



SCOTTISH CERAMIC WATER AND GLASS CIDER JUGS

COLLECTION OF MR. & MRS. JOHN & IRENE LUKKARINEN

The Scottish ceramic water jugs and glass cider jug collection was purchased from Irene and the late John Lukkarinen, of North Vancouver, British Columbia.

While exercising their devotion to collecting different and unique Scotch whisky bottles from all over Scotland, Irene's passion for collecting the ceramic water jugs was ignited. Fully supported by John's enthusiasm of collecting and the love of the search, they spent more than 25 years to amass their collection of the jugs. This involved numerous trips from Canada to the United Kingdom and Europe and dedication to the hunt, most often finding them in very peculiar and eccentric little places from across the United Kingdom and Europe - including Scotland, England, France and Greece. With every successful find, this also meant making the return trek to Toronto, Calgary or Vancouver, Canada (where they lived at different periods) with one of the treasures packed safely in their carry-on luggage, sometimes opting to leave personal clothing or belongings behind in order to have enough space to take them onboard the aircraft.

With the same passion, patience and thrill of the search, the glass cider jugs were also

collected over the same number of years, searching the most curious and remote places in Scotland. However the size of the cider jugs was more challenging to personally transport to Canada. But despite this fact, their collection grew in numbers and they spent years carrying them back to Canada one at a time, on every trip, while the remainder of the lot was left lovingly behind in the care of Irene's mother or sister in Scotland, until they would return again to Scotland, at which time they would take one more on the return to Canada, until their full collection was finally safe in their home in Canada.

Each water and cider jug comes with a unique tale or anecdote of when, how and where they found and purchased it, reflecting the many fond and loving memories of the journeys that they took and shared together and the simple pleasure of collecting these Scottish gems.

Irene (nee Taylor) Lukkarinen was born in Paisley, Scotland; raised in Glasgow and emigrated to Canada as a young woman. John Lukkarinen was born in Stockholm, Sweden (of Finnish descent); and raised in London, Ontario as a young lad.

In Toronto, Ontario they individually began their collections and then, having moved to Calgary, Alberta, where they met and married it seemed like fate as the couple and their two collections merged and grew. The last years of their collecting were enjoyed while living in North Vancouver, British Columbia, from where they travelled often back to Scotland to search and uncover more unique items.

Sadly, John passed away in October, 2014, at age of 65. Irene has since returned to the Highlands, Scotland, where she currently lives with her faithful 13-year old furry four-legged companion Gustav, and near her family.

Their legacy of collecting now lives on display at *The Village at Crossmount*, for all visitors to enjoy. Only part of the collection can be viewed in the *Sampling Room* of the *Crossmount Cider Company*. The antlers in this room are also part of the collection.