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No. 74

May 2009

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Editor's Comment



ANYONE worried that construction of an incinerator on the Omega development site could result in 'fall out' affecting the Culcheth area should be sleeping easier in their bed.

Not so much because of the assurance given by Warrington's strategic director for environment and regeneration, Andy Farrall, at a meeting of Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Council, that there is no plan for an incinerator at Omega. He did, after all, also say the borough council would be looking for a site for an incinerator and that it could still be Omega.

It is what he did NOT say that gives us more confidence. He did not say there had NEVER been a plan for an incinerator at Omega.

Culcheth Life has had sight of documents which show that while there may never have been any formal plan, there was undoubtedly a willingness on the part of the borough council to locate the incinerator at Omega.

Barn dance

A BARN Dance is being held at Moss Side Farm, Rixton on May 16 to raise money for the Christie Hospital and the North West Air Ambulance.

Traditional band the Leg Plaiters will provide the music and there will also be a hog roast supper.

Details are available from Bettina on 01925 814853 or Mark on 01925 650931 or by email from markgoucher07@aol.co.uk

These documents, obtained through an application under the Freedom of Information Act, show the borough was happy to place its new "waste management facilities" at Omega if the North West Development Agency would finance the road infrastructure necessary to open up the site.

Subsequently, the documents reveal, the Agency indicated it was not able to do this - and so the Omega 'plan' died.

Probably not to be resurrected.

There remains the issue of what alternative site can be found because, as Mr Farrall indicated, the borough is still committed to an incinerator.

We are told modern incinerators are so clean there are no emissions anyway, so perhaps the location is irrelevant in terms of fall-out. But we have heard talk of "clean" technology before and are still to be convinced that the old saying "no smoke without fire" is not just as appropriate when said in reverse.

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Incinerator 'fall out' fears allayed

FEARS that Culcheth and Glazebury could suffer 'fall out' from an incinerator to be built on the giant Omega development site have been allayed.

No plans exist for an incinerator at Omega – and no decision has been made on where one might be built.

These assurances have been given by Andy Farrall, the borough council's strategic director for environment and regeneration, at a meeting of Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Council

Even when an incinerator is built, it will be small and highly efficient,

producing no emissions. It will deal with locally produced waste only.

Mr Farrall attended the meeting in response to fears that an incinerator was to be built at Omega and that its "fall out" would have a local impact.

He gave an assurance that no decision had been taken on the location of the incinerator.

Reports that it would be at Omega were "pure speculation" he said.

"We haven't even started to look for sites yet. There are a number in the borough and Omega could be one of them. We will be looking at various locations and there will be consultation before any decision is made."

Mr Farrall said the borough council still wanted a high class, international business development at Omega.

But in the current economic climate, the original scheme was not really viable. It was now likely to be a mixed-use site, possibly including housing, and it was likely to be a couple of years before anything happened.

Mr Farrall said the incinerator Warrington would build would be modest in size, affordable and would

deal with locally produced waste only. This would end up as ash which would be "good useable stuff."

Over the next 6-12 months the council would be looking for a location. The plant would produce either electricity to be fed into the national grid or heat which would be used to heat buildings such as hospitals, schools or even homes.

Coun Keith Bland said he had seen a modern incinerator which was monitored by the Environment Agency and which produced no emissions at all.

If it did, it would immediately be shut down for six months for the problem to be rectified.

Pub reveals its hidden gem

GLAZEBURY'S Chat Moss Hotel has revealed its hidden gem – the spacious beer garden at the rear, which many people didn't even know was there.

Mine host Dave Warhurst has ambitious plans for the garden this summer.

He'll be running regular barbecues, giving customers the opportunity to eat in the open air rather than in the

restaurant if they wish.

He has installed new play equipment and restored some of the old to make the garden more family friendly. Parents will be able to enjoy a drink or a meal while at the same time keeping an eye on their youngsters as they play in a safe environment.

Even restaurant customers will have good views of the garden, which slopes down to give good views across the River Glaze.

There is a mini football field, with netted goals, to keep young soccer enthusiasts happy. And the garden will be available for special events such as the Glazebury Cricket Club Fun Day – one of the biggest events in the village's calendar

Inside, the pub now has popular quiz nights every Tuesday and karaoke every other Saturday.



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New queens selected



AN 11-year-old girl has been selected as Newchurch Parish Church Rose Queen.

Amy Kadodwala (pictured right), a pupil at Bolton Girls' School, will be crowned at a ceremony in church on Sunday, May 17.

There will also be a procession through the village, accompanied by Golborne Band.

Amy was one of the queen's attendants last year and first took part in the ceremony five years ago.

She is very interested in music, plays the flute and is an enthusiastic member of the 1st Culcheth Guides.

Her attendants will be Charlotte Morris, Courtney Williamson and Emily and Molly Hogarth.

During the coming year, Amy will represent Newchurch at events such as Croft and Glazebury carnivals and the annual Christmas Tree festival.

Meanwhile pictured proudly Showing off their sashes and trophies are from left, the new Croft Carnival Queen elect Hannah Alberta aged 12, Carnival Princess Paige Whittaker aged 10 and Carnival Rosebud Charlotte Bate aged 4.

The Carnival takes place on Saturday July 4th and the annual scarecrow competition will have a Hollywood theme to mark American Independence Day.

The parade will leave the plough at 12 noon prompt.



New members sought

CULCHETH Probus Club – the organisation for retired professionals or business men – is looking for new members.

The club meets every second and fourth Wednesday of the month in the morning at Culcheth Sports and Social Club in Charnock Road.

Interesting talks are given by visiting speakers or members and the club also organises social outings and visits.

In May and June, talks are planned entitled 'Schoolhouses in the Clouds – Edmund Hilary's idea to teach Sherpa children' and 'The rehabilitation of Orangutan and bears in East Borneo'.

Potential members are invited to attend as visitors to see for themselves before joining. Details are available on 01925 762438.

An American in Culcheth

RINA Tillenger – an American married to an Englishman – was guest speaker at Culcheth WI's monthly meeting.

"Yankee Doodles" was an amusing talk based on her experiences after living in this country for 22 years, covering the problems and faux pas arising from the subtle differences in language, manners and humour of the two countries.

She shared some thoughts about the stereotyping of the characters of both Americans and British people. She talked of things she missed from America when she first came and of the things she loves about Britain. After her talk she

displayed fabric pictures and cards she had created.

She was thanked by Ann Hambleton. President Pat Forrest reminded members about outings that are planned - Blackpool on May 27 to see "Dinner Ladies", Stoneyford Cottage on June 29 and a Staffordshire day out on July 21.

The resolution for the NFWI annual meeting this year seeks additional funding for research into the plight of honey bees that are declining at an alarming rate and whose loss as pollinators would have catastrophic effects on food production.



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Pupils treat pensioners

GLAZEBURY C of E Primary School invited local pensioners and school governors to join them for lunch.

Pictured from left: Ann Jones, Alex Henderson-Sayers, Lydia Kelly, Natasha Hampson, Joan Patrick, Luke Allsup and Pam Williams.



Moving the nostalgia one mile away

CULCHETH'S traditional Victorian Sweet Shop is on the move - just a mile down the road to Glazebury.

Proprietor Pauline Gilroy explained: "I have always wanted to have a tearoom, with all the Victorian trimmings, and class, and the bone china teapots, and cream teas etc

New

"So the dream is finally coming true, but sadly we are leaving Culcheth. However, we're only going to Glazebury! The new shop is next door but one to Glazebury School and has parking for a few vehicles. The sweet counter will be on one side of the shop and the tearoom on the other."

All the fixtures and fittings now in Culcheth will be relocated to the new shop. With a few more tables and chairs and great service (cream teas from ONLY £2.99 per person), Pauline thinks everyone will be most impressed.

Successful

"Some of my lovely recycled teenagers (pensioners) won't be able to get to me I know, but I am more than happy to deliver whatever sweeties they require to their door. I don't want to lose any of you! I hope you will all come and visit the new shop, old and new customers. I am grateful for all your support, without you I wouldn't have been as successful as I have been in Culcheth."

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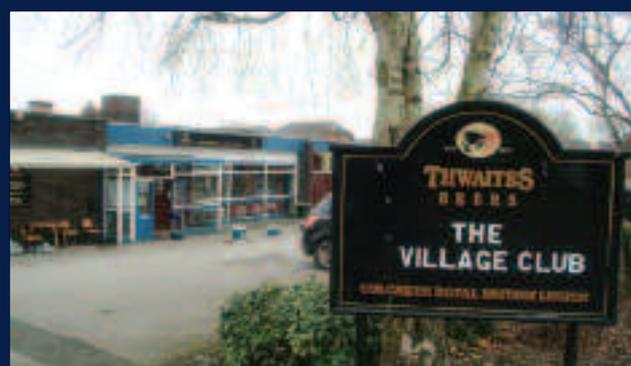
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More women go private for cervical screens

AN increase in women seeking private advice on their gynaecological well-being is reported by Spire Cheshire Hospital.

The hospital is hosting a free Women's Health information evening on Tuesday May 12 at 7.30pm, when advice and information will be available from consultant gynaecologists.

Places can be booked by calling the hospital on 01925 215029 or by email to cservice-ch@spirehealthcare.com

The hospital reports that women are seeking more private cervical screens than ever before. Results are obtained within five days - so reducing anxiety and allowing

women to take control of their health.

Spire Healthcare director of clinical services Dr JJ de Gorter said: "The proportion of women aged 25 to 30 having NHS cervical screening has fallen in recent years from 80 per cent in 1995 to 70 per cent in 2005/6.

"However, such screening is extremely important and it is encouraging to see more women actively seeking private testing and being responsible for their gynaecological well-being. Though abnormalities are rare, treatment outcomes are better the earlier they are detected."

Missing rope mystery

HELP is needed to solve the mystery of a missing rope in Culcheth.

Organisers of Culcheth Community Day were hoping to use a special tug of war for a competition between local pubs.

But the rope - last used at an event in Croft in September, had vanished and nobody could

remember where it was.

Anyone who can help locate it should contact Coun Peter Caswell on 01942 671938.

A tug of war rope should be made of jute or sisal, rather than a plastic fibre which can cause burns, with a diameter over 30mm and length of more than 20 metres.



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Boost for baby care unit

CULCHETH business couple Mark and Karen Thornton are giving a welcome boost to the Special Care Baby Unit at Warrington Hospital.

They are donating prizes for the Neonatal Unit's Fun Day to be held on May 10 — and also donating 10 per cent of sales they make at their stall at the event at Callands Primary School.

Mark and Karen run the New Arrivals baby and children's wear shop at the CPS Centre above

Sainsbury's.

Said Mark: "Staff at the Special Care Baby Unit undertake a challenging role and parents and families are grateful for the work they

do.

"We want to show our support for the work they do."

Mark and Karen will attend the event to personally present the donations.

Events include professional face painting, bouncy castle, raffle,

tombola, beat the goalie and lots of other fun and games.

All proceeds from the events will go to the SCBU.

Visitors to the New Arrivals stall will be given a discount voucher to be used on purchases made directly at the shop.

Mark added: "We hope local people will go along and support this event."



Taking on Chess masters!

Members of the Culcheth Primary School Chess team recently competed in a competition taking on students from Leigh College.

While they didn't win the youngsters put up a spirited performance.

Team members pictured from left, are Cameron aged 9, Tom aged 10, Isaiah aged 10, Jodie aged 9 and Alex aged 10.

FA Cup family fun day

CULCHETH Athletic Junior Football Club are holding their first ever FA Cup Family Fun Day at the Royal British Legion on Saturday May 30.

It's free to get in and the doors will open at 12 noon and events include: face painting, children's entertainer, lads and dads keep the ball up competition, penalty shoot out, roll a pound and win a mountain bike, fantastic prizes to win in the raffle, food available all day (very reasonably priced).

The big game will be on large screen — who will win Everton or Chelsea? Plus loads more.

Any money made on the day will go towards club funds and in addition they will be making a donation to a worthwhile charity.

Evening entertainment will include the genuine 1960 comedy/ vocal band 'The Ivy League'.

Tickets on sale at £7.50 each and includes buffet.

Contact the Legion direct on 01925 763562 to purchase tickets and for more information.

Fundraiser

CULCHETH British Legion and Forget me Knot Book Shop are raising funds for parenting charity NCT on Tuesday May 19 - 10.00 a.m. - 12 Noon.

Admission to the event at the Legion costs £1.00 per adult or child (all entrance money to go to NCT) and includes juice, tea, coffee and biscuits donated by British Legion.

Entertainment will be by Jabberjacks. There will be a Hook a duck stall with prizes donated by Forget me Knot book shop.

There will be a raffle stall with prizes donated by local businesses.

Everyone welcome.

Silence please!

A NEW 'quiet area' has been created at Culcheth Primary School allowing pupils to take time out and relax.

Pictured testing out the new facility are from left, Zachery aged 11, Jonathan aged 11 and Tom aged 10 enjoying a bit of quiet time in the new school courtyard.



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Ashberry House can offer six places for privately funded residents who require EMI residential care. Please contact us to make an appointment, if you wish to look around the new unit or to obtain current fee rates.



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Family farming for 400 years

THE development of a farm which has been in the same family for almost 400 years was the theme of a talk to Lowton WI.

Kenyon Hall was traditionally a mixed arable farm growing cereals and potatoes originally covering 166 acres. It has since grown to 600 acres.

Current owner Tod Bulmer spoke about changes in farming methods and mechanisation, which has completely modernised the work.

He and his wife Barbara took over the farm in 1978 and began producing strawberries and vegetables. It has developed into a major 'pick your own' farm and the couple make jams and chutneys to sell in the thriving farm shop.

In 2002 they diversified by setting up a home delivery service selling fruit and vegetables, and now also offer fresh local meat and home cooked ready meals.

WI meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month and new members are welcome. The next meeting is on Wednesday May 6 at 7.15pm at Golborne Parkside Sports and Community Club on Rivington Avenue. Further details are available from Norma on 01942 601934.

Homes vetoed

PLANS for a development of 18 dwellings at Croft have been thrown out by Warrington planners.

The development involved nine two and-a-half storey properties and nine two storey properties at Sandy Brow Lodge, in Sandy Brow Lane. Landscaping and car parking spaces were also involved

Advertiser's announcement

DIY warning over caustic cleaning products

OVENU, the Warrington-based professional oven cleaning and valeting specialists, are warning local homeowners of the hidden dangers of strong cleaning products, ahead of the key DIY season.

According to figures from The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) home cleaning products have caused over 15,000 household accidents in one year. With bank holidays fast approaching, traditionally a time for home improvements, an

increasing number of people will be undertaking DIY and home cleaning projects using tools and products that they are not overly-familiar with.

Some of the most dangerous products are used for oven cleaning and contain sodium hydroxide, commonly known as caustic soda, which can cause serious chemical burns and skin irritations.

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Sportsmans dinner – a great success

EVERTON soccer legend Duncan Mackenzie was the guest speaker at Culcheth Athletic Junior Football Club's Annual Sportsmans Dinner at the Royal British Legion in Culcheth.

Darron Bibby event organiser and MC on the night commented that the dinner was a great success and everyone had a really enjoyable night.

He said: "The management team at the Legion were excellent and they simply couldn't do enough for us. On behalf of our football club I would like to thank all of our guests and sponsors for their excellent support on the night."

The dinner raised over £6,000 and every single penny will go back into supporting and further developing childrens football in the village.

Duncan (left) with the management team from the football club.



Gardening tips

Provided by 

May

The fruit garden

It is a good idea to spray fruit trees with an insecticide and a fungicide this month to ensure a clean start to the new season, do not spray when the blossom is open as this will kill bees and other pollinating insects

House plant care

Many houseplants can be propagated by cuttings at this time of year. Be careful not to scorch plants on hot sunny days, move them away from south facing windows.

The shrub border

Early flowering shrubs should be pruned now after flowering is finished, giving the plants plenty of time to produce fresh growth for next springs display.

The herbaceous border

The herbaceous border will have many plants in flower, tall growing specimens should be provided with support, and all plants will benefit from regular feeding

In the greenhouse

Space can be made in the greenhouse by moving summer bedding plants out into frames to be hardened off by gradually exposing them to outside conditions. All plants will need regular watering and feeding, and shading may be necessary, as the sun becomes stronger.

Pond maintenance

Fresh aquatic plants should be available from garden centres and new plantings can be made. Freshly refilled ponds may be infected with algal growth, this is normal and will clear as the pond becomes established.

Lawn care

Newly laid or freshly sown turf should be kept well watered in dry weather. Bare patches on established lawns can be repaired by raking the area to a fine tilth and reseeded, bird activity can be discouraged by covering the newly sown area with a mesh of black thread.

The rose garden

Roses will now be in the full flush of growth, and if the bushes are to remain fresh and healthy throughout the season a regular spraying program using a combined insecticide and fungicide should be implemented. Feed regularly with a rose fertiliser.

And a little extra . . . The days are lasting longer and out thoughts are already turning to alfresco dining. Most entertaining revolves around the barbecue so make sure you've got everything you need in advance so you can enjoy an impromptu get-together with friends.

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Civic Sunday

THE Chairman of Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Council, Councillor Jacqui Johnson, is pictured with members of the Parish Council and her husband David during Civic Sunday.

Also attending the beautiful and uplifting service were Chairmen from other parishes in Warrington, along with representatives from local organisations.

The service was conducted by the Rev. Chris Stafford at Newchurch Parish Church, followed by a buffet lunch in the Parish Hall.

The event gave the Parish Council the opportunity to meet other Chairmen, and also to say thank you to people such as the Lions, and youth organisations, for their work in the community.



Rat poison found in stream

RAT poison has been found floating in a stream at Culcheth.

The poison, contained in plastic bags, was found by Culcheth and Glazebury parish councillor Jacqui Johnson while she was out walking her dog. Other members of the public also discovered the plastic bags - labelled 'sewer bait' - at other parts of the same stream.

Coun Johnson alerted borough council environmental protection officers who also visited the scene.

She said: "This poison is intended for use in sewers - not streams to which the public has access.

"The stream involved is unnamed but is officially known as the Wellfield Wood watercourse. Part of it is culverted and I think someone may have thought it was a sewer.

"But the poison has clearly been used in the wrong place. It is dangerous for wildlife and also dogs.

"If anyone comes across any of this poison in local streams they should contact the borough council immediately."

A walk in the woods

A GROUP of pupils from Glazebury Primary School pulled on their wellies and went for a Walk in the Woods - a new children's ramble created by Bents Garden and Home around Windy Bank Wood.

The three mile walk, starting from the Glazebury garden centre, is a purpose designed children's walk using themed leaflets youngsters can use to guide adults and parents around. The guide links with Wayfarer signs throughout the walk provided by the Forestry Commission.

Managing director Matthew Bent said: "We approached the Forestry Commission earlier this year with our

idea for a children's walk in Windy Bank Wood and they were very receptive to the idea. They have been hugely helpful in creating the wildlife themed signage and installing it.

"We hope the children enjoyed guiding their teachers around the wood and looking out for all the different things to spot."

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Your company's corporation tax – could you become liable?

IN today's climate you may be having difficulty meeting your current Corporation Tax liability, which could be a sizeable amount, having arisen prior to the downturn. Make sure you don't fall into the trap of underpaying it.

If you are a Director of a company, and continue to receive dividends knowing there may be insufficient reserves within the company to meet the Corporation Tax liability, BEWARE! You may become personally liable for the shortfall, as highlighted in a recent case.

- Mr A was a director/shareholder of a number of companies.
- Mr A became aware that the relationship between these companies gave rise to a large Corporation Tax liability.
- Dividends continued to be paid resulting in insufficient reserves within the company to meet the Corporation Tax due.
- Payment of these dividends was seen as using money destined for the Revenue to pay the shareholders.
- The court ruled that once it was clear that the company had insufficient reserves to meet the Corporation Tax liability, payment of any dividends was unlawful.
- Mr A was in breach of his duties as a Director in authorising illegal dividend payments and in turn became personally responsible for meeting the shortfall in reserves.
- Mr A was forced to repay the dividends to the company so the company could meet its liabilities to the taxman.

What you can do?

- Use regular management accounts to ensure you reserve enough funds to cover the corresponding Corporation Tax after paying dividends from current profits.
- If you or your fellow directors/shareholders have interests in several companies, check they are not associated otherwise this may increase your company's CT.
- Check the level of last year's reserves and only pay this year's interim dividends up to that level.
- Speak to the Revenue – they now have a scheme in place for companies experiencing difficulties at the present time. Better than incurring their hefty fines for late payment.

If you would like advice or assistance in reviewing your company's Corporation Tax liabilities, or help with preparing Management Accounts please contact Les Styles, Ian Lloyd or any member of our tax and accounting team at Styles & Co on 01925 761600.

Please note that these ideas are intended to inform rather than advise and you should always obtain professional advice before taking any action.



If you would like more information on this or any of the previous subjects we have featured, please contact Les Styles or Ian Lloyd on 01925 761600.

The Styles Files are provided by Styles & Co
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(4/09)

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(15/09)

Taxi base approved

PLANNING chiefs have given the go-ahead for a taxi base station above a wine bar at Culcheth.

The change of use of offices above the Bacchus wine bar in Common Lane was opposed by Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Council. - but planning officers recommended approval and members of the borough's development control committee decided the scheme could go ahead.

An application for a radio aerial mast at the rear of the property, which was also opposed by residents of Thompson Avenue, was also approved.

The parish council was concerned that the proposal would lead to local car parks and Common Lane being used as taxi waiting areas.

There was also concern that the aerial mast would have an adverse impact on residents of the Cherry Tree pub and Thompson Avenue.

Residents were concerned about interference to TV signals and wifi systems.

Bonnets on parade

PROUDLY displaying their entries in the Easter Bonnet Competition at Culcheth Community Primary school are from left, Amelia Hopkins aged 5, Sarah Eaton-Taylor aged 7 and Lilly Gibbons aged 5.

Apologies for missing your names out of the last issue - but you did make front page!



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Erica signing a book for forget-me-not owners Victoria Simpson-Forrest and Naomi Simpson

Best selling author drops in

BEST-SELLING author Erica James dropped in at Culcheth Library to talk to fans and sign copies of her latest novel 'It's the Little Things'.

The Cheshire-based writer had been invited by Culcheth's forget-me-not bookshop but the event was hosted by the library because of the number of enthusiasts expected.

Fifty people attended, including a reading group from Croft and Erica proved to be an entertaining speaker, talking with the audience for more than two hours about how she got into writing, her unique way of building characters, the settings for her books and the world of publishing.

Locals had the chance to ask her questions and she answered all of them in a very candid, open and honest way,

Her daily routine when writing a book starts in the study at 8.30 am finishing at 7.30 pm, only stopping for lunch and to touch base with her sons when they arrive home from school.

Anyone who missed the event can still pick up a signed copy at forget-me-not.

Erica's next book – which will be her 16th – is due out in the Spring next year and it's looking like she will be making a return visit to Culcheth.

Naomi Simpson, of forget-me-not, said: "Erica is very charming person. She talked openly of some funny and touching events in her life and really had the audience captivated. We look forward to the release of her next book and to welcoming her back to Culcheth."



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