time: 2.30-4.00pm

Venue: Park Avenue Hotel

Admission: FREE

Park
Avenue

The irrepressible John Trotter and his piano take a stroll down memory lane in this special C.S. Lewis themed event for seniors. Relax in the bar with songs from the good old days and enjoy a special Narnia themed treat for all. Participation is actively encouraged!

C.S. Lewis Inspired Jukebox

A Presentation by Stuart Baillie

Time: 6.00pm

Venue: Boundary Brewing

Admission: £6.00

It is a little known fact that C.S. Lewis is a powerful inspiration for musicians and songwriters. *The Narnia Chronicles* and books such as *The Screwtape Letters* and *Perelandra* continue to resonate in popular music. In this light-hearted presentation, music writer and broadcaster Stuart Baillie will review some of these tracks. Mike Scott from The Waterboys is a notable C.S.Lewis scholar but so too is Bono from U2, who modelled his devilish persona of the early '90s on the work of Lewis. Other impressionable readers have included Queen, Steve Hackett, 2nd Chapter of Acts, XTC and even Liam Gallagher. It's time to go further up, further in.



C.S. Lewis: Imagining Joy

How Lewis depicted joy and happiness

Time: 6.00pm

Venue: Strand Church

Admission: FREE

Millions of people have enjoyed C.S. Lewis' Narnia tales and his science fiction. In this talk John Gillespie is going to look at how his stories depict joy and happiness, and how that reflects his Christian faith and world view in an age of doubt and despair.

C.S. Lewis & Spirituality

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: St Mark's Dundela

Admission: FREE

Sharon Jebb Smith is a freelance lecturer in Literature and Christian spirituality, with a particular interest in C.S. Lewis. Originally from Belfast, she currently lives in Aberdeen. In this talk she will be exploring C.S. Lewis' thoughts on the spiritual life, ranging from the Narnia stories through some of his non-fiction to his last great novel, *Till We Have Faces*.



Film - Nightmare Alley

Written by William Gresham

Time: 8.00pm

Venue: Strand Arts Centre

Admission: £4.00

Stanton Carlisle (Tyrone Power) joins a travelling carnival and unsuccessfully schemes to figure out the mind-reading act of Mademoiselle Zeena (Joan Blondell) and her alcoholic husband, Pete (Ian Keith). But when Pete dies, Zeena is forced to take on Stanton as a partner, and he quickly proves more gifted than his predecessor. Ambitious to a fault, Carlisle abandons Zeena and the carnival to reinvent himself as "The Great Stanton," wowing high-class audiences in a Chicago hotel.

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Friday 20th November

C.S. Lewis Bus Tour

Time: 10.00 - 1.00pm

Venue: Bus pick up and drop off at Writers Square, Belfast (opposite St Anne's Cathedral)

Admission: £12.00, (spaces limited, booking advised)

Follow in the footsteps of C.S. Lewis and enjoy this bus tour with Lewis expert Sandy Smith. You will visit many of the locations relevant to Lewis in Belfast, some of which had a profound influence on him and his writings.

Tea and coffee provided.

Narnia Craft Workshop

Redhead Thread

Time: 2.00 - 4.00pm

Venue: Belmont Tower

Admission: FREE (spaces limited, booking advised)

Redhead Thread is back with some amazing C.S. Lewis themed crafts that anyone can enjoy! Booking is not required but is advised to avoid disappointment. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Other Worlds

An Afternoon of Inspiration with Alice McCullough

Time: 2.00 - 4.00pm

Venue: Holywood Arches Library

Admission: £9.50 (spaces are limited, booking is advised)



Join Alice in the C.S. Lewis room of the Holywood Arches Library for an afternoon of performance, discussion and inspiration as she shares ideas on how each of us can infuse our own creative imaginations with the excitement of that first peek in the wardrobe, that first step down the rabbit hole.

Drawing on the work of literary greats who have created 'other worlds' - from Narnia to Wonderland, from Mordor to Hogwarts, how do we as writers begin to explore our own potential to create 'other worlds?' All are welcome, from curious beginners to established writers to an enjoyable afternoon exploring the art of storytelling with this unique performance poet.

The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe

In partnership with the Strand Arts Centre and the Into Film club

Time: 4.15pm

Venue: Strand Arts Centre

Admission: FREE (spaces limited, booking advised)



The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe tells the story of siblings Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy Pevensie, who are evacuated from London because of WW1. They go to live in the countryside with Professor Digory Kirke, unaware of the adventure they are to encounter. During a game of hide and seek Lucy, the youngest of the children, discovers a wardrobe which transports her to the land of Narnia. Covered in snow, Narnia is full of weird and wonderful creatures, but is watched over by the evil White Witch, Jadis. When all four Pevensie children end up through the wardrobe, they discover that they must join with the mighty lion Aslan to defeat the evil White Witch.



Tickets are available through the Strand Arts Centre www.strandartscentre.com

Poems and Songs by Lamplight

Frank Ormsby & Anthony Toner

Time: 7.00pm

Venue: Campbell College, Drama Hall

Admission: £9.50

A chance to enjoy a unique pairing of words and music by lamplight in the Drama Hall at Campbell College, where poet Frank Ormsby and songwriter Anthony Toner read and perform as part of the C.S. Lewis Festival.



The pair first performed together earlier this year as Frank joined Anthony on stage at No Alibis in Belfast for the launch of Anthony's *Miles & Weather* album. Anthony returned the favour two weeks later, performing at the launch of *Goat's Milk*. The festival appearance will see them sharing the stage and taking turns in the spotlight, offering poems and songs in a special one-off event in this unique setting.

Film:

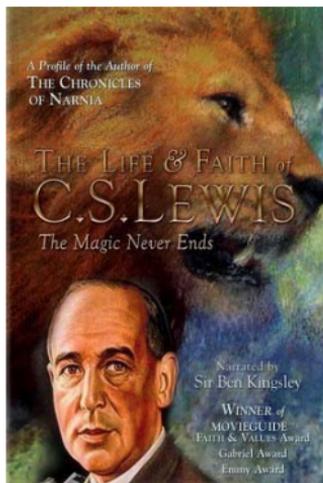
The Life and Faith of C.S. Lewis – The Magic Never Ends

Time: 8.00pm

Venue: Strand Arts Centre

Admission: £4.00

Ben Kingsley narrates this in-depth documentary on the life of C.S. Lewis. Interviews include those with Lewis scholars and Debra Winger, who played his wife in the biopic *Shadowlands*. Learn about the life, faith and world events that shaped Lewis, his friendship with J.R.R. Tolkien and his relationship with his wife, Joy.



The Inklings (Friday 20th also showing Saturday 21st)

Written by Roger Courtney, performed by The Clarence Players

Time: 8.00pm

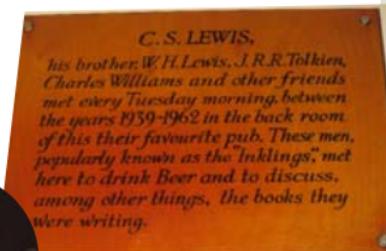
Venue: Belvoir Players Studio

Admission: £9.50

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& GILPIN
SOLICITORS

Almost every week C.S. Lewis met with J.R.R. Tolkien and other friends in the Rabbit Room of the Eagle and Child pub in Oxford. They shared drafts of books and articles they were writing at the time giving feedback on each other's works. This two act play takes us to two of these meetings: 1941, in the early days of WW2, and 1949 as C.S. Lewis was embarking on one of his most famous works, *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe*; but how will the rest of the group react?

The premiere of this play written by Roger Courtney will be performed by The Clarence Players and directed by Frances Hastie who has directed both for Summer Theatre and the 'Am Dram' festival circuit. Hastie and the Clarence Players, which originally formed in 1931 as the Dramatic Art Section of CIYMS (Church Of Ireland Young Men's Society), are returning to the Festival after the success of a rehearsed reading of *Shadowlands* in 2013.



Saturday 21st November

Narnia Craft Fair

Time: 10.00-5.00pm

Venue: Heyn Hall (St Mark's Dundela)

Admission: Adults £5/ Children (under 16) FREE

Come through the wardrobe door and up the gangplank aboard the Dawn Treader, for a nautical Narnia adventure. More than 30 stalls of locally produced art, crafts and gifts, musical entertainment and refreshments will be showcased.

EastSide Bike Tour

Belfast City Bike Tours

Time: 10.00am

Starting Point: Norm's Bikes, Smithfield Market, Winetavern Street

Admission: £25

Set out from the city centre and across the Lagan to explore the iconic launch site of the Titanic and then deeper into the EastSide, the heartland which influenced C.S. Lewis and others. The tour lasts approximately 3 hours, inc. refreshment and sightseeing stops. Bike, helmets and hi-vis vests supplied.

For more information and to book spaces email info@belfastcitybiketours.com or call 07980496969

C.S. Lewis: Tales for Toddlers

Time: 11.00am/1.00pm/3.00pm (tours last 25 minutes)

Venue: Campbell College Junior School

Admission: £8 (for an adult and a child), £5 per additional child

Come along and join in the fun at our C.S. Lewis Tales for Toddlers interactive story-telling event at Campbell College Junior School! Enter the enchanted story room, come through the magic wardrobe and dress up in a special costume for your mini Narnian adventure.



Illustrating Children's Books with Paul Howard

Workshop for Children aged 6 -11 years

Time: 10.00-12.30pm

Venue: Hollywood Arches Library

Admission: FREE



Join children's illustrator Paul Howard and help him to write and illustrate a very special story featuring some of your favourite Narnian characters.

Small Miracles (Poetry Workshop)

Geraldine O'Kane and Colin Dardis

Time: 11.00-1.00pm

Venue: Linenhall Library

Admission: £12.00 (spaces limited, early booking advised)



Taking Lewis' idea of 'retelling in small letters', this workshop draws upon writing exercises based around short-form poetry, or 'micropoetry'. Considering the big possibilities that come from brief words, we will explore traditional forms such as haiku, tanka, elfchen and limerick, encouraging you to tell your own miracles through the page.

This is a workshop for adults.

Prince Caspian

In partnership with the Strand Arts Centre and the Into Film club

Time: 12.00pm

Venue: Strand Arts Centre

Admission: FREE, (spaces limited, early booking advised)

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One year after their previous adventure, the Pevensie children (Georgie Henley, Skandar Keynes, William Moseley, Anna Popplewell) return to the magical land of Narnia and find that 1300 years have passed there. War has come to Narnia once again, and the children join forces with Prince Caspian (Ben Barnes) to overthrow the evil King Miraz and restore peace to the land.



Book Aslan Clay Workshop and automatically reserve your space to see Prince Caspian.

Tickets are available through the Strand Arts Centre www.strandartscentre.com

Aslan Clay Workshop by Clayrazy

In partnership with the Strand Arts Centre and the Into Film club

Time: 2.30pm

Venue: Strand Arts Centre

Admission: £6 per child

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Learn new skills while having fun! The Clayrazy instructors guide you through this tailored workshop, teaching you how to create your own model of Aslan that you get to take home. Includes a free space for the screening of Prince Caspian before the workshop at 12pm.

Tickets are available through the Strand Arts Centre www.strandartscentre.com



Nearly True Tours

Performed by Young at Art

Time: 12.30pm/2.15pm/4.00pm

Venue: Campbell College

Admission: £6.00 per person

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YOUNG
at ART

C.S. Lewis is explored as never before during this walking tour with a difference. 'Nearly True' George will take you on an unforgettable excursion around Campbell College that will shed light on CS Lewis' history.

On Nearly True Tours everything you are told is guaranteed to be 'nearly true'. Fake facts and true stories mingle in this colourful and comic journey. This tour lasts approximately 1 hour and is sure to delight all the family.



The Inklings

By Roger Courtney, performed by The Clarence Players

Time: 8.00pm

Venue: Belvoir Players Studio

Admission: £9.50

See Friday 20th for full details

Sunday 22nd November

St Mark's Open Church Service

Time: 10.30am

Venue: St Mark's Dundela, Hollywood Road

Admission: FREE

This special service will be delivered by Rev Roy Taylor. As an undergraduate at Cambridge, he attended lectures given by C.S. Lewis and briefly corresponded with him while a student. Roy will preach at this service which celebrates C.S. Lewis' legacy in the church where he was baptised and where his Grandfather was the first Rector.



Fine & Dandy Market

Time: 11.30-3.30pm

Venue: Crescent Arts Centre, 2-4 University Avenue, Belfast

Admission: FREE



The Fine & Dandy Market showcases the work of independent artists, designers, illustrators and crafters alongside stalls from collectors of records, vintage wares and high quality, local food & drink produce.

Join us as we step into NARNIA for this special themed market!

The exhibitors are once again producing wonderful C.S. Lewis inspired items and will be running a massive Hamper Give Away on the Fine and Dandy Facebook page.

www.facebook.com/fineanddandymarket



The Voyage of The Dawn Treader

In partnership with the Strand Arts Centre and the Into Film club

Time: 2.00pm

Venue: Strand Arts Centre

Admission: FREE (spaces limited, booking advised)

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Visiting their annoying cousin, Eustace, Lucy (Georgie Henley) and Edmund Pevensie (Skandar Keynes) come across a painting of a majestic ship called the Dawn Treader.

Suddenly, the painting comes to life and draws the youths into Narnia, where they meet their old friend, King Caspian (Ben Barnes). Caspian is on a quest to find the seven lost Lords of Telmar, whose swords will save Narnia from an evil green mist that enslaves men's minds and bodies.

Tickets are available through the Strand Arts Centre www.strandartscentre.com



On A Grief Observed

Chris Agee

Time: 2.30pm

Venue: Dock Cafe, Queen's Road Belfast

Admission: FREE

The poet Chris Agee reflects on the 1961 masterpiece *A Grief Observed*, focussing on how Lewis' experience of the apocalypse and of loss shapes the style and structure of a text unique in his oeuvre.

Chris Agee is the author of three collections of poems, most recently *Next to Nothing* (Salt, 2009), which was shortlisted for the Ted Hughes Award for New Work in Poetry, funded by the Poet Laureate and organized by the Poetry Society in London. He edits *Irish Pages*, Ireland's premier literary journal, based in Belfast. His latest work *Next to Nothing* records the years following the death of a beloved child in 2001.



C.S. Lewis and Grief

Anne Townsend

Time: 4.00pm

Venue: Dock Cafe, Queen's Road Belfast

Admission: FREE

In 1997 Anne joined the team at Tinylife (formerly NIMBA) where she contributed to developing services for premature babies and their families prior to her move to Cruse in 2003.

Anne was appointed as Director for Cruse in Northern Ireland, the largest bereavement organisation in the UK and developed a wide range of services over the years to support bereaved people including services for children, young people and adults.

On a personal basis Anne has experienced significant bereavements in her life notably the death of her father when she was 18 years old. She is passionate about delivering the Cruse Mission of having "Somewhere to turn when someone dies"

In this talk, Anne will look at C.S. Lewis' perception of grief and bereavement.



Memoir Writing Workshops

Tara West

Time: 4.00-7.00pm

Venue: Park Avenue Hotel

Admission: £12.00 (spaces limited, early booking advised)

Surprised by Joy is C.S. Lewis' memoir of his early life and personal spiritual journey. If you have a personal story to tell, but you're not sure how to begin, novelist and memoir writer Tara West can help. In this three-hour workshop, Tara will show you how to narrow your focus and use the techniques of fiction to help your memoir take shape.



C.S. Lewis Bus Tour

Time: 2.00-5.00pm

Admission: £12.00 spaces limited, early booking advised

Bus pick up and drop off at Writers Square, Belfast (opposite St Anne's Cathedral)
See Friday 20th for full details.

Other Events

C.S. Lewis Poet?

Time: 1.00-2.00pm

Venue: Ulster Hall

Admission: FREE

Everyone who knows anything of C.S. Lewis will know of or have read some of *The Chronicles of Narnia*. But what is popularly known of his poetry? How many Lewis readers could name their favourite poem by Lewis or recite a verse of it? This lunch-time talk is intended to re-focus our attention on Lewis' poetry. It will examine why the popular perception of him is not primarily as a poet and why we should not neglect this aspect of his writing. The audience should leave with a clearer understanding of the extent of his poetry, some insights that we gain through exploring it and maybe even with a line or two of his poetry warmly embraced.



Adult Creative Writing Workshop

Sheena Wilkinson

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Skainos Centre, 239 Newtownards Road

Admission: £12.00 (spaces are limited, early booking is advised)

Described in *The Irish Times* as 'one of our foremost writers', Sheena Wilkinson is the multi-award-winning writer of a number of novels for young people. Her most recent novel, *Name Upon Name*, looks at the events of Easter 1916 from a northern perspective. As a professional writing mentor, Arvon tutor and Royal Literary Fund Fellow, Sheena is also a very experienced workshop facilitator. Her workshop will look at how to kickstart the creative process using a range of enjoyable writing exercises. Suitable for new and experienced writers.



Thursday 26th November

Questioning Aslan

Searchlight Theatre Company



Time: 8.00pm

Venue: Willowfield Church

Admission: £9.50

It's 1958, the world is in the grip of an economic downturn and the fear and uncertainty of the Cold War is building. But in Oxford, England, professor C.S. Lewis has called a student into his study to discuss a very different dilemma.



His most promising protégé is disillusioned with the world - the future seems increasingly unsure and meaninglessness has abounded in his life. Where or what can he turn to?

Atheism seems to hold plausible explanations – but will his mentor be able to shed a different light on that conclusion?

Inspired by the life of C.S. Lewis, this production asks questions of faith and belief that will provoke, challenge and inspire.

Saturday 28th November

Bus Trip to Burt

Time: 10.00am

Venue: Bus departs from car park adjacent to Connswater Community Centre

Admission: £12.00, advance booking is necessary

The Connswater Community Greenway project is developing a 16km Greenway through east Belfast. This includes the development of the C.S. Lewis Square at Hollywood Arches. Within the square there will be 7 amazing Narnia inspired sculptures including Mr Tumnus, the White Witch, Maugrim, Robin, Mr and Mrs Beaver, a broken stone table and not forgetting one of the most famous characters the lion Aslan.

The art pieces are being developed by local artist Maurice Harron who is based in Burt, Donegal. Take the bus trip to Burt, at the base of the Inishowen Peninsula, where the new C. S. Lewis inspired public art installations are being developed.

Meet artist Maurice Harron at his foundry to see and hear about his art followed by a walk with Maurice up to the Grainan of Aileach stone fort that dates back to 1700BC. On a clear day it is possible to see the hills of seven counties of Ireland from this view. Legend states that the giants of Inishowen (Princes of Aileach) are lying sleeping but when the sacred sword is removed they will spring to life reclaiming their ancient lands.

A sandwich lunch will be provided. Please wear comfortable shoes and outdoor clothing. The walk is approx. 1km.

Bus departs from the car park adjacent to Connswater Community Centre, off Connswater Street Belfast BT4, at 9.00am and returns at approx. 4.00pm.

Find out more about the Connswater Community Greenway
www.connswatergreenway.co.uk



At the Lamppost Cafe

The Wheels of The World

Thursday 19th November

Time: 7.00pm

Admission: FREE (space is limited early booking is required)

The Wheels of the World is a recently published book on the history of 300 years of Uilleann pipers. Uilleann piping is Ireland's equivalent to the story of blues in America. The evening will include a talk with the author Colin Harper and a performance from the All Ireland champion flautist. Complimentary teas/coffees and a glass of wine on arrival.

Open Performance Night

Friday 20th November

Time: 7.00pm

Admission: FREE

An open invitation for poetry readers, musicians, comedians or anyone involved in the arts to come along and perform or spectate. Complimentary teas and coffees on arrival

Narnia Charity Dinner

Saturday 21st November

Time: 7.30pm

Admission: FREE

Join us for a unique dining experience in the form of a Narnia themed charity dinner with funds raised going to Action Cancer. A set menu inspired by the books will be presented to guests.

Please contact the café on 028 9067 1687 to book your place as spaces are limited. There is no charge for the event however people will be asked at the end of the evening to make a donation to Action Cancer.

Action
cancer
Saving Lives Supporting People

Throughout the Festival

C.S. Lewis Trail

(self-guided)

Pick up or download a FREE copy of the C.S. Lewis Trail and visit the places that influenced and inspired the young C.S. Lewis in east Belfast.

Trails are available to pick up from EastSide Partnership offices, 278-280 Newtownards Road, Belfast or download from www.connswatergreenway.co.uk/trails

C.S. Lewis Display

Time: Thursday-Saturday

Venue: Holywood Arches Library

Admission: FREE



Hollywood Arches Library will display its Lewis exhibition throughout the Festival which includes information on his east Belfast roots, his books and images.

Please visit www.librariesni.org.uk for opening hours

C.S. Lewis Exhibition

Time: Thursday-Saturday

Venue: Belmont Tower

Admission: FREE



Visit Belmont Tower and view the C.S. Lewis exhibition in the Craig Suite. The display features a number of images associated with Lewis' east Belfast connections and a number of important works about and by Lewis as well as an audio visual presentation of Lewis' life.

Travelling C.S. Lewis Exhibition

Ulster Scots Agency



The Ulster Scots Agency has created an exhibition on CS Lewis to reflect the influence of his Ulster Scots roots on his life, writings and characters within his stories. It is a heritage which gave rise to the flourishing of Lewis' creative and vivid imagination and has left us with a literary legacy which still stands today. For information on where the display will be check out our website www.eastsidearts.net

Belfast Clandestine Cake Club

Belfast Clandestine Cake club will be involved in baking cakes around the theme of *The Chronicles of Narnia*. As it is a clandestine club we can't tell you where or when it will be; but if you happen to find them we are sure they'll share with you!

C.S. Lewis Art Competition for Belfast schools

Primary and Secondary Schools across Belfast took part in the C.S. Lewis Festival Art Competition and were asked to use characters from *The Chronicles of Narnia* to inspire their artwork. The winning artwork from the competition will be displayed at Connswater Shopping Centre during opening hours throughout the Festival.





Contact Information

For general enquiries and more information please contact:

EastSide Arts, Avalon House, 278-280 Newtownards Road,
Belfast BT4 1HE

Telephone: 028 9045 1900

email: eastsidearts@eastsidepartnership.com

Booking Information

Tickets can be booked online through the EastSide Arts website unless otherwise stated - www.eastsidearts.net

Tickets can also be booked by phone and in centre at both:

Strand Arts Centre 156 Hollywood Road, Belfast, BT4 1NY

Open Mon-Sun 1.30 - 8.30pm – Telephone 028 9065 5830

Visit Belfast Welcome Centre 9 Donegall Square North, Belfast BT1 5GJ

Open Mon-Sat 9.00 - 7.00pm, Sun 11.00 - 4.00pm – Telephone 028 9024 6609

Many of our events are free of charge but booking is still required for most events to avoid disappointment



/CSLewisFestival



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