

Issue 75

Winter 2006



miNiZ

THE NEWSLETTER OF PORT NICHOLSON MINIATURE BOTTLE CLUB



Australasia's only Miniature Bottle Club

Cover and New New Zealand



On the cover and on this page we are showing you 12 bottles from Bemrose Estate, found for us by Ken Chin. There are in fact 36 as there are 12 x 100ml, 12 x 50ml glass and 12 x 50ml in plastic. Most are new, although some of the tall mead bottles have been around a year or two.



These are difficult to find in bottle stores (most are exported) so the club has arranged to get these for you. Even better we are getting them at wholesale price. Let me (David Smith) know what you want. Make it clear whether you want the 100ml, 50ml, 50ml plastic or all three. You can also order if you only want a few different ones. The cost is \$9 each for the 100ml, \$5.50 for the 50ml glass and \$3.50 for the plastic bottles, plus postage. Please let me have your order as soon as you read this as we are only going to order these once. Don't send any money yet. My contact details are: minidavid@xtra.co.nz or 11 Trevor Terrace, Paremata, Wellington.



lots more minis to choose from there.

Get your order in now for the Bemrose bottles.



In issue 71 we showed you two Old Busman minis and questioned whether the bottles were bourbon, or whether a bourbon substitute made in NZ. The new versions make this clear with the addition of the words "New Zealand Spirit."

Finally, not NZ but 5 great bottles found by Diane Ryder at Acland Cellars, in St. Kilda, Melbourne. There were also

David Smith

Bemrose Cocktails

The people at Bemrose have sent us these cocktail recipes (not that we are going to drink the minis of course!). For years miNiZ had a 'Cocktail of the Month' page, so in a way we are reverting to our roots. If any are particularly good let me know.



SHAKERS

Safari shakers — Melon and tropical fruits



Bemrose Illusion
Bemrose Satory, lemon, lime, and pineapple juice

Poussantur

Bemrose Satory, Bemrose Black Pear, kiwifruit nectar, pineapple juice, with a splash of lemon

7th Heaven shakers —

White Rum, coconut, and tropical fruits

Pacific Sunrise

Bemrose 7th Heaven, Red Curacao, orange and pineapple juice, with a splash of lemon

Bemrose Hushhake (Chocolate or Caramel)

Bemrose 7th Heaven, Bemrose Tia Kala, Bemrose special chocolate (or caramel), milk



SHOOTERS

Bemrose Cloudy Sky
Bemrose Manuka Gold, Cointreau, Blue Curacao, Bemrose Black Pear, Bemrose Butterscotch



Bemrose Jellyfish
Bemrose Butterscotch or Manuka Gold, Bailey, and Bemrose Tia Kala



Bemrose Il Duce
Vodka, Black Pear, and lime juice



Somnolent
Bemrose Butterscotch, Melon Dew, and Tia Kala



Imagination
Bemrose Black Pear, Red Curacao, Blue Curacao, Bailey



Bemrose Pause Shell
Bemrose Manuka Gold, Blue Curacao, Melon Dew, Black Pear, and Butterscotch



COCKTAILS

Bemrose Heavenly Colada
Bemrose 7th Heaven, coconut cream, pineapple juice



B-B Sore
Bemrose Manuka Gold, Bourbon (Old Blumman Gold is best), lemon juice, over ice



Sweetie Delight
Satory, Red Curacao, guava, orange, and lime juice



Ocean Spray
Peach Schnapps, Blue Curacao, lemon, pineapple, and cream



Starburst
Bemrose Manuka Gold, Bourbon NZ Old Blumman Gold label, lemon juice and lemonade



Kick Ass (Bemrose Mule)
Vodka, Bemrose Manuka Gold, ginger beer, lime juice and mint



POT POURI

In miNiZ 74 I promised to show you some bottles I had photographed at the AGM. I am going to go one better than that and show you some I picked up on my recent travels as well. But we will start with the AGM and David & Val Fretwell's collection. I did take a few more photos than are shown here but I have saved them for use in other articles.



We start with a sampler case of six Scotch malts. Not only are these unusual bottles but the packaging is brushed aluminium. It has the 'feel' of a cigar case.

We stick with Scotland for our next pair, although few minis could be further away from each other than the elegance of the malt set and the 'rough and ready' feel of the two Loch Ness Monsters. The left hand one is from

Clan Tartan. The ceramic is unfilled but, as you can see, there is a glass bottle (probably about 20ml) hidden in the tree. Although undoubtedly depicting the Loch Ness Monster the bottle on the right is from Souvenir of Argentina and, presumably, contains Argentinean whiskey.



The baby bottle above is unlabeled but is embossed 'Gripelicht' – clearly it is very old. Next we have four very lovely fancy glass pieces from Hungary. I will let them speak for themselves.



Lastly we have a very small Fisherman from McLech. David & Val's collection is an eclectic one as the above bottles prove, but then, variety is the spice of life.

Next port of call with a Camera was Eric Sutton's collection. Here too we will start with Scotch in metal containers. Both are miniature Scotch flasks.



The White horse has a glass bottle inside and the four tot glasses sit over the top. The Black bottle is a little bigger, but still mini size, and is, I think, chromed.



The Cambeltown jug is a beauty,

probably about 100ml size – and it is full.



We have had metal and ceramic so it seems only fair that we should now go to wood. How many wooden minis have you seen? These two are from the Balearic Islands, which is

a Spanish territory in the Mediterranean. The two best known islands are Ibiza and Majorca.



Like me, Eric also collects things in the shape of miniature bottles. The King George IV Scotch lighter and the Schous Norwegian Export Beer opener are two that I haven't seen before.

Our final picture from Eric is of a man, I presume an Italian as he contains Liquor de Vinho. No maker is shown. The telephone is from well known Italian mini maker Casa Vinicola.



Gary Pasco is someone else who also collects things in the shape of mini bottles and cans. Gary brought these ones along to show me, and you, at the AGM.



The Pepsi-Cola and the Schweppes Indian Tonic Water cans are both pencil sharpeners. Both were made in Germany. The other five cans and the barrel above are all lighters.



The 5 'bottles' above are all lighters. Isn't Mazola cooking oil Gary? Only Coors is shown here but there are a number of these for American beers. Above right we have a Haagen 6 pack. This is less than 75mm (3") high and is a fully working radio. It is an especially desirable piece as Haagen is a NZ beer. To the right we have two pieces that are a bit larger than minis but that are worth a look – pun intended as they are both pairs of binoculars.



A few months ago Robin Mellish sent me photos of some new bottles he had acquired. I am sure that you will agree that these are beauties. The first six all



contain Scotch. Notice the golf ball in one and soccer ball in another. The soccer ball has Rangers Football Club name and logo on it. Note also that two of the heart shaped bottles are also for soccer clubs, "I Love Rangers" and "I Love Celtic."



These eight liqueur minis are from Austria (I think). Each has the fruit shown on the label. I doubt that the horticulturalist or orchardist would be too impressed with these as each shows a bird or a butterfly feeding on the fruit. I'm sure you will agree this is a lovely set.

Now for some I picked up overseas. I start with two similar to two shown from

David & Val, a globe and a ship in a bottle. My globe is half the size of the other (50ml), is on a larger stand, and comes from Italy. Note that New Zealand is missing! The ship-in-a-bottle bottle is 100ml and one of several that I could have bought, however I restrained myself because of the cost and bulk for carrying home. The dolphins is another 100ml and I am sure you will agree, a truly great bottle. All contain grappa.



The little ship contains Limoncello and is for sale all over Italy under different labels. This one comes from the beautiful town of Sorrento. The next but one photo shows another Limoncello bottle that is also widely on sale in Italy, this time a lute player. There were about another 8 shapes that I could have bought but these were the only two that are a good fit with my collection.



I've always enjoyed being politically incorrect so I was delighted to find this set on the island of Capri. It is from Alpa and depicts Hitler, Mussolini & Che Guevara. I have hundreds of Alpa micros but I have never seen this set pictured anywhere. I am assuming that it is one set, it may be parts of two. Does anyone know?

Now on to Greece. The first bottle is of Alexander The Great. It contains 100ml of Rousali ouzo. Also from Rousali is the Greek warrior, this time 50ml. I could also have bought this containing vodka or limoncello. Greece was a bit of a disappointment as there were not many bottles around. However there were pillar bottles everywhere. In desperation I bought the 5 below. All contain ouzo.



The UK was even more of a disappointment as I only picked up one bottle for my collection in off-licenses (bottle stores). The two jugs came from different tables at a car boot sale in Cornwall. Both are from Lufthansa, the German airline. I thought the first one was a bargain at 50p, but then I paid 10p for the other!

I'm sure you will agree that there are interesting bottles out there if you get out and look for them. I'm glad to have shown you a few. Feel free to send me some photographs if you have some that you would like to share.

David Smith

HOFFMAN'S MR LUCKY

This article will cover 5 of the special issue Mr. Lucky mini decanter bottles. All were produced and introduced between 1979 and 1989 by Hoffman Original's, or by the Hoffman National Collector Club.



From left to right, the first mini decanter is Mr. Pilot. This mini decanter has the dubious honour of being the last Mr. Lucky miniature bottle ever produced by Hoffman. This mini decanter was introduced in 1989. Mr. Pilot ranks in the top 3 of all my Mr. Lucky mini Decanters. 3500 minis were produced showing a debonair pilot having a drink at a bar. Sitting on his shoulder is our friendly chipmunk wearing his flight cap.

In 1983, the Hoffman National Collector Club released the Mr. Fireman Retired mini decanter. 1500 of these minis were made. They show an older Mr. Fireman in his red hat & pants with a little boy holding a fire truck.

The next mini decanter was made especially for a Hoffman National Convention. 1500 of these mini decanters were issued for the first National Convention held in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1983. This convention was held at the Marriott Hotel in Sharonville (a suburb of Cincinnati), and was the 1st and the last National Convention held. I think Mark Twain had it right when he said "when the world comes to an end, I want to be in Cincinnati because everything happens last in Cincinnati".

In 1982 the Hoffman National Collector Club issued the Mr. Salesman mini decanter. Only 750 minis were produced showing a salesman holding a sign selling the 1st National Convention. Between his feet is the chipmunk wearing a green hat. A Hoffman brochure shows Mr. Salesman selling Mr. Baker but none of these minis have turned up.

The last mini decanter is the Mr. Lucky Carollers. Like the Mr. Organ Player, the designers of this piece liked it so much that they released 750 of these mini decanters in 1979. As I mentioned in my last article, some collectors think the Mr. Organ Player and the Mr. Lucky Carollers are a set. They may look similar, but they were not designed or released as a set.

Only 4 more Mr. Lucky mini decanters left. I will show 3 of them in the Next miniZ.

Jim Crawford

We're Going To The Dogs

A number of manufacturers have issued bottles that have been real 'dogs' but in this article I want to share with you as many bottles as I can find in the shape of Dogs. If I have found these for sale on Ebay I have given the price realised in brackets after the name. Where known I have also shown the year the bottle was produced. Some of the photos are not too good but I believe that a poor photo is better than none.

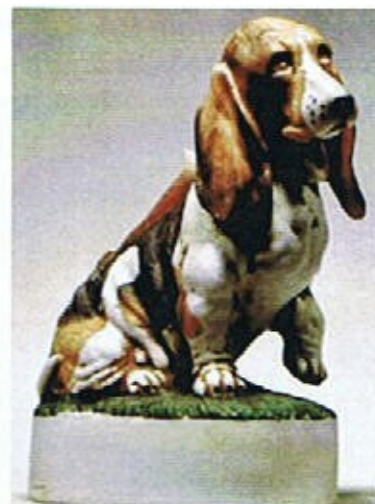
What better than to start with a set of pups from Hoffman. These all have music box bases. The first photo shows a Beagle (US\$14.99)(1978) and a Boxer (US\$42.99)



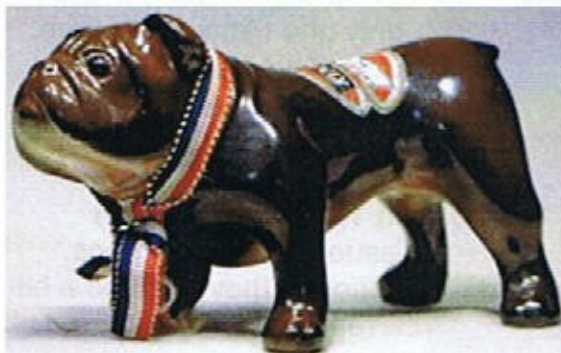
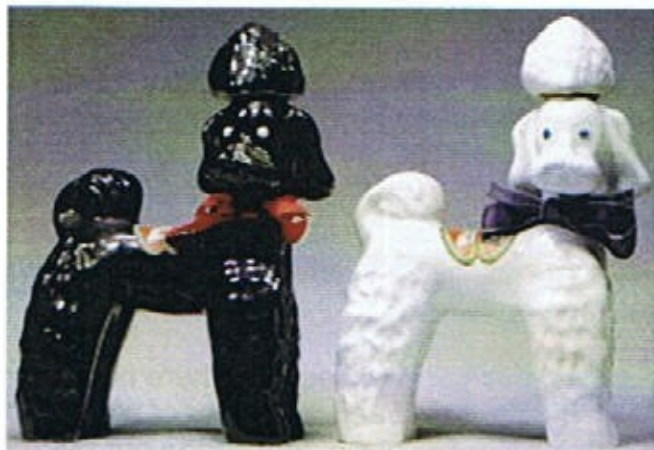
(1981), the second a Dachshund (US\$26)(1978) and a Boston Terrier (US\$46.01) (1978) and the final photo shows a Cocker Spaniel (1978) and a Scottish Terrier (1981), both of which failed to sell.

Hoffman made another set of 6 dog minis, with musical box bases, in 1981. A Poodle and a Fox Terrier (both shown above) together with an Afghan, a Boxer, a Fox Terrier and a Terrier, which are not shown.

Ski Country have made minis on just about every animal subject imaginable (why no whale?) and dogs are no exception, although only three dogs were produced, all in 1978. The two Labradors are shown on the last page. The first has a Pheasant in it's mouth and the second a Mallard Duck. Shown on the right is the Basset Hound.



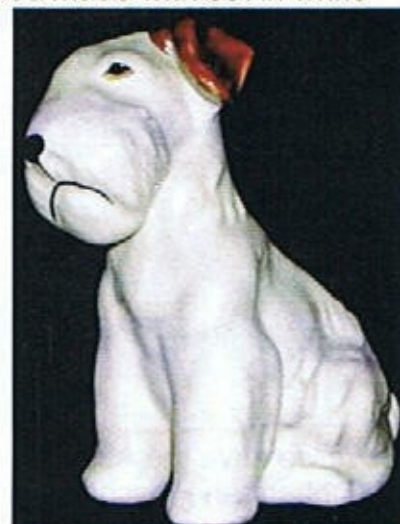
Rynbende have also given us three dogs, the well known black and white Poodle pair, of which far more white than black were made, and the even harder to find Bulldog.



On the right is the Garnier Dog, part of a set of stylised animals known as Humorstiques that were made between 1934 & 1939. Garnier also made moulded glass minis in this period, which included at least three different dogs, one of which is shown below. In the middle right we have the M.A.B. Dog. This is part of a set of 12 animals. These were imported into New Zealand in the 1960's and so are relatively common here compared to the rest of the world. MAB also made with set in white with different coloured highlights, shown far right, and Droz used the same moulds but the trim colour is distinctly different.



On the right we have a dog from Delatour of France. I got this picture and a few others from www.figuralminibottles.com This site is well worth a visit.



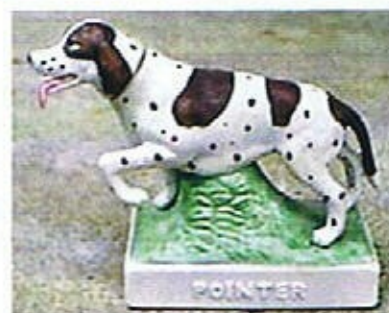
Next we have four Chinese dogs from my own collection. The first three were made by Sam Seng of Hong Kong about 2002 and

the forth one is from Drioli of Italy in the 1970's. The brown Sam Seng dog is from a set of 12 Chinese year figurals.



I expect that there have been a number of blown glass dogs made but the only one I know of is from Bols. This was made over many years and both the label and contents will vary.

In 1976 Collectors Art issued a set of 18 dogs, although they cheated a bit – read on.

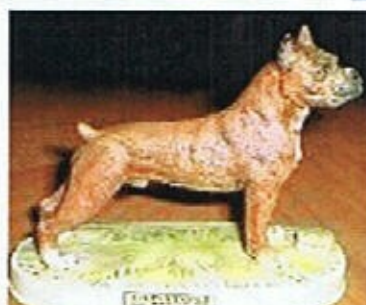
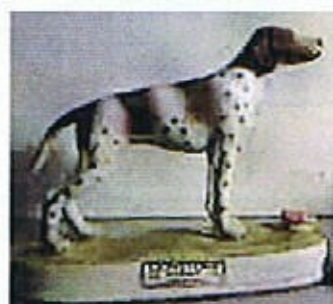


Above we have the Afghan Hound, Dachshund and Dalmatian (top line) followed by The Doberman Pinscher (black), Irish Setter and Pointer (brown). The Doberman also comes in red and the pointer in black. Below we have the Poodle (white),

Schnauzer, German Shepherd (brown) and St. Bernard. The Poodle also comes in Grey and Black and the Shepherd in white and black. Not shown are a Basset Hound and a Collie.



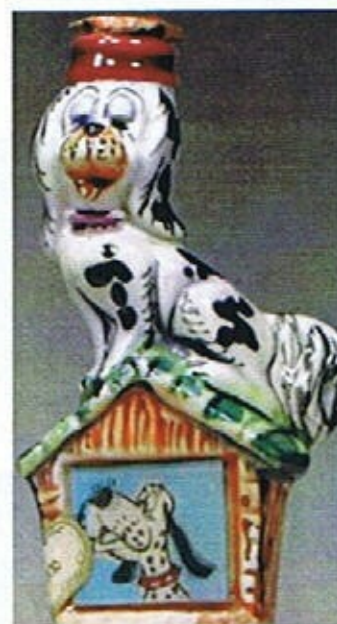
Lionstone issued a set of 6 dogs in 1975 and, not to be outdone by Collectors Art, they issued two more sets of 6 in 1977, but this time there was no cheating. The first set comprises a British Pointer, British Rough Collie, Cocker Spaniel, German Boxer, German Shepherd and French Poodle. Set two comprises an Alaskan Malamute, Golden Retriever, German Dachshund, Irish Setter, Labrador Retriever and a St. Bernard. Set three comprises an Afghan, Beagle, Doberman, Great Dane, Schnauzer & Scottish Terrier. Photos are in order.





I should apologise for the quality of the Collectors Art and Lionstone photos. Unfortunately I do not have any of these minis and these were the only photos I could find on-line.

On the far right we have a mini from Italian company, Casa Vinicola Boccaccio, showing a dog sitting on the roof of it's kennel. In the kennel is another dog which is having trouble getting a fly off it's nose. This is part of a series of 'moving picture' minis issued around about 1970 by three different Italian companies, the other two being Drioli and Gagliano. Talking of Drioli, the Murano glass style dog above was also made by them. Starting off the next page we have a Drioli Murano glass style Poodle.





Also from Italy we have the very rare set of 12 dogs from Niccolo. These are very small, as is shown by the matchstick. Unfortunately I can tell you no more as the photo came from a Japanese web site. The Bulldog is from Luxado as are the three dogs above. Note the distinctly different paint jobs. Finally from Italy we have a dog from Barsottini. This comes as a pair with a cat.



I have no idea where the bottle on the left comes from. I found the photograph by accident. It is one that I took in 1999 whilst travelling in North America and I had appropriately named it "Happy Puppy."

Below we have probably the rarest dog in miniature, a Bloodhound from John De Kuyper



and Sons, Jersey City, New Jersey, USA. Not, you will note, the familiar De Kuyper from Holland. I think it is from the 1930's. It was in the collection of the late Dick Cotton and has been featured in miNiZ before.

The five dogs, or rather pups, below are from Chisaii Bin of California and I believe they were made in the 1990's. They are from David & Val Fretwell's collection.



The dog on the right is from a series of animals by St. Galmier, a French company I have never even heard of before I found this photo. By the look of the seal it is quite old. I can tell you that two sold in 1996 for US\$25 each.

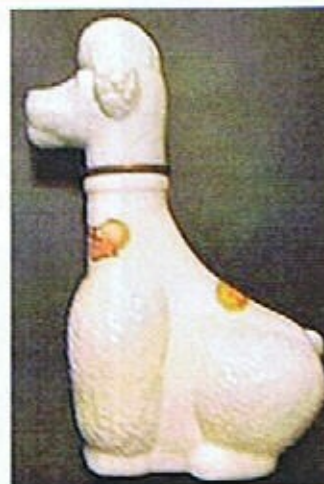
A picture of the set of six dogs from Garnier nearly eluded me, but then these five came up for sale on Ebay. Below is a photo of the missing dog, a German Shepherd. I had to cheat to bring you this as the photo is of the large bottle. The five sold for the very



reasonable minimum asking price of US\$34.99 (only US\$7 per bottle).



The Poodle on the right is from 1971 and is made of milk glass. It contains Italian Rose wine and was a US Import. It failed to sell on Ebay.



I thought that I had shown you all the Hoffman dogs then this Dalmatian appeared on Ebay. It is from 1987 and I suspect part of another set –



does anyone have any other info?

I also thought that I had finished with

dogs from Sam Seng of Hong Kong, until I visited the web site of Thomas Hu from Taiwan (<http://sampledrink.com/main-e.htm>). There I found another Chinese Temple dog and the spotted dog from another Chinese years set. Like the earlier ones these probably contain Chinese wine. On the same site I found the



Potters Dog Sled, complete with Huskies of course, and the pair of MBC Poodles. I have been searching for these on line and these pictures are the only ones I can find.



David & Val Fretwell's new site:
<http://community.webshots.com/user/Minibots707> provided the Samoyed picture. This is one of the few ceramics from the USSR.

Without cheating by showing foxes, wolves, coyotes and prairie dogs, the only other dog I can recall seeing in mini a Dalmatian sniffing a fire hydrant from Federal and a few 'giveaways'. I am sure there are more. If you know of any and can send me a photo will print it in the next miNiZ.

David Smith

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Chilean Whiskies .. Part II

This is the conclusion of my article listing current Chilean whisky miniatures. The table below shows the final seven producers, with examples of the brand names shown in the photos.

As before, column 1 shows the short name of the producer, column 2 the brand name, column 3 the alcohol strength, column 4 the different ageing available (zero means no ageing shown), column 5 the various label variations, and column 6 the total number of different minis I have for each brand name so far.



Producer	Brand Name	%abv	Ageing, years	Label Variations	Total
Monaco	Mc Ryan Whisky	40	0		1
	Monaco Blended whisky		0	1992,1993,1994, 4 colours	7
	1800 Tipo Scotch Whisky	40	0	Especial, Single Malt, Old Reserve, Blended	4
San Sebastian	Casino Malt Scotch Type Whisky	40	3,6,10,12		4
	Casino Special Scotch Type Whisky	40	3,5,8,12,15		5
	Casino Whisky Camar	40	0	2 colours	2
	Scottish Mountain Single Malt Whisky		5,8,10,14		4
	Scottish Mountain Blended Whisky		6,9,12,15		4
Sepulveda	Relicario Whisky	42	0,6,10,15,18,2 1	Single Malt, Tipo Scotch, Reserva	9
	Relicario Whisky	40	0		1
	Relicario Whisky Etiqueta "colour"	42	0	5 colours	5
Singer	Maverick an Exquisite Blend Whisky	42	0	2 colours	2
	Prince of Wales an Exquisite Blend Whisky	42	0		1
Traverso	Traverso 42 Whisky	42	0,3,6,12		5
	Dunbar T Whisky	40,42	0		3
	Dunbar Old Reserve	42	0		1
	Dunbar Scotch Whisky	42	0,4,8,10,12,15		11
	1492 Whisky Elaboracion Tipo Scotch	42	0,8,10,15,18		5
Ventisquer o	Ventisquero Malt		3,6,12		3
	Ventisquero Blended		3,6,12		3
Virgilio Brusco	Derby Finest Scotch Whisky	40	0		1
	Derby Finest Type Scotch Whisky of Great Age	40	0,3,6,8,9,10,12 , 15,20	colours	20



Harland Johnson, New Orleans, USA



Q My flatmate has a habit of squeezing some of the air out of half-empty soft drink bottles before replacing them in the refrigerator. She thinks that will help keep the drink fizzy for longer, but I think the opposite will happen. Can someone tell us who is right and also explain why?

A1 It all depends on the bottle and how it is squeezed.

Assuming that the bottle is simply squeezed rather than scrunched into the smaller shape, so that it is trying to return to its former shape rather than remaining permanently crushed, the following will happen. Once the cap is replaced, the bottle will attempt to return to its original unsqueezed state. This will slightly reduce the pressure of the air in the bottle as the gas effectively becomes stretched (for want of a better word) by the bottle trying to expand. Because the rate at which the carbon dioxide gas comes out of solution is inversely proportional to the pressure of the air above it, the reduced pressure will mean that the fizzy drink goes flat more quickly than it normally would.

More importantly, the release of gas from the drink will effectively only stop when the air pressure above it is high enough. To reach this pressure, the fizzy drink will have to release more gas than if the bottle were not squeezed, simply because it has to return the bottle to its original shape and volume before the pressure starts rising. So more gas than would normally be released enters the air space before the gas stops coming out of solution.

But if the bottle could be scrunched permanently out of shape so that it maintains this shape irrespective of the internal air pressure, the space above the liquid would be smaller and the drink would need to release less fizz in order to reach the higher pressure needed for equilibrium. More carbon dioxide would remain in solution in this situation.

So squeezing the air out of a flexible bottle will make the drink inside go flat more quickly. But if you can permanently deform it so that it does not return to shape then the fizz will keep slightly better. Complicated eh?

A2 You can now buy 'pump tops' for soft drink bottles. These increase the air pressure in the bottle and so stop the carbon dioxide coming out of the drink. Squeezing the bottle would have exactly the opposite effect to that intended.

Date, Time and Place

August 28 th	12.30pm	Pot Luck Lunch, Marj Lynch's, 51 Maxwell Avenue, Wanganui
September 24 th	2.00pm (SI)	David Fretwell's, 61 Port Hills Road, Heathcote, Christchurch
November 26 th	2.00pm (SI)	Peter Alty's, 12 Blencathra Pl Westmorland Christchurch
October 16 th	12.30pm	Pot Luck Lunch, Ian Butcher's, 5 Sunburst Court, Paraparaumu
January 15 th	12.30pm	Barbecue, David Smith's, 11 Trevor Terrace, Paremata
February 26 th	Afternoon	AGM. Wellington

[illegible]

Pam's Auction

My thanks, and of course Pam's, to all of you who participated in Pam's auction. The news was good and not so good for her grandchildren. We only sold about half the bottles but prices were, on average, 25% over the reserves. If anyone is still interested in buying any of the bottles please get in touch with me. Pam is not desperate to sell so do not expect to get them at 'fire sale' values, but Pam is realistic in how much she wants, so you will not be over paying. Contact details:

minizv@gmail.com, 04 233 2997, 11 Trevor Terrace, Paremata, Wellington. Please do not ask for the prices paid for any lot, they are confidential.

There were a few bottles that we did not know the maker for. I have tracked down some that I bought and David Spaid has been helpful with several others. As these are not well known bottles I am re-producing some of them below.



The Cowboy Cook and the Old Cowboy are a Lewis & Clark pair known as 'Son of a Gun Stew.' The Cowboy and Indian traders are also a Lewis & Clark pair, 'Striking a Bargain.' The black and white penguin is by W.L.S. of England and dates



from the 1950's. The other penguin is also from the 1950's and is by Henry Stratton. According to David Spaid the bottle is by Wade but it does not say so. The Budgie dates from 1970 and was bottled by a local US dealer. Does anyone know who?

David Smith