

At the first regular meeting of The Mark Internet Lodge at the Masonic Hall, Castleton near Newport on the 12th November 2016 the Primus Master W Bro. Roy Morris advanced five Romanian brethren into the Mark Degree. A remarkable event in itself but who was to believe where that ceremony of advancement would end?

The following year officers and brethren of the lodge travelled to Bucharest in July and November and undertook four ceremonies advancing no fewer than 143 brethren into the Order. A Petition to form a Mark Lodge in Romania supported by 45 brethren and sponsored by The Mark Internet Lodge was then submitted to Mark Grand Lodge and the first Lodge, the Alexandru Vaida Voevod Lodge No. 1988 was subsequently consecrated by the Deputy Grand Master RW Bro. John Prizeman. The previous day W Bro. Michael Herman Worshipful Master of The Mark Internet Lodge had advanced a further 42 brethren into the Order. So that briefly describes the birth of Mark Masonry in Romania and the Mark Internet Lodge and the Province of Monmouthshire generally was to continue to play an active part in the consecration of all the Mark Lodges in Romania including The Prince Michael of Kent Lodge of Installed Mark Master Masons No. 2044 the seventeenth Lodge which was consecrated on Friday 11th November 2022, the day before the constitution of the District.



The Constitution of the District Grand Lodge of Romania took place at “Le Chateau” in Bucharest on Saturday 12th November in the presence of the Most Worshipful Grand Master His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent, exactly six years after the advancement of the first brother into the Order, a remarkable achievement bearing in mind that some 18 months were lost due to Covid restrictions. The Consecrating Officer on this historic occasion being Most Worshipful Brother John Prizeman Pro Grand Master which was quite fitting as he had consecrated the first Lodge of Mark Master Masons in Romania.

The Prince Michael of Kent Lodge is an Installed Mark Masters Lodge comprising in the main of brethren from Romania and the United Kingdom who had played an active part in the introduction of the Order is intended to further the development of Mark masonry in Romania and strengthen the masonic links between the countries. The Lodge meets twice a year with the election meeting being held at Mark Masons’ Hall on the 2nd Saturday in May and the installation meeting in Romania on the 3rd Saturday in October and membership is open to any suitably qualified brother.

The Mark District of Romania has quite ambitious plans for the immediate future with new Mark Lodge being planned for Barad, Piatra Neamt, Constanta, Bucharest, Cluj Napoca and Satu Mare in 2023. Brethren of The Mark Internet Lodge will be particularly interested to note that as well as the Prince Michael of Kent Lodge meetings referred to previously, at the end of September it is intended to hold a meeting of the Freemasons Without Borders Lodge, undertake the consecration of a new Lodge and hold the annual meeting of the District in Cluj Napoca. Details of all these events will be circulated on the website when finalised.

R.W.Bro. Derek Thomas
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