



NEWSLETTER

2nd December

Toy and Brownie Parade Service 10.00am

9th December

Christmas Carol Concert with
Rayleigh Salvation Army Brass Band
5.30pm

16th December

Carols by Candlelight 4.00pm

24th December

Crib Service 4.00pm
Midnight Mass 11.30pm



Dec/January 2019

*Wishing you all a Happy
Christmas and New Year*



The Parish Church of St. Nicholas, Rawreth

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Priest-in-Charge | The Revd Richard Jordan, The Rectory, Church Road, Rawreth, Essex SS11 8SH. Telephone: 01268 766565 |
| e-mail: | richard@st-nicholas-rawreth.org.uk |
| web address | http://st-nicholas-rawreth.org.uk |
| Church Wardens | Mrs Heather Love. Telephone: 01268 734970 Mr Chris Powney. Telephone: 01702 527085 |
| Hon. Treasurer | Mr Chris Powney. For enquiries please phone: 01702 527085 |
| Lay Assistants at Holy Communion: | Christine Holmes, Patricia Clarke, Phil Blythe, Eileen Pinkerton and Amanda Pinkerton |
| Magazine Editor | Mrs Christine Holmes. Tel: 01268 781662 |

Our regular service of **Holy Communion** is at 10am each Sunday. All are welcome.
More details may be posted onto our website www.st-nicholas-rawreth.org.uk

Christmas Celebrations at St Nicholas Church

Sunday 2nd December

10.00am St Nicholas Toy Service and Brownie Parade (With Holy Communion)

Today we remember St Nicholas who was known for his generosity: Please bring new toys for distribution (unwrapped) to the needy in the community, all are welcome.

Sunday 9th December

5.30pm Christmas Carol Concert

with Rayleigh Salvation Army Brass Band (Tickets £8)

Sunday 16th December

4.00pm Carols by Candlelight

A service of popular carols and readings for Christmas, all are welcome.

Monday 24th December Christmas Eve

4.00pm Crib Service

A service in which the children assemble our Christmas Nativity Scene and light up our Christmas Tree, all are welcome.

11.30pm Midnight Mass of Christmas

A service of Carols and Holy Communion to welcome the birth of Jesus and mark the beginning of Christmas itself, all are welcome.

Tuesday 25th December - Christmas day

10.00am Holy Communion of Christmas

Sunday 30th December

No Morning Service at St Nicholas

10.30am Deanery Service at Rettendon. We will be joining with churches across Rochford District for a Service of Holy Communion

6.30pm a quiet service of Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer in traditional Language will be held at St Nicholas.



Preparing for a Happy Christmas

In the headteacher's office is a poster; "Excellence is not accidental". It's a motto she clearly works by and I can see it working out through the school. Scary at first but it becomes an exciting adventure and it is great to see children enjoying their adventure of learning.

It occurred to me that I could do with a poster that says something like, "Happy Christmas is not Accidental". It would work at a whole range of levels. I need to get myself organised, I've been working on service planning and rotas for three churches just now. And who knows, this year I might be organised enough to get all my Christmas Cards and gifts sorted calmly and without last minute panic! But it's more than that. A really Happy Christmas run deep.

In a previous parish that I served in, I knew a man who had spent many years caring for his mother who had sever disabilities. His mother died and his was alone. Then Christmas. In previous years he had loved the season of celebrations, carols and parties but this year he couldn't face it. He decided that if he was going to be miserable, and that felt inevitable, he would give his time to making others happy. He got in touch with the Salvation Army in the centre of the town and volunteered to work in the kitchen doing whatever was needed as they gave a Christmas feast to homeless people. I caught up with him a few days later and he was more alive than he had been since his mother died. He told me that, to his amazement, he had had the best Christmas Day ever. Everybody there had had more than enough to be miserable about, there were people who were homeless, hungry, disabled, lonely, but they had all been determined to have a great time together. The party spirit had spread to the kitchen and the sinks and dishwashers where he was working and he had joined in with the party atmosphere. He came home exhausted but deeply happy.

There is a 'golden rule' that runs through all the major faiths, including Christianity, Judaism, Islam, it is the commandment to love your neighbour as yourself. When challenged with the question 'who is my neighbour' he told a story about a Good Samaritan. Jews (Jesus of course was a Jew) and Samaritans hated each other. Not unlike Jews and Arabs or Muslims in the Middle East of today. Jesus would not have won himself many nice Jewish friends with that story! The neighbour is the person we can help whoever they are.

So preparing for a really Happy Christmas might just involve rather more than the usual mad rush to post cards to people we hardly think about for 364 days a year, buy gifts for family and friends and make sure the freezer and fridge are well stocked.

Most of us have commitments that will stop us spending Christmas Day with strangers. I may just be in trouble if I don't turn up for church on Christmas Day! But as part of our Christmas preparations could we do something that will make some stranger smile on Christmas Day, perhaps donate to a foodbank or homeless charity or make an extra donation to an overseas aid charity? We may even take our courage in our hands and invite a lonely neighbour to share the celebrations with us.

There is a verse in the Bible that says

"Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it."

Happy Christmas, may your preparations bring you real joy.

Richard Jordan

*Parish Priest of Rawreth, St Nicholas,
Hullbridge, St Thomas of Canterbury
and Rettendon, All Saints*



St. Nicholas C of E Primary School

Priory Chase, Rayleigh

Essex SS6 9NE

Founded 1873

Headteacher:- Mrs L. Pigram

Tel: 01268 786874 Fax: 01268 786415

E-mail admin@rawreth.essex.sch.uk

Dear Friends

31st October 2018

Today, I had to remove ice from my car for the first time since the beginning of the year. The weather is certainly changing. With the changes, though, bring excitement in the school as we hold Harvest and Remembrance celebrations and prepare for Christmas.

This year, our Christmas Week learning will commence on 13th December 2018 and run until the 19th December 2018. Pupils will be learning about Christianity, specifically the Biblical events surrounding the birth of Christ. They will also learn about beliefs and traditions surrounding the birth of Christ, which may be different to their own, their learning will include how to demonstrate respect for the beliefs of others. We will be looking at how we respectfully question why people hold different beliefs and practices.

We aim to teach our pupils about this through the theme "One world, many beliefs? Or, Many beliefs, one world?" Our pupils will explore this theme through many curriculum areas, including writing, history, geography, PSHE and even science to name but a few. Each class has been given different countries and areas to compare and contrast with British customs and beliefs. Classes will be "travelling" to countries and areas such as Sweden, Russia, Mexico, Eastern Europe and the Holy Land. Lots of preparation is going into this and we are certainly very excited about it.

In addition to the Christmas week preparations, we will, of course, be completing the usual Christingle service, carol service, performance and we will also be performing at Rayleigh Lights. This is certainly a very busy time for all of us but it is one we all thoroughly enjoy!

This year, our Harvest celebration was planned (almost entirely) by our Worship Council. They were ably assisted by Revd. Richard who supported the children to help them to appreciate the different elements of the service. We also received a number of donations for HARP which we put together with the donations from Canewdon Endowed CofE (VC) Primary School. Revd. Richard was given the unenviable task of getting everything into his car to deliver it to HARP! It was lovely to see the children working so enthusiastically and to see them demonstrating such compassion for people whose lives are very different from their own. As a part of this, though, we really do want to say a huge thank you to Revd. Richard for his support. I know the Worship Council are really looking forward to planning their next assembly with him!

Whilst we have been working hard to continue to develop our knowledge and understanding of the events in our local area, wider area and the world (and how they impact us), we have still been working hard on improving the core subjects. We have audited each area and have put together our annual development plans to help us to continue to improve and to offer the best care and education that we can. It's always enjoyable to involve the children in this too. At the start of the year, the children were asked what their vision for the school was. They simply want our school to be "outstanding in every way." This dovetails with our vision for the school, and I have to say, the pupils have identified their own areas for improvement and also offered staff suggestions! It is delightful to be hearing them using the word "outstanding" in everything they do. They were very clear, however, that whilst it is lovely to be externally recognised as being outstanding, they want to feel outstanding. They want to achieve this goal in its widest sense. This vision is certainly something with which we all concur!

We also welcome your views, suggestions and support to help us get there!

Although I am writing this in the middle of the term, I know that you will be reading it nearer its end and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the very best for the season.

Thank you, as ever, for your support of our wonderful school.

Yours faithfully,

L. Pigram

Executive Headteacher.



Parish Council Business

Chairman: Alistir Matthews
Vice-Chairman: Paul Beckers
Clerk: Hayley Bloomfield

Tel and Fax: 01268 784233
Tel: 01268 767614
Tel: 07773 952455

Fly Tipping

There continues to be a lot of fly tipping going on throughout the Parish, but in particular a large amount in Old London Road, including rotten poultry. Could we please ask you all to be vigilant and if you see anyone tipping illegally please take a note of the vehicle registration number, make, model, colour and call or email the Clerk or one of the Parish Councillors with the information. Some of the recent tipping has been extremely dangerous as it has been done on the highway causing partial blockage of the road on unlit roads so we would urge you if you are using any rural roads, or unlit roads to take extra care.

Burglaries

There has been another spate of burglaries and attempted break-ins in the Parish over the last few months, and in the Rayleigh area as a whole. Outbuildings and garages have been targeted as well as homes. Please ensure your properties are secure both during the day and night, ensure outside security lights are working, and doors and windows are locked even when you are at home, please ensure that you correctly lock doors to ensure that all the locks are engaged, lifting the handle into the lock position will not secure the door, the key will need to be used to ensure the locks engage, this applies to most door types so please check that you know how to make sure your property is fully secure. Again we would ask you to remain vigilant and if you see anything suspicious please contact the Police and take down any registration numbers, makes models and colours of any nearby vehicles that you do not recognise. It is imperative that any break-ins are reported to the police regardless of whether anything was stolen as we need to ensure a log of all crime in the Parish is maintained.

Parish Council Vacancy

The Parish Council still has a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. If you feel this is something that would interest you please contact either the Clerk or one of the Parish Council Members who will be happy to talk to you.

Highway defects and local problems.

The Parish Clerk is always more than happy to report

problems around the Parish to the various authorities, however, we would also like to encourage residents to report the problem directly and the best way to do this is via the Fix My Street website or mobile app, or via the Essex County Council website, links for both are show below.

www.fixmystreet.com

www.essex.gov.uk On the right hand side of the home page is a tab titled report it, click on this and you are given various options to report defects. An interactive map is shown which allows you to pinpoint the location, it will also show you if the defect has already been reported and the current position with regards to any action that is being taken. When you have completed your report you will be given a reference number, please keep a note of this number as it will enable you to track the progress of the repair.

Parish Contact Number

07773 952455

Contacts

If any residents have any concerns or questions and they would like to speak to one of our Parish Councillors regarding the LDF, Planning or any other matter their contact details are as follows.

Cllr Alistir Matthews (Chairman)
Telephone 01268 732069

Cllr Paul (Vice Chairman) and Cllr Mrs Mary Beckers
Telephone 01268 767614

Cllr Mrs Susanne Wiltshire
Telephone 01268 781922

Cllr Chris Stanley
Telephone 01268 785732

Cllr Mark Collins
Telephone 07903 998085

District Councillors
Cllr Ron Oatham. Ron@oatham.waitrose.com

Cllr Chris Stanley. chrismstanley@hotmail.co.uk
01268 785732

Cllr Craig Cannell . craigc@onlinefocus.org

Clerk Hayley Bloomfield
Telephone 07773 952455 or email at
clerk.rawrethparishcouncil@btinternet.com



Number for Non Urgent Police Matters

There is a new number for local non urgent police matters, this replaces the old Rayleigh number, the new number is 101 it goes without saying, if it is an emergency always use 999.

Wyvern Community Transport registered Charity 113449

Wyvern Community Transport operates four minibuses in the Rayleigh and Rochford District to transport its members to day centres, medical appointments and recreational activities. Their buses are available for hire on a brokerage scheme by other users during their out of hours time and weekends.

Contact 01702 542099 Andrew Woodley, email manager@wyvernct.co.uk

www.rravs.org.uk

Parish Council Website

The website has details of forthcoming meetings, minutes of the meetings held and other interesting news. You can visit the site on www.rawrethparishcouncil.co.uk the website also has a facility to report faults directly to either Rochford District Council or Essex County Council, if you enter the Useful Links page of the website you have the facility just to click on one entry and it will take you directly into the online reporting process for the relevant Council, things such as street lighting, pot holes and fly tipping can all be reported quickly and directly.

The Parish Council website also has a page to display photographs of the Parish. If anyone has any photographs that they would like to see on the website please email them to the Clerk. Photo's can

be of events, scenic, etc, but unfortunately we cannot display any pictures of individuals unless their prior written consent has been given

In addition, if anyone would like to advertise an event on the website please feel free to contact the Clerk.

Email Distribution

If any residents would like to receive information from the Parish Council such as agendas for forthcoming meetings, minutes of meetings held, events, Core Strategy News etc via email then please forward your details to the Clerk at clerk.rawrethparishcouncil@btinternet.com. If you do not have access to a computer but would like a family member to receive the emails on your behalf please ask them to contact the Clerk as above advising on whose behalf they will be receiving the information.

Next Meetings

Wednesday 7th November 2018 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Wednesday 5th December 2018 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Wednesday 2nd January 2019 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Wednesday 6th February 2019 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

From the Clerk, Hayley Bloomfield

As always if you have any concerns or matters to report please do not hesitate to contact me on either 07773 952455 or by email at clerk.rawrethparishcouncil@btinternet.com

St. Nicholas Organ Concert

The special concert to celebrate the refurbishment of St. Nicholas' pipe organ took place on 6 October. It was a brilliant informal evening with wonderful music (and cakes!), the audience enjoying a varied selection of short pieces from the 15th century to the present day played by 4 organists linked to the church or to the project. It was a particular delight to have Dr. Alan Thurlow back at St. Nicholas. He had last played the organ in 1971 and in the intervening years was appointed the Sub Organist at Durham Cathedral and in 2008 retired from his position as Organist and Master of the Choristers at Chichester Cathedral. The evening was so successful it is hoped to hold a similar concert next autumn.

All Saints' Church, Rettendon.

Christmas Bazaar. Saturday, 1st December, 10:30am to 3:30pm. All Saints' Church, Rettendon. We will have the usual stalls with Christmas themes, a raffle, and, of course, home-made cakes and teas/coffees.

Beetle Drive planned at Rettendon Village Hall on **Friday 18th January**. Contact Hazel Dale-Evans 01245 401538 for more details.

Battlesbridge Free Church has their **Christmas Play** on 23rd December at 6:30pm, if anyone would like to go along.



Rawreth Ladies Club Meetings

Chairperson Sue Merton 01268 561703

August Meeting

Our August lunch had come round again and it was almost a full house attendance wise. I collected our meals from the fish shop in Rawreth Lane and they did us proud it was delicious. The entertainment was by David Padwick and it was a selection of songs and jokes which everyone enjoyed. There was a large raffle and some lovely prizes and it took £62.50. After deciding who were doing the refreshments in September it was out into the sunshine and nice to think I had not got to cook dinner that night.

Sue Murton

September Meeting

The speaker was Angela Deavall from Boxworth

Botanics and while she was telling us about the products on offer she sent round various creams to try out. By the end of the talk we did not have any part of us that had not been tried out on with the various potions. The attendance was very depleted due to illness and holidays which cannot be helped. The competition winners judged by Angela which was a tea towel was won by 1 Jean Bell 2 Margaret Shippey 3 Jean Heath. The sales table took £25.55 and the raffle £44. After the raffle and deciding who were doing the refreshments in October it was time to go home. We found a walking stick someone had left behind so decided the creams had been better than we thought. The owner claimed it next day probably when the miracle had worn off.

Sue Murton

Christmas Home Security: 10 Tips to Beat the Burglar

The weeks leading up to Christmas are the biggest shopping weeks of the year and for many retailers often accounts for 70% of their annual revenue. Stocking our homes with the latest electronic gadgets, computers, jewellery and must-have accessories is the norm, unfortunately though it provides thieves with the perfect incentive to commit burglaries.

Christmas: A time for giving, receiving... and taking!

Please read our tips on ensuring your home is secure over Christmas and the New Year period.

1. Deterring would-be criminals is one of the most effective forms of crime prevention. Invest in a motion sensor flood-light or even some outdoor Christmas lights to highlight your home's exterior. This will hopefully make approaching your home too conspicuous for a burglar. Highlighting the fact your possessions are security marked and registered on Immobilise using window decals provides a further warning that your goods are marked, traceable and not worth the risk of stealing!

2. Festive lighting – be secure. A common mistake of many festive decorators is to feed extension cables through partially open windows, criminals know to look for this vulnerability. When it comes to outdoor lighting, opt for solar or battery operated lights or install outdoor electrical outlets.

3. Dispose of gift packaging carefully. Refuse collections over the Christmas / New Year period are normally at different times. If you can't take packaging to a recycling point, make sure you only put your rubbish out just before the collection and do your best to fold boxes so that they do not advertise your new contents of your home to thieves!

4. Protect your Identity. It is good practice never to dispose of receipts and personal paperwork without first shredding it. Christmas is a time when this is especially important! Be careful though not to shred any important warranty details, make sure documents you keep are stored somewhere secure.

5. Check doors and windows for weak spots. Government statistics show that 30% of burglaries happen through



windows. Installing a few dead-bolts and new window hinges could increase the security of your home exponentially.

6. Keep your curtains, drapes and window blinds closed at night, making sure valuable items are out of sight. When going out for the evening make use of inexpensive timers to give the illusion of occupancy.

7. Away over Christmas – plan ahead. If you're going away at Christmas be sure to cancel any newspaper or milk subscriptions. Arrange for a neighbour to park on the driveway to help create the impression someone is home. Do not to leave descriptive telephone answering machine messages like "we're away skiing for the Christmas holidays" etc and again make use of light timers.

8. Secure garages & sheds. Make sure that garden tools or ladders that could be used to force entry into your home are not left lying around or accessible from an unlocked garden shed. Garages are often targets for burglars looking for tools, bikes and gardening equipment – make sure the garage is secure and your possessions are secured too in the case of bikes and tools. Naturally make sure anything portable / valuable is recorded on immobilise.

9. Don't hide keys & use alarms if you have them. Burglars know to look for hidden door keys so don't hide spare keys under rocks, in flowerpots, or above door ledges. Instead give the spare key to family or trusted neighbour. Many houses these days have alarms, many though are rarely set, make sure yours is on and protecting your home.

From a church bulletin board

Due to the minister's illness our weekly healing service has been cancelled until further notice.

**FORTHCOMING
EVENTS AT ST NICHOLAS
CHURCH**

2nd December

Toy Service and Brownie Parade
10am

9th December

Christmas Carol Concert with Rayleigh
Salvation Army Brass Band 5.30pm
£8

16th December

Carols by Candlelight
4.00pm

24th December

Crib Service 4.00pm
Midnight Mass
11.30pm

13th January

Café Church
10am

VILLAGE NOTICE BOARD

VILLAGE COLLECTION DAY week commencing Dec 12th, **Thursday 27th**, January 9th, 23rd all other weeks are **Recyclables**. Collection will be one day later over Christmas and New Year see website for further details

TRAIDCRAFT Contact on (01268) 733616 for more information.

BALLROOM AND LATIN DANCE CLASSES are held on Monday evenings in the Village Hall between 6.30 and 10 p.m. All enquiries to Lynda King, 01375 375810. www.kingsdanceclasses.com

MOBILE LIBRARY. Please support the Mobile Library which stops at Goose Cottages 9.40am-10.10am on Dec 14th, Jan 4th, 25th. Books can be ordered and there is no charge for overdue items. Video Cassettes and large print books are carried.

RAWRETH LADIES CLUB contact Sue Murton (Chairperson) on 01268 561703 for details.

1st RAWRETH (ST NICHOLAS) BROWNIES. Thursdays, 4.45-6.15pm, in the Village Hall (term time only). Contact: Suzanne Wood (Brown Owl) on 01268 642859. To register for a place: www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/



Christmas Jokes

Knock, knock Who's there? Arthur Arthur who?
Arthur any mince pies left?

What do vampires sing on New Year's Eve? Auld
Fang Syne

Why did Santa's helper see the doctor?
Because he had a low "elf" esteem!

What happened to the man who stole an Advent
Calendar?
He got 25 days!

What kind of motorbike does Santa ride?

What do you get if you cross Santa with a duck?

What is the best Christmas present in the world?

How did Scrooge win the football game?

From the Parish Register Baptism Anniversaries

January

Jacson Jay Payne

*Our prayers remain with you as you
journey on in life and grow in Gods
love.*

A Holly Davidson!

A Christmas Quacker!

A broken drum, you just can't beat it!

The ghost of Christmas passed!

Bereavement group



**Meeting on the last Thursday of each month from
1.30 pm-3 pm in St. Nicholas Church.**

A few bereaved people meet each month in an informal get together. We can talk about our experiences if we wish or just listen to each other.

Please join us

Next meeting: 27th December and January 31st 2019

There will be tea and cake.



Just drop in or Phone Pat on 07790 460026

Animal Service



The animal service held on 1st October went very well, all animals and humans were well behaved!

As it was a lovely sunny afternoon the service was held outside where the grass is nice and lush for the horses to munch on.

During the service two hymns were sung and prayers said for our animals who give us such unconditional love. We also remembered those animals who are not so fortunate.

Christine







*You are invited to
St Nicholas Café Church
Come Taste and See
Sunday 13th January
at 10.00am*

PLEASE NOTE
Copy for Feb/March 2019 Magazine
by
5th January

Church News to Christine Holmes
Tel: 781662

Village News to Dave Collins
Tel: 734933

Please let us have your news in good time
Thank you

Thank You

To all the magazine distributors for
delivering the magazine over the past year.

Christine

Whist Drive

| | | | |
|--------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|
| 7th Dec | Whist | 21st Dec | Whist |
| 4th January | Whist | 18th January | Whist |

First and Third Friday in the month
7.30pm-10pm.

**New players always welcome, for
further information please phone**

Eric Chasmer
01268 773115

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

| | |
|--|--|
| Dr Jayawera, Rawreth Lane | 01268 780408 |
| Shotgate Surgery | 01268 561888 |
| Chemist, Shotgate Pharmacy | 01268 768547 |
| NHS Fast medical help other than 999, | You call 111 |
| Rayleigh Police (<i>non urgent matters</i>) | 101 |
| PC Steve Joynes, Neighbourhood Constable for Rayleigh/Rawreth | Tel: 101 ext 490535 <i>Mobile</i> 07710 046161 |
| Neighbourhood Watch Desk nhwrayleigh@gmail.com 10-12 weekdays | 01268 770519 |
| Electricity | 0800 7838838 |
| Gas | 0800 111999 |
| RSPCA 24 hour animal cruelty & emergency | 03001234999 |
| Rochford District Council | 01702 546366 |
| Copy for Magazine to Dave Collins | 01268 734933 |
| Village Hall Booking Secretary (<i>no teenage parties permitted</i>) Email: daveicollins40@gmail.com | 01268 734933 |
| Street Lighting faults, Essex Highways South | 01268 297500 |
| CountyRoute Helpline – A130 related concerns call | 0845 3511130 |

Rawreth Parish Councillors

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Chairman: Alistir Matthews | Tel and Fax: 01268 732069 |
| Cllr Paul Beckers (Vice-Chairman) | 01268 767614 |
| Clerk: Hayley Bloomfield | 07773 952455 |
| Cllr Mrs Mary Beckers | 01268 767614 |
| Cllr Mrs Susanne Wiltshire | 01268 781922 |
| Cllr Chris Stanley | 01268 785732 <i>Mobile</i> 07720426359 |
| Cllr Mark Collins | 07903998085 |

County and District Councillors

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Malcolm Maddocks – County Councillor for Rayleigh North | 01702 206683 |
| email: cllr.malcolm.maddocks@essex.gov.uk | |
| Cllr Ron Oatham | 01268 785295 |

Member of Parliament

| | |
|---|---|
| Mark Francois MP for Rayleigh | Tel at House of Commons 0207 2193000 |
| Tel at Constituency Office 01268 742044 | email: mark.francois.mp@parliament.uk |

Neighbour Watch Co-Ordinators, Rawreth

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Brian Adams: Laburnam Way area. | 01268 786178 |
|---------------------------------|--------------|



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