

1997

January

Drams of **Highland Park 12 y.o.** and **Drambuie** at Jos & Wim, Rheden

Last dram from the bottle of **Ballantine's Finest** (lasted 2 years and 4 months)

Dram of **Bushmills 10 y.o.** (light, velvety-soft, fruity) at Karsten & Chris, Sunningdale

Last dram from the bottle of **Clynelish 14 y.o.** (lasted 1 year and 8 months)

Opened a mini from Christine & Tim's birthday-pack at home: **Bowmore 10 y.o.** (sweet-smoky, most smoke in the nose)

73 whiskies, of which 49 single malts plus 1 'edge of whisky' spirit and 2 whisky liqueurs

February

Dram of **Balvenie 10 y.o. Founder's Reserve** (full-sweet, supple, hints of vanilla) at home, part of the whisky chess board

Opened a bottle of **Isle of Jura 10 y.o.** at home

Last dram from the bottle of **Highland Park 12 y.o.** (lasted 1 year and 2 months)



Opened a bottle of **Glen Kella 12 y.o.** (spirity, but not much in terms of taste) at home; bottle may be one of the last bottles of Manx Whiskey sold, as I ordered it a week before the court case which ruled that Glen Kella can not be labelled 'whisky' as the maturation clock had been put back to zero by the re-distillation

Opened a bottle of **Piraten Whisky** (very woody and dry, strangely fishy-oily, sometimes bitter, sometimes bourbony) at home

75 whiskies, of which 51 single malts plus 2 'edge of whisky' spirits and 2 whisky liqueurs

March

Dram of **Jameson** at Minus, Paris

April

Holiday to Argyll! First stop: Jslay.



Tour of Lagavulin distillery; dram of **Lagavulin 16 y.o.** Tour of Laphroaig distillery (by Jain Henderson himself); drams of **Laphroaig 15 y.o.** (fuller and softer than the 10 y.o.; less medicinal) and **new-make Laphroaig** (fire water! but clearly recognisable peat). Tour of Bowmore distillery, without dram as J was driving that day



Visited Caol Ila, Bunnahabhain (no tours), Bruichladdich, Ardbeg (both closed) and Port Ellen (deserted)



Day trip to Jura and Jura distillery (no tour) and then on to Campbeltown and Springbank and Glen Scotia distilleries (no tours)



Final stop: Arran and a tour of Arran distillery; drams of **Lochranza** (quite dry) and **Eileandour** (decent, all-round, but nothing remarkable)

Opened bottle of **Eileandour** at Glen Rosa camping

Second home in Britain: Flat 4 Wood Hall, Woodhall Lane, Sunningdale



Dram of **Lagavulin 16 y.o.** at Christine, Sunningdale

79 whiskies, of which 53 single malts (1 new-make)
plus 2 'edge of whisky' spirits and 2 whisky liqueurs

May

Opened a bottle of **Bunnahabhain 12 y.o.** (light-peaty, fresh, sometimes a bit rubbery) at home, birthday pressie from Christine

Dram of **Laphroaig 10 y.o.** at Christine, Sunningdale

Last dram from the bottle of **Caol Ila 1980 – 14 y.o., Gordon & MacPhail** (lasted 2 years and 3 months)

80 whiskies, of which 54 single malts (1 new-make)
plus 2 'edge of whisky' spirits and 2 whisky liqueurs

June

Opened a bottle of **Laphroaig 10 y.o.** at home, late birthday pressie from Mam and Assie & Hans

Opened a bottle of **Famous Grouse** at home, pressie from Pablo Masnatta as a thank-you for supervising his project

Last dram from the bottle of **Bowmore Mariner** (lasted 1 year)

Dram of **Talisker 10 y.o.** at Christine, Sunningdale

Last dram from the bottle of **Dalwhinnie 15 y.o.** (lasted 2 years and 5 months)

July

Drams of **Glenlivet 12 y.o.** (soft, fruity, easily drinkable) and **Talisker 10 y.o.** at Christine, Sunningdale



Opened a bottle of **Michel Couvreur 12 y.o.** (strong sherry, full, rich, as a glowing ball of fire, very soft, but full of power) at home, pressie from Riannon. This was the model for my wee gold whisky bottle

Whisky-tasting with Thomas Berendonk at home; Thomas brought **Littlemill 8 y.o.** (rather light and soft; sweetish at first, but drier later; hints of coconut) and **Edradour 10 y.o.** (much less minty than the bottle bought in 1995)

Opened a bottle of **Ardbeg 1974 – 22 y.o.**; **Gordon & MacPhail** (as a vatting of Lagavulin and Laphroaig) at home

Last dram from the bottle of **Glenmorangie 10 y.o.** (lasted 2 years and 6 months)

84 whiskies, of which 57 single malts (1 new-make)
plus 2 'edge of whisky' spirits and 2 whisky liqueurs

August



Dram of **Cragganmore 12 y.o.** at Jos & Wim, Rheden

Last dram from the bottle of **Glenmorangie Madeira Finish** (lasted 1 year and 2 months)

Opened a bottle of **Old Pulteney 12 y.o.** (soft, hint of peat, vanilla combined with touch of salt, subtle) at home

Last dram from the bottle of **Springbank 15 y.o.** (lasted 2 years and 5 months)

85 whiskies, of which 58 single malts (1 new-make)
plus 2 'edge of whisky' spirits and 2 whisky liqueurs

September

Opened a bottle of **Loch Dhu** (at first full and soft (liquorice?), but then astringent, bitter and ash-dry) at home

Dram of **Wild Turkey 101 proof** (touch fuller, deeper and less sweet than the 86.8 proof) at home

Last dram from the bottle of **Lagavulin 16 y.o.** (lasted 11 months)

Dram of **Brora 1972; Gordon & MacPhail** (very peaty and seaweedy, slightly fatty, becomes lighter) at home



Opened a bottle of **Old Comber** (nose is rich, full and complex, palate is juicy, bitter, woody, sometimes minty) at home; thanks to Thomas Berendonk for securing a bottle for less than £50!

Opened a bottle of **Jameson Gold** (fuller and deeper than standard Jameson) at home, pressie from Jos & Wim

90 whiskies, of which 60 single malts (1 new-make)
plus 2 'edge of whisky' spirits and 2 whisky liqueurs

October

Drams of **Macallan 12 y.o.** (rich, full, sherry) and **Talisker 10 y.o.** at Christine, Sunningdale

Opened a bottle of **Alen Scotia 14 y.o.** (initially quite watery, but gaining flavour, fresh, slightly 'salty') at home

Last dram from the bottle of **Bushmills 1608** (lasted 2 years and 2 months)

Opened a bottle of **Macallan 12 y.o.** at home

Last dram from the bottle of **Talisker 10 y.o.** (2 bottles; lasting 2 years and 9 months)

Opened a bottle of **Bruichladdich 17 y.o.** (light peat in the background) at home, pressie from Riannon



Bet with Lorna (at Christine, Sunningdale) on how many Enrique-made empanadas I could eat. Twelve empanadas later, making sure to alternate cheese and meat-filled empanadas, I had won, and Lorna got me a bottle of **Bowmore 12 y.o.** I didn't sleep too well during the following night

Last dram from the bottle of **Glenfarclas 105** (lasted 2 years and 8 months)

Last dram from the half-bottle of **Glenfiddich Special Old Reserve** (lasted 2 years and 9 months)

Dram of **Sang Thip** (strange fatty-sweet, reminiscent of rice wine) at home; bottle from Rob Kinnersley who 'forgot' to take it with him when he left

93 whiskies, of which 63 single malts (1 new-make)
plus 3 'edge of whisky' spirits and 2 whisky liqueurs

November

Dram of **Knockando 1980 – 15 y.o.** (softer and creamier than the 1979) at home, part of the whisky chess board

Opened a bottle of **Bushmills 16 y.o. Three Woods** (soft and easy, but much fuller and richer than the 10 y.o.) at home

Last dram from the bottle of Powers (lasted 2 years and 4 months)

Dram of **Laphroaig 10 y.o. Original Cask Strength** (intense peaty-mossy, slightly medicinal; body first oily-soft, then drier) at James & Sally, South Ascot

Opened a bottle of **Tobermory** (light, malty-sweet, touch of island character) at home

Dram of **Teacher's Highland Cream** at Karsten & Chris, Bracknell

Last dram from the bottle of **Drambuie** (lasted 1 year and 4 months)

97 whiskies, of which 67 single malts (1 new-make)
plus 3 'edge of whisky' spirits and 2 whisky liqueurs

December

Opened a bottle of **Connemara** (peaty and sweet at the same time, complex) at home

Last dram from the bottle of **Laphroaig 10 y.o.** (lasted 6 months)

Dram of **Glenlivet 12 y.o.** during Xmas Lunch, Silwood (bottle from Christine)

Dram of **Ardbeg 17 y.o.** (lighter and less peaty than the G & McP 1974) at tasting stand on Heathrow airport

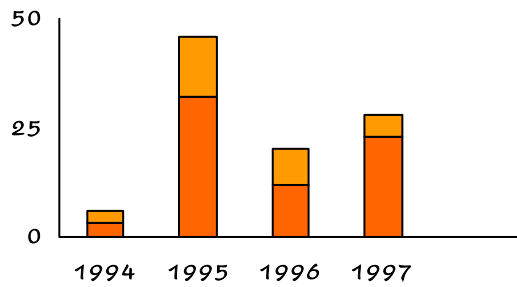
Drams of **Balvenie 10 y.o. Founder's Reserve** and **Bowmore Cask Strength** (light nose, some vanilla, then becomes intense peaty, rather dry) at Wilma & Rob, Zoetermeer

Opened a bottle of **Irish Mist** at Jos & Wim, Rheden

Drams of Drambuie, Highland Park 12 y.o. and Lagavulin 16 y.o. at Jos & Wim, Rheden

100 whiskies, of which 70 single malts (1 new-make)
plus 3 'edge of whisky' spirits and 3 whisky liqueurs

Whisky Life List yearly additions



Whisky Life List cumulative

