

Old & Rare Whisky Show

with Shameek Popat



Events of 1894

- The International Olympic Committee is founded at the Sorbonne, Paris, at the initiative of Baron Pierre de Coubertin.
- Japanese scientist Shibasaburo Kitasato discovers the infectious agent of the bubonic plague and publishes his findings in *The Lancet*.
- Coca-Cola appears in bottles for the first time.
- Vaccine for diphtheria announced by Dr Roux of Paris.
- Manchester City Football Club was formed.
- Tower Bridge in London is completed and opens for use.
- Discovery of first noble gas, argon.
- Scottish dentist Oswald Fergus attends a BDA meeting and gives the first demonstration of the 'Dental Phantom'—a metal rod and two brass 'jaws' which have teeth secured into them, to allow 'crowning to be practiced'.
- Dentist William J. Morrison (inventor of candy floss) became president of the Tennessee State Dental Association
- ***Orkney Whisky is laid down in 1894, to be bottled in 1918, and drunk by us in 2017 at the Old & Rare Whisky show in Glasgow!***

When we realized that we had the opportunity to experience the taste of a whisky created in the 19th Century, how could we pass it up?!

Please see the clip of our editor, Mike Gow, talking about why it was a particularly special moment for him.



The last living person born in the 19th century, Emma Morano from Italy, passed away recently and it was quite poignant that we managed to raise a toast from the unrepeatable 1894 Orkney to our elders and our ancestors.

To me this is what's so important about tasting something like this. Not the expensive price tag or the beautiful bottle it is presented in, but the experience, the history and story behind it, the friends you drink it with and the whole unique

experience around it that you cannot put a price on a memory like that!

So Mike, my cousin and I went to the Old & Rare Whisky Show in Glasgow, which is a festival that celebrates the world of fine, rare and antique single malts and spirits.

It offered us a chance to try unique, unrepeatable drams that we would never get a chance to otherwise taste.

The way whisky has been produced over the decades has changed dramatically and the resulting flavour of Scotch whisky has reflected this change.

The Old & Rare Whisky show was all about discovering and celebrating these older styles and occasionally forgotten characteristics from whisky's past.

We also met some very knowledgeable owners and collectors of whisky and got to soak up their passion for a fine dram.

To me the comparison with dentistry was with the digital revolution that is happening at the moment. Will we look at hand made wax-ups, veneers and crowns made by skilled technicians with nostalgia and awe at their skill as technology takes over the skill set required to create a beautiful smile?

Will we then pay top dollar for this antique skill set for certain patients and will the mass production of smiles be milled or printed?

That's not to say that the new whiskies are not just as good or the digital smiles just as beautiful—just that the values will change.

It can take over 10 years to become a skilled dental technician but it takes only 6 months to train digitally.



The show allowed us to taste a number of whiskies and, to name a few apart from the 1894 Orkney, Rosebank 15-year-old, Talisker 1969, Rosebank True Love, Springbank 21-year-old, Robertson 15-year-old, Isle of Jura 26-year-old, Old Vatted Glenlivet, Oban 14-year-old, Macallan 10-year-old, Old Pultney

26-year-old and many more. Luckily they only gave us 1 CL per dram and there were three of us, so we got to taste many without it getting out of hand.



It was great to meet him and he very kindly sent me a bottle of Rosebank True Love which had sold out as soon as it was released for my collection. I will leave the story for why Rosebank whisky is so special to me for another time. ■



Glenlivet Generations 1940 70-year-Old

The star of the show was the Glenlivet Generations 1940 70-year-old, but at £300 per 1 CL, the only shots we took were with our cameras!

It was a very relaxed and informal atmosphere at the show with limited tickets, which made the experience very enjoyable and exclusive.

I also got to meet and speak with Sukhinder Singh, the owner of Whisky Exchange and one of the organizers of the event. He is a softly spoken man with a great knowledge and passion for whisky.

He has said "Once you are into whisky there's no leaving, the only time you are going to leave whisky is when the doctor says no more, otherwise it's there for life."



We will be going to the 'The Art of Whisky' show in London 30 September–1 October. Please let us know if you are interested in joining us! mike.gow@dentaltownuk.com