

miniZ

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX THE NEWSLETTER OF PORT NICHOLSON MINIATURE BOTTLE CLUB XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



THE ONLY MINIATURE BOTTLE CLUB IN AUSTRALASIA
WITH A NATIONWIDE AND INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIP





COVER BOTTLES



Here are the 5 new New Zealand miniatures to appear on the market shortly.

They are the long awaited ex Macgregor's.



One of the reasons for the delay was, that the labels were rejected on several occasions as they were not up to standard.



However, having finally been accepted, take a close look at the labels and you will see that they have the incorrect quantity of 750mls printed on the labels!



The first 3 of these miniatures to be released are Le Café, Le Chocolat and L'Orange, bottled in the familiar shaped MacGregor plastic bottle the only difference is, these are in the clear plastic.

ERICA MULDER

EDITORIAL

Lots has happened since the last miNiZ was published.

The long awaited (but not very exciting) minis from MacGregor's (or is it The Original New Zealand Liqueur Company) are here. One of the two other New Zealand mini bottle clubs has joined up with us - see article later. And, most importantly, we have some problems with the "Colonial Collection". I URGE ALL MEMBERS WHO HAVE ORDERED A SET TO READ PAGE 4.

The March meeting is the AGM. All members have a vote and may use it either personally or by proxy (c/o President, Russell Thomson, P.O. Box 384, Wellington). There is no reason why you cannot stand for a position if you live outside Wellington. We already have a Vice President in Auckland, Erica Mulder. Please think about whether you may enjoy being more involved.

David Smith

Have you got a PET yet.

The front cover of this magazine shows some great new MacGregor miniatures for us to collect. These bottles are following the worldwide trend of making the container of something other than glass. These and many other bottles are made from Polythene Terephthalate or PET for short. Most people would assume it was plastic and would not be far wrong with this rather vague term as it does cover a multitude of products of this type. The history of PET is a long and interesting one as you will see if you read on.

PET bottles are the most successful packaging innovation for many years since the advent of the U.H.T. carton of the 60's. Already they are being used by well over one third of the soft drinks market and very shortly the big push will be into the beer industry, they have already introduced the "plastic half 'G'". Everybody seems to love PET, the Resin industry which makes the raw product has gone from the absolute doldrums to a high flying sector the Bottle manufacturers have found a way to get into new technology and therefore new markets. They also have found that PET has very little breakage, much lighter packs meaning savings in transport costs. It is a lot quieter to work in the factory now !! This all seems to add up to lot's of lovely profits....The consumers (that's us) have told market researchers that they like them too, safer, value for money (cheaper) and lighter. Even the government gives it a blessing, evidently it has carcinogenic properties (means it can be recycled or burnt). As an example in New York they reckon it has reduced their city's waste by 100,00 Tonnes a year. So whats wrong with the stuff ? Not much really, except that fizzy drinks containing carbon Dioxide do tend to loose this gas over a period of time. So if you drink Coke watch out ! but if you collect spirits no real problem. As Dewars, Mackinlay's, White horse, Vladimar and Long John have found out recently and here in New Zealand Bondpack and Macgegor's have indicated their intentions clearly.

It all started in 1970 when Coca cola and Pepsi Cola were having another tiff and both wanted a new plastic container Coke decided to use acrylonitrile and did actually release some in this stuff (I suppose they would have shortened it to ACE eventually) They sold these containers for two years before someone pointed out that when they fed "ACE" to rats they died of cancer (who would want to eat plastic anyway ?). Pepsi had been working with Du Pont and PET as safe a product as you could have (I suspect the rats only got indigestion !)

Well it looks like PET is here to stay , Japan has released Suntory , Scotland have Teachers and those mentioned before, Russia has Vladivar and Smirnoff and the U.S.A. has good old Jim Beam all in the new wonder bottle . Seems a shame really I'll be sorry to see glass go, still I suppose I shouldn't get PETTY about it.....

Chris Matthews

The Colonial Collection The Colonial Collection The Colonial Collection

IF YOU HAVE ORDERED A SET THIS IS MOST IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ

Our original intention was to sell 100 sets. Our budget showed a projected profit of \$4,000 and it was our intention to use this money in three ways to the members' advantage.

1. Renew everyones membership for a further year free of charge.
2. Purchase competition prizes.
3. Organise more club bottles.

So far we only have orders for 36 sets with an enquiry from Canada for a further 12.

All our costings were done on 100 sets. We purposely budgeted high for the competition at NZ\$5,000, but even purchasing the tickets cheaply we would be unlikely to get away with less than \$2,500 plus \$1,000 spending money. The sale of, say, 50 sets would not carry the competition cost. That is assuming that the pottery will let us purchase only 50 sets. Our original order had to be not less than 100. There is still a possibility that we may get the tickets free from Air New Zealand, in which case we can still run the competition, possibly without the spending money. Complicated isn't it?

Assuming that we can purchase a smaller number of sets, but that there will be no competition does YOUR order still stand? If it doesn't please let us know by return post and your money will be refunded in full.

If you know of anyone who might like or was considering buying a collection, get their order in by return post. It is unlikely that we will have spare sets available once our order is confirmed mid - February.

Finally, a very big "Thank You" to all those who have supported this project. The situation will be very much clearer by the time the February/March miniZ is published.

THE MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

We highly recommend this, the only publication of it's type, to all our members. For those of you who wish to subscribe the address of the Miniature Bottle Collector Magazine is:

Brisco Publications, P.O. Box 2161, Palos Verdes Peninsula, California 90274, USA
Annual Subscription (6 issues) is US\$20.00. Arrangements have been made to pay for subscriptions in NZ at no extra cost. Please write to the club at P.O.Box 384, Wellington if you wish to subscribe this way.

A Night to Remember (or how we got our just desserts)

They came from all over the country, for this was a once a year occasion. An opportunity not to be missed. It was that time again when the intrepid gourmets and connoisseurs of the club went out for a Christmas celebration. No talk of miniatures over sandwiches, but the delights offered by a good restaurant washed down with some of New Zealand's finest wines.

Distance seemed no problem as the appearance of Dianne and Pam from Patea and Marge and Doug from Wanganui indicated. One member determined not to miss the fun "stepped on the gas" to return from Napier in record time! The "locals" had picked an establishment of good reputation for all to enjoy, but unfortunately Fred's Piccart was closed so we ended up at the delightful "Mortons" in Whitby. This was you might say a return to the crime as we actually dined here last year, mind you it was certainly worth returning. Assembling at the Butchers residence for an aperitif or two or three

Chris, Janne, Ian, June, Dianne, Pam, Marge, Doug, Russel, Gillian, Colin, Rae, Colin, Dianne, Ray, Marge, Jackie and someone called Fsbof jkfdhgsikjh. (whoops! damned typewriter...) all drove the hundred yards to the restaurant, Uncle Tom Cobbeley stayed home..

On the last occasion that we visited this place a great bunch from a Hot Rod Club were also there and lo and behold they had arranged to be there this night as well. That was O.K. but then they promised us some surprises later in the evening! The evening was going well with all present having a very pleasant time the food was delicious and the wine was flowing, some of us making sure that nobody had a bad bottle by trying some from all of them... Now when an evening is going this well somebody can be sure to shout out "Bring on the dancing girls" I didn't hear it but there they were four of the ugliest girls I have ever seen. The Hot Rod Club "revue"? was about to start. Miming to songs from the rock and roll era four "men" from their club had dressed up to entertain us, I don't think it was the food, but every one in the room was holding their stomachs and tears were rolling down their faces as light footed gents gave us a superb show.

After this unexpected entertainment some of us were invited to join in on a little entertainment, volunteers hesitantly stepped forward and made sufficient fools of themselves to keep the laughter going for a lot longer. To wind up this fantastic evening a "joke" telling session brought forward some of the quiet members of the group who displayed their skills with subjects varied and "interesting" !!

As we started to say our goodbyes all agreed it was a night to remember, and we all made a date to do the same thing again next year. Those of you who missed this time watch your Miniz Magazine towards the end of next year for details it has to be something not to be missed.

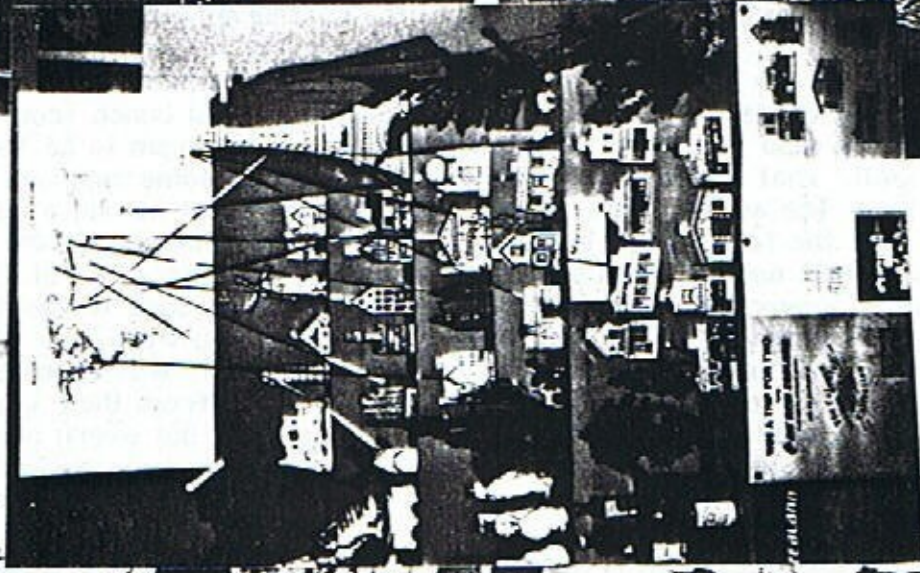
Chris Matthews

Promoting the "Colonial Collection"

Member Nigel Rose with his swaps



Signing up new members



Member Marjorie Lynch admiring Judy & Gordon's display



Members Marjorie Lynch, Judy Homewood, Frank Wynn & Erica Mulder



DISPLAY & SWAPMEET

The Display and Swap meeting at Cambridge was a most enjoyable day.

Judy and Gordon Homewood had attractively decorated the hall with a number of "alcoholic" posters and coasters and on the steps outside the hall, stood a giant 6 feet blown up beer bottle, so there was no excuse for anyone unable to find us.

Marjorie Lynch from Wanganui travelled the longest distance.

Nel, Frank, Nigel and myself travelled down from Auckland.

There were people from Matamata, Hamilton and out lying districts as well as from Cambridge ofcourse, we even had a visit from the local press and there was an article and photograph in the local paper, before as well as after the event.

Without a doubt, everyone who attended our show were amazed at the displays and the miniatures available.

A very big thank you to Judy and Gordon for their time and effort which made this day such an enjoyable one.

It was a pity not more members could attend, but those who did are eagerly looking forward to our next show.

ERICA MULDER

NZMBC

The New Zealand Miniature Bottle Club was formed about three years ago following a disagreement among the members of PNMB. Five members left at that time and formed a new club.

NZMBC had an active, if not very large, membership. One of the leading lights in the club was Les Wilton whose death we reported in the last miNiZ. Les was editor and treasurer and none of the other members were prepared to take on the editors job, hence the amalgamation.

The situation with memberships in the N/MBC is somewhat confused (again due to Les's death). We have a list of people who are or were members, but can only be sure that a few of them are paid up. There was a small amount of money left in the club bank account - this has been transferred to us.

What we have decided to do is to credit the 12 people on the N/MBC list with a membership in PNMB up to the 30th June 1987. This will enable them to receive three copies of miNiZ and decide whether they wish to remain as members.

ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND

February 14th/15th is, once again, a weekend for those who want to get away from it all - except bottles. (Small and big!)

Member Dianne Opie lives on a farm just outside Patea in Taranaki. She and husband Ron have lots of space and lots of spare beds. Those that want to can also camp on the property or stop in the local motel in Patea. Naturally we would like as many members to attend as possible. Those that are near enough and do not wish to stop overnight can come on Sunday for our annual lunchtime barbeque and afternoon swapmeet.

Date: 14/15 February 1987 (or you can arrive Friday night if you wish - a number of us are).

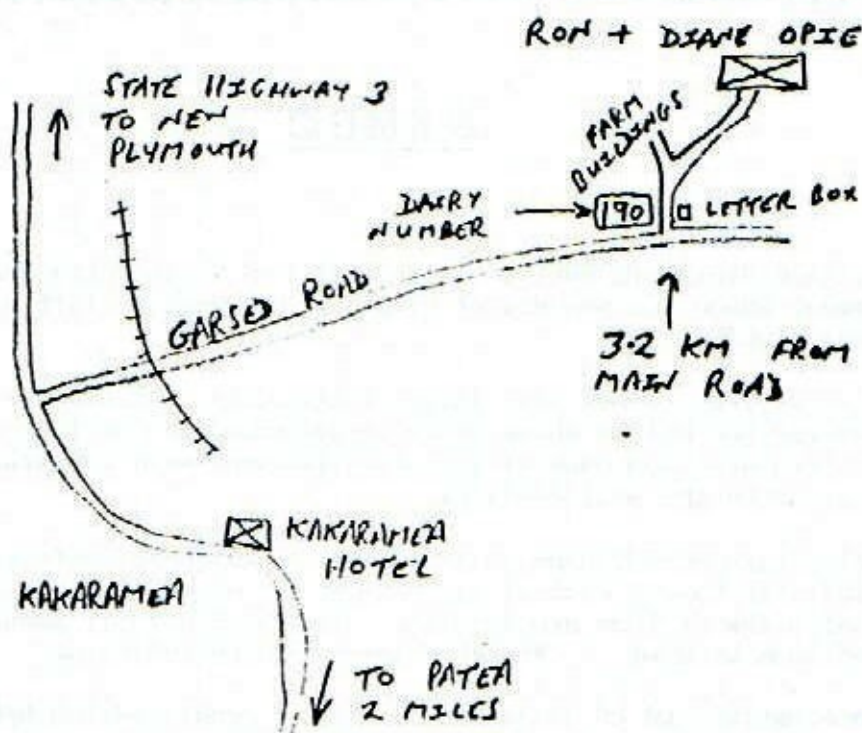
Cost: NIL - (B.V.O. Food, drink and Swaps)

Children: Welcome

Please let Dianne know ASAP if you intend to attend (Phone 062 24 271) and also whether you require inside accommodation or intend to camp.

Enough have said they are going to attend already to make it an even better weekend than last year. Why not join us and get to know some of the other members better.

DON'T FORGET YOUR SWAPS



German Whiskies

by FRANK-NORBERT GERLACH

In my second article, I would like to tell MBC readers some interesting facts about German Whisky and the whisky market in general.

Whisky sales in Germany are growing rapidly. In the last ten years there has been over a 900% increase. Germans now drink over 30 million bottles per year. The sales in Scotch in 1971 were 31% higher than the previous year and in 1973 the Bourbon sales were up 102.9% from the year before.

Every fifth bottle of whiskey which is consumed does not come from Scotland or Kentucky. The most widely sold drinking whiskey in Germany is the bottle in picture one: RACKE Whisky. It is a blend of Scots Highland Malt and German Grain Whisky. This distillery makes its advertisements with two words: mild and rauchzart (smooth). The sign on the bottle is a running red fox. Racke is 3 years old and is the only German Whisky with high sales.

In the same picture you see the KOHUT Whiskey. This came from Frankfurt but today this distillery makes only liqueurs.

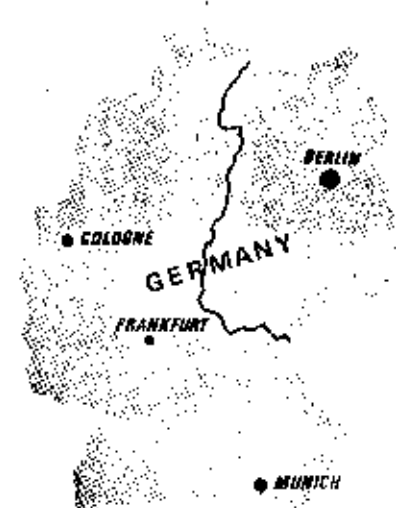
In the next picture you see a German Whiskey which comes from Duisberg. This WERNER Whisky is also unavailable today as the firm makes only beer.

Picture three shows the SORNBERG Whiskey. This was produced in 1948 in Aachen and was also blended with Highland Malt. Unfortunately the firm went bankrupt so this bottle is now quite rare.

JACOB STUCK Whisky comes from Berlin and is still produced today but only in large bottles and those are not common. In a store it is easier to get a bottle of Jack Daniels than a Jacob Stuck Whisky.

Finally we come to the HEINRICH Whisky. This is a very important distillery. However, today they make only gin, Korn, and liqueurs. This whisky is also 3 years old and comes from Berlin.

For your information, all German Whisky must be 86 proof and must be called Whisky. On the label must also be written: German Product.



You see, Germans like to drink whisky, but I think most are drinking scotch, bourbon, Canadian, and Irish. The German Racke Whisky is a good mix for other drinks. And, Racke is much less expensive because you don't have to pay duty.

So that's about all for German Whisky. Perhaps next time I will write about Kentucky Bourbon... available only in Germany!

--FNG--

NEW MEMBERS

Once again, a large number of new members takes us up to a record membership (88).
A very warm welcome to:-

Karen Tylke, 14507, 20 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T5Y 1V7, Ph.(403) 476 4491

Rod Nykolyshyn, 11632, 127 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5 MOV5
Rod specialises in Vodkas.

Mr. C.I. Furze, Main Road, Rahotu, Taranaki.

Philip Athow, 22 Irons Street, Masterton, Phone (059) 83 489.

Stewart Churches, 16 Lewis Road, Lynmore, Rotorua. Phone (073) 59 869
General collector with a leaning towards whiskey.

Bill Schoenberg, c/o Bill's Beautiful Bottles, Indian Cove, P.O. Box 461
Caliente, Nevada 89008, U.S.A.
Bill is a figural collector with over 7,700 bottles.

Marlene Jago, 38 Strathavon Road, Miramar, Wellington. Phone (04) 883 798

We also welcome the following 12 members who have joined us ex the New Zealand
Miniature Bottle Club.

Steve Boyland, 26 Bancroft Terrace, Newlands. Phone (04) 787 856

Simon & Maria Tegg, 8/135 Austin Street, Mt.Victoria, Wellington. Phone (04) 848 332

Anne & Colin Dodd, 8 Antrim Crescent, Wainuiomata. Phone (04) 647 464

Marge Hollis, 18 Bowers Street, Stokes Valley. Phone (04) 638 163
(former member and founder member of the club)

Val Bergman, 203 Rosetta Road, Raumati Beach. Phone (058) 88 881
(former member)

Denis Hurley, 3 Cleland Crescent, Nae Nae. Phone (04) 671 980
(former member)

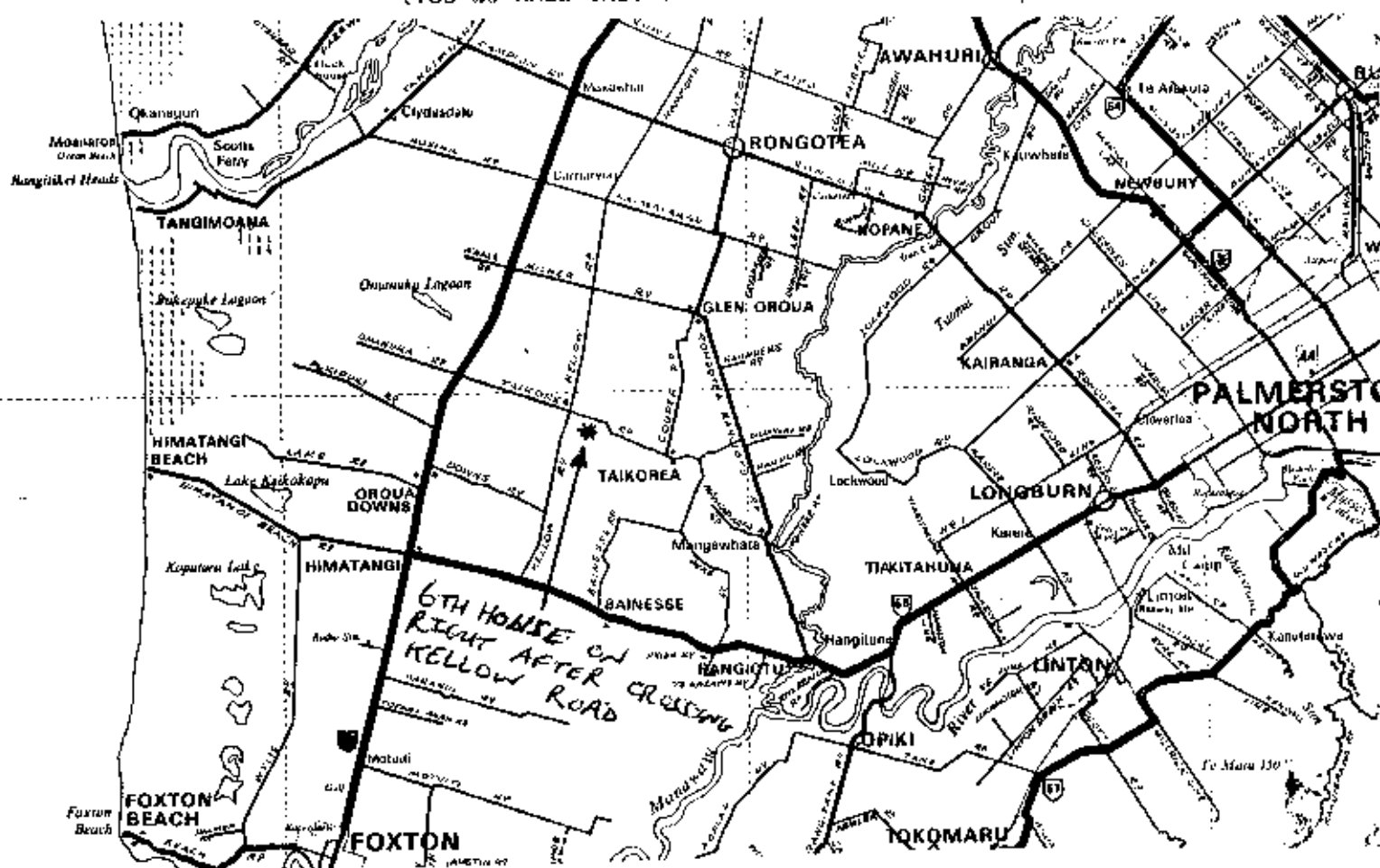
Patty & Rex Hollenback, 918 Dufferin Street, Hastings. Phone (070) 89 339

Sharon Fitzgerald, 36 Tyne Street, Mosgiel, Otago. Phone (024 89) 7785

Alan Popham, Titri No.1. R.D., Outram, Otago. Phone (02997) 4424

D. T. P. NEXT MEETINGS

- 14/15th February Birthday Weekend Away See earlier.
- 15th March 2.00pm Ray & Marge Watsons', 36 Hampstead Street, Wainuiomata.
Note that this is the ACM, please, lets have a good attendance.
- 19th April 2.00pm. Gladys Mudford's, Taikorea; R.D.3, Palmerston North.
(Yes we know this is Easter weekend.) Map Below.



SNIPPETS

Riverside Cellars, which used to be one of the best outlets for minis in New Zealand, now no longer stocks any.

The Regent Tavern still has lots of the 'Landmark' houses at \$45. (Not surprising is it!)

We were short of items for Snippets this edition and had nobody wanting to buy, sell or swap. I find it hard to believe that all our members have all the bottles they want and none to dispose of. Why not put a free advert in the February/March miNiZ.

Cocktail of the Month

WILLAWA

This cocktail comes from the Australasian United Kingdom Bartenders Guild. It was a prize winning recipe made up by Terry Honan of the Southern Cross Hotel, Melbourne, Australia.

- 1 part Galliano
- 2 parts Brandy
- 1 part Cherry Brandy
- 1 part Cream

The instructions are simple:-

Shake with ice, strain into a cocktail glass and dust with nutmeg.



BARBEQUE

Our January meeting was a Barbeque held at Colin and Diane Rydedrs' House, Johnsonville. The turn out of members was no more than average but those that did attend thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Highlight of the afternoon for some that attended was the sight of a certain committee member trying to light his barbeque and discovering that he had forgotten his gas bottle!

The weather was not as kind to us as it could have been, but it didn't seem to worry those who were challenging the computer to Trivial Pursuit and would you believe cheating!!

OLD HOKONU

Those of you who remember the article on 'Old Hokonui' in the February/March 1984 edition of miNiZ may remember that I asked if anyone knew if it was still made. One of our members at the National Bowling Tournament in Wellington was talking with someone from Southland. This person acquired a 2 gallon cask of Old Hokonui which was distilled in May 1986. He intends to let the whiskey mature for an appropriate period before breaking the seal, and swears that it will then be good stuff.