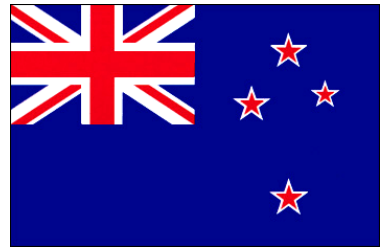


Issue 90

Winter 2010



miNiZ

THE NEWSLETTER OF NEW ZEALAND MINIATURE BOTTLE CLUB



Australasia's only Miniature Bottle Club - www.minisnz.com

THIS 'N THAT

There are no really nice new New Zealand bottles this quarter, so the cover picture is of the first three of 21 new bottles we have to show you from Peru. These three cars are the latest additions (there are now ten different cars) from Royal Highness. All are filled with 50ml of 40% Scotch but all are different blends. The white car has Royal Highness Finest Scotch, the turquoise car contains Red Label Scotch and the cream car has Black Label Scotch in it.

As we have kicked off this issue with bottles from Peru I might as well show you a few more. The cruise liner, United States, is another Royal Highness Scotch bottle. It joins the three liners from last year, Andrea Doria, Titanic and France



The books are from Sotelo and contain 50ml of 42° Pisco, Peru's national drink. They are

the Lineas de Nasea (Nazca Lines) set. These books are leather covered ceramics and each one shows a different Nazca animal on the cover.

Our final Peruvian bottle is rather large for a mini but it too contains 50ml of 42° Sotelo Pisco. It is the Museo de Arte Italiano (Museum of Italian Art) in Lima, Peru's capital.



Very authentic isn't it? You will find an article later in miNiZ showing ten new buildings in Washington DC.

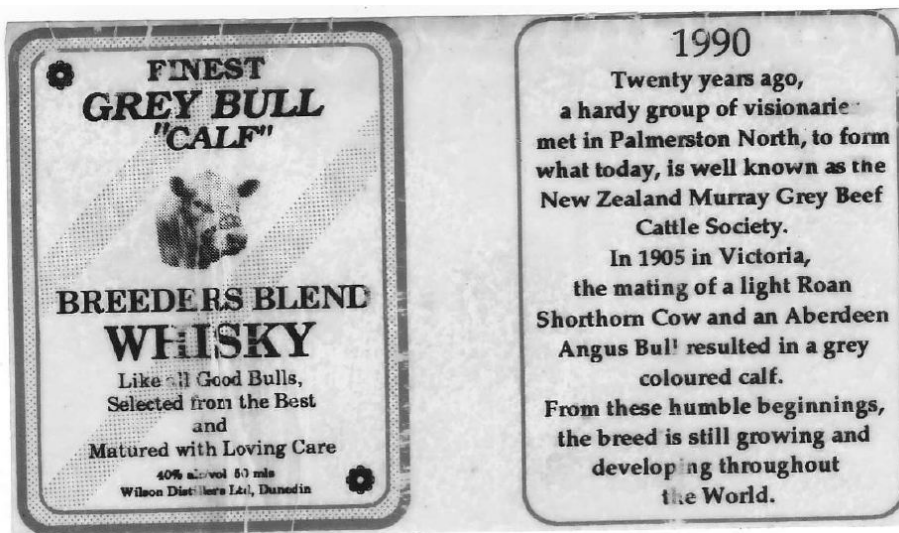


Now to some 'straight' bottles.

Most of you will have received an email from Peter Bonkovich showing what bottles are available from 'The Whisky Shop' in Auckland and offering to get them for any member who wants them. There are some great bottles on offer, although they are anything but cheap. I am not going to show the bottles here as Peter sent excellent photos. If you did not get an email from Peter email him at peter_bonkovich@actrix.co.nz. Peter intends to send out similar emails from time to time.



Erica Mulder sent us these pictures of a New Zealand bottle that is now 20 years old but that we have not shown you before. Don't expect to find it!



Erica also sent us pictures of the next two bottles. The first is a new version of Grants Scotch with a New Zealand importer's label on the back. The second is Marquise French



Brandy, which also has a NZ importer's label. Unfortunately the latter is plastic.

David Spaid has sent us pictures of three new bottles available in the US, or at least, in some states.



The first is obviously a new Jack Daniels single barrel Tennessee whiskey. This bottle is a new shape and is nicely embossed. When David wrote to us (April) this bottle was only sold in Tennessee. Next up is a bottle from Korea. There is not much on this bottle but it does say Traditional Korean Liqueur. Last but not least is Matrushka Vodka, the bottle on the left. This is from Georgia, the country, not the state.

David also sent us some feedback on bottles we showed in miNiZ89. He writes: "A few oddball facts for you. The Baron de Castelneau Armagnac golf bags came in three colours and were made for Australia. The first Etiquette golfing flask was made by Wade and the golf course was Turnberry. I've heard rumours of a

third, but have never seen one. The Prime Blue and Prime Blue 12 year old scotches were made for Taiwan. The Glenfiddich 50 year old was another one made only for Japan. They cost US\$400 when they were released and have been THE bottle to have in your collection for a great many malt scotch collectors. This bottle was also made by Wade.....as are all the Gordon Highlanders. No one is supposed to know that though.....the woman behind Gordon Highlanders told Wade that she'd sue them if they ever let out that they made the bottles! (Game on now then – Editor) She doesn't think Wade is "High Street" enough to have their backstamp on the bottles.

I have the Remy Martin with the diamonds. There were 142 available in Japan and they all went by lottery. Taizo won three of them. He kept one, I got one, and I don't know who got the third one. The cost was US\$1400 and that was when the yen was 125 to the dollar instead of the 90 it now is. (That's about NZ\$2850 for a mini at today's rate!!!)"

David Smith

CENTRAL COAST WINERY



These Norfolk Island Parrots are 14cm tall, hand painted, double glazed stoneware. They were produced at the Central Coast Winery in Holgate, New South Wales, Australia. They were issued around 1990 but there were only about 150 of each colour made. They are filled with Ruby Port and volume is around 100ml.



There are no labels on these ones but we managed to go and speak to the manufacturers who are now based at Mt Nathan Winery in the Gold Coast Hinterland. The moulds were made by George Gibson who owned the Central Coast Winery, and they were commissioned for the tourist market on Norfolk Island. He also produced a Frill-necked Lizard (we need a photo please – Editor) and a Koala and baby in a tree.

When George retired Peter, his son, moved to Queensland. Unfortunately a lot of the stock, including the moulds, were not taken there. It has been many years since Peter had seen the parrots but said they are in remarkable condition. Unfortunately George & Peter never kept any examples of their stoneware products.

Graham Ramsay



These new Australian whiskies are from Bakery Hill Distillery in Victoria.

This is a well established distillery that

have only just produced miniature bottles. As you can see there are 3 different bottles - Double wooded, Peated Malt and Classic Malt. They can be purchased for A\$16.50 each plus postage. Email - david@bakeryhilldistillery.com.au

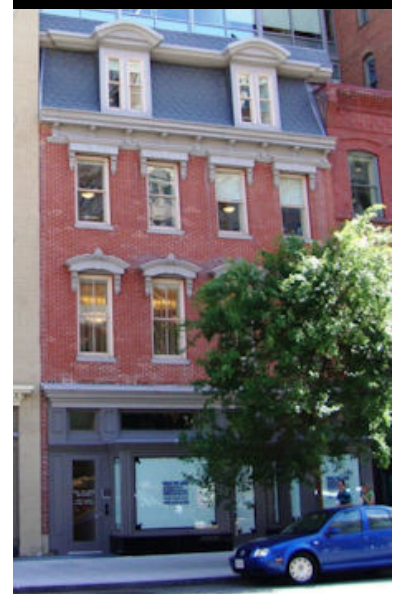
Graham Ramsay

F STREET, WASHINGTON DC

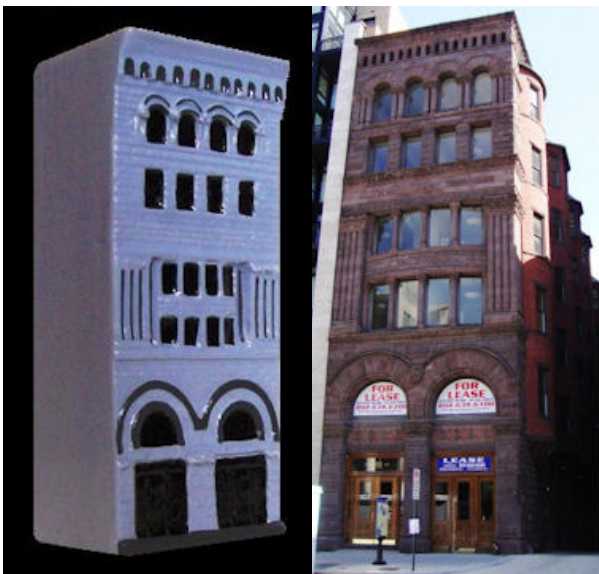
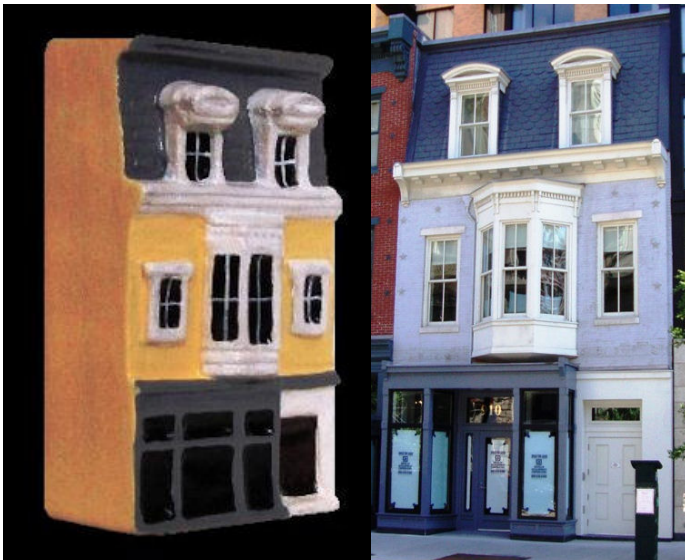


These bottles come from Fernando Saettone in Peru but are of F Street in Washington DC. They all contain 50ml of Old Town brandy at 40%.

I will let them speak for themselves.



These bottles are available for purchase from Fernando: fernandosaettone@hotmail.com



Also have a look at other bottles for sale Fernando's web site:

<http://miniaturasdelperu.com/main.html>

David Smith

US WHISKEY ON EBAY #2

I have been collecting these pictures and prices for months, so it is about time I showed them to you. We will start with twenty flasks, all believed to be from the 1930's.



Kasser's Monogram Blended Rye is in a 105mm high bottle and is 90 proof – US\$63.00
 Hillcrest Amber Gold Blended is also 105mm but this time 93 proof, 1/10 pint – US\$61.00
 Old Hawthorne is from Brown Forman. No proof is shown but it is also 105mm – US\$127.50
 Daniel Webster is a nicely embossed bottle. It's 90 proof, 1/10 pint & 98mm tall – \$51.00
 Gilded Age is another Brown Forman bottle at 1/10 pint, 90 proof & 105mm tall – \$61.00
 G&W (Gooderham & Worts) Primrose Rye is 105 mm tall and only 86 proof – US\$39.00
 Frontier is from The American Distilling Co. It is 1/8 pint, 90 proof, 108mm tall – US\$89.88
 Mayflower Straight Rye is from Schenley's. It is 1/10 pint, 90 proof, 98mm tall – US\$20.48

Had enough 1930's flasks? I thought not, there are eight more at the top of the next page:

Judge & Dolph Old Parkerhouse Rye. It is 1/10 pint, 90 proof, 111mm tall – US\$46.01
 Oldetyme Distillers Three Feathers Blue Label. 90 proof, 1/10 pint, 105mm – US\$50.98
 Gibson Distilling, Gibson's Club does not show the quantity or proof. 105mm – US\$25.48
 Lionel Distillers made Old Pointers Bourbon. 1/10 pint, 90 proof, 102mm high – US\$128.38



Overbrook's Washington Club is a nicely embossed bottle. 90 proof, 105mm – US\$82.00
T. W. Samuels Four Decades Kentucky Straight Bourbon. 102mm tall – US\$107.55
Old Gold Bourbon is 90 proof, 1/10 pint. It is 102mm high – US\$82.52
Frankfort Shipping Port Bourbon is 1/10 pint, 100 proof & 108mm tall – US\$59.00



Century's Old Toddy is 2 years old, 1/10 pint, 90 proof & 105mm tall – US\$40.00
 Large Monongahela Rye was Bottled in Bond at 100 proof. 105mm tall – US\$89.00
 Hiram Walker's King of Clubs is 90 proof, 1/10 pint and 98mm high – US\$50.02
 American Gold Label is 7 yo, 25% Whiskey & 75% Spirits at 90 proof, 108mm – US\$51.00

Next we have three flasks from the 1940's and one from the 50's, then we will get onto some round bottles.



Medley Distilling made Harold's Club Kentucky Bourbon. 1/10 pint, 105mm – US\$36.00
 National Distillers made Old Log Cabin. It is 98mm tall but I have no other info – US\$25.48
 Standard Distillers Kentucky Life Bourbon is 1/10 pint, 86 proof and 105mm tall - \$20.48
 Four Roses is a beautifully embossed 1937 blend of Straight Whiskies – US\$40.50



The Wilson "That's All" on the far left is the oldest of the two Wilson bottles. It is 90 proof, 1/10 pint and was made in 1938 – US\$18.50. The second Wilson is a beautifully embossed bottle from the 1940's. Surprisingly

this sold for only US\$19.95. Wilken Family is another 1940's bottle – US\$15.50. Finally above we have Walker's De Luxe American Rye is from 1928 – US\$61.00. To the right we have Old Rose Bud. This is empty but it is such a nice old bottle that it is very collectable, pitty I forgot to record the details! Dickel's Cascade is a 1940's bottle that sold for US\$18.50





Old American 4 Year Old Straight Rye is a nicely embossed bottle but empty – US\$4 was all it sold for. Old Judge is another empty bottle but in this case the outcome of the auction was somewhat different. This is a pre-prohibition bottle is 108mm high and from the early 1900's. A number of collectors bided this up to US\$330.00. Old Methusalem Brand is another pre-pro bottle but this one sold poorly – US\$16.50. I think that we have shown Wolf Creek Straight Rye before. This one sold for US\$11.05. I've got fond memories of visiting Green River in Utah, although I am sure that this Bottled in Bond Whiskey from the 1940's is named after a different one – US\$23.37. Last, but not quite least above, is Schenley Black Label Reserve from 1947. It sold for the minimum bid of US\$6.99



Anderson is yet another pre-pro bottle. This is 114mm tall and, as you can see, empty but in good condition for it's age – US\$60.00. Next we have four Jack Daniel's bottles. These are usually so common that it is not worth my showing them to you but these ones are all somewhat special. The green label Old No.7 is from the early 1960's – US\$62.95. The next two look to be common but if you look carefully you will see that the first has a Japanese import label and the second is probably the Russian import as it has lots of Cyrillic script on the side. The Japan bottle fetched US\$105.28 and the Russian one €17.63. Jack Daniel's Old No.7 Export with the cork top is a small batch bottle. It is 102mm tall. Two were sold, one for £92.68 and the other for £97.68. Finally above we have Paul Jones in another square bottle, said to be from the 1950's – US\$26.00



Maker's Mark from time-to-time makes bottles with different coloured wax on the top. Some are very rare but obviously the pink top is not rare enough for someone to pay US\$74.99 for it as it did not sell for the minimum asking price. Parker Rye, from N. M. Uri, is our sole ceramic in this article. Disappointingly, it sold for the minimum bid of US\$9.99

Pearl Springs Old Kentucky Whiskey was bottled by Dangier Bros. of Kansas City. It sold for US\$89.00



Melrose Blended Straight Rye looks like it should be a vodka. Not a great photo but it is shaped and embossed. It sold for a minimum bid but the seller probably was not disappointed as that was US\$52.88 – rather an odd amount as a minimum bid don't you think?

We have shown Chicken Cock before, but not this version from the 1930's – US\$112.50 I should have shown you Uncle Jack's earlier as it is another bottle from



Jack Daniels. US\$112.50 bought it. Lastly we have a very familiar name, Four Roses. This one is from the 1950's – US\$27.00

David Smith

SUPER RARE NEW ZEALAND BOTTLE

Back in the 1980's the two MacGregor brothers issued twenty three minis, mainly liqueurs, in these small plastic bottles. Twenty two were sold in New Zealand and most were fairly common, although the spirit bottles are a lot more difficult to find than the liqueurs.

Red Stag Deermite deer extract concentrate is the exception. All except three were exported to China. One of the three was destroyed in a fire at the MacGregor Brothers offices and two have found their way into collections. I photographed this at Erica Mulder's. The other one is owned by a collector who is no longer a club member.



STATUE OF LIBERTY

As this edition of miNiZ is coming out in July, and as I bought three more on my recent overseas trip, I thought a view of the various Statue of Liberty bottles was called for. I'm so organised that I'm even going to show you them in alphabetical order.



The first three bottles are from my own collection. I picked up #1, The Spirit of Liberty from CMB Spirits, in the duty free at Montego Bay airport in Jamaica. This bottle was also sold at the Friday night auction at the St. Louis show – I paid a lot less in Jamaica. The second Liberty is from Forcoll, Argentina and I have had this for years. Number three is from Hawaiian Distillers and I bought this at the St. Louis show from the people who own Ski Country. The last two are Royal Louis from China. They contain brandy and are for sale on Ebay from time to time. There may also be a blue one but I have not seen it pictured.



The far left Liberty is from Ski Country. The base is the bottle and the statue is velcroed to it. This is another that I bought recently in St. Louis. I do not know who made the final Liberty. It is listed as unknown on Miniature Bottle Library – do you know who made it? Do you know of any others?

If anyone else has an idea for an article that would celebrate a national holiday let me know.

David Smith

MONGOLIAN VODKAS

I apologise for repeating myself as I showed you the two Chinggis Vodkas in the last miNiZ. The others are all new to us. These photos were sent to us by Chimeddorj Ochir, from Mongolia, who is offering to get these 13 bottles for any of our members who wants them. He does not give any prices but can be emailed at: miniqs@yahoo.com



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Just a reminder, again, to all members that miNiZ is your newsletter. Every member has the ability to contribute something. It might be a complete article, it may just be a photo of a bottle you have found that you consider particularly interesting, it may be a bottle collecting anecdote, it may be how you started collecting. Whatever it is – send it!

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COLLECTION FOR SALE

We have been contacted by 'a blast from the past,' former member Shirley Stocker from Masterton (and before that Wainuiomata). She has a collection of approximately 250 bottles to sell, either as a whole (there is even a Rimu cabinet if you needed it) or singly if nobody wants to buy them all.

Shirley does not have a computer but if you want to make an offer on the lot or any shown on these photos you can do so through Janet, her daughter-in-law: dandj66@vodafone.co.nz



ST. LOUIS SHOW 2010

We went to the US this year, met up with friends, including David & Marcia Spaid, in Los Angeles, then on to Jamaica for the wedding of Rosie's daughter, Katy. Unfortunately nobody else got there because of Eyjafjallajokull, the Icelandic volcano, as the bride, groom and all the other guests were coming from the UK. The wedding was cancelled so we stayed a night then flew back to the US, the Carolinas to be precise.

Every cloud (no pun intended) has a silver lining and not only did I buy the first bottle I have to show you in a junk shop in the middle of nowhere in South Carolina (try setting your GPS to 'shortest distance,' this really gets you off the beaten track). But Rosie and I also got to go to the show in St. Louis which was on the same weekend that Katy should have been getting married. For those of you feeling sorry for Katy at this point I should say that the wedding was re-scheduled and Rosie flew down to Jamaica again the week after the show.



Anyway, back to the show and bottles. Above is my junk shop purchase, MS Oosterdam from Holland America Line. Let's just say that I didn't bother haggling at US\$10. The first



couple of bottles below are from a set of 10 that Rosie bought for me as an anniversary present at the Friday night auction. They are from Famous Firsts and, although I have seen them pictured before, I have never seen the real thing. Strangely there was another set (slightly different) for sale at the show. These two are The Mogol and The Spartan. Both sets can be seen in full at <http://www.minibottlelibrary.com/mbl/alpha/famous-firsts/index.html>

I was disappointed with the show two years ago. Not that there was anything very wrong with it it was just that the bottles for sale were not the sort that I was looking for. This time, from my point of view at least, it was great!



I usually help out dealer Harry Goetz and this year was no exception. It gives me a base and gets me in early, when many of the best bottles change hands. This year Harry had just bought a large collection. He started putting out a set of minis and just as quickly I stopped him! No haggling was again necessary and I am now the owner of 11 minis from the Disney Pinocho set made by Manharttan in 1940 – see miNiZ 77, Summer 2007 (on the web site) for an article on these. In that article I say that there are 10 different but I now know that there are 13 as three, Geppetto, Jiminy Cricket and Pinocho,

came in colour also. Anyone got a coloured Pinocho and a white Geppetto for sale to complete my set? These were by no means my only purchases, I bought so many in fact that we bought two chilly bins to post them back safely in (only one bottle was damaged).

We hooked up with the Northwest Miniature Bottle Club, <http://www.minibottleclub.com/> on the Saturday night – great and enthusiastic bunch of collectors.

I took the opportunity to take a few hundred photos of the bottles on sale for Miniature Bottle Library but not many of the show itself. However, this article would not be complete without a few photos from the show so here are the best of the few I did take:



David Smith

TWELVE NICCOLO LADIES

The twelve ladies shown here are from my own collection and represent each month of the year and twelve flowers. They are VERY small at about 30mm high. They speak for themselves.



January - Carnation

February - Violet

March - Daffodil

April - Daisy



May - Hawthorne

June - Rose

July - Water Lilly

August - Poppy



September - Aster

October - Cosmos

November - Chrysanthemum

December - Xmas Rose

David Smith

ODD SPOT - KAVA ON THE BRAIN

From New Scientist

It is a very long time since we have had an **ODD SPOT** article. I spent a lot of time working in Fiji in the late '70 & early 80's. At that time there were bowls of kava everywhere, even on the reception counters of professional offices. It was very impolite to refuse a drink, which was always offered. Some days I was pretty high by mid afternoon!

This article on Kava, in it's own way a substitute for alcohol in many Pacific island countries, struck me as interesting, so here it is. As far as I know there are no Kava miniatures (feel free to prove me wrong – I will gladly show them in the next miNiZ).

QUESTION: I recently drank some of the interesting root-based drink kava on the Pacific island of Vanuatu. I'm happy to report that it had some odd effects. What exactly did it do to my brain?

ANSWER: Because your correspondent drank the kava in Vanuatu, it may have been made using either fresh or dried roots, while in other countries where kava is drunk, such as Fiji, Tonga and Samoa - it is almost exclusively prepared from dried roots. Vanuatu kava, especially that from fresh material, is much more potent and its effects tend to be greater.

The active chemical ingredients in kava, called kavalactones, produce a number of effects in both the brain and the rest of the body. Initially the tongue becomes numb, as does the inner lining of the mouth. Some of the other effects may depend on the familiarity of the user with the drink. A novice user may find the drink bitter or sour and that food loses its taste and flavour. Nausea may follow, along with headache and intestinal discomfort, effects not experienced by the habitual drinker.

In contrast to alcohol, kava used in moderate amounts produces a calming effect, reduces fatigue, allays anxiety and stress, and induces a generally pleasant, cheerful and sociable attitude. It is partly for these reasons that it has been consumed in South Pacific communities for hundreds of years as a social drink. One hears expressions like, "you cannot hate with kava in you" and "unlike liquor, kava does not provoke aggressive, boisterous or violent behavior". Nor does it cause the hangovers, physical addiction, memory loss or diminished reasoning associated with alcohol.

Kavalactones have been shown to produce a number of biological effects in the brain that could account for the above observations. They include the compounds' ability to produce a local anesthetic-like effect - hence the numbing of the tongue - and to act on drug receptors in a similar way to some anxiety and stress medications such as benzodiazepine. As a result, kava was introduced in the western world to treat anxiety, stress, restlessness and sleep disorders.

There have been some reports of kava causing liver damage in people who live in western nations where it has been used in the form of pills and other such preparations. Consequently, some countries have suspended the sale of kava or issued health advisories. As this medical condition has not been reported in traditional kava drinkers, it is unclear whether it is directly associated with kava itself, or with the manufacturing process or some other factors. In any case, kava is still widely drunk by people from the South Pacific, including myself - I am originally from Fiji.

Yadhu Singh

DATE, TIME & PLACE

Saturday 17th July 2010, 6.30pm Pot Luck Dinner, Ken & Malee Chin's, 29 Norton Park Avenue, Fairfield, Lower Hutt. Telephone: 04 938 1488 E-Mail: Kenchin@ihug.co.nz

Sunday 25th July 2010, 2.00pm Wayne Skene's, 16 Tucker Street, Ashburton.

Sunday 19th September 2010, 12.30pm Pot Luck Lunch, Ian Butcher's, 5 Sunburst Court, Paraparaumu. Telephone: 04 904 3157 E-Mail: poppa.chopper@clear.net.nz

Sunday 26th September 2010, 2.00pm Trevor Harvey's, 44 Basingstoke Street, Christchurch Telephone: 03 388 7713

Sunday 14th November 2010, 2.00pm Eric & Cheryl Sutton's, 14C Michigan Place, Westhaven, Christchurch Telephone: 03 383 9686 E-Mail: cjsutton@slingshot.co.nz

Sunday 21st November 2010, 12.30pm Pot Luck Lunch, Colin & Diane Ryder's, 20 Prospect Terrace, Johnsonville. Telephone: 04 478 4391 E-Mail: rydercj@xtra.co.nz

Sunday 16th January 2011, 12.30pm Barbecue Lunch at David & Rosie's, 11 Trevor Terrace, Paremata. Telephone: 04 233 2997 E-Mail: minidavid@xtra.co.nz

Weekend of 18th - 20th February 2011 - AGM Weekend in Christchurch

Programme to be confirmed later in 2010

The AGM Weekends have been very successful. All are BYO food and drink. Remember to book your flights early to get the best deals. This is a chance to meet or catch up with other collectors, view some great collections and obtain some new bottles.

Please E-Mail: minisnz@gmail.com to let us know you are attending. We already have one of our overseas members confirmed - what about you?

If you want to hold a meeting please let one of the committee know prior to the AGM.

MINI LIQUOR BOTTLE CAUSES EVACUATION OF PLANE

Last January the discovery of a miniature liquor bottle was a big enough concern to force a Southwest Airlines plane back to the gate at Midway Airport (Chicago), where passengers were evacuated and the jetliner searched.

The bottle had a clip attached and was apparently used by a flight attendant on the plane's previous flight to keep track of drink receipts. As the plane was leaving the gate an attendant noticed the bottle and took it to the pilot, who decided to return (Obviously this pilot is not a collector – editor).

The Transportation Security Administration issued a brief statement saying "the pilot returned the plane to the gate where all passengers and carry-on items were rescreened, with negative findings." The Boeing 737 was cleared for departure, the TSA said.