

### THE NEWSLETTER OF NEW ZEALAND MINIATURE BOTTLE CLUB



## THIS & THAT & COVER BOTTLES

Nobody has sent any formal articles for this issue so the ones you see are left over from the 100<sup>th</sup> edition (although not because they are poor articles but because space and the number of articles from the same collector were the governing factors). However, I have received lots of bottle photos and snippets of information from many of you, so I have got lots to show you in this opening article. I have also received photos and information from Graham Ramsay & David Spaid to format into articles. PLEASE, I need articles for miNiZ104 – deadline the 1<sup>st</sup> April.

The cover bottles are from Frank Wynn. Frank writes: The bottle on the left, Dunedin Distillery Doublewood, is produced by The New Zealand Whisky Company. This 10 year old whisky produced a lot of publicity for the company in 2013. William Grant and Sons (makers of Glenfiddich) objected to the term Doublewood. However the Kiwis say they used the term before Grants copyrighted it in New Zealand. The lawyers will now make more money than the distillery if it goes to court. One unusual aspect of the label is that it does not show the alcohol strength which I thought was illegal in New Zealand (another unusual aspect of this bottle is that there is no seal of any sort on the cap – editor). The other bottle, Agwa Coco Leaf liquor, is unusual in that the base material was grown in Bolivia. It is not often, if at all, we have Bolivian liquors in New Zealand. The liquor is actually made in Amsterdam which takes some off the gloss of the story. This is a plastic 50ml bottle and 60 proof.



In miNiz102 we showed a number of Armenian bottles that are being sold in NZ, from MAP Company of Armenia. Mikhail Maddar has sent us these pictures which show some, if not all, of the other bottles in the series. All contain 100ml of Samvel 5\* Armenian brandy. Above we have the Bull, Donkey, Dragon, Elephant (different to the one we showed you last issue), lion and rooster. Starting the next page we have the Mule, Swan and Lady's Shoe. These are all made from a moulded glass bottle with blown glass addons. The bottle to the right (both sides shown) is ceramic and also contains brandy.









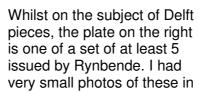
At this point Harland is probably salivating. Seva sent me this photo for MBL, he says "Here is a neat

bottle from Sabena airlines with Douglas Laing whisky. Should make a nice addition to the library. If you ever happen to come across this one please let me know. I'd love to add it to my collection." So would the rest of us Seva! Anyone know how old this bottle is?



KLM issued this new Bols Delft House in October, #94 in the series. This is

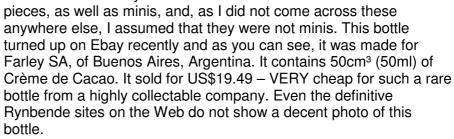
Oudheidkamer Museum, Den Burg but at present I know nothing else. I have also not yet obtained it so please let me know if you see it for sale.



Miniature Bottle Library early on but removed them. The site I got them off has all sorts of Rynbende







Sticking with Delft, and indeed, KLM (Koninklijke Luchtvaart Maatschappij – try pronouncing that if you aren't Dutch!), I came across a couple of unusual building bottles recently, and am picturing







these, together with two others that most of you will not have seen. I would love to get my hands on all or even any of these but there is very little chance of that.

The Pagoda was made for the first flight to China by KLM but I have been unable to find out what year that was (so much for all information being online). The second presumably dates from 1975 and is filled with Senior

Curacao, rather than Dutch Gin, which is the usual KLM offering. Kaatsbaan (Tennis Court) was made for Huis ter Kleef by KLM / Bols but unusually was not issued on board KLM flights. I don't

know much about this bottle but believe that it may have been made as a fund raiser for restoration of the Kaatsbaan which, if it goes ahead and is again used for tennis, will be the oldest covered tennis court in the world. The final bottle was a retirement present for Henk van der Vaart upon his retirement after 40 years with KLM. It depicts a house from the Philippines and is officially house 88A. I suspect that this is a 'one-off' mini and one I will never get.

A couple more photos I was sent for MBL are especially notable. Mikhail Maddar sent the crystal decanter (Kaspar Cristal, France) photo. This contains Hardy Cognac. Mikhail says it is different from the three already shown on MBL. I am struggling to see how but trust Mikhail's judgment. There are several Ye Olden Times mini jugs but this one with the pipe attached is really special.



KLM

40 JAAR

Merk J Van der Vaart

61 semmeter 2002

Sta.



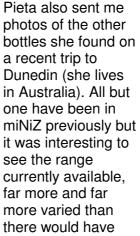


Several members sent me photos of the latest iteration of the Jim Beam set. This, the first photo, came from Pieta. The previous weekend I had been at Ken Chin's and had photographed his set that he had just brought back from Australia.

On this page we have the first three of the bottles in the set above, Booker's (6 to 8 year old blend), Baker's (7 year old) and Basil Hayden's (8 year old with a high proportion of Rye in the mash – see later in this article for how I know that). The first picture on the next page is the last of the bottles in the set, Jim Beam Small Batch Bourbon with Port. I thought that you might also like to see the Japanese version.







been just a few years ago. The exception is the Gabriel Boudier Saffron Gin from France.

Several members sent me this

Jim Beam Bottle that someone has ruined by putting a sticker on the back. Seriously, this was made for Harland & Marlene Johnson on the occasion of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversay. Their son got hold of Harland's email address book and

asked us to send cards via him. Harland & Marlene were on a cruise for the anniversary and got a surpise when they were deluged with cards.

I have had photos of two Scotches new to NZ sent to me. The Grants is in their familiar triangular bottle. This was found by a hawk eyed Ken

Chin – look for the words "Five Generations" on the bottom panel to find this one. Big Peat was sent to us by Little Colin - Colin Todd. This is a blended 'small batch' malt. Colin bought this from Whisky Galore in Christchurch, who have just opened their new shop, close to the Casino. See miNiZ92 for pictures of their shop post earthquake. Although they retained their on-line store, it's good to see them back with a physical presense. Whilst on the subject on on-line stores, check out a new Australian one <a href="www.miniliq.com.au">www.miniliq.com.au</a> I was contacted by the owners who asked for a plug – happy to do so. They write: "Hi there, you have a great community of links on your site, I really enjoy exploring it. I have just opened a commercial site selling minis in Australia. I don't have a range which rivals these collections but we aim to grow over time." Good luck to them.





Staying with Australia, Member Steve Jannar has been to Shanghai and sent us these photos of Chinese bottles he bought. I have to say I do like the wording on some Chinese minis. The last one states "Forever Happy, Jiang Flavor Style." Steve found it difficult to find bottles but the ones he did find were worth looking for.

There is no room in this issue for an 'As



Seen on Ebay' article, besides which, I don't have much to show you. Peter Bonkovich has sent a few sales over the last few months, so I will show you them here.







The Duck is from Luxardo of Italy. It sold for £10.50 (about NZ\$21) which is a little cheap. Maybe because it was said to be empty – looks sealed and therefore full to me. The Moana Monkeys was the first Lionstone Safari Set bottle that I bought for my own collection. But not for US\$61 which this one sold for. This set does not normally fetch anything like that so I assume that we had two collectors bidding against each other to complete their set. The frog is another Luxardo bottle. US\$30 bought it – about right I think.

Harwoods Canadian whisky was also said to be empty but certainly does not look so. It was made in 1949 and sold in 2013 for US\$5.60 – a very poor price. The next two bottles are not bottles. The Whyte and McKay Scotch is a wooden bottle that unscrews to reveal 3 dice. £8.49 bought it – also very cheap. The John Dewar & Sons metal bottle unscrews and turns into a corkscrew. They date from 1890-1910 and are very collectable. £42 was about right for this one, some rarer ones fetch a lot more.

I have been working on adding US bottles to Miniature Bottle Library over the last few months, one letter at a time. I am now working on 'T' so not too long to go now. One major problem I have faced is the 'shuffling' of brands between the major and even some minor North American





liquor companies. A number of companies who were big names only a few years ago have been broken up, with their brands going to other industry players. Seagram's and Allied Domeq are the best known of these. Buying one brand often results in having to dispose of other competing brands. A huge number of minor brands changed hands as late as February last year. And many articles on the Internet are not dated, so you often find contradictory information. On the next page is a 'Family Tree' of Bourbons which I believe is up-to-date and which I think will interest you. The close relationship of competing brands will, I am sure, also be a surpise to some of you.



Richard Scott, a producer at Radio New Zealand, phoned Colin Ryder for a interview about miniature bottle collecting. Apparently he found the club web site. Colin 'passed th buck' to me. There is a radio programme, called 'This Way Up,' on between 12 noon and 2pm on Saturdays. The presenter, Simon Morton, came to my place and interviewed me for over

an hour. The format of the show (which I try to listen to each week but don't always suceed) is an interview of about 20/30 minutes, so we should get some good publicity out of it. I will email NZ members when I know the date but the interview will probably go out in February. I will also email a link to a podcast to all members after the broadcast.

David Smith

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ELIJAH CRAIG 21	CRAIG 12  CRAIG 12  LARCENY  HENRY  HENRY  MCKENNA  RITTENHOUSE  FYE VENA  PHYSYLLE  OLD WILLIAMS  FYE VENA  WHENT  WHENT  WHISKIE  GEORGIA  GEORGIA  GEORGIA	HEAVEN	HEAVEN HILL
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# SCOTCH, SCOTCH EVERYWHERE

After years of collecting everything, much like what happens to almost everyone, the realization that my Bottle Room (or house for that matter) wasn't going to be big enough to hold everything I could possibly get so I decided to Specialize. That way (at least this is what I told myself) I wouldn't overflow my bottle room since there would be fewer choices (and thus fewer bottles). The decision to specialize came about the same time as I participated in purchasing a former club members collection. This collector had a very nice selection of Scotches and I had the opportunity to get quite a few (If I would have known what I was doing I would have gotten some really nice ones being picked out by a more experienced Scotch collector). At first I started collecting everything. I realized rather quickly that there is a Scotch made for every occasion (and Building, Company, Street, Mountain...you get the picture) in (and in many cases outside of) Scotland. Don't believe me. Take a look at some of these examples.



Here we have bottlings for a couple of mills, a hotel, a supply company, a police station, and the queens birthday. Then there are all the whimsical bottles, I assume to sell to tourists, and bottle collectors like me. Check these out. Even Nessie and Santa have there own bottles (and I'm sure multiple bottles at that).



Then you have the whole Single Malt genre. With both distillery bottlings and independent bottlings. Throw in different ages, strengths and finally just label variations and I think you see where I am going. What's a collector to do? Many collectors specializing in Scotch then specialize in only Single Malts, but some even take it a step further and specialize in a particular distillery (or just distillery bottlings) and you could easily specialize in one of the independent bottlers and still have quite an impressive collection. So how do I choose to do it. I would call it a hybrid variation of Scotches. I have some distilleries that I like to get (Kilchoman, Bowmore, Arran and Macallan to name a few), I tend to lean towards Single Malt over the blends but it comes down to two deciding factors for me. Availability (It's not easy to find different scotches for me locally so when I do , I usually get them) and the looks of the Label and/or bottle. If I like the way it looks, It doesn't matter if it is a blend, a Single Malt , distillery or independent, it belongs in my ever growing Scotch collection (currently at just over 1200 bottles). And I still get non Scotch bottles and those I also use the "Do I like how the bottle looks" method of decision (and also do I have a place on my non Scotch shelves) Here are some more bottles from my Scotch Collection.

















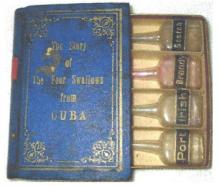
# NOVELTIES

Not all the 'bottles' that many of us collect are just bottles. In this article I am going to show you a number of very collectable items that contain miniature or micro bottles. Many of these are 'dummy' bottles, in that they do not contain a drink, and I have chosen to leave

these for another edition.







These books were made in Germany in, I think, the 1920's. You will see that all contain the same drinks, Brandy, Irish (whiskey), Port & Scotch. I suspect that there are many more of these - picture please if you have one.



Co. of Canada, probably in the 1940's. MBL shows 15 suitcases all the same, except for the personalisation. Again, I suspect that there are many more. Shown are two suitcases for cities, Bute, Montana and Fort Myers, Florida and for the Lord Byron Steak House-Tavern (no city shown). The forth photo shows the inside, common to all these suitcases, with the Gin, Vodka, Rye & Rum bottles. These would be about 20ml each. As well as the personalised cases there is also a plain version.









Manhattan of the US has made some truly great (and truly awful)

miniatures. The ones shown all date from the 1920's/30's.







The three above, the Drinks Trolley, Milkmaid and Standard Lamp all contain the same shape bottles. These are micros and contain various alcohol free liqueurs. The Waiter's

Tray and Barette each have three taller bottles, although, again, these are micro alcohol free liqueurs.

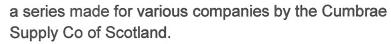


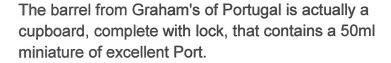






On the far left is a Matchbox from Weisenbach of Germany. This contains two bottles of Schnaps, which would be about 20ml each. The Whyte and McKay Matchbox is one of





I was unsure whether to include the two Nikka bottles but they do meet the criteria of being novelties. They are encased in a clear barrel, which is actually two glasses. The first bottle contains Hi Nikka Whisky and the second Black Nikka Whisky and both are 100ml.







Apart from the Four Swallows, there are a number of 'Books' that contain bottles, either of the same or related minis. On the left we have The Pain Killer by Jules Robin. This contains ten 20ml bottles of Napoleon Cognac. A similar concept is used by Sibona of Italy. At first glance this is a cigar box, and

at the second glance too as when you open it there appears to be cigars inside. These contain Grappa. Sibona have another Cigar Box set under the name Tempo.

There are quite a number of miniatures encased in lighters. These are the only bottles in this article that you cannot drink - unless you are desperate and smash the lighter! There are a number of different Chivas Regal Scotch bottles contained in lighters but this is the only Nikka Whisky bottle I know about.





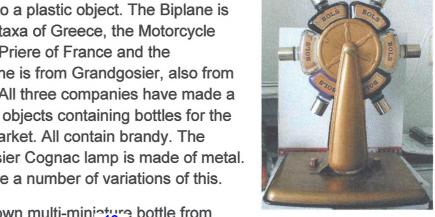








A number of companies incorporate a bottle into a plastic object. The Biplane is from Metaxa of Greece, the Motorcycle from La Priere of France and the Telephone is from Grandgosier, also from France. All three companies have made a range of objects containing bottles for the Asian market. All contain brandy. The Courvoisier Cognac lamp is made of metal. There are a number of variations of this.



The Ship's Wheel is a well known multi-minigator bottle from Bols. The six liqueurs can vary from wheel to wheel.









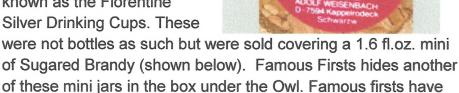
Coca Cola have made two Picture Frames as far as I am aware. These are made of cardboard. The next two are 'proper' Picture Frames, made of wood. These were both made by Lilliput of Ireland for Guinness. You often see picture frames made by artists/craft workers containing miniatures but these are usually 'one-offs' whereas the above were made in quantity and were official items. Lilliput also made the Clock with the Guinness

bottle as the pendulum. I am sure that I have seen another clock pendulum example but I cannot remember where and do not have a photo.

The Spirit Level from Weisenbach of Germany contains a 20ml Schnaps miniature. There are at least two versions of this.



On the left is a metal Elk's Head from Famous Firsts. This is part of a set of six (I need photos of the other 5) known as the Florentine Silver Drinking Cups. These





made at least 32 minis like this, including Bandsmen, Warriors, Animals and objects such as a Cash Register, Coffee Mill, Telephone and Sewing Machine.

Got a photo of a bottle not on MBL? Email me at minizv@gmail.com



WALDHIMBEERGEIST

40%vol · 20 m



In July of 2014 a group of Sicilian Miniature Bottle Collectors will be sponsoring a huge 3 day Miniature Bottle Show in Francavilla, Sicily. Non Italian residents that are subscribers to the *Minibottles Magazine* in 2013 and 2014 can take advantage of the following special offers when they attend the show. If you are not a current *Minibottles Magazine* subscriber, now is the best time to subscribe so you can take advantage of these offers.

- Free table for the show
- 2 nights in Giuseppe's hotel d'Orange d'Alcantara (On a Bed and Breakfast basis)
- Extra nights in hotel at only €39 for single rooms (twin room for €59) whether you are an exhibitor or just attending the show.
- A fantastic and well organized Mini Bottle Show
- The opportunity to shop for minis in Francavilla. (The shops have thousands of minis at great prices)
- The Chance to meet lots of Italian collectors. You will also discover many interesting minis not available in the U.S.
- Free sightseeing trip on a chartered "Minibottles Magazine bus". (Location to be determined)

To be eligible for free nights and special pricing you must make reservations before January 15th, 2014.

**Location:** Hotel d'Orange d'Alcantara di Francavilla. The price for meals and accomodation are less than you will find at Mini Bottle shows and conventions in other Countries.

#### **Schedule of Events**

#### 18th July, 2014 - Friday

10 a.m. Free sightseeing trip on a chartered *Minibottles Magazine* bus. (Location to be determined)

1 p.m. Lunch (Sicilian menu for €25 drinks and taxes included)

8 p.m. Pizza and beer evening (taste different types of pizza cooked in wood oven for € 10 per person)

#### 19th July, 2014 - Saturday

9 a.m. Collect consignment minis for auction

9.30 - 2 p.m. Mini Bottle Auction

2 p.m. Break for lunch (light lunch at €20 - pasta, main dish, vegetables and dessert, drinks)

After lunch group photos in the square in front the hotel.

4 p.m. Pay for Consignment minis bought from the auction, collect money from consignments.

7 p.m. Cocktail party hosted by the sponsor, free souvenirs and miniatures

8 p.m. Fresh fish meal (€25 drinks and taxes included – starter, pasta, main dish, vegetables, lemon sorbet, water, wine, coffee, digestive) with Live music entertainment.

#### 20th July, 2014 - Sunday

8 a.m. Sellers can start setting up their table

9.30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Bottle Show (Free admission)

Additional tours available to anyone staying a couple extra days in Sicily: Monday: Excursion to Ortigia and Siracusa with tour guide (€49 per person). Tuesday: Excursion by jeep to Etna Nord. (€65 per person, lunch not included). Wednesday: Follow the town movie set "The Godfather". Casalvecchio Siculo and Savoca and the Capuchins museum and crypt mummy

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### SARINA SUGAR SHED

The Sarina Sugar Shed is a distillery situated in Sarina, North Queensland, Australia. They opened in 2006 and have been distilling their own vodka, schnapps and liqueurs ever since. Our first photo is of their newest bottle, Sugar Shed Rum, which was released on 1st September 2013. It is 50ml. 40%.

The following text is an edited version of their visitor's brochure.

There is no greater story in Australia's history than that of our sugar cane industry. Sarina Sugar Shed is dedicated to the ideals of optimism. resourcefulness and resilience, inspired by the dreams of men and women who had the courage to pursue the future with unwavering vision and purpose. People who, over generations, put everything on the line to build a strong and sustainable industry, who pulled together through good times and bad and in so doing, created a vibrant and robust community spirit. The legacy lives on at Sarina Sugar Shed - a celebration of the history, culture

and heritage of the sugar industry where you can "take the tour and taste the action."



Set on the perfect backdrop of Wilmar Plane Creek, visitors get a glimpse of the real thing in action. They can see the steam rising from the boiler chimneys, feel the light misty spray in the air from the cooling towers and hear the cane being emptied into the bin tippler. There truly is no better way to experience and understand this engineering marvel! The Sarina Sugar Shed is the only fully functional miniature sugar mill and boutique distillery in Australia. It is the only distillery in Australia that produces its own massecuite (a suspension of sugar crystals in syrup) and molasses to produce rum. Our unique approach to distilling uses sugar syrup as a base to create the spirit which is the foundation of our liqueurs, schnapps, vodka and rum.

Below we have Coconut Rum Lig. 21.3%, Mango Rum Liqueur, Rum Liqueur 17.8%, Butterscotch Schnapps 23%, Mango Schnapps 23% & Sarina Vodka 38%.













Graham Ramsay

### BEWARE OF THE ALCOHOL YOU ARE COLLECTING!!!

If you have any bottles from the U.K. or U.S. you may notice these warning labels those governments require. Bottles from India state: "Drinking is Injurious to Health". These labels are there to protect people from potential health issues but what about the real issues?

GOVERNMENT WARNING: (1) According to the Surgeon General, women should not drink alcoholic beverages during pregnancy because of the risk of birth defects. (2) Consumption of alcoholic beverages impairs your ability to drive a car or operate machinery, and may cause health problems.



Here are some warnings that should be included on bottles of Liquor to help protect people from, well themselves.





Now You've been warned, so continue to collect with caution knowing just some of the hazards with that liquid in all those little bottles of yours.

(And don't even get me started with the flammability)



#### Some other suggested warnings:

**WARNING:** consumption of alcohol may cause you to tell the same boring story over and over again until your friends want to SMASH YOUR HEAD IN.

**WARNING**: consumption of alcohol may lead you to believe that ex-lovers are really dying for you to telephone them at 4:00 in the morning.

**WARNING:** consumption of alcohol may leave you wondering what the heck happened to your pants.

**WARNING:** consumption of alcohol may create the illusion that you are tougher, handsomer and smarter than some really, really big guy named Chuck.

**WARNING:** consumption of alcohol may lead you to think people are laughing WITH you.

**WARNING:** Consumption of alcohol may actually CAUSE pregnancy.

# OLDER RARER WHISKIES #5



Daniel Crawford's Old Matured Scotch Whisky Bottle on far left has a tin cover and a long neck. Next bottle also has long neck but with cork top and has word SAMPLE. Third bottle a shorter neck but identical label and cork top.

The right photo, left bottle is in the same colour (light green) as the

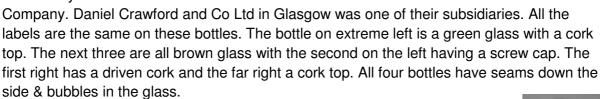
previous three. The bottle on far right has an identical label but is a deeper green. Both these are samples and finest very old Scotch Whisky. All 5 have seams down the side and bubbles in the glass.





Distillers Company Ltd "D.C.L" was formed in 1877 by a combination of six Scotch Whisky distilleries. MacFarlane & Co, John Bald & Co, John Haig & Co, MacNab Bros & Co, Robert Mowbray & Stewart & Co. This company was born out of a trade association called the Scotch Distillers Association formed in 1865. It was acquired by Guinness

in 1986 forming United Distillers and is now part of Diageo. As of 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1980 there were 41 subsidiaries of the Distillers





Two examples of Dandie Dinmont terrier whisky bottles. The round bottle on the left is the earlier one showing contents 1&2/3 fl oz; it has a screw cap covered with foil. The flat one does not have a volume stated, Note the different dog illustrated.

Bottle on the right is Drury's Special Reserve which is an USA import. This was produced and bottled by Langside Distillers. Clear square bottle with an old type cap.

Gary Carvey



SPECIAL RESERVE

### DAVID'S BOTTLES

With the exception of the Polish jugs that I start this article with, the pictured bottles are mainly new and mainly available now, although there are a few exceptions. I will largely let the photos speak

for themselves.













Ironworks is a very expensive set of spirits from Nova Scotia, Canada. Cambridge gin is said to be the most expensive gin in the world at £16.99 for the 100ml mini. The Isla del Ron set was produced in Germany.











Knob Creek is from Jim Beam. Smoked Maple - C'mon, I want Bacon bourbon! Writer's Tears (next page) is from Dublin. The Vodka with the Cyrillic script name was produced in Poland for a small London importer - note the 88%, that's 176 proof! 1917 Vodka was also make for the UK but is no longer produced. Woody Creek Vodka is from Colorado and finally, note that the Veev bottle has changed shape.















David Spaid

### DATE, TIME & PLACE

Saturday 11th January 2014, 6.00pm Barbecue, David & Rosie's, 11 Trevor Terrace, Paremata.

Telephone: 04 233 2997 E-Mail: minizv@gmail.com

#### Friday 14st - Sunday 16rd February 2014 AGM Weekend in Auckland

**Friday Evening** – BBQ at Peter Bonkovich's – 44 Sherwood Ave, Te Atatu South (09 834 8881 or 027 214 4648) - BYO Meat & Drinks (Peter & Janet providing salads/deserts)

Saturday Morning & Lunch - Orewa Beach Boulevard Arts Fiesta & Market Day

http://www.eventfinder.co.nz/2014/orewa-beach-boulevard-arts-fiesta-market-day/auckland/orewa

**Saturday Afternoon** – Visit Colin Todd's to view his Collection, 16 Murano Place, Chatswood **Saturday Dinner** – TBA

**Sunday Morning** – Visit local market(s) maybe some bottles depends on which markets are operating.

**Sunday Lunch BBQ and AGM** at Erica Mulder's – 37 Park Road Titirangi (09 817 7499) - BYO Meat & Drinks - and a Salad to be shared

You will get to view Erica's vast collection and multi Miniature Bottle Collections will be for sale which have been acquired by Erica and Peter over the past few months.

We will select the markets for Sunday morning closer to the time based on which ones are operating that weekend. Some of the smaller suburb community hall antique fairs and markets dates have not been announced for 2014. Some usually have miniatures for sale.

If you need accommodation contact Peter for advice: <a href="mailto:peter">peter</a> <a href="mailto:bonkovich@actrix.co.nz">bonkovich@actrix.co.nz</a>

If you want to hold a meeting please let one of the committee know. It's about time we had another one in Christchurch – HINT!