

Scotch tasting offers rare treat for a good cause

By Brock Weir

If you've ever wanted to taste what makes a \$300 bottle of scotch a \$300 bottle of scotch without breaking the bank, you can have an opportunity to do just that next week, all for a good cause.

CHATS (Community & Home Assistance to Seniors) will host their second annual An Evening of Scotch Tasting this coming Thursday, January 24, at 7 p.m. at their Aurora headquarters.

Led by local scotch expert Keith Scott, ticket-holders will be able to sample five fine scotches and whiskeys, including a very special bottle aged 35 years from the 2017 Northern Borders Rare Collection.

"This is a sold-out event every year," says Rhonda Flanagan, CHATS' Director of Development. "Sometimes buying a ticket to a gala can be a lot more money, along with a lot more money for a golf tournament. An Evening of Scotch Tasting is reasonably priced and, for the scotch or whisky lover, you might be able to try some scotches that might not otherwise be in your budget."

Ms. Flanagan attended the event last year as an observer, as someone who doesn't "appreciate scotch as much as the next person", but she has it on good authority from her scotch-loving spouse and his friends that a good time was had by all.

"He loved it and they are all coming back again this year, bringing more friends," says Ms. Flanagan. "They have told so many people about it and it is catching on because this year we have a gold sponsor for the first time in Magna and we're very excited. We're hopeful this night will sell out once again."

Priced at \$75 per person, a limited amount of tickets were still available at press time.

Proceeds from each ticket sold will go back into CHATS programming, which serves residents of York Region and South Simcoe.

"Proceeds will go towards a number of programs, but specifically towards subsidies for our programs," says Ms. Flanagan. "For example, we offer subsidies for our transportation services, for some of our adult day programs, for our Meals on Wheels, our homemaking services, and that kind of thing. A lot of our clients are low-income and a number of them are isolated, so this type of fundraising event allows us to help people who could not pay for CHATS services to still use these services and make them available for everyone."

For more tickets and further information on CHATS' An Evening of Scotch Tasting, visit www.chats.on.ca/scotch tasting or contact Angela Endicott at 905-713-3373 x6093 or via email at aendicott@chats.on.ca.