MATILDA BAY BREWERY'S BACK

BY ELLE CECIL

AFTER a several-decades-long hiatus, the reinvented Matilda Bay Brewery has opened in Healesville.

Originally founded by Phil Sexton and friends in 1983 in Fremantle, Western Australia, Matilda Bay Brewery was taken over by Carlton United Breweries in 1990.

Phil is now back with his son and head brewer Harry in a sustainably powered brewery, producing small batch craft beer.

Outside of lockdown, the brewery is open seven days a week. The brewpub is complete with a welcoming bar and lots of weeknight activities, selling their original craft beer and supporting local artists, producers and brewers. Weekends allow for brewery tours through the brand new stainless tanks and facilities, with the opportunity to sample the freshest beer possible.

Head of Marketing at Matilda Bay Brewery, James Aris, says the business takes pride in sticking true to its roots and core values.

"What drives us above all else is brewing great beer that stands the test of time. Back in the eighties, that meant brewing different beers that Australians hadn't been able to try due to big breweries controlling the market and supplying just a few lagers," James explains.

"Fast forward to today and you'll find a kaleidoscope of beers, from breweries big and small, in every bottle shop - as brewers race to pursue fads and novelties, Matilda Bay is back to create beer with naturally amazing flavour. We'll be remastering our greatest hits; beers that were brewed to stand the test of time, and creating future classics using time-honoured techniques and just four natural ingredients."

Matilda Bay takes sustainability very seriously, with the

brewery powered by 248 solar panels on the roof and relying on their sustainable energy sources since January 2021. The spent grain from the brewery is fed to local cattle and Matilda Bay proudly supports innovative local renewable energy causes such as Healesville CoRE.

The brewery is planning to bring Oktoberfest to the Yarra Valley in November, restrictions permitting. Initially delayed due to Covid, Oktoberfest celebrates the best of the traditional festival in Munich, Germany. A weekend of Bavarian-style celebrations will run from Friday November 12 to Sunday 14 November. Attendees will be able to sample the full Matilda Bay range as well as small batch, limited brew and Munich-style Oktoberbrau. A variety of entertainment will be on display all weekend, including local musicians and a traditional Oompa Loompa band.

Matilda Bay Brewery products are sold at the brewery itself and at all good pubs and bottle shops around Victoria. For more information, phone (03) 5957 3200 or visit www.matildabay.com.

STOP BY AT MATILDA BAY BREWERY IN HEALESVILLE, THE NEW HOME FOR AUSTRALIA'S ORIGINAL CRAFT BREWER.

Back in 1983 Matilda Bay launched with a mission to prove there was life beyond lager; to wake up drinkers to what great beer, brewed properly, could be. It would be fair to say it birthed the craft movement, brewing now classic beers like Redback and dark lager Dogbolter.

After parting ways with Matilda Bay in the 90s, original founder Phil Sexton is back in charge, on a mission to rebuild Matilda Bay, with a new brewery and pub in Healesville on the site where Giant Steps Winery used to occupy.

Head Brewer Harry Sexton, Phil's son, and the brewing team are busy reinventing their greatest hits, and launching a couple of new ones too, taking advantage of the mountain water and pristine environment.

Complete with an enormous welcoming bar and lots of weeknight activities, supporting local artists, producers and brewers. On weekends you'll be able to experience brewery tours through the brand-new stainless tanks, and sample the freshest beer possible.

MATILDA BAY
EST. 1983

SHOP ONLINE @ MATILDABAY.COM/SHOP
FOR DETAILS ON BREWERY TOURS VISIT WEBSITE

MATILDABAY.COM
03 5957 3200
336 MAROONDAH HWY
HEALESVILLE VIC 3777
@MATILDABAYBREWERY

OPENING HOURS
MON TO FRI 11.30AM – LATE
SAT & SUN 8.30AM – LATE

12-14 NOV

OKTOBERFEST

BRINGING EUROPE TO THE YARRA VALLEY!

A weekend of Bavarian-style celebration from Friday 12th to Sunday 14th November, sampling the full Matilda Bay range and our small batch, limited brew, Munich-style Oktoberbräu.

Entertainment all weekend including a traditional Oompa Band and local musicians.

TICKETS $40

→ INCLUDES YOUR LIMITED EDITION STEIN GLASS AND A BEER.
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