

# BREWING HERITAGE SCOTLAND

## Our purpose

Thank you for visiting this exhibition which has been mounted by **Brewing Heritage Scotland**, a not-for-profit community interest company formed by members of the **Scottish Brewing Archive Association**.

Brewing Heritage Scotland aims to create a permanent exhibition space, to record and celebrate the unique characteristics and achievements of the Scottish brewing industry, and its contribution to the Scottish economy and society, and to brewing science and technology in general.

We hope to educate the public on the scope, activities, heritage and character of the Scottish brewing industry, and to demonstrate the importance and relevance of its heritage to today's brewing industry and export aspirations.

We also seek to raise and promote awareness of responsible drinking.

In the nineteenth and twentieth centuries Scotland developed a global reputation for the quality of its beers, exporting as far afield as Russia, New Zealand and the South Americas. The demand for its products was such

that Edinburgh had dozens of breweries, while Tennent's of Glasgow was at one time the world's largest exporter of bottled beer.

They were not alone: the small town of Alloa could boast of seven breweries, while the village of Blackford had as many as four. The secret? High quality grain, abundant water, an entrepreneurial attitude, and an uncrushable belief that we could do it better than anyone else. And that belief continues today.

You can play your part. You may have more knowledge and expertise than you realise. You may even have brewing collections and artefacts of your own that you would like to see in a good home. Your memories are important too. And we are keen to involve brewing and pub companies as well as private individuals.

Scottish brewing has a future to enjoy as well as a past to celebrate.

Find out more at:  
[www.scottishbrewingheritage.org](http://www.scottishbrewingheritage.org)



Cover image: J&J Morison, Sugarhouse Close, off the Canongate

# RAISE YOUR GLASS!

CELEBRATING SCOTLAND'S BREWING HERITAGE



# TIMELINE OF SCOTTISH BREWING

## Late iron age/ Early medieval

The Picts of Scotland brewed beer and used a number of flavouring agents, such as heather.

## 12th Century

During the monastic period the monks brewed beers throughout Scotland.

## 15th Century

Public breweries began to appear, although in small numbers.

## Early middle ages

Beer was brewed in homes as a means of safe liquid intake and nourishment.

1488

## 1488

King James IV on his way back from his coronation purchased a barrel of beer at Blackford near Perth. The first recorded public purchase of beer.

## 1596

Society of Brewers formed in Edinburgh

1725

## 1725

Tax on Malt. Petition signed by 60 brewers from Edinburgh.

## 1600's

The Maltmen were the largest of all the trades in Dundee There were 100 maltmen plying their trade and 240 apprentices.

1840s

## 1840's

Tennent's was the largest bottled beer exporter in the world.

## 1810 - 1985

There were 8 breweries operating in Alloa during this time.

## 1740

Archibald Campbell established his brewery in the Cowgate. One of the first commercial breweries in Edinburgh.

1876

## 1876

Studies on Fermentation, by Louis Pasteur, was first published. Thereafter brewing became a science and many breweries employed a chemist for the first time.

1900

## 1880's-1920's

There were 40 breweries in Edinburgh, with 25 in the Canongate and surrounding area.

1945

## 1914-18, 1939-45

During the 1st and 2nd World Wars, beer volumes declined and many breweries closed as a result.

After the 2nd World War beer volume increased.

1960s

## 1960's

Many brewing companies either merged or were taken over and as a result many breweries were closed.

1970s

## 1974

The formation of CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale. The largest consumer group in the UK

1980>

## 1980's

Start of the craft brewing "revolution", which continues today.

## Today

There are now over 100 breweries of varying sizes in Scotland.