



## Object of the Newsletter

*To promote the appreciation of fine 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, in honor of St. Patrick, I look at Michael Collins 10 year old Irish single malt whiskey, which I tried in the "Uptown Billiards" bar in Flagstaff Arizona. Unusually for an Irish whiskey, Michael Collins is double distilled rather than triple distilled (the way most other Irish whiskeys are made), and the addition of being lightly smoked/peated – gives you something you don't normally get from an Irish whiskey.

The mouthfeel of this whiskey is wonderful and the peat and smoke notes give it a nice a depth, making it a delight for sipping.

Cooley has won over 300 medals since opening. Other awards they have received include "European Distiller of the Year" in 2008 and 2009 and "Distillery of the Year" in 2008 from the International Wine and Spirits competition and "Distillery of the Year" in 2010 from Malt Advocate (now Whisky Advocate) magazine.

### Tasting Notes;

**Color** - Gold

**Nose** - Fruity, apples

**Palate** - Marmalade (Orange), some smoke, creamy chocolate

**Finish** - Fruit, vanilla, cookies

*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 <http://www.scot-talks.com>*

*"Slainte Mhath"  
Paul Bissett*





## A wee bit of History (<http://www.cooleywhiskey.com>)

When it comes to Irish whiskey, there are only a few whiskeys which are actually produced by Irish companies. Which is a matter of great pride to those companies, and Michael Collins is one of those whiskeys, produced by, Irish-owned distiller Cooley.

The Cooley Distillery was established by John Teeling who, after studying in America, concluded that there was a solid market for a new Irish Whiskey brand. Teeling acquired the Ceimici Teo Distillery in 1987. He renamed the Dundalk-based distillery Cooley. Cooley was the first whiskey distillery to be founded in Ireland for over a century and it was not long before the owners began to acquire famous brands and distilleries which had been mothballed.

Tyrconnell and Kilbeggan were amongst these. The Kilbeggan was reopened in 2007 and is run in conjunction with Cooley and has the company's storage facilities. In 1989, a pair of pot stills was installed, furnishing the distillery with the means to distil both malt and grain. During the 1990s, the Cooley distillery also launched Connemara, a peated whisky.

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Cooley Distillery

**"Whisky is liquid sunshine." (George Bernard Shaw)**





## World Whisky day <http://worldwhiskyday.com>

Tuesday 27th March 2012

World Whisky Day was and is a concept aimed at spreading the global love of whisky by encouraging people across the world to hold their own events, of whatever sort, to celebrate whisky in all its forms and incarnations.

There is much work already being put in to make this event a worldwide success and we would urge you all to join the effort and embrace a concept which aims not only to be a positive force for whisky but also fun for all involved.

**World Whisky Day events are already being registered across the globe.**

Anyone can register a World Whisky Day event – wherever you are in the world!  
If you don't feel like hosting your own World Whisky Day event it is about time you convinced your favorite bar/restaurant/hotel/venue to host their own event!

If you are in a whisky club/whisky society make sure you do something extra special on World Whisky Day!



Go to <http://worldwhiskyday.com> to use the interactive map to see if an event is being held near you. You can also sign up to hold your own event at the website.



## **The 2012 Vegas Games Are Coming April 14 & 15, 2012**

<http://www.lasvegascelticsociety.org/index.html>

The Las Vegas Celtic Society is proud to host the 8th Annual Celtic Gathering & Highland Games, in Floyd Lamb Park at Tule Springs!

Highland games (world record "Caber" attempt), clan gatherings, whisky tastings, piping, drumming & dance competitions, Scottish/Celtic vendors, food & Drink.

### **Live Music By:**

**1916**

**Finnegan's Wake**

**Wild Celts**

**The Katy Lawrence Trio**

**Neil O'Neill**

**LA Scots Pipe Band**

**Kris Colt & the Black Rose Band**

### **The VIP Cafe - The Best Seat in the House**

<http://www.lasvegascelticsociety.org/games/sponsorship.html>

As special patrons and supporters of the Las Vegas Celtic Gathering and Highland Games you will receive all day admission to the VIP Cafe Hospitality Tent, the "best seat in the house". Admission tickets, priority parking and special gifts are all part of our VIP package selections.

An elegant breakfast buffet and sumptuous luncheon buffet, along with complimentary beverages and an open bar, will be provided all day along with an exclusive, shady area to sit and relax.