

## **CORBIE INN - TASTING NOTES - SATURDAY 28TH MAY 2016**

### **BRUICHLADDICH SCOTTISH BARLEY "THE CLASSIC LADDIE" AT 50% abv.**

Created by Jim McEwan from whisky matured in American oak casks alongside Lochindaal, and chosen to represent the classic, unpeated distillery style. Bruichladdich's new signature bottling is made with 100% Scottish barley.

**Nose:** Opening with barley sugar and a hint of mint before leading into the most wonderful notes of freshly cut wild flowers; buttercup, daisy, meadowsweet, myrtle, primrose and cherry blossom. After some four or five minutes and with the addition of a little water, caramelised fruits drift onto the scene; lemon drops and honey, tangerine and tablet

**Palate:** refreshing, the sweet oak and the barley arriving together sending the taste buds into raptures. A combination of ripe green fruit, brown sugar and sweet malt bring closure.

**Finish:** Unforgettable! Its best enjoyed in good company, you just don't want the evening to end. It brings warmth to the heart and soul. The clock slows down and the cares of tomorrow disappear into the dawn.

### **ISLAY MIST - 8 YEAR OLD BLEND - FINISHED IN MANZANILLA LA GITANA CASKS AT 43% abv.**

One of initial batch of 1800 for Japanese Market.

**Nose:** A melange of barley and tart citrus with hints of greengage, bog myrtle and camphor. Some dusty / earthy spice and peat emerge with a hint of grain spirit.

**Palate:** Full, barley coffeed wood tannins and earth. A waft of smoke comes through with hints of tar, iodine and coastal peat. The peat becomes more dominant on the middle.

**Finish:** Long with the citrus, salt and grain spirit giving it a mouth tingling finish. Lovely, sooty, tarry after taste. Great Blend where the Islay component dominates, but you can't argue with quality.

### **GLENMORANGIE - 15 YEARS OLD - ORIGINAL OLD STYLE BOTTLING AT 43% abv.**

A woefully discontinued whisky from Glenmorangie, this 15 year old was described as top critic Serge Valentin as being "very, very good". It really is you know!

**Nose:** Buttery and salty with notes of digestive biscuit, oak, hazelnut, spices and honeycomb.

**Palate:** As creamy and thick a Glenmorangie as you could ever want! Deep and rich with notes of sweet spicy and toasted nuts. Hints of cut herbs, with thick vanilla, charcoal, as well as date and walnut cake. More than a suggestion of ripe peach too.

**Finish:** Long finish with notes of caramel, toffee and spice.

## **SCALLYWAG - SPEYSIDE BLENDED MALT - SMALL BATCH RELEASE AT 46% abv.**

Big Peat's gone and got himself a trusty sidekick in the shape of a dapper Fox Terrier wearing a monocle! Scallywag from Douglas Laing is a blended malt made from Speyside whiskies, including Mortlach, Macallan and Glenrothes. Many of the whiskies used in the small batch release come from Spanish sherry butts, giving Scallywag a fab sweetness that's balanced by some "mischievous" bourbon cask whisky also in the blend.

**Nose:** Sweetness jumps up like an excited puppy. Icing sugar, sultanas and candied ginger. A few hints of grain here and there, but sweetness steals the show.

**Palate:** The sweetness surprisingly retreats, revealing nutmeg and cereal. Vanilla comes in near the end. Cinnamon too, giving it a prickle of spice.

**Finish:** A pinch of oak spice joins the vanilla and sherry for the finish. Incredibly pleasant, the Scallywag is an absolute treat in every sense.

## **AILSA BAY AT 48.9% abv. Also at 021ppm and 011 sppm !**

Single malt from Ailsa Craig, founded in 2007 with a capacity of 12,000,000 litres on the same site as Girvan. Several styles of malt whisky are produced there, from sweet and light to heavier and more sulphury (two stills have steel condenser rather than copper) as well as peated styles up to 50ppm.

**Nose:** Custard and some phenolic ash, some Big Red too, becoming more chalky and cereal driven with subtle golden syrup. As the producer's notes state, bacon then emerges.

**Palate:** Undoubtedly meaty 'n' peaty. More of that chalky cereal (dry muesli?) and golden syrup with Big Red in support.

**Finish:** Sweet, smoky and drying. More Big Red with vanilla. The Big Red (spicy cinnamon sweets) are an ever-present but never threaten to dominate this sweet peaty treat.

## **ISLE OF ARRAN - 14 YEAR OLD - AT 46% abv.**

The 2010 release from Arran, the 14 year old replaces the previous benchmark, the 12. This was finished in fresh bourbon and sherry hogsheads 2 years before it was bottled. The result is a sweet, fruity arran with all that wonderful malt we love!

This expression from the Isle of Arran distillery appeared in 2010 and one-third of the component whiskies were matured in European oak casks while two-thirds came from American oak.

**Nose:** Very fragrant and perfumed on the nose, with peaches, brandy, and ginger snaps, plus vanilla and mild oak.

**Palate:** Smooth and creamy, with spicy summer fruits, apricots, and hazelnuts.

**Finish:** The lingering finish is spicy, biscuity, and slowly drying, with just a hint of salt