

UNDER THE MORETON BAY

A newsletter for Old Scholars' of Woodlands, St Peter's Woodlands and St Peter's Glenelg
CELEBRATING THE REMARKABLE JOURNEYS OF OUR OLD SCHOLARS



The St Peter's Woodlands Old Scholars' Association has always been built on stories – stories of courage, achievement, generosity and lifelong connection. In this edition, we are proud to shine a light on four extraordinary old scholars whose recent journeys continue to inspire our community and reflect the values that have long been at the heart of Woodlands and St Peter's Woodlands.

From remarkable feats of endurance to acts of profound philanthropy, these people remind us that the spirit of service and excellence nurtured within our school community lives on far beyond the school gates.

We begin with Austin Forbes ('14), whose extraordinary commitment to running 50 kilometres a day for 10 consecutive days in support of PanKind is both a physical and emotional tribute. During his time at SPW, Austin represented the school as one of our most outstanding cross-country runners, a foundation that undoubtedly prepared him for this gruelling endurance test. Austin undertook this challenge in recognition of a fellow old scholar family, the Prices, honouring the memory of Belinda Price, whose life was sadly cut short by pancreatic cancer. While he originally hoped to raise \$20,000, his incredible effort ultimately captured the community's heart, raising an outstanding \$35,463. His efforts stand as a moving example of compassion in action and the powerful ways our community continues to rally around one another.

We also celebrate the enduring legacy of Margaret Messenger (née Gibson '55), former Australian Olympic gold medallist swimmer, whose outstanding achievements in the pool continue to be recognised. Margaret was a member of Australia's gold medal-winning women's 4 x 100 metre freestyle relay team at the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games, during one of the nation's greatest eras of swimming success. A leading South Australian swimmer, she also helped set world records in relay events and won numerous State titles throughout her career.

Margaret's contribution to Australian sport and her involvement in the local community has been honoured through the naming of Margaret Messenger Reserve in Glenelg East, a lasting tribute to her remarkable achievements. Significantly, both Margaret Messenger and Denise Norton were former students of Woodlands CEGGS and became the first and second South Australian women to represent Australia in Olympic swimming, establishing a proud legacy that continues to inspire future generations.



Austin's 500km run to honour second mum

Karen Grace Price
Austin Forbes is all set to run 500km in just 10 days to honour the memory of his "second mum", who died from pancreatic cancer.

"I'm just doing this to raise as much money for Belinda, who passed away a few years ago at such a young age, in her mid-50s, so I'm trying to raise as much money as I can in her memory and just for the great cause," he said.

Belinda Price, who was his mother's best friend and often babysat him, has provided the inspiration for the ambitious feat: 50km a day for 10 consecutive days.

Starting from The Broadway at Glenelg, Mr Forbes, 24, will run to Seaford along The Esplanade, from Wednesdays. After that, he has no set route.

Despite never attempting to run 50km in a day, the 24-year-old from Morphettville has no concerns about completing the challenge.

"I've always been into long-distance running ever since I was a little kid," he said. "I just know I'll be able to get it done and chip away at it day by day."

Mr Forbes warmed up for the challenge by taking part in PanKind's 12th annual Put Your Foot Down Adelaide Walk on Sunday.

"It (pancreatic cancer) is just a terrible disease, and I think everyone should support it because no one really wants to get it, so I'm just raising as much money as I can," he said.

The fundraiser has far exceeded his expectations. "It's quite a shock to me because I haven't even started running yet and I've already raised \$4300," Mr Forbes said.

See Instagram page @aussie_forbes, or fundraise.pankind.org.au

Austin Forbes with golden retriever Muga Walsh at the PanKind walk. Picture: Dean Martin

Equally inspiring is the recognition recently bestowed upon Cicely Bungey AM (nee Sylow '51), whose life of service, leadership and unwavering support of women and rural communities has touched so many. A beautiful portrait of Cicely was painted by fellow Woodlands CEGGS old scholar Penny MacLaren (née Nicholl '76) and was awarded Joint First Prize in the Aussie Animal Sanctuary Prize at the Solar Art Prize – Caring for Our Planet Exhibition South Australia 2025. The artwork captures not only Cicely's likeness but also the warmth, strength and grace that have defined her remarkable contributions over many decades.

A former Head Prefect of Woodlands in 1951, Cicely has dedicated her life to serving others through nursing, community leadership, counselling, environmental advocacy and rural support. Often referred to as the “Mother of Landcare” in South Australia, she was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for her service to rural communities and continues to champion the recognition of pioneering women through her long-standing work with the Pioneer Women's Memorial Trust. The portrait is a fitting tribute to a woman whose legacy of leadership, compassion and service continues to inspire generations of Woodlands women.

Finally, we acknowledge the extraordinary philanthropy of Dr Pamela (Pammie) Wall AO (née Hogon '50), whose recent Australia Day Honour recognises a lifetime dedicated to giving, community service and support of the arts. A boarder at Woodlands CEGGS from the age of 10 to 16, Pammie has maintained a deep and enduring connection with her former school. Her remarkable generosity has made a profound impact across South Australia and within our own community, culminating in the largest individual donation in the school's history to support the construction of the new Dr Pamela Wall Centre.

Due to open later this month, the Dr Pamela Wall Centre will become the vibrant heart of sport, performing arts and community life at St Peter's Woodlands. A lasting reflection of Pammie's generosity, vision and love for her former school, the Centre will enrich the lives of students for generations to come while also providing a welcoming place for old scholars to reconnect with the community they hold dear. We look forward to welcoming visitors for tours of the Centre during this year's St Margaret's Day celebrations

Together, these stories remind us of the remarkable lives shaped by our school community – lives marked by courage, excellence, kindness and a desire to make a difference.



2025 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Throughout 2025, our community has continued to celebrate the people, stories and shared experiences that unite past and present students, staff and families in such a special way. This year has once again highlighted the enduring strength of our Old Scholars network, with hundreds returning to the school grounds to reconnect with friends, revisit treasured spaces and reflect on the role the school has played in shaping their lives. There is something truly special about coming back to the place where so many stories first began, and it has been wonderful to witness the warmth, laughter and sense of belonging that each reunion brings.

The Class of 2020 joined us for what became our largest-ever five-year reunion. Throughout the year, we also celebrated milestone reunions for the Woodlands CEGGS Classes of 1975, 1985 and 1995, while the Class of 2024 returned for their popular one-year reunion, reconnecting with friends and teachers and revisiting treasured school memories. A new addition to our reunion calendar saw 23 SPW Old Scholars who completed their secondary education at Immanuel College return for a special lunch, school tour and catch-up with former teachers.

One of the most meaningful highlights of 2025 was the continuation of our Staff Alumni Reunion, made even more memorable by its alignment with the long-awaited opening of the 2000–2025 Time Capsule. It was a nostalgic occasion, bringing together former and current staff, Old Scholars, students and members of the broader school community to uncover memories carefully preserved over the past 25 years.

We are also delighted to announce Scarlett Williams as the 2026 recipient of the Elaine Balfour Ogilvy Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship remains one of the most meaningful ways we honour Elaine's extraordinary legacy. We continued other wonderful traditions like our St Margaret's Day gathering in June which included a wonderful Chapel Service followed by an afternoon tea. Unfortunately, due to lack of numbers for to form a quorum we were unable to conduct the AGM. There was also the annual Old Scholars' Golf Day at Royal Adelaide Golf Club, where we were proud to host the interschool event with 15 Woodlands representatives.

To all our Old Scholars, families, former staff and friends of St Peter's Woodlands, thank you for your continued connection, support and enthusiasm. It is your involvement that keeps our association thriving and ensures the stories of our shared history continue to grow. "Old scholars' associations remind us that friendship doesn't fade with time – it simply gathers more stories to hold us together."

Ali Cleland - President of the St Peter's Woodlands Old Scholars' Association

BANGKA DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE

Each year, the South Australian Women's Memorial Playing Fields Trust hosts a memorial service dedicated to the nurses who died in the Bangka Island Massacre. This service is the largest memorial dedicated to servicewomen in the Southern Hemisphere. The service includes a special guest speaker, followed by light refreshments. St Peter's Woodlands was well represented at this year's service, with 2025 School Captain and Elaine Balfour Ogilvy Memorial Scholarship winner, Charlotte, in attendance to be personally presented with her certificate by President of the SA Women's Memorial Playing Fields Trust Inc., Helen Fischer. Also in attendance were Mr Paul Mesecke, Community Engagement Manager, and several members of the Old Scholars' Association, including Eve Balfour Ogilvy with her daughter and granddaughter. The morning featured wonderful addresses by Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia, and Air Commodore Dr Andrew Pearce, who spoke on the remarkable life of Lieutenant Colonel Vivienne Bullwinkel AO.



ELAINE BALFOUR-OGILVY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Elaine Balfour Ogilvy Scholarship, originally established by the Woodlands Old Scholars' Association and first awarded in 1944, it continues to be generously supported by the St Peter's Woodlands Old Scholars' Association. Open to Year 5 SPW students, it provides a direct contribution towards the recipient's Year 6 school fees.

We were delighted to receive 17 outstanding applications. Students participated in a short interview with members of the Old Scholars' Association as part of the selection process



CONT. ELAINE BALFOUR-OGILVY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

We extend our warmest congratulations to Scarlett Williams, whose thoughtful presentation, strong personal achievements and deep appreciation and knowledge of Elaine's legacy impressed the panel.

Scarlett has expressed her excitement and pride in representing St Peter's Woodlands at key commemorative events, including the Bangka Day Memorial Service in February 2026.

Scarlett was formally presented with her scholarship certificate by Eve Balfour Ogilvy, Elaine's niece, at the SPW Graduation and Awards Night—a meaningful connection to the family and the history this scholarship honours.



To read more about the scholarship and the changes of eligibility [CLICK HERE](#)

ST MARGARET'S DAY

Our St Margaret's Day gathering in June once again provided a valued opportunity for Old Scholars to come together in fellowship and reflection. Beginning with a thoughtful chapel service and followed by afternoon tea upstairs in the Gillam Building overlooking McKenzie Oval, it was a beautiful occasion enhanced by the warmth of the choir's performance and the joy of shared conversation.

2026 St Margaret's Day is on Tuesday 16 June from 1.40pm



OLD SCHOLAR EVENTS & REUNIONS

The Old Scholars' Association is delighted to support year-level organisers in bringing classmates together for reunion celebrations throughout the year. These occasions provide a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with friends, revisit treasured memories, and celebrate the shared experiences that continue to unite generations of former students, staff and families.

Whether it has been one, ten or seventy years, there is something truly special about returning to familiar faces and stories. Reunions remind us that while life may take us in different directions, the bonds formed at school remain enduring, creating a sense of connection, belonging and friendship that stands the test of time.

CLASS OF 2024 - 1 YEAR REUNION AND FAMILY TIES



YEAR 6 CLASS OF 2020 - END OF SCHOOLING REUNION



ST PETER'S WOODLANDS OLD SCHOLARS'
NEWSLETTER 2025

REUNIONS CONT.

CLASS OF 1975 - 50 YEAR REUNION



CLASS OF 1985 - 40 YEAR REUNION



CLASS OF 1995 - 30 YEAR REUNION



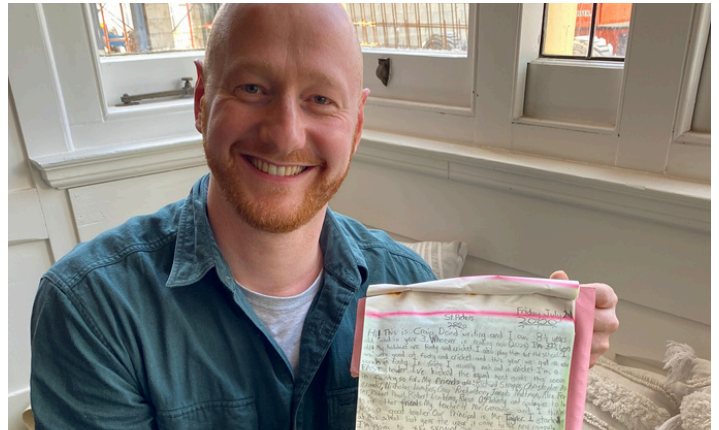
OLD SCHOLAR EVENTS & REUNIONS

STAFF ALUMNI

Each year, we proudly welcome former staff members back to St Peter's Woodlands for our annual Staff Alumni Reunion. This special gathering provides an opportunity to reconnect with colleagues, share memories, and celebrate the enduring friendships and connections that have been formed throughout the school's history.

This year's reunion was particularly memorable, with attendees invited to witness the opening of the school's time capsule. The occasion sparked reflection, laughter, and plenty of stories as former staff revisited moments from the past and celebrated how far the school has come.

The reunion is a wonderful reminder that once you have been part of the SPW community, you remain an important part of our story. From reminiscing about memorable moments to hearing about the school's continued growth and achievements, the evening is always filled with laughter, conversation, and a shared appreciation for the role each person has played in shaping St Peter's Woodlands. We look forward to continuing this cherished tradition and welcoming both familiar and new faces at future reunions.



OLD SCHOLARS' GOLF DAY

Our annual Old Scholars' Golf Day at Royal Adelaide Golf Club was once again a highlight of the calendar. We were proud to have 15 Woodlands representatives take part. Congratulations to Sue Knott (nee Gregory '77), Denise Hutton ('65) and Chris McBride ('63) on their winning team performance, with special congratulations to Sue Knott for also claiming the overall individual title. We extend our sincere thanks to Jenny Malycha (nee Lewis '64), who is stepping down after many years of outstanding leadership and organisation. We are delighted that Sara Bessell (née Falconer '81) will take over the coordination of the event, supported by Michelle McCormack (nee Godwin '73). The 2026 Woodlands Old Scholars' Golf Day will be held on Monday 9 November at Royal Adelaide Golf Club. If you are interested in being a part of this fantastic day. Sara Bessell sarabessell@gmail.com 0417 813 822 or Michelle McCormack mccormack.shell@gmail.com 0419 257 157



OLD SCHOLAR EVENT - YEAR 3 TO 6 SPORTS DAY

What happens when members of the Class of 2024 return to Sports Day? The ribbons get sorted, the results get recorded, the field events run smoothly—and a lot of fun is had along the way! We were thrilled to welcome back our newest Old Scholars, who generously gave their time to support the Year 3–6 Sports Day in a wide variety of roles. It was wonderful to see them back on familiar turf, catching up with teachers, cheering on students and contributing to the spirit of the day. Their enthusiasm, energy and willingness to help made a tremendous difference, and we thank them for continuing the tradition of giving back to the SPW community.



OLD SCHOLAR SPONSORED EVENTS

GRADUATION AND AWARDS NIGHT & YEAR 6 TRANSITION DAY

The St Peter's Woodlands Old Scholars' Association continues to celebrate and support our graduating Year 6 students. At the Year 6 Graduation Dinner, held on the lawns of McKenzie Oval with the beautiful backdrop of St Margaret's Chapel, each student received a personalised memory box—a treasured keepsake. The Class of '25 cohort was particularly special, as it included the first group of students to begin their journey at SPW as two-year-olds in the ELC and now complete their primary education at 12. The Old Scholars' DARE Award, presented at Awards Night by Treasurer/Secretary Lesley Woods, recognising students who have demonstrated outstanding commitment, effort and positivity throughout the DARE program.

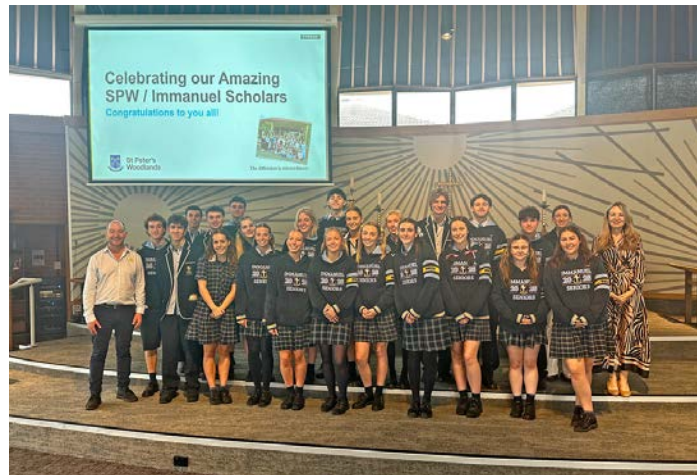


Class of 2025



OLD SCHOLAR SPONSORED EVENTS CONT

YEAR 6 TRANSITION DAY



In the weeks leading up to final graduation ceremonies, our DARE – Year 6 Graduate Diploma students prepared for the transition to high school.

Year 6 Transition Day was a mix many activities; including a celebratory pizza feast (courtesy of our Old Scholars' Association) and valuable insights from our Year 7 and Year 12 old scholars into effective strategies for a seamless transition.

A special thanks to Year 12's from the Class of 2020, Zara Hutchinson, Nadia Mudie, Sarah McAdam, Sebastian Young and Oliver Murray and from the Class of 2024, Year 7's Max Levy, Maya Khan-Panni and Sophia Therrios. We extend our sincere thanks for their time, wisdom, and contribution.

IMMANUEL LUNCH

This year also saw the introduction of a new and very special event – a gathering for SPW Old Scholars who completed their secondary education at Immanuel College. Twenty-three former SPW students returned for a celebratory lunch, school tour and catch-up with past teachers. A wonderful initiative and one we look forward to continuing in the years ahead.

JOIN OUR ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE!

There is only a very small band of volunteers who continue to drive the St Peter's Woodlands Old Scholars' Association. We need your help to continue to strengthen our association through cultivating and maintaining positive connections with our alumni. We invite you to join our friendly committee. We meet only once or twice a term to plan and support the work of the association and to facilitate and encourage lifetime connections between all within the St Peter's Woodlands Old Scholar community



DIARY DATES

Month	Date	Event
March	Friday 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class of 2020, Final School Reunion
June	Tuesday 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Margaret's Day Chapel Service and AGM
August	Friday 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff Alumni Drink at SPW - Dr Pamela Wall Centre
October	Friday 9/Saturday 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class of 1976, School Tour/50 Year Reunion
October	Friday 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class of 2025, 1 Year Reunion Class of 2025 Parents Family Ties Event
October	Date TBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Old Scholar Immanuel Lunch
November	Monday 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Old Scholars' Golf Day, Royal Adelaide Golf Club
November	Tuesday 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class of 2016, 10 Year Reunion
November	Date TBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Old Scholars Presidents & Committee Afternoon Tea (details TBC)
November	Friday 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas on the Green
December	Date TBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6 Transition Day / Old Scholar Pizza Lunch
February 2027	Sunday 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bangka Day Memorial Service

UPCOMING REUNIONS

St Peter's Woodlands are happy to support the organisers of upcoming significant reunions. Please contact oldscholars@spw.sa.edu.au or Paul Mesecke, Community Engagement Manager.

- 20 Years - Class of 2006 (St Peter's Woodlands)
- 30 Years - Class of 1996 (Woodlands CEGGS)
- 40 Years - Class of 1986 (Woodlands CEGGS)

Need help with your event - reach out and see how we can support. Email: oldscholars@spw.sa.edu.au



OLD SCHOLAR NEWS



21 HEARTS COMES TO RENMAKR

At the Chaffey Theatre Renmark, on Saturday 4 July at 2pm and 7pm Audiences can experience 21 Hearts: Vivian Bullwinkel and the Nurses of the Vyner Brooke, a moving production that tells the true story of the 21 Australian nurses, including Elaine Balfour Ogilvy, who lost their lives on Bangka Island during World War II, and the remarkable courage of sole survivor Vivian Bullwinkel. Old Scholars' Association Secretary and Treasurer Lesley Woods (Class of 1976) will be attending the 2.00pm performance and would love to connect with any Riverland-based Old Scholars who may be attending



CHARMAINE BROOKES

The previous Woodlands Junior school staff met to celebrate Christmas and the retirement of Charmaine Brookes. Her illustrious career Woodlands CEGGS and at Walford was acknowledged with her colleagues, friends, former students and their parents. We know that everyone who knew and loved her will wish her a happy retirement.



OLD SCHOLAR VISITORS

Visitors to St Peter's Woodlands - we were so lucky to have many old scholars return to their school over the past 12 months. Visitors from France, Sweden and from around Australia. You are always welcome. Please do not hesitate in contacting Paul Mesecke, Community Engagement Manager to arrange a time - pmesecke@spw.sa.edu.au

OLD SCHOLAR VISITORS CONT



BIRTHS AND DEATHS

BIRTHS

Nothing advised. We love hearing your exciting news about the arrival of an Old Scholar's child or grandchild - please send details to oldscholars@spw.sa.edu.au

DEATHS

ROSEMARY HALL (NEE ELWIN '61), 1 OCTOBER 2023. AGED 79

Woodlands CEGGS student 1957-1960

JACQUELINE EYRE, 16 MAY 2025. AGED 94

Art Teacher at Woodlands CEGGS from 1964-1990, Mother to Jonquil Eyre '68

ROSEMARY WATERMAN (NEE BARRETT '41), 19 JUNE 2025, AGED 100

Woodlands CEGGS student 1937-1941

ELIZABETH HASLAM (NEE BEENIE '60), 1 JULY 2025, AGED 81

Woodlands CEGGS day student 1948-1960, Mother to Suzanne Rollison '68, Jennifer Gislason '69

BETTINE 'BET' PRICE (NEE REDWOOD '42), 16 OCTOBER 2025, AGED 100

Woodlands CEGGS day student 1940-1942. Former A Grade Tennis School Champion

ASHLEY CARROLL (NEE BROWN '65), 18 FEBRUARY 2026, AGED 78

Woodlands CEGGS student 1953-1963. Sister to Verity Nuttal (nee Brown '61) daughter to Marjorie Brown (nee Pearce '28)

KEEP IN TOUCH

Please keep us up to date and informed of news as it happens. We'd love to celebrate the lives of those who have meant so much to you and the school community. Similarly, we love to join in the celebration of new life. Photos encouraged. Email oldscholars@spw.sa.edu.au



QUILT DONATIONS

GIVING TOO THE ST PETER'S WOODLANDS OLD SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION

Angela Boman (née Dixon, '97), an Old Scholar of both St Peter's Glenelg and Woodlands, former Old Scholars' Committee member, and current SPW parent and piano teacher, is working on a stunning textile mural for the school. Using thread painting, appliqué, and embroidery, Angela is creating a large wall hanging that will feature the school's buildings, framed by a border of the principals. Centred around the iconic Morton Bay Fig Tree, the artwork will honour St Margaret's Chapel, Hudd House, St Peter's Glenelg School Hall, the Gillam Building, Nutter Thomas House, and the Law Smith Building—celebrating the rich history of the three schools in a beautiful and lasting way.

This work is intricate and time-consuming but will be an incredible showpiece. If you would like to make a donation to support this art piece, please donate via the Trybooking link below under “Living Museum.” Any donation will assist in bringing this to life. Thank you, Angela!

There is also an opportunity to make a donation to several Old Scholar supported initiatives including the Millington Bursary, Elaine Balfour-Ogilvy Memorial Scholarship or the Living History Museum. <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/349624?eid=349624&bof=1>



GIVING TO THE ST PETER'S WOODLANDS OLD SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION

Please consider giving a donation, as our other form of funds is the ever-decreasing Bank interest rates! Donation payments towards the Elaine Balfour-Ogilvy Memorial Scholarship, Millington Bursary and newsletter costs can be by:

- EFT Payments direct to the Bank Account: BSB 015250 Account Number: 405634781
- Trybooking - <https://www.trybooking.com/TXFC>
- Cheques payable to The St Peter's Woodlands Old Scholars' Association and post to 39 Partridge Street, Glenelg 5045

Thank you in anticipation.

EMAIL:
OLDSCHOLARS@SPW.SA.EDU.AU



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something
extraordinary.

Take your seat
in our future.



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