

Greystoke 'Boot & Shoe' Whisky Club

Established December 2013

NEWSLETTER – 4th JANUARY 2022

Happy New Year (anyone know the Celtic phrase) and Slainte to our 9th year start.

The Meeting

Another small but select hardcore of members, not surprising considering Covid restrictions and close on New Year. Apologies were double the attendance but the attendees made a good show of it. Following on from Phil's tasting comment, below, the selection ought to be less lovely 'cos it is no good for the stocks. You will have seen an email from Gavin saying he was unlikely to attend again because of excessive travel from his new home in Langholm. Enjoyed his contributions. Ros also resigned last month due to health problems. She was always a lively participant when attending.

Scoring of Samples (/100)

Subjected to a 'following morning' audit that revealed a small error of 'averaging' division. The top scorer was reported half a mark higher than the check, but there was no change to the placings.

Bottle 1	Cotswold (No age)	80.5/100	(3 rd)
Bottle 2	ALDI Highland 12	77.5/100	(4 th)
Bottle 3	Jura 10	83/100	(2 nd)
Bottle 4	Dalmore Cigar Malt	86/100	(1 st)

Tasting Comments

Garry immersed himself into a rich seam with progressive comments of "Lovely start," "Not bad," "My fave," and "Another lovely one." Allan commented that there were no cigars on offer with the Dalmore, but Keith thought he could smell them from the bottle. Phil said the Cotswold was warm and much needed after his abortive cesspool delivery. Perhaps it is worth mentioning to Cotswold to put it on their tasting notes! Phil also commented that it was a lovely selection and the colours were great:tastes?

Christmas tree Display in Church

Marie and Allan liaised to furnish the Church with an appropriate Whisky Club Christmas tree for their display. I understand that Becky's Village Hall Playgroup tree was judged best in show for the originality of the youngsters decoration ideas.

Short Story Competition

Harry entered a 'beefed up' version of his Murder at the Distillery tale to the GlenCairn Glass Short Story competition, a couple of minutes before 12pm December 31st – quite amateurish and not expecting any positive feedback. It was accepted and judging will be Mid-February.

Club Annual Dinner in the Boot & Shoe

Agreed to try for Tuesday 1st March. Eyes open for emails / notices with details.

Technical / News (notes you may not have heard, or that were intended but not said.

You might have misgivings but Blair Bowman, a well known Whisky Consultant and Broker, is still in self-imposed lockdown for fear of losing senses of smell and taste.

A 5cl miniature of rare Springbank 1919 sold recently for £5,600.

GlenGoyne TeaPot Dram 008 (sherried) – 3,000 bottles only produced destined for an exclusive market (possibly in house etc) and only available direct.

Glen Moray 15 years 'Edinburgh Homecoming' edition is the official single malt of Edinburgh Rugby. It marks celebrations of the Clubs move to its permanent home now the DAM Health Stadium.

A 35 tonnes, £3 million, full distillery shipment has made its way from Buckie in Moray to Port Tianjin in Mongolia. It is the result of a Design and Build Contract. Destined for Ordes (inner Mongolia) delivery was scheduled for June 2021 to be installed and open December 2021.

Another Speyside Distillery is springing up at Dunphail.

Glen Scotia has been judged the Scottish Whisky Distiller of 2021 according to the Scottish Whisky Awards. Seven months ago their 25 year old was crowned 'Best in Show' at the San Francisco World Spirits competition.

Date of Next Meeting(s) – Tuesday 1st February 2022

Then remainder of 2022 Mar 1, Apr 5, May 3, Jun 7,
Jul 5, Aug 7, Sep 6, Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6

Mark the dates into your diaries in now

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.

And from one of our own stalwarts – "There are no bad whiskies, just some better than others."

Or "If you want a better whisky go to a better whisky club."

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

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