

# Kingston Single Malt Society

www.kingstonsinglemaltsociety.com

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

OCTOBER 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014

VOLUME 8; NUMBER 4



- **STRATHISLA 12YO** PURE HIGHLAND MALT SCOTCH WHISKY LCBO 387449 | 700 mL bottle **Price \$ 57.50** Spirits 40.0% Alcohol/Vol.

- **TOMINTOUL 14 YEARS OLD SPEYSIDE GLENLIVET SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY** VINTAGES 376228 | 700 mL bottle **Price \$ 116.95** Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch Single Malts 46.0% Alcohol/Vol.

Results of the Arran Bourbon September Raffle  
The winner of the bottle was Chris Good.  
During the course of the raffle a total of \$210 raised.  
Thank you everyone!

## Win Me Tonight!!



## AUCHENTOSHAN VALINCH

Price: \$67.55; 750mL; 57.5% Alcohol/Vol

COST of Tickets:

\$3 each, two tickets for \$5, or 20 tickets for \$20. The winner must successfully answer the skill testing question:  
What country does single malt come from?

This evening's menu in the company of  
Single Malts from SPEYSIDE

**1<sup>st</sup> Nosing: TAMDHU**

(introduced by: Philip Henderson)

**1<sup>st</sup> Course:** Smoked Cheese, Apple, Celeriac, Fennel, Walnuts, Apple Cider & Mustard Vinaigrette

**2<sup>nd</sup> Nosing: CARDHU AMBER ROCK**

(introduced by: Sylvain Bouffard)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Course:** Cold Smoked Mackerel & Octopus Escabeche, Green Olive, Chorizo & Farro

**3<sup>rd</sup> Nosing: STRATHISLA 12 YEARS OLD**

(introduced by: Bill Gorham)

**Main course:** Tobacco Braised Beef Short Rib, Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Rapini, Cipolinis, Fresh Horse Radish, Natural Braising Jus

**4<sup>th</sup> Nosing: TOMINTOUL 14 YEARS OLD**

(introduced by: Conrad Falkson)

**Dessert:** Wild Flower Honey Braised Pumpkin, Tahitian Vanilla Gelato, Salted Caramel, Walnut Praline, Crumbled Roberto Cake

## 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.

- **TAMDHU** FINE SINGLE MALT VINTAGES 157727 | 750 mL bottle, **Price: \$45.95**, Spirits, Scotch Whisky, 43.0% Alcohol/Vol.

- **CARDHU AMBER ROCK** LCBO 383190 | 700 mL bottle **Price \$84.90** Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch Single Malts 40.0% Alcohol/Vol.

## SEPTEMBER - KSMS Financial Statement

(Money from 43 September attendees @ \$60)	= \$2580.00
September dinner 43 persons @ \$42.00/ea	= \$1806.00
Special Occasion Permit @ LCBO	= \$75.00
(Money remaining for buying Single Malt)	= \$699.00
Cost of Single Malts	= \$918.49
Cost of Pours per Person = \$14.71	
KSMS Monthly operational balance	= -(\$219.49)
Cost per person (All inclusive)	= \$65.10

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## Upcoming Dinner Dates

November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014 - Highlands - VIMY  
December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 - Christmas Dinner - River Mill  
January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - Arran - Robbie Burns - VIMY  
February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - Islay - River Mill  
March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - St. Patrick's (Irish) - River Mill  
April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - Islands - VIMY  
May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - Highlands - River Mill  
June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 - BBQ (Final Exam) - VIMY  
July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Bourbon Night - River Mill  
Friday August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 - 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Premium - River Mill  
September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 - Campbeltown/Lowland - VIMY  
October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - Speyside/Highlands - River Mill  
November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - Highlands - VIMY  
December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - Christmas Dinner - River Mill

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## DIAGEO SETTLES EXPLORERS' CLUB TRADEMARK LAWSUIT

22nd September, 2014 by Amy Hopkins - [www.thespiritsbusiness.com](http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com)

Diageo will continue to sell its Johnnie Walker Explorers' Club Scotch whisky range after settling a trademark dispute with the club of the same name.

In August this year, the British drinks group lost a trademark battle against the New York-based not-for-profit group The Explorers Club over its travel retail exclusive Johnnie Walker Explorers' Club collection.



The group, which has counted Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin among its members, launched legal action against Diageo in March over the "confusingly similar" name of its collection.

Manhattan judge Justice Charles Ramos said: "It is clear that Diageo's adoption of the name of the Explorers' Club was for the purpose of leading the public to believe that it was connected or affiliated with the club."

He added that Diageo had "indisputably profited enormously from the purported unlawful and disputed use of the club's name, to the tune of approximately \$50 million in sales."

Diageo and The Explorers Club have now announced a global sponsorship and licensing agreement to settle all outstanding litigation between the two companies.

"This collaboration with The Explorers Club brings the history and importance of exploration to life and allows us to share our joint passion for exploration and discovery," said Guy Escolme, global brand director for Johnnie Walker

"The Explorers Club is leading the way in world exploration, and we are privileged to be able to join them in this extraordinary effort."

Under the agreement, Johnnie Walker has become a corporate sponsor of The Explorers Club, while both groups will also work together to "promote exploration and discovery, the core of The Explorers Club's mission".

Alan Nichols, president of The Explorers Club, said: "With this new and exciting relationship, The Explorers Club will be able to enhance its grant programs, further develop its highly successful lecture series and educational events, and expand its role as the World Center for Exploration."

Financial terms of the agreement have not been released.

The Johnnie Walker Explorers' Club series of exclusive blended whiskies launched in December 2012 and marked Diageo's biggest ever investment in travel retail.

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## Approval recommended for Macallan distillery

28th July, 2014 by Amy Hopkins [www.thespiritsbusiness.com](http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com)

Work on The Macallan's new £100 million distillery has moved a step closer to commencing after council officers recommended plans are approved.

Council officers have recommended councillors approve plans for The Macallan's new distillery

It was revealed in November last year that brand owner Edrington planned to build a new Speyside distillery and visitors' centre for The Macallan, mothballing its existing site.

At the time the plans were announced, a spokesperson for The Macallan told *The Spirits Business* the new site in Speyside, which is still subject to planning permission, will present a "significant increase in capacity" for the brand, which is struggling to meet demand for its aged whiskies around the world.

*The Press and Journal* now reports that council officers recommend the planning committee approves plans for the new distillery at Craigellachie.

However, officers also recommended that a stretch of road that runs past the distillery is widened.

Edrington has partnered with architects Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners to build the distillery and visitors' centre, which is expected to be completed in spring 2017.

Moray council's planning committee will be meeting on 5 August to vote on the proposals.

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## £1m pledged to revamp 'vital' Scotch route

1st July, 2014 by Amy Hopkins [www.thespiritsbusiness.com](http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com)

The Scottish Government has pledged almost £1 million to revamp a Speyside whisky route popular among tourists.

The Scottish Government is to invest £1m in revamping its "vital" whisky tourist route.

As reported in *STV News*, politicians have said that an upgrade of the A95 Keith to Aviemore road – a main route for whisky tourists – is "vital" to sustain interest in the area.

Moray councillor Fiona Murdoch, who represents the constituency where Pernod Ricard's The Glenlivet is produced, said: "This road is bearing the load of Moray's growing economy, with increasing numbers of HGVs for the distilling and food industries.

"We in Moray must keep up the pressure for further improvements to a road which is vital to our tourism and food and drink industries."

Distilleries situated along the route include The Glenlivet, Cardhu, Glenfiddich, Glen Grant, Strathisla, Glen Moray and Dallas Dhu.

The Scotch industry recently came under fire from a leisure and tourism expert who said the Scottish government must be more balanced when it comes to promoting both the Scotch whisky industry and alcohol awareness.

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## Glenrothes to release extra-aged 1992 vintage

17th September, 2014 by Amy Hopkins - [www.thespiritsbusiness.com](http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com)

Speyside distillery The Glenrothes is to release a second edition of its 1992 vintage Scotch whisky which has been aged in refill casks for an additional 10 years.

The Glenrothes is to release a second edition of its 1992 vintage in the US

The Glenrothes Vintage 1992, 2nd Edition, described as having notes of vanilla, lychee, lemon and coconut, has also been bottled at the higher strength of 44.3% abv.

The expression has been aged for an additional 10 years since its predecessor was launched in 2004 in a mixture of Sherry butts and ex-Bourbon casks.

"This edition of the Vintage 1992 is definitely an uplifting, conversational style," said Ronnie Cox, brand heritage director at brand

owner Berry Bros. & Rudd. "The original 1992 was more formal and austere; here we have a confident, but altogether more 'come-hither' expression.

"This edition is the first Glenrothes Vintage comprised entirely of whisky aged in refill casks, allowing the true Glenrothes character to come through."

The Glenrothes Vintage 1992 will initially launch in the USA in October with RRP of US\$249.99 before it rolls out to other markets.

The distillery released its first ever all-first-fill Sherry cask Scotch whisky in July this year.

## Top 10 no-age-statement Scotch whiskies

22nd April, 2014 by Amy Hopkins - [www.thespiritsbusiness.com](http://www.thespiritsbusiness.com)

As a growing number of Scotch producers admit a scarcity of aged stocks, no-age-statement expressions are becoming more prolific, with a number of exciting new bottles launched in the past 12 months.

Ageless Scotch whiskies are becoming increasingly popular, as this list shows. Controversy over the emerging trend of no-age-statement Scotch whiskies has been bubbling for some time, with numerous producers and fans lamenting the supposed loss of quality caused by a lack of age declaration in Scotch.

By law products labelled as Scotch whisky have to have been aged for at least three years, but consumers across the globe often quantify the quality of Scotch, and as such the amount they spend on it, by how old it is.

However, some producers and connoisseurs have argued such prejudice could actually limited innovation in the industry, particularly in light of a demonstrable lack of very old liquid.

Despite widespread contention, one thing is clear, as old stocks shrink and experimentation is more generally accepted in the industry, no-age-statement whiskies are carving a niche in the Scotch market.

### Haig Club

One the most recent no-age-statement Scotch whiskies to launch, Haig Club also pioneers the emerging grain whisky trend.

Launched by Diageo in collaboration with football icon David Beckham and music mogul Simon Fuller, Haig Club is 40% abv product comprised of liquid from three types of cask: first-fill, rejuvenated and refill Bourbon barrels.

Then bottling, which will be officially releases this summer, has a vanilla, honey, floral and fresh green apple nose with

notes of raisins and toasted almonds on the palate and a spicy, long finish. It is designed to be both mixed into cocktails and drunk on its own.

The RRP of the bottling is still to be confirmed.

### Yamazaki and Hakushu Distiller's Reserve



Described as whiskies which "challenging the status quo" of Japanese whisky, no-age statement Yamazaki Distillers Reserve and Hakushu Distillers Reserve were unveiled by Suntory in March this year.

Yamakazi Distiller's Reserve, bottled at 43% abv, is comprised of liquid aged in sherry casks, mizunara casks, French oak Bordeaux wine casks and American oak casks.

Hakushu Distiller's Reserve, also bottled at 43% abv, uses a young lightly peated malt along with a heavily peated and 18-year-old American oak whisky in its blend.

Both expressions, which carry an RRP of £42, contain whiskies aged between eight and 20 years, yet Suntory decided not to declare an

age in order to better reflect the flavour profile of each product, claiming "age should not be the sole parameter in measuring quality".

### Talisker Storm

Diageo released an ageless bottling of its Isle of Talisker Scotch whisky brand as part of a new series in February last year.

Talisker Storm is comprised from a selection of rejuvenated and refill casks at different ages and bottled at 45.8% abv without an age statement.

Turning away from age as a selling point, Talisker Storm is said to reflect the Isle of Skye Distillery. It is described as having the distillery's signature sweet warmth and briny, peppery finish with a "deeper intensity".

### Glenfiddich Cask Collection

Described by the William Grant-owned brand as its "most innovative launch in years", Glenfiddich released a series of no-age-statement single malts into global travel retail in September 2013.

The Glenfiddich Cask Collection consists of the Select Cask, Reserve Cask and



Vintage Cask, all of which

The whiskies also pioneered Glenfiddich's solera vat technique, which was used for the creation of its 15-year-old expression. The distillery built three additional oak vats especially for the Cask Collection, each of which is never less than half full and is regularly replenished with matured whisky for marrying for several weeks.



The Select Cask carries an RRP of £39, while The Reserve Cask retails for £49, and The Vintage Cask is priced at £79.

### Glenmorangie Companta

The already coveted Glenmorangie Companta joined the brand's Private Edition series in January this year.

Bottled at 46% abv, the no-age-statement bottling has been non-chill filtered and matured in Grand Cru casks from Clos de Tart and sweet fortified wine casks from Côtes du Rhône.

The expression is described as having a spicy nutty oak, wood smoke nose and a palate of cherries and stewed fruits with milk chocolate and brown sugar.



### The Glenlivet Alpha

Pernod Ricard made the bold move of releasing a "mysterious" expression of its The

Glenlivet Scotch whisky without an age statement, tasting notes or cask information.

Bottled at 50% in a completely opaque bottle, The Glenlivet Alpha was described as a "blank canvas" designed to challenge consumers to develop their own perceptions of the whisky without being influenced by age, colour or cask.

However, the expression's tasting notes were later revealed by The



Glenlivet's master distiller following a social media campaign designed to engage fans of the malt.

### The Singleton Tailfire and Sunray

Diageo launched two new expressions of its



Singleton Scotch whisky brand complete with rejuvenated packaging in March last year.

The Singleton Tailfire has been aged in mostly European oak casks and features a red label reminiscent of the spirit's red berry and vanilla flavours.

Meanwhile, The Singleton Sunray features an orange label, reflecting the liquid's maturation in predominantly Bourbon casks and subsequent honeyed, baked apple flavour.

Both were released in a bid to attract younger consumers to the single malt category.



### **The Macallan M**

Edrington caused quite a stir when it released £3,000 no age statement Scotch The Macallan M, described as sitting at the "summit" of its popular 1824 series.

Only 1,750 lalique crystal decanters of the Scotch were launched in October last year.

Of the expression's no-age-statement, David Cox, director of fine and rare whiskies at The Macallan, said: "It is important for us to be able to sustain the range going forward. Age is important to us. Our whiskies need to be old, but they also need to be sustainable. Ultimately, we need to manage our stock as much as we can."

A six-litre decanter of The Macallan M broke the Guinness World Record for the most expensive whisky to ever be sold at auction when it went under the hammer at Sotheby's in Hong Kong in January this year – fetching an astonishing £381,620 (US\$628,000)

### **Cardhu Amber Rock**

Daigeo took a leaf out of

Edrington's book with the launch of no-age-statement Cardhu Amber Rock by focussing on the colour of the whisky.

The name Cardhu Amber Rock refers to the Gaelic translation of the brand's name, which means "black rock" and was chosen to highlight the expression's "golden, jewel-like" colour.

Double matured in toasted American oak casks, the bottling is described as tasting of citrus and honey with fruit, spice, sweetness and fresh vanilla.

Cardhu

Amber Rock carries an RRP of £41.

### **Glen Garioch Virgin Oak**

Highland single malt Scotch whisky distillery Glen Garioch made the bold move back in July 2013 of releasing a no-age-statement expression which has also been aged in virgin oak barrels.

Bottled at 46% abv, the whisky is described as having notes of chocolate cake, treacle syrup and orange marmalade.

Glen Garioch, which carries an RRP of £69.99, was released as a limited edition.



Please drink responsibly.

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 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014 dinner date as an example:

- Dinner invitations will be sent out Friday August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014. 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 Thursday August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014 @ 6pm.

### **Cancellation policy**

- Using the same example as above, anyone who cancels anytime prior to Thursday August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014 @ 6pm will be removed from the list.

- Anyone canceling between Thursday August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014 @ 6pm and Monday September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014 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 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014 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 Thursday August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014 @ 6pm and Monday September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014, their name will be placed on a wait-list and be accommodated on a first-come first-serve basis.

## **Membership and Dinner prices for 2013-2014**

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

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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