

Beer at Heart

Issue 42 | Summer 2025

FREE



Magazine for Heart of Staffordshire CAMRA and Beyond

Have You Tried Our Local Pubs?



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BIRD IN HAND

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Staffordshire
ST16 2AQ



Beer at Heart

Covering Stafford • Stone • Eccleshall • Penkridge • Gnosall and surrounding areas

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Thank You

to the advertisers, contributors, distributors & all branch members who helped produce this magazine, without you it would not have happened

CHEERS



Cover Photo: Karly Davies & Adam Caton

with the pub of the year awards for The Royal Oak, Church Eaton

View from the chair

In recent years there has been a decline in our active members, something that is a concern for the future of the branch.

If you think of a CAMRA member, what springs to mind? A man most certainly, maybe a retiree, someone in their golden years? I remember when looking at venues for a beer festival and one of the vendors assumed I was a member's son, even though I was in my early 30s!

The truth is many people care about good beer and supporting pubs, and we have had members, both past and present, of all ages, from all walks of life. We are all united in a single mission.

But what is needed is to put those feelings into action? In these difficult times more and more is being asked of us as an organisation. I am frequently contacted by business

owners needing support, but without active members the burden cannot be shared.


Although I have called it a burden some of our most important activities can be fun, have you considered volunteering to survey some of our numerous pubs? How about beer tasting panels? Scoring the beer you drink is another great way to get involved, it helps the branch determine which pubs make it into the Good Beer Guide and is easy to do using either on the Good Beer Guide App or the CAMRA website.

It is always great to hear from our members so please feel free to reach out and see how you can get involved today.

Kavan Wilkinson
Branch Chair
chair@hos.camra.org.uk

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 Amelja Claudia

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Meet The Fleet:



PROUDLY SHIPPED
FROM THE POTTERIES

Pub & Brewery News

In Bradley: *The Red Lion* has been acquired by Davenport's and refurbishment is due to start soon

In Church Eaton: *The Royal Oak* has been named as our branch Pub of the Year for 2025. They are now serving Batham's Bitter

In Gnosall: *The Royal Oak* has been taken over and is now trading as a restaurant and bar called *The Acorn*

In Moddershall: *The Boar Inn* has been named branch Summer pub of the season

In Penkridge: *The White Hart* underwent a six-figure refurbishment in April. Lyndsey Bullock has left *The Horse & Jockey* to run the Bridge Inn, Kingswinsford

In Seighford: Sadly, Mike Huntley, landlord of the *Holly Bush Inn* passed away in March after a short illness. His sister and partner have taken over.

In Stafford: *The Pickled Pig* has opened in Slater Street. It is reported that the *Stafford Constitutional Club* & *Stafford Rangers Club* no longer serve real ale. *The Shrewsbury Arms* will be closing the second week in June for refurbishment

In Stowe by Chartley: *The Cock Inn* closed its doors at the end of March

but has since re-opened under new management

In Yarlet: *The Greyhound* has undergone a transformation into a Bar and Grill and may be open by the time you read this

In Yarnfield: Local efforts to buy *The Labour in Vain* have faltered due to owners Stonegate overpricing the premises



Limestone Brewery
The Old Brewery, Mount Road,
Stone, ST15 8LL

lymestonebrewery.net

Their next seasonal brew will be *Steinka Stari* described as Icelandic Pale Ale. The name means 'Stone Thrower' in Icelandic.

They will be holding their annual vintage/classic car and bikes rally Noon-5pm on Saturday 9 Aug.

YOUR pub or brewery news could be on these pages in our next edition
new openings, new publicans, new beers, special events, beer festivals

We'd love to spread the word – both here and on our social media

Drop an email to editor@hos.camra.org.uk

CAMRA & Cask Marque collaborate

Drinkers can now search the CAMRA website for pubs with four and five-star Cask Marque ratings for beer quality and cellar hygiene.

CAMRA and Cask Marque are collaborating to give CAMRA website users data on which pubs have the highest Beer Quality and Cellar Hygiene ratings from Cask Marque.

Users can now filter searches to find pubs with top Cask Marque ratings, helping people find top quality pints of cask – which requires great care and passion not just in the brewing process, but when pubs serve to customers too.

CAMRA national chairman Ash Corbett-Collins said: “There’s nothing better than a pint of top-quality cask beer in a pub. That’s why we want to make the CAMRA website the go-to place to find your next pint. “We’re really pleased to partner with Cask Marque so that consumers can now search for pubs with high beer quality and cellar hygiene ratings, as well as mark favourite pubs, create and share interactive trips with friends and even tag your must-try beers to plan your perfect pub visit.”

Cask Marque executive director Paul Nunny said: “Great beer starts with great cellar

A screenshot of the CAMRA website search filters. The filters are organized into sections: Awards, Beer Quality rating, Cask Marque Beer and Cellar Hygiene rating, and Features. The 'Awards' section has a radio button for 'Good Beer Guide'. The 'Beer Quality rating' section has radio buttons for 'Any', '& Above', '& Above', and '& Above'. The 'Cask Marque Beer and Cellar Hygiene rating' section has radio buttons for 'Five star' and 'Four star'. The 'Features' section has radio buttons for 'Historic Interior', 'Community Owned/Run Pubs', and 'Pubs with Outstanding Conversions and Restorations'. There is a 'Show all' link at the bottom.

practices. The beer and cellar rating helps pub-goers find establishments that prioritise quality, just like a food hygiene rating does for your dining out.

“CAMRA’s addition of the rating to its website gives consumers more choice, helping beer lovers easily find pubs committed to quality cellar practices and the perfect pint.”

Find out more about
Cask Marque



Meet the Publican

Here we pose ten questions to **Philippa Smart & Jonathan Bryan, Co-owners and Directors of The Hollybush Inn, Seighford**



What inspired you to run a pub?

The Hollybush has been a part of our family and the community for generations. It's more than a business; it's a hub for the village. We wanted to preserve its charm, bring people together over great food, and create a space where everyone feels at home from home. Plus, there's something magical about running a 17th-century pub steeped in history

Why should people come to your pub?

We're all about serving the best home-cooked pub food in Staffordshire, from our famous Sunday carveries to hearty classics. Our warm and welcoming vibe, paired with a pint of perfectly poured ale, makes The Hollybush a place where memories are made. Locals and regulars love us, and we're working hard to make sure they always do

What will we find behind the bar to delight our tastebuds?

We've got a well-stocked bar featuring locally brewed ales, a growing selection of gins, and all your favourite tipples. Whether you fancy a crisp cider, a smooth stout, or a cheeky gin and tonic, we've got you covered. We're always on the lookout for new additions, so there's something fresh to try every visit

Do you have any regular or occasional events?

Yes! Our Sunday carveries are legendary, and we hold quiz nights, live music evenings and The King of Hearts charity event to bring the community together. We also love celebrating events like Easter, VE Day and Bank Holidays with themed menus and activities for families

What are the best & worst parts of the job?

The best? Seeing happy customers enjoying their meals and drinks, and knowing we're a cornerstone of the community.

The worst? It's a tie between the late nights and the occasional pot washing shift – but hey, it's all part of the job, and we wouldn't have it any other way

You have some time off – what do you do?

Free time? Free time is rare, but when we get it, we enjoy long walks in nature, experimenting with new recipes, and spending time with family. It's important to recharge to keep the pub running smoothly

Any funny moments you can share?

One time, a regular walked in dressed as a giant chicken for a stag do. He ordered a pint, sat down, and acted like it was the most normal thing in the world. The whole pub was in stitches particularly when he needed to go to the gents toilet!

What three words best describe your pub?

Welcoming. Delicious. Historic.

How could CAMRA (local & national) help support you?

Promoting local pubs like ours through features like this is a fantastic start! CAMRA could also help by encouraging more people to explore village pubs, supporting local beer festivals, and advocating for fair pricing on ales to help small pubs thrive

Tell us your best (or worst) pub joke

What was Postman Pat called when he was made redundant?
PAT

If you run a pub in the Heart of Staffordshire area and would like to take part in a future 'Meet the Publican' feature, please get in touch: webmaster@hos.camra.org.uk

Great British Beer Festival Returns

Following a short break in 2024, The Great British Beer Festival returns this summer and will take place at the NEC, Birmingham between 5–9 August.

The NEC Birmingham is the UK's largest events space, and with convenient transport links it's an ideal venue for the first Great British Beer Festival in the West Midlands since 1983

Its highly anticipated return will celebrate the best of UK brewing and beyond. The new, larger location provides the opportunity for a more expansive festival with even more variety of beer, cider and perry.

With guaranteed great beer, cider, perry and cocktails, festivalgoers can also enjoy a terrific range of food, live music and classic pub games. For those wanting to learn more about their favourite drinks, the Discovery Bar, in partnership with Brewser, will be working along breweries from across the UK and Ireland such as Thornbridge and Wilderness Brewery, to provide fun, educational and informal tastings every day.

CAMRA members can purchase their tickets with a significant discount. For information on discounted tickets, visit the website: greatbritishbeerfestival.co.uk

The Great British Beer Festival 2025 is proud to be working alongside many partners. Breweries on board are Thornbridge, Greene King, Harvey's, Siren Craft Brew, Oakham, Woodforde's, Batemans, Ossett Brewery, Brains, Theakston, Green

Duck, Attic Brewery, Purity, Black Sheep, Beartown, Brew 61, Iron Pier, Birmingham Brewery, Dorking and St Austell.



Alongside these breweries, other partners are the Society of Independent Brewers and Associates (SIBA), British Beer and Pub Association (BBPA), Cask Marque, JD Wetherspoon, Transport for West Midlands, National Express, Brewser, Beer52, and Mr Porky.

A temporary campsite at the NEC Birmingham will also be set up, in partnership with the Caravan and Motorhome Club, so attendees will have the option to stay close to the heart of the action.

CAMRA's prestigious Champion Beer of Britain 2025 competition will also return to the festival this year. The overall winners will be announced on the first day and beers in each winning category will be available to try while stocks last.



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Branch Pub of the Year



Following a vote and judging by branch members, The Royal Oak in Church Eaton has been named as the Heart of Staffordshire CAMRA Pub of the Year

Listed in the CAMRA Good Beer Guide the pub stands out for its range of five real ales together with a traditional cider, keg offerings and a wide variety of wines and spirits. Adding to the appeal, the pub offers hearty, homecooked meals, with the occasional street food vendor paying a visit. It's a pub where no one leaves hungry, thirsty, or disappointed.

Threatened by closure, the pub was saved by a village consortium that wouldn't let it go without a fight. Now firmly in their care, the pub has been revitalised by licensee Adam Caton and his partner Karly Davies. The pair took over in the summer of 2024 and have spent the past ten months pouring their energy into transforming The Royal Oak into what every village pub should be – the beating heart of its community.

At The Royal Oak, the idea of “pub life” is about more than just pouring pints. Community and charity are at the heart of what The Royal Oak is about. As well as a hub for committees, groups, sports teams and countless lively conversations that make a pub feel like home, the pub raises thousands of pounds for charity each year. The highlight of these efforts is the annual Oakfest music festival which combines the two universal joys of life: music and beer. This year's festival is on 30 August

At the awards presentation on 23 April, branch chair Kavan Wilkinson remarked on the pub's achievements, saying “Pub of the year is about more than just beer, it is a mix of things, such as community values; something The Royal Oak has in abundance.

continued...

The Royal Oak, Church Eaton

"It is thanks to this community that The Royal Oak is still here, stepping in when the pub needed it the most. Credit is also due to Adam, Karly and the staff for their hard work over the last 10 months."

The Royal Oak goes on to the next round of judging to find the National CAMRA Pub of the Year. Whatever the outcome, its status as a cherished community asset is already assured.

High Street
Church Eaton ST20 0AJ

tel: 01785 823078

royaloakchurcheaton.co.uk

facebook: The Royal Oak

instagram: royaloakchurcheaton



Heart of Staffordshire CAMRA Pub of the Year 2025



The Royal Oak, Church Eaton

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and Homecooked Food
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The Red Lion Great Chatwell

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pub grub set in the South Staffs
countryside



email: redlionfreehouse@gmail.com
facebook: thelionroarsagain
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ALL I REALLY NEED THESE
DAYS, IS SPECSAVERS,
BOOTS AND A GREGGS

YES, LIFE'S ALL SPECS AND
DRUGS AND SAUSAGE ROLLS



Get involved with the branch

There are many ways that you can get more involved with CAMRA's activities; from scoring beer, joining our committee or simply coming along to one of our social outings

Beer Scoring

Scoring real ales & registering that score using the CAMRA website or the Good Beer Guide App is one of the easiest ways as a CAMRA member you can help out. Members rating the quality of real ale served in pubs are helping the branch decide which pubs should be included in CAMRA's Good Beer Guide.

Branch Meetings

Pop along to one of our branch meetings to see what goes on in our branch. These are usually once a month and all CAMRA members are welcome to attend. Don't worry if you haven't been to a meeting before, we're a friendly bunch and are always happy to see new faces.

Socials

Our branch organises regular socials, both in our branch area and further afield. If you want to meet other real ale and pub enthusiasts, you'll be made very welcome.

Committee Roles

As we are all volunteers, committee members would welcome any help with their role from other members. If you'd like to take a more active role in the workings of the branch come along to a branch meeting to discuss it, or contact one of the committee members listed on the website. We are a friendly, inclusive bunch and new ideas and perspectives are always welcome.

Pub News

A small but important job everyone in the branch can do is to keep us up-to-date with what is happening with all the pubs and clubs in our branch area. Just email any committee member with the details.

Beer Festivals

Running the festival is a big job and the only way it can happen is if as many people help out as possible. If you'd like to help with our next one, get in touch.

NEC BIRMINGHAM
5-9 AUGUST

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50 years ago

Paul Mudge looks back on the second year of CAMRA in Stafford and Stone

With a busy time since the Branch's Inaugural Meeting in July 1974, Stafford and Stone's active members were ready for their first Annual General Meeting after about nine months and it was held on the evening of Thursday 1st May 1975 in the branch headquarters, Stafford's Railway Inn.



The licensing justices had granted an extension and the business was mainly "reviewing the first year's progress and electing the next year's committee". Phil Green, Rod Tolley, Andy Flower and Richard Coakes were replaced as Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer by John Bennett, Steve Pitt, Dave Beardmore and Paul Mudge who remained custodian of the branch funds until 2000.

A fortnight later at The Vaults, landlord Derek Anning held a "Uttoxeter Taster Evening, a meeting to test support for a CAMRA branch in the Uttoxeter area". This was successful and with the "Uttoxeter Inaugural"

meeting arranged for Wednesday 9th July 1975 members were invited to "Come along to the Vaults, Uttoxeter and witness a new group being born".

On Bank Holiday Monday 26th May Stafford and Stone branch held "Anchors Away" at the Anchor, High Offley "to launch this idyllic canal-side retreat as a full time pub" noting that it had been "weekends only".



The "variety of real ales served on the lawn", actually under a marquee, by the branch were Bitter from Ansells, Thwaites and Wem, both Bitter and Mild from Banks's and Burtonwood as well as Pedigree and Owd Rodger from Marstons.

The June 1975 Branch Diary had a "Pick of the Month!" of five pubs "recommended, not only worth a visit but more importantly they need our support". They were the Royal Oak at High Offley (Joules), the Railway in

continued...

Eccleshall (Wem) where *"turn over on Mild has been slow recently and could do with a little boost from CAMRA members"* and in Stafford the Joiners, the Unicorn and the White Lion with, in vain, *"these last two need support to prevent possible demolition to make way for the Stafford ring road"*.

Concern that *"Springfield Bitter could be leaving Stafford"* prompted an *"S.O.S. Save Our Springfield"* campaign by the branch and in July *"after meeting brewery representatives we are hoping to stop this"*. Springfield Bitter was brewed by Bass Charrington at the M&B Wolverhampton Brewery. It was Stafford's biggest selling cask conditioned beer as a result of Stafford brewer Eley's and its 150 pubs having been taken over by Butlers of Wolverhampton in 1928.

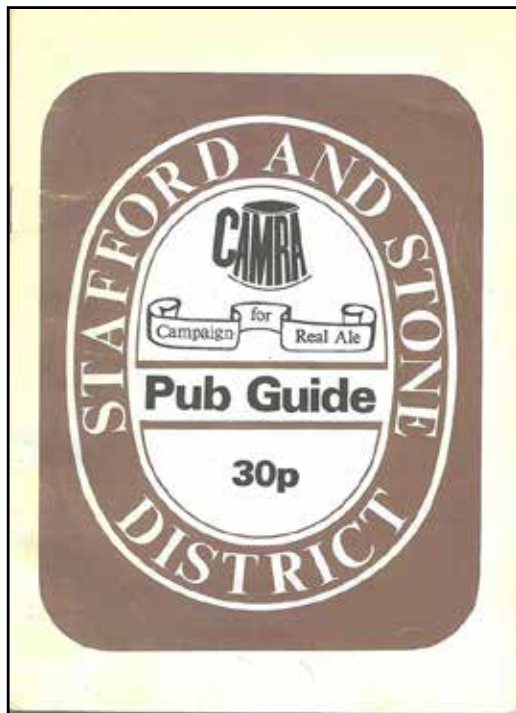
"The only draught Bass in the town" was stocked at the Unicorn, Lammascote Road where a branch *"social"* was held on the evening of Wednesday 25th July.

The Stafford and Stone District Pub Guide, priced at 30p, was launched at Stafford's Vine Hotel (Banks's) on Thursday 21st August 1975.

Unusually for CAMRA it was *"our branch's guide to **all** pubs in our area"* with the first page explaining that *"CAMRA is fighting to preserve traditional beer and traditional pubs, but because we think everyone is entitled to choose what to drink and where to drink it we have included an entry for each of the 167 houses in the area"*. The branch repaid £205 loaned by sixteen members towards the printing

costs of the guide by the end of the year.

Looking back at the second AGM in May 1976 Chairman John Bennett *"singled out the local pub guide and the retention of Springfield Bitter in Stafford as the **main successes** of the branch during the year"* and it was noted that *"Stafford & Stone was a small branch but had a reliable cadré of keen and dedicated members"*. Anchors Away *"was judged to be a great success although the branch lost money"*, £16.67½ which was mainly from hired glasses going missing.



Brewing Heritage at Risk

Britain's brewing heritage is at risk from climate change, new research commissioned by British Beer & Pub Association (BBPA) and Zero Carbon Forum reveals

The UK Brewing Sector Risk and Resilience report, commissioned by the British Beer & Pub Association (BBPA) and the Zero Carbon Forum, outlines the serious threat climate change poses to British brewing, particularly the production of barley and hops—core ingredients in beer. Authored by sustainability consultancy 3Keel, the report warns that increasingly hotter, drier summers and wetter autumns are reducing both the yield and quality of these crops. Without urgent action, the industry risks increased reliance on imported ingredients and potential supply chain disruption.

Key recommendations include the adoption of climate-resilient crop varieties, improved irrigation, and regenerative farming techniques. However, these solutions require significant government funding and sector-wide cooperation. The report emphasises that collective action from brewers, farmers, and policy-makers is essential to build resilience and protect domestic crop production.

Climate change could also lead to crops being prioritised for food rather than brewing, threatening jobs and the future of British beer. Traditional

British hop varieties, critical to the cask beer industry, face particular risk due to increased flooding and heat.



BBPA chief executive Emma McClarkin described the report as a clear warning, urging all stakeholders to unite in preserving the UK's brewing heritage. Zero Carbon Forum director Bob Gordon echoed this, stressing that challenges of this scale demand joint action. Industry bodies like the Maltsters Association and British Hop Association welcomed the report, acknowledging the global pressures facing growers and affirming the UK's potential leadership role in sustainable hop production. The report ultimately calls for decisive, collaborative measures to safeguard the future of British brewing.

This article is an abridged version of the article '*Climate change threat to barley and hop harvests*' by Timothy Hampson which can be found in *What's Brewing* on the CAMRA website

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On the Buses: 841

Back on the 841, Paul Dykta takes us to Hixon and back, via Uttoxeter

Today we boarded the 12:10 bus at Gaol Square with a plan to have lunch at Hixon before moving on. A pleasant ride took us to the Bank House in Hixon.



After sampling the beer, we opted to eat in the restaurant area instead of the bar, as there was more room and no difference in price. Though it wasn't cheap (compared to typical pub grub), it was excellent, to say the least. I opted for the pork belly, while the other half had a pasta dish. I was then talked into having a pudding, which put my plan of having a couple more beers in jeopardy.

The plan had been to stay until the bus that would get us to our next pub at 15:58, just in time for opening. However, we changed plans and caught the next bus, riding it to Uttoxeter and then back to the Cock Inn at Chartley.

We arrived a little early at 15:45, so we took a stroll around the churchyard to see if there was anyone we knew (there wasn't). That done, we

headed to the Cock at 16:05 (didn't want to seem too keen), only to find the doors shut and be told by someone in the car park that the pub had closed and would not be opening again in the near future. (*it's now open again - ed*)



We now had a 45-minute wait for the next bus back. The answer? Walk. So we did - back to Hixon in 15 minutes. We never went back into the Bank House. Instead, we caught the bus again and decided to get off near the Knot and Plough for a pint.



Unfortunately, it was only one, as the

continued...

beer wasn't at its best. Now I understand that all pubs eventually reach the end of a barrel, but it was a shame both ales were off today. In fact, I felt the need to ask whether the ales were cask or not – I was assured they were

After a good look around, I must say the carvery looked very good. But buying two meals out in one day is a bit much for me!

So, being close to home—just a mile and a bit—we decided to walk back. All in all, it was a nice day in the country: lots of exercise but only two pints. Remember, you can always carry on to Uttoxeter. Just be sure to check carefully where each bus is going, as the route varies at certain times!

Check the CAMRA website for pub opening times as well as bus timetables as they can both change according to the day

If you have a favourite jaunt on public transport and would like to share it in a future issue, please get in touch

by email to
editor@hos.camra.org.uk



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Just for Fun

Answers at the foot of P24

Wot 3 words lead you to a Heart of Staffordshire watering hole ?

- A: myths and crew
- B: prior mental boat
- C: card for films

Can you name this pub from the sign alone?



It was a pub but now it's a Pub no More – can you name it?



Solve these cryptic pubs

- A: Servant's signal in the mansion (7,4)
- B: Anoint in triplicate (5,6)
- C: Wild animal's refuge for drinkers (4,3)

A bear walks into a bar and says "hello.....can I have a pint please?"
"Sure" says the barman "but why the long paws?"

Two guys walk into a bar. The third one ducks!

People who have a 'local' rate themselves as significantly happier, and have more close friends



Let's talk about it at the pub
www.camra.org.uk/wellbeing



The Labologists Society

Do you remember Dawson's?

Today, often very little remains of a cherished local brewery; perhaps they'd been acquired by a rival, the pubs sold off and the buildings demolished. All that's left is the vague recall of a name or maybe just a particular beer. However, if we're lucky, perhaps a mirror, advertisement or a few labels may survive, like this one from Dawson's Princess Royal Brewery which was acquired by Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries and closed in 1952.



The hobby of collecting beer labels certainly pre-dates the formation of the Labologists Society by many years; there were individual collectors active in the early 20th century, and during both World Wars soldiers posted abroad or to camps miles from their home towns sometimes soaked the labels off bottles of the local brew as mementos of where they'd been stationed. The term "Labology" was



coined in the mid-1950s, as a publicity stunt by Guinness Exports Ltd. to promote their overseas sales. Guinness shipped its beers all over the world and the marketing director, Col. Fawcett, had the idea of a "Bottle Drop". In 1954 50,000 bottles were dropped in the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans, each containing a greeting and a card to return with the date and place it was found. The sender received a personal reply with a Guinness label, a small metal leprechaun, and the legend of the Blarney Stone.

Four years later in 1958 a keen label collector contacted Col. Fawcett about setting up a "Label Collecting Society". Guinness Exports saw an opportunity to enhance its marketing and offered to promote the hobby and the Society. In 1959 - Guinness's Bi-centenary year, another bottle drop was organised with 150,000 bottles dropped in the North Atlantic.

continued...

Each bottle contained a scroll from "King Neptune" promoting Labology as a hobby, a gold foil Extra Foreign Extra Stout Bi-Centenary label and a message urging the finder to write to Guinness Exports for a badge.

Eventually Guinness's interest waned and the members assumed the running of the Society. Today we are independent and believe we are oldest beer-related collecting society in the world. With the proliferation of new breweries in recent years we are interested in contemporary labels as well as the older examples and the widening interest in traditional beer,

prompted by CAMRA, means that the Society now encompasses brewery research as well as collecting beer labels.

We promote our hobby through our website (www.labology.org.uk), a quarterly full colour newsletter and a Facebook group, so, if you're interested in Labels, Brewery History, Design, Social History or just Grandad's Tiple then why not join us?

email: members@labology.org.uk
for more details

Dr Steve Baker
The Labologists Society



CAMRA Award Winning Pub

The Swan Inn

WHISTON

Hannah, Paul & the team invite you to visit the The Swan Inn at Whiston, CAMRA Award Winning Pub nestled down a country lane near Penkrudge and a popular stop off point for CAMRA members, cyclists, walkers and the local farming community.

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- Campervans welcome

Just for Fun Answers:
A: Chetwynd Arms (Brocton) B: Metropolitan Bar (Stafford) C: Clifford Arms (Great Haywood)
Pub No More: Crown Inn (Yarlet) Pub Sign: The Green Man (Millwich)
Cryptic Pubs: A: Butler's Bell (Stafford) B: Three Crowns (Stone) C: Boar Inn (Moddershall)

Community Pub Hero Finalists 2025

Just as we were going to press with the last issue, it was announced that the Bird in Hand, Stafford was one of four finalists in the Community Pub Hero Awards 2025

Since arriving at the 'Bird' in 2017, Terry and Dee (pictured below) have supported the community and many charities. The pub offers its function room for free to several charities and community groups. A registered Safe Place, the pub also works closely with Street Pastors to help keep the community safe.



Manager Terry Cope said "We are extremely proud to be a finalist in the Community Pub Hero Awards. People from all over Stafford, and further afield, have told us how much this pub means to them, and we are delighted that this has been recognised not only by our local MP, but with a national award nomination".

The awards are arranged by the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Beer, and the Bird was nomi-

nated by local MP Leigh Ingham, after suggestions from residents.

The Community Pub Hero Awards highlight how pubs are far more than places to socialise over a drink – they are lifelines for their communities. From funding life-saving equipment to keeping grassroots sports alive and leading the way in sustainability, these pubs exemplify the true spirit of giving back.

Unfortunately, The Bird in Hand didn't come away from the awards ceremony at the Houses of Parliament on the 5 March with a win, but I'm sure you'll agree being one of the top 4 Community Pub Heroes out of the hundreds of entries is a great achievement.

The Bird in Hand
1 Victoria Square ST16 2AQ
facebook: [thebirdinhandstafford](https://www.facebook.com/thebirdinhandstafford)



The Bird in Hand, Stafford

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Keep in Touch

We endeavour to contact all our members regularly via email with details of what's happening in our branch area.

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*A fine beer may be judged with only one sip,
but it's better to be thoroughly sure*

Czech Proverb

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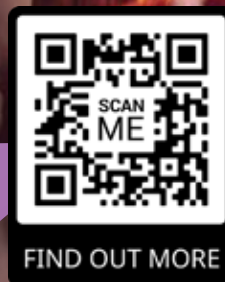
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