

NEWSLETTER

Promoting the study and advancement of Earth Sciences since 1895



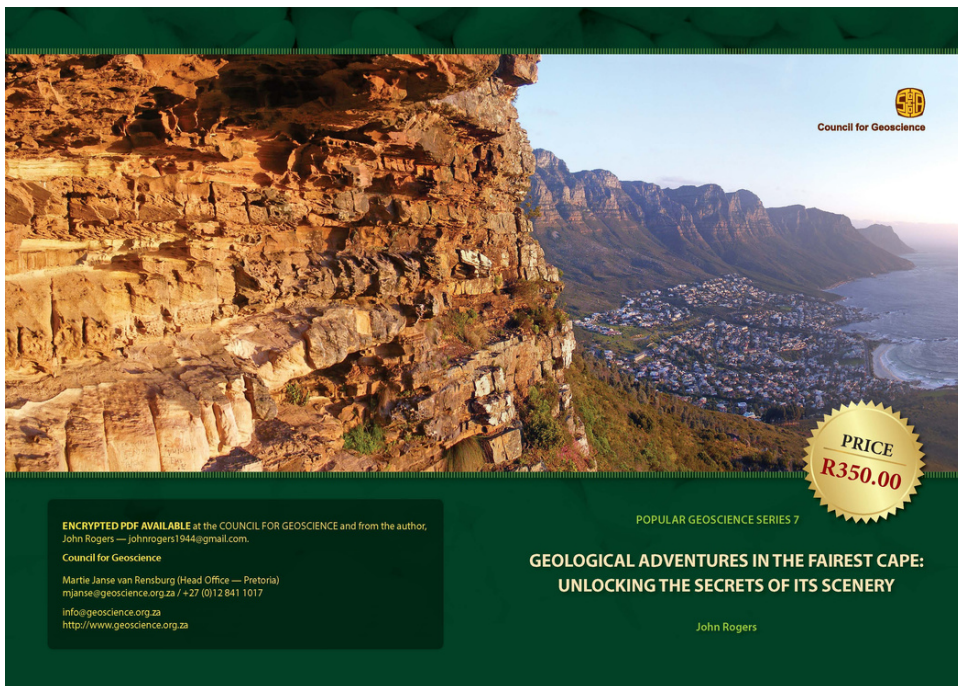
GSSA
Geological Society of South Africa

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John Rogers

ENCRYPTED PDF AVAILABLE at the COUNCIL FOR GEOSCIENCE and from the author,
John Rogers — johnrogers1944@gmail.com.

Council for Geoscience

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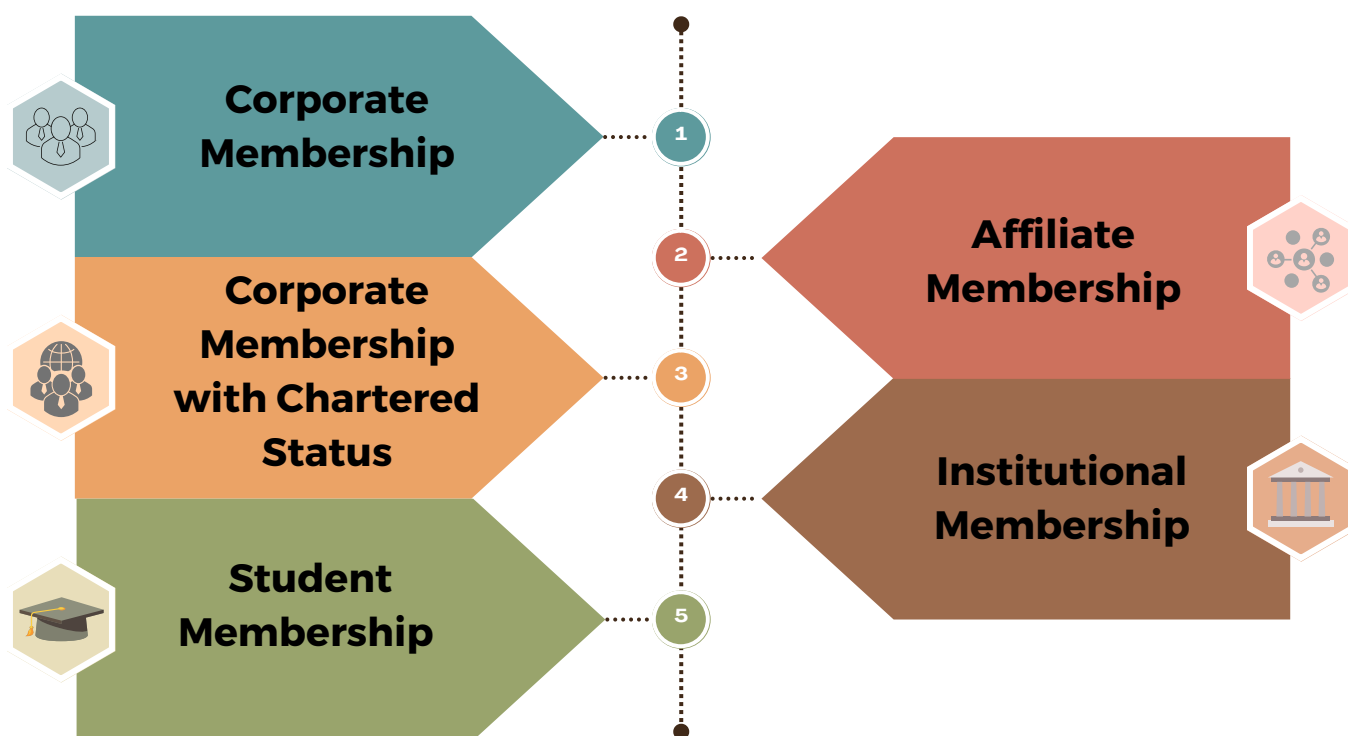


PRESIDENT'S COLUMN - TANIA MARSHALL

Membership of a voluntary association is generally considered a mark of professionalism, whether you are an academic, a student or employed in industry or government. For most geoscientists, the Geological Society of South Africa is the voluntary association of choice. But the GSSA can also provide benefits for institutions and for the general public who have an interest in the broader earth- and geo-sciences.

Please note the new category of **CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP WITH CHARTERED STATUS**. This class of membership has been specifically created. (see GSSA By-Law 1.7) to cater to the needs of those GSSA Members/Fellows who wish to use their GSSA membership to sign off on Public documents.

Membership Categories



One of the primary reasons for the existence of the GSSA as a professional body is to promote the activities of Competent Persons (including Competent Valuers and Qualified Reserves Evaluators). Current advances in the Public Reporting of Exploration results, Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves space have prompted professional organisations globally to reassess their requirements for members using their professional designations to sign off on public reports (as defined in all the CRIRSCO-based Mineral Reporting Codes). The GSSA, as a recognised professional organisation (RPO) and member of the Global Geoscience Professionalism Group (GGPG), understands the importance of reciprocity for our members.

[GSSA By-laws](#)



CALLING ALL COMPETENT PERSONS/VALUATORS AND QUALIFIED RESERVES EVALUATORS

CHARTER MEMBER STATUS



One of the primary reasons for the existence of the GSSA as a professional body is to promote the activities of Competent Persons (including Competent Valuers and Qualified Reserves Evaluators). Current advances in the Public Reporting of Exploration results, Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves space have prompted professional organisations globally to reassess their requirements for members using their professional designations to sign off on public reports (as defined in all the CRIRSCO-based Mineral Reporting Codes). The GSSA, as a recognised professional organisation (RPO) and member of the Global Geoscience Professionalism Group (GGPG), understands the importance of reciprocity for our members.

In order to be in step with the global Competent Persons community, the GSSA has created a new category for those of our Members/Fellows who wish to use their GSSA membership to sign off on Public Reports - the Chartered Status. This category of membership goes live on 1 March 2023 - get your applications in early.





Training Scam

It has been brought to our attention that there are a number of Training Scams doing the rounds. These scams may appear to come from reputable professional conference organisers and advertise what look like really good, albeit very expensive, courses with reputable speakers. In some cases, the delegates arrive at the defined place to find that so such event exists, or that the advertised presenters are not featured and that the actual presenters are way below par. When people write/phone to complain, telephone numbers, emails and even bank accounts no longer exist and even the SAP are not able to assist.

Please note that all bona-fide GSSA events (and GSSA partner events) will be advertised in the Monday Mailers, in the monthly newsletters and on our website (Upcoming Events – GSSA and Partner Talks – GSSA). If you receive communication from third party organisations purporting to have the GSSA as a partner, please confirm with us at info@gssa.org.za before registering.

Given the current economic conditions globally, scams like this are likely to increase. It should become good practice for all to be wary of potential scams. Check with a colleague, check with listed presenters and inform us at the GSSA if you have been scammed – we won't be able to do anything about getting your money back, but we can build a database of organisations potentially involved in such scams (or which are being targeted by the scammers).



The South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP) is pleased to announce the **appointment of Dr Nompumelelo Obokoh – nee Masubelele (Pri.Sci.Nat) as the Chief Executive Officer** (CEO) with effect from 1 October 2022. Her appointment followed an extensive selection and recruitment process and the approval of the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, the Honourable Dr Blade Nzimande.



Fossils by Firelight - GSSA

Solid Gold Podcasts #BeHeard

Welcome to fossils by firelight - a series of conversations with South Africa's geological legends where they unearth their discoveries, their learnings, memories, interesting stories (and maybe a few tall tales) to chronicle our history and inspire the next generation of geological heroes.

Listen now on



Have you listened to the GSSA's fossils by firelight podcasts yet? These are a series of conversations with South Africa's geological legends where they unearth their discoveries, their learnings, memories, interesting stories (and maybe a few tall tales) to chronicle our history and inspire the next generation of geological heroes.

The Golden Days of the Witwatersrand

In this episode Noleen Pauls and fellow host Kathryn James-Kleynhans delve into the birth of Johannesburg and the role played by gold and the early prospectors, with renowned geologists Prof Bruce Cairncross, Prof Gillian Drennan, Prof Richard Viljoen and Frank Gregory. Our geological heroes also discuss the importance of preserving this history, before looking forward and how to equip future geologists with the tools needed to keep the spotlight and lustre on Witwatersrand gold.

<https://pod.link/gssa/episode/c22e8d06644979f119bffdbff0a5667>

Diamonds are Forever

The high pressure path and tenacity of the rough diamonds. Today, Sifiso Siwela and Tania Marshall (GSSA president and a diamond legend in her own right) talk to Mike de Wit, John Ward, and Renato "Spaggs" Spaggiari all three distinguished geological heroes in the diamond fields. Mike, John, Spaggs and Tania share stories of navigating uncharted territories in the pursuit of the precious stones. They also share learnings, memories, interesting stories and open up about valuable lessons learnt. The heroes share gems on the grit, resilience and basic exploration skills required by the young geologists to be able discover the now rare diamond deposits, even with all available technology. The guests finally emphasise the importance of having boots on the ground.

<https://pod.link/gssa/episode/1dbf6e9289fbf416a584084aa257fde6>

The Big Five (or Six or Seven) Houses that shaped South African Mining

Working as geologists during the glory days of the big mining houses. Guests: Richard Viljoen, Frank Gregory, Ron Hieber, Phil Bentley, Roy Corrans and Derek Kyle. In this episode our five distinguished geological legends talk to hosts Noleen and Sifiso about their time working for the big mining houses. We explore the internal working of these companies and aspects such as training and mentorship. And we touch on the role of the then Chamber of Mines. Our guests chronicle their geological paths and how they navigated the tough but exciting mining industry to become 'rock stars'. They also share learnings, memories, interesting stories and open up about valuable lessons learnt.

<https://pod.link/gssa/episode/8a1cf2a46b77b94609b2d84d7dc76443>

The next episodes in the series will be coming soon.



Special Issue in the South African Journal of Geology in honour of Professor Nicolas Johannes Beukes (1945 – 2023): Invitation to submit an interest to contribute.

†

Prof. Nic Beukes tragically passed away on 9 January 2023. He was a highly regarded South African geoscience researcher in the fields of sedimentology and economic geology with a career spanning more than 50 years. With the blessing of his family, the decision has been made to honour him through a special issue in the South African Journal of Geology comprising articles focused on the numerous topics in geoscience he worked on and found interesting. The issue is aimed to be published towards early in 2024. The guest editor panel will comprise Michiel de Kock, Bertus Smith, Clarisa Vorster (all from University of Johannesburg) and Jens Gutzmer (Helmholtz Institute Freiberg for Resource Technology).

With the goal to reflect on the very broad range of research interests and contributions by Prof. Nic Beukes, we invite manuscripts with a geographic focus on southern Africa and centred on the following topics:

- Early Earth (Archaean and Palaeoproterozoic) paleoenvironments
- Sedimentology and provenance studies
- The palaeomagnetic record
- Sedimentary and sediment-hosted ore deposits

Please indicate your interest to contribute (including proposed article title(s), author lists and brief content description(s)) to Bertus Smith (bertusse@uj.ac.za) by 14 April 2023. Once approved, manuscripts will need to be submitted to the allocated guest editor for peer review by 31 August 2023. Please note only contributions for which an interest to contribute was received and approved will be accepted for peer review.

The manuscripts need to be prepared according to the author guidelines of the South African Journal of Geology, and will be subjected to the peer review process and all policies as laid out in the Information for Authors of the South African Journal of Geology (<https://gssa.pub/sajg/ifora.html>). Please note that due to time constraints, any rejected manuscripts cannot be re-submitted for this special issue.

Kind regards,
Michiel de Kock, Jens Gutzmer, Bertus Smith and Clarisa Vorster

†



GSSA
Geological Society of South Africa

Sponsorship Opportunities

Partner with us

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25 February 2023

SACNASP/GSSA mentorship picnic hosted by the Walter Sisulu National Botanical Garden

SACNASP/GSSA mentorship



WALTER SISULU
National Botanical Garden





GSSA Events January 2023 – November 2023

(Preliminary Programme)

14 March	CPD workshop (online)
15-22 March	Introduction to SAMCODES (hybrid)
18 April	Advanced Excel Skills for Geoscientists (online)
2-3 May	Sampling & data management (hybrid)
6-7 May	KZN brittle deformation field trip (KZN north coast) – contact only
30 May	Science Communication for Geoscientists – Visual communication; Readability & textual choice; How to write a better CPR; (online)
TBC (4 x ½ days) + self-study	Drilling methods and techniques in resource exploration (with Colin Rice) (online)
24-27 June	Base metals(hybrid & site visit)
July	Map making (contact in Cape Town)
11 July	ESG inquisition feedback (online)
1 August	Introduction to drilling (online)
15 August	Professionalism and ethics (online)
September	Data analytics / machine learning (with Prof G Nwaila/UWWR) (hybrid)
September (4 x ½ days) + self-study	Drilling methods and techniques in resource exploration (with Colin Rice) (online)
October	3D geological modelling (with Dr I Basson/TECT) (hybrid)
October	Mineral economics for geoscientists (hybrid)
15-16 November	African Exploration Showcase



Missed our
past **2022**
online
courses



**RECORDING LINK AVAILABLE
FOR PURCHASE**

CLICK HERE

- **Practical Geological Mapping to Map Making** : 7 – 8 July 2022
- **3D Geomodelling** : 7 October 2022
- **Data Analytics** : 18 – 19 October 2022

Once you have completed viewing, please send an email to info@gssa.org.za and a certificate will be sent to you to claim CPD points.



**FREE STUDENT
ATTENDANCE**

GSSA ONLINE EVENTS

**The GSSA, in conjunction with their event partners(s),
will sponsor a limited number of students for selected
online courses.**

**Please do not register for the course until you have been
informed in writing of a successful application.**



APPLY NOW





IAH WORLDWIDE GROUNDWATER CONGRESS | 18 TO 22 SEPTEMBER 2023 | CAPE TOWN | SOUTH AFRICA




THE CANADIAN JOURNAL OF MINERALOGY AND PETROLOGY

The Canadian Journal of Mineralogy and Petrology (formerly The Canadian Mineralogist) is inviting submissions and expressions of interest for a **Thematic Issue on platinum group element mineralogy** from the 14th International Platinum Symposium.



Special Sessions on the Bushveld Complex at the 14th International Platinum Symposium Cardiff, UK; July 4-7, 2023.



<https://platinum2023.com/>

