

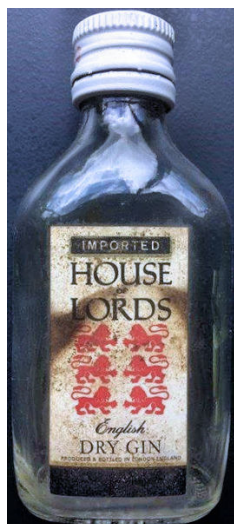
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THE NEWSLETTER OF NEW ZEALAND MINIATURE BOTTLE CLUB



NEW NEW ZEALAND, THIS & THAT

I have only a couple of New New Zealanders to show you in this edition. Both were found by Erica Mulder. The first is, of course, the Broken Heart Gin. This was made by Broken Heart Spirits of Queensland. The second is an NZ import bottle from Lithuania, Ozone Crispy Hemp Vodka.



Talking of Erica Mulder, she sent me a couple of Trademe auction results that I forgot to include in the Auction Report. Both are in the 'surely people are not that stupid' category. Like Ebay in most of the world now, Trademe does not allow the sale of full bottles. Why would anyone pay \$20 for an empty House of Lords Gin? Wilsons Whisky 'DISCOVER THE SPIRIT OF NEW ZEALAND' 3 Pack Display of Miniatures said the listing. Excellent Condition Bottles are now empty. Start price \$100.00, Buy Now \$110.00. Not surprising it didn't sell but it was relisted; Start price \$75.00, no surprise, once again it didn't sell. By the way, this set was originally

purchased, full, from Erica & Peter's website – for far less than \$110 of course! <http://www.westiewhisky.com/>



Member Jim Crawford shooter@fuse.net posted this bottle on Facebook and asked if anybody knows what country it is from. Can you help? I can say for certain that the writing bottom left is the number 94232 in Arabic, however, a number of languages use what is basically Arabic Script. The D tells me this bottle was made for the French market, among other countries that is could also have been sold in. *This was answered before I finalised miNiZ – Lebanon.*

With my Miniature Bottle Library hat on I get sent photographs of bottles new and old, some good photos, some terrible, and the occasional surprise. One of those is above. The White & Mackay bottle in a matchbox was made by Cumbrae Supply. It is not rare but at, maybe, 40 years old, the condition is exceptional. It could have come out of the factory yesterday.

I also spend a bit of time on-line looking for new/old/unusual mini photos for MBL. A few are



ROCKETS

"This is Mission Control Auckland." Who would have thought you'd ever hear that? This was a Tweet from a Kiwi in awe of the achievements of Peter Beck and his company, Rocketlab. I could not let the achievement of NZ putting four satellites into space go without doing an article on Rocket miniatures. I was 6 years old when the world's first satellite, Sputnik I was launched and was immediately hooked. I never expected to get into space myself (and still don't) but you can always dream.

Peter Beck had a dream and had the technical knowhow and drive to make that dream come true. His dream was not to compete with the likes of Space-X but to make satellite launches affordable. The rocket bodies are made of carbon fibre, a technique that NZ companies developed for the Americas Cup yachts. The engines are 3D printed and the fuel delivery is unique, both developed by Peter Beck. The company plans to do one launch a month this year and two a month next year from their NZ launch site and also have launch facilities at Cape Canaveral and on the US west coast.



The three satellites that Rocketlab put into orbit cost US\$5M each to launch, a small fraction of the cost to launch on any other rocket. Yes I just said three and above I said four. That is because the fourth one was built by Peter Beck himself and launched for free. A photograph of the satellite and Peter Beck are on the left. Called "Humanity Star" it is a polygonal carbon-fibre sphere consisting of 65 panels that reflect sunlight as it spins. It is visible from Earth with the naked eye and will

be the brightest thing in the night sky for about 9 months before burning up in the atmosphere. "The goal is to make people look up and realize they are on a rock in a giant universe," Beck said in a statement.

About time we had some miniatures, although there are surprisingly few on a rocket or space theme. On the right is a very poor photo of a rocket on the launch pad. This is a Russian ceramic but was bottled by Global Whisky & Spirits of Germany.

Starting the next page are 4 rockets by Austrian company, Casali and a Slovignac brandy made by a Czech company. Rounding up the top of the next page is a rocket from Portugal but I do not know the maker. Do you?

I had to include Carol's Stardust from Dug's Brothel Series, one of my favourite bottles. It's not long since the next bottle featured in miNiZ, so suffice to say it is Arbeg Galileo, complete with capsule.





The first Robot is from Ida and shows a rocket launch, the second from Casa Vinicola Boccaccio shows a rocket orbiting Earth and the final robot, from Sassano e Paganini, shows the Moon landing.

If you know of any more in the 'Space' category, please let me know minizv@gmail.com

David Smith



AUCTION REPORT



I will start off with some Scotches but first a plug and appeal. I have finished inputting Scotch for Miniature Bottle Library but am now doing corrections and processing several thousand images that have accumulated over the last year I have been working on Scottish bottles. I am also adding a lot of better photos. Hopefully I will be finished before the end of February. I will send out an email when complete and after that, let me know if you find any errors.

Now the appeal. The first auction item includes a personalised Spey Royal. I had at least a dozen of these in the 80's when I was a general collector but I only have photos of two on MBL. If you have any please send me photos ASAP so they can be included.





The two Spey Royal went for a mere £2 the pair, as did The observer Corps pair, as did the Bell's Islander pair. The three Findlaters sold for £2 the three, as did the three King James. We appear to

be getting into a pattern here and, indeed, the two King William also sold for £2. So what about the 11 Eaglesome 12 year old vatted malts? You guessed it, £2! I bet the seller was really pissed off! Blends have not been selling well generally at the on-line auctions but I was astounded at the sale price of the Eaglesome malts.



We go from one end of the spectrum to the other. The set on the left is the Diageo Limited Release 2017. Note that these are all single malts with the exception of Collectivum XXVIII which is a vatted malt from all Diageo's Scotch distilleries. There have also been sets like this in 2015 & 2016. The set sold for £370



Islay Mist from Laphroaig fetched an exceptional price for a blend, £160. There are few miniatures from Imperial distillery, the Malt for the Millennium being the only one I know of, assuming it is an owner bottling. It was made for Gall & Gall of Amsterdam and sold for £75. Ardbeg Supernova made £60. The top sale price in the Whisky Auction (UK) January auction was £625 for the 10 year old spiral label Macallan. Clearly the buyer (and under bidders) did not know what they were buying. This is not a distillery or owner bottling. The spiral label bottles were made by Atkinson Baldwin & Co – see Miniature Bottle Library for 8 different ones from 7 distilleries. The box should have been a dead giveaway, a company like Macallan would never sell bottles in a box that has been overwritten by hand.



The four The Clansman 'Family' malts sold for £14. I saw these on sale, new, in Gretna

Green two years ago at £5.99 each so these were a good buy. The two Hedges & Butler Royal blend minis sold for £20, a good price for two blends. However, if you think that £10 was a good price for a blend, check out the first bottle below. The Buchanans 12 year old liqueur blend dates from 1938 and fetched an incredible £360 – even with two bits of label torn off! The Convalmore 16 year old single malt was bottled by Master of Malt. It too sold for £360. The 26 year old Macallan is an owner bottling. This sold for a respectable £130. The final Scotch this time is another owner bottling, the Dalmore 8yo Highland malt. I was surprised to see it sell for £410.



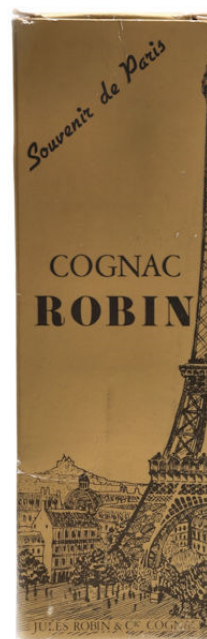
It's about time we had something other than Scotch.



Rums seem to be going through a mini (no pun intended) revival at present. Rums that would have not sold at all or for a minimum bid now are selling a bit better generally. Cabana sold for £7, Lambs and Lime Grove for £9 each and Pop-Eye for £12. On the next page the Fine Old Jamaica also sold for £12 with the Lambs being another £9 bottle. The Yates's Rum & Brandy sold poorly at £2, as did the old lead cap Lindisfarne, also £2.



The two Valley 9 Korean Whiskies sold for £14. Noah's Mill Bourbon by KBD sold for a high £40 and the Old Taylor did astoundingly better at £85.



The Jules Robin 3* Cognac sold for a mere £8, much less than the A\$25 I paid for mine in Sydney in the 1990's. Elixir Vegetal is another French bottle. I have no idea why it sold for £35. Finally, the Gordons Lemon Gin auctioned for £5.

Send me any interesting auction results you spot for miNiZ118



David Smith

Bottle Hunting in the Pacific Northwest

Ron Gabbard



This time I ventured a little outside of the Pacific Northwest. Like many of you when I go on a Holiday, I spend some time looking for new bottles for my collection (and for other collectors too). Unlike many of you, sometimes I go to an extreme. This years Vacation was to Yellowstone National Park. It is only a 12 hour drive from my place to West Yellowstone Montana where we were staying. First and Foremost, Yellowstone is magnificent place, from the wildlife, Waterfalls and thermal features (geysers, Hot springs, mud pools etc.) It is a place I would highly recommend visiting. But for us bottle collectors there are no Mini bottles to be found. An Hour or so out of West Yellowstone was a small distillery, Willies Distillery but they had only plastic bottles (and we would have had to wait an hour for them to open so I passed on it.)

However 6 1/2 hours away (and only a 5 hour detour for us on the way home) close to Glacier National Park (another very scenic area) is Glacier Distilling Company. They operate out of The Whiskey Barn in Coram, Montana. Getting the bottles I wanted was a bit of an adventure. I called ahead to see what they had in Glass Minis. 4 choices, 3 whiskies and an Unaged spirit (Glacier Dew) plus another infused unaged spirit in plastic. (Mule Kick) I was able to talk



the production supervisor into bottling the Mule Kick in glass for me. Then came the next obstacle, Since they are a "tasting bar" Montana State Law limits the amount of Alcohol they can sell to a person per day. The number of bottles I wanted would exceed that, so they had to presell them to me before I got there, ringing up separate charges on 3 separate days. The 5 hours of driving was scenic (and lucky for me I have a wife who puts up with my crazy bottle hunting ideas). Although this is a fairly small distillery they put out a wide range of products.



In Addition to the 5 Minis (Everweed Cherry Bourbon Whiskey, Wheatfish Single Malt Whiskey, North Fork Rye Whiskey, Glacier Dew (unaged Spirit) and Mule Kick (Glacier dew Infused with Jalapenos, garlic and peppercorn) they produce 2 other whiskeys, Apple and Pear Brandy, a Grappa, Kirschwasser, and Slivovitz.

But wait that's not all, they also produce a Vodka , Gin, and Rum, 3 different Liqueurs, A huckleberry flavored Gin and an Absinthe. They are not sure what (if any) of these additional products will make there way to minis but they plan on keeping in touch with me and letting me know of any new arrivals. (that's what happen when you drive 5 hours out of your way to pick up over 100 mini bottles from a random small distillery)



So if your travels take you to the Glacier National Park Area, Enjoy the Scenery, Maybe do a little fishing , or take an excursion along the river and Stop by the Whiskey Barn. You can pick up a few Minis and sample some of there other products too. You can even stop by to see me too (If you don't mind an 8 hour (one way) side trip).



TUN TAVERN



The Tun Tavern and brewery in Philadelphia was founded in 1686 by Josh Carpenter, a Quaker, on the road that led to Carpenter's Wharf on the Delaware.

Then, as now, taverns and pubs were handy local meeting places and among the Tun Tavern's other claims to fame is that it was the first places to host the inaugural meeting of the Grand Lodge of the Masonic Temple of Philadelphia, in 1732. It was also home to the Societies of St George and St Andrew, charitable organisations set up to

aid needy arrivals to the New World from England and Scotland respectively.

During the American War of Independence the tavern played an important role in the political and military foundations of the nascent American state – Philadelphia being the headquarters of the Continental Congress. George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and the Congress met at the tavern on at least one occasion – and Benjamin Franklin had drummed up the Pennsylvania Militia there some 20 years earlier to fight the French and their Indian allies coming down from Canada.

On 10 November 1775, the Second Continental Congress gave a commission to Samuel Nicholas to raise two battalions of marines for service aboard the ships of the new American



Navy. Nicholas was a mason of the temple that met at the Tun Tavern and established his recruiting headquarters there. The new Marine battalions first saw action at the Battle of Nassau on 4 January 1776.

The Tun Tavern burnt down in 1781 and so did not survive the War of Independence. It's former site is now occupied by Interstate 95.

The bottles shown are both from W. A. Lacy and contain Bourbon. The second one was especially commissioned by the US Marines.



David Smith

SCOTTISH SNIPPETS

ALLT-A-BHAINNE MALT WHISKY

The name translates as the Milk Burn (stream) and is pronounced Alta-Vanya. The distillery was built in 1975 by Seagrams to supply malt whisky for the Chivas Regal blend. They do not bottle the whisky as a single malt but independent companies purchase barrels to age and sell at a later date.

THE BAILLIE NICOL JARVIE BLENDED WHISKY

Baillie Nicol Jarvie is a character in Sir Walter Scott's novel Rob Roy. A Baillie is a Scottish local government official. He was resting at an inn in Aberfoyle when he was set upon by a fierce Highlander. As his sword had rusted in its scabbard he grabbed a red hot poker from the fire and set the Highlander's clothes alight. The poker now hangs from a tree at the Baillie Nicol Jarvie Hotel in Aberfoyle.



STAGS BREATH LIQUEUR

Staggs Breath also comes from a classic Scottish novel, in this instance, Compton MacKenzie's Whisky Galore, when a local inhabitant opened a cupboard and produced a bottle of Staggs Breath. The liqueur first appeared in 1989 and is made from a blend of Speyside whiskies and fermented heather honeycomb. Makers, the Meikle family, reside in Badenoch, Speyside.



COCK O' THE NORTH SINGLE MALT WHISKY LIQUEUR

The liqueur is made from a mixture of malt whisky, mountain blueberries, honey and the usual secret ingredient. Cock o' the North is the nickname given to the Chief of Clan Gordon. The first to receive the name was George Gordon, Earl of Huntly in 1550. The Gordons owned vast lands in the Scottish Highlands. The liqueur appeared in 1998 from a family recipe.

GLAYVA WHISKY LIQUEUR

When Ronald Morrison & Co. were originally working on a few sample blends their Gaelic speaking warehouseman pronounced one of them as gle mhath meaning very good.

Frank Wynn

BILLY WALKER & GLENALLACHIE



In miNiZ116 Frank Wynn & I brought you the story of Billy Walker and two men from South Africa buying first BenRiach, then Glendronach, then finally Glenglassaugh. In June last year they sold the three distilleries to Brown Forman. One of the three was not content to take the money and retire. Less than a month later Billy walker, together with two other Scotch industry personalities, Trisha Savage and Graham Stevenson, bought

Glenallachie from Chivas Bros (Pernod Ricard). They call themselves The Glenallachie Consortium. Interestingly, two of the three previous distilleries Billy was involved in, BenRiach & GlenDronach were also bought from Pernod Ricard.



Glenallachie is a relatively recent distillery, built in 1967 by Mackinlay McPherson, a subsidiary of Scottish & Newcastle Breweries. Glenallachie is located in the heart of Speyside near to Aberlour, Balvenie, Macallan and Glenfiddich. The Glenallachie distillery was bought by the Invergordon Distillers Group in 1985. Invergordon closed Glenallachie in 1987. Two years later the distillery was sold on to Campbell Distillers, a subsidiary of Pernod Ricard. They put Glenallachie under their Chivas Bros subsidiary, who handle their whisky & gin portfolio.

The sale included not only the distillery and stock of maturing whisky but also the well known White Heather brand together with the lesser known MacNair brand. The first release under the new owners is due in March. I cannot tell you if that includes any miniatures but, with their previous experience, miniatures are almost a certainty at some point.

The Glenallachie distillery is not well known but it has a theoretical annual production capacity of 2.8 million liters of pure alcohol. Although production is currently reported to be only around the 2.0 million litres of Scotch per year it is potentially among the top 30 whisky distilleries in Scotland. The curious thing is that most of the production currently goes into various Chivas Bros blends including Chivas Regal, Passport, 100 Pipers, Queen Anne, Highland Clan, House of Lords and Clan Campbell.



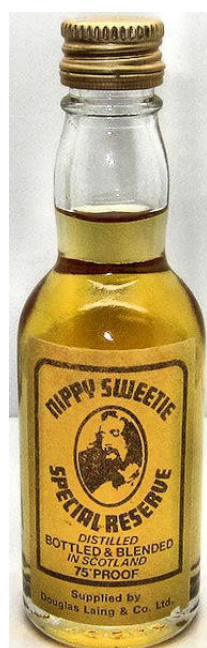


So why did Pernod Ricard sell it? They have 14 other distilleries in Scotland including the Dalmunach distillery which was brand new in 2015. It seems that much if not all of the Scotch from Dalmunach is destined for blending so Glenallachie effectively became surplus to requirements.



Which would seem to leave The Glenallachie Consortium with a serious problem, lots of whisky stock, a working distillery, and probably little in the way of contracts. A problem indeed for most but I can see these three building the single malt brand and reviving the two blends, and not taking long to do either given their experience and contacts.

David Smith



NIPPIE SWEETIE

Most of you will know the comedian, Billy Connolly, but did you know he had his own Scotch?

The whisky, featuring Billy's picture on the label, was sold at his concerts in the 1970s. 'Billy Connolly's Nippy Sweetie instils a real feeling of nostalgia in me,' said Fred Laing, MD of well known bottler, Douglas Laing. 'Back in the '70s – when I first joined the family business – my father and I bottled this blended whisky for the Big Yin. It was sold at his shows by the lady who also sold the ice creams, and we proudly believe it was as synonymous with Billy as his beard and trademark hairdo. For me, it was a bit of fun in the normally more serious business of Scotch whisky.'



Fred Laing decided to donate the company's last miniature of Nippy Sweetie whisky to the *Art of Billy Connolly* exhibition show at Glasgow's People's Palace, which features more than 40 of Billy's works – including a handmade guitar constructed from a White Horse Scotch whisky box.

David Smith

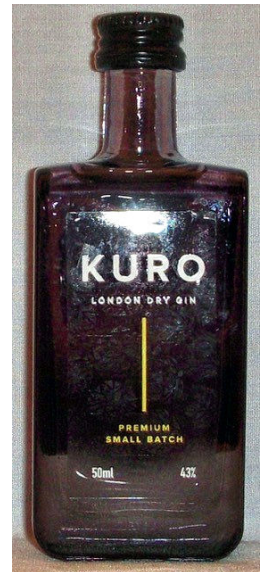
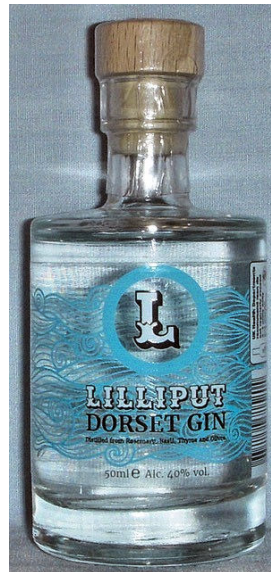
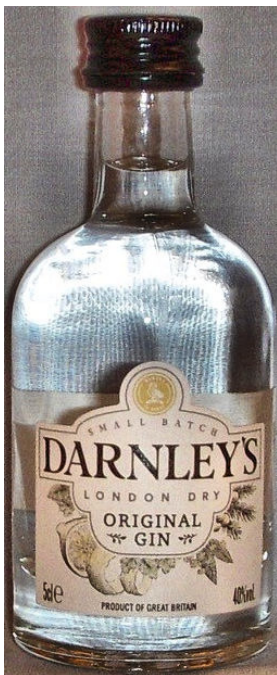
DAVID'S BOTTLES

We will start this time with the only ceramics I have to show you. The pink version of Mi Sorpresa appeared at the St. Louis show last year. The full set of 5 is shown as well as the reverse of the yellow one. Mi Sorpesa is from Tequila Tres Mujeres.

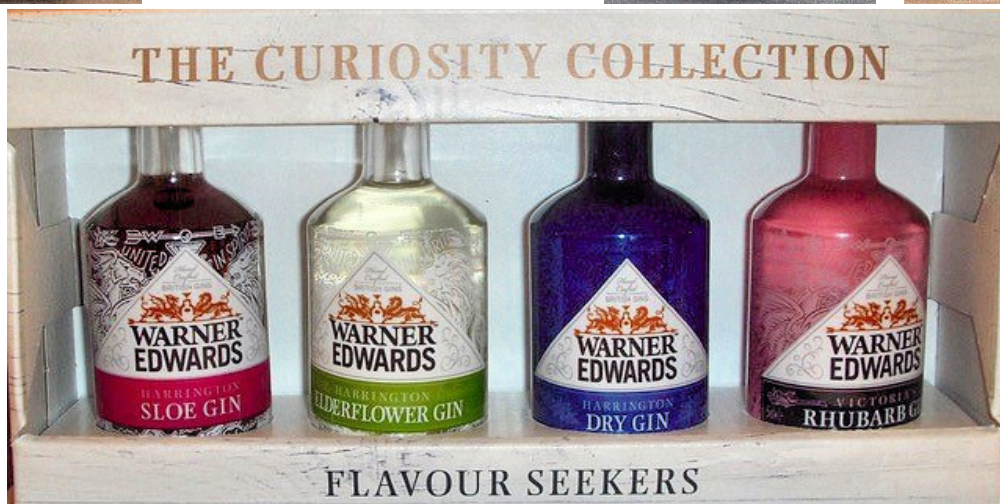


We will stick with Tequila for the next dozen bottles. All are new and I will let them speak for themselves.



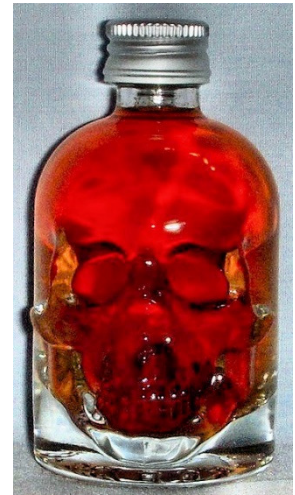


Gin is on a resurgence at present, which is why we have more gins than anything else. Darnley's is from Scotland, the next 9 from England.





Whobertus is from Germany, Wilderer, Ginifer and the two Musgrave from South Africa, Malfey from Italy, and Zuidam from The Netherlands.



Nemiroff Vodka is a new bottle shape from this well known Ukraine company. Voo and Big Machine are from USA, 300 and Cocaine from the Czech Rep. and the skull is a Chili Vodka from England.



Harrogate Rum & Gin are from, err, Harrogate (England). Heet is a hot cinnamon vodka from the USA. Also from the USA are the two Moto Whiskies (different proofs) as well as the four bottles from C J Spirits shown on the same photograph. Sunner Gin & Vodka are from Germany.



I have ten new Absinthes to show you. The set of five Green Fairy on the last page are from the Czech Republic. Below we have a set of three Exitus Hardcore Absinthes from Germany followed by NS and Mari Mayans Absinthes from Spain.



And that's it for now, as always, more next time.....

David Spaid

KLM 98

KLM 98 was made to commemorate KLM's long history with Dutch made Fokker aircraft. KLM made it's last flight in a Fokker in October 2017, which was the same month this house was released.

The house is Kleine Houtweg No. 65 in Haarlem, where Anthony Fokker spent his youth from the age of four. His parents had returned to the Netherlands from the Dutch East Indies with little "Tony" and his sister Toos. The stately mansion was then located at Kleine Houtweg No. 41, which changed to No. 65 when the street numbering was altered in 1935.

The attic at the front, with a window overlooking the park, became Anthony's domain. It was from here that he launched his earliest self-made model planes, using paperclips to improve the aerodynamics. In the 1920s Fokker became one of the world's leading aircraft manufacturers, with factories in the Netherlands and the US.

If you're visiting Amsterdam you can now take a walk along the KLM Miniatures Route, which leads past more than 50 houses in the collection, including several special editions.



WINES #5C – PORTUGAL

I wish to apologise for missing the deadline for the last newsletter but better late than never here is the third and final article on Portuguese wines. There are so many Ports that this article, as with 5B, will be about more of them.

I will start this time with one of the industry giants, Taylor, Fladgate, & Yeatman, better known simply as Taylor-Fladgate. Founded in 1692 they also own Fonseca, Fonseca-Guimaraens, Krohn and Croft. Taylor Fladgate's vintage ports are some of the most sought-after and expensive ports in the world but as they invented the style of late-bottled vintage port we will begin there.



4XX Late Bottled Vintage (LBV) 1981 sounds good to me. A Fine Tawny and a curiously named Chip Dry complete our trio of Taylor Fladgate Ports.

Sandeman is another of the industry biggies. It was founded over 200 years ago in 1790. Their distinctive logo features a caped man named Don dressed in a Portuguese student's cape and a wide Spanish hat. Besides Port, Sandeman also produces Sherry, Brandy and Madeira. It is one of the few, if not the only, Port house to have made a ceramic miniature. I am not showing you that today as, as far as I am aware, it has only been sold filled with Sherry. Sandeman is now owned by Sogrape who also own Ferreira Port.



On the left we have an older cork cap Imperial Tawny in great condition for it's age. Another two Ruby Ports follow with the Don logo very prominent on the second label.

I have to admit to never having heard of Ramos Pinto before I found these photos. Their web site does not say that they are one of the smaller Port Houses but a sentence on their web site caught my eye and all but confirms it: *"In the case of LBV and Vintage, the grapes are trodden in the*

traditional lagar as this age-old technique allows for the juice of the fruit to be extracted more efficiently and less violently.” Somehow I cannot see Sandeman or Taylor Fladgate doing that!



The two Ramos Pinto Ports are on the far left, a 20 year old and an Aperitivo.

Pousada is a trade name owned by Porto Porcas, who are a family owned company founded in 1918. Shown is a screen printed Tawny bottle and a Blanc Sec.

I know nothing about Porto Reccua so just enjoy the photo of the Branco. Companhia Velha, also known as Royal Oporto Wine Company, was founded in

1756 by Royal Charter. It claims to have the oldest ageing cellars in Portugal. A Tawny is shown.



ODE is from ODE Porto Wine House, a well known Porto Restaurant. I cannot find anything about Porto Seguro as searches keep sending me to a Brazilian city of the same name. Warre's Warrior has always struck me as a great name. The Osborne was made for the French market. Enough!

David Smith

Date - Time - Place

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, Wellington.

All other meetings for 2018 will be decided at the AGM – see web site for details.

Currently only Wellington meetings are being scheduled, our members elsewhere are invited to organise a meeting. Let us know where and when well in advance and we will be happy the publicise it.



HOW MANY ARE THERE?

My wife accused me of making this edition more about Scotch than normal. Maybe it is a bit but not on purpose. I have even deferred a one page article I wrote that is about Scotch until miNiZ118 so as to have an even number of pages (for those who print it).

So, how many open Scotch distilleries, malt and grain, are there? 126 at present with 22 having opened since 2013 – count them: Annandale, Arbikie, Ardnamurchan, Ballindalloch, Bladnoch (re-opened), Clydeside, Dalmunach, Dornoch, Eden Mill, Glasgow, Inchdairnie, Isle of Harris, Isle of Raasay, Kingsbarns, Lindores Abbey, Lone Wolf, Ncn'ean, Strathearn, Torabhaig (Isle of Skye), Twin River & Wolfburn.

Other than Bladnoch that made miniatures years ago and Ballindalloch that Hart Brothers used as an alternative name for Glenfarclas, none have yet, as far as I am aware, made any miniatures. Three re-bottlers, Drinks by The Dram, The Exclusive Dram and The Perfect Measure have made Wolfburn miniatures.

There are four more distilleries due to open this year: Ardnahoe, Borders (Hawick), Govan & Toulvaddie.

Other planned Scotch distilleries are: Borders (Peebles), Brora (re-opening), Holyrood Park, Isle of Arran (second distillery at Lagg), Port Ellen (re-opening) & Port of Leith.

Further information about these new and proposed new distilleries can be found on-line.