The Villager



February 2025

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Welcome to the first edition of 2025

Thanks to our advertisers, without whom we would not be able to produce this magazine

Caddington Post Office kindly sponsored Caddington U9's FC, which supported them to buy a kit and tracksuit tops! The team were very grateful so we went for a photoshoot outside the Post Office to thank them and were greeted with free sweets from the Post Office manager!

Happy days!



Can you help?

Have you any content you'd like to place in the next edition – perhaps you could share details of your special interest or hobby?

Perhaps you would like to advertise your business?

The magazine reaches nearly 2000 houses and is also shared on social media

Content deadline for the March edition is Tuesday 18th February

Contact John at caddvillmag@gmail.com

Caddington PARISH COUNCIL

Caddington PARISH COUNCIL

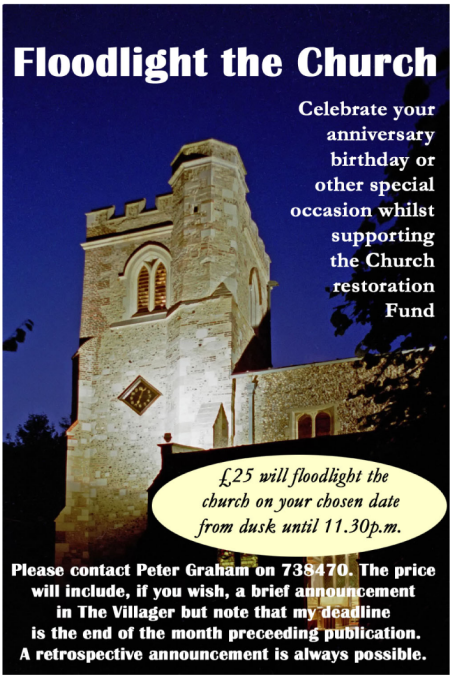
All Saints Church

The Church was floodlit on Saturday 7th December

In loving memory of
Sarah Thomas-Crampton
2nd Anniversary

The Church was floodlit on Friday 10th January

Loving birthday memories
of
Peter Rouse
Shirley, Steve & Mandy,
grandchildren and
great-grandchildren
and family
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The Church was floodlit on Thursday 23rd January

In loving memory
of
Fred and Bett Morgan
With love from
Carole, Brenda, Jane
and family.

The Church will be floodlit on Saturday 1st March

In loving memory
of
Mo Moroni
with love from
Carole and family.

Vicar: Reverend Rob O'Neill
The Vicarage, off Chaul End Road,
Caddington, LU1 4BG
Telephone: (01582) 731692
email: rob@vicar.org.uk

(Please note that the vicar is convalescing following a major operation and will not be available until May)

Sunday Services

9.30 a.m. Informal Service
(1st & 3rd Sunday of month)
Communion service with choir
(All other Sundays)

Thursday

10.00 a.m. Caddington Bears
(A group for pre-schoolers and carers.)



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Memorials
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teresa@butterfly-funerals.co.uk
www.butterfly-funerals.co.uk

39 Elm Avenue
Caddington
Bedfordshire
LU1 4HS

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07548 264672

CHAT AND COFFEE

We are open every Monday from 10am till 12 at the Heathfield Centre.
If you haven't been before do drop in. Good coffee and plenty of chat!

MEN'S CLUB

We meet every Thursday 10 till 12 at the Heathfield Centre. Drop in and see us- you will be sure of a warm welcome.

SEATED EXERCISES

Come along to the Heathfield Centre on Tuesday at 11.am. Good fun, good exercise and stimulating.

BINGO

First Modays of the month - 2pm at the Heathfield Centre.
£5 for 6 games. Flyer and raffle. Everyone welcome

Walk – Wednesday 19th February 2025 – 10:30am - Stockwood Park

Three miles around he perimeter of Stockwood Park. It may be a little muddy in places.

The walk will start at 10:30 from the Stockwood Park car park near the Discovery Centre. To reach the car park enter Stockwood Park via the main entrance on Farley Hill, pass the car park on the right, pass the wood carvings of a squirrel on the right and owl on the left. The car park is 100 yards further down on the left.

Refreshments will be available at the Discovery Centre at the end of the walk. We look forward to seeing you there. Need a lift? Call 07548 264 672

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Careline is on every weekday from 9.00am till 4.30pm. If you need help with shopping, a lift to a medical appointment, help with a small household task, help with a computer or paperwork or someone just to call round, please call the above number

WHEELCHAIRS

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Caddington Local History Group

Agent Zigzag – Paul Barwick

The man who was later to become known as Agent Zigzag was born Edward Chapman to a publican father in Durham.

Although a bright child, he ran wild until at 17 he enlisted in the Coldstream Guards. This took him to London, where attracted by the bright lights of Soho, he went AWOL. After arrest and short prison sentence he was discharged from the army and returned to Soho, where alongside many casual jobs his lifestyle led him into debt.

He slipped into fraud and petty theft and became a safe cracker.

Following an arrest in Scotland he was released on bail and fled to Jersey. It was here whilst dining with his girl-friend Betty Farmer, that he escaped arrest by jumping through a glass window. The law caught up with him and while in prison in Jersey the Channel Islands were invaded by Germany.

Forever the opportunist he offered his services to the Germans as a spy.
After a thorough training in France, Agent Fritz as he was known, was parachuted into England and immediately surrendered to MI5 offering to become a double agent.

After faked sabotage of the de Havilland factory at Hatfield he returned to Germany where he was given the Iron Cross. He was sent to Oslo to run a spy school. Later he was parachuted back into England to report on the accuracy of the German V bombings. By feeding false information he probably saved many lives.
However, associations with criminals and the underworld led to MI5 dismissing him.

He had two fiancées, one German and one English, but later abandoned them both to marry his former lover, Betty Farmer. He was officially pardoned and he and his wife ran a health farm at Shenley.

In this space it has been impossible to do justice to all the twists and turns of Agent Zigzag's life, certainly a roller coaster ride. A man who only ever worked for himself.

I would like to add that this speaker was the last to be booked by Peter Farrow – our programme organiser for many years. What a good evening it was. Thank you, Peter.

Jane Payton

Parish Councillor

Vacancy

Caddington
PARISH COUNCIL



The role of a councillor is very varied and involves contributing to decisions on local policies and issues affecting residents. Council meetings are held once a month.

Being a councillor is a fantastic way to get involved in real grassroots democracy and influence local services and facilities for the benefit of the community.

Expressions of interest are invited for consideration for co-option on to the council.

Interested?
Please complete the application form online at www.caddingtonparish.gov.uk (use the QR link or paper forms also available on request). The deadline is

Friday 28th February 2025

Linda Heartfield
07912 298141
clerk@caddingtonparish.gov.uk
c/o Heathfield Centre, Hyde Road,
Caddington, LU1 4HF

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Sunday Services 11 am - Please refer to website for dates
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Call 01582 413 907 or email shirleychampken@gmail.com

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01582 459089

5a, Manor Rd, Caddington, Luton, LU1 4EE

Santa's Float - 2024

We hope that back in December you all saw Santa on his Round in the village and we have a load of people to thank – without them the Float simply would not happen.

Firstly, Raymond Gill who graciously provides us with the lorry and is a massive supporter of all we do, thank You Ray, you are a top supporter, and we really appreciate you.

Thank you to our lovely sponsors, all great village businesses who help us get the show on the road – we really appreciate you too.

To all our volunteers who collect door to door – far too many to name – but you guys and girls were outstanding as always, we appreciate it's a lot of walking in the cold and you all do it full of Christmas cheer! Thank you all so much.

All of you guys who gave up time to add to the show and provide entertainment on our float – thank you so much – also to our driver and brilliant banksmen who do so much to bring the float to life, plus all the folks who help us get the show on the road!

Finally, to all the kids on the Float who were all from Caddington , what can we say but you were fantastic, you kids make it all worthwhile, you kept dancing and enjoying the experience and we thank you for your energy and smiling faces!

The Float brings so much cheer to the village, to see the kids and adults waiting to see Santa and then the joy it brings is fab. Money raised goes to good causes throughout the village – from CaddingtonCare, to the children in clubs – we get the funds to all ages and causes that we can help!

This is the 12th year of the float, and we can't wait for the 13th.

See you in December.



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February 2025

It is difficult to believe that the Spring Term is well underway. The end of term and all the excitement of Christmas seems such a long time ago. It has as always been incredibly busy with sporting events, a visit from Steve Frew, an artistic Commonwealth gymnast and the launch of our new reading challenge. We are incredibly proud that we have been named in the top 10 performing schools in Central Bedfordshire, this is testament to the hard work of all our staff and pupils.

The start of February sees us focussing on Children's Mental Health week. This is an area we take seriously in our ever-changing world. We asked the children what they thought we do to support their mental health in school, and these are their responses:

- At Caddington Village School we have emotion charts where every day we reflect on how we are feeling, and our teachers talk to us about it. We have Safeguarding Teachers and Wellbeing Champions that we can speak to about our feelings, and they spend time with us in the reading area.

- In School children who need a break can visit the school dogs (Boo, Rodney and Remi) who help us calm down. We also have a sensory room that includes beanbags, cushions, blankets, lava lamps, a quiet cave that has different coloured lights and we can listen to calming music.

- We have assemblies to give us tips on how to set goals and we celebrate all our achievements where we get certificates and badges. We learn how to set SMART goals and at the beginning of the year we wrote letters to ourselves that we will read at the end of the year to see how far we have come.

Continued on page 14 →

Continued from page 13

- At Caddington School Teachers give us plenty of opportunities to share our opinions and we all know a teacher that we can speak to about any of our problems, our school councillors listen to what we want at school and try to make changes so our school can be even better.

- At school we have many chances to work with others in all lesson as well as after school club, breakfast club, and doing our Community Champion jobs. We learn to cooperate with others at play time and lunch time too.

- We can be creative in Art, Design & Technology and Food Technology as well as after school clubs (arts & crafts and cartoon creation) We can show off our creativity when writing in English as well.

For Mental health week we will be having a day when no technology is allowed to be used in class – this will be a challenge for staff for teaching and pupils alike. Why not join us for a technology detox day?

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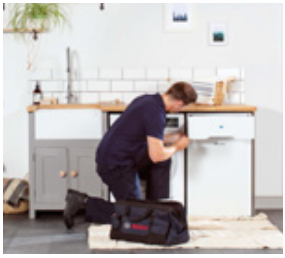
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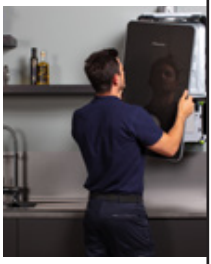
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Caddington Men's Club Quiz

Caddington Men's Club meets every Thursday from 10 until 12-o-clock at the Heathfield Centre.

Pool, table-tennis, darts, anecdotes and a quiz. A friendly bunch and you'll fit in nicely.

Here are some of our quiz questions for you to try - answers on page 23

1. In a Tug-of-war side, what is the end person called?
2. What is the most southerly point of South America?
3. What is the Aborigine name for Ayers Rock?
4. In which English county would you find Gibraltar Point?
5. What is the tip of an umbrella or walking stick called?
6. Which colony was handed back to China by Portugal in 1999?
7. Who became the World's first test-tube baby in 1978?
8. What was Freddie Mercury's birth name?
9. Which US State has a Union Jack as part of their flag?
10. What campaign slogan did Barrack Obama share with Bob the Builder?

Caddington Village - Open Gardens 2025

Thank you to the villagers who have volunteered to open their gardens to visitors on the Saturday 12th July for our village open gardens day. I'm very pleased that we have enough gardens for the event to take place, but it would be lovely if a few more of you would be willing to volunteer. Whatever type of garden you have – big, small, courtyard, park home, modern, cottage - please consider sharing it on the 12th from 11 a.m. to 5p.m

Money raised from selling programmes will be split between All Saints Church and the Garden Club but it's also a great opportunity to raise money on the day for your favourite charity. You might like to run a competition - I remember last time there was a Caddington village garden day one of the villagers had a guess the mileage of their classic car. You could offer teas, ice creams, run a tombola, sell plants or simply enjoy a chance to chat with old and new friends.

If you live in Caddington and would like to register an interest in opening your garden, please drop me an email. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Email: nickyj.moore@outlook.com

Caddington WI

The Christmas Party was an enormous success. We got off to a slow start, as our president got caught up in traffic and came in late. Mulled Wine! How are we going to make Carol's special mulled wine? It was a group effort with a bit of this, that, and anything else thrown in for good measure. It went down well! We played games, i.e. Pass the Parcels x 2. The Left and Right game, with Sharon Goode ending with her own gift – soon swapped with another. We enjoyed a sumptuous buffet supper supplied by our lovely members. We ended our evening with the Gifts under the Chairs game. Much interest was shown in the enormous mystery gift supplied by Joanne.

At the end of the evening, 6 lovely ladies went home with the gifts. A delightful evening. Roll on next year!

Carol J and Kay Palfrey enjoyed Eaton Bray's party and were entertained by a ukulele band. Studham has a party in early January for two of our members to go to.

A big thank you for the Christmas Santa Float donation given to us for the 2023 float.

Also, another big thank you for the Bras being collected for the Children in Africa campaign. You donated 144 bras so far and the Organisation says a big 'Thank You' to us. .Do keep donating. I, Linda Edwards will take them in.

Carol Jones has made a wonderful Scrapbook with our outings and events during 24/25. She will present this at the W. I. Scrapbook Challenge.

Planning – we have a Bag Auction, and the Competition will be The Best Bag.

Do join us for a friendly evening with ladies of like mind and interest. We meet at 7.30 pm on the first Tuesday of each month at the Caddington Sports and Social Club.

Linda Edwards (Treasurer) 07761 340 108

Caddington Community Shed

A place where people come together to make things.

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Caddington
PARISH COUNCIL

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CADDINGTON PARISH COMMUNITY GRANTS ROUND 1 (APRIL 2025)

CADDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL WELCOMES GRANT APPLICATIONS FROM VOLUNTARY & COMMUNITY GROUPS & ORGANISATIONS FOR EXPENDITURE THAT WILL, IN THE OPINION OF THE COUNCIL, BRING DIRECT BENEFIT TO CADDINGTON OR ANY PART OF IT OR ALL OR SOME OF ITS INHABITANTS.

GRANTS CANNOT BE MADE TO INDIVIDUALS OR USED FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE GRANT AID APPLICATION FORM AND RETURN TO THE CLERK

CLOSING DATE

FRIDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2025

APPLICATIONS ARE CONSIDERED EVERY SIX MONTHS AND AWARDED AT THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING IN APRIL AND AGAIN AT THE OCTOBER FULL COUNCIL MEETING.

PARISH CLERK
C/O HEATHFIELD CENTRE
HYDE ROAD
CADDINGTON
LU1 4HF
07912 298141
CLERK@CADDINGTONPARISH.GOV.UK

ACCESS THE APPLICATION FORM

Caddington Parish Council

Website: www.caddingtonparish.gov.uk

Contact: email clerk@caddingtonparish.gov.uk
Telephone : 07912 298 141

Meetings

Residents are welcome to attend Caddington Parish Council Meetings held at the Heathfield Centre.

Next Meetings

Monday 10th February at 7.30pm
Monday 10th March at 7.30pm
Monday 14th April at 7.30pm (shorter meeting) followed by the Annual Parish meeting at 8pm

Please visit our website or take a look at the notice board on Manor Road between Cutting Crew and Nice Baps approximately a week before each meeting to view the agenda.

Parish Councillors

Chairman	Mark Russell	mark.russell@ caddingtonparish.gov.uk
Vice Chair	Matthew Tomlin	matthew.tomlin@caddingtonparish.gov.uk
Planning Chair	Andy Palmer	andy.palmer@ caddingtonparish.gov.uk
Heather Palmer		heather.palmer@caddingtonparish.gov.uk
Bob Fitzsimmons		bob.fitzsimmons@caddingtonparish.gov.uk
Roy Catford		roy.catford@caddingtonparish.gov.uk
Vicky Malone		vicky.malone@caddingtonparish.gov.uk
Jeff Lovell		jeff.lovell@caddingtonparish.gov.uk
Thomas Dye		thomas.dye@caddingtonparish.gov.uk

Central Bedfordshire Council - Ward Councillors

Cllr Vicky Malone – **0300 300 8559**
vicky.malone@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
Cllr Kevin Collins – **0300 300 8523**
kevin.collins@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Update from CBC Independent Ward Councillor Vicky Malone



Here is a summary of queries I have received over the last month :

I would like to clarify the gritting route for the Central Bedfordshire (CBC) gritters, as I have received numerous messages and tags regarding this in recent weeks. Central Beds grit Dunstable Road and Luton Road down to the M1 bridge, as well as Chaul End Road and Manor Road. Additionally, the Parish Council gritter will cover other roads.

Following the accident outside Bury Farm, which involved two cars overturned, I inquired with the Head of Highways about the possibility of implementing speed calming measures due to the number of accidents on that stretch. However, since police-reported collisions only indicate a few incidents—mainly attributed to driver error — there are currently no plans to introduce such measures.

The ditches outside Bury farm have been dug out last week to help with the surface flooding on that road which makes it treacherous in icy weather, hopefully we will see some results from this.

Next, I would like to provide an update on actions taken since the severe flooding in September:

- Elm Avenue: An order has been raised for all soakaways to be cleared.
- Culworth Close: Jetting work has been completed; additional work is needed outside number 2 to dig out a gully that is full of roots.
- Luton Road: A visual inspection of the ditch outlet near number 41 is necessary.
- Mancroft Road: Some work is planned for this year, with additional phases scheduled for future years. Phase 1 (top of the bridleway) will be addressed this financial year, while other phases are likely to follow in the next financial year.
- Dunstable Road: The design of the culvert is expected to be completed this year, pending trial holes in February 2025, with construction planned for a future year.

I have also followed up on the request for the road cleaner to clear leaves and mud from the gullies in Little Green Lane and Mancroft Road, as this was not carried out as requested last month.

Additionally, many dog waste bins in the village have been overflowing over the past few months. I have spoken with our local CBC operative and the Head of Environmental Services, and we should soon have double dog bins installed at Ledwell, Heathfield Alley, and Edgecote Close.

I am continuing to pursue the clearance of the scrap yard. Enforcement visited last week , and some progress has been made in removing hardcore; however, it is still not sufficient to restore the area to its original condition. Enforcement will continue to monitor the situation.

Newlands Rd is now open although there are still traffic lights controlling the traffic, there is another road closure planned for the junction of Newlands Rd/ London Rd, the closure will be in place from 2000hrs to 0500hrs from 24th to 28th February for the installation of an S278 junction with signalised traffic control.

As always I am happy to help with any CBC related problems.

You can email me on Vicky.malone@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk or call on 03003008559

Caddington Gardening Club

Caddington Gardening Club is a friendly group, meeting monthly to enjoy a shared interest in gardening , swap ideas, discuss gardening successes, the odd failure and pass on advice.

We have monthly speakers, some social events and summer trips to fascinating gardens – meeting at the Baptist Hall on Luton Road 7:30 pm.

No Meetings in January or February – We're Hibernating

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Caddington Men's Club Quiz - Answers

1. Anchor
2. Cape Horn
3. Uluru
4. Lincolnshire
5. Ferrule
6. Macau
7. Louise Brown
8. Farrokh Bulsara
9. Hawaii
10. 'Yes We Can'



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Carol's Cookery Corner
Hungarian Mushroom Soup

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- 1 lb fresh button mushrooms , sliced (reserve and sauté 1 cup for garnish)
- 2 teaspoons dried dill
- 1 tablespoon Hungarian sweet paprika
- 1 tablespoon low-sodium soy sauce
- 2 cups vegetable broth – use a stock cube if you like
- 2 tablespoons cornflour
- 1 cup whole milk
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 1/4 cup chopped parsley
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
- pinch of cayenne pepper
- Garnish: sautéed sliced mushrooms, fresh chopped parsley



Method

Melt butter over medium heat in a Dutch Oven or heavy bottomed pot. Add onions and sauté for 3 to 4 minutes until softened and translucent. Add in the mushrooms and cook 5 minutes.

Stir in the dill, paprika, soy sauce, and vegetable broth. Reduce heat to medium-low and very gently simmer, covered, for 15 minutes.

In a small bowl, whisk together the cornflour and milk until completely blended; stir mixture into the soup until incorporated. Place the cover back on the pot and gently simmer, stirring occasionally, for another 10 or so minutes.

Stir in the sour cream, lemon juice, parsley, salt, pepper, and a pinch of cayenne.

Cook for another 3 minutes or so over low heat until warmed through (do not allow it to boil.)

Serve in bowls and garnish with sautéed mushrooms, a dollop of sour cream, and additional parsley. Enjoy with some crusty bread on the side.

NB Do not allow the soup to boil especially after adding the sour cream, otherwise it will separate.



Group Exercise Motivational Classes

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Jazzumba - 12.30 to 1.30pm

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dance@swingsters.co.uk

Swingsters

Millfield Green

Aley Green Methodist Church

February

Sat 1st	10am Prayer Breakfast
Sun 2nd	10:30am Morning Service (Local Arrangement) and Sunday School
Tues 4th	10-12am Cakes and Company and Little Lambs Club (with Story Time 10.30am)
Sun 9th	10:30am Morning Service led by Rev Nigel Bibbings
Sun 16th	10:30am Morning Service led by Fiona Arscott-Smith and Sunday School
Monday 17th	2pm Ecumenical Fellowship led by Jo Prowse (REMINDER - changed time)
Sun 23rd	10:30am Morning Service led by Tina Salmon
Wed 26th	7:30pm Coffee Evening in aid of LWPT (Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust

March

Sat 1st March	Prayer Breakfast
Sun 2nd March	10:30am Morning Service and Sunday School
Tuesday 4th	10-12am Cakes and Company and Little Lambs Club (with Story Time 10.30am)

Our Christmas events at Aley Green were well attended and almost £2000 was raised for a number of our chosen charities and church funds through selected events. There was time for fellowship and refreshments.

The "Take Time at Christmas" along with the Hamper Raffle raised an amazing £538 for Medecins Sans Frontieres, a charity that is doing a great deal of good work in war torn areas. You may have seen or heard their adverts recently. The Hamper was won by the minister's wife—Bernie Bibbings, who was delighted! There were other prizes won by other members and friends.

The Charitree festival had 15 (mostly reused) trees all decorated with eco-friendly home made or recycled decorations. The event raised money for the church and for A Rocha UK, an ECO charity. (Recently, we were awarded our Eco Church Silver award.)





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