

# Kingston Single Malt Society

www.kingstonsinglemaltsociety.com

A social club for the appreciation of Single Malt Whisky since 1998  
DECEMBER 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011 VOLUME 5; NUMBER 6



## MENU

Welcome Nosing: **GLENCALLUM ROYAL DELUXE BLEND SCOTCH** (introduced by: Tom Mentrak)

1<sup>st</sup> Nosing: **GLENFIDDICH SNOW PHOENIX (Speyside)** (introduced by: Lana Di Fazio)

*Starter: choice of:*

1. Chef's Soup of the Day
2. Holiday Salad with Mixed Greens, Dried Cranberries and Noodles Tossed in a Maple & Balsamic Vinegar Dressing

2<sup>nd</sup> Nosing: **15 YO GLENTURRET RAW CASK (BLACKADDER INT'L) (South Highland)** (introduced by: Sylvain Bouffard)

3<sup>rd</sup> Nosing: **HIGHLAND PARK 25 YEAR OLD (Orkney)** (introduced by: Dick Alford)

*Main Course: choice of:*

1. Roast Turkey: Roast Turkey, Dressing, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Cranberry Sauce & Vegetable Medley
2. Stuffed Pork Loin: Stuffed Pork Loin Roast with Baked Apple served with Mashed Potatoes, Gravy & Vegetable Medley
3. Traditional Beef Pie: Traditional Beef Pie with Gravy, Mashed Potatoes & Vegetable Medley
4. Maple-Baked Salmon: Salmon Fillet with Rice Cakes & Vegetable Medley
5. Georgian Stuffed Pepper (VEGAN): Baked Pepper stuffed with sautéed diced vegetables, beans, tomato & couscous; served with Mashed potatoes & Vegetable Medley & a Tomato Picallily

4<sup>th</sup> Nosing: **BRUICHLADDICH OCTOMORE ORPHEUS (Islay)** (introduced by: Mike Patchett)

*Home-Made Dessert and Tea or Coffee*

1. Christmas Pudding
2. English Sherry Trifle
3. Crème Caramel and Puff Apple Pie with Brandy Sauce

## COST OF THE MALTS

I know members are always interested in the cost of the single malts we taste. Plus the \$75 Special Occasion Permit and the 16% levy charged by the LCBO for all alcohol served at the dinner.

- **GLENCALLUM ROYAL DELUXE BLEND SCOTCH WHISKY (RUBICON) VINTAGES 218180** | 700 mL bottle  
Price: \$ 39.95 Spirits, Scotch Whisky 40.12% Alcohol/Vol.

- **GLENFIDDICH SNOW PHOENIX LIMITED EDITION SINGLE MALT SCOTCH LCBO 236752** | 750 mL bottle  
Price: \$ 89.95 Spirits 48.0% Alcohol/Vol.

- **15 YO GLENTURRET RAW CASK (BLACKADDER INT'L) VINTAGES 138990** | 700 mL bottle  
Price: \$ 139.95 Spirits 51.7% Alcohol/Vol.

- **HIGHLAND PARK 25 YEAR OLD ORKNEY SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY VINTAGES 500249** | 750 mL bottle  
Price: \$ 332.00 Spirits, Scotch Whisky, 48.0% Alcohol/Vol.

- **BRUICHLADDICH OCTOMORE ORPHEUS LCBO 220947** | 700 mL bottle  
Price: \$ 209.00 Spirits, Scotch Whisky 61.0% Alcohol/Vol

## NOVEMBER - KSMS Financial Statement

(Money from 64 November attendees @ \$60) = \$3840.00  
November dinner 64 persons = \$45.50/ea = \$2912.00  
Special Occasion Permit = \$75.00  
(Money remaining for buying Single Malt) = \$853.00  
Cost of Single Malts = \$1339.10  
Cost of Pours per Person = \$19.41  
KSMS Monthly operational balance = (-\$486.10)  
Cost per person 52 attendees (All inclusive) = \$67.60

## Upcoming Dinner Dates

January 23, 2012 – Robbie Burns Night - VIMY  
February 20, 2012 – Highland - FFOM  
March 19, 2012 - St. Patrick's (Irish) – Kingston Yacht Club  
April 16, 2012 – Island - VIMY  
May 28, 2012 – Islay - VIMY  
June 18, 2012 - BBQ (Final Exam) - VIMY  
July 23, 2012 – International - FFOM  
August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012 - 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Premium Night - FFOM  
September 17, 2012 - Campbeltown  
October 22, 2012 - Lowland  
November 19, 2012 - Speyside  
December 10, 2012 - Speyside

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## Results of ARDBEG CORRYVRECKANN Raffle

Congratulations to our winner: Alan Patterson.

As you know the bottle cost us \$179.<sup>95</sup>. Thanks to a last minute burst by November attendees we collected a total of \$557 during the course of the raffle.

KSMS benefited by having \$377 added to its coffers!! Job well done. Thank you one and all.

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## Results of our First Live Auction

A great big thank you to Steve Ambury for leading the charge on this one with his traditional wittiness and jovial nature.

Anthony Johnson and Paul Charbonneau kindly donated a bottle of Old Pulteney 21yo, recently crowned World Whisky of the Year in Jim Murray's 2012 Whisky Bible. The winning bid of \$475 was posted by Michael Hartzman who then turned the bottle over to Christine Wasson and Brent Mills as a housewarming gift.

Having just won the Ardbeg Corryvreckann but not being a big fan Alan Patterson kindly donated the bottle back to KSMS to be auctioned off. This bottle garnered a winning bid of \$275 from Rob Arnoth. Alan did not walk away empty handed as he was the recipient of the remainder of the Glenmorangie Nectar D'Or from the November dinner which he found much more pleasing to his palate!

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## Membership and Dinner prices for 2010-2011

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)
	(includes \$5 donation per attendee to RMC Pipes & Drums with Highland Dancers)
June BBQ Dinner Fee:	\$70 (member) \$80 (non-member)

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## Buying whisky as a present

[whiskyforeveryone.blogspot.com](http://whiskyforeveryone.blogspot.com)

### Our recommendations

Most of the whiskies recommended have been reviewed by us and more detailed tasting notes can be reached by clicking on the name of the whisky. We have split the whiskies in to the four main categories to cover



the wide scope of flavours and tastes that could be encountered. Naturally, this is not definitive, as there are many nuances of flavour within each category ... but we hope it helps! We have set a budget of £30-35, as this is the most common price point for gift purchases of whisky.

## Light and fresh

This can be described as light, clean, delicate, fresh and crisp so look out for these words on packaging. Key flavour characters may be vanilla, cereal grains, nuts, grassiness (fresh or dried) and floral. Famous examples of this style are the Glenfiddich 12 years old, Glenmorangie Original and Glenlivet 12 years old. You could go for one of these as they are all very good and are some of the best selling whiskies in the world but what if you want something different. There are some very under rated whiskies in this category and ones worth considering included Glen Grant, Speyburn and Glengoyne which all release good 10 year olds. Also, there are the [Benriach 12 years old](#) and AnCnoc 12 years old. For something slightly different, try the Japanese single malt Yamazaki 10 years old.



## Rich and sweet

These whiskies are much fuller bodied, sweeter and richer than the previous category. They can be described as thick and creamy and have key flavour words such as caramel, dried fruits and citrus peel, spicy and toffee. The Macallan 10 years old is the best selling and most well known brand of this style of whisky. There are many others worth considering including the [Dalmore 12 years old](#), Glenrothes Select Reserve and Glenfarclas 10 years old, which are reasonably common. The Tomintoul 10 years old and Glendronach 12 years old are harder to find but worth tracking down. If you are wanting something non-Scottish then look towards something like the Bushmills Black Bush or a bourbon such as Bulleit Bourbon or Maker's Mark. Most bourbons would actually fall in to this category, as would the popular Tennessee whiskey Jack Daniel's.



## A little bit smoky and peaty

This category is relatively small compared to the others. Generally, they are more robust but not always and have some of the peaty, earthy, smoky flavour and aroma but not as much as the next category. They tend to be from the islands around Scotland, but not always. The most well known examples of this style are the Talisker 10 years old, Highland Park 12 years old and Bowmore



12 years old. Other examples worth checking out include [Ledaig 10 years old](#) and Jura Superstition. Some whiskies have just the slightest hint of smoke and many people enjoy these as it is not too overpowering - Clynelish 14 years old, Springbank 10 years old, Tomintoul Peaty Tang and Glenfiddich Caoran Reserve 12 years old.

### Very smoky and peaty



These are the big, heavy whiskies that are normally from the western Scottish island of Islay (although, again not always!). These will be labelled as rich, peaty, robust, fiery, earthy and smoky. If you see the word 'Islay' on an own brand supermarket whisky then 99.9 times out of 100, it will be in this style. The most famous and best selling brand of this style of whisky is the Laphroaig 10 years old. Laphroaig release another whisky in this £30-35 price bracket that is also very good and this is called [Quarter Cask](#). Other quality whiskies to look for in this smoky style include Ardbeg 10 years old, Caol Ila 12 years old and

Smokehead. If you want something smoky but not from Islay, then try the Benriach 10 years old 'Curiositas' from Speyside, Ardmore Traditional Cask from the Highlands or Longrow CV from Campbeltown.

The Glenfiddich Distillery team immediately swung into action - working around the clock to clear snow from the distillery and neighbouring warehouses to make everything safe. Enduring temperatures as low as -19c, they could only work for a few hours in the bitter cold before having to go indoors to thaw out.

Before the rebuilding of the warehouses could start, all the casks of maturing Glenfiddich had to be moved to other secure places where they could continue their maturation undisturbed.

I came to see the warehouses for myself and standing amongst the wreckage decided to create a special Glenfiddich whisky to mark this moment in the distillery's history and recognize the fantastic and difficult work carried out by the distillery team.

To create this whisky I selected the finest casks from the snow damaged warehouses - marrying together different ages of mature Glenfiddich - some very old. Some of these casks had previously held Oloroso sherry and others were traditional whisky casks made of American oak. Each one was specially chosen to make a unique contribution to the taste and aroma of the final whisky.

Aside from choosing and marrying these casks, this Glenfiddich is as we found it: a marriage of Glenfiddich single malt Scotch whiskies of different ages and finishes with the strength brought to 47.6% abv by the addition of the distillery's Robbie Dhu spring water. It had not been chill filtered.

We have called it Snow Phoenix - a great Glenfiddich Single Malt born of chance and adversity. It is a limited edition, one of a kind and will only be bottled in 2010.

Brian Kinsman; Glenfiddich Malt Master

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## SNOW PHOENIX



Glenfiddich Snow Phoenix commemorates a moment of drama in the long history of The Glenfiddich Distillery. It all began in December 2009 when it started to snow - it kept snowing for several months. After weeks of record low temperatures and alternate freezing and thawing, there were four feet of densely compacted snow on the distillery roofs.

On the evening of Thursday 7th January in the most remote part of the snow covered distillery, some of our warehouse roofs collapsed, ripped open by the sheer weight of snow, leaving maturing oak casks of Glenfiddich exposed to the winter sky.

It was as if some of the distillery angels had finished their 'share' and had come back looking for more.

In all, 4 roofs collapsed and several more were badly damaged. The distillery engineers calculated that there were 400 kilograms of snow on every square metre of warehouse roof - the equivalent of a herd of elephants standing on top of each warehouse.

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## Scotch whisky fans will like distillery tours

By Ruby Turner, Special to The Vancouver Sun October 22, 2011

Scotland, a country where supposedly every penny is a prisoner, enthusiastically reports revenues of over \$100 million from Canadians visiting in 2010. It is no wonder that individual regions throughout Scotland are vying for the chance to entice 2012 visitors to their region.

Speyside, located in northeast Scotland, is the region that tops my list as a very worthwhile holiday destination. I had the chance earlier this month to enjoy some of the local highlights and check out a number of accommodation choices while attending the Autumn Speyside Whisky Festival. Today's column gives just a few ideas on what to do and where to stay but readers looking for a more complete list should check [www.spiritofspeyside.com](http://www.spiritofspeyside.com).

Local tour highlights in Speyside all begin with distillery visits. It is easy to make plans to visit more than one a day as most distilleries are located within proximity of each other. If your time is limited to just one or two days in Speyside, make sure to visit Glenfarclas and Balvenie distilleries as they are two of the best.

Glenfarclas distillery is the first choice of many whisky connoisseurs. It was one of the first distilleries in the area to open a visitor centre and has a unique history of being owned and managed by the Grant family since 1865.

Tours include the opportunity to walk through the numerous buildings to observe the complex process of turning barley and water into whisky. There is also a chance to go inside the cool, dark and musky stone buildings and walk along the many rows of maturing malt casks. The tour guides are experts in not only their product but the intriguing history of whisky making. Anyone planning on taking a tour and sampling a few drams at Glenfarclas should check [www.glenfarclas.co.uk](http://www.glenfarclas.co.uk).

Balvenie distillery has the distinction of being the only distillery that still grows some of its own barley and continues the tradition of floor maltings. Visitors can watch the maltmen turning the barley with wooden shovels as it begins to germinate on the floor. This practice of floor malting takes place four times a day, seven days a week as the barley is prepared for transferring to the kiln room. Balvenie is an exceptional charming distillery where visitors are given a unique opportunity to watch the complete process of whisky making before sampling their exceptional single malts. Details for touring are available at [www.thebalvenie.com](http://www.thebalvenie.com).

Accommodation choices range from first-class hotels to outstanding bed and breakfast establishments. The Craigellachie Hotel, located right in Craigellachie, is a wonderful old hotel for visitors wanting traditional hotel service including a dining room offering fine meals. Just across the street is the Highlander Inn where the rooms are more modest but the restaurant and bar are well worth visiting.

A complete list of bed and breakfast and guest houses in the Speyside region can be found at [www.visitscotland.com](http://www.visitscotland.com). Here are my top two choices for what makes the perfect place to come home to after a day of touring the countryside.

Lynwood B&B offers luxury modern ensuite rooms in a rural area just outside Craigellachie. This home provides the ideal location for visiting distilleries and taking in the many events in the area including the whisky festivals. The owners offer special services such as providing transportation if you want to enjoy whisky tastings and not have to worry about driving. The delicious breakfasts reach the same high standard of the region's whiskies. More information is available at [www.lynwood-bedandbreakfast.co.uk](http://www.lynwood-bedandbreakfast.co.uk).

Trochelhill Country House Bed & Breakfast, located in Fochabers, is a home that I have wanted to visit since reading a great review. This beautiful house and gardens along with its delightful owners and great accommodation surpassed all my expectations. Little extras like hot water bottles put in your bed at night give Trochelhill a high rating with guests.

The house has been completely modernized without losing any of the charm of the old building. Guests are made to feel very welcome with offers of transportation and the option of using the dining room if they would like to bring in an evening meal from a take-away shop. Breakfast choices are all tempting but I suggest the option of silky scrambled eggs that come with haggis and you will know you are in a Scottish home. More information is available at [www.trochelhill.co.uk](http://www.trochelhill.co.uk).

Trochelhill is a great location for coastal walks. Our hosts drove us to Spey Bay and we spent a day walking along the Moray Coastal Trail to Cullen. This shoreline path travels along high cliffs and down onto sandy beaches with stops in small harbours busy with fishing boats and lifeboat stations. My next column will finish my Scotland holiday coverage with information on transportation and answers to questions readers have sent about this trip.

### 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 September 19<sup>th</sup> 2011 dinner date as an example:

- Dinner invitations will be sent out Saturday August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Please respond to me ([rdifazio@cogeco.ca](mailto:rdifazio@cogeco.ca)). 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 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011 @ 6pm.

### Cancellation policy

- Using the same example as above, anyone who cancels anytime prior to Wednesday September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 @ 6pm will be removed from the list.  
- Anyone canceling between Wednesday September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 @ 6pm and Monday September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011 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 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011 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 Wednesday September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 @ 6pm and Monday September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 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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