

# Greystoke 'Boot & Shoe' Whisky Club

Established December 2013

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## NEWSLETTER – 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019

### **The Meeting**

Because a so-called friend arranged another tasting competition on the same night, the constitution was invoked and the Whisky day changed to Monday, the day before. Despite the change it was another good meeting with an all-Irish selection of whiskies for sampling. There were four whiskies on the table and the average scores were within four points. As usual the decibel level rose with consumption as everyone was trying to get a word in edgeways.

### **Scoring of Samples (/100)**

Jameson IPA	78
Teeling Small Batch	77
Sexton Single Malt	75
Redbreast 12 Yrs	79

It was comforting that the Redbreast, without being emphatic, came out tops of the Local Liking scores and was the only one with an age statement.

### **Comments**

Corrine refused to drink the Sexton and was absolutely distraught by "I poured Whiskey away".

Donald said of the Sexton "Nose (for once) – pears. OK but a bit unwhiskeyish".

Keith said that the Teeling "was just what you needed on a frosty day". (I tend to drink in the evening!) He also commented that the Sexton was "the best bottle design yet".

Allan, wearing his Health and Safety cap issued a warning that the Sexton should not be mixed with water

### **All Our Yesterdays**

A brief explanation of why the tract of water at Hartsop was called Brotherswater. Apparently two brothers died as one went in to save the other.

### **Emoticon Scoring**

Favourably received as a good idea and some were used. Hope it is used as an enhancement and not to the detriment of cryptic comment.

### **Christmas tree display in Church**

A decorated tree is in production and will be displayed over Christmas

### **Sort of Technical / News**

US Import Tariff

After 25 years of nil tariff, the US is imposing a 25% import tariff on Scotch whisky. It is said to be retaliation to the W.T.O. dispute about EU subsidies given to European aircraft makers Airbus and not to US Boeing.

### Ardbeg Supernova

New releases recommenced in 2009 with the 4<sup>th</sup> issue in 2015 described then as Final. Now the 5<sup>th</sup> (definitely Final) Limited release, is priced at £140, and will probably only go to the Ardbeg Committee. Having read the official tasting notes they are welcome to it. "Aromas of pungent aniseed, menthol and eucalyptus, with a nebula of bonfires, soot, charred oak, birch tar and menthol on the palate" Presumably not to be drunk near fires or possibly even in a warm environment.

### What are legs doing in my Whisky

This is not a reference to a process involving hairy Scotsmen. It is the effect you see after swirling your glass and seeing the whisky run back down. Reason is that alcohol has lower surface tension than water. Alcohol starts to evaporate (don't like the sound of that!) leaving more water, which increases surface tension, which pulls up some whisky, which then starts to fall as 'legs' under their own weight. (No I don't really understand the physics of it either).

### Single Malts are Blended

You might think that the statement is an oxymoron, or was written by one. In fact all Blended Scotch is a mixture of numerous, possibly forty, different single malts together with a base of grain whisky. There are Blended Malts which are on the increase to curtail production costs and appeal to a broader customer base. Most distilleries now produce a mixture of different ages from their distillations.

### A selection of humour, gleaned from various mags and rags:-

People tell me I should drink Less Whisky but I can't find that brand anywhere.

You shouldn't mix Whisky and Calculus as it is illegal to drink and derive.

I recently started a Whisky diet and have lost two days already.

Two Chinese robbing a distillery. One says "Is this whisky?" The other replies "Yeah, but it's safer than wobbling a bank"

**Date of Next Meeting(s) – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020,  
then Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

#### **Acknowledgements**

**Ben & Jan** for provision of Whisky Club engraved glasses. Also for providing the room for the meetings.

**Glencairn** for producing the logo etched whisky glasses at a favourable cost.

**Graham White** for donating the welcoming Quaich.

**Various people** for donations of bottles for the tastings.

#### **Some Gaelic terminology and pronunciation for information**

*Failte, pronounced Foyle ta, means Welcome*

*Slainte, pronounced Slarn ja, means Cheers, Good Health etc*

*Quaich, pronounced Quaikkkkkkk, is a traditional welcome drink vessel*

*Wee Dram – pronounced Wee Dram - is organically distilled into Dram Wee*

*Poit Dhubh – pronounced potch ghoo – is a black pot or illicit still*

#### **Some random sayings / quotations**

*"Enjoyment of single malts are best savoured in the company of like-minded souls."*

*Bearing in mind recent weather the Scots say "Today's rain is tomorrow's whisky."*

*Never do today what you can put off until tomorrow.*

*You are your sole arbiter of flavour !  
It's never good to collapse during a tasting.*

*.Libel or Slander issues should be addressed to the editor Harry Upton who will put them down the appropriate file.*