

AMSTERDAM STUN



Number 142

www.amsterdamstun.com

October 2006



The Editor's Bit

Well, it's Friday the 13th and on Monday, it will be 13 years since the first Stun appeared. But I'm not superstitious, so I'm sure it was just a coincidence that a change in advertising policy lead to us losing our only colour sponsor. Unless somebody steps in to replace them, from next month, we'll be going back to having a black & white cover. We thought about doing it this month, but we'd already designed the cover and it needs to be in colour.

We were planning to include a copy of our Spanish magazine, the Costa Posta, in the middle pages, but when the back cover became free, we tacked it on the end instead. Now that the Costa Posta cover is also in colour, if we didn't send you a postcard from our holiday in Spain, use that instead.

It's possible that some entries for our Premiership Predictions League made via the website may have disappeared into cyberspace, so if your name is missing from the table on page 27, send me an e-mail and I'll see what we can do.

Talking about the website, did you know that we publish a full colour version of The Stun in PDF format there, on the same day the paper edition hits the streets?

That's it from me, I'm getting this off to the printers before anything else happens.

Enjoy you Stun (and Costa Posta).

Andy



Page 2

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Don't miss out on your copy of **The Amsterdam Stun**:

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.

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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**:

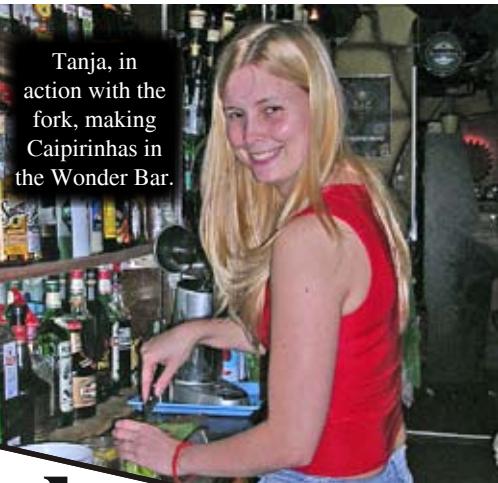
- Dorothy Braithwaitheshire-Llyons
- Frank Weston
- Lin Sargent
- Rush

The Amsterdam Stun is printed by:

The Finishing Touch
1018 AJ Amsterdam



Marnie is a new face behind the bar in Lost In Amsterdam.



Tanja, in action with the fork, making Caipirinhas in the Wonder Bar.

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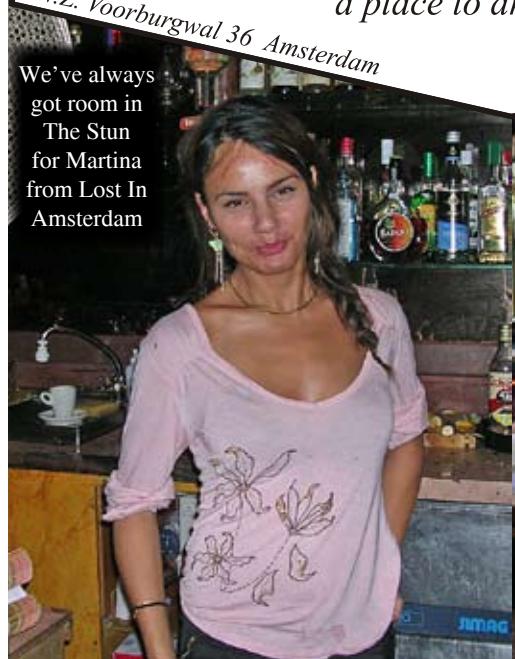
Sky Sports



SPORT 1

2 minutes walk from Centraal Station

Beth, from Newcastle, helps out in the Newcastle when she's not working at the Hard Rock Café.



TALES FROM THE

Happy Birthday Beach-Boy Brian (Calella), Alberto, Pim, Frits, Els, Mart, Lisette, Mark, Signe, Melanie, VJ, Mickey, Nina, Owen & Aidan, Ruben, Tara, Lonneke, Ingrid, Julius, Remco, Joan, Geoffrey, Jan, Ria, Ivan, my niece Monique, Bernard, Mike, Danyel, Brian, Daphne, Caroline, Roy, John, Fred, Anne, Jackie, Gary, Daan, Kenny, Alex, Anneke, Karin, Roger, Carol, Marie, Montse, Isobel, Jason, David, Chris, Cora, Neal, Nic, Roxanne, Vivian, Eligio.

Happy Wedding Anniversary Vlatko & Nicola, Gregorio & Bailey, Esteve & Montse, Al & Marie, Iepe & Els.

Happy Anniversary Busters, Finnegan's Rainbow, Wonder Bar.

Amy keeps the oven nice & warm, so the bun is slowly but surely turning into a "bun-bun". Not much longer and it will turn out to be a "snoepie".



Just before we were off to Spain, we ran into Bob & Sue in the Flying Dutchman. I'm sure I remember him from years ago. I asked Lilian, but I can't remember what she said. I was too busy talking about Spain, where Sue & Bob had just been, and where Andy & me were going.

Two days before we went on holiday, Tam took us for a ride. A boat-ride that is.



We went with Andy's sisters Bonnie, over from New Zealand, & Jill, from England, +

GUTTER

sister in law Ans & niece Roxanne, on a mini-cruise over the Amsterdam canals, as a prelude to the Mediterranean cruise Andy's (five) sisters would embark on during the second week of our holiday.

I haven't got much news from the home-front, because we were on holiday in Spain (see back pages). So instead, I'll list some interesting things to do in & around October, in & around Amsterdam (Holland is really very small!, nothing is further than 2,5 hrs away).

From October 14 to 29 you can visit the "1001 Markets" Festival. In many cities & towns all over Holland, all different kinds of markets organise festivities/activities for visitors. You will find more information on www.1001marktenfestival.nl; find one close to home, or one with a special theme (Toys, Oriental, Food etc) and take the kids in the autumn break.

Stedelijk Museum has the "Airworld" exhibition until the beginning of November. More info on www.stedelijk.nl. If you're in to flying, or aircraft design, or even uniforms design, you'll have an interesting time.

Kinderboekenweek until October 14, & I happen to think books make excellent Sinterklaas, Christmas, birthday, etc. presents, so hurry up while they're "reasonably" priced. The weeks after Kinderboekenweek it's not

difficult to pick up "special offers" books, and just stash 'em until December.

On November 4th, it's Museum Night. Up to forty Musea (Amsterdam Historic, Rijks, Scheepvaart (Marine), Film & Theatre, even Artis) are open from 19.00 hrs to 02.00 hrs. See www.n8.nl for more info. Go with a group of like-minded people who also never seem to make it to a museum. Find a special exhibition, only in town for a couple of weeks, or finally go and view the masterpiece you always said you wanted to see.

And Adventure Park "Hellendoorn" will be transformed to "Heksendoorn" during October.

Which brings us to Halloween!

Since it's on a Tuesday, the different bars with fancy dress parties have picked different dates to celebrate. So there are parties all over town from Friday until Tuesday (that's how long a Brabantse & Limburgse carnaval lasts, and on Wednesday the "Empty Wallet Parade") so take your pick! Some bars have prizes for best costumes, some will come up with horrible looking (& sometimes smelling)

concoctions, some bars even have appropriate music, but where ever you go, have a great time. I know we will!

Elly

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Featured in the
Amsterdam Sun
Every Year

HALLOWEEN

With the Halloween parties spread out over five days this year, we're going to be busy getting to as many of them as possible. We're still working on our costumes, but here are some of the parties we're hoping to get to, with our cameras of course, and a few others.

Friday 27th

They know how to throw a party in the **Old Highlander**, so that's where we'll be on the Friday night. Amongst the things on offer, there will be a prize for the best fancy dress costume, a fun lottery, scary music sounds and yummy midnight snacks. The party starts at 8pm and sounds like a great way to start the weekend.

Saturday 28th



The Halloween fancy dress party in **Hotel Old Quarter** has always been one of our favourites, so that's sure to be one of the places where we'll be on the Saturday night. Although they don't give prizes for the best costume, most of the partygoers make the effort and come dressed up, which helps give the Old

Quarter party its great atmosphere. Live music from Soul System makes the party, which starts at 9pm, unforgettable.

If we can drag ourselves away from the Old Quarter, the Halloween Dress Party Night in **Maloe Melo** will be calling. We've heard good reports from previous years, so it's about time we went. Balance will be playing live and there are bound to be a few surprise acts.

Coco's Outback will be awarding a prize for best costume at their Halloween party. There will be a DJ playing the music and they'll be serving Halloween Finger Food and Halloween Cocktails.

Although we hadn't got confirmation before this Stun came out, there's a good chance that the **Blarney Stone** will be doing something for Halloween, probably on the Saturday night.

Tuesday 31st



For the purists who only like their Halloween parties on Halloween, it's got to be the **Sláinte**. We don't know any details yet, but they usually give prizes for the best costumes: I know, because I won a bottle of Jameson's for my Chiquita banana two years ago.

The **Shamrock Inn** normally celebrates Halloween on the 31st too, but that's usually more pub crawl than party.

CRUISING

Two of Andy's sisters, Bonnie & Jill, jetted over for half a day, in between gambling in Las Vegas & a cruise on the Med. (with their three other sisters), and what better way to tour around Amsterdam than on a boat (I was actually in the boat, but that's a long story!).



We met them, Ans & Roxanne on Rembrandts square, for (what turned out to be a liquid) lunch, so before we met up with Tam we got some wine & food to take on board.

It was a marvellous day, and we enjoyed it immensely.

After crisscrossing the canals for a couple of hours (highly recommended!) Tam dropped



us off within walking distance of the Flying Dutchman (and Central Station), where we had some drinks before the family had to leave again.

Andy & I had left our bikes at Rembrandt, so we hit a few bars on the way there before we reached Susies, our last stop. A few drinks before the long walk, sigh.



But we ran into Sam, who brought us to our bikes (bless him) in his bike.

What a wonderful day.

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Dear Dorothy

For those of you that missed my comforting words over the summer holidays, you might like to know about my “Lying-low-stress-diminishing” course. This is where you stay at home with the curtains drawn, pretending that

you are not at home. It does mean creeping around bent low a lot, and certainly not answering the door to anyone, but it does have a beneficial end. Why only 2 months ago,

Jimmy (no fixed abode, Scunthorpe) said I'd be dead within a week. Since I am still alive, the course obviously works. I've had lots of letters in the Stun postbag, so I'll start with the one that enclosed the 20-euro note.

Dear Dorothy,

Someone needs to find a solution to the lack of public toilets here in Amsterdam. Having a bladder problem, it is more serious for me. Here's 20 euros to bribe someone on the council. Let's see some action.

Yours.

D.M. Cooper.

A'dam ZO, but registered in Utrecht.

Dear D.M.

I came up with the solution myself, so I kept the 20 euros.

I am going to hire myself a super deluxe portaloo and with the aid of my mate Charles and his bakfiets, we will move the portaloo around Amsterdam at certain intervals. I'll print a timetable so that you know where and when you can use it.

Payment, I thought, could be made with purchase of my new plastic “dump cards”.

A “Grand Dump”, the deluxe, will include soft paper, as long as you want, and some poor soul on a job exchange visit to wipe your arse.

With piped music

The “Quick Dump” will allow only 1 minute, no paper and a free fact sheet on global warming. This can be used for you to know what, but it was sponsored by Greenpeace. Without piped

music. Those who do not wish to pay the minimum fee of €50 per annum can buy small, take home re-cycling bags for your rhubarb. Watch out for my advert in the EasyJet magazine.

Dorothy.

Dear Dorothy,

You expats are always complaining about things like service. Why do you expect everyone to be nice and do their job at the same time? We only get paid for one, not both things.

The Manager

A Big Supermarket.

Dear Mr Manager,

Is that why? Thank you for making this clear to all of us.

Dorothy.

Dear Dorothy,

My partner suffers from premature ejaculation and I am left with a feeling of frustration. Any tips for our sex life; surely at your age you must have the best remedies?

Prunella B.

Dear Pru,

My old friend and confidant, J. Edgar, used to have a great party trick that might work for you. It involves a vacuum cleaner nozzle, (later popularly known as a Hoover for some reason); switch it onto full suck gggggggggg (Sorry, family read magazine. Ed.) and use accordingly.

Dorothy.

BEHIND

Some people thought we had Linet's name wrong last month, but that's how she spells it, even though her bar is called Café Linette.



If this picture is anything to go by, Lotte and Rachel REALLY like working together in the Stone's Café.



Anka won't be around for the Old Quarter's Halloween party, she has to go back to university in Romania, but Marlene will be there.



Mario was looking relaxed behind the bar in Café Corso.



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BARS

In the Wonder Bar, Rachel didn't want to have her picture taken alone, so Hassan joined her behind the bar.



Ann and Ray were kept busy in the Old Highlander during the Scotland - France match, but what do you expect? It's the only Scottish bar in Amsterdam.



Redwan and Singh in the Kamasutra introduced us to Wendy, so we're introducing her to all the Stun readers,



Kees, Floor and EJ were behind the bar in the Waterhole when we dropped in for the Wednesday night Real Jam.

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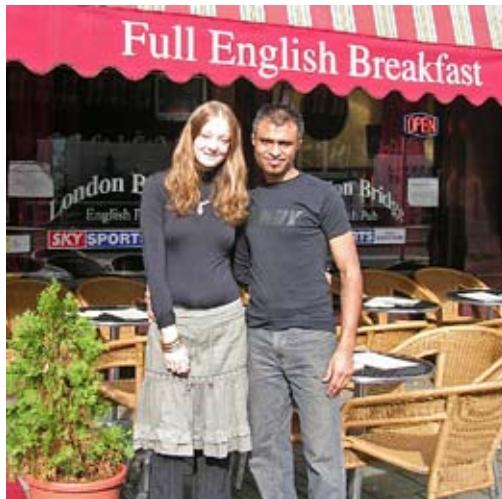
Lange Niezel 9, Amsterdam Red Light
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LONDON BRIDGE UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

The first thing Amber did after taking over the London Bridge was to lower all the prices, with 80 cents coming off the price of a pint.

Smart move!



He kept on most of the staff, like Jessie, pictured here with Amber, so the punters see a familiar face when they come in for a drink.

Good thinking!

At the moment, Amber is finalising plans to add John Smith's Bitter to their range of draught beers, which already includes Boddingtons, Newcastle Brown, Murphy's Red, Guinness, Warsteiner and Strongbow cider. With a selection like that, it's no wonder the London Bridge is popular with tourists who stay in the hotels that surround it.



With barstaff like Claire and Femke, there's always a friendly face in the London Bridge.

If you're feeling hungry, they serve a good selection of bar food, ranging from a Full English Breakfast (the bar opens at 9 am) to Fish & Chips, or one of the Burger Menus. They have lots of tasty snacks and tapas too, like pies, toasties, baked potatoes, chicken wings, samosas, saté, curry and meatballs.

In the near future, Amber is planning to have regular "Special" days, with cocktails and different spirits for half price, but we'll tell you more about that another time.

With a great terrace for the midday sun and a big screen TV for all the best sports, what more could you want. You'll find the London Bridge at Nieuwzijds Voorburgwal 36.

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WHAT'S ON



Gregorio and Jeroen are leading the Real Jam in the Waterhole every Wednesday, but Jeroen wasn't around when we dropped in. Laberinto bassist Gregorio is also playing with Gus Genser's house band on Thursday. (What's happened to Joyce?)

In Maloe Melo on a Wednesday, it's Magic Sem's Super Jam. We saw Dan, Baukje and Clay on stage, but no sign of Sem.



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

While we're on the subject of Wednesday jam sessions; there's a Reggae jam session twice a month in Volta, on Houtmankade. The next one will be on the 25th October.

Also on Wednesday 25th, Finnish heavy metal rockers Lordi, this year's Eurovision Song Contest winners, will be playing in the Melkweg. Just thought I'd mention that.



Antonio and Andy could have been singing "Black Magic Woman" on a Wednesday, because there's karaoke every night in The End.

The Wonderjam with Carolyn Wonderland will be back in Maloe Melo next month, with four nights featuring some of the best Texas music, starting on Wednesday 8th November.

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THE STUN

Friday 13 October

Finnegans R'bow Mark Mysterious & Friends

Maloe Melo A Band Called Cash

The End Karaoke

The Waterhole 20:30 Raya

23:00 One Night Stan

Volta FFF: Relaxing Ragga
& R&B

Saturday 14 October

Maloe Melo The Vaquetones €10

The End Karaoke

The Waterhole 20:30 Raya

23:00 The Wendies

Sunday 15 October

Maloe Melo Eileen Rose €8

The End Karaoke

The Waterhole Ladies Nite
with Joyce & Baukje

Monday 16 October

Bourbon Street Latin Jam with Gregorio

Maloe Melo Acoustic session
with Peter Lavell

Old Quarter Jazz Session with
the Old Quarter Trio
guest: Tienekie Postma

The End Karaoke

The Waterhole Magic Sem's Jam

Tuesday 17 October

Maloe Melo V.S.P.A. Student Session

The End Karaoke

The Waterhole Rory's Open Mic

Wednesday 18 October

Maloe Melo Magic Sem's Super Jam

The End Karaoke

The Waterhole Real Jam

Thursday 19 October

Maloe Melo Blues Session
with Lamar Chase

The End Karaoke

The Waterhole 20:30 Stan & Friends
22:30 Gus Genser Jam

Volta Pop/Rock Night
with The Polease,
A Life Before Drowning €5

Friday 20 October

Finnegans R'bow Mark Mysterious & Friends

Maloe Melo Mike Alviano
& Gary Gilmore Eyes

The End Karaoke

The Waterhole 20:30 Stan & Friends
23:00 Rubber

Volta FFF: Tripl-x

Saturday 21 October

Maloe Melo The B.B.R. Band

The End Karaoke

The Waterhole 20:30 Bombaroya
23:00 Balance

Sunday 22 October

Maloe Melo Acoustic session with Yanko
The End Karaoke
The Waterhole Ladies Nite
with Joyce & Baukje

Monday 23 October

Bourbon Street Latin Jam with Gregorio
Maloe Melo Acoustic session
with Peter Lavell

Old Quarter Jazz Session with
the Old Quarter Trio
guest: David Golek

The End Karaoke
The Waterhole Magic Sem's Jam

TheEnd

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Sunday - Thursday: Karaoke

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GIG-LIST

Tuesday 24 October

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

Wednesday 25 October

Maloe Melo	Magic Sem's Super Jam
Melkweg	Lordi
The End	Karaoke
The Waterhole	Real Jam
Volta	Reggae Jam

Thursday 26 October

Maloe Melo	Blues Session with Lamar Chase
The End	Karaoke
The Waterhole	20:30 t.b.a. 22:30 Gus Genser Jam
Volta	Pop/Rock Night with United Bitches, Tender Gender €5

Friday 27 October

Finnegans R'bow	Mark Mysterious & Friends
Maloe Melo	AmsterdamBeatClub Live: The Soldiers
The End	Karaoke
The Waterhole	20:30 t.b.a. 23:00 Kingfisher
Volta	FFF: Daring Dance Dimensions

Saturday 28 October

Bourbon Street	Santanico
Maloe Melo	Halloween fancy dress party with Balance + guests
Old Quarter	Halloween Party with Soul System
The End	Karaoke
The Waterhole	20:30 t.b.a. 23:00 Strange Mutant Virus
Volta	Break & Enter with Mike Engine, Lenzman, Squee, Jorique, supported by MC Dan Stezo €5

Sunday 29 October

Maloe Melo	Acoustic session with Yanko
The End	Karaoke
The Waterhole	Ladies Nite with Joyce & Baukje

Monday 30 October

Bourbon Street	Latin Jam with Gregorio
Maloe Melo	Acoustic session with Peter Lavell
Old Quarter	Jazz Session with the Old Quarter Trio guests: Paul & Clemens Feen Quartet
The End	Karaoke
The Waterhole	Magic Sem's Jam

Tuesday 31 October

Maloe Melo	21:00 Neil Leyton €5 24:00 Jam Session with Marcel Scherpenzeel (free)
The End	Karaoke
The Waterhole	Rory's Open Mic

Weekends in Maloe Melo

Entrance = €5,- Members = €2,50

Other days when mentioned

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ROUND

Our regular guest joker, Rush, was feeling on top of the world when we saw him in the Flying Dutchman last Saturday: Scotland had just beaten France.



It came as no surprise to see Ad in the Stone's Corner.



Alberto celebrated his 20th birthday for days. We caught up with him in the Waterhole with his big brother Gregorio and Adam.



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THE BARS



The Las Vegas couple, Tineke and Richard, were doing their thing in the Flying Dutchman, as they always do on a Saturday night.



Denise and Fire from Canada were in the Newcastle with Dimitri and Walter.



Henk was doing his thing too, but his thing involved sitting at the bar in Café Corso, pouring fluitjes of beer down his throat.



IN SUSIE'S

Chris, Danielle and Zippy were outside of Susie's Saloon, soaking up the September sun beside the canal.



It's international mash-ups Mario and Kate. Kate's working in Coco's Outback now, but we saw her half way between there and the Newcastle, where she used to work.



It was late on a Saturday night, but Vera, Frank and Ireen were still full of life.

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SALOON



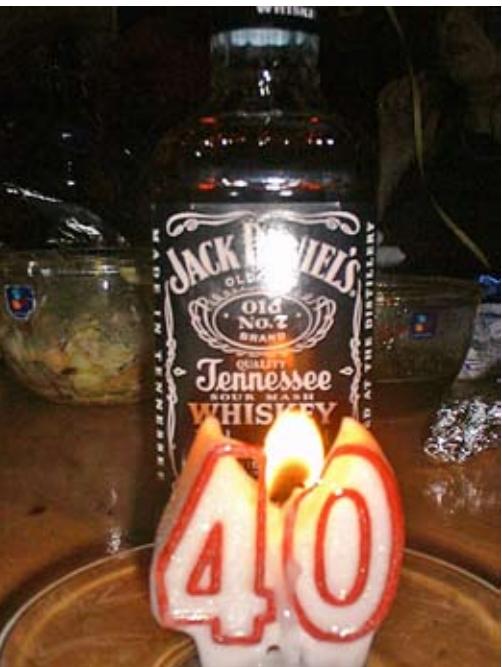
Val doesn't prop up the bar as much as Spud, so this is our first picture of them together since Queensday.



We were on holiday when Mart celebrated his 40th birthday in Susie's last month, but we managed to get our hands on a couple of pictures. Mart was well impressed with his balloons (above) and the birthday "cake" was his favourite flavour.



"Mingers United" were out in force for Happy Hour.



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MORE

Robbie from Café Corso dropped into the Kamasutra for one of their delicious curries, and being a Stun reader, Singh gave him a 10% discount.



Seamus told us that Wee Dug was taking over Finnegan's Rainbow, but it was the first that Marjolein had heard about it.



The newlyweds were flashing their rings to everybody in the Old Highlander.

Charlene's working in Drink'n'Sink, but she always drops into the Newcastle when Walter's around.



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rainbow**

friendly atmosphere
excellent weekend food

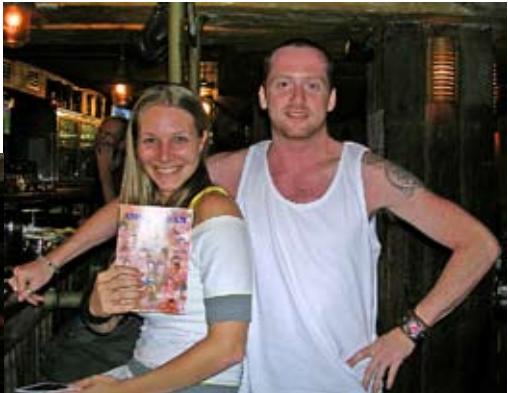
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ROUNDS



Michelle, a new face in Coco's Outback, with Mathijs, an old one.



Sanne, a new face in Coco's Outback, with Enda, an old one.



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WE SHOW

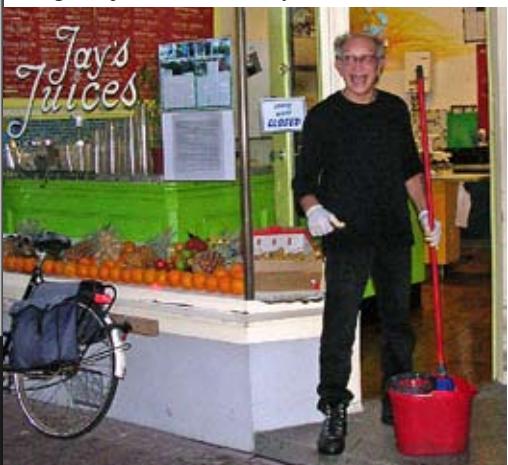
Football, Rugby, Cricket & much more

Let us know what you like to see

Mail us at www.cocosoutback.com

Alberto will miss the Waterhole when he goes back to Venezuela.

Eduardo, who's looking better than ever, has got a job for life at Jay's Juices.



WONDER BAR

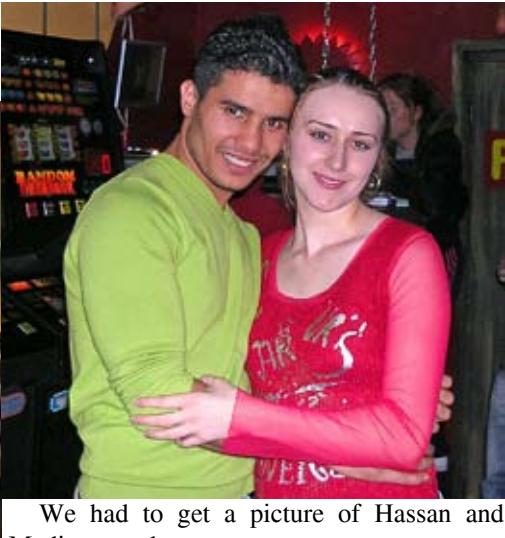
Open Daily for any drinks, from a very good coffee, to an 18 year old single malt, from noon to 1:00 am
With a wide range of food, from a club sandwich to fish & chips, from a salad to an egg-burger
Open every weekend for a wild dance party until at least 3:00am, with live DJ's & VJ's scheduled
at least twice a month. With big screen TV, artistic decoration and friendly staff

Nieuwendijk 3

Gary, Billy and Jackie, with her daughter Strawberry, were sitting outside the Wonder Bar, catching the sun's last rays.



This is Dina's first time in The Stun, but Max is no stranger to these pages.



We had to get a picture of Hassan and Madina together.



We don't see Martin so much now he's got two kids, but we saw him in the Wonder Bar.

THE JOKES PAGE

With our Guest Jokers: Rush & Lin

If you take an Oriental person and spin him around several times, does he become disoriented?

If people from Poland are called Poles, why aren't people from Holland called Holes?

Do infants enjoy infancy as much as adults enjoy adultery?

If a pig loses its voice, is it disgruntled?

Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?

When cheese gets its picture taken, what does it say?

Why is a person who plays the piano called a pianist but a person who drives a race car not called a racist?

Why are a wise man and a wise guy opposites?

Why do overlook and oversee mean opposite things?

Why isn't the number 11 pronounced onety one?

"I am" is reportedly the shortest sentence in the English language. Could it be that "I do" is the longest sentence?

If lawyers are disbarred and clergymen defrocked, doesn't it follow that electricians can be delighted, musicians denoted, cowboys deranged, models deposed, tree surgeons de-barked, and dry cleaners depressed?

What hair colour do they put on the driver's licenses of bald men?

I thought about how mothers feed their babies with tiny little spoons and forks so I wondered what do Chinese mothers use? Toothpicks?

Why do they put pictures of criminals up in the Post Office? What are we supposed to do, write to them? Why don't they just put their pictures on the postage stamps so the mailmen can look for them while they deliver the mail?

You never really learn to swear until you learn to drive.

No one ever says, "It's only a game" when their team is winning.

If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular?

Last night I played a blank tape at full blast. The mime next door went nuts.

Ever wonder about those people who spend \$2.00 apiece on those little bottles of Evian water? Try spelling Evian backwards: NAIYE

Isn't making a smoking section in a restaurant like making a peeing section in a swimming pool?

OK... So if the Jacksonville Jaguars are known as the "Jags" and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers are known as the "Bucs," what does that make the Tennessee Titans?

If 4 out of 5 people SUFFER from diarrhoea, does that mean that one enjoys it?

They met at the singles club meeting and discovered over time that they enjoyed each other's company.

After several weeks of meeting for coffee, Claude asked Maude out for dinner and, much to his delight, she accepted. They had a lovely evening. They dined at the most romantic restaurant in town.

Despite his age, they ended at his place for an after-dinner drink. Things continued along a natural course and age being no inhibitor, Maude soon joined Claude for a most enjoyable roll in the hay.

As they were basking in the glow of the magic moments they'd shared, each was lost for a time in their own thoughts...

Claude was thinking: "If I'd known she was a virgin, I'd have been gentler."

Maude was thinking: "If I'd known he could still do it, I'd have taken off my tights."

BEING FRANK ON FOOTBALL

Pride of place this month must go to the Scots, who not only retained their 100% record in the Euro 2008 qualifiers, but they did so at the expense of the mighty French! Passion they have always had in abundance, but belief has been in very short supply over the years and it is an absolute delight to see that under Walter Smith, they have turned the football world on its head! Nine points from three games is a fantastic start and the bookies will now only give you odds of 3/1 on them getting through the group stages in what must be one of the toughest groups of all! Apart from the French, they must also face Italy, Lithuania, Georgia and the Ukraine and on paper at least, only the little Faroe Islands are likely to yield any easy points. There is of course a long way to go and no one should underestimate the enormity of their task, but what a fabulous start nevertheless! It gives me great pleasure to be able to start this column talking about the merits of this wonderful nation, who in football terms at least, have

How ironic then that as the Scots begin to prosper, the English begin to falter. The new dawn of Steve McLaren is already coming under increasing scrutiny and this after he began his England reign with three victories! The goalless draw at home to Macedonia in front of 72,000 spectators – a record outside of the capital by the way, only conspired to make his evening even more depressing. He claimed that the team lacked passion and speed going forward. He also suggested that his attacking options were limited and yet he left Darren Bent on the bench throughout. He has the pace that England required, but as usual he followed in the Swede's footsteps and conveniently ignored him again. I cannot fathom this one out. Why pick him in the first place if you do not think

he is worth experimenting with. When there was no sign of a breakthrough with minutes remaining, you should surely try out all your options and yet strangely this he refused to do. Bent scored almost every week in the Premier ship and yet he is with an unfashionable club that lies at the wrong end of the Premiership table. This is quite a feat when you consider that he does not have too many quality players around him and yet he is consistently ignored and may as well watch the game in the stands for all the good sitting on the bench will do him. The trouble with the British press is





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that they assume that if England so much as win a game, they are only a stones throw away from lifting the World Cup again. I say again and yet the only time we managed it was at home in 1966 and largely thanks to a goal that never was! It is about time we all got real and stopped thinking that we have the ability to do anything special – even if we do qualify for major events. The chances are we will fall at the first hurdle, because the root cause of the problem is the philosophy that is born out of too many great expectations. Our leading man is not much more than a very average Premiership manager, assisted by football's version of Del-boy and yet somehow people seem to think it is a winning ticket. Look at the top teams in the Premiership and you will see that they are run by foreign managers, with foreign players and if we were to remove this lot, this league would crumble to its knees. Patriotic narrow-mindedness is the main cause of England's troubles and this won't change unless there is an attitude change at the very heart of the game itself and this starts with the press and the supporters.

It was not just England however that was down in the dumps. The Welsh had a horror show at home and the Republic of Ireland a horror show away! Both nations conceded five goals apiece and both sides have now only a slender hope of qualification, even at this early stage of the group phase. John Toshack had the face of thunder as the Welsh succumbed to a rampant side from Slovakia. If Toshack was shell-shocked, then so too was Steve Staunton, who saw his Republic side go down to a similar score line in Cyprus, of all places. This was a major surprise. To lose would always be seen as a major disappointment, but the way in which they lost means that already people are suggesting the Steve is not up to the job. It was a devastating defeat and this was perhaps the worst result the Irish have suffered in many years on the international stage. Wales and Ireland are now both pointless after two matches and it is hard to find any optimism about their prospects of progressing any further in this competition as they are already nine points behind the leaders, the Czech Republic and six behind second-placed Germany. Conversely Northern Ireland are not doing so bad at all! They are currently in joint second spot in a group that includes Denmark, Sweden and Spain and they still have an outside chance of making it, although the chances are obviously still quite small.

By the time this goes to press, you will all know the results of the midweek matches too and England will have to get something from their game away to Croatia or the troops will be getting restless. In the case of the Welsh and the Southern Irish, it is all about damage limitation and they must perform 100% better in midweek to keep the wolves from the door, I fear. As for Scotland, well they just have to keep on doing what they are doing. Their confidence must be as high as Ben Nevis just now and they must convert this renewed energy, passion and BELIEF into more points along the way.

Frank

Page 25

IN THE BACK



Claire works in the London Bridge, but we saw her relaxing in the Flying Dutchman, where her mum works.



Martina and Marnie were joined behind the bar in Lost... by Zsuzsanna, who was back in town for a short holiday from Hungary.



Another Saturday night with Willie behind the bar in the Flying Dutchman.

The Stun's football correspondent, Frank, proved he's not an armchair sportsman by once again running in the Dam tot Damloop. This year, he completed the 16 kilometres in 1:22:11, knocking over 2½ minutes off last year's effort. Well done Frank!



Premiership Predictions League

Sponsored by British General Stores

The Premiership season is well under way, so it's time to reveal who will be playing for the honour of winning our Premiership Predictions League 2006/2007. Once again, we have 24 contestants, but that's pure coincidence; that's how many entries we received.

We're pleased to announce that British General Stores are sponsoring the PPL this season and they have generously donated a hamper of goodies, which will go to whoever is at the top of the table on the 13th of May next year.

In the meantime, this is how the table looks on Friday the 13th of October.

Place	Name	On	Nr	Pts
1 st	Daan The Man	4	2	14
2 nd	Paul Tandy	3	4	13
3 rd	Paddy Wynne	3	3	12
4 th	Stones	2	5	11
5 th	Holwijn	3	1	10
6 th	Gerry	3	1	10
7 th	Quisippe Ten Brink	2	3	9
8 th	Emanuel Cuvaco	2	3	9
9 th	John Raftery	2	2	8
10 th	The Prophet	1	5	8
11 th	Neil Weston	1	4	7
12 th	Paul Finnegan's	0	7	7
13 th	Alex	2	0	6
14 th	Carlos	1	3	6
15 th	Peter Drost	1	3	6
16 th	Steve Mahon	1	2	5
17 th	Katie Wright	0	5	5
18 th	Gareth Kingdon	0	5	5
19 th	Frank Weston	1	1	4
20 th	J. R. Donoghue	0	4	4
21 st	Andy F	0	4	4
22 nd	Daan Van Kampen	0	4	4
23 rd	Matthew Wright	0	4	4
24 th	Ellan	0	2	2

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

Kruispost, O.Z.Voorburgwal 129, 020-624 90 31
Central Doctors Service 020-592 34 34
Pharmacies (Out of hours) 020-694 87 09
VD Clinic, Groenburgwal 44, 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
French Consulate 020-624 83 46
German Consulate 020-673 62 45
Irish Embassy 070-363 09 93
Italian Consulate 020-624 00 43
New Zealand Embassy 070-346 93 24
South African Embassy 070-392 45 01
U.S. Consulate 020-575 53 09

The following should be more useful

Public Transport Info 0900 - 9292
Taxi 9550 0900 - 9550
Blokbond Taxi 020-515 15 15

Night-Shops (Close around midnight)

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

Homemade Pies/Pastries made to order,
Great for freezing.
Call Jo: 020 - 622 2739

JOKES EXTRA

With our Guest Jokers: Rush & Lin

There is a factory in Northern Minnesota, which makes the Tickle Me Elmo toys. The toy laughs when you tickle it under the arms. Well, Lena is hired at The Tickle Me Elmo factory and she reports for her first day promptly at 8:00 AM. At 8:45 AM there is a knock at the Personnel Manager's door. The Foreman throws open the door and begins to rant about the new employee. He complains that she is incredibly slow and the whole line is backing up, putting the entire production line behind schedule.

The Personnel Manager decides he should see this for himself, so the 2 men march down to the factory floor. When they get there the line is so backed up that there are Tickle Me Elmo's all over the factory floor and they're really beginning to pile up.

At the end of the line stands Lena surrounded by mountains of Tickle Me Elmo's. She has a roll of plush red fabric and a huge bag of small marbles. The 2 men watch in amazement as she cuts a little piece of fabric, wraps it around two marbles and begins to carefully sew the little package between Elmo's legs.

The Personnel Manager bursts into laughter.

After several minutes of hysterics he pulls himself together and approaches Lena. "I'm sorry," he says to her, barely able to keep a straight face, but I think you misunderstood the instructions I gave you yesterday..."

"Your job is to give Elmo two test tickles".

Larry gets home late one night and his wife, Linda, says: "Where in the hell have you been?"

Larry replies, "I was out getting a tattoo.

"A tattoo?" she frowned. "What kind of tattoo did you get?"

"I got a hundred dollar bill tattooed on my dick," he said proudly.

"What the hell were you thinking?" she said, shaking her head in disbelief. "Why on earth would an accountant get a hundred dollar bill tattooed on his privates?"

"One, I like to watch my money grow. Two, once in a while I like to play with my money. Three, I like how money feels in my hand. And, lastly, instead of you going out shopping, you can stay right here at home and blow a hundred bucks anytime you want."

Larry is recovering in Room 232 at Vancouver General Hospital.

While walking through the woods near Boulder, Colorado, a man came upon another man hugging a tree with his ear firmly against the tree. Seeing this, he inquired, "Just out of curiosity, what the heck are you doing?"

"I'm listening to the music of the tree," the other man replied.

"You gotta be kiddin' me."

"No, would you like to give it a try?"

Understandably curious, the man says, "Well, OK..." So he wrapped his arms around the tree and pressed his ear up against it. With this, the other guy slapped a pair of handcuffs on him, took his wallet, jewellery, car keys, then stripped him naked and left.

Two hours later, another nature lover strolled by, saw this guy handcuffed to the tree stark naked, and asked, "What the hell happened to you?"

He told the guy the whole terrible story about how he got there. When he finished telling his story, the other guy shook his head in sympathy, walked around behind him, kissed him gently behind the ear and said, "Man, this just ain't gonna be your day..."

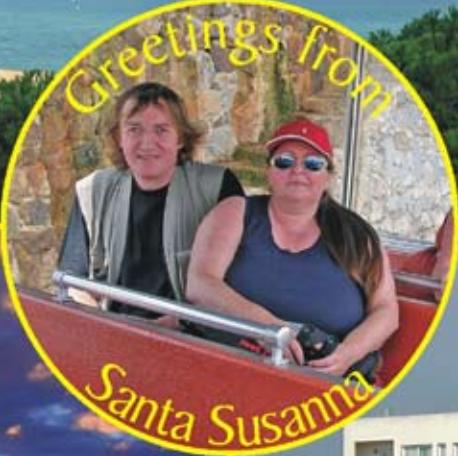
Costa Posta

Special
Edition

del Maresme

October
2006

The Amsterdam Stun in Spain



Greetings from

Santa Susanna



AROUND



The owners, Richie and Nicky, weren't around, but Javi, Rodrigo and Eric made us welcome in the Golden Gloves.



Angela, who worked in Gringo Joe's, is now in the Queen Vic, which used to be the Ship.

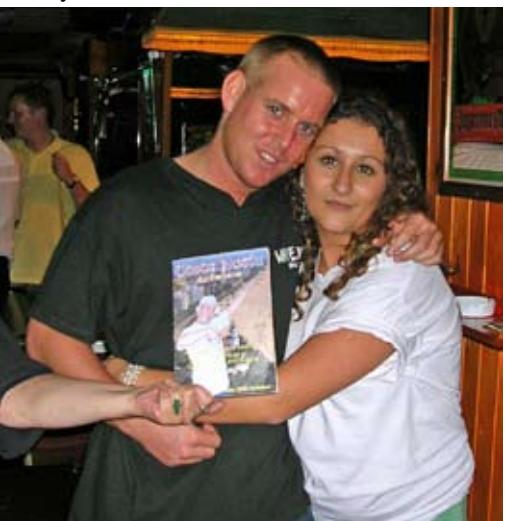
Siobhan, John, Stacey and Yvonne lined up for a photo in the Alcatraz.



Monica no longer works in the White Horse, but her recipe for the best Sangria in town has passed on to Sid, who remembered what Elly likes and made a jug as soon as we walked in the bar. One day, maybe Martin the Dane will learn the secret too.



Lyndon, aka Bucket Boy, was on the cover of the first Costa Posta six years ago and he's still getting people on the dance floor of the White Horse every night, ably assisted by the lovely Tamina.



CALELLA

No trip to Calella would be complete without paying a visit to the BBC, the Beach Boys Club. Brian and his staff go out of their way to help you have a good time. We went to Brian's 50th birthday party four years ago, but we won't say how old he is this month.



Flat Cap Phil was taking care of the karaoke in the BBC.

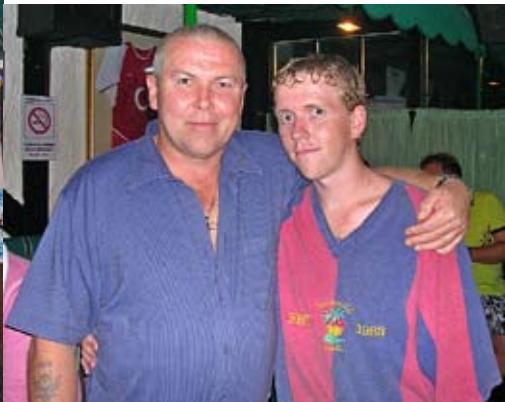


Sharon and Andy were behind the bar.



Alcatraz barmaid Stacey was celebrating her 21st birthday in the BBC.

BBC waiter Dex got a visit from his dad Kevin on his 21st.



Around Malgrat & Santa Susanna



Gary and Bec in the Ship were stunned to see a picture of their boss Mark smiling.

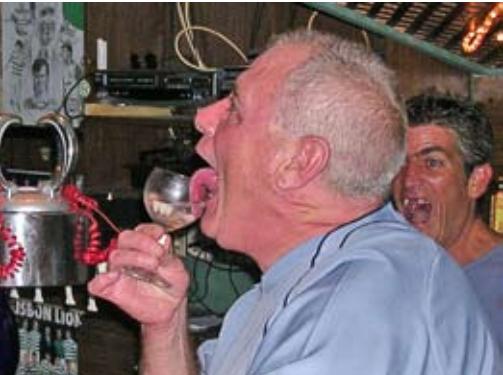
Mark's always smiling when we see him in his other bar, Champions.



Juan Ma and Marice were very entertaining in the Robin Hood.



Chrissie and Trevor made us feel at home in the Crown and Anchor.



Tommo is still doing disgusting things with his tongue in the Rover's Return..

Luckily, Ronnie and Phil help bring a bit of class to the place.

