



NEWSLETTER

Promoting the study and advancement of Earth Sciences since 1895



Northern Cape Branch
Geological Society of South Africa

**NAMAQUALAND
DIAMOND CENTENARY**

11 - 20 MARCH 2025

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

CELEBRATING 130 YEARS OF THE GSSA

**GEOCONGRESS
2025**

EMBRACING
CHANGE THROUGH
COLLABORATION

24 - 27 JUNE 2025

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

“Space junk” that fell in Eastern Cape was a car-size meteorite

26 August 2024 - Wits University

Meteorites are rare and hold deep scientific value as they give us a glimpse of the make-up and birth of our solar system.

The “space junk” that fell over the Eastern Cape on Sunday morning was a meteorite.



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- NC Branch Event



info@gssa.org.za



010 143 2096



www.gssa.org.za





STEVE MCCOURT

GSSA PRESIDENT

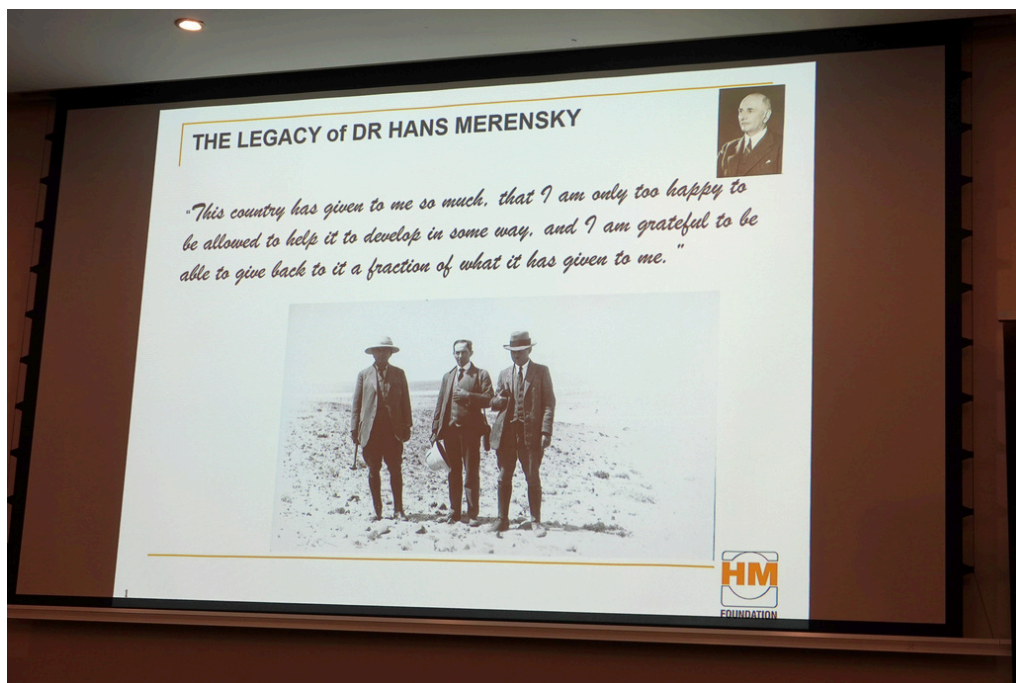
On August 6th, the Society hosted the online course "Introduction to Drilling" which attracted over 475 registrants and on August 7th, as part of the CMP initiative there were presentations by two of our mentees. Business meetings included the LOC for Geocongress2025 on August 29th and ManCo on August 30th.

The undoubted highlight of the month was the "Merensky Reef 100" meeting celebrating the discovery by Hans Merensky and his Lydenburg Platinum Syndicate of the platinum deposit at the Mooihoek dunite pipe on 15th August 1924. The meeting started on August 15th with a pre-conference field trip to the Eastern Limb of the Bushveld Complex led by Roger Scoon and ended with an underground mine visit and core viewing at Impala Bafokeng on August 22nd and a visit to the Tharisa Minerals Open Cast Mine on August 23rd.

Sandwiched between these field trips was a one-day workshop on Ni-Cu-PGE and chromite deposits in mafic-ultramafic complexes (August 19th) presented by Stephen Barnes from CSIRO Mineral Resources in Western Australia and a 2-day scientific conference (August 20-21) organised by Rais Latypov and his committee. The scientific conference attracted over 150 delegates and included some 40 oral presentations from academics, consultants and mine-based geologists plus a poster session on Tuesday evening. At the poster session there were over 30 posters dealing with Bushveld geology and geophysics together with projects in Eastern Kamchatka, North America, China, Ethiopia, Finland and the Dominican Republic.

The venue for the workshop and scientific conference was the ANEW Resort Hunters Rest in Rustenburg which proved to be an excellent choice. The organizing committee for Merensky 100, chaired by Chane de Jager from Impala Bafokeng, are to be congratulated on a very successful meeting.

The meeting was made possible by generous sponsorship which the GSSA acknowledges and appreciates. Roger Scoon and the staff and management at Impala Bafokeng and Tharisa Minerals are thanked for the time and effort spent in organizing and conducting the pre-conference fieldtrip and the post-conference mine visits.



100 YEARS OF THE *Merensky Reef*

15 - 23 AUGUST 2024



100 YEARS OF THE MERENSKY REEF

Merensky Reef



100 YEARS OF THE Merensky Reef



100 YEARS OF THE *Merensky Reef*



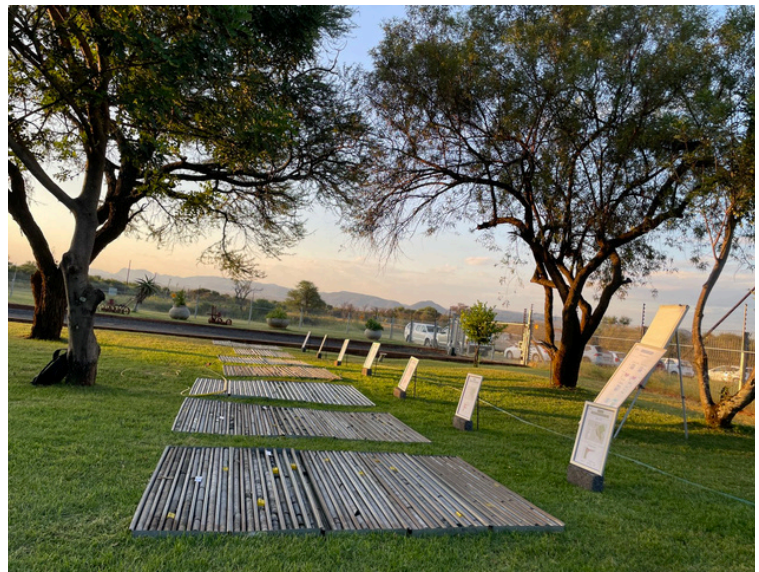
AFRICAN EXPLORATION

Eastern Bushveld, Roger Swoon



100 YEARS OF THE MERENSKY REEF

Impala Zafokeng



100 YEARS OF THE MERENSKY REEF

Tharisa Mine





Registration Open

AFRICAN EXPLORATION SHOWCASE

6 & 7 November 2024

Hosted by the Geological
Society of South Africa

Sponsorship Opportunities ✓

Exhibition ✓

Networking ✓

Professional Development ✓



The African Exploration showcase aims to provide an opportunity for professionals in the industry to be informed about new African exploration projects and current developments. It is an ideal opportunity to learn more about deposits that could potentially add significant economic value to the continent's pipeline.



Johannesburg Country Club



info@gssa.org.za



www.gssa.org.za

REGISTER NOW



Upcoming Events



3 SEPTEMBER

PROFESSIONALISM & CODE OF ETHICS

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

[REGISTER NOW](#)

4 - 25 SEPTEMBER

DRILLING METHODS & TECHNIQUES

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

[REGISTER NOW](#)

10 & 11 SEPTEMBER

DATA ANALYTICS & MACHINE LEARNING

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

[REGISTER NOW](#)

14 & 15 OCTOBER

ANALYTICAL TECHNIQUES WORKSHOP

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

[REGISTER NOW](#)

23 OCTOBER

MINERAL RESOURCES & MINERAL ECONOMICS

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

[REGISTER NOW](#)



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

NORTHERN CAPE: COMMODITY DAY

EVENT & EXCURSION

Date: 1st & 2nd November 2024
Venue: Sishen, Kathu, Northern Cape

MEET THE SPEAKERS



Louw Van Schalkwyk
Executive Exploration
Orion Minerals Ltd



Errol Smart
Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer
Orion Minerals Ltd



Richard Hornsey
Consulting Geologist
Richard Hornsey Consulting (Pty) Ltd



Prof. Bertus Smith
Professor
University of Johannesburg



Graham Duncan
HQD: Mineral Resource Modelling & GIS
Minrom

REGISTRATION LINK: <https://www.cognitoforms.com/GeologicalSocietyOfSouthAfrica/NorthernCapeCommodityDayEventExcursion12November2024>

Event Sponsors




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"NORTHERN CAPE: COMMODITY DAY"

(Cu, Zn, Fe, Mn, Ni, Li)



EVENT & EXCURSION 2024

VENUE: SISHEN, KATHU, NC.





DATE: 1 & 2 NOVEMBER 2024





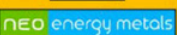

**EVENT DETAILS AND
PROGRAMME
TO FOLLOW**

CONTACT US ON:
admin.nc@gssa.org.za






ANNUAL SPONSORS

EVENT SPONSORS

REGISTER NOW 

The GSSA wishes to acknowledge our **2024 Sponsors**

Annual Sponsors



DMT Kai Batla (Pty) Ltd



Event Sponsor



JORC Update

In 2020, the Joint Ore Reserves Committee (JORC) initiated an update to the 2012 version of the Code. A draft has been released for public review. While there are many elements of the Code that have been updated, there are six key areas with notable changes from the 2012 JORC Code (the below comments have been extracted from the Draft JORC Code; Summary of Proposed Changes document, issued 1 August 2024 by the JORC Committee).

- **Structure and Format.** The format and structure of the JORC Code have been updated to align with the (November 2019) CRIRSCO Template. This includes a reformatted Table 1. In addition, the guidance elements have been extracted from the Code and moved to an external document (Guidance Notes). This allows for more extended guidance (including worked examples), where necessary and the ability to provide more frequent updates to the Guidance component.
- **Competence and Responsibility.** New requirements have been added to improve transparency and disclosure by Competent Persons of their basis for self-assessment of competence for a particular report. These include the requirement to upload a CV of Record to the JORC website, which will be publicly available; to complete a free online induction to the new code; to include a summary statement of experience relevant to the Public Report in question; and updates to the Consent Forms the CP must include with the Public Report. In addition, the definition of a Specialist's role relating to CP's responsibilities and reliance on such specialists.
- **Reasonable Prospects.** The word "Eventual" has been removed from the term Reasonable Prospects for Economic Extraction, along with the addition of a requirement for a Reasonable Prospects Assessment of the Modifying Factors to be completed by the CP as a process of assessing if a deposit has RPEE. Also, the inclusion of ESG criteria within Table 1 and an additional requirement to justify on an "if so, why so" basis all assumptions used in assessing RPEE.
- **ESG.** In order to increase awareness of ESG consideration and disclosure requirements appropriate to the stage of the project, several clauses specifically related to ESDG have been added, as have specific reporting criteria in Table 1 (Section 5.5). A Guidance Matrix has been added outlining ESG related themes and impacts that users of the Code should be aware of and consider.

Read More



WITS
UNIVERSITY



FACULTY OF SCIENCE
SCHOOL OF GEOSCIENCES

Lecturer / Senior Lecturer in Sedimentology, Stratigraphy and Palaeoclimate

The School of Geosciences at Wits University is seeking a dynamic candidate to join our team as a lecturer or senior lecturer with multidisciplinary research skills and interests spanning sedimentology, stratigraphy and palaeoclimate analysis. The successful candidate will join one of Africa's largest and most diverse geoscience institutions, contributing to our academic training programs, while developing their own research team and themes.

Read More

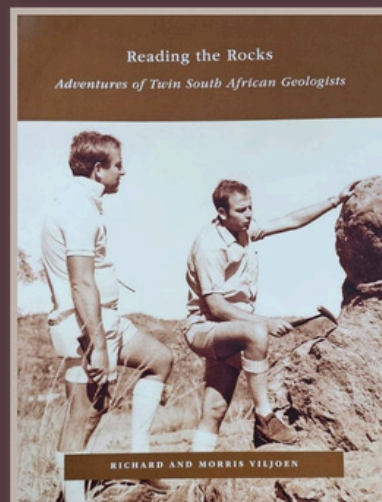


BOOK LAUNCH

Reading the Rocks

Adventures of Twin South African Geologists

Authors: Richard and Morris Viljoen



DATE: FRIDAY, 04 OCTOBER 2024

TIME: 10:00 - 12:00

VENUE: THE COUNTRY CLUB
JOHANNESBURG, AUCKLAND PARK,

RSVP: 25 SEPTEMBER 2024
(KELYNE.RAMIAH@ANDRADAMINING.COM)

Books will be available to purchase on the day

For more information contact
Kel @ +27798032492

Further to the Press Release from the IUGS, two South African and two Namibian sites are included. The Vredefort Dome (number 197) and the Kalahari Manganese Field (number 176) are additions from South Africa. The Etosha Pan (number 125) and the Ediacaran Fossils of the Nama Group (number 138) are the Namibian entries included in the Second Hundred list.

THE SECOND 100 IUGS GEOLOGICAL HERITAGE SITES



Announced by the
International Union of Geological Sciences
during the 37th International Geological Congress
Busan, Republic of Korea / August 27th, 2024

Read More →

THE SECOND
100
IUGS GEOLOGICAL
HERITAGE SITES



*An IUGS Geological Heritage Site is a key place with extraordinary geological elements or processes of the highest scientific relevance, used as a global reference, and/or with a substantial contribution to the development of geological sciences through history.

THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES
DURING THE 37TH INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

CERTIFIES THAT

Vredefort Dome.
South Africa

HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AND INCLUDED IN THE LIST OF
THE SECOND 100 IUGS GEOLOGICAL HERITAGE SITES

IGC 2024 BUSAN, REPUBLIC OF KOREA


Stanley Finney
Secretary General International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS)


Anneli Wilhelms
Chief IUGS-International Commission on Geoheritage

THE SECOND
100
IUGS GEOLOGICAL
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DURING THE 37TH INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

CERTIFIES THAT

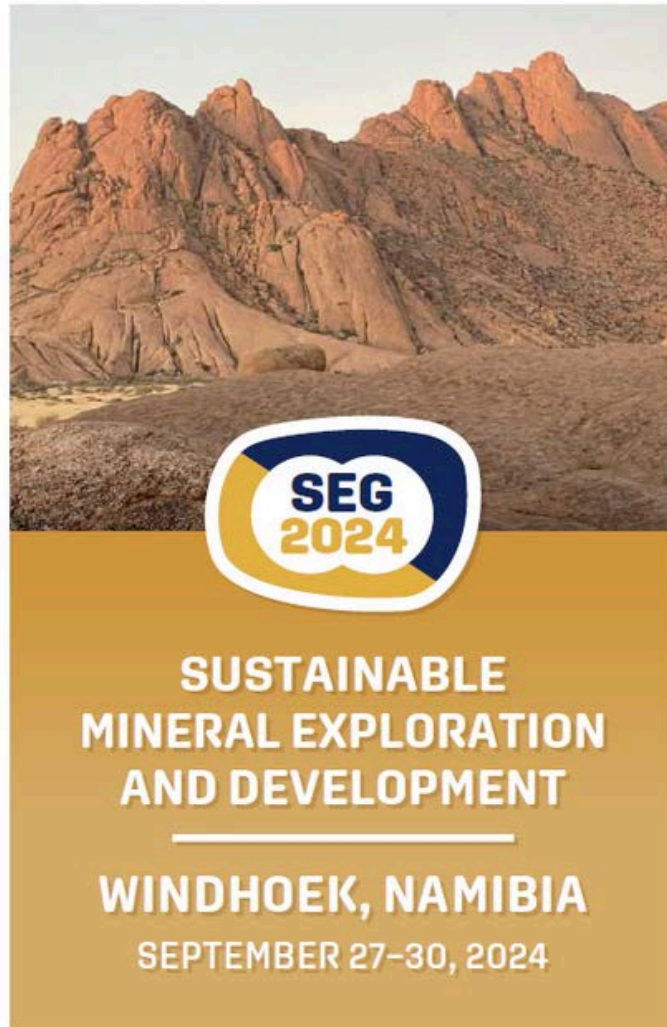
The Kalahari Manganese Field.
South Africa

HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AND INCLUDED IN THE LIST OF
THE SECOND 100 IUGS GEOLOGICAL HERITAGE SITES

IGC 2024 BUSAN, REPUBLIC OF KOREA


Stanley Finney
Secretary General International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS)


Anneli Wilhelms
Chief IUGS-International Commission on Geoheritage

The conference themes section features a landscape of red mountains under a clear sky. The top half of the section is a photograph of the mountains, and the bottom half is a solid brown color. The SEG 2024 logo is centered in the top half. Below the logo, the text reads: "CONFERENCE THEMES", "More information:", a QR code, "www.seg2024.org", and "Society of Economic Geologists".

CONFERENCE THEMES

- The Energy Transition: Metals of the Future
- Specialty Metals and Materials
- Innovative Technology Developments in Mineral Deposit Science
- Africa's Iconic Ore Deposits
- New Discoveries and Developments
- Resource Development: ESG from Exploration to Remediation
- Gold: Enhanced Discovery and Development
- Vital High-Volume Base Metals

More information:



www.seg2024.org
Society of Economic Geologists

Babanango

GAME RESERVE

Earth's ancient heritage meets a big 5 legacy: Celebrate the 120th anniversary of the School of Geosciences while exploring the remarkable Babanango Game Reserve situated in picturesque KwaZulu Natal.

FROM:
9,900 ZAR
Per Person

4th - 7th October 2024

Experts from the School of Geosciences at WITS University have teamed up with Babanango Game Reserve to bring you another immersive experience where you can learn about the fantastic geology of this area, all while simultaneously experiencing the natural world around you. Treat yourself and your loved ones to a getaway in a Big 5 reserve, get up close and personal with a wide variety of ~3-billion-year-old rocks, unplug from technology and engage with like-minded individuals along the banks of the Wit Umfolozi River.

Inclusions: This all-expenses package includes 4-days of expert field-based instruction, accommodation, daily conservation fees and three meals per day (lunch on arrival to breakfast on departure).

Exclusions: Personal items, travel to the reserve, additional activities and beverages.

Each day will involve visits to sites of geological interest (accompanied by WITS staff and Babanango guides), informal talks by John Roff: a seasoned geology and nature guide, who brings rocks and landscapes to life with his unique blend of science and storytelling. After dinner, evenings will be spent around the campfire. Please note a moderate level of fitness will be required for walks through the Matatane Nature Conservancy and along the Wit Umfolozi River.



UNIVERSITY OF THE
WITWATERSRAND,
JOHANNESBURG



Wits Enterprise

To book go to: <https://geotourism.witsevents.co.za/> | Numbers are limited to 35 participants.

Ts & Cs Apply

CIRCULAR 1: CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

IMSG 2025

IGNEOUS METAMORPHIC STUDIES GROUP



Date

Sunday, 19 January to Wednesday, 22 January 2025

Venue

Earth Sciences Department, Stellenbosch University, Western Cape,
Please follow this link to submit your expression of interest and accommodation requirements before 13 September 2024.



forward together
sonke siya phambili
saam vorentoe





**Colloquium of
African Geology**
CAG30 Sept 23-27, 2025
Nairobi, Kenya



Unveiling Africa's Geological Resources:
"Forging a Path for Sustainable Development"

CAG30

The 30th Colloquium
of African Geology

NAIROBI KENYA

23RD - 27TH SEPTEMBER 2025



The Colloquium of African Geology (CAG) is a major biennial meeting organized under the auspices of the Geological Society of Africa (GSAf), where earthscientists globally have the opportunities to present their research results on topics related to African geology and surrounding areas.

**JOIN MORE THAN 1000 GEOSCIENTISTS
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WWW.CAG30NBI.ORG | CALL NOW: +254 791 308 357
cag30info@cag30nbi.org | cag30.nbi@gmail.com



SUB-THEMES CAG30

- ▶ Geopolitics trends on development of strategic minerals in Africa.
- ▶ Sustainable development of ground water resources in Africa, challenges and mitigation measures for a better tomorrow.
- ▶ Economic leveraging of geological trends, Geotourism and Geoheritage sites.
- ▶ Realization of Africa's potential in petroleum and energy resources in Climatic Changing times.
- ▶ Growing of Geophysics in exploration of mineral resources and development of geological resources.
- ▶ Maximising on geothermal resources as a key potential of green energy in Africa.
- ▶ Emphasis on geoscience education for development and sustainability.
- ▶ Innovative solutions to accommodate the influence of plate tectonics, sea floor spreading and other earth surface processes on Africa's landscape and resources.
- ▶ The fast growing technology in incorporating Artificial Intelligence (AI) on the development of Geosciences in Africa.

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