

Kingston Single Malt Society

www.kingstonsinglemaltsociety.com

A social club for the appreciation of Single Malt Whisky since 1998

OCTOBER 16th, 2017

VOLUME 11; NUMBER 4



Glenfiddich

*This evening's menu in the company of a
GLENFIDDICH Vertical Tasting*

**1st Nosing: GLENFIDDICH PROJECT XX
EXPERIMENTAL SERIES**

(introduced by: Philip Henderson)

**1st Course: Smoked Salmon,
Pork Belly, Potato & Leek Chowder**

2nd Nosing: GLENFIDDICH IPA EXPERIMENT

(introduced by: John Leighton)

**2nd Course: Honey Wagon Farm Beets,
Chevre, Oranges, Pistachio, Bitter Greens,
Pomegranate Vinaigrette**

3rd Nosing: GLENFIDDICH SINGLE MALT 15 YEAR OLD

(introduced by: Bill Gorham)

**Main course: Prosciutto Wrapped Local Chicken
Breast, Roasted Garlic Mashed Yukon Golds, Honey
Wagon Farm Heirloom Carrots, Broccoli, and
Saltimbocca Sauce**

**4th Nosing: GLENFIDDICH 19 YEAR OLD
AGE OF DISCOVERY BOURBON CASK**

(introduced by: Ken Goodland)

Dessert: Local Apple Crisp, Vanilla Ice Cream

COST OF THE MALTS

- **GLENFIDDICH PROJECT XX EXPERIMENTAL SERIES** LCBO
513077 | 750 mL bottle **Price \$99.95** Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey
47.0% Alcohol/Vol.

- **GLENFIDDICH IPA EXPERIMENT** LCBO 513069 | 750 mL
bottle **Price \$89.95** Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey 43.0% Alcohol/Vol.

- **GLENFIDDICH SINGLE MALT 15 YEAR OLD** SCOTCH WHISKY
LCBO 605972 | 750 mL bottle **Price \$80.15** Spirits,
Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch Single Malts 40.0% Alcohol/Vol.

- **GLENFIDDICH 19 YEAR OLD AGE OF DISCOVERY
BOURBON CASK** VINTAGES 484717 | 700 mL bottle **Price
\$135.00** Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch Single Malts 40.0%
Alcohol/Vol.

SEPTEMBER - KSMS Financial Statement

(Money from 30 September attendees @ \$60)	= \$1800.00
September dinner 30 persons = \$43.00/ea	= \$1290.00
(Money remaining for buying Single Malt)	= \$510.00
Cost of Single Malts	= \$830.40
Cost of Pours per Person = \$18.05	
KSMS Monthly operational balance	= - (\$320.40)
Cost per person (All inclusive)	= \$70.68

Upcoming Dinner Dates

Friday October 27th, 2017 - Highland Park Night - River Mill
November 20th, 2017 - Bowmore Vertical Nosing - River Mill
December 11th, 2017 - Christmas Dinner - River Mill
January 15th, 2018 - Robbie Burns - River Mill
February 19th, 2018 - Islands / Islay - River Mill
March 19th, 2018 - Deanston Vertical Nosing - River Mill
April 16th, 2018 - Glenlivet Vertical Nosing - River Mill
May 14th, 2018 - Speyside / Highlands - River Mill
June 18th, 2018 - BBQ (Final Exam) - River Mill
July 16th, 2018 - 7th Annual Bourbon Night - River Mill
Friday August 24th, 2018 - 11th Annual Premium Night - River Mill
September 17th, 2018 - Campbeltown / Lowland / Speyside /
Highlands / Islands / Islay - River Mill
October 15th, 2018 - Speyside / Highlands - River Mill
November 19th, 2018 - Speyside - River Mill
December 10th, 2018 - Christmas Dinner - River Mill

Glenfiddich expands Experimental Series with Winter Storm

21st September, 2017 by Annie Hayes - <http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com/>

Glenfiddich has extended its Experimental Series with the
launch of a single malt whisky finished in Canadian icewine casks –
called Glenfiddich Winter Storm.

Glenfiddich Winter
Storm has been finished in
French oak icewine casks from
the Peller Estate winery

A 21-year-old whisky
that has been finished in French
oak icewine casks from the
Peller Estate winery in Niagara;
Winter Storm is described as “a
short, crisp premium liquid
imbued with a unique layer of
sweetness and complexity”.

The creation of
Glenfiddich malt master, Brian
Kinsman; the whisky came
about as the result of a trip to
Canada in January 2016, during
which he toured the Peller
Estate vineyards where grapes
are picked at night when the
temperature drops to -10°C.

He returned to the
Dufftown distillery to experiment
with the casks, filling them with



various Glenfiddich aged malts.

“Only the rarer whiskies, those aged for 21 years, could
cope with the extra icewine intensity,” said Kinsman.

“Having more tannins, extracted from years in oak, these
malts brought out a uniquely fresh lychee note instead of being
swamped by sweetness.”

In addition to Glenfiddich's signature notes of candied sweets and oak, the resulting liquid has flavours of tropical fruit and wine.

"It was a privilege to work with Brian on this experiment," Craig McDonald, Peller Estates VP of winemaking, added.

"We go to extreme lengths to produce our intensely sweet icewine and are always looking for ways to push the boundaries of taste, so I was intrigued to see how it could be used to create a new unexpected whisky.

"The resulting liquid is a unique combination of the warming soul of whisky and the frozen cold of icewine."

Glenfiddich Winter Storm joins Glenfiddich IPA Experiment and Glenfiddich Project XX, which both launched in 2016.

Presented in a white ceramic bottle and embossed presentation box, Glenfiddich Winter Storm will be made available in two limited batches from 1 October 2017 and March 2018, priced at £199.

GLENFIDDICH UNVEILS BEER-INFLUENCED WHISKY

1st September, 2016 by Nicola Carruthers - <http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com/>

William Grant & Sons-owned Glenfiddich has released a series of innovative whiskies as part of its new Experimental Collection, which includes a single malt aged in ex-IPA beer barrels.

The Glenfiddich IPA Experiment is a single malt Scotch whisky finished in IPA craft beer casks

The Glenfiddich Experimental Series has been designed to "inspire unusual and unexpected variants", with a new release unveiled every year.

The Dufftown distillery is introducing the series with two permanent releases: an IPA cask finished single malt, and an ambassador collaboration.

Glenfiddich's malt master Brian Kinsman teamed up with Speyside Craft brewery to produce a single malt Scotch whisky finished in IPA craft beer casks.

The Glenfiddich IPA Experiment is a 40% ABV single malt Scotch whisky imbued with zesty citrus and tangy hops from the oak casks that had previously held a bold Speyside IPA.

The collaborators had to design and create a new IPA craft beer that would go into whisky casks, which would later be used to finish the first experimental variant. The intensive experimental process involved creating three separate brews of different strengths and levels of hops.

Kinsman said: "Glenfiddich's first whisky finished in IPA craft beer casks is testament to us challenging ourselves to produce something vibrant and unusual.

"The result is a liquid with a zesty citrus note followed by soft, sweet vanilla and a hint of fresh hops. The innovative flavour comes from carefully hand selecting the right malt whiskies to complement the extra hoppy notes."

Also released this month is Glenfiddich Project XX (pronounced 'twenty'), a single malt vatting of 20 different casks, including Port pipes, Sherry butts and first-fill Bourbon casks, each chosen by the brand's 20 global ambassadors.

Kinsman asked each ambassador to select a cask that best represented their personality from Glenfiddich's warehouses, before blending them together to create the brand's first mass collaborated whisky.

Kinsman added: "It has the warm summer fruity character of a classic Glenfiddich but then its 'multiple personalities' are revealed as the flavours of candy floss, cinnamon spice, almonds and rich port tannins kick in with the odd hint of liquorice."

The Glenfiddich IPA Experiment will be available in Tesco's and specialist whisky stores at a retail price of £45 from 6 September.

Glenfiddich Project XX will be available from specialist whisky stores nationwide from September, priced at £50 for a 70cl bottle.

Ardnamurchan spirit officially becomes whisky

2nd August, 2017 by Nicola Carruthers - <http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com/>

Ardnamurchan's

maturing spirit has officially become whisky exactly three years after the Scottish distillery laid down its first casks.

The Ardnamurchan Spirit 2016 AD has officially become whisky

Ardnamurchan Spirit

2016 AD has [sold out four times over](#) since its release in 2014. While prices of the spirit at auction have reached "well above" the original retail price only a few months after its release.

Adelphi, parent company of Ardnamurchan Distillery, says there are "already strong mounting expectations" for its whisky given the quality of its young spirit.

According to the company, the whisky won't be released until its aged a minimum of seven years, meaning a release date of 2021.

The Scottish distillery will also release a second bottling of mature spirit, due to be on shelves in September.

"This is a hugely important milestone for Ardnamurchan," said Alex Bruce, managing director of Adelphi and the Ardnamurchan Distillery.

"We have been overwhelmed by the support for the distillery from all over the world, and this is a testament to the great team we have working with us, and their absolute attention to quality.

"The 500 litre ex-Sherry butt no. 1, filled on the 1 August 2014, is now surrounded by a full warehouse of sister casks, all enjoying the superb west coast maturation climate."

Located at Glenbeg, Lochaber, on the Ardnamurchan Estate, Ardnamurchan Distillery was [opened by the Princess Royal in July 2014](#).

The Ardnamurchan Distillery is said to be one of the first to be wholly reliant on local renewable energy, using woodchip for heat and hydro-generated electricity.



The Ardnamurchan Distillery, which opened in 2014, is said to be one of the first to be wholly reliant on local renewable energy

STOP ABUSING THE WORD 'MASTERCLASS'

11 September 2017 by A Whisky Veteran - www.scotchwhisky.com

As we enter whisky festival season, something is already raising the hackles of an anonymous 'whisky veteran'... the increasingly lazy use of the M-word. If you're planning on hosting or attending a 'Masterclass' this autumn, read on...

Master blaster: 'If I haven't heard of you, it ain't a Masterclass,' says our whisky veteran

Allow me to begin with a confession: I'm never going to see 50 again (let alone 40) and accept that I am an irrelevant, bearded pedant, the archetypal old whisky bore ignored by whisky marketers and spurned for not being a New Appreciator, Confident Connector or Generation Whatever. All this despite actually having some disposable income which I'm prepared to spend on, for example, [Diageo's Special Releases](#). Every year.

9 Whiskies To Expand Your Horizons

JUNE 1, 2016 - DAVE BROOM - <http://whiskvadvocate.com>

So what's my gripe? It is the catastrophic overuse of the term 'Masterclass', emphatically with an upper-case 'M'. Of course, whisky is replete with words which, through mindless repetition, have become meaningless; every hand-crafted release is a unique expression of the distiller's passion and the brand's heritage. Obvs.

'Masterclass', however, is apposite as we enter whisky festival season. To the ears of a grizzled and jaded old curmudgeon, it gives the impression of being ironic, that it must invariably be accompanied by the universally accepted gesture for inverted commas.

I accept that language is a living thing; it changes, mutates and develops. Having teenage children is proof, were it needed, that this is seldom for the better. Vocabularies shrink and communication loses clarity. I take comfort in the fact that I'm not the only one who is unforgiving of errant apostrophes and considers grammar important.

Back in the early days of whisky shows, at the turn of the century, the world was a different place. Chances are, dear reader, that you were still at school. There were no iPhones, no Facebook, no Twitter, no borderline illiterates calling themselves 'independent whisky reviewers'.

In 2003, you could go to a whisky show safe in the knowledge that the majority of stands would be booked by whisky producers or bottlers. There would be big companies and little companies, certainly, but not the plethora of rum distillers, purveyors of glassware, chocolatiers and so on (essentially anyone that can be convinced to accept a last-minute offer for a stand) you see at some events today.

Better still, you could attend a Masterclass. A true Masterclass. The term conjures up – for me, at least – images of Daniel Barenboim coaching gifted and earnest pianists on the intricacies of Beethoven's sonatas on the BBC in 1979.

It was an appropriate title: watching Jim McEwan explain the glories of Islay, or Colin Scott deconstructing [Chivas Regal 25 Year Old](#); enjoying a youthful [Dr Bill Lumsden](#) releasing the serpent; being shocked at the sight of [Richard Paterson's](#) antics for the first time. *He emptied an ice bucket on the floor!*

People who made whisky – or who had been at least immersed in the spirit for many years – talking about the making of whisky. In a recent blog post, Tim Forbes referred to these as The Genuine Articles, the masters of their craft, if you will.

These people and a dozen or so like them had spent their careers making the stuff. It was an honour to meet them and a privilege to listen to them talk about their work and to taste with them.

There is a danger that this will be perceived as yet another rose-tinted, 'things were better in the past' piece: jumpers for goalposts, direct-fired stills, etc. That's not my objective. Nor is it anti-brand ambassador. There are many inspiring, creative and talented people gracing the industry today. I won't embarrass anyone by naming names, but you know who you are, right?

My point is this: if a Master Blender or a Master Distiller or even a Master of the Quaich is hosting a tutored tasting, then by all means call it a Masterclass. If, however, someone who has been in the job three months and has read a few books on the subject [*insert disparaging comment about shovel toe shoes, high street tweed and beard oil here*] is presenting you with an entry-level NAS whisky, a 10-year-old at 40% abv and a limited edition, travel retail special, 11-year-old herring cask finish – for God's sake, please just call it a tasting...

To be blunt: if I haven't heard of you, it ain't a Masterclass. Hyperbole to sell tickets? Perhaps. But don't we all clamour for honesty and transparency in whisky (except, of course, regarding the identity of this contributor)? If so, exaggeration such as this is part of the problem.

Another thing. If you are hosting a tasting, never refer to 'my Masterclass' on social media. Surely this is another example of things that people can say about you, but that you can't say about yourself without appearing the opposite (see also 'cool', 'handsome', 'great lover', 'expert', etc).

You are setting yourself up for a fall.

Whisky attracts a special kind of person. Often they are so interested – obsessed, if you will – with detail that they might be on some form of spectrum. Sometimes these types take pleasure in exposing any shortcomings in the presenter's knowledge.

So, if there is any danger that an audience member is likely to know more about the subject than you do, don't say you are hosting a 'Masterclass'.

Trust me. I've done it.



It happens to everyone: getting stuck in a rut. Even if you have a favorite whisky, there are times you'll get the itch to branch out. When that happens, consult this list.

If you like [Glenlivet 12 year old](#), then try [Linkwood 14 year old](#). It's the apples that do it here. The Glenlivet has a fresh fruit salad, green apple, and pineapple element to it. Linkwood smells like an orchard in spring: apple and peach blossom, new grass. It also has a thicker, almost oily palate that helps the flavors roll around the mouth.

If you like [Macallan](#), then try [Glenfarclas](#) or [GlenDronach](#). The most successful sherried whiskies are those whose distillate has heft and power. Macallan's oiliness demonstrates that, but so does the direct fire-derived power of Glenfarclas and 'Dronach's robust earthy weight. Both are complex in their own right, revel in sherry casks, and create multifaceted, layered drams. Try them.

If you like [Balvenie DoubleWood](#), then try [Craigellachie 13 year old](#). A few years ago I'd have been encouraging people to try Balvenie. Now that it's well-known, it can act as an entry point for the exploration of lesser-known, medium-weight, complex malts; like Craigellachie, with its heavy florals, ripe fruits, and thick yet creamy palate. A rich, old-style mouthful.

If you like [Ardbeg 10 year old](#), then try [Kilchoman Machir Bay](#). You'd think peaty whiskies were pretty much interchangeable, but each wrangles the smoke in a different direction. Ardbeg's is sooty and a little maritime, but it's the fresh sweetness of the spirit that links it to Kilchoman's creamy scallops, oyster brine, clove, and bonfires. Same island, different coasts, equally great.

If you like [Highland Park 18 year old](#), then try [Springbank 15 year old](#). ...or vice versa. Here are two enigmas. The key is how each balances its smokiness within a rich and fruity frame. Springbank has a little more brine and oil, HP more heather; Springbank has a floral top note, HP shows fudge; both are citric. There are equal amounts of rippling power and complexity.

If you like [Oban 14 year old](#) (or [Little Bay](#)), then try [Arran 14 year old](#). ...and not just because they're the same age. Oban's charm is its citric intensity. Arran is similar, but here there's also a little malty crunch with the spicy flamed orange peel and barley sugar. If Oban is a poached orange with ginger sauce, then Arran is an orange cheesecake.

If you like [Glenmorangie Original](#), then try [Aberfeldy 12 year old](#). If spring whiskies are all about freshness and vibrancy, then summer drams talk of soft, fleshy fruits and gentle, sweet creaminess. Glenmo' Original delivers all of this, but so does Aberfeldy. In fact, this could be Scotland's sweetest dram, all honeycomb, strawberry jam, and peaches. A suitably hedonistic treat.

If you like [Johnnie Walker Black Label](#), then try [Wm. Cadenhead 12 year old](#). Is there life beyond Johnnie Black? Hard to believe given its (deserved) ubiquity, but every so often it's good to open your palate to new possibilities. I came across this Cadenhead recently and its mature, resinous, and figgy gingerbread depths certainly rang a few bells. It's now a house dram for me.

If you like [Chivas 12 year old](#), then try [Antiquary 12 year old](#). The Chivas style is an understated, balanced mix of delicate, light fruits with gentle grain. Exemplary blending, but so is Antiquary, which has been a firm favorite since I read about it in the novels of William McIlvanney. Golden syrup, light spice, popcorn. Slightly richer than Chivas but easily its match.

Raasay distillery to release own whisky in 2020

2nd August, 2017 by Amy Hopkins - <http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com/>

R&B Distillers has confirmed that its Isle of Raasay Distillery – the first legal distillery to be built in the Hebridean island – will start production in September, and will release its first Scotch whisky in 2020.



Isle of Raasay Distillery will release its first Scotch whisky in 2020

The distillery is based on the site of the disused gothic hotel Borodale House, and also features an adjacent visitors' centre that is forecast to bring 12,000 visitors to the island in the first year. Na Tùsairéan Club members' accommodation will open at a later date.

Isle of Raasay Distillery will have two copper pot stills that will produce about 150,000 bottles of Scotch whisky a year, while all maturation will take place on-site. The distillery is expected to generate employment for up to 10% of the island's residents.

Raasay hopes to use "all-local" barley, peat and water in the future and recently commenced barley growing trials on the island.

"It is the location – an island off an island with complex geology, water and island climate with probably the best views from any distillery in Scotland – that makes Raasay ideal for our innovative Scotch whisky distillery," said co-founder Alasdair Day.

Last month, R&B Distillers announced that Heriot-Watt graduate [Iain Robertson had been appointed Isle of Raasay Distillery's first distiller](#). Raasay local Norman Gillies, who has been involved with the project from the beginning, has been named distillery manager. Chris Anderson, formerly master distiller for Dewar's, will join the team for the first five months of production to oversee the initial distillation. R&B Distillers, which is also planning to build a distillery in the Scottish Borders, released two whiskies [said to reflect the styles](#) of the Isle of Raasay Distillery and future Borders distillery in 2015.

Membership and Dinner prices for 2017-2018

Membership Fee:	\$40 (singles) \$60 (couples)
One Time Initiation Fee:	\$15
Standard Dinner Fee:	\$60 (member) \$70 (non-member)
Dinner only - No Single Malt:	\$50 (member) \$60 (non-member)
Robbie Burns Dinner Fee:	\$70 (member) \$80 (non-member)
June BBQ Dinner Fee:	\$70 (member) \$80 (non-member)

Reserved Seating

- Complimentary Reserved Seating will only be provided to groups of four (4) or greater, when requested.

Reservation policy

- The agreement with the Kitchen's requires that we provide seven (7) business days notice for them to guarantee accommodation for our requested numbers. 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. Following the RSVP date members will be placed on a waitlist.
- For these individuals the process will be as follows, using the Monday September 18th, 2017 dinner date as an example:
- Dinner invitations will be sent out Friday August 18th, 2017. 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 (613-532-5285).
- Unless otherwise stated accommodation at the dinner will be guaranteed for all members who respond by Friday September 1st, 2017 @ 6pm.
- Once the RSVP date has been achieved I will e-mail a spreadsheet informing everyone of their status and amount due.

Cancellation policy

- Using the same example as above, anyone who cancels anytime prior to Friday September 1st, 2017 @ 6pm will be removed from the list.
- Anyone canceling between Friday September 1st, 2017 @ 6pm and Monday September 18th, 2017 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 found, then the member will be asked to pay for 50% of their dinner cost.
- Anyone who fails to attend the Monday September 18th, 2017 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 1st, 2017 @ 6pm and Monday September 18th, 2017, their name will be placed on a wait-list and be accommodated on a first-come first-serve basis.

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.



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



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