

# Ringwood & Fordingbridge NEWS



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*photo courtesy of Derek Maximilian*

From the Christmas Eve Carol Service, with Father Christmas being delivered expertly to the Market Place by the Sampson Family, to the food collected from local supermarkets by Ringwood Community Fridge and made available to families, the generosity and sense of

community spirit shone through once again. Throughout the Christmas period there were various events that took place to help and support families and people within our community, showing what sets Ringwood and Fordingbridge apart from other towns. Continued on page 3

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# Ringwood & Fordingbridge NEWS

Telephone  
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**PUBLISHERS:**  
Darren & Naomi Loose

**ADVERTISING:**

Rae Frederick  
07970 831881

Sales Email:  
sales@rfnews.uk

Editorial Email:  
editor@rfnews.uk

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## NEWS

### New Beginnings

The festive period is now behind us and we hope for you it was filled with love and laughter. We took the time to spend a couple of days (literally only that!) with our nearest and dearest, to regroup and really remind ourselves about what is important in life. As we always do, on January the first we considered what our goals should be for this year, both personally and professionally. We reflected on the last couple of months of 2023, the opportunities we'd been given to witness acts of kindness, community spirit and medical miracles. Like most people, we remembered various highs and lows but thought about how lucky we were to have these experiences at all. With the New Year comes an exciting opportunity to think about the possibility of doing those things you'd maybe put off until tomorrow. Challenge yourself to try something new whenever you can, to take opportunities and see where 2024 could take you. For Naomi, it was attempting a Canicross run with Canicross New Forest. This involved running whilst being harnessed to our boxer dog Ralph. Needless to say, the literal couch to 5K did not end well, but getting out in the mud and the forest, amongst new people and trying something different was refreshing and exhilarating - thank you Pam Lewis and Ower Shooting Ground!



We are very excited for the coming year and to be given the opportunity to document it with you all. We look forward to hearing from you with your stories of what you're getting up to, groups that are starting up and things that are happening in both Ringwood and Fordingbridge. Here's to a new look, a fresh start and an exciting 2024.

*Darren and Naomi*



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## NEWS

## CHRISTMAS IN RINGWOOD TOY COLLECTION 2023

THE Rotary Club of Ringwood would like to thank the many hundreds of you that turned out to sing carols and who gave a present to Father Christmas on Christmas Eve in the Market Place.

We also would like to thank those that because they would not be there on the night were kind enough to drop presents off for us ahead of the day. We had a great event, and the weather was kind. This year we had about 3000 people again, and we seem to be back with the numbers we had a few years ago. The carol singing along with the choir was excellent and the Salvation Army and Ringwood, and Burley band was also up to its usual high standard.

This event is one of the high points of our community calendar with the familiar Christmas Carol Service for everyone to join in and to celebrate this special time and with the bonus of Father Christmas who greets the children, and they then give him presents. These go to needy children in the area. Seeing several thousand people turn out to welcome Father Christmas to his Grotto this year was a great pleasure.

The event could not go on without the generous help of a grant from the Ringwood Town Council and several District Councillors and from quite a few people and organisations in the town that provide equipment and particularly Abacus Vehicle Hire that lend us the lorry we use for the grotto and also a special thanks to Poulner Baptist Church who helped us physically and financially with the sound system.

We also had the pleasure of a welcome from the Mayor, Gareth DeBoos and who helped Father Christmas and from local church leaders.

The Toy Collection this year collected more than 600 presents which will be distributed shortly. Thank you, Ringwood, for your generosity.

We hope to see you all again next Christmas Eve in Ringwood Market Place.

Best Wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year

From The Rotary Club of Ringwood



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### Thank you Ringwood

**MEMBERS of Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions Club pictured above helped Santa and his elves ably supported by their mascot cuddly Lion to spread a little Christmas cheer to shoppers in Ringwood Town Centre this Christmas.**

Santa also ventured out with two of his chief elves to the public houses and bars in and around Ringwood on the Friday before Christmas to help raise funds for charity. The Club were amazed at the generosity of the people of Ringwood who donated £942.33 and these funds will be used to support Teenage Cancer Trust, Lions Brain Tumor Research, and other Lions Charities. Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions Club would like to thank The Meeting House, Ringwood Town Council, The Inn in the Furlong, The Fish Inn, Framptons Wine Bar, The Original White Hart, The Star, The Railway Inn, The Old Beams, and The Alice Lisle and most importantly of all everyone they met in Ringwood for their help and support with this.

Lions Club President, Stephen Sherring, commented “we had so much fun, dressing up, and meeting so many lovely people in Ringwood who were happy to give us a smile, a wave, and a donation towards such a worthwhile cause – we are very grateful and fortunate to live in such a wonderful town”.



Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions Club meet on the second Thursday of every month at The Trinity Centre in Ringwood. They are one of over 46,000 clubs operating around the world who volunteer their time in fun and friendship. Anyone wishing to find out more about what they do, or wanting to get involved can find out more from their website ([www.randflions.org.uk](http://www.randflions.org.uk)) or call them on 0845 8335819.



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# NEWS

## The Ringwood and District Branch Poppy Appeal 2023 was really an exceptional Event



THE Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal is recognised each year as being part and parcel of the lead up to Remembrance on the 11th November when services are held across the country to mark the occasion.

Whilst the Poppy Appeal is perhaps the most recognised activities of the Royal British Legion, fundraising continues year round to support the needs of Veterans, Serving Members of the Armed Forces and their Families.

The Poppy Appeal in Ringwood started on 28th October and continued until 11th November (2023) with the Poppy Gazebo appearing either at Gateway or in the Furlong on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, supported by a number street sellers.

The Ringwood and District Branch would like to thank the people of Ringwood, the shops, businesses, schools and all who visited the Gazebo for their support which, despite the weather, raised an incredible £21,1318. Thank You.

A fantastic result, and our thanks go to The Gateway and The Furlong shopping centre, for allowing us to have our gazebo on the different days.

If you would be interested in becoming the Poppy Appeal Organiser for the coming year, or longer, do please email Ringwood.Chairman@rbl.community



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# NEWS

## The Green Gram Community Shop ends 2023 on a high note with a nationwide award win!

FOLLOWING a successful year, which saw its move into new larger, more accessible premises at 23 High Street in Fordingbridge, The Green Gram is ending the year on a high note having been awarded The Horace Plunkett award, part of the Rural Community Business Awards by the Plunkett Foundation.

Held annually by the Plunkett Foundation, the Rural Community Business Awards, celebrate businesses from across that UK that have been recognised for their outstanding contribution to their communities. Selected from 19 finalists, representing a wide range of businesses from across the UK – including community-owned farms, woodlands, shops, pubs and community hubs, these businesses help rural communities tackle local issues such as isolation, loneliness, and lack of employment, as well as improving wellbeing. They provide vital services locally, take action on climate change and actively promote equity, diversity and inclusion in the countryside.

The final Rural Community Business Award is the ‘Horace Plunkett Award’ which is selected by trustees and following nominations from the staff team.

Committee member Jo Anderson says: “What an incredible year – topped off by winning the Horace Plunkett award. We are absolutely delighted that the hard work we have put into our shop and the support we have been given by our volunteers has received such a plaudit. Since our move, we have had some fantastic feedback from our local community but to be recognised for the work we have done by those who are further afield is terrific. We are extremely proud of what we have achieved and our little bit in putting Fordingbridge on the map!”

Since May 2022, The Green Gram has been offering refills of foods, cleaning products and toiletries. Since opening, its customers have prevented over 31,000 containers equivalent to nearly 720kg plastic being thrown out by refilling the containers they already owned!

### What We Offer

We stock a wide range of dry food including pasta, rice and cereals, dried fruits and nuts, flour and sugar, tea and coffee, herbs and spices, and sweet treats!

Our detergent and cleaning product range includes laundry liquid and powder, fabric conditioner, washing up liquid, dishwasher powder and more.

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Treasurer Helen Harding holding the award.



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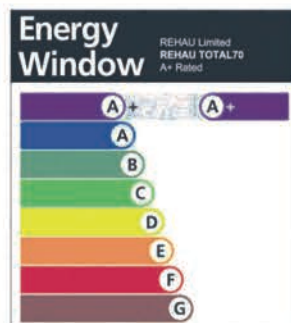
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Any 8 Windows	£6,630	£6,205	£5,865	£5,800	£5,015
Any 9 Windows	£7,355	£7,020	£6,700	£6,525	£5,640
Any 10 Windows	£8,215	£7,805	£7,395	£7,250	£6,275
Any 11 Windows	£8,940	£8,590	£8,230	£7,970	£6,895
Any 12 Windows	£9,805	£9,365	£8,930	£8,700	£7,525
Any 13 Windows	£10,680	£10,155	£9,625	£9,425	£8,155
Any 14 Windows	£11,535	£10,930	£10,320	£10,155	£8,780
Any 15 Windows	£12,265	£11,705	£11,165	£10,875	£9,405



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## Understanding Investments: Cash, Investments and Long-Term Planning

With short-term interest rates at the highest levels since 2008, it's easy to sympathize with the view that cash looks tempting. If investors can get 4% to 5% with no capital risk, why engage in stocks? And with no additional yield available on longer term bonds, why lock money away for the longer term?

But today's cash rates may prove a mirage, especially if we approach a recession during the next 2 years. Of course no-one knows the future economic outcome of the interest rate rises of the past 2 years, but if history is anything to go by, they usually create a recession (albeit recessions can be shallow or deep and the market expectations are for a shallow recession). In that instance, central banks will likely lower rates again to stimulate the economy.

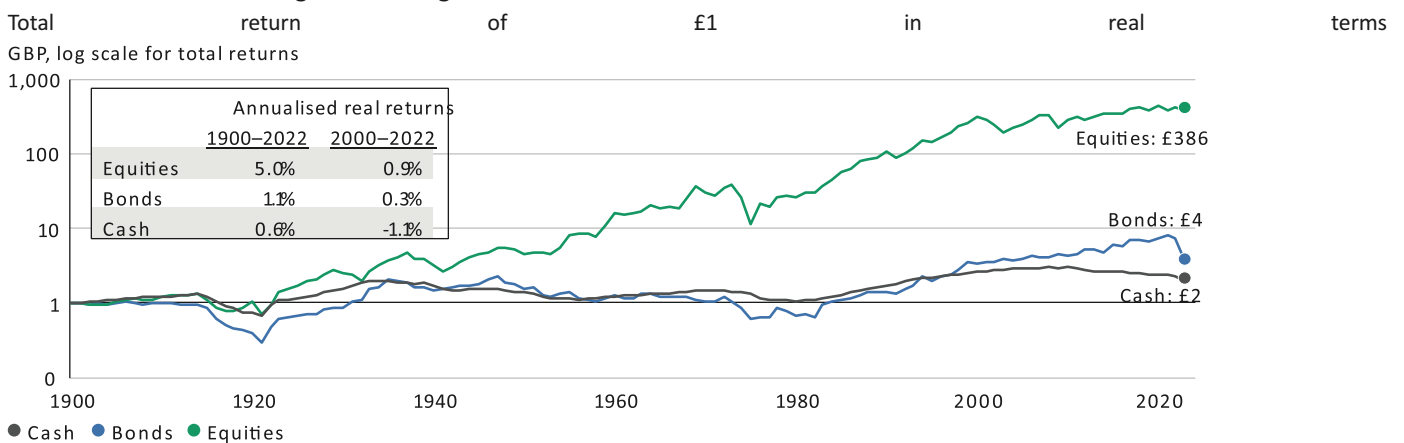
We would expect core bonds to outperform in that scenario, as they have done in the 2 years at the end of each US rate hiking cycle since the mid-1980s.

To give you an idea of what this could mean for investment returns, a 2% decline in the 10 year US treasury yield over the next 12 months could result in a 21% overall return (interest and capital). In short-core bonds not only offer attractive interest rates (between 4% and 5%) but also potential capital gains in a recessionary environment, which is very different to cash on which the interest would simply reduce in that environment. The opportunity to lock in yields at current levels looks compelling, even if bond volatility (pricing) is likely to remain elevated for some time.

### Cash is never king over the long term:

Cash is important for short-term security and liquidity (up to 5 years) but if you can identify that your money won't be needed for at least 5 years and ideally 10 years plus, then investing has historically earned a higher return. Equities (shares) are higher risk and more volatile, but have produced the highest returns and we see no reason to think that won't be the case in the future. Bonds have returned more than cash but are lower risk than shares and therefore tend to offer a lower return than shares. However, right now they appear to offer very good value and also help to balance a portfolio of shares to reduce the overall risk.

#### Exhibit 26: Cash is never king over the long term



Source: Bloomberg, Bloomberg Barclays, Dimson, FactSet, FTSE, J.P. Morgan, Marsh and Staunton ABN AMRO/LBS Global Investment Returns calculated from the Yearbook 2008, J.P. Morgan Asset Management. Equities: FTSE 100; Bonds: J.P. Morgan GBP Government Bond Index; Cash: threemonth GBP LIBOR (prior to 2008 cash is short-dated Treasury bills). Past performance is not a reliable indicator of current and future results. Data as of 15 November 2023.

In summary, our role as financial advisers is to help clients achieve their financial objectives. Whether that includes investing surplus money to earn a higher return, keeping money in cash or buying an annuity for income, will depend on our client's needs. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you want to arrange a free, no obligation initial chat about your own matters and requirements.

**Howard Goodship is an Independent Financial Adviser with Lonsdale Wealth Management, 5 Friday's Court, Ringwood.**

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*The value of an investment and the income from it could go down as well as up. The return at the end of the investment period is not guaranteed and you may get back less than you originally invested. The contents of this article are for information purposes only and do not constitute individual advice.*

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**NEWS**



**Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions Club donate 25 Portable Gas Cookers to help families in Ukraine**

**AT Christmas we all take for granted access to heat and power to cook our festive feasts for family and friends.**

Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions Club saw the appeal from New Forest for Ukraine for portable gas cookers to help families struggling without consistent and regular access to power for cooking food and responded. As a result, 25 portable gas cookers were acquired and delivered to the New Forest for Ukraine (NFFU) Hub in Lymington on Wednesday 27 December. Pictured above is John Allison at NFFU taking delivery of these. The cookers will be delivered out to families in need in Ukraine on the first transport leaving Lymington this January. Lions Club President, Stephen Sherring was amazed at the scale of the operation and the work of NFFU explaining “the dedication of the volunteers who work tirelessly in their Lymington Warehouse to make sure every lorry load destined for Ukraine is full to bursting with essentials that we all take for granted here is incredibly humbling, and it is both our honour and pleasure to help support the amazing work they do”. The Club is one of over 46000 Lions Clubs around the World and is currently exploring the possibility of acquiring the gas cannisters for these cookers with a Lions Club in Poland as these cannot be easily transported from the UK.

NFFU accept donations of food, utensils, cookers, medical supplies and warm clothing/bedding for the cold winter months which will be shipped out to aid centres and hospitals in Ukraine and Poland for families in need. There are collection points assembled all over the New Forest for anyone who would like to donate items needed for aid centres and hospitals in Ukraine. Anyone wishing to know more about either organisation or how they can help or volunteer can find out more at their respective websites: [www.newforest-forukraine.co.uk](http://www.newforest-forukraine.co.uk) & [www.randflions.org.uk](http://www.randflions.org.uk).

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## LEON McCAWLEY- CLASSICAL PIANIST



**BRITISH pianist and President of our Society, Leon McCawley will be performing our first concert of 2024 on Friday, 2nd February, 2024 at the Trinity Centre in Ringwood.** The concert starts at 7.30pm and is usually finished by 9.30pm. His programme will include works by Haydn, Tchaikovsky, Prokofiev, Chopin and Schubert. Leon has been delighting audiences worldwide since winning, in 1993, first prize in the International Beethoven Piano Competition in Vienna and second prize at the Leeds International Piano Competition. As a concert soloist, he has performed with many leading British orchestras including the BBC Philharmonic, London Philharmonic, Royal Philharmonic, Royal Scottish National and Ulster Orchestras, Bournemouth and City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestras and Royal Northern Sinfonia. He made his sixth appearance at the BBC Proms in August 2019 performing John Ireland's

Piano Concerto with BBC Concert Orchestra/Bramwell Tovey which was televised on BBC4. Highlights of the 2023/24 season include a return solo recital at Wigmore Hall, a debut recital at the En Blanco y Negro Piano Festival in Mexico City with further Mexico performances in Monterrey (Sala Beethoven Festival) and Torreón's Teatro Isaura Martinez. Leon studied at Chetham's School of Music, Manchester with Heather Slade-Lipkin before continuing his studies at the Curtis Institute of Music, Philadelphia with Eleanor Sokoloff. He also received invaluable guidance from Nina Milkina in London. Tickets cost £18 for an adult, under 25s free, students £3, Website: [www.avonvalleyconcerts.com](http://www.avonvalleyconcerts.com) for further information, or call Bob Maddock on 01202 487402. Tickets available online and on the door.

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## Ian Pepperell obituary

**BEST known locally as The Landlord of The Star in Ringwood but also an actor who played Roy Tucker in the in the long-running BBC Radio 4 drama serial The Archers has sadly died.**

Ian also starred in EastEnders for a short stint in 1993, as well as on stage in several productions.

"Ian was the perfect Archers actor," The Archers editor Jeremy Howe said. "It is tragic that he died in his prime, we will miss him dearly."

Ian played long-suffering hotelier Roy Tucker for 22 years in the drama produced at the BBC's studios in Birmingham.

Mr Howe said: "Ian had a lot more gas in the tank and was desperate to return to Ambridge once his health permitted..."

"We will miss him dearly and our hearts go out to his family and friends and everyone who knew him. Ambridge loved Roy - The Archers and our millions of listeners loved Ian's Roy Tucker."

In his last conversation with Mr Howe, Pepperell said: "The Archers is my family."

Reflecting on how he played the character, Mr Howe added:

"He captured Roy as both genial and anxious, funny and sad, easy-going and permanently stressed - a man who could hold down with ease a top job, yet who always carried with him Hamlet's sense of failure."

Ian also played Hamlet for the Oxford Stage Company and Richard III at the Haymarket Theatre in Leicester. He also appeared in ITV police drama The Bill.

**The funeral will take place on Saturday 27th January 2024 at 14.30 at Harbour View Crematorium Poole. There will be family flowers only, any Donations will be able to be made with Tappers Funeral Directors online - to Shelter or Macmillian Caring Locally.**

Anyone who wishes to attend is very welcome.



*Ian Pepperell 1970 - 2023*

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Whether residents need a little assistance, or full-time care, St Ives House prides itself on doing everything possible to enhance residents' quality of life. The team enables everyone to continue doing what they love, whether popping out for a coffee with friends, assisted by a member of the excellent care team, or enjoying activities with visiting loved ones.



Situated near the busy market town of Ringwood, the home has 60 welcoming and comfortable, fully furnished rooms. The charmingly furnished communal areas, including spacious lounges, themed sitting areas, balconies and beautifully landscaped courtyard and garden areas, are perfect for relaxing with a cup of tea and a slice of cake or socialising with friends and loved ones. Residents also have full use of the on-site café, hair salon, and well-stocked library, which they are welcome to peruse and enjoy.

At the heart of St Ives House is Food, Fun and Friendship, providing hearty, nutritious meals and a wealth of fun activities. A daily activities programme exists to create a mix of fun and engaging activities that appeal to everyone, such as group games, interacting with the community, relaxing during performances from visiting entertainers, and getting out and about on day trips. All activities are also tailored to offer something to those who prefer to be in smaller groups or need one-to-one interactions. The events and activities on offer are all designed to reflect resident's interests and ensure that they can embrace their golden years.

St Ives House offers residential, respite and dementia care in a safe, home-from-home environment. Care South is a not-for-profit charity and leading provider of residential and home care across the south of England.

For further information about St Ives House call 01425 209464 or visit [www.care-south.co.uk](http://www.care-south.co.uk)



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A Care South home for residential and dementia care

As voted for by residents in our care, their families and friends



9.8/10 - November 2023

“ I would highly recommend St Ives House, as Mum feels safe, secure and very well cared for. The food is very nice and the staff provide truly personal support. ”

A real review taken from [carehome.co.uk](http://carehome.co.uk)



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Care South is a not-for-profit charity. Registered Charity No. 1014697



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It's the care that counts...



# NEWS

## Fordingbridge Choral Society

“After Covid we, the Fordingbridge Choral Society, performed once again since our last visit in Dec 2019 at Salisbury Hospital at their kind invitation to sing a selection of carols and were delighted to gather generous donations from passers by in the hospital for the Stars Appeal Fund. May we take this chance to wish you all a merry Christmas and a healthy/ peaceful 2024.”



## A Note of Thanks...



"Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions would like to say a big thank you to everyone who came along to see Santa at the Meeting House in Ringwood on Saturday the 16th of December.

We raised a substantial amount of money that will be divided between Lions Brain Tumour Research, Teenage Cancer Trust and other Lions Charities. Your generosity is very much appreciated."

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 Long Lane, BH24 3BX

 **1<sup>st</sup> Team Fixtures**  
 Jan-Feb 2024 

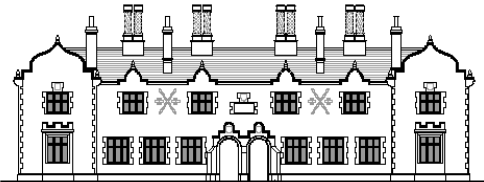
 

Date	H/A	Opponents	KO
Tue 09-Jan	H	New Milton	19:45
Sat 13-Jan	A	Fleetlands	15:00
Sat 20-Jan	A	East Cowes Vics	15:00
Sat 27-Jan	H	Folland Sports	15:00
Sat 3-Feb	A	Aldermaston	15:00
Sat 10-Feb	H	AFC Fawley	15:00
Sat 17-Feb	H	Andover Town	15:00

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**RINGWOOD UNITED CHARITIES**

**Clerk to Ringwood United Charities**

The Almshouses in the Quomp are managed by the charity and we are currently looking for a Clerk to support the Trustees and the residents.

The role equates to approximately 35 hours a month on a flexible basis and is paid at a rate of £11.50 per hour. Applications should, in the first instance, contact the Chairman, in writing detailing their experience. Replies to:  
**28 Christchurch Road, Ringwood, BH24 1DN**

**Registered Charity Number 307094**



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[www.millers-antiques.co.uk](http://www.millers-antiques.co.uk)

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