

St. Helens

Colours: White Jerseys with Red 'V'
White Shorts

The Line-up

Scrums

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

Penalties

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

Oldham

Colours: Red & White hooped Jerseys
Blue Shorts

Scrums

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

Penalties

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

BRIAN PARKES 1
LES JONES 2
CHRIS ARKWRIGHT 3
DENIS LITHERLAND 4
ROY MATHIAS 5
STEVE PETERS 6
NEIL HOLDING 7
R. OWEN/M. JAMES 8
D. NULTY/C. WHITTLE 9
MIKE HOPE 10
ERIC CHISNALL 11
PETER GORLEY 12
G. BOTTELL/H. PINNER 13

Substitutes:
14
15

T	G	D/G	Pts.

MARTIN MURPHY 1
GEOFF MUNRO 2
ASHLEY McEWEN 3
MICK PARRISH 4
CLIVE SULLIVAN 5
BILL FRANCIS 6
RAY ASHTON 7
ADRIAN ALEXANDER 8
TONY HANDFORTH 9
BRIAN LOCKWOOD 10
GEOFF CLARKSON 11
BOB MORDELL 12
TERRY FLANAGAN 13

Substitutes:
14
15

T	G	D/G	Pts.

Referee: Mr. W. H. THOMPSON (Huddersfield)
Touch Judges: Mr. G. E. LIGHTFOOT (Red Flag) and Mr. T. A. THORNBURY (Yellow Flag)

Programme edited by G. Sutcliffe
Filmset and printed Litho by Lockie Press Ltd., Golborne, Nr. Warrington. Lancs.



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White Shorts

First match played September 1890
against Manchester Rangers

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Assistant Coach: J. Fishwick

Captain: E. Chisnall

"A" Team Coach: W. Boycott

Colts Coach: R. Dagnall

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HONOURS

Challenge Cup Competition

Winners: 1956, 1961, 1966, 1972, 1976
Runners-up: 1897, 1915, 1930, 1953, 1978

Rugby League Championship

Winners: 1931/32, 1952/53, 1958/59,
1965/66, 1969/70, 1970/71
Runners-up: 1964/65, 1966/67, 1971/72
1976/77

League Leaders' Trophy

Winners: 1964/65, 1965/66

1st Division Championship

Winners: 1974/75
Runners-up: 1962/63, 1973/74

Merit Championship Competition

Runners-up: 1973/74

Premiership Competition

Winners: 1975/76, 1976/77
Runners-up: 1974/75

Lancashire Challenge Cup

Winners: 1926, 1953, 1960, 1961, 1962,
1963, 1964, 1967, 1968
Runners-up: 1932, 1952, 1956, 1958, 1959,
1970

Lancashire League

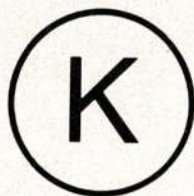
Winners: 1929/30, 1931/32, 1952/53, 1959/60,
1963/64, 1964/65, 1965/66, 1966/67, 1968/69
Runners-up: 1953/54, 1955/56, 1957/58
1958/59, 1960/61, 1967/68

Western Division Championship

Winners: 1963/64

BBC2 Floodlit Trophy

Winners: 1971, 1975
Runners-up: 1965, 1968, 1970, 1977, 1978



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Saints Club News

Today sees the start of a stiff Holiday programme which is followed by visits to Barrow on the 28th December (kick-off 2.30) and to Widnes on New Years Day (kick-off 3.00 p.m.). It is of course absolutely vital that we pick up some league points during this period or else our League Position does indeed become threatened. At the time of going to press it appeared likely that George Nichols, Peter Glynn, Clive Griffiths, Harry Pinner and Chris Seldon would all be fit to resume playing again after their various injuries. Only two casualties would then remain on the injured list—Steve Bayliss (Fractured Elbow) and Graham Liptrot (fractured jaw), both players are likely to be out for about a further 4 weeks.

MATCH SPONSORS

GREENALL WHITLEY are the sponsors of today's Player of the Match award. Today's winner of the award will be selected and presented by the officials of the British Rail Staff Association of St. Helens on behalf of the sponsors.

Our thanks and best wishes to them.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Neil Holding deservedly selected for the G.B. U24's game in Villeneuve on January 11th. Also to Colin Whittle who has been chosen to play for Gt. Britain Colts against France (at Leeds on 31st January).

Our congratulations are also due to Peter Gorley whose wife Moira gave birth to a son last week and to Gary Bottell who celebrated his 21st birthday last Wednesday.



NEIL HOLDING

Yet another superb display against Leeds earned Neil another Great Britain U/24's Cap with his selection for the match in France on 11th January, 1981.



**It's Local Time
in Greenall Whitley Land**



CHALLENGE CUP ENTRY — PLAY OFF

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28th, 1980—Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

PILKINGTON RECS (Winners Lancashire/Cumbria Cup)
versus

MILFORD (Leeds) (Winners Yorkshire/Humberside Cup)

This play-off for entry into the 1st Round of the State Express Challenge Cup should be a real thriller. In the past winners of both competitions i.e. Lancs/Cumbria and Yorkshire Cup, automatically went into the 1st Round Draw. This year following the admission of Fulham R.L.C. the play-off has become necessary and only the winners go through.

Admission 80p—Pensioners and Boys 40p.

'A' TEAM NEWS

Saints 'A' suffered a narrow defeat in the Lancashire Shield at the hands of Widnes. After leading by 9 points to nil at one stage—Saints eventually finished up conceding a try in injury time to make the score after 80 minutes 18–18. After 20 minutes extra time Widnes triumphed by 21–18 but the defeat was due to some incharacteristic mistakes rather than any brilliance on the part of Widnes.

ST. HELENS SCHOOLS R.L.

St. Helens Schools R.L. would like to express their gratitude to everyone who contributed to their collection at the Leeds match. This raised £193.26 for their fund.

PROGRAMME PRIZES

DON'T FORGET TO LOOK OUT FOR THE PROGRAMME PRIZES—5 Vouchers at £1.00 are included in today's issue. The winner can claim the prize at the Club Office after the game.



STEVE BAYLISS who will be out of action with a broken elbow until the New Year.

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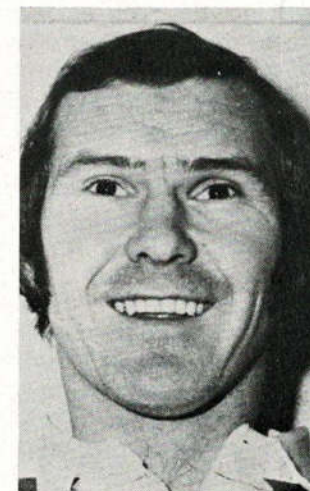
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Oldham stars on view today



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*Have
a good
Season!*



TODAY'S VISITORS—OLDHAM

This afternoon we are delighted to welcome the staff, players and directors of Oldham R.L.C. for this Holiday Fixture. Although at present in 13th league position, Oldham are in the eyes of many good judges going to be one of the team's of the Eighties. They have ploughed much of their resources into the signing of several junior players of outstanding quality. Names that many of our supporters will not yet have heard of are already putting Oldham in an enviable position of strength at Colts level. Derek Seabrook, Mick O'Rourke, Steven Dobb, Mick Worrel, Alan Platt and Paul Lowdnes have all been selected for Great Britain Colts squad to play France in the New Year.

In addition to these outstanding signings at Colts level, Oldham have been busy strengthening their senior side, since they played at St. Helens in August. Players who have joined the Watersheddings squad are:- Brian Lockwood (signed from Hull K.R.), Clive Sullivan (also from Hull K.R.) Geoff Clarkson (signed from Bradford Northern), Tony Handforth (signed from Hunslet).

Ashley McEwen, the New Zealand centre who had a spell with Blackpool Borough has been signed on a 5 year contract and should prove to be a real asset. Oldham also paid in the region of £20,000 to Hunslet for goal-kicking centre Mick Parrish and Saints will have to guard against the giving away of needless penalties with this prolific scorer amongst the opposition.

Bill Francis who had a two year spell with St. Helens will need no introduction to their supporters. Another ex Saints Ken Gwilliam who played for 5 years at the Club (1974-79) will probably miss the game as a result of an injury sustained at Workington. Long serving player Mick Murphy will be at full-back.

Interesting clash is likely to develop at scrum-half with the highly rated Ray Ashton (younger brother of Alan Ashton) attempting to put the brakes on Neil Holding.

In the pack R.U. converts Adrian Alexander and Bob Mordell will be to the fore and have settled down well in their new code. Last man down Terry Flanagan is very much a star in the making and has earned his G.B. U24's selection with some outstanding displays.

NEW TITLE FOR CHALLENGE CUP

The Rugby League Challenge Cup is to be given a new sponsorship title from 1st January, 1981.

The sponsors of the game's top competition and the Rugby League have agreed to re-name the tournament The Three Fives Challenge Cup. The Three Fives title is being introduced to the sponsor's entire sports sponsorship programme in the U.K.

This is the last season of the current £220,000 Rugby League sponsorship but negotiations are well advanced for a further three-year agreement.

The draw for the First Round of the Three Fives Challenge Cup will be staged "live" in B.B.C. T.V. "Grandstand" on Saturday, 3rd January, 1981, the First Round being played over the weekend of 14th/15th February.

Another major feature of the 1981 Three Fives Challenge Cup campaign is the introduction of a £5,550 Three Fives Challenge to an amateur club which beats a professional club in the tournament.

As with the other Challenges in Rugby League, the governing body, in this case B.A.R.L.A., will retain 80% of the Challenge prize money with the remaining one-fifth being presented to the amateur team. This support is intended to encourage the development of the Rugby League game at amateur level.

This boosts the existing £5,550 Three Fives Challenges to a club scoring 55 points or more, or for an individual player scoring five or more tries in a match, plus the £555 Challenge for an individual player scoring five or more goals in a Challenge Cup match.

The first ever sponsorship of the Challenge Cup was launched in the 1978-79 season and this season's sponsorship instalment is nearly £83,000 with £55,500 being offered in prize money as follows:-

16 First Round losers each receives £750	£12,000
8 Second Round losers each receive £1,160	£9,280
4 Third Round losers each receive £2,000	£8,000
2 Beaten Semi-Finalists each receive £3,555	£7,110
Runners-up receive £6,555	£6,555
Winners receive £12,555	£12,555
	£55,500

Since the introduction of sponsorship of the Challenge Cup, the winners have been Widnes and Hull Kingston Rovers and the sponsors are to continue their policy of presenting the winners with a permanent Three Fives Challenge memento to be displayed in the club's Board Room.

TWENTY POINTS BY BOTH TEAMS:

Despite the fiercely competitive chase for the League titles, there have already been 9 matches this season in which both teams have scored 20 points or more.

Six of these high scoring, entertaining clashes have been in the Slalom Lager Championship with the remaining 3 in Division Two where the pace has hotted up with this season's inclusion of Fulham.

The nine matches in which both teams scored 20 points or more

SLALOM LAGER CHAMPIONSHIP

Featherstone R.	40pts.	Workington T.	23pts.
Hull K.R.	28pts.	Salford	20pts.
Castleford	22pts.	St. Helens	21pts.
Leigh	20pts.	Hull	23pts.
Featherstone R.	26pts.	Castleford	27pts.
Wakefield T.	25pts.	Hull K.R.	20pts.

SECOND DIVISION

Bramley	29pts.	Batley	22pts.
Whitehaven	23pts.	Keighley	21pts.
Hunslet	23pts.	Bramley	30pts.

For comparison, the last period of two division football between 1962 and 1964 produced only 12 matches in which both teams scored 20 or more points during the full two seasons, 7 in 1963-64 and 5 in 1962-63.

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Supporters Club Notes

SUPPORTERS CLUB SHOP

The Club Shop will be open before and after today's game for souvenirs, old programmes etc. Please call in and look around the best Supporters Club Shop in the Rugby League.

COACHES TO BARROW

Any member of the Supporters Club wishing to travel to Barrow by coach may reserve a seat before or after today's game by booking at the Supporters Club Shop.

ROUTE TO BARROW

Saints Supporters travelling by car to Barrow should take the M6 to exit 36. Follow signs to Kendal. Barrow A591, in $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles branch left, signpost Barrow, and at roundabout take first exit A6. In $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles Levens Bridge (traffic signals) turn right A590. In 25 miles Barrow Town Centre, Ramsden Square roundabout take 2nd exit and at junction turn right into Hindpool Road for Barrow Rugby Ground on right.

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY LEAGUE

Lancashire Combination

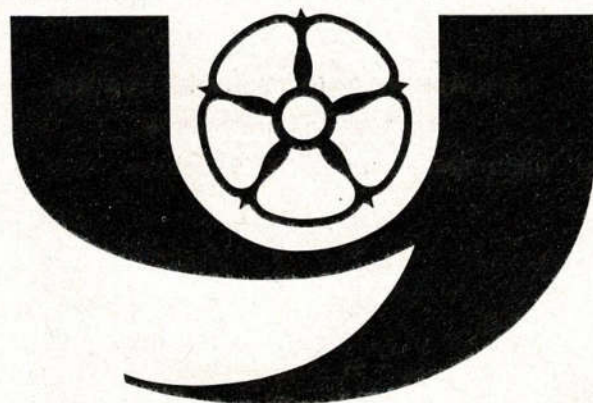
(up to and including 10th December, 1980)

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst.	Pts.
Whitehaven.....	11	9	0	2	173	128	18
St. Helens	10	7	1	2	197	105	15
Leigh	13	7	0	6	229	169	14
Wigan.....	12	7	0	5	216	199	14
Oldham	11	7	0	4	158	163	14
Warrington	11	5	1	5	171	156	11
Barrow.....	10	5	0	5	179	146	10
Widnes.....	12	5	0	7	242	212	10
Swinton.....	11	5	0	6	169	190	10
Rochdale Hornets	9	5	0	4	114	138	10
Salford.....	9	3	0	5	127	166	6
Workington Town.....	11	3	0	8	153	208	6
Blackpool Borough	12	2	0	10	107	255	4

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APPEARANCES AND SCORERS (Up to and including Sunday, 14th December, 1980)

	App.	T.	D/G.	G.	Pts.
Arkwright, Chris	4	1	—	—	3
Bottell, Gary	1	—	—	—	—
Brownbill, Paul	—	—	—	—	—
Bayliss, Steve	9	3	—	—	9
Bolton, Tony	9	—	—	—	—
Canning, John	2	—	—	—	—
Chisnall, Eric	14	—	—	—	—
Fairclough, David	1	—	—	—	—
Glynn, Peter	5	3	1	—	10
Gorley, Peter	12	2	—	—	6
Griffiths, Clive	13	1	1	43	90
Haggerty, Roy	9	1	—	—	3
Holding, Neil	15	9	2	17	52
Hope, Mick	16	1	—	—	3
Jones, Les	16	3	—	—	9
James, Mel	11	—	—	—	—
Liptrot, Graham	8	2	—	—	6
Litherland, Denis	13	2	—	—	6
Mathias, Roy	11	2	—	—	6
Meadows, Kevin	4	—	—	—	—
Nicholls, George	11	—	—	—	—
Nulty, Denis	7	—	—	—	—
Peters, Steve	12	5	—	—	15
Parkes, Brian	11	2	—	—	6
Pickavance, Kieron	9	—	—	—	—
Pinner, Harry	9	2	2	—	8
Seldon, Chris	—	—	—	—	—
Smith, John	5	—	—	—	—
Owen, Roger	1	—	—	—	—
Whittle, Colin	2	—	—	—	—
	240	39	6	60	243

1980

Aug. 30—Salford	H	12-1
Sept. 6—Oldham	A	15-29
13—Widnes	H	79-0
20—Leigh	A	22-8
27—Featherstone	H	6-2
Oct. 4—Salford	A	10-6
11—Hunslet	H	9-19
18—Hull K.R.	A	Post
25—Wakefield	H	19-9
Nov. 1—Keighley	A	21-7
8—Oldham	H	7-64
15—Widnes	A	Post
22—Bramley	H	18-5
29—Featherstone	A	Post
Dec. 6—Bradford N.	H	34-15
13—Bradford N.	A	7-4
20—Hull	H	—

ST. HELENS COLTS FIXTURES

1981

Jan. 3—Castleford	A
10—Rochdale	H
17—Hunslet	A
24—Leigh	H
31—Leeds	H
Feb. 7—Rochdale	A
21—Leeds	A
Mar. 7—Castleford	H
14—Hull	A
21—Hull K.R.	H
28—Wakefield	A
April 4—Keighley	H
11—Bramley	A

The cup winner.



Slalom Lager

Brewed by Matthew Brown



FOLLOWING FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS

Richard Mathias holds down father Roy with Steve Bayliss, Eric Chisnall, Mel James, Roger Owen and Les Jones looking on.

(photograph by courtesy of The Daily Mirror)

Sunday Mirror

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Presented by Rugby League PRO David Howes

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Brian Batty on Rugby League

By
**Brian
Batty**
of the
"Daily Mail"



Tom Bishop's sanity was certainly questioned by a lot of people when he turned his back on Sydney's soaring summer temperatures to return to England. It would be difficult to find a greater contrast to his life Down Under than coaching Workington Town on a Cumbrian coast exposed to the worst of our grim winters.

Yet life at the bottom of the First Division had to have more appeal than merely a lucrative contract for Bishop.

The former Great Britain scrum half has always loved a challenge and Australian fans will bear testimony to that fact when he played against their country and when he wore Cronulla's colours in Sydney.

And those warm hearted folk in Cumbria are right behind him now as he battles with typical determination to earn Workington First Division survival.

It looked a lost cause when Bishop answered the call of ambitious Workington chief Tom Mitchell so late in a season in which nothing had gone right for the Cumbrians.

But there are signs that the relegation clouds could begin to lift following the 25-4 defeat of Oldham.

Bishop has rammed home the message that his players need to approach Australian standards of preparation and fitness if they are to succeed.

He says 'I have now got the players training four times a week—twice more than normal—and it is paying dividends. I realise that it's much harder getting the players organised here than in Australia because of the climate, but it's necessary.

We need a few more wins now to maintain our confidence and then I think we could have a reasonable crack at getting to Wembley.

That's not just wishful thinking because a couple of home ties in Cumbria can make all the difference as I know from my playing days over here'.

Warrington's skipper, Ken Kelly is already tipping Bishop's methods to succeed after his team's rough league encounter. 'I was amazed at the transformation in Workington's play, particularly the way they tackled and covered. They were tremendous and if they can continue in this vein I am sure Bishop can keep them in the First Division' says Kelly.

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First Team

FIXTURES

'A' Team

Date	Opponents	Grd	Date	Opponents	Grd
1980			1980		
Aug. Su 10—	Oldham (Charity)	H 30-12	Aug. Fri 22—	Warrington (7.30)	A 13-24
Su 17—	Workington (Lancs. Cup 1st Rd.)	A 15-5	Fri 29—	Widnes (7.30)	A 16-8
Su 24—	Widnes (Lancs. Cup 2nd Rd.)	A 20-22	Sept. Fri 5—	Wigan (7.30)	H 37-11
Su 31—	Bradford N. (3.00)	H 16-6	Fri 15—	Salford (7.30)	H Post.
Sept. Su 7—	Castleford (3.30)	A 21-22	Th 25—	Oldham (7.30)	A 15-6
Su 14—	Wakefield T. (3.00)	H 14-16	Oct. Sa 11—	Blackpool (Shield) (3.00)	A 36-5
Fri 19—	Salford (7.30)	A 25-19	Fri 17—	Warrington (7.30)	H 8-8
Su 28—	Featherstone R. (3.00)	H 19-5	W 29—	Salford (7.30)	A 21-9
Oct. Su 5—	Workington T. (3.00)	A 16-16	Nov. Sa 1—	Workington (2.00)	H 27-9
Su 12—	New Zealand (3.00)	H 11-6	Th 6—	Leigh (7.30)	H 27-10
Su 19—	Warrington (3.00)	A 11-15	Sa 15—	Workington (2.30)	A 30-12
Su 26—	Castleford (3.00)	H 5-8	Fri 21—	Wigan (7.30)	A 3-5
Nov. Su 9—	Leigh (3.30)	A 21-7	Fri 28—	Rochdale (7.30)	H Post
Su 16—	Workington T. (3.00)	H 18-8	Dec. Sa 6—	Blackpool (2.30)	A Post
Su 23—	Warrington (J.P.T.) (3.00)	H 12-14	W 10—	Widnes (2nd Rd. Shield) (7.30)	A 18-21 after extra time
Su 30—	Featherstone R. (2.30)	A 8-12	Sa 20—	Whitehaven (3.00)	A Post
Dec. Su 7—	(John Player Trophy)		1981		
Su 14—	Leeds (3.00)	H 11-13	Jan. Fri 9—	Oldham (7.30)	H
Su 21—	Bradford N. (3.30)	A 0-11	Sa 17—	Barrow (2.30)	A
Boxing Day			Fri 23—	Blackpool (7.30)	H
Fri 26—	Oldham (3.00)	H	Fri 30—	Swinton (7.30)	H
Su 28—	Barrow (2.30)	A	Feb. Th 5—	Leigh (7.30)	A
1981			Fri 13—	Salford (7.30)	H
Jan. Th 1—	Widnes (3.00)	A	Th 26—	Rochdale (7.30)	A
Su 4—	Salford (3.00)	H	Sa 28—	Blackpool (3.00)	A
Su 11—	Hull K.R. (3.00)	A	Mar. Th 5—	Swinton (7.30)	A
Su 18—	Barrow (3.00)	H	Fri 13—	Widnes (7.30)	H
Su 25—	Leeds (3.00)	A	Sa 21—	Whitehaven (3.00)	H
Feb. Su 1—	Wakefield T. (3.30)	A	Sa 28—	Barrow (3.00)	H
Su 8—	Leigh (3.00)	H	<i>To be re-arranged</i>		
Su 15—	(State Express C.C.)		<i>Rochdale (Home)</i>		
Mar. Su 1—	(State Express C.C.)		<i>Whitehaven (Away)</i>		
Su 8—	Hull K.R. (3.00)	H			
Su 22—	Hull (3.00)	A			
Su 29—	Halifax (3.30)	A			
April Su 5—	Warrington (3.00)	H			
Su 12—	Halifax (3.00)	H			
Fri 17—	Oldham (3.30)	A			
Su 19—	Hull (3.00)	H			
Tu 21—	Widnes (7.30)	H			

JOHN PLAYER TROPHY			
1st Rd	22/23 Nov.	1st Semi-final	20th Dec.
2nd Rd	6/7 Dec.	2nd Semi-final	10th Jan.
3rd Rd	13/14 Dec.	Final	24th Jan.

SLALOM LAGER PREMIERSHIP		
1st Rd	25/26 April	
Semi-finals	10th May	
Final	16th May	

STATE EXPRESS CHALLENGE CUP			
1st Rd	14/15 Feb.	1st Semi-final	28th Mar.
2nd Rd	28 Feb./1 Mar.	2nd Semi-final	4th April
3rd Rd	14/15 Mar.	Final	3rd May

Established over 30 years



Imperial Buildings, 22 Ormskirk Street,
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