

Member Spotlight

A monthly highlight featuring an ASEG member. All past member spotlights can be found in our newsletter [archive](#).



We welcome **Andrew Taylor** under the spotlight in this issue as he shares his enlightening story!

Andrew is not a stranger to ASEG as he is an active committee member of the ASEG WA branch. Andrew is also a Geophysicist at MAGSPEC Airborne Surveys Pty Ltd.

I graduated from Curtin university and initially worked in the uranium exploration and mining industry which led me to work in many remote overseas postings. More recently I have been working in airborne geophysics, mainly focused on magnetic and radiometric surveys. I have volunteered to be on the committee of the ASEG WA branch.

1. For how long have you been a geophysicist?

I finished my degree in the year of the GFC but was still fortunate enough to get a job. Not the year to be an undergraduate!

2. What do you like most about being a geophysicist?

It has to be the variety. I can only sit in my chair behind a computer for so long before something needs to be tested, or pulled apart and put back together again. Supporting others, knowing though there are problems, solutions are never far away, and the feeling as a group of getting back on track. Writing code that works!

3. What made you decide to be a geophysicist?

Greg Street - his son was in my year at Scotch College.

4. If you weren't a geophysicist, what would you be?

Engineering, it was in my blood but I chose another pathway.

5. What is your best interview tip?

The 5 P's. Prior Preparation Prevents Poor Performance

6. Where was your best sunrise/sunset location?

I'll take your sun derived phenomena and raise you an aurora in remote Labrador, Canada. Not another soul beyond our camp for 100s of kilometres.

7. What are you reading at the moment?

Tim Winton on rotation, Breath.

8. Your funniest or worst field memory?

I was downhole logging on a drilling campaign in our northwest. It was a rough campsite. The heavens came down, the landscape completely changed and we were in the mud. The campaign ended prematurely and we drove for hours through the mud before a quick stop at Twiggy's homestead for the most delectable brunch! There were a wide range of emotions that day.

9. Tell us about your best field meal?

Salted ham, dough boys, chicken neck soup, double double coffee. Guess the country.

10. What do you do in your spare time?

Sailing. You will see me foiling on the river.

11. What is the best way that the ASEG could let the public know about geophysics and its benefit to everyday life?

There needs to be an equivalent social media celebrity such as Carl Sagan, Bill Nye, or Neil Degrasse Tyson of the geophysical community.

12. Do you think AI will take over your job or will the human element remain vital to exploration successes?

Instead of taking over our jobs, I predict the overall profession expanding into new fields that humans will never approach and instead will be guided and run by AI. I believe there will be a collaboration, using new products within these fields, to further our goals.