

# OGG, Melbourne & Stellenbosch Universities

## International Gold Presentation Series #3

### March-April 2026

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**2026 Wits Gold presentation Series** – The program below is a follow-up series of presentations focusing largely on the fascinating Wits Gold deposits of South Africa, revisiting old paradigms, asking questions, and looking to provide new ideas on these exceptional deposits. It is the third-series facilitated by the *Overberg Geoscientists Group* (OGG), successful precursors having been held in 2022 and March-April 2025.

This third-series draws on expertise from local and international University research groups, industry and commercial mining sources, and Government Organizations, fostering discussion between academics, students, industry and public sector practitioners.

**Presentations** - via Zoom (& In-person where possible) on Thursdays @ 10h00 RSA-time [ie. UTC +2 hrs]: ~45 - 50mins + 15 -20mins Discussion.

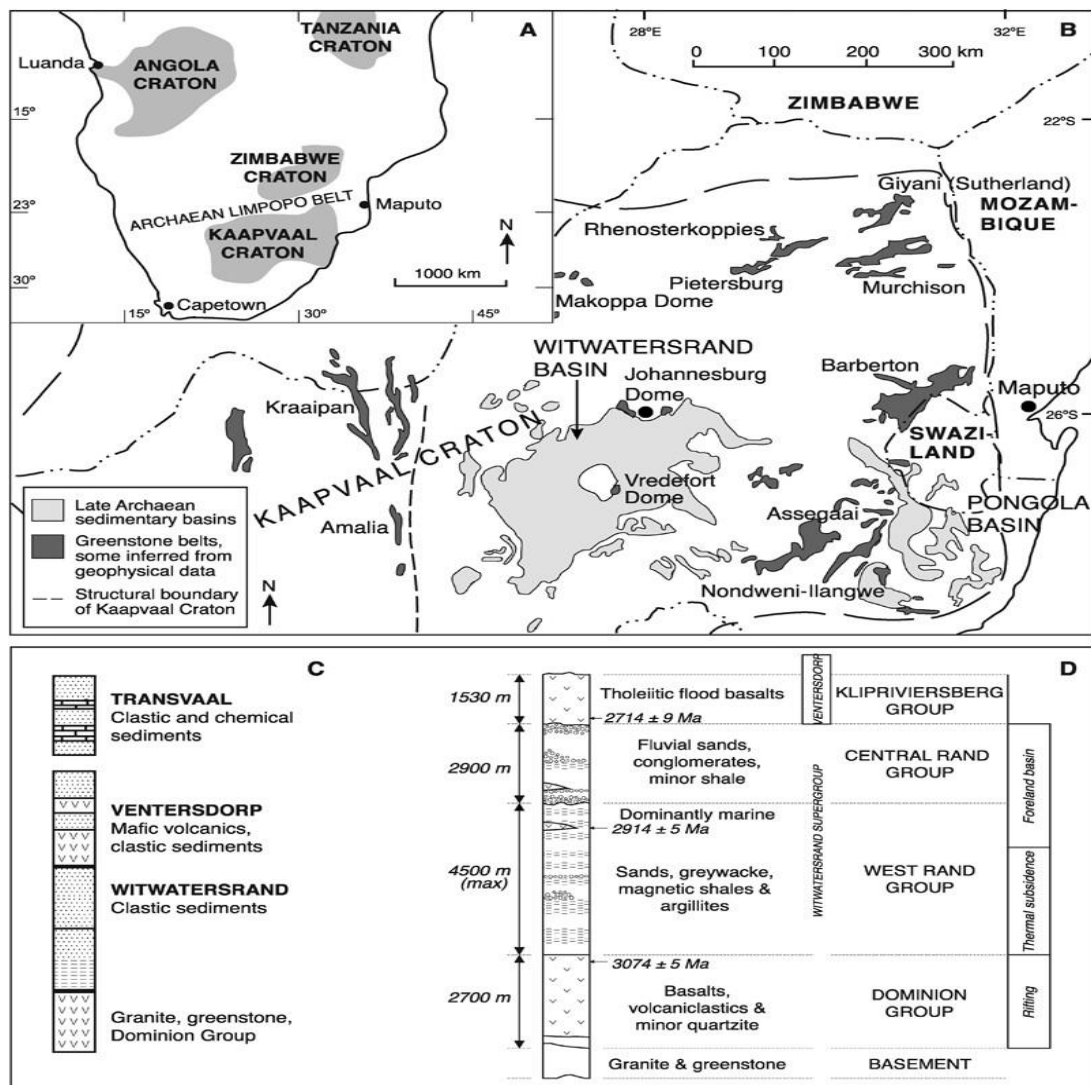
<b>Date 2026</b>	<b>Speaker(s)</b>	<b>Topic(s)</b>
<b>5 March 2026 Thursday 10h00 (via Zoom)</b>	Dave Crow Neil Philips Julian Vearncombe	<b>Recap of OGG 2025 Gold presentations (15 mins each)</b> -Modern placer analogues for Witwatersrand gold -Metamorphism, fluids & alteration in the Witwatersrand -Structural controls on Witwatersrand gold
<b>2 - 6 March</b>		<i>March 2026 Melbourne University Geology of GOLD Conference (In-person - details from Melanie Finch)</i>
<b>12 March</b>	Jonathan Law	Witwatersrand quartzites and the stories they tell
<b>19 March</b>	Matt Mullins	Carbon, sedimentology and underground observations
<b>26 March</b>	John Parnell	Witwatersrand carbon – what we see, what might have been
<b>2 April</b>	Dave Crow Neil Phillips	<b>Carbon in Phanerozoic rocks; &amp; Channels Part-1</b> -Metamorphic carbon/graphite in Phanerozoic metamorphic systems -Erosion channels in the Witwatersrand
<b>5 April</b>		<b>Easter Break</b>
<b>9 April</b>	Dave Crow General Discussion	<b>Witwatersrand Channels Part-2</b> -Channels, sediments and black sand -Braid plain channels and Witwatersrand sedimentology

**Zoom Link:**

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

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

- **Dave Crow** (Univ of Otago) has researched gold placers especially in New Zealand and published on the comparisons with the settings of Wits gold
- **Neil Phillips** (Univ Stellenbosch, Univ Melbourne) has investigated metamorphism and alteration in all Wits goldfields, including gold forming processes
- **Julian Vearncombe** (Univ Stellenbosch) has focused on the structural control found in all Wits mines and the different orebodies (reef groups)
- **Jonathan Law** (ex CSIRO) has extensive Wits Gold experience through University Witwatersrand, Gencor & CSIRO, with focus on quartzite, alteration, mineralisation linkages
- **Matt Mullins** (Snowden Optiro) has considerable underground experience in Wits mines focusing on sedimentology and gold mineralization
- **John Parnell** (Univ Aberdeen) is a petroleum geology specialist who has applied that knowledge to the nature and origin of Wits carbon
- **Melanie Finch** is a structural geologist who works on IOCG gold deposits and leads the Melbourne University, Geology of GOLD course ([melanie.finch@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:melanie.finch@unimelb.edu.au))



Phillips, G.N. and McCarthy, T.S. (2025). Discovery of the Witwatersrand goldfields—contrasting opinions after 100 years. *Australian Journal of Earth Sciences*, 72, 838-851. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08120099.2025.2479681>