



the Generals Voice

TIM LUKIN SHELLHOLE
NEWSLETTER



No: 06 of 2026

*Criticism is something we can avoid easily by saying nothing,
doing nothing, and being nothing.*
Aristotle

JULY/AUGUST 2026

From the General's Desk

This month we're offering a two-for-one deal nobody asked for but everybody's getting: July and August have thrown in their lot together, much like two Shellholes who've decided that one newsletter beats writing two.

July brought out 30 members for parade, welcomed 7 visitors through the door, collected 8 apologies, and had 6 Moths nursing themselves back to health on the sick list.

August, never one to be upstaged, rolled out 35 members and a whopping 33 visitors — bolstered by a 16-strong raiding party from General van der Spuy who arrived, one suspects, with mischief already loaded. Apologies stayed steady at 7, and the sick list held firm at 6.



Speaking of that raiding party. Tim Lukin Shellhole found itself invaded, ambushed, and thoroughly outnumbered by the General van der Spuy contingent. True to tradition, the executive committee was marched before the "court" and charged on an impressive list of counts, the exact nature of which the accused thought it wiser not to contest too strenuously, a guilty plea being, after all, considerably cheaper than a long-winded defence and fine. The whole affair was conducted in proper MOTH spirit, and every charge was met with the good humour it deserved (and possibly a round of applause for the prosecution's creativity).

Old Bill Colin has confirmed that a date for revenge, sorry, "retaliation," is still to be set. General van der Spuy, you have been warned.

INDUCTIONS

A Warm Welcome to Our New Members

Tim Lukin Shellhole is proud to welcome two new Moths into the fold this quarter. Proof that good company is contagious, and word is clearly getting around.

In July, we proudly inducted Mark Hoon, who took the plunge and joined our merry band of veterans, no doubt drawn in by tales of fellowship, tall stories, and the occasional bowls afternoon.



Figure 1: Mark Hoon inducted in July 2026



Figure 2: Conrad Geldenhuys inducted in August

Not to be left behind, Conrad Geldenhuys followed suit in August, officially signing up for a lifetime of camaraderie, cold beer, and the sort of banter you simply won't find anywhere else.

Both new Moths have been welcomed into the Shellhole with open arms, firm handshakes, and the unwritten understanding that they're now honorary members of the *"we've heard that story before but we'll laugh anyway"* club.

Here's wishing Mark and Conrad many years of fellowship, friendship, and thoroughly good times ahead with Tim Lukin Shellhole.

Welcome aboard!

GUEST SPEAKER

A Voice We All Recognised

Our August meeting welcomed Moth Mark Williams of Eden Radio, who was invited to give members a taste of his broadcasting career — and what a career it turned out to be.

Moth Mark kicked things off in the Defence Force, serving with the Signals Corps and the Imperial Light Horse, proving that even in his younger days he had a knack for making sure messages got through loud and clear.

From there, it was a short leap from military signals to broadcast signals, and Moth Mark found himself at SABC Television before becoming a founding member of M-Net — back when it was still something of a novelty rather than just another channel to scroll past.

His CV then reads like a who's who of South African broadcasting: stints with Fox TV, TV Africa, and finally LM Radio, a name that visibly lit up a fair few faces in the room. Judging by the nostalgic murmurs, LM Radio clearly left its mark on more than one Moth's misspent youth.



These days, Moth Mark has turned his considerable experience toward getting Eden Radio off the ground, and by all accounts, it's now broadcasting loud and proud. He gave members an entertaining run-down of how the station came to be and where it's headed — proof that after a lifetime behind the microphone, some Moths simply can't stop talking (and thankfully, we wouldn't want him to).

A big thank you to Moth Mark Williams for a thoroughly enjoyable address.

You can find [Eden Radio](#) on 104.8 FM

Don't Let the Lights Go Out: A Frank word to Every Member Who Wears The Moth Badge

A Shellhole does not die from a single blow. It does not collapse under the weight of one difficult year, one poorly attended parade, or one fractious meeting. It dies slowly, and almost invisibly from accumulated neglect, repeated small failures, and the quiet withdrawal of men who once cared enough to join but no longer care enough to stay engaged.

It dies one absent member at a time. One silent meeting at a time. One snide remark, one unanswered call for volunteers, one resignation encouraged over a beer rather than discouraged with a conversation. We are heirs to something worth preserving. The Shellhole is not a social convenience or a drinking club that happens to wear a badge. It is a living memorial to those who served, to those who did not come home, and to the bonds forged under conditions most people will never experience. Every Shellhole that closes its doors quietly extinguishes that flame in its community. There is no replacement waiting in the wings.



The twenty behaviours listed below are not the failings of an imaginary thought. They are the ordinary habits of disengaged men, habits that feel harmless in isolation but are lethal in combination. A member who arrives late causes no great damage on his own. But a Shellhole full of members who arrive late, leave early, say nothing, do nothing, and recruit nobody is a Shellhole measuring its own obituary. Every one of those behaviours is a choice. Made consciously or by default, it is still a choice and it has consequences that extend well beyond the individual who makes it.

20 Ways to March Your Shellhole Into the Ground

1. Miss Meetings and Parades

Stay away from official functions. When you do appear, arrive late — and let others carry the chairs.

2. Disappear Before Last Post

Leave before the function closes. Never stay to clean up or pack away. That is someone else's problem.

3. Hold Your Tongue, Then Open It

Sit silent during the meeting. Wait until it is over, then air every grievance you refused to raise on the floor

4. Turn Up Only for the Good Times

Do nothing to build the Shellhole. Contribute no labour, no time, no ideas, but make certain you are first in line when things are enjoyable.

5. Snipe at Your Executives

Criticise leadership freely, but offer no solutions and accept no responsibility yourself.

6. Treat Membership as Spectator Sport

Take no part in organisational affairs or work parties. Watch others build the club and regard your own absence as harmless.

7. Make Yourself a Distraction

Sit at the back during meetings and carry on a running conversation. You came for the company, not the agenda.

8. Draw and Never Deposit

Collect every benefit the Shellhole offers. Return nothing no effort, no service, no contribution of any kind.

9. Keep the Shellhole to Yourself

Never introduce a prospective member. Let the rolls thin out in silence.

10. Preach Teamwork, Practise None

Speak warmly of comradeship and cooperation. When work is required, be unavailable.



11. Threaten Resignation

Announce at intervals that you are leaving. Encourage like-minded members to follow. Do this instead of fixing what troubles you.

12. Claim Perpetual Busyness

When called upon to assist, plead commitments. Deploy this excuse without limit and without guilt.

13. Remain Deliberately Uninformed

Never read the minutes or keep abreast of Shellhole affairs. Ignorance provides useful cover for inaction.

14. Criticise Instead of Contributing

Finding fault requires far less effort than taking responsibility. Settle comfortably into that habit.

15. Do the Bare Minimum When You Cannot Avoid a Task

If a duty is assigned to you, perform as little as possible or simply vanish until it is forgotten.

16. Resent Those Who Step Forward

When a fellow member puts in the hard work, call it pointless. Rally the idlers and validate their inertia.

17. Choose Your Side by its Negativity

Back whoever is most critical of the Shellhole. Make no effort to understand or resolve the issue, simply align yourself with the dissatisfied.

18. Use the Shellhole for Personal Gain

Treat the organisation as a vehicle for your own interests. Place self-advancement above the welfare of the membership.

19. Spread Despondency

Circulate bad news freely. Suppress good news or deny it. A demoralised Shellhole suits you better than a thriving one.

20. Undermine Leaders at Every Turn

Take every opportunity to erode confidence in elected officers, but decline to stand for office yourself when the nomination book is open.

Your Shellhole Needs You.

So is the opposite a choice. To arrive on time. To stay until the work is done. To speak up in the meeting rather than outside it. To bring a name into the Shellhole. To say yes when asked. This is simply what membership means. You wore the uniform, you support the cause. You know what it is to hold a line when holding it was inconvenient. Your Shellhole is asking nothing more of you now than you once gave without question—Choose accordingly.

In the Next Newsletter

In the next newsletter, we will look at 20 ways to build and maintain a Shellhole. A Shellhole is only as strong as the sum of its members. Every Moth who engages, contributes, and supports the one next to him adds to something genuinely worth preserving. The question is never what the *Shellhole can do for you; it's what you and your fellow Moths can build together.*

TIM LUKIN SHELLHOLE — BOWLS FAMILY FUN DAY

Tim Lukin Shellhole invites you to a Family Fun Day of Bowls!



The poster is for the Tim Lukin Shellhole Bowls Family Fun Day. It features a blue background with yellow and white text. At the top, there are logos for the South African Bowling Association, a rainbow flag, and a bowling ball. The main title is 'Tim Lukin Shellhole Bowls Family Fun Day'. Below the title, it says 'Sunday, 16th Aug 7:30 for 8:30'. To the right, it says 'R600/ Team of 4 (Includes Tea & lunch)'. Below the title, it says 'Dress For A Fun Day! Welcome Drink - Cash Bar'. To the right, it says 'Teams can be: Men, Women, Mixed'. Below the title, it says 'To Reserve Your Spot Call: Veronica: 071-339-0162 Hayley: 072-548-9742 Colin: 063-753-0782'. To the right, it says 'Bowlers bring along a R50 Mystery Gift Wrapped in Newspaper!'. At the bottom, it says 'Edenvale Bowling Club 172, 6th Avenue, Edenvale, 1609'.

-  Venue: Edenvale Bowling Club, 172 6th Avenue, Edenvale, 1609
-  Date: Sunday, 16 August  Time: 7:30 for 8:30
-  Cost: R600 per team of 4 (includes tea and lunch)
-  Teams: Men, Women, or Mixed—all welcome
-  Dress for a fun day!

Welcome drink on arrival, with a cash bar throughout.

-  Bowlers, please bring along a R50 mystery gift wrapped in newspaper.

To reserve your spot, call:

Veronica: 071 339 0162

Hayley: 072 548 9742

Colin: 063 753 0782

Come bowl, laugh, and enjoy a great day out with family and friends

BIRTHDAYS — JULY / AUGUST 2026

Happy Birthday to our Moths:

🎂 Louise Harris	17 th July
🎂 Jean Swart	31 st July
🎂 Vincent Marino	10 th August
🎂 Martin Thompson	14 th August



🥂 ***Cheers to all — and thank you for keeping the spirit of MOTH alive and thriving!***

ANNIVERSARY — 2026

Going forward, Tim Lukin Shellhole will mark members' anniversary dates in the newsletter, drawn from the nominal roll, noting each Moth's year of service, regardless of how long they've belonged to the Order. These are the milestones of your tenure with the Moths. There's no paper or leather gifts, just recognition of your standing and years given to the Order.

Martin	Thompson	11 years
Jose	Coimbra	11 years
Wayne	Henry	8 years
Rocky	Beyleveld	7 years
Mark	Robertson	4 years
Vincent	Marino	4 years
Michelle	Wilson	3 Years
Dawn	Ray	3 Years
Glynnis	Harrison	3 Years
Jeannie	Estment	3 Years
Lynette	Brockway	3 Years
David W.	Harris	2 years
David C.	Harris	2 years
Cliffed	Byrne	2 years
Cecilia	Brittle	2 years



JOIN THE MOTHS - WE NEED YOU!

Ever wondered what happens behind those Shellhole doors? It's not all parades and poppies, there's plenty of laughter, friendship, shared stories, and good-hearted banter too!

Whether you're a veteran or simply someone who values camaraderie, service, and remembrance, you'll find a warm welcome in the MOTHS. We're always looking for good people who believe in *True Comradeship, Mutual Help, and Sound Memory*. These are the values that hold our Order together.

Curious? Come see for yourself!

If you'd like to learn more or attend a meeting, reach out to your local Shellhole for details.

**For information on how to join TIM LUKIN MOTH Shellhole
Contact: Deputy Old Bill Jose: 082-561-2990**

Thank-You For Keeping The Spirit Of MOTH Alive And Thriving.

In Closing...

Getting to Know Eden Radio

For those who enjoyed Moth Mark Williams' address in August, here's a bit more background on the station now broadcasting proudly from our own backyard, the Edenvale Bowling Club.

History

Eden Radio began life in 2014 as an online-only station under the name Edenvale Radio, and by mid-2015 had built a streaming audience of over 8,000 listeners both locally and internationally. Momentum kept building, and in October 2015 the station secured its official AM broadcast frequency licence from ICASA. Since then, the station has continued to grow, re-branding and relaunching along the way, and now broadcasts as Eden Radio 104.8 FM — proof that patience, persistence, and a good playlist eventually pay off.



Aims and Goals



Eden Radio operates as a registered non-profit community radio station, with a clear focus on serving Edenvale and the surrounding suburbs. Community safety is a particular priority — the station maintains direct contact with the CPF, SAPS, EMPD, and private security companies, allowing serious incidents to be announced without delay. Beyond safety, the station aims to include everyone in the community, with demographics and language treated as important considerations — in other words, whether you're a die-hard Elvis fan or partial to something a little more current, there's a place for you on the dial.

Station Overview

Billing itself as "The Voice from the Vale," Eden Radio is a nostalgia-driven community station offering a mix of chart hits from the 60s through to the 90s, blended with a touch of today's best music. The station describes itself as community-first, aiming to bring the Vale together through good conversation and the music listeners love — think fewer awkward silences than your average family braai, and considerably better tunes.

Where to Listen

FM: Tune in locally on 104.8 FM

Online: Stream live via the [Eden Radio website](#) or app



Coverage area:

Edenvale and surrounds, including The Avenues, Marais Steyn Park, Dowerglen, Glendower, Edenglen, Hurllyvale, Buurendal, Harmelia, Meadowdale, Isandovale, Isando, Sebenza, Croydon and Greenstone

So whether you're pottering in the garden, driving to the shops, or simply want the news before your neighbour does, Eden Radio has you covered — and now, thanks to Moth Williams, we know exactly who to thank for it.



USEFUL & INTERESTING LINKS

[Visit M.O.T.H. Home Page](#)

[MOTH Beginnings](#)

[Tim Lukin Shellhole Facebook Page](#)

[Tim Lukin Shellhole Official Page](#)

[MMA's Facebook Page](#)

[MOTH Membership – Do you Qualify?](#)

[Warrior's Gate Virtual Tour](#)

[Eden Radio](#)

[Military Veteran Websites to Visit](#)

[East Rand District Dugout](#)

[Platinum Provincial Dugout](#)

[MOTHWA Home Page](#)

[Moth Roll Of Honour](#)

[Become a Shellhole Supporter](#)

[MOTH Centenary](#)

GUEST SPEAKERS WANTED FOR 2026

(WARNING: AUDIENCE MAY LAUGH, LEARN, OR CRY)

Got a story worth sharing?

Do you have knowledge that's fascinating, unusual, or surprisingly useful?

Can you capture an audience's attention for 20–30 minutes (in the best possible way)?

Tim Lukin Shellhole is looking for engaging guest speakers to help make our 2026 meetings lively, interesting, and memorable.

You can speak about military history, unique experiences, or specialised knowledge we didn't even know we needed, we'd love to hear from you.



Step Up! Don't be shy! The floor is yours, and we'll be all ears.

Interested? Contact Moth Martin on 084-371-8120.