

# OVERBERG GEOSCIENTISTS GROUP (OGG)

Newsletter #9: 9 June, 2025

(OGG – Reg. No. 275-138 NPO)

## May - June Highlights:

- Highlighting the role of geology in understanding Planet Earth, managing its resources, and addressing environmental challenges gaining traction
- Schools outreach program gathering momentum
- South African Geologists pushing back the frontiers

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

Date (2025)	Speaker	Topic	Venue/Mode/Time
Thursday 5 June 2025	<b>Dr James Blignaut</b> (Environmental Economist)	<i>The economics of restoring degraded ecosystems</i>	Zoom Presentation RSA 11h00
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2025	<b>Dr Hendri Coetzee</b> (Director, Natures Valley Trust - NVT)	<i>Natures Valley: An Integrated Model for Conservation and Community Engagement</i>	In-person + Zoom RSA 11hoo Onrus Manor
Thursday 7th August 2025	<b>Gareth Boothway</b> (WWF)	<i>Enabling ambitious impacts for people and nature - WWF's Strategy 2030: Utilising landscapes at scale for the benefit of nature and people</i>	In-person + Zoom RSA 11hoo Onrus Manor

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82172892738?pwd=M1NWUkJFYzhqdTJ2Qk0yZ3BrV2srZz09>  
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.

## Congratulations to Our Geologists in the News

Jeannette McGill successfully summits Everest - <https://share.google/o8yyKidYIUnCQIT57>

Dr Tebogo Makhubela named a National Geographic Explorer and recipient of the 2025 Wayfinder Award. <https://share.google/viLFINLkKvm2SmY5X>

**Stellenbosch University Geology Department** receives hyperspectral core-scanner as a donation from AngloGold Ashanti (Mining Weekly, 6 June, 2025)  
<https://www.miningweekly.com/article/anglogold-ashanti-donates-hyperspectral-core-scanner-to-stellenbosch-university-2025-06-06>



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

For those who have not yet contributed, a reminder that 2025 OGG Annual fees are due – OGG Bank details are shown below:

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

Many thanks to those Members who have paid their Subs and made donations. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated:

## OGG YouTube Presentations

All previous **OGG** presentations on **YouTube**:

<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)

## 2025 OGG Excursion #2

[De Kelders Caves + Surrounds, Walker Bay - 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 their Anthropological records, a ~1km beach-walk westward along Walker Bay to view *Bredasdorp Group* mega-dune remnants, and insights into the faulting and structures of the Table Mountain Group along the eastern-margin of Walker Bay.

This event 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; [mikeydormer@outlook.com](mailto:mikeydormer@outlook.com), or John Bristow – [jwbdia@gmail.com](mailto:jwbdia@gmail.com).

**‘Our First Home’ video**– Natural scientists, including Dr Curtis Marean, Dr Hayley Cawthra and Dr Richard Cowling, discuss the anthropology, environments and resources associated with the emergence of behaviourally modern humans (i.e. Us) who inhabited the Caves and Plains of the southern Cape coastal region: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AWjgp\\_wSfmY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AWjgp_wSfmY)

Ancient tools from South Africa’s Robberg cave reveal connections between prehistoric people. <https://phys.org/news/2025-04-ancient-tools-south-african-cave.html>



## Articles & YouTube Presentations of Interest

The economics of restoring degraded ecosystems – *Dr James Blignaut (OGG YouTube)*  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A0d0ECYI\\_3I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A0d0ECYI_3I)

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

SA's shrinking mining sector and the policies that brought us here (*Moneyweb, 9 June, 2025*)  
<https://share.google/JeweMP5JgHaQx9oDW>

Why is geology important for our Planet  
<https://und.edu/blog/why-is-geology-important.html>

History of Argyle diamond mine & its pink-diamonds - (YouTube; 12mins)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aiqj4yhK8Qw>

## OGG Membership & Activities

***The OGG welcomes new members, for details and annual fees of membership please 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 and please share these documents with colleagues, non-geologists, students & scholars.***

***The OGG is reviewing and updating its Membership records mindful of the POPI Act - if anyone wishes to be removed from the membership & mailing list, please advise one of the OGG members listed below.***

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

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

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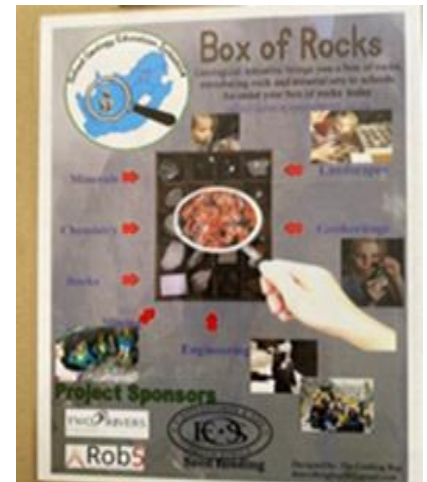
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## Educational Materials & Information

**Box of Rocks** - 19 rock & mineral samples, magnifying eye-lens compiled by Barry Bryant and informative basic 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)).

Nick Norman's descriptive and very well illustrated book is also available separately at a cost of R100 per copy, plus courie.



## World's Oldest Geological Map



The left end of the Turin papyrus - an ancient Egyptian Map for Ramesses IV's quarrying expedition to Wadi Hammamat around 1150 BC. The hills show rock type by colour and pattern, as well as houses, a temple, reservoir, and a well with a shadow on its right.

*Credit: TurinPapyrus1.jpg, public domain (PD-US), via Wikimedia Commons*

