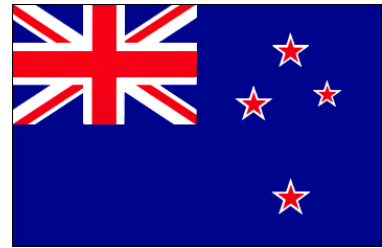


**Issue 97**

**Winter 2012**



# **miNiZ**

**THE NEWSLETTER OF NEW ZEALAND MINIATURE BOTTLE CLUB**



**Australasia's only Miniature Bottle Club - [www.minisnz.com](http://www.minisnz.com)**

# THIS & THAT & COVER BOTTLE

Most of the bottles in this article were found by David Spaid, although the first few are from David Smith.

Every now and then a sample bottle turns up on Ebay or elsewhere. In some cases it is obvious why they were never made in quantity but not so with our Cyrus Noble cover bottle. This Uncle Sam bottle would certainly have been a big seller. I wonder why this one never made it?

Somewhat in the same vein is the Winston Churchill toby jug from Findhorn. It contains 5cl of 40% Findhorn Scotch. My apologies for not giving you the prices these two great bottles sold for. They listed just as I went overseas, simply got forgotten about and are no longer in the sold items section.



The set of three Tyrconnell bottles were purchased by Ken Chin. They come nicely packaged with a glass. All are 40%, 5cl single malts and the red (port cask) and blue (sherry cask) bottles are 10 year old.

I have been hitting a lot of stores and managed to come up with this sample tube of Lark Australian Single Malt Whisky from Hobart, Tasmania. This was left at a liquor store and they sold to me. It can't legally be sold in the US as it's only a 40ml bottle.



The two bottles on the left, and the first two on the next page are the same shape but with very different stories. Clement is from Martinique via France and I found it in Barcelona. Mario Besoke had the Macallan bottles (40 only) commissioned by Master of Malt in Scotland. It contains 5cl of 1989 single malt at 48.4%. Note the St. Louis Arch on the label. Mario would not sell more than one bottle to any one person. This is one the malt scotch collectors will have great interest in. Starting the next page we have two bottles from the Hudson Valley in New York state. Core Vodka and Core Black Raspberry Vodka are both 40%, 50ml.





Now for a few taller bottles. The Frida Kahlo set is from Germany where they were sent as samples to advertise the big bottles. They each contain 50ml of Tequila; blanco, reposado and anejo qualities. They have not been sold in Germany - has anyone seen these elsewhere?. Russian White and Russian Peach are Russian Vodkas bottled in Peru.



David Spaid dared me to print these two Kama Sutra bottles in miNiZ - never dare a fool! I was tempted to put them on the cover but the light flash on the red bottle changed my mind. They came out this year in Spain and are from the

same company that makes the vodkas and absinthes with the skull on them.



The blown glass bottle with the rearing horse is from Casino of Italy. El Vetao is a new 50ml liqueur from Mexico. The new Grouse set is self-explanatory, all are 50ml. I got it because I love the Snow Grouse.

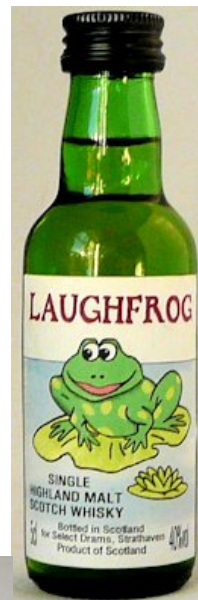






This box of 5 'Half Shot' Miniature 2.75 inch Shotgun Shell Bottles was sold on Ebay. Not strictly miniatures as they were originally sold empty for you to fill yourself. They state "Fill with Bourbon or Brandy, scatter in your hunting or fishing clothes."

My (David Smith) wife is a frog collector. Peter Bonkovich saw this bottle for sale on Ebay and could not resist buying it for her. It is 5cl of 40% single highland malt from Select Drams of Scotland.



Erica Mulder has turned up two new bottles with NZ importers' labels on them. The Cointreau was imported by Hancocks and the De Valcourt by Lion Nathan.



David Spaid sent me this picture (far left) and wrote "David, this is a new (at least to me) house from Curacao. It is Casa Palermo. I got it at the show as David Maund had been to Curacao. Our cruise didn't make it, we had to turn around because of sickness." Later the same day David Wrote "Just went to put the house with the other houses and it is the same as the old bottle, just painted very dark. The old one was Casa Palermo too. However, my older one now looks like hell with all kinds of discoloration from the Curaçao leeching through the delft. I have always been told delft is the poorest ceramic and this is just another instance. Grumble." I have included a picture

of the, much more common, lighter house. So, is this two bottles, because of the colour difference, or just one because of the shape? The choice is your but both will be on MBL.

Keep the pics coming guys.

*Dauids Spaid & Smith*

# ***ITALIAN SHOW IN SICILY***

(an offer I couldn't refuse!)

A concession of two free nights in the show hotel for foreign visitors to the show got us thinking about going (OK, enough of the cheapskate jokes!). We were planning to go back to Italy at some stage so brought our trip forward a year or two. The hotel is owned by the family of Giuseppe Savoca, the show organiser and Italian newsletter editor. However our trip did not start in Italy.



First stop Hong Kong. Sam Seng in Hong Kong makes lots of bottles but these are not easy to find. I found the shop that Harland Johnson recommended after visiting it a few months ago. The address is 33-35 Carnarvon Road, Kowloon (on the corner of Hart Ave.). Sam Seng & Sam Soon figurine minis were from HK\$75-120 (NZ\$12.50 to NZ\$20). I had thought that this was the same shop that I visited in 2002 but it

wasn't and that shop seems no longer to exist. I found three more shops, one of whom had ceramics HK\$10 cheaper, although a smaller selection, and two of which had a good selection of straights but unfortunately I did not get the addresses. All were in the first street running parallel to Nathan Road on the west side or the little streets leading from there to Nathan Road. The airport has a poor selection and minis that were HK\$65 in Kowloon were HK\$100 – so much for duty free!







Next stop UK. This was a quick visit to see Rosie's father and kids (adult kids that is) and not a bottle hunting trip but we did spot a car boot sale and a few minis were, very cheaply, purchased. Posting the finds from HK and UK back to NZ considerably increased the price of each. We had to get rid of them (and some frogs that Rosie bought for her collection) as the flight to Rome was strictly one suitcase each, weight restricted.

We stayed the night north of Rome then drove up to Tuscany. Florence



(Firenze) proved to be a gold mine of mainly clip top figural bottles but there are not many straights. There are at least a couple of dozen shops selling minis and it is worth looking in them all as what they have varies, as do the prices for the same bottle. I bought 11 bottles from 5 different shops. The best two I found were La Cantina Del Chianti in Piazza Domo and Tabaccheria Guicciardini in Via Dei Guicciardini. I passed on buying some of the new Albo Trade micros (see miNiZ93) in another shop in Piazza Domo – at €7 each they do not deserve to sell any. The cheapest I saw these was €6 and the dearest €8.50. The manufacturer was at the show in Sicily but he wanted €4 each, so again I passed.



Another good place in Tuscany was San Gimignano. There are more than a dozen shops selling minis, although again, very few straights. They are mainly up the road leading from the bottom entrance of the old town (from car parks 1 & 2) and the first on the right and left were the best. The first on the left has a cabinet in the back room with lots of, very expensive (€70 upwards), blown glass minis – I passed on these too but



took as many photos as I could for Miniature Bottle Library. The blown glass car from A & G is one I did buy.

Pisa is worth a visit if you want minis in the shape of the leaning tower - they are everywhere. The bottles are all the same but the labeling and contents vary.

Our last day in Tuscany was spent in Siena. This is a lovely city but there were very few bottles to be found - until we were leaving. On the way out of the town I spotted, and bought, the blown glass dolphin. Barely 50 metres further on I hit pay dirt, a shop with at least a dozen different blown glass pieces and a reasonable selection of, mainly grappa, straights.



We spent another week based just outside Orvieto in Umbria. This was not a great area for buying minis of any type, although there were quite a number of local straight bottles with grappa and liqueurs and a few clip top limoncello/limoncino bottles I had not seen further north.



The next stop was Sorrento. You want limoncello minis? How about a million? I'm probably not joking. Clip top and cork top bottles are everywhere. There were dozens of shapes and dozens of labels. We saw shops filling and labeling bottles behind the counter and a number of better known manufacturers, such as Saponi & Colori (see picture) had shop fronts with small distilling and blending operations behind. As well as limoncello there was also lots of bottles with limoncino and







cream liquors, again, generally in clip top or cork top bottles in a myriad of shapes. These are nearly all 40ml. There were some straight bottles with grappa and the same local liqueurs in but very few straights from elsewhere. What there were were mainly common 'international' minis.

Next stop Sicily and the show. We arrived Thursday lunchtime and met up with Giuseppe and our only member from Puerto Rico, Luis Freytes. A coach trip with a winery (Patria) and monastery visit and lunch were arranged for Friday. One of the Italian collectors, Alex, spoke reasonably good English so he acted as translator (Luis is a native Spanish speaker but speaks good English so he was catered for as well). We met quite a number of the Italian collectors at dinner Friday, together with John & Mary Sullivan from California and Eric from France.



As well as the four foreigners (and 2 wives) there were about 15 or 18 Italian collectors, some of them with wives and family also. Giuseppe had clearly worked hard to make the show a success but the turnout was a bit disappointing. Apparently he was hoping for about 40 Italians and a much bigger turnout from the international collecting community.



Despite the turnout the Saturday morning auction went well. On offer were mainly straight Italian bottles, some of which fetched very high prices by our standards. Luis bought the first lot, the Sarandrea Sailor, for €10, the only ceramic on offer. He also bought a set of three grappas (for less than one in the shops) and the set of 4 Barozzi grappas.



My only purchase was a set of 4 Popsy sperm



bottles from Krugman of Germany (see miNiZ88, summer 2010). Neither of us got in a bid on any of the Italian bottles with lead seals. The top price paid for a single bottle was €350







The Stock milk glass bottle fetched €140 (NZ\$224) and the crock €160 (NZ\$256).



There was a mini sale in the afternoon but not much was on offer that was of any interest to me so I left after half an hour. Later in the afternoon Guiseppe opened up his rack of bottles at the back of the room (you can see it on the bottom room picture above) and said they were for sale. Luis did well but I missed out as I was not there. Apparently Guiseppe had said that these bottles would be for sale but it was a surprise

to the English speakers! He made up for it in the evening by taking us to his storeroom at home. All four foreign visitors did well. My purchases included two robots, from Sassano e Pagni, the boy on turtle from Isiah and a number of micros.

Eric had brought some Eiffel Towers for sale (what else would a Frenchman bring?), so I did get one prized bottle out of the show. All four foreign attendees were given an attendance memento. I photographed Luis's (above) but that was quickly replaced as the printer had put on the Costa Rica rather than the Puerto Rico flag - the wonders of modern technology.

We spent some more time in Sicily (no bottles found) then headed for Matera in southern Italy. This town was



recommended by Giuseppe and was well worth the visit. Whilst there we met up with some Australians who recommended we visit the area they were staying in, a small town called Alberobello. This was about an hour away and has many funny little houses called Trulli. About an hour after they had left



something went 'ding' in the back of my mind. In 1973 Garnier made a set of six European houses. The shape of the Italian one had always puzzled me as I had seen nothing like that in Italy. It is two Trulli houses joined together (which is common).



There are hundreds of Trulli in and near Alberobello with several tight concentrations of them in Alberobello itself, one of which forms a commercial area. Every second shop has mini bottles. As elsewhere in Italy these are mainly of the cork and clip top variety but most shops



also had a set of at least 14 bottles from Sisto in the shape of a Trulli. One



shop had a number of Giori blown glass decanters and a number of other blown glass bottles. I bought the clown, decanter with swan top and a seahorse (not shown) but had to leave the four 100ml decanters shown on the left as by now I had a (large!) case full of bottles (and a few frogs that Rosie has picked up). There were also a number of 150ml and 200ml blown glass decanters.

When cataloguing my purchases I decided to look up Giori on-line. The web site has dozens of pictures of blown glass bottles on it but they are difficult to find. You can see one on the right and all of them

all on Miniature Bottle Library:  
<http://www.minibottlelibrary.com/mbl/alpha/giori/index.html>

We arrived home a week ago as I write this. The case with most of my minis arrived at the same time, our other two cases arrived 2 and 4 days later (Air NZ lost one a second time!). With one exception (repairable) all minis arrived safely, although we are still awaiting the parcel with the Hong Kong and UK bottles. I would rate this a very successful mini trip as well as an enjoyable holiday.



*David Smith*

# Ken's WHISKY

# CORNER



## Whisky in Boxes

Over The past couple of years, I have acquired many scotch whiskies in box sets. They take up a lot of space and are difficult to display.

These first two sets were obtained from Loch Fyne Whiskies in the UK. The Kilchoman Connoisseur set contains a one month, one and two year old whiskies and cost £25.

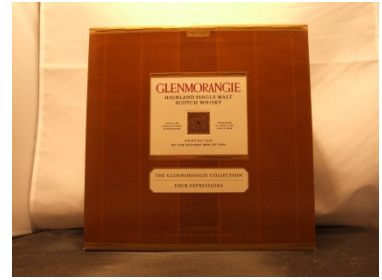


The next set is from Dalmore and comes in an attractive hinged brown box. The minis come in the form of 4cl vials. There are 12yr, 15yr and 18yr old Dalmore whiskies, a “Gran Reserva” whisky with a fusion of different ages, and a “King Alexander III” version which has a fusion of Dalmore whiskies matured in six different styles of oak.

The set cost about £49.50.







This Glenmorangie Collection of the “Four Expressions” comes in two different box presentations. The set comprises of four 100ml minis: Original 10yr old, Quinta Ruban (port cask matured), Lasanta (sherry cask matured) and Nectar D’or (sauterne cask matured).

The first box set opens up into a line of four also came from Loch Fyne and cost about £50. A year later, the same set appeared in NZ in a see-through yellow box (lower inset) costing \$75:- much cheaper and in a more aesthetically pleasing presentation pack!



This next set I obtained from Meenan’s Wine & Spirits in Dunedin. They consist of four 5cl single malt plastic minis: Glenkinchie 12yr, Dalwhinnie 15yr, The Singleton 12yr and Talisker 10yr. The set cost about \$29.



These last two sets came from The Whisky Shop in downtown Auckland. Titled “Chieftain’s”, they are bottled by Ian McLeod Co.Ltd and contain five 5cl single malt whiskies: Caol Ila 10yr (Islay), Isle of Jura 10yr (Island), Glen Keith 13yr (Speyside), Clynelish 17yr (Highland) and Glen Scotia 32yr (Campbeltown).

The bottles come in an attractive see-through hinged wooden case. They cost me around \$65.



This box of three minis come from Dun Bheagan Region of Scotland. They are bottled by William Maxwell & Co. There is an 8yr old Speyside, Lowland and Highland single malt whisky. The set cost about \$26.

**Ken Chin**



# BRITISH & DUTCH BUILDINGS

In my last article I promised you news of some exciting new items from Rutherford's, but I'm afraid I'll have to hold these over till next time as they're not available yet. They are producing decanters in celebration of both the London Olympics and the queen's diamond jubilee. They're also doing a couple of pieces in commemoration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of both the Titanic and Scott's expedition to the Antarctic. And if that's not enough, there'll also be a jug depicting the royal yacht Britannia, and yet another that sports a new image of Concorde. These will be made up of a mixture of jugs and book decanters. I'm also waiting to take delivery of a couple of new items from Pointer's. These will include a queen's diamond jubilee piece and at least one new footballer. I've been assured that all of these items will be with me in time for the next newsletter, so watch this space!

For this article I thought I'd give you an insight into some of the fabulous ceramics that have been produced through the ages that depict famous British buildings and landmarks. These would have been produced up to 30+ years ago.

The first group of ten were issued by Mini Bottles (UK) Ltd., and represent some of the better known historical buildings from around Great Britain.

Photo 1 depicts the Round Toll House at Rockingham Forest. It contains 75ml (7.5cl) of Teacher's Blended Scotch Whisky at 40%vol. The house itself is to be found on the edge of the village of Sudborough and dates from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. It was, as its name suggests, originally a toll house. There is a date stone built into it for 1660, but that had been reset from an earlier building on the same site.



Photo 2 is the Mermaid Inn, Rye, Sussex. The label tells us that it contains 75ml (7.5cl) of Teacher's blended Scotch whisky at 40%vol. The Mermaid Inn is a grade 2 listed historical inn located on Mermaid Street in Rye. One of the best-known inns in southeast England, it was established in the 12th century and has had a long and turbulent history. The current building dates from 1420 and has 16th-century

additions in the Tudor style, but cellars built in 1156 survive. Some smugglers and their mistresses, who were reputed to have frequented the inn during the 1700's, are reported to haunt the inn to this day. (About 20 years ago we got some new neighbours who had just emigrated from the UK. We invited them around for a drink and almost immediately the lady pointed to this mini and said "I know the mermaid inn really well, the landlord is my parents' closest friend." Small world. - Editor)

Photo 3 is Tithe Barn Cottage, Stanion in Northamptonshire. It is located at 19 High Street in the village and was given listed building status in 1975. This one contains 75ml (7.5cl) of Landmark Scotch whisky at 40%vol. Tithe (or tythe) barns could be found throughout northern Europe in the middle ages. They were a type of barn used for storing the tithes - a tenth of the farm's produce

which had to be given to the church. They would usually have been associated with the village church or rectory, to which independent farmers took their tithes.

Photo 4 is Lamberhurst Oast House in Kent. This one is filled with 75ml (7.5cl) of Landmark Scotch whisky at 40%vol. An oast house or hop kiln is a building designed for



drying hops as part of the brewing process. The Lamberhurst Oast House is one of the earliest surviving oasts in Great Britain and dates from around 1750.



Photo 5 is The Vintry in Pantiles. It is filled with 75ml

(7.5cl) of Landmark Scotch whisky at 40%vol. The Pantiles owes its beginnings to the discovery of the Chalybeate Spring in the early 17th century and the popularity that ensued of the spa water amongst the gentry and royalty of Georgian England. As Tunbridge Wells grew in popularity as a spa resort, so did the area surrounding the Spring, eventually leading to the building of the colonnaded walkway in the 18th century, later known as The Pantiles. The Vintry, which dates from 1716, was part of the development of the area at that time.



Photo 6 is the Old Shop, The Shambles, York. This one also contains 75ml (7.5cl) of Landmark Scotch whisky at 40%vol. The design of this building was typical of fifteenth century architecture – the buildings were made in such a way that they leaned into the middle of the cobbled street till the roofs almost touched in the middle. Mentioned in the Domesday Book (making it over 900 years old), we know Shambles to be York's oldest street, and Europe's best preserved medieval street. The Old Shop is an integral part of this very special place. As a point of interest, the word Shambles originates from the medieval word shamel, which meant booth or bench. It was once also referred to as flesshammel, a word meaning around flesh; this is because Shambles was historically a street of butchers shops and houses. Records state that in 1872 there were 26 butchers on the street.

Photo 7 is William Shakespeare's birthplace in Stratford on Avon. This one contains 75ml (7.5cl) of Teacher's Scotch whisky at 40%vol. Shakespeare was believed to have been born on 26<sup>th</sup> April 1564 at this, the family home, in Henley Street, Stratford on-Avon. He was baptised at the Holy Trinity Church in Stratford on the same date.



Photo 8 is Anne Hathaway's cottage near Stratford on Avon. It also contains 75ml (7.5cl) of Teacher's Scotch



whisky at 40%vol. It is a thatched farmhouse in Shottery, a hamlet within the parish of Stratford on Avon, and also where the young William Shakespeare courted his future bride.

Photo 9 is Thomas Hardy's cottage, which is located just outside Higher Bockhampton in Dorset. It contains 75ml (7.5cl) of Teacher's Scotch whisky at 40%vol. The cottage was built by Hardy's great-grandfather in 1800, and has remained largely unaltered to this day.

Photo 10 is Bateman's Mill at Burwash in Sussex. It too contains 75ml (7.5cl) of Teacher's Scotch whisky at 40%vol. This beautiful mill-house was built in 1634 and was home to Rudyard Kipling, who purchased it in 1902. Kipling was born in Bombay of English parents on 30<sup>th</sup>



December 1865 and died on 18<sup>th</sup> January 1936. He was a prolific

writer who was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature in 1907.



Photos 11 – 16 are all ceramics from the Dutch House range that was produced by the Royal Goedewaagen Pottery in Holland. All of these pieces were painted by hand. They each contain 75ml (7.5cl) of Delft Scotch whisky at 40%vol. As far as I am aware there were in the region of 100 Dutch Houses, though these are

the only ones that I know of that contain Scotch whisky. I would welcome news (and photos if possible) of any others.



Photos 17 and 18 are two variations of Burns' cottage. They were both produced from the same mould but were bottled at different times by two different companies. Photo 17 was produced by R.H. Thomson & Co. (Distillers) Ltd., and contains Robbie Burns Scotch whisky bottled at 70° proof. On one gable of the piece there is an image of the bard and on the other is a stanza from one of his most famous poems:





"Man to man the world o'er shall brithers be for a' that". Photo 18 was produced by the Cumbrae Supply Co. Ltd., and contains 5cl of Souvenir Scotch whisky at 40%vol. There is an image of the bard on one gable with the dates 1759-1796 beneath it.

Photo 19 is another Burns' cottage. This

one is from a different mould entirely and was also produced by the Cumbrae Supply Co. It contains Thistle Scotch whisky at 40°. This one has a paper label on one gable that carries a picture of Burns along with the dates 1759 – 1796.



Photo 20 is labelled

The Olde Curiosity Shop. It was produced by the Trevelyan Co. Ltd. of Bovey Tracey in Devon, and contains Kindness Scotch whisky at 70° proof. Presumably this ceramic was inspired by the Charles Dickens' novel of the same name.



Photo 21 is labelled Grannie's Heilan' Hame. It was modelled on behalf of John and Noel MacIntosh by Dornoch Pottery in 1975 and, although empty, it once contained Scotch whisky. I

have been unable to find out much about this one as the label has gone from the piece, and the pottery is no longer in production. Any information on this one would be much appreciated. For those with an interest in such things, Grannie's Heilan' Hame is a song that was written by M. McFarlane after the Highland Clearances of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when many of the tenants were evicted and ended up in Canada amongst many other far flung places. It was a song of longing for the old days. The Heilan' Hame in question was in Golspie in Sutherland.



And finally, photo 22 is Glendronach Distillery. It is a fabulous piece that was produced over 30 years ago in smallish quantities. I believe it was only available from the distillery, though someone may want to correct me on that. (It was bottled for the distillery by Mini Bottles (UK) and I got one of mine direct from member David Maund - This is the grey one on the next page. I bought my brown one from The Old Cannery, on the wharf at San Francisco, so at least some were sold elsewhere. There is also a cream version. - Editor). The ceramic contains 5ml\* (0.5cl) of Glendronach 12yo single malt bottled at 40%vol. \*You will no doubt have spotted the error on the label. It should of course state 5cl and this was corrected on later labels.





I recently received a couple of particularly nice e-mails from Ian Butcher. In one of them, he was asking about the current prices of the ceramics I've been including in my articles. I had actually left these out because more often than not the prices quoted over here would bear no resemblance to what would be quoted in New Zealand. Having said that, I can tell you that Pointer's

decanter's currently vary from £29.50 - £39.00, dependent on which shop you're in. I've also discovered that no one outlet appears to stock the full range, so it's always necessary to shop around and at times pay the higher prices. As a point of interest, I recently spotted one in an auction that I had no prior knowledge of, and as is often the way, Pointer's couldn't tell me when it was produced or even how many were made. With regards to the Rutherford pieces, they have a much wider range of items and the prices vary accordingly. Standard jugs usually cost in the region of £8.00 - £9.00, with the book-shaped decaners about £1.00 or so dearer. They also produce a range of limited edition and individually numbered pieces that are normally priced at £15.00 each.

For the record my e-mail address is [david.allen@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:david.allen@blueyonder.co.uk), and my home address is 11 Beechwood Gardens, Mossend, North Lanarkshire ML4 2PF, Scotland, should anyone want to contact me for whatever reason. I would love to hear from you.

That's your lot till next time when I should have all those Rutherford and Pointer's pieces to share with you, so till then.....

*Dave Allen*

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## ***HIGH? PRICED SCOTCH***



Dave showed us this great jug in the last miNiZ - this one sold for £117 on Ebay.

At the opposite end of the spectrum is this Bells bell. I thought that it was a fake when I saw it on Ebay so I emailed the seller. He replied "Hi there, the design is under the glaze, and it stands almost



4 inches tall. It is decorated all around as per the photo" I expected this to go sky high and so just book marked it and went back to look at it when the auction had finished. Amazingly it sold for the minimum bid of US\$4.99. As the Yanks say, go figure!

# GIN

We do not get many Gin articles in the magazine which is quite surprising considering the Dutch and English influence on the committee.

The first bottle, Millers Gin, is a six sided glass bottle. It is produced by Martin Miller the author of Millers Antique Price Guide. In the late 1980's he could not find a suitable gin for his gin and tonic cocktail so he decided to make his own. Using top quality products he distilled the gin in Birmingham England. To bring the mash down to normal alcohol strength it is put on board a ship and sailed 1500 miles to Iceland where it is mixed with the purest water on the planet. It is then returned by sea to Birmingham for bottling.



Although it is not clear in the photograph the dark marks on the bottle are a map that show the route the ship takes on its way to Iceland and back. In keeping with the owners reputation this is a super premium gin. The other two bottles take us to the other end of the age spectrum. Haymans are the longest serving gin distilling family in England. The current chairman, Christopher Hayman, is the fifth generation to run the company. The company began in the early 1800's and his great grandfather, James Burrough, created Beefeater Gin in 1820. When Whitbread purchased James Burrough's in 1987 the family reverted to the Hayman name.

Old Tom is said to be the holy grail of gins. This is said to be the first one sold in New Zealand for fifty years. The bottle carries a label stating it is imported and distributed by Hancocks so it should qualify as a New Zealand bottle.

*Frank Wynn*

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## DATE, TIME & PLACE

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2012, 12.30pm** Pot Luck Lunch, Colin & Diane Ryder's, 20 Prospect Terrace, Johnsonville.

Telephone: 04 478 4391 E-Mail: [rydercj@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rydercj@xtra.co.nz)

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2012, 6.00pm** Pot Luck Dinner, Ken & Malee Chin's, 29 Norton Park Avenue, Fairfield, Lower Hutt. Telephone: 04 938 1488 E-Mail: [Kenchin@ihug.co.nz](mailto:Kenchin@ihug.co.nz)

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2013, 6.00pm** Barbecue, David & Rosie's, 11 Trevor Terrace, Paremata.

Telephone: 04 233 2997 E-Mail: [minizv@gmail.com](mailto:minizv@gmail.com)

**AGM Weekend 2013 will be April 19-21st in Brisbane, Australia**

**Get your cheap flights booked now!**

We have a preliminary programme set out and will be liaising with Graham & Maree in Brisbane and finalising it. We will let you all know the details in the next miNiZ

**This is our first overseas AGM so let's make it a big success.**

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