



## 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 Bowmore 15-year-old "Darkest." This one is a bit different from your average Islay whisky, there is some smoke there, But it leans more toward sherried flavors.

Matured in a combination of both bourbon and sherry casks, it spends it's last three years in Oloroso sherry casks and this gives it that sweet Fruitiness.

This is one of the most balanced flavorful Bowmores, with a rich deep color which probably gave rise to it's name (a guess on my part).

The average alcoholic strength of whisky for the American market is 43%. This tips the scale at 46% alcohol, but doesn't have a the heat you might expect for being that much stronger.

Do I like it, yes I do, but then I've always had a soft spot for Bowmores, I've always found them to be easy to drink.

You can buy Bowmore "Darkest" for around \$80.00 a bottle.

### Tasting Notes;

**Nose** - Coffee, chocolate & raisins

**Palate** - Smoky, treacle, cedar

**Finish** - Sherry, spicy toffee

*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*





## Islay whisky to launch the Queen's namesake ship'

On Friday 4 July, Her Majesty the Queen launched the Royal Navy's largest ship at the Rosyth Naval Dockyard on the River Forth.

Foregoing the more traditional bottle of champagne, the HMS Queen Elizabeth was launched by smashing a bottle of Bowmore whisky against her side.

HMS Queen Elizabeth is the first of two Queen Elizabeth-class aircraft carriers commissioned to be built at Rosyth Dockyard with the second, HMS Prince of Wales, beginning construction later this year.

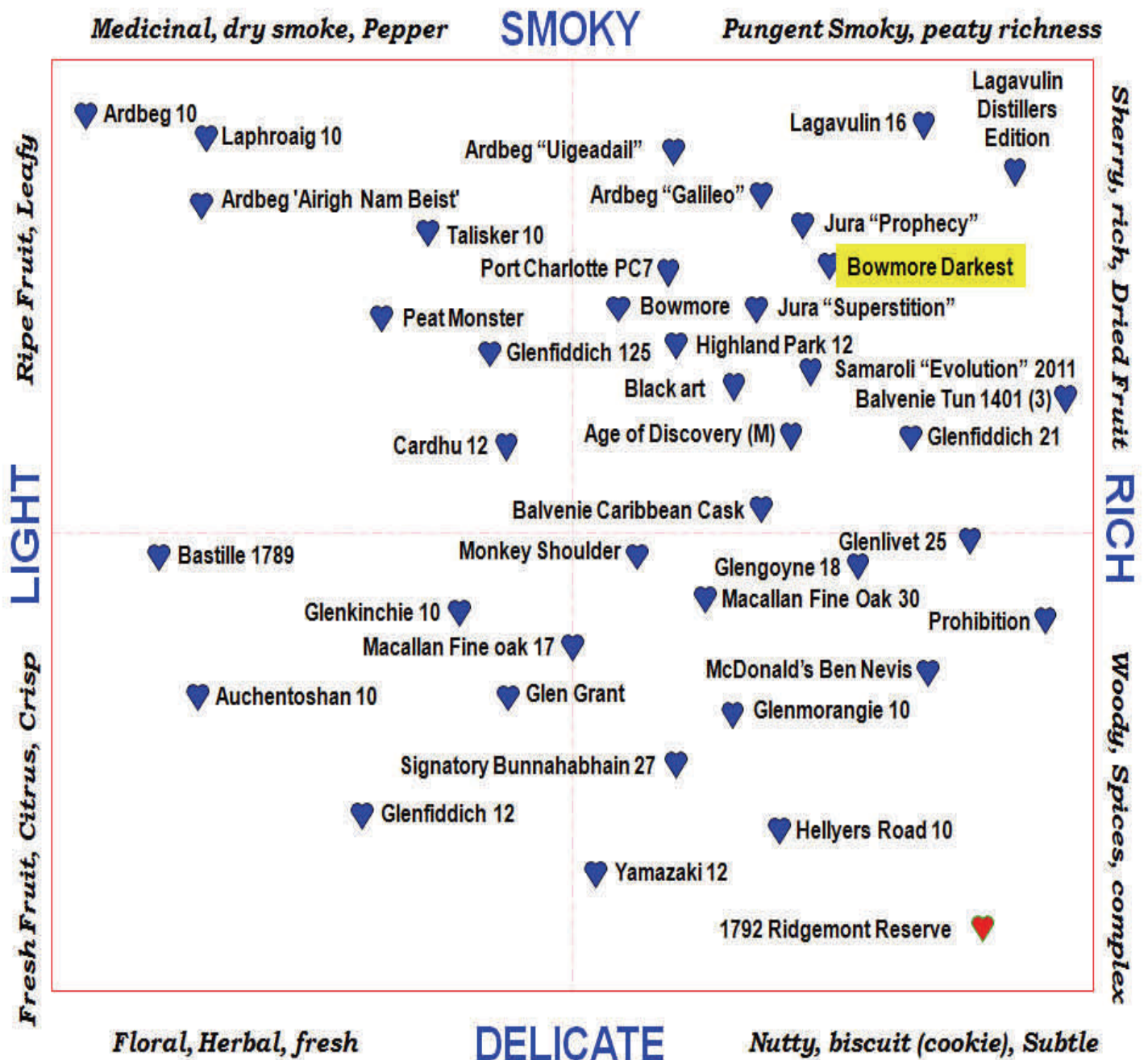
The Bowmore distillery on Islay was the first whisky distillery to which the Queen made an official visit, in 1980. The distillery laid down a cask of whisky in her honour 24 years ago which has now been bottled to be used as gifts for visiting royalty and dignitaries.

Following the launch, the 65,000 tonne ship is expected to enter active service in early 2017.





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; Bowmore 15-year-old “Darkest” For more information go to <http://www.bowmore.com/>





**PLANS for a new whisky distillery and visitor centre on the banks of the River Clyde have been given the go-ahead.**

The £10 million project includes revamping the historic pump house building, which sits between the Riverside Museum and the Hydro Arena in Glasgow, creating up to 300 jobs during the construction phase, bosses said. It will be home to the whisky museum and visitor centre while new buildings will contain a shop, cafe, whisky tasting bar and the single malt Scotch whisky distillery. A planning application, submitted last year, for the site has been approved by Glasgow City Council.

Work is now scheduled to get under way later this year, with it completed by autumn 2015.

The project has been developed by a small group of industry experts, led by Tim Morrison, formerly of Morrison Bowmore Distillers and current owner of the AD Rattray Scotch Whisky Company. He said: “The city was once home to many whisky distilleries and we think the Glasgow Distillery will put Glasgow right back on the Scotch whisky map. Few people know the historical significance of the iconic pump house building to the Scotch whisky trade.

“In years gone by, this building controlled the entry bridge into the Queens Dock ensuring Customs and Excise could keep a close eye on goods in and out, including Scotch whisky.”

“My great-grandfather John Morrison built the pump house in 1877 and it gives me great pleasure to now have the opportunity to bring the building back to life, restore it to its former glory and give the building and the surrounding area the respect and status it deserves.”

The Glasgow Distillery is expected to employ 25 people once it opens.



An artist's impression of the new distillery.



## Who Do You Think You Are? Live is coming to Scotland

Miriam Evans

If you have ever seen *Who Do You Think You Are?* on the TV, then if you're anything like me, you've probably wondered what family secrets would be revealed if there was a whole team on-hand to help you research your family history. Well, you too can get advice from the experts!

Building on the success of the popular BBC series in which celebrities trace their family history, *Who do you think you are?* is coming to Scotland for the first time this year. Packed with genealogy experts, workshops, a celebrity theatre and specialist exhibitors, tickets are now on sale for the show which will take place at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre in Glasgow from 29 August – 31 August, 2014.

If your roots are Scottish then you're in luck, as records have been kept for a long time in Scotland, making it straight forward to find out about your family history. In fact, recently a friend of mine decided to investigate if family tales of being related to Scotland's National Bard were true, and was astonished to find out that Robert Burns was indeed a very distant cousin! Discovering your family's past is a very special experience, and in many cases it's possible to visit the locations where your ancestors lived, and soak up the atmosphere. Perhaps you'll find out that you belong to a Scottish Clan, and have a family tartan?

Throughout the Year of Homecoming 2014, which is a year-long program of events that celebrate all that is best about Scotland, there are many more Ancestral events which can help you to get started, including at Bannockburn Live in Stirling, the Highland Homecoming in Inverness and the 10th Clan Munro International Gathering in Ross-shire.

Find out more about Researching your ancestry <http://www.visitscotland.com/en-us/about/ancestry/>

