

Useful Contacts

Telephone Numbers

Age UK	642094
Ashford Volunteer Bureau	633219
Bees (swarming)	
Andy Bithell	740650 / 07933892413
Borough Councillor:	
Larry Krause	01233 643497
CAB	626185
Carers Support Group	664393
Childline Freephone	0800 1111
Cinema	0871 2208000
Citizens' Advice Bureau	626185
Cruse Bereavement Counselling	878225
Doctors (Charing)	01233 714490
(Hayesbank)	624642
Dog Warden	01233 330340
Hospital (William Harvey)	633331
KCC Community Warden for Hothfield, Charing and Challock, Dave Beckley	0797798199
CROP	01622 851200
Library (Ashford)	03000413131
(Charing)	713177
MS Therapy Centre	01227 470876
NHS Direct	0845 4647
NSPCC	0800 800500
Parish Hall Booking	01233 712016
	doriscackett@btinternet.com
Parish Council (clerk, Sue Wood)	623902
Pilgrims' Hospice (Admin)	504100
(Patient enquiries)	504112
PCC Secretary (Heather Lister)	712981
PCSO	angie.burden@kent.pnn.police.uk
Samaritans	610000
Shopmobility	621196
Solicitor (Thorneloe & Co.)	01622 859416
Victim Support	0845 30 30 900
Water Supplies Queries	0333 000 0002
Water Leak Line	0333 000 3330
Wealden Wheels	01233 840000
Wheel Inn (landlord James Meire)	712430
Westwell Community Website:	
http://www.westwellpc.kentparishes.gov.uk/	

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On An Apple-Ripe September Morning Patrick Kavanagh

*On an apple-ripe September morning
Through the mist-chill fields I went
With a pitch-fork on my shoulder
Less for use than for devilment.*

*The threshing mill was set-up, I knew,
In Cassidy's haggard last night,
And we owed them a day at the threshing
Since last year. O it was delight*

*To be paying bills of laughter
And chaffy gossip in kind
With work thrown in to ballast
The fantasy-soaring mind.*

*As I crossed the wooden bridge I wondered
As I looked into the drain
If ever a summer morning should find me
Shovelling up eels again.*

*And I thought of the wasps' nest in the bank
And how I got chased one day
Leaving the drag and the scraw-knife behind,
How I covered my face with hay.*

*The wet leaves of the cocksfoot
Polished my boots as I
Went round by the glistening bog-holes
Lost in unthinking joy.*

*I'll be carrying bags to-day, I mused,
The best job at the mill
With plenty of time to talk of our loves
As we wait for the bags to fill.*

*Maybe Mary might call round...
And then I came to the haggard gate,
And I knew as I entered that I had come
Through fields that were part of no earthly estate.*

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BBC2's The Repair Shop

BBC2's The Repair Shop are seeking damaged family and community heirlooms for their second series and objects that have special significance during Christmas time for their upcoming Christmas special. The series follows a team of passionate and skilled crafts people who restore damaged objects of sentimental value. The experts work side by side in beautiful barn nestled deep in the British countryside as they fix, repair and breathe new life into objects brought in by members of the public. The experts are drawn from different disciplines such as furniture repairers, metal workers, mechanics, ceramicists, clock makers, picture conservationists, and up-cyclers, restorers and fabricators of every ilk.

A ragged teddy bear given to a grandparent decades ago, a damaged sleigh that once decorated the town square, a favourite train set a parent would like to pass on to their child Christmas morning, anything of personal sentimental value or importance to a community can be repaired and preserved for generations to come.

The team is especially eager to restore a sleigh that could decorate a town at Christmas time.

If you have a precious object you'd like repaired please email repair@ricochet.co.uk or call 01273 224829. If you could share our info with any friends, family, or social media that may be interested we'd be very grateful. Best wishes and thank you for your time.

A Service to Commemorate The 127 Canadian Wing and

the American 362nd Fighter Groups

Each year, a number of people gather at the Memorial Bedlam Lane Memorial in Egerton Forstal to remember the men and women of 127 Canadian Wing, and 362 American Fighter Group, who were stationed here during the Second World War. Many gave their lives, or were injured during the war. Each year, we have recalled the part they played, and their sacrifice, with gratitude and thanksgiving. The short service will take place this year at 2.30pm on Sunday September 3rd. All are very welcome to attend.

Rev. Canon Sheila Cox

Congratulations

After a long period of discernment with various challenges along the way, I am delighted to be able to tell you that, after attending a recent Selection Panel, Ylva Blid-Mackenzie has been accepted for training as an ordained minister. She will commence her training with St. Augustine's College of Theology in September. The training is very demanding and I invite your prayers for Ylva as she juggles the demands of work and family with essay writing and other important aspects of formation.

I am also delighted to tell you that after a somewhat shorter period of discernment, Mark Taylor has been accepted for training as a Reader. He will also train at St. Augustine's College of Theology although only part of his training will overlap with Ylva's. Please pray for Mark as he embarks on this exciting, although demanding, new chapter. *Sheila*

Tomato Terrine

Serves 3-4 preparation 45 mins plus chilling time

Tomato Terrine Recipe Ideas - Healthy & Easy Recipes

Ingredients

2.5kg (5lb) ripe tomatoes, peeled and cored

100g (3½oz) fresh pesto

1 clove garlic, chopped

2 bunches fresh basil

For the vinaigrette

1tbsp balsamic vinegar 4tbsp extra virgin olive oil

Method

Quarter the tomatoes. Place a sieve over a mixing bowl and scrape the seeds and pulp into the sieve (save any juices that collect in the bowl). Dry the tomatoes on kitchen paper.

Combine the pesto and garlic.

Line a terrine or 1kg (2lb) loaf tin with a double layer of plastic wrap, allowing plenty of overhang. Brush the plastic with a little extra oil.

Place 3 or 4 basil leaves on the bottom of the dish. Place a slightly overlapping layer of the tomatoes tightly in the bottom of the terrine. Brush with some of the pesto, place in a few basil leaves and season well.

Continue with the layering process until the layers are level with the top of the terrine, firmly pushing down the layers as you go. Fold over the plastic wrap and then sit another loaf tin on top and weigh it down with cans.

Place the tin in a tray (to catch any liquid that is pressed out by the weights) and refrigerate for 24 hours. Drain off any liquid, then turn it out of the tin and remove the plastic wrap. Serve chilled in slices dressed with a little tomato vinaigrette (made with the vinegar, oil and tomato juice) **Top Tips:** Make sure your terrine is well weighed down - for up to 48 hours -

Pear and maple syrup banana bread

Ingredients

100g unsalted butter, melted, plus extra for greasing

3 really ripe and speckly bananas

100g golden caster sugar. 2 ripe but still firm pears, cored and chopped, dusted in a little flour

1 tbsp maple syrup, plus extra to serve

1 tsp vanilla extract

1 large free-range egg

150g plain flour

½ tsp bicarbonate of soda

50g pecans, roughly chopped

Heat the oven to 180°C/fan160°C/gas 4. Grease and line a 1 litre loaf tin with baking paper so it overhangs the short edges of the tin.

Mash the bananas in a mixing bowl, then stir in the melted butter and caster sugar with a wooden spoon until well combined. Stir through the pears, the maple syrup and vanilla extract, then beat in the egg. Sift in the flour and bicarbonate of soda, then gently fold in, along with the pecans, using a metal spoon.

Pour the mix into the loaf tin, then bake for 45 minutes. The cake should be dark on top with a soft, moist sponge. Check it's done by poking a skewer into the centre – if it comes out clean it's ready. Leave to cool in the tin for 10 minutes, then lift out onto a wire rack to cool. Drizzle with extra maple syrup to serve.

Westwell WI

This month's meeting was an open one so a number of husbands joined us, also last month's visitors returned – we must have made a good impression!

At the start of his talk on The Kray Brothers, John Walker made it clear that he was not setting out to glorify their memory – rather he told of the brutality that Ronnie and Reggie meted out in the East End of London in the 1950s and 60s. We were reminded of Jack 'The Hat' McVicar and George Cornell, both murdered by the Krays, also the 'protection rackets', assaults and armed robberies perpetrated by the Krays.

It was a fact that they were not 'legends' of the East End, who were, in the spirit of that community, protecting their own – they were evil people who got rid of anyone who they thought had crossed them.

The meeting continued on a lighter note with members reporting on two recent events. For our Bat & Trap evening we invited Swan WI and husbands and partners. A great deal of fun was had – if you've never played this traditional Kentish game, you have not lived! You hit the 'trap' with the bat, making a ball fly into the air and you then have to hit the ball! The difficulty of the task was increased by the laughter. The fish and chip supper which followed was more than welcome after expending so much energy. Our Barbecue evening was a very popular event and again, husbands and partners came along – very fortunate as the husbands did all the cooking! On both evenings, the weather did us proud, the barbecue evening ending in a glorious sunset over Sandhurst Lane.

Our competition was for something black – this was won by a charcoal drawing of a black cat named Wellington, with a black elephant ornament coming second and an elaborate card shuffling machine third.

Marilyn Warner 

Next Meeting: Thursday 14th September at 7.30pm.

Members Night – one of our members will be entertaining us

Hostesses: : Doris Cackett, Catherine Hazelden

Vote of thanks: MaryAnne Pitt

Competition - Grey

Egerton Gardens Open in September

6th September; Kate Fenwick, Court Lodge, Stonebridge Green Road

13th September; Dee and Roger Harper, 1'2, New Road

20th September; Jan and Chris Burgess, Stonehill Barn, Stonehill Road.

27th September; Ethel and Norman Cornwall, 1, Old School Court, Rock Hill Road

£2 for a cup of coffee and a raffle ticket!

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Westwell Community Watch Scheme

Keeping you Safe and Secure

Neighbourhood Watch

Although the police have been very active in the urban Ashford area I am happy to say nothing has been reported as spilling over into our "rural" patch.

The Ashford District Neighbourhood Watch committee is seeking new volunteers. It meets five times a year at the Tufton Rd Police Station. If you are interested find out more by contacting the District Chair, Steve Hunt, through our Area Liaison Officer, Andrew Judd andrew.judd2@kent.pnn.police.uk

If YOU see anything suspicious use 999 (if urgent) or Country Eye or 101 to report it
Visit: westwell.community.watch@gmail.com

Also indicate whether you would like to get Westwell Events news including updates from the Parish Council
2-WATCH-4

A couple of headlines caught my eye recently:

The NFU Mutual insurers Annual Crime Report (www.nfumutual.co.uk/news-and-stories/rural-crime-report-2017/) shows Kent was the fifth worst county in England and NI in 2016 for the value of losses reported through rural crime. Although down by 5.4% from the previous year, at over £1.5M this is still too high. The most common items stolen were tools and All Terrain Vehicles or Quad bikes. Still a poor record showing the need for everyone living in the rural areas, farmers and residents alike, to be more vigilant and more careful in protecting their property and possessions. CCTV and indelible marking can deter crime, help catch the villains and assist in recovering stolen goods. Talk to your local Crime Prevention Officer or PCSO for more help

The second was an initiative by the Kent Wildlife Trust, published alongside an article about Hothfield in August, by our own Margery Thomas, asking for your assistance as visitors to help them in their mission to protect and manage land for the betterment of wildlife by not just enjoying the countryside but by reporting rural crimes such as fly-tipping, vandalism, illegal use of motor vehicles, damage to the landscape and worrying animals or anything else that looks wrong that you witness, to the police (999 if it is a threatening crime in progress) or to 101 or through Country Eye if not urgent. Or call them on 01622 690690.

Although we are back from our holiday many are still to go so can I remind you to tell your neighbours you are going away and ask them to keep an eye on your property, but DON'T tell all and sundry. Burglars love to hear when a property is un-occupied for any length of time. It goes on their "to do" list.

To report suspicious activity call 101 or use Country Eye – in an emergency call 999
Keep Vigilant - Tony Bartlett – WCWS Co-ordinator

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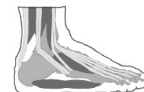
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Letter to the Parishes

As you probably know I spent the first 66 years of my life living in West London, Ealing to be precise. It was a very happy time in which I grew up, married Maureen and had 4 children. I worked at The Town Hall designing roads etc for Housing Estates, was a member of The Boys' Brigade all that time (boy through to Leader), served God in a variety of ways in The Church and then was ordained in 1986.

All in all a very happy period. I retired to live here in Charing in 2005 and started a new life, where I continued to serve the Lord I love.

One of the things about living in the country that has been very obvious to me is the beauty of God's creation. Not so obvious in London! Just this week the beautiful brown corn fields are being harvested – a sight one never sees in London! Or driving along the winding country lanes and noticing the wonderful array of ever changing wild flowers in the hedgerows. And of course all around here are those old buildings thankfully listed or maintained by English Heritage, etc.

God is so good ! And we are very blessed to be able to notice all that is around us. All these gifts that we so often take for granted.

Very soon we shall be preparing for, dare I say it ? Christmas!!

Only last week I saw a poster "Book early for C-----" The shops will soon be laying out their Christmas wares and encouraging us to start shopping.

But what about us? For some, Christmas is lonely or challenging as well as for many a very happy time. As I compare the beauty all around us with the wonder of Christmas, God's greatest gift of all time – I can't but reflect on "JTS" What's that - you probably ask. JTS is short hand for a verse in The Bible. John 3;16. (ie. the first letter of each word). Jackie Wills made me a banner and a photo of it is on the Charing Parish Magazine. It is my favourite verse: Have you seen those she made and hang in the Methodist Church?

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son,
that whoever believes in Him shall never perish but have eternal life."

God created the world we read in Genesis; "And it was good" ! We can certainly agree with that. It was so good that God added the safety net of sending His Son to be "Its Saviour"

So as we prepare for Christmas and reflect on the beauty around us, let us complete the reflection by seeking to understand JTS, that great gift and the life line offered to us all.

God Bless you
Richard XX

Richard Webb

Etc

Dates for your diary
September 17th Harvest Festival
October 14th Harvest Supper.
December 2nd Bazaar

Dates for WAGS (Westwell Art Group)
4th, 18th September

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Book Club, August 2017
A Street Cat Named Bob, by James Bowen
There were ten at this meeting. We agreed that the story, which is an autobiography of a man and his cat, is a very heartwarming one. James is a recovering drug addict who busks and plays music to earn a living. He finds the cat at his block of flats and it follows him. He starts to look after the cat and ultimately adopts him, though it seems the cat adopts the man and looks after him! James ends up cleaning his act and gets a job selling The Big Issue magazines which is, actually, a job! None of us understood how it works until then. The story helped us understand how hard it is, for those whose difficult life leads them to using illegal drugs, to get back to a normal ways of living. James is now working for charities for the homeless helping others. The story has been made into a film. Simple language but very sympathetic.

Our next meeting 12th September is to discuss Cecelia Ahern's 'Thanks for the Memories' and we meet at Liz Jamieson's, at 11am



James Bowen, 37, and Bob the cat

1st Charing Scout Group



We are really pleased with the progress of our new headquarters. It now looks like a building. We are now working inside, with lots of jobs that would move much more quickly with a few extra hands. If you have a couple of hours free at any time please contact me.

As you know, we didn't win the Calor grant. We do have another opportunity! The Onefamily foundation is giving grants for projects like ours. Again, we have to vote online. It only takes a moment to register. Please support us if you can by going to the onefamily web site. The Great Charing Colour Run on **1st October** will be our major fundraiser of the year. Check our Facebook page and make a date to run, walk or just get creative with colour! There will be lots to do for supporters as well as participants. It will be a real family occasion

gsl_charingscoutgroup@hotmail.co.uk
Terry Lister

Westwell Church Services for September

www.g7benefice.org

Friday 1st:

10am Iona Eucharist

Sunday 3rd: 12th Sunday of Trinity

8am Holy Communion

Sunday 10th: 13th Sunday of Trinity

11am Iona Eucharist

Sunday 17th: 14th Sunday of Trinity

11am Family Service with baptism

Sunday 24th: 15th Sunday of Trinity

11am Eucharist

Tuesdays:

9am Charing – The Eucharist

7pm Charing Heath – Prayer and Bible Study

Baptism

Harley Dawson Martin Jones was baptised at St. Mary's, Westwell on Sunday 6th August.

May God make his home Christian and loving

Church Matters in September

Messy returns on **Sunday 3rd September** looking at the difficulties of being small. 3.30pm in Westwell Parish Hall. Come with an adult and be prepared to get Messy!

The next Messy is on 1st October, same time, same place, Theme Harvest.



All Age service on **17th September** at 11am celebrates the role of water in our lives and continues our appeal for Water Aid.



We are asking people to collect loose change in a water bottle and bring it to the Harvest Service on 15th October.

Harvest Service on 15th October.

Are you a farmer or grower, an eater or drinker? We invite you to join us to celebrate the fruits of the earth with songs and displays and homemade bread and soup.



PCC

The PCC have decided to support a series of Charities in our Services during the year, with 6 charities a year that work locally or nationally and support Christian Aims. For 2016 we are supporting Water Aid in August and September, Food Bank in October and November and the Children's Society in December.

Have you explored the church yard recently? It's a quiet restful space ideal for meditation or getting in touch with nature. Why not have a wander around whilst the weather is still on our side?



Don't forget the church is open everyday until harvest so it is always there if you need a quiet sit and its weatherproof!

To make the church even more user friendly we are getting into the loo fundraising spirit. Look out for more news as soon as the plans are available.

Dates for your diary, please add December 9th Christmas Crafts; 9am wreaths; 2pm other decorations booking contact Heather Lister.

Church Cleaning Rota.

Cleaning Melanie Major

Flowers: Heather Lister

Brass: Sheila Filmer



100 miles for 100 years free First World War Heritage Trails - your opportunity to share memories of a relative or place from 1914-1918

Do you have a First World War relative who lived in any of these towns Ashford, Canterbury, Dartford, Deal, Dover, Gravesend, Herne Bay, High Brooms, Maidstone, Minster, Sheerness, Sevenoaks, Southborough, and Tenterden? Then this is your opportunity to have them remembered on a First World War self guided heritage trail.

100 miles for 100 years, a Heritage Lottery Fund funded project, are developing heritage trails in all of these areas to be available with the ones we already have developed in Appledore, Harbledown, Lydd, Ramsgate and Tonbridge where we already feature family memories- see our website www.kentww1.com for the 100 miles trails.

So if your relative was a local footballer like Herbert Silver from Southborough, who survived the War and is remembered by his grand daughter.



Or a special constable like Harry Mittell from Lydd who is remembered by his great niece.

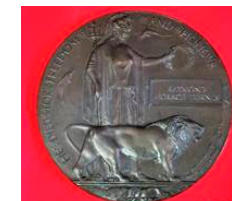


We want to hear from you.

Have you got a photo of the Peace Celebrations or do you have any family stories about the Peace Celebrations?

Or a military wedding

Perhaps you have a Death Penny like this one for Raymond Turner of Lydd who died aged 22 on 13th July 1916 at the Somme.



Even if all you have is a local postcard from the period this will show where those people from 100 years ago lived, worked or went to school.

To share any images or stories with us you can upload via the website www.kentww1.com or you can send by e-mail to info@kentww1.com. For any queries or if you have a story you want to share you can also e-mail darrienne.price@screensouth.org



Westwell Players

How do you learn your lines? First thing to do is to read your part, keep a part of each day when you have a bit of space and read it through each day, try not to miss a day as the repetition is what helps tremendously, gets you really familiar with the words – another very good thing to do is to get a friend to help and record it all with someone else speaking your cues for you – then listen to that each day – just before you go to sleep is an excellent time as your brain is particularly receptive then and it floats about in your head all night!!! Don't think of it as a chore, think of it as a bit of fun! I don't want anyone to panic but we have another reading on August 22nd and then we start rehearsals for real on the first Tuesday in September. Wouldn't it be a lovely surprise for our two hard working Producers if most of us have at least got the gist of what we have to say. 'Once Upon a Time' is a great Pantomime, carefully written so that no one part dominates. The Players would love to see some new faces at our first rehearsal; we would love to have someone come along to make the tea/coffee at about 8-8.30 – come at the beginning so that you can see what we are up to and learn the ropes and become part of our happy band! We would welcome you with open arms – or you might prefer to just come and see what it's all about with a thought to join the chorus of singers, either way we would love to see you, male or female, young or not so young, short or tall, etc. etc!! On a more personal note, I lost my buyer for 'Hurstway' on Monday, 14th August and had two viewings on the following Wednesday and Friday resulting in another good offer so my tears are turned into smiles again – watch this space! Whoever said that selling a house was a very stressful business were absolutely right, I cannot wait for it to be all done and dusted!! Dates for your diaries are Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 23rd, 24th and 25th November, if you have trouble remembering those dates just think that the Saturday is the 25th and just a month from Christmas Day!! Tickets are not available yet, I will let you know all the details as soon as I know myself

Mary Anne Pitt 

Plans

17/00786/AS Vicarage Barn, Westwell Court Installation of a wood burning stove and chimney. This was supported by the Parish Council and a decision is awaited from the Borough Council.

17/00959/AS The Dairy, Westwell Court Installation of a stove and twin wall chimney in the sitting room/lounge of the property. This was supported by the Parish Council and a decision is awaited from the Borough Council.

17/00931/AS 1 Gothic Cottages, Westwell Lane Proposed single storey extensions. Approved by the Borough Council.



September on Hothfield Healthlands

To successfully manage its reserves and resources, KWT regularly monitors trends in habitat condition and the species on reserves, seeing what works and what needs tweaking in habitat management. Survey programmes with standardised data collection and analysis across Kent has been co-ordinated since 2015 by a Conservation Evidence Ecologist (CEE).

Thursday walkers on Hothfield in June and July may have seen a group of people moving slowly over normally untrodden areas, eyes to the ground, or on hands and knees, perhaps holding a GIS gizmo, or conferring with others clasp ing clipboards. We were methodically checking and recording square by square the presence of the plants that make the heathland distinct and assessing the overall condition of each transect. We mainly avoided the deeper water but slowly sloshed through the hummocky maze of the wet fen trying to keep our balance, keep up with the others hidden by towering bracken and scrub; oh and look for plants as well. The group, of KWT staff and volunteers including ones who also do a heavy day on Tuesdays, were led by Reserve Warden Ian Rickards and Dr Paul Tinsley-Marshall the CEE and his patient dog. June was baking hot, July threw thunder and rain at us. It was hard work at times, but great fun, very satisfying to contribute, to learn more flowers, grasses and sedges, a thrill to find tiny significant plants like birds foot clover and marsh speedwell. The survey was completed in two months, ahead of schedule. Careful data inputting (volunteers welcome) will produce a map showing how each transect is doing.

Early-morning walkers may have seen moths being released from keep-nets. Expert volunteers ran a twice-monthly survey

through the summer of Hothfield's remarkable nocturnal moth population. KWT members joined them on a balmy July evening; after a fiery sunset a long list of moths built up with wonderful names - oak hook tip, rosy footman, sal low kitten, scarce footman, dingy footman, scorched wing, wainscot, true lovers' knot. And a very cross hornet. There are 2500 moths in the UK, 780 macro moths some of which are small, 1500 micro moths some of which are big; the previous week 255 species were recorded, 69 in one night. The moths were kept overnight in a net to avoid counting them twice and then released. They are all beautiful, even the clothes/ carpet moth. The largest caught that July night was a female Oak egg ar, wing span around 50mm, coffee and cream markings with a white spot, named for the cocoon that resembles an acorn. She was laying eggs, which she normally just drops on the ground as she flies. Heather is one of the foods of the rather hairy larvae (caterpillars) which overwinter in the leaf litter and then pupate. Gardeners know that providing nectar and pollen-rich plants help our declining butterfly and moth populations. Being less tidy helps too, leaving leaf litter over winter, allowing even a small patch of long grass and wild flowers to provide food and shelter for their larva and pupae. Birds prefer moths to butterflies, their bodies are plumper with more meat.

The heathland is open to all, including dogs kept in check. Various trails are signposted and indicated on the maps at entrances, which also give the location of the livestock. The noticeboard down the main slope from the Cade Road car park gives recent wildlife sightings. For email alerts on the location of the livestock, or to join the volunteers who help maintain the reserve, check the cattle and carry out summer surveys contact the Warden on 01622 662012 or at ian.rickards@kentwildlife.org.uk

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