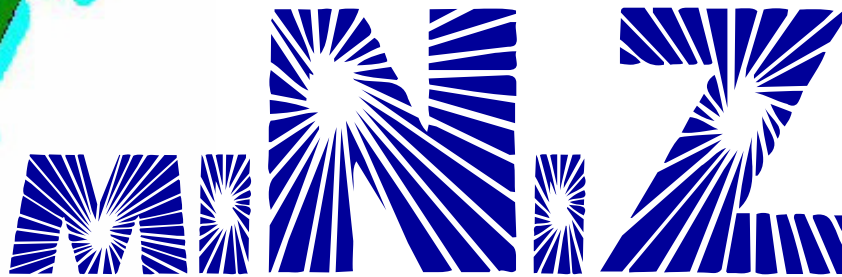
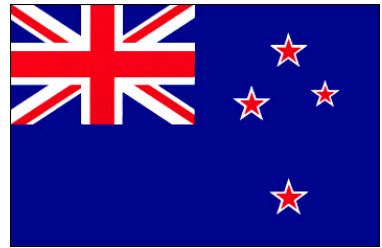


Issue 115

Winter 2017



THE NEWSLETTER OF NEW ZEALAND MINIATURE BOTTLE CLUB



Australasia's only Miniature Bottle Club - www.minisnz.com

NEW NEW ZEALAND, THIS & THAT

The only new NZ bottle I have to show you this time is actually an old one I have not seen before. The cover shows a Havill's mead jug found by Ian Butcher on Paraparaumu market. I thought that I had all of these (other than a few 'one-off' specials) in my collection but I have never seen this one before. Most Havill's meads came in three colours, blue, brown & green, so there may be two variations of this jug out there somewhere.

As I write this I have just returned from nearly 3 months in the US (mainly), Canada & Mexico (briefly). The trip started out in St. Louis for the annual MMBC Mini Bottle Show (a giant sale for those of you not familiar with it). This year the show had very mixed reviews with some collectors thinking it a very good show and others thinking it a poor one. Much depended on what you collected, with this year's show (unusually) being a poor one for collectors of ceramics. Unfortunately I fall into the latter category so I did not end up buying a lot. However, all the shows are great for meeting and catching-up with collectors from around the world.

On my travels I did not seem to buy a lot more minis, apart from during visits to member David Spaid and dealer Harry Goetz. Having said that I accumulated almost 150 in the 3 months and bought a whole pile of frogs for my wife's collection (she joined me for the last 6 weeks). We had to buy four more suitcases to get everything home, all safely I am glad to say. Some of my more unusual purchases are shown below.



The two white dogs are from Dutch company, Hulstkamp, although the pottery is german.

I'm sure all of you have seen the Rynbende Poodle before. I have had



both the black & white in my collection for at least 30 years. However, as with most of these in collections, the heads of my original two face right. This one faces left. All I need now is the left facing white but the left facing poodles are extremely rare



compared to the right facing ones.

On the bottom of the last page are two of at least ten small Manhattan figures, many, the lady included, in the shape of a Toby Jug. These contain 1 oz of cordial and were sold during prohibition. The Manhattan Flamingo dates from the 1930's and is one of the rarest of the ceramic manhattans. So rare in fact that MBL only had a black and white picture until I bought this one.



The Dutch lady is from Wynand Fockink. The lady in Grey is Goebel pottery from Germany. It bears the Lewis & Clark label but I am not sure if this is genuine – does anyone know for sure? The Lady in the Moon is another great bottle from Cava de Oro of Mexico. See David Spaid's article for another great variation of this.



I don't actually collect give-away bottles but I could not resist buying the one on the right for only US\$15. It is mint and complete with stopper.

On the left is a very limited edition Blackfish Bourbon.

This was especially commissioned by Ron Gabbard, the editor of the MMBC newsletter, as a 'thank you' to all those who submitted articles over the previous 12 months.

Again, not what I

normally collect but I have no intention of parting with it. Ron is thinking about doing the same next year – are you thinking about writing an article for one of the club newsletters?



The old Duck on Egg is from Pete Hagen and is the first of several figural glass minis I have to show you. On the next page we start with a (very) old telephone from Dor of Argentina. Even the mini is quite old, although I do not know when it was made. There are a number of versions of this (see Miniature Bottle Library). There are lots of Certosa di Firenze minis but this is the first Oil Lamp I have seen. Probably 1960's or 70's. The Calera Baseball bottle has been around for a couple of years but the stand is new (I think). Strictly speaking this is not



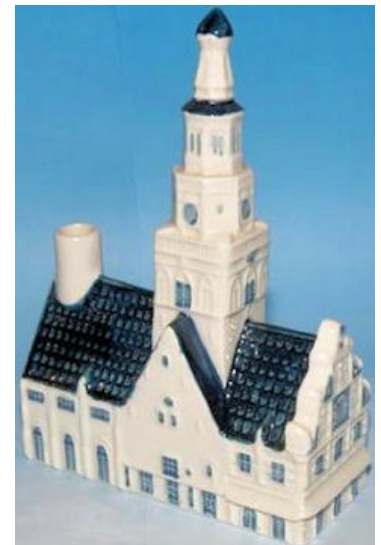
a mini as it is 180ml, however it is no bigger than many minis. The bottle is leather covered glass. The Skull is not old or rare but is one of a set of 8 I bought at the Friday night MMBC auction at the St. Louis show. I thought that these came from the Czech Republic but they were actually made by Campeny of Spain. This one has Blue Vodka in it but each of them has a different spirit and different jewel – see the full set on MBL.



When I was at David Spaid's house he showed me the bottle on the left. This is an extremely rare French bottle from a company called Lassauejeu. See MBL for three more, equally rare.

Whilst 'on the road' I did a lot of tidying/remedial work on MBL (I still have the Themes Indexes to tidy up – they are a mess!). This included numerous emails to and from

collectors who were helping. One directory to be tidied up was KLM. The Waag Building in Alkmaar, The Netherlands was listed as a KLM. My correspondent insisted that this building was never issued by KLM and never filled. He was half right, it was not a KLM 'special' but it was issued, and filled, by De Vreng of Amsterdam.



Member (and Spanish Club President) Luis Campos sent me the photo of the three Rock 'n Roll Guitars. I saw two of these for sale in Las Vegas but did not buy them as we were completely out of our luggage allowance. Such is life!

David Smith

OLD STORE # I

Last month a collector sent me a couple of dozen photos of Busts from Old Store. I decided to use them for an article in this edition but events have made this almost prescient.

The owner of the Old Store brand was Elvio Alessandria who died earlier in July. Elvio's original company, Alpa (micros and Warner Bros), is even better known to miniature collectors than Old Store, a label started to cash in on Scotch collectors. A fact unknown to most collectors is that Alpa also made the mini cans usually identified as from Argentina (as well as Alpa cans of course), and a vast number of (official) Coca Cola mini bottles.

Elvio reputedly also made 'knock-offs' of other Italian company's minis but nothing was ever proved as far as I am aware. He did get into serious legal difficulties with Alpa's Lowenbrau set of cans that were made without permission (as I suspect many more were). The Last project, a series of micro mini magnets of drinks, groceries etc. were not good sellers as they were too expensive (retailing €6.50-€8.00)

You might describe him as a loveable rogue, one that will be missed. RIP Elvio.

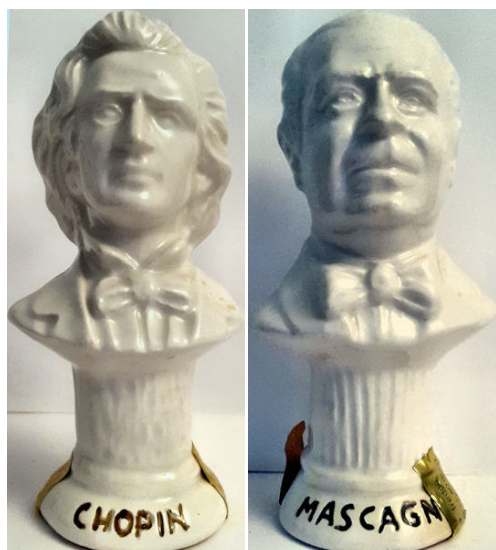
Onto the Old Store Busts.



Abraham Lincoln, Adolf Hitler, Vladimir Lenin, John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King Junior



Pope Giovanni (John) XXIII, Benito Mussolini, Napoleon, Joseph Stalin, Mao Tse Tung



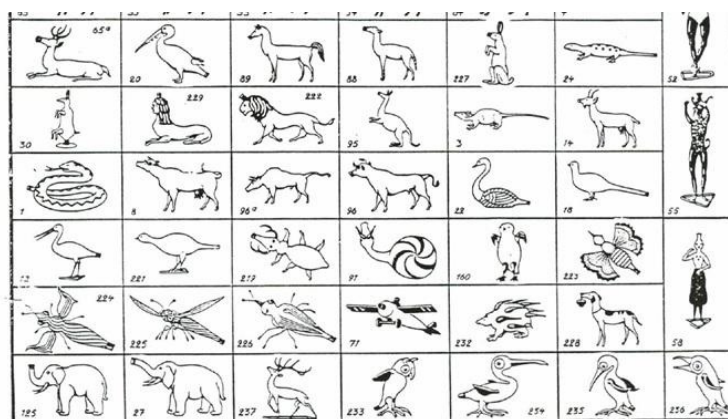
I don't know why Chopin & Mascagni are a different shape, although I suspect that these were 'bought in' and the others made in the in-house pottery. If I am right then Elvio has sold the in-house made bottles to other liquor companies. Some of them have been reported with labels from Borghini, La Reggia, Sassano e Paganini & Zamperoni. Two of these have a bottle, Enrico Berlinguer, that I have not seen with an Old Store label, although I suspect that it exists.



There are a number of known variations with these Old Store Bust bottles – see Miniature Bottle Library for these.

I'll bring you some more Old Store bottles in miNiZ 116.

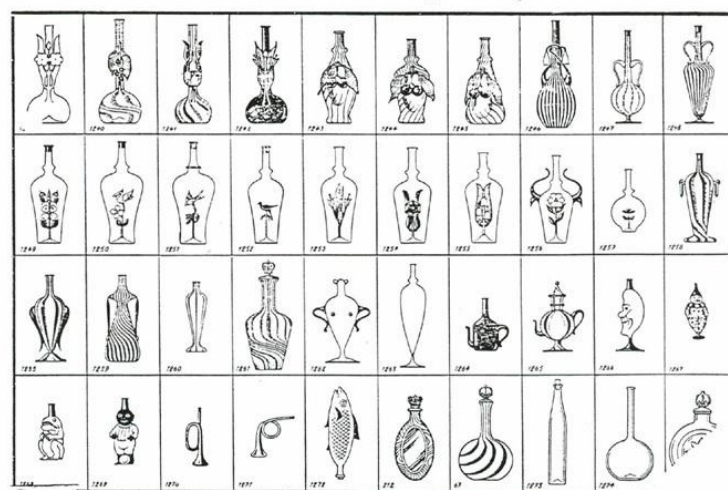
----- *David Smith*



OLD GLASS

Max Trout came from a family of German glass blowers. In 1919, at only 19, he founded his own workshop making hand-blown glass articles. His original market was perfume bottles but many of you will recognise bottles used by Manhattan and others. In the case of Manhattan these were issued during the prohibition era and contained non-alcoholic cordial.

I believe these pages are from a post WW2 catalogue. The first thing many of these companies did after WW2 was get catalogues out and they were invariably full of pre-war designs. Before the war they didn't need catalogues as they used trade fairs and distributors to promote and sell items.

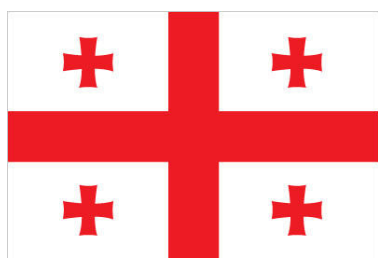


Artikel aus der Produktpalette der Fa. Max Traut

Dominic Pennock & David Smith

(I've Got) Georgia on My Mind

No, not the one with Atlanta in the middle, I have Georgia in Western Asia on my mind.



There are two reasons for this. Firstly David Managadze of Georgia keeps sending me images of Georgian bottles for Miniature Bottle Library. This is of course very much appreciated – hint to the rest of you! Secondly, I came across pictures of two bottles on-line “Bottled for The Georgian Club of Collectors.” I wrote to David asking if there was now a mini bottle club in Georgia or was it a club for all collectables? He wrote back to say that yes they have formed a mini bottle club and it has 25 members. There is no web site yet.

I am going to show you some Georgian glass, both new and old, this time, then some great ceramics in miNiZ116. We will start with the five club bottles.

Chacha is a spirit in many of the bottles you will see from Georgia. Wikipedia describes it as: “Chcha (Georgian: ჭაჭა [tʃɑtʃɑ]) is a Georgian pomace brandy, a clear and strong spirit



(ranging between 40% alcohol for commercially produced to 65% for home brew), which is sometimes called "vine vodka", "grape vodka", or "Georgian vodka/grappa". It is made of grape pomace (grape residue left after making wine). It may be also produced from unripe or wild grapes. Other common fruits or herbs used are figs, tangerines, oranges, mulberries and tarragon.” The 5th bottle

was made for Georgia's independence day on May 26. Georgia became independent from Russia in 1918 in the aftermath of the 1917 Russian revolution. True independence was short lived as the country forcibly became a member of the Soviet Union in 1922. Georgia seceded from the Soviet Union, adopting the Act of Reestablishment of Independence on 9 April 1991.

The first eight bottles come from the Soviet era. Camtpect was Georgia's monopoly exporter so these bottles will have been made in several distilleries. Most of these bottles have writing in three scripts, Georgian, Cyrillic (Russian) and Latin.



Although more modern, you can clearly see the old Soviet influence in the first two Sarajishvili bottles, with later bottles going away from the Camtpect type design. The Sarajishvili wine & brandy company goes back to 1884. It was one of many Georgian brandy companies who called their brandies Cognac until recent years.



Above we start with two vodkas. Matreska is probably the best known vodka from Georgia. BsG, Black Sea Group, make a large range of spirits and wine. The next bottle is a brandy from Kakhetian Traditional Winemaking. The final bottle above is from Elizbar Talakvadze but I do not know what is in it.



The two Kakhuri bottles are very new. Both are filled with Chacha, the first Tarragon and the second Honey. The other two bottles above are also reasonably new and also contain Chacha, this time Grape & Tarragon. Kakhetian Traditional Winemaking is the manufacturer. Tbilisi Brandy on the right is named after the largest city and capital of Georgia.

On the next page we have six clip-top bottles from Vinotheca. All contain 40ml of grape Chacha, the golden ones at 50° and the clear at 70°. I have saved the best for last. Zearis is a bottle in a bottle. The blown glass grapes insert contains red wine. The main, 50ml, bottle contains Chacha. This is a well known arrangement for Hungarian bottles but this is a particularly good example.





As stated at the beginning of this article, there will be more bottles from Georgia in miNiZ116. Ceramics next time.

David Smith



Purple Cow

I had an enquiry recently regarding this bottle. They wanted some information on it such as age, what is in it etc. Can anyone help?

Information to minizv@gmail.com





AUCTION REPORT



A somewhat shorter article this time. We will start with some poor prices.



Clan Dew had the ultimate in poor price, nobody wanted it. The next two 10 year old malts sold for a very disappointing £2 each. The Dufftown Glenlivet is from Diageo/Arthur Bell, HMS Vanguard is from Tim Morrison Fine Wines.



It is probably no surprise that the Sanatogen Tonic Wine (a name I remember from my childhood - David) also only sold for £2. We



would have expected Duniva whisky Liqueur from the 1950's to fetch a little more than the £2 it sold for.

In issue 114 we showed you a 1948 Macallan with a tube. This time we have two 1951's, which were sold in the same auction. Note the huge difference between with and without the tube. With £410, without £300.

Over the page we have some mid-priced Scotch sales. All seem reasonable. The Haig's Gold Label is the only blend, the oldest of this

group and the only one with a spring cap. It sold for £40. Glengoyne 1969 Unfiltered Vintage Reserve sold for £45. The Macallan Cask Strength was imported into the US by Remy America - £105 bought it. The 30 year old Ardbeg was the top seller in this group at £120. This is a merchant bottling by The Whisky Connoisseur.



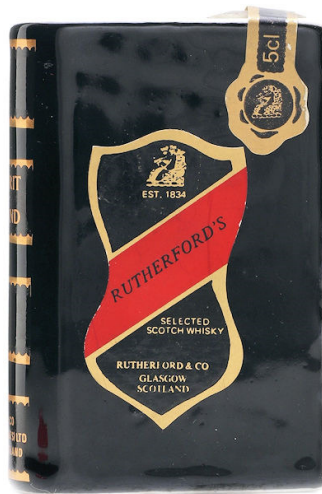
Below is our only Japanese whisky in this issue. Nice bottle but relatively common and this was reflected in the price of £7.



There has been a resurgence in recent years in Gin Distilleries and this is beginning to be reflected in (slightly) higher prices for gin minis. The Gordon's Special Dry London Gin was bottled in the 1950's. Not a perfect example but fairly priced at £8. The Booth's Finest Dry Gin was also bottled in the 1950's. This went for £9 but we fail to see why as the label is very badly faded.

That's it for straights but we will start the ceramics with





some more Scotch. The two Rutherford Bulls sold for a very disappointing £5 for the pair. Incidentally, these were sold as Whisky Cows – neither of us would like to try milking these! The Springbank Books fetched £20 the pair – the bottom end of the range we would have expected. We would also have expected more than £2.50 for the Rutherford Book, which is clearly in mint condition.

Another disappointing seller, at £2.50, was the Pickwick jug featuring Oliver Twist. This may have done poorly as these are usually sold in a set of 8.



The two Scotch crocks were both sold by Trademe in NZ, both have repaired handles and both sold for NZ\$40 each. The Ballantines is a common jug in NZ (although there are variations) and this was reflected in the price of NZ\$33.

Air New Zealand buildings always sell well on Trademe, but no longer for the silly prices they used to. Sales now tend to be in the NZ\$40-80 price range with this one, 56 Marine Parade, selling for NZ\$65



The Miniature of the "De Hooiberg" Brewery and the 1935 Cellar Building (and possibly one more we cannot track down) were made to celebrate 150 years of Heineken. These were made in 2014 by Royal Goedewaagen but are not filled. The Brewery sold on Trademe for NZ\$16.99, a very, very disappointing amount until you realise that 86,000 of these have been made. However this is still the least we can find that any of these has sold for, prices ranging from £15 – US\$75. We cannot find any instances of sales of the Cellar Building.



Finally we have two Cognac's sold via a Facebook site. Facebook is becoming the sales space of choice for many collectors and when you see these prices it's no wonder why.



The Remy Martin Centaure Royal sold for €389 after 19 bids. The Remy Martin Centaure Extra sold for €607 after 19 bids.

David Smith & Peter Bonkovich

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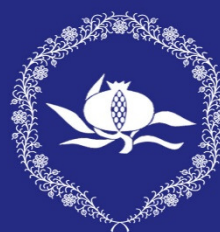
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Miniature Safari Samples

These bottles are from Goto of Japan. Goto was a pottery manufacturer who supplied many well known 'American' ceramics. They also had some bottles filled in Japan and sold them under their own name. As far as I am aware the seven shown here are all samples supplied to an unknown US liquor company. I have just bought the Lion from Harry Goetz (found by searching his storerooms!) and bought the other six from him at the St. Louis show three years ago. They were all originally in the fabulous collection of Adrian Carr.



David Smith

PROHIBITION MINIS

I was recently in Las Vegas with my wife, Rosie, and club president, Colin Ryder and his wife Dianne. We were there for the 40th birthday party of Colin & Di's daughter, Angela. It was HOT, damned HOT! To escape the heat the four of us decided to go to the Mob Museum. This is well worth a visit (especially during the heat of the day) and a bonus was that we found some genuine bootleg minis from the US Prohibition era, 1920-1933. An added bonus was that photography was allowed (not that that would normally stop me).

As an aside, did you know that New Zealand narrowly voted for prohibition in 1919? There were (sober) celebrations until the votes of the troops still in Europe following WW1 were counted. These votes were very heavily against Prohibition (no surprise there) and tipped the balance to a no vote. Phew!

There are 10 minis in the museum, although 3 are duplicates. These are about 75ml and bear the name Horting's. Horting's was a whiskey distiller and seems to have officially only been in existence until 1909. But it appears The Mob used the name on some of the booze it supplied to speakeasy's and other illegal outlets and, as you can see, not only whiskey.

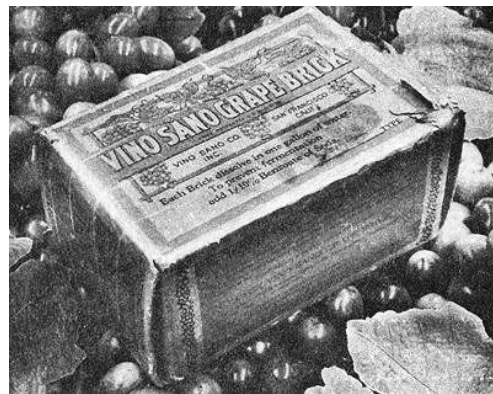


In fact, not even whiskey. The labels are hard to read, as far as I can make out they are:

???? Blackberry Brandy,
Fine Berlin Kummel, Fine
Malt Gin, Newton Grape
Wine, Pure Jamaica Rum,
Pure Old Port Wine & Fine
Ginger Brandy. I'm sure
there were more and
wonder whether any are still
in existence anywhere.



Whilst researching Hortings/Prohibition I came across a brick of dehydrated grape juice used to surreptitiously make wine in the days of Prohibition. The Vino Sano Grape Brick (circa 1930) is thought to be one of the last few in existence. It is on display at the Ontario Museum of History & Art.



These 'bricks' of dehydrated grape juice became popular when the production of wine was banned under Prohibition, with the bricks able to be officially dissolved in water to make grape juice, or unofficially fermented to make wine.

Grape growers had to be able to maintain deniability that their product could be used to produce alcohol. To get around this, winemakers ensured that their grape bricks carried a warning not to leave it in water for too long in case it should begin fermenting and turn to wine! The warning in fact also served as an instruction manual, specifically advising the buyer "not to leave that jug in the cool cupboard for 21 days, or it would turn into wine".

In August 1927, Vino Sano owner Karl Offer was prosecuted by anti-alcohol officials who claimed "in most cases they (grape bricks) have been used to make wine." However a jury acquitted Offer, along with several other similar cases.



Apart from Whiskey, Bathtub Gin was the drink of choice during Prohibition. The quality was very variable to say the least. The best was made from ethyl alcohol and botanicals, the worst being made from methyl alcohol (makes you go blind) or with added battery acid! I cannot find any genuine bathtub gin minis but Miniature Bottle Library has two modern 'joke' bathtub gins shown.



The Frontier is from New Year's Eve, 1989 and the Beefeater maybe a decade older.

You can still buy so called bathtub gin in full size bottles but as far as I am aware none of these are produced in miniature. I'd be happy to be proved wrong.



David Smith

Minis New To Us

At a recent club meeting we got David to photograph bottles that the two of us had picked up recently.



David says on page two that there is only one new NZ bottle to show you this time – he forgot about these four. Before these, Thompson whisky was actually the remaining malt from the now defunct Wilson's

Distillery. It had to run out sometime and clearly it has (see labels).



Ocean Organic Vodka is from Hawaii. Cricino is an older liqueur from Italy. Haymans London Dry Gin is from England and bears a NZ importer's label. Le Grand Saint Sparkling Vodka is from France. Ole Smoky Moonshine in the small jar is from the USA. Woody Creek Colorado Vodka (next page) is made from potatoes (what else in Colorado?). Vodquila is a mixture of.... (guess) that was



made by Red Eye Louie's in Alabama, USA. Twenty Grand Apple Vodka is made by Three Springs Bottling Company of Kentucky. Sauza Hornitos Reposado Tequila is the first of 11 we have to show you. The four 3J are a real classy set of Tequilas, and the Excellia are



pretty nice as well. The three Didtinot Tequilas are at the cheaper end, note the bent bottle. But at least they aren't plastic!

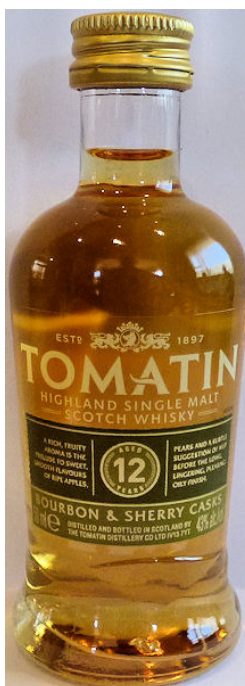
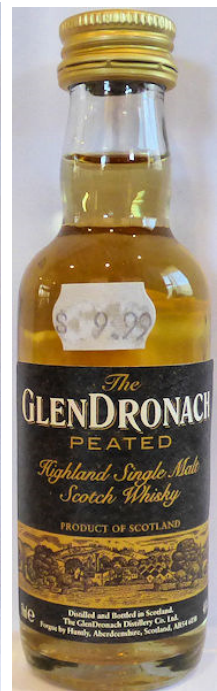
It's about time we had some whisk(e)y. The set of three Teeling Irish Whiskeys is quite new. Also shown is the back of the Small Batch bottle, the other two being almost identical. With the year and batch numbers being printed on every bottle there are lots of variations of Amrut Single Malt Indian Whisky.



Next up, 13 Scotch which will largely speak for themselves.



Starting the next page we have Pure Scot with an Australian importer's label and Chivas Regal with an Australian & New Zealand importer's label.



We finish with an American Small Batch Whiskey from The Hardware Distillery Co and a Cowslip Wine from England's Lyme Bay Winery.

We both promise (threaten?) to do this again sometime.

Ken Chin & Ian Butcher

Bottle Hunting in the Pacific Northwest

Ron Gabbard



We found Dry County Distillery in Marysville, Washington. That is about 45 minutes north of Seattle. At first they produced their bottles like the top two. On the left is Dry County Joe a coffee flavored Rum and to the right is kkAda Sutra a liqueur they originally bottled for another distiller in the area (the distiller has since started bottling it themselves....in plastic). Another "problem" with the kkAda Sutra was it was selling for \$8. Now for a collector \$8 for a vodka or whiskey is not a big deal, but for collectors (that many times shy away from liqueurs) \$8 is not as easy to swallow. Dry county then changed their bottles to the ones below. They offer Copper Still Vodka, Key Lime Pie, Hot Spiced Rum, Black Anise, Cinnamon Toast Rum and Apple Pie.

Till Next time, Happy Hunting.



DAVID'S BOTTLES

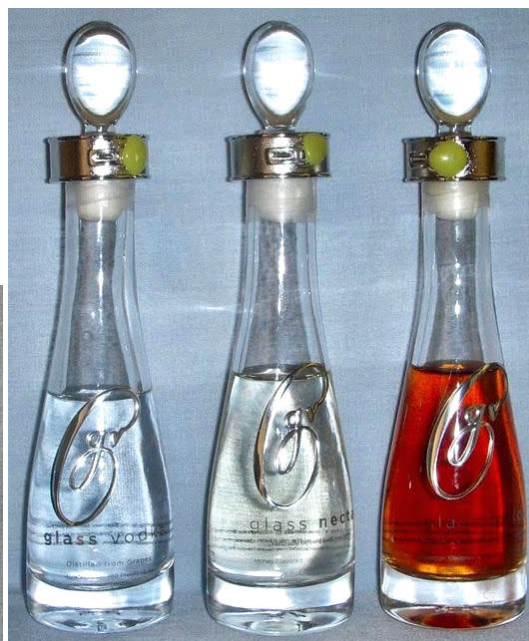


I have over 40 minis to show you this time, many from Mexico but a good sprinkling from throughout the world.

On the left is one of my favourite bottles in recent years. The lady in the moon is from Cava de Oro, a company that has brought us some truly great minis in the last few years. The retail price is shown on this photo. 699 Pesos is about US\$39.70 (NZ\$53.20) Mexican ceramics are no longer cheap. On the right is Mar-Mix, a citrus Tequila liqueur.



G-Vine, from the Cognac Region of France, is a name that has been around a few years for their signature Gin. The three bottles shown on the right are a completely new shape and contain Vodka, Nectar & unknown.

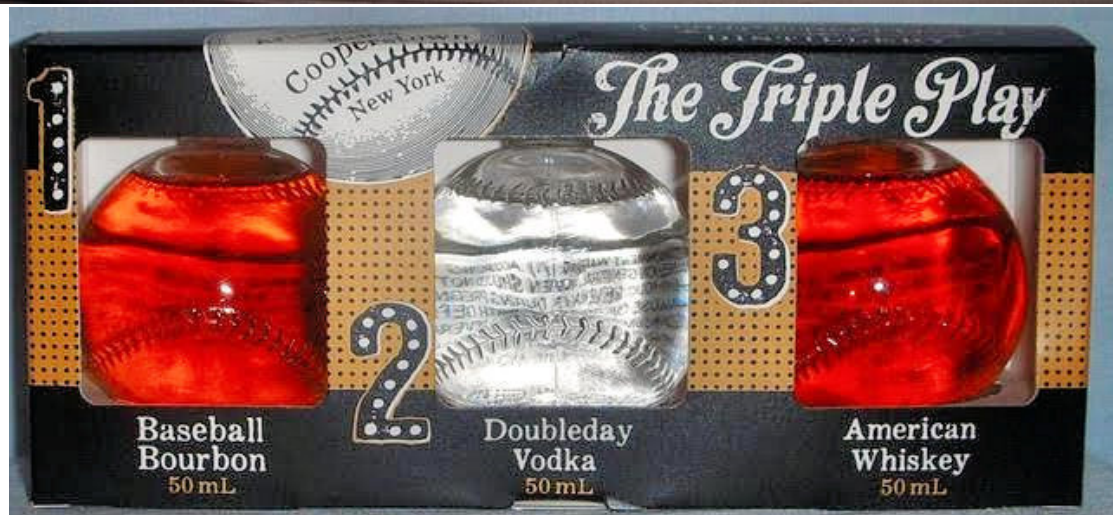


East London Liquor Company made the three London Dry Gins.



On the left is Alacran (scorpion in Spanish) tequila with a scorpion in the bottle. Not the first mini with a scorpion inside (Scorpion Vodka comes to mind) but a nice addition to the collections of those of you who collect minis with 'things' in them.

On the next page we start with three sets. Previous Tres Mujeres bottles had glass caps, the new ones are wooden. The set



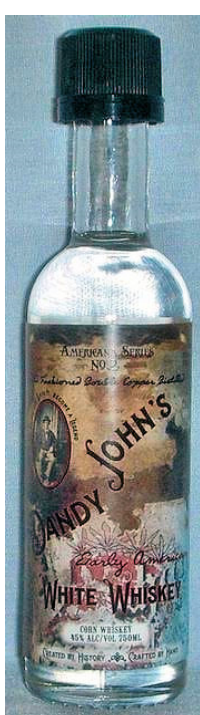
of five gins is from Filliers of France. The bottles are not new but previously the three Baseballs came separately packed.



Azteca Tequila is made by Eucario Gonzales. All those shown contain Tequila Anejo, 50ml, 38%. I believe that there are many more of these.

Sticking with Mexico shown are

Borrosito and Gem & Bolt. The first Borrosito Mezcal, at 125ml, is not strictly a miniature. Gem & Bolt is Mezcal with Damiana added. Damiana is an aromatic flower native to Mexico. Liverpool Vodka is made from potatoes.



Lovely Rita Tequila Silver is a completely new name to me. Dutchcraft Vodka continues the tradition of white spirits from The Netherlands. Finally I have two new US bottles to report, Dandy John's White Whiskey and Bubba's Secret Stills brown spice liqueur. The Old Pulteney is a new label for this well known Scotch.



Anaya is yet another set of Tequila's – Blanco, Reposado, Anejo and Extra Anejo.

More next time.

David Spaid

I'M SURE OTHER MEMBERS ARE FINDING NEW
BOTTLES. PLEASE SEND US PHOTOS FOR MINIZI16

WINES #5B – PORTUGAL

Port wine (Vinho do Porto) is usually simply known as Port. By EU law it is a fortified wine produced exclusively in the Douro Valley in northern Portugal. However you do still find fortified wines labelled as Port from elsewhere in the world. Most Ports are sweet and most are made from red wine but neither is true 100% of the time.

I love Port, although as a diabetic I have to be very careful as to how much I drink. Back in 2005 British drinks company, Allied Domecq, agreed to a £7.4bn takeover by Pernod Ricard of France and Fortune Brands (Jim Beam – now Beam Suntory) of the USA.



The London head office of the company I then worked for won the job of valuing all the assets Fortune Brands was to end up with. London seconded me to manage the Plant & Machinery valuation side of the job. I brought two colleagues with me from NZ and assigned them to value all the Domecq assets along the Doro. They were treated to three hour lunches every day in the Port lodges. Not a lot of work was done in the afternoons!

Scottish brothers Robert & John Cockburn, who were already successful wine merchants in Leith near Edinburgh, set up a branch of their firm in Porto in 1815. Shown are a 1993 LBV (Late Bottled Vintage) and the curiously named, Dry Tang. Unfortunately the LBV is plastic. I promise it is the only one I will show you. A Croft Original is shown with a US importer's label. Founded in 1588 by Henry Thompson, the company went through a succession of mergers and names, eventually becoming Croft. It is the oldest firm still active today as a Port producer, although it did not have premises in Portugal until 1654.



The Delaforce family is of Huguenot origin. The House of Delaforce was founded in Oporto in 1868. Our first bottle is a 'His Eminence's Choice' Superb Old Tawny with a lead seal. Next is a White Port. Dow's Port was taken over in 1877 by a company that dates from 1798,



being founded in London by a Portuguese man, Bruno da Silva. Dow's Port had such a good reputation that the company name was changed to this. Midnight Port is our first bottle, a 1984 Late Bottled Vintage the second.

Fonseca dates from 1815, although it was not until 1840 that their first Vintage Port was issued. Shown are a Medium Tawny, Special Tawny (note the rip cap, unusual for Port) and a



White. Graham's Port was founded in Oporto in 1820 and is still a family owned company. Shown are Six Grapes Reserve and 1996 Late Bottled Vintage. Founded in 1680 by Thomas Dawson, Quarles Harris is amongst the oldest Port shippers still in existence. Their shipment of 98 pipes of Port in 1689 is the oldest recorded shipment by a firm still trading today. Shown is their Royal Club. I am not sure if the wax seal is genuine.



Quinta do Infantado was established in 1816 but until the 1970's they sold their wine to Taylor's and other big Port companies. Shown

is a Tawny Demi-Sec. Kopke is a name I had never heard of until writing this article. It was founded by a German father & son, Christiano & Nicolau Kopke in 1638. The company was bought by Sogevinus Group in 2006. Sogevinus Group also own the Burmester, Cálem and Barros Port Wine houses. Shown is a Varsity Full Ruby Port. The house of MacKenzie was founded in 1852 by Kenneth Mackenzie, a sherry shipper from Cadiz. Last time I looked Cadiz was in Spain not Scotland! A Tawny Port is shown and, again, I suspect that the wax seal is not original.



Caves Messias was founded in 1926 by Messias Baptista, making it one of the newer Port companies. Shown are a Ruby & a White Dry. The name Quinta do Noval first appeared in land registers in the year 1715. Shown are a 20 year old Tawny and Fine white Port. Niepoort has been owned by the Niepoort family since being founded in 1842. Shown is a Junior Tawny Port. Pocas Junior was started in 1918 by Manoel Domingues Poças Junior. It is still family owned. A Brigs Branco Seco Port is shown.

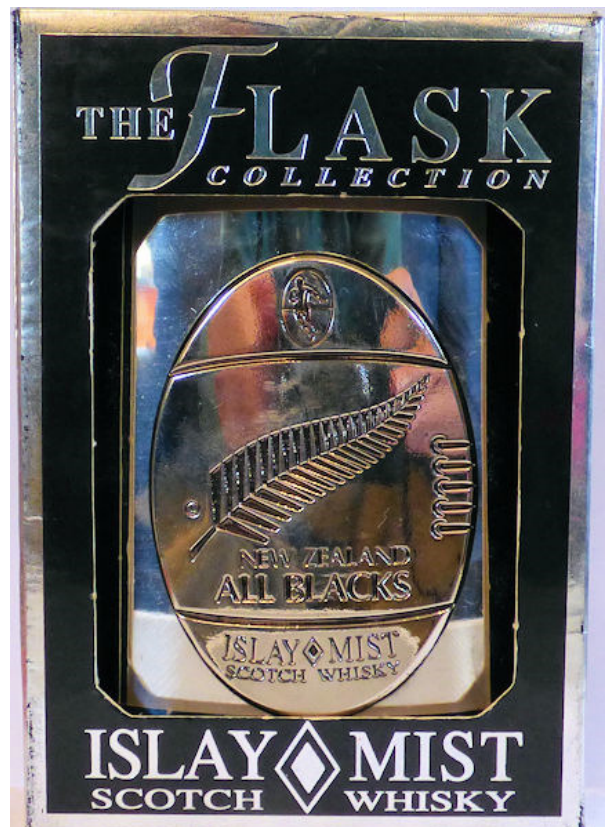
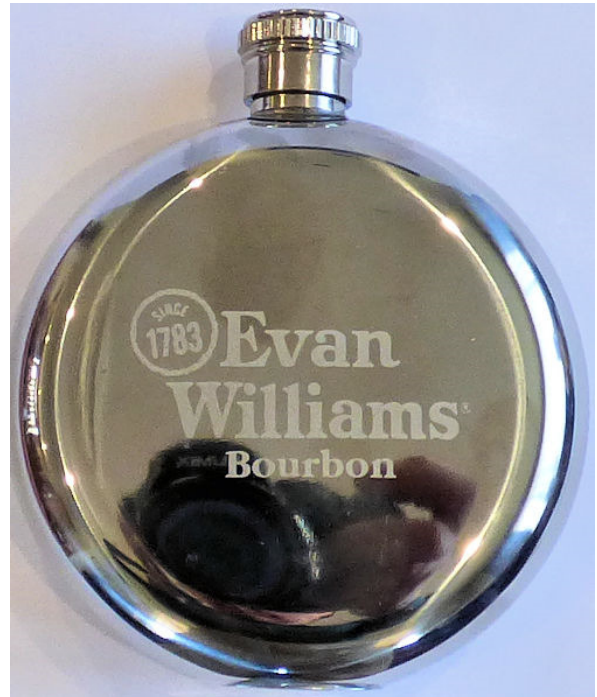


Founded in London in 1737 by William Offley, initially as wine merchants, Offley was soon exporting wines and later began to produce its own Port Wine. Shown are two Duke of Oporto Ruby Ports. Founded in Bordeaux in 1855, by Ostende Rozès, a fine wine merchant from that city, Rozès started by importing and marketing Port Wine. Vranken Pommery Monopole Group have owned the brand since 1977. A Tawny is shown.

There will be a third Port article in miNiZ116

David Smith

Stainless Steel Flasks



Not miniatures, as Stainless Steel and Pewter Flasks are rarely sold with liquor in them. However they are very collectable and I am happy to display mine with my miniature Scotch & Bourbon collection. My favourite is the Islay Mist All Blacks Flask.

Ken Chin

Last Call For Mini Bottles?

(from the Wall Street Journal)

By JENNIFER LEVITZ

Yvette Meunier, a scientist and avid bicyclist, last year took it upon herself to chronicle an increasing trash menace in Maine, those little liquor bottles, typical of minibars and airplanes.

Along her regular 8.4-mile path from Augusta to Gardiner, she decided to stop, note and photograph every discarded tiny bottle. She placed her GPS device next to each one to document its location. "In no way did I want it to look like I was planting any of this stuff," she said.

She tossed each mini into a bag tied by bungee cord to the back of her bike. "It was the

worst bike ride ever," she said, of the frequent stops to collect used bottles. "I was about four hours in when I called it quits."

Nonetheless, diligent mapping of her data concluded she collected 9.4 mini liquor bottles per mile, versus 2.3 "5-Hour Energy" drinks per mile and 1.25 milk containers per mile, she said.

She lugged her bounty earlier this year to a State House hearing (except the milk cartons, which "were a little raunchy," she said). Ms. Meunier presented the evidence to law-

makers and spoke in favor of a plan to slap a deposit on the bottles to inspire consumers

to return them for refunds. A bill requiring a five-cent deposit was passed in May by Maine's Democratic-controlled House and Republican-led Senate.

That's when things got nippy. Gov. Paul LePage, a Republican, vetoed the legislation, initially calling the deposit on minis an "antibusiness vote." Lawmakers overrode his veto, as they often do in Maine.

Now, in a move that has shaken and stirred many Mainers, the governor is trying to boot mini liquor bottles off shelves. He cited increased costs to businesses and the state to expand the existing bottle-recycling program.

Opponents point out a ban would also be unfriendly to businesses, yet Mr. LePage isn't backing down. State regulators said in a report Friday that taking away tiny bottles won't substantially affect state liquor revenue because fans will likely simply "transition to a larger container."

Mr. LePage has also argued the deposit doesn't address the root of the problem—people

chugging "the little nips," as the bottles are often dubbed, in cars and then flinging them out windows to get rid of the proof. "There is no possible way any deposit is going to get people to save the evidence," he said in a May interview with WGAN news radio in Maine.

Mr. LePage's office said he had no updated remarks beyond his May public statement and radio interview.

Maine has a history of being on the rocks with booze—it became the first state to officially go dry in 1851, long before the 1920 start of the federal Prohibition, which ended in 1933. Maine wasn't a teetotaler all those years but it was "more dry than wet," said Earle Shettleworth, a historian in Maine. But the latest brawl surprises minibottle fans from imbibers to artists.

"It does seem like a pretty big stretch over such a tiny thing, quite literally," said Whitney Gill, an assistant manager at the Maine Crafts Association. Local artists use pocket-size booze bottles to make funky wreaths, chess sets and salt-and-pepper shakers.

Little liquor bottles once mostly livened flights and hotel

stays. These days they are surging as manufacturers market them as a low-cost way to sample alcohol.

Maine is one of 17 states that directly controls the supply of liquor, selling wholesale.

Maine sold 9.8 million minibottles to retail establishments in the 12 months ending in late May, up 52% from the previous 12 months. These kinds of sales would offset costs off a deposit program,



Maine's governor is calling for a ban on mini liquor bottles.

proponents say.

Maine's hottest seller is a mini version of Fireball Cinnamon Whisky (its slogan is "Tastes like heaven, burns like hell"), the director of Maine's liquor bureau testified in a February hearing.

Boosters say the wee servings, which can be had for 99 cents, are convenient and promote responsible portions, while critics say discarded minis blight the landscape.

Currently, proposed Massachusetts legislation titled "An Act Promoting the Proper Disposal of Miniatures" would put a five-cent deposit on little bottles. More than 1,000 supporters signed a petition titled "Nip the Nip."

The Distilled Spirits Council of the United States, a trade association, opposes crackdowns on miniatures in Massachusetts and Maine, saying bottle-deposit laws crimp consumer choice.

Maine Republican State Rep. Susan Austin wore two lapel pins, handmade from teensy bottles she had collected from roadways during one of her daily walks, to the State House hearing, where she supported the deposit bill.

Ms. Austin also brought a bag of 40 or so of the miniatures. Each had been washed, laid out by her wood stove to dry, and then categorized by condition, including "roadkill" for the particularly mangled.

"I offer specimen A as evidence," she testified, as she exhibited her inventory. Ms. Austin has since made a necklace out of the little bottles.

State Sen. Thomas Saviello, a Republican, said the castoffs aren't a reason to cease sales of minibottles because people chuck beer cans from windows, too. "Don't just pick on the nips," he said.

On July 11, at the governor's request, the State Liquor & Lottery Commission will hold a public meeting on whether to "delist" 50-milliliter-size spirits currently available for purchase. The commission, whose five members are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate, will make the final decision.

Ms. Meunier, the cyclist who documented the littered roadways, hopes it isn't last call. She backs the bottle deposit and wants the tiny bottles off the road, but not out of Maine.

"I like putting them in my Christmas stockings," she said.

Going free is Paying Off

All of you will be aware that club membership became free earlier this year. Since then we have gained **34 new members**. **A VERY warm welcome to you all.**

A reminder to all club members, you must let us know if you change your email address as, in many cases, it is the only way we have of contacting you.

The club still has a sale on of our bottle stocks. Prices have been slashed – have a look: <http://www.minisnz.com/pnmbcforsale.html> The site should be up-to-date but we apologise in advance if anything you want is no longer available.

Date - Time - Place

Sunday 17th September, 12.30, Pot Luck Lunch @ Ian Butcher's, 5 Sunburst Court, Paraparaumu

Sunday 12th November, 12.30, Pot Luck Lunch @ Errol & Karen's, 14 Tawa Terrace, Tawa, Wellington

Sunday 7th January 2018, 6.00, Annual Barbeque @ David & Rosie Smith's, 11 Trevor Terrace, Paremata,

The 2018 AGM will be on the 18th February. There will be a barbecue lunch starting at 12.30 with the AGM about 2.30 @ Colin & Di Ryder's, 20 Prospect Terrace, Johnsonville

Thank You

Hopefully you will agree that we have a miNiZ to be proud of this time. You will note the different contributors (There have been issues I have written entirely myself!). As editor my sincere thanks to all who have contributed. And thanks in advance to all those new members who are going to contribute something, anything, to miNiZ116.

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