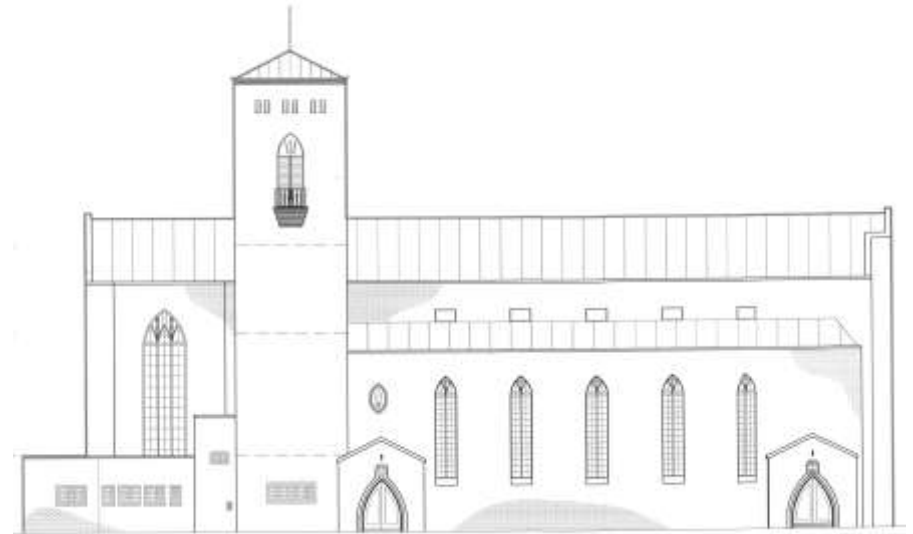


50 Pence



August 2013

The Trident



The Parish Magazine of


ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE
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ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
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CHURCH OF ENGLAND

WE DO HOPE THAT YOU WILL FEEL WELCOME TO COME TO OUR SERVICES

SUNDAY

8.00 AM HOLY COMMUNION (BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER SERVICE)
10.00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL (TERM TIME AND NOT 2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH)
10.00 AM PARISH COMMUNION
6.30 PM EVENING PRAYER (BCP)
CHORAL EVENSONG FOR SPECIAL FESTIVALS (PLEASE SEE NOTICEBOARD FOR DETAILS)

WEEKDAY CELEBRATIONS OF HOLY COMMUNION

TUESDAY 12 NOON
WEDNESDAY 2PM
LAST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH 7.30PM

MORNING PRAYER

8.00 AM MONDAY TO FRIDAY (9.30 A.M SATURDAY)

EVENING PRAYER

DAILY 5.00 PM (EXCEPT SATURDAY AND SUNDAY)

PEOPLE OF ALL FAITHS, OR NO FAITH AT ALL, ARE WELCOME AT ANY OF OUR SERVICES. THOSE WHO ARE FULL MEMBERS OF THEIR OWN CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONS ARE WELCOME TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION IN ST. THOMAS'S.

REGULAR MEETINGS

MONDAY	12.30 PM	HANWELL HOMELESS CONCERN
	4.45 PM	RAINBOW GUIDES
	6.00 PM	BROWNIES
TUESDAY	5.30 PM	BEAVERS
	6.30PM	CUBS
WEDNESDAY		11.00AM - 12.30PM
	10.30AM	MOTHER AND BABY/TODDLER GROUP
	7.30PM	STUDY GROUP & COMPLINE (FIRST WED OF EACH MONTH)
THURSDAY	7.00 PM	GUIDES
FRIDAY	10.30 - 12 NOON	'POP-IN'
	7.00 PM	SCOUTS (AT 'THE WARREN' TRUMPERS WAY)
	7.00 PM	CHOIR

FOR MORE INFORMATION LOG ONTO OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.THOMASHANWELL.ORG.UK

PLEASE E-MAIL US AT st.thomas.office@btinternet.com



From our Vicar

Dear Friends

On 4th August the western Church remembers Jean-Baptiste Vianney. Jean Vianney started off life as a shepherd and then began training as a priest. He was not the finest Seminarian ever, taking 9 years to complete his training. This disproportionately long training period was

due to Jean Vianney's inability to pass his Latin course. Also, he spent a year longer than necessary because he spent a year hiding from the authorities in order to avoid conscription into Napoleon's army. Eventually, the bishop farmed him out to a small rural parish where he couldn't do much harm, and he remained there for 40 years.

Yet this academic under achiever, National Service shirker, and unambitious priest went on to become the patron saint of priests. He is probably one of the earliest saints I was aware of, being captivated by the statue of him above an altar at the Shrine Church of Our Lady of Walsingham (apparently **he has recently been 'touched-up'**).

St Jean Vianney, perhaps more famously known as the Cure d'Ars, is not only an inspiration to priests, but the whole of the Church. Once in that unobtrusive parish he simply preached the gospel, celebrated the Eucharist and heard confessions. Yet his impact was such that the government authorities had to build a train line from Paris to Ars-en-Dombes to cope with the hundreds of thousands who visited to hear and see him.

Jean Vianney's life is a reminder that good news of Jesus Christ does not prosper with gimmicks, but with faithfulness. Sometimes this faithfulness **grows in remarkable ways touching thousands of lives as in St Jean's life, but mostly faithfulness touches only those around us.** That is more the reality of life. This is a God who can take the ordinary and transform it for extraordinary good.

As a parish Church we are called to be faithful in the simple things (prayer, the Eucharist, reading the bible, loving God and neighbour). As a parish **Church we are also called to seek God's will for our lives as his hands and feet in Hanwell, but also as individuals.**

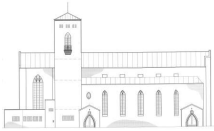
Many by now will know that Sophie Schuil-Brewer offered herself for **training for the priesthood, but was given a 'not yet' response. As those who have journeyed with her, we have in some small way shared in the pain of that decision as we question, wrestle and try to discern the future.** This is not the forum to unpack in detail that personal story, but it is to ask the wider question of what is God asking of us.

That becomes a shared journey (Christianity is about communion with each

other and God), and a challenging one. As individuals, and as a parish, we may not require National Rail Network employees to don their orange vests and pick-axes on the Boston Road, but we should always be ready to welcome those who need to hear words of hope, love and forgiveness. So as we reflect on our call together, may the prayers of that unpromising priest surround us this August.

Enjoy your summer holiday, and may you be refreshed and renewed.

Your friend and priest
Fr Robert



Parish News

I should like to begin this parish news with heartfelt congratulations to Lucie, Pearl, Alex, Everard, Shelley and Kelly, who on our Patronal Festival received the sacrament of Confirmation. This joyous event fell mid-point in a week of celebrations.

The week began with a Choral Evensong which as ever meant our choir aided our devotional life reflecting our shared calling to point to Jesus as Lord and God. The choir and Michael worked extremely hard that week and deserve our deep thanks.

The Patronal Festival Day itself went very well and we were blessed in having Bishop Pete with us as a reminder that the Church of God is a partnership in the good news. We are thus, the Church apostolic and catholic.

That unity was displayed again, very differently, a few days later in the Vicarage Gardens as we hosted our first Garden Party. From the putting up of the first gazebo to the eating of the last BBQ-ed sausage it was a wonderful day and night. Do look at the photos on the website and flickr link (<http://thomashanwell.org.uk/news/entry/vicarage-garden-party-and-bbq-fun-in-the-sun/>).

Our Sunday Parish Mass was the culmination of our celebrations and was marked by a Solemn Eucharist followed by drinks in the Vicarage Gardens. Can I say a huge thank you to all who helped in big and small ways. It meant that we as a family could enjoy it as much as we hope everyone else did. Having cited the website (<http://thomashanwell.org.uk/>) above can I encourage you to have a look at it if you have not done so already. Also, if you have any ideas for its progression, do let me know.

Perhaps one of the biggest news items of the year is that Sian Bowles-Bevan has kindly agreed to direct, wait for it, drum-roll..... **our January 2014 Panto!!!!** This is wonderful news and already a number of people are on

board. At the point of writing this I do not have full details, but two things will be a feature. First, the age range of those involved will be widened to hopefully incorporate, in some way, those who would like to be involved. Second, the rehearsals will not take place in a solid 2 week block before the show, but be much more spread out.

The Panto is a hugely popular and important part of St Thomas life so please be ready to have your arm gently twisted for the event. Please look out for further details over the next few weeks.

Last but not least a very belated thank to all who delivered and collected Christian Aid envelopes this year. We collected over £1000, so thank you all so much.



Prayer for the month of August

Almighty God, from whom all good things come, protect and bless all who, released from their daily tasks, are enjoying the rest and refreshment of their annual holiday; grant that, renewed in body and spirit, they may return home better able to serve you and their fellow man. Through Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen



From the Editors

We hope you all have a lovely break during the summer. Things are quite quiet during August, so enjoy your holidays.

July & Aug

Copy date for the September Trident will be Sunday 11th August
Copy date for the October Trident will be Sunday 8th September
Copy date for the November Trident will be Sunday 13th October

The opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Church, the Vicar, the Editors or of the PCC. The editors reserve the right to edit items sent in for publication.

The photograph of Father Robert on page 3 is reproduced by kind permission of Stephen Brooks. www.stephenbrooksphotography.com



St Thomas's Panto 2014

Oh no there isn't.....

Oh yes there is!!!!

Following on from our plea for help last month, we at St Thomas's are delighted to be able to announce that there will be a pantomime in January 2014.

We had a very encouraging meeting in the vicarage garden last month which was very well attended. The upshot of this is that we now have a dedicated team of people who will work with our cast.

We'll have more details in future editions, but for now, if you're 7 or over and would like to be in the panto (although if you're under 11, you'll have to find a parent to stay with you at rehearsals), please email me, (Sue Cunningham) Sian Bowles Bevan or the Vicar. All our addresses are on the back of this magazine.

Of course, panto isn't all about the actors, so if you'd like to get to grips with a hammer and make some scenery, or fancy helping with the stage crew, or with front of house or the numerous other jobs that need doing (down to someone to put the kettle on for the endless cups of tea that get drunk) then we'd love to hear from you too.

We're trying hard to spread the workload, so that lots of people have a small amount to do rather than a few people having to do lots of things. The more people we have, the more fun it is for everyone too. So do contact us to find out more - an initial enquiry doesn't mean you're committed!

Service at St Paul's Cathedral in June, celebrating Capital Vision 2020

As my first time as churchwarden, I was very lucky that the admission **service this year was at St Paul's. It is a truly magnificent building both in terms of its scale and the majesty of its glittering decorations and paintings, which have in recent years been wonderfully restored. I don't think I have been part of such a large congregation before, and the level of sound from the hymn singing was a great experience. There was a lovely range and variety of music, which was refreshing, and included Twyford School Gospel Choir, with our own Saul Gilbert, they sang so well in such an awesome venue.**

The Cathedral was full and it gave me such a sense of how we at St Thomas are part of a bigger picture, that of a church present in every part of London, from the poorest to the richest areas. We heard testimony of how its work is transforming lives, particularly the lives of young people, through innovative projects in the creative arts for example. Church schools are growing and successful, with student numbers up by more than 5000 in the last 5 years, so there is a lot to celebrate.

The Capital Vision of 2020 of the Diocese of London asks us to listen and reflect on the times we live in and to respond, to be more purposeful and imaginative. We are all asked to help build a church for London that is confident, compassionate and creative.

Gill Shaw

Keep cool with cucumber sandwiches

If you get hot this month, reach for a cucumber sandwich, washed down with beer or tea. All three have been found to help keep you cool in hot weather. Bear in mind that ice water or other chilled drink and food will not help – the extremely cold food or drink chills your stomach, but sends into shock other parts of the body, so that they do not operate as effectively. Hot drinks are actually recommended on hot days – the **tannins in tea (and wine) are cooling agents. Ice cream doesn't help, but curry does.** Bear in mind that fruit and vegetables with high water content are particularly good in hot weather. This study was done by the American Chemical Society.

August's Saint

In the priest's vestry there is a banner of the Lady Chapel Statue by Vernon Hill. The Banner simply says, *St Thomas the Apostle, Hanwell Mother's Union*. This banner points to a time when nearly every parish had a Mother's Union. Those days may have gone, but the influence of the Mother's Unions world-wide influence is as strong as ever. Here is a piece about its founder, Mary Sumner from *Saints on Earth* 2004.



9th August Mary Sumner, Founder of the Mothers' Union, 1921

Mary Heywood was born in 1828 at Swinton near Manchester. The family moved to Hope End in Herefordshire and Mary was educated at home by her parents. In 1848, she married a young curate, George Sumner, son of the Bishop of Winchester.

In 1851 George became Rector of Old Alresford in Hampshire. For many years busy bringing up her three children, Mary became more and more concerned about family life and the fact that mothers received no particular support from the Church. In 1876 she began holding 'Mothers' Union'

meetings in the parish, aiming to unite mothers of all social classes in bringing up their children in the Christian faith. Baptism and parental example were its two basic principles. At first a purely parochial organization, it eventually grew into an international concern, encouraging the ideal of a Christian home. This process began in 1885 when Mary made a speech at a conference in Portsmouth which gave rise to the Mothers' Union as a national organization. It enjoyed remarkable and rapid growth and in time grew from an organization in one parish to a world-wide society. Today, with over one million members, it is committed to supporting the family and is based on five objects:

- To uphold Christ's teaching on the nature of marriage and to promote its wider understanding;
- To encourage parents to bring up their children in the faith and life of the Church;
- To maintain a world-wide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service;
- To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children;
- To help those whose family life has met with adversity.

Mary Sumner died on 11th August (however, a mix up with the date means that her memorial falls on the 9th!) in Winchester in 1921.

Mary Sumner's Prayer:

O Lord, fill us with thy Holy Spirit, that we may firmly believe in Jesus Christ, and love him with all our hearts. Wash our souls in his precious blood. Make us to hate sin and to be holy in thought, word and deed. Help us to be faithful wives and loving mothers. Bless us and all who belong to the Mothers' Union; unite us in love and prayer and teach us to train our children for heaven. Pour out thy Holy Spirit on our husbands and children. Make our homes, homes of peace and love and, may we so live on earth, that we may live with thee for ever in heaven; for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Did you hear about the skeleton who went into a bar and ordered a pint of beer and a mop?

News from the Guides

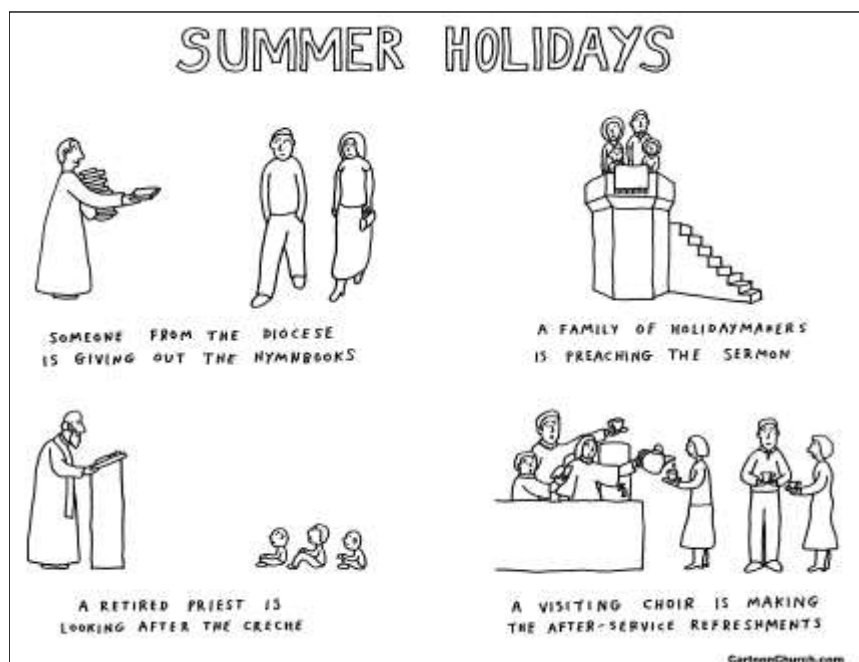
Over the past half term at Guides our patrol has been working on a "Go For It" called Communicate. Writing this for the church magazine is one of the activities we chose to do. Another thing we did was making balloon rockets. We put a thick straw onto a long piece of string that was attached to chairs on opposite sides of the hall. We blew up a balloon and taped it to the straw, then we put a message on the balloon and let it go. As the air came out of the balloon it sent the balloon shooting across the room along the string. It was fun.

We have learnt some computer terms and now we understand better what a modem and a CPU are. We had a very important discussion about internet safety. We know that we should never "communicate" with unknown pixcellated people on the computer.

The other patrols have been doing other Go For Its. One did Chocolate and one did Grrreen (which is all about the environment)

We will miss Guides over the Summer

from the Bumblebees Patrol



Going abroad?

Don't rely on free card for insurance in Europe

In this top holiday month [August] many travellers will unwittingly risk big **medical bills because they rely on the UK's free European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)** for medical cover.

While the EHIC is a must-have for travellers within Europe, a recent survey showed that nearly half (47 per cent) of British holidaymakers in the survey believed that the card entitles them to emergency medical care free or at reduced cost throughout the European Economic Area (EEA) (a small number even believed that the cover is worldwide). Treatment may be provided free or at reduced cost in all 27 members of the European Union (EU) plus Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein. Turkey is not a member of the EU or the EEA, so is not covered.

However, the provision of state care varies from country to country and does not mean that you can expect to be treated as you would if you visited your UK doctor or hospital. For example, in France a patient may be expected to pay for a consultation with a doctor but might recover this cost later. A patient may also be expected to contribute to the cost of an overnight stay in hospital.

Also, in the event of an emergency there is no guarantee that an ambulance will take you to a state hospital and many of the smaller hospitals or clinics on the continent are privately run. The research suggests that nearly one in ten Britons believe that having an EHIC means that if they are seriously ill they will be flown home by air ambulance for free. According to one insurance company the cost of flying one seriously ill British holidaymaker home from the Canary Islands by air ambulance was nearly £23,000.

Jeremy Cryer, head of travel insurance at Gocompare.com, says that an **EHIC is an essential card to carry with you in Europe, but it's no substitute** for traditional travel insurance providing medical cover and repatriation if necessary.

31st August John Bunyan – the man who wrote *Pilgrim's Progress*

After the Bible, John Bunyan's wonderful Christian allegory, the *Pilgrim's Progress*, is one of the most celebrated and widely-read books in the English language. It has been translated into more than one hundred languages around the world and keeps its place as a Christian classic.

Names of people and places from its pages have been commonplace wherever English is spoken. We need only recall Mr Great-Heart, Mr Valiant-for-Truth, Giant Despair, Madame Bubble, the Slough of Despond, Vanity Fair, the Delectable Mountains, the Hill Difficulty and the Celestial City.

Bunyan was born on 28 November 1628, at Elstow, near Bedford, England, of a poor family. He had little formal education and his father taught him to be a metal worker. His first wife died young. His second wife, Elizabeth, helped him considerably with his blossoming literary career. His conversion was the result of reading the Bible, and the witness of local Christians. From that time the Bible became the great inspiration of his life. He wrote more than fifty books on Christianity. A Baptist by conviction, he had little time for the Established Church.

Bunyan became a popular preacher, but because of his opposition to the Established Church and because he did not have a Church of England preaching licence, he was imprisoned in 1661. It was in prison that he wrote *Pilgrim's Progress*. **It was not only Bunyan's greatest book but was destined to become one of the most popular Christian books in the world.**

Pilgrim's Progress is an allegory, using the names of people and places from the Bible to teach spiritual lessons. The vivid and unforgettable imagery in the *Pilgrim's Progress* covers the whole Christian gospel from sin and condemnation all the way through faith, repentance, grace, justification, sanctification, and perseverance to heaven itself.

Bunyan died on 31 August 1688. His portrayal of the death of Mr Valiant For Truth is Bunyan at his allegorical best. This brave old soldier of Jesus **Christ had received his summons to 'go home.'** **Calling his friends together he says, 'My sword I give to him who shall succeed me in my pilgrimage ...**

My marks and scars I carry with me, to be a witness for me, that I have **fought His battles, Who will now be my rewarder.'** ... **So he passed over,** and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side...



Course in Christian studies (CCS)
CCS is a course that began in the Diocese of Chelmsford in 1987 and since then over 2500 lay people have taken part in it. The first group in the Willesden area began to meet in September 2009. It offers an opportunity to explore Christian life and thought with others. The course meets weekly in term time. Each meeting includes time for prayer and a break for refreshments. With the help of special worksheets, members do some study at home in preparation for discussion in the group the **following week. If you'd like more information,** please speak to Sophie Shuil-Brewer.

Praise

When light creeps in through the
chinks of the door
When the mist ascends from the
mountain floor,
When the ocean shimmers like
burnished ore,
Let me give the praise.

○ God of the morning,
Christ of the hills,
○ Spirit who all the firmament fills,
○ Trinity blest who all goodness
wills,
Keep us all our days.

*From 'Morning',
an ancient Celtic poem*



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Wanted: Donations of good quality household and personal items that you no longer want.

Items needed include: Unwanted heirlooms, antiques, paintings. Ornaments including china, brass and glassware. Jewellery, watches and clocks. Coins, banknotes, stamps and medals. Old games and toys like cars, trains and dolls. Musical instruments, cameras and Sports Memorabilia. Curios etc. All proceeds from their sales will go straight to the Organ Fund!

We can only accept smaller items that can be collected in a car, not furniture. No jumble, clothing or broken items please. For local collection phone David Clarke on **07952 011543** to arrange a timed evening or weekend visit. E-mail David at dclarke@nds.com. If bringing items to the church, please arrange with David Jewell or Michael Mappin to take them from you.

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ORGAN FUND—POTS AND PODS

Since April 2012 we have been collecting
 Actimel pots
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 Shape yoghurt pots
 Kenco Coffee wrappers
 and Tassissimo coffee disks and plastic wrappers
 and have recently added non savoury biscuit wrappers
 This has so far made over £100 for the Organ restoration fund



We also collect and recycle.....

Coffee jar lids
 filter coffee and coffee bean bags
 and individual coffee sachets
 Terracycle recycle these things into shopping bags, plastic dustbins, park benches and similar items.
 If you have any of these items please drop them into the collection boxes in the front porch of the church or in the hall. where you will find collecting boxes on the stairs.



Diary Dates

JULY


28th Sun 9th Sunday after Trinity

AUGUST

4th Sun 10th Sunday after Trinity
 11th Sun 11th Sunday after Trinity
 18th Sun 12th Sunday after Trinity
 25th Sun 13th Sunday after Trinity


SEPTEMBER

1st Sun 14th Sunday after Trinity
 8th Sun 15th Sunday after Trinity
 15th Sun 16th Sunday after Trinity
 22nd Sun 17th Sunday after Trinity
 24th Tues PCC Meeting 8pm
 29th Sun 18th Sunday after Trinity



POP-IN

POP- IN ON FRIDAYS
AT ST THOMAS'S CHURCH HALL
FROM 10.30AM TO 12 NOON



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**MEET YOUR FRIENDS AND MAKE NEW ONES!*
**STAY FOR TEN MINUTES OR THE MORNING!*

August

July 26th—Pop-In open for tea, coffee and cakes.
 The Pop-In will be **CLOSED** during August.
 It will re-open on September 6th.

The POP-IN is run by the Hanwell Neighbourly Care Scheme.

*Baby/Toddler
Group*

CLOSED FOR THE SUMMER!

*Re-opens
 Wednesday 4th
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 10.30am until 11.45am.
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 Free.*

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