

THE Rosedale ASSOCIATION INC



Newsletter Issue 116 December 2013



MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR MARGOT MARSHALL

As we head into Christmas, many of us are looking forward to long and lazy days at the beach. Hopefully we will be spared the bush fires that have ravaged so much of New South Wales already, but as most of you know, Rosedale with its fantastic bushland is extremely vulnerable to fire. One of our big problems is our single access roads, which means that there's only one way in and out, making it virtually impracticable for the fire crews to rescue us in a major fire. Now is the time to clear up your property and to prepare a bushfire survival plan – see Michael Skipper's extensive article on page 4. If you haven't got time to fireproof your property, you might need to hire someone to do it... your Rosedale Committee have a list of people who do this work.

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40 YEARS FISHING

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AGM MINUTES

After many years, we now have a president! David Boardman has taken up the role and is busily lobbying council on our behalf. This edition has some good news on the sewerage front - see his update on page 2. It's great

that we now have the top three officeholders all resident at Rosedale – with secretary Vicki Smith now joined by Treasurer Robin Oldham. That's Vicki's gorgeous photo above Boatshed Beach after the hailstorm in October.

There's been some fantastic weed work this year, organised by our former Landcare Coordinator Jane Enright. Take a look at the pictures in her report on page 6. Jane's done a great job, but has now stood down and we're looking for a replacement. If you have the time, email landcare@rosedale.org.au – we'd all be very grateful.

A big thank you to everyone who helped to make the Easter sausage sizzle such a great event again this year, particularly David and Bardi Carter, Kit Tischler, Mike and Zoe Milligan, Lotte Klebba and family, Bev Gribble and Bill Legge. Thanks also to Deirdre Prussak for supplying the power for the lights, despite having to call the authorities for some urgent repairs to the power lines that night!

And finally as ever, thanks to Annie Shillington for her creative ingenuity and patience in designing this newsletter.

Happy Christmas everyone!

SEWERAGE UPDATE David Boardman

At last some good news from council about Rosedale sewerage – we have progress!

Council has received formal advice from Minister for Primary Industries, Katrina Hodgkinson that funds are now available should Council wish to proceed.

The anticipated program, subject to approval to construct from the elected Council is as follows:

- Concept design review – September to November 2013.
- Detailed design and contract documentation – November 2013 to May 2014.
- Approvals – June /July 2014
- Tendering – September to December 2014
- Construction – February to September 2015
- Completion before Christmas 2015.

The Association executive will continue to follow up progress with council.

DEVELOPMENTS WEST OF GEORGE BASS DRIVE David Boardman

No decision has been taken on the development application for Rosedale Farm (DA73/13) to build in stages 134 residential lots. Council have told us they are waiting for advice from the NSW department of planning. We have again reminded them we're awaiting a reply to our submission which raised issues of traffic and road safety (see a copy on our website www.rosedale.org.au).

The Marsim Development which has concept approval from NSW state planning has been granted a five year extension of time for submission of a DA to council for stage one of their developments. It would appear that Marsim have put a hold to this for now.



MARINE PARK SIGNAGE Vicki Smith

Following concerns raised by members at the AGM, David Boardman wrote to the Batemans Marine Park Authority to report the increased incidence of people spear fishing, and fishing and diving from boats, within the marine park at Rosedale. David's request for additional signage resulted in the prompt installation of a Sanctuary Zone sign at Nun's Beach. Unfortunately, the sign quickly disappeared but our request for a replacement sign also received a prompt response, with a new one installed in late October.

CONTRIBUTING TO LOCAL LIFESAVERS

President David Boardman and Vicki Smith attended the Batemans Bay Surf Life Saving Club Championship and social day at Malua Bay in April and thanked the crew for their great presentation at the AGM – and especially for increasing their ad hoc visits to Rosedale's beaches during the patrol season.

NOTE: IF YOU SEE ANYONE IN TROUBLE IN THE WATER, PHONE 000 FOR A COORDINATED RESPONSE AND RESCUE.



Caption : David and Vicki present our cheque for \$500.

ROSEDALE ECHIDNAS

Take a look at these fascinating images of an echidna, foraging in the rock pools off South Rosedale – apparently a rare sight!

Thanks to Jane Enright for these fantastic pics...more on page 3.





FISH RESCUE - SALTWATER CREEK

Vicki Smith and Robin Oldham

We had a distressing incident around Saltwater Creek in May this year, when we called in Fisheries officers to save a large number of fish who were dead or dying.

The fish were being feasted upon by various birds, including a sea eagle and a pelican. Fish that remained alive were seen swimming at the surface and gulping for air, especially around the margins of the creek.

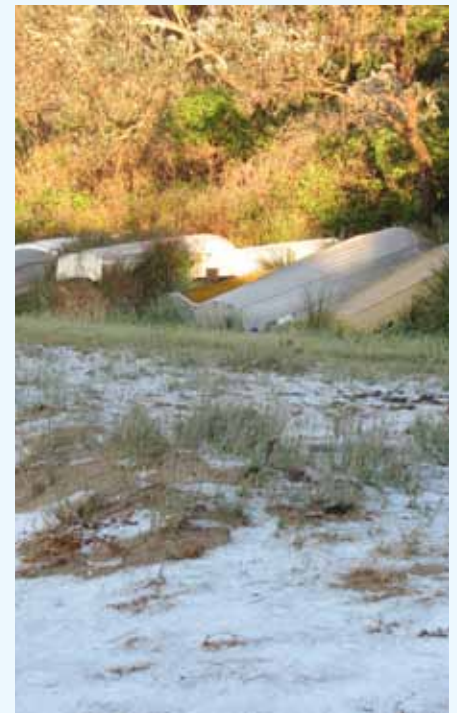
The Fisheries team responded promptly to calls and netted the creek, and with the help of a few locals, successfully released over 500 fish (mainly bream) into the sea.

Fisheries say that low dissolved oxygen levels in the water was the likely cause, due to a large amount of aquatic plants and decaying vegetation matter in the creek at the time.

ROSEDALE IMAGES

Rosedale (right) resembled a snowfield when hail blanketed the ground following a heavy storm on Monday 14 October.

Thanks to Vicki for these pics – and more echidna shots from Jane.



GRASS FIRES START EASILY AND SPREAD QUICKLY. COMPLETE YOUR BUSH FIRE SURVIVAL PLAN NOW.

As I write this article, large parts of the Blue Mountains, the Southern Highlands and the NSW Central Coast are ablaze and hundreds of homes have been destroyed.

Let's not become blasé or run the risk of short memory. The fires in Warrumbungles around Coonabarabran, the Tasmanian Fires in early 2013 where 250 houses were lost, the 2009 Black Saturday Victorian fires and the 2003 Canberra fire should be clear examples to everyone.

REDUCE THE FUEL LOAD

We all need to reduce combustible material around our homes and further afield immediately. We are not even in the height of summer yet...

All of Rosedale is classified as extreme bushfire threat – so diligent hazard reduction is imperative to lessen the impact of any potential fire event in Rosedale. That means cleaning up debris such as dead leaves and branches on the ground, removing long grass (there's a lot of it after the rain!) and clearing vegetation away from buildings. It will all help lessen the fuel load.

The Rural Fire Service (RFS) has recently worked with landholders in some understory fuel reduction in a number of areas within the local vicinity. The work has been fantastic, and frankly we need to see more of the same to lessen possible problems.

REPORTING BUSH FIRE HAZARDS

The RFS is responsible for inspecting bush fire hazards, providing advice and if necessary, issuing notices to landowners or managers to reduce hazards.

If you believe there is a bush fire hazard near your property, you can make a formal complaint by contacting the Eurobodalla Fire Control Centre - all complaints are kept strictly confidential

NSW Rural Fire Service - Eurobodalla

30 Campbell Street Moruya NSW 2537

Ph: 02 4474 2855

FAX: 02 4474 3888

EMAIL: farsouthcoast.team@rfs.nsw.gov.au

The RFS will inspect the site, and separately notify owner or the manager of the land if a bush fire hazard exists. If a hazard does exist the RFS can issue a Bush Fire Hazard Reduction Notice, requesting the hazard be removed. If the owner does not comply with the notice, the RFS may remove hazard at the landowner's cost.

MAKE A BUSHFIRE SURVIVAL PLAN!

Do not fail to prepare a plan. Unfortunately, when threatened by bush fires, people often leave it too late to make critical decisions and often have few safe options left.

Download a copy of the bush fire survival plan from the RFS website – see the link above. The document is a "must read" and covers in detail the things you should think about in being ready and fully prepared.

It also gives you very valuable information on things like:

- Protect your family, protect your life
- Understanding your level of risk
- Preparing your plan, yourself and your property
- Knowing the danger ratings
- Keeping yourself informed
- Neighbourhood Safer Places
- Emergency Survival Kits
- Protective clothing
- Myth Busters
- A section to assist in getting the kids to understand the dangers and issues.

You must make important decisions before the fire season starts.

PLANNING TO MAKE A PLAN IS NOT A PLAN

PREPARE

ACT

SURVIVE

DOWNLOAD YOUR BUSH FIRE SURVIVAL PLAN NOW WWW.RFS.NSW.GOV.AU



The higher the fire danger rating, the more dangerous conditions.

Fires may threaten without warning so you need to know what you will do to survive.

PREPARE.	You must make important decisions before the fire season starts.
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SURVIVE.	Fires may threaten without warning so you need to know what you will do to survive.

NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES (NSP)

Neighbourhood Safer Places evolved out of the tragic Victorian 'Black Saturday' bush fires in February 2009. A Neighbourhood Safer Place (NSP) is a place of last resort for people during a bush fire. It should be part of any contingency and survival plan.

An NSP is an identified building or space within the community that can provide a higher level of protection from the immediate life threatening effects of a bush fire. NSPs still entail some risk, both in moving to them and while sheltering in them and cannot be considered completely safe. They are a place of last resort in emergencies only.

Note that no Rosedale beach is considered satisfactory as an NSP.

If an NSP is part of your contingency plan it should not require extended travel through fire affected areas to get there. If

there is not sufficient time or it is unsafe to travel to an NSP you should then consider other pre identified safer locations such as your neighbour's home or a wide open space.

The following limitations of NSP need to be considered within your Bush Fire Survival Plan:

- NSP do not cater for pets
- When using NSP do not always expect emergency services to be present
- NSP do not provide meals, amenity or cater for special needs (e.g. for infants, the elderly, the ill or disabled)
- They may not provide shelter from the elements, particularly flying embers.

The NSPs identified and recommended closest to Rosedale are:-

Malua Bay Beach Reserve	George Bass Drive, Malua Bay (South of the Surf Club)
Jack Buckley Park	Sunpatch Parade, Tomakin
Moruya Showground	Albert Street, Moruya
Hanging Rock Oval	Cnr Beach Road & Hanging Rock Road, Catalina

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

To report a fire: 000

ABC local radio: 103.5 FM

40 YEARS OF FISHING AT ROSEDALE BY BRIAN VOCE



We discovered Rosedale in the 70s, and eventually we were able to buy a block and build a cottage. Fishing has always been my passion, and when one of the boatsheds, which nestle at the back of 'Boatshed Beach', came up for sale, I had to have a look.

The shed was pretty much the same as the rest in size and shape, but taking up most of the space, was a new 12-foot Quintrex 'Special'. When I informed the agent there was a boat in the shed, he replied laconically, 'Everything in the shed is included in the price – you've kicked a goal mate!'



And that's how I came to get a boat as well as a boatshed – a wonderful investment in 40 years of fishing, mostly out of Rosedale. Initially I was confined pretty much to its bay, as with no motor, I had to row. That was no bad thing as I was forced to explore the immediate area and so got to know where to drift for flathead and anchor for the (occasional) snapper.

Eventually I bought an 8hp Mariner outboard and the outer reefs became accessible, where, then, there was a good chance of catching morwong up to 8 lb. One could never be sure, but we rarely returned empty-handed.

Over the years, we caught a great variety of fish, including morwong, snapper, nannygai, flathead (always the standby catch), small tuna, bonito, salmon, tailor, kingfish, barracouta, pike, red mullet, pigfish, trevally, groper, red rock cod, Sergeant Baker, leather jacket, various wrasses and other reef dwellers.

Once, when fishing by myself, with not another boat in sight, a small humpback whale approached the boat. The conditions were glassy smooth, with crystal-clear water, merging to deepest blue at depth. It swam leisurely around the boat, just below the surface, turning on its side to fully display body, flippers and tail. This was a really close-up and personal encounter. **Cont. p6**

40 YEARS OF FISHING AT ROSEDALE continued



I was entranced, of course, and immersed myself in this wonderful performance being played out for me alone. ALONE... As the word crept into my consciousness, I thought this is all very well, but I've seen a wonderful show and perhaps it's time for me to move

on, as my little (well not so little) friend seemed happy to adopt me for the rest of the day. So, with mixed feelings, I started the engine, and crept away.

On another day, with very much the same conditions, I experienced another inspiring glimpse of marine life looking for an audience. As I drifted, I noticed a pod of dolphins closer inshore. There were perhaps 20 or 30 and though some distance away, they seemed to be heading in my direction. On they came. There was no deviation and it appeared they were heading for my boat. And their behaviour was different to what I'd seen before.

Eventually it became clear. The pod was in total control of a huge ball of baitfish which they were driving towards my boat. They were almost upon me when they seemed to slow the whole process, as if to give me a chance to find my camera (which I didn't have with me). They stayed briefly nearby (seemingly saying, 'See how clever we are!') while the photo opportunity passed; then they moved on, while I watched and watched until they were out of sight.

Rosedale is not a fishing mecca by any means, but over the years we learned where the grounds were and, pre-GPS, lined up features (Pigeon House Mountain loomed large as did the Tollgates out from Bateman's Bay as prime marks) and by triangulation we found our favourite spots. One never expected anything, but there were halcyon days when fish after fish came over the gunwale and it all seemed so easy. And there were, of course, days when the pickings were sparse.

But time moved on and eventually we decided to sell the Rosedale house. I clung to the boatshed for a few more years, and still went down and fished the old spots.

But Rosedale still looms large in my fishing memory. Ahh, the good old days!

LANDCARE REPORT JANE ENRIGHT



The main car park is looking fantastic, after several working bees – one in August when we planted native tubestock and another in September when we finished the work. We were lucky to have the perfect day for our weeding and mulching. A large mound of tree mulch had been slowly breaking down into a rich, moist, worm filled compost perfect to spread around the garden beds and the recently planted native tubes from council.

A team of workers - Christine Shields, Alex Brodie, Ian Holmes, Rob Oldham, Colin Enright, David Mackenzie and I - weeded, watered and barrowed for three hours to complete a job that had been waiting to be done for quite some time. We even had a young surfer who was waiting for a lift give us half an hour of his time!

We had many people walking by on their way to the beach who stopped to say



how good Rosedale is looking and to thank us for providing such an eco friendly environment!

PRICKLY PEAR

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Elise Stutchbury and her team of helpers - Anne and Rob De Jong, Heather Hyde, Bill Williams, Alex Brodie, Colin Enright and Helen Gamble who cleaned up all the prickly pear that landed on our beaches after the storms. Acknowledged as one of the greatest biological invasions of our time, the plants are spread by seed or from segments that root where they make contact with the ground. It is therefore important to remove any small piece that is found. The barbed bristles of the prickly pear readily penetrate human skin and are difficult to remove, causing severe irritation.



The Eurobodalla Shire Council was very grateful for your efforts and has assured me that they will send out a council worker to target the infestation of prickly pear on Jimmy's Island.

We have been waiting for Andrew White from Batemans Bay Aboriginal Land Council (Koori Crew) to recover from an accident so that we can go ahead with weed control work planned in North Rosedale. He has yet to get the all clear so until he is fully recovered I am unable to arrange for this Landcare activity to be done. I will keep you posted.

There has been an increase in flora and fauna activity as spring and the warmer weather has arrived. The birds are enjoying the flowers on our native trees and shrubs and the show of colour was outstanding this year.

MINUTES OF THE ROSEDALE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held on Saturday 30 March 2013, Rosedale NSW Meeting opened at 11.15 am by Margot Marshall on the cabin lawns.w

1. APOLOGIES

Keith and Mary Boardman, Tim Brown, Tony and Judy Cooper, Gerry and Jane Crisp, De Jong family, Elizabeth Drysdale, Cathy Falk, Katie Friend, Ruth Friend, John and Elizabeth Hemer, Paul Isaacson, Paul and Penny Mlakar, Leah Myers, David Palmer, Michael Skipper, Elise Stutchbury and Max Tischler.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT:

DAVID BOARDMAN

The Treasurer's report, as published in the March 2013 newsletter (No.115), was presented by David Boardman. He noted that memberships were down but there were minimal expenses in the last year, so the financial position of the Association remained steady. He called for a concerted effort by all members to increase membership.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report

Proposed: David Mackenzie

Seconder: Jane Enright Carried

3. LANDCARE REPORT: JANE ENRIGHT

Jane Enright presented the Landcare report, as published in the March 2012 newsletter. She also thanked a small group of regular volunteers and called for more volunteers and/or donations, along with suggestions for additional Landcare activities. Jane displayed five weeds and suggested methods for removing or controlling them in local gardens. She reminded attendees of the weedathon commencing at 2:30pm.

Motion to accept the Landcare report

Proposed: David Mackenzie

Seconder: Ian Holmes Carried

4. COUNCIL, DEVELOPMENTS, SEWERAGE AND FIRE UPDATE: DAVID BOARDMAN

David Boardman reported that he and David Palmer had met with The Hon. Andrew Constance MP, who was supportive of RAI efforts to progress Council's sewerage plans for Rosedale. He reported that Council would undertake a \$150,000 review of the sewerage plan for Rosedale in the 2013/14 financial year, taking account of new technology. On completion of the review, Council's intention is to seek a fifty per cent contribution for the project from the NSW State Government. David confirmed that the RAI would continue lobbying efforts, including with the responsible NSW State Government Minister.

David Boardman briefed the meeting on changes to the Marine Park, with the announcement of an amnesty allowing line fishing from ocean beaches and headlands in sanctuary zones, with the exception of identified sites for the protection of threatened species. This includes the headland at Burrewarra Point, within the Burrewarra Point Sanctuary Zone at Guerilla Bay.

David Boardman advised that Council had responded to a request from Mary Boardman

and installed a handrail on a beach path from Yowani Road. He also advised that the Committee had written to Council to acknowledge this work and to request an assessment of options for the path leading to the rocky beach at the end of Yowani Road to improve safety.

David Boardman updated the meeting on local development plans for the Rosedale Farm and Marsim sites. He confirmed that the RAI had lodged a submission to Council on Development Application 73/13 for Rosedale Farm, with concerns mainly focused on road and traffic issues. He said there appeared to be a Council preference for a roundabout at Rosedale Parade to improve safety and that Council was not keen on the traffic arrangements proposed by the developer for Bevan Road to the north. David was not confident that Council would identify an alternative option for managing access to and from the development, other than by an extension to Rosedale Parade. In response to a question from David Carter, David Boardman agreed that Council would likely save money for the Rosedale sewerage project, if the sewerage plan was somehow tied in with sewerage plans for the proposed development on Rosedale Farm.

5. FIRE UPDATE

In Michael Skipper's absence, David Mackenzie presented Michael's Fire Report, urging members to avoid becoming blasé about the fire threat to Rosedale due to the amount of combustible material on individual properties and common land. He reported that the Rural Fire Service (RFS) had done some fuel reduction clean-ups in parts of Rosedale in February and March this year and that the RAI Committee would prepare a letter for the Malua Bay RFS to accompany our annual donation. The letter would acknowledge efforts of their volunteers and encourage them to continue to reduce fuel loads around Rosedale. David Mackenzie moved that Michael Skipper be thanked for his efforts as Fire Officer and a donation of \$500.00 be made to the Malua Bay RFS. In response to a question from Darren Gribble about the sustainability of donations by the RAI, David Boardman confirmed that funds were available for this purpose.

Motion to make a donation of \$500.00 to the Malua Bay RFS Proposed: David Mackenzie

Seconder: Robin Oldman Carried

6. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Margot Marshall announced that since the number of nominations equalled the number of places available on the Committee, no election was necessary. She was also pleased to announce that David Boardman would accept the position of President, with Robin Oldham as Treasurer. Margot thanked each Committee member for their hard work in the last year and introduced Colin Enright as a new Committee member.

The following are the executive and committee of Rosedale Association Inc. for 2013:

President: David Boardman

Secretary: Vicki Smith

Treasurer: Robin Oldham

Members: Tim Brown

..... Noel Egan

..... Colin Enright

..... Melissa Gribble

..... David Mackenzie

..... Margot Marshall

..... Max Tischler

Margot thanked departing Committee Member, David Palmer, for his contribution to the Committee, particularly his ongoing efforts regarding the sewerage plan for Rosedale.

Motion to accept the proposed Committee

Members. Proposed: Douglas McDonald

Seconder: Darren Gribble Carried

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Margot Marshall introduced Anthony Bellette and Sam Peters from the Batemans Bay Surf Life Saving Club (BBSLSC), based at Malua Bay, who were invited by the Committee to address concerns raised at last year's AGM about dangerous conditions at our beaches. Anthony advised the meeting that '000' was the correct number to phone in water emergencies, with members told to ask for 'Police' and provide as much information as possible to assist them, including the location of the incident and how many persons were involved. He explained that this would trigger a coordinated response, which would include the Surf Life Saving team at Malua Bay, the Westpac Rescue Helicopter based at Moruya Airport, and the Marine Rescue team. He confirmed that the Malua Bay surf life saving team had increased their patrols at Rosedale over the summer season, both by sea and road, and explained the emergency equipment they carried with them would allow them to respond in a medical emergency before an ambulance arrived. Barbara Carter asked if members could ring the Malua Bay Surf Life Saving Club in an emergency and Anthony explained that it was not always manned, so urged members to ring '000'.

In response to a question from Bill Williams about dangerous rips at our beaches, Anthony pointed out a permanent rip in the middle of main beach and another rip along the rocks at the southern end of main beach. He urged members to stay calm if they found themselves in a rip. In response to a question from Murray Shiel, Anthony explained that the emergency treatment for a blue bottle sting was to run the sting under cold water and use tweezers to slowly remove the blue bottle and all tentacles.

Kit Tischler moved that the RAI make a \$500.00 donation to the BBSLSC at Malua Bay.

Motion to make a \$500.00 donation to the BBSLSC Proposed: Kit Tischler

Seconder: Jane Enright Carried

MINUTES OF THE ROSEDALE ASSOCIATION AGM continued

Melissa Gribble confirmed that the maintenance program on the boatsheds had been completed in 2012 by Darren Gribble and that new Chairman, Gerry Crisp, was now managing the boatsheds. She advised that Gerry's contact details were available from the RAI Committee.

David Mackenzie reassured the meeting that the creek was currently relatively healthy and behaving, as far as can be known, naturally, but that concerns remained about potential damage from developments to the west and that there was a need to continue to push for the best technology to be used to ensure continued creek health.

Margot Marshall thanked Michael Skipper for his work on the new website and asked for member feedback via email or the website, so the site could continue to be improved.

She also sought views on the usefulness of a Facebook page or Twitter account. Following discussion, it was agreed that email had proved to be an efficient communication tool and that Twitter and Facebook were not necessarily a priority, but may nevertheless be useful for the younger generation. Concerns were raised about the RAI communicating information, such as fire alerts, and it was agreed that this should be left to relevant authorities. In response to a question from David Carter, it was agreed that the Committee should repeat previous advice from a past newsletter to advise members which radio station they should tune into to get advice on fires and members were advised of the NSW Rural Fire Service 'Fires Near Me' free app for iPhones and iPads.

Margot Marshall advised the meeting that the current RAI database was cumbersome

and that a new database would be up and running in the next 12 months. In response to a suggestion from Jane Enright that the RAI pay an IT expert to do this work, David Boardman noted that the hard part was getting up-to-date information from members.

Margot Marshall issued a vote of thanks to John and Jeanette Gasson for making the cabin lawns available for the meeting.

Members were reminded about the weedathon and sausage sizzle and to encourage their neighbours to join the RAI.

The meeting closed at 12:30 pm.

** 73 members were present at the AGM*

Minutes prepared by Vicki Smith, Secretary
9 April 2013

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