

BELMONT ALBION



September 2014

FROM THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER

It was great to be back in the chair for the August working having been away in July. The second degree contains such wonderful metaphors, particularly *steering the barque (bark) of this life over the seas of passion without quitting the helm of rectitude*. What a marvellous piece of poetry, and surely one of my favourites on so many levels.

This was followed with a well supported education evening courtesy of Paul Copper with discussion for our EA's and FC's, - it reminded us all of a few topics and details that had become a little foggy, so thank you Paul!

I am pleased to advise that Murray and Kay Morrissey are safely returned from the Installation in Samoa, and also welcome back our Senior Warden Sean Neely after several months working in Singapore. Humphrey Ewens is working with Spirit of Adventure once more to see if we can assist a youth on a voyage so 'watch this space'.

Planning is well underway for our second ever Scottie night in October, which I am sure will be a fabulous event with Pipes, Haggis, and no doubt a single malt to round things off. We also have a brunch planned for September 14 so if you are in town please do mark your diaries.

In August we saw Jodeal Cadacio installed into the Chair of Lodge North Harbour, and as we look ahead Henri-noel Venturini will step into the Chair at Lodge Orewa on September 20. They both follow on the heels of young and dynamic Masters and it is wonderful to see the continued flow of quality men into the respective chairs.

Being master is a real privilege. Wisely the craft bestows it for a short period, allowing growth for the new master, new



energy for the Lodge, but cleverly limiting both excess of authority and the potential for complacency.

With this my second year at its half way point, I reinforce the fact that high quality ritual remains ever a standard that we must strive to ensure, underpinned by personal development and growth.

Friendship and a desire for decency in life flow through our philosophy as Freemasons, and is something we must ever keep in sight. Most importantly though, remember to enjoy it. One day the Barque will dock. Let the voyage have been a good one.

Matt Rae-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

I commented last month on how I believe that Freemasonry has a moral/ethical message that is needed in a world driven by greed and self aggrandisement. It seems the same thoughts were being promulgated 76 years ago. I quote from the New Zealand Craftsman of May 1938, *The Future of Masonry lies not simply in the increase of numbers, but in the dissemination of Masonic principles throughout the world. The greatest function of Masonry is to raise mankind to a higher realisation of the beauty of the truth, the importance of human freedom, the dignity of labour, the glory of service in every righteous way, and its relation to the different degrees.*

Currently there is much discussion as to whether Freemasonry should embrace the various 'social

media' sites. This headline appeared recently in the The Westmoreland Gazette, an English provincial newspaper. *'Facebook pages, YouTube videos and Twitter feeds today find their place among the ancient rituals and regalia of Freemasonry'*. In the article which followed Peter Clark, Provincial Communications Officer, commented "We are a modern organisation moving into the 21st century". Food for thought?

The BA 45 Newsletter is truly becoming a journal for Freemasons by Freemasons as contributions come from many directions. Your input is always extremely welcomed and long may it continue.

Editor: ba45.editor@gmail.com

WBro JOHN OWEN IVERSEN BEM PGStdB

Passed to the Grand Lodge above on Friday 18 July 2014 at the Orewa Hospice.

John was initiated into The Belmont Lodge No.335 on the 13 May 1969, being a double initiate with the late WBro Doug Foote PGBB, by WBro Bob Foster as Master.

John's brother Peter was also a member of The Belmont Albion Lodge.

He transferred to Lodge Orewa in 1972 and became Master in 1978 and 1987.

John grew up in Devonport and served the Royal NZ Navy until his retirement having attained the rank of "Warrant Officer Control Electrical Artificer". He was awarded the 'British Empire Medal' in 1969 for services to the Military.

After retiring from the navy John became the Chief Electrical Engineer at Paremoremo Maximum Security Prison, he was also a local Councillor.

John retired to Stillwater to be close to the sea and his boat where he remained until his death.



Words and picture courtesy of Geoff Foote

MASONIC MISCELLANY

Out and About with the Secretary

Enjoyed the Ceremony of Passing for Bro Alan at our August Meeting.

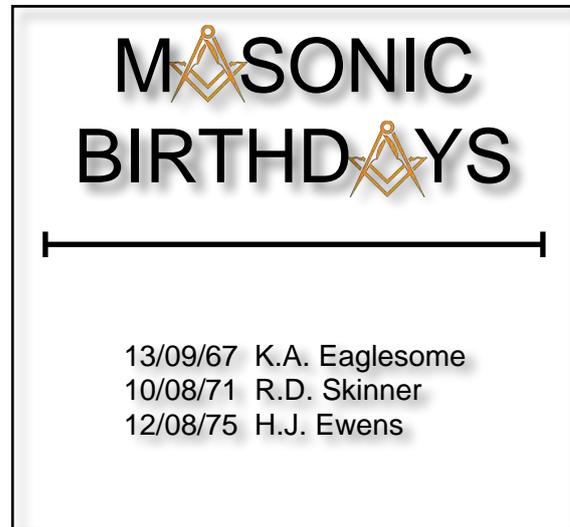
W.Bro Danny Wrigley did a excellent presentation of the Working Tools (walk about option) and we thank Frank and Keith for covering for our two last moment unavoidable absentees, if you didn't know, you would have thought that that was the plan all along.

Well done team

Until about eighteen months ago the Devonport Historical Museum had a display of masonic artefacts, records etc. from the Devonport, Vauxhall Road Masonic Building. Families used the extensive and detailed records compiled by W.Bro Frank Arnott to established dates etc. of Albion Lodge Members, a service the public appreciate. Unfortunately the Museum has taken the Masonic Corner off display, due to space limitations and a requirement to rotate local interest exhibits. There may now be an

opportunity to have a "permanent Belmont Albion masonic display" as extra display areas are being considered for refurbishment and if we indicated a desire to make a contribution towards a "permanent exhibition of local masonic history", the museum may be more open to our suggestions.

Dave Barr



A PAST MASTERS VIEW



Ladies and Brethren. I include the ladies because it has come to my attention that many ladies read and enjoy our newsletter. So I would like Marge to add her contribution but she is overly busy keeping an eye on me. We do have a busy life which includes our second great grand child, attending re-unions in UK, Australia, and outposts like Napier for example, and belonging to a retirement village with all its activities. There will be no peace in the near future because our eldest daughter Carol has just returned from London and our sixtieth wedding anniversary approaches later this year.

Taking up Freemasonry when it is discovered later in life is to be thoroughly recommended although one can always find worthy candidates who need to be located when in their earlier years. It seems to me that most people retire long before being put out to pasture. There are so many distractions in life that it is really necessary for each and every one of us to consider our mission to always spread the good word about this Order. My life has, of necessity, consisted of many long periods of time being separated from my family. The

Masonic wives have not been a part of their partners activities, for the most part. Ancient custom of forbidding women seems very strange to people in our sphere today. Ladies have, since the earliest times, been supportive in the social activities, assisting with and joining in our refectory proceedings.

Taking cognisance of the foregoing observations I might suggest that a place exists for female recruitment officers as already happens in other Orders. It may not have escaped the notice of some high and mighty 'blue lodge only' brethren that the majority of other orders members also support their blue lodge equally as strongly. It must also be patently obvious that we must get new members of suitable quality, probably with the approval of the spouse who may also enjoy the companionship of new friends, and then mentor them both until their family becomes part of our family.

Out Pipes. Humphrey

100 Years Ago

From the minute book of Albion Lodge No. 45, 10th September 1914.

Correspondence from M.W. Bro. J.J. Dougall advising that it was not necessary for Lodges to contribute to the Patriotic Fund but they should conserve their funds with a view to contributing towards any cases of necessity arising from the present war troubles.

A letter was read from W. Bro. N.G. Stringer W.M. Designate for the proposed new Lodge at Takapuna asking for the endorsement of approval of the petition. Albion Lodge being one of the nearest.

Resolved that the petition be countersigned by the W.M. & Wardens recommending G. Lodge to issue the Charter.

A MOST REMARKABLE FREEMASON

It is almost inconceivable that one of the worlds greatest composers died in poverty in 1791, aged a mere 35 years, with only a priest, a grave digger and hired pall-bearers at his grave side. The weather was inclement and the other mourners declined to enter St. Marx cemetery, leaving their 'friend' to be buried in an unmarked paupers grave.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in Salzburg on 27th January 1756 and was baptised Chrysostomus Wolfgangus Theophilus Mozart. Theophilus means 'beloved of God' and in his later life he chose the latin form of the name, Amadeus.

Mozart's father Leopold, who was leader of the Court orchestra of the Prince-Archbishop of Salzburg, undertook his son's education himself, soon realising that his son had a prodigious talent. By the age of six Mozart was an accomplished performer on the violin, piano and organ and had started to compose short pieces. By 1769 and aged 13 Mozart had written his first two operas, toured France, Germany and the Low Countries also in that year he was appointed honorary Konzertmeister at the Salzburg Court. So started a musical career whose legacy we have with us today.

Although his father-in-law and brother-in-law were Freemasons they were not members of Mozart's lodge and it is not clear whom his proposer in was. It is assumed that one of his many noble acquaintances was his mentor.

Mozart was admitted as an apprentice to the Viennese Masonic Lodge called 'Beneficence' on 14 December 1784. He was promoted to Journeyman Mason in January 1785, and became a Master Mason shortly afterwards (some historians dispute the date stating that it is not clear when he was passed or raised although they do not dispute he was raised to the Sublime Degree). He also attended the meetings of another lodge, called ' True Concord'. This lodge was recognised as the largest and most aristocratic in Vienna. Mozart's Mother Lodge was consolidated with two other Lodges in December of 1785 under the 'Masonic Decree' the Imperial reform of Masonry and so Mozart became a member of a lodge called ' New Crowned Hope'.



Surviving Masonic documents show that Mozart was well regarded by his fellow Masons and was absorbed in Masonic principles.

As could be expected Mozart's major contribution to Freemasonry was musical. He composed a cantata 'Mason's joy' in honour of a Lodge Master, this in 1785 and also in that year the 'Masonic Funeral Music' to be played at a Lodge of Sorrows. This was to honour two deceased Brothers, Count Esterhazy and Georg August. Music experts say that Mozart associated musical characteristics with Masonic ideas, bearing in mind that music is the geometry of sound. Compositions with Masonic influence include the 'Clarinet Quintet', the 'Requiem Mass', Symphonies Nos. 39 and 41 and of course 'Die Zauberflote', the Magic Flute. His last complete work 'Little Masonic Cantata' was first performed only a month before his death.

At the time of Mozart's death Freemasonry in Austria was facing an uncertain future and in 1794, three years after his demise, the suppression of Austrian Lodges saw all Lodges formally closed down not to reopen until 1918.

source: McGregor/Robbins/Solomon/et.al.

PC

Fancy a feed and a natter

Well book in with Russell Ward then head for Platters Restaurant, King Edward Parade, Devonport on Sunday the 14th September between 9:30 and Noon.



A GREAT EXPERIENCE

On 14th August 2014 Murray Morrissey attended the annual Installation of Lodge Calliope No. 252 in Apia, Samoa.

The New Zealand party consisted of Eddie & Judith Eeles, Gavin Cook and & friend , Greg & Kathy Taylor, Craig Loeve, Master of Lodge Albany, and Murray & Kay Morrissey. Kay absolutely loved it until being lowered by a stomach bug, she is still unwell as I write. Like a good trooper she carried on uncomplaining. She has learned not to drink the local water, kava, half raw fish, taro, breadfruit and coconut cream all in the same sitting.

Lodge Calliope is a unique amongst the Masonic fraternity. They are trying hard to re-establish themselves after some troubled times and to be fair are making a good job of it. Much needs to be done but to their credit they are trying. W.Brother Greg Taylor of Lodge Albany has been a guiding influence for them for a few years now. They have similar problems as we do in New Zealand. To take part in their Installation is an interesting experience and one I highly recommend to anyone interested in participating next year.

The hospitality as always was first class and we toured the main Island to inspect our Masonic project completed some

years ago. I can report with satisfaction it is still in good shape and being well used by the village ladies committee.



(Left) The visitors at an outlook above Apia



(Right) Murray with Mike Tafua, Samoa's Minister of Tourism & Economic Development

LETTER TO EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I receive your newsletter each time it comes out from Keith Eaglesome and I thought that you may be interested in details regarding the interior of my lodge in Kyneton, Victoria, South East Australia.

The photographs you have are one from the entrance to the Lodge Room looking towards the Masters Chair and Dais with the second from the East looking back to the Senior Wardens Chair.



The double doors at the Lodge entrance were found in a second hand timber yard back in 1967 when the Lodge building was going under a transformation. The doors were painted and in very bad shape but the members brought them back to Kyneton, stripped off the paint, cleaned the woodwork and put in new panels.

The lodge furniture, Masters pedestal, the Senior and Junior Wardens pedestals and the balustrade at the Dais were made and turned by one of our members and put together without any nails or screws.

The third photograph I send is of the Grand Lodge Certificate that every Freemason gets after his third degree. The one in the picture is a hand painted copy by one of the Lodge members.

Kind regards and best wishes from all at Kyneton 192,

Marion and Brian Davenport



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTERS MEMORIES OF A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY

San Diego 10 July 2014

The eyes said it all. Immense sadness. A life time of strength. A fear. A fear that a lifetime spent in service, a service loved and which ran through every fibre, nevertheless had meant terrible acts.

Eyes that had seen death, corruption, degradation. Wrongs that should have been right.

A heart that desperately hoped that he had made good in time. A very old man at 74.

Iron sharp creases in cheap jeans. An apology for looking scruffy today, he was on his way to get new teeth. A Marine. Living in Mexico.

Very blue eyes. Eyes that have seen it all. Eyes with depth. Discipline. Courage. Pain. A desperate hope that god would forgive him his duty and what was asked of him. Hair combed back and almost false, almost a toupe, almost chemically burned?

Skin seared and damaged by a lifetime in the elements. A strong face. Two tours in Vietnam. Visited New Zealand, yes, in the 70's. Do you know this preacher he asked? A New Zealander here in the US. Very well known. No I replied. He seemed sure I would have heard of him. He asked several times more.

An orphan. A tortured soul. Alone. With God.

With God? Following God. Catching up with God? Yes, for a long time now desperately catching up with God.

But strong. A life time of being strong. Determined. An Orphan. Finding his way.

When he looked at me his eyes pleaded. Some vain hope that I somehow could reassure him that it was ok. That he had made good. In time. The shadow was close.

On the blue line, on a Trolley from San Ysidro. Did he alight at Pacific Fleet? Not sure. Would have made sense.

As he left "God Bless you". "And you". I almost wept.



Pictured: Sam, Ella, and Matt.

Matt Rae-Rankin (Photo: Wendy Rae-Rankin)

'TO STEER THE BARK OF THIS LIFE.....' THE W.M. EXPLAINS



The word *barc* appears to have come from Celtic languages. The form adopted by English perhaps from Irish was *bark*, while that adopted by Latin as *barca* very early, which gave rise to the French *barge* and *barque*.

In the 18th century, the British Royal Navy used the term *bark* for a nondescript vessel that did not fit any of its usual categories. Thus, when the British Admiralty purchased a collier for use by James Cook in his journey of exploration, she was registered as *HM Bark Endeavour* to distinguish her from another *Endeavour*, a sloop already in service at the time.

Source: Clever Wiki

UPCOMING LODGE EVENTS



September

- 2 Tuesday** - Final Rehearsal
- 9 Tuesday** - Pass Alistair Lumsden to FC
- Floyd Apoderado 5 minute education
- 10 Wednesday** - Visit Milford Trinity 10:30am (Lecture)
- 14 Sunday** - Brunch at Platters, 9:30am Devonport
- 16 Tuesday** - Standing Committee Meeting
- 20 Saturday** - Orewa Installation 2:30pm (Visitors)
- 23 Tuesday** - Grand Lodge presentation
by RW Neil Ingram
- 30 Tuesday** - Rehearsal

October

- 7 Tuesday** - Rehearsal (Master Away)
- 9 Thursday** - Visit North Harbour
- 14 Tuesday** - Pass David Little to FC
- Briene Salosagcoi 5 minute education
(Hosted with St. Andrew Lodge SC at NSMC)
- 20 Monday** - Visit Takapuna
- 21 Tuesday** - Education Group. The work will be a discussion around Floyd's '5 minute talk' on the Lodge Pavement.
- 28 Tuesday** - Visit



Royal Arch Masonry

So why join the Royal Arch?

This is a question many Master Masons have no doubt asked. A brief answer would be 'because it completes the Third Degree and as it provides the genuine secrets, following on from the substituted ones, it is an integral part of Freemasonry'. The six degrees, three in the Blue Lodge and three in the Red Lodge, cover the period of the Old Testament up to 70 A.D.

The Old Testament tells the story of the rebellion that split the Twelve Tribes of Israel into two Kingdoms. Ten Tribes, also known as the 'Ten Lost Tribes' formed the Northern Kingdom but these disappear after the invasion by Sargon the Assyrian King. The two remaining Tribes formed the Kingdom of Judah in the south.

To retain their identity these two Tribes, now known as the Hebrews, were forced to pay tributes to the King of Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar II. It was following a default in these tributes that Nebuchadnezzar lay siege to Jerusalem sacked the city and destroyed the Temple of Solomon, exiling the Hebrews to Babylon. Following the fall of Babylon, to the Persians, Cyrus the Great encouraged the Hebrews to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the City and the Temple.

The Rituals of the Royal Arch follow the return of Master Masons to work on clearing the ground in readiness for the foundations of the Temple and how the genuine secrets were so discovered. As Laurence Dermott said in 1746 'The Royal Arch is the root heart and marrow of Masonry'

source:Pugh-Williams/Edelman/et. al.

PC

'The talent for being happy is appreciating and liking what you have, instead of what you don't have'.

- Woody Allen



Next Issue

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Email:

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ba45.editor@gmail.com