

Greystoke Whisky Club

Established December 2013

NEWSLETTER

5th September & 3rd October, 2023 (Months 118 & 119)

Stop Press – The Whisky Club has broken off diplomatic relations with the B&S

This is a shame because we were just one month short of ten years amicable and supportive arrangements with Ben and Jan. In view of the less than diplomatic, untrue accusations made against the club three months running (without Ben or Jan's authorisation) it was decided that, for the safety of members, we would withdraw from future use of the premises. You may hear a rumour doing the rounds that whisky club has been thrown out of the Pub. Nothing is further from the truth so feel free to set the record straight. A new venue has now been found.

September Scoring of Samples ('Best of the Best' Heat 1 of 4 or 5)

Bottle 1	Aberlour 12	82 / 100	(1 st)
Bottle 2	Bunnahabhain 12	78 / 100	(3 rd)
Bottle 3	Glenjoyne 12	76 / 100	(4 th)
Bottle 4	Glenlivet Founders Res	79 / 100	(2 nd)

Aberlour 12yo goes forward to the final of 'Best of the Best.'

October Scoring of Samples ('Best of the Best' Heat 2 of 4 or 5)

Bottle 1	BenRiach 12	78 / 100	(2 nd)
Bottle 2	Cardhu 12	74 / 100	(4 th)
Bottle 3	Glen Marnoch H'land	75 / 100	(3 rd)
Bottle 4	Glenturret 12	80 / 100	(1 st)

Glenturret 12yo goes forward to the final of 'Best of the Best.'



September's first and third positions.



October's four positions in order.

Tasting Comments – none reported except I realised that I had probably mis-interpreted one of Marie's comments – I don't blush easily!

The September Whiskies:- (Comments mainly by the distilleries or retail outlets)

Aberlour 12, (abv 40%)

Distillery in Speyside founded in 1879. Water from the Ben Rinnes. Barley grown nearby. Spirit is 12 Years matured in two types of casks, American oak and Spanish sherry: then married together by their craftsmen as "an art not a science."

Highest scorer on Nov 2014 and Dec 2022 – 76 and 85 respectively.

Bunnahabhain 12, (abv 46.3%)

Distillery on NE corner of Islay on the Sound of Islay. Discovered (founded?) in 1881. Pronounced Bu-na-ha-venn, which is Gaelic for "mouth of the river."

Matured in sherry, bourbon and whisky casks.

Highest scorer on Dec 2017, Jun 2019 and Feb/Mar 2022 – 85, 83 and 78 respectively.

Glengoyne 12 years, (abv 43%)

Highlands region. Distillery in the Campsie Fells, about 12 miles north of Glasgow. Gaelic is Glen Guin or Glen of the Geese named after the migrating flocks of geese.

Stills are the slowest in Scotland, the spirit spending three times as long to pass through the stills than any other distillery – allowing favourable effects of greater copper contact on the spirit. Process has good green credentials – reed bed remove CO2 from liquid waste, solid waste is harvested to provide power to their turbines and the packaging is 100% recyclable.

Highest scorer on Feb 2015 and Dec 2015 – 79 and 93 respectively.

The Glenlivet, Founder's Reserve, no age, (abv 40%)

Distillery technically in the Speyside Region although South East Spey / North Grampians (Highland). Established in 1824.

Matured in first fill American oak casks.

Not one of the high scorers

Note – For selection of high score brands there is no detailed analysis of score factors.

Other News - relevant items will be filtered in to next meeting.

Date of Next Meeting(s) – Tuesday 7th November 2023: Then Tuesdays – 5th Dec, (2nd or 9th Jan 2024). Put the dates in your diary now.

Acknowledgements

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

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."

*"Everybody looks better through a glass."
Whisky is the glue that brings people together like nothing else*

.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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