All of our member spotlights are listed on our website. Please have a read, they're illuminating!

In this issue, let us welcome our communication co-chair **Mikayla Sambrooks**. She is shining in this issue!

How do you see the ASEG communication committee?
The comms committee, to me, feels like the hydrothermal fluid that conduits information between ASEG and its society members. Without such fluid, you have a network (like faults) that connect all the parts of ASEG society, but no way for information to travel through that network (the comms committee!). I think communication is integral to the future of geoscience and geophysics, which I am extremely passionate about.

General question
1. For how long have you been a geophysicist?
Technically I have only had the title for 6 months, however I have called myself a geophysicist since I graduated 4 years ago.
2. What do you like most about being a geophysicist?
Problem solving and thinking about different ways to take advantage of the physics of the natural universe to answer geological questions.
3. If you weren't a geophysicist, what would you be?
A geologist or some kind or an archaeologist.
4. What is your best interview tip?
To express how your personal life experiences can be applied to the job position and ask questions that display your potential to learn.
5. What's one thing that we wouldn't know about you?
Many things, I would say the least expected is that I owned and operated a Bingo business while I was completing master's degree.
6. Tell us about your best field meal?
Best field meal would have to be crispy skinned salmon, hollandaise sauce and broccolini under a tarp in the middle of wet season at the Big Rush project Nth QLD.
7. Where was your best sunrise/sunset location?
Honestly, can't go past the sunrise and sunset views out at the Havieron project (western Australia).
8. What are you reading at the moment?
Night games: sex, power and sports.

An IP survey in far North QLD

9. What made you decide to be a geophysicist?
My inspirational third year geophysics professor, Mark McLean!
10. What's one thing you wish someone had told you when you were at university?
To read more. Subject relevant or not.
11. What's your most treasured textbook?
At the moment it's the SEG investigations in geophysics volumes.
12. Your funniest or worst field memory?
Funniest field memory is getting to the bottom of Mt Doom (Mt Ngauruhoe) after ski running down the side and having a bare bum from the scoria ripping right through my pants!
13. Your most respected geophysicist?
A very experienced, knowledgeable and all-round great person, our very own el presidenté Eric Battig.
14. What do you do in your spare time?
Lately I have been spending time practicing Japanese, playing chess and indoor gardening.
15. What is a challenge you have overcome and how did you do so?
I'd say I face lots of mini challenges week-to-week. I overcome them by learning as much as I can about the issue whether that means doing extra research or reaching out to someone for advice who might have faced a similar challenge.
16. What is a challenge that you see in geoscience today, and how do you see the community overcoming it?
A challenge I see today is young geoscientists/geophysicists not gaining adequate field experience at the beginning of their careers. one of the ways I

see this challenge being overcome is the introduction of more field camps like ASEG's Camp for Applied Geophysics Excellence (CAGE).

6 years ago, hiding from the sun during my master's field work in completing a gravity survey. Mt Moliagul, Victoria Australia

17. What reaction do you mostly get when you tell someone that you are a geophysicist?

"Oooh cool. So, what do you actually do?"

18. When you are asked what you do – what do you do?

I normally say that geophysics is essentially creating images of the earths subsurface similarly to how MRIs, X-Rays and ultra-sounds image the inside of our bodies. We then use these images to help answer geological questions.

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

Through interactive events and social media!

20. Where do you think exploration geophysics will head in the next 10-15 years?

I think R&D will continue moving toward advances in technology that allow us to look deeper and survey more types of data over larger areas more efficiently.

21. Given a choice, would you prefer extra mentoring on the science, your career or the how to handle/explain exploration geophysics and its

benefits to the community?

I think given the opportunity I will always take more mentoring on the science. The more I learn the more I realise there is to learn. With that, I think I will be better equip to explain the benefits of exploration geophysics to the community.

22. What aspect of geophysics do you enjoy most?

Seeing new data in a new area is probably the most exciting and interesting aspect of geophysics to me.

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

Definitely not. I think AI will become an integral tool in the exploration geophysics toolkit. We can either learn to use new tools to better our capability or get left behind!

24. What do you think of the covid impact on the geophysical industry?

I think it's a great opportunity to catch up on research and publish work that you haven't had time to write up because you've been so busy in the field! if anything, covid has proven how dynamic and adaptable the industry is when it needs to be.