

Issue 70

Autumn 2005



MINIIZ

THE NEWSLETTER OF PORT NICHOLSON MINIATURE BOTTLE CLUB



Australasia's only Miniature Bottle Club

Cover and New New Zealand

On the cover we feature a gift box made by Southern Grain Distillers for Shantytown on the West Coast. The bottles speak for themselves. It is especially appropriate that I show you a boxed set this time as I can also tell you that we have commissioned a boxed set of five bottles, from Southern Grain Distillers, for our 25th Anniversary next February. These will be in fairly short supply so if you do want a number of sets please get in touch with Supplies Officer, Erica Mulder, so that she can bulk up the order. The price is not yet set but it will be reasonable.



The above bottles were all also found by Erica. The first four, together with Grants, Southern Comfort, Drambuie, Appleton and Vertical bear an importers label. The two Milford are new versions of the only NZ single malt. We have shown three 42 Below NZ Vodka before but there are now four and the label has changed a little. You should be able to find all of these in bottle stores, although you may have to travel the country to do so.



On this page we start off with seven from what I believe are a total of ten 'shot' bottles. Apparently these have been around for some time but nobody thought to tell me about

them. Can anyone provide a picture of the other three for the next miNiZ? (or better still send them to me!). Like many of the previous bottles these are an import with the NZ importer shown on the label.

My thanks to our contributors this issue, Jim Crawford, Ken Chin, Errol Brassett and not forgetting Erica for supplying the bottles.

Enjoy the colour again, unfortunately it will not last as the money will run out!

David Smith

AGM Weekend

This weekend could so easily have turned into a disaster as we did not have the number to hold it where we had booked. It was however a great success.

All attending members came together Friday evening for a barbecue put on by David & Rosie. Saturday saw us split up into a number of groups going sight seeing or bottle hunting (unfortunately not much was found). Most of the members, together with spouses and families attended a dinner on Saturday night at Mungavan Blues and a great time was had by all.

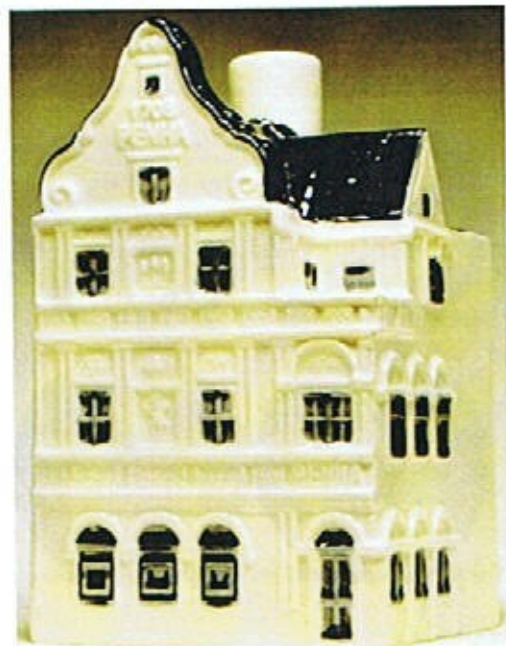
On Sunday morning we all met up at Colin & Di Ryder's house for the AGM. Nothing momentous was decided (except that we should keep going as a club!) but some lively discussion ensued as to the future AGM format and where it should be held. It was decided that the ad hoc format of this year had worked very well and would be repeated, at least for the next two years. 2006 will be in Christchurch and 2007 in Auckland. We are open to suggestions for what to do after that. A great barbecue and swapmeet followed.

So, get thinking about 2006 – book a flight to Christchurch now – you will never get one cheaper. Or start saving up your Fly-Buys. If you ask Robin Mellish very nicely he or another Christchurch member will find a bed for you, or you can stay in a motel if you prefer. See you there.

KLM

All of you will be familiar with the Dutch houses that KLM gives away to first and business class passengers. There is a first series of 45 by Rynbende, a second series of 45 by Henkes and a third series by Bols. The Bols series is currently growing by one bottle per year and on the right you see number 85, which was issued in December 2004. This is a replica of the 'Penha' building in Willemstad, Curacao that was built in 1708.

If you are a honeymoon couple travelling first class then KLM has a special bottle to give you. This is usually one of two palace bottles and these are both difficult for collectors to find and expensive when you eventually do.

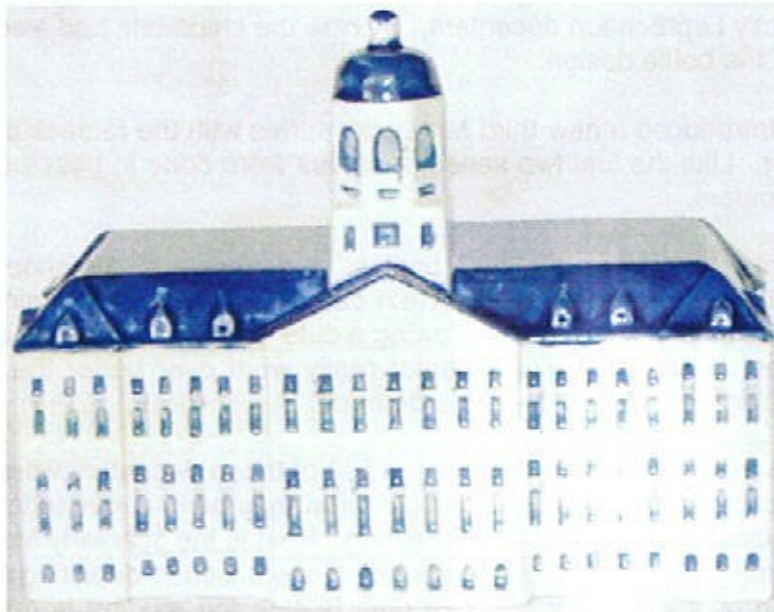


I have shown you the Palace of Kaaswaag in Gouda in a previous edition. On the left we have the Royal Palace in Amsterdam (Paleis op de Dam) and below a picture of the real thing. Note that this bottle has an eight sided tower. This shows that it is an older version as the modern bottles have a six sided tower. It sold on Ebay for US\$256.50



On the next page we have a picture of a copy of this bottle. This is easily spotted as it does not say KLM on the back and the opening is on the bottom, not the top of the tower as it is on the original. This is from a series of six palace bottles and these are very collectable also.

They occasionally come up on Ebay but all six are currently available for US\$35 each or US\$180 the set from <http://www.sieps.com/palaces/thumb/index.htm> (Siep is good to deal with and also has most of the KLM houses for sale)



Even with these there is an older series. The easy way to spot an older one of the Amsterdam Palace is that the opening is again on top but in this case it is on a sort of chimney situated behind the tower.

Paleis op de Dam



The little picture on the right is from the back. It shows the name of the building, together with the pottery name, Royal Goedewaagen, and their crest. The other buildings in this series are Paleis het Loo, Paleis Soestdijk, Huis ten Bosch, Paleis Noordeinde and, last but not least, Drakestein as shown on the right.

The original Drakenstein was made for the wedding of the then Crown Princess of Holland (now Queen). Each of the 200 guests were given one. To the best of my knowledge only one of these has ever been for sale on Ebay and it fetched several thousand dollars.

Royal Goedewaagen have made most of the KLM houses. They lost the contract once briefly and the houses were made in Taiwan. The Dutch government (who largely owned KLM at the time) stepped in and insisted they be made in Holland. Royal Goedewaagen lost the contract in 1995 and another Dutch pottery now makes the houses.



Over the years KLM have also given away other miniatures including the Frans Hals Museum and a number of delft jugs.

David Smith

MR LUCKY SERIES 3

With both the Mr. Lucky Series 1 and 2 being so well received, Hoffman made plans for a third series of Mr. Lucky Leprechaun decanters. By now the chipmunk had also become an integral part of the bottle design.

In 1976 Hoffman officially introduced a new third Mr. Lucky series with the release of the Mr. Bartender decanter. Like the first two series, 6 bottles were done in both the miniature and full size decanters.

The Mr. Bartender decanter consisted of 2500 bottles, and shows a bartender looking at a little chipmunk sitting on a barstool. Next came the Mr. Fireman mini decanter. 3500 of these mini bottles were made showing a cute little chipmunk with a sign reading Prevent Forest Fires. This mini decanter really went over better than expected and additional bottles were made to fill the demand.

The next bottle issued was the Mr. Mailman decanter. 2500 of these decanters were produced showing a leprechaun mailman thinking about what may be in a love letter he is delivering, while a chipmunk hides under the mailbag. Next is the scholarly Mr. School Teacher mini decanter. 2000 of these mini decanters were issued depicting a leprechaun teacher looking over a student taking a test. Beside the student is our friendly chipmunk with the answer sheet to the test.

In the Fall of 1976, the Mr. Blacksmith bottle was released. 1800 mini decanters were produced showing the chipmunk holding his ears against the noise of the blacksmith. Next, Mr. Stockbroker was the last of the series 3 decanters. Only 1500 of these mini bottles were produced showing the chipmunk holding on to a piece of stock ticker tape.

In the next miNiZ I will show you series 4.



Reprinted from Gulliver's Gazette the newsletter of the Lilliputian Mini Bottle Club

Jim Crawford

MINIATURES IN THAILAND

Although my main collecting interest is Scotch whisky, it may surprise you all that one of my most treasured miniature bottles is a cognac miniature that I picked up whilst holidaying in Thailand with my wife in the mid-1990s.

Apart from the obvious rarity of the miniature bottle (I've yet to see another one so far) I value it because of the blood, sweat and toil it took to obtain it.

I had been looking for minis for the ten days we had been in Thailand. I visited all the possible places I could think to look or could find in Bangkok and Phuket but all I had come with was a few plastic Scotch whiskies.

On the penultimate day before flying back to New Zealand, I went up north to the adjacent province with my wife to visit her relatives. After traveling all day, we finally arrived at about 8pm at night at the local town where my wife's sister lives. As we drove into the street where she resided, I saw a small liquor stall that was still open.

After we got settled, my wife and her sister decided to go out to get takeaways for dinner. As they left I shouted out to my wife to pop into the liquor shop to see if they had any minis, although I wasn't very optimistic. When she came back she brought back a medium sized box which contained one of the most attractive cognac minis I have seen.



It is a standard hour-glass 50ml Hennessy XO cognac suspended in a solid two-tiered brass stand. The mini celebrates 120 years of Hennessy in Asia and this is inscribed at the base of the top tier. On the bottom tier is inscribed "The spirit of Hennessy".

Apparently the shop owner had kept this mini for many years as a special souvenir. But after some slick bartering with my wife, he was persuaded to sell it for 500 baht (NZ\$30).

The moral of this story is that when it comes to looking for minis, never give up, wherever you are.

Ken Chin

AS SEEN ON EBAY #9



I was about 6 months old when this Haller's Country Fair Straight Bourbon Whiskey bottle was produced in Fall (Autumn) 1951. There are a number of versions of this bottle and I assume that this is not the commonest as it sold for US\$20.51. The bottle is made from brown glass, stands 95mm (3.75") tall and has a multi colour label.

Only 350 minis of the Cowgirl from Old Grand-Dad were made and they were sold only to Beam



Collectors. Unfortunately they were never filled and more unfortunately still, this one failed to sell for a minimum asking bid of US\$15.95. It's not too surprising that it failed to sell as only four people looked at it but the big question is, why did it only produce four views?

Next up a ceramic that did sell, but for a very poor price. The 1825 Sgt. Major Coldstream Guards bottle is

by Grenadier and was made in 1973. It sold for a minimum bid of US\$5.



A much better price was obtained for our next bottle. Old Forester Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey was bottled exclusively for The Pullman Co. (Pullman were the company that ran the sleeper train carriages in the US and parts of Europe for decades). It stands about 83mm (3.25") tall and is a watch (as in fob watch) shape. There are a whole series of these railroad bottles. This one sold for US\$51.

I always have Roses Lime Juice cordial in the bar at home and a bottle (full size that is) has been in the house for as long as I can





remember. There are several versions of the miniature but this is a British one, part of the Gold Seal series of micro minis. Typically these are all under 76mm (3") high. It sold for a very poor £0.99

On the left we have another cordial, this time of Lushus California Crème de Menthe. This nice little cream coloured jug sold for US\$14.94



I apologise for the poor picture of the Wieland's can. I have enhanced it as much as I could – you would not have seen the original at all in black and white. The reason I wanted to show you this is that it was on sale for a minimum bid of US\$59.99. Now, I do collect mini cans (this one is about 50mm (2") high) and I would have liked this one, but it is hardly surprising that it failed to attract a bid at the totally unrealistic minimum. (Anyone want to buy all my cans at a knock-down price of \$55 each?)

The Calvert bottle shown on the left is a plastic one from the 1950's. It is a needle and thread case and is the twin to a tape measure bottle. Both stand about 70mm tall. I have had the tape measure bottle since 1999 (they sell for US\$100/\$200 to collectors of novelty tape measures but I picked mine up for a much more reasonable



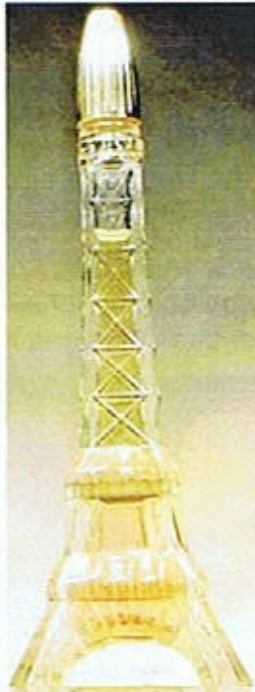
price) and would have loved to buy this. I expected this to go for a similar sum and, although it bid high, I would have paid the US\$33.42 it went for as this was not as high as I expected.

The bottle above is, of course, of Dolly Parton. It is entitled "Dolly Who?" and stands about 200mm (8") tall. The stopper is in the base. It twice failed to get a minimum bid of US\$29.50



The last picture on the former page is "The Bull Head" brandy. It sold for a mere £1.64 Other than that I can't tell you anything about it.

On the right we have one of four Royal Salute bottles, this one being the blue version. It contains 50ml of 21 year old Scotch at 80 proof and the ceramic bottle was made by Wade. It sold for a mere £5.00 – probably less than the Scotch is worth to drink.



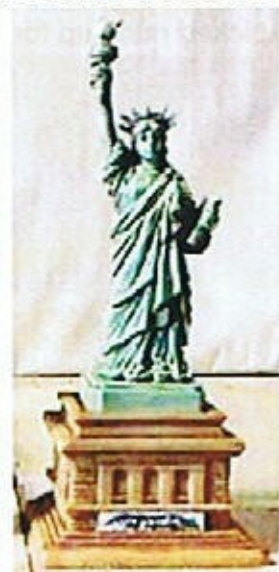
Next up is another bottle that certainly sold for less than the drink was worth is the Jules Robin Cognac in the shape of the Eiffel Tower. It stands about 178mm (7") tall. This sold for a minimum bid of US\$2.99. Seeing bottles sold as low as this sometimes makes me wonder why I bother, but then you don't collect bottles for the money!



Next is a porcelain decanter in the shape of a 1930 Duesenberg car. It was made by the Lionstone Distillery in 1978. This bottle is approximately 150mm (6") wide and 63mm (2.5") tall. There was a series of these vintage car bottles. This one sold for US\$9.99

The Hula girl on the left was not for sale (except in your dreams guys) but is by far the commonest one of the two. The girl on the right sold for US\$24.56. Both were made by Hawaiian Distillers and contain rum.

The statue of liberty has been made as a bottle several times. This one is part of the huge Ski Country set. It sold for US\$21.50 (seems the girl wins out over liberty yet again)





It is a rare event for me to show you three pictures of the same bottle, even more so when it is only a Coke bottle. The first two pictures show that this is indeed a standard 'Always' series Coke. The only difference is that it has a tag attached. Without the tag I would expect this bottle to sell for US\$6 to \$12. It sold for US\$76 with 18 bids in total!



The bottle on the left above is the prairie chicken bottle from Ski Country. It bid to \$12.25 but failed to reach its reserve. Next is the Ski Country Robin. This is the state bird of Connecticut and is standing on a Sweet Laurel bush, the state flower. It sold for US\$17.51. On the right is a blown glass penguin, possibly made by Rynbende (there is only a partial label) but I suspect not. A few

collectors clearly knew what it was as bidding was spirited and went to US\$179.01. From what I can see the dog has a similar label and, again, a few collectors knew what they wanted. It sold for an incredible US\$215.01 to the same buyer as the penguin.



The jug is made of Finsbury fine bone china and shows a snow scene. It is filled with mead by Morland Miniatures of Devon, England. I have had one of these in my collection for nearly 20 years and would certainly have paid more than £3.21, which is what it went for.

Dug's Brothel decanters are always popular and shown on the right is both the back and front views of one of the hardest to obtain. This was reflected in the price fetched, US\$189.38. Note that this, as with many of the later bottles, was filled with Blue Mi Tai, a cocktail invented by Dug Pickens.



The Cabrini log was made in Argentina and came from a collection being sold as part of a deceased estate in Uruguay. It sold for US\$11.99. This is a glass bottle with plaster (made to look like bark) and sections of tree branch around – most unusual.



Why would a company put pink gin in a blue ceramic bottle? That is what Plymouth have done. This fish is

about 100mm (4") tall and the container was made by Dartmouth Pottery. It sold for US\$9.99



The Poodle is from Collectors Art, one of a set of 6 Dogs made in 1975 in a limited edition of 1200. Minimum asking price was US\$22.50 but it failed to get a bid. The hand (shown both sides) is a Schaefer & Vater giveaway. It is most unusual to find one of these with a label on. By coincidence there was an unlabelled one for sale at the same time. Labelled it fetched US\$39.99, unlabelled US\$9.99.



Pennsylvania State College was made as a limited edition piece by Mount Hope in commemoration of a 'golden' 1985 football season. It is about 100mm high and about 150mm wide and is all gold. It sold for US\$26, which I thought was cheap for such a great bottle. Another all gold (almost) bottle is King Tut from Michter's. It is one of a set of three made in 1978, the others being Queen Neffertiti and Goddess Selket. I first saw these in a store in Chicago in 1981 for sale at US\$25 each and paid between US\$15 & 25 each for my three a decade or so later. King Tut failed to sell for a miserable US\$5.99

David Smith

JULIA BULETTE



The bottle of Julia Bulette shown above was made by Dug's but is not part of the Brothel series. It is however very much related to it. I was going to show you this bottle in "As Seen on Ebay" (it sold for US\$43) and thought that it might be nice to find out who Julia Bulette was. I found the following article on the net and thought it interesting enough to share it with you all.

Julia Bulette is probably the best known woman of the Comstock era. She was born in either London or Liverpool, England in 1832. When she was a child, Julia emigrated with her family to Louisiana. She married early in life to a man named Smith but the marriage was unsuccessful. When it ended, she became a prostitute in New Orleans. There is very little documented history on Julia and, as a result, many incorrect claims have been made about her. One is that she was Creole. Another false story is that she had a fancy establishment on C Street called Julia's Place but Julia was never more than a working prostitute.

The lure of gold finally drew her to California in 1852 or 1853 where she first worked the mining camps. One community she spent some time in was the Trinity County boom town of Weaverville. She finally moved to Virginia City in April, 1863. This sprang up in 1859 following the discovery of the fabulous Comstock Lode. It became an overnight boomtown with few women, single or married. The Red Light District was a five block area on the west side of D Street.

Julia's cottage was at the corner of Union and D Street at No. 4 North D Street where miners and workingmen passed it daily. It consisted of a parlor and bedroom. The parlor could accommodate as many as a dozen visitors while the bedroom was taken over by a large bed and dark, heavy curtains. The bedroom also had a trunk for her clothing and a wash-basin. Although the cribs occupied by the other girls on

the row had little in the way of furnishings, Julia's was comfortable with mahogany furniture, Brussels carpets and lace curtains.

She was exceptionally kind-hearted and had many friends on the row. She always had a friendly word for workers who passed her cottage. Many kind acts for hard-working miners and donations to charity earned her a measure of respect and gratitude. The editor of the Territorial Enterprise described her as "being of a very kind-hearted, liberal, benevolent and charitable disposition - few of her class had more true friends."

Julia was an attractive woman. She was considered a middle-class prostitute and usually had only one customer a night - she did not have to solicit. She often received as much as \$1000.00 a night and many of her wealthy clients gave her expensive jewelry and furs. She also loved to entertain and had fresh flowers delivered daily to her cottage via Wells Fargo.

Julia was proud to have been elected an honorary member of The Virginia Engine Company Number 1. She took her membership seriously and would go on fire calls where she worked the breaks of the engines. The only known photograph of Julia (shown above) shows her dressed in a fireman's shirt and belt and posing with a helmet from Engine Company Number 1.

Sometime during the night of January 20, 1867, she was strangled, shot, suffocated and severely beaten. Her trunk with all her jewelry, furs, and personal possessions was stolen. She was 35. The press called her murder outrageous and cruel. Her funeral was one of the largest and most expensive Virginia City has ever seen - even the saloons closed. The fire department took up a collection and purchased an ornate, silver-handled casket.

Although a prostitute, she had earned the respect and love of many and the funeral was conducted by the Rev. William M. Martin. A large procession followed the casket and was led by the Metropolitan Brass Band. This was followed by the Virginia Engine Company Number 1 in full uniform. Finally were 16 carriages of mourners - women of the "sisterhood" wearing black and men in their Sunday best.

Because a woman of easy virtue could not be buried in consecrated ground, Julia was put in a lonely grave about a mile east of town. On the return trip to Virginia City, the firemen sang "The Girl I Left Behind".

Several months later a French drifter, John Millian, was arrested for the murder. Although he claimed he was innocent, they found Julia's furs and jewelry in his possession. Additionally, the entire town hated Millian and jury selection was difficult. Millian was found guilty and at dawn on April 27, 1868, he was hung. It became a spectator event with people coming by stage, horseback or on foot. The saloons even closed for a second time. The prisoner spoke a few words in French, kissed the priest and mounted the scaffold. Shortly he was dead.

The crowd returned to Virginia City to open the saloons and celebrate. Throughout the day, Julia was never referred to as a woman of easy virtue.



Mini's On The Net

An occasional series by Errol Brassett looking at miniature bottle related sites on the World Wide Web

As collectors, not just of miniature bottles, we all hope one day to display our 'finds' appropriately and maybe even to enable others of like mind to enjoy them. The Internet or more particularly that part of it available to the general public as the World Wide Web provides an ideal medium to achieve both of these aims. Fortunately for the rest of us, an increasing number of enthusiasts are making use of "the Web" as an integral part of their 'addiction' to little bottles. In this series, I hope to bring to light some of these sites.

Apparently perversely, for this first article I have chosen a website that was not created by an alchophiliast seeking to record and enjoy his/her collection. The site does however represent the second of the collectors aims – that of making their collection available to a wider audience. This particular site also represents a level of consideration and respect rarely seen these days.

We have all heard the story – "My father/cousin/grandfather collected mini's and had quite a few, but I don't know what happened to them when he died, they probably got tossed out" "Who would be interested anyway? [Pause here for a collective (no pun intended) groan].

It makes a refreshing change therefore when 'those left behind' appreciate the meaning of a lifetime collection to the extent that they do something about it. Such is the case at <http://miniature81.hp.infoseek.co.jp/english/>.

To quote from the website introduction, *"In this gallery, you can see a part of my grandfather's miniature bottle collection which he had built up until he passed away. He had collected almost twenty thousand miniature bottles, and it took over thirty years. It was his dream to build a gallery in his house, but he couldn't. So, I set up this site as a virtual gallery, instead of real gallery he dreamed. Having no knowledge about miniature bottles, I cannot explain well about them. But, I think just looking at them is a pleasure as they are cute and interesting. I hope not only collectors but just visitors will be pleased to see them."*

HomePage



Appropriately enough, the homepage is built around a photograph of the 1974 MBC limited edition of a standard globe with links through to the four main areas of the site: - 'The Gallery', The 'Annex', "About this site" and "Links".

The home page also contains an invitation create mutual links (with an appropriate link graphic) and a what's new section.

Unfortunately the site does not appear to have had any new material added since late 2003.

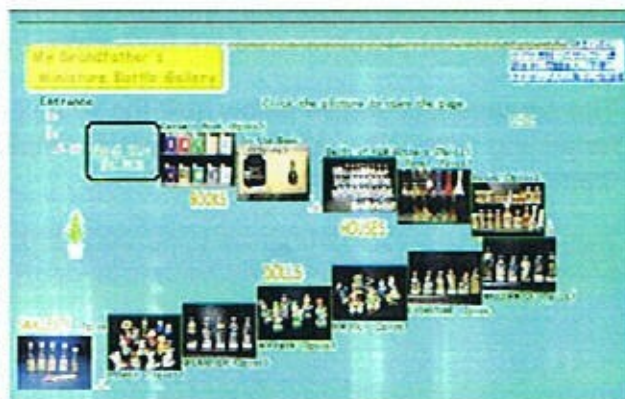
A message sent to the webmaster (Hiina) minibt1@infoseek.jp from the homepage did not elicit an answer.

"About this Site" Page

The contents of this page give a further indication of the scope of 'My Grandfather's' collection. Additional general descriptive text is given together with several pictures showing VERY full shelves. Also shown are several stacked plastic 'crates' of mini's not able to be displayed [you know, the kind many of us have but don't always admit to which we never quite get time to sort out!]. The screenshot on the next page has been rearranged slightly to take account of page display limitations.



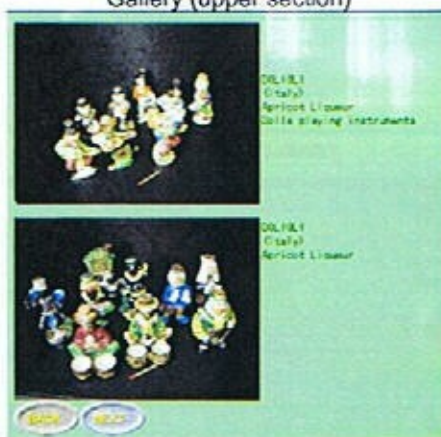
About this Gallery



Gallery (upper section)



Gallery (lower section)



Example of gallery 'room' (Drioli)

"Gallery" Page

This page provides an 'index' of the main content of the site in so far as the mini's it displays are concerned. Drawing on some of the text from the previous page it shows 'only' the 3000 or so figurals in the collection (a small number of 'straights' are shown on the "Annex" page).

Page layout is interesting with a series of thumbnail pictures arranged in a descending zig-zag providing links to pages of only slightly larger pictures of the mini's themselves. The pictures in the 'rooms' of the gallery are arranged in broad categories, with a few, it seems being misplaced. The DORIOLI (sic) 'room' is shown above by way of example.

Categories shown are: BOOKS: -Ceramic Book; In the Book; HOUSES - Delft of KLM and others; Tower; Ruins; DOLLS - McCormick; Lionstone, Dorioli (sic); Hoffman; Grenadier; Others; SMALLEST; RARE; GOODS AND MODELS - Sports; Vehicles; Instruments; Game; Fire; INTERESTING !!! - Funny & Cute; ANIMALS - Rynebende; Garnier; Others; VARIOUS BOTTLES - Various, Painted; Barrels; Pots & Jars; 50 years Old & Others. A fairly eclectic collection to say the least.

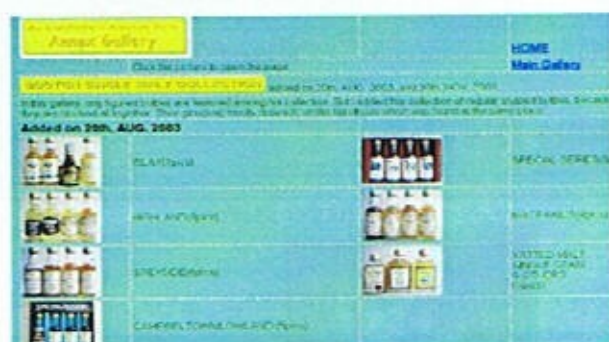
Tip: The 'gallery' pictures are not clickable thumbnails enabling access to a larger version of themselves and I found it necessary to save them (<right click – save picture as>) and view them offline in a graphics programme [Personal choice – Graphic Workshop Professional from Alchemy Mindworks [fully functional evaluation copy available for download at www.mindworks.com].

"Annex" Page

Apparently added in late 2003 this page follows the same layout as the main "Gallery" but has as its subject matter various groupings of (mainly) scotch whisky 'straights'.

Like the previous page, the 'thumbnails' are clickable links to specific pages of pictures. Once again the pictures used are fairly small but well presented and clear.

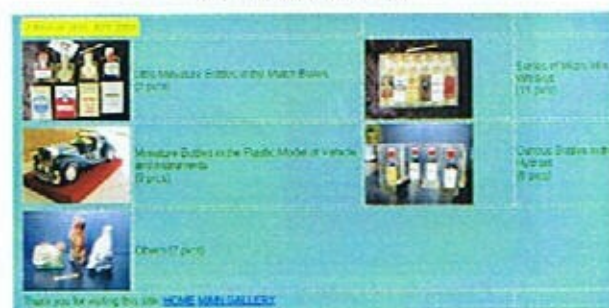
The screenshots shown below split the Annex page in three in order to fit an A4 format while remaining readable. Also given is an example, (reorganized for presentation) of the pages opened through the Annex.



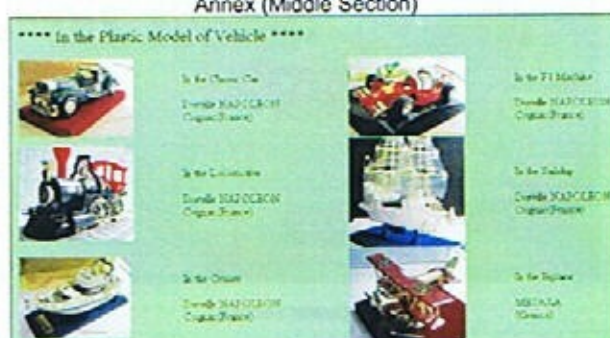
Annex (Top Section)



Annex (Middle Section)



Annex (Lower Section)



Vehicle Page Example

General Impression

Although some structural and presentational issues are present, this site is well worth a visit to view the wide range of mini's collected over a lifetime and displayed through a modern medium. The pictures contained on the site are clear and well executed and being for the most part in the JPEG format resize well for detailed examination.

I recommend a close look at some of the 'joke' bottles to be found on the "Bottles in the Fire Hydrant ???" page.

Next time round, Ceramics . . . and Owls !!

Enjoy

Errol



If you add a little whisky or another spirit to a glass and then take a sip, the inside wall of the glass becomes coated with a thin film of the liquid. As the film drains back into the liquid in the bottom of the glass it tends to form into rivulets which are roughly equally spaced from each other. The spirit is then said to "have legs". Presumably this effect is caused by the high alcohol content in the liquid because it does not occur with drinks of lower alcohol content. But why do these "legs" form?



Legs or tears of liquors and wines have been noted for millennia. The first account probably appears in the Bible: "Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright" (Proverbs 23: 31).

The phenomenon was first correctly interpreted by James Thomson, the elder brother of Lord Kelvin. In an 1855 paper: "On certain curious Motions observable at the Surfaces of Wine and other Alcoholic Liquors" (Philosophical Magazine, vol 10, p 330), Thomson explained the effect is caused by capillarity, or surface tension.

Alcoholic drinks are mixtures of ethanol and water, from which the ethanol, with a lower boiling point than water, evaporates faster than the water when the drink has been poured. Because the surface tension of ethanol is lower than that of water, evaporation induces forces between more watery and more alcoholic regions. When a glass is still, this leads to the circulation of the liquid within it, an effect termed evaporative convection.

Once the side of the glass has gained a thin film of liquid it quickly loses its ethanol to evaporation. The resulting increase in surface tension drags more liquid up the wall of the glass, where it accumulates in a rim. Eventually it becomes too heavy to remain there and drains back as legs or tears.

In a development typical of the history of science, Thomson's paper was overlooked by later investigators, who instead picked up on work from the 1870s on surface tension driven convection by Carlo Marangoni. It is Marangoni's name, not Thomson's, that is now immortalised in the field, while Thomson, unlike his brother, has slipped into obscurity.



The Marangoni effect can cause other remarkable situations. For example, if the whisky in a flat dish is exposed to the air, then the whole body of the liquid is divided up into hexagonal columns that circulate around as the alcohol evaporates. Unfortunately, this is difficult to see under normal circumstances.

Marangoni convection can also take place in a single liquid when heated, because surface tension decreases as temperature rises. Under most circumstances, normal convection caused by density differences swamps the Marangoni convection but, under conditions of weightlessness, normal convection is absent and Marangoni rules the roost. For this reason, it is a subject much investigated by space scientists.

DATE, TIME & PLACE

April 10 th	SI	2.00pm	Eric Sutton's, 14C Michigan Place, Westhaven, Christchurch
April 17 th		12.30pm	Pot Luck Lunch, Marj Lynch's, 51 Maxwell Avenue, Wanganui
June 5 th	SI	2.00pm	Trevor Harvey's, 44 Basingstoke Street, Wainoni, Christchurch
June 19 th		12.30pm	Pot Luck Lunch, Ken Chin's, 29 Norton Park Avenue, L. Hutt
August 14 th	SI	2.00pm	David Fretwell's, 61 Port Hills Road, Heathcote, Christchurch
August 21 st		12.30pm	Pot Luck Lunch, Colin Ryder's, 20 Prospect Terrace, J'ville
October 16 th	SI	2.00pm	Robin Mellish's, 66 Rudds Road, Christchurch
October 16 th		12.30pm	Pot Luck Lunch, Ian Butcher's, 5 Sunburst Court, Ppm Beach
January 15 th		12.30pm	Barbecue, David Smith's, 11 Trevor Terrace, Paremata
February 24/26 th			AGM and Weekend Away in Christchurch

Committee

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PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY CORRESPONDENCE TO PO Box 384, Wellington as the club no longer has access to this box.