

## Read All About It

We have continued to hit the press recently and have featured in many articles from near and far. We even had to turn down the opportunity to appear live on the news recently as we just couldn't fit in a trip to the studio in London. The articles have all been so positive and varied but it was great to see one particular piece promoting Tamworth as an ale destination. Tamworth really is a superb place for real ale. We were also mentioned in a 'Secret Gardens' list on Birmingham Live, which divulges some other great not-so-well-known spots to drink. Check it out by searching Google. Those Hop Yard seats are going to be even more demand now!



## Be Gin it to Win it!

For a chance to win a bottle of Tamworth Gin while supporting a good cause, raffle tickets are available from the new cafe in St Editha's church. Other great prizes have also been donated by other local businesses. Why not pop in and see the new pods created inside the church?



## Polo Shirts

Tamworth Tap National CAMRA Pub of the Year commemorative polo shirts are now on sale, and it's been great seeing these pop up all over the place when we've been out and about. These limited edition keepsakes are in quality soft stretch fabric, navy blue with gold embroidery detail. They are available in a range of sizes, yours for £17.50.

Treat yourself or they make a perfect present!



## Writing Group

For those of you who don't know, we have a writing group at the Tap. They are a small, friendly group of like-minded people who meet in the Top Tap on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7pm. If this appeals to you, feel free to join them. All welcome.

## Save the date:

Here's advance warning of some events which are likely to be very popular!

Bat Watch ~ [Wednesday 2nd August](#)

Songwriters in the Round ~ [Friday 11th August](#)

Only Elton ~ [Saturday 26th August](#)

Tamworth Beer Festival ~ [7th-9th September](#)

Comedy Night ~ [Tuesday 12th September](#)



June 2023

## HOT OFF THE PRESS!

We've just had the fantastic news that, following on from our recent branch award, we have now been judged overall CAMRA Staffordshire Pub of the Year for the third consecutive year! We're over the moon!!!

It means that we go on to the regional finals where the competition really hots up. There are some really great pubs at this level, but rest assured, the team will be working as hard as ever to progress further in the competition and make you all proud to be Tappers!



## WHAT'S ON Our June line-up ...

- Tamworth Folk Group ~ [Friday 2nd, 7:30pm](#), Top Tap
- Sunday Session with The Hat Tricks & Mark Sharp Trip ~ [Sunday 4th, 4pm](#)
- CAMRA Branch Meeting ~ The Duke, Sutton ~ [Monday 5th, 7:30pm](#)
- Paint & Sip ~ [Wednesday 7th, 7pm](#)
- Ali Gilbert New Single Launch ~ [Thursday 8th, 8pm](#)
- Aethelfest ~ [Saturday 10th - Sunday 11th](#)
- Craig Gould End of Tour Gig ~ [Friday 9th, 7:30pm](#) (ticketed event)
- Sunday Session with Rob Taylor ~ [Sunday 11th, 4pm](#)
- Creative Writing Group ~ [Wednesday 14th, 7pm](#)
- Tamworth Folk Group ~ [Friday 16th, 7:30pm](#), Top Tap
- Friday Night Live with Dean Dovey ~ [Friday 16th, 8pm](#)
- Sunday Session with Rob Taylor ~ [Sunday 18th, 4pm](#)
- Cheese Tasting with Mary from the Dairy ~ [Sunday 18th](#), time TBC
- Paint & Sip ~ [Wednesday 21st, 7pm](#)
- Summer Solstice Event ~ [Saturday 24th - Sunday 25th](#)
- Sunday Session with Tame Delta Blues Band ~ [Sunday 25th, 4pm](#)
- Creative Writing Group ~ [Wednesday 28th, 7pm](#)
- Friday Night Live with Ricky Booth ~ [Friday 30th, 8pm](#)

## Summer of Pub

We have two mini festivals coming your way this month...

Aethelfest (10-11th) will celebrate Tamworth's unsung warrior queen of Mercia. We'll have themed ales, mead to drink in by the glass or take away by the bottle, and the Vikings and the Saxons have promised to call in after their battle has ceased in the castle grounds. There's plenty going on the castle too including talks and tasting. Check out their page for details.

Summer Solstice Fest (24th & 25th) will see a selection of summer themed ales on the bar over the weekend, with live music from a number of acts including the Tame Delta Blues Band on the Sunday. We will be having a summer wreath making workshop (hopefully outside) and we are hoping for an appearance from a local Morris Dancing group on the Sunday too.

Search for 'Summer of Pub' on the CAMRA website for details of other events both near you and also further afield.



## Mild in May

We celebrated CAMRA's Mild in May campaign by ensuring that there was at least one mild on throughout the month. It was a big hit with our mild lovers, who were treated to a wide variety of their top tittle. Among others, highlights included a rare appearance in cask from Kernel with a 3.6% dark mild, Merlin's Thunder from Bang the Elephant, an exquisite coconut mild from Blue Monkey and of course everyone's favourite and Tap regular, Sarah Hughes Dark Ruby.



## Rail Ale

Thanks to the team for giving us some time away from the Tap to say hello to friends at this year's Barrow Hill Beer Festival. We had great beer and great company. It was the perfect opportunity to recruit a number of new breweries to spoil you all with. It was also lovely being spotted by keen pub tickers who have visited us since our last award.



## Song Writers in the Round

We held our quarterly Song Writers in the Round event last month and it was a wonderful occasion. The crowd were captivated by the performances. We'd like to thank the artists for sharing their inspiration and music with us. The next one is in August. See 'save the date' on the back page



## Nice to see you!

It was great to see visiting groups from other CAMRA branches last month including Redditch & Bromsgrove and a Birmingham contingent which featured on 'Birmingham Live'. This month we look forward to welcoming Telford & East Shropshire, South Yorkshire and Devon!



## Tinkle Those Ivories ...

You may have noticed that the much-loved piano has been reinstated in the Tap. It's been tuned and its new home is on the first floor (imagine us getting it up there!). If you can entertain and not cause pain, please ask for the key at the bar and tinkle those ivories. Timing must obviously be appropriate.



## Jessie's Pale - a very special ale

We had a very special ale on the bar a few weeks ago. 'Jessie's Pale', a 4.2% session IPA from Bristol Beer Factory, was brewed for one of our suppliers specially to raise money for Jessie, who is just 3 years old and fighting a rare bone cancer. It was purchased by generous landlords around the Midlands who wanted to contribute towards the cause. All profits go towards helping Jessie and the Small family. The ale lasted no time at all! Thank you all so much for contributing to such a worthy cause.

## CAMRA ...

Interested in joining CAMRA? There's plenty going on locally! Talk to a member of staff, or pick up a leaflet from CAMRA corner

## Coronation Weekend

We had a right royal knees up to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. Our royALE beer fest was a huge success and our very own specially brewed ales 'RoyALE' and 'Charlie's Ale' went down a treat, along with 12 other themed guest beers. The Tap looked splendid adorned with bunting and it was great to see the pub and Hop Yard buzzing. It certainly was a weekend to remember!



## Tam-Mirth Comedy Festival

As mentioned in the previous edition, we are hosting one of the many events in the coming Tam-Mirth Comedy Festival, and are excited to let you know that we have managed to secure Jo Enright (Phoenix Nights, I'm Alan Partridge, After Life) plus support acts. The event will take place on Tuesday 12th September and tickets cost £10. Details of how to purchase these will be announced soon.