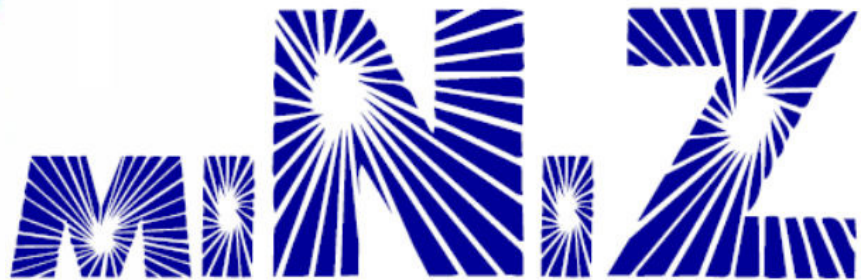


Issue 128 - Spring 2020



WWW.MINISNZ.COM

THE NEWSLETTER OF NEW ZEALAND MINIATURE BOTTLE CLUB



Australasia's International Miniature Bottle Club



NEW NEW ZEALAND, THIS & THAT

I finished This & That in miNiZ126 by saying:

"Unfortunately I have no new New Zealand bottles to show you this time, so that's about it for now. Except to say that many of you will be stuck at home with time on your hands so it's time to get the camera out, photograph some of your bottles, and write an article or better still, articles. I'm looking forward to miNiZ127 being a bumper edition." I was right to add the flying pig as there has been a VERY poor response. Shame on those who have been in lockdown and have not contributed – you know who you are.



AND YOU HAVE GOT WORSE! By the deadline for miNiZ128 I had only received **TWO** articles (from Frank Wynn & Hugo Nami), some photos from David Spaid (and more since the deadline), a pile of photos from Luis Campos (actually for MBL but Luis knows I will use some for miNiZ as well) and a few odd bottles from elsewhere. My thanks to all, the few, the VERY few, who have contributed. Shame on the rest of you. **DO BETTER BEFORE CHRISTMAS.**

I have actually been on strike. Frankly I couldn't be bothered bringing miNiZ out with such little material. However, I am finally at a good place to have a break from working on Miniature Bottle Library (I have just finished a full sort of all German, Austrian & Swiss bottles – about 36,000 in total and have already put German/German bottled whiskies on MBL mid-year, which is another 7800). So here we go with miNiZ128.

We may or may not have had a glitch with sending miNiZ127 out. As far as I can ascertain all the emails did go out but the stats on the 'Send in Blue' web site show differently. It appears that some member's ISP's are rejecting the email as spam, even though the reason we are using 'Send in Blue' is to avoid this. Therefore I am going to send this issue out in batches of 5 members on one email through my personal email. PLEASE, if you did not get a link to miNiZ127, let me know and I will send you one (this applies to older editions too).

There are now two ways of reading miNiZ. You can read a Mobile, PC & Apple friendly copy in Flipbook format. If you do want to print it there is still a .pdf for you to download.



You can page turn like a 'proper' magazine and there is a thumbnail index you can bring up (second symbol from the left at the bottom).

For the technically minded it is in HTML5 format, not Flash as that is not supported after this year.

Back copies of all miNiZ (up to 2 years ago) are available to read in Flip format. These are in groups but we have left the pdf's as individual files. If any member wants access to the pdf's of miNiZ for the last 2 years just email me. minizv@gmail.com

The cover bottles were, once again, found by Erica Mulder. These are a White Sheep vodka and a new White Sheep gin. Erica also sent us the original White Sheep gin picture and we showed you that in miNiZ123.

I have been sent pictures of two rare Jack Daniels. Unusual/rare Jack Daniels bottles can fetch big money by mini collector's standards.

The first is the 45ml bottle that Frank Wynn sent the picture of. Frank also tells us that Whisky and More in Auckland have miniatures of Little Biddy (see miNiZ123) for those of you who collect NZ bottles. They also have an Elijah Craig and a Tullamore Dew with completely new labels.

Pete Gabbard writes "We had our summer meeting for the NWMBC Yesterday. Attached are photos of a jack bottle I picked. From what I'm finding out it is a very rare bottle. I posted it on what's it worth on Facebook. Offer so far US\$600. I've been told



the last one to sell on Ebay, about 10 years ago, went for \$850. Seva said I should not take less than US\$1000 for it." Note the only difference from a 'standard' bottle is the 'Bottled for Railroads' on the neck. Pete has sold it but I am not at liberty to reveal how much for or to whom.

Eagle eyed frank Wynn also spotted this Wilson's Still for sale on Trademe. It sold for \$141. Neither of us has seen one of these before but I can say that the bottle is, I am fairly certain, the last version of Wilson's before it was closed down in 1997.



Eat yer heart out Peter Bonkovich. I came across this Chivas Regal set made especially for Manchester United FC on Facebook recently. It is unusual in that it contains a 750ml bottle of 12yo and miniatures of 13 & 18yo.

Finally, an Italian bottled Australian rum. I know nothing about it, the black swan caught my eye as I was sorting bottle pics for MBL.

SEND ARTICLES!

David Smith



NEW SPANISH BOTTLES



I have been sending photos of my bottles for some time now to add to Miniature Bottle Library, <http://www.minibottlelibrary.com/mbl/index.html>. I am happy to share them with club members also.

Currently in Spain there are a very impressive number of new minis, especially so in the middle of the Covid19 pandemic. Unusually they are all gins and whiskies, both Spanish and Scotches bottled in Spain.







The most unusual of the whiskies is probably the Nomad. This is Scotch that has been shipped whilst still new make spirit to Jerez and, presumably, matured in Sherry barrels.

I hope you have enjoyed these. I'll bring you more in a future miNiZ.

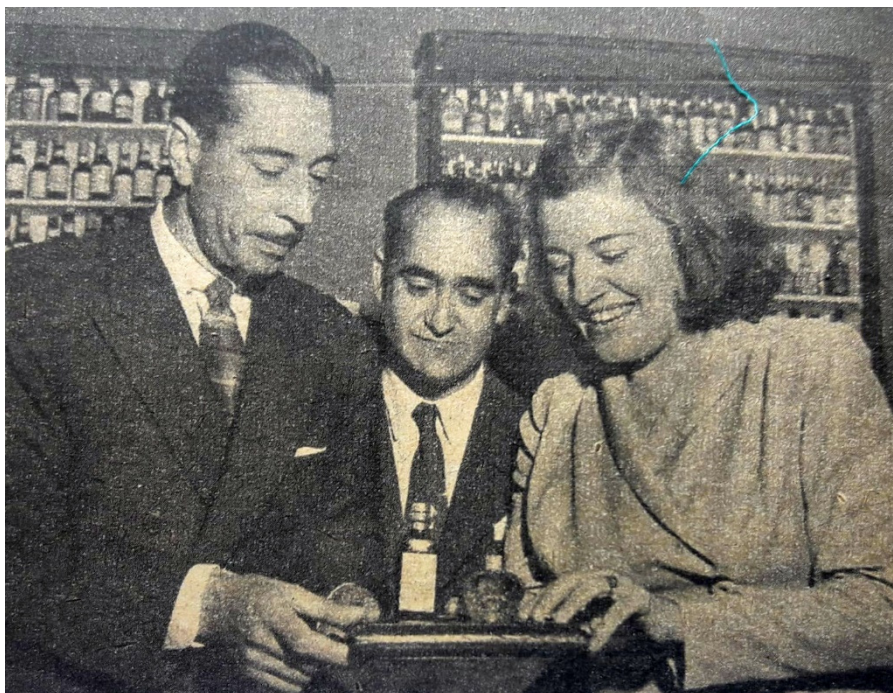
Luis Campos

RARE WINES FROM ARGENTINA

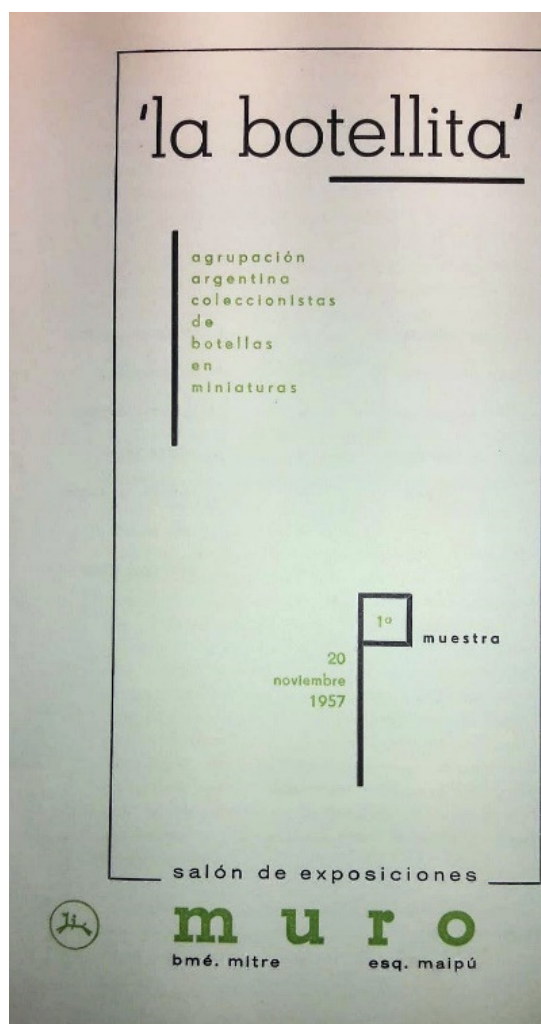
Because of their rarity I have long been thinking of writing an article on the miniatures presented here. However, when possible, I like to write some history related to the pieces of interest. Since I could not find any information about the company that fabricated them it occurred to me to ask my friend Alfredo Spinelli if he knew something about them. The answer was as immediate as surprising: He and another collector, Mr. Francisco López made them!

Alfredo was one of the pioneers in the Argentine miniature bottles collecting. However, at this point, I would like to tell a little about the history of our hobby in this part of the world. It is fair to say that Mr. López was the person who gave the initial kick for the beginning of collecting miniatures as a systematic and organized hobby in Argentina. It is clear that because the finding of very old collections assembled since the beginning of the 20th century, some people used to collect miniature bottles, and for that reason from time to time, it is possible to find and know about unexpected gems. However, Mr. López started to join people with the common interest of collecting miniatures during the 1950's.

By luck, as I had a rare article written about him by Mr. Néstor M. Ferré, as well as the stories that Alfredo told me, it is possible to know a little about Mr. López and his role in the history of the minis presented in this article. The story began when he was the owner of the "Almacén Suizo," a food store located on Santa Fe Ave. in one of the most elegant



neighbourhoods of Buenos Aires city. There, besides selling many national and imported alcoholic beverages, he also sold miniatures of many of them. Coincidentally, he was an active philatelist and member of one of the associations that collected stamps in Argentina. At the "Almacén Suizo," many of his clients bought miniature bottles to collect them. Also, with an active interest in buying and exchanging miniatures, they began to have meetings with that aim in around 1954/1955. Finally, under the López initiative, they decided to form an organized group. Hence, in 1956/57 they founded a club called "La Botellita". As seen in figure 2, on November 20th, 1957 the club was formed on the occasion of the presentation of the first bottle exhibition organized in Argentina.



historia de "la botellita"

hace aproximadamente dos años, un grupo de aficionados a este "hobby", se reunió en confiterías y oficinas gentilmente cedidas, naciendo así la idea de crear una agrupación de aficionados a coleccionar botellas en miniatura. intercambiando ideas, se fué dando forma a ese deseo, nombrándose una comisión de "voluntarios" para crear los estatutos que debían regir los destinos de la nueva entidad.

se fueron agrupando nuevos socios y con el correr del tiempo éstos se relacionaron con coleccionistas extranjeros, se difundió la creación de la agrupación por medio de los diarios y revistas y finalmente se dió a conocer al público por televisión.

"la botellita" reúne en su seno a niños, mujeres y hombres y cuenta ya con millares de botellitas, que son la exacta reproducción de las más difundidas marcas de bebidas de todas clases, nacionales y extranjeras.

"la botellita" cumple una labor de incuestionable interés general; no le guía ningún propósito comercial y sí, en cambio, el de estimular el conocimiento de bebidas autóctonas y extranjeras; conocer y difundir la historia de las mismas, métodos de obtención y origen, conservación y duración. en su actividad social, estrechar lazos de amistad con coleccionistas de otros países y finalmente cuenta con el **banco de canje**, este se reúne el 2º domingo de cada mes en una confitería céntrica y allí se efectúan los canjes de botellitas de todos los países. se exhiben verdaderas piezas de arte, se explica el origen de cada una, la forma de poder obtenerlas y se efectúan sorteos de botellitas entre los concurrentes.

la idea de ayer es hoy una realidad y para confirmarlo está la primera exposición de "la botellita" en el salón de exposiciones de "muro".

Also it is worth recalling that one of López's friends was Mr. Andrés T. Groza, a philatelist, and manager of a collectibles store located in the Belgrano neighbourhood, another elegant part of the city. There, besides stamps, he also started to sell miniature bottles on behalf of one of his young employees, Mr. A. Spinelli. Due to Mr. Groza's contact with López, in 1955 Alfredo started to attend the meetings at El Suizo, and as seen in figure 3, he quickly becomes an enthusiastic and active member of the group. To make a long story short, because of his enthusiasm, López started to explore the production of miniature decanters. Then, he and the passionate young collector Alfredo began to encourage the production of miniatures to some friends and acquaintances in the alcoholic beverages business. One of López's friends brought wines in bulk from Mendoza and filled them in bottles/decanter in a warehouse, called "Mi Establecimiento"



located in 3454 Galván St., Buenos Aires city. Motivated by the aforementioned collectors this firm decided to make miniatures of its products. However, they soon realized that it was very difficult to fill the little bottles, so they directly gave to López and Spinelli the job of making them. This story happened almost sixty years ago, during 1962/1963.



Illustrated in figures 4 and 5, employing 50 ml green glass bottles they made two miniatures filled with red and white wines. The former, called “Brigadier” was filled in a typical “burdeos” type bottle, the latter, named “Viejo Castillo” was used a “rhin” type bottle. Both were corked and topped with a gelatin capsule. Two paper labels are placed on their front. As displayed in their close-up pictures, the main labels, besides the brand names, provide the addresses of the producers both in Mendoza and Buenos Aires provinces, information regarding the content, as well as other formal data. A kind of logo with the legend “Enrique de la Tour-Vizconde Turena” used in the smallest label in both miniatures is also printed on the Brigadier main label, while a castle is observed in the Viejo Castillo wine.

It is worth mentioning that the miniatures described here are at the beginning of at least three decades of the flowering of collecting in Argentina. In future articles I will expand in more detail the history of collecting in this part of the world and the active role of some collectors in the production and the national and international distribution of miniature bottles from Argentina. To conclude, I would like to thank Alfredo Spinelli for providing me the historical pictures, data, and literature used to write this article.

Caption of the figures.

Figure 1. Mr. F. López in the centre of two collectors in the first exposition miniature organized in Argentina.

Figure 2. Flyer of the first miniature bottle exposition organized by “La Botellita” club in 1957.

Figure 3. Alfredo Spinelli at the left in the award ceremony in the 1957 exposition.

Figure 4. General view and label close-up of the Brigadier red wine.

Figure 5. General view and label close-up of the Viejo Castillo white wine.



Hugo G. Nami

HISTORICAL FIGURES #8N

QUEEN ELIZABETH THE QUEEN MOTHER

Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon (1900 – 2002) was the wife of King George VI and the mother of Queen Elizabeth II. Born into a family of British nobility, she came to prominence in 1923 when she married the Duke of York, the second son of King George V and Queen Mary. As such she never expected to be Queen.

In 1936, her husband unexpectedly became king when his brother, Edward VIII, abdicated in order to marry the American divorcee Wallis Simpson (how times have changed!). Elizabeth then became Queen consort of the United Kingdom and the Dominions from her husband's accession in 1936 until his death in 1952. She was also the last Empress of India. From 1952 she was known as Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, to avoid confusion with her daughter. Or simply The Queen Mum to most Brits.

During WWII her indomitable spirit provided moral support to the British public. In recognition of her role as an asset to British interests, Adolf Hitler described her as "the most dangerous woman in Europe". After the war, her husband's health deteriorated and she was widowed at the age of 51.

From the death of Queen Mary in 1953, Elizabeth was viewed as the matriarch of the British royal family. In her later years, she was a consistently popular member of the family, even when other members were suffering from low levels of public approval. She continued an active public life until just a few months before her death at the age of 101.



The Books, as well as the other ceramics, are from Rutherford and all contain Scotch – albeit not very good Scotch! The first was for Her Majesty's 100th Birthday in 2000. The second commemorates her life after her death just two years later. Both of these are super rare at only 100 pieces each, especially as many will have been collected by Royals Memorabilia collectors, regardless as to whether they were bottles or not.



I do not know for sure but I suspect that the first flask was another 100th birthday bottle. When I first saw the second flask I thought it was a faded version of the first. Closer inspection showed that it is clearly different but I do not know what occasion, if any, this was made for.

The two jugs were made in 2011 but the photos were taken in 1984. The first shows the Queen Mum holding her grandchild, Prince Harry. The second is a family portrait showing the Queen Mother, The Queen, Prince William, Princess Diana holding Prince Harry and Prince Charles.



We come to the only straights I know of, both of which are from The Whisky Connoisseur. The first is another 100th birthday bottle which contains an unknown single malt. The second is a 101st birthday bottle sporting a most unflattering, sour faced, version of HM. I doubt she would have been sour faced as this contains 11 year old Macallan Single Malt.

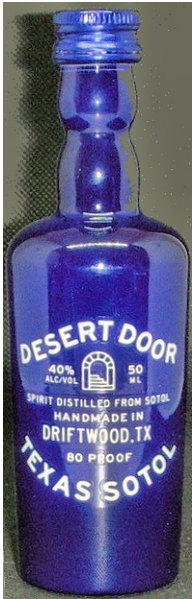
David Smith

DAVID'S BOTTLES

Most of the bottles I have to show you this time are from North America, apart from a cream liqueur from Ireland, four bottles from UK and one from Italy. Let's start with those from Mexico.



A couple of attractive new Tequila sets, the interesting looking Diablo Azul new agave spirit and an update of an old favourite. There is a 5th Mi Familia Flores mini but it is only sold in Mexico.



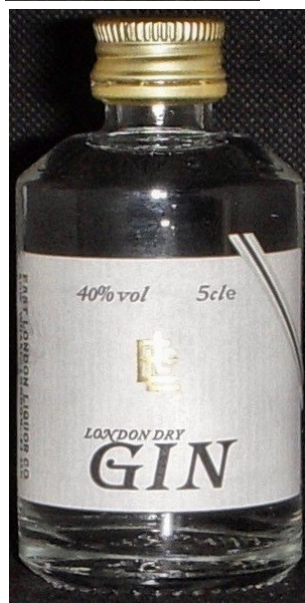
The last of the Mexican bottles is the new Cazul bottles set. Starting the US bottles is Apple Pie, another jar from Midnight Moon; a Texas spirit then a Texas Light Whiskey; an

Oregon spirit; US bottled Caribbean rum; our only Irish bottle and finally a set of five vodkas.

Starting the next page we have a new WhistlePig set, The Straightaway cocktail set comes from a small company in Portland, Oregon. Great labels. Tanqueray No TEN



is a new English gin and The Bad Stuff is yet another Tequila. The Gin, Vodka & Rum are from East London Distilling Co. (England not South Africa) and Seven Hills VII is an Italian Gin.



As usual, more next time.

David Spaid

COUNTRY BOTTLES

We have shown you bottles from this company before – sort of. These are from a German company, World of Fine and Rare. Within the same grouping are Aneri Investments, Whisky & Spirit Merchants, Global Whisky & Spirits and probably more. This group is owned by a Cypriot and was originally run out of Cyprus but is now based in Germany. Which explains the German spellings of some country names.

This group, and it's director, are controversial among many mini collectors. Many of their minis are supposedly filled with named single malt Scotches and some collectors think that they do not contain the correct Scotch. Personally I doubt this as, if it is the case, the Whisky Barons would have put him out of business years ago.

Check out the ceramics under Whisky & Spirit Merchants on Miniature Bottle Library, all of which are good and some of which are spectacular. And, check out their Ebay Shop <https://www.ebay.de/str/whisky-and-spirits?trksid=p2047675.l2563> as many are still available.

I have included at least one bottle from every country where we have a member. These and others are now on Miniature Bottle Library and I am reasonably sure there are many more.







Note that some countries have more than one set of buildings on them. In many cases the buildings do not match the country at all. Oh, and both sets

are also made filled with vodka, together with sets of five.

David Smith



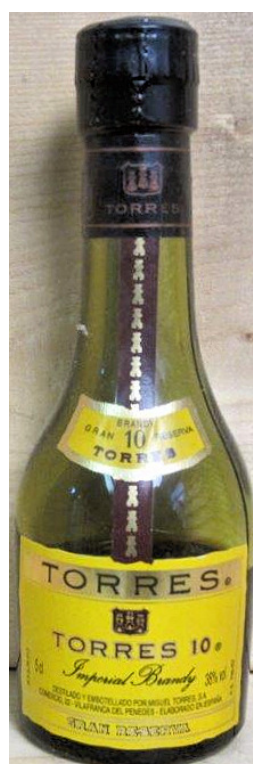
SPANISH BRANDY PT.3

CATALONIA

Catalonia is situated in north east Spain and shares a border with France. The regional capital is Barcelona. This closeness with France has an influence on the style of brandy produced. The main grape variety is Parallada which is more acidic and tastier than the Airen grape used in Jerez. When the phylloxera bug devastated the French vineyards Catalonia was in an ideal position to meet their wine and brandy needs. Another factor is that the stills used in Catalonia are similar to those used in Cognac. Altogether the result is a brandy similar to what the French and the rest of the world are used to. They still use the solera system but the Brandies are definitely Catalanian. This suits the locals as they feel they are not Spanish anyway.

TORRES BRANDY

The Torres family are better known for their wines and rightly so as they make world class reds. The company was founded in 1870 and they are still family owned. They started making Brandy in 1920 but it was not until the 1980's that they started to produce and promote a wide range of Brandies. An indication of their quality is the entry level which consists of 5 and 10 year old Brandies that have been aged in American oak. The top of the range is Jamie 1 which is named after the company founder. The bottle shape is based on a Barcelona building designed by Antoni Gaudi. Some of the Brandies in the blend have been aged for 30 years or more. In between these grades there are about six Brandies including Hors D'age and Solera Selecta.

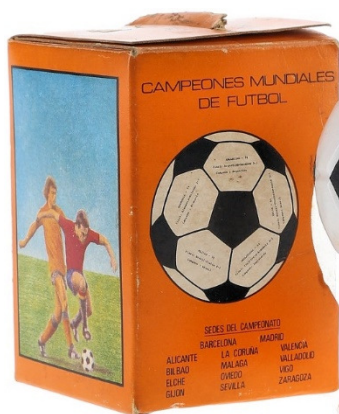




CAMPENY

Destilerias Campeny are based in Barcelona and were founded in 1970. The company is family owned and are better known for their liqueurs. I am not definite but they may have produced a Kiwi Fruit liqueur before one was produced in New Zealand. My sister

sent me one in the early 1980's which she received from a Basque priest but that is another story. Going by their web site they may no longer produce Brandy but they have such nice bottles they deserve a mention. Also they produce so many miniatures for collectors. The horse head and banjo both contain Brandy Reserva. Strangely for a Barcelona company, they issue bottles commemorating Real Madrid. That is a bit like Celtic selling Rangers goods.



Frank Wynn

TWO SETS

I have recently come across two interesting sets, one old, one new. The first I found whilst sorting German bottles. These Albflorenz bottles are from Bramsch, now SMK (Spirituosen Marken Kontor). There are 10 that I know of, there may well be more. It was the Neuseeland (New Zealand) bottle that caught my eye. I know nothing more about them.



I wonder whether there are two sets or if Russia has a white cap as it contains vodka?



There are very few bottles from Singapore. These are from a new distillery appropriately named Singapore Distillery. It's nice to see quality bottles.

David Smith

WANTING TO BUY

I am so sorry to bother you, and I am not a member of yours. My name is Jie-Ning Yang, and I live in Taipei, Taiwan. If any one of your members doesn't mind selling their bottles to Taiwan, I hope I have a chance to make the transaction with them. I am searching for some mini bottles full and sealed (brandy or whisky), bottles like those bottles as like the photos. If any one of your members wants to sell, could you please let me know, I really hope to purchase them. Hope to get your reply soon, and may you have a good day.

Jie-Ning, Yang - adaysnoopy@gmail.com





TESLA

Cars, solar panels, tunnel boring, clothing and, of course, rockets. Is there nothing that Elon Musk cannot make? Actually yes, Tequila. The Tequila in the bottle is made by Nosotros and usually costs US\$40/45 per bottle, although to be fair, this Tequila has been aged for 15 months in French Oak casks and the bottle is hand blown in the shape of a lightning bolt. Don't lose the stand or you will have to drink the whole bottle!

This bottle is selling, in a few US states, for US\$250, limit two per person. I have no doubt they will sell out fast.

This project started out as an April Fool joke in 2018 that said Tesla was going bankrupt. Elon posted a pic of himself passed out by the side of one of his Tesla Model 3's, surrounded by Teslaquila bottles. He had already patented the name.

And no, this is not a miniature, which is a pity as it would be a great seller – don't hold your breath though.



David Smith



AUCTION REPORT



As promised in miNiZ127 I will concentrate on Scotch this time. The bottles have been sold at six auctions (<https://whisky.auction/> – UK based) over the past 13 months (10/19, 01/20, 04/20, 06/20, 08/20, 10/20). As in the past I am going to start with the most expensive bottles. One thing of note is what I think is the Pandemic Effect. Where we can compare, the same top end bottles fetched lower prices this year than in the October 2019 auction. I cannot detect any difference in low to mid priced bottles.

The star of the October 2019 auction was the Old Orkney 'O.O.' Real Liqueur Whisky. This is from the Stromness Distillery which closed in 1928. It sold for £4,000. I'm sure that most of you will



never have even heard of Stromness distillery so

here is a link to an excellent article:

<https://scotchwhisky.com/magazine/features/26710/the-tenacity-of-orkney-s-early-whisky-makers/>

The Tomatin 50yo was made in 1967 and sold in October 2019. £1900 bought it. The lovely decanter style bottle is a Dalmore 45yo, 4cl, 180th Anniversary bottle. Again, this was an Oct 19 sale, this time at £1850. There were two Bowmore 40yo sold, the first (10/19) fetched £1600 and the second (8/20) 'only' £900. Port Ellen 39yo 'Untold Stories The Spirit Safe' was a 3cl Press Sample. 3cl seems a bit mean if



you are trying to get the press to promote your product, however I doubt that the reporter would have complained if he sold his for £825!

Incidentally, all prices are plus auctioneer's commission, which is paid by the buyer. Even at the over £75 rate of 10%, when you are talking hundreds or even thousands of dollars the commission makes a big difference. Note also that the rates are per bottle not over all the bottles you buy from the auction, so a lot of cheap bottles will be nowhere near as cheap as you expect.

£75+	10%
£55-£74.99	15%
£40-£54.99	20%
£25-£39.99	25%
£15-£24.99	30%
£5-£14.99	40%
£0.01-£4.99	50%



Glenmorangie Pride is a 10cl sample, distilled in 1981, bottled 2010. This came in a presentation box with the Spring Water dropper - £825. The Laphroaig is from the 1950's. It sold for £800. The Glen Grant 60yo for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee is another that came in a presentation box. It is a 3cl bottle filled by Gordon & MacPhail and sold at auction for £525. Johnnie Walker Blue Label Ghost & Rare appears to share the same decanter type bottle as the Dalmore. The auctioneers say that the Dalmore is 4cl but this one 5cl, it is unlikely that both are right. Anyway, £460 seems a good price (for the seller).



I thought that we had featured the 1961 Macallan before but I cannot find it. This one sold for £675. Macallan 1998 was bottled in 2019 for the 9th Annual Meeting of the Guangdong Minibottle Club. I have no idea as to what it cost at the club meeting but someone at that meeting doubtless made a good profit by selling it in the Oct 19 auction for £420





Diageo have been making their 'Special Releases Set' for a number of years now. This is the complete 2017 5cl set. It sold for £420.



No more Macallan after these two I promise. The first one sold for £410. It is a 5cl Macallan 27yo for the 25th Anniversary of CECBL, the Spanish MBC, which was held in Camino De Santiago in 2019. The second is a 5cl 1997 13 Year Old Easter Elchies Cask Selection that was bottled in 2010 - £330



On the second page of this article I show a Johnnie Walker Blue Label Ghost & Rare which sold for £460. In

the bottom corner of the last page is the exact same bottle, sold in the same auction, complete with box, booklet and a standard JW Blue Label mini. This sold for £260 – nuts! That is £200 less than the bottle on it's own. I started my working life working for an auction company and the stupidity of bidders has not got any better in the last 50 years.



The two Old Pulteney were sold in a presentation box - £250 the pair. The Littlemill 1990 5cl 29yo was bottled in 2019. It is the Private Cellar Edition #3 and was also sold in a presentation box - £240. £240 also bought the Largiemanoch 1972 5cl Cask Strength 23yo from The Whisky Connoisseur. The Bowmore 1965 5cl looks to have a slightly faded label. Even so it sold for £210. £210 could also have bought you this four bottle 'Race For Space' set from The Whisky Connoisseur.



The Grant's Stand Fast is probably 50ml. Bottled in the 1950's, sold in 2020 for £190, the top price for a blend. Another, without the box, sold for £70 – a lot for a box!

Starting the next page we have 3 White Horse Cellar blends. These are all 50ml. The first is from 1949, it sold for £190. The other two are both from 1959, the only label difference I can see is 'No' under the date on the first one, just like on the 1949 bottle. This one sold for £160, the second for £80. What a difference a single



'No' makes. Before anyone points it out, yes 'White Horse Scotch' on the cap seal is bigger on the second one.

The Old Pulteney are a Trade Sample box set comprising Huddart, 12, 15 & 18yo. All bottles are 5cl. The set went for £170, which seems on the low side to me for a limited production set.



Would you believe these two Grant's Stand Fast 1cl matchbox bottles sold for £105 – wow! They are not even bottled by Grants, Cumbrae Supply made them.



Two small sets now from The Whiskey Connoisseur, all bottles 5cl, 40%. I love the 'Weather Conditions' bottles and so did others as they sold for £135. I believe that this set is relatively recent, the next set was made in 2002. 'The Three Peaks Challenge' is FAR too energetic for me. Someone liked it as it sold for £95 for the set.

Bell's Extra Special Hourglass is 63.5cm high, so the bottles are clearly not miniatures. An interesting piece though that sold for £105.



The Jura 21yo pair of Time & Tide sold for £85. I find it hard to believe that someone paid £100 for Grant's 'The Fastest Dram in The West' blend made for British rail. It even has a damaged label.



Glen Moray Rare Vintage 1959 - £110. Justerini & Brooks is a 10yo bottled pre-WWII - £90. The set of 3 Balvenie, Peat Week 14yo, Double Wood 10yo & Peated Triple Cask 12yo, are 10cl trade samples - £75. Dewar's Double Double 21, 27 & 32yo, 3x5cl set - £95. Isle Of Arran Distillers Royal Island 30yo is a 5cl bottle - £65. A 21yo went for £40.



The Whisky Connoisseur British Explorers set of 4 x 5cl - £70. Does anyone know whether this is the whole set?

Sticking with The Whiskey Connoisseur, on the next page we have the three sets of Butterflies. They each sold for £65.



The Royal Salute 21yo The Snow Polo Edition (bottle on left) is a 5cl bottle from 2019. Several of these were sold in the Oct 20 auction with prices ranging from £55 - £70. As I was writing this the blue Royal Salute 21yo The Polo Collection was shown on Facebook. This has not been issued yet but should be soon.

Tomatin 21yo Barrel is 55.2% 5cl - £75.

Littlemill 1977 Celestial Edition 40 Year Old 3cl Trade Sample - £65

Lost Legends St Magdalene 1975 24yo is yet another 5cl bottle from The Whisky



Connoisseur. Quite a number of this set, from different distilleries, went for £80 each, two or three a little cheaper.



Glenfiddich 14yo Rich Oak 5cl sample - £75. Scottish Malt Whisky Society (SMWS) Glenfarclas cask 1.101 1977 - £70; SMWS 59.47 A Dram For Shirley Valentine Teaninich 1983/2013 29yo for SMWS 30th Anniversary - £60. Both the former are 10cl. Finally above we have the Bowmore Devil's Cask flask from 2013. This is a 5cl trade sample - £60



Robert McNish & Co. Doctors' Special - £60; Row & Company Glen Graeme 10yo Unblended Pot Still Malt is pre-WWII, 4.7cl. It sold for £55 but does anyone know which distillery it was made in? The Dewar's Victoria Vat is another 4.7cl bottle. Again a pre-WWII

bottling and US imported by Schenley Import Corporation - £55. Young's Mountain Dew Gold Medal, 5cl, pre-WWII, £35. John A Murray Aberfern Special, 5cl, pre-WWII, £40.



All these are Ardbeg 10cl trade samples. Twenty Something 22yo £55; Drum Committee Edition £45; Drum £40.

This is a sample set from Distell. The mini version of their Limited Edition Releases. All are 3cl and the 8 sold for a, very poor, £40.



The Last Drop gets it's hands on some very old casks. This is a Glenrothes 1968 49yo 1cl Sample - £50 for hardly enough to taste.

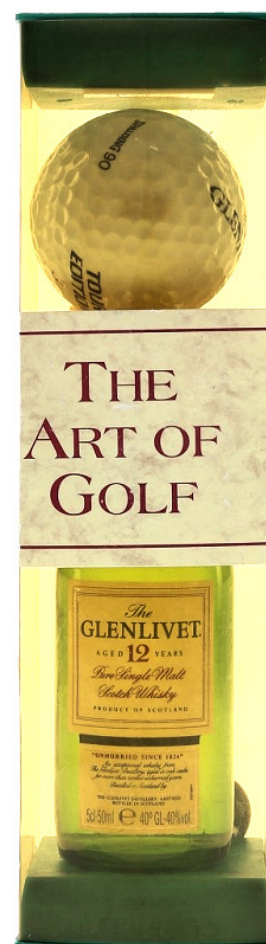




Samaroli Miltonduff 1995 20yo, 5cl, £35 – another Samaroli bottle, an unusual 1996, 19yo blend of Glentauchers & Benriach sold for £35; Crawford's Liqueur Special Reserve, pre-WWII, 5cl £30; Train & McIntyre Veteran Special Scotch Whisky, pre-WWII, 5cl £30; Peter Forsythe & Co. Plus Four Liqueur Scotch Whisky, pre-WWII, 5cl £30; Train & McIntyre Train's Grey Label, pre-WWII, 5cl £30; Stirling Bonding Company Old Smuggler The Gaelic Whisky, 1930's, 5cl, £35.



George Strachan North Of Scotland 1964, Cask No 37526, 100 proof, 1980's, 5cl, £30; The Whisky Exchange Exclusive Glenfarclas 25yo London Edition, 5cl, £35; Skeabost 25yo Single Malt, 1990's, 5cl, for



Skeabost House Hotel, Isle of Skye, £35; Glengoyne 12yo, 5cl for Deloitte Touche
Tohmatsu International, 5cl, two sold for £30 & £24; Glenlivet 12yo The Art Of Golf, 5cl, £34
Eleven pages is enough, we have gone from £4000 down to £30. I was going to show you
some very cheap bottles also but we will stop at £30 and I will bring you the cheaper Scotch
in miniZ129.

David Smith

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KUWABARA WINERY

Miniature Bottle Library shows 36 bottles from Kuwabara Winery of Japan but not this one. I am assuming that this is a sample bottle as it has never turned up elsewhere. Pete Gabbard recently bought it from David Spaid and sent me the photos.

It is a letter opener with a wooden sheath.

It just shows that there are still great, largely unknown, bottles out there.



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Date - Time - Place

Sunday 22nd November, 12.30pm, Pot Luck @ Errol & Karen Brassett's, 39 Pembroke Street, Tawa, Wellington
Phone: 04 232 6598

December lunch - TBA

Sunday 10th January 2021, 12.30pm, Annual Barbeque @ David & Rosie Smith's, 11 Trevor Terrace, Paremata
Phone: 04 233 2997

PLEASE, let the hosts know you are coming a few days beforehand.

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.

The 2021 AGM will be on the 21st 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 MEETINGS SUBJECT TO POSSIBLE FUTURE PANDEMIC REGULATIONS