

Issue 62

Spring 2002



MINIIZ

THE NEWSLETTER OF PORT NICHOLSON MINIATURE BOTTLE CLUB



Australasia's only Miniature Bottle Club

Cover and New New Zealand

We have heaps and heaps this month. The Six bottles on the cover were made especially for Richmond Working Men's Club and M.S.A. by Southern Grain Spirits of Kaiapoi. These were found by Robin Mellish and Pam has a few sets in club stock. The cost is \$35.70 for the 6 plus postage – first come first served. All but one of the rest of the bottles were found by Erica Mulder (she has a contact at the bottling company).





Southern Grain also made all but two of the bottles on these 2 pages (I think – the photos are not all that clear). They largely speak for themselves. Erica has, or can get, most of these and some others. Contact her on erica.mulder@paradise.net.nz or phone or fax 09 817 7499 The last two are the ones that Erica cannot get for you. Marquise Brandy was made by Kings Liquor of Greenhithe, Auckland. It is available in some bottles stores currently. The Newslink Festival of Master Sports 2001 is from Wilson Distillers. This special Old Hokonui bottle is going to be very hard to find (I have my wallet open – editor!). Many thanks to Erica and Robin for bringing us these great bottles.



Good Things Come in Threes #2

I did the first article in this series in issue 59. Herewith another pot-pori of bottles.



I took the picture at left in Christchurch last year. Unfortunately I cannot remember who these bottles belong to and so cannot acknowledge them.

These three blue bottles all stand out from other bottles on the shelf. Skyy Vodka is from the USA and, unfortunately, a plastic bottle. The middle bottle is obviously one of a set of 12 as the date at the top of the label, 21.1 – 20.2 shows this to be a sign of the zodiac bottle. Wassermann is obviously German for Aquarius. I assume that bequem gerecht weltoffen is what is in the bottle. Baja Rosa is a

mixture of tequila and strawberry cream liqueur. Why, I wonder, is this in a blue bottle?

On the right we have three ceramics from Hawaiian Distillers. The first is a surfer, the third is a well endowed dancing girl, but it is the second that is the most interesting.

King Kamehameha I, also known as Kamehameha the

Great, was the head of a dynasty that ruled the Hawaiian Islands for more than a century. Hawaiians believe that the birth of Paiea Kamehameha fulfilled their traditional prophecy of a birth of a male who would vanquish all other chiefs to become the greatest of all chiefs in Hawaii. He was born on the island of Hawaii somewhere between 1748 and 1761 and legend has it that he was born at the time of the appearance of Halley's comet and that this was a sign that he would rise to greatness. If this is correct then he would have to have been born in 1758 or 9.



The name Kamehameha (pronounced kuh-may-ha-may-ha) means "the one set apart." His childhood was spent in seclusion with foster parents who trained him in the skills of warfare and prepared him for his role as warrior-king. By 1791, following a period of civil war and dissension, the island of Hawaii was again under unified rule. By 1810 the last of the chiefs of the islands of Maui, Oahu and Kauai relinquished sovereignty to Kamehameha and so the Kingdom of Hawaii was born.

For the rest of his life, Kamehameha I ruled in peace. He established trade with foreign countries, introduced new animal and plant life, promoted agriculture and fostered industry. A contemporary of Napoleon and George Washington, Kamehameha I accomplished all that he did without the aid of a written language. He died in Kailua-Kona on the island of Hawaii in 1819.

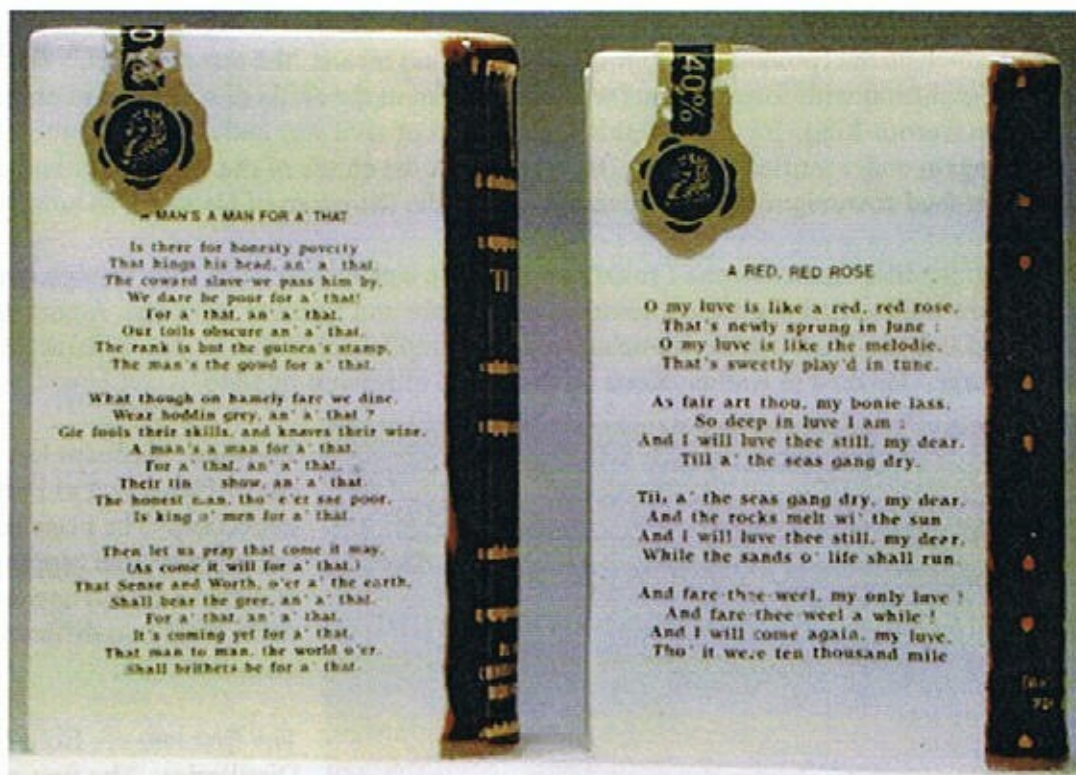


The three bottles at left all came out of David & Val Fretwell's collection. The glass bottles are all the same but the capping is different on each one and they come from two different Austrian manufacturers.

The first two are from Marillen Distilleries. The first obviously has a peach based spirit and the second contains Bailoni, whatever that is. The third bottle is Kaiserbim Likor from the well known Nannerl Distillers.



These three Soccer balls from Old St. Andrews were made especially for the World Cup in Korea & Japan earlier this year – or were they? They have a paper label on the base that peels off all too easily to reveal "France '98 World Cup" It would appear that too many of these were made in 1998 and the company decided to re-cycle the bottles for this year's competition. The basic bottles are also the same as for the World Cup in the USA in 1994. Curiously the two later sets do not have printing on the black balls.



I hope that you can read the poems on these three Rutherford Books. They are "A Man's A Man For A' That," "A Red, Red Rose" and "Address To A Haggis."

All have the same spine showing "The Spirit of Burns" and a front cover showing Burns himself. Does anyone know if there are more than these three?

I have 15 different Eifel Tower miniatures and the three latest colourful additions to my collection are shown on the next page. The one on the left is from Benedict Senuit. It is glass and contains green

Crème De Menthe. The middle one is red Limoges china from a set of three, all different colours. I have a blue one and, from memory, there is also a white one. It contains De Luze Grande Cognac. Finally we have another glass tower. It is from Grande Collection Mignonnettes and contains blue Liqueur Menthe.

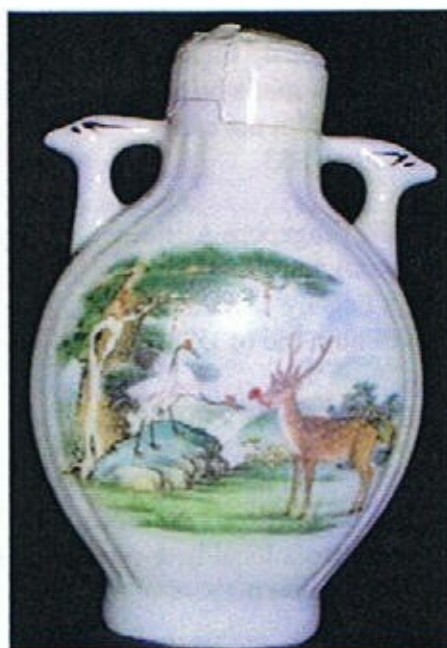
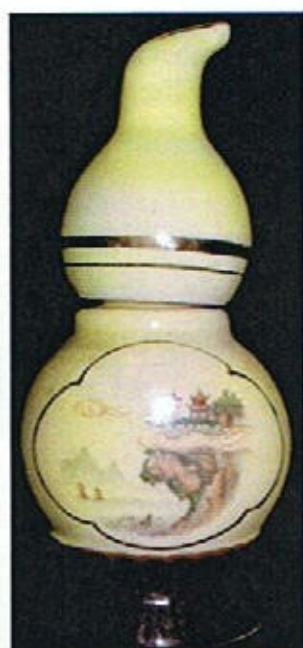
I hope that you have enjoyed these wonderful triads.

David Smith



CHINESE BOTTLES

These three Chinese bottles could be part of the last article. Babs at minibottle@hotmail.com sent me these three pictures of ceramics available from mainland China. The first is cream with a nice picture on, the second is white with a forest glade scene and the final one is brown. Babs was selling these back in September and I think that it is a regular occurrence. Drop her an email if you want to know more or if you want to be on her mailing list.



AS SEEN ON EBAY #3



First up we have a little known Drioli Cherry Cordial Vase Bottle. It stands about 120mm (4.75") high and both the bottle and label are in perfect condition. It sold for, what seems a high figure of, AU\$29

This ten piece miniature beer bottle set was made by Bill's Souvenirs and Novelties of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The 10 bottles are: Ballantine Ale, Ruppert (knickerbocker) Beer, Blatz Pilsner Beer, Budweiser Lager Beer, Meister Brau, Falstaff, Acme Beer, Carling Black Label, Berghoff "1877" Beer and Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer. The bottles and labels are in excellent condition, although the original box has one corner split. The set sold for US\$90



This is not a very good picture of Cottons No.1 Scotch Whisky but I found it on Ebay the same day that I received a letter from long standing member, Dick Cotton. Dick has been seriously ill but we are happy to report that he is now recovering well. At 19,765 minis he probably has the largest collection of any club member. Cottons is from the early 1970's and sold for only US\$3

On the right we see the Singapore Airlines stylised bird. It is dark blue with a gold trim and stands about 102mm (4") high. It contains Mackinlays Legacy 12 years old Blended Scotch. It failed to sell for a minimum bid of US\$24.99

Staying with Singapore, on the next page we have two boxed Limited Edition sets each of 4 Guinness miniatures. Both sets were given away in Singapore in July 2000. You had to collect 15 ring-pulls (remember those? They have been illegal here since the 1980's), with Guinness written on them, from local beer cans. The original advertisement is the first picture shown.

These are typical Guinness miniatures (about 76mm / 3" high)

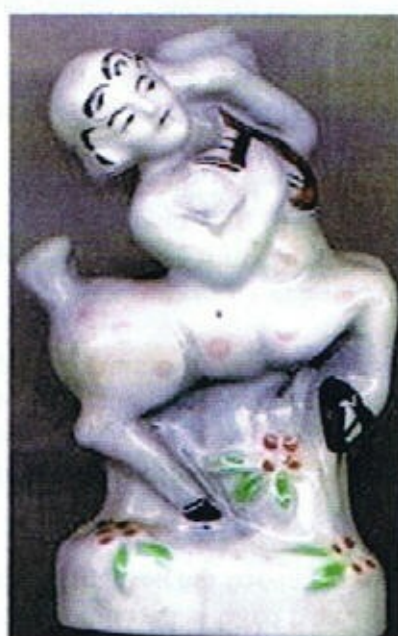




but unusually they have plastic caps.

The first set has bottles from United Kingdom, United States, Caribbean & Australia. The second set should be readable. It comes from Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia & Hong Kong.

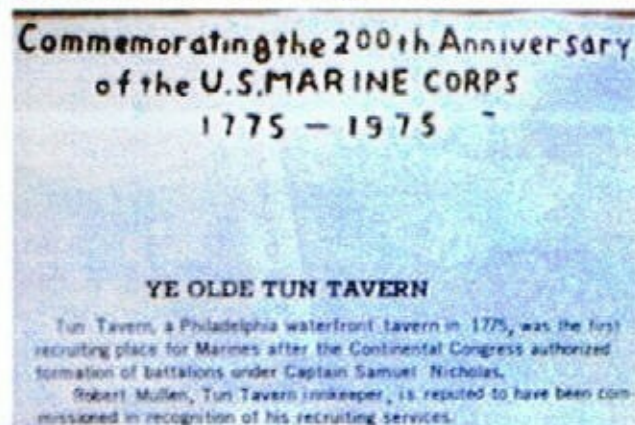
I bought the two sets for a minimum bid of US\$17.50. This was cheap but the postage and insurance was dearer than the bottles, another US\$20 – a total of about NZ\$86 – not bad at all for two boxed sets.



On the last page are two very interesting miniature liqueur decanters made in occupied Japan. They each measure about 100mm (4.0") high. The first is a deer or antelope of some sort. The second is of half man and half animal-playing a harp, otherwise known as a cenataur. The first sold for US\$21.49 and the second for US\$16.49



Ye Olde Tun Tavern commemorates the 200th anniversary of the U.S. Marine Corps, 1775-1998. It has been put up for sale twice by amateur dealer and well known collector, Butch Jones. It failed to sell the first time for the minimum US\$18 bid but the second time around a single US\$18 bid secured it. Certainly cheap for such an interesting bottle.



The two jugs on the right are in their original boxes and are from Garnier of France. They are about 108mm (4.25") high and contain crème-de-Menthe. I looked them up in the Garnier reference book (Garnier Bottles, Constance Avery and Al Cembura, 1970), hoping to give you some more information about them but unfortunately they are not in there. They sold for a very cheap US\$11.51 for the pair.

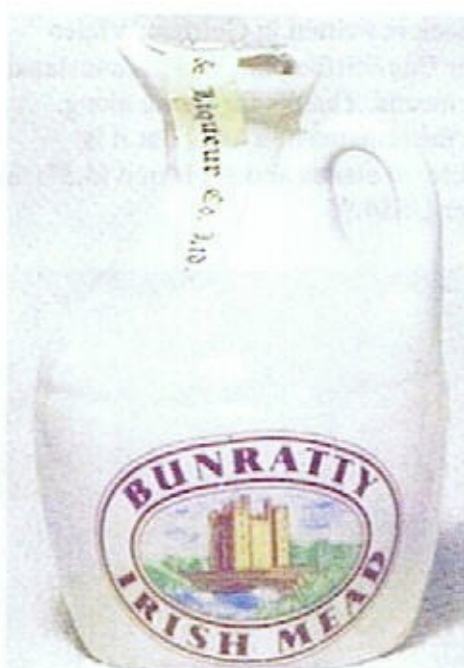


The mini lobster claw and basket decanter was distributed almost 40 years ago by Bols in the Channel Islands only. It is a very difficult mini to find and rarely comes up for sale. It is empty but otherwise in mint condition. It sold for a very cheap US\$16.07 – I would have bought it myself if I had realized that it was going to go so cheap.

On the next page is a mini Bunratty Irish Mead Jug. It stands about 89mm (3.5") high. On the back is printed "Bunratty Mead - The drink of the High Kings of Ireland." It sold for US\$6.99

Scottish Leader, the hexagonal miniature on the next page, is part of a series, all of





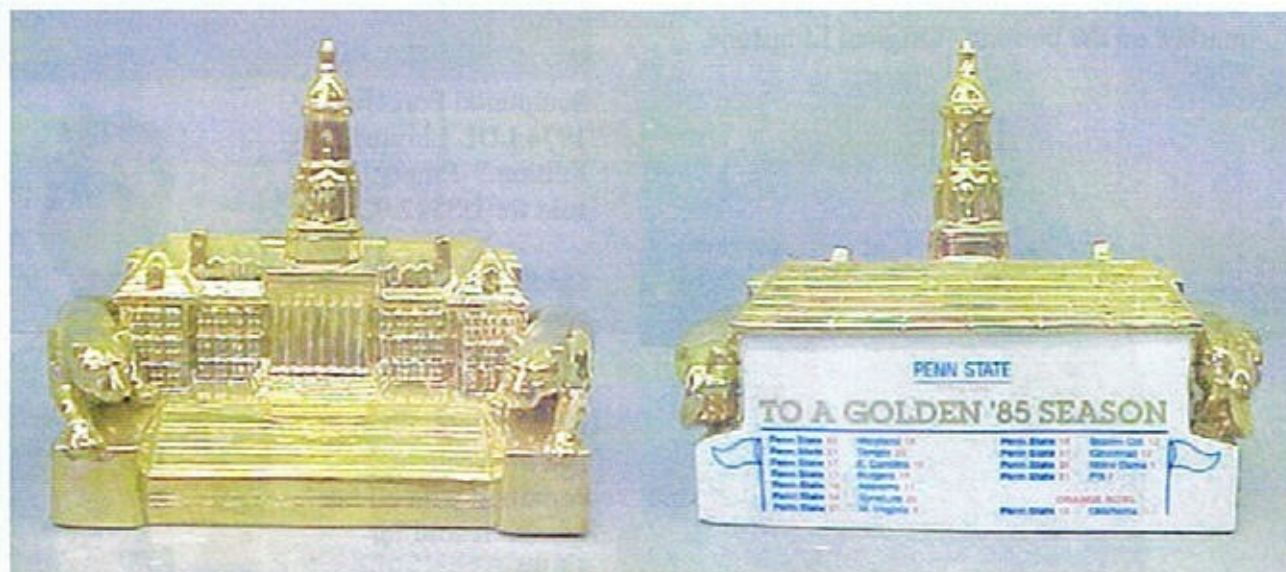
which are about 127mm (5") high and all of which contain 10cl or 100ml of superior Scotch. This one is no exception as it is 'Aged Over 25 Years.' It is decorated with scenes of stags in the highland glens and a Golden Eagle catching a salmon.

It sold for £29

Below is one of my favorite bottles that I bought in about 1987. This gold decanter was made in 1985 for the Mount Hope Winery. It is 114mm (4.5") tall by 140mm (5.5")



long by 76mm (3") front to back. It features the Pennsylvania State and the Nittany Lions in gold on the front. The back has: TO A GOLDEN '85 SEASON with teams played and scores. It also has the Orange Bowl score of Penn State 10 and Oklahoma 25. There were 1985 made and each is individually numbered. Unfortunately these were never filled. It sold for US\$51



This firefighters mini decanter is from Lionstone. The letters "I, A & F" in navy blue are displayed on a gold background of the logo for the "International Association of Fire Fighters." "AFL-CIO CLC" is on the bottom part of the logo and the date & words "ORGANIZED FEB 28, 1918" surround a large "F" in the centre of the piece. The logo is outlined in red and the US and Canadian flags stick out from the top. The decanter was made in 1976 and stands 120mm (4.74") tall. It sold for US\$19.18

On the next page is a souvenir ceramic bottle from Lufthansa airlines.





On the back is written in German: Vielen Dank Für Das Mitfliegen! which (translated loosely) means: Thanks for flying along. There is the remains of a label but it is unreadable. It stands about 114mm (4.5") tall. It sold for US\$4.95

These two mermaids differ only in the way that they are painted. They are from UK company, McLech and contain sherry. They sold for US\$19

Lionstone made this delightful Swallow & Mission Bell mini decanter with red roses around the bell arch. It is 108mm (4.25") tall, and is marked on the bottom: "Original Lionstone



Sculptured Porcelain 1974 LDL Limited Edition." Empty, it sold for US\$12.02

Drioli made this ceramic liqueur bottle depicting a kneeling African woman. She is 114mm (4.5") high and in excellent condition with all her labels. It sold for £4.99

I have already started on article number 4. Would anyone else like to help too?



David Smith

AS SEEN ON EBAY - SPECIAL

I could not resist taking the opportunity to show you these great beers, especially as the seller had gone to so much trouble to photograph them so well. They were for sale in mid-September on Ebay and sold under the 'But It Now' system for US \$1,424. I hope that they speak for themselves.



I will let the man who was selling them tell you the story:

I put this collection together in the 1970's and quit collecting by 1980. The collection has been put away for the last 20 years. I collected different label variations so you will see the same company but different labels. There are 178 different pieces including 10 duplicate beers. Shipping and insurance will be \$20 in the US but don't worry, i have shipped or moved 10-12 times and have never lost a bottle. I would expect someone to buy the collection pull out what they need and sell or trade the rest. I hope this collection goes to a good home. I spent many years and \$ putting it together and this was before Ebay.





CHANGE OF ADDRESSES

I feel sure that I will miss out someone here – feel free to email/write to me and complain if I do. The first change on the list is very important as it is the treasurer and ALL contact details have changed. As you can see, the Treasurer has gone to court; which means that he is doing better (so far at least!) than another of our members who has gone to jail – we have quietly removed him from the master membership list!

Ian Butcher 5 Sunburst Court, Paraparaumu Beach, Kapiti, NZ Phone: 04 297 3158
(Treasurer) Email: poppa.chopper@clear.net.nz

Tia Hill 40 carlsen Street, Christchurch, NZ Phone: 03 383 1646

Gary Pasfield 7B Lamorna Road, Parklands, Christchurch, NZ Phone: 03 388 9560

Colin Campbell P.O. Box 111, St. Mary's, Ontario, Canada, N4X 1A9
Phone: (519) 284 2238 E-Mail: colincampbell@sympatico.ca

Tony Inzerillo 815 Delores Drive, Bensenville, Illinois 60106, USA Phone: (630) 860 5905
Email: tinzerillo@moof.net Fax: (630) 860 7746



DUTCH FIGURES

I photographed these two over a year ago at the home of David & Val Fretwell and have been waiting for a spare half page to fit them in ever since.

They were made by "Elst & Bueno" of Haarlem, Holland and contain 'Royal Jenever' – gin to we English speakers.

The man's trousers and woman's blouse are very dark blue and the man's shirt and woman's skirt are both white with mid and pale blue stripes.

These are nice pieces that would have been seen by very few collectors.



FROM NEW SCIENTIST MAGAZINE

Q We all know what happens if you shake a soft drinks can and then open it - the entire can empties itself all over you and any unfortunate bystanders. Why does this not happen if, after shaking the can, you tap it several times on the top with a metallic object such as a spoon or a key?

A If the can is tapped with a metal object the vibration releases the bubbles and they move to the top of the can where they join up to form bigger bubbles or mix with the gas at the top of the can. If you then open the can, the gas escapes without dragging the liquid out of the can with it and onto the unfortunate bystanders. If the can is not tapped, the bubbles expand when the pressure is released and push the liquid out ahead of them. Another common application of this effect (although not usually carried out with a metallic object) is during winding babies. Pat, pat, pat on the back until the bubbles move up to the top and are released.

Q Why do canned beers often have a metallic taste when the solubility of the metal is negligible?

A Some beer cans are made of iron covered in tin which acts as a sacrificial metal to prevent the iron from corroding, and has a lower negative electrode potential than iron. The higher the negative electrode potential, the greater the atom's tendency to be oxidised and give up electrons. However, the thin layer of tin which covers the inside of the can rarely gives complete coverage and often has tiny holes through to the iron. Some iron is therefore oxidised to form Fe^{2+} ions which becomes dissolved in the beer as part of an ionic solution. The iron is usually oxidised by dissolved oxygen in the beer. The fact that Fe^{2+} ions are present should not concern people because it may offer some protection against anaemia. However, manufacturers are now coating the inside of the can with an inert organic lacquer to prevent ions dissolving and tainting the beer.

DATE, TIME & PLACE

November 17 th	2.00pm	David Smith's, 86 Rawhiti Road, Pukerua Bay
November 17 th	2.00pm	Robin Mellish's, 66 Rudds Road, Christchurch
December	Christmas Meal	TBA – Ideas and suggestions welcome
December 22 nd	12.00 noon	Bacon Butty Lunch at David Smith's. (not a club function but all members welcome)
January 19 th	12.30pm	Barbecue at Steuart Goodman's, 21 Horopito Road, Waikanae
February 15/16 th	Anytime	AGM and Weekend away at Patea. (AGM after lunch on 16 th)

As we have no secretary, the person who is holding the meeting should phone or email all the local members a week in advance to remind them.

I still have no notification of meetings in the north of the North Island. It's fun meeting other collectors and seeing their collections. How about YOU holding a meeting?

Bottles for Sale

Has this got your attention?

The club still has a large stock of bottles for sale. Have a look at them on the web site <http://www.geocities.com/drinkslinks/> (click on Bottles For Sale (new)).

Or contact the club at PO Box 384, Wellington, New Zealand for an up-to-date list. We have almost everything still available (and then some) that were on the last list that was sent out.

To buy any of the club stock contact Pam Fowler, RD2, Patea, Taranaki, New Zealand. You can fax or phone her on 06 273 4184 – please remember the time difference if phoning or faxing from overseas.

Bottles for Sale



CLUB WEB SITE <http://minibottles.artshost.com/>

The club No.1 site has been off the web since Errol Brassett resigned. The No.2 site, Drinks Links, remains on line at <http://www.geocities.com/drinkslinks/>

Our new No.1 site will eventually become our only site. We will be integrating the best features from the two old sites and adding new features. It is still at a very early stage but check it out if you can.

One feature that the new site has is colour photos of all the bottles that have appeared in miNiZ issues 57-62. We will be posting the photos from each new issue of miNiZ as they are published.