IAH NEWSLETTER

International Association of Hydrogeologists
the World-wide Groundwater Organisation
South African National Chapter

MARCH 2026

WELCOME

Dear IAH-SA members,

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2026. No doubt, you've been busy, and wondering what happened to January and February. The beauty of South Africa is its diversity, and we certainly have seen that hydrologically, from floods to drought, in different parts of the country at the same time. Thank goodness for the stability and reliability of groundwater.

Please note this newsletter only goes out to IAH-SA members, so please encourage others who are not members to join. For those from larger companies, consider the Corporate Membership option.
Visit www.iah.org

Please take a moment to read the updates below, which include important information on IAH-SA Committee nominations and our 2026 IAH-SA Symposium, "Groundwater Quality: Assessment, Emerging Challenges and Sustainable Solutions," taking place 26–28 August 2026 at STIAS, Stellenbosch University.

All the best with your year ahead and keep flying the groundwater flag. Your inputs and support are greatly appreciated.

Julian Conrad,
obo the IAH-SA Committee

IAH-SA FLAGSHIP SYMPOSIUM 2026

SAVE THE DATE | CPD REGISTERED

IAH-SA's flagship event for 2026 will be the Symposium "Groundwater Quality: Assessment, Emerging Challenges and Sustainable Solutions", taking place 26–28 August 2026 at STIAS, Stellenbosch University. Please diarise these dates.

The programme will feature scientific presentations and posters, industry exhibitions (including water treatment solutions), a field excursion, and engaging social events. The target audience includes government, municipalities, academia, consultants, industry, and groundwater users.

We welcome nominations for invited speakers (local and international). If you would like to serve on the Local Organising Committee (LOC), please contact info@iah.org.za

IAH-SA SYMPOSIUM 26 - 28 AUGUST 2026 Groundwater Quality

IAH-SA COMMITTEE ELECTIONS 2026

The IAH-SA Committee serves a two-year term, and we invite nominations for: Chairperson | Treasurer | Secretary | Committee Members (minimum three, with good geographical representation across South Africa).

Submit nominations to info@iah-org.za by COB Wednesday, 25 March 2026.

Nominees must be qualified and experienced in hydrogeology, paid-up IAH members, (view membership below) residents in South Africa, and must accept the nomination (self-nominations welcome).

Election date: Tuesday, 31 March 2026 (online and anonymous).

All nominations and results will be verified by the appointed Electoral Officer.

WORLD WATER DAY – 22 MARCH 2026

While IAH-SA does not have a specific event planned for World Water Day (WWD) on 22 March 2026, members are encouraged to follow www.iah.org for related international activities.

This year's theme is ***"Water and Gender"***, under the campaign slogan *"Where Water Flows, Equality Grows."*

IAH-SA is considering hosting a webinar shortly after WWD — member suggestions and ideas are most welcome.

IAH CONGRESS 2026
BUDAPEST UPDATE

Planning for the IAH Congress 2026 in Budapest is progressing well.

IAH 2026
World Groundwater Congress
53rd Congress of the International Association of Hydrogeologists

14-18 September 2026
Budapest Congress Center
https://iah2026budapest.com/

CLOSING COMMENTS

IAH Central reports that the Association remains in strong health, with growing membership worldwide. We extend sincere thanks to **Ian Davey**, who retired on 28 February 2026 after many years of dedicated service as Executive Manager. His institutional knowledge, writing expertise, and commitment to uniting hydrogeologists globally have been invaluable.

We welcome **Tim Besien**, who now takes over the role. The Executive Committee meets in person on 5–6 March 2026, and Julian will attend and provide feedback on his return.

Unit 12 | 1st Floor | Technostell Building 9 Quantum Street | Techno Park | Stellenbosch | 7600
IAH-SA Website: www.iah.org.za | **IAH-SA Contact details:** info@iah.org | **Symposium Contact details:** deidre@iafrica.com

Dr Kevin Pietersen (Chairman) | **Dr Amy Allwright** (Treasurer) | **Dr Nicolette Vermaak** (Secretary) | **Julian Conrad** (Committee Member)

MEMBERSHIP LIST

Last Name	First Name
Adams	Shafick
Amaechi	Paschal Ogechukwu
Arinaitwe	Miriam
Arrey	Ivo A
Barnes	John C.F.
Blake	Dylan
Burri	Nicole
Conrad	Julian
Damhuis	Matthew
David	Anna
Diamond	Roger
du Preez	Jacques
Duthe	Diana
Fourie	Fanus
Fourie	Francois
Haupt	Carel J.
Hills	Matthew
Hohne	Danita
Holland	Martin
Kgobalala	Phethego Enock
Lazarus	Reuben
Lourens	Paul
Madileng	Simon
Majola	Kwazikwakhe
Makhetha	Jan
Mapate	Hlakgama

Last Name	First Name
Marweshi	Manare Judith
Masemola	Eva
Mlambo	Fundokuhle
Mokgoro	Ofentse
Monama	Tshegofatso
Mongala	Thapelo
Morton	K.L.
Murray	Ricky
Ntsimbi	Sive
Okonkwo	Adaora
Parker	Aqeela
Parsons	Roger
Pietersen	Kevin C.
Plato	Erin
Rademan	Zandri
Rammutla	Mmakoena
Riemann	Kornelius
Scholtz	Ockert
Shai	Nkhensani
Solomon	Henok
Thulare	Mathabatha
Tredoux	Gideon
Tshikororo	Mutondi
Van der Walt	Johannes
Zondeki	Sisonke