

AMSTERDAM STUN

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March 2024

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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
- Jan van Doorn
- Josie Gladden
- Martyn Hardy
- Rob (Poolbar)
- Terry Mann

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Page Three

Paddy's Day is almost upon us so we had to have someone from an Irish pub on Page Three; here are Anna and Julia in Durty Nelly's.



Esther was behind the bar as I was passing Hotel Internationaal, so I had to pop in for a photo, and a beer, of course.

With Jen, Shakira and Jurrien behind the bar, Janice's Big Birthday Bash in Café Oporto was guaranteed to be a success. More photos on pages 14 & 15.



The Editor's Bit

Did you miss me? I went down with some bug half way through delivering the January edition of the Amsterdam Stun, so I had to pass on February. It's usually quiet around town in January, so I wasn't too bothered about missing a month, but it did mean I couldn't make it to the NewJursParty in Paradiso. I couldn't let our readers miss out, so Jan the Lazyman, who was also MC at the party, let me use some of his photos; they're on pages 16 & 17.

Because I've hardly been out lately, nobody came up with an answer to the last Cover Competition. If I had been out, I'm sure Big Al would have told me while he was in town for his birthday or Willy, if I'd taken up his offer of a beer when I dropped off the last Stun in Café Havelaar, because I took the photo from outside his bar! I only asked for the location, but for the purists, it's called the Rasphuispoort and it's on the Heiligeweg at the junction with the Voetboegstraat.

I'm not going to give up with the **Cover Competition**, so if you would like an **Honourable Mention** in the next Stun, all you have to do is tell me the location of the artwork on this month's cover. In keeping with my new policy of looking up for the cover photos, I had to get down on my knees for this one because it's below my eye-level and it would have been too easy if you could see the background.

After 35 years of running the oldest Irish pub in Amsterdam, Miriam has decided it's



time she took it easy and has sold Mulligan's! Before she left, the bar was packed with all of the friends she has made over the years.

The new owners have every intention of keeping Mulligan's as the premier traditional Irish music venue in the Netherlands, but my old friend, bar manager Sean, has decided it's time for him to retire too. As usual, he said no to a photo, but it does mean that there's more chance of picking up a copy of the Amsterdam Stun in Mulligan's now.

How has Danny never been in the Stun before? I was drinking in his dad's bar before he was born, 31 years ago, and the rest of his



family are frequently in the Stun. Jen, on the other hand, has been a Stun regular since she first started working in Café Oporto, and I'm sure that she will know the answer to this month's Cover Competition.

Despite not getting to as many bars as I would have liked, *with a little help from my friends* and more XL photos than usual, I've managed to fill 24 pages with all of your favourites, including Being Frank on Football, so enjoy your March edition of the Stun.

Andy

Congratulations

Happy Birthday Aileen, Alex, Amedeo, Ans, Briony, Caroline, Christa, Dave, Davey, Devin, Elly, Fish, Frank, Gabriel, Helen, Huib, Iain, Jake, James, Jay, Jo, Johnny, Josh, Jur, Karin, Kevin, Lance, Lara, Lenny, Lidor, Lizzy, Maaike, Mairead, Manuel, Manus, Marie, Marion, Mark, Martha, Mathijs, Matt, Matthias, Max, Mick, Mike, Mirjana, Munise, Murph, Nancy, Nick, Nino, Paddy, Pat, Percey, Rik, Robert, Roland, Rose, Ruby, Russell, Saarain, Sarah, Scarlett, Scouse, Shakira, Silver, Sue, Suzanne, Tamara, Teresa, Wiken, Wolfling, Zadok.

Happy Anniversary Henk & Sharon.



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BEHIND BARS



Joe was getting some fresh air outside Dirty Nelly's and talked me into going in for a beer.

The EFL Cup Final had just finished, so Mario, Riley and Tarik had time for a quick photo behind the bar in the Three Sisters Pub.



Molly Malone's have been hiring while I've been out of circulation; Robby and Niall are just two of the new faces behind the bar.



Victor joined Jazz and Dimitri for a photo behind the bar in Excalibur.



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What started as just a photo of Emil and Louise ended up XL with their off-duty colleagues Steve, Katerina, Rebecca, Angie, Max and Pelle joining them behind the bar in Susie's Saloon. Luisa rounded up the rest of the Monday night crew, Olivia, Jose, Guillaume, Gyhs and Jory, for this XL photo behind the bar in Coco's Outback.



A BROKEN PROMISE TO MYSELF

My new year's resolution should've been not to forget my new year's resolutions. I'd like to blame it on the onset of dementia, but I've always had a dicey memory. I can remember forgetting resolutions as far back as the ninth grade at the tender age of something teen when I would forget to remember my resolution to attend classes on sunny summer days.

I'm amazed at how my mind seems to have a mind of its own.

I went to the market this morning in a healthy rage to buy vegetables and forgot about the nasty green things as I stood in the cookie aisle heaving yummy poison into my shopping cart, and then waddled fatly past the nasty green healthy stuff and through the forgotten land of yucky things that try hard to look and act like meat so guilt filled vegans like myself can fool ourselves into thinking that they taste good. I quickly forgot about the fantasy fare, and stepped into the wonderland of chicken and cow parts, and tossed the forbidden non fruit on top of my cookies.

I was on a roll now, which brought me into the exotic bread department. Sweet ethnic rolls with honey and nuts and assorted sugary fantasies that I heaved onto the evil pile, and began screaming "Demon be gone!" at the shopping cart while waving a crucifix.

The cart laughed at me and rolled through the door onto the sidewalk, into the street, where I ran after it, trying to stop its mad escape down the street.

I never caught it. The chase was interrupted by the supermarket security people clamping the handcuffs on me and dragging me cursing and drooling with hunger into the office, where they fed me cookies while I signed an official paper promising never to shop there again.

Terry Mann

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*



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GIG-LIST

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
- 5th March 2024**
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Kim Verme, *Rock/R&B* €5
- 12th March 2024**
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Curtiss Millen,
Funk/Rock/Soul €5
- 19th March 2024**
- 19:00, **Coco's Outback**, International Pub Quiz,
Entry price: €5, maximum 5 persons to a team. Great Prizes! €5
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Karlie, €5
- 26th March 2024**
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Kim Verme, *Rock/R&B* €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 with Gianluca,
Funk, Pop, Rock €2
- 6th March 2024**
- 20:30, **Bulldog Palace**, Outlaws and Outsiders,
- 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Jam Session, *Bring your instrument and play with the house band*
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Steven de Geus,
rock & soul from around the globe €5
- 13th March 2024**
- 20:30, **Bulldog Palace**, Time2Move, *funk, pop, rock*
- 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Jam Session, *Bring your instrument and play with the house band*
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Steven de Geus,
rock & soul from around the globe €5

Wednesday

20th March 2024

- 20:30, **Bulldog Palace**, Solo's Lab,
Funk, Pop, Rock
- 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Jam Session, *Bring your instrument and play with the house band*
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Big Dez, *Blues* €5
- 27th March 2024**
- 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Jam Session, *Bring your instrument and play with the house band*
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Caracas Latin Band,
Pop/Latino €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 March 2024**
- 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Jam Session, *Bring your instrument and play with the house band*
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Rayn Bechoe,
Funk/Soul €5
- 14th March 2024**
- 21:00, **Durty Nelly's**, Picaflor,
- 21:00, **Mulligans**, Brian Clifford,
- 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Jam Session, *Bring your instrument and play with the house band*
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Adam James Band,
Rock/Pop/Soul/Reggae €5
- 21st March 2024**
- 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, The Devils,
RocknRoll from Italy €10
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Big Dez, *Blues* €5
- 28th March 2024**
- 20:30, **The Waterhole**, Gareth Evans Jones,
Acoustic Pop, Rock, Funk
- 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Jam Session, *Bring your instrument and play with the house band*
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Astrid Hendrikx, €5

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 March 2024

- 21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Niall McGuigan, *Irish singer/entertainer*
21:00, **Mulligans**, St. James Gate Crashers,
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Reggae Recipe, *Live: The Sybians* €7.50
23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Addicted To Groove, *Funk/R&B* €7

8th March 2024

- 21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Killian Donnelly, *Irish singer/songwriter*
21:00, **Mulligans**, Live Music, *act tba*
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, International Women's Day, *Live: Stachel, Periot, The Vulgarettes + DJ Mw. de Bok* €7.50
23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Treasure, *Soul/R&B* €7

15th March 2024

- 21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Niall McGuigan, *Irish singer/entertainer*
21:00, **Mulligans**, Victor Lacken (guitar/vocals) and Isaac Muller (flute),
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Live Music, *t.b.a., see www.maloemelo.com*
23:00, **Bourbon Street**, The Wiseflower, *blues, rock and roll, soul and gospel* €7

Friday

22nd March 2024

- 20:30, **The Waterhole**, Petty Kingdom, *Acoustic pop*
21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Gianluca Pagliaricci, *Italian singer/songwriter*
21:00, **Mulligans**, Live Music, *act tba*
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Power Solo, *100% Donkey Punk* €10
23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Jaxswing, *Funk/Soul/Swing/Electro Pop* €7

29th March 2024

- 21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Andy MacUnfraidh, *Irish singer/entertainer*,
21:00, **Mulligans**, Live Music, *act tba*
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, No Smoke, *Blues, country, rock* €7.50
23:00, **Bourbon Street**, The Wiseflower, *blues, rock and roll, soul and gospel* €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 March 2024

- 20:00, **Molly Malone's**, Brian Clifford, *Irish singer/songwriter playing a mix of covers and some originals*
21:00, **Mulligans**, Sonja's Kitchen,
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Party Time! *Live: Night Fried (Blues-rock)* €7.50
23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Liger and the Cubs, *Reggae/R&B* €7

9th March 2024

- 20:00, **Molly Malone's**, Niall McGuigan, *Irish singer/entertainer*
21:00, **Mulligans**, Live Music, *act tba*
22:00, **Maloe Melo**, The Unexpected, *Rock band from Amsterdam feat. Rocknroll Nico* €5
23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Charmain Nelson, *Soul/R&B* €7



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Saturday

16th March 2024

- 20:00, **Molly Malone's**, No Music!
6 Nations Rugby final matches
- 21:00, **Mulligans**, Live Music, *act tba*
- 21:30, **Rockclub The Cave**, Selfmachine [NL] +
Blويد [NL], *Metal*
- 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Amsterdam-Alto Night,
*Live: 32 Elephants (emo from golden age),
Bellamy Grove (Surfpunk from the golden
era), Dog Person (punk) God DJ set til
00:30, DJs after 00:30 €10*
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Jay's Garage, *Rock/Blues €7*

23rd March 2024

- 21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Brian Clifford,
*Irish singer/songwriter playing a mix of
covers and some originals*
- 21:00, **Mulligans**, Live Music, *act tba*
- 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Willie Heath Neal, The
Classifieds, Outlaw Country, *Country €7.50*
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Jacco Hendrik,
Classic Rock €7

30th March 2024

- 21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Gianluca Pagliaricci,
Italian singer/songwriter
- 21:00, **Mulligans**, Boxin The Vox, *local duo;
traditional Irish songs, pop and originals*
- 21:30, **Rockclub The Cave**, Gefrierbrand (DE) +
Arkham Circle (DE), *Black Metal*
- 22:00, **Maloe Melo**, Jay & the Smoking Machine,
Rock, Funk-rock €7.50
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Roxanne Hartog,
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

Sunday

3rd March 2024

- 20:30, **The Waterhole**, Petty Kingdom, *Acoustic pop*
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Jay's Garage, *Rock/Blues €5*

10th March 2024

- 20:30, **Backstage Bar**, Comedy Fusion,
*Seasoned comedians in the first half,
followed by a lineup of fresh talent in our
second-half open mic session.*
- 23:00, **The Waterhole**, 2Hot2Funk, *Funk, Pop, Rock*
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Moira, *R&B/Soul €5*

St. Patrick's Day

17th March 2024

- 12:00, **Molly Malone's**, Brian Clifford,
*Irish singer/songwriter playing a mix of
covers and some originals*
- 14:00, **Mulligans**, Victor Lacken (guitar/vocals),
Jimmy Ellis (fiddle) and Stijn van Beek
(uilleann pipes),
- 17:00, **Molly Malone's**, Killian Donnelly,
Irish singer/songwriter
- 20:00, **Mulligans**, Victor Lacken (guitar/vocals),
Jimmy Ellis (fiddle), Sjoerd van Ravenzwaaij
(banjo) & Úna Parkinson (flute),
- 21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Andy MacUnfraidh,
Irish singer/entertainer,
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Dursun, *singer-songwriter,
pianist and all-rounder €5*

24th March 2024

- 21:00, **Molly Malone's**, Andy MacUnfraidh,
Irish singer/entertainer,
- 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. €5*

31st March 2024

- 20:30, **The Waterhole**, G-Rex & Friends,
- 20:30, **Backstage Bar**, Comedy Fusion,
*Seasoned comedians in the first half,
followed by a lineup of fresh talent in our
second-half open mic session.*
- 23:00, **Bourbon Street**, Jay's Garage, *Rock/Blues €5*

ROUND T



Paula had a surprise visit from her sister Kelly; the last time they were in the Stun together was over 10 years ago!



Something similar in Molly Malone's the same evening when Sean asked me to take the very first photo of him and Mara together, but they're locals and he's a Stun reader, so he might have guessed my true identity.



Jango was outside Hotel Internationaal so I had to take a photo; I rarely see him since the Globe's bar moved canal-side.



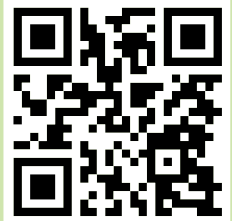
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THE BARS

Sammer came to Janice's party in Café Oporto with two of her friends but I can't remember their names. There are more photos from the party on the next two pages, but if you want to see Sammer dancing on the chairs, you'll have to go to the Stun website!



Good to see John in Café Oporto for Janice's birthday party; hadn't seen him for ages!



Rob from the Poolbar sent us this photo of Max with his mum but didn't tell us her name!



Oh My! That's a lot of Salmari shots Stefan has got lined up in the Poolbar!

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Janice's Big Birthday Bash

When your birthday ends in a '0' you have to party, so there was a full house when Café Oporto landlady Janice celebrated her #0th!





NEWJURSPARTY

Due to illness, I couldn't make it to Paradiso for NewJursParty, the follow-up to last year's 80th birthday party for Jur from Maloe Melo, so these photos are from Jan the Lazyman, who was the MC for the night.



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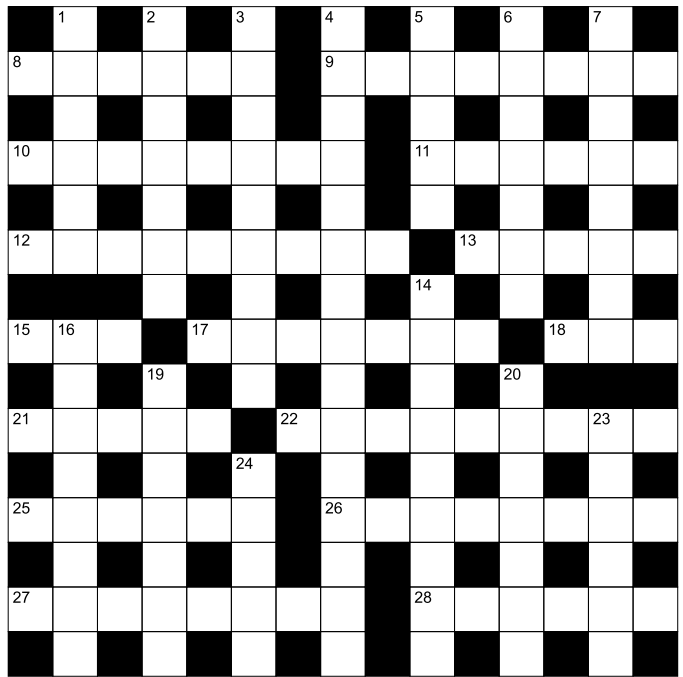
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Stun Crossword

Compiled by Martyn Hardy

Across

8. Keep it near, possibly (6)
9. Implied vessel is not communicating (8)
10. No rest, I gather, having a Spanish address (8)
11. Somewhat eccentric, he squanders wealth (6)
12. Back with series, and change things around (9)
13. Pretend to joke about (3,2)
15. Theatre production omitting quiet song (3)
17. They are responsible for disturbing the game (7)
18. Decide upon way to swallow drug (3)
21. Right now, twisting round a tree (5)
22. Motion revolutionary socialist kept an eye on (9)
25. Articles about alcohol leading to heart trouble (6)
26. Was self-indulgent, and amused everyone inside (8)
27. One going around shooting? (8)
28. Detective left to get into the US, possibly (6)



Down

1. Tough spot clergyman reversing into (6)
2. Catholic idol and child featured in stonework (7)
3. Answer held by accused, it's suggested (9)
4. Conventional ship isn't complicated (15)
5. Surrey opener takes heart and gets twenty (5)
6. Food and drink brought round for the snobbish (5,2)
7. Frightful rogues upset me (8)
14. In bar, drunk and a little stupid (9)
16. Not in a bad way, Edward is blessed (8)
19. US president deranged? I take issue (7)
20. As worn on head by nobles etc, or on model (7)
23. Impartial way to reverse results (6)
24. Trusting one to put in part of church (5)

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Answers on page 21

JOKES

Anto's missus was in the hospital, ready to give birth to their first child. When they arrived, the nurse asked, 'How dilated is she, sir?'

Anto replied, 'Delighted? She's over the fecking moon!'

An Irish farmer was walking along the boundary between his and his neighbour's fields when he spotted his neighbour carrying two sheep in his arms.

'Tony' he called. 'Are you going to shear those sheep?'

'I am not' the neighbour replied, 'They're both for me.'

It was a cold Friday evening when the doorbell rang in Mrs Molloy's house. When she answered the door, Pat Glynn, her husband's manager at the brewery was stood on the doorstep.

'Pat. Hello. Where's my husband? He should have been home from work three hours ago?' The man sighed. 'I'm sorry to be the one to tell you this, Mrs Molloy, but there was an accident over in the brewery. Your husband fell into a vat of Guinness and drowned.'

'Oh my God' she replied. 'Please tell me it was quick?!'

'Well... no. It wasn't. He climbed out four times to take a piss.'

Ben walked into the local bar all a fluster and ordered seven shots of whiskey and a pint of Smithwick's. When the barman arrived back with the pint, all of the shots of whiskey had been drunk. 'Ah here, you drank those very quickly' said the barman.

'Well' says Ben, 'If you had what I had you'd drink them quickly, too.'

'Shite' replied the barman 'What do you have?' 'A tenner' replied Ben.

Did you hear about the Irishman who took his car for its first service?

He got it stuck between the church doors!

An Irishman was in New York patiently waiting to cross a busy street.

There was a traffic cop manning the crossing. The cop stopped after a few minutes and told those waiting to cross the road, 'Okay pedestrians', he said, 'Let's go.'

The Irishman stood waiting, growing more and more frustrated. After five minutes he shouted to the cop, 'Here! The pedestrians crossed ages ago – when's it time for the Catholics?!'

A man from Cork was in with his doctor. 'Look, David, I've some bad news and some terrible news for you.'

'God! What's the bad news?' asked the patient.

'Well', replied the doctor, 'You only have three days to live.'

'You're joking' says the patient. 'How on earth can the news get any worse?'

'Well', says the doctor, 'I've been trying to get hold of you for the past two days.'

How come you can you never borrow a few quid from a leprechaun?

Because they're always a little short.

A Cork man went for a job at the local stables. When he sat down for the interview, the farmer asked him 'Have you ever shod horses?'

The Cork man thought about this for a couple of minutes and replied, 'No, but I once told a donkey to feck off.'

Two Irishmen were walking out of a funeral. One turns to the other and says, 'It was a beautiful ceremony, wasn't it?'

'It was', replied the friend. 'Listen – when I die, will you pour a decent bottle of whiskey over my grave, as a toast?'

'I will', says the friend. 'But would you mind if I run it through my kidneys first?'

BEING FRANK ON FOOTBALL

The first piece of silverware was held aloft by Liverpool as they lifted the EFL trophy at Wembley. It meant Jurgen Klopp's side have achieved the first part of a potential quadruple in the manager's farewell season, but it was a bitter blow to Chelsea and manager Mauricio Pochettino.

Under pressure Pochettino was visibly shaken when Virgil Van Dyke headed the ball home with two minutes remaining of extra time. It was a bitter pill to swallow.

Liverpool's 10th triumph in the competition was achieved without a host of injured star names, including forward trio Mohamed Salah, Darwin Nunez and Diogo Jota, also losing Ryan Gravenberch when he was taken off on a stretcher after Moises Caicedo's first-half challenge.

As for the Premier League, well it is very much a three-horse race this season. After 26 games, the top three are only separated by two points, as Liverpool, Manchester City and Arsenal are very much in contention. It promises to be one of the most exciting Premier League run-offs since its inception in 1992!

At the bottom, poor Burnley are still struggling and seem almost certain to return

from whence they came, along with Sheffield United. As for who will join them, it is not so black and white. Everton are lingering around the drop zone but this is largely due to that rather cruel 10 point deduction. The result of that appeal should be known by the time this goes to print, but if it is not reversed then that good start that the Toffees had made may be all in vain. I have an inkling that Luton might just stay up because they can score goals and goals invariably win games. That said, their Achilles heel is their defence, so they are still struggling to put points on the board. It is the same problem for Nottingham Forest, who can score lots of goals but leak them with ever increasing frequency!

And if we are talking of nail-biting ends to a football campaign, then look no further than the Championship, where four sides are fighting for two automatic promotion spots to the Promised Land. Leicester City were, until very recently, the runaway leaders but they have now lost two on the bounce and their lead has been cut to just six points! This league is completely crazy!

Three former Premier League clubs occupy the top four places, and after going a record-breaking unbeaten run, Southampton have now dropped down to fourth after three defeats in their last four matches. This has opened the door

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for another former Premier League club, Leeds United, who are not only winning at home, but also away from Elland Road these days!

The joker in the pack is Ipswich Town, who have just been promoted from League One and have continued to defy the laws of football logic. When clubs are relegated from the Premier League they all get a staggering 44 million quid to pay for players that they have hired on long-term contracts. The elite league is reviewing this method at the moment because it gives relegated clubs a huge advantage and might explain why so many of them return to the top flight of English football in next to no time. The Tractor Boys have the nucleus of the squad that finished second in League One last season, and they have continued to develop as a team since they were promoted.

If you want an exciting end to a league campaign then don't look over here in the Netherlands, where PSV are strolling to the Eredivisie title. After 23 games they are a staggering 10 points clear of Feyenoord and 29 points ahead of Ajax, who find themselves in fifth, and behind Twente and AZ Alkmaar! They will struggle to be involved in any meaningful European football next term

Frank Weston

Crossword Answers

Across: 8 Retain, 9 Taciturn, 10 Senorita, 11 Riches, 12 Rearrange, 13 Put on, 15 Lay, 17 Beaters, 18 Set, 21 Rowan, 22 Monitored, 25 Angina, 26 Wallowed, 27 Revolver, 28 Sleuth.
Down: 1 Severe, 2 Masonry, 3 Indicated, 4 Straightforward, 5 Score, 6 Stuck up, 7 Gruesome, 14 Brainless, 16 Anointed, 19 Madison, 20 Coronet, 23 Events, 24 Naive.

PPL UPDATE

Here's how the Premier Predictions League table looked on Monday 26th February 2024. Check the Stun website for the latest stand.

Pos.	Name	On	Nr	Pts
1st	Phil Rook	4	7	19
2nd	Martyn Hardy	4	5	17
3rd	Ally MacDougall	4	4	16
3rd	John Raftery	4	4	16
3rd	Bart L	4	4	16
6th	Lee Findley	3	6	15
6th	Adam Burton	3	6	15
6th	Josie Gladden	3	6	15
9th	Robert Pendleton	3	5	14
9th	Alan Dempsey	3	5	14
9th	Thomas Freiermuth	3	5	14
12th	Jude Noonan	2	7	13
12th	Scott Matthew	2	7	13
12th	Paul Tandy	2	7	13
15th	Chris Mundell	3	3	12
15th	Trish Steele	3	3	12
17th	Callum Dickie	2	6	12
17th	Willie Wood	2	6	12
19th	Dave Wright	3	2	11
19th	Arun Panker	3	2	11
21st	Chris Rudkin	2	5	11
21st	Steve Mahon	2	5	11
23rd	Frank Waardenburg	2	4	10
24th	Matthew Wright	1	7	10
25th	Ann Marie Stopforth	1	6	9
25th	Paulo van Melsen	1	6	9
25th	Stephen Spencer	1	6	9
25th	Dean Lomax	1	6	9
26th	Shaun McCarthy	2	2	8
26th	Jeffrey Schuffelen	2	2	8
31st	Ken Passey	1	4	7
32nd	Paul Berridge	0	7	7
33rd	Jim Scrimgeour	1	3	6
34th	Frank Weston	1	0	3
35th	Philip Justice	0	0	0



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IN THE BACK

I don't know if they were all working at the time, but Stefan, Dave, Bas, Aisa, Isa and Toby all appeared behind the bar when my camera came out in the Poolbar; they know how to go XL.



Irish boxing legend Carl Frampton was on tour promoting the latest addition to his House of Jackal brand, Stablemate Whiskey, so his friend Derm Farrell took him to Molly Malone's, where he's played a few times, to meet Steven, who was more than happy to include Stablemate in Molly's extensive collection of Irish whiskeys.





The Backstage Bar was full with Argentinians watching football, but at least Steven had Rodaidh to talk to when he wasn't serving drinks.



Kendra will be hosting the Comedy Fusion nights in the Backstage Bar on Sundays 10th & 31st in March; more details on page 11.

I like Sven! He noticed that I hadn't been in H. Murray's for over a month!



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