



October 2017

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.



Next Issue
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The joy of a full Lodge

Once again October 10 saw the annual Scottish night festivities hosted by Belmont Albion #45, in conjunction with a large contingent of brethren from St. Andrew Lodge No.418 SC. Attended by all Sister constitutions, all visiting Lodges were individually formally piped into Lodge to be greeted by the Master. A total of 12 visiting Lodges attended the event, packing the Lodge to full capacity.

In Lodge, we were privileged to hear R.W. Bro Garry Salmon, Divisional Grand Master, reflect on his career and share with the brethren some of the challenges associated with his Divisional role and the functionality within Grand Lodge.

Prior to the closing of the lodge, the Master of St. Andrew Lodge #418 SC. Bro Johnson Uyseco, was presented with the Travelling Gavel. This is awarded to the Lodge with the greatest numbers of visiting brethren supporting their Master. Designed to improve inter-Lodge visiting, the Travelling Gavel has become a wonderful source of good natured competition.

Retiring to refectory and under the watchful eye of our DoC. RW Bro. Murray Morrissey, over 70

brethren sat down to a veritable feast. The festive board commenced with the piping in of all sitting Masters. Starting the evening off in style were the brethren from St. Andrew delivering the Haggis into refectory with a piped parade, followed by the Ode to the Haggis, and finally the toast to the Haggis. Formal toasts were replied to by Bro. Bob Russell, PRWDGM, Hon SGW and Bro. Charlie MacLeod, PM PDep DGM, Hon GDC and WM Brian Kidston from the Browns Bay Lodge #346.

Bro. Bobby Campbell, PM of St. Andrew Lodge No.418 SC, delivered a wonderful rendition of "The treasurer at Tobermory Bay", while Bro Roddy Murray, PM of the Ponsonby Lodge No. 708 SC. entertained the gathered brethren with his rendition of "Under the Scotsman's kilt".

The evening's festivities concluded with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne".

If smiles, laughter and good nature banter is a true measure of an enjoyable refectory, then the evening was a tremendous success for all those attending.

WM Sean Neely



Master's Calendar

24 Oct 3RD Degree practice

31 Oct 3RD Degree practice

7 Nov - Final Lodge 3RD Degree practice

14 Nov -Regular Meeting To Raise Bro Ali

21 Nov - Standing Committee Treasurer and Tyler Nominations



From the Editor

Have your say- Bridging the gap of expectation

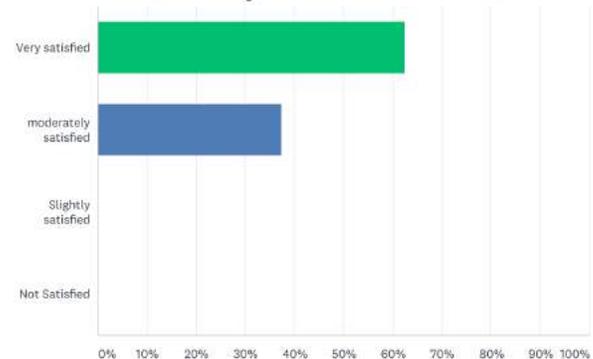
I was listening to a masonic radio podcast about bridging the gap of expectations in Freemasonry, avoiding disappointment and making the journey more fulfilling¹. We need to understand the expectations of those waiting to knock at the door and seek admittance as some of those expectations are indeed realistic. When I was being admitted, I expected to walk in to a great ceremony. I expected it to be strange but stimulating and perfect. I wanted a memorable experience. I was lucky that my experience exceeded my expectations as the Belmont Albion brothers put together a fantastic ceremony for my initiation. I have visited several lodges in Auckland where unfortunately the quality of ceremonies has been well below the candidate's expectations. In my opinion, there is nothing worse than a bad start and so true that "a good beginning makes a good ending".

When I joined, I wanted assurances that the craft can make me a better man. I wanted to know what tools will be provided for that? It wasn't a surprise to find out that you can't expect to automatically become a better man just by joining or receiving the degrees. You need to be committed to spend time learning and applying freemasonry lessons to become a better version of yourself. We have busy lives, all of us. I am a young father and anyone knows children can be a handful. First degree ceremony teaches us to use our time wisely and adequately. I have fitted in freemasonry in my busy life and using my time adequately is one of my goals so that I can spend quality time with family and friends, work hard and still be able to be involved with other things that matter in life. I didn't expect this to happen automatically as I was given the tools of the EA and the lessons that came with them. I knew that it was up to me to take little steps to master my time. We have to continuously make little progress to remove the imperfections

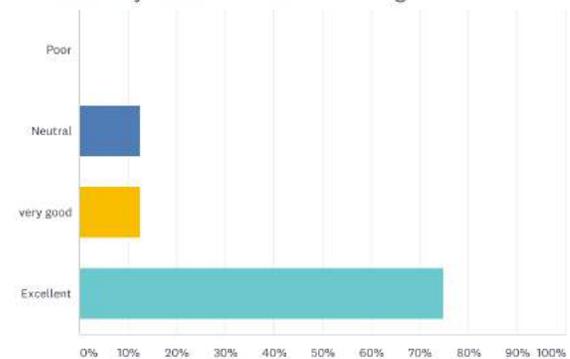
from our stones so we can be a better shaped person.

This brings me to the newsletter and brethren's expectations of what it should be. I sent out a survey link to the brethren to find out if my efforts meet their expectations. Unfortunately, the level of brethren's engagement did not meet my expectations and with only 8 responses, I may have to repeat the survey in a different format. Those who responded, were satisfied with the content and design of the newsletter. There was one thing that stood out in brethren's comments and that was the need for more educational pieces. I will work with Russell and other experienced members on this.

How satisfied are you with the newsletter?



How would you rate the overall design of the newsletter?



Happy reading!

Editor

1 Juan Sepulveda, The Winding Stairs Freemasonry Podcasts

50 Years Service Jewel Presentation to W Bro Willoughby (Bluey) Allen Wheldale

Born 1924. A wonderful Freemason.

A group consisting of David BARR, Nelson WEBSTER, Russell WARD, Ali SEIFUDDIN and Murray MORRISSEY travelled to W/Brother ``Blueys`` home in Algies Bay North of Auckland to present him with his 50 year Jewel.

``Bluey`` is now 94 years old and not in the best of health, nevertheless was delighted to receive us into his home with breathtaking views over Kawau Bay and the Hauraki Gulf.

``Bluey's`` Masonic journey commenced when he was initiated into the Unanimity Lodge in Sumner Christchurch. At the time, he was employed on the Toll Gates at the newly opened Littleton Tunnel.

From there he moved to Melbourne in preparation for the opening of the Melbourne Bridge under construction. Some of you may remember part of it collapsed and put ``Bluey`` out of a job. He packed up his family and returned to New Zealand and took up employment on the Auckland Harbour Bridge Toll Station.

He settled in Devonport and joined the then BELMONT LODGE No 335. He progressed up the ranks and became Master in 1986. He remained with the Belmont people when they amalgamated with the ALBION LODGE to become the now famous BELMONT ALBION LODGE No 45. He is still a current member.

He was a member of the North Shore Rugby Club and coached teams for a number of years. He was also heavily involved in the North Shore Rowing Club when it was situated on the waterfront near the old Masonic Hotel in Devonport. He was Club Captain and organised the move from Devonport to Lake Pupuke where it still operates from to this day.

One of ``Blueys`` Benevolence initiatives was to canvas all North Shore Lodges to contribute to the purchase of a ``Rowing Skiff`` for the Club. This was duly completed and a presentation ceremony took place outside the Clubhouse in 1993. Murray MORRISSEY was Master at the time. This was recorded by photograph but it has since been lost. Our esteemed Brother Douglas B. FOOTE co-ordinated the collection of monies from the North Shore Lodges. When one Lodge was reluctant to make good on its promise to contribute, Douglas funded the shortfall himself.

He was also a member of the International ``Clown`` Association and attended many Conventions overseas – occasionally entertaining us in Lodge Refectory from time to time.

``Bluey`` wound down his working career at the Signal Station on North Head – a position he held for close to 15 years. In retirement, he started up a Water Taxi Service operating from the Downtown Ferry Terminal area. Unfortunately, ``Bluey`` was ahead of his time and his service did not meet his expectations. From there he retired and shortly after moved with wife Val to Algies Bay.

He saw active Service during the Second World War serving with the Royal Navy. His ship was torpedoed in the Indian Ocean and he was lucky to escape to a lifeboat. His party eventually sighted land in East Africa and on reaching safety were rehabilitated back to England where he joined another British Ship. More detail on his War Service is being researched by Russell WARD and is for publication another day.

Such was one of the many stories he told us with absolute clarity and detail. Russell WARD was on the edge of his seat as he was familiar with a number of ships ``Bluey`` referred to. I

encouraged Russell and Ali to take notes but they were spellbound by the stories.

His 50 year Jewel was pinned on his lapel by Russell and Ali presented him with his service certificate.

This has been a brushstroke of ``Blueys`` life. More to come.

Willoughby Allan ``Bluey`` WHELDALE. A wonderful respected Freemason.

Words by Murray MORRISSEY



Scottish night at Belmont Albion



Belmont Albion Lodge No 45 held their fifth annual Scottish Night on October 10th 2017. Being one of the most popular masonic events in North Shore, we had over 70 visitors from New Zealand, English, Scottish and Irish constitutions.



Belmont Albion Master, W Bro Sean Neely welcoming visitors





Bro. Bob Russell, St. Andrew Lodge #418 SC delivers his toast to the Grand Master, with R.W. Bro Garry Salmon, Divisional Grand Master in the foreground.



Bro. Charlie MacLeod, St. Andrew Lodge #418 SC replying to the toast to the Scottish District Grand Lodge, North Island, with Bro. Bob Russell, St. Andrew Lodge #418 SC and R.W. Bro Garry Salmon, Divisional Grand Master in the foreground.



WM Brian Kidston from the Browns Bay Lodge #346, toasting our Visitors.

Bro. Bobby Campbell, St. Andrew Lodge No.418 SC, reciting "The treasurer at Tobermory Bay".



Bro Roddy Murray, Ponsonby Lodge No. 708 SC. Entertaining everyone with "Under the Scotsman's kilt"



The University Lodge Of Hong Kong No3666 EC

Hong Kong University was established in 1912 and it was felt that in keeping with other English universities a Lodge should be established to represent academics in the Colony. A petition was sent to London in March 1913 and the new Lodge was consecrated on 27 October 1913. Many senior academics and colony administrators joined the Lodge and it thrived until the colony fell to the Japanese on Christmas Day 1941 when all Masonic activity was banned. Meetings resumed in early 1946.

I took my first degree in the Lodge on 27 May 1985. I joined Rangitoto Lodge No 400 during a brief return to New Zealand and became an active member in early 1993 when I returned for good. I was master in 1995.

All Lodges, English, Scottish and Irish and all side orders met at Zetland Hall on Kennedy Road on Hong Kong Island. The first Zetland Hall was built in 1865 and demolished during an American air raid in 1944. The present building was consecrated in 1946. There was a resident Tyler when I was there who Tyled for all order. He was very strict and would not admit anyone who in his opinion was not properly attired including the wearing of gloves. We tyled at 6.30 followed by a sumptuous meal with sherry etc paid for by the master. Sean please note!

Bro Alan Thompson



Can you find
Alan?



Haggis recipe

This is an authentic recipe from Scotland and the ingredients and methods of cooking may be unfamiliar but we hope you enjoy the results.

Ingredients

- 1 sheep's stomach or ox secum, cleaned and thoroughly, scalded, turned inside out and soaked overnight in cold salted water
- heart and lungs of one lamb
- 450g/1lb beef or lamb trimmings, fat and lean
- 2 onions, finely chopped
- 225g/8oz oatmeal
- 1 tbsp salt
- 1 tsp ground black pepper
- 1 tsp ground dried coriander
- 1 tsp mace
- 1 tsp nutmeg
- water, enough to cook the haggis
- stock from lungs and trimmings

Method

1. Wash the lungs, heart and liver (if using). Place in large pan of cold water with the

- meat trimmings and bring to the boil. Cook for about 2 hours.
2. When cooked, strain off the stock and set the stock aside.
3. Mince the lungs, heart and trimmings.
4. Put the minced mixture in a bowl and add the finely chopped onions, oatmeal and seasoning. Mix well and add enough stock to moisten the mixture. It should have a soft crumbly consistency.
5. Spoon the mixture into the sheep's stomach, so it's just over half full. Sew up the stomach with strong thread and prick a couple of times so it doesn't explode while cooking.
6. Put the haggis in a pan of boiling water (enough to cover it) and cook for 3 hours without a lid. Keep adding more water to keep it covered.
7. To serve, cut open the haggis and spoon out the filling. Serve with neeps (mashed swede or turnip) and tatties (mashed potatoes).

Source: BBC



Masonic quote

“The true Mason is not creed-bound. He realizes with the divine illumination of his lodge that as Mason his religion must be universal: Christ, Buddha or Mohammed, the name means little, for he recognizes only the light and not the bearer. He worships at every shrine, bows before every altar, whether in temple, mosque or cathedral, realizing with his truer understanding the oneness of all spiritual truth. All true Masons know that they only are heathen who, having great ideals, do not live up to them. They know that all religions are but one story told in divers ways for peoples whose ideals differ but whose great purpose is in harmony with Masonic ideals. North, east, south and west stretch the diversities of human thought, and while the ideals of man apparently differ, when all is said and the crystallization of form with its false concepts is swept away, one basic truth remains: all existing things are Temple Builders, laboring for a single end. No true Mason can be narrow, for his Lodge is the divine expression of all broadness. There is no place for little minds in a great work.”

— Manly P. Hall

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