



August 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.



Painted symbolic masonic apron by Artist Ari Roussimoff

REMINDER



Next Issue

Deadline:
15 September 2017
Email:
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www.thebelmontalbionlodge.co.nz

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Views from the East

Last week we were fortunate to have the honour of initiating a new brother into our Lodge. The first degree ceremony is a beautifully worded ceremony, full of carefully crafted script, designed to impart meaning and understanding for those taking part, and do so at many differing levels of awareness.

Our Lodge, while not unique, is well versed for allocating the responsibility of charge delivery to Brethren throughout the Lodge, often from as early a time in their masonic career as possible. This provides our brethren a great opportunity to start developing personal presentation and public speaking skills, helps them appreciate an understanding behind the meaning of a charge, and provides a chance for them to engage early in taking responsibility in driving some of the workings in a regular Lodge degree.

In speaking with our candidate afterwards in Refectory, he commented to me that his first impression was that those people delivering the charges were in fact reading from a book. A fine compliment indeed, and one that speaks to the enthusiasm by those delivering the various charges and the preparation in themselves to the task.

We each have our own special way of preparing. I have found that in recent months I use the commute to and from work as the window in which to practice. In the weeks leading up to the event regarding the charge I am expected to deliver, I will rehearse part or all of the charge in various ways, ever motivated as my familiarity with it develops and my confidence grows. So much so, that practicing while walking to and from work almost become a ritual in its own right.

It was the day after the initiation that, on leaving work and not having a charge to practice, I found myself reflecting on how the charge had in some

ways become like a friend. Initially there was some trepidation and a small level of anxiety when first we met a number of weeks back. We had a common purpose, and one that impacted a number of people. Mutual friends would be expecting me to be responsible with what I had agreed to. And I had certain self-set expectations as well.

As I became more familiar with the charge, I developed an understanding of what expectations awaited me. Some of the challenges were immediately obvious, others took time to reveal themselves. As with a friendship, there is a commitment in effort, and in energy. And just like a friendship, what you get out is often directly related to that which you are prepared to put in. More importantly, there is also an investment in time. This was a commitment I was prepared to make and as my appreciation of the charge grew, so I was happy to continue to focus my attention on doing the best I could for all concerned.

But as and when the event has passed, often the need to continue to maintain the friendship to the same degree is lessened. But as with an old or distant friendship, if the initial foundation was committed and strong, the relationship will endure. Over time and when proximity and circumstance align, the opportunity to deliver the charge will arise again, and when it does the familiarity will come flooding back as you reinstate the friendship, and familiarise yourself with what you knew before.

I miss my friend. But I know that this charge is a friendship that I can easily rekindle whenever the need arises.

WM Sean Neely

Master's Calendar

- 1 Aug – Final Lodge practice for 1st degree
8 Aug – **Regular meeting 1st degree**
15 Aug – visit Lodge Kumeu #279 (\$10 supper, visitors received 8:00pm)
22 Aug – A Night at the Museum – tour of the masonic museum with Keith as our guide
29 Aug – planning session for upcoming 50th jewel presentation(Sept) and Annual Scottish night (Oct)
- 5 Sept – visit Lodge Te Atatu
12 Sept – **Regular meeting 50th jewel** presentation to RW Bro. Keith Eaglesome
19 Sept – Standing committee (Its your Lodge and your voice is important, all to attend)
26 Sept – Annual Scottish night night practice
- 3 Oct – Final Lodge practice - Annual Scottish night
10 Oct – **Regular meeting Annual Scottish night**



Your invite to the annual Belmont Albion Lodge Scottish night 7:00pm, 10th October 2017

Welcome to the annual
Belmont Albion 45 Scottish night,
hosted in conjunction with our generous brethren from
St. Andrew Lodge No. 418 SC.

Join us, and our many visitors from all 4 Constitutions,
as well as from around the District, for a stirring evening
of camaraderie and entertainment.

Date: 10th October.

Time: Tying at 6:45pm,

Visitors: Received at 7:00pm sharp, with all Lodges piped in individually.

Evenings working: An address by RW Bro Garry Salmon, Divisional Grand Master.

Location: North Shore Masonic Centre, 5 William Laurie Place, Albany, Auckland

Refectory format for the evening

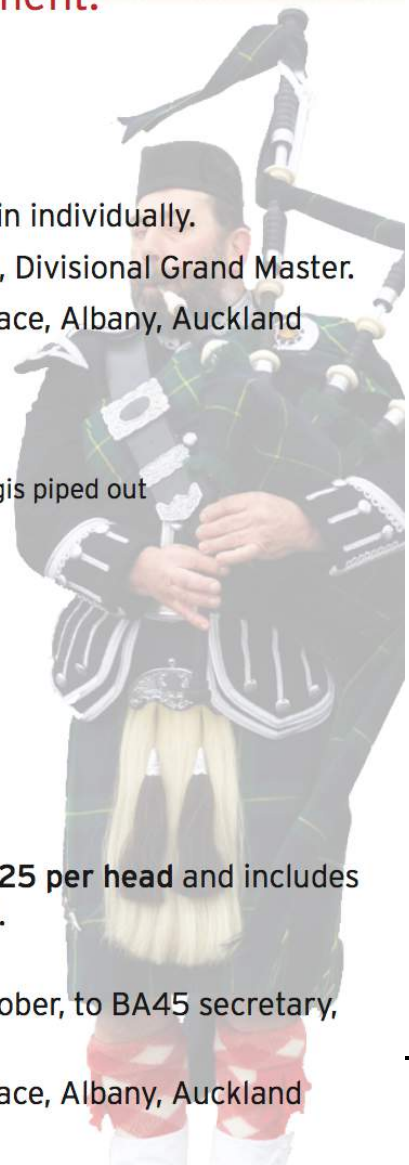
All Masters piped into Refectory
Haggis parade with pipes
Ode to the Haggis Toast to the Haggis The Selkirk Grace Haggis piped out
Loyal Toast - Queen and the Craft
Toast to the Grand Master
Toast to the Scottish District Grand Lodge, North Island
St. Andrew Lodge No. 418 SC reply to the toast
Traditional winter dinner, including haggis, tatties and neeps
The McAllister Poem
Toast to the Visitors
Visitors reply
The Tyler's toast and singing of Auld Lang Syne.

Cost: This evening's entertainment for all Brethren will be \$25 per head and includes table wine during the meal. This will be collected on the night.

Due to the increasing popularity, seats are limited.

RSVP: To help accurate catering, please respond by 3th October, to BA45 secretary, Dave Barr on 09 488-7296 or barrdd@orcon.net.nz

Location: North Shore Masonic Centre, 5 William Laurie Place, Albany, Auckland



From the Editor

Why are we inspired by certain people or things around us? I have been thinking about this for some time. I find qualities in some people that inspire me to do good, to work hard, to write, to think and to be a better person. I am not talking about the likes of Bill Gates or Steve Jobs as I am not attracted to the lives of corporate celebrities at all. I am talking about those ordinary but humble individuals around us. Those who are so humble that they don't even realise how kind or inspiring they are to others, little acts of kindness that change people's lives. Yes, little things matter and will shape bigger and more important things in our lives. By definition, "inspiration is a process of being mentally stimulated to do or feel something, especially to do something creative. It usually results in a sudden brilliant or timely idea". Some behavioural aspects can be explained through hormones and chemicals such as relaxation and anxiety but, inspiration is a psychological phenomenon. It's not a chemical or biological process much like the feeling of love and affection. Inspiration is a drive to create. But what is it in others that inspires us? One of the biggest influencers of human behaviour is what we see other people do. We are always looking for a role model.

Masonic philosophy has inspired many people and leaders over the course of its existence. As masons, our philosophy requires obliged members to do all they can to make this world a better place. Freemasonry encourages good men to become better men by promoting a way of life dedicated to service to others, high ideals and benevolence. Freemason organisation consists of men from all faiths, cultures, political fractions and ideologies. According to Sir Knight Richard James, the ideals of our organisation have always been as follow:

- Be considerate of different religious, social, and political views
- Uphold and maintain the principles of good government and oppose divisive or degrading influences
- Practice positive relationships; give and accept help when needed
- Value the internal qualities of a man over financial success
- Strive to participate with the fraternity and live a brotherly life
- Remain good at heart
- Act with honour and integrity in everything you do
- Believe in a Supreme Being and keep faith as the centre of life and
- Strive to leave the world a better place than when you entered it.

Brethren, family and friends,

There are many men and women around us who are truly inspiring individuals. Let's thank and appreciate them for the energy they give us and strive to observe the above philosophical ideals in our daily lives.

Happy reading!

Ali S
Editor



Notes from the Director of Ceremonies

Couple of quick things:

1) ``Brown Lodge`` - Devonport continues to prosper. Fridays at 15:00 brethren. It's worth the effort to sit and chat for an hour. Ali was present two weeks ago - wearing his Editors hat - interviewing brother Keith.

2) Poor turnout for the Church Service last Sunday brethren. Only 2 members turned up. Our esteemed brother Almoner Wayne once again delivered an inspirational ``Reading``. It seemed only a few short years ago we had turnouts of 14/15 - and then lunch afterwards?

3) A big night coming up Brethren - W/Brother Keith EAGLESOME's 50th presentation. We are expecting a huge crowd - including some of our own brethren. Please make an effort to come along - feel free to bring your partners.

4) In the absence of our regular J.W. - our hard working and dedicated brother Wayne has ``taken charge`` of the Refectory. He works closely with the Grand Caterer Richard SHARPLIN. Thanks Wayne. Where would the Lodge be without you?

5) Congratulations to the brethren who took part in Ryan BOSHERS Ceremony last week. Brother Ali was awarded the Doug RAPLEY Trophy. He did a brilliant job for his ``first charge`` in Lodge. Well done Ali. Ryan looks like a fine young man. Our Chief Mentor Russell WARD has taken him under his wing. Well done Russell.

6) Brother Sonny PABLO has returned to the Lodge. Welcome back Sonny. Did you notice we kept your seat warm in your absence?

7) Geoff FOOTE: Wasn't that a brilliant delivery of the Final Charge last week brethren. Geoff is a truly gifted ritualist and is well known across the Auckland District as such. Wait till you hear him deliver the First Degree Tracing Board.

8) Vic FABIAN: Wasn't it good to see Brother Vic back in Lodge.

RW Bro Murray Morrissey

Out and about with the Secretary

We Continue with our By Laws reminders!

By-law 21 requires the Lodge to maintain a 'Benevolence Committee'.

They are Tasked with considering all requests for Benevolence, and if they consider that the proposal is acceptable making a recommendation at a Regular Meeting to gain Lodge approval.

The Current Benevolence Committee comprises Keith Eaglesome, Vic Fabian, Dave Barr and the Master (Ex Officio)

Dave Barr



Q&A with a young mason

On the 8th of August we initiated Bro Ryan Boshier who is now the youngest member of our lodge. As soon as the ceremony was over I put my journalist hat on and got Ryan signed up for an interview. Being a tech-savvy person Ryan agreed to have a virtual interview and answered my questions in a very timely manner ready for publication in this edition.

Ryan, would you please introduce yourself?

My name's Ryan Boshier, the middle of 3 sons to Karen and Vaughan Boshier. My younger brother Troy is a Dairy Farmer in Taupo and my older brother Cameron works in Insurance. My father has always been in the IT industry and helped my get a job at TVNZ which is where I started my career. Following on from that I'm an avid tech enthusiast and try to stay on the bleeding edge. I'm into classic cars, owning an Austin Maxi for a few years. I try to lead a healthy lifestyle with my girlfriend Olivia, Hiking on the weekends and eating well.

What is your profession?

I'm a Service Engineer for an IT group, so I fix and install Computers, Phones and Internet at client's sites across the Auckland Region.

What got you interested in freemasonry? The secrecy, symbology, history, exclusivity and notable persons who were Masons. I'd known about the existence of the Freemasons since probably my early teens, but never knew what they did or were about until the last 4 - 5 years. Since then I'd wanted to join.

You are 22 years old and a very young member. What made you join Freemasonry?

I think it would be similar to why anyone joins, to be around like-minded men and to make friends. Also, maybe for a sense of belonging and my desire to learn?

What do you expect from joining Freemasonry? I expect to get out of Freemasonry what I put into it. I expect there will be a lot of learning, some challenge and making long friendships.

What is your advice for men of your age? And why do you think young men should join this organisation?

That just because Freemasonry is an old organization does not mean it's not relevant in society today. I also think there is a lack of physical engagement in my generation, too many people live online and could benefit from joining something tangible and meaningful.

Before candidates join Freemasonry, there are a lot of questions in their mind. What were your concerns or questions? Maybe that people wouldn't be as accepting and friendly as I was hoping. But after attending a comradery evening and meeting with other members of BA.45 I knew this wasn't at all the case.



The Belmont Albion Carpet

Keith Eaglesome and wife Libby were visiting Nelson when they were given an undercover mission to go to Takaka in search for the Belmont Albion's first original carpet. Here is what they found:



In 1910 the members of the Albion Lodge No 45 of Devonport decided to buy a Masonic Pattern Carpet for the Lodge Rooms. It was made in Britain and purchase from Smith & Caughy costing 37 pounds ten shillings.

After approx. 80 years it was considered a bit worn and was replaced by a special carpet made to the same design by Bremworth a division of U.E.B. This carpet was laid in the Devonport Lodge Room at the end of 1982 in time for the Centennial Celebrations of the Albion Lodge in February 1983. The cost of this carpet was \$6033 not including cutting and laying. Total just under \$10,000.

The original 80-year-old carpet was sent to the Golden Bay Lodge No 144 in Takaka and is still there today.

In the early 1900's a river ran past the village of Takaka. It has long since changed course and is not to be seen today.

The Takaka Lodge room was originally a Cinema. At the time of building the Takaka Ruling Body did not want a Cinema to be erected on their side of the river but those owning the land on the other side were not fussed about what happened on their ground. The builder of the Cinema fixed the problem with the Takaka authorities by putting his building on the far side of the river then erected a foot bridge across the river so patrons could enjoy his services. The river has long gone but the footbridge is still the only entrance way to the Lodge Room.



Golden Bay Lodge is an amalgamation of St Cuthberts Lodge E.C. and Golden Bay NZC. W.Bro Barry Cashman is a Past Master so were his father and Grandfather. Barry very kindly spent a day showing Libby and I the historical parts of Takaka including the Lodge Room. As you will see from the photos the carpet is still in reasonably good nick 103 years after first being laid down in Devonport.

Keith's next mission is to write the History of Belmont Albion for our 25th anniversary next year.

The followings are some more photos and paper cuts that provide more information about the carpet kindly sent by Frank Arnott to Keith:





Everyone knows wool carpet lasts for years but Devonport Masonic Lodge Members believe theirs could be a New Zealand record.

Their all-wool carpet has been in service for well over half a century and although a little worn in places, the colours are still as bright as the day it was made.

Woven by the English firm Crossley Carpets, the carpet was bought in 1915 by the lodge from Smith and Caughey Ltd for 38 pounds 10 shillings.

With the lodge's centenary this year, the decision was finally made, however, to replace the 68-year-old carpet.

Bremworth's design studio were given the painstaking job of making an exact copy of the original, reproducing the intricate symbols and matching the bright colours.

The new woven carpet has, understandably cost somewhat more than the original but according to Frank Bostock, secretary treasurer of the hall committee: "If it lasts even half as long as the old one, we'll be doing very well".

The photo shows carpet designer Averil Harrison working from a piece of the original 68-year-old carpet, reproducing exactly the Masonic symbols and colours.

The Centenary of Freemasonry on Devonport's North Shore was due in 1983 and like the Legend says, "many searchers had returned having found little of any consequence".

But there was one, the proverbial "More Experienced Master" who found an answer right under their very noses. By negotiation U.E.B. Industries Ltd accepted the commission to produce an exact replica of the original carpet.

This task was not as easy as first appeared; just matching the colours and brilliant hues of the original meant a great deal of experimentation as after all, no one in living memory had seen the original in daylight.

Then there were problems of Design; anyone not well versed in the intricacies of Masonic Symbolism must have been baffled by them. However, Bremworth's Woven Carpet Plant undertook the mammoth task of producing a replacement.

Fund raising to cover cost was begun in earnest in 1981.

The carpet was inspected on the loom in December 1982 and it was laid in the Devonport Temple early in 1983.

The task was completed in time for the Centenary Celebrations on 30 April 1983, just 73 years after the first one. Those who attended these celebrations were privileged to tread the **new thread** along with the Grand Master for New Zealand.

It is interesting to note that the original, purchased in 1909, cost the huge price of **thirty seven pounds, ten shillings**. The cost of replacement in 1983 was just under **ten thousand dollars**.

We, the Brethren of Lodge Golden Bay No. 144, are indeed extremely grateful to the Trustees of the Devonport Masonic Hall Committee for their exceedingly kind gesture in donating this unique Masonic Heirloom to our Lodge.

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From seven liberal arts

Ari Roussimoff

Artist, painter, sculptor, and filmmaker.

Biography (Source: Artist's website)

Ari Roussimoff, a critically acclaimed painter and film director, has been called the most prolific and creative artist of his generation.

His paintings of Russian, Ukrainian and Jewish themes have earned him much acclaim and they have been shown in over 80 exhibitions worldwide, including at the Nakhamkin Fine Arts Galleries, M.L. International Gallery of Fine Arts, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, A & J Galleries, The Bucharest Rumania Museum, The Nicholas Roerich Museum, Chancellor Robert R. Livingston Masonic Library and Museum, The Peter Fingesten Gallery-Pace University, Arma Galleries, Galerie Ehmer, Stephanie Ann Roper Gallery-Frostburg State University, The Theodor Herzl Institute, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Weintraub Gallery, Anthology Film Archives, YM-YWHA, Ukraine Club Gallery and many others.



In an interview with Elena Llamas¹, he explains how he has been attracted to freemasonry:

“I have always appreciated the great achievements of humanity while also being very much aware of the shortcomings. There isn't a thing about the human condition that cannot be found in the Bible. Since much of my way of thinking is of biblical origin, I understood that humanity was given the ability by God to rise up to advance itself and achieve wonders to benefit one's self and mankind.



King Solomon's vision

Art played a significant role in leading me toward Freemasonry. I never felt Art was limited to esthetics. For me it became an expression of the soul. Art is a universal language. French, German, Spanish, Greek, Russian, Polish or African. Any genuine work of art transcends its ethnic origins, and translates into a universal language that speaks to all.

Walking through the streets of Los Angeles, New York and through Europe, my eye often fixated on old buildings that incorporated mystical looking designs. Often I wondered if these were Masonic decorations. My curiosity about Freemasonry started taking form.



Hiram's Apron

I began to read up on the subject and absorb the philosophy and the rich culture accompanying it. What struck me early on is that some of the iconography I had known from early Christian art, such as the All-Seeing Eye of God was an important essential component of Freemasonry, as is the Holy Bible. Then I was surprised to recognize similarities between Masonic symbolism and some of the mystical imagery that had been appearing in my own pictures for years.



Detail from Pyramid of Light

Fascinated with the moral philosophies of Freemasonry, I was awed by the abundance of illustrious members, the great philosophers, leaders, authors, artists, musicians, philanthropists, scientists, inventors, poets, physicians. Mozart, Goethe, Voltaire, George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Booker T. Washington, Kaiser Wilhelm I, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Pushkin, Oscar Wilde, Mark Twain. In my

trptych that currently hangs in the Livingston Library there is a tribute to quite a few illustrious individuals who have been Masons.



Detail from Rebirth

Just a matter of note, in comparison to music, literature and entertainment, there were relatively few artists who were Masons.

There were numerous fine engravers. The most important sculptors and painters included Bartholdi, Hogarth, Mucha, Grant Wood, the great German expressionist Lovis Corinth (who did illustrations of lodge ceremony) and the Cubist master Juan Gris (he served as Master of his Lodge in Paris).

My keen interest eventually led me to the point where I wanted to do a film on Freemasonry. With that project in mind, I visited the wonderful Chancellor Robert R. Livingston Masonic Library & Museum of the Grand Lodge of New York in Manhattan. Their collection of materials is awesome. And everything was generously put at my disposal for study. This was in 2002. Although this particular film project has not as yet materialized, this was my road to joining. It has been an ever-inspiring journey.

1 <http://freemasoninformation.com/2016/08/the-art-masonic-aprons-and-magic-of-ari-roussimoff/>

Masonic Quotes

Go placidly amide the noise and the haste and remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible without surrender be on good terms with all persons.

Speak your truth clearly and quietly, and listen to others, even the dull and ignorant; they too have their story. Avoid loud and aggressive persons, they are vexations to the spirit. If you compare yourself to others you may become vain and bitter, for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself.



Max Ehrmann (September 26, 1872 – September 9, 1945)

Next Issue

Deadline:

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Email:

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