



Media Release

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Scotch honour for Distilled Spirits Association chief

The Keepers of the Quaich (pronounced quake), the exclusive Scotch Whisky society with a wide international membership, has inducted Distilled Spirits Association Chief Executive Thomas Chin as a member.

The Society was founded to represent the Scotch Whisky industry worldwide. It promotes the goodwill of the industry and honours those who have made a significant contribution to it.

Mr Chin was inducted as member at a ceremony at Blair Castle, in the Highlands of Scotland joining a select group of New Zealanders who have been awarded the honour. Other recipients include the founding chairman of the Distilled Spirits Association, Grainger Hannah, industry stalwarts Sir Kenneth Myers and Douglas Myers and former National Party president and New Zealand High Commissioner to London, John Collinge.

"This is a rare and great honour for me and the Distilled Spirits Association," Mr Chin says.

Mr Chin's induction to the Keepers of the Quaich recognizes his efforts to protect the reputation of Scotch Whisky in New Zealand from imitators.

"The Distilled Spirits Association is always vigilant in protecting the interests of the high quality international brands produced by its members from passing off by inferior products," Mr Chin says.

The Keepers of the Quaich takes its name from the two handled drinking bowl which is described in the ancient Gaelic language of Scotland as a 'cuach' or quaich, a vessel long associated with the drinking of Scotch Whisky.

Mr Chin joins 1852 other Keepers of the Quaich from 82 countries, each of whom has received a Quaich and who is entitled to wear the society's tartan.



Caption (from left): The Grand Master of the Keepers of the Quaich, Viscount Thurso, Viscountess Thurso, Thomas and Janette Chin, Chairman of the Keepers Bill Bergius and Grace Bergius.

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