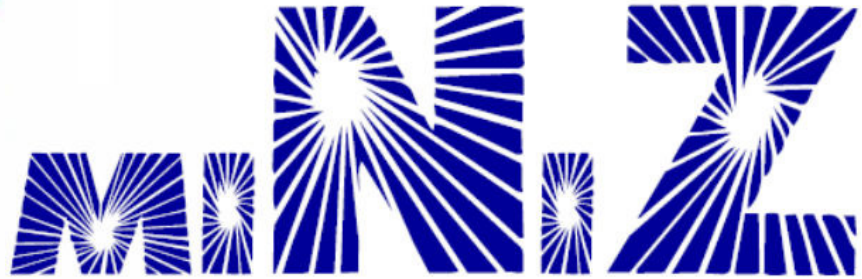


Issue 127 - Winter 2020



WWW.MINISNZ.COM

THE NEWSLETTER OF NEW ZEALAND MINIATURE BOTTLE CLUB



Ampoules ALCOTRICINE

FORMULA
The Alcotricine line is made out of the 3 cures against depression: COGNAC, ARMAGNAC, CALVADOS, SPIRITSKY and HILLIARD PEAS.
 Allowing you to test your average knowledge, as well as your sense of smell and your palate, it will give you all the comfort you are waiting for.

ADVANTAGES

- excellent and useful way of terminating
- postmenstrual report
- indigestion
- irritability, depression
- irritability or tiredness

DISADVANTAGES

- vertigo of the liver
- pregnancy or breast-feeding

DOSAGE
 1 ampoule preferably before the meal for whisky, at the end for other spirits.

SECONDARY EFFECTS
 Taken in excess can produce certain reactions (nausea, vomiting, unsteadiness, double vision).
 In such cases the dose should be reduced.

WARNING

- do not exceed prescribed dose
- keep out of reach of children
- not to be taken under 18 years old
- suspect allergic in cases of allergy
- use in moderation when driving or operating machinery

Also exist in suppository form.
This product, despite its name and appearance, is not a medicine. -Dangers above-



Australasia's International Miniature Bottle Club

NEW NEW ZEALAND, THIS & THAT

I finished This & That in miNiZ126 by saying:

“Unfortunately I have no new New Zealand bottles to show you this time, so that’s about it for now. Except to say that many of you will be stuck at home with time on your hands so it’s time to get the camera out, photograph some of your bottles, and write an article or better still, articles. I’m looking forward to miNiZ127 being a bumper edition.” I was right to add the flying pig as there has been a VERY poor response. Shame on those who have been in lockdown and have not contributed – you know who you are.



Hopefully none of you have had to call the doctor. Our cover shows a Macallan 12yo single malt bottled by World of Fine & Rare of Germany. This is available at the eBay store of Whisky-Spirit-Merchants <https://www.ebay.de/str/whisky-and-spirits?trksid=p2047675.l2563> The Presidents (see article) come from the same source but sadly most are no longer for sale.

Some of you will certainly have been and may still be depressed. The second cover image is an old French Alcotricine set of 10 vials. The cover claims “The 5 Cures Against Depression.” I doubt that they could claim that today but, hey, worth a try. Having said that, the Scots seem to get away with it....

Pictured are a couple of Doctors (Hoffman & Niccolo) and a Nurse (Garnier). Above all avoid intensive care and the operating theatre (Rutherford).

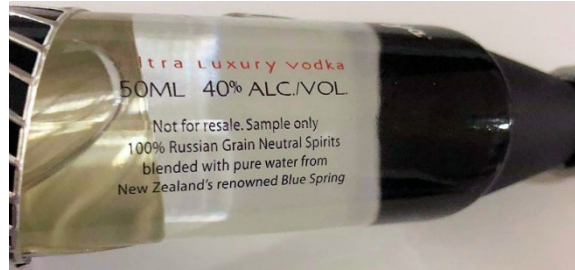


On a lighter note, I came across the flask on the left on a web site. It is from Danic of Croatia and, in case you cannot read it, it says “Drink For Good Sex.” Hopefully the fish is not a piranha!



If you think you have never seen this Mr Lucky before I am sure you are right. It is not a mini unfortunately but I suspect it is a sample bottle. It is one of several bottle pics I get sent each day at Miniature Bottle Library, mainly by people trying to find out what they are worth. Usually I can help but I didn't have a clue in this case.

The Elite vodka is a premium bottle from the Ukraine and is the only bottle in this issue with a New Zealand connection – see below.



With the temporary closure of bars in Singapore, The Old Man Singapore, ranked 38th in The World's 50 Best Bars, is quenching the thirst of its drinkers with new takeaway cocktails. Seven of its signature and classic concoctions are now available in sealed bags and ready for customers to pick up in 15 minutes – or send your Uber. President Colin tells me that one of his daughters, who lives in Melbourne, is also getting cocktails delivered.



Cocktails for takeaway include:

- A Farewell to Arms
- The Sun also Rises
- Papa Doble
- Little Wax Puppy
- Negroni
- Clear Old Fashioned
- Classic Old Fashioned

Member John Theisen and his wife (from Denmark) visited Wellington on a cruise at the beginning of the year (just before the s—t hit the revolving air mover). Colin and myself showed them around the city. We are always pleased to see overseas members and are now up to a record 143 members.



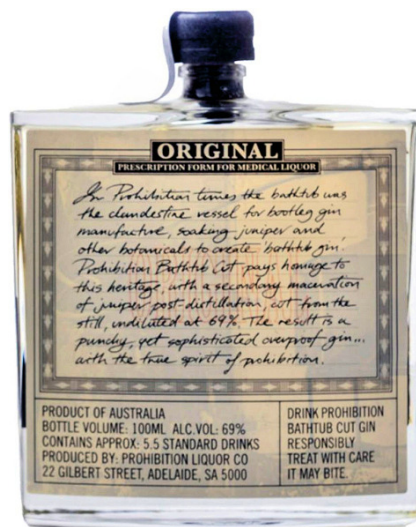
NEW AUSTRALIAN BOTTLES

The Gins Tasting set was found by member Graham Ramsay and posted on Facebook. The other bottles were found by me during lockdown.





I have to admit to never having heard of any of these gins. Nice find Graham.



I love the Prohibition flasks. The first two pictures are front and back views of Original Aged Gin, 100ml. The third photo is Shiraz Barrel Strength Aged Gin, 100ml. It has a back label similar to the Original. The company comes from Adelaide, South Australia. The Original is on sale at A\$30 and, bizarrely, the Barrel Strength at A\$26.



Baldwin Distilling Company is from Canberra, Australia's bullshit capital. These Moonshine bottles are 50ml not 700ml as it says on the label (accidental I'm sure, not bullshit!). They were being sold at A\$8 each.



23rd St Distillery hails from Renmark, South Australia. Shown are the four 50ml bottles they make, Signature Gin, Hybrid whisk(e)y, Riverlands Rose Vodka and Australian Vodka. Note the 200ml version of the latter is shown as I cannot find a picture of the 50ml. These are on sale for A\$10 each.



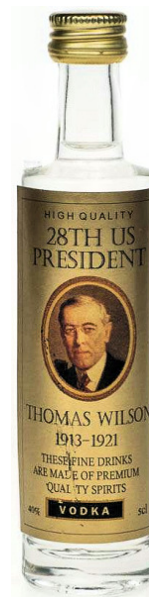
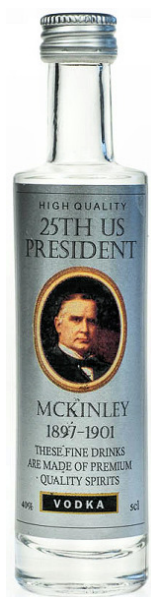
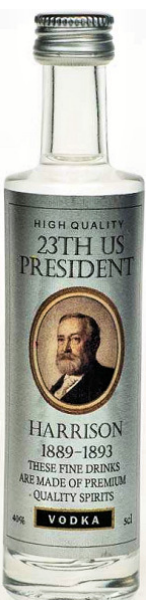
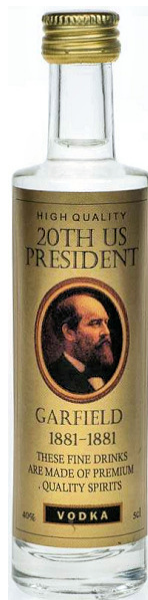
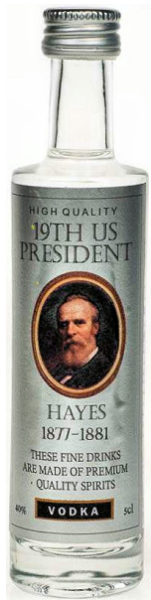
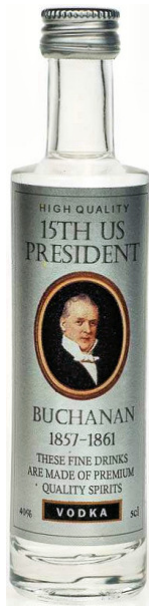
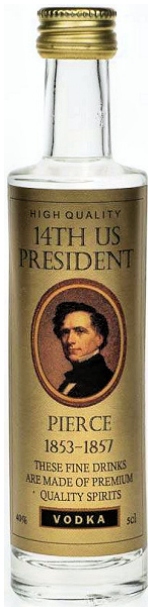
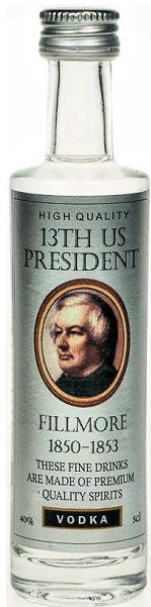
Patient Wolf Melbourne Dry Gin is from Melbourne (what a surprise). They want A\$20 for this bottle. Mr Black is a distillery on the central Coast of NSW. The bottle is on sale at A\$8. Arktika is a Russian style vodka that sells for A\$6. The company is based in the Melbourne area.

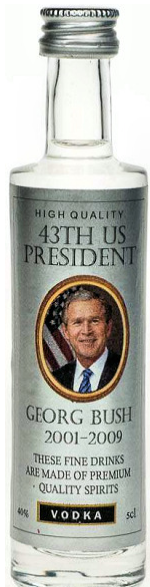
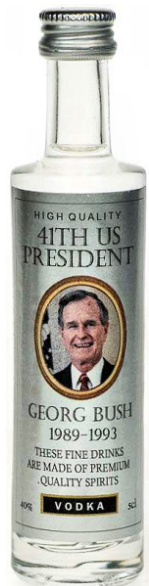
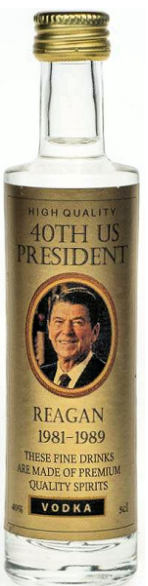
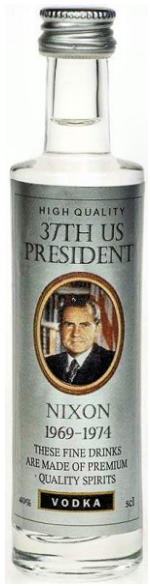
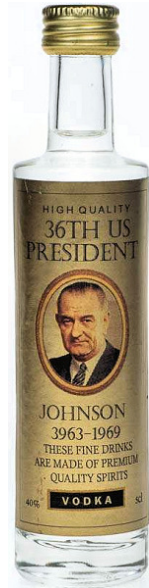
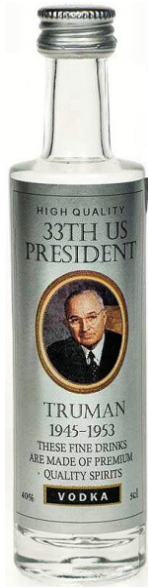
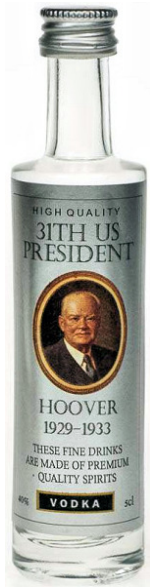
David Smith

THE US PRESIDENTS

I came across one of these bottles purely by accident and wondered 'how many in the set?' The web took me down the usual rabbit holes and I eventually tracked them down, together with heaps more bottles, some of which I will show you in upcoming editions. The answer was 'all of them.' Actually, all of them x2 as there is a silver and a gold set with 45 in each. They are made in Germany by World of Fine & Rare and sold via the Whisky & Spirit Merchants Ebay shop. I am showing you all 45, alternating between the two sets.







I suspect the 'lady' is a friend of the 42nd or 45th Presidents – or both.

Whoever designed these bottles cannot spell George and note that #36 is some form of time traveller.

David Smith

בקבוקים ישראלים

ISRAELI BOTTLES



There are over 700 Israel and the pre-1948 Palestine mandate bottles on Miniature Bottle Library but you rarely come across them. John Thiesen (our only Danish member) sent me the first five photos for Miniature Bottle Library and I came across most of the others on Facebook. The pictures of

the final two sets from M&H were sent to me by the distillery. I will let the bottles speak for themselves.







Just to complete the page here are a few Israeli bottles from MBL.



David Smith

SPANISH BRANDY PT.2

DOMECQ

Domecq was founded in 1730 as a sherry producer. It produced Spain's first modern brandy in 1874 and called it Fundador. This was an apt name as it translates as founder. It is still a very popular brandy and sold in many countries. For a basic brandy it has less fruit added than similar graded brandies. It is aged for three years before bottling.



Domecq opened a few distilleries in Colombia, Venezuela and Brazil as well as one in Mexico. The Mexican distillery produces seven million cases of brandy annually making it the biggest brandy distillery in the world. Presidente is their brand name.



At the top end of the market comes Carlos 1. This quality brandy first appeared in 1889 when some old barrels were found at the back of the warehouse. This is a pure brandy with no added flavourings and is graded Gran Reserva.



In 1994 the company merged with British company, Allied Lyons to become Allied Domecq. In 2007 Allied Domecq was bought jointly by Fortune Brands (better known as Jim Beam and later acquired by Suntory to become Beam Suntory) and Pernod Ricard. The assets were split up between the two purchasers with Domecq going to Fortune Brands. Some of the Domecq brands were later on-sold. In 2015 Fundador was bought by Emperador of the Philippines (they also own Whyte & Mackay and Terry Brandy), Osborne bought Carlos 1 and González Byass bought Presidente. When one of these global conglomerates buy another company they may end up with two brands with similar markets. They then sell one of the brands to another giant who also buy the trade names, usually the stock and after the production facilities.



BOBADILLA

The Bobadilla family firm started life in the early 1930's as sherry producers. Their most famous brandy is 103. The name comes from the 103 days that the expedition led by the Portuguese navigator Magellan took to circumnavigate the globe. Unfortunately he did not complete the trip as he died near the Philippines. The white label is the lighter of the two brandies and aged for three years. The black label is aged for five years. The company is now owned by Osborne but run as a separate entity.



GONZALES BYASS

The company was founded in 1835 following a partnership between a Spaniard and an

Englishman. It is still family owned, which is amazing considering the upheavals that affected the sherry industry in the early 1970's.



They started life as sherry producers and their most famous brand is Tio Pepe. Brandy production started around 1885. Their entry level brandy is Soberano which is aged for one year. It is Spain's biggest selling brandy and makes up about 90% of the company production. The quality of Soberano can be guessed at as it is often sold attached to a can of coke.



The next level up is Insuperable which is aged for three years. The top level is Lepanto which is aged for twelve years. It first appeared in 1896 when some old barrels were found at the back of the warehouse. They must have poor quality auditors in Spain. Unusually for Spain, it is made from 100% Palomino grapes. It is rated the top brandy in Jerez and is often likened to a VSOP cognac.

In the next issue we will move up to Catalonia.

Frank Wynn





DISTILLERY / BREWERY / WINERY TOURS

You have to do something during lockdown so, one thing I did, was to look for virtual tours. Some of these are better than others. Some are videos, some slideshows and others, well just have a look.

Distilleries

Buffalo Trace Distillery, Kentucky	https://buffalotracedistillery.com/virtualtour/
Four Roses Bourbon, Kentucky	https://fourrosesbourbon.com/blog/virtual-tour/
Penderyn Whisky, Wales	https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=2560016247594683
Sipsmith, Chiswick, London	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aszDOcG_gDI
Talisker, Isle of Skye	https://www.google.ch/maps/@57.301917,-6.3558052,2a,75y,204.75h,83.67t/data=!3m7!1e1!3m5!1srG16lSro4AAAQfCRFAGQ!2e0!3e2!7i13312!8i6656
Glenturret, Scotland	https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=bZMbquUCthj&play=1
Laphroaig, Scotland	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GUDTyfF8UL8
Glenfiddich, Scotland	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5e_PpxHH68E
Balvennie, Scotland	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y3Ll6GHznBs
Martell, Cognac, France	https://discover.martell.com/en-ww
Tequila Patrón, Mexico	https://www.patrontequila.com/en-gb/age-gate/age-gate.html?origin=%2Fen-gb%2Four-story%2Foculus.html
Kyoto Distillery, Japan	https://kyotodistillery.jp/en-GB/virtualdistillerytour/

Wineries

Meantime Brewing, London	https://www.meantimebrewing.com/blog/2016/02/virtual-brewery-tour
Sheffield Brewery, Abbeydale	https://www.abbeydalebrewery.co.uk/home/brewery/tour/
Budvar Brewery, Czech Republic	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WYRSKXI6Nj8
3 Daughters Brewery, Florida	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ipg3_1Jqi70
Big Sky Brewing, Montana	https://bigskybrew.com/taproom/virtual-tour/
The Brooklyn Brewery, NY	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-nVvx6DkOic
Goose Island Brewery, Chicago	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9teRihx9wY0
Allagash Brewery, Maine	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dozYAYDWC-8

Breweries

Spy Valley, NZ

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=156&v=3fsF6so7KRg&feature=emb_logo

Wineries of British Columbia

<http://www.bcwine.ca/virtual-winery-tours.html>

Champagne District

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=16&v=F6nDsCziTdq&feature=emb_title

Jordan Winery, Healdsburg, CA

<https://www.jordanwinery.com/visit/tours-and-tastings>

Archery Summit Vineyard, Oregon

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cy0qJZnxc9c>

Louis Martini, Napa Valley, CA

<https://www.louismartini.com/visit-the-winery/virtual-tour>

Kendall-Jackson, Napa Valley, CA

<https://www.kj.com/virtual-tour>

Chateau Montelena, Napa Valley, CA

<https://montelena.com/visit/virtual-tour>

Matanas Creek Winery, California

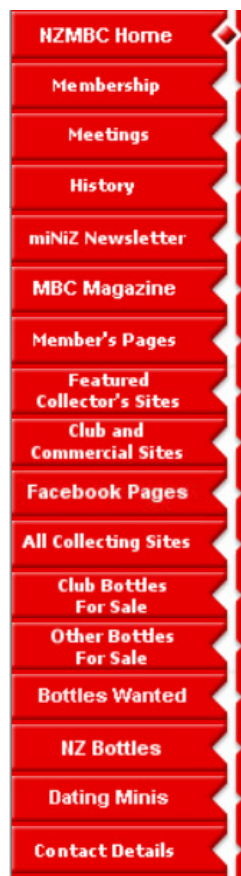
<https://www.matanzascreek.com/virtual-tour>

14 Hands Winery, Prosser, WA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=20326QIANWA>



CLUB WEB SITE



I recently had an enquiry from a member wanting back copies of miNiZ. Just a reminder that all but the last two years are on the club web site:

<https://www.minisnz.com/index.html>

If you need newer issues you just have to ask. We do not put these on-line to encourage collectors to join the club. PLEASE do not share newer issues with non-members.

If you have not looked at the website I urge you to do so. Apart from miNiZ there are also links to most Miniature Bottle Collector Magazines and links to collecting sites worldwide.

The website is kept, reasonably, up-to-date, although currently the NZ Bottles are badly needs bringing up to date.

Did you know you can put your profile on the club site? Have a look under Member's Pages, send us some text and a couple of photos and we will do the rest. You can also add links to your (mini bottle) website or Facebook Page if you have one – just send the URL to us at minisnz@gmail.com



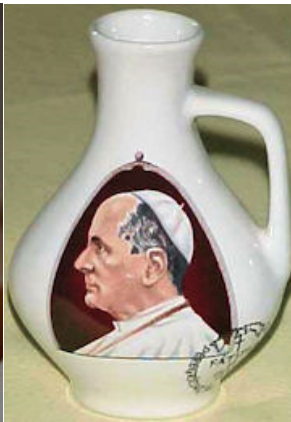
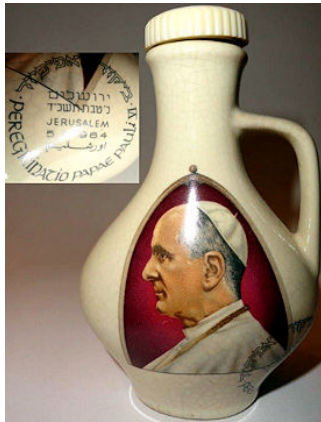
HISTORICAL FIGURES #7N

THE POPE

Yes, I know that I am cheating a bit but it seemed a waste to do an article on one Pope when we have three that miniatures have been made for. So we have here, John XXIII 1958-1963, Paul VI 1963-1978 & John Paul II 1978-2005. If you do not know who the Pope is, where have you been hiding all these years?



The two busts are of Pope John XXIII, the first from Borghini and the second from Old Store, both from Italy. The flask, from Valenti (also Italy), also features John Paul II with Vatican Square & St. Peters on the reverse.



The two jugs feature Paul VI. The jugs, from Portugal but an unknown maker, commemorate visits, the first to Israel in 1964 and the second to Lady Fatima Shrine (Portugal) in 1967.



Citta Vaticano was made by (at least) Barfede and Fedeli of Italy. If buying Valenti flasks you need to look on both sides. On the left we have one with St. Peters on one side, the same as

the one above, but the Trevi Fountain (in Rome not Vatican City) on the other.

To the right is another St. Peters, this one from Barfede but the same mould has also been used by Duca d'Asti. Below are two glass St. Peters and a Dome of St. Peters. The first St. Peters was made by Rocher Freres of France, the second is an unknown bottle. The dome is from Cherry Reatto of Italy and is one of a set of at least four with different contents.



David Smith

HISTORICAL FIGURES - BONUS CHE GUEVARA



I could only find 3 pictures for Che Guevara so he does not warrant a full article. Look him up on Wikipedia if you don't know who he is. The boxed set of micros is from Vini Lunardelli and was made for them by Alpa. The ceramic is from Abolengo and the bottle on the right is from Artesanal, both from Peru.





AUCTION REPORT



All of the bottles I have to show you this time are from the October All Miniatures Auction by Whisky Auction UK. This was a spectacularly good auction in both the quality of the minis on offer and the prices fetched. I have so many bottles to show you but neither the time nor space to do them justice in one article. In miNiZ 125 & 126 I have shown you a mixture of non-whisky bottles and English bottles, including English bottled Scotch. I am going to show you auction results for Japanese and other non-Scotch whiskies here. In miNiZ128 I will show Scotch from the October auction and also from the auction that is taking place as I write this.

Let's start with Japan. Japan makes minis that sell for some very high prices as you will see. We will start at the top.

Hibiki 21 Year Old 50ml sold for £625 – rather expensive for two nips! By contrast the Suntory Royal 12 Year Old 50ml was a snip at £210



Kirin Seagram BAR Premium Whisky 50ml sold for £115. The next is difficult to read but says Suntory Pure Malt 8 Year Old 10cl. This sold for £110. Old Torys Whisky Anejo was bottled in Mexico in the 1960's. It is probably 50ml and sold for £200 – a staggering figure for a foreign bottled Japanese whisky, especially one in less than average condition. Finally on this page we have the Suntory VSOP Brandy Royal Violin Bottle. This is 70ml and fetched £45.

Across the top of the next page we have Nikka Grand 50ml bottled in the 1970's.



£40 bought it. The Nikka Corn & Rye Base bottles are from the 1980's. Both are 50ml. They sold for £26 each. The Suntory Whisky Special Blend was Bottled in the 1990's it fetched £75 for the 100ml.

The next row shows a 15yo, 100ml

Suntory bottle that sold for £75 followed by Suntory White Label 7 Year Old Bottle from the Hakushu Distillery in the 1980's. It is 50ml and sold for £40. The next bottles is remaining anonymous, unless you read Japanese that is! It is a Suntory Tarudashi Gensyu bottled in a 50ml bottle in the 1990's. There were two of these for sale individually and they both fetched £85. The final bottle in this row was probably the cheapest Japanese whisky in the auction. Just £6 bought the 50ml Nikka Mild Whisky from the 1980s. Our final Japanese whisky was sold on it's side with the neck sticking out of the box. It is a 50ml Suntory Reserve Genshu. This one sold for £65.

During lockdown I added Japanese Straight bottles to Miniature Bottle Library:

<https://www.minibottlelibrary.com/mbli/index.html>

I also added Straight bottles from Peru.



Whiskies from Ireland have seen a big revival in the last few years and this is shown in the price that the miniatures fetch, as well as both the quality and quantity of the full size bottles sold.

We start off with the two on the right. They are the only two not bottled in the Irish Republic. Dunvilles is from Belfast, probably in the 1920's or 30's. It is about 50ml and sold for £145. Kilkenny was bottled by Garnetts Wine & Spirit Merchants of Rotherham, England. It is about 7cl and probably dates from the 1950's. £18 seemed cheap.



Also cheap was Scot Erin's Isle Irish Whiskey 5cl which sold for a mere £5. Alex Findlater & Co. Best Old Irish Whiskey is another probably 1950's bottle and another about 7cl - £40.

The Redbreast were the two top Irish Whisky sellers. The 20 Year Old Dream Cask Pedro Ximenez Edition, a 10cl Press Sample, sold for £210. The 32 Year Old Dream Cask, another 10cl Press Sample, fetched £330.

Finally on this page we have the last of the Irish Whiskies. This is the Tullamore Dew Discovery Collection, 3x5cl minis, from a company owned by Wm. Grant & Sons of Scotland. They are Cider Cask, Phoenix and the third one merely says Irish Whisky. £50 bought the set.





I believe the poorest result in the auction must have been the above at only £20 for the set. This is the Bimber Distillery London Single Malt Spirit Collection. This is basically English whisky that cannot be called whisky because it is not 3 years old.

One surprise at this auction was that some poor/very poor bottles fetched high prices.

The Gilbey's Bond 7 is from Australia. The auction people say it is 1940's but I think it is later than that. It is a 1 fluid ounce (about 28ml) bottle. It sold for £80 – not a mistake! Another Aussie whisky is Gilt Edge. This is a 2 2/3 fl.oz. (47ml) bottle from the 1960's or 70's. It only fetched £12,



which still seems high to me for a bottle in this condition. 45 and SS Pierce Number 6 sold together. 45 is Australian and 6 is US. £45 bought the pair.

I'm not going to bother showing the pics but three different New Zealand 45 South minis, all in better condition than any of the above, went for £6. Three different Wilson's New Zealand whiskies and a Dunbar New Zealand whisky went for £7, again, all in better condition than the bottles above.

On the next page we have a diverse range of minis, most of which sold relatively cheaply.



I made the mistake of not looking through this auction until it had ended. It is rare for them to have anything I want and then they tend to go high as others want them too. This Bols piece is The Poacher from 1954. It was made by Royal Dalton and sold for a mere £14.

The three Vlahov liqueurs are from the 1960's and in lovely condition. They also sold for £14.

The three Martini Vermoths are Italian, in good condition and from the 1950's. £24.

The three Copper & Kings Absinthes were a disappointment at only £8 for the three.



Another disappointment was very nice Opihr Oriental Spiced London Dry Gin from England. There were two on sale, one sold £5 and the other for £3

The two Eight Lands are 10cl Gin & Vodka distilled at the Glenrinnis distillery in Scotland. The pair sold for £16, which sounds about right.





Murphy's Liqueur Scotch Whisky is about 50ml. It was bottled in Northern Ireland. A mere £5 bought it. Woodford Reserve is a well known, and good, Bourbon but these two bottles are Bitters from the same company. 10cl each and £4 each.

Peter Bonkovich sent us this photo. It is five buildings from the Air New Zealand Colonial Collection. These were sold on 1st June by Corby's Auctions of

Auckland for NZ\$320 + GST (\$368 total). There was a time when one of these may have sold for that much but this figure is much more realistic, although still on the high side in today's market.



Neil Atkinson sent us: Currently on eBay

Rutherford's Scotch Whisky Ceramic Bottle 18.75 CL - Birds Vintage Souvenir Rare (actually a Rutherford Jug with a pair of grouse)

Original price was US\$80.82 - reduced to US\$44.45 – plus Postage US\$30.53

The bottle is empty and is offered for sale by bargaingems. (not a mini Neil but we get the gist)

Rare 17 Year Old HIBIKI Suntory Japanese Whisky Empty Bottle (50ml) - 1 Bottle

Price US\$15.00 - Postage US\$24.47 - plus Import Charges US\$8.07

Yes Sirree!! A couple of REAL bargains and don'y yah jus' luv them there Import Charges??

I agreed with Neil when he sent the last one to me but look at the first page of this article – it may be a bargain!

David Smith

KING CAR DISTILLERY

Thanks to fellow club member Hugo Nami I am the proud owner of 10 single malt whiskies from this Taiwan distillery. When a connoisseur like Hugo says these beautiful bottles need to be better known, who am I to argue.



The King Car distillery was built in 2005 and the name roughly translates as to Drive Wealth. The name is very apt as the founder Lee Tien-Tsa and his son Albert run a large and successful food and drink empire.

In 1995 they wished to enter the alcohol business and build their own distillery. However the Taiwan government had a monopoly on the alcohol production business and did not want to share it. The result was 10 years of arguments. Two factors led to a solution. The first was in 2002 when Taiwan joined the World Trade Organisation. The WTO do not allow governments to have a monopoly. The second was that King Car stated they would only produce single malt whiskies. Permission was finally granted and, after taking only 8 months to build, the distillery opened in 2005.

The first whisky was bottled in 2008. This may appear to be a short time but the heat in Taiwan speeds up the maturation. A whisky that takes 12 years to mature in Scotland only takes 6 in Taiwan. The climate also has an adverse side in that it is party time for the angels, with the angels share being 15% per annum.

At first the whisky was only sold locally but exports started in 2012. It is now available in over 20 countries (including New Zealand) and whisky commentators have been kind in their comments. They have also won numerous



