

AMSTERDAM STUN

The Paper For You

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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
- Josie Gladden
- Martyn Hardy
- Rob (Poolbar)
- Terry Mann
- Tommy McKeown

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Page Three

Katerina in Susie's Saloon is no stranger to this page but this is the first time on her own.



Paula went for the Pippy Longsocks look behind the bar in Café Old Town but her alter-ego, @guinness_gal, would be horrified at the sight of her drinking the black stuff out of a Kwak glass.



Rather than posing behind the bar, Jazz sat on it for this photo taken in Excalibur.



Good to see Laura getting into the Christmas spirit in Hotel Koopermolen; who knew you could get high sniffing tinsel?!

The Editor's Bit

Let's start with last month's **Cover Competition!** I thought it would be easy, given the location of the statues, but I was wrong. There were a lot of guesses from people I met in person, but none of them were right and the only correct answer came from over 8500km away in Texas, so the **Honourable Mention** goes to "Big Al" Sells. He even told me the name of the building, but I would have accepted above the Jumbo supermarket on Damrak.

To be honest, I'd never noticed them before but I don't think I'm alone in not looking up when you walk around town. I lived here for over 20 years before I noticed the big church at the top of Spuistraat and the amazing ceiling of the Albert Heijn next to the Blarney Stone on Nieuwendijk had to be pointed out to me, to name just two.

Anyway, they caught my eye as I staggered home after Café Oporto's Halloween party, which might explain why it was a bit blurry. I only had space for one photo from the party last month so I had to include a few more this time; they're on page 18, but to give you a taster, here's one of me with Jen, Liz and Brian.



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There's no Cover Competition this month; it's the Christmas tree that suddenly appeared on Beursplein in early November! I posted an out of focus photo, taken in the rain with my cheapo phone, on Facebook so some of my friends would have had an unfair advantage.

What happened to the Dutch tradition of only putting the tree up after Sinterklaas? Is it politically correctness gone mad? OK, I've got no problem with the festive lights being up from October to March to cover the pagan and man-made religions that have something to celebrate, but a Christmas tree in November goes against all beliefs; shame on you De Bijenkorf!

Hang on! Ranting is usually Terry Mann's thing but he wants everybody to smile in his column on page six this month so any of my negativity is just here to balance things up.

All of our usual stuff is here, so have a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and if you see me in a bar, ask me to take a photo!

Andy

Congratulations

Happy Birthday to Ana, Andy, Angelica, Anouk, Arabella, Arjan, Bert, Betty, Bib, Bill, BJ, Bonnie, Brian, Burgitt, Carol, Caroline, Colin, Dario, Early, Eddie, Elisa, Emilia, Evertjan, Ewa, Ferdia, Glenn, Gonzo, Hans, Hazel, Ilja, Ilze, Iris, James, Jan Willem, Janet, Jeff, Jen, Jennifer, Jesse, Joe, John, Jonny, Julia, Kayla, Kristina, Kym, Lilian, Luke, Mandy, Marie, Martin, Merlijn, Michael, Mitch, Nancy, Nico, Nicola, Nige, Noel, Olly, Peter, Radka, Rene, Rung, Ryan, Sarah, Selena, Sharon, Shawn, Soufian, Stuart, Tanja, Teddy, Tineke, Tracey, Trudy, Weir, Willy.

Happy 20th Wedding Anniversary on the 19th December to our football correspondent Frank and his lovely wife Rung. To mark such an auspicious occasion, here's a photo from that momentous day in 2003.



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HO HO HO!

People are always telling me to smile more. I usually curse them for fools and continue on my un-merry way. But as I scan the news on a quiet wintery morning, I realize more and more that I'm no longer living in my romantic version of a 1940s movie.

Once friendly newspapers shout out weird twisted stories so loudly, that I can't get the headlines out of my mind. I see that there might be a new prime minister in Holland with a lot of un-Christmassy opinions.

So now, in this jolly season, I'm protesting by embracing the ethic of HO HO HO!

I'll blank out the world's woes and for one full month, sing Christmas songs and smile at everyone I meet. I'll keep it up through Christmas and into the New Year... I hope.

Since misery needs company, I'm asking that all you readers join me in this attempt at joviality. Maybe if we all do the hippie thing of putting out positive vibes for one short month, it might change this little corner of the world!

At this point, I'm willing to try anything that will allow me to read my morning paper without curdling the milk in my tea.

In time for next month's issue of the Stun, I'm going to collect all your smiling hippie vibes, put 'em in a box and drop it off at the prime minister's office.

If I'm not here next issue, it means I've been arrested... for dumping a box of smiles on the new prime minister's desk!

Terry Mann



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STUN

Monday

Weekly

- 16:00, **Cafe Havelaar**, Cheeky Pre-Party, *Playing Cheeky Radio from 17:00-19:00 then Live DJs 'til 23:00*
- 20:00, **Molly Malone's**, Traditional Irish Session, *A warm welcome to everyone.*
- 20:00, **The End**, Karaoke, *over 40,000 English/Dutch songs to choose from. Open til 3*
- 20:00, **Zaal 100**, Goeie Zin Presents: *THE evening for singer/songwriters & semi-acoustic music. Check zaal100.nl for details. €5*
- 20:30, **Durty Nelly's**, Live Acoustic Music, *with Gianluca & friends*
- 20:30, **The Waterhole**, Open Jam Session, *with Rene Kipuw €2*
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Bourbon Jam, *with Theo Mosquito €5*

Tuesday

Weekly

- 20:00, **Cafe Havelaar**, Games Night, *Play Dungeons & Dragons or Magic: The Gathering against fellow nerds!*
- 20:00, **The End**, Karaoke, *over 40,000 English/Dutch songs to choose from. Open til 3*
- 20:30, **The Waterhole**, Open Jam Session, *with Nienke & Jacco €2*
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Lamar Chase, *rock/blues (except 5th) €5*
- 5th December 2023**
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Curtis Millen, *funk/soul singer with a great energy on stage €5*

Wednesday

Weekly

- 20:00, **The End**, Karaoke, *over 40,000 English/Dutch songs to choose from. Open til 3*
- 20:00, **Mulligans**, Open Session, *with various songs & tunes, including Celtic, Folk, Pop, Bluegrass, Americana etc., from our regular musicians and some surprising guests!*
- 20:30, **The Waterhole**, Open Jam Session, €2

GIG-LIST

Wednesday

6th December 2023

- 20:30, **The Waterhole**, Open Jam with Gregorio, *Funk, Pop, Rock*
 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Panja Boys, *Rock jam*
 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Steven de Geus, *high quality rock and soul from around the globe* €5

13th December 2023

- 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Jam Session, *Bring your instrument and play with the house band*
 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Moira, €5

20th December 2023

- 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Jam Session, *Bring your instrument and play with the house band*
 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Steven de Geus, *high quality rock and soul from around the globe* €5

27th December 2023

- 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Christmas Jam, *Bring your instrument and play with the house band*
 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Moira, €5

Thursday

Weekly

- 20:00, **The End**, Karaoke, *over 40,000 English/Dutch songs to choose from. Open til 3*
 20:30, **The Waterhole**, Live Music (acts tba), *check waterhole.nl for details* €2
 22:00, **Coco's Outback**, Karaoke Competition, *Get a FREE shot before singing and be in with a chance of winning a nice prize!*

7th December 2023

- 20:00, **Boom Chicago**, Amsterdam Magic Show, *The best international magic and comedy acts in the heart of Amsterdam.* €25
 20:00, **De Nieuwe Anita**, Nutty Anita's Comedy Night, *Headliner: Raul Kohli, hosted by Ken Parsons.* €12
 21:00, **Mulligans**, Boxin The Vox, *traditional Irish songs & tunes, pop and originals*
 21:30, **Maloe Melo**, Jam Session, *Bring your instrument and play with the house band*
 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Rayn Bechoe, *Funk/Soul* €5

14th December 2023

- 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Jam Session, *Bring your instrument and play with the house band*
 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, The Funk Rebels, *R'n'B* €5

21st December 2023

- 21:00, **Mulligans**, Job Alone and friends, *local singer/songwriter with new trio: trad. and originals*
 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Wap Shoo Wap X-Mas Party, *Live: Savage Beat, No Brains + DJ Turista Bang Bang* €7.50
 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Adam James Band, *Rock/Pop/Soul/Reggae* €5

28th December 2023

- 21:00, **Mulligans**, Malin, *traditional 4-piece band: Irish/Scottish tunes, ballads, mixed with cajun*
 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Jam Session, *Bring your instrument and play with the house band*
 23:00, **The Waterhole**, Adam Bomb Band, *Rock* €2
 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Mosquito, *Latin Pop Rock* €5

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Tickets Maloe Melo: €15 incl. lidmaatschap & excl. servicekosten

PARADISO

STUN GIG-LIST

Friday

Weekly

- 18:30, **Taparia**, Mosquito, *Latin Pop Rock*
20:00, **The End**, Karaoke, *over 40,000 English/
Dutch songs to choose from. Open til 2*
20:30, **The Waterhole**, Rock Night (bands tba),
check waterhole.nl for details €3

1st December 2023

- 21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Killian Donnelly,
Irish singer/songwriter
21:00, **Mulligans**, The Country Deputies,
new country trio
21:30, **Rockclub The Cave**, LowMad + Neosun,
Rock €8
22:30, **Maloe Melo**, Jay's Garage, *Blues,
Blues-rock, Pop-rock, Rock* €7.50
23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Jaxswing, *Funk/Soul/
Swing/Electro Pop* €7

8th December 2023

- 21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Killian Donnelly,
Irish singer/songwriter
21:00, **Mulligans**, Moher, *traditional Celtic
4-piece band on tour*
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, The Pheromones,
70s/80s influenced Rock €7.50
22:00, **Rockclub The Cave**, Snare + Eurydice,
alternative metal/progressive rock €8
23:00, **Bourbon Street**, The Wiseflower,
blues, rock and roll, soul and gospel €7

15th December 2023

- 20:30, **The Waterhole**, Petty Kingdom,
Acoustic pop
21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Brian Clifford,
*Irish singer/songwriter playing a mix of
covers and some originals*
21:00, **Mulligans**, Terry Coyne, Philip Masure &
Siard de Jong, *traditional Irish tunes
and songs*
22:30, **Maloe Melo**, Wiseflower, *Soul, Blues,
Gospel, Funk, and a dash of Rock* €7.50
23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Treasure, *Soul/R&B* €7

Friday

22nd December 2023

- 21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Hairy Zack And His Trunk
*Like Members, Rock classics from the 70's
and 80's & a lot of Rolling Stones!*
21:00, **Mulligans**, The Bradley Bunch,
traditional local Irish 4-piece band
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Band of 69,
60s/70s Rock €7.50
22:00, **Rockclub The Cave**, What's in the Box [CZ]
+ TALIA [FR], *Grunge/Alternative Rock*
23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Jaxswing, *Funk/Soul/
Swing/Electro Pop* €7

29th December 2023

- 21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Live Music,
Whatever the act, it'll be a good craic
21:00, **Mulligans**, The Coincidences, *local Irish
5 piece band; pub and pop songs*
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, The Cruz & the Dukes of
Harlem, *Rock-Pop, Rock-Soul* €7.50
23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Aymar Torres,
Singer-Songwriter from Aruba €7

Saturday

Weekly

- 20:00, **The End**, Karaoke, *over 40,000 English/
Dutch songs to choose from. Open til 2*
20:30, **The Waterhole**, Rock Night (bands tba),
check waterhole.nl for details €3

2nd December 2023

- 21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Niall McGuigan,
Irish singer/entertainer
21:00, **Mulligans**, Robert Pfeiffer &
Masja Klarenbeek,
21:30, **Rockclub The Cave**, Thammuz + Oltas,
Stoner Rock, Doom/Death/Drone
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Sugar Mama, *Blues Rock* €7.50
23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Roxanne Hartog,
Soul, funk & pop €7

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Saturday

9th December 2023

- 21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Andy MacUnfraidh, *Irish singer/entertainer*;
- 21:00, **Mulligans**, Moher, *traditional Celtic 4-piece band on tour*
- 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Tuxedo Buck, *a mix of rockabilly, punk and guitar rock* €7.50
- 22:00, **Rockclub The Cave**, AlleHackbar (DE) + Diamond Seagulls (DE) *Heavy Rock&Roll/Glamrock*
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Jacco Gotink, *classic rock* €7

16th December 2023

- 21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Killian Donnelly, *Irish singer/songwriter*
- 21:00, **Mulligans**, Terry Coyne, Philip Masure & Siard de Jong, *traditional Irish tunes*
- 22:00, **Rockclub The Cave**, Troy Torino + Apeshit, *heavy rock/alternative rock*
- 22:30, **Maloe Melo**, The Pheromones, *Rocking the 80s* €7.50
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, The Wiseflower, *blues, rock and roll, soul and gospel* €7

23rd December 2023

- 21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Petty Kingdom, *A lively mix of Irish, Pop, Rock and requests*
- 21:00, **Mulligans**, Traditional Irish Session, *with Anneke Eijkelboom and friends*
- 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, G.O.H + Blaffer, *Punk + DJ Serhat* €5
- 23:00, **The Waterhole**, Jay's Garage, *Pop, Rock* €3
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Astrid Hendrixx, €7

30th December 2023

- 21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Live Music, *Whatever the act, it'll be a good craic*
- 21:00, **Mulligans**, The Topsy Hippies, *local trio: pop/rock*
- 21:00, **Rockclub The Cave**, Lemmy Lives Veldtocht 2023, *with Iron Fist, and they play Motörhead* €5
- 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Live Music, *t.b.a.*,
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Bashir Brothers ft. Roxanne, *Soul, funk & pop* €7

Sunday

Weekly

- 19:00, **Mulligans**, Traditional Irish Session,
- 20:00, **The End**, Karaoke, *over 40,000 English/Dutch songs to choose from. Open til 3*
- 20:30, **The Waterhole**, Live Music (acts tba), *check waterhole.nl for details* €2
- 3rd December 2023
- 20:30, **The Waterhole**, Brian Clifford, *Acoustic Pop, Rock*
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Jay's Garage, *Rock/Blues* €5
- 10th December 2023
- 20:30, **Backstage Bar**, Very Open Mic, *English Stand-up comedy, hosted by Kendra Borgen*
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Jay's Garage, *Rock/Blues* €5
- 17th December 2023
- 23:00, **The Waterhole**, The Clandestinos, *Funk, Pop, Rock* €2
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Sunday R&B Session, *Are you a soul or R&B singer? Together with the greatest musicians of these genres, you'll get a chance to sing some of your favourite songs. Can it get any better?* €5

24th December 2023

- 19:00, **Mulligans**, Traditional Christmas Eve Session, *with Siard de Jong, Domenic Crosby and Max van Gelder*
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Roxanne Hartog, *Soul, funk & pop* €5



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BEHIND

I always get a warm welcome from Doda when I drop in Café Oporto; is that a Jägermeister I see before me?



Daniel was the day shift when I paid an earlier than usual visit to the Three Sisters Pub.



Lars introduced the latest member of the crew in Susie's Saloon; it's Amy, who I knew from Café Batavia.



Vlad and Nathalie were behind the bar when I stopped for a drink instead of just leaving the latest Stun in the Smoking Bull.



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BARS

Dominic and Hayley were the only two of the Molly Malone's crew prepared to pose for a Friday night photo.



Jarne and Lieve were rocking it behind the bar in Bourbon Street.



Jur refused to wear a Christmas hat behind the bar in Maloe Melo but then a Fez appeared on his head - just like that!



Your eyes don't deceive you; the bar behind Mike, Miguel and Damir in Café De Buurvrouw has changed colour!



I know that we've already had photos with Katerina and Amy behind the bar in Susie's Saloon, but we couldn't leave Steve out!

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BEHIND BARS XXL

The Monday night bar crew in Coco's Outback knew that their photo would be XXL if there were more than six in the picture, so they might have rustled up some of their off duty colleagues to make up the numbers. I didn't get all of their names, but they know who they are.



It was busy around town for a Monday night, so even more people got in the picture when I visited the Poolbar, and once again, far too many people to mention by name.



Round The Bars

November is never a great month for going *Round The Bars* so there's only one page this month, and it's more like Round Two Bars!

JPR Strinxband playing in Maloe Melo was just what I needed to get me out; Edgar the Sax Machine is a great showman.



I missed Franklin's birthday gig with his band No Smoke in Maloe Melo but I will see Koen from Brentsleng at the *NewJursParty* in Paradiso in January; I've already got my tickets!



Mark was back in town for the Ajax v Brighton match, but he stayed a bit longer to catch up with old friends, including Mick, one of his former colleagues in Molly Malone's.



The Killian Donnelly performing in Molly Malone's on the 8th & 16th is not the guy who played the Phantom of the Opera in the West End musical: *Our Killian* is much more fun!

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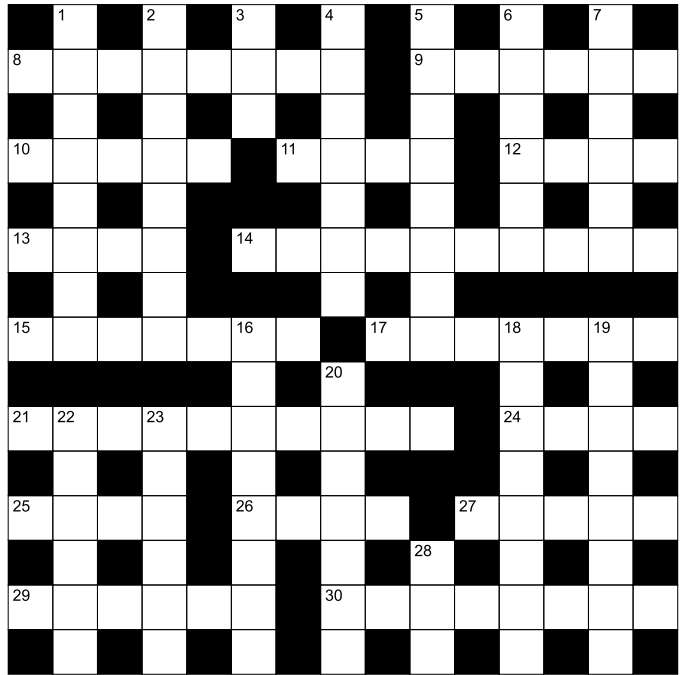
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Stun Crossword

Compiled by Martyn Hardy

Across

8. Austerity measures Nick supports (8)
9. Times journalist gets removed (6)
10. Russian leader in fraud told to clear off (5)
11. Conceal some of truth, ideally (4)
12. Skipper finally losing wicket in emphatic defeat (4)
13. Principal seeing graduate at home (4)
14. One's quite upset having Degas original scrutinized (10)
15. Told new model is a disappointment (3,4)
17. Succeed fitting pole in middle (7)
21. Simple diet possibly indicating fast isn't a good idea (5,5)
24. Look into prototype error (4)
25. Current newspaper gets round the truth (4)
26. Run after Dot, maybe (4)
27. Interrupt holiday (5)
29. Coerce the French later (4,2)
30. Removal notice ordered around the sixth (8)



Down

1. Cash changed during genuine acquisition (8)
2. Got a bit done, possibly (8)
3. Character appearing in this show (3)
4. Hoped to get Cleopatra's nemesis annoyed (7)
5. Gun salesman meeting consumer (8)
6. One phoning new drivers during race, possibly (6)
7. Don't accept rubbish (6)
16. Congratulations thoroughly acceptable (4,4)
18. Individual copies returned with price (8)
19. Lift to reveal a mess (8)
20. Sam turning up in ditch, very drunk (7)
22. Recognizes extra material to be put in (6)
23. Range of old camping equipment (6)
28. The place to store rubbish information? (3)



Answers on page 17

Bill woke up with a killer hangover after attending his firm's Christmas Party.

He didn't even remember how he got home. Confused he tried to gather his thoughts, "It's 8.30. What day is it? Thursday! The wife must have gone to work."

As he struggled into consciousness through the fog of a pounding headache, his heart sank as he wondered what the hell he did last night.

He forced himself to open his eyes, and the first thing he saw was a couple of aspirins next to a glass of water on the side table.

And, next to them, a little vase of sweet peas, freshly picked from the garden.

He sat up. The bedroom was clean and tidy; there was no trail of drunkenly abandoned clothes, fresh air was coming in through the window and all was serene.

He stumbled to the bathroom, which was also pristine, and, squinting gingerly into the mirror, saw that he had a black eye.

This was not a good sign, but no memories were returning.

As he concentrated hard on getting the world into focus, he saw a post-it note stuck on the corner of the mirror. It was written in red, with little hearts on it and a kiss from his wife. "I'll ring your office and tell them you won't be in today. Breakfast is in the oven. Try to eat something and go back to bed for the morning. There's sport on TV this afternoon. Take it easy today; hope your eye doesn't hurt too much. See you tonight. I love you, darling! Love, Alison."

Bill stumbled to the kitchen and sure enough, there was hot breakfast, steaming hot coffee and the newspaper.

His teenage son was sitting at the table, eating. Bill, bracing himself for the worst, asked his son what happened the previous night.

His son said, "Well, you came home after 3 in the morning, drunk and out of your mind. You fell over the coffee table and broke it, and then you puked in the hallway. You got that black eye when you ran into the door."

JOKES

Bill was confused as he asked his son, "So, why is everything in such perfect order, aspirins by the bed, a nice note from Mom and breakfast waiting for me?"

His son replied, "Oh, that! Well you see, Mom dragged you to the bedroom, and when she tried to take your trousers off, you screamed, 'Leave me alone, I'm married!'"

I asked my Nan what she wanted for Christmas. "Something from the Body Shop please," she replied.

Hope she's got enough room in the flat for the front wing off a Ford Mondeo.

I've put some mistletoe up in work to help get into the Christmas spirit. Some of the blokes using the urinal seemed quite uncomfortable with the whole concept.

I can't wait to give my son his air hockey table for Christmas...

It will go great with last year's air guitar.

I finally found the true meaning of Xmas today... It's for people who can't spell Christmas.

Mum, can I please have a cat for Christmas? No, you'll have turkey the same as the rest of us.

One night, Freda went carol singing. She knocked on the door of a house and began to sing. A man with a violin in his hand came out. Within seconds, tears were streaming down his face! Freda went on singing for half an hour, every carol she knew, and some she didn't.

As last she stopped. 'I understand,' she said softly. 'You are remembering your happy childhood Christmas days. You're a sentimentalist!'

'No,' he snivelled. 'I'm a musician!'

BEING FRANK ON FOOTBALL

We have just experienced another phase of the domestic football season that frustrates me massively. All these international breaks mean that it is difficult for any of the top teams in English football to get into the groove. This applies not only to Premier League clubs but also the sides in the Championship too - and even some clubs in League One can be impacted negatively by this frustratingly irritating stop/start season, as it unfolds.

As this goes to print, I should be back in the "Land of Smiles" and that means this article is nothing more than a broad insight into all things football, and yet, there is a lot happening at the moment both on and off the pitch.

I am amazed that Liverpool forward Luis Diaz wanted to put on a shirt and play for the Reds whilst his father is still held captive in Columbia. It is a good job he did though, because he rescued a point at Luton with a very late goal. Thankfully, he has since been reunited with his father.

Changing the subject matter completely, and I am sick of the way Sky Sports seem to play God with football these days, by changing the days of fixtures, and even the times of matches just to satisfy their audience. I know that this

company of dubious intent plough an awful lot of money into the game, but they should not be allowed to ride roughshod over supporters who spend a lot of dosh travelling up and down the country to watch their beloved team in action. I am not sure what the solution is, but this is another issue that I believe needs to be addressed.

As we look to the bottom of the Premier League table, there are several clubs who are in danger, even at this very early stage of the season, of getting relegated.

Sheffield United, Burnley and Bournemouth are all struggling for goals and points - although it is pleasing to see that Luton Town are, so far, defying the laws of football logic and gaining points. Everton, too, looked to going well under Sean Dyche and seemed to have found the winning habit. That was before they were deducted 10 points and dropped from 14th to 19th in the Premier League table! What a painful reality check.

Financial irregularities have cost them dear; much will depend on Dominic Calvert-Lewin and whether he can stay fit for sustained periods because when he is playing, he can score goals. Abdoulaye Doucoure is another important cog in the Toffees wheel. Keep them both fit and they have a realistic chance of avoiding the drop, against the odds, which would completely ruin my prediction! Both Chelsea and Manchester City are in deep trouble too, so it will be interesting to see what they do with them - assuming of course, that we are still playing on a level football field. Innocent until proven guilty I guess, and in fairness, Everton admitted to their guilt - otherwise the points deduction could have been even greater!

Being Frank on Football

All the latest football news from around the world, updated daily!



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In the Netherlands, little Almere City battled it out for a very creditable 2-2 draw at home to mighty Ajax! The Amsterdam side have been anything but mighty this season though and are way off the pace. In fact, Almere, who are playing their very first season in the top flight of Dutch football are in 11th and just ahead of Ajax, who have a game in hand. PSV lead the way having won all of their 12 matches in the Dutch competition.

Meanwhile, The Netherlands have officially qualified for Euro 2024 after a slender 1-0 victory over the Republic of Ireland. Their mission was straight-forward enough. All they needed to do was win against the Irish and they had sealed qualification for the Euros.

And finally, I apologise once again for not making the 30th anniversary bash. It was a major error of judgement on my part, but I hope that everyone who attended had a great evening, and with a bit of luck I will see you all after our winter break. Talking of breaks, those dreaded international breaks are here once again, so perhaps this is the best time of all to be out of Europe altogether!

Frank Weston

Crossword Answers

Across: 8 Cutbacks, 9 Erased, 10 Scram, 11 Hide, 12 Rout, 13 Main, 14 Questioned, 15 Let Down, 17 Prosper, 21 Speed Limit, 24 Peer, 25 Fact, 26 Dash, 27 Break, 29 Lean On, 30 Eviction, 29th Jeffrey Schuffelen, 29th John Raftery, 29th Thomas Freiermuth, 29th Josie Gladden, 29th Adam Burton, 22 Places, 23 Extent, 28 Tip, 18 Separate, 19 Elevator, 20 Smashed, 5 Repeater, 6 Hairdo, 7 Refuse, 16 Well Done, 1 Purchases, 2 Obtained, 3 Act, 4 Aspired,

PPL UPDATE

Here's how the Premier Predictions League table looked on Monday 27th November 2023. Check the Stun website for the latest stand.

Pos.	Name	On	Nr	Pts
1st	Paulo van Melsen	4	8	20
1st	Matthew Wright	4	8	20
3rd	Arun Pankerd	4	6	18
4th	Trish Steele	4	5	17
4th	Steve Mahon	4	5	17
6th	Stephen Spencer	3	8	17
7th	Callum Dickie	3	7	16
8th	Ally MacDougall	3	6	15
9th	Shaun McCarthy	4	2	14
10th	Chris Rudkin	3	5	14
10th	Paul Berridge	3	5	14
12th	Dean Lomax	3	4	13
12th	Lee Findley	3	4	13
12th	Frank Weston	3	4	13
15th	Ann Marie Stopforth	1	10	13
16th	Phil Rook	0	13	13
17th	Chris Mundell	3	3	12
17th	Ken Passey	3	3	12
17th	Jim Scrimgeour	3	3	12
20th	Scott Matthew	2	6	12
20th	Jude Noonan	2	6	12
20th	Willie Wood	2	6	12
20th	Paul Tandy	2	6	12
20th	Dave Wright	2	6	12
20th	Alan Dempsey	2	6	12
29th	Adam Burton	1	7	10
29th	Josie Gladden	1	7	10
29th	Thomas Freiermuth	1	7	10
29th	John Raftery	1	7	10
30th	Jeffrey Schuffelen	2	3	9
31st	Robert Pendleton	1	6	9
31st	Martyn Hardy	1	6	9
33rd	Frank Waardenburg	1	5	8
34th	Bart L	0	3	3
35th	Philip Justice	0	0	0

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Oporto HALLOWEEN

We only had room for one picture from Café Oporto's Halloween Party in the last Stun, but I couldn't resist printing a few more. There are a lot more on my personal Facebook page, but you need to be *friends* with either me or the people I've tagged to see them.



IN THE BACK

Keeping it in the family, Steven's cousin Ness was helping him out in the Backstage Bar when I dropped by on a Friday evening.



To say Molly Malone's was busy the night before Ireland played the Netherlands in Amsterdam would be a bit of an understatement, although there was still a bit of room on the terrace, next to the temporary toilet facilities.



Sven is making his Stun debut, behind the bar in H. Murray's.



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