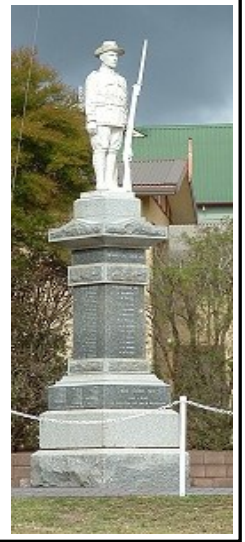


The Sentinel

Your local paper containing district news circulating throughout
Clarence Town – Glen Oak - Glen Martin - Glen William - Limeburners Creek
Wallarobba/Brookfield - Circulation :- 1160

May/June 2023



The Clarence Town Events Committee is organising an event, in support of our 'Celebrate our Community Day' on the 29th July. Of course, we can only hold such an event if we have enough interest.

Quite some years ago, we held such an event, with the most amazing and diverse funny, silly, formal, singing, and dancing acts. It was a great night, and the School of Arts was packed. Everyone had such a great time.

The evening will be held in the School of Arts Hall and will on a Saturday night, on the 8th July. Good prizes to be won. We will have several age categories.

If you feel you can participate in this evening in any way, please email us by 31st May. sue.editor.spotlight@gmail.com . An entry form is on page 14 of this edition, and will be available from the Post office for those that wish to perform. Let's see what we can do!

Sue Flannery

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Closing date for News and Ads for our next issue is the 10th June

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Around the Churches

St. John's, Clarence Town.

With lovely rain and mild weather, the countryside looks a picture coming into Winter. The Easter weekend was perfect especially for those holidaying. I was able to travel across the new Banfield Bridge on ANZAC morning which is a great joy (even though it is unfortunately only a one-lane bridge), which means I didn't have to travel Glen Martin Road, which is atrocious.

Our Easter Services at St. John's were well attended and very moving services, both Good Friday, when we are reminded of the great sacrifice that Jesus made for us all, and Easter Morning as we rejoice at the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus.

Our Harvest Festival was again another successful event at St. John's, raising \$1,490.00 for our Mission work throughout the world from the sale of produce and all that lovely cooking. Thank you so much to Alan, our auctioneer and Steve his off sider, to all who cooked, and brought produce, and of course, all those who came along and were so generous in their bidding. It is a great, fun event enjoyed by all.

ANZAC morning was again a very moving service and we trust that the person who fell on the morning is OK. It is wonderful to see so many people attend with such respect and quiet, giving thanks to those who have fought and those who have died in battle to provide us with the freedom we enjoy today.

Lest we forget.

On 14th May, we will be welcoming 4 people who will be baptised. Ethan, Trent, Bryson and Odin will come along with their family and friends as we welcome them into the family of God. How exciting and what a great celebration to have on Mothers' Day.

At St. John's we will be holding a birthday celebration for our little church which will be 117 years old in June. This will be at our 10am service on **18th June**, followed by a 'bring and share' lunch in our church hall. You would be most welcome.

We pray for those who are not well, especially Barrie and Russell, and we pray for the families of those who have died recently, especially the Barry family and the Flanagan family. We are so sorry for your loss and pray that God will grant you peace and comfort.

Sue Flannery
4996 5528

St David's Presbyterian Church Clarence Town.



Back in April a few of the CTPC men enjoyed a breakfast down at the Metford Baptist church where we were encouraged by Rodney Peet, a current serving Police Chief Inspector who also happens to be deeply involved in coordinating mission work in the Solomon Islands. After outlining some of his 'more challenging' decision making processes he's been involved with in the police, he went on to describe the huge impact deciding to get to work for the kingdom can have, especially in remote communities (examples included building a medical centre and school!). Rodney encouraged us to make the decision to put the budding ideas we have in mind, into action and see how God will use it. It was a very encouraging time away with blokes from church, and the BBQ breakfast was outstanding. Thanks Rodney and Metford Baptists!

April was quite busy at CTPC with Christianity Explored starting up, the ladies going to the teaching and training for women conference as well as our usual ladies and central growth groups each week.

The church met for Easter services on Good Friday and Easter Sunday, or resurrection Sunday as some call it. It's so important to be reminded (and not just at Easter time!) of what the Resurrection means and how vital it is to Christianity. Without the resurrection, we should indeed be pitied above all else as we would be following the ramblings of a dead mortal man, not the resurrected Son of God, King of Kings, the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

The Mainly Music program continued in term one, again with ten families enjoying music and play with their little ones. The Easter celebration was particularly vibrant and also included supporting Destiny Haven through the purchase of their yummy hand made chocolates for Easter! Hearing the beautiful voices singing out loud from the church while sitting in the office working is a true joy!

We continue to pray for our town, our leaders, country and world, both in private and when we meet together and, all the more as we see the great Day of our Lord Jesus approaching. May the grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

In Christ,
Rev Allan D. Welch
0402 387 690

Clarence Town Tennis Club

Summer night competition has finished and we are now running our Autumn night competition. It is great to see some regular social tennis happening on our courts. Anyone interested in playing can contact myself or Gai for access and fee details.

We held a very successful Trivia night on the 18th of March at the bowling club with a great roll up of people. I think everyone had a great night.

See you on the court.
Brad (0417 651577),
Gai (0419 600219)



From the Parson's Pen

Just this morning, I took a walk to the Dungog Common as I am trying to improve my fitness. Normally I am able to cover around 5-6kms every morning. But today, God had other plans. God tends to teach me things when I least expect it and often it is through bodily experiences. This morning the grass at the Common was so wet I had to remove my shoes, as it was so uncomfortable for me to be walking in wet shoes and socks.

Now, walking without shoes does a few things to someone if they are not used to it. First, it forces them to slow down. When I can normally easily cover five kilometres, today I could only cover two. Every rock, every twig, every uneven surface I could feel. And it forced me to slow down and focus.

Second, it reminds someone of how tender the soles of their feet really are after not experiencing these sensations for some time. And boy, did it hurt at times.

Thirdly, it leaves someone very vulnerable. When you aren't wearing shoes, you haven't got the added padding that stops feeling. If there is danger, it is going to make it harder to run. It is uncomfortable feeling vulnerable, which is why many people flee from it.

When things are a bit weird for me like this, my first question is, "what are you inviting me to learn here God?"

This experience had me wondering how tender our *souls* are and how we tend to insulate those souls from God who is inviting us to know Him. Like feeling every stone and twig for the first time in a long time, experiencing God can sometimes feel intense, painful and even scary sometimes.

Rowan Williams, the former Archbishop of Canterbury once wrote "Don't imagine that the Bible is full of comfortable and reassuring things about the life of belief and trust; it isn't. It is often about the appalling cost of letting God come near you and of trying to trust him when all the evidence seems to have gone".

What are the uncomfortable, wet and heavy shoes and socks that come between you and God? Maybe it is fear of vulnerability? Maybe it is how tender and sore our souls become after we have insulated them from hurt and grief?

Whatever it is, I invite you to consider how God is inviting you to know Him, and to cast aside those heavy shoes and socks and to feel the sensation that is intimacy with God.

**Rev. Kimbalee Hodges –
Priest-in-charge, Anglican Parish of
Dungog**

Christ Church, Dungog.

We had a wonderful Easter for Church services and activities for all. Then the cold weather came so I guess that is Winter coming.

Our April markets went well and we are getting new stallholders most months. Next Markets are May 6th, June 3rd and the July markets are on the 1st July which is the beginning of the school holidays.

We are busy with Growth Group at the Rectory on a Wednesday night and Op Shop each Friday 8 to 2 pm. Also on a Friday is Cuppa 'n Chat at 51 Dowling St in the Church Hall from 9.30 am to 11 am. All welcome.

St. Peter's in the Paddock, at our Bendolba Centre is continuing at 5pm on the first Sunday of each month. Following this service, a BBQ is held in the grounds of the church and is enjoyed by everyone. A lovely time of fellowship.

Our 'Contemporary Service' is held on the 4th Sunday of each month in our Parish Hall in Dowling Street, Dungog, at 6pm again followed by a lovely meal together.

If you would like any further information about any of these activities, or any pastoral matters, please contact our Parish Priest, Rev. Kimbalee Hodges, on **0491 007 193**

Thanks
Margaret Flannery

Clarence Town Op Shop and Treasure Centre.

Our Summer sale in the Op Shop is now on with a 'Fill a Bag' for \$10.00, so hurry in and spoil yourself. You have a choice of clothes, shoes, linen, handbags.

***Our Autumn/Winter fashions will be available from
Wednesday, 4th April!***

We collect:

- Used stamps for Missions;
- Old towels for cleaning;
- Rugs for dogs
- Coat Hangers
- Old white T-shirts
- 8 ply wool for blankets (scraps would be acceptable as we can make them striped.)

Cotton Waste – 10kg Bag - \$22.22 including GST – white or coloured.

Treasure Centre - come and check out our wares. You just might find that certain something that you have been looking for. Household – toys – books – DVD's – games – pillows – 'Marg's specials' and MUCH, MUCH MORE.

Please remember that we are a **cash only** facility.

Gillian Finch

St. Patrick's, Clarence Town.

Our celebration of Easter has gone and how joyous to see our church full on Easter morning, singing praises to our risen Lord.

Sadly, our beautiful sister in Christ, Lynne Barry has completed her worldly journey and has gone home to be with our Lord. She was a truly lovely soul and will be so sadly missed by us all. Our deepest sympathy to Neville and their 4 children, Leanne, Sarah Jane, Craig and Luke and their children, from our church family.

As this bulletin goes to press, we have received the sad news of the sudden passing of Michael Flanagan, only son of our dear Philomena and John Flanagan.

Our sincere love and sympathy to the Flanagan family from us all.

Mass is each Sunday at 8am. All most welcome.

God Bless,

Marilyn Amos

Around The District

Most of the solar lights have been dismantled and stored for next Christmas; those remaining create a peaceful atmosphere should you walk or drive past at night.



The committee has been continuing to work on an event for the July Progress Association events and are part of that sub-committee. Speaking of which, as part of searching through Trove about Clarence Town, I notice the Progress Association has been in existence for at least 100 years. And been instrumental in lobbying different levels of government for water, roads, phone services, bridges, electricity and just about everything that we take for granted.

None of these have occurred without constant work over years by townfolk to achieve successful outcomes. For instance, communications between the Clarence Town Progress Association and the Water and Sewerage Board over the supply of water to houses in town continued for years, beginning at least in 1922. The Board estimated the costs over 7000 pounds for revenue of 220 pounds per year in 1924. Council- then Wallarobba Shire Council- would have to commit 220 pounds per year but, even so, the Board made no provision in their budget to do the work. In 1935 it was still "impracticable"! But it happened.

Chris O'Neill

(Secretary)

To get in touch our email is

CTmuseum@outlook.com,

Our phone number is 0491 346 491,
or you can reach us through Facebook.

Council Report

Property Valuations and Rates.



Ratepayers will have received a notice from the NSW Valuer-General's Office updating property valuations, which only consider the value of the land itself and not houses or other structures etc.

In 2019 the total valuation of all rateable properties in Dungog Shire was \$1,584,379,513 and in 2022 it was assessed as \$3,734,350,593. Representing an increase of \$2,149,971,080 or 136%. This has absolutely no impact upon the total revenue that Council can collect from rates. But it can affect your rates because in some locations valuations will have increased more than others.

For FY 2022-23, Council will increase its rates Income above that collected last year by the IPART approved component of the Special Rate Variation of 10% (inclusive of the 4.4 % rate pegging allowance). So how do property valuations affect Council rates?

Rates are calculated using a combination of a Base Rate and an Ad Valorum component and these vary for each rating category i.e. residential, farmland etc. Ad Valorum is Latin for "according to value". The Base Rate, which is not affected by changes in land value, is set to ensure that every property contributes towards the cost of providing common services regardless of its valuation.

In each rating category the Base Rate is multiplied by the number of properties and subtracted from the total amount of rates to be collected. For example, last year the Base Rate in the farmland category was \$532 per property and the total of Base Rates was almost \$500,000 from about 940 properties.

In order to determine the Ad Valorum component, this total is subtracted from the total rate yield for farmland category, which was \$3.3 million, so the Ad Valorum component was \$2.8 million. Then the valuations for all properties in that category are added together and divided into the Ad Valorum component, to produce a cents-in-the-dollar value, which for farmland was 0.00445 in 2022-23.

In order to determine the rates payable for any particular property, the Valuer-General's valuation of that property is multiplied by the cents-in-the-dollar value and then the Base Rate is added along with other charges such as waste services etc.

Village Green Improvements.

The new accessible amenities block at the Village Green is now operational and will be open 24/7. It was funded with Council funds and a grant from the NSW Government. Also, solar powered lighting has been installed around the pathways in the Green at a cost of \$10,000 each.

New accessible play equipment is being installed. The Clarence Town & District Progress Association initiated this project and using their own funds received a 50:50 grant under NSW Community Building Partnership Program. In order to complete the project, provide a shade cover for the new playground, extra solar lighting and concrete pathways, Council allocated \$80,000 from developer contributions (the old Section 94, now called Section 7-11).

All of these projects have been made possible because they were included in the Village Green Concept Plan developed by the Progress Association, Council and the community.

Your Local B Ward Councillors:

Jessica Clark: 0421 451 716 jessica.clark@dungog.nsw.gov.au
Steve low: 49964022 stevelow49@tpg.com.au



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Tuesday- Euchre 6:30pm

Thursday- Bingo 11:30am

Friday - Meat Raffles & Members Draw
(tickets on sale at 6pm and drawn at 7pm)

Saturday - Meat Raffles
(tickets on sale at 2pm)

Last Sunday of every month- Meat Raffles & Members Draw
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Clarence Town Progress Association

Community Parade 29th July 2023

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- **First prize** for best contributor to the parade (maybe an individual, group or club) will be \$200 open order to the Clarence Town IGA (for food), second prize \$150 and the third \$100.



*Clarence Town Events
Committee*

Subcommittee of Clarence Town & District
Progress Assoc.
116 Prince Street, Clarence Town. N.S.W. 2321
ABN: 70 733 295 003
Email: clarroculture@outlook.com

**Talent Night Participation
Form**

Date: 8th July 2023

Clarence Town School of Arts

Name: _____ Age: _____

Contact: _____

Adult consent (under 16): _____

Tell us a little bit about yourself: _____

Rules

1. Talent show will take place at the School of Arts on Saturday, 8th July 2023 at 6:30pm.
2. Acts should be no longer than 3mins.
3. All acts should be family friendly (no adult content).
4. All props, clothing, and materials should be provided by the participant/s.
5. Entry per act is \$10.00
6. The closing date for entry is **Wednesday, 31st May 2023.**

Name of Act: _____

Type of Act: Group Individual

Brief description (band, singing, dance etc) _____

Age group of participant/s please indicate:

Under 10

11 – 17

Adult

Please indicate if you require power: Yes No

Signature: _____

Clarence Town Progress Association

Hay Art/Silage Sculpture

Competition July 2023

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Clarence Town Events
Committee

Subcommittee of Clarence Town & District
Progress Assoc.
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ABN: 70 733 295 003
Email: clarroculture@outlook.com



Hay/Silage Sculpture Entry Form
Sponsored by Norco Rural Heatherbrae



Name: _____

Contact: _____

Address: _____

Name of Display: _____

Conditions of Entry

1. Register on this official entry form by email to clarroculture@outlook.com or post to Alan PO Box13 Clarence Town NSW 2321 .
2. Exhibits must be built by July 1st, 2023, and remain in place until 31st August 2023.
3. Exhibits must be on privately owned property only.
4. Exhibits must be visible to the public from a council road.
5. All exhibits must consist of at least 75% hay, hay bales or silage.
6. The closing date for entry is 30th June 2023
7. The judging will take place between 8th July and 22nd July

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1st CLARENCE TOWN SCOUTS

**We meet on Tuesday nights
between 6.00pm and 7:30pm
during school terms.**

We have returned after the Easter school holidays with all our groups meeting on Tuesday night at our scout hall at Glen William. We always welcome new faces to our group be it youth or interested adult helpers.

Our Scout Group does need adult leaders to provide this great opportunity for our young members and to continue into the future. If any parent, grand parent or other adult is interested in getting involved with our group we are keen to talk to you. The opportunity to volunteer a few hours a week to run the groups and be involved in the fun activities is very rewarding.

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Authorised by D. Gillespie, National Party of Australia, Shops 2&3, 43 High Street, Wauchope NSW 2446.

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- o Do you have **WORKING SMOKE ALARMS** fitted?
- o If so, do you **TEST THEM** every month?
- o Have you set a date each year to change **BATTERIES** whether they need it or not?
- o Has everyone in the home been taught how to **GET DOWN LOW AND GO GO GO**? This is not just for the kids!
And have they been told why they have to do this? {because smoke rises}
- o Does everyone know that when they are down low and crawl to the door, they
must feel the door with the **back of their hand** for heat?
If the door is hot, there is fire on the other side. **DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR** if it is hot.
If you burn the back of their hand you can still use the palm of the hand to open doors and windows
- o Have you made up an **ESCAPE PLAN** with the whole family?
Have two ways out of each room. Do not smash the window-open it to avoid cuts. Hang a copy of the plan on the fridge so visitors can see it.
Close doors behind you as you are leaving the house, this will slow the spread of fire between rooms.
- o Have you chosen a **MEETING PLACE** outside for everyone to go to?
- o Have you **PRACTICED** the **ESCAPE PLAN** with the whole family?
DO NOT GO BACK INSIDE FOR ANYTHING!!!
- o Does everyone in the home know how to **RING 000**?
{call it **triple zero** when instructing kids, due to text messaging some think 0 is the letter O}
- o Does everyone know how to **STOP, DROP and ROLL** if their clothing is on fire?
- o Have you checked **ELECTRIC BLANKETS** for damaged or frayed cords and wires? You can do this by holding it up to the light.

- o Do you keep **HEATERS AND CANDLES** away from curtains and bedding? Never leave either unattended!
- o Have **FLUES and CHIMNEYS** been cleaned for heaters?
- o Do you have a **SCREEN** in front of your open fire?
Make sure ashes from your heater are totally extinguished before emptying them in the yard.
- o Do you dry clothes in front of the heater? Don't do it!
If you must, keep them at least 'a meter from the heater' and never leave them unattended.
Clean lint from **DRYERS** every time you use them!
Have a **FIRE EXTINGUISHER and FIRE BLANKET** located near the exit in the kitchen.
DO NOT hang them near the stove.
DO NOT leave the house with **APPLIANCES** still turned on. e.g. T.V., Computer, Dryer etc.
Install a smoke alarm outside of each sleeping area and one inside the bedroom if the door is closed during the night. Don't forget to install one in your caravan.
- Fire and Permit season has finished but you will still need to abide by the same rules, you just don't need the permit.**
You need to comply with the Dungog Council "Clean Air Policy". You can find this on the council website. <https://www.dungog.nsw.gov.au/council/council-documents/council-policies/control-open-burning>
- Notify neighbours and the RFS 24 hours before lighting.**
- THIS APPLIES ALL YEAR ROUND – EVEN OUT OF FIRE SEASON**
Members of the public can now use their mobile phone or desktop computer to lodge their notifications about planned hazard reductions or burn offs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify.
- You can still lodge your notification at 4015 0000 if you are unable to go online.
Your Bush Fire Survival Plan, Fire Danger Ratings, Bush Fire Alerts and Neighbourhood Safer Places can be found at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au
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CLARENCE TOWN FIRST RESPONDERS (CFR)

After a successful recruitment drive for new CFR members, we have 6 new candidates who will be commencing with us in May.

They will start the induction training and working with our current members to develop their skills and knowledge around the role.

We look forward to having them all join us and I have no doubt they will be a great asset for our community.

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News from Glen William Public School



Well where has this term gone? Our amazing Glen William PS students should be very proud of all of their efforts this term. Along with their hard work in class, our students have enjoyed our Murrook excursion, Sports in Schools visits, Harmony Day, completed NAPLAN, Cross Country, Swimming Carnival, Peer Support training and the Big Vegie Crunch, just to name a few. I would like to pass on a huge thank you to the hard working teachers and staff we have here at GWPS, for all of the work they do both in and out of the classroom, and to our supportive parent body, especially those on the P&C who have helped out at various events this term. Students will start Term 2 on Wednesday April 26.

Murrook Cultural Excursion: Thank you to our friends at Murrook Cultural Centre for a fantastic day of learning and doing about our rich Aboriginal history. Students had the opportunity to paint and throw boomerangs, participate in cultural dances and learn about Aboriginal artefacts. The day was complete when James shared his talents by playing the didgeridoo.

Harmony Day: Thank you to all of the families who attended our Harmony Day Open Afternoon. It was wonderful to see so many in attendance. Thank you to Mrs Rains for her organisation, and to the P&C for their support with the catering. Our communal artwork is now complete and up on display in our office foyer.

New School Gazebo: Our brand new school gazebo has arrived, just in time for our Cross Country. We may be a little biased, but we think it looks pretty schmick! Thank you to our 2022 Year 6 students and the P&C for their contributions towards this. We can't wait to use it at more events throughout the rest of 2023 and the years to come.

School Cross Country: Well done to all of our students who took part in our school Cross Country. A special congratulations to Dezzy and Carla who will represent GWPS at the Zone Cross Country on the 4th May 2023. term. Thank you to Miss Parr for her organisation.

Peer Support Training: Our Stage 3 students completed their Peer Support Leader training for 2023. Our leaders learned some valuable leadership, problem solving, team work and listening skills. Thank you to Mrs Hurney for her organisation and our lovely parents who gave up their time to cook and prepare lunch and afternoon tea.

Big Vegie Crunch: Our students took part in the Big Vegie Crunch. The Big Vegie Crunch is an attempt by NSW primary school students to break the record for the highest number of children eating vegetables simultaneously – and to get kids excited about vegetables! Thank you to Mrs Hurney and Mrs Reeves for organising some delicious tomatoes, capsicum, button mushrooms, green beans, snow peas, celery, zucchini and baby cucumbers for us to share. Don't forget to enjoy delicious vegetables during our daily crunch 'n' sip time, not just fruit!

Easter Celebrations: This year we celebrated Easter by participating in an Easter Hat Parade, Easter Colouring Competition, Easter Egg Hunt and our annual Easter Raffle. The P&C once again catered our lunch which was delicious. Thank you P&C, very much appreciated.

Breakfast Club: A reminder that breakfast club runs Monday to Wednesday, 8:30am-8:50am. Thank you to our senior students who provide this very important service at our school.

We are still taking Enrolments for 2023. Please contact the school office for an information pack, visit the school website to complete an online enrolment.

Glen William Public School 4996 5507

E-Mail glenwillia-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

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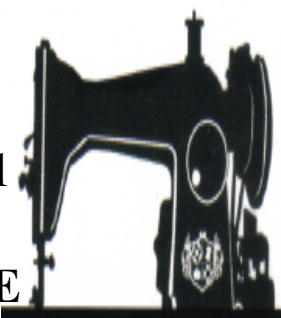
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0491 007 193

ROMAN CATHOLIC: 4992 1477

PRESBYTERIAN: Allan Welch - 4025 5638

DUNOG BAPTIST: 4992 2122

DUNOG UNITING: Joy Shelton - 4992 1508

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