

Juliet's Burns Night Food Diary

I've got a soft spot for Burns night shenanigans. Haggis, whisky and a celebration of the poetry of a man who, in his day, must have been quite the hottie. Whether your own celebrations are muckle or modest, here's some inspiration for the 25th.

I featured [Bross Bagels](#) in our last print issue and they continue to astound me with their delicious creations. For one day only on the 25th they'll be giving a nod to Burns with The Bobby Burns, complete with haggis, cheddar cheese, a neep and tatty latke, caramelised onions and a whisky and maple syrup mayo. Greet not vegetarians, there's a version for you too. At £5.75 you're guaranteed bang for your buck with this bagel.

I was treated to a pretty awesome [showcase dinner](#) courtesy of Asda, featuring a plethora of their great quality Scottish produce. In particular I enjoyed meeting many of the Asda staff who sweetly wore name badges for the event. Apparently this is de rigeur in Asda HQ and even the CEO wears a name badge to work.

I sense a job opportunity for someone with early onset senility like me. I was gifted some of Simon Howie's spectacular haggis along with pre-cooked and packed mash potatoes and turnip. Now I'm often a purist when it comes to fresh vegetables but there's nothing I detest more than mashing neeps!

The Asda Extra Special Maris Piper Creamy Mash is something of

a game changer for me. At only £1 for 400g I can see myself using this in croquettes and fish cakes. Home cooking without so much of the fuss. My mother, a Haggis neeps and tatties expert deemed the meal to be 'fabulous'. It's a 10 from her in the strictly come haggis stakes.



Johnnie Walker meets 'Rabbie Burns'

Johnnie Walker continue to up their game by partnering with the Burns&Beyond festival. As part of the celebrations running to the 27th a Whisky tasting with Johnnie Walker Culture Trail event on Saturday 26th will provide guests with a free dram and crash course in Scotland's national drink. [Tickets](#) also include a cultural feast of live poetry, music comedy and performance in eight hidden venues. Intriguing! Tickets at £25.

For those who find a small taste of haggis and whisky is enough my favourite place to go for bar snacks is [The Shore Bar and Restaurant](#). They do the best haggis balls with whisky sauce in town and the service and friendly atmosphere is also second to none.