

2005

January

Dram of **A Drop of the Irish** (soft fruit, blackcurrants, chocolate, vanilla, oily mouthfeel, pretty light, drying finish) at home; sample courtesy of Robin Tucek/Blackadder for the mega-Irish malt tasting in "Malt Maniacs"



Dram of **Knappogue Castle 1993** (very soft, faint vanilla, cocos? very light fruits, honey?) and opened a bottle of **Knappogue Castle 1994** (creamy, fruity-floral notes (elderflower, grapes), more flavour and body than the 1993) at home; sample of the 1993 from Davin de Kergommeaux for the mega-Irish malt tasting in "Malt Maniacs"

Opened a bottle of **Erin Go Bragh** (soft mouthfeel, hints of malt and toffee, perfumy; all very light and thin with a slightly bitter-dry finish) at home

Opened sample bottles of **Pur.e new-make** (heavy 'washy' notes, sweet fruits (pears? strawberries??)), **Pur.e Malt** (as the new-make, but diluted, more sweetness, touch of dry wood in the finish??) and **Pur.e Belgian beer distillate** (voluptuous nose, velvety soft palate, marzipan, rosewater, reminiscent of Eddu) at home; sample bottles from Pur.e distillery via Luc Timmermans

Last dram from the sample bottle of **Smooth Sweeter One, Easy Drinking Whisky Company** (lasted 2 months)

Last dram from the sample bottle of **Clonmel 'Unpeated'** (lasted 3 months)

Dram of **Merrys** at home; sample courtesy of R.A. Merry & Co. for the mega-Irish malt tasting in "Malt Maniacs"

Opened a bottle of **Sullivan's Cove (early bottling)** (feinty nose, beef stock; after burning off feints, malty, sweetish, fudgy; short, dry, bitter finish) and

dram of **Sullivan's Cove (recent bottling)** (no feints, touch of rubber, toffee, custard; finish less dry and bitter) at home

Opened a bottle of **Old Hobart** (feints, sulphur, rubber; vague vanilla notes; oily mouthfeel; non-existent finish) at home



Dram of **Taol Esa 1999** (rich soft cream, zesty citrusy notes, short dry finish) at home; sample courtesy of Jean Donnay/Celtic Whisky Compagnie

Last drams from the sample bottles of **Magilligan 5 y.o. 'Pure Pot Still'** (lasted 3 months) and **Magilligan 1991 Sherry Finish** (lasted 3 months)

683 whiskies, of which 536 single malts (16 new-make and 68 cask samples) plus 16 'edge of whisky' spirits, 6 whisky liqueurs and 1 whisky-fortified wine

February

Dram of **Connemara** at home

Last dram from the sample bottle of **Magilligan 8 y.o. 'Peated'** (lasted 3 months)

Last dram from the sample bottle of **Clonmel 8 y.o. 'Peated'** (lasted 3 months)

Dram of **Connemara Cask Strength, 2nd release** at home; sample from Johannes van den Heuvel

Drams of **Bushmills 10 y.o.**, **Bushmills 16 y.o.** and **Bushmills 21 y.o.** at home; samples courtesy of Bushmills for the mega-Irish malt tasting in "Malt Maniacs"

Dram of **Bushmills 1989 cask sample, bourbon cask** (creamy, toffee-fudge, malt, biscuits, gherkins) at home; sample courtesy of Bushmills for the mega-Irish malt tasting in "Malt Maniacs"

Dram of **Bushmills 1989 cask sample, (second refill) sherry cask** (dried fruits, toffee, touch of sherry in finish) at home; sample courtesy of Bushmills for the mega-Irish malt tasting in "Malt Maniacs"

Dram of **Bushmills 1989 cask sample, rum cask** (fresh, spicy, hint of menthol, slightly drying finish) at home; sample courtesy of Bushmills for the mega-Irish malt tasting in "Malt Maniacs"

Last dram from the bottle of **Lark 2001 bottling** (lasted 3 years and 1 month)

Opened a bottle of **Lark 2004 bottling** (fruity creamy nose, smoked wood in the palate; bit more body than 2001 bottling) at home; bottle courtesy of Bill Lark

Opened a sample bottle of **Lark new make, heavily-peated malt** (thick sweet 'washy' nose, dry peat in the finish) at home; sample bottle courtesy of Bill Lark

688 whiskies, of which 541 single malts (17 new-make and 71 cask samples) plus 16 'edge of whisky' spirits, 6 whisky liqueurs and 1 whisky-fortified wine

March

Drams of **Dalmore 14 y.o.**; **Cadenhead** (mouldy cardboard, dry), **Ardmore 24 y.o.**; **Cadenhead** (soft fruit, malt), **Dailuaine 14 y.o.**; **Cadenhead** (fruits, musty) and **Ledaig 10 y.o.**; **Cadenhead** (very buttery nose, light soft peat) at home; samples were part of Cadenhead's 2004 Nosing Challenge

At WM Live, London, tasted **Jnchmoan 1994 – 10 y.o. cask 646**, **Jnchmoan 1994 – 10 y.o. cask 647** (cask 647 more peaty and less buttery than cask 646; samples brought by Serge), **Macallan Fine Oak 10 y.o.** (clear sherry), **Macallan Fine Oak 15 y.o.** (complexer, more balanced), **Macallan Fine Oak 21 y.o.** (drier and more sherried), **Ardbeg 1980 Kildalton** (beautiful balance between light peat and sweetness), **Bruichladdich 3D Peat Proposal** (delicious), **Edradour 10 y.o.**

Bordeaux Finish (winey), Edradour cask sample 2 y.o. Tokaj cask (thick, honey, nutty), An Cnoc 12 y.o. (mellow Speyside), Old Pulteney 17 y.o. (fresh, breezy), Glen Elgin 1975; Berry Bros (fresh fruity, grapes, twigs from grape bunches), Glenlivet 16 y.o. Nadurra (fruity, vanilla, zesty), Penderyn 'Peated Edition' (buttery nose, some peat on the palate), Laphroaig Quarter Cask (good old-fashioned Laphroaig), Talisker 18 y.o., Jnchgower 1968; Duncan Taylor (fresh, perfumey), Strathclyde 24 y.o.; Duncan Taylor (nail varnish, rich), Ault Blended 35 y.o.; Duncan Taylor, Carsebridge 1979 – 26 y.o.; Duncan Taylor (richer than the Strathclyde), Penderyn 'Oloroso Edition' (raisins), Glenmorangie Burgundy Finish (winey nose, dry finish), Merlyn (coffee, chocolate),



Mackmyra 'Elegant' 1 y.o. cask sample – Jack Daniel cask (vanilla, 'elegant'), Mackmyra 'Elegant' 9 m.o. cask sample – sherry cask (butter, more body), Mackmyra 'Elegant' 11 m.o. cask sample – Swedish oak cask (full, round, dry, cedar and other woods), Mackmyra 'Smoked' 3 y.o. cask sample – Jack Daniel cask (creamy peat), Mackmyra 'Smoked' 8 m.o. cask sample – sherry cask (zesty, butter, spicy), Mackmyra 'Smoked' 9 m.o. cask sample – Swedish oak cask (rich, spicy, dry-ish oak), Mackmyra 'Elegant' 2 y.o. cask sample – Swedish oak (butter, spicy, less woody than younger sample), Mackmyra 'Elegant-Smoke mix' cask sample (finely-balanced smoke), Mackmyra 'Pine & Alder Woodsmoke' 2 m.o. cask sample – Jack Daniel cask (deliciously 'smoky-but-different'); Scapa 14 y.o. (fresh, light), Glenmorangie 1993 Burr Oak Reserve (rich nose, but far too woody palate and finish), Balblair 30 y.o., Ledaig 1974; Signatory (rich sherry with peat shining through), Nikka 17

y.o., Ledaig 1990 – 15 y.o.; Gordon & Macphail (quite light), Caol Ila 1990 – 14 y.o.; Cooper's Choice (no peat on the nose, but comes through in the palate), Bunnahabhain 1978 – 36 y.o. Sherry Butt; Signatory (dried fruits, raisins), Arran 7 y.o.; Douglas Laing (light, fruity, biscuits), Macallan 16 y.o. Burgundy Finish; Douglas Laing (good balance of wine and sherry), North Port 1982; Private Cellar (light fruit, drying), Bruichladdich 20 y.o. Flirtation (light-fruity, fresh; and it's NOT pink!!), Ballechin 8 m.o. cask sample Madeira cask (stable farmyard and spices), Brora 1981 – 22 y.o.; Signatory, Glenfiddich 1991 (fruits and vanilla), Bunnahabhain 36 y.o.; Duncan Taylor (amazingly fresh and lively), Bowmore 1987 – 17 y.o.; Duncan Taylor, Glayva (oranges and cloves)



St Patrick's Day! Last dram from the sample bottle of Cooley 1992 – 12 y.o.; Cadenhead (lasted 4 months)

Last dram from the bottle of Peregrine Rock (lasted 3 years and 2 months)

Dram of Cooley 1991 – 12 y.o.; Celtic Whisky Co. (typical Connemara pattern of more fruitiness in the nose and more peatiness in the palate) at home; sample courtesy of Jean Donnay

Last dram from the bottle of Gold Cock 12 y.o. (lasted 3 years and 2 months)

Dram of Alloa 1964 – 40 y.o.; Old Train Line (nail varnish, vanilla, almost a bourbon) at home; sample, via Rob de Bakker, courtesy of Ronald Wuijsters

741 whiskies, of which 588 single malts (17 new-make and 81 cask samples) plus 16 'edge of whisky' spirits, 8 whisky liqueurs and 1 whisky-fortified wine

April

Dram of Lagavulin 12 y.o. Cask Strength at home; sample from Johannes van den Heuvel

Drams of **Macallan 1990 cask sample** (malty, vanilla, touch of dry leaves, oily, fresh brittle sweetness, dry finish), **Macallan 1989 cask sample** (nutty, woody, earthy, sherry, cream; all quite light; dry finish) and **Macallan 1990 cask sample** (soft sherry, soft fruit, cream, cheese??, hazelnuts, quite sweet, caster sugar; flavours more integrated than 1989 cask sample) at home; samples tasted for scotchwhisky.com

Drams of **Bowmore 1989 cask sample** (gentle peat, yellow fruit, touch of vanilla) and **Bowmore 1992 cask sample** (woody, dusty, strong peat in palate, dry-ish finish) at home; samples tasted for scotchwhisky.com



Visit to the 'Wee Gem', London. Tasted **Yamazaki 1980 – 23 y.o.**, **SMWS cask 119.1** (butterscotch, malt, vanilla, fruit, touch of wood, quite rich), **Croftengea 1992 – 11 y.o.**, **SMWS cask 122.1** (whiff of dry peat, bananas? melons?? toffee, ash, cardboard-like dryness), **Dallas Dhu 1975 – 29 y.o.**, **SMWS cask 45.13** (floor polish, burnt chocolate, fruit, bacon? dry bitter finish), **Craigellachie 1982 – 22 y.o.**, **SMWS cask 44.26** (fresh and biscuity, fruit, caramel, not that far from 'Stroopwafels'! spekkies?), **Glenfarclas 1965 – 38 y.o.**, **SMWS cask 1.111** (very rich, fruit, sherry, cedar wood, biscuits, dark chocolate), **Macallan 1990 – 14 y.o.**, **SMWS cask 24.81** (clearly from re-fill sherry cask, quite dry, metallic, burnt), **Caol Ila 1993 – 11 y.o.**, **SMWS cask 53.87** (nose fresh, buttery, whiff of peat; palate much stronger peat, iodine, medicinal, soy sauce?), **Bowmore 1989 – 14 y.o.**, **SMWS cask 3.88** (gentle bonfire, sweet fudge and butter on nose; FWP on palate), **Talisker 1989 – 15 y.o.**, **SMWS cask 14.14** (whiff of puke, bit spermatic, then wet dog followed by burst of vanilla sweetness, big, fiery, peppery), **Laphroaig 1991 – 13 y.o.**, **SMWS cask 29.39** (soft cream nose, peat wakes up, chewy, creosote)

Dram of **Bushmills 1975 – 25 y.o. Millennium** (nose full of fruit (apples?), cocos and cream; palate bit flat) at home; sample from John 'Aidan' Murrinan

Drams of **Basil Hayden's** (fresh, light, spicy, woody-dry), **Knob Creek** (syrupey, molasses, sweet, "dark", wood, little vanilla), **Baker's** (fruity nose, spicy dry palate) and **Booker's** (creamy, liquorice, chocolate, oily, velvety, rich) at home. Personal favourites? Booker's followed by Knob Creek



The next Peters sister to be converted to whisky!

761 whiskies, of which 604 single malts (17 new-make and 86 cask samples) plus 16 'edge of whisky' spirits, 8 whisky liqueurs and 1 whisky-fortified wine

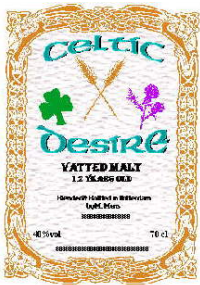
May

Last dram from the bottle of **Scapa 12 y.o.** (lasted 3 years and 2 months) and opened a bottle of **Ardbeg 10 y.o.** (pressie from Ank & Han). Couldn't get Carol to like whisky, though



Opened a bottle of **Antipodean** (light, vanilla-creamy nose with some fruit; palate with Springbank-brine, very dry finish with touch of wood) at home

Dram of **Powers** (1980s bottling) at home; sample from John 'Aidan' Marrinan. HTH with recent bottling: less vanilla and fruit, fuller flavour, savoury (beef stock), touch of wood



Last dram from the sample bottle of **Glen Breton** – 3rd release (lasted 8 months)

Opened a bottle of **Celtic Desire 12 y.o.** (quite full-flavoured, all round, some fruit, some vanilla, hint of dry peat) at home

Last dram from the half-bottle of **Powers** (lasted 1 year and 11 months)

763 whiskies, of which 604 single malts (17 new-make and 86 cask samples) plus 16 'edge of whisky' spirits, 8 whisky liqueurs and 1 whisky-fortified wine

June

Opened a bottle of **Smooth Sweeter One 2nd release, Easy Drinking Whisky Company** (quite light, malt, vanilla, touch of leather; drier than 1st release) at home

"Independent Bottler's Challenge" scoring for Whisky Magazine;



opened sample bottles of **Stronachie 12**

y.o. [6.5], Clynelish 10 y.o., James McArthur [7], Glengoyne 8 y.o., SMWS [8.5], Teaninich 12 y.o., Lombard [7], Ben Nevis 1997; Whisky Galore [7], Dalmore 10 y.o., Chieftain's [7.5], Clynelish 1991; Gordon & MacPhail [7], Speyside 10 y.o., ??? [7], Ben Nevis 1999 Port Finish; ??? [6.5], Dalmore 14 y.o., ??? [7.5], Highland Park 14 y.o., ??? [7.5], Glen Garioch 1988; Duncan Taylor [7.5], Aultmore 1987 – 17 y.o., Private Cellar [7], Pulteney 14 y.o., Cadenhead [8], Macallan 18 y.o., Scott's Selection [7.5], Clynelish 14 y.o., Chieftain's [7], Ardmore

1990; Gordon & MacPhail [8.5], Clynelish 1990; ??? [7], Clynelish 1987 – 17 y.o., Signatory [7.5], Alencadam 1991; Berry Bros. [7], Brora 22 y.o., ??? [8], Brora 26 y.o., ??? [8], Macduff 1969 – 35 y.o.; Duncan Taylor [8], North Port 1982 – 21 y.o., Private Cellar [7], Pulteney 1977 – 28 y.o., Scott's Selection [7.5], Pulteney 1966; ??? [7.5], Brora 1981 – 23 y.o., Signatory [8], Lochside 1981; Berry Bros. [7.5], Arran 7 y.o.; Douglas Laing [7.5], Ledaig 11 y.o.; ??? [8], Arran 8 y.o., SMWS [8], Ledaig 12 y.o.; ??? [7.5], Highland Park 1994 – 11 y.o.; Whisky Galore [8], Dun Bheagan 8 y.o. [7], Scapa 1993; ??? [7], Highland Park 10 y.o.; ??? [7], Cooley 1992; ??? [7.5], Ledaig 1993; ??? [7.5], Isle of Jura 13 y.o.; ??? [7], Talisker 1989 – 15 y.o., SMWS [7.5], Highland Park 1987; Whisky Galore [7], Highland Park 1991; Gordon & MacPhail [8], Highland Park 1989 Port Cask; Murray McDavid [7.5], Highland Park 1992 – 13 y.o.; ??? [7.5], Orkney 14 y.o.; Berry Bros. [7], Highland Park 1985 – 19 y.o.; Private Cellar [7.5], Highland Park 19 y.o.; Scott's Selection [8], Scapa 22 y.o. Amontillado Cask; Chieftain's [8.5],

Highland Park 30 y.o., Gordon & MacPhail [8], Ledaig 1974 – 30 y.o., Signatory [8], Caol Ila 10 y.o., Douglas Laing [8], Finlaggan [7.5], Caol Ila 11 y.o., SMWS [7.5], Caol Ila 1992, Whisky Galore [7.5], Caol Ila 10 y.o. Manzanilla Finish, Chieftain's [7.5], Caol Ila 1993, Gordon & MacPhail [8.5], Bowmore 12 y.o., Hart Brothers [7.5], Bruichladdich Cigar Malt, Murray McDavid [7.5], Caol Ila 1994, Signatory [8], Jslay 8 y.o., Berry Bros. [8], Laphroaig 17 y.o. Rum Finish, ??? [8], Caol Ila 1990 – 14 y.o., Cooper's Choice [7.5], Bowmore 16 y.o., Dewar Rattray [5], Laphroaig 1991 - 13 y.o., SMWS [8.5], Bowmore 1987, Whisky Galore [5.5], Bunnahabhain 1988 – 15 y.o., Private Cellar [7.5], Bruichladdich 15 y.o., Scott's Selection [7.5], Caol Ila 14 y.o., Chieftain's [8], Caol Ila 1991, Gordon & MacPhail [7], Caol Ila 1993 Chenin Blanc Finish, Murray McDavid [7.5], Caol Ila 1990, Signatory [8], Bruichladdich 1991, Berry Bros. [7.5], Port Ellen 23 y.o., ??? [8.5], Caol Ila 21 y.o., ??? [9], Bowmore 1982, Duncan Taylor [6], Bunnahabhain 28 y.o., Scott's Selection [7.5], Caol Ila 1969, Gordon & MacPhail [7.5], Bunnahabhain 1978 – 36 y.o., Signatory [7.5], Bunnahabhain 1974, Berry Bros. [7.5]

Opened a bottle of **Mannochmore 1984 – 19 y.o.**, **Helen Arthur** (firm, malt, touch of tar) at home; pressie from Belg & Blondje

Last dram from the sample bottle of **Ballechin 2003 cask sample – port cask** (lasted 10 months)

832 whiskies, of which 672 single malts (17 new-make and 86 cask samples) plus 16 'edge of whisky' spirits, 8 whisky liqueurs and 1 whisky-fortified wine

July

Dram of **Alenmorangie Madeira Wood Finish** at Meirion & Anne, Camberley

Last dram from the bottle of **Slyrs 1999** (lasted 3 years and 4 months)

Dram of **"The Ultimate Celtic Malt"** (more or less what you expect from a vatting of Laphroaig, Tyrconnell, Penderyn, Armorik and Glen Kella; Laphroaig clearly present) at home

833 whiskies, of which 672 single malts (17 new-make and 86 cask samples) plus 16 'edge of whisky' spirits, 8 whisky liqueurs and 1 whisky-fortified wine

August

Drams of **"Malt – Bourbon vattings"** (Glen Deveron + Virginia Gentleman 3:1, 1:1, 1:3; whole is less than the sum of its parts, bourbon overpowering, only some malt detectable in 3:1 vatting) at home

Dram of **Swissky** (chocolate and leather nose, some malt, light fruitiness, all soft and somewhat bland) at home

Dram of **Glengoyne 1981 – 23 y.o., Limburg Whisky Fair** (nose with cherry liqueur bonbons, drying on the palate) at home, sample from Heiko Crusdat



Dram of **Bushmills 12 y.o. Distillery Reserve** at home to celebrate the announcement of 'Aerial', Kate Bush's new album, sample from Thomas Schubert



839 whiskies, of which 675 single malts (17 new-make and 86 cask samples) plus 16 'edge of whisky' spirits, 8 whisky liqueurs and 1 whisky-fortified wine

September

Opened a bottle of **Phillips Union** ('vanillevla' and 'advokaat') at home; bottle courtesy of Phillips Union

Last dram from the bottle of **Very Young Ardbeg** (lasted 1 year and 5 months)



Dram of **Laphroaig Quarter Cask** at home; bottle brought by Thomas Berendonk

Used the last dram from the sample bottle of **Octomore new make** (lasted 1 year and 5 months) and Virginia Gentleman to create a "**Peated Bourbon**" (peat dominant at 1:1, peat and bourbon cancel each other out at about 3:1) at home



Visit to Kew Gardens and Compass Box HQ; tasted **The Spice Tree prototype** (shiny polished wood, vanilla, lots of spices), **Hedonism** (more citrusy than earlier bottlings), **Highland Park 1990 - 15 y.o. cask sample**, **Eleuthera 'Mariage'** (bit more body than normal Eleuthera), **Asyla 'Mariage'**, **Linkwood 1993 - 12 y.o. cask sample**, **Caol Ila 1996 - 9 y.o. cask sample**, **The Spice Tree** (better balance than prototype, but same wood-vanilla-spices)

847 whiskies, of which 678 single malts (17 new-make and 89 cask samples) plus 16 'edge of whisky' spirits, 8 whisky liqueurs and 1 whisky-fortified wine

October

Last dram from the bottle of **Roggen-Malzwhisky** (lasted 3 years and 9 months)

Last dram from the bottle of **Hedonism** (lasted 4 years and 5 months)

847 whiskies, of which 678 single malts (17 new-make and 89 cask samples) plus 16 'edge of whisky' spirits, 8 whisky liqueurs and 1 whisky-fortified wine

November

Last dram from the bottle of **Port Ellen 1982 - 13 y.o.**; **Hart Brothers** (lasted 1 year and 11 months)

Last dram from the bottle of **St George Lot 3** (lasted 1 year and 8 months)

847 whiskies, of which 678 single malts (17 new-make and 89 cask samples)
plus 16 'edge of whisky' spirits, 8 whisky liqueurs and 1 whisky-fortified wine

December

Fourth home in Britain: 10 Channels Farm Road, Swaythling,
Southampton



"booze cruise"



Dram of **Glenmorangie Port Wood Finish** at Guy Poppy, Romsey



Last dram from the sample bottle of **Glencadam 1991**,
Berry Bros. (lasted 6 months)

Opened a bottle of **Macallan Fine Oak 10 y.o.** at home
and poured into the whisky dispenser, pressie from Roshan
at the Silwood leaving do

Last dram from the sample bottle of **Aultmore 1987 – 17 y.o., Private Cellar** (lasted 6 months)

Dram of **Famous Grouse 1992 – 12 y.o.** at Karsten & Chris, Puddletown

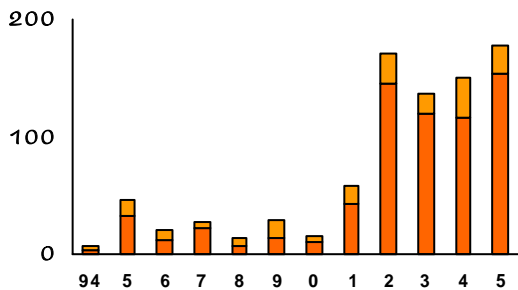
Last dram from the sample bottle of **Ballechin 2003 cask sample – refill sherry cask** (lasted 1 year and 4 months)

Dram of **Booie Range** (feinty nose, thin and watery palate with merest touches of malt and vanilla, bitter finish) at home

Dram of **Glenturret 1988 – 16 y.o., SMWS cask 16.27** (lots of chocolate, some vanilla) at Karsten & Chris, Puddletown

850 whiskies, of which 680 single malts (17 new-make and 89 cask samples) plus 16 'edge of whisky' spirits, 8 whisky liqueurs and 1 whisky-fortified wine

Whisky Life List
yearly additions



Whisky Life List
cumulative

