

OVERBERG GEOSCIENTISTS GROUP (OGG)

Newsletter #3: 17 February, 2026

(OGG – Req. No. 275-138 NPO)

Highlights:

- Launch of OGG Educational Fossil & Mineral Display @ Harold Porter Gardens (SANBI), Bettys Bay -> [Tuesday 24 March, 2026, 10h00 @ HPG](#)
- 2026 GeoExcursions: [6th June](#) Onrus River Valley geological history; [4 – 6th Sept](#) Greater-Worcester & Hex River Valley Geology, Fold Belt Syntaxis, Hot-springs, Aquifers & Wine experience (details to follow).

OGG 2026 Presentations & Breakfast Program (to June, 2026)

2026	Speaker	Topic	Venue/Mode/ Time
Thursday 5 March	<i>Dave Crow Neil Philips Julian Vearncombe</i>	Snapshots of 2025 OGG & Universities of Melbourne, Stellenbosch Gold series: -Modern placer analogues for Wits gold -Wits metamorphism, fluids & alteration -Structural controls on Wits gold	Zoom RSA 10h00
2 - 6 March 2026		March 2026 University of Melbourne GOLD Conference. Details available from: – melanie.finch@unimelb.edu.au	
12 March	<i>Jonathan Law</i>	Witwatersrand quartzites and the stories they tell	Zoom RSA 10h00
19 March	<i>Matt Mullins</i>	Carbon, sedimentology and underground observations	Zoom RSA 10h00
26 March	<i>John Parnell</i>	Witwatersrand carbon – what we see, what might have been	Zoom RSA 10h00
2 April	<i>Dave Crow Neil Phillips</i>	Carbon in Phanerozoic rocks & channels Part-1 -Metamorphic carbon/graphite in Phanerozoic metamorphic systems -Erosion channels in the Witwatersrand	Zoom RSA 10h00
5 April		Easter Break	
9 April	<i>Dave Crow 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 & geodynamics of Western Gondwana interpreted from satellite data	Zoom RSA 11h00
4 June	<i>John Blaine</i>	Geological History of the Onrus River: Evidence from the September 2023 floods, Peat beds and Archaeology	In-person, Zoom Onrus Manor

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82172892738?pwd=M1NWUkJFYzhqdTJ2Qk0yZ3BrV2srZz09>
Meeting ID: 821 7289 2738; Passcode: **Overberg**



Annual OGG Membership Fees & Bank Details

Our thanks to All those members who have paid their 2026 fees, and for the generous donations received. The annual 2026 membership cost is **R250.00** per person per annum (as in 2025). These fees, donations and sponsorship, sustain the activities of the OGG, which has been in existence since 2018 as a registered and compliant NPC/NGO. We look forward to the support of existing and new members through 2026. 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

Short-courses & Symposia

University of Melbourne GOLD Course: 2-6 March, 2026 - The course content is summarized in the attached flyer and additional details are available from: – melanie.finch@unimelb.edu.au

VicGold Placer Au Field Excursion through the Victorian Gold Province led by Martin Hughes & Stephen Carey, 13 – 16 March, 2026:- contact neil@phillipsgold.com.au

Lichtenberg Centenary Diamond Conference: 10 – 13 September, 2026

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=6b3c7f64a1&attid=0.1&permmmsgid=msg-f:1856390417167986326&th=19c3393fb3bcae96&view=att&zw&disp=inline>

South African Geophysical Association (SAGA) Conference, Cape Town: October, 2026

<https://sagaconference.co.za/invitation-to-participate/>

International Paleontological Conference (IPC7), Cape Town: November 2026

<https://www.ipc7.site/>

GOLD-27 3-Day International Symposium, Sun City - 13 – 16th April 2027: Diarise the dates for this event - details to follow.

Geology & Related Information and News

What's buried beneath Antarctica's ice (*Smithsonian Magazine*)

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/whats-buried-beneath-antarcticas-ice-a-new-map-unveils-the-continent-hidden-landscape-like-never-before-seen-180988148/>

The hidden world of Antarctica (*YouTube – 10mins*)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jr3I_QMYLZ8

Antarctic subglacial topography mapped from space reveals complex mesoscale landscape (*May, 2024*)

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/380459765_Antarctic_subglacial_topography_mapped_from_space_reveals_complex_mesoscale_landscape_dynamics



OGG EDUCATIONAL FOSSIL & MINERALS DISPLAY

Harold Porter Gardens [HPG] SANBI, Bettys Bay

Launch – Tuesday 24 March, 2026, 10h00

This geological samples and display cabinet materials donated by Mr Werner Knuffel and re-constructed with financial support from the Kogelberg Branch of the SA Botanical Society and OGG, has been a great success and was a popular attraction for visits to HPG through the recent festive season.

An official launch of the Display will be held in due course to acknowledge the contributions by Mr Knuffel and sponsors - Details to follow.



The contents of the display will be updated/rotated on a quarterly basis, with forthcoming displays including *Barberton Mountain Land, Kimberlites, Lamproites and Diamonds, and Southern Cape Geology* collections and specimens.

(Contact Dave Mourant for more insight and details – 082 923 5366)

