

Keepers of the Quaich Banquet press release

EMBARGOED UNTIL 27th March 2018

## **Global celebration of Scotch Whisky**

The global success of Scotch Whisky has been celebrated with 38 new members of the Keepers of the Quaich being inducted into the international society at a private ceremony held at Blair Castle in Blair Atholl on Monday 26th March 2018.

Guests at the prestigious event were addressed by the well-known broadcaster and reporter Frank Gardner OBE, who was shot and injured while covering a story on al-Quaeda in Saudi Arabia.

Keepers of the Quaich was established by the Scotch Whisky industry to recognise the outstanding commitment of those who produce or promote the world's finest spirit. To qualify, new Keepers must have worked in the industry for a minimum of five years.

To date, just over 2,600 men and women from more than 100 countries have received the honour. A select few are subsequently distinguished as Master of the Quaich. The society will award only five Masters of the Quaich at each ceremony of induction. Masters are those who, since being inducted as a Keeper over ten years ago, have made an exceptional contribution to Scotch Whisky. Collectively, the society represents many thousands of years of experience and knowledge.

"Scotch Whisky was, and remains, the first global spirit and Keepers of the Quaich exists to recognise and celebrate the exceptional contribution of people working in all aspects of the industry, all over the world." said Peter Prentice, Chairman of the Society. "At the ceremony we inducted new Keepers from no less than 15 different countries which demonstrates the continued popularity of Scotch Whisky."

On the night, Peter Gordon, Director of William Grant and Sons, became the Society's 22nd Grand Master. He is also a Master of the Quaich. He will hold this position for two years.

Further information:

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