THE NEWSLETTER FOR KEBLE ALUMNI . ISSUE 71 . HILARY TERM 2021 . WWW.KEBLE.OX.AC.UK

One Year On

In 'A Journal of the Plague Year', Daniel Defoe wrote, among many other things, about "stories of generosity and courage and self-sacrifice." While our experience of Covid-19 is not to be compared to the impact of the bubonic plague in the 17th century, it has been a shared and lengthy nightmare during which the positive qualities to which Defoe referred have been much in evidence.

I want to begin this short message by offering my thanks to those in the College community—students, academic and non-academic staff, and alumni—who have shown an outstanding commitment to the welfare of others during this past year. They know who they are and they should be very proud of what they've achieved.

What none of us has yet been able to observe or create is an unambiguous path back to normality. Looking ahead to Trinity Term, we can be confident that, as it proceeds, we will have many more of our students living in Oxford, even though the University's residence requirements will remain suspended. Their experience will, however, continue to be constrained in a whole variety of ways. To take just one

example, it is planned that the vast majority of examinations this summer will be online.

Looking ahead to Michaelmas, it does seem much more plausible to expect that we shall be fully "Restored to life and power and thought", to quote from John Keble's famous poem. But that does not necessarily mean that every aspect of College life will resume in exactly its previous form. By way of illustration, one feature of this academic year which worked better than many predicted was the interviewing of undergraduate applicants online rather than face to face. Whether the University chooses to revert to the old system, make permanent last year's radical change, or adopt a mixed approach remains very much under discussion.

From a personal perspective, you may imagine that I very much hope that many aspects of College life will return in recognisable shape. The forthcoming academic year will be my twelfth and final one as Warden. It's not yet time to offer a valedictory comment, but by this time in 2022 I would very much like to be describing a year in which student life is once again vibrant and some of our best traditions and events have been properly restored, making maximum possible use of the wonderful facilities we have both in our magnificent Butterfield heritage and in our modern buildings, including the H B Allen Centre.

Sir Jonathan Phillips Warden



Spotlight on...

The Emergency Student Hardship Fund

- Launched April 2020
- Total £56k raised to February 2021 Keble Association contribution: £15k Alumni donations: £41k
- c£41k awarded to undergraduate and graduate students in need of hardship support, and funds for books and IT equipment
- Nearly 150 students received a grant
- c£15k remains
- further <u>donations welcome</u> to continue to support Keble students through this difficult time.





College News



Slán abhaile!

I'm sure many alumni, Keble colleagues past and present, Fellows, and students will join me in wishing Camilla Matterson a very fond farewell as she leaves the College after 16 years. Camilla has decided to retire for family reasons and will leave full-time employment with the College from April. She will still be supporting the work of the Alumni and Development Office on a consultancy basis for a couple of days a week until the end of July.

Camilla joined the team as Senior Development Officer in 2005 and was the clear choice for the newly created post of Deputy Director in 2009. In the years since, she has embraced many significant challenges, including multiple telethons and digital campaigns, the migration of the database, the demands of GDPR legislation, major gift fundraising for the anniversary campaign, as well as leading on legacy giving with the introduction of the Douglas Price Society, and the Talbot Fund innovations including the creation of the Talbot Society, the dinosaur pins and the now legendary foam bricks! The successful growth of the Talbot Fund and the dedication of our wonderful Year Group Reps is testament to Camilla's infectious enthusiasm and determination to always do better. She has been dedicated to supporting the College events programme for alumni and donors; always ready to engage in warm conversation, enjoy a glass or two, and often be the last to leave.

Camilla has been a tremendously supportive colleague and I cannot thank her enough for her personal support and friendship. She will be greatly missed. Sláinte!

Jenny TudgeDirector of Development
Geography 1986

All Change in the Library

At the end of 2020, Keble College bade farewell to three valued members of the Library team: Librarian Yvonne Murphy, who had been with the College for nearly 12 years, Deputy Librarian Gillian Beattie and Archivist & Records Manager Faye McLeod.

The College would like to welcome the following new members of staff.

Fiona Wilson joins Keble following several posts at other libraries, including All Souls and Balliol. She is focusing on making sure Keble students have the resources they need for studying at home or in College, and is also happy to assist with any enquiries about the library and its special collections.

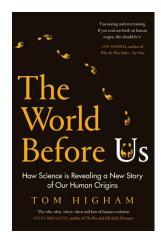
Peter Monteith joins as Archivist & Records Manager. Before coming to Keble, Peter worked in various archives, including King's College, Cambridge. Peter welcomes enquiries on the history of the College and its members, as well as the Oxford Movement.





New Librarian Fiona Wilson (top) and Archivist Peter Monteith (bottom).

The World Before Us



50,000 years ago, the world was populated by multiple human species, including the Neanderthals, Homo floresiensis, and the Denisovans. In his latest book, Keble Fellow Professor Tom Higham uses the latest scientific and technological advances to challenge the theory that art and complex cognitive thought were exclusive to Homo sapiens, instead painting a picture of a world where human species interbred and exchanged ideas throughout the millennia during which they coexisted.

New Honorary Fellows

Keble welcomed two alumni to Honorary Fellowships in Hilary.

Andreas Michaelis (1987), German Ambassador to the Court of St James, completed his BA and MLitt in Philosophy at Keble. His diplomatic career has included posts as Ambassador to Israel and Singapore. Roger Boden (1965) was Bursar of Keble for 20 years, retiring at the end of 2020. Having read PPE at Keble, he returned in 1993 to establish the College's Development Office, before taking up the Bursarship in 2000.



Andreas Michaelis



Roger Boden

College News



Oxford Preservation Trust Award

Keble College's efforts to preserve its Butterfield heritage have been commended once again with the presentation of a Conservation Award at the 43rd annual Oxford Preservation Trust Awards for the restoration of the Parks Road frontage.

The awards, which took place virtually for the first time ever this year, celebrate the contribution that buildings and environmental projects can make to Oxford's character.

The restored Parks Road frontage, with William Whyte (OPT Chairman), Robert Kirtland (Critchleys, OPT Awards sponsor) and Keble Warden Sir Jonathan Phillips with the award.



Keble and Colonialism

Institutions around the world are having a long-overdue discussion about issues of legacy and memory, especially regarding slavery. As part of its Oxford and Colonialism project, the University is researching its historic ties with Great Britain's colonial past and the ways in which colonial legacies reflect on the present.

Material from the project has been published on the Oxford and

Colonialism website, and includes an excellent essay by Keble History Fellow lan Archer, which looks at the College's Colonial Legacy. The essay highlights how even a relatively 'young' Victorian college is inextricably connected with the colonial past—including the slave trade, which had been abolished over a generation before Keble's foundation.

The essay is also available to read on our <u>Keble Herritage microsite</u>.

Royal Statistical Society Council



Our congratulations to Keble Professorial Fellow and Research Professor at the Department of Statistics, Gesine Reinert, who has been elected to Royal Statistical Society Council as of Jan 2021.



Finding Light: A Virtual Exhibition

In the wake of the Government's announcement of a third lockdown and the uncertainty surrounding Hilary Term, I wanted to have a project to which people could contribute regardless of where they happened to be.

The theme 'Finding Light' reflected the gradual lengthening of the days, as well as the chance to look for signs of hope in dark times. I was moved by the enthusiasm and skill shown by members of the College community, and hope that you enjoy the fruits of their creativity and insight.

'Finding Light' is available to explore online until 15 April.

Nevsky Everett Chaplain

Farewell to...

The College is deeply saddened to report the following deaths. Fuller obituaries of former Fellows will be available in the Keble *Review* and *Record*, published in Michaelmas 2021.



Professor Angus Hawkins (1953–2020) joined Keble in 2013 as a Fellow by Special Election in History and became a member of Governing Body in 2018. A committed member of the College community, he will be greatly missed by many friends and colleagues.



Professor Robert Stevens (1933–2021) was an Honorary Fellow of Keble, and an undergraduate in the 1950s. Following a distinguished academic career in law in the United States, he returned to Oxford in 1993 as Master of Pembroke College, retiring in 2001.



Dr lain Morley (1975–2021) was a paleoanthropologist and archaeologist, and former Fellow of Keble. His appointments at Oxford included serving as Pro-Proctor and as Director of the MSc in Cognitive and Evolutionary Anthropology.



Sinclair Hood (1917–2021) was one of the great archaeologists of the 20th century, noted particularly for his work at Knossos. The Oxford Lecturership in Aegean Prehistory, based at Keble, is named after Sinclair and his wife. A full obituary is available on the <u>BSA website</u>.

Student Life



Student Outreach During the Pandemic



Keble at Large (KaL) is a student-led Outreach society set up to bust myths about Oxford, encourage people from underrepresented backgrounds to apply, and offer these students practical advice for admissions. In a normal year, this would involve our student volunteers facilitating school tours and workshops for state school students, usually in our link region of Birmingham and the West Midlands, but this academic year has been a very different one.

Due to the ongoing pandemic and government restrictions, all of the work KaL has done has been online. Via our Instagram (which has over 1,500 followers), students have done takeovers, giving insight into what life is like on their degree and answering any questions that prospective applicants may have. We have also continued with our "Humans of Keble" posts each week, with current students sharing the story of their journey to Keble, as well as creating and posting weekly

infographics with advice for the admissions process and dispelling common misconceptions.

This year we have also set up a <u>KaL Blog</u> with comprehensive subject guides written by student volunteers. So far, we have a mixture of STEM, Humanities and Social Sciences, with new subject guides being posted each week.

For the 2020 Admissions cycle, the KaL team produced videos with students about their interview experiences giving invaluable insight that will be useful to students for years to come. These were posted on our brand new Keble Outreach YouTube Channel. Looking to the future, the KaL team also intend to host virtual events to make up for the fact that the usual school visits and workshops have not been able to take place.

Busola (Bee) Femi-Gureje Keble at Large President History 2019

Flying the Flag

In celebration of LGBTQ+ History Month in the UK, we fly the Pride flag above the Lodge every February. The flag is a little different from last year; our JCR and MCR voted to fly this 8-stripe flag last Trinity. This flag originated in Philadelphia in 2017, introduced in the More Color, More Pride campaign by Amber Hikes and her team. It was originally introduced as a response to the racism that was and still is seen within the LGBTQ+ community in Philadelphia, but has been adopted around the world amidst increasing recognition

that this is a conversation that absolutely needs to be had. A YouGov poll in 2018 found that 51% of LGBTQ+ people of colour had faced discrimination or poor treatment from the wider LBGTQ+ community. In Amber's own words, "This 8-stripe flag is not a replacement [for the 6-stripe flag]... Instead it is a way to symbolise, to highlight, and to stand in solidarity with these other identities."

Julia Buckland JCR LGBTQ+ Rep Medicine 2019



The Owen Travelling Scholarship

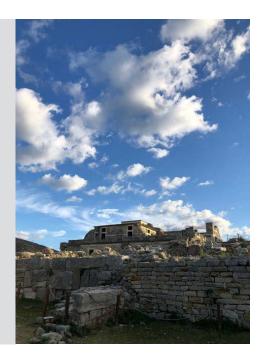
In Michaelmas term 2020, the Keble Association awarded me the Owen Travelling Scholarship for my research stay at the British School at Athens (BSA) in Knossos (Crete). The stay in Knossos was vital to ground my theory of style as transgenerational memory, which I am currently developing as part of my DPhil in (cognitive) archaeology supervised by Dr Lambros Malafouris.

During my stay in Knossos, I gathered data on 800 decorated pots, 150 elementary gestures, 327 motifs, and 370 compositions accumulated and aggregated by Minoan potters over a timespan of circa 500 years (ca 2100–1500 BCE). The materials analysed were

scattered over more than 180 boxes of artefacts, all excavated by Sir Arthur Evans and Duncan Mackenzie at the time of the discovery of the legendary Palace of King Minos in the early 20th century.

But it was not all just about pots. Discussions and exchange of ideas with other scholars were also part of my stay in Knossos. The outcome was a formal invite to teach at the BSA and join the direction of future excavations in King Minos's Palace at Knossos. A unique opportunity made real thanks to the incredible support of Keble and the Owen Travelling Scholarship.

Emanuele Prezioso DPhil Archaeology 2018



Student Life



The New Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Scholars

Keble welcomed three Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Trust (WHT) Scholars in October 2020. The Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Scholarships and Leadership Programme cultivates the leaders of tomorrow by providing outstanding university graduates and professionals from developing and

Valery Otieno, Kenya (MSc Social Sci of the Internet 2020)



Oxford-WHT and Sloane Robinson Foundation Scholarship

"Studying at Oxford during a pandemic has had its fair share of challenges, but I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to meet people online and around the parks, being involved in the African community and learning topical subjects around the digital realm from leading professors. Through WHT's leadership and entrepreneurship training, I am also grateful for opportunities to think of a world beyond COVID-19 and the instrumental role I want to play in it."

emerging economies with the opportunity to pursue fully-funded graduate studies at Oxford. Thanks to additional funding from individual College donors, WHT Scholars participate in a specially created, comprehensive programme of leadership development, long-term mentoring and

Nicolás Gómez Ospina, Colombia (MSc Law and Finance 2020)



Oxford-WHT and Alan Chesters Scholarship

"While Oxford has delivered all I expected from a world-class university; Keble added value beyond the academic experience in ways that only those who have been part of this journey can relate. It truly makes me feel lucky to be part of an active postgraduate community with highly driven students across academic disciplines and widely diversified backgrounds."

networking which gives them the tools to return to their countries and make a difference in their chosen sphere. Pandemic permitting, Keble plans to host five WHT Scholars a year for the next few years.

Nandita Venkatesan, India (Master of Public Policy 2020)



Oxford-WHT and Martin Robinson Scholarship

"It's been an unusual year to study at Oxford, bang in the middle of a pandemic, but filled with vital lessons on navigating uncertainty. Kudos to Keble College for putting its best foot forward in ensuring that students stay safe. Here's to more in-person events in Trinity Term as restrictions ease."

RGS Dissertation Prizes for Keble Geographers

The work of two Keble students was recognised by the Royal Geographical Society through their 2020 Research Group Dissertation Prizes. The prizes are awarded for outstanding dissertations from undergraduate and postgraduate students at higher education institutions in the UK and overseas.

Eliza Norris (2017) was awarded the Political Geography Research Group undergraduate dissertation prize for her dissertation, 'Rehabilitating the "artery of life": survival, resilience and medical care in the underground hospital', which examined underground hospitals in Syria and Israel.

Jemima Richardson-Jones (2017) was Highly Commended by the Health and Wellbeing Research Group for her dissertation, "The magic of music: relocation and the creation of spaces of wellbeing in a residential care home", which explored the value of musical listening for the mental and physical wellbeing of elderly people.

Wet Weather

Keble doctoral student David Crowhurst (DPhil 2012), the current Radcliffe Meteorological Observer, made the news in October 2020, when he recorded the wettest month in Oxford since 1875, with 185.3mm of rainfall.

He also recorded 60.0 mm of rainfall on 3 October, which was the wettest

October day on record, the sixth wettest day from over 70,000 in the record, and the wettest day in Oxford in 47 years.

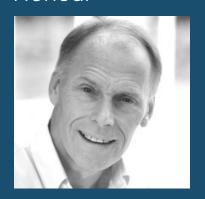
The Radcliffe Meteorological Station at the University of Oxford holds the longest running record of rainfall and temperature data in the UK, with daily records going back to 1815.







New Year Honour



Our congratulations to **Jonathan Britton** (Engineering 1973), whose achievements have been recognised in the 2021 New Year Honours list with an OBE for services to Small Business Finance.

Jonathan has over 35 years' experience in banking, and is currently Non-Executive Director at The British Business Bank.



Fresh Faces at the KA

The Keble Association (KA) has been boosted by a surge of additional Trustees. Seven new volunteers have joined the Trustees' Committee, including four who matriculated in the last 15 years. Among them is Alessandra Martorana, who as a student was awarded KA grants on three separate occasions and who will now sit on the Grants Sub-Committee. Former JCR president Sam Edwards, who also received a grant and is now starting to

train as a solicitor, is also joining. KA President Jeremy Mooney comments: "This injection of fresh talent brings the Trustees back up to full strength. It means the Association can draw on wider perspectives and additional expertise as we work to support students and the College in what is proving to be a tremendously difficult time".

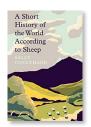
KA AGM: 5.30 pm 9 September, online.

Alumni in Print



Clubland's Hidden Treasures

Sam Aldred (2006) tackles questions such as "Who gave the Caledonian Club a snuff box made from a taxidermied ram's head?" in his thoroughly amusing *Clubland's Hidden Treasures*, a book about the extraordinary collection of art and artefacts inside Britain's clubs, and the remarkable stories behind them.



A Short History of the World According to Sheep

In her latest book, **Sally Coulthard** (1994) takes us on a fascinating journey through the history of sheep, from Mesopotamia to medieval England, to the present day. Full of engaging anecdotes and remarkable ovine facts, the book highlights how central sheep have been to the human story.



Reagan's Cowboys

John B Roberts II (1974) offers fascinating insider perspective in *Reagan's Cowboys:* Inside the 1984 Reelection Campaign's Secret Operation Against Geraldine Ferraro. Part memoir, part detective story, and part political thriller, the book is a first-person account of a US presidential campaign's clandestine investigation of the political opposition.

The Taimaka Project

While at Keble, with the help of two travel grants from the Keble Association, Parth Ahya (Phil and Theol 2017) founded the Taimaka Project, which delivers post-harvest credit and improved storage bags to smallholder farmers to help them store, save, and sell their crops later when prices are higher.

The initiative was recognised by UC Berkeley's Center for Effective Global Action for "a commitment to evidence-based impact" and was among 12 (out of over 1800) not-for-profits and social enterprises to win the prestigious D-Prize competition. In 2021, the Taimaka Project will begin raising a third round of funding (\$184,000) to scale up from 200 to 1,000 families in northeastern Nigeria, with the aim of ending seasonal food insecurity for 180,000 individuals by 2024.

Contact parth@taimaka.org for more information.



Co-founders Abubakar Umar, Parth Ahya, Justin Graham

Alumni News

Shared Rooms: Pusey 3007



Helen Gregson (Mathematics 1981)

My best memory from my Keble room is captured in this photograph of my father in the room during one of his many visits to take me home at the end of term. Dad drove down from Blackpool in a van, converted into a camper by adding a fold-up bed, gas stove and kettle! He so enjoyed these visits and the wonderful Keble welcome, which was as genuine then as it is now. Dad's enjoyment of Keble continued into later years when

his World War II veterans' group held a memorial reunion in the Chapel and Hall and he and I were able, once again, to enjoy time in Keble together. Precious memories indeed!



Frank Gregson (Physics 1960) (1920-2014)

Joseph Gale (Geography 2018)

Room P3007 has not given me one standout memory, but the general atmosphere in the room was one that filled me with calm and luxury. Sunk inside the redbrick structure, this grand room was sandwiched in the middle of the corridor but, once inside, the room could have been set in any 5-star hotel.

The feeling of gratitude was strongest when opening the curtains in the morning and glancing at the hustle of the cityscape below, backgrounded by the beautiful Natural History Museum—this inspired me.



Camino de Santiago Charity Pilgrimage

Alumnus Peter Garner (Geography 1971) walked 500 miles across Spain last year to raise funds for wounded military veterans.

Peter served as an officer in The Light Infantry after graduating. He walked the pilgrims' Way of St James from the French Pyrenees to Santiago de Compostela for Care for Casualties, which looks after wounded veterans of his former regiment. His journey took 32 days (including his 68th birthday) through Navarre, Leon and Castile to Galicia, walking between 12 and 24 miles each day. "I hoped to raise £5,000" Peter says: "Nearly 200 people sponsored me and I actually raised £7,800."

Alumni Crypto Terrorist Takedown

In August 2020, the US Department of Justice announced the dismantling of two terrorist financing campaigns, resulting in the largest ever seizure of cryptoassets belonging to terrorist organisations. These campaigns have previously been identified and reported by Elliptic, a company founded by two Keble alumni, Dr Tom Robinson (BA, DPhil Physics 1999) and Dr James Smith (DPhil Computer Science 2006).

The two terrorist groups, al-Quassam Brigades and al-Qaeda, used mostly social media to solicit donations in bitcoin before laundering the money through crypto exchange services. Back in April 2019, Elliptic had already traced bitcoins from a Hamas terrorist financing campaign and, by using network analysis, they were able to map out the network of fund movements, ultimately assisting the authorities to dismantle these campaigns.

Elliptic's cryptoasset compliance software is now used by hundreds of businesses around the world, including major banks and asset managers, and is helping to drive mainstream adoption of this new asset class.



Advocate General Appointment

Congratulations to Keith Stewart QC (English 1983), who has been appointed to the post of Advocate General for Scotland on 15 October 2020, and granted a life peerage, with the title of Lord Stewart of Dirleton. Keith was called to the Bar in 1993 and took silk in 2011. He specialises in criminal law, and has advised in other matters, including defamation and intellectual property.

More details and booking information online at **www.keble.ox.ac.uk/events**



12-17 April

Meeting Minds Global 2021

The Oxford Alumni Office is bringing the global alumni community together for a series of exciting and innovative talks on a diverse range of topics, including an inside look into the COVID-19 vaccine lab with Professor Sarah Gilbert; insight into the rhetoric of the Ming era with Professor Tian Yuan Tan; a sustainability panel exploring the big ideas that Oxford scientists are working on; and how to monitor penguins in the Antarctic.

Content will be streamed live across four time zones. You can register here. Tickets are £10 for the week.



Thursday 13 May Keble Conversations

Join us for our new event series, bringing together two experts from the Keble community for a conversation in their specialist field. Includes Q&A.

For our inaugural event,

'Communicating statistics in the age of COVID', we are pleased to have Professor Sir David Spiegelhalter, OBE FRS (1971), Chair of the Winton Centre for Risk and Evidence Communication in the Centre for Mathematical Sciences, Cambridge, and Professor Sir Adrian Smith FRS, Honorary Fellow, Institute Director and Chief Executive of the Turing Institute. You can register here.

Enquiries to alumni.events@keble.ox.ac.uk

6 June-31 July Keble People Digital Campaign

An extended 'virtual' birthday (pacing ourselves as Keble will be 151 after all!). Featuring Keble students, alumni and the magic of participation.

Online and on social media.

Live from the Chapel

Follow the <u>Chapel YouTube</u> <u>channel</u> for live-streamed events, including Sung Eucharists, Evensong, Compline and special services.

The Chapel has been streaming since Trinity 2020, and you can access all past recordings on the channel.



Alumni Events from September 2021

The past year has been a difficult one for so many. We had to cancel all our in-person events, including a lot of anniversary celebrations, and moved as many others as possible online.

With the easing of the lockdown and potential easing of social restrictions by the summer, we are now turning our attention to planning in-person events in College and elsewhere as soon as it is possible to do so safely.

We are hoping to be able to invite alumni groups for the **September Reunion** on **17–18 September** to coincide with the Oxford Meeting Minds event.

We will keep you updated with the developments, and look forward to welcoming you back to College soon.

Your Data

We've updated our Privacy Notice for alumni, donors and friends to make it easier for you to understand how we process your personal data. Our new Privacy Notice aims to more clearly describe how we collect your data, how and why we use it, and, most importantly, your rights and choices. You can view our Privacy Notice at https://www.keble.net/privacy-notice.

If you would like to request a hard copy or if you have any questions about our privacy notice or about your personal data, or if you want to provide updates to your data and make any changes to your communication preferences, please contact: The Data Manager, Alumni and Development Office, Keble College, Oxford, OX1 3PG. Email: dev.off@keble.ox.ac.uk Tel: 01865 282303



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Keble College Alumni group



Alumni group and Entrepreneurs group



@keblealumni

Contacts

Alumni and Development Office Keble College Parks Road Oxford OX1 3PG

www.keble.ox.ac.uk/alumni dev.office@keble.ox.ac.uk alumni@keble.ox.ac.uk Jenny Tudge (Director of Development) jenny.tudge@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 272794)
Camilla Matterson (Deputy Director of Development) camilla.matterson@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 282506)
Veronika Kovacs (Alumni Relations Manager) veronika.kovacs@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 282338)
Philip Clarke (Data Manager) philip.clarke@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 282303)
Boriana Boneva (Communications Manager) boriana.boneva@keble.ox.ac.uk



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Editing and design by Boriana Boneva (Communications Manager). Proofreading by Les Hearn (1968).

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