



Object of the Newsletter

To promote the appreciation of fine Scotch Whisky, the area from which it comes, the people that inhabit the land and it's history. By the way, I do not profess to be an expert, I am merely expressing an opinion on the whiskies I am tasting.

I now look at the “Naked” Grouse a blended scotch whisky and member of the “Famous Grouse” family. A relatively (pun intended) new addition to the family, this is a good blended whisky, at a nice price. So the only reason not to try it, is your geographical location, I have not found it for sale here in America yet. I had to go on the internet and have it shipped over here, was it worth the effort, yes, I think so.

Although, I'll not go online and order more, I would buy it if I found it locally.

The “Naked” Grouse being a blended scotch is made of a number of different whiskies, and at it's core are whiskies from the Highland Park and the Macallan distilleries. Both makers of great whiskies, which in itself may be enough to tempt you to try this blend.

The whisky is matured in first fill sherry casks, which give it, it's nice golden color. Note the packaging, most unusual, a play on the “naked” name, simple and effective, which shows off the color, a nice marketing touch.

You can buy the “Naked” Grouse for around \$40.00 a bottle.

Tasting Notes;

Nose - Black cherries and cocoa

Palate - Dried fruits & apple pie spices

Finish - Dark chocolate & spice

“Slainte Mhath”

Paul Bissett





Double trouble at Crieff distillery By STEFAN MORKIS



The Famous Grouse Experience at Glenturret Distillery in Crieff has given vermin paws for thought by bringing in two kittens to act as Official Mousers.

The male kittens - named Glen and Turret - will be responsible for keeping the distillery and tourist attraction free from mice and rats.

Their arrival comes after the distillery's most recent mouser, Peat, died last year after an accident on his first day exploring the great outdoors.

Towser, the distillery's most famous mouser, caught 28,899 mice during her 24 years at the distillery between 1963 and 1987 and is immortalized in a statue outside the distillery.

Stuart Cassells, general manager of The Famous Grouse Experience at Glenturret Distillery, said: "The whole team are thrilled to welcome some new little furry team members and we have decided to home two kittens instead of one so we can have twice the fun.

There is a lot of evidence to suggest that it is good for a cat's development to be around other cats as they are very social animals. They are also less likely to venture as far, so we have welcomed the cute and very mischievous Glen and Turret."

Stuart added: "Glen is, at eight weeks old, very timid and quietly inquisitive while Turret, on the other paw, is a tabby on a mission. He's a month older than Glen and into absolutely everything from climbing, including your leg, to playing with whatever or whoever he can find.

"They balance each other out purr-fectly and we now have twice the virtual mousing capacity with our new furry distillery duo."



Below is a simple guide to help you choose your single malt Whisky, and the flavor notes you should expect from it. Being Scottish I recommend you find a likely candidate and try it in a bar before buying the whole bottle. This Issue; [The "Naked" Grouse](#) For more information go to www.thefamousgrouse.com





The Glenturret Distillery

The Glenturret distillery, owned by the Drummond family, received an official licence to make and sell whisky in 1775. Situated on the banks of the Turret River, two miles north of Crieff in Perthshire, the location of the distillery was as secluded as it was picturesque.

In those early days it wasn't actually called The Glenturret, but was known as 'Hosh'.

In 1825 An agreement was drawn up between the Drummonds and the proprietor of Ochtertyre Estate, Sir Patrick Murray, confirming their rights in respect of water abstraction from Loch Turret and the digging of peat, both for the purposes of distilling. The water used in the distilling process contributes a great deal to the taste and make-up of the whisky, so its purity and quality are essential. Knowing how important this was is probably why the Drummonds took steps to safeguard the continual supply of their water.

Despite the economic depression of the late 1830's the distillery survived and when trade improved and economic confidence returned the Drummonds decided to capitalise on their investment by selling the distillery to Mr. John McCallum in 1845. Little is known about the years of the McCallum ownership and whether John knew anything about distilleries and whisky production is unclear, however we can assume he didn't have such a good head for business, as the distillery went bankrupt.

Following the bankruptcy the distillery was sold in 1870 to Thomas Stewart who made full use of the period of growth and expansion in the economy and in the Scotch whisky industry in particular. In 1885 he was confident enough to borrow £1,000 which he used to enlarge the plant, machinery and warehouses.

In 1887 Alfred Barnard visited The Glenturret and was impressed by the beautiful surroundings and the courteous reception afforded to him. In his book, *The Whisky Distilleries of the United Kingdom*, he wrote, "Here are no fads, appliances or patents, but like the buildings the vessels are all of the ancient pattern."





The Glenturret Distillery cont.

All went well until 1920, when total prohibition in the United States was responsible for a drastic drop in sales. The distillery fell silent in 1921, with the last barrel being removed from the warehouse in 1927. A long closure and neglect of the distillery caused considerable dilapidation at the site. This along with the economic depression and the Second World War did nothing to improve The Glenturret's prospects of revival.

1957 was a momentous year for the distillery when a gentleman called James Fairlie visited the site and after long consideration purchased The Glenturret and began its revival. James Fairlie, having been an Assistant Manager with a Glasgow blending company, had the experience needed. He was also a whisky enthusiast dedicated to creating whisky in a traditional fashion and preserving the craft of distilling. By June 1960, whisky was again in production.

In 1990 the Glenturret distillery was bought by Highland Distillers, the same company who previously acquired Matthew Gloag & Sons in 1970, makers of The Famous Grouse.

The Glenturret single malt is one of the key whiskies in The Famous Grouse blend, and so Scotland's oldest distillery became the spiritual home of Scotland's best-selling whisky.

In 1999, Highland Distillers was bought by the Edrington Group, a major private Group in the Scotch industry and in 2002 The Famous Grouse Experience opened at The Glenturret distillery, at a cost of 2.5 million pounds. Nominated for an Interactive Entertainment Award at BAFTA, the experience includes a multi-media presentation, a choice of different distillery tours and of course sampling and tasting of some of Scotland's finest whiskies.

The Famous Grouse Experience celebrated its 10th anniversary as the spiritual home for The Famous Grouse. To celebrate, we created the world's largest bottle of whisky, containing 228 litres of The Famous Grouse! The bottle officially holds the world record and stands at an impressive 5 feet 5 inches tall, holding the equivalent of 8,000 drams of whisky.

It sits proudly on permanent display at The Famous Grouse Experience . A once-in-a-lifetime day out for any lover of whisky.

For more information on the Famous Grouse experience and the Glenturret Distillery, go to;
<http://experience.thefamousgrouse.com>