



**April 2019**

# The Belmont Albion Lodge No.45 Newsletter

**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.

**REMINDER**



**Next Issue**

Deadline:

30 May 2019

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[www.thebelmontalbionlodge.co.nz](http://www.thebelmontalbionlodge.co.nz)

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"I will strive to live with love and care,  
Upon the level and by the square"

## Message from the East

Greetings Brethren,

I hope you all had an enjoyable and safe summer. I am sure everyone relished the nice warm weather and long evenings with family and friends. It is now a time of change as the seasons brings us autumn's colours. Winter has occasionally reared its head and now slowly approaches. I hope the change in seasons finds you and your families well.

My main message to you all through this re-launch of our Newsletter will be one of thanks and congratulations.

I am honoured and proud to serve as Worshipful Master and it goes without saying that this is truly the highlight of my masonic career. Thank you all for your vote of confidence in my abilities to lead you in the coming year and I hope I can do as good of a job as the Masters that have come before me. I am humbled, excited, and ready to get started.

I would like to say thank you to all who participated in our installation. As always, the members of our lodge came together and made our installation a great success. It was an excellent turnout and an outstanding evening at the Refectory. I extend a special thank you to RW Bro Murray Morrissey for conducting an excellent Board of Installed Masters. I would also like to thank in particular those who have helped in the background and single out the duo of W Bro Wayne Jones and RW Bro Murray Morrissey who nearly spent an entire Sunday with me setting up

the Refectory. My thanks also go to Bro Richard Lumsden, VW Bro Keith Eaglesome, W Bro Dave Barr and W Bro Alan Thompson who assisted them in the lead up to the installation. I really appreciate and thank our IPM W Bro Russell Ward for leaving me a lodge in great spirits and whom, along with Deputy Master VW Bro Geoff Foote, I will be counting on for counsel and advice in the year to come.

I would like to say congratulations to all of my elected and appointed officers. I know they are going to support me as we move forward this year. I will be working close with the team to try and improve attendance, make meeting nights more stimulating, improve the fellowship in our Lodge, progress our masonic education and rituals and finally how we can take better care of our own while also being of service to our community. I am looking to ask all brethren for your help and will be counting on all of you to make this year a success.

A wise man I know once said, attendance, participation and commitment are key to the success of a Lodge. I am glad that he will be sitting with me in the East. So I extend an invitation to all you brethren to attend, participate and commit to the success of the Lodge.

For all Brethren whom have not seen for some time, you have been missed and I say come back to the Lodge and see firsthand what we are trying to accomplish. Belmont Albion is growing and we want you all to be a part of it.

Fraternally and sincerely  
Floyd Apoderado  
Worshipful Master

## From the Editor

I was talking to a person who edits a major newsletter abroad. While we had discussions on all sorts of issues including rants about receiving material, one particular thing that he said filled me with motivation again. "It's not just for the current members to read, it's for the history!". So, I am back to continue to record the history of BA45 as it is revealed.

Our IPM, W Bro Russell Ward, did a fantastic job sending his weekly communications. I am going to talk to him to see if I could put all his master's voice communications into one file and publish it in a special issue.

With Russell gone, there may be a communication void. We will try to keep you engage brethren. We have a new toy to play with. A weblog also called blog. What is a blog? "A regularly updated website or web page, typically one run by an individual or small group, that is written in an informal or conversational style."

Please follow this link to the blog on our lodge website and enter your email in the subscription box to receive notifications when there is a new post. Please see the instructions in the following page.

<http://www.thebelmontalbionlodge.co.nz/Blog>

The blog will have UpToDate stories that could be shared on pukebook, as Russell says, while the newsletter will be a recollection of stories in a formal format.

This year is passing by quicker than usual. I am in mid 30s and having difficulties matching the pace of life.

*Kids growing and family well, we've got a few jobs to learn!*

Many of us are stepping into new roles this year. I think this year's officers are in average at least 20 years younger than previous years and I see the

current formation a bridge between the past and future, a planned structure that is going to assure the stability and prosperity of Northshore's best lodge.

Some very experienced, esteemed and highly ranked masons form the backbone of our lodge but unlike many other places, our old and wise are not hungry for power, they don't mind to let it go and they have trust in brethren they have guided throughout these years.

That's what makes our lodge different!

All the best for yet another exciting masonic year ahead.

Until next time, keep warm and happy reading!

Ali Seyfoddin (Editor)

# How to access lodge blog for dummies

Enter our website URL into your browser

www.thebelmontalbionlodge.co.nz

1



Click on Blog

2



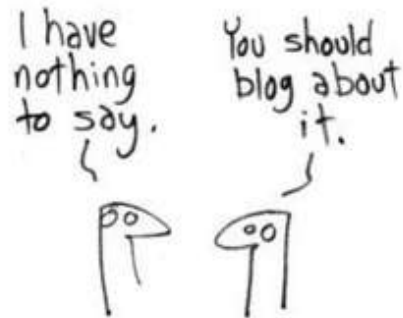
Installation of Bro Floyd Apoderado into the chair of King Solomon

Bro Ali  
23/04/2019 4:34:00 PM



Enter your email to subscribe

3





## In Memory of Vic Fabian

1936-2019

Vic Fabian was born on 3rd July 1936. At the age of 16 to get away from the Revolution he took off across the hill from his native Hungary to Austria and became a Refugee. After some time in Refugee Camps in Europe he ended up in a New Zealand Camp finally getting accommodation with a couple in Onehunga. He was given a job at the Meat Works but had to borrow money to buy a pair of shoes to walk to work.

After some time he finally took a job as a Flight Steward with Air New Zealand and rose to the Rank of a Flight Purser. A position he held for many years. On one of his many overseas trips he met the love of his life Connie and they married in 1990 to settle at his Hillside home.

I'm not sure of Vic's Mother Lodge but he was a Past master of Titirangi Lodge and joined Belmont Albion No 45 about 1993. He held the Grand Lodge Rank of Past Grand Lecturer and was a very knowledgeable Freemason. He regularly visited

Lodges around the world while working for A.N.Z. and after he had retired. He travelled extensively to America (Wife Connie is from Minnesota) and prior to retirement worked for Air New Zealand for approximately 25 years. He printed our Installation Programme for years but gave it up two years ago. We suspect poor health was the reason. He videoed the progress and construction of the North Shore Centre from the beginning and showed a brilliant documentary at the Grand Dinner on Dedication Day.

Vic could have strong views on many subjects but no doubt from his world-wide experiences and his life as a Flight Purser he was a pretty good reader of character.

The Lodge is grateful for the support given by Wayne and Bev Jones and Keith and Libby during Vic's illness.

*VW Bro Keith Eaglesome and RW Bro Murray Morrissey*



*A snapshot from Dec 2014 issue of this newsletter*

## Know your brothers

### Worshipful Master

I am from the Philippines and my full name is Martin Floyd Apoderado. I understand my surname is a bit of a tongue twister. It is correctly pronounced as 'Ah-poe-deh-rah-doe'.

I have been with the New Zealand Sugar Company for the past 18 years in various roles and I am currently the Quality Assurance Co-Ordinator.

I am an avid reader with particular interests in mythology and important and decisive periods in history. This included the American Civil War and Philippine Battle for Independence both of which were highly influenced by the Freemasons. My desire to understand and share in the commonality these great thinkers and freedom fighters shared is one of the main reasons I decided to join.

I was initiated into Freemasonry on the 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2012. An interesting fact I'd like to share is a bold prediction Bro Ronald Venturina made shortly after my initiation. He told a group of Filipino brethren that I would be Master of our Lodge in 6-7 years. My 7<sup>th</sup> year anniversary will be on the 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2019. Uncanny foresight.



### Director of ceremonies

I'm Sean Neely and am married with 2 kids, a son and a daughter. I work as a Senior Corporate Manager for a bank, responding to Corporate, Commercial and Institutional competitive tender responses.

This year I am honoured to take over the role of Director of Ceremonies from RW Bro. Murray Morrissey. As a Past Master of our Lodge, I was always supported in a seamless manner in which the Lodge would deliver its charges at our Regular meetings. Helping schedule, coach and support our team members to maintain the excellent traditions found in our Lodge is a daunting challenge. My hope is to emulate the planning and execution that Murray delivered on consistently.



### Treasurer

"Chris Bilham; I was formerly an officer in the Royal Hong Kong Police, now working as a grass-cutter. My hobbies include tramping, and collecting/researching war medals.

As Treasurer, I hope to manage the lodge's finances more successfully than my own. I am also working on a history of Belmont Albion Lodge to mark our first twenty-five years.



### Senior Deacon

My name is Isaac Newcombe, I am a Senior Master Control Room Op for TV Channels and a Cinematographer for TV shows and Movies. I grew up in Tauranga and moved to Auckland to meet my actress girlfriend Meg, to whom I moved into a small cottage in the woods with. This year at B.A #45 I am the Senior Deacon, I am looking forward to the challenges this role provides and the responsibility it holds to keep the ceremony at a punctual pace.



### Junior Deacon

My name is Ali Seyfoddin, I am a Senior Lecturer in Pharmacology at AUT, father of two little girls and an adventurer (in-land and off-land). I am the

*Junior Deacon* this year and I am looking forward to it especially experiencing a first degree working. I remember the comfort of having the JD whispering the answers into my ears. I believe he has a special place.





# Installation of Bro Floyd Apoderado into the chair of King Solomon



The Filipino brethren gathering to support the master elect



The master elect getting ready to kick off the ceremony



Fantastic Filipino dishes in the refractory

Above:  
District  
Grand  
Master VW  
Bro Dennis  
Waller



Below:  
Brethren,  
officers and  
guests posing  
for a photo  
after the  
ceremony



## The First Quarter Century: a history of Belmont Albion Lodge No. 45 1993-2018.

Last year marked the 25th anniversary of Belmont Albion Lodge. It was formed in 1993 from the amalgamation of two older lodges, Albion (1883) and Belmont (1948). I am writing a history of the lodge, focusing on the period since 1993 but with some introductory material relating to the two earlier lodges. There is also a section giving a brief account of prominent members of the lodge; this includes all the masters (by definition) and several other colourful personalities who are

remembered whenever Belmont Albion is spoken of. In some ways I was a strange choice for this assignment as I have been a member of the lodge only since 2011, and several of the founder members are still with us. I have asked several of the veteran brethren for contributions; some have responded, some have not. I should be most grateful for contributions from anyone; amusing incidents you recall, stories about some of the interesting personalities who have been (or still are) members of the lodge, anything which readers would be likely to find interesting or entertaining. Do not delay, as the draft is nearly finished and it would be desirable for this to be published before the 30th anniversary is upon us.

Chris Bilham; [cgbilham@hotmail.com](mailto:cgbilham@hotmail.com)"

## Do University Lodges Have a Place in NZ?

“As an academic I sense there is a void in the modern education in that we have become outcome-oriented. We nurture students with skills required by the employers and often forget the fact that universities are places not only for technical skills development but also for moral, religious and philosophical discussions and developments. Students’ guilds around the world played a significant role in political developments in 70s and 80s. Now, they are mostly for fun activities, laser tags, happy hours and the like. We provide mentorship to students (this is mostly industry and job market oriented again), support students with special needs and those from minorities or less privileged backgrounds. But to date, I have not found a systematic approach in providing moral and executive education and support in our

universities. I believe Freemasonry can contribute to moral development of the future generation of morally righteous, free and upright men who would contribute to the wellbeing of their society without haste. Of course we are not going to cater to everyone and every gender but I believe our organisation has a place in universities and having looked at examples overseas specially in the UK, I believe this could be a great initiative benefiting not only the youth in academia but also Freemasonry in New Zealand by attracting academics and open minded students to the craft.”

*Bro Ali Seyfoddin*



## Freemason Scholarship Award Ceremony at the Lodge of Peace No. 322

I was invited to attend the award ceremony at the Lodge of Peace by WBro Rick Pullin who informed me that one of my PhD students, Hamideh, is among the recipients for her work on development of a novel degradable aerogel-based intranasal drug-eluting bandage for post-operative care and epistaxis treatment.

The Freemasons Scholarships are provided annually, funded and administered by The Freemasons Charity. The Freemasons Scholarships are to assist able students who are active in their involvement in the community, to complete their university education in their chosen field.

This year eight Postgraduate Scholarships of \$10,000 each and 20 University Scholarships of \$6,000 each will be offered to students attending universities at: Auckland, AUT, Waikato, Massey, Victoria, Canterbury, Lincoln and Otago.





## Masonic quote

“Professor Langdon,' called a young man with curly hair in the back row, 'if Masonry is not a secret society, not a corporation, and not a religion, then what is it?’

'Well, if you were to ask a Mason, he would offer the following definition: Masonry is a system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols.'

'Sounds to me like a euphemism for "freaky cult."'

'Freaky, you say?’

'Hell yes!' the kid said, standing up. 'I heard what they do inside those secret buildings! Weird candlelight rituals with coffins, and nooses, and drinking wine out of skulls. Now that's freaky!’

Langdon scanned the class. 'Does that sound freaky to anyone else?’

'Yes!' they all chimed in.

Langdon feigned a sad sigh. 'Too bad. If that's too freaky for you, then I know you'll never want to join my cult.'

Silence settled over the room. The student from the Women's Center looked uneasy. 'You're in a cult?’

Langdon nodded and lowered his voice to a conspiratorial whisper. 'Don't tell anyone, but on the pagan day of the sun god Ra, I kneel at the foot of an ancient instrument of torture and consume ritualistic symbols of blood and flesh.'

The class looked horrified.

Langdon shrugged. 'And if any of you care to join me, come to the Harvard chapel on Sunday, kneel beneath the crucifix, and take Holy Communion.'

The classroom remained silent.

Langdon winked. 'Open your minds, my friends. We all fear what we do not understand.’”

— Dan Brown, *The Lost Symbol*

