

First, Jim asked the hostess behind the bar which Lark whisky they had on offer.



She told us that they had no Lark whisky and that Nant Distillery had disassociated itself from Lark Distillery because of "bad blood".



I didn't expect this blunt and emotive reply.



After we ordered, the hostess told us that we were not permitted to stand at the bar and drink. We had to go and sit down.



We looked around. There were several other couples dispersed evenly around the place, seated in a formal and proper fashion.



I had to go to the loo, which was right beside the bar. When I came back Jim was standing in the entrance doorway. "Come on, let's go," he said.



"What happened?" I asked.

"There's a witch behind the bar," exclaimed Jim.



I looked around the room. The properly seated patrons smirked and nodded.



Outside, I asked Jim again what had happened.



He told me that the hostess hadn't allowed him to wait for me at the bar because standing around at the bar was against house rules.

She'd told Jim to take a seat.



Jim replied that he'd sit down in a moment, as soon as his wife returned.



The hostess then told Jim that she wasn't going to serve him and that he'd have to leave.



Later on, we asked a taxi driver, who'd lived in Hobart for years, whether he'd heard of the no-standing-at-the-bar-rule at Nant Whisky Bar or any other bar in Hobart.



"I think a few exclusive bars in Canada do that," he replied, "but I've never heard of anything like that in Hobart before!"

