



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.

In this issue I look at the Kininvie 23-year-old (batch 2) single malt scotch whisky. The first batch was released exclusively in Taiwan. I had the good fortune to present the Kininvie recently at the "Whisky Extravaganza" held at the Los Angeles Athletic Club. What a stunning whisky this is, light and delicate. If I were to put this into a musical context, my top two whiskies of 2014 were the Balvenies, Tun 1509 batch 1 and the Tun 1401 batch 3; they have such intense flavors they would be "Rock 'n' Roll. Kininvie is The "Flower duet" from the opera Lakmé; very refined and delicate. Unfortunately, it is not cheap and is also hard to come by, with only 1200 half bottles released to the US market.

My final word: If you find it and can afford it, buy it. You will not be disappointed, this is one of the nicest whiskies I have ever tasted.

You can buy Kininvie 23-year-old for around \$330.00 (a half Bottle).

Tasting Notes;

Nose - Ripe peaches and Kiwi

Palate - Sweet peaches & cream with light oak

Finish - Long with sweet peach

"Slainte Mhath"

Paul Bissett





An Extract from “And now...Kininvie!”

October 23rd, 2013 by David Broom for Whisky Advocate

In which he talks about the first Kininvie release (batch 1), but the article gives good background on the distillery which was established in 1990.

Kininvie can lay claim to be one of the most obscure in Scotland. Built in order to ease pressure on Glenfiddich and supply whisky for Grants’ blends (and in more recent times, for Monkey Shoulder), it has never been bottled under its own name.

These important responsibilities could justify why this has happened, but 20 years is a long time for malt lovers to wait. Was it always the intention to hold fire for so long? “I’ve been here for 17 years,” says Brian Kinsman, Grant’s master blender, who has masterminded the release. “Every year we’ve had a discussion about Kininvie, so I don’t think you can say that there was any pre-determined plan. “One thing in our favor is that we do tend to keep stuff, and the mentality for as long as I’ve been here is to keep hold of it and wait until the right moment. It’s here.”

The Kininvie still house sits between Glenfiddich and Balvenie, and stylistically the whisky is a midpoint between its two sisters. It has its own dedicated 10,000 liter mash tun in the Balvenie mash house (though it doesn’t use any of that distillery’s floor-malted barley) and its own tun room as well, with three new washbacks (out of six in total) being installed at the time of writing.

The stillhouse, often rather cruelly dismissed as no more than a shed, contains nine stills in three sets; one wash to two spirit, the spirit stills being roughly similar to Glenfiddich in shape and size, the wash stills being tall and onion shaped. The cut point is high, thereby avoiding getting heaviness from such small stills.

Aging takes place in a variety of woods: first fill bourbon (predominantly for Monkey Shoulder), refill, and some sherry.

When you compare its new make to Balvenie, Kininvie is on the floral side of the spectrum (think geraniums), lighter and sweeter with less thickness on the tongue, lower vanillin and cereal, but a more lifted, estery fruitiness, and a long silkiness on the palate.

To read the full article go to <http://whiskyadvocate.com/whisky/2013/10/23/and-now-kininvie/>

I can also recommend the “Whisky Advocate” magazine, which I have been getting for years.



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. With each issue of the newsletter I will add in another Whisky to the flavor map. This Issue; [Kininvie 23-year-old single malt scotch whisky](#) For more information go to[There is no website](#)





Monsters Inc: Scottish lochs and their creatures

By **Steven McKenzie** BBC Scotland Highlands and Islands reporter

Loch Ness is known all over the world for its legendary monster, Nessie. But it is far from the only creature said to inhabit Scotland's lochs.

Morag, a lesser-known cousin of the Loch Ness Monster,

Researchers have found accounts at the University of Edinburgh library of the mysterious creature from the 1900s.

The historic papers revealed local descriptions of Morag as a mermaid-like creature and a beastly death omen.

But Morag is just one of several loch monster stories hidden in the long shadow cast by Nessie.

Just south of Loch Ness is the much smaller Loch Oich, where a beast with a shaggy, dog-like head is said to have been seen.

A little further down the Great Glen from Loch Oich is long and straight Loch Lochy.

Loch Lochy is known as the haunt of Lizzie. First reported as being sighted in 1929, Lizzie is said to have three humps and resemble a plesiosaur, a description sometimes used for Nessie.

Like Nessie, no sighting of Lizzie has ever been confirmed and plesiosaurs were long-necked marine reptiles that became extinct at the same time as the dinosaurs - but the legends refuse to die.

There are also tales that Loch Quoich, which like Lochy and Oich is in Lochaber, has a plesiosaur-like beast. Quoich's monster has also been described as a water horse, or kelpie, a serpent with a horse's head.

According to an entry in the Clan Cameron Archives, Loch Arkaig, west of the Great Glen, has a "lake-horse" that in the past was seen by a deer stalker and his children.

Another Lochaber water feature with a supposed monster is Loch Sheil. Glenfinnan at the head of the loch is where Bonnie Prince Charlie raised his standard in August 1745.

In the loch's waters, a creature 21.3m (70ft) long and with three humps was said to have been spotted in 1870.

It is claimed Muc-Sheilche haunts Loch Maree in Wester Ross. The Gaelic name may mean "slug pig". And the monsters are not exclusive to Highland fresh water lochs.

Apparently, Loch Lomond has a beast reported to resemble a plesiosaur but has also been described as looking like a large crocodile.



'Giant sterile eels'

The mysterious depths of Scotland's lochs attract many curious visitors.

Richard Freeman, of Devonshire-based Centre for Fortean Zoology, has visited both lochs Ness and Morar. He said he was told of two Yorkshiremen encountering something strange in Loch Morar in recent years.

The pair were on a fishing holiday and had been out on the loch in a boat when they saw what they thought was a tree trunk heading towards them at speed. Moments before a collision, the object arched up and dived down into the water.

Once they got themselves back on the land, the two men hastily packed their belongs and left for home. Mr. Freeman believes the monster sightings can be explained.

He said: "The idea of a pre-historic reptile in these cold northern lakes is a non-starter.

"However, the monsters could be some kind of large fish. I think the best bet are giant sterile eels.

"The common eel swims out to the Sargasso Sea to breed then die. The baby eels follow scent trails back to their ancestral fresh waters homes and the cycle begins again.

"Sometimes, however, a mutation occurs and the eel is sterile. These stay in fresh water and keep on growing. Known as eunuch eels, no-one knows how old they get or how big."

Mr. Freeman said two Canadian tourists came across a 7.6m (25ft) eel floating in shallow water of Loch Ness in February 2004.

"At first, they thought it was dead, but when it began to move, they beat a hasty retreat," he said.

Loren Coleman, of the International Cryptozoology Museum in Portland, Maine, in the US - where exhibits include information on the Loch Ness Monster - said Scotland was rich in stories and sightings of unusual creatures.

He said: "Scotland has reports of loch monsters, black panthers and mammals that should not be there such as wild boars, bears and other species."

But Nessie is likely to continue to reign supreme as Scotland's top monster.

