

This issue we get to know Danny Burns, an Executive in Exploration at Vintage Energy Ltd. He is also a valued ASEG volunteer with his roles as the Treasurer on the ASEG Federal Executive, and the Chair of the Publications committee.

If you would like to nominate someone for the Member Spotlight, please contact communications@aseg.org.au

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

I love exploration, starting with an idea from little data then acquiring more data and working through to a discovery (sometimes)

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

I was nearly an engineer but I recovered in time

3. What is your best interview tip?

Know something about the company that is interviewing you and explain how you could/intend to help them. Too many interviewees just talk about themselves.

4. What's one thing that we wouldn't know about you?

I once won a bottle of Grange at a PESA golf day (proving that it's better to be lucky than good)

5. Tell us about your best field meal?

Seismic crews were pretty good but the best meals were always at the drilling rigs.

6. Where was your best sunrise location?

In the Eromanga Basin, just west of the Jackson oilfield. Sunrise is about the only time that the red dust looks beautiful

7. What are you reading at the moment?

Red Storm Rising, an old Tom Clancy book

8. What's one thing you wish someone had told you when you were at university?

Out in the wide world, if you ask a question and don't understand the answer the problem may not be at your end

9. What is your favourite textbook?

It would be a toss-up between Bob Sherriff's Encyclopedic Dictionary of Exploration Geophysics and Telford et als' Applied Geophysics

10. Your funniest or worst field memory?

After a number of days of impassable wet roads we managed to get through to the Noccundra Hotel to find our line clearing crew with beers in hand at 9.00am. They were really happy to hear that the roads were finally open so that they could stop drinking and drive back to their camp.

11. Who is your geophysical idol?

No idol but a number of geophysicists who generated a lot of respect. Early in my career Bruce Beer in the field, Andy McGee and Errol Johnstone in an exploration team and Jim Fraser as a geophysical manager who would give anything a try. Later in my career I enjoyed working with geophysicists who pushed the science but kept in mind the limitations when applied to specific problems. They all found a lot of oil and gas.

