

**Minutes of a Meeting held in Dundee Art Society, Roseangle Gallery, Dundee  
on 23 March 2017**

**Mark Lendon – ‘A Transylvanian Night – Postal History and Stamps  
from beyond the Forest’**

**Welcome:** The President welcomed members, visitors and tonight’s speaker Mark Lendon.

**Apologies for absence:** Dennis Collins, George Soutar

**Attendance:** 16 Members and 2 Visitors

**Minutes:** The minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> March were approved by Colin Campbell and seconded by Norman Kelso.

**Business:**

**President:** Informed members that there was a Stamp Fair being held in Brought Ferry this weekend.

**Secretary:** Informed members that a room has been provisionally booked at the Invercarse on 11<sup>th</sup> May for the Annual Dinner.

**Treasurer:** Nothing to Report

**Packet Secy:** Four packets are circulating, another four may be issued mid-April.

**Librarian:** David highlighted a book for the library entitled “History of Post Offices in Ireland” asking if should be purchased to which members agreed. David also informed members that work on the Library continues and estimates that there are now over 800 books.

**Publicity:** Meeting details were in Courier ‘What’s On’ as were the details of the last meeting.

**Webmaster:** Nothing to Report

**ASPS Rep:** Informed members that there has been a last minute change to the Tom Rielly speaker at Congress. This will now be given by Dr. Brian Dow.

**AOCB:** David Easson raised the subject of a letter sent from Buckingham Palace to Alan Roy indicating that the Queen would be happy to accept philatelic material from the society for the Royal Collection. It was agreed that the letter should be put on the website and then held with the society Archives.

**Vote of Thanks:** The vote of thanks was given by Chad Neighbor who complemented Mark on a thoroughly entertaining display.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Morning Meeting – 6<sup>th</sup> April 2017 10am till Noon  
Evening Meeting – 13<sup>th</sup> April 2017 Philatelic Miscellany II

## **Display:**

Thursday Nights' meeting saw local member Mark Lendon provide a display of Hungarian and Romanian stamps and covers with an emphasis on the region of Transylvania.

For the second time at a society display Mark presented his display using a visual aid (namely, Powerpoint).

Mark began the display by providing a short history of the relationship Transylvania has with Romania and the Kingdom of Hungary. His display consisted of a series of covers and stamps which all have a connection with three areas of Transylvania, Arad, Oradea and Cluj. Contained within the display were overprints of Arad issues which used obsolete Hungarian stamps. Mark pointed out the fact that there were around 50 different types of overprints used in these issues. Covers showing the postal history of Arad were also on show as were telephone forms showing receipts for phone-calls during the Austro-Hungarian period.

One highlight on show amongst the WW1 censorship covers was a triple censored cover which contained Romanian, French and Serbian cancellations. On display were inverted overprints and postwar inflation covers from WW2.

From the Cluj and Oradea areas were overprints from 1919 issues and stamps and postal history from the transitional period in Cluj when all Hungarian stamps were overprinted. Mark also pointed out that the Cluj overprints were always done using Capital letters whilst those from Oradea were done in lower case. Mark highlighted the fact that in this area of collecting there are a number of forgeries, mainly due to the amount of overprinting carried out. One postcard on display was actually made from beech wood as at the time they had run out of paper.

As we all know Transylvania is associated with Vampires and most notably, Dracula. Mark was congratulated for his display by President Francis Podger who, not being superstitious, wore a garland of Garlic.