



# **London Street**

## **United Reformed Church**

**BASINGSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE RG21 7NU  
and  
TADLEY (OLD MEETING) URC**



**FOCUS**  
**June, 2017**

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

Tel: 01256 477070

Website - [www.basingstokeurc.org.uk](http://www.basingstokeurc.org.uk)

## **MINISTER:**

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## **CHURCH SECRETARY:**

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## **Tadley (Old Meeting) URC**

10.00am Prayer Time followed by Worship at 10.30  
every Sunday

“TASTE” Youth Event at 7pm at the Point (behind the Community  
Centre)

### **Minister:**

Revd Kay Blackwell

### **Church Secretary:**

Paul Gross  
22 Pelican Road, Pamber Heath RG26 3EN  
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### **Treasurer:**

Mark Ward  
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# View from the Manse

***Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'* (Matthew 28: 18-20)**

What is mission? This was a question we were asked at the recent Elders' away day and as we are now embarking on the ecumenical 'Who Cares?' Mission, it seems fitting that we **all** consider this question.

The Lord has Kingdom authority; it tells us so in this scripture shown above. We are sent by Jesus, it is He who appoints us. God sent Jesus into the world and God sends the Holy Spirit into us as we accept Jesus. We have a Missio Dei, often translated as the *God of Mission* but can also be translated as a '*Sending God*'. '*Sending*' is not past, sending is ongoing and it is part of God's nature. Therefore, we are sent. Australian Missiologist, Mike Frost, says Missio Dei - though often translated as '*God of Mission*' - should actually be read '*Missioning God*'. So mission is an aspect of God's Character; therefore, God goes out amongst church and community. We, as Disciples of Christ, need to develop this mission focus to **all** that we do, we shouldn't just **do** church and then add mission. Mission is part of our DNA as Christians. We are a 'Christ Community' sent into the wider community to bless, with our Christ-like presence, our Christ light and Christ wisdom.

So Jesus sent his disciples and sends us to be His representatives on Earth. But Jesus said '*I will be with you*', so do not get distracted by the things of this world and allow earthly concerns to blot out heaven. We must stay focused. Jesus is with us as we go out in His name.

In Luke 10, as Jesus sent out the seventy two disciples, he also said '*The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few*'. Don't be overwhelmed, the physical harvest is great and physically the numbers of workers may seem ridiculously few, but spiritually we are strong. We have after all, a sending God who promises to be our strength.

Mission is the very heartbeat of why Jesus has called us and he will be with us as we do his work. We may at times have doubts; doubts about whether we are capable and doubts about whether Jesus is really

guiding us, but that's OK. Just don't let doubts overwhelm you or distract you. Being sent out may not feel very comfortable, in fact, it definitely won't feel comfortable at first, but we must always keep our eyes on why we are doing it. It is for our Lord, for it is He who has sent us.

We live in times where many think Christian faith is irrelevant at best, or wrong and potentially threatening at worst. However, we do still have religious freedom. The worst that would happen is someone being verbally anti-Christian, but if we truly go out clothed in the spirit, this is a pretty rare negative encounter. Thankfully, unlike many places in the world, we are not under physical threat for our beliefs. Perhaps for us the thing that holds us back most, is a deep seated fear of rejection or offence to others. Let's unpack these feelings. Who are we worried about offending? If our mission is truly of God, then we need to keep our eyes firmly fixed on the Kingdom of God not on earthly concerns. The Kingdom of God is God's mission and to reject God's mission is to reject God's very self. Fear of rejection is worrying more about ourselves than taking Christ's love out into the world. Self-preservation is the driver of fear, if we believe in Jesus then we need to believe that he is with us and, therefore, we have nothing to fear.

We **need** to tell people that through Jesus, the Kingdom of God has come near. There is an urgency to mission. When Jesus returns, he comes to judge. Are we ready for that judgement? Have we truly lived our lives as Jesus has commissioned us to do - going, making disciples and baptising in His name? Have we blessed our neighbours, friends and communities with the good news of Jesus' saving grace? Have we loved our community enough to lay down our self-centredness so that others might live in hope of heaven too? We need to ask ourselves if we have really shown our community a glimpse of God's kingdom.

The Who Cares? Mission will have been launched on 4<sup>th</sup> June. In this first '*listening*' phase we will be asking people to anonymously take part in a one question survey. We will, through this, find out what is hurting people most in their lives. From the responses we receive, we hope then to hone the work we are already doing and consider if there is anything more we can effectively provide to meet their deepest needs. Please pray for and take an active part in this survey (*Joy Williams is coordinating our prayer initiative during this mission*). This Mission is for all of us.

Blessings from your sister in Christ, Kay.



**CIRCLE OF PRAYER:**

Please remember the following in your prayers, together with their families, friends, carers, doctors, nurses:

**Short Term:** Elena Blackwell (niece of Andrew and Kay); Sally Friday; Richard, Antonia, Grace and Zach Holland (Claire Macro's family in Canada); Louise Holmes; Claire Macro; Pam Ralph; Doina Rasnita; Hyacinth Ridguard; Mary Silver; David Waller; family of Marion Willie.

**Long Term:** Annette Bowers (daughter of Sheila Munro); Beverley Cantwell and her daughter, Caroline; Eric Clucas; Christine and Ron Holt; Ron and Rosemary Martin; Maggie Morgans and family; Patterson family; Helen Rolton; Molly Shaw; Fay Spurr; Les and Iris Wenham; Sarah Williams; Katherine Witts (daughter of Sarah Williams)

- • • • •
- It is with great sadness that we report the following: •
- Our good friend, Marion Willie, passed away peacefully on 13<sup>th</sup> May. •
- Please remember Marion, her family and friends in your prayers. Service of •
- Thanksgiving in the Church on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> June at 11.30am and •
- 1.15pm at the Crematorium for the service of Committal. •
- and •
- Mrs Marian Kenward, mother to our minister, Revd Kay Blackwell, passed •
- away on Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May,. Our thoughts and prayers are very much with •
- Kay, her husband Andrew and daughters, Alma, Megan and Evelyn •
- • • • •

**Daily Bible Readings for June:**

	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>New Testament</u>		<u>Psalm</u>	<u>New Testament</u>		
1 <sup>st</sup>	68: 28-35	Romans	13	17 <sup>th</sup>	41	Reflection	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	145	"	14	18 <sup>th</sup>		"	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	38	Reflection		19 <sup>th</sup>	72	Philippians	3
4 <sup>th</sup>		"		20 <sup>th</sup>	150	"	4
5 <sup>th</sup>	69	Romans	15	21 <sup>st</sup>	1	Colossians	1
6 <sup>th</sup>	146	"	16	22 <sup>nd</sup>	108	"	2
7 <sup>th</sup>	107	Ephesians	1	23 <sup>rd</sup>	2	"	3
8 <sup>th</sup>	70	"	2	24 <sup>th</sup>	42	Reflection	
9 <sup>th</sup>	147	"	3	25 <sup>th</sup>		"	
10 <sup>th</sup>	40: 1-8	Reflection		26 <sup>th</sup>	73: 21-28	Colossians	4
11 <sup>th</sup>		"		27 <sup>th</sup>	90	Philemon	1
12 <sup>th</sup>	71: 1-13	Ephesians	4	28 <sup>th</sup>	111	Luke	1
13 <sup>th</sup>	148	"	5	29 <sup>th</sup>	3	"	2
14 <sup>th</sup>	40: 9-17	"	6	30 <sup>th</sup>	112	"	3
15 <sup>th</sup>	71: 14-24	Philippians	1				
16 <sup>th</sup>	149	"	2				

# Prayer Focus

**Numbers 6: V22-27** *The Lord said to Moses “Tell Aaron and his sons, “This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them:*

*“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace”*

I used to think that to say “God Bless you” was a bit presumptuous and a bit shallow, rather like a comedian finishing his act and saying “God bless you” as he walks off stage.

Yet we speak God’s blessing into people’s lives quite often; think of saying ‘The Grace’ to one another or the above blessing from the Old Testament, or “The peace of the Lord be with you” in the communion service.

In the above text Aaron and his sons, as priests, are instructed to bless the people, and so we too as believers have that authority. To bless in God’s name is to bring His presence into people’s lives, to open up the possibilities of all that God can do and be for them. It isn’t to know what or how He will affect their lives; that is up to Him for He knows that person so well and what their needs are. What happens is between Him and them.

In general, our action is in a way introducing them to God, like at a party and then leaving them to it. But maybe if there are specific concerns that someone has. From our knowledge of the Bible and our own experience we know that God desires so much goodness for people. It is then that we can “In Jesus name, bless them to know His ‘provision’, ‘healing’, ‘peace’, ‘forgiveness’, ‘direction’, ‘grace’, ‘faith’.

It is a joy to speak God’s blessing into people’s lives, even if it is silently as we walk towards a stranger on the street or consider our neighbours.

And so I leave you with this blessing: “I bless you in Jesus name to know his love and peace in your heart and to be open to all that He has to show you.”

If you would like to know more about the possibility of blessings please have a word with Joy Williams.



## Flower Rota - June

- 4<sup>th</sup> Val McKenzie
- 11<sup>th</sup> Phyllis Birchmore
- 18<sup>th</sup> Alison Jamieson
- 25<sup>th</sup> Wedding

Anyone wishing to help with the flower arranging or by donating towards the cost of the Church Flower Decorations, please contact Liz Lindsay.

Thank you.

## Happy Birthday

*Helen Rolton, 88 years on 7<sup>th</sup> June*

*Iris Brixton, 90 years on 9<sup>th</sup> June*

*Eileen Poulter, 89 years on 25<sup>th</sup> June*



## You're Invited!

**On July 23<sup>rd</sup> Maggie Morgans is hosting the church Garden Party in her beautiful garden at 107A Cliddesden Road**

Everyone is invited to come along and share the fun. Why not bring a friend too or maybe somebody from your family.

We would really appreciate donations of cake or scones. Please would you let me know by 9<sup>th</sup> July if you are able to help? There will be a list to which you can add your name if you can help.

Please tell me which kind of cake you can give.

Just chat to me after worship if you need more information.

We look forward to seeing you there.

*Jenny McCloy*



# Toilet Twinning

The Elders would like to encourage you to take part in this scheme. It is a simple, quirky way to solve a serious problem and save lives.

Can you imagine what it would be like if you had no toilet in your house? Or if there were no public toilets when you're out and about?

Toilet Twinning helps to fund the work of the international relief and development agency, Tearfund. Our donation would be used towards providing clean water, basic sanitation and hygiene education. This vital combination works together to prevent the spread of disease. Children are healthier and able to go to school, parents are well enough to work their land and grow enough food to feed their families.

Family by family, community by community, nation by nation Tearfund is flushing away poverty! ☺

**Here are a few disturbing facts:** This information is taken from the website [www.toilettwinning.org](http://www.toilettwinning.org) where you can find out more.

## Did you know?

One child dies every 2 minutes from diseases caused by not having a proper loo or access to clean water. (Water Aid)

Globally, 31% of schools do not have access to clean water and 34% lack adequate toilets. (UNICEF)

Every minute a new-born baby dies from an infection caused by a lack of safe water and an unclean environment. (World Health Organisation 2015)

In 47 countries, less than half the population has a proper toilet. (WHO)

For every pound invested in water sanitation there is a £4-30 return in the form of reduced health care costs for individuals and society round the world. (UN)

**Toilet twinning involves donating £60 to sponsor a toilet – and we would get a photograph of a latrine in a country of our choice and GPS coordinates so that we could view it. Of course our donation would be part of Tearfund's greater work.**

**The Elders would like to invite you to come to worship on 2<sup>nd</sup> July dressed in something blue – it will be our 'Go Blue for a Loo Day' – and we would ask you to donate £1 towards the cost of a loo.**

**Please help if you can!** Have a word with me if you need any more information about 'Go Blue for a Loo' Sunday.

**Jenny McCloy**





# The CAP Money Course is running at the London Street URC.

## budget. save. spend.

The **CAP Money Course** is a free, revolutionary money management course that teaches people budgeting skills and a simple, cash-based system that really works. This course might be for you or you might want to recommend it to family or friends. It will help you prioritise the things that are important to you, manage any debt that you have, live well within your means and save for your future.

The **CAP Money Course** is simple, flexible and effective; the three-session course, complete with DVD tutorials, includes:

1. Building a budget using an online tool: You'll take a good look at where your finances are right now and use this information to build your own balanced, sustainable budget. Our free, online tool makes the process simple and gives you clarity around your budget immediately!
2. Implementing the **CAP Money** system: This system will simplify your accounting and help make your budget work day-to-day. It operates using three accounts for your money: a regular payments account, a cash account and a savings account.
3. Learning to live on cash: By putting away the credit cards and spending only the cash you have budgeted for week-to-week, you'll see how you really can get your finances under control.
4. Ongoing support: Each session is facilitated by trained **CAP Money Coaches** who are there to answer your questions, help you build your budget and brainstorm ways to earn more, spend less and save for the future!

What some people who have been on the **CAP Money Course** said:

"The nicest part of learning the **CAP Money Course** is that I finally feel like I am in control of the money rather than it being in control of me. The three account system made it so much easier to work out what was going on, and because of it, I have been able to halve my student loan!" – Naomi

“The biggest change that’s come from taking the course is just simply having enough savings for a future. I’ve got enough now for a house, to give away to charities, it’s fantastic! It’s provided me with options.” – Joe

Here at London Street URC we will be hosting a team from Saint Mark’s, Kempshott who will run the **CAP Money Course** over three evening sessions on 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of June. The sessions will run from 7pm until 9pm, are entirely free and the evenings will include a free meal.

You can find out more by watching this video:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PYF18IVFMJk>

You can sign up for the **CAP Money Course** at:  
<http://www.capuk.org/> by entering your Postcode

You can find out more on the **CAP** website or by calling the Parish Office at Saint Mark’s on 01256 840502.

—oOo—

## Christian Aid

Thank  
You

to **everyone** who contributed time, talents and money during Christian Aid Week.

We sold 167 tickets for the Concert on 20th May. The total raised was £1,558.46, all of which will go to Christian Aid. £835 will go towards the humanitarian crisis in East Africa and the balance to overseas aid

elsewhere. Thank you to those in London Street who bought a ticket, contributed to Christian Aid and/or provided fruit juice and biscuits for the refreshments. Your contribution WILL help save so many lives.

This result was also due, in no small measure, to Berkshire Brass, under their Conductor and arranger Dave Richards, to Basingstoke Male Voice Choir and to organist, Peter Dixon, who entertained the audience with a varied instrumental and vocal range of music including traditional, spiritual and ‘golden oldies’. We thank them all for sharing their talents and enthusiasm.

# **FREE** **Puddings and Promises**

**8<sup>th</sup> July, 7.00pm**

**Tadley United Reformed Church,**

**Main Road Tadley**

**for childrens work in Uganda**

**FREE**  
**Entrance...**



**FREE**  
**Puddings...**

***...and an Auction of Useful Promises***

**For more information:-**

**Mark & Julie, mandjward@hotmail.co.uk (0118 970 1125)**

**Paul and Janet, paulg@silchester.org (0118 970 0809)**

**George & Ena georgeandena@gmail.com (01256 8502855)**

**Bring your  
own drinks  
and nibbles**

## FROM THE ARCHIVES –

There is a book in the Church Archives entitled “The Making of a Minister” by the Revd C.T. Follett, B.A. who was Minister at London Street from 1933 to 1938. It contains the text of six Radio Talks broadcast in August, 1960 by the said gentleman in the “Lift Up Your Hearts” series.



The following entitled “The Newsboy” is the first of these Talks:

### THE NEWSBOY

In the street where I lived it sounded like the Charge of the Light Brigade at Balaclava. You could hear it any time between 5.30 and 6.00 in the morning. It was the early morning newspaper van drawn by a galloping horse, one of a team noted for their speed. It raced to the newsagents of our area with the morning papers, and the bundles were thrown off without pause as the van passed the various shops.

I never thought I would get the thrill of riding in that furiously driven van. But I did. When I was ten years old, I got a job as Newsboy at one of the agents served by the van. (I got “in” with the driver and he allowed me to ride on the van and drop off at the shop where I worked.) As it came up the street I’d take a flying leap onto the footboard, land in a heap among the papers and go charging along the roads with them.

I’d got to be at the shop by seven o’clock, get the round done and to school by nine. I did this every morning except Sundays, for a bob a week. Later I took an evening round as well and got one and sixpence. (They were what was called the “good old days”,)

To cover my newspaper round and not be late for school took some doing. The tricks I got up to trying to do it! Mostly I used an iron hoop with a hook attached, to keep me on the run. There was also only one roller skate – my brother had the other! This didn’t pay off because it wasn’t as fast as the hoop. Besides, the shoe on the other foot got all the wear and tear and Mother didn’t care about that.

We boys on a round felt ourselves a cut above the lads with a hawker's licence. They had to shout on the corners and all down the street to get rid of their papers. Common that was and we had our pride. All the same, between you and me, when there was something exciting in the news, we'd get into a quiet street and "holler" for all we were worth - just to show these other fellows that we could if we wanted to. If someone demanded a paper, we'd say all ours were bespoke, and scoot off before we could be asked why we'd been shouting.

It seems a far cry from newsboy to Parson. Yet, it was a good apprenticeship. Now that I'm a Parson, I've got something to shout about. For what does a Parson do if he doesn't "proclaim" the Gospel, and "gospel" means "Good News".

Newsmen are always looking for a "story" and the Gospel is the greatest "story" that ever broke upon the ears of man. What is it? That God is the Sustainer and Upholder of the world had been accepted for centuries. Poets and prophets had declared that God is at work in the realms of nature and history. But the good news of the Gospel went far beyond this. "God has visited and redeemed His people." He had come in person! As Scripture puts it, "God, who at sundry times and divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son". That was new, and it was good news.

This story broke over two thousand years ago, but it is still fresh and exciting news. Every generation needs to hear it. So - I'm still a newsboy. What's new? God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. That is good news for you, whoever you are.

## Change of Address -

Mrs Joan Beattie has moved to  
11 Hillstead Court, 37 Cliddesden Road  
RG21 3PT Tel; 463986 (as previously)



## Shirley and Marcy

A mother was concerned about her son walking to primary school. He didn't want his mother to walk with him. She wanted to give him the feeling that he had some independence but yet to know that he was safe. So she had an idea of how to handle it. She asked a neighbour if she would please follow him to school in the mornings, staying at a distance so that he probably wouldn't notice her.

The neighbour said that, since she was up early with her toddler anyway, it would be a good opportunity for them to get some exercise as well, so she agreed.

The next school day the neighbour and her little girl set out following behind Timmy as he walked to school with another neighbour's girl whom he knew. She did this for a whole week. As the two children walked and chatted, kicking stones and twigs, Timmy's little friend noticed the same lady was following them every day, all week. Finally she said to Timmy "Have you noticed that lady following us to school all week? Do you know her?"

Timmy nonchalantly replied "Yeah, I know who she is."

The little girl said "Well, who is she?"

"That's just Shirley Goodnest" Timmy replied "and her daughter Marcy".

"Shirley Goodnest? Who the heck is she and why is she following us?"

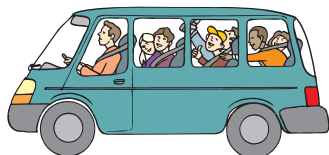
"Well" Timmy explained, "every night my Mum makes me say the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm with my prayers, 'cuz she worries about me so much. And, in the Psalm, it says 'Shirley Goodnest and Marcy shall follow me all the days of my life' so I guess I'll just have to get used to it."

*Anon*

# June Diary

at London Street, unless otherwise stated

Sun	4 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am 10.30am 7.00 pm	Prayer Breakfast led by Mark Best Worship led by The Minister Commissioning Service of 'Who Cares?' project at Winchester Cathedral (by Ticket obtainable free from <a href="http://www.evenbrite.co.uk">www.evenbrite.co.uk</a> )
Wed	7 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Elders' meeting
Sun	11 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Worship led by Meg Nicholson
<b>Deadline for articles for July/August FOCUS</b>			
Wed	14 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	CAP Money Course (see pages 9 and 10)
Thu	15 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm -9.30pm	Safeguarding Training (part 1) at Fleet URC
Sun	18 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Worship, including Holy Communion – led by The Minister
Wed	21 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am -4.30pm 10.15am 7.00pm	Synod Quiet Day at Crowe Hill, Ringwood Methodist Church 3Cs in the Oasis Café - all welcome CAP Money Course (see pages 9 and 10)
Thu	22 <sup>nd</sup>	2.30pm 7-9.30pm	Friendship Hour - 50 <sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration - all welcome Safeguarding Training (part 2) at Fleet URC
Sat	24 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Wedding of David Waller and Louise Holmes
Sun	25 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Worship – led by the Minister
Wed	28 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	CAP Money Course (see pages 9 and 10)



**Saturday 1st July - Synod 'Big Day Out' has been cancelled.**

## Services at Old Meeting, Tadley

Welcome and Coffee Rota

<b>Sun</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>No Service</b>	
Sun	11 <sup>th</sup>	Revd Kay Blackwell	Mandy and Dave
Sun	18 <sup>th</sup>	Penny O'Bea	Ladies Cell Group
Sun	25 <sup>th</sup>	Marianne Needham-Bennett	Brian and Elaine

## Regular Events and Meetings

(at London Street unless otherwise stated)

**The Sanctuary is open for prayers every weekday from 9.30 to 10am and again from 12.15 to 12.30pm**

### *Mondays:*

10am-1.30pm OASIS Café in the Concourse  
10.15am Craft Group  
2.30-4pm HOME GROUP normally at 39 New Road:  
prayer time, Bible exploration and fellowship  
3-5.30pm in Youth Café for secondary school and  
Term Time college students

### *Tuesdays:*

10am-1.30pm OASIS Café in the Concourse  
10am-12 noon 'LITTLE ANGELS' pre-school Club (Term time)  
3-5.30pm in Youth Café for secondary school and  
Term Time college students  
5.45pm (BEAVER SCOUTS — 8<sup>th</sup> Basingstoke Colony)  
7pm (CUB SCOUTS — 8<sup>th</sup> Basingstoke Pack)  
7pm (SCOUTS — 8<sup>th</sup> Basingstoke Troop)  
7-8.00pm PRAYER MEETING at **Tadley URC or St Paul's**

### *Wednesdays:*

10am-1.30pm OASIS Café in the Concourse  
10.30-12 noon MEMORY TREE SOCIAL CLUB  
10.15-11.30am 3Cs **on 3rd Wednesday of each month**  
12.15pm Lunch time worship and prayer meeting  
3-5.30pm in Youth Café for secondary school and  
Term Time college students

### *Thursdays:*

10am-1.30pm OASIS Café in the Concourse  
9.30-11.30am TADLEY LITTLE ANGELS in the Immanuel Centre  
10-11.30am CCBBies Parent and Toddler Group at Christ Church,  
Chineham  
2.30-3.30pm FRIENDSHIP HOUR — **4th Thursday of each month**  
3-6pm in Youth Café for secondary school and  
Term Time college students

### *Fridays:*

8-9.30pm TGIF Youth Club at **Christ Church, Chineham**

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