

The Ailsa Craig

Fixtures and Fittings

(Lodge Activities)

- December has been a quiet month for the Lodge activities with no practice meeting nor Working as the standard meeting was an "Opening and Closing" with a local flavour festive board after.
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Home and Away Games

(Visiting Brethren, Visits and Invitations)

- Visiting is an important part of worldwide freemasonry. It allows us to understand the differences between the Constitutions and locations and thus appreciate our own ways and deepening our understanding of the context of our rituals. All Master Masons are encouraged to visit other Lodges as much as possible.
 - The RWM/Office Bearers and various Bros. have visited the following Lodges in the past month:
 - Sabah 6th Jan
 - Kutching DGC 9th Jan
 - Lodge St George
 - Horsborough Lodge
 - St Andrews, Chpt Instl. 11th Dec
 - Lodge visitors in December included a Bro. from Thomas A-Beckett Lodge No.355 in Worthing, London.
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Tinkers Corner

(The latest gossip)

In order that we assist the Masonic Club in it drive for membership, please make sure that new members to Lodge Ailsa are made aware that they should join the Club at greatly reduced price of 50% if they join on the night of their initiation. Also any Brethren who have not yet joined the Club should do so forthwith.

The Classifieds

(Awaits your Ad)

- Relevant contributions to the Craig may be made by any member by e mailing me at - colinmac@pacific.net.sg.
- Get your order in early for the latest in Lodge sartorial elegance - Kennedy Tartan Cummerbund and Bow tie (prices still to be determined). This will certainly give the non-kilted member of Ailsa immediate recognition when visiting other Lodges. Bro Bruce Barnes will attend to the details.
- The Ailsa Masonic Library is to be set up to enlighten as many of the members as possible. Some books are already in circulation which give fascinating and provocative insights to the Craft.
- The unique occurrence of a Lodge having two different newsletters for the same month happened last month with 2 issues of Ailsa Craig (One day Julian and myself will get co-ordinated

The Ailsa Craig

Lost & Found

(Departing and Returning Brethren)

Happy New Year Ole Boy

From - Gary & Barbara MacPhie -

gmacphie@transend.com.tw

Hi Colin, How are things? Have not written for a while, life is busy here in Taipei. Barbara and I had our second baby girl last summer. We named her Maggie, she is our beautiful baby buddha. Two girls now and by 9:00 pm every evening I'm exhausted. That's my life school and home. Make sure you say hello to all the brothers at Lodge Ailsa for me. Also I need you to do me a favour. Look in the Scottish Lodge Address Book and see if there is a Scottish Lodge in Tanzania. Why you ask?

I attended a teaching hiring fair in KL over the Christmas holidays and I was recruited as the Head of Primary for the International School Moshi (ISM) in Tanzania! So we are off to Africa this summer. I will be located at the Moshi campus, heading the Primary school pre-K to Primary 5, approx 75 students. Moshi is located in north-east Tanzania, very close to the Kenyan border. It is at the foothills (900 m) of Mt. Kilimanjaro, just hours away from the Serengeti National Park. The climate is warm and dry almost year-round, and most days you can see the snow-capped peak of Kilimanjaro. We are provided with a house with a garden, very close to campus. Barbara and I are totally psyched. This is exactly the admin opportunity I've been hoping for, and Barbara is looking forward to raising the girls in this great natural environment. If you are looking to take a few

weeks holidays then drop by to visit. Let me know if there is a Scottish Lodge in Dar es Salaam. Write back when you have the time. Talk with you soon. Best Wishes,
Fraternally Yours,

Gary (Lodge Ailsa's original Tinker)

PS - There is a Scottish Lodge in Dar es Salaam - St Andrews No.1360 (Cons.28th Feb 1928) a Masonic Temple, Sokoine Drive, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, East Africa. Workings are 1st Monday from April to December at 7pm.

Animal, Vegetable or Mineral

(Complaints, Congratulations and Commiserations)

- The Lodge has recently sent out bi-annual invoices for dues. Please assist and ensure the smooth running of the Lodge's finances by keeping current.

Post Script

(The Last Word in Masonry)

- Bro Ruiter sent the following insight:

What is Success?

- To laugh often and love much
- To win the respect of intelligent persons and the affection of children
- To earn the approval of honest critics and bear patiently the betrayal of false friends
- To find the best in others
- To give of oneself without any thought of reward
- To have accomplished something - to have raised a healthy child, grown a garden, saved a soul or relieved a social condition
- To have played, laughed and sung with enthusiasm,
- To know that at least one life has been happier or better because you have lived,
That is to have succeeded.