

For this issue, we will continue to have another **ASEG Honorary Membership 2021- Gregory Street** as the member spotlight. He is the director of Loupe Geophysics. Thanks so much for his distinguished contributions to the ASEG Society!

1. For how long have you been a geophysicist?

47 years. I started as a field geologist with Planet Resources in Victoria and drifted into geophysics because of employment opportunity. Liked the work and travel and eventually went off and did an MSc in geophysics. In my career I have moved between mineral exploration and environmental geophysics with a few projects in coal and O&G.

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

Work has been fun. My brother asks me why I don't stop working. Because I aren't.

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

Perhaps a botanist or archaeologist.

4. Tell us about your best field meal?

On a drill rig in India with a Tamil drilling crew. Around dusk their cook got out a cauldron you could cook missionaries in and fired up a petrol burner in a massive blast of blue flame. Great curry resulted.

Other most memorable dinner was in a bamboo hut in the centre of Shan State in Myanmar. About two days walk from nearest road. Some unidentified horned animal was cooked almost to charcoal on a fire in the middle of the bamboo floor.

5. Where was your best sunrise/sunset location?

Sunset near Gulmit on the Karakoram Highway in northern Pakistan standing on the northern edge of the Indian plate looking north towards mountains on the Asian plate. The difference in the rocks was striking and the sunset shining off

on Tupopdan was memorable.

6. What are you reading at the moment?

I read Dark Emu and then saw the widespread criticism so I decided to read up on early Australian history and particularly the explorers. Just finishing Sturts journals after reading Mitchel and Giles and accounts from Burke and Will, Stuart and the early cattle drives through Northern Australia. Everyone working in exploration should familiarise themselves with some of this early history.

7. Your funniest or worst field memory?

We were doing a gradient array IP survey of the Mount Lyell field in Tasmania. We had over 25 km of wire laid out around the mine and town of Queenstown including some across the mine haul road. This was being crushed by haul trucks and I suggested to one of the operators that we could float the wire through a culvert which was partly full of water. About 20 minutes later I saw him running naked across the haul road. Having found nothing to float the wire with he decided to walk through and didn't want to get his clothes wet.

8. What do you do in your spare time?

What spare time? I play hockey, swim go to the theatre.

9. What is a challenge you have overcome and how did you do so?

At World Geoscience Corp when we first developed the application of airborne geophysics in land management in saline areas there was enormous pushback from government departments particularly in Western Australia. We lobbied directly with farmers, and at State and Federal Government level and got funding for demonstration surveys in most of the states.

10. What is a challenge that you see in geoscience today, and how do you see the community overcoming it?

The current funding model for higher education in Australia does not allow for disciplines like geophysics with small numbers of graduates. We will need

migration in the short term and possibly post graduate courses taking physicists, geologists and mathematicians and turning them into geophysicists

11. What is the best way that the ASEG could let the public know about geophysics and its benefit to the everyday life? For a relatively small profession numbering in only around say 30,000 worldwide geophysicists play a critical roll in generating new wealth.

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

I believe that geophysics will be a fundamental tool in the mine-site for grade control and environmental purposes. I believe that the high sampling rates on systems coming onto the market like Loupe will be too attractive to ignore. I look forward to the day of the Chief Mine Geophysicist. But this will only happen if geophysicists lead the way in showing how geophysics can reduce costs.

13. What aspect of geophysics do you enjoy most?

Travel and at times it is what I most dislike. But I have friends all over the world.

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

Not for a while yet. Geology is too random.