

his week we get to know the Chair of the ASEG History Committee, Roger Henderson. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else for an interview, please send us an email to communications@aseg.org.au

1. What is your current role?

After my first employment in 1965, I chose to stop getting paid for work in geophysics in 2013. Why couldn't I have gone for just one more year to make it 50?! In retirement, I have maintained interest in my profession by volunteering for various ASEG activities lately as Chair of the History Committee plus contributing items to Preview and now the Newsletter. Continued, regular attendance at Branch meetings keeps me in touch with advances and provides the camaraderie of association with colleagues, new and old.

2. For how long have you been a geophysicist?

For 49 years, initially in academia and then mainly in mineral exploration and engineering geophysical methods; theory and practice. After just one year in the NSW Geological Survey in 1965, I returned to Sydney University as a Teaching Fellow for 2 years followed by the inaugural Lectureship at Macquarie University from 1968 to 1970. After voluntary travel to England in 1971, I joined two mineral exploration companies one of which transferred me to their HO. in Toronto in 1974. A voluntary return to Australia in 1977 enabled me to become a company director in Adelaide for 5 years followed by 32 years in Sydney in company management and consultancy.

3. What do you like most about being a geophysicist.

The quest to explore and produce maps, both lifelong interests of mine. As some compensation for its loss in retirement I have joined the Explorer's Club. Geophysics has also fulfilled another strong interest of mine, that of travel. For my work it has put me in 40 other countries for surveys or attending conferences, from north of the Arctic Circle, throughout Europe, North

America, to Brazil, north and south Africa, China, India and S E Asia. I missed out on Russia and Antarctica. The conferences included 10 to SEG, 12 to EAGE and several to Beijing and Hyderabad.

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

As I have always been keen on aviation, I almost enrolled in Aeronautical Engineering.

5. What is one thing we would be surprised to learn about you?

My as yet unfulfilled wishes, such as experiencing a total solar eclipse, seeing the Northern Aurora and the Smithsonian Museum.

6. What are you reading at the moment?

I have just finished "Island of the Blue Foxes" by S.R. Brown, which is a harrowing, true story of the official Russian expedition from St Petersburg to the Bering Sea, led by none other than Vitus Bering. It's about exploring, of course.

