DELIVERED FREE TO 1,000 HOMES

MERRIOTT MESSENGER

NOVEMBER 2016

www.merriottvillage.org.uk

merriottmessenger@gmail.com

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If you would like to sponsor the Merriott Messenger, please contact a member of the editorial team. Details on back page.

Copy date for the December issue is **12th November.**

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SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS AT MERRIOTT SCHOOL

Participating in Sport is very important for children to develop physically but also to learn those important social and emotional skills that are great for other parts of learning.

Merriott School has been involved in lots of sporting competitions recently and it has been a busy half-term for our sporting teams which are organsied by Mrs Rickard. The Cross Country team took part in the recent Yeovil area race at Yeovil Rugby Club. It was great to have enough girls and boys to put forward a team. We came 7th out of 23 schools in the girls and an amazing 1st in the boys, so huge congratulations to all that took part. One of our Year 4 boys, Alex Moffat came third out of all the competitors.

Our Rounders team has also been in action in a second match against Greenfylde School who narrowly beat us on this occasion. Very soon we have football and tag rugby tournaments coming up too.

We have sports coach, Mrs Tuff, working with us this year and she delivers high quality PE lessons to our pupils on Wednesday mornings. This half-term the children have been improving their Tag rugby skills. At the end of the series of sessions the children get to take part in small sided matches against each other with the winning teams gaining House points for their team.



Merriott School is now involved in the School Games Mark - a Government-led awards scheme launched in 2012 to reward schools for their commitment to the development of sporting competition across their school and into the community. Schools in England are able to assess themselves across bronze, silver and gold levels.

Steve Gass, School Games Organiser for this area, looked at our evidence for the academic year 2015/2016 and has verified that Merriott School meets the silver award standard. We are all extremely proud of our achievements this first year going for these awards and we are determined to make gold level in 2016/2017!

Philip Smith
Executive Headteacher

TWO WAYS OF RAISING MONEY FOR YOUR VILLAGE HALL

that will cost you nothing!



Every time a Co-op member chooses to buy Co-op branded goods and services and uses

their Co-op membership card, 1% of what they spend will go to their chosen cause.

For the next six months Merriott Village Hall is one of two local causes (the other being the Friends of Merriott School) which can be your local cause. The money from the Co-op will be used to make improvements to the Hall – in particular the men's toilet needs upgrading and changes are needed to the kitchen to make it more efficient by rearranging the work



surfaces and installing new equipment such as a dish-washer. If you are a Co-op member please choose Merriott Vilage Hall as *your* local cause. You can do this in store or by going on line to coop.co.uk/membership

If you are not a member please join, either in store or by going to coop.co.uk/membership and select the Hall as **your** cause. There is no charge.

The more the Hall receives next March the better the Hall facilities for you to use.

Continued on page 2

HALLOWEEN & BONFIRE NIGHT ADVICE FROM YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE

After a lovely summer, it is time to look forward to the pleasures of the autumn and winter evenings. These should be pleasurable times and occasions for celebrations. Sadly, one person's idea of fun and celebrating can be another's misery. With this in mind I have put together some advice regarding Halloween and Bonfire night.

Halloween and the following day, All Souls' Day, which commemorates the dead, is often overshadowed by antisocial behaviour.

The practice of 'trick or treating' can be alarming, as unidentifiable youths appear on your doorstep expecting, or even demanding, sweets or have a 'trick' played on you. The "trick" is an idle threat to perform mischief on the homeowners or their property if no treat is given. Sadly, eggs and flour are often used causing damage. This is anti-social behaviour and will be dealt with promptly by the Police and PCSO's. In

recent years, a pre-emptive strike has been very successful and shops have worked with us to ensure eggs and flour are not sold to youths. This pre-emptive action will take place again this year. Often the local press print posters stating 'No Trick or Treaters Please', failing that a hand-written notice on the front door should stop unwanted door knocking.

We just get over Halloween and Bonfire Night is upon us.

The length of time that 'Firework Night' goes on for can seem like forever, but there is a time limit and fireworks should not be let off after 11pm, except on Special Occasions, such as New Year's Eve and when an event has informed the proper authorities and been given permission.

Halloween and Bonfire Night is a fun time for youngsters and the family, it should also be time of fun and pleasure for the whole community. The message this year is for understanding and respect for everyone's right to be safe and feel safe.

Please enjoy the celebrations and try and join in, not all 'hoodies' are yobs and not everyone over the age of 21 is 'killjoy'.

If you have any concerns please feel free to contact the Police.

In an EMERGENCY, dial 999.

If you fear for your safety or that of another member of the community call 999.

If you wish to report something that has just happened but is not ongoing, please contact you Neighbourhood Policing Team on 101.

Your local team in Crewkerne is:-PC 4140 Chris Purcell (Beat Manager) PC 3589 Lisa Hallett (Beat Manager) PCSO 7861 Caroline Matthews PCSO 8506 Gareth Allington

THE HIDDEN HISTORY OF A LIVING CHURCH

I am very pleased to say that I have had a great response to the book I published in the summer relating to Merriott's All Saints Church entitled "The Hidden History of a Living Church".

The book describes the physical development of the church over the last 750 years, its Rectors and Vicars, memorials and notable events especially in the $14^{\rm th}$, $17^{\rm th}$ and $19^{\rm th}$ centuries.

To date nearly 80 copies have been sold leaving 30 yet to sell and has resulted in £525 being raised so far for the church fabric fund. The remaining copies are for sale at £6.50 each and can be obtained from Osborne Stores Merriott, Crewkerne Museum, the Benefice Office in Church Street (Rectory) or from myself on 01460 76360.

As previously stated my thanks go to all the various organisations and people who gave donations to enable the book to be published.

Paul Fisher



Continued from front page

No. 2 Our Treasurer has discovered a great fund raising idea which is called 'Give as you live' and it raises funds when you shop online. It

raises funds when you shop online. It costs you nothing, but provides our charity with much needed extra money.

Shop with your favourite stores and a donation will be made to Merriott Village Hall without costing you a penny extra. Shop at thousands of leading stores like Amazon, Expedia and John Lewis. Get started raising money for Merriott Village Hall today. Visit and register at http://give.as/charity/merriott-village-hall/280536/0 So please help Merriott Village Hall, just by shopping online. It takes less than 2 minutes to sign up.

Many thanks in anticipation.

Andy Lawrence Merriott Village Hall Chairman

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY CAROLS AND CLASSICS

For the 8th year the extremely popular Carols and Classics Concert will be performed by the Fisher Sinfonia at All Saints Church in Merriott on **Saturday 17**th **December.** The evening will start with refreshments at 7:00pm and the concert at 7:30pm, and as usual the concert will be a combination of Classical music and Christmas arrangements performed by Joseph Fisher's Piano Strings Ensemble.

The musicians have had a busy year playing with major orchestras across the UK and Internationally including across Europe, and America but they are as keen as ever to perform back in Merriott. Tickets will be on sale from Osbornes Broadway Stores from late November at a cost of £8 with under 18's Free or contact 01460 76360 to reserve.



Together we raised £200 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Ann Lawrence

MOBILE
LIBRARY
NOVEMBER VISIT:
Tuesday 15th
@ Merriott School
9.30am - 10am



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

U3A stands for University of the Third Age where retired or semi-retired people share educational, creative or leisure activities in an informal and relaxed atmosphere.

Anyone in their third age can join and no qualifications are required.

The Crewkerne U3A Group (which includes Merriott) currently has nearly 350 members who can attend any of the 40+ smaller activity/interest groups, each with a group leader. These meet weekly or monthly – often in peoples homes, sometimes in larger venues and some organise visits to places of interest. Many members attend more than one group.

GROUPS:

To get an idea of the range of activities on offer here are just some of the Groups:-

Writing for pleasure * Ukulele playing * Table Tennis * Snooker * Smart

Phones * Skittles * Shakespeare *
Serendipity Trips Away * Scrabble *
Rambling * Embroidery & Quilting *
Poetry * Playreading * Photography *
Philosophy * Luncheon Club * Latin *
Jazz Appreciation * Local History *
Geology * Garden Appreciation *
French * Discussion * Crafts * Bridge *
Badminton * Art * Ancient History

INVITATION:

On the first Monday of every month (except Bank Holidays) there is a "Tea at Two" meeting for all members of the U3A. These are held at the Henhayes Centre in Crewkerne where there is always a guest speaker giving talks on a wide range of subjects. You are invited to come along make yourself known to the membership secretary and sample one or two of these meetings to decide if you would like to join us. It costs just £16 per annum.

CONTACT:

The Membership Secretary is Dave Charnick and he can be contacted for an application form or if you have any queries on 01460 271776.

Peter Bryans



All Saints' Church Merriott

CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday 26th November 2.00pm - 6.00pm Title Barn and All Saints' Church, Church Street

Lots of stalls and games, hand bell ringers and entertainment from The All Saints' Band.
Father Christmas will arrive by horse and cart at 3.00pm.
Hog Roast, mulled wine

and mince pies will be served

OPEN GROUP

3rd November - Discussion and coffee - Do Manners Matter?

17th November - Theatre trip to The Swan Theatre to see "The Reluctant Debutante"

For more details contact Marion Biggs 74170.

AROUND THE WORLD



This photo, taken by Wendy Sawyer in a park in Nice in the south of France, was sent in by her husband Ian.

"The sculpture, created by Sacha Sosno, is made of sheet metal moulded to a proforma and covered in a resin based mixture to protect the metal and give it an interesting feel and shape. The cube is a 9 storey building resting on the shoulders of the sculpture. Access to the building, which is used for the Administration of the Library service, is through a services tower inside the head. It poses many questions about living life in a perceived box and the weight it can place on your shoulders".

Ian Sawyer



SAT 12TH NOVEMBER

Merriott Social Club

Doors open 6.30pm, eyes down 7.30pm
In aid of Merriott Pre-School



Mike Stenner

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Mob: 07703 573 892

michael@stenner9459.fsnet.co.uk

CAN YOU HELP THE CALAIS REFUGEES?

A group has formed locally to collect and transport good unwanted clothing and footwear for men, women and children existing in deplorable conditions in the Calais camp. This camp is supported by volunteers, with aid coming from charities they have founded and, despite the now uncertain future of the residents, as winter approaches fresh supplies are greatly needed.

CHILDREN: About 900 live in the camp now, some in families, most unaccompanied. Two cousins, 9 and 10, there a year and traumatised – 'we ran away from war' – are still waiting to join an uncle here despite the British Government agreeing last May.

An unaccompanied 13yr old Afghani speaking perfect English, having been taught by his father, a NATO translator who then had to flee the Taliban, recently had to flee too. Intelligent and frustrated at being unable to study he said, 'the human is not created to live like this'.

VOLUNTEERS AND CHARITIES: Foreign volunteers and a team of refugees apply knowledge and skills to huge tasks

MERRIOTT GARDENING CLUB -ANNUAL FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW

The Merriott Gardening Club would like to thank everyone who supported our annual Show.

The Club is highly successful with a healthy membership. However, after much discussion the Committee has decided to turn its attention and energies to organising a number of different activities for our members next year and have therefore reluctantly decided not to organise the Annual Show for 2017. If anyone would like to take over the reins next year we should be pleased to give advice where needed.

Watch this space for some interesting and exciting activities throughout 2017.

The Committee

including caring for the children, trying to keep them safe from traffickers; organising language lessons and activities; and supplying meals and clothes to all.

Two charities nearby take clothing and other items; donations will go to them for sorting and transporting.

Care4Calais is in Swindon and Calais: www.care4calais.org lists needed items.

RAFT in Taunton sends to camps everywhere.

Calais Kitchens (London chefs and supporters) provides meals; food and money are greatly needed – refugee communitykitchen.com

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Children's and teenager's outgrown clothing and footwear,
- Suitable adult clothes and footwear you no longer require
- Please donate; we can collect from your home if necessary.

Geraldine Downey 01460 271358 <u>qabd1234@qooqlemail.com</u> 3 Gough Close, Merriott



MERRIOTT
VILLAGE
HALL
Invites you to a

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 19th November 7.30 pm

Tickets - available from
Osborne's, Broadway, Merriott
includes a two course supper
(with veggie option) £10

Bar open from 7pm



POPPY APPEAL 2016

There will be a house to house collection as

usual in Merriott in the two weeks leading up to Remembrance

Sunday on 13th November. For further details please contact Liz or Peter Fisk on 01460 72595.

BROADWAY GARDEN AUTUMN TIDY UP

You are invited to join a working party on **Sunday 6th November at 10am** to help tidy up the Broadway Garden in Merriott. This previously ragged piece of space has over the years been turned into a very pleasant garden, thanks to the wonderful volunteers who have given their time and energy. There was a good response to the Spring tidy up and we hope that you will be able to come and join us on 6th November. Please wear suitable clothing and shoes, bring some tools and a drink. Looking forward to seeing you there, rain or shine!

Christine McLeod

TAIL MILL DEVELOPMENT - UPDATE FROM ZERO C

The new Contracts Manager is Mr Tony Broad and the new Site Manager Mr James Rich, working with Mr Angus Edmonds.

The new team are very happy to be contacted if you have any questions. Their contact details are:

Site Office: 01460 76599 during normal office hours James Rich: 07921 681565 or j.rich@zeroc.co.uk

Angus Edmonds: 07834 790692 or a.edmonds@zeroc.co.uk

The development will be open for viewing completed properties on 29th

October.



Merriott's Monthly Market

First Saturday of the month 10am - 1pm Merriott Social Club, 71 Lower St Every month the indoor market has at least 20+ regular stalls attending, various charity stalls and locals selling books, beauty & health products, DVDs and new and used bric-a-brac stalls and much more. We serve bacon butties, teas and coffees and the bar is open. As well as promoting the Club and raising funds for the new roof, we also support and share the proceeds with many other local charities. For further details call Lola on 07885 424 588 or pop into the Club or check us out on

WHAT'S IN A NAME? BY PETER BRYANS

Our part of South Somerset has many villages with names which are familiar to us because we see or hear of them almost every day. But where did those names come from and what do those names mean? Unless otherwise stated, according to the Oxford Dictionary of Place Names, all names are derived from Old English.

MERRIOTT – Boundary Gate. From "mere" (boundary) and "geat" (gate).

HINTON ST. GEORGE – High Farmstead. From "hean" (high or chief) and "tun" (farm/settlement).

The affix "St.George" came later from the church there.

DINNINGTON – Settlement of Dynnes people.

From personal name "Dynne" followed by "ing" (his people or clan) and "tun" (farm/settlement)

LOPEN – Lufa's animal fold. From personal name "Lufa" and "Penn" (pen or fold or enclosure).

SEAVINGTON SAINT MICHAEL – Village of seven homesteads.

From "seofon" (seven) plus "ham" homestead) and "tun" (farm/settlement). The affix "St. Michael" came later from the church there.

NB. **SEAVINGTON SAINT MARY** – when part of the original seven settlements was sold/gifted to a new owner the church of St. Mary was built.

OVER STRATTON – Farmstead on Roman Road

From "ofen" (over) "straet" (roman/ paved road) plus "tun" (farm/settlement)

SOUTH PETHERTON – Farmstead south of River Parrett

Origin of "parrett" obscure plus "tun" (farm/settlement)

NORTON -SUB- HAMDON - Northern

settlement below Hamdon Hill. From "north" and "tun" (farmstead/ settlement). The affix is from Latin "sub" (under) and Old English "Hamdon" (settlement on the hill).

CHISELBOROUGH – The Gravel Hill or Mound

From "cisel" (gravel) and "beorg" (hill - possibly fortified).

EAST/WEST CHINNOCK – Little Ravine From "cinu" (ravine) and "ock" (little).

HASELBURY PLUCKNETT – Hazel Grove or Wood

From "haesel" (hazel) and "bearu" (grove or wood).

The affix "plucknett" derives from the "de plugenet" family -13^{th} century lord of the manor.

CREWKERNE – House by the hill From the Celtic "crug" (hill) and Old English "aern" (house/building) The hill referred to is Bincombe Hill.



PHOTOGRAPH OF THE MONTH



Photo of horses on Exmoor taken by Grace Pitcher Please send your photos to: merriottmessenger@gmail.com

NEW RATES FOR PUBLICITY FLYERS IN THE MERRIOTT MESSENGER

We have to pass on some increases in printing costs to those requiring flyers distributed by us.

From December 2016 our charges will be as follows:-

A4 single sided £90, double sided £140 per 1,000 A5 single sided £ 75, double sided £90 per 1,000 If it is possible for you to insert the flyers yourself, the cost can be reduced.

JOIN US AT THE "COFFEE STOP"



every Tuesday in Merriott Church from

10.00am - 11.30am

Coffee and cake £1 with free refills.

All welcome - children's drinks and play area. We look forward to seeing you there.

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Christmas party menus now available!

Church Street, Merriott

Available between 24th November and 24th December Menus available to collect from the pub or, call 01460 78912 to have it emailed

Christmas opening hours

Christmas Eve - All day (food as usual)
Christmas Day - 11-2 (No food)
Boxing day- All day (food served 12-5)
New Year's Eve- All day (food as usual)
New Year's Day- All day (food as usual)

New menu and takeaway menu launched on Monday 17th October **Quiz every Sunday from 8.30pm**



AUTUMN SOCIAL AFTERNOONS AT MERRIOTT VILLAGE HALL

Tea/coffee and cake (£2) will be served from 3.00 -5.00pm on Weds 16th and 30th November

General social afternoons, with tables available for board games/cards - or bring your needlework, or just come for company and chat. Bring a friend or come alone to meet new ones, all ages welcome. The first session in October was enjoyed by a dozen people including a new resident to the village who made some friends.

MAKING MERRIOTT A SAFER PLACE

Since the last Merriott CSW update in August the team has had a quiet few weeks with many away on holiday, myself included. We have therefore not been able to carry out many CSW sessions as we would normally do.

We have now done 170 separate CSW sessions in nearly three and a half years which is excellent. We have also managed to recruit 3 new members to the Merriott CSW team taking us up to a team of ten which is great and will give us more flexibility and enable us to do more sessions during the working day. This should also enable us to target areas at specific times as we are often asked to do.

We have also got another CSW site along Shiremoor Hill risk accessed and approved by the Police as there have been a number of requests from people asking if we can operate along there. We will now be carrying out a couple of sessions along Shiremoor at different times of the day so it will be interesting to see the results.

We now have eight separate sites around the Village that have been risk accessed and approved by the Police where we can operate. As mentioned in the highways report in the August edition of the Messenger, we are hoping to get a bespoke post at Old Farm, Pye Corner for the SID (Speed Indicator Device) to be there more regularly, as this is still our worst site for speeding. We have had an update to confirm that we are in the system and should hear something soon.

Regarding the other issues mentioned in the same highways report, we are working with District and County Councillors to try and make progress - not easy when budgets are being cut in all areas - but we will continue to try and find ways of implementing these schemes.

I would like to thank all the Merriott CSW Team members for their continued support and commitment and also the villagers of Merriott for the positive feedback and support and we will continue to try and make the village a safer place for all.

Grant Wright

SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

Octobers' Monthly Market was in aid of Macmillan and had a brilliant turnout with 23 stalls in both the function room and bar area enabling a fantastic £250 to be raised. Novembers' market will again have a large varied range of stalls this time in aid of Yeovil Heartbeat so pop in and do some Christmas shopping, have a lovely hot bacon buttie and cup of tea.

The Social Club now has a new Pool Table and Monday nights the table is free to use.

Dates for your diary

Children's Christmas party will be on **Sunday 18**th **December** 2pm - 4pm, for under 16's and they must be accompanied by an adult. Member's children are free, non members £3 per child. It is essential your child is booked in prior to this event.

News Year Eve...... tickets will be on sale soon to members initially (must have current membership before 31st October). Tickets to non-members will be available from the 1st December.

Remember to keep an eye on our notice-board for the latest news and events, as well as our website (merriottsocialclub.co.uk) and Facebook page. Thanks once again to all members and non-members who have continued to support us – you are highly appreciated!

Membership renewal

Memberships are due for renewal now with many benefits including discounted function room hire, free entry to the weekly members draw, free entry to some events, discounted and priority tickets at chargeable events.

Single membership is £6, Concessions £4 and family membership is £9.

BROADWAY GARDEN RECEIVES £262 FROM WAITROSE

Christine McLeod said "We are delighted and can now purchase new shrubs, bulbs etc and be able to put funds towards general maintenance of the gardens".

Thank you.





MERRIOTT TEA TOWELS STILL ONLY £4.00

These useful gifts, illustrated with beautiful sketches of the

village by Merriott artist Beryl Virgin, are for sale at Osbornes and the garage Spar Shop. Easy to post making them an ideal gift. All proceeds go to All Saints Church.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH SERVICES



This year's 'All Souls' service (for the bereaved) is at Lopen church instead of Merriott this year. It is on **Sunday 6th November,** 4pm with refreshments afterwards. Everyone who wishes to come and remember loved ones is very welcome

We will begin the season of Advent with a special service with traditional Advent readings and hymns. The 16 Bells Choir will be singing at this service and there will be refreshments afterwards.

Sun 6th 8.30am Holy Communion 4.00pm All Souls Service, Lopen

Sun 13th 10.50am Remembrance Sunday Service

Sun 20th 10.00am Family Service

Sun 27th 4.00pm Advent Carol Service, with choir

Date for your diary: Mon 5th December,

7.00pm **Christingle Service** (making Christingles at 6.30pm).

Thank you to everyone, including Merriott First School, for your generous Harvest donations. They were gratefully received by the Lord's Larder and Pilsdon Community. Both of these support local people who are experiencing a difficult time in their lives.

Julia Hicks

REMEMBRANCE BY JANET LAILEY



The fields of Flanders, once, were just a landscape
Where larks spun out their song in summer dawn;
Where trees might shelter birds and strolling couples;
Where poppies were just weeds among the corn.
---Poppies with bent green stalks, down-curving buds
Swaddled in fuzzy sepals; loosening,
Straightening in a day, spreading silk petals
Crumpled round smoke-dark centres, glistening.
Stiff upright stalks bore swaying canisters
Shaking their tiny salvoes onto mud:
Seeds that can wait out years, until disturbance
Distils them into myriad drops of blood.
And still the poppies flower. Still blood is shed.
And still unheard, the silence of the dead.

MERRIOTT GARDENING CLUB

On Tuesday 29th November there will be a talk "Annual Aches, Biannual Backs and Perennial Problems" by Trish (physiotherapist) and Mark (gardener) Robinson. They will discuss why we now seem particularly prone to back and other muscular problems and review what gardening activities are particularly and unnecessarily causing problems. Mark will bring with him gardening tools which he has found particularly useful. Meet at the Tithe Barn at 7.30pm. Refreshments, raffle, seed and plant sale. "Flower of the Month" competition. Non members £2.

At this meeting orders and monies will be collected for our members only post Christmas annual lunch, to be held at the King's Head, Merriott on Tuesday 31st January 2017. There will be an extra meeting on December 13th - more details later. No meeting in January.

**Mo Frampton - 07967 028277*

PILATES

Merriott Village Hall
every Tuesday
09.30am - 10.30am
For further details contact

For further details contact Belle 07593 299 284 or 01460 249576

GARDENING CLUB QUOTE OF THE MONTH BY PAM BROWN

We little people, we who have painted no masterpieces, won no great prizes – have yet created wonders. From time and skill and simple things, we have made gardens.

Merriott Gospel Hall



Every Tuesday 10am - 11.30am



Flix in the Stix presents "RACE" on Saturday 12th November

at Hinton Village Hall at 7.30pm. Tickets £5 in advance from the Village Shop and Dorothy's Tea Room or £5.50 on the door. To reserve tickets please contact Bob Kefford on 01460 72563.

A true-life story of Jesse Owens, who exposed Hitler's misguided belief in Aryan supremacy at the 1936 Berlin Olympics by winning four gold medals.





THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS FOR THEIR SUPPORT

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Moorlands Road Quality care for the elderly Contact Jayne:

01460 74425

jayne@moorlands-care.co.uk

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