AMSTERDAM STUN

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Number 273
June 2018

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ABOUT THE STUN

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The following people also contributed to this edition of the **Amsterdam Stun**:

- Frank Weston
- Gareth Dance
- Josie Gladden
- Rob (Poolbar)
- Terry Mann
- Tommy McKeown

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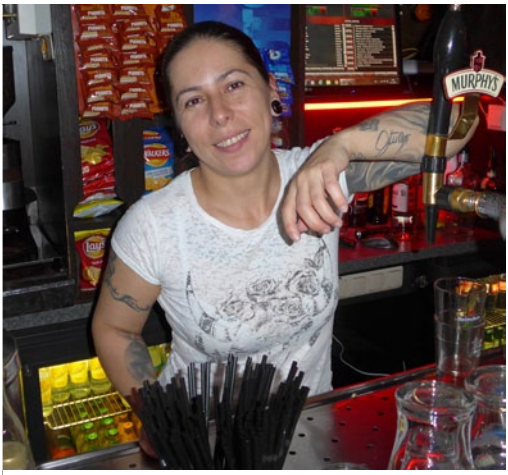
Page Three

Suki's photo in the last Stun was supposed to be her final appearance behind the bar in The End Karaoke, but here she is again, this time with Rosalie. Suki said it really was her last shift this time, but we'll see.

We mentioned Grete being back in town last month and now she's back behind the bar in Coco's Outback.



Anna couldn't decide between having a bite to eat or a bit of fresh air, but then the Torenzicht bar filled up again, so she had neither.

Sonia in Rock Planet has been in the Stun before, but this is her first time on Page Three!

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The Editor's Bit

OK, let's kick off with a Cover Competition. Who can tell me the name of the bar that used to be in the building pictured on this month's cover? I used to visit the place quite often in the 1990s, but hadn't been there for nearly 18 years and I haven't got a clue when it closed down. No prizes, but the first person to correctly name the bar will get an Honourable Mention in the next Stun.

If I'd known I was going to hold a Cover Competition, I could have arranged a real prize, but it was one of those last minute things, as usual. I even talked about it with Coco's manager Joey when I was collecting the prize for our Premier Predictions League, but I had other plans for the cover at the time.

The Amsterdam Sevens Rugby Tournament, being held a bit later than usual this year, from Friday 8th to Sunday 10th June at the National Rugby Centre in Geuzenveld, was my first idea, but I couldn't find anything suitable for the cover in my archives. I won't be going to see if Susie's Saloon can win it for a fourth time because I'd already made plans to scatter my late wife Elly's ashes on the Sunday and my English and Brabants family will be in town that weekend. That's also a clue to the cover photo location, because even though Elly didn't work in that particular bar, she had a connection with the place...

I love good bar staff and consider it a crime against humanity when tourists come over here and take them back to their home country with promises of the good life. I call it "Doing a Mark" after the low-life who lured my second favourite barmaid Beth away to the fens of East Anglia. It might be flat there, but that's where the similarity with Holland ends.

Gareth swore he would never do that with Ilze in Rock Planet and he even moved in with her in Amsterdam, but now there's a baby on the way, they've gone to Swansea. Gareth was very apologetic on his last night in town

and said they just couldn't find an affordable family-friendly place to rent anywhere near Amsterdam, so I might forgive him.

Back to our Premier Predictions League... This year's winner was our very own football correspondent Frank, who won vouchers for

€60 in food & drink in Coco's Outback. Along with his wife Rung, they celebrated his victory over unlimited ribs, beef & Guinness pie and a few drinks. See page 21 for the final table.

I promise we didn't fix the result and if you don't believe me, you're welcome to check all of the entries yourself.

That's it from me, enjoy your latest Stun.

Andy

Congratulations

Happy Birthday Aad, Adriaan, Adrie, Angela, Anna, Carol, Chris, CJ, Claire, Corinne, Dan, David, Denise, Derry, Diederik, Duncan, Elinor, Ferry, Franky, Frans, Gareth, Gus, Hiromi, Ian, Jaime, Janette, Jay, Jessica, Jim, JJ, Jo, Johan, John, Joost, Karolina, Kieran, Kimberley, Lesley, Liz, Maarten, Mara, Mark, Martin, Mathijs, Megan, Michael, Michelle, Mike, Mirjam, Monika, Nina, Olivia, Olivier, Onno, Owen, Paul, Pauline, Petra, Red Jon, Renee, Ria, Richard, Roy, Sandra, Sarah, Scarlett, Sean, Shari, Silvana, Sinead, Sonja, Steve, Steven, Susanna, Tommy, Tony, Toosh, Uschi, Valerie, Vera.

Happy Anniversary Alison & Phil, Ian & Richard, Ilona & Ray, Jaime & Kym.

From the depths of the Stun archives, this month's birthday flashback photo is taken from the April 1996 edition and features one of our all-time favourite barmen. Apart from the hair going a distinguished looking silver and the beard disappearing, he hasn't changed a bit, although sadly, he's no longer a bartender.

LIFE GOES ON…

Like most people, I'm addicted to the past, where ideas and traditions last longer than the latest fad. The Americanisation of Europe slows down slightly when it runs headlong into the stubborn Dutch and their protective traditions, allowing me space to forget my transgressions and revisit past indiscretions.

Sorry to disappoint you, but there will be no juicy confessions or titillating gossip in this article. Maybe next month

Strange how the city has changed over the years. It's still one of the slowest changing places on the planet, but even calm cool and collected Amsterdam has been forced into the modern world. I can sometimes hear the ancient buildings screaming at night… "Stop the madness?"

The museums & concert halls are inexpensive and accessible to the public, (even the swarms of tourists), the streets are relatively safe, the football frenzied fans are a little less frustrated and more friendly than they are in other countries in Europe, and all this despite the open borders and cross country trailer-trash backpackers. (Sorry guys, you deserve that one.)

At one time, the kiddies travelled to broaden themselves. Now they broaden only their butts by sitting around anywhere they can, high on chemical life, giggling hysterically. Fortunately the city is very forgiving. All of the benefits of the new world order with none of the guilt.

With the clank clank of morning metal stands on the markets, the hoarse shouts of the indifferent stall holders hawking their wares, the smell of freshly brewed coffee predating the Starbucks ethic, and even the murmuring prays of the occasional believers wafting through the city, heralding in the day continues as it has for almost forever.

Welcome to la la land. We're waiting for your money!

Terry Mann

BEHIND

Harry & Neha in the Three Sisters Pub

Umberto, Filip, Gloria & Soraida
in the Waterhole

Carl & Louise with Scrappy in Susie's Saloon

Jordy & Skip in Excalibur

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Daniel, Michael & Caitlin in Molly Malone's

Jolanta, Terry & Zana in Bourbon Street

Teo, Jake & Wolf in Coco's Outback

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THE STUN

Monday

Weekly

20:00, **The Waterhole**, Indie Night, *with 4 original bands*
21:30, **Maloe Melo**, Acoustic Session, *with Peter Lavell & his Gritmoaners*
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Magic Monday, *Open Jam hosted by Mosquito*
22:00, **The End**, Karaoke, *over 40,000 English/ Dutch songs to choose from. Open til 3*

11th June 2018

20:00, **The Waterhole**, Moonshiners (Por), *50's/60's Rock*
22:15, **The Waterhole**, Chasin Deer (UK), *Pop, Rock*
00:00, **The Waterhole**, Nocean, *Rock*

18th June 2018

20:00, **The Waterhole**, Muck, *Classic Rock*

25th June 2018

21:00, **The Waterhole**, Black Rockstar, *Acoustic Pop, Rock, Funk*

Tuesday

Weekly

20:00, **Café de Koe**, Open Mic Night, *hosted by The Amsterdam Songwriters Guild*
20:30, **The Waterhole**, Waterhole Jam with Rene Kipuw, *Pop, Rock*
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Acoustic Session, *with Kevin Chapman & Friends (except 19th)*
22:00, **The End**, Karaoke, *over 40,000 English/ Dutch songs to choose from. Open til 3*

5th June 2018

22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Lucas Pruim, *Classic rock* €3

12th June 2018

19:30, **Coco's Outback**, Pub Quiz, *Entry price: €2.50, maximum 5 persons to a team. Great Prizes!*
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Clearwater, *Funky soul* €3

19th June 2018

22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Dursun, *singer-songwriter, pianist and all-rounder* €3
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Joe Rocker, *Birthday party for lead singer of our favourite Joe Cocker tribute band*

26th June 2018

20:00, **The Poolbar**, Pub Quiz, *€5 per person, max. 5 in a team. First place wins 80% of the pot, second gets 20%*
20:00, **Checkpoint Charlie**, Ironic Curtain Comedy Club, *Hosted by Maestro of the Underground Ken Parsons with his trademark mix of daft headtrips and even dafter songs.*
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Roxanne Hartog, *Soul, funk & pop* €3

GIG-LIST

Tuesday

3rd July 2018

20:00, **Boom Chicago**, Amsterdam Magic Show, *The best international magic and comedy acts in the heart of Amsterdam. Tickets are €25 online / €30 at the door. Included is a welcome drink, close-up magic before the show, almost 2 hours stage show with international champion performers. Book tickets now as the shows tend to sell out well in advance. Use Promotional Code STUN for a 10% discount!*

Wednesday

Weekly

20:30, **The Waterhole**, Jesse´s Rock n´ Roll Jam Night, *Pop, Rock*
22:00, **Cafe Pollux**, Jukebox Rockola Jam Session,
22:00, **The End**, Karaoke, *over 40,000 English/ Dutch songs to choose from. Open til 3*

6th June 2018

22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Nate Dizco, *soul & funk* €3
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Rei Satoshi & Friends, *Jam session*

13th June 2018

22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Big Mike & the Booty Papas, *Soulful blues* €3
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Zoo Bust, *Alternative rock, followed by session with Franklin Madjid* €5

20th June 2018

22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Graziano Demurtas & The Italian Affairs, *Rock* €3
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Rock n Roll Nico, *Jam session*

Wednesday

27th June 2018

20:00, **Molly Malone's**, Pub Quiz, *8 rounds of brain-teasing questions! €2.50 per person, all money taken will be given back out in prizes. Booking ahead advised (0611958949) as they always fill up.*
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, El Toro, *Latin, soul, boogaloo & pop* €3
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Widad Sitti, *Love Jam*

Thursday

Weekly

21:00, **Het Hok**, Mosquito Unplugged, *latin pop rock*
22:00, **Coco's Outback**, Karaoke Competition, *Get a FREE shot before singing and be in with a chance of winning a nice prize!*
22:00, **The End**, Karaoke, *over 40,000 English/ Dutch songs to choose from. Open til 3*

7th June 2018

20:00, **The Waterhole**, Treasure, *Funk, Soul, Disco*
20:30, **De Nieuwe Anita**, Nutty Anita's Comedy Night, *Headliner: Dusty Beckwith! Supported by storyteller/comedians Kor Hoebe & Daniel Hillel Tuch, stand-ups Marijn de Vries & Renee Snijder, plus Amsterdam Magic Show's Alex Blackwood! Hosted by Ken Parsons with his trademark mix of daft headtrips and even dafter songs!* €7
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Danielle Ponder and the Tomorrow People, *Groove & soul* €3
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Blues Rock Session, *Lamar Chase is back in town!*
23:30, **The Waterhole**, Funky Influence, *Funk, Pop*

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STUN GIG-LIST

Thursday

14th June 2018

20:00, **The Waterhole**, cover band (t.b.a.),
20:30, **Volta**, Local Playground, *Yess Miss; No Miss + 1 band t.b.a.* €5
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Treasure, *Blues/rock* €3
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Jeff Winder Band, *Blues/Blues-rock, followed by jam session* €5
23:30, **The Waterhole**, Yellow Radio, *Pop, Rock*

21st June 2018

19:00, **Paleis van de Weemoed**, Amsterdam Magic Dinner Show, *Delight all of your senses as you feast on a 3-course meal of the highest quality, sip fine wine and enjoy the visual and cerebral delights that only the Amsterdam Magic Show can offer. Use Promotional Code STUN for a 10% discount!* €62.50
20:00, **The Waterhole**, Rimclackz, *Funk, Pop*
20:30, **Volta**, Local Playground, *bands t.b.a.* €5
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Treasure, *Blues/rock* €3
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, American Blues/Roots Session, *Hosted by Lamar Chase*
23:30, **The Waterhole**, Delano & Friends, *Pop, Funk, Dance*

28th June 2018

20:00, **The Waterhole**, Soul 6, *Funk, Soul*
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Nikos Tsop, *blues* €3
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, KittiWake, *followed by jam session* €5
23:30, **The Waterhole**, The RD Factor, *Funk, Pop, Dance*

Friday

Weekly

21:00, **The End**, Karaoke, *over 40,000 English/ Dutch songs to choose from. Open til 3*

8th June 2018

20:00, **The Waterhole**, Hopper, *80's-00's Rock*
20:00, **Rockclub The Cave**, Allergic to Horses [Ned], *Blues/Rock*
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, The Bashir Brothers, *up tempo tunes, from soulful blues, to classic rock.* €5
22:30, **Maloe Melo**, Last Night in Town, *Bluegrass* €5
23:30, **The Waterhole**, Whatever, *Rock n' Roll*

15th June 2018

20:00, **The Waterhole**, Rock-A-Oke, *Live-band Karaoke. Grab the mic!*
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Sugar Sugar, *rock, blues and blues-rock* €5
22:00, **Volta**, Juliana Braga - Volta e Meia, *Samba dance night* €8
22:00, **Rockclub The Cave**, Flight of Fire [USA] + Planet Zerpo [Swe/Ned], *Rock* €5
22:30, **Maloe Melo**, Walter Rootsie & Blue Connexion, *Blues/blues-rock from Finland* €5
23:30, **The Waterhole**, Snake Eyes (UK), *90's Rock*

22nd June 2018

20:00, **The Waterhole**, cover band (t.b.a.), *Rock*
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Brand Nu Funk, *soul, funk and R&B* €5
22:30, **Maloe Melo**, Jay's Black Magic Woman, *Blues/blues-rock/sixties* €5
23:30, **The Waterhole**, The Bitches, *Rock*

Friday

29th June 2018

20:00, **The Waterhole**, Lucky 13, *Rock*
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, La Frica, *Afrobeat, reggae, soul and R&B* €5
22:00, **Coco's Outback**, Full Moon Party, *Get your face and or body painted for free with fluoropaint!*
22:30, **Maloe Melo**, Lilian's Fest, *with DJ TE (Korsakoff) a.o.* €5
23:30, **The Waterhole**, The Containers, *Pop, Rock*

Saturday

Weekly

21:00, **The End**, Karaoke, *over 40,000 English/ Dutch songs to choose from. Open til 3*

9th June 2018

20:00, **The Waterhole**, Kangaroo Dynasty, *pop, rock*
20:00, **Rockclub The Cave**, Spectrum of Delusion [Ned] + Daemonos [Ned], *Death Metal*
20:00, **Old Nickel**, Jan The Lazyman's Vinyl Hours
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Sugar Sugar, *rock, blues and blues-rock* €5
22:30, **Maloe Melo**, The Real Blues Band, €5
23:30, **The Waterhole**, Altitude, *Pop, Rock*

16th June 2018

20:00, **The Waterhole**, Bounds of Modesty, *Rock*
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, E-Mann & the Royal Roots Band, *Bob Marley tribute show* €5
22:30, **The Waterhole**, Spit, *Hard-hitting 90's Rock*
22:30, **Maloe Melo**, Private Party, *Front bar open for everybody* €5

23rd June 2018

20:00, **The Waterhole**, Sliq, *Pop, Rock*
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Nate Dizco, *soul & funk* €5
22:30, **Maloe Melo**, Jur Fest 3, *with Love Supreme, Shady Grey, General Jabba, a.o.* €5
23:30, **The Waterhole**, Gold Water, *Rock*

Saturday

30th June 2018

20:00, **The Waterhole**, Reload, *Pop, Rock*
20:30, **Mixtree**, Stand-up Comedy Show! In English!, *with special guest Brent Pella, great support comedians and magic show by Fritz Alkemade* €7
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Delano and Friends, *soul, funk and R&B* €5
22:30, **Maloe Melo**, Live Music, *t.b.a.* €5
23:30, **The Waterhole**, cover band (t.b.a.), *Rock*

Sunday

Weekly

21:00, **Het Hok**, Stan & Friends, *acoustic pop/rock*
21:30, **Maloe Melo**, Acoustic Session, *Open podium*
22:00, **The End**, Karaoke, *over 40,000 English/ Dutch songs to choose from. Open til 3*

10th June 2018

20:00, **The Waterhole**, Dos Cabezas (Arg), *Fiesta!*
21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Live Music,
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Nikos Tsop, *blues*
22:30, **The Waterhole**, Moonshiners (Por), *50's/60's Rock*

17th June 2018

20:00, **The Waterhole**, The Terrymann, *Music you didn't know you wanted to hear*
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, The Hats, *Rock/Blues*
23:30, **The Waterhole**, Italian Affairs, *Rock*

24th June 2018

20:00, **The Waterhole**, Laura Kits, *Pop*
22:00, **Bourbon Street**, Adam James, *Australian multi-instrumentalist*
22:30, **The Waterhole**, cover band (t.b.a.), *Pop, Rock*

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ROUND T

Steven was in despair when Molly Malone's, along with all their neighbours, was plunged into darkness halfway into the Champions League final. Nick, Daniel and Bob took the opportunity to cool off outside.

A family affair when Gregorio played with El Toro in Bourbon Street; his wife Elisa, brother Alberto and son Christian were there too.

Adriaan and Bill were outside Coco's Outback, so I had to take a photo of them.

Simon, Franklin and Jur posed for a photo on a Friday night in Maloe Melo.

After a four year break, Jim has reformed Joe Rocker, possibly the best Joe Cocker tribute act in the world, with the original line-up and they will be playing in Maloe Melo on Jim's birthday; Tuesday 19th June.

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THE BARS

Rachel and Brad from Florida dropped into the Torenzicht for a bit of *Dutch Courage* before experiencing a live sex show.

Sharon was warming up for the start of her birthday celebration with Josie and another rosé drinker who was a bit camera shy.

Sanna came from Finland to visit her BFF Helena and to sample the local food; she had Irish Stew in Molly's and Tapas in Josélito.

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H. Murray's (2nd)

The Krijger twins, Brian and Steven, have taken over the bar formerly known as Busters and renamed it in honour of their Irish maternal family name. I couldn't make it to the first opening party, but they're horeca people, so they had another party the following Tuesday for their friends who had to work in the weekend. I missed seeing their mum, but dad Cor was there, along with a lot more familiar faces.

Opening Night Party

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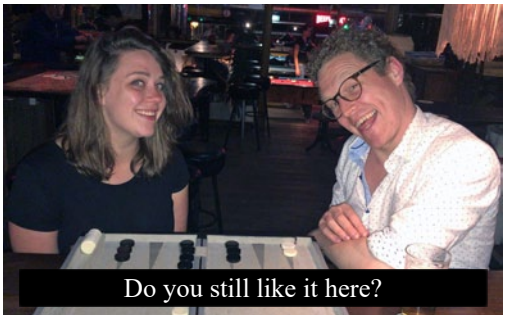
In The Poolbar

Crew night

Pub quiz



Do you still like it here?

Winners of the pub quiz

Casanovooooo

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One Night In...

...Maloe Melo to see the Soap Girls on their *Stinks Like Punk* tour. Since their last visit, it looks like Mie and Mille have found a way to stop their tits falling out when they get hot & sweaty on stage.

Some of their fans, the Soap Suds, joined them on stage for *Bad Bitch*.

No surprise seeing Marie and Ted from Amnezia Music Management having fun.

Patrick got a couple of CDs, signed by Mille and Mie, to add to his music collection.

Deja Vu! We had a photo of Kim, Axel and Tom waiting to start the jam session last time the Soap Girls played in Maloe Melo too.

Robert was ready to join in the jam session with his melodica, once the Soap Girls stopped!

Behind More Bars

It makes a change to have a photo of Aram behind the bar in the Cave instead of him on the town with his girlfriend.

Louise wasn't working, but she joined Carl, Steve and new guy Hidé for a photo behind the bar in Susie's Saloon.

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The Flying Dutchman has reopened with a lot more beers on tap, but Tineke is still there.

If it wasn't for Darryl being silly with bubbly bottles, Shannon, Violeta and Ewa in Players could have been on Page Three.

I wanted a photo of the 'new' beer taps in H. Murray's and Mark was behind them.

JOKES

Two Scousers are riding along the M62 from Manchester to Liverpool on a motorbike. They break down and start hitching a lift. A friendly trucker stops to see if he can help and the Scousers ask him for a lift. He tells them that he has no room in the wagon as he is carrying 20,000 Bowling balls but will take a look at the bike for them. He tries everything he knows but is unable to repair it. Time is getting on now and he's late for his delivery so he tells the Scousers he has to leave. The Scousers put it to the driver that if they can manage to fit in the back with the 20,000 bowling balls, will he take them, so he agrees. They manage to squeeze themselves and their motorbike into the back of the wagon so the driver shuts the doors and gets off on his way. By this time he is really late and so puts his foot down.

Sure enough, PC Plod of Greater Manchester Police pulls him up for speeding. The good officer asks the driver what he is carrying to which he replies with sarcasm 'Scouse eggs'. The policeman obviously doesn't believe this so wants to take a look. He opens the back door and quickly shuts it again, and locks it.

He rushes back to his car, gets on the radio and calls for immediate backup from as many officers as possible. The dispatcher asks what emergency he has that requires so many officers. 'I've got a wagon with 20,000 Scouse eggs in it - two have already hatched and the bastards have managed to nick a motorbike already.'

*****

Pauline at work accused me of being sexist yesterday because I always whistle at her when she walks into the office but I don't do the same when Frank walks in. So I have taken on board what she said and instead of whistling at her, today I greeted her with 'Morning twat' and dipped my balls in her coffee when she wasn't looking, just like I did to Frank. This equality thing works better than I thought.

*****

My son is three years old and yesterday I took him shopping. When we got home, he had a chocolate bar in his pocket. Now, I didn't buy it and he certainly didn't buy it, so I marched him straight back to the shopping centre and let him loose in the jewellers.

*****

My brother was so mean when I was a child; he used to glue the pages of his porn magazines together so I couldn't look at them.

*****

An alcoholic walks into a hardware shop and asks to buy a bottle of meths. The shopkeeper says "I'm not selling you that, I've seen you sitting down the park and I know you're an alky. You'll just drink it."

The man says "No, I've just started my own decorating business and I need it for my work. People won't let me forget I used to be a drunk. I've turned my life around, but I'll always be seen as that drunkard, no matter how hard I work."

The shopkeeper says "I'm so sorry. Alright, here's your bottle of meths."

The man says "You haven't got a cold one, have you?"

*****

As I waited to be taken down to start my prison term, I was allowed a final minute with my wife. I said "Listen Jo, prison is a horrible place that changes people for the worse, and when I come out, I doubt I'll be the same man you know and love. For that reason, I don't expect you to wait for me, so get on with your life and try and meet someone else who can hopefully be a father to our children. Most of all though, just stay strong and be happy."

"Stay strong?" my wife snapped, "You're only doing a week for an unpaid parking ticket!"

*****

I'm not saying people in my area have bad teeth, but one woman just smiled in the supermarket and the barcode scanner picked it up as a set of saucepans.

BEING FRANK ON FOOTBALL

The domestic season is all but over here in Europe and yet this year at least, we still have a lot to look forward to, as the World Cup begins in just a couple of weeks!

But before I get onto that, a word or two about Liverpool and that horror show in their Champions League final against Spanish giants Real Madrid. In some respects it was the story of two Germans and an Egyptian. When Mo Salah was on the field, the Reds looked very impressive and I really thought my wager on them lifting the trophy was about to become reality.

Sadly, that cruel shoulder injury saw 34-goal Mo go in tears and he was followed at the end of this dramatic encounter by another tearful Liverpool departure, as German keeper Loris Karius was left inconsolable, having almost single-handedly gifted the game to Spain!

I am probably being a bit mean here, because one mistake is magnified ten fold in matches of this nature, but two by a keeper is, quite frankly, unforgivable.

Former England keeper Robert Green, who himself is remembered for some considerable gaffs between the posts, thinks that Karius will have to seek solace outside of England and look to pastures new. “If he went back to Germany it would not be forgotten, but there would be less of a spotlight. Moving out of the spotlight is no bad thing, just on a domestic level, going outside of the country, where people would have been most interested in the game.” He has a point. I think many of us felt, even before this match, that Liverpool’s weakest link was the weakness of their keepers and so sadly it was to prove.

For Jurgen Klopp, it is imperative that he finds a reliable goalkeeper next term. It is now three years at the helm and no trophies and although his side play some of the best football in Europe on their day, it will all fritter away if they can not get a good stopper in place.

Now back to the forthcoming World Cup and I have an inkling that England may do an awful lot better than most people perhaps expect. Yes, we know it is a long old domestic season and they always seem to under-perform at this level, but I see a sea change this time around.

If Harry Kane and Deli Ali can remain fit and Raheem Sterling and Jamie Vardy can function normally, then this is a potent force up front, and with Jordan Henderson and Jesse Lingard supplementing our attacking options, they are a team with lots of goals!

The England defence looks reasonably solid too, but I don’t know for the life of me why manager Gareth Southgate has selected

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Manchester United's Phil Jones! He is a mistake just waiting to happen and I just hope John Stones, Gary Cahill, Kyle Walker and Trent Alexander-Arnold, keep him out of harms way.

The greatest worry for England revolves once again around the goalkeeping department. I am not convinced that Jordan Pickford should be seen as England's first choice because at this level, he will be found wanting. Jack Butland is better, but best of all is surely Burnley keeper Nick Pope! Unfortunately, he is with an unfashionable club, otherwise I believe he would already be the number one, because he is by far the most reliable of them all, in my view.

So then, this time around we do not have three time World Cup finalists the Netherlands to light up our streets with orange - or four times winners Italy either! It will be a bit surreal without the both of them in the competition and I am still fearful that this World Cup might be remembered for all the wrong reasons.

The Russian Police have a 'zero tolerance' policy towards troublesome supporters, and let's face it, when you look who is coming to the party, there is good reason to be concerned. Serbia, Croatia, Poland and Russia have dubious track records with regard to football violence, racism and hate crimes and of course old Blighty is there as well! I just hope we all know what we are doing, because to me this is like a tinder box, waiting to explode.

Frank Weston

PPL RESULT

Here's the final Premier Predictions League table for the 2017/2018 season; Frank won!

Pos.	Name	On	Nr	Pts
1st	Frank Weston	6	2	20
2nd	Steve Mahon	4	6	18
2nd	Boelenspark Rangers	4	6	18
4th	Arun Pankerd	4	4	16
4th	Pol Newmarkt	4	4	16
4th	Jeffery Schuffelen	4	4	16
7th	Paddy Wynne	3	7	16
7th	Suicide Sydd	3	7	16
7th	Stuart	3	7	16
10th	John Raftery	3	6	15
10th	Callum Dickie	3	6	15
12th	Spen	3	5	14
12th	Niall Murphy	3	5	14
12th	Marco Spaans	3	5	14
15th	Grouty	2	8	14
15th	Elwin Borgman	2	8	14
15th	Eric Donald	2	8	14
18th	Fred H.ams	4	1	13
19th	D. William Wood	3	4	13
20th	PerthTrueBlue	3	3	12
20th	Techno Ken	3	3	12
22nd	Alan Dempsey	2	6	12
23rd	Mark Hawkins	2	5	11
23rd	Jochen van Rijn	2	5	11
25th	Chris R	2	5	11
26th	J.J.P. Koning	1	8	11
27th	David Lourenco	2	4	10
27th	Jim McGrath	2	4	10
27th	Rob Pendleton	2	4	10
30th	Swiss Tom	3	0	9
31st	Paul Tandy	2	3	9
31st	YNWA	2	3	9
31st	Carlos Mecedo	2	3	9
34th	Ken Passey	1	6	9
35th	Paulo van Melson	2	2	8
36th	Jorge Garcia Martin	1	5	8
37th	Phil Rook	1	4	7
38th	Willem Verhoeven	1	3	6
38th	Diego Spaans	1	3	6
38th	Ronald Middelkoop	1	3	6
38th	Jude Noonan	1	3	6
42nd	Keith Scoble	1	2	5
42nd	Norbertus	1	2	5
44th	Kimberley	1	1	4
45th	Jordy de Leeuw	1	0	3

IN THE BACK

Friday night darters Shaun, H and Hughie couldn't wait for the Flying Dutchman to reopen, so they moved to Café Oporto.

Colin had Steven and Bob in stitches when they dropped into H. Murray's.

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Contact Andy on 06 - 28 712 646

Marco, Fernando and Gregorio from El Toro were taking a break when I delivered the last Stun to Bourbon Street.

Bumped into *Ouwe Rockers* Franklin and Nico in Maloe Melo.

Nige Bray finally took delivery of his new CD *Ghost Song* and was flogging them in Molly Malone's; I like it!

Darren Byrne playing in Molly Malone's was just what I needed to try out the low light capabilities of my new camera.

Josie, the Stun's proof-reader, was there with Paul, so I had to try a non-flash photo.

And another one of Josie when Darren was taking a break from performing.

HELP

Whether you live in Amsterdam or are just visiting, we hope you don't need to make use of this list. But just in case...

Police/Ambulance/Fire (Emergency only)	112
Police HQ - Elandsgracht	020-559 91 11
Reporting minor crimes	0900 - 88 44
Report crime anonymously	0800 - 70 00

Kruispost, O.Z.Voorburgwal 129, 020-624 90 31

Central Doctors Service	088-00 30 600
Pharmacies (Out of hours)	020-592 33 15
STD Clinic, Weesperplein 1,	020-555 58 22
Juridisch Loket (Legal Aid)	0900 - 8020

Emergency Vet	020-694 47 66
Dierenambulance	020-626 21 21

Australian Embassy	070-310 82 00
British Consulate	020-676 43 43
Canadian Embassy	070-361 41 11
Danish Consulate	020-575 17 79
French Consulate	020-624 83 46
German Consulate	020-673 62 45
Indian Embassy	070-346 97 71
Irish Embassy	070-363 09 93
Italian Consulate	020-624 00 43
New Zealand Embassy	070-346 93 24
Polish Consulate	020-565 11 55
South African Embassy	070-392 45 01
Spanish Consulate	020-620 38 11
Swedish Consulate	020-301 45 50
Swiss Consulate	020-717 34 16
U.S. Consulate	020-575 53 09

The following should be more useful

Public Transport Info	0900 - 9292
TCA Taxi	020-677 77 77

Night-Shops

(Close around midnight)

Avondmarkt	De Wittenkade 94
Dolf's	Willemsstraat 79
Sterk	De Clerqstraat 1-7
Sterk	Waterlooplein 241

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