Kingston Single Malt Society

www.kingstonsinglemaltsociety.comA social club for the appreciation of Single Malt Whisky since 1998JANUARY 25th, 2016VOLUME 9; NUMBER 7





This evening's menu celebrating the 257th Anniversary of Robbie Burns Birthday - BENROMACH PEAT SMOKE PHEONOL LEVEL 66PPM DISTILLED 2005 BOTTLED 2014 LCBO 350006 | 700 mL bottle Price: **\$81.50** Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch Single Malts 46.0% Alcohol/Vol.

- BEN NEVIS 10 YEARS OLD LCBO 432281 | 700 mL bottle Price: **\$81.00** Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch Single Malts 46.5% Alcohol/Vol.

- BUNNAHABHAIN ISLAY 12-YEAR-OLD SINGLE MALT VINTAGES 250076 | 750 mL bottle, **Price: \$86.95**, Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey 46.3% Alcohol/Vol.

- OLD BALLANTRUAN THE 'PEATED MALT' SINGLE MALT SCOTCH VINTAGES 419499 | 700 mL bottle Price: **\$99.95** Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey 50.0% Alcohol/Vol.

<u>MENU</u>

<u>Pre-dinner toast to Robbie Burns</u> <u>Nosing</u>: ROBERT BURNS (introduced by: Nick Ranson)

<u>2nd Nosing</u>: BENROMACH ORGANIC (introduced by: Conrad Falkson) <u>Appetizer</u>: Smoked Salmon Belly, Pickled Vegetables, Creme Fraiche

<u>3rd Nosing</u>: BENROMACH PEAT SMOKE (introduced by: Elsabe Falkson) <u>Soup</u>: Traditional Scotch Broth

<u>4th Nosing</u>: BEN NEVIS 10 YEARS OLD (introduced by: John Leighton)

5th Nosing: BUNNAHABHAIN 12 YEAR OLD MALT' SINGLE MALT (introduced by: Bill Gorham) <u>Entree</u>: Traditional Haggis, Roast Beef, Horseradish Pan Juice, Baby Root Vegetables, & Mashed Potatoes

<u>6th Nosing</u>: OLD BALLANTRUAN 'PEATED MALT' (introduced by: Sylvain Bouffard) <u>Dessert</u>: Cranachan

COST OF THE MALTS

- **ROBERT BURNS ARRAN SINGLE MALT** VINTAGES 981084 | 700 mL bottle **Price \$44.95** Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Single Malt Scotch 40.0% Alcohol/Vol.

- **BENROMACH ORGANIC** VINTAGES 049420 | 700 mL bottle **Price: \$ 86.98** Spirits, Scotch Whisky, 43.0% Alcohol/Vol.

Results of the GLENFIDDICH 1963 ORIGINAL December Raffle

The winner of the bottle was Joe Splinter a guest of our very own Gavin Wood. A total of ^{\$}320 was raised. Thank you everyone!

Clothes for Kids

Led by Gavin Wood the auction of the heels from our December dinner raised \$509. The money was donated to "Clothes for Kids". The fund helps to ensure approximately 2500 children receive essential winter clothing.



Winners of Gifts from Mrs. Claus (aka Lana Di Fazio) Pat Heffernan, Bruce Malcolm, Conrad Falkson, John Leighton, Leonard MacKenzie, Tom McCulloch, & Nick Ranson

Explain about ... Burns Night

http://whiskyforeveryone.blogspot.com/2010/01/explain-about-burns-night.html

Burns Night is an annual festival that celebrates the life and works of Scottish poet and lyricist Robert Burns (also known as Rabbie to his friends) and has a strong association with whisky. Burns is widely regarded as Scotland's national poet and the festival has become Scotland's unofficial national day. It is celebrated on January 25th, the date of Burns' birth. Burns Night has a rich heritage in Scottish culture and combines two of the nation's favourite pastimes, eating and drinking whisky, with the legendary poetry of Robert Burns.

Robert Burns was born in 1759 in the small town of Alloway, Ayrshire. The town is located two miles (3km) to the south of Ayr in the Lowland region of Scotland. The house where he was born is now the Burns Cottage Museum. Burns was tutored mostly by his father for his early education before starting formal schooling in 1772. His first attempt at poetry was in 1774 - it was entitled *O*, *Once I Lov'd A Bonnie Lass* and was inspired by his first love. He went on to write hundreds of poems and songs including famous works such as *Tam O'Shanter, My Love Is Like A Red, Red Rose* and *Auld Lang Syne*, which is traditionally sung around the English speaking world on New Year's Eve.

As time passed and Burns' work became more renowned, so did his reputation for liking whisky and women. His heavy drinking and adultery gained him notoriety and scorn within literary circles, although the quality and output of his works remained consistently high. His first illegitimate child was born in 1785 and he went on to father 12 children with four different women (although these totals are believed to both be higher!). He died on July 21 1796, aged just 37, of rheumatic fever that is believed to have been accelerated by a degenerative heart condition from his childhood. His final child was born two days later, on the day that he was buried with full civic and military honours. Burns' grave stands in a graveyard in Dumfries.

So how did Burns Night begin and what does it involve? It is believed that the first Burns Night took place over 200 years ago in 1801. This is less than five years after Burns' death and was celebrated by a group of scholars who were fans of his works. In the early days, it was seen as the perfect platform to celebrate Scotland and being Scottish, incorporating Burns' poetry, Scottish food (most notably haggis, neeps and tatties) and copious amounts of whisky. The popularity and celebrations grew year on year until we have the Burns Night that we know today.

The modern Burns Night supper has evolved over time but remains quintessentially (some would say, stereotypically) Scottish. The core of the supper is the haggis (a mixture of offal, cereal grains, oatmeal, herbs and spices wrapped in the lining of a sheep's stomach) and this is served with neeps and tatties (turnip/swede and potato). This can be proceeded by a soup based starter - the three most common are Scotch Broth (a thick soup that contains barley and anything else that you may have), Cullen Skink (a fish based chowder) or Cock-a-leekie soup (the clue is in the name - it's chicken and leeks, then prunes are added). Dessert can take any form (if you have space or haven't had a heart attack by this point!), with cheese, Cranachan (whipped cream, whisky, raspberries and oatmeal) or Clootie Dumpling (a cake made with dried fruit, condensed milk, spices and golden syrup, then cooked in a cloth or cloot in Gaelic) being the most popular. These are traditionally accompanied by whisky at every opportunity.

The main ceremonial part involves the reading of <u>Address</u> <u>To A Haggis</u> - a poem written by Robert Burns to celebrate Scotland and its national food. The haggis is bought in and placed on a table and then the reader performs the poem to the haggis and the crowd. This can be accompanied by bagpipes at larger events (as seen in the image, left). The final act of the poem is to slash the stomach membrane of the haggis to reveal its contents and for the reader to down a dram of whisky (occassionally, another dram can be poured over the steaming haggis). Then the rule is to toast the haggis, have a fun evening and drink whisky!

Other Burns Night facts ...

* Approximately 15 million people worldwide annually celebrate Burns Night.

* There are statues of Robert Burns in Central Park, New York and at Poet's Corner in Hyde Park, London.

* It is estimated that 70% of the UK's annual haggis consumption happens on or around Burns Night.

* Burns Night contributes a staggering £150 million to the Scottish economy each year.

* The poetry of Robert Burns have been translated in to almost every known language and have been used in the works of legendary figures such as Jimmy Hendrix and The Beatles.



www.whiskyadvocateblog.com <u>Whiskey of the Year Categories</u> <u>Craft Whiskey</u>: Dad's Hat Pennsylvania Rye, 45%, \$39 <u>American Whiskey</u>: John E. Fitzgerald Very Special Reserve 20 year old, 45%, \$300/375ml

Canadian Whisky: Crown Royal 75th Anniversary Blend, 40%, \$75 <u>Irish Whiskey</u>: Midleton Dair Ghaelach: Grinsell's Wood, 58.3%, \$270 <u>Japanese Whisky</u>: Hibiki Japanese Harmony, 43%, \$65 <u>World Whisky</u>: Spirit of Hven Sankt Claus, 53.2%, 975 SEK <u>Blended/Blended Malt</u>: Blue Hanger 11th Limited Release, 45.6%, £89 <u>Speyside Single Malt</u>: Tamdhu Batch Strength, 58.8%, \$88 <u>Islay Single Malt</u>: Ardbeg Supernova 2015 Release, 54.3%, \$160 <u>Highland Single Malt</u>: Dalmore 21 year old, 42%, \$530 <u>Lowlands and Campbeltown</u>: Springbank Sherry Wood 17yo, 52.3%, \$130 <u>Lifetime Achievement Awards</u>: Dennis Malcolm & Jim McEwan <u>Distiller of the Year</u>: MGP Ingredients



Whisky Magazine Awards Results

The finest products, companies and individuals were recognised at one of *Whisky Magazine*'s most prestigious awards ceremonies held in the Surgeons' Hall, Edinburgh on Friday 4 December 2015.

Whisky Magazine's managing editor, Rupert Wheeler, hosted a lunch for the Scotch whisky industry with guests making the journey from all across Scotland, including the Islands, to take part in the celebrations.

During the afternoon, three of the magazine's top awards were presented including Icons of Whisky Scotland 2016, Hall of Fame Scotland 2016 and Independent Bottlers Challenge 2015

Rupert Wheeler says: "This was my second year presenting these awards and I was delighted to see even more people attend this year. The event was extremely enjoyable and more importantly was a huge success. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our international panel of judges across the awards and a special mention to all of our sponsors."

ICONS OF WHISKY SCOTLAND 2016

Distiller of the Year Sponsored by Glencairn Crystal: Tomatin Distillery Highly Commended: Bruichladdich Distillery & Glenmorangie Company Brand Innovator of the Year Sponsored by Multi Packaging Solutions: Douglas Laing & Co

Highly Commended: Benromach Distillery

Visitor Attraction of the Year Sponsored by Christie's: Ardbeg Distillery Highly Commended: The Famous Grouse Experience

Craft Producer of the Year Sponsored by Wade: Ballindalloch Distillery Highly Commended: Strathearn Distillery

Master Distiller / Master Blender of the Year Sponsored by lain Burnett Chocolatier: Dr Bill Lumsden (The Glenmorangie Company) Highly Commended: James McTaggart (Arran Distillery) and Alan Winchester (The Glenlivet)

Distillery Manager of the Year Sponsored by Broxburn: Neil Cameron (Glenturret Distillery)

Highly Commended: Keith Cruickshank (Benromach Distillery Company) Scotch Whisky Brand Ambassador of the Year Sponsored by Procurus: Colin Dunn (Diageo plc) Highly Commended: Scott Adamson (Tomatin Distillery) and Jan Beckers (Douglas Laing & Co)

Visitor Attraction Manager of the Year: Stuart Cassells (The Famous Grouse Experience)

Highly Commended: John Carmichael (Ben Nevis Distillery) and Rikki Scott (Aberlour Distillery)

Multiple Outlet Retailer of the Year Sponsored by Loch Ness Water: Cadenhead's Whisky Shop

Highly Commended: Luvians Bottle Shop

Single Outlet Retailer of the Year: The Whisky Shop Dufftown Highly Commended: Gordon & MacPhail

Online Retailer of the Year: Royal Mile Whiskies (royalmilewhiskies.com)

Highly Commended: The Green Welly Stop (www.thegreenwellystop.co.uk) Travel Retailer of the Year: World of Whiskies (Edinburgh and Glasgow Airports)

Highly Commended: The Fly Nip Whisky Shop (Inverness Airport) Supermarket of the Year: Tesco Highly Commended: Sainsbury's For a full list of results including the shortlist, visit

www.iconsofwhisky.com/2016/scotland/

INDEPENDENT BOTTLERS CHALLENGE 2015

Winner Independent Bottler of the Year: Scotch Malt Whisky Society <u>Shortlis</u>t

Campbeltown Independent Bottler of the Year: Malts of Scotland Grain Independent Bottler of the Year: Master of Malt Highland Independent Bottler of the Year: Malts of Scotland Islands Independent Bottler of the Year: Master of Malt Islay Independent Bottler of the Year: Scotch Malt Whisky Society Lowland Independent Bottler of the Year: Sco: Celtic Whiskey Shop Speyside Independent Bottler of the Year: Malts of Scotland For a full list of results including medal winners, visit www.whiskymag.com/awards/ibc

HALL OF FAME SCOTLAND 2016

Inductee No.31: Peter Russell, Chairman, Ian Macleod Distillers Inductee No.32: Charlie Smith, Master Distiller, Ballindalloch Distillery For the complete list of inductees, visit http://halloffame.whiskymag.com Whisky Magazine Awards results are all available in Issue 132 of the magazine, out on 4 December 2015.

GLENMORANGIE ADDS MILSEAN TO PRIVATE EDITION LINE

19th January, 2016 by Amy Hopkins - http://www.thesp



Glenmorangie has released its first Scotch whisky extra matured in heavily toasted Portuguese red wine casks as part of the brand's Private Edition collection.

Glenmorangie Milsean has joined the Scotch brand's Private Edition range

Glenmorangie Mislean, which is Scots Gaelic for 'sweet things', is the seventh release in the Private Edition Series and follows the launch of Glenmorangie Tùsail in January last year.

The no-age-statement variant uses liquid first matured in ex-Bourbon casks and then further aged for a "number of years" in casks that previously held Portuguese wine.

Before the liquid was transferred from one cask to another, Dr Bill Lumsden, director of distilling and whisky experimentation at Glenmorangie, arranged for the wine casks to be charred, and as such "enhance the sweeter notes of Glenmorangie".

He said: "A glass of Glenmorangie Milsean transports me straight to an old-fashioned sweet shop with its sweet and spicy bouquet, with hints of sugar cane, ripe fruits and fudge.

"Extra-maturing Glenmorangie in heavily toasted red wine casks for the first time, has allowed us to create a whisky recalling a bygone era.

"I hope its deep tastes of cherries, angelica, candied orange peel and unusual intensity of caramelised fruits, will surprise and delight whisky aficionados and malt connoisseurs."

Bottled at 46% abv and non-chill-filtered, Glenmorangie Milsean is now available from whisky specialist retailers at an RRP of £75.99.

Glenmorangie adds a new whisky to its Private Edition range each year. Released in 2015, Glenmorangie Tùsail is created using rare Marrie Otter barley.



BILL LUMSDEN BEGINS TRAINING HIS SUCCESSOR

2nd December, 2015 by Melita Kiely -Glenmorangie's Dr Bill

Lumsden has confirmed he is training up the firm's head of maturing whisky stocks to be his successor, but insists he has no plans to leave any time soon. Dr Bill Lumsden is not planning on retiring from

Glenmorangie just yet, but has

started training his heir, Brendan McCorran

Brendan McCarran joined Glenmorangie from Diageo in 2014, and following a three-year search for the right candidate to eventually succeed Lumsden was chosen as the best potential person for the job.

Speaking to The Spirits Business, Lumsden said: "We recruited Brendan about a year-and-a-half ago and in time if it all works out, he will succeed myself - but I am not planning on going anywhere any time soon.

"In order to make sure whoever takes over from me has a real sense of the whisky we are looking at a 10-year period of training." He continued to explain McCarron is currently focusing on bettering

the "sensory and analytical" aspects of the job, as his experience is strongly within malt distilling.

Future focus will also be put on presentation skills, public speaking, media and PR training.



Brendan McCarron currently holds the position of head of maturing whisky stocks at Glenmorangie (photo: LinkedIn)

"We said we just aren't going to get somebody who's right for the job just now, but it's taken three years to get the right person.

"Brendan applied at the 11th hour during the second or third time we outlined the job specification and it just happened I knew him anyway; I saw his name and said 'that's our guy', and it turned out he was.

"We looked at candidates who had just graduated, but that wasn't really quite right - we wanted someone with genuine experience. "I really want to raise Brendan's profile in the industry." In October, <u>Glenmorangie launched limited edition A Midwinter</u> <u>Night's Dram</u> especially for the Christmas period.

Furthermore, earlier this year the company revealed a packaging makeover for its extra-matured whiskies, including Lasanta, Quinta Ruban and Nectar D'Or, shortly after launching Glenmorangie's Legends Collection in travel retail.

RARE 1945-1986 MACALLAN VERTICAL UP FOR AUCTION 19th January, 2016 by Kristiane Sherry - http://www.thespiritsbus

The first Sotheby's Hong Kong wine and spirits sale of the year will include a rare vertical of The Macallan featuring an expression distilled in every year from 1945 to 1986.

A rare Macallan vertical is set to steal the limelight at the first Sotheby's Hong Kong auction of the year



Split into seven lots, each bottle will be sold packed in a custom-ordered wooden case labelled 'Macallan The Collection 1945-1986'.

The oldest minivertical, comprising whiskies distilled from 1945-1950 carries a guide price of HKD 280,000-350,000 (USD35,000-45,000).

To secure the entire 42-bottle collection, it is estimated a buyer would need to fork out around HKD1.185 million (USD 125,000).

Other spirits highlights include a Rémy Martin

Louis XIII Le Jeroboam NV, guided at HKD180,000-240,000 (USD22,000-30,000). In addition to acquiring the three-litre decanter, the successful bidder will also secure an invitation for four people to visit the House of Rémy Martin with a private luncheon reception.

"It is with great anticipation that we kick off 2016 with such an exciting auction," said Adam Bilbey, head of Sotheby's Wine Asia.

In addition to the selection of wines listed, he added: "we are also pleased to be offering such a rare Macallan vertical and an incredible opportunity to acquire a jeroboam of the iconic Rémy Martin Louis XIII."

Set to take place on Saturday 30 January at Sotheby's Hong Kong Gallery, Sotheby's Finest & Rarest Wines auction will feature 888 lots valued at an estimated HKD15-21 million / USD1.9-2.7 million.

Earlier this month, <u>a 19-bottle collection of The Macallan set a</u> <u>new world record</u> for the priciest travel retail sale.

DECEMBER - KSMS Financial Statement

(Money from 41 December members @ \$65)	= ^{\$} 2665.00
(Money from 19 December guests @ ^{\$} 75)	= ^{\$} 1425.00
December dinner 60 persons = ^{\$} 48.00/ea	= ^{\$} 2880.00
(Money remaining for buying Single Malt)	= ^{\$} 1210.00
Cost of Single Malts	= ^{\$} 1310.18
Cost of Pours per Person = ^{\$} 14.24	
KSMS Monthly operational balance	= (- ^{\$} 100.18)
Cost per person 72 attendees (All inclusive) = \$69.84

Upcoming Dinner Dates

 February 22nd, 2016 - Islands - River Mill

 March 14th, 2016 - 3rd Annual Irish Night - River Mill

 April 18th, 2016 - Islay - River Mill

 May 16th, 2016 - Highlands - River Mill

 June 20th, 2016 - BBQ (Final Exam) - River Mill

 July 25th, 2016 - 5th Annual Bourbon Night - River Mill

 Friday August 26th, 2016 - 9th Annual Premium - River Mill

 September 19th, 2016 - Campbeltown/Lowland - VIMY

 October 17th, 2016 - Speyside/Highlands - River Mill

 November 21st, 2016 - Christmas Dinner - River Mill

 January 23rd, 2017 - Arran - Robbie Burns - VIMY

 February 27th, 2017 - Islands - River Mill

 March 20th, 2017 - 4th Annual Irish Night - River Mill

Membership and Dinner prices for 2015-2016

Membership Fee:

One Time Initiation Fee: Standard Dinner Fee: \$40 (singles) \$60 (couples) \$15 \$60 (member) \$70 (non-member) **Christmas Dinner Fee:**

Robbie Burns Dinner Fee:

June BBQ Dinner Fee:

\$65 (member)
 \$75 (non-member)
 \$70 (member)
 \$80 (non-member)
 \$70 (member)
 \$80 (non-member)

Just a note because we care.

Please understand that for the purpose of each event you are advised to drink responsibly and refrain from excessive consumption. The dinners hosted by the Kingston Single Malt Society are sampling events. By agreeing to pay and thereby attend the dinner you agree to release from legal responsibility and hold harmless Kingston Single Malt Society, its President Roberto Di Fazio, and any other volunteers from liability or claims arising from these events.



Reservation policy

- Our contract with the Officer's Mess Kitchen requires that we provide seven (7) business days notice for them to guarantee accommodation for our requested numbers. Each month an invitation will be sent out to all members of the Society in the first week of the respective month in which the dinner will be held. To accommodate the Kitchen's needs and meet our contractual obligation with them; our members are requested to respond to the emailed invitation seven (7) business days prior to the respective dinner to guarantee a seat at the dinner. After that members will be placed on a waitlist.

- For these individuals the process will be as follows, using the Monday September 21st, 2015 dinner date as an example:

- Dinner invitations will be sent out Friday August 21st, 2015. Please respond to me (rdifazio04@gmail.com). I will then acknowledge that you have a seat. Please understand that if you do not receive a response you are not guaranteed a seat at the respective dinner. In such circumstances (e.g., computer glitches) please e-mail me again or call me (613-634-0397).

- Accommodation at the dinner will be guaranteed for all members who respond by Friday September $4^{th},$ 2015 @ 6pm.

Cancellation policy

- Using the same example as above, anyone who cancels anytime prior to Friday September 4th, 2015 @ 6pm will be removed from the list.

Anyone canceling between Friday September 4th, 2015 @ 6pm and Monday September 21st, 2015 will be expected to pay for the cost of the dinner and scotch (\$60). It is the responsibility of the member who cancels their (or their guest's) reservation to find a replacement. If I am asked to find a substitute and one is available, then the member will be asked to pay for 50% of their dinner cost.
Anyone who fails to attend the Monday September 21st, 2015 dinner without having cancelled and been successfully replaced will be expected to pay the full cost (\$60). A member will be responsible for their guest's cancellation (\$70).
If a member asks to be included at the dinner between Friday September 4th, 2015 @ 6pm and Monday September 21st, 2015, their name will be placed on a wait-list and be accommodated on a first-come first-serve basis.

If you have any questions or comments please free to contact me. Thank you for your understanding, Roberto



Kingston Single Malt Society

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