<u>Provincial Grand Lodge</u> Mark Master Masons of Monmouthshire

Romania 2018-19

Brethren, we now have details of the Consecration Ceremony for the third Romanian Mark Lodge, the **Mikhail Kogalniceanu Lodge No. 1993** which will take place in **Constanta on Saturday 27**th **October 2018.**

On this occasion the Consecrating Officer will be **RW Bro. Stephen Davison**, **Assistant Grand Master**. The ceremony will be held at the **Hotel Del Mar in Mamcaia County**, **Constanta** commencing at 11:00. Delighted to say that accommodation in the Hotel Del Mar has again been secured at heavily discounted rates by our Romanian brethren at 55 euros per night for a single room, and 60 euros per night for a double room bed and breakfast. W Bro. Roy Morris has again agreed to co-ordinate the hotel reservations and can be contacted by email at Royston.morris@btinternet.com. Constanta is a holiday resort on the Black Sea coast approx.140 miles due west of Bucharest.

We have also been invited to conduct an advancement ceremony at the same venue on Friday 26th October for 20/30 locally based advancees. The time of the advancement ceremony and festive board have yet to be finalised but I am anticipating that it would be in the early evening.

Such is the demand for brethren to become Mark Master Masons in the Bucharest area that the possibility of a further advancement ceremony in Bucharest on Wednesday 24th October is also being actively discussed. It is envisaged that a relatively small team of UK brethren will be required to supplement brethren from the Alexandru Vaida-Voevod and Nicolae Titulescu Lodges on this occasion. However, being practical it would be sensible if we were able to undertake some of the key offices for the ceremony. The Mark Internet Lodge has again been invited to undertake both advancement ceremonies, and we await a response.

As for travel, Wizz Air have direct flights from Luton to Constanta the details of which are now available online.

As always you are encouraged to do your own thing as far as travel is concerned. It is my intention to travel from Luton to Bucharest on Tuesday 23rd October, participating in the advancement ceremony on the 24th October and then travelling by either road or rail to Constanta on Thursday 24th October, returning home from Constanta on either Monday 29th October or Wednesday 31st October.

Looking further forward we propose to consecrate the fourth lodge the **Eugeniu Carada Lodge in lasi**, which is north of Bucharest possibly in February 2019 followed by the **Traian Vuia Lodge in Timisuara**, west of Bucharest in May 2019 and the **Nicolae Balcescu Lodge in Bucharest** in October or November 2019. Details of these events will be circulated later.

Brethren, we look forward to your company and support in Constanta and, as always, your wives and partners will be made most welcome.

Lodge secretaries and scribes are again requested to circulate this briefing note to the members of their Lodges as soon as possible.

RW Bro. Derek Thomas

Past Provincial Grand Master