

# FEINTS & FORESHOTS

## MWSOA Uncovers Glasgow Whisky Adulteration Racket

### Restaurant boss blends curries with malt whisky

A TEETOTAL city restaurateur is winning fans after combining two of Scotland's greatest loves ... whisky and curries. Depak Bali's eatery in the west end of Glasgow is offering spicy Indian dishes made with quality Scotch malt whiskies.

Mr Bali, 31, a shop owner, lawyer and restaurateur, was determined to find a way to blend the two favourites. He claims to have one of the largest collections of malts in the country and runs two online sites for whisky connoisseurs worldwide and describes himself as a "passionate curry lover".

Together with a professional chef, he set out to create an entire range of original curry dishes made with whisky.

His restaurant offers dishes such as the Bunnabhain Balti and the Magical Macallan Masala, as well as meals made with Indian and American beers. The father of two, from Bearsden, said: "The reaction has been incredible.

"I knew Glaswegians loved curries and a dram so I wanted to offer something that gave them both at once ... and they love it."

The whisky curries are not the only novelty at Mr Bali's Bollywood Lounge, on Great Western Road, near St George's Cross. As the name suggests, it is based on the theme of Bollywood films, of which Mr Bali is also an avid fan.

In fact, he had a walk-on role in one, Kuch Kuch Hota Hai, which was shot in Glasgow and near Loch Lomond in 1998. Signed photos of Bollywood stars adorn the walls and a TV shows some of the owner's favourites. Mr Bali said: "A lot of people are interested in the films and, again, it's something a little different.

"The idea has gone so well I may do it again elsewhere in the city."

With a blossoming criminal law career, three shops, a wife and two toddler sons, you might ask how Mr Bali finds time to keep up with it all.

His answer is simple: "No booze and just five hours' sleep a night."

He said: "I appreciate whisky, but I have no time to drink it.

"However, seeing ventures such as this taking off really makes it all worthwhile."

*Glasgow Times*



*The offending whisky curry adulteration*

### MWSOA Chief Denies Rift With Europe

MWSOA Chair, Mr Craig Daniels denied claims that the "Non" vote in France and The Netherlands would weaken ties between the MWSOA and Europe. Speaking from his home in leafy eastern suburbs of Adelaide, Mr Daniels expressed regret about the decision but fully respected the wishes of the two nations voters. But he defiantly declared that the Convention, to be held in Sydney in August 2005, would go on regardless.



**New Convention  
Poster Launched**  
*See back page for details*

### A Splendid New Star For Islay

#### Islay toast as whisky comes full cycle

The first new distillery on Islay for 124 years will open next month, to complete an 800-year cycle that returns whisky-making to its historical roots in Scotland.

The £1 million Kilchoman farm distillery will produce Scotch from the barley to the bottle, using ingredients grown on the island that is the birthplace of the national drink.

The new distillery has been in the making since 2001 when Anthony Wills, the founder and managing director, came up with the concept.

With the increased international demand for limited edition bottling of single malts, Mr Wills believes that the timing is right for the ultimate, self-sufficient distillery.

Kilchoman, which is situated on the west coast of the island, was opened on 3 June during the Islay Whisky Festival.

The new spirit will be produced in the traditional "peaty" Islay style unique to the island.

"Production will begin by the end of June," said Mr Wills, who added: "Kilchoman is the only distillery in Scotland that will be able to claim that every step of production is carried out on site from the barley to the bottle."

The barley is being grown at Rockside farm by Mr Wills's partner, Mark French. Mr Wills said: "Production will be small compared with other island distilleries and in the first year we will produce 35,000 litres of alcohol, equivalent to 80,000 bottles. That will increase three-fold in eight years."

Kilchoman will offer 25 per cent of each year's production in cask to private customers. In the first year, that will amount to 60 casks.

"There has already been great interest in the scheme," added Mr Wills.

A shop, café and visitor centre, describing the story of farm distilling on Islay from its illicit beginnings to legislation, will be part of the operation.

It will chart the production of whisky from Agnes's arrival to the present. Mr French, who has been farming on Islay for 28 years, said: "We're committed to traditions that made Islay famous.

*The Scotsman*



MALT WHISKY SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA  
INCORPORATED

**Australia's 2nd Malt Whisky Convention  
Sydney 20-21 August 2005**

# FEINTS & FORE- SHOTS 3

## The New Face Of Whisky In 2005?

*Is there no end to this madness?*

### Aussie Wine Producers Follows The Islay Spirit

**Peated Australian Wine?  
Smoky Flavour Enhances Aussie Reds**

#### **M** cClay Road Beechworth Shiraz 2003 (\$30) screwcap:

The issue with Beechworth 2003 reds is the possibility of smoke taint, and the honest truth is that the first night I drank this, I never saw a trace of it. The opposite: I very much enjoyed drinking it. It opens floral and juicy but churns savoury and peppery, with graphite and minerals and plum flavours pulling steadily along.

From a sheer complexity viewpoint, especially given time to breathe, this wine is in excellent form – the main sign that it was a die-hard vintage is that it doesn't have the fruit power, or depth, that you expect (and admire) in Giaconda shiraz, and the tannins have a raspiness to them.

On the second night however I did see elements of bushfire smoke, but not to the point where it stopped me liking the wine. I then opened a second bottle: it was smokier than the first, but still offered pretty smart drinking.

Advice: try a bottle before buying into it. It might well polarise opinion. I suspect though that lovers of the northern Rhone will take it all in their stride. Drink: Now-2007. 88 points.

#### **McClay Road Beechworth Pinot Noir 2003** (\$30) screwcap:

Good drinking. Red fruits, forest, sound tannin and lots of polished fruit. Peppery/smoky around the edges, but mostly in an interesting way. The more you drink it, the better the tannins and finish seem. The screwcap factor, too, is a drawcard. Lunch wine, and good at it. Drink: Now-2007. 85 points.

For stockists of these wines try East End cellars, Ultimo Wine cellars or The City Wine Shop

*From Winefront Monthly (with humble thanks to Campbell Mattison)*

**Feints & Foreshots...**The vaguely official organ of the Malt Whisky Society of Australia, the editor is The Big G, contact: [graham@theoddwhiskycoy.com.au](mailto:graham@theoddwhiskycoy.com.au), and all errors & omissions are expected. Apologies to all authors of the news articles...but we love your work!

First, it was milk, and then fruit juices. Now, it is whisky. All of them are now available in paper cartons, popularly called Tetra Pak, after the Swedish packaging manufacturer, Tetra Pak.

Replacing its glass 'quart' or 'nip' bottle, UB Group Spirits Division (UBGSD) is rolling out its top selling whisky brand, Bagpiper, in an 180 ml package. The product will be launched on May 29 in the Pune market as Bagpiper Bindaas.

"It is the first time an alco- bev is being sold in a Tetra Pak package. We test marketed the product in the Kolhapur market two months ago and the feed back was positive. We are launching Bagpiper Bindaas in Maharashtra in a staggered manner and will then take it across the country," a company official said.

While it is not clear if the paper packaging will completely replace the bottle, what is abundant is the price cut being offered.

"We will pass on the cost benefit to the consumer. The Bagpiper Bindaas will be available at Rs 3 less than the existing glass bottle," the official noted.

Touted as the first and a breakthrough for the liquor industry, it is the first time in India that liquor is being made available in a tamper-proof pack, he added.

The Bagpiper brand is a market leader, with a 44 per cent market share. While the official declined to comment, what looks likely is a price war as well. The intention, according to the official, is not only to make Bagpiper Bindaas more affordable for existing drinkers, but expand the market and reach the masses who drink cheaper whiskies.

The 180 ml Bagpiper Bindaas pack is made exclusively for Bagpiper by Tetra Pak (Sweden). Among the notable features of the pack is its tamper-proof six-layer protection, making it impossible to adulterate or tamper with the pack.

Once the pack is torn open, it cannot be sealed again, added to which is the convenience of non-breakability. The pack is best opened when the tear off portion is gently torn in 3 small twists. There is sufficient head space left in the pack to avoid spill out when the pack is opened. Another notable feature is the Italian-patented tamper-proof 'guala' cap.

Last year, Bagpiper sold almost 8 million cases, emerging as the largest spirit brand in the country. It is also the No 2 whisky brand in the world and an all-India market share of 30 per cent.

The UB Group Spirits Division is the world's fourth largest alcoholic-beverage manufacturing and marketing company. It has a portfolio of over 66 brands spanning across flavours with sales of over 35 million cases in 03-04. *India Today*



*Your choice, tetra-pak above or boring, old fashioned glass below?*



*Photo courtesy of the Odd Whisky Coy*

### *Beware The Camel Spits...*

Who gives a shit about sulphurous whiskies! Nothing wrong with a bit of boiled cabbage and fetid sewerage, it comes out of my arse all the time!

*You an contact the camel at...*  
[Theoddcamel@gmail.com](mailto:Theoddcamel@gmail.com)



# Bob Dalgarno Named “Innovator Of The Year By Whisky Magazine.

Earlier this month, the top whisky personalities, places and brands were honoured at an Icons of Whisky dinner held at the Churchill Hotel in London’s West End. Winners from across the world were honoured at the event, which was held the night before the start of Whisky Live London, a sell out consumer whisky show where whisky drinkers can meet producers and distillers and taste the latest expressions of leading whiskies from around the world.



Bob Dalgarno, The Macallan Whisky Maker, picked up the award of "Innovator of the Year 2004" for his dedication and pas-

sion within the Scotch whisky industry and, in particular, for his work on the new Macallan Fine Oak range.

The award was presented to Bob by the editor of Whisky Magazine, Dominic Roskrow, who said: ‘The industry has a huge respect for Bob and the outstanding range of whiskies he continues to produce. The investment by the brand has been tremendous and has been maintained without sacrificing The Macallan quality.’

The award category was judged by leading whisky experts such as Michael Jackson, Dave Broom and Damian Riley Smith, and a short-list of candidates was then put to over 200 of Bob’s peers.

This is the second award to be bestowed upon Bob in recent months as he was named “industry leader” by top US drinks magazine, Malt Advocate.

"I am honoured to have received this award, particularly as it has been judged not only by international whisky experts, but also my peers," said Bob. "Together with my team at the distillery, we will continue to produce whiskies of the highest quality."



## MWSOA Member Outrage!

Membership unites in attempt get MWSOA newsletter renamed David Baker, that well known Australian distiller and generally quiet personality, erupted in fury last month at the naming of the MWSOA’s newsletter, boldly declaring that Foreshots come before Feints! The Editor of F&F declined to offer any comment on the matter, declaring that the matter will be referred to the MWSOA’s Technical & Tasting Sub-Committee.



## FEINTS & FORE- SHOTS 3

### Warning To Distillers On Labelling Of Whiskies

Scotland’s distillers will be told to tighten up their whisky labelling this year to prevent a repeat of the acrimonious battle over Diageo’s attempt to change the contents of its Cardhu brand.

The Scotch Whisky Association will send out a consultation paper this month with a list of instructions for its members, who make up 98% of the industry.

Terms such as "vatted malt", "vintage malt" and "pure malt", which are used to mean the product of more than one distillery, are now banned and will be replaced by "blended malt".

Diageo was widely criticised for changing the composition of its Cardhu malt whisky to include malts from other distilleries and calling the resulting product a "pure malt". After a six-month long battle with rivals, led by Glenfiddich producer William Grant, Diageo backed down.

The SWA’s draft guidelines pointedly say: "A distillery name should not be used on any Scotch whisky which has not been wholly distilled in the named distillery."

Most whisky companies backed the changes, although one up-and-coming producer of what will now be known as "blended malt" said the new description might confuse customers.

David Robertson, a director of Jon, Mark & Robbo’s Easy Drinking Whisky, said: "Personally, I think there is likely to be some confusion between blended whisky [a combination of malt and cheaper grain whiskies] and the new category of blended malt whisky. I think there is a risk that if the consumer knows that a blend costs £8-10 per bottle and a malt £20 per bottle, they might wonder what the blended malt is."

But the SWA said the new rules would reduce confusion in the long term. A spokesman said the current most popular term for a mixture of malts, "vatted malt", was not commonly understood. He added: "Consumers will understand that a blended malt comes from more than one source. It also fits the definition of blending within European Union legislation."

A spokeswoman for Edrington, which will have to alter the label on its Famous Grouse Vintage Malt, said the company fully supported the changes.

Other approved terms include single grain Scotch whisky, a Scotch whisky distilled at a single distillery from water and malted barley with or without whole grains of other malted or unmalted cereals; and blended grain Scotch whisky, a blend of single grain Scotch whiskies which have been distilled at more than one distillery.

*The Scotsman*

# FEINTS & FORE- SHOTS 3

## Worth Considering

Just to let you know my background is in Coffee. I'm involved in our family run coffee roasting business.

With that in mind I'm curious to know if the association has any type of barter or information sharing arrangements, obviously in my case, I'd be willing to chat to anyone looking for coffee information or even product to either share or barter with.

Perhaps we could chat and expand on this idea sometime?

I'm really looking forward to the 2nd Malt Whisky Convention in August and will put through my booking shortly.

In case you come across any persons interested in distilling an Australian whisky, please keep me informed.

Anyway cheers for now

Peter Brawn

*Ed. Would love to know members thoughts on this.*

## Fan Mail...

Editor,

You've missed your calling - you should have been a publisher. This thing is looking good. Please pass on my congratulations to Ms Parker for her work on the propagation of the Windsor Knot - I always knew that girl had style.

See you soon.

Thanks,

Shane Tremble  
Buying & Merchandise Manager  
Woolworths Freestanding Liquor

## Members Have Their Say!

### Cask Vs Normal Strength

Graham,

Just wanted to let you know how pleased I was to taste the Caol Ila. Like the 25yo Lagavulin, it is just sooooo mellow! I'd like your opinion about something. As you know I'm not reluctant to spend large dollars on fine whiskies. But a recent experience perplexes me

I bought the Laphroaig 10yo CS 55.7% from BWS recently and discovered that I preferred the cheaper standard 10yo. This for me is blasphemy! The reasons were that the higher alcohol content seemed to have completely masked the taste of old rope washed in the sea and eliminated the smell of roaring peat fires. I mean, fair enough, after 25 years I expect the Caol Ila and the Lagavulin tastes to be muted from their younger impetuous brothers.....but the Laphroaig was the same age and only a higher alcohol content.

I drink Laphroaig because it is unique amongst whiskies...precisely because of the sea and the fire. I paid a higher price for the same experience with more oomph and got less. OK, now the question. Have you or any of your whisky aficionado mates experienced a similar experience with Laphroaig or any other whisky or is it just my palate?

Regards  
Bob

*MWSOA Members Respond...*

Hi Big G,

What can I say? Must be a HUGE disappointment! Of course the extra alcohol will act as an anaesthetic on the taste buds....dare I suggest adding just a TINY splash of finest spring water to unlock the hidden treasures beneath???

The only other possibility is that the bottle is damaged in some way - touch of cork, bad batch of oak etc etc But if Bob really doesn't like it I'll take it off his hands for a fiver!!

Good news that the CI 25 is on top form though (despite there being none left for us other poor buggers).

Paul G

Hi G,

I have some of the first release Laphroaig CS 10 (Best whisky in the world according to some), perhaps not exactly the same as the one Bob mentions; however, two things are perhaps pertinent: the standard Laphroaig 10 was THE highest scoring whisky out of 70+ entrants in the recent commercial tasting, which indicates that the standard 10 is a real cracker at the moment. The CS will definitely alter the flavours and may be a different distillation run to the standard 10.

Personally, I have found the CS 10 a much sweeter and spicier whisky than the standard, it still has the smoke, bacon and medicinal notes, but I agree that the really deep rosy, tarry notes are either plastered over, or simply do not get a chance to develop in the CS. Try leaving the CS in the glass for 30 mins before dramming.

The spiciness in the CS 10 made us think it was a Port Ellen or Talisker when we first tried it blind, which probably suggests it was not what we thought typical of a Laphroaig.

I would recommend Bob go for the 15.

Paul R

Le Grande G,

Laphroaig has undergone a "dumbing down" over the past 20 years in general. Iain Henderson claims that there was no changes in the peatiness of Laphroaig during his tenure (which would still encompass the current 10 year old variants) - he instead attributes the perception of change (lessened peatiness) to the increasing age and tolerance of the consumer. However, other tasters, both amateur and professional (Jim Murray included) disagree.

And if you read the stories in, e.g., Worts, Worms and Washbacks and other places about the experimentation at Laphroaig (a stainless steel washback at one point, larger stills, etc.), and also note that while they still malt some of their barley themselves for show, they get a large amount from Port Ellen Maltings, you will realize that they HAVE been dicking around with the mix.

They've also been producing more older bottlings (e.g., 15, 30 and 40 yo, 77 & 76 vintages, etc) which have cut into their "blending stocks" to maintain the 10 yo - negatively, as at Macallan and Springbank. I have also had good and bad samples of the CS - something that didn't seem to happen with the standard. The standard proof 10 yo is a shadow of it's previous self, although it just seems to be in a long decline, rather than having alternating moments of brilliance and senility.

Love, peace & happiness,

Tim T



# Whiskies Current State Of Play



**M**ore than 55 million bottles of malt whisky were shipped overseas last year. Export figures for 2004 released by the Scotch Whisky Association show that shipments broke the £2 billion barrier for the 12th year in succession, with more than £2.2bn worth of whisky shipped overseas.

However, overall volume was down 2% on 2003, when the industry recorded its second-best ever performance.

Ian Good, SWA Chairman, said today: "While exports overall have fallen on 2003, this was expected in the face of difficult economic conditions in certain key markets, and Scotch whisky exports remain at a historically high level."

The 2004 figures revealed it had been a record year in China, with exports increasing by 165% in value to more than £25 million. France, the industry's largest market by volume, grew by 2% in volume and 7% in value.

The US remained the industry's most valuable export market, with the value of whisky shipped increasing by 3% to £338m. Total malt whisky exports rose by 15%. The figures also showed that 953 million bottles of whisky were exported in total.

*Glasgow Evening Times*

# FEINTS & FORE-SHOTS 3

## Ask The Good Doctor?

**Question. What would cause a metallic taste in a scotch and would it be considered a fault?**



**A**nswer. I'm not too sure what the exact cause of a metallic taste in a scotch would be...

However, it is a known fault in beer and a few home brewers out there might have been unfortunate enough to produce a beer that, when tasted, feels like you're sucking on an old coin! Some people refer to this as "tinny" and I've even heard it described as a taste like blood.

To my knowledge, this fault (and it is most definitely a fault!!) can be caused by a number of things, most likely high levels of iron in the brewing water, wort contact with unprotected metal surfaces (usually iron or aluminium) during the boil or hydrolysis of lipid molecules (that's a breakdown of some of the fats) in malt that has been badly stored. I have no idea how these beer faults would pass through the distillation process for scotch but I guess metallic contamination from stills, pipes or collection vessels is also a possibility, or high iron in the water used to cut the scotch from cask strength to the more common bottling strength of 40 %.

That's my best guess.

Dr Paul

*(Ed. Dr Paul is research chemist/geneticist with vast experience in barley & Morris dancing)*

# Grouse Gold



**Hat-Trick of 'Double Golds' For Edrington Brands**

**S**cotch whisky distiller Edrington has won 10 medals, three of them "double gold", at the 2005 San



**I**s this the appropriate daywear I should be considering for the 2005 MWSOA Convention?

*Ed...No, but great for sat arvo barbies and crab tickling, and a little difficult to take to the footy, but the MWSOA always suggests that if you are going to do it, DO IT WITH STYLE Andrew!*

Francisco World Spirits Competition.

The top awards went to The Macallan Fine Oak 21 year old, Highland Park 12 year old and The Famous Grouse Malt 18 year old. Edrington also collected four golds and three silvers for other expressions.

The competition was judged by the most influential spirits industry professionals in the United States, who tasted almost 600 spirits from 43 countries - a record entry, 30 per cent up on last year.

According to Bill Farrar, Edrington's sales and marketing director, the news was made all the more rewarding as the award winners included several new product innovations, the most recent being the launch of The Famous Grouse Malt in Taiwan and Australia.

The awards are a wonderful tribute to the energy and enthusiasm our staff put into producing the winning brands," said Mr Farrar. "From production at our distilleries as far north as Orkney, right through to bottling at our site in Glasgow, staff take an enormous pride in the brands and consistently go the extra mile to ensure our products remain the best in the world".

# World's Best Whisky Bar

**A** malt whisky bar in Glasgow has been named the best pub in the world. The Pot Still in Hope Street beat off stiff competition from around the globe to win the Icons of Whisky accolade.



Website Of The Month

Thousands of whisky tippers worldwide and industry experts voted the pub as Bar of the Year. It's the second year running a Glasgow bar has taken the award - the Lismore bar in Partick won last year. The Pot Still stocks 570 whiskies from across Scotland and further afield. Proprietor Ken Storrie said: "It's magnificent to receive the award."

The pub boasts over 480 malts and associated whiskies and the website is well worth a visit. So if you want to visit one of the best in business, here's the details:

The Pot Still, 154 Hope Street, Glasgow G2 2TH. Telephone: 0141 333 0980  
Proprietor: Ken Storrie e mail: ken@thepotstill.co.uk and [www.thepotstill.co.uk/](http://www.thepotstill.co.uk/)  
*Glasgow Evening Times*



# FEINTS & FORE- SHOTS 3



## Glenfarclas To Sponsor 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Malt Whisky Society of Australia Convention

Glenfarclas distillery, proudly distributed in Australia by Angove's are pleased to announce that they have become a major sponsor of the Second Annual Malt Whisky Convention to be held in Sydney from August 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> 2005. The convention is being conducted by the Malt Whisky Society of Australia.

This unique event will showcase a vast array of Malt Whiskys from across the various Scottish regions including the inaugural events highest ranking and trophy winning whisky the Glenfarclas 30 Year Old.

"The Glenfarclas 30 Year Old is one of those whiskies that veritably drowns the senses, no matter what one does, inevitably the character of the whisky will linger for hours. Big and woody, the 30 Year Old belted out sherry more than any other on the day" stated Dr Paul Rasmussen, Chair of Judges.

A specially commissioned Glenfarclas Single Malt will also be available for convention attendees to purchase at the event. This limited release 1980, single cask bottling of 350 units has been personally selected by John Grant, Managing Director of Glenfarclas.

Ian McWilliam, Marketing and Sales Executive for Glenfarclas will also attend the event to conduct a series of Master Classes on the Glenfarclas range, one of the largest single malt ranges to be imported to Australia. The range includes Heritage, 12YO, 15YO, 22YO, 25YO & 30YO Single Malts, all from the same region.

A number of other events including a trade show, plenary sessions, a whisky judging competition, with trophies presented at a gala dinner, and other master classes will also be held during the convention.

# Convention Profile

## Mr Michael Urquhart

Michael Urquhart, together with two brothers and a sister, is part of the third generation of the Urquhart family owning and operating Gordon & MacPhail, the World's Leading Malt Whisky Specialist, based in Elgin, Scotland.

Michael's grandfather, John, joined Gordon & MacPhail as an apprentice within months of the opening in 1895, and his father George joined in 1933, working and then running the company for over 60 years. Michael qualified as a Chartered Accountant in Edinburgh before returning to the family business in 1981 as Finance Director.

In 1993 the family realised a long held ambition to own a distillery when they purchased Benromach Distillery in Forres. Following extensive renovation the distillery was reopened in 1998 by HRH The Prince of Wales, and is now fully operational.

In the same year Michael also took responsibility for the Export department and has travelled extensively since then visiting customers and participating in trade shows around the world.

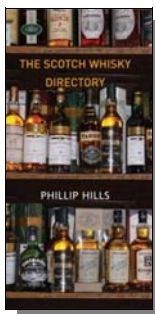
Michael became a Keeper of the Quaich in 1999 in recognition of services to the Scotch Whisky Industry.

At this years Convention, Michael will be showcasing a number of whiskies from the extensive Gordon & MacPhail portfolio including the famed Benromach 1980 CS, Longmorn 25 and Ardbeg 1978.



## New In Print

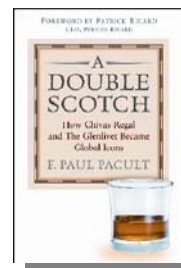
### The Scotch Whisky Directory by Phillip Hills



In his latest book, the Scotch Whisky Directory, Phillip Hills has devised a simple but original way of presenting and evaluating the flavour of a whisky by means of a simple graphic and star-rating system. He applies this to all of the more important Scotch whisky brands - blends and grain whiskies as well as malts - showing what flavours are to be found in each.

The judgements regarding the flavours have been made by four of the Scotch whisky industry's leading experts, whom Hills has recruited specially for the purpose. The result is a directory from which the consumer can get accessible, reliable and objective information about how whiskies taste. By using the simple flavour graphic and ratings, it is possible to explore the world of whiskies without having to drink them all to do so. Flavour profiles and star-ratings are provided for over 260 varieties.

### A Double Scotch: How Chivas Regal and The Glenlivet Became Global Icons by F. Paul Pacult



In A Double Scotch: How Chivas Regal and The Glenlivet Became Global Icons celebrated spirits writer F. Paul Pacult explores these two iconic spirits and tells the stirring story of how two families forever changed the Scotch whisky playing field by producing benchmark whiskies that became standards of excellence the world over.

A Double Scotch also tells the story of a nation that's inextricably linked to its national beverage. A must-read book for Scotch whisky lovers and history aficionados alike. For more information about the book log onto [www.adoublescotch.com](http://www.adoublescotch.com)

The book also includes an enlightening question-and-answer section with The Glenlivet's Jim Cryle and Chivas Brother's Colin Scott. Through this intimate exchange, Scotch enthusiasts will discover what makes these two brands superlative, as well as how these masters are able to maintain consistency over time.

# The Back Page

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### Now We're Talking...

Finally, a solution to the two greatest problems today's drinkers have: hangovers and calories. This is the dieters dream. this is the Atkins diet alcohol and diabetes alcohol, low carbohydrates, low calorie and low sugar alcohol.

Drinks including vodka and absinthe can be breathed into the nose or inhaled into the mouth through a tube using a new device known as an Alcohol Without Liquid (AWOL) vaporiser.

Scientists estimate that the effects of the alcohol can be felt much quicker as it is directly absorbed through blood vessels in the nose or lungs - bypassing the stomach and liver.

A bar In Bordello, England became the first venue to offer its customers the device early in 2004 and the owner said it had proved a hit with drinkers.

AWOL is such a hit, they are now booking sessions and making reservations for alcohol lovers to experience AWOL.

This method of consuming alcohol reduces the effects of a hangover and is low calorie.

The AWOL Vaporizer has a built-in safety device because it takes about 20 minutes to inhale one vaporizer shot of alcohol

It is designed to allow people to enjoy the effects of alcohol mixed with oxygen. It promotes a sense of well being and a mild euphoria. It is a fun new legal way to take alcohol.

The user chooses which alcoholic spirit will be used and the alcoholic spirit is loaded into a diffuser capsule in the machine. The oxygen bubbles are then passed through the capsule, absorbing the alcohol, before being inhaled through a tube. The resultant cloudy alcohol vapor is then inhaled from the end of the tube via a device that looks like a simple inhaler.

The potent combination of oxygen and alcohol creates a feeling of well-being which intensifies the longer the vapor is inhaled.

### First Ever Lite Spirit Launched by Bacardi

Island Breeze by Bacardi is The Original Lite Spirit™

½ the calories of traditional spirits and wine\*: only 48 Calories per 1.5 oz serving

Bacardi U.S.A., Inc. announces the launch of ISLAND BREEZE, the first ever lite spirit, with half the calories of traditional spirits and half the calories of wine while providing great taste. As 'The Original Lite Spirit,' ISLAND BREEZE by Bacardi satisfies adult consumers' desire to enjoy delicious cocktails without breaking the calorie bank.

"ISLAND BREEZE by Bacardi will revolutionize the spirits industry, doing what the first lite beer did to the beer industry, and what the first diet cola did to the soft drink industry," says Alfredo Piedra, Chairman of Global New Product Development for Bacardi. "As the 'original lite spirit' ISLAND BREEZE fulfills consumers' desire of wanting to 'Live life to the fullest' while saving calories and enjoying life responsibly. They want to have their cake and eat it, too," he added. Currently the top selling four out of five beers in the United States are lite. Likewise, diet colas' share of the cola market has grown steadily since the mid 1990's and many analysts believe one day it will overtake regular soda.



AWOL devotees in action

### 'Tourists Beware' When Visiting Scotland

Tourists in Scotland should fear for their liberty because of new anti-terror laws, according to one of France's best-selling tourist guides. The comment is just one of the deeply unflattering observations about travelling north of the Border in the new edition of the Routard guide to Scotland.

The guide also warns whisky connoisseurs that if they are brave enough to venture north they should buy their whisky in France before travelling, to avoid the high taxes on Scotland's national drink. It is also scathing about the nation's railways.

France is the fifth-biggest overseas market for Scottish tourism, worth £33m a year. While the new guide is full of enthusiasm for Scotland's scenery and culture, and even has a tolerance for Scottish food which is uncommon on the Continent, government restrictions in the wake of September 11 and the war on Iraq are flagged up as a reason to think twice before travelling.

For those who are not worried about being locked up for visiting Scotland, the guide has other grim news, especially for fans of whisky.

It said: "The choice of whiskies is impressive. But be aware that the beverage is taxed at 65%. It is much cheaper to get acquainted with the drink in Scotland, but then buy one's preferred brand in France."

Travellers are also warned that getting an espresso, the most common kind of coffee in French cafés, is a difficult task in Scotland. The guide said: "There are plenty of coffee shops where one can have tea or coffee, but you will not find espresso there. If you want black coffee, you must be specific about it, otherwise you will receive a coffee with milk." *The Scotsman*

### Suntory and Two Universities Announce that Moderate Whisky Drinking May Help Prevent Gout and Hyperuricemia

Leading Japanese beverage manufacturer Suntory announced on June 3 the results of its latest research on whisky, co-conducted with St. Marianna University School of Medicine and the University of Shizuoka. The joint research revealed that a moderate intake of whisky helps promote the excretion of serum uric acid in the urine. The researchers also discovered that a substance eluting from oak barrels during the process in which whisky ripens has a property to inhibit the generation of uric acid from purine bodies. They identified that the substance consists of 1-Formylpurogallol and ellagic acid. As such, the researchers concluded that the substance has a preventive effect against gout and hyperuricemia.

Tokyo (JCNN) -



### Whisky Infused Coffee

When you need that caffeine kick without the alcoholic hangover. 100% arabica and it can be purchased for as little as euros 3,66 from [www.floriage.com](http://www.floriage.com)



MALT WHISKY SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

INCORPORATED

We invite you to join us for

# Australia's 2nd Malt Whisky Convention



## The Masterclasses

### *The Genius of George Urquhart*

Presented by Michael Urquhart

Featuring; Benromach 1980 CS, Longmorn 25, Ardbeg 1978, St Magdalene 1982, Benromach Traditional

### *Glenfarclas—The Spirit of Independence*

Presented by Ian McWilliam

Featuring; Glenfarclas 1994, 1974, 30, 105 CS, 1980 CS Exclusive Convention Bottling

### *Duncan Taylor & Co—Peerless Whiskies Galore*

Presented by Euan Shand

Featuring; Invergordon 39, Mosstowie 29, DT Rare Auld Premium 35, Glengarioch 17, Caol Ila 12



## The Plenary Sessions

### *'Advancing Malt whisky Distilling in Australia'*

comprising; **'A view from Bakery Hill'** presented by David Baker and **'The Whisky Tasmania Experience'** presented by Mark Littler

### *'1+1=3 Matching Whisky and Food'*

Presented by Franz Scheurer

### *'Brewing and Distillation—A Common Heritage'*

Presented by Dr Charles Hahn



## The Gala Whisky Dinner

Hosted by Cutty Sark International's Ronnie Cox.  
Whiskies and Yalumba wines by Samuel Smith & Sons.  
James Squire Beers by the Malt Shovel Brewery.  
Food by The Avillion's executive chef Robert Fuchs.  
Inspiration by Australian Gourmet pages' Franz Scheurer.  
Rare whisky auction by Oddbins Wine Auction's Graham Wright.



## The Great Whisky Exposition

### *(Incorporating the Great Whisky Trade Show)*

Meet with distillers and trade representatives to sample some of the best single malt scotch whiskies and Premium blends available in Australia.



## The Exclusive Bottling

Individually numbered, Single Cask 1980 25yo Glenfarclas - selected and bottled at cask strength by John Grant exclusively for the MWSOA and Australia's 2nd Malt whisky Convention.



## The Venue

The Avillion Hotel  
389 Pitt Street, Sydney

\*all information correct at the time of printing



For more information [www.mwsoa.org.au](http://www.mwsoa.org.au)

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