

ur Member Spotlight is off to Perth to meet **Ian James!**

Ian James has worked on six different continents, a marathon runner and currently working as a Senior Geophysicist for HiSeis. Ian fills an important role on the ASEG FedEx, he is responsible for the website. Read a little more about Ian ...

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

I am a senior geophysicist at HiSeis. I work with a great team of people and HiSeis has given me the freedom to spend time testing and developing new ideas.

**2. For how long have you been a geophysicist?**

Since '08.

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

I was going to join the Royal Marines after university. I applied for a few other jobs while waiting for the entry date and was offered a job in Australia. I thought to myself, Australia? Afghanistan? I think maybe I'll go to Australia and be a geophysicist. Probably the correct choice. Having said that, when I was a child, I wanted to be a pirate when I grew up. So maybe that's an option to keep in mind for the next downturn....

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

Maybe a cross between stuffing my face with mangoes in the Northern Territory and one of the tasty meals on a Terrex field crew. I can certainly remember meals on projects overseas that were less enticing and chipping your tooth while gnawing on bones is a memory that doesn't fade.

**5. Where was your best sunrise/sunset location?**

Forget sunrise and sunset. Seeing the stars when you are working remotely, with little to no light pollution, is incredible.

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

I go through books at a good rate of knots. At the moment I am rereading Brandon Sanderson's 'The Way of Kings'. I find the Stormlight Archive books very uplifting. Before that, I read the English translations of Maurice Druon's 'The Accursed Kings' series about the French monarchy in the 14th century.

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

Errr. More of an accident really. A happy accident. I really enjoy being a geophysicist.

**8. What do you do in your spare time?**

Update the ASEG website! Sometimes I just jump online and put random spilling mitsakes into things. Otherwise, I exercise a lot, mostly running and racing 1/2 marathons and marathons.

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

What's that? Which leads to...

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

A geologist that knows maths. If they ask more questions I back away slowly. Or not. I can bend someone's ear about geophysics for far too long.



*Photo of Ian James on top of the world, working at Salares Norte in Chile.*