

# OVERBERG GEOSCIENTISTS GROUP (OGG)

Newsletter #8: 19 May, 2025

(OGG – Reg. No. 275-138 NPO)

## May Highlights:

- Robertson-Montague geological excursion attracts large & diverse attendance
- Engagements with conservationists & ecologists to break-down silos gaining traction
- Good progress with interactive Non-Geologist & Scholar programs

## OGG Annual Subscription Fees (R250.00 per person)

For those who have not yet contributed, a reminder that 2025 OGG Annual fees are due. Bank details are shown below and our thanks to OGG Members who have paid their Subs and made donations. Your support and interest in the ongoing OGG activities are essential and greatly appreciated:

STANDARD BANK ACCOUNT OVERBERG GEOSCIENTISTS GROUP NPC  
ACC NO: 10168933800 CURRENT ACCOUNT  
BRANCH CODE: 051001 SWIFT ADDRESS: SBZA ZA JJ

## OGG Presentations & Breakfast Program (until August, 2025)

Date (2025)	Speaker	Topic	Venue/Mode/Time
Thursday 15 May, 2025	Dr Jeannine McManus (Vogelgat Reserve)	Experiences of contrasting approaches to wildlife conservation in Sri Lanka and South Africa	In-person + Zoom RSA 11h00 Onrus Manor
Thursday 5 June 2025	Dr James Blignault (Environmental Economist)	The economics of restoring degraded ecosystems	Zoom Presentation RSA 11h00
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2025	Dr Hendri Coetzee (Director, Natures Valley Trust - NVT)	The Natures Valley Trust – managing socio-environmental issues, conservation & human-wildlife conflict	In-person + Zoom RSA 11h00 Onrus Manor
Thursday 7th August 2025	Gareth Boothway (WWF)	Enabling ambitious impacts for people and nature - WWF's Strategy 2030: Utilising landscapes at scale for the benefit of nature and people	In-person + Zoom RSA 11h00 Onrus Manor

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82172892738?pwd=M1NWUkYFYzhqdTJ2Qk0yZ3BrV2srZz09>

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

**OGG Breakfast Meetings & Presentations** – These are held at Onrus Manor from 09h30, with breakfast at 10h00, presentations (in-person & Zoom) at 11h00 on the first Thursday of the month. Participants are requested to please confirm their attendance at the breakfasts for catering purposes.



## International Gold Series Follow-up

All the recent *Gold-series presentations*, and previous presentations, are available on YouTube via the link below. A summary of the key observations, 'models' and future studies will follow-up will follow for interrogation and comment. The interest and response has been considerable. Important interventions are already underway, including identifying the whereabouts of thousands of metres of drill-core, accessibility of prior data & reports, publications from previous Wits Gold studies, and identifying future research activities/drivers. Ideas and further inputs are most welcome.

### OGG YouTube Presentations

To access All previous OGG presentations on **YouTube** use this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL-MPMaHidsW1jR8f-KMmPX8ANZGA-OYna>

**All about Gold:** <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL-MPMaHidsW2tZEQv06FmiLjubVejMGhh>

**All about Diamonds:** [https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL-MPMaHidsW09IjwvI7VCUINBd5I\\_-VwH&si=ddgs1KfuDYuSF1PW](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL-MPMaHidsW09IjwvI7VCUINBd5I_-VwH&si=ddgs1KfuDYuSF1PW)

### Articles & YouTube Presentations of Interest

**De Beers** offers comprehensive commercial analytical services for diamond indicator, micro-diamond & related studies - see Brochure attached; for pricing/quotations email: [lab.requests@debeersgroup.com](mailto:lab.requests@debeersgroup.com).

Contrasting approaches to wildlife conservation in Sir Lanka & RSA – *Dr Jannine McManus (YouTube)*  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yL-5bw\\_RLrA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yL-5bw_RLrA)

Hiking Arangieskop above Robertson - the '*Kilimanjaro of the Cape*'  
<https://search.app/39F2FyeYWi8AizUaA>

Newly named Cederberg TMS 444-million-year-old marine fossil found in SA is one-of-a-kind  
[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/309344686\\_The\\_late\\_Ordovician\\_Soom\\_Shale\\_Lagerstatte\\_An\\_extraordinary\\_post-glacial\\_fossil\\_and\\_sedimentary\\_record](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/309344686_The_late_Ordovician_Soom_Shale_Lagerstatte_An_extraordinary_post-glacial_fossil_and_sedimentary_record)

### 2025 OGG Excursion #2

**De Kelders Caves + Surrounds (half-day Excursion) (Saturday 30 August, 2025)** – The excursion will include visits to the fascinating network of Caves formed in the *Bredasdorp Group* limestone at the interface with the underlying TMG sandstones and an approximately ~1km beach-walk westward along Walker Bay to view *Bredasdorp Group* mega-dune remnants.

It will provide a fascinating insight into the exceptional anthropological records of the southern-Cape coast, overview of the geology and complex structural features and trends apparent in the TMG sandstones (quartzites) along the eastern margin of Walker Bay, and picnic lunch for those wanting to enjoy the sea, sand and scenery.

Further information for the Excursion program will follow. To register and reserve your place on this Excursion please contact: Mike Dormer – m: 072 222 6672; [mikedydormer@outlook.com](mailto:mikedydormer@outlook.com), or John Bristow – [jwbdia@gmail.com](mailto:jwbdia@gmail.com).



The **Bonnievale-Robertson-Montagu-Keisie Valley GeoExcursion** (9 - 11 May, 2025), was a great success with 34 participants. Thanks are due to All Participants for their engagements and sharing of knowledge, service providers and organizations who contributed to the success of this event, the Protea Farm (<https://proteafarm.co.za/tractortrip/>) and Montague Caravan Park (<https://www.montagucaravanpark.co.za/>) personnel included. An initial series of images from this event are included below; a lengthier compilation of images will be provided to participants.

### **OGG Membership & Activities**

***The OGG welcomes new members, for details and annual fees of membership please contact see contact one of the OGG Committee members below. Ideas regarding excursions, educational activities & interaction with professional geologists, other professionals, students, non-geologists, schools, scholars and youth are welcomed. Your support & contributions to the OGG are most appreciated. Please share these documents with colleagues, non-geologists, students & scholars***

***Many thanks. Best wishes,,***

**HENNIE, ANNABELLE, JOHN + OGG TEAM**

[Hennie.greeff@gmail.com](mailto:Hennie.greeff@gmail.com) (mobile: 082 569 5314)

[Annabelle.greeff@gmail.com](mailto:Annabelle.greeff@gmail.com) (mobile: 082 443 0699)

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

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### **Educational Materials & Information**

- **Box of Rocks** with 19 rock & mineral samples, magnifying eye-lens by Barry Bryant and informative simple book of South African geology by Nick Norman. Ideal for educators, Kids and their Parents, and non-geologists – R375 per set, plus courier costs. Contact Barry Bryant (Gauteng - [info@educationsupport.co.za](mailto:info@educationsupport.co.za); 082 331 8194) or John Bristow (Hermanus – [jwbdia@gmail.com](mailto:jwbdia@gmail.com))



**Bonnievale-Robertson-Montagu-Keisie Valley**  
**Geoexcursion (9 to 11 May, 2025)**



*The Goedemoed olivine-melilitite (~62Ma) outcrop on Elandsberg Mountain slope (south-side of Van Lorens Wine Farm) with columnar jointing due to contraction of the cooling magma*



*Tour Leader Jean Malan & Tractor Operator en-route from Protea Farm to Arangieskop*





***Protea Farm mode of transport for the ascent to the Dassieshoek Nature Reserve, Stone Cottage and Arangieskop Mountain***



***Participants included geologists, environmentalists, plant ecologists and non-geologists - Rob & Judy MacFarlane, and Dr Anso LeRoux***





***The Stone Cottage (1 405 metres) adjacent to Arangieskop on the Dassieshoek Nature Reserve, above Protea Farm***



***Urban Burger, Kobus Venter, and Jaques Smit with Arangieskop (1 684 m elevation) and Robertson as a backdrop.***



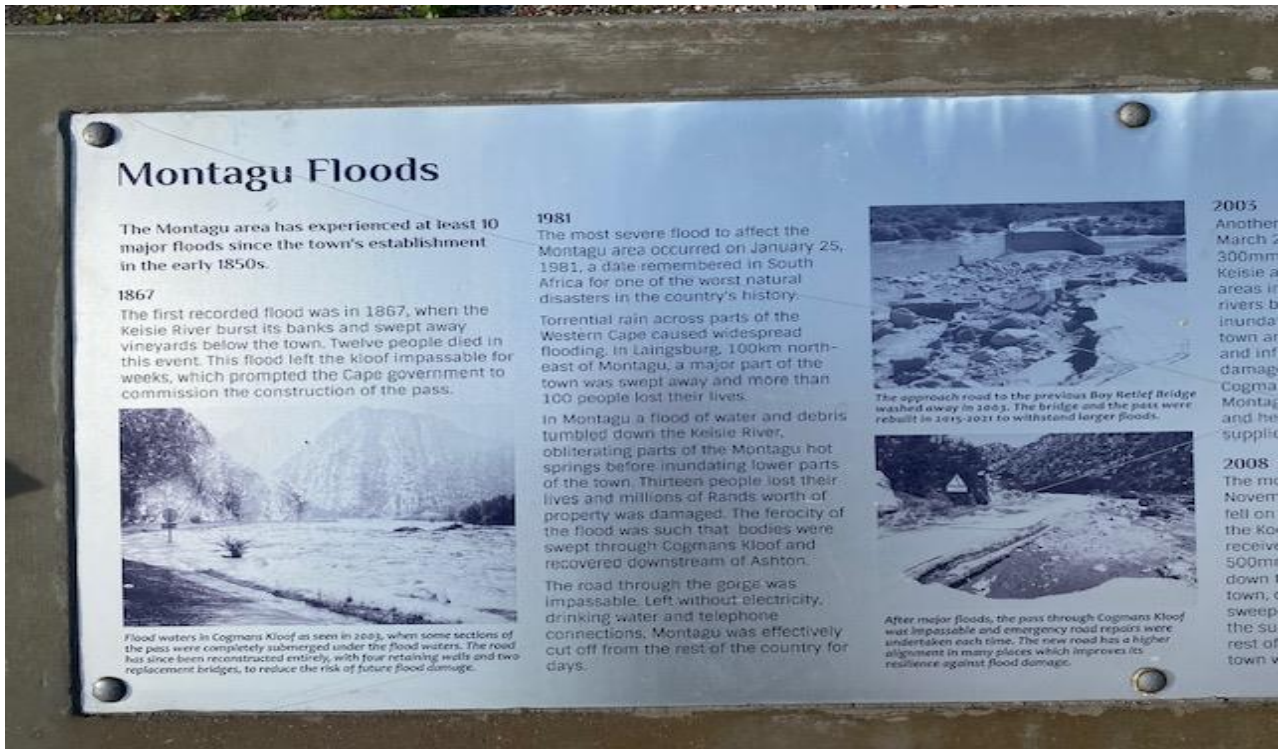


*The KOO Valley to the north-west of Arangieskop*



***Kogmans Kloof Gorge with previous flood-height markers: 10 since 1867, including the 1981 flood that devastated Laingsberg on the N1 between Cape Town and Johannesburg***





**Details of previous flood events since the 1850's on information tablets in Kogmans Kloof**



**Steeply dipping, tightly folded TMS strata in Kogmans Kloof**

