



Chairman's Letter

After an absence of nearly eight months, the printed version of the Newsletter returns! Those of you who receive the Newsletter by email have also had the Summer 'Lockdown' electronic edition in glorious technicolour. The lockdown has now eased and we are able to get out and about and put Newsletters through letterboxes. Some restrictions on gatherings remain and of course we now have to wear masks in most indoor spaces.

It is perhaps ironic that in one of the hottest and sunniest summers on record all of our events have had to be cancelled. I was pleased to see, however, that people have been enjoying the SANGs in Windlesham Road, the Heath, the Rec and that children have been using the playground since it reopened. It is noticeable how many more cyclists and joggers there are on the local roads too. I think we are fortunate to live in a village where the vast majority of people have behaved responsibly, where we can enjoy gardens, allotments and open spaces and have been able gradually to restore some degree of normality.

Of course, there are still challenges to face: the return to school and the office and the avoidance of a second spike in COVID-19 infections, all of which will continue to impact upon our daily lives in the coming months.

Although all of our events have been cancelled, the Committee has not been entirely moribund and has been able to carry out some of its work by email. Sadly, we have been unable to carry out any fundraising activities for our Project of the Year but intend to restart this as soon as circumstances permit. We have been able to plant a rose bush in memory of Ken Wretham, one of our founder members, in the garden by the War Memorial.

In view of the fact that we have only produced two printed Newsletters this year and have not undertaken any other activity, the Committee has agreed to waive subscriptions for this year. For those of you who have already paid, your subscriptions will be rolled forward for a year. [Ed]. See Page 11 for further details.

Best wishes to all,

Jeff Llewellyn
Chairman.

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West End Parish Council Projects—Update

The Parish Council is delighted that the S.38 consent has been granted for the Skate Park and Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) on the recreation ground, Benner Lane.

Installation of the concrete skatepark (9.6m x 28.7m), which will be located in front of the zipwire, can finally begin. This long waited for facility, which will be used by children of all ages and adults alike, will be installed prior to Christmas 2020.

The recent planning inspector's report will help in the final local application that is required for the MUGA with Surrey Heath. Details will be found on the SHBC and Parish Council website when available. The MUGA will be located near the existing basketball hardstanding area on the recreation ground and will accommodate basketball, football and netball.

The Parish Council is now much closer to delivering these two facilities, which were rated highly on the Parish Council survey conducted in August 2017.

Now for news on the proposed new Scout & Guide building: it is hoped that planning permission for a new Scout & Guide facility, next to the Bowls Club in Rosewood Way, will be submitted early next year. The Parish Council will be committing a substantial amount of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) to the project but the Scouts & Guides need your help with fundraising for the balance. If you would like to join a team of fundraisers please contact Neil Taplin on 07773 212 792. See Page 3 for more information about the project.

For full information on all the projects please visit the Parish Council website

www.westendparishcouncil.org.uk/what-is-cil/

West End Parish Council (01276 855 361)

Email: CIL@westendparishcouncil.org.uk

MOD Byelaws Review

The MOD land in the parish, covered by the Aldershot and District Military Lands Byelaws [1976], includes West End Common, part of Brentmoor Heath, and the heathland both sides of Red Road. The Byelaws are posted on the large white metal signs at the entry to the areas. It is interesting to note that you are not allowed to cycle on the area, except on roads - but that is not enforced.

The MOD are currently reviewing all the Byelaws, and there is some concern this may affect public use of the areas. For details: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ministry-of-defence-byelaws>

Erratum

Question 5 in the quiz in the last e-newsletter should have read 'Bronze Age Barrows', not 'Iron Age Barrows'.

A New Home For Scouting & Guiding In West End

Our current home has been the backdrop for hundreds of West End children enjoying Scouting and Guiding over the years. Sadly, it is nearing the end of its useful life. After being voted for by the people of West End, the race was on to find us a new home. The Parish Council took up the baton and, after a couple of false starts, ran with it until it had the prize in sight! We now have a firm proposal for a site and plans for a building. All we need to get down the home straight is approval and, to cross the finish line, match the generous contribution of the Parish Council with our own fund raising.

Neil Taplin, Chairperson of Scout & Guide Management Committee has this to say:

“The current Scout and Guide Centre has played its part in shaping the lives of so many young people in West End. Building confidence, skills, self-reliance, teamwork and having fun doing these, is integral to what Scouting and Guiding bring to a community

The current Scout and Guide Centre was built many years ago. It has served its community well but now suffers with maintenance issues, lack of facilities and ongoing costs to run.

A new facility is desperately needed to reflect a progressive and diverse Scouting and Guiding Movement which engages our young people in the village. Both groups are always oversubscribed so we need to have a Centre to enable us to meet the village needs.

We have an amazing opportunity, supported by the Parish Council, to develop a facility that can add real value to our village. Not just for the young involved in Scouting and Guiding but as a hub for events and activities. We already have identified a site, have a building design ready for planning and significant funding from our amazing Parish Council.

What we need now is your support to help us engage with organisations and funds that can provide the rest of the finance. Also, project management of the Scouting and Guiding fund-raising activities. If anyone can also help with the management of the current centre whilst we transition, this will be a great help”

Group Scout leader Andrew Channell adds his voice:

“I am excited by what I think is a once in a lifetime opportunity for a new Scout and Guide Centre in West End. Working with the Parish Council and with Guiding we have developed a proposal for a facility that can take both organisations through to the next century in West End. Our new Centre is expected to provide a flexible and modern base for the delivery of Scouting's Vision; those Skills for Life often learned outside of formal education that help us to develop as rounded, capable people.

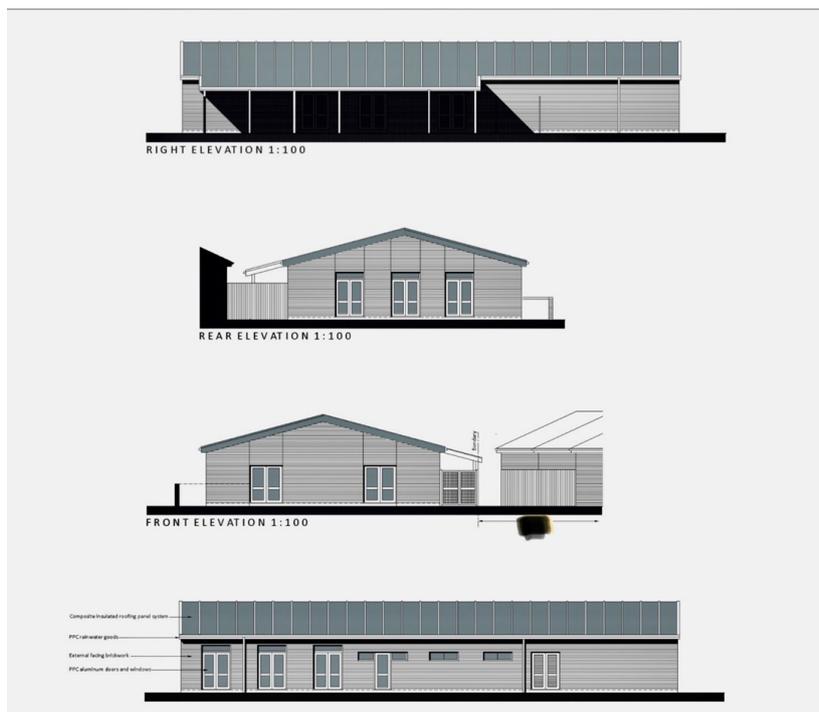
We will of course need the enthusiasm and support of both our young and adult members, as well as the wider West End community beyond just those with family in both organisations. I am sure that as we share more details while the project takes shape, momentum will continue to grow, and we can realise this opportunity.”

We have a Facebook page – NEW SCOUT & GUIDE CENTER_WESTEND

Keep your eye on it for dates of our planned open days in September when you can come and have a look at the plans in more detail, have a (socially distanced) chat with us and maybe a cup of tea & a biscuit!

Contact details if you are interested in helping us reach our goal: Neil Taplin, Chairperson, Scout & Guide Management Committee - Mobile 07773 212 792; email Neil.Taplin@argiva.com

Plan for new Scout & Guide Building West End



COVID Statistics — Source (GOV.UK)

COVID-19 in our area—up to 29th August 2020

Council	Total Cases	Cases/100,000	Deaths	Deaths/100,000
Surrey Heath	461	519	55	62
Woking	406	401	56	56
HIGHEST	Leicester	1603	Hertsmere	131
LOWEST	Orkney Islands	72	Orkney + some others	0

Cases in the last four weeks

	Surrey Heath	Woking
Max cases/day	18 (18 April)	14 (22 April)
	Cases/week:	Cases/week:
1-7 August	5	10
8-14 August	11	22
15-21 August	4	11
22-28 August	1	1

RASSU — Residents Against Surrey Single Unitary (authority)

Surrey County Council has announced its intention to abolish the county's 11 Borough and District Councils, replacing them with a single council representing Surrey's 1.2 million residents. In response to this "Residents Against Surrey Single Unitary" (RASSU) has been launched and urgently needs your support. You can find out more information at: <https://rassu.org.uk/>

A Few Photos Taken During Lockdown



Fire affects Turf Hill and Brentmoor Heath. Some residents evacuated. Red road closed. Fire brought under control before it reached the ranges.



Poppies and wild flowers look great on the Red Road/Maultway roundabout.



The end of June saw about 1,000 orchids between the range fence and Red Road and Donkey Town gets its first sign.



Rose 'Gold Wishes' planted near the War Memorial to commemorate Ken Wretham.



Last but not least, the wonderful 'post box tops' - thanks to all those knitting/crochet experts.

The Village Walking Group

TWERPS (The West End Rambling for Pleasure Society) is looking for help with organising their monthly walks. Walks generally take place on the second Sunday of each month, cover six to eight miles and are located within a reasonably short distance of the Village.

Help would mainly involve guiding the walks and not the paperwork or admin. You can help with as many walks as you like, be it just one or all of them. They are easy rambles rather than 'boot camp' hikes and there are always decent 'watering holes' within easy reach for post-walk refreshments.

Please contact Nicholas and Niaouli Wolf at nj_njwolf@hotmail.com to offer help or to find out more about the society.

National Heritage Week

It is National Heritage Week 11-20 September. Check heritageopendays.org.uk for local events.

The COVID-19 lockdown delivered a bitter blow to everyone in West End, not least from the prohibition of group sporting activity. The village tennis club was obliged to lock its courts to members and to abandon plans for its ever-popular Easter coaching courses and weekly club nights.



So, it was a huge relief when lockdown restrictions were eased and people were allowed gradually to return to playing a selection of non-contact sports. Tennis was one of the first activities to benefit from this relaxation of rules and our club was in the fortunate position to offer aspiring players the opportunity to get out and enjoy themselves.

We have seen a most encouraging increase in membership and for the first time in many years all three courts have been in full use for large parts of the day. Such was the demand for courts that we have introduced a booking system and imposed time limits for when use is particularly heavy. We are keen to ensure as many members as possible are able to use the club facilities.

Until recently, we have not been in a position to offer the use of courts to non-members as there was no practical place to store an entry key. This problem has now been resolved and from the beginning of August non-members were able to play for a reasonable fee. Details of how to gain entry to the courts are posted on the notice board by the main entrance.

As restrictions eased further and people became more familiar with the “new normal” we were able to resurrect some of the old club activities. Members’ club night is now being held each Monday evening from 6:00pm to 8:00pm and we hope this popular event will continue through the autumn, though this will be weather dependent. This is open to everyone regardless of their standard of play and is meant to be a fun time and not competitive.

We were also in a position to arrange for our regular professional coach, Clive Asprey, to run classes for kids and juniors during August. The demand for places proved to be much greater than expected which was most encouraging and we were able to run additional courses during the latter part of the summer holidays. We fully intend to return to a more comprehensive programme of coaching next year.

If you would like to find out more about the club you can visit our website at www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/WestEndTennisClub, or email us at WETC@hotmail.co.uk.

Next Newsletter

The next full newsletter is planned for early February 2021, in time for our AGM. Please send any articles to comms@wevs.org.uk and entitle them ‘WEVS NEWSLETTER’. If there are enough events planned before Christmas, we will bring out an e-newsletter detailing them (in order to get this you need to be signed up to receive newsletters by e-mail).

Tringham Hall, like so many venues, was closed when the lockdown commenced in March.

During this time the caretakers were put onto furlough, and we were successful in obtaining a COVID-19 Virus grant from Surrey Heath Borough Council. This grant has effectively kept the Hall solvent during the period.

Prior to the lockdown we were fund-raising to renovate the hall floor which was in a sorry state. Originally, we were to have this work carried out in August but, as the hall was out of use, we brought this forward and the work was carried out in May. The floor is now in pristine condition.

The total cost of the work was £5557.50 of which we have received the following in grants and donations, for which many thanks:

- ✿ £2000.00 from the Chobham Poor Allotments
- ✿ £1500.00 from Tringham Pre-School
- ✿ £500.00 from West End Parish Council
- ✿ £150.00 from the West End Village Society.

We have also been offered £330 from Waitrose in Bagshot from their Community Matters Scheme.

Tringham Pre-School did restart in June and they were the sole users until recently.

During weekends in July and August, in order to raise some funds, we have been running a small café service, from the kitchen window, selling teas, coffees, soft drinks, ice creams, lollies, cakes and snacks. We would like to thank those who have used the café, the members of the committee who have run the service, and also to those who have supplied some delicious cakes that we were able to sell.

The good news is that, as of the 1st August, the Hall reopened for allowable functions and sports within current COVID-19 constraints. We have put up social distancing and other signs and made hand sanitizer available on entry. The caretakers are currently on partial furlough which means that they can take bookings and clean the Hall between usage.

Thank you to everyone in the Village for your support of Tringham Hall.

Jack Kegge – Chairman, West End Village Hall Management Trust



Updates

Historic murder: Police and the army spent 3 days in August at Priest Lane Farm trying to locate the body of Tina Baker, murdered in 2002. The search was unsuccessful.

Woking Cinema: Currently being upgraded. No opening date set yet.

Camberley Arena and High Street: Completion planned for "2021".

Brookwood Cemetery: "New visitor facilities, including a café, walking trail, education centre and the provocatively titled, 'Museum of Death' are among the plans to attract new audiences and promote greater appreciation of this largely hidden public asset," a Council spokesman said [BBC News].

WEBCare & Street Co-ordinators

Waking in the middle of the night, in the early stages of the Coronavirus pandemic, West End's Liz Noble realised that seven people were dependent upon her and how would they cope should she catch the virus?

Together with Bisley resident, Erica Agombar, they formed a committee with 16 – 20 other residents and advertised on Facebook for volunteers to help anyone who was shielding/vulnerable. Within days, over 400 residents had come forward and the newly formed team was approached by Surrey Heath Prepared (SHP) to represent West End & Bisley as Area Co-ordinators (early on, SHP was recognised as the Gold Standard for such schemes by COBRA).



WEBCare
West End & Bisley Care & Good Neighbour Group

- Practical short term help for all whose family and friends are not available
- Collecting prescriptions, shopping and library books
(At least 24 hours notice if possible)
- Assistance to write a letter or fill out a form
- Basic IT support
- Friendly phone calls and company over a cup of tea
- Minor DIY e.g. change a light bulb
- Transport *(Due to Covid 19 we can't offer transport but we will as soon as we are allowed to, in the meantime see NHS and community transport numbers overleaf)*

**If in doubt, call and ask us on: 07713 915 393
between 10am and 12noon Monday – Friday or
email us at webcaregu24@gmail.com**

Where applicable we ask for a voluntary contribution to reimburse volunteers' travel expenses. Our scheme is largely funded by voluntary contributions & donations.

Please consider becoming a WEBCare volunteer! You can do as much or as little as you like; every helping hand enables those in our community, who need a bit of assistance, to continue living independently, the way we all want to.

Since the 8th of March these volunteers have answered over 2,000 requests for help - delivering food and medication to those in isolation and cheering up the lonely/vulnerable with telephone calls

It was a fantastic community effort. SHP ended on 1st July but let's not lose all that we've learned. Two of the ways you can help are with **WEBCare** and/or by becoming a **Street Co-ordinator**.

What happened to WEBCare (West End & Bisley Care & Good Neighbour Group, established in 1995 with DBS cleared volunteers who assist when family or friends aren't available) – why wasn't it up and running during the pandemic? The answer is simple, most of its volunteers are over 70 and had to shield. It needs some younger volunteers. You can do as much or as little as you like but every helping hand enables those in our community who need a bit of assistance, to continue living inde-

pendently - the way we all want to. **Call 07713 915393 or email webcaregu24@gmail.com** to find out more. Due to COVID-19 it can't offer transport but is hoping to restart this service as soon as it is allowed to do so. **Please consider becoming a WEBCare Volunteer.**

The **Street Co-ordinators**, organised during the pandemic, played a vital role in supporting neighbours and ensuring that no one felt isolated. It would be great if we could continue to have named volunteers keeping a friendly eye out for their neighbours. It isn't about being a busy body - just a local point of contact. To find out more, or to volunteer as a Street Co-Ordinator :-

email: westendandbisleystreetcoord@gmail.com

Gardens and allotments have been a godsend in these difficult times. Those of us lucky enough to have one or both have been blessed with opportunities to counter some of the stresses associated with COVID-19 by escaping to the great outdoors. Gardens have never been tidier nor vegetable plots more productive and weed-free. One of the consequences of increased horticultural activity and warm weather has been bumper crops of produce. Donating fresh food to food banks or giving some away to friends are admirable ways of dealing with such a problem. Another is to look for alternative ways of preparing dishes of surplus crops so that consumers do not rebel at the prospect of yet more of the same.

One vegetable that always seems to be over abundant at this time of the year is the humble courgette. In the spring we get carried away with sowing too many seeds and planting out more than enough seedlings: the consequences, a glut of food nobody seems prepared to take off your hands.

So, here are a couple of recipes that might help to shift some of the surplus:

Courgette relish – *Ingredients:* 1. 1kg courgettes; 2. 750g peeled onions; 3. Two red peppers; 4. Two cups sugar; 5. ¼ cups salt; 6. Four cups water; 7. One tablespoon black mustard seeds; 8. 1 ½ teaspoons turmeric; 9. Two teaspoons celery or cumin seeds; 10. Two cups white vinegar; 11. One tablespoon cornflour.

Method: 1. Cut courgettes (de-seed large ones and remove skin only if tough) and onions into cubes. Chop in a food processor until the size of grains of wheat. 2. Put in a large bowl with the salt and mix well. Add chopped peppers and stand for half an hour. 3. Add the water and stir. Drain through a colander. 4. Put vegetables, sugar, seeds, turmeric and vinegar in a large pan. Bring to boil and simmer 30 minutes. 5. Mix cornflour with a little water and stir into mixture. Boil for 5 minutes or until the mixture has a reasonably thick consistency. 6. Put into sterilised jars and seal.

Courgettes with tomato and saffron - *Ingredients:* 3 or 4 medium sized courgettes, halved lengthways; 2 tablespoons olive oil; 3 garlic cloves crushed; 1 teaspoon fennel seeds; a generous pinch of saffron; 1 tin chopped tomatoes (200g or 400g, depending how juicy you want the dish to be); pinch of sugar; salt & pepper according to taste.

Method: 1. remove any hard seeds from the courgettes & cut them into 5mm slices (about the thickness of a £1 coin). 2. Heat oil in large frying pan, add the garlic, fennel seeds & saffron & fry for 30 seconds. 3. Add the courgettes & stir well so they are coated with the infused oil. 4. Reduce the heat to medium & cook for about 15 minutes or until the courgettes are translucent. 5. Add the chopped tomatoes, season with salt & pepper and cook for 5 to 10 minutes until done to your liking.

This recipe goes well as a vegetable side dish, can be eaten cold as a salad or can be used as a sauce for pasta. Simple!

The Ag & Hort Show

The main event is cancelled this year, but the ploughing match is still going ahead on 6th September. Details on <https://wewdahs.org/> or facebook: West End, Windlesham & District Agricultural & Horticultural Society.

A Note From The Membership Secretary

As you will have read in the Chairman's letter, the WEVS Committee has decided to waive the 2020 membership subscription (sub). If you have already paid your 2020 sub, this will be rolled over to 2021, or a later year if you have paid for three-years.

There are a number of subs outstanding for 2018 and 2019. Many of our Distributors are older, retired people and some have been "shielding" and not able to venture out and chase you for payment. We will follow up these outstanding amounts in 2021.

How you can help us:

- **Opt to receive the newsletter by email.** This will reduce the workload on our Distributors. The emailed newsletter will arrive a few days ahead of a printed copy and will be in full colour (the print copy is black & white). The newsletter is sent out as a bulk mailing from membershipwevs@gmail.com so please ensure you add that address to your 'safe senders' list to avoid it being treated as spam.
- **Volunteer as a distributor.** Currently, we have no one to cover any of the new houses, Willow Green, Fellow Green, Guildford Road and part of the Nursery Estate.
- **Pay your subs online.** To check if you owe anything and for bank details and a payment code, please email me at the address below.

Mary Anthony, WEVS Membership Secretary membershipwevs@gmail.com

The Boxing Day Walk

COVID-19 restrictions permitting, WEVS fully intends to hold its annual Boxing Day Walk this year.

The village Boxing Day walk has been a very popular event in the West End calendar for many years with well over 100 regularly coming along to take a little gentle exercise over the Christmas holiday. It is a pleasant way to work off some of the excesses of the festive season and a perfect activity for all the family to take part in.

The route the walk follows will very much depend upon the amount of rainfall we have in the weeks before the event. Normally it covers a distance of around three miles, although the route is designed so that those less inclined to complete it can easily return home before the end. The first half of the walk is relatively dry under foot and child buggy friendly. Mid-way there is an exit point where those who have had enough or are disinclined to tackle stiles (only a few) and wetter ground can return to the village by road.

Participants assemble in the car park of Tringham Hall around 10:15am for a 10:30am start, suitably attired with warm clothing & sensible footwear. The route takes walkers across Brentmoor Heath and around the back of the village, ending up close to the Hare & Hounds Pub about 1 ½ hours later, just in time to take some well-earned refreshments.

Please come and join us, COVID-19 restrictions permitting. It's great fun and you are most welcome! Check out website nearer the time for an update.

Did You Know?

There is a roman villa in Windlesham Arboretum. A few years ago, it was excavated, but is now covered up. It probably linked to the roman road that possibly is now Broad Street.

West End said farewell to one of their truly wise countrymen in August 2019. John lived his whole life in West End and he had seen many changes through the years. He was a friend to many and shared his wisdom of country lore and ways with any who stopped for a chat.

John became a great friend and source of much countryside wisdom when I accepted the role of volunteer warden of the newly established Brentmoor Heath Nature Reserve in 1987. His beloved wife, Cath, and his much loved and carefully tended grey Ferguson tractor, were often out and about supporting me in caring for the general maintenance of the reserve.

In the early days, a contractor who was asked to give a price for clearing the main ditch that runs along the south of the reserve around Donkey Town gave me a quote of double my annual budget. John came to my rescue and for a very modest sum he, Cath and I each year worked together clearing the ditch and ensuring that winter flood water flowed on and into the watercourse. That is, except for one year when someone fly-tipped a bag of garden waste into the outflow of the ditch, thereby blocking the pipe under Brentmoor Road, causing a cascade of water to flood across the road.

Clearing the ditch and banks became an enjoyable annual event. It took us about 10 days as it was all done by hand. It was an opportunity for John to share his stories about growing up in West End and to teach me about 'How things should be done'. John took pride in his work and the ditch always reflected his dedication and attention to detail. Many people came out to say hello and offer us a cup of tea.

Appreciation of the careful tending of the ditch was shown when David Bellamy, President of Surrey Wildlife Trust, came to make a short television documentary about heathland. David jumped into the ditch – in summer – and was excited about the plants growing along the sides of the ditch which, he said, was like a linear bog with several sphagnum mosses.

On many occasions I visited John and Cath and we sat around their kitchen table sharing a cup of tea and talking about anything under the sun. John always knew what was happening in the village and was a good friend to many. We will miss him.

Every time I walk beside the ditch or over a bridge he helped me build I can feel his presence and sometimes a word of 'Things aren't what they used to be.'

This article appeared in the Lockdown e-newsletter, but only about 35% will have seen it. So we are republishing it.

WEVS Committee—comms@wevs.org.uk

Chairperson: Jeff Llewellyn **Secretary:** Yvette Jones **Treasurer:** Robin Short

Membership Secretary: Mary Anthony **Newsletter Editor:** Pete Jones

Other members: Anne Allard, Marc Bedwell, Andrew Hopkins, Savitri Kegge, Dave Norris,

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