This month we get to know Dr Andrew Fitzpatrick.

1. **What is your current role?**

   I'm currently the chief geophysicist for IGO. We're looking for nickel and copper mineral deposits to support the growing electric vehicle market.

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

   Being part of an exploration team using a variety of tools to effectively explore. Looking at ways of improving the techniques and technology is the best part of my job. My job has taken me to remote locations across the globe and has provided me with some unique and wonderful experiences, such as snowmobiling across frozen lakes in the Athabasca Basin, Canada.

3. **Tell us about your best field meal?**

   I once worked with Hiroshi Omoto up at the Trendall Locality in the Pilbara, Western Australia. A caretaker at a near-by bentonite mine under care and maintenance provided us with a sashimi grade tuna for the week (he used to be a fisherman!). Despite the remoteness, dinner was incredible, accompanied with stunning sunset landscapes and good red wine.

4. **What are you reading at the moment?**

   I'm re-listening to "13 minutes to the Moon" a BBC podcast. Andrew Foley from Goldfields put me on to it and its an amazing series that captures exploration, leadership, teamwork and safety of the amazing story of the moon landing. I'm encouraging everyone to listen to it too!

5. **What made you decide to be a geophysicist?**

   In year 10 at high school I won a science award and was flown up to BHP's Mt Whaleback Deposit. When I was in their exploration office I saw my first aeromagnetic image, and when I asked someone what it was, a geologist

replied "Its scientific art produced by our geophysicist. We use it to find stuff". I was hooked!

6. **When you are asked "What's a geophysicist??" or "What does a geophysicist do?" what is your stock answer?**

   We kinda x-ray the earth. Some of us use oversize stud-finders to look for base metal deposits either from the air or on the ground. Similarly, to radiography helping medical doctors diagnose ailments, we provide images and models of the earth to exploration teams to aid in discovery.

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

   We should visit schools and talk to students more. Tell an interesting story to a child and they will tell their parents. We need to demonstrate that geophysics is used for many applications- looking for groundwater, oil and gas, mineral deposits, environmental and engineering problems.