

Kingston Single Malt Society

www.kingstonsinglemaltsociety.com

A social club for the appreciation of Single Malt Whisky since 1998
FEBRUARY 11th, 2019 VOLUME 11; NUMBER 8



GLENGLASSAUGH

HIGHLAND SINGLE MALT
SCOTCH WHISKY



PMA

PETER MIELZYNSKI AGENCIES LTD.
PURVEYORS OF FINE WINES & SPIRITS



Glenfiddich.

An Evening in the “Glens” with David Smith, PMA Canada

David Smith represents, among others, the prestigious William Grants & Sons and Brown-Forman portfolios of products in Eastern Ontario as part of the Nation's second-largest Wine & Spirits Agency, PMA Canada. Focusing on brands including Glenfiddich, The Balvenie, and Glendronach Single Malt Scotch Whiskies, as well as the venerable Jack Daniel's and Woodford Reserve families of American Whiskeys.

Although David specializes in Whisk(e)y (whether to “e” or not to “e”), he speaks to all styles and categories of Spirits, taking consumers, enthusiasts and industry professionals alike through the journey of Whisk(e)y creation and production from acorn to glass. Characterized by his casual yet informative presentation style, he aims to make Whisk(e)y fun and accessible to everyone. Large groups can be kept entertained with Storytelling and Tutored Tasting while smaller intimate events allow for deeper and more informative discussions.

David Smith and PMA Canada remind you to enjoy their products responsibly with friends and family. Moderation tastes better! Cheers!

MENU

1st course: *Smoked Salmon & Potato Fritters,
Smoked Paprika Aioli*

1st Nosing: *GLENGLOSSAUGH TORFA*

2nd Nosing: *GLENGLOSSAUGH PEDRO XIMENEZ*

2nd course: *Grilled Vegetables, Bulgur, Quinoa,
Tabbouleh, Halloumi Cheese*

3rd Nosing: *GLENDRONACH REVIVAL 15 YEAR OLD*

4th Nosing: *GLENDRONACH PEATED PORT WOOD
FINISH*

5th Nosing: *GLENDRONACH CASK STRENGTH BATCH 7*

Main Course: *Prosciutto Wrapped Chicken Supreme,
Mushroom Risotto, Fried Kale*

6th Nosing: *GLENFIDDICH EXP. SERIES #4 FIRE & CANE*

7th Nosing: *GLENFIDDICH EXP. SERIES #2 PROJECT XX*

Dessert: *White Chocolate Amarula Vanilla Spice
Ganache & Strawberry Brownie*

8th Nosing: *GLENFIDDICH WINTER STORM
EXPERIMENTAL SERIES #3 BATCH No. 1*

COST OF THE MALTS

- **GLENGLOSSAUGH TORFA** HIGHLY PEATED HIGHLAND
SINGLE MALT VINTAGES 554477 | 700 mL bottle **Price**
\$99.95 Spirits, Scotch Single Malts 49.98% Alcohol/Vol.

GLENGLOSSAUGH PEDRO XIMENEZ WOOD FINISH
VINTAGES 138362 | 700 mL bottle **Price \$126.25** Spirits,
Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch Single Malts 46.0% Alcohol/Vol.

GLENDRONACH REVIVAL 15 YEAR OLD VINTAGES
367983 | 750 mL bottle **Price \$104.25** Spirits,
Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch Single Malts 46.0% Alcohol/Vol.

GLENDRONACH PEATED PORT WOOD FINISH SINGLE
MALT LCBO 578369 | 700 mL bottle **Price \$104.95** Spirits,
Whisky/Whiskey 46.0% Alcohol/Vol.

GLENDRONACH CASK STRENGTH BATCH 7 LCBO
582551 | 700 mL bottle **Price \$119.95** Spirits,
Whisky/Whiskey 57.9% Alcohol/Vol.

**GLENFIDDICH EXPERIMENTAL SERIES #4 FIRE &
CANE** LCBO 629352 | 750 mL bottle **Price \$79.75** Spirits,
Whisky/Whiskey 40.0% Alcohol/Vol.

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

AMARULA VANILLA SPICE LCBO 635615 | 750 mL bottle
Price \$28.95 Spirits, Liqueur/Liquor 15.5% Alcohol/Vol.

**GLENFIDDICH WINTER STORM EXPERIMENTAL
SERIES #3 BATCH No. 1** LCBO 535195 | 750 mL bottle
Price: \$349.95 Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey 43.0%
Alcohol/Vol.

Upcoming Dinner Dates

Friday March 1st, 2019 - Game of Thrones Single Malt Collection
March 18th, 2019 - Balvenie Vertical - Jamie Johnson
April 22nd, 2019 - Islay - River Mill
May 13th, 2019 - Speyside
June 17th, 2019 - BBQ (Final Exam)
July 22nd, 2019 - World Whisk(e)y
Friday August 23rd 2019 - 12th Annual Premium Night
September 16th, 2019 - Campbeltown / Lowland / Speyside /
Highlands / Islands / Islay
October 21st, 2019 - Islands / Islay
Wednesday Oct. 30th, 2019 -
Macallan / Highland Park / Glenrothes - Cameron Millar
November 18th, 2019 - Islands / Islay
December 9th 2019 - Christmas Dinner
January 20th, 2020 - Robbie Burns Dinner
February 17th, 2020 - Islands / Islay
March 16th, 2020 - Speyside
April 20th, 2020 - Campbeltown / Speyside / Islands - River Mill
May 25th, 2020 - Speyside
June 22nd, 2020 - BBQ (Final Exam)
July 20th, 2020 - World Whisk(e)y - Matt Jones
Friday August 28th 2020 - 12th Annual Premium Night
September 21st, 2020 - Campbeltown / Lowland / Speyside /
Highlands / Islands / Islay
October 20th, 2020 - Speyside / Highlands
November 16th, 2020 - Speyside
December 14th 2020 - Christmas Dinner

JANUARY - KSMS Financial Statement

(Money from 45 January attendees @ \$75)	= \$3375.00
(Money from 18 January guests @ \$85)	= \$1530.00
January dinner 63 persons (\$50.00/ea)	= \$3150.00
(Money remaining for buying Single Malt)	= \$1755.00
Cost of Single Malts	= \$1771.90
Cost of Pours per Person = \$19.26	
KSMS Monthly operational balance	= (-\$16.90)
Cost per person (All inclusive)	= \$78.13

GLENFIDDICH FIRE & CANE UNITES PEAT AND RUM



23 July 2018 by *Becky Paskin* - www.scotchwhisky.com

Glenfiddich has launched Fire & Cane, a peated single malt finished in rum casks, as the fourth release in its Experimental Series.

Smoky and sweet: Glenfiddich Fire & Cane is the distillery's first peated malt finished in rum casks

Described as 'the whisky experiment that will divide you', Glenfiddich Fire & Cane is a lightly peated, no-age-statement

single malt that's been matured in ex-Bourbon casks before being finished in 'Latin-style' rum casks for several months.

Glenfiddich malt master **Brian Kinsman** chose an 'earthy, richer' rum than the Caribbean style used to finish the Glenfiddich 21 Year Old Gran Reserva, in order to balance the rum and peat notes.

Jennifer Wren, Glenfiddich US brand ambassador, said the rum used is a blend from various regions including the Caribbean and South America.

'The rum we use for our 21-year old was too light and delicate to hold up against the peat,' she said.

'Brian sought out a blended rum that was more musty and goaty, and had a big personality, because otherwise the rum notes were getting lost.'

The whisky, which is bottled at 43% abv, is described as having a 'toffee sweetness' with a 'campfire smokiness'.

While the expression is the first peated *Glenfiddich* finished in rum casks, Fire & Cane is not the first peated malt from the Speyside distillery.

In 2003 the distillery released Glenfiddich Caoran, a lightly peated 12-year-old single malt, as a UK exclusive.

Ten years later the brand introduced the peated Vintage Cask as part of its global travel retail range, while the Glenfiddich 125th Anniversary edition, released in 2012, also contained peated malt.

Wren added: 'This is another example of how we are leading the pack on innovation, which is always the goal of what we do.'

'Glenfiddich sits in this very traditional space, but we're also not afraid to take risks. With every new Experimental edition we're just pushing that boundary a little bit farther.'

Glenfiddich Fire & Cane will be available to buy in the US from July, and in the UK from October for around US\$50/ £43 a bottle.

It joins *Glenfiddich Project XX and IPA Experiment* as part of the brand's on-going Experimental Series.

Last year's *Glenfiddich Winter Storm*, a 21-year-old single malt finished in Canadian icewine casks, was a limited edition part of the range.

Glenfiddich Fire & Cane joins Experimental Series

24th July, 2018 by Melita Kiely - www.thespiritsbusiness.com

William Grant & Sons-owned Glenfiddich has extended its Experimental Series with the launch of Fire & Cane – a smoky single malt Scotch finished in rum casks.

Glenfiddich Fire & Cane is a peated whisky finished in rum casks

Glenfiddich Fire & Cane is the fourth expression to join the range and is a peated, no-age-statement (NAS) malt whisky that was first matured in Bourbon casks.

The whisky was then finished in Latin rum casks to add "caramel toffee sweetness" to the spirit. Additional tasting notes include green fruits, baked apple, toasted marshmallow and soft spice.

Fire & Cane is bottled in a coloured glass that changes from a black/brown base to clear glass displaying the whisky. It was designed to physically highlight the contrasting flavours through colour.

With an abv of 43%, Glenfiddich Fire & Cane will be available in the US from July at an RRP of US\$50 per 700ml before it is launched in the UK in October.

Brian Kinsman, Glenfiddich malt master, said: "We started with the question – what would happen if we did something with peat that we had not done before?"

"The answer is an unconventional and unexpected whisky, one that is truly surprising. During the tastings, some experience the unusual smoky notes, while others tasted toffee flavours – this phenomenon can be attributed to the Scotch spending three months in sweet rum casks."

Kinsman first ran peated spirit through the Glenfiddich stills in 2003, though this is the brand's first peated whisky to have been finished in rum casks.

Glenfiddich Fire & Cane joins fellow Experimental Series expressions *Glenfiddich IPA Experiment* and *Glenfiddich Project XX*, which both launched in 2016, and *Glenfiddich Winter Storm*, which launched in 2017.

GLENDRONACH REVIVAL 15 YEAR OLD RETURNS

05 September 2018 by [Becky Paskin](http://www.scotchwhisky.com) – www.scotchwhisky.com

GlenDronach distillery has once again relaunched its Sherry-matured 15-year-old Revival, following a three-year absence from shelves.

Sherried comeback: The new GlenDronach Revival 15 Year Old has been matured in ex-oloroso and PX casks

The single malt has been matured in a combination of ex-oloroso and PX Spanish oak casks from Andalucía for 15 years, before being bottled at 46% abv.

It's described as having notes of 'ripe dark fruits and manuka honey' with an 'elegant silk-velvet chocolate finish'.



The expression, priced at around £61 for a 70cl bottle, will be available globally following an initial four-week exclusive launch at GlenDronach distillery's visitor centre.

Rachel Barrie, master blender for GlenDronach, said: 'Today marks the return of The GlenDronach Revival aged 15 years, an iconic aged expression of critical acclaim, revered by connoisseurs around the globe.'

'Over 15 years in the darkness of our dunnage warehouses, the spirit has grown in stature, refinement and intensity.'

The original GlenDronach 15-year-old was first launched in

the 1990s as a 40% abv expression.

It was discontinued some time after, but reintroduced again in 2009 under new ownership as GlenDronach Revival, this time bottled at 46% abv.

However stock constraints forced its discontinuation in 2015.

Glenglassaugh launches Octaves Batch 2

11th October, 2018 by Melita Kiely - www.thespiritsbusiness.com

Highland distillery Glenglassaugh has released the second batch of its Octave series, featuring peated and unpeated whiskies matured in octave barrels.

Glenglassaugh Octaves Batch 2 features peated and unpeated NAS single malts

Glenglassaugh Octaves Classic and Glenglassaugh Octaves Peated are both bottled without age statements or chill-filtering at 44% abv.

The Classic bottling is a blend of Bourbon, Pedro Ximénez and Amontillado Sherry Cask octaves, said to deliver notes of tropical fruits, spiced coffee and oak nuttiness.

The Peated whisky is made up of liquid that has been aged in Bourbon, Port and oloroso Sherry cask octaves. It is said to have notes of salted caramel, yellow plums, savoury smoke and maple syrup.

Glenglassaugh Octaves Classic Batch 2 has an RRP of £60 (US\$79), while Glenglassaugh Octaves Peated Batch 2 has an RRP of £65 (US\$86).

Rachel Barrie, Glenglassaugh master blender, said: “As the surf rolls in on Sandend Bay and invigorating North Sea air passes through our coastal warehouses, these two luscious malts are truly a distillation of nature’s elements.

“Shaped by the rich abundance of land and sea, this fresh duo of Glenglassaugh Octaves encapsulate rolling waves of flavour that intensify and evolve with each and every sip.”

Tobermory 12-year-old to mark distillery reawakening

7th February, 2019 by Amy Hopkins - www.thespiritsbusiness.com

Tobermory Distillery on the Isle of Mull is planning to release a 12-year-old signature single malt and a new bottle design to mark its return to production after a two-year hiatus.



Distell's Tobermory Distillery is based on the Isle of Mull

[The site was closed for 24 months in 2017](#), during which time the distillery and its visitor centre was refurbished.

In addition to the new 12-year-old, Tobermory is set to unveil “vibrant” new packaging to reflect the colourful houses that sit along the harbour on the Isle of Mull.

Two ‘gallery’ events will mark the launch of the new expression and design. The first will take place in London in March, and the second in Glasgow in April.

Distillery guests will also have a unique opportunity to view two original pieces of art donated to the distillery by Catherine Ross, who completed the first ‘Artist in Residence’ programme at Tobermory last year. Her work will be supported by photographer Euan Miles.

The artwork and photographs have been used to create new packaging for all spirits produced at Tobermory Distillery.

The Tobermory Distillery, owned by South African drinks group Distell, operates two production cycles during the year to produce its namesake Tobermory and Ledaig brands of Scotch whisky.

Are whisky enthusiasts out of touch?

www.whiskyandwisdom.com

The 2019 Annual Brands Report by Drinks International has just been released, and it makes for fascinating reading. For those that consider themselves a whisky connoisseur or, perhaps more accurately, a hardcore enthusiast, it also suggests you’re possibly out of step with what’s happening on the on-premise scene...

When did you realise your fondness for whisky went next level? At what point did you graduate from being someone who merely *liked* whisky to someone who was *interested* in whisky?

Was it the day you went into a bar and ordered a neat single malt rather than a JW & coke? The day you joined a Facebook whisky group? Or was it the day you corrected someone for pronouncing Islay wrong?

Once your relationship with whisky transitions from merely liking to exploring, you join an enlightened group of comrades. You learn and speak a new language; you make new acquaintances; you form new strong friendships; you grow a collection; and you devour all the information you can about whisky. And, importantly, for the purposes of

this piece, you find yourself part of a very small minority. For it turns out that the rest of the world – even those that like and drink whisky – are marching to the beat of a different drum. There is a huge disconnect between the priorities and purchasing habits of a whisky enthusiast and the common imbibers. And this becomes very apparent when you look at what’s going on in the bar scene...

The Annual Brands Report is a poll that aims to track the trends of the best bars in the world. The identified bars – polled from across 38



countries – participate in a survey where they’re asked to rank their three bestselling products in each spirit category. The results are reported back in two formats – there’s a Top 10 list of the bestselling brands, and also a Top 10 list of the top *trending* brands. The latter list doesn’t reflect what’s selling in large volumes but, rather, what customers are increasingly asking for – perhaps because of word of

mouth, or bartenders' recommendations. The report points out that brands that appear on the *trending list* one year often subsequently appear on the *bestselling* list the following year.

The results for Scotch tell a story: The number one selling brand – on *both* lists, mind you – is Monkey Shoulder. Yes, that's right, a *blended malt*. Johnnie Walker comes in second on the Bestselling Brands list (after nine consecutive years in the number one spot), but is nowhere to be seen on the Trending Brands list. Two other blends, namely Dewar's and Chivas Regal, feature on the bestselling list at No.'s 6 and 10 respectively.

The four aforementioned brands are worthy players and all make good whisky. But it would not be a stretch or unfair to suggest that those brands are unlikely to excite a genuine whisky enthusiast.

The emergence of Monkey Shoulder at No.1 is a story in itself – particularly to knock off a behemoth such as Johnnie Walker (with its many diverse expressions). If I may isolate one market for a moment and look purely at Australia, the rising consumption figures for blended malt whisky over time reveal not just impressive growth, but also – arguably – a decided and very successful marketing campaign by William Grant & Sons. Admittedly, the figures are now a few years old, but from 2007 to 2010, consumption of blended malt whisky (previously known as vatted malt) in Australia rose 4.5%. Here's the kicker: Monkey Shoulder was introduced to the Australian market in 2011 and between 2010 and 2012, consumption of blended malt whisky suddenly jumped up 37.3%! For the exact same period, consumption of blended malt whisky was stagnant or fell in almost every other market (e.g. USA, Western Europe, Japan, Russia), with Latin America being the other notable exception to see a rise.

Is it fair to say that most people aren't walking into a bar and ordering a Monkey Shoulder on the rocks? Almost since its inception (which was actually back in 2005!), Monkey Shoulder has been marketed as a great whisky for mixing and barely a single article exists on the brand without it being mentioned somewhere that it's brilliant for cocktails. It has the appeal of being a *malt* whisky, with the inherent additional robustness, texture, and flavour that affords, whilst not necessarily carrying the price tag of most other single malts.

As for we whisky enthusiasts, there's a big difference between what we order at a bar and what we purchase by the bottle at our local liquor outlet. If you're lucky to have a well-stocked or specialist whisky bar nearby, such venues are usually opportunities to explore deluxe releases by the dram that perhaps we can't afford by the bottle. Or merely to *taste* a whisky rather than invest in it. But my point is this: We're not the ones walking into a bar and ordering a cocktail with Monkey Shoulder in it. But it's evident the rest of the world is.

And if you were wondering what the other six brands were in the Bestselling List, the answers are again intriguing. Four of them are peated, and three of those four are from Islay. Laphroaig is the surprise packet at No. 3; Ardbeg made No. 7, Lagavulin at No. 8 and Talisker at No. 9. The three Islay distilleries have relatively small output capacities, so their appearance on any bestselling list might raise an eyebrow or two. However, given the increasing popularity of using smoky malts in cocktails and the fact that punters are exploring stronger flavours when imbibing neat, perhaps this isn't so surprising after all. But one also wonders if the likes of the Ron Swanson's of this world are having an impact? As for the remaining two, and looking at the huge number of different expressions in Macallan's and Glenfiddich's portfolio, plus the sheer size and volume of both, it is perhaps no surprise they feature high up in the list in the on-premise market.

The pleasing part of the story is that six of the top 10 are actually single malts. As the editors again point out, when the polling started years ago, blends dominated the list, now single malts make up the majority. Maybe the world is catching up to us after all?

Cheers,
AD

Researchers claim to have identified the main cause for gender bias within the spirits industry – tulip-shaped glasses.

Glassware has been identified as a "primary cause" for gender bias in spirits

Tulip-shaped, or copita, glasses have long been used for nosing and tasting spirits, and have been designed to concentrate the aromas of the liquid.

However, a new report – *Applying Physics and Sensory Sciences to Spirits Nosing Vessel Design to Improve Evaluation Diagnostics and Drinking Enjoyment* – suggests these glasses have been a primary cause

for "female exclusion" due to women's heightened sense of smell compared to men.

Commissioned by Arsilica, which owns glassware company Neat, the research revealed that in a simple 'A/B' preference test, 98% of women preferred an "open-rim, engineering nosing vessel, which diverts ethanol (A), over the tulip, which concentrates ethanol (B)".

It also showed that 30% of women "refused testing, averse to olfactory pain to tulips".

For men, 87% of those surveyed preferred option 'A', and "none experienced olfactory pain".

All participants chosen for the study were well-known to the author, Christine Crnek, co-founder and CEO of Arsilica, and comprised spirits industry executives, collectors and aficionados, spirits judges, bartenders, brand ambassadors, certified sommeliers, spirits distributors and buyers, competition and tasting organisers, and members of international spirits clubs.

The exception was participants in 'Consumer Test I', who were all random attendees at spirits events.

Glassware put to the test during the study included the snifter, Glencairn, copita, an 'engineered vessel' and a tumbler.

The study proposed a modified social position to "balance gender participation" in the spirits world.

It stated: "The industry has a golden opportunity to balance gender participation and much to gain from expanding straight spirits markets to include more sensitive female noses.

"As a bonus, males with more sensitive noses will participate.

Modifying social stance requires no investment, and there are many areas for improvement."

Christine Crnek, co-founder and CEO of Arsilica, said: "Fifty years ago, Scotch, whiskies, Tequilas and rum target markets were solidly male, and gender-neutral social norms were not a consideration.

"Our research uncovered a major reason for predominantly male participation and female exclusion among straight spirits drinkers: tulip glasses which concentrate painful nose-numbing ethanol.

"According to sensory science, females have far superior noses, and



ethanol is an anaesthetic which quickly hinders aroma detection and appreciation. It's been under our noses all along, yet no one noticed."

TODAY'S WHISKY DRINKER DESERVES BETTER

06 February 2019 by [Dave Broom](#)



Over many years of taking tasting sessions, I've begun to appreciate the format's ability to unlock people's personalities. Everything you have ever smelled is locked away in your memory; when an aroma leaps into focus, it comes with a context attached which reveals something about you to everyone else in the room.

I remember a very quiet woman who found it hard to articulate what she was smelling – we've all been there – suddenly shouting 'amyl nitrate!' as her first public tasting note. To be fair, I didn't push her as to why she knew what poppers smelled like (if only because it might have shown that I did...).

Anyway, tasting in public, or with friends, becomes a little like a therapy session. We dredge up aromas which tell us – and the company – about where we are from, and what we like and dislike. Sharing it is good. Knowing your comfort zone and aversions is the only way in which you can start to navigate whisky and, who knows, maybe it helps you in

other ways. Pour a dram, lie down on the couch, and tell me about yourself. I'm listening.

Having a regular column is in some ways similar. It too allows you to work out some issues.



Individual appeal: A whisky's aroma is often linked to a person's memories and experiences (Photo: Jen Steele Photography)

I come to this having finished tasting and then writing the next two weeks' tasting notes (I hasten to add everything was spat out) and, as this is the day after, there's no vestigial alcohol adding to my irritability.

What is inflamed is (or was) my palate, as yet another cask-strength whisky seared its way down my oesophagus. It's something which has bugged me for months, years maybe, and for some reason has bubbled to the top of the pile of things to grumble about. I'm allowed to. I'm old.

Don't get me wrong. I see the attraction of cask strength (whatever it means). Whisky in its naked condition, no adulteration, no bugging about. Alcohol carries flavour, after all. Whiskies at 43% or 46% tend to have more depth than those bottled at 40%. That ideological purity does, on occasion, need to be tempered by common sense – namely, can you drink the bloody stuff without wincing?

One of my maxims is that whisky is about pleasure, not about pain. If all you care about is the latter, then, well we are back to whisky revealing darker psychological secrets. Pop back on to the couch and tell me about your mother.

Just add water, you say? I do as a matter of course, for the simple reason that it opens the whisky up and also reveals positives and negatives such as astringency or inactivity. That raw heat is coming from spirit which hasn't been mellowed by air or wood. It is there because cask or time haven't worked... yet.

Adding water might cut the heat, but in the worst examples it doesn't. It's still there, nagging away at the back of the palate. The water exposes the whisky, confirming what the neat tasting suggested: it's not balanced. Reducing bottling strength wouldn't have worked either, because that balance doesn't exist.

Some high-strength whiskies will mellow and improve with some water, but that is because they have an inherent balance and complexity. Water opens up what the alcohol has obscured when it's tasted neat. You cannot, however, open up something which isn't there.

So, the question is, why bottle it? I know that one person's 'vibrancy' can be another's 'immaturity', but rushing to bottling just because you have the cask makes little commercial sense. We are inundated with whisky, be it Scotch or from the rest of the world.

The result is that the quality bar has been (or should have been) set higher. The days of bottling whatever came along have surely gone. Now there are plenty of quality alternatives.

Immature? Hang on to it, blend it – that vibrancy can be useful in a vatting. Oh, and don't think that a quick dunk into an active cask for a short period of finishing will sort it out. It won't. You'll just get an immature whisky with wine on top of it. That's not what finishing is meant to be about.

The lofty principles revolved around looking carefully at the distillery character of a mature spirit and then using a short time in an active cask to spin the flavours in a new and harmonious direction, adding complexity which complemented and, perhaps, subtly contrasted with the original. It's not a way of covering up – and yet it still happens.

Neither should finishing be seen as innovative. It might have been in the 1990s (or earlier), but we've moved on. And don't fob me off with starting in ex-Sherry then finishing in ex-Bourbon. That's not innovation, that's desperation.



Shaky foundations: Is 'innovation' used to mask mediocre or immature whisky?

Although innovation is the most misused word in Scotch, it is needed. Things must always move forward, while being cognisant of the past (in fact, with a keen eye on what might have been the norm decades ago, which could be revived and reinterpreted). It can take years for innovation to pay off – [Glenmo's yeast work](#) proves that.

Balance, complexity, character. The three-legged stool, the foundation, the three words that should always be thrumming away at the back of the mind. If they're not there, then go back, rework, rethink and blend, because there's always a new opportunity.

In a world which will soon be awash with whisky, the standard has to be higher. We, the drinkers, deserve it.

Good. Can I get off the couch now?

Membership and Dinner prices for 2018-2019

Membership Fee:	\$50 (singles) \$75 (couples)
One Time Initiation Fee:	\$15
Standard Dinner Fee:	\$70 (member) \$80 (non-member)
Christmas Dinner Fee:	\$75 (member) \$75 (non-member)
Robbie Burns Dinner Fee:	\$75 (member) \$85 (non-member)
June BBQ Dinner Fee:	\$80 (member) \$90 (non-member)

Reserved Seating

- Reserved Seating will only be provided in the case of groups consisting of four (4) or greater.

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 17th, 2018 dinner date as an example:

- Dinner invitations will be sent out Friday August 24th, 2018. 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 7th, 2018 @ 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 7th, 2018 @ 6pm will be removed from the list.
- Anyone canceling between Friday September 7th, 2018 @ 6pm and Monday September 17th, 2018 will be expected to pay for the cost of the dinner and scotch (\$70). 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 17th, 2018 dinner without having cancelled and been successfully replaced will be expected to pay the full cost (\$70). A member will be responsible for their guest's cancellation (\$80).
- If a member asks to be included at the dinner between Friday September 7th, 2018 @ 6pm and Monday September 17th, 2018, 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.



Kingston Single Malt Society

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