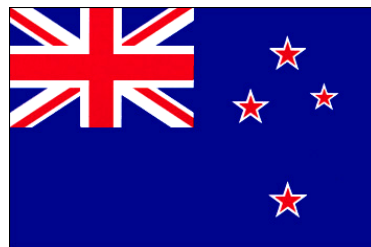


Issue 91

Spring 2010



miNiZ

THE NEWSLETTER OF NEW ZEALAND MINIATURE BOTTLE CLUB



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

THIS 'N THAT

There are a number of reasons why this edition of miNiZ is late. Partly it is because I have just started a new job and am working long hours. Partly it is because I am having trouble with my printer, which is not resolved as I write this but will be by the time I print it. But mainly it is because of you. Apart from a few snippets from David Spaid and the cover bottles from Erica Mulder, you have not sent me any articles. No articles, no miNiZ.



Either Erica's photography has got a lot better or the cover bottle photos and the one to the left are from the manufacturer, Distillerie Deinlein, <http://www.distillerie.co.nz/> Despite the name these are New Zealand bottles, in fact, Deinlein produced the Kiwi Liqueur that was in our 25th Anniversary set.

Why 8thTRIBE? The Deinlein site gives the explanation this way: "8thTRIBE has to do with our family, where we come from, and where we are now..... Our story has its roots in Europe. And although our family comes from a tiny village in the Bavarian Alps, our extended family came from 7 corners of Europe and our journey to New Zealand 30 years ago extends our tribal reach to eight countries - hence the 8thTRIBE was born. The other 7 countries are Germany, Austria, Slovenia, Italy, Switzerland, Spain, Scotland, & then NZ makes the 8thTRIBE."

There was an article in the last miNiZ showing all the Statue of Liberty bottles I know of, including one that I did not know who made it. David Spaid writes: "The glass Statue of Liberty was originally sold in Paris at Galleries Lafayette as part of a Christmas promotion. It contains a 3 year old bourbon from William Fonbelle (a name on everyone's lips...ha). It came boxed and cost €12.90." David went on to say: "Now my other note is three of those glass Jack Daniels bottles. If any of them are real, I'll do the proverbial hat eating. The green Old #7, the flask, and the Uncle Jack's I think have been created. Jack Daniels never used any kind of wax seal. That Old No 7 waxed top along with the Export feature



wax and the Export has a bottle which I'm positive Jack Daniels has never used." Unfortunately it is getting increasingly easy to manufacture your own versions of well known brands. See the article FAKES! elsewhere in this edition.

David also sent us the next two photos.

Again, I will let him tell it in his own words. "The picture on the last page is of five new Amrut Single Malt Whiskies which arrived in California in mid-year. All come in tins. I have two which were sold in Canada last year and they are different...one came in a tin and the other didn't. Then Jim Crawford told me that he just got two from Ian and they are different than any of these. This is the first time though I've ever seen any of them with their own "tax" strips. The picture to the right is of three sample Mezcal which may or may not hit the market in the US."



I bought a small collection recently and in it were the two bottles below. These are unusual in that they are from a company (brewery) that does not exist. Those of you who are Coronation Street fans will recognise the name, Newton & Ridley as this is the fictional brewery that supplies the Rovers Return. The first bottle has a Gordons cap but I have no idea who made the other. The only other Coronation Street



bottles I have ever seen I have in my own collection. These are the two on the left. They depict Vera & Jack who were for many years the fictional landlady and landlord of the Rovers Return. If anyone has any more Newton & Ridley bottles please send me a photo so I can share it with the other members.



On the left we have KLM91, which was issued last month. I have one on order but this rather small photo is the only photo I could find. The web site, <http://www.klm-huisjes.nl/miniatures/>, tells us the following: "The Building located at 175 Badhuisweg was built in 1895. It is located in an urban conservation area known as Westbroekparkweg and Belgische Park, the latter being a 19th-century villa park in the Hague. The villa was built in the 'eclectic style': architecture characterised by its combination of neo-styles. The building was altered and expanded several times. The architect of the house was F.A. Koch (1864 - 1935). The government of the Netherlands Antilles purchased the building in 1955. It has served as the residence of the Minister Plenipotentiary of the Netherlands Antilles who represents the Netherlands Antilles in the Council of Ministers of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.



David Smith

CROWN OPENERS



These are in the 'When is a Bottle Not a Bottle' category but for reasons which escape me I have always liked them.



El Loco Magneto is obviously a take-off of a Tequila. Like most of the others it has liquid in it but I doubt that it is drinkable. It has a magnet on the back. Chiawawas Premium Memo Magnet 13 year old is another bottle with a magnet back and liquid, 50ml in fact. It is clearly a take-off of Chivas Regal. It is the only one of two of these bottles that has the sense to say 'not for drinking.' Last on the first photograph is a Remy Martin take-off, Dirty Martin.

The second photo starts with a great take-off of Crown Royal, in this case Clown Royal. No prizes for guessing that Johnnie Roller (notice the wheelchair) Blue Sign is a take-off of Johnnie Walker Blue Label. I should say that these last two also had magnet backs. Finally for this photograph we have an 'official' fake bottle crown opener. The White Horse label is completely authentic but this is a plastic bottle that contains three dice. The bottom unscrews. To the right we have a similar bottle with dice from Black & White.



Pilgrims Rest from South Africa has fake gold in the bottom. Keinen is a take-off of Heineken and BoronaExtra an obvious take-off of Corona Extra. All three contain liquid.

Something different!



David Smith

AS SEEN ON EBAY #22

This was to be a shorter article than most of the 'As Seen On Ebay' articles but I got somewhat carried away. I will start with four from Israel – somewhere you don't see many bottles from.



The first bottle is Flaska, which is a Kosher Israeli brandy. The second bottle is also a Kosher Israeli brandy, Brandyak. Next up is Scottish King Kosher Scotch and last, but not least, is Jerusalem Lion Kosher Israeli vodka. All are 100ml flasks and all sold for the minimum asking bid of US\$9.99

The great old whiskey bottle on the right is from Jesse Moore & Co. of Louisville, Kentucky. As you



might imagine there were a number of collectors trying to buy this one. A bid of US\$87.76 eventually bought it.



Peter Bonkovich sent me the next three bottles. Unfortunately the photos of the first two are rather small. The bottle on the far left is a rare Springbank Visitors Malt Whisky from 1999. Many sellers describe bottles as rare but rare in this case is borne out by the price, £160.00. The other Springbank is also a Visitors Malt, this time from 2000. A snip at £113.22?

The last bottle from Peter, pictured on the next page, has been shown in miNiZ before and, in fact, we even have it on the club web site as Colin Todd's favourite bottle on his Member's Page. If you want a page on the web site it is very easy for me, with my club Webmaster hat on, to set up for you. Just drop me an email and I will tell you what I need. Anyway, back to the bottle. It is a Glenfiddich



21 year old malt Scotch and, yes, this is a Wedgwood bottle. It sold for £99.77

The bottle on the right is a Germany 'give away' bottle from about 100 years ago. I forgot to record the price but am reasonably certain it was forty something dollars. I saw several different ones of these at David Spaid's house in April.

Whilst we are showing some ceramic bottles I might as well show you the Priest from Robj of



France. Robj made these bottles in a number of sizes but this one is only 120mm (4.75") tall. I bookmarked this bottle when it was first listed and was expecting it to sell for US\$200 or so. Bidding went up and up and after 10 bids it sold for US\$1006.80



The bottle on the right is a blown glass dragon from Tufan Koc. This sold for US\$80.99.

Unfortunately I have found that this, and the other bottles from Tufan Koc, do not meet the normal criteria of a miniature bottle. This is because each bottle is unique and they contain coloured water. There were over 200 TK blown glass bottles shown on Miniature Bottle Library but you will no longer find them there. Pity, as they are nice.

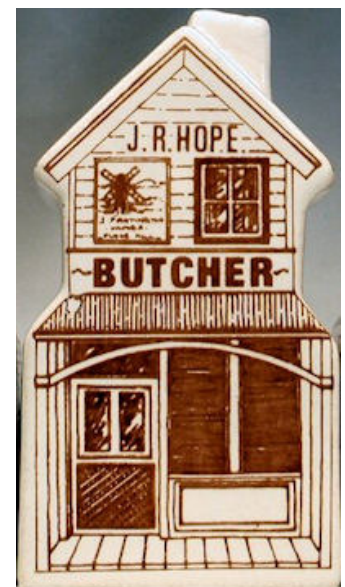


All of you will recognise the Air New Zealand building. These sell in New Zealand, individually, from NZ\$60 (US\$40) up to over NZ\$400. A full set of 11 was recently for sale on Ebay and fetched a very disappointing US\$152.68 (about NZ\$220). I would

have bought it myself if I had known it was going so cheaply. I don't know whether this was an original set or one organised by Port Nicholson Miniature Bottle Club (us!) but I suspect the latter as it is close to impossible to put an original set together.



Jugs usually sell well on Ebay so I would have expected the Speyside jug to have had more than one bid. It sold for an opening bid of £6. A good buy for someone but, I'm sure, disappointing for the seller.



Now for two very unusual Christmas bottles, both obviously quite

old. The first has a colourful paper label depicting an anatomically correct angel drinking out of a large champagne glass with streamers and holly sprigs below. The label reads: "Monte's Bar 4th and Madison Madison, Ill." This was almost certainly a Christmas gift for regular customers. This flagon bottle measures 100 x 63mm. It sold for US\$195.18



Cottage Hotel, Newark, N.Y." This flask is 127 x 63mm. US\$99.00 bought it.



The second Christmas bottle was also almost certainly a gift for regular customers. This is a Linwood Blend (presumably Bourbon). It has a colourful paper label depicting a man and woman ice skating surrounded by holly. The label reads: "W.H. Chapman,

We have show the Graceland bottle before. It dates from 1994 and I knew it was a limited edition but did not realise that only 48 were made (according to the



designer). This has been listed on Ebay for many weeks but has not sold – not surprising at an opening bid of US\$499.00!

The nice blended Nikka whisky was bottled for the 10th Anniversary of the Osaka Miniature Bottle Club. It sold well at \$56.50.



Wines sell very poorly and more often than not, not at all on Ebay. The late 1960's Viejo Suter red wine from Argentina is a nice bottle and in good condition. The seller wanted a minimum of US\$6.99 (too high for a wine, even as good a one as this) but got no bids. The set of three Ports in a wooden carry case, White, Ruby & Tawny, from Quinta do Infantado, did sell but for a very poor US\$2.19



We start the next page with some liqueurs. These sell a little better than wines – but usually not much better. The set of four Bauchant XO Cognac Liqueurs, Pomegranate, Pear, Apple & Raspberry, sold for US\$16.99 for the set.



The little glass jug is from Jobelius Brennerei of Germany. It contains 0,04 litres of Wein-Traben Likor at 20% vol. A very poor €1.55 bought it.

Next we have 12 liqueurs from Wunschelburg of Berlin, Germany. Each of these colourful bottles is an 0,04 litre flask. You would think that they would have sold well, but not so. All twelve sold for only €12.99.



From Germany it is a short hop over the border to



France. The violin incorporates a 30ml bottle of French brandy. It comes from L. Dorville but was made for the Asian market. It sold for €19.00

Without the label above the main label the next bottle (top of next page) would be a common one. However, the label identifying this as a Venezuelan import makes this a much more interesting bottle. This Fine Champagne VSOP Remy Martin Cognac bottle sold for US\$10.51



Sticking with Remy Martin we go to the 'creme de la creme' of mini bottles, the Louis XIII. Other than the (impossible to obtain) one with real diamonds in the stopper, this is the hardest to get of the five known versions. It was falsely described as being from 1950 but that is the original Louis XIII. How could it be 1950 when it mentions 1957 on the label! This one is much newer, although I am not sure exactly when it was made. There were only three bidders but that did not stop the price going to US\$2357 – no I have not left a decimal point out! Not bad for a 50ml bottle (over US\$47,000 per litre).



Another expensive cognac is the 60ml Camus Jazz. This is a modern but highly desirable bottle. It sold for US\$293 after 15 bids.

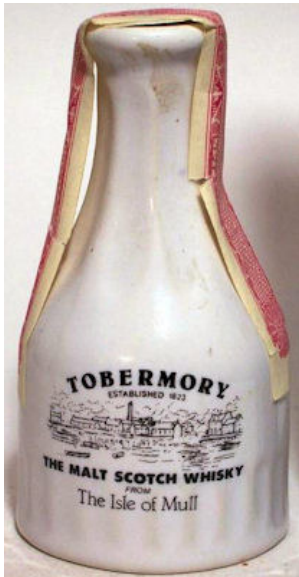


Just three more expensive Cognacs to go. The Hine Triomphe is a 50ml bottle. This sold for US\$74 after 12 bids. The two A. E. Dor bottles, Napoleon and Selection, are each 30ml. Each of them sold for US\$51 after only two bids.

US\$51 is getting to be a theme. The Casa Noble Original is a 50ml ceramic bottle. There were 15 bids and US\$51.01 bought it.

We might as well stay with ceramics for the next few bottles.





The Tobermory bottle is vaguely in the shape of a pot still. This is a single malt Scotch from the Isle of Mull in the Hebrides. This is not a particularly uncommon bottle but it still got 17 bids and eventually sold for US\$22.01. Next another Scotch, this time a jug or crock from shippers J. Houliston of Leith Street, Edinburgh. This sold for £20.00. I. W. Harper is still a well known name but this jug is around 100 years old. There are a number of variations of this jug and jugs of different shapes issued by I. W. Harper (see <http://www.minibottlelibrary.com/mbl/alpha/harper/index.html>). This one sold for US\$41.00 after 8 bids. Our final jug is another great bourbon, International Sour Mash from N. M. Uri & Co. of Louisville, Kentucky. It is 70mm high. This sold for US\$125 with 'Buy it Now.'



We stick with the US for the next two bottles – or do we? Both these bottles, the containers that is, were made in Japan. The Chickadees, as far as I am aware, was only issued by Ski Country. It was one of their club member only Christmas bottles. It sold for a disappointing US\$12.50 after 4 bids. The Pony Express is unlabelled so it could have been issued by McCormick of the US or Goto of Japan.

After 6 bids it sold for US\$21.71 – not bad for an unlabelled bottle.



Sticking with Japan we have Johnnie Walker 1820 which was bottled especially for that market. This 50ml bottle went for €27.00. The Jack Daniels is another unusual variation for a very well known name. This is an extremely well done 'personalised' bottle for Insley Manufacturing Corp. of Indianapolis. Not surprisingly bidding was brisk with the bottle selling for US\$53 after 10 bids.

At this point we go soft. I was brought up in the UK drinking Robinson's Cordials and, like me, these date from the 1950's. Their best known product is Lemon & Barley Water but there are a dozen or more flavours in miniature. These were sold together and fetched £7.50. There are hundreds of different personalised Coca Cola bottles (I can sell you some if you like these). This bottle was sold on it's own or with a magnet on the back or, as here, on a keychain. All are the same 75mm high micros. This one was especially for the 1996 opening of the first Asian Ronald McDonald House in Hong Kong. A single bid of US\$9.99 secured it.



It's about time we had some Vodkas, so I have brought you four from four different countries. We start with Sineokaya (the blue label) from Belarus. This is an 0.05 litre bottle at 40%. One bid of US\$7.99 secured it. Stolova is Ukrainian vodka. The bottle is 50ml (1.7 FL. OZ.) and the vodka 40% (80 Proof). There were 13 bids before it sold for US\$106 – very high for a vodka. Next we have an unusual Smirnoff bottle from the USA, Smirnoff de Czar. This is a 50ml bottle and I think the label says 80 proof. US\$28.80

bought it. Finally we have Caviar Vodka from L. W. C. Michelsen of Germany. I would have expected more but this sold for US\$11.50 after 6 bids.



We will stick with Germany for the next bottle, a great flask from Riemerschmid. This was a special for Lufthansa, the German airline, and commemorates 35 years of them flying. The flask contains Escorial Grun at 56% and is about 75ml. US\$4.99 was very cheap for this great bottle.

To the right we have a cigar bottle from Dillon of France. This contains Rhum, Hors D'Age – without or unknown age. US\$11.07 bought this but I would have expected more as cigar bottles are very uncommon.



We start the next page with three more rums. Black Pirate dark rum is from J. T. Davis & Sons of London. This flask does not show the quantity but the rum is 70 proof. This was a popular one as \$16.50 bought it after 15 bids. Even more popular is Zaya 12 year old Grand Reserva Rum from Guatemala. This sold for US\$39.80 after 21 bids. Bringing us down to earth is Sikkim XXX Prize



Rum from Sikkim Distilleries of Sikkim. This fetched a measly US\$3.25.

On the right we have one of many Cellos (75ml) and Violins (40ml) made by Nannerl of Austria. This is a Cello. It sold for a very poor £2.20



At first glance the 0,075 litre Cognac flask from Jules Robin is just that, a flask. However if you look closely you will see that it is also an ashtray. This made it extra popular with 13 bids ending at €18.50

I apologise for the poor quality of the photo on the right – you have to work with whatever you can get when doing an article like this. Jarzebinowka Rowanberry Cordial is 1/10 pint, 80 proof. It comes from Poland but is a US import, and is empty. The reason I am showing you this bottles is



that it sold for £20.50. Mainly liqueurs do not sell at all so why more than NZ\$40 for this particular bottle?



Sticking with Poland we have four miniature vodka bottles, all 100ml. Zloty Klos and Warszawska were sold together for US\$10.06. Targowa and Zubr were also sold together, this time for \$10.03.

That's all folks.

David Smith

FAKES!

These bottles, being sold on Ebay, caught my eye, then I read the following:

A BEAUTIFUL homemade miniature for any collection, just like the limited and special edition from ABSOLUT VODKA! Selling at £10 each

I will let these fakes speak for themselves but there may be more, so beware.



Top Row: Greensaver, Romero Britto, Wallpaper #1, Wallpaper #2

Middle Row: Red Label 50%, Gaultier, Tack, Freestyle, Brazil Butterfly, Brazil Monkey, Vancouver, Nubbeskap, Gold Cap.

Bottom Row: No Label UK (Rainbow), No Label French, Satellit, Seagram, New Orleans, Los Angeles, Cut Blue, Cut Crisp (Green), Cut Clear (Orange), Cut Sharp (Red)

David Smith

ARMENIA

Bottles from Armenia are certainly not common outside that country but are becoming more so. I recently found some for sale on Ebay and by coincidence was sent some photos by David Managadze of Georgia (Eastern Europe not the US state) for incorporating into Miniature Bottle Library.



The dagger at the far right is 100ml and probably contains brandy but I do not know who made it. I know even less about the 5 swords. In fact I am not sure that they are miniatures. There are quite a number of blown glass Armenian bottles in the 300-500ml range. Can anyone confirm whether these are minis or not?

To the right we have Passion De Pineau 10 year old and 2 year old. These sold on Ebay for a single bid of US\$4.99 each.



The above photo shows three nice fruit bottles from Edvag Group under the 365 label, Quince, Blackberry and Pomegranate. All are 50ml bottles with the pomegranate at 13% and the other two at 12%. The Blackberry and Pomegranate recently sold on Ebay for a very poor US\$4.99 each.



We start the this page with three ceramics and a 'Cognac' from Ararat. First up is Akhtamar 10 year old brandy. This is 50ml, 42%.



The similar bottle next is Yerevan brandy. I no nothing about the third ceramic but I suspect that this is another brandy. To the right is Nairi Cognac from Ararat. This 20 year old bottle is 0,05 litre and 41%. There is at least one other variation of this bottle.

The next bottles are all Cognacs. Not 'real' Cognacs of course, Armenian Cognacs. How they get away with using the name I will never know (yet more 'Fakes' in a way).

The set of 5 below are all 0,05 litre, 40%. They are Arin Berd Cognac from Artashansky VKZ and are 3* & 5* and 7, 10, & 15 year old.



We start the next page with another set of five Cognacs. These are Tzar Tigran from Great Valley. All are 0,05 litre and 40%. The brandies are 12, 15, 20, 25 & 30 years old.

Finally we have two classy 'Cognac' bottles from Proshyansky KZ. The first is Charents XO and the second Shiraz XO. I presume that these names relate to the grapes that the brandy is distilled from.



David Smith

DATE, TIME & PLACE

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 28th November 2010, 12.30pm Barbecue Lunch, Colin & Diane Ryder's, 20 Prospect Terrace, Johnsonville. Telephone: 04 478 4391 E-Mail: rydercj@xtra.co.nz **NOTE CHANGE OF DATE**

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.