

Port Douglas Yacht Club NEWSLETTER

Volume 3 March 2012 Issue 19

Ann Sea 2012 Poseidon Sailaway Summer Series Champion

Ann Sea wins successive Summer Series in a great start to the 24 race Club Championship

News in brief:

- Ann Sea Summer Series Champion
- New plan for Port FM Mais Oui
- A Future Plan for PDYC
- Exemplar Clipper Cup entries flood in with over 20 boats expected
- Damo finally leaves hospital
- Club gets new computer (true story)
- Free Coast Guard membership for PDYC boat owning members
- Club membership at record high
- Closehaven Marina Trophy Series begins April 21st

Poseidon Sailaway Club Championship Summer Series Results

- 1st Ann Sea
2nd Magic
3rd Tau Ceti

Full details page 2



Ann Sea crew: Bob White & Dave Inkster with Ann and Tim Preuss

Race Results

Poseidon Sailaway Club Championship Summer Series

	Race 7	Race 8
1 st	Magic	Ann Sea
2 nd	Ann Sea	Magic
3 rd	Big Ears	Ice



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Sailaway

Poseidon Sailaway Summer Series: Race 7

Eight yachts again came to the start for race 7 of the Poseidon Sailaway Club Championship Summer Series. The threat of rain eased as a small storm to the north east passed over and racing was underway in 10 to 15 knots of breeze.

Doug Ryan on Magic hit the front closely followed by arch rival Tim Preuss on Ann Sea. Unlike recent races however Magic showed no signs of allowing her rival any chance to claim the pole position as she led the race from start to finish.

Ice also managed to put recent performances behind her maintaining a steady lead over Big Ears and Tau Ceti with Miriama, Ruff Red and Indigo on their heels.

The lighter conditions proved too much for last outing winner Indigo retiring in anticipation of not making the finish in the allotted time. Magic recorded a course time of 01:35:14 to claim line honours 05:22 ahead of Ann Sea creating a 02:35 lead on corrected time to secure the line honours/handicap double for the day. Ice crossed third 02:50 ahead of Big Ears but had to settle for fourth as corrected times gave the edge to Big Ears by just 15 seconds. Tau Ceti with a crew of ten came in fifth with Miriama sixth and Ruff Red seventh.



Poseidon Sailaway Summer Series: Race 8

Six yachts came to the start for the final race of the Poseidon Sailaway Club Championship Summer Series under heavy skies and the threat of rain. Defending Club Champion Port FM Mais Oui made a welcome return to the scene in her first race of the year under the new captaincy of Mike Garrett and was immediately in the action following a great start. Magic rounded the top mark first ahead of Ann Sea but the decision to fly the spinnaker with a less experienced crew and a freshening breeze on the downwind run proved costly. Third place chopped and changed hands as a classic test of strategy and gamesmanship was played out between Ice and Port FM Mais Oui with Miriama close behind and Tau Ceti forced to retire with a damaged headsail. Ann Sea took the lead and held on to take line honours in 01:07:38 ahead of Magic 01:09:41, Ice 01:29:51, Port FM Mais Oui 01:35:35 and Miriama 01:50:15.


Corrected times kept Ann Sea on top with Magic 2nd and Ice 3rd ahead of Port FM Mais Oui and Miriama.

The win sealed the overall Summer Series victory for Ann Sea (9) ahead of Magic (13) and Tau Ceti (16) for skipper Tim Preuss recording a second successive win of the Summer Series trophy.

Place	Boat Name	Skipper	Series Score	Race 8	Race 7	Race 6	Race 5	Race 4	Race 3	Race 2	Race 1
1	Ann Sea	Tim Preuss	9.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	[9.0C]	1.0	[2.0]
2	Magic	Doug Ryan	13.0	2.0	1.0	[5.0]	3.0	4.0	[5.0]	2.0	1.0
3	Tau Ceti	Ken Brown	16.0	[7.0F]	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	4.0	[8.0F]
4	Ice	Mick Gwilliams	23.0	3.0	4.0	6.0	4.0	3.0	[6.0]	3.0	[8.0F]
5	Miriama	Henry Cotter	33.0	5.0	6.0	4.0	[10.0C]	[10.0C]	4.0	6.0	8.0F
6	Big ears	Nod	36.0	[11.0]	3.0	8.0	10.0C	[10.0C]	2.0	5.0	8.0F
7	Indigo	Colin Simpson	40.0	[11.0]	9.0F	1.0	5.0	5.0	10.0L	10.0L	[10.0L]
8	Ruff Red	Greg Langan	43.0	[11.0]	7.0	7.0	6.0	[10.0C]	7.0	8.0C	8.0F
9	Sea Wizard	Bob White	51.0	[11.0]	10.0C	10.0C	10.0C	[10.0C]	3.0	9.0L	9.0L
10	Port FM	Mike Garrett	59.0	4.0	11.0L	11.0L	11.0L	11.0L	11.0L	[11.0L]	[11.0L]

Legend: [] = dropped score, F = did not finish, L = late entrant, C = did not come to the start

Interesting fact: Magic, Tau Ceti and Ice - only 3 from 10 boats competed in all eight races.

The logo for Poseidon Sailaway features a stylized blue and yellow sailboat icon to the left of the word "POSEIDON" in bold blue capital letters. Below "POSEIDON" is the tagline "Experience the Great Barrier Reef Adjoining Outer Reefs & Low Isles" in smaller blue text. At the bottom, the word "Sailaway" is written in a blue script font, preceded by a small yellow and blue circular icon.

March WAGS roundup

What should have been March 1st was February 29th due to 2012 being a leap year but there was so much rain that day nobody was interested in sailing anyway although we still had around 15 names on the nomination register.

Wednesday March 7th and 7 yachts set out in beautiful conditions. As the 99% full moon loomed on the eastern horizon Magic, Ice, Miriama, Ann Sea, Tau Ceti and Samantha were joined by Port FM Mais Oui for the first time in many weeks. A crowd attended and just about everyone found a place onboard. The rum went to Magic breaking the drought the skipper had complained about.

Wednesday March 14th looked like being rained out but for the five yachts that ventured out it proved to be worthwhile. Magic, Ice, Samantha, Miriama and Port FM Mais Oui filled their decks with the small number of guests that turned up looking for a sail. Samantha took the most people as usual and claimed the rum.

Wednesday March 28th was almost an identical repeat of the previous week. The same five yachts ventured out following a shower of rain and all managed to stay dry as all around them the rains came down. Samantha again carried the most guests and took the rum for their efforts for the second consecutive week.

Wednesday March 28th was a gusty day with clear skies typical of the months ahead and 7 yachts including Magic, Ann Sea, Samantha, Miriama, Ice, Port FM Mais Oui and Sinabada enjoyed exhilarating conditions followed by a calm cruise up the inlet for some. Miriama won the rum and to rapturous applause the cash went to Graham O'Dey having joined Samantha's table for dinner.



Another PDYC cap heads over to NZ after a win in the WAGS crew draw for Bruce sailing aboard Ice. Bruce is a kiwi cattle and sheep farmer taking a well earned break in Port Douglas and heard about the sailing from the bus driver on his way up from the airport. Word of mouth is how people discover WAGS.

Planning for the Future

The Committee has for some time been working on a plan to map the future of the club.

At a recent meeting dedicated entirely to the Future Plan the document was scrutinized and adjusted to represent the most up to date vision of the opportunities that we have. One major benefit of having a documented vision for the future is to enable grant applications that require applicants to demonstrate a clear and achievable pathway for the long term aims of the association. Many of the projects identified in the Plan can be funded through community and government grants and the committee are now in a position to achieve many goals without the need for commercial debt or benevolent donations. Over many years a strong core of dedicated members coupled with astute management has put the club in a stable financial position. A reasonable financial safety net has been established and in addition to this working capital has been identified that can assist in bringing the objectives of the Future Plan to fruition.

The Plan is an evolving document that identifies major and minor projects and assigns each a priority and an allocation of working capital. As a permanent agenda item for every committee meeting any changes, adjustments or additions are made as required by majority decision and it is intended that members are to be kept fully informed of how the Plan evolves over time.

Copies of the current Plan along with any other document members are entitled to inspect can be obtained via a request to the club secretary.

Major projects include an upgrade of the pontoon facility, redevelopment of the club buildings including kitchen, bar, office and ablutions, replacement/refurbishment of decking and various extensions of the decking. Minor projects include replacement of stools, upgrade of POS stock control, cash register and computer, provision of on water assistance for course laying and rescue capability, in ground sprinkler systems and enhanced secure storage facilities for members. While time frames have not yet been identified some projects may be fulfilled in the short term and others in the long term. What the Plan achieves is a means by which the clubs available working capital can be allocated and monitored in respect of each and every aspiration.

Talk to the committee to find out more or ask Club Secretary Robyn Shelley for your copy of the Plan.

Family and friends of the late Graham Nicholls

gathered in Port Douglas recently to fulfil a wish of the former club member, WAGS regular and nominee of the clubs liquor license. Graham *Ibis* as he was affectionately known by many, named so after his boat *Ibis*, passed away in October last year after a short illness. Family and friends made a journey out onto the Coral Sea onboard Tallarook to scatter his ashes on the waters between Port Douglas and Low Isles. Graham was one of the many dedicated and determined people that helped make PDYC the special place that it is today. We can now all share a moment in remembering Graham when we pass through these waters as we continue to live the dream of past and present members, sailing the Coral Sea off Port Douglas.

Busy at the B

A big thank you to all the regulars that attended the working bee on Saturday 24th March. No names mentioned as we all know who you are. The usual jobs were high on the agenda and the over whelming theme was cleaning and tidying the place up. There was plenty of mowing and trimming happening and lots of dusting and general cleaning and tidying. Coconut palms were de-nutted, the pontoon was drained, and heaps of pruning and garden maintenance was going on. One of the large timber benches had running repairs after a leg had collapsed the night before and at the end of it all a few jugs of cold beer and some nibbles from the kitchen rewarded those that made the effort. Well done to all.

Associate Coast Guard membership free for PDYC members with a boat on the clubs yacht register

In a deal designed to support both the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard and PDYC boat owning members the two organisations have struck a deal. PDYC will make a donation to support the Coast Guard and in return the Coast Guard has agreed to provide associate membership to boat owning members of PDYC. For our members this great offer includes one free tow per year and in return the Coast Guard will get much needed funds to assist their efforts to make boating safer in this region. Many people rely on the knowledge that the Coast Guard will be there in an emergency or other time of need yet fail to make the effort to join and support the organisation. To make sure you get your free Coast Guard membership contact the club and make sure we have your details on the yacht register. See either club manager Richard Stapleton or Rear Commodore Mick Gwilliams.

Free associate Coast Guard membership for PDYC boaties



Keith Quinn Memorial Trophy Fun Day - April 21st

One of the recent revivals from the sailing calendar of old is the Keith Quinn Fun Day, originally raced in honour of the memory of a club favourite sadly no longer with us.

In 2011 the event was a heap of fun with a relay type course that proved to be very popular. Adding a fun twist to the racing was a two stage quiz where the results influenced first the handicap given to each boat and then the elapsed time recorded over the course. It made it so that nobody had any idea who might win. The event is on again on April 21st so it's time for some homework.

Can I use Port FM Mais Oui? – But yes, of course you may, we all agree!

There's been a little confusion of late as to who can sail the clubs J24 *Port FM Mais Oui* (from the day we got her actually, let's be honest). So, a new revised set of rules has been put in place that makes it all so much more simple and easy to understand.

The short answer is everyone and anyone. The club bought the J with the intention of providing a yacht so that members that don't have their own sailing boat can go sailing or can learn how to sail.

Nothing could be simpler! Yacht Club buys yacht, members go sailing. Yet since the day she arrived there seems to have been a misunderstanding as to who is allowed and who isn't. As certain people took on the responsibility of looking after the boat (and credit to them for doing so) some have looked upon it as an exclusion of others and felt they could not get involved. This has been a frustration to the many committees that have had the J24 on their agenda even to the point where the clubs ownership has come into question. Why do we own it if nobody's using it?

Port FM Mais Oui is a very good sailing boat both reasonably equipped and in good condition. She is the defending Poseidon Sailaway Club Champion after all and yes the boat is available to all our members.

The rules are now very simple.

Every boat requires a ships master, that is the person who is responsible and commonly called the skipper. Any person may apply to use the J24 and to be the master or skipper. That person may then invite up to four other people to sail as crew. There are two conditions that the skipper must meet. They must be a financial member of the club and they must declare through statutory declaration that they are able to properly and safely control the boat in the conditions expected over the duration of its use, and that they intend to comply with any rules, regulations conventions or statutory requirements imposed on the activity of sailing. It's that easy. If you're a member and you think you know enough to be able to sail her just fill in the forms and off you go, happy sailing!

Of course it's not quite that simple as there are one or two rules to abide by, all of which can be found on the website and on the club notice board. Nothing too serious though, just a bit of common sense and some obvious do's and don'ts.

Port FM Mais Oui is now managed by Mike Garrett and Richard Stapleton who can assist you with any enquiries. So come on, why not give it a go? Support the clubs J24, *Port FM Mais Oui*. Contact Mike Garrett (below left) or Richard Stapleton.

Free use of J24 till
September 30th 2012

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J
24



J
24



Clipper Cup Regatta 2012

Port Douglas May 23rd to 27th

The weeks are counting down and the 2012 Exemplar Clipper Cup will soon be upon us. Invitations, posters, notice of race and entry forms have been circled far and wide along the Coral Sea coast in the hope of attracting a larger fleet than the 16 boats that competed in 2011. Plans are shaping up as the first entries begin to roll in. The latest news is that former Commodore and past Clipper Cup race official Peter Terracall has offered his service and his boat Current Affair to be the Committee Boat. The Coast Guard have also re-confirmed their commitment as the course laying boat. On Friday May 25th which is a lay day between race days the club will be hosting a lunchtime bbq and fund raiser to support the Coast Guard. The Barbary Coasters have been booked to provide entertainment for the presentation evening on Sunday 27th and the club is calling for volunteers to assist with running the event. Breakfast will be available each race day morning from 7:00am and anybody keen to cook some eggs and bacon can contact Richard at the club to offer their help. If you're not racing this year why not spend a day on the start boat? Anyone interested in helping out with race management, time keeping or signalling is welcome. With lunch and drinks provided working with an experienced team led by Race Officer John Graham would be a great way to get close to the action and learn all about on water race management. See Richard Stapleton or Mick Gwilliams for more information.

Entries to date include **Miriama Te Rua, Ice, Indigo** and **Ann Sea** with confirmation from **Ron Knott** and **Dusty Muzzle** from

Townsville hoping to bring a fleet. Cairns boats expected include **Belinda Cooper** and **Groove, John Gould** and **Farr Better, Bruce Clark** and **Kaizen II, Steve England** and **Ketchup, Doug Ahola** on **Skulduggery** and **Shari Essex** and **Gypsy** (formerly Karragun). PDYC regulars **Magic, Big Ears, Port FM Mais Oui, Tau Ceti, Ruff Red** and **Kai Lani** will be joined by the return of **Campbell Corbett** and **Jimmie Blacksmith** and we might see **Sinabada, Sea Wizard, White Man Dreaming, T Break** or **Suntan**.

Club gets a new computer system



If social media is your thing then you can find PDYC on Facebook and Twitter. Share your stories and spread the news, keep up with all that's happening and be the first to know. A tweet goes out to let you know when the Newsletter is on the website too.

Hardly front page news but for those that knew the old PC it's long overdue. Local computer supplier Port PC has come up with the goods at a great rate and it's all systems go in the office with super speed and updated software.

A message from the Americas... This short message was sent by email from Ken Brown in Brazil. It seems Ken's as keen as ever to get in a bit of sailing wherever he might be.

G'DAY ALL, Just a quick one from Paraty (about 200 km Sth of Rio) A great little seaside resort. Well into our tour now, arrived here via Buenos Aires, a once very attractive but now very neglected city, then onto Iguazu Falls for a truly dramatic experience, definitely has to be seen to be appreciated. Never seen such a volume of water in my life. O'nite bus from there to Rio, a seriously vibrant city, set in stunningly beautiful spot. A city on the waterfront with the buildings nestled in between many sharply rising and heavily timbered trees. Saw a lot but didn't allow enough time for all. Almost forgot, All bus drivers in Rio are MANIACS!

Spent this afternoon island hopping on a local schooner, 5hrs and lunch about \$30A and the people here know how to party had a great afternoon. Back to Rio tomorrow PM then off to La Paz on Sun for the start of our Inca tour. Cheers for now, Ken



Thanks to Sue Morgan for this little gem. A great suggestion for when your technology is giving you a hard time.

Have a special occasion coming up?

Then why not arrive in style? Exemplar Coaches and Limousines provide door to door stretch limo service and will go the extra mile to make your special occasion that extra bit special.

Call 4098 5473 to make your reservation



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New Members

A warm welcome to all our new members



Peter Colahan
Roger Gibbons
Tom & Libby Klinger
Bob & Lucy Stanton
Simon Dobbs
Louise Oliver
Sherryn Blundstone

"Welcome to the Yachtie"

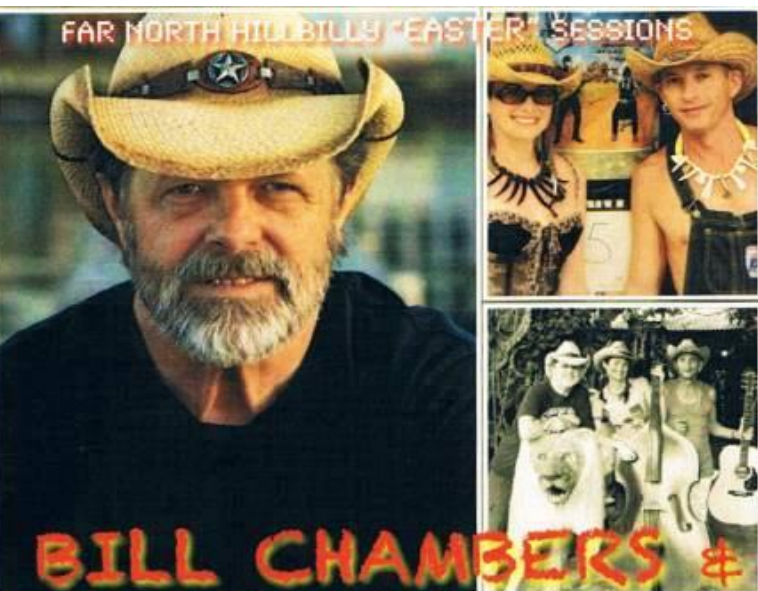
Special thanks to Club Patron John Morris this month for twisting a few arms applying a bit of pressure and using a few strong arm tactics to press gang some of the new members from along his street!

At least that's what they all wrote on their application forms as the reason for joining.

MROVCP

You should know what it means!

MROVCP stands for Marine Radio Operators VHF Certificate of Proficiency and if you have a VHF marine radio and you use it you should have your MROVCP. In addition to the MROVCP is the MROCP which is the Marine Radio Operators Certificate of Proficiency and covers MF/HF as well as VHF. The requirements for commercial Certificate II Coxswain and Certificate III Master Class 5 nationally and internationally require the MROCP and every skipper of a commercial boat must have one. For the regular recreational yachtie using a VHF radio the MROVCP is required by law if you transmit messages.



BILL CHAMBERS & The Hillbilly Goats



Port Douglas Yacht Club : Thursday 5th April 6pm FREE ENTRY
Support acts Leanne Tennant & Kim Hurley Ph - 4099 4386

Date for the diary
**Thursday
5th April**
The Far North
Hillbilly Easter
Sessions



The Mossman and Port Douglas volunteer Coast Guard will be conducting a MROCP and MROVCP course on Tuesday 1st May, Tuesday 8th May and Tuesday 15th May. The cost is \$220 for the MROCP and \$150 for the MROVCP. Price includes text book and test fees. For further information or to reserve your place contact 0419 545 350.

2012 Song of Carnivale contest at Yacht Club

The club has been chosen as the venue to host the Search for the 2012 Song of Carnivale.

The heats will be held at the Club on Saturday 31st March with performance times 5.00pm – 7.30pm and finalists announced at 8.00pm.



Phone:
4099 4772

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Club History with Henry Cotter

*Building a
yacht club
from scratch*



The first meeting of the Yacht Club was in 1985 but it was nine years later before we had a club house. The club's official opening was on December the 4th 1994 opened by Sir James Hardy. At last after a big struggle raising funds we were able to move from the tin shed that now sits on the water front to remind our senior members of a past era.

Peter Hinchcliff was the Commodore and he and his team of helpers were the ones that did all the negotiation to get our club house started.

At first the club only opened on a race day and on some Friday and Saturday nights. Someone would go into the kitchen and cook up a few meals for those that happened to turn up. No staff was employed, it was all volunteer's in the kitchen and behind the bar. At that stage we had a pepper corn rent each year. Our rates were low as well as our lease. Soon all that changed and we employed a manager and we were open Friday, Saturday and Sundays.

The club has had a few add-ons since then as the patronage grew. One of the first was the roof over the side towards Closehaven Marina. Under the iron are the names of the yacht's that donated \$30 a sheet to put on that extension. They have since been covered up by the cover you now look up and see. That cover looks pretty tattered today, maybe it is time to replace it and put the yacht names on the new covering? The next add on was the area where the pool table is out to the edge of our boundary which until then just had a cheap cover over it and the big shade cover looking over the lawn to the pontoon. That one was recently replaced after cyclone Yasi.

A fisherman, a shipwright and an old sailor were shocked when an angel appeared in their boat. The angel said, "I would like to do something for each of you". The fisherman spoke up, "I have suffered with back pain for years". The angel touches the man's back and he felt instant relief. The shipwright said, "I am nearly blind without my glasses! The angel took off his glasses and instantly the man's eyesight cleared to the point of perfect. The angel then turned towards the old sailor who was jumping off the boat. As he hit the water he cried out, "Don't you touch me - it took me two years to get on a disability pension!"



Damien 'Damo' Smith on course for recovery



Simon McAfee (pictured right), club regular and close friend of Damo (left) reports that he was discharged from hospital in Hobart mid March and has at last returned home. After several months under the care of medical staff following a mysterious head injury sustained here in Port Douglas in November 2011, Damo is now on the steady road to what will hopefully be a full recovery. Funds raised during the Anti Violence Festival Fundraiser at the Club in December are being used to cover the costs of further rehabilitation as Damo makes the slow and long journey to full recovery. Simon said that Damo has little recollection of his time since the incident and cannot recall the events of that night.



April Sailing

WAGS	Wednesday 4 th 4:00pm onwards	Sunset 6:17pm last light 6:38pm
WAGS	Wednesday 11 th 4:00pm onwards	Sunset: 6:12pm last light 6:34pm
WAGS	Wednesday 18 th 4:00pm onwards	Sunset 6:07pm last light 6:29pm
Trophy Series Race 2	Saturday 18 th 10:00am & 2:00pm Keith Quinn Memorial Fun Day	Reaching buoy race with quiz.
WAGS	Wednesday 25 th 4:00pm onwards	Sunset 6:03pm last light 6:25pm

Sunset and last light times give here are from WillyWeather on the PDYC website.

Get the tides, wind, rain, sunset, sunrise, moon phases and heaps more



Enter location or postcode

Skippers and crew are reminded that all club organised events in accordance with Yachting Australia Special Regulations Part 1 (also recommended for cruising boats) are Category 6 events considered being close to the shoreline in protected waters and in daylight hours only. RRS YA SR Pt 1 Section 2.01.7.



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Club stickers are available at the club to stick everywhere and anywhere to show you support PDYC. Get your club sticker and stick it wherever you want. While you're about it why not get a club stubby cooler too? They're pretty unique and quite rare. You can't get 'em anywhere else, just like the club shirts.

A sailor ran aground on a sandbar. A fisherman offered to tow the sailor's boat off the bar for \$50 and the sailor agreed. After he was off the bar, the sailor joked that at \$50 a pop the man could make a packet pulling people off the bar day and night." "Can't at night," replied the fisherman. "At night I haul sand."



Next issue: Scheduled for release late April sometime if all goes to plan. **Thanks** to all the owners of material borrowed from the net.

Contributions welcome: If you want to submit anything for inclusion, even a regular article, email pdyc@portdouglasyachtclub.com.au

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