



## Object of the Newsletter

*To promote the appreciation of fine Scotch Whisky (and the drinking of it) amongst my friends and to spread the word on the joys of single malt. By the way, I do not profess to be an expert, I am merely expressing an opinion on the whiskies I am tasting. "Slange"*

This issue I look at Lagavulin Distillers Edition, which I sampled in the Freaking Frog during my whisky tasting lesson with Adam Carmer. Having a preference for peat and smoke, this one shot to the top of my favorite list. I really like this whisky, but at over \$100 a bottle it would normally be a bit too expensive for an everyday whisky, but thanks to all that peat and smoke none of my friends will drink it so the bottle will last.

Now, having said that my preference is for peat & smoke, I have to add that, the more whiskies I try the more I realize that I like them all, just some a little more than others.

### Tasting Notes;

**Color** - Ochre

**Nose** - Cereal, hay, Peat & smoke

**Palate** - Peat, smoke & a hint of salt

**Finish** - Warm with a hint of malt & chocolate

**Chocolate truffles would go well with the Lagavulin Distillers Edition.**

*If you have a personal favorite and you would like it to feature in future "Slange" newsletters, please let me know.*

*I can be contacted at my website [www.scot-talks.com](http://www.scot-talks.com).*

*"Slainte Mhath"  
Paul Bissett*

*With thanks to Google images.*





## A wee bit of History

On year after the foundation of Lagavulin in 1816, a second distillery, Kildalton was build on the same site.

They joined their activities in 1837 when Lagavulin belonged to Donald Johnston, descendant of the founder, John Johnston. Both distilleries are operating under one entity since then.

After the death of Donald Johnston, the distillery was managed successively by John C. Graham, Walter Graham and James Mackie. The son of James, Peter Jeffrey Mackie entered in business in 1878. Amongst other things he created the well known blend “White Horse”. This blend still contains Lagavulin malt nowadays.

En 1908 the managers of Lagavulin decided to build a new distillery, Malt Mill with the clear intention to compete with the neighbor distillery, Laphroaig Peter Mackie was commercial agent of Laphroaig until a serious difference of opinion occurred between them. The war between both distilleries began. Peter Mackie did not hesitate to hire away the still master of Laphroaig. Peter Mackie, whose nickname was Restless Peter also acquired the Craigellachie distillery in Speyside and Hazelburn in Campbeltown.

Malt Mill was dismantled in 1960, and the 2 stills were transferred to Lagavulin 2 years later.

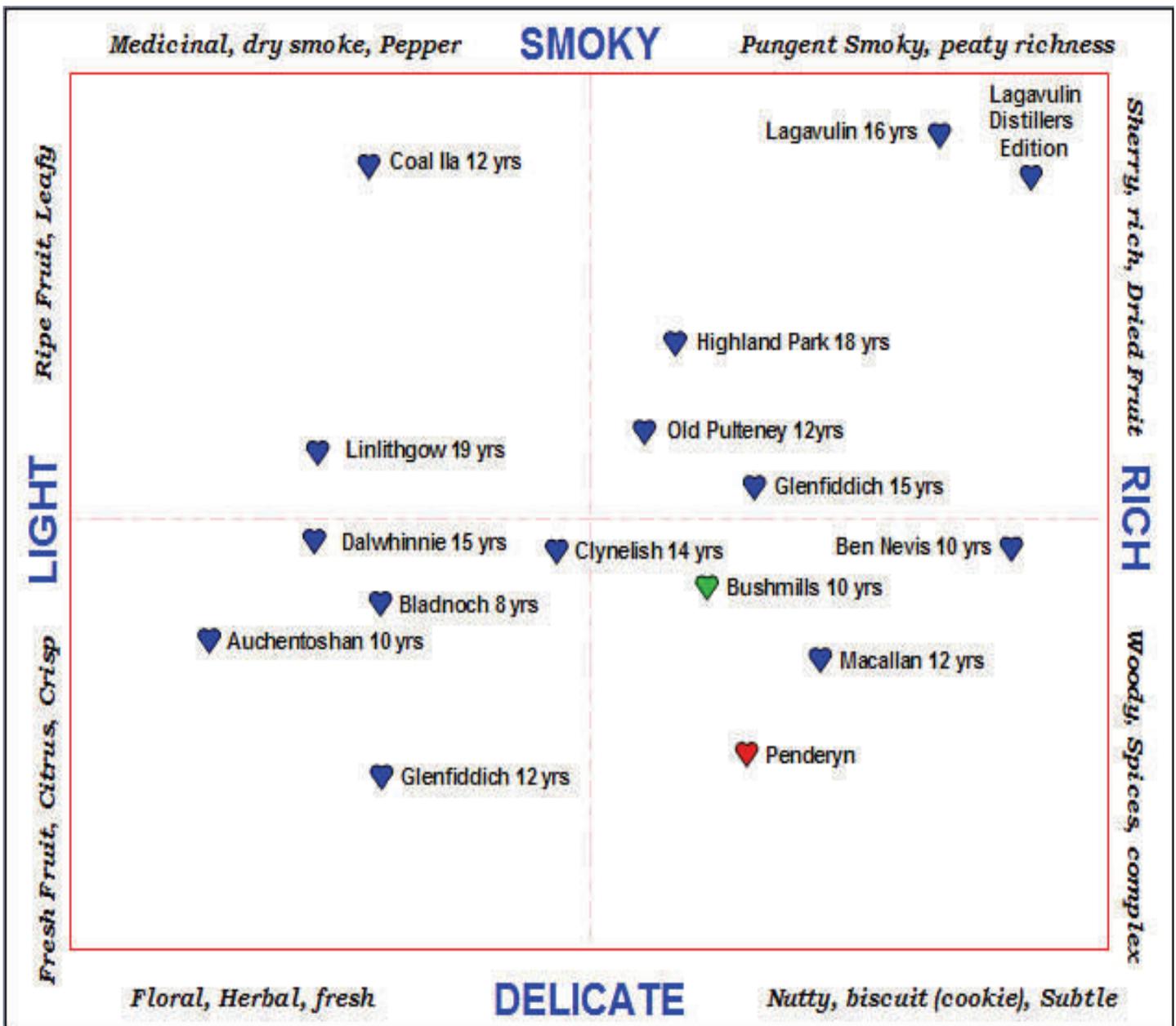
Lagavulin is part of the famous collection “Classic Malts” started in 1988 and referenced in issue 13.



**“May your home always be too small to hold all your friends”**



Below is a simple guide to help you choose your single malt Whisky, and the flavor notes I get from it, hopefully you will get something similar. 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; **Lagavulin Distillers Edition** For more information go to [http://www.islayinfo.com/islay\\_lagavulin\\_distillery.html](http://www.islayinfo.com/islay_lagavulin_distillery.html)





## BAGPIPES

Bagpipes have been found from the Atlantic coast of Europe to as Far East as the Volga River in Russia and outside of Europe from Tunisia to India. In each particular country they take on their own form.

### **Those inflated by mouth piece include:**

- Great Highland Bagpipe of Scotland (Piobaireachd)
- Old Irish Bagpipe
- Cornemuse of Belgium, Holland and France
- Sackpipa of Sweden
- Dudelsack of Germany
- Biniou Koz of Brittany
- Gaita of Spain
- Duda of Hungary

### **Those inflated by bellows include:**

- Northumbrian Small and Halflong Pipes
- Scottish Lowland Small and Border Pipes
- Pastoral Pipes of the Scotland/England Borders
- Uilleann (Union) Pipes of Ireland
- French Musette Bechonnet and Musette du Cour

## FACTS and FANCY

The definition of a Scottish Gentleman is someone who knows how to play the bagpipes, but refrains from doing so.

A piper is being taken to court for practicing on Hampstead Heath which has a bylaw forbidding music. Mr. Brooks, the bagpiper, has denied the charge, citing that bagpipes were declared to be instruments of war by an Act of Parliament after 1746. Mr. Brooks claims he was practicing a weapon!

- **From the *Radiocaster*, Autumn 1996**

There is a similarity between the bag of the bagpipe and the haggis. They are the same shape --- and the same taste.

- **Allan Fotheringham, *McLean's Magazine***

"I don't know what effect these men will have upon the enemy but, by God, they terrify me."

- **The Duke of Wellington, on military pipers**