

Dinner with Sean Connery

If I could choose one celebrity with whom to have dinner, it would have to be Sir Sean Connery.

I'd love to discuss the ins and outs of his Scottish roots while we savour deep scarlet and fragrant wine from oversized glasses, especially since I hail from the beautiful glens myself.

I'd ask him what he really thinks of his career's big break: the legendary Bond series of films, all-time classics in anyone's DVD collection. We'd both choose smoked salmon for starters, where conversation would relax into memories of fishing clear water burns in summer, the peat and heath smells breezing gently around.

I'd unreservedly tell Sir Sean that not only is he a remarkable actor oozing with so much charisma that it bleeds into surrounding actors' performances, he is also one of the extreme few people who manages to 'wear' that charisma so confidently, even into his 80s, that he puts others half a century or more younger to shame!

As we finish our fillet steaks, both medium-rare of course, conversation would return to the original Scot within the Americanised knighted Connery: his memories of the capital, with its ever-cobbled streets and bitterly cold mornings; the smells and sounds that instantly remind one of the home land: warm whisky, frost-covered heather, the sharp yet homely accent...

Eyes would glaze over as we drift through our respective pasts, both worlds apart yet joined by one great, unforgettable and proud home: that of Scotland, with cold hands but a warm heart.