

OVERBERG GEOSCIENTISTS GROUP (OGG)

Newsletter #14: 2 November, 2025

(OGG – Reg. No. 275-138 NPO)

Highlights:

- 42 Local & international Geographers visit the OGG Earth Age Display, Harold Porter Gardens (Bettys Bay), as part of the *IGU-CGE Conference*, Stellenbosch Univ., South Africa
- Exciting hydro-carbon discoveries off Namibia (*Orange River Basin*)
<https://www.offshore-energy.biz/namibia-richer-for-gas-condensate-discovery-as-high-liquid-yield-comes-to-light/>

OGG Presentations & Breakfast Program (to April, 2026)

2025	Speaker	Topic	Venue/Mode/ Time
Thursday 6th Nov, 2025	Malcolm Lee, Stuart Dunsmore & Prof Chris James	<i>Post-mortem of the Klein River - Stanford 2023 Flood: Interventions & early-warning system to ameliorate future impacts (See accompanying Flyer)</i>	<i>In-person + Zoom RSA 11h00 Onrus Manor</i>
Friday 4th December	Ronnie Hazel (Retired geologist)	<i>Experiences of a De Beers geologist in Russia in the early 1990's</i>	In-person + Zoom RSA 10h30 Onrus Manor

2026			
Thursday 5 February	Bruce Engelsman (SRK)	Geological Setting Influencing the Geotechnical Journey: tailings dams case studies & learnings from work in the nuclear power industry	<i>In-person + Zoom RSA 11h00 Onrus Manor</i>
Thursday 5 March	Dave Crow Neil Phillips Julian Vearncombe	Recap of OGG 2025 Gold presentations: -Modern placer analogues for Wits gold -Wits metamorphism, fluids & alteration -Structural controls on Wits gold	Zoom RSA 10h00
2 - 6 March 2026		<i>March 2026 Univ. Melbourne Geology of GOLD Conf. Contact Melanie Finsch for details – melanie.finsch@unimelb.edu.au</i>	
12 March	Jonathan Law	Witwatersrand quartzites and the stories they tell	Zoom RSA 10h00
19 March	Matt Mullins	Carbon, sedimentology and underground observations	Zoom RSA 10h00
26 March	John Parnell	Witwatersrand carbon – what we see, what might have been	Zoom RSA 10h00
2 April	Dave Crow Neil Phillips	Carbon in Phanerozoic rocks & channels Part-1 -Metamorphic carbon/graphite in Phanerozoic metamorphic systems -Erosion channels in the Witwatersrand	Zoom RSA 10h00



Continued:

5 April		Easter Break	
9 April	<i>Dave Craw General Discussion</i>	Witwatersrand Channels Part-2 -Channels, sediments and black sand -Braid plain channels and Wits sedimentology	Zoom RSA 10h00
7 May	<i>Dr Sue Winkler</i>	Large scale structures and geodynamics of Western Gondwana interpreted from satellite data	Zoom RSA 11h00

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 (R130.00pp) at 10h00, presentations (in-person & Zoom) at 11h00 on the first Thursday of the month. Participants are requested to confirm attendance at the breakfasts for catering purposes.

Geology & Related Topics in the News

Peruvian Andes rocks aeolian show triboluminescence when struck by wind

<https://share.google/BKDhWPHhJm8TTq4h7>

Three never-before-seen minerals discovered in the New Mexico, USA (*Le Ravi, October 31, 2025*)

<https://share.google/qseQhpl3MHdYLoaUH>

China's control over the World's Critical Minerals

<https://share.google/GB9y8STBPip8aDs6J>

Cape Town Gem & Minerals Club latest Newsletter

<http://www.ctminsoc.org.za/>

Overview of the Geology of southern Africa (*Dr Chris Anthonissen: TUT, 21 July, 2023; YouTube; 65mins*)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AqNPfKrUzLk>

Festival of Geology 2025, 1st November 2025 (*if you happen to be visiting London*)

<https://geologistsassociation.org.uk/festival/>

Proposed 2026 Activities

Plans include a follow-up on the successful **2025 Gold Presentation Series** (*preliminary details of the 2026 Gold Series are included above*), sessions on **Large Igneous Provinces** (LIPS) and their significance in the southern African and global geological record, and presentations on southern Africa's exceptional but under-utilised **Geoheritage-Endowment**.

GeoExcursion ideas for 2026 are also in the melting pot. Ideas and suggestions from OGG Members, including Laypersons, Students and Scholars are welcomed.



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

Annual Fees & Bank Details (R250.00 per person)

As the year-end approaches, the OGG welcomes belated membership payments and donations for 2025. Paid-up Members are thanked for their ongoing support and contributions over the past year, and previous years.

The footprint, activities and educational interventions of the OGG continue to grow as a consequence of your generous ongoing support. 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

OGG Membership & Activities

For details of activities and interests contact one of the members below; new members, including non-geologists, students and scholars are welcome; suggestions regarding excursions, educational activities & interaction with other professional groups and non-geologists are appreciated. Please share these documents with interested parties and groups.

Mindful of the POPI Act, kindly advise us if you wish to be removed from the mailing list.

**Many thanks. Best wishes,
JOHN, HENNIE, ANNABELLE & OGG TEAM**

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Rare half-Pink Diamond recovered at Karowe mine, Botswana (37.41carats)

<https://www.naturaldiamonds.com/science-of-diamonds/rare-half-pink-diamond/>
<https://www.gia.edu/gia-news-research/large-bicolor-natural-rough-diamond>

Discovered at Botswana's now famous Karowe (AK-6) mine, this extraordinary rough diamond is unlike anything gemmologists or collectors have ever seen in this size. Measuring roughly one inch long and containing two sharply divided colour zones, it represents a fascinating convergence of geological conditions.



Botswana's recently discovered rare two-coloured diamond. The rough stone is half-pink and half-colourless and weighs 37.4 carats - about 7.5 grams.

