

# Kingston Single Malt Society

www.kingstonsinglemaltsociety.com

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

AUGUST 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016

VOLUME 10; NUMBER 2



## Welcome to our 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Premium Night

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### MENU

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**1<sup>st</sup> Course: House Made Ricotta, Crostini, Roasted Mini Tomatoes, Balsamic**

**1<sup>st</sup> Nosing: KININVIE 1990 23 YEAR OLD BATCH #2 (introduced by: John Leighton)**

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Course: De-Constructed Salad Nicoise**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Nosing: MACALLAN FINE OAK 21 YEAR OLD (introduced by: Marc Laverdiere)**

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**3<sup>rd</sup> Nosing: STRATHMILL 25 YEAR OLD (introduced by: Conrad Falkson)**

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**3<sup>rd</sup> Course: Local Sausage, Peppers, Sherry Vinaigrette, Pickled Mushrooms**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Nosing: AUCHROISK 30 YEAR OLD (introduced by: Phil Henderson)**

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**5<sup>th</sup> Nosing: HIGHLAND PARK ICE 17 YEARS OLD (introduced by: Marc Laverdiere)**

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**4<sup>th</sup> Course: Roasted Breast of Duck, Smoked Carrot & Ginger Puree, Brussels, Cippolini Onion & Baby Carrots**

**6<sup>th</sup> Nosing: HIGHLAND PARK 25 YEAR OLD (introduced by: Marc Laverdiere)**

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**Dessert: House Made Chocolate & Lavender Gelato & Biscotti**

**7<sup>th</sup> Nosing: GLENMORANGIE 25 YEAR OLD (introduced by: Sylvain Bouffard)**

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**8<sup>th</sup> Nosing: MACALLAN RARE CASK (introduced by: Marc Laverdiere)**

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## COST OF THE MALTS

- KININVIE 1990 23 YEAR OLD BATCH #2 HALF BOTTLE VINTAGES 763611 | 375 mL bottle Price: \$202.50  
Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch Single Malts 42.6% Alcohol/Vol.

- THE MACALLAN FINE OAK 21 YEAR OLD HIGHLAND SINGLE MALT VINTAGES 620211 | 750 mL bottle Price \$779.95  
Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Single Malt Scotch 43.0% Alcohol/Vol.

- STRATHMILL 25-YEAR-OLD SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY VINTAGES 410886 | 750 mL bottle Price \$479.95  
Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey 52.4% Alcohol/Vol.

- AUCHROISK 30 YEAR OLD LIMITED EDITION Distilled: 1982; Bottled: 2012; Bottle # 2837 of 2976; VINTAGES 160122 | 750 mL bottle Price: \$379.99  
Spirits, Scotch Whisky, 54.7% Alcohol/Vol.

- HIGHLAND PARK ICE 17 YEARS OLD BOTTLED 2016; (30,000 bottles) VINTAGES 038544 | 750 mL bottle Price: \$451.00  
Spirits, Whisky, Scotch 53.9% Alcohol/Vol.

- HIGHLAND PARK 25-YEAR-OLD ORKNEY ISLANDS SINGLE MALT VINTAGES 500249 | 750 mL bottle Price \$649.95  
Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch Single Malts 48.1% Alcohol/Vol.

- GLENMORANGIE 25 YEAR OLD VINTAGES 418913 | 750 mL bottle Price \$938.00  
Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Single Malt Scotch 43.0% Alcohol/Vol.

- MACALLAN RARE CASK LCBO 434100 | 750 mL bottle Price \$399.95  
Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey 43.0% Alcohol/Vol.

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## Upcoming Dinner Dates

September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - Campbeltown / Lowland / Speyside / Highlands / Islands / Islay - VIMY

October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - Highlands - River Mill

November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016 - Speyside / Highlands - River Mill

December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - Christmas Dinner - River Mill

January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 - Robbie Burns - River Mill

February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - Islands - River Mill

March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Irish Night - River Mill

April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - Islay - River Mill

May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - Speyside/Highlands - River Mill

June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - BBQ (Final Exam) - VIMY

July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Bourbon Night - River Mill

Friday August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Premium Night - River Mill

September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - Campbeltown/Lowland - VIMY

October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - Highlands - River Mill

November 20<sup>st</sup>, 2017 - Speyside / Highlands - River Mill

December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - Christmas Dinner - River Mill

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## WILLIAM GRANT RELEASES 'FIRST DROPS' FROM KININVIE DISTILLERY

28th October, 2015 by Annie Hayes - [www.thespiritsbusiness.com](http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com)

William Grant & Sons has launched Kininvie Special Release #1, the "first drops" of whisky from a cask that was laid to mature when the distillery first opened 25 years ago.

Master blender Brian Kinsman has hand-selected casks of Kininvie Special Release #1 for distribution in three markets.

On the 25th June 1990 at 8.45am, the very first liquid was taken off the still by the stillmen and then laid to mature on the 4th July.

Now – a quarter of a century on – William Grant & Sons' sixth master blender, Brian Kinsman, has hand-selected three casks of Kininvie Special Release #1, each of which will be released in one of three markets; the UK, Taiwan and mainland Europe.



Kininvie Special Release #1 'The First Drops' has been matured in hogshead bourbon barrels, and is bottled at 61.4% abv.

The supply is made up of less than 1,600 bottles worldwide, and of these just 550 bottles are dedicated to the UK.

Kinsman said: "The whisky produced at the Kininvie distillery is of exceptionally good quality. After twenty-five years, we're delighted that the liquid is now ready and we can release the very first

drops of Kininvie, straight from the casks where they have been maturing since the distillery's first days."

Craig Cranmer, the Kininvie's distillery manager, added: "Being family owned gives us the luxury of patience and means we are able to benefit from the foresight of earlier generations who decided to lay down casks to create exquisite aged stocks. We have cherished and nurtured these casks since 1990 knowing they contained incredible whisky. Now the time is right to share the first drops of our history."

The packaging has been designed to reflect the "exclusivity" of the release, while keeping in line with the Kininvie brand style. Copper hues are used throughout, including a copper foil inlay and crafted copper plinth, to represent the copper Kininvie stills – also represented by the underlined number six in Roman numerals, the number of stills the distillery was founded on.

The bottle displays the specific cask and bottle number and is accompanied by an individual certificate signed by Brian Kinsman.

Kininvie Special Release #1 'The First Drops' will be available from November at an RRP of £400.

Kininvie 23 Years Old Batch No. 3

Batch No. 3 was created from liquid taken from hogshead casks and sherry butts that were laid to rest in 1991

In addition to the "first drops" release, William Grant & Sons have also launched a third release from the Kininvie Distillery: Kininvie 23 Years Old Batch No. 3.

The single malt Scotch whisky was created by Kinsman from liquid taken from hogshead casks and sherry butts that were laid to rest in 1991.

The expression is said to have a "distinctive Speyside character", with "a rich, fruity, floral aroma" and an abv of 42.6%.

On the nose the Batch No. 3 has "slightly less toffee" than Batches 1 and 2 which preceded it, and "more fruity, spring meadow, and floral notes".

The taste profile, though very similar to Batches 1 and 2, exhibits "less buttery vanilla and oak notes" and instead displays "more elegant tones of orange fruit and blossom".

Every bottle of Kininvie 23 Years Old Batch No. 3 will display the year of distillation, batch number and individual bottle number.

Cranmer said: "The quality of Kininvie 23 Years Old Batch No. 3 is a result of our patience and devoted care. The popularity of the first two Kininvie 23 Years Old batches demonstrates the outstanding calibre of the whisky we are producing at the Kininvie distillery".

The Kininvie 23 Years Old Batch No. 3 will launch in mainland Europe, the UK, Taiwan and China.

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## MACALLAN COMPLETES SIX PILLARS WITH 65-YEAR-OLD

20th May, 2016 by Amy Hopkins - [www.thespiritsbusiness.com](http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com)

The Macallan has completed its Six Pillars Collection with a 65-year-old Scotch whisky – one of the oldest and rarest ever released by the distillery.

The Macallan Laliqie Peerless Spirit has been matured for 65 years

In the line with the preceding five expressions in the Six Pillars range, The Macallan Laliqie Peerless Spirit is bottled in a bespoke Laliqie crystal decanter. The expression, which has been aged in ex-Sherry casks, is limited to just 450 individually numbered decanters that are valued at £23,000 each.

"This stunning collection of decanters is the result of two kindred spirits, rooted in a shared passion for craftsmanship, detail and mastery," said Ken Grier, brand director for The Macallan. "This sixth and final release continues to showcase the unwavering commitment of



both the masters of Laliqie and The Macallan to create beautiful and desirable objet d'art.

"With the collection now complete, it is time to reflect not only on the exquisite whiskies that have been brought to the fore by The Macallan's master whisky maker, but also on the extraordinary skills of the Laliqie craftsmen carrying on the legacy of René Laliqie, the man whose talent continues to inspire and influence.

"It is the heritage, customs and traditions of both The Macallan and Laliqie that have united to create this ultimate collectable collection."

The Six Pillars Collection is a range of six whiskies created in partnership between The Macallan and Laliqie, all of which reflect one brand values of The Macallan.

The Macallan Laliqie Peerless Spirit's design is inspired by the blown and pinched technique used to create famed Laliqie perfume bottles.

"We are proud to have been part of this stirring journey celebrating the Six Pillars of The Macallan," said Silvio Denz, chairman and CEO of Laliqie. "The marriage of the finest and rarest Macallan single malt whiskies with our beautiful bespoke hand crafted decanters has been a wonder to behold.

"The countless hours of painstaking work by both partners has been encapsulated by this stand out collection of decanters that will be much admired by collectors around the world."

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## BENROMACH LAUNCHES 'RARE' 35-YEAR-OLD WHISKY

2nd February, 2016 by Amy Hopkins - [www.thespiritsbusiness.com](http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com)

The Benromach Distillery Company has released one of its "rarest expressions to date", a 35-year-old whisky crafted from liquid that predates the distillery's restoration.

Benromach 35 Years Old is comprised of liquid predating the distillery's restoration

Benromach 35 Years Old, said to have a flavour of cinnamon, beeswax polish, steward pear and charred oak, is bottled in a bespoke decanter, itself contained in a wooden presentation box.

The expression is made using 35-year-old whisky distilled at Speyside-based Bendorrach before the distillery was brought back into production by Gordon & MacPhail in 2003.



“Benromach 35 Years Old is a very special whisky for everyone at the distillery, as very few casks of Benromach remain from this time period,” said Benromach Distillery manager Keith Cruickshank.

“Benromach today is created respecting the traditional working practices of yesteryear and is lovingly handcrafted by sight, by sound, and by touch, using the finest natural ingredients. The 35 Years Old is the perfect

dram to toast the past, present and future of Benromach.”

Benromach 35 Years Old is available to purchase at specialist whisky retailers at an RRP of £425 in the UK, prices may vary in international markets.

Last month Gordon & MacPhail [launched a limited edition Glen Grant 1950](#) expression exclusively for corporate collector Wealth Solutions.

## MACALLAN GROWS CORE PORTFOLIO WITH DOUBLE CASK

26th July, 2016 by Amy Hopkins - [www.thespiritsbusiness.com](http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com)



The Macallan is set to expand its core range in international markets with the launch of The Macallan Double Cask 12 Years Old.

The Macallan Double Cask 12 Years Old has joined the brand's core range

At the same time as [announcing its full-year financial results for 2015/16](#), brand owner Edrington revealed that the new variant, currently only available in Taiwan, will launch in the UK and other international markets by the

end of 2016.

The expression is described as a “new take on the signature Sherry oak style of The Macallan”, combining European and American oak.

Ian Curle, chief executive of Edrington, said the whisky will “be a fundamental component of our core range going forward”. Edrington also confirmed that the opening of The Macallan's new £100 million distillery Speyside has been pushed back from spring 2017 to spring 2018.

“With construction underway the building is starting to take shape and is on course to deliver a brand experience that will enhance and support The Macallan's luxury positioning,” added Curle.

[Construction on the distillery commenced in 2014](#) in order to “significantly increase” capacity for The Macallan. The brand's existing site will be mothballed.

## RALPH LAUREN UNVEILS \$4,995 DESKTOP COCKTAIL KIT

2nd February, 2016 by Annie Hayes Amy Hopkins - [www.thespiritsbusiness.com](http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com)

Fashion design company Ralph Lauren has launched a limited edition ‘mixologist box’, complete with an embossed crocodile leather mixology book, priced US\$4,995.

Ralph Lauren has introduced a limited edition “mixologist box”, on sale for US\$4,995

Designed as a “compact desktop bar”, the Ralph Lauren Vanderbilt Mixologist Box is made up of three compartments and a

drawer containing a range of bar accessories designed by Ralph Lauren Home.

The box, which is made from rosewood, features a 24% crystal ice bucket, a custom made Laguiole corkscrew, a silver-plated cocktail shaker, a Boston strainer, cocktail picks, holder, ice tongs, bar spoon, jigger, a cocktail knife, a Maple muddler and a hickory wood cutting board.

Just 100 are available, each featuring a numbered hand-polished nickel plaque with ‘Ralph Lauren Limited Edition’ engraved on it.

Demand for luxury cocktail hampers seems to be on the rise. Last year, [Rolls-Royce launched a limited edition bespoke cocktail hamper](#) worth more than a BMW 3 Series.



## THE BEST VALUE FOR MONEY SCOTCH WHISKIES

7th June, 2016 by Annie Hayes - [www.thespiritsbusiness.com](http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com)

Consumers are truly spoilt for choice when it comes to the multifarious Scotch whisky category – so which drams offer the best value?

This is our roundup of the top 10 best value for money Scotch whiskies of 2016

*The Spirits Business* held its annual Scotch Whisky Masters last month, where an experienced panel of judges recognised the best bottlings in the business.

Looking across multiple categories, from single grain to blended malts and regional single malts, a wide range of Scotch whiskies were awarded the top accolades of Master and Gold medals for their quality.

The individual scores of each entrant have not been revealed, however these are 10 of the highest rated medalists in the competition, *in no particular order*.

While some expressions are not standard priced, our judges have given each Scotch whisky listed here the seal of approval for offering excellent quality within their respective price categories. Click through to the following pages to view the top 10 best value for money Scotch whiskies of 2016.

Irivan 52 Year Old – Batch 1 (That Boutique-y Whisky Company)  
Price: £247.95

Part of That Boutique-y Whisky Company's inaugural age-statement range – which was motivated by Compass Box's recent Scotch Whisky Transparency Campaign – single grain whisky Irivan 52 Year Old – Batch 1 was one of the first Master medalists of the blind tasting competition, and for some judges, the best expression of the day. Part of a release of just 114 bottles, the expression was said to be “refined but eccentric”, and “a lot fresher and brighter than you'd expect for its age”.

Craigellachie 23 Year Old

Price: £360

Part of John Dewar & Sons' “Last of the Great Malts” series – and the oldest in the range of Craigellachie single malts – this 23-year-old expression is a detour from the robust, meaty drams usually associated with the distillery; instead offering notes of apple pie on the nose, and heather and honey on the palate.

Monkey Shoulder

Price: around £25

A mix of three different single malts – Glenfiddich, Balvenie and Kininvie – this William Grant & Sons-owned brand was deemed “exceptional” and “very expressive on the palate” by our esteemed judging panel. Monkey Shoulder was launched more than 10 years ago with the intention of “demystifying malt whisky”, and continues to draw new consumers into the category with its playful, accessible personality.

Bunnahabhain Toiteach

Price: £60

Described as “playful with a peaty palate”, this whisky certainly lives up to its name – Toiteach (pronounced toch-chach) is Gaelic

for 'smoky'. Usually producing gentler, fruitier Islay whisky; Toiteach is Bunnahabhain's first heavily peated single malt, and it certainly didn't disappoint our tasting panel, attracting a Master medal.

#### The Lost Distillery Company Classic Selection 'Lossit'

Price: £38

This no-age-statement blended malt is intended to be a modern interpretation of the style of whisky once created at the lost Lossit Distillery on Islay which closed in 1867. A "fresh and vibrant" offering, this expression was commended for its "sweet, clean" palate and notes of peat, almonds, pears and pepper.

#### The Glenlivet Nadurra Oloroso

Price: around £45

Launched in April 2014, Oloroso was the first permanent brand extension in The Glenlivet's Nadurra range, and also the brand's "first whisky in living memory" exclusively matured in Sherry casks. At our Scotch Whisky Masters this no-age-statement Speyside whisky was described as "light, delicate, and classy" with "vanilla and soft floral notes" along with honeysuckle, green apple and honey.

#### Royal Brackla 12 Year Old

Price: around £41

Last September, John Dewar & Sons launched a new range of single malt bottlings from the Royal Brackla distillery as part of Bacardi's "Last of the Great Malt" series – one of which was "deliciously malty and complex" Master medallist, Royal Brackla 12 Year Old. Established in 1812, Royal Brackla, based in the Cawdor Estate, became the first Scotch to receive a royal warrant.

#### House of Hazelwood 18 Year Old

Price: £50

The House of Hazelwood range was first unveiled at the TFWA World Exhibition & Conference in Cannes last year, and was created in homage to the vibrant life of William Grant's granddaughter, Janet Sheed Roberts. The brand is named in recognition of her lifetime residence at Hazelwood House, which lies close to the Glenfiddich Distillery in Dufftown, Scotland. House of Hazelwood 18 Year Old is inspired by "the elegance of Paris in the 1920s" and is the "purest" expression of Kininvie and Girvan spirits in the range, married in tuns of Portuguese oak.

#### Label 5 18 Year Old

Price: around £85

Our panel were impressed by the "very complex, long" Label 5 18 Year Old, which was launched back in 2013 as a response to consumers' "thirst for premium spirits". Matured in oakwood casks, judges found the expression "intriguing and nicely textured" with notes of fruit, wood and smoke. The Label 5 brand recently launched a global 'Whisky Confidential' campaign to encourage consumers to try whisky cocktails.

#### Ardbeg Dark Cove

Price: £95

Dark Cove was developed as the 2016 release for Ardbeg distillery's annual Ardbeg Day, which this year was held on the night of 28 May as part of the Islay Festival of Malt and Music. Made from liquid matured in Sherry casks, married together with "hallmark" ex-Bourbon cask Ardbeg, Dark Cove recalls how early distillers would smuggle whisky from Ardbeg Cove into black-painted ships. The release is no-age-statement, non-chill-filtered, and limited edition.

The designs feature on both the outer pack and bottle label. This latest launch is described as a "modern interpretation" of The Macallan Travel Series. First released in 1999, the collection focuses on the flavour of The Macallan from the 1920s, 1930s, 1940s

and 1950s, with the outer packaging showing classic modes of transport from the "Golden Age".

The Macallan Classic Travel Range will first be available at DFS Singapore Changi Airport.

"The launch of The Macallan Classic Travel range builds on our successful partnership with



Nick Veasey and continues our rich history of association with photographers and the arts," said Coral Gill, regional brand director for global travel retail.

"The collaboration with this widely acclaimed photographer is first and foremost underpinned by a shared passion for attention to detail and authenticity. Veasey's unique approach has created a collectible limited edition that will resonate with consumers and drive rate of purchase. It has been designed to be undoubtedly special, but accessible – targeting collectors and gifting.

"In addition, the theme of classic modes of travel builds on the recent release of The Macallan Golden Age of Travel series, benefiting from a strong halo effect and giving the brand a consistent voice in the GTR arena."

Brooke Supernaw, DFS Group's senior vice president wines, spirits and tobacco, added: "We're thrilled to partner with The Macallan to bring our customers this exciting new collection exclusively at DFS, Singapore Changi Airport.

"Nick Veasey's stunning photography and The Macallan Whisky Maker's Edition make a perfect pairing for lovers of both whisky and adventure, and we're confident our customers will love discovering this new collection with us at DFS."

The Macallan Classic Travel Range is available from July at DFS Singapore Changi Airport.

Earlier this year, [The Macallan completed its Six Pillars Collection with a 65-year-old Scotch whisky](#) - one of the oldest and rarest ever released by the distillery.

### 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.



## Kingston Single Malt Society

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### THE MACALLAN AND VEASEY PARTNER FOR TR EDITIONS

13th July, 2016 by Kristiane Sherry - <http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com/>

Edrington-owned single malt Scotch The Macallan has teamed up with British photographer Nick Veasey to launch The Macallan Classic Travel Range, a collection of limited edition, travel retail exclusive packaging designs.

The Macallan has partnered with Nick Veasey to launch The Macallan Classic Travel Range

Veasey, known for his x-ray photography work, has created a four images depicting classic modes of transport. A 1930s propeller plane, a 1930s roadster, a 1920s locomotive and a 1930s ocean liner feature on each of the four bottles, which contain The Macallan Whisky Maker's Edition from the 1824 Collection.