

CITATION
CERTIFICATE OF MERIT, MOTH PHILIP McLACHLAN

Philip McLachlan completed National Service from 1984 to 1985 finishing off at 61 Mech Battalion Group. He then attended Stellenbosch University from 1986 to 1989 and served with USME during that time. He was awarded the Pro Patria and General Service Medals.

Moth McLachlan joined the Order at Marshal Smuts Shellhole in May 2010 and was appointed Paybill very shortly thereafter. While in that post, Moth Philip endeavoured to ensure the Shellhole's compliance to all legal and tax aspects of the MOTH property and to ensure that the unit benefitted from its PBO registration (His Shellhole being the first to be so registered). This point alone has saved many thousands of Rands that would have been paid in Rates and Taxes. These administrative matters were cemented in place after his appointment as Old Bill in 2011-2013 and on which his continued focus on such matters has proved to be of immense benefit to the Shellhole and has acted as an example for other Shellholes to follow. A number of projects undertaken during his initial tenure are still in operation. He was elected as Old Bill again in 2016 and currently still holds that post. Under his "watch", the Shellhole has won the Cape Western Provincial Dugout's Best Shellhole awards, as well as Best Recruitment award (twice).

Being proficient at understanding and then also being able to actually implement MOTH policy, Moth Philip assisted the Provincial Dugout as the assistant Provincial Pay Bill during the year 2012/2013, and then served as the Provincial Adjutant from 2013 to 2017 and, during his tenure, was instrumental in (1) updating the Provincial Standing Orders, (2) ensured that SARS-compliant Constitutions were adopted by Shellholes and, (3) implemented the award of Administrator of the year.

He was elected to the Full National Executive in November 2017 and, in 2018, became the National Recruiting Officer. While in this post, he proposed changes to the General Standing Orders in respect of the Role and Function of Sponsors at Shellhole level and he re-worked Annexure 'B'. He is also an integral member of the MOTH Going Forward initiative (tasked as "scribe") which has successfully ensured that various new amendments to the MOTH General Standing Orders have been approved.

In between times, Moth Philip served as a temporary secretary for MESCA Western Cape and, in 2019, was co-opted as the PMC representative in the Western Cape. In November 2021 he was elected as the National PR & Marketing Chairman and was undertook to compile an official brochure in time for the MOTH 95 commemorations. This document has been circulated and read throughout the Order.

At Shellhole level, Moth Philip has been instrumental in many ways – all to the benefit of the Shellhole and to the general community. For example:

- The Shellhole enjoys excellent working relationships with the City of Cape Town, the SA Naval College, SAPS, various Community Organisations, local businesses and the general public. The result being that Marshal Smuts Shellhole has, once again, become a well-known entity within the local community. The local Remembrance Sunday Parade, for example, has grown into a true community occasion with regular articles appearing in the local press.
- During the Covid-19 lockdowns, he arranged that the Shellhole facilities were made available to the nightshift workers of Vönke House (Helderberg Society for the Aged) to use as accommodation for a three-month period. This decision gained many new friends for the Order.
- He arranged for WW2 veterans to receive grants from the National War Fund and that one member receive an annual grant from the Royal Commonwealth Ex-service League. The Shellhole has since built up its own sizeable Welfare Fund under his guidance and oversight.

At Provincial level, and besides executive service, Moth McLachlan

- Has assisted in co-ordinating and organising many of the Cape Western Dugout Commemoration Services, as well as acting as a most competent MC at all of them over the past number of years.

- He co-ordinated and implemented Operation Firewood which raised R7, 500 for the CWPD Welfare Fund during the Covid-19 lockdown in 2020.
- He co-ordinated and implemented Operation Grocery Supplies which assisted residents at Flame Lily Park and the Bartle Road Cottages during the KZN riots in 2021. This effort raised a further R10000 in private donations towards the CWPD Welfare Fund as well as further donations of food to the Durban residents.
- He has acted as guest speaker promoting the MOTH to the wider community on various occasions; these include meetings of St John, University of The Third Age (U3A) and South African Association Retired Persons (SAARP).

At National Executive level, besides above-mentioned service, his contributions have benefitted the Order to no small degree. He has used common sense and logic in discussions on numerous matters, always to the benefit of the National Executive.

Many Shellholes have gained by the involvement of Moth McLachlan in streamlining their affairs. He has also been a "silent" Mentor of many an Executive Office bearer. His knowledge and experience in MOTHdom are well known and he is always available to give sound advice when requested.

Moth McLachlan is known as a committed and diligent Moth, who gives 100% to the Order and who has had a major influence on his and other Shellholes as well as the Cape Western Dugout's work ethic. He has gone over and above of what is expected of any Moth and, for his service to date, he has been awarded the Certificate of Comradeship (Marshal Smuts Shellhole, 2012) and the Certificate for Excellent Service by Cape Western Provincial Dugout in 2016.