

# BELMONT ALBION



June 2015

WEBSITE: [HTTP://THEBELMONTALBIONLODGE.CO.NZ](http://THEBELMONTALBIONLODGE.CO.NZ)

## FROM THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER

Greetings Team,

It gives me great pleasure to write that, as this introduction was going to press, we were putting the final touches to our new website. With a tremendous effort from Briene, ongoing support from Paul, and initial foresight and sponsorship from Stu and Richard, we will soon have our new Website up and running. As a face to the community as well as a conduit for sharing information with our BA Brethren and the wider Masonic community, this site presents us with a new opportunity to embrace the benefits of a centralized portal from which we can promote and celebrate our Lodge activities. Who we are, what we do, how to join or where to go.

No doubt you have been asked "What is Freemasonry?". Finding the right answer to give that touches the right chord with the enquirer can be a challenge. With our new sight, we have tried to present a visual montage on the landing page, backed by substance, that goes some way in providing an enticing answer. Something that may capture the person's interest in a fleeting moment and prompt them to look further into Masonry. In this somewhat pre-packaged communication society of tweeted snap-chats and Facebook sharing with the world how hot my coffee is, we have little time to make a meaningful impression that engages interest and prompts enquiry. Our new site is clear, clear and colourful, demonstrating a level of professionalism that is critical in competing with the many time distractions of today. On the site you will be able to see information about the Lodge, current and



historical. There will be a photos gallery covering recent activities. And a calendar of upcoming activity that will be regularly maintained and updated. There will be a link to our "Education Forum" and a secure section for our Team members. Information about where the Lodge is situated etc is also included, and there are channels to deal with enquiries, including phone and email.

Please take the time to familiarize yourself with what the site is capable of doing, offer feedback and suggestions where appropriate, use it regularly and promote it with pride. <http://www.thebelmontalbionlodge.co.nz> This is your website. Enjoy using it and contributing to it.

Fraternally  
Sean

Sean  
021 897326

**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



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## FROM THE EDITOR

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You will have already noted, from the Masters address, that the Belmont Albion website went live on 6 June. This completes the communication 'duality' of the website and Education Forum Intranet site. These two sites support the educational changes made last year to the mentoring programme where the 'mentor – protégé' relationship was changed to that of a 'buddy' relationship. The mentor work is now done as a group activity driven by the BA 45 written question and answer process, which is required to be completed for each of the 3 degrees. These group sessions not only cause cross-fertilisation but also a little competition in the research required for acceptable answers.

In his piece this month Humphrey comments on the continually changing process of education with regard to learning. Coincidentally a comment was made to me by a seventeen year old student that some fellows in his English Literature class were unable to 'read'. He did not mean that they were illiterate but that they had little opportunity to ably read text aloud as most of their

information came in the form of images or sound from a computer type device so they had little requirement to read words out loud giving colour and inflexion to those words. As the methods of imparting learning become steadily more impersonal such loss of ability can only grow.

These comments made me realise that although the current education within our lodge appears to be progressing satisfactorily, we must, as part of 'Murray's' BA 45 Strategic Plan, ensure that we take steps in the future to modify our process's to keep at least abreast of the changes in education protocol and communication media. This to ensure future initiates gain and give maximum benefit from joining the Craft.

"the man who stands still shows by doing so he is falling behind" with apologies to Henrik Ibsen

Editor: [ba45.editor@gmail.com](mailto:ba45.editor@gmail.com)

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## THE AUCKLAND FREEMASONS NETWORK PROMOTING HARMONY BETWEEN ALL FREEMASONS AND THEIR FAMILIES WITHIN AUCKLAND

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The Auckland Freemasons Network is a private Facebook group allowing members to securely interact within the group.

What we do :-

We communicate information about what is happening in the Auckland districts. We organise both formal and informal social events for brethren, partners and their families. We arrange lodge visits, educational lectures and support for lodge workings. We allow brethren to put names to faces and easily communicate with one another online. We enable partners of brethren to keep in contact with one another and to make new friends in the Masonic community.

The group is open to all Freemasons and their partners interested in Masonic and social activities within Auckland.

All access is restricted to members and group membership or activity will not show up on your public Facebook timeline.

Membership is free so to join please email your Name and Lodge # to [join@AFN.UnitedMasters.org](mailto:join@AFN.UnitedMasters.org) (from the email address you use to login to Facebook).

If you do not currently have a Facebook account you can still email your details and you will receive a link instructing you to setup an account.

# A LOOK BACK AT THE CAMARADERIE EVENING



it started with food and wine



then the speaker was introduced



full attention was given



and appreciation shown

Forty-two Brethren, family and friends attended the BA 45 'Camaraderie Evening' where fine wine matched by Richards Sharplin's food were enjoyed. The theme of the evening was 'Heart to Heart' this being the title of Marie Ward's presentation. Marie is a Senior Lecturer in physiology at Auckland University's School of Medical and Health Science and greatly increased the knowledge of those attending.

## *100 Years Ago*

From the minute book of Albion Lodge No. 45, 10 June 1915.

This being the Installation Meeting the Lodge was opened in Due & Ancient Format at 6.50pm with Solemn Prayer & Praise

In sympathy:-

The W.M. proposed the following motion 'The W.M. Officers & Brethren of Albion Lodge No. 45 offer their fraternal sympathy to R.W. Murdock Maclean in the loss of his son (no name is shown but a space was left in the text. ed) at the Dardanells but feel sure that his loss will be softened by the knowledge that he died like a man fighting for his King and Country' The motion was carried in silence.

Presentation of W.M. Elect:-

Bro. William George Allen the W.M. Elect was presented to the W. Installing Master W. Bro.W Coltman by W. Bros G. Ried & H. McRea. The Brethren were then addressed according to usual

custom & the attention of the Master Elect called to the qualifications of a Master.

Ancient Charges:-

The Ancient Charges were read by the Secretary W. Bro. Hounsell and the Master Elect assented to them.

Obligation:-

The Obligation of a Master Elect was then administered by the W. Installing Master.

Solo:-

A solo "Let not Heaven Forsake Thee" was sung by Bro. A. Fogarty.

Jewel to I.P.M.:-

The Past Masters Jewel was presented to W. Bro. W. Coltman I.P.M. as a mark of regard and esteem for his services & work as Master. The presentation was made by Prov. G.M. M.W. Bro. O. Nicholson. W. Bro. Coltman briefly returned thanks.

The business of the evening being ended the Lodge was closed in Peace Love and Harmony with solemn prayer at 9.45 pm



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# SHORT HISTORY OF BELMONT LODGE NO. 335

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## 1948 – 1993 RESEARCHED BY WORSHIPFUL BROTHER FRANK ANSELL PAST MASTER

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### Part 2

At the Standing Committee Meeting held on 19 May 1949 it was resolved that R/Wor. Bro. H.R.A. Vialoux be appointed to act on the Lodges behalf in the purchase of a section (no mention is made of the purpose of inviting R/Wor. Bro. H.R.A. Vialoux to act).

A sub-committee was appointed to approach the Albion Lodge for a loan for the balance of the money needed for the purchase of a section with £100.0.0 being suggested for the loan. If the Albion Lodge could not assist, the Bank of New Zealand was to be approached. At this point no actual cost of a section or where it may have been located is mentioned in the minutes.

It was moved at this meeting 'that an annual roll call be made at every December meeting' Sadly this custom has now been discontinued. Also at this meeting two Worshipful Brothers were proposed for Grand Lodge Office. This commenced the long years of the Belmont Lodge endeavouring to obtain promotion for members without much success.

The Standing Committee Meeting of 16 January 1951 had two items of interest.

The Albion Lodge advised a rent increase from £50.00 to £75.00. This was accepted without any problem. Certainly a very low rent for a two storey building with a Masonic Lodge Room and Refectory included.

At this meeting it was moved that 'No further propositions for membership be accepted for the Masonic year 1951-52'.

A bit different now in the year 2006 with a shortage of members.

From the minutes of the Standing Committee 29 May 1951 we learn the Lodge has a section at Belmont. No mention of the price or place. However a working bee was required for 9 June to trim the hedge.

Again another member was put forward for Grand Rank – no success.

It was also noted at this meeting the difficulty obtaining suitable catering for the refectory. Problems in that department as it is today.

Attendance, or lack of it, at the regular meetings was also discussed with a committee to look into ways of improving it.

So attendance was a problem in 1951. We have always assumed in this modern day attendance was difficult due to T.V. And extended work hours etc. but conversely Belmont Albion's present percentage of members attending meetings is very high.

At the Standing Committee meeting held on 30 April 1951 it was discovered the Lodge was running at a financial loss. Two decisions were made to correct the problem.

1. That a collection be taken up in the Refectory (from members only) to be used towards the costs of Refectory proceedings.
2. That an Installation levy of 7/6d be made annually.

The above two recommendations reflect exactly the way the Lodge still deals with these ongoing problems to this day.

Later in 1951 on 2 October it was resolved that the annual subscription be raised from £3.3.0. per year to £4.4.0.

This does not sound much of an increase in itself but is actually 33 1/3% increase which for those times probably was somewhat substantial. It is also interesting to note that prompting was to be kept to a minimum in Lodge and also a 'full' enquiry was to be made of anyone seeking membership.



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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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Greetings from Mangawhai

Noted in today's NZ Herald the death of Denis Rigby at Tauranga.

Denis was an RNZN engineer officer who joined The Albion Lodge No.45 in August 1968. His sponsors were Keith Pearcey [another EO] and Luke Ford [chippy and Master 1977].

Like some navy people, it was 3 years between his initiation and raising.

Like Keith Pearcey, he was posted to Wellington. Denis was in London on the NZ Defence Liaison staff in 1982 when Albion was preparing for its centenary due in 1983. There were a number of projects being prepared, [like the new carpet] and one of these was to retrieve Albion's original charter from the UGLE. This had to be done via GLNZ and was at first refused, until we invoked the "Articles of Recognition" agreed between UGLE and NZGE [c. 1896]. So we got it back [cancelled] and that's the one at the Devonport museum.

Denis being in London at the time was requested by the lodge to call on the UGLE Grand Secretary [also a retired RN officer] with a letter to express Albion's gratitude – this he did so on being invited to tea and a chat.

On retiring from the RNZN, Denis moved to Palmerston North as the PR officer for the city council. His proposer, Keith Pearcey was already living near there. He transferred to a Palmerston North lodge. RIP

Frank Arnott

### MASONIC BIRTHDAYS

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18/06/1979 M.F. Cadman  
09/06/1981 D.W. Barr  
12/06/2001 D.B. Wrigley  
10/06/2003 W. Jones  
14/06/2004 R. J. Lumsden  
09/06/2009 S. Pablo

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## FROM A PAST MASTERS DITTYBOX

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I greet you well, wishing all our readers health and happiness going forward. Among the Masonic Lodges with which I am familiar attendance in our Lodge in particular and all other facets of conscientious Labour inspires me. I feel an enthusiasm in participation not only in the monthly Lodge regular meeting but also in the weekly brief get together to prepare our work.

W Bro Frank Ansell established the development, in Junior Lodge, a practice which should be continued, so encouraging a daily advancement in Masonic knowledge. In former times Freemasons walked each week to the local Masonic Hall carrying a little black bag leaving the family to spend the evening without him. His return home rather late kept his activities private so much so that it was not surprising his activities could not be openly and freely discussed in the home and workplace.

I am delighted to belong, these days, to an enlightened fraternity which takes every opportunity to bring family and friends into the social side of our Order. Communication between people with the invention of the chip has revolutionised our immediate acquisition of knowledge. With it the learning process is helped to rely on instant availability of media, so

much so that rote learning needs to be relearned in younger members.

Retirement at 65 years of age in many cases starts a sedentary lifestyle leading to brain die-back. I admire those who remember their words even when they reach old age. The body needs regular exercise to remain healthy. The brain, likewise, must be worked as a muscle if it is to stay active. The adage 'use it or lose it' applies. Prospective candidates, of all ages, should be acquainted with this forgotten art and be advised that by seeking initiation the door will open for a long and fruitful life.

Out Pipes. Humphrey



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## MASONIC MEETING AT THE FRONT

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To The Editor of the Craftsman.

Dear Sir and Bro.,—The enclosed speaks for itself. Doubtless many Lodges will be getting it by this mail. It may interest you to know that its actual printing was attended with much danger to Bro. G. Hutchinson, I.P.M., Onewa, some German shells driving him out of the printer's office into a more (comparatively) safe place—namely, the garden—while he was wrestling with the French printer over the setting of the type. We followed it up with another meeting on 3rd July, when R.W. Bro. G. Barclay gave a most instructive and interesting lecture to some sixty brethren on the initiation ceremony, and again the Hun pursued us with shells, only, luckily, not till some time after the "Fourth Degree" had finished and we had all gone home. This time he planted two close alongside the room we met in. One of them made so large a hole that I am told it will be turned into a miniature lake with gold-fish and gondolas, etc., etc. Anyhow, it broke all the windows and brought down the ceiling and gas brackets.

So far we have nearly 150 names on the register, representing nearly as many Lodges, as many brethren represent more than one Lodge, thereby equalling the number of brethren from the same Lodge—if you follow what I mean. Of course, we cannot meet as a Lodge, but it is a great opportunity every now and then to meet brethren of other Lodges and exchange views and listen to lectures on the ritual, which will prevent us from becoming rusty. We have three names on our roll of honour : Lieut. J. Short (Lodge Otago, No. 844, E.C.), Lieut. G. S. Lavie (Lodge St. Albans, Christchurch), and Sapper A. Ingles, Lodge Oatlands, No. 1005, S.C., Glasgow, who have laid down their lives here. We can hardly hope to have no more, but to us death has no terrors as long as we are enabled to do our part in upholding the great cause on which we are all engaged.

So far I might describe ourselves as brethren from the north, south, and east, as we represent Lodges in Scotland, South Africa, and Indian Burmah, but so far none in the Continent of America; so New Zealand will have to stand for the west. "When our register is complete—that is to say, probably, when the war is over—I will

send you a complete list of the names and Lodges, should you care to have them for publication ; and as it is possible that some have already left us whose names we have not got, perhaps I may be allowed to use the columns of the 'Craftsman' to get into touch with them, so as to make our record complete.

I enclose the names and Lodges of our committee, so you can see who they are. As future reinforcements come forward, I hope any brethren among them will make themselves known to us, so that we can add their names to the list.—Yours fraternally,

E. E. MALDEN,  
Chaplain to the Forces,  
2nd Battalion, Auckland Infantry Regiment.  
also Chaplain, Te Awamutu, No. 2221, E.C.,  
Parnell, Auckland.

That is to say, I was when I left for the war in August, 1914.

Committee members:- Colonel Begg (Lodge Wellington, No. 1521, E.C.), representing Headquarters; Major Lapraik and Sergt. Harrison (Lodges Corinthian, No. 1654, E.C., and Maori, No. 105, N.Z.C.), representing Artillery; Major Barclay and Sergt. Craig (Lodges Otago, No. 844, E.G., and Eden, No. 1530, E.C.), representing Engineers; Major Colquhonn and Corporal Shelton (Lodges Hercules, No. 36, N.Z.C., and St. John, No. 94, N.Z.C.), representing 1st Infantry Brigade; Rev. E. Malden and Regimental Sergt.-Major Shearne (Lodges Te Awamutu, No. 2221, E. C., and Thistle, No. 113, N.Z.C.), representing 2nd Infantry Brigade ; Major Digby Smith and Sergt.-Major Rundle (Lodges Otago Kil., No. 417, S.C., and Aldershot Army and ; Colonel Murray and Private Laing (Lodges Albert Edward, No. 1560, E.C., and Tawhiri, No. 166), representing N.Z. Medical Corps; Captain Hutchinson and Staff Sergt.-Major Morgan (Lodges Onewa, No. 182, N.Z.C., and —), representing A.S.C.; Major Buck (Lodges Ara, No. 1, and Ohaeawai, No. 101, N.Z.C.), representing Pioneers.

Somewhere in France, 6th July, 1916.

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# UPCOMING LODGE EVENTS

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As the Master Diary is subject to amendment and addition it is now available on the BA website where it will be shown in real time. It will no longer appear in the Newsletter. The Diary will of course still be on the Notice Paper.



Following the outline of the Mark Master Degree, in the May issue, we now move onto an outline of the 5<sup>th</sup> Degree, the Excellent Master Degree.

In the Excellent Master degree we move ahead in time 470 years (according to the ritual) to 537BC and hear of the preparations surrounding the return from captivity of the chosen people (in the intervening years King Solomon's Temple had been destroyed and the survivors taken away to Babylon). Where the candidate represents one who will return to Jerusalem with the passwords and signs gained in Babylon, the land of captivity.

It is worth noting that this degree is rarely practiced in England, where it is known as the "Passing of the Veils"

The central theme within this degree is the passing through three of the four veils and understanding their symbolism. In the degree the veils in order are Blue, Purple, Scarlet and White with their assigned symbols being – Blue: Air, Purple: Water, Scarlet: Fire and White: Earth. This symbolism needs not be elaborated on as the degree explains why these

colours are chosen; however it is useful to note that these four elements were once believed to be all the elements in existence, with everything else being derived from these including man.

All of the varied interpretations of the veils have one thing in common, they represent a journey, a spiritual journey either that of a Jew, a Christian, a mystic, or an alchemist. In fact they all have the same destination – that of the Philosophers Stone, the growth and actualization of the spiritual being.

Furthermore we are taught the lesson of patience and perseverance to rebuild upon the ruins of the former temple in order to reach the Almighty Architect.

In the July issue an outline of the 6<sup>th</sup> Degree, the Royal Arch Degree, will be given.

source:- R.E. Comp. Phil Ivamy

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'I will love the light for it shows me the way, yet I will endure the darkness for it shows me the stars'

- Og Mandino

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## Next Issue

Deadline:  
Email:

31 May 2015  
[ba45.editor@gmail.com](mailto:ba45.editor@gmail.com)