

MINIIZ

THE NEWSLETTER OF
PORT NICHOLSON MINIATURE BOTTLE CLUB.



MINIATURE AUCTION - MAMMOTH TASK

The Miniature auction is undoubtedly our biggest and best project to date. The publicity that the auction and these newsletters have generated for us in just two months has increased our membership by over 150%. From being a very small club we are now merely a small club!

In one way or another every club member (in February/March) was involved in the auction. Those who helped in the laying out of the more than 2,200 bottles and those who assisted 'on the day' all ended up tired but with a sense of achievement.

What did we achieve? Some of us disposed of a great number of unwanted bottles (although half the bottles for auction were from outsiders) and bought a great deal more! Apart from one grumpy old man who put in 70 bottles the day before and obviously thought them gold plated, buyers and sellers were pleased with the result. The prices reached were not as high as I, as auctioneer, had hoped. However, if you look at the average price obtained for one genuine collection of 600 which we sold, it is actually a higher price than that obtained at any other mini auction held in New Zealand (so far as we are aware). Our highest price on one lot was \$80 and our highest value on a per bottle basis (none ceramic) was \$12.

A letter I had from one of our U.S bidders (and buyers) may be of interest. He writes:-

"The only mini bottle auction I have been to was in Rome back in 1980. Incredible prices!! One man bid over US\$4,500 for an old 'Stock' cordial from the 1940's (they do love their old cordials over in Italy!). He was holding his head for the rest of the night trying to figure out how he was going to pay for it without incurring the wrath of his wife."

Oh that we could have had a few, even one, fool like that at our auction!

The same letter asks what to do with all the common duplicates you collect at auction or when buying a collection. At the risk of being labelled a heretic, drink them! We ended up with 8 Cherri Suisse, 8 Vandermint, 6 Kahlua, 1 million (well it seemed like it) very common scotches, etc. My wife has since been enjoying these together with all sorts of exotic drinks bought in bottles with substantially damaged labels. A word of warning, beware of doctored bottles. White vinegar and tonic would have to be an acquired taste! And don't you dare drink anything another collector might want!

David Smith

COVER BOTTLE

The last edition had Jackie on the cover, this time we present Bloody Mary!

This bottle was produced in Auckland about 10 years ago by J. & J. Vickers (N.Z.) Limited, who have now been taken over. This must be considered one of those middle of the road bottles, neither common nor very rare

CLUB NEWS

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BOOKS ON MINIATURES:

The following is a list of good books which are obtainable from U.S.A., If you are interested in obtaining any of them, prices and addresses will be advised by any of the committee members.

THE WHISKEY MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTION - Vol. I. (in colour)

THE WHISKEY MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTION Vol. II. (Scotch) 1200 plus
pictured in lifesize - black & White.

A GUIDE TO MINIATURE BOTTLES Vol. I. : Vol. II : & Vol. III.

MONTAGUES MODERN BOTTLE IDENTIFICATION & PRICE GUIDE.

SNYDERS BOTTLES IN MINIATURE Vol. I : Vol. II. : Vol. III.

There are no doubt other publications available from overseas but the above have been seen by members and worth having, especially "Montagues" which give a good coverage of ceramics plus an idea of prices.

HOFFMAN NATIONAL COLLECTORS CLUB - U.S.A.

The cost of becoming a Lifetime Member of the above Club is \$17.95 U.S. Contact the President for further details. We have asked them for a supply of catalogues and hope to see them in the not to distant future. Over the page are pictures of some of the items available.

OLD COMMONWEALTH - J.P. Van Winkle and Son

J.P. Van Winkle III has advised that they have the following minis available. Prices include shipping charges and delivery is anything from 6 weeks to two months.

Western Boot - 4 inches in height - 50 ml. \$16 U.S.

Leprechaun \$16 U.S.

Coal Miner \$15 U.S.

Modern Firefighter Series:

Modern Hero \$20 U.S.

The Nozzleman \$20 U.S.

"On Call" \$20 U.S.

Fallen Comrade \$22 U.S.

ALL BOTTLES ARE SHIPPED EMPTY.

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members:

Dan Power, Sydney, Australia
Robin Mellish, Christchurch
Dick Cotton, Waltham, Mass.
Don Weichold, Valley Falls, NY.
Mary Bedford, Taumarunui.

Bill Osmand, Dunedin
Ernie Meiswinkel, San Francisco
Art Daytz, Chino, California
Frank Wynn, New Lynn, Auckland
Brian De Athe, St. Thomas, Ontario

HOFFMAN ORIGINALS

presents . . . Mr. LUCKY SERIES

MINIATURE LIQUID DECANTERS



MR. TOURIST



MR. DENTIST



MR. PHOTOGRAPHER



MR. RAILROAD ENGINEER



MR. BARBER



MR. FARMER

HOFFMAN ORIGINALS

MINIATURE DECANTERS

LIQUID DECANTERS



CLOSED WING EAGLE



PANDA



OPEN WING EAGLE



WILDLIFE MINIATURE SERIES #1

WOLF & RACCOON FOX & EAGLE OWL & CHIPMUNK
BEAR & CUBS BOBCAT & PHEASANT FALCON & RABBIT



« « BENEAGLES » »

New Zealand collectors will be familiar with the attractive Beneagles ceramic miniature bottles from Peter Thomson (Perth) Ltd, Scotland. Most enthusiasts have at least one or two examples featuring prominently in their display cases.



The company's range of bottles usually depict such historical or typical Scottish subjects as the Loch Ness Monster, Curling Stone and the Haggis (an endearing little creature). Recently, however, the range has been extended to include the Grizzly Bear, an animal more usually associated with North America. Perhaps the canny Scots have an eye on the trans-Atlantic market.

The miniatures have famous British Carlton Ware, & Wade demand since the



been produced by a number of potteries (incl. Royal Doulton, in order to keep pace with first was made in Glasgow.

The first of this line stone, was introduced in 1964 as a novelty gift for tourists visiting Scotland. Enquiries were soon forthcoming from American and Canadian collectors whose friends brought them home.

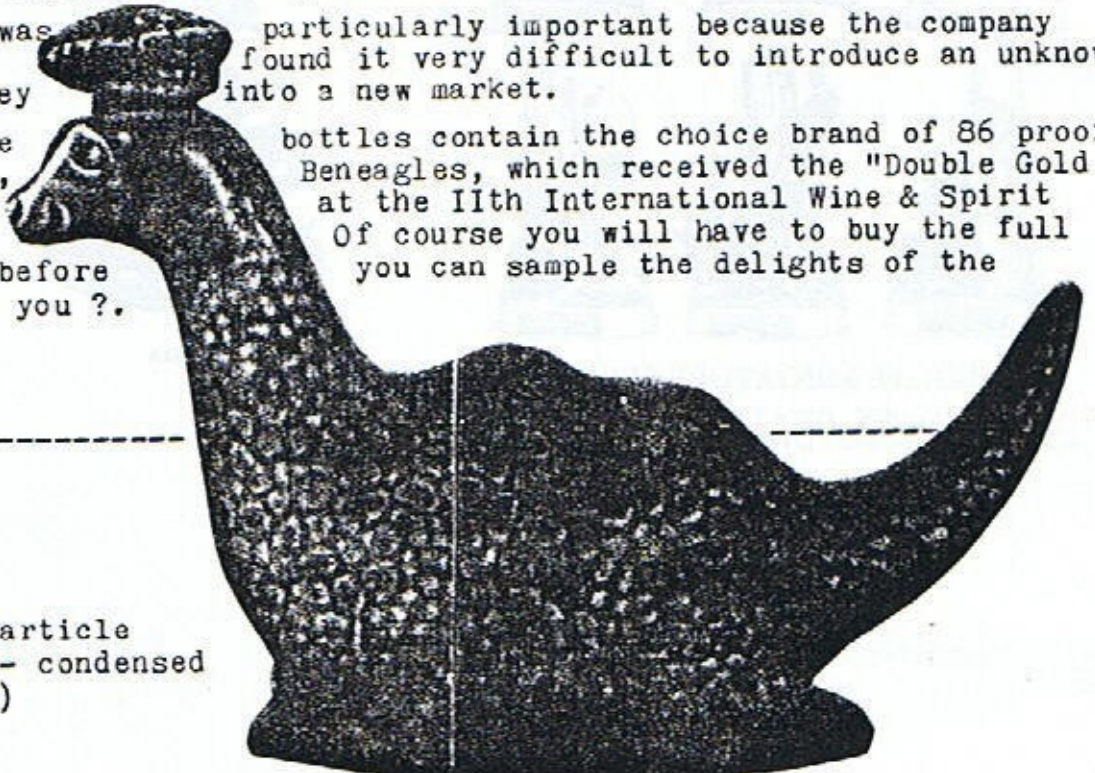
Peter Thomson (Perth) Ltd did not get into exporting in a big way until the company's export manager in 1970 took across some of the miniatures as gifts on a marketing drive in North America. He was quickly convinced of the export potential of these products after learning that miniature bottle collectors formed the third largest hobby group in the United States.

As a Bonus, the company found that when liquor stores brought the miniatures they also started taking a supply of Beneagles full sized bottles. (New Zealand alcohol producers and distributors please note).

This spin-off was particularly important because the company had initially found it very difficult to introduce an unknown brand of whiskey into a new market.

By the way, the Scotch whiskey, Award 1980" Competition. sized bottles before whiskey, won't you ?.

bottles contain the choice brand of 86 proof Beneagles, which received the "Double Gold" at the 11th International Wine & Spirit Of course you will have to buy the full you can sample the delights of the



(Extract from article by Ada Felske - condensed by Colin Ryder)

BUY
 \wedge
SELL



SWOP
 \wedge
 \vee

We take no responsibility for items advertised in this column, if any bottles are of interest to you, it is up to you to contact the advertiser to negotiate. The same list will not appear each magazine so keep it for future reference. If any of you are having to Post bottles, pack with the thought in mind that they will have to stand up to, being jumped on, thrown around, and dropped from a great height??.

GEORGE LISENKO, 110 N Richmond Dr B, Anaheim, California 92801.
WANTS Vodkas - Has just started collecting, has nothing at all from N.Z. or Australia and happy to send something from California, or cash, cheque or money order. Bottles must have unbroken seal even if contents have evaporated.

WILLIAM H JOHNSTON, Lochwood, P.O. Box 523, Skippack, Penn. 19474.
WANTS Someone to send one each of all the scotch which might be available in N.Z.

ART DAYTZ, 12789 Norton Avenue, Chino, California 91710 U.S.A.
WANTS To trade whiskies, Scotch & Gin with someone with similar interests.

ALISON & DAVID HICKFORD, 14 Avon Place, Springvale, Wanganui, N.Z.
TO SELL 2 X 4 packs McGregors liqueurs \$6 ea. ('Phone 55674)
 1 set seven Marie Brizard Liqueurs \$10 set.
 1 set Bols liqueurs with red plastic seals \$8
 1 box of 6 Bols liqueurs \$12
 6 Regnier liqueurs \$9
 6 McWilliams cocktails \$10
 1 Guinness Stout \$10 (P.S.) Is selling as individual bottles
 22 Varied liqueurs at \$1 ea.
 70 " " at \$2 ea.
 22 " " at \$1.50 ea.
 24 Sherries at \$1.50 ea.
 50 Cognacs, champagnes etc at \$1.50 ea.
 26 Gins, Vodkas at \$1.50 ea.
 68 varied well known whiskeys \$1.50 ea.

MR NOEL SAVAGE, P.O. Box 190, Nelson, N.Z.
TO SELL Approximately 110 various bottles including, 7 Polish Liqueurs, 8 Williams & Humbert, 4 Voks, 6 Marie Brizard Liqueurs, 2 Cusenier Aperitifs, 4 Meritos.
 He has no idea of price - wants to sell as "a collection" and is no doubt open to "offers".

VAL BERGMAN, 4 Hinemoa Street, Paraparaumu, Wgton. N.Z.
TO SELL Collection of miniatures - 45 Whiskies/10 Wines/32 Liqueurs/ 8 Sherries/ 25 various Vodkas, Gins etc. - \$150 the lot -
TO SWOP Prince Hubert De Polignac Shield & Crown - Embossed Glass, Watch shape with crown stopper - SWOP - for 7 Whiskies or Gins or Vodkas.

BUY, SELL & SWAP Continued

WANTS TO SWAP SCOTCH

Don Weichold,
73 Country Acres,
RTE 7, Valley Falls,
N.Y. 12185, U.S.A.

Wants to Swap for NZ/Aust. Bottles

Herr Artur Helfer,
Obere Stadtmauer 53
3549 Volkmarsen, West Germany.

Wants to Buy or Swap Bottles from New Zealand

Brian De Athe
20 Caldwell Street
St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada N5R 5J2

NAMING NAMES

How many drinks or Liquor Company names can you make out of our name?

PORT NICHOLSON MINIATURE BOTTLE CLUB

Examples: Bols - Beer - Root Beer

Entries by 6th August please to - P.O. Box 384, Wellington.
Largest number of names wins a Pussers Rum miniature as shown on the facing page. This page was reproduced from the Mid Atlantic Miniature Bottle Club Newsletter, Feb-March 1983. The straight glass Pussers is currently available in several Auckland bottle stores.

Winner of the Competition in the Feb/March edition was Frank Wynn of Auckland.

THE MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

We highly recommend this, the only publication of it's type, to all our members.

For those of you who wish to subscribe the address of the Miniature Bottle Collector Magazine is:

Brisco Publications, P.O. Box 2161, Palos Verdes Peninsula, California 90274, U.S.A.

Annual Subscription (6 issues) is US\$18.00 overseas or US\$13 in the U.S.A.

PUSSEY'S BRITISH NAVY RUM

by Bill Schaffer



British Navy Pussey's Rum has been blended and bottled in strict accordance with Royal Navy regulations for admiralty rum. This is not just a rum, but a tradition which had its beginning more than 300 years ago in the days of square-riggers, pirates and stout-hearted old salts whose daily tot of Pussey's Rum was the highlight of their everyday life.

The beautiful stoneware flagon has been hand-cast in Britain. In the Royal Navy, Pussey's Rum was, and still is, stored in the spirit room on board ships in stoneware flagons which are larger, but similar to the 1.75 Liters and 50 ML. The Pussey's brand label incorporates the White Ensign of the Royal Navy and is framed by the mythical dolphins of the ancient Agean Set—half dolphin and half sea serpent. This panel is the front scene of both the 50 ML and 1.75 L. The miniature on back-side has a story of Pussey's Rum spelled out, flanked on each side by an anchor. On the 1.75 L. flagon is a picture of "Jolly Jack Pussey" which represents the many happy-go-lucky jack tars who helped create the Pussey's tradition. "Jolly Jack Pussey" is a likeness of the figurehead from HMS Daring, a Royal Navy Brig which was launched on April 2, 1844 at Portsmouth, England.

The remaining panel on the 1.75 L. incorporates Admiral Nelson's famous message to the British fleet at the Battle of Trafalgar on Oct. 21, 1805. Nelson used signal flags to telegraph "England expects that every man will do his duty." On the shoulder of the 1.75 L. flagon is a wax cartouche on which is imprinted a likeness of HMS Victory, Admiral Nelson's Flagship at Trafalgar.

This Pussey's flagon has been formed from ball and china clay which, for a thousand years before the days of glass, was used in Scotland and England for its strength, durability and beauty. The mini has only a plain cork with no other seal except the tax strip imprinted NY-1-491. The 1.75 L. is corked, with tax strip NY-1-68 overprinted—491 with a wax cartouche on which is imprinted the likeness of an anchor. The miniature, I understand, was a one-time import, and the distributor has been sold out. I have not seen the minis in very many stores and the 1.75 L. I saw just this one. It is an expensive item and presumably the economy has kept this to a minimum. The 1.75 L. also has a china and cork stopper tied to the handle. The mini is also available in a straight-glass 50 ML size. All rum is 95.5 Proof and imported by the Paddington Corp., N.Y., N.Y.

See photo #1 for mini straight-glass, photo #2 for mini flagon front side, #3 back side. Photos #4, 5, and 6 are the 3 panels of the 1.75 L.



BARGAINS!

FROM • JON - SOL •

SKI COUNTRY

Barrel Racer	\$20
Bobcat	\$15
Bob Cratchit	\$15
Buffalo Stampede	\$20
D.U. Canvasback	\$15
D.U. Widgeon	\$18
E.S. Eagle	\$20
Ma Cratchit	\$15
Pere. Falcon	\$15
R.S. Hawk	\$30
Scrooge	\$12
U.S. Ski Team	\$15

GRENADIER

Frosty	\$10
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JON-SOL

Baby Robin	\$5
Blue Jay	\$5
R.H. Woodpecker	\$5

MCCORMICK

Ben Franklin	\$15
John Hancock	\$15
Patrick Henry	\$15
Thos. Jefferson	\$15
John Paul Jones	\$15
Noble Shriner	\$10

C ' S ART

Charlais	\$10
Hereford	\$10
Mex. Fight. Bull	\$15
Skunks	\$15
Bassett Hound	\$10
Collie	\$10
St. Bernard	\$10
Schnauzer	\$10
Setter	\$10

All prices are U.S. dollars.

All bottles are shipped empty.

This is the latest "bargain" list, and when quantities are sufficiently reduced these bottles will be returned to regular price without notice.

Prices do not include postage.

MONTAGUE'S

After a recent letter to Montagues regarding their excessive rates of postage their latest (15/5/83) price list now states :-
Miniatures \$3.50 for 1st bottle plus \$3.00 each additional bottle, which is a little more realistic than \$7.00 for 1st bottle plus \$5.00 each additional bottle which they previously charged.

For details of how to obtain minis by post from Jon Sol and Montagues please contact one of the Committee