

BELMONT ALBION



November 2014

FROM THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER

This month has seen the second of our "Annual Scottie" nights and once again proved a winner with not a seat to spare in the lodge room. This was followed by a wonderful refectory where St Andrew Lodge delivered the Selkirk Grace, Ode to the Haggis, and concluded with Auld Lang Syne in finest Scottish tradition.

I am delighted with a fabulous turn of ritual. The ability for two lodges of different constitutions to come together and deliver a seamless performance with no actual combined rehearsal speaks volumes for all concerned. The piping of visitors into lodge, as well as piping of masters into refectory provided a wonderful experience and vitality to proceedings.

The ubiquitous Harvey Sadgrove ensured musical accompaniment when the Pipes were not in play, and all in all everyone put on a sterling performance.

I must congratulate the Master Elect, our Senior Warden Sean Neely on his leadership in bringing this to fruition, supported by an outstanding refectory team led by Junior Warden Russell Ward.

Of course this would have been of no use, had our visitors not supported the evening. With some 89 in Lodge we could not have asked for better!

I also wish to acknowledge another extremely important event, which was the annual Aged Masons and Widows function. A BA tradition, we open this event to all across the District, and I wish to acknowledge and thank the North Shore Masonic Centre for their financial assistance, and our Almoner Wayne Jones for his ceaseless commitment to this event. I spoke with many of the widows, and was astonished to learn that one woman was widowed in 1965, and another in 1974! How is it



that we retain an ongoing relationship with the wives of deceased masons for such a long period?

I cannot help but think that it illustrates the deep and profound ties that bind all together, and I continue to be amazed by the wisdom and quiet compassion of the craft.

I remain keen that we find ways to bring our families into the craft more so than ever before. As we head towards summer there are plenty of opportunities to do so, including the fireworks evening on the 8th hosted by Lodge North Harbour, and of course the Christmas events and BBQ's.

I would like to close by thanking the team who have delivered educational excellence over the past month, including our discussion on the pavement and tassels prepared by Floyd Apoderado, and speaking on your feet evenings led by Keith Eaglesome.

That's quite some team we have.

Matt Rea-Rankin



Vision Statement: To prosper into the future

Mission Statement: The Belmont Albion Lodge No 45 shall practice the principles of freemasonry in all ways, to enhance education, knowledge and care for its members, attracting men of high quality, personal development and participation in our community

FROM THE EDITOR

In June 2014 the former Grand Lodge Museum contents, containing some 7000 items, were transferred to the 'Heritage Society Museum' located within the Masonic Centre in Khyber Pass Road. Many hours of painstaking work were required to prepare an inventory of what is now known as the 'Grand Lodge Collection' with some repair and restoration required.

The items have now been prepared for display either permanently or on rotation and are housed within the recently installed cabinets located either in the entrance lobby or main display area. Permanently on display are Past Master's, Foundation and Centenary Jewels. An attractive feature of these Jewels is that it shows the many variations of design demonstrating the theme of commemorating an individual's work within his Lodge. This display is a recommended visit for Brethren and their Ladies.

One of the regular contributors to the The Newsletter has received letters of congratulation from the Queen and The New

Zealand Governor General, Rt. Hon. Sir Jerry Mateparae. The occasion being Humphrey and Marjorie Ewens celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 23 October 2014, the Newsletter adds its congratulations to those already received by Humphrey and Marjorie.

You may recall that, in the October issue, it was proposed that an occasional critic of a café or restaurant recommended by a Lodge member be included in the Newsletter. The first of these reviews can be found on page 5

As you will have gathered from The Worshipful Masters words, on page 1, the last few weeks have seen a number of events. Space dictates that reports and photographs of the Aged Masons and Widows lunch and the North Shore Motorcycle ride be held over for the December edition.

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A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE NORTHERN DIVISION CHOIR

The Northern Division Choir was formed in 2002 following a letter being sent to lodges calling for discussion regarding forming a choir in Auckland. The letter from the Lodge of Liberal Arts No 500 read,

The Lodge of Liberal Arts is calling a meeting to discuss a proposal to form the Auckland Masonic Choir. All brethren of your Lodge (both singers and non-singers) are urged to attend so as to take part in the preliminary discussion. The meeting will be held at the Ellerslie Masonic Centre at 5:00 pm on Tuesday April 9th 2002. Items to be discussed are:

1. The incorporation of the choir to enable some funding to be obtained from outside the Craft.
2. Election of a committee to administer the Society.
3. The choosing of a professional Choir Master to lead the Choir.
4. To set an annual subscription for members of the Society.

Fraternally Alan Godfrey, Secretary.

Minutes of the meeting include apologies, inward correspondence and a brief outline, by W. Bro. Reg Newcombe the Chairman, of what was being proposed. Officers elected were, Secretary Bro. Godfrey, Treasurer Bro Cameron Smith, Director of Music Bro. James Morton with committee members, Bros. Dyson, Snowball, Winger and Morton and Bro. Brian Crone as organist.

Today the Choir has some 49 members from a wide area, including Northland, Waikato and Tauranga. The Choir meets, for rehearsal, on the first Sunday in the month at Papakura. Performances have not only covered the Northern Division, as far north as Whangarei, Tauranga in the East and Cambridge in the South but also visits have been made to Dunedin, Christchurch, Nelson, Wellington and Napier.

There have been changes in personnel since the first meeting in 2002 but James Morton and Mark Winger are still committee members with James continuing as Musical Director and Bro Brian Crone as organist.

PC with thanks to Reg Watt

should you be interested in joining the Choir please contact James Morton jamesmorton999@gmail.com or Brian Crone jccrone@xtra.co.nz

MASONIC MISCELLANY

Out and About with the Secretary

Mark Rowley is planning a Trip to America during November.

Richard Lumsden reports from Chicago "Its Now snowing with 60 knot winds, so should be a cold day tomorrow for the rugby", and he is also having a hip replacement operation during November and consequently offers his apology's for the rest of this year.

Alastair's Lumsden is off to Portugal and Spain early November to mid-December.

Humphrey and Marge Ewens are back from Hawaii after attending the recent wedding of a granddaughter

We offer our congratulations to them on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary, they received congratulations from the Queen and the Governor General of New Zealand. The words on the card from Government House read:-

'To Mr Humphrey and Mrs Marjorie Ewens. I extend congratulations to you on the occasion of the Diamond Anniversary of your marriage on 23 October 2014. May the day be a happy one for you both'

Warm Regards
Jerry Mateparae

Two Great B/A Lodge Activities took place this Month:-

Firstly our Combined Second Degree Working with Saint Andrew Lodge 418.

Full credit must go to our Master Elect, Sean Neely, who orchestrated this Great Event It was a Great Evening, with 54 attending . We Loved the Camaraderie!

Then the Annual North Shore Lodges Senior Masons and Widows Luncheon. As Belmont Albion hosted this Function, our Almoner (for Life) Wayne Jones took over the reins and organised the complete Function . We also presented our Belmont Albion Widows with a widows broach depicting a broken column. We had a Great afternoon in great company.

Dave Barr

MASONIC BIRTHDAYS

10/11/1964 F.S. Ansell
09/11/1976 N.S. Whiley
08/11/2004 C.G. Bilham
08/11/2006 M.A. Rea-Rankin
11/11/2008 P. C. Copper
10/11/2010 B.P. Patterson
09/11/2010 C. de Guzman
13/11/2012 A.S. Burman

100 Years Ago

From the minute book of Albion Lodge No. 45, 17 November 1914.

From C.J. Parr Esq. Mayor of Auckland. Letter for the claims of the Auckland Provincial Belgium Relief Fund to assist the unfortunate inhabitants of Belgium

the seat of the present war with Germany. The sum of £5/5/- was voted for this appeal.

The following accounts were passed for payment, Gas Co. £1/7/1, Nicholson & Griffin Interest & Law Charges £13/10/-, Hopkins & Coutts £4/3/4, Hall Licence Fee £2/2/-, Refreshments £1/8/6, Tyler £1/-/-. Total £23/10/11

FACT OR MASONIC ROMANTICISM

In his book 'The Invisible College' Thomas Lomas describes the 'The Royal Society of London for Improving Natural Knowledge' as having a Masonic Lodge hidden within it and many other publications have carried articles discussing the history of the Society with titles such as 'The Masonic Royal Society of Science' being typical.

Trevor Mckeown of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon comments 'that the teachings of Freemasonry played a role in the development of the Royal Society is evident but that the Royal Society is Masonic in its origins, inspirations and goals is an unproven hypothesis. Who is factual and who the romantic?

In 1645 a group of 8 learned men began to meet, in term time, at Gresham College in London to debate the 'New Experimental Philosophy'. The suggestion that these meetings be held came from Theodore Haak a German Calvinistic Scholar who became resident in England in his later life. Initially he titled the meetings the '1645 Group' for obvious reasons. There appears no evidence that Haak had any connections with Freemasonry although his best known work was the first German translation of Paradise Lost.

This group became known as the 'Invisible College' following the title being used in a letter written by Robert Boyle to a colleague. Fourteen years later the founding group had had grown to twelve roughly split between Royalists and Parliamentarians, remember that the group had formed during the two English Civil Wars, with Abraham Hill a business man with a personal fortune, not an academic, supplying funds for the conduct of experiments.

On 30th November 1660 following a regular meeting at Gresham College, at which Christopher Wren delivered a lecture, it was decided that a society be formed for the development of Physic-Mathematical Experimental Learning.

Whilst England was enduring twenty years of Civil war and bloody change the Age of Enlightenment also was sweeping across Europe causing even more radical re-thought for the English. The historian Dorinda Outram has defined the Enlightenment as a 'desire for human affairs to be guided by rationality rather than faith, superstition and revelation'. So it can be seen for the English Nation the old order was being severely challenged and changed.

History shows us that revolutionary change such as this would be fought against by the monarchy, the religious institutions and also by the masses who would be facing changes to beliefs passed down through generations. In such an atmosphere as this is it of little wonder that radical groups such as speculative freemasons and the promoters of the new science met in secretly convened meetings.

In her book 'The Radical Enlightenment' Margaret Jacobs comments that 'the micro-society set up within Freemasons Lodges constituted a normative model for society as a whole'. So it can be argued that Robert Moray the first interim president of the Royal Society drew on his experience as a Freemason when formulating the Societies constitution. Why reinvent the wheel. Many rules are similar between the two bodies including that politics and religion should not be discussed. Remember that supporters of both sides in the civil wars made up the initial members of what would become the Royal Society. So it was common sense to input this rule not just because they were proscribed topics of discussion within a Freemasons Lodge.

During the 18th century many Fellows of the Royal Society became Freemasons with some Lodges providing a location where scientific demonstrations and lectures could be conducted in relative privacy and safety. The link between the two organisations was further strengthened with John Theophilus Desaguliers the Curator of the Royal Society becoming the third Grand Master of the newly formed Premier Grand Lodge of England and Martin Folkes was to serve as Deputy Grand Master, subsequently he became President of the Royal Society.

It was during the Duke Of Sussex's Presidency of the Royal Society that the relationship between the two bodies started to change. this could be seen as ironic because Sussex was also Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England. During this time the view that wealthy patrons should be encouraged to become Fellows fell out of favour and in 1847 the Society decided that Fellows would only be elected on the competency of their scientific works. This changed a learned society into a college of scientific work and in 1850 this was recognised by the British Government and grants were given to assist in research.

WBrother Alex Davison comments that 'the two organisation parted company'. This suggests a

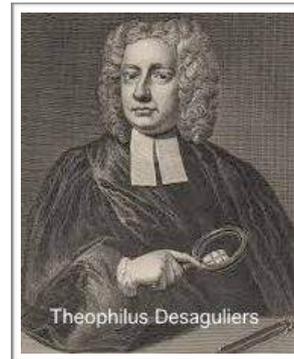
FACT OR MASONIC ROMANTICISM. CONT...

formal act but it is suggest that the two organisations who had developed in parallel, during times of violent turmoil and change now existed in a more stable world with differing values. The Royal Society became more focussed regarding the expertise of its Fellows and by the nature of its work became more open and public whilst Freemasonry continued to grow behind the Lodge door guarded by the sword. Today there are still Fellows who are Freemasons but the ethos of the Royal Society now has little in common with the character of Freemasonry. So it is the writers proposition that Lomas and others are masonic romantics in their supposition

regarding the 'Lodge hidden within the Royal Society'.

As always counter thoughts are welcomed and will be published.

Source: lomas/outram/davison/jacobs/royalsociety.org/et.al.



PC

BEAN THERE CAFÉ



Workman's Café Bar



Wedges, bacon & cream

The Workman's Café Bar, 52 Broadway, Matamata.
Opening hours 9am-10pm Wed-Sun, 3-10pm Tue-Sun

Retro decor with old photos, post cards and memorabilia on the walls which creates great conversation. The cafe is separated from the bar by a wall and can be accessed by a separate front door or from one side of the counter. For those who cannot wait for the sun to rise over the yard arm or who prefer alcohol to coffee this is a bonus. The Menu is well presented and the staff were very friendly. We found the Breakfast menu to be fairly comprehensive but you can still mix and mingle several options if you wish. We arrived around lunch time on a Friday and noticed tables had been reserved by the locals which bodes well. After looking at the lunch menu we opted for double Roasted Lamb shank pie with salad and house special Pate with toasted rye, walnut and fig salad. Both meals were well presented, tasty and definitely filled the spot. The coffee was so good we had a second cup and regretted this further down the road. Definitely worth a visit if you are passing through this way.

Stu Mill

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Workmans-Cafe-Bar>



THE PRINCIPLE OFFICERS OF A ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER

The three Principle Officers of a Royal Arch Convocation are, in order of seniority, Zerubbabel the 1st Principle also known as Z, Haggi, the 2nd Principle also known as H and Joshua the 3rd Principle also known as J. The names of these officers are taken from the Hebrew Holy Books.

'Then Haggai, the Lord's messenger, gave this message of the Lord to the people: "I am with you," declares the Lord. So the Lord stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of the whole remnant of the people. They came and began to work on the house of the Lord Almighty, their God, on the twenty-fourth day of the sixth month'.

Book of Haggi 1:13

Zerubbabel.

In 538 B.C. Zerubbabel was a member of the first group of Jewish captives to return from Babylon to Jerusalem. The Persian King appointed him as governor of Judah. Zerubbabel then began to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem with the help of Joshua the high Priest. Solomons Temple also known as the first temple having been destroyed by the Babylonians in 587 B.C. In the Book of Haggi God refers to Zerubbabel as "my servant" and says he will make him a "signet ring". King David and King

Jehoiachin were referred to in this way and such a ring symbolised one on the hand of Yahweh showing that a king held divine favour. In this Haggi is implying that Zerubbabel would reign over a restored Davidic kingdom.

Haggi.

Haggi is one of the twelve minor prophets in the Hebrew Bible and was the author of the Book of Haggi. His name means 'my holiday'. Little is known of his personal history but it is believed that he may have been one of the captives taken to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar returning to the Land of Judah after the fall of Babylon.

Joshua.

Biblical texts show that Joshua was the first person chosen to be the High Priest for the reconstruction of the Jewish Temple, after the return from Babylon. The List of High Priests of Israel confirms this with Joshua, son of Jehozadak shown as high priest for the period circa 515-490 BC. In the book of Ezra and others the name is spelt Jeshua but Haggi and Nehemiah refer to him as Joshua.

Source Books of Ezra, Haggi, /Easton/George/ et.al.

PC

EMAIL TO EDITOR

Hi, Editor

Thanks for sending through a copy of your newsletter. I note that you have included something on brethren who served in WW1.

Lodge Takapuna had ten brethren serve - two of which lost their lives, being Hector Pierce (Pierce Rd Milford is named after him) and Hugh Forrest (Forrest Hill Rd and the suburb are named after Hugh). I have some info on them.

Following the recent article on the front of the North Shore Times, our WM Grant Brown has been in touch with council with a view to a memorial type site on the corner of Forrest Hill Rd and Wairau Rd (opposite Westlake Girls) to remember these soldiers. In case I miss it can you please keep me in mind if anything further comes out in this regard

Thanks

Carl Shardlow



UPCOMING LODGE EVENTS



November

- 1 Saturday** - Aged Masons and Widows function
- 4 Tuesday** - Speaking in Public part 2 with Keith Eaglesome
- 8 Saturday** - North Harbour Fireworks and BBQ (Master at another function)
- 11 Tuesday** - Presentation with ladies & 5 minute education by Vic Fabian
- 17 Monday** - Takapuna Installation 6:45pm Master delivering charge
- 18 Tuesday** - Visit Lodge Orewa DM Noel Whiley representing Master
- 24 Monday** - Visit St Andrews Lodge 7:30pm (as many as possible please!)
- 25 Tuesday** - Standing Committee
- 27 Thursday** -Lodge Albany – DM Noel Whiley representing master

December

- 2 Tuesday** - Education - The Relationship of the Third Eye or Pineal Gland to Freemasonry and Spiritualism. Lothar Caviezel
- 9 Tuesday** - 50 Year Badge Frank Ansell (with partners and wives)
- 16 Tuesday** - Darkness

A PAST MASTERS VIEW



A Past Master offers some observations and feelings about the moral direction of the generations following on from many years in the practice of living through an eternity of change. One gets e-mails referring to days before this and that. Yes, I do often compare early memories of life experiences in the English countryside with the way society today conducts and directs behaviour today. Before my admission as an Entered Apprentice Freemason I had endured many years of craft training as a craftsman, specialising in Marine Engineering. My early attendance in the village Church both with family and in the choir influenced a lifelong devotion which fitted well when in later life I was introduced to the Craft. The disciplines taught in craft training are relived as we learn and deliver our beautiful rituals.

The lessons endured from my parents, who survived having taken part in the Great War, took on a real meaning later in life when our children needed guidance. As a Past Master I now appreciate the opportunity of offering advice from the East when sought. Recent activities have taken Marjorie and me past our diamond wedding anniversary, the recent wedding of a granddaughter in Hawaii, many other reunion outings in our rather busy schedule as we try quietly to retire into the senior years together with so many other dear friends. Freemasonry is truly a way of life; one which reflects all of the lessons, experiences, and joys that are there for us to appreciate so may you also live to love them until that time to pass to a higher realm.

Out Pipes, Humphrey.

‘The best measure of a man's honesty isn't his income tax return. It's the zero adjust on his bathroom scale.’

Arthur C. Clarke



Next Issue

Deadline: 24 November 2014
Email: ba45.editor@gmail.com

OUR SCOTTISH NIGHT

Tuesday 14th October marked the second successful Scottish Night, hosted by Belmont Albion, in conjunction with brethren from St. Andrew Lodge #418, Scottish Constitution.

The evening commenced with 12 visiting Lodges being individually welcomed lead in with a piper processional. In total, we eventually seated 89 brethren, to enjoy the passing of David Little to the second degree.

As is customary in our Lodge, the charges for the evening's working were shared among our members. Select charges were also performed by visiting members of St. Andrew Lodge #418, SC. Of special note were the charges delivered by Bro Suki Amirapu and Bro Floyd Apoderado. Specific comments heard during Lodge as well as in refectory included, "Exceptional", "Best delivery I have ever heard", and "That was stunning". All



Fig.1 Our Lodge starts to fill for our annual Scottish Night.

brethren involved in the work of the evening delivered a very memorable 2nd degree for David Little, our candidate.

Retiring from Lodge, we were able to host 78 brethren in Refectory. Following the formal piping in of all Masters, the evening kicked off with the haggis parade. With polish and panache, Bro. Charlie Macleod and his team delivered the haggis, delivered the "Ode to the Haggis", toasted the haggis and closed with the Selkirk Grace.

This wonderful Scottish tradition was followed by a number of toasts between Constitutions, genuinely given and warmly received.



Fig.3 The haggis parade circulates through the brethren



Fig.2 The haggis parade enters refectory

It was generally acknowledged that the evening demonstrates a great way

of joining many Lodges from different Constitutions.

The ongoing success of the evening is found in the preparation that all Brethren put into their individual responsibilities, an effort from all involved that is obvious to see and greatly appreciated by all those in attendance.

With such a well delivered display of Ritual, a common bond of comradeship, great stories regaled, new friendships made, and the odd Single Malt consumed, the annual Scottish Night looks set to become a regular event on the Belmont Albion calendar.

Many deepest thanks to all who made the night so memorable for David and our Lodge. Sean Neely.



Fig.11 In charge of the haggis parade is Bro. Charles Nicol, Immediate Past Master of St Andrew Lodge #118 330, First Deputy District Grand Master and National Grand Director of Ceremonies



Fig.6 The two most important requirements for Toasting the haggis.



Fig.14 Our feisty committee, Bro. David Little, the focus of our attention.

