



GNR INSTALLED AS OLD BILL



*Chairman, Membership Committee of National Executive Administration Committee
Old Bill Mike Groenewald congratulating Old Bill Leon Nel*

On 6 August 2026 Gnr Leon Nel was installed as Old Bill of Steel Helmet Shellhole in Parkhurst, Johannesburg. OB Leon also plays an active role in the Johannesburg Branch of the Gunners' Association and serves on the Committee of GEM Homes. His summarised CV is:



Born August 1964 in Durban

Matriculated 1982

Military

Military service started Jan 1983 with 14th Field Regiment, 10 Art Brigade, Potchefstroom

Promoted to 2nd Lt November 1983

Quick G4 training end Nov to early Dec in preparation for Operation Askari

Operation Askari, Dec 1983 to Jan 1984

Deployed Troop in Hurricane Base Ruacana, relieving the CCC troops permanently based there Feb 1984 to Mar 1984

Seconded to CSI, April 1984 to December 1984, training Unita Artillery, first with the South African M5 120mm Mortar, and the second contingent with the Russian 120mm Mortar

After National Service reported to Natal Field Artillery in 1985

Held various posts, promoted through the ranks finally to Lt. Col

Qualified on the G1, G2, G4, G5, G6 and the M5 120mm Mortar

Officer Commanding from 2001 to 2005

Civilian

Enjoyed 32 years with Absa Bank, predominantly in the Corporate Asset Finance space, in various locations

Transferred from Durban to Johannesburg beginning 2002

Joined the Johannesburg Gunners' Branch

Installed as a MOTH in September 2019, and inducted to Top Table 2020. Still serving and recently elected as Old Bill of Steel Helmet Shellhole

Involved with GEM Homes since 2020, and currently serving as Vice Chairman

Have a daughter, based in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia past 5 years, and son, residing in Johannesburg