

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP
Cross-Party Group on Scotch Whisky
DATE GROUP ESTABLISHED (the date of establishment is the date in this parliamentary session that the Group held its initial meeting, where the office bearers were elected and not the date that the Group was accorded recognition. All Groups should hold their AGMs on, or before, the anniversary of this date.)
7 September 2011
DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM
26 May 2015
DATE OF PRECEDING AGM [this date is required to aid clerks in verifying that the most recent AGM has taken place within 12 months of the previous AGM]
29 May 2014
DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED
8 June 2015
GROUP MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES Please provide details of each meeting of the Group including the date of the meeting, a brief description of the main subjects discussed and the MSP and non-MSP attendance figures. Details of any other activities, such as visits undertaken by the Group or papers/report published by the Group should also be provided.
26 May 2015 Attendees: Mary Scanlon (Convener), Gordon MacDonald, Claudia Beamish, Jamie McGrigor, Chic Brodie. (5) Others: David Frost (SWA), Lauren McArthur (SWA), Rosemary Gallagher (SWA), David Williamson (SWA), Tony Reeman-Clark (Scottish Craft Distillers Association), Liam Hughes (SCDA), Devin Scobie (Caledonia Public Affairs), Ian Smith (Diageo) and Richard Walsh (VisitScotland). Presentations: Rosemary Gallagher, SWA, gave a presentation on new research on Scotch

Whisky tourism. Tony Reeman-Clark and Liam Hughes gave a presentation on the Scottish Craft Distillers Association. A Scotch Whisky tasting was held at the end of the meeting which offered three different types of Scotch Whisky to attendees.

12 March 2015

Attendees: **MSPs:** Gordon MacDonald (Convener), Mary Scanlon, Murdo Fraser. (3)

Others: Lauren McArthur (SWA), Beatrice Morrice (SWA), Rosemary Gallagher (SWA), Simon Lyall (Hot Rum Cow), Brian McLeish (Scottish Enterprise), Vanessa Murray (Scottish Enterprise), David Williamson (SWA), Derek Knox (Forth Ports).

Presentations: David Williamson, SWA, and Derek Knox, Forth Ports Grangemouth gave presentations on the challenges and opportunities the Scotch Whisky industry face with regard to the *Internationalisation of Scottish Businesses*.

The SWA also provided information on Scotch Whisky exports and the group discussed the future work programme.

30 October 2014

MSPs: Mary Scanlon (Convener) and Annabelle Ewing. (2)

Other attendees: Orchid Lui (UK Chinese Times), Lauren McArthur (SWA), Beatrice Morrice (SWA), Alan Park (SWA), Douglas Ross (Office of Mary Scanlon), Ian Smith (Diageo), Margaret Smith (Caledonia Consulting), Neil Sinclair (Scottish Government), Andrew Swift (SWA).

Beatrice Morrice (SWA) provided a short summary on why the Scotch Whisky Association welcomes the Food (Scotland) Bill, outlining some of the anticipated benefits and possible areas of improvement. A presentation was also given by Alan Park (SWA legal advisor), providing examples as to how the Bill would assist industry efforts to combat mislabelled products. Alan Park also underlined the SWA's work across the world to protect Scotch Whisky from unfair competition and fraud.

The group also discussed the industry's export figures for the first half of 2014 and heard that there are around 30 new distillery projects at different stages of development in Scotland.

Additional work

In addition to these meetings, the group conveners, Mary Scanlon and Gordon MacDonald, wrote to Tony Reeman-Clark at the Scottish Craft Distillers Association (SCDA) inviting the Association to join the group and give a presentation to members. The SCDA agreed to both.

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

Please provide names and party designation of all MSP members of the Group.

Mary Scanlon, Gordon MacDonald, David Stewart, Claudia Beamish, Christine Grahame, Dennis Robertson, Hugh Henry, Jackie Baillie, Jackson Carlaw, Liam McArthur, Margaret Mitchell, Mary Fee, Bruce Crawford.

NON-MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

For organisational members please provide only the name of the organisation, it is not necessary to provide the name(s) of individuals who may represent the organisation at meetings of the Group.

Individuals	James Johnston, Chair of The Malt Whisky Trail Orchid Lui, UK Chinese Times
Organisations	Scotch Whisky Association, Chivas Brothers, Diageo, Perspectiva Consultants, Pinsentmasons, Caledonia Public Affairs, SEPA, Scottish Enterprise, Scottish Craft Distillers Association, Forth Ports, Stolt Tank Containers.

GROUP OFFICE BEARERS

Please provide names for all office bearers. The minimum requirement is that two of the office bearers are MSPs and one of these is Convener - beyond this it is a matter for the Group to decide upon the office bearers it wishes to have. It is permissible to have more than one individual elected to each office, for example, co-conveners or multiple deputy conveners.

Convener	Joint co-conveners - Mary Scanlon MSP and Gordon MacDonald MSP
Deputy Convener	Joint Deputy Conveners - David Stewart MSP and Claudia Beamish MSP
Secretary	Beatrice Morrice - Scotch Whisky Association
Treasurer	none

FINANCIAL BENEFITS OR OTHER BENEFITS RECEIVED BY THE GROUP

Please provide details of any financial or material benefit(s) received from a single source in a calendar year which has a value, either singly or cumulatively, of more than £500. This includes donations, gifts, hospitality or visits and material assistance such as secretariat support.

Details of material support should include the name of the individual providing support, the value of this support over the year, an estimate of the time spent providing this support and the name of the organisation that this individual is employed by / affiliated to in providing this support.

Groups should provide details of the date on which the benefit was received, the value of the benefit and a brief description of the benefit.

Total benefit from the Scotch Whisky Association totals: £569.10

(The Scotch Whisky Association paid for lunch at two meetings (30 October and 12 March) which came to £152.88 and £65.88. At the AGM on 26 May 2015, the SWA paid for coffee and juice £44.84. A Scotch Whisky tasting was held at the end of the AGM which cost £45 in corkage, £10.50 for hiring glasses and £100 for three bottles of Scotch Whisky.

The total amount spent on catering at meetings by the SWA therefore came to: £419.10.

Secretariat support from the SWA provided by Beatrice Morrice and Lauren McArthur from the SWA equates to £150).

SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP

Please provide details of the amount charged and the purpose for which the subscription is intended to be used.

No subscription is charged

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Mary Scanlon MSP	Gordon MacDonald MSP
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