

OVERBERG GEOSCIENTISTS GROUP (OGG)

Newsletter #9: 07 August, 2026

(OGG – Req. No. 275-138 NPO)

OGG Website – <http://www.ogsg.co.za/>

Highlights:

- **Exceptional Antarctica presentation by Paul Lee (6 August, 2026):** Technical issues prevented it being broadcast on Zoom. It will be recorded in the coming week and Members advised once it is available on the OGG YouTube link.
- **100year George P.L. Walker Celebration:** 30 Sept–2 Oct 2026, Breiðdalsvík, East Iceland – see details On 3 and 4th pages.
- **OGG Worcester & Hex River Valley Excursion:** 4–6 September 2026, this event has been oversubscribed; our apologies to all the interested Parties who we have turned away.

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

2026	Speaker	Topic	Venue/Mode/ Time
Thursday 10 Sept	Gregory Katz	Manufacturing exceptional gemstone diamond in RSA & update on the international diamond business.	Zoom RSA 11h00
Thursday 17 Sept	Dr Andy Moore	A megacryst based- model for predicting the presence of large irregular Type-II diamonds in kimberlites.	Zoom RSA 11h00
Thursday 1 October	Tim Lewis	New insights into the formation and structural deformation in the Table Mountain Group.	In-person, Zoom Onrus Manor RSA 11h00
Thursday 5 Nov	Charles Mostert (Sun Ranch Solar)	Case Study – An Integrated Approach to Continuous, Low Cost, Power Supply.	Zoom presentation RSA 11h00
Thursday 3 Dec	John Bristow	Travels in the Okavango Delta - One of Africa's three great inland deltas (September, 2025)	In-person, Zoom Onrus Manor RSA 11h00

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

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

Breakfast Meetings & Presentations: Onrus Manor (Hermanus) from 09h30, breakfast (R145.00pp) is at 10h00, presentations (in-person & Zoom) at 11h00 on 1st Thursday of the month. Participants are requested to confirm attendance with Annabella Greeff for catering purposes.



Annual OGG Membership Fees & Bank Details

A reminder to OGG members and participants who are not paid-up, annual Membership fees are R250.00 per person. Our thanks to All those who are paid-up, and for the generous donations and sponsorships received. These fees, donations and sponsorship, sustain the activities of the OGG, a registered/compliant NPC/NGO. Annual fees are R250.00 per person. 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

Publications of Interest

Breede River Valley: grape growers of grit and glory (*Farmers Weekly*, 2 August, 2026)
<https://share.google/GfbYm2MnU6gjeYL5b>

Aurous Resources - Revived far-West Rand gold mines to add 1 000 more jobs (*MW*, 7 August, 2026)
<https://share.google/uCQzEpgHw87fRsWpc>

Lithium mining in KwaZulu-Natal: 'They don't see us as human beings' (*M&G*, 4 August, 2026)
<https://share.google/O5wY4vQWBK8aCjcyv>

Antarctica: Concordia station fell to -114°F (-81°C); lowest temp. in 16 years (*Times of India*, 01.08.26)
<https://share.google/tl6GIXxNKOCP1jiZm>

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

All about RSA Geoheritage (work in progress): <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL-MPMaHidsW2n3ZXAfITEdA8liun5H64m>

OGG Activities & Membership

OGG objectives - to share knowledge, transfer 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 are welcome, please share these documents with interested parties or contact a Member below for details. **(Mindful of the POPI Act, please also advise us if you wish to be removed from the mailing list).**



**Many thanks. Kind regards,
JOHN, HENNIE, ANNABELLE & THE OGG TEAM**

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Meetings, Short-courses & Symposia

Celebrating George L. P. Walker — 100 Years

A commemorative meeting honouring his life, teaching, and contributions to Icelandic geology

When: 30 September – 2 October 2026

Where: Breiðdalsvík, East Iceland

Format: ~50+ participants — presentations, discussions, field-focused sessions

Join colleagues and students to honour George L. P. Walker on the centenary of his birth. George's fieldwork and mapping in the East Fjords shaped our understanding of Icelandic geology.

The meeting will celebrate his legacy and explore ways to advance research and teaching using the geology of the East Fjords and comparable regions, including the NAIP.

Program highlights

- Keynote and invited talks reflecting on George's career
- Thematic sessions: field mapping, volcanic and tectonic processes, education and mentorship
- Roundtable: applying East Fjords geology to contemporary research
- Social events and local excursions (field visits depending on weather)

Who should attend: Researchers, educators, students, and professionals with interests in Icelandic geology and field mapping. Early-career scientists and students are especially encouraged to join.

See link below to the Flyer about this event, and for accommodation, travel and registration details please email Thor Thordarson [torvth@hi.is] and Thorbjörg Thrainsdóttir [tobba@athygliradstefnur.is] if you have any questions.

Kind regards, Gillian R. Foulger

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100 YEAR GEORGE P. L. WALKER CELEBRATION – BREIÐDALSVÍK, 30 Sept – 2 Oct, 2026

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=6b3c7f64a1&attid=0.3&permmsgid=msg-f:1871877655479572453&th=19fa3ecf5dd9d7e5&view=att&zw&disp=inline>

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
- Julian Vearncombe: julian@vearncombe.com

