



Story Telling

What a wonderful evening we all had at our Christmas storytelling event with Maria Credali Storyteller. It was nostalgic, fun and magical. You were an incredible audience - thanks so much for getting into the spirit and joining in; such impressive participation! Maria was delighted and told us, in all her years of performing, you were a stand-out crowd. Feedback was fabulous, so we plan to have more storytelling evenings this year. Watch this space.

Wine Tasting

You've been asking so here's the next one ... join us in the Top Tap on Thursday 8th February for an evening of wine tasting where you will get to sample a selection of wines from our menu. During the course of the evening you will be invited to taste a variety of wines including fizz, white, rose and red.

A bite-size platter of specially selected cheeses will accompany the wines, paired to complement each other. The Tap's own vintner will guide you through this informal and enjoyable evening, imparting her expertise. The cost for the evening is £30 per person. Please private message us directly to book places.



Sell A Cellarful

Our friends at Real Ale Finder have been mightily impressed by the beer turnover at the Tap. Their data has revealed that in 2023 we have used an incredible 217 different breweries and a whopping 1,357 nine-gallon casks, averaging just over 26 firkins a week. Our record this year was 35 casks in a week!

Winter Warmth Drop-in

We would like to remind you about one of the many wonderful services that Heart of Tamworth are offering at the moment ... their Winter Warmth Drop-in has started and will continue each Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday throughout the winter. If you, or somebody you know is struggling to stay warm this winter please join them at lunchtimes for a free bowl of soup, warm refreshments and a place to stay out of the cold. No need to book, just drop in between 11am and 2pm Wednesday to Friday at the Sacred Heart Community Centre, Silverlink Road, B77 2EA.

Barrel of Laughs

January blues? Not at the Tap! After the success of the last two, we are very much looking forward to our third 'Barrel of Laughs' comedy event at the Tamworth Tap featuring Scott Bennett, star of Live at the Apollo. Sorry guys, this sold out in about an hour but the good news is, we will be doing these nights regularly from now on.

Tap Times

January 2024



Review of the Year

What a year 2023 was! We have got to start by mentioning the pinnacle of course, which was achieving the highest and most coveted accolade for any real ale pub - CAMRA National Pub of the Year 2022. Just WOW! We then went on to win each stage of the competition for 2023 and are currently in the Final Four and awaiting the results to find out who is CAMRA National Pub of the Year 2023.

We had live music every week and brought back all of your favourites along with a whole host of new acts, including artists all the way from the USA. We had album launches and sell-out ticketed events with artists claiming they were awestruck by our setting and their surroundings.

Our twice monthly Paint & Sip events continue to sell out and our twice-monthly Writing Group continues to grow in popularity. We launched a Barrel of Laughs and every event has sold out within hours.

We re-started our film nights and had a hugely successful Laurel and Hardy event with Laughing Gravy (Birmingham



(continued overleaf)

WHAT'S ON Our January line-up ...

- Tamworth Folk Group ~ **Friday 5th, 7:30pm**, Top Tap
- Sunday Session with Abi Phillips ~ **Sunday 7th, 4pm**
- LST CAMRA Branch Meeting ~ **Monday 8th, 7:30pm**, Royal Oak, Stonnall
- Creative Writing Group ~ **Wednesday 10th, 7pm**
- CAMRA Presentation ~ **Friday 12th, 1pm** (early opening from 12pm)
- Sunday Session with Kerry Smyth ~ **Sunday 14th, 4pm**
- Barrel of Laughs Comedy Night - **Tuesday 16th, 7:30pm** (SOLD OUT)
- Paint & Sip ~ **Wednesday 17th, 7pm**
- Tamworth Folk Group ~ **Friday 19th, 7:30pm**, Top Tap
- Sunday Session with Sheena Vultaggio ~ **Sunday 21st, 4pm**
- Burns Night ~ **Thursday 25th**
- LST CAMRA Social ~ **Saturday 27th** (FULLY BOOKED)
- Sunday Session with Wooding ~ **Sunday 28th, 4pm**

Laurel and Hardy Fan Club).

We've had many photo and video shoots for artists from all walks of life.

We have continued traditions with our annual Wassail, Cherry Fest and Aethel Fest.

We have continued to focus on conservation issues with events like Bat Watch and projects which re-use waste including our spent grain.

We've had historic highlights including archaeology talks.

We have continued our links with the community with groups such as Tamworth and District Civic Society, The Peel Society, Tamworth Heritage Trust, Tamworth Council, Tamworth Castle, Tamworth Street Angels and the Lichfield, Sutton and Tamworth CAMRA branch.

We've hosted extremely popular and successful beer taste training days, Belgian beer tasting and cheese and wine events.

We've worked alongside and helped to raise for many charities including The Royal British Legion, St Giles, Heart of Tamworth, Age UK and many more.

George met the Prime Minister and was given the opportunity to not only represent the Tap, but also discuss issues affecting the licensed trade.

We had many, many ale fests and themed ale events which have attracted punters by the droves.

We've extended our keg range and now have up to 20 keg beers available at any one time as well as 8 real ales (around 26 on average a week, more during fests) 20+ real ciders, 50 bottled Belgian beers and countless craft cans.

We re-opened our kitchen and now offer an extremely popular bar bites menu as well as traditional pub snacks including homemade scotch eggs, sausage rolls and cobs with an impressive vegetarian option.

We increased our team size and have welcomed new members to Team Tap who have jumped on board with our vision and passion and have added their own uniqueness to the team.

We attended the CAMRA West Midlands Award Ceremony where George picked up his certificate for being a finalist for the West Midlands region in the Champion Beer of Britain competition in the New World IPA category for his Whopper.

We have continued to modify and enhance every last corner of the building and garden to provide the most comfortable and interesting experience to all who visit.

CAMRA branches from all over the UK have made the pilgrimage to the Tap and have flooded the town with their members, bringing a much welcome boost in trade to the area.

As the new year begins we would like to promise you that we will not stop evolving and changing to ensure that we continue to provide you with the best drinking experience possible with the highest of standards in every aspect of pub life with our main focus of course being a proper pint!

Wine Tasting ~ [Thursday 8th February](#)

Save the date: Songwriters in the Round ~ [Friday 10th February, 8:30pm](#)

Dark Ales Fest ~ [14th February](#)

FestivALE

You will be delighted to hear that we have some exciting news for you Tickers and Tappers. New for this year, we are stepping it up yet again on the ale front (our very favourite thing, obv!) and plan to bring you a special Ale Event every single month! We have themed beer days, ale festivals, take overs, collabs, one-offs and much more coming your way throughout the whole of 2024.

Watch this space to find out what's coming next. We are kicking off with a Scottish mini-fest to celebrate Burns Night at the end of the month – see below.

January FestivALE

What better way to kick off our new monthly series of FestivALEs than with a Burns Beer Fest? We will be bringing you a selection of ales from north of the border to raise a glass to Rabbie. Haggis will be on the menu too as well as a choice of fine scotch whisky and a suitably themed playlist. Slàinte Mhath!

Thank You!

Thank you for supporting everything we did in December. Whether it was one of our events - wreath making, story telling, the brass band wassail, Christmas paint and sip or our 6th birthday - you turned up in force! Thanks too for Christmas Day; it was incredible! We were packed and the atmosphere was amazing. We loved seeing so many of you all dressed up, in your finest or most fancy dress, enjoying a Christmas tittle in the Tap. We are extremely grateful for your kindness and thoughtfulness, the team were showered with gifts throughout the festive season.



Massive thanks also for your generosity and support on the charity front, your donations for the Pamper Hamper and Heart of Tamworth appeals were phenomenal.

Last of all, thanks for being you and for filling the Tap with positivity, joyfulness and friendliness, not just over the last few weeks, but always. Tappers, you're the best.

Sunday Sessions

We get lots of enquiries about these, so just a reminder that our Sunday Session takes place EVERY WEEK at 4pm. Our artists perform in the main bar, except in the warmer months, when the singers can be on stage in the Hop Yard. These afternoons are extremely popular, so make sure you arrive early to guarantee a seat.

Beanies

Our super stylish Tamworth Brewing Co beanie hats are the perfect thing to keep you warm this winter. They are on sale behind the bar priced at £10 each.

Ask a member of the team - they might part with one just for you!

