



**TE AWA**  
*Lifecare Village*

# TE AWA May/June 2024 PARTYLINE



## Message from Nikki

It's been wonderful catching up with villagers and watching life around the village.

**Volunteers group-** In an effort to bring the village and care closer together, we have formed a "Volunteers group". Thanks to those who have volunteered already. A reminder to all those who do go into care for any volunteering activity that you do need to complete some paperwork – this is available at reception.

**Website -** We hope some of you have been finding your way around our new website and the electronic calendar. We are very aware of the issues with design and size of font with the printed version of the calendar and we are working on a solution for this. We thank you for your patience.

**New Villas -** You will notice that there are new villas popping up along morepork mews – I can't believe how fast these go up. I have noticed a few "building advisers" standing at the fence looking in and chatting to some of the tradies. I love that this happens in our village. We really are a family. The building of RD4 is well under well now with completion due in the middle of 2025.

## A good deed indeed

Visiting grandchildren to the village enjoy having fun in the playground and hiding in the wee playhouse.

It was recently noticed that there was considerable mould inside with some rotting timber and a leaking roof, not an ideal environment for young kids.

Good sorts **John Steel** and **Ralph Dearlove** came to the rescue with their DIY skills and within a few days had made the repairs using some

timber scraps supplied by Matt, and had painted the whole house. Special thanks also to **Patricia Steel** who did the artwork inside the playhouse.

Thankyou both for such great community service. The end result looks great. *Malcolm*



## A Surprise Visit

What a nice surprise to see our Waipa Council hierarchy, **Susan O'Regan (Mayor)** and **Liz Stolwick (Deputy Mayor)** and her husband, turn up to **Happy Hour on 3rd of May.**

It was a very informal affair with no speeches, and just lots of friendly chat. I'm sure they enjoyed the warm reception from some of their older and wiser constituents.

I have known Susan's family since before she was born. Her mother **Katherine O'Regan** nursed with my first wife and was her bridesmaid before later becoming National MP for the then Waipa Electorate. Such a small world sometimes. *Malcolm*



# Te Awa calendar now online

June 2024

## Village Residents

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
				4:30pm-5:30pm Arnold Society	2pm-4:30pm Woolshed Cinema Screenings June	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
King's Birthday Weekend 10am-11am Morning Tea at The Woolshed 10am-11am Cym Session with Phyliso 13:00pm-4pm Mahjong 13:00pm-3pm Crafts in the Craft Room	Walking Group 13:00pm-3:30pm Indoor Bowls 10am-11am Cym Session with Phyliso 13:00pm-4pm Cards @ Arnold Cottage 13:00pm-3pm Crafts in the Craft Room	13:00pm-3:30pm Indoor Bowls 10am-11am Cym Session with Phyliso 13:00pm-4pm Cards @ Arnold Cottage 13:00pm-3pm Crafts in the Craft Room	9am-12pm Nail Technician onsite 2pm-5pm Yoga 10am-11am Cym Session with Phyliso 13:00pm-4pm Zealong Tea Tour and Tasting 4:30pm-5pm Village Singalong in the Woolshed	9:30am-2pm Hairdresser Onsite 4:30pm-5:30pm Arnold Society 10am-11am Cym Session with Phyliso 10am-12pm UZA Cambridge - Ben Skene - There still is hope - educating youth for a bright future 10am-2pm Firth Tower Museum Visit Matamata 5pm-7pm Happy Hour @ The Woolshed followed by Fish n' Chips RSVP Monday 10th June	4:30pm-5:30pm Arnold Society 2pm-4:30pm Woolshed Cinema Screenings June	2pm-4:30pm Woolshed Cinema Screenings June
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10am-11am Morning Tea at The Woolshed 13:00pm-4pm Mahjong	Walking Group 13:00pm-3:30pm Indoor Bowls 10am-11am Cym Session with Phyliso 13:00pm-4pm Cards @ Arnold Cottage 13:00pm-3pm Crafts in the Craft Room	13:00pm-3:30pm Indoor Bowls 10am-11am Cym Session with Phyliso 13:00pm-4pm Cards @ Arnold Cottage 13:00pm-3pm Crafts in the Craft Room	9am-12pm Nail Technician onsite 2pm-5pm Yoga 10am-11am Cym Session with Phyliso 10am-12pm UZA Cambridge - Ben Skene - There still is hope - educating youth for a bright future 10am-2pm Firth Tower Museum Visit Matamata 5pm-7pm Happy Hour @ The Woolshed followed by Fish n' Chips RSVP Monday 10th June	9:30am-2pm Hairdresser Onsite 4:30pm-5:30pm Arnold Society 10am-11am Cym Session with Phyliso 10am-12pm UZA Cambridge - Ben Skene - There still is hope - educating youth for a bright future 10am-2pm Firth Tower Museum Visit Matamata 5pm-7pm Happy Hour @ The Woolshed followed by Fish n' Chips RSVP Monday 10th June	4:30pm-5:30pm Arnold Society 2pm-4:30pm Woolshed Cinema Screenings June	2pm-4:30pm Woolshed Cinema Screenings June
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
10am-11am Morning Tea at The Woolshed 13:00pm-4pm Mahjong	Walking Group 12pm-4pm Rebus Lunch 10am-11am Cym Session with Phyliso 13:00pm-4pm Cards @ Arnold Cottage 13:00pm-3pm Crafts in the	12pm-4pm Rebus Lunch 10am-11am Cym Session with Phyliso 13:00pm-4pm Cards @ Arnold Cottage 13:00pm-3pm Crafts in the	9am-12pm Nail Technician onsite 2pm-5pm Yoga 10am-11am Cym Session with Phyliso 10am-12pm UZA Cambridge - Ben Skene - There still is hope - educating youth for a bright future 10am-2pm Firth Tower Museum Visit Matamata 5pm-7pm Happy Hour @ The Woolshed followed by Fish n' Chips RSVP Monday 10th June	9:30am-2pm Hairdresser Onsite 4:30pm-5:30pm Arnold Society 10am-11am Cym Session with Phyliso 10am-12pm UZA Cambridge - Ben Skene - There still is hope - educating youth for a bright future 10am-2pm Firth Tower Museum Visit Matamata 5pm-7pm Happy Hour @ The Woolshed followed by Fish n' Chips RSVP Monday 10th June	4:30pm-5:30pm Arnold Society 2pm-4:30pm Woolshed Cinema Screenings June	2pm-4:30pm Woolshed Cinema Screenings June

We're excited to announce the launch of the new 'Care' and 'Village' calendars on our website, designed to keep you seamlessly informed about daily happenings in our vibrant community.

Accessible from any device, these calendars provide a real-time overview of events, ensuring you're always in the loop.

With the added convenience of RSVPing directly through the calendar, you can confirm your attendance and receive timely reminders, making event planning a breeze.

These dynamic calendars also allow for instant updates, so checking the latest schedule before attending any event is always recommended.

This innovation is part of our commitment to enhancing connectivity and engagement within the village.

If you need help with how to access the calendar - please talk to our Concierge team - they're all tech-savvy!

We will also still be printing out calendars for those who don't have an electronic device and want to pin it to their fridge.

Scan this code with the camera on your phone and 'bookmark' your calendar.



# Kumara Moons Aligned

Long before Europeans arrived in Aotearoa, Māori had discovered that the Class I Horotiu Sandy Loam soils (Māori didn't call them that!) around Cambridge & Tamahere provide an excellent growing medium for their staple crop of Kumara.

Two of my adjacent Villa neighbours very kindly invited me to garden their allocated vegetable garden patches so that I had three contiguous vegetable patches. I planted herbs in one but used the other two as a Kumara experiment.

I have been involved in a major educational regeneration project behind Fairfield College (Hamilton) where we have also provided a community garden. See: [thefairfieldproject.co.nz](http://thefairfieldproject.co.nz). The local Tongan community grow Kumara there annually & harvest huge crops - sufficient to supply 33 Tongan families! For some years before I came to Te Awa, I copied (on a much reduced basis) the Tongan Kumara cultivation protocols with reasonable success.

At Te Awa this year, I planted in my raised gardens 12 plants in two rows. Several plants failed completely. However, several produced handsomely as shown in the photo - the biggest Kumara was 1.45kgs; edible length



270mm! Total crop was 12kgs but the crop was highly variable in both size of the tubers and the number per plant. Next year, I will concentrate on a more consistent and more friable soil but the jury is out whether I should be even attempting to grow Kumara at all in a raised bed. It may be too variable in terms of temperature and water retention.

Nonetheless, roast Kumara & Kumara soup this winter!

Doug Arcus

# Events to watch out for in June

Don't forget to see if you need to RSVP on the online calendar.



Fri 14th Jun 10am-2:00pm  
Firth Tower  
Museum visit  
Matamata



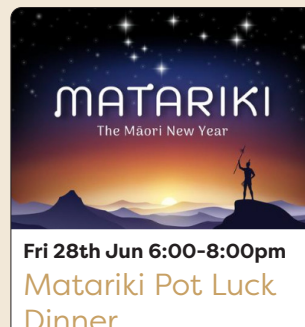
Tues 18th Jun 1.30-3.00pm  
Crafts in the  
Craft Room



Thu 27th Jun 5:00pm - 10:00pm  
Rotary change  
over dinner  
Woolshed



Fri 21st Jun 4-5:00pm  
Mission  
Estate Wine  
and Cheest  
Tasting  
at the  
Woolshed



Fri 28th Jun 6:00-8:00pm  
Matariki Pot Luck  
Dinner

# Anzac Day at Te Awa

On Thursday 25th April at 10 am a large crowd of residents from villas, cottages and Care almost filled the Woolshed.

Our Manager, Nikki Belfield opened our brief service with a prayer, followed by Ralph Dearlove, who read the famous poem, "In Flanders Fields". Then, our most senior returned serviceman, Gerry Wake read the Anzac promise- "We Will Remember Them" and Nikki and Gerry laid a floral wreath on an adjacent easel.

A recording of "The Last Post" was played followed by two minutes silence, and then the bugle sounded "The Reveille", symbolising the reawaking of the dead into a new and better world.



The village flag, which had been at half mast, was raised by Brian Oliver, we sang the National Anthem, and then shared morning tea, complete with Anzac biscuits and 'a wee dram' of Scotch.

*Malcolm*



*Nikki Belfield and Ralph Dearlove, who read the poem - 'In Flanders Field'.*



*Gerry Wake, reading the Anzac poem - 'We Will Remember Them'.*

# A dark and gloomy day



Sadly the tree on the left hand side of the entrance way to Te Awa has been cut down to make way for the new road.

It was quite a process watching the tree be cut down into smaller blocks and lifted out - mindful of the busy road we're on.

Many of our residents will miss the tree, especially those who sat under it during the summer months watching the 'progress' outside of our gates.

# Shear Harmony- Barbershop returns to the Woolshed

On Friday 10th May The all-male, Hamilton-based Mighty River Harmony chorus returned to, once again, entrance us with their beautiful a capella chords. They were conducted by Nathan Harper, the new Musical Director of MRH. They were joined by 'Manu Matatahi', a youth-driven chorus on a mission to encourage barbershop singing among young people in the Waikato.

This culturally diverse group, conducted by the talented Harley Pitihera, sang a range of songs including a couple of ballads in Te Reo which seemed to really suit the Barbershop style.

Harley and Nathan joined Takiri and Richard as 'The Usual Suspects'.

This quartet formed in 2020 and were voted as the Most Entertaining Quartet two years running in 2022 and 2023. These victories have earned them an invitation to the World Barbershop Championships in Cleveland, Ohio which will be held in July 2024.

Their harmony was so tight and blended that you could not distinguish which singer was singing which part. They range in age from early 20s to early 60s with occupations ranging from librarian to truckdriver.

The Shear Harmony show was in part a fundraiser to help them on their way. We wish them every success as they represent us Kiwis in the USA.

*Malcolm*



*Manu Matatahi group*



*The Usual Suspects quartet - L-R Takiri, Nathan, Harley and Richard*



*Harley Pitihera*



*Mighty River male choir*



**Post Script:** In the early 1980s four of us Hamilton doctors formed a Barbershop group, originally coached by a Canadian house surgeon. We sang for enjoyment mainly, but performed at two of the annual Waikato Hospital fundraising concerts.

From L-R in the photo- Malcolm Porteous (GP and lead), Malcolm Baigent (Radiologist and tenor), Broughton Thomas (Physician and bass), Doug Cox (Eye Surgeon and baritone).



## Pumpkin Soup

The recent cold snap makes one's thoughts turn to soup, so here's an easy and tasty pumpkin recipe.

### Ingredients:

- About 800gm to 1Kg of pumpkin, skinned and cut into 2cm chunks, I used one of those pear-shaped light-coloured butternut squash.
- Oil, 1 Tsp
- 1 medium onion, finely chopped,
- 1 large (or 2 small) sticks of celery, destringed and chopped small.
- 2 cloves of garlic, crushed, or 2 teaspoons of the bottled stuff.
- 1 Tsp garam masala
- 2 Tsp green herb stock.
- 2 Tsp brown sugar.
- Water- one to one and a half litres

**Method:** Fry the onion, celery and garlic in a large saucepan with a dash of oil, until they soften.

Add pumpkin, spice, stock, water and boil until pumpkin is very tender.

Season with salt and pepper.

Process in a food processor until smooth. I used a stick blender (Quicker and easy to clean). I'm always nervous about cut fingers when peeling pumpkin, especially the large, thick-skinned variety.

The alternative is to bake the pumpkin on paper on a baking tray for 50-60 minutes at 180 degrees C until a fork pierces it easily. It will then be easy to peel and need less cooking time in the soup. *Malcolm*

INTRODUCING

# Mia Heweston

Te Awa Lifecare's Concierge



**Mia lives by the motto, "Don't let work consume your life; blend work into your life." She believes this approach is vital for a healthy work-life balance.**

Being a part of the Te Awa Concierge team brings Mia immense joy. She loves the camaraderie with her colleagues and has formed lasting friendships with both her coworkers and the residents.

When Mia joined Te Awa, she anticipated being bombarded with questions about her career aspirations and future plans. However, she was pleasantly surprised. Many residents at Te Awa shared sage advice with her: **"Enjoy your youth, travel the world, and don't rush into a career unless you're passionate about it."** This wisdom has stayed with Mia and serves as a guiding light during her occasional 'quarter-life crises'.

A quote that resonates deeply with Mia is, "Money comes and goes; memories last forever." She cherishes experiences and is always eager to create lasting memories.

Recently, Mia embraced a new challenge: snowboarding. She admits it's more challenging than it looks, but she's making progress. She's determined to hit the slopes confidently this winter.

Mia is eagerly counting down the days to her upcoming holiday in Bali this June. She adores Bali for its breathtaking beaches, vibrant beach clubs, lush landscapes, rich culture, and delicious food—all without breaking the bank. Whether you're young or just young at heart, Bali's nightlife offers something for everyone. Bali feels like a second home to Mia, and she can't wait to return with exciting stories of her adventures.

## Special Interest Groups contact persons:

**Arnold Society** - Malcolm Baigent 021 473 860

**Bowls** - Harley Bowler 07 827 4064

**Craft Group** - Shirley Giltrap 027 484 7499

**Croquet** - Helen Hicks 027 222 7491

**Cards** - Helen or Mary Collins 0272 884 925

**Library** - Heather Harvey

**Mahjong** - Diana Dunn 027 268 7840

**Quiz** - Valerie Speirs 021 176 6739

**Walking Group** - Doug Arcus



In the heart of Te Awa Village, there lies a secret world of hidden treasures tucked away in the unassuming garages of its residents. These treasures, often in the form of meticulously maintained and lovingly restored cars, represent the pride and joy of their passionate owners. Each vehicle tells a unique story, a testament to the dedication and craftsmanship of those who have preserved these automotive gems. As we uncover these hidden delights, we will share the fascinating stories behind these cars, celebrating the rich history and personal narratives that make each one truly special.

# A love affair spanning over 46 years

Written by Martyn Dunn in 2018

Agatha, born at Abingdon was 'born' on 28 June, 1946 and was transported to Nuffield exports in Piccadilly. She was brand new, red with red upholstery and over her lifetime, Agatha has travelled many a road, autobahn in the UK, Austria, New York before landing on the shores in Auckland in 1962.

Agatha had four owners, some for only as little as a month, before she was purchased by Martyn Dunn in April 1978, with the speedo reading 81,000 miles (approx 130,356k) and was purchased for the princely sum of \$2000 - which might give you an idea of the state she was in!

Painted metallic green, threadbare carpet, a bit of wear and tear on the clutch and engine - and she might have been smoking a bit - she was definitely 'a project'!

Martyn began the process of rebuilding Agatha back to her former glory including getting his parents on their big OE in London to pop into MotoBuild and pick up some 1588 pistons, which were brought back in their hand luggage - no x-rays back in those days!

Martyn, a member of the MGCC joined many meetings and was proud to show Agatha off!

A name change happened in June 1985 - Agatha was AZ8319 - now she became known as MG1960.

Agatha was a 'regular' at mud plugs, trials, gymkhanas, Xmas parties, wine tours, playing at Pukekohe racetrack and the Riverhead forest on dirt rallies.

Sometime in 2001 and about 100,000 miles on the clock Agatha needed bit of a tickle-up.

There have been 'many' tickle-up's

over the years, however Agatha is still wearing her original tounnau cover and sidescreen skirt, and my spare well - a Pirelli Cinturato - is at least 40 years old, but its the only size that will fit in the boot slot!

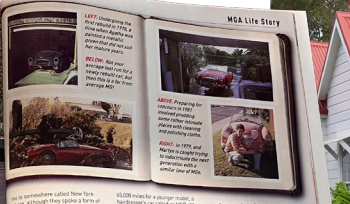
If you'd like to read more about Agatha - scan the barcode below with your camera on your phone to read her full history - and how she came to be living at Te Awa.



**It's a car's life**  
Agatha the MG takes time off from transporting owner Martyn Dunn around New Zealand to explain the trials, tribulations and triumphs of her life.



**These days, Agatha has plenty of car owners for company at events and gatherings, but there have been times when she's ploughed a lonely furrow.**



**MG Life Story**  
AGATHA: Preparing for a long drive home, Martyn Dunn is seen with Agatha in the back of a truck. The car is seen in the foreground, with Martyn and Agatha in the background.

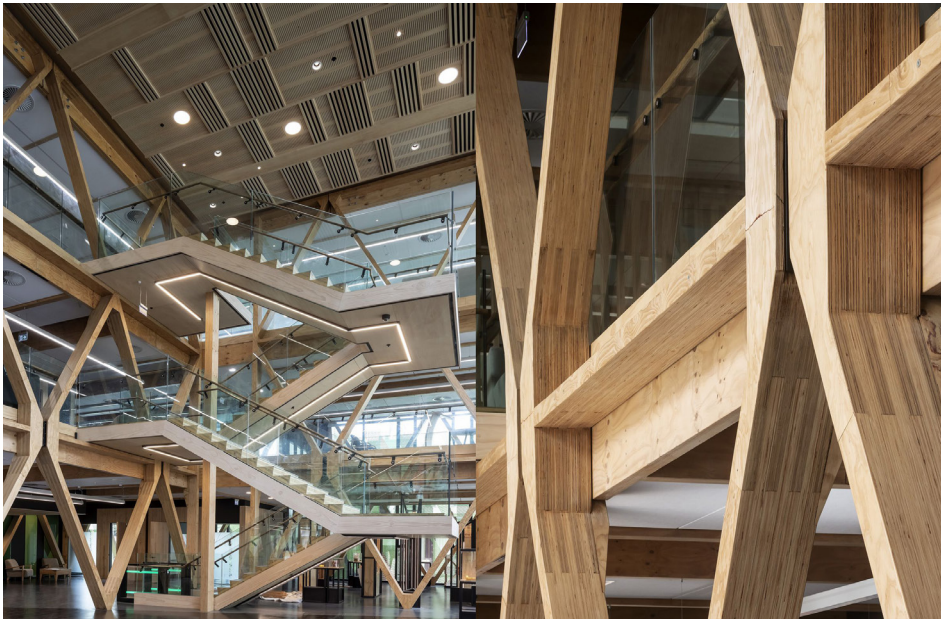


**MG REBORN 918**



# Rotorua Great Day Out

## Te Awa Walkers Venture Further Afield



**Last month the Te Awa Walkers' Co-ordinator floated the idea that the Walkers might go further afield to Rotorua and make not the usual morning of it, but a full day of it. He asked for a response by the end of that week (several days away). Within two & a half hours, he had more positive responses than seats in the Te Awa Van! So the trip was on!**

The weather was predicted fine for Tuesday 23rd April so all 14 of us (Van + 1 car) left Te Awa at the usual time of 9am & headed to the Whakarewarewa Forest to walk in the Redwoods there.

The Whakarewarewa Forest is one of the oldest exotic forests in New Zealand. Some 170 different tree species were planted commencing in 1901 as part of a trial to ascertain which species may be best in NZ. From these original trials, Radiata Pine was shown to adapt to the conditions best and has become the most important commercial species in the Country. Included in the 1901 planting was a 6 hectare stand of Californian Redwoods which is now protected (Redwood Memorial Grove). Those trees are now over 120yrs old and some taller than 75m high! The TA Walkers went for what can best be described, not as a walk, but as a meander for about 4kms through this magnificent Forest pausing frequently to take in the breathtaking majesty of it all.

From the Forest, we moved just along the road to the west to the relatively new and architecturally award winning Scion building. Scion is the modern name for what was the NZ Forestry Research

Institute. (The literal meaning of scion is a young shoot of a plant). Being the head office for Scion, that organisation wanted to make a statement about the potential of wood in structures. The structure is remarkable in several respects: the building is 3 stories with the actual structure substantially made of laminated timber; There are very few vertical elements in the structure, rather, most structural elements are angled;

Most of the structural elements are visible from both inside and outside the building; Particularly spectacular was the internal staircase to the upper floors which had a 1/2 way landing on each flight with the stairs then doubling back to the next floor above. Each of the landings was

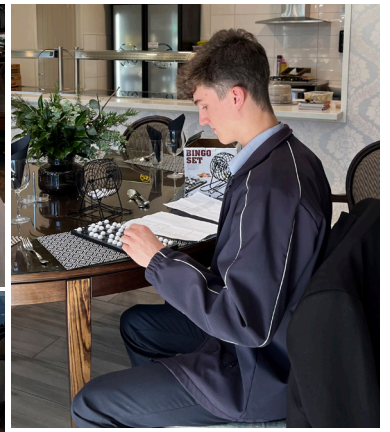
completely unsupported from the ground but rather cantilevered and "hanging" in space in the 3 storied atrium!

Happily there is also an excellent cafe in the ground floor. So we had lunch there. We then took time to view the very informative display also on the ground floor demonstrating the progress and adaptability of wood as a building material.

The plan then was to return to Te Awa but, on a whim of one of the Walkers, we decided to swing by the Ikeda Hall Peace Garden to check out the autumn colours in the plantings there. We were richly rewarded! The Garden was established in 2000 by the Rotorua District Council in honour of President Ikeda's peace initiatives and under the leadership of Grahame Hall the then Mayor of the District. The Garden has links to SGINZ a global grass roots Buddhist movement. The Garden has a wide variety of species but including many deciduous species. We had a very rewarding walk through the Garden, all the more so because it was not planned or expected. It was a complete but spectacular surprise for the day The autumn colours were varied and vivid! Tired, happy and peaceful?, we got back to Te Awa late afternoon. A wonderful trip!



## From our Care Centre



## A month of sharing and learning new skills

May at Te Awa Lifecare was a vibrant month filled with sharing, learning, and joy for the care residents.

The students from Cambridge High School joined them for a lively Bingo game, sparking friendly competition and laughter. This intergenerational event brought a youthful energy to the care centre, creating cherished memories for all involved.

The residents also shared their knitting skills with the Te Awa team, a heartwarming exchange that required patience and collaboration. Teaching the intricate art of knitting fostered a sense of accomplishment and connection, highlighting the value of passed-down traditions.

In addition, the residents, with the support of the care staff, enjoyed a spirited game of indoor bowls. The friendly matches added another layer of fun and engagement to their busy month.

DJ and Star, the beloved resident ponies, continued to bring immense joy to everyone. The grooming sessions became a favourite activity, with the gentle ponies enjoying the attention as much as the residents loved providing it.

Spring bulb planting marked a hopeful start to the coming season, with residents eagerly anticipating the blooms that will brighten their rooms. The Mother's Day Brunch was another highlight, with family and friends gathering to celebrate with delicious food and heartfelt conversations.

To end the month on a high note, the residents will embark on an armchair travel to France, complete with croissant-making, providing a delightful culinary adventure.

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