

www.iamroadsmart.com/groups/lincolniam

# SPRING 2018

### THE LATEST FROM IAM IN LINCOLN

# Greetings from Lincoln!

Firstly, an apology from me for the delay in distributing our latest newsletter, as you'll have noticed summer is upon us (officially 21 June!).

We hope that you find the read enjoyable and informative.

**Ashley Behan, Secretary** 

# In this edition

Page 1

Intro and contents

Page 2

Chair & Chief Observer's **Update** 

Page 3

Group News

Page 4

Group News

Page 5

Introducing Richard Hardesty

Page 6

Sharing the road

Page 7

U3A member reviews course

Page 8

Fordie's World

Page 9

Know Your Stuff

Page 10

Events Programme



**Contact US...** something you'd like to share in the newsletter?

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# SPRING 2018

# CHAIR/CHIEF OBSERVER'S UPDATE

After a record year in 2017 I am very pleased to report that 2018 will be yet another record breaker!

So far this year we have recruited 34 associates and achieved 30 test passes, 7 of which were F1RSTs, whilst maintaining a pass rate of 98%. We currently have 34 associates in training and have strengthened our hard working observer team with 3 new observers, Derek Smith, Richard Hardesty and Alison Shelton. I am pleased to report that Richard has also joined the committee as our Social Media Officer, a very important role in these modern times!

In our last newsletter I reported that we were focussing on providing training support for our observers, hence the appointment of Kelvin Simmonds as our Training Officer. This initiative has already produced some excellent results, we

now have 5 observers qualified to Masters (Distinction) and 15 qualified to National Observer level. Two more are currently awaiting their Masters tests. Raising the standards of our observer team like this can only be good for the continued success of the group, very well done to all concerned.

We are continuing with our very successful programme of external presentations to groups such as U3A, Women's Institute, Probus and our Taster Drives. Over 50% of our new associates join as a result of these external promotions and this year we have a further 7 to do and already have 5 booked in for next year.

# 2018 **ADVANCED DRIVER COURSES**

We'd like to congratulate all our members who have passed their Advanced Driver Course so far in 2018 along with their observers.

Well done all!

This year we have had an interesting programme of events, autonomous cars, IAM ambassadors Paddy Hopkirk and David Gallagher and more recently car maintenance with more to come throughout the rest of the year.

Our AGM in May gave us the opportunity to report on the strength of the group and we were pleased to have presentations from Pat Doughty, IAM Director and Mark Carlin, IAM Examiner.

Thank you once again to all our members for all your support, as volunteers I can assure you that those of us on the committee and observer team really appreciate it.

2018 (30 passes to date)			
Associate	Pass Date	Observer	Check Drive Observer
Roy Dale	15/06/2018	Kelvin Simmonds	Ashley Behan
Patricia Newman	14/06/2018	Richard Hardesty	Ashley Behan
Richard Parkinson	14/06/2018 F1RST	Howard Balchin	Roger Hicks
Fiona Smith	12/06/2018	Alan Buckland	Tony Lofts
Bethan Jones	03/06/2018	Kelvin Simmonds	Roger Hicks
Emma Chappell	29/05/2018	Tony Lofts	Gary Hill
Martin Stannard	25/05/2018 F1RST	Ashley Behan	Roger Hicks
Phil Robinson	23/05/2018	Mike Hill	Simon Clayton
Anne Potter	21/05/2018	Peta Steadman Bee	Ashley Behan
Matthew Burton	16/05/2018	Ashley Behan	Peta Steadman Bee
Tony Larvin	10/05/2018 F1RST	Tony Lofts	Julia Vause
Catriona Adams	09/05/2018	Roger Hicks	Ashley Behan
Adrian Parker	27/04/2018 F1RST	Ashley Behan/Alan Buckland	Roger Hicks
Sam Jackson	25/04/2018	Kelvin Simmonds	Roger Hicks
Donna Jennings	25/04/2018	Alan Buckland	Tony Lofts
Stephen Bailey	19/04/2018	Tom Burton	Tony Lofts
Paul Naylor	05/04/2018	Roger Hicks	Ashley Behan
Bob Potter	05/04/2018 F1RST	Peta Bee/Trevor Kerry	
Paul Membrey	05/04/2018	Alan Buckland	Roger Hicks
Simon Thom	23/03/2018	Kelvin Simmonds	Roger Hicks
Emma Wells	21/03/2018	Ashley Behan/Richard Hardesty	
Tony Wilson	17/03/2018	Gary Hill	Tony Lofts
David Jones	13/02/2018 F1RST		Mike Hill
Peter Harden	14/02/2018	Howard Balchin	Roger Hicks
Nick Wiles	10/02/2018 F1RST	Kelvin Simmonds	Ashley Behan
Barbara Wilson	02/02/2018	Roger Hicks	Ashley Behan
Victor Francis	29/01/2018	Mike Hill	Tony Lofts
Tony Bennison	15/01/2018	Alan Buckland	Roger Hicks
Ced Shurben	06/01/2018	Trevor Kerry	Roger Hicks
Pauline Fort	06/01/2018	Tony Lofts	Julia Vause

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### SPRING 2018

### **GROUP NEWS**

IAM Ambassadors visit Lincoln

#### **April 2018**

We were pleased to host a visit from David Gallagher, IAM Young Driver Ambassador and Paddy Hopkirk, IAM Mature Driver Ambassador.

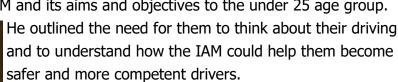
The evening was an overwhelming success and thoroughly enjoyed by all the 70 members present.

David gave a very interesting talk about his role as the Young

Driver Ambassador and how he promoted the IAM and its aims and objectives to the under 25 age group.

THE PADDY HOPKIRK STO





Advanced Driver

Paddy, who at 85, is instantly recognisable as the famous winner of the Monte Carlo Rally in 1964 and a contemporary of Stirling Moss and the other renown drivers from that era of motor sport. He gave a fascinating, anecdotal laden talk on his life long experience as a racing driver and general motoring guru. Apart from his role with the IAM he is also President of the British Racing Drivers Club.

Paddy arrived at our meeting in a Mini albeit somewhat different from his rally winning 1960's Mini Cooper.

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# SPRING 2018

### **GROUP NEWS**

### Women's Institute Trustee leads by example

Catriona Adams who, together with her secretary Helen, was the Women's Institute trustee responsible for setting up the successful joint WI and IAM RoadSmart Driving Days, decided that she would like to take an advanced driving course herself.

As Catriona lives in Lincolnshire she was allocated to Lincoln IAM for her course. Chief Observer, Roger Hicks, became her observer and carried out her observed drives assisted by his colleague, Ashley Behan.

Catriona successfully passed her test on 10 May 2018 and was understandably very pleased with her achievement.

After the test Catriona commented "I have really enjoyed the experience and would recommend anyone to take the IAM advanced driving course to improve their skills and to make their driving safer and more enjoyable."

Catriona, pictured with Roger Hicks presenting her certificate.





### I'm a LEGO driver!

Who recognises this young man to our left?

You may think he looks a little young for a driving licence, but with an interest in cars and driving from an early age, our group secretary, Ashley Behan, took his Lego licence back in 2002 at just nine years old!

The intensive course can still be enjoyed be children at Legoland in Windsor. To gain the licence, you take to the course in a Lego car and negotiate normal driving conditions and hazards. And of course, at nine years old, it's just plain good fun!

Ashley's mum found his old licence packed away when moving house earlier in the year and returned it to him.

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# INTRODUCING RICHARD HARDESTY

Committee Member responsible for social media

Back on the 11th January 2018 we light-heartedly announced a new signing to our group on our Twitter account, as part of the season's transfer window. Richard Hardesty, from Louth had agreed to join us as a trainee observer, to support IAM Lincoln's expansion into the Louth and coastal areas.

Richard had passed his driving test back in January 1990, following just three lessons and a test. He passed first time, something that he puts down to having learnt to drive aged 10, on a grey Fergy tractor! Nine years on Richard heard about the Louth group of the Institute of Advanced Motorists, which at the time was linked to the Grimsby Group. He enjoyed his Sunday morning drives out with his local observer and distinctly remembers the

two main items of feedback he received from the examiner following successfully passing his Advanced **Driving Test:** 

1) He cautioned Richard for not having revved his car hard enough as he joined the A180 near Grimsby, after all - Mazda designed his 1997 323F to red line at 6000

2) He asked Richard if he needed an eye test, as his fluent commentary regularly mentioned items on the horizon, but the details of signs only got mentioned as they got closer.

Richard and has worn glasses for driving ever since!

Several years of paid IAM membership followed, until Richard questioned what he got for his money. Whilst his membership lapsed, he still endeavoured to maintain activity on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook! a high standard of driving using the system of car

control we all know and love.

Fast forward nineteen years to the winter of 2017, where Richard had read about our free taster drives through social media. He was intrigued as to whether his advanced driving was still up to scratch, so asked whether it was possible to have a refresher drive. This was arranged with Ashley Behan, Group Secretary, who met up with Richard in Lincoln one evening after work. Richard's drive was smooth and progressive, but demonstrated hints of the methodology previously used in the days of the Institute.

It was clear that he would easily pass a retest and Ashley used this opportunity to gauge Richard's interest in joining the group as an observer, covering the Louth

Richard duly renewed his IAM Roadsmart membership and started training to become a local observer, supported by Ashley. He achieved his Local Observer qualification on 26 February 2018, quickly followed by successfully gaining his National Observer qualification on 9th April 2018. He's since been actively engaged in observed drives, along with a range of taster drives, and is now working towards his Masters.

During this time Richard has also helped deliver group talks, supported the ongoing development of our Social Media presence, provided technical support at the open evening with Paddy Hopkirk and David Galagher, and has secured a promotional feature with Melvyn Prior on BBC Radio Lincolnshire. This helped promote the group whilst seeking more volunteer observers for the Boston area. Richard has also been liaising with IAM Roadsmart's national PR team, where we're looking to support them with the development of some short videos with associates, observers, an examiner and David Gallagher, the IAM's Youth Ambassador. Watch this space...

We are grateful for the support that Richard has provided the group with to date, and are delighted that he has agreed to join the Committee, where he will continue to promote the group through Social Media, group talks and any other opportunities that present themselves!

I'm sure you'll join us in giving him a very warm welcome, and check out all of our 'IAMinLincoln' group



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# **SPRING 2018**

### SHARING WITH OTHERS

### IAM RoadSmart's five tips for sharing our roads

When we're in a rush we sometimes forget about other road users around us. We teach our children to share nicely. We want them to understand the other child's point of view. How then does this apply to driving or riding? Richard Gladman, head of driving and riding standards, has put together a few top tips to remind us of how to share the road with other users.

- Pre-empt what another road user might do and be ready to react if necessary. For example, if a pedestrian is standing between two busy lanes of traffic you may be thinking: "You shouldn't have crossed there." Or you could be sympathetic of the fact they're stranded and allow them to cross if you can do it safely. Whatever the reason, they're vulnerable and you have the power to help them
- Try to see the world through the eyes of others and help them, without them even realising it. If we all did this, it might even catch on. Giving a little more space or a bit of extra time will make a difference
- Give way. A large vehicle, such as an HGV or a bus, will need extra room when turning. Give them the room they need to make them feel safe and comfortable when they manoeuvre their vehicle
- Allow extra room. Motorcyclists can sometimes been seen filtering through traffic. Why not aid them by moving over slightly to allow them to pass you with ease
- Know when to overtake. The sun is out which means more cyclists will be on the road. Be patient and overtake when the time is right, if you have to follow for a while then leave a sensible space. Make sure your vision ahead is clear and will remain so for enough time to complete the pass. Taking those extra few seconds to overtake carefully rather than rushing could be the difference between getting to your destination safely and being involved in a collision

Richard says: "Our behaviour towards others often

changes when driving. Polite individuals can become territorial monsters fighting for a small space that may take seconds off a journey; this competitive attitude can ramp up stress levels. Remember, until you walk – or in this case drive - a mile in another man's shoes, you won't appreciate that driving is much better if we share nicely. Enjoy the sunshine and appreciate the polite waves and smiles you can now collect on your iourney.'

#### References:

https://www.iamroadsmart.com/media-and-policy/news-andinsights/blog-post-details/five-tips-to-sharing-with-other-road-users/2018/05/22/five-tips-to-sharing-with-other-road-users

#### **Betari's Cycle of Conflict**



How a driver's attitude affects their own behaviour and the attitude and behaviour of other drivers

As advanced drivers, we should strive to remove our own frustration from driving. We plan to make sure we are proactive, looking at not only what we see, but what we can expect to happen up ahead and out of sight. This includes allowing for other peoples mistakes and misgivings which will undoubtedly happen. When they do respond in a safe, positive and friendly manner!



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### U3A member, Dr. Jannet Wright, reviews her course

U3A is an informal, volunteer-led group of retired members of the community - those in their third 'age' of life. The guest speakers at Collingham U3A on a summers afternoon were Roger Hicks and Ashley Behan from IAM RoadSmart, the UK's largest road safety charity. The topic was "Confident Driving". Dr. Jannet A. Wright, Business Secretary of the group, writes about her experience of the presentation and her ventures into advanced driving.



Jannet (above, right) is presented her advanced driving certificate by IAM Lincoln Chief Observer, Roger Hicks

I have always enjoyed driving. I got my provisional license for my 17<sup>th</sup> birthday and was encouraged in the sixth form to have driving lessons during the school day when we had 'free' lessons. The school even paid ten shillings towards the cost of each lesson!

I passed my test at 17 and went on to drive regularly in London, Sussex, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and on holiday in Canada, the States and Europe.

In 2013 I retired from full-time employment and joined the newly formed Collingham and District U3A. We have interesting and informative monthly talks and it was here that I heard two speakers from IAM RoadSmart in Lincoln - Roger Hicks and Ashley Behan. Their talk captured my attention and made me want to explore more.

I signed up for a taster session and met up with Roger Hicks, the Chief Observer, at our local service station. Initially I felt slightly anxious with someone whom I knew was studying my driving but Roger put me at my ease. I found the feedback helpful and decided to continue with a series of observed sessions on an Advanced Driver Course.

I found these observed sessions interesting and informative and I really looked forward to doing them. The first practical suggestion was a recommendation to lower my steering wheel so I was not uncomfortable holding my hands in the correct position. You can pick up some bad habits over the years and it is helpful to be alerted to these. Also, I was aware that driving practices can change and you need to keep up to date. The observed sessions provided me with a safe environment within which to ask questions and clarify issues that have arisen in the previous week's driving.

I decided to go for the test when it was suggested that this might be useful and something I could achieve. You don't have to do it and I must say the night before the assessment I wished I hadn't agreed to do it! However, I went ahead and passed. I now have my certificate that I am very pleased to possess!

Dr. Jannet A. Wright **Business Secretary, Collingham and District U3A** 

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# SPRING 2018

# **FORDIE'S WORLD**

Re-reading one of my historic lorry mags, I came to an article about "Land Trains". A lorry, either or articulated pulling multiple trailers. The writer went on to suggest that "platooning" or several lorries coupled together electronically could one day be a feature on British roads, mainly motorways. I don't see the point of that, especially if each vehicle has a "driver" but all controlled from the leading vehicle.

There just isn't room for that sort of system on our roads and motorways, it would create a myriad of problems: overtaking, exiting junctions and so on. My old company tried to get what is called a "B Double" permission to run on our road system, it has not come to fruition. A "B Double" is an articulated lorry with a further semi-trailer coupled, artic fashion, on the rear of the first trailer. In practice this outfit was approximately 25 metres overall, in reality, only good for interdepot trunking and totally impractical in towns or off the main trunk roads. These road-train configurations come into their own in Australia or America, even in some parts of Africa where vast distances are covered and trailers can be dropped off/picked up en-route, dealt with by local hauliers. The other favourite use of road-trains is in the mining industries, where a train can be five wagons long with a gross train weight of 500 tonnes. Again, think Australia and America where there are wideopen spaces that make these vehicles viable.

In my opinion, and it is a personal opinion, the best combination in Britain would be a rigid eight-wheeler pulling an eight wheeled drawbar trailer with a pay-load capacity of around 40 tonnes, this I think would comply with axle-load limits and overall length regulations. Right! That's enough diesel smoke! I have been known to send a glasseye to sleep!

Now I turn to that annual curse, motor insurance. This time I've managed to insure my car for a reasonable sum, but I've had to accept a fairly hefty excess, so I shall have to drive carefully. Two-wheeled insurance is another matter, as I've had to give up my motorbike, I've bought a motor-scooter, again

a sensible quote for a new machine, until I find on cancelling the motorbike insurance I had NOT put my No Claims Discount on it so consequently I could not claim NCD for the new scooter! So, a word of warning, make sure your NCD is firmly in place when renewing insurance. I have had to pay a great WRONG! The company is involved in many deal more for the scooter insurance for the first year - my own fault for not checking thoroughly what my previous policy covered, so I've written it down to experience but we all accept that motor insurance is legalised robberv!

Reading the Autumn Roadsmart magazine, I happened upon the article about "IAM Fellows". As I age (like good wine) I'm aware that my reactions may be slowing and my eyesight is not what it was twenty years ago, so, to me, it makes sense to offer myself for a three-vearly re-assessment. If I can prove to an examiner and to myself that my driving is still of a high standard then I shall feel safe on the road. To put this into context, I was born in 1943, so having taken a re-test in 2017, I shall be somewhere around 77 years old when another test would be due.

I feel that by taking this course, I shall have a pretty good idea when to give up driving, before my doctor, family or the judge tells me it's time to quit! I would like to make that decision myself - it doesn't hurt the ego so

Reading in the press earlier this year it was said that the Chief Constable of Mercia (wherever that is!) was proposing to that drivers who exceeded the speed limit by one mile per hour should be prosecuted. Fortunately, that idea was abandoned, because, it was suggested, that drivers would spend too much time concentrating on the speedo, thus becoming a danger to themselves and other road users. I think we are all aware that speedo readings vary from car to car, even road undulations can make a variation in speed. I believe a 10% error is allowed on speedos. That's fair enough but no way do I condone flouting the speed limit, do that and you're asking for trouble!

February's social was very interesting: Peter Griss of Continental made a very thoughtprovoking presentation. I was under the impression that Continental were just tyre manufacturers and a small company to boot parts of car making and is a keen advocate of road safety. Their vision is to ultimately reduce road casualties to zero, no accidents, no injuries and no deaths, highly laudable. The suggestion being that vehicles will be totally computer controlled and interact with other vehicles. BUT and it's a big but computers can fail, they can be "hacked" and I don't care how many back-up systems you have built in, if one crashes, you can bet the others will be affected somewhere down the line. Call me a technological dinosaur if you will but I just DON'T have that much faith in electronics and computers. Then again, should the scheme come to fruition, I shall probably be too old to

According to a TV report, Lincoln is the third most congested city in England or was it Great Britain? Quite frankly, I'm not surprised, look at any of the main roads into the city centre between 0800 & 1000 and again between 1530 & 1800, where are they all going to or coming from? There can't be that many businesses in the town centre to warrant that number of vehicles, even allowing for those just passing through. As I've said before, the whole traffic light system wants completely re-progamming to ensure a smoother flow of traffic. Maybe if the last section of the bypass is completed and we have a ring road around the city, that may ease congestion greatly but then the shopkeepers will complain about losing custom from passing traffic - you can't win!

Anyway, enjoy the traffic jams, take up knitting or something!

Stay safe!

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### **SPRING 2018**

### KNOW YOUR STUFF

### The advanced test - what to expect

When you are approaching test ready stage, your observer will arrange for another observer to carry out a check drive with you. Following this, you will be put through for your test by the group. Your examiner will contact you either by telephone or email to arrange a mutually convenient date, time and location for the test to take place. The location will be safe, easy to find, of no cost to either of you with facilities and easy access to a variety of roads. Supermarket car parks and fast food restaurants are often chosen.

The test will be about 75 minutes from start to finish with around 60 minutes of driving.

#### What will be tested?

After the document disclaimer is dealt with the examiner will conduct an eyesight check.

This is the same as the DVSA test or a police roadside check. You must be able to read a standard number plate at a distance of 20.5 metres.

During the drive you can be tested on anything from the course material. It may not be possible to assess some areas practically so the examiner may ask questions.

You may be asked to conduct a practical real life manoeuvre or demonstrate competency in course of test and your decision making process is part of the assessment.

Your drive must be safe and legal. Use your speedometer to keep to the speed limits which must be adhered to at all times, there are no exemptions when making an overtake so do not plan to exceed the speed limit when deliberating.

#### Your Examiner

All of the IAM examiners are advanced

police drivers or hold an IAM Masters qualification with distinction. They have a wealth of advanced driving experiences.

They will:

- Put you at ease.
- Set the scene for you and explain what they are looking for.
- Explain clearly the route directions and how they will communicate them.
- Explain test protocols such as safety and commentary.
- · Explain that any road traffic offence is likely to lead to a fail.
- Explain about their note taking (they write positive points as well as areas for development).
- · Give advice on how mistakes will be dealt with (you will not necessarily fail for a minor mistake).
- Answer any questions you may have.

We know that you will be nervous, we all were in the same circumstances. Your examiner will have been through the assessment process a number of times from both seats.

If you have any concerns or are unsure of anything don't be shy, ask the question, there is no such thing as a stupid question and you will get an answer to help put you at ease.

If you are suffering from any disability or mobility issues let the examiner know.

If you are dyslexic or hard of hearing let be successful.



the examiner know.

All reasonable adjustments will be made to the test to make it all-inclusive. It must however be assessing a standard that is perceivably higher than the DVSA test.

You will be asked to attempt spoken thoughts.

To achieve a F1RST you must have tried (unless medical reasons apply) give it a try it can help you to focus.

During the test if you don't hear or think you may have misunderstood an instruction ask.

We are all human!

#### At the conclusion of the test You will be told your result straight away Pass or Fail

You will be given verbal feedback followed by a written report containing the detail of your drive or ride.

If you are successful you will be given an interim pass certificate. You will also be given advice on other options within the IAM that you may choose to further develop your skills such as Local or National observer, the F1RST register, the Master's program, or regionally run skills days.

If you are unsuccessful your areas to develop will be highlighted and this reinforced by the written report. If you don't understand what is being said ask, the examiner wants you to develop and

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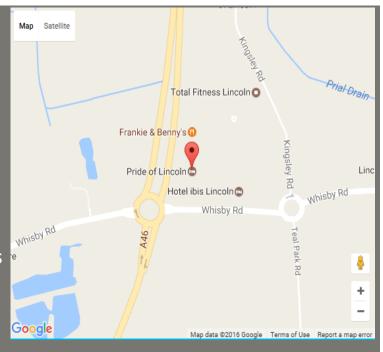
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# SPRING 2018

WHERE TO FIND US?

Windmill Farm (formerly the Pride of Lincoln) (Function Room) for a 7.30pm start Kingsley Road off Whisby Road Lincoln LN6 30Z

Our events are subject to change, please visit the Events section of our website prior to attending and for further details about specific events



January 2018

**Tuesday 12 February 2018** 

March 2018

Tuesday 10 April 2018

Tuesday 8 May 2018

Tuesday 12 June 2018

Tuesday 10 July 2018

August 2018

**Tuesday 11 September 2018** 

October 2018

**Tuesday 13 November 2018** 

**Tuesday 11 December 2018** 

No meeting

Continental Tyres—Vision Zero and Autonomous Cars

No Meeting

An Evening with Paddy Hopkirk and David Gallagher

AGM and IAM Charity Operations Director, Pat Doughty

Just Audi VW car maintenance practical (7pm at Just

Audi VW, Outer Circle Road, Lincoln)

Advanced Driving Refresher Event (7pm)

No meeting

Ambulance Driver Blue Light Training

No meeting

Advanced Driver Development - Rural Rides with Prof

Trevor Kerry

**Christmas Social** 

### **NEXT EDITION** Summer 2018



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