The 2014 DRAM Awards took place at the beginning of July at the Grand Central Hotel in Glasgow. Licensees and staff from throughout Scotland joined sponsors and drinks company representatives to celebrate all that is good and great about the Scottish licensed trade. Compere Rob Deering, kept the audience entertained and the team at the Grand Central pulled out all the stops. A massive thank you to Chef Murphy and Zoltan and the rest of the Grand Central team. And of course a huge thank you to our sponsors who continue to support the DRAM Awards. It was a great celebration. Well done to all our winners and runners up.

TOP TABLE

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
RECIPIENT: JOHN GILLIGAN, TENNENT’S

John Gilligan has spent nearly 40 years in the Scottish licensed trade. He really is a legend in his own lifetime. He recently stepped down from his full-time role as MD of Tennents, but will continue on a part-time basis. On the night Walter Smith, Colin Beattie, C&C boss Stephen Glancey and John Gemmell of Heineken all paid tribute to John and his family joined in the celebrations.
The judges said of the winner, “This business continues to develop, expand and grow profit, but it was its commitment to developing its staff in order to ensure that the business moved forward in a positive and motivational way that really impressed the judges. By investing in its personnel, which included ensuring that staff enjoyed a better life/work balance, the company demonstrated that it has implemented a significant step change in its business practices which are already contributing to the success the company enjoys.”

Finalists:
- ARTISAN, Wishaw
- CHEERS CAFE BAR & TAVERN, Fraserburgh
- MANORVIEW HOTELS & LEISURE GROUP, Howwood

The judges said of the winner, “From the meet and greet to the attentiveness of the staff this busy venue pushes all the right buttons. It was clear that it works hard at ensuring that customers leave their venues happy. The judges certainly did. Staff were warm and friendly, motivated, conscientious, and hard working. The ethos of the company is that having great people allows the company to deliver WOW through customer service.”

Finalists:
- GRILL ON THE CORNER, Glasgow
- LYNNHURST HOTEL, Johnstone
- UPLAWMOOR HOTEL, Uplawmoor
The judges said of the winner, “This was a really chilled out bar with a good atmosphere. The staff were very friendly and even after we had ordered drinks at the bar, table service was offered for further drinks. There was a DJ on the night we went in and music was easy listening but they also are well known for live music. It’s the sort of place you would go with friends for a chilled night during the week or a full-on experience at the weekend.”

**WINNER:** HOWLIN’ WOLF, Glasgow

**Finalists:**
- HYDE BAR & GRILL, Glasgow
- JUNIPER, Edinburgh
- WHITE ELEPHANT, Glasgow
The judges said of the winner, “The winners demonstrated that they take social responsibility issues very seriously. They not only display posters, permanently, which set out their initiatives, but their care extends to disabled and blind people too. They now have food menu which is also in braille and have introduced special drinking cups for disabled people. They work closely with the police and are actively involved in their local pub watch. This venue stood out because of the passion of its manager and initiatives it has put in place.”

Finalists:
- CAMPUS, Glasgow
- GLASGOW UNIVERSITY, Glasgow
The judges said of the winner, “This bar is located on a busy and competitive street, but what makes it stand out is its quirky character, excellent service and attention to detail. The owners have taken a theme and carried it through its menu and bar offering. Creative thinking is definitely what this bar is all about.”

Finalists:
CLARKS, Dundee
THE PACIFIC, Glasgow
THE PAPER MILL, Lasswade

---

WIRED
SUPPLIERS OF BESPOKE LIGHTING

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE COMMERCIAL BAR & HOTEL, PART OF THE MANORVIEW HOTEL & LEISURE GROUP FOR WINNING THE CALEDONIAN BEST NEIGHBOURHOOD BAR OF THE YEAR.

539 Lawmoor Street, Dixon Blazes, Glasgow G5 0TT
0141 429 3334 • mozz@wiredltd.co.uk
www.wiredltd.co.uk
KRAKEN BLACK SPICED RUM COCKTAIL
BAR OF THE YEAR
WINNER: SYGN, Edinburgh

The judges said of the winner, “This year’s winner made a great cocktail and the staff showed their expertise when making up the cocktail for the judges. The staff here are obviously experts, serving up 100s of cocktails every week. They are also not afraid to experiment here, and its staff seem to enjoy themselves. It’s award winning cocktail was called the Blood and Sea Mist.”

Finalists:
BAR KOHL, Edinburgh
JUNIPER, Edinburgh
MEAT BAR, Glasgow

Simon Douglas and Murray Ainslie collect their award

BAR KOHL, Edinburgh
JUNIPER, Edinburgh
MEAT BAR, Glasgow

Finalists:
BAR KOHL, Edinburgh
JUNIPER, Edinburgh
MEAT BAR, Glasgow

BAILLIE SIGNS
Scotland’s 1st choice for 25 years

Proud suppliers to Dram awards winners
Indigo Yard and Lido

T: 0131 315 2800
sales@baillie.co.uk
www.bailliesigns.co.uk

FOUR BY TWO

Award Winning Interior Architecture

www.four-by-two.com
The whole event and atmosphere was very, very good, and the Top of the Pops theme was excellent. Everybody at my table thoroughly enjoyed themselves, it was a great celebration of the trade. It was fantastic to hear about the success of both individuals and companies, and having everyone together in the same room made for a very special evening.

Alice Caldwell Hodges – BII

It was an absolutely fantastic evening, and I couldn’t have asked for better company at my table. All of Kopparberg’s guests loved it and had a wonderful evening. I’d just like to say a massive ‘Thank You’ to Susan for inviting me, I had a genuinely great time.

Ben Turner – Kopparberg

The awards were great fun, and the consensus from those in my party was that it was one of the best awards nights they’ve been to. The venue was very inventive, and suited the theme perfectly. Each of the entrants were of good quality and highly deserving, which is always great to see. I really enjoyed being involved in the awards, it was a good learning opportunity for us.

Stephen Rankin – Gordon McPhail

It was a great show, and it was evident just how much effort Susan put in to making it happen. We were nominated for two categories, and although we were disappointed not to win the first it was a great feeling to lift the Tennent’s Quality Award. Everything about the night was spot on, it ticked all the boxes. It was the first time I’d attended the DRAM Awards, and it was much more fun than I’d expected.

Neil Morrison – Mcgochans, Isle of Mull

It was very flattering to win an award, although rather unexpected. It’s great to get some recognition and appreciation from the industry. It shows that our hard work paid off. I loved the event, it felt like the Oscars for the industry – lots of glitz, glamour and very professional. It was great seeing everyone getting dressed up and making an effort, very lovely to enter again next year if it means we get to attend the awards.

Mike Smith – The Bow Bar, Edinburgh

The whole event and atmosphere was very, very good, and the Top of the Pops theme was excellent. Everybody at my table thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It was a great celebration of the trade. It was fantastic to hear about the success of both individuals and companies, and having everyone together in the same room made for a very special evening.

Alice Caldwell Hodges – BII

It was an absolutely fantastic evening, and I couldn’t have asked for better company at my table. All of Kopparberg’s guests loved it and had a wonderful evening. I’d just like to say a massive ‘Thank You’ to Susan for inviting me, I had a genuinely great time.

Ben Turner – Kopparberg

The awards were great fun, and the consensus from those in my party was that it was one of the best awards nights they’ve been to. The venue was very inventive, and suited the theme perfectly. Each of the entrants were of good quality and highly deserving, which is always great to see. I really enjoyed being involved in the awards, it was a good learning opportunity for us.

Stephen Rankin – Gordon McPhail

It was a great show, and it was evident just how much effort Susan put in to making it happen. We were nominated for two categories, and although we were disappointed not to win the first it was a great feeling to lift the Tennent’s Quality Award. Everything about the night was spot on, it ticked all the boxes. It was the first time I’d attended the DRAM Awards, and it was much more fun than I’d expected.

Neil Morrison – Mcgochans, Isle of Mull

It was very flattering to win an award, although rather unexpected. It’s great to get some recognition and appreciation from the industry. It shows that our hard work paid off. I loved the event, it felt like the Oscars for the industry – lots of glitz, glamour and very professional. It was great seeing everyone getting dressed up and making an effort, very lovely to enter again next year if it means we get to attend the awards.

Mike Smith – The Bow Bar, Edinburgh
The judges said of the winner, “This person showed the most progress throughout the competition and is someone that we have very high hopes for in the future. He is definitely someone to watch out for. He applied himself and soaked up the course and also created an excellent cocktail for the judges. We have no doubt all of the Mixxit bar apprentices of 2014 will go on to do great things and will be part of shaping our industry in the future.”

Finalists:
CALUM JOHNSTON, Bar Kohl, Edinburgh
PHILIP JONES, Panda & Sons, Edinburgh
DOMINIC ROARTY, White Elephant, Glasgow

MOLSON COORS
CHAMPION BEER PUB OF SCOTLAND
WINNER: INDIGO YARD, Edinburgh

The judges said of the winner, “This bar offers beer exploration in an approachable and inclusive way. Its commitment to customer service and staff product knowledge and training, as well as an excellent beer portfolio has really reinvigorated consumer interest in beer in this outlet. Over the past six months, after building its craft beer portfolio and revamped its premises to emphasis its new focus, the bar has seen a sales increase of 34.5% in its draft sales and 19.5% in bottled beer sales which has had a knock on effect on all other drinks categories too.”

Finalists:
THE HOLYROOD 9A, Edinburgh
THE PAPER MILL, Lasswade
TEUCHTERS LANDING, Edinburgh
SUNDAY MAIL CENTENARY FUND FAMILY PUB OF THE YEAR

**WINNER:** CHEERS CAFE BAR & TAVERN, Fraserburgh

The judges said of the winner, “This outlet surprised us. Its cellar was first class and the owners clearly pride themselves on everything to do with quality. From the temperature of the beer to the cleanliness of its lines, this pub offered the perfect serve and a delightful environment too.”

**Finalists:**
- THE OAK TREE INN, Balmaha
- OLD CHAIN PIER, Edinburgh
- WEST BREWERY, Glasgow

---

TENNENT’S QUALITY AWARD

**WINNER:** MACGOCHANS, Tobermory

The judges said of the winner, “This outlet surprised us. Its cellar was first class and the owners clearly pride themselves on everything to do with quality. From the temperature of the beer to the cleanliness of its lines, this pub offered the perfect serve and a delightful environment too.”

**HIGHLY COMMENDED:**
- CLARKS, Dundee

**Finalists:**
- THE COMMERCIAL HOTEL & BAR, Wishaw
- THE DEAN TAVERN, Newtongrange

---

**Sources:**
1. SPA Future Thinking, n=600
2. Rate Card Value

Carling is a registered trade mark of Molson Coors Brewing Company (UK) Limited. carling.com

Carling British Cider is an exciting new product available on draught. Made with 12 different varieties of hand-picked apples that come together to refresh to the core. Described as the most refreshing cider by consumers, Carling British Cider also won Gold at the International Brewing Awards 2013.

In 2014, we will be investing £4M in advertising and an additional £1.5M in heavyweight sampling to drive awareness and trial.
Every year the DRAM makes a one-off award. This year the award is for Pride and Passion. Louise and James Rusk take a pride in everything they do and have a real passion for the industry. They have great energy, and are totally motivated. You can’t help but be enthused when you are in their company. They have recently opened their second venue, Hutchesons, and it definitely has the WOW factor.

MEDIA WORLD PRIDE & PASSION AWARD
WINNER: JAMES & LOUISE RUSK, Hutchesons, Glasgow

The judges said of the winner, “This bar really impressed our judges with its energy. Staff were enthusiastic and full of whisky knowledge and there was a real buzz in the bar itself. It’s the sort of bar that you want to go back to time and time again.”

Finalists:
THE POT STILL, Glasgow
TEUCHTERS LANDING, Edinburgh
WHISKI BAR & RESTAURANT, Edinburgh
The judges said of the winner, “The pub’s regulars put it forward for this award. Not only is this pub an institution in its home town, but it is a favourite with tourists too. The warmth of the welcome by staff and customers make this a pub with real character, which is also reflected in the surroundings. It may be a small bar but it has a big heart.”

Finalists:
Macgochans, Tobermory
The Park Bar, Glasgow
The Scotia, Glasgow

Alchemy Inns Ltd would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Claire and her team at The Keys Bar, St. Andrews. What a fantastic achievement in winning the “Sunday Mail Pub of the Year for 2014.” Your mum would be extremely proud.