

## Colour in the Community

There was an article in the previous issue of this newspaper about making a mosaic bench together for the community: a "Social sofa". It looks like this will go ahead, with financial support from the council.

But your help will be needed: who is available to stick some of the 43,000 pieces of mosaic onto the concrete bench on one of the six working days booked for this venture? Who knows of a studio or workshop where the bench 2.25m long can be worked on, with an entrance at least 90cm wide, at ground level? We also have to brainstorm together to come up with a suitable theme for the neighbourhood (for example Couperus or "Indisch" district) and an artist will make the design. Perhaps there is a local artist who can and wants to do this? And then there is the location of the bench. All suggestions gratefully

accepted.

All in all, this is a really nice project for local residents to work on together. The project supervisor will be Saskia van Haeren, who has already worked on other "sofas" in the city.

We hope you will be just as excited about the social sofa prospect as the Residents Association, and inundate us with ideas and offers of help. Who knows there may be enough "hands" for a second sofa, a bit of colour in the community in times like these can't be a bad thing!

### For questions and suggestions:

Else Ponsen, Residents Association Archipel&Willemspark, Celebesstraat 4, 2585TJ The Hague, 070 3503511 or 070 3505738, secretariat@archipelbuurt.nl

### Appeal for new volunteers for the working party Public Space

Would you like to do your bit for a more "liveable" neighbourhood? Do you want to be in on discussions with the city council about what happens in your space? Then use your time and drive to support the working party Public Space.

Activities are practical and diverse: maintaining contact with the council for example, or making a difference on a more modest scale by informing the Gemeentelijk Contact Centrum about overflowing waste bins, defunct street lighting or illegally dumped household garbage. If this does not help our contact person at county hall will be mobilized. Dealing with e-mails from fellow residents and following them up with the council is another way to help.

Larger scale projects like the transformation of Bankstraat are an ideal opportunity to improve the attractiveness of the street scene in the neighbourhood. The planting of trees also makes for a more attractive Archipel & Willemsparkbuurt.

Want to help? Then please contact Josien Deknatel on 06 - 55 88

## Door-to-door Poetry Festival

### "Dichter aan huis" looking for accommodation in the neighbourhood

**The Poetry Festival "Dichter aan huis" (Poet in residence) will be held for the tenth time on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 September 2009 in The Hague. During this festival 50 renowned poets recite their own work in 50 Haagse sitting rooms.**

The poets hold five recitations a day: the first is at 13.00 and the last at 17.00. While the poets remain at the same location, the festival audience put their own programme together and move from one venue to another. Each recitation lasts about 40 minutes (including discussion afterwards), after which the public has the opportunity to move on to the following address. The number of visitors per recitation depends on the size of the venue, but the maximum will be 25.

A number of new venues are being sought for both days in the Archipelbuurt and Willemspark for the 2009 Festival, namely private Haagse homes. On one of the two afternoons, the owners throw open their doors to one poet and his/her public. If you are interested and would like to host such a literary afternoon, then send your name, address, telephone number and e-mail to the foundation "Dichter aan huis", Antwoordnummer 10986, 2501 WB Den Haag (no stamp necessary). Or ring 070 346 57 86 or mail: festival@dichteraanhuis.nl for more information. You will then be contacted by the foundation.

### Monchyplein 2004 - 2009

On 12 June 2004 the then Deputy Mayor Bruno Bruins Met unveiled the marble fountain with a huge crane to mark the official and festive opening of the Burgemeester de Monchyplein (BBM) complex. That was almost five years ago, reason indeed for the BBM

Residents Association to celebrate its first lustre/ quinquennium. An open-air lunch concert will be held on Sunday 21 June to which all local residents are invited. Immediately after the concert there will be a game of Jeu-de-boules (French bowls) on the playing area near the Post Office, next to the Irene

monument. Make a note in your diary: the definitive programme will be published in due time on the local website www.archipelbuurt.nl and brochures will be circulated locally. As usual there will be the annual barbecue, with a special festive touch, for Monchyplein residents in the evening.

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# 4 May

## Remembrance Day

There will be a short remembrance gathering **in the Vredeskapel** at 19.00 before leaving at 19.30 to walk to the Carnegieplein to lay a wreath at the monument erected in 1992.

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## Sing along with esGROOT

**16 May 2009 in Vredeskapel**  
**13.30 - 17.30**

On 7 November 2008, our local chamber choir esGROOT celebrated its tenth anniversary in the Kloosterkerk, 4 Lange Voorhout.

There were more than 500 in the audience and the fan club keeps growing. That is why the choir thought it was time to have a sing-along in the form of a “scratch” with its regular devotees.

- You practise a few pieces at home
- Then there is an afternoon collective rehearsal of the pieces and
- Finally the concert.

Members of the esGROOT will also practise at home beforehand.

If you have ever had the desire to sing and perform, get in touch or make a note in your diary of the *scratchmiddag* (scratch afternoon) on 16 May with esGROOT in the Vredeskapel, Malakkastraat 1, under the direction of Marcela Obermeister.

More information at [www.esgroot.nl](http://www.esgroot.nl)

# Who are we?

“We” being the residents of Archipel and Willemspark. There are 5,705 in Archipel and 1,336 in Willemspark (1 January 2008 figures). In both cases, slightly down on last year. Among us in Archipel and Willemspark respectively, 18% / 10% are under 20 and 16% / 13% over 65. The make-up of the district’s population is 63% / 57% Dutch or indigenous (as a opposed to The Hague as a whole, which is 54%) and the rest is almost all allochthonous of Western origin.

In District 05: the Archipel, the composition of households was 55.8% single inhabitants, 25% cohabitants without children, 15.1% cohabitants with children and 4.2% single-parent families. In District 47: Willemspark, there are 62.8% single inhabitants, 25.6% cohabitants without children, 8.3% cohabitants with children and 3.3% single-parent families. We do not like to move house, we do it less than the average Hagenaar. More people did however leave our district than moved in.

In 2004, a family in the Archipel had an average income of €36,500, as opposed to €26,500 in The Hague as a whole. Willemspark came in at virtually the same, €36,400.

Families live in 3,494 / 1,057 homes (1 January 2009 figures). The average price (based on 2005 WOZ price levels) of a single-family dwelling was €737,682 / €448,806, and apartments €260,608 / €275,856. The price the homes actually sold for were slightly higher. In 2007, 124 of the existing housing stock were sold in the Archipel. The average overall sale price being €566,542: for single-family properties the average price €948,953 and for apartments €403,907. In Willemspark, 40 homes were sold for an average price of €336,000 per property. Very few single-family properties were sold in Willemspark, there are obviously a lot less of them. Apartments on average made €297,234.

These statistics are just the tip of the iceberg. There are many more and we will return to this subject in the next issue of the community paper. In the meantime, if you are curious, you can check out the figures yourself by going to: [www.denhaag.nl](http://www.denhaag.nl) / Feiten en Cijfers / Den Haag in cijfers / Online / Wijkrapporten For for figures for every imagineable subject. Did you think that you could live anonymously among the masses in the big city? You’ve been counted, measured and priced down to the most minutest detail ...

MO

# 9,000 hours practising in Malakkastraat delivers national championship ice hockey

**Q:** James, how old are you now?

**A:** 26 years old.

**Q:** When did you start playing ice hockey?

**A:** When I was 4 years old.

**Q:** I always remember you – as your neighbour across the road – struggling along Malakkastraat with the goal your father made for you and your long ice-hockey stick. How many hours do you think you whacked away doing this?

**A:** We work it out together: every day for two hours before dinner and sometimes another hour afterwards and then till I was 16 or 17 years old. I'd take a shot at 12 (years) x 300 (days per year) x 2.5 (hours on average per day) = 9,000 hours.

**Q:** You also played four seasons for Heerenveen, why did you come back to The Hague?

**A:** HYS went up to the premier division and offered me an interesting contract. I also wanted to return to the big city. I was studying Communication & Multi-Media Design in Friesland and could

continue my studies here at the Haagse Hogeschool.

**Q:** Have you ever played for the Dutch national team?

**A:** Yes, sometimes I've been selected and at other times, like now, not - quite a relief, actually. It has been so hectic with all the playoff matches.

**Q:** What was the best moment for you during the playoffs?

**A:** Of course my goal in the fifth and deciding match against Tilburg Trappers on Saturday evening 21 March 2009. I scored the fifth goal to make it 5-1.

**Q:** It seems you haven't reached the highpoint yet. What more can we expect?

**A:** Lots more trophies. For a start we want HYS to be national champion again next year of course. In addition we will now be playing in the Champions League, which I am really looking forward to.

**Q:** Can you live from ice hockey or do you have a job on the side?

**A:** Oh yes, at this stage in my life it's fine. I get paid for seven months of the

year and also have a stand-by contract with Red Bike, a really cool multimedia design studio, where I did my internship. This is the area in which I would like to work when I graduate. Hopefully, I can continue to play ice hockey at premiership level for another four or five years

**Q:** What is your fondest memory of your time living here?

**A:** I guess playing hockey in the street, actually. When I was a little chap, I joined in with other boys living in the street like Timmy Brommersma and Matthijs van Dijk.

**Q:** Why would you recommend that the boys and girls of today in Archipel/Willemspark play ice hockey?

**A:** This sport can give you so much. You find out who you are and develop character and perseverance by playing ice hockey. And of course playing a team sport is generally very instructive. It also taught me to strive for success. I wish that for all the kids of today.

For more information see [www.hysthehague.com](http://www.hysthehague.com)

CR

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## Sculptor Tajiri dies

**The international Japanese/American/Dutch sculptor Shinkichi Tajiri died this Saturday on 15 March 2009. He created the sculpture "Watchman" on Nassauplein. It was commissioned by the Ministry of Defence to mark the abolition of compulsory military service in the Netherlands.**

Tajiri is perhaps best known for his large statues of knots, like the large white one at Schiphol entitled "Meeting Point" and the one hidden behind the bus stop (as is the Watchman) outside the Shell headquarters on Carel van Bylandtlaan.

After leaving the US, where he had been interned with his parents, he met members of the COBRA group in Paris, who persuaded him to come to the Netherlands. At first he settled in Amsterdam, but was later looking for a studio and accommodation elsewhere. He was given the use of a dilapidated castle in Baarlo thanks to a former mayor of The Hague Mr. F.G.L.L. Schols, who had also been mayor of the village of Baarlo in Limburg.

Also see article in pdf of English translation of A&W Community Newspaper April 2006.

More information about Tajiri and his work:

[www.24oranges.nl](http://www.24oranges.nl)

[ogendicht.blogspot.com/2007/06](http://ogendicht.blogspot.com/2007/06)

[www.cobra-museum.nl](http://www.cobra-museum.nl)

[www.shinkichi-tajiri.com](http://www.shinkichi-tajiri.com)

## Community



## in a state of flux

### Djawa restaurant closes after 22 years

**After more than 22 years, the Indonesian restaurant Djawa on Mallemlolen is closing. A loss for us but Ulpho van der Zalm has enjoyed being an independent entrepreneur for almost a quarter of a century and now wants a quieter life. He will be taking up a teaching post at the Mondriaan Hotelschool in Bezuidenhout.**

As of 1 April new owners Patrick and Lissette Buyze, although Patrick is not new to the neighbourhood: he ran the restaurant Malaparte on the premises that now houses Le Moulin Fou, will be taking over and launching their own restaurant Mochi, currently located on Hooikade, in Mallemlolen. Mochi specializes in Japanese/Latin cuisine.

The couple van der Zalm will continue to live above the restaurant. And they will remain involved in the neighbourhood: Marianne van der Zalm is part of the website editorial team and has recently taken over "care" of the van Repelaer woods, where she regularly walks her dog, from Agaath Reuchlin.

AK

**Cheep, cheep**

I just read in the February issue of the A&W Community newspaper that some local residents are upset about the lack of birds in their gardens. This does not have to be the case. We live in a neighbourhood so close to the woods and several green areas, it is not difficult to attract birds into your garden.

We have a small, paved, walled garden in Batjanstraat in which we have counted 16 different species of birds in the past few months and where various birds regularly visit. We have made the garden greener by installing containers with flowers and shrubs. There is also a tree, in which we have hung bird-cake balls (made of melted fat and a mixture of ingredients such as seeds, nuts, dried fruit and oatmeal) and a fir-cone filled with bird feed.

In our small city garden we regularly see the Great Spotted Woodpecker (on the tree and the bird food), the Great Tit and Blue Tit (on the bird cake balls) and every now and again the Long-tailed Tit. And on the ground, after the fallen debris, we see the Dunnock and also the Robin, the Wren, the Blackbird and the Finch.

Many people also often get the less popular Wood Pigeon and various members of the crow family (Crow, Jackdaw and Magpie) and when we hung up the strings of peanuts we got Ring-necked Parakeets and Jays. Once, even a single Herring Gull ventured onto the peanuts.

*Yolande de Kok - 2 March 2009*

**Pavement in Timorstraat claimed for Lange Voorhout**

On 11 and 12 March 2009, some overzealous council labourers removed an area of pavement adjoining the Jewish cemetery wall in Timorstraat. At first we thought they were going to fell a tree because the container they had with them was extremely large. But imagine our surprise when the next day they began to refill the gap with very ordinary, grey square paving stones. After making enquiries, we learnt that the old clinkers (Waal bricks) were needed elsewhere in The Hague: in fact on Lange Voorhout where a hole had to be filled at very short notice. It had not been possible to arrange delivery in time (of course, they have only been working on the street for how many months was it again!) Something to do with the CPC ... ?

I was assured that no more clinkers would be removed (I bet) but in the meantime we look out precisely on the changeover from old to new. They started the same kind of "improvement" on Burg. Patijnlaan and in Timorstraat: slowly but surely the council is making our lives greyer and more ordinary. In the meantime I have reported the incident to Monumentenzorg (Historic Buildings Trust), which will look into what they can do...

*Kind regards from a sombre resident,  
Alexandra Boucher, Timorstraat 131*

# TRAM 9

**Last time we highlighted future plans for tram service 9, this time we are taking a look into the past.**

Tram 9 was the second horse-drawn tram in the Netherlands and went into service in July 1864. It was known as the "black" line and ran from the Plein via Kanonstraat, Prinsessgracht, Koninginnegracht, the Wittebrug (near Madurodam) and Badhuisweg to the municipal bathhouse in Scheveningen. The section after the Archipel passed through a virtually uninhabited area. Because there were no seaside visitors in the winter, the tram only went as far as Atjehstraat during this season.

**From horse power to battery power**

Although the service just missed being the "first" in the Netherlands in 1864, in 1890 it was the first in the country to introduce the electric tram in 1890. It was battery driven and could do five journeys back and forth on one charged battery, after which the battery was changed at the depot in Scheveningen. The service was discontinued in the winter because the trams could not cope with snow. The horse-drawn variety then took over the route from the city to Atjehstraat. With the arrival of the battery tram, the route was transferred from Badhuisweg to Nieuwe Parklaan. In 1904 it became the first Haagse tram service to use electric bow trams. The newest and highest-quality equipment was always deployed on this line to outdo the competition.

For example, the first steam tram in the Netherlands had been running on the other side of the canal since 1879. Its route ran from what is now Central Station, along Koningkade, Raamweg and Badhuisweg to the bathhouse in Scheveningen. Although prohibited there were quite a few races between these competing services.

During World War II, Scheveningen was a cordoned-off garrison and the tram service had to be split into two: a garrison service from the Kurhaus to the (demolished) Wittebrug and a service from the city to our side of the Wittebrug. The passengers from the stop in Atjehstraat to the Wittebrug were almost entirely Germans; the Dutch were, except for a few exceptions, forbidden to enter the Scheveningen garrison.

A new terminus loop in the Archipel is therefore practically a re-run of an earlier situation. With the introduction of the electric bow tram, the designation of colours for tramlines was replaced by numbers. Permanent tram stops were also introduced; up till then the horse-drawn trams had stopped whenever they were hailed, except on slopes and corners.

B. FEENSTRA

# WORKING FROM HOME

**Their professions vary somewhat, from artist and manual therapist to hairdresser and divorce mediator. But they have a couple of things in common. They are all zzp'er: zelfstandige zonder personeel (self-employed with no personnel) and they work from home.**

**The community paper made house calls by some of them.**

## HENK VAN DER LEEDEN ARCHITECT KERKHOFAN

### **What do you do/make, actually?**

I am an architect by profession. One who is particularly interested in the structural engineering aspect of the business. I withdrew from the De Jel & Van der Leeden practice I had with Bert de Jel, in 2007. What I now do primarily is renovate a property in Scheveningen. I mainly do carpentry work, but I am also the electrician, plumber, architect, tea-lady, foreman, labourer, bricklayer, estate agent, property adviser, draughtsman, sculptor, builder, landlord, odd-job man and cleaner – this is what I actually do.

### **Does this neighbourhood have something special to offer the zzp'er?**

As described above, I don't work much at home, but if I am at home, I think the village atmosphere of the neighbourhood contributes to the conviviality.

### **Chatting with colleagues is a thing of the past. You must miss that. How badly?**

I don't miss it at all. And if I do, I pop along to my old practice.

### **Don't you tend to get involved with the domestic chores?**

My wife Conny works two days a week and on the other days also helps me in Scheveningen, the first of the time we share the housekeeping duties. The balance is pretty good but I leave the "supervisionary role" to her, which I am glad about. So it's not a question of interfering.

### **Are the children glad about having a working parent at home?**

I wouldn't know. You'll have to ask them (I managed to avoid that one.)

### **Wouldn't you like to be back in a traffic jam again for a moment with everyone else?**

What a question! The practice happens to be in the city centre of The Hague and I often go there on the bike. I planned external appointments outside peak times as much as possible. So "back" in traffic jams doesn't actually apply.

## LINDA FAIRWETHER NASH TRANSLATOR MALAKKASTRAAT

### **What do you translate actually?**

I am originally a graphic designer and edited some English texts for design studios. And one thing led to another: I now translate from Dutch to English for the most diverse of clients. I also do editing work in English.

### **Does Archipel&Willemspark have something special to offer the zzp'er?**

Yes, attractive and quiet surroundings and everything close at hand. So if you have to do the shopping, you just pop down to Bankastraat!

### **Chatting with colleagues is a thing of the past. You must miss that. How badly?**

If I'm working on an assignment, not at all. It doesn't bother me, but I do miss having a sounding board terribly. That used to be my partner Bill before he had to stop working in our business. Finally, I went looking for a part-time job outside the front door.

### **Don't you tend to get involved with the domestic chores?**

Only if I'm not too keen on the assignment I'm working on.

### **Are the children glad about having a working parent at home?**

Yes. I was trained as a graphic designer and the subject my son is now studying involves a lot of design and but also language. So we have something in common that we talk about a lot. When he was younger, I could combine my work and his sport quite easily: I checked through my translations in the stands while he was playing ice hockey!

### **Wouldn't you like to be back in a traffic jam again for a moment with everyone else?**

Luckily, I've never really had to do that. I go everywhere on the bike!

MO

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**RENÉ STIKKELORUM**  
**DESIGNER**  
**MALLEMOLEN 53K**

**What do you do?**

I have two professions, landlord and designer. The latter takes up 80 per cent of my time. I studied at the Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam and the Art Academy in The Hague. Primarily I design and make chandeliers.

When had the chance to buy a house in Balistraat, we took it and renovated the house completely. We're good at odd jobs and assembled a group of people around us who knew what they were doing.

Later we bought another property further up and did the same. We live in the first house and rent apartments in the second; that's why I think of myself as a landlord.

What is now my studio, was once, a long time ago, a hayloft, with the horses downstairs. A dairy was located once too.

**Does Archipel&Willemspark have something special to offer the zzp'er?**

Yes, it's a pleasant neighbourhood.

Willem's coffee at the Baguetterie is delicious. The tennis club De Bataaf is close by and the swimming pool de Blinkerd, too. What a lovely pool that is.

We're grateful to the council for the refurbishment of Mallemlolen. It is now a traffic-free residential area, where cars can only park to load and unload. In the past, there used to be situations where contractors parked their vehicles slap bang in front of my house so I couldn't get out. Those times are definitely over.

**Chatting with colleagues is a thing of the past. You must miss that. How badly?**

Yes, I think it's important to maintain old friendships. A group of old friends are coming to eat with us this evening. Shortly, I'll go to the market to shop for the ingredients for prawns and Garden-peas quiche.

**Don't you tend to get involved with the domestic chores?**

Yes, a lot. Before I realize it, I'm a "jack of all trades": just do this, just do this. Clear agreements amongst ourselves have meant that a balance has returned to the division of labour.

**Wouldn't you like to be back in a traffic jam again for a moment with everyone else?**

"Again" doesn't apply in my case. I've never been in a traffic, or only when I get round the corner into Javastraat. I still find it great to be woken in the morning by the traffic jam reports on the radio.

**JOS W VAN VUGHT LL.M**  
**MEDIATOR**  
**DELISTRAAT**

**What do you do?**

Resolve conflicts: both business and personal disputes. Looking back on my working life, this type of work seems to suit me and I seem to be good at. I also do this work in the role of a chairman of various conciliation boards. Apart from this, I teach contractual law.

**Does Archipel&Willemspark have something special to offer the zzp'er?**

Yes, it is a pleasant place to live and work. I also like to make regular use of De Tapperij, Zeldenrust of Limoncello for coffee, lunch and dinner with business contacts: certainly better than a company canteen.

**Chatting with colleagues is a thing of the past. You must miss that. How badly?**

No the opposite in fact. Of course it is nice to exchange ideas with colleagues, but I make up for this through my network of experts. I call them when necessary and enjoy collegiality this way.

**Don't you tend to get involved with the domestic chores?**

I don't find this a problem. My companion and I share the chores, cooking as well as shopping. It means that I get to go outside for a pleasant diversion. This kind of activity can be fitted in very well during a normal day's work.

**Wouldn't you like to be back in a traffic jam again for a moment with everyone else?**

I keep in shape as far as the traffic jam experience is concerned by working for clients on location and by teaching in Amsterdam, Rotterdam and Utrecht. This makes me appreciate being spared traffic jams even more.

[www.convenant.nu](http://www.convenant.nu)

**LIDE VAN DER VEGT**  
**ENTREPRENEUR**  
**CELEBESSTRAAT**

**Mammarosa** – Lide van der Vegt has been teaching immigrant women's groups at ROC Mondriaan for twenty years. It was not easy to find time for an interview but Lide appreciated the interest shown by the community newspaper.

Long before integration of immigrants had become a serious item on the political agenda, she was giving in Dutch and social knowledge and skills lessons to – mostly uneducated- women in the Schilderwijk and Transvaal districts of The Hague.

Medical subjects also featured in the lessons. In 2000 Lide was diagnosed with breast cancer and she added her experiences to her syllabus. She learned a lot from her female students on their perceptions of the disease during this period. This is what led her to set up the website [www.mammarosa.nl](http://www.mammarosa.nl) containing information about breast cancer. The site communicates in twelve languages and her husband Jan Hein Schouw provides the illustrations.

As well as providing information to groups of healthy women, Lide has become a counselor to immigrant breast-cancer patients. She involves ex-patients in her work and hospitals refer patients to her consultations for fellow-sufferers at the De Rubenshoek Health Centre. Although most of her work is done outside the front door, she has a fully equipped office at home (Celebesstraat 39). Her long-established one-man business has now been transformed into a foundation with its own executive committee.

**Support** – Lide is very happy with the local support she receives from committee members, neighbours and friends, some of whom she knows from her choir esGROOT. Businesses also support her work but she is looking for a volunteer to help with the administration. Networking is an important part of her work; she has never lost contact with her colleagues at all. But she could not have managed without the huge support she gets from her family: her children and husband share in her work by among other things relieving her of the household chores (cooking). And what do you mean traffic jams, if you cycle everywhere?

CR

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The Hague  
**RODE KRUIS**  
seeks collectors



The Netherlands Red Cross will be making its annual house-to-house collection during the week 15 - 20 June. In our neighbourhood this will take place on 15 June. This is an important source of income for the Red Cross' activities. In The Hague around 250 volunteers go door-to-door and 40 companies fly the Red Cross flag.

Would you be prepared to collect for the Red Cross for a couple of hours? Then please get in contact with us at 070 350 53 33 or visit the website.

[www.rodekruisdenhaag.nl](http://www.rodekruisdenhaag.nl)

**A/W Community Newspaper, April 2009**

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