



OVERBERG GEOSCIENTISTS GROUP (OGG)

Newsletter #2: 27 January 2025

(OGG – Reg. No. 275-138 NPO)



Herewith our second 2025 Newsletter with details of presentations for the first quarter of 2025, information on proposed Excursions and other activities for 2025.

A reminder all our Members and Supporters that that the **2025 OGG Members Fees** (R250.00 per person) are now due; Bank Details are shown below, and again our thanks for your ongoing support and interest. For those interested the OGG reviewed/audited financials to end-October 2024 are available for anyone who is interested.

STANDARD BANK ACCOUNT NAME: OVERBERG GEOSCIENTISTS GROUP NPC
ACCOUNT NUMBER: 10168933800 TYPE: CURRENT ACCOUNT
BRANCH CODE: 051001 SWIFT ADDRESS: SBZA ZA JJ

Then in respect of the POPI Act, those who may no longer wish to receive OGG Newsletters, please advise us and we will remove your details from the OGG mailing lists.

OGG Breakfast Meetings & Presentations – These are held at Onrus Manor (greater Hermanus area) from 09h30, with breakfast at 10h00 and presentations (in-person & Zoom) at 11h00 on the first Thursday of the month.

2025 OGG Presentation & Breakfast Program (to April, 2025)

Date (2025)	Speaker	Topic	Venue/Mode/Time
Thurs 6 February 2025	Dr John Bristow	Centenary of diamond prospecting + mining on the West Coast of South Africa and the Legends that shaped the sector.	Breakfast meeting + Zoom (RSA 11h00)
International Au presentation series			
Thursday 6 March	Prof Dave Crow (Univ Otago, NZ)	<i>Placer gold science - without avoiding the Witwatersrand</i>	<i>Zoom (RSA 10h00)</i>
Thursday 13 March	Dr Julian Vearncombe (Perth)	<i>Witwatersrand structures and gold</i>	<i>Zoom (RSA, 10h00)</i>
Thursday 20 March	Prof Neil Phillips (Melbourne)	<i>Metamorphic waters and some of their wonders</i>	<i>Zoom (RSA 10h00)</i>
Thursday 27 March	Prof John Clemens (Univ. Stellenbosch)	<i>Formation of Cu–Au porphyry deposits: what we can learn from igneous petrology</i>	<i>Zoom (RSA 10h00)</i>
Thursday 3 April	Dr Bjorn Von Der Heyden (Univ. Stellenbosch)	<i>Southern African metallogeny with a focus on gold</i>	<i>In-person + Zoom (RSA 11h00) Onrus Manor</i>
Thursday 10 April	Keith Kenyon (Hermanus, RSA)	<i>Why does the Placer vs Hydrothermal origin for the Witwatersrand Gold Ore controversy persist</i>	<i>Zoom (RSA 11h00)</i>

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82172892738?pwd=M1NWUkFyZhqdTjZkOyZ3BrV2srZz09>

Meeting ID: 821 7289 2738; Passcode: **Overberg**

Gold Short-Course - Presentations March/April 2025

Through the interest, support and collaboration of gold experts Prof Neil Phillips (Melbourne) and Dr Melanie Finch (Earth Sciences, University of Melbourne) the OGG is facilitating 6 gold presentations in March/April 2025. The program is shown above and in an attached Flyer.

2025 OGG Excursions

Bonnievale, Robertson, Montagu & Keisie Valley Geoexcursion (9 - 11 May, 2025) – The excursion will comprise a Friday to Sunday morning outing, overnighing in Montagu, returning home on Sunday morning. It will highlight the Malmesbury Basement (>600Ma) geology, Jurassic Enon conglomerates/sediments, Olivine-melilitite intrusive into the Witteberg Group, and provide an opportunity to stand on the hanging-wall of the Worcester fault overlooking the Ashton, Robertson Breede River Valley, as well as view other localities of interest. *Please kindly confirm your participation with Jean Malan - jeanamalan@gmail.com.*

De Kelders Caves + Surrounds (half-day Excursion) (1st half of 2025, date to follow) – The excursion will include visits to the massive Caverns formed in *Bredasdorp Group* limestone at the interface with the underlying TMG sandstones, ~1km beach-walk along Walker Bay west to mega-dune remnants (*Bredasdorp Group*), an overview of the geology and structural features of the TMG sandstones, and picnic lunch for those wanting to enjoy the sea, sand and scenery.

Geology & Geoheritage - KNP & southern African LIPS

Following Geoexcursions to Kruger National Park (KNP), Clarens, Golden Gate, Witsieshoek & Lesotho in 2024, the OGG will be scheduling presentations on the exceptional geological history of KNP and other southern African LIP's later in 2025.

Articles & YouTube Presentations of Interest

Correlating 300 million years of catastrophes – (*Alexei V. Ivanov., EPSL, 2024, Vol. 647*)
<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=6b3c7f64a1&attid=0.1&permmsgid=msg-f:1812393562550499417&th=1926ea57b906f859&view=att&zw&disp=inline>

Centenary of diamond prospecting & mining along RSA's West Coast – (John Bristow, *Mining Weekly*)
<https://www.miningweekly.com/article/centenary-of-diamond-prospecting-and-mining-along-south-africas-west-coast-2025-01-15>

Pompeii: new discoveries unearth private spa from the Vesuvius AD79 eruption (*BBC, 19 Jan 2025*)
<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c15zqvnvk4do>

Strontium isotopes & DNA of baboons lead to discovery of Lost Ancient Civilization (*The Travel, 14 January 2025*)
<https://search.app/j7dKgEagXpnEDmt79>

Giant freshwater aquifer in southern Africa is under threat (*Money Web, 19 January, 2025*)
<https://www.moneyweb.co.za/news/africa/giant-freshwater-aquifer-in-southern-africa-is-under-threat-from-mining/>

Exports of dredged sea sand destroyed dozens of Indonesian islands—now, the ban is being lifted
<https://search.app/s6wn2yU7yjTonDnn7>

Geological Tours around Europe
<https://georeizen.nl/>

OGG Presentations on YouTube

All previous OGG presentations (since 2021) are available on YouTube for viewing and sharing. They can be accessed by cut/pasting the link below into your browser, clicking on the GSSA YouTube Website, locating the **OGG-Playlist** and selecting the topics and speakers you wish to listen to: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL-MPMaHidsW1jR8f-KMmPX8ANZGA-Oyna>

OGG Membership

The OGG welcomes new members and looks forward to its engagements with existing and new participants during in 2025. Please share these documents with colleagues, non-geologists, students & scholars. For more information and membership details see contacts below. New ideas, proposals for excursions & educational activities, engagements with non-geologists, scholars and youth, and funding and sponsorship to sustain the OGG objectives are welcomed. Likewise the ongoing OGG support and contributions are most appreciated

Many thanks. Kind regards,

HENNIE, ANNABELLE, JOHN + OGG TEAM

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jwbdia@gmail.com (mobile: 082 571 3004)

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STUDENTS, GRADUATES and GEOLOGISTS SEEKING MENTORSHIP & EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

1: Sanchia Mkhize (Durban) (sanchiamn@gmail.com; m: 061 256 9620) See - CV link below.

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=6b3c7f64a1&attid=0.1&permmsgid=msg-f:1820508690861583710&th=1943bf024550ed5e&view=att&zw&disp=inline>

2: Balungile Nhlapo (27878554@sun.ac.za; m: 066 342 5319). (1st Year Stellenbosch Univ. student seeking experience opportunities. Home is Johannesburg). CV link below.

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=6b3c7f64a1&attid=0.1&permmsgid=msg-f:1816240585862155860&th=19349530a2f60e54&view=att&zw&disp=inline>

3: Ms Sinazo Dlakavu (MSc Geology; NMU AEON Institute) (sinazodlakavu@gmail.com; mobile: 066 598 0977). Practical field and technical (laboratory) experience in hydrogeology, the small and medium mining sector (surface and underground - particularly diamonds), and research activities (including data collection, analysis, compilation and presentation). Currently based in Eastern Cape but happy to move/travel.

Sinazo Dlakavu. (2021). Status of the South African small and junior diamond mining sector. AEON NMU REPORT SERIES NO. 7, 86pp. https://sadpo.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/6127-AEON-SADPO-Report-July-2021_WEB-low-singles.pdf

OGG Guidebooks Available:

- (1) OGG Bot River-Kleinmond Estuary and Surrounding Geology Geo-Excursion – 19 October, 2024: *Jean Malan & Mike De Wit*.
- (2) OGG Cape Town and Sea Point Contact Geo-Excursion – 24 March 2024: *Jean Malan and John Bristow (with contributions by Prof Mike Bruton, and Stephen Davey)*.
- (3) OGG Bikini Beach (Gordons Bay), Clarence Drive, Aasbank, Harold Porter Gardens (Betty's Bay) Geological Excursion (Geocongress, January, 2023): *Dave Maurant & John Bristow*.
- (4) Umvoto & OGG Table Mountain Group (TMG) Aquifers and Wellfield Development in the Great Hermanus and Steenbras Areas Excursion (Geocongress, January 2023): *Dylan Blake (Umvoto)*.
- (5) OGG & Minrom Overberg South Coast Geology: Field Excursion – November, 2022: *Jean Malan*.
- (6) OGG Geo-Excursion Guides to the Hemel + Aarde Wine Valley and Hermanus Cliff Path: *John Blaine*.
- (7) Table Mountain Dams and Cape Town's Water Supply (GEOHERITAGE FIELD GUIDEBOOK): *The Umvoto Foundation. (Dedicated to the late Rowena Hay & Dr Chris Hartnady)*. Contact Dylan Blake for copies - dylan@umvoto.com

For copies of OGG Guidebooks please contact Dr John Bristow jwbdia@gmail.com; m: 082 571 3004.



Skeurklip (2 360m) – a Karoo basalt capped mountain in the far eastern Free State in the headwaters of the Wilge River (foreground) , an important feeder to the Vaal River and Dam (December, 2024)