

# OVERBERG GEOSCIENTISTS GROUP (OGG)

Newsletter #5: 01 April, 2026

(OGG – Req. No. 275-138 NPO)

## Highlights:

- On-line Gold-2026 presentations have provided further fascinating insights into Wits Gold and other international gold occurrences – all the latest presentations are on YouTube
- The 24 March launch of the educational *Fossil and Minerals Display* at Harold Porter Gardens (HPG) was most successful and well attended, and complements the *Earh Age Display* at HPG.

## OGG 2026 Presentations & Breakfast Program (to September, 2026)

2026	Speaker	Topic	Venue/Mode/ Time
2 April	<i>Dave Crow</i> <i>Neil Phillips</i>	<b>Carbon in Phanerozoic rocks &amp; channels Part-1</b> -Metamorphic carbon/graphite in Phanerozoic metamorphic systems -Erosion channels in the Witwatersrand	<b>Zoom</b> <b>RSA 10h00</b>
5 April		<b>Easter Break</b>	
9 April	<i>Dave Crow</i> <i>General Discussion</i>	<b>Witwatersrand Channels Part-2</b> -Channels, sediments and black sand -Braid plain channels and Wits sedimentology	<b>Zoom</b> <b>RSA 10h00</b>
7 May	<i>Dr Sue Winkler</i>	Large scale structures & geodynamics of Western Gondwana interpreted from satellite data	<b>In-person, Zoom</b> <b>RSA 11h00</b>
4 June	<i>John Blaine</i>	Geological History of the Onrus River: Evidence from the September 2023 floods, Peat beds and Archaeology	<b>In-person, Zoom</b> <b>Onrus Manor</b>
2 July	<b>Winter Break</b>		
6 August	<i>Paul Lee</i>	Antarctica: Ice, Climate and Exploration at the End of the Earth	<b>In-person, Zoom</b> <b>Onrus Manor</b>
10 Sept	<i>Gregory Katz</i>	State of the Diamond Market and future trends & developments	<b>Zoom</b> <b>RSA 11h00</b>
17 Sept	<i>Dr Andy Moore</i>	The origin of large and exceptional Gemstone diamonds	<b>Zoom</b> <b>RSA 11h00</b>

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82172892738?pwd=M1NWUKJFYzhqdTJ2Qk0yZ3BrV2srZz09>

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

## Forthcoming OGG Excursions

- **Onrus River Valley** one-day GeoExcursion (*John Blaine*):– **6 June, 2026**
- **Greater-Worcester & Hex River Valley** - *Geology, Fold Belt Syntaxis, Hot-springs, Aquifers, Flowers & Wine* (*Jurie Viljoen, Dr Anso Le Roux, Dylan Blake*):– **4 – 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2026.**



## Publications of Interest

NASA new map of Earth's seafloor from space

<https://share.google/bWqLDrytOqT8aClzf>

Latest Cape Town Gem and Mineral Club Newsletter

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

## 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-MPMaHidsW09jwvl7VCUINBd5I\\_-VwH&si=ddgs1KfuDYuSF1PW](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL-MPMaHidsW09jwvl7VCUINBd5I_-VwH&si=ddgs1KfuDYuSF1PW)

## Annual OGG Membership Fees & Bank Details

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, a registered and compliant NPC/NGO. 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 Activities & Membership

**The OGG** - sharing knowledge, transferring skills and pursuing educational interventions/activities to highlight the importance of Geology and Geoscience in our daily lives, stimulate and mentor future geoscientists, and expose our Youth to the building-blocks of life & sustainability. New members, including non-geologists, students and scholars are welcome to join. Please share these documents with interested parties or contact an OGG member below for details.

**Breakfast Meetings & Presentations** – these are held at Onrus Manor (Hermanus) from 09h30, breakfast (R130.00pp) is at 10h00, presentations (in-person & Zoom) at 11h00 on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month. Participants are requested to confirm attendance for catering purposes.

**Many thanks. Best wishes,**

**JOHN, HENNIE, ANNABELLE & THE OGG TEAM**

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**(Mindful of the POPI Act, please advise us if you wish to be removed from the mailing list)**



## Short-courses & Symposia

LIPS and Dyke Swarms Conference, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, Nyeri, Kenya: 3 – 7 August 2026 and Pre-, Post- Field Excursions. For details Contact - [klausen@sun.ac.za](mailto:klausen@sun.ac.za).

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=6b3c7f64a1&attid=0.1&permmsgid=msg-f:1857899685207981536&th=19c895eb8d21bde0&view=att&zw&disp=safe>

Lichtenberg Centenary Diamond Conference: 10 – 13 September, 2026



<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=6b3c7f64a1&attid=0.1&permmsgid=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/>



## **GOLD27 - BACK TO THE FUTURE**

### **International Symposium**


Johannesburg, South Africa  
13-15 April 2027

From its start in Harare (1982) to the legendary Barberton meeting (1984), the GOLDXX Symposium has always been at the cutting edge of scientific debate. Now, after years abroad, it's coming home. Celebrating 140 years of the Witwatersrand Goldfields, GOLD27 returns to the heart of the mining world. Join us to bridge the gap between legacy and innovation as we bring together the brightest minds in mining, metallurgy, and policy to inspire the next generation of gold-mining leaders.

**Themes:**

- Prospect, artisanal working, small mine, additions, world-class
- New technology, imaginative analytics, modern mining
- Legacy data, new methods, fresh eyes
- Research and exploration
- Mineral economics

**Pre-Symposium Workshops**  
**Post- Symposium Excursions**



To make a symposium of this scale a reality, we invite you to partner with us. For further information regarding sponsorship and collaboration, please contact:

- Linda Iaccheri: [linda.iaccheri@wits.ac.za](mailto:linda.iaccheri@wits.ac.za)
- Julian Vearncombe: [julian@vearncombe.com](mailto:julian@vearncombe.com)



## Educational Materials for Purchase

- **Box of Rocks educational set** – Includes collection of 19 rocks and minerals specimens, Nick Norman's Educational booklet, Hand Lens/Magnifier and supporting documentation (R350.00 each, plus courier costs).  
Contact - Barry Bryant (Johannesburg) – [info@educationsupport.co.za](mailto:info@educationsupport.co.za); m: 082 331 8194.



- **Roadside Geology books** – Contact John Bristow for information ([jwbdia@gmail.com](mailto:jwbdia@gmail.com); m: 082 571 3004)
- **Historical Witwatersrand Geology & Gold mining books** – Contact John Bristow for information ([jwbdia@gmail.com](mailto:jwbdia@gmail.com); m: 082 571 3004)

