

# The Tostock Chronicle

No. 159

DECEMBER/JANUARY, 1987.

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WILL ALL CONTRIBUTORS PLEASE NOTE :

I shall not be available for the next two issues of the 'Chronicle' but whilst I am away Mr. Alan Crosby-Browne has very kindly agreed to assume the Editor's green eyeshade and see that the February and April issues duly arrive on your doorsteps as usual.

Will all regular contributors and anyone else who may have material for publication during that period please make a note of his address and telephone number :- "Juniper House", Flatts Lane, Tostock. (for the benefit of those who bring their 'copy' by hand this is only two doors away from "Romans Croft"). Telephone 70579.

Please continue to give Alan the support you have always given me. See you all again in the May issue - if the job's still open for me on my return!

Bill Hoadley

PARISH COUNCIL

(Clerk : Miss J. Wheeler, The Post Office. tel. 70278)

All councillors were present at the last meeting chaired by Mr. A. Villar.

Items discussed included the apparent change to the access of the proposed building plots at "Better View". Clerk to contact the Parish Council's solicitors about this.

The letter of appeal from the Village Hall Management Committee for financial help towards the new village hall floor has again been deferred pending further information from the Chairman of the Hall Committee and will be discussed again at the next meeting.

An outline planning application for an agricultural worker's cottage to be built in Church Road was rejected on the grounds that this constituted ribbon development and not infilling as per the County Structure plan. Also that the proposed plot was on a very dangerous bend and as it would be opposite the church it would be detrimental to the surrounding environment. It was also pointed out that the Mid-Suffolk Planning Department had consistently refused any building development on the opposite side of the road in spite of this Council's recommendation to do so.

An application to build a three-car garage at "Hermitage Green House" was approved.

Planning permission was not required to alter the garage at "Stone Cottage", but the owner requested permission to re-position the driveway to it. This was granted provided the overall width did not exceed that of the present one.

A report was given on the Village Quiz which raised £40.70 for the Royal National Institute for the Blind. Seven teams had failed to pay their £1 entry fee.



T.O.A.D.S. (TOSTOCK OPERATIC & DRAMATIC SOCIETY)  
(Miss Lynn Canning, 6 Mitre Close, Woolpit. tel.40070)

Rehearsals are now in full swing for the Pantomime which is to be "Robinson Crusoe" and will be held on Friday and Saturday 23rd and 24th of January and Friday and Saturday 30th and 31st January, 1987.

Watch out for posters nearer the time for details of times, prices, etc.

If anyone is interested in helping 'behind the scenes' please contact Sheelagh Millman, "Avonlake", Norton Road, Tostock (tel. Beyton 70209).

BROWNIES

(Mrs. Doreen Buckle, "Crosswinds", Flatts Lane, tel.70605)

Once again rehearsals are in progress for our annual Carol Concert on Friday 12th December at 7 p.m. in the Village Hall. We will be borrowing the handbells which are a favourite with the girls. Mincepies and tea/coffee will be available afterwards. There will not be an entrance charge but a collection will be taken for Cancer Research. We hope many of you will be able to join us to give your support to this worthy cause.

We thank all parents and friends who helped with the Webb Ivory fund-raising. Our funds benefited by £50.

"Help! Help! Calling all would-be 'Brown Owls', Come in please"

The Pack is devastated by the following letter from our much-loved 'Brown Owl', Rosemary Lister writing from "Woodend Green Cottage", Thurston, telephone Beyton 70179.

" It is with much thought and regret that I feel that I must make way for a new 'Brown Owl'.

My commitments at school are increasing with my added responsibility and it is becoming more and more difficult to actually attend Brownies, let alone plan a meeting.

We will do everything to make sure the Pack does not fold but I hope someone might feel they could enjoy taking on the leadership of the Pack, ably assisted by Doreen Buckle (tel. 70605) and Lynda Lovegrove (tel.70631).

Rosemary Lister."

(Everything that the Brownies do seems to be done with such enthusiasm that it is clear the youngsters get a great deal of enjoyment from it. It will indeed be sad if a new 'Brown Owl' cannot be found. - Editor).

VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

(Secretary : Mrs. Sarah Martin, "Strawberry Cottage", Norton Rd. tel. 70360)  
(Bookings : Mr. Peter Buckle, "Crosswinds", Flatts Lane. tel. 70605)  
(Key Holder: Mr. Simon Reynolds, "The Hawthorns", Perkins Way. tel. 70675)

Bonfire Night : A calm dry night helped towards the success of this annual event. Thanks to Bill Hoadley for the unenviable job of selecting a winner from no fewer than ten superb guys. The joint winners were the Coe girls and the Neal family, with the Playgroup as runners-up.

Thanks also to Julie Harrison for the soup and Peter Buckle and Lionel Grooms for the barbeque. These were the major figures on the night, but unless the tractor and trailer loaned by Mr. Villar had not been driven by Nicholas Pearson to pick up the rubbish, which was subsequently stacked by Mr. A. Baully's fork-lift, then it would have been a very cold night.

Village Hall Floor : Our thanks to the T.O.A.D.S. for a donation of £50 resulting from their thoroughly entertaining Floor Show and to the Carpet Bowls Club for £100 from their excellent Craft Bazaar. As reported in the last 'Chronicle' we have to raise £4,000. An application for a grant has gone to the Mid-Suffolk District Council and we await a reply.

Medieval Banquet : Please note 'The Troubadours' have been booked for Saturday, 14th March 1987 when the Village Hall will once again be transformed into a Banqueting Hall. Further details later.

PLAYGROUP

(Mrs. Sharon Hall, "Ifold", New Road, tel. 70942)

The jumble sale held in October was a great success raising £101 for our funds. Our thanks to everyone involved.

We welcomed a new member, Oliver Weeks, whose family has recently moved into the village.

Two rising three-year olds will be joining us after Christmas, so the Tuesday morning session will be starting again for the January term, but there is still a need for more children if the playgroup is to continue in the future. So, as usual, if you know of any children who might like to come to our playgroup (they can be collected and taken home if necessary) please let us know.

The children had great fun making a Guy for the bonfire and enjoyed eating the sweets they won with him in the Best Guy Competition.

Our Christmas Party will be held on the 18th December this year from 11 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. Father Christmas will be visiting us during the party. If there are any Mums with children under 5 years old, please come along. Just let me know so we have an idea of numbers. We hope to see you there.

THANK YOU TOSTOCK

MR. and MRS. ROBERT AUSTIN of No. 1 Bungalow, Church Road would like to thank everyone for their help and kindness in welcoming them into the village.

### A PLEA TO ALL DRIVERS OF VEHICLES

Residents living along the track on the North side of the Green are becoming increasingly concerned that it is again being used by all and sundry vehicles, some of which are frequently driven recklessly along it without proper regard for the safety of householders and their pets.

The track is not a recognised 'highway' but exists purely as a means of access to those properties and this was made clear in the 'Chronicle' some two years ago, but in view of the number of new residents in the village since then we have been asked to issue this reminder.

We know, of course, that not all the offenders actually live in the village but please do what you can to minimise the nuisance and prevent the deaths of any more much loved pets. Please also pass the word to any frequent visitors you may have, some of whom may perhaps use it as a short cut to the top of Flatts Lane which is in any case a totally blind and potentially dangerous junction for the unwary.

### DON'T THROW IT AWAY. READ THIS FIRST

(An easy way to help several worthy charities)

#### CAN RING-PULLS and USED POSTAGE STAMPS (British and Foreign)

B.B.C. Radio Norfolk's 'Early Risers' are collecting Can Ring-Pulls and Postage Stamps to purchase a Kidney Machine. Other events are taking place including a charity Christmas stall on Norwich Market and a 'Help-Line' raffle. The aim is to raise the £6,000 required for the machine within eighteen months. Tostock P.O. has agreed to be a collecting centre for the Ring-Pulls and Stamps.

#### FOIL

Washed milk bottle tops, foil and foil containers are also collected in aid of the Guide Dogs for the Blind appeal.

Many thanks to all who have left foil during the past year, including Tostock Brownies, Elmswell School and the many individuals both within and without the village.

#### CONTAINERS (Plastic and Polystyrene)

Plastic and Polystyrene trays as used for pre packed foods and plastic margarine tubs are also re-used as feeding and drinking dishes by the Bury Stray Cats Home.

ANY OF THE ABOVE CAN BE LEFT AT THE POST OFFICE DURING NORMAL WORKING HOURS

### THE ANNUAL VILLAGE QUIZ

What a nail-biting finish to the Quiz this year between all three finalists ; the 'Gardeners' and the Cricket Club being level and the Parochial Church Council but a single point behind them, with the 'Gardeners' eventually winning the tie-breaker with - dare we say it - an educated guess!

A feature of this year's event was the almost total absence of sotto voce promptings from the floor of the hall. This we suspect was not so much a new-found sense of non-partisan fairness on the part of those present but reflected rather the incredibly high standard of the questions fired at the unfortunate contestants.

A well presented show by the Question-Master, Mr. Mike O'Reilly, and his team of scorers who were, quite literally, 'on their toes' all the time. The "Gardeners' Arms" now have their names on the enlarged Challenge Shield and have thereby earned the sought-after privilege of presenting the Quiz next year!

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY ORGANISATION

There are many types of emergency that can affect a community and which may require action prior to the arrival of formal assistance from outside. Under such conditions the local area may be isolated for a while and prompt action could save lives and minimise the risk and inconvenience to the whole community.

Emergencies may be natural or man-made and can strike with little or no warning, e.g. strikes of main services such as water or power, or accidents involving railway or road vehicles particularly when carrying dangerous liquids or chemicals. (Remember our close proximity to the A45 - Ed.)

In order to be prepared to deal with such eventualities we needed a Community Emergency Adviser and after much soul-searching and in the absence of another, I volunteered. The probability of such an emergency is remote, but in order to deal effectively with one, we need a team within the village willing to help.

I know that in the event of an occurrence many people would come forward wanting to help, but we would be far more effective if we were prepared - knowing where to turn for drinking water, accommodation, first aid, etc. etc. With this in mind I ask for volunteers to help me form our team. Please either ring me direct or via Miss Wheeler or Miss Stevens at the village shop. We can then arrange a meeting and discuss responsibilities, etc.

Roger Lister, "Woodend Green Cottage"  
tel. 70179.

"THE SMELL"

Members of the Steering Group and various people from Woolpit, Drinkstone and Tostock were all prepared to give evidence at Stowmarket Magistrate's Court on Wednesday 26th November. The Mid-Suffolk Environmental Health Department had decided to take legal action (thanks to everyone ringing and writing and also pressure from the Steering Group).

What a disappointment when on the 24th it had to be cancelled - "owing to a typist's error"! So we will start again although the Department say it will not be brought again until "sometime in the Spring". So please keep note of dates and times and pester the Council officers every time the smell comes across from Drinkstone.

ALSO if anyone finds any chicken waste that has fallen off lorries, (that is what the pigs are fed on), the Police would like to hear about it.

Thanking you.

Mrs. B. E. Evans,  
"The Snave", Flatts Lane.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

The house-to-house collections, together with monies from "The Gardeners' Arms", the Church and the Post Office amounted to £148.84, an increase of £21.48 over last year's contributions.

Most sincere thanks to the collectors, Mesdames Buckle, Jagger, Spencer and Wright, to the Church, the Post Office and the "Gardeners' Arms" and to Mrs. Pat Reynolds and Mrs. Mulley for the wreath and flowers in the Church.

Austin Higgins  
Hon. Organiser for Tostock

BUS SERVICE CHANGES

There have been one or two recent changes in the bus service through the village. Two of them involve earlier departures - so watch out that you don't just miss them.

The only important change (and it's for the better) is that the 9.37 a.m. to Stowmarket (previously 9.38!) now goes through Woolpit. It is now possible to go in on this bus and return from Woolpit at 12.32 p.m. Still rather a long time to spend in Woolpit but at least we can now get there and back the same morning.

The complete service is now :-

<u>WESTBOUND (i.e. towards Bury)</u>	<u>EASTBOUND (i.e. towards Stowmarket)</u>
8.19 a.m.	9.37 a.m.
9.24 a.m. (Not Saturdays)	1.52 p.m.
9.43 a.m. (Saturdays only)	4.26 p.m. (Saturdays only)
12.38 p.m.	4.41 p.m. (Not Saturdays)
3.12 p.m. (only goes as far as Blackthorpe)	5.46 p.m. (Not Saturdays)

(We wonder what there is about Blackthorpe that our only afternoon bus towards Bury stops short there. Perhaps the driver lives there?)

CAROL SINGING

We hope to tour the whole village Carol Singing if we can get enough volunteers of both sexes to have two groups singing from each end of the village. Please help. Proceeds will go to the St. Nicholas Hospice at Bury St. Edmunds. We would like to do it on one night if possible, either Thursday 18th or Friday 19th December.

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATIONS

Have you any Christmas Tree decorations in your lofts or cupboards, which you are not using or could you spare one or two for the Church Christmas Tree. We will be able to store them for use again in the future. Thanking you in anticipation.

ANY OFFERS FOR CAROL SINGING OR FOR DECORATIONS TO MRS. PAT REYNOLDS PLEASE AT "BETTER VIEW", tel. 70341.

REFUSE DISPOSAL ARRANGEMENTS OVER CHRISTMAS

The only householders who will be affected this year will be those whose normal collection is on a FRIDAY. Refuse due to be collected on Friday 26th and Friday 2nd January will be collected together on SATURDAY 3rd January.

Polthene sacks will be delivered previously to accommodate the extra refuse as it accumulates.

SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE

As promised last time we are able to announce that as a result of a very successful ride by all our gallant cyclists, and the very good support by their sponsors, the total amount received to date is a really staggering £631.15, a half of which goes to our own St. Andrew's Church.

Thank you one and all.

W. and E. Parslow

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS AT CHRISTMAS

Deliveries :

From Monday 8th December to Wednesday 24th December, inclusive, there will be one daily delivery of Letters and Parcels.

There will then be no more deliveries until Monday 29th December.

There will be no delivery on New Year's Day, Thursday, 1st January, 1987.

Collections :

From Monday 8th December to Tuesday 23rd December, inclusive, normal collection times will be suspended and collection will be in conjunction with delivery, both morning and afternoon.

There will be no collection on Christmas Eve, Wednesday 24th December.

There will be no collection on New Year's Day, 1st January, 1987.

LATEST RECOMMENDED POSTING DATES :

Second Class letters and parcels - Wednesday, 17th December.  
First Class letters - Friday, 19th December.

POST OFFICE COUNTER SERVICES :

Wednesday, 24th December	:	9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	
Thursday, 25th	"		} CLOSED
Friday, 26th	"		
Saturday, 27th	"		
Wednesday, 31st	"	: 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	
Thursday, 1st January	:	CLOSED	

THE LEYS POND

As planned, a full day's work was put into clearing the pond on Saturday, 4th October.

The warm dry weather in late September had reduced the water level considerably, and all areas of the pond were accessible, thus allowing the enthusiastic group of volunteers to remove a huge amount of weed, mud and undergrowth.

The resulting open surroundings and clear water are a vast improvement and an encouragement to undertake some further work when weather and time permit.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who gave up their Saturday and put in a very hard, and dirty, day's work. My thanks also to those people who loaned the tools and equipment so necessary to make the hard work a little easier.

Stuart McAllinden  
Pond Warden,  
"Brierly", Leys Road.  
tel. 70591

"GARDENERS' CORNER"

(Minehost : Mr. Reg Ransome, "The Gardeners' Arms". tel. 70460)

I now know my position in life. If you noticed where the last article appeared in the 'Chronicle' you'll know what I mean. (It was after 'The Smell' !)

Crib : After eight games the team are standing fourth in the League, two points behind the leaders, having lost three games. Unfortunately, we were knocked out of the Cup though. Home fixtures for Dec. and Jan. :-  
Dec. 13th : v. Honington Fox. Jan 19th : v. Barnham Grafton Arms.  
Jan. 26th : v. Stanton Cock.

Pool : A good, steady start has been made to the season having won 4 games from 6 but it looks like being a hard season, every game being very tight with a close result. A notable thing so far is that of the two brothers who play in the team, one lost his first game of the season last week at Drinkstone Cherry Tree, whilst the other one, much to his obvious relief, won his first. What name was that ? Home fixtures for Dec. and Jan. :-  
Dec. 9th : v. Dog. Jan 13th : v. Cadogan Arms. Jan. 27th : v. White Horse.

Darts (Wednesdays) : Going really well so far. Top of the league and only lost one game to date! Can it last we ask ourselves? Home fixtures :  
Dec. 3rd : v. Rattlesden Beavers. Dec. 17th : v. Felsham Bells.  
Jan. 21st : v. Buxhall Grown.

Darts (Fridays) : Whereas the Wednesday night Darts is in a friendly league and the standard of play can be a bit variable, Friday is more serious as can be gauged by the overall standard of play. Now after all that you probably think it's the excuse for saying we're bottom of the league, but we're not - and we're not top either! Home fixtures :-  
Dec. 5th : v. Haughley White Horse. Dec. 12th : v. Thurston Cricket Club.  
Jan. 2nd : v. Ixworth Crown. Jan. 9th : v. Badwell Ash, White Horse.  
Jan. 23rd : v. Clarkes Social Club.

Quiz (Sundays) : After 6 games the 'A' team are 3rd in the league having lost only two games, but the 'B' team having met some of the higher placed teams early on are a bit further down the table with 4 points. Fixtures :- Dec. 7th : 'B' team v. Dog 'B'.  
Dec. 14th : 'A' team v. Dog 'A'. Jan. 11th : 'B' team v. Royal William.  
Jan. 18th : 'A' team v. Angel.

Christmas isn't far away now. The board for the Draw is already on the bar and that will probably be held the week before the festivities, along with the Hand-bell Ringers who will be coming on the Friday. On The Day itself we will be open from 11.30 a.m. until 1.30 p.m. and then we can close legally for the one night of the year. On New Year's Eve we shall be having a Fancy Dress Night again and hope that it is as successful as last year.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR !!

NEWS FROM THE CLUBS

CRICKET : (Mr. M. Spencer, "Bosmere", Perkins Way. tel. 70395)

At the Annual General Meeting held in October the following elections were made :-

Chairman : Mike Dean. Secretary : Mick Spencer.  
Treasurer: Michael Martin. Captain : David Bonfield.  
Fixture Secretary : Philip Cobbold.

A vote for the Players' Player of the Year saw David Bonfield gain the award.

The leading run scorers were : David Bonfield (274), Dick Hayward (169), George Baldry (145), Ray Brown (143), Philip Cobbold (123) and Hillyud Armstrong (116).

The leading wicket gatherers were : - Hillyud Armstrong (50), Nick Bennett (25) and Graham Spencer (22).

In view of the financial state of the club, which is sound though depleted, the match fees for 1987 will be increased to £1 per game.

TENNIS : (Mrs. Heather Spencer, "Bosmere", Perkins Way, tel. 70395)

As their contribution to fund-raising for the Village Hall floor, the club will be manning a stall at the late-night Christmas shopping in Bury on Thursday, 11th December 5 - 8 p.m. Members are already busy making knitted items, small Christmas cakes, Christmas decorations, lavender bags etc. and on the night there will be hot home-made soup, toffee apples, cakes, quiches etc. If anyone would like to donate a small gift we would be happy to accept this. (Happier still with a BIG one? - Editor). All profits will go to the Village Hall Floor Fund. Items can be left at "Sandlappers", New Road or "Bosmere", Perkins Way by Wednesday, 10th Dec. please (2 p.m.) or perishables on Thursday, 11th Dec. by 2 p.m.

A few lady members play regularly most Friday mornings, weather permitting. The court has been rolled again by the contractor and the lines repainted by Mr. Michael Coe, for which we are grateful.

QUOITS : (Mr. Peter Buckle, "Crosswinds", Flatts Lane, tel. 70605)

Since the last report the club has held its Presentation Night at the "Gardeners' Arms". Many thanks to Reg and Mary for the food and for presenting the cups to the winners named last time.

The new season will start around the first week in May, 1987.

CARPET BOWLS : (Mrs. M. Laverick, "Glentor", Norton Road, tel.70964)

Bazaar : Despite very poor attendance by the village, the Bowls Club were very pleased with the results of all the members' efforts. £100 has been given to the Village Hall Management Committee towards the new floor. Grateful thanks to all members and friends who worked so hard to make the Bazaar a success.

League : The Bowls season is now in full swing and a number of league matches have been played. We have now won two matches, drawn two and lost four but this is a great improvement on our last year's results and we are hoping to continue with our good fortune.

FOOTBALL : Tostock 85 (Saturday Club) - Mr. Martin Durrant, 4 Orchard Close, Roughan. tel. 70076.

Since my last report our league position has not changed but our results have been inconsistent. We beat our rivals Norton 7-2, with a hat-trick from Ian Jagger and two goals from Ray George. A week later at Hardwick Heath, after taking the lead with a goal by Jeremy (Atmo) Atkins, we finally lost 3-1, the 'Taverners' scoring three late goals. We then entertained Sicklesmore Res. at home, losing 3-2 after having a two goal lead. Our Cup run came to an immediate halt against Elmswell Res. when after a fine all-round performance we eventually lost 2-1, our goal being scored by Michael Cobbold, ex Norton Roder!

Back to the league with a game at home to Springfield which we won 3-2, one of our goals being scored directly from a free kick by Stephen Neal. At Thetford the following week we played the 'Dolphin Inn' where after a hat-trick from Ray George and two goals from Ian Jagger, we won 6-3.

On a social note, the players and friends of Tostock F.C. are going to the Norwood Rooms, Norwich on Saturday 20th December for a Dinner-Dance. The cost of this evening's entertainment will be £16 per person. Further details from Martin Durrant, as above.

SQUASH : (Mr. Austin Higgins, The Drift, Church Road, tel.70439)

The season has started rather slowly due to lighting faults but these have now been rectified.

New members are very welcome. £6 per season and for Teenagers just £1.

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DECEMBER :

Monday 1st : NO LIBRARY TODAY  
Thursday 4th : MOBILE BARBER  
Sunday 7th : 3 p.m. 'Christingle' at Pakenham (Church notes)  
Thursday 11th : 5 - 8 p.m. Christmas Stall in Bury Market (Tennis notes)  
Friday 12th : 7 p.m. Brownies' Carol Concert (Brownie notes)  
Monday 15th : MOBILE LIBRARY  
Thursday 18th : Children's Christmas Party (Playgroup notes)  
Thursday 18th }  
Friday 19th } : Village Carol Singing (see page 7)  
Saturday 20th : Football Clubs' Dinner-Dance outing (Tostock 85 notes)  
Sunday 21st : 3 p.m. Church CAROL SERVICE  
Wednesday 24th : 3 p.m. Children's Crib Service at Norton (Church notes)  
Friday 26th : NO REFUSE COLLECTION TODAY  
Monday 29th : MOBILE LIBRARY  
Tuesday 30th : NO "Tea at the Croft" today  
Wednesday 31st : FANCY DRESS NIGHT AT THE "GARDENERS' ARMS"

JANUARY :

Friday 2nd : NO REFUSE COLLECTION TODAY  
Saturday 3rd : REFUSE COLLECTION FOR LAST TWO FRIDAYS  
Monday 12th : MOBILE LIBRARY  
Thursday 15th : MOBILE BARBER  
Friday 23rd : LAST DATE FOR RECEIVING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR NEXT CHRONICLE.  
(To Mr. Alan Crosby-Browne please - see page 1)  
Friday 23rd }  
Saturday 24th } : "ROBINSON CRUSOE" (T.O.A.D.S. notes)  
Monday 26th : MOBILE LIBRARY  
Tuesday 27th : 2.30 p.m. "Tea at the Croft"  
Friday 30th }  
Saturday 31st } : "ROBINSON CRUSOE" (T.O.A.D.S. notes)

AND A COMING EVENT :

Saturday 14th March, 1987 : "MEDIEVAL NIGHT" (see Village Hall notes)

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A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL FROM THE PRODUCTION  
TEAM OF "THE TOSTOCK CHRONICLE"

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