

Hydrogeoday – 2 April 2025



Figure 1: Attendees from left to right: Roger Parsons, Hein Henning (host), Thokozani Kanyerere, Sifiso Nkonyane (host), Tulani Funicelo, Esa Hope Mapindani, Jana Oberholzer, Nicolette Vermaak, Gideon Tredoux, Julian Conrad, Aphelele Sibali, and Lwandile Mhlaba

On a crisp autumn morning of 2 April 2025, 10 intrepid groundwater scientists took the winding road up the Paarl mountains. Their destination was the Meulwater Water Treatment Works to attend the special Hydrogeoday event that IAH-SA organized in collaboration with the Drakenstein Municipality. Our hosts, Sifiso Nkonyane and Hein Henning, shared information about the water supply system of the municipality and told us about the interventions that the municipality put in place during the 2015 – 2018 drought to ensure a sustainable water supply to the inhabitants of the municipality. After the information session, we visited the Boy Louw wellfield, where we toured the water treatment facility that ensured that the groundwater added to the main reticulation system is suitable for human consumption. The warm welcome from the hosts, the beautiful scenery and the interaction between geohydrologists of different ages made the day special. We parted ways as friends and with a greater understanding of how a municipality ensures the sustainability of the water supply to the residents. A special word of thanks to the Drakenstein Municipality and the organisers of the event.



Figure 2: The view from Meulwater Water Treatment Plant.



Figure 3: Information session, where Hein Henning explains the water supply system to Drakenstein Municipality.



Figure 4: Hein Henning, Gideon Tredoux and Thokozani Kanyerere parting as friends.