



# Outturn

May 2020

*Issue 103*



BURROW TOGETHER AT [SMWS.CA](http://SMWS.CA)



## HOW TO USE OUTTURN

*out-turn* n. **1** The number of Society bottles produced from a single cask. Varies from cask to cask. A finite number that will, sooner or later, run out. **2** The name given to Society bottling lists, containing Tasting Notes for each recently released Society bottling of which only a limited number are ever available (see above).

Each Society bottling is unique. And each can be identified by its markings. The tasting notes give you an insight into the characteristics of each whisky, and are the best place to start.

You may find yourself drawn to a “Cowboy’s delight” or have a preference for “Big and tingly.” Maybe your instincts lead you to a dram that’s “Like a hug from your Mom” or perhaps to “BBQ smoke by a rolling sea.”

These curious descriptors are your best clue to what you’ll find within each bottle, and are at the heart of The Society’s *raison d’être*.

With The Society’s monthly selection of single cask malts it’s not surprising that some members find it hard to focus on their perfect bottlings. Thankfully it’s not cheating to ask for help. Just call Kensington Wine Market in Calgary at 403-283-8000 (email: [scotchguy@kensingtonwinemarket.com](mailto:scotchguy@kensingtonwinemarket.com)) or Keg n Cork in Edmonton at 780-461-0191 (email: [dave@kegncork.com](mailto:dave@kegncork.com)) or email us at [curious@smws.ca](mailto:curious@smws.ca) for advice of an expert nature.

**PLEASE ENJOY OUR PRODUCTS RESPONSIBLY**

## **ARE YOU ACQUAINTED WITH OUR FLAVOUR PROFILES?**

Exploration is the greatest joy of Society membership, roaming the broad vistas of flavour and aroma represented in our single cask whiskies. But exploration without a map can be frustrating.

So we have created 12 distinct flavour categories, each represented by its own colour, from Young & Spritely to Old & Dignified; Light & Delicate to Heavily Peated. These 12 categories offer an alternative to the more traditional method of categorizing whiskies by their region of origin (Islay, Speyside, etc).

Our flavour map gives whisky lovers a far better way to navigate our vast and ever-changing selection of single cask bottlings, many of which are not typical of their region.

**YOUNG & SPRITELY**

**SWEET, FRUITY & MELLOW**

**SPICY & SWEET**

**SPICY & DRY**

**DEEP, RICH & DRIED FRUITS**

**OLD & DIGNIFIED**

**LIGHT & DELICATE**

**JUICY, OAK & VANILLA**

**OILY & COASTAL**

**LIGHTLY PEATED**

**PEATED**

**HEAVILY PEATED**

# FIND YOUR SPIRIT ANIMAL...

This month we're celebrating the wild diversity of both our whisky and our wonderful members. Partnering with leading UK naturalist **Nick Baker**, we've matched each of our flavour profiles to different forms of wildlife. Delve into your personality and taste preferences and take our Find Your Spirit Animal quiz online at [smws.com/hub](https://smws.com/hub).

So are you more of a moose or similar to a salamander? Wander through our May Outturn to find your spirit animal and share your discoveries with us on social media using the hashtag **#spiritanimal**.

## MEET OUR MATCHES



**FLAVOUR PROFILE:** *Young & spritely*

**SPIRIT ANIMAL:** *Graphic Flutterer*

**CHARACTER TRAIT:** *Sparkles and shimmers with great elegance, represents the dance of life*

**FLAVOUR PROFILE:** *Sweet, fruity & mellow*

**SPIRIT ANIMAL:** *Elegant Trogon*

**CHARACTER TRAIT:** *Laid-back, soft and well-rounded, takes time to reveal its unique beauty*





**FLAVOUR PROFILE:** *Spicy & sweet*

**SPIRIT ANIMAL:** *Spice Bush Swallowtail*

**CHARACTER TRAIT:** *Plays on the senses - a sweetness seeker, flouncy and soft but with an edge*

**FLAVOUR PROFILE:** *Spicy & dry*

**SPIRIT ANIMAL:** *Streaked Tenrec*

**CHARACTER TRAIT:** *Familiar and strangely beautiful but be warned, can pack a bit of a punch*



**FLAVOUR PROFILE:** *Deep, rich & dried fruits*

**SPIRIT ANIMAL:** *Binturong*

**CHARACTER TRAIT:** *Enigmatic with wisdom and depth, surprisingly dexterous and agile*

**FLAVOUR PROFILE:** *Old & dignified*

**SPIRIT ANIMAL:** *African Elephant*

**CHARACTER TRAIT:** *Mighty with grace, depth and nuance - sensitive souls with surprising subtleties*



**FLAVOUR PROFILE:** *Light & delicate*

**SPIRIT ANIMAL:** *Giant Pond Skater*

**CHARACTER TRAIT:** *Exquisitely elegant, easy and light, like magic velvet*

**FLAVOUR PROFILE:** Juicy, oak & vanilla

**SPIRIT ANIMAL:** Brown Bear

**CHARACTER TRAIT:** Power, wit and wisdom balanced with a gentle soul, a harmonious experience



**FLAVOUR PROFILE:** Oily & coastal

**SPIRIT ANIMAL:** Great Cormorant

**CHARACTER TRAIT:** Slick and dazzling, quick to reach new depths of adventure



**FLAVOUR PROFILE:** Lightly peated

**SPIRIT ANIMAL:** Fire Salamander

**CHARACTER TRAIT:** Soft and smooth with gentle beauty and fire in the belly



**FLAVOUR PROFILE:** Peated

**SPIRIT ANIMAL:** Moose

**CHARACTER TRAIT:** A noble force of nature - mighty, strong and headstrong, leaving a long-lasting impression



**FLAVOUR PROFILE:** Heavily peated

**SPIRIT ANIMAL:** Great White Shark

**CHARACTER TRAIT:** Refined class that commands respect with mesmerizing beauty and sharp, dangerous thrills



# NICK'S NOTES



Naturalist Nick Baker has called on his many years of experience to select his 12 spirit animals to match the Society's flavour profiles - with memories of his face-to-face encounters helping to evoke a suitable match between whisky and the wildlife.

"I've had personal experience of each one of the animals I've chosen and they all remind me very clearly of certain things" he says. "The elegant trogon for example is a sweet, curvy, brightly coloured bird, soft and rounded and very chilled out - that made me think of the Sweet, Fruity & Mellow flavour profile.

"To turn peatiness into an animal is quite interesting, but for me it's like being in the water with a great white shark - it doesn't matter how colourful and beautiful the mackerel are swimming around your head, it doesn't matter that you're next to some of the most beautiful sponges and anemones you're ever likely to see - as soon as there's a great white, all your senses are on it...and that's the same with Heavily Peated flavour profile whisky, where the phenols dominate everything else in the room."

Nick's advice for finding your own spirit animal is the same as he'd offer when it comes to tracking down wildlife in the great outdoors:

"I like to fine tune my sensibilities, whether that's in identifying birdsong or insects from their noises, or through tastes and flavours - it's all part of the same sensory experience of life, and whiskies represent that very nicely."



# MID-MAY RELEASES

## JUICY, OAK & VANILLA

### SCOTTISH TRIFLE WITH ITALIAN LIQUEUR

CASK NO. 68.29

**\$134.99**



REGION	<i>Highland</i>
CASK TYPE	<i>Refill Hogshead</i>
AGE	<i>10 Years</i>
DATE	<i>17 October 2008</i>
OUTTURN	<i>296 Bottles</i>
ABV	<i>55.7%</i>

Some of us got on the nose neat vanilla custard, Victoria sponge cake and lilies of the valley whilst others got sauté potatoes with sea salt and rosemary, fresh carrot juice and a Bloody Mary garnished with a celery stalk and lemon wedge. On the taste initially sticky, bittersweet Seville orange marmalade followed by banana ice cream all culminating in a juicy cranachan trifle.

With a drop of water the bananas were now caramelized and on the palate we enjoyed traditional Jewish egg bread called challah with salted butter and Manuka honey as well as a glass of Galliano Italian liqueur.



## SPICY & SWEET

### PEPPERY PEARS AND PRALINE

CASK NO. 13.65

**\$163.99**



REGION *Highland*

CASK TYPE *2nd Fill Barrel*

AGE *13 Years*

DATE *12 May 2005*

OUTTURN *155 Bottles*

ABV *58.6%*

The nose greeted us with an exuberant display of cut grass, tart plums and lemon drizzle cake. A waft of spice danced between pink peppercorns and sandalwood whilst being wrapped in a delightfully creamy texture that sat somewhere between linseed oil and butter. This progressed towards custard cream biscuits and soft pears with lemon boiled sweets as we approached the peppery palate.

A spicy warmth cooled to mint and menthol on the tongue as wondrous flavours of praline and toasted pine nuts emerged from dry burlap sacks. Soft sponge cake arrived with a topping of dark chocolate and hazelnuts as floral notes merged into putty on a finish of fresh straw and wood.

## PEATED

### WAR SEAHORSE

CASK NO. 137.2

**\$204.99**



**FIRST RELEASE FROM  
DISTILLERY 137  
FOR SMWS CANADA**

REGION	<i>England</i>
CASK TYPE	<i>Refill Barrel</i>
AGE	<i>8 Years</i>
DATE	<i>4 February 2010</i>
OUTTURN	<i>240 Bottles</i>
ABV	<i>62.3%</i>

This powerhouse of a dram opens with lemons charring on the BBQ. Beyond there is smoked and peppered mackerel and hot smoked salmon. Enough to induce hunger! There's also a cognitively jarring briny and ozone-rich quality about it. A whole shellfish platter has been placed before you. Notes of chopped dill, polished metal and some exotic fruits hiding underneath.

Water reveals camphor and burlap with notes of chalk and smoked whelks. The palate unfolds with a mighty, crashing wave of peat on a shore of sandalwood, wet rocks, mineral-encrusted creel nets and then hay, smoked earth and silage. With water the farmy aspects are heightened with notes of dried herbs and some smoked butter. Stonking stuff!

# MAY 1st RELEASES

## SWEET, FRUITY & MELLOW

### SWEET AND JUICY - DRY FINISH

CASK NO. 58.33

**\$142.99**



REGION *Speyside*

CASK TYPE *Refill Hogshead*

AGE *11 Years*

DATE *13 September 2007*

OUTTURN *267 Bottles*

ABV *59.7%*

The nose had a subtle dryness ('like a shoe-shine stand' someone said) but it was mainly sweet and fruity – butter shortbread, creamy vanilla, Rice Krispie squares, marshmallow, marzipan and chocolate orange creams. A similar pattern on the taste – juicy orange marmalade, sherbet and brown sugar, with the dryness coming out in the finish – black tea, leather, spiced nuts and oak.

With water the nose became more delicate – caramel, toffee, coconut, orchard fruits and lemon puff biscuits; hints of canvas and varnished wood. The palate became more perfumed – damson crumble, pineapple sprinkled with salt and chili and an interesting ginger and orange combination.

## DEEP, RICH & DRIED FRUITS

### SWEETNESS AND SPICE - LACED WITH MYSTERY

CASK NO. 16.39

**\$212.99**



REGION	<i>Highland</i>
CASK TYPE	<i>2nd Fill Puncheon</i>
AGE	<i>18 Years</i>
DATE	<i>30 March 2001</i>
OUTTURN	<i>672 Bottles</i>
ABV	<i>55.2%</i>

The dark, brooding nose has chocolate and marmalade cake, dark cherries, cinder toffee, orange Muscat wine and bramble liqueur; maybe some leather. The palate finds earthy, fruity flavours - fruitcake, damson jam, orange peel, cinnamon toast and cough syrup. The reduced nose gradually surrenders its secrets with spiced plums, orange Aero, sandalwood, mango stone, espresso, Peshawari naan and cherry Halls.

The reduced palate is like a metaphor for living - "sweetness and spice laced with mystery" - petits fours, moist ginger cake, Grand Marnier and tiramisu. After 17 years in a port pipe we re-racked this into a 2nd fill, high-toast/medium-char puncheon (made from European oak).

## LIGHTLY PEATED

### EMANATING PETRICHOR

CASK NO. 4.248

**\$177.99**



REGION *Highland Island*

CASK TYPE *Refill Hogshead*

AGE *13 Years*

DATE *18 January 2005*

OUTTURN *301 Bottles*

ABV *58.2%*

We were greeted with comforting scents of subtle peat, damp grains and petrichor. A walk around the farm on a drizzly and misty day. There was also a hint of seafood (fruits de mer). The taste was sweet and floral (heather and hard candy), the smoky element was now herbal and one panellist was reminded of old fashioned cough medicine.

A few drops of water transported us to Orkney. We were in a farmyard kitchen roasting carrots in honey, then breathing in sea air during a walk along the coast. A more rounded mouthfeel with water, with sweet cereal coming to the fore.

# BLENDed MALT

## OLD FASHIONED

CASK NO. N/A

**\$127.99**



REGION	N/A
CASK TYPE	1st Fill Barrels & Hogsheads
AGE	11 Years
DATE	15 May 2007
OUTTURN	2122 Bottles
ABV	50%

The Society’s first beer-matured blended malt came about after we sent Tempest Brewing Co in the Scottish Borders some 1st fill Kentucky bourbon casks, which they used to mature their powerfully hoppy Double IPA – known as Old Fashioned. They returned the casks for us to mature an 11-year-old Speyside whisky in for another 14 months, before we blended that with selected malts from 1st fill sherry hogsheads. The result is our very own Old Fashioned, named in honour of the Double IPA that preceded it.

The nose possesses a welcoming warmth that combines chocolate, coconut, blood oranges and herbal barley sugar travel sweets. In time, cherry lozenges, candied orange and dusty sweet marshmallows are added to the mix. The palate is outrageously coconutty, with orange Muscat syrup poured on luxurious vanilla ice cream. Beautifully mouth-coating.

A touch of water lightens the experience and accentuates a hoppy grapefruit note, which is complemented by fruit salad with cream and over-ripe peaches. The palate is now fruity, thick and syrupy, with chocolate shavings, almonds, marzipan, stem ginger, buttered pancakes and scones.



# WHERE TO BUY

*The exclusive retail stores of The Society in Canada:*

## **KENSINGTON WINE MARKET**

1257 Kensington Road NW, Calgary, AB

Phone: 403-283-8000 (1-888-283-9004)

Email: [scotchguy@kensingtonwinemarket.com](mailto:scotchguy@kensingtonwinemarket.com)

[www.kensingtonwinemarket.com](http://www.kensingtonwinemarket.com)

## **KEG N CORK LIQUOR COMPANY**

3845 - 99th Street, Edmonton, AB

Phone: 780-461-0191

Email: [dave@kegncork.com](mailto:dave@kegncork.com)

[www.kegncork.com](http://www.kegncork.com)

## **LEGACY LIQUOR STORE**

1633 Manitoba Street, Vancouver, BC

Phone: 604-331-7900

Email: [Darryl@legacyliquorstore.com](mailto:Darryl@legacyliquorstore.com)

[www.legacyliquorstore.com](http://www.legacyliquorstore.com)

## **THE STRATH ALE, WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS**

919 Douglas Street, Victoria, BC

Phone: 250-370-9463

Email: [whisky@strathliquor.com](mailto:whisky@strathliquor.com)

[www.strathliquor.com](http://www.strathliquor.com)