

AMSTERDAM STUV

The paper for you

Number 136

www.amsterdamstuv.com

April 2016



The Editor's Bit

After dropping down to 28 pages last month, I'm glad to say we're back up to our usual 36. Having Paddy's day and a few other parties to attend helped us get rid of the winter cobwebs and we're raring to go.

So what have we got for you this month? Eggs, lots of eggs. Well, it is nearly Easter! We thought we'd have a competition, asking you to count all the eggs in this edition of *The Amsterdam Stun*, but then we changed our minds. You can still look for the eggs, but we're going to tell you how many there are. Can you find all the eggs? There won't be any prizes, although I'm sure Lin from British General Stores would donate an Easter egg as a prize if we were to ask her. Instead, if it starts to bug you that you can't find them all, you can buy us a drink and we'll tell you where the missing ones are.

Apart from the eggs, we've got all our usual stuff like pictures, gossip, jokes, football and music, but we had to move a few things around near the back so that we could reprint "On The Piss - In The Rodos Bar" in memory of our friend and former contributor, Alan Hickey, who died last month.

Now that this *Stun* is complete, we can start working on the next one and with Easter and Queen's Day coming up, we'll be out and about around town.

Enjoy your *Stun* with its 220 eggs.

Andy



SUBSCRIPTIONS

Don't miss out on your copy of *The Amsterdam Stun*: Take out a subscription and the latest edition will come through your letter-box every month. Our prices barely cover the cost of the postage, so you are getting a bargain.

Netherlands	€ 20.00 per year
Europe	€ 25.00 per year
Rest of World:	€ 35.00 per year

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of information printed in '**The Amsterdam Stun**', the Publisher accepts no liability for articles submitted by our contributors.

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If you would like to contribute a story or even a regular column, don't be shy: we're all amateurs doing our best here.

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

- * Alan Hickey
- * Dorothy Braithwaiteshire-Llyons
- * Frank Weston
- * John Gregory
- * Lin Sargent
- * Rush

The Amsterdam Stun is printed by:

The Finishing Touch
1018 AJ Amsterdam



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It was shift change in the Wonder Bar, so we caught Zoe, Yoanna, Angela and Karen together.

TALES FROM THE

Happy Birthday Marjolein, Guusje, Noi, Johanna, Rachel, Josep, Dick, Mellie, Justine, Paula, Cathal, Avril, Selena, Abe, Arend, Steve, Fish, Kathleen, Truus, Nina, Aaron, Ilona, Helena, Norbert, Daria, Virgil, Paula, Kevin, Hildegard, Adrian, Maria, Jochem, Mac, Billy, Sarah, Ann, Arabella, Mickey, Heike, Harry, Jessica, Roxanne, Joey, Iris, Tammie, Daniel, John, Miriam, May, Hilton, Colin, Liz, Milo, Joan, Imogen, Gordon, Danny, Sophia, Cathy & Maureen.

Happy Wedding Anniversary Ken & Alma, Glen & Susan, Rainor & Carol, Lamar & Lisa.

It is becoming a tradition for Rachel & Justine, all their friends and (former) colleagues: Girls Night Out. They gather in the Stones Cafe (between 12 & 20 gorgeous young women in their best party-outfits) between 18.00 & 19.00 hrs. Then they go & paint the town red! Have fun, girls!

Our experienced mariner is still looking for a (female) cruise-buddy to make the boat-trip to Germany (and further?), before he turns into an ancient mariner! The Captain would like a reaction soon, he plans to leave round the second half of May, to arrive in beautiful Berlin about six weeks later. Are there any adventurous ladies left?

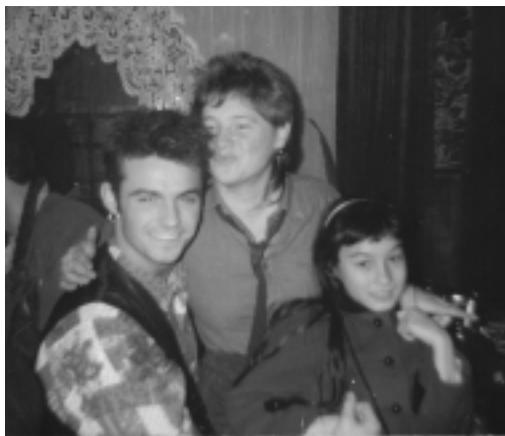
Caribbean night in The Old Highlander was a great success (see photo's pages 22&23). Anouska would really like to take her cooking-skills a step further, i.e. start a professional catering service. I tell you, the woman can cook!, & she is a first class economist, too. It really was all you can eat for six euros a head, & a Guinness-cocktail thrown in. When we left, there was still enough to feed an orphanage. We never got to try the fish, so that will have to wait till next time! If you want to make use of her service, you can reach Anouska on tel nr.

0614 567 662 (best call after 6.00 pm), or you can reach her and order by e-mail:

west-indies-rare@excite.com.

Kamasutra (with sister Vijaya the best Indian restaurants in town) had some requests recently to cater for groups (horeca workers mainly), and it was such a nice experience they've decided to offer the service to the general public. From 15 up to 50 people would comfortably fit in either of the two (both in the city-centre) premises, and prices are negotiable (see adverts on this page & page 10 to ask for details).

And while on the subject, Henry is busy cooking up a party for the Amsterdam Stun (see page 29).



When this photo was taken she was very young, but Jasmin is of marrying age now. Marty Pellow must have aged the same amount of years, but when we saw him on telly recently, he looked exactly the same. Or did he? (We zapped straightaway!).

We were hoping to be able to show you some wedding photo's: Big John & Thuyet got married in Vietnam, but Willy didn't get the photo's yet. Maybe we can use them next month.

GUTTER

Quite a few people have mentioned T-shirts recently. Ashanty in Mr. Coco's has been looking at the different logo's & colours Mr. Coco's used to have for their "staff uniform" T-shirts, Andy in the Newcastle Bar is thinking of having T-shirts made not only to dress staff in, but as a souvenir for their punters, to go with the polaroids they always make. We might have some made for the Stun Party in July, see Henry for details, but here are a few that were made earlier!



In Maloe Melo shirts with Patrick...
And Frank and Kees in The Waterhole.



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Finally, someone with vision recognised the potential of (what used to be) Montparnasse, on the edge of the Red Light District. Seeing what could be done with the dilapidated inside, Linette (with the help of family & friends) has transformed it into "Cafe Linette's", a light, bright, clean new establishment on Nieuwe Brugsteeg. Watch this space for info on the "Official Opening Party".

And by the way, terrace season is upon us again

Actually, a lot of places could have had their terrace open on sunny days, but they were misinformed by the council. The council does a lot of mis-informing, so they introduced a phone-number that deals exclusively with complaints about misinformation.

Elly

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WARMOESSTRAAT

CENTRUM

Denine was over from Leeds on a works trip and after meeting up with a bunch of fit Irish guys, she was dancing on the bar in the Old Quarter.



Marije Nie was tapdancing at the Monday Jazz session with the Old Quarter Trio.



Linette, Otto and Joop dropped into Buster's for a drink with Peter.



Caroline and her hen party from Belfast were Drunk & Gorgeous in the Sláinte.

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Kirsten, Megan, Taylor, Jen & Melody posed for a picture

A few of the people we've met in the bar recently



The Manchester Crew had fun in Café Newcastle Pub

Dear Dorothy

Dear Dorothy,

Whilst alighting from the trambulator, I had the misfortune to catch my bustle in the tram doors. You can imagine the utter dismay felt by one when faced with such a dilemma. The tram conductor was in a state of panic (brought on by bad temper, no doubt the man is a drinker of alcohol.) and he used his horsewhip to manoeuvre my posterior through the small gap. The language sent forth by the aforementioned was really unforgettable. The poor child following the tram with his bucket and shovel froze in sheer shock. Should I report this man to the Mayor?

Winnifred v.d Potter

(Letter postmarked Amsterdam, June 1908)

Dear Winnifred, or any living relatives.

I appreciate the postal system is not all it's cracked up to be in Amsterdam. I don't think you would get a response if you did complain, not without the man's official badge number anyway. Were there any witnesses? Are they still living? Perhaps the small child with the shit bucket is still around. To locate him, I'd try a hospice with a rose garden to start your search.

*Best I can suggest,
Dorothy.*

Dear Dorothy,

If I have to listen to that awful James Blunt song, "Your beautiful", one more time, I'll go crazy. It's everywhere, in the gym, on the radio, in the bars. What ever happened to music?

Billy G.
Amsterdam.

Dear Billy,

Just stay away from hairdressers, gay bars and of course the gym. You could of course take a vacation to Belgium; I've heard that it was banned there, in case it upset the ugly population.

Dorothy.

Dear Dorothy,

What do you recommend for a) bad breath, b) bodie odour, c) foot odour, d) a permanent runnie nose and last of all e) nits. I've not tried much, but thought you might know one thing I could take for the lot.

Yours Faithfullie
Dogrough Dan

Dear Dan, or can I call you Dogrough.

Why not stay at home! That would certainly help (the rest of us). And next time, please use plastic coated paper so that I can wipe it over with a damp cloth first.

Dorothy.

Dear Readers,

Although I do my best to alleviate your problems, this I can only do when you write clearly in English/Irish/Scottish. For the reader who recently sent the letter in Braille, I am afraid I thought the context too severe for publication. The contents were both very rude and intimidating. Please don't write in again.

Dorothy.

(Dorothy, that was a cheese grater that Elly had left by the post box - Andy.)



It's always nice to see Susan in the Stone's.

BEHIND

Singh, Shahid and Vijay serve the best curries in town in the Kamasutra and Vijaya.



We caught Dan on his last night in The Globe; he's been there for 7 months, but now he's going back in the kitchen



Here's Paul, again, in Finnegan's Rainbow.



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BARS

Hin was helping out behind the bar in Café Corso. He's been there for 1½ years, but we've never got his picture, until now.



Nicola is following in her mum's footsteps, pulling pints in the Old Highlander.



Pim's off sick with his arm, so he won't be behind the bar in Coco's Outback for a month. I'm sure Enda and the rest of the crew will be hoping so see him back soon.



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Billy's Birthday



Billy C celebrated his birthday on Paddy's day in the Old Highlander with his friends.



Comrade Tovarich Billy T. was in charge of security for Billy C's party.

Toosh came straight from work, his daughter Nicola was working: behind the bar.



Beverley and Josie always turn out for Billy's parties.



There weren't any security problems, so Billy T. could let his hair down and party with Karen and Helena.

PADDY'S DAY

You have to visit a few Irish bars on Paddy's Day, so we left Billy's party and headed for the Warmoesstraat.

It was a full house in the Sláinte, but Morag and Andy were on top form, so we didn't have to wait too long for a drink.



Nuclear Kazoo had finished playing by the time we reached the Sláinte, but they were still celebrating their 2nd anniversary.



Max was getting in some pre-birthday drinking practice with Siv and Yke.



Pauline and Carol were behind the bar of the Blarney Stone until deep in the night.



Peter was one of many taking advantage of the Blarney's late licence.

MUSIC NEWS &



Woody will be celebrating 25 years of Woody & The Sidemen with a concert in Paradiso on Sunday 23rd April. He'll be joined on stage by Ad de Hont (guitar), Jaap v.d. Sluys (bass) and Hans Waterman (drums), plus guests Joost Belinfante, Cees Maat, Dany Lademacher, Harry Hardholt and Rob Kruisman, giving him eight Sidemen! Tickets cost €10, doors open at 14:30, Bert Boot's Country Folks are supporting act and Woody & The Sidemen will be on stage from 16:00. So, if you're a friend of Woody, or you just like Country music, get down there.

Somebody else with an anniversary to celebrate is Eddy: On Queen's Day, Saturday 29th April, it will be a year since he held his first Karaoke Show in Amsterdam. To mark the occasion, Eddy's Karaoke will be in The Globe and he will be hoping to see a lot of the singing friends he's made from first The Mug and more recently, The End.



In the last year, Eddy's collection of Karaoke discs has grown rapidly and he can now offer songs in at least 10 different languages, so he's bound to have some of your favourites, no matter where you come from. What better way to round off Queen's Day than singing a few songs.

www.EddysKaraOke.com

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WHAT'S ON



Starting on Friday 14th April, The Globe, on Oudezijds Voorburgwal 3, is the new venue for Eddy's Karaoke. Every Friday and Saturday, from 9 pm 'til 3 am, you can sing your heart out at the most international karaoke show in town.

Maloe Melo have got a few extra concerts, with top American bands over the next few weeks. On Thursday 13th, there's rockabilly from The Blasters, followed a week later by roots rock from Johnny Irion & Band on Thursday 20th. Tuesday 25th sees Scrappy Jud Newcomb on stage and on Thursday 27th, it's the turn of The Fireballs & 3 Balls of Fire.

Laberinto are back from a trip to their native Venezuela, where they played a couple of stadium gigs. They'll be playing with the Osdorp Posse at the Kasteel in Alphen a/d Rijn on Friday 28th April, and their alter-ego's, Santanico will be playing in The Waterhole on Saturday 22nd April.

Professional English bass-player will give bass lessons. From novice to good. Call Hilton on 020-486 8633

Talking of The Waterhole; their website at www.waterhole.nl has just been redesigned and their gig-list is back on-line.

Absinthe played a surprise Sunday gig in The End on the 2nd and were in The Winston on the 8th, but we missed them. They're off to Scotland, France and Belgium soon, but they'll be back in The Winston on the 27th May. Before that, there's always a chance you might bump into some of the band members singing Karaoke in The End.



And what's happening during the day on Queen's Day? Coco's Outback is always good for a wild party, but we don't know much else that's planned. Just walk around, you're bound to find something good.

WATERHOLE

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Bar Hours:
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Korte Leidsedwardsstraat 49



THE STUN

Monday 10 April

Bourbon Street Latin Jam with Gregorio
 Maloe Melo Acoustic session
 with Peter Lavell
 Old Quarter Jazz Session with the
 Old Quarter Trio
 guest: Rinus Groeneveld
 The End Karaoke
 The Waterhole Brenda Joan Jam

Tuesday 11 April

Maloe Melo Jam Session with Arwen
 The End Karaoke
 The Waterhole Rory's Open Mic

Wednesday 12 April

Maloe Melo t.b.a.
 The End Karaoke
 The Waterhole Gus Genser Jam

Thursday 13 April

Maloe Melo The Blasters (entr: €10)
 Old Nickel Peter Lavell
 The End Karaoke
 The Waterhole 20:00 Stan & Chaja
 22:30 School For Gifted

Friday 14 April

Maloe Melo F.K.A.
 The End New Bands - Live
 The Globe Eddy's Karaoke
 The Waterhole 20:00 Blaffende Vis
 22:30 Waste

Saturday 15 April

Bourbon Street Santanico
 Maloe Melo Stagger III
 The End Alizarin, Lunar Module
 The Globe Eddy's Karaoke
 The Waterhole 20:00 Coco & Friends
 22:30 Yellow Pearl

Sunday 16 April

Finnegans R'bow Irish Dancing Afternoon
 Maloe Melo Acoustic jam with Derek
 The End Karaoke
 The Waterhole Ladies Nite
 with Joyce & Baukje

Monday 17 April

Bourbon Street Latin Jam with Gregorio
 Maloe Melo Acoustic session
 with Peter Lavell
 Old Quarter Jazz Session with the
 Old Quarter Trio
 guest: Susanne Alt
 The End Karaoke
 The Waterhole Magic Sem's Jam

Tuesday 18 April

Maloe Melo V.S.P.A. Student Session
 The End Karaoke
 The Waterhole Rory's Open Mic

Wednesday 19 April

Maloe Melo t.b.a.
 The End Karaoke
 The Waterhole Jamming with Julius

Thursday 20 April

Maloe Melo Johnny Irion & Band (€5)
 Old Nickel Peter Lavell
 The End Karaoke
 The Waterhole 20:00 Stan & Chaja
 22:30 Gus Genser Jam

Friday 21 April

Maloe Melo Rocker Arms
 The End Sweet 16
 The Globe Eddy's Karaoke
 The Waterhole 20:00 Dwin (6 girls!!!)
 22:30 Baukje's Dream Band

Saturday 22 April

Maloe Melo Cuban Heels
 The End Dwin
 The Globe Eddy's Karaoke
 The Waterhole 20:00 Coco & Friends
 22:30 Santanico

Sunday 23 April

Finnegans R'bow Irish Dancing Afternoon
 Paradiso (15:00) Woody & The Sidemen
 25th Anniversary Show
 Maloe Melo Acoustic jam with Derek
 The End Karaoke
 The Waterhole Ladies Nite

GIG-LIST

Monday 24 April

Bourbon Street Latin Jam with Gregorio
Maloe Melo Acoustic session
with Peter Lavell
Old Quarter Jazz Session with the
Old Quarter Trio
guests: Rembrandt Frerichs Quartet

The End Karaoke
The Waterhole Magic Sem's Jam

Tuesday 25 April

Maloe Melo Scrappy Jud Newcomb €5
The End Karaoke
The Waterhole Rory's Open Mic

Wednesday 26 April

Maloe Melo t.b.a.
The End Karaoke
The Waterhole Jamming with Julius

Thursday 27 April

Maloe Melo The Fire Balls &
3 Balls of Fire (€5)
Old Nickel Peter Lavell
The End Karaoke
The Waterhole 20:00 Blaffende Vis
22:30 Gus Genser Jam

Friday 28 April

Kasteel, Laberinto & Osdorp Posse
Alphen a/d Rijn
Maloe Melo Rootsclub with Bert Boot,
Rik & Jan the Lazyman
The End Alcatrash
The Globe Eddy's Karaoke
The Waterhole 20:00 Coco & Friends
23:00 Brenda Joan Band

Saturday 29 April

Maloe Melo Mama's Bad Boys
The End New Bands - Live
The Globe Eddy's Karaoke: One Year
in Amsterdam Party
The Waterhole Queen's Day Surprise Band

Weekends in Maloe Melo:

Entrance = €5.-, Members = €2.50

Other days when mentioned!

TheEnd

Night Bar & Live Music Venue

Friday & Saturday: Live Bands

Sunday - Thursday: Karaoke with Eddy

Nieuwebrugsteeg 32, Amsterdam

Tel: 06-49048839

www.theend.nl

Sunday 30 April

Finnegans R'bow Irish Dancing Afternoon
Maloe Melo Acoustic jam with Derek
The End Karaoke
The Waterhole Ladies Nite
with Joyce & Baukje

Monday 01 May

Bourbon Street Latin Jam with Gregorio
Maloe Melo Acoustic session
with Peter Lavell
Old Quarter Jazz Session with the
Old Quarter Trio
guest: Rick Margitza
The End Karaoke
The Waterhole Magic Sem's Jam

Tuesday 02 May

Maloe Melo Blues Session
with Peter Lavell
The End Karaoke
The Waterhole Jimmy Birdland Jam

Wednesday 03 May

Maloe Melo Band Stand with Nico
The End Karaoke
The Waterhole Jamming with Julius

BLUESCAPE
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ROUND

Chas enjoyed Tineke's company in the Flying Dutchman so much, he missed his plane and stayed another week.



Guinness John, vice president & founding member of the BDA, is leaving town at the end of the month, so he finally agreed to have his picture in The Stun.



In Café Newcastle Pub, we met the Steves and Stevette from Cardiff.



We had to get a picture of Erin, Gina, Alon, Alex, Nelly, Rachel and Max lounging around in the Wonder Bar.



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With a wide range of food, from a club sandwich to fish & chips, from a salad to an egg-burger
Open every weekend for a wild dance party until at least 3:00am, with live DJ's & VJ's scheduled
at least twice a month. With big screen TV, artistic decoration and friendly staff

Nieuwendijk 3

THE BARS



Henk's back from his trip to New Zealand and propping up the bar in Café Corso again.

Liam's fans were upset because he wasn't in last month's Stun, so here he is with Scotty, Jamie and Luke in Susie's Saloon.



Sylvia, Andy, Max and Kelly, who works in the Wonder Bar, were in the Sláinte.



Zsuzsanna has left town, but Sarah is still in Lost In Amsterdam.



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MISS KARAOKE

Sunday 26th March saw the first Miss Karaoke in The End. All the men in the bar were judges in the competition which was more about looks than singing.

After the votes were counted, it was a tie between two of the six contestants, so it was time for a sing-off.



First prize, €100 of drinks in The End, went to Noi.

Nong got a bottle of Chivas for 2nd place.



Isabel was singing in English, so she got extra points from me for that.



I thought Juke would have been up there vying for first place, but my fellow judges thought differently.

S_{een} n S_{tage}



La Fahrt have been together longer than some of the bands we see in The End and it shows; an enjoyable set of classic rock .

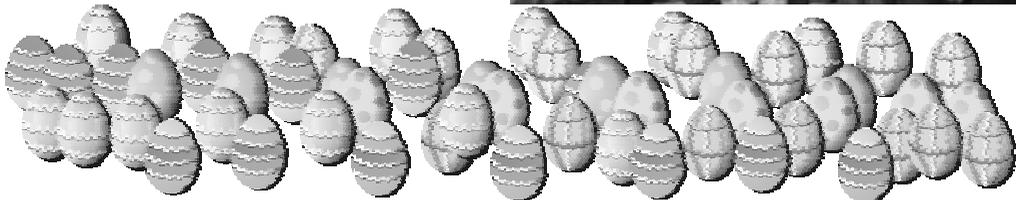
Four Stroke Motion know how to rock. They made me think of Talking Heads at first, but then went more Lenny Kravitz, but then I thought Red Hot Chilli Peppers, so they must have a lot of influences. Whatever, they sounded good to me and the audience in The End agreed.



Wicked Fruit Company had the crowd with them in The Waterhole. Security had to step in a few times to stop the stage divers.



We've said it before and we'll say it again; the Thursday Blues sessions in Maloe Melo are always popular with the musicians and the audience.



CARIBBEAN

The Old Highlander held a Caribbean night on Saturday 25th March. Not the most obvious choice of event for a Scottish pub, but a clever one: The place was packed!

The biggest attraction was undoubtedly the generous portions of West Indian food that Anouska made. Helping her out in the kitchen were Valerie, Julie and Peter.



Behind the bar, Hester, Linda and Ann were looking very colourful.

Jo not only decorated the bar, but also herself in a Caribbean style.



Trina, who's gone from 2 to 4 eyes so she can see better, was upstairs with Kelly, Dee and Claire, close to the food. Or was it the Guinness Punch?

NIGHT



Karen, Chrissy and Jennie were dressed up, but not as loud as Jo.



Also spotted by Trina were Cathy and Gaye, who hasn't been in The Stun for ages.

We hadn't seen Kathy and Terry for a while, so it was good to see them out enjoying a few drinks.



Old Highlander owner Ray's older brother Colin was paying a visit, so we had to get a picture of them together. Jo got in it too.



THE OLD HIGHLANDER

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ON THE

Klaas and Sheila were over from Chicago for a week, visiting family, which meant a lot of drinking in the Flying Dutchman with Richard and Tineke.



There's nothing like the Wonder Bar in the small town in Wisconsin where Erin comes from, so she insisted we take a picture of her with barmaid Rachel.



Barmaid Jo and chef Gavin were having an after work smoke outside Mister Coco's.



Jamie's attempts to hide were pointless, we knew he was somewhere in the Sláinte.



Painting & Decorating
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From toilet to tower block

OTHER SIDE

Veronica from Queensland had been in Coco's Outback for 4 days when we took this picture, but she hopes to stay a year. She knows The Stun because her cousin was in it two years ago.



Terrace season is here again, so Nicole and new girl Deb will be getting plenty of fresh air outside the London Bridge.

Patrick came from behind the bar in Maloe Melo to pose with Wendy Peress.



We keep missing Annie behind the bar in Susie's Saloon, but we frequently see her on the other side with Sam.

MORE



Huib started celebrating his 40th birthday in Susie's Saloon.



If it's Thursday, there's a good chance you'll find Rahim in Maloe Melo.



Also in Susie's Saloon, Spud was having a drink with his brother Glyn and step-brother Jonathan.

Taking a break from karaoke, Antonio was chatting to Amy in The End.



Richard's a happy man; his wife Noi won Miss Karaoke and the prize was €100 of drinks in The End.

ROUNDS



With Walter in the Newcastle; Oli & Caroline from Brum and Beth & Jo from Melbourne.



In Mister Coco's, Ashanty, CJ and Maja wanted us to show Sandy's willy in the picture, but in the end, there was nothing to see, so we didn't have to resort to censorship.



Helma, Josep and Chris were warming up in the Flying Dutchman before watching the Barcelona v Real Madrid match.



Last time Shaun was in The Stun was about 5 years ago, in the London Bridge. This time, he was in Buster's.

Barbour, Zoe and Max weren't throwing Alon out of the Wonder Bar; why would they want to?



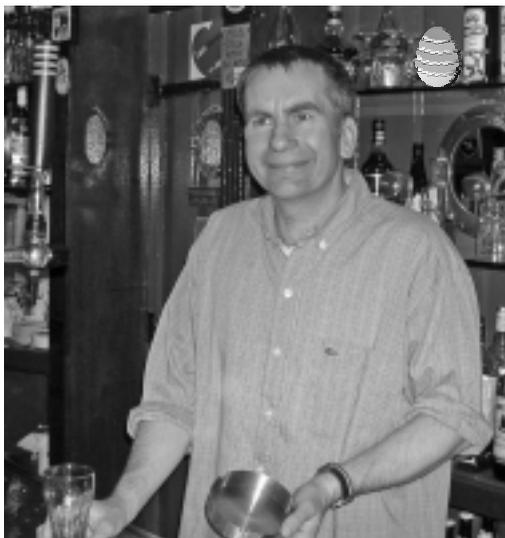
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BEHIND MORE BARS

It's taken what seems like forever, but Linette has finally opened Café Linette on the Nieuwebrugsteeg, opposite The End and just down the road from Buster's.



Talking of Buster's, Neil has got an outside tap on Queen's Day. It's a good place to grab a beer before going down or leaving Warmoesstraat.



Dave the chef from Gokujo (apparently) fancies Marlene after she met him outside the Old Quarter while he was handing out flyers.



It'll soon be Justine's birthday and she's going to party, so she won't be behind the bar of the Stone's Corner on Thursday the 13th.

Premiership Predictions Update

The season is rapidly coming to a climax and this time next month, it'll all be over, so I suppose it's about time we gave you an update of how our contestants are doing in the Amsterdam Stun Premiership Predictions League 2005/2006. Cezary is still leading at the moment, but reigning champion John Raftery has dropped 12 places since January. Callum is the biggest mover; he's gone up 17 places. If previous seasons are anything to go by, anything could happen between now and the last matches on Sunday 7th May, so don't miss next month's Stun for the final table.

Here are the standings on Monday 10th April 2006.

Name	On	Nr	Pts
Cezary	3	8	17
Steve	4	3	15
Gareth	3	5	14
Tricia Willis	3	4	13
Iwan	3	4	13
Peter Drost	3	4	13
Callum Dickie	3	3	12
Polly	3	3	12
Emanuel Cuvaco	2	6	12
Bertis	2	6	12
Frank Weston	3	2	11
John Davies	2	4	10
Terry Hickey	2	4	10
Daniel	2	4	10
Quisippe	2	3	9
Fernando Netes	2	3	9
Mathew Wright	1	6	9
John Raftery	1	6	9
Paddy Wynne	2	2	8
Neil Weston	2	1	7
Arun Panker	2	1	7
Paul Finnegans	0	6	6
Andy F	0	3	3
Jonathan Shelduck	0	2	2

PARTY

Last month Andy mentioned in his editorial that we wouldn't be having a party to celebrate 12 ½ years of the Amsterdam Stun, because the organisation would be too much. But then Henry, who is a very experienced party-planner (his Caribbean Parties are famous), said he would like to help us. So we've decided that since Andy's 50th birthday is coming up in July, a combination of the two events could make one hell of a party!

There is just one little problem: We don't have any money! Andy's severance pay-out (if he gets one) has not come in yet, & we still haven't won the lottery.

So Henry is going to do some begging for us, see if he can collect pledges of money and/or party necessities like booze, food etc, we will ask a few musicians if they are free & willing to play. Unfortunately the weather here is not constant enough to say: It's July, summertime, lets do it outside! So we will need (large enough) premises etc.



We would like to ask all of our sponsors & readers to give Henry full cooperation & donate lots of money!

And if you are also poor, you can come up with ideas, or with a big smile & positive energy at the party. Hope to see you there!

BEING FRANK ON FOOTBALL

They say that the secret of success in life is known only by those who have not succeeded and for the first time in their club's history, Arsenal find themselves in the semi-final of the Champions League, having disposed of Juventus along the way. It was a masterful display in Turin and their path to the semi-finals has been impressive so far. All the hard work was done in the first leg of course, when they took a two-nil lead over to Italy, but their European exploits under Wenger have been anything but smooth over the last few seasons, so you could say, to use another cliché, that practice is making perfect. Let us hope so, because Barcelona and AC Milan are still two very big fish swimming around in there and Arsenal can count their lucky stars that they face little Villarreal in the next round and they must fancy their chances, having knocked out the mighty Real Madrid in the round before.

However, according to Villarreal defender Rodolfo Arruabarrena, it will not be plain sailing for the Gunners and he suspects that their inexperience, especially at the back, could prove fatal in the later stages of the most prestigious, and certainly the richest, club tournament in the world. He may be an Argentine defender at a Spanish club, but he scored the crucial goal that took his side through against Inter Milan and he said in broken English, "They have a lot of young players and you know in big matches

such as this, you get nervous and maybe the pressure could affect them." To use yet another cliché that Mr. Wenger would appreciate, they say that nothing succeeds like success and on current form, they must be favourites to progress to the finals. I like Villarreal though: They play attractive football and they have got this far the hard way, having knocked out Everton very impressively at the qualifying stage of this tournament.

In the other tie, the mighty Barcelona easily dealt with Benfica, and remember, this was something that former Champions Liverpool failed to do, so for another English team to lift the trophy this season will be asking an awful lot. That said, Arsenal are coming into

form at just the right time and with eight defensive clean sheets in Europe already, they will be a match for anyone, it would seem. In the English Premiership, the title race has only just begun! Chelsea's huge lead of a few weeks ago has now been reduced to a measly seven points, with six games to play. I think this is the Russian chairman's idea of boosting gate receipts for the last few home games myself, but you can bet that Sir Alex

Fergusson can smell the scent of blood! One thing you can say about the man is that he has an endless supply of grit and determination and he will be trying to scare the living daylight out of Mourinho from now until it is no longer mathematically possible to catch





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achievement for their first season in the top flight. Next time will probably be make or break time, because it is the widely held footballing view that the second campaign is the one that sorts out the men from the boys and finds out whether you are just a tourist or looking for more permanent residence. Ask Ipswich Town, who came up a few years ago and ended up in fifth place and a Uefa cup spot only to plummet into oblivion the following year.

Here in The Netherlands, PSV have walked away with the title and as things stand, they are a staggering 28 points ahead of Ajax! I am quite sure Ajax supporters will not thank me for that statistic, but to put things into perspective, second placed AZ Alkmaar are nine points adrift, so there it is, very much a one horse race. The play-offs are a new thing in the top flight here and it will add a bit of end of season excitement to what has been a rather dull season so far, in terms of suspense at least.

them. We all know it is a forlorn hope, but this won't stop him trying and at the very least, they should claim second spot the way they are performing just now.

At the bottom is where the real excitement lies this time around though. Apart from Sunderland, who are dooomed, Portsmouth, West Brom and Birmingham continue to dog it out to avoid the drop and one of them will survive, but who will it be, I wonder? At this stage, it is far too difficult to call, but my own hunch, and it has been all season, is that West Brom will go and Portsmouth will fall with them. Redknapp or no bloody Redknapp! I also predicted that Wigan would finish in the top ten, I recall, and they are currently in eighth place, which is a wonderful

In Spain, Barcelona are eleven points clear of real Madrid and look certain to lift the crown. Italy's Juventus have a nine-point cushion over AC Milan and once again, they seem to be home and dry. Lyon have the title sewn up again in France and Celtic are the Champions once more in Scotland, with a John Hartson goal ensuring a 1-0 win against the runaway early leaders Hearts. No sympathy there: They should not have disposed of the services of George Burley so quick and that was their own undoing in my view. In football you rarely get what you deserve, but on this occasion, justice was seen to be done!

Frank



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THE JOKES PAGE

With our Guest Jokers: John, Rush & Lin

A man had two great tickets for the FA Cup final.

As he sits down, another man comes down and asks if anyone is sitting in the seat next to him. "No", he says, "The seat is empty".

"This is incredible!" said the man, "Who in their right mind would have a seat like this for the FA cup final, the biggest sporting event in the year, and not use it?"

He says, "Well actually, the seat belongs to me. My wife was supposed to come with me, but she passed away. This is the first Cup Final we haven't been together since we got married".

"Oh I'm sorry to hear that. That's terrible. I guess you couldn't find someone else, a friend or relative or even a neighbour to take the seat?"

The man shakes his head...

"No. They're all at the funeral".

There was this guy who loved nothing better than to sit at nearby bar for long evenings and get drunk with his cronies. But his wife was a social climber, and was prone to having her "ladies" in for bridge, etc.

This one night, she didn't want him to be around embarrassing her, so she told him to stay out as late as he wished, just don't come in and make another scene.

Well, he came in the back door a little early, as she was preparing tea and some delicate little sandwiches, and was infuriated at his early return home.

"You keep your mouth shut, and go upstairs to bed," she told him.

"Oh, relax," says he, "I'll just take a cup of coffee, say good evening to the ladies, and I'll be gone."

"Just keep your mouth shut," says she again.

Well, when she finally went back into the living room, all the ladies were gone, and he sat

there alone. She flipped and told him she was going to divorce him and take everything he had, but he said, "wait a minute, you have to hear my side of the story."

"I came in here, sat down, and said good evening to the ladies, and they carried on. One lady said she was having trouble with mice in her house, and another lady suggested she stuff their holes with steel wool, and all I said was, who is going to hold their little legs while you do it?"

A man was sitting on a blanket at the beach. He had no arms and no legs.

Three women were walking past and felt sorry for the poor man. The first woman said, "Have you ever had a hug?" The man said "No", so she gave him a hug and walked on. The second woman said, "Have you ever had a kiss?" The man said "No", so she gave him a kiss and walked on. The third woman came to him and said, "Have you ever been fucked?" The fellow said "No". She said, "You will be when the tide comes in".

A man goes to the zoo. When he gets there, the only animal they had was a dog.

It was a shitzu.

FIVE RULES FOR MEN TO FOLLOW FOR A HAPPY LIFE:

1. It's important to have a woman who helps at home, who cooks from time to time, cleans up and has a job.
2. It's important to have a woman who can make you laugh.
3. It's important to have a woman who you can trust and who doesn't lie to you.
4. It's important to have a woman who is good in bed and who likes to be with you.
5. It's very, very important that these four women don't know each other.

ON THE PISS

IN THE RODOS BAR

Amsterdammers, musicians, seamen, alcoholics, artists, authors, astrologers, travellers, tourists who are lost, lunatics, and other interesting people, now have to find another bar that will tolerate their eccentricities, because they can't perform in the Rodos anymore. The vandalism, which speculators call progress, is allowing wreckers onto our street. I don't mean English football hooligans. These destroyers are the real thing, and will drive our side of the street away in trucks, loaded with 18th century bricks. Rodos Bar served their last beers on the 3rd of May 1997.

My first visit to the bar, was in the summer of 1982, when I was researching Amsterdam for "Europe on 10 liters a day". I was staying around the corner in the Magic Inn, N.Z. Voorburgwal 27, Amsterdam's largest lunatic asylum. It had 60 dormitory beds, a 5' manageress, who demoted Ben, the assistant manager, to maintenance man every time they had a quarrel, and 60 travelling lunatics. Ben took me into the bar on my first morning for a breakfast beer. The lighted candle that burns in a stone Corenwijn bottle, at the inside end of the curved bar counter, burns for Ben, because that was his seat. I used to sit there too. Plutos, a mad dog, lived under the sink. The more we drank, the deafer we got, so I had to be quick when I reached over the bar counter to slide the juke box volume control to high. Frustated Plutos' woof was always too late, and drowned by louder music.

A customer was being robbed one dark night, after leaving the bar, and called to Mario for help. Mario let Plutos out into the street, Plutos ran to the scene and bit the only person he knew. Herman still laughs about it. Even though he was bitten, he was very

happy, because the arrival of Plutos scattered his assailants like chaff.

Mario told me that Rita's boyfriends didn't pay for their drinks, and Rita complained that Mario's girlfriends didn't pay. One day I came in on my own, ordered a beer, and paid Rita with a 10 guilder note. Mario watched from his corner table like a hawk, checking that everyone paid. Rita slapped the change into my hand with a laugh, so I looked at it. I had four 2,5 guilder coins. Mario nodded happily: "Alan has paid."

The bar was thick with musicians, taking a break from busking in the street. This was in the 80's, when Amsterdam rocked to lively street music. Fingers, one of those who made it and is famous, wrote the story of the bar in the Rodos Bar song. Rita has misplaced her copy, and strangely Deirdre (who is madder than your scribe) has lost hers. The song opened with a traveller arriving at Centraal Station: "When you arrive in Amsterdam", through to the chorus, "It ain't too far to the Rodos Bar, No the Rodos Bar it ain't too far".

Ben locked the Magic Inn at 1am, official bar closing time, so all us inmates got back to the Rodos Bar before 1am, because Ben would be drinking there. There was none of this One Europe bullshit then, so our back street bar closed, like it opened. The Bar Room, with at least ten vases of colourful flowers, was Rita and Mario's lounge room, and if one of them was up, we were in business. When Ben left, at whatever time he decided to leave, we went with him. He locked the door and we'd smoke hash and listen to Bob Dylan's "Pat Garret and Billy the Kid"

(Continued on page 35)

ALAN HICKEY

10th December 1930 - 14th March 2006

*Harper, Alan, Tell me of the road
That leads beyond this place
That wends it's way beyond the hill.....
Does it go further on until
It ends in sunset's gold*



Globetrotter, author, drinker, merchant seaman, entrepreneur, Alan Hickey was all of that and so much more.

While owning & running a very successful motel & restaurant business, Alan realised he was actually an alcoholic, so his chosen career and the calling that chose him didn't really match.

Lots of people would have tried giving up drinking, but Alan decided to give up working and start drinking full-time. The only time he didn't drink was when he was writing about drinking

From his merchant navy years he had the 'Wander-lust', and his creative mind gave birth to the plan: Write about the things you like best in life, so other people can enjoy it too.

Research for his book 'Europe on 10 litres a day' brought him to Amsterdam.

The rest is history.

Amsterdam was one of his favourite cities, because he met so many nice people here. Deirdre remembers where he used to stay before Rodos became his home.

Rita kindly gave us permission to reprint the article he wrote on Rodos closing. After that he used stay with his artist friend Caroline while in Amsterdam, and sometimes with Marina.

Caroline functioned also as his postal address, she would usually know on which continent he was researching the "spiritual" world.

In Paris, another one of his favourite cities, he would reside with Odile, who was also a contact-point and postal address for anyone wanting to know where he was drinking.

Did you notice all the above names were females? He could be so very charming, & women do love intelligence in a man.

Most men were not that enamoured by Alan, because he could be a cantankerous git & a nasty drunk at times.

But we will all miss him.

He had a special place in Lenora's heart, & she wrote this for him.

*Alan certainly is a harper
Teaching, & sharing witticism
Seeking similar company
Too often alone*

*Many saw you, maybe even envied you
Never doubt*

*Your memory gives life
Have rest till your next mission
Think, we'll meet again*

*Be ready for witticism - From the heart
Rarely found - yet found*

We love you

(Continued from page 33)

for another hour.

Magic Inn lunatics dominated the bar scene in the early 80's. There was Mad John, who threw the television out of the Magic's window onto the footpath. One day, he was crossing N.Z. Voorburgwal, after a session, and only a professional trouble maker can do this, got caught between two passing trams. He was knocked from one to the other, and back again, and when the drivers reached his body, they thought he was dead. Not John. He was out of hospital, and drinking in the bar, after only two days.

A Canadian who was a great talker, he never stopped, accepted a lift back to his room on Blauwburgwal, the car parked beside the canal, but too close. Still talking, yak yak, and looking at the driver, he opened the door and stepped out into the canal.

The juke box had mostly Greek music in those days. Three or four Greek seamen, arms on each others shoulders as they stood in line, danced to Greek music. At the magic moment, Jimmy, who was hiding in the Rodos Bar to escape army service in Greece, would drop an armful of empty bottles, because Dutch plates are too expensive. Then he'd sweep the broken glass into a corner, and the next tune, and dance, would begin.

When a customer needed a meal to retain his, or her, sanity, Mario would suddenly arrive alongside with a wondrous Greek meal. As drinkers on the stools either side looked on with hungry eyes, Mario would say, "Not for everyone". The meal was always a gift from Mario.

© Alan Hickey, 1997



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...

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Police HQ - Elandsgracht 559 91 11
Reporting minor crimes 0900 - 88 44

Kruispost, O.Z. Voorburgwal 129, 624 90 31
Central Doctors Service 592 34 34
Pharmacies (Out of hours) 694 87 09
VD Clinic, Groenburgwal 44, 555 58 22
Juridisch Loket (Legal Aid) 0900 - 8020

Emergency Vet 694 47 66
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Australian Embassy (070) 310 82 00
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The following should be more useful

Public Transport Info 0900 - 9292
Taxi 9550 0900 - 9550
Blokband Taxi 515 15 15

Night-Shops

(Close around midnight)

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